

ARMY FLYER

SERVING THE U.S. ARMY AVIATION CENTER OF EXCELLENCE AND THE FORT RUCKER COMMUNITY SINCE 1956

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PHOTO BY SGT. GREGORY SUMMERS

Soldiers from the 404th Aviation Support Battalion, 4th Combat Aviation Brigade, 4th Infantry Division, out of Fort Carson, Colo., return to their fuel trucks as a CH-47 Chinook departs the forward area refueling point during a readiness training exercise at Hohenfels Training Area, Germany, July 12.

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Aviation Industry Day targets increased lethality



PHOTO BY KELLY MORRIS

Maj. Gen. William K. Gayler, commanding general of the U.S. Army Aviation Center of Excellence and Fort Rucker, welcomes attendees to Fort Rucker's annual Aviation Industry Day event held at The Landing July 25.

By Kelly Morris
USAACE Public Affairs

Fort Rucker brought together Aviation industry representatives and Army Aviation experts at its annual Aviation Industry Day event focused on building a more lethal force here July 25-26.

Part of the mission of the U.S. Army Aviation Center of Excellence is to determine what capabilities are required, and serve as the user (or Soldier) representative in the acquisition process for current and future Aviation platforms and related systems. To do this, the Center must shape science and technology for the Aviation branch.

The two-day event, which provided industry a chance to hear directly from Army Aviation leaders and requirements developers through guest speaker and panel sessions, was intended to shrink the timeline between the initial concept and a physical capability in the hands of Soldiers.

Maj. Gen. William K. Gayler, USAACE and Fort Rucker commanding general in his opening remarks Wednesday thanked at-

tendees for participating.

"What we're doing here is important, and it couldn't happen without you, industry," Gayler said.

"I think everybody would agree this is a time in our Army where there is a lot of change--globally, domestically, and some organizational changes that are going on as well...to expedite capabilities to the warfight," he said.

Gayler explained the next fight will be contested in multiple domains.

"When you look at this world scene, look in any direction, you can see potential conflict--and when we say conflict it's not small scale. It's a massive peer on peer competition that could turn to conflict pretty rapidly, which means we've got to move quickly to be postured to be successful," he said.

The event's focus, in keeping with the Army priority of making Soldiers and units more lethal, addressed the future warfighting challenge of a level of lethality "unseen ever

in the history of mankind," not only in terms of range but also in effects and integration, according to Gayler.

Lethality is not just about munitions: The ability to detect, identify, locate, report and share, and ultimately target and kill requires a network, according to Gayler.

"It's not just something to shoot with, (or) something that has a bigger boom," he said. "It's a fires capability, and it is a protection capability that enables us to stay there and do what we need to do. It's also about maximizing autonomous capabilities, not as a replacement, but to augment the manned platforms and capabilities.

"It's about being rapid to stay ahead of technology," Gayler added.

Gayler called for modular open systems architecture--plug-and-play capability, on a reduced acquisition timeline where industry members are all "on the same playing field."

"That is how you increase competition, and that is also how you expedite capability to a warfighter," he said.

The Army is looking at leap-ahead technology, which is nested with the National Defense Strategy of building a more lethal force optimized for large scale combat operations, according to Brig. Gen. Walter T. Rugen, director of the Future Vertical Lift Cross Functional Team.

Continuing a long-established strategy for Army Aviation, Rugen said his priorities include Future Attack Reconnaissance Aircraft Capability Set 1, Future and Advanced Unmanned Aircraft Systems, Future Long-Range Assault Aircraft Capability Set 3 and Modular Open Systems Architecture.

"I call it an ecosystem, when we talk about the deep interoperability that we're building, because that's what it is-- it's not one thing, it's a number of things in these lines of effort," Rugen said.

Rugen called for Aviation industries' help to achieve critical Army Aviation capabilities

within 10 years.

"Industry, the Army's moving this fast and we need you to move as fast as we're moving. We're going to challenge you guys. It's a challenge for all of us," Rugen said.

Despite the Aviation challenges on the horizon, the Army has no intention of yielding the air domain, according to Rugen.

"Aviators have always provided that asymmetric advantage to the ground force. We'll never lose faith with the ground force, and we're not quitting because there are peer threats out there that are tough to find and kill. We're going to build this ecosystem that's going to find them and kill them. It's as simple as that," he said.

The exchange of information with industry is vital, according to Col. Tom von Eschenbach, director of the Capability Development and Integration Directorate here.

"I always like to say it's transactional--you give us something on what technology bears, what you're working on, what we can understand to be in the realm of the possible, and we give you back the way the Army's thinking and how we're building from a concept to a capability," he said.

The measure of success ultimately is a change in behavior regarding processes and time tables required to achieve capabilities Soldiers need, according to von Eschenbach.

"The Army being relevant, Army Aviation being relevant is at stake," he said. "We have an opportunity, a unique opportunity to do things differently and win. So let's take advantage of that."

The event included updates on Aviation modernization priorities and Army Aviation Concept 2035, as well as panel sessions with TRADOC Capability Managers and experts across the Aviation enterprise for updates on reconnaissance and attack in Multi-Domain Operations, and expeditionary sustainment.

WOCC celebrates 100th birthday of Warrant Officer Cohort

By Jim Hughes

Command Information Officer

The U.S. Army Warrant Officer Career College celebrated the 100th anniversary of the U.S. Army Warrant Officer Cohort with several events, including a tree planting and time capsule burying ceremony July 9 on Howze Field.

Other events included a cake cutting ceremony, a golf tournament and a 5k run, according to CW3 Gina Spivey, quality assurance with the WOCC, and narrator for the tree planting and time capsule burying ceremony.

"It's a big deal today -- 100 years to the day since the warrant officer corps, now cohort, was established," said Col. Kelly E. Hines, U.S. Army Warrant Officer Career College commandant and speaker at the event. "I've worked around a lot of warrant officers in my 25 years as an Aviator and 33 years in the Army, and I have to tell you the Army would not be successful were it not for the efforts of the warrant officers that have come before you, the warrant officers sitting under this pavilion and then all the people you've touched..."

The commandant added that he feels

honored and privileged to not only head up the WOCC, but to participate in the 100th anniversary celebration.

"I can't believe how lucky I am to be able to work with the finest people in the Army, and that's the people sitting here who make my job so much easier -- and that's the job of the warrant officer," he added. "You make the job of the commander easier by taking the load off of them and providing all of technical expertise, and really the mentorship, if you will.

"I've been mentored by I don't know how many warrant officers. Technically, your mentors are supposed to outrank you. Well, even when I was Lieutenant Hines, I technically outranked the warrant officers, but they were mentoring me, and I'm still getting mentored to this day by people like Mr. Roland (CW5 Joseph Roland, chief warrant officer of the Aviation Branch), Mr. Howze (CW5 John Howze, deputy commandant of the WOCC), Mr. Ryan (CW5 John Ryan, deputy commandant of the Army Reserve WOCC) and Ms. Sharpe (CW5 Debbie Sharpe, deputy commandant of the Army



PHOTO BY JIM HUGHES

CW5 John Howze, U.S. Army Warrant Officer Career College deputy commandant, waters the tree planted at the ceremony honoring the Army Warrant Officer Cohort's 100th birthday July 9 at Howze Field as CW5 John Ryan, deputy commandant of the Army Reserve WOCC, Col. Kelly E. Hines, WOCC commandant, and CW5 Debbie Sharpe, deputy commandant of the Army National Guard WOCC, look on.

National Guard WOCC).

Warrant officers serve as technical experts, combat leaders, trainers and advisers who serve in 17 different branches spanning across the active component, the Army National Guard and the U.S. Army Reserve with a total force of over 26,000, according to Spivey.

"One hundred years have passed since the warrant officer rank was created and, in honor of this milestone, we will plant a mighty oak tree to commemorate this occasion. The oak tree is symbolic of endurance, strength and stability -- similar qualities to that of the warrant officer," she added.

"As we plant this tree, we are planting hope. The planting of a tree is always a gesture of optimism and faith in the future. And our hope is that this tree will flourish and grow as the Warrant Officer Cohort has done for the past 100 years," Spivey said during the

ceremony.

After Howze gave the tree its first drink of water on Howze Field, the time capsule was put into the ground.

"We are sending a bit of the past into the future," Spivey said. "We have gathered a variety of warrant officer memorabilia: photos from the past and present, warrant officer coins and unit crests, and even our most current command and staff slides, so they'll know how we did things back in the day. We hope that when warrant officers open this time capsule 100 years from now, they will say, 'Wow! They really thought about us.'

"We celebrate all of those who have come before us and paved the way. May this tree speak to the prosperity of future warrant officers, and be deeply rooted and grow stronger and wider with each passing year," she said.

Training areas **OFF LIMITS** for recreational use

Fort Rucker Public Affairs Staff Report

With more than 60,000 acres of training area on Fort Rucker, officials want to remind people not to stray off the beaten path when it comes to recreation.

From Lake Tholocco's West Beach, the Beaver Lake trails, disc golf course and tracks at the physical fitness facilities, the post has an abundance of recreational areas, but training areas are strictly prohibited to civilians and unauthorized personnel, said Sean Sparks, interim deputy to the garrison commander.

"People using these areas without proper approval not only put their personal safety at risk, but also could be prosecuted," he said.

Fort Rucker 385-1, Range and Training Area Regulation, states that entry into or use of any range, training area, or impact area for any reason must be approved in advance by the chief of the training division, or a designated representative.

The installation limits running, jogging, biking, swimming, walking and picnics to authorized areas to protect the civilian populace, versus allowing anyone to use a training area for any type activity, said Sparks.

"Our primary effort, from a training division perspective, is to prevent this type of

activity from disrupting training units in the field," he said. "There are many risks people are exposing themselves to by wandering off through the woods on post."

Sparks said that people need to familiarize themselves with the regulations and the policies that are set for their protection.

U.S. Army Aviation Center of Excellence Regulation 600-1 lists off-limits areas as ranges, designated training areas, storage buildings, non-lighted areas during hours of darkness (except fishing ponds and Lake Tholocco for fishing only), vacant and unused structures, the Lemon Lot after 10 p.m., and all airfields, stage fields or other facilities used for aircraft landing, refueling, storage or maintenance.

Unauthorized entry into these off-limits areas is prohibited, reads the regulation.

"Some of the most troublesome areas are the wooded areas," he said. "Many people may look at the thousands of acres we have and think they are a nice place to go for a walk with the dog, but most of those areas are designated as training areas and are off limits."

FR 215-1 also states that horseback riding is restricted to approved established trails



FILE PHOTO

Runners make use of the Fort Rucker Physical Fitness Center track in this file photo.

only – free riding throughout training areas is not authorized. It continues to say that all walking, jogging, running, and hiking trails and courses are open only from sunrise to sunset, unless the trail or course is appropriately illuminated by fixed utilities.

Besides training Soldiers for the Army's many missions, other activities occur within these training areas. Timber harvest, controlled burns, spraying of pesticide, hunting and trapping are all activities commonly taking place in the woods.

"Maintenance functions could seriously injure someone who may be conducting recreational type activities in an unauthorized area," he said. "Environmental, natural resources and the Directorate of Public Works activities all occur on these lands, too."

There is also the potential for people to detonate unexploded ordnance from the 1940s, added Sparks.

If a person is not sure if they are allowed

in the area, then that person probably is not supposed to be there, he said. It's safest to stay in the areas that are designated for recreational usage.

"People shouldn't put their lives at risk to find a new trail to run on where they don't have to be around others," he added.

On many training boundaries, there are sequence numbers on trees or a signs. Sparks said when people see one, it is a clear indication they are going into a restricted area.

"You wouldn't want a horseback rider riding through a paved trail designated for runners only, just like leaders don't want joggers running into a Soldier who is in the field conducting training," he said.

For more information, read Fort Rucker Regulation 215-1, located in the policies and regulations section on the Fort Rucker Intranet or visit administrative services in Bldg. 5700.

Retired warrant officer soars into ranks of Eagle Rising Society

By Jim Hughes

Command Information Officer

A retired warrant officer soared into the ranks of the Order of the Eagle Rising Society during a ceremony July 9 at the U.S. Army Aviation Museum.

Retired CW4 Kenneth B.N. “Pete” Hill, a military operations analyst at the U.S. Army Materiel Systems Analysis Activity, Aberdeen Proving Ground, Maryland, joined the ranks of the society after he “was tested and found worthy of distinguished recognition for his outstanding contributions to the Army community and community of warrant officers, and is hereby inducted as the 21st member of the Order of the Eagle Rising Society,” according to the citation read by the ceremony narrator.

Col. Kelly E. Hines, U.S. Army Warrant Officer Career College commandant, said he couldn’t think of a more fitting ceremony.

“We’re honoring a retired senior warrant officer with probably one of the biggest awards he’s ever gotten – this will be the 21st one given,” the colonel said. “I’m looking out in the audience and we’ve got a bunch of warrant officer candidates in the back who will graduate soon.

“I can’t help but hope that in 30 to 50 years from now, one of those candidates behind you will be about the 41st member of the Eagle Rising Society, so I’m glad they’re

here,” Hines continued. “This brings both generations together and really sets the stage for what we’re trying to do.”

Retired Air Force Lt. Gen. Dana Atkins, president and chief executive officer of the Military Officers Association of America, said it was a day to recognize Hill’s “remarkable achievement over multiple decades of service to the nation – 28 in uniform, and now he continues to serve in the capacity of a military operations analyst.

“Pete did something even better than me – he proved himself to become the best in his field, and that’s what warrant officers are, the absolute, superior technicians in their fields. Congratulations from MOAA,” Atkins added.

Hill spoke briefly on the influence his mentors had on him, giving them credit for his decision and drive to become a warrant officer. “I will always be grateful for their counsel and their guidance.”

He also thanked his wife, Trish, and their children for their support throughout his career.

He then quoted from Proverbs 27:17. “As iron sharpens iron, so one person sharpens another.” Words cannot express my appreciation for this honor. All I ever wanted to do was give back what was given me. I can only



PHOTO BY JIM HUGHES

Retired Air Force Lt. Gen. Dana Atkins, president and chief executive officer of the Military Officers Association of America, presents retired CW4 Kenneth B.N. “Pete” Hill, a military operations analyst at the U.S. Army Materiel Systems Analysis Activity, Aberdeen Proving Ground, Md., with the Order of the Eagle Rising Society medallion as Col. Kelly E. Hines, U.S. Army Warrant Officer Career College commandant, looks on during a ceremony July 9 at the U.S. Army Aviation Museum.

hope I am able to live up to the standards of those who came before me and are part of this society.”

Hill joined the Army in 1974 and his first assignment was with the 782nd Maintenance Battalion, 82nd Airborne Division at Fort Bragg, North Carolina. In 1986, he was selected to attend the Warrant Office Entry and Technical Certification courses. In February 1987, he was appointed as a Warrant Officer 1 as a wheeled vehicle maintenance technician.

Hill retired in 2002 and in 2006 he was inducted into the Ordnance Corps Hall of Fame. Also in 2006, he was conferred the

title of Demonstrated Master Logistician by the International Society of Logistics.

Established in 2004 as a joint venture between the MOAA and the WOCC, the Order of the Eagle Rising Society annually recognizes one individual who has contributed significantly over his or her lifetime the promotion of the warrant officer community in ways that stand out in the eyes of the recipient’s seniors, subordinates and peers. Contributions must transcend the component, branch or job specialty, and have a significant impact on the entire warrant officer community, according to society officials.

FROM DFMWR

RIGHT ARM NIGHT

Leaders, bring your right-hand man or woman out for Fort Rucker Right Arm Night Aug. 2 from 4-6 p.m. at The Landing.

Fort Rucker Right Arm Night is an old Army tradition, promoting a night of camaraderie and esprit de corps as leaders come together and treat those standing to their right -- the ones helping them get through daily missions. Complimentary appetizers will be served while supplies last.

Fort Rucker Right Arm Night will be held every month. Both military and civilians are invited to attend.

For more information, call the Landing Zone at 255-0768.

END OF SUMMER SWIM HOURS

Summer is coming to an end and that means adjusted hours to post pools.

The West Beach swimming area will adjust hours starting Aug. 4 and will open weekends only from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m.

SPLASH Pool will be open weekends only from 11 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. beginning Aug. 4.

Flynn Outdoor Pool's last day of operation will be Aug. 5 and the indoor pool will resume operations Aug. 6.

DEEP SEA FISHING TRIP

MWR Central will host a deep sea fishing day trip on Aug. 4 on the 45-foot, walk-around party boat The Vera Marie in Destin, Florida.

MWR Central has all the details taken care of, so people can sit back, relax and enjoy the trip. There are 30 seats available.

The cost of this trip is \$78 per person and includes transportation, bait, rod, reel, fishing license, fish cleaning, tip and six-hour fishing trip.

MWR Central officials recommend that people bring a small cooler with drinks and snacks (no glass).

To register, call MWR Central at 255-2997/9517 or outdoor recreation at 255-4305.

LEGO WARS

Center Library is celebrating the return of LEGO Block Party by hosting a LEGO War. LEGO Wars is a family-oriented building competition where families composed of parents/guardians and children ages 5 years and up form teams and work together to turn ideas into 3-D structures.

Creations will be judged and prizes will be awarded. The event will take place Aug. 6 at 3:30 p.m.

For more information, stop by or call the Center Library at (334)255-3885.

LITERATURE AND VETERAN EXPERIENCE

Center Library and Alabama Humanities Foundation have partnered to host the Literature and the Veteran Experience group meeting Aug. 7 at 5:30 p.m. The program is open to combat veterans, retirees and active duty Soldiers. Registration is limited to the first 20 participants and a free meal will be provided to those registered by Aug. 6. To register, or for more information, visit the Center Library or call 255-3885.

HARRY POTTER TRIVIA NIGHT

Put your Harry Potter knowledge to the test and join the Center Library for a special Harry Potter trivia night Aug. 9 at 5:30 p.m. Gather your friends and family members for an evening of fun and friendly competition as we see who the biggest Harry Potter fan is. Prizes will be awarded to the top scoring participants and light refreshments will be served. This family-friendly event is free and open to authorized patrons. Participants must bring a device capable of connecting to Wifi. For more information, visit the Center Library or call 255-3885.

UNAUTHORIZED CHILD CARE



- Unauthorized child care is any care, occurring in your privatized housing on post, in excess of 10 child care hours per week being provided on a regular basis.
- Please do not begin caring for children until you have been certified by the Garrison Family Child Care Office.
- Providing unauthorized child care jeopardizes your eligibility for housing.

**Check with the
Family Child Care Office
to learn about FCC Certification.**

**For more information call the
Family Child Care Office
at (334)255-3066.**



DFMWR



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

EMPLOYMENT READINESS PROGRAM WORKSHOP AUGUST 2, 14 & 30

Mark your calendars! Make plans to attend this scheduled Employment Readiness Program Workshop from 8:45 – 11:30 a.m. at Building 5700 in the ACS Multipurpose Room. Patrons will meet in Room 350 at 8:45 a.m. for paperwork and attendance prior to the session. You'll get the essentials about how to conduct a successful job campaign, to include crafting a winning resume, prepping for job interviews and other helpful tips!

Advance registration is required. For more information and to reserve your seat, please call (334) 255-2594.

W.I.N.D. • AUGUST 9

W.I.N.D. – Worthwhile Information Needing Distribution is a monthly meeting that provides the Senior Spouses, Commanders, FRG Leaders and all who attend, information about the different services, events or programs on the installation. The W.I.N.D. meeting will be held at 9 a.m. at Divots, at the Silver Wings Golf Course, on the first Thursday of the month. Attendees are informed about improved services or changes that the programs are confronting. The Senior Spouses have the opportunity to share any concerns that our Soldier and/or Families may be facing and to ask specific questions to the program representatives. For more information contact Relocation Readiness Program at (334) 255-3735.

RESILIENCE TRAINING • AUGUST 10 & 24

Resilience Training is designed to provide family members and civilians with the tools to better cope and overcome adversity and challenges, as well as perform better

in stressful situations. Our goal is for our students to thrive when facing life challenges, not just bounce back. The training will be held from 8:30 a.m. – 2:30 p.m., in Bldg. 5700, Room 350. For more information to attend a Resilience Training Workshop or two day training, or to schedule Resilience Training for your Family Readiness Group or staff members, contact ACS at (334) 255-3161/3735.

FRG LEADERSHIP TRAINING • AUGUST 16

Join ACS for their FRG Leadership Training on Thursday, August 16 at Bldg. 5700 in Room 371F from 8:15 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. The Leader Training teaches about Department of Defense Instructions (DoDI), Army Regulations (ARs) and other policy guidance, down to local guidance, that are relevant to your role. The training has been established to provide FRG leaders with an awareness of your role, the responsibilities of the commander and how they can best assist the commander in establishing and maintaining his or her Family Readiness Program. Pre-registration is required and can be done by calling (334) 255-9578/3161. Free child care available with registration by calling (334) 255-3564. Class subject to cancellation without preregistration.

THE POWER OF MUSIC CLASS • AUGUST 16

Join us as we discuss the many benefits of music and how to incorporate music into our daily routines with our children. This class begins at 10 am located at Bldg. 5700, Room 371E, held on August 16. Always free, always fun, always empowering! This class provides an interactive experience between baby and caregiver. The MCEC Parent to Parent workshops share practical ideas,

proven techniques, and solid resources to support military-connected families. To register or for more information, please call the New Parent Support Program at (334) 255-3359/9647/9805.

NEWCOMERS' WELCOME • AUGUST 17

Please join us from 9:00 – 11:30 a.m. for Newcomers' Welcome at The Landing. Active Duty, Spouses, Foreign Students, DA Civilians, and Family Members are all encouraged to attend this very informative event. A free light breakfast and Starbucks coffee will be served. For free childcare, register your children at the Child Development Center by calling (334) 255-3564. Reservations must be made 24 hours prior to the Newcomer's Welcome. For more information, please contact ACS at (334) 255-3161/2887.

BLENDED RETIREMENT SYSTEM SEMINAR AUGUST 21

Army Community Service, Accredited Financial Counselors will present a Blended Retirement System Seminar from 6 - 7:00 p.m. on August 21 in the Soldier Service Center Building 5700 in Room 350. A discussion of the significant changes to the current military retirement system including continuation pay and the Thrift Saving Plan (TSP) with matching government contributions. Pre-registration is required by Monday, August 20. Free child care available with registration. Class subject to cancellation without pre-registration. For more information and to register, call Army Community Service (334) 255-9631/2341/3765. Registration can also be completed by going to <http://rucker.armymwr.com/us/rucker/programs/armycommunity-service>.

FEDERAL JOB WORKSHOP AUGUST 22

Interested in working for the federal government? Mystified by the federal hiring process? Or maybe you're just frustrated by your repeated attempts to put together an effective and impactful USAJOBS.gov resume? Then make plans to attend the Federal Job Workshop with ACS on August 22 from 8 a.m. - noon in Building 5700, Classroom 284. This informative and interactive workshop is aimed at getting you the info you need to increase your federal employment possibilities! Participants will receive a FREE copy of Kathryn Troutman's "Jobseeker's Guide" (7th Edition). Registration is required two days prior to the workshop. Space is limited to the first 60 to register. Open to authorized patrons only. For more information or to register, call ACS at (334)255-2594.

FOUNDATION/INFORMATION FUND TRAINING AUGUST 30

Join ACS for the R.E.A.L. Informal Fund Custodian Training held on August 30 at Bldg. 5700 in Room 284 from 8:15 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. The Fund Custodian training will highlight the standards that provide guidance for the FRG mission, the FRG informal fund, and the roles and responsibilities of the Commander, Funds Custodian and Alternate Funds Custodian when dealing with FRG funds. Pre-registration is required and can be done by calling (334)255-9578/3161. Free childcare is available with registration by calling (334)255-3564. Class subject to cancellation without pre-registration.

BACK TO SCHOOL

WISHING YOU A FABULOUS SCHOOL YEAR!



UNITED STATES ARMY
CHILD & YOUTH SERVICES

The bell is about to ring in the new 2018-2019 school year! Hope you all had an excellent and relaxing summer. As we look forward to an upcoming school year filled with learning and growth, here are a few tips to hopefully help smoothly transition your family from the laid back summer schedule to the more structured school schedule:

The first weeks of school can be tiring as students get reacquainted with morning routines and demands of the school day. A few weeks before school starts, reestablish bed time routines so that when the first day rolls around, your children can begin their educational endeavors well rested. Plenty of rest will help facilitate a less anxious student over new teachers, classes and possibly a new school.

Try a dress rehearsal before the first day. Get up in enough time to get ready for school and see how you do. Include time for a great breakfast and include a time buffer for unforeseen circumstances like misplaced shoes, gathering a lunch/lunch money or forgetting to brush teeth. A couple of trial runs and your family should be well rehearsed in the morning routine.

Try new recipes for school lunches during the summer. Work with your children on helping prepare nutritious lunches that they will enjoy eating and will help get them through the rest of their school day ener-

gized. If you'll be buying lunches, check on the school website to see about loading their lunch account with money so you don't have to scramble to come up with the right change for lunches

Set up a central bulletin board to hang schedules, notices and reminders. This will help not only parents, but students as well to keep well organized all through the school year. Determine a homework area that will facilitate finishing homework in a well-lit, quiet area away from distractions. Keep this area stocked with necessary school supplies.

If your child will be starting school for the first time or attending a new school, it may help to soothe anxieties if you take a trip to the school before it starts, to familiarize your child with the cafeteria, where they will catch the bus or be picked up, and their classroom. Use this time also to answer any questions they may have and to assure them that they will have plenty of support on the first day to help guide them until they are accustomed to their schedule.

Ozark, Enterprise and Daleville City Schools all have Student 2 Students programs in place to help students acclimate to a new school as smoothly as possible. S2S offers transition support for new students, so please ask your schools about program offerings. CYS in conjunction with our Fort Rucker Parent to Parent Team will be

offering parent education workshops in the fall. These opportunities will take place at the Youth Center, Building 2800.

Please call (334) 255-9812 to register for any of these below parent education opportunities:

BACK TO SCHOOL BASICS **AUG. 28, 6 P.M.**

Explore how parents can help improve their students' school performance. It provides common sense tips and research-based approaches explaining how children learn and ways to best prepare them to learn.

CHART YOUR COURSE: SUCCESS THROUGH HIGH SCHOOL AND BEYOND **SEPT. 13, 6 P.M.**

Mapping out an academic plan with middle and high school students serves two purposes, on time graduation, even with multiple PCS moves and building a competitive resume for college applications. Participants will receive a Chart Your Course Kit which includes a wealth of information, including suggested course curriculum and an interactive CD.

THE COLLEGE APPLICATION PROCESS **DEC. 6, 6 P.M.**

Let us help you navigate the college application process. College criteria, choosing the right college, getting letters of recommendation, tracking application deadlines,

researching financial aid and searching for scholarships are just some of the things that we will cover in this workshop.

Dates for the first day of school are as follows:

- Daleville City Schools: August 6
- Enterprise City Schools: August 6
- Fort Rucker Schools: August 6 and August 20 for Pre-K Students
- Ozark City Schools: August 10
- Coffee County Schools: August 6
- Dothan City Schools: August 8

Registration for our CYS Home School Enrichment program will start 1 August and classes will begin Wednesday, 5 September. We offer STEM Activities, Physical Education, Art and more throughout the school year for ages 6-18 yrs. Classes take place at the Youth Center, Building 2800, each Wednesday from 0900-1130 hrs. Cost is \$15 per month and students must be registered with Child and Youth Services.

Fort Rucker CYS offers before and after school bus transportation from Enterprise city schools and after school from Ozark to our School Age Center, Youth Center and Child Development Center programs. Please stop by Parent Central Services in Bldg. 5700, Rm 193 for more information or to register. For further information on any of our programs, please call (334) 255-9812 to learn more.



ARMY GRAPHIC

Army selects Austin as home of new Army Futures Command

Department of the Army

Press Release

WASHINGTON -- The U.S. Army announced July 13 that, after a months-long review of potential sites, its new Futures Command will be headquartered in Austin, Texas.

Army Futures Command, which began operations on July 1, will lead the Army's future force modernization enterprise. The command is expected to assess the future operational environment, emerging threats, and new technologies in order to develop and deliver concepts, requirements, future force designs, and modern materiel solutions to meet our Soldiers' wartime needs.

The Army has worked hard increasing current readiness and strengthening its combat formations. Futures Command will provide that same focus to future readiness by fine tuning and implementing the service's modernization strategy to increase the Army's lethality against near-peer competitors

in tomorrow's conflicts.

"The establishment of the Army Futures Command is the best example of our commitment to the future readiness and lethality of the force," said Secretary of the Army Hon. Mark T. Esper. "Army Futures Command will help fulfill the Army Vision by addressing the key shortcomings of the current acquisition system, providing unity of command, effort, and purpose to the entire modernization enterprise."

Futures Command will lead the Army's force modernization efforts; it is charged with providing Soldiers the weapons and equipment they need, when they need them. This new four-star command will complement the Army's other four-star headquarters -- Forces Command, Training and Doctrine Command and Army Materiel Command -- and is scheduled to reach full operational capability in summer 2019.

"This is a big year for the Army because we believe that we need to significantly reform the way the Army does research and development, testing and evaluation, procurement, and everything else that contributes to the modernization process," said Gen. Mark A. Milley, Chief of Staff of the Army.

Establishment of the command marks the most significant reorganization of the institutional Army since 1973, when it created U.S. Army Forces Command (FORSCOM) and U.S. Army Training and Doctrine Command (TRADOC). Unique in structure and design, it is being headquartered in Austin, Texas to better partner with academia, industry, and innovators in the private sector, while providing a good and affordable quality of life for Futures Command personnel.

When it reaches full operating capacity in summer 2019, the headquarters will comprise about 500 personnel. Sub-organiza-

tions, many of which currently reside within TRADOC and AMC, will transition to Army Futures Command in the coming months. The Army has no plan to physically move units or personnel from these commands at the present time.

"This is not about moving lots of people from other commands," said Ryan D. McCarthy, Under Secretary of the Army. "Army Futures Command can be best characterized as a restructuring and de-layering to maintain the 'best in breed' in all military capabilities."

Army Futures Command also oversees the Army's eight cross-functional teams, which are aligned against the Army's six modernization priorities. Each CFT is expected to facilitate faster acquisition decision making by Army senior leaders in order to meet the needs of the future force, consistent with the Army Vision.

DOD announces policy change on transfer of Post-9/11 GI Bill benefits

Defense Media Activity

Staff Report

WASHINGTON -- The Defense Department issued a substantive change July 12 to its policy on the transfer by service members in the uniformed services of Post-9/11 GI Bill educational benefits to eligible family member recipients.

Effective one year from the date of this change, eligibility to transfer those benefits will be limited to service members with less than 16 years of total active-duty or selected reserve service, as applicable.

Previously, there were no restrictions on when a service member could transfer educational benefits to their family members. The provision that requires a service member to have at least six years of service to apply to transfer benefits remains unchanged in the policy.

"After a thorough review of the policy, we saw a need to focus on retention in a time of increased growth of the armed forces," said Stephanie Miller, director of accessions policy in the Office of the Secretary of Defense. "This change continues to allow career service members that earned this benefit to share it with their family members while they continue to serve."

This change is an important step to preserve the distinction of transferability as a retention incentive, she added.

If service members fail to fulfill their service obligation because of a "force shaping" event -- such as officers involuntarily sepa-



rated as a result of being twice passed over for promotion or enlisted personnel involuntarily separated as a result of failure to meet minimum retention standards, such as high year of tenure -- the change will allow them to retain their eligibility to transfer education benefits even if they haven't served the entirety of their obligated service commitment through no fault of their own.

All approvals for transferability of Post-9/11 GI Bill continue to require a four-year commitment in the armed forces and, more importantly, the member must be eligible to be retained for four years from the date of election, officials said.

The policy affects service members in the uniformed services, which includes the U.S. Coast Guard as well as the commissioned members of the U.S. Public Health Service and National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration.

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NEWS IN BRIEF

RETURN OF THE 'ARMY FLIER'

Fort Rucker's post newspaper, the "Army Flier" is back in a monthly digital format.

The plan is for the digital "Army Flier" to be produced at the first of each month. The digital issues can be found at <http://www.rucker.army.mil/pao/armyflyer/>.

People with story ideas of submissions for the digital "Army Flier" can send an email to usarmy.rucker.usag.mbx.atzq-pao@mail.mil or call 255-1239.

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.

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.

VOLUNTEER RECOGNITION

Fort Rucker will host its quarterly volunteer recognition ceremony Aug. 8 at 10 a.m. in the U.S. Army Aviation Museum. For more information, call 255-1429.

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.



PHOTO BY KELLY MORRIS

SQUARED AWAY

Lt. Col. Michael B. Hale assumed command of the 1-11th Aviation Regiment "Squared Away" when he received the unit colors, passed to him by ceremony host Col. Chad E. Chasteen, commander of 110th Aviation Brigade. Hale assumed command from outgoing commander Lt. Col. Edward D. Rouse during a combined change of command and change of responsibility ceremony on Howze Field July 11. Command Sgt. Maj. David E. Barrett also assumed responsibility from outgoing Command Sgt. Maj. Marvin A. Pinckney.

ARMY FLIER

COMMAND

Maj. Gen. William K. Gayler

Fort Rucker Commanding General

Col. Brian E. Walsh

Fort Rucker Garrison Commander

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