



May 26, 2023
Vol. 17, No. 10

The Real McCoy

Published for Fort McCoy, Wis. — Proudly Serving America's Army Since 1909

2023 Armed Forces Day Open House draws thousands of people

STORY & PHOTOS BY SCOTT T. STURKOL
Public Affairs Staff

Fort McCoy's 2023 Armed Forces Day Open House is being considered a great success by installation officials as nearly 3,000 people visited the installation to see numerous vehicle and equipment displays, interactive and information displays in tents, and much more.

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 sunny day and temperatures in the 70s as well.

"We had a great day to hold the event, and we had a steady flow of people throughout the day," said Fort McCoy Public Affairs Officer Tonya Townsell. "Within the Commemorative Area, we had more than displays set up under tents. We also had guided installation bus tours, a sandbag-filling station, personalized ID tags, military equipment displays, marksmanship galleries, and more."

The free event ran from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. and people appeared to enjoy everything that was available, Townsell said. The Fort McCoy Public Affairs Office even put together a special four-page history and heritage edition of The

Real McCoy newspaper to support the event where more than 2,000 copies were distributed.

Also included in the 2023 event for the first time in several years was the inclusion of an Army band. The Army Reserve's 204th Army Band of Fort Snelling, Minn., played at the event for several hours to the delight of event-goers. An Army band last played at the Fort McCoy Armed Forces Day Open House in 2019.

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 (NRB) where they have live turtles and snakes for people to see.

Biologists Kevin Luepke and Jessup Weichelt with the NRB oversaw the NRB exhibit. Hundreds of people stopped to see them and their wildlife friends.

"I thought it went great," Luepke said. "Lots of kids were able to handle and learn about Fort McCoy's reptiles and turtles, learn about some furbearers and handle pelts, and we were able to showcase the Natural Resources Branch and its programs to the interested adults and parents. Great turnout and interest!"

Also popular among the stops were

(See **OPEN HOUSE**, Page 9)



A collage of scenes of the 2023 Fort McCoy Armed Forces Day Open House are shown May 20 at the installation.

Assistant Chief of Army Reserve visits Fort McCoy; tours facilities, areas

Assistant Chief of Army Reserve Stephen D. Austin visited Fort McCoy on May 10 as part of an official visit to U.S. Army Garrison-Fort McCoy.

According to his biography, "Austin was selected for the Senior Executive Service in June 2007. He became the Assistant Chief of Army Reserve (ACAR) on Oct. 4, 2015. He serves as the primary advisor to the Chief of Army Reserve within Headquarters, Department of the Army.

"He represents the Army Reserve in the formulation and synchronization of policy and strategy at the national, departmental, and service levels," the biography states. "He provides oversight to the Chief of Army Reserve's staff and directs the development of policy, resourcing, and plans for generating, sustaining, and integrating Army Reserve force capabilities in support of the nation."

Austin's first stop on his visit was to Fort McCoy Garrison Headquarters where he met with Garrison Commander Col. Stephen Messenger, Garrison Deputy Commander Lt. Col. Chad Maynard, and Garrison directorate leaders and special staff.

Messenger described to Austin some of the installation's recent successes with inspections and process improvements. Those areas were also briefed by Eric Haschke with Resource Management Office, Jamie Gular with the Directorate of Human Resources, and Fort McCoy Food Program Manager Andy Pisney with the Fort McCoy Logistics Readiness Center. Haschke, Gular, and Pisney all also received a special coin for excellence from Austin.

The briefing was followed with a tour of several areas of Fort McCoy, including areas of new construction, training areas, and the Fort McCoy Commemorative Area that is a unique area for historical pres-



Photo by 1st Sgt. Jacob Pattison/Fort McCoy Garrison

Assistant Chief of Army Reserve Stephen D. Austin visits personnel on May 10 at the Fort McCoy Noncommissioned Officer Academy at Fort McCoy. Austin made an official visit to the installation May 10 to see ongoing construction, visit with workforce and military members, and more.

ervation of Army artifacts. Austin also visited the Sparta-Fort McCoy Airport and the South Post Housing area, which was voted #1 in the Army for customer satisfaction in 2022.

Austin's visit then included a luncheon at McCoy's Community

Center where he met with more people from the Fort McCoy team while also learning more about Fort McCoy's mission and team.

Austin then traveled to training sites where Soldiers with units asso-

(See **AUSTIN**, Page 3)

Fort McCoy supports first major rail movement of 2023

STORY & PHOTOS BY SCOTT T. STURKOL
Public Affairs Staff

Staff with the Fort McCoy rail operations team at the Fort McCoy Logistics Readiness Center are

supporting their first major rail operation of 2023 with the reception of 210 railcars between May 19-26 at the installation.

The post has a railcar capacity at any one time of 184 railcars, said Installation Transportation Offi-

cer Douglas "Terry" Altman.

But for this rail movement, the number of railcars loaded with equipment will be staggered over several days.

"This is a significant rail mission for Fort McCoy that will test our capacity and rail capability,"

Altman said.

"We will have 140 railcars on station for most of this mission. This will require the Transportation Office to utilize a significant amount of track space."

Fort McCoy's rail operations support team is staffed by 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.

As a whole, Fort McCoy is one of few installations Armywide that operates and supports Army-owned locomotives and conducts rail operations in the level like it does.

In 2022, Fort McCoy supported three major rail movements.

During those 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.

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

Some of the military organizations where coordination is completed through by Fort McCoy personnel are U.S. Transportation Command, U.S. Army Forces Command, U.S. Army Central, U.S. Army Reserve Command, Military Surface Deployment and Distribution Command, and more.

Some of the civilian organizations they coordinate with include the BNSF Railway, Union Pacific Railway, Quality Transportation Services, Farrell Lines, Transportation Coordinators' Automated Information for Movements System II Helpdesk, and the Cargo Movement Operations System Helpdesk.

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.

(See **RAIL MOVEMENT**, Page 3)



The rail operations team with the Fort McCoy Logistics Readiness Center conducts a rail movement operation May 19 at Fort McCoy. This is part of the first rail movement at the installation in 2023. Fort McCoy's rail operations support team is staffed by people operating locomotives to move railcars in place for loading, people working with unit Soldiers to get training on loading railcars, people to assist with moving cargo, and more.

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EDITORIAL/NEWS

Applying Roosevelt leadership:

‘Blocking out the noise, finding our passion, making the effort, and embracing our failures’

BY 2ND LT. TOM CONSOLE

Army Health Professions Scholarship Program
University of Pennsylvania School of Veterinary Medicine

“It is not the critic who counts; not the man who points out how the strong man stumbles, or where the doer of deeds could have done them better. The credit belongs to the man who is actually in the arena, whose face is marred by dust and sweat and blood; who strives valiantly; who errs, who comes short again and again, because there is no effort without error and shortcoming; but who does actually strive to do the deeds; who knows great enthusiasms, the great devotions; who spends himself in a worthy cause; who at the best knows in the end the triumph of high achievement, and who at the worst, if he fails, at least fails while daring greatly, so that his place shall never be with those cold and timid souls who neither know victory nor defeat.”

– President Theodore Roosevelt

This is one of my favorite quotes, given by President Theodore Roosevelt. I used to have a copy of it hanging in my room and would read it every day (I’ve since learned how to better decorate my walls).

It’s fairly straightforward, and the appeal is obvious: motivational, inspiring, and directing us to seize the day. But if you dissect it a bit, you reveal the four important leadership skills of blocking out the noise, finding our passion, making the effort, and embracing our failures. All leaders should add these tools to their repertoire.

You want to be a what...?

In the spring of my senior year of college, I met with my pre-med advisor to talk about the vet school application process. I remember this meeting like it was yesterday.

I didn’t have stellar grades in college, mostly due to trying to balance class with Army ROTC and playing football. I expected to hear some hard truths, but I was not at all prepared for when my advisor told me, “Find a new career. Don’t even bother filling out the application.”

He could’ve told me to take some extra classes to boost my GPA or told me how to frame my re-

sume to let my extra-curriculars shine through. But instead, he booted me out of the office within five minutes of sitting down. And I almost listened to him.

Fast forward, and today I’m a 4th year student at the University of Pennsylvania Veterinary School of Medicine, a year away from becoming a veterinarian and a captain in the Army.

I’ve passed every test, not because I’m the smartest guy in my class, but because my passion to realize my dream compels me to put in the effort to study hard, even when doubt starts to creep in.

I took a chance on applying, not afraid to fail and hopeful that the admissions room would see more than just a grade point average.

I blocked out the noise, because it is not the critic who counts, but rather the man in the arena.

Block out noise –

‘It is not the critic who counts’

It is very easy for people to armchair quarterback your decisions.

Everyone thinks they’d make the best decision if they were in your shoes. But they aren’t.

Maybe there are certain constraints limiting your choices or resources that you don’t have available to you. A wrench could have been thrown into your original plan, forcing you to make an adjustment on the fly.

It truly does not matter how other people would have tackled a situation, because at the end of the day, they aren’t the ones making the decisions. You are.

If you listen to what everyone else has to say, you’ll end up with decision paralysis. In reality, the best plan isn’t the perfect one, because there is no such thing as the perfect plan. The best plan is the one that you start and make changes to along the way, considering the needs of your people and any variables you anticipate or curveballs thrown your way.

Block out the noise and focus on making a decision that works well for you and your team.

Find Your Passion – “who knows great enthu-

siasms”

A great leader is incredibly passionate about whatever it is that they do. They care a lot about their “worthy cause.” People without passion are not leaders; they are just bosses and managers.

Passion is a funny thing, mostly because it’s incredibly unique to an individual while also being a bit vague.

My entire life, I’ve always wanted to be a veterinarian. When people ask me why I wanted to become a vet, my short answer is that I love animals.

But tons of people love animals, and I could have been a zookeeper or a conservationist. I have lots of more nuanced reasons why I want to be a vet, but the best answer is that deep down I just know that being a veterinarian is what I was called to do, and that’s all the answer I need to give. Without passion for your work, your leadership potential is capped.

the clinicians. They ask you anything from any topic you were ever taught in the didactic portion of your education, which spans years and dozens of different subjects.

Many students are naturally very worried about not knowing the right answer and looking unprepared and unknowledgeable.

But a leader understands that everything, even failure, is a learning experience, and while the student may not want to say the wrong answer or admit that they don’t know, the leader isn’t afraid to put their best foot forward.

And if (when) the leader gets the answer wrong, they research the correct answer and report back to the clinician, ensuring that they actually learn the information and don’t fail the same way again.

Failure is the greatest teacher out there, so do not be afraid of it.

Get to work

“The credit belongs to the man who is actually in the arena.” To paraphrase sports enthusiast Teddy Roosevelt, you have to get in the ring to get your victory.

You are more than capable of achieving your goals, so lace up your boots and get to work.

(Console holds a bachelor’s degree in biology from the University of Pennsylvania. During his undergraduate studies, he was a member of Army ROTC and the Penn Sprint Football team. During veterinary school, he was also the Defensive Quality Control Coach for the Penn Sprint Football team. Upon graduation from veterinary school, he will serve as a captain in the Veterinary Corps on active duty.)

(Additional note from Fort McCoy Garrison Commander Col. Stephen Messenger: “I love staying in touch with people long after my assignment is over. As an ROTC instructor, I graduated 19 lieutenants to become officers of character and competence. This article was written by one of the many outstanding leaders on my military journey. This week, I wanted to share his thoughts instead of mine.”)

Make the effort –
‘who strives valiantly’

But passion alone is not enough. You must be willing to do the dirty work and not think yourself above it.

If the Soldiers in my unit are setting up for a training event, then I’m right there with them, moving gear and equipment. If it happens to be rainy and muddy outside while we move that gear, then my uniform better be the dirtiest, because the leader should be the first one to get to work and the last one inside when the day is done.

When people see their leader in the fray alongside with them, it does wonders for team building.

Embrace the failure – ‘who comes
short again and again’

A leader cannot fear failure. You must be willing to take a chance (so long as you properly mitigate risks).

In veterinary school, when you enter your clinical rotations, you are peppered by questions from

Fort McCoy Soldiers, civilians, units support local school event

Several Fort McCoy Soldiers and civilians and their units supported a special event for youth May 11 at Brookwood Elementary School in Norwalk, Wis.

The event, entitled “Touch a Truck” allowed youth in grades kindergarten through second grade at the school to see up close large military and civilian vehicles and learn what they were all about. Overall, it was part of a Career Day completed between the school and a parent-teacher organization.

Supporting the event were Lt. Col. James Lavelle and Sgt. 1st Class Sean Elwin with Headquarters and Headquarters Company, U.S. Army Garrison-Fort McCoy; Chief Warrant Officer 3 Kevin Gabrielson, Sgt. 1st Class Emmanuel Maldonado, Sgt. 1st Class Carlos Vazquez, Staff Sgt. Bryan Zinsmaster, and Staff Sgt. Alicia Curtis with Regional Training Site (RTS)-Maintenance; and Travis Ford and Anthony Peterson with the Fort McCoy Draw Yard of the 88th Readiness Division.

Lavelle said RTS-Maintenance brought along a Heavy Expanded Mobility Tactical Truck (HEMTT) A4 Recovery Truck or Wrecker. According to the manufacturer’s description for the vehicle, it “offers heavy-duty power and extreme performance for the most difficult recovery missions. It has the maneuverability to traverse any type of terrain and the power to recover vehicles weighing in excess of 30 tons, even those mired in mud, sand, water or snow.”

RTS-Maintenance also brought a Joint-Light Tactical Vehicle (JLTV) to the event. The Draw Yard personnel also brought a JLTV for students to see.

The JLTV family of vehicles is designed to restore payload and performance that were traded from light tactical vehicles to add protection in recent conflict, according to the Army.

JLTVs give service members more options in a protected mobility solution that is also the first vehicle purpose-built for modern battlefield networks.

In a video description after the event on the Norwalk-Ontario-Wilton School District’s Facebook page, it states from the Falcon Foundation Parent-Teacher Association, “Katie’s career day was a huge success! Our dear friend and PTA member, Katie Wallace, had the brilliant idea to host a career day for NOW elementary students. She was passionately working on organizing the event until her sudden passing. The Falcon Foundation wanted to see her vision through and with the support of community members and school staff we did just that!

“This amazing day consisted of mini-breakout sessions in the morning for third-sixth graders who were able to choose different career presentations given by Brookwood alumni and NOW community members. Kindergartners-second graders took part in a Touch a Truck event in the afternoon. Also in the afternoon, the older students met with Minnesota author, Amanda Zieba.

Katie would have loved to see our school and community come together for their students at the event. Falcon Foundation is incredibly grateful for those who were involved with making Career Day 2023 happen!”

Learn more about Fort McCoy online at <https://home.army.mil/>



Contributed photos

(Above and below) Fort McCoy personnel and students and staff with Brookwood Elementary School of Norwalk, Wis., participate in a Touch a Truck event May 11 at the school in Norwalk. The event was part of a broader Career Day at the school. Several Soldiers and civilian employees from Fort McCoy supported the event.



[mccoy](https://www.dvidshub.net/fmpao), on the Defense Visual Information Distribution System at <https://www.dvidshub.net/fmpao>, on Facebook by searching “fmc-coy,” and on Twitter by searching “usagmccoy.”

Also try downloading the Digital Garrison app to your smartphone and set “Fort McCoy” or another installation as your preferred base. (Article prepared by the Fort McCoy Public Affairs Office.)

‘BEHIND THE TRIAD’ WITH THE GARRISON COMMANDER

POLICE OFFICER
RIDE ALONGBehind the Triad
Fort McCoy, WI.

“Behind the Triad” is an award-winning 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 this episode of the Behind the Triad video series, Fort McCoy Garrison Commander Col. Stephen Messenger is on patrol with Director of Emergency Services Police Officer Adam Wright.

Police Officers at Fort McCoy patrol up to 400 miles of roadway and 60,000 acres utilizing traditional squad cars, electric bicycles, ATV/UTV’s, boats, snowmobiles, and foot patrol. Fort McCoy police officers also conduct building security checks, K9 vehicle searches, and work at the installations two main access control points. Tune in to see what else the commander learns at <https://www.dvidshub.net/video/884057/behind-triad-ride-along>.

Watch for new episodes on Fort McCoy’s YouTube channel at https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCUF0_BwU3d2p5j1rThTE_kw. Or, find it at the Fort McCoy Multimedia-Visual Information Office Defense Video and Imagery Distribution Service page at <https://www.dvidshub.net/unit/FMMVIB>. Links are also available on the Fort McCoy official Facebook page.

COL Stephen T. Messenger
Garrison CommanderAdam Wright
Police Officer - DES

NEWS

AUSTIN

from Page 1

ciated with the 300th Military Police Brigade were training in the Spartan Warrior IV Exercise at Fort McCoy. There he met with Soldiers completing the training that continues through mid-May.

The last part of the visit then took Austin to see the Fort McCoy Noncommissioned Officer (NCO) Academy. There, the commandant, Command Sgt. Maj. Deanna L. Czarnecki, took Austin through the complex to show him more on how they train Army Reserve Soldiers in the Basic Leader Course and the Battle Staff NCO Course. The academy trains hundreds of Soldiers each year.

The Fort McCoy NCO Academy's mission is to "train and develop adaptive, agile, disciplined, fit, and professional leaders who are ready to 'Lead the Way' in any environment." The academy's vision is to be "the Army's premier NCO Academy with the best people experiencing the finest quality of life in the military."

This wasn't the first time Austin had visited Fort McCoy, but it had been several years since his last visit and much had changed since then, he said during the opening briefing. He also said he appreciated everyone taking the time to support his visit.

Also, according to his biography at <https://www.usar.army.mil/Leadership/Article-View/Article/580320/mr-stephen-d-austin>, prior to assuming this position, he was the Chief Financial Officer and Director, Resource Management and Materiel for the Army Reserve.

"In this position he had fiduciary responsibility including Comptroller, Budget, Financial Management, and Program Development," the biography states. "He oversaw the Chief of the Army Reserve Title 10 responsibilities for three appropriations: Reserve Personnel Army, Operation and Maintenance Army Reserve, and Military Construction Army Reserve, affecting more than 198,000 Soldiers in 1,500 units and more than 1,000 facilities. As the director of materiel, he oversaw all equipping, supply, property accountability, and logistics support for all units and Soldiers in the Army Reserve."

Learn more about Fort McCoy online at <https://home.army.mil/mccoy>, on Facebook by searching "ftmccoy," and on Twitter by searching "usagmccoy." Also try downloading the Digital Garrison app to your smartphone and set "Fort McCoy" or another installation as your preferred base.

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



Photo by Scott T. Sturkol

Assistant Chief of Army Reserve Stephen D. Austin talks Fort McCoy Garrison and tenant organization leaders at garrison headquarters (above) and at McCoy's Community Center (below) during his visit May 10.



Photo by Tonya Townsell

RAIL MOVEMENT

from Page 1

Fort McCoy was established in 1909 and its 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/ftmccoy>, on Facebook by searching "ftmccoy," and on Twitter by searching "usagmccoy."

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(Above and below) An Army locomotive operated by the Fort McCoy rail operations team moves railcars May 19 at Fort McCoy.



181st MFTB leads SAAPM march in local community

Soldiers with units associated with the 181st Multi-Functional Training Brigade of Fort McCoy led a ruck march around Sparta, Wis., on April 28 in observance of Sexual Assault Awareness and Prevention Month.

According to Sgt. 1st Class Shawn Settles with the 181st, who serves as the brigade's sexual assault response coordinator, they donated items to the organization Brighter Tomorrows — a community-based victim advocacy program that serves survivors of domestic violence and sexual assault of Monroe County, Wis.

Dozens of Soldiers participated in the event on the morning of April 28, and they rucked several miles. Soldiers with Fort McCoy Garrison and other units also participated. The event was based out of Memorial Park in Sparta.

According to a statement from 181st MFTB Public Affairs, the 181st held the event in order "to be doing its part to raise awareness about the issues of sexual violence and the needed care of its survivors."

The Army SHARP Program at <https://www.armyresilience.army.mil/SAAPM-2023/index.html> discussed the 2023 theme for Sexual Harassment and Assault Prevention and Awareness Month.

"Nationwide, April is recognized as Sexual Assault Awareness and Prevention Month," the website states. "This year the Army's theme for its campaign is 'Intervene We Are a Team: There is US in TrUSt. Can They Trust in You?' The 2023 SAAPM campaign highlights the importance of building a culture of trust through intervention and prevent unwanted sexual behavior. We should all play an active role in keeping one another safe by creating a culture of trust and stepping up when we witness distressing or inappropriate behavior."

At Fort McCoy, a proclamation was signed by installation leaders recognizing April as Sexual Assault Awareness and Prevention Month. Additionally, in addition to the ruck march, other events and information was shared about the importance of preventing sexual assault and sexual harassment throughout the month.

Additionally, from an Army fact sheet shared during Sexual Assault Awareness and Prevention Month, it stated that there are resources available to help Soldiers, their families, and their communities stay safe. This includes the Department of Defense (DOD) Safe Helpline.

"Our DOD Safe Helpline services are anonymous and confidential, and are tailored to support members of the DOD community affected by sexual harassment and sexual assault," the fact sheet states.



Photo by Sgt. 1st Class Andre Torres/181st Multi-Functional Training Brigade

Soldiers with the 181st Multi-Functional Training Brigade, Fort McCoy Garrison, and other units at Fort McCoy participate in the Sexual Assault Awareness and Prevention Month ruck march April 28 in Sparta, Wis.

The fact sheet urges people to check out DOD Safe Helpline 101 at <https://safehelpline.org/101> to learn more about the helpline.

"DOD Safe Helpline 101 provides a comprehensive overview of DOD Safe Helpline, including services offered and information about our secure technology platform," the fact sheet states. "DOD Self Helpline 101 also offers steps to protect the privacy and confidentiality of users."

In addition, this program describes how DOD

Safe Helpline services expand and support sexual assault response coordinators in their efforts to meet the needs of sexual assault survivors on their installations."

Learn more about the Army Sexual Harassment/Assault Response & Prevention Program at <https://www.armyresilience.army.mil/SAAPM-2023/index.html>.

Learn more about Fort McCoy online at <https://home.army.mil/mccoy>, on the Defense Visual In-

formation Distribution System at <https://www.dvidshub.net/fmpao>, on Facebook by searching "ftmccoy," and on Twitter by searching "usagmccoy."

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(Article prepared by the Fort McCoy Public Affairs Office and the 181st Multi-Functional Public Affairs Office.)

NEWS

Eight Soldiers receive Expert Field Medical Badge in 3rd competition

BY STAFF SGT. CHRISTOPHER HERNANDEZ
Army Reserve Medical Command

U.S. Army Soldiers (49 of them) from active, Guard, and Reserve forces journeyed to Fort McCoy to compete in the 2023 U.S. Army Reserve Medical Command (AR-MEDCOM) Expert Field Medical Badge competition from April 30 to May 12.

Hosted primarily by the Central Medical Area Readiness Support Group (CE-MARSG) out of Fort Sheridan, Ill., this year's competition marks the third consecutive event managed by AR-MEDCOM.

Since its inaugural debut in 1965, the EFMB competition has challenged Soldiers in their technical proficiency and tactical acumen under extreme stress and scrutiny.

"It is a coveted badge that really exemplifies expertise, both in warrior and medical skills," said Army Reserve Capt. Kevin Stoll, a health services materiel officer and commandant of Headquarters and Headquarters Detachment, Army Reserve Medical Command (AR-MEDCOM) out of Pinellas Park, Fla. "And for me, I want to take this back to my team and unit to make sure that they see that it can be accomplished. If they wish to pursue it, I want to provide them all of the training and resources available that I can give them to make them successful."

Although optional in nature, many of this year's candidates took advantage of train-up events to prepare themselves in their physical fitness and knowledge.

"I had the benefit of coming to a train-up on November 2022, which was awesome," said Army Reserve Lt. Col. Douglas Faulkner, a family medicine physician assigned to 7453rd Medical Operational Readiness Unit (MORU), CE-MARSG, AR-MEDCOM. "I worked out like a crazy person. I also have the benefit in being in a unit with a lot of high-speed medics that helped me out working on some of my more technical skills to get kind of to the point where I'm at now."

Promotion points have doubled for the EFMB (as well as for the Expert Infantryman Badge and Expert Soldier Badge) as of April 1, 2023. According to Army Reserve Staff Sgt. Matthew Moxley, a psychiatric/behavioral health nurse with the 7452nd Medical Operational Readiness Unit out of San Diego and an EFMB holder as well as Tactical Combat Casualty Care (TCCC) lane grader for 2023 USAR EFMB, this recent change can incentivize more Army Reserve medical Soldiers to try out for future EFMB competitions.

"Schools are going to be much more important now that the promotion points that you get for the EFMB are doubled," said Moxley. "It used to be 30 points for an EFMB, but it is now 60 points. I think that these schools are going to become much more relevant and more popular as people realize that. I think that we will see a big influx of



(Above) Spc. Mary Jessen, top, a practical nursing specialist with the 7459th Medical Operations Readiness Unit, Fort Gordon, Ga., performs a one-person casualty drag movement with another Soldier in a casualty evacuation testing lane during the 2023 United States Army Reserve Expert Field Medical Badge competition May 10 at Fort McCoy. (Below) Staff Sgt. Robert MacDonald, a combat medic coordinator assigned to the 7222nd Medical Support Unit, Tampa, Fla., performs a step in the Tactical Combat Casualty Care.



people wanting to go for the EFMB, as this is a huge one for any Soldier related to the medical field."

Following two weeks of arduous training and testing lanes, eight out of 49 competitors prevailed at the end and were announced as the EFMB recipients on May 12 during the awards ceremony at Fort Mc-

Coy. Faulkner and Stoll were among the eight EFMB recipients, along with Wisconsin Army National Guard Sgt. 1st Class Talon Dumke of Madison, Wis.; Sgt. Jared Forshey with 6th Ranger Training Battalion of Eglin Air Force Base, Fla.; Capt. Carson Beatty with Dental Health Command of Joint Base Lewis-McChord, Wash.; Army Reserve Maj. Vladislav Troshin with 377th Ground Ambulance Company of White River Junction, Vt.; Army Reserve Capt. Ian Kai with 7454th MORU of Joint Base San Antonio-Fort Sam Houston, Texas; and Army Reserve Capt. Devon Kooi with 7249th Medical Support Unit of Houston, Texas.

Army Reserve Maj. Gen. Scott Lynn, commanding general of AR-MEDCOM, referenced the story of U.S. Army Pfc. Jesse Funk, a World War I-era Medal of Honor recipient, to illustrate the vital significance of Army medics.

"I don't bring this up purely to berate or anything like that, or to put a damp cloud on the celebratory occasion of you earning your EFMB," said Lynn. "I just do it to help you think about rounding out that three-legged stool, rounding out your experience and your ability to be that medic that we so desperately need in the Army and the nation."

"The reason that you are an Army medic is the same reason that he was: your nation needs you, and the Army needs you — both the organization and the individual Soldiers," Lynn said. "Once again, thank you for being here, thank you for your efforts and congratulations."

Several of the EFMB recipients have attributed some of their successes to the mentorship and guidance that helped to propel them in the right direction. Both Faulkner and Stoll share this sentiment; the latter naming several individuals to include Brig. Gen. Beth Salisbury, current deputy commanding general for operations at the 3rd Medical Command Deployment Support out of Fort Gillem, Ga., and Retired Col. Roger Boutin.

"(I'd like to thank) all of the current leadership that have given me this opportunity to participate in the EFMB — Maj. Gen. Scott Lynn, Retired Maj. Gen. Johnathan Woodson (current president for Uniformed Services University of Health Sciences), Command Sgt. Maj. Robert Boudnik, Col. Michael Kauffman, and Maj. Stacy Black," said Stoll. "Also, just the inspiration of former leaders of mine like Retired Brig. Gen. Stephen Sauter, Brig. Gen. Beth Salisbury, Sgt. Maj. Robert Bennett, retired Col. Roger Boutin and retired Col. Richard Bailey. I had a lot of leaders that have always pushed me to be better, opportunities to make mistakes, and to learn and grow from them to make me a better person and Soldier altogether."

"I know that it has made me a better Soldier, and it is going to make the people around me better Soldiers as well and encourage ongoing excellence," Faulkner said.

Fort McCoy RSO, unit chaplains feed, support Soldiers as part of BSRT initiatives, more

During the more than two weeks of training at Fort McCoy over the first half of May for the Spartan Warrior IV exercise for units with the 300th Military Police Brigade, hundreds of Soldiers from those units were treated to some meals and camaraderie through "Building Strong and Ready Teams" (BSRT) efforts and community-readiness events.

That work was completed and led by the Fort McCoy Garrison Religious Support Office (RSO) personnel and their facilities, and by chaplains with the 530th Military Police Battalion, 327th Military Police Battalion, 384th Military Police Battalion, 391st Military Police Battalion, and 785th Military Police Battalion.

"The Fort McCoy RSO provided community-readiness events either in-between or after each BSRT event," said Chaplain (Lt. Col.) Amy Noble with Fort McCoy RSO. "This is part of the Chief of Chaplain's Spiritual Readiness Initiatives. Each community-readiness event included Fort McCoy's military family life counselors, so leaders and each soldier were aware of their services while they are here training. Invites were also sent to the Fort McCoy Directorate of Family Morale, Welfare and Recreation and the Directorate of Plans, Training, Mobilization and Security to come and sit alongside the Reserve Soldiers to hear their feedback while training here."

Noble said the Chaplain Corps Business Center provided the funding for the events, which were very successful. "Our current Chaplains Tithes and Offering non-appropriated fund would not be able to support these type of readiness events on our own," Noble said.

From each of the unit chaplain's after-action reports it shows hundreds of Soldiers were supported by the efforts.

Chaplain (1st Lt.) Lang Yang with the 785th said in his after-action report that "the 785th (Unit Ministry Team) worked in unison with the Fort McCoy Garrison Chaplain (Lt. Col.) Amy Noble and her staff to provide a BSRT training and a delicious meal through a community initiative."

Chaplain (Capt.) Jeffrey Dean Price with the 384th stated in his after-action that the 384th Unit Ministry Team "worked with the Fort McCoy Garrison Chaplain ... to provide BSRT classes that establish the concrete foundations necessary for unit cohesion, development, and resiliency. This foundation produces the highly effective Soldiers essential to complete any mission received from the higher echelons of command."

The Spartan Warrior IV exercise training concluded at Fort McCoy on May 13.

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."

Also try downloading the Digital Garrison app to your smartphone and set "Fort McCoy" or another installation as your preferred base.

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



Soldiers get a meal at the Fort McCoy Religious Support Office facility May 8 at Fort McCoy. The event was one of many community-readiness events tied to Army "Building Strong and Ready Teams" initiatives during the 300th Military Police Brigade training at the installation during the first half of May 2023. Several unit ministry teams from the 300th supported the events.



UH-60 ops

(Left and right) UH-60 Black Hawks operated by Wisconsin National Guard crews conduct training May 5 near the Medical Simulation Training Center at Fort McCoy.

The operations were part of a medical exercise called Operation Ouija. The Black Hawks were performing simulated tail-to-tail transfers with C-130 Hercules aircraft from the Air Force Reserve's 934th Airlift Wing of Minnesota and the 452nd Air Mobility Wing of March Air Reserve Base, Calif.

Photos by Scott T. Sturkol



NEWS

Renovation of Fort McCoy's Rumpel Fitness Center continues; progress at approximately 60 percent completion

STORY & PHOTOS BY SCOTT T. STURKOL

Public Affairs Staff

Workers with R.J. Jurowski Construction Inc. of Whitehall, Wis., continue their work on the renovation construction project of the Rumpel Fitness Center into May 2023 at Fort McCoy.

The project began Nov. 1 and is expected to be completed in fall 2023, said General Engineer Gareth Ferguson with the Fort McCoy Directorate of Public Works.

"The Rumpel Fitness Center project currently sits at approximately 60 percent complete — just over halfway through the planned period of performance," Ferguson said. "Current work includes interior framing; drywalling; heating, ventilation, and air conditioning; and electrical installation; pool deck concrete work; exterior roofing; excavating and pouring additional foundation for exterior brick siding; new entranceway construction; and excavation for new domestic and fire suppression water services."

Overall, it's a multi-million-dollar renovation for the fitness center that's never been done before.

"The overall project includes the exterior receiving new siding, roofing, and sidewalks as well as a storage addition," Ferguson said. "The interior is receiving a full layout redesign that includes locker rooms, cardio/stretching/equipment areas, and offices. There will also be fresh paint throughout, a new entryway and vestibule, and a new redesigned pool."

"The renovations will create a modernized, energy efficient facility," Fort McCoy Directorate of Family and Morale, Welfare and Recreation (DFMWR) Director Patric McGuane said in a previous article.

While Rumpel Fitness Center is being renovated, building 1395 by the Fort McCoy Running Track is fully outfitted with the equipment from the Rumpel Fitness Center and open for the post community as a fitness facility. It has also been a location where Soldiers have been completed their Army annual fitness requirements.

Other buildings also available for fitness activities include buildings 221 and 1783. Building 221 will be an annex to building 1395 for peak training times and fitness classes. It's located in the north corner of Fort McCoy — down the road from the central fuel station. Building 221 has limited hours and limited equipment.

Building 1783 is available for unit physical training. As the weather continues to get nicer and summer approaches, Ferguson said progress on the project will likely progress even faster.

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Also try downloading the Digital Garrison app to your smartphone and set "Fort McCoy" or another installation as your preferred base.

(The Fort McCoy Directorate of Family and Morale, Welfare and Recreation contributed to this article.)



Workers with R.J. Jurowski Construction Inc. of Whitehall, Wis., work on the renovation construction project of the Rumpel Fitness Center on May 5 (above) and May 9 (below) at Fort McCoy. The project began Nov. 1, 2022, and is expected to be completed in fall 2023.



Construction now complete for new C-17 load trainer facility at Young Air Assault Strip

STORY & PHOTO BY SCOTT T. STURKOL

Public Affairs Staff

Construction operations are complete to build a C-17 load trainer facility at Fort McCoy's Young Air Assault Strip on South Post, according to the Fort McCoy Directorate of Public Works (DPW).

Contractor Veteran Range Solutions received a contract for \$1,497,609 to build the facility at the air assault strip, said DPW General Engineer Gareth Ferguson. According to the contract's statement of work, it states to "construct a C-17 load trainer, complete with ramp and simulated cargo area with tie downs, and house it within a 3,500 square-foot pre-manufactured metal building."

As of May 16, the building was completed by the contractor and ready to be turned over to Fort McCoy officials.

According to the Fort McCoy Directorate of Plans, Training, Mobilization and Security (DPTMS), having the facility at the airstrip is good for training support operations that already take place there. Many Air Force units utilize the airstrip every year for exercises, touch-and-go landings with C-130 Hercules and C-17 Globemaster III aircraft, and more, every year.

A work order to have this facility added to the airstrip was first submitted to DPW by the DPTMS Range Branch in November 2020 and now it has been completed.

According to DPTMS officials, the trainer "provides a unique, realistic loading training for warfighters so they can maintain their individual/collectives training and skill sets required to properly upload and download a C-17 Globemaster aircraft. The warfighters training and skill sets can be accomplished without having the requirement to have an actual C-17 aircraft."

The load trainer also will be able to help train loadmasters on weight and balance records and cargo manifests, DPTMS officials said. It will also be able to determine the quantity of cargo and passengers or troops loaded and proper placement in aircraft, compute the load, cargo distribution, weight, and balance and determine the amount of weight to be placed in each compartment or at each station within the aircraft.

Additionally, the C-17 load trainer facility adds even more training capability to Young Air Assault Strip that has now been offering service members a place to train in austere conditions for 37 years.

Young Air Assault Strip, which has also been called Young Field, originally opened in October 1984. It was constructed by the 618th Engineer Company, 360th Engineer Battalion, 82nd Airborne Division.

The air strip was named after Pfc. Raphael Young, a member of the 618th who died in September 1984 while training on heavy equipment in advance of the mission to build the airstrip.

In a November 1984 article in The Triad newspaper at Fort McCoy,



A new C-17 load trainer facility is shown April 28 at Young Air Assault Strip on South Post at Fort McCoy.

Capt. William Prokopyk, company commander, said that he thought the Soldiers were more safety conscious because of the death of their comrade, which explained the lack of injuries during the actual construction process.

Construction of the airstrip was good practice for the 618th, which had the wartime mission of construction and repair of airfields. Young Air Assault Strip, however, was of better quality than a wartime construction, Prokopyk said.

"During wartime, we would probably have less time to complete the mission and we wouldn't have the soil analysts and survey support that were attached for this mission," he said.

The construction cost approximately \$86,000 and came in about \$11,000 under budget.

James Hubbard, chief of the DPTMS Airfield Division said the

airstrip continues to be an important part of the training complex at Fort McCoy."

"There's not many airstrips like Young available for training, so it is highly sought-after as a training area for exercises" Hubbard said in a past article in The Real McCoy. The airstrip also features a decommissioned C-130 that is primarily used to train service members to palletize cargo. It was transferred from Little Rock Air Force Base, Ark., in October 2015.

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Brigade HQ project

The construction area for a future transient training brigade headquarters in the 1600 block on the cantonment area is shown May 22 at Fort McCoy.

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.

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 includes the latest, state-of-the-art systems for fire protection and alarms and video surveillance as well as Energy Monitoring Control Systems.

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers is coordinating the project.

Photo by Scott T. Sturkol

OBSERVANCES/FEATURE

Post holds 2023 Asian-American Pacific-Islander Month observance

STORY & PHOTOS BY SCOTT T. STURKOL
Public Affairs Staff

Performer Yogitha Rajkumar with the Kalaanjali Dance Company of the School of Classical Indian Dance of Madison, Wis., performed several dances and described them as well during the 2023 Fort McCoy Asian-American Pacific-Islander Month observance May 18 at McCoy's Community Center.

Rajkumar and the Kalaanjali Dance Company perform across the U.S. and the world showcasing traditional dances of India. At Fort McCoy, dozens of people from the Fort McCoy community were treated to Rajkumar's talents in dance — all in celebrating the 2023 Asian-American Pacific Islander Month.

According to the Defense Equal Opportunity Management Institute (DEOMI), during Asian-American Pacific-Islander Month, the Department of Defense pays tribute to the generations of Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders "who have enriched our nation's history through their countless contributions, vibrant cultures, and rich heritage. Asian-Americans and Pacific-Islanders encompass a diverse group of cultures, ethnicities, and languages. They include those Americans who trace their ancestry to the Asian continent and the many Pacific island regions."

DEOMI stated the Federal Asian-Pacific American Council designated the 2023 theme for Asian-American Pacific-Islander Month is, "Advancing Leaders Through Opportunity." Opportunity is defined as, "a set of circumstances that make it possible to do something." Opportunity can be "built, accessed, achieved, or given."

"We celebrate Asian-American Pacific-Islander Heritage Month to honor and pay tribute to the Asian American and Pacific Islanders," DEOMI states in a presentation about the month. "Their perseverance through adverse circumstances created opportunities and made a brighter future for the next generation of leaders."

Rajkumar's performances ranged from approximately four minutes to over six minutes on one dance. Before

each performance, she explained the style of the dance she was about to perform.

According to her biography, Rajkumar is a sophomore student at Sun Prairie High School in Sun Prairie, Wis. And she has studied her classical Indian dance under Guru Meenakshi Ganesan with dance company 11 years ago. More about the dance company can be found at www.kalaanjali.com.

Fort McCoy Garrison Commander Col. Stephen Messenger said he was impressed with Rajkumar's performance.

"Watching that was amazing," Messenger said.

"That was amazing. You are an impressive young lady. If you've read the bio, (she's) done this all around the world. She started at age 5. She supports charity events, she's mentoring youth, earning fellowships — just an incredibly impressive resume. I am impressed by you. ... You have ... maturity beyond your years."

Asian-Americans have a special place in Fort McCoy's history as well. The decorated 100th Infantry Battalion, comprised of Asian-Americans was one of the first units to train at Camp McCoy when it expanded in 1942.

The 100th Infantry Battalion (Separate) was activated June 12, 1942. It was composed of more than 1,400 second-generation, American-born Japanese men, also known as "Nisei" (NEE-say).

The War Department removed them from Hawaii out of fear of renewed Japanese attacks and stopped accepting Nisei for military service. The battalion commander and some of the company-grade officers were Caucasian; the rest of its officers and enlisted men were Nisei.

In an Aug. 25, 1967, article for The Real McCoy, then-civilian employee Kenneth Koji recalled his time at Camp McCoy as a member of the 100th.

"The officers and men of the unit lived in tents, which reminded the men of basic training," Koji wrote. "New Camp McCoy cantonment was under construction during 1942 and was ready for use in September, at which time



(Above and below) Performer Yogitha Rajkumar with the Kalaanjali Dance Company of the School of Classical Indian Dance of Madison, Wis., performs a dance May 18 at McCoy's Community Center at Fort McCoy during the installation's 2023 Asian-American Pacific-Islander Month observance.



we moved to the new post. Everyone was tickled to be on the new post after months of tent city life."

The unit trained for war at McCoy and went on to become one of the most decorated units in history.

The 2023 Fort McCoy Asian-Ameri-



can Pacific-Islander Month observance was organized by the Fort McCoy Equal Opportunity Office.

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."



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Fort McCoy's Veterans Memorial Plaza was dedicated in 2009; serves as center point for McCoy activities

STORY & PHOTOS BY SCOTT T. STURKOL
Public Affairs Staff

In July 2022, the Fort McCoy Garrison change-of-command ceremony took place for the first time in front of Veterans Memorial Plaza at the historic Commemorative Area.

The plaza was dedicated in 2009 at the Commemorative Area, and in the years since has been a consistent draw annually where thousands of people who come to the installation also stop to see this memorial. Many also often ask how it came to be and what it means.

Well, it starts with the Commemorative Area. The work to establish the Commemorative Area began in 1992 during the 50th anniversary of World War II, said former Fort McCoy Public Affairs Officer Linda Fournier in a previous article, who was responsible for the Commemorative Area from its inception to October 2015.

Camp McCoy, like many other military reservations, grew significantly during the World War II era. Because of this expansion and the construction of the cantonment area, much of what Fort McCoy looks like today is the result of changes that occurred during that war.

"At the time of the 50th anniversary of World War II, Fort McCoy, like many installations of that era, was in the process of demolishing or significantly renovating its World War II-era wood structures," said Fournier in September 2015. "We felt it was important to our heritage to retain for the future a few of these buildings as the work to modernization and upgrade the cantonment area increased.

"It was deemed appropriate by the command group that it was significantly important to retain a few of these structures as a representation of our past," Fournier said. "At the time, Fort McCoy had one of the largest remaining inventories of World War II-era facilities anywhere, and DOD (Department of Defense) was supportive of Fort McCoy's efforts to set aside a collection of such structures as part of our World War II commemoration. Fort McCoy was one of the first installations to do so."

Between 1992 and 1995, five adjoining World War II troop buildings — three barracks, a "mess hall" facility, and an administrative building — in the 900 block of the cantonment area permanently were set aside for commemoration purposes.

Since then, this area has grown into a 10-acre site that now includes an Equipment Park, Veterans Memorial Plaza, and the History Center. With the expansion, the site was re-designated as the Fort McCoy Commemorative Area since it serves to tell the entire history of Fort McCoy from its founding in 1909 to the present day, Fournier said.

Construction on Veterans Memorial Plaza began in 2006, as did the work to create the five Soldier statues on the memorial representative of each of the major conflicts that Fort McCoy had been involved with to that point in time: i.e., World War I, World War II, the Korean War, the Vietnam War, and the war on terrorism, Fournier said.

Since then, this area has grown into a 10-acre site that now includes an Equipment Park, Veterans Memorial Plaza, and the History Center. With the expansion, the site was re-designated as the Fort McCoy Commemorative Area since it serves to tell the entire history of Fort McCoy from its founding in 1909 to the present day, Fournier said.

The formal dedication of the Veterans Memorial Plaza was June 13, 2009 — the date of Fort McCoy's 100th anniversary. Several descendants of the installation's founder, Maj. Gen. Robert B. McCoy, attended this dedication, Fournier said. The dedication was the key event in a series of activities held during Fort McCoy's yearlong centennial observance.

Ever since its dedication, the Veterans Memorial Plaza has been the center of more than a dozen annual Armed Forces Day Open House events, dozens of official events, dozens of tours, and met by thousands of people throughout the years.

"The visual image we strive to project to every



Veterans Memorial Plaza is shown May 17 (below) and May 20 (above) at the Commemorative Area at Fort McCoy. Veterans Memorial Plaza is a tribute to all the men and women who have served the nation during each era of Fort McCoy's history.



visitor is one of professionalism and an appreciation for the sacrifice of those who have served our nation," Fournier said about the reason for creating the Commemorative Area and Veterans Memorial Plaza. "Our commitment is to maintain the Commemorative Area in a manner that clearly conveys the impression that the staff here is truly proud of our heritage."

Current Fort McCoy Public Affairs Officer Tonya Townsell said the memorial and the Commemorative Area are a treasure for everyone to enjoy.

"Veterans Memorial Plaza is truly special area that our visitors always say is a wonderful dedication to our veterans," Townsell said. "It really is a special place."

In 2023, the flags for the area were first raised on

the memorial on May 1. May 1 in many countries is known as May Day. In the U.S., it's also known as National Loyalty Day, which is a lesser-known holiday "on which American freedom is recognized and American citizens are encouraged to reaffirm their loyalty to the U.S.," according to <https://www.holidayscalendar.com/event/national-loyalty-day>. "It's been a day set aside continuously every year by each U.S. President since the late-1950s. It's a day on which people are expected to raise flags, reflect on their American heritage and ponder the nation's founding principles and the enduring traditions of freedom and democracy. It's also a day on which people are encouraged to give thanks to members and former members of the U.S. military for their service to the country."

For more information about the Commemorative Area, contact the Fort McCoy Public Affairs Office at 608-388-2407, by email at usarmy.mccoy.imcom-central.list.pao-admin@mail.mil, or go online to see the Commemorative Area section in the Fort McCoy Guide at <https://www.dvidshub.net/publication/issues/66725>.

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."

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THIS MONTH IN FORT MCCOY HISTORY

Fort McCoy, Wis., was established in 1909. Here is a look back at some installation history from May 2023 and back.

80 Years Ago — May 1943

FROM THE MAY 29, 1943, EDITION OF THE REAL MCCOY: *General Aurand Praises McCoy Training Center, Pleads for More WAACs* — Expansion of the Sixth Service Command Training school and the conservation of soldier-manpower, highlighted the reason for the visit this week to Camp McCoy of Major General H.S. Aurand, Commanding General of the Sixth Service Command, and Brig. Gen. J.C. Drain, chairman of the War Department Manpower Board.

The two visiting generals were the guests at Colonel George M. MacMullin, Post Commander.

Plans, outlined to interviewers by General Aurand call for a large number of WAACs; replacing general service men with limited service men; using a larger number of civilians, especially women. By a careful pursuit of this manpower-saving program in all of the nation's army camps, Gen. Drain explained that "several divisions of combat troops may be saved."

Arriving here Sunday evening the two generals worked late into the early Monday morning hours studying the reports accumulated by a "visiting team" of officers, who for several days with Colonel MacMullin's staff officers, made severe cuts into the soldier personnel of the station complement.

Lauds Colonel MacMullin — General Aurand said he was "well pleased" with the results of Limited Service School here, commending Colonel MacMullin and Lt. Col. W. L. Krigbaum, the school's director, for the "wonderful showing," adding that it was because of these results that he established the Sixth Service Command Training Center at McCoy.

Exclusive of the Limited Service School, five other schools have begun operations here for the newly commissioned officers and newly inducted men. A sixth he said would start quickly for newly enlisted nurses. The schools are divided into 14 sections for specialized training.

New Cook School — The training schools established recently are the cook's branch of the cooks and bakers school, which was moved here from Fort Sheridan; an "on-the-job" training program for newly commissioned second lieutenants to be assigned to area camps; a staff school for non-commissioned officers, and a special battalion for training enlisted men in fields where there is a shortage of specialists.

The Limited Service School is to continue because limited service men again are being accepted, General Aurand said.

Need More WAACs — Expansion of the training program will result in an addition of about 60 officers and 300 men to the school's staff, he said. General Aurand paid a glowing tribute to all the WAACs of the Sixth Service Command, explaining that there were now about 1,500 in the area and that 2,500 could be "placed" immediately.

All post commanders, he said, were enthusiastic in their praise of the work already performed by these auxiliaries.

80 Years Ago — May 1943

FROM THE MAY 29, 1943, EDITION OF THE REAL MCCOY: *Scouts Visit Camp McCoy, Plant 20,000 Trees Here* — Boy Scouts of the Gateway Council Area honored the armed forces with the planting of more than 20,000 trees at Camp McCoy Saturday.

Arriving Friday afternoon, the Scouts approximately 50, set up their own tents at Camp McCoy Park along Highway 16, near the Tomah entrance to the Old Camp McCoy and did their own cooking.

Col. George M. MacMullin, post commander; Lt. Col. Horace I. Rogers, post director of Internal Security; Lt. Mary Roberts, commanding officer of the WAACs; Lt. Bertha Kuschill, WAAC mess and supply officer; and Lt. Bernard Reineck, of the Public Relations Division; addressed the scouts at a campfire meeting.

Planting of the trees was done near Highway 16 within sight of Camp McCoy Park. Scouts who took part were from Troops 70, 81, 29, and 85 of Sparta; Troops 72 and 104 of Tomah; Troop 88 of Kendall; and Troop 45 of Warrens.



THE REAL MCCOY



Published Weekly By and For The Military Personnel of Camp McCoy

VOL. 1

CAMP MCCOY, WISCONSIN, SATURDAY, MAY 29, 1943

NO. 45

Post Launches Drive To Aid WAAC Recruiting Program

U.S. Army photo

Here's a look at the main headline of the May 29, 1943, headline of The Real McCoy newspaper from 80 years ago.

Fishing Season And Tall Tales Go Together

On the heels of Maj. Hans Beigel's announcement last week regarding fishing dates on the reservation, has come several tall tales as to fishing prowess.

Maj. Beigel reports that the first man to stretch his hands "way out to here" was Lt. Col. W. Lutz Krigbaum, commanding the Limited Service School. The colonel maintains that his first catch was big enough to cover the entire width of an open newspaper.

Other reelmen to stand by their tall tales were Lt. Col. W. T. Pugh, station hospital, who maintained that he was "the best fisherman on the post" and Capt. C. H. Barlow, also of the station hospital, who agreed with Col. Pugh.

Inasmuch as the season is a mere two weeks old, there's no telling what tales and claims will fill the air in the near future.

Here's a fishing season opener clipping from 1943 from The Real McCoy.

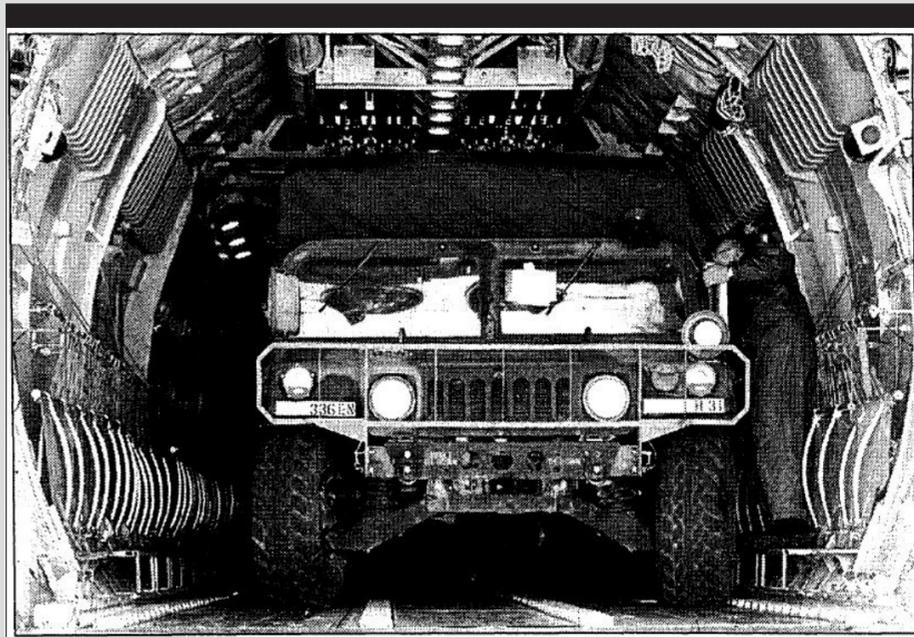


Photo by Lou Ann M. Mittelstaedt

Loadmaster Staff Sgt. Sergio Melendez of the 330th Airlift Squadron of March Air Force Base, Calif., checks the position of a Humvee inside a C-141 Starlifter aircraft in May 2003 at Sparta-Fort McCoy Airport.

50 Years Ago — May 1973

FROM THE MAY 24, 1973, EDITION OF THE REAL MCCOY: *50,000 trees planted* — As a part of the Fish and Wildlife Management program 50,000 2-year-old Norway Pines are being planted at three separate selected locations on the South Post. Planting began the 23rd of April and were completed the 18th of May.

Purpose is to achieve better land use by growing forest products, providing shelter for wildlife, assisting erosion control, and adding esthetic beauty to the areas.

Intrinsic values also are achieved by providing good clean ground water, helping to purify the air and the resulting noise buffer created by the Norway Pine. About 85 or 95 percent of the trees planted are expected to develop into a productive stand of pine.

50 Years Ago — May 1973

FROM THE MAY 24, 1973, EDITION OF THE REAL MCCOY: *First fish* — Captain Thompson entered the first fish in Camp McCoy's fishing contest last Saturday, May 19.

His entry was a largemouth bass weighing 5 lbs., 1 oz., its length was 20 7/8 inches.

He caught the fish on West Sandy Lake using a black artificial nightcrawler.

20 Years Ago — May 2003

FROM THE MAY 23, 2003, EDITION OF THE REAL MCCOY NEWSPAPER: *Live-Fire Training Facility opens at McCoy* — Responding to future large-scale emergencies will take a partnership among multiple agencies, such as the one that helped build the new Live-Fire Training Facility at Fort McCoy, said Bruce Park.

The facility, located at the Sparta-Fort McCoy Airport, offers training in smoke-and-ventilation firefighting and search-and-rescue techniques.

Park, the director of the Army Fire and Emergency Services, assistant chief of the Army Staff for Installation Management, said the partnership between Fort McCoy and the Western Wisconsin Technical College (WWTC) is a good example of the cooperation needed to be successful in today's emergency environment, which includes the potential of terrorist attacks and use of weapons of mass destruction.

Park was one of a number of dignitaries attending the May 15 dedication of the facility at Fort McCoy.

"Fort McCoy was not high on the list to get money for a facility like this," Park said. "But (Fire Department Chief Terry Gough) didn't wait for headquarters to get them the money. He took the initiative and thought out of the box to get the facility built."

Fort McCoy Installation Commander Col. Michael R. Staszak said planning for the facility began in 2000 when he talked about training with Gough as part of his review of all training possibilities at Fort McCoy. The installation didn't have the capability to train military firefighters in an urban, tower-type situation, he said.

5 Years Ago — May 2018

Thousands of visitors attend Fort McCoy's 2018 Armed Forces Day Open House — An estimated 4,000 people or more attended the 2018 Fort McCoy Armed Forces Day Open House on May 19.

Partly cloudy skies and moderate temperatures allowed for more visitors to the open house than 2017, which saw heavy rain and cooler temperatures.

The open house was held on the grounds of Fort McCoy's historic Commemorative Area, which includes World War II-era buildings, the Equipment Park, and Veterans Memorial Plaza. It also covered areas inside and outside of building 905.

Activities were available for people of all ages,

and those activities highlighted more than history, said Public Affairs Specialist Theresa Fitzgerald with the Fort McCoy Public Affairs Office. People lined up for camouflage face painting, personalized ID tags, an interactive-marksman gallery, and military-vehicle and fire-truck displays.

They also saw the latest Army medical equipment in use, filled sandbags to build a mock defensive position, and more.

Vehicle displays appeared to be some of the most popular stops by visitors, and Fort McCoy staff members conducted numerous installation bus tours, of which more than 400 visitors took advantage.

"The installation bus tours are always popular, and they were again this year," Fitzgerald said.

Also included, and new to 2018, was a display from the Monroe County Local History Room of Sparta, Wis., and after-action review trailers from the Directorate of Plans, Training, Mobilization and Security that showed Army videos and footage of training conducted at Fort McCoy.

Visitor Rich Christensen of Illinois said he enjoyed the event once again.

"It was a great day," Christensen said. "Thank you for the displays! We have been going there for the last six years, and it never gets old."

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."

Also try downloading the Digital Garrison app to your smartphone and set "Fort McCoy" or another installation as your preferred base.

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

Fort McCoy ArtiFACT: Hearth

As the weather warms up, many Wisconsinites will begin shifting their activities from indoors to outdoors.

There will be many gatherings with friends and family sitting around the campfire enjoying each other's company and making new memories. Although campfires can be built all year long, nowadays they are most often a spring and summer social event.

But in ancient times, a campfire was far more than just a means for entertainment, it was a necessary tool for survival. Ancient campfires were not only for socializing they also provided protection from animals, and were the only source of heated cooking, light, and warmth.

Based on existing evidence, Australopithecus robustus and/or Homo erectus, the ancestors of modern humans (Homo sapiens), made campfires roughly 1.6 million years ago in South Africa.

Mankind's ability to create and harness fire is a beneficial technology that has survived the test of time. Archaeologists learn valuable information from studying "campfires," such as when the campfire was used through radiocarbon dating charcoal remains and what the fire was used for through studying the bits and pieces that remain of the hearth.

Archaeologists use the term "hearth" rather than campfire and define it as the remnants of a purposeful fire. Prior to European contact, Native Americans built hearths for the same reasons we build campfires today, such as cooking, warmth, light, and socializing. Hearths were also used for thousands of years during pre-contact times to heat-treat stones used for fashioning tools to make them stronger and less likely to crack or break during tool manufacturing.

More recently, but still before European contact, hearths were used for firing pottery, which would result in a more durable material that would retain its shape even if wet.

Hearths come in all shapes and sizes. How do archaeologists identify a hearth if there is so much variety? They look for evidence like inorganic material used to outline the hearth and hold the heat (rocks, bricks, etc.), burned organic material (wood, plant remains, animal remains, etc.), and evidence of combustion such as indicators of heat (fire-cracked rock or FCR and burnt earth) and fuel (wood).

The oldest known human-made campfire found at Fort McCoy dates to approximately 10,000 years ago and was found at an archaeological site on South Post.

This nearly two-foot by one-and-a-half-foot oval-shaped hearth was identified as a soil discoloration with several pieces of FCR within and around the discoloration.

Although hardly any artifacts were recovered from the feature itself,



Contributed photos

there were plentiful amounts of charcoal to collect from it. The charcoal samples were sent in for radiocarbon dating at a specialized laboratory and returned a calibrated radiocarbon age ranging from 10,185 to 9,605 years ago (+/- 40 years). These dates fall primarily within the Late Paleoindian period (10,000 to 8,000 years ago, or 8000-6000 BC).

Pictured with this article are examples of two different types of hearths that were excavated by archaeologists with Colorado State University's Center for Environmental Management of Military Lands (CEMML) during the 2014 field season.

The first hearth looks similar to something one might construct today by placing rocks in a ring around the intended location of the fire. This hearth is a circular arrangement consisting of 18 sandstone slabs of varying sizes.

Not all of the hearth was unearthed as it extended beyond the limits of the excavation unit, but the outer circle of the rocks indicated the hearth was roughly two feet in diameter. Unfortunately, there was no charcoal present, so the hearth could not be radiocarbon dated.

No diagnostic lithic artifacts nor pre-contact ceramics were recovered from the site making it impossible to assign a date to a specific era.

The second hearth pictured is an ancient style more commonly found by archaeologists and appears as a bowl-shaped soil discoloration in the side of an excavation unit.

This hearth was also circular and contained both fire-cracked rock (FCR) and burned sandstone. The rocks were not distinctly arranged in a circle like the first hearth, suggesting it may have been more of a "fire-pit" style hearth. Like the first hearth, this one extended beyond the limits of the excavation unit. The visible portion of the hearth suggests it was nearly three feet wide and a foot or more in depth.

This hearth contained abundant charcoal which provided a radiocarbon age range of 3,055 to 2,870 years ago (+/- 30) after calibration, which dates the hearth to the Late Archaic period (3,500 to 2,500 years ago, or 1,500-500 BC).

A lot can be learned from a hearth including when it was used and why it was used. If present, archaeologists can examine the charred plant and animal remains to determine what was being cooked at the fire.

The presence of heat-treated chert, a type of raw material used to fashion stone tools, can also indicate that the hearth was being used to heat-treat the chert to make the rock stronger and more resistant to cracking and breaking while manufacturing tools such as an arrowhead.

So, remember, when you are sitting around the campfire with your family and friends and scraps of your food that you are cooking fall into the fire, a future archaeologist may come across it in fifty, a hundred, or even a thousand years from now and ask, "What was for dinner?"

All archaeological work conducted at Fort McCoy was sponsored by the Directorate of Public Works Environmental Division Natural Resources Branch.

Visitors and employees are reminded they should not collect artifacts on Fort McCoy or other government lands and leave the digging to the professionals.

Any individual who excavates, removes, damages, or otherwise alters or defaces any post-contact or pre-contact site, artifact, or object of antiquity on Fort McCoy is in violation of federal law.

The discovery of any archaeological artifact should be reported to the Directorate of Public Works Environmental Division Natural Resources Branch at 608-388-8214.

(Article prepared by the Fort McCoy Archaeology Team.)

NEWS NOTES/FACILITIES

DOWN AND DIRTY TRAIL RUN
FORT MCCOY, WI

Bring out the whole family to conquer the MUD & embrace the FUN in Fort McCoy's 9th annual 1.5 mile obstacle course race!

JUNE 10, 2023 | 10 am - 2 pm
WHITETAIL RIDGE SKI AREA

\$20 Per Person, Kids 5 & Under are FREE

Participants receive a packet including: Drink, Kettle, Ball Toss & Race Medal!

TO REGISTER, SCAN THE QR CODE OR CALL 608-388-3517

REGISTRATION OPENS AT 10:00 AM & RACE BEGINS AT 11:00 AM

248TH
U.S. ARMY BIRTHDAY
248 YEARS OF SELFLESS SERVICE TO THE NATION
JUNE 14, 2023

All events are free & open to the Fort McCoy Community

ARMY BIRTHDAY 5K RUN / 2 MILE WALK
7 am | McCoy's Community Center
Day of registration begins at 6:30 am. First 200 runners receive a T-shirt. Breakfast includes donuts, fruit, water & juice will be served from 7 am. All McCoy employees are free of charge to register.

ARMY BIRTHDAY CEREMONY
11 am - 1 pm | McCoy's Community Center
Official cake cutting ceremony at 11:00 am. Complimentary buffet lunch while supplies last from 12 - 1.

HYPERBOWLING HYPERACTIVE GAME
12 - 6 pm | McCoy's Community Center
Highest score of the day will win a 1 topping large pizza & a game of bowling for all!

FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION CALL 608-388-7400

2023-24 FORT MCCOY GUIDE

BE ALL YOU CAN BE!

TOTAL FORCE TRAINING CENTER
VISITOR INFO • MAP • TELEPHONE DIRECTORY

2023 FORT MCCOY GUIDE NOW AVAILABLE: The 2023 Fort McCoy Guide is now available throughout the installation in news stands and at the Fort McCoy Public Affairs Office. Call 608-388-2407 for extra copies. Also go online to <https://www.dvidshub.net/publication/issues/66725> to see the online version.

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.

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.incom-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 June 9, 2023.

The deadline for submissions or article ideas is May 31, 2023.

For more information, call 608-388-4128.

TIME FOR A VACATION?

Access travel options from AFRC Resorts, American Forces Travel & IHG Hotels on the DG app!

MAKE THE CONNECTION

Download on the App Store

GET IT ON Google Play

Warrior Restaurants

Building 50 operates April-September. Building 1362 operates October-March

Offers full meal service

- Military members, military family members, and Department of Defense (DOD) civilians on official orders for temporary duty training may use Warrior Restaurants.
- DOD civilians working on Fort McCoy and retired military personnel may use Warrior Restaurants when MWR facilities are not open.
- Units must coordinate through the Food Program Management Office at 608-388-6518/4739.

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 - \$4.30
Lunch - \$6.85
Dinner - \$5.95

Other 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: Open during regular ski area hours. Call 608-388-3517.

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://ftmccoyisportsman.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.

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: Open 11:30 a.m.-10 p.m. Tues.-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 darrrel.hawkins.ct@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 608-388-2165.

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 June 8, 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://ivos.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 ftmccoyisportsman.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: M-F: 6:30 am - 5:15 pm. Call: 608-388-2238. Childcare requests should be made at <https://public.militarychildcare.csd.disa.mil/mcc-central/mcchome>.

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, nonmedical 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 fischer@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, non-school, and inclement weather care for eligible youth. Open: M-F: 6:30 am - 5:30 pm; Summer & Non-School Days: 2:30 pm - 5:30 pm. After School Call: 608-388-4373. Childcare requests should be made at <https://public.militarychildcare.csd.disa.mil/mcc-central/mcchome>.

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/FtMcCoyRSO>. Call 608-388-3528.

Spanish Language: Catholic services in Norwegian; 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 usawomccoy@outlook.com.

KNOW SOMEONE EXPERIENCING ABUSE OR NEEDING HELP?

LOCAL RESOURCES

Fort McCoy Family Advocacy Program
Brittany Sonie 608-388-2412/3505

Child Protective Services Monroe County
Report Child Abuse and/or Neglect 608-269-8854
*After business hours, call 911 and/or Fort McCoy DES at 608-388-2000 to report Domestic Abuse or Child Abuse

Victim Advocacy Services 608-630-7473
*After business hours, call 911 and/or Fort McCoy DES at 608-388-2000 to report Domestic Abuse or Child Abuse

Brighter Tomorrows
Monroe County Domestic Violence Shelter Crisis Hotline: 1-888-886-2327

www.endabusewi.org

Call ACS at 608-388-3505 for additional information

NATIONAL RESOURCES

Domestic Abuse Hotline
1-800-799-SAFE (7233) or www.hotline.org

National Stalking Resources
1-800-394-2255

National Suicide and Crisis Lifeline: 988

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.

This civilian enterprise newspaper is an authorized publication for members of the U.S. Army. Contents of The Real McCoy are not necessarily official views of, or endorsed by, the U.S. Government, Department of Defense, Department of the Army or Fort McCoy. The Real McCoy is published semi-monthly by the Public Affairs Office, Fort McCoy, WI 54656-5263, (608) 388-4128. Minimum printed circulation is 3,000.

All photos are U.S. Army photos unless otherwise credited.

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Send news items to the Public Affairs Office, ATTN: (IMMC-PA), 100 E. Headquarters Road, Fort McCoy, WI 54656-5263, or call 608-388-4128 or 2769 or send e-mail to usarmy.mccoy.incom-central.list.pao-ad-min@mail.mil.

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

Garrison CommanderCol. Stephen Messenger
Public Affairs OfficerTonya Townsell
Editor/Public Affairs Specialist.....Scott T. Sturkol
Commemorative Area CaretakerRobin Michalski
Editorial Content608-388-2769

Read this publication online at <https://home.army.mil/mccoy> and at <https://www.dvidshub.net/unit/FMPAO>.

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.

COMMUNITY

OPEN HOUSE

from Page 1

the many information tables set up by veterans organizations, including the Veterans Administration, Monroe County Veterans Services Officer, American Legion, and more.

Ward E. Zischke, command historian for the 88th Readiness Division, was also on hand once again to give hundreds of event-goers a deep look into Army history as he set up in one of the historical buildings. He worked near members of the Deke Slayton Museum of Sparta, Wis., as well as the Monroe County Local Historical Room — also of Sparta.

And for a second-consecutive year the open house had food trucks available for people attending. The trucks saw a steady flow of people placing orders and then enjoying their food on the nearby picnic tables and benches.

In equipment displays, the 86th Training Division, Fort McCoy Noncommissioned Officer Academy, Fort McCoy Directorate of Emergency Services, Regional Training Site-Maintenance, 181st Multi-Functional Training Brigade, Wisconsin National Guard Maneuver Area Training Equipment Site, Wisconsin Air National Guard, Wisconsin State Patrol, and more had something to show.

Among possibly the most popular equipment displays was the M109 Paladin, which was a first for the open house.

One of the open house attendees, Stephen Dressel, said he enjoyed the event.

“Was my first time going and won’t be the last,” Dressel said. “Everyone did an amazing job that helped facilitate it. I was impressed and most importantly my kids loved it.”

Another visitor, Dave Jorgensen, said he enjoyed it as well in a comment on a related Facebook post.

“We were there with my grandson, and we all loved it,” he said. “So proud to see all the fine young men and women in service to the country, and the tour bus announcer did a great job. ... Fort McCoy is a well-kept secret that everyone in Wisconsin should be proud of.”

Another event-goer, Jan Pensinger, also added about the event, “This was a fantastic event! Thanks to everyone who made this possible.”

And many people also visited the many things to offer at the historic Commemorative Area. The Commemorative Area features five historic World War II-era buildings, artifacts ranging from Fort McCoy’s inception to modern times, an Equipment Park with more than 70 military vehicles and equipment, and Veterans Memorial Plaza. A picnic pavilion is on site and had plenty of use during the event.

And just as one open house is completed, Townsell said work has already begun on planning for the 2024 Fort McCoy Armed Forces Day Open House. That event will take place on May 18, 2024.

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 “fmc-coy,” and on Twitter by searching “usagmccoy.”

Also try downloading the Digital Garrison app to your smartphone and set “Fort McCoy” or another installation as your preferred base.



Biologist Kevin Luepke (above) and Biologist Jessup Weichelt (below) show event-goers some of Fort McCoy's wildlife May 20 during the Armed Forces Day Open House at Fort McCoy.



Open house visitors stop by information stops May 20 during the open house.



Fort McCoy family member “AJ” Elwin feeds a carrot treat to Brutus the MiniPig on May 20 during the open house at Fort McCoy. Brutus was popular during the open house as well. He was brought to the event by his owner Jancee Doemel.



The Army Reserve’s 204th Army Band plays for the open house attendees May 20. The band is headquartered in Fort Snelling, Minn., and they also played at the open house in 2019.



Fort McCoy Directorate of Emergency Services personnel meet with event-goers May 20.



Visitors to the open house check out the historical buildings in the Commemorative Area on May 20 that house historical artifacts and displays about Fort McCoy.



Open house visitors take part in one of the many bus tours that were available during the event May 20 that took them all around the installation. Hundreds took advantage of the tours.



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ABS
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CYCLING
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608-388-2290 | www.mccoymwr.com

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**WEDNESDAY NIGHTS
FROM 6:00 - 8:00 PM
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FREE TO PLAY!
Prizes awarded weekly to the top 3 teams!
Open to all Fort McCoy employees and their guests. Must be 18 years or older to play.



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For more information, call 608-388-2065.

www.mccoymwr.com

24/7 FITNESS CENTER ACCESS

Building 1395
Get 24/7 access to cardio and weight equipment by optimizing your CAC with a Rumpel Fitness Center staff member today.

Fitness Center is closed from 4:30 - 5 am weekdays for deep cleaning.

www.mccoymwr.com | 608-388-2290



BABYSITTING CLASS

Become a Safe and Responsible Babysitter!

Class is hosted by Child & Youth Services. Youth will learn many important skills including infant/child CPR and first aid, ages & stages, principles of discipline, nutrition, entertaining children, diapering, safety, business of babysitting, and much more. Role playing, experiential learning and the babysitter's "magic bag" makes this course useful and fun.

DATES: June 27 - 29, 2023
Must attend all 3 days!

TIME: 8:30 am - 1:00 pm

LOCATION: Fort McCoy CYS Building 1765

AGES: 12 years at time of registration & older

COST: Free!

REGISTER: Call 608-388-8956

Must be registered by June 20, 2023. Youth must be registered with CYS to attend. Space is limited to 10 children. Lunch will be provided each day. 6th-12th graders: A \$8.00 per hour fee applies outside the class hours prior to 1 pm if you are not enrolled in the full-time camp week.



mccoymwr.com | 608-388-8956

Sexual Harassment/Assault Response and Prevention (SHARP) FY23 ANNUAL REFRESHER TRAINING

This training will count as your Annual SHARP Refresher Face to Face Training



- THIS TRAINING WILL:**
- Examine strategies to prevent sexual harassment and sexual assault.
 - Examine all of our roles in intervening when sexual harassment or sexual assault is present.
 - Thoroughly explain reporting processes and procedures for reporting sexual harassment and sexual assault.
 - Discuss support resources available.

2023 Training Dates

- Who:** All personnel of Fort McCoy.
- What:** The purpose of the leader led SHARP training is to conduct this in an interactive, participative discussion-based session.
- Where:** Leaders' choice - Individualized to meet the needs of each Garrison Directorate.
- When:** Leaders' choice - Individualized to meet the needs of each Garrison Directorate.
- To register,** please call Garrison Victim Advocate at 608-388-8951

- Significance:**
- SHARP training is good for one calendar year
 - FY22 SHARP TSP can be used until FY23
 - GTA 19-11-001 OCTOBER 2021 REFERENCE CARD will continue to be used until New Reference Card is available
 - CONTACT: Garrison Victim Advocate, to coordinate and provide Leader-Led Training



ACS events are open to Military, Retirees, Civilian workforce, Family Members and registered Fort McCoy Volunteers, unless otherwise stated.

Fort McCoy 24/7 Hotline: 608-388-3000

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