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Fiscal year '23-funded East Barracks Project at Fort McCoy rises to 14 percent complete

STORY & PHOTOS BY SCOTT T. STURKOL
Public Affairs Staff

The fiscal year 2023 Transient Training Troops Barracks Project, also called the Fort McCoy East Barracks Project, is now 14 percent complete, said Nathan Butts with the Resident Office of the Army Corps of Engineers at Fort McCoy.

As of Nov. 12, workers with contractor L.S. Black Constructors were putting in more steel framing and building the skeleton of the new barracks. At the beginning of October, the barracks was 10 percent complete.

In a Nov. 8 update, Butts wrote about the ongoing work to the eventual 60,000-plus-square-foot building.

“Structural steel deliveries are ongoing,” Butts wrote. “Decking and rebar placement continues on the south wing of the building. Stairs have been installed on the south side.

“Steel erection continues in the center section of the building. Mechanical, electrical, and plumbing rough-in at the center section of the building is close to complete. And rebar installation to start in the center section,” Butts wrote.

Since May 13, construction of this fourth, \$27.3 million barracks project have been in high gear by the contractor who was awarded the project in February. The exact contract amount for the project when it was awarded was \$27,287,735.

L.S. Black Constructors is a familiar name in the barracks construction history at Fort McCoy, having built the first two of the 60,000-square-foot transient training troops barracks on post. They also recently built the new brigade headquarters building located in the same block as the barracks buildings.

Throughout May and well into June a lot of work went into preparing the site for construction. Then going into July actual construction started. During August, footings and foundation walls were built. And by mid-September, they were ready to move upward in building construction, which again began Sept. 18 and continues now.

The contract duration is scheduled for completion in 780 calendar days, Army Corps of Engineer contract documents show.

“Current contract completion date is April 24, 2026,” Butts also wrote.

When complete, the building will be able to house up to 400 people. According to the scope of work, it’s going to be made of permanent construction with reinforced concrete foundations; concrete floor slabs; structural steel frames; steel stud infill; masonry veneer walls; prefinished standing seam metal roofing; heating, ventilation, and air conditioning capabilities; plumbing; mechanical systems; and electrical systems. Supporting facilities include land clearing, concrete sidewalk paving, general site improvements, and utility connections.

The building also is being built with the latest in construction materials and include state-of-the-art physical security and energy-saving measures, the statement of work shows.

In the backdrop of this project is the ongoing third barracks project — a \$28 million project that was awarded in June 2023 to BlindermanPower (Construction). That project is currently at 52 percent complete and continuing to be completed swiftly as well, Army Corps of Engineers officials said in early November.

All of this work continues with the master plan for the 1600 block that will include not only the four barracks but also three 20,000-square-foot brigade headquarters buildings — one of which is done — and two 160-room officer quarters, said Master Planner Brian Harrie with the Fort McCoy Directorate of Public Works.

Projects like this also play a part in supporting the economic impact to local economies around Fort McCoy. When looking back the last five years, Fort McCoy’s economic impact has continuously been \$1 billion or higher every year to local economies. In FY 2019 it was \$1.18 billion, all the way to FY 2023’s \$1.38 billion.

See more news about the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers by visiting <https://www.usace.army.mil/Media/News>.

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Storyteller highlights post's 2024 Native American Heritage Month observance



Michael Charette, also known as Laughing Fox, with the Red Cliff Band of Lake Superior Chippewa shares his people's history through story and music during his presentation for the 2024 Fort McCoy Native American Heritage Month observance Nov. 19 at Fort McCoy

STORY & PHOTOS BY SCOTT T. STURKOL
Public Affairs Staff

Michael Charette, also known as Laughing Fox, with the Red Cliff Band of Lake Superior Chippewa shared his people’s history through story and music during his presentation for the 2024 Fort McCoy Native American Heritage Month observance Nov. 19 at Fort McCoy.

Charette is a Native American storyteller and flutist. He also gave the presentation for this monthly observance at Fort McCoy in 2023.

During his presentation, Charette told stories and played music for the dozens in attendance.

“The last time I was here, I believe the staff sergeant had presented ... that indigenous folks started coming over here some 35,000 years ago,” Charette said. “We started across that land bridge. But when I say this to my elders back home, they very much tell us that ... that’s their story of how this place was populated. Because we, as indigenous people, have all of our own creation stories that were gifts from us by the creator and by

the spirits to help guide us along our path.

“And a lot of times they’ll even tell me that, you know, there are more tracks going the other way,” Charette said. “As they had found things like tobacco inside of Egyptian mummies, a new world crop ... wild rice as well, another new world crop. So, there’s a lot of questions out there, and it seems like the more of the facts come out, the more our history changes, the more that we look at it.

“When we look at some of those other places that are populated here in North America, I had just come back from visiting Maine, where I was working with Wampanoag people,” Charette said. “And we would visit a site out there that dated back 14,000 years ago. They gave me stone tools that I held in my hands that dated back 4,000 years ago. There’s a spot up here in Lake Superior ... and there’s a spot there that carbon dates back to 11,000 years ago. So people have always been living on the south shores of the Great Lakes ever since the melting of the last Ice Age. They

Thanksgiving meal held for service members, families at Fort McCoy



Fort McCoy Garrison Deputy Commander Lt. Col. Michael Corkum, Garrison Commander Col. Sheyla Baez, 181st Multi-Functional Training Brigade Commander Col. Charles Wells, and Company Commander Maj. Randy Downs with garrison Headquarters and Headquarters Company serve as celebrity servers during the installation Thanksgiving meal Nov. 6 in dining facility 1362 at Fort McCoy.

STORY & PHOTOS BY CLAUDIA NEVE
Public Affairs Staff

Fort McCoy celebrated its annual Thanksgiving meal on Nov. 6, welcoming over 200 Soldiers and civilians to enjoy a feast that combined tradition, camaraderie, and community at dining facility 1362 in the Fort McCoy Noncommissioned Officer Academy complex at Fort McCoy.

The event, a long-standing tradition at Fort McCoy, featured a Thanksgiving meal served by “celebrity” servers, including Gar-

ison Deputy Commander Lt. Col. Michael Corkum; Garrison Commander Col. Sheyla Baez; 181st Multi-Functional Training Brigade Commander Col. Charles Wells; and 1st Sgt. Thomas Ninkovich and Maj. Randy Downs, Headquarters and Headquarters Company, U.S. Army Garrison-Fort McCoy; in a dining facility filled with festive decorations. Contributions included colorful pictures and heartfelt notes created by Sparta preschool children and the children and grandchildren of dining facility staff.

(See MEAL, Page 2)

Fort McCoy holds November 2024 housing town hall meeting for installation residents

STORY & PHOTOS BY SCOTT T. STURKOL
Public Affairs Staff

Fort McCoy held a November privatized housing town hall meeting Nov. 13 at the installation in the community center in South Post Housing on post.

Dozens of residents participated along with members of the Fort McCoy Garrison leadership and installation housing staff as well as members of the housing partner agency Cadence Communities LLC.

The meeting first included comments by Fort McCoy Garrison Commander Col. Sheyla Baez. Baez mainly introduced the new housing manager from Candence — Isabella Larson.

“I think that ... when somebody understands the process, it’s a lot better, and it’s a lot easier to try to help families because she’s been through this,” Baez said about Larson having been a military family member. “You know, she did this as a child. She did it as an adult, and as a spouse. So she understands what ... our families go through every time that we PCS here. I think that she is a great asset to the organization. I think we are super happy to have (her) as part of the team.”

Larson also introduced herself.

“I have been in property management for 28 years,” Larson said. “I grew up military. My dad was a chaplain in the Army. And then I was married to the military for 22 years, where we were stationed over in Europe. So, I’m very excited to be back in the military family.

“So, anything you need, please come to my office at any point in time,” Larson said. “No appointments needed.”

Command Sgt. Maj. Thomas Calarco, garrison command sergeant major, also talked with the attendees, and Zachery (Zach) Hynes with the Fort McCoy Directorate of Public Works gave updates on housing subjects.

(See TOWN HALL, Page 2)



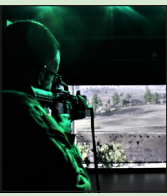
Command Sgt. Maj. Thomas Calarco, Fort McCoy Garrison command sergeant major, and Garrison Commander Col. Sheyla Baez-Ramirez speak to residents of South Post Housing on Nov. 13 at the community center in the housing area.

Inside
This
Edition:

First Army
leader
visits
Fort McCoy
Page 3



Engagement
Skills
Trainer
adds capability
Page 4



Remembering
76th Infantry's
departure
80 years later
Page 6



2024
gun-deer
season
preview
Page 9



NEWS



Zach Hines with the Fort McCoy Directorate of Public Works speaks to housing residents Nov. 13 during the town hall meeting for housing residents.

TOWN HALL

from Page 1

As a special briefing, Installation Safety Manager Ed De Leon held a winter safety presentation for meeting participants.

“We’ve already had one snowfall,” De Leon said. “We’ve been fortunate so far, but again just prepare yourselves.”

De Leon gave some examples on how to prepare your vehicle for winter.

“Let’s discuss your charging system,” De Leon said. “The cold really does dampen your vehicle. If you have one of those newer vehicles where you have that infotainment center, you have all these electronics, you have these high beam LED lights, all that will drain your battery and the cold will zap that up. Myself, about two years ago, I just changed out my battery, and I’m starting to feel that it’s starting to slow down a little bit.”

“Also check if oils and fluid levels are okay,” De Leon said. “I know some people will try to go to a thinner weight oil in the wintertime so that viscosity is a little bit thinner so it will be easier for start-up. Also use winter windshield washer fluid. This I can’t stress enough. That ... winter washer fluid ... it doesn’t freeze up inside your system.”

Leaders and housing officials also answered questions from residents. Most were for specific items about the housing itself, which the residents were seemingly satisfied with the answers.

Hines also fielded a question about whether or not Trees for Troops was taking place on post in 2024. He said Fort McCoy was not selected this year to receive donated Christmas trees because the organization didn’t receive enough support to expand its outreach to send trees to McCoy.

Cadence Communities LLC became the Fort McCoy housing partner agency in 2023. In an announcement Aug. 1, 2023, the Army stated Cadence would be the new partner for Fort McCoy housing on South Post. In the article at https://www.army.mil/article/268784/army_to_begin_new_privatized_housing_project_in_miami_area, it states Cadence Communities LLC is providing housing to service members who live in the high-cost, congested areas in the vicinity of U.S. Southern Command,

which is headquartered in Doral, Fla., near Miami, and they will also develop, operate and maintain existing military family housing at four other installations — including Fort McCoy, Rock Island Arsenal, Ill.; the Soldier Systems Center in Natick, Mass.; and Fort Hunter Liggett, Calif.

“Overall, 371 family housing units that are currently government-owned will be privatized,” the article states.

“The total Cadence Communities MHPI project across the seven installations will include 481 family housing units and 60 unaccompanied housing units upon completion of the initial development. Cadence Communities LLC will bring private-sector resources and market-based incentives to provide quality, affordable residential communities that are sustainable over time.”

According to the U.S. Government Accountability Office, in 1996, Congress provided the Department of Defense with authorities enabling it to obtain private-sector financing and management to repair, renovate, construct, and operate military housing. The DOD had since privatized about 99 percent of its domestic housing.

The housing in the South Post Housing area is relatively new, too. In the past two-plus decades, more than 150 new homes have been built in the area. Additionally, the residents have had some of the highest customer satisfaction ratings in the Army over the past several years.

Fort McCoy’s motto is to be the “Total Force Training Center.”

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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.

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MEAL

from Page 1

These creative efforts were displayed throughout the dining area, adding a warm and personal element that enhanced the holiday spirit.

“This was a wonderful touch to the holidays, having the children create special pictures directly for our Soldiers,” said Jim Gouker with the Fort McCoy Logistics Readiness Center Food Program Management Office.

DCT Incorporated, Fort McCoy’s food service provider, went above and beyond to make the event memorable.

“DCT Incorporated, specifically DCT’s Program Manager Karyl Habeck, and her staff, did an excellent job of providing a wonderful meal, great decorating, and a homey atmosphere. The staff even hand-decorated the cake that was on the dessert bar,” Gouker said.

In addition to the traditional Thanksgiving staples, the meal featured thoughtful touches such as sparkling grape juice on tables and beautifully arranged table settings, making it a special occasion for all attendees.

This annual Thanksgiving meal is part of a cherished tradition at Fort McCoy, Gouker said, dating back to the World War II era when Soldiers training for deployment overseas enjoyed similar celebrations. The event not only honors the holiday but also reinforces the bond among Fort McCoy community members.

As the tradition continues, the focus remains on fostering gratitude, unity, and joy during the holiday season — values that resonate deeply with both the military and civilian communities, Gouker said.

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Soldiers and civilians gather for the 2024 Thanksgiving meal Nov. 6, 2024, at dining facility 1362 at Fort McCoy.

‘BEHIND THE TRIAD’ WITH THE GARRISON COMMANDER

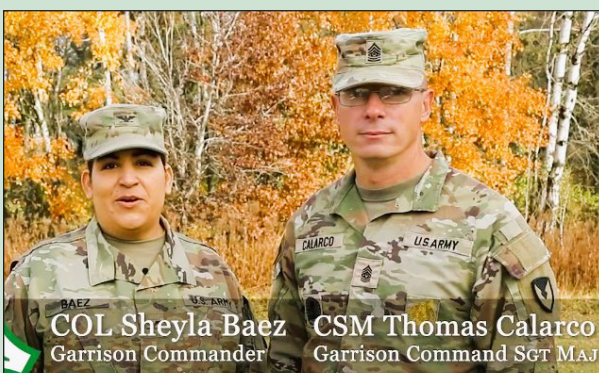
NOVEMBER
2024
UPDATE



Behind the Triad
Fort McCoy, WI.

“Behind the Triad” is an award-winning series of videos now hosted by Fort McCoy Garrison Commander Col. Sheyla Baez-Ramirez that highlights what’s happening around the installation. In this episode of Behind the Triad available at <https://www.dvidshub.net/video/942234/behind-triad-garrison-command-team-november-update> created by Claudia Neve with the Fort McCoy Public Affairs Office, the garrison commander gives a November 2024 update along with Command Sgt. Maj. Thomas Calarco.

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>, or at the Fort McCoy Public Affairs Office DVIDS page at <https://www.dvidshub.net/unit/FMPAQ>.



COL Sheyla Baez
Garrison Commander

CSM Thomas Calarco
Garrison Command Sgt. Maj.



Fort McCoy, WI

First Army leader visits Fort McCoy for ‘terrain walk’ of capabilities

STORY & PHOTO BY SCOTT T. STURKOL
Public Affairs Staff

Maj. Gen. Timothy Brennan, Deputy Commanding General — Support for First Army at Rock Island Arsenal, Ill., visited Fort McCoy on Nov. 12-14 to learn more about the installation.

According to planners for the visit with the 181st Multi-Functional Training Brigade, the main purpose of the visit, which was alternately named a “terrain walk,” was to inform the major general “on Fort McCoy’s large-scale mobilization operations sustainment capabilities and shortfalls through 2030.”

Brennan’s main day of activity on post was Nov. 13, where he had a full day of visiting sites, meeting with installation personnel, and much more.

His day on Nov. 13 started out at building 2000 with a teleconference meeting and then a sustainment overview brief with a full conference area of Soldiers and personnel from the installation. This briefing lasted 90 minutes and gave the leader a detailed overall look at capabilities at Fort McCoy.

Joining Brennan at the overview briefing were Fort McCoy Garrison Commander Col. Sheyla Baez-Ramirez, 181st MFTB Commander Col. Charles Wells, Fort McCoy Deputy Commander Lt. Col. Mike Corkum, and many other unit leaders and directorate personnel from Fort McCoy.

Following the overview briefing, Brennan then went to visit several areas and training venues on post. This included visiting the installation rail areas.

As one of the few installations to have Army locomotives a part of regular transportation operations, that also means Fort McCoy has to have the right people in place oversee the rail operations when those locomotives are in use.

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

Installation Transportation Officer Douglas “Terry” Altman said in a past news article that the Army locomotives used at Fort McCoy are an important part of the post’s transportation operations.

“These (locomotives) support our MFGI (Mobilization Force Generation Installation) mission,” Altman said. “(For example), anytime the Army has to deploy engineers, transportation companies, and large equipment, we’re here to support that mission with rail.”

Brennan then visited the Regional Training Site (RTS)-Medical complex. Fort McCoy’s RTS-Medical is active year-round completing training. The facility also supports major exercises on post to include Global Medic and the Combat Support Training Exercise.

Brennan’s visit also brought him to the Fort McCoy Central Issue Facility (CIF), which is one of the busiest in the Army Reserve.

The Fort McCoy CIF is one of several organizations on Fort McCoy that provides direct support to troops, and in fiscal year (FY) 2024 the facility had a “great year” supporting those troops, said the facility’s Property Book Officer Thomas Lovgren.

“This ... CIF is a newer one that was built ... at a cost of approximately \$9 million, and it’s 62,548



Maj. Gen. Timothy Brennan, Deputy Commanding General — Support for First Army at Rock Island Arsenal, Ill., and others participate in a sustainment overview briefing Nov. 13 in building 2000 at Fort McCoy.

square feet,” Lovgren said in a previous news article. “We typically do about between \$30 and \$40 million worth of CIF transactions annually, which equates to about 400,000 to 500,000 pieces of equipment being issued out and turned in each year.”

During FY 2024, Lovgren said the CIF completed 19,212 transactions, which was \$37.07 million worth of transactions. “Through the work completed in this facility, we also had a transportation cost avoidance savings of \$438,725,” Lovgren said.

After his CIF visit, Brennan stopped at one of Fort McCoy’s newest facilities located at the Fort McCoy Noncommissioned Officer Academy complex in building 1362. The facility is managed by the Fort McCoy food-service team, which also recently had a busy year in FY 2024.

During fiscal year 2024, nearly 74,000 troops trained at Fort McCoy in a variety of venues, and through that whole year the Fort McCoy food-ser-

vice team was there making sure those troops had all the food supplies they needed.

“The installation’s food-service team always makes sure those needs are met,” said Jim Gouker with the Fort McCoy Logistics Readiness Center (LRC) Food Program Management Office (FPMO).

The FPMO and the LRC Subsistence Supply Management Office (SSMO); the full food-service contractor DCT Inc.; and food suppliers, such as Sysco Foods of Baraboo, Wis., make up the Fort McCoy food-service team.

For food service in FY 2024, excluding three major exercises, the SSMO supported training with Class I in the following quantities: Meals, Ready-to-Eat (MREs), 8,684 meals; Kosher meals, 38; Halal meals, 118; Sun Meadow meals, 6,580; Unitized Group Rations (UGRs), 1,450 cases; UHT milk, 2,506 cases; bagged ice, 1,238 bags; and additional enhancements such as cereal, fresh fruit, salad mix,

and salad dressings.

After his dining facility stop, Brennan then visited Fort McCoy’s Soldier readiness processing area, and then saw the Fort McCoy Mission Command Configuration Center. The rest of the visit, Brennan stopped at the Equipment Concentration Site-67 area, the Installation Materiel Maintenance Activity, and some of the new barracks buildings at Fort McCoy. Brennan also went to Volk Field for a special visit as well.

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HERITAGE

from Page 1

found footprints in New Mexico, carbon dating back some 20,000 years ago. They found Lake Superior copper in Mexico, carbon dating back 5,000 years ago.”

Charette’s home, the Red Cliff Reservation, “hugs the northeastern shoreline of the Bayfield Peninsula, nestled between Cornucopia and Bayfield (Wis.) overlooking the Apostle Islands in northern Wisconsin,” states the tribe’s website at <https://www.redcliff-nsn.gov>.

The Red Cliff tribal website also describes more detail about Charette’s culture, which is likely contributes to his artistic presentation.

“Cultural expression in the arts has always been alive at Red Cliff, and today it is experiencing a strong resurgence of interest as the next generation adds new ideas to the old,” the website states. “Whether in the traditional customs of hunting and fishing, gardening and wild food gathering, or in creative talents like manufacturing clothing and jewelry, or drawing and painting, writing, story-telling, poetry, and of course, song and dance — all these cultural talents provide a colorful window open to community life.”

The site also states, “Ojibwe culture is a woodland culture, and this is reflected in the peoples’ artistic endeavors. They celebrate the world around them — their land, waters, forests, heavens, and the life within. The richness of this celebration comes out through their artistic expression.”

Charette’s performance lasted nearly an hour, and he was dressed in his native clothing to enhance the performance. He played several original songs on several styles of flutes and sang as well.

Charette said he was glad to return to Fort McCoy and perform once again.

“I could go on about how many of my family members have served (in the military), and some of them no longer with us, but their sacrifices are definitely felt towards our community,” Charette said. “So, to you out there today, I just want to say ‘chi-miigwetch’ for all your service, and all of your hard work that you do out there. And ‘chi-miigwetch’ for inviting me here, and so that we can have some cultural sharing.”

Charette also mentioned the history of America.

“When we look at even how the country was founded, we can see that our founding fathers very much took some of the Iroquois Confederacy government system,” Charette said. “And the Iroquois Confederacy was five different tribes coming together. And they all had different ways of living, different languages.

“But they were able to take all the implements of war, and they buried it,” Charette said. “That’s where that term comes from, burying the hatchet. But our founding fathers, they would look at this governing system, and they would wonder if they could have something different than the British, something different than the French. And they would look at the indigenous people and how they governed themselves. And some would say that this would give birth to democracy, in that sense.

“So, when we think about our indigenous people, and we think about Native American heritage, we have to think about those gifts that our indigenous relatives have given ... to the world,” Charette said.

Upon completing his presentation, Charette was presented with a special gift from Fort McCoy Garrison leadership. Then Charette joined a number of attendees for a food sharing time in building 905 where stews and fry bread were shared thanks to the Fort McCoy Religious Support Office.

The Defense Equal Opportunity Management Institute (DEOMI) at Patrick Space Force Base, Fla., stated in a news release in early November that the 2024 Department of Defense (DOD) theme for Native American Heritage Month/American Indian Heritage Month is “Affirming Native Voices: Visibility-Leadership-Service.”

“The theme encapsulates three key values — visibility, leadership, and service — that are not only integral to the observance but also to the DOD and its mission,” the news release states. “Visibility is a testament to our commitment to recognizing and appreciating the diverse backgrounds and experiences that strengthen not only our workforce, but the communities we serve. It is through this visibility that we honor the rich history, traditions, and contributions of all Native American people. Leadership is a cornerstone of our defense community. The theme underscores the importance of Native Ameri-



(Above and below) Michael Charette, also known as Laughing Fox, with the Red Cliff Band of Lake Superior Chippewa shares his people’s history through story and music during his presentation for the 2024 Fort McCoy Native American Heritage Month observance Nov. 19 at Fort McCoy.



can leaders, both past and present, whose resilience and wisdom have paved the way for future generations. Their leadership serves as an inspiration for our DOD workforce. Service is at the heart of our mission. The countless Native Americans who have served and continue to serve in our military demonstrate a profound commitment to duty and country. Their service is a powerful reminder of the selfless sacrifices made for the greater good. Throughout November, we encourage you to learn more about the rich heritage of Native Americans, and to recognize their significant contributions to our Nation

and our mission.”

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NEWS

Fort McCoy officials take part in Workforce Collaborative Meeting

STORY & PHOTOS BY SCOTT T. STURKOL
Public Affairs Staff

Leaders with Fort McCoy Garrison and installation agencies met Nov. 15, 2024, with community leaders and workforce professionals in Sparta, Wis., during the Fort McCoy Workforce Collaborative Meeting.

The meeting brought together people who are working to improve employment opportunities in the region, including at Fort McCoy.

Officials at the meeting noted the collaboration is helpful in filling jobs at Fort McCoy, and also helps people like military family members learn about opportunities for employment.

Community outreach is an important part of the Army mission. According to the Army, as stated at <https://www.army.mil/outreach>, “the Army is about more than ensuring our national security at home and abroad, it’s about giving back and getting to know the communities that support us.”

It’s also possibly important for community leaders to see the installation that provides a significant economic impact to their communities. Fort McCoy’s total economic impact for fiscal year (FY) 2023 was an estimated \$1.38 billion, Fort McCoy Garrison officials announced earlier in 2024. Approximately 69 percent of the Fort McCoy workforce also lives within Monroe County. The total FY 2023 workforce payroll for civilian and military personnel was \$190.5 million.

FY 2023 operating costs of \$346 million included utilities, physical plant maintenance, repair and improvements, new construction projects, purchases of supplies and services, as well as salaries for civilian contract personnel working at Fort McCoy. Much of that includes supporting local communities as well, officials said.

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Fort McCoy’s Engagement Skills Trainer one of many simulations capabilities enabling enhanced training at Fort McCoy

BY SCOTT T. STURKOL
Public Affairs Staff

Fort McCoy’s Engagement Skills Trainer in the Fort McCoy Simulations Training Complex in the 200 block of the installation, which is part of the Fort McCoy Directorate of Plans, Training, Mobilization and Security (DPTMS), is one of many simulations areas at the installation that offers training service members a multitude of training capabilities, said Training Support Officer Rob Weisbrod with DPTMS.

Simulations training is a large part of operations during exercises at Fort McCoy, Weisbrod said, and the EST is one that is utilized significantly by troops at Fort McCoy, especially Army Reserve and National Guard Soldiers.

Every year, more than 11,000 Soldiers complete marksmanship training on the simulations training platform at Fort McCoy, and it’s only growing, Weisbrod said in a previous news article.

“Soldiers are required to complete training on the Engagement Skills Trainer before actually going out to the range to complete their qualifications there, so this training facility is one of our busiest,” Weisbrod said. “The system is realistic, and it allows Soldiers that opportunity to hone their marksmanship skills.”

The U.S. Army Acquisition Support Center’s description of an Engagement Skills Trainer, available at <https://asc.army.mil/web/portfolio-item/engagement-skills-trainer-est>, states the many capabilities of the system.

“The Engagement Skills Trainer (EST) II is designed to simulate live-weapon training events that directly support individual and crew-served weapons qualification, including individual marksmanship, small unit collective and judgmental escalation-of-force exercises in a controlled environment,” the description states. “It provides detailed feedback to the individual fire team/squad that covers the fundamentals of marksmanship, fire control, and distribution of fires. The EST II simulator provides enhanced diagnostics with intelligent Automatic Coaching and Virtual Battle Space 3 based collective training enabled by the system’s open architecture.

“The EST II provides an impressive array of functionality for both instructor and trainee — sol-



A Fort McCoy Garrison Soldier completes a training scenario on the Engagement Skills Trainer II simulator March 15 at Fort McCoy.

id weapon handling and shot placement analytics, coaching tools that highlight trainee results in real-time for reinforcement of correction, and en-

hanced graphic capabilities for an immersive training platform,” the description states.

And as a benefit to the warfighter, the center’s

description further states, “EST II simulates weapons training events that lead to live-fire qualifications for individual or crew-served weapons. EST II provides weapons training in a controlled environment that reduces range/live-fire fees and provides the Soldier with more trigger time. Units utilize EST II to improve and excel at marksmanship skills, which improve performance during live-fire training and on the battlefield.”

Simulations training is also a large part of a regular training regimen for Soldiers stationed at Fort McCoy. As recently as March 2024, Fort McCoy Garrison Soldiers held monthly training at the EST to improve marksmanship skills. The Soldiers practiced both pistol and rifle challenges on the EST that helped sharpen their skills for the live ranges later on.

Simulations training overall have improved a lot in the last 10 years on post, Weisbrod said, especially with six new simulations buildings built in the 200 block since 2020.

Weisbrod said in a past news article that the new buildings helped the garrison co-locate all installation simulators together to “provide a one-stop service for units conducting training on post.” Additionally, he said, it allows Fort McCoy to fully support a “live-virtual-constructive integrated training environment.”

Garrison Soldiers also said their March training on the EST was some of the most beneficial training they’ve had because of what the EST provides.

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 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. Fort McCoy is also part of Army’s Installation Management Command where “We Are The Army’s Home.”

Pine View Campground closing for 2024 on Dec. 1; cabins will remain available

STORY & PHOTO BY SCOTT T. STURKOL
Public Affairs Staff

The majority of Pine View Campground in Pine View Recreation Area at Fort McCoy will close Dec. 1, said officials with the Directorate of Family and Morale, Welfare and Recreation (DFMWR).

Recreation Specialist and Facility Manager Alex Karis said campsites will not be available between Dec. 1 and April 30, 2025.

Every year, come Dec 1, the campsites are closed for the winter,” Karis said.

“We do this to prevent issues with the water hydrants and limit the amount of snow removal needed.

“Cabins are still open and available during the winter months,” Karis said. “Campsites will open back up on May 1, 2025.”

Cabins at Pine View Campground range from one bedroom with loft (park model type) to two-bedroom units.

The Pine View Campground office and the Fort McCoy Equipment Check-out will also remain open, Karis said.

“The office will be manned as we’ll have cabin guests, and they’ll handle reservations for camping in spring/summer. Equipment check-out will be available, but business volume in that area is very low in the winter.”

Following are the cabin rental rates at Pine View Campground:

- duplexes — military or Department of Defense (DOD) employee rate, \$100 Sunday-Thursday, \$115 Friday-Saturday; general public, \$110, Sunday-Thursday, \$135 Friday-Saturday.

- lakeside two-bedroom cabins — military or DOD employee rate, \$115 Sunday-Thursday and \$130 Friday-Saturday; general public, \$140 Sunday-Thursday and \$155 Friday-Saturday.

- loft log cabin — military or DOD employee rate, \$85 Sunday-Thursday, \$100 Friday-Saturday; general public, \$105 Sunday-Thursday, \$120 Friday-Saturday.

- east side two-bedroom cabins — military or DOD employee rate, \$130 Sunday-Thursday and \$145 Friday-Saturday; general public, \$155 Sunday-Thursday and \$170 Friday-Saturday.

Get additional information about cabin rates by stopping by the campground office or calling the office at 608-388-3517.



Cabins available for rent are shown at Pine View Campground at Fort McCoy.

People can also find out more about DFMWR at Fort McCoy by visiting <https://mccoy.armymwr.com> or by going on Facebook to <https://www.facebook.com/mccoymwr>.

Learn more about Fort McCoy online at <https://home.army.mil/mccoy>, on DVIDS at <https://www.dvidshub.net/unit/FMPAO>, on Facebook by searching “ftmccoy,” on Flickr at <https://www.flickr.com/photos/fortmccoywi>, and on X (formerly Twitter) by searching “usagmccoy.”

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NEWS

Recent Fort McCoy NCO Academy Honor Graduates

Basic Leader Course Class 001-25
Distinguished Honor Graduate



Cpl. Kolton Juusola

Basic Leader Course Class 001-25
Honor Graduate



Sgt. Emily Hammer

Battle Staff Noncommissioned Officer Course
Class 001-25, Distinguished Honor Graduate



Sgt. 1st Class Michael Hernandez

Battle Staff Noncommissioned Officer
Course Class 001-25, Honor Graduate



Sgt. 1st Class Trenten Boback

Congratulations also to the other outstanding Soldiers of Basic Leader Course Class 001-25 on these other achievements: Sgt. Noah Barnes with the Commandant's Writing Award; Sgt. Justin McCurdy Distinguished Leadership Award; Spc. Katiana Konkko, 552 on Combat Fitness Test; and Sgt. Adam Kriener, 552 on Combat Fitness Test.

Installation safety manager offers winter safety tips

BY SCOTT T. STURKOL
Public Affairs Staff

As part of a housing town hall meeting for residents of South Post Housing at Fort McCoy, Installation Safety Manager Ed De Leon took the opportunity to give event-goers a chance to learn more about winter safety.

De Leon went through a series of slides to discuss a variety of subjects that affect people during winter. One of the main subjects included winter vehicle preparedness and safety.

"We already had one snowfall," De Leon said. "We've been fortunate so far, but again just prepare yourselves. When preparing your vehicle for winter, remember to take care of your charging system. The cold really does dampen your vehicle."

"If you have one of those newer vehicles where you have that infotainment center, you have all these electronics, you have these high beam LED lights, all that will drain your battery, and the cold will zap that up" De Leon said. "Myself, about two years ago, I just changed out my battery, and I'm starting to feel that it's starting to slow down a little bit."

De Leon also addressed how it's important for people to make sure vehicles have fluids filled with the right things during winter.

"Check those oil and fluid levels," De Leon said. "I know some people will try to go to a thinner weight oil in the wintertime so that viscosity is a little bit thinner, so it will be easier for startup. Also remember winter washer fluid. This I can't stress enough. The winter washer fluid ... doesn't freeze up inside your system if you have it accessible."

De Leon encourage people to have a vehicle kit for winter in their autos for the cold weather too.

"Get your vehicle kit together," he said. "You know what you want to get. Sometimes you can just look at a kit that's out there and think, well, maybe I want to build my own kit or you just want to buy that kit and pick it apart. Whatever you think you need, get it now before you actually need it."

In another area, De Leon stressed safety with ladders while decorating for Christmas.

"Remember when you're going up high to hang up your decorations, the majority of the falls occur below 4 feet," De Leon said. "You don't have to be very high to get injured."

"About 160 decorations are used each holiday season, and falls account for about 40 percent of those," De Leon said.

De Leon highlighted driving safety as well. "Traffic accidents are three times higher during this time of year," De Leon said. "And, of course, at night it tends to be a little bit higher. And talk about the drunk drivers, it's not always you, it could be somebody else that could be impacting your holiday festivities. Thanksgiving, Christmas, New Year's are the highest of all of the traffic accidents seasons."

De Leon also mentioned people need to be aware of fire safety during the holidays.

"Holiday home fires ... are at higher prevalence ... during this time of year," De Leon said. "If you have candles, always make sure you keep a good eye on them. My wife has candles all the time, so I make sure I put them out at night before I go to bed."

"Real Christmas trees versus artificial trees ... are at a higher chance of catching on fire," De Leon said. "And, on average, 40 home fires per day during the holidays are caused by children's play. It either comes from either candles, oil, or other things. Again, just be cognizant of those things."

These and even more winter safety tips are available at the Army Safety webpage at <https://safety.army.mil>.

To hear more from the Fort McCoy Installation Safety Office, stop by their office in building 1678 or call 502-898-3403.

Fort McCoy's motto is to be the "Total Force Training Center."

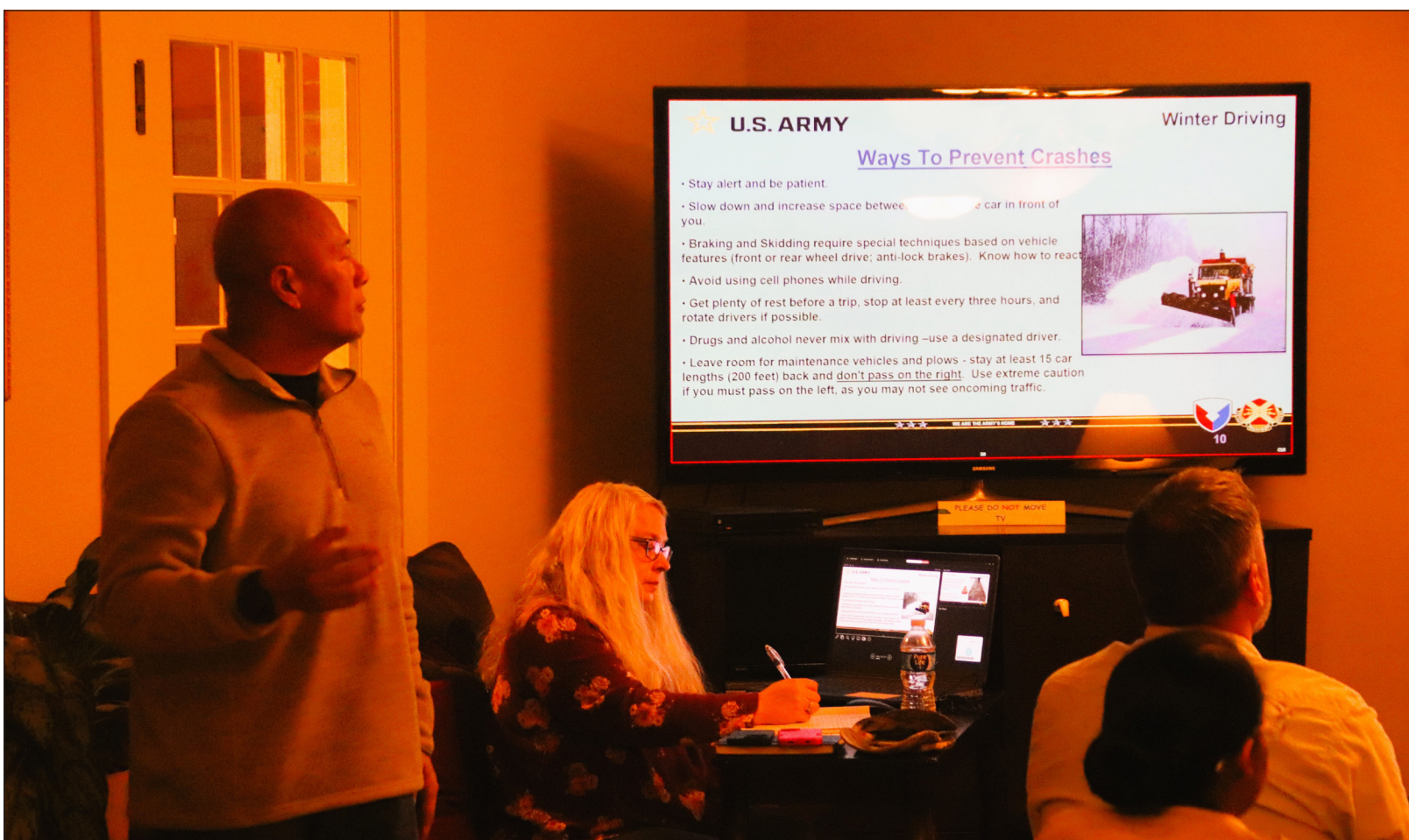
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Photos by Scott T. Sturkol

(Above and lower left) Installation Safety Manager Ed De Leon with the Installation Safety Office speaks to residents of South Post Housing on Nov. 13 at the community center in the housing area at Fort McCoy.

WINTER DRIVING- PREP

Prepare Your Car to Give Winter Mishaps the Cold Shoulder

- Test your battery.
- Check the engine cooling system.
- Have winter tires with a deeper, more flexible tread put on your car.
- If using all-season tires, check the tread and replace if less than 2/32 of an inch.
- Check the tire pressure – tire pressure drops as the temperature drops.
- Check your wiper blades.
- Add wiper fluid rated for -30 degrees.
- Keep your gas tank at least half full to avoid the gas line freezing up.

KEEP YOUR CAR'S EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS KIT FULLY STOCKED, TOO!

WINTER SAFETY: BE AWARE, PREPARE, TAKE CARE!

<https://safety.army.mil>

U.S. ARMY

CHECK OUT THE USACRC ON SOCIAL MEDIA

Facebook, X, Instagram, YouTube icons



FIRE SAFETY

HOME FIRES HAPPEN MORE DURING THE WINTER THAN IN ANY OTHER SEASON.

- Keep anything that can burn at least 3 feet away from heat sources.
- Never leave heat sources unattended.
- Never plug heaters into an extension cord.
- Plug only one heat-producing appliance into an electrical outlet at a time.
- Don't overload power strips – use power strips that have internal overload protection.
- Keep portable generators outside, away from windows and as far away as possible from your house.
- Have a qualified professional clean and inspect your chimney, vents and heat sources annually.
- Never leave burning candles unattended.

WINTER SAFETY: BE AWARE, PREPARE, TAKE CARE!

HISTORY

80 years ago, 76th Infantry troops leave McCoy for Europe

BY SCOTT T. STURKOL

Public Affairs Staff

In October 2022, dozens of Fort McCoy community members took time to help celebrate the 102nd birthday of retired Army Lt. Col. Harry Baker — a World War II veteran who served with C Battery, 302nd Field Artillery Battalion, 76th Infantry Division at then-Camp McCoy in 1943-44.

Baker trained at McCoy and deployed from the post with his battery of 500 men in November 1944.

Looking at the history of the 76th, according to <https://military-history.fandom.com>, the division was a unit of the Army “in World War I, World War II, and the Cold War.

“The division was deactivated in 1996 and has been reconstituted as the 76th U.S. Army Reserve Operational Response Command in 2013.”

History shows the division began training for war at Camp McCoy in September 1943 where the unit focused on winter training.

This training focused on the use of skis, snowshoes, toboggans, snow tractors, snow goggles, winter camouflage suits, Eskimo parkas, and more.

Written in a training notebook by Staff Sgt. Melvin Wagner with Company B, 417th Infantry Regiment, 76th Infantry Division, while training at Camp McCoy for that winter training, he made an important note.

“The colder it gets, the more a man thinks to himself — to hell with his equipment,” Wagner wrote in the composition book donated to the Fort McCoy History Center. “It is the responsibility of NCOs to check men constantly.”

Wagner’s training notes also covered everything from diagrams of skis and snowshoes as well as conduct of how to properly teach winter skills.

As a noncommissioned officer, it was likely he was teaching other Soldiers the same skills he had learned.

The history of the 76th also shows that while operating from Camp McCoy, an “advanced training group moved in November 1943 to Northern Michigan (the Upper Peninsula) to near Watersmeet.”

While near Watersmeet, winter training experts from the Mounting Training Center at Camp Hale, Colo., gave a special training program, and the additional winter training began in the Ottawa National Forest near Watersmeet. Watersmeet is approximately 210 miles north of Fort McCoy — just across the Michigan-Wisconsin border.

A training schedule that was issued by the 76th Infantry Division Winter Training Detachment for the week of Nov. 22-28, 1943, for the “Watersmeet Area, Michigan” from the 76th leadership, Maj. Eric. E. Wikner, at Camp McCoy.

The schedule includes “character of training” subjects in multi-hour blocks throughout the days such as “critique on shelters and bivouacs, winter first aid, security of small units, stream crossings, infiltration at night on snowshoes, sniping and range estimation, dummy positions and trails in snow, infiltration and ambush small units,” and “conditioning exercises and close-order drill.”

Soldiers with the 76th trained in Michigan until March 1944 while others continued training throughout at Camp McCoy.

Baker, who was a second lieutenant at that time at Camp McCoy, recalled his battery of Soldiers completing their wide variety of training.

“We did our work with our guns on the south ranges there,” Baker said. “Then there was a lot of familiarizing with trucks, ... and a lot of road marching ... and we did things to get (artillery) guns oriented.”

In June 1944, the 76th Infantry Division celebrated its second anniversary of reactivation at Camp McCoy with a special edition of The Real McCoy newspaper on June 17, 1944 — just 10 days after D-Day and the landing at Normandy. In that edition the 76th’s Commanding General, Maj. Gen. William R. Schmidt, sent a message to the division’s troops.

“The final phase of the battle is at hand,” Schmidt’s message states. “The tremendous power of the Allied Nations is now being unleashed in all its fury. The liberation of France has begun.

“The Allies are driving hard up the Italian boot. ... Victory will come to Allies but it will not be an easy one. It will come only when the full might of our arms defeat the enemy on his own battle-ground. ...What the future holds for this division no man knows. ...Time is short and there is much to be done.”

By November 1944, trains headed from Camp McCoy to Camp Myles Standish in Massachusetts for staging before transport to Europe, the history shows. On Thanksgiving Day 1944, three transports sailed from the Boston port of embarkation to Europe.

Baker said he remembers when they left.

“We got on a train and went through Milwaukee all the way to Miles Standish,” Baker said. “When we went to sea we went on a Liberty ship. I was disappointed though. I had fallen asleep when the ship left, and I didn’t get to see my country as we went to leave. We were already at sea.”

Baker said they sailed south toward Florida, caught an armed convoy with destroyers, and then headed towards Europe where they arrived safely.

The history states “the 76th Infantry Division arrived in England” on Dec. 20, 1944, “where it received additional training. It landed at Le Havre, France, on Jan. 12, 1945, and proceeded to the Limesy concentration area. The division moved to Beine east of Reims and then to Champlon, Belgium, Jan. 23, to prepare for combat.

“Relieving the 87th Division in defensive positions along the Sauer and Moselle Rivers in the vicinity of Echternach, Luxembourg, Jan. 25, the 76th sent out patrols and crossed the Sauer, Feb. 7, and breached the Siegfried Line in a heavy assault,” the history states.

“The advance continued across the Prum and Nims Rivers, Feb. 25–27. Katzenkopf fortress and Irrel fell on Feb. 28, and the attack pushed on toward Trier, reaching the Moselle, March 3.

“Driving across the Kyll River, the division took Hosten, March 3, Speicher on March 5, and Karl on March 10; swung south and cleared the area north of the Moselle, crossing the river, March 18, near Mülheim an der Mosel. Moving to the Rhine, the 76th took over defenses from Boppard to St. Goar and crossed the Rhine at Boppard, March 27,” the history further states.

“It drove east and took Kamberg in a house-to-house struggle, March 29. A new attack was launched April 4, and the Werra River was reached the next day.

“The attack continued in conjunction with the 6th Armored Division; Langensalza fell, and the Gera River was crossed, April 11. Zeitz was captured after a violent struggle, April 14–15, and the 76th reached the Mulde River on April 16, going



Soldiers with the 76th Infantry Division board a train at Camp McCoy, Wis., in November 1944 after months of training at McCoy. The troops begin their deployment to Europe to fight on the front lines of World War II.

Army historical photos



Soldiers, including some possibly with the 76th Infantry Division, eat in a mess hall (dining facility) at Camp McCoy, Wis., in November 1943. The 76th trained at McCoy for nearly a year before deploying to Europe for World War II front-line fighting.



Soldiers with the 76th Infantry Division complete winter training on an obstacle course in November 1943 at Camp McCoy, Wis. Division Soldiers trained at McCoy for nearly a year before deploying to Europe in November 1944.



Soldiers with Battery C, 302nd Field Artillery Battalion, 76th Infantry Division, are shown in 1944 at then-Camp McCoy, Wis. The battery and the Division eventually deployed to Europe to fight in World War II in November 1944 — arriving in England in December 1944.

into defensive positions to hold a bridgehead across the Mulde near Chemnitz until Victory in Europe Day in 1945.”

Baker obviously survived the war and retired from the Army Reserve in 1980.

In September 1992, more than 600 people asso-

ciated with the 76th held a reunion at Fort McCoy to recall their time at the post 50 years later as well.

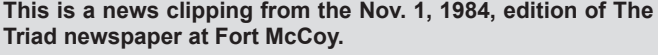
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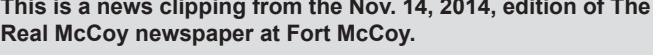
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THIS MONTH IN FORT MCCOY HISTORY

During the seven days of joint training, Air Force personnel test-



In 2013, work was completed on several barrier removal and stream improvement projects along Ash Run and Tarr Creek in the Fort McCoy cantonment area, said Fort McCoy Fisheries Biologist John Noble of the Directorate of Public Works Natural Resources Branch (NRB). This year, work has been done along Squaw Creek near Pine View Campground and along Stillwell Creek on South Post.



NEWS NOTES/FACILITIES

PIZZA, POPPINS AND

\$45

EACH FRIDAY 2:00-6:00 PM

502-898-2065 @FortMcCoyMWR

INCLUDES:
1 HOUR OF BOWLING FOR UP TO 4 PLAYERS, ANY 2-TOPPING PIZZA & 16oz SOFT DRINK

DJ TRIVIA

WED NIGHTS 6-8 PM

FREE TO PLAY!
PRIZES AWARDED WEEKLY TO THE TOP 3 TEAMS!

GET YOUR TEAM TOGETHER & JOIN US FOR SOME TRIVIA FUN!

MCCOY'S COMMUNITY CENTER

FOR MORE INFO CALL 502.898.2065
NO REGISTRATION REQUIRED | OPEN TO ALL FORT MCCOY SOLDIERS, FAMILIES & CIVILIANS

@FortMcCoyMWR

SKI & SNOWBOARD LESSONS

Does your child want to learn to ski or snowboard?
Lessons will be taught by trained instructors at the Whitetail Ridge Ski Area. Parents or Guardians are responsible for providing transportation to and from lessons.

Thursdays from Jan 9 - Mar 6, 2025

Beginners: 4:30 - 5:30 PM
Advanced: 6:30 - 7:30 PM

Grades: 1st - 12th
Location: Whitetail Ridge

Cost: \$130 | \$100
With equipment rental. Must bring your own.

TO REGISTER FOR LESSONS CALL 502.898.8956
Youth must be registered with Child and Youth Services prior to enrolling in lessons. Call 502-898-8956 to register with CYSL. Registration ends Dec 30, 2024. Space is limited to 10 children per class so sign up today! Payment due at the time of registration and is non-refundable.

SEASON PASSES

EARLY BIRD SPECIALS
Offer runs Dec 2-6, 2024 | Passes are not transferable.

MILITARY/DOD \$150 REGULAR PRICE \$200	GENERAL PUBLIC \$250 REGULAR PRICE \$300
ADDITIONAL FAMILY MEMBER \$75 REGULAR PRICE \$100	ADDITIONAL FAMILY MEMBER \$125 REGULAR PRICE \$150

502-898-3517 @FortMcCoyMWR

ACS BUILDING BONDS WORKSHOP

DECORATE A PALLET TREE

Spending Time Together as a Family Builds Family resilience!

Create Family memories as you make your own yard decoration to display for the holidays!

Single and geographical bachelors welcome!

- All materials and instruction supplied
- One tree per family
- Class size is limited
- Children must be accompanied by an adult

2024 DATES
Nov 19, Dec 3, 12 or 17 | 4:00 - 6:30 pm
ACS Building Bonds Workshop | B1133

To Register, please call ACS at 502-898-3505
Must be registered one week prior to the class

ACS events are open to Military, Retirees, Civilian workforce, Family Members and registered Fort McCoy Volunteers, unless otherwise stated. For information on upcoming training opportunities through ACS, please go to <http://mccoymilitarymccoy.com> and click on Calendar.

U.S. ARMY

ID Card Section in 2187

Effective since April 12, the Fort McCoy Personnel Services Branch moved from building 35 to building 2187. Appointments are required for the ID section.

Call 502-898-4563 to verify the ID Section is operational, as well as to verify which documents will be required to get an ID card or make any changes to DEERS.

Next issue of The Real McCoy

The next edition of The Real McCoy will be published Dec. 13, 2024. The deadline for submissions or article ideas is Dec. 4, 2024.

If your unit is at Fort McCoy for training, you have some award-winning people, or if you have something newsworthy, please pass it along to the newspaper staff. For more information, call 502-898-4128.

Breakfast with SANTA

Enjoy a delicious complimentary buffet breakfast with Santa Claus & a movie screening of "The Grinch"

DECEMBER 7, 2024 | 8-11AM

MCCOY'S COMMUNITY CENTER

8:00-9:30AM | 9:30-11:00AM
Breakfast with Santa | Movie screening of "The Grinch"

502.898.2065 @FortMcCoyMWR

Bowling League

Tuesday Nights at McCoy's!

NOV 26 6 pm



2024-25 FORT MCCOY GUIDE NOW AVAILABLE: The 2024-25 Fort McCoy Guide is now available throughout the installation in news stands and at the Fort McCoy Public Affairs Office. Call 502-898-2407 for extra copies. Also go online to <https://www.dvidshub.net/publication/issues/71107> to see the online version.

Dining Facilities
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 dining facilities.
- DOD civilians working on Fort McCoy and retired military personnel may use dining facilities when MWR facilities are not open.
- Units must coordinate through the Food Program Management Office at 502-898-6518/4739.

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 - \$4.35
Lunch - \$7.00
Dinner: \$6.05

Other Dining

McCoy's Community Center: Building 1571. Catering/administration, call 608-388-2065. Building 1571. Open 11 a.m.-10 p.m. Mon.-Fri. and 4-10 p.m. Sat. Call 502-898-7060.

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 502-898-4343.

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 502-898-3517.

Recreation

Automotive Skills Center: Building 1763. Open 1-9 p.m. Thur.-Fri. and 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Sat.-Sun. Call 502-898-3013.

Better Opportunities for Single Soldiers (BOSS): Call 502-898-3200.

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 502-898-7060.

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 502-898-3011.

Pine View Campground/Recreational Equipment Checkout Center: Campground opens May 1. Building 8053. Call 502-898-2619/3517.

Recreation Accommodations: Open 11 a.m.-4 p.m. Tues.-Fri. Mon. by appointment only. Call 502-898-2029.

Rumpel Fitness Center: Building 1122. Open 5 a.m.-8 p.m. Mon.-Fri. and 6 a.m.-2 p.m. Sat.-Sun. 24/7 access available. Call 502-898-2290. Use designated parking areas.

Sportsman's Range: Closed for the season. Call 502-898-9162 for information.

Tactics Paintball/Laser Tag: By appointment only; 2-day notice required. Call 502-898-3517.

Whitetail Ridge Ski Area: Closed for Season. Call 502-898-4498 or 502-898-3517 for more information.

Services

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

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

Car Wash: Building 1568. Offers self-service and automatic bays and vacuums. Open 24/7.

May close during extremely cold weather. Accepts cash or credit cards. Call 502-898-4161.

Commissary: Building 1537. Open 10 a.m.-6 p.m. Mon.-Sat. Call 502-898-3542/3543.

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 502-898-2474.

CWT (Carlson Wagonlit Travel) SatoTravel: Building 2180. Open 7:30 a.m.-4 p.m. Mon.-Fri. No walk-ins. Call 502-898-2370, 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.l.hawkins.ctr@mail.mil to schedule tests. Email connie.j.schauer.civ@mail.mil for other services.

Equal Employment Opportunity: Open 7 a.m.-4:30 p.m. Mon.-Fri. No walk-ins. Call 502-898-3106/3107 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 2187. 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. Call 502-898-4563.

IHG Army Hotels: Building 51. Open 24/7. Call 502-898-2107 or 877-711-TEAM (8326).

Installation Legal Office: Building 2171. Call 502-898-2165.

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 502-898-3800 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 Nov. 21, 2024. 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: 502-898-4822.
Personnel Automations: 502-898-4842.
Reassignments: 502-898-4746.
Records Update: 502-898-5677.
Centralized Promotions: 502-898-5677.

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 502-898-4520.

Official Mail Distribution Center: Building 1009 (by Gate 20). Open 7:30 a.m.-4 p.m. Mon.-Fri. Call 502-898-3205.

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 502-898-3337.

Personal Property Processing Office: Building 200. Open 8 a.m. - 4 p.m. Call 502-898-3060, fax: 502-898-5634. Email: usarmy.mccoys.asc.mbx.lrc-pppo@mail.mil.

Retirement Services Office: Building 2187. Open 7:30 a.m.-3 p.m. Mon.-Fri. By appointment only. Call 502-898-3716.

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 502-898-2171.

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 502-898-4343. 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 502-898-7956.

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 502-898-2266. 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 502-898-3505.

Army Substance Abuse Program: Building 1344. Open 7:30 a.m.-4 p.m. Mon.-Fri. By appointment only. Call 502-898-2441.

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

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Commemorative Area CaretakerRobin Michalski
Editorial Content502-898-4128

Read this publication online at <https://home.army.mil/mccoys>.

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 502-898-2266.

Don't Let Old Man WINTER Ruin Your Day!

Know the tactics necessary to fight and win in winter weather operations

Terrain flight tactics in winter weather

Aircrew survivability preparedness in winter weather

Mission planning and impacts from winter weather

Aviation maintenance winter weather procedures




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<https://safety.army.mil>

Don't Slip on Safety this fall and winter

The fall and winter months are upon us and with them come unique safety hazards.

Cooler temperatures can mean football and early morning hunting excursions, socially distanced winter sports, hiking and more time at home, but they can also pose persistent challenges, including driving in adverse weather conditions and increased personal risk when outdoors.

The campaign will focus on timely safety topics like:

- safe driving in wintry conditions
- emotional resiliency
- cold weather injuries
- home safety
- outdoor activities such as hiking and hunting and much more.

During this time of year, it's important to remember seasons may change, but there's never a good time to slip up on practicing safety in all you do.




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For more information visit <https://safety.army.mil>



Stay Safe on the Road This Winter!

Slow Down
Leave early and add cushion to your normal drive.

Skid Smart
Learn how to handle your car BEFORE you go into a skid. Winter driving classes can be a great idea.

Be Prepared
Road delays happen. Put together and carry a road trip safety kit.

Have Patience
Be willing to wait for better road conditions.

Shoulder Safety
If you pull over, get as far off the shoulder as possible. Turn off headlights and turn on hazards.

Don't Use Cruise Control
Your tires may spin too fast on slick roads, causing you to lose control.

Passing Precaution
Allow more distance for passing—or just don't pass.

Be Seen
Turn on your low-beam headlights even during the day.

Keep Your Stopping Distance
It can take 10 times longer or more to stop on ice.

Perhaps the best tip of all: ride safe, slow down, and enjoy the views.

Put a FREEZE on Cold Weather MISHAPS




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U.S. ARMY COMBAT READINESS CENTER

For more information visit <https://safety.army.mil>



Give WINTER MISHAPS the Cold Shoulder

WINTER DRIVING PREP

Prepare Your Car to Give Winter Mishaps the Cold Shoulder

- * Test your battery.
- * Check the engine cooling system.
- * Have winter tires with a deeper, more flexible tread put on your car.
- * If using all-season tires, check the tread and replace if less than 2/32 of an inch.
- * Check the tire pressure – tire pressure drops as the temperature drops.
- * Check your wiper blades.
- * Add wiper fluid rated for -30 degrees.
- * Keep your gas tank at least half full to avoid the gas line freezing up.

KEEP YOUR CAR'S EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS KIT FULLY STOCKED, TOO!





U.S. ARMY
<https://safety.army.mil>






CHECK OUT THE USACRO ON SOCIAL MEDIA

KEEP YOUR VEHICLE ON THE ROAD THIS WINTER

WHEN DRIVING IN WINTER ROAD CONDITIONS, REMEMBER THE FOLLOWING TIPS:

- CLEAR YOUR WINDOWS AND MIRRORS OF SNOW AND ICE BEFORE YOU SET OUT.
- AVOID SUDDEN BRAKING, ACCELERATING TOO QUICKLY AND HARSH STEERING IN SLIPPERY CONDITIONS.
- GIVE YOURSELF TIME TO MANEUVER BY DRIVING SLOWER TO MEET CONDITIONS.
- DON'T OVERPOWER YOUR VEHICLE UP HILLS. APPLYING EXTRA GAS ON SNOW-COVERED ROADS JUST STARTS YOUR WHEELS SPINNING.
- WHEN DRIVING AT NIGHT, LEAVE YOUR HEADLAMPS ON LOW BEAM WHEN DRIVING IN SNOW OR FOG. THIS PRACTICE MINIMIZES THE REFLECTION AND GLARE, IMPROVES VISIBILITY AND REDUCES EYE FATIGUE.
- IF VISIBILITY BECOMES POOR, FIND A PLACE TO SAFELY PULL OFF THE ROAD AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.





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