

NEW SOLUTIONS

IMCOM transforms regions into new directorates

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SOMETHING FOR EVERYONE

Post offers variety of activities for Valentine's

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TRAIL RIDE

Event offers rare glimpse of Fort Rucker



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# ARMY FLYER

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

VOL. 67 ■ NO. 05

FORT RUCKER ★ ALABAMA

FEBRUARY 2, 2017

## HITCHIN' A RIDE



PHOTO BY JIM HUGHES

Fort Rucker pilots and crew from the USAACE Directorate of Evaluation and Standards successfully drop off a decommissioned C-12 C/D after sling loading it from the Dothan Airport Tuesday with the help of riggers from the 3rd Infantry Division out of Savannah, Ga. Fort Rucker's Aviation Assessment Shoot Down team will use the aircraft to train new investigators. For more, see next week's Army Flier.

# A LIFE LESSON

## School helps local animal shelters

By Nathan Pfau  
Army Flier Staff Writer

The students and staff of Fort Rucker Primary School celebrated their 100th day in school for the year, but the day was far from ordinary when they got a chance to learn a life lesson – the importance of giving back.

Students participated in an activity during their 100th day in session Jan. 26 that challenged their minds and provided

a service to local animal shelters in the form of donations of more than 120 items of pet food, according to Yvette Esteves-Hurst, FRPS Spanish teacher and coordinator for the activity.

"This is one way the primary school celebrates our 100th day in school," said the Spanish teacher. "Our school provides a setting that connects mathematical language and symbols to the everyday lives

SEE LESSON, PAGE A5



PHOTO BY NATHAN PF AU

Students pose with their bags of food that will be donated to local animal shelters as they celebrate their 100th day in school Jan. 26.

# EASING THE BURDEN

## Tax center offers free preparation services

By Nathan Pfau  
Army Flier Staff Writer

The Fort Rucker Tax Center is open for business, and a staff of fully trained preparers stands at the ready to help ease the burdens of tax season for Soldiers, families and retirees.

Located in Bldg. 5700, Rm. 371F, the center held its grand opening Friday to begin offering its free service to help alleviate stress and save people money, said Tod Clayton, volunteer income tax assistant coordinator at the tax center.

"Today is important because this is an opportunity for Fort Rucker to serve our Soldiers, our families and our retirees," said Col. Shannon T. Miller, Fort Rucker garrison commander, during the ribbon cutting ceremony. "I experienced this (service) just last year and I'd say it's phenomenal."



PHOTO BY NATHAN PF AU

Col. Shannon T. Miller (center), Fort Rucker garrison commander, Lt. Col. Leslie Rowley (right), Fort Rucker staff judge advocate, and Capt. Christopher Bartholomew (left), chief of client services, cut the ribbon during the Fort Rucker Tax Center grand opening ceremony at Bldg. 5700 Friday.

Miller said the tax center is unique in that it provides an opportunity to put money back into the pockets of Soldiers, families and retirees.

"Soldiers can get frustrated having to deal with having to make time for (taxes) and these folks here are worth their weight in gold because they make it easy for us – we don't have to worry about it," said the garrison commander.

Last year, the tax center prepared and filed more than 2,400 federal and state returns, saving Soldiers, families and retirees nearly \$445,000 in tax preparation fees. Additionally, the refunds people received amounted to more than \$3 million, and Miller said she hopes to see the center surpass that this year.

"They've assembled a great team here that I know is going to provide that excellent service to our community – thank you all for what you're about to do for us," she said.

The tax center is open Mondays-Fridays from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. through April 15, and people should make an appointment to use the service, which also offers free electronic filing for Soldiers, family members and retirees.

People must have a valid military ID and bring in their previous year's tax returns to take advantage of the services provided at the tax center, and Soldiers on Reserve status must be on Title-10 orders and bring their call-to-active duty orders in order to use the center.

"This is a free service and people need to take advantage of it," Clayton said. "The average return typically costs between \$75-150, depending on the forms that they use. It can get costly, and they

SEE FREE, PAGE A5

# Resilience center sets Soldiers up for success

By Nathan Pfau  
Army Flier Staff Writer

Army life can present many challenges for Soldiers and families, and the life of an Aviator can bring even more to the table, and that's why Fort Rucker wants to make sure its Soldiers are prepared to tackle any obstacle life may throw at them.

The Ready and Resilient Training Center, located in Bldg. 4305, focuses on Soldiers, families and Army civilians to improve individual readiness, performance and mental toughness through training courses that are custom tailored to meet the needs of individual units, according to Rodel Pasibe, Ready and Resilient Training Center manager.

"We focus on cognitive improvements," he said. "Our curriculum is very general, but what makes it effective and (able to be specifically tailored) is our knowledge of what support is needed here.

"We can speak the language," he continued. "For flight school students, for example, we can relate to the students and show them examples of what flight school is going to be like and how they can be effective in (throughout) before they actually start (Initial Entry Rotary Wing Training)."

This is done through performance training, which encompasses six core performance skills and eight academic performance training skills.

The performance skills include mental skills foundation, building confidence, attention control, energy management, goal setting and integrating imagery; and the academic skills include mindset, plan

and prioritize, study effort, memory, active reading, note taking, peer learning, test taking and power strategies.

"If we're able to touch the students and provide them performance training before they start their training ... we can help them be more successful," said Pasibe.

"Our resiliency skills are mental tools that can be used in the Army, but are life skills, as well," added Kelly Brown, lead master resiliency trainer performance expert. "Each skill digs into how our thoughts affect our emotions and our performance, so we look at things like putting things in perspective."

One of the ways they're able to achieve this is by teaching students to "hunt the good stuff," which is a means to counter negativity and create a positive emotion to be able to move forward and grow.

"There's a lot of research about what optimism does for people physically and mentally, so hunting the good stuff is purposeful in finding that optimism in our day," said Brown. "For flight school students, one of our goals is to reduce stress, so if we can help them rein that in a little bit, then they can be more effective."

SEE SUCCESS, PAGE A5



COURTESY PHOTO

Soldiers take part in an exercise at the Ready and Resilient Training Center last year.



# PERSPECTIVE

## HEART HEALTH MONTH

*Know your family history, change your future*

**By Dr. Terry Adirim**  
*Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense  
for Health Services Policy and Oversight*

I never knew my paternal grandfather. He was a smoker who didn't pay attention to his heart's health.

He died in his 50s, as did his son, my uncle. But my father lived well into his late 70s. He understood what family history told him about his ticker and decided to take charge by eating right, watching his weight and remaining physically active his entire life. It probably gave him another 20-25 years with our family. He outran any genetic predisposition to heart disease.

As we celebrate Heart Health month in February, let's talk about what you can do to make sure you're around for your family for many years to come.

First of all, know your risk factors – available at <http://www.health.mil/Military-Health-Topics/Operation-Live-Well/Preventive-Health/Heart-Health>.

If you have a family history of heart disease, there's a chance it could be passed along to you. Talk with those older members of your family to find out if there's an aunt or uncle or grandparent who may have died young because of heart issues. Your race or ethnic group can affect your risk – African-Americans are disproportionately affected by heart disease.

Recognize the classic warnings signs: pressure in the chest (like someone sitting on you), shortness of breath and pain radiating down your left arm. For women, symptoms might be more subtle and could include nausea, shortness of breath and pain in the jaw without pain in the chest.

Many women, as family caretakers, might try to ignore these symptoms, brushing them off as not serious. The first steps to preventing heart disease include knowing your history, your risk and the warning signs.

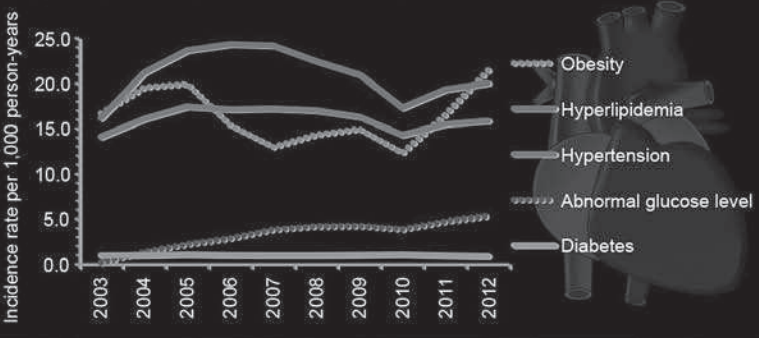
While people in uniform get regular check-ups that should catch most issues early, family members and retirees also should schedule a visit with their doctor and have weight and blood pressure checked once a year. Additionally, chole-

### HEART DISEASE AND ITS EFFECTS ON SERVICE MEMBERS

Cardiovascular disease (CVD) comprises disorders of the heart and circulatory system including, most notably, CORONARY HEART DISEASE (CHD) and CEREBROVASCULAR DISEASE. While several risk factors for the development of CVD cannot be altered, such as family history of CVD, others are susceptible to modification through lifestyle change or medical interventions.

NOTE: This infographic provides data on the risk factors for cardiovascular disease among military members and based upon diagnostic codes in the electronic health records of service members during a ten-year surveillance period (2003-2012).

Annual incidence rates of cardiovascular risk factors and conditions, active component, U.S. Armed Forces, 2003-2012



Source: Incidence and Prevalence of Select Cardiovascular Risk Factors and Conditions, Active Component, U.S. Armed Forces, 2003-2012. MSMR. [https://www.afhsc.mil/documents/pubs/msmrs/2013/v20\\_n12.pdf#Page=16](https://www.afhsc.mil/documents/pubs/msmrs/2013/v20_n12.pdf#Page=16)

Follow us on Twitter for more info: @AFHSBPAGE

### GET TREATMENT TODAY

Because service members undergo frequent and routine periodic health assessments, there are multiple opportunities to assess, diagnose and treat CVD risk factors during the course of their service. Take action to reduce your risk for heart disease and stroke with an assessment by a healthcare professional today.



Diagnoses of hypertension and obesity were higher among black, non-Hispanic service members than other racial groups.



Asians have the highest rates of hyperlipidemia, abnormal blood glucose level, and diabetes.



Male service members had higher rates of hypertension, hyperlipidemia, and diabetes than female service members.



However, female military members had higher rates of obesity and abnormal blood glucose level.

DOD GRAPHIC

sterol and lipid levels should be checked every five years for anyone over the age of 20, and more often for those at high risk.

Check out TRICARE's Preventive Services webpage at <http://www.tricare.mil/preventivecare> to see what you're eligible for.

Family history and race don't have to paint a picture of gloom. Prevention is key.

Eat a diet rich in fruits and vegetables, and avoid foods high in unsaturated fats. It isn't necessary to deprive yourself of every tasty treat. Just cut back on the sugars and bad fats and reduce your salt intake where you can.

A proper amount of exercise is really important. Try to get at least 30 minutes

of exercise a day – for children, at least an hour a day is recommended. If you're not big on team sports, or your child isn't, don't worry! There are plenty of other outlets to make sure you have enough activity to keep your heart healthy.

And make sure you follow your doctor's recommendations. If you're prescribed medication to help control some of your risk factors, take it as ordered.

Another detriment to your good heart health is smoking. It damages your heart and lungs, and increases your chances of stroke, heart disease and various cancers throughout the body. There's absolutely no benefit to using tobacco in any form. If you don't use tobacco now, don't start! If you want to quit, the Military Health System's UCanQuit2.org website at <https://ucanquit2.org/> has resources and support to help you kick the habit.

Most of all, don't feel alone in your efforts to have a healthy heart. There are plenty of resources to get you on the path to keeping that ticker ticking along as it should. More information is available on Health.mil's Heart Health page at <http://www.health.mil/Military-Health-Topics/Operation-Live-Well/Preventive-Health/Heart-Health>.

While he didn't live as long as I would have liked, I'm grateful for the years I did get to spend with my father. He knew he was at risk for heart disease and he did something about it. Think about the loved ones in your life, and decide to make healthy heart decisions for a long life to come.

## Rotor Wash



**Lt. Col. John McMahan,**  
**U.S. Army School of**  
**Aviation Medicine**

"Have lots of food and the right friends."



**Spc. Salina Almodovar,**  
**6th Military Police**  
**Detachment**

"Have a lot of food, and have a little rivalry. If you're a Patriots fan, wear blue, and if you're a Falcons fan, wear red."



**Tech. Sgt.**  
**Keenan Murray,**  
**Hurlburt Field, Fla.**

"If people are drinking alcoholic beverages, make sure you have a safe ride home. Make sure there are plenty of chicken wings and nachos."



**Elizabeth Arredondo,**  
**military spouse**

"Have lots of junk food and lots of activities for kids to do. Make sure you have a designated driver for friends who might be drinking."



**Cody Lensmeyer,**  
**civilian**

"Just make sure you have plenty of food and drinks for everybody, and keep your rivalry civil."

#### COMMAND

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FORT RUCKER COMMANDING GENERAL

**Col. Shannon T. Miller**  
FORT RUCKER GARRISON COMMANDER

**Lisa Eichhorn**  
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# NEW SOLUTIONS

## IMCOM transforms regions into new directorates

Public Works Digest  
Staff Report

JOINT BASE SAN ANTONIO, Texas – In this time of declining resources, shifting national priorities and increasing security concerns around the globe, Army leaders must find alternative solutions beyond asking for more money and additional manpower when confronted with a problem.

To that end, as of Oct. 1, Army Installation Management Command has transformed its regions within the continental United States into three functionally aligned and co-located Installation Management Command Directorates:

- IMCOM-Sustainment with Army Materiel Command at Redstone Arsenal;
- IMCOM-Training with Training and Doctrine Command at Joint Base Eustis-Langley, Virginia; and
- IMCOM-Readiness with Forces Command at Fort Bragg, North Carolina.

The transformation of the regions to directorates is designed to mirror the same level of integration that has been part of IMCOM's support to U.S. Army Europe (IMCOM-Europe) and U.S. Army Pacific (IMCOM-Pacific).

The realigned organization is smaller and more functionally aligned to be better integrated with the Army commands it supports.

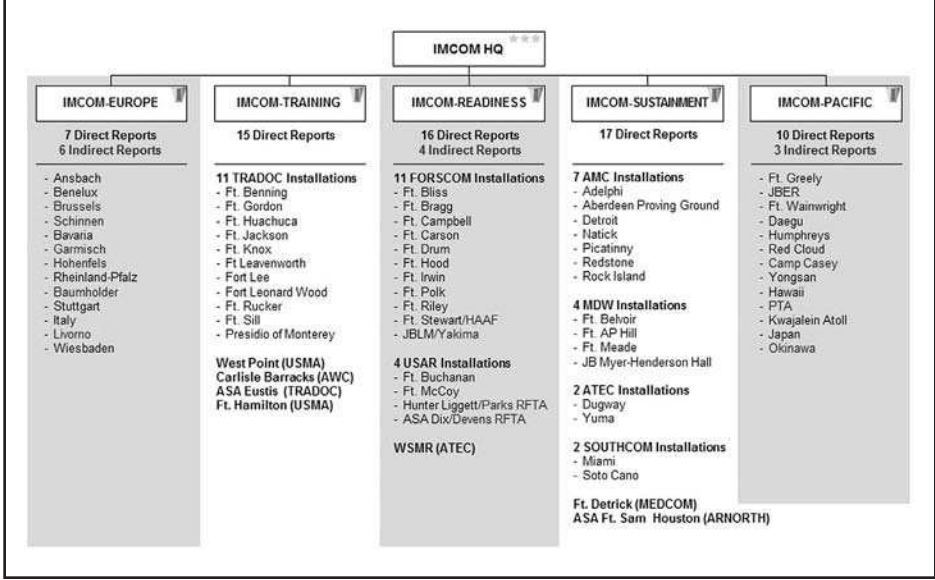
"The Army and IMCOM must prioritize the programs and services we deliver to apply constrained resources to the right things, at the right time, at the right place and for the right customers," said Lt. Gen. Kenneth Dahl, commanding general, U.S. Army Installation Management Command.

This co-location will result in improved integration to facilitate shared priorities across the Army commands each IMCOM directorate supports, focusing resources on the most critical projects. Tough prioritizing decisions are being placed in the hands of the commanders who know their communities best.

Prioritizing programs and services means focusing on infrastructure and facility investment as installations enable unit, Soldier and family readiness, which are essential platforms for power projection.

IMCOM is creating efficiencies by consolidating functions, using call centers to manage similar functions at multiple garrisons, or by leveraging technology in varying ways. In geographic regions where there is a large installation with several smaller ones nearby, mutual support relationships are being implemented to conserve resources and enhance the command's ability to deliver services when and where they are needed most.

The IMCOM directorates will be more efficient and improve mission command



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through unity of purpose, a smaller number of garrisons to manage, and similar demographics of communities. The directorates will solve functional challenges for garrison commanders, coordinate IMCOM Headquarters support, and drive and assess garrison execution of service delivery.

IMCOM leaders and those they support must work together to separate needs from wants. This new environment is forcing tough choices.

IMCOM is transforming to enhance readiness for today's force and the future

Army, especially in the areas of mission command, workforce strength and alignment, program and service delivery, and as a change agent to align policies with the current environment.

"Although budget constraints are impacting almost every aspect of Army life, Soldiers and families can rest assured that IMCOM is an efficient and constantly improving steward of resources that will continue to deliver necessary services to the Soldiers, Civilians and families who live on our installations," Dahl added.

## Budget act includes changes to Army sexual assault policy

By David Vergun  
Army News Service

WASHINGTON — Changes to the law covering the review of discharges, the definition of sexual harassment and reporting requirements for the Department of Defense have taken effect.

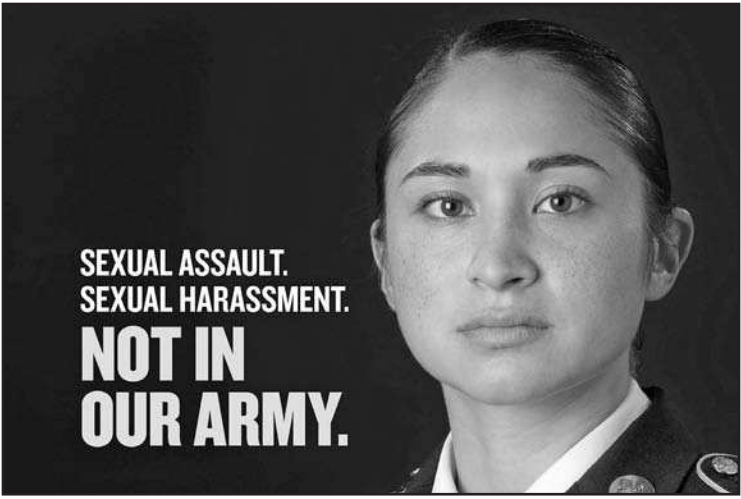
Many of the changes in the law reflect practices already adopted by DOD, according to Col. Walter M. Hudson, chief of the Army's Criminal Law Division in the Office of the Judge Advocate General.

The changes came about when the National Defense Authorization Act for fiscal year 2017 was signed into law by the president Dec. 23, Hudson said.

The new NDAA is now codified in Title 10 of the United States Code and Public Law. The following are some of the changes that were legislated:

### REVIEW OF DISCHARGES

Former Soldiers with claims of post-traumatic stress disorder or



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traumatic brain injury in connection with combat or sexual trauma as a basis for their discharge can now provide medical evidence from the Department of Veterans Affairs or civilian health care providers to discharge review boards as a possible means to upgrade their discharge status. The board is instructed to give liberal consideration to that evidence.

Through enhanced public outreach, engagement with veterans'

service organizations, military service organizations, and other outside groups, as well as direct outreach to individual veterans, the DOD encourages all veterans who believe they have experienced an error or injustice to request relief from their service's Board for Correction of Military/Naval Records or Discharge Review Board.

For discharge upgrades, if the discharge was less than 15 years

ago, veterans should complete DD Form 293 (included in the related links section below) and send it to their service's discharge review board (the address is on the form). For discharges over 15 years ago, veterans should complete the DD Form 149 (also included in the related links section below) and send it to the address on the form.

### SEXUAL HARASSMENT DEFINITIONS REFINED

The definition of sexual harassment that triggers a command investigation will no longer be limited to the work environment. It will simply be the environment, meaning it could take place anywhere and at any time. This change reflects current training that advises Soldiers that they can be held accountable for acts of harassment that occur off post or during off-duty hours.

### TRAINING FOR RETALIATION INVESTIGATORS

All personnel who are tasked

to investigate claims of retaliation by Soldiers reporting sexual assault will receive special training on the nature and consequences of both the retaliation as well as the sexual assault trauma. Those receiving the training are personnel of the Criminal Investigation Service, Inspector General offices, and anyone assigned by a commander to investigate claims of retaliation made by or against members of the command.

Alleged victims of sexual assault who report retaliation will receive in writing the results of the retaliation investigation.

### REPORT TO CONGRESS

The services currently provide annual reports regarding the number of complaints of retaliation in connection with reporting of sexual assaults. Going forward, those reports will be much more detailed, including a description of the complaint, demographic information on the complainant and alleged retaliator, and the results of any investigation.

## Instructors of the Quarter

The instructors of the quarter were honored during a ceremony at the U.S. Army Aviation Museum Jan. 18. The awardees were: Shawn Holmes, Headquarters Headquarters Company, 1st Bn., 212th Avn. Regt., 110th Avn. Bde., Civilian Flight Instructor of the Quarter; Staff Sgt. William Clark, A Co., 1st Bn., 223th Avn. Regt., 110th Avn. Bde., NCO Flight Instructor of the Quarter; CW3 Alan Crawford, A Co., 1st Bn., 223th Avn. Regt., 110th Avn. Bde., Officer Flight Instructor of the Quarter; Capt. Robert Kelly, Delta Company, 1st Bn., 145th Avn. Regt., 1st Avn. Bde., Officer Academic Instructor of the Quarter; Staff Sgt. Robert Amrani (not pictured), U.S. Aviation School of Aviation Medicine, NCO Academic Instructor of the Quarter; and William Marsh (not pictured), A Co., 1st Bn., 210th Avn. Regt., 128th Avn. Bde.



PHOTO BY NATHAN PFALZ

## News Briefs

### Cash-back returns to AAFES

Fort Rucker Army and Air Force Exchange Service shoppers can once again take advantage of the cash back option at exchange checkout counters. Shoppers can receive cash back in amounts up to \$50 at the Fort Rucker main store and amounts up to \$20 at express, troop stores, military clothing stores and other facilities.

"Following a worldwide system update, the cash back option at Army and Air Force Exchange Service stores is now fully operational," said General Manager Ralph Kleemann. "The Exchange couldn't be happier to bring this convenience back to our shoppers at Fort Rucker."

For more information, shoppers can contact the Fort Rucker Exchange at 334-503-9044.

### AER kick off

The 2017 Army Emergency Relief Fundraising Campaign kick-off ceremony is scheduled for March 2 from 2-3 p.m. at the Aviation Museum. The primary goal of the campaign is to promote awareness of benefits provided through AER. Funds raised from the campaign are used to assist active duty Soldiers, National Guard and Reserve Soldiers (Title 10, on active duty for more

than 30 days), retired Soldiers, as well as eligible family members and survivors, according to AER officials. Throughout the campaign, Fort Rucker Soldiers, through AER unit coordinators, will be educated on the benefits of and types of financial assistance available from AER, as well as given the opportunity to contribute to AER through allotment, check, money order or cash donations. By donating to AER, Soldiers are helping to provide emergency financial assistance to fellow Soldiers.

For more information, call 255-2341.

### CLEP-a-thon

The Fort Rucker Education Center will host its CLEP-a-thon Round 2 Feb. 28 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. The CLEP-a-thon is free for active-duty military, according to center officials, who added that most colleges accept CLEP as transfer credits.

For more information or to sign up, visit the center in Bldg. 4502, or call 255-2378.

### AER scholarships

Army Emergency Relief is accepting applications for its 2017-2018 scholarship program at [www.aerhq.org](http://www.aerhq.org). Scholarship opportunities are available for spouses and

children registered in the Defense Eligibility Enrollment System who are pursuing their first undergraduate degree or certificate at an accredited college or university. Additional eligibility criteria can be found on the above website. Within a 50 mile radius of Fort Rucker, 71 recipients received scholarships for the 2016-2017 school year. Seventeen spouses received a total of \$27,500.00 – average of \$1617.65 – and 54 children received a total of \$120,600 – average of \$2233.33. The deadline is May 1.

For more information, call 255-2341.

### 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.

### Military pay briefing

The Defense Military Pay Office briefing for Soldiers scheduled to separate due to expired term of service or

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

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

### ID card section closure

The Fort Rucker ID Card Section will close from 2:15-4:15 p.m. in training the second Wednesday of every month.

### 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.



# TRADOC symposium highlights efforts to help Soldiers become more resilient

By Shama Crumes  
*U.S. Army Training and Doctrine Command  
Public Affairs*

FORT EUSTIS, Va. — Senior leaders from across the Training and Doctrine Command gathered Jan. 19-20 to learn about and discuss the latest Ready and Resilient program initiatives.

The purpose of the two-day symposium was to present leaders with a series of interrelated R2 topics designed “with improving readiness by emphasizing the importance of mental, physical, physiological and emotional factors in sustaining resilience,” said Tony Del Valle, R2 program lead for TRADOC.

Briefs were presented on several topics, including Soldier for Life, Holistic Health and Fitness and Army Community Services to ensure leaders were aware of all the components of the R2 strategy and the tools at their disposal.

The Army published the Enduring Personal Readiness and Resilience Operations Order in November, which outlined the strategy of providing R2 capabilities to commanders and leaders. These capabilities will enable leaders to achieve and sustain personal readiness and optimize performance in environments of uncertainty and persistent danger.

The Army and TRADOC continue to focus on a holistic approach to improve the R2 program by revising policy, improving training and leader visibility of



Gen. David G. Perkins, commanding general of TRADOC, speaks during the command's Ready and Resilient Symposium Jan. 19 at Fort Eustis, Va.

Soldiers, civilians and families, and ensuring best use of available resources.

Hugh Davis, TRADOC G-1 deputy chief of staff, said as a government civilian and retired Soldier, he has a personal commitment to improving and sustaining readiness across the entire formation.

“We at TRADOC establish the protocol for the Army to disseminate what is important to the Army,” Davis said. The TRADOC R2 program reinforces the need to achieve and sustain personal readiness and resilience. It helps to empower leaders to take care of those they lead by fostering an environment of trust and ensuring Soldiers, civilians and families have the necessary tools to handle any challenges that come up.

The concept driving this strategy is not a new one. In 2014

TRADOC Pamphlet 525-3-1, “The Army Operating Concept,” explains in linking warfighting challenges to required capabilities by training resilient Soldiers and adaptive leaders and cohesive teams to ensure they are prepared to accomplish the mission across the range of military operations, while operating in complex environments against determined, adaptive enemy organizations.

The Army’s mission can be stressful on Soldiers and their families. Soldiers must be prepared to battle personal and physical challenges, while operating in some of the most extreme conditions far away from home. “That requires resilience,” said Gen. David G. Perkins, TRADOC commanding general.

From deploying with a unit to deploying as an individual augmentee, so many factors can

change from one mission to the next. “Almost everything we do is different than the last, so you have to have resilience,” Perkins said.

The senior enlisted leader in TRADOC said he feels that noncommissioned officers have a huge role in the R2 mission. “This is the role of the NCO; the sergeant major has to be the subject matter expert on manning programs to help the commanders and to help the Soldiers,” said Command Sgt. Maj. David S. Davenport, TRADOC’s command sergeant major.

This symposium is the latest TRADOC-specific input to supporting the Army’s R2 program. As the Army’s premier trainer, TRADOC’s efforts include the following.

- The Army Master Resilience School, which trains about 1,560 Level I Master Resil-

ience trainers and 160 Level II MRT facilitators a year.

- Conducting institutional resilience training as part of initial military training and professional military education.
- In coordination with Walter Reed Army Institute of Research, assist G-1 Army Resiliency Directorate in evaluating and revising IRT curriculum.
- The U.S. Army SHARP Academy, educates and trains about 4,500 sexual assault response coordinators, victim advocates, SHARP trainers and program managers across all components of the Army per year.
- Through the Mission Command Center of Excellence’s Human Dimension Division, assists the Department of the Army in the development of sound concepts and capabilities to optimize performance in an increasingly complex environment.
- Provides leadership training in critical thinking, ethics, character, competence, emotional intelligence and commitment under the auspices of the Army University.

Emphasizing the command’s continued commitment to the R2 program, Davenport said if TRADOC invests in Soldiers and their families, the command will hand back to the operational Army better noncommissioned officers, officers, leaders and families.

For more information about the Army’s R2 program, go to <https://www.army.mil/readyandresilient/>.

## Training points Soldiers toward readiness, resilience

By Tim Hipps  
*U.S. Army North Public Affairs*

FORT SAM HOUSTON, Texas — Soldiers learned the differences between fixed, mixed and growth mindsets – among other performance techniques – during a four-hour Executive Resilience and Performance course Jan. 20 at the Fort Sam Houston Comprehensive Soldier and Family Fitness Training Center.

“This gives me self-reflection of whether my attitude is fixed or a growth attitude, and how to recognize that among our subordinates, as well,” 106th Signal Brigade Sgt. Maj. Maurice Greening said after completing the course. “It will help me recognize and notice the attitudes of those around me and how I interact with folks, too.”

CSF2 represents the Army’s investment in the readiness of the force, and the quality of life of Soldiers, their family members, and Army civilians. The Army provides Ready and Resilient capabilities to commanders and leaders, so they can achieve and sustain personal readiness and optimize human performance in environments of uncertainty and persistent danger.

“Our focus is to give a snapshot of what the skill really is and the content really is of this very big program that CSF2 has to offer

in terms of training curriculum,” said Jill Wierzbza, one of six master resilience trainer performance experts at the Fort Sam Houston training center. “If we can give them a taste like we did with the fixed and growth mindset, which is out of the performance curriculum, it makes a whole lot more sense. They know what it is. They would know how to use it within their organization.

“More importantly, they know exactly what to talk to their local MRTs to push into their training schedule so it becomes a little bit more deliberate and focused in terms of the training that the commander can take ownership over instead of ‘Oh, resilience training – yeah, whatever.’ It’s very much more deliberate and purposeful training when everybody’s going into their unit-level training.”

CSF2 supports the R2 vision of building and sustaining a culture of trust and developing personal and unit readiness to meet demanding current and emerging Army requirements.

“I think it’s beneficial for a couple of reasons,” said Col. Bradford Davis, 106th Signal Brigade. “No. 1, and probably the most important, is it brings together a group of peers external to our organization to take time to discuss these things. We get viewpoints from

folks in the medical community, sister brigades, other battalions coming in, brigade commanders, battalion commanders – so it gives us a peer group that is beyond what we normally get at our own unit to work through some of these things. There’s a lot of peer learning and peer teaching.

“It’s also time out,” Davis continued. “We get time out to pull away as best we can from the BlackBerry, from the boss calling, from the front office running in and saying, ‘Hey, Sir, somebody’s on the phone can you come for five minutes?’ It gives us time to just reflect on this one topic. Normally, we have to reflect on topics at two to three-minute chunks. It buys us time to think.”

The overarching goals of the training reinforce Army professionalism and positive behaviors, leading to sustained personal readiness and resilience of Soldiers, Army civilians and family members, thereby enhancing unit readiness.

First Sgt. Antwine Brunson said he could think of a specific Soldier from his 19 years in the Army that fit the mold of nearly scenario discussed during the training session.

“With each thing that came up, I thought of someone, and how I might view certain individuals,” Brunson said. “It’s not about how

I might view myself, but what I’m actually doing within my unit to build up the NCOs and the Soldiers. And things I can add or try.”

Resilience is the mental, physical, emotional, and behavioral ability to face and cope with adversity, adapt to change, recover, learn and grow from setbacks. Resilience also is defined as the ability to withstand, recover, and grow in the face of stressors and changing demands. A resilient individual is better able to leverage intellectual and emotional skills and behaviors that promote enhanced performance.

Instructors must discover ways to keep the “buzz” in the words resilience and resiliency.

“It’s an easy buzzword to just spout out because every person’s interpretation is completely different,” Wierzbza said. “You’re going to interpret that word in a way that’s meaningful and that you like. That’s actually a part of what we try to deconstruct as part of our training here: Let’s stop saying resilient because at this point it’s meaningless. What are we really talking about of a person who’s able to overcome adversity? What is that really like?”

Resilience competencies increase one’s ability to cope with stress, overcome setbacks, solve problems, remain task-focused, and perform under pressure. The

competencies also increase self-confidence, while lessening senses of helplessness, depression, and anxiety.

CSF2 is an integral part of the Army’s Ready and Resilient initiatives, which promote physical and psychological fitness and encourage personal and professional growth.

“Recently, a new R2 op order was published around the November timeframe,” said Eduardo Bojorquez, a retired Army first sergeant who manages the training center at Fort Sam Houston. “The performance and the resilience training is part of that R2 campaign and efforts of changing the culture at the organizational level, a culture of trust and self-accountability – all those things that are integral parts to personal readiness.”

Online self-development opportunities also are available. The R2 ArmyFit platform helps participants meet the Army’s Performance Triad goals of improved performance through optimal sleep, activity and nutrition. A global assessment tool for measuring success is available at <https://armyfit.army.mil>.

The Executive Resilience and Performance courses are available for company, battalion and brigade-level command teams, as well as GS-12 and above supervisors.

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# Lesson

Continued from Page A1

of their students,” and through the event they were able to make that connection.

The school is now guided by the College and Career Ready standards, and one way FRPS meets theses standards is by providing the children with activities that get their minds working, as well, said Esteves-Hurst.

As the items of pet food were donated, the children were also focusing on problem solving and learning to count by 10s to decide how much food would go into each bag to be donated, which is a standard skill that

they focused on for the grade, she said.

“This activity helps students meet the standard (set forth),” she added. “When counting by ones, students need to understand that the next number in the sequence is one more. When counting by tens, the next number in the sequence is ten more, and so we have students verbally count the numbers in sequence by starting at one and count to 100 or counting by 10s.”

The food will be distributed to pet shelters throughout the community, including the Kitty Kottage in Dothan, Big Bend Wildlife Sanctuary in Enterprise, the Dale County Humane Society in Ozark, All Breed Rescue and

Adoption, and Lil’ Tykes in Daleville, with donations continuing through Feb. 10.

The activity began in 2006 as a means to integrate all areas of the curriculum and teach the children about giving back and working together, which has now become a traditional yearly event at the school, Esteves-Hurst said.

The faculties’ appreciation extends to the parents of the students for being so generous with their donations, because the event could not have been possible without their help. “Thanks to all of their donations, we collected 120 items of food for dogs and cats,” she said.

# Free

Continued from Page A1

don’t tell you that it costs extra to do the state return. These days, everybody needs help saving a little money.”

The tax center also offers a drop-off service, which allows single Soldiers to come in and drop off their income tax paperwork, and return in 48 hours to go over their complete return with a tax representative, said Clayton. Soldiers must return between the hours of 9-11 a.m., Mondays-Fridays for their returns.

“We don’t need a full one-hour appointment to do most single Soldiers’ tax returns, so this frees up a lot of time for us to serve as many people as we can,” he said.

Single Soldiers who wish to utilize the drop-off service must have a simple return with no more than two W-2 forms. For more information on drop-off services, call 255-2937 or 255-2938.

When visiting the tax center, people should remember to bring all tax forms, including all valid military ID cards; Social Security cards; all W-2s and wage and

earning statements; 1099-R for pensions and retirements; 1098 for interest statements regarding tuitions, student loans, mortgages, etc.; a copy of the previous year’s return if available; power of attorney papers if available; 1099-G forms for gambling winnings, unemployment compensations, etc.; and 1099-MISC for payments received for non-employment compensation.

People should also bring their bank routing numbers, as well as their account numbers if they wish to have their returns

deposited directly into their bank accounts. That information can be found on a check tied to the specific account they wish to use.

Although the tax center is an invaluable resource to people on the installation, the facility is limited in the services it can provide. The center can’t provide services for businesses or for those with more than one rental property, but most simple tax returns shouldn’t be a problem, said Clayton.

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

# Success

Continued from Page A1

The overall goal is to be able to help the Soldiers cope with mental obstacles during their training, that way they’re able to deal with ineffective thoughts and have the tools available to combat those thoughts to overcome their personal obstacle, she said.

“It’s a lot of mental preparation,” added Pasibe. “Strengthening the Soldiers and helping the Soldiers understand how their thoughts affect the consequences and the outcomes of any task or situation.”

The center also focuses on team building to help develop a high-performance team, and promote the ability and importance of working together.

Most recently, the training center conducted a team-building exercise during morning physical training with the firefighters and military police of the 6th Military Police Detachment, where they had to complete an obstacle

course together to help strengthen communication and motivation, said Brown.

The center also facilitates the master resilience trainer course, which is a 10-day train-the-trainer course that is intended to build up the resilience of Soldiers as a means to enhance their performance, said Pasibe. The MRT is mandatory annual training that Soldiers must go through each year.

“We all use these skills,” said Brown. “At some point or another, we have them available and we can be ready to use them when needed.”

“We can touch 2,200 students a year and they can bring these skills out to their units,” added Pasibe. “If we can teach (Soldiers) to be more resilient or to perform better, then that improves the readiness of the Soldier and our national defense.”

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# GAINING MOMENTUM

*Army, Marine leaders bring multi-domain concept closer to reality*

By Sean Kimmons  
Army News Service

TWICKENHAM, England — The Army's new multi-domain battle concept gained momentum last week when senior leaders joined Marine Corps leadership to produce a white paper and establish a joint task force to advance new ideas that could dramatically change how Soldiers fight.

"At the very beginning, we're trying to make this very much a joint concept," said Gen. David Perkins, commanding general of the Army Training and Doctrine Command, which is developing the concept.

Together, Army Chief of Staff Gen. Mark Milley and Marine Gen. Robert Neller signed the white paper providing an overview of the concept, which is to be reviewed by Marine Gen. Joseph Dunford Jr., chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff.

Back in October, the Army officially announced the multi-domain concept, which is meant to broaden how the service fights on land — sometimes with the assistance of air assets — and allow for the incorporation of capabilities in the maritime and cyber domains.

According to the concept, Soldiers one day may fire land-based missiles to sink ships or use cyber and electromagnetic tactics to help units maneuver inside enemy territory. The Army has already planned multi-domain exercises to test these and other warfighting ideas, starting with exercises in the Pacific theater this spring, according to Perkins.

"A concept is an idea, and now



A tactical air control party from the 13th Air Support Operations Squadron at Fort Carson, Colo., prepares for helicopter extraction from the 4th Combat Aviation Brigade Nov. 10.

we have to operationalize it and get feedback from the folks that [will] actually use it," Perkins said Jan. 25, following his keynote speech at the International Armored Vehicles conference.

U.S. Army Pacific is working closely with the joint Pacific Command to finalize these exercises, Perkins said. TRADOC personnel are assisting with their design and will work with the exercise participants to determine new ways of fighting in the multiple domains.

Soldiers in Europe are expected to conduct similar exercises next year, the general said.

"Let's take what we have now and use it better," he said. "Where are our shortcomings? Can we

highlight them through exercises and help inform our requirements for the future?"

Besides designing large training exercises, he said, TRADOC also is working to encourage units to use the concept in their day-to-day activities and training, so the command can get continuous feedback rather than just one chunk of it after an exercise.

It's still too early to know when the multi-domain concept will be completed. As Perkins has noted in the past, the Army's air/land concept took eight years to be implemented after being introduced in 1973. While he expects faster progress on multi-domain, he cautioned that getting all of the

armed services on board will be a lengthy process.

Bureaucracy, not the mindset of individuals, may pose the biggest challenge to the concept's rollout, he said. As Congress typically appropriates money for tangible items, like equipment and vehicles, a change in thinking may be needed to secure funding for less tangible future capabilities.

"We're trying to take those resources and spread them out to capabilities, and the system is not set up to deliver resources like that," he said. "It delivers resources for things, not capabilities. How do you start changing the bureaucracy and processes to align with producing what we actually need?"

But a portion of future funding will likely be needed to upgrade combat vehicles so the Army can maintain its edge in full-spectrum warfare.

"I think what you're going to have is no more one-trick ponies," the general said. "You can't just have a vehicle that does this, and that's all it does."

Perkins said he would prefer to have "optionally manned" vehicles that can be driven with or without a human crew, depending on the situation. For example, he noted, a Soldier could engage an enemy while an autonomous vehicle provides cover fire.

"I think what you're absolutely going to find are combat vehicles that have multiple purposes and can operate in multiple modes," he said.

Perkins acknowledged that much more work remains ahead to figure out how the Army can make use of the emerging domain of cyber in combat.

"Cyber has become a good forcing function for us," he said. "It's new and people know it's new so they don't necessarily have a preconceived notion on how to do it."

Soldiers must think more holistically about how all of the domains intersect, Perkins said. During an exercise, for example, he once maneuvered an infantry company to fix a cyber issue emanating from a building.

"That was a multi-domain battle solution," he said. "It wasn't a bunch of computer scientists busting down the door and taking care of this problem; it was a bunch of infantrymen."

## Turbans, beards, dreadlocks now permissible for some Soldiers

By C. Todd Lopez  
Army News Service

WASHINGTON — Female Soldiers may now wear dreadlocks, and male Soldiers whose religious faith requires beards and turbans may now seek permanent accommodation.

Army directive 2017-03, signed in January, spells out changes to Army Regulation 670-1, the uniform policy, for the turban, worn by male Soldiers, the under-turban; male hair worn under a turban; the hijab, which is a head scarf worn by females; and beards worn by male members.

Sgt. Maj. Anthony J. Moore, the uniform policy branch sergeant major inside the Army's G-1, said the policy change was made largely as a way to increase diversity inside the service and provide more opportunities for Americans to serve in uniform.

"This is so we can expand the pool of people eligible to join the Army," Moore said. "There was a section of the population who previously were unable to enlist in the Army. This makes the Army better because you're opening the doors for more talent. You're allowing people to come in who have skills the Army can use."

### DREADLOCKS

Female Soldiers have been asking for a while for permission to wear "locks," or dreadlocks, Moore said.

"We understood there was no need to differentiate between locks, cornrows, or twists, as long as they all met the same dimension," Moore said. "It's one more option for female hairstyles. Females have been asking for a while, especially females of African-American descent, to be able to wear dreadlocks, and locks, because it's easier to maintain that hairstyle."

The Army directive says that each lock, or dreadlock, "will be of uniform dimension; have a diameter no greater than 1/2 inch; and present a neat, professional, and well-groomed appearance."

All female Soldiers can opt to wear dreadlocks, Moore said.

### RELIGIOUS ACCOMMODATION

The Army has granted waivers to Sikh Soldiers since 2009 to wear a turban in lieu of issued Army headgear and allowed those same Soldiers to wear the turban indoors when Army headgear would normally be removed. Moore said for those Soldiers, the waivers were permanent, but that it was unclear whether this was the case Army-wide. That is no longer true, he said.

The new policy is that a Soldier seeking religious accommodation to wear a turban must make the request only once, and the accommodation will apply to the Soldier for the Soldier's entire Army career.

In an Army directive dated Jan. 3, then Secretary of the Army Eric K. Fanning made official the policy regarding the wear of turbans, beards, hijabs and under-turbans.

"Based on the successful examples of Soldiers currently serving with these accommodations, I have determined that brigade-level commanders may approve requests for these accommodations, and I direct that the wear and appearance standards established in ... this directive be incorporated into AR 670-1," Fanning wrote in the directive.

"With the new directive, which will be incorporated into the Army regulation, religious accommodations are officially permanent for Soldiers," Moore said.

The level at which requests for such accommodation can be approved has also changed. Whereas requests in the past rose to the Pentagon before they could be approved, permission can now be granted by brigade-level commanders. Bringing approval down to that level, Moore said, speeds up the approval process dramatically.

That was the intent, Moore said. "They are trying to speed up the process for the Army and for the Soldier."

Moore said the same religious accommodation rules apply for Soldiers seeking to wear a beard for religious reasons as well as female Soldiers who want to wear a hijab.

If brigade-level commanders feel it inappropriate to approve the accommodation for some reason, he said, then they can recommend disapproval, but the recommendation must be channeled to the GCMCA for decision. Under the new policy, requests for religious accommodations that are not approved at the GCMCA-level will come to the secretary of the Army or designee for a final decision.

### GAS MASK ISSUE

Still at issue for Soldiers is wear of a beard in conjunction with a gas mask. In the Army directive, Fanning wrote that study results have shown that beard growth can degrade "the protection factor provided by the protective masks ... to an unacceptable degree."

"Although the addition of a powered air-purifying respirator and/or a protective mask with a loose-fitting facepiece has demonstrated potential to provide adequate protection for bearded individuals operating in hazardous environments," Fanning wrote, "further research, development, testing, and evaluation are necessary to identify masks that are capable of operational use and can be adequately maintained in field conditions."

Moore said that until further testing is completed and alternatives are found to protect bearded Soldiers in environments affected by chemical weapons, Soldiers with beards may be told to shave them in advance when there is specific and concrete evidence of an expected chemical attack.

If a chemical warfare threat is immediate, Moore said, instructions to Soldiers to shave their beards would come

from higher up, at the General Court-Martial Convening Authority-level -- typically a division-level commander.

Likewise, Soldiers who seek religious accommodation to wear a beard will not be allowed to attend the Army schools required for entry into chemical warfare-related career fields, Moore said.

### BEARDS AND MUSTACHES

For wear of the beard, Moore said, the new directive allows for beards to be as long as the Soldier wants, so long as the beard can be rolled up and compressed to less than two inches from the bottom of the chin. Additionally, for those Soldiers wearing a beard under a religious accommodation, the rules for wearing a mustache are also new. Mustaches may extend past the corners of the mouth but must be trimmed or groomed to not cover the upper lip.

Maj. Kamaljeet Kalsi, a civil affairs officer in the Army Reserve's 404th Civil Affairs Battalion at Fort Dix, New Jersey, is a Sikh Soldier who wears both a turban and a beard. He said he welcomes the new policy change as an indication that the Army is now looking to accommodate his faith and open its doors to talent in the United States that might have been previously untapped.

"To me, it says the nation is moving in a direction that the founders intended, a pluralistic democracy that represents all," Kalsi said. "I think we're a stronger nation when we can draw from the broadest amount of talent, the broadest talent pool. And it makes us a stronger military when the military looks like the people it serves."

Capt. Simratpal Singh, with the 249th Engineer Battalion prime power section, said for him the policy is about acceptance.

"On a personal level, it means that I can serve freely and without having to worry about any stipulations or constraint," he said. "That's all I want is to serve in the U.S. Army just like any of my peers."

Because the next edition of AR 670-1 is expected to be published next month, the Army will not be able to include the new rules. But Moore said Soldiers can expect to see these most recent changes in the AR 670-1 that comes out at this time next year.

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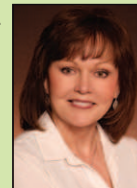


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**138 SOUTH CARROLL:** This is a great little starter home or for rental investments. Has had a very good rental history. The present owners have replaced the water heater & installed new vinyl siding & soffits. Chain link fence. **DEBBIE SUNBROCK 334-406-9079**

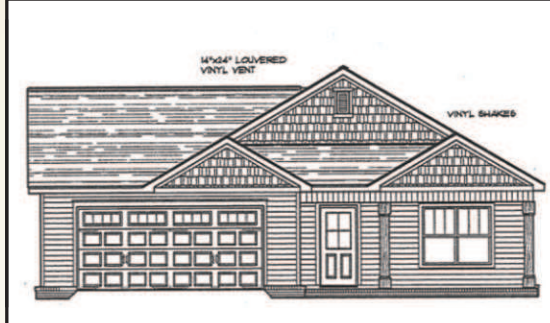
## We nail the details.

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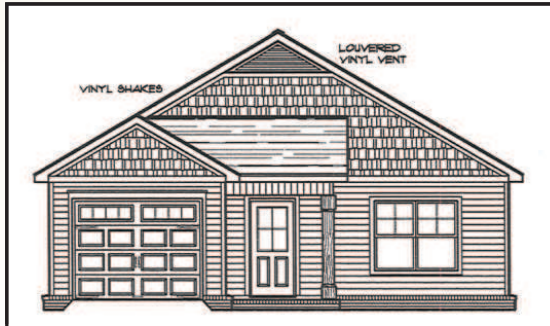
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Winterberry Plan: 3BR/2BA & 2-car garage

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# PROTOTYPE

## UH-60V Black Hawk achieves 1st flight

By Paul J. Stevenson

Program Executive  
Office Aviation

MERIDIANVILLE — The Program Executive Office Aviation Utility Helicopter Project Office successfully completed the initial test flight of its engineering development model UH-60V Black Hawk Jan. 19.

The test flight lasted a little more than an hour and included a variety of exercises, including takeoff, hover, track and balance, and a brief local-area flight before returning to the airfield.

The completion of the flight on this date set more than two years ago was a collaborative effort among several organizations within the military and industry, including the U.S. Army Aviation and Missile Research and Development Center; Army Research, Development and Engineering Command; Northrop Grumman; and Redstone Defense Systems.

The successful flight of the UH-60V working prototype represents a significant milestone in the UH-60V program and moves one step closer to getting an enhanced, modern air capability to the operational force.

Over the next few weeks, the aircraft will go through final maintenance actions and acceptance test procedures before being handed over to the Aviation Flight Test Directorate in mid-February. Once handed over to AFTD, it will undergo further system level developmental testing to ensure that the aircraft and software performs in accordance with user requirements.

AMRDEC's Prototype Integration Facility is being used to design and develop three EDMs and a corresponding technical data package. The kits will be furnished to the Corpus Christi Army Depot, Texas, to produce two additional EDM aircraft in preparation for low-rate initial production.

These additional EDMs will supplement



PHOTO BY SHANNON L. KIRKPATRICK

The engineering development model UH-60V Black Hawk hovers above the runway as part of its successful initial test flight Jan. 19 in Meridianville.

EDMs 1-3 for initial operational test and evaluation in 2019. The Army Acquisition Objective for the program is 760 aircraft, which are planned to be manufactured at CCAD.

The UH-60V program will upgrade the UH-60L aircraft with a digital cockpit. The open architecture-based cockpit de-

sign replaces analog gauges with digital multifunctional displays and enhances situational awareness for aviation warfighters.

The UH-60V, which features one of the Army's most advanced avionics solutions, has a pilot-vehicle interface that is nearly identical to the UH 60M.

### GOOD TO GO



PHOTO BY SPC. CRAIG JENSEN

Sgt. Omid Jaafari, a UH-60 Black Hawk crew chief assigned to A Company, 224th Aviation Regiment, 2nd Battalion, conducts a visual inspection of his helicopter prior to his team's mission at Erbil, Iraq, Jan. 14. Army Aviation enables partnered forces to defeat ISIL by providing air support on the battlefield. Combined Joint Task Force - Operation Inherent Resolve is the global coalition to defeat ISIL in Iraq and Syria.

## TRADOC SHAPES FUTURE

### Unified Challenge an important step in designing next Army

By Amy Robinson

U.S. Army Training  
and Doctrine Command  
Public Affairs

WASHINGTON — Army Training and Doctrine Command is taking another step toward designing the future force as it continues its latest iteration of the game-based experiment Unified Challenge, which runs through Friday.

Led by TRADOC's Army Capabilities Integration Center, Concept Development and Learning Directorate, Unified Challenge 17.1 is using collaboration between joint and multinational partners to explore the concepts of how the Army will fight in the future.

"TRADOC is tasked to design the future of the Army," said Col. Wayne C. Grieme Jr., chief of ARCIC's Joint and Army Experimentation Division. "This is an important step in a multiyear process in designing the next Army: identifying the concepts that will shape the organizations and equipment for the Army of 2030."

The experiment is taking place throughout Army and TRADOC battle labs across the United States. It involves the participation of more than 120 players from active, Reserve and National Guard forces, as well as participants from the Air Force, Marine Corps and the United Kingdom.

During Unified Challenge 17.1, participants are organized into representational staff groups, where they are given three future scenarios, or problem sets, to work through in an action-reaction-counteraction



ARMY GRAPHIC

wargame.

"You'll be given a problem and you'll be asked — using the organization that you're representing and the tools that you would have in the future — how would you solve it, and could you solve it? And we wargame that out," Grieme said.

Using their skill sets and experience, participants discuss potential solutions to future problems. Working together, they determine the concepts and capabilities needed to fight — and win — against future adversaries across the multiple domains of land, air, sea, space and cyber.

After the experiment, these ideas and solutions will be analyzed by a community of experts and analysts to determine what worked and what didn't, Grieme said. This, in turn, will lead to recommendations to senior Army leaders on what needs to move forward into further concept development and then eventually into the future of the Army.

"We look for the best ideas for the future force, we evaluate them rigorously and then begin the efforts to design the Army against them," he said.

Unified Challenge is one of the ways ARCIC continues to examine the requirements needed to build the force of the future, supporting the priorities set by the chief of staff of the Army.

"We will do what it takes to build an agile, adaptive Army of the future," said Gen. Mark Milley, Army chief of staff, in his initial message to the Army. "Developing a lethal, professional and technically competent force requires an openness to new ideas and new ways of doing things in an increasingly complex world. We will change and adapt."

The next iteration of Unified Challenge, 17.2, is a simulation-based experiment that's scheduled to take place Sept. 6-22. To learn more about Unified Challenge, visit <http://www.arcic.army.mil/Initiatives/Unified-Challenge>.

## LIFE SAVERS

### Soldiers extract teammate from enemy lines using UAS feed

By Staff Sgt. Jason Hull

For Army News Service

CAMP SWIFT, Iraq — Before he enlisted, Spc. Erik Salmon was a traveler, fond of seeing new places and experiencing different cultures.

Since deploying to Iraq in May with the 2nd Brigade Combat Team, 101st Airborne Division (Air Assault), the 26-year-old intelligence analyst has been confined to tiny Camp Swift, behind dirt barriers, concrete walls and concertina wire.

"For the last nine months, I've only spent a total of eight hours outside Swift for my buddy's reenlistment in Erbil," he stated. "I jumped on a convoy during my off shift. I got about four hours of sleep that night."

Now, Salmon is just days away from returning to Fort Campbell, Kentucky.

"I'm pretty excited to leave," the tall, slender Soldier admitted with a chuckle.

Salmon and his fellow U.S. Soldiers at Camp Swift are working alongside international coalition partners in support of the Iraq government and the Iraqi Security Forces as they wage war against the terrorist group, the Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant.

Salmon's own "Strike Brigade" has spent the last 270 days advising, assisting, training, and equipping the ISF as they conduct an ongoing offensive to liberate Mosul, the second-largest city in the country. Although U.S. forces are not engaging in direct combat, they provide intelligence, indirect fire support, and reconnaissance for maneuvering Iraqi forces.

During his deployment, Salmon has seen plenty of Iraq, but he has seen most of it only through the lens of the camera on an Aerosonde unmanned aircraft system. The UAS feeds a picture of the battlespace to a joint U.S.-Iraqi operations cell where he works.

The UAS has no weapons, but provides overwatch for maneuvering ISF, reconnaissance and surveillance, as well as targeting and observation for indirect fire support.

SEE UAS, PAGE B4



PHOTO BY MAJ. IREKA R. SANDERS

Spc. Erik Salmon, an intelligence analyst assigned to the 2nd BCT, 101st Airborne Division, poses for a photograph while deployed in support of Operation Inherent Resolve at Camp Swift, Iraq, Jan. 8.



## ANNOUNCEMENTS

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The Coffee County Commission is  
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### Clerk-Secretary

This position is for its facilities in New Brockton, Alabama. Duties include but not limited to: Basic office procedures, ability to interact with public both in person and on telephone, skills with computer and other office equipment, filing and general administrative duties. Experience preferred. Must have a valid driver's license. Salary range: \$10.39 to \$18.37 HR. Benefits include: paid vacation, sick leave, health insurance, holidays, and state retirement.  
Closing date: February 10, 2017.

**All applications/resumes must be submitted to the Alabama Career Center. No faxes, emails, etc. forwarded to the Commission Office will be accepted.**  
Coffee County is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

## JOB ANNOUNCEMENT

The Coffee County Commission is  
accepting applications for the position of

### Custodian

for its facilities in New Brockton, Alabama. Duties include but not limited to: cleaning floors, windows, bathrooms, empty trash and setting up and taking down tables and chairs for events, meetings and organized functions. Experience preferred. Must have a valid driver's license. Pay dependent on experience. Benefits include: paid vacation, sick leave, health insurance, holidays, and state retirement.  
Closing date: February 10th, 2017.  
**Please apply at the Alabama Career Center, Enterprise, AL.**  
Coffee County is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

## JOB ANNOUNCEMENT

The Coffee County Tire Processing Center has an opening for the position:  
**Tire Processing Center Operator III.**  
Pay Range \$13.21 to \$16.49 based on experience. General facility maintenance and operations experience in an industrial environment; knowledge of automated processes to include the utilization of computer systems, and a valid Alabama Driver's License are required. The ability to weld, fabricate metal components, and operate various forms of material handling equipment preferred.

Benefits include: paid vacation, sick leave, health insurance, holidays, and State retirement. Closing date: February 7, 2017.

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## Depot assists Aviation battalion deploying to Europe

**By Brigitte Rox**

*Army Materiel Command Public Affairs*

CORPUS CHRISTI ARMY DEPOT, Texas — A fleet of AH-64 Apaches from the 1st Battalion, 501st Aviation Regiment, 1st Armored Division at Fort Bliss landed at the Corpus Christi Army Depot in mid-January to prepare for their February deployment to Europe.



PHOTO BY KIANA W. ALLEN

**AH-64 Apaches from Fort Bliss, Texas, on the flightline at Corpus Christi Army Depot in mid-January.**

on the night shifts in the operations cell, the Soldiers had bonded with their Iraqi counterparts, Salmon said. They took local meals together. On slow nights, they had passed the time with games. Gradually their camaraderie had overcome the language barrier.

through the darkness. Then something unknown appeared on the ISR. On edge, the entire cell froze. Everyone feared the worst. With relief, they soon realized it was only a stray horse.

# UAS

Continued from Page B1

Salmon is the liaison between the pilot and the operations cell, interpreting what he sees on the screen for intelligence gathering, a critical role for the ISF fight. Although he is living in less than ideal conditions, Salmon has appreciated the experience.

## SAVING AN IRAQI SOLDIER

One night, Salmon found himself glued to the Intelligence, Surveillance, and Reconnaissance UAS video feed. That night, he wasn't following the enemy – he was searching for an ISF soldier who had found himself all alone, trapped in enemy-held territory.

him, the enemy could be lurking anywhere.

In desperation, the Iraqi lieutenant used his cell phone to call the coalition forces in the operations cell. There, the U.S. and Iraqi Soldiers asked the lieutenant to describe his surroundings so they could pinpoint his location. Using a map, they tried to sync what they could see on the grainy UAS feed with the details the soldier provided.

Back at the operations cell, the Iraqi and U.S. Soldiers watched as the soldier raced

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FEBRUARY 2, 2017

## Something for everyone

### Post offers variety of activities, specials for Valentine's Day

By Jeremy Henderson  
Army Flier Staff Writer

Romance is in the air this Valentine's Day weekend thanks to a variety of events and specials from Fort Rucker's Directorate of Family, Morale, Welfare and Recreation.

The events, ranging from single Soldier to family friendly, are designed to cater to Fort Rucker's diverse demographic.

"We have a diverse community and we always want to offer something everyone can enjoy," Janice Erdlitz, Fort Rucker DFMWR marketing director, said. "Whether you're civilian or military, single Soldier or family, you will be able to find something to do with the many fun activities planned for this Valentine's Day."

#### DUELING PIANOS

The Landing hosts Dueling Pianos in the main ballroom Feb. 10 from 8 p.m. until midnight. Doors open at 7 p.m. Tickets may be purchased ahead of time for \$12 at The Landing, The Landing Zone, MWR Central and The Coffee Zone locations at both Lyster and the Soldier Service Center, Bldg. 5700. Tickets are also sold at the door on the night of the event at The Landing for \$16. VIP tables with 10 reserved seats are also available for \$150.

"I'm hoping families will take advantage of the DFMWR specials and events planned this month," Erdlitz said. "We're super excited about bringing back some top quality entertainers for our Dueling Pianos event. If you've neverbeentoashow,

it's so much fun. The energy and excitement of the performers is amazing.

"You'll definitely find yourself singing along to songs before you know it," she added. "Dueling Pianos is one of those fun events, where you can go with a group of friends, or just yourself, or you and your spouse, you're going to have fun. This is a great time to enjoy some quality time to make memories.

According to Erdlitz, another great aspect of the evening is the special dining experience offered by The Landing Zone.

"So, you enjoy a fabulous dinner before the show and then head down the hallway to the ballroom for Dueling Pianos," she said.

#### BEFORE THE SHOW

The Landing Zone invites the public to celebrate early with a pre-show dinner, prior to the Dueling Pianos. The dinner features a special prime rib Evening with several steak size options, including a king cut 16 oz. for \$25.99 and a queen cut 12 oz. for \$21.99, or a salmon dish for \$19.99. Additional menu items will be available, including hamburgers, cheeseburgers, pork sandwiches, brisket, chicken tenders, fries, salads and more. Reservations are highly recommended. Seating availability is limited.

Since Valentine's Day falls on a Tuesday, couples will have an additional opportunity to dine out for the big day.

"We try to create opportunities for couples to take advantage of on this special day," Erdlitz said. "Offering special dining options here on post makes it more convenient for families to enjoy a night out. We know it's a special evening and The Landing does an amazing job at pulling together a truly speculator three course meal dining experience."

#### SWEETHEART DINNER

The Landing Zone hosts a Sweetheart Dinner Feb. 14 from 4-9 p.m. Guests may customize their three-course meal by selecting from set menu options. Each guest may choose an appetizer or salad, an entrée, and

SEE EVERYONE, PAGE C5

# RESILIENCY

## Newlywed game seeks to help couples

By Nathan Pfau  
Army Flier Staff Writer

Marriage can bring its own unique stressors into life, but Army Community Service wants to help combat that by helping people communicate.

In a combined effort with Army Family Team Building, the family advocacy program and family resilience training, ACS will host the Newlywed and not-so-Newlywed Game Feb. 10 from 5:30-8:30 p.m. at Corvias Military Living in Bldg. 2908 where couples will discover their personality traits and the effects they might have on their relationship, according to Ruth Gonzalez, ACS relocation readiness program manager.

"We want to give people the tools to at least be able to recognize who they are, where they are (in their relationship) and how they react to life's challenges, because you can't fix a problem if you don't know what the problem is," she said. "This event



ARMY GRAPHIC

is just a teaser – this isn't a full-on training session. This is just to give couples a taste of program while having a little fun."

The event has space for up to 20 couples and will kick off with a complimentary dinner, and four of those couples will be chosen to participate as contestants in the game show following dinner.

"We'll start off talking about personality traits and how that affects relationships, and then we will go into active-constructive responding, which is one of the topics that is discussed during resiliency training," said Gonzalez, adding that the game show is meant to add a bit of fun while opening up communication.

Communication is one of the main goals of the program, and the event is also meant to help couples see if there is more that they

might need to delve into, which is something they would be able to do with the resiliency training sessions that ACS provides, said the program manager.

"This is a form of training, but it's more about participation, and hopefully if they're interested, they can take the full class later and sign up," she said. "This will get them thinking. Do you know what your personality trait is and how that affects how you behave or are perceived by someone else?"

"Once people understand what their personality trait is, they can see how their spouse perceives them and they can be more sympathetic or empathetic to why they were offended or gotten upset at the way something was said or how one behaved," she continued. "It's really common for us, especially with someone that we know well, to get really comfortable ... and only focus on the negatives. Our job is to train, so whoever is interested in wanting to thrive when you have a challenge – you're not just going to overcome the challenge, you're going to

grow and be a better person.

Gonzalez said it's up to the resiliency team to provide people with those skills so that they can apply them in different situations to be able to adapt and change into what it is they hope to achieve in their relationship.

"People should ask themselves, 'Are you satisfied with that or do you want to change it?'" she said. "If they want to change it then we can provide them with those skills."

Couples must register for the event by Feb. 8 and childcare will be provided. Couples requiring childcare must have their children registered with parent central services.

For those interested in taking the full-day resiliency training sessions following the game-show event, the next sessions will be March 9 and 23 from 8:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.

For more information or to register, call 255-3735. For more information on Parent Central Services, call 255-9636.



# ON POST

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

**Get Smart with Center Library**

Get Smart with Center Library’s brown bag sessions are scheduled for Thursdays in February at 11 a.m. Each session will feature a special guest who will talk about ways for people to improve their life. Topics will include ways to stay active, manage stress and practice Internet safety, according to organizers.

Schedule: stress management, today; nutrition basics and disease prevention with Aimee McDonough, Feb. 9; getting active and enjoying it, Feb. 16; and computer safety and tips with Dr. Greg Price, Feb. 23.

For more information and to register, stop by the Center Library or call 255-3885.

**Mother Rucker’s Super Bowl Party**

Mother Rucker’s will host its Super Bowl party Sunday. Doors open at 4 p.m. The event will feature food, drinks and door prizes. For more information, call 503-0396.

**Book clubs**

The Center Library hosts a book club for adults the third Tuesday of each month from 5-6 p.m. Light refreshments will be served.

The Center Library hosts a book club for teens the third Thursday of each month from 5:30-6:30 p.m. Light refreshments will be served.

Both clubs are open to authorized patrons. For more information, call 255-3885.

**Valentine’s Day Craft**

Center Library will host a Valentine’s craft session Tuesday from 3:30-4:30 p.m. for children ages 3-11. Light refreshments will be served. Space is limited to the first 40 children to register. The event will be Exceptional Family Member Program friendly and open to authorized patrons.

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

**Unromantic Poetry Night**

In honor of Valentine’s Day, Center Library will host its Unromantic Poetry Night reading contest Feb. 9 from 5:30-6:30 p.m. Winners will be decided by the audience. All ages are welcome to bring their most unromantic poetry and participate. The event will be open to authorized patrons and be Exceptional Family Member Program friendly.

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

**Dueling Pianos**

The Landing will host Dueling Pianos, billed as a high-energy, all-request, sing-along, clap-along, rock-n’-roll comedy piano show, Feb. 10 at 8 p.m. Advance tickets will be available for \$12. Tickets will be \$16 after Feb. 9. VIP tables that seat 10 will be available for \$150. Advance tickets may be purchased at The Landing, the Landing Zone, Coffee Zone at Lyster, or MWR Central.

For more information, call 255-0769.

**Resilience workshop**

Army Community Service officials said their resilience training is designed to provide family members and civilians with the tools to better cope with and overcome adversity and challenges, as well as perform better in stressful situations. Their goal is for their students to thrive when facing life challenges, not just bounce back. The workshop will be held from Feb. 10 from 5:30- 8 p.m. in the Corvias Military Living Main Office. People need to register by Wednesday. Resilience training officials will partner with Army Family Team Building and family advocacy in the ACS Newly Wed and Not-so-Newly Wed Game Feb. 20. Participants in the game will also be provided with relationship-building skills.

For more information, call 255-3161 or 255-3735.

**Valentine Day riverboat cruise**

MWR Central will host a trip to Montgomery for a romantic dinner cruise aboard the Harriott II Feb. 11. The cruise will include transportation, roses, surf and turf dinner, commemorative glass, live entertainment, and dancing. The cost is \$200 per couple. The trip will depart from the parking lot of Bldg. 5700 at 4:30 p.m. Boat boards at 6:30 p.m. and cruises from 7-9 p.m.

For more information, call 255-2997.

**Sweetheart Dinner**

The Landing Zone will host its Sweetheart Dinners Feb. 14. The dinner is a



PHOTO BY NATHAN PFAU

## Travel Extravaganza

Fort Rucker will host its 29th annual Travel Extravaganza Feb. 22 from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. at The Landing. The event will feature a Passport Scavenger Hunt for chances to win door prizes, such as attraction tickets, hotel stays, clothing, memorabilia, an MWR Prize pack and a grand prize. Patrons do not have to be present to win. For more information, call 255-2997 or 255-9517. Pictured is a scene from last year’s event.

three-course meal in a romantic setting, according to organizers. For \$48.99 per couple, each person gets their choice of an appetizer, entrée and dessert. The Landing Zone regular menu will not be available during the Sweetheart Dinner. Reservations are highly recommended as seating availability is limited.

For more information or to make reservations, call 255-0768.

**Army Family Team Building app**

People can complete Army Family Team Building training through AFTB’s app. Visit <http://www.ftruckermwr.com/acs/army-family-team-building/> to find the direct link to the app. Once complete, people can contact Fort Rucker AFTB to receive their certificate. Search for AFTB in the app store for Apple devices. For more information, call 255-9637.

**Newcomers welcome**

A newcomers welcome is scheduled for Feb. 17 from 8:30-11 a.m. at The Landing. Active-duty military, spouses, foreign students, Army civilians and family members are encouraged by post officials to attend the newcomers orientation. A free light breakfast and Starbucks coffee will be served. For free childcare, people can register their children at the child development center by calling 255-3564. Reservations must be made 24 hours prior to the newcomers welcome.

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

**Employment readiness class**

The Fort Rucker Employment Readiness Program hosts orientation sessions monthly in the Soldier Service Center, Bldg. 5700, in the Army Community Service multipurpose room, with the next session Feb. 16. People who attend will meet in Rm. 350 at 8:45 a.m. to fill out paperwork before going to the multipurpose room. The class will end at about noon. The sessions will inform people on the essentials of the program and provide job search tips, as well. Advance registration is required and attendance at a session is mandatory for participation in the program.

For more information, call 255-2594.

**Mad Scientist Workshop**

Center Library will host its Mad Scientist Workshop, a science, technology, engineering, art and math program starting Feb. 16 from 4-5 p.m. Youth ages 7-12 are welcome to take the Engineering Challenge. The program is free and open to authorized patrons. Registration is required and limited to the first 20 registrants.

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

**Heart 2 Heart Skate Night**

The Fort Rucker Child Youth Services’

# DFMWR SPOTLIGHT

Open to the Public, Ages 16+

## DUELING PIANOS

Purchase your tickets early and save!

**February 10**  
**The Landing**  
**8 pm–12 am**

**Tickets:**  
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**\$150** VIP Table (seats 10)  
**\$12** until February 9  
**\$16** after February 9

**Grab Dinner Before the Show!**  
The Landing Zone will be offering a Prime Rib Dinner Special before Dueling Pianos. A limited Landing Zone menu will also be available with this special. Special Menu includes choice of:  
**\$25.99** King Cut (16 oz.)  
**\$21.99** Queen Cut (12 oz.)  
**\$19.99** Salmon

VIP tables seat 10, and are guaranteed seating near the stage. Advance tickets may be purchased at The Landing, The Landing Zone, Coffee Zone at Lyster or MWR Central. VIP Table tickets may only be purchased at The Landing.

**For more info call The Landing, (334)255-0769.**  
**For entertainment info call Family & MWR, (334)255-9810.**

### Sweetheart Dinner

**February 14 | The Landing Zone | 4–9 pm**  
**\$25.99 Single, \$48.99 Couple**

Bring your Sweetheart to enjoy a delicious 3-course meal in a romantic setting, includes a complimentary glass of wine (ages 21+). Limited seating available. The Landing Zone, (334)255-0768.

**rucker.armymwr.com**

School Age Center will host its Heart 2 Heart Skate Night Feb. 17. There will be a contest for the best dressed boy and girl. Safety skate is \$2 and will be from 6:15-7:15 p.m. Regular skate is \$5 from 7:30-9:30 p.m. Only cash will be accepted.

Participants must be registered with CYS. For more information, call 255-9108.

**Trivia Tuesday**

Mother Rucker’s hosts its free Trivia Tuesday Tuesdays from 6:30-8:30 p.m.

People are welcome to put teams together or play solo. Teams can be up to eight players and winners will be announced after each round. A \$20 Mother Rucker’s gift card is given out each round to the winning team. The team with the overall highest score at the end of the evening receives a \$25 gift card. Participants will have the chance to win door prizes throughout the evening. Trivia Tuesday is open to the public for those ages 18 and older.

For more information, call 503-0396.

## FORT RUCKER MOVIE SCHEDULE FOR FEBRUARY 2-5

**Thursday, February 2**

**Why Him (R)** .....7 p.m.

**Friday, February 3**

**LA LA Land (PG-13)** .....7 p.m.

**Saturday, February 4**

**Hidden Figures (PG)** .....4 p.m.  
**Fences (PG-13)** .....7 p.m.

**Sunday, February 5**

**Hidden Figures (PG)** .....1 p.m.  
**Fences (PG-13)** .....4 p.m.



# ALL-AMERICAN DIVISION

## Podcast series explores 100-year history of 82nd Airborne Division

By C. Todd Lopez  
Army News Service

WASHINGTON — With just 18 hours of notice, the 82nd Airborne Division can deploy and conduct a forcible-entry operation in support of U.S. interests.

But the division wasn't always that ready and it wasn't always airborne.

With 2017 marking the division's 100th anniversary, the 82nd is now launching a series of initiatives to commemorate its history, share the story of how it became the unit it is today, and celebrate all that the paratroopers have done for the United States and the world.

"This is our centennial, our 100th anniversary, and the entire calendar year of 2017 is a celebration of our legacy," said Lt. Col. Joe Buccino, 82nd Airborne Public Affairs Office.

Among those initiatives is a new podcast series, "All American Legacy Podcast." The 82nd plans to produce one or more podcast episodes each week, over the course of the year.

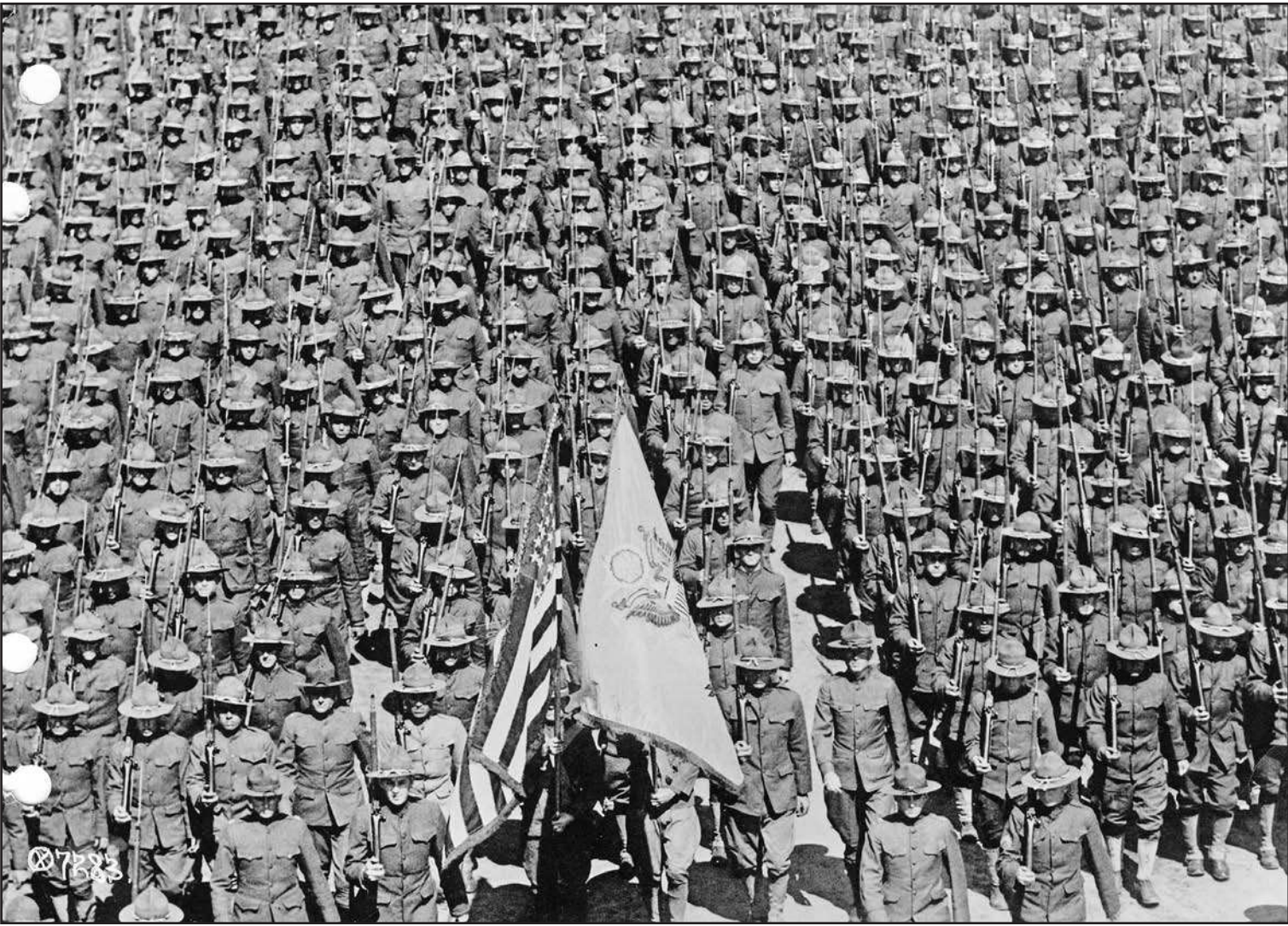
The first of those episodes, "All American Legacy Podcast: Episode 1 – Birth," details how the division was formed in 1917. The episode went live on YouTube, iTunes, Google Play and the 82nd's Facebook page, Jan. 17.

### FROM INFANTRY TO AIRBORNE

As the first podcast explains, the 82nd started off in August 1917 at Camp Gordon, Georgia, to contribute to the fighting in World War I. At the time, there was no airborne capability in the U.S. Army. The 82nd was an infantry division. It would go on to fight in some of the critical battles of the First World War.

"St. Mihiel comes to mind, as does Meuse-Argonne," Buccino said. "Alvin York was our biggest moment in that war: Alvin York in the Argonne Forrest. A lot of people, I don't think, associate Alvin York with the 82nd, but he was our second Medal of Honor recipient."

In 1919, after the First World War, the 82nd was deactivated. In 1921, it stood up again, going on to operate for 20 years in the Army Reserve as a drilling Reserve unit. In March 1942, a little more than three months after the attacks at Pearl Harbor, the 82nd



ARMY PHOTO

The 82nd formed on Camp Gordon, Ga., in 1917 for entry into World War I. The division would later become the legendary 82nd Airborne Division.

was recalled to active duty.

At the time, Buccino explained, the Allies were looking to "introduce this new airborne concept: vertical envelopment."

"Gen. Matthew B. Ridgway, the commanding general at the time, had trained the division above the platoon level," Buccino said. "He trained so efficiently that the 82nd was selected to become an airborne division."

So it was, in August 1942, that the 82nd Infantry Division became the 82nd Airborne Division, just 25 years after it first stood up at Camp Gordon.

"It was chaotic because the division had been trained for standard infantry operations in World War II," Buccino said. "And the division had to be reorganized. Half the division was sent off to the 101st."

### JUMPING INTO WWII

Around that time, the airborne concept was still new, Buccino said. The Germans had been doing it, he said, and now the allies wanted to do it, too. But it remained to be seen whether the

concept would work in large numbers.

"When General Ridgway announced that ... we're going to an airborne status for the European theater," Buccino said, "[Soldiers] had the option to stay in the division, or leave, or go somewhere else. But the overwhelming majority decided to stay in the 82nd."

In 1942, commercial Aviation in the United States was still in its infancy. Most Soldiers in the 82nd Airborne had likely never even been on an airplane. And now, the Army was asking them to jump out of one. Many of them were terrified, Buccino said.

"We know now when we do these airborne operations that the equipment will work and that we will arrive safely on the ground," he explained. "But then, people didn't really have that reassurance."

When the first paratroopers of the 82nd Airborne Division embarked on the first operational jump mission in Italy, many of them were just novices at parachuting by today's standards, Buccino said.

"They all had done this less than 10 times in training – as aircraft to train on this were not available in the U.S. back then," he said. "Today, we have paratroopers here who have jumped 70 or 80 times. They are very familiar and comfortable with it."

Today, he said, at Fort Bragg, North Carolina, 82nd Airborne Division Soldiers conduct 10,000 training jumps a month.

### ALL AMERICAN LEGACY PODCAST

Buccino said the division plans to cover as much of the 82nd's 100-year history as possible in the "All American Legacy" podcast series, in many cases, through the voices of its own veterans.

"There's an awful lot to cover here," Buccino said. "What we're looking to tell are unique and cool stories that people are going to be interested in. It's an in-their-own-words format."

Buccino said his office at the 82nd has been seeking out not just veterans, but relatives of veterans, as well, through social media and the 82nd Airborne Division Asso-

ciation to ask them to come in and tell their stories.

The team developing the podcasts has already spoken with the family of Alvin York, for instance, and also with his grand-nephew, who is serving in the 82nd.

"It's kind of a coincidence there," Buccino said. "We talked to him for this next podcast."

Future topics include the 555th Parachute Infantry Battalion, an all-black parachute battalion, he said, who "served as smoke jumpers on the West Coast of the United States during World War II and were incorporated into the 82nd after the war. That's a great story."

They also plan to feature Dan Carlin, host of the "Hardcore History" podcast, in an episode, and cover the 82nd's involvement in the Cold War, as well, including operations in Panama, Honduras and the Dominican Republic.

People interested in learning more about the 100-year history of the "All-American" division can find the podcasts at youtube.com/user/82ndAirborneDiv1, on iTunes, or on Google Play.

## American 'Iron Soldiers' stand ready in Europe

By U.S. European Command  
Public Affairs

ZAGAN, Poland — The Army's 3rd Armored Brigade Combat Team, 4th Infantry Division is ready for any mission, U.S. European Command's deputy commander, Air Force Lt. Gen. Timothy M. Ray, said at the unit's consolidation and validation event Monday.

"These 'Iron Soldiers' ... send a clear signal of our commitment as they round out our joint team's capability in a very significant way," the general said. "The events in 2014 and the trans-Atlantic declarations from the Wales and Warsaw Summits demonstrate the indivisibility and unity of the alliance in light of Russia's invasion into Ukraine. These events forged a commitment and a plan to build our defense and deterrence posture in Europe."

Ray added, "Know that our commitment to defense is rock-solid. We must maintain the territorial integrity of our alliance and maintain a Europe that is whole, free, prosperous and at peace."

The unit's deployment to Europe is part of Operation Atlantic Resolve, which was designed to reassure NATO allies and partners in the region after Russia invaded Ukraine. Ray said the arrival of the combat team was just one aspect of America's commitment to the region.

### INCREASED PRESENCE

"The thousands of Iron Soldiers here are a key part of our joint land, naval, air, space and cyberspace team," the general said. "Be assured, the full weight of the U.S. military stands behind these sentinels of freedom."



PHOTO BY STAFF SGT. ELIZABETH TARR

Residents of Zagan, Poland, welcome American Soldiers to their country during a ceremony at Gen. Stanislaw Macek Park Jan. 14.

Deployed from Fort Carson, Colorado, the 3,500 Soldiers and 2,000 vehicles of the 3rd Armored Brigade Combat Team join a recently increased land, sea and air presence in the region. The arrival of the 3rd ABCT begins a series of back-to-back rotations of U.S. troops and equipment to the region. The Soldiers and vehicles will mass in Poland and then disperse via convoy across seven locations in Eastern Europe for training and exercises with European allies.

These forces represent one element of America's commitment to European security, and they stand ready to defend that security if called upon, officials said.

The U.S. forces, officials added, will train with U.S. allies and partners, ultimately leading to greater interoperability.

"We are invested ... from infrastructure upgrades across the continent to airfields and ranges; we're also prepositioning supplies and equipment and exercising with our allies and partners," Ray said in a previous statement.

"We will also increase the scope and complexity of many exercises in our portfolio focusing on joint interoperability, missile defense and crisis-response operations."

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Spc. Tabari Sibby

# MEET YOUR ARMY

*Soldier renders farewell honors to former president*

By Don Wagner  
Army News Service

FORT MEADE, Md. – Spc. Tabari Sibby stood at attention and presented arms Jan. 20 as former President Barack Obama and the former first lady departed Joint Base Andrews and boarded a plane that would take them to California.

“It is a great feeling to participate in this historic event,” the 23-year-old Chicago native said afterward. “I and my colleagues were honored to have been a part of it.”

Sibby has been a member of the Honor Guard Company, 4th Battalion, 3rd U.S. Infantry Regiment “The Old Guard” at Fort Myer, Virginia, for a little more than three years. He serves as a member of the Full Honors Firing Party and as a team leader within Standard Honors.

“Old Guard Soldiers are in Arlington National Cemetery daily rendering final honors to the fallen, both past and present,” said Staff Sgt. Kelvin Ringold, public affairs NCO in charge, 3rd Inf. Regt.

For Sibby, the most rewarding part of being an Old Guard member is working in memorial affairs. He especially appreciates participating in the final gun salute for fallen brothers and sisters in arms at Arlington National Cemetery.

Born and raised in Chicago, Sibby graduated high school in 2011 and attended Indiana State University to study political science before enlisting in the Army two years later. He joined the Army believing it was his civil duty to his country and because of his patriotism.

Currently pursuing a bachelor’s degree in military history at American Military University, Sibby hopes to serve someday as a military science professor at the United States Military Academy at West Point.

Sibby was chosen to join the Old Guard because of his height of 6 feet 3 inches, he said, and because of his high military test scores. Unit members must pass a regular uniform inspection and become proficient in unit rifle tactics and drill that is conducted by the firing party commander, according to 1st Lt. José Pernía, platoon leader, Presidential Firing Party, Honor Guard Company.

Sibby completed the Army Light Leader Course in January 2015 at Fort Benning, Georgia, as well.

“Spc. Sibby is a dedicated and knowledgeable Soldier whose precision and attention to detail has served to separate him from his peers,” said Pernía.

In July, Sibby will be transferred to Camp Vilseck, Germany, where he will be assigned to the 2nd Cavalry Regiment. He eventually wants to be a drill sergeant because he wants “to mold and train the next generation of Soldiers.”

“Sibby will be sorely missed by Honor Guard Company family, but we rest assured in knowing that he will go on to his next duty station with every intention of further developing those around him and himself,” Pernía said.

Sibby believes the key to good leadership is to give purpose and direction to Soldiers while motivating them to be better no matter what, by focusing on selfless service. “So many Soldiers have sacrificed so much for us and without them many of us wouldn’t be here now,” said Sibby.

Sibby believes the good leadership means imbuing Soldiers with a sense of purpose and direction, while motivating them to be better no matter what by focusing on selfless service.

“So many Soldiers have sacrificed so much for us and without them many of us wouldn’t be here now,” Sibby said.

His advice for anyone considering joining the Army is to “give your all and then stay motivated through everything.”

Sibby admires his mother because of her strength. “She raised me, my brother and my two sisters completely on her own,” said Sibby.

He enjoys reading, writing and working out. His favorite sports teams are the Chicago Cubs, Chicago Black Hawks, the Chicago Bears and the Chicago Bulls.

“To hear about the things in the news on all the violence in Chicago today really hurts me,” Sibby said. “It hurts me to see my city go down the drain and I feel no one wants to make it better. I think people of Chicago need to come together and think about their actions. They need to figure out the best plan of action to combat drug abuse, hate, and murder and gang violence.”



PHOTO BY AIR FORCE SENIOR AIRMAN PHILIP BRYANT

Former President Barack Obama and his wife, Michelle, walk to Special Air Mission 44 after his farewell address at Joint Base Andrews, Md., Jan. 20. Sibby was one of the honor guard members lining the red carpet.

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# Army launching new TV series showing real lives of Soldiers

By Don Wagner  
Army News Service

FORT MEADE, Md. — Soldiers Broadcasting is launching its newest video series called “Soldiers” Tuesday on Defense TV, YouTube and the new Soldiers webpage.

“These videos showcase the American Soldier in action, preparing for and conducting missions every day around the globe,” said Maj. Gen. Malcolm B. Frost, U.S. Army chief of Public Affairs. “Soldier skills, grit, commitment and character will be on full display. You will be inspired by the Soldiers who defend our nation as part of the greatest team on earth.”

The first episode of the series will follow an M-1 tank crew training and showcase the readiness and enduring value of Army forces.

“The series aims to excite and inspire viewers as they experience the dedication and excellence of this nation’s Army Soldiers, family members and veterans,” said Peter Ising, one of the show’s producers. “[The series] displays Soldiers in their element and their readiness to defend the United States and its allies.”

“Soldier’s stories are exciting, inspiring — they move. We want people to feel the way we feel about Soldiers,” said Lance Milsted, Soldiers Broadcasting executive producer. “When we created the ‘Soldiers’ series, we wanted to create something different, something original and, above all, something compelling.”

The first season consists of four episodes that will debut on a monthly basis, February through May.

-- February -- “Seeding Excellence (Sullivan Cup)” follows an M-1 tank crew training at Fort Stewart, Georgia, through its competition at the biannual Sullivan Cup gunnery competition at Fort Benning, Georgia.

-- March -- “Best Medic” follows two Soldiers as they compete in the Army Best Medic competition at Camp Bullis, Texas. The competition tests their abilities as Soldiers and as medics in scenarios they might encounter in the real world.

-- April -- “Workforce Warrior” takes a close look at the process of transitioning from active duty to the civilian workforce and examines how work-study programs are helping veterans. The segment highlights a Soldier who is taking advantage of one such program while also working in a bakery and the Soldier for Life program.

-- May -- “Empire Shield” explores the work of members of the New York National Guard who have been assisting the New York City Police Department and Department of Homeland Security safeguard New York City as



PHOTO BY STAFF SGT. JOSE IBARRA

An M1A2 tank crew from C Company, 1st Battalion, 64th Armor Regiment competes in the Sullivan Cup at Fort Benning, Ga., May 4.



PHOTO BY LANCE MILSTED

Soldiers Broadcasting producer Pete Ising films an M1A2 tank crew.

part of Task Force Empire Shield. The segment highlights individual readiness and homeland defense.

“Our team of Soldiers and civilians will go where Soldiers and their families live, train, and work to support and defend America and American interests — wherever that is — Alaska, Africa, or Afghanistan,” explained Michael Burnette, Soldiers Broadcasting chief. “This new original feature series is their story.”

The show is available online at [www.army.mil/soldiers](http://www.army.mil/soldiers) or <https://www.youtube.com/USArmy>. It can also be viewed on Defense TV. The Defense TV app can be downloaded for free on iOS mobile devices, Roku, Apple TV, Amazon Fire TV and Google Chromecast.



PHOTO BY CAPT. JEAN MARIE KRATZER

New York Army National Guard Soldiers assigned to Joint Task Force Empire Shield are interviewed by Staff Sgt. Jose Ibarra, NCO in charge of Soldiers Broadcasting, Aug. 17.

## Everyone

Continued from Page C1

dessert. Sweetheart Diner prices are \$48.99 per couple and \$25.99 per individual. Reservations are highly recommended. Seating availability is limited.

For more information regarding Dueling Pianos, contact The Landing at 598-2426. For more information, or to make reservations, for Sweetheart Dinner, call The Landing Zone at 598-8025.

### OTHER EVENTS

#### VALENTINE’S DAY CRAFT

Center Library will host a Valentine’s craft session Tuesday from 3:30-4:30 p.m. for children ages 3-11. Light refreshments will be served. Space is limited to the first 40 children to register. The event will be Exceptional Family Member Program friendly and open to authorized patrons.

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

#### UNROMANTIC POETRY NIGHT

In honor of Valentine’s Day, Center Library will host its Unromantic Poetry Night reading contest Feb. 9 from 5:30-6:30 p.m. Winners will be decided by the audience. All ages are welcome to bring their most unromantic poetry and participate. The event will be open to authorized patrons and be Exceptional Family Member Program friendly.

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

#### VALENTINE DAY RIVERBOAT CRUISE

MWR Central will host a trip to Montgomery for a romantic dinner cruise aboard the Harriott II Feb. 11. The cruise will include transportation, roses, surf and turf dinner, commemorative glass, live entertainment, and dancing. The cost is \$200 per couple. The trip will depart from the parking lot of Bldg. 5700 at 4:30 p.m. Boat boards at 6:30 p.m. and cruises from 7-9 p.m. For more information, call 255-2997.



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# State park hosts event to highlight eagles

## Alabama State Parks Press Release

Lake Guntersville State Park will host its annual Eagle Awareness Weekends through Feb. 19.

The event features live bird demonstrations, programs delivered by notable speakers and guided field trips for viewing eagles in their natural habitat. The park is located at 1155 Lodge Drive, Guntersville. Recently, park staff discovered a new eagle nest in the park. Eagle Awareness visitors will be able to view the nest with a guide. Other

new programs and activities include live bald eagle demonstrations on each Sunday afternoon bird of prey programs, Chick-fil-A Adventure Quest for children under 12, Friday story time, and the Gunter School Photo Contest for Marshall County students.

Eagle Awareness events are free to the public. There is no registration needed to attend the programs or field trips. However, the sessions can fill up fast so participants are encouraged to arrive early for the events. To celebrate Eagle Awareness at Lake Guntersville, the park is offer-

ing several overnight accommodation packages and dining specials. Package holder exclusives include priority seating at all programs, exclusive photo opportunities with Sunday presenters, and discounts to participating businesses and restaurants in the Guntersville area.

For more information about the events schedule, Eagle Awareness packages or to make reservations, visit [www.alapark.com/lake-guntersville-state-park](http://www.alapark.com/lake-guntersville-state-park) or call 256-571-5440. To learn more about Alabama State Parks, visit [www.alapark.com](http://www.alapark.com).



# WIREGRASS COMMUNITY CALENDAR

IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO ADVERTISE YOUR EVENT, EMAIL JIM HUGHES WITH ALL THE DETAILS AT [JHUGHES@ARMYFLIER.COM](mailto:JHUGHES@ARMYFLIER.COM).

## ANDALUSIA

**ONGOING** — Andalusia Public Library offers free practice tests. Patrons can choose from more than 300 online tests based on official exams such as the ACT, SAT, GED, ASVAB, firefighter, police officer, paramedic, U.S. citizenship and many more. Patrons may select to take a test and receive immediate scoring. Test results are stored in personalized individual accounts, accessible only to patrons. Call 222-6612 for more information.

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

**ONGOING** — Ballroom dancing lessons are offered Tuesdays at 6:30 p.m. at the Cultural Arts Center. Lessons will teach the Fox Trot, East Coast Swing, Rumba and Waltz. The cost will be \$2 per person per night. For more information, call 791-9407.

**ONGOING** — The Tri-States Coin Club meets the third Monday of each month at 7 p.m. in the back room of Interco Coins located at 2314 Ross Clark Circle. Described as designed for all ages, the event begins with a short meeting followed by a coin auction. For more information, call 393-2376.

**ONGOING** — The Wiregrass Museum of Art hosts First Saturday Family Day the first Saturday of every month at 10:30 a.m. The event is recommended for elementary-aged children. For more information, visit [wiregrassmuseum.com](http://wiregrassmuseum.com) or call 794-3871.

**ONGOING** — In partnership with non-profit yoga studio Mesuva Studios, the Wiregrass Museum of Art introduces The Art of Yoga, a monthly yoga series taking place the first Friday of every month. The class will incorporate the therapeutic nature of art with the healing properties of yoga under the instruction of certified yogi Melissa Vair. To register, participants should call 794-3871 or visit [www.mesuvastudios.org](http://www.mesuvastudios.org). Everyone is asked to bring a yoga mat, towel and water bottle. A \$10 donation to benefit Mesuva Studios is suggested for each class.

## ENTERPRISE

**FEB. 4** — Club Yesepoch, Inc., presents Dr. Edward David Brown, retired Air Force and current professor of business at Alabama State University, as guest speaker at its 19th annual community-wide Black History Banquet. The event will commence at 6 p.m. at the Enterprise Civic Center. For more information, call 334-790-2339 or 334-406-9895.

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

**ONGOING** — Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 6683, John Wiley Brock Post monthly membership meetings for the VFW Post 6683 and Auxiliary are on the third Tuesday of each month at 7 p.m. at the post headquarters building located at 2615 Coffee County Road 537. The post mailing address is P.O. Box 311752 Enterprise, AL 36330. For more information, call 334-464-1171 or the auxiliary at 334-464-2222. The post also has a Facebook site at [vfw post 6683](https://www.facebook.com/vfwpost6683).

**ONGOING** — The Enterprise baseball team is starting a league and is in need of players. High school- and college-aged people are eligible to play. Tryouts will be held every weekend until April. For more information, including times and locations of tryouts, call 334-347-1660.

## GENEVA

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

## MIDLAND CITY

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

## NEW BROCKTON

**FEB. 23** — Disabled American Veterans Chapter 99 will meet at 6 p.m. in the senior center, located one block behind the old New Brockton Police station. Food and drink will be served, followed by regular chapter business. The group invites other veterans throughout the Wiregrass to join as DAV or DAV Auxiliary. For more information, call 334-718- 5707.

**ONGOING** — Tuesdays and Wednesdays, from 9-11 a.m., Disabled American Veterans Chapter 99 maintains a service office in the New Brockton Police Station at 706 McKinnon Street. The office will assist veterans who were injured or disabled while in military service. DAV service officers help veterans and their spouses with disability compensation claims, Veterans Affairs pensions, death benefits, VA medical care, Social Security disability benefits, veterans job programs, homeless veterans services and other veteran services. All veteran services are provided

free of charge. For more information, call 334-406-6700.

## OZARK

**FEB. 10** — St. Michael's Episcopal Church will host a classical guitar concert at 7 p.m. The classical guitarist is Stephen Robinson, professor of music at Stetson University. Following the concert will be a meet-the-artist reception in the church parish hall. This is a free concert.

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

## PINCKARD

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

## SAMSON

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

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

## TROY

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

## WIREGRASS AREA

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

**ONGOING** — The Marine Corps League, Wiregrass Det. 752, welcomes all Marines, Navy corpsmen and chaplains, and their families, to its monthly meetings. Meetings are held the first Thursday of each month at 7 p.m. Attendees are welcome to arrive early for food and camaraderie. The next meeting will be at the Golden Corral in Dothan. For more information, call 718-4168 or 805-7335.

**ONGOING** — Mount Calvary Missionary Baptist Church, 970 County Road 528, Elba, offers Sunday school the first, second, third and fourth Sundays of the month at 9:45 a.m., and worship the first and third Sundays of the month at 11 a.m. Bible study is Wednesdays after the first and third Sundays from 6-7 p.m. For more information, call 334-774-1738.

## Beyond Briefs

### Mardi Gras in Mobile

Mobile is not only recognized as celebrating the first known American Mardi Gras celebration in 1703, but also as home to America's Family Mardi Gras, according to city tourism officials. The celebration lasts more than 2 1/2 weeks — now through Feb. 28 — and culminates on Fat Tuesday, the day before Lent. For weeks, the streets of downtown Mobile are filled with the sights and sounds of live marching bands, brilliantly colored floats and, of course, crowds of parade-goers. The floats are glowing spectacles manned by masked riders festooned in satin and sequins, and armed with crowd-pleasing throws, such as beads, MoonPies, doubloons and candy.

For more information, visit <http://www.mobile.org/>.

### 'To Kill a Mockingbird'

Prattville's Way Off Broadway Theatre announces its production of Harper Lee's "To Kill a Mockingbird," adapted by Christopher Sergel, which will be produced by special arrangement with The Dramatic Publishing Company of Woodstock, Illinois, Feb. 9-26.

It will show Fridays and Saturdays at 7:30 p.m., Sundays at 2 p.m., and Feb. 9 at 7:30 p.m. and Feb. 14 at 7:30 p.m.

For more information, call 334-595 -0854 or visit [wobt.prattvilleal.gov](http://wobt.prattvilleal.gov).

### Orchid Show and Sale

Bellingrath Gardens and the Home for the Mobile Area Orchid Society will host their 40th annual Orchid Show and Sale Feb. 17-19 from noon to 5 p.m. at the gardens in Theodore. Mobile Area Orchid Society members will display their best orchids, and will be available to answer questions and provide tips on growing and caring for these exotic plants. There will be vendors selling orchids, supplies and accessories. Admission into the show is free of charge, but guests are encouraged to tour the gardens and home.

For more information, visit <https://bellingrath.org/>.

### Orange Beach Seafood Festival

The Orange Beach Sports Association will host its 25th annual Orange Beach Seafood Festival Feb. 18 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. The festival will feature food; more than 40 arts and crafts vendors; music for the whole family; a silent auction; a car show featuring

antique, classic and hot rod vehicles; a Kids Zone with climbing wall, inflatables and games; and also a children's performance pavilion.

For more information, visit <http://www.obparksandrec.com/eventscalendardlist/seafoodfestcarshow.html>.

### 'Because of Winn-Dixie'

Montgomery's Alabama Shakespeare Festival will host its production of "Because of Winn-Dixie" now through Feb. 12. Based on the novel by Kate DiCamillo, the new musical by Tony-winning "Spring Awakening" songwriter Duncan Sheik and Tony-nominated "Legally Blonde" lyricist Nell Benjamin, is based on the children's book of the same title, according to organizers. The story is about a dog who brings new life and hope into a family as Opal Buloni and her preacher father settle in a new Southern town full of quirky characters. The production is recommended for ages 9 and older.

Ticket prices vary based on play, date and availability of seating. Show times and ticket purchasing are available at [www.asf.net/Plays-and-Shows/2016-2017-Season/Because-of-Winn-Dixie.aspx](http://www.asf.net/Plays-and-Shows/2016-2017-Season/Because-of-Winn-Dixie.aspx)

For more information, call 334-271-5353.

### Theatre in the Mind

The Alabama Shakespeare Festival will host its free Theatre in the Mind series on various Saturdays now through May 6 from noon to 1 p.m. The series is designed to help people gain new insights into ASF productions through the acclaimed Theatre in the Mind and Bard Talk lecture discussions. Designed around the plays ASF presents each season, people can participate in free pre-show discussions with authors, cast members, designers and directors. The discussions are hosted by Dr. Susan Willis, ASF's resident dramaturge.

Schedule: Feb. 4 — Because of Winn-Dixie; Feb. 18 —The Two Gentlemen of Verona; March 11 —Sherlock Holmes; March 25 —Dauphin Island; and April 22 —The Tempest; and May 6 — Rep Actor's Discussion (after matinee) and Narrated Changeover.

Theatre in the Mind is free and open to the public. Reservations are not required — people may pick up their tickets at the box office counter just before each lecture. People do not need to be a ticket holder to that day's performance to attend the lecture.

For more information, call 334-271-5353, or visit [www.asf.net/Education/Theatre-in-the-Mind.aspx](http://www.asf.net/Education/Theatre-in-the-Mind.aspx).



# FACE OF DEFENSE

## Engineer becomes 1-man office in Estonia

By Jennifer Aldridge  
*U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Europe*

TALLINN, Estonia — Chris Bailey grew up in Alabama and saw snow so infrequently he thought it was a Christmas miracle. As a boy, his hometown was dusted by flurries no more than a handful of times.

Now serving with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Europe District in Estonia, snow is a daily reality for Bailey – at least in the winter months when average temperatures hover around freezing in the Baltic country.

As a one-man project office, Bailey is the engineer responsible for managing more than 20 European Reassurance Initiative infrastructure and construction projects for U.S. Army and Air Force partners.

Extreme winter weather, which can delay construction work, is just one of the many challenges Bailey must overcome to deliver projects on time and within budget.

The projects enable the training readiness of NATO, U.S. and Estonian defense forces, according to Lt. Col. Jason Gresh, the U.S. Embassy Tallinn Office of Defense Cooperation chief.

“Chris brings a tremendous amount of engineering project management experience to the team,” Gresh said. “He’s aware of the peculiarities of the design and contracting processes, and [he] understands how to appropriately approach projects with U.S. interests in mind while understanding host nation sensitivities and equities.”

It may not be written in his job description, but Bailey acts as a liaison between U.S. and host nation stakeholders to deliver projects like ranges and airfield upgrades, said Jack Galloway, Europe District’s Special Projects Section chief and Bailey’s supervisor.

“Chris is the rare extroverted engineer,” Galloway said. “His open and collaborative communication style fits in the diplomatic setting. He instantly built a rapport with U.S. embassy staff and Estonian Ministry of Defense officials.”

In addition, Bailey manages relationships with contractors performing European Reassurance Initiative and humanitarian assistance work for the district in Estonia. A number of local contractors are working with the U.S. government for the first time, Galloway said.

“Problems may arise when a U.S. contract is awarded to a foreign firm not familiar with our requirements,” he said. “For example, our contracts specify U.S. building standards but also allow for host nation standards if they are equivalent to or better than U.S. standards. Chris has the technical competence, flexibility and patience to resolve these problems.”

In a Honda CR-V with studded snow and ice tires, Bailey makes the hour drive from Tallinn to Tapa Military Base almost daily to check the progress of his projects. He wouldn’t be able to do this job remotely, Gresh said.

### LIVING, WORKING ABROAD

In December, Bailey took part in a bilateral ceremony marking the completion of 27 European Reassurance Initiative projects at Tapa designed to support training and readiness of NATO, U.S. and Estonian forces.

Now that most of the district’s work at Tapa is complete, he’s shifting focus to manage military construction projects for the Air Force at Amari Air Base. There, he will oversee contractors building a new dor-



PHOTO BY JENNIFER ALDRIDGE

**Chris Bailey, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Europe district project engineer in Estonia, briefs Col. John Baker, chief engineer for U.S. Army Europe, on newly constructed machine gun and sniper ranges built through the European Reassurance Initiative to enhance readiness of U.S., Estonian and NATO forces at Tapa Training Area, Estonia, Dec. 14.**

mitory, squadron operations building, and a hazardous cargo loading pad and maintenance hangars.

Despite the heavy workload, Bailey said he enjoys work and life in Estonia because there’s an element of adventure.

“It’s a foreign country, so lots of things are new, but it’s also convenient that many people speak English,” he said. “And this is a country that gained its independence in my lifetime, and the people are so proud of the freedom they have. It’s fulfilling to try to help them with the projects we are building and the American presence here.”

Bailey’s mom said she is proud that he has adjusted so well to his overseas career.

“I was worried when he first went to a foreign country,” Sheree said. “But he’s made it.”

Living and working in Estonia may feel natural to Bailey after his three years here, but as a boy growing up he never imagined going abroad.

“I didn’t know what the rest of the world was,” he said. “I never had a desire to find out until I was older. The outside world always seemed scary.”

### A TREMENDOUS OPPORTUNITY

In 2013, Bailey was working stateside for the Corps’ Savannah District and happened upon a Europe District job announcement for a project engineer position in Romania.

“I was looking to take on more responsibility, so I applied,” Bailey said.

At the time, the district was recruiting a team to manage construction of a \$134 million land-based Aegis Ashore ballistic missile defense complex in Deveselu, Romania. Tony Jettinghoff, the former resident engineer and selecting official for the position, said one name caught his attention for the project engineer job: Chris Bailey.

“He was a relatively new USACE employee with pertinent experience on military construction projects at Forts Benning and Stewart, Georgia,” Jettinghoff said. “Deveselu isn’t comparable to a U.S. military installation. However, I appreciated that Chris understood the dynamics of dealing with base commanders and installation regulations, which was imperative to developing good relations with host nation military personnel.”

While Bailey was interested in Romania, he expressed some reservations about moving overseas, Jettinghoff said.

“Through his southern drawl, Chris conveyed a positive attitude with an eagerness to learn, but I sensed some trepidation because he had never been outside of the U.S.,” he

said. “I had to convince Chris that the missile defense project was a tremendous opportunity. After doing some research, and sorting out the logistics of getting a passport, Chris accepted the position and began an adventure that would profoundly impact his personal life and professional future.”

Sheree recalls the day Chris shared the news about moving to Romania.

“I was very shocked,” she said. “His dad and I were both shocked, and I was a little concerned. He was always so quiet growing up. I wasn’t sure how he would do in a foreign environment.”

### ACCLIMATING QUICKLY

Bailey’s job in Romania was on the front burner because of a presidential mandate to finish the project by the end of 2015 – just over two years after breaking ground – and he and his colleagues met the mission requirement.

Bailey acclimated quickly to his new surroundings in Deveselu and established strong relationships with his team, according to Rob Elderred, the district’s senior project manager in Romania.

“The overseas setting allowed Chris to build on his willingness to take initiative and responsibility,” Elderred said. “He learned to count on himself and his colleagues to successfully address issues and solve problems in the unique construction environment of Romania.”

The experience was about more than work, though. Shortly after his arrival, a local contractor invited Bailey to play pickup basketball at a gym off base.

“The Romanians were excited to play basketball with Americans,” Bailey said. “Eventually we started playing the local high school team – we would scrimmage against them.”

During a trip home, Bailey told his family about the Romanian high school team and their enthusiasm for the sport. He also explained that they didn’t have official jerseys or uniforms.

When Bailey’s uncle, an avid sports fan, heard the story, he decided to donate jerseys.

“With the players’ input we created a mascot – a lion – and had the jerseys made,” Bailey said. “They were reversible, so they could scrimmage each other, too.”

Bailey loved basketball, baseball and really any sport growing up, according to his mom.

“I think playing baseball, from the time he was five ‘til he graduated high school, has a lot to do with him being a good team

player,” she said. “He’s always been part of a team.”

### 1-MAN OFFICE

When Bailey graduated from Auburn University in 2009 with a bachelor’s degree in civil engineering, he decided to join the Corps team, despite a few other job offers. Through a USACE-sponsored program, he then went back to Auburn to earn a master’s degree in building construction in 2011.

“I interviewed with the former resident engineer at Fort Benning (Georgia) and he described the great exposure I could get working on large construction projects for the military,” Bailey said. “It would be work experience I couldn’t get elsewhere.”

He was recruited through the Army intern program to work for Savannah District. Bailey was still fairly new to the Corps when he was assigned to manage the infantry platoon battle course at Fort Stewart (Georgia) for Richard Mock, the Savannah District Claims Section chief and Bailey’s former supervisor.

“Chris became the expert on a project riddled with issues, and I trusted in his ability to bring it to successful completion. He had a levelheadedness that allowed him to resolve issues while maintaining positive working relationships,” Mock said. “He certainly earned the respect of his peers and supervisors.”

Five years and three jobs later, Bailey continues to learn and grow professionally. He’s gaining immeasurable experience as a one-man office in Estonia, Mock added.

“A project engineer working solo in the field must work through both the mundane day-to-day tasks, as well as the highly technical tasks by himself,” he said. “It requires sound contract administration knowledge as well as technical ability.”

Mock added, “Working solo also tends to push a project engineer to learn about areas outside of their area of expertise. For instance, Chris as a civil engineer is gaining a good grasp on systems related to mechanical and electrical engineering.”

Bailey’s technical competence is matched by his willingness to go above and beyond to meet the needs of partners and stakeholders, said Col. Matthew Tyler, USACE Europe District commander.

“I wish I could fill every district office with a clone of Chris. He’s an emerging leader,” Tyler said. “Chris thrives when given complex and challenging work, and [he’s] an influential informal leader who others look to for guidance and assistance. He’s involved with activities outside of work that promote greater esprit de corps and support the larger community wherever he is.”

Even if Bailey himself couldn’t foresee that he would make a career in engineering and construction, his mom could.

“He loved construction growing up,” she said. “From the time he was a toddler, he played with bulldozers and cement trucks, 3-D puzzles and building blocks. When he would see a construction site, he would stop us to watch them work for what felt like hours.”

Now he’s managing high-visibility construction projects representing the U.S. commitment to NATO allies and the security of Europe. It’s gratifying work and the effect it has can’t be quantified, Bailey said.

“With USACE, I’ve grown personally and professionally, but what I’ve gained most is the ability to relate to and appreciate people that didn’t grow up in a small town in rural Alabama,” he said.

## 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. Collective Protestant  
12:05 p.m. Catholic Mass  
(Tuesday-Friday)  
4 p.m. Catholic Confessions  
(Saturday)  
5 p.m. Catholic Mass (Saturday)

**Wings Chapel, Bldg. 6036**  
9:30 a.m. Protestant Sunday School  
10:45 a.m. Latter-Day Saints  
10:45 a.m. Wings Crossroads  
(Contemporary Worship)

Protestant Service)  
11 p.m. Eckankar Study (4th Sunday)  
**Spiritual Life Center, Bldg. 8939**  
10:15 a.m. CCD (except during summer months)

### BIBLE STUDIES

**TUESDAYS**  
**Crossroads Discipleship Study**  
(Meal/Bible Study)  
Wings Chapel, 6:30 p.m.

**Protestant Women of the Chapel**  
Wings Chape, 9 a.m. and 6 p.m.

**Adult Bible Study**  
Spiritual Life Center, 7 p.m.

**WEDNESDAYS**  
**Catholic Women of the Chapel**  
Spiritual Life Center, 9 a.m.

## ENTERPRISE DENTAL ASSOCIATES

*welcomes*

**LOGAN TURNER D.M.D.**

Logan Turner is a native of the Wiregrass Area, from Wicksburg, AL. He is a graduate of Troy University and University of Louisville School of Dentistry. He is excited to be back in this area and is looking forward to seeing new patients in the Enterprise area.



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# MAINTAIN TO TRAIN



At **DynCorp International**, we recognize how critical aviation maintenance is to supporting the Army's top priority: **readiness**.

Through our ongoing work supporting the Army's operational helicopter fleet, we maintain more rotary wing aircraft than any other company, and are the trusted partner in supporting initial flight training for the U.S. military.

Our innovative techniques and integrated maintenance solutions reduce costs, increase availability, and ensure the readiness necessary to support the Army's vital rotary wing flight training mission.





FEBRUARY 2, 2017

# TRAIL RIDE

*Event offers rare glimpse of Fort Rucker*

By **Jeremy Henderson**  
*Army Flier Staff Writer*

Fort Rucker’s wooded trails open up for a rare riding opportunity during outdoor recreation’s ATV and Dirt Bike Trail Ride Feb. 18 from 7 a.m. to 1 p.m.

The event is open to anyone ages 16 and older – pre-registration is required and cost is \$20 per person, according to Mark Yoakum, ODR assistant business manager.

“Riders are going to get to participate in something they couldn’t normally do on an everyday basis here on the installation,” Yoakum said. Drivers must complete a safety driving test prior to participating in the trail ride.

“The safety test and vehicle inspection begins at 7 a.m.,” he said. “(There’s) not a written test – no prep needed.”

Yoakum added that safety and proper riding etiquette help ensure the event can continue to thrive from year to year.

“I cannot stress enough that this foray into these woods is only allowed by very special permission granted to us for this twice-a-year event,” he said. “These training areas are where survival, evasion and land navigation are taught – all very serious skills when a Soldier’s life is on the line.

“This is a guided and supervised event,” he added. “Keep a safe distance between riders (and) watch out for obstacles in your path.”

According to Yoakum, the event, which is held in the spring and fall, provides an opportunity to enjoy the outdoors with family and friends.

“It’s just about being out in nature and being in the woods,” he said. “We just want to try and make it fun and exciting. People may see wildlife like deer or even wild hogs. It’s really just a leisurely ride,



FILE PHOTO

People prepare to embark on a previous ATV trail ride.

but it all depends on the group that we have.”

Riders are required to wear protective equipment during the ride, including helmets, eye protection, foot protection, long sleeves, pants and gloves.

“The trail ride is ever-changing due to

weather conditions – expect mud for this ride,” Yoakum said. “Motorcycles were allowed to participate since last spring.”

According to Yoakum, the ride will include several stops, and riders are encouraged to bring water and snacks.

“People should come out and enjoy this

experience because it’s something that they can’t normally experience,” he said. “ATVs can’t be ridden on Fort Rucker, so this is a good opportunity to do something different.”

For more information or to register, call 255-4305.

## Clinic offers diabetes self-management education program

By **Jenny Stripling**  
*Lyster Army Health Clinic  
Public Affairs*

Lyster Army Health Clinic will soon offer a Diabetes Self-Management Education program called “My Life, My Diabetes.”

The eight-part program is accepting new patients. The classes will be held every Thursday in the Lifespace Center classrooms at LAHC.

“The purpose of our DSME Program is to provide our beneficiaries with the knowledge and skills to help manage diabetes or prediabetes,” said Theresa Osteen, registered nutritionist and certified diabetes educator at LAHC.

Diabetes is a disease that occurs when your blood glucose, also called blood sugar, is too high. Over time, having too much glucose in their blood can cause people health problems, such as heart disease, nerve damage, eye problems and kidney disease. Most of

the food people eat is turned into glucose, or sugar, for their bodies to use for energy, Osteen said.

The pancreas, an organ that lies near the stomach, makes a hormone called insulin to regulate sugar levels. When people have diabetes, their body either does not make enough insulin or cannot use its own insulin as well as it should. This results in elevated sugar levels in their blood, she said.

“Diabetes is a serious disease that requires self-management education and support as early as possible to prevent diabetes-related health problems in the future,” said Osteen.

Managing diabetes can be difficult at times, but if properly treated, the impact of diabetes can be reduced. Even people with Type 1 diabetes can live long and healthy lives, if they keep their blood sugars under tight control and are physically active, she added.

According to Osteen, participa-

LESSON		DATES/TIMES				
1	Introduction to Diabetes (1h)	2-Feb 1300	2-Mar 0900	6-Apr 1300	4-May 0900	1-Jun 1300
2	Healthy Eating (2h)	2-Feb 1415	2-Mar 1015	6-Apr 1415	4-May 1015	1-Jun 1415
3	Monitoring (1h)	9-Feb 1300	9-Mar 0900	13-Apr 1300	11-May 0900	8-Jun 1300
4	Medications (1h)	9-Feb 1415	9-Mar 1015	13-Apr 1415	11-May 1015	8-Jun 1415
5	Acute Complications (1h)	16-Feb 1300	16-Mar 0900	20-Apr 1300	18-May 0900	22-Jun 1300
6	Physical Activity (1h)	16-Feb 1415	16-Mar 1015	20-Apr 1415	18-May 1015	22-Jun 1415
7	Chronic Complications (1h)	23-Feb 1300	23-Mar 0900	27-Apr 1300	25-May 0900	29-Jun 1300
8	Coping with Diabetes (1h)	23-Feb 1415	23-Mar 1015	27-Apr 1415	25-May 1015	29-Jun 1415


ARMY GRAPHIC

tion in the DSME program may help people understand diabetes and how it affects their body, make informed decisions about their health and treatment, devel-


op self-care behaviors for managing their diabetes or prediabetes, and much more.

Service members, veterans or their beneficiaries with diabe-


tes or prediabetes are eligible to enroll. For more information or to enroll, call the LAHC patient education/nutrition care clinic at 255-7986.




# PIGSKIN PICKS




David Agan  
PAO




Col. Tom von Eschenbach  
CDID Director



Jim Hughes  
PAO








Capt. Jason Jordan  
6th MP



Capt. Mike Simmons  
DPS

Atlanta vs.  
New England  
@ Houston



Record

72-43   64-51   70-45   61-54   72-43



# DOWN TIME



## Just Like Cats & Dogs by Dave T. Phipps



## Trivia test by Fifi Rodriguez

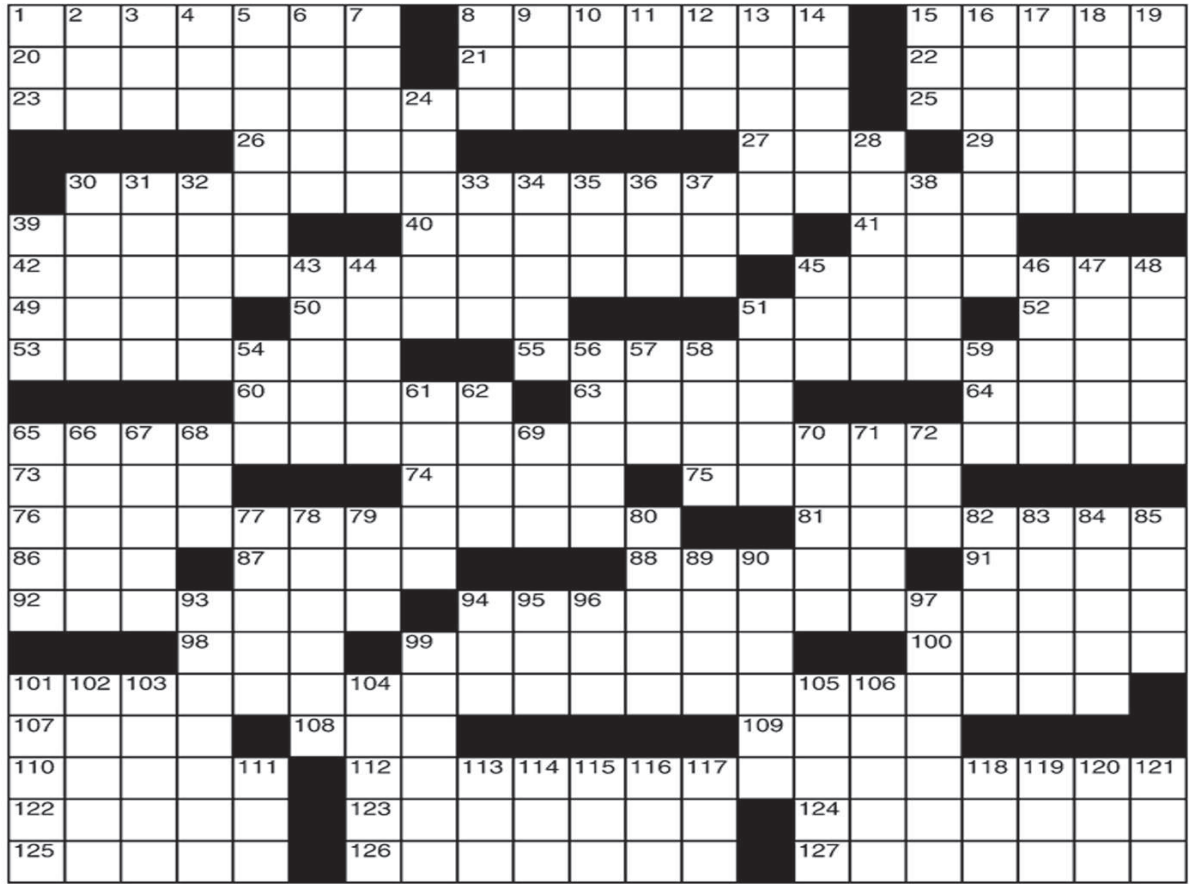
# TRIVIA

1. MYTHOLOGY: Who was the queen of the warrior women called Amazons?
2. GOVERNMENT: What did the 22nd Amendment to the U.S. Constitution do?
3. ADVERTISEMENTS: What luggage company used a gorilla in a 1970 advertisement to show how tough its Samsonite brand was?
4. ART: Where is The Field Museum located?
5. U.S. PRESIDENTS: Which U.S. president had the nickname "Old Rough and Ready"?
6. GAMES: What is a grand slam in bridge?
7. HISTORY: In what year did the French invade England (The Battle of Hastings)?
8. LITERATURE: Which famous Beat poet wrote the poem titled "Howl"?
9. GEOGRAPHY: The Leonardo Da Vinci-Fiumicino Airport is located in what city?
10. GENERAL KNOWLEDGE: What is a petroglyph?

See Page D3 for this week's answers.

## Super Crossword PLAYFUL BREEDS

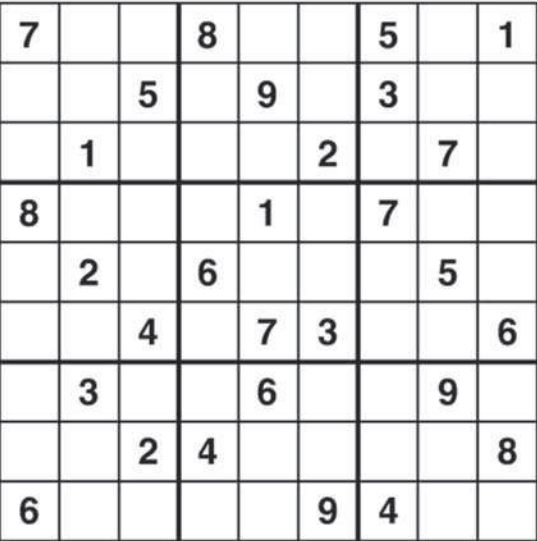
- ACROSS**
- 1 Deluding deliberately
  - 8 Stiff cat hair
  - 15 Capital of Morocco
  - 20 Of the side
  - 21 Plane for short hops
  - 22 Put a hex on
  - 23 Dog having no bounds?
  - 25 "I repeat ..."
  - 26 Gal pal, in Grenoble
  - 27 Parts of lbs.
  - 29 Bring to ruin
  - 30 Dog hanging out with pride members?
  - 39 Gawky rudely
  - 40 Restrained with shackles
  - 41 Bit in trail mix
  - 42 British money depicting a dog?
  - 45 Capital of Indonesia
  - 49 Hollywood's Raines
  - 50 Edible mushroom
  - 51 Sack fiber
  - 52 Catering hall receptacle
  - 53 Take eager advantage of
  - 55 Equaling a dog's level of coziness?
  - 60 Plant pore
  - 63 "When I was ..."
  - 64 With 32-Down, Lucille Ball's partner
  - 65 Dog carrying a container of high-fat spread?
  - 73 Verdi song
  - 74 Cozy recess
  - 75 Old heads of Iran
  - 76 Dog along with Mrs. Truman?
  - 81 Gunfire noise
  - 86 Pindar work
  - 87 Heavy cart for haulage
  - 88 Ejects
  - 91 — Alto, California
  - 92 Fund for the future
  - 94 Dog's felt-tip pen?
  - 98 — Vicente
  - 99 Drum machine
  - 100 Property claims
  - 101 Dog that doesn't dial long-distance?
  - 107 Latin love
  - 108 Detroit-to-Charlotte dir.
  - 109 Golfer McIlroy
  - 110 Circle measures
  - 112 Hit by a dog?
  - 122 Heart's place
  - 123 French "Stephen"
  - 124 Resembling element #50
  - 125 Speediness
  - 126 Electrified
  - 127 Made irate
- DOWN**
- 1 Atty.'s degree
  - 2 Retired
  - 3 NBA'er Ming
  - 3 "Addams Family" cousin
  - 4 NBA nylon
  - 5 Made a pained sound
  - 6 Motown singer Terrell
  - 7 Stan's "Swiss Miss" co-star
  - 8 Lived
  - 9 That man's
  - 10 Audit gp.
  - 11 Racecar fuel additive
  - 12 Chiang — shek
  - 13 Glorifies
  - 14 "The Godfather" character
  - 15 TV maker
  - 16 Capital of Maine
  - 17 Ranch iron
  - 18 Brief digression
  - 19 Carpentry joint part
  - 24 Harder to grab hold of
  - 28 Haydn work
  - 30 Ripped off
  - 31 St. — Girl (beer brand)
  - 32 See 64-Across
  - 33 Memo words
  - 34 Nabisco's — Wafers
  - 35 Prefix with 20-Across
  - 36 Sugar pie
  - 37 H.S. subj.
  - 38 Zaps in the microwave
  - 39 — Out of My League
  - 43 Whacked, biblically
  - 44 Thus far
  - 45 Wine vessel
  - 46 Indian money
  - 47 Tie up tightly
  - 48 #1 Rolling Stones hit
  - 51 A tribe of Israel
  - 54 Subj. for U.S. aliens
  - 56 Burlap bags
  - 57 Camera inits.
  - 58 Scottish refusals
  - 59 Gator's tail?
  - 61 Mork's girl
  - 62 First little bit of progress
  - 65 BLT part
  - 66 Wear slowly
  - 67 Buenos — (capital of Argentina)
  - 68 Comedy bit
  - 69 Weeding aid
  - 70 Cuban hero José
  - 71 Deep fissure
  - 72 President before DDE
  - 77 Noble goal
  - 78 Dialects
  - 79 Equine loser
  - 80 Hercules
  - 82 Spring player Kevin
  - 83 Sulu player George
  - 84 Coeur d' — (Idaho city)
  - 85 Rocky crags
  - 89 Atop
  - 90 Gender determiners
  - 93 Like Russia before 1917
  - 94 Visualize
  - 95 Chance, old-style
  - 96 Pt. of NCAA
  - 97 Siding (with)
  - 99 Yasmine of "Baywatch"
  - 101 Pine relative
  - 102 Nebraska city
  - 103 Ciphers, say
  - 104 Kefauver of old politics
  - 105 Terra- —
  - 106 Hatch of politics
  - 111 Ending for Tokyo
  - 113 Copa's home
  - 114 Fun and games, for short
  - 115 Printer fluid
  - 116 Butyl ender
  - 117 Lipstick color
  - 118 The Indians, for short
  - 119 Aperitif with white wine
  - 120 Scrape (out)
  - 121 Beatty of "1941"



See Page D3 for this week's answers.

## Weekly SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle



Place a number in the empty boxes in such a way that each row across, each column down and each small 9-box square contains all of the numbers from one to nine.

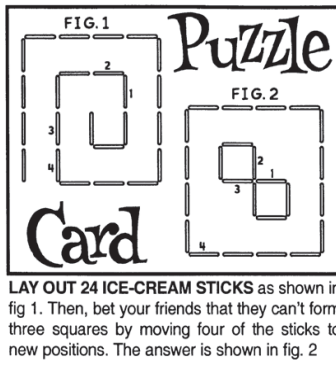
### DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ♦

♦ Moderate ♦♦ Challenging  
♦♦♦ HOO BOY!

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See Page D3 for this week's answers.

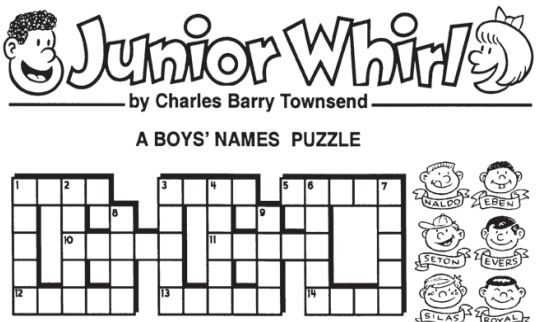
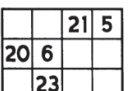
# KID's CORNER



**TOPSY-TURVY!** Below we have three cups mouth up and three cups mouth down. In three moves, turning over any two adjacent cups at a time, change the order of these cups to mouth up, down, up, down, up, down.



**IT'S MAGIC!** Use the numbers 7 through 16 to fill in this Magic Number Square. The numbers in each horizontal row and each vertical column should total 53. We've filled in six of the squares. The rest is up to you.



Below are 16 boys' names you'll need to complete the puzzle grid above. Use the trial-and-error method.

- CARL
- CONAN
- EBEN
- EDEL
- EVERS
- NALDO
- NEIL
- NIGEL
- ROYAL
- NOLAN
- ORSON
- OTIS
- OTTO
- SILAS
- YATES

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6	3	8	7	2	8	2	3	7	3	2	3	7
C	C	L	O	L	E	O	H	V	E	V	E	E
6	8	4	6	5	4	8	7	6	7	4	7	2
O	A	J	L	A	O	R	R	L	C	Y	O	E
4	5	2	6	8	6	7	8	7	4	3	6	4
I	W	I	E	N	G	M	N	E	S	R	E	Y
7	6	7	5	2	8	3	2	3	7	2	7	8
O	B	B	A	S	E	A	F	B	S	O	T	W
5	7	5	3	4	7	5	8	3	5	4	8	6
Y	A	T	O	O	C	O	S	U	S	U	K	O
2	6	7	8	7	8	7	8	6	8	5	4	3
R	U	L	I	E	L	S	L	N	S	U	R	N
6	5	3	2	4	5	2	5	2	5	2	3	5
D	C	D	E	S	C	V	E	E	E	R	S	D

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

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## HOCUS-FOCUS BY HENRY BOLTINOFF



Find at least six differences in details between panels.



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# Soldiers teach Djiboutian caretakers

By Staff Sgt. Gregory Williams  
For Army News Service

TADJOURAH, Djibouti — A cool breeze sets under the blistering sun as kids play in the streets of Elimo neighborhood. The days here can be filled with fun and excitement for the children living at the SOS Village d’Enfants compound, but for the caretakers they can be stressful and exhausting.

In January, the caretakers responsible for the wellbeing of the curious toddlers and over-stimulated kindergartners of SOS Village d’Enfants participated in a three-day first aid event hosted by Soldiers with C Company, 411th Civil Affairs Battalion.

The Soldiers shared best medical practices and western medicine concepts with the goal of ensuring the continued health and safety of the children at the compound.

“Creating a lesson plan for this discussion group was very challenging,” said Sgt. Brian Duckworth, a civil affairs team medic with C Co., 411th Civil Affairs Bn. “One of the biggest problems was our interpreter didn’t have a lot of practice with medical terms. So, this led to us doing a lot of charades and exaggerated actions to try and bridge the language gap.”

The parent organization of SOS Village d’Enfants Djibouti, SOS Children’s Villages has been working in the city of Tadjourah since 2011, identifying the most vulnerable families and providing them with support. Children who are unable to remain with their families are looked after by the SOS “mothers” in SOS family-based care.

During the three-day discussion group, the civil affairs team worked through the language barrier and covered topics like



PHOTO BY STAFF SGT. GREGORY WILLIAMS

**Sgt. Sarah DeArcy, a civil affairs team medic with C Co., 411th Civil Affairs Bn., coaches SOS Village d’Enfants in Tadjoura, Djibouti, caretakers on how to perform the abdominal thrust technique during a first aid discussion group Jan. 3.**

burns, bruises, sprains, fractures, open wounds and common illnesses among children.

Duckworth said his Army reservist training had prepared him well for this mission, but his civilian career also played a key role preparing him for working with the Djiboutian people.

“In my civilian career I work in emergency medical services,” Duckworth said. “We tried to tailor the class to the audience, which is how we arrived at hand washing, choking emergencies, and slowing the spread of viral and bacterial infections.”

With PowerPoint presentations, hands-on classes, and live demonstrations with Soldiers acting as injured children, the team

armed the staff with critical, first aid intervention information.

The information would prepare caretakers to assist children in emergency situations, instead of panicking when faced with a serious injury, explained Mohamade Ali, a head administrator for SOS Village d’Enfants in Tadjourah.

“SOS caretakers look after vulnerable children who can injure themselves whilst playing or at home,” Ali said. “And it is important that our staff have the necessary skills to intervene and assist while waiting for an ambulance or medical intervention.”

Ali said coordinating the discussion with the U.S. military was easy. They established a solid plan that would allow participants

to observe and ask questions, making sure the “mothers” could comprehend what was taught.

With local governments and citizens struggling under the burden of rising medical care costs, areas like Tadjouri are susceptible to outside influence from forces who might take advantage of the poor.

As U.S. military forces continue to work with contributing nations to counter violent extremist organizations throughout the Horn of Africa, they do so by partnering with various nongovernmental agencies such as SOS Children’s Villages.

These human capacity building projects are instrumental in promoting regional stability, especially when it means protecting those vulnerable to violent extremist organizations.

“It is important for the SOS to establish reliable partners that share the same vision and fight for the rights of the oppressed and the most vulnerable,” Ali said.

The discussion group not only provided Djiboutians with a chance to learn the basics of first aid but also gave the U.S. Soldiers the opportunity to connect with host nation partners, a long-term benefit for everyone involved.

“These kinds of missions, in my opinion, are some of the best ... that we can do for virtually no money or equipment, as we’re able to connect with people personally and to help build stronger partners,” Duckworth said.

“All of these community members, administrators, teachers, and caregivers were genuinely grateful for our time,” he added. “I have no doubt in my mind [they left] with a very positive and personal sense that the U.S. really cares about them.”

## Soldiers contribute to Senegalese medical readiness

U.S. Army Africa  
Public Affairs

DAKAR, Senegal — Successful medical readiness training exercises do not depend just on doctors’ and nurses’ abilities. Additional medical professionals who maintain the necessary equipment are vital to achieving the events’ objectives.

During Medical Readiness Training Exercise 17-1 at the Hospital Militaire De Ouakam in Dakar, CW3 David Bostic, a biomedical technician from the 332nd Medical Brigade in Nashville, Tennessee, shared his experience and expertise in inspecting, maintaining and repairing medical equipment to facilitate medical care by U.S. and Senegalese military medical personnel.

Bostic and his Senegalese counterparts contributed to the exercise’s primary focus of building partner cohesion between collaborating military medical prac-



U.S. ARMY AFRICA PHOTO

**Senegalese dentist Pape Djibril Gueye administers a local anesthetic while Thomas Sterling, flight surgeon, and Master Sgt. Jacqueline Fortin, dental specialist, observe during Medical Readiness Training Exercise 17-1 at La Sante des Armees Hospital in Dakar, Senegal, Jan. 12.**

tioners. They spent their time making sure medical equipment used in the exercise functioned properly.

Maj. Anthony Donaldson, a MEDRETE 17-1 team member and urologist, said, “In urology we use extremely advanced equipment and technologies. Without biomedical technicians to ensure that these are properly function-

ing, all this advanced equipment is useless.”

In addition to confirming the medical equipment’s functionality, biomedical technicians work with medical personnel to purchase and use new technology. New equipment was not available during MEDRETE 17-1, so Bostic and his Senegalese partners had to rely on each other’s acumen to service a medical sterilizer, imaging scanner intensifier, electrosurgical unit and an electrocardiograph machine.

Some of the equipment was donated without manuals or testing tools so the biomedical technicians had to collaborate using previous experiences with similar devices to service the equipment accordingly.

Bostic seized the opportunity to share best practices on how to connect, operate, test and maintain a portable oxygen generator, portable water system and an environmental control unit.

“Some of the equipment had been in the warehouse since 2010, and since there were no manuals, they may not have known how to inspect, setup, connect and use the equipment as dictated by the technical user’s manual,” Bostic said. “This is where having a foundational knowledge of general medical equipment came in and (our collective) experience paid off.”

Bostic added that the MEDRETE would be an invaluable training experience for new biomedical technicians.

“After advanced individual training and prior to a deployment, MEDRETEs could be an ideal place to train newly certified biomedical technicians because they’ll be challenged in an alternately resourced environment while building partnerships and enhancing our partners’ capabilities,” said Bostic.

MEDRETE 17-1 highlighted the importance of gaining general experience as a biomedical tech-

nician. “In many cases experience was the only resource we had to draw from in this environment,” said Bostic. “It was an honor to share the experience of servicing equipment beside the Senegalese biomed techs.”

MEDRETE 17-1 is a combined effort between the Senegalese government, U.S. Army Africa, the U.S. Army Reserve 332nd Medical Brigade and the Vermont Air National Guard. MEDRETE 17-1 is the first in a series of medical readiness training exercises that U.S. Army Africa is scheduled to facilitate within various countries in Africa, and serves as an opportunity for the partnered militaries to hone and strengthen their general surgery skills while reinforcing the partnership between the countries. The mutually beneficial exercise brought Senegalese military and U.S. Army medical professionals together to foster cooperation while conducting medical specific tasks.

## FORT RUCKER SPORTS BRIEFS

### Black History Month 5K

The Fortenberry-Colton Physical Fitness Center will host the annual Black History 5K Run Saturday. Registration on the day of the event will begin at 7:30 a.m. and end at 8:40 a.m. at the Fortenberry-Colton PFC. The run will start at 9 a.m. Participants are encouraged to pre-register for the event at either PFC.

For costs and more information, call 255-3794.

### Winter Couples Scuffle

Silver Wings Golf Course will host its Winter Couples Scuffle Sunday, Feb. 12 and 19. This two-person scramble is available to all couples of all skill levels. Nine holes on the course cost \$5 per couple per week – does not include cart or green fees. Tee times are from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. and scores must be turned in by

4:30 p.m. Team handicap will be determined after two rounds. On the last Sunday of the month, couples are invited to attend a social where prizes and trophies are awarded, and snacks are provided. The event is open to the public.

For more information, call 255-0089.

### SKIES Swim Lessons

SKIES will offer swim lessons for youth now through May at the Fort Rucker Physical Fitness Center indoor pool. Enrollment opens on the 15th of each month. There must be three students enrolled to conduct and continue a class. Students must re-enroll each month. Classes are subject to change. Swim schedules are available. Private classes are designed for those that may need a one-on-one approach in instruction.

For more information or to sign up, visit [www.webtrac.mwr.army.mil](http://www.webtrac.mwr.army.mil) or call 255-1867.

### Lifeguard recertification course

A lifeguard recertification course will be held Saturday and Sunday from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. at the Fort Rucker Physical Fitness Center. The course is open to patrons ages 15 and up, and costs \$75 for military ID card holders and \$75 for members of the general public. A prerequisite test must be passed on the first day to enter the course. People may register at the front desk of the Fort Rucker PFC. The cutoff for registration is three days prior to the course start date. Class may be cancelled if minimum enrollment is not met. Candidates who take the training program through are also eligible for employment with Fort Rucker Morale,

Welfare and Recreation. All candidates who apply after successful completion of the training program will have 50 percent of their training fees reimbursed to them at the end of the 2017 summer season – must work through Labor Day.

For more information on how to apply, call 255-9162.

### Valentine’s Couple Scramble

Silver Wings Golf Course will host its Valentine’s Couple Scramble Feb. 11 with a 1 p.m. shotgun start. The scramble will feature nine holes of golf, prizes, beverages, and assorted appetizers and desserts. 1:00 pm shotgun start. The cost is \$30 per person and includes tournament course fees, prizes, beverage and food.

For more information or to make a reservation, call 255-0089.

## PUZZLE ANSWERS

### Super Crossword

#### Answers

L	Y	I	N	G	T	O	W	H	I	S	K	E	R	R	A	B	A	T		
L	A	T	E	R	A	L	A	I	R	T	A	X	I	C	U	R	S	E		
B	O	T	T	O	M	L	E	S	S	P	I	T	Z	A	G	A	I	N		
			A	M	I	E						O	Z	S		U	N	D	O	
S	P	A	N	I	E	L	I	N	T	H	E	L	I	O	N	S	D	E	N	
S	T	A	R	E		I	N	I	R	O	N	S		N	U	T				
H	O	U	N	D	S	T	E	R	L	I	N	G		J	A	K	A	R	T	A
E	L	L	A		M	O	R	E	L		J	U	T	E		U	R	N		
S	E	I	Z	E	O	N		A	S	S	N	U	G	A	S	A	P	U	G	
			S	T	O	M	A		A	L	A	D		D	E	S	I			
B	E	A	G	L	E	W	I	T	H	C	R	E	A	M	C	H	E	E	S	E
A	R	I	A			N	O	O	K		S	H	A	H	S					
C	O	R	G	I	A	N	D	B	E	S		R	A	T	A	T	A	T	A	
O	D	E		D	R	A	Y				O	U	S	T	S		P	A	L	O
N	E	S	T	E	G		S	H	A	R	P	E	I	M	A	R	K	E	R	
			S	A	O		B	E	A	T	B	O	X		L	I	E	N	S	
L	O	C	A	L		T	E	L	E	P	H	O	N	E	C	O	L	L	I	E
A	M	O	R		S	S	E					R	O	R	Y					
R	A	D	I		T	E	R	R	I	E	R	S	T	R	I	C	K	E	N	
C	H	E	S	T		E	T	I	E	N	N	E		T	I	N	L	I	K	E
H	A	S	T		S	H	O	C	K	E	D		A	N	G	E	R	E	D	

### Weekly SUDOKU

#### Answer

7	4	9	8	3	6	5	2	1
2	8	5	1	9	7	3	6	4
3	1	6	5	4	2	8	7	9
8	6	3	9	1	5	7	4	2
1	2	7	6	8	4	9	5	3
5	9	4	2	7	3	1	8	6
4	3	1	7	6	8	2	9	5
9	7	2	4	5	1	6	3	8
6	5	8	3	2	9	4	1	7

#### Answers

1. Hippolyta
2. Limits presidents to two terms
3. American Tourister
4. Chicago
5. Zachary Taylor
6. Winning all 13 tricks
7. 1066
8. Allen Ginsberg
9. Rome, Italy
10. Rock carving



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