

ARMY VISION

SecArmy on 10-year plan to help the Army win today's, tomorrow's battles

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SPLASH!

Post offers many ways to beat the heat in single location

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LET IT FLY

Post disc golf course offers different strokes

Story on Page D1



ARMY FLYER

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VOL. 68 ■ NO. 23

FORT RUCKER ★ ALABAMA

JUNE 14, 2018

ROLLING THUNDER

MCOE rock band to perform at Freedom Fest

By Nathan Pfau
Army Flier Staff Writer

One of the biggest celebrations in the Wiregrass is returning to Fort Rucker for Independence Day where people will be able to enjoy live music, food and fun for the whole family.

Freedom Fest returns June 29 to the festival fields from 4-10 p.m., and with it will return the Maneuver Center of Excellence's rock band, Rolling Thunder, which will perform a variety of hits from rock and pop classics to modern-day hits, according to Staff Sgt. Gregory Edwards, MCOE operations NCO in charge.

The band, which consists of vocalists, guitarists, keyboardist and drummer, will perform two 45-minute sets and take concert goes on a journey through time with favorites from artists like Michael Jackson, Pat Benatar and Stevie Wonder, to songs by modern artists like Justin Timberlake, Shawn Mendes and Carrie Underwood.

Edwards, who plays the French horn for the MCOE brass quartet, said that the band has been preparing for weeks and continues to put in the time to make sure Fort Rucker

gets the best performance possible.

"There are several rehearsals a week, not just including planning music, but you have to get the right order or music," said the NCOIC. "When you plan it, you don't want too much high-energy songs in a row, so you've got to space it out."

Before the band takes the stage, the colors will be presented, followed by remarks from Maj. Gen. William K. Gayler, U.S. Army Aviation Center of Excellence and Fort Rucker commanding general, who will then introduce the band to kick off the concert.

Immediately following the concert, the fireworks show will begin set to patriotic music for all to enjoy, but before the culminating event, people are encouraged to take advantage of everything Freedom Fest has to offer, said Lynn Avila, Fort Rucker special events coordinator.

"Patrons will recognize many vendors and the crowd will have the opportunity to enjoy many different selections," she said. "Also, the fun zone will return for children this year, and we will also have rides,

SEE FREEDOM FEST, PAGE A7



PHOTO BY NATHAN PFAU

Fireworks light up the night sky during a previous Freedom Fest. This year's event takes place June 29 from 4-10 p.m. and fireworks will cap the festivities.

Pioneer overcame early struggles to help advance Army Aviation

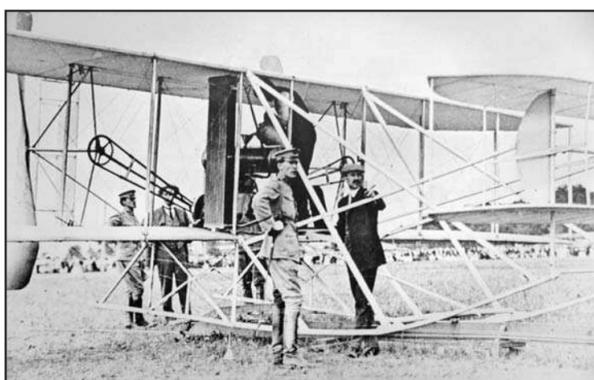


PHOTO BY NATHAN PFAU

Maj. Gen. Benjamin D. Foulois, pioneer of military Aviation, is pictured with Orville Wright as they test out the Wright Military Flyer in this photo that hangs in the U.S. Army Aviation Museum.

By Nathan Pfau
Army Flier Staff Writer

When it comes to Aviation, aircraft are only as good as the pilots behind them, and in the beginning, one man was instrumental in getting military Aviation off the ground.

Maj. Gen. Benjamin D. Foulois was one of the first in the military to assume the mantle of Aviator as manned flight was still in its infancy, and according to Bob Barlow, U.S. Army Aviation Museum volunteer and former Aviator, his efforts helped shape what Aviation is today.

Foulois first enlisted in the Army to serve in the Spanish-

American War in 1898, but only served for five months before being mustered out, said Barlow. He re-enlisted in 1899 at just 18 years old and quickly ascended through the ranks to become a second lieutenant by 1901.

He was sent to the Army Signal School in 1908 where he wrote the thesis, "The Tactical and Strategically Value of Dirigible Balloons and Aerodynamical Flying Machines," showcasing his foresight that the future of warfare would be in Aviation.

A quote from Foulois' thesis read, "In all future warfare, we can expect to see engagements in the air between hostile aerial fleets. The struggle for suprem-

acy in the air will undoubtedly take place while the opposing armies are maneuvering for position."

"He said the military dirigible and the airplane would be responsible for gaining the upper hand in the skies before the battle took place – nobody ever really talked about that before him," Barlow said.

Foulois was selected as one of three Signal Corps officers to receive flying instruction to become one of the first military Aviators, and on July 13, 1912, he became the fifth Army officer to be rated as a military Aviator.

SEE MUSEUM, PAGE A7

BACK HOME

An AH-1S Cobra, an aircraft that ushered in the age of the modern attack helicopter, gets a lift back home June 12 as workers fit it back into its rightful place guarding the entrance of the U.S. Army Aviation Museum. The Cobra underwent a restoration project after sitting exposed to the elements for more than a decade.



PHOTO BY NATHAN PFAU

PERSPECTIVE

SOLDIER FOR LIFE

How to help make job fairs pay off

By Bryan Tharpe

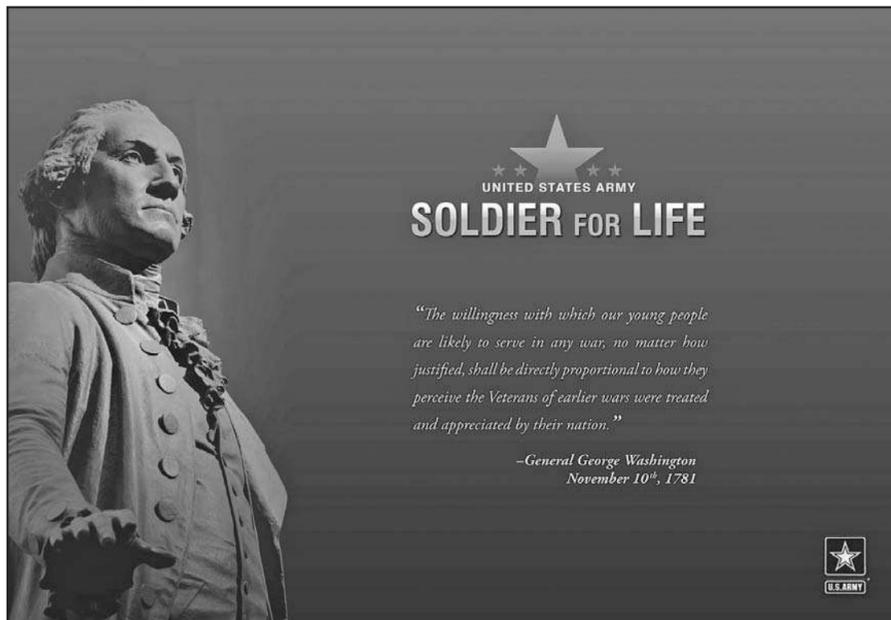
Fort Rucker Soldier for Life -
Transition Assistance Program

Have you ever contemplated attending a Job Fair, but thought, "Why bother? It's only a waste of my time."

Well, you are not alone. Most job seekers rarely spend time attending job fairs for fear that there will be little or no return on their investment. However, if you take time to properly prepare for job fairs, they can be very beneficial to your overall job search strategy.

Before attending the job fair, you should get a list of all employers attending. Most job fair promoters will make this list available two to three weeks prior to the event, depending upon the number of participants. From this list, you should research the companies to gain a thorough understanding of their products and services. Once you are familiar with the participants, choose the employers that interest you the most and make a checklist to use at the job fair. By researching the companies and creating a definitely visit list, you reduce your idle time at the job fair.

Make sure you have your job fair resume in order and plan to take many copies. The number of copies you should take may vary, depending upon the number of employers attending the fair. You need a copy for each employer on your definitely visit



ARMY GRAPHIC

list and several extra.

In addition, you may want to complete an application and take it with you. It is much quicker to simply copy the information than spend time trying to remember phone numbers and addresses. Also, take several blue and black ink pens. Employers may require that you complete applications in a particular color.

Finally, make sure you are dressed appropriately. Dress as if you were going on an interview. Wear a suit, groom yourself and take a portfolio with your informa-

FORT RUCKER AREA JOB FAIR

July 12, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.
Northview High School
Gymnasium, Dothan

Register at <https://labor.alabama.gov/jobfair>

tion neatly organized. It is appropriate to wear your uniform, if the job fair is being held on a military installation. Do not dress casually

– this may send the message that you are not a serious job seeker.

Not all job fairs are alike. There are several types of job fairs, in-

cluding: technical, professional, general and industry specific.

Depending upon the type of career you are seeking, you will need to target the appropriate type of job fair. In addition, many job fairs offer free or very low cost admission to job seekers.

If you are an active job fair participant, you should come away with very valuable information, even if you do not land a job. You should leave the job fair with a good knowledge of company policies, hiring practices and products. Furthermore, you should have a better understanding of job requirements and industry standards.

Job fairs can expose you to many potential employers in a short amount of time. They can provide you with additional access to the hidden job market and they can help you refine your networking skills – if you are prepared.

Plan to attend the upcoming annual Fort Rucker Area Job Fair at the Northview High School Gymnasium in Dothan July 12 from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

You need to register in advance on <https://labor.alabama.gov/jobfair>. A partial listing of employers can be found on the registration site at <https://labor.alabama.gov/jobfair>. You should bring the bar code that is generated during registration, either printed out or on your cell phone. Don't miss out on this great opportunity to have 150-plus employers under one roof at the same time.

NEWS BRIEFS

Change of responsibility

The Fort Rucker Garrison will host a change of responsibility ceremony June 15 at 2 p.m. in the U.S. Army Aviation Museum. Command Sgt. Maj. Jasper C. Johnson will assume responsibility from Command Sgt. Maj. Christopher D. Spivey.

Clinic closures

Lyster Army Health Clinic will close at 11 a.m. June 22. The clinic will remain open all day on the third Wednesday of the month, June 20. The Fort Rucker Army Wellness Center will also close at 11 a.m. June 22.

Lyster Army Health Clinic will also be closed July 4 in observance of the Independence Day holiday. The clinic will provide limited appointment availability on the day of no scheduled activity July 5 from 8 a.m. to noon. The clinic will be closed the afternoon of July 5.

Army Wellness Center

The Army Wellness Center offers free health and wellness classes to all Soldiers, family members, retirees and Department of Defense civilians. All classes are held at the Army Wellness Center in Bldg. 4102.

- Upping Your Metabolism – June 18 at 11:45 a.m. and June 28 at 1 p.m.

- Exercise Prescription and Goal Setting – June 26 at 11:45 a.m.

Healthy cooking class

Lyster Army Health Clinic will host its next healthy cooking class June 20 at noon. This month's recipes include easy gluten-free meals.

Commissary closure

The Fort Rucker Commissary will close at 2 p.m. June 29. For more information, call 255-6671.

Thrift shop

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

For more information, call 255-9595.

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.

Retiree council meetings

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

For more information, call 255-9124.

Siren test

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

Tobacco cessation program

Lyster Army Health Clinic's tobacco cessation program consists of four

weekly sessions each month. Each class is one hour. Classes are Wednesdays from 11 a.m. to noon. For more information, call 334-255-7930.

Yoga classes

Lyster Army Health Clinic offers free Yoga classes Mondays, Wednesdays and Thursdays from 11:45 a.m. to 12:45 p.m. in the Lyster Activity Center, Rm. J-100, in the clinic. Participants are encouraged to bring their own mat.

PTSD group

A post traumatic stress disorder education group meets Tuesdays from 5-6:30 p.m. in the Fort Rucker Spiritual Life Center in Bldg. 8939 on Red Cloud Road. The group follows the Veterans Affairs protocol PTSD Recovery Program and is for anyone interested in learning more about PTSD.

For more information, call 255-3903.

Lyster update

To keep track of goings on at Lyster Army Health Clinic, people can check out the clinic's Facebook Page for the Healthy Tip of the Day and important clinic information, such as class dates and times. People can also visit the clinic's Twitter feed at @LysterAHC.

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FORT RUCKER GARRISON COMMANDER

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Deadlines are Friday at 2 p.m. for the following week's edition.

All editorial content of the Army Flier is prepared,

edited, provided and approved by the Public Affairs Office, U.S. Army Aviation Center of Excellence and Fort Rucker, AL.

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ARMY VISION

SecArmy on 10-year plan to help the Army win today's, tomorrow's battles

By Daniel Torok
For Army News Service

WASHINGTON — In 1973, as the draft ended and America withdrew from Vietnam, the Army made it a priority to catch and keep the technological edge in weapons and equipment — setting up the formation of Training and Doctrine Command and Forces Command.

As America's defense policy reoriented, the Army underwent a thorough modernization of its combat arms and aviation units through training reform, weapons, equipment, and force modernization, and revising doctrine at the beginning phases of a new strategic order.

It was, and still is, imperative that the Army keep its technological edge in weapons and equipment against our near-peer competitors. "Our competitors are seeking to alter global strategic realities for their own benefit, often at the expense of the U.S. interests and those of our allies and partners," Secretary of the Army Dr. Mark T. Esper said in his opening statement to the House Appropriations Committee on the posture of the U.S. Army, March 20.

The Army's current competitive advantage is in its Soldiers' ability to rapidly deploy anywhere, anytime, and producing a combat-credible deterrent against potential adversaries.

While a great advantage to have, Esper stated in the posture hearing that "some of the key challenges, and the Army's in particular, is de-

fining our requirements and then implementing them."

Over the past 30-plus years, the M1 Abrams tank, M2 and M3 Bradley fighting vehicles, the UH-60 Black Hawk and AH-64 Apache helicopters and the MIM-104 Patriot air defense missile were developed and fielded. But in the past quarter century, the Army ceased to innovate, and with a large decrease in readiness, this technology has become outdated and overmatched.

The defining idea of the Army Vision, as laid out by Esper in a speech at the Brookings Institute June 5, is that the Army of 2028 will be ready to deploy, fight and win decisively against any adversary, anytime and anywhere, in a joint, multi-domain, high-intensity conflict, while simultaneously deterring others and maintaining its ability to conduct irregular warfare. "Modernizing today's equipment will align us to the future battlefield," Esper said.

To do this, the Army cannot look back 30 years, but instead must look forward in its ability to man, organize, train, equip and lead future Soldiers. Trusting and empowering subordinate leaders will facilitate both reform and greater performance. "We need to tap the talent of all the American people," said Esper. "We need to reach out to traditional industry and non-traditional" to forge the road ahead.

"We have to change the character of warfare in our favor," the secretary added, outlining his six



PHOTOS BY DANIEL TOROK

Secretary of the Army Dr. Mark T. Esper speaks with a Soldier while visiting an Army installation. Esper recently laid out the Army Vision through 2028 that will ensure America's Soldiers are able to fight and decisively win in any future battle.

priorities for Army modernization: Long-Range Precision Fires, Next Generation Combat Vehicles, Future Vertical Lift, Network, Air and Missile Defense, and Soldier Lethality.

The current global security challenges are growing and the Army can prepare itself by increasing capacity, training, improving and correcting critical gaps resulting in a far more lethal Army, ready now and prepared for the future. As Esper said, "We must prepare for the toughest fight. We must now build the Army of 2028."



Esper lays out the Army Vision at a Brookings Institute event June 5.

SecDef stresses unity in meeting collective security threats

By Terri Moon Cronk
Defense Media Activity

WASHINGTON — Threats to collective security have not waned, whether from terrorism or Russia's aggression and hybrid threats, Defense Secretary James N. Mattis said at NATO headquarters in Brussels June 8.

In the global fight against the Islamic State of Iraq and Syria, the U.S.-led coalition "will continue to carry out operations necessary to crush the physical caliphate and prevent a resurgence of ISIS," the secretary said at a news conference following a NATO defense ministers meeting.

"We will be unrelenting in our effort, working with like-minded nations. We will target ISIS around the world, for this remains a global fight," he said.

And to support those efforts, NATO is transitioning its existing activity in Iraq into a sustainable training mission, the secretary said.

"In concert with the new Iraqi government, we will capitalize on Iraq's success and reinforce their long-term counterterrorism efforts," Mattis said. "We cannot allow ISIS or any other terrorist group to terrorize the people of this region, again driving thousands of refugees from their homes and into Europe and elsewhere."

RESOLUTE SUPPORT

On NATO's Resolute Support mission in Afghanistan, NATO's steadfast commitment and the implementation of the U.S. South Asia strategy have renewed stabilization efforts, now including additional, significant development funding from In-



PHOTO BY AIR FORCE TECH SGT. VERNON YOUNG JR.

Secretary of Defense James N. Mattis holds a press conference at the NATO headquarters in Brussels, Belgium, June 8.

dia, the secretary said.

"Afghan security forces continue to improve," he said, adding that all six Afghan corps are deployed throughout the country, demonstrating Afghan resolve while their government pursues a stable, inclusive order for its people with NATO support.

"The level of confidence today is sufficient for [Afghan President Ashraf Ghani] to announce a temporary cease-fire for the end of Ramadan, offering the Taliban an opportunity to bring to an end this fighting and providing the world a clear demonstration of his government's and our alliance's commitment to peace and an Afghan-led,

and an Afghan-owned peace process."

BURDEN SHARING IMPROVES

The secretary said NATO nations have stepped up their defense spending and reversed a three-year downward spiral, with 100 percent participation in 2017. "We also saw an across-NATO increase in military spending in a quarter century" last year, he added.

"Now, in 2018, eight nations are already meeting the 2 percent [of gross domestic product in defense spending] pledge benchmark, and I salute the 15 allies who are on track to reach 2 percent by 2024," Mattis said.

Many allies are making investments beyond the monetary aspect of contributions, he noted. "I appreciate the troops and the leadership these nations provide to support NATO's Kosovo [and] Afghanistan forward presence and other missions," Mattis said.

"With [NATO Secretary General Jens Stoltenberg's] capable leadership, we also continue to improve the speed of political decision making," the secretary said. "Coupled with building NATO's military readiness, speed of alliance consultation and decision making [provide] a credible deterrent to any who would threaten our democracies."

EUROPEAN UNION PARTNERS

Mattis said the alliance's defense ministers also engaged European Union partners on security cooperation and military mobility. "[With] our defense cooperation with the EU, NATO recognizes effective deterrence and defense depends on a transparent dialogue between us," he said.

"We also recognized that uncoordinated investments that waste resources or duplicate alliance efforts undercut our collective deterrence and defense posture, so we found further areas for cooperation and alignment," he said.

"[For] nearly 70 years, the NATO alliance has served to uphold the values and the principles on which our democracies were founded," Mattis said. "The American people remain committed to this alliance, and we look forward to working together to sustain our core function — the collective defense of our people — while fostering peace and security."

Mission commander: Afghanistan making progress toward peace



PHOTO BY SGT. 1ST CLASS JASMINE L. FLOWERS

Soldiers from Task Force Stalwart, comprised of Soldiers from 1st Battalion, 41st Infantry Regiment, 2nd Brigade Combat Team, 4th Infantry Division, pose for a group photo, March 28, in a post in the outskirts of Afghanistan.

By Jim Garamone
Defense Media Activity

WASHINGTON — Afghanistan is making progress toward peace even as fighting continues, the commander of NATO's Resolute Support mission, said June 12.

Afghan security forces are providing the power, NATO is providing support and training, and the Afghan people are providing the will in the fight against the Taliban and other extremist groups, Gen. John W. Nicholson said during a news conference at NATO headquarters in Brussels.

Nicholson also praised Afghan President Ashraf Ghani's announcement of a June 15 cease-fire in the country for Eid al-Fitr, the celebration that marks the end of the Muslim observance of Ramadan — a month of fasting.

The move is a "bold step towards peace and stability," the general said.

The cease-fire pertains only to operations against the Taliban. Operations will continue apace against the Islamic State of Iraq and Syria, al-Qaida and other violent extremist groups.

SOUTH ASIA STRATEGY

Nicholson said the U.S. South Asia strategy has been a

game-changer for Afghanistan and the region.

"The objective of this strategy is reconciliation, and the strategy is working," he added.

The level of violence between February and April in Afghanistan dropped 30 percent below the five-year average. "And in the month since the Taliban announced their offensive on April 25, violence has increased, but it is still below the five-year average," Nicholson said.

Though violent acts still take place, the general said, the country is in a period of "fighting and talking," as was the case in Northern Ireland and Colombia in the past. But the violent acts have not been effective, he noted. "The Taliban are no longer attempting to gain ground. They are trying to inflict casualties and gain media coverage," Nicholson said.

For the first time, Nicholson said, all six Afghan corps conducted offensive operations over the winter, successfully repelling 80 percent of Taliban attacks on district centers and retaking the remaining 20 percent within hours or days.

Finally, the general noted that a loya Jurga composed of 3,000 senior religious leaders issued a ruling rejecting the religious justification for suicide and terror attacks.

D-DAY COMMEMORATION

Event brings reflection, appreciation for 'Big Red One' Soldiers

By Sgt. Michael C. Roach
19th Public Affairs Detachment

NORMANDY, France – Members of the 1st Infantry Division's Commanding General's Mounted Color Guard and select Soldiers from 2nd Armored Brigade Combat Team, 1st Inf. Div., participated in the 74th D-Day Commemoration May 30 to June 6 in France, walking in the steps of their combat predecessors.

These Soldiers toured the battlefields made infamous by Operation Overlord in 1944 such as Carentan, Omaha Beach and Sainte-Mère-Église.

Most notably for the 1st Inf. Div. was the ceremony recognizing "Big Red One" Silver Star recipient Charles Shay at his monument, as well as the 1st Inf. Div. Memorial on Omaha Beach.

"The 1st Inf. Div. waded ashore at Omaha Beach on June 6, 1944," said Capt. Joshua Sanchez, 1st Inf. Div. actions officer for the trip and keynote speaker at the latter ceremony. "Its path was blocked by obstacles in the water, mined beaches and concrete pillboxes beyond. As Soldiers and materials bogged down on the beaches, Col. George Taylor, commanding the 16th Infantry Regiment, rallied the division by declaring 'there's two kinds of people are staying on the beach -- the dead and those who are going to die. Now, let's get out of here.' By late morning, the 1st Inf. Div. had climbed the heights beyond the beach and as night fell, the Germans pulled back. Approximately 3,000 division Soldiers were killed, wounded or missing, but the Big Red One had a foothold in France."

The Big Red One Soldiers were joined by representatives of several sister divisions including airborne units that conducted a multinational parachute jump. Division Soldiers were on hand to assist with medical coverage and were stationed along

a river which ran through the drop zone to retrieve paratroopers who landed in the water.

"Being able to look up at the sky and watching all those paratroopers drop, and then pulling them from the river when needed kind of made me think, 'well what about the guys from the D-Day invasion?'" said Sgt. Joseph Hines, a Mesa, Arizona, native and an infantryman assigned to the CGMCG. "They didn't have people there waiting to pull them from the river. Which brought me a whole new perspective on the Soldiers from the Greatest Generation."

Following the jump day, Big Red One Soldiers took part in myriad ceremonies across the landscape of Normandy.

The ceremony was flanked by French color guards, citizens, CGMCG and a formation of 1st Inf. Div. Soldiers.

History enthusiasts clad in WWI-era uniforms with the Big Red One shield proudly sewn on their shoulders carried a guidon for Company E, 16th Infantry Regiment, 1st Inf. Div.

Most notably, Shay was in attendance as the guest of honor and presented flowers at the foot of the memorial in an emotional moment.

"Today we remember the brave American and French Soldiers who fought here," Sanchez, a native of San Diego, California, said. "As well, we greet our German allies as the friends they have become. We especially honor the Soldiers who died on Omaha Beach for the future we now live. We will never forget them. We will never forget Omaha. We will never forget our European friends who also cherish freedom."

Local families volunteered to host the U.S. and German Soldiers for dinner on the first night, allowing the three groups the chance to break bread as allies.

"My favorite aspect of the trip



PHOTOS BY SGT. MICHAEL C. ROACH

Charles Shay, a 'Big Red One' World War II Silver Star recipient, and other 1st Infantry Division veterans salute the 1st Inf. Div. Monument on Omaha Beach, Normandy, France, June 6.

would have to be the reception of the French people, and how even more than in America they remember the sacrifices that America made for their freedom," said Sgt. Zachary Willis, a Bradley mechanic assigned to the CGMCG. "They honor us for that sacrifice and they hold it very personally. I believe that is something we could take back to the states, back to America and to our units and share that experience so that maybe we could build a better understanding of how that is over here."

For Willis, who studied the history of D-Day before coming on the trip, seeing the battlefields in person was more intense than expected.



Sgt. Joseph Hines, a Mesa, Arizona, native and an infantryman assigned to the 1st Infantry Division's Commanding General's Mounted Color Guard, helps divers pull a paratrooper from a river during a multinational parachute jump in Normandy, France, June 3.

'Big Red One' Soldiers take part in Charles Shay Ceremony

By Sgt. Michael C. Roach
19th Public Affairs Detachment

NORMANDY, France – The Commanding General's Mounted Color Guard and select Soldiers from the 2nd Armored Brigade Combat Team, 1st Infantry Division, were on hand June 5 during a ceremony to honor "Big Red One" veteran Charles Shay, one of the few living American Indian World War II combat veterans.

The midday ceremony, held on the historic Omaha Beach at the site of the Charles Shay Memorial in Saint-Laurent-sur-Mer, was conducted as a joint effort between the Penobscot Nation, local French authorities and the U.S. military. A brief downpour and chilling wind set the tone of hardship and sacrifice that the group was there to commemorate.

"I would like to start with a quote from the man we're here to honor; please listen to these words and understand the humility, the honor and the tradition that come out," said Brig. Gen. Robert S. Cooley, 353D Civil Affairs Command commanding general, who spoke to the crowd. "On the evening of 5 June, 1944, I was aboard the (U.S.S.) Henrico, heading across the channel when I got a surprise visit -- a

Penobscot Indian warrior named Melvin Neptune. He didn't trouble me with his combat experience nor did he offer me advice, instead we talked about home because he knew I had never been in combat; all hell was about to break loose on me."

Shay, a Native American of the Penobscot Tribe from Maine, earned the Silver Star for heroism as a combat medic on June 6, 1944, while serving in Company F, 16th Infantry Regiment, 1st Inf. Div.

Shay joined the Army in April of 1943 to be a medical technician, Cooley said.

"Charles Norman Shay was one of the many men who stepped off the landing crafts and into the frigid waters of Omaha Beach," Cooley said. "Shay was a young man then, only 19 years old when he landed here... Unfortunately Shay's unit suffered tremendously. They lost all of their officers and a significant amount of their Soldiers. He was one of the few combat medics to not have perished or sustained injuries during the first wave of attacks."

Cooley spoke about the importance of Shay's decision to return to the military during the Korean War.

"What is also important is that Charles continued to serve his country even after World War II had ended," Cooley said. "If

you notice on his hat it says WWII and Korea veteran. His continued service demonstrates what we call today 'Soldier for Life,' those who answer our nations call for a lifetime of service."

Shay was one of 175 American Indians known to have participated in the initial battle on D-Day.

"Charles is one of the most humble people I know," said James Francis, Penobscot Tribe historian and director of cultural historic preservation. "For example, this park isn't about him, but about others, Native American veterans."

After describing Shay's accomplishments, Cooley spoke about Native Americans, who served in the war in the largest per capita participation in WWII of any demographic.

"We are also here today to pay respects to all of the Native Americans who participated in WWII," Cooley said. "In all, 45,000 Native Americans fought. They had the highest volunteer rate of all communities in America. In some cases 70 percent of the tribe volunteered to fight."

In attendance with Shay were Native

American veterans from multiple conflicts including Vietnam, many holding flags to represent Native American tribes from across the United States.

"His tradition of honoring others through his honoring is why I'm here today," Francis said. "I represent the Penobscot Nation, my tribe, Charles' tribe."

The memorial itself includes a stone turtle which is symbolic of Native American creation lore. On June 21, the installation of a matching turtle on Indian Island, Maine, will join the two communities separated by 3,100 miles, Francis said.

Finally, Cooley emphasized the importance of commemorating veterans like Shay for protecting the nation's way of life.

"Our nation owes a great debt of service to Mr. Charles Shay, our Native Americans and all of the vets who have served," he said. "Without them we wouldn't have served. Without them we wouldn't have the stories of courage, innovation, collaboration, dedication and sense of pride to country and liberty."



PHOTO BY SGT. MICHAEL C. ROACH

Charles Norman Shay, a Penobscot tribal elder and World War II veteran, sits in the audience prior to a ceremony in his honor at the Charles Shay Memorial, Saint-Laurent-sur-Mer, Normandy, France, June 5. Shay earned a Silver Star for heroic actions as a combat medic during the initial wave of the D-Day landings on June 6, 1944.

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BACKBONE OF THE ARMY

National Guard NCOs share experiences, knowledge with Afghan counterparts

By Staff Sgt. Neysa Canfield
For Army News Service

KANDAHAR, Afghanistan — The Army commonly refers to the U.S. Army Non-commissioned Officer Corps as the Backbone of the Army because the Army expects them to lead and train younger Soldiers and support and assist their commissioned officers during daily duties and missions.

It is those traits and characteristics that Command Sgt. Maj. Joe Derma, senior enlisted adviser for the Military Advisory Team for Train, Advise and Assist Command-South, wanted to share with the Afghan senior enlisted leaders when he began senior leader huddles back in November of last year.

The command, which is composed of Soldiers from the 40th Infantry Division, California National Guard and 2nd Infantry Brigade Combat Team, 4th Infantry Division, focuses on training and assisting Afghan security forces and supporting counterterrorism operations.

“When (the 40th Infantry Division) first got here in October and started working with the Afghan National Army I noticed that their NCOs weren’t as engaged as our NCOs are in daily tasks,” said Derma, a native of Brawley, California. “It was then that I knew I wanted to start a program to get (the ANA’s) NCOs a similar authority of what our Army’s NCOs have.”

With a goal in mind, Derma built a team of experienced NCOs from TAAC-South in or-

der to begin meeting with and advising senior Afghan NCOs within the 205th CORP Afghan National Army.

“I have used NCOs from the 40th Infantry Division, the 2nd Infantry Brigade Combat Team, and even from the Security Force Assistance Brigade,” said Derma. “It really depends what specialty we are covering during our huddles. I want to make sure we have experienced NCOs who can share their knowledge.”

So far, Derma and his team have advised on the duties and responsibilities of a first sergeant, command relationships with commissioned officers, operations, logistics and more.

Most importantly, according to Derma, he and his team wanted the Afghan enlisted leaders to understand the importance of the NCOs role in the future of the ANA.

“From my perspective the ANA has great fighters, great NCOs and great officers but there is a gap in the understanding of the role of an NCO,” explained Derma. “If you want a military for the future you have to have a strong dedicated NCO Corps because our primary responsibility as NCOs is train to Soldiers.”

Since the first huddle, Derma said the attendance has grown to at times over 60 senior enlisted leaders in one huddle and they continue an eagerness to learn.

“I (and the other leaders) have learned a lot from the experiences of command sergeant major Derma and his team,” said Afghan National Army Command



PHOTO BY STAFF SGT. NEYSA CANFIELD

Master Sgt. Lou Spinazze, senior enlisted leader for the Police Advising Team for Train, Advise and Assist Command-South, talks with Afghan senior enlisted leaders May 25 during a meeting at the Regional Military Training Center-Kandahar.

Sgt. Maj. Akbari Ghaus, information management senior enlisted leader for the ANA. “I like to take notes during the meetings so I can look back at them and use the advice they gave us to train our Soldiers better.”

Derma said although the road for growth is long, he is proud of how much the ANA NCO Corps has grown since November.

“Before, during meetings and briefs you would see little to no enlisted leaders,” Derma explained. “Now you see (command sergeant majors) sitting in the front answering questions and giving briefs. It’s amazing

to be able to witness all this in a short amount of time.”

Although the main audience for the huddles are senior enlisted leaders, Ghaus said it is important for them as leaders to mentor their younger NCOs.

“Everything we learn during our meetings we aren’t just keeping it to ourselves,” said Ghaus. “We are taking all this training and advice and sharing it to both higher and lower levels. It’s exciting for me to see our Soldiers grow and we are grateful to command sergeant major Derma and his team.”

By Ghaus and the rest of the

senior enlisted Afghan leaders sharing their new knowledge with their younger NCOs, Derma said this is a start to a new culture.

“As senior NCOs it’s our responsibility to mentor at least two ranks down and show those younger leaders what right looks like and most of the time that mentoring is done through actions,” said Derma. “They are eager to learn and excited to participate in the training, so I can’t wait to see how much more they will be able to progress when they use their NCOs to their full capabilities.”

Translator helps Soldiers overcome language barrier

By Spc. Robert Douglas
For Army News Service

BEMOWO PISKIE, Poland — The U.S. Army has established operations centers all over the world, giving the Army the ability to deploy any number of Soldiers, vehicles and equipment at a moment’s notice.

However, when those different assets are sent on a mission far from home in a foreign land, many obstacles can get in the way of successfully completing the mission.

One such obstacle is the language barrier. Breakdowns in communication can cause devastating effects to mission success, and because of this, Soldiers must find a way to overcome this hindrance to achieve success. Fortunately for the U.S. Army’s Soldiers, local translators like Kasia Kardasiewicz from Warsaw, are ready and willing to help them overcome this language barrier. These translators are, and will continue to be, increasingly important in U.S. military operations.

Kardasiewicz, a translator working with Battle Group Poland during Saber Strike 18, helps bridge the language gap between the five different nations involved in the exercise as they work side by side during the eighth iteration of the long-standing U.S. Army Europe-led cooperative training exercise designed to enhance interoperability among allies and regional partners.

“I’ve been working with the public affairs units for the U.S. Army and Polish army to provide pictures and videos to

civilians and report about what is going on here at Saber Strike 18,” said Kardasiewicz. “With my previous experience working in media before, I enjoy talking to people and being involved when something interesting is taking place.”

Kardasiewicz has studied the English language since the age of 14 beginning in primary school and with her parents sending her to private lessons. This pursuit gained momentum as she grew and eventually graduated college at Warsaw University with a Bachelor’s of Arts degree in English Teaching, and becoming a certified English teacher in Poland.

It is this passion for her work that has helped the U.S. Army and Polish army specialists she works with conduct their duties as smoothly as possible and also provided her with an opportunity to make lifelong memories.

“I think it’s a huge adventure and a way to use my linguistic skills,” said Kardasiewicz. “It’s awesome to witness the live-fire military exercises and travel in Strykers – not too many civilians get a chance to experience something like that.”

The public affairs specialists she works with on a daily basis at Saber Strike 18 also have nothing but great things to say when asked about the difference Kardasiewicz has made.

“She’s been a great help to us and has greatly increased the interoperability of our unit and our ability to accomplish the mission here at Saber Strike 18,” said 1st Lt. Erica Mitchell of the Michigan Army National Guard, 126th Public Affairs Headquarters, conducting its an-

nual training with Battle Group Poland, “Without her language skills, we would have a very difficult time communicating with our counterparts from Poland and getting out in the field to provide media coverage of the exercise.”

With the linguistic help, translators like Kardasiewicz provide, Saber Strike 18 and future training exercises will continue to successfully showcase the interoperability and great partnerships the U.S. Army has with its allies.



PHOTO BY SPC. ROBERT DOUGLAS

Michigan Army National Guard 1st Lt. Erica Mitchell and Polish army Pvt. 1st Class Adrian Staszewski discuss the day’s mission with the help of Polish translator Kasia Kardasiewicz during their participation in Saber Strike 18 at the Bemowo Piskie Training Area, Poland, June 10.

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New SMET will take the load off Infantry Soldiers

By C. Todd Lopez
Army News Service

WASHINGTON — Infantry Soldiers often carry an array of supplies and gear that together can weigh anywhere from 60 to 120 pounds, said Capt. Erika Hanson, the assistant product manager for the Squad Multipurpose Equipment Transport.

But the SMET vehicle, which the Army expects to field in just under three years, “is designed to take the load off the Soldier,” Hanson said. “Our directed requirement is to carry 1,000 pounds of the Soldier load.”

That 1,000 pounds is not just for one Soldier, of course, but for an entire Infantry squad — typically about nine Soldiers.

Late last month, during a Close Combat Lethality Tech Day in the courtyard of the Pentagon, Hanson had with her on display the contenders for the Army’s SMET program: four small vehicles, each designed to follow along behind a squad of Infantry Soldiers and carry most or all their gear for them, so they can move to where they need to be without being exhausted upon arrival.

“I’m not an Infantry Soldier,” Hanson said. “But I’ve carried a rucksack — and I can tell you I can move a lot faster without out a rucksack on my back. Not having to carry this load will make the Soldier more mobile and more lethal in a deployed environment.”

The four contender vehicles on display at the Pentagon were the MRZR-X system from Polaris Industries Inc., Applied Research Associates Inc. and Neya Systems LLC; the Multi-Utility Tactical Transport from General Dynamics Land Systems; the Hunter Wolf from HDT Global; and the RS2-H1 system from Howe and Howe Technologies. Each was loaded down with gear representative of what they would be expected to carry when one of them is actually fielded to the Army.

“Nine ruck sacks, six boxes of MREs and four water cans,” Hanson said. “This is about the equivalent of what a long-range mission for a light Infantry unit would need to carry.”

Hanson said that for actual testing and evaluation purposes, the simulated combat load also includes fuel cans and ammo cans as well, though these items weren’t included in the display at the Pentagon.

These small vehicles, Hanson said, are expected to follow along with a squad of Soldiers as they walk to wherever it is they have been directed to go. The requirement for the vehicles is that they be able to travel up to 60 miles over the course of 72 hours, she said.

Three of the vehicles are “pivot steered,” Hanson said, to make it easier for them to maneuver in off-road environments, so that they can follow Soldiers even when there isn’t a trail.

One of the contenders for SMET has a steering wheel, with both a driver’s seat and a passenger seat. So if a Soldier wanted to drive that vehicle, he could, Hanson said. Still, the Army requirement is that the SMET be able to operate unmanned, and all four vehicles provide that unmanned capability.

All four contenders include a small, simplistic kind of remote control that a Soldier can hand-carry to control the vehicle. One of those remotes was just a light-weight hand grip with a tiny thumb-controlled joystick on top. A Soldier on patrol could carry the light-weight controller at his side.



PHOTO BY SGT. JUAN F. JIMENEZ

Paratroopers escort dozens of Stryker vehicles during operation Swift Response in Torun, Poland, June 8. The Army is planning to field a new SMET in the next three years that will carry 1,000 pounds.

More advanced control options are also available for the SMET as well, Hanson said.

“All can be operated with an operator control unit,” she said. “It’s a tele-operation where you have a screen and you can operate the system non-line-of-site via the cameras on the system.”

When Soldiers on patrol want the SMET to follow along with them, they can use the very simple controller that puts a low cognitive load on the Soldier. When they want the SMET to operate in locations where they won’t be able to see it, they can use the more advanced controller with the video screen.

Hanson said the Army envisions Soldiers might one day use the SMET to do things besides carry a Soldier’s bags.

“It’s for use in operations where some of the payloads are like re-trans and recon payloads in the future,” she said. “In that situation, it would be better for a Soldier at a distance to be able to tele-operate the SMET into position.”

The “re-trans” mission, she said, would involve putting radio gear onto the SMET and then using a remote control to put the vehicle out at the farthest edge of where radio communications are able to reach. By doing so, she said, the SMET could then be part of extending that communications range farther onto the battlefield.

One of the vehicles even has an option for a Soldier to clip one end of a rope to his belt and the other end to the vehicle — and then the vehicle will just follow him wherever he walks. That’s the tethered “follow-me” option, Hanson said.

In addition to carrying gear for Soldiers, the SMET is also expected to provide electric power to Soldiers on patrol. She said while the vehicle is moving, for instance, it is required to provide 1 kilowatt of power, and when it’s standing still, it must provide 3 kW.

That power, she said, could be piped into the Army’s “Universal Battery Charger,” which can charge a variety of batteries currently used in Soldier products. Vendors of

the SMET have each been provided with a UBC so they can figure out how best to incorporate the device into their SMET submissions.

Hanson said the Army hopes that the SMET could include, in some cases, up to five UBCs on board to ensure that no Soldier in an Infantry squad is ever without mobile power.

NEXT STEP

In November 2017, the Army held a “fly-off” at Fort Benning, Georgia, where 10 contenders for the SMET competed with each other. Only the developers of the vehicles were involved in the fly-off.

“From those, we down-selected to these four, based on their performance,” Hanson said.

To make its choice for the down-select, she said the Army looked at things like mo-

bility and durability of the systems.

Now, the Army will do a technology demonstration to down-select to just one vehicle, from the remaining four. To do that, Hanson said, the Army will first provide copies of the competing SMET vehicles to two Army Infantry units, one at Fort Drum, New York, and one at Fort Campbell, Kentucky. Additionally, Marines at Camp Lejeune, North Carolina, will also get a set of the vehicles.

“Over the course of the tech demo, we’ll be getting feedback from the Soldiers and the Marines on what systems best fill the need for the infantryman,” she said.

The technology demonstration, she said, will last just one year. And when it’s complete, feedback from Soldiers and Marines will be used to down-select to just one system that will then become an Army program of record.

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ARMY PHOTOS

The RS2-H1 system from Howe and Howe Technologies, top left; the Hunter Wolf system from HDT Global, top right; the MRZR-X system from Polaris Industries Inc., Applied Research Associates Inc. and Neya Systems LLC, bottom left; and the Multi-Utility Tactical Transport, or MUTT, from General Dynamics Land Systems, bottom right, are all vehicles the Army is considering to fill the role of the Squad Multi-Purpose Equipment Transport.

Army researchers looking to neurostimulation to enhance Soldiers' abilities

By Gary Sheftick
Army News Service

WASHINGTON — Can the Army produce faster, stronger and smarter Soldiers through electrical stimulation of the brain?

Neurostimulation is not actually a process the Army intends to use for creating "super Soldiers." However, Army researchers have been experimenting with it as a means to accelerate training.

"We've seen a lot of positive effects of neurostimulation in our lab," said Dr. Tad Brunye, senior cognitive scientist at the Natick Soldier Research, Development and Engineering Center, known as NSR-DEC, in Natick, Massachusetts. He heads up neurostimulation research there along with Dr. Erika Hussey.

Brunye and members of his staff were in the Pentagon courtyard May 23-24 during a Close Combat Lethality Tech Day.

Brunye has been experimenting with neurostimulation at Natick over the past four years and at the nearby Center for Applied Brain and Cognitive Sciences in Medford, Massachusetts. The center was created in 2015 through a partnership between the Army and the School of Engineering at Tufts University. It is co-directed by NSRDEC's Cognitive Science and Applications Team along with Tufts faculty.

The center includes what Brunye calls "large virtual-reality caves."

Volunteers at the center receive low-intensity electrical current through headphone-style stimulation systems or electrodes mounted on what looks like a bathing cap. Then their performance in the virtual-reality environment is measured. Neurostimulation has shown the following benefits.

- Increased ability to recognize suspected terrorists from a list of faces studied hours earlier during neurostimulation.
- Improved navigation performance, especially for individuals with lower spatial abilities. Soldiers in large-scale virtual urban environments did better moving between objectives during neurostimulation.
- Increased attention span. Attention might wane after 20 minutes when watching a security monitor and neurostimulation could increase that attention span to 20 hours.
- Enhanced motor skills, such as the standing broad jump, when a particular area of the brain is stimulated during



PHOTO BY DAVID KAMM

A volunteer from the 82nd Airborne Division wears a neurostimulation and brain-monitoring device while clearing an urban scene of enemy combatants in a virtual-reality cave at the Center for Applied Brain and Cognitive Sciences, Tufts University, Medford, Mass.

practice.

"We want to make sure that we stimulate the right areas of the brain, at the right time, in the right individual, in a manner targeted to specific tasks that we need them to excel on," Brunye said.

"The consumer market is exploding with do-it-yourself brain stimulation devices right now, and Soldiers are willing to try just about anything to enhance their mental and physical performance," Brunye continued. "But we need to be sure that any commercial claims are supported by rigorous experimental science, and that the systems are being used only in appropriate and beneficial ways. Our science and technology efforts are helping ensure that is the case."

CREATING HIGH PERFORMERS

Soldiers from a variety of military occupational specialties volunteer to come to Natick immediately following their initial-entry training, Brunye said. They serve about three months at Natick before moving on to their first unit. These Soldiers are used in the experiments, along with volunteers from local communities around Boston.

The volunteers feel just a tingling, itchy

sensation on their scalp during the neurostimulation, he said.

"In terms of long-term impact, there are no known negative or adverse effects of neurostimulation," he said.

Neurostimulation will help accelerate learning and can bring Soldiers up to a level of high performance quickly. "It will compensate for some of the variability we see" during learning, Brunye said.

The effects of neurostimulation, however, are less noticeable on those who are already high performers on a specific task, he said. In fact, neurostimulation can sometimes have a slightly detrimental effect on high performers. Those individuals already have a fine-tuned system for completing a task and neurostimulation will help them wire a new neuron highway for that task — one that may not be initially as effective, he explained.

INNOVATIVE PARTNERSHIP

The Army signed a five-year cooperative agreement with the Tufts School of Engineering almost four years ago and established the Center for Applied Brain and Cognitive Sciences.

"It's a very unique reciprocal relationship we have with the university," Brunye

said.

The university provided the physical facility and infrastructure, such as the heating and cooling systems, networking, and computer hardware and software. Tufts also provided personnel for manning the facility and post-doctoral researchers to help run it.

The Natick Soldier Research, Development and Engineering Center — part of the Army's Research, Development and Engineering Command — provided everything else. The virtual reality programs all came from Natick.

About half of the participants in experiments at the center are Soldiers, Brunye said.

The neurostimulation is provided via a wireless device. Much was learned from experiments that involved searching and clearing buildings over the last five months, he said. In these experiments, neurostimulation began about five minutes before a task and continued through the task, Brunye said.

The voltage varied from 7 to 18 volts, at very low amperage (usually between 1 and 2 milliamps). Direct current is the norm, but the lab is beginning to use alternating current to target more specific areas of the brain, he said.

SPECIAL OPS INTEREST

The Army's Special Operations community is becoming more interested in neurostimulation, Brunye said.

Recently, Special Operations Command and the Defense Innovation Unit Experimental, or DIUx, have been experimenting with neurostimulation. They have been especially interested in developing motor skills and new procedures with weapons systems, Brunye said.

In addition to coordinating with RDECOM, the Natick team works closely with the Army's Training and Doctrine Command on neurostimulation to enhance training, Brunye said. They also work closely with the Air Force Research Laboratory and have partnered with them on a NATO exploratory team examining several techniques for cognitive neuroenhancement.

Other government partners in research include the Intelligence Advanced Research Projects Activity, the Army Research Lab's Human Research and Engineering Directorate and the Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency. DARPA has been conducting related brain-stimulation research called Targeted Neuroplasticity Training.

Freedom Fest

Continued from Page A1

a trampoline, zip line, pony rides and trackless train rides."

"This is a great time to bring your family out, hear some live music and interact with the Fort Rucker Army community," added Edwards. "You'll get to see some fireworks, have some good food and have a good time."

Janice Erdlitz, DFMWR marketing director, said the annual event is the perfect opportunity for Soldiers and families to celebrate the nation's independence and experience a

full day of local entertainment.

"It's a wonderful opportunity to show support for Fort Rucker," she said. "Freedom Fest is a celebration for our entire community. We look forward to this day when we invite everyone out to celebrate our nation's independence with us at Fort Rucker."

"We all stand together, side by side, Soldier to neighbor, and feel the same powerful emotions of being proud Americans," she added. "Freedom Fest is a tradition for many families. Building memories to last a lifetime is one of best parts of what MWR does

for our families."

Freedom Fest is free and open to the public, but a gate access pass is required to enter the installation. Unescorted visitors planning to attend Freedom Fest must obtain a visitor's pass from one of two visitor control centers.

Visitors may obtain passes from VCCs at the Daleville and Ozark gates. The Daleville VCC is open Mondays-Sundays from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. The Ozark VCC is open Mondays-Fridays from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. If planning on attending this year's celebration, Dumais

recommends people come a few days prior to get an access control pass, as the VCCs will not remain open after normal business hours on the day of the event.

As for parking, people need to park in the designated areas for where they wish to exit the installation, said Marcel Dumais, Fort Rucker chief of police.

"Ensure when you arrive on Fort Rucker that you park in the parking area for the gate you wish to exit from when the fireworks are complete," he said. "As an example, if you want to leave from the Daleville Gate af-

ter the fireworks, make sure you park in the Daleville parking area because the exit routes will be strictly enforced."

Also, people are reminded that no coolers, tote bags or backpacks will be permitted, except for medical and baby care items. Additionally, no pets, no fireworks, no glass containers and no weapons, to include guns, knives, pepper spray or other such items will be allowed. Bicycles, scooters, roller blades or skateboards will also not be permitted.

For more information, call 255-1749.

Museum

Continued from Page A1

"He was one of the first three selected, but he was the first military Aviator to stay the course," said Barlow. "He was taken up by the Wright brothers and sent to Fort Sam Houston to complete his training on his own."

"Around this time, as Aviation started taking off more and more, there were a lot of ground commanders who thought it was a lot of nonsense," he said. "But there were visionaries like Foulois who knew that it was the next big thing."

Throughout his testing of aircraft in 1911, which included the Wright Military Flyer, he was instrumental and innovating and providing ideas, even inventing the first seat belt, said the museum curator.

"(Later in life) when asked what his inspiration was for creating the seat belt, he said he was getting tired of being thrown out of the aircraft and hitting his head," said Barlow.

Foulois also could see that the Wright Military Flyer was incredibly outdated and wouldn't be able to compete on the battlefield.

"The airplane at the time was a push propeller aircraft that was basically a box kite," said Barlow. "At the same time, the French were way ahead of us with a tractor aircraft and central seating for the aircraft, which looks more like the proper airplane that we know today."

After a series of crashes and accidents, Foulois, along with other officers in Aviation condemned the pusher propeller air-

craft and began to lean toward the tractor aircraft, and in 1913 joined the 1st Aero Squadron, and by 1914 he was appointed as its commander.

In March of 1916, he reported for duty with Pershing's Punitive Expedition, and along with Capt. Townsend Dodd performed the first U.S. aerial reconnaissance mission over enemy-held territory in Mexico.

"This was their first foray into getting their feet wet with military combat Aviation," said Barlow, adding that by the time World War I came along, Foulois was probably the most experienced officer in the military in regards to Aviation

Because of his experience, he was tasked with the procurement, production, and development and operations of aircraft.

Initially, the Army wanted several thousand aircraft, 4,800 pilots and twice as many mechanics, all within a year, but with the resources at the time it wasn't possible.

"That didn't happen," said Barlow. "We weren't ready for that. Our output was barely 40 aircraft a month on a good month, so, we had to borrow from the British and the French."

Foulois later deployed to France doing the same job, and in 1917 he become chief of air services in the zone of occupation for the Army Expeditionary Force. It was during his time in WWI that eventually the U.S. produced its own aircraft, the JN-4 Jenny.

Following the war, he was later ap-

pointed as the chief of the Air Corps in 1931, and in 1934 then-President Theodore Roosevelt tasked Foulois to head the Army Air Corps Mail Operation, which ended in the Air Mail scandal of 1934 because the Air Corps was ill equipped to take on the mission, said Barlow.

"They flew about 1.4 million miles carrying the mail and they lost a lot of people doing it," he said. As a result, Foulois ended up taking the brunt of the blame for the program's failure and was forced into retirement in 1935 with 36 years of service.

Despite the scandal, Barlow said Foulois was instrumental in bringing military Aviation to the forefront.

"This is a man who came in the military at 18 ... and became one of the first three pilots in the U.S. military. He was there through the birth of all the doctrine, the changes and the clashes with the ground force," he said. "What we're doing now we owe to him. He was the first military Aviator to stay the course, and he was Army Aviator No. 1 as far as I'm concerned."

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201 JASMINE CIRCLE: \$164,500: Lovely 3 bed/2ba cottage with storm shelter room made from cinder blocks! This room was built for that purpose and can function as an office, craft space, or extra storage when there is not a storm. The corner lot has an extra wide patio and the concrete in the front and back has been custom designed.



409 GRAND PINE AVENUE: \$122,000: Very Nice 3 Bedroom 2 Bath Home. New flooring and a complete interior paint job. Ready for occupancy and just minutes from shopping, schools and Fort Rucker.



00 COUNTY ROAD 149, NEW BROCKTON: \$99,000 REDUCED: ATTENTION LAND LOOKERS!!! HUGE Price REDUCTION Wooded with pines/oaks small area cleared for a garden or home site. There is a creek bed on the property and a nice 5 acres section for a pond site, current est value of timber 15-20,000 Boundaries are clear from an old fence line on the E_W and newer fencing on the S. per owner. 38 ACRES Private LAND! Private and secluded—Build your dream home here!



114 BALDWIN AVENUE: \$108,000: Spacious 2 bedroom, 2 bath townhouse across from the pool and Club House. This is a good investment as it is tenant occupied.



400 WARREN ROAD: \$27,500 REDUCED: Starter home in need of a little TLC. This home is being sold AS IS, but is priced to sell at only \$27,500!



5401 HIGHWAY 27: \$75,000 REDUCED: Great price reduction! Enjoy your summer evenings on this large front porch! Located just outside of town.

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\$219,000 • REDUCED

41 CONNETTA DRIVE: Convenient location to Enterprise, Daleville and Fort Rucker, this four bedroom, two and a half bath two story home features not only a formal living room and formal dining room, but on the main level you also have a library/office, kitchen, and breakfast/family room area with electric fireplace. Garage has a workshop area 10x13, and not only is there a 20x40 inground pool, but a 24x36 workshop w/its own separate HVAC, a 12x12 shed, and it all sits on an acre of beautiful landscaping with blueberry bushes. **EVELYN HITCH, 406-3436**

\$239,900 • REDUCED

108 N MAIN STREET: Fabulous two story downtown building on busy Main Street. Fully renovated with lots of upgrades and great potential for expansion. First floor is finished retail & bar space with stunning copper ceiling and exposed brick; wonderful character. Tremendous potential for expansion in 2nd floor - currently has office plus unfinished space. Upstairs could be office or residential space with separate entrance staircase. Newer rubber floor. Beautifully rebuilt facade with great curb appeal. **PAT LEGGETT, 406-7653**

\$189,000

203 N GLENN STREET, GENEVA: Lovely home on large, 1+/- acre lot, on quiet street is near shopping, restaurants, municipal offices. Home design is perfect for gatherings or relaxing days & evenings indoors or outdoors. Open, split floor plan is spacious & living room & den have tons of storage, built-in bookcases & shelves. Other features: tray ceilings, crown molding, surround sound, metal roof, beautiful landscaped yard, flowering shrubs and trees and much more! Large shed and workshop in backyard for storage & hobbies. Three doors lead to extra large screened porch. Call to see this jewel today! **MARGE SIMMONS, 477-1962**

\$147,500 • REDUCED

5 BRECKEN RIDGE DRIVE: Move in ready 3/2 in Breckenridge w/handicap accessibility. Wide door openings, a wider hallway, a step in tile shower w/ fold down seat & grab bar, a ramp from the kitchen door to the garage & another from the rear deck to the yard. Oversized garage w/grooved concrete & the rear deck is constructed of hardiplank. Tile in all wet areas & down the hallway. The living/dining area have wood flooring. The bedrooms have carpeting. The master has a huge walk-in closet & a separate shower. Reroofed in Dec. 2017. **JAN SAWYER, 406-2393**

\$175,000

104 TOM MORRIS LANE: Beautifully maintained home in Tartan Pines. 2 bedroom, 2 bath with new carpet, new roof, and freshly painted walls throughout. This home has lots of windows throughout to provide natural light, and the back patio overlooks a beautifully wooded scene. Owner is licensed residential home builder and REALTOR in the state of Alabama. **BILLY COTTER CONSTRUCTION, 347-2600**

View more pictures of these homes at www.c21regencyrealty.com

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\$299,000

106 SAND CREEK ROAD: Custom built 5 bedroom/5.5 bathroom home w/room to spare. Two master suites downstairs, another bedroom w/its own bath, a formal dining room, living room, huge eat-in & unique kitchen, a bonus room, lovely sun room w/brick floor & a large laundry room. Upstairs there are 2 more bedrooms w/suite baths & walk-in closets and a walk-in attic that could easily become another bedroom/bath or playroom. Lovely built-ins, trim & moldings throughout the house. Lot leads down to Sand Creek. No backyard neighbors. **JAN SAWYER, 406-2393**

\$375,000 • REDUCED

123 LAKEWOOD LOOP, GENEVA: Traditional brick home w/room to play! Active family? Drive out to this 5 bedroom w/over 3,600 sq. ft., 2 +/- acre landscaped corner lot. Home features 10 ft beaded pine ceilings in living area, dining room & kitchen w/custom wooden plantation shutters throughout. Sun room overlooks outdoor living area featuring in-ground pool w/fireplace, accent lighting & brick patio area. Downstairs master w/large bath & walk-in closets. Mature pecan trees across the property. Metal barn/shop w/4+ covered parking spaces. **CHRIS ROGERS, 406-0726 & JUDY DUNN, 301-5656**

\$124,800

121 LIGHTFOOT DRIVE: Great Neighborhood location on large corner lot. 3 Bedroom, 2 Bath home with modern, updated kitchen and brand new stainless steel appliances. Large Partry, Eat in Kitchen with large garden window. Back yard is completely fenced in with a patio pad and a giant pergola for entertaining. Home features updated bathrooms, painted concrete flooring, that is a must see to appreciate. Home has been recently painted throughout, lighting updated, and much more. Conveniently located near Fort Rucker and City Amenities. Transferable Termite Bond. Enterprise City Schools. **CHERYL PICCINNI, 390-9612 & SHERI SIEGEL, 910-229-0017**

\$115,000

5 LANIER STREET, DALEVILLE: Beautiful updated home with an open floor plan, great for entertaining. Large corner lot with an in ground pool, covered patio, storage room and separate shed. Move in ready! **TERRI AVERETT, 406-2072 & JACKIE THOMPSON, 406-1231**

\$225,000 • REDUCED

103 BRITT DRIVE: Custom built one owner home features split bedrooms w/office or formal dining room, two full baths, and half bath/laundry room, convenient to the garage for working in the yard, or coming in from the pool. Door off kitchen to covered patio with bar, and French doors off grandroom to covered patio, all overlooking the pool area. Bring your tools, as you have a detached garage/workshop with electricity. Nice level lot and beautifully landscaped. Tiled floors in kitchen and baths, hardwood in grandroom. **EVELYN HITCH, 406-3436**

View more pictures of these homes at www.c21regencyrealty.com

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\$69,500 • NEW LISTING

531 COVEY CIRCLE, DOTHAN: Large mobile home sitting on a permanent foundation located on a well established neighborhood, very close to town. Easy access to I-65 Dothan and Fort Rucker. It features two master bedrooms, one set up for handicap needs. Well maintained. It also features two living areas, fireplace, large kitchen, ramps, workshop and more. This is a great home for a big family with 4 bedrooms and 3 baths, very comfortable and affordable. VA Foreclosure top be sold "as is", with no repairs. Alabama Right of Redemption will apply. **NANCY CAFIERO, 389-1758 & BOB KUYKENDALL, 369-8534**

\$99,900 • NEW LISTING

205 RIVERVIEW DRIVE, DALEVILLE: Must see this nice traditional home. Excellent price, great location, very close to Fort Rucker. This home features an open floor plan with vaulted ceilings, crown molding, plantation blinds, stainless steel appliances and more. Large eating bar in kitchen, laundry room with cabinetry, gorgeous floor, wood deck and and nice, nice leveled and fenced back yard. VA foreclosure to be sold as is. Alabama Right of Redemption will apply. **NANCY CAFIERO, 389-1758 & BOB KUYKENDALL, 369-8534**

\$244,000 • NEW LISTING

311 S OAK RIDGE DRIVE: This beautiful home is located on an extra large lot with a view of the lake and is inside Enterprise City limits! The great floor plan opens out onto a large deck perfect for entertaining. The large master bedroom also opens out onto the deck. There is a separate garage/shop in addition to the 2 car attached garage. **TERRI AVERETT, 406-2072 & JACKIE THOMPSON, 406-1231**

\$169,800

208 WINTERBERRY WAY: New construction convenient to schools, shopping, golf, restaurants and minutes from Ft. Rucker. Security system, 1 car garage, wood floor in dining area/living room/hall, carpet & tile floors, stainless appliances, natural gas heat/cooking/water heater, low E windows, sprinkler system, 2" faux wood blinds, framed mirrors in bathroom and tray ceiling in grandroom and fenced back yard. (Winterberry Plan) Owner is licensed residential home builder and REALTOR in the State of Alabama. **BILLY COTTER CONSTRUCTION, 347-2600**

\$164,500

204 WINTERBERRY WAY: New construction convenient to schools, shopping, golf, restaurants and minutes from Ft. Rucker. Security system, 1 car garage, wood floor in dining area/living room/hall, carpet & tile floors, stainless appliances, natural gas heat/cooking/water heater, low E windows, sprinkler system, 2" faux wood blinds, framed mirrors in bathroom and tray ceiling in grandroom and fenced back yard. (Poplar Place Plan) Owner is licensed residential home builder and REALTOR in the State of Alabama. **BILLY COTTER CONSTRUCTION, 347-2600**

JUNE 14, 2018

TF Panther conducts routine maintenance

By Sgt. Carlos Garcia
220th Public Affairs Detachment

NORTH FORT HOOD, Texas — Soldiers from the Alaska, D.C., Hawaii, Idaho, Maine and North Carolina Army National Guard assigned to Task Force Panther, 101st Combat Aviation Brigade, 101st Airborne Division, prepared for their upcoming deployment to Afghanistan in support of Operation Freedom's Sentinel at the Operational Readiness Training Center on post, May 19.

A significant portion of TF Panther's mission consists of conducting meticulous inspections and maintenance to ensure the airworthiness of each aircraft.

"Most of what we do in an Aviation unit is maintenance," said Lt. Col. Benny F. Collins TF Panther commander. "We fly some, but we do maintenance a lot."

In order for TF Panther to meet training requirements, the 120th Infantry Brigade, First Army Division West located here on post, conducts observer controller and trainer duties and provides support.

"Although we are in the middle of the culminating training event, we are using this time to conduct the mid-after action review to evaluate what was done right and wrong," said Collins.

"We're getting certified as well to make



PHOTO BY SGT. JAMES LEFTY LARIMER

North Carolina National Guard Soldiers from the 1-130th ARB assigned to TF Panther, 101st CAB, 101st Abne. Div. conduct preventive maintenance checks and services on an AH-64D Apache Longbow at North Fort Hood, Texas, May 19.

sure that we are doing everything properly," said Pvt. Bryan Bridge, an aircraft structural repairer, assigned to D Company, 1-130th Attack Reconnaissance Battalion, TF Panther, 101st Combat Aviation Brigade, 101st Airborne Division.

"The majority of Soldiers assigned to

TF Panther are maintainers comprised of enlisted Soldiers and some warrant officers," said Collins.

"There's a lot of daily maintenance, you've got to check to make sure these [aircraft] are safe to fly," said Bridge.

D Co. is the largest company focusing

on heavy maintenance within TF Panther.

"Our pilots have that sense of trust that our maintainer has done everything within their power to put up a safe and airworthy aircraft," Bond added.

The maintenance unit strives for the highest level of safety for all pilots and crew members by ensuring that "nothing gets left behind and being as prepared as [they] can be," said Bridge.

TF Panther maintainers are comprised of many specific mechanic duties ranging from engine specialists to helicopter repairer, said Sgt. Nicolas Myers, an engine mechanic with the 1-130th ARB, with over 15 years of aviation experience.

"In the civilian world, I'm a technician during the week so this training benefits the newer Soldiers by getting them spooled up and hands-on experience with the equipment that most of us senior mechanics already have," Myers added.

During the deployment, TF Panther will be tasked to provide support using AH-64D Apache Longbow, UH-60 Black Hawk, and CH-47 Chinook throughout Afghanistan.

Myers said, "the main goal of this upcoming deployment is to support the mission, support the flights and if it breaks fix it."



AIR FORCE PHOTO BY MASTER SGT. BARRY LOO

U.S. and multinational special operations forces aboard an MH-6 Little Bird helicopter and a special operations craft — riverine boat — approach a simulated enemy position during a capabilities demonstration as part of the 2018 International Special Operations Forces week in downtown Tampa, Fla., May 22.

HEAVYWEIGHT

N.Y. Guard helicopter company conducts machine-gun training

By Spc. Andrew Valenza
New York National Guard

FORT DRUM, N.Y. — "When you hear the sound of freedom, begin firing," Sgt. Matt Cordaro told eight New York Army National Guard Soldiers crouched or sitting behind eight M240B machineguns.

Cordaro's "sound of freedom" was a grenade simulator going off, and that boom was the signal for Soldiers from B Company, 3rd Battalion, 142nd Aviation Regiment, to engage their targets downrange.

Engaging troop targets on the ground was their first step in UH-60 Black Hawk aerial gunnery training that 68 Soldiers conducted at Fort Drum June 1-3.

The goal of the range training was for crew chiefs to successfully engage targets on the ground with a M240B before firing from a UH-60 Black Hawk in flight, said Capt. Salvador Garcia, the B Company Commander from Smithtown, N.Y.

Door gunnery qualification begins with ground qualification first.

The Soldiers had to first demonstrate their ability to fire 100 rounds with the M240B equipped with standard pistol grip and stock, like those used by infantry Soldiers. Then they fired an additional 100 rounds from



PHOTO BY SPC. ANDREW VALENZA

N.Y. Army National Guard Spc. Adam Proctor, assigned to E Co., 3rd Bn., 142nd Avn. Regt., instructs Soldiers on how to remove empty shells from the brass bag on an M240 on Fort Drum, N.Y., June 2.

an M240B equipped with the butterfly grip used on board the aircraft.

The purpose of qualifying with both grips is to demonstrate proficiency, in case of an emergency like a downed aircraft, where the soldiers would have to leave the aircraft and use the machinegun on the ground.

Along with the weapons training, the Soldiers used the weekend to practice basic Warrior Tasks the Soldiers will need for the company

deployment to the National Training Center at Fort Irwin, California in July, Garcia added.

Once the training moved into the air, two crew chiefs -- one on each side of the Black Hawk-- fired at decommissioned tanks and trucks at Fort Drum's Range 48. As the helicopters flew a set route, gunners engaged targets in turn.

SEE TRAINING, PAGE B4

449th CAB runs with the bulls

By Capt. Briana McFarland
449th Theater Aviation Brigade

KUWAIT NAVAL BASE, Kuwait — Soldiers assigned to the Spanish Army Aviation unit, Task Force Toro, flew into Camp Buehring, Kuwait, May 24 after 24 days at sea on the Spanish naval ship LHD Juan Carlos I (L-61), the biggest warship ever built for Spain.

TF Toro is tactically controlled by the U.S. Army 449th Combat Aviation Brigade and will provide inter-theater Aviation support via the F-9 Cougar and CH-47 Chinook for Combined Joint Task Force-Operation Inherent Resolve with a final destination of Camp Taji, Iraq.

The Task Force Commander Maj. Gala Gallego Soro, Spain's first female commander for deployment operations, lead the exhibition, flying the newly assembled Cougars off of the Spanish ship with an escort from the 1st Battalion, 244th Aviation Regiment, 449th CAB.

"Having the escort by U.S. forces makes me feel relaxed," said Gallego. "When you enter a country, you don't know if there are problems or how to react. Having someone escort you that is familiar and knows what they are doing is a good thing. Task Force Hurricanes [449th CAB] knows the way and is able to support and give us the info we need to make it easier."

Transporting aircraft between countries is a lengthy task, and TF Toro ensured they reduced as many problems as possible. Their helicopters were transported by vessel in order to reduce logistical issues. In doing so, TF Toro completed limited dismantling of their aircraft.

With the help of the Spanish navy Commander Carlos Carrasco in charge of airport operations on the LHD Juan Carlos I, the F-9 Cougars and CH-47 Chinooks underwent maintenance and engine testing before the pilots flew off the ship. After almost a month without flight, there were many mechanical and engine issues they wanted to avoid.

"Our mission was to bring the [Spanish] army helicopters to the naval base," said Carrasco. "After sailing for twenty-four days, the pilots were ready to fly."

TF Toro is comprised of five units based out of Sevilla

SEE 449TH CAB, PAGE B4



PHOTO BY CAPT. BRIANA MCFARLAND

A UH-60 Black Hawk assigned to the 1st Bn., 244th Avn. Regt., 449th CAB, land aboard the LHD Juan Carlos I (L-61), in the Arabian Gulf, May 23.

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

ENTERTAINMENT

TOUR AMERICA 2018

* Tropical Costa Rica

San Jose, Guanacaste, Monteverde, Lake Arenal Cruise, Cano, Negro, Zarcero Oct. 15-23, 2018

* CHRISTMAS NEW YORK The Big Apple

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* Christmas Tour St. Augustine, FL. Tram Tour.

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GENERAL

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is accepting applications for a

Licensed Quality Control Inspector

to inspect homes weatherized in any or all
of the agency's weatherization service areas
of Barbour, Bullock, Butler, Coffee,
Covington, Crenshaw, Dale Geneva, Henry,
Houston, Lowndes and Pike Counties.

Work to be inspected includes but is not
limited to the insulation of attic, side wall,
and floor/belly, air sealing with tow-part
foam, proper operation blower door technol-
ogy, duct repair/replacement, HVAC
repair/replacement, vented space heater
repair/replacement, and other applicable
minor repairs. All work must be completed
and inspected according to Department of
Energy guidelines set forth in the Standard
Work Specifications (SWS). Approximately
30 houses are scheduled to be assessed in
the 12 county service areas. Funds will be
paid from the Department of Energy (DOE)
weatherization grant and the Low income
Weatherization Program Grant (LIWAP).

Interested contractor must provide a copy of
his/her State of Alabama business license
and QCI Certification, liability insurance, and
a completed W9 form. Please provide
telephone and fax numbers along with an
email address if available. Three references
will be required. Copies of the above items
can be mailed to OCAP, Inc.
Attention: Annette Shepherd, 507 North
Three Notch Street, Troy, AL 36081.

A contractors meeting will be held on
Thursday, June 14, 2018 at 10:00 AM
at the central office located at 507 North
Three Notch Street, Troy, AL 36081 to explain
work procedures and to verify contractor
eligibility.

For additional informaiton contact
Annette Shepherd,
Weatherization Coordinator, at
(334-566-1712.

GENERAL

The Organized Community Action Program, Inc.,

a private, non-profit organization,
is accepting applications for

Contractors

interested in bidding on homes to be
weatherized in any or all of the agency's
weatherization service areas of Barbour,
Bullock, Butler, Coffee, Covington, Crenshaw,
Dale Geneva, Henry, Houston, Lowndes and
Pike Counties.

Work includes but is not limited to the
insulation of attic, side wall, and floor/belly,
air sealing with two-part foam, proper
operation blower door technology, duct
repair/ replacement, HVAC
repair/replacement, vented space heater
repair/replacement, and other applicable
minor repairs. All work must be completed
according to Department of Energy
guidelines set forth in the Standard Work
Specification (SWS). Approximatley 35
houses are sceduled to be assessed in the 12
county service areas. Funds will be paid from
the Department of Energy (DOE)
weatherization grant, the Low Income
Weatherization Program Grant (LIWAP) and
the USDA Rural Development Housing
Preservation Grant (HUD).

To be eligible to bid, contractors must
provide a copy of his/her State of Alabama
business license and QCI Certification,
liability insurance, and a completed W9 form.
Please provide telephone and fax numbers
along with an email address if available.
Three references will be required. Copies of
the above items can be mailed to OCAP, Inc.
Attention: Annette Shepherd, 507 North Three
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449th CAB



PHOTO BY CAPT. BRIANA MCFARLAND

UH-60 Black Hawks assigned to the 1st Bn., 244th Avn. Regt., 449th CAB, land aboard the LHD Juan Carlos I (L-61), in the Arabian Gulf, May 23.

Training

Continued from Page B1

Most of the targets were engaged with the UH-60 Black Hawk in motion and some were fired on while the aircraft hovered.

An evaluator inside the aircraft indicated which targets for the gunners to engage.

Pfc. Arthur Allen, an aircraft mechanic and crew chief from Uniondale, N.Y., said he liked air gunnery.

"It's an intense feeling," Arthur said. "A lot of control is needed but once you get on the guns it feels natural."

A sensor system within the targets measure how many rounds hit the target, how many miss, and how many land in the general area. Computers in the range tower displayed the data so Cordaro, the battalion standardization instructor from East Patchogue, N.Y., could grade Soldier performance.

Door gunnery is demanding for pilots as well, said Lt. Tyler Vorpahl, one of the company pilots from Troy, N.Y. There are specific routes pilots have to fly on the range and all crew members need to be aware of them, he explained.

"It's a very dangerous portion of our

training," Vorpahl said. "There's a lot of crew coordination involved especially when rounds are firing. There are a lot of planning and safety considerations."

During the flights, pilots and crew chiefs not only have to coordinate with each other, but also with a second aircraft also on the range flight route conducting the gunnery training.

The company began preparing last October for their July 27 deployment to the NTC rotation, after returning from a three-week deployment for disaster response missions to assist communities in Puerto Rico. The unit delivered relief supplies to remote or inaccessible communities recovering from Hurricane Maria, Garcia said.

It has been challenging for his Soldiers to get everything done, Garcia said.

"As a Guard unit, we don't get much time to train up for these rotations," he added.

By Sunday, the Soldiers had fired 113,000 7.62mm rounds, tossed 65 smoke grenades, thrown 20 artillery simulators and expended 55 star clusters.

"I think they did outstanding," Cordaro said. "They did a great job preparing for this, and their tireless efforts have definitely been noticed."

Continued from Page B1

and Madrid, Spain. Their helicopters are similar to the UH-60 Black Hawk and CH-47 Chinook. Although they are able to conduct casualty and medical evacuations, their mission will only be to transport troops and cargo in Iraq.

TF Toro will declare full operational mobility on June 15 and with the first female commander in charge of deployment operations, there will be high visibility.

"I know I'm the first, but it feels normal," said Gallego. "I never knew I was the first until someone told me. 'We've had women in the Armed Forces for about 30 years; it makes sense to be promoted to other ranks, and it's time for more women to command units. What's really important is us successfully completing our mission in Iraq.'"

This is not the first deployment for Gallego. After three tours in Afghanistan and one tour in Bosnia, Gallego is confident in TF Toro's ability to successfully support Coalition forces.

"This is going to be a challenge because language is a concern, but we will find a way to work and fly together," said Gallego. We don't have full access to TF Hurricanes' information because it's secret, but we have all the information we need to fly safe."



PHOTO BY SPC. ANDREW VALENZA

A UH-60 Black Hawk flies over Fort Drum, N.Y., June 2. Soldiers from 3rd Bn., 142nd Avn. Regt., were conducting aerial gunnery training to prepare for an event at the National Training Center.

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JUNE 14, 2018



FILE PHOTOS

Children enjoy the spray park at SPLASH!

SPLASH! INTO SUMMER

Post offers many ways to beat the heat in single location

By Nathan Pfau
Army Flier Staff Writer

Summer is in full swing and the southern heat is out in full force, but Fort Rucker has got the remedy to beat the heat with one of its most popular recreation destinations.

Splash! Pool and Spray Park is fully operational and ready to serve the surrounding community with its double flume water slide, spray park, splash pad, diving board and aqua climb rock wall, said Ryan Clark, assistant aquatics manager.

The pool itself ranges from 3 1/2 feet at its shallowest to 11 1/2 feet at its deepest point.

For a short time, the spray park wasn't operational due to a faulty motor system preventing water pumping through the system, but that has been fixed, and children can once again fully enjoy what Fort Rucker's own water park has to offer, said Clark.

The spray park features four ring systems that spray water internally, as well as water cannons that children can use to spray each other with. There are also self-filling buckets that randomly dump water on unsuspecting park goers and there are geysers located around the spray pad.

There is also the tiki bar where patrons can purchase food and beverages during their visit.

The park is open Wednesdays-Mondays

from 11 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. with Tuesdays reserved for maintenance, and it is open to the public. Also, the facility is available for private parties after 5:30 p.m., which people can book by contacting the Fort Rucker Physical Fitness Center.

Prices for admission depend on age and military affiliation.

Fort Rucker aquatics also sells season passes to the facility that can be purchased at the Fort Rucker Physical Fitness Center on Andrews Avenue or at MWR Central on the first floor of the Soldier Service Center, Bldg. 5700.

For more information on pricing and entrance fees for SPLASH!, call 255-2296 or visit <https://rucker.armymwr.com/programs/aquatics/>.

Although the park is open for all ages, Clark reminds parents that all children should be accompanied by an adult, 18 years or older, even if the children are proficient swimmers.

Splash! will also host its first Christmas in July, July 28, where people can enjoy activities and games in the sun and get a chance to meet Santa Claus during his off season, said the assistant aquatics manager.

Also, beginning Aug. 6, the park will return to weekend hours only to coincide with children returning to school, so Clark said people should take advantage of the summer hours while they still can.



Children race down the double flume slides as they enjoy a day at SPLASH! Pool and Spray Park.

Dog Days of Summer, another popular event hosted by the park, will also return Sept. 9 to close out the season where people are invited to bring their canine friends to take a dip in the waters of the park.

During dog days, no patrons other than pets will be allowed in the pools for

safety reasons.

Clark also reminds people to stay safe when visiting Splash! or any of Fort Rucker's watery destinations by wearing sun screen and staying hydrated throughout the day.

For more information, call 255-9162.

LANDING ZONE

Fort Rucker dining staple open for business despite renovations

By Nathan Pfau
Army Flier Staff Writer

The Landing Zone is one of the installation's most popular dining destinations, and although the facility's kitchen is currently undergoing restoration, the Fort Rucker staple is still open for business.

The restaurant is still operating under the same hours of operation, but the dining area is currently located in the Legends room next to the main ballroom, said Hugo Siegel, Fort Rucker business operations officer.

"If you make your way into the building, there are signs pointing the way and the hostess will be right there in the lobby by the fireplace to seat guests," said Siegel. "Although the menu has been slightly adjusted somewhat to accommodate, fan favorites are still available.

"What we're doing (with the renovation) is making the kitchen bigger to handle a higher volume and to be able to introduce some different menu items," said Siegel. "The Landing was originally built as a bingo snack bar and doesn't really hold up to the level of volume we normally see come through The Landing Zone."



PHOTO BY NATHAN PFAU

Candice Bass, Landing Zone server, serves up lunch to patrons at the current dining location in the Legends room located on the opposite side of the building from The Landing Zone.

The Rapid Fire lunch special is still being offered, and at this time is offering two options every day instead of one, said the operations officer. The special comes with two sides and a roll for \$8. "You can't beat this price and it's a full plate of food for lunch."

People can also continue to place orders for pickup and full table service is still available, said Siegel. "Nothing has really changed other

than the location, for now."

Although the dining area is in a new location, Siegel said The Landing Zone is still one of the quickest options for lunch on or off the installation.

"A lot of us don't have a full hour for lunch," he said. "When you think about it, you have to leave your office and go to lunch, so the time you have to spend is only a few minutes to get your lunch, es-

pecially when you go off post.

"When you go off post you have to wait in line at a drive through, or you have to go somewhere to sit down to eat, but the biggest thing is you have to wait in line again when you're coming back at the gate because everyone is trying to funnel back through," he continued. "But The Landing Zone is right there down the street from most locations (on post) and I feel it's very

well centrally located from most places. If you want to call in your order before you leave your office, it'll be ready by the time you get there."

The Landing Zone is also open for dinner and there are specials throughout the week to cater to patrons. Tuesday night features Kids Eat Free night, where up to two children can eat free from the children's menu with the purchase of an adult entrée.

Wednesdays are wing nights, and Fridays are steak nights where people can purchase two rib eye steaks for \$26, said Siegel. "You can't beat that."

When the kitchen renovation is done, The Landing Zone will release a new menu to go along with its new kitchen.

"We will still be keeping a lot of the old classics and favorites, but we will be bringing some new flare and change up what we've always done so well," said the operations officer.

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.

‘TEDDY BEAR CLINIC’

Event stitches together veterinary training with helping children

By Amber Martin
For Army News Service

FORT CARSON, Colo. — Tattered, well-loved teddy bears, elephants, cats, unicorns and a pig lay in a pile as Soldiers from the Fort Carson Veterinary Clinic prepared to patch up the stuffed animals at the Fort Carson Family Homes Community Center.

The veterinary clinic staff held its third annual Teddy Bear Clinic May 22 through June 5.

Military children and their Families brought in approximately 50 stuffed animals to be repaired. The event provides veterinary Soldiers cross-training skills by practicing various stitch patterns that prepare them to operate in a deployed environment.

The training specifically gives the veterinary food inspector and the animal care specialist Soldiers the skills to assist the technicians during emergency trauma scenarios in their daily work and while deployed.

“I like doing these ones,” said Spc. Holly Jeansonne, animal care specialist, Fort Carson Veterinary Clinic, referring to an extremely torn up pink elephant. “About three years ago, I fixed a teddy bear whose face was ripped off. I’m going to add some stuffing and sutures. It won’t be too bad.”

During the clinic, Capt. Matthew Putnam, veterinarian and intern, First Year Graduate Veterinary Education, Public Health Command District - Carson, gave a presentation on different suture types and techniques. He discussed different instruments and specifically the importance of the square knot.

“Our technicians are actually able to help do some of the closures (during surgery), but they don’t get a lot of practice, so this is an opportunity for them to actually get practice just doing those sutures,” said Putnam. “They will be able to tie about 50 to 75 knots each. They have an opportunity to do a lot of repetition.”

Spc. Janae Brown, veterinary food inspector, practiced suturing techniques in the Teddy Bear Clinic for the first time this year. She was excited to learn they were repairing military children’s stuffed animals.

“I think that this is a good idea because I love helping people,” said Brown. “Being able to be hands-on and actually learn how to do this is a good experience.”

Family members picked up their stuffed animals June 4-5 from the veterinary clinic to ensure each patient continues to heal. The veterinary Soldiers returned the stuffed animals with candy labeled as medicine and a thank you note.

Shaylise Bowen, a family member, brought her three children to pick up their repaired stuffed animals. Her son said that he was happy to have his stuffed dog back.

Maria Cooper, a family member, came in with her daughter to pick up their pink teddy bear, Princess, and her son’s stuffed animals, a frog and a pig.

“My daughter liked the idea of bringing them to an animal hospital,” said Cooper. “She watches a lot of ‘Doc McStuffins.’”

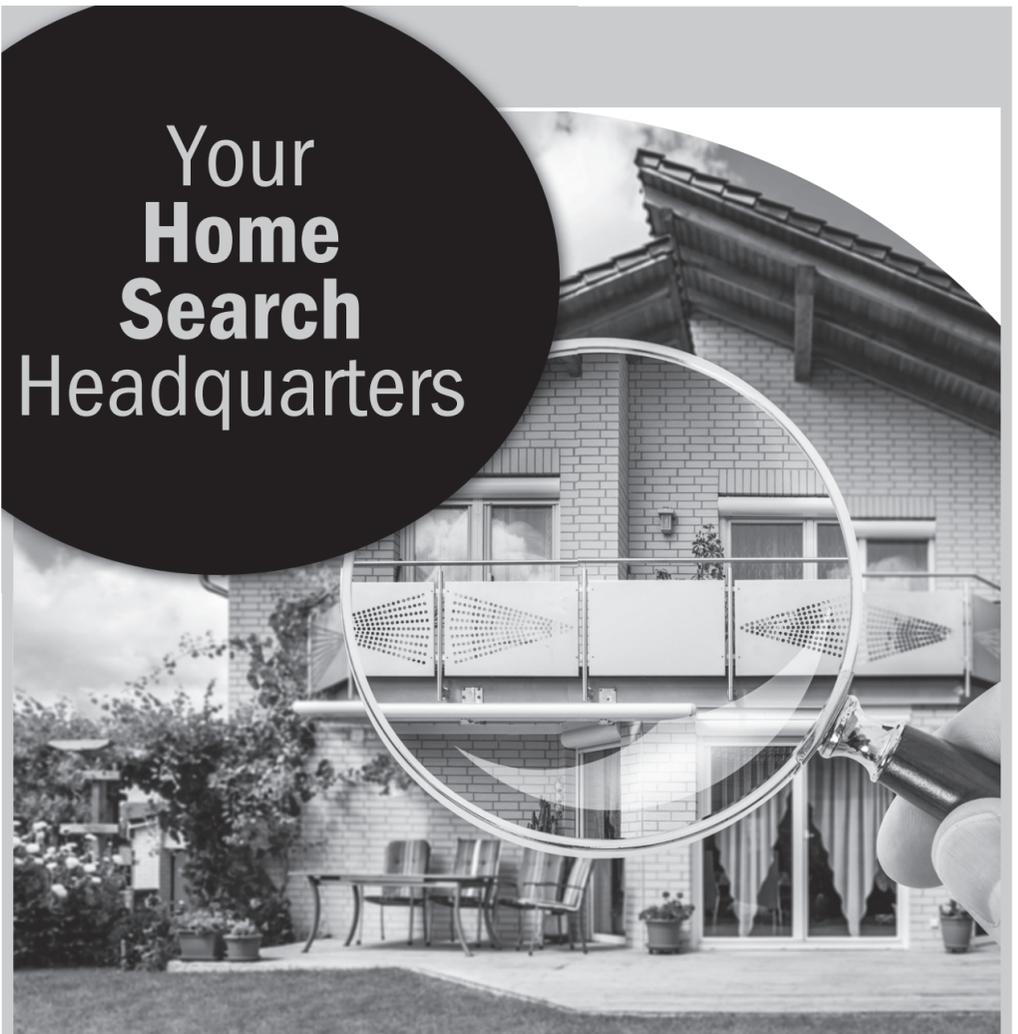
The clinic also provides an opportunity for the community to check out the Fort Carson Veterinary Clinic and see what services are available.

“It is a good way for us to get involved with our community and show them what the vet clinic does,” said Capt. Isabelle Gerbatsch, veterinarian and intern, First Year Graduate Veterinary Education, Public Health Command District - Carson. “Right now, there are a lot of Soldiers deploying from Fort Carson, and if we can bring a smile to any child’s face when they receive their teddy bear back in one piece – that makes this whole clinic worth it.”

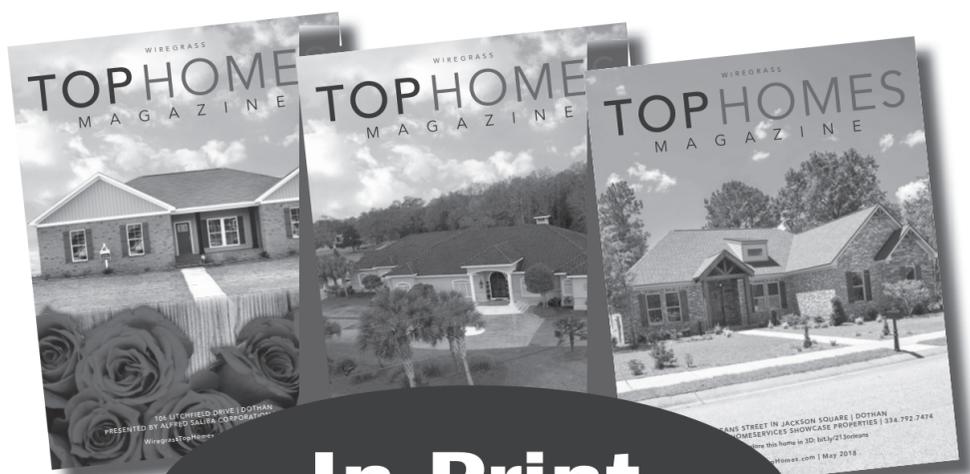


PHOTOS BY AMBER MARTIN

Soldiers from the Fort Carson Veterinary Clinic repair stuffed animals during the annual Teddy Bear Clinic May 31.



A girl hugs her brother’s newly repaired frog June 4 while her mom, Maria Cooper, carries their large pig and pink teddy bear, Princess, dropped off to receive repairs from the veterinary Soldiers during the third annual Teddy Bear Clinic at the Fort Carson Veterinary Clinic, Colo.



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DOD WARRIOR GAMES

Service dogs provide athletes love, laughter, support

By Shannon Collins
Defense Media Activity

COLORADO SPRINGS, Colo. – While service members and veterans competed in sports ranging from track and field to wheelchair basketball this week at the U.S. Air Force Academy here in the 2018 Department of Defense Warrior Games, their companions stole the spotlight – the service dogs of the games.

CAIRO

Stats: Belgian Malinois, 2 1/2 years old.

Owner: Air Force Staff Sgt. Brent Young, 96th Security Forces Squadron, Eglin Air Force Base, Florida, served for almost 20 years.

Injury: Post-traumatic stress and traumatic brain injury from two improvised explosive blasts and training combatives over the years and deployment to Iraq, 2004-2005.

Sports: Archery, shooting, wheelchair basketball.

Personality: “She’s a big sweetheart to me and to people she cares about. She’s very protective and very vigilant,” Young said. “She’s always paying attention to what’s going around and gives me a break from having to do it. At wheelchair basketball, we were able to pick our numbers, and I picked number 6 because she’s always got my six.”

Training and purpose: “When I start moving around, grinding my teeth and having nightmares, she’ll actually wake me up,” he said. “She’ll stand up on my bed and pounce on me until I wake up. I tell her, ‘Good girl.’ She catches it before the adrenaline dump happens. She breaks the cycle before I get agitated so I can get back to normal.”

Bonding: Young was originally training with a golden retriever when his grandfather passed away last year. His doctor didn’t want him to fly home alone, so his friend lent him Cairo, who was going through police training with her. “I was gone for 10 days and in that amount of time, when we came back, my friend said, ‘Sometimes, the dog picks the person.’ We just bonded,” he said. “We’ve been inseparable since.”

Importance of the dogs at the games: “I wouldn’t have been able to get through the first part of the opening ceremony without her. I was out of there once the concert started,” he said. “Just getting up to that part, the concert, I was pretty impressed I was able to, but I couldn’t have done it without her. Service dogs are absolutely necessary for people like me. She’s basically given me a life again outside of my house or work.”

CLYDE

Stats: American Eskimo Spitz, 2 years old in September.

Owners: U.S. Special Operations Command Navy Lt. Patrick Ferguson, Naval Special Warfare Group 2, Little Creek, Virginia, and his fiancée, Debra Esterces. She never served, but has post-traumatic stress. He’s served for 21 years.

Injury: Ferguson – Post-traumatic stress, traumatic brain



PHOTO BY EJ HERSOM

Television personality Harper Babin pets a service dog named Clyde at the 2018 DOD Warrior Games archery competition at the U.S. Air Force Academy in Colorado Springs, Colo., June 7.



PHOTO BY MARINE CORPS SGT. DREW TECH

Marine Corps veteran Beth Grauer kneels next to her service dog, Cali Bear, during a 2018 DOD Warrior Games field practice at Cheyenne Mountain High School in Colorado Springs, Colo., May 27.

injury, inner ear issues, medical issues from years of deployments to Iraq.

Sports: Archery, cycling, track and field, indoor rowing, powerlifting, shooting, swimming.

Personality: “He’s energetic, attuned to his person, high energy. He has a very funny personality,” Esterces said. “He winks. He smiles. He puts a paw on you when you’re stressed out. He has an amazing personality.”

Training and purpose: “When I start getting really anxious or if he starts going down the rabbit hole, Clyde just walks up, puts his chin on his knee, and it’s an instant shift. He’s really good,” Esterces said.

“I have tremendous social anxieties, various trust issues with people in general. Clyde makes me engage with people when I don’t want to,” Ferguson said. “It’s just been so liberating. People want to engage here with shared experiences, and then when we’re at the mall, he’s a cute, fluffy white dog. It’s like I have a renewed sense of hope in humanity because of how I see people react to him. I think people are relatively good in nature, but I’ve seen the worst in



PHOTO BY ROGER L. WOLLENBERG

Cairo, Air Force Staff Sgt. Brent Young’s service dog, waits for Young as he competes in archery during the 2018 DOD Warrior Games at the U.S. Air Force Academy in Colorado Springs, Colo., June 7.

nature.”

Esterces said having grown up with German shepherds, she chose his breed on purpose so it would force her to socialize more. “I worked with my doctors, and then it just snowballed from there,” she said laughing because Clyde looks like a snowball. “It forces me to socialize.”

Ferguson said he can relax because Clyde stays alert and will have his back. “I love it. I’m more trusting where we sit at a restaurant. He’s got my back. He vibes off people. He’s so intelligent,” he said proudly. “I wish he had a voice box like that movie, ‘Up.’”

Esterces said Clyde has been instrumental in getting her out of the house, exercising, socializing, losing weight and giving her a healthier mental health.

Importance of dogs at games: “It’s amazing to see so many of them, and you don’t feel isolated,” Ferguson said.

“Clyde’s an icebreaker,” Esterces said. “He was in a foul mood and couldn’t get out of his head, but then an athlete and his wife started talking to us about Clyde and both of them let their guards down. By the end, they

were exchanging numbers and high-fiving each other.”

Clyde’s also become so popular at the games that he sat in Air Force Chief of Staff Gen. David L. Goldfein’s lap and took a photo with the women’s swim team. “These big tough [Special Operations Command] guys, they’re all just like, ‘Look at the white fluffy dog,’” Esterces said in a baby voice. “People can’t walk by without smiling at him. I’ve had people chase me down to get a picture with him. He has his own Instagram page.”

“We’re second class to him – he’s here all week. Kids will yell, ‘He’s so fluffy!’” Ferguson said, laughing.

Both of them said they’re determined to get the Australian team to give Clyde the team mascot, the blow up kangaroo, or maybe the baby version, the small joey.

“Hey, Clyde needs a toy,” Ferguson said smiling.

COB

Stats: Chocolate lab, 4 years old.

Owners: Retired Navy Master Chief Petty Officer Rich Curtis and his wife, Kimberly. He’s served for 28 years.

Injury: Traumatic brain injury and brain tumor in 2010; no vestibular or acoustic nerve on the left side.

Sports: Cycling, swimming, wheelchair basketball.

Personality: Curtis said Cob has an old man’s soul. “He’s 4, going on 40,” he said. He also joked that he’s a stoner dog, born in Cocoa Beach. “He can literally fall asleep leaning up against the wall, just sitting, sitting straight up on the airplane. He fell asleep on the bus last night sitting up. I keep waiting to hear, ‘Dude, you got a brownie or some Cheetos?’ He’s got that gentle soul. He’s always been calm.”

Training and purpose: Cob works as a medical alert dog for sensory alert overload purposes and path guidance. Rich said he tends to drift. Cob will also help with mental health, as well. “Cob will bump his leg or sit up suddenly. It helps me become more aware when he’s going through different things. It’s very calming,” Kimberly said. “When they travel together, I know he’s not by himself, so it makes me feel better.”

Importance of the dogs at the games: Rich said having Cob at the games and in his life has been indescribable. “There are times already here where teammates have reminded me, ‘Just love Cob right now,’” he said. “He’ll bump. He’ll stand up and get in my face or sit up. He tells me, ‘You’re not good. I need you to focus.’ I hope someday that trainers are nationally certified so that if there’s ever an issue, they can check the accreditation of the trainer, not the dog, and continue to let us have anonymity through [the Americans With Disabilities Act]. Having service dogs, the importance, there’s just no word, no metric.”

CALI BEAR

Stats: Half lab, half golden retriever, 4 years old in July.

Owner: Medically retired Marine Corps Staff Sgt. Beth Grauer, military police for 15 years.

Injury: Post-traumatic stress and traumatic brain injury from deployments to Iraq in 2005 and 2007.

Sports: Track and swimming.

Personality: “Some days, we butt heads because we’re both stubborn, but for the most part, she’s a social butterfly, and I’m not,” Grauer said. “She was originally supposed to be a guide dog, but she was too hyper.”

Training and purpose: “She’ll wake me up from nightmares. She’ll block and part crowds,” Grauer said. “I’ve also had to use her for balance, so she’ll brace for me when I get up so she’ll steady me.”

Bonding and training: Grauer said it took four months, four times a week working with her to pass an access test before taking her home to see if the bond was still present at home in that environment. They continued training from there to pass the certification test and continue training to maintain certification.

Importance of the dogs at the games: “She’s definitely made me live life again,” she said. “It’s

SEE SERVICE DOGS, PAGE C4

Religious Services

WORSHIP SERVICES

Except as noted, all services are on Sunday

Headquarters Chapel, Bldg. 109

8 a.m. Traditional Protestant Service

Main Post Chapel, Bldg. 8940

8:30 a.m. Catholic Confessions

9 a.m. Catholic Mass

11 a.m. Liturgical Protestant

12:05 p.m. Catholic Mass (Tuesday-Friday)

4 p.m. Catholic Confessions (Saturday)

5 p.m. Catholic Mass (Saturday)

Wings Chapel, Bldg. 6036

9:30 a.m. Protestant Sunday School

Bringing People Together Thru Faith

ARMY FLIER Church Directory

“Be ye followers of me, even as I also am of Christ.”
1 Corinthians 11:1

First United Methodist Church
214 S. Main Street • Enterprise
347-3467
Prayer Line 347-3467 ext 321
Service Times:
Traditional - in the Fellowship Hall..... 11:00AM
Contemporary C-3 - in the Fellowship Hall..... 8:45AM
The Gathering (Youth)..... 6:00PM
Sunday School..... 9:55AM
Nursery Care..... Every Service

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

Service dogs

Continued from Page C3

very important to have her here, with all of the commotion and the noise. The noise hurts her, too. The camaraderie here has been good for her. She loves dogs. She's a social butterfly. It's just me and my two cats in Pueblo. When I take her vest and [leash] off, she goes nuts."

Advice for people who approach service dogs: "Ask before petting and know that from day to day, you don't know how the handler is," Gauer said. "If they're firm with you, it's not because they want to be a jerk. It's just because they're having a hard day and the dog needs to work harder."

ZEUS

Stats: Chocolate lab, pit bull mix; 1.7 years old.

Owner: Medically retired Air Force Senior Airman Rafael Morfinenciso, medical administration for seven years.

Injury: Post-traumatic stress, back trauma from active shooter incident in 2016.

Sports: Archery, cycling, track and field, indoor rowing, powerlifting, shooting, swimming.

Personality: "He's very outgoing; he loves people. He loves making sure everybody's OK. Sometimes he acts like he's in charge, but little does he know that's not going to fly with me," Morfinenciso said.

Training and purpose: "He wakes me up when I have night terrors," he said. "He's really good at smelling right before I get emotional and cry. He's always engaging me. When I get angry, even though I feel a little mean and try to push him away when I'm a little upset, he tries to do his best and calm me down."

Importance of dogs at the games: "He's been awesome," Morfinenciso said. "Just from the anxiety of all the people sometimes and all the events and the yelling and screaming. Having him there always stimulating me, right there, is pretty much everything for me."

Importance of service dogs: "I had to start taking him out, and it made me have to get out," he said, scratching Zeus' ears. "I didn't want to, honestly. He's so social and engages people. It makes me more prone to engage people now. He's a big reason why I'm able to get out and do more things. I know a lot of people that if they had had a service dog, they probably wouldn't have committed suicide. Having a best friend who's always there for you, no matter what, it's fundamental, and more people should have service dogs. There's usually a two-year waiting list, that's how much we need them."

KONA

Stats: Golden retriever, 3 years old.

Owner: Medically retired Navy Petty Officer 3rd Class Abbie Johnson, musician for four years.

Injury: Service-connected post-traumatic stress and traumatic brain injury.

Sports: Track, cycling, indoor rowing, swimming.

Personality: Gentle.

Training and purpose: "He wakes me up if I'm having night terrors. He looks for if I'm shaking or grinding my teeth," Johnson said.

Bonding: "He's been with me every step of the way. I got him shortly after everything happened, and I started my recovery journey," she said. "He was fully certified by the time he was a year old. He's just been a great support. He's seen me through the worst, and he's seen me through the best, too."

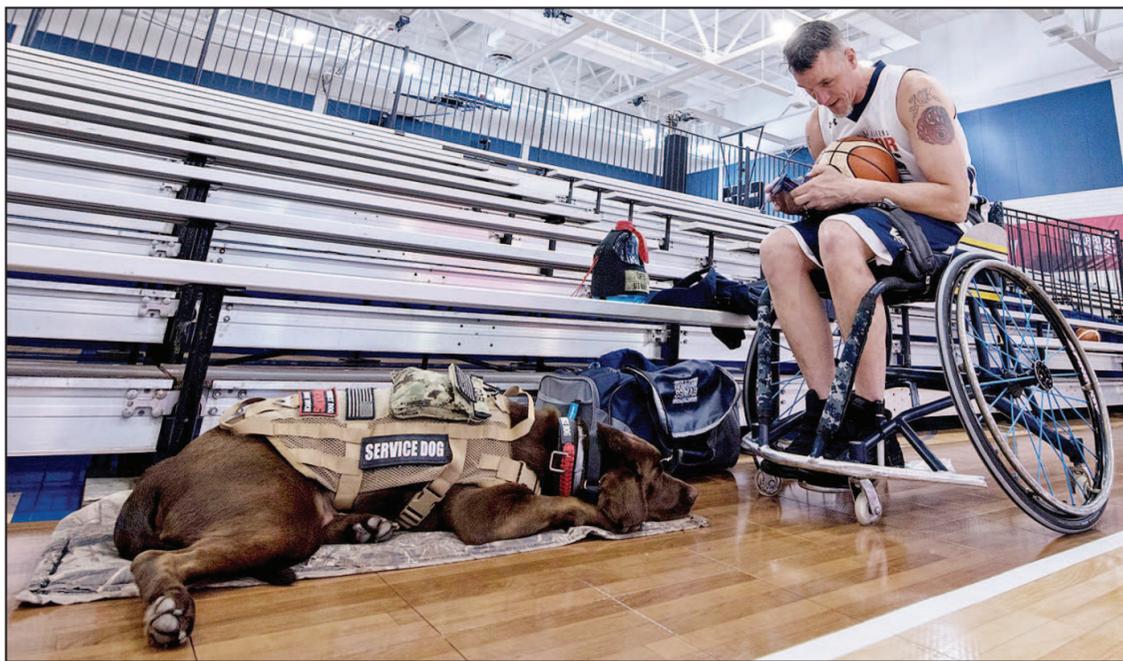


PHOTO BY AIR FORCE STAFF SGT. CARLIN LESLIE

Navy Command Master Chief Richard Curtis of Team Navy speaks to his service dog, Cob, during a DOD Warrior Games wheelchair volleyball practice at the U.S. Air Force Academy in Colorado Springs, Colo., May 31.

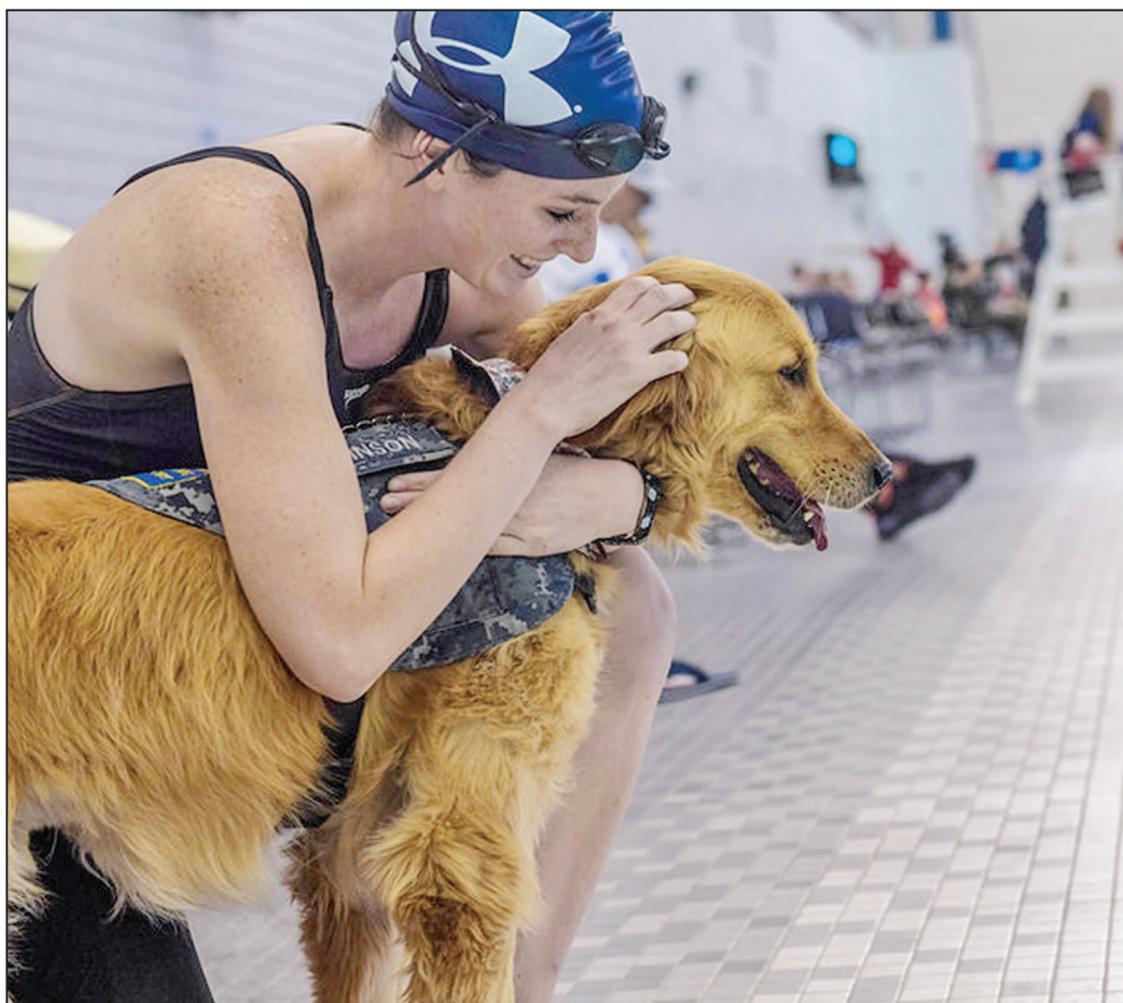


PHOTO BY NAVY PETTY OFFICER 2ND CLASS JACOB MILHAM

Retired Navy Petty Officer 3rd Class Abbie Johnson, from Oronoco, Minn., pets her service dog, Kona, during swim practice at the 2018 DOD Warrior Games at the U.S. Air Force Academy in Colorado Springs, Colo., June 4.

Importance of dogs at games: "It helps me relax more and be myself. I know I won't be judged here for having a service dog because I look young and fit," Johnson said. "We're family here."

Advice for the public: "My life has changed so much for the better since I've had him. Even though you may not visibly see what we're going through, we still need them just as much as anybody else," she said.

DOGS SUPPORTING OTHER TEAMS

Lt. Allison Laker, a naval warfare officer in the Canadian navy stationed in Ottawa, has served 12 years. She has post-traumatic stress and a service dog she left at home. She's been visiting the academy's horses and the service dogs here at the games.

"I've been all over the dogs everywhere," she said. "There's more pictures

of me and dogs than pictures of me doing a sport. They're great."

Hillary Conway, the United Kingdom team's swim coach, said a woman from her team suffered an anxiety attack during a concert at the games. "One of the guys with a [service] dog came straight over outside with his dog and really helped her," she said. "We shared a shirt with him. Everyone has been really supportive. The camaraderie has been amazing."



PHOTO BY ROGER L. WOLLENBERG

Air Force veteran Senior Airman Rafael Morfinenciso and his service dog, Zeus, take a break from training for the 2018 DOD Warrior Games at the U.S. Air Force Academy in Colorado Springs, Colo., June 1.

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ON POST

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

The Landing Zone renovation

The Landing Zone kitchen is currently undergoing a kitchen renovation to help it better serve the Fort Rucker community, according to Directorate of Family, and Morale, Welfare and Recreation officials. During the renovation, The Landing Zone will be closed; however, food and beverage operations will continue in the Legends room next to the main ballroom. Lunch and dinner operations will have a slightly adjusted menu during this time. The Coffee Zone will also be relocated to the main lobby area of The Landing.

For more information, call 255-0768.

Child care available

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

For more information, call 255-9638.

School Age Center Summer Camp

The School Age Center will offer its summer camp for children Kindergarten through 5th grade starting May 29 through Aug. 3. The camps will be offered every Mondays - Fridays from 8:30-11:00 am. The following camps will be available: dinosaur/fossil, rainforest/jungle, forensic/human body and solar system/space. Each camp will last for 2 weeks and will give children an opportunity to meet new friends, do arts and crafts, go swimming and bowling each weekly, and learn life skills. Breakfast, lunch and snacks will be served daily. All children must be enrolled with child and youth services and fees must be paid weekly.

For more information, call 255-9108 or 255-9638.

Kids Golf Clinic

Silver Wings Golf Course will host a Kids Golf Clinic conducted by PGA Pro Ty Andersen on Tuesdays in June and July for children ages 6-8 and Fridays in June and July for children ages 9-18. Cost is \$89 for children 6-8 and \$125 for children 9-18. The Tuesday clinics will be held from 9:30-10:30 a.m. June 5, 12, 19 and 26, and July 10, 17, 24 and 31. The Friday clinics will be held from 9:30-10:30 a.m. June 8, 15, 22 and 29, and July 13, 20, 27 and Aug. 3. For more information, call 255-0089.

Soccer Registration

Youth Soccer registration is open now through July 31,

DFMWR SPOTLIGHT

2018 Fort Rucker Triathlon

SATURDAY, JUNE 23 • WEST BEACH, LAKE THOLOCCO

Swim 1/4 mile in the beautiful waters of Lake Tholocco. The course is well marked with buoys. Lifeguards will be on duty. The 10.6 mile, out-and-back, fast and rolling bike course begins at West Beach transition of Lake Tholocco, proceeds South along Johnston Road, and right onto Christian Road. Turnaround is just prior to the Faulkner Gate. The 3.1 mile, out-and-back, fast and rolling run will begin at the West Beach Transition, proceed north along Johnston, turn around just prior to the RV park and return to the finish. Aid stations will be provided on the bike and the run course. Post-race refreshments will be provided.

ENTRY FEE:
INDIVIDUALS
\$40 BY JUNE 17
\$50 AFTER JUNE 17

CASH PRIZES WILL BE AWARDED TO TOP OVERALL FINISHERS & THE TOP RELAY TEAM.

3-PERSON TEAMS
\$70 BY JUNE 17
\$80 AFTER JUNE 17

T-Shirts are available while supplies last.

Participants are encouraged to pre-register at either Physical Fitness Center, (334)255-3794 or MWR Central, (334)255-2997. rucker.armymwr.com

and practice will begin Aug. 6. Cost for registration is \$25 for ages 3-4 and \$45 for ages 5-14. Soccer is available in the following age groups: 3-4, 5-6, 7-8, 9-10, 11-12, and 13-14. All registrants must also be registered with Child Youth Services and have a current sports physical. A parents meeting will be held at the Youth Center, Bldg. 2800, on Aug. 2 at 6 p.m. Prospective coaches are needed.

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

Football and Cheerleading Registration

Youth football and cheerleading registration is open through July 31. Cost for football registration is \$65 per child and age groups are 9-10 and 11-12. Cost for cheerleading registration is \$45 per child and age groups are 8-9 and 10-11. There are also two mascot spots available for each age group and cost is \$25 per child. Practices will begin Aug. 6 and a parents meeting will be held at the Youth Center, Bldg. 2800, Aug. 1 at 6 p.m. All registrants must also be registered with Child Youth Services and have a current sports physical. Prospective coaches are needed.

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

Summer Reading Program: Reading Takes You Everywhere!

The Fort Rucker Center Library is hosting the 2018 Summer Reading Program. The program is open to children ages 4-17 and runs through July 31, and all participants must be authorized patrons. People can register and long reading times online at <https://ftruckercenterlibrary.beanstack.org>. Children will be presented with prizes for each milestone they reach. The last day to log time will be July 20.

For more information, call 255-3885.

Craft Adventures

The Fort Rucker Arts and Crafts Center hosts its Craft Adventure every Saturday through Aug. 4 from 1-3 p.m. Each session the center will host a different children's craft adventure for children ages 5 and older. Cost is \$10.

For more information, call 255-9020.

Youth Extreme Fitness

Fort Rucker Youth Sports is hosting Youth Extreme Fitness now through June 29 at the Youth Sports Football Fields from 6-7 p.m. The event is open to ages 8-18 years old and workouts will include low crawling, tire flipping, pulling rope, running and sled pushing. All participants must be registered with child youth services and have a current sports physical.

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

FORT RUCKER MOVIE SCHEDULE FOR JUNE 14-17

Thursday, June 14	Friday, June 15	Saturday, June 16	Sunday, June 17
Avengers: Infinity War (PG-13)7 p.m.	Incredibles 2 (PG)4 & 7 p.m.	Incredibles 2 (PG)4 & 7 p.m.	Incredibles 2 (PG)1 & 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.



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WIREFLASS COMMUNITY CALENDAR

IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO ADVERTISE YOUR EVENT, EMAIL JEREMY HENDERSON WITH ALL THE DETAILS AT JHENDERSON@ARMYFLIER.COM.

ANDALUSIA

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

DALEVILLE

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

NOW-JULY 20 - The Wiregrass Museum of Arts will host Summer Art Camps for ages 18 months to 18 years. Offerings include Discovering Art, Stop-Motion Animation, Arty Pants for toddlers, Art Around the World, and two clay camps -- Exploring Ceramic Forms, for high-school students, and Clay Explorations for younger artists.

Cost is \$45-\$75 for WMA members and \$55-\$85 for not-yet members. Scholarships are available. Online registration is available at <https://www.wiregrassmuseum.org/camps/>. For more information, call 794-3871 or email education@wiregrassmuseum.org.

ONGOING—Disabled American Veterans Chapter 87 meets the third Thursday of each month at 6 p.m. at the Doug Tew Recreation Center. For more information, call 334-86-0217 Ext. 122 or email davchapter87@gmail.com. The chapter maintains office hours at 545 West Main St. (Mixon Business Center, Rm. 122), Mondays, Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursday from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. to assist, free of charge, disabled veterans and their spouses with disability compensation claims and other benefits.

ENTERPRISE

ONGOING — The Enterprise Baseball League is currently seeking players for the upcoming season. High school students, college students and adults are invited to participate. For more information, call 389-5972.

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

JUNE 21 — The Disabled American Veterans Wiregrass Chapter 99 meeting will be held at 6 p.m. in the New Brockton Senior Center. Officers for the upcoming year will be nominated. For more, call Charles Lobdell at 718-5707.

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.

OZARK

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

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

PINCKARD

ONGOING — The public is invited to the Cross Country Workshop every

Sunday at 6 p.m. at the Pinckard United Methodist Church. For more information, call 983-3064.

SAMSON

ONGOING — 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.

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.

WIREFLASS AREA

JUNE 21 — The Brundidge Historical Society will present story performer Dolores Hydock at its June Buggin' summer event beginning at 12 p.m. at the We Piddle Around Theater in Brundidge. Tickets are \$20 and include the pre-show, lunch with dessert and the performance.

For more information or to purchase tickets, call 344-9427, 685-5524 or 670-6302.

Beyond Briefs

Parks guide

The "2018 Guide to Georgia State Parks and Historic Sites" can help people plan spring break, summer vacations or even family reunions. The free booklet is filled with tips on the ideal hiking trails, fishing spots, cabins, campsites and company picnics. Produced annually by the Georgia Department of Natural Resources, the travel guide features colorful photos from all across the Peach State.

For a free copy, call 770-389-7286 or stop by any Georgia State Park or State Historic Site. An online version can be found at GeorgiaStateParks.org. Outdoor enthusiasts and history buffs can keep up with the

latest news and discounts by signing up for the park system's e-newsletter at GeorgiaStateParks.org/enews or following them on Facebook at [Facebook.com/georgiastateparks](https://www.facebook.com/georgiastateparks).

Palafox Market

Downtown Pensacola hosts its Palafox Market Saturdays from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturdays at Martin Luther King Plaza. Admission is free to the market that features fresh produce, live plants, baked goods, fine art, antiques and more. Items originate directly from onsite vendors who grow, make, or create the fruits, vegetables, herbs and art for sale, according to organizers. The event takes place rain or shine.

For more information, call 850-434-5371 or visit <http://palafoxmarket.com/>.

Southern Thunder

Inspired by the Alabama Gang's influence on auto racing, Vulcan Park and Museum showcases its latest Linn-Henley Gallery exhibition through December. Southern Thunder: The Legacy of Alabama Auto Racing, presented by the Jefferson County Commission, will showcase hair-raising stories and bring to life the impact that auto racing in Alabama had on the regional and national scenes, according to organizers. The exhibit relives this thrilling piece of Alabama history when driving by the seat of your pants wasn't a figure of speech and explains why this legacy is the foundation for auto racing in Alabama today.

Daily admission rates: adults, \$6; Seniors (65 and older) and military, \$5; children ages 5-12, \$4; and children 4 years and younger are admitted for free.

For more information, visit <http://visitvulcan.com/>.

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'18 Volkswagen Passat S

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AS LOW AS
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PER MO*



Stock# PS11449
* W.A.C. PLUS T.T. & L. Some restrictions apply. See Dealer for details. Offer expires June 30, 2018. PHOTO FOR ILLUSTRATION ONLY.

'18 Volkswagen Atlas S

0 DOWN
AS LOW AS
\$399
PER MO*



Stock # AT11366
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'18 Volkswagen Jetta S

0 DOWN
AS LOW AS
\$238
PER MO*



Stock# JT11385
* W.A.C. PLUS T.T. & L. Some restrictions apply. See Dealer for details. Offer expires June 30, 2018. PHOTO FOR ILLUSTRATION ONLY.

'18 Volkswagen Tiguan S

0 DOWN
AS LOW AS
\$298
PER MO*



Stock# TG11464
* W.A.C. PLUS T.T. & L. Some restrictions apply. See Dealer for details. Offer expires June 30, 2018. PHOTO FOR ILLUSTRATION ONLY.

'17 Volkswagen Beetle S

0 DOWN
AS LOW AS
\$299
PER MO*



Stock# BT11108
* W.A.C. PLUS T.T. & L. Some restrictions apply. See Dealer for details. Offer expires June 30, 2018. PHOTO FOR ILLUSTRATION ONLY.

'17 Volkswagen Toureg
SPORT WITH TECH

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PER MO*



Stock# TG11169
* W.A.C. PLUS T.T. & L. Some restrictions apply. See Dealer for details. Offer expires June 30, 2018. PHOTO FOR ILLUSTRATION ONLY.

'18 Volkswagen Golf GTI S

0 DOWN
AS LOW AS
\$393
PER MO*



Stock# GT11473
* W.A.C. PLUS T.T. & L. Some restrictions apply. See Dealer for details. Offer expires June 30, 2018. PHOTO FOR ILLUSTRATION ONLY.

'17 Volkswagen Golf Alltrack S

0 DOWN
0% INTEREST
\$367
PER MO*



Stock# GW11101
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'14 GMC SIERRA 2500 HD DENALI



Stock # PC1618
\$42,995

'17 NISSAN FRONTIER SV



Stock # PC1555
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'08 JEEP WRANGLER UNLIMITED SAHARA



Stock # PC1620A
\$16,999

'15 GMC YUKON DENALI



Stock # PC1596
\$39,988

'15 LEXUS ES 350



Stock # PC11450A
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'14 MERCEDES-BENZ E350



Stock # PC1585A
\$21,899

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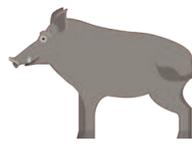
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JUNE 14, 2018

LET IT FLY

Post disc golf course offers different strokes

By **Jeremy Henderson**
Army Flier Staff Writer

Continually gaining in popularity, disc golf is a sport that mixes competitive edge with a leisurely pace.

Fort Rucker's course has been a catalyst for the sports' growth locally, according to Ramon Barber, Fort Rucker sports programs coordinator, who added that he feels camaraderie, competition, an abundance of free facilities and a short learning curve have helped its growth.

"Disc golf is easy for someone to pick up," he said. "You can grow from not playing at all to being competitive within two months of playing regularly."

Barber said the Beaver Lake course, offering more than 90 minutes of play time, presents unique challenges to competitors.

"The lake is a tough hole," he said. "It is the decision hole. You can try to throw over the lake or go around and have one extra throw. The distance of some of the holes is also challenging. Playing in the woods makes it very challenging."

Disc golf is played much like traditional golf, but instead of using a ball and clubs, players use a flying disc. Whether you're a novice or professional, it is easy to develop proficiency on the course.

The course, located at Beaver Lake, is an 18-hole, 55-par course that follows the Beaver Lake trail, for the most part. It offers varying levels of difficulty with very basic holes with no hazards or trees to more advanced holes with water traps and obstacles.

The rules of disc golf are also similar to the game of ball golf in that the goal is to use as few strokes as possible to throw a disc from a designated spot into a basket.

Disc golf has been around for quite some time, but was formalized in the 1970s, and began to gain most of its popularity in the 1990s and early 2000s among the college crowd. According to the Professional Disc Golf Association, which has more than 50,000 members, there are more 4,000 courses around the world.

Another one of the draws of disc golf is that it is a non-contact sport that is open to all ages, and playing an entire round of disc golf, 18 holes, takes anywhere from 45-90 minutes, depending on the amount of play-



PHOTO BY NATHAN PEAU

Then-CW4 Bryan Topham takes a throw at one of the baskets on the disc golf course in this file photo.

ers, and costs little to no money.

"Disc golf is very family-oriented," Barber said. "Because it's outdoors, you can bring a stroller, your dog and your entire family to play."

"The Fort Rucker Physical Fitness center offers discs to purchase or rent," he added. "So, if you just want to try the sport for the day, you can rent discs. Once you become addicted, you will want to purchase your own. We offer them in many colors and weights."

Discs are available to rent. All discs must be returned by close of business. If the disc is not returned, a \$7 fee will be charged. The course is open to the public. Disc check-out is open to authorized patrons only.

According to Barber, disc golf is not difficult to learn. However, joining in with an experienced player can help reduce the learning curve.

"Get with an avid player and let them show you the ins and outs," he said. "Groups meet most every Saturday and Sunday

around 9-10 a.m. to play. Discs are a little different to throw than a Frisbee. There are different discs for different distances. The best thing you can do is rent them and determine what you like.

"I personally used a putting disc for most of my first game," he added. "It was the only one I could get to go straight. Patrons can go to the Fort Rucker Freedom Flyers Disc Golf Club on Facebook to ask questions or find out times to play."

For more information, call 255-2296.

2018 DOD WARRIOR GAMES

Athletes build friendships through competition

By **Shannon Collins**
Defense Media Activity

COLORADO SPRINGS, Colo. — More than 300 athletes and 500 family members shared tears and laughter and made lifelong friends over the past eight days during the 2018 DOD Warrior Games here.

Wounded, ill and injured service members representing teams from the Army, Marine Corps, Navy, Coast Guard, Air Force and U.S. Special Operations Command, along with allied armed forces from the United Kingdom, Australia and Canada competed in shooting, archery, cycling, track and field, powerlifting, indoor rowing, swimming sitting volleyball and wheelchair basketball June 1 through today at the U.S. Air Force Academy.

For many of the athletes, this was their first year

SEE FRIENDSHIPS, PAGE D3



PHOTO BY ROGER L. WOLLENBERG

British army Lt. Cmdr. Jason Saunders hugs Army Pfc. Lauren Jahn, who went on to win silver in recurve archery, during the 2018 DOD Warrior Games at the U.S. Air Force Academy in Colorado Springs, Colo., June 7.

Leaders, celebrities salute 'inspirational' games

By **Shannon Collins**
Defense Media Activity

COLORADO SPRINGS, Colo. — The 2018 Department of Defense Warrior Games, described by a senior Air Force leader as 'absolutely' successful and inspirational, drew to a close at the U.S. Air Force Academy June 9.

After a week of competition, more than 608 medals were presented at over 11 events to athletes from the Marine Corps, Navy, Coast Guard, Air Force, Army, U.S. Special Operations Command, as well as the United Kingdom, Australian and Canadian armed forces.

For the first time in DOD Warrior Games history, the games hosted the Canadian armed forces, held three new sports — indoor rowing, powerlifting and the cycling time trial and held a two-day sports expo, where 450 family members experienced wheelchair rugby and tennis, family archery and shooting, and sled hockey, said Air Force Lt. Gen. Gina Grosso, 2018 DOD Warrior Games director.

Grosso recognized the athletes, families, Air Force Academy team, the mayor of Colorado Springs and the hundreds of volunteers who supported the games.

INSPIRATIONAL WARRIOR GAMES

Air Force Vice Chief of Staff Gen. Stephen W. Wilson said the success of the games could be measured "by the smiles given and shared by the lives saved, by the steps forward the athletes are making and by the inspiration that you've given to everyone here."

"If that's how we define success, I'd say these games were absolutely, unbelievably successful," Wilson said.

This year's Warrior Games also showcase unity among the participating partners and allies, Wilson said. "For all of our coalition partners, just like we fight together, we compete together," he said. "You make us all better and stronger. There's never been a more important time in our nation to have partners and allies and friends like you. Thank you, very much."

Wilson said the athletes are an "inspiration for not only the Department of Defense, but for this whole nation and all of our partner nations."

Wilson also thanked the coaches, caregivers, supporters and families.



PHOTO BY EJ HERSOM

Army Gen. Raymond A. Thomas III, commander of U.S. Special Operations Command, accepts the Department of Defense Warrior Games torch from Air Force Vice Chief of Staff Gen. Stephen W. Wilson during closing ceremonies for the 2018 DOD Warrior Games at the U.S. Air Force Academy in Colorado Springs, Colo., June 9.

STEWART'S CONGRATULATIONS

Jon Stewart, who's hosted the DOD Warrior Games for the past three years, also congratulated the athletes and their families.

"It's an honor," Stewart said. "I walk out of here twice the man I was walking in here, and you all make that possible. I'm so thankful for the opportunity. From my family to you, from the bottom of my heart, thank you for everything you do."

"You're the best of us. Thank you," he added.

SEE INSPIRATIONAL, PAGE D3

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