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ARMY FLYER

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PRESIDENTIAL DISPLAY



PHOTOS BY NATHAN PFAU

The VCH-34 presidential helicopter, designated 'Army One' was modified from a H-34 Choctaw helicopter to include floatation devices in case the aircraft had to be put down over water. Army One currently sits in the U.S. Army Aviation Museum.



The interior of the VCH-34 presidential helicopter 'Army One' was outfitted with carpet, airplane seats and curtains to accommodate the transportation of President Dwight D. Eisenhower. Army One currently sits in the U.S. Army Aviation Museum.



Then-Major William A. Howell was the Army's first presidential pilot for President Dwight D. Eisenhower, and later became the curator for the U.S. Army Aviation Museum.

Army Aviation Museum piece carried JFK, Ike

By Nathan Pfauf
Army Flier Staff Writer

From the most seasoned warfighting machines to aircraft that have never seen service, the story of Army Aviation history is on display at the U.S. Army Aviation Museum.

One of those pieces, the VCH-34 Choctaw "Army One" helicopter, tells the story of pilots and presidents who first utilized rotary-wing Aviation for transport, according to Bob Mitchell, U.S. Army Aviation Museum curator.

Army One was the first official presidential helicopter that was put in service to transport President Dwight D. Eisenhower, said Mitchell. The helicopter was originally an H-34 designed by Sikorsky – devised to meet certain naval anti-submarine doctrine, but the Army quickly became interested in the aircraft as a means of transportation since it was able to carry up to 16 passengers at a time.

By 1958, the Choctaw became the main transport helicopter for the Army and was deployed with units overseas, including in the Vietnam Conflict where it served as a transport and evacuation vehicle.

Before the Army took an interest in the H-34, there was a need for a helicopter to transport the President of the United States, and thus the Army organized the Executive Flight Detachment in 1957 with the purpose of providing then-President Eisenhower with helicopter transportation.

"They're meant to facilitate the transfer of the president and his staff," said Mitchell. "That unit was designated specifically for that aircraft."

The first Army presidential pilot was then-Major William A. Howell, who also went on to become the U.S. Army Aviation Museum's first curator, he added. Another notable pilot well known to Fort Rucker was CW4 William L. Ruf, who now has a street named after him on the installation.

SEE PRESIDENTIAL, PAGE A5

CG speaks to new LT's at ceremony

By Kelly P. Morris
USAACE Public Affairs

Maj. Gen. William K. Gayler, U.S. Army Aviation Center of Excellence and Fort Rucker commanding general, spoke to Army Reserve Officers Training Corps cadets, their families and friends during the commissioning ceremony for the 2017 graduating class at Alabama's oldest four-year public university May 12.

Ten cadets of the University of North Alabama Army ROTC "Lion Battalion" in Florence, Ala. were commissioned as 2nd Lieutenants during the ceremony. The oath of office was administered, followed by the pinning on of bars of gold, first salute and presentation of ceremonial coin.

Just before cadets raised their right hands, Gayler in his remarks said it was a privilege to be part of the moment marking the first steps of a journey of honorable professional service to come. He reflected on his own experience when he was commissioned as 2nd Lieutenant at University of North Georgia, and admonished the cadets to pay attention to the words of the oath of office.

"This is a huge day," Gayler told the cadets. "In a few moments you're going to have an opportunity to promise and swear an oath that you will support and defend the Constitution of the United States.

"Nowhere in that oath does it say you swear an allegiance to a person, a king, a body or entity. You will swear an oath to an ideal codified in writing on paper that guarantees liberties and freedoms for our nation. That is hugely important. Pay attention to the words. They matter," Gayler said.

Taking the obligation freely is about a sense of volunteerism and selfless service that the nation was founded on, he said.

"Our army is a profession. You have already distinguished yourselves from other civilians and classmates. Less than one percent of our nation has

SEE CEREMONY, PAGE A5

RUCK FOR THE CURE

Soldier marches 100 miles to support cancer research

By Jeremy Henderson
Army Flier Staff Writer

During the early Monday morning hours, Capt. Matthew Rosebaugh strapped on a 50-pound ruck sack and stepped out the door to close the book on the goal of a 100-mile march.

Rosebaugh, Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 1st Battalion, 223rd Aviation Regiment, used his mentor's struggle with cancer to fuel a more than 100-mile, 50-pound ruck sack march to support the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society's cancer research efforts.

To protect the individual's privacy, the mentor's name is not used in this article.

"I met him in 2008, and he has been a part of every decision I have made throughout my career. He was an active-duty Aviation officer – UH-1, UH-72 and UH-60 – for more than 12 years and now an (Army Reservist)."

According to Rosebaugh, his mentor was diagnosed with Hodgkin's lymphoma in February 2016 and underwent chemotherapy from February until July 2016. He has been in remission since August.

"If he stays in remission until August of this year, he has a 93 percent chance of being cured at the five-year mark," Rosebaugh said. "He is a phenomenal person, leader, husband, father and leader in the LLS community."

His mentor was approached soon after completing chemotherapy, according to Rosebaugh, to become part of the LLS community and contribute to cancer research funding efforts.

"He was nominated and accepted to help build a team who would try to fund 1,000 hours of research," Rosebaugh said. "While maybe not the most ever raised for the LLS, this goal is significantly higher than many we have seen. However, it was due, in part, to the research provided by the LLS that he was able to overcome the Hodgkin's lymphoma so quickly. This is something that has made a difference in his life, my life and the lives of countless others."

How did Rosebaugh decide a march would be his contribution to the Team 1,000's effort to fund 1,000 hours of research?

"The campaign actually runs from April 4 to June 8, but as I am leaving in a few weeks, I had limited time to support the team," he said. "I told (his mentor) that I had a



PHOTO BY JEREMY HENDERSON

Capt. Matthew Rosebaugh (right), HHC, 1-223rd Avn. Regt., completes the last leg of his ruck sack march Monday with support from Staff Sgt. Doug Medford, also with HHC, 1-223rd Avn. Regt., and Fort Rucker Team RWB athletics director.

solid month to support and wanted to do something that had a story, was a goal to reach and made me spend significant time supporting the team. By doing this, I could get people to support me for every mile or do a one-time donation throughout the event. The 100 miles coincides with the \$100 an hour that the LLS funds to researchers to find new treatments and a possible cure for blood-borne cancers."

And so Rosebaugh began logging miles on post, setting a goal to reach 100 miles before transitioning to the Army Reserve.

"All of my rucking has been on Fort Rucker," he said. "I wanted my last leg to be from the main post gym to Ozark Gate to Enterprise Gate and then back to the main post gym. Starting at 5 a.m., I would be able to hopefully bring awareness and interest to everyone entering Fort Rucker from physical training hours until start of business for the day.

"I knew that I needed to do at least 25 miles per week and broke that into six day increments to have a rest day," he added. "I needed to average about 4 miles per day to do it. I would start at 5 a.m. to make sure it did not interfere with work or family, and made sure that I put in miles every day."

Rosebaugh knew the challenge would be difficult, but

SEE RUCK, PAGE A5

PERSPECTIVE

TRANSITION

Expert: interviewing skills a key to landing a job

By Bryan Tharpe
Fort Rucker Soldier for Life Center

You're at a job interview and everything seems to be going smoothly. Then, all of a sudden, the interviewer asks you, "Why should I hire you for this job?"

This is one of those really tough questions that will probably come up during every job interview. How do you go about answering a question like this without sounding boastful?

Well, the first thing you want to project is that you are confident, but not cocky. The difference is that when you're confident, you can give examples of how you did things in the past that prove you can do them in the future. Being cocky is moving beyond over confidence and into arrogance. It is an attitude that says you can do this job better than anyone else can, even though you may have never done it before.

Being confident in your abilities is good. Being cocky and arrogant will quickly turn an interviewer off.

Ask yourself, what is the interviewer really trying to uncover by asking you a question like this? The interviewer is asking for assurance that you can per-

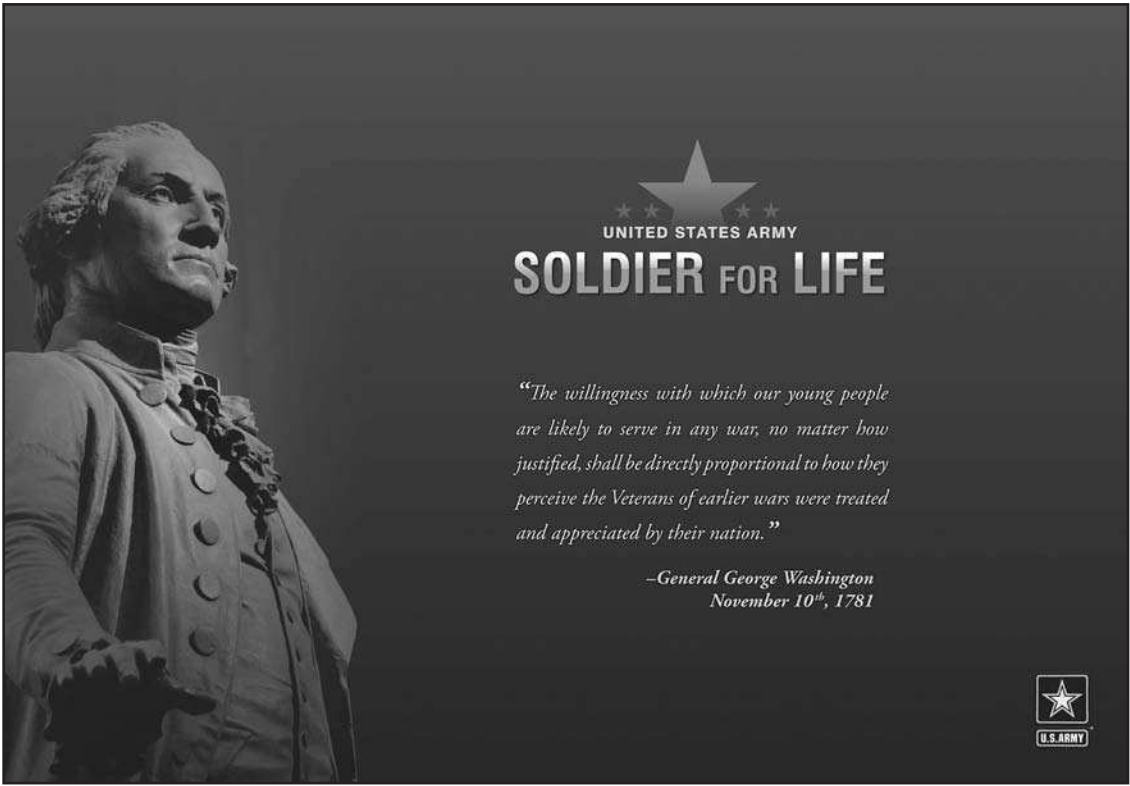
form the duties of the new job. This is where past performance is deemed a good predictor of future behavior.

So, have three or four examples ready to share at the interview that prove that you can do or have done a similar job and the outcome of the job. This means you need to know what the job entails. You can find the job requirements in the job description.

Also, know what personal characteristics the company is looking for in the person they want to hire and tell them what they want to hear. Just don't get cocky. Do it subtly by using examples and outcomes.

At this time, the interviewer is probably interviewing more candidates for the job than just you. They are trying to find out what makes you a better candidate than the others. Your well thought out examples will prove to them that you have what it takes to get the job done. Normally, the best-qualified candidate who tells the interviewer more of what they want to hear will get the job. So, anticipating the question and practicing your answer is the best strategy for preparing for this question.

If you need some suggestions to consider when preparing ex-



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amples to share with the interviewer, remember that they will probably be interested in hearing about how you did more with less; improved processes; saved money, time or other resources; met or exceeded established goals and objectives; improved teamwork; communications; or solved problems. Preparation is your key

to success!

Now that you know how to go about answering a tough question such as this, remember that this is only one possibility. There are many more tough questions that you need to anticipate and be prepared to answer before you go for that job interview. Your SFL-TAP Center hosts Department of

Labor workshops that address interviewing skills, as well as numerous other topics.

Transitioning service members and their spouses are encouraged to sign up for these classes to learn more about the job search process. Call the Soldier for Life Center at 255-2558 for more information.

Rotor Wash



Waheedah Varela,
military spouse

"Wear plenty of sunscreen."



Sybil Little,
military family member

"Remember to drink lots of water."



Annette Swensen,
military spouse

"If it looks like it's going to storm, don't go in the water."



Jordan Baskins,
civilian

"If you're going to be in the sun for long periods, make sure you find a shady place to rest."



Cody Lensmeyer,
civilian

"Take plenty of breaks when swimming and make sure you eat properly and stay hydrated throughout the day."

COMMAND

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FORT RUCKER COMMANDING GENERAL

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FORT RUCKER GARRISON COMMANDER

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

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.

BE PREPARED

Preparation key to minimizing Mother Nature’s wrath

By Nathan Pfau
Army Flier Staff Writer

The Atlantic hurricane season officially begins June 1 with activity spiking from mid-August through mid-October, according to the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration.

And although Mother Nature’s wrath can devastate lives and property, people can minimize their vulnerability to disaster through preparation, said Willie Worsham, Fort Rucker emergency manager.

According to NOAA, an average of 12 tropical storms, six of which become hurricanes, form over the Atlantic Ocean, Caribbean Sea, or Gulf of Mexico during the hurricane season that runs through Nov. 30 each year.

For the South, tornadoes traditionally are the cause for alarm, and although not very common, hurricanes can bring devastating weather to the South, including tornadoes, with other dangers like thunderstorms, lightning and flooding, Worsham said.

Hurricanes are warm-core, low pressure systems that develop over tropical or subtropical waters and are powered by heat from the sea, according to the NOAA website. In order for a hurricane to occur, the right conditions must be in place, including warm ocean water, a cooling atmosphere, most air and other factors.

“The key to successfully navigating Mother Nature’s nastiness is preparedness,” said the emergency manager. “Make sure that you have a plan.”

Worsham suggests that people visit the Ready Army website, which gives people all sorts of information on what to expect, how to make a kit and how to prepare for severe weather seasons and even hurricane season.

The first step is to be informed, said Worsham.

Many emergencies, like power outages, disease outbreaks and manmade accidents can happen anywhere. But certain disasters are more likely in some places than others. At Fort Rucker, a blizzard is less likely than a hurricane, so the first information residents should gather is how to prepare for severe weather caused by hurricanes, he said.

Ready Army recommends understanding the local mass warning systems that officials will use to inform people on weather conditions. At Fort Rucker, the agencies that warn of natural hazards are the National Weather Service and the U.S. Geological Survey. Part of being informed is knowing how to receive information from these agencies, said Worsham, adding that it is a good idea to have a backup way of receiving information in case a primary system goes down.

Being informed also means people knowing where evacuation points are located in the event they cannot get home or their current location becomes unsafe. Ready Army suggests people also know what circumstances would require evacuation and when they should shelter in place.

Accountability is a key part of the Army, and in a disaster this does not change. People should know the way they will contact their unit and receive instructions in the event of a disaster.

The next step is to make a plan.

Ready Army suggests that people keep their plans practical and tuned to likely disasters that they might face. People should take the information they learned in the first step and talk about what their family plan is in each different disaster scenario. People should take into account how they will react if it is a weekend, as opposed to a workday, if their children are at school, or if an evacuation is ordered and sheltering in place is no longer an option.

Building a kit is the next step in Ready Army’s list. A kit is nothing more than the supplies that people and their families will need over a three-day period. That is the estimated time it might take to clear roads, restore power or have emergency crews reach people.

After a disaster, emergency responders will address critical

WHEN DISASTER STRIKES...



WILL YOU BE READY?

READY ARMY

BE INFORMED. MAKE A PLAN. BUILD A KIT. GET INVOLVED.

- Be Informed
- Make a Plan
- Build a Kit
- Get Involved

Learn more at www.ready.army.mil

ARMY GRAPHIC

needs first and might not be able to get to people right away. A disaster kit will allow people to take care of themselves and their families, freeing up emergency responders to focus on the critically injured and restoring infrastructure. Ready Army suggests people

have multiple kits in different locations, like their car, office and home, because they never know where they will be when disaster strikes.

The final step is to get involved. For more information, visit <http://www.rucker.army.mil/>

New incentives bundled into retention bonus program

By David Vergun
Army News Service

WASHINGTON — Active-duty Soldiers have until Tuesday to apply for the Selective Retention Bonus Program, which has some new sweeteners added as a way to entice those now on active duty to continue serving.

For some Soldiers, re-enlistment during the two-week period will mean lump-sum bonuses – extra money to spend over the summer months, perhaps. For others, depending on their military occupational specialty, it might be better to wait until the window closes, said Sgt. Maj. Mark A. Thompson, who serves as the senior Army career counselor with Army G-1.

WAIT, OR GRAB IT NOW?

Human Resources Command released Military Personnel Message 17-153 “Selective Retention Bonus Program,” May 10. The new message describes in detail the latest plans to encourage Soldiers to stay in the Army through the use of re-enlistment bonuses.

According to the message, 22

MOSs will be removed from the SRB list, with the 11B infantryman, Skill Level 1, being the largest group affected. Thompson said Soldiers serving in those 22 MOSs should take the bonus offered by the Army now, because after the two-week window closes, they will no longer be qualified to receive it.

On the other hand, 35 MOSs have been added to the SRB list. However, those Soldiers will need to wait in order to take advantage of the bonuses, he said.

The great news is that the \$13,000 “kicker” for Soldiers with a fiscal year 2017 expiration of term of service remains for all of the bonuses listed in the MILPER, he said, explaining that a kicker is money in addition to the bonus.

For example, an 11B specialist who goes for the SRB now would be eligible for both a Tier 3 bonus of \$3,000 for a three-year re-enlistment, as well as a \$13,000 kicker. The \$16,000 would be delivered in a lump sum, or all at once, to the Soldier, Thompson said.

Thompson urged eligible Soldiers to read the MILPER message

to determine what changes affect them and to see their servicing career counselors as well, posthaste.

OTHER ENHANCEMENTS

Three important and improved developments have been added to the retention plan spelled out in the MILPER, Thompson said.

First, the bonus chart has been formatted in a new way, he said. In past messages, there have been two tables. Now, there is just one. The change, he said, is designed to make it easier for Soldiers to understand what they may or may not be qualified for when it comes to incentives.

Second, there’s a chance for Soldiers to get incentive pay for reclassifying into a critically-short MOS and going to a specific location, he said.

For example, say a Soldier is currently assigned to Fort Hood, Texas, as a 15B aircraft power plant repairer. He or she is airborne qualified but not in an airborne unit. That Soldier can receive incentive money to change MOSs and be assigned to an airborne unit, which most likely would be Fort Bragg,

North Carolina, but could also be Fort Carson, Colorado, or a couple of other locations, Thompson said.

That Soldier would get the incentive money once he or she graduates from advanced individual training and is assigned to an airborne position, he said.

The third improvement is that all Soldiers who re-enlist will see an increase in the amount of stabilization, Thompson said. Previously, Soldiers re-enlisting for at least three years would get 12 months’ stabilization. Under the new policy, any Soldier with an FY17 ETS can re-enlist and get up to 36 months stabilization, depending on how many years they re-enlist.

Thompson said that Soldiers and families around the force have told the sergeant major of the Army that increased stabilization is something they wanted.

GOOD NEWS FOR THOSE NOT SRB ELIGIBLE

Active-duty Soldiers not eligible for an SRB can still get something from the FY17 ETS fund, Thompson said, listing the amounts:

- \$10,000 for a three-year re-en-

- listment;
- \$15,000 for a four-year re-enlistment;
- \$20,000 for a five-year re-enlistment;
- \$25,000 for a six-year re-enlistment;
- \$5,000 for a 12- to 22-month extension; and
- \$7,500 for a 23-month extension.

Thompson explained that the ETS fund is something that has never been done before. The genesis of the ETS fund came out of the National Defense Authorization Act of 2017, signed Dec. 27, which mandated an end-strength increase of the active component of the Army to 476,000, which is an increase of 16,000 Soldiers.

The ETS fund is designed to retain more Soldiers to get to that increase by the end of FY17, he said. Increased accessions is the other spigot to get to that number.

Thompson said bonuses, incentives and other details spelled out in the MILPER boil down to shaping a ready force with the right skills in the right locations at the right time.



CHANGE OF RESPONSIBILITY

PHOTO BY JENNY STRIPLING

Sgt. Maj. Conrad Walters accepts the MEDDAC guidon from Lt. Col. Jon Baker, commander of Lyster Army Health Clinic, during a change of responsibility ceremony May 10 at the U.S. Army Aviation Museum. Walters assumed command from the outgoing senior enlisted adviser, Sgt. Maj. Kevin Zites.

News Briefs

Vacation Bible School

Fort Rucker Religious Services will host its Vacation Bible School June 5-9 from 8:30-11:30 a.m. at the main post chapel complex – Bldg. 8939 and Bldg. 8940 – for children in grades kindergarten through sixth. The theme is Secrets in the Sand and the event will feature Bible lessons, crafts, music, recreation, snacks and daily celebrations. The children will focus on learning about the Bible and also develop close friends within the chapel while having a great time, according to organizers.

Volunteers are needed to help make VBS a success. To register, volunteer or get more information, call 255-3946 or 255-2989.

Pay office closure

Starting Wednesday, 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.

Memorial Day ceremony

Fort Rucker will host its Memorial Day ceremony May 26 at 8:30 a.m. at Veterans Park. In case of inclement weather, the ceremony will take place in the U.S. Army Aviation Museum.

AER closing ceremony

The Army Emergency Relief fundraising campaign closing ceremony is scheduled for May 31 at 2 p.m. in the U.S. Army Aviation Museum.

Pharmacy change

The Lyster Army Health Clinic Pharmacy no longer accepts drop-off forms for all refill requests. It is mandatory to phone in all prescription refills. Call 1-877-520-1623 or 334-255-7671.

Change of responsibility

The 1st Aviation Brigade will host a change of responsibility ceremony June 14 at 8:30 a.m. at Howze Field.

Clinic closure

Lyster Army Health Clinic will close June 23 at 11:30 a.m. The pharmacy and lab will also close at this time. Lyster will remain open all day June 21.

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.

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.

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 @LysterAHC.

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.

EXPERT ACTION BADGE

Possible new badge draws interest during TRADOC town hall

By Jonathan Koester
NCO Journal

FORT BLISS, Texas — There was a lot to discuss at TRADOC’s fourth State of NCO Development Town Hall. But what seemed to grab the most attention and questions from noncommissioned officers was the proposed Expert Action Badge.

The Expert Action Badge recently went through a concept evaluation at Joint Base Lewis-McChord, Washington. It is meant to test Soldiers on their Warrior Tasks and Battle Drills, but many of the details are still to be finalized, including whether it will even keep the name of Expert Action Badge.

Though the Expert Infantryman Badge and Expert Field Medical Badge already exist, the Army wants to create a badge that validates the warrior skills of the vast majority of Soldiers who aren’t in infantry or medical military occupational specialties, said Command Sgt. Maj. Michael Gragg, command sergeant major at the U.S. Army Center for Initial Military Training at Fort Eustis, Virginia.

“We’ve had a badge since 1945 for the infantrymen to validate their infantry arts,” Gragg said. “We’ve had a badge since 1965 for medical personnel to validate their medical arts. What we don’t have is something for the other 75 percent of the Soldiers who are out there to validate their proficiency in their basic Soldier skills. So what we want to do is offer them the opportunity to validate their basic Soldier skills to a professional level.”

The idea for the badge was unveiled in March by Command Sgt. Maj. David Davenport, command sergeant major at U.S. Army Training and Doctrine Command. The online forums for the town hall showed many NCOs were skeptical, with many complaining that the badge would be too easy to get.

“I know there are some thoughts out there that it’s going to be, ‘Everybody gets it,’” Gragg said. “No. It’s not a participation trophy. The infantryman does his

infantry tasks every day, but yet only about 25 percent of them get the badge when they go compete for it. All we’re saying is that on an annual basis a unit would be able to offer the opportunity for their Soldiers to compete and certify in their Warrior Tasks and Battle Drills to a professional level and earn a badge saying, ‘I am expert in my skill set.’ Not saying you’re going to get it because I can guarantee you there will not be a 100 percent pass rate.”

The badge would be an opportunity for superior Soldiers to step up and show their skills, said Command Sgt. Maj. Scott Schroeder, command sergeant major at U.S. Army Forces Command at Fort Bragg, North Carolina.

“Everybody should go out and seek opportunities for excellence,” Schroeder said. “I have much more respect for somebody who steps up, goes out and works to earn an Expert Action Badge, and perhaps fails, versus somebody who just says, ‘I’m not going to do that.’”

As the online discussion forums sometimes became heated, Gragg asked NCOs to control their emotions and look at the big picture. The big picture is the Army comes away more prepared to take on modern conflicts.

“We get to the base of the mountain and from there you can only see the peak of it,” Gragg said. “But once you get to the top of the mountain, you can see the entire picture. I would ask them to climb the mountain and see the entire picture. We’re not trying to cheapen anything. What we’re trying to do is enhance our Army. We’re trying to increase Soldier readiness. We want that infantry brother, when he or she is out there on a guard post, when the guard comes to relieve them, that the individual who comes up and is assigned that weapon knows exactly what’s going on with that weapon. That the infantryman can say, you got it, and walk away and feel comfortable knowing that he can sleep well tonight.

“The outcome is readiness because that is priority No. 1,” he said. “What we want to do is in-



PHOTO BY SGT. 1ST CLASS JAINNA ESCUDE

Spc. Saul Baez (center), 368th Seaport Operation Company, 11th Transportation Battalion, watches U.S. Army Training and Doctrine Command’s fourth State of NCO Development Town Hall from the control room March 30 at Fort Eustis, Va.

crease readiness overall. Right now at the concept event we have going on at JBLM, we have 53 Soldiers going through it. Of those 53 Soldiers, 25 of them didn’t even know how to wear their protective masks properly. I understand that’s a leadership challenge, but often when leadership fails, a policy has to be inserted to ensure that leadership does their job.”

With many of the complaints focusing on the new badge perhaps degrading the importance of the infantry badge, Davenport reiterated that the badges aren’t competing against each other.

“It’s not to say one has more value than the other,” Davenport said. “It’s about improving individual proficiency, getting that expertise and rediscovering a culture of training your Soldiers.”

As the concept stands, Soldiers attempting to earn the badge would do 30 Warrior Tasks and Battle Drills, plus five mental tasks to be chosen by a commander. Gragg said they are making adjustments to make sure that those who earn the badge demonstrate

exceptional proficiency, not just the basic ability to complete the tasks. 2 There will also probably be some surprise extra events.

“[These extra events are] not necessarily something that is a Warrior Task and Battle Drill, but we are using those to determine the flexibility of the force to see how far we can take this event to make sure that we get the professional Soldier that we want,” Gragg said. “You’re going to have to work your butt off to get this badge, and when you get it, you’ll be proud of it, because you have demonstrated exceptional performance over an extended period.”

Several NCOs suggested a name change for the badge, an idea that Davenport said he appreciated.

“We solicit that kind of feedback,” he said. “That’s why we are moving from the PowerPoint concept and putting it in Soldiers’ hands, organizations’ hands, to see if it does create value for our Army. Does it improve readiness? The naming of it is subject to change. That’s good constructive feedback right there.”

Though the Expert Action Badge has yet to be approved by the Army and is at least several years away from getting final approval and being available for Soldiers, at least one town hall commenter was ready to get to work, asking what he should do to prepare himself.

“For an individual to start training for the EAB right now, I would encourage him to start focusing on his Warrior Tasks and Battle Drills,” Gragg said. “Becoming extremely proficient on those, because that’s going to be the basis of the test. There are going to be some physical challenges to the test. There is going to be an APFT requirement. There is going to be a forced foot march. Those things you can continue to improve. Work on your physical fitness. Even with the Expert Infantryman Badge and Expert Field Medical Badge, the tasks themselves usually aren’t what break people down. It’s the physical demands over the testing period that makes people lose their mental acuity and so they make a mistake.”

Army: Commanders expect contractors to deliver capability

By David Vergun
Army News Service

WASHINGTON — When a commander needs a capability, there’s an expectation that the contractor hired to provide that capability “is going to come trained to be able to execute that mission and step up immediately, just like it’s a tank company or some other entity that can hit the ground running,” said Jay T. Carr.

Carr serves as executive director for Army Contracting Command, or ACC, at Rock Island Arsenal, Illinois. He manages about \$80 billion in contracts for the Army each year. He spoke last month during an Association of the United States Army-sponsored forum on contracting.

While contractors must be experts in the duties they are hired to perform, contracting officers who manage those contracts cannot be expected to be complete experts at the product their contractors are delivering, Carr said. But those same officers do need to understand the requirements well enough to communicate them back and forth between industry and the military customer.

In order to be effective, contractors need to be encouraged to engage with the government early in the planning process and throughout the cycle of the contract, he said.

Commanders on the ground are not trained in writing

requirements, Carr said. So it is up to those in ACC to help them articulate their requirements. There’s room for improvement in that area.

“We have a vested interest ... to do everything we can do to get to that end state so it’s one less thing commanders have to worry about on the battlefield,” he said.

Maj. Gen. James E. Simpson, commander of ACC, said, “contracting is a complex field and getting stuff quicker to Soldiers takes a culture change from all of us, especially ACC. We have to work a year or two out to develop the requirements and that takes an integrated team of the engineers, contracting officers, program managers, the legal team and so on, meeting weekly or monthly to get the contracting package together, and then get good solicitations, industry bids and good requirements.”

Simpson said that bad requirements result in expensive modifications and lengthy delays. It’s the Soldiers on the ground and the taxpayers who pay the price for that.

In developing requirements packages there are a lot of templates out there that can be useful to the customer, he said.

“We have to make sure the customer knows where they’re at and help them understand how each one can fit what they’re trying to do,” he said.

“That goes back to communication, communication

and communication,” Simpson said. “We at the Army Contracting Command cannot do enough of that. We have to stay focused on that.”

Simpson also said personnel at ACC are working to improve accountability for the contracts they are responsible for. Accountability on a contract might mean ensuring that new contracts for services are in place well before old contracts expire. For example, if it’s known that a grass cutting contract on Fort Belvoir, Virginia, will expire on Dec. 1, 2018, the contracting officer needs to be working a year out to have the follow-on contract awarded in time so there is no lapse in service.

“Get stuff in early,” Simpson said “This is about doing what’s best for our Army. It’s what we should all strive for.”



PHOTO BY PFC. JASMINE BALLARD

Soldiers of the 3rd BCT, 4th Inf. Div., provide security during Decisive Action Rotation 16-09 at the National Training Center in Fort Irwin, Calif., Sept. 6.

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10	DIARY OF A WIMPY KID: THE LONG HAUL	PG • 7.1 AUDIO M-F: 4:20, 7:10 & 9:30 S-S: 1:20, 4:20, 7:10 & 9:30

Presidential

Continued from Page A1

The VHC-34 that sits in the museum today was modified from its original version to accommodate the transportation of the president, which included stripping the interior and outfitting it with carpeting, air-plane seating, curtains and air conditioning. Flotation devices were also added in case of an over-water crash, said Mitchell.

The storied aircraft has seen a multitude of passengers from presidents, including Eisenhower and John F. Kennedy, to celebrities like Marilyn Monroe, to foreign dignitaries like Nikita Khrushchev, premier for the Soviet Union, and Francisco Franco, former prime minister of Spain.

Mitchell recalled a story told by Ruf about the time he was assigned to pick up Franco from his compound to a summit of European leaders.

“Willie was suppose to fly up there and pick him up and bring him to a meeting,” said the curator. “He was told to go up there and land on the soccer field where [Franco] would meet him.”

According to the story, Ruf knew where the compound was, but there was some confusion about the exact landing location, aside from the fact that it was to be a soccer field, said Mitchell. Upon approach, Ruf noticed a soccer field inside the compound Franco was staying, and preceded to land.

“As he’s sitting there and the aircraft is shutting down to wait, a man runs up to the aircraft waving a pistol, and Willie said he

looked out and there was General Franco standing on the steps of the back of the building wearing his riding breeches and a white shirt, drinking a cup of coffee,” said the curator. “[Franco] finally gets ready and gets into the helicopter, and Willie takes him to the location.”

During the flight, Ruf carried conversations with Franco about the flight and the aircraft to which Franco replied, “You’ve taught me a very valuable lesson.”

The next day, Ruf was instructed to pick up Franco again, but this time he’s instructed to go to the soccer field located in town near the compound rather than the one located inside it.

“So, he takes off, and as he’s flying over to his destination, he flies past the compound and looks, and overnight they had put in air defenses all around the walls of the compound,” said Mitchell. “That’s when he realized that was the lesson that Franco was talking about – that he could be gotten to.”

It’s stories like Ruf’s that make the aircraft in the museum more than just aircraft, but active pieces of history, said the museum curator.

“You find these stories out and then you find they’re associated with a particular tail number, then you look at that aircraft and it takes on a new life,” he said. “It was just another aircraft in storage before that. They’re all like that, but you just have to connect with the people who flew them and had those experiences with them.”

Ruck

Continued from Page A1

kept the reason for the effort in mind with every step.

“One of my driving motivations was that blood cancers do not stop every day,” he said. “Therefore, I would not either. One of the most powerful moments came to me at the end of a 6-mile trek when I was looking forward to taking my ruck sack off. However, it hit me that people living with blood cancers have a weight much greater on their backs every day and could never take it off.

“As an Army officer, I saw this as my last mission in active-duty service. If I continued this journey, our team and everyone that supported it will be a part of allowing people living with leukemia or lymphoma to be able to take off their ruck sack,” he said.

Rosebaugh reached his goal with the final ruck march on post Monday, marking more than 120 miles in support of cancer research.

“Time is what motivated me,” he said. “While there are many ways to support a non-profit, time and a story that goes along with it is what has motivated me. (His mentor) has been an important mentor and friend in my life, and I would not be here without him. He has spent countless hours listening to me, counseling me, challenging me and motivating me. The best way I found to give back was to give him my time. Each day that he is still here is due, in part, to the research funded through the LLS, and I wanted to give back something that I could never get back to help support the goal to help others.”

Rosebaugh will transition from active duty to the Army Reserve this month to serve as an adjunct professor of military science at Ohio State University in Columbus, Ohio. He will be an MBA candidate at the Fisher College of Business at OSU starting in the fall and will be seeking a future career in running veteran service non-profits, as well as opportunities in marketing and consulting. He will be joined by his wife, Holley, and two daughters, Harper and Reese.

“One of the best lessons I have learned here is that Fort Rucker is a place where so many diverse organizations come together, talk out their differences, figure out solutions, make relationships and put 100 percent to getting the job done every day,” he said. “The ‘Fort Rucker Train’ never stops and we never fail our mission because we have so many people around this post who make it happen.

“As a commander, I had to coordinate with a multitude of people around the post, and those relationships are literally what made the mission happen,” he added. “No matter what our differences or backgrounds, this is one of the first places I have seen that believes in ‘one team, one fight.’ And that ‘fight’ is preparing Army Aviators to be prepared to support the ground command’s mission.”

For more information about LLS, visit <https://www.lls.org>

For more information about Team 1,000, visit <http://www.mwoy.org/pages/wi/wi17/1000hours>.

For more information about Ruck for the Cure, visit <http://www.mwoy.org/pages/wi/wi17/mrosebaugh>.

Ceremony

Continued from Page A1

served in our military. You are soon to join the ranks of those elite men and women that will honestly be recognized and admired across the globe,” he said. “You are worthy inheritors of the history and the ideals that course through this great institution.”

While the cadets worked hard to get to this point, there is more work yet to be done, he said.

“You are about to embark upon the responsibility to care for our greatest treasures—our American sons and daughters. You’re absolutely up to it; you are prepared for it,” Gayler said.

The journey ahead will involve successes and failures.

“Learn from both of them. They are equally important,” he said.

Gayler told the cadets to be positive, always strive to become better than they are today, never stop growing, and always honor those who have given great sacrifice. The army needs their leadership, he said.

Most important, they must take care of Soldiers.

“Our Soldiers deserve competent leaders of character who are committed to selfless service. You will be that example for them,” he said.

Gayler also recognized the families as “what makes the journey worthwhile,” he said.

Ceremony host Lt. Col. William C. Pruett, a field artillery officer and professor of military science at the university, said the officers must lead their teams from the front.

“Beginning with the American revolution and until today officers have shouldered the responsibility of leading our Soldiers to mission accomplishment in both peacetime an in war. Inherent in that leadership is the responsibility to lead well,” Pruett said. “This leadership requires officers who are willing and able to share the hardships and burdens they require of their teams.”

Pruett recalled serving with Gayler during Operation Iraqi Freedom I in 2003 as elements of the 101st Combat Aviation “Destiny” Brigade attacked deep into enemy territory during the initial invasion of Iraq. Pruett served as an artillery fires support officer and Gayler was the brigade operations officer at the time. Pruett recalled a warrant officer aviator who thanked Pruett for saving his life that day by answering the call for artillery support. A takeaway from that successful mission was the value of teamwork.

“It took a team that day. It takes a team to win,” said Pruett.

Pruett commended Gayler for his common sense approach and grasp of teamwork during his career.

“I’m super appreciative that Major General Gayler decided to come down and spend time with us, and give his words of wisdom to the newly commissioned lieutenants and cadets. It’s personally meaningful to me, and I think very professionally rewarding for everybody,” Pruett said

Five of the newly commissioned officers will serve in the active component, and five will serve in the National Guard and US Army Reserve.

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LOT 31: Come build your dream home on this lovely lot that is a custom builders dream. This property is nestled in Bridlewood Farms & has a custom French drain already installed. **CHRIS ROGERS 406-0726**

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320 COUNTY ROAD 101: Horse lovers dream! Property is completely fenced with hog wire, with chain link fence in yard front & back with 5 gates, separate fenced paddock in front yard with hog wire fence, circular drive, 22x32 barn with 2 stalls, lean to extension with Dutch doors, electric & water with inside & outside lights, 10x20 shed with shelves & ramp. House with open floor plan with split bedrooms & den with fireplace as well as formal living room. Great screened porch with stairs leading to pool. A MUST SEE! **EVELYN HITCH 406-3436**

79± ACRES ~ \$341,850



486 AVERETT: Wooded approximately 79.5 acres with beautiful spring fed pond. Some land is cleared & several access points are available. **SOMMER RAKES 406-1286**

\$167,000



12 ASHLEY LANE: Beautiful, well maintained home on corner lot in Level Plains is located near Ft Rucker & shopping. Spacious kitchen has beautiful cabinets & stainless steel appliances. Laundry room is conveniently located next to kitchen. This home has immaculate floors, tray ceilings, updated light fixtures, wood floors & a deck for cookouts or relaxing. Spacious backyard is ready for entertaining or just hanging out! Utility room in 2-car garage. Come & see this home & all its extras! **MARGE SIMMONS 477-1962**

\$108,900



111 BLACKHAWK: Brand new paint & flooring throughout. This cute home is in a great location & is move-in ready. Stove & dishwasher have recently been replaced. Nice floor plan with a large grand room that is open to the dining area. Lots of natural light in this home. Screened back porch is a wonderful outdoor space that is large enough for overflow & outdoor entertaining. The detached shed/work shop has electricity. The yard has beautiful shade trees. Seller will contribute \$500 for new refrigerator. **ROBIN FOY 389-4410**



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\$139,000



203 TIMBERLAKE: Really well maintained home; super convenient to both Holly Hill Elementary & Dauphin Jr. High. If you need space, this is the home for you! 4 nicely sized bedrooms, 2.5 baths, a formal living room, dining room, den, plus a huge bonus room with built-ins & a fireplace. The backyard has 2 sheds in good condition for storage & a carport large enough for an RV. Azaleas dot the yard which includes 2 patio areas. A large laundry room with cabinets & a 4-yr old roof are the icing on the cake. **JAN SAWYER 406-2393**

\$115,000



103 FOREST: Great starter home, downsize home or investment property. Updated with stainless steel appliances, wood & tile floors. Extra room is being used as a 3rd bedroom. Lots of storage & space!! Convenient to schools, shopping & the hospital. This home is immaculate!!! **TEXT TERRI 406-2072**

BUSINESS ~ \$149,800



109 PLAZA: Looking for a location for your new business? Schedule your viewing today of these 2 large buildings, 1 small house & 1 concrete slab. Conveniently located inside Boll Weevil Circle, the large buildings each offer over 3,000 SF of space with overhang on the front. Behind these 2 buildings is a small 2BR/1BA cottage with approximately 1,000 SF. Extra concrete slab to rear of property. Road frontage is approximately 175' with off street parking available. **PAT LEGGETT 406-7653**

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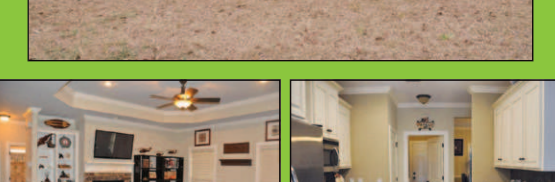
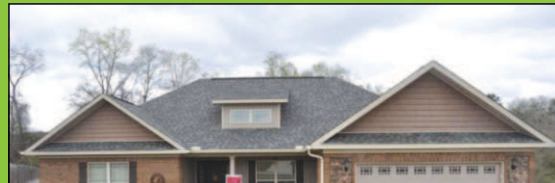
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SOMMER BROOKE

510 RIVERWOOD

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DIRECTIONS: From Hwy 27N turn right on Porter Lunsford Rd at the Creekside Spirit. Turn left into Sommer Brooke Subdivision. Take first left on W. Sommer Oak then left on Riverwood. Home is on the left.



JAN SAWYER
334-406-2393

SGT. 1ST CLASS YANO

Soldier 1 of 33 Asian-American Medal of Honor recipients

By Katie Lange
Defense Media Activity

WASHINGTON – Not everyone can maintain composure when the aircraft they're in starts to lose control. But that's just what this Medal of Honor recipient did, despite being severely wounded while it was happening.

Rodney Yano was born on the Big Island of Hawaii nearly two years to the day after the U.S. entered World War II. His grandparents had immigrated to the U.S. from Japan well before that.

According to the Congressional Medal of Honor Society, he's one of 33 Asian-Americans to receive the Medal of Honor.

Yano joined the Army in 1961 before graduating from high school. He rose to the rank of staff sergeant and was on his second tour of Vietnam when he became an air crewman with the 11th Air Cavalry Regiment.

On Jan. 1, 1969, Yano was the acting crew chief and one of two door gunners on his company's command-and-control helicopter as it fought an enemy entrenched in the dense Vietnamese jungle near Bien Hao.

The chopper was taking direct fire from below, but Yano managed to use his machine gun to suppress the enemy's assault. He was also able to toss grenades that emitted white phosphorous smoke at their positions, so his troop commander could accurately fire artillery at their entrenchments.

Unfortunately, one of those grenades exploded too early, covering Yano in the burning chemical and causing severe burns.

Fragments of the grenade also caught supplies in the helicopter on fire, including ammunition, which detonated. White smoke filled the chopper, and the pilots weren't able to see to maintain control of the aircraft.

The situation wasn't looking good.

But Yano wasn't ready to go down with the ship, as they say. The initial grenade explosion partially blinded him and left him with the use of only one arm, but he jumped into action anyway, kicking and throwing the blazing ammunition from the helicopter until the flaming pieces were gone and the smoke filtered out.

One man on the helicopter was killed and Yano didn't survive his many injuries. But his courage and concern for his comrades' survival kept the chopper from going down, averting more loss of life.

For that, Yano was posthumously promoted to the rank of sergeant first class. On April 7, 1970, his parents received the Medal of Honor for his actions from President Richard Nixon.

In his honor, the cargo carrier USNS Yano was named for him, as well as a helicopter maintenance facility at Fort Rucker and a library at Schofield Barracks, Hawaii.



ARMY PHOTO

Yano



CHINOOK CASTING

PHOTO BY MARINE CORPS GUNNERY SGT. EZEKIEL R. KITANDWE

A Marine jumps out of a CH-47 Chinook during helocasting training operations as part of a reconnaissance team leader course at Marine Corps Base Hawaii, April 24. The course emphasized planning, briefing and leading teams in patrolling, ground reconnaissance and amphibious operations.

American Aviators participate in display at Latvian airport

By Sgt. Shiloh Capers
U.S. Army Europe Public Affairs

VENTSPILS, Latvia — A CH-47F from B Company, 3rd General Support Aviation Battalion, 10th Aviation Regiment, 10th Combat Aviation Brigade, 10th Mountain Division, Fort Drum, N.Y., participated in an aircraft display at Ventspils International Airport May 6.

The 3rd GSAB is deployed to Latvia to support Operation Atlantic Resolve, which is an American-led endeavor to fulfill the U.S. commitment to NATO by rotating throughout Europe, and training alongside NATO allies and partners.

The aircraft display featured 10 helicopters and planes from within Latvia. Included in the display were an Mi-17-1V Hip, a PZL Mi-2 helicopter from the Latvian air force and a YL-HML Agusta A 109E Power from the

Latvian border guard. The crew of the Mi-17-1V Hip opened its doors for people to walk through and get a closer view of the equipment inside the aircraft.

The Latvian national guard was also present in support of the event, holding a booth and activities for its audience. The unit's booth held pamphlets, military equipment and weapons used by the Latvian national guard. For activities, the booth had a small, timed obstacle course for a child to don gear, carry ammo cans, crawl through a camouflage net tunnel, and pull a sandbag with rope. The booth also had a timed plank challenge.

Booths at the aircraft display sold food for the audience, with kebabs, hot dogs, hamburgers, fries, ice cream and drinks on the menu.

Sgt. Amanda Wallace, a flight engineer with 2nd Flight Platoon, B Co., 3-10th GSAB, was present at the

aircraft display.

The unit wanted to show their support for the display, Wallace said.

"Getting out here is very important, not only to us, but I believe, with our Latvian partners and NATO allies, to be able to show our support and hopefully give the public a little insight of our aircraft and what we're doing here," said Wallace.

Working closely with NATO allies presents difficulties, like language barriers, but working hand in hand in a deployed environment has its advantages, Wallace said.

"There are some of our base taskings that we don't get to use a lot within the states, but we've been able to go through paratroops (dropping people and equipment by parachute from an aircraft in flight), LCLAs (low-cost, low-altitude aerial resupply) – a lot of different types of assaults with different countries," Wallace said.



PHOTO BY SGT. SHILOH CAPERS

A CH-47F Chinook from B Co., 3-10th Avn. Regt., 10th CAB out of Fort Drum, N.Y., arrives at Ventspils International Airport, Ventspils, Latvia, May 6.

Operators integrate UAS with maneuver, artillery units

By Staff Sgt. Ange Desinor
3rd ABCT, 4th ID

GRAFENWOHER TRAINING AREA, Germany — Soldiers of D Company, 588th Brigade Engineer Battalion, 3rd Armored Brigade Combat Team, 4th Infantry Division have logged more than 100 hours of flight time since launching their RQ-7B Shadow unmanned aircraft systems for the first time here a couple months ago.

The UAS platoon is taking advantage of daily field training by the brigade's maneuver battalions, which have been preparing for multinational exercises in support of U.S. Army Europe's Atlantic Resolve mission.

"Our mission is to support maneuver battalions in the brigade to effectively complete their objectives," said 1st Lt. Andrew Rotolo, the UAS platoon leader. "We do that by providing reconnaissance, target acquisition and over-watch for ground troops in their area of operation. We are training to maintain our operational readiness so that we can support all the exercises that are going on this summer."

Those exercises include the USAREUR-led Combined Resolve VIII here, which will include more than 3,400 participants from 10 nations, and the Black Sea Region-based Saber Guardian 17 set of exercises that will unite more than 25,000 troops from 23 ally and partner nations.

During daily flight operations, Shadow controllers start off by going through a regular training cycle.

"We ensured that all the operators were current on their Aviation requirements and getting new Soldiers up to speed. We started our gunnery progression, which is kind of a new thing to an unmanned aircraft systems repairer. That involves everything from the basics – identify targets, acquire them and communicate with other assets like field artillery or other Aviation assets," said Rotolo.

During the first phase of Combined Resolve VIII, the UAS platoon integrated with one of 3/4 ABCT's combined-arms battalions, the 1st Battalion, 66th Armor Regiment to provide eyes on targets during a combined live-fire exercise.

"We've been flying for them in support of their live

SEE UAS, PAGE B4



PHOTO BY STAFF SGT. ANGE DESINOR


Pfc. Alex Madsen, a UAS repairer, rolls an RQ-7B Shadow off the runway after a flight.

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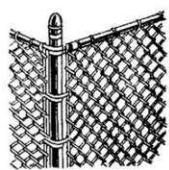
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UAS

Continued from Page B1

fire by spotting targets and giving them grids to put rounds on those targets. That allows us to participate in a larger role for Combined Resolve VII. That's our culminating piece, where we show we've been able to progress from the basic tasks through more advance gunnery training," said Rotolo. "We are trying to demonstrate relevance of the platform within an armored brigade combat team to prove versatility to maneuver commanders who are not familiar with Shadows."

Training in theater is a lot better than training back home in the United States, said Sgt. 1st Class Michael Moff, UAS platoon sergeant.

"We have a lot more opportunities to work with other units within the brigade to help support them with their mission. Back at Fort Carson, Colorado, it was a little difficult because they were more focused with what they're doing. We're showing them we can be legitimate assets within the brigade – we can help make their mission a lot easier."

While on the nine-month Atlantic Resolve



PHOTO BY STAFF SGT. ANGE DESINOR

Soldiers of D Co., 588th Bde. Eng. Bn., 3rd ABCT, 4th Inf. Div., launch an RQ-7B Shadow unmanned aircraft system during combined-arms live fire exercises conducted by the brigade's combined-arms battalions at Vilseck, Germany, April 9.

rotation, the platoon has a goal of 500 total flight hours, an unprecedented amount of training the UAS operators wouldn't get at home station.

"We are getting a lot of good training," said Pfc. Alex Madsen, a UAS repairer for D Co. "I feel great that something that I'm working on is helping the Soldiers in the brigade. The biggest thing to do is maintaining the aircraft. We follow strict guidelines to ensure we do things properly."

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MAY 18, 2017



PHOTOS BY NATHAN PFau

Students of the FRES Drama Club perform during their production of 'The Jungle Book' at the FRES gym as part of their final performance at the school May 11.

CURTAIN CALL

Elementary school puts on final drama club performance

By Nathan Pfau
Army Flier Staff Writer

The stage of the Fort Rucker Elementary School gym was transformed into a full-fledged jungle scene, complete with trees and vines, as students painted their faces and got into character for their final performance at the school.

For 10 years, the FRES Drama Club

has put on plays to entertain students and parents with productions, and for their final farewell, 30 student-actors performed their rendition of "The Jungle Book." To commemorate the special occasion, drama club alumni were invited back to the school to enjoy the performance and take their final curtain call, according to Vicki Harper, FRES six grade teacher and drama club director.

"Some of these former students are in college now, but [made] the trip back to FRES for this tribute," said Harper. "We have had some amazing talent on this stage in the last 10 years, and several students have gone on to perform in high school, college and community theatre productions."

After the play, the alumni were invited onto the stage to sing songs from past productions were played, and each of the students sang and danced to the songs that corresponded with the plays they were a part of, and for many of the students, the experience proved to be an emotional one.

"It's all really emotional and I'm trying really hard to stop myself from crying," said Sofia Quinones, former FRES drama club member who performed in last year's production of "High School Musical, Jr."

"That play just meant a lot to me," she said. "It helped me express who I was last year. Last year I was the new girl and it was like the whole 'High School Musical' in real life, so it made [being here] really easy."

Quinones said that the drama club was a place she felt she could be herself and feel included, which is why it became such a big part of her life.

"Drama is just an expression – you can go crazy and nobody judges you," she said. "You can sing your heart out and nobody will tell you to shut up. [Drama Club] is very welcoming, and this school is the first school that I wasn't bullied at and I actually felt at home."

"When I found the Drama Club with Mrs. Harper, I just connected so quickly – it was like a puzzle piece, like a fam-

ily," she continued. "I can't think about it any other way."

The current school building is slated for demolition beginning in the summer to start construction on the new school that will house both the elementary and primary schools, so for students like Emma Ramirez, fellow drama club member from 2015-2016, seeing the final production is a somewhat somber experience.

"It's been really nostalgic for me even though I come back here every once in a while because my sister still goes here," said Ramirez. "This is the last play and they're going to be tearing down the school and it's kind of sad."

"The drama club is a place that I felt like I can be me without having to worry about making sure my mannerisms don't go crazy," she said. "It meant a lot to me as a place that I could just be me."

It's that level of inclusion and interest that makes drama club and the arts such an important part of the children's education, according to Vicki Gilmer, Fort Rucker Schools principal. It's meant to be a place that they can explore their imagination to see where they fit in.

"All of the fine arts give the students an opportunity to explore other interests or to create new interests," said the principal. "Some of the kids on stage never dreamed of being a part of a drama club, but once they were exposed to all the wonderful elements, they took off."

"I was in awe of the production of the Jungle Book," she continued. "The sixth grade drama club really made the show come to life. The scenery, songs, dances and dialogue were all so exceptionally executed."



Mowgli, played by Asher Dunton, becomes entranced by Kaa, played by Emily Floyd, Dominique Hird, Vida Pinon, Lorraine Potter and Alexia Wood.

Girls Night Out serves up dancing, shopping, mingling

By Nathan Pfau
Army Flier Staff Writer

Women from all across the local communities got the chance to get together for a bit of dancing, mingling and playing for prizes during one of the installations most popular events Friday at The Landing.

The Directorate of Family, and Morale, Welfare and Recreation hosted its second Girls Night Out for the year with the theme, Denim & Diamonds, where ladies were encouraged to wear their favorite jeans and glitzy jewels for a night of fashion, fun, beauty and prizes, according to Lynn Avila, DFMWR special events coordinator.

"We had a great time," she said. "Several sponsors came out to support the event including some clothing lines and make up lines ... and the ladies had a great time visiting the vendors, as well as each other."

There were a host of different local business and programs that showcased their goods and services, including photographers, spas, medical services, clothing, jewelry, cosmetics and more. Throughout the night, more than 100 door prizes were given away, including a diamond ring valued at over \$1,500, and for many of the women, it was a night to let loose and have a good time.

"I think this is a great event to come and have some fun with



PHOTO BY NATHAN PFau

Ladies get down on the dance floor with Sgt. Ted E. Bear during Girls Night Out at The Landing Friday.

your friends," said Quinn Mendez, military spouse. "It's like doing a lot of shopping in a consolidated area, so you don't have to go all over the place to find what you need."

"We had a lot of fun dancing and just being silly," she said. "It's nice to be able to get together with other spouses and just enjoy a night like this with no pressure or

stress – just a good time."

Mendez said she was particularly pleased with the fact that she was able to talk with various vendors about the products or services they offer while browsing.

"It's nice to get that face-to-face interaction with them," she said. "It's a great opportunity for everyone that is here, I think. You don't even have to buy anything – you

can just come and look and have just as much fun."

Fun was in the cards for contestants of the "Guess that Price" Fashion Show Price Challenge, as they took part in a "The Price is Right"-style game that had ladies guessing the prices of outfits that were available at the Fort Rucker Thrift Shop.

"I thought the game was so

great," said Giselle Harper, military spouse. "It was just like the game show when everyone is screaming prices to the contestants. [My friends and I] all had a really good laugh about it."

"This was the first time I've come out to one of these, but I'm glad I did and I really enjoyed myself," she said. "I'll be sure to make it back to the next one."

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.

Military spouse appreciation

In honor of Military Spouse Appreciation Month, Army Community Service is partnering with the Fort Rucker Religious Services Office to conduct Gary Chapman’s 5 Love Languages workshop at the Wings Chapel Friday from 5:30-8 p.m. Dinner will be provided by the chapel. The workshop helps couples determine what their spouse’s love language is and how to show their appreciation for their support in the language they appreciate. Helps them strengthen their relationships and get to know each other better, according to organizers. For free childcare, people can register with parent central services by calling 255-2958. Pre-registration for childcare is required.

For more information, call 255-3161.

Luau Skate Night

The Fort Rucker School Age Center will host its Luau Skate Night Friday. Youth are encouraged to wear their best tropical vacation attire and take part in the best outfit contest. Safety skate will cost \$2 and will be from 6:15-7:15 p.m. Regular skate will cost \$5 and be from 7:30- 9:30 p.m. Payment is accepted in cash only. Participants must be registered with child and youth services.

For more information, call 255-9108.

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.

WWI Book Club

Center Library will host its first WWI book club May 25 at 5 p.m. The title of the book is, “Sleepwalkers,” by Christopher Clark, and can be found free of charge on Overdrive for e-books. The program is being offered to help commemorate the 100th anniversary of the U.S.’s entry into WWI. This program is free, open to authorized patrons and Exceptional Family Member Program friendly.

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

School Age Center Summer Camp

The Fort Rucker School Age Center will host its summer camp May 30 to Aug. 4. Each week, the camp will have a new theme. Parents will have the ability to pick and choose which weeks they would like their children to attend. Fees will be due the Friday before the start of each camp week and will be based on total family income. Food, field trips and all activities will be included in the weekly fees. All youth who attend must be enrolled in child and youth services.

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

FRG custodian training

Army Community Service will host family readiness group informal fund custodian training May 31 from 8:15-11 a.m. in Bldg. 5700, Rm. 284. The fund custodian training will highlight the standards that provide guidance for the FRG mission, the FRG informal fund, and the roles and responsibilities of the commander, funds custodian and alternate funds custodian when dealing with FRG funds. Pre-registration is required by May 26. Free childcare is available – call 255-3564 to make arrangements.

For registration and more information, call 255-9578 or 255-3161.

Federal jobs workshop

Army Community Service will host its federal job workshop June 1 from 8 a.m. to noon in Bldg. 5700, Rm. 284. The workshop is aimed at getting people the



PHOTO BY NATHAN PFALZ

Day at the Lake

Fort Rucker Outdoor Recreation will host its Day at the Lake Saturday from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. at Lake Tholocco. Activities will include free swimming, inflatables, and use of the canoes, kayaks and paddle boats. The Center Library will be on site with a build-your-own paper boat activity. Hot dogs, bratwurst, chips and other snack items will be available for purchase. The event will be open to the public. Credit and debit cards will be accepted at the West Beach swimming area. The West Beach swimming area will officially open for the summer season May 26. The swimming area will be open Fridays, Saturdays and Sundays through Labor Day from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m., including during the Memorial Day and Labor Day holidays. Patrons will need to purchase swimming wrist bands from the West Beach swimming area. Daily passes will cost: free for ages 2 and under, \$1.50 for ages 3-12, \$2.25 for ages 13-17, and \$3 for ages 18 and over. Pets and glass containers are prohibited on the beach area. For more information, call 255-4305. Pictured is a scene from Lake Fest last year.

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.

Rock’et Out Summer

The Fort Rucker Youth Center will host its Rock’et Out Summer – offering rock-etry, robotics, sports, cooking, arts and animation – June 1-30. Field trips will be included in the camp fees and will be to: Butter & Egg Adventures, June 7; Rosa Parks Museum and Eastdale Mall, June 14; bowling, June 15; Big Kahunas Water Park, June 21; Wonder Works, June 28; and Water World each Friday. Camp will run Mondays-Fridays from 7:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. Youth must be a child and youth services member (ages 11-18 and grades six-12) to participate.

For membership information or to sign-up for membership, call 255-9638 or 255-2260.

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.

SPLASH! Summer Luau

SPLASH! Outdoor Pool and Spray Park will host its Summer Luau June 3 from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. The event will include a DJ and music, a limbo contest, a T-shirt tie-dyeing station (participants bring their own T-shirt from home or buy them for \$5 each), a create your own bookmark station, a dunk tank, corn hole, inflatable water slide and swimming. Food will also be available for purchase at the Tiki Bar on the upper-deck. Door prizes will be given away throughout the event in addition to a grand prize drawing at 3:45 p.m. Participants must be present to win door prizes and the grand prize. Cost for this event will be the daily admission fee for non-season pass holders. Season-pass holders will pay a small fee – 50-percent off the appropriate tier rate – for this event due to extra activities taking place at the facility on this day, according to organizers.

For more information, call 255-2296 or 255-9162.

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

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Open weekends only:
August 5–September 4

Summer Luau Party:
11 am–5 pm on June 3

Dog Days of Summer Dog Swim:
12–4 pm on September 9
(No patron swimming permitted during event, dogs only)

For more information on Daily Admission Fees and pricing on Season Passes, visit rucker.armymwr.com.

Fort Rucker Aquatics,
(334)255-9162

session June 8. 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.

Army Family Team Building app

People can complete Army Family Team Building training through AFTB’s app. Visit <http://www.ftruckerarmwr.com/acs/army-family-team-building/> to find the direct link to the app. Once complete, people can contact Fort Rucker AFTB to receive their certificate. Search for AFTB

in the app store for Apple devices. For more information, call 255-9637.

Resilience Training

Army Community Service resilience training is designed to provide family members and civilians with the tools they need to better cope and overcome adversity and challenges, as well as perform better in stressful situations. ACS officials said the goal is for students to thrive when facing life’s challenges, not just bounce back. The training will be held June 12 and 19 from 8:30 a.m. to 3 p.m., in Bldg. 5700, Rm. 350. People need to register by June 8.

For more information, or to schedule resilience training for a family readiness group or staff members, call 255-3161 or 255-3735.

FORT RUCKER MOVIE SCHEDULE FOR MAY 18-21			
Thursday, May 18	Friday, May 19	Saturday, May 20	Sunday, May 21
The Boss Baby (PG)7 p.m.	Ghost in the Shell (PG-13)7 p.m.	The Boss Baby (PG)4 p.m. Ghost in the Shell (PG-13)7 p.m.	Born in China (G)1 p.m. Logan (R)4 p.m.
TICKETS ARE \$6 FOR ADULTS AND \$5 FOR CHILDREN, 12 AND UNDER. MILITARY I.D. CARD HOLDERS AND THEIR GUESTS ARE WELCOME. SCHEDULE SUBJECT TO CHANGE. FOR MORE INFORMATION, CALL 255-2408.			

African-born officer gets back to his roots with Cameroon mission

By Sean Kimmons
Army News Service

GAROUA, Cameroon — About a decade ago, Soule Malame left a dearth of opportunity in his home country of Togo in search of a better life in America.

Today, he’s paying it forward to another west African nation, as part of a U.S. Army mission to strengthen Cameroon’s military and its people in defeating Boko Haram and other violent extremists.

A first lieutenant with Task Force Toccoa, a 101st Airborne Division-led unit based just south of the frontlines of Boko Haram in northern Cameroon, Malame uses his cultural identity to be a key part of the mission.

“Being an African, I always dreamed to serve in Africa,” the 35-year-old officer said. “For me, it was like my prayer was answered.”

As a native French speaker, he translates for Soldiers when they’re out interacting with Cameroonian military and civil leaders, or with impoverished locals during civil affairs operations. He also gives the Americans a better understanding of Cameroon, given that Togo shares a similar culture.

Malame has even joined Army medics on their weekly visits to a local clinic, where they help treat Cameroonians. Due to the language barrier and the health consequences involved, the Soldiers lean on Malame to bridge the communication gap.

“They don’t get their message across,” he said of the patients, “so I meet them one-on-one and translate anything they want to [say] to our medics.”

With a smile, the friendly and soft spoken officer expressed pride that he gets to use his lifelong skills beyond his assigned role as the task force’s S-1 officer. If he had deployed to eastern Europe or another part of the world, he said, his cultural background would have been insignificant.

“I would just be wearing a uniform,” he said of being deployed elsewhere. “Here, I have an impact on the team.”

Since Malame and other Soldiers wear civilian clothes when traveling outside the base due to security measures, many locals assume he’s just a hired interpreter. But when they find out he’s an African who became a U.S. Army officer, they tend to open up more, according to Maj. Max Ferguson, in charge of the task force.

“It adds credibility to our sincerity when we want to work with our host nation partners,” Ferguson said of Malame’s background. “They end up engaging with us more because they see we respect and value them.”

Being a fellow officer, Malame is also a trusted source who can inform Ferguson and others of the region’s cultural norms and how Cameroonians respond to certain situations.

“It’s nice to be able to talk to someone who’s both an infantryman, like me, but also an African who understands the culture and can advise me,” the major said.

COMING TO AMERICA

Frustrated by the lack of jobs in Togo, Malame applied for and was granted a diversity immigrant visa and moved to the United States in late 2005. The prospects in his new home country impressed him so much that he felt he had to give something back. So, six months later, he signed up to be an enlisted Soldier in the Army.

“I decided to join the Army because ... the United States has done a lot for me,” he said. “As a young kid in Togo, I didn’t see that much opportunity growing up.”

At first, his decision to enter the Army didn’t go over well with his friends and family, who were worried since missions in Iraq and Afghanistan were more dangerous at the time.

“The only support I had was from my dad back in Togo, who was very, very happy to see me join the military,” he said. “He was the backbone – the guy who helped me ... gain the confidence to join.”

His father quashed the dangers of going to war, which he said wasn’t necessarily a death sentence, according to Malame.

“We are human beings and we can die anywhere,” Malame recalled. “Going to war doesn’t mean you’re going to die. I



PHOTOS BY SEAN KIMMONS

First Lt. Soule Malame, far right, of Task Force Toccoa, a 101st Airborne Division-led unit, translates French into English to help a Cameroonian soldier speak with U.S. Army medics during a visit to a medical clinic in Garoua, Cameroon.

can go there and come back safely.”

Less than two years later, he was sent to Afghanistan where he served under the 101st Airborne Division for the first time. His military service also expedited his U.S. citizenship, which he earned while downrange.

When he redeployed, he married a woman from Togo and they had two children – a boy and girl, now aged 5 and 7, respectively. They currently live at Fort Campbell, Kentucky.

On top of that, Malame took advantage of the Army’s tuition assistance to earn a bachelor’s degree in criminal justice. He then participated in a ROTC program and was commissioned in 2014.

“Being where I am now, I am grateful,” he said of his accomplishments over the past decade. “Without the help of God, I would not be here.”

JUST LIKE HOME

When Malame first stepped off the plane for his mission in Cameroon, it was instantly familiar, he said.

While the weather in Garoua is hotter than in Togo, he said there are many other parallels. From the way of life and culture to buildings and food, he said, both countries have a lot in common.

“Even if Cameroon is not my country, I feel like [I’m] home,” he said.

Perhaps his favorite thing to do is speak his mother tongue. Besides French, he also knows six other ethnic languages from Togo. But the linguist admits he still struggles with English.

“When I speak English sometimes I get nervous. Is my message going across?” he said. “But when I start speaking French I feel like I’m speaking the language I’m supposed to speak.”

When in his element, Cameroonian soldiers will ask him how they can be in the U.S. Army like him. He tells them to sign up for a visa and, if accepted, get a green card in the U.S. and go to a recruiter. “They don’t see that very often,” he said. “An African guy in the American Army [who is also] an officer.”

He has already inspired at least 11 of his African friends living in the U.S. to sign up. “People were saying that this guy made it,” he said of his friends. “I feel like [I’m having] an impact on something, which is a goal for me.”

In Cameroon, he hopes to have an influential role in countering Boko Haram, which has murdered, kidnapped and displaced thousands of people in the far north region of the country.

As a Muslim himself, he takes the extremist group’s ruthless view of Islam personally, he said. He has even reached out to the local mosque, and set up meetings with the Iman and Army leaders in an attempt to reach out to disadvantaged youth before they fall into the recruiting pool for the group.



First Lt. Soule Malame, of Task Force Toccoa, a 101st Airborne Division-led unit based in Garoua, Cameroon, uses his cultural identity to be a key part of the mission.

“When they have nothing to do, it’s easy for some extremists to come and convince them” with cash, motorcycles or a potential wife, Malame said.

By improving the region’s quality of life and education, as well as donations, such as school supplies, Malame believes Soldiers can do more against Boko Haram than if they were placed in a combat situation.

“That’s the better war,” he said. “That’s

the best we can do instead of bringing weapons and trying to fight them.”

While terrorism isn’t a huge concern in Togo at the present time, Malame said, he still feels strongly that the U.S. Army’s efforts in Cameroon could prevent those types of groups from spreading further into west Africa.

“If they could keep me here for my entire career, I would stay,” he said of the mission. “I would not hesitate.”

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Slocomb set to host annual tomato festival

Army Flier
Staff Reports

Slocomb will host its 28th annual tomato festival June 15-17. The event starts off with a city-wide prayer meeting June 15 at 6 p.m. at the First Baptist Church. June 16 there will be

a karaoke contest. June 17, the festivities begin with a parade at 9 a.m. and then more entertainment at the festival grounds – with the headlining band, the Kentucky Headhunters, taking the stage at about 5 p.m.

For more information, visit <http://slocombtomatofestival.org/2017/>.

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

ONGOING — American Legion Auxiliary Unit 12 hosts a pancake breakfast the third Saturday of each month. Pancakes will be served from 7-10:30 a.m. for \$6 for the general public, \$5 for military members and veterans and free to children 8 and under. Proceeds go toward helping veterans, military members and their families. The post is located at the intersection of S. Park Street and Hwy. 605 (Brannon Stand Road). For more information, call 334-400-5345.

ONGOING — The American Legion Post 12 holds monthly meetings on the second Thursday of each month at 6:30 p.m. Meetings are held at the post's facility at 3087 Hwy. 605, which is Brannon Stand Road at the intersection of Park Avenue. For more information, call 400-5356.

ONGOING — Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 3073 Wiregrass Post membership meetings are at the post headquarters at 1426 Taylor Road every third Tuesday of the month at 6:30 p.m. There is a fish fry every Friday night from 5-7 p.m., then karaoke beginning at 6 p.m. Breakfast is served Sundays from 8-11 a.m. The post can host parties, weddings, and hails and farewells.

ENTERPRISE

MAY 20-21 – The Masterworks Choir of Enterprise will perform songs from France, French composers and selections from “Les Miserables” May 20 at 4 p.m. at the Rawls Restaurant ballroom and May 21 at 4:30 p.m. at the LDS Chapel on Shellfield Road. In addition to

the community choir singing, several soloists and a local youth choir will perform. The concert will be free and open to the public, but donations will be welcome.

ONGOING – Military Order of Purple Heart meetings are the third Tuesday of each month at 5:30 p.m. at American Legion Hall on East Lee Street. For more information, call 334-347-2727 or 334-447-6954.

MAY 25 – The Wiregrass-Enterprise Chapter, National Active and Retired Federal Employees will hold its monthly lunch program at 11 a.m. at PoFolks Restaurant. Craig Hollowell, chiropractic physician, will be the guest speaker. 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

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.

ONGOING — Adult education classes are offered in Rm. 12 at New Brockton High School, 210 South Tyler St., Mondays and Wednesdays from 6-9 p.m. All classes are free for individuals 16 years old or older who are not enrolled in public school. Individuals must take an assessment test prior to attending class. Call 894-2350 for more information.

OZARK

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.

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

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

PINCKARD

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

SAMSON

ONGOING — 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

MAY 18 – The Masterworks Choir of Enterprise will perform songs from France, French composers and selections from “Les Miserables” at 7 p.m. at the Just Folk Coffee Shop in Elba. In addition to the community choir singing, several soloists and a local youth choir will perform. The concert will be free and open to the public, but donations will be welcome.

ONGOING – AMVETS Post 23 monthly meeting is held the second Thursday of each the month at 7 p.m. at the AMVETS Service Center, 203 MLK Dr., in Opp. For more information, call 334-493-0785 or visit www.amvetspost23.com.

MAY 27 – AMVETS Post 23 members will place grave flags on veterans graves in Opp and the surrounding communities at 9 a.m. People who wish to join the effort should call 334-493-0785.

MAY 29 – Opp will host its Memorial Day Ceremony at 10 a.m. at Peaceful Acres Cemetery. The guest speaker will be retired Army Chaplain (Lt. Col.) David Trodgon.

Beyond Briefs

Hot air balloon festival

Decatur will host the Alabama Jubilee Hot Air Balloon Festival May 27 from 6 a.m. to 10 p.m. The festival is one of the largest free hot air balloon gatherings in the southeast, featuring more than 60 balloons with races, key grab, tether rides and a balloon glow, according to organizers. The festival also includes arts and crafts, food vendors, an antique car and tractor show, musical entertainment and children's activities.

For more information, visit <http://www.alabamajubilee.net/>.

Capitol Sounds - Summer Spectacular Concert

The Capitol Sounds Concert Band will host its Summer Series Spectacular Concert June 6 from 7-9 p.m. at St. James United Methodist Church in Montgomery. The band will perform selections from “The Planets” by British composer Gustav Holst, and the “Slavonic March” by Russian composer Peter Tchaikovsky. In addition, the band will perform a medley from the Gershwin opera “Porgy and Bess,” as well as a Symphonic Suite from “Star Trek.” Another highlight of the concert will be a tribute to the legendary songwriting duo of the Beatles’ John Lennon and Paul McCartney, titled “A Lennon-McCartney Portrait.”

The event is free and open to the public, but donations are gladly accepted and will go towards performances for the band's upcoming 2017-18 season. For more information, call 334-625-4661 or visit capitolsounds.org/.

Florida Panhandle Boat Show

The Florida Panhandle Boat Show is scheduled for June 16-18 from 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. at the Panama City Marina in Panama City, Florida. Power boats, sail boats, kayaks and marine accessories of all types will be featured throughout the extended pier for dry space and in-water marina dock parking, according to organizers. The area's industry leaders will be showcasing their best for the boating and fishing enthusiasts of the southeast region. Included in the \$10 adult paid admission will be viewing of new boats and marine accessories for all types of boating, boating safety seminars, Pier Jam Seafood Music Festival (Saturday and Sunday), live music, cornhole tournament, stand-up paddleboard demonstration, hands-on sailing techniques, Jet-Pack Fly Board Guy demonstration and food vendors.

Children under 16 will be admitted for free. For more information, visit <http://www.bayartsevents.com/event/the-florida-panhandle-boat-show/>.

Juneteenth Celebration

Juneteenth is the oldest known commemoration of the ending of slavery in

Texas, but is used to mark the overall ending of slavery in the United States, according to the organizers of the Juneteenth Celebration scheduled for June 17 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. in Montgomery. Officials will block off Montgomery Street between Lee and Molton for this first celebration. The free event will feature local food and merchant vendors, performances and free tours of the Rosa Parks Museum.

For more information, call 334-241-8615 or visit www.facebook.com/events/403539403336878.

Car, truck show

Montgomery will host an antique and classic car and truck show at the Union Station Train Shed May 20 from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Registration for entering cars will run from 10 a.m. to noon and the entry fee will be \$20. Prizes will be awarded to the Top 25 vehicles and also a best of show award will be given. For more information, visit www.funinmontgomery.com/announcements/antique-car-show.

Thunder on the Bay

The 6th Alabama Cavalry, the Alabama Division of Re-enactors will host Thunder on the Bay, a living history re-enactment of the Battle of Mobile Bay, May 20-21 from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Dauphin Island. The well-preserved ramparts of Fort Gaines have guarded the entrance to Mobile Bay for more than 150 years,

according to organizers. Now a historic site, the fort stands at the eastern tip of Dauphin Island where it commands panoramic views of the bay and the Gulf of Mexico. The event highlights Fort Gaines' integral role in the Battle of Mobile Bay.

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

Lake Fest, boat show

Alabama's largest in-water boat show and festival is scheduled for May 19-20 from 10 a.m. to 9 p.m. at Cropwell. Admission is free. Attendees can test drive boats, enjoy live music and a fireworks show (Friday at 8 p.m.) and partake of the wares of food and lake lifestyle vendors, according to organizers.

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

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, fifiers 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>.

Vice president salutes service, sacrifice of military families

By Lisa Ferdinando
Defense Media Activity

WASHINGTON — With military children gathered around him, Vice President Mike Pence saluted military families at an event at the White House May 9.

“We’re grateful that you’re here at the White House today,” Pence said. “We hope you leave here today with your hearts full of the assurance that the American people are grateful for those who serve in uniform and just as grateful for the families who stand by their side.”

Pence hosted the event with his wife, Karen Pence, along with National Security Advisor H.R. McMaster and President Donald J. Trump’s eldest daughter, Ivanka Trump, for National Military Appreciation Month, which is observed in May, and National Military Spouse Appreciation Day, which is May 12.

“The president asked Karen and I to host this event today just as a way of saying thanks, paying a debt of gratitude to the families and the servicemen and women who are gathered here today who serve our country each and every day,” the vice president said.

Pence said he and his wife are proud military parents who have the “great privilege of having a son and a daughter-in-law who are serving our country,” he said. “Our son is in the United States Marine Corps,” he added.

The reception at the vice president’s ceremonial office included more than 150 members of military families from all branches of service.

“Today is really about celebrating that while service members enlist, it’s families that serve,” Pence said, adding, “I want to give a rousing round of applause to the military spouses who are with us here today who keep the home fires burning and who support their spouses as they serve our country.”

Pence also paid tribute to military family members who lost loved ones.

“You honor us by your presence, and I promise you, on behalf of the president of the United States, the



WHITE HOUSE PHOTO

Vice President Mike Pence greets children at an event honoring military families at the White House May 9. The event included more than 150 members of military families from all branches of service.

American people will never forget your loved one or the sacrifice your family made for our freedom,” he told the Gold Star families.

During the reception, the children had ice cream sundaes and colored pictures. A featured guest included the

Pences’ pet rabbit, Marlon Bundo.

“Marlon came today really just to say hi to you, and to say thank you to all the children,” Karen Pence said as she held the black-and-white pet. “You guys were so nice.”

National Native American Veterans Memorial to be erected in D.C.

By David Vergun
Army News Service

WASHINGTON — A memorial to Native American veterans will be erected on the outside grounds of the Smithsonian’s National Museum of the American Indian at the Mall.

The anticipated dedication of the National Native American Veterans Memorial is Veterans Day, Nov. 11, 2020, according to Rebecca Trautmann, project manager of the memorial.

Ben Nighthorse Campbell of the Northern Cheyenne nation and Chickasaw Nation Lt. Gov. Jefferson Keel are leading an advisory committee of tribal leaders and veterans in assisting with outreach to Native American nations and tribes, and advising on plans for the memorial, Trautmann said.

Also, the advisory committee and the museum are conducting community consultations to seek input and support for the memorial, she added. “Regional events bring together tribal leaders, Native veterans and community members to gather their insights and advice.” There have been some 30 consultations to date with several more planned this summer.

Trautmann noted that the memorial has received congressional approval and that no

federal funding will be used for the project. The project is expected to cost \$15 million and donations are being solicited.

PROUD HERITAGE

Eileen Maxwell, public affairs director of the museum, said the memorial is fitting because “Native Americans have served in the armed forces in every major military conflict since the Revolutionary War and in greater numbers per capita than any other ethnic group.”

She added that today, the Department of Defense estimates that some 24,000 American Indian and Alaska Native men and women are on active duty, and more than 150,000 veterans self-identify as American Indian or Alaska Native.

NEW EXHIBIT

In other news, in November, the museum opened a new exhibit on the second floor, honoring Native Americans in the nation’s wars, Maxwell said. The exhibit, titled “Patriot Nations: Native Americans in Our Nation’s Armed Forces,” consists of 24 panels that depict achievements of Native Americans in various wars.

Several duplicate panels have been made and the museum has been sending these traveling exhibits to both Native American

and non-Native American communities across the U.S., she said.

Another exhibit, which is temporary and will close Oct. 7, is titled “For a Love of His People: The Photography of Horace Poolaw.” Poolaw, a citizen of the Kiowa nation, was a World War II photographer and many of his photographs are of Native American veterans.

MEMORIAL DAY EVENT

On Memorial Day, May 29, at 2 p.m.,

the museum will host a special public event for those interested in preserving their veteran’s memories. Maxwell said anyone who has military letters, photographs, medals, uniforms and other cherished memorabilia can learn from experts from the museum, as well as experts from the Library of Congress, about how to preserve them.

The National Museum of the American Indian website is at www.AmericanIndian.si.edu.

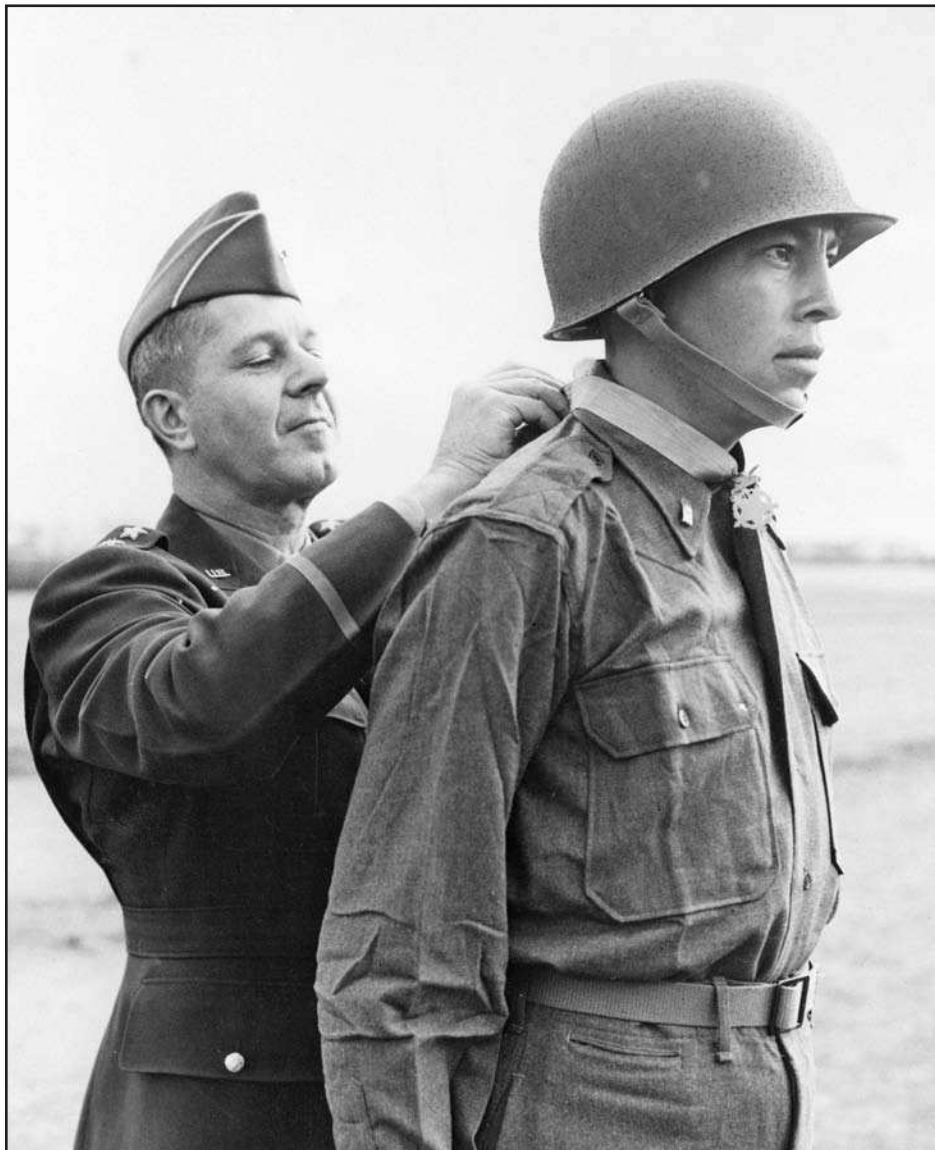
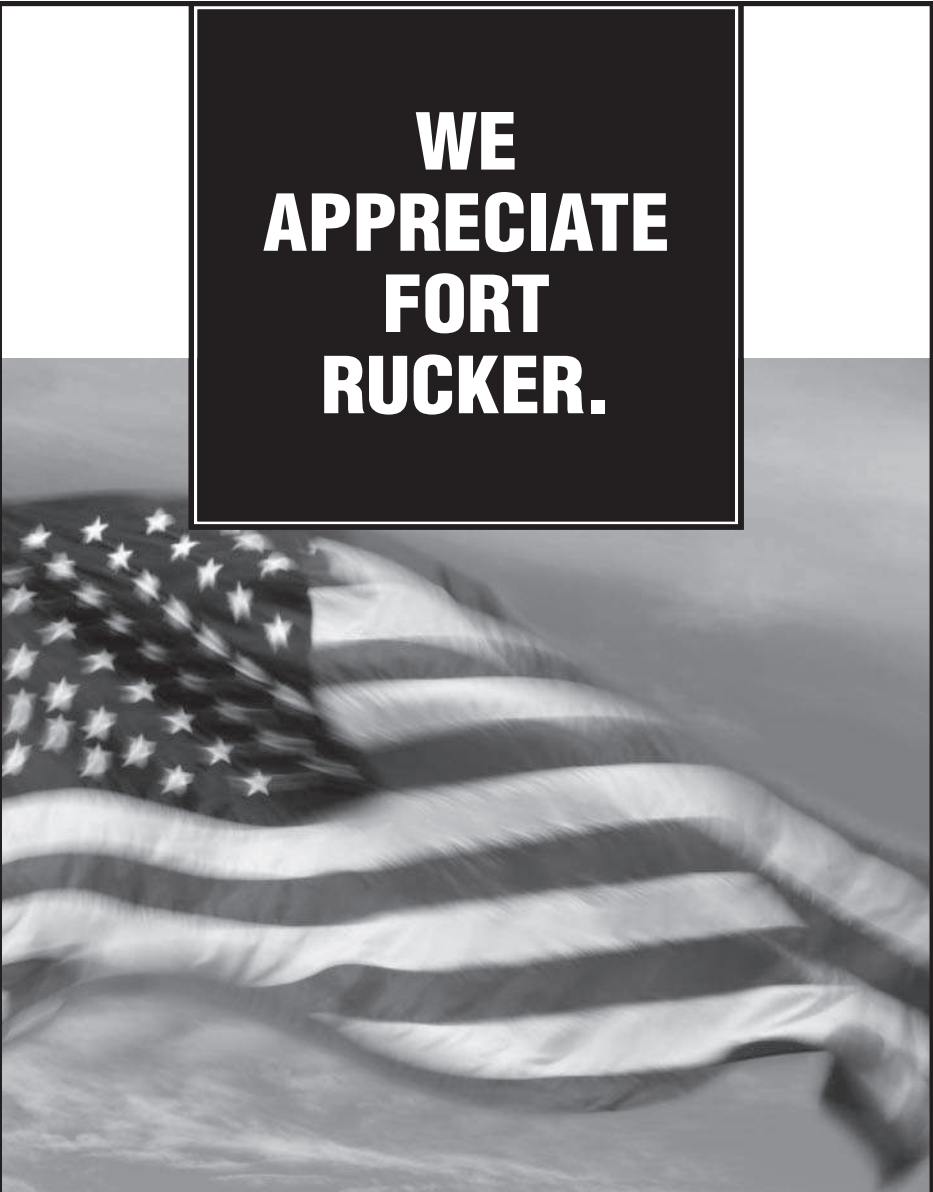


PHOTO BY OTTO BETTMANN

Second Lt. Ernest Childers, from the Muscogee Creek nation, receives the Medal of Honor from Lt. Gen. Jacob L. Devers, April 8, 1944, at 5th Army headquarters in Italy. Childers, operating under heavy enemy fire, wiped out two German machine gun nests near Oliveto, Italy, killing enemy snipers and capturing an artillery observer.



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Religious Services

WORSHIP SERVICES

Except as noted, all services are on Sunday.

Headquarters Chapel, Bldg. 109
8 a.m. Traditional Protestant Service

Main Post Chapel, Bldg. 8940
8:30 a.m. Catholic Confessions
9 a.m. Catholic Mass
11 a.m. Collective Protestant (Tuesday-Friday)
4 p.m. Catholic Confessions (Saturday)
5 p.m. Catholic Mass (Saturday)

Wings Chapel, Building 6036
9:30 a.m. Protestant Sunday School
10:45 a.m. Latter-Day Saints

10:45 a.m. Wings Crossroads (Contemporary Worship Protestant Service)
11 p.m. Eckankar Study (4th Sunday)

Spiritual Life Center, Bldg. 8939
10:15 a.m. CCD (except during summer months)

BIBLE STUDIES TUESDAY
Crossroads Discipleship Study (Meal/Bible Study)
Wings Chapel, 6:30 p.m.

Protestant Women of the Chapel
Wings Chapel, 9 a.m. & 6 p.m.

Adult Bible Study
Spiritual Life Center, 6:30 p.m.



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MAY 18, 2017

STELLAR DEFENSE

Plug Uglies scorch Real Game, 26-4



By Nathan Pfau
Army Flier Staff Writer

Fort Rucker intramural softball teams continue to battle it out in regular season play, and one team reigned over its opponents in one of the highest scoring games of the season so far.

The Fort Rucker Fire Department, Plug Uglies, dominated the 1st Battalion, 13th Aviation Regiment's Real Game during a game at the post softball fields Tuesday, beating them 26-4.

"We had strong pitching, a stellar defense behind him, and when you have that kind of confidence in your team, the hits just come," said Tim Wilson, coach for Plug Uglies.

Real Game took to the plate first and started off with a solid shot to left field for a base hit. They managed to get a few runners on base, but Plug Uglies' defense came out strong and didn't let the 1-13th advance past second base.

As Plug Uglies took their turn at bat, they got off on the right foot with back-to-back doubles to bring in a run early on, which would only be the start of their scoring streak.

The fire department team managed to keep the ball on the ground and out of the hands of their opponents to get runners on base, and coupled with multiple errors by the 1-13th gave Plug Uglies numerous opportunities to score, and score they did.

Real Game couldn't seem to keep the ball in their gloves, even dropping multiple pop flies, allowing the fire department team to keep runners on base, eventually loading the bases.

With bases loaded, Real Game's pitcher couldn't find the sweet spot and started lobbing balls, bringing in four runs by walks alone.

Plug Uglies continued their onslaught until finally a hit toward the pitcher, which is considered illegal and an automatic out, sent the fire department into back into the outfield, up 19-0 in just the first inning.

Real game had their work cut out if they had any hope to stay in the game, but they didn't go into the second inning off on the right foot with a pop up to left field for their first out and a foul out with their second at bat.

They finally managed to get runners on base as they started to keep the ball on the ground, but a strike out ended their chance at redemption for the inning and they went back into the outfield, scoreless again.

Plug took their time at bat as aggressive as before and continued their onslaught against their opponents, even managing a 3-run in-the-park home run before Real Game was able to put a stop to their scoring streak, ending the inning 26-0.

If Plug Uglies had any hopes to stay in the game, they needed to be able to come within 10 runs of their opponents to keep the game going past the third inning.

They started the inning off with multiple base hits to get runners on base and got their first score of the game to avoid a shut out.

They had plenty of ground to cover and managed to bring in three more runs, but it was too little, too late and they couldn't keep the ball out of the hands of Plug Uglies for long, and the game ended, 26-4, in the bottom of the third.

PHOTO BY NATHAN PFAU

Mikel Featherston, player for Plug Uglies, connects with the ball during a game against Real Game at the post intramural softball fields Tuesday. Plug Uglies downed Real Game, 26-4.

Lyster honors nurses during National Nurses Week

By Jenny Stripling
Lyster Army Health Clinic Public Affairs

Lyster Army Health Clinic honored its nurses May 6-12 during National Nurses Week.

During the week, hospitals and clinics throughout the nation focused attention on the diverse ways America's 3.1 million registered nurses work to save lives and improve the health of millions of individuals.

This year, the American Nurses Association selected "Year of the Healthy Nurse" as the theme. It's all about celebrating nurses who lead the charge for health and wellness.

Annually, National Nurses Week begins on May 6, marked as RN Recognition Day, and ends on May 12, the birthday of Florence Nightingale, founder of nursing as a modern profession.

During the week, registered nurses at Lyster Army Health Clinic were honored by a cake cutting ceremony, a pizza social and more.

Traditionally, National Nurses Week is devoted to highlighting the diverse ways in which registered nurses, who comprise the largest health care profession, are working to improve health care. From bedside nursing in hospitals and long-term care facilities to the halls of research institutions, state legislatures and Congress, the depth and breadth of the nursing profession is meeting the expanding health care needs of American society.

LAHC nurses are the caregivers, communicators, patient advocates and decision makers. Nursing is a passion for those filled with compassion. LAHC was proud to recognize its registered nurses for the quality work they provide seven days a week, 365 days a year.



PHOTO BY JENNY STRIPLING

Lyster's most senior nurse, Maxine Ryan, and youngest nurse, Jared Danner, had the honor of cutting the cake as Lyster Army Health Clinic celebrated its nurses during National Nurse's Week recently.

OPIOID THERAPY

DOD, VA update guidance on managing chronic pain

Military Health System
Communication Office Staff Report

SILVER SPRING, Md. — You're in pain, and it's not going away. You go to your doctor wondering if there's a way to relieve it, and you rest easy knowing you're in good hands.

With patient safety as a top priority, the Department of Defense and Department of Veterans Affairs have updated their clinical guidance on opioid therapy used to manage chronic pain.

"There has been a rapid advancement in the science and the knowledge of opioid therapy, and of the risks associated with it," said Dr. Christopher Spevak, director of the National Capital Region Opioid Safety Program and a provider at Walter Reed National Military Medical Center in Bethesda.

Updated every five years — available online at <https://www.healthquality.va.gov/guidelines/pain/cot/> and in a pocket card version — this clinical practice guideline is a tool that helps providers better manage the use of powerful drugs. It serves as a resource rather than a standard of care by helping doctors set reachable goals while coming up with treatment plans for their patients.

The updates in the 2017 guideline reflect a continued commitment to beneficiaries for safety and safe opioid prescribing, which will result in better quality of care, said Spevak. Since opioids like Vicodin, OxyContin and morphine are powerful pain relievers, they can lead to dependence, misuse, or overdose if they're not managed properly. Some of the most important updates to the recommendations include avoiding long-term opioid prescriptions for patients under the age of 30 and putting strategies in place to lessen risk.

The guideline also recommends helping patients manage their pain



AIR FORCE PHOTO

symptoms through non-drug and non-opioid treatments whenever possible. This can include a range of options, such as behavioral health, mental health, or physical approaches, and non-opioid based medications.

Lt. Col. Robert Brutcher, deputy director of the Department of Pharmacy at Walter Reed, supports the use of alternative approaches to care for chronic pain.

"The goal of updating recommendations is to help providers improve the quality of the care for patients who experience chronic pain," said Brutcher, describing the new approach to pain management as holistic.

Physicians may discuss alternative pain therapies and remedies with their patients. By focusing less on strong pain medication, surgery or other treatment options, patients can work with doctors to learn how to self-manage their pain, which

can lead to better quality of life, increased physical function, and improved pain coping skills.

That's not to say prescriptions are discouraged in all cases. When patients start, or continue, opioid therapy, doctors are encouraged to evaluate the risks and benefits of this treatment plan every three months. The guideline encourages providers to start opioid therapy when needed for a short amount of time with the lowest dose allowed depending on a patient's needs and health risks. Risk strategies for patients who are already on long-term treatment plans include overdose education and random urine drug testing.

"As research evolves and more evidence becomes available," said Brutcher, "you have to adapt treatment strategies, and health care has to change with the information available. We're trying to look out for what's best for the patient."

DOWN TIME



Just Like Cats & Dogs by Dave T. Phipps



Trivia test by Fifi Rodriguez

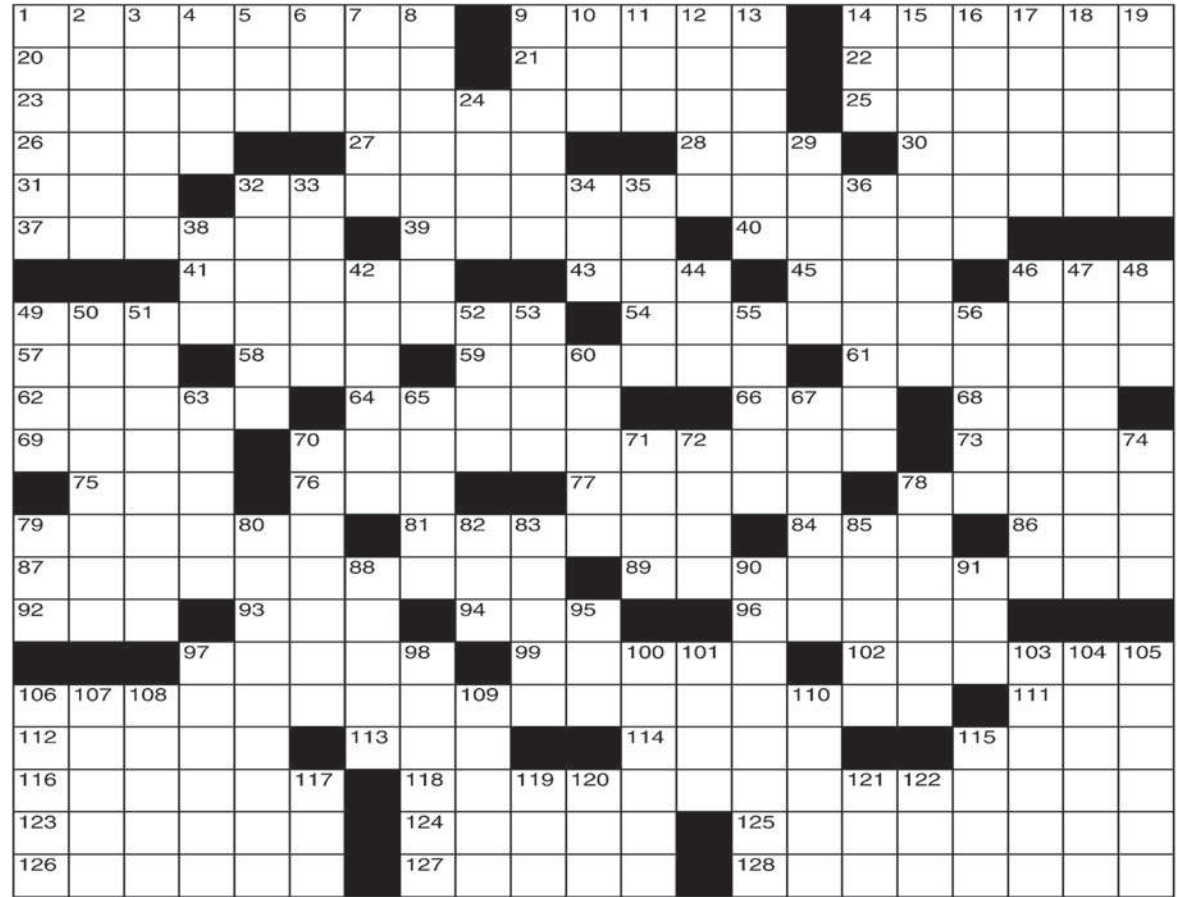
TRIVIA

1. GOVERNMENT: How many U.S. senators are elected from each state?
2. TELEVISION: What is the name of the bartender on "The Simpsons"?
3. GEOGRAPHY: What is Canada's southernmost point?
4. ADS: What airline used this advertising slogan: "You are now free to move about the country"?
5. HISTORY: Which war ended with the 1763 Treaty of Paris?
6. FAMOUS QUOTATIONS: What American writer once told Ernest Hemingway, "You are all a lost generation"?
7. U.S. STATES: What is the state capital of California?
8. FOOD & DRINK: What is the meat used in a dish called tournedos?
9. GENERAL KNOWLEDGE: What is the name of a hot-air balloon's basket?
10. MUSIC: What pop group had a hit with the 1970 release "I'll Be There"?

See Page D3 for this week's answers.

Super Crossword LET EM GO!

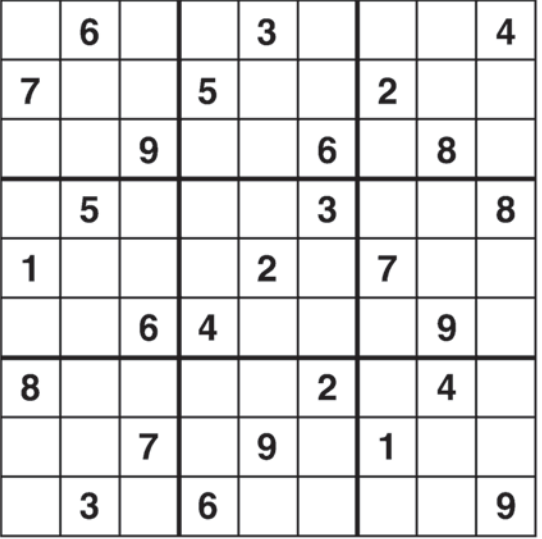
- ACROSS**
- 1 Wave with a foamy crest
 - 9 Bugs' feelers
 - 14 Force to be accepted
 - 20 Waikiki site
 - 21 Ethiopia's — Selassie
 - 22 Of the skin
 - 23 "The King and I" heroine who's a real angel?
 - 25 Plural ending for bed and home
 - 26 "Pb" element
 - 27 Roulette turn
 - 28 Physique, informally
 - 30 Start of a counting-out rhyme
 - 31 Md. hours
 - 32 Flower used in rituals?
 - 37 Minimalist artist Frank
 - 39 Reese of song and screen
 - 40 Litigious sorts
 - 41 Courtroom excuse
 - 43 A, in Amiens
 - 45 — -Magnon
 - 46 "I've got it!"
 - 49 Benefactor contributing supplies for a Bowman?
 - 54 Different acquired relative?
 - 57 — Grande City, Texas
 - 58 Contents of la mer
 - 59 Like fairly high-quality bonds
 - 61 Form images
 - 62 At the stern
 - 64 Penniless
 - 66 Sports org. for the Rock
 - 68 See 2-Down
 - 69 Be a sign of
 - 70 One talking to the very first man?
 - 73 Author Janowitz
 - 75 Waco-to Austin dir.
 - 76 Q-U string
 - 77 Went off course
 - 78 "Yeesh!"
 - 79 "La —" (Puccini opera)
 - 81 Region in central Italy
 - 84 Young miss
 - 86 Abet, e.g.
 - 87 Atlanta university student's little slip-up?
 - 89 Nothing except glowing coals?
 - 92 Morning glistener
 - 93 Dusk — -dawn
 - 94 Hornets' org.
 - 96 Glacial ridge
 - 97 Sauna output
 - 99 Shark's place
 - 102 Charge with an offense
 - 106 Curved entryway under which Antarctic birds pass?
 - 111 Unit of conductance now called a siemens
 - 112 Pot fragment
 - 113 Unit of work
 - 114 Fallies
 - 115 "Peek —!"
 - 116 Neighbor of an Iraqi
 - 118 Unable to afford any more dental visits?
 - 123 Seyfried of "Big Love"
 - 124 Eldritch vendors
 - 125 Virtual
 - 126 Abhor
 - 127 Turn a car
 - 128 Short-term
 - DOWN**
 - 1 Belugas, e.g.
 - 2 With
 - 3 Lake craft
 - 36 More cheery
 - 38 Language akin to Thai
 - 42 Leaps
 - 44 Approx. takeoff info
 - 46 Cotton State native
 - 47 Nastigrams
 - 48 Stupefaction
 - 49 116-Across, for one
 - 50 Cytoplasm particle
 - 51 Musical on tour, e.g.
 - 52 Utah city near Provo
 - 53 Absorbed-dose units
 - 55 "Boyhood" actor Ethan
 - 56 Below, to bards
 - 60 Blood classifier
 - 63 Not as many
 - 65 Really enjoy
 - 67 Shims, e.g.
 - 70 "What —!" ("Whew!")
 - 71 Lake north of Sandusky
 - 72 Film director Avakian
 - 74 Warhol of art
 - 78 TV twins Ashley and Mary-Kate
 - 79 Sleeping spot
 - 80 1987-90 NBC sitcom
 - 82 Popular Web portal
 - 83 Jazz genre
 - 85 Alan of film
 - 88 Off to — start (behind)
 - 90 Stupefied
 - 91 City reg.
 - 95 A 29-Down may beat it
 - 97 Holy spot
 - 98 Sharp pangs
 - 100 Playwright Eve
 - 101 — walks into ...
 - 103 Infused (with)
 - 104 Writer Deepak —
 - 105 Foot, cutesily
 - 106 116-Across president
 - 107 Rapper's skill
 - 108 Gem unit
 - 109 Marsh wader
 - 110 "Space — premium"
 - 115 Folkie Woody's son
 - 117 D.C. player, for short
 - 119 Equal
 - 120 Be situated
 - 121 "No" voter
 - 122 First-aid collection



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.

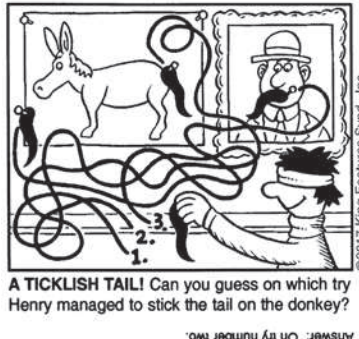
DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ♦♦♦

♦ Moderate ♦♦ Challenging
♦♦♦ HOO BOY!

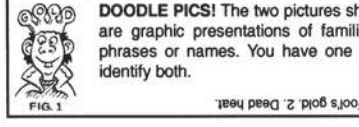
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See Page D3 for this week's answers.

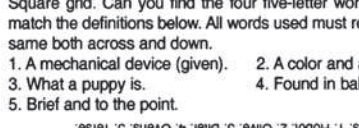
KID's CORNER



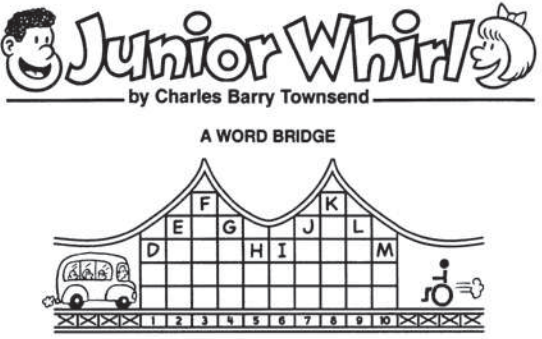
A TICKLISH TAIL! Can you guess on which try Henry managed to stick the tail on the donkey?



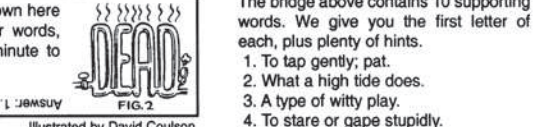
DOODLE PICS! The two pictures shown here are graphic presentations of familiar words, phrases or names. You have one minute to identify both.



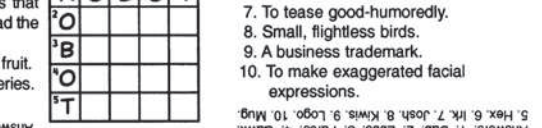
CALLING ALL PUZZLEBOTS! At the right is a Word Square grid. Can you find the four five-letter words that match the definitions below. All words used must read the same both across and down.



A WORD BRIDGE



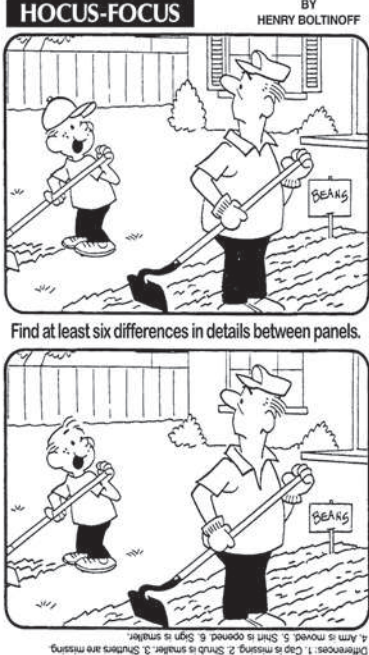
The bridge above contains 10 supporting words. We give you the first letter of each, plus plenty of hints.



Answers: 1. Dab 2. Ebb 3. Face 4. Gawk 5. Hex 6. Ink 7. Josh 8. Kink 9. Logo 10. Mup



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.



Find at least six differences in details between panels.

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10th CAB Soldiers break record in Army 40-mile challenge in Italy

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

LAKE GARDA, Italy — On April 30, 1945, Col. William O. Darby, assistant commander of infantry Soldiers from the 10th Mountain Division during World War II, was killed in action in Torbole.

Just a few hours later, 25 Soldiers carrying on with the mission drowned when their amphibious vehicle sank during a nighttime crossing of Lake Garda.

The bodies of the 25 were never recovered. Only one Soldier survived that night, but the U.S. Army, true to its values, has never let these Soldiers’ sacrifice be forgotten. A memorial for the 25 Soldiers was built and the Colonel Darby 40-Mile/12-Hour Ranger Road March Challenge stands to this day, a tribute to the Soldiers’ sacrifice.

Five Soldiers from 3rd General Support Aviation Battalion, 10th Aviation Regiment,



PHOTO BY SPC. THOMAS SCAGGS

Runners from 3-10th Avn. Regt., 10th CAB, pose at the finish of the Col. William O. Darby 40-Mile/12-Hour Ranger Road March Challenge after they successfully broke the course record by four minutes in Torbole, Italy, April 30.

10th Combat Aviation Brigade, 10th Mountain Division (LI), completed the challenge April 30 in Italy and were the first to do so while currently assigned to the division.

The group collectively beat the course record by four minutes with a total time of 7 hours, 4 minutes. That averages out to a 10

minute and 36 second pace throughout the 40-miles along Lake Garda.

“The team feels great about the race and beating the previous military record was a bonus, especially since it was held by a U.S. Air Force service member,” said 1st. Sgt. Robert Stephens, first sergeant for B Company, 3-10th Avn. Regt.. “Capt. Kandy Heekin was instrumental in providing ultramarathon knowledge and was just awesome in planning all the logistics that made this race a reality. She was also the driving force that spurred the team to a strong finish, after around Mile 35, when the run became much harder mentally for most of the team.”

The team trained for eight weeks leading up to the race in order to prepare for the grueling demands on the body and mind. Most training weeks included 20 to 40 miles of running, but the peak week totaled 60 miles.

Fueling the body while still moving forward was an integral part of the team’s

strategy, said Capt. Mary Schuster, F Co. commander, who served as the team’s support along the way. Schuster offered the food, hydration and electrolytes necessary to avoid anyone hitting the dreaded runner’s wall.

The team saw the race as more than just a test of their own stamina and ability and hopes others will, too.

“It was the opportunity to commemorate 10th Mountain heritage,” Stephens said. “It was an honor to reflect on their sacrifice to our great nation through this unique opportunity. We hope that others see this run is seen as encouragement to always test your physical limits and to always strive to achieve higher goals.”

The team was comprised of: Heekin, former B Co. commander; Capt. Matthew Wright, D Co. commander; CW4 Chris Zamora, standardization pilot for C Co.; CW3 Caleb Bergeron, test pilot for C Co.; and Stephens.

Warrior Transition Brigade-National Capital Region celebrates 10th anniversary

By Whitney Delbridge Nichols
Army Warrior Care and Transition

BETHESDA, Md. — Few medical centers in America have the storied history and legacy of Walter Reed. The hospital -- which relocated to Bethesda in 2011 -- has cared for past presidents, generals and thousands of wounded service members for over a century.

At a special event, held at the D.C. Armory, some of those service members and their families joined Army leaders to celebrate the 10th year of the medical center’s Warrior Transition Brigade-National Capital Region.

One of the leaders in attendance was Lt. Gen. Gary H. Cheek,

director of the Army Staff and former commanding general of the Warrior Care and Transition Command. Cheek spoke about the resolve shown by the men and women who have transitioned through Walter Reed, and their determination to push forward despite their injury or illness.

“Life is about abilities, not disabilities,” Cheek said. “There is so much you can do.”

Current WTB commander Col. Christopher Boyle, who transitioned through the brigade as wounded warrior himself, commended the WTB and staff for providing the quality of care that the heroes coming through their doors deserve.

“We have a dedicated civilian

and military cadre that work on and off the clock to make sure soldiers and their families are taken care of,” Boyle said.

In an emotional moment, Lt. Col. Bruce Gannaway, Fort Hood WTU Commander, recalled his days at the Walter Reed WTB after an improvised explosive device explosion in Iraq cost him his left leg in 2007.

After more than 30 surgeries and intense physical therapy, Gannaway shared what helped him get through some of the dark days of transition. “I was part of a community that pulled together in the face of adversity. Soldiers in transition, family members, squad leaders, medical providers, therapists and case managers

of all types – we hung on to each other and pushed forward.”

Another important factor in a successful recovery is family support. That perspective was shared by Tammy Kartcher, a former non-medical attendant.

Kartcher’s son came into the WTB at Walter Reed in 2010 after suffering multiple gunshot wounds in Iraq. Kartcher tearfully thanked the staff for providing a support system for patients and caregivers who are going through a transition of their own.

“You watch [your loved one] learn to do things all over again – to walk, eat and speak. Sometimes I wanted to pull my hair out. Other times it was so rewarding to watch the warriors and

caregivers adapt to their new way of life,” said Kartcher.

In the last decade, the medical center has worked tirelessly to care for the nation’s wounded, ill and injured Soldiers. According to former WTB commander Maj. Gen. Terrence J. McKenrick, it is about fulfilling promises to the thousands of families that depend on the WTB to “take care of their sons and daughters.”

While celebrating the many successful recoveries made in the WTB, event organizers also made sure to honor those who could not be saved. A remembrance presentation displayed the names of every service member who has passed away at the Walter Reed WTB in the last decade.

FORT RUCKER SPORTS BRIEFS

Youth Extreme Fitness registration

Fort Rucker Youth Sports will host registration for its Youth Extreme Fitness program now through May 31. The program will be both challenging and rewarding, according to youth sports officials. The program is designed to push children beyond their normal comfort zones, both mentally and physically. The program will be open to youth ages 8-18. The event will be held on the youth sports football fields Tuesdays and Thursdays from 6-7 p.m. Workouts will include low crawling, tire flipping, pulling rope, running and sled pushing. A current sports physical, and valid child and youth services membership are required for participation.

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

Spin challenge

People can challenge themselves at the two-hour spin challenge Tuesday beginning at 5:30 p.m. 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.

Deep sea fishing

MWR Central will host a private charter deep sea fishing trip in Destin, Florida, May 27. The private charter is a 45-foot walk-around boat that heads out for a six-hour trip. The cost of the trip is \$175 per person and includes transportation, bait, rod, reel, fishing license, fish cleaning and tip. The staff recommends people bring a small cooler with drinks and snacks (no glass). The bus departs from Fort Rucker at 2 a.m. – time subject to change based on fishing conditions. To register, call 255-2997 or 255-4305.

British Soccer Camp

The Fort Rucker Youth Sports Department is partnering with Challenger Sports to bring British Soccer Camp to the post May 30 to June 2. Participants will receive a camp T-shirt, soccer ball and evaluation form. A current sports physical, and a valid child and youth services registration are required to participate. If WebTrac was used for registration, parents should call 255-2257 to let the staff know what size shirts to order for their children. Full-day camp participants will need to bring lunch.

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

Survivors, Fallen Heroes Run

The Fort Rucker Physical Fitness Center will host the Survivors and Fallen Heroes 5K June 3 starting at 8 a.m. The Fort Rucker Survivor Outreach Services

program has stars noting the name of Fallen Heroes with Gold Star Family members in this area of coverage. Runners are requested to pin a star to their shirt and run in honor and memory of these fallen heroes. In addition, stars will be available for runners to personalize with the names of fallen service members they would like to run in honor of. These stars are a visual reminder of those who have given the ultimate sacrifice. The event also recognizes survivors of fallen heroes. Race-day registration begins at 6:30 a.m. and ends at 7:40 a.m. Participants are encouraged to pre-register at either PFC. The fun run will begin after the 5K race is complete and is open to all children ages 12 and under, free of charge. Each fun run participant will receive a medal. T-shirts will be available while supplies last. The cost is \$25. Trophies will be awarded in various categories.

For more information, call 255-2296 or 255-1749.

PUZZLE ANSWERS

Super Crossword

Answers



Weekly SUDOKU

Answer

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

TRIVIA

Answers

- Two
- Moe
- Middle Island in Lake Erie
- Southwest
- The French and Indian War
- Gertrude Stein
- Sacramento
- Beef
- Gondola
- The Jackson 5

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

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