



# The Real McCoy

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Photo by Scott T. Sturkol

## New year, construction continues

The construction area for a future transient training brigade headquarters in the 1600 block on the cantonment area is shown Jan. 5 at Fort McCoy with framework for the building taking shape. A contract, totaling \$11,964,432.87, was awarded June 9, 2022, to L.S. Black Constructors to build the fiscal year 2022 Transient Training Brigade Headquarters project at Fort McCoy. Construction operations began in August 2022. Location of construction is just across the street from where the same contractor has been building two new transient training troop barracks buildings in the same block. According to the Fort McCoy Directorate of Public Works, the brigade headquarters project is based on the denser, more consolidated footprints of Fort McCoy's Troop Housing Area Development Plan. The project will include the latest, state-of-the-art systems for fire protection and alarms and video surveillance as well as Energy Monitoring Control Systems. Overall, including this building and the two barracks already built, eight new buildings are planned for the entire 1600 block. The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers is coordinating the project.

## Fort McCoy 2022 Year in Review:

# First half of year includes Operation Allies Welcome, training operations, big construction projects

BY SCOTT T. STURKOL  
Public Affairs Staff

When looking back at 2022, it was another year where the installation had continued to build on its recovery from the effects of global COVID-19 pandemic and assist with a humanitarian mission while at the same time continue to provide "world-class support" for training of tens of thousands of troops, and more.

No matter what challenge arose, through every month, the installation team stood strong to get the mission done.

### January

— Right away to start off the new year, 27 students who were participating in the Fort McCoy Cold-Weather Operations Course (CWOC) class 22-02 practiced building an Arctic 10-person tent on Jan. 5 during course training at Fort McCoy.

The training took place on a snowy, cold day which may have been just right for the training with below-zero temperatures and snow. The same students practiced skiing a couple days later Jan. 7 in sunny but bitter cold temperatures at Whitetail Ridge Ski Area at Fort McCoy.

— Also, at the beginning of the year, workers with L.S. Black Constructors were steadily working on the fiscal year 2020-funded transient-training troops barracks construction project in the 1600 block of the cantonment area. The \$18.8 million project was awarded Sept. 29, 2020, and the no-tice to proceed was issued Oct. 28, 2020. This new building is like the fiscal year

2019-funded barracks and is four stories high and able to house 400 people in about 60,000 square feet. The Army Corps of Engineers is managing the project.

— Across the street from the fiscal-year 2020-funded barracks project in early January 2022, contractors were also cleaning up from a late-December 2021 demolition effort that was making space for another construction project.

Master Planner Brian Harrie with the Fort McCoy Directorate of Public Works explained what work was completed.

"The last two buildings in that block being demolished were right by building 1654," Harrie said. "Immediately north of 11th Avenue in that block, there will be a row of three transient training brigade headquarters buildings with the (See 2022 REVIEW, Page 7)



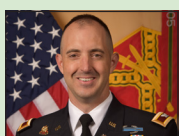
\* This photo was selected as one of 60 U.S. Army Photos of the Year for 2022.

Photo by Scott T. Sturkol

A student in Cold-Weather Operations Course class 22-03 participates in cold-water immersion training Jan. 31, 2022, at Big Sandy Lake on South Post at Fort McCoy.

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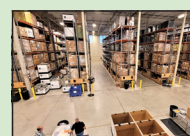
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## EDITORIAL/NEWS

# If your dreams don't scare you, they're not big enough

BY COL. STEPHEN T. MESSENGER

Commander, Fort McCoy Garrison

"The size of your dreams must always exceed your current capacity to achieve them. If your dreams do not scare you, they are not big enough." — Ellen Johnson Sirleaf

Every year in January, much to my wife's chagrin, I outline a list of 20 personal, audacious goals that I want to accomplish by next December. These objectives require a significant level of motivation to achieve. At a minimum, they involve a deliberate and sustained effort over time.

As I put the finishing touches on this year's list, I both felt the satisfaction of challenging myself along with the immediate stress of having to meet these goals over the next twelve months. The question always comes back to why I place this stress onto my year—and believe me, it is incredibly stressful!

## Goal setting

Goal setting is a fundamental tenant of leadership. If you have no idea where you're going, you're never going to get there. However, these audacious, personal goals help mold me into a more holistic leader at work along with improving as an individual, husband, and father at home.

I divide my personal goals into four categories of learn, encourage, work out, and grow.

1. Learning helps me think broader and more deeply, building mental capacity over time.



See more at: <https://www.dvidshub.net/news/436660/fort-mccoy-garrison-commander-if-your-dreams-dont-scare-you-theyre-not-big-enough>

2. Encouraging is about family and community, intending to forge deeper relationships.

3. Working out is geared towards getting stronger and training my body to deal with the stressors of life.

4. Finally, growing is about improving my spiritual, emotional, and financial health.

(To be clear, none of these 20 goals are work related — they are all personal achievements. Work goals stay in the office where they belong.)

I also throw in a bonus category to challenge myself to get out in the world and see something new.

These always include taking the family with me and enjoying time together.

## Big, hairy, audacious goals (BHAG)

Your goals must be bold and audacious.

Ellen Johnson Sirleaf was the first female elected head of state in Africa. As a young woman, she repeatedly questioned Liberia's ability and desire to stand up for equality, and she set a goal to solve this problem.

Along her journey, she faced prison, death threats, and exile. Yet she never gave up on her dream to improve the nation in the face of naysayers and setbacks.

Along the way, she graduated from Harvard, participated in numerous levels of government, won the presidency, and ultimately earned the Nobel Peace Prize.

Her goals in life were always larger than what was possible and fraught with peril. Audacious goal setting is a scary journey to embark on but one that bears incredible success.

## Resourcing your goals

My annual goals can't compare to President Sirleaf's, but collectively they provide a roadmap to improving my life mentally, physically, emotionally, and spiritually. It provides focus and forces me to invest time and energy to achieve these goals.

Once you determine what your goals are, you can efficiently use your resources to attack those priorities. You can plan your year and ensure you're not wasting the precious commodity of time, but instead harness the power of the calendar to meet goals.

A personal goals list will not get you promoted or earn a better paycheck in itself; it will make you a better leader and direct your focus. You'll see sustained growth in multiple areas and achieve more than you thought was possible. Over time, your capacity will grow across a wide range of skillsets as you seek to be more than you could ask or imagine.

## It's the journey, not the destination

One note: rarely do I achieve every task on my list. However, the energy put into working towards these goals bears tangible benefits in many other areas.

For example, two years in a row I had the goal to read 26 books. However, I was again heavily involved in a degree program, and my personal reading took a back seat to academic reading and writing.

While I didn't achieve my original goal, the books I did read helped shape my academic lens and assisted in many of the assignments. A task strived for and not completed still bears great fruit. Oftentimes it is the journey, not the destination.

Goal setting is hard. Great leaders pick goals to improve their personal habits, which leads to gains across the spectrum of leadership.

This year, I challenge you to select some bold and audacious goals. You'll see benefits over time as you steadily work towards accomplishing more than you thought possible.

Triad 6

## 'BEHIND THE TRIAD' WITH THE GARRISON COMMANDER

EPISODE 6



Behind the Triad  
Fort McCoy, WI.



COL Stephen  
Garrison Com

"Behind the Triad" is a new series of videos hosted by Fort McCoy Garrison Commander Col. Stephen Messenger that highlights the hard-working, behind-the-scenes employees around the installation who help make Fort McCoy the outstanding installation it is today. In Episode 6, Messenger meets with Cody Nichols with the Directorate of Plans, Training, Mobilization and Security to visit one of the installation's 31 live-fire ranges. He has the opportunity to get his hands dirty and see first-hand exactly how much work goes into maintaining Fort McCoy's world-class training ranges and facilities. Tune in to find out. Watch for new episodes on Fort McCoy's YouTube channel at [https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCUF0\\_BwU3d2p5j1rTh-TE\\_kw](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCUF0_BwU3d2p5j1rTh-TE_kw). Or, find it at the Fort McCoy Multimedia-Visual Information Office Defense Video and Imagery Distribution Service page at <https://www.dvidshub.net/video/870209/behind-triad-with-range-maintenance-team>. Links are also available on the Fort McCoy official Facebook page.



## McCoy hosted quarterly Wisconsin ISFAC meeting in December

BY SCOTT T. STURKOL

Public Affairs Staff

Representatives from governmental and non-profit organizations from throughout the state of Wisconsin gathered at McCoy's Community Center on Dec. 1 at Fort McCoy to hold a quarterly Inter-Service Family Assistance Committee (ISFAC) meeting.

Dianne Sommers, a specialist with the Fort McCoy Army Community Service (ACS) office said the ISFAC provide services to veterans and those service members currently serving. Meetings for the ISFAC are held throughout the state in March, June, September, and December every year.

"The meeting started at 9 a.m. and went until 1:30 p.m.," Sommers said. "An hour of that time was devoted to networking among the attendees."

Sommers said some of main items discussed included the Soldier and Family Readiness Specialist with the Wisconsin National Guard reviewing the Military Family Financial Aid Program that is available to Wisconsin residents who are currently serving. Service members can apply to receive up to \$2,500 per year for emergency financial assistance.

"The Wisconsin National Guard also has personal financial counselors located throughout the state for service members with financial challenges," Sommers said. "This service is free of charge."

Sommers said ISFAC members also discussed the need for donated household goods items to assist veterans who have obtained housing but lack essential items such as furniture, bedding, appliances, and other things.

"The following local resources were mentioned — Sofas for Service in Altoona (Wis.), What I Need Now in La Crosse (Wis.), and The Exchange, also in La Crosse," Sommers said.

Sylvia Lopez, also a specialist with ACS and the Wisconsin ISFAC chairperson, explained what partnership is all about.

"The ISFAC is a voluntary military-community cooperative partnership organized to allow service providers to engage in networking and connect service and family members, veterans, and wounded warriors with local military and community resources. The ISFAC facilitates cooperation, communication, coordination, and collaboration needed to establish strong family and community support networks that provide easy access to information, services, and support through unfailing delivery systems," Lopez said.

Representatives of the ISFAC include all military services, major veteran service Organizations, relevant government departments and agencies, civiliansupport organizations, community service organizations, and organizations that play a role in disaster response.

The next Wisconsin ISFAC meeting will take place in March.

From family readiness to financial health, Army Community Service delivers programs tailored to their customer's needs, according to ACS. They help maintain community readiness and resiliency through a wide range of educational opportunities, special events, individualized counseling services, and other offerings. ACS also helps Soldiers from their first assignments all the way to separation or retirement, as well as families, veterans, wounded warriors, survivors, and retirees. See more at: <https://www.dvidshub.net/news/436271/fort-mccoy-hosted-quarterly-wisconsin-isfac-meeting-december-2022>. Learn more about Fort McCoy ACS by visiting <https://mccoy.armymwr.com/programs/army-community-service>. Learn more about Fort McCoy online at <https://home.army.mil/mccoy>, and on the Defense Visual Information Distribution System at <https://www.dvidshub.net/impao>.

## NEWS

# Fort McCoy opens 2023 with new onboarding process for new employees

BY SCOTT T. STURKOL

Public Affairs Staff

Fort McCoy's Directorate of Human Resources workforce development team kicked off 2023 with a whole new approach to welcoming new employees to the installation.

The new phased onboarding process held its first session Jan. 3 at the Directorate of Human Resources (DHR) conference room.

This is something new we're doing to enhance our onboarding process for new team members," said Workforce Development Specialist Jamie Gular with Fort McCoy DHR.

Gular said Fort McCoy DHR has been working on improving their new team member onboarding process over the past year based on feedback the directorate has received from new team members the garrison workforce and leaders.

"Onboarding is more than just in-processing, completing administrative requirements, and mandatory training," Gular said.

And through the feedback and through a lot of hard work by the DHR team as well as the Workforce Development Working Group, a new onboarding program was built in a phased approach.

"Phase one is pre-arrival and sponsorship," Gular said. "Phase two is arrival and welcome. The goal of this phase is to personalize the welcome of new team members to the Fort McCoy team. Successfully welcoming and onboarding a new team member requires planning, careful thought, and effort — especially from leaders. However, it is effort worth spending."

According to the onboarding agenda, there's a variety of subjects and activities covered for new employees. A personal touch that's part of the new process is where either the garrison commander or a member of the garrison command team provides a welcome and administers



Photo by Kaleen Holliday

**New Fort McCoy employees participate in the installation's new onboarding process Jan. 3 in the building 2187 conference room on post.**

See more at: <https://www.dvidshub.net/news/436309/fort-mccoy-opens-2023-with-new-onboarding-process-new-employees>.

the federal service oath of office to each new employee.

"The garrison commander said he's planning on continuing to do this for new team members," Gular said.

Also on the agenda is an overview of the government retirement system and benefits, the Fort McCoy Garrison organizational structure, a video about Fort McCoy's capabilities, and a review about Army traditions, customs and courtesies.

Employees also learn about antiterrorism level one training; Fort McCoy's strategic planning

process and its mission, vision, and motto; driver and safety training; and more — all on the first day.

On the second day of onboarding, new employees learn about records management, occupational health services, Thrift Savings Plan, Army Community Service, and the Army Installation Management Command's Service Culture Campaign.

According to IMCOM, the Service Culture Campaign "is built upon the premise that excellence in customer service is a byproduct of how employees are treated. Therefore, the Service

Culture Campaign aims to establish an environment where employees have engaged leaders, feel valued, are loyal to the organization, and treat each other with dignity and respect."

Gular said the new onboarding process is a chance to show the new employees that Fort McCoy is a great place to work right from the start.

"It's where we communicate who Fort McCoy is and what we stand for — our culture, our values — it sets the new team member up to become a successful and contributing member of our team," she said.

## Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Day observance set for Jan. 19 at Fort McCoy

Fort McCoy's observance for Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Day is scheduled for Jan. 19 at noon at McCoy's Community Center.

The speaker is Marcus Gentry, founder of The Respect Academy. Gentry is an innovator, speaker, and consultant. According to his website, [www.marcusgentry.com](http://www.marcusgentry.com), The Respect Academy is "is a web-based service organization that uses the Socratic method of teaching, coaching, and creative empowerment strategies for the application of universal principles."

The event is coordinated by the Fort McCoy Equal Opportunity Office and is open to all members of the Fort McCoy community.

On Jan. 17, 2022, the Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. holiday will mark the 27th anniversary of the National Day of Service. This day was established to honor the life and legacy of King and to encourage all Americans to volunteer to improve their communities, according to the Department of Defense Education Activity at <https://www.dodea.edu/dodeaCelebrates/MLK.cfm>.

Americans celebrated the first official Martin Luther King Day, which is the only federal holiday commemorating an African American, on Jan. 20, 1986. In 1994, Congress designated the holiday as a National Day of Service and made the third Monday in January every year the Martin Luther King Jr. Day of Service — a "Day On, Not a Day Off."

King advocated for nonviolent resistance to overcome injustice as a means of lifting racial oppression. He created change with organized sit-ins, marches, and peaceful demonstrations that highlighted issues of inequality.

King received the Nobel Peace Prize in 1964; he was the youngest person to ever receive this high honor. He followed in the footsteps of his grandfather and father by entering the ministry to become a Baptist minister.

On April 4, 1968, at the age of 39, he was assassinated in Memphis, Tenn., as he stood on the balcony of his hotel. King had traveled to Memphis to lead a march in support of striking sanitation workers.

According to The King Center's website, [thekingcenter.org](http://thekingcenter.org): "During the less than 13 years of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.'s leadership of the modern American Civil Rights Movement, from December 1955 until April 4, 1968, African Americans achieved

more genuine progress toward racial equality in America than the previous 350 years had produced. Dr. King is widely regarded as America's pre-eminent advocate of nonviolence and one of the greatest nonviolent leaders in world history.

"Drawing inspiration from both his Christian faith and the peaceful teachings of Mahatma Gandhi, Dr. King led a nonviolent movement in the late 1950s and 1960s to achieve legal equality for African Americans in the United States.

While others were advocating for freedom by 'any means necessary,' including violence, Martin Luther King Jr. used the power of words and acts of nonviolent resistance, such as protests, grassroots organizing, and civil disobedience to achieve seemingly impossible goals. He went on to lead similar campaigns against poverty and international conflict, always maintaining fidelity to his principles that men and women everywhere, regardless of col-

or or creed, are equal members of the human family."

The King Center was founded in 1968 by Coretta Scott King. Both a traditional memorial and programmatic nonprofit, the King Center was envisioned by its founder to be "no dead monument, but a living memorial filled with all the vitality that was his, a center of human endeavor, committed to the causes for which he lived and died." That vision has been carried out through both educational and community programs.

For more information about Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. and his work or to find other events related to the holiday, visit <https://thekingcenter.org>.

For more information about the Fort McCoy Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Day observance contact the Fort McCoy Equal Opportunity Office.

(Article prepared by the Fort McCoy Public Affairs Office.)

### MARTIN LUTHER KING JR.

See more at:

<https://www.dvidshub.net/news/436518/dr-martin-luther-king-jr-day-observance-set-jan-19-fort-mccoy>



## NEWS



*Photo by Staff Sgt. Trenton Lowery/181st Multi-Functional Training Brigade Public Affairs*

### Building community support

Soldiers from Fort McCoy help with a Habitat for Humanity project Dec. 10, 2022, in West Salem, Wis. The project support was led the 181st Multi-Functional Training Brigade. The volunteer effort was coordinated with Habitat for Humanity of La Crosse, Wis. Soldiers supporting on this project included Command Sgt. Maj. Raquel DiDomenico, Fort McCoy Garrison command sergeant major; Staff Sgt. Shamri Varcadipane, Staff Sgt. Justin Liddell, and Sgt. Serge Beauvais with the Fort McCoy Noncommissioned Officer Academy; and Master Sgt. Miranda Anderson and Sgt. 1st Class Will Davis with the 1st Brigade Support Battalion, 291st Infantry Regiment, 181st Multi-Functional Training Brigade.



*Contributed photos*

### Holiday food drive donations

(Above and right) Fort McCoy Soldiers drop off donations Dec. 22 from the Fort McCoy Garrison Headquarters and Headquarters Company food drive to Bread Basket Ecumenical Food Pantry in Sparta, Wis. Special thanks to the Soldiers and staff of Fort McCoy Garrison, Fort McCoy Noncommissioned Officer Academy, and 88th Readiness Division and 88th Draw Yard for their contributions.



## NEWS

# Central Issue Facility holds annual inventory; ensures accountability

STORY & PHOTOS BY SCOTT T. STURKOL  
Public Affairs Staff

Fort McCoy's Central Issue Facility (CIF), part of the Fort McCoy Logistics Readiness Center, completed its 2022 annual inventory Dec. 5-16 with the overall inventory ending well, said CIF Property Book Officer Thomas Lovgren.

The inventory is required annually by Army regulation, Lovgren said, and every year the Fort McCoy CIF closes for several days in December to get a full accounting of the millions of dollars of equipment and supplies they have on hand and maintain.

The Fort McCoy CIF (building 780) was built at a cost of more than \$9 million, and it's a 62,548-square-foot facility. Central Issue Facility personnel began operations at the building Sept. 14, 2015. Since 2011, the Fort McCoy CIF has been issuing Reserve Soldiers their entire Organizational Clothing and Individual Equipment (OCIE) needs.

For 2022, Lovgren said his team conducted an excellent inventory.

"The Fort McCoy CIF Team did an exceptional job accounting for and safeguarding \$49 million of OCIE items, which is currently stocked at this CIF," Lovgren said. "This was definitely another successful inventory."

Having good accountability is important, Lovgren said. With so much equipment going in and out of the facility every year, having a low gain/loss percentage (below 2.5 percent) is good. And the Fort McCoy CIF percentage was .175 percent.

Considering, for example, during fiscal year 2017, the CIF issued more than 387,000 pieces of equipment, worth more than \$33 million, to thousands of troops who trained at Fort McCoy, Lovgren said this CIF team does an incredible job.

The Fort McCoy CIF team also has been critical in issuing Army Reserve Soldiers their cold-weather gear.

"Here, Reserve Soldiers can be permanently issued their cold-weather gear," said Lovgren.

More than a dozen items make up the Army Extreme Cold-Weather Clothing System, or ECWCS, that are issued to Soldiers. The system includes a lightweight undershirt and underwear, midweight shirt and underwear, fleece jacket, wind jacket, soft shell jacket and trousers, extreme cold/wet-weather jacket and trousers, and extreme cold-weather parka and trousers.

"It's a layered system that allows for protection in a variety of climate elements and temperatures," Lovgren said. Each piece in the ECWCS fits and functions either alone or together as a system, which enables seamless integration with load-carrying equipment and body armor.

Going forward, Lovgren said he anticipates the Fort McCoy CIF will continue to have outstanding results from their future inventories, and customers will continue to have a great experience when they stop by.

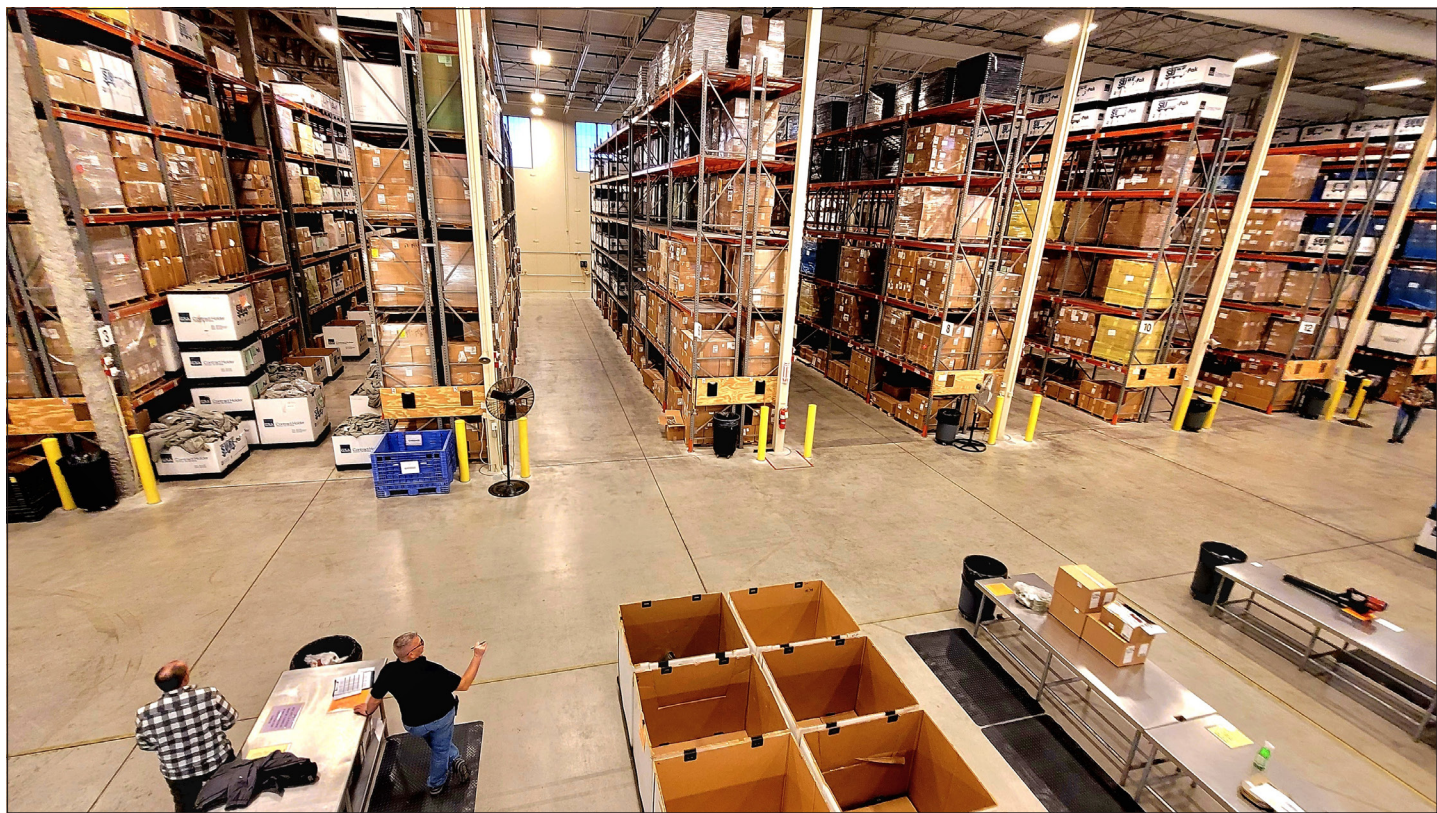
"We've been in this building for several years now, and our customers have more space to process through and receive equipment," Lovgren said. "We have two waiting areas near the entry and exit areas and a streamlined setup that helps create a smooth flow for CIF operations."

"Our facility makes the issuing process a nice experience for Soldiers as they visit here to receive their equipment, especially at busy times," said Lovgren.

Fort McCoy's motto is to be the "Total Force Training Center." Located in the heart of the upper Midwest, Fort McCoy is the only U.S. Army installation in Wisconsin.

The installation has provided support and facilities for the field and classroom training of more than 100,000 military personnel from all services nearly every year since 1984.

Learn more about Fort McCoy online at <https://home.army.mil/mccoy>, on the Defense Visual Information Distribution System at <https://www.dvidshub.net/fmpao>, on Facebook by searching "ftmccoy," and on Twitter by searching "usagmccoy."



(Above and below) Workers with the Fort McCoy Central Issue Facility (CIF), part of the Fort McCoy Logistics Readiness Center, conduct their 2022 annual inventory Dec. 14, 2022, at the CIF at the facility at Fort McCoy.



See more at: <https://www.dvidshub.net/news/435573/fort-mccoy-central-issue-facility-holds-annual-inventory-ensures-accountability>

## NEWS

# McCoy rail ops picks up steam in 2022 with three rail movements

**STORY & PHOTOS BY SCOTT T. STURKOL**

*Public Affairs Staff*

In recent years, Fort McCoy has supported one or two Army rail movements on average each year for a variety of reasons but for 2022 the Fort McCoy rail operations support team pick up steam and rolled down the tracks to support significant rail movements and deployments in March, July, and November.

Fort McCoy's rail operations support team is staffed by people working with the Fort McCoy Logistics Readiness Center (LRC) Transportation Division. This includes people operating locomotives to move railcars in place for loading, people working with units and unit Soldiers to get training on how to load railcars, people to assist with moving cargo, and more.

The first rail movement took place from March 17-21, said the Installation Transportation Officer Douglas "Terry" Altman with the LRC Transportation Division.

"Transportation Division personnel provided blue flag protection and safety oversight to the 485th Engineer Company as they staged, marshalled, loaded, and chained down 104 pieces of vertical engineer equipment (1,243 short tons) onto 40 railcars in inclement weather with zero safety accidents or mishaps," Altman said.

"That was a movement to Port Arthur, Texas, and then later for deployment to the U.S. Central Command area of responsibility."

In a story written by Public Affairs Specialist Chris Hanson with the Fort McCoy Public Affairs Office in March 2022, he talked with 1st Lt. Payden Howard, 485th Engineer Company executive officer, about the rail movement.

"Today we are executing railhead operations in order to stage out our equipment and gear in preparation for movement to our ultimate destination," Howard said in the story. "A little snow doesn't stop us." Howard was describing the spring snowstorm they had to contend with during the rail movement.

Then in mid-July, the rail operations support team saw another rail movement take place. The team and Soldiers with the 107th Support Maintenance Company, a Wisconsin National Guard unit based in Sparta, teamed together July 20-21 to unload 24 railcars at Fort McCoy.

The railcars were loaded with 83 pieces of equipment the 107th was bringing back from a training location away from Fort McCoy, said Dean. R. Muller, unit movement coordinator/traffic management specialist with the LRC Transportation Division.

"The unit took about one and a half days to unload the railcars," Muller said.

Altman added, "This rolling stock was about 1,000 short tons, and the work was done in inclement weather with zero safety accidents or mishaps."

And often after completing a second rail movement, that might be it for the year on post, but not in 2022. On Nov. 1, Fort McCoy began supporting a third rail movement for the 411th Engineer Company — an Army Reserve engineer company based in Cedar Rapids, Iowa.

"Transportation Division personnel provided blue flag protection and safety oversight to the 411th Engineer Company as they staged, marshalled, loaded, and chained down 128 pieces of engineer equipment (2,068 short tons) onto 52 railcars with zero safety accidents or mishaps," Altman said. "This movement was also to Port Arthur, Texas, where the equipment was also bound for deployment to the U.S. Central Command area of responsibility."

"This rail movement included five LRC staff members supporting the 411th," Muller said. "The 411th Soldiers did complete the Multimedia Rail Safety Course prior to completing their work on loading the railcars. Our staff members also served as safety support staff for the movement."

Besides completing the rail movements with the units that had equipment involved in the loading of the railcars, the Fort McCoy rail support team also had to work with organizations and personnel across the military and the transportation system spectrum to ensure these movements were completed successfully, Altman said.

Some of the military organizations where coordination was completed through by Fort McCoy personnel were U.S. Transportation Command, U.S. Army Forces Command, U.S. Army Central, U.S. Army Reserve Command, Military Surface Deployment and Distribution Command, 416th Engineer Command, 597th Transportation Brigade, 841st Transportation Battalion, 842nd Transportation Battalion, 732nd Combat Sustainment Support Battalion, and the Wisconsin National Guard.

Some of the civilian organizations they've coordinated with included the BNSF Railway, Union Pacific Railway, Quality Transportation Services, Farrell Lines, Transportation Coordinators' Automated Information for Movements System II Helpdesk, and



Vehicles and equipment of the Army Reserve's 485th Engineer Company of Arlington Heights, Ill., is shown loaded on railcars March 17, 2022, at Fort McCoy. The rail movement is part of a deployment for the 485th. Fort McCoy's Logistics Readiness Center Transportation Division assisted with the rail operation.



Transportation specialists with the Fort McCoy Logistics Readiness Center Transportation Division and Soldiers with the 107th Support Maintenance Company of the Wisconsin National Guard unload Army vehicles and equipment July 20, 2022, at Fort McCoy.

See more coverage at: <https://www.dvidshub.net/news/435684/fort-mccoy-railroad-ops-picks-up-steam-2022-with-spring-summer-fall-rail-movements>



An Army locomotive operated by the Fort McCoy rail operations team with the Fort McCoy Logistics Readiness Center (LRC) Transportation Division, helps move railcars in the rail yard on South Post on Nov. 14, 2022, at Fort McCoy. The locomotive was one of two locomotives in use that day supporting a rail movement for the Army Reserve's 411th Engineer Company where 128 items were previously loaded on to railcars to deploy eventually to the U.S. Central Command area of responsibility.

the Cargo Movement Operations System Helpdesk.

And just putting the numbers together for the three movements, the Fort McCoy rail operations support team helped load and move 315 pieces of equipment on 116 railcars that was approximately the equivalent of 4,311 short tons of cargo.

As rail operations continue in the future at the installation, LRC officials said they welcome each and every opportunity to demonstrate the capability.

"Rail is one of our strategic transportation missions, and rail movements allow us to exercise our capability," Altman said.

## NEWS

# 2022 REVIEW

from Page 1

east one planned for construction during fiscal year 2022.”

Demolition of buildings in the 1600 block originally began in 2019 and has since led to the construction of the two large four-story barracks buildings. All the work is part of the Fort McCoy Master Plan that looks at continuously upgrading the installation’s infrastructure to be prepared for the future, Harrie said

— January also meant continued support for Operation Allies Welcome (OAW) at Fort McCoy. Operation Allies Welcome was the coordinated effort across the federal government to support and resettle vulnerable Afghans, including those who worked on behalf of the United States, according to United States Northern Command.

In support of OAW, Fort McCoy’s Network Enterprise Center and Resource Management Office were recognized for providing significant support in a January news story written by Aimee Malone with the Fort McCoy Public Affairs Office.

“The first challenge NEC faced upon receiving word of the OAW mission was how to quickly increase network capacity and connectivity to handle the demands of the mission. The NEC immediately began extending network connectivity into the OAW support areas, to include extending commercial internet and unclassified networks into multiple buildings to provide expanded network access to interagency and nongovernmental organizations, as well as military support units designated to support OAW operations,” NEC Director John Baltich said in the story.

“NEC staff members provided ongoing support by responding to ongoing technical or communications-related issues that arose as OAW support personnel arrived on the ground, Baltich said. One example included expanding video teleconferencing support, including on weekends, to assist collaboration efforts. NEC staff members also created additional Army net-work accounts for units coming to Task McCoy for OAW.”

In discussing the Fort McCoy Resource Management Office Support for OAW, the story shows a review by now retired Resource Management Officer Maureen Richardson.

“RMO was involved from the very start,” Richardson said in the story. “The budget officer and the RMO chief were in every planning meeting, getting card holder limits raised. ... We created line of accounting in the financial systems and coordinate with higher headquarters to obtain resources for the mission.”

As the mission continued, RMO established a cell in the Task Force McCoy headquarters, which became a feeder for garrison, 88th Readiness Division, and 181st Multi-Functional Training Brigade offices to make purchases, modify contracts, and assist in finance for Soldier payments, Richardson said.

— Also in January 2022, Fort McCoy saw the beginnings of the improvement of the installation’s electrical grid. Workers and linemen with contractors and energy provider Xcel Energy were working at Fort McCoy in January 2022 to upgrade the installation’s electrical system, said Brandon Gronau with the Fort McCoy Directorate of Public Works Operations and Maintenance Division Energy Branch.

“We — Fort McCoy and Xcel — are in the process of changing from a Delta Electrical System to a Wye Electrical System,” Gronau said. “The basics of that is just how the system is wired. Wye is a three-phase electrical system that uses a wire for each electrical leg and a separate neutral wire. Delta is also a three-phase but uses one of the legs as the neutral, so it only has three wires.”

Gronau said Xcel wanted to do this because they are the installation’s electrical privatization contractor, and they own all the electrical infra-



Photo by Scott T. Sturkol

**Students and staff with the 89B Ammunition Supply Course conduct sling-load training with a CH-47 Chinook crew at Sparta-Fort McCoy Airport on Feb. 7, 2022.**

structure on post.

“Delta can be an unreliable system and is outdated,” Gronau said. “We are the only Delta system that Xcel has in the state, so in order to standardize all of their equipment they made the decision to change us over, too.”

— By late January, students in the Fort McCoy Cold-Weather Operations Course class 22-03 had started training and had completed skiing orientation and familiarization Jan. 24, 2022, at Whitetail Ridge Ski Area and had received cold-weather gear from the Fort McCoy Central Issue Facility.

— Also, Capt. Gregory Christian, an observer, coach/trainer (OC/T) with the 1st Brigade Engineer Battalion, 310th Infantry Regiment (1st, 310th), 181st Multifunctional Training Brigade (MFTB), and Staff Sgt. Bryan Walker, also an OC/T with the 1st, 310th, each received the Army Commendation Medal on Jan. 27, 2022, from Col. R.J. Hughes, 181st MFTB commander, for winning the 181st MFTB Best Warrior Competition at Fort McCoy. The winners of the competition later represented the brigade during the First Army Division West Best Warrior Competition.

## February

— As February 2022 began, training was in full swing at Regional Training Site-Maintenance — especially with the 89B Ammunition Supply troops. On Feb. 7, 2022, an aircrew with the 7th Battalion, 158th Aviation Regiment of New Century, Kan., operated a CH-47 Chinook helicopter at Fort McCoy to support sling-load training for the 89B Ammunition Supply Course.

The Ammunition Supply Course is a four-week course that provides training for Soldiers who are reclassifying to the 89B military occupational specialty. The sling-load training is one of the last major training events during the course. A sling load is used to transport munitions to remote locations or to expedite shipments in hostile locations.

— Soldiers from across the Army also completed more than 240 hours of training to become advanced leaders in the service’s “91-Lima” career field during training at the Regional Training Site-Maintenance facility at Fort

McCoy. The Soldiers were students in Construction Equipment Repairer Advanced Leadership Course (ALC) in January and February.

Staff Sgt. Aaron Grondin with the Maine Army National Guard, Sgt. Zach Kunz with the Montana National Guard, and Sgt. Nathan Reminder with the Michigan Army National Guard were among the students working on a project for the course on Feb. 2, 2022.

Kunz said he appreciated everything in the course. “This has been a great experience,” he said. RTS-Maintenance at Fort McCoy trains Soldiers in both active and reserve components.

— On Feb. 9, 2022, Fort McCoy held a ribbon cutting for a new Unit Physical Training Fitness Facility, located in building 1395 at the installation track and field site.

The new building increased Fort McCoy’s ability to meet both its permanent and visiting populations’ fitness needs, said Director Patric McGuane of the Directorate of Family and Morale, Welfare, and Recreation (DFMWR).

“Fort McCoy has managed to provide essential fitness services to the community for years with our single fitness facility, but during our peak training seasons, our capacity and capability needs are simply not met with one facility,” McGuane said. “By adding this additional fitness facility, DFMWR’s ability to meet the demand for fitness space has now greatly increased.”

— And on Feb. 15, 2022, the OAW mission came to an end at Fort McCoy. To that end, employees supporting the Fort McCoy Logistics Readiness Center (LRC) Food Program Management Office and LRC Supply Subsistence Management Office as well as other partners completed one of the largest food-service support missions ever at Fort McCoy when Operation Allies Welcome completed.

“Right away we knew we would have a monumental challenge before us,” said Fort McCoy Food Program Manager Andy Pisney about OAW. “Over time with the mission, we had our ups and downs, but everyone worked very hard to provide food support to the nearly 13,000 Afghans and almost 2,000 additional people on post supporting Task Force McCoy.”

The installation’s food-service team not only includes the Food Program Management Office and the Subsistence Supply Management Office. It also includes the full food-service contractors; and food suppliers, such as Sysco Foods of Baraboo, Wis. During OAW, Pisney said 31 of 34 Fort McCoy dining facilities were in use to support the operation for either feeding Afghans or Task Force McCoy personnel or were being used as Wi-Fi centers, classrooms, and more.

“That not only included all of our newer, recently built dining facilities but also our World

War II-era facilities that are located in the blocks throughout the cantonment area,” he said. Also, overall, Pisney said the Food Program Management Office and Subsistence Supply Management Office ordered, received, issued, and receipted approximately \$19.3 million in subsistence for the facilities feeding Afghan evacuees or serving as “grab-and-go” facilities.

“Our team also ordered and receipted 2,171,448 cans or bottles of water for the guests, and we sourced and cataloged 120 new subsistence items for guests in conjunction with Sysco Baraboo, LLC, and the Defense Logistics Agency-Troop Support,” Pisney said. “Items included Halal Certified Proteins and culturally acceptable foods.”

Pisney also shared some weekly and daily facts about how busy it was to feed the thousands of people during the operation. “When we were feeding nearly 13,000 guests per meal, we received eight semi-loads of food per day and 48 semi-loads of food per week,” Pisney said. “We also received three semi-loads of milk per week, two semi-loads of juice per week, and one semi-load of bread per week.

“There was also approximately 9,700 pounds of protein served per day, and there was more than 8,000 pounds of rice and potatoes served per day as well as more than 8,000 pounds of vegetables served per day,” Pisney said.

— Angie Salazar, Department of Homeland Security lead for the OAW mission at Fort McCoy, said at the completion of OAW that in all more than 4,000 people from 35 federal, state, local and non-governmental agencies and volunteer organizations participated in the OAW mission at Fort McCoy.

“We literally put up an entire city with a population of approximately 15,000, despite having to overcome unique challenges like language barriers and cultural differences all the while creating our own handbook,” she said.

Fort McCoy Garrison Commander Col. Michael Poss echoed Salazar’s sentiments in recognizing the all-of-government effort and all-of-Fort McCoy effort in a message to the Fort McCoy community. “I would like to thank the Fort McCoy Garrison, tenant organizations, and Team McCoy workforce for your dedication with the Operation Allies Welcome mission, while also continuing to provide outstanding services for our regular training customers. Thanks also to all the Task Force McCoy Soldiers, inter-agency partners, and non-governmental organizations for leading the OAW mission,” he said, adding an additional thank you to “the local communities and public for their unwavering support of all that we do at Fort

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Photo by Scott T. Sturkol

**Construction work is shown Feb. 23, 2022, in the 1600 block of the cantonment area at Fort McCoy on the fiscal year 2020-funded training troops barracks project on post.**

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McCoy. We would not be successful without that support.”

Poss and Deputy to the Garrison Commander Brad Stewart also personally visited garrison directorates and offices Feb. 15 to thank members for six months of support to OAW.

“I want to personally thank all of you and your teams for the dedicated effort as professionals and experts,” Poss said. “This mission came fast and in high volume, but we supported the task force and agencies over the six months for mission success like we do for all tasks and missions given to Team McCoy. I, along with members of the Garrison Command Team ... say thank you for a job well done.” Hundreds of Team McCoy members were greeted and thanked, and all were part of photos with the garrison leaders.

— On Feb. 17, 2022, Fort McCoy began its support for the 80th Army Emergency Relief (AER) Campaign with a campaign kick-off breakfast at McCoy’s Community Center on post. The AER campaign runs annually from March 1 to May 15, according to the AER webpage, [www.armyemergencyrelief.org](http://www.armyemergencyrelief.org). AER helps provide emergency financial funds for food, rent, funeral expenses, emergency medical expenses, and other needs. The breakfast, held with continued pandemic safety protocols in place, included dozens of Fort McCoy community members. The breakfast was organized by the Fort McCoy Army Community Service Office with the Directorate of Family and Morale, Welfare and Recreation.

— Also on Feb. 17, 2022, Fort McCoy held its annual Black History Month observance. The observance combined the January observance for Martin Luther King Jr. Day, which was canceled at the last minute, and the February observance for Black History Month.

Chaplain (Maj.) Robert Rand with the Fort McCoy Religious Support Office served as the first guest speaker for the event. Rand spoke about growing up in segregated Mississippi and related the contents of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.’s letters and speeches to his own childhood experiences.

“I remember seeing the signs in the courthouse,” Rand said. “As a little boy, I was afraid ... to go downstairs to the restroom, where there were still signs.” He spoke about not realizing that his doctor’s office was segregated until he returned home after joining the Army and seeing that the wall dividing the two waiting rooms had disappeared.

The second guest speaker was Momolu Sonie with the Tomah Veterans Affairs Medical Center. Sonie immigrated to the United States from Liberia in 1996 and joined the Army soon after.

“I am living black history,” Sonie said. “My story is black history.”

Sonie grew up in Monrovia, Liberia. The country was founded by freed and free-born black people who left the United States in the early 1800s. Sonie said his family wasn’t well off when he was growing up, but they saved to send him to a good school. He dreamed of going to a U.S. college to get a business degree before returning home to Liberia. However, when he was 17, civil war broke out in Liberia.

“Picture a 17-year-old kid waking up in the middle of the night to gunfire,” Sonie said. “Picture you live at Fort McCoy, and you hear it coming from Tomah. And at 10 o’clock at night, you see people walking. What do you do? You pick up and go.”

— Also in February 2022, the Army’s Installation Management Command (IMCOM) announced the 2021 IMCOM Communications Keith L. Ware Awards results, and the Fort McCoy Public Affairs Office earned four awards in layout and design, training documentation photograph, training documentation video, and community relations.

IMCOM Commanding General Lt. Gen. Douglas Gabram said in the awards message that winning these types of awards is significant.

“The 51,000 IMCOM professionals located at U.S. Army garrisons around the globe run the programs and deliver the services that strengthen Army readiness,” Gabram said. “This annual communication competition identifies our best public affairs professionals who create and share good-news stories about improvements to Army quality of life in areas such as housing, spouse employment, PCS moves, and childcare.”

## March

— In early March 2022, Fort McCoy’s total economic impact for fiscal year (FY) 2021 was announced by garrison officials at an estimated \$1.93 billion — above the \$1.479 billion reported for FY 2020. The data was compiled by Fort McCoy’s Plans, Analysis, and Integration Office.

Workforce payroll, operating costs, and other expenditures totaled \$481.6 million for FY 2021 compared to \$369 million for FY 2020. A total of 17,753 personnel worked or were guests at Fort McCoy in FY 2021 — 1,702 civilians, 2,023 military, 1,452 contract employees, and 12,576 Afghan guests. This includes all personnel who were on post during Operation Allies Welcome



Photo by Scott T. Sturkol

**Soldiers in the Regional Training Site-Maintenance’s Construction Equipment Repairer Advanced Leadership Course work on equipment during course operations Feb. 2, 2022, at Fort McCoy.**

and with Task Force McCoy.

Approximately 62 percent of the workforce lives within Monroe County. The total FY 2021 workforce payroll for civilian and military personnel was \$195.47 million. FY 2021 operating costs of \$249.88 million included utilities, physical plant maintenance, repair and improvements, new construction projects, purchases of supplies and services, as well as salaries for civilian contract personnel working at Fort McCoy.

Other expenditures accounted for \$36.25 million and covered \$332,635 in payments to local governments (including land permit agreements, school district impact aid, etc.) as well as \$35.9 million in discretionary spending in local communities by service members training and residing at Fort McCoy. Other factors of economic impact for the fiscal year included \$39.4 million in military construction on post.

— In a March 4, 2022, update, Ken Green with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers office at Fort McCoy said the construction of a second four-story barracks was 66 percent complete and remained on schedule. Throughout January and February and then into March, weather at the construction site and on Fort McCoy had included many days where temperatures were well below-zero yet there was little or no slowdown with the project, Green said.

Green said March 4 that work included interior steel stud placement, masonry work when weather allows, interior sheet-rock installation, sheetrock finishing, window installation, tile installation, roofing, and painting.

— On March 6, 2022, cadets in the Wisconsin Challenge Academy participated in a flag ceremony at Fort McCoy. The cadets were part of the newest academy class that began in January 2022. The Challenge Academy, a Fort McCoy tenant organization, offers youth the opportunity to change the direction of their lives and develop the strength of character and life skills necessary to become successful citizens.

— From late-February into March 2022, 40 students in CWOC class 22-05 trained at Fort McCoy. One of the skills they spent extensive time training on was skiing.

“Skiing is a primary method of travel in an extreme cold-weather environment,” said CWOC instructor Joe Ernst. “We teach our students to do this by utilizing currently issued equipment and through a step-by-step approach.”

The first hours the students trained on skis was to learn how the equipment works and how to move on the skis. Then they built more skills from there, Ernst said. During the downhill skiing training for CWOC class 22-05, they first practiced going down a short distance and then worked their way further up the hill. The weather was also favorable with sunny skies and little wind.

Additionally, the ski hill they used was fully groomed with a thick snow base. The ski area is maintained by the Fort McCoy Directorate of Family and Morale, Welfare and Recreation.

— On March 1, 2022, the members of the Fort McCoy prescribed burn team held their first prescribed burn on the installation, and they continued to hold prescribed throughout March.

Personnel with the Fort McCoy Directorate of Emergency Services Fire Department; Directorate of Public Works Environmental Division Natural Resources Branch; Directorate of Plans, Training, Mobilization and Security; and the Colorado State University Center of Environmental Management of Military Lands in partnership with the post help coordinate each prescribed burn at the post.

Charles Mentzel, installation forester, said completing and planning prescribed burns must be a team approach. “Prescribed burns, generally, are done in the spring and fall seasons because weather conditions are most favorable at those times,” he said.

— Soldiers with the Army Reserve’s 485th Engineer Company of Arlington Heights, Ill., fought a late-winter snowstorm to conduct rail loading on March 18, 2022, at Fort McCoy. The 485th

was loading vehicles in preparation for an upcoming overseas deployment.

First Lt. Payden Howard, unit executive officer, said that despite the weather, the 485th Soldiers knew that mission comes first. “Today we are executing railhead operations in order to stage out our equipment and gear in preparation for movement to our ultimate destination,” Howard said March 18 in a story by Christopher Hanson with the Fort McCoy Public Affairs Office. “A little snow doesn’t stop us.”

Rail-loading training for units like the 485th is facilitated by employees with the Fort McCoy Logistics Readiness Center (LRC) Transportation Division.

“The railyard at Fort McCoy offers a tremendous capability for our mission as a Mobilization Force Generation Installation,” Fort McCoy Garrison Commander Col. Michael Poss said. “It has been utilized often over the past two decades in support of Department of Defense operations worldwide.”

— The installation hosted its Women’s History Month event on March 17, 2022, at McCoy’s Community Center. The guest speaker was Army Community Service Program Manager Sylvia Lopez.

Lopez shared her story, starting with her childhood as the daughter of immigrant parents growing up in a rough Los Angeles neighborhood, according to a story by Aimee Malone. She said one of the first influential women in her life was a teacher. She said she can’t recall her name any longer, but the teacher taught her how to use a dictionary, helping her with her English and helping turn her into the unofficial translator for her parents (and sometimes others in the neighborhood).

Lopez said that she and her mother had very different versions of success.

“For her, I would be successful if I knew how to cook, clean, and raise a family with a good man,” Lopez said. “Now, I didn’t completely disagree with that logic ... but I was too busy devouring those Encyclopedia Britannicas that my dad had brought and the books that showed me a life beyond the invisible walls of South-Central Los Angeles.”

— Also in March 2022, two members of the Fort McCoy Public Affairs Office were recently recognized with awards placings in the 2021 Army Materiel Command (AMC) David G. Harris Public Affairs Competition. In an email announcement March 1, Public Affairs Specialists Scott Sturkol and Kaleen Holliday placed in three categories of the competition — training documentation photograph, training documentation video, and the Kathy Canham-Ross Award of Distinction (community relations).

— On March 10, 2022, the new Volk Field Air National Guard Base Commander Col. Matthew Eakins and the new Volk senior enlisted adviser Command Chief Master Sgt. Travis Skowronski visited Fort McCoy and visited with the Fort McCoy Garrison command team.

— Fort McCoy also held a special Community Leader Engagement on March 21, 2022, for civic leaders from several Wisconsin cities near the installation. More than a dozen community leaders from Tomah, Sparta, Black River Falls, La Crosse, and other nearby municipalities gathered at Fort McCoy to see the post’s mission first-hand.

During their visit, the community leaders received a driving tour of the installation and made stops at the Combined Arms Collective Training Facility on South Post, Fort McCoy Commemorative Area, Fort McCoy Simulations Training Complex in

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Photo by Scott T. Sturkol

**A team member lights a prescribed burn March 14, 2022, along the railroad tracks on South Post at Fort McCoy.**

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the 200 block on the cantonment area, Garrison Headquarters, and dining facility 1362 where they received a lunch.

— On March 10, 2022, members of the Fort McCoy Directorate of Family and Morale, Welfare and Recreation team who walked 723.85 miles for the #NotJustApril walk event organized by the Fort McCoy Sexual Harassment/Assault Response and Prevention Program (SHARP) Office were presented with the event trophy at Rumpel Fitness Center at Fort McCoy.

— At the end of March, on March 31, 2022, Garrison Commander Col. Michael Poss spoke about the past year and the state of Fort McCoy during the annual workforce briefing. Poss shared some of the highlights and accomplishments of 2021. Some of the larger training events included hosting the Army Reserve Best Warrior/Best Squad Competition; Army Reserve Medical Command's Expert Field Medical Badge event; two Warrior Exercise iterations; Operation Pershing Strike, a Level III Mobility Exercise 65; Global Medic; and the Cold-Weather Operations Course.

In all, 116,053 service members trained at Fort McCoy in fiscal year 2021, almost double the number that trained in fiscal year 2020, when the COVID-19 pandemic began.

"We've got a lot of field space," Poss said. "We're open for business, to train safely and effectively."

## April

— Starting off April 2022, Fort McCoy community leaders participated in a proclamation signing ceremony April 5, 2022, declaring April as Sexual Assault Awareness and Prevention Month (SAAPM) at McCoy's Community Center at Fort McCoy.

The installation held the special proclamation signing ceremony at the center that was organized by the Fort McCoy Army Community Service office and the Fort McCoy SHARP program office. Poss; Command Sgt. Maj. Raquel DiDomenico, garrison command sergeant major; and other unit leaders signed the proclamation.

Poss addressed the audience about the importance of sexual assault prevention, and more.

"Let's be active participants and change our culture by being positive influences promoting bystander intervention, by stopping sexual harassment and assault, and by participating ... in events throughout the month," Poss said. SAAPM is an annual campaign to raise public awareness about sexual assault and educate communities on how to prevent sexual assault.

— On April 1, 2022, Poss took time out to present a Commander's Coin for Excellence to Fort McCoy Directorate of Human Resources Director Terry Streton in front of Garrison Headquarters at Fort McCoy. Poss was thanking Streton for decades of service to the Army as Streton retired from civil service.

— Also, from late March and into early April 2022, more prescribed burns took place and fire-suppression training with Wisconsin National Guard UH-60 Black Hawk helicopters also took place. The training was featured in a story posted April 8, 2022.

"Fort McCoy's fire and forestry officials and aircrew and Black Hawk helicopters with the Wisconsin National Guard's 1st Battalion, 147th Aviation Regiment of Madison, Wis., teamed March 28, 2022, to complete prescribed-burn and conduct fire-suppression training in Training Area Bravo-26 on the installation's South Post," the story states. "The event built on a continuing relationship between the Fort McCoy prescribed burn team and the Wisconsin National Guard training, said Forester Charles Mentzel with the Directorate of Public Works (DPW) Environmental Division Natural Resources Branch (NRB)."

Mentzel said in the story that Fort McCoy is the ideal place to hold fire-suppression training with the Black Hawks and the water buckets, which are also known as "Bambi" buckets.

"We are a military training base, have the facilities to support the helicopters, and the land base to do the training," Mentzel said. "The water sources also are on the installation, so helicopters don't have to cross any public roadways while carrying water to the fire."

— Also announced April 8, 2022, Fort McCoy family member Charles Tempski was named the Wisconsin Military Youth of the Year by Boys & Girls Clubs of America for his leadership, service, academic excellence, and dedication to live a healthy lifestyle.

The Youth of the Year title is a prestigious honor bestowed upon an exemplary young person in recognition of leadership, service, academic excellence and dedication to live a healthy lifestyle. Then in its 75th year, the program honors the nation's most awe-inspiring young people on their path to great futures.

As the Wisconsin Military Youth of the Year, Tempski served as an ambassador for all teens in the state, received a \$2,500 college scholarship from Boys & Girls Clubs of America, and went on to contend for the regional Youth of the Year and ultimately the national title.

— On April 1, 2022, Garrison Commander Col. Michael Poss attended a special event at the Fort McCoy Child Development Center (CDC) commemorating April as the Month of the Military Child.

Poss and Deputy Garrison Commander Lt. Col. Chad Maynard also signed a proclamation declaring April 2022 as the Month of the Military Child. Children from the CDC sang "Red, White and Blue" to parents and guests who attended.

— Leaders with the Fort McCoy Garrison command team spoke April 4, 2022, at the Wisconsin Association of School Councils (WASC) Leadership Conference in the Wisconsin Dells, Wis. Deputy Garrison Commander Lt. Col. Chad Maynard; Command Sgt. Maj. Raquel DiDomenico, garrison command sergeant major; and Headquarters and Headquarters Company Commander Maj. James Lavelle spoke on the importance of leadership to outstanding student council members from middle and high schools from around the state of Wisconsin.

The discussion was facilitated by WASC Executive Director Bjorn Berg. Fort McCoy was invited to the 2022 conference to present about leadership in the military, for each leader to share their experiences about when they were in school, and the reasons behind their choices to join the U.S. Army.

— April also saw an overview of the 2021-22 CWOC training season. The 2021-22 season saw the training of 288 Soldiers, Airmen, and Marines throughout the season. "The fiscal year 2022 season was our largest season to date," said CWOC Instructor Hunter Heard.

"From training those 145 Marines during class 22-01 for their deployment to Norway, to our first classes incorporating patrol lanes, to the field training exercise we did, to our second all-Army Ranger class, and more, it was a great training season," Heard said.

In CWOC class 22-05, most of the class of 35 students comprised of Airmen — 25 in fact. Most of the Airmen were security forces from the Air National Guard. Their presence marked the third straight year that Airmen comprised a majority of one of the CWOC classes.

"It's always great to bring some of our Airmen back here for training," said Chief Master Sgt. Anthony Harvey, security forces manager with the 164th Mission Support Group, 164th Airlift Wing, at Memphis Air National Guard Base, Tenn. "I could fill as many seats as they give me for this training."

Tech. Sgt. Jordan Spetz, a security forces craftsman with the 180th Security Forces Squadron and CWOC class 22-05 student, said having security forces in CWOC training is a good idea to prepare for future operations.

"Our (operations) landscape for the last 20 years has been about the desert terrain," Spetz said. "We haven't paid much attention to the cold-weather areas of operation. I feel confident after attending this course that I can help train my unit members to be effective to operate in cold weather. ... It isn't that bad, and it's manageable if you're focused."

During CWOC class 22-06, the cold temperatures were waning with winter but the skills building continued, said student Sgt. 1st Class Ronald Bostick with the 3-340th Brigade Engineer Battalion of the 181st Multi-Functional Training Brigade at Fort McCoy.

"The best parts of this course are the basic patrolling skills that we had the chance to conduct," Bostick said. He added that the course was "great" and helped with building up his service skills.

As far as some of the best skills he'd take away from the training, Bostick was like nearly all the 288 CWOC students who trained, who said learning how to properly wear the Extended Cold Weather Clothing System (ECWCS) was among the best training. "Learning how to wear the ECWCS the right way was



Photo by Christopher Hanson

**Fort McCoy Garrison Command Sgt. Maj. Raquel DiDomenico addresses students at the Wisconsin Association of School Councils Leadership Conference on Monday, April 4, 2022, in Wisconsin Dells, Wis.**



Photo by Scott T. Sturkol

**Event-goers stop for a photo with the Tree City USA flag as Fort McCoy, Wis., held its annual Arbor Day celebration April 29, 2022, west of Gate 5 on the cantonment area at the installation.**

great," he said.

CWOC training did not resume for the 2022-23 training season.

— Fort McCoy again held a special Community Leader Engagement on April 19, 2022, for civic leaders from several Wisconsin cities near the installation. More than a dozen community leaders from Tomah, Sparta, and other nearby municipalities gathered at Fort McCoy to see the post's mission firsthand.

During their visit, the community leaders received a driving tour of the installation and made stops at the Combined Arms Collective Training Facility on South Post; Fort McCoy Commemorative Area; Fort McCoy Simulations Training Complex in the 200 block on the cantonment area; Garrison Headquarters, and McCoy's Community Center where they received a lunch.

Poss led the engagement visit and he was accompanied by Maynard, Hanson, Public Affairs Officer Tonya Townsell, Public Affairs Specialist Kaleen Holliday, and several other garrison personnel.

— Fort McCoy held its 2022 Arbor Day celebration April 29, 2022, with dozens of community members that included adults and children in attendance.

During the observance, Fort McCoy Garrison Commander Poss and other installation personnel and children from the post Child Development Center planted hundreds of tree seedlings.

"Are you ready to plant some trees?" Poss asked the children present for the observance near Gate 5 on the cantonment area. A resounding "yeeeeeaaaaaaah" came back from the children.

Poss reviewed what his experience was with Arbor Day and what it was like to share it with his own children. He also read the Arbor Day proclamation. Forester Charles Mentzel with the Forestry Office of the Directorate of Public Works Environmental Division Natural Resources Branch, who organized the event with support from Forestry Technicians Tim Parry and Nick Randall, said he was happy to have so many participants and to have a ceremony that wasn't affected by pandemic restrictions.

"It was fantastic to celebrate trees with the best turn-out in years," Mentzel said. "No masks and a lot of smiles — all in the name of trees. To see the kids' faces having a good time is worth all of the work to prepare for that day. The children and adults planted more than 500 trees at that site. It was a great effort by all."

— Also, at the end of April 2022, Soldiers with the 1st Brigade Engineer Battalion, 310th Infantry Regiment (1-310), 181st Multi-Functional Training Brigade, conducted the unit's organizational week April 19-22, 2022, at Fort McCoy, calling it the "Week of Remagen."

The battalion was split into four groups of Soldiers and completed a bevy of events that challenged each individual and team physically and mentally while also educating them on the battalion's long heritage.

"The Week of the Remagen is an annual crucible-style event that tests each team member's physical and mental abilities to the far extreme," said Lt. Col. Robert McTighe, 1-310 commander in a story by Staff Sgt. Ryan Rayno. "It perpetuates the 'team of teams' mindset as we randomly assign the battalion Soldiers to team structures that are different than our normal battalion structure."

— Soldiers with the 181st Multi-Functional Training Brigade (MFTB), also known as the Eagle Brigade, completed the brigade's second annual Sexual Assault Awareness and Prevention Month ruck march April 29, 2022, in Sparta, Wis., reported Rayno in another story.

The ruck march provided Soldiers the opportunity to show

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their support and raise awareness for sexual assault survivors, as well as collect donations for charity organizations that work with survivors.

“First and foremost, I hope our presence in the community helps spark conversations about sexual assault and raises awareness,” Sgt. 1st Class Shawn Settles, the 181st MFTB sexual assault response coordinator, said. “We can work together to help reduce these numbers by showing survivors that we are here to support them.”

The event took more than six months of planning, which included coordination between Settles and several organizations throughout the city of Sparta.

“When we started initial planning, we met with local community members to begin identifying goals we hoped to achieve,” Settles said. “Once we set our goals, we began reaching out to the community for support. We were still adding community partners to our event into the second week of April.”

Along with the Eagle Brigade, Brighter Tomorrows, Gundersen Health System, Wisconsin Coalition Against Sexual Assault, the Sparta Police Department, Sparta Ambulance, the Sparta Fire Department, the Fort McCoy Family Advocacy Program and the Fort McCoy Military & Family Life consultants participated in the event.

— Fort McCoy held a special event April 21, 2022, in McCoy’s Community Center to observe the Holocaust Days of Remembrance and Holocaust Remembrance Day.

During the event organized by the Fort McCoy Equal Opportunity office’s Master Sgt. Ana Guzman-Gregory, guest speak Gregory Wegner, Professor Emeritus of History at the University of Wisconsin-La Crosse, gave insight to the history of the Holocaust.

According to the National Archives at www.archives.gov, International Holocaust Remembrance Day is an international memorial day designated by the United Nations to mark the anniversary of the January 27, 1945, liberation of Auschwitz-Birkenau — the largest Nazi concentration and death camp. The Days of Remembrance of the Victims of the Holocaust is an annual commemoration designated by Congress to mark the anniversary of the Warsaw Ghetto uprising in 1943.

— In 2022, Holocaust Remembrance Day was recognized on April 28, 2022. Wegner discussed how the Holocaust began, and how it’s an ongoing effort to always remember what happened.

“Antisemitism and racism as a whole are unresolved,” Wegner said. “It remains one of our human problems.”

Wegner said some of his perspective of the Holocaust came from people he interviewed

who witnessed the atrocities first-hand.

“I’m standing before you also because my life was changed by an interview,” Wegner said. “I’ve interviewed over 15 veterans of World War II. ... They taught me important things while spending time with them down in a park in Bangor, Wis.”

Wegner said he was 8 years old when he first talked to the veterans, and he said he learned much from their experiences — especially one veteran who was a concentration camp liberator. “They became my teachers,” Wegner said.

— Stephen Sullivan, the Chief Financial Officer and Director for Resources, Installations, and Materiel for the Office of the Chief of the Army Reserve, visited Fort McCoy from April 25-27, 2022, to learn more about the installation and see facilities throughout the post.

Sullivan’s visit included an initial overview briefing by Garrison Commander Col. Michael Poss with other members of the Fort McCoy Garrison command team as well as several Fort McCoy workforce leaders and members.

The visit also included tours of barracks buildings and dining facilities used for the Operation Allies Welcome mission at Fort McCoy between Aug. 15, 2021, and Feb. 15, 2022.

## May

— As May 2022 began, weather was much warmer and lots of things were going on, including construction.

Workers with Mathy Construction were busy completing road construction in early May 2022 on roads next to McCoy’s Community Center and throughout the cantonment area at Fort McCoy.

— Over at Pine View Campground, work was well underway of constructing a new 1,500-square-foot comfort station. The new station includes men’s and women’s restrooms and showers areas as well as a fish cleaning station. The contractor for the project is MDM Construction, which is headquartered in Rockford, Ill. The contract amount to build the station is \$475,736, Fort McCoy DPW officials said.

— Approximately 16,400 rainbow trout were stocked at several lakes and ponds in late April and early May 2022 at Fort McCoy by workers with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service’s (USFWS) Genoa National Fish Hatchery of Genoa, Wis.

USFWS personnel delivered the trout which averaged at least 10 inches, said Fisheries Biologist John Noble with the Directorate of Public Works Environmental Division Natural Resources Branch. Trout were stocked in Suukjak Sep, Sandy, Stillwell, and Big Sandy lakes and Sparta and Swamp ponds.



Photo by Staff Sgt. Ryan Rayno

**Soldiers with the 181st Multi-Functional Training Brigade begin the second annual 181st Sexual Assault Awareness and Prevention Month Ruck March on April 29, 2022, in Sparta, Wis.**

“It’s always good to get the trout stocked in time for the new fishing season, which began May 7,” Noble said. Some fish are larger, exceeding 2 pounds, too, Noble said.

“We always put in some bigger fish — some nearly 20 inches in length — in all of the places we stock at Fort McCoy,” said USFWS employee Nick Bloomfield.

Noble added, “The larger fish give anglers a chance at a bigger prize. They also are all very healthy fish.”

Fort McCoy has an agreement with the USFWS to stock fish every year. The USFWS hatchery raises the fish and certifies their health before delivery and stocking on post, Noble said.

— Fort McCoy’s senior leadership, state and federal representatives and staffers, and dozens of installation community members as well as several local media representatives celebrated the opening of the first new multi-million-dollar transient troop training barracks at Fort McCoy during a special ribbon-cutting ceremony on post May 18, 2022.

A \$20.6 million contract was awarded to L.S. Black Constructors, Inc., in September 2019 to build the barracks, said Ken Green with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Resident Office at Fort McCoy.

Fort McCoy Directorate of Public Works Director Liane Haun served as the master of ceremonies for the ribbon-cutting event. Haun said the new barracks was only the second brick-and-mortar barracks built on post since 1942.

“Today is another historic moment at Fort McCoy as we assemble to cut the ribbon on the second permanent transient training barracks building at Fort McCoy since the Fort McCoy (cantonment area) was constructed in 1942,” Haun said. “I have witnessed several ribbon-cutting ceremonies in my time at Fort McCoy, and each one brings great satisfaction to see the fruits of everyone’s labors come to fruition.”

Maj. Gen. Darrell Guthrie, Fort McCoy senior commander and commanding general of the 88th Readiness Division at Fort McCoy, praised the opening of the new facility.

“As you can see behind me, these barracks are quite different from all the other traditional barracks,” Guthrie said.

“Projects like the transient training barracks (here) are a direct result of community support and especially the support of elected officials. They enhance the ability of the Army, and especially the Army Reserve, to train here at Fort McCoy.

“One of the Army Reserve’s, and therefore one of my top priorities, is our people,” Guthrie said. “The completion of this new barracks is one example of taking care of our Soldiers.”

Fort McCoy Garrison Commander Col. Michael Poss followed Guthrie with similar praise for the completion of the new barracks.

“Today’s ribbon cutting signifies the econom-

ic importance of Fort McCoy to Wisconsin, this region, and our nation,” Poss said. “This barracks project is also part of the Army’s effort to ensure our Soldiers have an excellent quality of life when they come here to train.

“In recent years, we’ve continued to ensure our nation’s Soldiers and other service members have a modern and relevant installation in which to train,” Poss said.

— On May 10, 2022, Fort McCoy and Ho-Chunk Nation officials gathered in Black River Falls, Wis., in a special ceremony to renew an agreement in a memorandum of understanding.

The ceremony was held at the Ho-Chunk Nation Tribal Office Building on the east side of Black River Falls and included Fort McCoy Garrison Commander Col. Michael Poss and Command Sgt. Maj. Raquel DiDomenico, garrison command sergeant major, and Ho-Chunk Nation Chief Clayton Winneshiek and Ho-Chunk Nation President Marlon WhiteEagle.

The ceremony also included participation by members of the Fort McCoy Directorate of Public Works Environmental Division Natural Resources Branch — especially Ryan Howell who serves as the garrison archaeologist, cultural resource manager, and Native American co-ordinator. Howell was the key organizer of the event.

“This memorandum of understanding between the Ho-Chunk Nation and Fort McCoy represents Fort McCoy’s assumption of the U.S. Army’s legal responsibility under multiple federal laws and presidential executive orders to protect natural, historic, and sacred places with traditional religious and cultural importance to all Native American peoples, but especially those of the Ho-Chunk Nation, on who’s aboriginal territory the Fort McCoy military installation is now located,” Howell said during the ceremony. “The Army recognizes that access to and protection of such special places are essential to maintaining the cultural integrity of Native American tribes, and that such places are critical to the cultural survival of Native communities.

“In order to preserve the character and physical integrity of such special places and their associated natural resources, and to facilitate tribal member’s access to them, this agreement specifies Fort McCoy’s commitment to conducting active and persistent tribal consultation with the Ho-Chunk Nation, and specifically with tribal representatives of the Ho-Chunk Department of Heritage Preservation and Ho-Chunk Department of Natural Resources.”

Howell also said specifically the agreement details how Fort McCoy will consult and inform the Ho-Chunk Nation prior to any ground disturbance, construction or training activities that may impact potential Ho-Chunk archaeological sites, traditional cultural properties (i.e. sacred sites) or other areas of concern specified by Ho-Chunk leadership or representatives.

WhiteEagle said he appreciated the opportunity to renew the agreement.

“Thank you for your kind presence here today as we reaffirmed this memorandum of understanding with Fort McCoy the U.S. Army as well and the federal government and the Ho-Chunk Nation,” WhiteEagle said.

“I’ve been in this role here since 2019 as the Ho-Chunk Nation president, and it’s humbling for me to take part today in the recognition of the respectful relationship that we have with the federal government and particularly here today with the colonel reaffirming the relationship ... and this respectful collaboration with the nation to preserve the ... ancestral land.”

Poss also added his appreciation for the special relationship between the Ho-Chunk Nation, Fort McCoy, and the Army.

“This agreement we signed today has been in place for nearly 23 years and has produced very positive results over that period,” Poss said. “Citizens of the Nation ... utilize this agreement to harvest natural resources for traditional cultural activities. ... We also reaffirm both our de-

(See 2022 REVIEW, Page 11)



Photo by Scott T. Sturkol

**Fort McCoy’s Senior Commander Maj. Gen. Darrell Guthrie, who’s also the 88th Readiness Division commanding general, provides remarks May 18, 2022, during a special ribbon-cutting ceremony to open the new fiscal year 2019-funded barracks at Fort McCoy, Wis.**

## NEWS

## 2022 REVIEW from Page 9

sire to be good neighbors to the citizens of the Nation.”

— Soldiers with the Army Reserve’s 372nd Engineer Company moved earth May 16 and May 18, 2022, as part of an ongoing troop construction project just outside the cantonment area fence at Fort McCoy. The project work the unit supported is located in an area of land near the old Gate 20 and Improved Logistical Support Area Liberty and the cantonment area fence, said Larry Morrow, troops projects coordinator with the Fort McCoy Directorate of Public Works. The site plan is to make it into a base operations support site for installation service contractors, such as facility maintenance, roads and grounds, solid waste, custodial, pest management, and more.

— Fort McCoy community members gathered at McCoy’s Community Center on May 19, 2022, to observe May as Asian-American and Pacific Islander (AAPI) Heritage Month. The observance, organized by Master Sgt. Ana Guzman-Gregory with the Fort McCoy Equal Opportunity Office, featured Professor Gerald Iguchi, a doctorate holder who serves as a history professor at the University of Wisconsin-La Crosse.

During his presentation, Iguchi reviewed personal experiences and worked to tie world events to Fort McCoy and the famed 100th Infantry Battalion that trained at then-Camp McCoy in the 1940s. Iguchi said he was adopted by Japanese parents and raised in southern California.

He discussed his father’s time in internment camps in World War II and how it affected his father. He also discussed other family members who served in the U.S. military during World War II and after.

— The 2022 Army Reserve Best Squad Competition took place at Fort McCoy from May 14-21, 2022. Approximately 40 Soldiers from across the nation traveled to Fort McCoy to compete. This is an annual competition that brings together the best Soldiers and squads from across the U.S. Army Reserve to earn the title of “Best Warrior” and “Best Squad” among their peers. Competitors were evaluated on their individual and collective ability to adapt to and overcome challenging scenarios and battle-focus events that tested their technical and tactical abilities.

— Airmen, Marines, and Soldiers from a range of units and career fields participated in an exercise focusing on explosive ordnance disposal (EOD) at Fort McCoy and Volk Field from May 15 to 25, 2022.

The 115th Fighter Wing hosted Audacious Warrior, an EOD training exercise that incorporates partners in supporting roles including the 115th Fighter Wing Emergency Management and Security Forces of the Wisconsin Air National Guard at Madison; the Army Reserve’s 432nd Civil Affairs Battalion of Green Bay, Wis.; and the Marine Corps’ Combat Logistics Battalion (CLB) 22 of Camp Lejeune, N.C. There were more than a dozen total EOD units from across the country participating in the exercise.

— Post officials said Fort McCoy’s first Armed Forces Day Open House since 2019 was a great success as nearly 2,000 people visited the installation. The day’s activities were centered on the Commemorative Area, which features the History Center; five World War II-era buildings filled with historical equipment and displays, the outdoor Equipment Park, and Veterans Memorial Plaza.

Visitors were treated to cooler temps and partly sunny skies as well.

“Within the Commemorative Area, we had 35 displays set up



An aircrew with the 1st Battalion, 147th Aviation Regiment of the Wisconsin National Guard operates a UH-60 Blackhawk helicopter for live-hoist training at Big Sandy Lake on June 7, 2022, at Fort McCoy.

See more coverage at: <https://www.dvidshub.net/news/436380/fort-mccoy-2022-year-review-first-half-year-includes-operation-allies-welcome-training-ops-big-construction-projects>.

under tents for a lot of interactive fun,” said Public Affairs Specialist Kaleen Holliday with the Fort McCoy Public Affairs Office. “We also had guided installation bus tours, a sandbag-filling station, personalized ID tags, camouflage face painting, military equipment displays, marksmanship galleries, and more.”

Among the most popular stops for the open house is often the natural resources and wildlife exhibit organized by the Fort McCoy Directorate of Public Works Environmental Division Natural Resources Branch where they have live turtles and snakes for people to see.

Forestry Technician Nick Randall said dozens of visitors stopped by to see the animals and to talk about them.

“It was actually really nice,” Randall said. “It was fun showing the kids the turtles and snakes. I wish people were more interested in asking about forestry, but I had tough competition. ... It was a great time.”

— Just days after Fort McCoy held the Armed Forces Day Open House where thousands of people visited the post, installation leaders held a special Community Leader Engagement on May 24, 2022, for civic leaders and local law-enforcement leaders from several Wisconsin cities near the installation. More than a dozen of those leaders from Tomah, Sparta, Monroe County, and other near-by municipalities gathered at Fort McCoy to see the post’s mission first-hand. During their visit, the community leaders received a driving tour of the installation and made stops at the Combined Arms Collective Training Facility on South Post, training areas on North Post, Garrison Headquarters, and McCoy’s Community Center where they received a lunch.

Fort McCoy’s grounds contractor took to action to improve a long stretch of ditches May 26, 2022, on the cantonment area on post. The work by contractor Kaiyuh Services was coordinated with Fort McCoy’s Directorate of Public Works (DPW) and was all about infrastructure improvement, said DPW Operations and Maintenance Division Chief Nate Sobojinski.

“They were providing ditching maintenance services by removing old concrete culverts used for past sidewalk and driveway crossings that are no longer in use and re-establishing ditch profiles on the cantonment area,” Sobojinski said. Infrastructure improvement projects are a regular occurrence on post during the spring and summer, he said.

— Dozens of Fort McCoy community members gathered May 26 at McCoy’s Community Center for the 2022 Memorial Day Prayer Luncheon. The luncheon, organized by the Fort McCoy Religious Support Office, included free food for event-goers and a special service held in the banquet room of McCoy’s.

Guest speakers for the event were Reverend Laurie Graber and her husband, retired Army Lt. Col. Tom Graber. Both Grabers are retired federal civil service employees — both with more than 30 years of service each.

The Grabers co-founded “Acres of Hope Ministry.” It’s an outreach ministry that serves as the caretaker of two local area facilities. The first facility is The Gathering Place that was built on Laurie’s family farm property in Norwalk, Wis. The other facility is the Sparrow’s Nest at Abbey in Sparta, Wis. The Grabers spoke about building their ministry and serving and supporting others.

— And in the second May 2022 edition of The Real McCoy newspaper, a special edition was published to honor Medal of Honor recipient Sgt. Maj. Kenneth Stumpf who had passed away in April 2022. Stumpf retired from the Army at Fort McCoy.

“When retired Army Sgt. Maj. Kenneth E. Stumpf passed away at his home in Tomah, Wis., on April 23, his daughter Jobi (Stumpf) Spolum didn’t think about how the world lost a military hero — a Medal of Honor recipient,” states a story in the special edition. To her, she lost her dad.

Over his 77 years of life, Stumpf was best known to most for his actions on April 25, 1967, in Vietnam, where at that time as a squad leader, Staff Sgt. Stumpf earned the U.S. military’s

highest honor — the Medal of Honor — for “conspicuous gallantry and intrepidity in action at the risk of his life above and beyond the call of duty.”

Spolum is the second of Stumpf’s three children. She has an older brother, Scott, and a younger brother, Adrian. She said growing up she didn’t realize just how important the Medal

of Honor was until she got older. To be honest, when I was a kid, it was about him being so good at racquetball,” Spolum said. “He had been on the all-Army team for racquetball. So it was always about what a good athlete he was.

“And then it was when I got older when I learned just how significant the Medal of Honor was,” Spolum said. “When we started going to conventions for Medal of Honor recipients and related events is when it really started to click.”

But at home, Stumpf was dad. “He and I had a special relationship,” Spolum said.

## June

— On June 1, 2022, 31 employees with the Fort McCoy Directorate of Public Works received Army Civil Service Commendation and Achievement Medals for their work during Operation

Allies Welcome (OAW) at Fort McCoy. The medals were presented by members of the Fort McCoy Garrison command team, including Garrison Commander Col. Michael Poss and Deputy Garrison Commander Lt. Col. Chad Maynard. OAW took place at Fort McCoy between Aug. 15, 2021, and Feb. 15, 2022. The installation supported the housing, processing, and relocating of approximately 13,000 Afghan guests who were airlifted from Afghanistan in August 2021.

— Dozens of Soldiers with the 1st Battalion, 147th Aviation Regiment (1-147) of the Wisconsin National Guard, through use of several UH-60 Black Hawk helicopters, held live-hoist training at Big Sandy Lake on June 7, 2022, at Fort McCoy.

This training included hoisting up simulated victims treading water with a basket into the helicopter. The practice was repeated many times over to give operators as much practice as possible.

“Live-hoist (operation) is a critical skill for our medical evacuation aircraft,” said Maj. Donald Graham, administrative and executive officer with the 1-147th. “The size, shape, slope of terrain in rescue scenarios can often prevent an aircraft from landing safely. The hoist allows our crews to lower a medic in restrictive landing areas to provide immediate medical care, then safely extract injured persons for transport. It’s a highly technical task that crews must train on regularly to remain proficient.”

Graham added that the training is critical because the unit has supported many real-world rescue situations using the live-hoist capabilities on their UH-60 Black Hawk helicopters.

— Fort McCoy was among many installations around the world to celebrate the U.S. Army’s 247th birthday June 14, 2022. Led by Fort McCoy’s Directorate of Family and Morale, Welfare and Recreation (DFMWR), the installation held a wide variety of activities in honor of the day.

Events included the Army Birthday 5k Run/2-Mile Walk at Rumpel Fitness Center that also included a breakfast for participants and spectators. There also was the Army Birthday Ceremony and Lunch at McCoy’s Community Center where hundreds of people received a free lunch and cake, and the 204th Army Band entertained the audience with many popular songs.

Hundreds of people also received an Army birthday T-shirt highlighting the day as well, said Christie B. Clark, sponsorship and advertising coordinator with Fort McCoy DFMWR. DFMWR also had a free HyperBowling Hyperactive Game — also at McCoy’s Community Center, Clarke said. DFMWR also provided free automatic car washes at the MWR Car Wash. The 2022 celebration was the largest since 2019.

— Airmen with the 133rd Airlift Wing of the Minnesota National Guard conducted airdrop training operations June 14, 2022, at Badger Drop Zone at Fort McCoy. The military doctrine behind airdrops is to use parachutes to deliver loads to the ground from aircraft, such as heavy equipment, Container Delivery Systems, and personnel. This delivery method allows rapid insertion of combat forces to numerous target areas. The 133rd regularly holds training like this at Fort McCoy.

— Two-hundred and fourteen people tested their physical stamina as they endured 14 difficult obstacles during the Fort McCoy Down & Dirty Trail Run on June 11, 2022, at Whitetail Ridge Ski Area on post.

“This was a great turnout for this event,” said Marketing Director Liz Faber with the Directorate of Family and Morale, Welfare and Recreation — the directorate that organized the event. “This trail run is one of the most difficult we ever had, and the participants did great.” The 14 obstacles were set up over a 1.5-mile course.

— Army Reserve Soldiers who support military police (MP) units, specifically mechanics, had the opportunity to hone their skills during Operation Platinum Wrench (OPW) at the 88th Readiness Division-operated Draw Yard at Fort McCoy from June 13-16 and June 20-23, 2022, according to a story by Sgt. 1st Class Clinton Wood with the 88th Readiness Division Public Affairs Office. Operation Platinum Wrench provides mechanics, including power generation equipment repairmen, in the division’s footprint the chance to be trained by civilian contractors on their skills.

— A combination of recent history and some hustle enabled the Wisconsin Army National Guard’s 32nd Infantry Brigade Combat Team to train on Tube-launched Optically-tracked Wire-guided (TOW) anti-tank missiles during the unit’s 2022 annual training at Fort McCoy, states a June 2022 story by Staff Sgt. Kati Volkman with the Wisconsin National Guard.

“The proliferation and effectiveness of Anti-tank Guided Missiles (ATGM) in the war in Ukraine led us to reevaluate our Squadron gunnery priorities,” said Lt. Col. Matthew McDonald, commander of the 1st Squadron, 105th Cavalry Regiment. The 105th received 54 BGM-71 TOW missiles from a stockpile that was very close to its expiration date. Of this allotment, the squadron’s 12 firing crews fired 34 TOW missiles during annual training. The remaining TOW missiles were utilized by the squadron’s sister units, the 2nd Battalion, 127th Infantry and the 1st Battalion, 128th Infantry.

## COMMUNITY

## THIS MONTH IN FORT MCCOY HISTORY

## 38 Years Ago — January 1985

Winter at Fort McCoy means low temperatures, snow and icy weather. It's a big job to make sure Fort McCoy operates smoothly in spite of Wisconsin's winter conditions. But most Fort McCoy employees don't have to worry about being cold in their offices or the safety of the roads and sidewalks due to a large group who work outside, regardless of the weather, so that the rest of us can work in comfort and travel about post safely.

This group of workers come from the directorates of facilities engineering and industrial operations. They are the ones who transport fuel — coal and wood pellets — from storage areas to offices and barracks. They maintain boilers, scrape snow from roads, sidewalks and parking lots, and spread sand at intersections. Without the efforts of these workers, who sometimes must brave the most extreme weather conditions, Fort McCoy could not operate.

## 10 Years Ago — January 2013

The Combined Arms Collective Training Facility (CACTF) at Fort McCoy has been completed and is ready for use. The CACTF has 25 support buildings representing multi-story residential, commercial, government, business and industrial operations. Underground tunnel/sewer training areas also provide urban combat training.

## 5 Years Ago — January 2018

Nearly 1,200 Marines with units associated with the 2nd Marine Aircraft Wing completed extreme cold-weather training at Fort McCoy from early January through early February during the Ullr Shield 2018 exercise.

The 2nd Marine Aircraft Wing (MAW), headquartered at Marine Corps Air Station (MCAS) Cherry Point, N.C., began coordination to hold the cold-weather training at Fort McCoy in September 2017.

Marines with the Marine Air Control Group 28, a 2nd MAW unit, came to Fort McCoy with an advance team in fall 2017 to prepare for training, said Training Coordination Branch Chief Craig Meeusen with the Directorate of Plans, Training, Mobilization and Security (DPTMS).

"They are training all around the post," Meeusen said. "The majority of the Marines are staying and working from Improved Tactical Training Base Freedom on South Post. They are also working and training at areas such as Young Air Assault Strip, Sparta-McCoy Airfield, the Combined Arms Col-

PAGE 4 THE REAL MCCOY SATURDAY, JANUARY 23, 1943

## SECOND DIVISION NEWS BRIEFS

### 23rd Infantry

Hq. and Hq. Co.  
3rd Battalion

That "deep in the heart of Texas" look in 1st Sgt. Graves' eyes is there because his wife just left of the sunny south.

Pfc. Deschamps doesn't mind this location... his home town is only three hours ride from Camp McCoy.

Cpl. F. Schuch having found the "girl of his dreams" now knows how to spend a quiet week-end, and NOT spend much money.

T/5. Russell has returned for duty after two weeks in the hospital. He's glad and so are we.

Promotions: To Pfc. Lundeberg and B. Schuch.

### Company I

Capt. Anderson has returned from Oklahoma where he spent a seven-day leave.

Lt. Adamson was admitted to the hospital last week. We all wish him a speedy recovery.

Cpl. Winegardner was voted the best and most popular soldier of 1942. Congratulations! Others mentioned were: Sgts. Garcia and Naranjo; Cpl. Murrell and Pfc. Yaffe.

Cpl. Volovar returned from furlough, married.

Pfc. Penata was married to a La Crosse girl on Saturday. Our kitchen received a "Superior" rating, thanks to our kitchen force.

When are the ski instructors coming... we're eagerly awaiting them?

### Company K

Our kitchen received a "Superior" rating after the recent inspection.

Cpl. Kutulis has returned from

### Company C

Pfc. Calvin E. Stevens left for OCS (Inf.) at Ft. Benning, Ga.

Pfc. Stanley T. Mooney was married recently. And is HE a changed man?

Cpls. Peter G. Folster and Delmas C. Folson are our newest Jitterbug Jivers. Hot? Pub-lenty!

### Company D

Cpl. Joseph Chisem is attending OCS (CW) at Edgewood Arsenal, Md.

Promoted to Cpl. Pfc. Fyalka.

Pvt. Breuwing has been transferred to Hq. Company.

Sgt. Williams was A/C platoon Sgt. with recruits in their Saturday afternoon training classes.

### Headquarters Company

Cpl. John Hanson, in charge of our day-room, has helped make a cozy spot. It is decked with paintings, insignias, citations, and pictures of World War heroes.

Sgt. James Jones instructs new clerks, while Pvt. George Kimball acts in Jones' place as company clerk.

Pvt. George Schryer attends Clerical school.

Pfc. Albert Berger, since furlough, no longer enjoys our long hikes.

Pvt. J. M. O'Connor wants to exchange the overcoat he wears for his own, which was accidentally picked up at La Crosse's Oxford Nite Club on New Year's Eve. He's located in building 840.

Cpl. Harrison Cockrell, of message center, had an enjoyable furlough in Chicago.

Pvt. Charles Blankenburg, former bugler, is quite a comedian... is known as the "coke kid" at the Service Club. He sells them.

Accompanying us on a recent snow hike were Company Com-

### Company A

Capt. Wedder and Lt. Lomax have been sorrowing their charges how to play basketball the past week. Cpl. Domel was upped to sergeant last week. Sgt. Boeing's fine humor these days is explained by the fact that his wife now is living in Sparta.

### Company H

2nd Lt. Fann and 2nd Lt. Van Hov have joined the company.

Pvts. Waldrup and Greenberg have been ski instructing. Cpl. Webb has returned from the hospital after a long absence.

The Manchus started a regimental basketball schedule last week. Each company will play every other company once, giving each team 19 games to play.

### Company K

Pvts. McGill, Caldrene and Cracker are company barbers now, not bad either without the use of soap bowls... Sgt. Pasola is back from furlough... Sgt. Gund is coaching the basketball team.

### Headquarters Company 2nd Battalion

2nd Lt. Reilly has changed his bars to silver now. Congratulations.

### Service Company

Sgt. Tibbadeaux has received his appointment to OCS. Our new captain is Mr. Haff and Gen-

### The... NINTH ... Says

### Three 12th Field Artillery Sergeants Vets Of Last War

Prouder, perhaps, than any other members of the 12th F. A. Bn. of the fighting tradition of the 2nd Division are M/Sgt. Gabriel Jones, M/Sgt. Leroy Manbeck and 1st Sgt. David York. From first-hand experience, from having served with the Battalion when it battled to its brilliant record, they know what that fighting tradition means.

Enlisting in the Army July 1, 1913, at Fort Slocum, N. Y., Sgt. Jones served with the 12th through out the World War, participating in the historic battles of Toulon, Meuse Argonne, defensive; Chateau Thierry-Aisne-Marne, offensive; Marbache Sector-St. Mihiel, offensive; and Meuse Argonne, offensive. For distinguished and exceptional gallantry in action, he was awarded the 2nd Div. Citation of the Silver Star.

Now Sgt. Major.

After service with the Army of Occupation in Germany, Sgt. Jones returned to U. S. and was discharged. He re-enlisted in 1921, and rapidly rose to his present position as Bn. Sgt. Major. Rounding out 22 years of service, Sgt. Manbeck enlisted in the 2nd Division just in time to participate in all the battles it is famous for. The Battalion motor ship is his charge at present.

Sgt. David York enlisted with the 2nd Division in 1915 at the age of 17. With a record of 27 years of continuous service with the 2nd Division, he fought through all its now famed engagements. Small and spare, but full of energy, the "Spider", as he is called is up at 5 each morn-

### Second Division Band In Concert Wednesday Nite

The 2nd Infantry Division band will give a concert at West Service Club Wednesday night at 8 p. m. under the co-direction of Warrant Officers Robert S. Herterich and Marvin W. Field.

Hostess Bertha Heistland announced this was the first of a series of musical events designed to uncover musical talent of post soldiers.

Herterich majored in music at New York University and trained choral groups in Manhattan prior to his entrance into the service. Field likewise majored in music attending St. Olaf, Northfield, Minn.

The 2nd Infantry Division band also has the personnel of two orchestras among its 54 members. The 2nd Division orchestra is led by Pvt. Johnny Pines, having played for many dances at the post. The other orchestra is known as the "Commandees". It is directed by Sgt. Joe Sales and plays only original arrangements.

New York (Special) — A sign bearing the life-size figure of a horse will appear on every market selling horsemeat if Mayor F. H. LaGuardia has his way. He threatened to seek enactment of

80 YEARS AGO: This screen shot shows a piece of a page from the Jan. 23, 1943, edition of The Real McCoy newspaper highlighting news briefs of the Second Division at then-Camp McCoy.

See more history here: <https://www.dvidshub.net/news/436672/month-fort-mccoy-history-january-2023>.

lective Training Facility, and various live fire ranges."

Prior to the start of Ullr Shield, nearly 50 Marines came to Fort McCoy to train in the Cold-Weather Operations Course, or CWOC, in December. All of those same Marines returned to Fort McCoy for the Ullr Shield exercise to help train their fellow Marines.

Sgt. Luis Lopez with Marine Wing Communications Squadron 28, also at MCAS Cherry Point, said after completing CWOC

training that he would carry skills he learned to train other Marines.

"I will share the knowledge on how to wear the (cold-weather) equipment, the tips and tricks to stay warm, and how to react to and treat cold-weather injuries," Lopez said. "Also, the best parts of the course, to me, were all of the survival tips. They were all a first to me, and I learned a lot from the course.

(Article prepared by the Fort McCoy Public Affairs Office.)

See more from Whitetail Ridge here: <https://www.dvidshub.net/news/436143/photo-essay-guests-enjoy-snow-tubing-fort-mccoy-whitetail-ridge-ski-area>



Photos by Scott T. Sturk



## Snowtubing fun

(Above and right) Guests participate in snow-tubing at Whitetail Ridge Ski Area on Dec. 27, 2022, at Fort McCoy, Wis. Whitetail Ridge provides a family-friendly facility. It features space to ski, tube, and snowboard for people of all ages and skill levels and is open to the public. The area also offers access to local trails and rents both snowshoe and cross-country equipment. For more information, including current prices, visit <https://mccoy.armymwr.com/programs/whitetail-ridge-ski-area>.

## NEWS NOTES

### Stop by to visit Army Community Service

The Army Community Service (ACS) Center is located in building 2111. ACS provides services that assist in maintaining the readiness of individuals, families, and communities within America's Army.

ACS is open 7:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday through Friday.

Authorized patrons only. Call 608-388-3505 for more information.

### RSO offers religious education, more

The Fort McCoy Religious Support Office (RSO) builds community and provides opportunities for Fort McCoy personnel and families to experience growth in their faith, support in the midst of change, and opportunities to meet new people.

The RSO provides religious support through programs and events such as the Centershot Archery Program, Financial Peace University (FPU), Protestant Women of the Chapel (PWOC), Walk to Mary, Easter and Christmas ecumenical services and fellowship events, community prayer luncheons for Memorial Day and Veterans Day, spiritual resilience retreats and training, and the RSO Winter Tubing Party.

A religious education library is available to all at the RSO; some books are free to keep while others are available check-out.

Also, for information about chapel and worship schedules in the surrounding communities, call 608-388-3528. The RSO is also on Facebook at [www.facebook.com/FtMcCoyRSO](http://www.facebook.com/FtMcCoyRSO).

And if you have an emergency, call 608-630-6073 (on-call duty chaplain).

If you are not able to reach the on-call duty chaplain, call the Directorate of Emergency Services at 608-388-2266, and they will contact the on-call duty chaplain for further assistance.

### Family Housing information

Family Housing is located in building 6158 on South Post. Single-family government homes, unaccompanied personnel housing, and Housing Service Office relocation/rental information is available there. They are open 7:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday through Friday.

Call 608-388-3704 or email [usarmy.mccoy.imcom-central.list.dpw-housing@army.mil](mailto:usarmy.mccoy.imcom-central.list.dpw-housing@army.mil) for more information.

### Next issue of The Real McCoy

The next edition of The Real McCoy will be published Jan. 27, 2023.

The deadline for submissions or article ideas is Jan. 18, 2023.

For more information, call 608-388-4128.

### Military communities can BE FIT in New Year with tips, resources from Exchange Online Hub

DALLAS — The Army & Air Force Exchange Service is making sure military communities have health and fitness resources at their fingertips all year with the online BE FIT 360 Hub.

The Exchange's BE FIT 360 program focuses on holistic wellness, and the BE FIT 360 Hub offers all the tools for a healthy lifestyle in one place, including workout videos, fitness tips, healthy eating guidance, links to activewear and gear, wellness information, and more.

"The BE FIT Hub is a bulked-up all-in-one resource for making healthier choices," said Air Force Chief Master Sgt. Kevin Osby, the Exchange's senior enlisted advisor. "With the Hub, the Exchange can be a partner in helping keep those New Year's resolutions all year long."

The BE FIT 360 Hub, which is updated often with new workouts, nutrition, and wellness content, can be found at [ShopMyExchange.com/BeFit](http://ShopMyExchange.com/BeFit).

### Scholarships for Military Children accepting applications

Applications have now opened for the Scholarships for Military Children program for academic year 2023–2024.

The program, entering its 23rd year, recognizes the contributions of military families to the readiness of the fighting force and celebrates the commissary's role in enhancing military quality of life. Fisher House Foundation, a nonprofit organization dedicated to helping service members, veterans and their families, administers the program. The program has awarded more than \$22 million to 12,812 students, selected from a pool of nearly 113,000 applicants.

"The Defense Commissary Agency is again honored, for the 23rd year in a row now, to team with Fisher House Foundation and industry to promote this extraordinary opportunity for the children of military families to pursue their dreams in higher education," said Marine Corps Sgt. Maj. Michael R. Saucedo, senior enlisted advisor to the DeCA director.

For scholarship year 2023–24, Fisher House Foundation will award 500 scholarship grants of \$2,000 each. The selection process will begin immediately following the application deadline of Feb. 15, at 11:59 p.m. PST.

Funding for the program comes from commissary business partners and other contributions to Fisher House Foundation designated specifically for the scholarship programs.

"We thank the Defense Commissary Agency for partnering with us to provide scholarships to our youngest members of the military community," said Ken Fisher, chairman and CEO of Fisher House Foundation. "We also appreciate the donors and supporters who value how important our military families are and support them through our scholarship program."

Selection qualifications are straightforward. Requirements include completing the application; submission of the student's official transcript indicating a minimum cumulative GPA of 3.0 or above on a 4.0 scale for high school applicants, or college transcript indicating a cumulative minimum GPA of 2.5 or above on a 4.0 scale for students already enrolled in college; and a 500-word essay. The subject of this year's essay is listed at the [militaryscholar.org](http://militaryscholar.org) website under "Scholarships for Military Children."

Eligibility for the program is determined using the Defense Enrollment Eligibility Reporting System database.

Applicants should ensure that they, as well as their sponsor, are enrolled in the DEERS database and have a current military dependent ID card.

The applicant must also be planning to attend or already be attending an accredited college or university, full time, in the fall of 2023 or be enrolled in a program of studies designed to transfer directly into a four-year program.

Applicants who are awarded a full scholarship to attend a college or university or receive an appointment to one of the service academies or affiliated preparatory schools are not eligible to receive funds from this program. A full scholarship is usually defined as one that provides for payment of tuition, books, lab fees and other expenses.

All rules and requirements for the Scholarships for Military Children program, as well as links to frequently asked questions are available at <https://www.fisherhouse.org/programs/scholarship-programs/scholarships-for-military-children>.

Fisher House Foundation also has a free, easy to use custom scholarship search engine tailored to military families called "Scholarships for Service." It's available for both mobile devices and desktop computers at [militaryscholar.org](http://militaryscholar.org).

## Sit, Sip & Paint

### CANVAS PAINTING EVENT

**Feb 8, 2023 | 5:30 - 7:30 pm**  
**Whitetail Ridge Ski Area's Chalet**



Space is limited!

**\$35 PER PERSON**

To register, go to [www.thepaintshack.net](http://www.thepaintshack.net)

Click on calendar/registration. Select February 8, and fill out registration details.

[www.mccoy.armymwr.com](http://www.mccoy.armymwr.com) | 608-388-4498/3011



## PAIR UP TO SLIM DOWN

**January 23 - June 9, 2023 | Building 1395**

### DETAILS

- Grab a partner and lose weight together in this 19-week fitness challenge!
- Combined weight will be taken at the beginning and the end of the competition.
- The team with the greatest percentage lost will win prizes.
- Winners will be announced on June 14.
- Each team will be given 2 FREE personal training sessions.
- Don't forget to take advantage of our FREE fitness classes.

### REGISTRATION

Register and weigh-in on January 23. Ending weigh-in on June 9.  
Two people per team. Team can be co-ed / both female / or both male. Contest is open to all eligible MWR patrons.

608-388-2290 | [www.mccoy.armymwr.com](http://www.mccoy.armymwr.com) | [www.facebook.com/mccoymwr](http://www.facebook.com/mccoymwr)



**FORT MCCOY MWR**

## Whitetail Ridge Ski Area

**Located in one of the most scenic areas of Fort McCoy...it's the place for Winter Family Fun!**

**OPEN TO THE PUBLIC!**  
Thursday & Friday: 3 pm - 9 pm  
Saturday: 11 am - 8 pm  
Sunday: 11 am - 5 pm

- Snowboarding
- Downhill Skiing
- Rails & Jumps
- Snow Tubing
- Cross-Country Skiing
- Snowshoeing

[www.mccoy.armymwr.com](http://www.mccoy.armymwr.com) | 608-388-4498/3517



Warrior Restaurants

Designated Warrior Restaurants (Dining Facilities) are open at Fort McCoy. Military members and Department of Defense civilians on official orders for temporary duty training may use Warrior Restaurants. Units must coordinate through the Food Program Management Office at 608-388-6518/4739. Call them to learn which facility is available as well.

General Open Hours

Breakfast: 6-8 a.m.  
Lunch: 11:30 a.m. - 1 p.m.  
Dinner: 5-6:30 p.m.

Rates per meal

Breakfast — \$3.85  
Lunch — \$6.15  
Dinner — \$5.35

Recreation

**Automotive Skills Center:** Building 1763. Open 1-9 p.m. Thur.-Fri. and 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Sat.-Sun. Call 608-388-3013.

**Better Opportunities for Single Soldiers (BOSS):** Call 608-388-3200.

**iSportsman:** Portal for outdoor recreational activities; registration and check-in required. Register, apply for permits, and sign in or out of recreation areas at https://ftmccoy.isportsman.net.

**McCoy's Community Center:** Building 1571. Offers books, arcade, gaming area, and bowling. Open 11 a.m.-10 p.m. Tues.-Fri. and 4-10 p.m. Sat. (Bar, food, bowling). Call 608-388-7060.

**Bowling Center:** Open 11 a.m.-10 p.m. Tues.-Fri. and 4-10 p.m. Sat.  
**Leisure Travel Services Office:** Open 9 a.m.-4 p.m. Mon.-Fri. Call 608-388-3011.

**Pine View Campground/Recreational Equipment Checkout Center:** Building 8053. Call 608-388-2619.

**Recreation Accommodations:** Open 11 a.m.-4 p.m. Tues.-Fri. Mon. by appointment only. Call 608-388-2029.

**Running Track Fitness Facility:** Building 1395. Open 5 a.m.-6 p.m. Mon.-Fri. and 6 a.m.-2 p.m. Sat. 24/7 access available. Limited capacity. Call 608-388-4475. Use designated parking areas.

**Sportsman's Range:** Closed for the season. Call 608-388-9162 for information.

**Tactics Paintball/Laser Tag:** By appointment only; 2-day notice required. Call 608-388-3517.

**Whitetail Ridge Ski Area:** *Open for Season.* Call 608-388-4498 or 608-388-3517 for more information.

Dining

**McCoy's Community Center:** Building 1571. Catering/administration, call 608-388-2065. Building 1571. Open 11 a.m.-10 p.m. Tues.-Fri. and 4-10 p.m. Sat. Call 608-388-7060.

**Snack Avenue:** Building 1538. Located inside Express. Open 8 a.m.-5 p.m. Mon.-Sat. and 9 a.m.-4 p.m. Sun. Call 608-269-5604 or 608-388-4343.

**Specialty Express Food Court:** Building 1538. Open 11 a.m.-4 p.m. Mon.-Fri. Limited seating available. Delivery available to South Post and in cantonment area. Call 608-269-5615, ext. 303.

**Whitetail Ridge Chalet/Ten Point Pub:** *Closed for the season.* Call 608-388-3517.

Services

**Barber Shop (Exchange):** Building 1538. Open 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Mon.-Fri. Call 608-269-1710.

**Car Rentals (Enterprise):** Information available at the Exchange, building 1538. Use the phone at the Enterprise sign. Call 608-782-6183 or 800-654-3131; use CDP# 1787245.

**Car Wash:** Building 1568. Offers self-service and automatic bays and vacuums. Open 24/7. May close during extremely cold weather. Accepts cash or credit cards. Call 608-388-4161.

**Commissary:** Building 1537. Open 10 a.m.-6 p.m. Mon.-Sat. Call 608-388-3542/3543.

**Computer Lab:** Building 50, room 100A. Open 7:30 a.m.-4 p.m. Mon.-Fri. Computers, projector, printer, scanner, fax machine available. Call ahead for availability. Call 608-388-2474.

**CWT (Carlson Wagonlit Travel) SatoTravel:** Building 2180. Open 7:30 a.m.-4 p.m. Mon.-Fri. No walk-ins. Call 608-388-2370, 608-269-4560, or 800-927-6343.

**Education/Learning Center:** Building 50, room 123. Open 8 a.m.-2 p.m. Mon.-Fri. No walk-ins. Email darrel.l.hawkins.ctr@mail.mil to schedule tests. Email connie.j.schauer.civ@mail.mil for other services.

**Equal Employment Opportunity:** Open 7 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. Mon.-Fri. No walk-ins. Call 608-388-3106/3107 or email usarmy.usarc.usarc-hq.mbx.eeo@mail.mil.

**Exchange:** Building 1538. Open 8 a.m.-5 p.m. Mon.-Sat. and 9 a.m.-4 p.m. Sun. Call 608-269-5604.

**ID Card/DEERS Section:** Building 35. Open 8-11:30 a.m. and 12:30-3:30 p.m. Mon.-Wed. and Fri. and 9:30-11:30 a.m. and 12:30-3:30 p.m. Thur. By appointment only. Call 608-388-4563.

**IHG Army Hotels:** Building 51. Open 24/7. Call 608-388-2107 or 877-711-TEAM (8326).

**Installation Legal Office:** Building 1644. Call 605-388-2165.

**Launderette/Dry Cleaning:** Building 1538. Open 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Mon.-Fri. Call 608-269-1075.

**Laundry Facilities:** Open 24/7. Exclusively for use by Soldiers training on Fort McCoy. Civilian, family members, and retired military members are not authorized to use these facilities. Call 608-388-3800 to find out which buildings are open.

**Military Clothing:** Building 1538. Open 8 a.m.-7 p.m. Mon.-Sat. and 8 a.m.-3 p.m. Sun. Call 608-269-5604, ext. 203.

**Military Personnel:** Building 2187. Open 7:30 a.m.-4 p.m. By appointment only.

facilities services

This schedule is projected through Jan. 26, 2023.  
Hours of operation and services can change frequently.  
Call facilities to verify hours before traveling.

**Bold, italic typeface** indicates a change since the last publication.

**In-/Out-processing:** 608-388-4822.  
**Personnel Automations:** 608-388-4842.  
**Reassignments:** 608-388-4746.  
**Records Update:** 608-388-5677.  
**Centralized Promotions:** 608-388-5677.

**Multimedia/Visual Information:** Building 2113. Open 7:30 a.m.-4 p.m. Mon.-Fri. DA/ command photos are by appointment only. Schedule at https://vios.army.mil or call 608-388-4520.

**Official Mail Distribution Center:** Building 1009 (by Gate 20). Open 7:30 a.m.-4 p.m. Mon.-Fri. Call 608-388-3205.

**Patriot Outfitters:** Building 1538. Closed until further notice. Call 608-269-1115.

**Permit Sales:** Building 2168. Hunting, fishing, and firewood permits. Open 7 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Check ftmccoy.isportsman.net for updates. Call 608-388-3337.

**Personal Property Processing Office:** Building 200. Open 8 a.m. - 4 p.m. Call 608-388-3060, fax: 608-388-5634, email: usarmy.mccoy.asc.mbx.lrc-pppo@mail.mil.

**Retirement Services Office:** Building 35. Open 7:30 a.m.-3 p.m. Mon.-Fri. By appointment only. Call 608-388-3716.

**R.I.A. Credit Union:** Building 1501. Open 9 a.m.-1 p.m. Mon.-Fri. and 2-4 p.m. Tues. and Thurs. ATMs are located in building 1501 (available 24/7); McCoy's, building 1571; Exchange, building 1538; and IHG Army Hotels, building 51 (available 24/7). Call 608-388-2171.

**Service Station/Express/Class VI:** Building 1538. Open 8 a.m.-5 p.m. Mon.-Sat. and 9 a.m.-4 p.m. Sun. Call 608-388-4343. Pay-at-the-pump gas is open 24/7.

**Transition Service Center:** Open 7:30 a.m.-4 p.m. Mon.-Fri. By appointment only. Call 608-388-7956.

**Visitor Control Center:** Building 35. Open 6 a.m.-2 p.m. Mon.-Fri. Passes issued at Main Gate outside of VCC hours. Physical Security open for fingerprints Thur. only; call 608-388-2266. See ID/DEERS section for its hours.

Family Support

**Army Community Service:** Building 2111. Open 7:30 a.m.-4 p.m. Mon.-Fri. Call 608-388-3505.

**Army Substance Abuse Program:** Building

1344. Open 7:30 a.m.-4 p.m. Mon.-Fri. By appointment only. Call 608-388-2441.

**Child Development Center:** Building 1796. Open with reduced capacity. Call 608-388-3534/2238.

**Housing Office:** Building 6158. Open 7 a.m.-3:30 p.m. Mon.-Fri. Family Housing, Single Soldier Housing, and referral services. Self-Help Warehouse open open noon-3:30 p.m. Wed. and 8 a.m.-noon Fri. Call 608-388-2804.

**Military Family Life Counseling:** Building 2111. MFLCs can provide short-term, non-medical counseling at no cost and augment existing military support programs. Services can be provided on or off post. Call 608-388-8068 or 352-598-4972 or email fischert@magellanfederal.com 7:30 a.m.-4 p.m. Mon.-Fri.

**Red Cross:** Fort McCoy active-duty Soldiers and Family members can call 877-272-7337 for emergency assistance. For other Red Cross services, call 800-837-6313 or 608-788-1000.

**School Age/Youth Center:** Building 1792. Activities for youth kindergarten through 12th grade. Offers after-school, nonschool, and inclement-weather care for eligible youth. Call for options for distance and year-round schooling. Open with reduced capacity. Call 608-388-4373.

Health Care

**Alcoholics Anonymous:** For more information, call 608-388-5955/2441.

**Fort McCoy Civilian Employee Assistance Program:** Screening and referral services for civilian employees and Family members experiencing difficulties due to problems related to substance abuse, mental health, marital/family discord, or other causes. By appointment only. Call 608-388-2441/5955.

**Fort McCoy Sexual Harassment/Assault Response & Prevention (SHARP):** 24/7 hot-line: 608-388-3000.

**Occupational Health Clinic:** Building 1679. Open 8 a.m.-4 p.m. Mon.-Fri. By appointment only. Call 608-388-8461.

**TRICARE:** TRICARE North Region, 877-874-2273; TRICARE West Region, 877-988-9378; TRICARE South Region, 800-444-5445; TRICARE for Life, 866-773-0404; or www.tricare.mil.

Worship

**Catholic:** Chapel 10, building 1759. 9:15 a.m. Sun. Limited capacity. No fellowship. Services also available through Facebook Live at https://www.facebook.com/FtMcCoyRSO. Call 608-388-3528.

**The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints:** 702 E. Montgomery St., Sparta, Wis. Call 608-269-3377.  
**Jewish:** Congregations of Abraham, 1820 Main St., La Crosse, Wis. Call 608-784-2708 for options.

**Protestant:** Chapel 1, building 2672. 10:30 a.m. Sun. Limited capacity. No fellowship. Services also available through Facebook Live at https://www.facebook.com/FtMcCoyR-SO. Call 608-388-3528.

**Spanish Language:** Catholic services in Norwalk; call 608-823-7906 for options. Seventh-Day Adventist services in Tomah; call 608-374-2142 for options.

Face-to-face services are not currently available. Call RSO at 608-388-3528 for options and assistance.

If you have an emergency, call 608-388-2266, and the on-call duty chaplain will be contacted.

Organizations

**American Federation of Government Employees (AFGE), Local 1882:** Call 608-388-1882.

**American Society of Military Comptrollers:** Meets several times throughout the year. For more information, call 608-269-1912.

**Reserve Officers Association, Fort McCoy-Readiness 43:** For more information, call 920-535-0515 or email justdave49@centurylink.net.

**Sgt. Audie Murphy Club:** Email michael.p.gibson.mil@mail.mil for information.

**USO Wisconsin at Fort McCoy:** Building 1501. 10th Ave.

Hours:  
— School year - Thurs-Fri 10 am -4 pm, Sat noon- 4 pm  
— Summer - Tues-Fri 10 am - 6 pm, Sat Noon -8 pm  
For more information or to volunteer, call 414-477-7279 or email ehazlett@usowisconsin.org.

**Warrant Officers Association, Chapter 0317:** For more information, email usawoamccoy@outlook.com.

BUILDING 221

FITNESS CLASSES

**BODY BLAST**  
Tuesdays  
3:30 pm - 4:00 pm

**ABS**  
Wednesdays  
11:30 am - 12:00 pm

**CYCLING**  
Thursdays  
3:30 pm - 4:00 pm

**Classes are FREE!**  
*Beginning Jan. 3, 2023*

608-388-2290 | www.mccoy.armymwr.com

GIANT VOICE EMERGENCY-NOTIFICATION SIGNALS

| CONDITION        | IF YOU HEAR                                           | THIS INDICATES                                                                                                            | INDIVIDUAL ACTIONS                                                                                                                                                                                                  |
|------------------|-------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Natural Disaster | 3- to 5-minute steady tone or voice announcement      | Disaster imminent or in progress. Examples: Tornado, flash flood, hazardous-materials release, wildfire.                  | Be alert. Ensure all personnel are warned. Take cover by evacuating to a safe location or sheltering in place. Notify supervisor of location. Tune in to local radio or TV stations for emergency information.      |
| Attack           | 30-sec. to 5-min. wavering tone or voice announcement | Attack imminent or in progress. Examples: Vehicle bomb, terrorist action, release of biological or radioactive materials. | Be alert. Ensure all personnel are warned. Implement force-protection condition (FPCON) procedures as indicated. Take cover by evacuating to a safe location or sheltering in place. Notify supervisor of location. |
| All Clear        | Voice announcement                                    | Immediate threat from disaster or attack is over.                                                                         | Be alert for secondary hazards. Account for all personnel. Check building. Await instructions on FPCON level. Report fires, injuries and other hazards.                                                             |

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Send advertising inquiries to kyle@evansprinting.com or call 608-377-4296.

Garrison Commander .....Col. Stephen Messenger  
Public Affairs Officer .....Tonya Townsell  
Public Affairs Specialist .....Christopher Hanson  
Editor/Public Affairs Specialist.....Scott T. Sturkol  
Public Affairs Specialist .....Kaleen Holliday  
Commemorative Area Caretaker .....Robin Michalski  
Editorial Content .....608-388-2769

Read this publication online at https://home.army.mil/mccoy.

FIREARM REGISTRATION POLICY

All privately owned firearms brought on the installation must be registered through the Directorate of Emergency Services (DES) Police Department.

Firearm registration is required by Army Regulation 190-11, 4-5, "Privately owned weapons and ammunition."

Firearms are required to be registered prior to entrance or immediately upon entering any lands identified as Fort McCoy property. For more information, call 608-388-2266.

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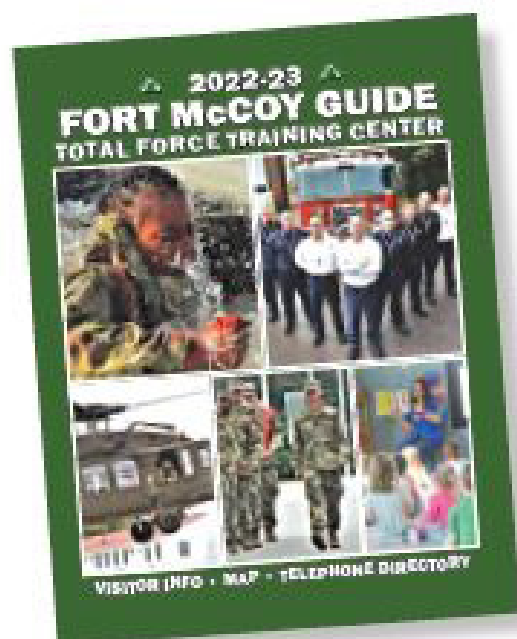
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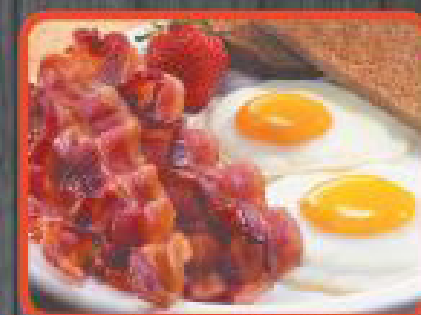
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Fort McCoy  
Guide at the  
Visitor's  
Center**

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**3.98% APY\***

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• Receive Direct/ACH deposit monthly

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<sup>1</sup> Minimum opening deposit for Share Certificate Specials is \$1,000 (\$500 for minors). At the end of the term the 7-Month Share Certificate will auto-renew to a 6-month term, the 11-Month Share Certificate will auto-renew to a 12-month term. Minimum opening deposit for IRA Certificate Specials is \$1,000. At the end of the term the 7-Month and 11-Month IRA Certificate Specials will auto-renew to a 12-month term IRA Certificate.

<sup>2</sup> Subject to account approval. Some restrictions apply. Business checking account do not qualify. Limit one 1st Rewards Checking per member account. Balances over \$15,000 earn 0.25% APY when the monthly qualification are met. When qualifications have not been met the dividend paid on the entire balance will be 0.05% APY and you will not receive ATM surcharge refunds. Debit Purchase transactions must post to and settle on your 1st Rewards Checking account during calendar month to receive the Rewards. We post purchases to your account when we receive them from the merchant, and that may occur one or more days after the purchase date. Purchases that have been initiated but not posted as of the end of the cycle will not count as a qualifying transaction for that cycle (but will count in the following cycle when they post). Statement and Dividend cycles are monthly. Fees may reduce earnings. Limit up to \$20.00 in ATM refunds per qualification cycle. Only the ATM fees charged to your 1st Rewards Checking account will be refunded.

\*APY=Annual Percentage Yield. Rates shown above effective as of 1/09/2023. Rates subject to change at any time. Additional savings options available, contact 1st CCU for all current rates and terms. Annual Percentage Yield is based on assumption that dividends will remain in account until maturity. A withdrawal will reduce earnings. Penalty may be imposed for withdrawals before maturity. Contact 1st Community Credit Union for qualifications, restrictions, funds availability, terms and conditions. Membership eligibility required. Anyone who lives or works in La Crosse, Monroe, Buffalo, Trempealeau, Jackson, Eau Claire, Clark, Wood, Adams, Juneau, Sauk, Richland, Crawford, or Vernon County is eligible to join 1st CCU. Federally insured by NCUA.