

LAKE FEST

Community invited to beat the heat at Lake Tholocco
Story on Page C1



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BASEBALL

Blue Jays fall to Cardinals
in long battle
Story on Page D1



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VOL. 61 • NO. 21

FORT RUCKER ★ ALABAMA

MAY 26, 2011

NEWSLINES

MEMORIAL DAY CEREMONY

Fort Rucker's Memorial Day Ceremony is today at 3 p.m. at Veterans Park. For more information, call 255-2366.

SOLDIERS HELPING SOLDIERS

Fort Rucker wraps up successful Army Emergency Relief fundraising campaign.
See Page A3.

GET CULTURED

Blue Star Museums offers free museum visits across the country – many in Alabama.
See Page C7.

CHANGES OF COMMAND

The U.S. Army Aeromedical Research Laboratory hosts a change of command ceremony Wednesday at 2 p.m. in the U.S. Army Aviation Museum. Col. Dana Renta will assume command from Col. Joseph McKeon during the ceremony. The Headquarters and Headquarters Company of the Warrant Office Career College hosts a change of command ceremony June 3 at 1 p.m. in the U.S. Army Aviation Museum. CW4 Eugene M. Murphy assumes command from CW4 Nicholas J. Atwood.

CONCERT UNDER THE ALABAMA STARS

The 98th Army Band performs a "Concert Under the Alabama Stars" for the benefit of the entire Fort Rucker community June 10 at 6:30 p.m. at Howze Field. The event includes a Streamer Ceremony featuring historical military re-enactors in recognition of the upcoming Army birthday. See full story in next week's *Army Flier*.

MOVING SALE

The Fort Rucker Thrift Shop is currently offering 75 percent off solid white ticket items until July 1. Colored tickets are consigned and cannot be discounted. The thrift shop is located at 3904 Gladiator across from the post office. For more information, call 255-9595.

What's Inside

Perspective2A
Armywide 1-4B
Community 1-8C
On-Post2C
Wiregrass6C
Sports 1-4D

Weather 3-DAY OUTLOOK

THURSDAY

High **90**
Low **69**
Partly cloudy



FRIDAY

High **90**
Low **68**
Partly cloudy



SATURDAY

High **93**
Low **68**
Partly cloudy



PHOTO BY RUSSELL SELLERS

Like father, like son

Col. Mason W. Thornal, XVIII Airborne Corps and Task Force Bragg chief of staff at Fort Bragg, N.C., pins Aviator wings on his son, 1st Lt. Hunter Thornal, AH-64 Apache pilot, during the IERW graduation ceremony at the U.S. Army Aviation Museum May 19. **See Page A3 for the full story.**

Valorous Unit – 40 years after the fact

BY RUSSELL SELLERS
Army Flier Staff Writer

Forty years after the fact, a Fort Rucker unit received a Valorous Unit award for its actions during the Vietnam War.

The 1st Battalion, 14th Aviation Regiment, received its new flag streamer, award confirmation letter and plaque during a ceremony at the U.S. Army Aviation Museum May 20.

The award was presented for the unit's heroism in action against an armed enemy of the U.S. from Feb. 8 to April 7, 1971.

If not for the efforts of retired CW4 Douglas Womack, the award might have been lost for a much longer amount of time. While working with a veteran on a post-traumatic stress disorder claim six years ago, he came across the unsigned recommendation for the award in the national archives. He said his reaction was one almost stronger than he could handle.



PHOTO BY RUSSELL SELLERS

Retired Maj. Clark Sando and Lt. Col. Scott Halverson, 1st Bn., 14th Avn. Regt. commander, tie a new streamer to the unit's flag representing the Valorous Unit award it received after 40 years of waiting May 20.

SEE VALOROUS, PAGE A6

Mail center opens with changes postwide



PHOTO BY BREANNA HERRING

Ed Myers, mail clerk, Jose Cintron, accountable mail clerk, and Wanda Tye, mail clerk, sort through the days mail in the new mail center facility located at 2218 Sixth Avenue.

BY BREANNA HERRING
Army Flier Staff Writer

After several weeks of construction, the new mail center on post is up and running in its new location in Bldg. 118 on Shamrock and Sixth Avenue.

Along with the new center comes a new address and a new letterhead for on-post official mail, said Directorate of Human Resources officials.

"Officials will need to let their mail recipients and senders know of the new address to make

certain mail is received and distributed," said Diane Irby, Fort Rucker official mail manager.

The new mailing address is 2218 Sixth Avenue, Fort Rucker, AL 36362, and the new letterhead has been sent to director's secretaries via e-mail and can be found on the Fort Rucker Web site, according to Deborah Seimer, Fort Rucker director of HR.

"The mail center receives all official mail and distribution. Basically, we make sure

SEE CENTER, PAGE A6

ARMYFLIER

COMMAND

Maj. Gen. Anthony G. Crutchfield
FORT RUCKER COMMANDING GENERAL

Col. James A. Muskopf
FORT RUCKER GARRISON COMMANDER

Lisa Eichhorn
FORT RUCKER PUBLIC AFFAIRS
OFFICER

Jim Hughes
COMMAND INFORMATION OFFICER

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

Perspective

LET YOUR VOICE BE HEARD BY WRITING AN E-MAIL TO THE ARMY FLIER AT JHUGHES@ARMYFLIER.COM.

Staying safe on the road

BRIG. GEN. WILLIAM T. WOLF
Director of Army Safety



Brig. Gen. William T. Wolf

Look anywhere in the United States, and one of the surest signs of spring and summer is the abundance of motorcycles on streets and highways.

It's no different in our Army — as the temperature rises, so does the number of sport bikes, cruisers and everything in between on our installations. This time of year is a favorite for riding enthusiasts, and it is also the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration's observation of Motorcycle Safety Awareness Month.

As an Army, we've made great strides in identifying motorcycle riders and providing them with training that has proven time and again to save lives. Riding shouldn't be an underground activity, and the increasing number of registered motorcycles on posts shows most Soldiers recognize the value of our current safety requirements and initiatives like Motorcycle Mentorship Programs.

Yet, every year we lose far too many Soldiers to accidents involving indiscipline on motorcycles, whether it's a lack of proper training, excessive speeding, neglecting to wear even the most basic personal protective equipment or drinking while riding.

Historical analysis shows us that motorcycle riders are 10 times more likely to become involved in a Class A-C accident than sedan operators. Just as alarming is the ongoing trend of leaders at the rank of sergeant and above being fatally injured

on their bikes. As of mid-March, leaders accounted for 10 of the 13 motorcycle deaths reported Army-wide for fiscal 2011. Leaders are responsible for both setting and enforcing the standard, and the challenge for our Army continues to be reaching these battle-hardened Soldiers on the importance of their personal accountability.

We place a great deal of emphasis on engagement in Soldier safety, but leaders need engagement from their chain of command as well. Taking care of Soldiers is a tremendous job, and leaders at all levels need support from their peers and superiors to do it effectively. However, we must remember rank does not exempt a leader from wearing a helmet, following the speed limit or calling a cab when he or she has had too much to drink.

Neither does rank matter in engaging with high-risk Soldiers. Someone always knows when a Soldier, whether a subordinate or superior, is taking unneces-

sary risks on or off duty.

Junior Soldiers should play a key role in keeping their leaders safe, and we should allow them to freely express their concerns on potentially hazardous situations. Engagement is a two-way street and requires constant interaction between Soldiers and leaders, with everyone looking out for and learning from one another.

Moving forward into the height of riding season, ensure all your Soldier riders — leader and junior alike — are engaged and understand both the joys and hazards of motorcycle ownership. Training, education and PPE all go a long way toward keeping riders safe on the road, but there's no substitute for knowing your leaders and Soldiers are counting on you to make it back safe.

While we'll see more motorcycles on the road during summer than any other season, privately owned vehicles still outnumber bikes by the thousands.

Incidents involving POVs remain the top accidental killer of Soldiers every year, and the months between April and September are the peak season for fatal POV accidents. As with motorcycles, speeding, drinking and driving and failure to wear protective equipment — in this case, seat belts — are the causes most often cited in fatality reports.

Remember to engage with your Soldiers on making safety a priority in all their summer travels, whether it's for fun in the local area, a beach a few hours away or visits to Family and friends many hundreds of

miles from post.

Be sure to check out the tools available on the U.S. Army Combat Readiness/Safety Center Web site, <https://safety.army.mil>, for information and media products on riding, driving and summer safety.

The annual Safe Spring/Summer Campaign was released live in April and includes posters, videos and articles designed to educate Soldiers on hazards associated with summer activities. We also recently consolidated all driving topics in one central location on our Web site, <https://safety.army.mil/povmotorcyclesafety>, with individual tabs for POV, motorcycle and recreational vehicle information and tools.

Now users can easily retrieve guidance on specific topics and stay up-to-date on the latest safety news with just a couple of clicks. Let us know how the new tab works for you.

As always, thank you for the hard work you do every day to keep our Soldiers, Family members and civilians safe.

Play hard this summer, but remember to always play it safe! Army Safe is Army Strong!

Scan this code with your smartphone



for more information about privately owned vehicle safety.

Rotor Wash

“Why is it important for America to continue honoring its fallen service members?”



Vivian Cruz,
Adjutant General and
Military Personnel
Division, human
resource assistant

“They made the ultimate sacrifice. We owe it to them and their families to never forget that.”



Henry Mayer,
1st Bn, 223rd Avn.
Regt., instructor pilot

“We need to remember why we are free.”



2nd Lt. Matthew Huff,
1st Bn., 145th Avn.
Regt.

“The American way of life that we all enjoy every day is because of their sacrifices.”



1st Lt. Corey McDavid,
1st Bn., 145th Avn. Regt.

“They are what shaped the history of our country, even dating back to the Revolutionary War. Our fallen Soldiers set our county apart from every other country.”



**Todd Pippin, 1st Avn.
Bde., contractor**

“So we never take for granted the sacrifices they made for our freedom.”

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Army Emergency Relief finishes strong

BY BREANNA HERRING
Army Flier Staff Writer

The Army Emergency Relief Campaign finished the year strong with a total of \$155,265 raised through fundraisers and donations.

"The success of this campaign bears witness to the overwhelming generosity and generous nature of Soldiers, retirees and the community," said Col. James A. Muskopf, Army Emergency Relief campaign chairman and Fort Rucker garrison commander. "We have received outstanding support for AER and it is great to see such generosity."

AER is a private nonprofit organization that relies mainly on donations. It is structured on a worldwide basis to meet a variety of needs, including emergency financial aid, children and spouse scholarships, grants to Wounded Warriors and benefits for surviving family members.

AER can assist servicemembers and their families with either a loan or grant. The emergency needs that can qualify someone vary from rent payment, mortgage payment, car repair, car payment, car insurance, repair or purchase of a stove or fridge, purchasing a car seat, emergency medical bills or funeral expenses.

"We try to do the best we can to not turn anyone away; if it is a valid emergency need, we can assist them," said Nereida "MiMi" Brooks, local Army Emergency Relief officer.

There were two main fundraisers along with individual donations that helped reach the total funds for AER throughout the year. The Army Aviation Federal Credit Union Golf Tournament raised \$15,000 and the 6th MP Detachment Jail-A-Thon raised \$6,500.

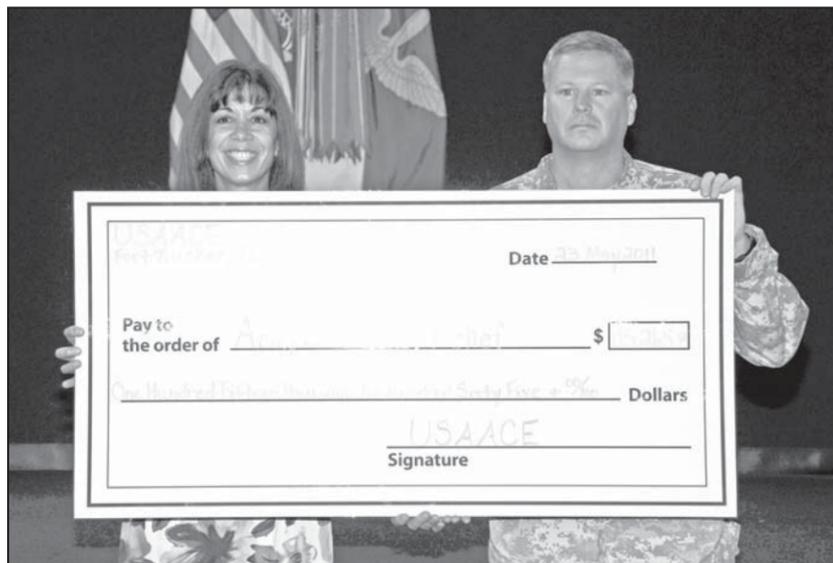
"The campaign went well. We were able to raise a lot of



PHOTOS BY BREANNA HERRING
Nereida "MiMi" Brooks, Army Emergency Relief officer, Sgt. 1st Class Samuel Field, 1st Sgt. Walter Howard, and Capt. David LeMay, all of the 6th MP Detachment, and Col. James A. Muskopf, Army Emergency Relief campaign chairman, hold a check representing the \$6,500 raised for AER during the Jail-A-Thon.

money for a good cause and we had good support from our leaders, Soldiers and especially our retirees," said Capt. Roderick Duplin, Army Emergency Relief coordinator.

For more information on eligibility and types of assistance available, visit www.aerhq.org. To donate throughout the year, visit the AER office located at Bldg. 5700 Rm. 390 or the Web site.



Nereida "MiMi" Brooks, Army Emergency Relief officer accepts a check for \$155,265 for the total amount collected for AER from Col. James A. Muskopf, Army Emergency Relief campaign chairman.

Father gives son his wings during IERW ceremony

BY RUSSELL SELLERS
Army Flier Staff Writer

Watching a son take up the cause of his father is a rewarding and humbling event, said one father as he pinned Aviation wings on his son at the Initial Entry Rotary Wing Aviator Course graduation ceremony May 19.

Col. Mason W. Thornal, XVIII Airborne Corps and Task Force Bragg chief of staff at Fort Bragg, N.C., and graduation guest speaker, seized the opportunity to address the IERW graduating class at the U.S. Army Aviation Museum in addition to watching his son, 1st Lt. Hunter Thornal, AH-64

Apache pilot, graduate.

"It was an honor and a privilege to be able to be here," Mason said. "It was extremely emotional to see my son make it this far. I've got another son who is an infantry officer, they're both third-generation Soldiers. The military is a rich tradition in our family."

Mason, a UH-60 Black Hawk pilot, said his son becoming an Apache pilot was a proud moment as well, despite it being a different aircraft from his own.

"I told him that it was his decision and he's a lot smarter than I am," he said. "I'm very proud he got selected for the Apache. He had some wonderful in-

structor pilots that taught him the basics and now it's time for him to move on before his unit heads downrange next year."

Hunter said it was a relief to finally be done with flight school, but he's already preparing for his next assignment. He added that being pinned by his father was an emotional experience for him as well.

"It felt great and it's a real honor to follow in his footsteps," he said. "I always had an idea that I wanted to be a pilot, and I made the decision to become an Army pilot while in college."

His next assignment is at Fort Campbell, Ky.,

where Mason started his Aviation career.

"It's a wonderful place for a young Aviator," Mason said. "I'm very thrilled that he's going there next."

Mason told the attendees and graduates that being an Army Aviator is a special calling reserved for only a select few.

"Aviators are a special breed of officer forever bound by the sense of courage, selfless service, loyalty and devotion to duty that few can truly understand," he said.

He continued by telling the newly graduated officers that he wanted to focus them on the type of officer they

should strive to be.

"Institutional training is over for now," he said. "Many of you will find yourselves prepping for deployment almost immediately. You're going to leave here and find yourselves in units that have been hard at the business of continual combat deployments. Your fellow (Soldiers) will look to you and wonder what type of officer they're getting. Your reputation as an officer will be built by the day-to-day example you set in every aspect of your duty performance. You can choose to meet the minimum standard or you can be the standard bearer for your Soldiers

to emulate."

Mason continued by telling the graduates that the Army is a team effort and that they should never forget the basic building blocks of selfless service.

"Your commander will observe your performance in that team area," he said. "(The commander) will see either a dedicated officer or someone satisfied with basic minimum requirements. The basic building block of selfless service is the commitment of each team member to go a little further, endure a little longer and look a little closer at how he or she can contribute to the team's effort."



Fox den on post

A family of foxes plays in the drainage tunnels under the track and football field behind the Fort Rucker Physical Fitness Facility May 14. While the foxes may appear friendly, they are wild animals and should not be approached by anyone.

PHOTO BY RUSSELL SELLERS

Soldiers honor tornado victims

BY BREANNA HERRING
Army Flier Staff Writer

More than 50 warrant officer candidates dedicated their class sign to citizens of Shoal Creek Valley, Ala., one of the many communities affected by the April tornadoes.

Each warrant officer candidate class has a sign that represents its mascot and class. The purpose of the sign is to provide the class each day with motivation and promote esprit de corps in order to keep it focused as a team, according to CW2 Brad Carpenter, U.S. Army Warrant Officer Career College and 1st Warrant Office Company training, advising and counseling officer.

Several months ago, the class was collaborating on ideas of what its mascot should be. The class decided on the "Tornadoes," which was a first in 1st WOCS, and the motto of "A force to be reckoned with, sir!"

Not long after the class decided on the mascot and motto, tornadoes devastated the state of Alabama. The class soon changed their motto to, "Stand through the storm, sir!"

The change in the motto was to provide inspiration for the people in Alabama who lost so much," said Carpenter. During the aftermath of the tornadoes, the class took particular interest in the town of Shoal Creek Valley. Carpenter visited the community during the clean-up efforts and showed the class photographs

of the devastation.

The class soon learned of Vernon White, Shoal Creek Valley Fire Rescue chief who spent the day of the tornadoes cleaning up debris and was caught in the actual tornado himself.

While out trying to help others, White was swept up in a tornado and tossed 20 feet into a river, landing upside down. White narrowly escaped death by releasing his seatbelt and swimming out the window.

White was on hand at the dedication ceremony Friday on behalf of Shoal Creek Valley. He spoke to Soldiers and told his tale.

"We lost 14 members of our community, our own home and one fire department completely, with two pumpers and additional damage on two more trucks," White said. "But I am a true believer in God, and I thank God for letting me be here today. If it wasn't for him, I wouldn't be. This experience has made my faith a whole lot stronger."

"We stand in the storm with God, he is our protector," added Linda White, Vernon's wife.

The sign was dedicated to the citizens of Shoal Creek Valley and will be placed in their hometown upon graduation.

The "Tornadoes" additionally donated a portion of the funds raised for class expenditures towards the disaster relief efforts, totaling \$1,690.



PHOTO BY BREANNA HERRING

Warrant Office Career College Class 11-17, the "Tornadoes," unveils its class sign decorated with its mascot and motto in dedication to the April tornado victims in Shoal Creek Valley. Vernon White, Shoal Creek Valley Fire and Rescue chief, and his wife, Linda, accepted the sign on behalf of their community.

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Digital Training Campus available to Soldiers deployed in Middle East

BY ALEXANDRA HEMMERLY-BROWN
Army News Service

WASHINGTON - Portable professional development classrooms that can be set up virtually anywhere are currently being used by units in Afghanistan and Iraq.

The classrooms are so portable that Soldiers in one unit in Afghanistan reportedly created a plywood structure to house theirs, according to the deputy director of Deployed Digital Training Campus.

These mini-schoolhouses are part of the DDTC initiative developed by the Army's Distributed Learning System, aiming to provide deployed Soldiers with the ability to work on their military education while overseas, said Glenn Maravillas, the deputy project director for DDTC.

By providing brigade-sized units with a DDTC as part of their deployment equipment, leaders can ensure their Soldiers' education doesn't fall behind, even when stationed at primitive outposts, he added.

Each DDTC is equipped with 20 laptop workstations, internet accessibility, video tele-training,

voice over IP, designated satellite access, and can be set up in less than two hours. The DDTC also puts Soldiers in direct connection with more than 1,200 pre-loaded Army Learning Management System courses.

Many times, Soldiers don't have access to the equipment needed to work on their professional development while deployed - something that can delay promotions, Maravillas said.

"It provides Soldiers and civilians who are deployed a means to access training, and by completing training they gain promotion points, so they can move on in rank," he said.

Maravillas noted that some units without much dwell time also find it hard to complete professional training while at home.

"Noncommissioned officers like the concept because they can schedule time for their Soldiers to work on their schooling when they have down time," he added.

The DDTC classrooms also have another advantage: they are classified capable if needed. Units can also use the teleconferencing feature to talk

to their rear detachments at home, or their replacement units, Maravillas said.

Brigades can request a DDTC from their higher headquarters as they are readying for deployment and certify unit system operators with a three-day training course. Then a DDTC will be issued to the brigade on a hand-receipt and returned after the deployment like any other piece of equipment.

Maravillas noted that DDTCs fall within the Army's Learning Concept 2015, which stresses access to technology to enable education.

The first DDTC was sent overseas last year and there are currently six campuses in deployed locations, with plans for a total of 50 to be developed by 2015.

And the capability is not limited to active-duty units - Reserve and National Guard brigades can request them as well.

For more information, visit www.dls.army.mil/lms_overview.html.



U.S. ARMY PHOTO

Lt. Col. Tina Blom participates in Deployed Digital Training Campus new equipment training at Fort Eustis, Va., in December. DDTCs provide Soldiers with a way to continue their professional military development while deployed.

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Retina Specialist

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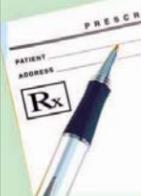


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Valorous: Unit's sacrifices honored with ceremony

Continued from Page A1

"It's a good thing I was sitting down when I came across it," he said. "I had such a visceral reaction that, if I had been standing, I might have needed help getting back up."

According to the award write up, the unit conducted numerous combat assaults into areas congested with anti-aircraft weapons and armor. Enemy gunners were highly accurate and positioned themselves strategically so as to disrupt the helicopters' flight paths as much as possible. The unit continued to fly mission after mission into increasingly dangerous combat zones. The unit was instrumental in extracting besieged allied troops near the end of combat operations.

After finding the recommendation, Womack started pushing for the award to finally be awarded. He said it was a great moment for the unit and the Soldiers who served in it when the order was finally signed.

"For our era, the Soldier wasn't well-received when he came home," Womack said. "In this case, it was almost adding insult to injury that not only did those at



PHOTO BY RUSSELL SELLERS
Maj. Michael Dyer, 1st Bn., 14th Avn. Regt. adjutant, right, talks with retired members of his unit, retired Cpl. Henry Russell and retired Lt. Col. Richard Sienkiewiel, at a Valorous Unit award ceremony at the U.S. Army Aviation Museum May 20.

home ignore us, but our command had failed to recognize the price we had paid in the course of doing our duty. I'm just so heartened that today has come and that the sacrifices the unit made are finally being recognized."

The commander of the 1st Bn., 14th Avn. Regt. during the time the events took place, retired Col. Joseph Rutkowski, was unable to attend due to illness, but the former S3, retired Maj. Clark Sando, made sure those in attendance knew how much

the award meant to all who were in the unit during those days.

"It was a great honor to be here today representing the unit," he said. "It's those who didn't come back with us that we're honoring."

Sando added it was great to be able to meet the new commanders of the unit and to see how far the Soldiers of today have come.

The current commander of the unit, Lt. Col. Scott Halverson, told the former Soldiers of the 1st Bn., 14th Avn. Regt., the Soldiers in the unit today wouldn't be where they are if it weren't for the efforts made by those that came before them.

"We calculate the value of our contributions by the quality of the Aviation professionals we send to commanders in the field," he said. "They are ready to fight, and join in the tradition you have established in sweat and blood of battles fought not so long ago. Our pledge to you is that we'll continue to live up to the high standards of loyalty, selfless service and personal courage you demonstrated to us in times past. We'll continue to ensure the officers we train understand and are committed to that tradition as well."

Center: New mail facility offers greater safety, convenience

Continued from Page A1

everyone gets their mail and distribution and we help customers if they have special needs with FedEx, express mail, etc.," said Irby. "The main goal is making sure everything is distributed as it should be distributed."

The new facility is also

safer, for the occupants on post. It has been isolated to a stand-alone building and has also been equipped with blast proof screens on the windows in case an event should occur, according to Irby.

"The new facility is safer, especially for the people in Bldg. 5700. If we

get suspicious mail, it just affects those in the stand-alone building instead of the entire building such as 5700," she said.

"For example, back in December, there was a suspicious package received by the official mail downstairs in Bldg. 5700. They noticed it looked suspicious and Bldg. 5700

was evacuated," added Seimer. "For the safety for the rest of the post, it is a

vast improvement."

Lastly, the new mail center will no longer be re-

ceiving UPS drop offs and no personal mail will be received or distributed.

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Army warfighters go digital to hone skills

BY CHERYL PELLERIN
American Forces Press Service

WASHINGTON — With more than 1 million service members on active duty in the United States, the military services, and especially the Army, are running short of a critical commodity — training grounds.

The problem, intensified by the winding down of two wars, is ratcheting up the interest of Army senior leaders in virtual solutions to real-world constraints.

"We have a lot of Soldiers coming home to stations here in the United States, and we don't have enough terrain in many of those places to train those Soldiers out on live ranges," Army Col. Anthony D. Krogh told American Forces Press Service.

Krogh is director of the National Simulation Center, part of the Combined Arms Center at Fort Leavenworth, Kan.

"We just physically can't do it," he said. "Fort Lewis is a good example."

Seven 5,000-person brigades are on the ground at Fort Lewis, now part of Joint Base Lewis-McChord in the state of Washington, he said.

"But here's the thing — there's only enough maneuver space and range for one brigade there at a time," he added.

That means "our perishable skills as Soldiers start to atrophy rather rapidly," the colonel said. "The only way we can make up for that is to use a synthetic, or virtual, world."

Krogh says Army command and control systems themselves produce a kind of synthetic environment that has been in use for a long time. Force XXI Battle Command Brigade and Below, called FBCB2, for example, is a computer-based communication platform for commanders.

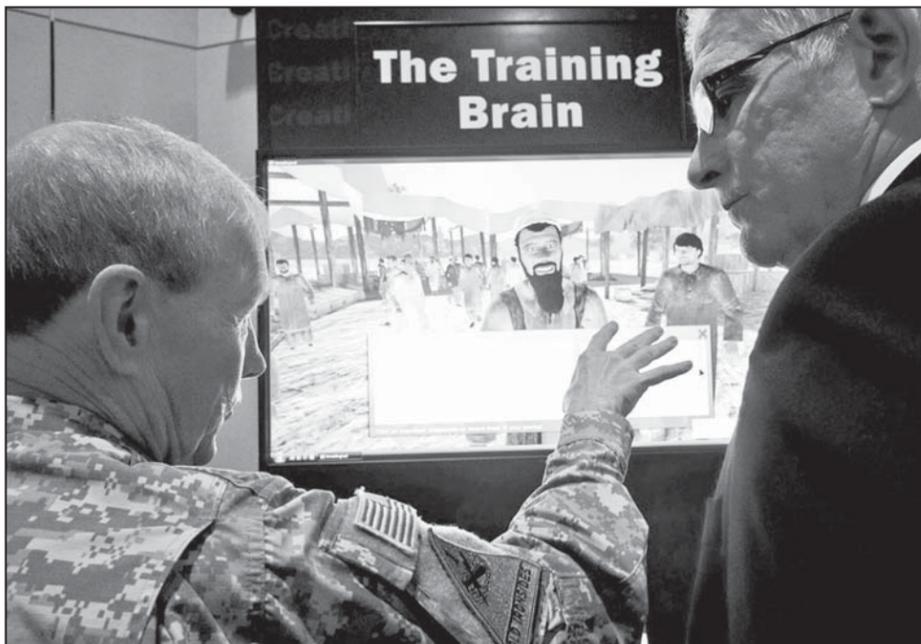
Blue Force Tracking is a GPS-enabled system that gives military commanders and forces location information about friendly and hostile forces. Other command-and-control visualization tools let commanders see a 3D battle space and locate units or particular Soldiers there, the colonel said.

"It doesn't look like an avatar," Krogh said, referring to digital representations of users that populate virtual worlds, "but it is a synthetic environment that's created because we learn or understand quicker through visualization than anything else."

The Army also uses simulators of all kinds to train Soldiers at different levels, he said, from squad and fire-team leaders and individual Soldiers to division and corps commanders.

Emerging-technology Army initiatives include a Training and Doctrine Command effort called the Training Brain. This combines capabilities, systems, networks and data into a system that uses modeling, simulation and gaming to replicate real-world events for use in training.

Within about four days, the Training Brain system can turn a firefight or a mission into a simulation



Army Gen. Martin E. Dempsey, then commanding general of the U.S. Army Training and Doctrine Command, now the Army's chief of staff, discusses the capabilities of remote training with Keith Johnston at the February 2011 Winter Association of the U.S. Army Exposition in Fort Lauderdale, Fla.

game, the command's Web site says.

"In terms of virtual worlds, our primary focus is on Virtual Battlespace 2, the VBS2 game," Krogh said. "Gaming initially got a bad rap because a lot of us had teenagers who were playing Xbox and Nintendo instead of doing their homework. Fortunately, we as leaders grew into this and recognized the value."

VBS2 has been particularly successful, he said.

"Arguably, it's one of the most successful simulations we've ever brought to the force," he added. "In terms of cost versus usage, it's a huge success."

Prague-based Bohemia Interactive Studio developed the gaming and training platform in cooperation with the Marine Corps, the Australian Defense Force and other military customers. It includes a virtual battlefield on which users can operate land, sea and air ve-

hicles. Lots of people can play the game at once in virtual complex urban areas that include buildings that players can destroy, and realistic working weapons.

An after-action review module, called AAR, records every player action, bullet path, explosion and vehicle movement for a detailed examination of the training mission.

"The most important thing in any of these synthetic environments is to have focused training and the ability to conduct an AAR critique [to understand] what you did right and what you need to work on," Krogh said.

VBS2 and other initiatives have helped Army senior leadership understand the value of virtual training. Now, Krogh said, the Army is looking to expand the use of virtual worlds, noting that virtual reality will allow an entire brigade to train at one time next year at Fort

Bliss, Texas.

"Only one battalion will physically maneuver on real dirt," he explained. "The rest of the brigade will either be in virtual flight or tank simulators, or in their command posts through what we call constructive simulation. So [it will feature] a lot of digital dirt, and a little bit of real dirt."

Further into the future, Krogh said, the Army is exploring the utility of "massively multiplayer" online gaming technology, like that used in World of Warcraft.

"These have been in the commercial world for

ever, but we're looking to leverage that for training our Soldiers around the clock, around the world, where they can always jump onto that synthetic environment and train," he said.

The Army is bringing a new system online that tracks physical training scores, weapons qualification levels and scores for other service skills for individuals in the real world and links them to that person's avatar in the Army's virtual environment, he added.

"Picture this," Krogh said. "If I don't do well on a physical training test,

my avatar will not run as fast or move as quick or sustain in combat as long as another Soldier who has a better PT score in the real world."

The same thing will happen for others skills, he said.

"If I am out of tolerance for my weapons training or I have only shot marksman as opposed to sharpshooter or expert, then my PH/PK — probability of hit/probability of kill — in the simulation goes way down, because I'm not as highly skilled in the real world."

Training in the virtual world would mirror training in the real world, the colonel added.

Practicing with firearms online "would help you prepare so that when you went to the real range, you'd have had that continuous experience of engaging the targets and putting the weapon into service," he said.

Soldiers couldn't do physical training online, but in seeing where they stand in relation to their peers, Krogh said, "a Soldier would realize, 'I've got to lose some weight and do better on the PT test, because when I go online my squad is always leaving me behind!'"

Despite progress, the Army is just getting started, Krogh said.

"I would say within the next two years we'll be able to put many of these capabilities in place," he said.

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ARMY BRIEFS

ARMY SWIMMERS WIN 15 MEDALS

COLORADO SPRINGS, Colo. — The swimming finals at the 2011 Warrior Games May 20 brought the Army 15 medals, including several gold.

The Army had participants in all 15 events at the Olympic Training Aquatics Center, and though the competition was fierce, the camaraderie between the services was evident in the enthusiastic cheers from the crowd.

The Army team earned four gold medals over the course of the meet, to include two shut-outs in the Men's 50 LC Meter Freestyle open Multi-disability event and the Men's 100 LC Meter Freestyle open Multi-disability event.

The meet culminated in a relay, where the Army took silver.

Staff Sgt. Stefanie Mason won the gold in the Women's 50-meter freestyle open multi-disability event, with a time of 39.51 seconds, and the bronze in the Women's 50-meter backstroke open multi-disability event, with a time of 55.81 seconds.

The 2011 Warrior Games, a joint effort between the U.S. Olympic Committee and the U.S. Department of Defense, is sponsored by Deloitte. For more information, see www.usparalympics.org/warrior-games.

STUDY FOCUSES ON MENTAL HEALTH OF FORCE IN AFGHANISTAN

WASHINGTON — Soldiers say there's lower barriers and better access to behavioral health care in theater, even though for many there's been an increase in time spent outside the wire.

The assessment of Soldier opinion on behavioral health care was revealed May 19 with the release of the Joint Mental Health Advisory Team VII survey.

The J-MHAT 7 survey operated inside Afghanistan, consulting with both Soldiers and Marines in land combat forces between July and August 2010. About 911 surveys were collected from 40 different Army maneuver unit platoons, and some 335 surveys were collected from 13 Marine Corps platoons. Additionally, 85 surveys were collected from behavioral health specialists in theater.

A priority for Army leadership is eliminating the stigma associated with seeking mental health assistance. The J-MHAT 7 report says about half of Soldiers said they "would be seen as weak" for seeking such services. The number didn't change from the 2009 report.

The report also says that Soldiers are reporting "significantly higher" rates of acute stress than what was reported in 2009 or in 2005. However, the report also shows that medication use for mental health or combat stress was at 3.7 percent for Soldiers — a slightly lower rate of use than what is seen among the civilian population with similar demographics.

In Afghanistan, the report shows "dramatic increase" in combat exposure for Soldiers surveyed, as compared to 2009 — in fact, combat levels are higher than what was reported in past MHAT reports for either theater.



PHOTO BY ELLEN HUDSON

Employees who have supported the Hunter UAS during a history of success are recognized by Col. Gregory Gonzalez during Thursday's dedication ceremony for a Hunter TR display.

Pioneer sails to success

BY KARI HAWKINS
U.S. Army Garrison Redstone

REDSTONE ARSENAL, Ala. — It was the first UAS to be tested. It was the first to be sent to the battlefield. It was the first to carry a weapon and the first to communicate with Soldiers on the ground.

It is the Army's longest serving short-range UAS used at the corps and division level.

Described as the workhorse for UAS and credited with paving the way for other unmanned aircraft to be developed and fielded, the MQ-5B Hunter UAS set the standard for the Army's UAS program, which now flies a fleet of

unmanned aircraft in both Iraq and Afghanistan in support of the warfighter on the ground.

And it did so without a budget.

"This program has had a very interesting history. It started out rocky, but has been successful. It has had a tremendous history," said Col. Gregory Gonzalez, project manager for the UAS Project Office.

"It was the little program that they thought couldn't, that actually did. People had little faith in unmanned aircraft. This is a true testament of keeping behind a particular program to see what it can do," he said.

Employees of the Unmanned Aircraft Systems Project Office along with participants in

last week's Aviation Synchronization Conference held at Redstone Arsenal, Ala., gathered for the dedication of a MQ-5B Hunter UAS May 12, which is now mounted on a platform just outside the Sparkman Center.

The UAS Modernization Product Office coordinated the mounting of the Hunter display as a fitting representation of the Hunter team's continued support to the warfighter.

"It really is an event that requires special recognition for not only the aircraft itself, but also for the hard effort and work of employees, and the Soldiers and contractors who have been

SEE PIONEER, PAGE B4

Afghan security forces grow in numbers

BY CHERYL PELLERIN
American Forces Press Service

WASHINGTON — The number and quality of recruits to the Afghan national security force are growing, a senior official in the training effort said Monday.

Jack Kem, deputy to the commander of NATO Training Mission Afghanistan and Combined Security Transition Command Afghanistan, briefed Pentagon reporters about his duties in the Afghan capital of Kabul, where he is responsible for the NATO training mission's literacy, gender, integrity building and rule of law programs.

"The size of the Afghan National Army has increased from 97,000 in November 2009 to over 164,000 today," Kem said, adding it will grow to 171,600 by summer's end. The Afghan National Police has grown from just under 95,000 in November 2009 to 126,000 today, and will reach 134,000 by fall.

Taken together, Kem said, this is an increase of 98,000 recruits in 18 months that has been accompanied by a dramatic increase in quality.

The literacy rate for incoming soldiers and police officers is about 14 percent, Kem said, "meaning that 86 percent of our recruits are unable to read and write at the third-grade level. This has been an enormous challenge." What began as a voluntary literacy program with less than 13,000 enrolled has become mandatory for basic army and police training, he said, and programs around the country are teaching basic literacy and numeracy.

"Today, we have over 81,000 Afghan [soldiers and police] in mandatory literacy classes,



DOD PHOTO BY R.D. WARD

Jack Kem, deputy to the commander of NATO Training Mission Afghanistan and Combined Security Transition Command Afghanistan, briefs reporters at the Pentagon May 23 on the progress being made in providing literacy, basic skills and English language training to the Afghan army and police.

and we have graduated another 92,000 in different literacy classes since November 2009," Kem said.

"We know that we will improve the literacy rate in Afghanistan in the Afghan national security forces to over 50 percent by January 2012," he added.

The goal, Kem said, is to have full functional literacy in the army and police, defined as third-grade-level literacy.

Kem noted that the prospect of learning to read and write has been a huge draw for Afghans to join the army and the police.

"Literacy has a huge impact on the professionalization of the army and the police, addresses issues of corruption and will have an economic impact on the country in the years to come," he said.

Corruption is being addressed in several other ways, he added, including developing codes of ethics for the army and the police and establishing an anti-corruption phone line that's always manned and whose investigators are from an independent agency.

Putting blue dye in army and police fuel reduces incidents of stealing, Kem said, and using a lottery system adds transparency to handing out army assignments and prevents the best ones from being sold to the highest bidder.

Another step involves "having accountability of all the vehicles, weapons and radio systems that didn't have full accountability in the past," he said, noting that a physical inventory is now complete for all vehicles issued in

Afghanistan over the past 10 years.

Special efforts are in force, Kem said, to deal with problems of recruiting Pashtuns from the five southern provinces and avoiding violence to Americans by members of the Afghan army and police force. For the problem of attacks on Americans, he said, "we've instituted an eight-step approach for all the new recruits coming in."

The vetting process includes matching the recruit and his identification card, requiring two letters of recommendation from village elders, performing a physical exam, doing a records check through intelligence sources, and using biometric measures, such as fingerprinting.

SEE FORCES, PAGE B4

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Pioneer: Hunter set standard for Army UAS

Continued from Page B1

flying this very successfully for years and years," Gonzalez said.

The Hunter now on display is marked as 001, one of the first used for developmental testing and training.

"It represents the very earliest system that was fielded," Gonzalez said.

In 1988, a joint project office for UAS was established with the Navy as the lead service. The mission was to develop short-range and close-range UAS. Hunter was the first system developed, with 15 systems built by Israel Aircraft Industries and TRW in 1989.

In 1993, with testing complete, the Department of Defense ordered seven Hunter systems of eight aircraft each, for a total of 56 additional aircraft; and management of the program, known as the Remotely Powered Vehicle Program, was moved to Redstone.

"But then there were untimely incidences with the aircraft, and in 1996, we terminated full rate production of Hunter," Gonzalez said, omitting it from the government budget process as a program of record.

"We almost got it into a program and then it was axed," said Bill Smithson, who has worked on the Hunter program since its inception.

In late 1995, Hunter was fielded at Fort Hood, Texas, and acceptance of the system was imminent, until the system had three mishaps in three months.

"We had three crashes. We did not know what was causing the problem," Smithson said.

Investigation of the entire procurement process and the Hunter system determined that a manufacturer change in the wing control system had caused the mishaps.

"So, we fixed the problem. But then all we could do was field and train until some other UAS system came along," Smithson

said. Even with production stopped, there were still more than 65 Hunters in the DOD inventory.

"The Army wanted to take advantage of the procurement, but it didn't have a specific mission and there was no program of record, so it was hard financially," Gonzalez said.

Training with the Hunter was ongoing at Fort Huachuca, Ariz., and Fort Hood where Soldiers and civilian contractors learned how to operate and maintain it. But until there was a mission, Hunter was pretty much grounded.

And then came Kosovo in 1999. "We needed a real calling for these aircraft," Gonzalez said. "It was deployed to the Balkans for a NATO peacemaking and then peacekeeping mission."

Kosovo became the event that set the Army's UAS program on its present day course.

"Hunter was the only UAS in the Army inventory," Smithson said. "It had a mission after all. It was a line-of-sight aircraft that had relay capability so it could fly dual missions in the mountainous terrain. It flew 4,000 hours a year, which was really only seven months because weather made it impossible to fly from October to February."

"We flew like that for four years in a row. The Hunter did a lot of great work and the Army began to recognize the valuable asset of UAS for saving lives and situational awareness."

Then, in 2003, Hunter became the first unmanned aircraft to deploy to a war zone, going to Baghdad, Iraq, with the 3rd Infantry Division.

"Hunter was the only UAS initially there," Smithson said. "Hunter was the only thing we had to support the Soldiers and the commanders in the field. It was the only UAS asset in the war at that time. It was the only game in town."

Also, in 2004, the Department of Homeland Security, Customs and Border Protection Bureau, and Office of Air and Marine utilized Hunter under a trial program for border patrol duties. During this program, the Hunter flew 329 flight hours, resulting in 556 detections.

But Hunter's real contributions were on the battlefields of Iraq and Afghanistan, where its reconnaissance, surveillance, targeting and acquisition capabilities quickly won over Soldiers and commanders.

Three Hunter units — Alpha 1st, Alpha 15th and Alpha 224th — rotated deployments into Iraq, and then Afghanistan. Besides Soldiers, contractors were also deployed to operate and maintain Hunter. Its operational availability has hovered at more than 98 percent since it went into operation.

The Hunter takes off and lands on runways, can fly more than 40 payloads and can carry up to 300 pounds of payload. Its imagery system allows data to be processed in a matter of seconds, providing virtual, real-time information of battlefield conditions and targets.

The Hunter's enhanced imaging system allows commanders to detect, identify and track hostile activity and targets for external weapons systems or maneuvers and battle damage assessment, thereby enhancing the commander's ability to locate and identify friendly forces to avoid unnecessary loss of life and locate enemy targets.

Northrop Grumman and TRW, which now provide equipment and support for the maintenance and sustainment of Hunter as well as its modernization, also equipped the Hunter with the GBU-44/B Viper Strike weapon system.

"History continues today. Hunter has flown 100,000 hours, with 70 percent of those flown in combat," Gonzalez said. "It was the right answer at the right time. Its flexible capability made the difference."

Plans to mount a Hunter aircraft for display at Redstone began in early July 2010, with Maj. Calvin Lane, then the Hunter assistant product manager. Aircraft tail number 001 was delivered to Redstone in late September and was located at the Joint Software Integration Laboratory for the Redstone facilities personnel to take final measurements off the aircraft to begin the fabrication of the mount.

The structural design was finished in early October, and was completed and delivered by mid-January. The Hunter display mounting activities officially began April 5, and were completed the next day.

Gonzalez recognized several employees during the Hunter dedication, including retired Col. Michael Hamilton, who led the Hunter program during the Kosovo deployment; retired Col. Donald Hazelwood, who led the Hunter program from 2005-08; and Odeal Richardson, Dennis Radford, Ferne Wlodarski, Donna Hightower and Smithson, who have all worked on the Hunter program from its early years.

Hightower, the Hunter's deputy program manager, was among many who appreciated the dedication event.

"It's awesome. But really the key to all this are the Soldiers and all the lives Hunter has saved," Hightower said. "The Hunter has helped bring home Soldiers to their families."

Even for all its success, Hunter is still not a budgeted Army program. And with other UAS such as Shadow, Raven and Gray Eagle now in the Army fleet, it is unlikely new Hunter systems will be built to replace a now older fleet of 45 remaining aircraft.

"We operate on a shoe-string budget," Smithson said. "But I still enjoy it. I love working with the Hunter and it's a pleasure to get to talk to the Soldiers who operate it and maintain it in the field. We will continue to struggle to get funding while also working to help the warfighter out."

Forces: More than 81,000 Afghans in mandatory literacy classes

Continued from Page B1

"It will never be foolproof," Kem acknowledged. "It's not foolproof in the United States; it won't be foolproof in Afghanistan. But it's an area that we look at very close-

ly, ... and it is something that I think the Afghans take very seriously as well, because they want to be good partners."

To ethnically balance the Afghan National Police, Kem said, the percentage of Pashtuns, Tajiks, Hazaras and other ethnic groups must be monitored.

"We balance every one of the battalions," he added, and because of problems recruiting Pashtuns from the southern provinces, a special recruiting

program has been instituted with the Afghans. The numbers of southern Pashtuns has risen slowly, Kem said, "but they're not where they need to be."

"We're trying to get at least 4 percent of the recruits from the five south-

ern provinces that are Pashtuns," he added, "and aiming for getting about 6 to 8 percent in the next couple years."

Work remains to be done between now and Dec. 31, 2014, when the transition of lead secu-

rity responsibility in all 34 provinces to Afghan forces is scheduled to be complete, Kem said.

"In my personal professional judgment," he added, "we will have the Afghans ready to assume that responsibility."



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Free museum visits for military

Story on Page C7

COMMUNITY

VOL. 61 ■ NO. 21

ARMYFLIER.COM

MAY 26, 2011

Lake Fest

Community invited to beat the heat at Lake Tholocco

BY BREANNA HERRING
Army Flier Staff Writer

Lake Fest kicks off the summer swimming season at West Beach on Lake Tholocco Saturday from noon to 6 p.m.

"The 10th annual Lake Fest is themed 'Pirate Invasion,' which was chosen to go along with the water-themed day of fun," said Kimberly Abeln, Directorate of Family, Morale, Welfare and Recreation annual events coordinator.

The free event includes pirate boat rides, a cannonball launch, pin the eye patch on the pirate, photo opportunities and a treasure hunt. There will also be a car show from noon-4 p.m., live music provided by The Springs from noon-4 p.m., a sandcastle contest, swimming, volleyball tournament, local, regional food vendors and a variety of tasty treats.

"This is definitely a child- and family-friendly event," said Abeln. "They will be able to participate in games, contests and a treasure hunt. They can dance to the live music, go for a boat ride,



PHOTO BY CHRIS KELLEY

Families and friends enjoy the cool waters of Lake Tholocco's West Beach during Lake Fest last year.

swim, jump on the inflatables, try their hand at inflatable jousting, play giant tic-tac-toe, take a ride down the water slides, jump on a floating trampoline, take an adult and go for

a paddle boat or canoe ride, look at some cool cars, eat different types of food or just hang out with their friends.

"The children's favorite events are usually the swimming and wa-

ter slides. For the adults it is the car show and live music," she added.

Abeln expects about 4,000-5,000 Soldiers, Families, retirees and civilians to attend, which is an increase from last

year's 1,200 patrons.

"Expect an afternoon of fun in the sun. Don't forget your sunscreen, beach towel and bathing suit," Abeln added.

The event is free to attend with additional

costs to purchase food and drinks. All other activities provided at the event will be at no cost to patrons. Registration for the car show is from 9-11 a.m., and there is an entry fee.

Equestrian center offers outlet for horse lovers

BY LEAH COLLICH
Fort Rucker Public Affairs

No matter what your skill level, the Fort Rucker Equestrian Center provides a place for horse enthusiasts, young and old, to saddle up and hit the trails.

The facility sits on over 10,000 acres of wooded trails and is home to 84 horses.

There are two regulation dressage rings, two breaking pens, multiple lit western and show arenas, open pastures, a clubhouse with a full kitchen, a gazebo, RV hookups and more.

The facility hosts a variety of events year round, from qualifying state competitions for more advanced riders, including Wiregrass Open Horseman's Association shows and Craig Cameron-affiliated Extreme Cowboy Association shows, to more leisurely events for people with no horse riding experience, including private riding lessons, trail rides, barbecues, birthday parties, buggy rides and barn dances.

Leda Green, program manager of the equestrian center, said events are always open to the public, including non-military families from the surrounding areas outside of Fort Rucker.

"Our events attract military employees and their families, and also non-military people from all over Alabama, Florida, and Georgia," she said. "People don't realize that there is a stable out here. There is an opportunity out here, and they should definitely be using it. Even in the local area, people



COURTESY PHOTO

Sarah Valentine and her horse, Charlie, jump over the step-up obstacle at last weekend's Extreme Cowboy Association Clinic at the equestrian center.

don't realize that people can come out here too, without being military. We are open to the public — bring your horses and come ride the trails."

Beginning next month, the facility will offer guided trail rides on Saturdays and Sundays through the 10,000-acre property with several different marked trails to choose from. The rides range from one-hour rides to six-hour rides.

"Anyone can come and rent a horse and ride the trails. We start every ride with a 15-minute safety course, and we have a trail guide in the front of the group and a safety rider in the back of them. These horses are dead broke. It's for anyone that

has never been on a horse. All they have to do is call us and we'll schedule a trail-ride time for them," Green said.

Beginner and advanced summer camps will be offered for children ages 10 and up this summer June 13-17, June 27-24 and July 11-15. The camps are from Monday through Friday, 8:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m., and are open to five beginner riders and 20 advanced riders.

Participants will learn different riding styles, how to rope and proper grooming techniques. The camp will conclude with an open horse show and pizza party where ribbons and trophies will be awarded to the campers.

Green encourages those who are interested in the camp to contact the equestrian center quickly, because spots fill up fast.

The equestrian center offers large tack rooms, stalls, hay barns, and wash stalls for boarding patrons. There is currently a wait list to board horses at the facility.

Green attributes the high demand for the facility to the unique opportunities and options available to their patrons. Justin Mitchell, deputy garrison commander, and his wife, Michelle, have boarded their two horses, Carson and Ozzie, at the equestrian center for nearly two years. Michelle said

she loves coming out to the facility and participating in the events.

"There's so many different things offered here; different riding styles, western, English, jumping, lots of different trail rides, or you can just have your horse to yourself and ride around. We love it. It has become a Family thing for us."

Green said there are always volunteer opportunities for those interested. She said some families come to get to know the patrons who will then have them help groom and care for some of their horses.

"We always need people to volunteer for horse shows and all the events. (People interested) can go on to the Army One Source Web site and register there to volunteer. Once I get their information, I will call them to set up an interview, and once approved all (they) have to do is sign up for hours that (they) want to work and they can get started," Green said.

"We also keep an updated Facebook page, called Fort Rucker Riding Stables, where we post information about everything that's going on out here and we load pictures up there from all the events," she said. "People can get on there to see everything that's going on and get involved."

The Fort Rucker Equestrian Center is located on Hatch Road just south of the Silver Wings Golf Course. For more information on upcoming events, camps and volunteer opportunities, call 598-3384.

On Post

YOUR WEEKLY GUIDE TO FORT RUCKER EVENTS, SERVICES AND ACTIVITIES

Moving sale

The Fort Rucker Thrift Shop is currently offering 75 percent off solid white tickets items until July 1. Colored tickets are consigned and cannot be discounted. The Thrift Shop is located at 3904 Gladiator across from the post office. For more information, call 255-9595.

Summer Reading

Registration for the Fort Rucker Center Library's summer reading program is now through June 24. This Exceptional Family Member Program-friendly program is designed for youth ages 5-12. For more information, call 255-3885.

Johnston Road paving

Camping opportunities with the Engineer Beach Recreational Vehicle Park and Campground are currently limited due to the paving of Johnston Road.

The campground will run at half capacity during this time. Expect heavy equipment and partial lane closures on Johnston Road, below Singing Pines, until Friday.

Delays are possible during peak traffic. Please allow extra travel time during this period. The Engineer Beach boat ramp is closed until paving is complete. Boaters can access the West and East Beach ramps until the Engineer Beach boat ramp is reopened.

For more information, call 255-4305 or 255-4234.

Volunteers needed

The Fort Rucker Non-Appropriated Employee Assistance Foundation is seeking volunteers to assist in fundraising projects, as well as individuals interested in participating in general membership and as officers on the executive board. For more information, e-mail frnaeaf@yahoo.com.

Employment event

The Fort Rucker Army Career and Alumni Pro-

DEADLINE for **On Post** is noon Thursday for the following week's edition. E-mail submissions to Jim Hughes at jhughes@armyflyer.com.

gram center staff hosts Air Evac Lifeteam Friday at the Soldier Service Center, Bldg. 5700, in the second floor break room from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Participants are asked to bring their resume. The event is open to active duty military, Family members, veterans and retired military. For more information, call 255-3932.

The Regulars Band

The Regulars Band performs Friday from 8:30 p.m. to 12:30 a.m. at the Landing Zone. Show open to patrons age 18 and up.

The Landing Zone provides a complimentary shuttle to anywhere on post. For more information, call 598-8025.

BOSS Car Show

Better Opportunities for Single Soldiers members host a car show Saturday from noon until 4 p.m. at the West Beach Gazebo on Lake Tholocco.

The BOSS car show takes place during Lake Fest. Registration in the car show is \$15 by Saturday and \$20 afterwards. For more information or to register, call 255-2677 or 379-4594.

Memorial Day Pool Party

A Memorial Day Pool Party is Monday from noon until 4 p.m. at the Splash! Pool with live entertainment by the Ball and Chain Party Band.

The Landing Zone provides a complimentary shuttle to anywhere on post. For more information, call 598-8025.

AFTB Level II

Fort Rucker's Army Community Services staff hosts Army Family Team

Building Level II training June 6, 7 and 9 from 5-8:30 p.m. at the Soldier Service Center, Bldg. 5700, Rm. 371E.

Classes help increase knowledge of military acronyms, customs and courtesies, and more. Participants gain a better understanding of Army life and learn of all the opportunities the Army has to offer.

Advance registration is required and all materials and instruction are free. Childcare is available. For more information and to register, call 255-2382.

Character Dining

The Landing Zone's Tuesday Character Dining features Kiddy Karaoke with DJ Dave June 7 from 5-7 p.m. Kids enjoy free balloons and a children's buffet.

The event is free and open to the public. Children ages 12 and younger eat free with the purchase of one adult entrée. For more information, call at 598-8025.

Wakeboarding competition

The INT Wakeboarding Competition is June 11 and 12 at Lake Tholocco's West Beach. The competition begins at 8 a.m. Admission is free. The event is open to everyone. For information, call 255-4305.

Ice Cream Party

The Fort Rucker Center Library staff kicks off the first day of the Summer Reading Program June 13 with an ice cream party from 2:30-3:30 p.m.

If you have not registered your child for the Summer Reading Program, registration ends June 24. The program is designed for ages 5-12. For more information, call 255-3885.

EFMP golf clinic

The Army Community Service Exceptional Family Member Program staff hosts a golf clinic June 14 from 9-11 a.m. at Silver Wings Golf Course.

Military Families with exceptional Family mem-

bers and special needs Family members are invited. The clinic teaches golfing tips to both beginners and experienced golfers.

Registration is required by June 11. For more information and to register, call 255-9277.

Men's health fair

The Men's Sports, Fitness and Wellness Expo is June 15 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at The Landing. The event features chiropractors, blood pressure screenings, personal trainers, massage therapists and a body mass index scale measurements. Participants have access to free advice and information on all aspects of men's health.

Admission is free and the event is open to the public. For more information, call 598-5311 or visit www.ftruckerfmwr.com.

Bay lift special

The Fort Rucker Auto Skills Center offers a half price, \$2.75 per hour, special for bay lift use June 15-17 from 4-7 p.m., June 18 from 9:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m., and June 19 from 10 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. For more information, call 255-9725.

DFMWR Spotlight

LAKE FEST WEST BEACH, LAKE THOLOCCO

MAY 28TH • 12 - 6 P.M.

A'hoi matey! In celebration of the 10th year of this welcome-to-summer celebration, Fort Rucker is going to party pirate style. The Springs will start the day off right with live music from 12-4 p.m. and BOSS will host its 2nd annual car show. There will be vendors, contests, a volleyball tournament, swimming, and free use of life jackets, canoes and paddleboats. Admission is free and open to the public. So escape from another ho-hum afternoon and join us for a swashbuckling good time!



FOR DETAILS CALL, 255-1749.
EFMP FRIENDLY

Look for us on Facebook!
Fort Rucker FMWR

www.ftruckerfmwr.com



Lake Fest

Lake Fest is Saturday from noon to 6 p.m. at Lake Tholocco's West Beach. Admission is free and open to the public. Life jacket usage, canoes and paddle boats are also free the day of the event.

The lake has a recreational swimming area with four water slides and a floating trampoline. For more information, call 255-1749.



PHOTO BY BREANNA HERRING

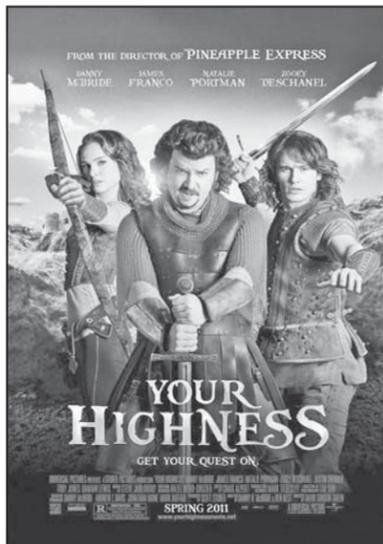
Pick-of-the-litter

Meet Frankie, a 1-year-old male terrier mix. He is a lover and enjoys cuddling. It costs \$81 to adopt him, which includes neutering, a microchip and heartworm testing. For more information on Frankie or other animal adoptions, call the veterinary clinic at 255-9061, open Mondays-Fridays from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. or the stray facility at 255-0766, open from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. The stray facility needs donations such as dry or canned foods for cats, dogs, kittens and puppies, as well as blankets, toys and towels. Donations can be dropped off at the veterinary clinic or the commissary. One dog was adopted last week.

FORT RUCKER Movie Schedule for May 26 - 29

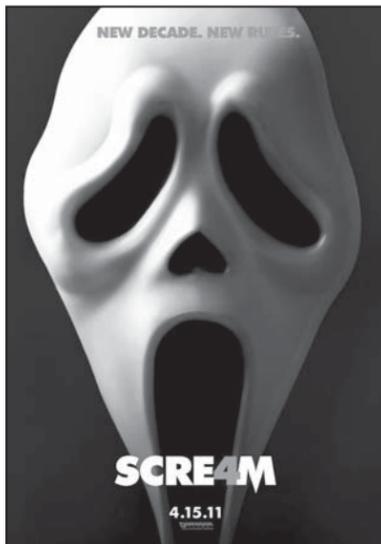


See you at the movies



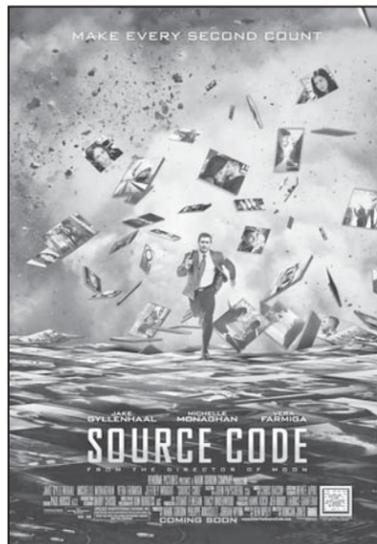
THURSDAY, MAY 26

Your Highness (R) 7 p.m.



FRIDAY, MAY 27

Scream 4 (R) 7 p.m.



SATURDAY, MAY 28 & SUNDAY, MAY 29

Source Code (PG-13) 7 p.m.

Following God leads author to right place

BY DR. NANCY B. JANKOSKI
Director of Religious Education

I grew up in the late 60s and early 70s in a Family of six children — mostly boys — and since many of the neighborhood kids also happened to be boys I spent a lot of my childhood playing ball and “playing Army” with the boys.

It was the Vietnam era, but when we played war games, we were doing World War II, imitating the movies and TV shows. I also loved to read, and my Family went to church regularly, so I spent a lot of time at Sunday School and Vacation Bible School.

We get to be good at the things we do often. I was good at reading, Bible drills, sports, and playing “war” with the boys in my neighborhood.

The pick-up sports games and pretend games in our neighborhood were not gender specific. It was only at school and in the organized sports leagues that we were segregated by age and gender.

Because I really liked softball, my parents signed me up for the county youth league as soon as I was old enough. Back in those days, girl’s softball teams were called “powder puff” teams.

We got to play in a league of our own, but Title 9 laws didn’t exist yet, so while we just got to play out our season, the boys got sports banquets with trophies for everyone who participated, and the better players and teams had playoffs that went all the way up to the Little League World Series. It wasn’t fair, but that’s the way it was.

As a youth, I used to wonder why I was good at things that didn’t seem to have any future use since I was a girl. The ministers and the professional athletes I saw on television in those days were all men. I thought about being a librarian, or a girl’s sports coach at a school, but neither of those ideas seemed right for me. I knew what I liked, and what I was good at.

I couldn’t see where my life was headed, but God knew, and over time, He worked out the details. All I had to do was simply keep on following God. There were obstacles on the way, but sometimes, those obstacles actually pointed me towards op-

portunities I never knew existed.

Life is like that. We don’t always know where we’re going, even when we’re on the way, but if we trust God for the outcome, He will work out the details in ways far better than anything we could imagine for ourselves.

The things that didn’t make sense to me then make a lot of sense now. The girl who liked to read the Bible, play sports, and “play Army” with the boys grew up in God’s timing to become a director of religious education in a military chapel.

I didn’t even know such a job existed until I met and married a Soldier. It wasn’t my childhood dream to become a DRE, but God had plans for me, and gifted me according to His will.

Every year, during our Sunday School and our post Vacation Bible School, I get to teach children some of the sports and games that were played in biblical times. Working with all chapel groups, adult, youth and child ages, I get to teach those Bible stories I enjoyed reading as a child.

God takes care of us in ways we don’t always know about. His schedule may be different than what we want, but He really is an on-time God. Psalm 86:10-11 says, “Teach me your way, O Lord, and I will



Bible-learning activities for children, (Kindergarten thru 6th Grade):

- Games
- Drama
- Music
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Participation is free!

Fort Rucker
Vacation Bible School **VBS**

June 13-17, 2011
8:30 - 11:30
Spiritual Life Center
(Bldg 8939)

VBS Training Clinics will be held at Wings Chapel (Bldg 6036):
May 22, 8:15-8:45; May 25, 5:00-5:30; and June 2, 5:00-5:30.

For registration or more information, contact Nancy Jankoski at 334-255-3946.

walk in your truth; give me an undivided heart, that I may fear your name.” The word “fear” there actually means reverence.

Like a good parent providing for a child, God wants to provide for us. Sometimes, He is preparing what we need, even before we know we need it. God knows which league he has designed you to play in. You just have to be in tune with God’s design for your life.

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We are a “family friendly, family focused” church where great emphasis is placed on connecting and forming great relationships. We are an all-inclusive congregation and we welcome all who desire to worship with us, we provide an environment that’s open and biblical. “The Light” is a Christ-centered church that fully believes in the teachings of Christ.

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Church Directory

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8:45 am
The Gathering - Youth
5:45 pm
Sunday School
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efumc@adelphia.net
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The Reverend
Donna A. Lockett, Vicar
302 East Grubbs St • Enterprise
epiphany@centurytel.net
fp1.centurytel.net/epiphany-episcopal
Sunday Worship Service 10:00am

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

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

Adopt a pet

For more information about animal adoptions, call the Veterinary Clinic at 255-9061. The Stray Facility needs donations such as dry or canned foods for cats, dogs, kittens and puppies, as well as blankets, toys and towels.
Donations can be dropped off at the Veterinary Clinic or the Commissary.

Religious Services

CATHOLIC PARISH SERVICES

Confessions are conducted at 4 p.m. Mass is offered Saturdays at 5 p.m., Sundays at 9:30 a.m. and Tuesdays-Fridays at 12:05 p.m. at the Main Post Chapel. For more information, call 255-9894.

PROTESTANT CONTEMPORARY PRAISE SERVICES

Protestant Contemporary Praise services are offered at 9 and 11 a.m. Sundays at the Chapel of Wings. For more information, call 255-9221 or 255-2989.

ISLAMIC PRAYERS AND PROGRAMS

All prayers are held at Bldg. T6609 on Fifth

Avenue.

For more information about daily prayers, weekly and monthly programs, call Chaplain (Maj.) Abdullah Hulwe at 255-1073.

COLLECTIVE PROTESTANT WORSHIP SERVICES

Collective Protestant worship services are offered Sundays at 11 a.m. at the Main Post Chapel.

For more information, call 255-3140.

JEWISH SERVICES

Services are offered Fridays at Temple Emanuel, located at 188 North Park in Dothan at 7 p.m. For more information, call 792-5001.



Scan this QR code with your smartphone to view a Flickr album containing photos of all the events from this week's *Army Flier*.

Post housing questions? Visit Picerne Military Housing at www.ruckerpicerne.com

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Hillcrest Baptist Church



Thank you Ft. Rucker!

SUNDAY	WEDNESDAY
Sunday School 9:15 am	Ladies' Bible Study 9:00 am
Worship Service 9:15 am	Children's Choirs 6:00 pm
Sunday School 10:45 am	Student X-Change 6:15 pm
Worship Service 10:45 am	Wednesday Night Worship 6:15 pm
LifeGroups 5:00 pm	Children's Missions 6:45 pm
MONDAY	Worship Choir Rehearsal 7:30 pm
Support Groups 6:30 pm	Orchestra Rehearsal 7:30 pm
TUESDAY	THURSDAY
Morning Prayer Group 6:00 am	Little Blessings, MDO 8:30 am
Little Blessings, MDO 8:30 am	Sr. Adult Activities (1st & 3rd) 10:00 am
Men's Bible Study 6:30 pm	Ladies' Bible Study 6:30 pm
	DivorceCare 6:30 pm
	DivorceCare for Kids 6:30 pm
	GriefShare 6:30 pm
	Grief Support for Children 6:30 pm

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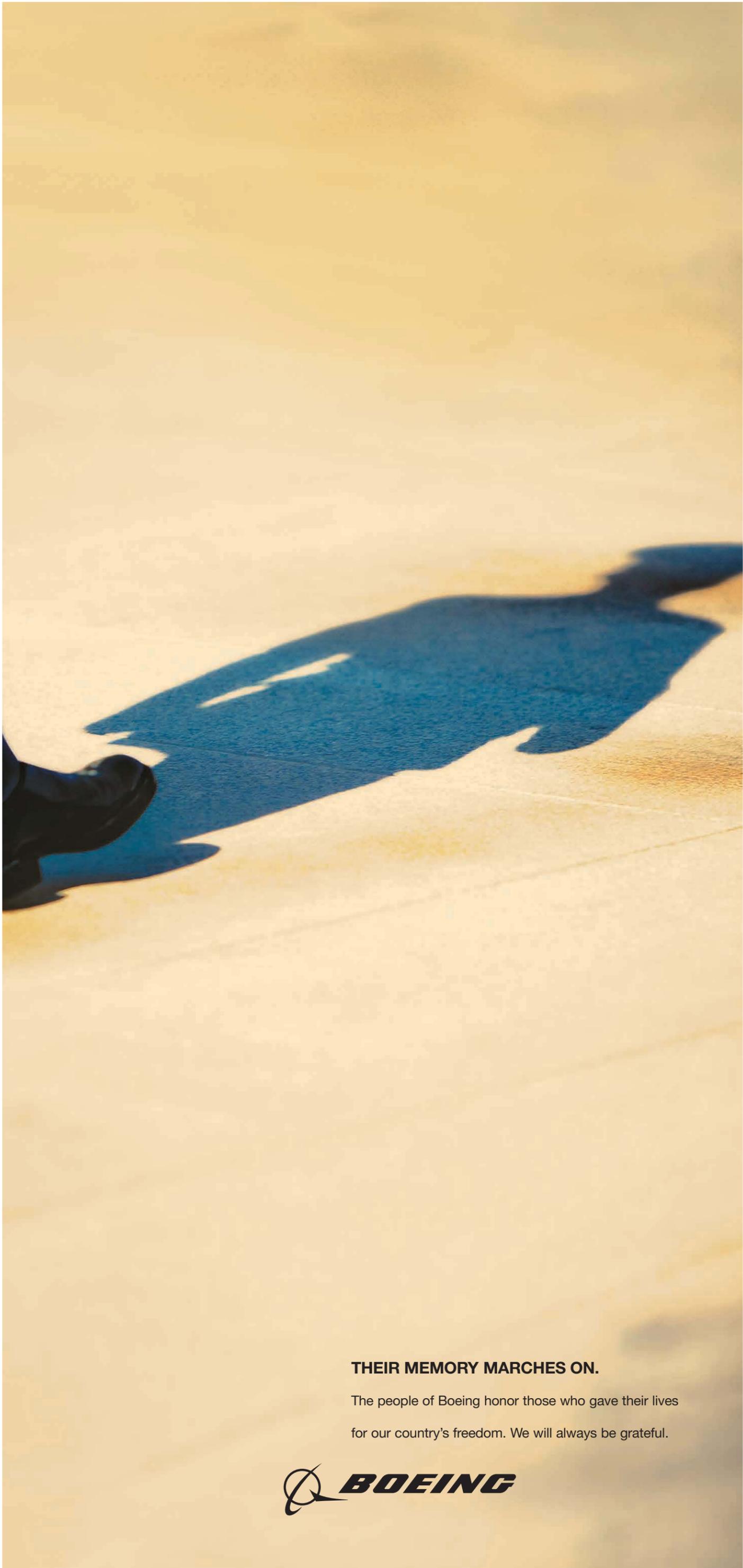


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Wiregrass community calendar

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

ANDALUSIA

ONGOING — Andalusia Public Library offers free practice tests. Patrons can choose from more than 300 online tests based on official exams such as the ACT, SAT, GED, ASVAB, firefighter, police officer, paramedic, U.S. citizenship and many more.

Patrons may select to take a test and receive immediate scoring. Test results are stored in personalized individual accounts, accessible only to patrons. Call 222-6612 for more information.

DALEVILLE

ONGOING — The Fort Rucker chapter of the Vietnam Helicopter Pilots Association meets the first Wednesday of each month at 7 p.m. Meetings are in the Daleville VFW Post Ballroom.

ONGOING — Daleville Chamber of Commerce meets the second Wednesday of each month at 11 a.m. at the Chamber of Commerce office in the Daleville Cultural and Convention Center. For more information, call 598-6331.

DOTHAN

JUNE 3 — The Wiregrass Museum of Art opens the Atrium Gallery featuring artwork no larger than a dollar bill, a 32-year-old annual exhibition featuring pieces from the Jacksonville State University collection.

JUNE 8, 15, 22 — The Wiregrass Museum of Art hosts an adult art class for beginners from 10 a.m. to noon. The hands-on course is three classes that teach adults the basic principles of art. To sign up, call 794-3871.

JUNE 9 — The Wiregrass Museum of Art hosts Public Discussion: Art Therapy at 6 p.m. where therapist Calvin Bell-Tharpe shows how art therapy can be an outlet for difficulties related to serious medical illness, mental and emotional problems, and language and development disorders.

JUNE 11 — Landmark Park staff hosts the Old Fashioned Ice Cream Social from 5-9 p.m.

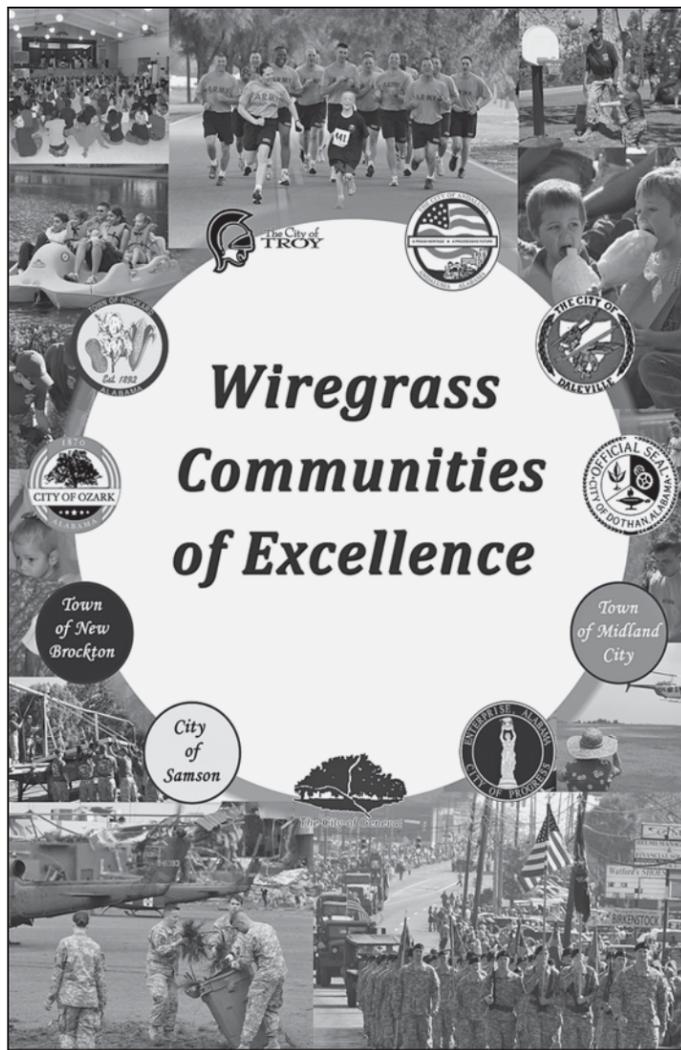
Activities include cow milking, butter churning, ice cream making and more in observance of National Dairy Month. For more information, call 794-3452 or visit www.landmarkpark.com.

JUNE 16 AND 30, JULY 14 AND 28 — Landmark Park staff hosts Music by Moonlight from 7:30-9 p.m. under the stars on the gazebo lawn. For more information, call 794-3452 or visit www.landmarkpark.com.

JUNE 10, 17, 24 AND JULY 1 — Animal Adventures starts at 10 a.m. at Landmark Park. Events take place throughout the day.

Admission is \$4 for adults, \$3 for children and free for children age 3 and under.

For more information, call 794-3452 or



visit www.landmarkpark.com. \$\$\$

JUNE 25 THROUGH JULY 2 — The Dothan Country Club hosts the Future Masters Golf Tournament from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. For more information, call 793-7144 or visit www.futuremastersgolf.com.

JULY 2 AND 3 — A gun and knife show is at the National Peanut Festival fair grounds from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. For more information, call 793-4323.

JULY 4 — A Family-friendly July 4th celebration is 1-10 p.m. at the National Peanut Festival fairgrounds.

There are events throughout the day including a car show, inflatables, water slides, live music, shows, fireworks and more. Admission is \$10 for adults. Children age 12 and under are admitted free.

For more information, call 699-1475 or visit www.family4thcelebration.com. \$\$\$

ENTERPRISE

JUNE 4 — Take a Kid Fishing Day is 9 a.m. to noon at the city recreational complex for children ages 12 and under. For more information, call 348-2684 or visit www.cityofenterprise.net.

ONGOING — Veterans of Foreign Wars

Post 6683, John Wiley Brock Post membership meetings are at the post headquarters, located on County Road 537, every third Tuesday of the month at 6:30 p.m.

For more information, call Paul Kasper at 389-5434, Bob Wills at 347-8297 or Bob Cooper 347-7076, or visit the Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 6683 on Facebook.

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

MONDAY — Sunset Memorial Park will host the fifth annual Memorial Day Ceremony to honor military service members at 2:30 p.m. The event will include music, food, a patriotic skydiving team, and military aircraft and vehicle displays. For more information call 983-6604.

ONGOING — Residents are invited to Town Hall meetings 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

TODAY — Citizens interested in starting a chapter of Disabled American Veterans are invited to attend an informal meeting at 6 p.m. at the New Brockton City Hall. Dinner will be provided.

The DAV assist veterans with administrative benefits, counseling on benefits, disaster relief, transportation to VA hospitals, and more at no cost to the veteran. For more information, call Charles Lobdell at 718-5707.

ONGOING — Adult education classes are offered in Rm. 12 at New Brockton High School, 210 South Tyler St., Mondays and Wednesdays from 6 to 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

AUG. 13-SEPT. 23 — The Dale County Council of Arts and Humanities hosts the 11th annual Regional Juried Art Exhibition at the Ann Rudd Art Center/Dowling Museum.

The council is now accepting entries from artists who wish to participate. Contestants are allowed three entries, with the first entry costing \$25 and \$5 for each additional entry.

All entries must be submitted at the Rudd Art Center by 4 p.m. July 30. An open reception and award presentation will be held Aug. 13 from 7-9 p.m. For more information, visit www.ruddartcenter.org.

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 on 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 Tuesdays 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, finger foods and refreshments.

For more information, call Janet Motes at 808-8500.

\$\$\$ indicates a charge for the event

Beyond Briefs

Precious Metal: Southern Silver

The Columbus Museum in Columbus, Ga., presents the New Orleans coin silver exhibition now through June 26.

The exhibition includes examples of coin silver from the Louisiana State University Museum of Art that will be supplemented by pieces from other collections, including Columbus-related objects owned by the Columbus Museum.

For more information, call (706)748-2562 or visit www.columbus-museum.com.

Memorial Day Concert Celebration

Destin Harbor hosts the Memorial Day Concert Celebration Friday through Sunday. Ron Adams performs as Elvis for his Blue Hawaiian show Friday at 7 p.m. Rock the Docks kicks off Saturday with Journey tribute band Departure.

The first Operation Inspiration begins for the summer Sunday, featuring Know

Hope Collective—formerly known as Audio Adrenaline.

For more information, call (601) 424-0600.

Vettes-4-Vets at Talladega SuperSpeedway

Vettes-4-Vets members host a two-day fundraising event Friday and Saturday at the Talladega Super Speedway in Talladega, Ala., to benefit veterans or military personnel in need.

The weekend festivities include live music, barbeque, raffles, a best-of-show contest, the chance to drive your sports car around the Talladega track and more.

For more information and to find out how to register, visit www.vettes4vets.com.

3rd annual Blueberry Festival

The Wiregrass Blueberry Growers Association hosts the third annual Blueberry Festival in downtown Headland June 12 from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Locally grown blueberries and blueberry bushes will be sold at festival prices.

Attendees are encouraged to bring

their coolers to take home fresh blueberries. The day will be filled with fun, food and information.

Military Day at the Montgomery Zoo

The Montgomery Area Chamber of Commerce is honoring service members by offering military personnel and their Families free admission to the City of Montgomery Zoo June 22 from 9 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.

Food, drinks, and refreshments will be provided. Bring valid military identification for entry.

For more information, visit www.montgomeryzoo.com.

Pier Park Summer Concert Series

Pier Park in Panama City hosts a free summer concert series every Thursday night during the month of June from 7-9 p.m. at the Pier Park Amphitheater.

Each week different local artists will be featured. People should bring their own beach chairs and blankets.

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

Swordfish Shootout

Legendary Marine and Hydra-Sports host the third annual Swordfish Shootout June 16-18 at Destin HarborWalk Marina.

There will be cash prizes and raffle packages to benefit The Destin History and Fishing Museum and the opportunity to win a 2011 Chevy Silverado.

The official tournament weigh in will be at HarborWalk Marina on June 18 from 9 a.m. to noon.

For more information, visit www.destinswordfishshootout.com or call Capt. Erik Anderson at (850) 974-5600.

Art on the Rocks

Who Shot Rock and Roll sets the tone for this year's Art on the Rocks June 17 from 5-10 p.m. at the Birmingham Museum of Art. The event features gallery tours, art activities, scavenger hunts and live music in the setting of the Red Mountain Garden Club Memorial Garden and Charles W. Ireland Sculpture Garden upper plaza. Tickets are \$10 per person and \$8 for active-duty military or students. For more information, visit <http://www.artsbma.org>.

Free museum visits for military

BY TERRI MOON CRONK
American Forces Press Service

WASHINGTON — Servicemembers and their families can visit a wide array of museums free of charge from Memorial Day through Labor Day, courtesy of the second-annual Blue Star Museums program.

Kathy Roth-Douquet, Blue Star Families chairman, and Rocco Landesman, chairman of the National Endowment for the Humanities, announced this year's program Monday in San Diego.

"Blue Star Museums recognizes and thanks our military Families for all they are doing for our country," Landesman said, "and simultaneously begins young people on a path to become lifelong museum-

Additional Information

Participating museums:

<http://www.arts.gov/national/bluestarmuseums/index2011.php>



More on Blue Star Families:

<http://www.bluestarfam.org/>

goers."

Roth-Douquet noted the program's success in its first year.

"We are thrilled that 300,000 military Family members visited our partner museums in the summer of 2010," she said. "We hope to exceed

that number this year as the military community takes advantage of the rich cultural heritage they defend and protect every day.

"We appreciate the NEA and the nation's museums who chose to partner with us," she

continued. "We also are grateful to our friends at the MetLife Foundation, the lead supporter of the Blue Star Museums outreach initiative, whose generous donation helps make our work possible."

This year, more than

1,300 museums in all 50 states, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, and American Samoa are taking part in the initiative, including more than 500 new museums this year, officials said, and others may join throughout the summer.

The list of museums includes many in Alabama, including facilities in Montgomery, Huntsville, Mobile, Tuscaloosa and Birmingham.

The Blue Star Museums program runs from May 30 through Sept. 5. The free admission program is available to active-duty military and their immediate Family members - military ID holder and up to five immediate Family members. Active duty National Guard and Reserve members also are eligible.

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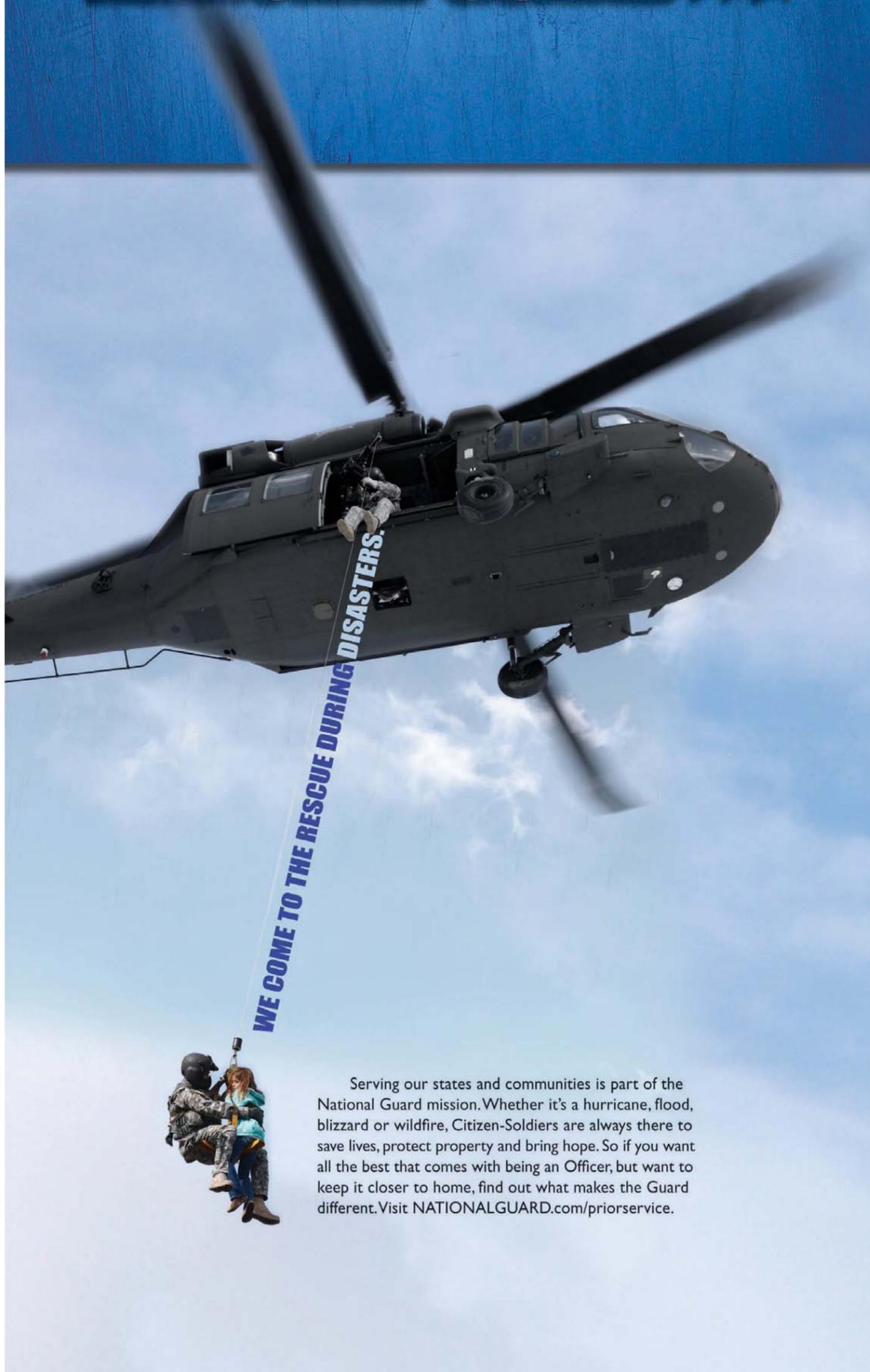
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THINK WE ARE.**

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Army takes gold at wheelchair basketball championships

Story on Page D3

SPORTS

VOL. 61 ■ NO. 21

ARMYFLIER.COM

MAY 26, 2011

SPORTS SHORTS

NASCAR TICKETS OFFERED AT LEISURE TRAVEL

The Fort Rucker Leisure Travel Office offers Atlanta Motor Speedway tickets for the NASCAR race Sept. 3-4. The prices are \$75 per person for both days and \$45 for Sept. 4 only. Seating is general admission for Sept. 3 and Upper Elliot reserved for Sunday. For more information, call 255-9517.

MEMORIAL DAY FLAG TOURNAMENT

Silver Wings Golf Course staff hosts the annual Memorial Day Flag Tournament Monday with tee times from 7-9 a.m. Entry fee is \$5 plus greens and cart fees is applicable. For more information or to register, call 598-2449.

INT WAKEBOARDING

Outdoor Recreation staff hosts the annual INT Wakeboarding Competition June 11-12 at West Beach, Lake Tholocco. The Competition begins at 8 a.m. and is free to enter and open to the public. For more information, call 255-4305.

MEN'S SPORTS, FITNESS AND WELLNESS EXPO

DFMWR staff hosts the Men's Sports, Fitness and Wellness Expo June 15 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at The Landing. Come receive free advice and information on all aspects of men's health from chiropractors, personal trainers and massage therapists. There will also be blood pressure screenings and body mass index scales. Admission is free and open to the public. For more information, call 598-5311.

SGT. AUDIE MURPHY TRIATHLON

The annual Sgt. Audie Murphy Triathlon is June 18 at Lake Tholocco's West Beach, at 7 a.m. Cost for individuals is \$40 pre-registered by June 11, \$50 after/up to race day. Relay teams with a maximum of three people, \$70 by June 11, \$80 after/up to race day. The triathlon consists of 1/4 mile swim, 10.6 miles bike ride, and 3.1 miles run. Cash awards will be given to top overall finishers and the top relay team. For more information, call 255-0308, 255-3794 or visit www.ftruckerdmwr.com.

TAOIST TAI CHI SOCIETY

The Enterprise YMCA staff hosts two beginner's classes in the Taoist Tai Chi Society arts of health. Classes are offered Thursdays, 1-2:30 p.m., and Saturdays, 10-11:30 a.m. The beginner's class covers all 108 moves of the Tai Chi set. Taoist Tai Chi is an ancient Chinese exercise that promotes health and relaxation. It is suitable for all ages and physical conditions. Comfortable, loose clothing and flat-soled shoes are recommended attire. All classes are taught by accredited volunteer instructors. For more information, call 348-9008 or 347-4663.

BURGER AND BOWL

Rucker Lanes staff offers a daily "Burger and Bowl" special for \$7. The special includes a cheeseburger, fries, soda, shoe rental and two games of bowling.

Blue Jays fall to Cardinals

BY RUSSELL SELLERS
Army Flier Staff Writer

It was a battle of the bats for two Fort Rucker youth baseball teams Tuesday as the Cardinals downed the Blue Jays, 10-8, in the 9-10 year old age group.

Things didn't start off so well for the Jays as the Cardinals' bats went to work immediately, mostly on the strength of big plays from James Brown, Cardinals first baseman, and Jarod Hill, Cardinals second baseman.

Brown kicked things off by getting a base hit that brought in one runner. Hill followed up after Brown successfully stole two bases with a double that knocked in two more runs.

However, the Blue Jays weren't out of the game just yet.

Bradley Moore, Blue Jays pitcher, attempted to rally his team back by getting a solid, lead-off hit that seemed to rattle the Cardinal defense a little.

Joey Breslin, Jays catcher, wasn't far behind after getting a hit that allowed Moore to get to third base.

The Jays managed to get two runs in the first inning, but the strength of Jayden Weiss, Cardinals pitcher, proved to be too much for the rest of the batters. He struck out two in a row and, with an assist, finished out the inning with a short toss to first for the out.

The Blue Jays turned things up a notch in the second inning, holding the Cardinals scoreless in the team's next at-bat. Then, it was time to start swinging again.

Moore came back to the plate and attempted a rally again with an infield homerun. The one-two combination of Brown and Weiss attempted to cool off the Jays rally, but the team managed one more run before the inning closed. The Cardinals maintained a lead of 6-4.

After leading the defense in a strong showing, Weiss decided to try and lead his team's offensive strategy as well. After two walks, he stepped to



PHOTO BY RUSSELL SELLERS

James Brown, Fort Rucker Cardinals first baseman, gets a hit during the team's game against the Fort Rucker Blue Jays Tuesday. The Cardinals won, 10-8.

the plate and sent a fly ball to deep center field, resulting in an infield homerun.

The Cardinals continued to dominate at the plate, but found themselves in trouble when trying to steal home. Moore and Breslin were able to catch several Cardinal players attempting to steal home, but their luck eventually ran out.

The Blue Jays managed one more run before the close of the inning, bringing the score to 10-5.

In the final inning, the Blue Jays managed to shut the Cardinals down

completely, giving up only one walk and then putting the rest of the batters out at the plate.

After two batters were walked, Moore came back to the plate and attempted to do what he tried earlier with similar results. Another infield homerun combined with two RBIs brought the score to 10-8. While it looked like the rally might take hold this time, Weiss dug down and managed to pull off two key strikeouts that sealed the win for the Cardinals.

Don Fontaine, Blue

Jays coach, said his team has greatly improved since the beginning of the season, but it still has a lot of work to do in the coming days.

"We don't have a lot of defensive experience on the field," he said. "They've gotten so much better since the first day. We learn in every game. We're going to work on defense, going forward. Our bats were working and I hope to see that consistently in the coming games."

Eric Galvan, Cardinals coach, said he was proud of the win, but knows his

team still has some work to do on its stamina.

"We do a lot of batting drills during practice, so that has really helped the players keep their eyes on the ball," he said. "At this level, the kids aren't used to playing such a long game. They started to lose focus at the end and that slowed us down a bit. We're going to work on batting and outfield drills a lot in practice. We've got to start working on getting those fly balls. They did great tonight and we're going to keep working on the things we did right."

Fishers, hunters must carry documentation

BY RUSSELL SELLERS
Army Flier Staff Writer

Hunting and fishing on post are encouraged, but there are still several rules all participants must follow, according to Directorate of Public Safety and Outdoor Recreation officials.

Recently, Fort Rucker game wardens have observed several fishermen who were not able to produce proper fishing licenses or Fort Rucker fishing permits, said Maj. Jay Massey, Directorate of Public Safety deputy provost marshal.

Being unable to produce a license or permit can result in a one-year suspension from hunting or fishing on post for a first offense. A second offense can result in complete revocation of hunting or fishing privileges on

the installation, he added.

"If people want to hunt or fish on post, they have to be familiar with the state requirements and they've also got to know the requirements outlined in Fort Rucker regulation 215-1," Massey said. "People who are fishing here have to have a fishing license and a post permit on hand."

According to Fort Rucker Regulation 215-1, anyone hunting or fishing on post must have a state license and a post permit. All personnel 16 years of age or older who hunt or fish on post must also have in their possession a valid Fort Rucker hunting or fishing permit, as applicable. Permits are issued only to eligible individuals who possess a valid state license, view the unexploded ordnance video, pay the appropriate permit fee as prescribed and, for hunters, have

proof of completion of a state-certified hunter education course from any of the 50 states, Canada or Germany.

According to John Clancy, Fort Rucker Outdoor Recreation program manager, fishermen under the age of 16 do not need a fishing license or a Fort Rucker permit to fish on post.

Clancy said those coming on post to fish can expect to catch a variety of types, including largemouth bass, several types of catfish, crappie and brim.

Massey added that the Directorate of Family, Morale, Welfare and Recreation sets the penalties for violations and DPS is there to enforce them.

"If, for example, a hunter harvest a turkey and fails to take their harvested bird to the collection station for processing, they are in

violation of Fort Rucker Regulation 215-1 for failure to report harvested game which could result in a 365 days suspension as a first offense. The DPS Game Wardens are absolutely going to enforce the Alabama state rules and post regulations governing boating, hunting and fishing to the fullest extent," Massey said. "We provide the citation to DFMWR and they determine the appropriate penalty."

Some people who choose to fish on post also want to use boats, Massey added. Those people must have a boating license and Lake Tholocco Boater Safety Certificate if choosing to fish on the lake.

For more information on fishing and hunting, call outdoor recreation at 255-4305, or read Fort Rucker Regulation 215-1 at <http://www.fortrucker-env.com/Documents/naturalresources/R215-1.pdf>.

Down Time



Trivia test

by Fifi Rodriguez

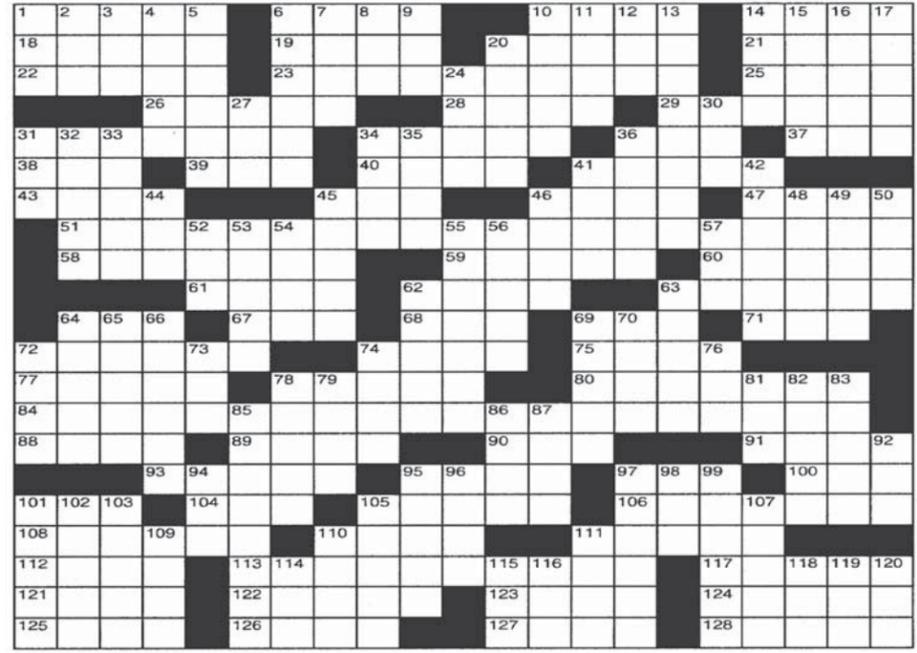
T R I V I A

- HISTORY:** When did the Franco-Prussian War end?
- INVENTIONS:** What was the name of Robert Fulton's first commercially successful steamboat?
- RELIGION:** Who is the patron saint of Wales?
- MUSIC:** What famous singer's 1950s TV show featured the Vic Schoen Orchestra?
- LITERATURE:** Who wrote the novel "Rebecca"?
- MYTHOLOGY:** In Greek mythology, who was Telemachus' father?
- ADVERTISEMENTS:** What is "the beer that made Milwaukee famous"?
- GEOGRAPHY:** Where is Lake Maracaibo?
- GENERAL KNOWLEDGE:** For what line of work was Fannie Merritt Farmer best known?
- POLITICS:** What system of government does the Fabian Society support?

See Page D3 for this week's answers.

Super Crossword TIME WARP

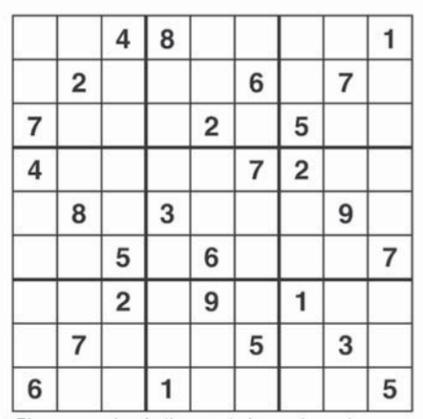
- ACROSS**
- 1 Puccini heroine
 - 6 Keen
 - 10 Actress Lanchester
 - 14 Be in charge
 - 18 Fully developed
 - 19 Farm measure
 - 20 Sag
 - 21 Inspect too closely?
 - 22 Automaton
 - 23 Start of a remark by Doug Larson
 - 25 Sue of "Lolita"
 - 26 Squander
 - 28 Clinton's hometown
 - 29 Woodland deities
 - 31 Sporting dog
 - 34 Manifest
 - 36 Heredity letters
 - 37 — kwon do
 - 38 Antiquity, archaically
 - 39 Born
 - 40 "Serpico" author
 - 41 "The Donkey Serenade" composer
 - 43 — September" ('61 film)
 - 45 Fire
 - 46 James of "Misery"
 - 47 — facto
 - 51 Part 2 of remark
 - 58 Kind of clam
 - 59 Dhamar's locale
 - 60 "Rebel Without a Cause"
 - 61 Rocker Halliwell
 - 62 "Man bites dog," e.g.
 - 63 Myrdal or Nelson
 - 64 Fall behind
 - 67 Encore exclamation
 - 68 Flock female
 - 69 Norm
 - 71 Move, with "about"
 - 72 Spanish title
 - 74 "... some curds and —"
 - 75 Tennis pro
 - 77 Ralph of "The Waltons"
 - 78 Still's partner
 - 80 "Appalachian Spring" composer
 - 84 Part 3 of remark
 - 88 Siamese
 - 89 Coup d'—
 - 90 Good
 - 91 times
 - 92 Crucky, for one
 - 93 Yellowish brown
 - 95 WWII site
 - 97 Room for research
 - 100 Ginnie —
 - 101 Friend
 - 104 EMT's skill
 - 105 Commandment word
 - 106 Remarkable
 - 108 Talisman
 - 110 Galaxy glitterer
 - 111 Buy off
 - 112 Writer
 - 113 End of remark
 - 117 Too heavy
 - 121 Mix with water
 - 122 Inexperienced
 - 123 European capital
 - 124 Talk really big
 - 125 Away from the wind
 - 126 Richard of "Inter-section"
 - 127 Rocker Van Halen
 - 128 Birth-related
 - 3 Fill in
 - 4 Circus performer
 - 5 Reach
 - 6 Fowl feature
 - 7 Feel sore
 - 8 Wrath
 - 9 Permit
 - 10 Act like
 - 11 Stud site
 - 12 Impresario
 - 13 Italy's —
 - 14 Celeste or lan
 - 15 Tut's turf
 - 16 Maui greeting
 - 17 Obtuse
 - 20 "Light My Fire" rockers
 - 24 Big bird
 - 27 "I told you so!"
 - 30 Tasty tuber
 - 31 Wine word
 - 32 Deere things
 - 33 Fess up
 - 34 Poet
 - 35 Windmill part
 - 36 — butter
 - 41 Actress
 - 42 Fondness
 - 44 Printemps follower
 - 45 Comic Elliott
 - 46 Machine parts
 - 48 Neighbor of
 - 116 Down
 - 49 "Slammin' Sam"
 - 50 Bouquet
 - 52 Crone
 - 53 Simple life form
 - 54 Garr of "Mr. Mom"
 - 55 Glasses
 - 56 Loser to Truman
 - 57 Big bird
 - 62 Jawaharlal's jacket
 - 63 Bellyache
 - 64 Terrier tether
 - 65 A Pointer sister
 - 66 Like Notre Dame
 - 69 Early
 - 70 Baseball family name
 - 72 "M*A*S*H" Emmy winner
 - 73 Actor
 - 74 Power unit
 - 76 Urban transport
 - 78 Carpenter's corner
 - 79 List ender
 - 81 Postfix
 - 82 Cover girl
 - 83 Poet
 - 85 Seductive
 - 86 Without parts
 - 87 Detect
 - 92 Triangle part
 - 94 Tennis term
 - 95 Ignominy
 - 96 Starch source
 - 97 It's down in the mouth
 - 98 — "Blue?" ('29 song)
 - 99 Zoo attraction
 - 101 It's tossed with sauce
 - 102 Menotti title character
 - 103 Novelist
 - 105 Place for pots
 - 107 Striped sprinter
 - 109 Path
 - 110 Move a bit
 - 111 Unadorned
 - 114 Dundee denial
 - 115 Hoopsters' org.
 - 116 Newark's st.
 - 118 Put away a pastry
 - 119 Police hdqrs.
 - 120 Sniggler's quarry
- DOWN**
- 1 Pitch
 - 2 "Deep Space Nine" role



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

N H D E J M U
T ILL FIND THE PRIZE I WANT EVEN IF I HAVE TO OPEN EVERY BOX!
E RICE PLAIN
S CRISPER
E H I T F S I

A CEREAL CHALLENGE! Hidden in the above frame is a famous old saying. You can find it by reading every other letter as you go around clockwise. The trick is finding the right first letter. *Swiss cheese*

A WAGER! Place 22 toothpicks on the table, forming eight squares (Fig. 1). Challenge friends to remove four of them so that you're left with only three equal squares.

The tricky solution, in Fig. 2, leaves us with three, large, overlapping squares.

Junior Whirl
by Charles Barry Townsend

THE PYRAMID OF WORD POWER! You have three minutes to unlock the secrets of Word Power! Starting with the given word WHISKERED, at the bottom of our pyramid, try dropping one letter at a time as you work your way up, so that the remaining letters, at each level, spell out a new word. The following helpful hints are in ascending order, beginning with WHISKERED.

1. Had a beard.
2. Made a loud, frantic call.
3. Avoided doing his duty.
4. He bet everything he had on red.
5. He was irritated when he lost.
6. Type of dreadful warning.
7. Anger; wrath.
8. In reference to.
9. Compass direction (abbr.)

WHISKERED

Answers: 1. Whiskered 2. Shrieked 3. Shrieked 4. Risked 5. Red 6. Red 7. Red 8. Red 9. Red

Wishing Well

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

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.

HOCUS-FOCUS BY HENRY BOLTIKOFF

Find at least six differences in details between panels.

Differences: 1. Globe replaces for car 2. Glasses are missing 3. Letters on sign are black 4. Shopper has a ponytail 5. Shoes are black 6. Sign near escalator is missing

DOESN'T READ "JUNIOR WHIRL!" Pictured below are two puzzle grids for you to fill in. Hints are given for each word. The words in grid A contain the same letters as the corresponding words in grid B.

1. Slang for food.
2. To cover over.
3. A table game.
4. What a good football deep.

1. City or town (informal).
2. Good to eat.
3. An outdoor game.
4. A young horse.

Answers: 1. Grubbing 2. Crabbing 3. Foot-pole 4. Look-alike

Army takes gold at wheelchair basketball championships

BY JACQUELINE M. HAMES
Army News Service

COLORADO SPRINGS, Colo. — The Army beat out the Marines, 44-19, and took home the gold after fierce competition at the championship wheelchair basketball game at the 2011 Warrior Games May 20.

Enthusiastic fans from both sides packed the bleachers at Sports Center I, Olympic Training Center, here. They held up signs, honked horns and cheered for their favorite team.

After the intense game, head coach for the Army, Doug Garner, said he was pleased with the way his team played.

"We got off to a really good start and that helped," Garner said, "We've been kind of slow coming out of our last few games, so we really wanted to come out at a level that we could take sure shots and play good defense, and we did that."

Garner has been coaching wheelchair basketball since 1992. His son was born with a disability, he explained, so he started a junior program in Arkansas.

"Now I'm a commissioner for the junior division for the U.S. for the (National Wheelchair Basketball Association), so I work with junior programs around the country," he said.

He also coaches the collegiate team at the Uni-



PHOTO BY JACQUELINE M. HAMES

Members of the Army's wheelchair basketball team watch a teammate fight for the ball on the court at Sports Center I, Olympic Training Center in Colorado Springs, Colo., May 20. Army defeated the Marines 44-19, winning the gold.

versity of Texas, Arlington, Texas. The Army called to ask him to coach its team.

The Army's team benefited from the coach's expertise in the championship game, said team captain Juan Soto, who is at the games for the first time.

"We kept our cool and executed basically everything that coach taught us last week," Soto said.

Soto served in the Army from 1998 to 2002 and was injured in 2003 during a car accident. He has been playing wheelchair basketball for six years, he said, and believes he brings leadership to the court.

"I probably have the most experience," Soto said. "I can decide where the ball goes and who should get it. I know the

strengths and weaknesses of my players."

He credits some of the leadership capabilities to his time in the Army.

Coach Garner was humbled to participate in the games because he was able to see the players as servicemembers as well as athletes.

"These guys brought a great attitude in because they remember last year,"

Garner said. "They came to the pre-camp, all the camps, wanting to learn, and they were really focused."

"I had a blast," Soto said of the games. "It's something I didn't expect for it to be as huge as it is. We have a lot of support from our fellow servicemembers, so I'm hoping to do it next year."

While the Army and

Marines battled for the gold and silver, the Navy and Air Force fought for the remaining prize — the bronze. But Navy proved the winner there, in a close 13-12 game against the Air Force's team.

The 2011 Warrior Games, a joint effort between the U.S. Olympic Committee and the U.S. Department of Defense, is sponsored by Deloitte.

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PUZZLE ANSWERS

— Weekly SUDOKU —
Answer

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

Super Crossword
Answers

T	O	S	C	A	W	A	I	L	E	L	S	A	H	E	A	D			
A	D	U	L	T	A	C	R	E	D	R	O	O	P	O	G	L	E		
R	O	B	O	T	T	H	E	T	R	O	U	B	L	E	L	Y	O	N	
W	A	S	T	E	H	O	P	E	H	O	P	E	N	Y	M	P	H	S	
S	P	A	N	I	E	L	O	V	E	R	T	D	N	A	T	A	E		
E	L	D	N	E	E	M	A	A	S	F	R	I	M	L					
C	O	M	E	C	A	N	C	A	A	N	I	P	S	O					
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L	A	G	B	I	S	E	W	E	P	A	R	G	A	D					
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W	A	I	T	E	M	E	A	R	A	C	O	P	L	A	N	D			
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P	A	L	C	P	R	S	H	A	L	T	A	M	A	Z	I	N	G		
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Video Game Spotlight >>

(Editor's note: All opinions stated in the Video Game Spotlight are solely those of the article's author.)

DiRT 3 not the average racing game

BY JIM VAN SLYKE
Contributing Writer

Of all the racing video game styles, rally racing tends to be the most fun.

There's no driving around in a circle for hours and crashing can be part of the game instead of the end of the race.

The DiRT series has been one of the best in this genre — allowing gamers to race through snow, rain and mud at night and during the day.

DiRT 3 is even better than its predecessors, and allows racers to compete in iconic cars from the past 50 years of racing.

DiRT 3 is big. It covers about three times the area as DiRT 2 and has twice as much track distance.

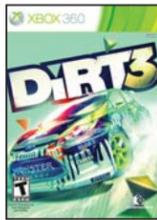
There are 59 tracks with more than 100 routes. The weather effects have been improved and the damage modeling is also much better.

Gamers play the role of a racer who is trying to move up the global standings. After joining a team and gaining experience, building a reputation becomes a key to success.

Multiplayer takes the checkered flag in DiRT 3.

It includes eight-player online matches with all career disciplines. But that's not all. DiRT 3 also has party modes.

There is a variation on capture the flag where gamers try to steal the flag by ramming the car that has it. Another mode allows gamers to earn points



Publisher
THQ
Rated
Teen
Systems
Xbox360, PS3, PC
Cost
\$50-60
Overall
3 out of 4

for ramming into aliens on the course. There's another mode where one player starts with a disease and tries to spread it by ramming into other cars.

DiRT 3 is fun and that's



COURTESY PHOTO

usually leaves the driving games in park. Give it a ride.

Reviewed on the Xbox 360



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