



36TH ENGINEER BDE RUGGED NEWS



INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

WARFIGHTER EXERCISE	1
COMMAND CORNER	2
COMMAND TEAMS	3
VETERANS DAY CEREMONY	4
20TH EN HIGHLIGHTS	5
62ND EN HIGHLIGHTS	6
RUGGED SPOTLIGHT	9
SANTA'S RUCK MARCH TURKEY BOWL	10
UPCOMING EVENTS	12

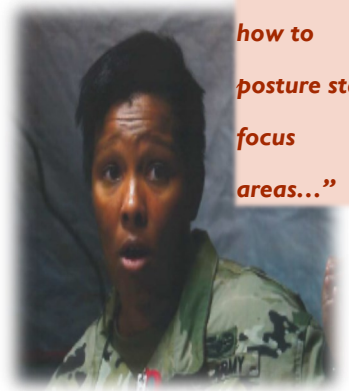
Warfighter Exercise

To thrive in combat, the military must always develop through training, recover from defeats and make constant progression through research and preparation exercises. In order to complete those tasks, maintain, and improve unit readiness



ness the 36th Engineer Brigade executed a Warfighter Exercise (WFX) from October 28 through November 17, 2016 on Fort Hood, Texas. This exercise assisted in developing the leaders in the battalions by sharpening skill sets in their area of expertise. The mission challenged and trained the unit to assume subsequent missions in support of global contingency operations. As the Brigade XO tirelessly lead and intent.” This exercise allowed the Brigade to sharpen and refine necessary areas and skills to ensure absolute readiness when the nation calls.

posture staff focus areas to ensure absolute readiness when the nation calls.



“My biggest challenge was trying to predict where and how to posture staff focus areas...”



36th ENGINEER “RUGGED” COMMAND CORNER



COL Mark C. Quander
Commander, 36th EN BDE



CSM Ronald G. Patterson
CSM, 36th EN BDE

Rugged Family - Command Sergeant Major Patterson and I are extremely proud of the Brigade. Less than a month ago, we completed our fourth major exercise evaluation (EXEVAL) in nine months. This accomplishment is an amazing feat, as some Brigades might only conduct one EXEVAL every two years. Not only did the Brigade maintain an unprecedented operational tempo, but everyone performed phenomenally. We received high praise from all the evaluators and you should be extremely proud of this team. We could not have been as successful through this time without the incredible support from our family and friends maintaining the home front while we conducted all these training events. We want to wish you and your family a Happy Holiday season and we hope that you are able to spend some time with family and friends enjoying some well-deserved rest. Stay safe over the holiday season and we look forward to seeing you all in 2017.

“RUGGED” Family Readiness

CPT Rolesta Brooks 36th EN BDE FRL
SFC Douglas Erickson 20th EN BN FRL
SFC Eric Placencio 62nd EN BN FRL
SSG Nakia Wallace HHC CO FRL

Assists the battalion commander in maintaining an active and effective FRG and overall Family Readiness Program, provides support communicating command-level care for the well-being of soldiers and their families and oversees daily operations and administration. The FRL refers family members with issues or concerns to the applicable community and or military resource, as well as coordinates supplies and logistical support for the FRG from the unit to include commander approved use of government property and facilities.

36 Engineer Battalion Command Teams



LTC Carl Dick

4 EN BN
"Vanguard"
(Fort Carson)



CSM Robert Ferguson



LTC Jacqueline Reini

5 EN BN
"Fightin Fifth"
(Fort Leonard Wood)



CSM Tulio Crosthwaite



LTC W. Neil Craig III

20 EN BN
"Lumberjacks"
(Fort Hood)



CSM Alejandro Rosasolis



LTC Stephen J. Kolouch

62 EN BN
"Hammer"
(Fort Hood)



CSM Eric Gordius



This nation will remain the land of the free only so long as it is the home of the brave.”
—Elmer Davis



Veterans Day: A day of Honor and Solace

History

An Act (52 Stat. 351; 5 U. S. Code, Sec. 87a) approved May 13, 1938, made the 11th of November in each year a legal holiday—a day to be dedicated to the cause of world peace and to be thereafter celebrated and known as "Armistice Day." Following World War II and the approval of this legislation (Public Law 380) on June 1, 1954, November 11th became known as Veterans Day, a day to honor American veterans of all wars. Veterans Day is traditionally observed on November 11, regardless of what day of the week it may fall. Honoring November 11 as Veterans Day not only upholds the historical significance of the date, but helps highlight

the purpose of Veterans Day. This day should be a celebrated in honor America's veterans for their patriotism, love of country, and willingness to serve and sacrifice for the common good. It is extremely important to 36th Engineer Brigade to honor those before us, brave and true, that made the selfless sacrifice to proudly serve. The City of Kempner held its Annual Veterans Day Ceremony November 11, 2016 in Kempner, TX. 36th Engineer Brigade helped memorialize Veterans Day admirably by supporting the city of Kempner with our very own color guard and DCO as the speaker. The color guard was made up of soldiers from 62nd Engineer

Battalion under the authority of SSG Shane Garcia. The team represented our Brigade well. The DCO, LTC Molica spoke movingly thanking Veterans for

36th Engineer Contribution

their service, patriotism, and valor in support of our country. He also challenged non-Veterans, to remember that as Americans, we have a duty to honor all veteran's service and to ensure their sacrifices are not forgotten in our respective communities across the nation and world. The mayor of Kempner was extremely thankful for the time taken to commemorate the program.





LUMBERJACKS Give Back



Make a Difference Day, the national day of doing good. This annual celebration of neighbors helping neighbors joins thousands of local volunteers with millions of volunteers across the country to make an impact in

our communities. Fort Hood volunteers helped various non-profit organizations and Families in need Oct. 21 through Oct. 23 during the largest Make a Difference Day in the Central Texas area. More than 6,000 volunteers from across Fort Hood, with an additional 2,000 individuals from Killeen not affiliated with the post, completed 93 community service projects. 20th Engineer lumber-

jacks decided to make a difference by donating 75 lbs of dried pasta to the Copperas Cove soup Kitchen on October 21, 2016. SPC Fanesha Hall expressed "It felt great to be able to give back to the less fortunate. Every little thing helps toward making a difference, everyone isn't blessed enough to give so I am honored to contribute". Thank you for your selfless service!

20TH EN BN LEADS THE WAY

The 20th Engineer Battalion "Lumberjacks" have continued to move forward going into the winter months of 2016. Multiple company's completed their NTC rotations and company internal training continuing to refine how they operate on the battlefield. When we look back at 2016, the Lumberjack family is very proud of what we have accom-

plished and is eager keep the momentum growing into 2017. Recently the Battalion has been able to participate in multiple Brigade functions and was able to welcome MG Chalmers to our footprint briefing him on the capabilities of multiple pieces of equipment utilized by the 59th MAC.

Briefing MG Chalmers on the various capabilities within 20th Motor pool



Soldiers pose with MG Chalmers in front of an XM 104 Wolverine

Diablos the Reigning Champions

The "Diablos" of HHC, 20th EN BN retained the Lumberjack Fitness Axe for the month of November completing the competition ahead of the remaining companies. Each Sol-

dier's strength and stamina was tested having each participant complete multiple iterations of burpee's, push-ups, sit-ups, half jacks and shuttle sprints with various weighting pieces of equipment. The event

culminated with a lap around Rugged Hall in which all materials had to be hand carried to the designated finish line. The "Diablos" set the standard for the other companies to emulate. BUILD AND FIGHT!!



Bushwackers Cross The Gap

From 4-7 December, elements of 59th Mobility Augmentation Company (MAC), fresh off of platoon validation training, provided one four-Soldier Engineer Reconnaissance Team (ERT) and two Wolverine crews to 2nd Brigade, 1st Cavalry Division (2/1 CAV) for their Brigade External Evaluation. The Wolverine is a special engineer vehicle which can launch a bridge over a gap, such as a river or steep ditch, up to 24 meters in width. The ERT integrated with a troop from 4-9 Cavalry and enabled the gap crossing efforts by identifying a suitable crossing site for the 2/1 CAV Brigade Commander's approval. At this site, third platoon's Wolverine crew led by SSG Chartier advanced to the gap at 1630 on 6 December and safely and effectively launched a bridge over the flowing water. Ten vehicles consisting of Abrams tanks, Bradley fighting vehicles, and HMMWVs crossed over the bridge and advanced to the far side. After this bridge was "destroyed" in the scenario, first platoon's Wolverine crew led by SGT Beasley advanced to



another crossing site and also bridged the gap, allowing the rest of the task force to pass through. This event marked the first time in two years that 36th Engineer Brigade has launched a bridge over a 'wet gap' on Fort Hood, and a further validation of the efforts the unit has made to increase proficiency and operator readiness with these systems. With 59th MAC currently the only unit on Fort Hood able to provide this gap crossing capability, exercises such as this one are a great way to demonstrate the potential of the system and reach realistic training benchmarks.



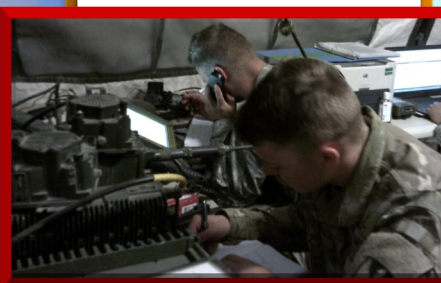
Thundering Herd Attacks



The 510th Clearance Company under the command of CPT Andrew Mellon and 1SG Jaime Castro fearlessly took on the missions of the National Training Center (NTC) from October 18th to November 18th, 2016. NTC's mission is to provide tough, realistic joint and combined arms training. Their focus is at the battalion task force and brigade levels. The way missions are set up the center is

able to identify unit training deficiencies, provide productive feedback to improve the force and prepare for success on the future joint battlefield. The developed exercises assist commanders in developing trained, competent leaders and soldiers. The thundering herd excelled in the missions set before them: route clearance, wire obstacle employment, tank ditch emplacement, berms, terrain denial, disabled persons collection and more. NTC strategically assisted in molding the leaders to be agile,

adaptive, able to prevail in conditions of ambiguity, think fast, make sound decisions, exercise disciplined initiative, and give commands. CPT Mellon states "the Herd provided excellent support to 1/1 AD through use of the Route Clearance and Equipment Platoons for wide area security, survivability, and counter-mobility. Soldiers of the Herd did a fantastic job at adapting to the needs of the Brigade and executing missions beyond their normal set. The company was a combat multiplier that kept the routes clear of IEDs, kept critical mission command nodes safe, and put in over 5km of obstacles. 1SG and I couldn't be more proud of our Soldiers."



Colombian Officers Visit 74th MRBC

In September 2016, 25 Colombian officers visited the 74th Multi-Role Bridge Company in order to broaden their knowledge on the U.S. Army gap crossing capabilities. The 74th MRBC motor pool was the last stop on the Colombian Staff College trip throughout multiple military

installations across the country. Prior to learning about the bridging capabilities of 74th, the Colombian Air Force, Navy, and Marine officers also learned about the capabilities of Strykers, various helicopters, and Abrams tanks around Fort Hood. They also visited Joint Base Lewis-McCord,



Washington DC, and Camp Pendleton prior to their stop at Fort Hood. The officers, who would be the rank equivalent of U.S. Army majors and lieutenant colonels, also toured the EST to view the simulation training Fort Hood has to offer to all Soldiers.



62nd EN BN's Community Involvement for Veteran's Day

The 62nd Engineer Battalion is highly involved with the community. There were several events that Soldiers from the battalion participated in, showing their honor and respect for all veterans. The city of Cedar Park hosted a Veteran's Day Parade, where 74th MRBC drove down with one of their vehicles and a color guard team marched down the streets of the city. Another

event Soldiers were involved with for Veteran's Day was at the battalion's adopted school, Lamar Middle School in Temple, Texas. A group of Soldiers from the battalion traveled to their adopted school and presented to all the students a display of the Fallen Comrade Table and explained what each component symbolizes. This event was a good experience for

the students, as many of them have families in the military. Finally, a color guard team presented and retired the national colors at a Veteran's Day Ceremony in Kemper, Texas. All of these events demonstrated the professionalism and dedication of the Soldiers of the 62nd Engineer Battalion.

Army All Army Men's Basketball Team

SPC Rodney Clinkscales from the 68th Engineer Construction Company, 62nd Engineer Battalion, was a member of the Men's Army All Army Basketball Team. He was part of a team that was composed of Soldiers from all

over the Army, and the team won the Armed Forces Tournament with a perfect 7-0 winning record. SPC Clinkscales was recognized for scoring 26 points during the cham-

pionship game against the Air Force team.



ALL ARMY MEN'S BASKETBALL TEAM
POSING WITH WELL DESERVED MEDALS

FALL FESTIVAL FUN

On October 28, 2016, the 62nd Engineer Battalion hosted a family-oriented fall festival. This festival included several games for the children, a pumpkin carving competition, trunk or treat, a display from the battalion's fire fighter detachment, a haunted house, and food generously donated by the Armed Forces YMCA. The battalion recognized



several individuals who stood out during the event through the various competitions, which included the best vehicle for trunk or treat, best pumpkin carving, best children's and adult costume.

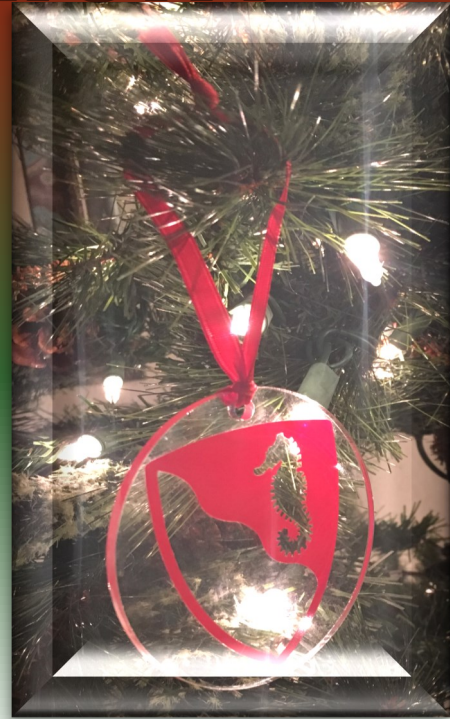


"The battalion recognized several individuals who stood out during the event.."



RUGGED SPOTLIGHT

We would like to give a special thank you to Mrs. Quander for graciously blessing leadership with these creative homemade rugged ornaments during the annual Holiday gathering at the Quander Residence. Your creativity and thoughtfulness is greatly appreciated.



1LT Sterr of 20th EN BN spearheaded a boat fundraiser that collected 25 toys and 50 canned goods for children in need during the Holidays. These items were valued at approximately \$450 dollars . After collecting the items he made the donation to Dell's children Medical center and an undisclosed domestic violence center. LT Sterr and the participants definitely displayed selfless service and we are proud to have you as a leader in the 36th Engineer Brigade.





Santa's Workshop is a private non-profit organization that is operated solely by volunteers located in building 50001 on FT. Hood, Texas. Their mission is to provide toys, books, and games for military families who are in financial need during the holiday season. 36th Engineer Brigade donated over 1000 toys, which is two times as much as any other Brigade on FT. Hood, to Santa's Workshop during our annual toy ruck march. ESSAYONS!



36TH ENGINEER BRIGADE

Annual Turkey Bowl



The Turkey Bowl is an annual Esprit-de-Corps football game conducted by the 36th EN BDE. This game is highly anticipated by all within the unit and serves as a bonding day. It is known to follow the annual Santa ruck march . Families are welcome to participate and spectate. Our Rugged Family truly came together to celebrate with a competitive football game and relay races, and certainly kicked off the Holidays right this year.



Santa Photos

Dates & Times:

December 11 • 1:30 - 6:00 pm
 December 15 • Noon - 4:00 pm
 December 16 • Noon - 4:00 pm
 December 17 • Noon - 4:00 pm
 December 18 • 1:30 - 6:00 pm
 December 19 • 2:00 pm - 6:00 pm
 December 20 • 2:00 pm - 6:00 pm

Located at Fort Hood Shopping Center
 Bldg 4250 Clear Creek Road



EXCHANGE

Shared By:
 FORT HOOD
 AREA EVENTS
 COUNCIL



Christmas Party with Santa!

Friday, December 16th
from 5pm-7pm

Join us for an evening of
 games, special offers, and
Special Guest Appearance:
Santa, Mrs. Claus and their Elf



Shared By:
 FORT HOOD
 AREA EVENTS
 COUNCIL

Corner of Knight's Way and Millers Crossing

490 FM-2410, Harker Heights, TX 76548

TEXAS METROPOLITAN BALLET 2016 Nutcracker

The Christmas Season's famous tradition continues.
 Texas Metropolitan Ballet is proud to present its world premiere of this classic
 holiday favorite. The Nutcracker is sure to delight audiences of all ages.

Friday December 16 7:00pm
Saturday December 17 2:00pm
Sunday December 18 2:00pm

\$10 Child/Student
 \$17 Adult
 \$45 VIP

Friday December 16 6:00pm

A limited number of VIP tickets will be available.

VIP tickets include:

Pre-performance Light hors d'oeuvres and wine on Opening Night,
 a seat for the performance, plus a chance to meet the directors.

**Killeen Arts &
 Activities Center**
 801 N. 4th Street
 Killeen, TX 76541

For more information:

Phone: (254)252-4640

Email: TMBTickets@gmail.com

www.facebook.com/texasmetropolitanballet
 www.texasmetropolitanballet.com/nutcracker

Date: 12/17/2016

Time: 9:00 am — 3:00 pm

Adopt and Shop!

Killeen Special Events Center
 3301 S. WS Young Drive

Come on out and meet all
 the rescue and shelter pets
 that are available for
 adoption. Discuss
 volunteer opportunities in
 becoming a foster home.

While here, shop around
 all the awesome vendors
 we have lined up. We
 have Scentsy, Posh,
 Clothing Boutiques,
 Gourmet sweets and so
 much more!!

Shared By:
 FORT HOOD
 AREA EVENTS
 COUNCIL

**More Paws 2 Love
 All Breed Rescue**

Carlson Christmas Light Show

Dec 1-31

6pm - 10pm Dec 1-23
 6pm-midnight Dec 24 & 25
 6pm - 10pm Dec 26-31

428 Winter Sun Drive, Harker Heights, Tx



Over 25,000 lights set to over 40 minutes of music

~ FREE and Open to ALL ~

Located in Harker Heights, Tx just minutes from Fort Hood

Carlson Light Display | Harker Heights Texas
 CarlsonLights.com

Shared By:
 FORT HOOD
 AREA EVENTS
 COUNCIL



Shared By: FORT HOOD AREA EVENTS KGENHD

OPEN TO ALL **Ages 2-12**

Children's Christmas Bingo

December 17th
10am • Doors Open
11am • Bingo begins

\$5 per child

Includes

- 10 GAMES
- LUNCH
- COLORING BOOKS
- GOODIE BAGS

BINGO

Community Events and Bingo Center
Clear Creek Road, Bldg 50012,
behind AAFES gas station
254-532-9253

HoodMWR.com

Parents, in order to ensure every child has a seat and is able to play, please limit additional adult guests.



"Vive Les Arts Presents"
The Royce Montgomery Christmas Extravaganza



December 16th, 17th & 18th
Friday & Saturday -7pm
Sunday- 2pm

Adult \$18
Military \$15
Senior /Student \$12

Vive Les Arts
254-526-9090 or
www.vlakilleen.org

Shared By: FORT HOOD AREA EVENTS KGENHD

Saturday
December 17th
1pm - 4pm
K-Town Coffee Bean
110 S. Fort Hood Street
Killeen, Tx



Shared By: FORT HOOD AREA EVENTS KGENHD

"Come out to K-Town to enjoy cookies and Cocoa with Santa. We have cookies to decorate for the kids and complementary cocoa! There will be an appearance by Santa for pictures, along with an inflatable Santa and Nutcracker. Bring the family out for some Holiday festivities and goodies."



Christmas Bazaar

Reach Church
1600 E. Rancier in Killeen

Saturday, Dec. 17
9am-5pm

Featuring over 30 local businesses: Christmas shopping, photography mini sessions*, bounce houses, food trucks, and pictures with Santa Claus**!

J & J's Handmade Treasures, Scentay, Lollie's Kitchen, Perfectly Posh, Color By Amber, Lapsense, HWorks, Nerium, Thirty-One, JamBerry, Younique, Young Living, Gems R Us, Origami Owl, Advocare, doTerra, Tastefully Simple, Joel Rae Boutique, Mary Kay, LulaRoe and more!

*Schedule your session with JKS Photography 719-313-3041. You will receive 4 unedited photographs for \$25.
LIMITED APPOINTMENTS AVAILABLE, so call/text today! Payment due upon scheduling.

**Santa Claus will stop in from 2pm-4pm for pictures with the young at heart, no appointment needed.

National Drunk & Drugged Driving Prevention Month

December is National Drunk and Drugged Driving Prevention Month, a time to raise awareness about the consequences of driving under the influence of alcohol and drugs. Drug and alcohol use impair judgment, delay reaction times, and can result in deadly consequences when driving. Thousands of drivers and passengers lose their lives each year because of drunk and drugged driving. As the holidays quickly approach it is imperative that we in the 36th Engineer Brigade inform our Rugged family of various tips to practice safe behavior. This time of year is when drunk and impaired driving accidents are most prevalent. According to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, drugs (for example, marijuana and cocaine) are involved in



about 18 percent of motor vehicle driver deaths while drunk driving accidents account for 31 percent of all motor vehicle accidents. In your midst of all your celebrating this holiday season:

- ◆ Designate a non-drinking driver ahead of time.
- ◆ If drinking alcohol at a party or other celebration, allow at least one hour between drinks. It takes one hour to get rid of one drink from your body (one drink is equal to a 12-ounce beer, 5-ounce glass of wine, or 1½-ounce shot of liquor).
- ◆ Set limits beforehand of the number of drinks to have and stick with it.
- ◆ Alternate drinking alcoholic beverages with soda, juice or water and eat food.
- ◆ Don't mix alcohol with other drugs, including over-the-counter and prescription medications.
- ◆ Don't ride with someone who is impaired. Use other means of transportation such as a taxi, public transportation or driver who is sober.



If you are hosting a party, here are some steps to take to help your guests drive safely:

- ◆ Collect each guest's keys upon arrival and store in a designated basket.
- ◆ Serve foods along with alcohol-free beverages such as soda, juice or water.
- ◆ If making an alcoholic punch, use fruit juice instead of a carbonated drink. Alcohol absorbs faster into the blood stream when mixed with carbonated drinks.
- ◆ Stop serving alcohol 1 to 1½ hours before the party actually ends.
- ◆ If you take a medication that makes you drowsy, do not drive. Have someone drive you.

Drink responsibly, drive responsibly and encourage family members, friends and co-workers to be safe and responsible drivers for the holidays and beyond.



CPT ROLESTA BROOKS
36th Engineer Bde
www.facebook.com/36thEngineerBrigade
Rolesta.H.Brooks.mil@mail.mil
706-580-3642

If you would like to be featured in the upcoming newsletter please send pictures, storyline, and information to the above point of contact.