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ARMY FLYER

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PHOTO BY JIM HUGHES

Brig. Gen. William T. Wolf, director of Army Safety and commanding general of the U.S. Army Combat Readiness/Safety Center, and U.S. Army Aviation Center of Excellence Command Sgt. Maj. Tod L. Glidewell salute a wreath at the Fort Rucker Veterans Day ceremony Nov. 10 at Veterans Park.

Post honors veterans during ceremony

By Jim Hughes
Command Information Officer

Hundreds of Fort Rucker Soldiers, civilian employees and Family members joined local veterans, mayors and other officials to thank, honor and remember the nation's veterans at a ceremony Nov. 10 in the post's Veterans Park.

Brig. Gen. William T. Wolf, director of

Army Safety and commanding general of the U.S. Army Combat Readiness/Safety Center, and U.S. Army Aviation Center of Excellence Command Sgt. Maj. Tod L. Glidewell laid a wreath at the ceremony to honor those who made the ultimate sacrifice, all those who served in the military and those who serve today.

"Everything that is good about America is represented here today," Wolf, the guest

speaker, said. "Each of you has my heartfelt gratitude for supporting the men and women who wear our nation's uniform. Many, if not most of you, have answered the call of duty at some point in your lives -- whether for a single tour or an entire career, during wartime or peacetime, to complete a college degree or carry on your Family's noble traditions.

"No matter what the reason for coming

into the service, veterans remain very special people because they selflessly answered our nation's call," he added. "They all wrote a blank check when they entered the service made payable to the United States of America in the amount up to and including their lives. For that, our nation owes so much."

The general then spoke about how

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Fort Rucker selects Soldier, NCO of quarter



PHOTO BY NATHAN PFAU

CW5 Michael L. Reese presents NCO of the quarter, Sgt. James E. Hager, with his award during the ceremony.

By Nathan Pfau
Army Flier Staff Writer

Fort Rucker named its noncommissioned officer and Soldier of the first quarter at a ceremony held at the headquarters building Nov. 10.

The ceremony to honor Sgt. James Hager, NCO of the quarter, and Spc. Bradley Boone, Soldier of the quarter, began with the posting of the colors, the invocation by Chaplain (Col.) Dennis R. Newton, and the singing of the "National Anthem," "Above the Best" and "The Army Song."

Boone said that being named Soldier of the quarter was "a great honor, I'm proud to represent my company, my brigade and my battalion."

"I feel like it's a very prestigious award," said Hager. "I spent a lot of time and preparation to get here. I had to go through several boards and I think this was a great opportunity for me."

In order to be named NCO or Soldier of the

quarter, there is a process that spans a three-month period according to Staff Sgt. Harry Coronel, 1st Battalion, 13th Aviation Regiment and organizer for the ceremony.

"The individuals are picked by their chain of command and company up to a battalion level, challenging all the other companies until it goes up to a brigade level. Brigades will then do the same thing, and pick their number one out of all their battalions, companies and squads to go on and represent them in the post boards."

The tests that the Soldiers were required to go through to compete for this award included a physical fitness test, a hands-on event where they were required to complete 10 basic Army courses and a question-and-answer portion in front of a panel of judges, said Hager.

"My basic Army knowledge helped me win this

SEE QUARTER, PAGE A6

Food drive displays sacrifice, selflessness

By Erin Murray
Army Flier Staff Writer

In light of the tough economic times, members of B Company, 1st Battalion, 145th Aviation Regiment, sought to provide food for those who might otherwise go hungry with their first-ever food drive

The drive ended Nov. 9 with the donation of 4,246 pounds of nonperishable food items to the Wiregrass Area United Way Food Bank, said CW3 Joe Morano, who headed up the drive that started a few months ago.

"We did it because there are a lot of people hurting right now and we need to show our support to the local community," said Morano.

According to Morano, 1-145th orig-

inally intended to donate to the Fort Rucker Food Bank, but was told its donation would overwhelm the bank.

"The installation food bank was on target as far as their food needs," said Maj. Jason James, company commander, explaining that the company turned to the Wiregrass Area Food Bank after collecting the thousands of items after Morano suggested the organization. "It's been a Bravo Company mission, but Mr. Morano has really spearheaded it."

Students from the Warrant Officer Career College formed an assembly line and helped load up a delivery truck from the food bank, where they also met with Julie Gonzalez, Wiregrass Area Food Bank special projects coordinator. Gonzalez was surprised

at the volume of donations, and initially thought against bringing the delivery truck. By the time the assembly line finished, the food bank truck had run out of boxes and pallets to transport the food.

"The Wiregrass Area United Way Food Bank is very fortunate to do business in an area surrounded by so many men and women who are dedicated to the service of others. Not only have these Soldiers dedicated their lives and the lives of their Families to the service of their country, but they have also reached out to help those who are less fortunate in the surrounding community. We appreciate their service, their sacrifice, and their support. We thank

SEE SACRIFICE, PAGE A6



PHOTO BY ERIN MURRAY

Soldiers from B Co., 1st Bn., 145th Avn. Regt. collected more than two tons of nonperishable food items for the Wiregrass Area United Way Food Bank. Dozens of Soldiers gathered to fill the food bank's largest delivery truck Nov. 9 at the company's headquarters.

PERSPECTIVE

D6 Sends: stronger support for Soldiers, civilians, Families

By Lt. Gen. Rick Lynch
*Commanding General
 Installation Management Command*

When I took command of the Installation Management Command in November 2009, we set out to validate that we were doing the right things and doing things right, and to find better ways of doing business.

This self-evaluation was particularly important at the time, as the Army was focused on finding the right kinds and levels of support for Soldiers and Families stressed by repeated and extended deployments.

First, we started expanding our identity. Today, when we talk about providing for Soldier, civilian and Family quality of life, we don't just mean the Installation Management Command — we mean the Installation Management Community, which also includes the office of the assistant chief of staff for installation management and the offices of



Lt. Gen. Rick Lynch

the assistant secretaries of the Army for installations, energy and environment, and manpower and reserve affairs.

And then we started to focus the talent and expertise of this diverse community on our commongoal: providing Soldiers, civilians and Families with a quality of life commensurate with their service.

In March 2010, we published Version 1 of the Installation Management Campaign Plan,

which outlined how we provide the facilities, infrastructure, programs and services required to support Soldier, civilian and Family readiness and well-being. Since then, each update has reflected a stronger sense of community and more robust strategy for addressing the challenges we face.

Over the past two years, the IMC has reviewed programs, services and infrastructure in areas such as child care, youth development, housing, education, employment, recreation and behavioral health.

As a result, a number of programs and services have been enhanced, to include Survivor Outreach Services, the Exceptional Family Member Program, the Army Community Service, Child, Youth and School Services, the Army Substance Abuse Program, the Total Army Sponsorship Program, the Army Career and Alumni Program, and Soldier and Family Assistance

Centers.

At the same time that we have enhanced the effectiveness of programs, services and infrastructure, we have worked to improve the efficiency of delivery at every level, starting from the top.

As we moved IMCOM's headquarters from Virginia to Texas under Base Realignment and Closure, we also integrated a subcommand, the Family and Morale, Welfare and Recreation Command, into the headquarters, and reduced from seven to four regions worldwide. In doing so, we reduced overhead costs and streamlined delivery of services to our customers.

Even as we are addressing today's fiscal challenges, we are looking to the future and how we will support the Army of 2020.

Through BRAC, our installations have built and renovated facilities to support the reshaped Army. Through initiatives such as Army Net Zero, our installations are

developing sustainable practices to ensure we will continue to have the resources to accomplish our mission. Through improved knowledge management, we continue to strengthen our shared understanding of how to operate in a dynamic environment in ways that save time and money.

And we continue to invest in our most important asset: our people. Through a new command-wide approach to talent management and workforce development, we are making sure we will have in place the right people with the right skills to take on future challenges.

The IMC has a huge impact on the lives of Soldiers, civilians and Families — on how we work, train, live and play. The immediate resource challenges only intensify our focus on the mission. We are dedicated to doing our best in serving Soldiers and Families today — and we will find ways to serve even better tomorrow.

Rotor Wash

“Today is America Recycles Day. Why do you think it's important for people to recycle?”



Maj. Angela Tucker,
 JAG office

“Recycling decreases the amount of pollution caused by landfills.”



Spc. Christopher Lunsford,
 597th Maintenance Company

“Basically for the animals.”



Charlotte Allen,
 military spouse

“To keep the Earth safe and beautiful.”



Crystal Bethel,
 civil service staff

“So we can have a clean, healthy Earth for a while longer.”



Lt. Edwin Rivera,
 B Co. 1st Bn., 145th Avn. Regt.

“Cheaper to recycle than to gather more raw materials.”

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Battalion commander speaks at Daleville Pow-Wow

By Nathan Pfau
Army Flier Staff Writer

Daleville hosted a Pow-Wow ceremony on Friday and Saturday to celebrate Native American Heritage Month and honor Native Americans for their service to the country.

Lt. Col. Demetrios J. Nicholson, 1st Battalion, 223rd Aviation Regiment commander, served as the guest speaker at the event.

The unmistakable sound of tribal drums and chanting kicked off the celebration with the posting of the colors, and various members of different local tribes showcasing several diverse ceremonial dances, including one in which they honored veterans with a march that Nicholson participated in.

"When I think of our nation's history, both the good and the bad, I quickly think of the Latin phrase, E pluribus Unum, which means, 'out of many, one,'" said Nicholson. "To me, it stands true that the strength of our nation comes from the diversity of its people. The strength of that diversity is no more evident than by the superb contri-



Local veterans present the colors during a Pow-Wow ceremony Saturday to celebrate Native American Heritage Month in Daleville.

butions and sacrifices by the Native Americans in the United States military."

Native Americans have served in the U.S. military from the American Revolution, to Iraq and Afghanistan, he said. He

added that in that regard, they have demonstrated exemplary service, bringing their cultural qualities that are represented in the proud warrior traditions of strength, honor, pride, devotion and wisdom.

Nicholson mentioned a quote by President Barack Obama stating, "Native Americans stand amongst America's most distinguished authors, artists, scientists and political leaders. And in their accomplishments, they have profoundly strengthened the legacy in which we leave our children."

"American Indians bravely fought to protect that legacy as members of our armed forces. Native Americans have demonstrated time and again their commitment to advancing our common goals," he said.

Nicholson concluded by expressing his thanks for "those Native American brothers and sisters who continue to serve with us together against those enemies who would deny our freedom and liberty."

The rest of the festivities continued with more singing and dancing by members of the Native American community, which they invited those who attended the celebration to join in.

Those that were there were also able to sample different types of Native American foods, and get a chance to see and purchase various types of hand crafted Native American items and artwork.

Re-enlistment decisions need to be made earlier

By Rob McIlvaine
Army News Service

WASHINGTON — Soldiers who have their term of service ending in the next 11 months need to make a re-enlistment decision between now and Jan. 31, but no later.

"If your Expiration of Term of Service is in fiscal year 2012, you have to re-enlist before you hit 90 days from ETS, or Jan. 31, whichever date you hit first," explained Jim Bragg, chief of Enlisted Retention and Reclassification at the Human Resources Command.

Historically, the Army's retention mission would encompass October through the following September — the entire fiscal year.

This year, Army G-1, the staff that makes policy for retention actions, has broken the retention mission up into two phases, with the first phase running from Oct. 1 to Jan. 31. The second phase will start no later than March 1.

"In January, we're going to take a look at what we've done and then we're going to start Phase Two on March 1. But we don't know what the policies are going



Staff Sgt. Renaldo Edge, A Company, 1st Battalion, 13th Aviation Regiment, repeats the oath of enlistment from Capt. Justin Barnes, A Co. commander, during his re-enlistment ceremony in front of his advanced individual training students Nov. 4 at the U.S. Army Aviation Museum just prior to the current class' graduation ceremony.

to be for Phase Two yet. G-1 has not made that determination on what the window is going to be and what the policies are going to be. That's still being looked at. But more than likely, this determination will be made in January or February," Bragg said.

Also, with the Army downsizing, the perception might be that there are no bonuses or any kind of incentives out there anymore, Bragg said. That's not the case.

"We still have MOSs (Military

Occupational Specialties) that offer incentives to stay in or reclassify in. The MOSs we currently have a shortage of are:

- 12D, Diver
- 12P, Prime Power Production Specialist
- 31D, Criminal Investigations Special Agent
- 35F, Intelligence Analyst
- 35L, Counter-Intelligence Agent
- 35P, Cryptologic Linguist
- 37F, Psychological Opera-

tions Specialist

- 38B, Civil Affairs Specialist
- 89D, Explosive Ordnance Disposal Specialist

"So, if you're in a job that doesn't offer promotion potential, or you just want to do something different, that's where the Army needs you," Bragg said.

If a Soldier is in an MOS listed in the Selective Reenlistment Bonus message (MILPER 11-301 at <http://bit.ly/rHf9Xc>) and re-enlists, they'll receive a bonus to remain in that MOS.

"That's based on your MOS, a special skill you have, or maybe even a specific location you're in. If we're having a hard time filling it, we'll give you an incentive to stay in there," he said.

Also, if a Soldier volunteers to reclassify into an MOS listed in the Bonus Extension and Retraining, or BEAR, program (MILPER 11-302 at <http://bit.ly/vgKNJf>) from his or her current MOS, he or she will be paid a bonus upon graduation.

"Basically, I'll take you from your job that you're not getting promoted in, put you in this job, increase your promotion opportunity and pay you a bonus when

you complete training, if you're willing to change jobs and you meet the qualifications for an MOS in the BEAR program," Bragg said.

Other things still remain the same.

"We've always required Soldiers to meet the Army weight standards and the Army's physical readiness test standards before they're authorized to re-enlist. And when you get a bonus to re-enlist, the minimum is three years; the maximum is six," he said.

Soldiers who have questions about the re-enlistment requirements or bonuses available need to contact their unit career counselor.

"The career counselor's job in the Army is to talk to Soldiers about staying in the Army. They understand all these messages, they understand qualifications, and they have a direct line up here to my office. So, if they can't answer a question, they'll get it to us and we'll give them the answer and we work with them on getting the assignments and training for these Soldiers," Bragg said.



PHOTO BY ERIN MURRAY

Lt. Gov. visits Fort Rucker

Alabama Lieutenant Governor Kay Ivey visited Fort Rucker Nov. 9 on her first stop on a tour across the state representing the State of Alabama Job Creation and Military Stability Commission. Ivey explained that the trip helped her view Fort Rucker as "a huge, intensive training facility that has the tremendous support of the community of southeast Alabama."

Scholarship, grant applications available

By Brandon Masters
Picerne Military Housing

Applications for the 2012 Our Future Scholarship and 2012 Educational Grant are available online at www.ourfamilyfoundation.org.

The Foundation is committed to supporting military Families in the pursuit of higher education and has awarded more than \$3 million since 2006.

Applications for the Our Future Scholarship must be submitted by Feb. 16 and will be awarded to high school seniors with plans of attending a four-year university or college in the amount of up to \$50,000 each. The Foundation will select 10 children of active-duty servicemembers at Fort Rucker and several other Army installations Rucker to receive the scholarships based on merit and need. Recipients of a scholarship

will be notified by April 2.

This year, the foundation increased the award amount to up to \$50,000 to attempt to help military Families meet the strain of the rising cost of education.

"We are honored to help military Families reach their educational goals, and we hope these scholarships help the children and spouses of active-duty servicemembers to reach higher," said Maria Montalvo, Executive Director.

Applications for 2012 educational grants must be submitted by May 17. Grants are given in amounts up to \$5,000 for the spouse of an active-duty servicemember at the installations listed above. Applicants may be in any stage of the educational process. Recipients of a grant will be notified by July 2.

Applications and all necessary paperwork for both the Our Future Scholarship and Educational Grant must be

submitted by the due date in order to be considered. Awards for both the scholarship and grant are for use beginning in the fall of 2012.

Applications are available at www.ourfamilyfoundation.org, along with more information about the application process. People with questions can also call (401) 228-2836.

Our Family for Families First was created by John G. Picerno, president and chief executive officer of Picerno Military Housing, to support the spouses and children of active-duty servicemembers assigned to Picerno Military Housing installations.

Families do not have to reside in on-post housing in order to qualify for scholarships or grants. The Foundation also serves to further the primary mission of Picerno Military Housing — putting military Families First™.

News Briefs

CFC update

The Fort Rucker Combined Federal Campaign raised \$1,227,330 as of Monday, which exceeds the drive's goal of \$1,125,000, report local CFC officials.

The final amount raised will be announced at the CFC Victory and Awards Celebration Dec. 13 at 1 p.m. at the U.S. Army Aviation Museum. CFC and Army leadership will also recognize the organizations and project officers that attained 100 percent or greater goal completion, and also CFC Leadership Givers who gave \$1,000 or more. The event is open to all federal civil service, postal and military members.

For more information on the CFC, call 255-9261.

Burger King Express closes

Burger King Express, located inside Bldg. 6600, will close its doors Friday and will no longer operate at Fort Rucker. Burger King patrons may continue to dine at the recently renovated main Burger King, located in Bldg. 4300 across the street from the PX.

For more, call 598-9423.

ID card section closes

The Fort Rucker Mili-

tary Personnel Division offices, including the ID card section, will close at 11 a.m. Dec. 8 for the unit's holiday party. Normal operating hours will resume Dec. 9.

For more information, call 255-2484.

Holiday concert

Maj. Gen. Anthony G. Crutchfield, U.S. Army Aviation Center of Excellence and Fort Rucker commanding general, hosts a free holiday concert Dec. 13 at 6:30 p.m. in the post theater. Entertainment and sounds of the season will be provided courtesy of the 98th Army "Silver Wings" Band. The event is open to the public.

Black History committee

The Fort Rucker Equal Opportunity Office and Air Traffic Services Command will host the African American Black History Month committee Monday at 1:30 p.m. at the ATSCOM headquarters building. The committee will help plan the events for the upcoming African American Black History Month Observance in February and is open to all Fort Rucker community members, including Daleville, Ozark, and Enterprise.

For more, call Sgt. 1st Class David Kintz at 255-3750.

President announces jobs initiatives for veterans

By Donna Miles
American Forces Press Service

WASHINGTON — President Barack Obama announced executive orders Nov. 7 to give tax credits to employers who hire post-9/11 veterans and wounded warriors, as well as enhanced career counseling and related services for veterans.

The president, flanked by veterans association representatives in the White House Rose Garden, expressed concern that unemployment continues to increase among post-9/11 veterans, despite the skills and attributes they have to offer.

Today's 9/11 generation has performed heroically in some of the world's most dangerous places, he said, and "done everything that we've asked of them."

"We ask our men and women in uniform to leave their families and their jobs, and risk their lives to fight for our country," he said. "And the last thing they should have to do is fight for a job when they come home."

"And that's why we're here today," he continued, "to do everything in our power to see to it that America's veterans have the opportunities that they deserve and that they have earned."

To incentivize employers to hire them, the president announced a new Returning Heroes Tax Credit that will provide companies up to \$5,600 in credits for each unemployed veteran they hire. Similarly, a new Wounded Warriors Tax Credit offers employers up to \$9,600 for each veteran with service-connected disabilities they hire.

Obama also announced new initiatives designed to make it easier for veterans to find jobs.

Effective today, post-9/11 veterans can download a Veteran Gold Card that entitles them to six months of personalized case management, assessments and counseling services at roughly 3,000 One-Stop Career Centers nationwide. This service, which makes good on a pledge Obama made during a speech at the Washington Navy Yard in August, could benefit more than 200,000 post-9/11 veterans, White House officials said.

In addition, the Labor Department launched an online tool, My Next Move for Veterans, where veterans can enter information about their military experience and skills to identify civilian careers that put that experience to use, the president explained. The site also offers information about salaries, apprenticeships, and other related education and training programs, officials said.

Meanwhile, a new job bank that also took effect Nov. 7 will help connect unemployed veterans to job openings at companies seeking to hire veterans,



President Barack Obama signs an executive order on the Employment of Veterans in the Federal Government, Nov. 9, 2009, in the Oval Office at the White House. Obama announced executive orders Nov. 7, to give tax credits to employers who hire post-9/11 veterans and wounded warriors, as well as enhanced career counseling and related services for veterans.

PHOTO BY PETE SOUZA

Obama said.

Developed in partnership with leading job search companies, the registry enables employers to tag job postings for veterans. Obama noted today that more than 500,000 job openings already have been tagged.

Meanwhile, the president

urged Congress to move forward with his jobs bill that he said will further increase employment opportunities for veterans.

Obama recognized the leadership capabilities and specialized skills veterans bring to the workplace at a time when the nation needs

those capabilities to stay competitive.

"Connecting our veterans to the jobs they deserve isn't just the right thing to do for our veterans, it's the right thing to do for America," he said.

Recognizing that Americans recently commemorat-

ed Veterans Day, the president called it a time to honor those who have served in uniform and to "commit ourselves to serving them as well as they have served us."

"As commander in chief, I want all our veterans to know that we are forever

grateful for your service and for your sacrifice," he said. "And just as you fought for us, we're going to keep fighting for you: for more jobs, for more security, for the opportunity to keep your families strong and to keep America competitive in the 21st century."

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JIEDDO working to reverse trend for larger IEDs

By C. Todd Lopez
Army News Service

WASHINGTON — The amount of explosives used in improvised explosive devices in Afghanistan is increasing, while at the same time, the number of attacks are at “historic highs.”

In June and July, there were 1,600 improvised explosive device events in Afghanistan, said Lt. Gen. Michael Barbero, program executive officer, Joint Improvised Explosive Device Defeat Organization.

The good news, he said, is the number of IEDs found and cleared has gone up by 100 percent, as has the number of finds of caches of IED-building material.

During an Institute of Land Warfare breakfast Nov. 10 in Arlington, Va., Barbero said as many as 80 percent of IEDs in Afghanistan are made from ammonium nitrate coming from fertilizer plants in Pakistan.

Each factory produces as



much as 400,000 metric tons of the material each year, and about one percent of that makes its way to insurgents, where he said it's easily turned into inexpensive explosives. He also said 90 per-

cent of casualties in Afghanistan come from ammonium nitrate explosive.

Barbero said the JIEDDO and the intelligence community must focus on the network that brings

the material from those facilities into the hands of terrorists.

“From these two legally operating factories in Pakistan, we know where they are producing, we know who their distributors are – and we are getting great support from them,” he explained.

What is unknown, Barbero said, is where the transition point is between legal enterprise and criminal activity.

“What we don't understand is how this ammonium nitrate gets from the factories to these insurgents. That's the greatest intelligence gap we have,” he said.

Once that gap is identified, Barbero said, funding sources can be tracked, and other elements of U.S. government power could be brought in to affect change – including both the State Department and the Treasury.

Barbero said that in 2011, there was about \$2.44 billion in funding for JIEDDO. While not “locked in” yet, he said, it's expected that in 2012 and 2013 that

number will be about the same.

“We'll be able to do what we need to support our warfighters,” he said.

The general said there is talk about modifying authorities for JIEDDO to support other federal agencies, because he said the IED threat has expanded beyond Iraq and Afghanistan.

“These networks and these IEDs are coming to a 14th Street Bridge near us,” he said, referring to a major commuter route into Washington, D.C. “We need to be able to share better with our interagency partners the intelligence and information we have on technology and the networks.”

In January, Barbero said, JIEDDO will publish a strategy that “goes beyond Afghanistan” to detail some enduring IED threats and to offer a description of the kinds of research and development needed to counter them “so we can start the dialogue and collaboration on finding solutions and capabilities.”

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Ceremony: 'The strength of our Army is our Soldier'

Continued from Page A1

Veterans Day was originally Armistice Day to commemorate the end of World War I, the War to End All Wars, but that moniker proved a little too optimistic, and the day became Veterans Day to honor all of those who served in the military in service to the nation.

"The United States of America couldn't have survived without the service of our veterans, and still we rely on the nation's military to do the hard work of our nation each and every day," Wolf said. "This fact is especially poignant as we enter our 11th year of an Army at war. Our all-military volunteer force began 38 years ago, and today I remain in awe of the courageous men and women, who even in the face of certain deployment to hostile lands, far from Family and friends, continue to answer the call of duty.

"Since 2003, in fact, and the beginning of Operation Iraqi Freedom, close to a million new Soldiers have raised their hand and said 'Pick me, I'll go.' It is truly a humbling thing to be a part of," he added. "It is also

fitting that we recognize your Families for their sacrifices. The spouses, the children, the parents of our Soldiers are truly the backbone of our Army.

"Our chief likes to say 'The strength of our Army is our Soldier, the strength of that Soldier is their Family.' We must never forget the dedication and the selflessness it takes to put the Army's needs before your own. I personally thank all of you for what you do each and every day. And most importantly, we also remember today those who have paid the ultimate price for our freedom."

He added that at 11 a.m. Friday, a combined color guard executed present arms at the Tomb of the Unknown.

"Our nation's tribute to America's war dead is symbolized by the laying of a wreath while 'Taps' is played, giving us time to reflect on all our veterans and their Families have sacrificed and the more all of our country has given in the name of the free," Wolf said. "We mourn the empty seat at the table during the upcoming holidays. We mourn for the children who will never again enjoy the tender hug from mom or dad. We mourn for the spouses left behind, and we mourn

for the mothers and fathers who have endured the unimaginable by outliving their children.

"We also mourn the physical and emotional wounds of Soldiers at war continuing to fight courageously each and every day," he added. "Though my words may be of little comfort, let me remind all of you, as I remind myself every day, these Soldiers, your Soldiers, all of our servicemen and women, gave whatever was asked of them for very little. But they were proud of the selfless service they gave to our nation each day.

"I don't know the name of every Soldier who's given his or her life for us, but I say 'Thank you,' to all of them, and most especially to the Families for what they sacrificed for our nation. They are truly representative of all that is good about our country."

Many veterans at the ceremony were impressed by the amount of people that turned out to honor them, including John McNair, who served 22 years in the Air Force and Army, and who added that he had something to say to today's servicemembers.

"Thank you so much for the sacrifices you've made," he said. "Hopefully, every-

thing is going to work out good, we'll win, and you can come home, and you and your children can be safe and live your lives. God bless you all, we appreciate you so much."

Wolf added to that appreciation for the current generation of military during a media interview after the ceremony.

"A lot is said by pundits about our youngsters in our nation today, but I see it each and every day, these youngsters are part of what I call the next greatest generation," he said. "They really are. They say, 'Pick me, I'll go,' and not for any grand illusions like money. It's all about, 'I need to serve my nation today,' knowing there's that blank check. And they still say, 'I'll give,' and sometimes it's their lives in defense of our nation — it's incredible."



Scan this code with your smartphone to view a Veterans Day message from Gen. Martin Dempsey

Quarter: 'When they took that challenge, they were making a sacrifice'

Continued from Page A1

award," he went on to say.

Boone feels that his preparation and discipline helped him push through to attain the title.

"I hope that I set an example for my peers and that people will continue to recognize what good preparation can achieve," he said. "I would say to those that wish to win this award to make sure you continue to work on your physical training throughout the year, and study your regulations to the letter."

Guest speaker, Command Sgt. Maj. George R. Kingston, 1st Aviation Brigade, spoke about the

importance of choosing the NCO and Soldier of the quarter and competing through each of the boards. "All you're doing is honing your skills and knowledge," said Kingston, "and this, in turn, gives us a better tool to use as a Soldier for our Army."

"It's about a greater cause," he said. "These young men today have started the journey on identifying themselves as something much more than an individual in an Army, but being part of that Army and a team player. They sat in a room somewhere and dedicated some time to applying themselves to studying and honing their

all around knowledge of being a Soldier.

"They weren't just competing against themselves, but competing against their peers, trying to one-up the Soldier to the left

and right. When they took that challenge, they were making a sacrifice," said Kingston.

He added that the Army owes Soldiers the opportunity to better themselves

and set themselves apart from their peers, and this award gives them that opportunity.

Kingston went on to thank both Boone and Hager for caring enough about

the Army to be willing improve upon themselves and stand up as individuals.

"That lets old guys, like me, know that our Army is going to be in good hands in the future," he said.

Sacrifice: 'We choose to absorb more of the world's problems'

Continued from Page A1

them on behalf of all of the Families who will receive their support in the form of Thanksgiving meals," said Gonzalez.

"Because [Soldiers] have chosen to wear this uniform, I think we choose to absorb more of the world's problems than other people out of selflessness. The students have to learn selflessness and sacrifice now," said Morano.

James explained that the food drive is one of many initiatives by the company to help their fellow Soldiers in addition to the surrounding community.

"This is the first food drive we've done. We're continually working at new efforts. Students are a naturally good selection for these projects, because they're available and their schedules don't interfere with extra work. We're trying to give back to community," he said.

While the donation was over two tons, Gonzalez explained to the Soldiers loading the food that much of it would be gone within a little as a week, because many charitable organizations will collect the items for their Thanksgiving meals. With that need in mind, Gonzalez was glad to have such large donations come from Fort Rucker before the holiday season.

"The Food Bank was recently chosen by several classes of Soldiers at Fort Rucker as the beneficiary of their community service projects. These men and women have dedicated their lives and the lives of their Families to the service of our great country and are also having a large impact on the quality of life of their surrounding community," she said.

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Man's best friend finds new mission

By Megan Locke Simpson
Fort Campbell Public Affairs

FORT CAMPBELL, Ky. — About 90 "Strike" Soldiers with the 2nd Brigade Combat Team, 101st Airborne Division (Air Assault) were the Army's first Soldiers to participate in the Tactical Explosive Detection Dogs program.

The last time they deployed to Afghanistan, they had man's best friend walking beside them.

The dogs came from Vohne Liche Kennels in Indiana, which trains dogs to detect the scent of chemicals or other materials used in the manufacture of improvised explosive devices, or IEDs. Dismounted IEDs pose a great risk to Soldiers deployed to southern Afghanistan. Therefore, the brigade wanted to find new ways to combat this problem.

"My [brigade] commander, Col. Art Kandarian, stressed the importance of having every Counter-IED enabler for the 'Strike' Soldiers — one of which are working dogs," explained Maj. Christine Lancia, former 2nd BCT provost marshal officer who now works as a training plans officer with the 101st Airborne Division, in an email.

The program created was similar to other programs in existence. The brigade also did much of the initial research by looking into

the Marine Corps' military working dog programs.

"Our program is extremely similar to the 'Lucky Dog Program,' but this program and dog was ultimately named Tactical Explosive Detector Dog Program," Lancia said.

Strike sent 90 dog handlers through training, and 89 of these Soldiers completed the course. Dogs came from a K-9 training facility that specializes in providing dogs for explosive and narcotic detection.

"These dogs saved lives and limbs of Strike Soldiers," Lancia said. "Strike TEDDs (Tactical Explosive Detector Dogs) found numerous IEDs, homemade explosives and caches during 9-10 month deployment."

The dogs provided assistance for a different set of Soldiers, not just strictly military police.

"These Soldiers are assigned to the BCT, and their MOS (Military Occupational Specialty) is immaterial," Lancia said.

To become a dog handler, the participating Soldiers trained with their new battle buddy for eight weeks prior to deployment, with four weeks spent in Indiana and the final four in Arizona. Once deployed, the dogs' primary duties included dismounted patrols, as well as traffic control points.

"The Soldiers are trained

on how to care for the dog, control the dog and learn how to recognize the signals the dog exhibits when it is on 'scent,'" Lancia said. "Some dogs sit, some stare at the location, other may walk slower or wag its tail more. That is why the length of training is critical to allow ample time for the Soldier to work with a particular dog to learn its unique behavior."

The dogs used on loan by Strike Soldiers may go on to help other Army missions, or if no longer capable, go out to be adopted.



PHOTO BY SGT. KIMBERLY LAMB

Cpt. Michael Bellin, veterinarian assigned to Gulf Coast District Veterinary Command, asks Spc. Zach Laker, Tactical Explosive Detection Dog handler and infantryman assigned to Alpha Company, 1-148th Infantry, 37th Infantry Brigade Combat Team, to escort Sassy, his TEDD, to the scales during a check-up at Camp Shelby Joint Forces Training Center, Nov. 7. The 37th IBCT will be utilizing TEDDs during their upcoming deployment to Afghanistan in support of Operation Enduring Freedom.

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TRAINING
UAS maintainers prepare a Shadow 200 for training
Photo on Page D4

NOVEMBER 17, 2011

Military researchers discuss finding more bang for buck

By David McNally
RDECOM

BALTIMORE — Military officials mingled with thousands of industry representatives Nov. 7-10 for MILCOM 2011 at the Baltimore Convention Center.

The annual event is touted by its organizers as the “premier international conference for military communications.”

For Maj. Gen. Nick Justice, the commanding general of the U.S. Army Research, Development and Engineering Command, the gathering provided a venue to discuss the impacts of implementing better buying power in Department of Defense research and development, or R&D.

Justice moderated a panel of senior leaders from across military research organizations, including John Miller, the director of the Army Research Laboratory; Walter Jones, the executive director of the Office of Naval Research; and Donald Woodbury, the director of the Strategic Technology Office from the Defense Advanced Research Agency.

Each of the subject matter experts spoke about how they were meeting the challenge of conducting innovative research and development in a resource-constrained environment.

Miller highlighted what the Army Research Laboratory is doing in the face of the budget limitations.

“Some things that I’d like to focus on as we move into much more austere environments are leveraging our investments, pooling our investments through



Maj. Gen. Nick Justice, U.S. Army Research, Development and Engineering Command commanding general, leads a panel discussion at a Baltimore convention Nov. 9.

PHOTO BY CONRAD JOHNSON

innovative partnerships, and focusing on technology for affordability, as well as early evaluations of not only technologies, but system concepts,” Miller

said.

The goal of significantly reducing costs in research and development may be achieved if vulnerabilities are discovered

early on, he explained.

Miller said his organization is looking at affordability and controlling cost growth, incentivizing productivity and innovation

in industry, and promoting real competition.

“How can we in the S&T community promote competition?” Woodbury asked.

Woodbury explained how the DOD may leverage commercial technology and components.

“We are at a time when the military communications market is evolving very rapidly and it’s an opportunity for all of us to get affordable, high-performance technology into the hands of the warfighter,” Woodbury said.

Industry uses planned obsolescence for introducing new technologies such as smart phone developments.

“Planned obsolescence reduces sustainment costs substantially,” Justice said. “I think that is a tremendous way to get in line with business.”

Miller also said it is important to consider supportability early in the process.

“We need to leverage and partner,” he said. “We need to do that within the DOD as well so that we are pooling our resources and addressing the fundamental core requirements we have for new systems and new technology across all the services. Innovative partnerships are fundamental to our business processes.”

Following the presentations, Justice opened the floor to a stream of questions from conference attendees.

“We are all very fortunate because we work in a fascinating field,” Justice said. “Even in hard times, it’s still exciting in this industry, and we just have to be better systems thinkers, as well as systems engineers.”

Wounded Warrior makes most of setback by relying on resiliency

By Neal Snyder

U.S. Army Installation Management Command

FORT SAM HOUSTON, Texas — Col. Gregory D. Gadson made the story of his personal obstacles into a stepping stone as he took the U.S. Army Installation Management Command’s senior leadership through a discussion of resiliency Oct. 31.

Gadson, director of the Army Wounded Warrior program, described the path he’s taken since losing most of both legs to a roadside bomb in Iraq in 2007, speaking to attendees of the monthly IMCOM Headquarters Leadership Development Program.

“Resiliency is not something you pick up,” Gadson said. “Resiliency is not something you pull out of your pocket. It’s something you have to work on every day. It’s about how you deal with life.”

Gadson joined the Army to play on the West Point football team. A field artillery officer, he served in every major conflict of the past two decades: Kuwait (Desert Shield and Desert Storm), Bosnia-Herzegovina, Afghanistan and Iraq, where he encountered an improvised explosive device.

He shared lessons learned since traveling that Iraqi

road.

“There are no shortcuts in healing. It’s a process,” he said. “As dramatic as it is physically, it’s much more challenging emotionally and intellectually. What I found out is life is not about what we don’t have; it’s about what we have. I feel so fortunate to be here and the opportunity to continue serving.”

Gadson has earned two advanced degrees. He personally tests and advocates for new prosthetic technology. He will take command of the Fort Belvoir garrison in July.

“I don’t like to give energy to things that are negative,” Gadson said. “Saying, we will not fail is different than saying, we will succeed. It’s a possibility that A, B and C might happen, but don’t give energy to the negative. Be aware, but don’t give it your energy.”

“Of all the things I wanted to do, I didn’t want to fall. I came to accept that falling would be a part of my life and I didn’t need to be afraid or embarrassed about it. I analyzed it and decided what I would do. Would I let it stop me, or would I accept it? Ultimately I accepted it,” he said.

“Don’t ask why. Ask what. Don’t ask why is this happening. Instead of asking why, ask what. Why isn’t it important.”



PHOTO BY CRAIG COLEMAN

Col. Greg Gadson tries out the first set of battery-powered “bionic” prosthetic knees, called Power Knees, in April 2010.

World War II veteran still serving, working to protect people, environment



PHOTO BY MAJ. CAROL MCCLELLAND

World War II veteran Frank Cupp, a former technical escort Soldier, talks to current technical escorts 1st Sgt. Rebeca Franco and Master Sgt. Terry Sykes, 22nd Chemical Battalion and Michael Rehmer (second from left), CBRNE Analytical and Remediation Activity, as well as Bill Brankowitz who interviewed Cupp on information from more than 60 years ago.

By Maj. Carol McClelland

20th Support Command (CBRNE)

ABERDEEN PROVING GROUND, Md. — A World War II veteran’s memories may help the U.S. Army save millions of dollars while protecting people and the environment.

Frank Cupp, 85, recently visited the Historical Office at the U.S. Army Research, Development and Engineering Command to share memories while assigned to a technical escort unit in the late 1940’s. He was met by current and former technical escort Soldiers from the 20th Support Command and presented with mementos and appreciative words for his service, but within five minutes of his arrival, it was all business.

“If you’ll look at this map in these areas,” a chemical engineer said pointing to a map that nearly covered a large conference table, “do you recall which types of munitions were buried in these areas?”

Without hesitation, Cupp responded with

names of chemicals and types of weapons for more than an hour, discussing different explosions and trips he had taken as a Soldier in a technical escort unit in 1948 and 1949, with answers to nearly every question asked.

Bill Brankowitz, the senior chemical engineer asking the questions, works for Science Applications International Corporation in its homeland protection and preparedness section. As a past deputy project manager for Non-Stockpile Chemical Materiel Project, U.S. Army Chemical Materials Agency, or CMA, he’s supporting the program with historical research.

SAIC is a contractor to CMA which manages storage of the U.S. chemical weapons stockpile. CMA is destroying most of the chemical weapons stockpile, but also is responsible for destroying non-stockpile chemical warfare materiel such as recovered chemical weapons and chemical sam-

SEE VETERAN, PAGE B4

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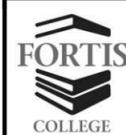
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Continued from Page B1

ples. The organization is involved in clean-up efforts at Redstone Arsenal, near Huntsville, Ala., where U.S. and captured German chemical agents and surplus chemical munitions and agents were buried after World War II.

Technical escort missions have not changed dramatically through the years. They provide the Department of Defense and other federal agencies with a unique, immediate response capability for chemical and biological warfare material. Their missions include worldwide response for escorting, rendering-safe, packaging, sampling verification, mitigating hazards and identifying weaponized and non-weaponized chemical, biological and other hazardous material.

The workers at the historical office located Cupp from technical escort trip reports that included information on cleanup efforts from more than 60 years ago. After his time in the unit, Cupp left the Army and lived in Harford County, working as a civilian at the Edgewood Area of APG con-

ducting inspections.

"People thought we were nuts," Cupp said, remembering his time as a technical escort handling chemical agent disposals and decontamination. "But the way I looked at it, if I survived the war, I might as well survive this. This would be peanuts."

Cupp, who now lives in Pennsylvania about two hours away from APG, initially was reluctant when he got the call asking for assistance, according to his daughter-in-law, Cynthia, who along with Cupp's son, David, accompanied the veteran to APG.

"He had to be convinced the information was not classified anymore," she said.

"You remember very well, and that's been a huge help to us," Brankowitz told Cupp as he was leaving. "Now we know where to track for rockets and what to air monitor for. The more you have to monitor, the more expensive it gets," he later explained.

"He's probably saved us millions," said Kathleen Cioffi, an RDECOM technical information specialist in historical operations who was present for the interview.



World War II veteran Frank Cupp shows Bill Brankowitz and Kathleen Cioffi areas of a Redstone Arsenal, Ala., map and discusses his recollections on buried chemical munitions there.

PHOTO BY MAJ. CAROL MCCLELLAND

A few days later Brankowitz received an email from Cynthia Cupp that included a quote from her father-in-law:

"This is the first time I have felt like someone really appreciated my service to my country," he was

quoted in the email. "It's the first time I have been appreciated as a veteran."

She concluded the email with a statement of her own.

"You have brought back a light and purpose to his living; some-

thing a Soldier should never die without. Once a Soldier, always a Soldier!"

"This was worth doing far above the information we received," Brankowitz said after reading her message.



PHOTO BY SGT. KIMBERLY LAMB

TRAINING FLIGHT

Staff Sgt. Michael Rosier, unmanned aircraft system maintainer assigned to Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 37th IBCT, gives instruction to Spc. Jeffrey Smith, UAS maintainer also assigned to 37th IBCT, and Col. James Perry, 37th IBCT brigade commander, in preparation for the Shadow 200 UAS training flight at Camp Shelby Joint Forces Training Center, Miss., Nov. 5. The UAS will be used by the 37th IBCT during their upcoming deployment to Afghanistan in support of Operation Enduring Freedom.

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NOVEMBER 17, 2011



Sgt. Maj. Keith Cooper, 1st Bn., 223rd Avn. Regt., carves a beef roast during the annual Thanksgiving meal for Soldiers at the dining facility last year.

PHOTO BY RUSSELL SELLERS

Happy Thanksgiving

Installation events help Soldiers, Families give thanks

By Erin Murray
Army Flier Staff Writer

Many members of the Fort Rucker community will take a day to give thanks and spend time together Nov. 24 and many events around the installation will honor the Thanksgiving holiday throughout the week.

Wednesday, the Warrant Office Career College Consolidated Dining Facility will hold a special Thanksgiving dinner from 10:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. The dinner is open to Soldiers, retirees, Family members and guests. The menu includes holiday standards like turkey, ham, pie and eggnog, along with a variety of other options for any palate. The cost of the dinner is \$7, with a discount of \$5.95 offered to Families of those ranked E4 and below. For dining schedules and additional information, call 255-3017.

The Landing will also host a Thanksgiving feast Nov. 24 from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. While the old-fashioned holiday meal will be open to the public, there will be a special rate for Soldiers, children and military Families, said Janice Erdlitz, Directorate of Family, Morale, Welfare and Recreation marketing.

"In honor of Month of the Military Family, The Landing will offer a special military rate of \$39.95 for two adults and two children under 12 years old. Other prices are \$17.95 for adults, \$7.95 for children ages 6-12, \$3.95 for ages 3-5 and ages 2 and under will eat free," she said.

For more information on the Thanksgiving feast or to make reservations, call The Landing at 598-2426.

Families who want to enjoy a home-cooked meal can also visit the commissary to stock up before the Thanksgiving holiday. Terry Ford, the commissary's acting store director, said that customers should

not fear shortages on holiday essentials

"We ran out of things last Thanksgiving, but this year we have an abundance of turkeys and hams along with a great assortment of baked goods. I can assure you that we won't run out this time," he said.

In between shopping, cooking and preparing for the holiday, people can also stop by Anthony's Pizza in the exchange food court for discounted pizzas and last-minute shopping. Susie Antonello, AAFES visual marketing manager, said that the pizzas were offered so that Families could have a quick meal while preparing their own holiday treats.

In addition to many special meals and events, several on post facilities will change to special holiday hours, with Army and Air Force Exchange Service facilities closed all day Nov. 24 and then several opening early for Black Friday sales on Nov. 25.

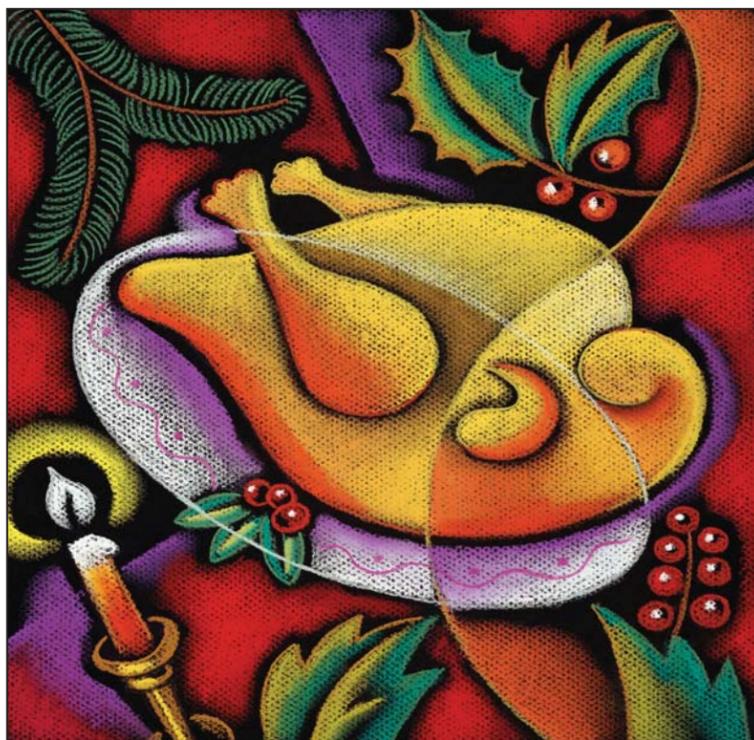
Among the specials offered by the post exchange Nov. 25 are discounts on fuel and gifts, along with low or no interest plans on purchases made with Military Star cards. The AAFES Mini Mall and convenience stores will also offer free coffee for Black Friday shoppers waking up early from midnight to noon, Antonello said.

She encouraged community members to check out the many sales, discounts and promotions held at the exchange throughout the holiday season.

She added that shopping on post is not only convenient, but directly benefits DFMWR and the Army Family.

"The money spent at our facilities comes right back to the community. Very few businesses can boast that," she said.

For more information on AAFES holiday events, call 503-9044.



ON POST

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

Night Under the Stars

The Directorate of Family, Morale, Welfare and Recreation hosts a "Night Under the Stars" Saturday in conjunction with the "Tell Me a Story" program. The event is a tribute to military families and starts at 5 p.m. at Lake Tholoco's West Beach. The evening will include activities for teenagers and children, storytelling by the garrison commander, a free movie called "Planet 51" on the big screen, a bonfire with s'mores and a camp out. People are welcome to bring tents, blankets, chairs and camp out at the event. Breakfast will be available to purchase the following morning for those who will be camping out. The event is for military ID holders, and in case of inclement weather the event will be moved to the youth center gymnasium.

For more, call 255-9810.

Creative Social

The arts and crafts center hosts creative socials every third Thursday of the month from 4:30-6 p.m., with the next one today. The social is for aspiring artists to share ideas, inspiration and resources, and also serves as an opportunity to showcase artists' work. The socials are open to the public.

For more, call 255-9020.

Comedy Live and band

Comedy Live at Rucker will feature comedic group "A Pair of Nuts" Friday at The Landing. Doors will open at 7 p.m. and the comedy show starts at 8 p.m. The show is considered adult rated for ages 18 and up. Advanced tickets are \$10 and are available today. Tickets are \$15 at the door. Food and beverages will be available for purchase.

Natalie Stovall will perform at The Landing after the Comedy Live show at about 10 p.m. Cover charge is \$5, but it is waived for patrons who purchased a Comedy Live ticket. The events are open to the public.

For more, call 255-9810.

Youth Adjusting to Change bus tour

The youth center hosts a Youth Adjusting to Change bus tour from 1-5 p.m. Saturday. The tour is free and is designed to familiarize new students with their new home, school and community.

For more, call 255-9812.

Character Dining

The Landing Zone hosts Character Dining every Tuesday from 5-7 p.m. This Tuesday, there will be a Thanksgiving Festival. Children 12 and under eat free from the Kid's Buffet with the purchase of an adult entrée (limit two per adult). The event is open to the public.

For more, call 598-8025.

Thanksgiving Day Feast

The Landing offers an Old Fashioned Thanksgiv-



PHOTO BY RUSSELL SELLERS

Thanksgiving at the DFAC

First Sgt. Jef Fisher, C Co., 1st Bn., 13th Avn. Regt., hands a plate of food to Staff Sgt. Erica Williams, NCO Academy student, during last year's Thanksgiving celebration at the Dining Facility. This year, the Warrant Officer Career College Dining Facility hosts a Thanksgiving meal Nov. 23 from 10:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Soldiers, retirees, family members and guests are invited to take part in the meal. The meal costs \$7, with discount rates for family members of Soldiers E-4 and below and small children. The menu includes turkey, ham, prime rib au jus, baked stuffed fish, sweet potatoes with maple glaze, cornbread dressing, mashed potatoes and more. For more, call 255-3017.

ing Feast with all the trimmings Nov. 24 from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. The feast costs \$17.95 for adults, \$7.95 for children ages 6-12, \$3.95 for ages 3-5 and free for ages 2 and younger. In honor of Month of the Military Family, The Landing will offer a special military rate of \$39.95 for two adults and two children, ages 12 and under. The event is open to the public.

For more, call 598-2426.

DFMWR ornament contest

Fort Rucker's Directorate of Family, Morale, Welfare and Recreation hosts a Christmas ornament contest now through Nov. 25. Prizes will be awarded to first-place entries in the following categories: 3-5 years, 6-8 years and 9-11 years. An overall winner will also be chosen and will help light the post Christmas tree at the Tree Lighting Ceremony Dec. 1. Ornaments may be turned in to the youth services center, child development center, or central registration in Bldg. 5700. All entries will be displayed on the post Christmas tree.

For more, call 255-1749.

Christmas tree lighting

Fort Rucker hosts its Christmas Tree Lighting Ceremony Dec. 1 with a visit from Santa Claus from 5-6 p.m. The ceremony will also include music and hot chocolate. After the ceremony, The Landing offers complimentary photos with Santa and Mrs.

Claus who may also have treats for good girls and boys. A buffet-style dinner will also be available for purchase at The Landing following the ceremony. The event is free, open to the public and friendly for those Families with exceptional members.

For more, call 255-1749 or visit ftruckerdmwr.com.

Annual Spaghetti Dinner

The Landing hosts the annual Spaghetti Dinner in Legends right after the Christmas Tree Lighting Ceremony Dec. 1. Dinner will include a choice of pasta, sauce, salad bar, garlic bread, assorted cookies, tea and coffee. Prices are: Family of four (two adults and two children 12 and under) is \$20, adults 13 and older is \$8, children ages 3-12 is \$5 and children under 2 eat for free. The event is open to the public.

For more, call 598-2426.

Anger Management Workshop

The Family advocacy program hosts an Anger Management Workshop Tuesday and Nov. 29 from 9-11:30 a.m. at the Early Childhood Activity Center. Topics for this two-part class include, identifying causes of anger, symptoms of anger, techniques on how to manage anger and developing an anger management plan. Registration is required and the workshop is open to active duty, retired military, Department of Defense employees and Family members.

For child care information and registration, call 255-3898.

DFMWR Spotlight

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Natalie Stovall

10 pm - 1 am
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For details call 255-9810.
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FORT RUCKER MOVIE SCHEDULE FOR NOVEMBER 17-20

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 17

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 18

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 19

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 20

Drive (R) 7 p.m. Moneyball (PG-13) 7 p.m. Real Steel (PG-13) 7 p.m. The Ides of March (R) 7 p.m.

TICKETS ARE \$4.50 FOR ADULTS AND \$2.25 FOR CHILDREN, 12 AND UNDER. MILITARY I.D. CARD HOLDERS AND THEIR GUESTS ARE WELCOME. FOR MORE INFORMATION, CALL 255-2408.

Sesame Street launches site to help separated kids

By Chelsea Place
Army News Service

ARLINGTON, Va. — In an effort to relieve confusion and anxiety that children feel during their parent's deployments, the non-profit organization behind television's "Sesame Street" has created a new digital initiative.

The initiative's website, familiesnearandfar.org, premiered to 300 military Family members Nov. 5 on Joint Base Myer-Henderson Hall, Va. At the event, Families enjoyed an hour-long show with special guest speakers from military installations and the Sesame Workshop, the nonprofit organization also behind the television show "The Electric Company."

The Sesame Workshop initiative will be distributed through various military channels, including the Department of Defense Education Activity. It will also be available as an application for certain phones and digital devices.

"It's for military Families, for them to stay connected," said Sesame Street fairy Abby Cadabby at the premiere. "They can share how they are feeling, talk to each other, post pictures and do artwork."

As president and CEO of Sesame Street Workshop, H. Melvin Ming explained how the effort came about after he found out 800,000 school-aged military kids were affected by parents being deployed.

"We learned more about (deployment). We learned about what it might do to a child to not be able to connect with their parent for a long time," he said. "Explain to a 2-year-old that I'm going away for a year. How would a 2-year-old get that? Well, Elmo has a way of helping a child connect with this dimension of time, this dimension of separation."

"The strength of our servicemen and women come from the strength of their Families, and the



Choreographer Brian Thomas joins Jessica and Shock from The Electric Company as they teach military Families the dance to the new "Let it Out" video Nov. 5.

strength of their Families comes from the support of community organizations," said Myer-Henderson Hall Commander Col. Carl R. Coffman, about the shows helping out military Families.

Defense Centers of Excellence for Psychological Health and Traumatic Brain Injury Director Navy Capt. Paul S. Hammer and Office of the Secretary of Defense's Principal Director of Military Community and Family Policy Charles Milam, also spoke at the event, discussing what the initiative was and what it will mean for military Families.

To end the show, the characters Abby Cadabby and Gordon from "Sesame Street" did an abbreviated show for young children in the audience about expressing feelings, followed by the characters

Jessica and Shock from "The Electric Company" performing for the older children in the audience.

At one point in the show, Abby Cadabby, providing an example of being separated from a parent, said she missed her mommy because mom had to go on an important fairy godmother mission and couldn't take Abby with her.

"Just because your mommy is far away doesn't mean you can't talk to her and tell her how you feel. It is always important to talk and share how you feel whether you are feeling happy or sad," said Gordon sympathetically.

The initiative is all about, "connect, create and communicate." The website allows Families to connect online via writings, pictures, drawings, music, creating music and sharing files with Family members far away. "We get to meet a lot of

military Families and kids and we talk with them and help them express how they feel through the power of words," said Jessica.

After the hour-long show ended, parents and children spread out across Conmy Hall to experience various stations, including a Web demo, coloring and crafts, snacks, "The Electric Company" application station and two meet-and-greet areas for children who wanted to hug Elmo and Grover. Children decorated a cloth bag, keepsake box and hand

puppet at the event.

"As somebody who has just come back, it's great to see the support for the Family. It's good to see that as we are [deployed], they are getting this kind of support here," said Marine Corps Maj. Randy Stone from Quantico.

Stone attended the event with his wife, Brenda, and two children, Juliette, 2, and Daniel, 3. The Family said they had a fun time. In fact, Daniel was so excited he ran through the doors into Conmy Hall, said his mom. "If you have access to the

Internet and are able to log on and see what they are doing, it's a wonderful tool. I wish they had it when I was just over there," said Stone.

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to visit the official Sesame Street website.

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1 Corinthians 11:1

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Religious Services

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- Multi-Cultural Worship Service, 8 a.m., Sunday.

MAIN POST CHAPEL (BLDG 8940)

- Catholic Confessions, 4 p.m., Saturday.
- Catholic Mass, 5 p.m., Saturday
- Catholic Mass, 9:30 a.m., Sunday.
- Liturgical Service, 8 a.m., Sunday.
- General Protestant, 11 a.m., Sunday.

WINGS CHAPEL (BLDG 6036)

- Contemporary Protestant Service, 9 a.m. and 11 a.m., Sunday.

SPIRITUAL LIFE CENTER (BLDG 8939)

- Protestant Sunday School, 9:30 a.m., Sunday.
- CCD (except during summer months), 10:45 a.m., Sunday.

ADULTS GROUPS

- Protestant Women of the Chapel meets every Tuesday at 9 a.m. at Wings Chapel. Childcare provided.
- Military Council of Catholic Women meets every Thursday from 5:30 - 7:30 p.m. at the Spiritual Life Center. Childcare provided.
- Catholic Adult Fellowship meets regularly throughout the year. For more information, call 255-9894.



COURTESY PHOTO

Pick-of-the-litter

Meet Pumpkin, a 12-week-old female retriever mix breed. She is sweet and playful. It costs \$81 to adopt her, which includes spaying, a microchip and heartworm testing. For more information on animal adoptions, call the stray facility at 255-0766, open from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. The 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. Visit the Fort Rucker stray facility's **Facebook** page at <http://www.facebook.com/fortruckerstrayfacility/> for constant updates on the newest animals available for adoption.

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Dallas Cowboys honor servicemembers

By Sgt. Eric Glassey
4th Public Affairs Detachment

ARLINGTON, Texas — Servicemembers from all branches of the military were honored at the Dallas Cowboy's stadium during their Sunday game against the Buffalo Bills.

Nearly 75 Soldiers from III Corps and Fort Hood, Texas, represented the Army by marching on the field during the halftime show and giving tours of their static displays.

"We created an opportunity for the military to be recognized by the fans at this football game," a spokesperson for the Dallas Cowboys said. "The Cowboys have a long history of supporting the military. Mainly in part of the Cowboys' fans who support the troops."

Members from the Army, Navy, Air Force, Marines and Coast Guard brought displays showcasing what they do for the defense of the United States.

"All five branches are doing military displays, but III Corps is kicking everybody's butt," the Cowboys' spokesperson said about the Texas-based unit. "We have more than 400 personnel from all the branches here today."

The Soldiers brought an M1A2 Abrams, an M2A3 Bradley Fighting Vehicle, two High-Mobility Multipurpose Wheeled Vehicles and an AH-64 Apache attack helicopter.

Crowds of Cowboys fans flocked around the troops, thanking them for their service and posing for

photos while the troops gave each inquisitive fan a tour of their respective vehicle and a brief description of their job within the service.

While enjoying the free food provided by the United Services Automobile Association staff, meeting Roger Staubach, a Navy veteran and NFL Hall of Famer, and watching the Texas, represented the Army, 44-7, was the highlight for the majority of the troops' day; it paled in comparison to Sgt. Justin Willits' surprise reunion with his wife, Marla, and daughter, Joanna, during the half-time show.

"I'm so excited," Willits, a satellite communication specialist, 1st Cavalry Division, said. "I can't wait until she sees me walking across the field. This is a true dream. This blows every other reunion out of the water."

Willits is on his mid-tour rest and recuperation for two weeks from Afghanistan and is currently serving his third deployment. He served the previous two in Iraq.

"I had to adjust my leave," Willits said. "A bunch of people applied for this opportunity, but I got it. She has no idea that I am here," he added prior to stepping out on the field during halftime.

During the halftime show, all five branches had a contingent march out upon the field with the place of honor being held front and center for the U.S. Army and its colors. In addition, the 77th Army Band, from Fort Sill, Okla., played various military and patriotic songs as the service members marched onto the field.



PHOTO BY SGT. ERIC GLASSEY

Soldiers from III Corps and Fort Hood, Texas, depart the field following the halftime show during the veterans appreciation game at the Dallas Cowboys' stadium in Arlington, Texas, Sunday.

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Salute to Armed Forces

Troy University hosts its Salute to Armed Forces Saturday at 2:30 p.m. during the Troy Trojans football game against the Florida Atlantic Owls at Veterans Memorial Stadium in Troy. Complimentary tickets are available to active duty military personnel the day of game. Please be prepared to show a valid military ID at Gate 1 for admittance. Any military Family member or veteran with a valid military ID may purchase a discounted ticket day of game for \$8 at Gate 1. Military personnel in uniform who travel as a unit may enter the game as a group through a pass gate. Please contact the Trojan Ticket Office for more details (877) 878-9467 or 670-3482.

WIREFLASS COMMUNITY CALENDAR

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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. Call 222-6612 for more information.

DALEVILLE

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

ONGOING — The Wiregrass Museum of Art hosts First Saturday Family Day the first Saturday of every month at 10:30 a.m. Children and parents will learn about color, shape, texture and different types of art such as painting, drawing and collage. The event is recommended for elementary aged children. For more information, visit wiregrassmuseum.com or call 794-3871.

ENTERPRISE

TODAY— Disabled American Vet-

erans Chapter No. 99 pre-holiday meal will be at Ryan's Family Steak House, 609 Boll Weevil Circle, Enterprise at 6 p.m.

TUESDAY —The Association of the United States Army, in partnership with the City of Enterprise, is hosting their annual Awards Luncheon at 11:30 a.m. at the Enterprise Civic Center. The guest speaker this year is Maj. Gen. Perry G. Smith, the Adjutant General for the State of Alabama. Tickets for the lunch are \$15 and tables are \$120. They can be purchased by calling 348-2603 or 494-2999. Individuals and businesses can also sponsor a table for soldiers for \$120.

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 7 p.m.

For more information, call Bob Cooper at 347-7076 or visit the VFW Post 6683 on Facebook.

ONGOING — Enterprise State Community College holds English as a Second Language at the Fort Rucker campus Mondays and Wednesdays from 9 a.m. until noon in Bldg. 4502 Rm. 131.

GENEVA

ONGOING — The Geneva County Relay for Life meets the last Tuesday of the month at 6 p.m. at the Citizens Bank.

For more information, call 248-4495.

MIDLAND CITY

ONGOING — Residents are invited to Town Hall meetings the first Tuesday of each month at 5:30 p.m. at Town Hall, 1385 Hinton Waters Ave.

For more information, call 983-3511.

NEW BROCKTON

ONGOING — Adult education classes are offered in Rm. 12 at New Brockton High School, 210 South Tyler St., Mondays and Wednesdays from 6-9 p.m.

All classes are free for individuals 16 years old or older who are not enrolled in public school.

Individuals must take an assessment test prior to attending class. Call 894-2350 for more information.

OZARK

SATURDAY — Dale County Council of Arts and Humanities is sponsoring an art show featuring works by Beverly West Leach at the Ann Rudd Art Center, 144 East Broad Street in downtown Ozark from Saturday to Jan. 7.

DCCA will sponsor an opening reception for the show, titled "Shaping My Thoughts," Saturday starting at 6 p.m. featuring singing duo Holly and Brantely at 7 p.m., and dancing from 8-10 p.m. with music by DJ ED.

A \$5 donation to DCCA will be accepted at the door.

DEC. 3 — The Ozark-Dale County Humane Society will be host "Pet photos with Santa Claws" at the Salvation Army Family Store in Ozark from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. The price for the photo with frame and doggie treats is \$10, with all proceeds benefiting the Humane Society.

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.

Beyond Briefs

Eclectic Trade Days 2nd Saturday

Local vendors sell antiques, artwork, clothing, baked goods and farm fresh produce on the second Saturday of every month through December at The Warehouse in Eclectic from 7 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Throughout the day, activities such as music, contests, educational displays and Family activities will accompany the trading. For more information, call 541-2148.

Green and Gray Saturday

The National Park Service hosts a free green living program on the second Saturday of each month at 1 p.m. at Little River Canyon National Preserve in Fort Payne. For more information, call 256-845-9605 or visit www.nps.gov/liri.

A Day in the Park Benefit

Friends of local man Steven Benton, who is waiting for a liver transplant, will host a benefit concert and day of activities Saturday at John Hutto park in Newton starting at 11 a.m. For more information, contact Jamie at 362-0432 or Joanna at 714-7849.

ArchiTreats Lecture

The Alabama Department of Archives and History

hosts the monthly Montgomery ArchiTreats: Food for Thought lecture each month. This month's lecture by Fred Gray, entitled "The Civil Rights World in Alabama" is today from noon-1 p.m. Attendants are encouraged to bring a sack lunch. Coffee and tea will be provided by the Friends of the Alabama Archives.

For more information, visit www.archives.alabama.gov.

Galaxy of Lights Walking Nights

Friday through Tuesday from 5-7:30 p.m., Huntsville Botanical Garden hosts Galaxy of Lights, a mile and a half-long holiday light extravaganza featuring animated light displays. Children can visit with Santa Claus at the end of the walk and warm refreshments will be available. Admission is \$5 for adults and \$2.50 for children.

For more information, visit www.hsvbg.org

Saturday Jam Sessions

Nov. 26, Old Alabama Town hosts Saturday Jam Sessions from 9 a.m. to noon at the historic Rose House. Musicians can bring acoustic instruments and join the fun. Admission to the jam sessions is free. For more information, call 240-4500 or visit www.oldalabamatown.com.

Hunter Appreciation Day

The city of Pine Apple will host the 16th annual Hunter Appreciation day Nov. 26 in downtown Pine Apple from

8 a.m. to 7 p.m.

The event is hosted to thank the many hunters and their Families who make the Pine Apple area their recreational home and to celebrate the opening of hunting season and features area cooks, artists, merchants, craftsmen, traders.

There will also be an antique car parade at noon and big buck contest at 6:45 p.m.

For more information, visit <http://www.pineapplealabama.com/hunterapp.htm>.

Run/walk for arthritis

Huntingdon College in Montgomery hosts the Jingle Bell Run/Walk benefiting Arthritis research Dec. 3 from 8:30 a.m. to noon.

The Family event features a 5k competitive run, a free tot trot, Family run and 1-mile Santa Chase for children under 8.

To register or for more information, call 244-1179 or visit www.arthritis.org.

Bow Wow Pow-Wow

The Troy Pike Animal Shelter Bow-Wow Pow-Wow Adoption Event will be held Dec. 3 from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. at Sears in Troy.

Guests can meet animals up for adoption and enjoy free family and children's events.

For more information, call 808-8898 or visit <http://www.pikeanimals.org/>.

Veterans Day kicks off photo contest to showcase overseas duty

By Terri Moon Cronk
American Forces Press Service

WASHINGTON — A contest of photographs depicting the daily life of military deployments and overseas assignments, as captured through the camera lenses of military members, veterans and diplomats, kicked off on Veterans Day.

The contest to select the 1,000 winning photos for an exhibit, 'Serving Abroad ... Through Their Eyes,' launched Friday and will continue through Presidents Day, Feb. 20, Defense Department officials said.

Winning entries will be showcased at the Smithsonian Institution's American Art Museum, U.S. embassies around the world, the Pentagon and other prominent, international venues in 2012, officials said.

"We're looking for the most-compelling photos that show the friendships, places, faces, losses and triumphs [of deployment]," said Lt. Col. Luke Knittig, DOD public affairs, who is helping to coordinate the Defense and State Department project.

Photos taken overseas since 2000 by active-duty troops, veterans and foreign servicemembers should represent daily life during a deployment, in a combat zone or from a humanitarian relief mission, he said.

The goal, Knittig said, is to show everyday events through the eyes of those who serve as ambassadors representing the United States around the world. The images will be part of an audio and video montage.

Contest photos must meet the exhibit's theme of friendships, places, faces, losses and triumphs of an overseas mission, and entries will be judged by a panel of up to seven people, Knittig said.

The selecting judges will be "prominent Americans, famous and famously skilled," according to a joint department press release. Confirmed judges include retired Air Force Gen. Richard B. Myers, former chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, and Pulitzer prize-winning combat photographer Joao Silva, who lost both of his legs in Afghanistan last year after a land mine exploded underneath him.

The 1,000 winning photos will be announced on Armed Forces Day, May 19.

The secretaries of Defense and State will invite the top 10 best of show winners to Washington, D.C., as honorees for the exhibit's VIP opening next November, officials said.

The contest and exhibit are part of the State Department's upcoming Art in Embassies' 50th anniversary commemoration. That program, formalized by President John F. Kennedy's administration, is one of the premier public-private partnership arts organizations in continuous operation in 180 countries worldwide, according to State Department officials.

The Art in the Embassies program plays an important role in U.S. public diplomacy through a culturally expansive mission that creates temporary exhibits and permanent collections,



PHOTO BY SGT. CHRISTOPHER BARNHART

Staff Sgt. Adam Mancini takes a photograph of Afghan children near Forward Operating Base Baylough, March 17, 2009. Mancini, a member of the Joint Multinational Readiness Center Viper team, placed second in the Department of Defense Military Photographer of the Year Competition Combat Documentation category for a photo he took of Company B, 1st Battalion, 4th Infantry Regiment while deployed to Afghanistan with the company in early 2009.

artist and cultural exchange programming, and publications, they said.

Contest rules, photo specifications and submission forms are

posted on the "Serving Abroad ... Through Their Eyes" website at <http://www.ourmilitary.mil/their-eyes/serving-abroad-through-their-eyes/>.

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Our ministries focus on every aspect of the family... youth, women and brotherhood. We are in partnership with the Dale County 211 Emergency Assistance Program and consider it a great privilege to serve those in need.

Feel free to stop by for a full, hot breakfast every Sunday morning 9:00 am to 9:40 am. We are located at 1366 Hwy 84 East, Daleville, Alabama - across from Karl's German Bakery and may be reached at **334-598-4778 or 334-503-9935.**

See you Sunday!

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.

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NOVEMBER 17, 2011



COURTESY PHOTO

Fort Rucker Soldiers practice an exercise that prepares them for the long-jump portion of recent tryouts for the German Armed Forces Proficiency Badge.

Soldiers earn German Armed Forces Proficiency Badge

By Nathan Pfau
Fort Rucker Public Affairs

The German armed forces proficiency badge was awarded to 22 out of the 37 Soldiers who competed to earn the prestigious award Nov. 7.

The ceremony kicked off with Sgt. Maj. Mohamed Bouhoulou, German army liaison staff member and training supervisor for the Soldiers, welcoming the Family members, guests and participants with a slideshow that showcased what the Soldiers had to endure over the past four weeks.

"The German Armed Forces Proficiency Badge is a foreign award offered by the host country, Germany, made available to U.S. servicemembers in 1972," said Bouhoulou. "It is based on overall military performance, their physical ability and most importantly, the overall professional character of the Soldier."

Bouhoulou is responsible for all the proficiency badge events and has trained nearly 100 American Soldiers that have earned the badge, according to Lt. Col. Martin Geller, German liaison officer.

The badge itself is awarded in gold, silver and bronze, and the badge that is awarded is determined by the results of the road march and shooting performance portions of the exercise, said Bouhoulou.

"The pistol qualification requires a Soldier to hit three targets, with five rounds from 25-meters away, and the road march is the culminating even where Soldiers must carry no less than 15 kilograms of gear throughout the march," he said.

The remainder of the events that the Soldiers must complete to get the badge include the 200-meter swim, long jump, 100-meter sprint, shot put and the 3000-meter run.

Members of the German Army liaison staff, Family members of the participants and the participants themselves came together for the awarding ceremony where

the participants were presented with the badges.

Of the 22 Soldiers that received the badge, only one received the silver badge, with the remaining 21 receiving gold, said Geller.

"It's not easy. It's not a piece of cake to get this specific German award. I know some of these athletic disciplines are not known in the U.S. armed forces and were never trained before," Geller said in reference to events such as the shot put and long jump.

According to Capt. Jose Nunez, participant and recipient of the badge, the hardest events for him were the long jump and the shot put.

"The technique that's involved in the jump and the shot put, you've got to do it right," said Nunez. "[The shot put] is not like throwing a baseball - the ball is really heavy."

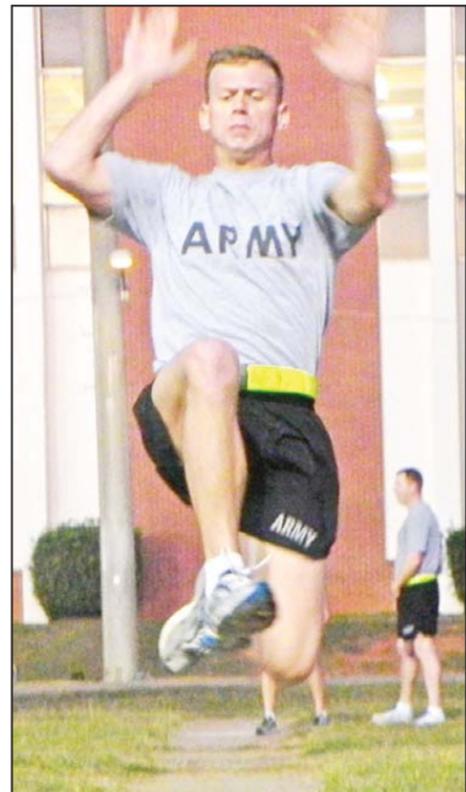
Capt. Kiera Zimmerman, also a participant and recipient of the badge, spoke of how the long jump was the hardest event for her. "It's not something I was used to. The shot put was easier for me because I have a lot of upper body strength."

"I think it's awesome that we get the opportunity to earn a foreign-service badge, you don't get that opportunity everywhere," said Zimmerman.

In order to be eligible to compete for the badge, the Soldiers must possess a high level of aptitude and discipline to be recommended to compete for the badge, said Geller. "The company commander has to sign a letter that says that the specific Soldier is without any disciplinary problems. [The Soldier] must have a clean record."

Geller congratulated all of the Soldiers on their accomplishments and expressed how impressed he was with their performance.

"I heard that you were all fighting through the point of exhaustion," he said. "We in the German armed forces had a whole year to fulfill all of these events and you all did it in four weeks. Congratulations again."



Sgt. Zachary Jarrell, 164th Theater Airfield Operations Group, takes part in the long-jump portion of recent tryouts for the German Armed Forces Proficiency Badge. Jarrell was one of 22 post Soldiers to qualify for the badge.

PIGSKIN PICKS



Panthers @ Detroit

Jaguars @ Cleveland

Raiders @ Minnesota

Bengals @ Baltimore

Seabawks @ St. Louis

Chargers @ Chicago

Eagles @ N.Y. Giants

<p>Jim Hughes Fort Rucker Public Affairs (45-25)</p>							
<p>Master Sgt. Jimmy Lindsey DPTMS NCOIC (43-27)</p>							
<p>Erin Murray Army Flier Staff Writer (47-23)</p>							
<p>Capt. Mike Simmons Directorate of Public Safety (48-22)</p>							
<p>Sharon Storti Network Enterprise Center (42-28)</p>							

GRIDIRON CORNER

Week 10: Tebowmania reaches new heights

By Jim Hughes
Command Information Officer

Week 10 in the NFL at first glance looked like an interesting week — then it actually happened and became infinitely more interesting.

Season-ending injuries, bad attitudes and bad play, traitor cheerleaders, overtime stupidity, a top team totaling itself on a speed bump and another team breaking out the 1950s-era playbooks — and succeeding — yes, truly Week 10 had it all, or at least enough to make it fun. Well, unless you're a Ravens fan. Or a Lions fan. Or a Jets fan. Or if you were hoping the whole Tim Tebow thing would just go away.

Let's start with the, um, biggest (?) news and keep adding fuel to the Tebowmania fire as Denver won again, despite Tebow only completing two passes, and season-ending injuries to the team's top two running backs.

Once the team caved to public opinion and installed Tebow as quarterback, Broncos head coach John Fox must've immediately scouted through online auctions to find a playbook from the 1940-50s. While Tebow's stat lines are some of the most interesting in recent history for a QB still with a job, you can't argue with results. He's 3-1. And while this success has the team at 4-5, it can't last. NFL defenses are great at adjusting, and I'm sure there are 1940-50s defensive playbooks online, unless Fox bought them all up.

On top of Denver losing its top two running backs to injuries for the season, the Houston Texans, just when it looked they were positioned to finally make the playoffs and probably even make some noise there, QB Matt Schaub goes down for the season.

The new starter is none other than Matt Leinart, who couldn't even earn the starting job with the Cardinals, who have been embarrassingly quarterback-challenged since Kurt

Warner called it quits.

But don't despair Texans fans, there is hope. In one year, the team miraculously turned its defense from its weakest point into one of its strongest, and Houston proves time and again it can run right over just about anyone. Leinart will also benefit from getting star wide receiver Andre Johnson back, so the playoffs are still looking good, but the making noise part is in question.

Speaking of playoffs, there are several teams who looked like top guns in the road to the Super Bowl whose super chances now look like duds after Week 10.

Case in point: New York Jets. The Jets were on a roll and looking like the team to beat as they were playing well and the Patriots looked done. But the demise of Tom Brady and Co. was apparently quite exaggerated as the Pats dismantled the Jets in New York Sunday night, 37-16, and it wasn't even that close.

Other case in point: Detroit Lions. The Detroit Lions might want to drop the Bad Boys image at some point and try to win games. I know when you're not far removed from an 0-16 season, you want to show you're different now that you won a few games. But the Chicago Bears destroyed the Lions in every way possible to earn a tie with Detroit for second place in the division. The Bad Boys thing worked for the Pistons for a while, but the Lions forgot one key thing to being the baddest guys on the block — you have to win, or it comes across as juvenile.

And even another case in point: Baltimore Ravens. What's the best way to follow up your biggest win of the season over rival Pittsburgh and set yourself up for a division crown and home-field advantage in the playoffs? Well, it's not totaling yourself on a speed bump in the form of the Seattle Seahawks. The Ravens fell, 22-17, and managed to reverse every gain they made last week, as the Steelers are now in first while the

Ravens are chasing a wildcard. This marks the third time this year the Ravens won a big game and then experienced an epic fail against a lesser opponent.

We also saw a new touchdown celebration when Buffalo Bills WR Stevie Johnson caught a TD pass, and then proceeded to run over to his girlfriend, give her the ball and a little hug. While the pros and cons of public displays of affection as TD celebrations can be debated into eternity, more importantly the move immediately exposed his girlfriend's traitorous deeds — she's a Cowboys cheerleader! The Cowboys won, so I guess that lessens the impact. But if Johnson gets traded to or signs with the Redskins, she's got to dump him.

Atlanta head coach Mike Smith probably could've used some affection from someone after gift wrapping an overtime win for the Saints. I'm sure Drew Brees would've hugged him. I know, I know, if you go by percentages, the Falcons had a like a 60 percent chance to win the game if they had pulled it off on fourth and one, and the Saints defense is porous at almost all times, and Brees and Co. are awesome, and on and on.

But, really, you need to weigh the fact that there is 0 percent chance you win if you don't make it, which is what happened. Smith also needs to address what message he sent to his defense with that call. If you're going to be a team taken seriously as a contender, you don't admit you're afraid of the other guy — even if it is Brees. Fourth and one on your own 29 in overtime in your house: punt and let your defense do its job.

Speaking of doing your job, how about the San Diego Chargers? Is any team better than Phillip Rivers and the Lightning Bolts at snatching defeat from the jaws of victory? Again, another team that went from forerunner to wannabe — but in the AFC West, a wannabe will win. And if it's the Broncos, then Tebowmania is ours forever.

Stanford falls, hopes rise for 1-loss teams

By David C. Agan Jr.
Fort Rucker Public Affairs

Week 11 of the 2011 college football season is in the books and the Bowl Championship Series national championship picture is starting to become a little bit clearer.

The No. 1-ranked LSU Tigers and No. 2-ranked Oklahoma State Cowboys both made it through the weekend undefeated and remain atop the BCS rankings.

The Stanford Cardinal, however, didn't fare so well, falling to the Oregon Ducks, 53-30. The Ducks reminded everyone that they remain a force to be reckoned with. For 60 minutes, they made the Cardinal look like a junior varsity team and in the process took a big step towards playing for the PAC-12 conference championship.

Stanford's loss dropped them all the way down to the ninth spot in the BCS and improved the chances of several of the country's one-loss teams to eventually play for BCS national championship. The handwringing has begun in full force and the annual specter of BCS chaos has finally appeared upon the horizon.

It's pretty clear what the top-ranked teams need to do in order to earn their shot at the title game: keep winning. The remainder of

both LSU and Oklahoma State's schedules are eerily similar. They each face a seemingly lackluster opponent on the road a week before playing a tough opponent at home to wind up the regular season.

If the LSU Tigers are going to hold on to their No. 1 ranking, they'll need to dispatch the Ole Miss Rebels in Oxford, Miss., before returning home to face the No. 6-ranked Arkansas Razorbacks in a game that you can bet will be one of the most closely-watched games of the year in this part of the country.

To say that Ole Miss hasn't been doing well of late is a bit of an understatement. They've lost 12 consecutive conference games, the last of which was to the Kentucky Wildcats who, until meeting the 'Rebs, had yet to win a conference game this season. Fourth-year Ole Miss Head Coach Houston Nutt is leaving after the end of this season and, hopefully, they'll hire a head coach that can coach and recruit, tandem abilities that Ole Miss head coaches haven't been able to do at the same time for the better part of the last decade.

It's easy to imagine that the LSU Tigers might be looking past Ole Miss and ahead to their regular-season finale against Arkansas. You can be sure, though, that LSU Head Coach Les

Miles isn't so focused on the Razorbacks that he's ignoring the challenge in Oxford. The danger posed by Ole Miss is simple: they have absolutely nothing to lose.

Barring the unfathomable, LSU will remain undefeated when the No. 6-ranked Arkansas Razorbacks come to call Nov. 25. Unlike the Ole Miss Rebels, the Razorbacks have absolutely everything left to play for. The Hogs have very quietly climbed their way up the BCS ladder with a single loss coming at the hands of the No. 3-ranked Alabama Crimson Tide back in September.

If Arkansas can manage a win against LSU, we'll

see a three-way snarl at the top of the Southeastern Conference's Western Division and things will get very, very interesting.

Here's the scenario:

The Crimson Tide beat Arkansas earlier in the season and, of course, the LSU Tigers defeated Alabama in the "Game of the Century." According to the SEC, if Arkansas were to defeat LSU, the circumstances for the eighth and final three-way tiebreaker are met. With all three teams ending the regular season with an 11-1 record, the teams with the highest BCS ranking after the last weekend of regular season play would represent their division

unless the next team in line is ranked within five-or-fewer places of the highest ranked team.

Well, all three teams — LSU at No. 1, Alabama at No. 3 and Arkansas at No. 6 — are ranked within three spots of each other. So how would it shake out? The computers would probably rank LSU higher since they've got one more quality out-of-conference win than Alabama and Arkansas. But, remember: the computers are only one-third of the BCS equation and it's much more difficult to predict where the human voters would rank these teams.

I'd love to see this happen, but I'm not one of

the handwringers who pray for BCS chaos every year. While the BCS may be imperfect, it has managed to produce a reasonably satisfactory No. 1 vs. No. 2 championship game since its inception. But a three-way tie to determine who represents the Western Division in the SEC championship game? The Internet might implode under the combined weight of melt produced by these fan bases and that would be entertainment so monumental it could only be described in cosmic terms. When your team is having as bad a season as my Auburn Tigers are, schadenfreude is

SEE COLLEGE, PAGE D4



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Weekly SUDOKU

Answer

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

TRIVIA

Answers

1. Roberta Flack
2. Bibendum, or the Michelin Man
3. Kneecap
4. Polly
5. Ninth month of the Islamic calendar
6. Kaffir cat
7. 15 years (1975-90 for 6,137 shows)
8. California
9. 504
10. 1920

PUZZLE ANSWERS

Super Crossword

Answers

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

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 Kent Anger, Plans, Operations and Mobilization Division (58-19)							
 Maj. Michael R. Ivy, 1-13th Avn. Regt. XO (55-22)							
 Shane Jones, Network Enterprise Center (56-21)							
 Capt. Paul McKinney, B Co., 1-13th (47-30)							

College: Teams work to match each game count, eye bowl series

Continued from Page D1

all you have left.

The situation with Oklahoma State is somewhat less riveting. This weekend they're on the road to face Iowa State (5-3), and judging from their ability to rack up huge amounts of points week in and week out, they should have no problem handling the Cyclones. It's the second "trap" game in a row for the Cowboys, who are fresh off making mince meat of the Texas Tech Red Raiders, 66-6.

Everything is beginning to line up for Oklahoma State. With only two games remaining on their regular season schedule, they need to dispatch Iowa State this weekend and then begin preparing for the Bedlam

game against Oklahoma. It's worth noting just how completely the Cowboys dominated Texas Tech not only on the offense but on defense as well. The Red Raiders didn't make it into Cowboys territory until the second quarter and, by then, Oklahoma State was up, 35-0.

Defense has been the weak spot for Oklahoma State all year but, in reality, they've managed to hold

their own for the most part. They've only allowed their opponents to score one first-half touchdown or less in seven of their games this season. If they can maintain that level of performance or even manage to improve some, it could be enough to get them to the BCS national championship game as long as their offense continues to produce. Limiting turnovers wouldn't hurt

them, either, which is easier said than done when you're as eager to take risks as the Oklahoma State offense is.

Of course, all of this goes to pot if either LSU or Oklahoma State doesn't manage to make it out of "Trap Game Weekend" alive. I've been watching SEC football for most of my life and I must say that I can't imagine this LSU team losing to Ole Miss. It would be more surprising

than when the Rebels beat Tim Tebow and the Florida Gators, 31-30, back in 2008. I'm somewhat less versed in Big 12 football but this Oklahoma State team is so adept at scoring points that it's hard to picture Iowa State slowing their offensive juggernaut at all or being able to score more points themselves.

So, how about we make this interesting? We didn't make LSU vs. Ole Miss or

Oklahoma State vs. Iowa State choices in our Army Flier NCAA Pigskin Picks contest this week, but I'm going to officially pick LSU and Oklahoma State to win this weekend. Based on my performance during Week 10, when I fired in a 2-5 record for my worst final score of the season thus far, one of those teams should lose and the race for the BCS will really start to heat up.

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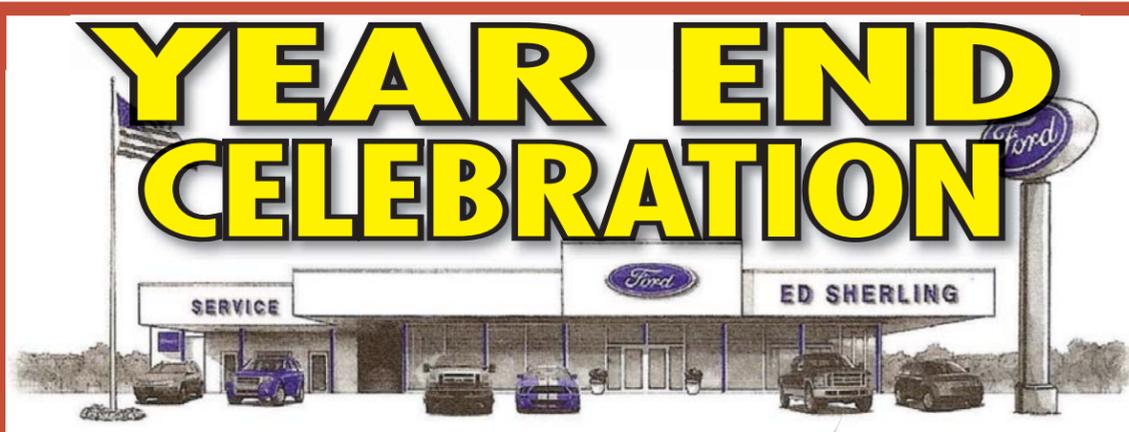


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