

SHARP EXPERT:
Sexist humor more than just offensive

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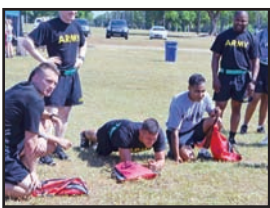
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Fort Rucker hosts 3rd annual Fit Fest

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ARMY FLIER

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

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FORT RUCKER ★ ALABAMA

APRIL 27, 2017

CREATING A BETTER FUTURE

Fort Rucker moves to alternative energy forefront with solar array

By Nathan Pfau
Army Flier Staff Writer

Fort Rucker is on the forefront when it comes to alternative energy, as the installation unveiled the completion its Renewable Energy Project Solar Array April 20.

Post officials, along with representatives of Alabama Power Company and the Army's Office of Energy Initiatives came together to cut the ribbon on the new \$25 million facility, and usher in a new age of renewable energy for Alabama and the nation.

"Today marks a significant milestone for Fort Rucker, as we are creating energy-source diversity resiliency, and exemplifying environmental stewardship in our community," said Col. Shannon T. Miller, Fort Rucker garrison commander. "This historic project ... happened because the public and private sectors came together to create a better future not only for our community, but for our nation."

The 90-acre facility, which is essentially a solar power plant, is owned and operated by Alabama Power and uses more than 115,000 solar panels to convert the sun's energy into up to 10 megawatts of electricity – enough to power about 1,600 homes a year – putting Fort Rucker on track to meet

the 25-percent alternative energy consumption goal set by the Army, and one step closer to the Army's goal of 1 gigawatt of renewable energy by 2025, said the garrison commander.

In addition to meeting the Army's overall goals, providing reliable, renewable energy gives Fort Rucker the ability the sustain its mission of supporting the warfighter. "One resource that doesn't immediately come to our minds when determining the needs for mission success in our Army is energy," said Miller. "The Department of Defense is the largest consumer of energy in the United States government and the majority of energy consumed in the Army is at the installation level.

"Energy generation reduces our dependence on petroleum, and it mitigates potential supply chain disruptions, so this 10-megawatt solar facility behind me is the first step towards energy resiliency, and enables us to continue our mission during long-term outages," she continued. "This commitment fosters that environmental sustainability for our present Alabamians, as well as our future generation. This gives us the ability here at Fort Rucker to train and develop our future Aviation warfighters in our Army."

That security is something that



PHOTO BY NATHAN PFAU

Jeremy Oden, Alabama Public Service Commission commissioner; Michael McGhee, Army Office of Energy Initiatives executive director; Jim Heilbron, Alabama Power Company senior vice president; Richard Davis, Fort Rucker deputy to the commanding general; and Col. Shannon T. Miller, Fort Rucker garrison commander, cut the ribbon during a ceremony for the Renewable Energy Project, marking the completion of the solar array on Fort Rucker April 20.

Michael McGhee, Army Office of Energy Initiatives executive director, said is the result of providing a diversity of power, such as solar, wind, natural gas, biofuel and geothermal.

"This solar energy project will assist in sustaining Fort Rucker's vital missions, and will increase assured access to resource supply and improve electrical infrastructure conditions," said McGhee. "Most importantly, this project will improve energy security and resiliency, which underwrite your Army's unique ability to rapidly deploy, employ and sustain military forces around the globe to defend our nation and its interests."

The electricity generated by

the solar plant flows directly into the electrical grid, and is distributed back to Fort Rucker and the surrounding communities, but McGhee said the facility was built with future projects and capabilities in mind, including one that would install smart controls and electricity storage capabilities that would allow the ability to turn power on to the installation in the event of a grid disruption.

By staying on the cutting edge of energy generation, Fort Rucker is helping secure the future of not only the installation, but the surrounding communities, as well, said Miller. Additionally, the project helps the installation leave its mark in history with its commitment to being a good

environmental steward.

"By producing and consuming 16 percent of all electrical needs through renewable energy sources, and continuing to implement innovative energy efficient solutions, Fort Rucker contributes to the reduction of the carbon footprint in the greater Wiregrass area and the community. This infrastructure is instrumental to the success and longevity of Fort Rucker," said the garrison commander. "Strengthening our infrastructure through the addition of renewable energy sources positions Fort Rucker, which is the largest employer in southern Alabama, for growth and continued economic support to our local community."

Library, OSJA host Law Day event to educate youth

By Jeremy Henderson
Army Flier Staff Writer

Local youth can peek into an American courtroom during Fort Rucker's Law Day event May 1 from 3:30-4:30 p.m. at the Center Library.

The event, hosted by Center Library and orchestrated by the Fort Rucker Office of the Staff Judge Advocate, aims to educate and entertain children and their families with brief American law and U.S. Constitution lessons.

"Anticipated components of the event include a mock trial geared towards children using puppets that will

feature characters from a well-known children's story," Capt. Paul Ferguson, Fort Rucker OSJA administrative and claims attorney, said. "There will also be a legal-themed craft and coloring project."

According to Ferguson, the Law Day event is family-friendly, geared primarily towards children and is intended to be an entertaining introduction to basic legal concepts through a mock trial, and craft and coloring activities.

Capt. Daniel Hancock, Fort Rucker OSJA client services chief, added that a sound understanding of the Constitution is essential.



PHOTO BY NATHAN PFAU

Soldiers from the Fort Rucker Office of the Staff Judge Advocate dress Sgt. Ted E. Bear to represent 'blind justice' last year in honor of Law Week, which is designated as the first week in May, to bring awareness of the importance of the U.S. legal and justice systems. This year, the OSJA will host an event at the Center Library.

"All Americans should have a thorough grasp of the Constitution because this nation as a republic is dependent upon the participation of its citizens in their own governance," he said. "Without such an understanding, Americans cannot properly evaluate the positions of politicians running for elected office, or the actions taken by the various levels and branches of government, and cannot meaningfully contribute to affecting changes in the law in a proper manner.

"All Americans should also understand the law primarily in order to protect their own liberty," he added. "Additionally, all Americans need to understand the law to make their own individual contributions to a society where the rule of law is respected by following it themselves and by knowing what changes need to be made in the law and the proper manner to advocate for those changes. Knowing this information will aid greatly in Americans' dealings with politicians, law enforcement, and attorneys and paralegals because those who are informed about the matters in which they are involved are best equipped to help professionals aid them in reaching their own goals using the services offered by the appropriate professional."

Cameron Hill, Center Library youth librarian, echoed Hancock's sentiment.

"This is a wonderful, educational event celebrating American law and the U.S. Constitution," she said.

According to the American Bar Association website, Law Day 2017's theme is "The 14th Amendment: Transforming American Democracy."

Hancock stated that Fort Rucker's event is geared toward children and will not explore the amendment in detail; however, its importance should



COURTESY PHOTO

Lt. Col. Beau Tibbitts, 1st Battalion, 58th Aviation Regiment (Airfield Operations) commander, accepts the unit colors from Col. Michael E. Demirjian, Air Traffic Services Command and 164th Theater Airfield Operations Group commander, as he assumes command from Lt. Col. James Ashburn during a change of command ceremony at the U.S. Army Aviation Museum April 19.

1-58th Avn. Regt. welcomes new commander

By Nathan Pfau
Army Flier Staff Writer

The 1st Battalion, 58th Aviation Regiment (Airfield Operations) "Guardian Eagles" welcomed a new commander and bid farewell to the outgoing leader during a ceremony at the U.S. Army Aviation Museum April 19.

Lt. Col. Beau Tibbitts assumed command from Lt. Col. James Ashburn during the change of command ceremony as the unit colors changed hands from Ashburn to Col. Michael E. Demirjian, Air Traffic Services Command and 164th Theater Airfield Operations Group commander, to Tibbitts.

Demirjian welcomed Tibbitts, who served as the 1st Aviation Brigade S3, back to Fort Rucker and expressed his full confidence in his leadership after taking command.

"I know you're up for the unique challenge that is AOB," he said to the incoming commander. "It takes a special leader to train the readiness of this organization – I know you're ready."

Tibbitts returns to Fort Rucker from his most re-

SEE 1-58TH, PAGE A7

SEE LAW DAY, PAGE A7

PERSPECTIVE

‘SEXTORTION’

CID warns of cyber scams against service members

U.S. Army Criminal Investigation Command
Public Affairs Staff Report

QUANTICO, Va. — The U.S. Army Criminal Investigation Command’s Computer Crime Investigative Unit cautions Soldiers to be on the lookout for what it calls “sextortion” scams, where criminals will try to engage in online sexual activities with unsuspecting service members, and then demand money or favors in exchange for not publicizing potentially embarrassing information.

Officials describe sextortion scams as cyber sexual extortion in which perpetrators conduct schemes that leverage those sexual acts for financial gain or other forms of blackmail. Once the Soldier sends a compromising photo or participates in a video chat, the perpetrator threatens to send those images to the Soldier’s command, family and friends unless hush money is paid, according to CID special agents.

Officials caution that Soldiers may be prime victims because they want to protect their career and, out of embarrassment, they may reluctantly give in to the financial or other demands of the extortionist. CCIU agents added that this particular scam is sometimes effective because once the perpetrator gets the unsuspected Sol-



ARMY PHOTO

dier to perform some sort of virtual sexual act with a person on the Internet – while they are secretly recorded – the true nightmare begins because they are now more likely to be blackmailed for those compromising images.

“Be cautious of your online communications and do not share intimate, personal information with strangers or people you have never met in person,” said Special Agent Daniel Andrews, director of CCIU.

Unfortunately, these incidents continue to occur across the globe, and sextortion victims are encouraged to seek the assistance of law enforcement. “Victims are at risk of further exploitation, which can include demands for additional payments, more sexual images, sensitive military information, or access to U.S. Army systems and facilities, so early notification to law enforcement is important,” Andrews said.

If you have been the victim of sextortion,

he offered some tips on what to do.

- Do not send money to the scammers. CCIU is aware of instances where scammers threatened to release videos unless a second or even third payment is made.
- Do not continue to correspond with the scammers.
- Do preserve whatever information you have from the scammers, such as social networking profiles, email accounts used, where money was directed to be sent, etc.
- Do notify CCIU at usarmy.cciuintel@mail.mil or 571-305-4478 to report being a victim if you are a service member or an Army civilian employee. If you are not associated with the military, report the crime to your local police department, Department of Homeland Security Investigations at Assistance.Victim@ice.dhs.gov, or the FBI’s Internet Crime Complaint Center at www.ic3.gov.

For more information about computer security, other computer-related scams and to review previous cyber-crime alert notices and cyber-crime prevention flyers, visit the Army CID CCIU website at <http://www.cid.army.mil/cciu-advisories.html>.

For more information on CID or to report a felony-level crime or provide information concerning a crime, call your local CID office (255-3108) or the military police (255-2222), or visit www.cid.army.mil.

Rotor Wash



CW5 Virgil Martin,
Directorate of
Standardization and
Evaluation

“Any diversity is good to celebrate so that you understand where they’re coming from and how to interact.”



Sgt. Rachel Kahle,
9-108th, Montgomery,
Army Reserves

“Where I’m from there isn’t much diversity, so everyone should be educated on diversity and the things that make us different.”



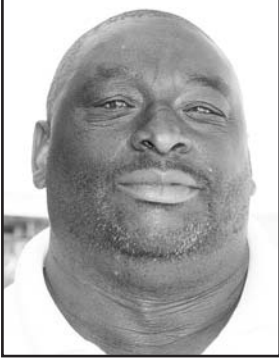
Rosa Morrissette,
civilian

“All ethnicities need to be celebrated in some form or fashion, but it’s a learning opportunity for all of us.”



Kimberly Sanders,
military family member

“Some people don’t understand (diversity), so celebrating it creates a learning opportunity for people.”



Gregory Grider,
civilian

“It gives people different viewpoints into other aspects of people’s lives.”

“May is Asian-Pacific Heritage Month and a kickoff event to celebrate will take place at the post exchange May 5 from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. Why is it important to celebrate diversity in our country?”

COMMAND

Maj. Gen. William K. Gayler
FORT RUCKER COMMANDING GENERAL

Col. Shannon T. Miller
FORT RUCKER GARRISON COMMANDER

Lisa Eichhorn
FORT RUCKER PUBLIC AFFAIRS OFFICER

Jim Hughes
COMMAND INFORMATION OFFICER

David C. Agan Jr.
COMMAND INFORMATION OFFICER
ASSISTANT

EDITORIAL STAFF

Jim Hughes
ACTING EDITOR..... 255-1239
jhughes@armyflyer.com

Jeremy P. Henderson
SYSTEMS & DESIGN EDITOR... 255-2253
jhenderson@armyflyer.com

Nathan Pfau

STAFF WRITER..... 255-2690
npfau@armyflyer.com

BUSINESS OFFICE

Robert T. Jesswein
PROJECT MANAGER..... 702-6032
rjesswein@dothaneagle.com

Jerry Morgan
REGIONAL SALES DIRECTOR 702-2631
jmorgan@dothaneagle.com

Laren Allgood
DISPLAY ADVERTISING..... 393-9718
lallgood@eprisenow.com

Mable Ruttlen
DISPLAY ADVERTISING..... 393-9713
mruttlen@eprisenow.com

Ollie Koshelieva
DISPLAY ADVERTISING..... 393-9709
okoshelieva@eprisenow.com
CLASSIFIED ADS..... (800) 779-2557

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Editorial contacts

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ACE suicide intervention

Ask your buddy

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

Care for your buddy

- Remove any means that could be used for self-

injury.

- Calmly control the situation, do not use force.
- Actively listen to produce relief.

Escort your buddy

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

CRC welcomes new command sergeant major

By Lori Yerdon

U.S. Army Combat Readiness Center

The U.S. Army Combat Readiness Center welcomed a new command sergeant major in a change of responsibility ceremony Friday.

Command Sgt. Maj. Ernest D. Bowen, Jr. became the Army's sixth, top enlisted adviser on safety and occupational health issues after assuming duties from Command Sgt. Maj. Terry D. Burton, who had been with the USACRC since March 2016.

"I'm happy and honored to be a member of the CRC team as we work to preserve readiness across the Army," Bowen said. "As a member of this team, I ask that you put me to work."

Bowen's most recent assignment was at Camp Atterbury where he served as the 157th Infantry Brigade command sergeant major.

Brig. Gen. Jeffrey A. Farnsworth, Headquarters, Department of the Army; director of Army Safety and commanding general, USACRC, said Bowen is a decorated combat infantryman that will be a strong champion for the USACRC's mission and for Soldiers.

"Command Sergeant Major Bowen is able to communicate and connect with the largest portion of our force and he brings with him an expertise that I think will prove valuable to us," Farnsworth said.



PHOTO BY LUIS MARTINEZ

Brig. Gen. Jeffrey A. Farnsworth (right) passes the colors to Command Sgt. Maj. Ernest D. Bowen during a change of responsibility ceremony Friday. Bowen becomes the Army's sixth top enlisted adviser on safety and occupational health issues.

"He wants to help prevent loss and enhance readiness by preventing accidental loss, he gets it."

Farnsworth also lauded Command Sgt. Major Burton, and his wife Natalie, for their

efforts while assigned to the USACRC.

"Thank you Terry for everything you've done for the command," he said. "I'm deeply appreciative and will hold you in the highest regard my entire life. Terry and

Natalie, I wish you well."

Burton's next assignment takes him to Fort Lee, Virginia, where he will serve as the command sergeant major of the U.S. Army Ordnance School.

President signs bill to extend Veterans Choice health care law

By Terri Moon Cronk

Defense Media Activity

WASHINGTON – President Donald J. Trump signed the Veterans Choice Program Extension and Improvement Act April 18, ensuring military veterans can continue receiving health care in the civilian sector when care is not easily accessible from a Veterans Affairs Department provider.

"The veterans have poured out their sweat and blood and tears for this country for so long, and it's time that they're recognized, and it's time that we now take care of them and take care of them properly," Trump said after signing the continued health care bill into law in the Roosevelt

Room.

"This bill will extend and improve the Veterans Choice Program so that more veterans can see the doctor of their choice ... and don't have to wait and travel long distances for VA care," he said. "Some people have to travel five hours, eight hours, and they'll have to do it on a weekly basis and even worse than that. It's not going to happen anymore."

"This new law is a good start, but there is still much work to do," Trump continued. "We will fight each and every day to deliver the long-awaited reforms our veterans deserve and to protect those who have so courageously protected each and every one of us."



PHOTO BY MARINE CORPS SGT. ALAN BELSER

President Donald J. Trump and Gen. Joseph L. Votel, commander of U.S. Central Command, spend a few minutes with troops on their way to a press briefing April 18.

News Briefs

National Day of Prayer

The Fort Rucker Religious Support Office will host its National Day of Prayer observance May 4 from noon to 12:30 p.m. at the Headquarters Chapel, Bldg. 109. This is an annual event in which millions of Americans unite in prayer for the country and its leaders, according to RSO officials. The sanctuary in the Headquarters Chapel will also be opened from 8-11 a.m. and 1-4 p.m. for those who prefer to pray alone or in small groups at a time of their choice.

For more information, call 255-2989.

Retirement ceremony

The Fort Rucker Quarterly Retirement Ceremony is scheduled for Friday at 2 p.m. at the U.S. Army Aviation Museum. All are welcome to attend and honor the post's latest retirees for their service.

Specialty printing requirement

Due to a change in printing procedure, document printing services now requires that all documents for printing that require specialty paper be submitted three weeks prior to the requested delivery date.

For more information, call 255-1363.

Siren test

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

Retiree council meetings

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

For more information, call 255-9124.

Pharmacy change

Starting May 1, the Lyster Army Health Clinic Pharmacy will no longer accept drop-off forms for all refill requests. It will be mandatory to phone in all prescription refills. Call

1-877-520-1623 or 334-255-7671.

CLEP-a-thon

The Fort Rucker Education Center will host its CLEP-a-thon, Round 3, May 9-11 in Bldg. 4502. Active-duty military will be able to take all the CLEP and DSST tests they can take free, while it will cost family members and civilians \$95. According to education center officials, most colleges accept CLEP as transfer credit. May 9-10, the event will take place from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. May 11, the event will take place from 9-11 a.m. No appointment is required to take part.

For more information or to pre-register, call 598-2443.

Lost and found

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

Tobacco cessation program

The Lyster Army Health Clinic tobacco cessation program consists of four weekly sessions each month. Each class is one hour. Classes are Wednesdays from 11 a.m. to noon at the Army Wellness Center.

For more information, call 334-255-7930.

Change of command

The 1st Battalion, 212th Aviation Regiment will host its change of command May 5 at 9 a.m. at Howze Field. Lt. Col. Cecil C. Nix will assume command from Lt. Col. Ross F. Nelson.

Pay office closure

Starting May 24, the Defense Military Pay Office will begin closing at 12:30 p.m. on Wednesdays. Also, beginning May 30, DMPO office hours will change to 7:30 a.m.

to 3:30 p.m. Mondays-Tuesdays, 7:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Wednesdays, and 7:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Thursdays and Fridays.

AER scholarships

Army Emergency Relief is accepting applications for its 2017-2018 scholarship program at 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 Monday.

For more information, call 255-2341.

ID card section closure

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

Yoga classes

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

Weight control

The Lyster Army Health Clinic Fit for Performance Weight Control Program consists of six sessions taken over a six- to 12-week period. The program is available to all active-duty military, retirees and family members. Classes are held on Tuesdays from 9-11 a.m. or 1-3 p.m.

For more information, call 255-7986.

Lyster update

People are welcome to check out the Lyster Army Health Clinic Facebook Page for the Healthy Tip of the Day and important clinic

information, such as class dates and times.

The Lyster Twitter feed is at @Lyster-AHC.

AAFES restaurants open to visitors, employees

While Army and Air Force Exchange Service shopping privileges are only open to Soldiers, Airmen and their families, anyone can dine in Fort Rucker Exchange restaurants or pick up grab-and-go fare from Express locations. Army Regulation 215-8/Air Force Instruction 34-211 (I) lets anyone – including visitors, contractors and Department of Defense civilians – dine at the exchange's more than 1,600 restaurants worldwide. The regulation also authorizes anyone to buy grab-and-go food and beverages from one of the exchange's 300-plus Express locations as long as the items are consumed on the installation.

"Whether you work on the installation or are just visiting a military family member, the Exchange has you covered with a variety of satisfying meal options," said Ralph Kleemann, Fort Rucker Exchange general manager. "With numerous better-for-you options in both the food court and Express, the exchange proves you don't have to wait until you're off-post to eat a hearty, healthy meal."

Guidelines on who is authorized to use exchange operations are prescribed by Army Regulation 215-8/Air Force Instruction 34-211 (I) and the Armed Services Exchange Regulations, Department of Defense Instruction 1330.21.

Anyone who believes they qualify for full exchange benefits, including access to main stores, should contact the Fort Rucker Exchange at 334-503-9044.

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.

SHARP EXPERT:

Sexist humor more than just offensive

By C. Todd Lopez
Army News Service

WASHINGTON — For some time, through its Sexual Harassment/Assault Response and Prevention program, the Army has asserted that sexist humor is unacceptable in the workplace.

Sexist humor, however, is more than just offensive, according to Dr. Gail Stern.

More important than the joke itself, and the immediate effect it has on people who hear it, is the desensitizing effect it has on listeners, she said.

Stern, a researcher, victim advocate and subject-matter expert on sexual assault prevention, spoke April 18 at the Pentagon about the effects of sexist humor on listeners and how acceptance of such humor affects the social environment.

Stern's presentation involved a selection of anecdotes from her experience as a sexual assault prevention professional, as well as a series of slides featuring advertising that employs rape as a component and rape jokes.

During her presentation, Stern provided two examples of rape jokes for her audience. "What do nine out of ten people enjoy? Gang rape!" "Hello, my name is 'Rape.' Remember it. You'll be screaming it later."

Stern said some people will find such jokes offensive, while others will find humor in them. But the more those types of jokes are told, the more accepting people will become of the subject matter.

That type of humor, she said, desensitizes people to rape, and the effect is that rape itself is considered less of a problem.

"The rape jokes — it's not about sensitivity," she said. "Anybody



ARMY GRAPHIC

that tells you it's about sensitivity is full of it. It's not about sensitivity. It's about how it conditions [listeners] cognitively to accept violence and abuse toward another group."

Stern also referred to a number of print advertisements that made light of rape. In one advertisement for a brand of vodka, the text suggests that, unlike "some people," this brand's vodka always "goes down smoothly." The ad's imagery features a terrified woman being grabbed from behind by an amused man.

"What's the joke here?" Stern asked. The woman in the photo, apparently, didn't want what the man wanted. The ad is a play on words in which sexual assault is part of that word play.

Stern noted that advertising executives must have discussed it. "Before they went with this,

they were like, 'Guys will laugh at this,'" she said. "Thought went into that. People said OK to that."

Another ad features a man and woman dressed for a party and standing against a white background. The woman, on the left side of the ad, has her head turned and is looking out of frame and laughing as if engaged in a conversation. On the right side of the ad, a man leans at her, as though noticing she is distracted. The ad's copy suggests "spiking" your best friend's drink when she's not paying attention.

"[The advertiser is] not saying 'knife' your best friend while she's not looking," she said. "There's an implication that he'll get out of the 'friend zone' maybe, right? If it's spiked, he'll have an easier time at this party? And that's not considered rape by many people. It's not saying 'roofie.' We'd be like,

that's too dark. But 'spike' is sort of neutral enough; we are willing to grant this guy a little latitude."

The Army has been pushing "bystander intervention" training as a way to encourage Soldiers to step up and prevent sexual assault before it happens. Stern identified four factors that must be present for an effective bystander intervention. Those factors are:

1. Notice the situation;
2. Define the situation as problematic;
3. Feel the responsibility to act; and
4. Have the skills to act.

The problem with bystander intervention, however, is the assumption that everybody will be able to notice a situation and identify it as requiring intervention. That's not always going to be true, Stern said.

Jokes about rape and sexist hu-

mor, she said, have "numbed our assessment abilities, to the point where we are less liable to ... notice it and ... define it as a problem ... or even think we are responsible to do anything about it if it's not that big a deal anymore."

Rape jokes, Stern said, "make rape acceptable at some cognitive level. If I think that sexual coercion is acceptable or is just a normal part of the culture, I'm going to call it sex. Maybe bad sex, but I'm not going to call it rape."

Stern said it's not necessary every time a Soldier hears a sexist joke to make "a federal case" out of it. But calling out the teller of such a joke goes a long way toward ensuring that, culturally, in whatever group you are in, rape, sexual assault and sexual coercion do not become acceptable at any level.

"You do have to say, 'Buddy, come on. Rape jokes aren't funny' ... something that calls out that negativity," she said. "If that person gets approval for it ... if we stay silent, we have cosigned on that. We've said you're good to go."

Soldiers, Stern said, have a responsibility to challenge such behavior — the jokes and comments — as a way of changing what is culturally acceptable.

"In order to create a culture that doesn't tolerate sexual assault, you have to challenge sexism," she said. "And you have to do it at every different stage."

That means not just challenging jokes that make light of sexual assault, she said, but also challenging a Soldier who belittles another's performance because she is female, or who talks about why women shouldn't be in the Army, for instance.

Soldiers recall intervening in possible sexual assault incident

By David Vergun
Army News Service

WASHINGTON — Like all Soldiers, Staff Sgt. Anthony Ciccariello, Sgt. Evan Lipp and Sgt. James Smith attend annual Sexual Harassment/Assault Response and Prevention training.

All three admitted they initially doubted the training would ever be of much use to them. But during a SHARP-sponsored panel April 6 at the Pentagon, they discussed how they relied on that training when they witnessed a possible sexual assault incident late last year.

The incident occurred in October at a bar in Watertown, New York, near Fort Drum, where the three men are stationed. Lipp said the three were having a relaxed conversation over a beer when he spotted something very suspicious.

Two civilian men who looked to be in their early 20s were seated on a sofa. Sitting between them was a woman who appeared to be in her early 30s. Lipp said she looked like she was drugged and unaware of what was going on. Her eyes were rolled back. The men had their hands up her skirt.

That's when Lipp decided to act. He first alerted the bouncer, but the bouncer refused to intervene and instead suggested the three on the couch were probably just friends. Lipp then told his fellow Soldiers, Ciccariello and Smith. Together, they located the woman's friend who told them she didn't recognize the two men on the couch.

At that point, Ciccariello and Smith escorted the two men outside to a courtesy patrol, uniformed Soldiers who patrol the town

as part of their duty.

While the woman opted not to file charges against the men and no arrests were made, Ciccariello believes the SHARP bystander training that he, Lipp and Smith had received had helped them stop a sexual assault in its tracks.

While Ciccariello said he knows he and his fellow Soldiers did the right thing, not everyone agreed. A local newspaper report contained some discrepancies about what happened that evening due to differing accounts from authorities.

"Some people in the community were very supportive, while others called us liars," he said.

Fortunately, the Army and their unit backed them up, Smith said, and today the three go on SHARP speaking tours to discuss bystander intervention.

HARD TO BE A HERO

It takes guts to intervene as a bystander, said Sharyn Potter, a sociology professor and researcher at the University of New Hampshire.

In her 15 years of researching bystander intervention, she's heard plenty of stories of backlash, from ostracism to threats of retaliation. She said it's easier for someone of higher rank or social status who committed the harassment or assault to threaten someone who has intervened.

The three Soldiers who intervened said they did not get physical with the two men, and Potter agreed with their actions, adding there are subtler ways to intervene effectively as a bystander.

For instance, if sexual harassment is oc-

curring in a dark, loud club, something as simple as turning on a light or turning down the music can get the attention of others, she said. Requesting the assistance of the club's staff might also be effective, though it wasn't in the case at Watertown.

Finally, she said, the authorities should be the only ones to use physical force, if it's necessary.

While these three Soldiers effectively

intervened, Potter said people who witness such incidents often choose not to get involved. She said she hopes that, just as the Army has educated its Soldiers in a drive to change its culture for the better, society will one day wake up to the dangers of sexual assault and harassment.

Although the three Soldiers faced backlash for their actions, all agreed they would do it again because it was the right thing to do.



PHOTO BY DAVID VERGUN

Staff Sgt. Anthony Ciccariello and Sgts. Evan Lipp and James Smith, discuss what it's like to intervene in a sexual assault.

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COMMANDER:

5 pillars for a strong Europe now in place

By David Vergun
Army News Service

ATLANTA – In Europe, said Lt. Gen. Ben Hodges, it's important for NATO to be entirely clear on its resolve to use its capabilities should the need arise.

Hodges, who serves as commander of U.S. Army Europe, spoke April 10 via video teleconference to the Atlanta CEO Symposium attended by Army leaders, and about 50 Atlanta area corporate and civic leaders.

U.S. forces in Europe have now transitioned from being a force of assurance to also being a force of deterrence, he said, explaining that "deterrence is all about having the capability to compel, defeat, to force the enemy to change their mind or reconsider what they're thinking about doing."

To achieve those goals and that transition, Hodges described "five pillars" now in place that USAEUR considers important to ensuring a strong Europe.

EMPOWER JUNIOR LEADERS

The first pillar, he said, is empowering junior leaders to do more and assume much greater responsibility than what they're accustomed to.

For example, today the senior officer in Estonia is a captain with about 130 Soldiers under his charge, Hodges said.

"I have to rely on that captain understanding the big picture and interacting with the ambassador and minister of defense, being able to talk to the international media and ensuring Soldiers are doing their job in a way that doesn't lead to an incident that would be exploited immediately by the Russians," he said.

That's kind of what's happening up and down from the Baltic nations to Romania, Bulgaria and so on.

"We like to think of U.S. Army Europe as a leadership lab for the Army, where young people have huge responsibilities," he added.

RESERVE COMPONENTS

The second pillar is the National Guard and Reserve, Hodges said. They make up a huge percentage of the Army logisticians, engineers, military police and other vital occupations. Besides that, the Guard has various state partnerships with nations in the region.

"What an incredible asset for us," he



PHOTO BY PFC. JAMES DUTKAIVICH

Paratroopers Spc. Jeffery Hooper and Pfc. Cole Phillips, both assigned to 3rd Platoon, Battle Company, 2nd Battalion, 503rd Infantry Regiment (Airborne), 173rd Airborne Brigade, support their Estonian allies by pulling security during joint urban operations training Nov. 3 in Hellenurme, Estonia.

said, referring to the Reserve components. "They are like oxygen for us here."

ALLIED STRENGTHS

Partner nations bring their own manpower and capabilities, the third pillar, Hodges said. "Our best and most reliable allies come from Europe, along with Canada and Australia.

"If there's something we've learned over the last 15 years in Iraq and Afghanistan, we don't do anything by ourselves," he continued.

For example, allied forces have bridging capability strong enough for tanks to cross, he said. They also provide short-range air defense, heavy trucks that can carry U.S. tanks on European highways and more.

ROTATIONAL FORCES

The fourth pillar is the nine-month ro-

tational force, Hodges said, meaning an armored brigade combat team from Fort Carson, Colorado, that arrived in January; a combat Aviation brigade out of Fort Drum, New York, that arrived in February; and this month's arrival of an amalgam of active, Guard and Reserve logisticians that make up the equivalent of a sustainment brigade.

DYNAMIC PRESENCE

The fifth pillar, Hodges said, is having a "dynamic presence." He defined that as having units spread out and moving through series of exercises throughout Eastern Europe.

A dynamic presence means "showing the flag and creating the effect of having 300,000 instead of 30,000," he said, referring to 30,000 Soldiers today versus the 300,000 who were stationed primarily in West Germany and Italy during the Cold War.

"We look for every way possible to create the effect we want to create with the resources we have," he added.

In closing, Hodges said, "America's economic prosperity is directly tied to stability and security of Europe. That's why we've been here since the end of World War II. So, there's a practical reason for us being there."

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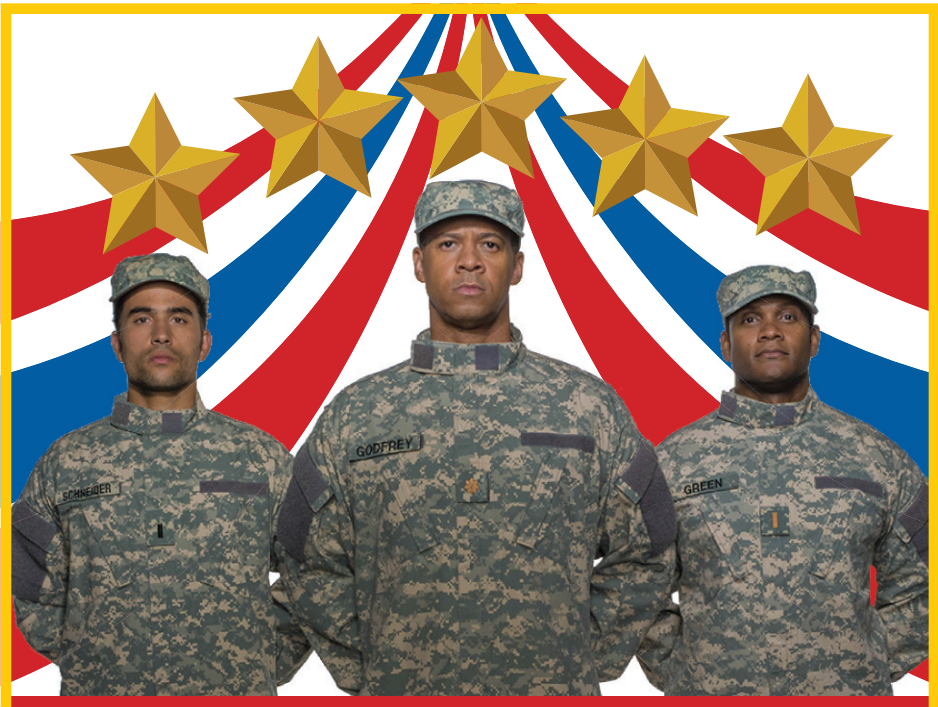
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SECDEF:

U.S. stands by Afghan people after Taliban's heinous acts

By Terri Moon Cronk
Defense Media Activity

WASHINGTON — During a visit to the headquarters of NATO's Resolute Support mission in the Afghan capital of Kabul Monday, Defense Secretary Jim Mattis had stern words for the Friday Taliban attack on an Afghan military base and mosque, in which more than 100 people were killed.

The secretary spoke at a news conference alongside Army Gen. John W. Nicholson, commander of the Resolute Support mission and of U.S. forces in Afghanistan.

"As if we needed a reminder of the type of enemy we're up against, the killing of Afghan citizens and soldiers — protectors of the people — just as they were coming out of a mosque, a house of worship, it certainly characterizes this fight for exactly what it is," Mattis said. "These people have no religious foundation. They are not devout anything, and it shows why we stand with the people of this country against such heinous acts perpetrated by this barbaric enemy and what they do."

TALKS WITH AFGHAN PRESIDENT

The secretary said he had met earlier with Afghan President



PHOTO BY AIR FORCE TECH. SGT. BRIGITTE N. BRANTLEY

Defense Secretary Jim Mattis and Gen. John Nicholson, Resolute Support commander, meet with some of the mission's senior leaders and command staff at the Resolute Support Headquarters in Kabul, Afghanistan, Monday.

Ashraf Ghani, and thanked him for his leadership in the midst of difficult times and for the inclusive approach of this unity government.

"We discussed his initiative to make the government ... more responsive to all of the Afghan people and we all recognize the chal-

lenges to this government of that effort presented by enemies of the Afghan people who refused to renounce violence," Mattis said.

The secretary pointed out that President Donald J. Trump has directed a review of U.S. policy in Afghanistan.

"This dictates an ongoing dia-

logue with Afghanistan's leadership," he said, "and that's why I came here: to get with President Ghani and his ministers and hear directly and at length from ... General Nicholson to provide my best assessment and advice as we go forward."

That advice, he added, will go

not only to the president, but also to the NATO secretary general and all the troop-contributing nations with which the United States coordinates and collaborates.

The teamwork between the U.S. and Afghan governments, their diplomats and their international military contingents has achieved high levels of partnership, the secretary said. "In a word, I find it impressive."

2017: DIFFICULT ROAD AHEAD

The review in Washington of the Afghanistan mission is a dialogue that includes Secretary of State Rex Tillerson, the president and his staff in the White House, and "I'd say we're under no illusions about the challenges associated with this mission," Mattis said.

2017 will be another tough year for the Afghan security forces and the international troops who will continue to stand shoulder to shoulder with Afghanistan and against those who seek to undermine the nation's legitimate government, Mattis said.

He called on the Taliban to work honestly for a positive future for the Afghan people.

"They need only to renounce violence and reject terrorism," he added. "It's a pretty low standard to join the political process."

Army G-2: Bottom-up Army intelligence review under way

By David Vergun
Army News Service

WASHINGTON — A bottom-up intelligence review across the Army is now in progress and should wrap up by late summer, said Lt. Gen. Robert P. Ashley Jr., the G-2.

Ashley spoke April 19 at an Association of the United States Army breakfast titled, "Army Intelligence 2017-2025: Intelligence at the Speed of Mission Command."

The bottom-up review, which he termed the "BUR," is a survey that has been sent out to leaders not only in the intelligence community, but also to leaders in other branches across all components from battalion-level to component commands.

Thousands of surveys have been sent out, he added, and thus far about 3,800 have been completed and returned. The effort is being led by the Army Training and Doctrine Command and the U.S. Army Intelligence Center of Excellence.

The BUR, he said, will look at current capacity and capability gaps in areas of intelligence and also at what capabilities will be needed in 2025.

One obvious gap, he pointed out, is in the area of open-source intelligence, which means collecting intelligence from public sources like social media and other outlets. "It's a huge area for growth, but it's not reflected in the force structure." Tools and tradecraft for open-source intelligence need to be developed.

Among the areas the BUR is examining are mix and size of intelligence formations; interrogation; intelligence certification; enhancement of counter-intelligence; collection management; future intelligence, surveillance and reconnaissance capabilities; and geospatial intelligence.

Once the surveys are compiled, he said, the results will be presented to senior Army leaders to help them get a better understanding of where the Army is in relation to intelligence and readiness.

Ashley said leaders are also having robust discussions with their counterparts in the Special Operations community, along with sister services, most notably the Marine Corps.

Although the results of the surveys are still coming in and have yet to be compiled, Ashley provided his own personal survey of what he believes needs to be accomplished.



PHOTO BY DAVID VERGUN

Lt. Gen. Robert P. Ashley Jr., Army G-2, discusses an Army-wide, bottom-up intelligence review at an Association of the United States Army breakfast at AUSA headquarters in Arlington, Va., April 19.

CONVERGENCE

There needs to be a convergence of electronic warfare with signals intelligence and cyber, he said.

There also needs to be more cross-talk regarding integration of intelligence capabilities between the centers of excellence for Cyber, Intelligence, Fires, and Mission Command.

Once intelligence is integrated, it will give Soldiers a better situational understanding of the battlefield and provide them useful information like kinetic targeting solutions.

AIRBORNE ISR

The RAND Corporation has been asked to provide their analysis of airborne ISR, Ashley said. Topics include finding gaps in types of sensors needed, studying the right balance between manned and unmanned systems, survivability of those systems, and unmanned aircraft system swarming using miniature UAS.

In a parallel effort, the Air Force is also studying swarming, he added.

COGNITIVE OVERLOAD

The Soldier's cognitive burden must be reduced, Ashley said. To do that requires data automation. Once the data is automatically processed, it could be aggregated in such a way as to provide leaders with more options on courses of action to take.

That way, he added, instead of getting bogged down in the data, leaders can have more time to think about the problem they're trying to solve and to better understand what they're seeing.

ENCRYPTION

Advances in encryption are moving ahead with blinding speed, Ashley said. "At what point do we run into encryption that we cannot solve?"

MINIATURIZATION

The Army must find a way to cram more useful sensors and signals intelligence into its airborne and ground platforms, Ashley said. That will involve advances in miniaturization of components and data compression.

Ideally, intelligence collected on these platforms should be aggregated even before it is transmitted to analysts, a process he termed "upstream fusion." That would speed intelligence and would also solve the bandwidth demand problem, he added. "That's a hard problem but one we've got to solve."

X-FACTOR

The X-factor is the American Soldier, Ashley said. "It's how we grow leaders; what we train our Soldiers to do from the youngest private to the most senior officer; how they look at and solve problems."

The U.S. Army does that better than other armies, he asserted.

DISRUPTIVE TECHNOLOGY

The pace of technological advancement in recent years has been extraordinary, Ashley said. The Army is always on the lookout for disruptive technology that will keep it ahead of other nations.

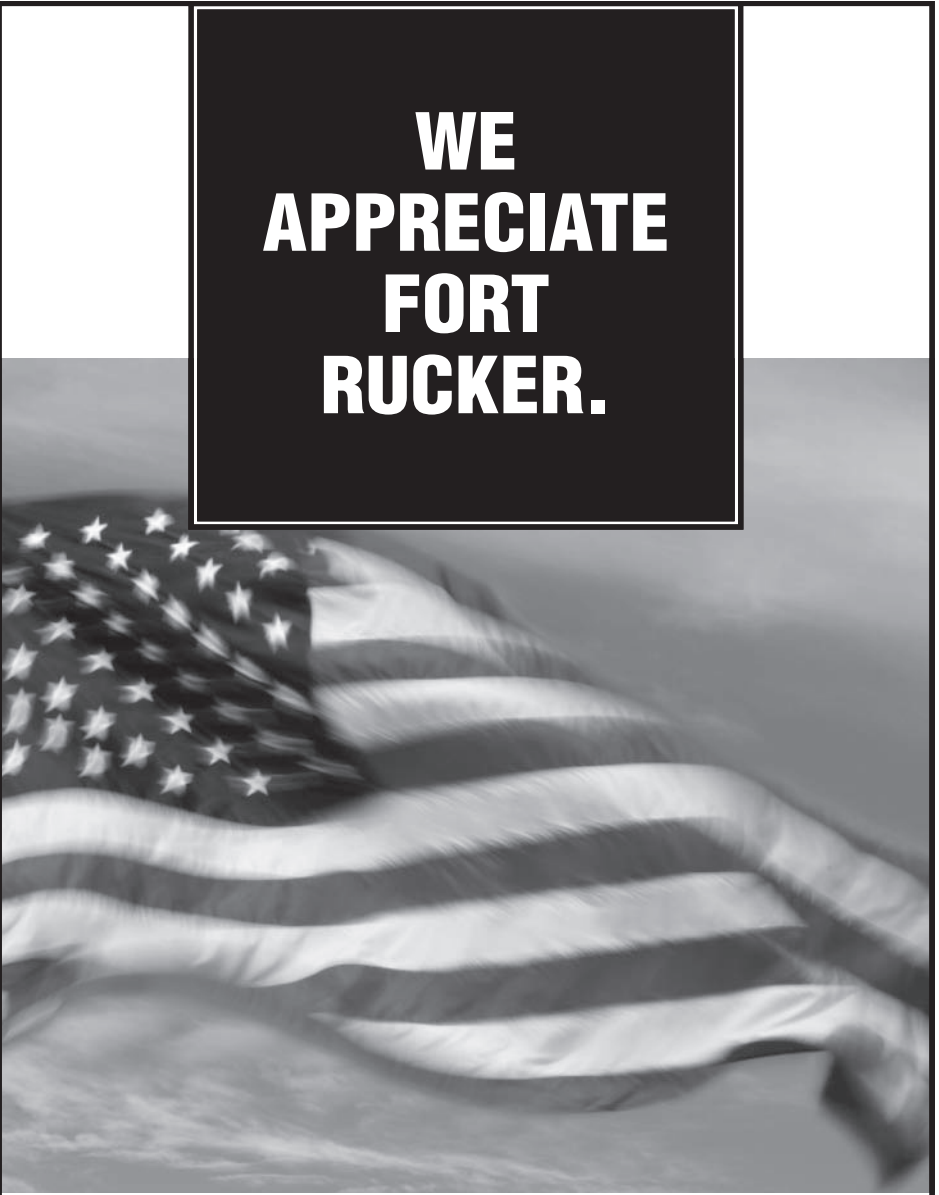
P. W. Singer, a strategist for the New America Foundation, was invited to an AUSA panel last year, Ashley said. Someone asked him this question: "What do you see on the horizon as that one dis-

ruptive technology that's going to separate us from other nations?"

His reply: "I really don't see one — not right now."

Singer added that, for now, the best way forward is to more effectively use the technology available, along with emerging technology.

Ashley said the well-trained, well-led, smart American Soldier is key to making that happen.



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Pentagon spokesman updates public on Iraq, Syria, Yemen operations

By Cheryl Pellerin
Defense Media Activity

WASHINGTON — Coalition and U.S. strikes continue to aid progress against the Islamic State of Iraq and Syria in Iraq and Syria, and against al-Qaida in the Arabian Peninsula in Yemen, Pentagon spokesman Navy Capt. Jeff Davis said Monday.

Monday was Day 65 of the operation to liberate western Mosul in Iraq, he said, and Sunday Iraqi forces gained another 6 square kilometers along the forward line of troops on the axis of attack moving from the south toward Mosul's old city.

Members of the Iraqi Emergency Response Division and the Federal Police maintained defensive positions along their eastern boundary and the Tigris River. The Counterterrorism Service also gained new ground and the Iraqi army's 9th Division continued to defend positions west of Mosul.

Clearing operations continue in eastern Mosul, Davis reported.

SUPPORTING IRAQ OPERATIONS

"The total number of munitions delivered since Oct. 17 in support of operations to liberate Mosul is 22,107," he added.

The munitions destroyed total 259 vehicle-borne bombs, 638 buildings and facilities, 209 tunnels, 684 vehicles, 914 bunkers, 38 anti-aircraft artillery systems, 542 artillery and mortar systems, and 279 boats and barges, Davis said.

Sunday, coalition military forces conducted seven strikes consisting of 49 engagements against ISIS targets.

Near Rawah, a strike engaged an ISIS tactical unit and destroyed an ISIS staging area, according to a statement by Operation Inherent Resolve officials.

Near Mosul, the officials said, six strikes engaged five ISIS tactical units; destroyed 11 fighting positions, eight heavy machine guns, four rocket-propelled grenade systems, two ISIS-held buildings, an ISIS-held bridge and a vehicle-borne bomb; damaged 14 ISIS supply routes and a fighting position; and suppressed four rocket teams, three mortar teams and an ISIS tactical unit.

OPERATIONS IN SYRIA

In the fight for Raqqa in Syria, the Pentagon spokesman said, Syrian Democratic Forces have liberated another 2 square kilometers in the Raqqa valley north and Tabqah areas, and in the Raqqa valley north on the western axis.

"The SDF is reporting large numbers of internally displaced persons fleeing ISIS-held areas around there," Davis added, noting that ISIS does not control the Tabqah dam or the city but the city is almost entirely surrounded.

In Syria yesterday, according to an OIR



PHOTO BY NAVY CHIEF PETTY OFFICER BRANDON
Iraqi special operations forces members prepare to participate in training in Baghdad conducted by coalition members assigned to Combined Joint Special Operations Task Force Iraq April 17.

statement, coalition military forces conducted 24 strikes consisting of 48 engagements against ISIS targets.

Near Dayr Az Zawr, three strikes destroyed three ISIS wellheads. Near Palmyra, two strikes destroyed four fighting positions and two ISIS shipping containers.

Near Raqqa, seven strikes engaged three ISIS tactical units and destroyed three fighting positions, a heavy machine gun, a tactical vehicle and an ISIS wellhead. And near Tabqah, 12 strikes engaged 10 ISIS tactical units and destroyed 12 fighting positions, a tactical vehicle, an ISIS vehicle, a heavy machine gun and a command-and-control node.

YEMEN OPERATIONS

U.S. forces conducted a strike April 18 in the Ma'rib governorate against three al-Qaida in the Arabian Peninsula terrorists, and another strike yesterday in the Shabwa governorate against eight al-Qaida in the Arabian Peninsula terrorists, Davis said.

"Since Feb. 28, we've conducted more than 80 precision strikes against AQAP militants, infrastructure, fighting positions and equipment, and we'll continue to conduct operations including strikes against known terrorists," he added.

Davis said U.S. forces are conducting a series of sustained operations in Yemen against al-Qaida in the Arabian Peninsula to degrade the group's ability to coordinate external terror attack operations and limit their ability to hold territory seized from the legitimate government of Yemen and use it as a safe haven for terror plotting.

CENTCOM is still assessing the results of the most recent strikes, he said.

Law Day

Continued from Page A1

not be understated.

"The 14th Amendment was ratified in 1868 following the Civil War and implemented many of the key reasons that the Union fought against the Confederacy," he said. "The 14th Amendment made clear that former slaves were now citizens of the United States. It also includes an 'Equal Protection Clause' and a 'Due Process Clause' that are binding upon the states themselves. In other words, each state must treat all citizens as equal before the law and no state could deprive any citizen of life, liberty or property without properly following the state's own laws.

"Before the 14th Amendment, the Constitution only explicitly applied to the federal government in these areas," he added. "A concern about the rights and treatment of the former slaves who were becoming citizens of the nation led to these provisions being included in the 14th Amendment. In the 20th and 21st centuries, the 14th Amendment formed the basis for major supreme court cases involving the racial integration of schools, abortion, same-sex marriage and many other matters."

1-58th

Continued from Page A1

cent assignment as the Force Requirements Branch chief, G5 Plans Division with 1st Army Headquarters at Rock Island Arsenal in Rock Island, Illinois.

His Army career began in 1998 after graduating and being commissioned from the Ripon College Reserve Officer Training Corps, and he graduated from flight school in 1999 as an OH-58D Kiowa Warrior pilot.

Tibbitts has served in multitude of assignments across the U.S. and the world, and has been deployed to Afghanistan and Iraq in 2004 and 2009, respectively.

He's held multiple leadership positions throughout his career, from brigade Aviation officer for the 1-25th Stryker Brigade Combat Team to doctrine branch chief for the Directorate of Training and Doctrine.

"I'm very humbled and honored to command this great organization," said the incoming commander. "Diana and I are excited to be back at Fort Rucker and proud to be part of the 164th and 1-58th — thank you for this opportunity. It's my honor to be a part of

this team."

That team was first constituted in 1968 and has seen numerous deployments from Vietnam to Iraq. It has been reorganized and re-designated, but throughout remains to support the Army mission, something Ashburn said he witnessed firsthand during his time as commander.

"Thank you for your support and efforts to make this company-sized unit feel like a battalion. We always asked a lot of you and you always performed amazingly," said Ashburn to the unit Soldiers. "It seems like just yesterday I was standing right here at this podium getting ready to join you in your ranks to get down to business.

"Two days later, you took me out to the field for a two-week exercise," he continued. "We dodged tornadoes, we fought the cold, we fought the heat and we fought the notorious [lower Alabama] mosquitos through multiple [force training exercises]. Why did we do all that? Because we can never be too great. Push yourselves harder and be the best you can every day — I encourage you to continue to do that."

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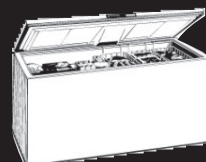
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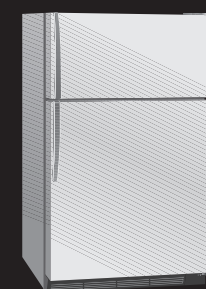


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new LISTING

811 GENEVA HIGHWAY SE ~ \$85,000: Beautiful intimate church that can be transformed into anything with a little imagination. 2 buildings sitting on approx. 5 lots. Great investment. **EDITH HALL 470-330-5959. MLS# 20170639**

new LISTING

118 COUNTY ROAD 748 ~ \$239,500: Great brick home with 4BR/2 SBA, open floor plan & convenient to Enterprise & Ft. Rucker. All new floor covering, hardwood & carpet! Large fenced yard. **JACKIE THOMPSON 334-406-1231 & TERRI AVERETT 334-406-2072. MLS# 20170657**

new LISTING

138 COMMONS ~ \$76,500: Motivated seller & property is tenant occupied until July 2017. **AGNES KARVONEN 334-406-9752. MLS# 20170643**

new LISTING

107 BLACKHAWK ~ \$99,900: Great home for the price. Has 3BR/2BA, 2 large living areas, fireplace & kitchen with stainless appliances. Large fenced-in backyard with a shed. Excellent location, very close to Ft. Rucker, schools, shopping areas & downtown Enterprise. VA foreclosure to be sold "as is". Alabama Right of Redemption will apply. **NANCY CAPIERO 334-389-1758 & BOB KUYENDALL 334-369-8534. MLS# 20170679**

new LISTING

306 GEORGE WALL ~ \$223,000: This spacious home on an extra-large lot with an 18x36 covered porch. Large HVAC less than 2 years old. Privacy on this extra-large lot. Suburban setting. Sit out in the morning around an open fire with the wood burner situated to the rear of the land. Property has a basement & a shed at the rear of the land for extra storage. **AGNES KARVONEN 334-406-9752. MLS# 20170693**

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210 CEDAR GROVE ~ \$159,900: Great price for this traditional home located on a well-established & desirable neighborhood, very close to Ft. Rucker. It features 3BR/2BA, big living area with fireplace, dining area & an office space, all sitting on a big fenced lot, with an inground pool & plenty of space for other outside activities. This is a VA foreclosure to be sold "as is", no repairs. Alabama Right of Redemption will apply. **NANCY CAPIERO 334-389-1758 & BOB KUYENDALL 334-369-8534. MLS# 20170702**

new LISTING

118 PALM DRIVE ~ \$67,500: 2BR/2 SBA, good investment & convenient to Ft. Rucker. **FRAN CLAYTOR KALTENBAUGH 334-790-5973. MLS# 20170713**

new LISTING

116 PALM DRIVE ~ \$63,000: Wonderful 2BR/2.5 investment, minutes from Ft. Rucker. **FRAN CLAYTOR KALTENBAUGH 334-790-5973. MLS# 20170714**

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125 PATRICIA LANE ~ \$68,000: Looking for your first home? Then start here in this 3BR/2BA ranch home conveniently located near Ft. Rucker. For only \$68,000 you can enjoy a living area with fireplace, spacious bonus room, laundry room, dining area adjacent to kitchen, covered porch, patio & the joy of owning a home. Don't miss this one! **JUDY DUNN 334-301-5656. MLS# 20170717**

new LISTING

214 ASHBROOK ~ \$289,880 3575 ± SF home with 5BR/3BA, huge 800 SF lot with 1 skylight & an idyllic cul-de-sac location. Eat-in kitchen with tons of natural light, wood cabinets, solid surface countertops & breakfast bar. Master is spacious with French doors leading to patio area, en suite bath with a walk-in closet larger than my first apartment. Car garage with tandem doors for easy drive through. Large laundry room, pantry, lots of floored attic storage, covered patio with ceiling fans & covered porch. **CHERYL PICCININI 334-390-9612. MLS# 20170728**

new LISTING

256 OAK HILL, OZARK ~ \$129,000: Remodeled. New paint in interior, plus new flooring. New roof & water heater in March 2017. New toilets. New stove & dishwasher. New 2" blinds throughout. Some new light fixtures. New landscaping & HVAC Compressor. Oversized garage...approx. 750 SF of garage space. Great sized pantry in kitchen providing tons of storage. Living room has great view of backyard through sliding glass doors. Living room opens to oversized back deck. Investors purchased & remodeled. Foreclosure date 2-9-17. Shed sold "as is". **SHAWN REEVES 334-475-6405. MLS# 20170731**

new LISTING

117 PALISADE ~ \$105,000: Location...Location! Just a hop, skip & a jump to Ft. Rucker! Great starter home. No wasted space with this homes floor plan. Updated kitchen with mini tile backsplash at sink & cooktop. New light fixtures in kitchen just add to the charm. Eat-in kitchen is perfectly located for easy access to den. Pantry. Wood laminate & vinyl flooring throughout for easy clean up. Ceiling fans in bedrooms. Stone wood burning fireplace is a fun focal point. Fenced backyard. Freshly painted garage. Coat & linen closets. **SHAWN REEVES 334-475-6405. MLS# 20170732**

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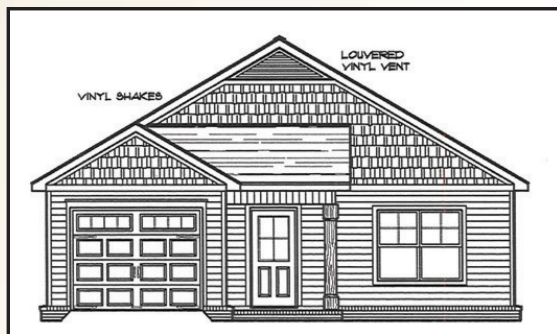
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216 JASMINE CIRCLE



3BR/2BA, 1- Car Garage • Maple Leaf Plan

208 JASMINE CIRCLE



3BR/2BA, 1-Car Garage • Poplar Place Plan

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3094 MORNINGDOVE WAY: Cute garden home in Quail Hollow so convenient to Enterprise & Ft. Rucker. The open concept allows the cook to be a part of the conversation. The covered deck overlooks a shaded backyard & expands the living space outdoors for entertaining. The master has a large walk-in closet. This home is equally convenient to Rucker Blvd via Achey Dr to Freedom Road & the traffic light which allows easy access to Rucker Blvd in either direction. Great first place or investment opportunity. Excellent rental history. **JAN SAWYER 406-2393**

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COUNTY ROAD 643: Open pasture land with 3 stocked ponds (catfish, brim & bass). 30 acres with road frontage on County Road 643. Schedule your viewing today. **JUDY DUNN 301-5656**

GATEWAY ESTATES ~ \$295,500



504 LAUREL BREEZE: Lovely brick home overlooking one of the lakes at Gateway. 3BR/2BA with large den, detached garage & large storage building. Many extras in this beautiful home. **JACKIE THOMPSON 406-1231**

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28 SOMERSET ~ DALEVILLE: Super convenient to Ft. Rucker. Wonderful townhouse priced to sell. 2BR/2.5BA, very nice complex. **PAT LEGGETT 406-7653**

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110 FERNWAY

\$185,000: Beautifully maintained home with a new roof in 2013, HVAC in 2011, updated kitchen with granite countertops, new dishwasher, new refrigerator in 2015 & oven in 2013. Absolutely move-in ready & a great location convenient to Faulkner Gate, Holly Hill Elem, Dauphin Jr & downtown Enterprise. Some of the nice features include a beamed cathedral ceiling in the family room, a separate formal dining as well as an eat-in kitchen & lots of counter space. Lovely screened in porch overlooks the large backyard.



JAN SAWYER
334-406-2393

DIRECTIONS: From Boll Weevil Circle take Hwy 27N toward Ozark. Turn left into the Clubview Estates subdivision on Candlewood Dr. Take first left on Woodlawn, then right on Fernway. House will be on the right.

CHIEF OF STAFF:

Fort Huachuca vital to Army readiness, modernization



Gen. Mark Milley, U.S. Army chief of staff, talks with Soldiers from the 2-13th Avn. Regt. regarding the Gray Eagle UAS during a visit to Fort Huachuca, Arizona, April 19.

By Lara Poirrier
Fort Huachuca Public Affairs

FORT HUACHUCA, Arizona – The 39th chief of staff of the Army visited Fort Huachuca April 19 to get a firsthand look at the missions and training at the post supporting the nation’s defense.

Gen. Mark A. Milley met with leaders from the 2nd Battalion, 13th Aviation Regiment; U.S. Army Intelligence Center of Excellence; Network Enterprise Technology Command; Electronic Proving Ground; Information Systems Engineering Command; the garrison; and others.

“One of the reasons I came down here was to see how I could expand and maximize the capabilities that Huachuca has for the current world situation,” Milley said. “You’ve got intelligence, you have NETCOM and cybersecurity here at Fort Huachuca.”

Milley said he had been to Fort Huachuca before, but this day marked his first visit as the chief of staff of the Army.

“We have Soldiers cycling through here at an industrial rate,” he said referring to the 10,000 Soldiers trained each year in military intelligence.

“It’s not just Army Soldiers,” Milley said. “We train Air Force, Navy, Marine intelligence, as well as our allied partner nations. Intelligence is absolutely fundamental – critical for the success of the military operations. You can’t get there from here without intelligence.

“You have to understand the environment, understand the enemy. That’s exactly what the Intel Center of Excellence does.”

After calling Fort Huachuca the “heart and soul of the intelligence community of the United States Army,” Milley went

SEE READINESS, PAGE B4

VALUE ADDED

10th CAB helps ground forces project power more quickly

By Spc. Thomas Scaggs
*10th Combat Aviation Brigade
Public Affairs*

VILSECK, Germany — Aviators from 2nd Battalion, 10th Aviation Regiment, and 3-10th General Support Aviation Battalion, 10th Combat Aviation Brigade, 10th Mountain Division (LI), provided air-assault capabilities to Soldiers from 3rd Squadron, 2nd Cavalry Regiment, during training April 6 at Grafenwoehr Training Area.

The use of UH-60 Black Hawks and CH-47 Chinooks to move ground troops during an exercise provided real-world movement technique capabilities to an ongoing defensive training being executed by 2nd Cav. Regt., said Capt. Trevor Roberts, a UH-60 Black Hawk pilot with A Company, 2-10th Avn. Regt.

“This helps build our interoperability by us working with 2nd Cav. Regt.,” he said. “We’re going to be supporting these same Soldiers during Saber Junction, so this ultimately enriches that mission, as well.”

By involving aircraft support, ground troops not only practice the proper procedures for loading and offloading aircraft in a controlled environment, but they are able to understand the sequence of events needed to call in the lift assets, Roberts added.

With ground troops and air capabilities working in tandem, doing training that mimics real-world scenarios, Aviators and Soldiers both experience a growth in their knowledge base and expertise, he added.

This leads to greater success during the larger exercises planned as part of Atlantic Resolve and future conflicts in which the U.S. Army may find itself, said Capt. Russell Tabolt, 3rd Squadron “Lightning Troop” commander.

“This allows us to project our combat power much more quickly than we can on our Strykers,” he said. “Although we love our Strykers and we use them to their maximum potential, you can’t drive a Stryker as fast as you can (fly) a Black Hawk or a Chinook.”

After the troops left the pickup zone, they arrived quickly at their landing zone and rushed to their fighting positions.

The helicopters departed, but the 2nd Cav. Regt. Soldiers’ day was far from done. They would complete a 9-kilometer ruck march, facing various training scenarios along the way, before returning to Vilseck.



PHOTO BY SPC. THOMAS SCAGGS

A UH-60 Black Hawk from A Co., 2-10th Avn. Regt., arrives at the pickup zone at Grafenwoehr Training Area, Germany, April 6.

NO STATIC AT ALL



PHOTO BY SGT. STEVEN GALIMORE

Soldiers from the DeGlopper Air Assault School, XVIII Airborne Corps, apply a static wand before connecting a sling load to the belly of a UH-60 Black Hawk helicopter assigned to the 2nd Assault Helicopter Battalion, 82nd Combat Aviation Brigade on Fort Bragg, N.C., April 20.

10th Mountain Soldiers give Coalition firepower in Iraqi skies

By Spc. Derrik Tribbey
For Army News Service

AL ASAD, Iraq – Soldiers with D Company, 10th Aviation Regiment, 10th Mountain Division, give the Combined Joint Forces Land Component Command – Operation Inherent Resolve, fire support on the battlefield from the skies.

But they don’t fly UH-60 Black Hawks or AH-64 Apaches. They fly unmanned aircraft systems.

More specifically, the team operate MQ-1C Gray Eagles, one of the larger U.S. Army unmanned aircrafts with a length of 28 feet and a 56-foot wingspan. The Gray Eagle is a versatile, long-range, long-lasting force multiplier utilized to provide intelligence, surveillance, target acquisition and attack reconnaissance, said Spc. Michael Scharp, a UAS operator 10th Avn. Regt.

According to Capt. Joshua Heiner, commander of D Co., his unit is in Iraq to provide dedicated and consistent support to the coalition to help the government of Iraq defeat ISIS.

“Everything we do is to support the Iraqis,” Heiner said. “We are doing very well considering the experience level, especially with these UAS being so new. We are a young group and the Gray Eagle is just as young.”

Heiner described his team as being very enthusiastic, and with most of his operators and maintainers being junior-enlisted, their age does not stop them from fulfilling their mission.

“Knowing that we are supporting the men and women on the ground push forward with their mission is the most rewarding part of this job,” said Sgt. Gabriel Garcia, a squad leader with D Co.



PHOTOS BY SPC. DERRIK TRIBBEY

The MQ-1C Gray Eagle.



Soldiers assigned to D Co., 10th Avn. Regt., 10th Mountain Division, deployed to Al Asad, Iraq, in support of Combined Joint Task Force -- Operation Inherent Resolve, provide fire support on the battlefield from the skies with the MQ-1C Gray Eagle.

Garcia referred to the nearly decade old UAS as still being one of the latest and greatest piece of machinery to support the U.S. Army.

According to the Army’s fact sheet on the system, the Gray Eagle is a long-endurance platform, able to fly for nearly 27 hours at a time at speeds of up to 150 knots, while carrying up to four AGM-114 Hellfire missiles.

With the complexity of such a piece of equipment, the demand for its use is always high, Garcia said.

“Our days are extremely fast-paced, all while paying close attention to details,” Garcia said.

Their attention to detail is not limited to aviation – they must be

SEE FIREPOWER, PAGE B4

ANNOUNCEMENTS

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Partial Estate Auction
Saturday April 29 @ 10:00 AM.
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Readiness

Continued from Page B1

on to praise NETCOM.

“NETCOM plays a fundamental role in the training, organizing and equipping, but also the managing of the networks for the U.S. Army,” he said. “Fort Huachuca and those two organizations here are centers of gravity of two of the most important functions for operating.”

As chief of staff of the Army, Milley said in his role he has two fundamental tasks: the readiness of the current force and modernization.

“We have an existing Army, consisting

of the regular Army, the National Guard, the U.S. Army Reserves, and I have an obligation to the president, to Congress, to the American people to make sure that force is at a level of readiness that can deliver options for the president to use in the event of conflict,” he explained.

His second task is “to look at future readiness, which is commonly known as modernization,” Milley continued. “So we have to modernize and improve our current capabilities and adapt to what we predict will be a future operating environment. And that translates into readiness at some point in the future, say 10 to

20 years from now.”

Milley said that Fort Huachuca plays a crucial role in achieving both of those tasks.

“Huachuca is the place that I lean on [Maj. Gen. Scott] Berrier to make sure we are producing trained and ready Soldiers, intelligence Soldiers to make sure we can handle the current operating environment of today,” he said.

“Then I lean on NETCOM to do the same thing. When [Maj. Gen. John] Baker comes to me, I want to know from him how are we doing in defending the network and our readiness for network

operations.”

Milley said there will be dramatic changes to the combat environment in the years to come, and the Army must be prepared for more dense urban combat situations and changes in capabilities, technology and readiness.

“I’ve leaned on [team Huachuca] heavily to help me understand what the future is going to be about,” Milley continued. “[Training and Doctrine Command] and specifically the folks here at Huachuca have helped me understand what the operating environment is going to look like in 2025, 2030, 2040.”

Firepower

Continued from Page B1

technically knowledgeable as well.

Garcia said the UAS is basically a computer being flown by several computers, which increases safety for service members.

“We don’t have to worry about a pilot putting their life in danger by flying into combat,” Garcia said.

Staff Sgt. Julio Matta, a standardization operator with 10th Avn. Regt, said the system’s technological capabili-

ties provide a tremendous asset to the battlefield.

“The ability for 24/7 coverage of the battlefield, to include reconnaissance and attacks, allows commanders of a higher echelon to track the changes on the battlefield,” Matta said.

A lot of planning and preparation goes into each mission, but it does not stop there, Matta said.

“While on missions, before missions, and even post-missions, things change so rapidly that ‘game planning’ is non-stop,” Matta said.

The team will incorporate the weather, time and fuel into their extensive planning process because each environment they fly in is dynamic, Scharp said.

Every situation the team has encountered provides its own set of challenges and obstacles that they must face and overcome, but the job demands are well worth it, Scharp said.

“I love to fly and I get paid to serve in this capacity, which ensures my family is taken care of and I get to continue to serve my country,” Matta said.



The MQ-1C Gray Eagle at Al Asad, Iraq.

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PHOTOS BY NATHAN PFAU

First Lt. Logan Pearce, D Co., 1st Bn., 145th Avn. Regt., tosses a ball into the waters of Splash! Pool and Spray Park for his dog, Ray, to chase during Dog Days of Summer Saturday.

4-PAWS UP!

Dog Days of Summer earns rave reviews

By Nathan Pfau
 Army Flier Staff Writer

Fort Rucker's Splash! Pool and Spray Park went to the dogs Saturday. And that resulted in a unanimous paws-up rating from the nearly 60 four-legged family members who took part.

The Directorate of Morale, Welfare and Recreation hosted its second Dog Days of Summer at Splash! as a way to get people's furry family members in on the fun before the park officially opens for the summer season, according to Rob Koren, DFMWR aquatics manager.

"Last year, we offered one dog swim at the end of the summer season after the pool had closed to the public, so this year we decided that it went so well last year at the end that we'd try it out and do one again at the beginning of the summer before we drain the pool to get it ready for opening," he said.

The participation rate hit the attendance mark he was hoping for, said Koren, adding that the event was a resounding success, partly due to the unique nature of the event.

"This was a very unique program to the garrison," he said. "There has been nothing like it done here until (last year) — these always seem to go over very well with the community.

"It's something different and out of the norm, and it's something that people aren't used to seeing," he continued. "People want to include their fur babies."

Include their fur babies they did as people came out with dogs of all shapes and sizes to bask, play and swim in the pool and waters of the spray park, something Katherine Kelly, military spouse, said she was happy to be a part of.

"There aren't many opportunities to do something like this with your pets, so the fact that they offer this here is really refreshing," she said. "Our dogs are basically family members to us, so we want to include them whenever we go on family outings and our dogs love getting in the water, so to be able to bring them here to play and swim with other dogs was a lot of fun. I only wish this was something they could

offer throughout the year, but I'm just glad they had something to include our pets."

Although family members were not allowed to swim in the pool with their four-legged counterparts, they were more than welcome to splash around with them in the spray park.

As much as Koren said he'd love to offer the program year round, due to safety and sanitary concerns, the event can only be offered at the beginning of the year before the park is drained and cleaned for the summer swim season, and again after the end of the swim season.

He said the event will return in all its furry glory at the end of season.



W01 Arnold Caceres, B Co., 1st Bn., 145th Avn. Regt., beckons his dog, Harley, over to the side of the pool.



Anthony Caceres, military family member, sprays his brother, Arnold Jr., as they play with dogs during Dog Days of Summer.



Dogs make their way back to dry land after retrieving balls.

CELEBRATING DIVERSITY

Fort Rucker kicks off Asian/Pacific Islander Heritage Month

By Nathan Pfau
 Army Flier Staff Writer

May is Asian-Pacific Heritage Month and people on Fort Rucker will get the chance to experience the diversity of the various cultures during the Asian-Pacific Heritage Month kickoff event at the post exchange May 5 from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m.

During the event, people will have the opportunity to take part in themed activities, get a sampling of authentic Asian cuisine and treat their ears to the sounds of the Far East, all while expanding their minds to the diversity of the nation, something Sgt. 1st Class Matthew Castillo, 110th Aviation Brigade equal opportunity adviser, said is a necessity.

"I think it's very important, culturally, to educate the public — not just the Soldiers but the general public, as well," he said. "I think there is a gap in cultural awareness as a whole and many times that can drive a wedge between different cultures.

"This is not about singling out a specific culture, but about educating the public to let people know that we're all contributing to society, we're on an equal plat-



PHOTO BY NATHAN PFAU

Master Shifu and Po, characters from Disney's Kung Fu Panda, visit with family members during the Asian-Pacific American Heritage Month kickoff celebration at the post exchange last year.

form and have something to offer," he continued. "I think if we can bridge that gap, then we can make the world a better place."

People will get a chance to help bridge that gap during the kickoff through participation by taking part in different activities, such as arts and crafts by the Confucius Institute of Troy University, including Chinese knot tying and Chinese calligraphy.

Attendees will also get the chance to view instrumental and

dance performances, as well as sample different cuisines from a variety of Asian cultures.

During last year's kickoff, James Denison, veteran, expressed the importance of embracing different cultures to build stronger bonds through diversity.

"You need to have those different cultures and outlooks because I think that homogeneity can only breed ignorance," he said during last year's event.

"There is always more than one way to look at a situation, and having the viewpoint of someone who comes from a completely different background than you is something that's invaluable.

"There were so many times where we wouldn't have thought out side of the box just because we never experienced anything other than what we know," Denison continued, referring to his time in service. "I think it's great that we recognize this type of diversity. It's not about celebrating what makes us different, but about celebrating what differences bring us together."

The kickoff ceremony is one of many events throughout the observance month to help educate people on the importance of diversity and the role it plays in shaping the nation, said Castillo.

There will be a field trip to Troy University May 12 for up to 40 people to attend, including Soldiers and family members, to tour the Asian Art Park, which was constructed last year. During the visit, attendees will get the chance to tour the Confucius Institute, as well, and participate in a traditional tea ceremony.

There is no cost for the trip,

but people should bring money for meals and any merchandise they wish to purchase. Spots are available on a first-come, first-served basis.

For more information, call 255-2669

May 19, people can bring their children to the Center Library where there will be an arts and crafts book reading at 10 a.m. Children will have the chance to participate in themed arts and crafts, as well as learn about Asian-Pacific American culture through reading, said Castillo.

The main observance for the month will take place May 22 from 4:30-5:30 p.m. at Wings Chapel with performances and guest speakers to highlight the importance of cultural awareness and the importance of diversity.

"When I became an [equal opportunity adviser], I never realized until I actually went to school and started learning about other cultures that everybody is similar in a lot of ways," Castillo said. "I think people focus too much on the differences rather than focusing on the similarities, and we need to be able to get past that to be able to come together."

ON POST

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

Right Arm Night

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

For more information, call 255-0768.

Newcomers welcome

A newcomers welcome is scheduled for Friday 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.

International Spouses Get Together

Army Community Service hosts its International Spouses Get Together the first Friday of every month at 9 a.m. at the Allen Heights Community Center. According to ACS officials, the get together is a place for spouses to find support, and help with finding resources for obtaining U.S. citizenship, education, drivers licenses and more. Multilingual volunteers are available.

For more information, call 255-3735.

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.

Law Day

Center Library, in association with the Fort Rucker Office of the Staff Judge Advocate, will host a Law Day activity Monday from 3:30-4:30 p.m. for children and their families. The event will be open to authorized patrons and be Exceptional Family Member Program friendly.

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

Family game night

To help celebrate Children’s Book Week, the Center Library will host a family game night Tuesday from 4-6 p.m. for youth to play a wide variety of board games and video games. Light refreshments will be served. The event will be open to authorized patrons and be Exceptional Family Member Program friendly.

For more information, call 255-3885.

Federal jobs workshop

Army Community Service will host its federal job workshop May 4 from 8 a.m. to noon in Bldg. 5700, Rm. 284. The workshop is aimed at getting people the information they need to increase their federal employment possibilities. Participants will receive a free copy of Kathryn Troutman’s “Jobseeker’s Guide (7th Edition).” Registration is required two days prior to the workshop. Space is limited to the first 60 people to register and the workshop is open to authorized patrons only.

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

Get R.E.A.L.

Army Community Service Army Family Team Building will host its Get R.E.A.L. – Rucker Experience Army Learning – workshop May 8th from 8:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. at the Divots Conference Room at Silver Wings Golf Course. Free lunch and childcare will be provided. Registration deadline is May 4. Topics will include acronyms, Army customs and courtesies, military rank, community resources and more.

For registration and childcare information, call 255-1429.

StoryWalk

As part of the Army Strong Balance, Activity, Nutrition, Determination and Strength program, the Center Library, in



PHOTO BY NATHAN PFAU

Girls Night Out

The Landing will host Girls Night Out May 12 from 6-9 p.m. for an evening full of fashion, fun, and prizes, according to organizers. The event will feature a DJ providing entertainment and representatives from numerous organizations from throughout the community that cater to women. Prize drawings will be held throughout the evening, with a grand prize drawing at 9 p.m. People must be present to win prizes. The event is open to the public for women ages 18 and older. Tickets are on sale for \$10 and are available at MWR Central, The Landing Zone, The Landing Catering Office, or the Coffee Zone at its Lyster and The Landing Zone locations. For more information, call 255-0769. Pictured is a scene from the Girls Night Out in January.

conjunction with the fitness center, will host a StoryWalk May 6 from 9-11 a.m. along the Beaver Lake trail. StoryWalk is an innovative and delightful way for children and adults to enjoy reading and the outdoors at the same time, according to library officials. Laminated pages from a children’s book are attached to wooden stakes that are installed along an outdoor path. As participants stroll down the trail, they’re directed to the next page in the story. The event will be open to authorized patrons and be Exceptional Family Member Program friendly.

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

Mother’s Day Craft

The Center Library will host a Mother’s Day craft session May 9 from 3:30-4:30 p.m. for children ages 3-11. Light refreshments will be served. Space will be limited to the first 40 children to register. The event will be open to authorized patrons and be Exceptional Family Member Program friendly.

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

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 May 11. People who attend will meet in Rm. 350 at 8:45 a.m. to fill out paperwork before going to the multipurpose room. The class will end at about 11:30 a.m. The sessions will inform people on the essentials of the program and provide job search tips, as well. Advance registration is required and attendance at a session is mandatory for participation in the program.

For more information, call 255-2594.

Resilience workshop

Army Community Service will host resilience training May 12 from 9-11:30 a.m. in Bldg. 5700, Rm. 350. People need to register by May 11. The workshop is designed to provide family members and civilians with the tools they need to better cope with and overcome adversity and challenges, as well as perform better in stressful situations. The goal is for students to thrive when facing life challenges, not just bounce back, according to ACS officials. This month will emphasize avoiding thinking traps, detecting icebergs and energy management.

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

Six Flags day trip

MWR Central will host a day trip to Six Flags in Atlanta, Georgia, May 13. The cost for the trip will be \$80 per person, and will include admission ticket to the park and transportation. For more information or to

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- Complimentary Makeup Bar sponsored by Hey Gorgeous! Studio and Salon Envy & More
- Fashion Show sponsored by the Thirtf Shop on Fort Rucker.
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*Sponsorship does not imply Army endorsement.

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Family & MWR, (334)255-9810 | rucker.armymwr.com

register, call 255-2997 or 255-9517.

Youth center dinner, movie

The Fort Rucker Youth Center will take a field trip to Dothan for dinner and a movie May 13. The trip will leave for Dothan at 3 p.m. be back at 9:30 p.m. Youth are responsible for the cost of dinner and the movie. Youth must be a child and youth services member to participate – ages 11-18, grades six-12.

For membership information or to sign-

up, call 255-9638.

Mother’s Day brunch

The Landing will host its Mother’s Day brunch May 14. The brunch will include: omelet bar, meat carving station, dessert bar and more. Each Mother will receive a free flower. Reservations are not required, but are highly encouraged. The brunch will be open to the public.

For more information or to make a reservation, call 255-0769.

FORT RUCKER MOVIE SCHEDULE FOR APRIL 27-30

Thursday, April 27

Get Out (R)7 p.m.

Friday, April 28

Logan (R)7 p.m.

Saturday, April 29

Beauty and the Beast (PG)4 p.m.
The Shack (PG-13)7 p.m.

Sunday, April 30

Beauty and the Beast (PG)1 p.m.
Kong: Skull Island (PG-13)4 p.m.

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

USING EDUCATION AS A WEAPON

Soldiers help Cameroon deter Boko Haram

By Sean Kimmons
Army News Service

GAROUA, Cameroon — As the civil affairs team rolled up to a primary school in a thatched hut on the edge of a dry and barren field, rows of children in bright purple school uniforms stood outside and belted a song to welcome the team's first visit to the struggling school.

Inside, thin walls of woven golden hay separated three classes of children who sat on logs or at crowded desks and faced the front toward chalkboards.

It was above 100 degrees in the searing afternoon April 20, but there was no electricity to run fans, or any running water. When a student had to use the bathroom, they simply picked out a spot in the field behind the school.

"It's by far the worst school we've seen here in Cameroon," said Sgt. 1st Class Sean Acosta, the NCO in charge of the team, which is attached to Task Force Toccoa, a 101st Airborne Division-led unit based in northern Cameroon. "There's no hard structure at all."

For American standards, the school would have failed countless health and safety codes. But with subsistence farming as the area's main source of livelihood in a harsh climate, any funds to develop it are hard to come by.

After viewing each cramped classroom, a group of parents and village elders guided Acosta and others to a lone tree in the field. Under it, the shade provided a bit of relief as the local Cameroonians relayed their concerns to the Soldiers.

Another issue brought up was students not being allowed to enter secondary school, since many of them do not have birth certificates — a requirement to move on to further education. The Soldiers discovered that about 70 percent of local students could not attend secondary school due to this rule.

"Together with your government we'll come up with a plan to help," Acosta, 32, of Navarre, Florida, told the concerned villagers. "We may not be able to fix everything, but we'd like to start trying to fix some things."

EDUCATION AS A WEAPON

Two months earlier, Acosta and his four-person crew, which make up Team 8321 from the 83rd Civil Affairs Battalion's B Company, arrived in Cameroon as part of the U.S. Army task force. Since 2015, Soldiers have been in the west African country to help its military defeat Boko Haram, a violent extremist group that has infiltrated the nation's far north region.

While U.S. Soldiers are not directly in the fight, they serve in a supporting role to Cameroon's wartime efforts. For Acosta's team, they're tasked with engaging with locals to build partnerships and enhance services, like education.

"By improving the government's ability to provide basic essential services to the local population, it decreases the population's willingness to turn to some other non-state actor that could provide those things to them," he said, referring to Boko Haram.

The day before, Cameroonian Col. Barthelmy Tsilla, commander of the air base in Garoua, pointed to insufficient education as a factor in Boko Haram's emergence in his country.

"If a lot of children were involved in education, they would know what is good or bad, and would think for themselves," he said.

The country's adult literacy rate stands at 71 percent, well below the world's average of 85 percent, according to a 2016 UNICEF report.

Tsilla's unit currently flies fighter jets for air-to-ground combat missions against the extremist group, but education can be another weapon, he said.

"To fight against Boko Haram is to go first by arms, bombs and so on," he said, "but the most important [way to fight] is the education of people who understand a better life."

The education piece, though, can be greatly affected by the poor conditions found at many schools in northern Cameroon.

Boubakary Hary, a school inspector for one of Garoua's city districts, noted that having no potable water in schools can force many children to go home early and not finish the day's lessons.

"It makes it difficult that during break periods, [students] rush back to their home



PHOTOS BY SEAN KIMMONS

Sgt. 1st Class Sean Acosta, the NCO in charge of an Army civil affairs team attached to Task Force Toccoa, interacts with students after his team passed out school supplies at a primary school. Soldiers traveling in local communities in Cameroon are required to wear civilian clothes as a force-protection measure.

to get food or water," he said through a translator. "And as they live far from their school, they just go and don't come back again."

Hary, who works as a sort of a superintendent of schools, showed Acosta's team a few that he would like to see upgraded.

Besides the school in the thatched hut, other schools also had major structure problems with holes in roofs and dirt floors, which are affecting the educational experience of local children.

"Without those good structures put in place, the children's books are always being destroyed," Hary said. "They're really facing a big problem of infrastructure in the schools."

BEYOND SCHOOL SUPPLIES

Army civil affairs teams have delivered desks and continue to give other supplies to Cameroonian schools, but that's just a small portion of what they do.

While cameras typically capture the side of civil affairs passing out donations, Acosta said, as much as 75 percent of their job is done behind the scenes.

"The donations are only part of it," he said. "The majority of it is working through the host nation government here with their officials and helping them correct their processes or improve them, so education throughout Cameroon, specifically here in the north region in Garoua, is enhanced."

With so many problems being seen at the schools, Acosta said, they plan to prioritize any possible solutions to them.

"Everywhere you go in Cameroon, there are going to be issues," he said. "By prioritizing them, it helps us see which areas we're going to help the most and which areas we can do the most for with the least amount of resources."

If the local government doesn't have the funds to pay to help the schools, the civil affairs may reach out to non-governmental organizations or interagency departments to get school projects rolling. There are also limited funds for civil affairs missions, but it can be a lengthy process to obtain them, he said.

As the team's medic, Spc. Sarah McElveen, 28, of Fayetteville, North Carolina, can't help but feel emotional at times during the school visits, she said. While Cameroon may have better health care than neighboring countries, the nation still deals with high rates of tropical diseases and youth mortality.

"It makes me sad that we can't do more," she said. "I know we're doing the best we can for what we have, but there's only so much we can do."

She hopes the team's efforts in the schools can improve — albeit on a small scale — children's health and thus extend their lives past the local area's life expectancy of about 50 years, she said.

"If you think about that in American terms, you're just starting to get your life together around 30 and then you get 10 to 20 years of experience before your life ends," she said. "So they're missing out on another 20 to 30 years, potentially, if their standards weren't improved."

The mission also hits close to home for



Students sit inside their primary school, a thatched hut with three classrooms, as an Army civil affairs team visits schools in northern Cameroon April 20.

Acosta, who has four girls ages 4 to 9.

"On a personal level, it's very enriching to be able to go out and assist these kids,"

he said. "I look at the young girls and it reminds me immediately of my four girls back at home."

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Soldiers work to slash terrorist recruiting

By Sean Kimmons
Army News Service

GAROUA, Cameroon – As a child, Kalcheinbe Salamon’s world came crashing down when his father murdered his mother. Devastated by the incident, he ran away from this northern Cameroon city to Yaounde, the country’s capital.

He lived on the streets and scraped up a little cash pushing carts at a market before he found refuge at a group home for troubled youth. Years later, he returned to his hometown to live at a similar place, called the Sarre Jabaamma youth rehabilitation center.

A team of civil affairs Soldiers visited the center Saturday to pass out school supplies and food to Salamon and about 20 other at-risk youth.

Today, Salamon is a young man at the age of 18 and is doing well in school, according to the center’s director. After he graduates from secondary school, he has dreams of attending college so he can help people as a doctor.

“It has traumatized me,” he said through a translator about his mother’s death, “but all I’m focusing on now is for me not to be like my father and be a doctor someday.”

This is the sort of positive story Soldiers hope can spread to other youth in the local area. With Boko Haram and other violent extremist organizations preying on street children to join their ranks, any kid off the streets is a victory in itself, they say.

“From a U.S. angle, that’s less children out on the streets who are less susceptible to any kind of recruitment from a VEO or any kind of nefarious act,” said Staff Sgt. Brandon Collins, a member of the 83rd Civil Affairs Battalion’s Team 8321.

The four-person team is assigned to Task Force Toccoa, a 101st Airborne Division-led unit that was created in 2015 to support Cameroon’s fight against Boko Haram, which currently carries out operations just north of Garoua.

The rehab center is located next to the Garoua air base, where the task force has set up a contingency location. A portion of the civil affairs mission is to ensure the area around the base is secure. One way to do that is to assist those in need.

The humanitarian missions can also paint the U.S. Army as a friendly, caring force, which can then open avenues for new partnerships and persuade locals to come forward with information.

“That’s part of our job at civil affairs, to ensure that U.S. operations don’t hamper the local population, but also that the local population has a positive image of the U.S.,” said Collins, 28, of Niles, Ohio. “Anytime we can go out and provide assistance, it enhances our relationship with the community.”

As for the group home, Collins said his team will look to address specific issues there to keep more children off the streets.

“We’re also looking for various non-governmental organizations that could possibly provide any kind of aid, whether it’s monetary donations, food or clothing,” he said.

While the rehab center gets some help from an Italian NGO, it still doesn’t get support from the Cameroonian government. As a result, it struggles to feed and clothe children as well as send them to school, which costs about



PHOTO BY SEAN KIMMONS

Staff Sgt. Brandon Collins, a member of the 83rd Civil Affairs Battalion’s Team 8321, passes out snacks to the children of the Sarre Jabaamma youth rehabilitation center in Garoua, Cameroon, Saturday.

\$5 per child each year.

“The state cannot finance services like this,” said Robert Awe, the home’s director. “If it wasn’t for the NGO, all of the children would be exposed to the streets.”

Awe estimates there are about 400 children living on the streets of Garoua. His group home can only handle up to two dozen of them, so he also conducts outreach projects to engage youth.

Last year, Awe said, some homeless children were persuaded with money to leave the city with an unknown man. Later, he found out that the children had been recruited to be fighters for Boko Haram.

“It is something that has been going on [for some time],” he said through a translator. “That has been our

main concern after getting this information.”

Awe and others have since stepped up their outreach, he said, so they can reduce the terrorist group’s recruiting pool.

“We have been vigilant about this situation,” he said. “We are putting in more effort to talk to the children and tell them to be careful, to concentrate on their education, and not to go with people who they do not know.”

And since this issue can impact U.S. Army operations, the civil affairs mission plans to look deeper into extending the group home’s reach.

“It helps our security posture and it helps the locals,” Collins said. “It’s a win-win situation to provide any kind of donations to organizations like this.”



A child carries an armful of school supplies donated by an Army civil affairs team into the Sarre Jabaamma youth rehabilitation center.



Sgt. 1st Class Sean Acosta, the NCO in charge of the 83rd Civil Affairs Battalion’s Team 8321, discusses the issues facing the Sarre Jabaamma youth rehabilitation center with its director.

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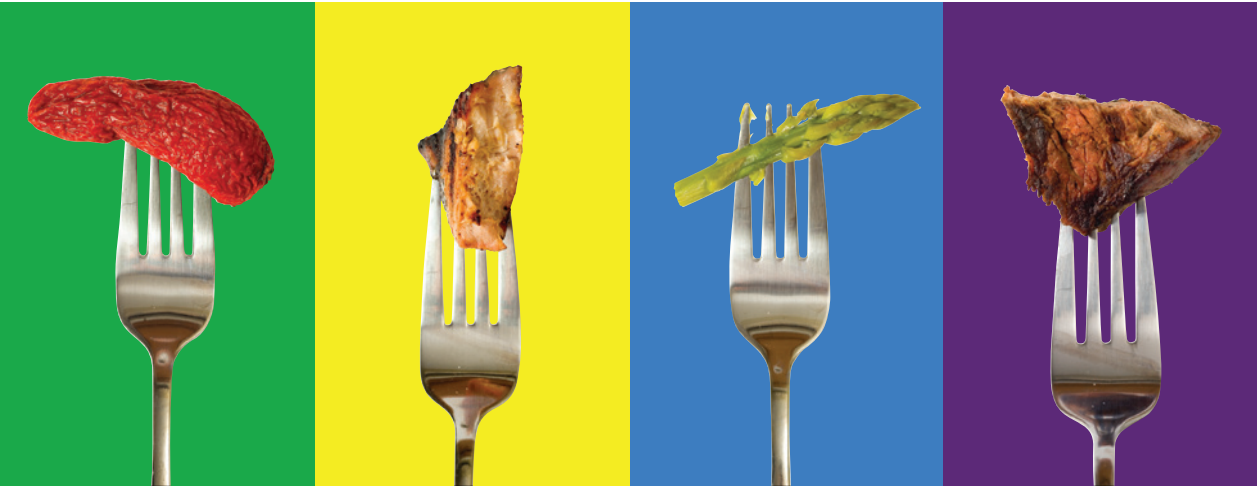
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Montgomery hosts music festival

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Press Release

Montgomery will host its free River Jam Music Festival May 12-13 presented by Wind Creek Montgomery and the Alabama Roots Music Society. May 12 at 6 p.m. at the Union Station Train Shed performers will be The 69 Band, Wyatt Edmundson and The John Bull Band. May 13 at

4:30 p.m. at the Riverfront Amphitheater performers will be Kirk J, Leah Seawright with March Hearnson, Mingo Fishtrap and Anders Osborne.

For more information, call 334-625-2100 or visit www.funinmontgomery.com/announcements/river-jam.



WIREGRASS COMMUNITY CALENDAR

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

ANDALUSIA

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

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

DALEVILLE

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

APRIL 27-29 — Southeast Alabama Community Theatre will perform its production of “The Miracle Worker” at the Cultural Arts Center. Tickets are available online at www.SEACT.com or by contacting the SEACT Office at 334-794-0400. The SEACT office is open for ticket sales between 9 a.m. and 1 p.m. and is located inside the Cultural Arts Center at 909 S. St. Andrews Street. Tickets are \$19 for adults and \$17 for students/seniors 65+/military with ID. Performances are at 7 p.m. — the lobby opens at 6 p.m. Reserved seating begins at 6:30 p.m. “The Miracle Worker” dramatizes the volatile relationship between the lonely teacher and her charge, according to organizers. Trapped in a silent world and unable to communicate, Helen is violent, spoiled and almost sub-human, and treated by her family as such. Only Annie realizes that there is a mind and spirit waiting to be rescued from the dark.

ONGOING — The Wiregrass Museum of Art’s spring exhibitions, including “From Here to There: Printmaking in Alabama” and “documentingBlues: Photography,” will run through June 24. The “Helen Keller Art Show of Alabama” will run through May 13. WMA’s galleries are open to the public Wednesdays-Fridays from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Saturdays from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Private tours and activities can be arranged by appointment on Mondays and Tuesdays.

ENTERPRISE

ONGOING — To help veterans and their families fight back from service-related injuries, the Professional Golfers’ Association of America and the Veterans Administration have partnered up nationally to use golf as therapy. The national organization has a local chapter, PGA HOPE Wiregrass in Enterprise. The free program meets Mondays at 10 a.m. at Highland Oaks Golf Course. People who know veterans

with service-related injuries, whether registered with the VA or not, can have them call PGA HOPE Wiregrass at 239-272-7086 or visit the chapter’s Facebook page.

MAY 6 — The Enterprise Lion’s Club and the Wiregrass Wounded Veterans Committee will host the 15th annual Boll Weevil bicycle ride and 10K/3K run/walk. The event will include refreshments and support for bicycle riders, runners and walkers along the course, coupled with music and entertainment provided at the start and finish areas, where a variety of vendors will be set up, according to organizers. To register or to get further information on the Boll Weevil 100, or to sponsor a wounded veteran participant, visit www.EnterpriseLionsClub.com. This year, all resources raised from the run will fund local vision needs. Free vision screenings will be available at First Methodist Church during registration May 5-6.

APRIL 27 — The Wiregrass-Enterprise Chapter of the National Active and Retired Federal Employees will hold its monthly lunch program at 11 a.m. at PoFolks Restaurant. Joan Newman, financial adviser, will be the guest speaker. She will discuss money management, financial goal setting, and techniques of beginning and continuing retirement savings for the NARFE membership. All federal employees, active or retired, are invited to attend the lunch programs regularly scheduled at 11 a.m. the fourth Thursday of each month at PoFolks. NARFE, the organization that supports the benefits of active and retired federal employees, schedules speakers to discuss these benefits and other information important to the membership. For more information, call 334-393-0492.

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

APRIL 27 — Disabled American Veterans Chapter 99 will meet at 6 p.p. in the Senior Center, located one block behind the old police station. Food and drink will be served followed by regular chapter business. Veterans throughout the Wiregrass are invited to join as DAV or DAV Auxiliary. Current DAV members who wish to be considered for the upcoming year’s positions of commander, senior or junior vice or other positions should submit their names to the chapter’s adjutant no later than May 25. Formal nominations will be conducted at the June 22 meeting and elections of new officers will be held at the July 27 meeting. 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

MAY 2 — At 4 p.m., the Ozark-Dale County Public Library will host an opening reception to commemorate the 100th anniversary of the United States’ entry into World War I. Featured display will highlight information and numerous contributions of Dale County’s Soldiers, to include a Dale County Gold Star Soldier gallery; photographs of Dale County Soldiers; WWI artifacts and a Dale County Soldier’s uniform; news clippings published in “The Southern Star” during 1916-1918; correspondence to and from Soldiers serving on the battle front; genealogical list and information for over 750 Dale County Soldiers, including dates and places of birth, and dates and places of death, parents, place of burial (if known) and service records; and more. For more information, call 334-774-5480. Light refreshments will be served.

ONGOING — The Ann Rudd Art Center offers free art lessons for children ages 5 and older. The young student class is Saturdays from 10 a.m. to noon, and the adult-teen class is from 12:30-3 p.m. Slots are on a first come, first served basis. For more information, call 774-7922.

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.

Beyond Briefs

OCS reunion

The Army Officer Candidate School 75th Anniversary Celebration and Reunion is scheduled for May 7-11 in Columbus and Fort Benning, Georgia. The celebration represents all Army officers commissioned through any OCS, regardless of previous locations or branch affiliation, according to organizers. There will also be an OCS memorial dedication within the current OCS battalion area. The reunion will be conducted at the Columbus Marriott Hotel, 800 Front Avenue and on Fort Benning.

For more information, call 813-917-4309 or visit <https://www.ocsalumni.org/events/cart.php?id=1>.

Garden in the Park

Opelika will host its Garden in the Park May 6 from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. at Opelika Municipal Park. Garden in the Park is Opelika’s annual art show featuring handmade and natural items. Items for sale include paintings, children clothes, paintings, yard

art and jewelry. A variety of local groups will be performing on the stage throughout day, and there will also be children activities and food vendors. Tree seedlings will also be given away during Garden in the Park. There is no admission fee. All the fun happens at the Opelika Municipal Park!

For more information, visit <http://www.keepopelikabeautiful.com/programs-events>.

Carver festival

Tuskegee will host its George Washington Carver Commemorative Festival May 6 from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. at its Downtown on the Square. The annual community co-sponsored event commemorates the life and work of Dr. George Washington Carver with music, arts, crafts and other multi-generational activities, according to organizers.

For more information, call 334-727-7798, or visit <http://www.carverfestival.org/>.

Harriott II: Mother’s Day Brunch Cruise

Montgomery Parks and Recreation’s

Harriott II riverboat will host a Mother’s Day cruise May 14 from 12:15-2:45 p.m. The cost is \$46 for adults, and includes the cruise, live entertainment and brunch.

For more information or to purchase tickets, call 334-625-2100 or visit <http://www.funinmontgomery.com/parks-items/harriott-ii-riverboat>.

Yatta Abba Day

Abbeville will host its Yatta Abba Day May 6 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Yatta Abba is the Creek Indian expression for “Grove of Dogwoods,” according to city officials. Each year, the community celebrates the beginning of spring and the blooming of the dogwoods with a local festival featuring entertainment, garden items, art, crafts, children’s activities and food vendors. Antique cars, including John Wayne’s custom-made station wagon, will also be on hand. The event is held annually on the first Saturday in May.

Jacksonian Guard Colors Ceremony

People are welcome to celebrate Florida becoming a U.S. territory in Pensacola,

where the original ceremony took place on July 17, 1821. The Jacksonian Guard is a Pensacola re-enactment group of Jacksonian era and Spanish soldiers, fifers and drummers who perform a colors ceremony the third Saturday of each month at noon in Plaza Ferdinand on Palafox Street downtown.

For more information, visit <https://downtownpensacola.com/businesses/jacksonian-guard>.

River Jam Music Festival

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4:30 p.m. at the Riverfront Amphitheater performers will be Kirk J, Leah Seawright with March Hearnson, Mingo Fishtrap and Anders Osborne.

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IMPROVING READINESS

Fort Rucker hosts 3rd annual Fit Fest

By Jenny Stripling
Lyster Public Affairs Officer

Soldiers, families and civilians made the most of a sunny afternoon during the third annual Fort Rucker Fit Fest Health Fair Friday at the Fort Rucker festival fields.

Businesses and groups from Fort Rucker and the surrounding Wiregrass area offered attendees group games, activities and health information. Among the approximate 35 vendors on-site were the Fort Rucker Directorate of Family, and Morale, Welfare and Recreation; Women's Health Care of Dothan; American Family Care and many others.

"Fit Fest is designed to help improve readiness across the installation, assess health of our Soldiers, provide awareness of community wellness resources and promote team building," said Capt. Pamela Francis, chief of preventive medicine at Lyster Army Health Clinic.

Soldiers were able to compete in interactive physical chal-



PHOTO BY JENNY STRIPLING

Staff Sgt. Mkadaquet Genereaux is cheered on by his fellow Soldiers during a plank challenge during Fort Rucker Fit Fest April 21.

lenges during the event, such as planking and burpees, which got participants active and cheering

on one another.

Staff Sgt. Mkadaquet Genereaux won the planking challenge,

holding strong for nearly seven minutes. "I have two children, so staying healthy and fit is im-

portant for me, and for them as they get older. I want to set a good example for them," said Genereaux.

Lt. Col. James Nolin, deputy of nursing at LAHC, said from a military standpoint events such as Fit Fest help improve Soldier and family readiness.

"Being healthy is important for overall quality of life for everyone," said Nolin. "Making sure our Soldiers and their families are safe, healthy and fit directly contributes to health readiness overall. Fit Fest is a fun, interactive way to reach out and provide knowledge on ways to improve health and fitness."

Fit Fest is just one way for Fort Rucker community members to make a difference in their health and their families' health. Throughout the entire year, Fort Rucker and LAHC offer healthy events, cooking classes and activities, such as races, Zumba and yoga. Making good health decisions, even if they are small, can help add up to bigger positive lifestyle changes, Nolin said.

BUILDING LIFESAVERS

Lifeguard courses give participants inside track to employment

By Nathan Pfau
Army Flier Staff Writer

As the swim season gets closer and more people take to the waterways, lifeguards can be the lifeline people need, and Fort Rucker offers courses to get people on track to saving lives when it comes to aquatic activities.

The Directorate of Family, Morale, Welfare and Recreation sports, fitness and aquatics branch offers lifeguard certification courses throughout the summer that provide unique opportunities for those looking for summer employment, according to Rob Koren, DFMWR aquatics manager.

All lifeguard candidates must be at least 15 years of age or old, and the courses are offered in two types: a first-time certification course and full lifeguard training course.

For the full lifeguard training course the cost is \$125 for military and DOD ID card holders, and \$150 for the general public. For re-certification courses, the cost is \$75 for all participants.

Before candidates can complete the course, they must be able to pass a prerequisite skills challenge on the first day of the course, which includes: swimming 550-meters continuously using the breaststroke or front crawl; tread water for two minutes using no hands; swim 20-meters, surface dive to 10 feet, retrieve a 10-pound brick and swim back to a starting point; and swim five yards underwater and retrieve three diving rings placed five yards apart, resurface, then swim another five yards.

These prerequisites are in place to make sure that lifeguards are able to perform their duties in potentially life-threatening situations, said Koren.

"The safety of our patrons and employees alike is Fort Rucker Aquatics' No. 1 priority," he said. "It is imperative that lifeguards receive the proper training and are held accountable to that training once certified."

"All aquatics staff must be certified in regular lifeguarding, waterfront



PHOTO BY NATHAN PFAU

Addison Nix, civilian, swims with a 10-pound weight on her chest during a prerequisite skills check for a lifeguard certification course Friday.

lifeguarding and waterpark lifeguarding," he continued. "They also require training for CPR and AED for professional rescuers, first aid and preventing disease transmission: bloodborne pathogens."

Additionally, Fort Rucker aquatics staff are also mandated to attend four hours of mandatory in-service training each month to keep skills and knowledge sharp for when they are needed the most.

Once fully trained, lifeguards are expected not only to provide a sense of security and employ life-saving techniques if necessary, but must also conduct other duties, including facility safety inspections, water chemistry readings, light pool circulation system maintenance and more.

Lifeguard courses will be held on the following dates and times.

- May 6-7, recertification course from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.
- May 12-14, 20 and 21, full course from 4-7 p.m. on Fridays, and 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Saturdays and Sundays.
- June 5-9, full course from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., Mondays-Fridays

Once they pass the course and earn certification, newly certified lifeguards have the opportunity to apply at any aquatic facility that accepts

American Red Cross certifications, said Koren.

"Here at Fort Rucker Aquatics, we jump to hire the lifeguards we train because we know they were trained the proper way and already have an insight as to how we run our operations," he said. "We strongly encourage all lifeguard course candidates to apply with Fort Rucker aquatics after the completion of their training course."

Although lifeguards are on duty to ensure the safety of those swimming in the waters on Fort Rucker, safety is also the responsibility of patrons, said Koren.

"Never swim alone – always swim with a partner or in a supervised area, if possible," he said. "This way, in the event that something was to happen, someone is there who can either render care or get someone who can."

People should also stay hydrated and apply sunscreen regularly to avoid sunburns and sun poisoning, he said.

"Parents, please watch your children," said the aquatics manager. "Lifeguards are present at most aquatics venues to ensure patrons safety and wellbeing. With that being said, please do not mistake the lifeguards on duty for a temporary babysitter."



PHOTO BY JENNY STRIPLING

Metabolic testing is just one service provided by the Fort Rucker Army Wellness Center.

Army Wellness Center services provide improved health, wellness

By Jenny Stripling
Lyster Army Health Clinic
Public Affairs Officer

Are you looking to take control of your health and general well-being, but need extra support to get started? Visiting the Fort Rucker Army Wellness Center may be the answer.

The AWC at Fort Rucker provides active-duty Soldiers, Reserve and National Guard Soldiers, family members, military retirees, and Department of the Army civilians with free primary prevention programs and services that promote enhanced and sustained healthy lifestyles to improve their overall well-being.

AWC is equipped with state-of-the-art equipment and a professional staff that run a variety of assessments and tests to help create an action plan, and provide you with tools and educational classes, so you can be on your way to better health. The AWC approach is holistic, taking into account all of an individual's physical, psychological and social circumstances to meet individualized goals in both health and fitness.

"The AWC is here to help achieve both Soldier and family readiness," said Anna Schwartz, project lead of the AWC. "It is imperative that both are always ready. The AWC provides individuals information about themselves and empowers them to achieve their wellness goals. All of our services are individualized. When you visit us, you're going to get a tailored plan just for you."

Examples of services provided at the AWC include health assessment, biometric screening, exercise testing, exercise prescription, body composition analysis, metabolic testing, biofeedback, wellness coaching, and education in healthy nutrition, weight



PHOTO BY NATHAN PFAU

THUNDER ON THOLOCCO

Speedboats race across the waters of Lake Tholocco, reaching speeds of up to 100 miles per hour during Thunder on Tholocco Saturday.

DOWN TIME



Just Like Cats & Dogs

by Dave T. Phipps



Trivia test

by Fifi Rodriguez

TRIVIA

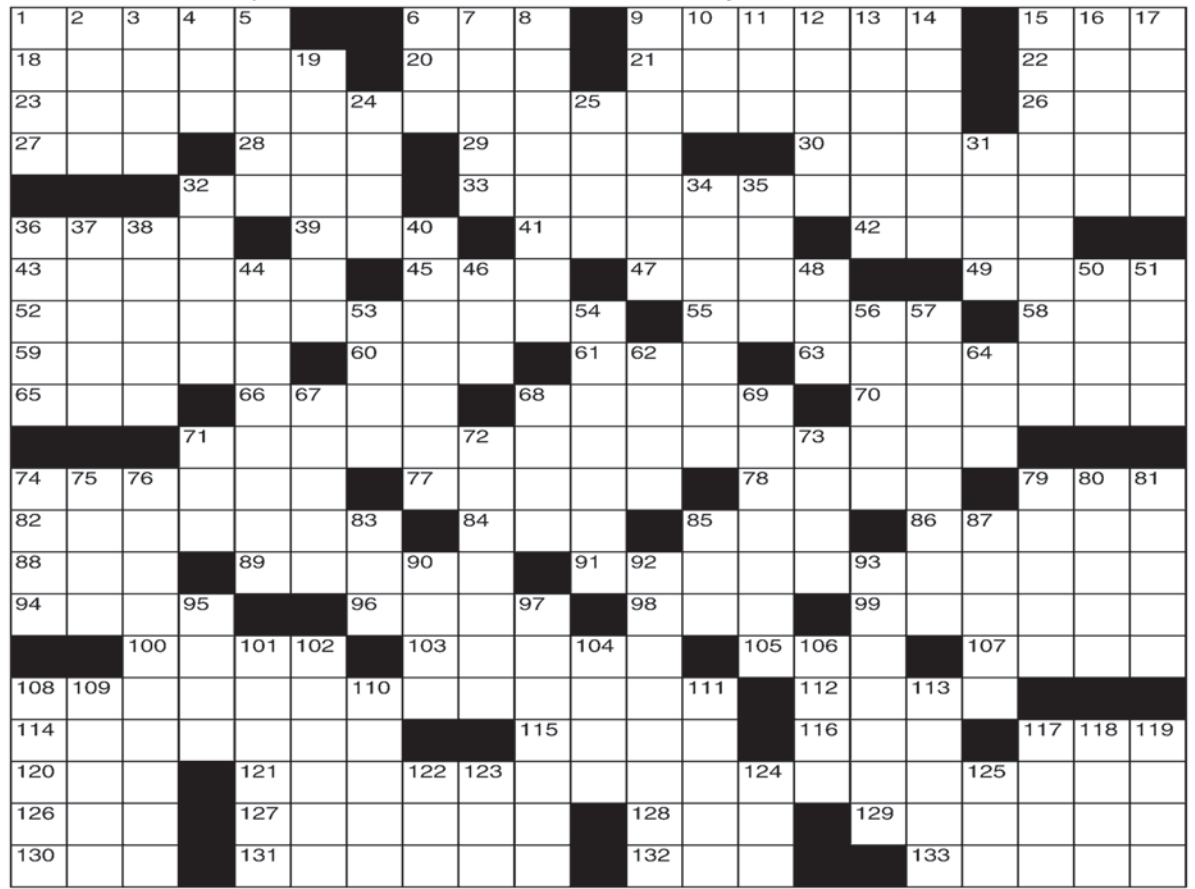
1. GEOGRAPHY: Where are the ruins of the ancient city of Carthage?
2. MEASUREMENTS: How many tablespoons are in one-fourth of a cup?
3. RELIGION: How many plagues of Egypt were mentioned in the Book of Exodus?
4. GOVERNMENT: Who is next in the line of succession after the U.S. president and vice president?
5. MUSIC: Who had a 1977 hit with the song "Moondance"?
6. U.S. PRESIDENTS: Which American president's image is on the \$50 bill?
7. LANGUAGE: What is a sybarite?
8. MOVIE: Who played the character Austin Powers ("International Man of Mystery") in the movie series?
9. ART: Who created the bronze sculpture called "The Thinker"?
10. ANIMAL KINGDOM: What is a group of elk called?

See Page D3 for this week's answers.

Super Crossword

X MARKS THE SPOT

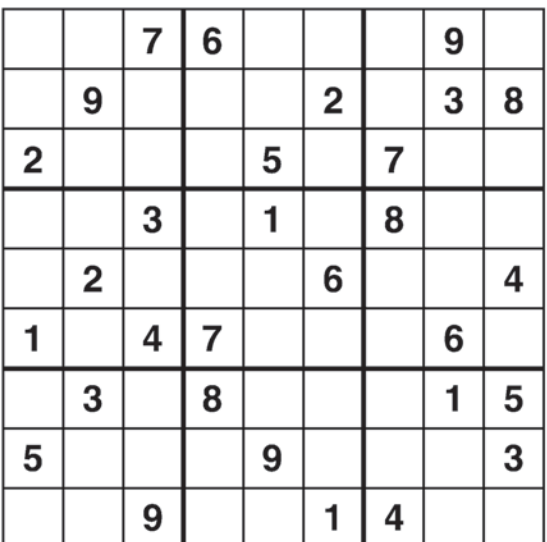
- ACROSS**
- 1 Between
 - 6 Cartoon thud
 - 9 Snively cries
 - 15 Film format
 - 18 Chat session
 - 20 The Bruins' Bobby
 - 21 Author — de Balzac
 - 22 Aussie leaper
 - 23 "You only have so much time"
 - 26 Ron of "Tarzan"
 - 27 Quaint suffix with poet
 - 28 Virgil's 61
 - 29 "How sad"
 - 30 Entwine anew
 - 32 Den furniture
 - 33 Swimmer also called a blueback
 - 36 Scheduled mtg.
 - 39 "+" or "-" atom
 - 41 Take — (cab it)
 - 42 Wee child
 - 43 Boggy area
 - 45 Possess
 - 47 Campbell's product, in Spanish
 - 49 Netherlands cheese
 - 52 Forts made of squared timbers
- DOWN**
- 1 Part of a French play
 - 2 — scale of hardness
 - 3 Individuals
 - 4 16-team grid gp.
 - 5 Noted family name in wine
 - 6 — choy
 - 7 Opera solos
 - 8 "Entertaining —" (Joe Orton play)
 - 9 Cat food brand
 - 10 Ad —
 - 11 Pen filler
 - 12 Bête —
 - 13 Borgnine of film
 - 14 Self-balancing two-wheeler
 - 15 Had lofty aspirations
 - 16 Saab rival
 - 17 Senior group member
 - 19 Puffer's cousin
 - 24 "Bye now!"
 - 25 Savoir-faire
 - 31 Sommer of the screen
 - 32 Actress Keanan
 - 34 Unusual foreign objects
 - 35 "Criminy!"
 - 89 Be dozing
 - 91 Has a frank discussion
 - 94 Heavy hammer
 - 96 Old Pontiac muscle cars
 - 98 TV scientist Bill
 - 99 On deck
 - 100 Turnip, e.g.
 - 103 Regal crown
 - 105 Sis or bro
 - 107 Royal name of Norway
 - 108 "Gravity" actress
 - 112 — -T-Pak (Wrigley's gum unit)
 - 114 Worry-free
 - 115 Nerve cell extension
 - 116 River islet
 - 117 Devilkin
 - 120 Broadway's Hagen
 - 121 "A Treatise on Money" economist
 - 126 Click in Morse code
 - 127 "Crack a Bottle" rapper
 - 128 Dr. — ("Crack a Bottle" rapper)
 - 129 Wilds
 - 130 I, to Johann
 - 131 Really uncool types
 - 132 Nile snake



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.

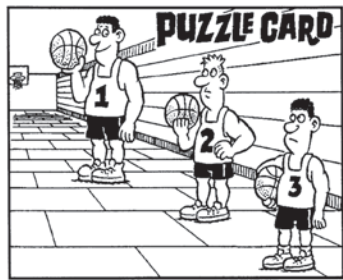
DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ♦♦

♦ Moderate ♦♦ Challenging
♦♦♦ HOO BOY!

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See Page D3 for this week's answers.

KID's CORNER



AT THE BASKETBALL TRYOUTS, which of the above three players turned out to be the tallest?

Answer: Player number three.

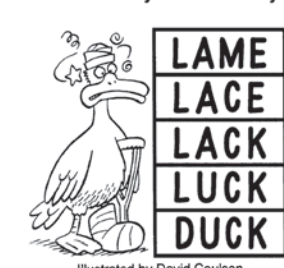
FABULOUS FIVES! Professor Flunkum challenges you to add four fives together in such a way that their sum will equal 6 1/2.

Answer: 5 + 5/5 + 5/5 + 5/5 = 6 1/2

THE "E" PYRAMID! As you move down the word pyramid shown here, each word contains the same letters as the word above it, plus a new letter. We give you all the E's. Here are some hints from the top down:

1. A direction (abbr.)
2. In reference to.
3. A period of time.
4. A unit of area.
5. Used for shipping.
6. Birds and bees love it.
7. Definite; fixed.
8. A sugar or tea tin.

Answers: The words are: E (East), re, era, acre, crate, needle, certain, canister.



DON'T "QUACK UP" ON THIS ONE!
Everything will be "ducky" if you can solve these problems in under five minutes. In this type of problem you are given a word that must be changed into another word in a series of moves. During each move, you must change one letter in the previous word to form a new word. In our example, we changed LAME to DUCK in four moves. See if you can change the following words in four moves each.

1. RARE to FIND
2. SORE to HEAD
3. NAIL to FILE
4. TIME to FORK
5. LIFE to WORK

Answers: 1. RARE FARE FIRE FINE FINE FIND
2. SORE SERE HERE HEAD HEAD
3. NAIL FINE FINE FINE FINE FINE
4. TIME FINE FINE FINE FINE FINE
5. LIFE WIFE WIFE WIFE WIFE WORK

Wishing Well®

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

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.



Answers: 1. Bag in witch's hand. 2. Witch's hat. 3. Witch's broom. 4. Witch's dress. 5. Witch's shoes. 6. Witch's wand. 7. Witch's hat. 8. Witch's broom. 9. Witch's dress. 10. Witch's shoes. 11. Witch's wand. 12. Witch's hat. 13. Witch's broom. 14. Witch's dress. 15. Witch's shoes. 16. Witch's wand. 17. Witch's hat. 18. Witch's broom. 19. Witch's dress. 20. Witch's shoes. 21. Witch's wand. 22. Witch's hat. 23. Witch's broom. 24. Witch's dress. 25. Witch's shoes. 26. Witch's wand. 27. Witch's hat. 28. Witch's broom. 29. Witch's dress. 30. Witch's shoes. 31. Witch's wand. 32. Witch's hat. 33. Witch's broom. 34. Witch's dress. 35. Witch's shoes. 36. Witch's wand. 37. Witch's hat. 38. Witch's broom. 39. Witch's dress. 40. Witch's shoes. 41. Witch's wand. 42. Witch's hat. 43. Witch's broom. 44. Witch's dress. 45. Witch's shoes. 46. Witch's wand. 47. Witch's hat. 48. Witch's broom. 49. Witch's dress. 50. Witch's shoes. 51. Witch's wand. 52. Witch's hat. 53. Witch's broom. 54. 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FACE OF DEFENSE:

Army nurse shares insights from cancer fight

By Marcy Sanchez
William Beaumont Army
Medical Center Public Affairs

FORT BLISS, Texas — Capt. Kelly Elmlinger, a military nurse and cancer survivor, shared a story of resilience and recovery during her battle with cancer with William Beaumont Army Medical Center nurses April 6.

Elmlinger said she had always been athletic. She participated in various high school sports and was even awarded a scholarship based off her athleticism.

But Elmlinger had other plans. In 1998, she enlisted in the Army as a combat medic and deployed three times – twice to Iraq and once to Afghanistan – with the 82nd Airborne Division.

“Our main mission was downed aircraft recovery,” said Elmlinger, a native of Attica, Ohio. “The experience profoundly impacted what I wanted to do.”

FROM MEDIC TO NURSE

After years of back-to-back deployments, Elmlinger changed her role from caring for Soldiers on the battlefield to caring for them in military treatment facilities. Elmlinger decided to become an Army nurse and give back to wounded warriors.

“I wanted to care for wounded warriors; it was my mission,” Elmlinger said. “I wanted to give back that understanding of



PHOTO BY MARCY SANCHEZ

Capt. Kelly Elmlinger, a military nurse and cancer survivor, displays her prosthetic leg to nurses of William Beaumont Army Medical Center's surgical ward at Fort Bliss, Texas, where she shared her experiences during her fight with synovial sarcoma, a rare soft-tissue cancer April 6.

battlefield experience.”

What Elmlinger didn't expect to get from her new position was resiliency training for her own ordeal. What had been a long-time bothersome pain in her left shin area was diagnosed as synovial sarcoma, a rare soft-tissue cancer.

“[The cancer] wasn't on anybody's radar of what they were thinking it was,” Elmlinger said.

“I knew, at that point, based on all the people I had been taking care of, that this was a game-changer.”

MAKING A DECISION

Following her diagnosis, Elmlinger was given two choices: limb salvage or amputation of her left leg. Because of her love of physical activity, Elmlinger decided to attempt limb salvage.

After recovering, she went on to participate on the Army team during the 2014 and 2015 Department of Defense Warrior Games in various events. Yet she still felt like something was missing.

“When I started competing, I was still trying to figure out who I was: a new identity, a wounded warrior, an adaptive athlete – all these different things,” she said.

“I didn't even know what my capabilities were. I knew there was more. There was more to what I can be. More to my potential, more that I can do and give back to others. I wanted to go all in to keep my leg before I said I'm done. It took me a while to get there, but I was dragging around dead weight.”

Because of her experience with limb salvage, Elmlinger opted to amputate her left leg for a better quality of life.

RECOVERY

“I don't regret it [the amputation],” Elmlinger said. “It's been quite painful to use a prosthetic, but I still wouldn't have chosen differently.”

She credits her participation in adaptive sports as helping her heal and move forward.

Elmlinger's personal account of resilience and perseverance resonated with the medical staff of WBAMC's surgical ward. These professionals regularly care for patients recovering from amputations and other trauma-related incidents.

“[Elmlinger] shared stories not only as a cancer survivor, but as a Soldier,” said 1st Lt. Rochelle Castro, a staff nurse in the surgical ward. “Her story is undoubtedly one all health care providers can learn from. She presented an understanding of the challenges and fears that many patients face.”

Wellness

Continued from Page D1

management, stress management, general wellness, good sleep habits and tobacco education.

“These services would potentially cost someone thousands at an off-post establishment and are absolutely free to eligible clients,” said Schwartz. “One of our main goals is to prevent disease and other health issues. We want to assist our clients in achieving and maintaining healthy lifestyles with positive behavior change.”

One Monday a month from April to September, the AWC is partnering with the Fort Rucker Ready Resilient Training Center to offer Civilian Fitness Program Performance Enhancement Sessions. These sessions are designed for eligible beneficiaries to improve mindset, motivation, and exercise performance.

“We're excited to offer these sessions in addition to our regular classes and daily services,” said Schwartz. “Some of the offered sessions will include building confidence, stress management, goal setting and time management.”

Referrals for AWC services can be made by medical providers or unit commanders; however, self-referrals may also be made and are always welcome, although it is best to schedule an appointment in advance to ensure preparation guidelines are adhered to. Unit commanders can also call or stop in to schedule unit assessments,

coaching, and educational classes on site or at their location since most of the center's equipment is portable.

When a client visits the AWC, their encounter is documented in their electronic health record. Their medical provider is integrated into their wellness plan, has the ability to give direction and oversight to the wellness center, and is able to follow their patients' progress.

“Improving health and fitness across the force remains a top priority for Army leadership. The center promotes and encourages living healthy lifestyles using a whole person approach. We know that engaging in healthy habits now will improve readiness and prevent long-term and costly diseases later,” said Lt. Col. Jon Baker, Lyster Army Health Clinic commander. “The AWC is all about partnering with Soldiers, families, civilians and retirees to make and sustain healthy lifestyle choices.”

“We have so much to offer the Fort Rucker community, especially in regard to Soldier readiness and resiliency,” Schwartz said. “We hope this center will inspire everyone to make health and fitness a priority because a healthier environment or installation has a direct impact on Soldier performance and, ultimately, well-being.”

The Army Wellness Center is located at 4102 Gladiator Street, Bldg. 4102 and is open Mondays, Tuesdays, Thursdays and Fridays from 7:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m., and Wednesdays from 7:30 a.m. to noon. You can keep track of upcoming classes and events by following the center

AWC MAY CLASS SCHEDULE:

- May 2, 10 a.m. – stress management;
- May 4, 2 p.m. – upping your metabolism;
- May 16, 10 a.m. – healthy sleep habits;
- May 18, 2 p.m. – upping your metabolism; and
- May 30, 10 a.m. – stress management.

R2 and AWC Civilian Fitness Program Performance Enhancement Sessions at the AWC from 2-3 p.m.

- May 8: Building confidence and self-talk.
- June 12: Stress management, energy management and attention control.
- July 10: Imagery/visualization and healthy sleep habits.
- Aug. 7: Goal setting Part II and mindset.
- Sept. 11: Time management and AAR.

on Facebook at @fortruckerawc.

For more information or to schedule an appointment or class reservation, call 255-3923.

FORT RUCKER SPORTS BRIEFS

Tactical Throwdown

The Fort Rucker Physical Fitness Center will host its Tactical Throwdown first quarter challenge May 8-12. Participation in the challenge is free and open to all Fort Rucker active-duty Soldiers. Official attempts will be conducted during posted dates and times, or by appointment with functional fitness specialists. Official rules for each challenge will be posted after the previous quarter's challenge has been completed.

For more information and a complete listing of challenge rules, call 255-2296.

Free fitness classes

For Military Spouses Day and Mother's Day, the Fortenberry-Colton Physical Fitness Center will offer free fitness classes May 12. This is a Strong B.A.N.D.S. event, so people who pick up a ticket at the event will be entered into a drawing. People who go to all the Strong B.A.N.D.S. events will be eligible to win a grand prize. People can bring their tickets to the last event, the spin challenge or to Fortenberry-

Colton PFC for the drawing. For more information, call 255-3794.

Spin Challenge

People can challenge themselves at the two-hour spin challenge beginning at 5:30 p.m. May 23 at Fortenberry-Colton Physical Fitness Center. The cost is \$3.50 or a card punch. The event is open to all authorized patrons. Refreshments will be available and all participants will be entered into the Strong B.A.N.D.S. drawing for the opportunity to win a prize.

For more information, call 255-3794.

Gobbler Classic Turkey Hunt

Outdoor recreation hosts its Gobbler Classic Turkey Hunt now through Sunday. The entry fee is \$25 and participants must have an Alabama State All Game License, Fort Rucker Post Hunting Permit and Hunter Education Completion Card. Alabama State Regulation and Fort Rucker Regulation 215-1 apply.

The turkey must be harvested on Fort Rucker to qualify. People can register at ODR or MWR Central.

For more information, call 255-4305 or 255-2997.

Fort Rucker 10-Mile Run Off and Team Relay

The Fort Rucker Physical Fitness Center will host the 10-Mile Run Off and Team Relay Saturday. Race-day registration begins at 6 a.m. and the race begins at 7 a.m. Pre-registration is \$20 per individual by Friday and includes a T-shirt. Race-day registration is \$25 per individual and includes T-shirt while supplies last. The run-only option costs \$15 and does not include a T-shirt.

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

Deep sea fishing trip

MWR Central will host a deep sea fishing trip in Destin, Florida, Saturday. The cost of this trip is \$175

per person and includes transportation, bait, rod, reel, fishing license, fish cleaning, tip and six-hour fishing trip. Officials recommend people bring a small cooler with drinks and snacks – no glass. The bus will depart from Fort Rucker at 3 a.m. (time subject to change based on fishing conditions).

To register, call 255-2997 or 255-4305.

White water rafting trip

MWR Central will host a white water rafting trip to Phoenix City May 6 to go down the Chattahoochee River for a Class I-III trip. This trip is perfect for beginners or those who have never been before, according to organizers. Time on the river will be about 1 ½-2 hours and the trip will include transportation and lunch. Price per person is \$53. People need to sign up by April 28. MWR Central's bus will depart from the parking lot of the Soldier Service Center, Bldg. 5700, at 6:15 a.m. Rafting trip begins at 10 a.m. The trip will include all safety gear and instruction.

For more information, call 255-2997.

PUZZLE ANSWERS

Super Crossword

Answers

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

Answer

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

TRIVIA

Answers

1. Tunisia
2. Four
3. Ten
4. Speaker of the House
5. Van Morrison
6. Ulysses S. Grant
7. A person who is self-indulgent
8. Mike Myers
9. Auguste Rodin
10. A gang



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DOWN PER MO.

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DOWN PER MO.

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\$215 Down & \$215 Per Mo.

2015 CHEVY MALIBU
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\$3,993

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Local Trade!
\$8,991

2010 CHRY TOWN & COUNTRY
Local Trade!
\$10,991

2015 KIA FORTE
Only
\$12,991

2006 CHEVY AVALANCHE
Leather, Local Trade!
\$14,591

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Auto, V6!
\$14,991

2013 NISSAN ROGUE
Clean SUV!
\$15,991

2015 NISSAN ALTIMA
2.5, Low Miles!
\$15,992

2016 HYUNDAI SONATA
Low Miles!
\$16,994

2015 TOYOTA RAV4
Local Trade!
\$17,993

2015 CHEVY EQUINOX 2LT
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Loaded!
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