

STRENGTHENING THE COMMUNITY

Fort Rucker re-commits to child abuse prevention

By Nathan Pfau

Army Flier Staff Writer

When it comes to abuse, finding a voice can be difficult, especially for children, and that's why Fort Rucker made a pledge to bring child abuse prevention to the forefront.

Col. Brian E. Walsh, Fort Rucker garrison commander, in honor of Child Abuse Prevention Month and Month of the Military Child, signed a proclamation during a ceremony in the atrium of Bldg. 5700 April 4 to pledge his and the installation's commitment to ending child abuse.

"Child abuse is never OK," read the proclamation. "No one



Col. Brian E. Walsh, Fort Rucker garrison commander, signs the Child Abuse Prevention Month proclamation.

deserves to be abused, and anyone can be a victim. Anytime an Army family member suffers from abuse, we fall short for our goals for readiness.

"I'm calling on all of us – military and civilian, parents and nonparents – to unite for a common goal – to end child abuse," the proclamation continues. "We must make a commitment to this prevention effort in partnership with the family advocacy program here at Fort Rucker. Children are the future of our nation. It is our job to make sure that they grow up with a strong support system."

This year's theme for the prevention month is "Strong Communities Strengthen Families," and along the lines of the theme, Walsh said it's up to parents to make sure those within the community, especially children, feel safe.

"Children should always feel safe and live in a home free from fear, and they should be secure and understand that they have potential to grow both physically and emotionally," said the garrison commander during the ceremony. "The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention simply states that safe, stable and nurturing relationships and environments between children and their caregivers pro-



PHOTOS BY NATHAN PFAL

Children of the Fort Rucker Elementary School perform a song during the Child Abuse Prevention Month proclamation signing in the atrium of Bldg. 5700 April 4.

vide a definitive buffer against the effects of potential stressors."

Walsh also offered up three key points to help build stronger communities: be informed, be attentive and be supportive.

"Be informed – that's the first thing," he said. "Stay ahead and build your parenting skills. Be attentive. If you see something, say something, or attempt to help.

"(Lastly), be supportive," he continued. "Caring words and small actions certainly make a big difference, and they make a difference in the community."

Oftentimes, parenting can be a tough job, said Walsh, and for that reason, Fort Rucker provides ways to help parents get through difficult situations, including the Army Community Service Family Advocacy Program and New Parent Support Program.

"The family advocacy program is a wonderful program," said the garrison commander. "Learn and get knowledge from them, and see what they have to offer – it's there for you – and it is a positive thing that makes our families stronger, and therefore our communities stronger."

Although April is designated as Child Abuse Prevention Month, Walsh said it's not something that should be thought of only one month out of the year.

"Child abuse prevention is not a one-month assignment. It goes on every day of every year. Without every one of us doing our part, we cannot say our Army is fully ready to build a strong and resilient community," he said. "Parents are our children's first teachers, and children learn mutual respect and how to treat other's through the example that our parents set."

For more information on family advocacy, call 255-3898. For more information on the new parent support program, call 255-9647.



Cleanup effort spruces up post prior to summer

PHOTO BY DAVID AGA

The Fort Rucker Fire Department hazardous material team works to decontaminate a team member after opening a suspicions package outside the post mail distribution center April 5.

Suspicious mail alert turns into valuable training opportunity

By Nathan Pfau

Army Flier Staff Writer

In the morning April 5, the Fort Rucker Directorate of Public Safety receive a call about a suspicious package at the mail distribution center on post, and with the help of community partners, installation officials put boots on the ground to deal with the potential threat.

In response to the call, Fort Rucker DPS, including the police and fire departments, deployed officers, military working dogs and the hazardous material team, as well as contacted the Dothan Bomb Squad to aid in dealing with the package, according to Capt. Michael Simmons, DPS patrol captain.

The package was first identified by staff in the mail room at the distribution center when they noticed that the mailing and return address seemed suspicious, said Simmons. The package was sent to Fort Rucker, which was also listed as the return address, even though it originated from Colorado.

"The guys in the mail room ran the zip code from where it was originally mailed and that's when all the red flags went up," said the patrol captain. "When the call was received, we sent the police over to the location, and their job was to set up a traffic control point and evacuate the building and any other buildings that might be affected."

From there, once the area was cordoned off, Fort Rucker contacted the Dothan Bomb Squad to assist, and sent in explosives dogs to check out the package, as well as the surrounding areas for any additional threat, said Simmons.

"Once the bomb squad showed up, our canine units cleared a path for the bomb disposal unit to enter the building, and they went in and took an X-Ray of the package," he said. "They saw that there was no explosive in the package and that it wasn't putting off any radiation," but despite clearing the package of a potential explosive, the images of the interior of the package were inconclusive.

"They said it wasn't an explosive, but they couldn't definitively identify what was in the package, so from there, we called in the fire department in reference to any type of (potentially) hazardous material," Simmons added.

The Fort Rucker Fire Department responded with its HAZMAT unit and paired with the Dothan Bomb Squad to send in a team to get another X-Ray of the item, said Jay Evett, Fort Rucker fire chief.

The X-Ray images were still showing

SEE TRAINING, PAGE A7

By Jeremy Henderson *Army Flier Staff Writer*

Warm weather may be reluctant to stick around at the moment, but the Fort Rucker community won't hesitate to spring into action during this year's spring cleanup.

"For those unfamiliar with spring cleanup on post, this is the time of year following a long winter to get out and spruce up around our work areas," Willie Rucker, Fort Rucker Directorate of Public Works, said. "One day is dedicated towards decluttering our work spaces and one day is totally dedicated towards improving the outside of our work spaces. Time is also dedicated to Soldiers and Airmen who reside in the barracks to clean up their areas."

Spring cleanup takes place Tuesday through April 20 and commuters are asking to be mindful of cleanup activity along roadways and in parking areas throughout the workdays.

"During hours of spring cleanup, please be aware of groups of individuals along roadsides policing up their designated areas of responsibility," Rucker said. "Slow down and watch for slow moving vehicles,

SEE CLEANUP, PAGE A7



Soldiers participate in a previous spring cleanup by collecting trash along the parade fields on post.

COMMUNITY - C1-8

PERSPECTIVE

TRANSTION Job seekers need support during search for employment

By Bryan Tharpe

Fort Rucker Soldierfor Life Center Transition Services Manager

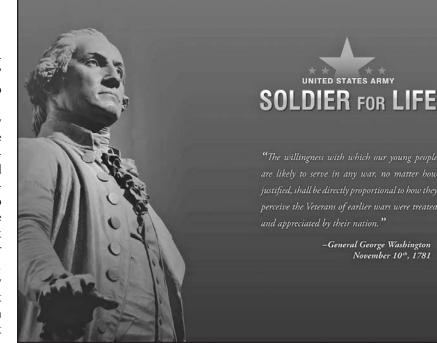
When thinking of getting out of the military, some Soldiers say, "I can't wait!" They are excited about getting back into civilian life.

Those who have been in the military for more than 10 years may experience a dichotomy of feelings. They experience periods of intense excitement and extreme sadness. They anticipate the adventure ahead and fear not being able to find an adequate job. Some are not sure what kind of job they'd really like to look for, if they have adequate educations or training, or even where they want to live.

Sometimes those leaving the military dread putting on the uniform for the last time and the changes that will ensue in their lives. Most job seekers worry about finding a good job in the chosen location at a salary that will give their families a comfortable lifestyle.

With all of these extremes of feelings, it's not hard to imagine the stress job seekers feel. Research shows that the stress during a job search is second only to that experienced when a spouse dies.

Is it any wonder that job hunters need support and help during this stressful time?



Many clients at the SFL-TAP Center work as a team with their spouses. The training offered is beneficial to spouses who are looking for a job-and for those who just want to assist with the job search.

Even if they are not seeking a job, spouses can help with writing, typing and reproducing resumes and cover letters. ARMY GRAPHIC

They can help search employers and locate job openings. During the interview preparation, spouses can assist with rehearsals by asking tough interview questions and helping with good answers.

One of our successful job hunters got his whole family involved in the job search process. They subscribed to newspapers in the areas of interest, and the children

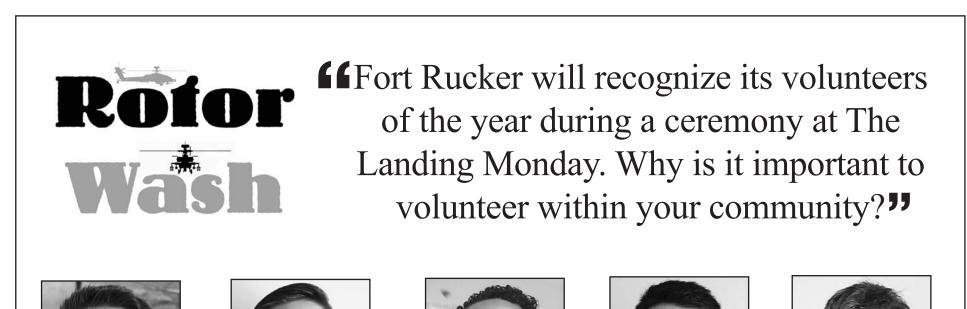
went through the want ads, found likely sources for jobs and entered the data into the computer. The family has now located a job and is happily resettled in another state. When he landed a job, the entire family celebrated because it was their success-they had all contributed.

It's always sad for us to learn that a few of our clients must carry the entire load of job hunting. It's a heavy load when the welfare of a family is at stake. Sometimes the job seeker doesn't want to worry the family. Sometimes the spouse is unsupportive.

Often the sources of the stress involve money, relocation or adjusting to a different lifestyle. For example, when the family has to tighten the financial belt, it is a big help when spouses and children cooperate on conserving money until the job search is successful. This all contributes to the positive attitude, which is so important while meeting prospective employers.

The most together job searchers are those who have the support of their spouses, families and friends. An adage says, "Marriage doubles your happiness and halves your sorrows." A shared stressful situation is much the same – half as bad when the load is shared.

Visit or call the Fort Rucker SFL-TAP Center at 255-2558.





Jordan Baskins, civilian

"You should always do what you can to try and improve your community."



Michael Janik, civilian

"Supporting your community is vital. If you want to immerse yourself in your community, giving back through volunteerism or donations, whether it's money, food or your time, is important."



Daniel Robinson, military family member

"It's important to give back, especially when you're in a military community, because Soldiers are fighting for our freedoms, so we need to contribute in any way that we can.'



Alain Perez-Majul, military family member

"If it weren't for those who came before to fight and serve their community, we couldn't enjoy everything that we have today. Giving back isn't about you or how it can serve you, but about how it can serve those around you.'



Cody Lensmeyer, civilian

"This is where you live, so you need to try and make it a better place."

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injury.

- Calmly control the situation, do not use force.
- 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-

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If you would like to contact the Army Flier by e-mail, please contact the editor at jhughes@ armyflier.com.

Register now to vote absentee

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Keith D. Wilbur Fort Rucker Voting Assistance Officer

The 2018 mid-term and general elections take place Nov. 6 with campaigns in full swing between now and then for 35 U.S. Senate seats, all 435 House of Representatives seats and 39 state governorships.

Additionally, numerous other state and local municipal issues will be decided by registered voters from their respective areas.

Fort Rucker Soldiers and family members who want to vote in those upcoming elections need to register with their voting officials back home in time to allow this to happen.

That is where this office and the FVAP.gov website can help. The Federal Voting Assistance

Program works to ensure Service members, their eligible Family members and overseas citizens are aware of their right to vote, and have the tools and resources to successfully do so - from anywhere in the world.

FVAP assists voters through partnerships with the military services, Deptartment of State, Deptartment of Justice and election officials from 50 states, U.S. territories and the District of Columbia.

The Federal Voting Assistance Program exists to:

- Assist uniformed services and overseas voters exercise their right to vote so that they have an equal opportunity with the general population to have their vote counted;
- Assist states in complying with relevant federal laws by
- tion; and · Advocate on behalf of the uniformed services and overseas voters, identifying impediments to their ability to exercise their right to vote and proposing methods to overcome those impediments. To successfully vote absentee, Soldiers and family members should:

providing current informa-

· Allow plenty of time to request, receive and return their ballots;

• Notify their local election official each time their mailing address changes:

FEDERAL VOTING ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

- Become familiar with their state's absentee voting deadlines and procedures to make sure their ballot is properly executed and will be counted; and
- Complete a Federal Write-In Absentee Ballot early if unsure of the time required to return the ballot to meet the

Remember, registering early is best. Early submission of a Federal Post Card Application allows voting officials time to verify and validate the information submitted to them, then send out the ballot information with time to complete and return the ballot so it can be counted in the Nov. 4 elections

state's deadline.

For more information, call the Fort Rucker Voting Assistance Office 255-1839.

DOD, DHS to work with governors to deploy Guardsmen

By Lisa Ferdinando

Defense Media Activity

WASHINGTON - President Donald J. Trump has directed the Defense and Homeland Security departments to work with state governors to deploy National Guard troops to the southern U.S. border, a top official said April 4

Speaking to reporters at the White House, Homeland Security Secretary Kirstjen M. Nielsen said the troops would augment U.S. Customs and Border Protection and provide support where needed to secure the border with Mexico.

Trump would issue a proclamation later that day on the matter, she said.

In a statement, chief Pentagon spokesperson Dana W. White highlighted DOD support for border security efforts.

"We are working with the Department of Homeland Security to enhance the support we provide to the DHS border security mission," White said. "We look forward to continuing our partnership with DHS to ensure the defense of our nation and security



Homeland Security Secretary Kirstjen M. Nielsen briefs reporters at the White House April 4.

of the American people."

Nielsen said the deployment is aimed at filling the gaps in border security and stopping illegal activities that pose a threat to

the country. "We continue to see unacceptable levels of illegal drugs, dangerous gang activity, transnational criminal organizations and illegal immigration flow across our border," she said.

Border security is national security, Nielsen said.

"We do hope that the deployment begins immediately," she said, adding the troops would support the mission in conjunction of the needs of the specific border state.

The Defense Department has long supported DHS efforts to protect the nation's borders, Nielsen said, including counternarcotics missions, infrastructure construction, persistent surveillance operations training and aerial support throughout the Western Hemisphere.

At the White House April 4, Trump said he wants to use the military to secure the U.S. border with Mexico, in response to gaps in security there. "Until we can have a wall and proper security, we're going to be guarding our border with the military."

Previous presidents have deployed National Guard troops to support security along the U.S. southern border - 6,000 were sent under President George W. Bush, and 1,200 under President Barack Obama.

Survey to gauge resident satisfaction for Army housing

Assistant Chief of Staff for **Installation Management** Press Release

WASHINGTON — Army housng residents, including those at Fort Rucker, have the chance to provide feedback about living in privatized housing.

Meade, Maryland; Polk, Louisiana; Riley, Kansas; Sill, Oklahoma; Huachuca, Arizona; Leavenworth, Kansas; Yuma, Arizona; and Aberdeen Proving Ground,

ly, Alaska; Bragg, North Carolina; ners in development of future improvements to our privatized housing facilities and services," said Lt. Gen. Gwen Bingham, the assistant chief of staff for Installation Management. "Your feedback about your experiences while residing in a privatized housing community is critical to shaping the future housing and services provided to the Army."



The Army launched a Residential Communities Initiative resident satisfaction survey March 29 and it runs through May 31, emailing the survey link to more than 80,000 residents living in privatized housing at 44 installations.

Residents will receive announcement letters before the start of the web-based survey notifying them of the start date and the timeframe for participation. Completing the survey takes about 10 minutes. Residents have 30 days to complete the survey.

Residents receiving the survey March 29 include those at forts Rucker; Wainwright, Alaska; GreeMaryland.

The remaining start dates will be staggered by installation throughout April and May.

Army housing residents can rate their satisfaction with services, property and the overall housing experience with the survey. Feedback plays an important role in helping the Army maintain a high quality of life for Soldiers and families.

Army housing officials expect to announce survey results by August. Survey results will guide the decisions the Army makes today about future housing and will effect generations of Soldiers and families.

"The information residents provide annually continues to help guide the Army and our RCI Part-

The assistant chief of staff Installation Management for provides policies, programs, resources and expertise for services and installation infrastructure to enable Total Army readiness. The assistant chief of staff for Installation Management is the sponsor of the survey.

Charles E. Lee & Associates is the company conducting the resident satisfaction survey for privatized residential communities across Army installations.

The Residential Communities Initiative is the Army's public-priARMY PHOTO

Army housing residents can rate their satisfaction with services, property and the overall housing experience through the Residential Communities Initiative survey that kicked off March 29. More than 86,000 residents live in privatized housing such as this house at Fort Shafter, Hawaii.

vate venture to privatize housing on Army installations. Privatized housing comprises 98 percent of the Army's Family housing inventory in the United States. Fort Carson, Colorado, was the first installation to convert to privatized housing in November 1999.

News Briefs

Spring cleanup

Fort Rucker will have its spring cleanup Tuesday through April 20. Tuesday will be for the cleanup of interior offices and work areas. Wednesday will be for the exterior areas and police call areas. April 19, from 9 a.m. to noon, will be for continuing to clean up interior and exterior areas and from 1-4 p.m., under the brigade or owner of the barracks, Soldiers residing in barracks will be released, if the mission allows, to complete cleanup of common areas of responsibility.

Hazardous materials should be turned in to the HAZMAT turn-in facility in Bldg. 1315. For more information, call 598-1311. To arrange for turn-in of mixed fuel and oil, call 255-2541.

For more information on spring cleanup, call 255-1692.

Free advance screening

Soldiers, military families and retirees can get a free sneak peek of STXfilms' "I Feel Pretty," starring Amy Schumer Saturday at 6 p.m. at the Fort Rucker Reel Time Theater. The Fort Rucker community will

get to see the movie nearly a week before it is released to nationwide audiences April 20 courtesy of STXfilms, a division of STX Entertainment, and the Army and Air Force Exchange Service.

"The Exchange is privileged to offer the Fort Rucker community this free militaryexclusive advance screening," said Exchange General Manager, Ralph M. Kleemann. "With all they sacrifice in service of our country, Airmen and their families deserve an opportunity to kick back, relax and come together as a military community."

"I Feel Pretty" is rated PG-13. In the film, Schumer plays a woman struggling with insecurity who wakes from a fall believing she is the most beautiful and capable woman on the planet. Her new confidence empowers her to live fearlessly, but what happens when she realizes her appearance never changed?

Retirement ceremony

Fort Rucker will host its quarterly retirement ceremony April 20 at 2 p.m. in the U.S. Army Aviation Museum. Everyone is welcome to attend and honor this quarter's

retirees for their service.

Faulkner Gate hours

The operating hours for Faulkner Gate are Mondays-Fridays from 4:30 a.m. to 8:30 p.m. The gate will be closed on weekends, holidays and days of no scheduled activity. People should plan their travel accordingly.

USAACE Aviation Ball

The U.S. Army Aviation Center of Excellence's 35th Aviation Ball is scheduled for Saturday from 6-11 p.m. at The Landing ballroom. Cost is \$31 for sergeants and below; \$36 for staff sergeants to master sergeants, second lieutenants to captains, warrant officers 1 to chief warrant officers 2, and GS-12s and below; and \$41 for sergeants major, GS-13s, and majors, chief warrant officers 3 and above. Dress for military is mess or ASU with white shirt and bow tie. For civilians, it is formal attire.

Tickets can be purchased online at https://usaaceball.regfox.com/register. People needing assistance can contact their unit representative.

Army Emergency Relief

Fort Rucker is conducting its Army Emergency Relief fundraising campaign through May 15. The motto for this year's campaign is There for Those Who Serve, according to local AER officials.

For more information, call 255-2341.

Alcoholics Anonymous meets

Alcoholics Anonymous meets Wednesdays from 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. in Rm. 147 of Bldg. 4502. For more on the group, call 334-237-1973.

Lost and found

People who have lost or misplaced property while on Fort Rucker can call the Directorate of Public Safety's lost and found point of contact at 255-3239 to inquire if their property has been turned in. To claim their property, people must be able to demonstrate ownership of the property. DPS retains property found or turned in at special events held on the installation, such as Freedom Fest – the most common items turned-in are keys, cell phones and wallets.

LOOKING FORWARD SecArmy discusses possible locations, talent acquisition for Futures Command

By David Vergun Army News Service

WASHINGTON — "There's been quite a bit of interest" in the location for the new Army Futures Command, said Secretary of the Army Dr. Mark T. Esper, adding that the location announcement would be made in the coming months.

Esper spoke April 5 at a Heritage Foundation event moderated by Thomas Spoehr, the director of the Foundation's Center for National Defense.

Spoehr mentioned the national buzz over the possible location of Amazon's second headquarters, and wondered if the Army was generating similar interest over the unannounced Futures Command location.

The list of potential locations is being narrowed down, the secretary said. The main criteria is to find an unbeatable center of innovation, where the Army can gather top talent from academia and industry.

The Army will need these innovators to support the Army's six modernization priorities, Esper said. They will need to visualize what the Army will look like 30 years from now, the threat and strategic environment of the future, and the range of innovative technical and material solutions that will be available to provide overmatch for the Army.

The Army's six modernization



Secretary of the Army Dr. Mark T. Esper speaks at the Heritage Foundation April 5.

priorities are the development of improved 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. Eight cross-functional teams, or CFTs, are leading that effort and will become part of Futures Command.

The Army will need talented engineers to work on lasers, directed energy and hypersonics, Esper said, in addition to cyber experts to secure the Army's networks and make them more mobile and resilient.

The Future Vertical Lift priority will also require the best experts in the field, especially since interest in the industry is so high. The secretary noted that for every dollar the Army spends on FVL, he said industry spends \$3.

The idea, he continued, is to bring smart people into the discussions early on to discuss the requirements, allow for reasonable tradeoffs in those requirements, build prototypes, experiment, take prudent risks and get those solutions to Soldiers in the field in as timely a manner as possible.

Besides bringing talented people to Futures Command, Esper noted that another important aspect of the new effort is acquisition reform. Projects need to move more efficiently through

the requirements and acquisition process, he said. Sustainment and interoperability should be considered with the joint force and partners. That will all occur up front with everyone participating in the CFTs, he said.

Congress, he added, has been supportive of these efforts and has offered some flexibility in spending, such as with Other Transactional Authority. OTA is a term referring to the Title 10 authority to enter into transactions other than contracts, typically for prototype projects.

Currently, the Army has some 800 weapons and equipment programs, he said. Top leadership is looking at each of these programs,

with an eye to ending some and putting others on hold, based on a modernization priority list. "The days of spreading peanut butter around are over," he said.

RECRUITING AND RETENTION

The Army is on track to meet its recruiting mission this year, Esper said. Also, retention rates are higher than ever, taking some pressure off the recruiting mission.

But the Army can't rest on its laurels, he added. The Army is actively improving its talent management system in order to better attract and retain the best.

For instance, the Army is looking to make it easier to move between the active and reserve components and is examining the possibility of allowing Soldiers to take a break or sabbatical from service to do such things as raising a family or going to school, and then being allowed to return to the Army without penalty.

Ideally, the Army would like to grow the active component to 500,000 with appropriate growth in the reserve components, he said. However, to get to that number would take time because Soldiers would need to be adequately trained and equipped.

The Army will not lower standards to achieve that number, he added, noting that all senior Army leaders are in unanimous agreement about keeping standards high.

SECARMY: Basic training might be lengthened

By David Vergun Army News Service

WASHINGTON — The Army wants Soldiers who complete basic combat training and advanced individual training to be ready to deploy "on Day 1" once they reach their units, said Secretary of the Army Dr. Mark T. Esper.

As such, the Army is considering lengthening training so that new Soldiers are better indoctrinated into Army culture and values, are physically fit, and tech- HIRING REFORM nically and tactically more proficient, he said

The low percentage of proclivity to serve, is due in large measure to lack of family or friend role models, such as uncles or grandparents who are veterans, he said. He noted that another factor is myths about people in uniform not functioning well in society after they transition.

In order to reach out to youth and their parents, he said the Army will take a more proactive approach to recruiting and marketing.

Esper spoke about a number of other



Esper spoke of the Army's future vision at an Association of the U.S. Army luncheon April 3.

"Regarding the fitness aspect, Esper noted that the increase in U.S. childhood obesity makes it a challenge to find recruits who can meet the Army's physical fitness standards." In order to increase fitness for combat and reduce injuries, the Army is moving to introduce a new physical fitness regimen that correlates more closely with the rigors of combat.

About a week ago, the secretary said he worked out with Soldiers at Fort Drum who were using this type of combat fitness training. He said he was impressed and would like to see that type of training adopted Army-wide.

Partly due to fitness issues, only 29 percent of America's youth are eligible to serve and only 4 percent of the population are both eligible and have the proclivity to serve, he said.

topics during a question and answer period

The civilian hiring process needs to be vastly improved, he said. On the Soldier side, the Army is moving to a talent management system in which military occupational specialties and assignments are predicated on "knowledge, skills, attributes and preferences to better marry up the needs of the Army with the individuals."

On the civilian side, he said it now takes an average of 140 days to hire someone, discouraging many from service. He said he'd like to get that down to just a few weeks.

SERVICE REFORM

Esper said Soldiers are making permanent-change-of-station moves too frequently and he'd like to slow the pace.

Slowing the pace, he said, would give more time for Soldiers to form unit cohesion. It would also give spouses more

PHOTO BY SGT. PHILIP MCTAGGART

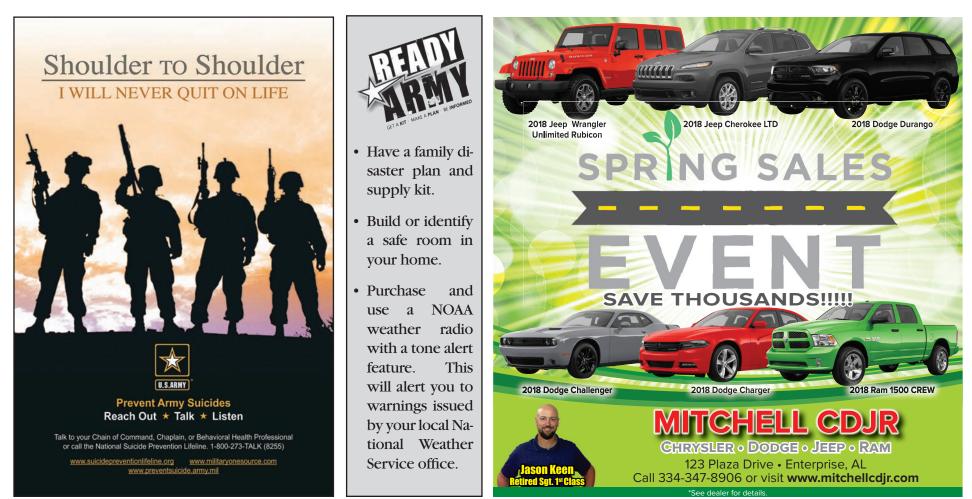
Army trainees assigned to Foxtrot, 1-34th Inf. Regt. run to the company area on the first day of basic combat training June 12 at Fort Jackson, S.C.

time for their careers and be less disruptive for kids in school.

Regarding required online training, Esper said there's just too much. He wants noncommissioned officers to do more of the training face-to-face with their troops.

"The Army NCO Corps is the best in the world bar none," he said.

Esper also wants NCOs to be with the troops after hours and on weekends in the barracks, to coach and mentor them and keep them out of trouble.



Army to improve acquisition process, intellectual property protection

By Devon L. Suits Army News Service

HUNTSVILLE — The Army has been working to refine policies and practices to alleviate some of the stress surrounding the acquisition process and improve relationships between the military and civilian enterprise, said the Army's most senior acquisition official.

"The Army needs private sector innovation," said Dr. Bruce Jette, the Assistant Secretary of the Army for Acquisition, Logistics and Technology. "We no longer have the luxury of ignoring technology development in the commercial sector."

Jette spoke March 28 during the 2018 Association of the U.S. Army Global Force Symposium and Exhibition.

Moving forward, Jette said he has encouraged his program managers and lab directors at all program executive offices and within the science, technology, research and development communities to actively engage and improve relationships and with industry partners.

By focusing on the product, not the process, Jette said he is trying to streamline efforts to get products into Soldiers' hands as quickly as possible.

"Readiness is critically important, but modernization is essential," Jette said. "Today's modernization is tomorrow's readiness. The Army ... is trying to make this country so strong that nobody dares to threaten us or attack our interests."

IMPROVED AQUISITON POLICY

March 26, Jette announced creation of the Army Technology Incubator Accelerator.

The new initiative, he said, is "designed to enable the Army and span the chasm between critical Army modernization challenges

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An M1 Abrams tank from 5-4th Cav. Regt., 2nd ABCT, 1st ID, fires a round during a combined arms live fire exercise at Grafenwoehr Training Area, Germany, March 28.

and the vast community of nontraditional innovators "

At this AUSA conference, the ATIA team received pitches from small businesses and companies and was also looking for innovative solutions to modernize the Army's command and control systems, as well as its position, navigation and timing systems.

"We're putting our money where our mouth is," Jette said. "Even at this [conference,] we awarded ... phase one contracts to those people who have some innovations that we want, and we want quickly."

At the next AUSA conference, he said, the team will expand its search into directed energy, artificial intelligence, quantum computing, the internet, and altered materials – or materials that provide the Army with a more significant capability.

FOCUSED FUNDING FOR MODERNIZATION EFFORTS

With the recent boost in the Army's budget, funding for R&D and S&T projects must be prioritized to support modernization objectives and outcomes, Jette said. To accomplish this, the assis-



ARMY PHOTO

Dr. Bruce Jette, the assistant secretary of the Army for Acquisition, Logistics and Technology, spoke March 28 in Huntsville during the 2018 Association of the U.S. Army Global Force Symposium and Exhibition.

tant secretary is implementing an 80/20- and 60/40-percent funding solution.

Under the new policy, 80 percent of a lab director's funding can be spent on a project or on research that has a clear connection to a military application. Additionally, lab directors can spend 20 percent of their funding on any project that might have the ability to produce tangible results in support of military initiatives.

A 60/40-percent solution can also be applied, he said. In those cases, however, the program needs to have a clear connection to an Army program of a record, Jette said

"We can't incrementally engineer breakthroughs," Jette said. "And that's what we're trying to do is give [lab directors] the freedom to do that."

In addition to the new method of funding, ASA(ALT) is implement-

ing a "stage gating" methodology to protect the Army's interest during the R&D process.

Often used by the commercial sector, stage gating breaks the development timeline into stages -- or tangible objectives. Gates provide the Army with opportunities to continue or end projects as needed.

PROTECTING **INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY**

In addition to ensuring proper funding, Jette is also trying to find a better way to protect the intellectual property of both the Army and industry during all stages of the development and acquisition process.

"I know that we've been sloppy on both sides of the table on how we manage our intellectual property," Jette said, referencing previous transactions between the Army and the commercial sector. "I don't like it when people take my work. [And] I don't want to steal your work."

Moving ahead, the assistant secretary is trying to adopt a commercial model to help protect the interests of everyone during the bidding process.

"Show me the box [with] your IP. I don't want to know what's in the box. That's yours," he said. "Tell me what you want to do for licensing. Do you maintain it? Do you want [the Army] to maintain it? What's the price? Then I'm going to design the box that goes next to it."

Overall, Jette said, he is more interested in a product's functionality and limitations, rather than the actual product.

"If I pay for it, I own it. If you pay for it, you own it. If you find another application, I'm willing to talk about licensing fees," he added. "You know, most people don't realize, but the government can get paid for their intellectual property."



size of 51/2" long

Shown approximate

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CENTCOM commander discusses stabilization posture in Iraq, Syria

By Marine Corps Sgt. David Staten Defense Media Activity

WASHINGTON - Administration officials, military leaders, senior Iraqi representatives and regional experts discussed views on Iraq and Syria at the U.S. Institute of Peace here April 3.

Military efforts to defeat the Islamic State of Iraq and Syria are about six to eight months ahead of where officials thought they would be at this point, Gen. Joseph L. Votel, commander of U.S. Central Command, said.

The success throughout the campaign has been quite extraordinary, he added.

With major urban battles complete, the follow-up, especially in Iraq, has been rapid and has moved much faster than anticipated, Votel said, and now the effort is focused on cleaning up remaining ISIS forces and stabilizing the region.

ALIGNING MILITARY **PLANNING WITH STABILIZATION**

"As we got ready to go into Mosul 18 months ago, we tried to make sure that our military planning was very closely aligned to our development of stabilization planning and the humanitarian aspects that have gone along with that, as well as with the political planning that had to take place," the general said.

With the assistance of the coalition and with a lot of hard work by the Iraqis, Votel said, an Iraqi army that in 2014 was running away from ISIS is now one that by last fall was conducting major large unit operations of division and corps level.

The Iraqi security forces very quickly consolidated their success with a variety of other operations, the CENTCOM commander said, some with coalition support and many of them without coalition support to complete the liberation from ISIS that Iraq's prime minister announced in December.

Since then, he said, the Iraqis have continued to conduct a variety of additional operations some with coalition support and some without – to consolidate their gains and go after ISIS' remaining presence. "I think it's important to recognize in both of these areas that while in Iraq where we've liberated the terrain, [ISIS is] no longer governing, no longer exerting taxes, no longer performing governmental functions like they have in the past," Votel said. "But there still is a presence, and so the Iraqi security forces are very much focused on that."



A Soldier assigned to the 2-4th Inf. Regt. scans his sector of fire from atop a military fighting vehicle while escorting British forces to a bridge being built in Mosul, Iraq, March 21.

The general said the United States and the coalition are working closely with the Iraqi forces to help them recover and get back to normal.

"I do expect we will continue to see our alliance on the [Iraqi Counter Terrorism Service] as one of their principal fighting elements," Votel said. "They've been very strong since the beginning, and we'll continue to see that as the Iraqi security forces step up to the plate and begin to take on more of those tasks in the future."

Development of Iraqi border forces will be a heavy focus, the general noted, because ISIS operates without regard to borders, boundaries or any recognized norm.

"Along the way, we'll see the coalition forces with the United States continue to provide the support that the government of Iraq asks of them," Votel said. "This has been something we've been talking about with them for some time here, so that we do remain in a position where we can continue to help them professionalize, continue to help them develop into the security forces that the Iraqi people need and want to protect them in the future."



Two Iraqi soldiers fire a mortar during a live fire exercise near Camp Al Asad, Iraq, Dec. 27.

PHOTO BY SPC. TRAVIS JONES

DEVELOPING NEW SKILLS

The Iraqis also have begun to transition from major combat operations to what to what they need to do now, Votel said, which is more wide-area security operations. This will require them to develop a variety of military skills that will allow them to address the insurgent or guerrilla-type tactics that they would expect to see from ISIS at this stage, he added.

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Prevention Lifeline

• Calmly control the situation;

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standing and produce relief

The military aspect was the easy part, the general said. The aftermath and the stabilization are much more challenging in the long run, he added.

Though ISIS still has a presence, Votel said, Iraq is in a pretty good place now in terms of security.

COMPLEX SITUATION IN SYRIA

The situation in Syria is different, the general said, because more factors are present there. Russia, the Assad regime, Iran, Turkey, the United States and coalition forces are all involved there, Votel said, so it's a much more complex situation.

More than 90 percent of the

caliphate ISIS claimed in Syria, particularly in the north and eastern portions of the country, have been liberated, the general said. But ISIS is still present, and U.S. and coalition forces will have to continue to operate on that front, he said.

As the threat of ISIS has diminished, many underlying challenges are coming to the forefront, Votel added.

"We are going to have to continue to look at the ways we keep pressure on ISIS and continue to develop mechanisms on the ground that help de-escalate the situations that continue to arise so they can be addressed through discussion and diplomacy, as opposed to fighting," he said.

Hard work remains, the CEN-TCOM commander said, such as stabilizing areas, consolidating gains, getting people back into their homes, and addressing the long-term issues of reconstruction.

Votel emphasized the importance of the "By, With and Through" approach that the United States and the coalition have taken, not just militarily, but in different ways.

A DIFFERENT APPROACH

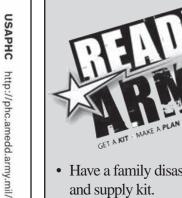
This represents a different approach from how it's been done in Iraq and across the region in the past, Votel said. It puts the onus on partners to develop local solutions to largely local problems, and that puts the onus on them to own the results, he explained.

The general said he sees the approach happening across the region, and that the new approach is well-received. "We did not try to do the fighting for them," he said. "We tried to enable them, we tried to advise them and give them the benefit of our experience. I think that largely paid off, and I think as we look across the region now, we look to kind of the approach that we're putting in place in Afghanistan. I think this is reflective of that.

"We certainly are drawing on all of our great capabilities, our ability to bring superior air power into this - our linkage with development and diplomacy here is a key aspect of this, of course - but I think as I look across the region this is kind of the way we will operate in the future," Votel continued. "I think it allows us to accomplish our objectives, but yet it also allows our partners on the ground to accomplish theirs, as well. So I think this 'By, With and Through' is a big lesson."

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Health fair points children to healthy choices

By Nathan Pfau

Army Flier Staff Writer

When it comes to health and nutrition, many children aren't at the top of their game, but Fort Rucker Child and Youth Services is trying to change that with early education.

CYS held its health and nutrition fair April 5 at the youth football field where children and parents were able to come out and learn about healthy eating habits, proper dental care and even get some health screenings, all in the spirit of education, according to Sharlene Phillips, Fort Rucker sports specialist.

"If you teach (children) the right things to eat at an early age, you help them continue to make healthy choices into adulthood," she said.

For many parents, like Shannon Jennings, military spouse, combining education on healthy habits with fun, interactive games is the best way to get children to be more proactive in their own health.

"It's never easy to get kids to eat healthy or even think about their health," said Jennings. "It's like if you mention anything healthy they just kind of shut down and don't listen anymore, so you have to be able to keep their attention in some form or another.

"That's why I think something like this is great because you're keeping the kids' attention by giving them a way to learn by doing and participating," she continued. "You can preach to your kids all day about eating right or going out to be active, but I think it's more about your own actions as a parent, too."

One of the lessons children were able to learn about was the amount of sugar children take in on a daily basis.

Gina Vaughan, CYS nurse, said that most children and parents are familiar with the amount of sugar that is found in sodas and sweets, but often overlook the amount of sugar in other foods that they might not think contain that much, such as cereals.



PHOTO BY NATHAN PFAL

Aedan Weber, Fort Rucker Elementary School fourth grader, takes a turn at the ball toss while wearing goggles to simulate intoxication, as fellow students and Spc. Chase Dickerson, 6th Military Police Detachment and FRES DARE officer, look on during the youth health fair April 5.

"It's all about portion size," she said. "A lot of times the kids don't think they're taking in a lot of sugar, but when they actually pour out their cereal and see how much they're eating, we can measure that and show them."

During the fair, Vaughan was able to demonstrate exactly how much sugar children were taking in from just their breakfast cereals by having each child pour the amount of cereal they might consume during breakfast. After pouring the cereal, they were able to calculate the amount of sugar that each child was con-

suming based on the amount of nutrition labels, but paying atcereal they were eating, and for many, the amount was surprising.

"I was really surprised at the amount of sugar that is in some cereals," said Jennings. "When they poured the amount of sugar into the bag and you could actually see how much is going into their body, it was crazy. I didn't think that much sugar would be in their breakfast cereal."

It's that type of education that Vaughan said is important, which is why she emphasizes the importance of not only reading

tention to portion size.

In addition to learning about nutrition, children were able to learn about dental health from representatives from the Brown Dental Clinic, get their height and weight measured, and even learn about drug and alcohol abuse from the Fort Rucker Elementary School DARE officer.

For Jennings, the fair was a great way for her children to learn about important life lessons that she believes will have a lasting impact.

"This is something that they

need to know about for the rest of their lives," she said. "(Your health) isn't something that just improves as you get older, but something you need to maintain, so for them to be able to learn about it early is great."







Continued from Page A1

especially during early morning and during hours of limited visibility."

Those who may be unfamiliar with spring cleanup or who are not directly involved may also pitch in to help out, according to Rucker.

"For those groups and individuals who are not directly involved, please make use of the post recycling center," he said. "Paper, plastic and cardboard can be easily disposed of at the post recycling center."

According to Rucker, the spring cleanup effort provides a unique bond for the post community.

"Spring cleanup is important because it instills pride in our installation and it improves the overall appearance of the post," he said. "This is a time to get rid of clutter that we don't need.

"The benefit of a successful spring clean-

Training =

up campaign is the overall appearance of the installation is improved," he added. "Area beautification includes removing all trash up to 50 feet away from buildings. This also includes sweeping parking lots and sidewalks."

Spring cleanup is not the only annual effort to spruce up the post, Rucker said. The effort is also repeated every fall just before the start of winter.

"Fall cleanup operations are usually conducted before the start of winter and offer everyone a chance to get rid of items before the cold weather sets in," he said.

Special roll-off type dumpsters will be located around post so that units can dispose of bulk trash items, Rucker added. "If a unit requires pick-up of waste that will not fit into their dumpster, please contact me to coordinate a date and time for pick-up."

For more information, call 255-1692.

Continued from Page A1

inconclusive results, which required the team to next open the package to determine the contents, said the fire chief. Upon opening the package, the contents revealed documents and random photographs that posed no threat.

Although the package turned out to be harmless, the scenario was a good opportunity for Fort Rucker to test its response to this type of situation, as well as test out its mutual aid agreements, said Evett.

"What this did was allow us to exercise mutual aid agreements with Houston County, coordinate our efforts with (the Directorate of Human Resources that runs the mail distribution center) and other various organizations," said the fire chief. "It allowed us to run through a lot of the notification processes that we do - it was a very good impromptu exercise, and fortunately it turned out to be nothing of consequence and no one was hurt."

"There was great cooperation with the Dothan Bomb Squad, which is always the case," said Simmons. "If not for them, our bomb support would have to come from Fort Benning, Georgia, which would take a long time."

The mutual aid agreements with the surrounding communities allow for quicker response to situations that Fort Rucker might not be equipped to handle internally, and vice versa, added Evett.

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VICE CHIEF:

Leap-ahead Future Vertical Lift technology must be affordable

By David Vergun Army News Service

HUNTSVILLE — The upgraded AH-64 Apache, UH-60 Black Hawk and CH-47 Chinook helicopters have provided the Army with overmatch capability for a number of years - but going into the future, this advantage may not continue to be a sure thing, said the Army's vice chief of staff.

As disruptive technologies emerge and adversaries adopt them, the Army is going to need a family of affordable Future Vertical Lift aircraft to replace its current fleet, said Vice Chief of Staff of the Army Gen. James C. McConville, who spoke March 27 during the Association of the U.S. Army's Global Force Symposium and Exposition.

While the Army's current fleet has served it well, McConville said he hopes to see the day when those helicopters are remembered the same as venerable aircraft such as the AH-1 Cobra and UH-1 Huey: they are retired from flight, and placed

atop pedestals at Army installations.

Besides leap-ahead capabilities in range, speed, maneuverability and survivability, McConville said FVL "needs to be in line with what we're paying now" for the current fleet of helicopters in terms of procurement, sustainment and maintainability.

One of the most important ways the Army intends to achieve these goals is through the unity of effort provided by the FVL Cross-Functional Team. That team is one of eight now spearheading the pursuit of the Army's six modernization priorities. Eventually, all eight teams will align under the Army Futures Command, which is expected to stand up this summer.

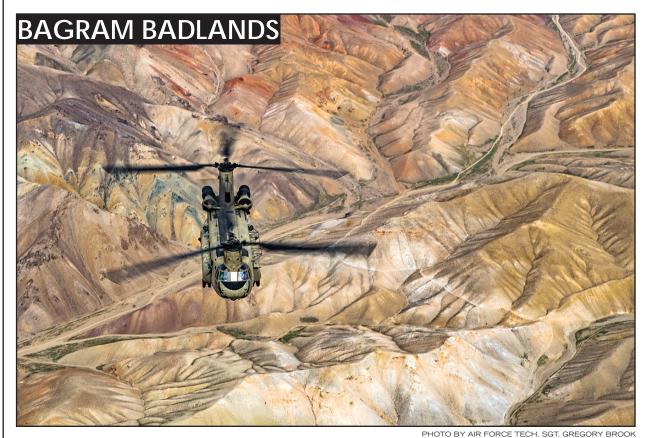
The FVL CFT is bringing together the requirements and acquisition communities, along with industry and other partners, to explore the art of the possible. Together, McConville said, they are coming up with the most optimal and affordable solutions for FVL.

SEE VERTICAL LIFT, PAGE B4



PHOTO BY SPC. HUBERT D. DELANY III

An AH-64 Apache with 1-3rd Avn. Regt., 12th CAB, secures an area during a combined arms live fire exercise at Grafenwoehr Training Area, Germany, March 28. The Army is focused on modernizing its Future Vertical Lift capabilities.



A CH-47F Chinook flies during a training exercise with Airmen at Bagram Airfield, Afghanistan, March 26. The exercise focused on joint personnel recovery capabilities

Boise F.D. trains with **Idaho Army** National Guard

By Capt. Robert Taylor For Army News Service

BOISE, Idaho - The Boise Fire Department conducted hoist training with the Idaho Army National Guard state Aviation group April 2-6 at Gowen Field to facilitate future readiness for domestic operations.

The two agencies previously worked together in February 2017 to rescue a 68-year-old man in Weiser after floodwaters left the man stranded in his house. The training was the result of an after-action review conducted from that rescue.

MORE RESPONSIVE 'Demon' brigade fields improved AH-64 Apaches

By Chad L. Simon

1st Infantry Division Public Affairs

FORT RILEY, Kan. - Pilots from 1st Squadron, 6th Cavalry Regiment, 1st Combat Aviation Brigade, 1st Infantry Division, are getting spun up on the new AH-64E Apache helicopters as they take to the sky around Marshall Army Airfield and Fort Riley.

While the E model aircraft looks the same on the exterior, it doesn't fly the same as the previous version. The new model flies better and is more responsive than previous models, said CW3 Nathan Whittman, 1st Squadron, 6th Cavalry Regiment,



PHOTO BY CHAD SIMON

A new AH-64E Apache, assigned to 1-6th Cav. Regt., 1st CAB, 1st ID, sits on the flight line at Marshall Army Airfield on Fort Riley, Kan.

SEE APACHES, PAGE B4

Soldiers test new UAS tech



DUSTIN BIVEN

Pvt. Jonathan Jackson, a cannon crew member assigned to the 82nd Bde. Eng. Bn., 2nd Bde., 1st ID, Fort Riley, Kan., launches a Puma UAS during a multinational joint equipment training brief April 2 at Grafenwoehr, Germany.

By Spc. Dustin Biven For Army News Service

GRAFENWOEHR, Germany - In the fields of Grafenwoehr, service members from the U.S., the U.K. and other U.S. Department of Defense entities watched as several new unmanned aircraft systems were explained and demonstrated during a multinational joint equipment training brief April 2.

Led by a group of civilians from the U.S. Army Tank Automotive Research, Development and Engineering Center, the training brief served as a precursor to a scheduled Robotic Complex Breach Concept demonstration later this week. That demonstration will see the use of new air and ground equipment for the first time by Soldiers.

The unmanned aircraft capabilities on display included the Lethal Miniature Ariel Missile System, Puma and Instant Eye, which provided Soldiers the ability to evaluate

During that rescue, an Idaho Army National Guard Soldier was lowered by hoist into the river after it was discovered firefighters did not have the proper hoist training. Leaders from the Idaho Army National Guard and the Boise Fire Department agreed afterwards that joint training should occur so that in future operations, officials will have the option to lower a firefighter with swift water rescue training and equipment into the water in a similar situation.

"The collaborative training we do with the Idaho National Guard is priceless," said Paul Roberts, Boise Fire Department division chief of special operations. "This joint training that the Guard provides Boise Fire with is highly specialized and it provides the unique opportunity to learn techniques that could save a life. This training solidifies what we need to know to be successful in helicopter rescue scenarios."

The training was designed to allow Boise Fire Department's dive/swift water rescue team to become familiar with an aircraft's hoist while wearing their river rescue gear. In addition, the training provided the opportunity for Soldiers and firefights to work together outside of an emergency situation. The training was conducted over three days so that members from the fire department's three shifts could complete the training.

Firefighters received classroom training and then practiced hooking into the hoist while still on the ground inside an aircraft hangar before completing familiarization training in a Black Hawk. Firefighters trained on both the UH-60 Black Hawk and the UH-72A Lakota.

"It's easier to train a fire fighter that has swift water training to ride on the hoist than it is to train an Army hoist operator to become swift water qualified," said senior firefighter Mike Barbero, who is also an Idaho Army National Guard helicopter pilot.

Barbero coordinated the training between the Idaho Army National Guard and the fire department.



PHOTO BY CAPT. ROBERT TAYL OR

A member of the Boise Fire Department's dive/swift water rescue team trains April 3 on the Idaho Army National Guard's UH-60 hoist to prepare the organizations to work together on future operations.

Army Flier Classifieds

Thursday, April 12, 2018



P.O. BOX 311206, ENTERPRISE, AL 36331 ATTENTION: DOUG OWENS OR DOWENS@PATHWAY-INC.COM.

B2

what you are LOOKING FOR.

Executive Director Southeast Alabama Child Advocacy Center

The Board of Directors is seeking a full-time Executive Director for the Southeast Alabama Child Advocacy Center (CAC) in Dothan, AL. The CAC is a non-profit organization whose mission is to serve as advocates for children and to provide a safe environment where multidisciplinary team services are provided to meet the needs of child abuse victims.

Job Summary:

The Executive Director works under the direction and planning of the CAC Board of Directors and reports directly to the CAC Board President. The CAC is funded by local, state and federal grants and appropriations, private donations and fund raisers. The ED oversees the daily operation of the CAC staff. Additional oversight responsibilities include, but not limited to: Board governance and staff issues; program development; team building with multiple agencies; fundraising/marketing, grant writing; and administrative services.

Qualifications:

Bachelor's degree required; master's degree preferred. Applicant should possess 3-5 years of successful leadership experience in public/private organizations. Candidate must have strong written and oral communication skills. Experience in writing and managing federal grants and working in non-profit agencies are beneficial to the position.

Applications will be accepted until MAY 11, 2018. Applicants should send a resume and cover letter by:

Email: seacac.search@gmail.com Or mail to: Southeast Alabama Child Advocacy Center Attention: Executive Director Search Committee P.O. Box 8781 Dothan, AL 36304

The Southeast Alabama Child Advocacy Center does not discriminate in employment or service delivery on the basis of race, sex, religion, national origin, or disability. EOE



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Successful candidate will have strong academic credentials including a bachelor's degree in Finance/Accounting or related field. Prefer eight to ten years similar or related experience. Must be able to supervise staff.

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Fax resume and salary history to (334)598-2808, email to aacfcu.careers@aacfcu.com or mail to VP HR c/o PO Drawer 8, Daleville, Alabama 36322.

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is seeking a part-time **Food Service Director** for Wednesday evenings, ministry events and special functions. Experience in large-scale food service required. Must be skilled in cost control, menu planning, prioritizing to meet deadlines, managing staff and volunteers, and customer service. Food service education & certifications a plus.

If interested call 334-393-5683 or e-mail a resumè to search@fbcenterprise.com.

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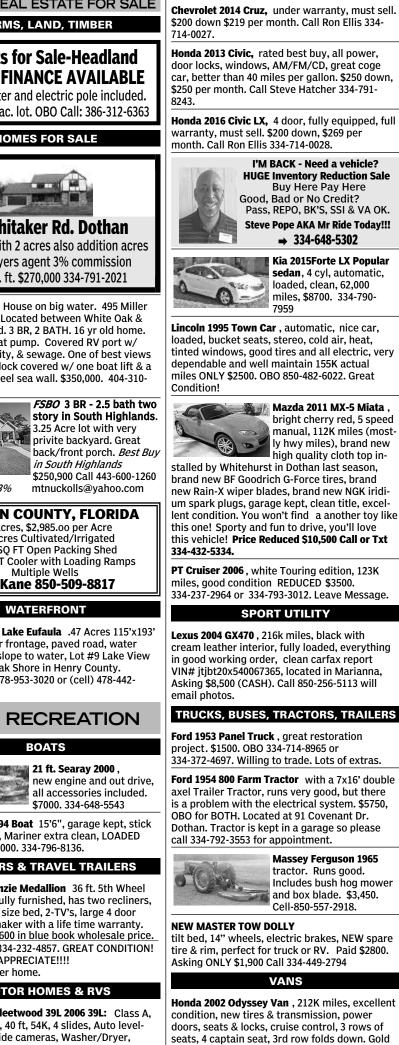
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is now Hiring



Vertical lift

Continued from Page B1

One goal for the CFT, McConville said, is for industry and government to come up with compatibility standards, such as for hardware and software, so small industries that don't normally do defense work will be able to offer their own innovative solutions.

Another approach, he said, is to allow an 80 or 90 percent solution to be good enough, rather than push on to

Apaches

Continued from Page B1

Aviation maintenance officer. Each pilot is required to go through 40 hours of training before their training process is complete.

More than half of the training is conducted in simulators -10 hours of flying in the new aircraft followed by several academic hours with written tests, Whittman said.

ing.

According to Whittman, as more and more systems have been added to the original Apache model, the aircraft had become sluggish and was not able to maintain speeds with other military helicopters.

More powerful engines have changed that.

pursue the more difficult to obtain, more costly "gold-

plated requirements." As new technologies emerge, Mc-

Conville said, they could then be incorporated in a modu-

lar plug-and-play design.

"It has been improved overall, power wise," Whittman said. "We have gained a lot of power. Our engines have finally been able to use the power they are allotted with changes to the drivetrain system and gear boxes so we can put power up to the head so we can lift more and fly faster."

Whittman said during his tours to Afghanistan, many times the Apache he flew was not able to carry a full load of fuel and weapons to conduct military operations.

"The Echo is much more re-

The goal for the FVL CFT, and for all eight of the CFTs, However, he said that even as autonomous, unmanned McConville said, is to get new capabilities into the hands systems develop, there would always be a person in the of Soldiers more quickly for testing and eventual fieldloop to make decisions using the critical thinking skills and moral judgment that humans do better than ma-Finally, the vice chief said that in his discussions with chines.

opment of FVL.

sponsive," said CW3 Eric Simp-

son, 1-6th Cav. Regt., instructor

pilot, after his first day of flying

the new model. "It wants to fly.

It feels like it wants to fly and fly

fast. If we conducting a MedE-

vac escort, we won't have to tell

them to slow down anymore.

That is important during that

Whittman also added that the

radio systems have been upgrad-

ed including the navigation sys-

tem which allows the aircraft fly

more direct patterns in cloudy

weather. The new systems allow

the pilots to communicate better

with aircraft from the Navy, Ma-

rine Corps and Air Force.

Golden Hour."

senior leaders in industry, he sees emerging technologies

in artificial intelligence, machine learning and autono-

mous decision making playing a critical role in the devel-

"We could communicate with them before, but now we can communicate not only with radio but we can send them targets and data points," Whittman said. "They can see what we are engaging and we can see what they are engaging. It brings the situation battlefield tenfold more than what we had before."

Simpson said the new Apache is going to give the pilots more situation awareness on the battlefield, which will increase his ability to identify both targets and friendlies.

"The pilot will have more battlefield fidelity than we had in the past," Simpson said.



PHOTOS BY CHAD SIMON

CW3 Jacob McGinley, 1-6th Cav. Regt., spends an afternoon in the AH-64 Apache simulator at Fort Riley to become familiar with the new AH-64E aircraft and its upgrades from the previous Apache model.



New AH-64E Apaches sit on the flight line at Marshall Army Airfield on Fort Riley, Kan.



Continued from Page B1

reconnaissance, the LMAMS gives So diers the capability to attack enemy targets from a safe distance that may not be in visual range.

and detect hazards in the training area from a safe distance.

"The Aviation assets are invaluable," said Staff Sgt. Brian Logan, a chemical, biological, radiological and nuclear specialist. "One of the Aviation systems, the Instant Eye, can actually detect hazardous exposure such as chemical or biological threats. The best way to prevent a CBRN injury is avoidance, and that's what these assets allow us to do, avoid unnecessary exposure."

Another aerial asset, the Puma system, is a small UAS that gives Soldiers the ability to reconnoiter an area, capture photos and other mission enhancing abilities, without placing individuals in harm's way.

"The Puma system allows Soldiers to perform many forms of reconnaissance," said Kenneth Martin, an operator of the Puma system. "Using a change detection software, this aircraft can identify any changes made to a route or road over a period of time, to help identify possible hazards."

In addition to aerial assets being used for

"The LMAMS is a direct fire missile used for neutralizing enemy targets or soft shell vehicles," said Beler Watts, a spokesman for the LMAMS. "This system helps our service members reach threats that the standard weapon can't reach with a very low collateral damage footprint."

Select service members who will be participating in the breach exercise had the opportunity to attend a week-long course to better understand the capabilities of the Aviation assets prior to the demonstration.

"After attending the course and finding out exactly what these systems can do, I am impressed," said Spc. Jackson Thomas, an intelligence analyst assigned to 82nd Brigade Engineer Battalion, 2nd Armored Brigade Combat Team, 1st Infantry Division, Fort Riley, Kansas. "Having the ability to capture images of our routes and identify any disturbed land that could indicate possible hazards saves not only lives, but other assets and equipment to keep our force effective."



PHOTO BY SPC. DUSTIN BIVEN

Byron Russell, an operator for a UAS called the Instant Eye, flies the system and demonstrates its capability during a multinational joint equipment training brief.



COMMUNITY C APRIL 12, 2018

NOT FORGOTTEN Memories of lost loved ones keep troops focused on grave mission Story on Page C4

SPEDY SERVICE

DFMWR facilities offer quick, quality dining experiences

By Nathan Pfau Army Flier Staff Writer

Deciding on where to grab a quick meal during the hours of the work day can often be a hassle, but Fort Rucker provides dining options that offer quick, quality meals at competitive prices.

The Directorate of Family, Morale, Welfare and Recreation offers some of the best food around with unique dining experiences that shouldn't be overlooked, according to Hugo Siegel, DFMWR business operations officer.

"There is a misconception that just because there isn't a drive-through option, that we're not quick service, but that's not the case," said Siegel, "and our prices are competitive with the outside market."

THE LANDING ZONE

One of the most popular dining options that has become a staple on Fort Rucker is The Landing Zone, located in Bldg. 113, which offers a sit-down experience with made-from-scratch meals at fast food speeds.

The Landing Zone offers Rapid Fire lunch specials Mondays-Fridays from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m., which includes an entrée and two sides with a menu that changes daily.

"People can come in and get their food in minutes," said the business operations officer. "A lot of people only have 30-45 minutes (for lunch) ... and we understand the quicker we can get it out the better. The conve-

A lot of people only have 30-45 minutes (for lunch) ... and we understand the quicker we can get it out the better. The convenience is right there."

- HUGO SIEGEL, DFMWR BUSINESS OPERATIONS OFFICER

nience is right there."

In addition to the Rapid Fire menu, The Landing Zone offers up a full menu that includes burgers, wings, a variety of sandwiches and salads, steak and seafood options, and even a dessert menu.

The Landing Zone is open Mondays-Fridays from 11 a.m. to 8 p.m., with hours extended to 9 p.m. on Wednesdays and Fridays, and Sundays from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.

For more information on The Landing Zone, call 255-0768.

RUCKER LANES

Another option that is often overlooked for a quick lunch, where people can also take in a bit of recreation during their lunch hour, is Rucker Lanes, where the staff offers a full-menu snack bar complete with burgers and fries, a variety of sandwiches, an assortment of nacho selections and even artisan flatbreads.

"A lot of people think it's just a bowling alley, but it's a great option," said Siegel. "They are used

to doing high volume, so they are a quick-serve option."

The bowling center also offers daily lunch specials, as well as a Lunch and Bowl special Mondays-Fridays from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. for those who want to get in a couple games while they enjoy their lunch.

Rucker Lanes is open Mondays-Thursdays from 11 a.m. to 9 p.m., Fridays 11 a.m. to midnight, Saturdays from 10 a.m. to midnight, and Sundays from 10 a.m. to 8 p.m.

For more information about specials at Rucker Lanes, call 255-9503.

DIVOTS

Divots Bar and Grille, located at Silver Wings Golf Course, is another often-overlooked option for lunch, said Siegel, but it offers some of the best views while dining on the installation.

Divots offers options ranging from hot dogs, wings, salads, sandwiches and wraps, and is a quick option for lunch, and is open Mondays-Sundays from



Stacee Armstrong, The Landing Zone's Coffee Zone barista, prepares a beverage during the lunch hour at The Landing Zone Tuesday.

10 a.m. to 2 p.m., with extended hours to 9 p.m. on Fridays.

For more information on Divots Bar and Grille, call 255-0088.

MOTHER RUCKER'S

Mother Rucker's, another staple on the installation, offers a unique dining experience in a sports bar setting. Catering to those 18 and older only, Mother Rucker's is open Mondays-Saturdays from 4-11 p.m. and Sun**COFFEE ZONES** In addition to dining options, DFMWR also offers multiple locations where people can satiate their caffeine needs with The Coffee Zones, of which there are three, located in the atrium of Bldg. 5700; Lyster Army Health Clinic; and The Landing Zone. Hours of operation for all Coffee Zones are Mondays-Fridays from 7 a.m. to 3 p.m., and Sundays from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Landing Zone location.



Willie Wiggins and Terri Perkins, civilians, give their order to Jordan McGovern, server at The Landing Zone, as they prepare to enjoy lunch at The Landing Zone Tuesday.

days from 4-9 p.m.

The staff offers signature food options, like Mother's Monster Nachos, which are meant to serve multiple people, as well as a variety of burgers, wings and sandwiches, and also features its X-Fit menu providing healthier options.

For more information on Mother Rucker's, call 255-3916.

With options like these, people should have no problem filling their cravings when it comes to meal time, said Siegel.

"We're selling customer experiences, as well as a high-quality product - that's our goal," he said.

For a complete menu list for all DFMWR dining facilities, visit https://rucker.armymwr.com/ promos/menus-weekly-specials.

Post libraries share different, but similar missions

By Nathan Pfau

Army Flier Staff Writer

Libraries across the U.S. are celebrating National Library Week, and the library staffs on Fort Rucker want to remind people that libraries are about more than just books.

Fort Rucker boasts two libraries, The Fort Rucker Center Library and the Aviation Technical Library, and although the libraries serve two different missions, both are centered on education and supporting the community on the installation.

The lesser known of the two libraries, the Aviation Technical Library, exists to support Army Aviators on post with academic and technical library references, and research assistance, according to Rebecca Kammerer, Aviation Technical Library chief librarian.

"Typically those we are geared toward serving are students; however, we do have a lot of other material and different forms of media in our collection," said Kammerer. "We try and also serve the general military community, so the types of materials we select to provide for that community are the things that are most current and relevant for today. We also have a great audio book collection."

In addition to academic and technical reference support, the library houses a plethora of material regarding current events, politics, and military science and history.

"(The library) is a resource for anyone who might be interested in this area," she said

For students in flight school, though, the library is an invaluable resource where they can receive supplementary assistance through the Aviation Learning Center, where they can utilize a cockpit trainer with a full staff of experts in various airframes, said Kammerer.

"They're all retired pilots and are very knowledgeable on the different aircraft," she said. "They can even provide an instruments class for students who might need help in that area - they are a fantastic resource for the flight students."

The learning center, which is a part of the technical library, offers materials in various forms of media on various airframes, including the UH-60, CH-47, OH-58 and TH-67, as well as a cockpit trainer for each airframe, some static and some interactive.

The center also offers a flight planning room, map preparation room with light tables and study rooms, as well.

The Aviation Technical Library is open Mondays-Thursdays from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m., and Fridays from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. The Aviation Learning Center is open Mondays-Thursdays from 8 a.m. to 9 p.m., Fridays from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. and Sundays from noon to 9 p.m.

For more information on the Aviation Technical Library, call 255-2944. For more information on the Aviation Learning Center, call 255-2776.

The Fort Rucker Center Library is geared more towards families and offers an abundance of resources and entertainment for the community.

According to the Center Library website, the facility boasts 19 high-speed public access computers, high-speed WiFi, individual



PHOTO BY NATHAN PFAU

Second Lts. Ben Shurden and Loren Gish, both of D Co., 1-145th Avn. Regt., utilize a UH-60M Black Hawk cockpit trainer at the Aviation Learning Center Tuesday.

study areas, as well as a collection that includes books for adults and children; a large DVD, CD and audio book collection; a wide range of foreign language books; language learning resources; and more.

The Center Library is also a place for many family-friendly events, including weekly story time, Fridays from 10:15-11 a.m.; the Lego Block Party on Mondays from 3:30-4:30 p.m.; Monthly adult and teen book clubs; and various other events throughout the year, such as the popular Mad Scientist Workshop, which returns April 19 from 3:30-5:30 p.m.

For the next iteration of the Mad Scientist Workshop, which encompasses science,

technology, engineering, art and mathematics, participants will get the chance to get their hands dirty by making different varieties of slime.

"This is a STEAM program, so (children) are leaning these concepts and it's important to talk about the science behind it," said Cameron Hill, Center Library youth librarian. "This helps children reinforce what they're doing and learn from it."

The workshop will be held in two sessions, and space is limited to 15 participants per session and open to children ages 7-12.

For more information on the Center Library, or to register for the workshop, call 255-3885.



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

Rafting, zip lining day trip

MWR Central will host a white-water rafting and zip lining trip to Phenix City and down the Chattahoochee River Saturday. The beginner-level trip costs \$95 per person, which includes white water rafting, zip lining, lunch and transportation. The limit is 28 participants and it is open to ages 7 and older.

To register or get more information, call 255-2997 or 255-9517.

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.

Recycled art contest

The Fort Rucker Directorate of Family, and Morale, Welfare and Recreation will host a recycled art contest to celebrate Arbor Day for youth in grades kindergarten through 12th. Winners will be announced April 24 during the Center Library's container gardening program between 4 and 5 p.m.

Recycled art contest rules include: must be a military family child; project must be completed by the child with minor guidance from an adult; project must be constructed of used, recycled materials, such as plastics, cardboard, aluminum cans, newspapers, magazines bottles, etc.; fastening materials may include tape, glue or string; projects must be turned in to the Center Library by April 23; and attach a note card explaining what materials were used and a brief description of the finished project.

For additional details, visit rucker.armymwr.com or call 255-1749.

Wear Teal Tuesday

April is recognized as Sexual Assault Awareness Prevention Month and this year's theme is Sexual Assault. Sexual Harassment. Not in Our Army. The Teal Day Campaign will begin Tuesday as a Fort Rucker community-wide effort to recognize peoples' collective responsibility to prevent all forms of sexual assault and sexual harassment by wearing something teal every Tuesday throughout the month of April. Wearing teal will be a visible commitment to support the prevention of sexual assault in recognition of Sexual Assault Awareness Prevention Month. For more information, call 255-2382.

Blended retirement system seminar



PHOTO BY NATHAN PFAL

Outdoor yard sale

The Fort Rucker Spring Outdoor Yard Sale is scheduled for Saturday from 7-11 a.m. on the festival fields. The event is open to the public. Booth space fees apply to sellers. No commercial vendors are allowed without a contract – contact Special Events for details and fees. Registering in advance is recommended, but not required. Booth cost for ID Card holders (active-duty and family members, retirees, Reserve and Guard members and Department of Defense civilians): 15x20 is \$20, 30x20 is \$30, and tables are \$10 each. Cost for general public: 15x20 is \$30, 30x20 is \$40, and tables are \$10 each. For details, call special events at 255-1749.

Mad Scientist Workshop April 19 for two sessions – 3:30-4:30 p.m. and 4:30-5:30 p.m. – where participants will be able to get their slime on as they learn to make different varieties of slime, according to organizers. Each session is open to ages 7-12 and is limited to the first 15 registrants. All supplies will be provided. The event will be open to authorized patrons and be Exceptional Family Member Program friendly.

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

Spring Fling Skate Night

The Fort Rucker School Age Center will host its Spring Fling Skate Night April 20. The center staff asks participants to dress in their spring best for a chance to bring home a prize. The event will feature a photo booth and door prizes. Safety skate will cost \$2 and will be from 5-6 p.m. Regular skate will cost \$5 and be from 6-8 p.m. Payment is accepted by cash only. Participants must be a registered member of child and youth services.



The Army Community Service Financial Readiness Program will present a blended retirement seminar Tuesday from 6-7 p.m. in the Soldier Service Center, Bldg. 5700 in Rm. 350. The seminar will be a discussion of the significant aspects the BRS, including how retirement pay will be calculated, continuation pay and the Thrift Saving Plan with matching contributions. This discussion will be facilitated by ACS. Pre-registration is required by Monday. Free child care will be available with registration.

For more information and to register, call 255-2341 or 255-9631. Registration can also be at http://rucker.armymwr.com/us/rucker/ programs/army-community-service.

Library spring craft

The Center Library will host a spring craft session Tuesday from 3:30-4:30 p.m. for children ages 3-11. In honor of Earth Day, children will use recycled plastic to make shrinky dinks. Light refreshments will be served. Space is limited to the first 40 children to register.

To register or get more information, visit the Center Library or call 255-3885.

Baby sign language

The Army Community Service New Parent Support Program and Parent to Parent will host a free, interactive baby sign language class April 19 from 10-11 a.m. at Lyster Army Health Clinic, Rm. J-100. The class teaches expectant parents and those with young children how to communicate with their child and avoid frustrations associated with language development, according to organizers. Pre-registration is required by Friday and class size will be limited to the first 10 registrants. The class is Exceptional Family Member Program friendly and open to authorized patrons.

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

Mad Scientist Workshop

The Center Library will host its next free

For membership information or to signup for membership, call 255-9638. For more information on the event, call 255-9108.

Newcomers welcome

A newcomers welcome is scheduled for April 20 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.

Container gardening

To celebrate Earth Day and Arbor Day, the Center Library will host a free program April 24 from 4-5 p.m. on growing container gardens. Tammy Ziglar, Dale County Extension Office, will provide tips and instructions, and organizers ask participants to provide recycled containers, such as soup or coffee cans, which can be decorated with materials supplied by the library. Seeds will then be planted in the containers. The event is open to authorized patrons of all ages and is Exceptional Family Member Program friendly. Due to space restrictions, registration will be limited to 20 people.

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

Child resource fair

The Army Community Service Family Advocacy Program will host a child resource fair April 24 from 9:30 a.m. to noon in the atrium of Bldg. 5700. The event will highlight services and resources available to military children on Fort Rucker. This event is in support of Child Abuse Prevention Month and the Month of the Military Child.

For more information, call 255-3359.

Gringo (*R*)7 *p.m.*

& 1 MILE FUN RUN



IN REMEMBRANCE AND HONOR INDIVIDUAL ENTRY FEE:

Entry Fee for participants other than Survivors: Pre-registration fee is \$20 thru 15 April and \$25 on 16 April and after.

TEAM ENTRY FEE:

Entry fee for competitive eight person teams is \$120 thru 15 April and \$160 on 16 April and after.

Physical Fitness Center, (334)255-2296/1951 rucker.armymwr.com EFMP Friendly Open to the Public Survivor Outreach Services, (334)255-9637

Denim Day

Denim Day is an annual campaign that aims to raise awareness of sexual assault. The Fort Rucker SHARP Team encourages the community to wear something denim April 25 as a visible commitment to support the prevention of sexual assault.

For more information, call 255-2382.

Federal jobs workshop

Army Community Service will host its federal job workshop April 25 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.

Fort Rucker MWR

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

WWI movie screening

The Center Library will present a free movie screening in honor of the centennial of the nation's entry into WWI April 26 at 4 p.m. The screening will be open to authorized patrons and be Exceptional Family Member Program friendly.

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

FORT RUCKER MOVIE SCHEDULE FOR APRIL 12-15

Thursday, April 12

Friday, April 13

Saturday, April 14

A Wrinkle in Time (PG)4 p.m. Free Advanced Screening (PG-13) 7 p.m.

Sunday, April 15

A Wrinkle in Time (PG)1 p.m. Thoroughbreds (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.

Thousands honor WWII heroes with march

White Sands Missile Range Public Affairs Press Release

WHITE SANDS MISSILE RANGE, N.M. – Over 8,400 marchers participated in the 29th annual Bataan Memorial Death March at White Sands Missile Range March 25, commemorating 76 years of the Bataan Death March.

"Everybody has their own motivation for why they are here to do this journey today," said White Sands Missile Range Commander Brig. Gen. Eric Sanchez at the start of the event.

"But I think it's important that we remember what this is truly all about," he continued. "It's about the survivors and those who are no longer here with us. So when things are getting tough out there on the course – you want to give up, you've got blisters – think about what these gentlemen here today went through and all those others that survived the Bataan Death March, or those who didn't survive, and hopefully that gives you the motivation to continue your journey."

The Bataan Memorial Death March honors a special group of World War II heroes responsible for the defense of the islands of Luzon, Corregidor and the harbor defense forts of the Philippines. On April 9, 1942, tens of thousands of American and Filipino Soldiers surrendered to Japanese forces. The Americans were Army, Army Air Corps, Navy and Marines. Among those seized were members of the 200th Coast Artillery, New Mexico National Guard.

The survivors in attendance included:

- Harold Bergbower;
- James Bollich;
- Valdemar DeHerrera;
- Paul Kerchum;
- Oscar Leonard;
- William Overmier; and
- Ben Skardon.

The 26.2-mile Bataan Memorial Death March is set on the hilly, desert terrain, with sometimes unpredictable weather. Marchers compete in teams or individually. Some compete in the heavy division, carrying 35-pound rucksacks.

WSMR Garrison Commander Col. Dave Brown reminded par-



PHOTO BY SPC. GABRIELLE WEAVER

Retired Air Force Chief Master Sgt. Paul Kerchum, a World War II Bataan Death March survivor, greets participants of the memorial march before step-off March 25 at White Sands Missile Range, N.M. Seven World War II Bataan Death March survivors attended the event in support of the memorial participants.

"As you get around the course you are going to see about 2,000 volunteers that make this memorial march possible," he added. "Take the time to thank them for what they do."

Sanchez also thanked wounded warriors for their participation in the march. "Thank you for your sacrifices and what you've done for our great nation. You are an inspiration to all of us and you will continue to inspire the marchers out there."

As participants reached the finish line, they had the honor of being congratulated by survivors of the Bataan Death March.

Maj. Trisha Stavinoh was one of those who crossed the finish line early in the day and was greeted by Bataan Death March survivor Oscar Leonard.

"It makes me so happy to see him because he is such an inspiration," said Stavinoh, a sports dietician at Joint Base San Antonio, Texas.

First Lt. Rebekah Mazany, a Marine Air Defense Control Officer from Marine Corps Air Station Cherry Point, North Carolina, attended a standing-room only event to hear Leonard speak the day prior. "I was thinking about what he talked about yesterday, learning that he spent 42 months as a prisoner of war," said Mazany, who was in full uniform to run the 26.2-mile march in combat boots. She ran her first Bataan Memorial Death March in 2008 while still in college. Since then, she has walked it once and ran the course on four other occasions. "You don't get this opportu-



ticipants that this is more than a marathon. "Why are you here? What motivates you?" he asked.

"When I put words to paper about what this (event) means, I think it is to properly honor the fallen, show due respect to the survivors and facilitate the rehabilitation of our wounded warriors," Brown said. "But more importantly each one of you is out here to challenge yourselves today by marching or running in honor of somebody or something that is important to you. You being here is important because it helps us remember the past and you are helping us tell the Army story each and every year.

PHOTO BY SPC. TACKORA HAND

Indiana National Guard Soldiers compete in the Bataan Memorial Death March March 25.

nity anywhere. It's living history and a fleeting opportunity," she said.

The Air Force honored the

survivors with a demonstration of American airpower with a flyover of two F-16 Fighting Falcon jets from the 311th Fighter

Squadron of the 54th Fighter Group based at Holloman Air Force Base, Alamogordo, New Mexico.



PHOTO BY MIRIAM U. RODRIGUEZ

A Soldier participating in the Bataan Memorial Death March gets ready to start the march.

Call 347-9533 to advertise your church on this page.

NOT FORGOTTEN

Memories of lost loved ones keep troops focused on grave mission

By Sean Kimmons Army News Service

QUANG NGAI PROVINCE, Vietnam — The day Sgt. 1st Class Tommy Murphy died is still ingrained in his daughter's mind.

It was April 7, 2001, and Tycoria Johnson was just 9 years old. On that Saturday, Murphy, along with six other American service members and nine Vietnamese counterparts, departed on an MI-17 helicopter to investigate a potential recovery site.

They were part of a Defense POW/MIA Accounting Agency mission in search of the remains of fallen service members from the Vietnam War. Her father was a team sergeant, she said, who supervised and did much of the planning for the team.

But as the weather worsened, the helicopter veered off course and collided into a mountain hidden by clouds in central Vietnam. No one survived.

IN HER FATHER'S FOOTSTEPS

Johnson, now a senior Airman based in Japan, recently volunteered for a joint mission with DPAA, where her father once worked as a mortuary affairs specialist.

"He would talk about his missions a lot," she said, recalling the videos he would show her of people digging at excavation sites. "I knew that he enjoyed it and I think he would be surprised that I actually signed up to do it."

With her skills as a radio communications operator in the Air Force, Johnson was sent to Quang Ngai Province - not far from her father's crash site - to augment a recoverv team.

Atop a small mountain covered in a thick jungle, the team's goal was to find a Marine pilot lost after his A-4E Skyhawk attack jet had crashed there during the war.

"You feel that you're a part of something bigger [than yourself]," she said at the excavation site in mid-March.

For about a month, her team lived in tents lifted slightly above muddy, rocky terrain on plywood platforms. The humid heat stifled the air as insects and dangerous creatures, such as snakes and scorpions, lurked nearby.

Each day, team members climbed 700 feet in elevation along a half-mile trail back up to the site.

While it can take months, even years, to find remains that lead to the identification of a missing service member at these sites, team members understand why they still do it.

"Speaking from experience, you want to have something of your family member," Johnson, 26, of Prince George, Virginia, said. "Just having someone take the time and search for them also shows that the military cares for [them] as a human being."

SEARCHING FOR CLOSURE

Sgt. 1st Class Zachary Plante, the mountaineering expert on Johnson's team, spoke of the deadly encounters his unit saw in Operation Hammer Down while deployed to Afghanistan with the 25th Infantry Division.

The air assault offensive in June 2011 was supposed to last about a day, he said, but it turned into a weeklong battle with Taliban fighters.

While some of his fellow Soldiers did not make it out



Sgt. Matthew Haase, right, and Air Force Staff Sgt. Tyler Trusty help line up a grid at a recovery site March 17 in Quang Ngai province, Vietnam, where an American pilot crashed during the Vietnam War. Members of a recovery team assigned to the Defense POW/MIA Accounting Agency lived in tents for 30 days and hiked up to the site every day as part of the mission.



PHOTO BY SEAN KIMMONS

A member of the Defense POW/MIA Accounting Agency hikes a trail down from an excavation site March 17 in Quang Ngai province where

alive, they did return home, even if in a flag-draped coffin to comfort mourning friends and family.

In his fourth recovery mission with DPAA, Plante said those memories continue to motivate him to recover as many Americans as possible. In Vietnam, there are more than 1,200 still missing.

"We all lost people downrange, but we saw them come home," Plante, 40, of Orange, Massachusetts, said.

Similar events also weigh on Sgt. 1st Class Christopher Krogman, the team sergeant, who has deployed five times and lost Soldiers in combat.

"It's always hard losing a service member, but by bringing them back we were able to have closure immediately," Krogman, 35, Bend, Oregon, said. "With these [missing] service members, the units never really had closure."

Living in the middle of a jungle surrounded by mountains also gave team members a new appreciation for what Vietnam War-era troops endured in their fighting.

"A lot of the terrain we've been in, I can't imagine moving through it," said Plante, a former mountaineering instructor at the Army Ranger School. "They were in the thick of it."

For the most part, the team looked past the uncomfortable times and to the overall purpose of the mission.

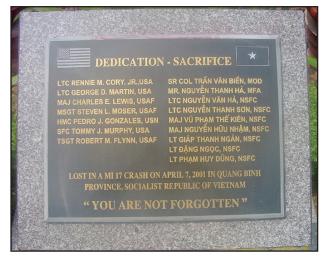
"You can do anything for 30 days, regardless of how bad the conditions are, you can do it," Krogman said. "We harp that from the very beginning and they adopt that."

CRASH ANNIVERSARY

Johnson needed perhaps the least convincing to drive on with the mission.

"I feel like I'm completing what he started," she said of her father. "It pushes me to keep going, especially with the hike. It's not an easy job, but it is rewarding."

When her father and the 15 others died in that helicop-



COURTESY PHOTO

Memorial plaque for Sgt. 1st Class Tommy Murphy and 15 others who were killed in a helicopter crash in Vietnam in 2001 while conducting a mission for the Defense POW/MIA Accounting Agency.

an American pilot crashed during the Vietnam War. A joint recovery team climbed 700 feet in elevation along a half-mile trail every day to the site as part of the mission.

ter crash, it had a devastating ripple effect across the entire agency, where many of them worked.

Both the incoming and outgoing commanders for the detachment in Vietnam were also on the helicopter.

"It was absolutely terrible," said Johnie Webb, the agency's deputy of outreach and communications. "You never want to lose anybody, but here we are trying to recover those guys who lost their lives in the Vietnam War and we lose more of our guys."

At the time, a recovery team in Laos was about to leave the country when DPAA officials asked some of them to divert to Vietnam and help recover the bodies of their fellow team members.

"We got more than we needed," Webb said of the volunteers. "We brought our guys back home and did the autopsy and identification at our facility [in Hawaii]."

WORSHIP SERVICES

8 a.m. Traditional Protestant

11 a.m. Collective Protestant

4 p.m. Catholic Confessions

Wings Chapel, Bldg. 6036

10:45 a.m. Latter-Day Saints

10:45 a.m. Wings Crossroads

(Contemporary Worship Protestant Service)

11 p.m. Eckankar Study

(4th Sunday)

9:30 a.m. Protestant Sunday School

12:05 p.m. Catholic Mass

9 a.m. Catholic Mass

(Tuesday-Friday)

(Saturday)

Service

Webb said Johnson's father was one of his good friends. He recalled that he and others in the office nicknamed him "gentle giant" because of his muscular frame.

"I'd known Tommy for many years," said Webb, who has spent four decades at the agency. "One of the things about his [military occupational specialty], which is now 92M, is that it's a very small MOS."

Before Johnson left for Vietnam, Webb had the chance to speak with her at the agency's headquarters in Hawaii.

"I'm impressed with her," he said from his office. "She told me, 'Well, that's where my dad lost his life, so I need to go over there and see for myself what it is like.' He would have been proud of her."

Johnson plans to attend a memorial ceremony Saturday at the crash site, where a plaque is now on display honoring those who were killed, including her father.



INVESTING IN THE FUTURE

DOD participates in 'Where Can STEM Take You' expo

By Navy Petty Officer 2nd Class Ignacio D. Perez Defense Media Activity

WASHINGTON — The fifth USA Science and Engineering Festival at the Walter E. Washington Convention Center was open to the public Friday-Sunday.

The Defense Department supported the biennial event with several exhibits in which the audience had the opportunity to interact with DOD science, technology, engineering and math professionals and mentors.

"This year we have a cannon that incorporates using vacuums and air pressure, hands on robotics, a display on how missiles are made, and all sorts of hands-on things here to try to show children what we are trying to do and why science and engineering is important," said Dale Ormond, principal director for the DOD Research Directorate Office.

Developed to ignite the next generation's interest in science and engineering, the expo featured over 3,000 hands-on activities showcasing this year's theme: "Where STEM Can Take You."

"Opportunities like these [are] where we can show children that science can be fun, and the different avenues you can take that discipline of engineering or science and apply it to any field whether it ends up in science or engineering or not," said Mary Miller, assistant defense secretary for research and engineering.

KEYNOTE EVENTS

Along with different booths and activities, the expo featured science celebrities, explorers, astronauts, physicists and in-



Laila Jeanjulien, 9, observes a vial used in a science activity at the USA Science and Engineering Festival in Washington Friday. The Defense Department supported the free event with several exhibits.

ventors, including TV host and ocean explorer Danni Washington, University of Texas chemist Kate Biberdorf, World Champion of Magic Jason Latimer, DIY Sci host Steve Spangler and Xploration Outer Space host Emily Callandrelli.

Ormond said there's a crisis in the science and technology fields as young people choose other occupations.

"We have a whole generation of men and women that are now getting ready to retire, and we don't graduate enough stem graduates from our universities to meet the demand," she said.

Ormond added that she was reminded of something once said by Mike Griffin, a former NASA administrator and current undersecretary of defense for research and engineering.

"When I was a kid, the president put a challenge on the table and said, 'We are going to put a man on the moon by the end of the '60s.' Me and a lot of others like me were inspired by that challenge and went into engineering so we could participate. We've got to find that kind of challenge to inspire young people to go do the work, study the math and learn the science so they can go and move into these kinds of jobs."

INVESTING IN THE FUTURE

Miller's office provides opportunities and outreach programs to begin teaching students the importance of STEM.

"The department has a large outreach program, from kindergarten all the way through postgraduate. Where they have opportunities to go to schools and bring engineering, science and technology activities, there's opportunities to bring students into laboratories to work with scientist and engineers, we establish mentorship programs for the children," Miller said. "And once they get to high school and college, we provide internship and scholarship programs where they can work for the department and also earn an education."





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

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PHOTOS BY EJ HERSOM

Jack Boren and his brother, Grant, pilot a helicopter simulator during the USA Science and Engineering Festival in Washington Friday. The boys are the children of CW4 Jason Boren, who is stationed at of Fort Knox, Ky.





Tall Ships to visit Pensacola waterways

Army Flier Staff Reports

Visit Pensacola, in partnership with Tall Ships America, will present Tall Ships Pensacola April 12-15 at DeLuna Plaza on Palafox Pier. This is the first time Tall Ships America will bring its Tall Ship Challenge Series of Tall Ships races and port festivals to the Gulf of Mexico. Pensacola is one of only three host ports, and the only Florida port, included in the Tall Ships® Gulf Coast series. The grand event will occupy three complete festival days, which will include onboard tours, sail away ventures, VIP viewing parties and events, private ship receptions, entertainment, food and vending booths.

Multiple ticket options are available. For more information, visit https://www.visitpensacola.com/tall-ships/.

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.an-dalusialegionpost80.org.

DALEVILLE

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.

ONGOING — Daleville Chamber of Commerce meets the second Wednesday of each month at noon at the Chamber of Commerce office in the Daleville Cultural and Convention Center. For more information, call 598-6331.

DOTHAN

For more information, call 334-794-3871 or visit www.

ENTERPRISE

APRIL 21 — The Friends of the Enterprise Public Library will hold a spring book sale from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the library. Members of the Friends of the Enterprise Library organization are eligible to attend the friends-only pre-sale April 19 from 3-6:30 p.m. New memberships will be accepted prior to the sale and at the door. Popular fiction and nonfiction for all ages, DVDs, CDs, books on CD, as well as vintage, signed and classic items will be on sale. Money raised by the sale funds library projects, as well as the purchase of materials for use by patrons.

For more information, visit http://www. friendsofenterpriselibrary.org.

APRIL 16 — Beginning waltz dance lessons are being offered at the Hildreth Building, 202 N. Main St. from 6:30-7:30 p.m. The cost is \$3 per person per evening. For more information, call 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

OZARK

ONGOING — The Friends of Ozark holds a monthly meeting on the second Monday of every month at 6 p.m. at the Ozark-Dale County Library. For more information, send an email to jnbull@gmail.com, call 334-774-1127, send an email to mariel.l.clark@gmail.com, or call 334-777-1156.

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.

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

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

APRIL 14 — The Wiregrass Museum of Art will host its free Slow Art Day from 10-11:30 a.m. The annual event is hosted by over 100 museums and arts organizations around the world with the mission of helping people discover the joy of looking at, making meaning of and loving art, according to organizers. Participants at WMA's event will take in and make meaning of an incomplete exhibition installation in the main gallery. Guests will have 30-45 minutes of slow-looking and will be encouraged to join a discussion afterwards. For more information, call 334-794-3871 or visit www.wiregrassmuseum.org.

APRIL 17— The Alzheimer's Resource Center is hosting the 29th annual Alzheimer's Conference at the Dothan Civic Center. The hours for the conference are 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. Registration begins at 7:30 a.m. Both professional and family caregivers are invited to attend. Registration fees for the conference are \$75 with CEUs and \$25 without. To pre-register, call 334-556-2205. Registration will also be available at the door.

APRIL 19 — The Wiregrass Museum of Art will host its Art After Hours from 5:30-8 p.m. The event is free to members and \$5 for non-members. WMA's quarterly event will mark the opening of new spring exhibitions, namely the second of three Alabama bicentennial exhibitions presented by WMA, Alabama Reckoner, featuring mixed media installation portraits" by Douglas Pierre Baulos representing 12 Alabama artists. Snacks will be provided and drinks will be available for purchase.

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

ONGOING — The Disabled American Veterans Wiregrass Chapter 99 Veterans Assistance office is open Tuesdays and Wednesdays from 9-11:00 a.m. except on federal holidays. The office is located in the town hall.

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.

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.

WIREGRASS AREA

APRIL 12 — The U.S. Army Warrant Officers Association Above the Best Silver Chapter will host its monthly meeting in Rms. 4 and 5 of Swartworth Hall, 5302 Outlaw Street, Fort Rucker. In addition to normal monthly meeting activity, officials are 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. For more details, call 703-665-7004 or visit https://www.facebook.com/AboveTheBestSilverChapterUSAWOA/.

ONGOING — A German coffee takes place the last Thursday of every month except November at 10 a.m. at The Landing on Fort Rucker. The group has been meeting for more than 40 years.

Beyond Briefs

'Three on a String'

The Brundidge Historical Society will present "Three on a String" in concert April 13 at 6:30 p.m. at the We Piddle Around Theater in Brundidge. Tickets are \$25 and will include the pre-show, the awardwinning trio of four and a barbecue supper. Tickets are available by calling 334-344-9427 or 334-344-0639 or 670-6302. The "trio" of Jerry Ryan, Bobby Horton, Brad Ryan and Andy Meginniss put on a variety show with music, stories and antics, according to organizers.

Funky Fun Run

The Autism Society of Alabama will host its Funky Fun Run April 14 from 8-10 a.m. at Faulkner University in Montgomery to help increase awareness of autism. The Funky Fun Run, previously called the Walk for Autism, is the single-most powerful fundraising event in April that unifies thousands of participants statewide in support of the mission and projects of the Autism Society, according to society officials. Autism is the fastest growing developmental disability in the U.S., and affects as many as 50,000 people in Alabama. While it will still be the same event, featuring a walk and 5K run, officials encourage participants to dress funky – think retro wear: bright colors, tie dye and bell bottoms.

Costs are \$30 walk and \$35 for the 5K – includes a T-shirt. For more information, call 205-383-1673 or visit www.funkyfunrun. com.

Native American Family Day

The Montgomery Museum of Fine Arts will host its free Native American Family Day event April 14 from 1-4 p.m. The Poarch Band of Creek Indians will share many different aspects of their heritage in fun and interactive ways for all ages, according to organizers. There will be dance performances, tribal drumming and artisans demonstrating their skills. Other features will include hands-on basket weaving, medallion making and clay molding – all in the Poarch Creek tradition.

For more information, call 334-240-4333 or visit mmfa.org/events/native-american-family-day-2018/.

Zoo's Earth Day Safari

The Montgomery Zoo's Earth Day Safari is scheduled for April 17 from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Designed with school groups in mind, the event is a fun and educational field trip for students, according to organizers. People will be able to participate in an endangered species scavenger hunt, play Earth Day trivia games, see live animal presentations, and enjoy specialized keeper talks at various animal exhibits. Zoo admission is \$15 for those 13 and older, \$11 for ages 3-12 and 2 years and younger are admitted for free.

School groups must register in advance. For more information, call 334-240-4900 or visit www.montgomeryzoo.com/ announcements/earth-day-safari.

Alabama Book Festival

The annual Alabama Book Festival will be in historic downtown Montgomery at Old Alabama Town April 21 from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. The event will feature about 50 authors and more than 40 vendors and exhibitors, according to organizers. The free public event is the state's premier book festival, with some 5,000 people from around the state and the southeast converging in the capital to meet with and hear from their favorite authors and scholars. A children's activity area will also be available.

For more information, call 334-240-4500 or visit www.alabamabookfestival.org/ welcome.html.

First sergeant brings Army lessons learned to new role

By Maj. Michelle Lunato 98th Training Division Public Affairs Officer

FORT BENNING, Ga. — Juggling the responsibilities of both a civilian career and a military career just got a little tougher – and more rewarding – for Army Reserve 1st Sgt. Lorraine Smith.

The former drill sergeant, who is now a first sergeant for Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 98th Training Division (Initial Entry Training), just became the chief executive officer for the Monroe County Hospital, a Navicent Health Partner, and attributes the new promotion to some skills learned while in uniform and on the trail.

The Bonaire, Georgia, resident served as an Army Reserve drill sergeant for about three years, with a full year of that time on the trail at Fort Benning. While molding civilians into Soldiers, Smith said she learned through her blunders of thinking in the moment and not five to seven steps out. "I had to figure that out the hard way as a drill sergeant, and so now, in my civilian career at the hospital, I really try to always focus a few steps out, rather than what's immediately in front of me."

In time, she realized that she needed to be more strategic with her plans, considering third- and fourth-order effects. She also came to learn that results were mandatory, and they needed to be quick since the time frame for basic training was only about nine weeks.

"You really don't have much time to mess around in getting things done," she said. "And so those same principles apply in the hospital environment in just that speed to execution of getting things accomplished and seeing them all the way through."

In teaching different kinds of civilians the skills to be a Soldier, Smith learned the art of packaging information. People all learn in different ways, and respond to different techniques, she said. "I learned that as an Army Reserve drill sergeant that it's not always one size fits all ... At one point you have to adapt to individuals and realize, what is it that they need for them to be successful, and that may be different than what everyone else needs."

Now, as a division headquarters first sergeant -a role in which many of the Soldiers she manages out-rank her - she still has to get results. This change in environment required her to use different routes to get to the same destination.

"It's a different dynamic," she said. "It definitely sharpened my people skills and the way I approach things and people. It's not about, 'Hey, do this because I said so.' It's more about trying to figure out what motivates that person to get something done for the team."

Whether it's in basic training or at the division headquarters, Smith says she has learned that the presentation of information, especially new initiatives, is critical to mission success. Through these experiences and her Sigma Six Black Belt certification, she knows a lot of hard work is wasted when people don't collaborate and present their ideas in a way that others can receive it. "As leaders, we need to explain why an initiative is important. We have to put things on the table to see, so there are no questions on why we are doing this or that."



PHOTO BY MAJ. MICHELLE LUNATO

Reserve 1st Sgt. Lorraine Smith, first sergeant, Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 98th Training Division (Initial Entry Training), was recently announced the chief executive officer for the Monroe County Hospital, a Navicent Health Partner.

get done what needs to get done for them," she said. "And that seems to have worked well for me, too."

Time management has been an invaluable skill that she has learned through her military and civilian roles as well. As the mother of a 4-year-old son and 6-year-old daughter, this Citizen-Soldier stays at "full throttle" as she juggles her children's piano and swimming lessons between both her busy Army Reserve and civilian roles.

Fortunately, she and her husband, Brandon Smith, a U.S. Army veteran who is in a doctorate program at the University of Georgia in addition to his own job, are on the same page. "Thank goodness for my husband who is completely involved in our everyday life aspects and has a demanding career himself. So we are all completely engaged at our house," Smith said.

To get it all done, they started shutting off the television and cutting out little things that didn't add value to their lives. With all the different micro-communities they are involved in – Army Reserve, medical field, school, working out, their kids' activities, families, neighbors – they have built up a strong support system. These various groups are critical to surviving the hectic pace of multiple responsibilities. "That way, when you get into a jam, it's not like everything is on fire," she said, who admits to needing help from time to time.



COURTESY PHOTO

Smith with her two children.

give back. "Now, there are other Soldiers who need to see me as a mentor. I am setting an example of how maybe other female Soldiers, or just other Soldiers, want to be one day."

It was this exact attention to detail and take-charge attitude that earned Smith the promotion, according to Todd Tolbert, Monroe County chairman. "Lorraine came in with obvious leadership skills and the discipline to take, which I think was probably both her military training and her Sigma Six training, and look at what are the issues we have to resolve to be a functioning hospital and to give good quality service," he said in an interview with "The Monroe County Reporter."

Even with all her success, leadership experience and a combat tour to Iraq in 2003, Smith said she still has moments of doubts and struggles with confidence. "It's amazing how much I second-guess myself, and I feel unsure about a lot of things I'm doing. So, that's why I try to collaborate with other leaders or Soldiers and bounce ideas off of each other, when time permits of course."

The ideas that people have can add a valuable outlook on an issue, especially when they come from employees and Soldiers who are not just aware of a problem, but have to operate within that problem, said Smith. "They have a completely different perspective on how problems can be solved, or even know better than us what the problem really is."

Collaboration and listening does not mean being soft, though. The former drill sergeant openly admits she is persistent. Whether it's via e-mails, face-to-face conversations, phone calls, texts or meetings, she is going to get things done. It's a successful tactic she has learned over the years and knows it works from her own experiences on the receiving end.

"I know I always respond to people who are persistent, because I feel like I know they are coming back – let me just To save even more time, Smith and her husband do a lot of mass cooking on the weekends and limit their trips to restaurants, both of which helps them maintain a healthy lifestyle. "You have to eat leftovers to survive at my house. There is no such thing as a fresh meal every night. That's just not going to happen," she laughed.

All those little details and tweaks to daily life free up the time to manage two very busy roles, which are more similar than many realize. In her Army Reserve role, it's all about managing Soldier readiness. In her civilian role at the hospital, it's all about managing the hospital's readiness and productivity.

Both jobs require metrics and people skills, and are surprisingly alike, said Smith. "You'd be shocked at how many similarities there are between the civilian world and the military world, especially once you start to get into the executive levels."

The civilian and military metrics of strategic initiatives, planning forecasts and personnel readiness stats all boil down to one thing – people. "Everything I do is connected to a person, and I feel a sense of responsibility," she said. "I also feel this sense of pride, and in a lot of ways, love. I start to think, I care about this person, and I want to see them be successful."

As a first sergeant now, she also feels the responsibility to

This constant drive to push and give is just something this Army Reserve Soldier does. She knows no other way. "That sort of race to improvement has always driven me to just do things better and better," Smith reflected. "And, it's really the same standard I hold myself to, so it's never enough in a way. I am always trying to be better, be healthier, be more in shape, be more educated, whatever."

Of course, not everyone can successfully apply that kind of drive for results onto other people. Yet, Smith always seems to find a way, says Col. Michael Ansay, former deputy commander, 98th Training Division (Initial Entry Training). "She seems to have the perfect leadership personality that is steadfast and firm, but warm, too."

After the hospital board met the Citizen-Soldier, they were hooked too, said Tolbert in his interview with The Monroe County Reporter. "And so someone who could fit that well into this community with that spirit, that much can-do attitude, is someone we need to make sure we keep here."

In her new role as CEO at the hospital, Smith said she will need to pull from her military experiences just as much as she uses her civilian skills while in uniform. When combined with her personal drive, she says that it just all seems to work for her.

"I've always been that type of person who likes to make things better," she said. "So whether it's a space like my home, or turning civilians into Soldiers, or everything we do in healthcare that relates down to a patient and making life better for them, I feel like I have this inner drive to always make things better, to make myself better, to make my surroundings better, to make the people I know better, and try to push those things along. And surprisingly, people let me."



Smith poses with hospital staff, including Todd Tolbert, Hospital Authority chairman; Casey Fleckenstein, director of nursing; Smith, CEO; and Debra Flowers, director of human resources.









LEADING THE WAY Soldier kicks it up a notch to set fitness example

Story on Page D3

KF Post continues support of wounded warriors with hunt

APRIL 12, 2018

By Nathan Pfau Army Flier Staff Writer

Fort Rucker Outdoor Recreation improved upon its already stellar reputation of supporting wounded warriors with its Warrior Classic Hunt Friday-Sunday.

The hunt gave wounded warriors from across the South the chance to come out and hunt turkeys and coyotes on the installation, and was designed to promote the building friendships and bonds through recreation, said John Clancy, ODR manager.

"I want to thank all of the volunteers - we couldn't have done this without all of you," said Clancy following the hunt. "Wounded warriors, thanks a lot for all you have done for our country and what you're still going to do - I hope for you the best."

Edwin Halsey, wounded warrior and participant, bagged his first turkey during the hunt, and managed to take first place with his prize-winning bird, which won with 58 and 1/2 points, weighing in at 17 pounds.

"It's definitely a rush," said Halsey, who served six years in the Army from 1987-1993. "I was shaking like a leaf after I shot it. We were only out for about 20 minutes this morning when I saw it. I've only hunted turkey one other time, and it was with this group here, and I bagged my first one.'

Halsey was also presented a Quilt of Valor during the award ceremony Sunday by Jacquelyn McKinstry, Quilts of Valor foundation Alabama state coordinator, and Sharon Hurd, Quilts of Valor associate.

"President (Harry) Truman said in April of 1945, 'Our debt to the heroic men and women in service to our country can never be repaid. They have earned our undying gratitude and America will never forget their sacrifices," said McKinstry as she presented the quilt. "We consider this our highest civilian award, and our mission statement is to cover all service members and veterans touched by war with healing and comforting Quilts of Valor."



Sharon Hurd and Jacquelyn McKinstry, both of Quilts of Valor, wrap Edwin Halsey, veteran and winner of the Warrior Classic Hunt, in a Quilt of Valor, which was awarded to him during the awards ceremony Sunday.

awarded 183,929 quilts to wounded warriors, said McKinstry.

"We use the word awarded because the Quilt of Valor is intended to honor our veterans for their service and sacrifice," she added.

For Halsey, being awarded the quilt was an emotional experience.

"It's touching - I never expected anything like that," he said. "It's just a great feeling to come out and hunt with everyone, and have the support of the people who understand."

Over the years, ODR has supported wounded warriors by providing equipment and experiences, and funds raised through Quilts of Valor is an organization that events like the hunts have provided nubegan in 2003, and since its inception has merous amenities for wounded warriors,

It's just a great feeling to come out and hunt with everyone, and have the support of the people who understand."

WOUNDED WARRIOR HUNT 1ST PLACE AWARD WINNER

including two hydraulic hunting stands; a accessible travel trailer. Under constructrack chair; a specially designed, handicap- tion now is a fully handicap-accessible accessible boat; and a 42-foot, wheelchair- cabin on East Beach, Lake Tholocco.

- EDWIN HALSEY,



DENIM DAY

Walk takes aim at raising awareness of sexual assault

By Jenny Stripling

Lyster Public Affairs Office

Fort Rucker Soldiers, families and community members join others from across the nation in raising awareness of sexual assault and harassment during the Denim Day walk April 25.

Beginning around 11:30 a.m., participants from different units will begin at different staging areas to march to the Sgt. Ted E. Bear statue.

The day is meant to be observed on a specific Wednesday in April, which is Sexual Assault and Violence Awareness Month.

It does so by raising awareness, educating community members about the Army's Sexual Harassment/Assault Response and Prevention program, dispelling myths that can lead to victim-blaming and empowering individuals to intervene when they encounter behaviors that can lead to assault.

The campaign was originally triggered by an Italian case in which a rape conviction was overturned because the justices felt that because the victim was wearing tight jeans, she must have helped her rapist remove her jeans, thereby implying consent.

Peace Over Violence runs the campaign on the last Wednesday in April in honor of Sexual Violence Awareness Month. For more information about Denim Day, visit www.denimdayinfo.org.

For more information, call 255-0566. For the 24hour SHARP hotline, call 334-470-6629.

Army behavioral health care sees dramatic improvements

By David Vergun Army News Service

WASHINGTON - Army medicine recognizes that providing care for Soldiers with behavioral health conditions is a critical readiness issue.

To meet the challenge, the Army has vastly expanded and transformed its system of behavioral health care, said Lt. Col. Dennis Sarmiento, , a doctor who is chief of the Behavioral Health Division, Office of the Army Surgeon General.

Program development is focused on reaching Soldiers and families where they live and work to improve access and reduce stigma, said Sarmiento

As a result of the system expansion and transformation, outpatient behavioral health utilization by activeduty Soldiers and family members increased from 900,000 encounters in fiscal year 2007 to over 2.25 million in fiscal year 2017, he said.

Sarmiento attributed this increase to greater capacity and accessibility at the military treatment facilities, a reduction in stigma, and more culturally competent providers at the point of need.

EMBEDDED BEHAVIORAL HEALTH CARE

Teams of embedded behavioral health, or EBH, care providers, including psychologists, social workers, psychiatrists, and advanced practice nurse practitioners, have expanded across the Army since 2012, Sarmiento said. As of December 2017, 61 EBH teams support all operational units, including 31 brigade combat teams and 156 battalion and brigade-sized units.



Capt. Michelle Tsai, behavioral health officer for the 4th Bde., 2nd Inf. Div., reviews medical information during pre-deployment training at the Joint Readiness Training Center at Fort Polk, La.

EBH teams are now present at the brigade level at most locations, with the intent of having an EBH provider aligned down to the battalion level in the supported brigades, he said.

Sarmiento said that's important for a variety of reasons. First and foremost, these providers, although mostly civilian, work closely with the Soldiers and their leaders and understand the total environment they work in, from field exercises to mobilization and deployment. This concept of support enables Soldier readiness before, during, and after deployment, and that is a level of support that cannot be replicated "outside the gate," he said.

A level of trust and a bond between the Soldiers, leaders, and providers can develop quickly and promote help-seeking behavior, he noted.

As a result, Soldiers are more likely to report behavioral health issues to the providers, and with early access and identification, the providers can help intervene before Soldiers develop duty-limiting conditions or more severe problems, he said, adding that leaders have described EBH as "a real game-changer."

OTHER IMPROVEMENTS

There have been a number of other behavioral health care improvements across the Army as well, Sarmiento said. Due in part to improvements in outpatient services, intensive outpatient programs, and case management, there have been





FLASH GORDON









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Just Like Cats & Dogs MMM, SORRY WAS I SNORING?



by Fifi Rodriguez

by Dave T. Phipps

1. SCIENCE: What vitamin did scientist Linus Pauling advocate as having health benefits when taken in high doses?

2. GENERAL KNOWLEDGE: Where is Arlington National Cemetery located?

3. U.S. PRESIDENTS: How many children did President Franklin Roosevelt and first lady Eleanor Roosevelt have?

4. TIME & MEASUREMENTS: If the military hour is 1600, what is the time to civilians?

5. ASTRONOMY: What was the first planet to be discovered using the telescope?

6. THEATER: Who wrote the 20th-century play "Private Lives"?

7. GAMES: What color is the No. 1 ball in billiards? 8. MOVIES: What kind of creature is

Thumper in the Disney movie "Bambi"? 9. TELEVISION: What was the name of the club where husband Ricky worked on the show "I Love Lucy"?

10. GEOGRAPHY: What is the world's largest active volcano?

See Page D3 for this week's answers.

Weekly SUDOKU by Linda Thistle 3 8 5 1 9 8

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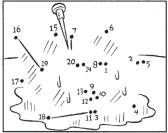
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See Page D3 for this week's answers.

See Page D3 for this week's answers.

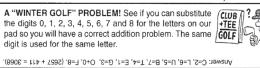
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KID'S CORNE



IF A BISCUIT is a soda cracker, what is an ice pick? Connect the dots and find out.

Answer: It's a water cracker.



A "PEA"CULIAR PUZZLE! In this puzzle the words get pro-1. PEA gressively longer and they all begin with PEA. The following hints should help: 1. Pea (in place). 2. A delicious fruit. .PEA. 3. Found in the sea. 4. Comes already wrapped. 5.PEA 5. Loud burst of noise. 6. Feeling much better. 6.PEA.

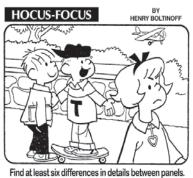
1. E 2. E E E L 8. L E Illustrated by David Coulso

form the word asked for: **DEFINITION:** ANAGRAM: 1. Momentous fuel + vent 2. To confuse or perplex. feud + bled 3. Farming apparel. save + roll 4. Paper container. pole + even 5. Game of chance. lute + tore Animal enclosures. puns + bell 7. Foundation of language. peal + bath 8. To cover on both sides. mail + tale

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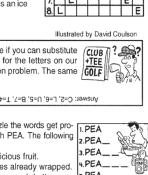
HERE IS A PLEASANT LITTLE GAME that will give you a message every day. It's a numerical puzzle designed to spell out your fortune. Count the letters in your first name. If the number of letters is 6 or more, subtract 4. If the number is less than 6, add 3. The result is your key number. Start at the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

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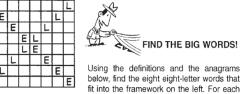




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Answers: 1. Pea. 2. Pear. 3. Pearl. 4. Peanut. 5. Pealing. 6. Peachier.



Using the definitions and the anagrams below, find the eight eight-letter words that fit into the framework on the left. For each definition, the letters in the two anagram words must be unscrambled and used to

Answers: 1. Eventful. 2. Befuddle. 3. Overalls. 4. Envelope. 5. Roulette. 6. Bullpens. 7. Alphabet. 8. I sminste

.9. Laminate.

Soldier kicks it up a notch to set fitness example

By Staff Sgt. David Overson For Army News Service

HOHENFELS, Germany -Capt. Breanna M. Owens knows a thing or two about meeting the Army's physical and mental challenges.

As an intelligence officer and a functional fitness center working group member at the newest gym here, she can be found leading the way and setting an example for anyone to follow.

An Army intelligence officer is typically responsible for collecting surveillance and reconnaissance information; coordinating and participating in counterintelligence investigations; and engaging in electronic warfare. But in her role at the Joint Multinational Readiness Center, Owens is helping to prepare units for combat across the European theater.

"I like the challenge of intelligence work," she said. "Every job I've had has been completely different and I've had to adapt to an entirely new challenge; it keeps me on my toes."

STRONG SOLDIER

There's nothing new about strong women in the Army, but Owens definitely lives up to that moniker. Her regular workout routine consists of about two hours of weightlifting four days per week and an hour or more doing different types of cardiovascular activity, whether they be functional fitness, intervals, or long runs two to three days per week.

Advice

Continued from Page D1

almost 66,000 fewer in-patient bed days in 2017 compared to 2012, approximately a 40 percent decrease for all types of behavioral health conditions.

Another improvement in the quality of behavioral health care is that the Army has consolidated its best practices within 11 programs and standardized them across the service so the same deliveries of care are offered at every in-



PHOTO BY STAFF SGT. DAVID OVERSON

Capt. Breanna M. Owens, an intelligence officer assigned to the Joint Multinational Readiness Center in Hohenfels, Germany, demonstrates proper technique for working the ropes at the base's new functional fitness gym March 5.

"I was part of an Olympic weightlifting team in San Antonio and did a couple competitions," Owens said. "I am a marginally good weightlifter at best, but I love doing it and I loved the supportive, team environment. Even though it is an individual sport, it always helps to have people cheering you on."

One of her coworkers, Capt. Franklin Peachey, also an intelligence officer, has nothing but high praise for her.

"A crucial component of the high standards expected of all Army officers is for them to serve as an example of physical fitness for those around them," Peachey said. "Captain Owens

has made it clear from day one, when I picked up a Rogue Fitness barbell from the post office for her, that personal fitness is a top priority and she is eager to see and help others make it a higher priority, as well.

"From my perspective, the greatest contribution Captain Owens makes as a role model to all those around her is that she continuously strives to be a more capable and competent military intelligence officer and Army officer."

A SORT OF HOMECOMING

Owens is relatively new to the Hohenfels Training Area, but she's no stranger to Germany.

"I lived in Germany as a middle schooler," she added. "But I'm excited to be back in Europe. I'm looking forward to doing a lot of traveling and trying to cross a few more places and things off my 'bucket list.""

As the youngest child and only girl of four siblings, Owens said she almost always ended up choosing the hardest paths to prove herself to her older brothers.

"As I was getting ready to graduate college and figure out what my next step was going to be in life, my brother, who was an Army recruiter at the time, threw me some pros and cons to giving the Army life a go," she said. "I knew I would enjoy the challenge."

That challenge took her from her hometown of York, Pennsylvania, to Afghanistan for two deployments.

"Both deployments were huge learning experiences for me personally and professionally," she said. "As an intelligence officer, you constantly train to do your job, but deployments are where you execute the skill set you've accrued."

FINDING MENTORS

Owens' success as an Army officer may be attributed to growing up with older brothers, seeing her brother serve and knowing her father served back in the 1960s, or learning from exceptional leaders.

"I am lucky to benefit from the work of a lot of talented, driven female officers that came before me, which allows me to serve in the Army today," Owens said. "Being a female officer in the Army presents some of its own unique challenges, but they aren't nearly what they used to be."

Owens' recommendation to other female Soldiers is to find a strong group of peers that act as a support group. "It always helps to have others that are in a similar situation to bounce ideas off of and vent to for sanity and reality checks," she said.

Owens hopes that more females will continue joining the Army.

"The Army will test your physical and mental toughness and resilience on a continuous basis," added Owens. "You have to be ready to meet and surpass the challenge. That being said, it is also some of the most rewarding work you can do, on a level you won't get anywhere else."

stallation, he said. One recent improvement is the Army's integration of substance use disorder care into behavioral health clinics at all Army medical facilities, enabling better delivery of care for Soldiers with substance use and other behavioral health disorders.

And finally, the Army's Behavioral Health Data Portal, or BHDP – a web-based program implemented several years ago - enables precision medicine and enhances quality and continuity of care. BHDP data helps personalize the care of Soldiers in treatment, he said. Soldiers periodically take surveys using the portal, and the results are used to inform individualized treatments for potential issues like post-traumatic stress disorder, depression, substance abuse, stress, depression and suicide risk.

Each of these improvements greatly increases the effectiveness of behavioral health care, Sarmiento said, ultimately enabling "individual Soldier, family and unit readiness."

FORT RUCKER SPORTS BRI

British Soccer Camp registration

Saturday Afternoons on the Range Silver Wings Golf Course hosts its Saturday After-

For more information or to register, call 255-2296 or 255-2997.

Fort Rucker Youth Sports is partnering with Challenger Sports to bring the British Soccer Camp to the post. Early bird registration lasts until Friday and participants will receive a British soccer jersey, camp T-shirt, soccer ball and evaluation form. After Friday, they will receive a camp T-shirt and evaluation form. Registration is from now till May 23. A current sports physical and a valid child and youth services registration are required for participation. If WebTrac is utilized for registration, call 255-2257 to let the staff know what size shirt and jersey to order. Full day camp participants will need to bring lunch.

For more information, call 255-2257, 255-2254 or 255-9638.

Indoor pool

The Fort Rucker Physical Fitness Center Indoor Pool will have limited lap lanes available for lap swimming Mondays-Thursdays from 4-7 p.m. due to programming. Recreational swimming will also not be available during this time. For additional information, call 255-2296.

Gobbler Classic Turkey Hunt

Outdoor recreation is hosting its Gobbler Classic Turkey Hunt through April 30. The entry fee is \$25 and participants must have an Alabama State All-Game License, Fort Rucker Post Hunting Permit and hunter education completion card. Alabama State Regulation and Fort Rucker 215-1 regulation apply. The turkey must be harvested on Fort Rucker to qualify. The overall winner will receive a cash prize payout.

People can register at ODR or MWR Central. For more information, call 255-4305 or 255-2997.

noons on the Range with PGA professional Ty Andersen Saturdays from 1-2 p.m. Cost is \$10 and can be paid at the pro shop before the session starts at the driving range. The afternoon is a supervised practice with unlimited range balls.

For more information, call 255-0089.

Fit Fest

The annual Fort Rucker Fit Fest is scheduled for Friday from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the festival fields. The free event is open to the Fort Rucker community. Activities include fitness exhibitions, nutrition information, onsite health information, games, food, safety information, door prizes and more.

For more information, call 255-2292.

Youth basketball tournament

The Fort Rucker Youth Center will host a basketball tournament Saturday at 4 p.m. Youth can form teams of six for the double elimination tournament. There will also be 3-point and 5-star shooting contests. Teams need to sign up at the youth center by Friday.

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

Disc golf tournament

The Fort Rucker Physical Fitness Center will host a disc golf tournament Saturday at 10 a.m. Cost is \$20 on or before Saturday, and is \$25 after Saturday. Trophies will be awarded to winners ages 18 and over. All pre-registered competitors will receive a T-shirt. Competitors registering after Saturday will receive T-shirts while supplies last. The tournament will be 18 holes paired randomly followed by another 18 holes by age, group and score.

Thunder on Tholocco

The 12th annual Fort Rucker Thunder on Tholocco Drag Boat Race is scheduled for Saturday from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. at West Beach, Lake Tholocco. The event is open to the public. Tickets cost \$5 in advance and \$7 the day of the event. Children ages 12 and under will be admitted for free. Tickets may be purchased at outdoor recreation, 255-4305, or MWR Central, 255-2997.

For more information, call 255-1749.

Survivors & Fallen Heroes Run

The Fort Rucker Survivors & Fallen Heroes Run in Remembrance and Honor 5k and 1 Mile Fun Run is scheduled for April 21. The Fort Rucker Physical Fitness Center and Survivor Outreach Services host this event in remembrance of Fallen Service Members and in honor of survivor families within the Alabama and northwest Florida area. Fallen heroes' names will be placed on gold stars and worn by runners. Blank stars will be available for people to write in and honor fallen heroes not from this area. The event is open to the public.

Pre-registration packet pick up is April 20 from 3-5 p.m. at the Fortenberry-Colton PFC, or the morning of the race at the race site, the Fort Rucker PFC, Bldg. 4605, on Novosel Street. Race day registration begins at 6:30 a.m. and ends at 7:40 a.m. The 5K race begins at 8 a.m. and the fun run starts after the end of the 5K, with awards at around 9:30 a.m. Participants are encouraged to pre-register at either PFC or MWR Central.

Survivor family members attending the race are asked to contact Fort Rucker Survivor Outreach Services at 255-9639.

