

LOVING THE UNLOVED Primary school students donate goods to animal shelters

By Nathan Pfau Army Flier Staff Writer

While many were taking the time to celebrate Valentine's Day with their significant others, Fort Rucker Primary School students showed their hearts to those who oftentimes go unloved.

As part of their 100th day-inschool celebration, the school held its annual Love Assembly Feb. 14 in the gymnasium where students gathered to welcome representatives from animal shelters across the Wiregrass and to donate food to help their four-legged friends in need, according to Yvette Esteves-Hurst, Fort Rucker Primary School Spanish teacher.

During the assembly, representatives from each of the shelters introduced the students to some of the animals that are housed at their facilities to show the different personalities of each animal, as well as to give a face to those who can't speak for themselves.

The shelters represented included, Kitty Kottage of Dothan; Big Bend Wildlife Sanctuary, Sweet Doberman Rescue and Save Our Strays Animal Shelter in Enterprise; the Ozark Dale County Humane Society; and Lil' Tykes



PHOTO BY NATHAN PFAU

Student ambassadors met with representatives from various shelters across the Wiregrass during a visit to the Fort Rucker Primary School Feb. 14. Students got the chance to learn about the shelters and the importance of taking care of animals.

Animal Rescue in Daleville. For many of the representatives, putting faces on those animals was an important lesson for the students.

"It's very important, so (the children) grow up knowing the respect and what it means that some animals do not have homes, and that they are in shelters and that they do need help," said Stephanie Barry, Sweet Home Doberman Rescue. "They can't speak for themselves, so we are their voice."

Amy McManus, of Ozark Dale County Humane Society, said that it's important the children understand the responsibility and compassion needed to take care of animals that can't take care of themselves.

"We love coming out here to teach the kids because if you don't teach them young, they're never going to learn," she said. "You have to teach them how to treat animals and that will go with them into adulthood. You need to raise the next generation to know what to do."

McManus said she has always been an animal lover, but it was something that her husband wasn't accustomed to, but having spent time together throughout the years, he also has come to care for animals, which is why they now

house six dogs and four cats in their home.

"He didn't grow up with animals ... so (compassion) can be a learned behavior," she said. "You can change people's minds once you meet the animals and learn to love them."

Although one of the biggest lessons of the assembly is compassion, another purpose of the efforts was to incorporate part of the school's curriculum.

"In 2006, we began this activity to integrate all areas of the curriculum and to give back to our surrounding communities," said Esteves-Hurst. "Now, this is a fun, yearly event at our primary school that provides a setting that connects mathematical language and symbols to the everyday lives of the students."

In total, the students collected 110 items of food for cats and dogs. This exceeded their goal of 100, but as the Spanish teacher said, the lesson wasn't just about giving, it was also meant to be a learning opportunity that integrated mathematics while giving back

"We are guided by the College and Career Ready standards, and one of them is to learn to count to 100 by ones and by tens - this activity helps students meet this standard," she said, adding that this was accomplished by grouping the food items in groups of 10 to be donated to the various animal shelters.

Following the assembly, the food was divided between the shelters and presented to each of the representatives to take back to their respective facilities.

Esteves-Hurst said she was grateful to the parents of the primary school students, because without them, their efforts would not have been able to become a reality.



'Reveille,' 'Retreat' keep post steeped in tradition

COURTESY GRAPHIC

Post to kick off AER campaign

By Jeremy Henderson Army Flier Staff Writer

The Fort Rucker community donated more than \$136,000 during last year's Army Emergency Relief campaign and officials hope to top that number in 2018.

This year's campaign kicks off March 1 and Beth Gunter, Army Community Service financial counselor, said AER provides direct support to local Soldiers.

"Last year, Fort Rucker contributed \$136,172," she said. "However, over \$551,861 of assistance was provided to Fort Rucker Soldiers, retirees, family members, and surviving spouses and orphans -\$236,499 of that assistance was provided as grants and scholarships. The donations provided to the campaign are contributed to AER to be used for Soldiers, regardless their location."

The 2018 campaign theme is "There for Those Who Serve," she added.

"Army Emergency Relief was founded to support those Soldiers who commit themselves to defend and protect our country," Gunter said. "Both active duty and retired Soldiers are eligible to apply for AER assistance to assist during times of financial hardship."

According to Gunter, the goal is to allow AER to

SEE AER, PAGE A7

Army Flier Staff Reports

From the bugle call early in the morning to the cannon fire in the evening, people on military installations across the U.S. have become accustomed to these sounds, and Fort Rucker is no exception when it comes to upholding this centuries-old tradition.

"Reveille" and "Retreat" are traditions that honor the flag and the nation, said Sgt. Maj. Shawn McKay, U.S. Army Aviation Center of Excellence G-3 sergeant major.

The daily ceremonies take place on Howze Field, where a group of Soldiers raise the flag during "Reveille" at 6 a.m. Mondays-Fridays and on holidays. "Retreat" is sounded at 5 p.m. Mondays-Thursdays, and 4 p.m. on Fridays and holidays.

"Reveille' marks our flag being hoisted and signifies the beginning of our duty day," said McKay. "It origi-

nated from the French word 'wake up' and was historically used to wake military personnel at dawn for assembly of the troops and roll call."

McKay added that "Retreat" was first used by the French army and dates back to the Crusades.

"The Army's use of this bugle call dates back to the Revolutionary War," he said. "It was originally used to notify guards to start challenging all by instructing them to halt and identify themselves. It also tells the rank and file to go to their quarters and stay there."

The familiar sound of the bugle and boom of the cannon are mostly ceremonial in today's military, but still signify the beginning and end of the duty day on the installation, he added.

"A gun is fired at the last note of retreat, followed by the playing of 'To the Colors' while the flag is lowered,"



Soldiers prepare to hoist up the flag during

PHOTO BY NATHAN PFAL

SEE TRADITION, PAGE A7

Reveille Feb. 14 on Howze Field.

ONE OF A KIND

Museum's CL-475's radical rotor design revolutionized Army Aviation



PHOTO BY NATHAN PFAU

The CL-475 sits in the U.S. Army Aviation Museum after spending more than a year being restored. The aircraft used a gyro-synchronized rotor system that allowed unprecedented stable flight during its time.

By Nathan Pfau

Army Flier Staff Writer

Before turbine engines took over the world of rotorwing Aviation, a proof-of-concept system revolutionized helicopter flight with a radical new rotor design.

The Lockheed CL-475 is as rare an aircraft as they come and it sits in the U.S. Army Aviation Museum. As the only one in the world, the aircraft was a proof of concept that was never designed to go into production, according to Bob Mitchell, U.S. Army Aviation Museum curator.

The CL-475 was Lockheed's first venture into the realm of rotor-wing Aviation and, as a result, the aircraft had the appearance of an airplane without wings. But despite its unusual design, the technology it provided worked surprisingly well, said Mitchell.

SEE MUSEUM, PAGE A7

LERSPECTIVE

THINK OUTSIDE THE BOX *Flexible thinking a big plus when transitioning out of military*

By Bryan Tharpe

Fort Rucker Soldier for Life Center Transition Services Manager

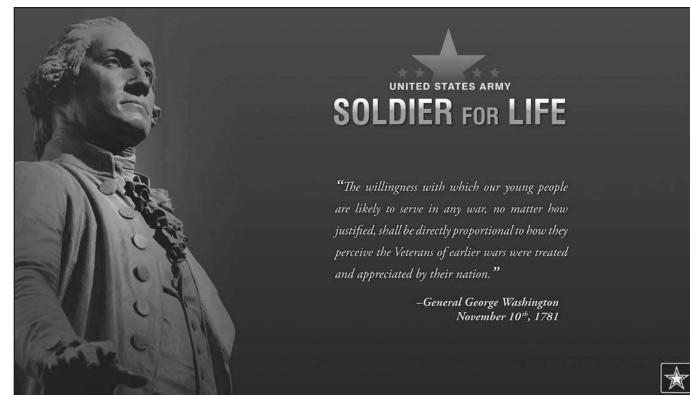
Do you have tunnel vision when it comes to thinking about what jobs you could do when you transition out of the military? If you do, you're not alone.

Most people have trouble seeing themselves doing anything other than what they have spent their military career doing. For most people, continuing to do what they have the most experience doing pays the most money. However, the exception could be transitioning service members.

Soldiers have unique experience, attributes and training that their civilian counterparts most likely don't. Therefore, you should be open minded and think about what career opportunities your skills would be transferrable to. For instance, a Soldier in a combat arms career field could do a lot of things just based on leadership and management skills. Sometimes it takes a talent manager to help you see what you can become.

I recently had a conversation with a company recruiter who just happened to be a veteran. He has a multitude of years in recruiting for the military, as well as corporate America. He spends a lot of his time on the road talking with and selling other employers on the skills and attributes of the men and women in the military.

His goal is lofty, but he wants to help every soon-to-be-veteran get a job when they



transition out of the military. He works with every rank, from enlisted to general officer, to help find them great employment.

Most employers say they want to hire veterans. However, most don't know how to go about it, so their words and actions don't quite match up. However, the companies that this talent manager talks with understand what veterans can bring to their companies.

He is the tip of the spear for selling you to the employers. Some of the biggest companies are listening to his selling points and are using him to help them connect with you.

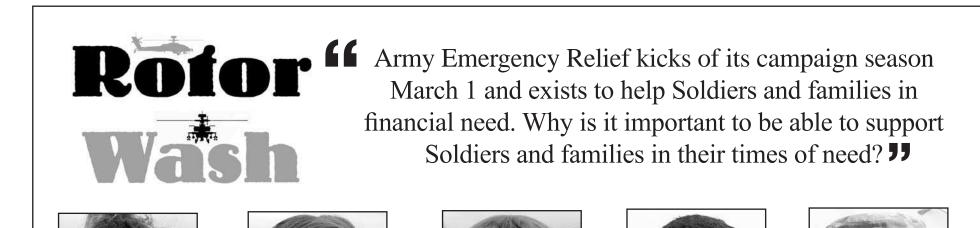
Like many recruiters, he has agreed to partner with the SFL-TAP Centers across the country to help put veterans to work. Please be flexible on where you can live af-

ter you transition. After all, you don't want to lock yourself into an area of the country with no good paying jobs.

U.S.ARM

Lastly, please be opened minded when looking for a job – even if it is in a new industry. Think outside the box. Let a recruiter help you get that new job that you deserve when you transition.

For more job advice, call 255-2558.





Nicole Defeece, military spouse

"Not everyone can afford to get the help that they need. I'm a nurse and I'm an advocate for the community, and I think everyone deserves human decency, health care and the right to be helped.'



Logan Ungles, military spouse

"They serve our country and they're risking their lives, so it makes it important (to support them)."



Jamie Davis, military spouse

"(It's important) for emergency purposes like in case of a funeral or anything - they may need money to fly home and see their family.'



W01 Jorge Rodriguez, B Co., 1st Bn., 145th Avn. Regt.

"From one family to another, even for single Soldiers, if they need help in times of need, because anything can happen to anybody, for something like this to exist it's nice to see people out there to put in and help each other out."



Capt. Chris Cooper, A Co., 1st Bn., 145th Avn. Regt.

"They provide the interest-free loans that their commanders can approve, I think up to \$1,500 for their Soldier. When stuff comes up like PCSing or car trouble, it's definitely a good tool for Soldiers to fall back on rather than taking out high-interest loans from lenders.'

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transferable.

armyflier.com.

· Actively listen to produce relief.

Escort your buddy

- · Never leave your buddy alone.
- Escort to the chain of command, a chaplain, a behavioral health professional or a primary care provider.

suicide intervention

Ask your buddy

- · Have the courage to ask the question, but stay calm.
- · Ask the question directly. For example, "Are you thinking of killing yourself?"

Gare for your buddy

· Remove any means that could be used for self-

SecDef praises strong collaboration in coalition effort to defeat ISIS

By Lisa Ferdinando DOD News

WASHINGTON - The coalition to defeat the Islamic State of Iraq and Syria continues to grow, while remaining resolute in its focus to the mission, Defense Secretary James N. Mattis said Feb. 13 following a defeat-ISIS meeting in Rome.

Mattis, speaking to reporters while en route from Rome to Brussels, lauded the successes of the Iraqi security forces, saying their progress is the "result of blood, sweat and tears."

The Iraqi security forces "paid a heavy price, but they are now hunting down the remaining cells" of ISIS, he said. "They're on the hunt as we speak," he added.

ISIS FIGHT NOT OVER

In Syria, the "complexity is in sharp focus right now," Mattis said, pointing out that ISIS is conducting counterattacks in the middle Euphrates River Valley.

"The point I would make here is that ISIS is not done," he said. "We've kept saying that the fight is not over; I've said that now for two months and you just have to recognize the fighting goes on, that's why we want to stay fo-



Secretary of Defense James N. Mattis speaks with members of the Polish Defense Minister delegation at NATO Headquarters in Brussels, Belgium, Feb. 14.

cused on it."

The "clearly stated consensus" among coalition members is that "this is not over," he said, adding members remain focused on defeating the rhetoric and "message of hatred" of ISIS, as well as its ideology and financing.

"There's a very strong collaboration – we have now grown to

70 nations and four international organizations," he said.

'FIT FOR ITS TIME'

In Brussels on Feb. 14-15, Mattis is to attend the first conference in 2018 of NATO defense ministers. The participants, he said, are to discuss "keeping the alliance fit for its time," with discussions

focusing on the organization's command structure, burden sharing, military mobility, and readiness of forces.

Mattis said that from Brussels he will travel on to Stuttgart, Germany, for meetings at the headquarters of U.S. European Command and U.S. Africa Command. Mattis concludes his trip at the

end of this week in Munich to participate in the 54th Munich Security Conference, where he will discuss current crises and future challenges in European security policy, officials said.

MORE CAPABLE, LETHAL FORCE

Mattis welcomed President Donald J. Trump's fiscal year 2019 defense budget request of \$686.1 billion, saying it "puts us obviously in a strong position," with support from both Republicans and Democrats.

The request gives the "foundation for doing the very rebuilding that the Congress has been fully aligned with us on," the secretary said.

"We will move forward for a more capable, more lethal and obviously more ready force as we fill in the readiness gaps that you all have reported on," he told the journalists.

Mattis said the department is grateful for the funding.

"It's up to us now when the money starts coming in to make certain that we spend it wisely and earn the trust of the American people, the American Congress and certainly show that solvency and security go hand in hand," he said.

Vice chief testifies how Army addressing threats through modernization

By David Vergun

Army News Service

WASHINGTON — The last time a Soldier was killed by enemy aircraft on the battlefield was in 1953, during the Korean War, said Vice Chief of Staff of the Army Gen. James C. McConville.

Now, the Army is preparing in earnest for that type of possible scenario against a peer adversary by rebuilding its air defense capabilities, he said, during testimony at a Senate Armed Services Readiness Subcommittee meeting Feb. 14.

Asked about the Army's other modernization focus efforts, McConville cited the Army's six priorities: long-range precision fires, a next-generation combat vehicle, future vertical lift platforms, a mobile and expeditionary Army network, air and missile defense capabilities, and Soldier lethality.

with the Army's organic capability, he added.

In addition to S&T efforts, the Army's fiscal year 2019 budget is geared toward weaponry that would be most effective against peer adversaries, including purchase and upgrades of tanks, artillery and attack helicopters, he said.

SOLDIER READINESS

McConville said the ideal deploymentto-dwell time for Soldiers is a 1:2 ratio. Currently, however, that ratio is about 1:1.5, he said. Growth in end-strength will somewhat alleviate that.

Furthermore, during dwell time, Soldiers are often conducting home-station training or at a combat training center rotation, leaving them little time for rest and recovery, he noted.

During deployments, Soldiers are of-



PHOTO BY SGT. ALAN BRUTUS

Soldiers with 3rd Battalion, 69th Armor Regiment, participate in a live-fire exercise at Novo Selo Training Area, Bulgaria. Army Vice Chief of Staff Gen. James C. McConville noted that this type of training is valuable for increasing readiness against a peer threat.

the entry level where new physical fitness standards, tests and screenings are being conducted. Since the Army began administering the Occupational Physical Assessment Test a year ago, muscularskeletal injuries among recruit trainees

ries of continuing resolutions has led to "our inability to start new procurement programs and military construction projects, to enter into multi-year contracts, to increase production rates, or reprogram funds resulted in deferring investments

Within each of those six priority areas, research and development efforts are focusing on two or three systems that are deemed most relevant to boosting current and future readiness, he said.

In the long-range precision fires priority, for instance, the Army is looking at hypersonic weaponry, as well as an extended-tube artillery that will increase range, he said.

The science and technology efforts depend on industry investments, along

ten training with allies and partners as well, he noted.

Assistant Commandant of the Marine Corps Gen. Glenn M. Walters, who also testified, followed on to the vice chief's comments, adding that the most valuable training against potential peer competitors is taking place with partners in Europe and the Pacific. Soldier and Marine deployments involving counterterrorism missions offer less.

Regarding injuries, McConville said the Army is reducing them beginning at

have been declining.

As a follow-on to that, injury reduction measures are being taken at the local unit level, he said. For instance, the 82nd Airborne Division now has dieticians, physical therapists and strength coaches working with Soldiers.

FUNDING ISSUES

McConville said he's appreciative of the bipartisan budget agreement that will fund Army readiness through FY19. However, for the past nine years, a sein modernization to maintain support to the ongoing fight.

"Beyond current readiness concerns, we are at an inflection point where we can no longer afford to defer modernizing our capabilities and developing new ones without eroding competitive advantages of our technology and weapon systems," he said. "While we remain the most capable fighting force in the world, without immediate action, we may not be able to make that same statement in five years."

News Briefs

Free tax help

The Fort Rucker Tax Center, located in Bldg. 5700, Rm. 371F, offers free help with returns and electronic filing for authorized patrons Mondays-Fridays from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. through April 17. The tax center also offers their drop-off service, which allows single Soldiers to come in and drop off their income tax paperwork, and return in 48 hours to go over their complete return with a tax representative. Soldiers must return between the hours of 9-11 a.m., Mondays-Fridays for their returns. Single Soldiers who wish to utilize the drop-off service must have a simple return with no more than two W-2 forms. When visiting the tax center, people should remember to bring all tax forms, including all valid military ID cards; Social Security cards; all W-2s and wage and earning statements; 1099-R for pensions and retirements; 1098 for interest statements regarding tuitions, student loans, mortgages, etc.; a copy of the previous year's return if available; power of attorney papers if available; 1099-G forms for gambling winnings, unemployment compensations, etc.; and 1099-MISC for payments received for non-employment compensation.

For more information or to schedule an appointment, call 255-2937 or 255-2938.

Blood drive

The Armed Services Blood Program will host a blood drive at Fort Rucker Monday from 1-8 p.m. at Yano Hall.

For more information, call 706-331-1454.

Army Emergency Relief

Fort Rucker will conduct its Army Emergency Relief fundraising campaign March 1

to May 15. The motto for this year's campaign is There for Those Who Serve, according to local AER officials. The kick-off ceremony is scheduled for March 6 at 2 p.m. at the U.S. Army Aviation Museum. For more information, call 255-2341

Community Strengths and Themes Survey

Fort Rucker continues its Community Strengths and Themes Survey through March 16. The survey is located at https:// usaphcapps.amedd.army.mil/Survey/ se.ashx?s=25113745152ACC87. All Soldiers and Department of the Army civilian employees should complete the survey. Family members and retired military are welcome to take part in the survey, as well. The survey is designed to help leadership assess the community's health, according to officials.

National Prayer Breakfast

The National Prayer Breakfast is scheduled for March 1 from 6:30-8 a.m. at The Landing. The purpose of the breakfast is for military and civilian personnel, as well as the surrounding communities, to gather and pray for the good of the nation, according to organizers. The guest speaker will be retired Chaplain (Col.) Scott McChrystal, former senior chaplain for the U.S. Military Academy, West Point, New York. Tickets are complimentary and can be obtained from unit points of contact or the Fort Rucker Religious Support Office in Bldg. 8945.

For more information, call 255-2989 or 255-2012.

Supply inventory

The Logistics Readiness Center supply

section will conduct a wall-to-wall inventory March 19-23. Normal operations will be suspended on those dates. All turn-ins must be in by 2 p.m. March 14 and normal operations will discontinue at 4:15 March 16. The section plans to resume normal operations March 26. Customers will be notified by the accountable officer. Only emergency requisitions will be accepted during this period.

For more information, call 255-9504.

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 one of the open positions on the council. For more information, call 255-9124.

Siren test

The Installation Operations Center conducts a test of the emergency mass notification system the first Wednesday of each month at 11 a.m. At that time people will hear the siren over the giant voice. No actions are required.

Military pay briefing

The Defense Military Pay Office briefing for Soldiers scheduled to separate due to expired term of service or involuntary separation (non-retirement) is offered as a weekly group briefing. The ETS briefing is held Tuesdays at 1 p.m. in Bldg. 5700, Rm. 371B. Soldiers should bring the following documents to the briefing: two copies of separation orders and amendments, DA 31 - Request and Authority for Leave (if approved) and the original or notarized copy of documents to support changes in marital status not previously reported to the DMPO.

The DMPO will continue to provide deskside briefings for Soldiers who do not receive orders in time to attend a group briefing. Command teams with Soldiers who cannot attend a regularly scheduled briefing due to time constraints should call 255-3939, 255-9182 or 255-3115.

Thrift shop

The Fort Rucker Thrift Shop is open Wednesdays-Fridays from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. The thrift shop needs people's unwanted items. People can drop off donations at any time in the shed behind the shop (former Armed Forces Bank building) located in front of the theater next door to the bowling alley. Donations are tax deductible.

For more information, call 255-9595.

Resiliency Resources

The Lyster and Fort Rucker Resiliency Resources mobile device app is available for free in Android and iPhone mobile app stores. The app can help people find information for Fort Rucker, including addresses, phone numbers and event information, and also information such as where running trails are located, if there is a 5k race coming up, when Bible studies occur and more.

Pay office closure

The Defense Military Pay Office closes at 12:30 p.m. on Wednesdays. Also, beginning Tuesday, DMPO office hours will change to 7:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Mondays-Tuesdays, 7:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Wednesdays, and 7:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Thursdays and Fridays.

SecDef: New policy cracks down on non-deployable troops

By Terri Moon Cronk DOD News

WASHINGTON - The Defense Department has a "higher expectation" of deployability by its forces, Defense Secretary James N. Mattis said Saturday.

Speaking with reporters on a return flight from Germany to Washington, the secretary said the undersecretary of defense for personnel and readiness last week defined a problem that initially was brought to his attention by the Army, where "many non-deployables were on their rolls."

Aside from combat-injured personnel who are in a separate category, Mattis said, the issue concerns service members "who are, just for one reason or another, not able to deploy with their units. It was a significant number, and the Army brought their concerns forward. The other services also highlighted [their] concerns."

NEW POLICY

DOD's office of personnel and readiness has "come out with a policy that if you're not deployable for a year or more, you're going to have to go somewhere else," he said.

As an example, Mattis said, if 10,000 troops out of 100,000 are not deployable, that means 90,000 deploy more often to meet the same deployment standard.

"That's unfair," he said.

The secretary talked about a service member who is on his sixth deployment in 11 years.

"When that sort of thing happens, that brings sharply into focus that some people are carrying more than the share of the load that I want them to carry," he said.

"They need time at home," Mattis emphasized. "They need time with their families. We may enlist Soldiers, [but] we re-enlist families. That's the way it is. If you can't keep the family together, then you're either going to lose the family or you're going to lose the Soldiers, and that's a net loss for our society and for our military. [We] put a lot of training into people nowadays. So that policy is now out."

MILITARY MUST BE DEPLOYABLE

The secretary said as he reviewed the services' policies, they were already strong enough, "so some of this may simply be more adherence to the current policy that we have - some of it may require an effort within the DOD, the Office of Secretary of Defense policy, that we put out for the department now," he added.

"But the bottom line is, we expect everyone to carry their share of the load," the secretary said, adding, "and sometimes things happen. People bust their legs in training or they're in a car accident. We understand that."

But DOD comprises a deployable military, which is a lethal military that aligns with its allies and partners, he said.

"If you can't go overseas [and] carry a combat load, then obviously someone else has got to go. I want this spread fairly and equitably across the force.'

The only exemption is for those who have been injured in combat, he noted.

"If they were wounded in combat, and they want to stay in and they've lost their leg or something like this, and they can't be a paratrooper anymore, then we'll find a place to use them. That's a special category. They've earned that special status," Mattis said.

"Otherwise, you're either deployable, or you need to find something else to do. I'm not going to have some people deploying constantly, and then other people who seem to not pay that price to be in the U.S. military," he said.



HOTO BY STAFE SG1

KFOR Multinational Battle Group-East Soldiers run a 1,000 meters during the physical fitness event for the German Armed Forces Proficiency Badge at Camp Bondsteel, Kosovo, Dec. 12. The Department of Defense is re-examining policies to make sure that as many Soldiers as possible maintain deployable status.



A Soldier assigned to 3rd Battalion, 16th Field Artillery Regiment, conducts pushup drills during chemical, biological, radiological and nuclear training at Camp Casey, South Korea, Nov. 9. The Department of Defense is re-examining policies to make sure that as many Soldiers as possible maintain deployable status.





DF THE ARMY: Some fixes easy to get Soldiers moved from non-deployment status

By C. Todd Lopez Army News Service

WASHINGTON — Being ready to go to the fight is at the top - the very top - of the list of things a Soldier needs to be in order to be successful in the Army.

"The No. 1 responsibility as an individual is to maintain deployability," said Sgt. Maj. of the Army Daniel A. Dailey, during a Feb. 8 forum at the Association of the U.S. Army.

With the Army now looking at new ways, in particular through policy, to reduce the number of Soldiers in the ranks who are unable to deploy, Dailey said the fix at the individual Soldier level is quite easy.

"It's not as big a problem as people make it out to be," Dailey said. "This is as simple as going to the dentist."

Not having been to the dentist, for instance, might mean a Soldier is marked as not being completely ready to deploy, and that means the Soldier will be among the many who are marked non-deployable for combat. That's a mark against Army readiness.

"We have to be creative and incentivize deployability in the Army," Dailey said. "That's an indication of our readiness, but it's a negative indication. Making sure they are doing their post-deployment health assessment, their annual checkups with their doctor, getting all their shots. The simple things. That accounts for the largest nondeployable rate."

Dailey also said there is an inherent risk in what Soldiers do. The Army must be ready to help Soldiers recover who get hurt doing their jobs, either in combat or back home during training.

"We need to put sports medicine doctors down in the unit level, just like we do in our special mission units and our Ranger battalions. We know for a fact that doing that will reduce that down time for those Soldiers and increase our readiness rates in each one of those organizations. And we are doing just that. So we have to invest in those Soldiers."

A change in Army culture is also needed. Dailey said.

"That culture has to exist all the way down to individual Soldiers," he said. "This is an institution that requires you to be ready to fight and win. Stand up to the oath you gave: defend the Constitution of the United States against all enemies, both foreign and domestic. I tell our Soldiers all the time, we don't play home games. Our job is to play away games only. And you have to be ready to fight, and you have to be deployable to do that."

The Army is looking into policies that will attempt to reduce the number of nondeployable Soldiers in the ranks. Included among those policies are those that affect Soldiers who remain non-deployable for a continuous 12-month period, as well as Soldiers who are non-deployable for 12 nonconsecutive months during an 18-month period.

Such policies will require that commanders initiate separation action for those Soldiers. Dailey said that the Army will still take care of those Soldiers, however.

"That doesn't mean we're not going to take care of people," he said. "It means we have to be focused on readiness ... We have a commitment to the sons and daughters that are given to us. We have a responsibility to take care of them for the rest of their lives, if we hurt them, if they are hurt ... doing the duty we ask them to do."

Still, Dailey said, with the Army chief of staff's No. 1 priority being readiness, and with Soldier deployability being a necessary component of readiness, the Army must get after the number of non-deployable Soldiers.

"To wear the uniform, we have to make sure they are ready to fight and win," Dailey said. "Because deterrence is our main goal. And we do that through strength."

SecDef: NATO on 'right trajectory' to protect nations

By Jim Garamone DOD News

WASHINGTON - NATO defense ministers agreed to continue projecting stability beyond the alliance's borders and will continue to build capabilities within the alliance, Defense Secretary James N. Mattis said in Brussels yesterday.

"In a world awash in change, NATO stands firm as an island of stability in a turbulent sea," Mattis said during a news conference at the conclusion of the meeting.

Projecting stability requires the alliance's political stance to be backed by military forces that are fit to fight, the secretary said. This will reduce the chance of miscalculation by any adversary.

ADAPTING TO CHANGING TIMES

NATO, he added, must continue to adapt to the changing times and changing capabilities of any adversaries.

During the ministerial, the defense leaders discussed the recently published U.S. Nuclear Posture Review. Mattis said that many allies had been consulted on the study.



Secretary of Defense James N. Mattis answers questions during a press conference at NATO Headquarters in Brussels, Belgium, Feb. 15.

ceived across the alliance, the secretary said. "The U.S. approach to nuclear deterrence embraces two co-equal principles: First, ensuring a safe, secure and effective nuclear deterrent, and second, working wherever possible for nuclear non-proliferation and arms control."

sions about burden-sharing in the alliance. He noted that alliance nations have increased defense spending and are working on improving "the culture of readiness." This will provide ready forces that will be responsive to NATO's political direction.

The alliance must make po-

command structure and accelerate military mobility in conjunction with the European Union, the secretary said.

NATO SPENDING **INCREASES**

A total of eight NATO nations will meet the target of spending 2 Mattis was pleased on discus- litical decisions faster, adapt the percent of gross domestic product

on defense, and 15 nations will hit that mark by 2024. Mattis noted that France is forecasting hitting that level in 2025.

"Year-on-year across the alliance, 2017 saw the largest growth ... as a percentage of GDP, and the largest real growth in a quarter century," he said. This has added \$46 billion to defense across the alliance."

NATO is a member of the global coalition to defeat the Islamic State of Iraq and Syria, and defense ministers agreed to remain committed to the immediate and longer-term missions in Iraq.

"NATO will sustain its investment in Iraq to project stability into the geopolitical heart of the Middle East," Mattis said. "America supports NATO's initiative for a NATO training mission in Iraq."

NATO is also a stalwart part of the mission to Afghanistan and the ministers committed to filling critical shortfalls in the staffs.

"It is the collective dedication of the 29 nations, and working together creates the collective strength as we fight the threats from the east and the south to defend our values," the secretary said. "There is much that needs to be done, but NATO is on the right trajectory."

"The review was very well re-

SecDef: Commitment to readiness includes beefed-up BCTs

By David Vergun

Army News Service

WASHINGTON — Three months ago when Dr. Mark T. Esper became secretary of the Army, he said he would focus on two enduring priorities during his tenure

First, he committed to making sure that Soldiers, their families, and civilians are well cared for, led, trained and equipped. Secondly, Esper wants to ensure everyone commits to Army Values, particularly leaders, who should treat everyone with dignity and respect.

recently with Soldiers in Germany during a Stryker live-fire exercise.

BCTs are also now receiving more munitions and replacement parts, he added.

While it is very important for Soldiers in those BCTs to be training with partner nations, it's also important to get a good return on investment in the process, Esper noted. The Army, in consultation with the joint staff, is looking at its far-flung, worldwide commitments to determine where it might be able to consolidate, he said.

Currently, Soldiers are being



Esper spoke on these priorities at a media press briefing Feb. 15 at the Pentagon.

One of the ways to ensure Soldiers are equipped to handle high-end threats from nations like China and Russia, he said, is to make brigade combat teams more lethal. The Army has been doing that in a variety of ways, including converting infantry brigade combat teams to armored BCTs, he said.

Additionally, those BCTs are being beefed up with more Soldiers, thanks to Congress providing additional funding for manning levels and equipment.

Besides that, BCTs are becoming more robust with additional equipment such as short-range air defense, indirect fire support, and various upgrades like more lethal firepower for Strykers, Esper said, noting that he was

deployed a lot more than they were four or five years ago, and at some point, that impacts readiness in a negative way - meaning fatigue and time away from Families, the secretary noted.

FUNDING ASSESSMENT

Esper had praise for the fiscal year 2019 budget that was recently released and said he has asked lawmakers to always provide budgets that are "predictable, adequate, sustained and timely."

With regard to "timely," he said the appropriation process that takes place in Congress eats up many months of each fiscal year, so when authorization is finally granted, it's too late to spend for modernization, training or classroom seats.

If he was given one wish to ask of lawmakers, Esper responded

PHOTO BY SPC. DANIEL PARRO

Secretary of the Army Mark Esper has made it a priority of his tenure to ensure that Soldiers are manned with the best training and equipment in order to succeed on the battlefield. BCTs are becoming more robust with additional equipment such as short-range air defense, indirect fire support, and various upgrades like more lethal firepower for Strykers, Esper said.

that his would be "to allow me to spend O&M money over a period of two fiscal years," which smooth out the spending curve, Operation and maintenance is currently the largest portion of the budget after military personnel.

GREEN OUT, PINK IN

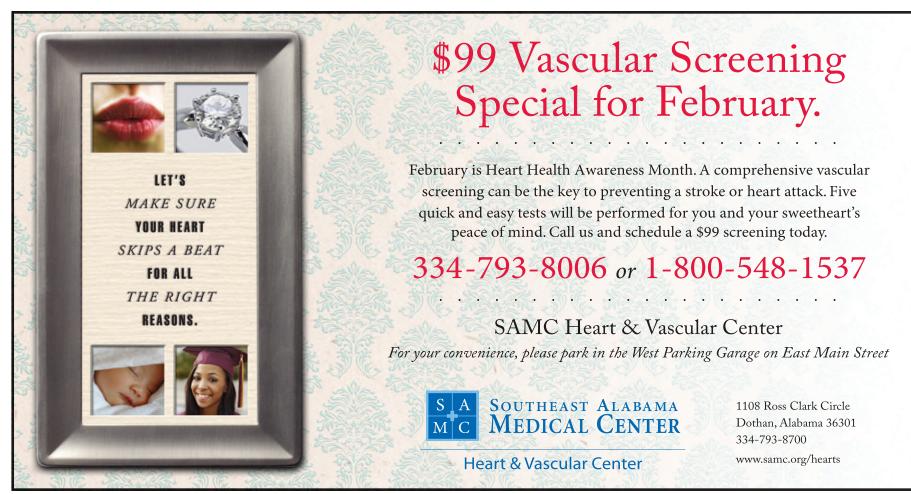
Esper was asked a number of other questions, including what he thinks of bringing back the World War II-era "Pink and Green" uniform.

He noted that the sergeant major of the Army was its biggest cheerleader and that he too is on board with the idea. A decision should be made by summer, pending congressional approval, which Esper said he thinks he has

The secretary recalled his own 21 years Army service, which included 10 years on active duty in the 1980s and 1990s.

Back then, Soldiers were not too fond of the "Green" uniforms, he said. Soldiers were happy to see them phased out later on.

"It's difficult to explain the pride Soldiers take in their uniform appearance," Esper concluded. "It really makes a difference in terms of pride, confidence and esprit de corps. It's those intangibles that make a difference in combat."



G-1: Army aims to match Soldiers' talents with best MOS

By David Vergun *Army News Service*

WASHINGTON — The Army is working hard to determine Soldiers' knowledge, skills, abilities and preferences, and use those metrics to get the best military occupational fit for them, said Lt. Gen. Thomas C. Seamands.

Doing so will surely benefit the Soldier as well as optimize Army readiness, he said.

Seamands, the G-1 deputy chief of staff, testified Feb. 14 before the Senate Armed Services Subcommittee on Personnel. The general told lawmakers the Army is now piloting a talent assessment program that will identify talent and match it to Army requirements.

For example, this past summer at the Aviation Captain's Career Course at Fort Rucker, junior captains completed a battery of talent assessments, which provided them with individually-tailored feedback on where their talents align with the requirements of the Army's various career specialties.

Likewise, junior captains at the Field Artillery Captain's Career Course at Fort Sill, Oklahoma, are currently conducting a similar talent assessment, he said. The pilot program finishes this spring, and the Army plans to expand the assessment program to include additional career courses over the next two years.

"Our goal is comprehensive visibility of all our Soldiers' knowledge, skills, abilities and behaviors to best fit the right person in the right job at the right time," he said.

One way to get that visibility is the Integrated Personnel and Pay System-Army, which will transform the Army's legacy personnel system to a 21st century talent management system, he said.

The IPPS-A will enable the Army to manage all 1.1 million



PHOTO BY SGT. MARICRIS C. MCLANE

Mortar men from Fort Campbell, Ky., conduct live fire exercise during Network Integration Evaluation 17.2 July 14 at Dona Ana Range Complex, N.M. The Army aims to match Soldiers with the best MOS in order to best benefit the individual Soldier and optimize total readiness.

Soldiers across the total force in a single, integrated personnel and pay system that will directly impact the readiness of the Army and improve the lives of Soldiers, Seamands said.

Also, IPPS-A will provide a full end-to-end audit capability to ensure Army personnel and pay transactions are compliant with the law, he noted, explaining that IPPS-A "integrates software that creates distinct roles and permissions by individual positions, sets business processes, segregates duties, and generates system alerts when changes are made."

Those are all things Seamands said are not possible with current

Army personnel systems.

Initial implementation of IPPS-A will start with the Pennsylvania Army National Guard in October 2018, he said.

SOLDIER FOR LIFE

In addition to finding the right jobs for Soldiers while they're in the service, the Army is also committed to ensuring their successful transition to the right civilian jobs upon separation, Seamands said.

Each year, about 100,000 Soldiers transition from the Army via either retirement or separation, he said.

"Our mandate here is clear – we must continue to focus on

preparing our Soldiers for transition to productive veterans across our respective communities," the general told lawmakers.

The Army's Soldier for Life strategic outreach program has connected more than 1,000 private and public organizations to transitioning Soldiers and spouses, resulting in increased educational and employment opportunities for Army veterans and their families, he said.

According to the Department of Labor, Soldier for Life efforts assisted in reducing the veteran unemployment rate to 3.7 percent for fiscal year 2017, along with the lowest amount of unemployment compensation for veterans in 17 years.

"We as an Army continue to enhance our policies and procedures for transitioning Soldiers and have ensured commanders understand that they must ensure their Soldiers attend VOW Actmandated briefings," Seamands concluded.

"In the end, it is in the Army's and our nation's best interest to ensure Soldiers transition successfully back into our communities. They are better able to become productive citizens as well as important ambassadors for the Army who can positively affect the propensity for others to serve."

By Terri Moon Cronk DOD News

WASHINGTON — The 2018 Nuclear Posture Review emphasizes the capabilities needed to correct adversary miscalculations, and in doing so, it deters the use of nuclear weapons, the deputy undersecretary of defense for policy said Friday at National Defense University here.

David J. Trachtenberg spoke at an NDU Center for the Study of Weapons of Mass Destruction seminar on Feb. 16.

The 2018 Nuclear Policy Review is the Defense Department's fourth review of U.S. nuclear policy, posture and programs since the end of the Cold War. The newest review, Trachtenberg said, "reaffirms long-standing bipartisan principles of U.S. nuclear policy, while at the same time recognizing the reality that a much more challenging nuclear threat environment has emerged since the previous 2010 Nuclear Posture Review."

THREE OUTCOMES

The review's three corresponding outcomes comprise the "reprioritization of nuclear roles, the clarification of our nuclear policy, and the recommendations for deterrence capabilities, each of which has been subject to considerable mischaracterization in much of the public commentary today."

The first outcome is that the 2018 review returns deterrence of nuclear attack against the United States, its allies and its partners to the top priority of U.S. nuclear policy, he said.

Second, he said, to strengthen deterrence, the review notes that the United States will consider the use of nuclear weapons only in response to extreme circumstances that threaten its vital interests.

Third, the review recommends two nuclear programs to strengthen U.S. capabilities to deter attack and assure allies: the modification of a small number of existing submarine-launched ballistic missiles to include a low-yield option, and the pursuit of a nuclear sea-launched cruise missile, Trachtenberg said.

EFFECTIVE DETERRENCE

"These specific capabilities are recommended to strengthen the deterrence of war and the assurance of allies, thereby helping to ensure that nuclear weapons are not employed or proliferated," he emphasized.

"Effective deterrence is about tailoring our capabilities to a potential adversary's calculations regarding the use of nuclear force to ensure that it never can appear to be a useful option," Trachtenberg explained. "We must assess our capabilities relative to the doctrine, exercises, statements, threats and behavior of potential adversaries."

The goal of DOD's recommendations is to deter war, not to fight one, he pointed out.

"If nuclear weapons are employed in conflict, it is because deterrence failed," he said. "And the goal of the 2018 NPR is to make sure that deterrence will not fail."

Modernization of the U.S. nuclear deterrent, adoption of tailored deterrence strategies with flexible capabilities, and clarification of the roles of nuclear weapons all send a strong deterrence message to potential adversaries, while also reassuring U.S. allies, Trachtenberg noted.

In addition, he said, the review helps to ensure that U.S. diplomats speak from a position of strength.

NUCLEAR TRIAD MODERNIZATION

"Russia has little incentive to negotiate seriously about nuclear reductions without a robust and ongoing U.S. modernization program," Trachtenberg said. "In fact, the 2018 NPR calls for the modernization of all three legs of our strategic nuclear triad."

Defense Secretary James N. Mattis recently told Congress that Russia is unlikely to give up something to gain nothing, he noted.

"Critics who favor eliminating U.S. nuclear systems in the face of what is clearly an expansive Russian nuclear modernization effort, I believe, are undermining America's greatest bargaining leverage and the prospects for future arms agreements," Trachtenberg said.

The 2018 Nuclear Posture Review is one of several important reinforcing U.S. national security documents meant to guide U.S. policy in an increasingly complex and challenging world, he noted.

"Much as we might prefer otherwise, nuclear weapons are a regrettable necessity in the real world," Trachtenberg said. "After the slaughter of two world wars, [nuclear weapons] have prevented largescale great power conflict for more than seven decades. This is not a trivial outcome. In an era of renewed great power competition, adversaries, allies and the American people should know that the United States has the will and the flexible resilient nuclear forces needed to protect the peace."



PHOTO BY NAVY MASS COMMUNICATION SPECIALIST 2ND CLASS SHAUN GRIFFIN

A Virginia-class attack submarine, USS Illinois (SSN 786), arrives at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam, after completing a change of homeport from Groton, Conn., Nov. 22.

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mation should come to attention upon the sound of the first

note, remain at attention until the cannon blast is heard, then

salute. If no cannon is heard, the Soldiers should salute upon

All vehicles on the installation should come to a stop, in-

cluding civilians, but Soldiers in vehicles during "Reveille"

or "Retreat" are required to stop and dismount their vehicle

the first note of "To The Colors."

to render honors, added McKay.

Tradition

Continued from Page A1

McKay said. "The flag is lowered to ensure completion at the last note of the music."

The seven-Soldier detail is switched out twice a month and cycled through four different units on Fort Rucker: the 1st Aviation Brigade, the Warrant Officer Career College, the NCO Academy and the 110th Avn. Bde.

AER

Continued from Page A1

continue to be there for those who serve.

"We sincerely hope that all Soldiers will consider the opportunity this program provides and give as they are able," she said.

According to Gunter, a bulk of the donations is gathered from fellow Soldiers who choose to donate through their unit representative, Soldiers helping Soldiers. But

Museum

anyone who chooses to do so voluntarily can donate to AER using the online form available at http:// www.aerhq.org.

attention.

"For those donating online, if they note the unit they are with, their donation will be counted towards the Fort Rucker and their units donation totals," Gunter added.

The traditional categories of assistance are emergency travel, rent, utilities, essential privatelyowned vehicle repairs, funeral expenses, food and gas," according

According to Army Regulation 600-25, during "Reveille,"

Soldiers in uniform and not in formation must come to atten-

tion and salute in the direction of the flag upon the first note.

If the flag cannot be seen, Soldiers should face the direction

of the music. Soldiers in formation should follow the com-

mand of their senior Soldier who should call the group to

During "Retreat," Soldiers in uniform who are not in for-

to Gunter. "The categories of assistance have expanded to also include first month's rent, security deposits and other PCS move costs, if there is a delay in receipt of advance pay or dislocation allowance," she said. "This involves minor home repairs to include repair of the heating and cooling system; purchase/repair of stoves, refrigerator, washer and dryer when establishing a new household or to repair if required; and essential furniture when establishing a new household.

"Providing a no-interest loan to assist in these areas can assist Soldiers and their families by avoiding additional costs causing further financial hardship," she added.

According to Gunter, Soldiers are eligible to receive more than one AER assistance, if necessary. "In fact, if a Soldier is paying off a loan and experiences an additional financial hardship, they can request additional assistance through AER," she said. "Financial stress can become overwhelming and consuming which, in turn, can impact a Soldier in other areas of their life. With AER helping to alleviate the financial stress, the Soldier can focus on the mission at hand."

For more information, call 255-2341 or visit www.aerhq.org.

Continued from Page A1

"Back in the late 1950s, Lockheed was looking at the current helicopter designs ... and one thing the company noted was that the rotor technologies of the time afforded a very unstable platform," said the curator. "They were hard to fly and had to be constantly adjusted and maintained to keep in level flight. So, they started looking at the rotor systems on them and realized that there were just too many moving parts.

"Back then, during the rotation of a rotor system, it does a number of things – it flaps, it feathers, hunts, it leads, it lags – all in an effect to maintain lift on the rotor system," he continued. "With all of this going on, there is a lot of vibration and a lot of instability in that system, so Lockheed started looking at a hingeless rotor design, which would later be known as a rigid rotor system."

What the company came up with was the CL-475 that worked with a gyrosynchronized rotor system that utilized a gyroscope to adjust the pitch and other movements of the rotor system to eliminate many of the moving parts. The first version of the aircraft featured a two-blade system, which was found to be unsuccessful, but when the engineers came up with a three-bladed system, they found the aircraft became very steady, said Mitchell.

With the addition of the extra blade, the vibration of the aircraft was reduced and less RPM was needed to achieve lift

even with that load," he said. "The flexing system with the rotor system was able to compensate for that."

Although the CL-475 never went into roduction the Army was impressed with its rotor design and ultimately awarded a contract to pursue the technology, which subsequently led to the creation of the XH-51 and then the Cheyenne program. "The CL-475 basically broke the paradigm of the helicopter rotor systems of the time, and we're lucky to have it in our collection," said the curator. "It was designed simply to test the concept, and once it proved that it worked, they kept all of the telemetry and data, and moved on to the next evolution." Mitchell said it's a wonder that the aircraft survived at all, especially considering it was only a proof of concept. The helicopter came to the museum from the National Air and Space Museum of the Smithsonian Institution, and spent the last year under restoration before being moved into its rightful place at the home of Army Aviation.





A gyroscope sits atop the CL-475 to provide an alternative rotor system with fewer moving parts to combat the issues of vibration and stability during its time.

"Once they went with the three-bladed system, they put it on the aircraft and tweaked it here and there, and now this was a completely different aircraft - it was very stable," said the curator.

Another benefit of the gyro-synchronized rotor system was that no matter the lateral load that was placed on the aircraft, within reason, the fuselage would always find center and hover in a stabilized latitude.

The Lockheed engineers further proved the reliability of the gyro-synchronized rotor system by adding a long arm off the side of the aircraft with a seat attached, and placed a person in the seat, said Mitchell.

"With most aircraft, you're going to get a lean to the fuselage because it's trying to compensate for that weight out there, whereas the CL remained level in flight

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LOOKING FOR LOCAL EVENTS? CHECK PAGE 6 IN THIS WEEK'S COMMUNITY SECTION.

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REAL ESTATE SHOWCASE S Ľ E ľ Sunday, Feb. 25 Sunday, Feb. 25 Sunday, Feb. 25 1:00 pm - 3:00 pm 1:00 pm - 3:00 pm



If you like comfort and charm, you'll love this sparkling 4 bedroom, 2.5 bath in impeccable condition. Open floor plan with formal dining and large family area w/ fireplace. Anyone who cooks will love the kitchen with granite, stainless appliances, pantry, center island, breakfast bar and dining area. Split bedroom plan with a private

master suite. Resting on a landscaped level lot, this home radiates quiet charm -- enjoy morning coffee on covered porch & patio. DIRECTIONS: From Highway 84 turn on County Road 445, R on Madison Avenue, house on L HEATHER CONWAY, 580-215-2699

Saturday, Feb. 24 1:00 pm - 3:00 pm

304 HUNTINGTON DR • \$229,000

Priced to sell in desirable Huntington Ridge you will find this lovely 4/2 with a pool and workshop. The split plan has a separate dining room as well as a breakfast area. The bedrooms are all nicely sized. The screened in porch overlooks the backyard with its lovely pool perfect for entertaining. Freshly painted inside this beauty is move in ready. Washer

DIRECTIONS: Boll Weevil Cr to Shell Field Rd. Turn left into Huntington Ridge on Huntington Dr. Follow street around curve. House is on the right. From Hwy 27 on Shell Field Rd, turn right into Huntington Ridge. HEATHER CONWAY, 580-215-269

334-347-0048

531 Boll Weevil Circle



A true paradise. This four bedroom two bath home on approx .75 acre is full of light and space! Plenty of windows let in natural light and showcase the beautiful neighborhood. This home features an elegant bonus room with floor to ceiling windows equipped with an indoor grill for entertaining family and friends. The home is pre wired for surround sound and the home is clean and ready to move in. Plenty of space outside to add a pool or for outdoor entertainment. DIRECTIONS: Highway 84 to CR 445, Left on Michael Lane, Home on Left IN. 301-565



Move in ready! New cabinets throughout in fall of 2017. Kitchen has bar for extra space and on 2017. Kitchen has bar for extra space and entertaining. New solid surface countertops in kitchen. Under cabinet lighting. Tile backsplash is not only stylish but is great for easy clean up. New wood laminate floors throughout. Tile in wet areas. Pantry in kitchen. All appliances. French doors open to sunroom providing extra living space. Two inch blinds throughout. New exterior shutters on home. New mailbox. Fenced in



yard with double & single gate! DIRECTIONS: Rucker Blvd. toward Enterprise Ft. Rucker gate. Take

Road 740. Home is down on the left. SHAWN REEVES, 475-6405



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505 LAUREL BREEZE: This stunning lakefront 4 bedroom 4 bath home has everything! A great floor plan opens out onto a covered deck overlooking the pool and lake. The kitchen has stainless steel appliances, gas stove & oven with warming drawer, silestone countertops and a large laundry room. Each bedroom has its own bath, office, separate den, workout room/craft room, storage room, 2 gas water heaters, 2 HVAC units, security system & sprinkler system. All of this in a great neighborhood on a cul de sacl TERRI AVERETT, 406-2072 & JACKIE THOMPSON, 406-1231

\$143,000 • REDUCED



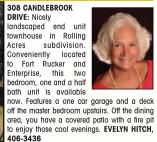
2881 COUNTY ROAD 21, GENEVA: This adorable low maintenance vinyl clad 3bd/2ba 2011 built home is perched off the road with 2.3 acres of land. Country living with all the modern conveniences including a giant master bath shower! There are two wells on the property, a dog pen, and a shed! The open floor plan is great for entertaining! CHERYL PICCININI, 390-9612 & MAGGIE HAAS, 389-0011

REDUCED • \$155,000



8825 DALE COUNTY RD 1: Tons of potential on almost 3 acres of land. Two 3/1.5 houses in good condition w/termite bonds on both. Two huge metal bldgs previously used as a cabine shop & lumber storage bldg. Another bldg was used for painting cabinets & has windows that till out for ventilation. Two deteched carports w/a total of 5 stalls. A storm shelter, small storage bldg & 2 detached laundry/storage bldgs complete the package. Another 3 lots totaling 1 acce behind the property are for sale as #20171999. Separately or as package. JAN SAWYER, 406-2393





\$79,500 • REDUCED



209 OPINE ROAD, OPP: Family time & mingling during gatherings flow easily from kitchen to dining & living areas of this Spurlin Subdivision home. Beautiful hardwood floor in living for many a mining a m 1+/- miles away at Frank Jackson State Park, a publicly owned recreation area that wraps around Lake Frank Jackson. Make this your year-round home at the lake. MARGE SIMMONS, 477-1962



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486 AVERETT STREET: This traditional style home with four bedrooms and four bathrooms sits on approximately 1.75 acres. Master suite is located on the main floor, two of the bedrooms are upstairs and share a common living space, and an additional bedroom and bath are located on the other side of the home. This additional bedroom features a private deck and a separate entrance from the outside. This home also has 2 fireplaces, a bonus room/den and a sunroom that opens to a large patio. A must see property! SOMMER RAKES, 406-1286



812 DEERWOOD ESTATES, GENEVA: Triple crown moldings, trey ceilings, travertine tile, accent lighting, double ovens, warming drawer, 5 burner gas cooktop, ice machine, stamped concrete nginning, bodas ordensis, hanning utaria, o banka gas ordensis, iso natarias, annipor ordensis, heated pool w/color changin lights, hot tub, outdoor kitchen, security & sound systems w/too notch technology, air conditioned mancave & she shed, 3 car garage, 3 Rinnai tankless gas water heaters - the list of special touches in this home goes on & on. A painting above the fireplace etracts to reveal a television. You'll be blown away by this beauty! JAN SAWYER, 406-2393

\$269,500 • REDUCED



504 LAUREL BREEZE: Completely updated within the last six months to include new flooring, paint, upgrades on bathrooms and kitchen, new duct system for HVAC. Flooring is new Armstrong flooring which requires only damp mop to clean. JACKIE THOMPSON, 406-1231 & TERRI AVERETT, 406-2072

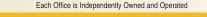
\$119,900 • REDUCED



510 W WATTS ST: Great starter or retirement home, this home features a Jacuzzi tub in the guest bath and a large shower in the master bath. Handicap accessible as this home is very open with the extra room being able to be a bedroom, office, or family room. Chain link fenced yard in the rear for that special pet. Kitchen equipped with self-cleaning oren, microwave hood, dishwasher and refrigerator. Nice pantry, and washer and dryer connections in a closet area. Come take a look at this cute home! EVELYN HITCH, 406-3436



28648 HIGHWAY 167, JACK: Country living at its best on 30+/- acres. Idyllic setting with two porches; front and back to enjoy the view. Fire pit, trails, and plenty of wildlife. Open floor plan with tons of natural light. Granite counters, Kitchenaid dishwasher, & add'l freezer. Storm Safe room. Many other amenities. Roughly 27 acres in pasture land and existing food plots There are surveyed plans for a 5+/- acre spring fed pond. Great neighbors! This is the dream home you have been looking for. Turkeys Hunter's paradise. CHERYL PICCININI, 390-9612



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REGENCY REALTY, INC.

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63 COURTYARD WAY: Town home in good condition, located very close to town and Fort Rucker. VA foreclosure to be sold as is. There is HOA of \$75 monthly. Amenities include community pool, Club house, tennis court and small work out room. Alabama Right of Redemption will apply. BOB KUYKENDALL, 369-8534 & NANCY CAFIERO, 389-1758





116 WEEKS DRIVE: This 7 unit townhome complex has a wonderful rental history due to its excellent location near Hillcrest Elementary, Dauphin Jr. High, downtown Enterprise & Boll Weevil Circle, Each unit has two bedrooms & 1 1/2 baths. The kitchen comes equipped with appliances including refrigerators. Laundry hook ups are in a room off the patio. The owner has maintained the units with various updates such a tile flooring in some. One tenant has lived there for 27 years and another for 18 years. That speaks volumes! JAN SAWYER, 406-2393

NEW LISTING • \$169,500



201 JASMINE CIRCLE: Lovely 3 bed/2ba cottage with storm shelter room made from cinder blocks! This room was built for that purpose and can function as an office, craft space, or extra storage when there is not a storm. The corner lot has an extra wide patio and the concrete in the front and back has been custom designed. MAGGIE HAAS, 389-0011

NEW LISTING • \$225,000



210 AARON DRIVE: This 4/2 with a pool and within sight of the Enterprise Country Club Golf Course is a phenomenal price at \$225,000. That is below the assessed value and only \$91.72 psf. The large yard has a wood privacy fence surrounding the salt water pool. The home features granite countertops, stainless appliances, a split bedroom plan & a gas tankless water heater. Super convenient to Faulkner Gate, Shell Field, Dauphin Jr. High, Holly Hill Elementary & a straight shot to Boll Weevil Circle & downtown. Priced to sell! JAN SAWYER, 406-2393

NEW LISTING • \$210,000



808 MORGAN LANE: Beautiful, updated 4/2. The large master has an enormous closet & ar updated bathroom. Large corner lot features a backyard w/salt water pool & covered patio perfect for outdoor entertaining. A spacious loft overlooks the living room & has built in storage/ entertainment center making it perfect as a sitting/family/craft room. French doors lead out to an upstairs deck & stairs leading to the covered patio below. Large 2-car garage w/lofted storage space. Updated downstairs hall bathroom. Granite countertops! JAN SAWYER, 406-2393

ARMY SAFE IS ARMY SAFE

FEBRUARY 22, 2018

BATTLEFIELD REALISM

Aviators test next generation air-toground missile

By Maj. Matthew Miskowski and Mark Schauer For Army News Service

YUMA PROVING GROUND, Arizona — Aviation testers are deep into testing the latest Army Aviation missile, known as the Joint Air-to-Ground Missile.

The complex JAGM test was a collaborative team effort between the West Fort Hood, Texas-based Aviation Test Directorate of the U.S. Army Operational Test Command, Yuma Test Center at Yuma Proving Ground, Arizona, and Redstone Test Center based at Redstone Arsenal, Alabama.

AVTD coordinated multiple efforts to assure a successful test as JAGM moves towards its next major milestone, a lowrate initial production decision.

"The close cooperation between YTC



PHOTO BY TAD BROWNING

Pilots fire the new Joint Air-to-Ground Missile at Cibola Range, Yuma Proving Ground, Ariz., during training.

and the Operational Test Command during the short duration was critical," said Lt. Col. Karsten Haake, chief of the AVTD Rotary Wing Test Division. "Without the professionalism and the mission dedication of the YTC range support team, test completion would

have been significantly delayed. This was truly a team effort."

Participating pilots give the new weapon's versatility high marks.

"One of the things that sticks out to me is the simplicity for the crew in terms of how they select weapons for their missions," said CW5 John Bilton, the first non-experimental test pilot to fire the missile – a milestone that took place at YPG in the fall.

"Before, we had to put a lot of thought into, 'What do I need?' As soon as I launch, I don't get to come back and change out my missiles," Bilton said. "In combat, you don't want to encounter a target you need to hit and not have onboard the right missile for the job."

The JAGM boasts the ability to use semi-active laser or radio frequency as a means of guiding it to target.

Moreover, the crew can switch modes within seconds as a combat scenario evolves.

"Using a SAL missile, the last six seconds of the missile flight is the most critical to keep your laser sight on target," explained Michael Kennedy, Experimental Test Pilot, Aviation Flight Test Directorate, RTC.

"If you're getting shot at and your line of sight goes off the target, your missile misses. JAGM can start off using the laser, then transition to the radar portion and still hit the target if the crew has to

SEE REALISM, PAGE B4



An Airman observes an Army CH-47 Chinook helicopter at an undisclosed location in Afghanistan Feb. 9. The Airman is assigned to the 83rd Expeditionary Rescue Squadron, Air Force Central Command's first dedicated joint personnel recovery team.

Sky no longer only belongs to rotary, fixed-wing aircraft in today's Army

By Staff Sgt. David Overson For Army News Service

HOHENFELS, Germany — The airspace directly above a battlefield has historically belonged to rotary or fixed wing aircraft.

This still may be the case for firepower, but there is a smaller form of aircraft buzzing around these days for reconnaissance purposes in the form of drones.

Infantry units across the Army are slowly seeing the advantage of small unmanned aircraft systems in the daily fight. Small UAS' are an integral part of the arsenal of the 1st Battalion, 4th Infantry Regiment assigned to the Joint Multinational Readiness Center at 7th Army Training Command's Hohenfels Training Area.

Sgt. Christopher Curley, small UAS master trainer, B Company, 1st Bn., 4th Inf. Regt., points out that during rotational exercises as JMRC's permanent opposition force, at times SUAS accounts for up to 60 percent of its intelligence gathering.

"We typically can cover large areas of the box in rapid succession with our (small) UAS teams," said Curley. "We paint a large portion of the intelligence picture with minimal risk to men and equipment. What may take a scout team a day to do, may only take three hours for us."

The 1st Bn., 4th Inf. Regt. is currently using three types of small UAS', a commercial-off-the shelf



PHOTO BY STAFF SGT. DAVID OVERSON

Sgt. Christopher Curley prepares to launch an RQ-11 Raven during Allied Spirit VIII Feb. 2.

quadcopter, an RQ-20 Puma UAS, and an RQ-11 Raven UAS.

The quadcopter can be used in a variety of roles to replicate current and potential threats for the purposes of the rotational units training at HTA. Under perfect conditions, it offers short-range collection capabilities up to seven kilometers (4.3 miles), with a high-resolution camera sensor and can carry a small payload of up to three pounds approximately one kilometer (0.62 miles) in distance, according to Army sources.

The Raven, currently used by the U.S. and several NATO and partner nations, has a much longer battery life of up to 60 minutes, and a cruising distance of approximately 10 kilometers (6.2 miles), but it is not as

versatile as the quadcopter with its hovering ability.

The Puma has arguably the longest battery life of approximately two hours and a 20-kilometer (12.4 miles) range in distance.

"The quadcopter is a great tool for quick recon," added Curley. "I relate it to fishing – you cast your reel, check that area and then move on. With the quadcopter you are more agile, but you lack the range of the raven and some of the great tools it has. With the raven, you get a lot of those tools, but you lack the agility and it takes more time to master it, and train Soldiers to use it. The Puma, on the other hand, has the real ability to get

SEE SKY, PAGE B4

MILESTONE

Center announces V-280 joint multirole tiltrotor flown by Army pilot

U.S. Army Aviation and Missile Research, Development, and Engineering Center Public Affairs Press Release

AMARILLO, Tex. — Bell Helicopter's Air Vehicle Concept Demonstrator aircraft, funded under the Joint Multi-Role Technology Demonstration program, was flown for the first time by an Army pilot Feb. 7.

CW3 Tom Wiggins, of the U.S. Army Special Operations Aviation Command, conducted the flight at the Bell Flight Test Facility in Amarillo.

During the flight, he performed hover in ground effect repositioning, pattern flight and roll-on landings.

The JMR TD is an Army science and technology effort designed to develop, expand and demonstrate new capabilities in vertical lift technology. The U.S. Army Aviation and Missile Research, Development and Engineering Center leads the JMR TD effort. It is a precursor to the Department of Defense Future Vertical Lift program.

"One of the keys to this successful S&T demonstra-

SEE MILESTONE, PAGE B4



COURTESY OF BELL HELICOPTER

Bell Helicopter's Air Vehicle Concept Demonstrator aircraft was flown for the first time by an Army pilot, CW3 Tom Wiggins, of the U.S. Army Special Operations Aviation Command, Feb. 7.





Realism

Continued from Page B1

use evasive maneuvers," he added.

More capable in adverse weather conditions and boasting a longer range than the older Hellfire, the JAGM can now be fired and aircrews can retreat to a safer standoff distance, but also can be aimed without pointing the laser directly at the target.

"The ability to not have to put the laser directly on the target and let the adversary know that you are about to kill him is a tremendous benefit," added Al Maes, Aviation weapons technical adviser for the Training and Doctrine Command's Capability Manager Recon Attack.

"Once you have the missile off the rail and encounter smoke or dust or fog, a regular laser missile could lose that target. With JAGM, I have a pretty good guarantee that I am going to kill that target with a single missile instead of multiple missile shots," he said.

YPG's vast ranges and variety of realistic targets is a great location and allows the Apache equipped with JAGM to operate in a variety of situations and altitudes that resemble an operational environment.

Continued from Page B1

out there and touch someone, with its extended battery life."

According to Fort Benning's small UAS instructors, who recently conducted a small UAS Master Trainer's Course at HTA, the youngest small UAS master trainer in the Army is right here with C Co., 1st Bn., 4th Inf. Regt.

Pfc. Lucas Bria is now relishing his new role as an SUAS master trainer after receiving a waiver for his rank to enroll in the course.

"SUAS gives us a unique view in the sky," said Bria. "Where we can view objectives and targets from above, and the enemy usually doesn't account for this view.

Milestone

Continued from Page B1

tion effort is the nature by which the government and industry partners have completely teamed not only during the analysis, design and early qualification efforts, but also for the flight test activity," said Dan Bailey, JMR TD Program director.

FVL will deliver the next generation of vertical lift aircraft to the Joint Warfighter, providing the speed, range, payload, and mission systems critical to successfully engaging the enemy in future operations.

"We're out here shooting at real targets," said Scott McLendon, AVTD operational test officer for JAGM. "It's a real T-72 driving down the road, not a burnt-out hulk with a million holes in it sitting out on the range. To me, the real targets provided at YPG are really a value-added."

To make the testing as realistic as possible, YPG personnel installed remote-control kits on four separate target vehicles, allowing pilots to fly scenarios where they engaged multiple moving targets at once.

"It's difficult and unique," said Kennedy. "Having real moving targets adds good operational flavor to the test."

YPG's natural desert environment also contributed significantly to the test's realism.

"We also get more battlefield realism in that we get dust as well as smoke, so we get a two-for-one here in terms of the environmental piece," added Maes.

Information gathered during the operational test not only validates the weapon, but also contributes new insights for training pilots on how to use the JAGM for maximum effect.

Though the operational test is now complete, further

developmental testing, including integrating new software to support the JAGM into the Apache, will continue at YPG.

Yuma Proving Ground has nearly 2000 square miles of restricted airspace, a vast and precious asset used to test manned and unmanned aircraft – and their weapons – in all stages of the development cycle.

The clear, stable air and extremely dry climate – which makes inclement weather a rarity – as well as YPG's isolation from urban encroachment, makes it highly coveted for this type of testing.

"YPG is way less restrictive than some other installations," said McLendon. "We can put the missile through all the parameters we need to, including highaltitude shots. It's really user-friendly here."

YPG can conduct multiple tests concurrently and without having to compete for runway and airspace with manned fighter jets, a limitation at other installations.

The close coordination, professionalism and favorable test locations assured the success of this critical test as this new capability moves towards fielding for Soldiers.

ouflage and defenses linear to their position, not vertically."

They'll usually set up cam-

The 1st Bn., 4th Inf. Regt. shares their gathered intelligence and methods of collecting it with the units they're opposing during rotational exercises after they have concluded. Their intent is to relay how successful small UAS operations can be and how all Army units should start implementing them into their repertoire of tactics, techniques and procedures.

According to Curley, during exercise Allied Spirit VIII, a quadcopter was launched from a remote area deep in the wooded training area, and within 15 minutes an enemy's

position was spotted and grid coordinates were accurately reported to the team's higher command.

According to the Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency, the Army continues testing and developing its own quadcopters to prevent units from purchasing systems off the retail shelf. Until one has been officially developed, a balancing act may continue.

"Having this capability allows us to paint the big picture," added Bria. "We can provide information for indirect fire, for enemy movement, and anything our higher command may use it for. We're giving them a new view; new information that they weren't able to get as quickly as before.



PHOTO BY STAFF SGT. DAVID OVE

Pvt. Brandon Ruehl (right) and Jesse Moore, infantrymen with small UAS operator duties with 1st Bn., 4th Inf. Regt., assigned to the Joint Multinational Readiness Center at Hohenfels Training Area, Hohenfels, Germany, prepare to fly a quadcopter for reconnaissance purposes during training during Allied Spirit VIII Jan. 26.

AMRDEC personnel have been fully involved in the demonstrator effort, including integration of experimental test pilots and flight test engineers into the mixed flight test team. Army pilots will take part in additional flights throughout the test program.

With Army combat-experienced, experimental test pilots embedded in Bell's test team, we have a unique opportunity to help bring the project across the finish line and also develop insights valuable to the FVL initiative. We're very proud of Chief Warrant Officer 3 Wiggins," said Dr. Bill Lewis, director of the Aviation Development Directorate.

Four agreements were awarded under the JMR TD to AVX Aircraft, Bell Helicopter, Karem Aircraft and a team of Sikorsky-Boeing for initial designs, with the Bell and Sikorsky-Boeing efforts funded to build and fly technology demonstrator aircraft.

Bell's first flight with an Army pilot is another on-schedule milestone in an effort that was awarded in September 2013, with Preliminary Design Review in 2014, Critical Design Review and start of aircraft assembly in mid-2015, and assembly complete in early 2017.





2014 Toyota Tacoma SR-5



2013 Chevy Impala LS



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2015 Toyota Tacoma PRE-RUNNER



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COMMUNITY C Will Story on Page C4

FEBRUARY 22, 2018

MAD SCIENTISTS AT WORK





PHOTOS BY NATHAN PFAU

Jessica and Christine Hoh, military family members, work together on their Wiggle Bot during the Mad Scientist Workshop at the Center Library Feb. 15.

Children wiggle their way into engineering concepts

By Nathan Pfau Army Flier Staff Writer

Although robots haven't wiggled their way in mainstream society just yet, some were busy wiggling their way into the minds of potential future engineers during one of the Fort Rucker Center Library's most popular learning experiences.

Children got the chance to create Wiggle Bots during the library's latest Mad Scientist Workshop Feb. 15, which provided an introduction into engineering that was meant to not only provide a fun activity for family members, but help expand the minds of the installation's youth, said Cameron Hill, center library youth librarian.

Through the activity, Hill said the children learn about engineering concepts through building because they are able to create the robots themselves with the help of a little instruction.

"We provide the materials, but it's up to them on what they wanted their robot to look like or how they want them to move," she said.

Some of the supplies children were able to use to build their robots included gears, wires, battery packs, motors and a host of other materials that they could utilize to customize their creations. They were provided with an instructional pamphlet, as well as a video to get them started, but ultimately the decision to create was their own, which Hill said was an important part of the process.



Branson and Kohen Barker, military family members, work together on their Wiggle Bot.

create something yourself) and it enhances the creativity of the child and their imagination," said the youth librarian.

For Karen Anderson, military spouse, who brought her son, Wyatt, the workshop was a great opportunity for her son to not only take part in a learning activity, but to do so in an environment where he can interact with others, as well. "Wyatt is home schooled, so this is a good opportunity for him to take part in (science activities) with other kids, and we really enjoy the library," she said. "My daughter is younger, too, so she can enjoy the other books while he's doing this."

during the activity, as she enjoyed helping him create during the process.

"I was having fun, too, and I had fun the last time we came, too," she said. "This is really nice because this is a really rural area and we used to go to the children's museum all the time (in Minneapolis-St. Paul) where you have more access to things like this. "I just think this is really cool and all of this stuff that they have here is really awesome," she said. "We make sure to register every month (for these events.)" The next Mad Scientist Workshop is scheduled for April 19 and people must register to attend. For more information, call 255-3885.



"It's just very satisfying (to

Anderson admitted that Wyatt wasn't the only one having fun

Zechariah Swift, military family member, looks on as his Wiggle Bot scribbles across the table.

FREE TO PLAY

Open recreation afternoon promotes school interaction, childhood development

By Jeremy Henderson

Army Flier Staff Writer

Social interaction plays an integral role in a child's development, according to the Fort Rucker School Age Center staff, and the facility offers a free program designed to promote that interaction through play.

Open recreation is offered the first Saturday of every month from noon to 4:30 p.m., said Therese Thurman, supervisory program specialist.

"The facility opens at noon and children are welcomed by staff," she said. "We usually start out gathering in our drama and architecture area, creating LEGO structures and giving the children time to mingle and meet others that they may not know.

"Depending on the weather, we take the children outside for time on our recently renovated playground area," she added. "When we come back in, we give them some time to relax and play video games in our technology center."

According to Thurman, children usually have a snack around 3 p.m. before diving into art.

"Children are then given an opportunity to put their creativity to work in Art4U," she said. "To round out the day, we go into the gym and either shoot hoops or play a round of dodgeball before we close the facility at 4:30 p.m."

The next open recreation afternoon, available to children kindergarten through fifth grade, takes place March 3 and Janice Erdlitz, Directorate of Family, Morale, Welfare and Recreation marketing director, said it is an invaluable experience for children.

"It's all about making memories," she said. "We strive to give our military youth a normal life, to give them the best education and to give them opportunities to enjoy the friendships they make at our CYS facilities. "After school and open recreation programs provide fun, engaging activities that kids can participate in while building their social skills and making new friends," she added. "They can relate with their peers and discuss their travels, changing schools, new towns and know the person next to them understands where they are coming from. Kids can relax and just be kids – playing, laughing, make memories that will last a lifetime."

Thurman echoed Erdlitz's sentiment.

"Children need the opportunity to get out and mingle socially with other children that they may not know from school," she said. "This allows them to build relationships with other children that they may eventually meet back up with at other installations in the future.

"Events like open recreation bring the post community closer by offering children the opportunity to get out and interact socially where they may not otherwise," she added. "It also allows parents to take care of much-needed errands."

The school age center also offers Skate Night the third Friday of each month from 6-8 p.m. for \$5 per person throughout the school year. A safety skate is available from 5-6 p.m. for those who need to be accompanied by an adult. Cost is \$2 per person.

For more information, call 255-9108.





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

Fort Rucker Right Arm Night

The Landing Zone will host the Fort Rucker Right Arm Night today from 4-6 p.m. Right Arm Night is an Army tradition, promoting a night of camaraderie and esprit de corps as leaders come together and treat those who help them accomplish the mission. Complimentary appetizers will be served while supplies last. Right Arm Night is held every month, and both military and civilians are welcome.

For more information, call 255-0768.

Child care available

The Fort Rucker School Age Center has spaces available for before and after school care. The school age center is available for children kindergarten through fifth grade.

For more information, call 255-9638.

Anti-Bullying Rally

The youth center will host its third annual Anti-Bullying Rally Friday from 4:15-5:30 p.m. There will be guest speakers, performances and refreshments. The main guest speaker is Steve McLendon from the New York Jets. The rally is open to the public.

For more information, call the 255-2271 or 255-2260.

Bike Repair Workshop

The Center Library will host a bicycle repair workshop Saturday from 1:30-3:30 p.m. A knowledgeable cycling enthusiast will be on hand to answer questions and teach basic bicycle maintenance. No registration is required.

For more information, call 255-3885.

SEUSStival

The Center Library will celebrate Dr. Seuss's 114th birthday during its annual SEUSStival March 1 from 4:30-6:30 p.m. The event will feature games, crafts and more. All ages are invited, according to organizers.

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

Employment readiness class

The Fort Rucker Employment Readiness Program will host an orientation session March 1 in the Soldier Service Center, Bldg. 5700, in the Army Community Service multipurpose room. People who attend will meet in Rm. 350 at 8:45 a.m. to fill out paperwork before going to the multipurpose room. The class will end at about 11:30 a.m. The sessions will inform people on the essentials of the program and provide job search tips, as well. Advance registration is required. <image>

Girls Night Out

The Landing will host Girls Night Out March 16 from 6-9 p.m. with a shamrock theme where attendees can wear their favorite green attire, according to officials. The event will feature entertainment provided by a disc jockey, door prizes, a fashion show, St. Patrick's Day fun facts and trivia game, and more. Prize drawings will be held throughout the evening, with a grand prize drawing at 9 p.m. People must be present to win prizes. The event will be open to the public for those 18 and older. Advanced tickets are on sale for \$5 and are available at MWR Central, The Landing Zone, The Landing Catering Office, and the Coffee Zones at LysterArmy Health Clinic and The Landing Zone. The night of the event, tickets will be available at the door for \$8. For more details, call 255-0769. Pictured is a scene from one of last year's events.

FRG Forum

Army Community Service will host its family readiness group forum March 15 from 8:15 a.m. to 2:15 p.m. at Divots at Silver Wings Golf Course. The FRG Forum is designed for participants to network, share ideas, voice their concerns, learn ways to improve FRG operations and build FRG teams throughout the installation, according to organizers.

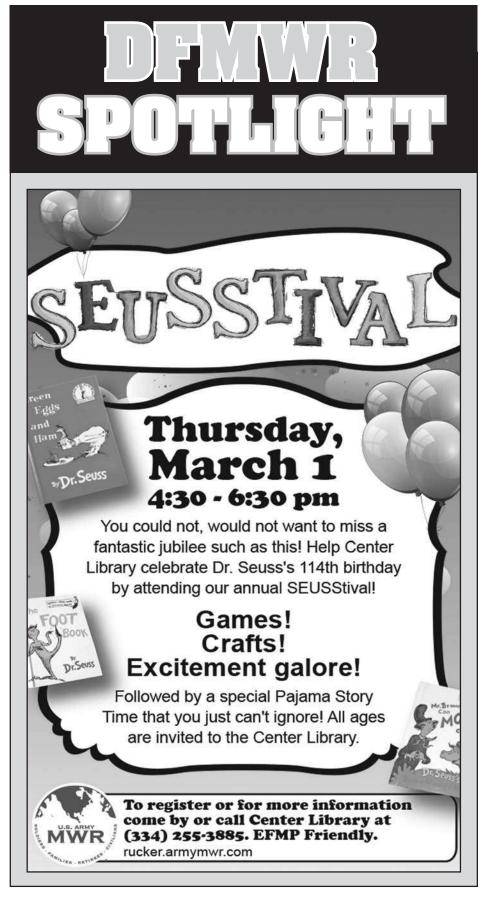
For more information, call 255-9578.

St. Patrick's Day craft

The Center Library will host a St. Patrick's Day craft March 13 from 3:30-4:30 p.m. for children ages 3-11. Light refreshments will be served. Space is limited to the first 40 children to register. For more information or to register, visit the library or call 255-3885.

Baby Sign Language

The Army Community Service New Parent Support Program and Parent to Parent will host a free baby sign language class March 15 from 10-11 a.m. at Bldg. 5700 in Rm. 350. The class is designed to teach expectant parents and those with young children how to communicate with their children and avoid the frustrations associated with language development. People need to preregister by March 9. The class is limited to the first 10 people to register. The class will be open to authorized patrons and will be Exceptional Family Member Program friendly.



For more information, call 255-2594.

Get REAL

Army Community Service's Army Family Team Building staff will host its Get REAL – Rucker Experience Army Learning – class March 5 from 8:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. at the Divots Conference Room at Silver Wings Golf Course. The course is designed to help people make friends during an interactive day of learning on topics such as military acronyms, Army customs and courtesies, military ranks, community resources and more. Free lunch and childcare will be provided. The registration deadline is March 1.

For registration and childcare information, call 255-1429.

Breakerspace

The Center Library will host a free program it calls Breakerspace March 6 from 4:30-5:30 p.m. This year's theme is Libraries are for Creating. Center Library staff members encourage teens and tweens to let their creative juices flow at this event where they will take apart whatever tech is on hand and then use their imagination to put the pieces back together. The event is open to youth ages 9 to 17. Registration is required and will be limited to the first 20 youth to register.

For more information or to register, call 255-3885.

Federal jobs workshop

Army Community Service will host its federal job workshop March 7 from 8 a.m. to noon in Bldg. 5700, Rm. 284. The workshop is aimed at getting people the information they need to increase their federal employment possibilities. Participants will receive a free copy of Kathryn Troutman's "Jobseeker's Guide (7th Edition)." Registration is required two days prior to the workshop. Space is limited to the first 60 people to register and the workshop is open to authorized patrons only.

For more information or to register, call 255-2594.

For registration or more information, call 255-9647 or 255-3359.

Newcomers welcome

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

For more information, call 255-3161 or 255-2887.

Go Green Skate Night

The Fort Rucker School Age Center is going green March 16 with its Go Green Skate Night. Youth are encouraged to wear green from head to toe for a chance to take home a prize, according to organizers. Safety Skate will cost \$2 and will be from 5-6 p.m. Regular skate will cost \$5 and will be from 6-8 p.m. Payment will be accepted in cash only. Participants must be registered with child and youth services.

For more information, call 255-9108.

Blended Retirement System Seminar

Army Community Service accredited financial counselors will present a Blended Retirement System Seminar March 20 from 6-7 p.m. at Bldg. 5700, the Soldier Service Center, in Rm. 282. The seminar will be a discussion of the significant changes to the current military retirement system, including continuation pay and the Thrift Saving Plan with matching government contributions. Pre-registration is required by March 19. Free child care available with registration. Class is subject to cancellation if enough people do not preregister.

For more information, call 255-3949. Registration can be completed by visiting http:// rucker.armymwr.com/us/rucker/programs/ army-community-service.

Single Parent Family Game Night

Army Community Service and the calling 255-3359 or 255-9647.

Army and Air Force Exchange Service will host its Single Parent Family Game Night March 22 from 5-7 p.m. at the post exchange food court. Free giveaways will be included. The event will be Exceptional Family Member Program friendly. The event is an initiative of the Fort Rucker Community Health Promotions Council Community Resiliency Work Group. The game night will be open to authorized patrons who are single parents. The deadline to register will be March 16 and will be limited to the first 20 families to register.

PHOTO BY NATHAN PEAU

People are asked to pre-register by calling 255-3359 or 255-9647.

FORT RUCKER MOVIE SCHEDULE FOR FEBRUARY 22-25

Thursday,	February	22
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Friday, February 23

Saturday, February 24

Sunday, February 25

Black Panther	(PG-13)	7 p.m.

Black Panther (PG-13)7 p.m.

 Paddington 2 (PG)
 4 p.m.
 Paddington 2 (PG)
 1 p.m.

 12 Strong (R)
 7 p.m.
 Proud Mary (R)
 4 p.m.

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

BRITISH BUTTONS, FRENCH BAYONETS Rainbow Division Soldiers get ready for WWI in 1918

By Col. Richard Goldenberg New York Army National Guard

SARATOGA SPRINGS, N.Y. - As February 1918 began, the National Guardsmen of 26 states who made up the Army's 42nd Infantry "Rainbow" Division in World War I were under tremendous pressure to quickly learn how to fight in the trenches that ran from Switzerland to the English Channel.

The French army had suffered terribly in 1917 and wanted Les Americains in the fight as soon as possible. In their training areas in Rolampont, American Soldiers began learning how to throw grenades, use machine guns and clear trenches from veteran French instructors.

But for New York National Guard Soldiers of the 165th Infantry, previously known as the 69th New York, the biggest issue for a few days were the buttons on their uniforms.

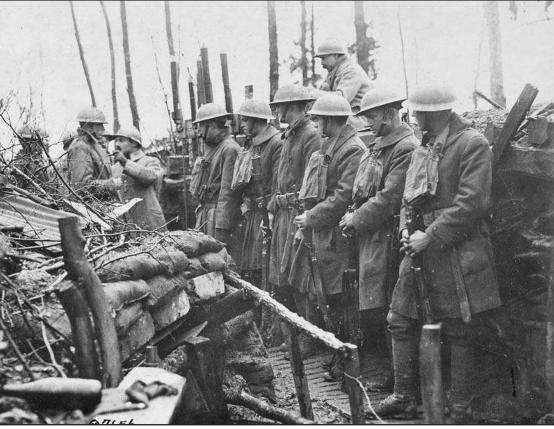
The regiment's new commander, Col. John Barker, found that his men's uniforms were falling apart. He appealed to the Army Expeditionary Force for new uniforms.

"It wasn't that we didn't have equipment in France," noted Sgt. Richard O'Neill a member of the 69th from New York City, in the Stephen Harris book, "Duffy's War".

"They just had trouble getting it to us, that's all. But how the boys did suffer," O'Neill said.

Because the American supply system wasn't fully established, the only uniforms that could be found quickly came from the British Army.

The 69th Infantry had been the New York National Guard's Irish Regiment, and the Irishmen of the regiment were mainly immigrants who hated almost everything English. The glittering brass buttons on the new uniforms had the crown of the British monarchy on them and the Irishmen of the 69th were appalled at being asked to wear them when they arrived on Jan. 25. "Now the men born in Ireland were really steamed," Stephen Harris quotes Pvt. Al Ettinger as saying. "They didn't like the idea of wearing anything made in England and they refused to wear the new uniforms. For them, those buttons were the hated symbol of their former oppressors." The regiment was in a state of near rebellion, noted Father Francis Duffy, the regimental chaplain. The Soldiers of H Company were



YORK STATE MILITARY MUSEUN

A French instructor introduces National Guard Soldiers of the 42nd 'Rainbow' Division to life in the trenches during World War I in the winter of 1918.

ready to burn the hated uniforms in a bonfire, according to the Stephen Harris account.

Duffy "calmed the rebels down with a great speech on how their indiscipline would shame the regiment, and how we had to prove in this war that the Irish volunteers were the best fighters in the American Army and that could not be demonstrated around a bonfire," according to Harris.

The issue was resolved for the troops when officers told the Soldiers to cut the U.S. Army buttons off their old uniforms to replace the British buttons on the new ones

Barker, a Regular Army officer, hadn't understood the anger of his men until Duffy explained the "Irishness" of the regiment to him.

"We are all volunteers for this war," Duffy recalled telling Barker in his autobiography, "Father Duffy's Story." "If you put our fellows in line alongside a bunch of Tommies (the nickname for English Soldiers) they would only fight harder to show the English who are the better men. "There are Soldiers with us who left Ireland to avoid service in the British Army. But as soon as we got into the war, the men, though not yet citizens, volunteered to fight under the Stars and Stripes," Duffy added. With the uniform issue resolved, the 165th Infantry Regiment got down to training like the rest of the division.



COURTESY OF THE NEW YORK STATE MILITARY MUSEUM

British army buttons, similar to the World War I British button on the lift, featuring the crown of the British monarch, angered Irish-American Soldiers of the New York National Guard's 69th Infantry who were asked to wear the British coats to replace their worn out American uniforms.

The training was challenging to all the division units as troops learned to master French machine guns, artillery, and train hundreds of newly arriving replacements from the states.

Rainbow engineers from the 117th Engineers, originally from North and South Carolina, had worked tirelessly to improve conditions during the division's time at the training area near Rolampont. The regiment built 80 barracks, 70 horse stables, 18 bath units, pigeon lofts, latrines and reworked electrical and water systems for the thousands of Doughboys now preparing for combat.

for trench warfare, but division leaders had to ensure that the operational tactics and concepts of General John J. Pershing, the commander of the American Expeditionary Force, were applied, as well.

meant individual schools for NCOs and officers.

Sgt. Joyce Kilmer, the famed poet assigned to the 165th Infantry Intelligence Section for the 1st Battalion Headquarters, like many other qualified NCOs, was offered a commission through the Officer Candidate School but declined the offer. He told a friend in a letter that he would rather remain a sergeant in the old Irish Fighting 69th than be an officer.

"I am having an absolutely heavenly time since I joined the intelligence section," Kilmer wrote to his mother and published in the Harris book. "I wouldn't change places with any Soldiers of any rank in any outfit. This suits me better than any job I ever had in civil life."

Kilmer knew that OCS would be three months of training and new officers were frequently reassigned to other regiments. He would not leave his regiment.

As training progressed, pressure from French allies to rush these new troops into the trenches was evident and Rainbow Soldiers were eager to prove themselves.

Strategically, Gen.l John J. Pershing and the American Expeditionary Forces struggled to keep an American Army intact and independent for the upcoming battles that would determine the outcome of WWI.

But initially, AEF Doughboys such as those in the Rainbow Division would fight alongside the French.

On February 12, the AEF issued the alert order for the Rainbow Division to begin its movement to the French trenches at Luneville for its first combat exposure and practical experience before taking its full place in the line as an American division.

The plan would place one regiment with each division of the French VII Corps, then holding a 16-mile front Once with the French, divisional and brigade commanders would lose tactical control of their men, conducting the duties of inspection, coordination and normal administration while many senior staff officers continued professional education and training for

The engineers then went on to conduct their combat training at night, providing classes for officers and NCOs or small-arms ranges, marches and drill.

French instructors were on hand to provide standardized training

Pershing believed in the primacy of the combat infantryman. His training guidance stated "The rifle and bayonet are the principal weapons of the infantry Soldier. He will be trained to a high degree of skill as a marksman. An aggressive spirit must be developed until the Soldier feels himself, as a bayonet fighter, invincible in battle."

The Rainbow Soldiers would have to balance that emphasis with French lessons on the combined efforts of artillery, aviation, armor and most importantly, the machine gun on maneuver warfare

Training with the French also

their roles ahead. The division would close in Luneville between Feb. 17-21. The Rainbow Soldiers were as ready as they were going to be.

By February 27, 1918, troops of the 42nd Division would enter the front line trenches for their first combat experience and their first combat deaths.

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WORSHIP SERVICES

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Headquarters Chapel, Bldg. 109 8 a.m. Traditional **Protestant Service**

Main Post Chapel, Bldg. 8940

8:30 a.m. Catholic Confessions 9 a.m. Catholic Mass 11 a.m. Collective Protestant 12:05 p.m. Catholic Mass (Tuesday-Friday) 4 p.m. Catholic Confessions (Saturday) 5 p.m. Catholic Mass (Saturday)

Wings Chapel, Bldg. 6036 9:30 a.m. Protestant Sunday School

10:45 a.m. Latter-Day Saints 10:45 a.m. Wings Crossroads (Contemporary Worship **Protestant Service**) 11 p.m. Eckankar Study (4th Sunday)

Spiritual Life Center, Bldg. 8939

10:15 a.m. CCD (except during summer months)

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Pioneer proved her mettle in WWII

By David Vergun *Army News Service*

RALEIGH, N.C. — Millie Dunn Veasey, now 100 years old, said her life changed in ways she never could have imagined when she joined the Army.

That an African-American woman enlisted during World War II was the most unlikely of events, she said, recounting her childhood leading up to that moment.

Born on Jan. 31, 1918, just nine blocks from the capitol building in Raleigh, North Carolina, Veasey described herself as a homebody. She never once left the city, population about 44,000, which she said back then had a small-town feel to it.

And, she was just fine staying put, not hankering for travel or adventure. Besides, there was much to do in Raleigh, she said.

Going to the movies was one of her favorite activities. Since the South was segregated, African-American citizens would go to the Royal Theater, while white citizens would attend the State Theater.

Two of Veasey's classmates at the all-black Washington High School had light skin, she said. They used to brag about going to the State Theater, passing themselves off as white. It was satisfying to see them flouting the Jim Crow laws, Veasey said.

Family life was good, too. She remembers attending church with her maternal grandparents, Essex Eli and Millie Gunter Henry at the First Baptist Church, where her grandma sang in the "Sunshine Band." Both were born into slavery, she added, but they never talked about it with her.

Despite having a wonderful childhood, Veasey described herself as frail and often sickly.

"My mother said as a youngster they thought they were going to lose me because of maybe some medical kinds of thing," she said, citing pneumonia, diphtheria and throat soreness as some of the illnesses she struggled with during her younger years.

The family didn't have money to send their kids to college, so after graduating from high school, Veasey landed a job doing clerical work with the Wake County



Millie Dunn Veasey wears her World War II medallion and shows a photo of her in uniform during World War II. The photo she holds was taken when she was stationed in England.

ers, she noted, all featured beautiful white women in uniform.

While it was somewhat novel for African-American men like her brother to join the Army, she said it was unheard of for African-American females to join.

"But I thought to myself that if those white women can do it, so can I," she said. "And besides that, my country needs me." So she made up her mind to enlist.

Learning of her intentions, her mother warned her against joining because she didn't think her little girl could handle the physical exertion. The 24-year-old weighed just under 100 pounds. Before leaving for the Pacific theater, her older brother also told her she was "too fragile" for Army life. He strongly suggested that she stay home.

Despite the warnings, Veasey enlisted in December 1942. The next month she left Raleigh for the first time, on a bus to Fort Bragg, North Carolina.

The physical and written exams were tough, she said. Of the 21 women taking them, just three were selected, including herself. Veasey said she surprised herself and attributed passing to grit and determination. It was her coming-of-age moment.

That experience and others that followed in the Army helped to shape her life and gave her the strength to become a leader in the civil rights movement later on, she noted.



WHITE HOUSE PHOTO BY PETE SOUZA

President Barack Obama returns a salute from Millie Dunn Veasey, who served as a staff sergeant in the Women's Army Corps during World War II. The event was a town hall meeting on Fort Lee, Virginia, Sept. 28, 2016.

one incident she recalls was being issued oversized galoshes during a rainy spell. They didn't fit her narrow, size AAA feet and she ended up flopping around in the muddy pathways, getting drenched.

From there, she went to a number of training sites, from Fort Clark, Texas, to Camp Maxey, Texas, and finally to pre-mobilization training at Fort Oglethorpe, Georgia.

Because of her background as a clerk-typist, she said the Army assigned her to the 6888th Central Postal Directory Battalion, an all-black female unit of the Women's Army Auxiliary Corps consisting of over 800 women. The WAAC later became the Women's Army Corps.

and others from the 6888th boarded a troop ship in New York, bound for Europe.

The six-day voyage was miserable for Veasey because she was seasick the entire way. Their boat also came under attack from German U-boats, narrowly escaping being torpedoed.

When they arrived in Glasgow, Scotland, a number of natives lined the dock to witness their arrival. One of them loudly exclaimed: "Look at the women. They're all in technicolor," she said laughing, noting the local citizens had never seen people of contributed to the morale of the troops.

Although the Soldiers worked long, hard hours, Veasey said there were opportunities for relaxation. For instance, the family of a British colonel used to invite her to their house for tea and hors d'oeuvres. During one visit, the family took a picture of her in uniform on their ornate chair, a photo she still has with her today.

By early May, the allies had reached Berlin. Veasey was granted leave then, and she traveled to London.

Much of London too had been destroyed by the bombings, she said, noting that the pictures of the rubble of the World Trade Center following the 9/11 attacks brought back memories of the devastation she'd witnessed in Europe.

But some important landmarks in London survived the bombings. Veasey was able to see Buckingham Palace, Big Ben and London Bridge, among others.

She vividly recalls standing below the Great Bell of the clock known as Big Ben, when a large commotion occurred. It was May 8. Victory in Europe had just been declared and people everywhere were cheering.

A few days later, she and the 6888th embarked on a ship for France. Although the war in Europe was over, the occupation by the Allies would last a while longer, so the 6888th was still needef for their vital role in mail distribution. The unit was now stationed in Rouen, in northwest France.

For Veasey, the move also involved a change in responsibilities from postal clerk to supply sergeant.

She said she remembers that at the time, the female Soldiers were housed in primitive barracks that may have actually been a barn. She said she remembers the women of her unit sleeping there on straw. As supply sergeant, Veasey become something of a hero to her fellow Soldiers, she said, after procuring mattresses for everyone to sleep on.

A highlight in France, she said, was that she and her unit participated in a French parade that both honored Joan d'Arc and celebrated victory in Europe. It was fitting, she remarked, that the female Soldiers were honoring the heroine. Later in 1945, the Army selected Veasev to attend Officer Candidate School, but she declined. She said her reason for enlisting had been to support the war effort. Now that the war was over, she wished to return to her friends and family in Raleigh. Veasey set sail for New York and out-processed at Fort Dix, New Jersey, in December 1945. During her time in the Army, she attained the rank of staff sergeant.

Extension Office. She said the job was created under President Franklin D. Roosevelt's New Deal Program, launched during the Great Depression to increase employment.

WAR DECLARED

Then, on Dec. 7, 1941, World War II started for the United States. Veasey's insular world would soon change forever.

In 1942, Veasey's older brother Eugene enlisted in the Army. "I was so proud of him," she said.

Also, that same year, she began seeing posters exhorting women to join the Army to "free a man to fight." The postShortly after passing her Army exams, Veasey did get a bout of homesickness and had second thoughts about enlisting. When she asked to return home, she said she was told: "You signed your name. You're in the Army now."

ARMY TRAINING

For basic combat training, Veasey said she was shipped to Fort Des Moines, Iowa in April 1943.

Of all that happened there, the

The motto for the "Six Triple Eight," as they were called, was "No mail, no morale."

The 6888th would become the only all-black, all-female unit to serve overseas during World War II, she said. Also, their commanding officer, Maj. Charity Adams Earley, was the highestranking black female in the U.S. military.

SHIPPING TO EUROPE In early February 1945, Veasey

African descent.

From there, they were bused to their first duty station, Birmingham, England. Upon arriving in the city, Veasey said she was horrified to see the devastation caused by German V-1/V-2 rockets, which the Allied troops referred to as "buzz bombs."

A number of rockets hit the city while she was stationed there, and Veasey said she became proficient at ducking for cover in underground shelters when the air raid sirens sounded.

Over the next few months, the 6888th processed millions of pieces of mail, she said, adding that she hopes her small part

METTLE, PAGE C5



Mettle

Continued from Page C4

POST-WAR ACTIVITIES

Upon returning home, Veasey said she took advantage of the G.I. Bill to further her education. It was a godsend, she said, because otherwise she would not have been able to afford going to school.

Using her benefits, she graduated from St. Augustine's College with a bachelor's degree in business administration. Later, she attained a master's degree in business administration from North Carolina College.

Over the course of the next 30 years, she worked in a variety of business administration jobs at St. Augustine College.

In 1949, she married Warren L. Veasey, who brought two children with him into the new family: Juanita and Warren Jr. Her husband passed away in 1961 and she never remarried.

The self-described homebody had finally settled down to live a fulfilling but uneventful life, or so she thought.

CIVIL RIGHTS MOVEMENT

Having lived in England and France, Veasey was exposed to a world without segregation that was much different from North Carolina, where "separate but equal" was still enforced.

People of color had fought and died for freedom in America's wars, Veasey said. Now, those same people wanted equal treatment.

Veasey wanted to become part of that cause, so she became an active member of the Raleigh/ Wake County branch of the NAACP.

Although she was in her 40s at the time, she said she went with young people to "sit-in" movements at lunch counters in downtown Raleigh where blacks were not allowed. She added that some white people supported them as well.

In 1963, she helped organize a bus trip to Washington, D.C., where she participated in the Aug. 28 March on Washington. As an organizer, she had a front row seat near the Lincoln Memorial where Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. delivered his "I Have a



The 6888th Central Postal Directory Battalion, an all-black female unit of the Women's Army Auxiliary Corps consisting of 855 women, marches through Rouen, France, in a victory parade at the end of World War II.

King and also with Thurgood Marshall, the first African-American Supreme Court justice. In 1966, Veasey also arranged for Dr. King to speak in Durham and Raleigh.

Veasey, who spent a lot of time with her grandparents as a child, said that if they had been alive during the civil rights movement, they would have been pleased, since both had been born into slavery.

A GRATEFUL NATION

When Veasey mustered out of the Army, there was no victory parade for her or the 6888th, she said. But over time, the nation began to recognize those who served -- including African-Americans in particular.

One of greatest moments in her life, Veasey said, was meeting President Barack Obama in 2016 during a veterans' event at Fort Lee, Virginia. "He walked over to me smiling and I stood up and saluted him. He saluted me back and said he was proud to stand with the women in the military."



Millie Dunn Veasey meets with Becky Betts, a physician assistant with the local Veterans Affairs hospital. Birthday decora-

Dream" speech. Fo

At the time, she recalls the speech as very stirring but not particularly out of the ordinary, since black ministers in Raleigh also spoke eloquently and with great passion in a similar fashion.

But today, she said she realizes that she was a witness to history being made. Soon, she too would add to that legacy.

Veasey continued to organize behind the scenes in the NAACP. She said that probably no one at the time realized she had served during World War II and she didn't think it was any big deal.

Her efforts were rewarded when in 1965, she became the first African-American female president of Raleigh/Wake County branch of the NAACP, a post she held until 1968.

She met several times with Dr.

While Veasey left the Army in 1945, she said she continued to serve, but in a different capacity. From 1993 to 2013, she served as post adjutant for American Legion Post 157.

Recently, the North Carolina Museum of History in Raleigh heard about Veasey's story and asked if she still had her uniforms, said Earl L. Ijames, a curator at the museum.

She had her olive-color wool trousers and Eisenhower jacket, which she said she would donate to the museum.

But decades of being in an outdoor storage shed had taken its toll on the uniforms, said Paige Myers, textile conservator at the museum. Insects had eaten numerous holes in the uniform, and it is considered in poor condition,

she added.

tions still adorn the Veasey house for her 100th birthday celebration Jan. 31.

Ijames said the museum is fortunate to have the uniforms, along with the story that goes with them, and they will be a valued addition to the museum – especially since Veasey's uniform is the only one of its kind known to exist. Veasey is only one of three surviving women of the 6888th and the other two women do not know the whereabouts of their uniforms.

SECRET TO LONGEVITY

Asked what her secret is for living a long life, Veasey said she thinks it is being kind to others and helping other people. "If you can do something for someone then you should do it; in turn, they will do something for you or for someone else," Veasey said.

She also said she loves chatting with young people and that it energizes her. A number of media were at her house for her 100th birthday celebration and she said she loved answering their questions and asking some of her own.

Another thing that keeps her going is taking an active role at St. Ambrose Episcopal Church, where she's been a Sunday school teacher, a choir member and church secretary.

SOLDIER FOR LIFE

Veasey noted that when her we brother returned from Burma, he

never discussed what it was like. Neither did her younger brother, who went off to fight during the Korean War. People just didn't talk about it, she said. They went on with their lives.

Perhaps the biggest change in her own life, Veasey said, was joining the Army. She said the Army provided structure to her life, taught her how to organize and helped to boost her sense of self-worth and dignity.

"Being in the Army changed my life," she said. "You value the camaraderie and close-knit kinship of fellow Soldiers. You look out for each other. I'll take that experience with me forever."

Of her World War II service she added: "We weren't heroes; we just did what needed to be done."



Vacation guide highlights Georgia's hidden treasures

Army Flier Staff Reports

ATLANTA — With spring just around the corner, many people may be thinking ahead to warmer weather and weekend escapes.

The "2018 Guide to Georgia State Parks and Historic Sites" can help individuals plan spring break, summer vacations or even a family reunion.

The free booklet is filled with tips on the ideal hiking trails, fishing spots, cabins, campsites and company picnics.

Produced annually by the Georgia Department of Natural Resources, the travel guide features colorful photos from all across the Peach State.

For a free copy, call 770-389-

7286 or stop by any Georgia State Park or State Historic Site. An online version can be found at GeorgiaStateParks.org.

Outdoor enthusiasts and history buffs can keep up with the latest news and discounts by signing up for the park system's e-newsletter at GeorgiaStateParks.org/enews or following them on Facebook at

Facebook.com/georgiastateparks.



PHOTO BY SGT. GARRETT L. DIPUMA

Patrons enjoy a yurt campsite at High Falls State Park in Jaskson, Ga., one of several amenities highlighted in the 2018 Guide to Georgie State Parks and Historic Sites.

WIREGRASS COMMUNITY CALENDAR

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

ANDALUSIA

ONGOING — The American Legion Post 80 has regular meetings the second Monday of the month, starting at 6:30 p.m., at the Legion Hall. For more information, call 222-7131 or visit www.andalusialegionpost80.org.

ONGOING — The American Legion Post 80 hosts a dance with live music every Saturday from 7:30-11:30 p.m. For more information, call 222-7131 or visit www. andalusialegionpost80.org.

DALEVILLE

FEB. 23 — The grand opening of the Mission Point Marketplace (Dale County Rescue Mission) is scheduled for 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. at 222 Donnell Boulevard. There will be a 1 p.m. ribbon cutting with the mayor present, as well. There will be free popcorn available throughout the day and door prize drawings. People are welcome to donate surplus clothes, household items, etc., to the store. Proceeds will benefit the non-profit mission and men's home. For more information, call 334-774-6510 or visit the organization on Facebook at Mission Point/DCRM. Visitors can also find out more about the organization's Cardboard for Cause campaign on Facebook.

ONGOING — Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 6020 Franchise J. Ballard Post membership meetings are at the post headquarters on State Road 84 every third Thursday of the month at 7 p.m. Breakfast is served Sundays, and games and TVs are available for entertainment. Meetings are open to all. The post can host parties, weddings, and hails and farewells. For more information, call 598-6211, 598-1297, 598-6211 or 379-9187.

DOTHAN

ONGOING — The Wiregrass Museum of Art offers The Art of Yoga the first Friday of each month from 9-10 a.m. for a \$10 donation to benefit the Mesuva Yoga Studio. The monthly yoga series combines the therapeutic nature of art with the healing properties of yoga under the instruction of certified yogi Melissa Vair. Participants will be guided through an all-levels-appropriate class held in the museum galleries. People should bring their own water bottles, yoga mats and towels. For more information, call 334-794-3871 or visit www.mesuva.org.

non-members. People need to register by noon March 6. To register, visit https://www.wiregrassmuseum.org/events/ silhouettes/. For more information, call 334-794-3871.

ENTERPRISE

ONGOING — The Enterprise Baseball League needs players. Tryouts take place now through March 17 at Warren Field. All ages are welcome. For more information, including exact dates and times, call 334-389-5972 or 334-347-1660.

FEB. 26, AND MARCH 5 AND 12 — Rumba dance lessons will be offered at the Hildreth Building, 202 N. Main Street from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. The cost is \$3 per person per class. For more information, call 334-393-4811.

ONGOING — The American Legion Post 73 meets at the American Legion building at 200 Gibson Street on the fourth Saturday of each month beginning at 9 a.m. The building is across the street from the Lee Street Baptist Church. For more information call 447-8507.

GENEVA

ONGOING — The Geneva County Relay for Life meets the last Tuesday of the month at 6 p.m. at the Citizens Bank. For more information, call 248-4495.

MIDLAND CITY

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

NEW BROCKTON

FEB. 22 — The February meeting for the Disabled American Veterans Wiregrass Chapter 99 will be held at 6 p.m. The meeting will take place in the New Brockton Senior Center. For further information, call 334-718-5707.

OZARK

ONGOING — The Friends of Ozark holds a monthly meeting on the second Tuesday of every month at 6 p.m. at the Ozark-Dale County Library. For more information, call 477-6221 or email wcholmes53@hotmail.com.

ONGOING — Every Wednesday, the Ozark-Dale County Public Library hosts free Wii Zumba from 5:30-6:30 p.m. Teens and adults are invited. For more information, call 774-5480.

ONGOING — Every Monday through Friday, aerobic classes are open to the public at the Autrey Recreation Center from 8-10 a.m. Call 774-2042 for more information.

PINCKARD

ONGOING — The public is invited to the Cross Country Workshop every Sunday at 6 p.m. at the Pinckard United Methodist Church. For more information, call 983-3064.

SAMSON

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

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

TROY

ONGOING — Troy Bank and Trust Company sponsors senior dance nights every Saturday night from 7-10 p.m. at the J.O. Colley Senior Complex. The complex is transformed into a dance hall and features music from the 40s, 50s, and 60s with finger foods and refreshments. For more information, call Janet Motes at 808-8500.

ONGOING — The Wiregrass Museum of Art offers its First Saturday Family Day. First Saturday Family Day is a free come-and-go art activity for children of all ages the museum offers the first Saturday of every month from 10:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. at the WMA classroom. All supplies are provided and no pre-registration is required. Each Saturday will feature a different project. Special additional activities will be included on some Saturdays, and gallery and garden activities will be available, too. For more information, call 334-794-3871 or visit http://www.wiregrassmuseum.org/.

ONGOING — The Wiregrass Museum of Art offers monthly adult art classes starting March 7. The classes take place the first Wednesday of each month from 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., and cost \$15 for members and \$20 for **ONGOING** — Tuesdays and Wednesdays, from 9-11 a.m., Disabled American Veterans Chapter 99 maintains a service office in the New Brockton Town Hall (old armory building) at 706 McKinnon Street. The office will assist veterans who were injured or disabled while in military service. DAV service officers help veterans and their spouses with disability compensation claims, Veterans Affairs pensions, death benefits, VA medical care, Social Security disability benefits, veterans job programs, homeless veterans services and other veteran services. All veteran services are provided free of charge. For more information, call 334-406-6700.

ONGOING — Adult education classes are offered in Rm. 12 at New Brockton High School, 210 South Tyler St., Mondays and Wednesdays from 6-9 p.m. All classes are free for individuals 16 years old or older who are not enrolled in public school. Individuals must take an assessment test prior to attending class. Call 894-2350 for more information.

WIREGRASS AREA

MARCH 8 — The U.S. Army Warrant Officers Association Above the Best Silver Chapter is having their monthly meeting at 11:45 a.m. in Rms. 4 and 5 in Swartworth Hall, 5302 Outlaw Street, Fort Rucker. In addition to normal monthly meeting activity the organization is still working on plans for the 100th anniversary celebration of the U.S. Army warrant officer to occur in July. Lunch and refreshments will be served. The organization is looking for input from warrant officers, past and present. For more details, call 703-665-7004 or visit the organization on Facebook at https://www. facebook.com/AboveTheBestSilverChapterUSAWOA/.

MARCH 10 — The Hartford Civic Club will host the 40th annual Winston Howell 5K Road Race at 9 a.m. at the Hartford National Guard Armory. Entry fee is \$20 for people ages 19 and older and \$15 for those 18 and younger. For more information and the entry form, visit http://winstonhowellroadrace.blogspot.com/.

Beyond Briefs

Home building expo

The Greater Montgomery Home Building and Remodeling Expo is scheduled for Feb. 23-25 at the Montgomery Multiplex at Cramton Bowl. The expo is a three-day event that will highlight the latest and greatest in home building and remodeling trends and technology, according to organizers. This year's featured guest will be Clint Harp from HGTV's show "Fixer Upper" and DIY Network's new show "Wood Works." The expo is open 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Feb. 23-24 and noon to 5 p.m. Feb. 25.

Regular admission is \$6 – military are admitted for free Feb. 23. For other discounts or for more information, visit www. gmhba.org.

Bridge Crossing Jubilee

Selma will host the Bridge Crossing Jubilee March 1-5. The weekend is a commemoration of the anniversary of Bloody Sunday and the Selma to Montgomery March. Activities include a pageant, a dance, women and youth conferences, a parade, festival, interfaith service and National Voting Rights Hall of Fame induction. For more information, visit www. selmajubilee.com.

Nina and Pinta

March 2, the Pinta and the Nina, replicas of Columbus' ships, will open in Orange Beach. The ships will be docked at The Wharf, 23101 Canal Road, until their departure March 6. The Nina was built completely by hand and without the use of power tools. Both ships tour together as a new and enhanced sailing museum for the purpose of educating the public and school children on the caravel, a Portuguese ship used by Columbus and many early explorers to discover the world, according to organizers. While in port, the general public is invited to visit the ships for a self-guided tour. Admission charges are \$8.50 for adults, \$7.50 for seniors and \$6.50 for students ages 5-16. Children 4 and under are admitted for free. The ships will be open every day from 9 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. No reservations necessary.

For more information, call 787-672-2152 or visit www.ninapinta.org.

Emerald Coast Boat and Lifestyle Show

Panama City Beach, Florida, will host

the Emerald Coast Boat and Lifestyle Show March 2-4 from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. each day at Aron Bessant Park, 600 Pier Park Drive. The show will feature boat displays from all major manufacturers and the top dealers representing the latest in boats, high tech engines, electronics and marine accessories. Boats will range from entry level bow riders and center consoles all the way up to the next generation 42foot center consoles with quad outboards that have become so popular, according to organizers. The event features everything for the kind of active, outdoor beach living so popular along the Emerald Coast: stand up paddleboards, fishing kayaks, outdoor kitchens, diving equipment, active wear and beach-cruising bicycles. In short, all the great things residents and visiting tourists enjoy on and around the water along the beaches is available at this event.

For more information, including ticket prices, visit http://www.gulfboatshow. com/.

Scottish Festival

The 26th annual Panama City Beach Scottish Festival will be at Frank Brown Park in Panama City Beach, Florida, March 3. The event includes Scottish athletic competitions, Scottish clan representatives, bagpipe bands, a British Car Club show, children's activities, Scottish and Irish food, Irish step dancers and more, according to organizers.

For times, ticket prices and more information, visit http://pcscotfestival.com.

Emerald Coast Cruizin' Car Show

Panama City Beach, Florida, will host the Emerald Coast Cruizin' Car Show March 7-10 at Aaron Bessant Park, 600 Pier Park Drive. The family fun event will feature thousands of classic cars, hot rods, custom cars and trucks, and much more.

For more information, visit https:// emeraldcoastcruizin.com/.

Warrior Dash

Panama City Beach, Floridam will host the Warrior Dash March 10 at 8 a.m. at Sweet Bay, 3204 Heartleaf Avenue. Warrior Dash is a 5k obstacle race that anyone can conquer, according to organizers. The event features 12 world-class obstacles – leaping over fire and venturing through mud-caked backroads. Participants will be rewarded with a finisher medal, a T-shirt and a fuzzy warrior helmet.

For more information, visit https:// warriordash.com/location/2018-warriordash-panama-city/.

N.Y. Soldier's heroics recognized

By Col. Richard Goldenberg New York National Guard

NEW YORK — Army National Guard leaders came together to honor a New York Soldier who died in a massive fire in the Bronx Dec. 28 with the Army's highest award for bravery outside of a combat zone.

Pfc. Emmanuel Mensah, the Soldier who died in a massive apartment house fire, posthumously received two medals for valor in a ceremony for the family Friday at Fordham University in the Bronx.

Mensah is credited with saving four lives, rescuing people three times before he returned to the building and did not come out.

Lt. Gen. Thomas Kadavy, director of the Army National Guard, presented the Army's Soldier's Medal to Kwabena Mensah, father of Emmanuel Mensah.

"Difficult though it may be," Kadavy said, "please think of this ceremony as an opportunity not to mourn, but to celebrate Private First Class Mensah, an unselfish Soldier of incredible bravery, who sacrificed his own life to save several others, and while attempting to save more."

Secretary of the Army Mark T. Esper approved the posthumous award of The Soldier's Medal for Pfc. Mensah Jan. 1.

"The Soldier's Medal is an award that no one sets out to receive," Kadavy said. "If any of us could change the circumstances that bring us together this morning, we certainly would do so."

Thirteen New York City residents died in the fire. Fire department investigators say the blaze was started by a young boy playing with a gas stove. The fire spread after the child's family escaped the apartment and neglected to close the apartment door behind them, according to investigators.

"After quickly escaping the fire, Private First Class Mensah could have remained safely outside," Kadavy said. "But, knowing that residents were still inside, it was not in his nature to stand by without doing whatever he could to help them escape the deadly inferno that was raging through their homes.

When firefighters were able to enter the building, they discovered Mensah's remains and believe that based on the location of the body, he was still seeking to rescue people, according to statements provided to New York Army National Guard



PHOTO BY SGT. HARLEY JELIS

Army National Guard Lt. Gen. Timothy J. Kadavy, director of the Army National Guard, presents Kwabena O. Mensah, father of Pfc. Emmanuel Mensah, with the Soldiers Medal, the Army's top award for valor outside of combat during a ceremony Friday at Fordham University in the Bronx, N.Y.

officials.

"Private First Class Mensah's heroic actions are in keeping with the highest traditions of military heroism and selfless service and reflect great credit upon himself, the New York Army National Guard and the United States Army," the award citation says.

"Today is about the recognition of a family's sacrifice and the military recognizing their own," said Command Sgt. Maj. Javier Lugo of the 104th Military Police Battalion, the higher headquarters of Mensah's intended unit. "This is the highest noncombat award given by the U.S. Army for going above and beyond the call of duty to save another person's life."

The family of Emmanuel Mensah says his lifelong dream was to join the military.

"He fulfilled his dream, what he wanted to do," Kwabena Mensah said. "He was

proud of being (in) the American military. He was so proud of that."

Richard White, New York State's deputy secretary for public safety, additionally presented the New York State Medal for Valor to the Mensah family on behalf of Gov. Andrew M. Cuomo.

His family immigrated to the United States from Ghana and Mensah was a permanent legal resident. He became a naturalized United States Citizen on Sept. 21.

"He came to exemplify what is best about his adopted country and Ghana, his country of origin," White said. "What that means is that when others would run from the inferno, our Pfc. Mensah ran into the blaze."

"It's given we, the family members, some peace and some joy and hope that even though we have lost him physically, his memory still lives on," Gloria Addo Nuamah, his sister, said. "People will remember him for this bravery and that's what this ceremony stands for me."

Mensah, who enlisted in the New York Army National Guard in December 2016, had recently completed training to serve as a wheeled vehicle mechanic.

He was slated to begin drilling with the New York Army National Guard's 107th Military Police Company at Fort Hamilton in Brooklyn in January.

Mensah was still assigned to Company A of the New York Army National Guard's Recruiting and Retention Battalion prior to joining the 107th MP Company.

Pfc. Mensah was buried with full military honors Saturday at Woodlawn Cemetery in the Bronx.

"Every Soldier has a story," Lugo said, "this just goes to show how all of our Soldiers are special."

With focus on tech, science, Army senior leaders mentor students

By Joe Lacdan Army News Service



WASHINGTON — As the Army shifts its attention toward new adversaries in the cyber and tech fields, senior Army leaders know the importance that science, technology, engineering and math will play.

After the Army hosted the Stars and Stripes mentoring program at the 32nd annual Black Engineer of the Year Awards STEM conference Feb. 8-10, Army staff in the STEM career fields were honored for their accomplishments.

Soldiers and civilians in the tech and science-related career fields will play a crucial role in the nation's defense as the military prepares for near-peer enemies, senior Army leaders told students. They said Soldiers in tech career fields will be called upon more than ever as U.S. forces prepare for a different type of war, fought in large-scale combat operations and in cyberspace.

"We're at an inflection point in the Army right now," said Gen. James McConville, Army vice chief of staff, at the BEYA awards dinner. "We're changing. Over the last 16 years we've been fighting a low-tech enemy in a counter-insurgency fight. But that's not the future we see. The future we see is: technology is going to play a (role) in the United States Army.

"The Soldier will always be the centerpiece of what we do. But we're looking for great engineers, great mathematicians, scientists ... to give our Soldiers the equipment they need."

ARMY MENTORS

About 150 senior military leaders from each service took part in this year's mentorship program involving 350 students in Virginia, Maryland and the Washington metro area. Each leader spent 25 minutes speaking to groups of precollege students about the benefits of military service and STEM career fields.

"Our presence is very important in also letting our younger generation know that we do care about their future," said Brig. Gen. Bertram Providence, Regional Health Command Pacific commander. "The opportunity that I see when I mentor is helping them understand what it takes to be successful, understanding the importance of grit -- which is perseverance and determination."

Brig. Gen. Lapthe Flora, assistant adjutant general of Virginia, said it was important to relate to students. While the students come from a diverse range of backgrounds, some come from lower income communities. Flora said he tried to show the students that success in military service can be reached regardless of what obstacles life presents them.

Flora, a South Vietnamese immigrant, migrated to the United States at 16, penniless and unable to understand English. More than 37 years later, he has rose to the rank of brigadier general in the National Guard and is a senior engineer with a defense contractor.

"I try to share with them (that) success is about the effort that you put forward in life," Flora said. "It's not your

PHOTO BY JOE LACDAN

Brig. Gen. Lapthe Flora, assistant adjutant general of the Virginia National Guard, talks to high school students about his migration from South Vietnam to the United States Feb. 9 in Washington, D.C.

natural ability. It doesn't matter if you're poor or if you Modern Day Technology Leader for work as a chief enlive in the ghetto."

While the mentors featured a variety of active-duty, Guard, Reserve and retired leaders, Bertram said it was important for the Army's senior leaders to interact with civilian students.

"A lot of the students that come in, they don't exactly know what they want to do," said Brig Gen. Wayne Black, assistant adjunct general for the Indiana National Guard. "But some of them just have worries about what the military is all about and what opportunities are available in the military. I just try to let them know how I enjoyed my pursuit of my career and professional growth in the military."

SOLDIERS EARN HONORS

A panel of judges honored African Americans and minority students for their professional and academic achievements. In addition, several Army personnel were honored for their contributions to technology.

Maj. Gen. Cedric Winds, commander of Research, Development and Engineering Command, was recognized for leading RDECOM's production of technology solutions for Soldiers on the battlefield.

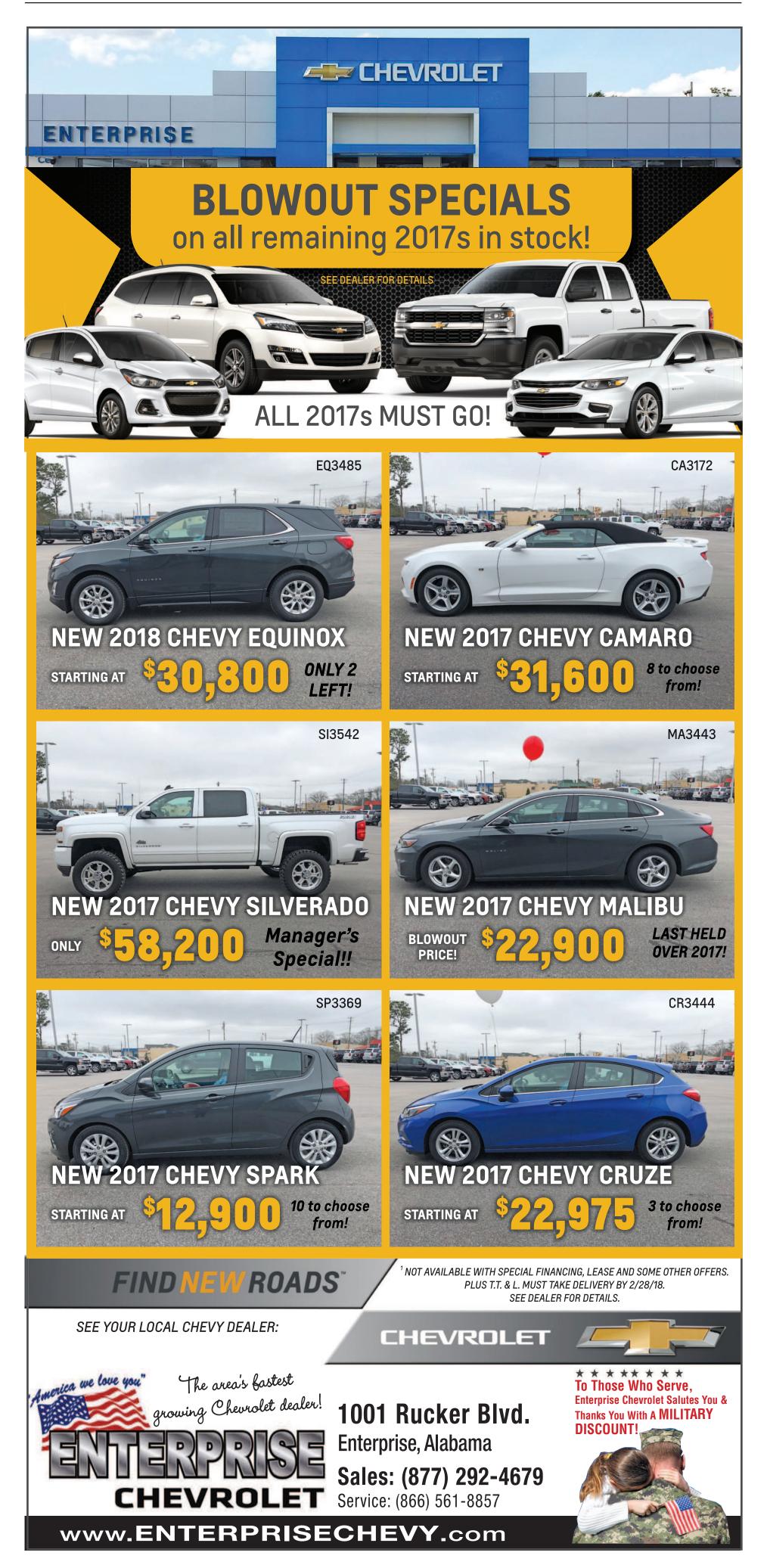
James Cooke, director of Test and Evaluation Command at Aberdeen Proving Ground, was recognized for both his civilian and military contributions. The command is responsible for the experimental testing and independent evaluations of assigned systems. The West Point graduate also spent 25 years as an Army infantry officer.

Army engineer Kevin Kirkwood was recognized as

gineer at the Communication-Electronics, Research and Development Engineering Center, also at Aberdeen.

Sgt. 1st Class Kevin Lindquist, a platoon sergeant from Fort Sam Houston, Texas, was recognized for his work supporting equal opportunities.







COMPETITIVE SPIRIT

Championship aspirations bring West Point siblings together in boxing ring

Story on Page D3

FEBRUARY 22, 2018



Families participate in a previous youth fishing tournament at Parcours Lake.

FILE PHOTOS

GONTE FISTEONG Post boasts 6 lakes, multiple options for anglers

By Nathan Pfau Army Flier Staff Writer

Taking to the waters with a rod and reel is a way that many choose to spend their leisure time, and Fort Rucker has plenty of watery real estate to keep anglers hooked on the popular pastime.

There are a total of five different lakes on Fort Rucker covering more than 700 acres that house a variety of different fish – ranging from largemouth bass, hybrid bass, catfish, crappie and bream – that people can test their skills against as they cast their lines, according to John Clancy, Fort Rucker Outdoor Recreation manager.

The first and most well-known of all the lakes is Lake Tholocco, which offers two different fishing piers – one on East Beach and one on West Beach – and shoreline fishing is also permitted.

People can catch largemouth bass, bream, catfish and crappie in Lake Tholocco's waters, and something many people don't know is that night fishing is allowed on the lake.

"Lake Tholocco is a 676.8-acre, well-



Lucas Gangler, military family member, took first place in a previous youth fishing tournament at Parcours Lake.

according to Clancy. Boats on the other lakes on Fort Rucker must be self-propelled. Although the lakes are full of fish, there is a limit to how many fish people can take home. There is a limit of five largemouth bass for less than 14 inches in length and only one for more than 18 inches at Lake Tholocco. Any largemouth bass caught between the sizes of 14-18 inches must be thrown back, according to Clancy. Tholocco, the fishing experience is just as rich and available from sunup to sundown, Clancy said.

Parcours Lake is another popular fishing spot on Fort Rucker, but this particular spot is reserved for the installation's youth anglers, he said.

"Because of the size of the lake -4.1 acres - and its proximity to the housing areas, it's only permitted for those ages 15 and younger," he said, adding that parents are allowed to assist their children in fishing, but children must reel in their own fish.

The lake, located on Farrel Road behind Lyster Army Health Clinic, is home to bream, catfish and largemouth bass.

Another hidden gem, more known for its trails than its fishing, is Beaver Lake.

This 7.7-acre lake is open to all ages for fishing from sun up to sun down and houses largemouth bass, bream, catfish and crappie. The fish limit at Beaver Lake is two largemouth bass larger than 16 inches, 10 bream of no size limit, unlimited catfish and up to 30 crappie with no size limit.

Beaver Lake is located just off Third

posted signs.

The limits for the lake are no more than two largemouth bass 16 inches or larger, 10 bream with no size limit, unlimited catfish and up to 30 crappie with no size limit.

Buckhorn Lake is another lake that isn't very well known, but it's also one of the installation's most restricted lakes due to its location and proximity to training areas, said Clancy.

The lake is 13.2 acres and is home to largemouth bass, bream and crappie. Hours of operation vary from day to day.

Buckhorn Lake is located two miles past Silver Wings Golf Course on Hatch Road.

"The lake is only open about half the time, so people should call outdoor recreation before they head out to the lake to confirm the times," said the recreation assistant.

Beaver Pond is the smallest of all the lakes on Fort Rucker and is also the least developed, according to Clancy. Beaver Pond is open to all ages, and is located off of Andrews Avenue between Silver Wings Golf Course and the Ozark Gate.

stocked lake," said Clancy. "We sell bait, including worms, crickets, minnows; rods and reels; and all kinds of tackle.

"We also rent different types of boats that are geared up for fishing, (and also offer) cabins and campsites," he added. "It's guaranteed fun."

People operating the boats must first complete the boater's safety course before taking any boats out on the lake, he added.

Lake Tholocco is also the only lake on the installation that permits powerboats, There is a limit of 30 for bream, 15 for catfish and 30 for crappie longer than nine inches.

Although the other lakes on the installation don't compare in size to Lake Avenue across from the Fort Rucker Physical Fitness Center's football field.

There are also a few lakes that are relatively unknown to most on the installation, but the fishing they provide is just as enjoyable as their more well-known counterparts, said Clancy.

Ech Lake is a 7.7-acre lake open to all ages and filled with largemouth bass, bream, catfish and crappie. To get to this hidden gem, turn from Christian Road onto Johnston Road and take the first unpaved road on the left and follow the People 16 and older must have a state fishing license and post fishing permit to fish on Fort Rucker, and everyone operating a boat, motorized or self-propelled, must complete the Fort Rucker Boating Safety Course. People can visit the outdoor recreation service center to obtain a license. To purchase the Fort Rucker post permit, visit www.fortruckerisportsman. net.

For more information, call 255-4305, or visit https://rucker.armymwr.com/us/ rucker/programs/hunting-and-fishing/.



U.S. bobsled racers, including Maj. Chris Fogt and Sgt. Justin Olsen, compete in the World Cup at Park City, Utah, in November.

SHOWTIME

Army bobsled team to jump into action during Olympics

By Gary Sheftick

Army News Service

PYEONGCHANG, South Korea — The four-man bobsled competition Saturday and Sunday will be one of the final medal events of the PyeongChang Olympics, and it will culminate years of training for four Army athletes.

Sgt. 1st Class Nathan Weber practiced for the winter games while deployed in Afghanistan last year, while Sgt. Justin Olsen, Sgt. Nick Cunningham and Capt. Chris Fogt were already training with the U.S. National Team.

"Every free moment I had, I'd be in the gym or I'd

SEE OLYMPICS, PAGE D3

WARRIOR GAMES 2018 Army Trials set to begin at Fort Bliss

By Whitney Delbridge Nichels *Warrior Care and Transition*

ARLINGTON, Va. - Warrior Care and Transition has announced the selection of more than 100 wounded warrior athletes to compete in the 2018 Army Trials at Fort Bliss, Texas. Soldiers and veterans will compete March 3-8 in nine events with hopes of earning a spot on Team Army for the 2018 Department of Defense Warrior Games June 2-9 in Colorado Springs, Colorado.

For many returning athletes, it is a chance to build upon their previous Army Trials performances and conquer new goals. For newcomers, like Spc. Katherine Morrin, it is a chance to put months of training to the test while building new bonds.

"I am excited to be competing and to meet other wounded warriors who are dealing with a lot of the same obstacles and hardships," said Morrin.

The Warrior Care and Transition Program equips wounded, ill and injured Soldiers with the resources to return to duty or transition into veteran status. As part of Army Warrior Care's whole-Soldier approach, adaptive reconditioning is introduced to Soldiers in transition to help them remain active and teach them new ways to do different activities, like the sports they have always loved or new activities they never thought possible.

With every push forward, the Army athletes at the heart of these games show just what happens when resiliency overpowers fear and the impossible becomes attainable.

"Army Trials is a great event for our wounded, ill and injured Soldiers," said Lt. Col. Heidi Schuster, officerin-charge of the Warrior Care and Transition Adaptive



PHOTO BY SPC. REBECCA DENNIS

Soldiers and veterans take aim with their air rifles during shooting training for the Warrior Care and Transition's Army Trials at Fort Bliss, Texas, March 30.

Reconditioning Program. "Not only will they receive world class training from our coaching staff, but this year they will get to experience a variety of therapeutic recreation events that they can take back with them to help with their recovery."

This year, Army Trials will introduce two new events – rowing and powerlifting – to complete the competition line up, which includes track, field, shooting, archery, swimming, cycling, wheelchair basketball and sitting volleyball.

For more information on Army Trials and the Warrior Care and Transition Program, follow them on social media at www.facebook.com/ArmyWCT and www.twitter. com/ArmyWCT.









Just Like Cats & Dogs by Dave T. Phipps WHAT A NICE DAY! I'M IN A GREAT MOOD, SO PLEASE DON'T DO OR SAY ANYTHING. الاللالالالي 001317.70



1. GENERAL KNOWLEDGE: What is the word for "W" in the NATO phonetic alphabet?

2. LITERATURE: Who wrote the short story titled "The Monkey's Paw"? 3. GOVERNMENT: Which one of the amendments to the U.S. Constitution forbids double jeopardy?

4. ROYALS: Who was the daughter of Anne Boleyn and King Henry VIII of England?

5. MYTHOLOGY: What is the Greek counterpart of the Roman goddess Minerva?

6. TELEVISION: Which member of the "Our Gang" cast was shot to death in a dispute at age 31?

7. LANGUAGE: What does the Latin phrase "prima facie" mean?

8. U.S. STATES: Which state's official song is "Roll On, Columbia, Roll On"?

9. GEOLOGY: What kind of gemstone is actually fossilized tree resin? 10. GEOGRAPHY: What is the modern name of the country of "Cymru"?

See Page D3 for this week's answers.

Weekly SUDOKU by Linda Thistle 6 3 4 5 9 1 7 6

SECRET SCOUTING MISSIONS Super Crossword

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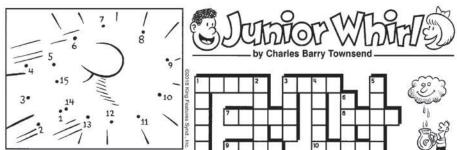
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See Page D3 for this week's answers.

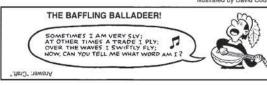
See Page D3 for this week's answers.

KID'S CORNER



CONNECT THE DOTS and find out what softdrink prizefighters like best!

Answers: Punch.



LINK-UPS! Here's a list of 12 small words that are divid-ACRE) PING ed into two columns. Turn them into six longer words by CAR ALLY BROW DISH linking them together. To do this, draw a line from a word DELI AGE in the left column to a word in the right column.

G. Brandish. BRANSING Answers: 1. Acreage. 2. Carping. 3. Browsing. 4. Delivery. 5. Globally.



round when talking about the weather. Use these words to complete the puzzle grid above. Use the trial-and-error method; erasers are optional letter words 5-letter words

ARID	FROST
BLEW	FROZE
BURN	MOIST
GALE	RAINS
MIST	SHADE
	SWEAT
	THAWS

Answers: (Across) 1. Frost 3. Burn. 7. Shade Answers: (Across) 1. Frost 3. Bount 1. Froze 8. Arid. 9. Mist. 10. Sweat (Down) 1. Froze 2. Thaws 3. Blew 4. Pains 5. Moist 6. Gale

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2	8	5	3	4	2	3	7	8	5	7	2	7
А	U	А	Α	Ρ	D	D	Е	R	S	Е	V	M
4	2	6	8	7	5	4	6	2	3	5	3	8
0	Е	R	Е	0	т	S	S	N	V	S	1	С
3	4	3	7	2	6	4	6	5	2	4	7	2
С	1	Е	F	Т	н	Т	Е	Т	U	1	С	R
6	4	6	8	5	6	5	7	2	4	7	2	7
L	٧	Ρ	R	A	Y	R	0	0	Е	W	U	0
8	2	7	6	7	5	6	8	7	8	7	8	7
U	S	R	0	Κ	т	U	L	Е	S	R	Е	S
HE	RE I	SAP	LEA	SAN	TLI	TTLE	GA	ME t	hat w	ill aiv	e vo	ou a

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

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dow is broken. 2. Football is missing. 3. Switch is missing. J. 5. Picture is smallet. B. Drawer is missing. New! 24 HOCUS FOCUS puzzles \$3.50 • 24 Volumes • Order at: rbmamall.com

Championship aspirations bring West Point siblings together

By Joe Lacdan Army News Service

WEST POINT, N.Y. - Boxing started as a hobby, but soon grew into a family affair for three siblings at the U.S. Military Academy at West Point.

Egbezien "E.B." Obiomon came to West Point with hopes to make an impact for the Black Knights on the gridiron. However, his athletic plans soon changed after taking West Point's mandatory boxing class in the spring of his freshman year.

Obiomon found that he enjoyed the intense competition of the sport. Then he learned from academy boxing instructor, Maj. William Kobbe, about the West Point Boxing Club, which competes in the National Collegiate Boxing Association.

Obiomon joined the club his sophomore year and enjoyed competing in the ring so much that he decided to leave the Army's football team. In less than a year of training, Obiomon, who had never competed as a boxer, won the National Collegiate Boxing Association title in the in the 185-pound weight division during his sophomore season.

"He's a very good athlete very talented," said Ray Barone, USMA boxing coach. "Good hand-eye coordination. He's got a very good mindset for boxing. He quickly picked up the technique, but he also had the mental tough-

Olympics

Continued from Page D1

be running sprints or pushing sleds," Weber said of his tour in Afghanistan.

The Special Forces medic even ran laps around the forward operating base during a mortar attack.

"You can say I'm a little bit of an adrenaline junky," Weber said, explaining with a smile that the mortar attack raised his adrenaline levels and helped him clock a faster time than ever before.

This week Weber will be pushing a new bobsled across the starting gate at the Olympic Sliding Center along with two fellow Soldiers in the same sled.

THE BIG FOUR

Three-time Olympian Fogt, who earned a bronze medal at the last games in Sochi, will be the sled's brakeman. Another three-peat Olympian and gold-medalist from the 2010 Vancouver games, Olsen will drive the sled.

2016

Egbezien Obiomon competes in 185 pound weight class. In his third year on the team, the senior has won 13 of 16 career matches despite never boxing before enrolling at the U.S. Military Academy. He won the 2016 national title in the 185 pound weight

ness – the mettle to be a tough boxer."

class.

Now a senior who will be an infantry officer upon graduation in May, E.B. shares his love of the sport with his younger sisters, both of whom are also West Point Cadets. Sister Ejakhianaghe is a junior at the school, while Ebakoliane is a sophomore.

With three siblings at the school. all in boxing, there would be success for the Obiomon clan beyond E.B.'s national championship win in 2016.

Competing for the West Point women's team last spring, Ejakhianaghe won the 2017 National Championship in the 165-pound weight division, while Ebakoliane finished second at 156 pounds in her first season competing.

tell that."

Egbezien's fiancé, Esther Nagila, is the women's team captain. A cousin of the Obiomons, Evan Walker, is also a freshman on the women's team. The family spends time sparring, going over videos of previous matches and working on fundamentals.

And their rise to the top of the sport has surprised many-including the Obiomons. The siblings said the sport has brought them closer together.

"Just yesterday I was in there sparring with them," E.B. said. "It's special to us. It's kind of turned into a family thing. It's pretty special, the fact that we all can share the same experience. Not too many people get that opportunity."

"Obviously my family is

very proud," Ejakhianaghe said. "(Boxing) helps with our sibling bond. We see each other every day. We're around together for about two hours. It helps us become more in sync. I feel like we're more tight-knit."

In E.B.'s first match as a competitive boxer, he was pitted against an experienced Air Force Academy opponent. Though E.B. lost the fight to his much more seasoned foe, Barone said that E.B. held his own and remained competitive throughout the bout.

Later that season in the national championship, E.B. took on Jourdan Looney, a lefty who had previous nationals experience. In the first round, E.B. said he took more hits than he had ever endured in a fight. But eventually his conditioning carried him to the win. The 185-pound championship bout was so competitive, E.B. said he was not sure who won the fight.

"At West Point that was probably the best moment that ever happened to me," E.B. said. "Because honestly, I thought I'd lost."

E.B.'s parents, Sam and Pamela, and his sister Ejakhianaghe attended the fight. Each of the three Obiomon youth had athletic experience while attending Cypress Wood High School in Texas. E.B. competed as a running back and sprinter for the Wildcats, while Ejakhianaghe was a thrower on the track team and also played basketball. Ebakoliane displayed her athleticism as a high jumper.

E.B., with 13 wins and 3 losses in his boxing career, credits his older teammates with teaching him the basics of the sport during his freshman and sophomore seasons. He competed at 185 pounds his sophomore year, but a shoulder injury sidelined him from competing at nationals his junior year. Once again this spring, he should be a favorite at his weight class, Barone said.

"The thing that attracted me most to the sport is that it will prepare me best to be an infantry officer," Egbezien said. "I am always looking at what is going to help me become a better combat leader."

It all began with the boxing course that now all West Point cadets must take to graduate. Beginning with the Class of 2020, female students must also complete the class. Barone, who serves as the course director of the boxing program at the Academy, said the program helps reflect the changing needs of the Army, as more female Soldiers are integrated into combat roles such as infantry and armor.

"What we do is we take cadets and very slowly through 19 lessons teach a crawl, walk, run method of boxing," Barone said. "The idea is to put them in a oneon-one confrontation - a very perceived fearful situation. Give them the tools to cope with it - offense and defense -- and see how they react."

Their new 400-pound sled was tested earsled, I'm like OK, I need to scrape my knee lier this year at the Olympic training center in on the way into the sled," Weber said. Lake Placid, New York, before going on the Now he's pushing the sled right behind World Cup circuit. The team of four placed Olsen. ninth in Koenigssee, Germany, Jan. 18 as

"Having him be the reason that I came into the sport and now being in the sled with him at the Olympics, it's 100 percent unreal," Weber said. "It's come full circle and it's awesome."

Weber was actually in back of the bobsled when Olsen made his first run as a pilot three years ago, moving up from brakeman to driver. "He believed in me," Olsen said.

"He just got back from a deployment, and he was right in the back of the sled, torn hamstring, he didn't care," Olsen said.

Weber said nothing will stop him from competing.

"Anything can happen and I'll get out there and perform the next day," he said. "It doesn't matter what it is."

selves, he said.

"What the Army has taught me the most is mental toughness," Fogt said. "There's times you're in the field, there's times you don't eat for a couple of days, there's times you don't sleep."

He went to the National Training Center at Fort Irwin, California, twice. "You don't shower for 15 days, you eat maybe one hot meal a day and you realize that your body can do it," Fogt said.

"Brand new privates came to NTC and it was easy to see them grow and develop while in the box," he said. You realize the mental toughness, that you can do hard things if you put your mind to it -- and bobsled is the same way. The support that the Army gives us is huge."

WORLD-CLASS ATHLETE PROGRAM

Olsen, at 6-foot-2 and 235 pounds, is Team USA's largest bobsled pilot.

"For bobsled, you have to be fast and big and strong," Fogt said. "The bobsled weighs about 400 pounds. You have to get that thing going from zero to as fast as you can ... in a short period of time."

Fogt himself is 6 feet and 205 pounds while Weber is 6 feet and weighs 223 pounds. The fourth member of their bobsled team is civilian Carlo Valdes, 6-foot-2 and 220 pounds. He played wide receiver for the UCLA football team a year before moving to track and field and earning prominence throwing the javelin.

easy walking into a new place where you're working and tell the people ... 'hey, I want to do this absolutely crazy thing because I think I can go to the Olympics."

they qualified the sled for the Olympics.

"We've made some advancements with

this new sled," Olsen said. "Overall it's just

a larger sled. It allows for a bigger team to be

relatively hidden inside the sled and be more

aerodynamic. I'm one of the larger pilots on

tour and with the four-man, you can't really

Weber feels resilience is one of the most

important qualities he brings to the team.

He's had to overcome a number of obstacles

"Aside from having to train while running

missions and being deployed, it's not always

MENTOR AND ROLE MODEL

to make the Olympic team, he said.

Weber is a member of the 10th Special Forces Group at Fort Carson, Colorado, and said leaders there have given him tremendous support and allowed him time to train in bobsled.

While going through the Special Forces Q Course about eight years ago, Weber picked up a magazine and read about fellow Soldier Olsen winning a gold medal in bobsled and it inspired him to take up the sport.

Later, Olsen became his mentor and role model. "I joke with him all the time: If he's going to scrape his knee on the way into the

VETERAN LEADERSHIP

Weber feels Fogt brings veteran leadership to the team.

"He got us so fired up at the line, it was absolutely incredible," Weber said of the captain at the starting gate in Koenigssee. "He really helps bring out the best in everybody on the team."

Fogt, a military intelligence officer, deployed to Iraq for a year after competing in the Vancouver Olympics. He said the work ethic there and elsewhere across the Army translates well to sports.

He believes hard work is the biggest factor to success in the Olympics. Athletes, like Soldiers, must keep trying to improve them-

Both Fogt and Olsen said that without the support the Army provides, they wouldn't be able to compete.

"WCAP allows for us to train pretty stressfree and do our sport," Olsen said. "I think that's one of the reasons why we've got myself as a medalist, Chris Fogt's a medalist from Sochi and hopefully we can keep that medal train rolling."

Olsen said he's glad to have the opportunity to wear the uniform and represent Soldiers around the world. "We just hope that we can make Soldiers proud," he said.

(Editor's note: Sgt. Nick Cunningham, WCAP, will pilot USA Sled #2 in PyeongChang Saturday and Sunday with three other athletes.)

FORT RUCKER SPO

Kickball tournament

The Fort Rucker Physical Fitness Center will host a double-elimination kickball tournament March 3 beginning at 8 a.m. The tournament will be held at the Fort Rucker Softball complex on Andrews Avenue. There will be prizes for first-third places - the first-place team will receive \$500, and team and individual trophies; the second-place team will receive \$300 and a team trophy; and the third-place team will receive \$225 and a team trophy. A concession stand will be open. The event is open to the public.

For more information, call 255-2296 or 255-3794.

Thursday Evenings on the Range

Silver Wings Golf Course hosts its Thursday Evenings

on the Range with PGA professional Ty Andersen Thursdays from 5-6 p.m. at the driving range. Cost is \$10 and can be paid at the pro shop before the session starts. The afternoon is a supervised practice with unlimited range balls.

For more information, call 255-0089.

Commanding General's Golf Tournament

Silver Wings Golf Course will host the Commanding General's Golf Tournament Friday. The format is four-person team scramble and begins at 11 a.m. Entry fee is \$60 for non-members and \$50 for members. Entry fee includes tournament course fees, 18 holes of golf, range balls, carts, lunch and prizes. Prizes go to the longest drive, closest to

> 7 1

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3 8

5 1

4 6

7 2

6 5

8 3

2

9

the pin, Top 3 teams, and the highest scoring team. For more information, call 255-0089.

T-ball, baseball, softball registration

Registration for youth T-ball, baseball and softball continues through Friday at Fort Rucker Parent Central Services, located in Bldg. 5700, Soldier Service Center, Rm. 193 or online using WebTrac. A current sports physical and a valid child and youth services registration are required for participation. There will be a parents meeting Wednesday at 6 p.m. in the youth center, Bldg. 2800, on Seventh Avenue.

For more information, including the various age groups and costs, call 255-9638 or 255-2254.





Weekly SUDOKU

Answer

	0.040753					
6	3	4	9	5	2	8
5	2	8	1	3	7	6
2	7	5	6	1	9	4
8	9	3	4	7	6	2
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3	5	6	8	9	4	1
1	4	9	7	2	8	3
7	6	2	5	4	1	9
_					-	-

4 8 1 3 6 5



Answers

- 1. Whiskey
- 2. W.W. Jacobs
- 3. Fifth
- 4. Queen Elizabeth I
- 5. Athena
- 6. Carl Dean Switzer, who played
- 'Alfalfa''
 - 7. Based on the first impression
 - 8. Washington
 - 9. Amber
 - 10. Wales

