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RTS-Medical provides training to meet current, future needs

STORY & PHOTOS BY ROB SCHUETTE

Public Affairs Staff

Regional Training Site (RTS)-Medical is observing 20 years of service at Fort McCoy. Its goals are to provide current medical training needed for missions, including deployment, and to continue to provide relevant unit and Soldier training in the future.

Lt. Col. Brad Richardson, the RTS-Medical site director, said the organization is positioning itself to be an expeditionary force as Gen. George Casey, Army Chief of Staff, advocated in a speech to the Association of the United States Army earlier this year.

The organization strives to train medical personnel to provide needed support services to victims of both natural and manmade disasters/emergencies, such as the responses to Hurricane Katrina and the earthquakes and/or tsunamis in Haiti and Japan. Richardson said the training also includes biomedical maintenance to keep the equipment in top operating condition.

"In these instances, medical personnel in fixed hospitals couldn't handle all the medical needs of an emergency," Richardson said. "So you set up in structures as mobile support hospitals. This is so-called 'tail-gate medicine.'"

Richardson said the RTS-Medical



Regional Training Site-Medical students from the 2nd, 137th Infantry train on combat life-saver skills.

expeditionary mindset goes hand-in-hand with the Fort McCoy Garrison Command Group's vision of the future of military training in the

next few years. Military medical personnel would come to Fort McCoy to prepare and obtain premobilization training, much like

they do at Regional Training Center-Central and for the Combat Support Training Exercise and Warrior Exercise (WAREX).

RTS-Medical will continue to increase its participation in homeland security exercises, such as the Red Dragon exercise, he said.

Red Dragon training focuses on responding to a manmade emergency and supporting civilian agencies responding to a chemical, biological, radioactive, nuclear and/or a high-yield explosive disaster scenario.

New this year will be its participation in WAREX, Richardson said. WAREX trains Army Reserve units in collective Army Warrior Tasks and helps prepare the units for training/deployment as part of the Army Force Generation model.

Medical personnel can complement care available at fixed-structure hospitals in emergencies by offering quick medical, dental and preventive services, he said. Military personnel also can help coordinate government resources at the federal, state and local level to support disaster assistance.

"We are trying to increase our capabilities for the current and future warfight," Richardson said. "This entails supporting customers in our

(See **RTS**, page 14)

CPAC at McCoy largest in the Army, supports Army Reserve, civilian personnel actions

STORY & PHOTO BY ROB SCHUETTE

Public Affairs Staff

Personnel assigned to the Civilian Personnel Advisory Center (CPAC) at Fort McCoy, which is the largest in the Army, take care of the personnel needs of more than 12,000 Army Reserve and federal civilian personnel, said Karen Kohn, CPAC director at Fort McCoy. Staff members work at either Fort McCoy or at a site at Rock Island Arsenal, Ill.

The personnel process begins with attracting or recruiting workers to fill the available positions, Kohn said. CPAC also takes care of personnel matters during an employee's career, such as hiring, proper classification of positions, discipline, performance, promotions, workers compensation and retirement.

Jim Pattison, chief of CPAC Classification and Staffing, said the installation also has worked hard to follow the Department of Defense's lead to be more proactive in returning injured civilian employees to work as soon as

possible.

"We're utilizing special funding to allow employees to return to work after a prolonged absence," he said.

The program allows employees to return to work at no cost to the gaining organization for the first year, and the organization begins to pay starting in the second year of employment, he said. "The impact of this program is twofold, first it reduces compensation costs for the government but more importantly it returns an injured employee to gainful employment."

Bill Reneau, the chief of the CPAC Nonappropriated Fund (NAF) Division, said this division oversees more than 550 employees at McCoy, Rock Island Arsenal and at Fort Hunter Liggett, Camp Parks (Parks Reserve Forces Training Area) and BT Collins Reserve Center in California. The NAF employees at Fort McCoy work in the Directorate of Family and Morale, Welfare and Recreation.

(See **CPAC**, page 14)



Deborah Hawkins (foreground) and Colette Burkwalt of the Nonappropriated Fund Division of the Civilian Personnel Advisory Center work on a personnel question.

NEWS

Army implements tiered training program to prepare for DADT repeal

BY SAMERIA AMERSON-ZAVALA

Army News Service

WASHINGTON, D.C. — With pending repeal of the “Don’t Ask, Don’t Tell” (DADT) law banning gays and lesbians from military service, the Army is implementing a tiered training program for Soldiers worldwide.

Army Chief of Staff Gen. George W. Casey Jr. and Secretary of the Army John McHugh sent a message Feb. 22, to the force about preparations to repeal the law.

“We are confident that you are up to the task, and that we can implement this change in policy by relying on the leadership, professionalism, discipline and respect for each other that have characterized our service for the past 235 years and remain at the core of the United States Army,” Casey and McHugh said in the message.

Training for the force is broken into three tiers. Tier one targets special staff and key individuals like chaplains, lawyers, and inspectors general. Tier two focuses on commanders and supervisors. Tier three will train the rest of the



Photo by Lou Ann M. Miielstaedt

Fort McCoy Garrison Commander Col. David E. Chesser addresses personnel attending tier-two level “Don’t Ask, Don’t Tell” training. Attendees at the March 23 session will be responsible for conducting tier three of the training in their work centers.

force.

“It is important to emphasize that the current policies remain in effect” for now, McHugh and Casey pointed out in the message. They said the DADT law will stay in place until 60 days after the president, secretary of defense and the chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff certify that the repeal can be implemented “consistent with the standards of military readiness and effectiveness, unit cohesion, and military recruiting and retention.”

They added that the repeal date will be widely publicized once it is decided.

Attached to the message was a list of the “Top 10 things Soldiers need to know” about the repeal of DADT:

1. Accessions & Separations Policies:

Upon repeal, the Army will no longer separate Soldiers solely on the basis of homosexual acts, a statement that a Soldier is gay, lesbian or bisexual, or marriage to a person of the same sex. Statements about sexual orientation or lawful acts of gay and lesbian conduct will

not be a bar to military service or admission to any accession program. Sexual orientation will continue to be a personal and private matter.

2. Standards of Conduct Apply Equally to Everyone: All Soldiers will be held to the same standard of conduct. All members are responsible for upholding and maintaining high standards of the U.S. military at all times and in all places.

3. Personal Privacy: Commanders may not establish practices that physically segregate Soldiers according to sexual orientation. Commanders do have the discretion to alter billeting assignments to accommodate privacy concerns of individuals on a case-by-case basis where it is in the interest of maintaining morale, good order and discipline, and is consistent with performance of the mission.

4. Moral and Religious Concerns: There will be no changes regarding any Soldier’s free exercise of religious beliefs, nor are there any changes to policies concerning the Chaplain Corps and its duties. The Chaplain Corps’ First Amendment freedoms and its duty to care for

all will not change. Soldiers will continue to respect and serve with others who may hold different views and beliefs.

5. Benefits: There will be no changes to eligibility standards for military benefits and services. The Defense of Marriage Act prohibits the federal government from recognizing any same-sex marriage, so same sex partners do not qualify as dependents for many military benefits and services. A same-sex partner should be treated the same as an unrelated third party (e.g. girlfriend, boyfriend). All Soldiers will continue to have various benefits for which they may designate any beneficiary regardless of relationship.

6. Equal Opportunity: Sexual orientation will not be placed alongside race, color, religion, sex and national origin as a class under the Military Equal Opportunity (MEO) Program and therefore will not be dealt with through the MEO complaint process. All Soldiers, regardless of sexual orientation, are entitled to an environment free from personal, social, or institutional barriers that prevent Soldiers from rising to the highest level of responsibility possible. Harassment or abuse of any kind, including that based on sexual orientation, is unacceptable and will be dealt with through command or inspector general channels.

7. Duty Assignments: There are no changes to assignment policy. All Soldiers will continue to be eligible for worldwide assignment without consideration of sexual orientation. Soldiers assigned to duty, or otherwise serving, in countries in which gay and lesbian conduct is prohibited will abide by the guidance provided to them by their local commanders.

8. Medical Policy: There are no changes to existing medical policies.

9. Release and Service Commitments: There will be no new policy to allow for release from service commitments for Soldiers opposed to repeal of DADT or to serving with gay or lesbian Soldiers.

10. Collection and Retention of Sexual Orientation Data: Sexual orientation is a personal and private matter. Commanders will not request, collect, or maintain information about the sexual orientation of Soldiers.

“We are confident that you are up to the task, and that we can implement this change in policy by relying on the leadership, professionalism, discipline and respect for each other...”

Gen. George W. Casey Jr.
Army Chief of Staff and
John McHugh
Secretary of the Army

Alcohol Awareness Month

The Fort McCoy Army Substance Abuse Program staff encourages people in the installation community to take time to educate themselves and their loved ones about the dangers of alcohol abuse during Alcohol Awareness Month in April.

For more information, stop by the Army Substance Abuse Program office, building 1344, or call 608-388-2441/5955/2315.

If you are drinking too much, improve your health by cutting back or quitting.

Keep track of how much you drink, avoid places where overdrinking occurs, and find new ways to deal with stress.

Information also is available at the website <http://rethinkingdrinking.niaaa.nih.gov/>.



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MOBILIZATION

Engineer unit issued new MultiCam uniforms

STORY & PHOTO BY TOM MICHELE
Eagle Systems & Services

Some Soldiers training at Fort McCoy preparing to deploy in support of Operation Enduring Freedom are receiving the new MultiCam camouflage pattern Army Combat Uniforms.

The 160 Soldiers from the 509th Engineer Company received individual Soldier equipment while at Fort McCoy for their five-day culminating training exercise. The 509th is an active-duty unit from Fort Leonard Wood, Mo.

The equipment was issued at the Program Executive Office (PEO) Soldier Fixed Issue Point (FIP), which is the former Rapid Fielding Initiative.

The list includes mostly clothing items, and also an advanced combat helmet, first-aid kit, rifleman's set, large rucksack, hydration bladder kit, Improved Outer Tactical Vest (IOTV), and several small tools.

The MultiCam pattern also is on the IOTV and rucksacks, and is exclusive to Soldiers deploying to Afghanistan.

Jeff Steinbrink, NCI Information Systems contractor team lead at the PEO Soldier at FIP, said it is important Soldiers get the proper equipment before they leave for their overseas tour of duty. "The MultiCam assembly is just the Army constantly improving its equipment as it tries to better protect the Soldier."

The IOTV gets its "improved" terminology because of the new installation of a quick release system. The system rapidly disconnects and quickly separates the vest, which greatly increases survivability in vehicles, Steinbrink said.

Another improvement to the IOTV is the more-even distribution of the ammunition pouches to reduce the Soldier's profile, yet allowing easy access to the pouches. The new pro-



Jeff Steinbrink fits Pfc. Michael Avant of the 509th Engineer Company with an Improved Outer Tactical Vest at Fort McCoy's Fixed Issue Point. The IOTV is in the new MultiCam camouflage pattern.

file also reduces the problem of the Soldier getting snagged in the vehicle as they dismount.



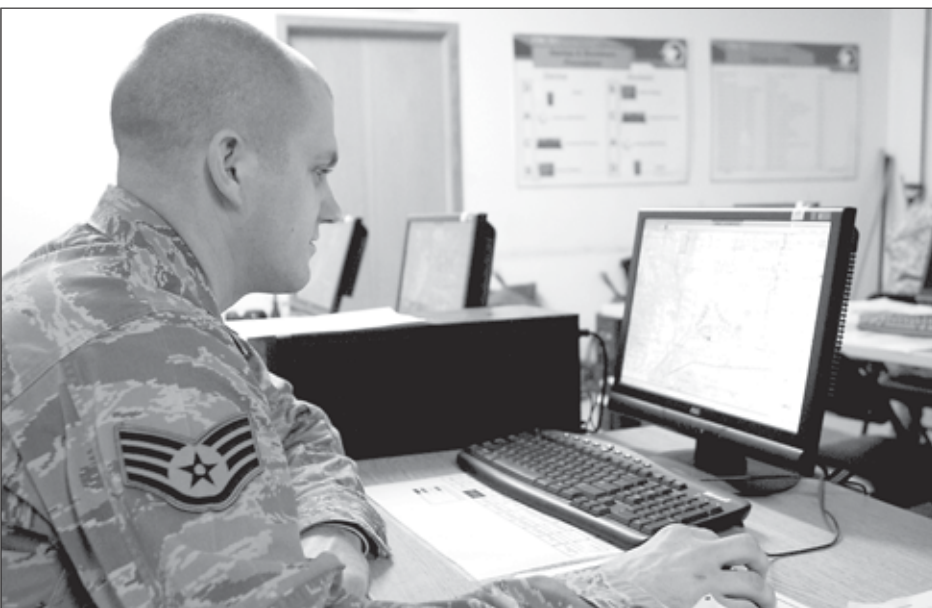
Photo by Rob Schuette

New construction

An employee from the C3T, Inc., of Milwaukee, works on the new Troop Projects building at Fort McCoy. The facility is scheduled to be completed in May. The construction supports the installation plan to have maintenance-type facilities /organizations in the 2800-2900 block area.

MOBILIZATION

Airmen train at McCoy in Joint Sourcing Training Oversight program



Air Force Staff Sgt. Lee Thorp negotiates across a map of areas at Fort McCoy on a classroom Blue Force Tracker (BFT) system, much like what is in most combat vehicles, aircraft and command centers. The BFT is one of several major communications systems that links a company, battalion and brigade's vehicles together with near-real-time data, graphics and map imagery. Thorp, a heavy equipment operator with the 823rd Rapid Engineer Deployable Heavy Operational Repair Squadron Engineer (RED HORSE) at Hurlbut Air Force Base, Fla., was in a BFT class as part of the Joint Sourcing Training Oversight program for Airmen preparing to deploy in support of Operations New Dawn and Enduring Freedom.



Airmen dismount from their convoy of Humvee guntrucks to investigate reports of insurgent activity in the area of a rural village on a Fort McCoy training lane. The Airmen were training in preparation for deployment in support of Operations New Dawn and Enduring Freedom.



Airmen lead a detainee away from a rural village house to be interrogated and transferred to national police during a situational training exercise scenario on a Fort McCoy training lane. From left were Master Sgt. Jerry Dunn, Staff Sgt. Steve Brewer (behind suspect), and Tech. Sgt. Robert Lloyd. The "suspect" is Sgt. LeRoy Dicks, 2nd, 411th Logistical Support Battalion, 181st Infantry Brigade. He was with the group of "opposing forces" Soldiers portraying enemy threats. The Airmen are from the 823rd RED HORSE.

Photos by Tom Michele

SAFETY

Weather-spotter training improves safety for Fort McCoy

BY ROB SCHUETTE
Public Affairs Staff

The advent of spring and summer at Fort McCoy brings an increased risk of tornadoes, hail, thunderstorms and high winds. Fort McCoy personnel who attended weather-spotter training March 21 at the installation are helping to lay the groundwork for increased safety of the Fort McCoy Soldier, Family and Civilian community.

Quentin Graham, Emergency Management specialist for the Fort McCoy Directorate of Plans, Training, Mobilization and Security (DPTMS), said the training presented by the National Weather Service (NWS) will help installation Emergency Management support personnel react to and issue warnings about impending severe weather.

"We wanted to get information about severe weather into the hands of individuals who could help protect the Fort McCoy community," Graham said. "More than half of individuals attending were from either the Directorate of Emergency Services (DES) or DPTMS Range Control."

"They would be the most likely individuals out in the field who are equipped to report severe weather conditions. It is important that our initial spotters are trained to report timely and accurate weather information to the Directorate of Emergency Services 24/7 Dispatch center in order to sound the External Mass Warning and Notification system and notify DPTMS Range Control for troops in the field."

Severe weather can affect many of the activities outside that occur at Fort McCoy in the spring and summer months, such as training, construction or other field work, Graham said.

Troops often have or use metal objects, such as communications equipment, during their training.

Being able to turn off or quickly disassemble the equipment in advance of severe weather can increase troop safety.



Photo by Tom Michele

Weather-spotter class attendees learn about detecting and reporting severe weather conditions.

Robert Nordby of the Fort McCoy DES said several members of the installation's police department attended the training because the department provides a 24/7 presence patrolling the installation.

"They serve as our eyes and ears at all times during the day," Nordby said. "The officers are not only looking for 'bad' guys, they are looking out for the safety of the community. When you have well-trained officers, they can recognize bad weather is coming and get the word out, not only to the work force in the cantonment area, but out to those training in the field."

Tim Caucutt of DPTMS Range Control said he attended the training because he works with units in the field and wants to help ensure their safety during training.

"We can use the information from the course to help determine if we are getting false calls about the weather," Caucutt said. "We

can inform the units in the field about the deteriorating weather conditions."

Tim Halbach, a meteorologist with NWS at La Crosse, presented the program. His presentation illustrated the weather conditions the spotters might observe and explained how human input remains vital to the overall effectiveness of the system, which includes the use of radar to help predict the weather, he said.

"We provide a lot of courses at this time of year to help prepare for the severe-weather season," Halbach said. "We might see something on the radar, but having 'eyes' on the ground helps us calibrate or validate what we're seeing."

For example, the radar might pick up a hail storm in progress, but that doesn't always give complete details about the storm's severity, Halbach said.

Weather spotters on the ground can have

Tornado awareness drill set for April 14

Fort McCoy will participate in a statewide tornado awareness drill from 1-2 p.m. Thursday, April 14.

The drill is part of Tornado and Severe Weather Awareness Week in Wisconsin, which is observed April 11-15.

Fort McCoy's emergency warning sirens are scheduled to be activated at about 1:30 p.m. April 14. If personnel outside a building have problems hearing the sirens, they should send an e-mail to fmc.emergency.manage@conus.army.mil to report the situation.

Tornado and Severe Weather Awareness Week is a good time for installation personnel to review what actions to take in the event of a tornado or severe weather.

For more information in the Fort McCoy community, call Quentin Graham at 608-388-2763.

a great deal of influence on what is reported/recommended, if they observe one-half inch diameter or golf-ball size hail is occurring, and can relay that information to the NWS, he said.

"The main thing is that we want to save lives," Halbach said. "We want people to call and tell us what's happening, so that we can put out an advance warning."

For more information about the weather spotters training in the Fort McCoy community, contact Graham at 608-388-2763.

For more information about the NWS or weather-spotter classes, visit the websites www.weather.gov or <http://www.stormready.noaa.gov/contact.htm>.

Army Family Action Plan committee identifies, reports out 16 new quality-of-life issues

BY LT. GEN. RICK LYNCH
Commanding General
Installation Management Command

In March, I discussed the progress we made resolving 17 of 40 quality-of-life issues at the Army Family Action Plan (AFAP) General Officer Steering Committee held in February. During the same week, AFAP delegates representing Army garrisons and commands worldwide met in our nation's capital to review and prioritize 88 quality-of-life issues that had been identified throughout the year at midlevel

AFAP conferences across the Army.

As the Assistant Chief of Staff for Installation Management and the overseer of the AFAP process, I had the privilege to speak to these delegates and impress upon them the great responsibility of identifying the most-critical issues for the Army to work. Delegates were comprised of Soldiers, Spouses, Department of the Army (DA) Civilians, Wounded Warriors and Survivors. Each brought their own ideas, perspectives and experiences to share in the decision making process. The task before them was not an easy one, yet they met the challenge

with an overwhelming sense of enthusiasm and energy. They reviewed, they discussed and they challenged each other on the issues. At the conclusion of the conference, 16 new quality-of-life issues were identified and reported out to senior Army leadership.

The top five issues identified to senior Army leaders are:

- ID cards for surviving children with an active-duty sponsor that annotate both active-duty and Survivor status
- Wounded Warrior caregiver training
- Medically retired servicemembers'

eligibility for concurrent receipt of disability pay

- Military Child Development Program fee cap
- Medical retention processing time restrictions for Reserve Component Soldiers.

Currently, there is no way to annotate both dependent Survivor status and active-duty status on an identification card. This issue affects dependents of dual military parents when one military parent dies or children of a surviving

(See **AFAP**, page 14)

SAFETY

Antiterrorism awareness, training critical

Fort McCoy's Antiterrorism (AT) Office is working to ensure each member of the community has the requisite skills for personal protection to help avoid terrorist attention. Fundamental to this effort is a basic understanding of threat, upon which can be built effective AT defenses at the individual, family, unit and installation levels.

Effective AT defense requires installationwide efforts to build reporting systems to manage, direct, and analyze information. Through the informed watchfulness of the collective community, we protect ourselves, our Families, our units and our installation.

The "threat" continues to diversify in terms of perpetrators and adversary typologies, as well as in weapons and tactics. Potential adversarial groups/personnel include members of international terrorist organizations, domestic terrorists, and those officially aligned with or ideologically sympathetic to terror groups. Adversaries can include sovereign citizen groups, radical animal rights activists, any of a variety of hate groups, militias, and anti-war activists. Adversaries include the most-organized and well-funded of organizations to the individual "lone wolf" operating in relative isolation.

Reporting at the lowest levels helps the installation put the threat picture together and to plan for and respond to threats. Each member of the Army community should know

what to report and how to report it. For information on the Fort McCoy Suspicious Activity Reporting System and what to report, access the iWATCH Banner on the Fort McCoy Corporate Network.

Community members must possess AT awareness to be successful. Every Soldier and civilian must take the approved web-based refresher each year. For Fort McCoy, Aug. 31, 2011 is the suspense for annual refresher training. This training is located on the Internet at <https://atlevel1.dtic.mil/at/>.

The Fort McCoy AT Office will conduct AT Level 1 training April 12, May 26, and June 28 at building 905 for those who do not have computer access. AT classes will be offered each day at 10 a.m. and at 1 p.m. Each participant will receive a certificate of training from the instructor.

The AT Office can also provide training to Family members, including members of Family Readiness Groups. Every member of the Army community is encouraged to stay informed about local, regional, national, and world news to better understand the threat.

For more information on the iWATCH program, the Fort McCoy Antiterrorism Program, or AT training, contact the Antiterrorism Office at 608-388-4504/4719.

(Submitted by Fort McCoy AT Office).



Photo by Rob Schuette

Blood drive

Spc. Kathren Acosta of the Troop Medical Clinic (Military Health System) donates blood at Fort McCoy's Rumpel Fitness Center as part of an American Red Cross Blood Drive. Scott Lund, a Red Cross collection specialist, monitors her progress. The March 31 blood drive collected 47 pints of blood, which can benefit up to 141 patients in need.

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ENVIRONMENT

Forestry, LRAM operations support safety, vegetation diversity

STORY & PHOTOS BY ROB SCHUETTE

Public Affairs Staff

Logging operations at Fort McCoy are planned and managed to benefit both the installation and neighboring communities, said Jim Kerkman.

Kerkman, forester for the Fort McCoy Directorate of Public Works (DPW), said logging operations provide a source of marketable wood for lumber, firewood and paper, as well as help improve the health of the installation's trees and increase the safety of people both on and off the installation. Management techniques include removing older, dying, dead or fallen trees or thinning out trees for health or safety reasons.

Trees have varying life spans and need to be managed to ensure they remain healthy to support the installation's environmental system and support or improve training opportunities, he said.

Kerkman said Forestry works hand-in-hand with the Fort McCoy Directorate of Plans, Training, Mobilization and Security (DPTMS) Land Rehabilitation and Maintenance (LRAM) program to coordinate the work necessary to ensure the logging operations are a success. LRAM is aligned under the DPTMS Integrated Training Area Management program.

Brooks Lundeen, LRAM coordinator, said LRAM also works in coordination with Forestry to benefit training by removing trees and woody debris that isn't marketable.

The LRAM crew uses heavy-duty forestry mowers to shred the vegetation, which allows access to areas and improves them for training purposes.

"We help ensure there is long-term maneuver access to the training areas for Soldiers, Range personnel and all others, if need be," Lundeen said. "We also help maintain cover and concealment in these areas by preserving selected trees during the shredding process that may be harvestable in the future."

In addition to shredding, the LRAM team performs trail- and training-area maintenance, reconfigures sites to increase training potential, and repairs maneuver damage, including native



Employees contracted through Future Wood of Hayward, Wis., remove designated lumber from a Fort McCoy site near the Sparta/Fort McCoy Airport.

grass seeding and erosion-control projects to meet Army guidelines or standards for sustainability, he said.

Kerkman said too many trees in an area can hinder tree growth. Selective removal of trees allows for growth opportunities and better health for the remaining trees, he said.

In some instances, it's a case of safety. Kerkman said, for example, a high tree density near a range may pose a fire risk for neighboring properties if the vegetation catches fire during training. Removing some of the trees can create a bigger buffer zone, he said. Likewise, Kerkman said fires in trees or vegetation on or near a range can delay or prevent necessary military training so it is important to control vegetation on or around ranges. Logging operations also reduce trees along roadways, which can help improve visibility and safety for motorists.

Revenue from the timber sales goes into an Armywide forestry account and is used to fund forestry projects on Fort McCoy.

For more information about logging operations at Fort McCoy, call Forestry at 608-388-2102.



Kristopher Steinhoff, an LRAM employee at Fort McCoy, shreds vegetation at a South Post location.

"We help ensure there is long-term maneuver access to the training areas for Soldiers, Range personnel and all others, if need be."

Brooks Lundeen
LRAM Coordinator

Recreation

Automotive Skills Center: Building 1763. Open Mon., Thurs., and Fri. 1-9 p.m. and Sat.-Sun. 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Call Ext. 3013.

Community Activity Center (CAC): Building 2000. **Leisure Travel Services Office, Recreation Center, and Library:** Open daily 11 a.m.-9 p.m. Call Ext. 3213/2410/4353.

McCoy's: Building 1571. Bowling Center open Mon.-Fri. 11 a.m.-11 p.m. and Sat.-Sun. 4-10 p.m. Extreme bowling every Fri. 4-9 p.m. Call Ext. 7060. Arcade and NTN trivia. Call Ext. 2065.

PineView Recreation Area/Equipment Checkout Center: Building 8053. Open daily 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Call Ext. 2619/3517.

Rumpel Fitness Center: Building 1122. Open Mon.-Fri. 5 a.m.-9 p.m.; Sat.-Sun. 5 a.m.-8 p.m. **Sauna and Steamroom:** Open Mon.-Fri. 6 a.m.-8 p.m. and Sat.-Sun. 11 a.m.-5:30 p.m. **Indoor swimming pool:** Open Mon.-Fri. 6-8 a.m. and 11 a.m.-8 p.m.; Sat.-Sun. 11 a.m.-5:30 p.m. **Atrium:** Open Mon.-Fri. 6 a.m.-8 p.m. and Sat.-Sun. 11 a.m.-5:30 p.m. Call Ext. 2290/3200.

Woodshop: Building 1133. Open Tues.-Thurs. 5-8 p.m. Call John Timm, Ext. 6598 for an appointment.

Whitetail Ridge Ski Area: Closed for the season. Call Ext. 3517/4498 for more information.

Dining

McCoy's: Building 1571. **Primo's Express:** open Mon.-Fri. 11 a.m.-10 p.m.; Sat.-Sun. 4-10 p.m. (buffet Mon.-Fri. 11 a.m.-1 p.m.). Call Ext. 7673. **Habañero: Opens Wed., May 25. Sports bar:** open Mon.-Sun. 4-Midnight. ATM located inside. Catering/Admin. Call Ext. 2065. Manager has discretion on closing time. Call to verify hours.

Rustic Inn Snack Bar/Patio Cafe: Building 2000. Open Mon.-Sat. 6:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m. and 5-8 p.m. Closed Sunday. Call Ext. 4968.

Snack Avenue: Building 1538. Open Mon.-Sat. 6 a.m.-8 p.m. and Sun. 7 a.m.-7 p.m. Call 608-269-5604 or Ext. 4343.

Specialty Express Food Court: Building 1538. Open Mon.-Fri. 10:30 a.m.-8 p.m.; Sat.-Sun. 11 a.m.-6 p.m. Call 608-269-5615 Ext. 303.

Whitetail Ridge Chalet: Building 8061. Adult lounge and outdoor deck. Available for private parties. For information, call Ext. 3517/2260.

Services

Alteration Shop: Building 1538. Open Mon.-Fri. 9 a.m.-5 p.m.; Sat. 9 a.m.-3 p.m. Call 608-269-1075.

Barber Shop (ARRTC): Building 51, Room 119. Open Mon., Tues., and Thurs. 4-7 p.m. ATM located in the lobby. Call 608-269-1710 to verify hours.

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

Barber Shop (overflow): Building 2662. **Closed for the season.** Call Ext. 3682.

Beauty Salon: Building 1538. Open Mon.-Sat. 10 a.m.-5 p.m. **by appointment only.** Call 608-269-1710.

Car Rental (Hertz): Information available at the Exchange, Building 1538. Use yellow phone at Hertz sign. Call 608-782-6183 or 1-800-654-3131 and give them the following number: CDP# 1787245.

Car Wash: Building 1568. Self-service and automatic bays. Open 24 hours. Change and token machines. Call Ext. 3213/4161.

Commissary: Building 1537. Open Tues.-Sun. 10 a.m. - 6 p.m. Early Bird/Self Check out open Tues. - Sat. 9-10 a.m. Call Ext. 3542/3543.

Computer Center for Soldiers: Building 2773. For Mob/Demob Soldiers. Open daily 8 a.m.-10 p.m. Call Ext. 7882.

CWT (Carlson Wagonlit Travel) SatoTravel: Building 2180. Open Mon.-Fri. 9 a.m.-4 p.m. Call Ext. 2370, or 608-269-4560, or 1-800-927-6343.

Education/Learning Center: Building 50, Room 123. Open Mon.-Thurs. 7:30 a.m.-6 p.m.; Fri. 7:30 a.m.-4 p.m. Call Ext. 7311.

Exchange: Building 1538. Open Mon.-Sat. 6 a.m.-8 p.m. and Sun. 9 a.m.-7 p.m. ATM located inside. Call 608-269-5604, Ext. 101 or Ext. 4343.

Fort McCoy Shipping & Services Center: Building 1649. Call 608-269-6969.

Launderette/Dry Cleaning: Building 1538. Open Mon.-Fri. 9 a.m.-5 p.m.; Sat. 9 a.m.-3 p.m. Call 608-269-1075 to verify hours of operation.

Laundry Facilities: Buildings 1132, 1444, 1649, 1701, 2568, 2662, 2763 and 2877. Open to Soldiers and their dependents and to Fort McCoy military training population on 24-hour, seven-days-a-week basis. Call Ext. 3800

facilities services

Hours in **bold typeface** denote new hours since the last update.
Numbers with extensions require dialing 608-388- before the extension. Call to verify hours.

(Troop and Installation Support Branch, Building 490) for information.

Lodging: Located in the Welcome Center, Building 35. Open daily 24 hours. For more information call Ext. 2107/3646.

Military Clothing Sales: Building 1538. Open Mon.-Sat. 9 a.m.-8 p.m. and Sun. 9 a.m.-7 p.m. Call 608-269-5604, Ext. 203.

Mobilizing Unit In-processing Center (MUIC): Building 2541. Hours for Building 2541 and MUIC LOG Offices are Mon.-Fri. 6 a.m.-9 p.m. and Sat.-Sun. 7:30 a.m.-4 p.m. During the hours the MUIC LOG offices are closed assistance may be obtained by calling Ext. 2150.

Permit Sales: Building 2168. Open weekdays 7 a.m.-3:30 p.m. Call Ext. 3337.

Post Office: Building 1649. Open Mon.-Fri. 9 a.m.-3 p.m. Call Ext. 3825.

Quartermaster Tactical Gear Store: Building 1645. Open Mon.-Fri. 9 a.m.-6 p.m., Sat.-Sun. 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Call 608-269-1730.

RIA Credit Union: Building 2105. Open Mon.-Wed. 9 a.m.-1 p.m.; Thurs. and Fri. 9 a.m.-1 p.m. and 2-5 p.m. ATMs are located in McCoy's, Building 1571, the Exchange, Building 1538, and ARRTC dormitory lobby, Building 51 (24/7). For information, call Ext. 2171.

RV Storage Lot: Next to Building 1763. Short- or long-term storage. Fees charged. Authorized patrons only. Call Ext. 2619/3517.

Service Station/Shoppette/Class VI: Building 1538. Open Mon.-Sat. 6 a.m.-8 p.m. and Sun. 7 a.m.-7 p.m. Call 608-269-5604 or Ext. 4343. **GAT PAY AT THE PUMP** OPEN 24 HOURS. ATM located inside. **Cash transactions available during Shoppette and Main Store hours.**

Shoppette (ARRTC): Building 51, Room 136. Open Mon.-Thurs. 11

a.m.-1 p.m. and Sun. 4-8 p.m. ATM located in the lobby. Call Ext. 7798.

Vehicle Registration: Located in the Welcome Center, Building 35. Open Mon.-Fri. 7:30 a.m.-4 p.m. (excluding federal holidays). For more information call Ext. 4988/8415.

Worship

Bible Study: Building 51, second floor lobby. Tues. 6:15-7 a.m. Call Ext. 7280.

Bible Study: Chapel Center, Building 2675. Wed. 7 p.m. Call Ext. 3528.

Catholic: Chapel 10, Building 1759. Mass, Sun. 9:30 a.m. Call Ext. 3528 for more information.

Jewish: Service Sat. 10:20 a.m.-noon at La Crosse. Call 608-784-2708.

Latter-day Saints: Sun. 8 a.m. at Fellowship Hall, Building 2675. Call Ext. 3528.

Mormon: Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints, 702 E. Montgomery St., Sparta, Wis. Sunday services 10 a.m.-1 p.m. Phone 608-269-3377 for additional information.

Muslim: Islamic Center of La Crosse, Othman Bin Affan Mosque. Fri. Prayer 1-2 p.m. Call Ext. 3528.

Prayer meeting: Building 51, room 149. Thurs. 11:30. Call Ext. 3528.

Protestant: Chapel 1, Building 2672. Protestant Worship Sun. 9:30 a.m. Call Ext. 3528.

Spanish Language: Worship Services held in Norwalk (Catholic); Tomah (Seventh-Day Adventist). Call Ext. 3528.

For information about the Chapel, including mobilization services, or worship schedules in the surrounding communities, call Ext. 3528. If you have an emergency, call 608-388-2266 and they will contact the on-call chaplain.

Family Support

Army Community Service: Building 2111. Open Mon.-Fri. 7:30 a.m.-4 p.m. or by appointment. Call Ext. 3505.

Army Substance and Abuse Program: Building 1344. Open Mon.-Fri. 7:30 a.m.-4 p.m. or by appointment. Call Ext. 2441.

Child Development Center: Building 1796. Open Mon.-Fri. 6:30 a.m.-5:15 p.m. Call Ext. 3534 or 2238.

Red Cross: Fort McCoy active-duty Soldiers and their Family members can call 877-272-7337 for emergency assistance. For other Red Cross services, call 800-837-6313, 608-788-1000 or call the installation operator at Ext. 2222 and request Red Cross assistance.

School-Age Services: Building 1751. Activities for youths grades kindergarten through fifth. Offers after-school, nonschool and inclement-weather care for eligible youths. Open Mon.-Fri. 6:30 a.m.-5:30 p.m. Call Ext. 4373/2238.

School of Knowledge, Inspiration, Exploration & Skills Unlimited (SKIESUnlimited): Building 1747. Provides instructional classes for children and youth from infancy through the end of their senior year in high school. Children and youth are provided opportunities to explore new skills, pursue and nurture personal interests and interact socially with others. Register for SKIESUnlimited classes at Parent Central Services. 608-388-8956.

Supplemental Programs and Services/Family Child Care: For occasional baby-sitting services or in-home care for Military Family Housing, call Fort McCoy Child Development Services at Ext. 4124.

Health Care

Alcoholics Anonymous: For more information, call Ext. 5955/2441.

Dental Clinic: Building 2668. Open Mon.-Fri. 7 a.m.-3:30 p.m. Sick call: 7-9:30 a.m. Call Ext. 2719.

Fort McCoy Civilian Employee Assistance Program: Provides screening and referral services for eligible civilian employees and their family members who are experiencing difficulty due to personal problems related to substance abuse, mental health, marital/family discord or other problems. For more information, contact the Army Substance Abuse Program at Ext. 2441/5955.

Soldier Readiness Center (SRC): Building 2643. Open Mon.-Fri. 8 a.m.-

3:30 p.m. Call Ext. 2643 for more information or an appointment.

TRICARE Liaison: Building 1679. Call Ext. 2246 for more information. The following also are points of contact: TRICARE 1-877-TRICARE (874-2273) or <http://www.tricare.mil>.

Occupational Health Clinic: Building 1679. Open Mon.-Fri. 7:30 a.m.-4 p.m. Blood-pressure screenings and military audiograms. Call Ext. 3209/2414.

Optical Services: Building 2656. Open Mon.-Fri. 7 a.m.-3:30 p.m. Providing permanent-party Soldiers with all of their eye care needs. Call Ext. 5997.

Troop Medical Clinic: Building 2669. Sick call sign-in 7-8 a.m. Open weekdays 9 a.m.-3:30 p.m. for appointments. Call Ext. 3025. Pharmacy is Ext. 2842. Call 911 for after-hour emergencies. Call AOD 608-630-6308 for non-emergencies. For treatment, go to hospital emergency room.

Organizations

American Federation of Government Employees, Local 1882: Building 1411. Office hours 7 a.m.-4 p.m. weekdays. Meets second Tues. of each month, 6 p.m., at American Legion Post 201 in Tomah. Call Ext. 2397.

American Society of Military Comptrollers: Meets several times throughout the year. Watch the Fort McCoy Bulletin for meeting details or call Maureen Richardson at 608-269-1912 or Mary Zink at 608-269-3115.

Association of the United States Army - AUSA (Robert B. McCoy Chapter): General membership meetings held monthly. For information call 608-272-3016.

Better Opportunities for Single Soldiers (BOSS): Building 1647. Meets second Thurs. of each month. Call, 608-388-3944.

Friends and Spouses of Fort McCoy: Meets every third Thurs. at different locations. For information call 608-269-0773.

Reserve Officers Association, Fort McCoy-Readiness 43: Call David W. Alderfer (LTC-Retired) at 920-535-0515 or e-mail dave.alderfer@us.army.mil.

United States Field Artillery Association: For information call 608-388-2813.

Warrant Officers Association, Chapter 0317: For more information, call 612-210-7728, 608-372-7260, or 248-941-3551.

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<http://www.mccoy.army.mil>

VITA accepting appointments through April 14

Eligible personnel can make appointments through April 14 with the Fort McCoy Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) program.

The VITA program is available to active-duty, military retirees and their Family members. Services provided include free preparation and e-filing of federal and state income tax returns.

To make an appointment, call 608-388-4117.

Woodshop offering classes, beginning April 12

The Directorate of Family and Morale, Welfare and Recreation Woodshop, building 1133, will offer several classes in April.

A two-hour Safety class will be held April 12 and 26 from 6-8 p.m. The class covers the use of hand tools and shop equipment.

Participants will receive a Safety Course Certification, allowing them to operate the equipment. Certification is required for unsupervised use of the Woodshop. The cost is \$10 per person.

A two-hour Coin Rack Display Case class will be held April 14 and 27 from 5:30-7:30 p.m. Participants will make their own walnut display case that holds 25-30 military coins. The cost is \$12 per person.

A Sign Making class will be held April 20 from 6-9 p.m. The class will teach participants to make a sign using a router and take home their own sign. The cost is \$15 per person.

Register by calling 608-388-6588. Class sizes are limited.

Easter Eggstravaganza set for April 16

Fort McCoy's Easter Eggstravaganza is Saturday, April 16.

The event will kick off with breakfast with the Easter Bunny and face painting from 10-11 a.m. at the Rustic Inn, building 2000. Photos with the Easter Bunny and Easter crafts will be available from 11 a.m.-12:45 p.m. at the Exchange, building 1538.

The Easter Egg Hunt starts at 1 p.m. at Constitution Park. Participants must bring their own baskets.

In the case of inclement weather, the hunt will be moved to the Rumpel Fitness Center, building 1122.

The event is open to all Fort McCoy employees and their Families. For more information, call 608-388-3213.

The event is sponsored by the Fort McCoy Exchange, Association of the United States Army – Maj. Gen. Robert B. McCoy Chapter 5902, GEICO, Ballweg Midwest Toyota, Club Oasis, Games People Play, P&P Products, Piggly Wiggly, ANNswers, Wal-Mart Distribution Center, Operation Homefront and the Fort McCoy Family and Morale, Welfare and Recreation. No federal endorsement is implied.

NEWS NOTES



Photo by Tom Michele

IMMA inspection tour

Sgt. 1st Class Patrick Patterson, left, watches Jason Van Zomeren at work in the communications and electronics shop at Fort McCoy's Installation Materiel Maintenance Activity (IMMA). Patterson is an evaluator with the Army Award for Maintenance Excellence (AAME) program, which was inspecting IMMA for the AAME in the medium category for the Installation Management Command level of competition for Directorate of Logistics organizations.

Days of Remembrance observance set April 19

A Holocaust Days of Remembrance observance will be held Tuesday, April 19 from 11:30 a.m.-1 p.m. at McCoy's, building 1571. The presentation begins at noon.

The guest speaker is Danneke Schallig, a concentration camp survivor.

By age five she had been placed in three different camps. She now fights for the rights of people who can't fight for themselves by volunteering at senior meal sites and ensuring the elderly in the community do not go without daily meals.

The event is hosted by the Fort McCoy Equal Opportunity Office.

For more information about this event, call 608-388-3246.

Arbor Day tree-planting ceremony set for April 29

An Arbor Day ceremony will be held at Fort McCoy Friday, April 29 from 9-10 a.m. Everyone in the Fort McCoy community is welcome to attend.

Youth from the Child Development Center, together with members of the Directorate of Public Works Natural Resources Forestry Section and Fort McCoy Command Group, will plant white pines. The location is west of the fire department, building 1680, parking lot.

For more information, call 608-388-2102.

Registration under way for McCoy youth Summer Camp

Fort McCoy School Age Services has Summer Camp openings for youth who

have completed kindergarten through 12th grade. Registration is under way.

Summer Camp schedules are available at the website www.mccoymwr.com.

For more information about the camp, call Parent Central Services at 608-388-8956.

Sponsorship training May 3 at Army Community Service

Sponsorship training will be held Tuesday, May 3 from 10 – 11 a.m. at Army Community Service (ACS), building 2111.

Sponsorship is a commander's program that assists Soldiers, civilian employees and Families during the reassignment process, assists Families who are geographically separated from their sponsor for duty requirements, and, improves unit or organizational cohesion and readiness.

Training topics include regulations and forms, program entitlements, types of sponsorship, sponsor responsibilities, commander responsibilities and e-sponsorship.

For more information or to register, call ACS at 608-388-3505. Register no later than one week prior to the training.

Units may schedule unit sponsorship training by completing the Training Request Form six weeks in advance. Forms are available at <http://mccoymwr.com/soldier-family-programs/army-community-service.html> under the ACS Links section.

After May 3, the next scheduled Sponsorship training will be Tuesday, Aug. 9.

Building Character Strengths workshop set for May 10

A Building Character Strengths workshop will be held Tuesday, May 10 from 8 a.m.-3

p.m. at Army Community Service, building 2111.

The workshop will help attendees identify strengths in themselves and others, and identify the shadow side of signature strengths to improve teamwork and overcome challenges.

To register, call 608-388-3505 by Monday, May 2.

Family Focus Walk-a-Thon program under way

A Family Walk-a-Thon for those registered in Fort McCoy's Family Focus program is under way through June.

Families who walk at least 250 steps during their walk together can earn 100 Family Focus Franks per Family member each month. Pictures of the final destination of the walk must be submitted to Army Community Service (ACS), building 2111. A minimum of one adult and one child per Family must participate in the walk.

Families can pick up a packet of materials, including a pedometer and log sheet, at ACS. Log sheets and pictures must be returned to ACS by July 8.

For more information or to register in the Family Focus program, call 608-388-3505.

Volunteers needed for Aug. 5 concert support

Fort McCoy Family and Morale, Welfare and Recreation is seeking volunteers for the 2011 Army Concert Tour Friday, Aug. 5.

Volunteers are needed for will call, clean up and parking and to take tickets, sell tickets, attach wristbands, and serve beverages.

Volunteers supporting the concert will receive a T-shirt and an invitation to the Volunteer Recognition Night.

For more information or to volunteer, call the concert volunteer coordinator at 608-388-4226 or fill out a volunteer form available at the website www.mccoymwr.com.

Army Concert Tour tickets on sale

Tickets are on sale for the Army Concert Tour featuring Mötley Crüe, Poison and special guest New York Dolls. The concert will be held Friday, Aug. 5 at Constitution Park at Fort McCoy. Tickets are \$45 in advance and \$50 the day of the show.

Tickets can be purchased at Ace Hardware, La Crosse; Market Bar, Sparta; MB Audio, Tomah; McCoy's, building 1571; Pine View Campground, building 8053; and the Community Activity Center, building 2000.

The concert is presented by U.S. Army Entertainment and Fort McCoy's Directorate of Family and Morale, Welfare and Recreation (MWR).

For more information, or to buy tickets, visit the Fort McCoy MWR website at www.mccoymwr.com or call the Concert Hotline at 877-864-4969.

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Photo courtesy of U.S. Army

COMMUNITY

No-school day means fun at Child, Youth & School Services



Scott Finch of the Veterans Housing Program at Fort McCoy presents his barnyard puppet show to members of Child, Youth & School Services at Fort McCoy. The youth attended the program during a no-school day.



Melekalama Valdez of the Fort McCoy Child, Youth & School Services program staff works with youth to assemble puzzles. The youth were at Fort McCoy March 28 because of a no-school day.



Youth from the Fort McCoy Child, Youth & School Services program spend time in the Computer Laboratory during a no-school day. The youth had a choice of a variety of indoor and outdoor activities.



Youth from the Fort McCoy Child, Youth & School Services program enjoy a session of volleyball outdoors during a no-school day.

Photos by Rob Schuette

LEISURE

Bowling a good fit for free time, relaxation, pocketbook

STORY & PHOTO BY TOM MICHELE

Eagle Systems & Services

Soldiers, civilians and their Families, while trying to relax, still choose the challenge to take a one-foot diameter hard plastic ball, and roll it at 10 one-foot-high pins 60 feet away, to see how many of those pins they can knock down. And to keep score to see which person in their group topples the most pins.

That's what's at Fort McCoy. Steve Gilson, manager at the eight-lane bowling alley at McCoy's Community Club, said bowling is designed not to be taken too seriously, "but rather to just have fun and enjoy being with other people."

"Bowling is also a Family oriented activity," Gilson said, "and that fits in real well for Soldiers with Families. We have bowlers as young as kindergartners, including in some of our established leagues."

"Where else can you go for three hours and only spend about \$10 to relax and have as much fun?" Gilson said. Part of the overall atmosphere keggers also may enjoy, he noted, includes Primo's Express restaurant with its buffet, sandwiches and pizza, two sports bars, an arcade, pool tables and dartboard. Several cable TV channels play on large screens throughout the facility and numerous tables and chairs are available to relax at.

"Bowling is just one of many things to do at Fort McCoy instead of being bored," Gilson said.

Gilson said, "We have extreme bowling, mostly for the kids, where we crank up the music, turn down the lights, and plunge you into the strangely sensory overload of bowling



Sgt. Cameron Brinson aims for the pins at McCoy's Community Club during league action. Brinson is with the 3rd, 335th Training Support Battalion, 181st Infantry Brigade.

from 4 - 9 p.m. Fridays."

League bowling is from October to March for youth and adults, men's, women's and mixed categories.

The lanes use automatic scoring, and, for the youngest kids, bumper bowling is available

where rails are raised on the edges of the lanes to keep the ball in the lane all the way to the pins.

"There are no gutter balls with the rails," Gilson said.

"I give free lessons whenever anyone wants

Bowling at a glance

Where: McCoy's Community Club

When: 11 a.m. - 10 p.m. Monday to Friday, 4 - 10 p.m. Saturday and Sunday.

Extreme Bowling: 4 - 9 p.m. Friday (low lights, loud music)

Fees: \$2.50 per game for adults, \$2 for youth; Shoe rental \$1; locker rental \$10 per year.

Food: Primo's Express restaurant, sandwiches and pizza 11 a.m. - 8 p.m. Monday through Friday, 4 - 8 p.m. Saturday and Sunday.

Other activities: Two sports bars, arcade, pool tables, dartboard, cable TV channels 4 p.m. - 11 p.m. seven days a week.

Information: telephone 608-388-7060; Web page www.mccoymwr.com/rec-a-fitness/bowling.html.

during our operating hours," Gilson said. "That's what I'm here for. I help people figure out where to stand, how to stand, how to approach the line and how to release the ball."

Gilson, a 20-year Navy retiree, came to McCoy's in 1998, the year after the entire facility was constructed.

Wellness Fair activities scheduled for May 11

The annual Fort McCoy Wellness Fair is Wednesday, May 11 from 10:30 a.m.-1 p.m. at the Rumpel Fitness Center, building 1122.

Highlights include a Red Cross Blood Drive, a 5K and 2-mile walk, door prizes and informational booths by area business.

For more information, call 608-388-2290.

The event is sponsored in part by Gundersen Lutheran, USAA, and Allied American University. No federal endorsement is implied.

Community garden plots to be issued in late April

Fort McCoy will have a community garden this year, with the plots being issued sometime in late April, depending on the weather.

Mike Napsey of the Directorate of Family and Morale, Welfare and Recreation at Fort McCoy and the garden's curator, said the community garden is an excellent project to create good relationships among South Post neighbors and other people in the Fort McCoy community.

The project also supports the Army Family Covenant by allowing Families to work and spend quality time together tending to their plantings.

Each plot is 20 x 20 feet and will rent for \$25. Napsey said the plots are fenced in to protect the area from deer and other wildlife that may damage crops. Gardeners must obtain their own seeds and do their own work, but everything else, including water and garden tools to do the work, will be provided.

Napsey said now is a good time for prospective gardeners to determine what seeds to order for planting in the gardens. Crops/plantings that have been successful in past years include potatoes and onions. Tomatoes, corn, beans, cabbage/lettuce or a number of fruits also might grow well.

Garden plots will be issued according to established priorities. Active-duty military and their spouses who live on South Post will have first priority. Other military Active Guard/Reserve, etc., will be the next priority.

Department of Defense civilians and retirees can also rent plots, if plots remain, after the requests of the military personnel have been fulfilled, Napsey said.

Additional details will be available at a later date as the garden plots can be prepared for the season.

For more information, call Napsey at 608-388-6588.

April is the Month of the Military Child and Child Abuse Prevention Month.

ARMYWIDE NEWS

SHARP summit addresses need for cultural change

STORY & PHOTO BY J.D. LEIPOLD

Army News Service

WASHINGTON — Army Chief of Staff Gen. George W. Casey Jr. said the Army needs a cultural change in order to eliminate sexual assault and harassment from its ranks.

Speaking before the fourth Sexual Harassment/Assault Response and Prevention (SHARP) summit titled "Achieving Cultural Change" March 29, Casey asked the audience to ponder just what it was going to take to generate the necessary cultural change.

"I can't believe that a force as good as we are, that's fought together, that's cried together, that's mourned together, that's bled together, that's liberated 50 million people from tyranny in the last decade — I can't believe that this combat-seasoned band of brothers and sisters can't stop this scourge," he said.

Even though SHARP has come a long way in putting the realities of sexual harassment and the violence of sexual assault to the forefront of leadership at all levels, the perception by and large, according to the chief, is that sexual harassment/assault aren't viewed by Soldiers as Armywide problems — it's "not my problem, but somebody else's" attitude.

"I agree with the folks in here that we haven't gotten an Armywide conviction to come out and stop this scourge, so the question is how do we change the culture to get us there — what is it we need to do? I don't think we've cracked that yet," he said.

"First of all, I think it's going to take sunshine, and by that I mean shining the light on it, talking about it, not sweeping it under the rug," he said. "One of the things I tried to do as chief was to create a culture in the Army that accepted the fact that the only way something is going to get better is if you put some sunshine



Sgt. Maj. of the Army Raymond F. Chandler III takes a question at the fourth annual Sexual Harassment/Assault Response and Prevention summit.

on it ... which means leaders have to talk about it, think about it, talk to their subordinates about it and put it up in front of everybody ... top down, bottom up approach."

Sgt. Maj. of the Army Raymond F. Chandler III, who spoke following Casey, agreed that the key to fixing the culture or "atmosphere" will be to continuously engage leadership at all levels. He said noncommissioned officers in particular must reflect on what's happening in their organizations, because NCOs enforce standards and set discipline.

"Do you foster an environment or an atmosphere in your unit to intervene, act and motivate? Are you the consummate professional, always living and upholding the Army values

in our warriors? Would you put a stop to sexual harassment or assault if it involved one of your good friends or peers?" he asked the audience.

Chandler said it was up to all leaders to have the courage to not only look down the chain, but to the left, right and up the chain as well, and to be an agent for cultural change in the Army by upholding the Army's value system.

The objective of the five-day summit was to give Army leaders, program managers and coordinators the opportunity to exchange and share strategic guidance and best practices.

The conference kicked off phase 3 of a four-phased "I. A.M. Strong" campaign to end sexual assault and harassment. Phase four is slated for 2013.

BRAC actions add to busy DoD summer moving season

BY ELAINE SANCHEZ

American Forces Press Service

WASHINGTON, D.C. — With a busier-than-usual military moving season about to kick into high gear, officials are asking servicemembers to book their moving dates early and to keep flexibility in mind when doing so.

The military moved more than 230,000 shipments last summer alone, and this year officials are expecting even more due to the base realignment and closure (BRAC) process, said John Johnson, chief of the personal property branch for the Army's Military Surface Deployment and Distribution Command. The command is the lead agent for the Defense Department's Personal Property Program.

Johnson said he's expecting an additional 10,000 moves this summer due to BRAC. This moving cluster can create a backlog for officials, Johnson said. On average, the military

moves about 600,000 shipments a year, and more than a third of those moves take place over the summer.

Johnson said a system redesign is in the works, but in the meantime, he recommends that people watch the video posted on <http://www.move.mil>, which explains in detail how to navigate the online claim system.

Officials also have directed training efforts at moving experts, Johnson said, including the introduction of a webinar series that covers the storage and transit process for personal property shipment offices and carriers.

Among efforts to increase capacity, officials now allow carriers to use portable movement storage containers similar to those used for commercial shipments, Johnson said. In the past, he explained, the military required household goods to be moved in "loose loaded" or in wooden crates with specific dimensions. However, in the commercial sector, carriers use

multiple types of containers.

"We're now allowing carriers to use what containers they normally use to move military members," he said. By doing so, he added, officials hope to increase the capacity of carriers qualified to conduct military moves.

People need to book moves early, particularly if they want to lock down a holiday weekend. And, above all, he said, they should remain flexible on dates.

When people are notified of a move, Johnson said, the first stop should be their local personal property shipment office, and then the Move.Mil website.

Military OneSource also offers Families a host of online moving resources, including "Plan My Move," which features a moving calendar and travel and arrival checklists, and "Military Installations," which links Families to information about their new base and the local community.

Shopmyexchange.com relaunch pays off for military shoppers

DALLAS (Army and Air Force Exchange Service Public Affairs) — While it's not exactly a NASA launch pad, the Exchange's website has been the subject of an intense pre-flight checklist as it prepares for the relaunch of shopmyexchange.com/default_s.aspx.

The promotion, which is under way, will include more than \$5,000 in giveaways for authorized shoppers, troops, and their Families, who log on through Monday, April 18.

The Exchange's ground crew is on a mission to "boldly go where no site has gone before" as a new, enhanced look and feel makes it easier to log in for exclusive offers and savings. Military shoppers also can stay informed and receive coupons, some with exclusive QR coded deals, which can be sent directly to smart phones and other portable devices.

Like a good mission control center, shopmyexchange.com puts everything at the user's fingertips.

The Exchange's Facebook, Twitter, YouTube and blog pages, movie schedules for on-base theaters, a local Exchange locator and celebrity interviews, for example, are intuitively integrated and easy to use.

Beyond the more than 18 million items available to authorized shoppers, any American can support the troops through the site by sending a gift or calling card to those serving far from home.

According to the Captain's log, Exchange shoppers will find even more opportunities to save with limited time only Super Daily Specials, Online Savings Club available only to shopmyexchange.com community members and Specialty Stores offered through an exclusive online vendor mall.

Servicemembers also still will enjoy the quality customer service and product assortment they've become accustomed to throughout the nearly 116-year history of the Exchange.

"We expect the new interface to really 'click' with Exchange patrons," said the Army & Air Force Exchange Services' Chief Operating Officer Mike Howard. "One look and I think they'll agree that shopmyexchange.com, with its tax-free savings, free standard shipping and new look, is truly out of this world."

■ RTS

(From page 1)

17-state region to the best of our ability.”

RTS-Medical attempts to obtain and incorporate into its training the latest equipment, or representative samples of that equipment, including that being used in-theater, he said. That will be critical in a time of an expected decline in military funding, he said, and helps establish RTS-Medical as the training site where the most-current medical equipment is available for medical personnel to train on.

“We are aiming to be a purple (multi-component) training organization, offering training to all military medical personnel,” he said. “We have Navy and Army Reserve medical personnel training here. Because we have many National Guard units throughout Wisconsin, we’re looking at attracting more National Guard medical personnel or units to train at Fort McCoy.”

RTS-Medical offers one-stop training in its medical complex of buildings in the 10000 block area. This allows units to conduct all their training in the area, reduces travel time and minimizes distractions.

Richardson said the latest field is medical communications, where medical personnel have patient records available electronically, online.

Among the current staples of RTS-Medical training are training with X-ray equipment and sterilizers, he said. RTS-Medical also offers



Students attending a Regional Training Site-Medical biomedical class learn about maintenance procedures for the most-current equipment.

pharmacy laboratory training and training with other medical equipment currently used during deployment. The future will include training with CAT scan equipment, he said.

RTS-Medical continues to increase its training load. Almost 8,200 personnel trained in training year 2010, and the organization is on pace to exceed 9,000 personnel trained in

training year 2011.

Richardson said the training includes medical exercises, such as Global Medic, which exercises the functional operational readiness of assigned medical units in a joint and coalition training environment.

For more information about RTS-Medical training, call 608-388-2544.

■ AFAP

(From page 5)

parent who remarries a servicemember. This may cause undue emotional stress when Survivors must justify their Survivor status in order to qualify for Survivor specific services. The delegates recommend ID cards annotate both dependent-survivor status and active-duty status to ensure Survivors quickly receive all available Survivor services.

Delegates also recommend providing caregivers of Wounded Warriors formal standardized training on self-care, stress reduction, burnout and prevention of abuse/neglect. Without this training, caregivers may suffer from caregiver fatigue, which ultimately may lead to neglect of a Wounded Warrior or damage to the Wounded Warrior and caregivers' relationship. The implementation of formal standardized, face-to-face training for designated caregivers of Wounded Warriors is critical to those who help heal our nation's heroes.

The elimination of the 20-year time-in-service requirement for medically retired servicemembers to be eligible for concurrent receipt of disability pay (CRDP) also was identified as an issue to be worked this year. The CRDP eliminates the offset between retirement pay and Veterans Affairs (VA) disability compensation.

Removal of the 20-year restriction would restore the full retirement pay and VA entitlements to the medically retired servicemembers with less than 20 years of active service.

Some military Families using Military Child Development Programs pay greater than 25 percent of their total monthly Family income for childcare.

The recommendation is to cap program fees at 25 percent of the military Family's total Family income.

Lastly, Medical Retention Processing for Reserve-Component Soldiers is limited to six months from their date of release from active duty. However, medical conditions resulting from active-duty service are not always visible within the first six months of release from active duty. Extending the medical retention processing to five years would allow Reserve-Component Soldiers to receive proper medical treatment.

The remaining 11 issues identified by the AFAP delegates are Survivor, Medical, Family Support and Civilian personnel issues. I encourage you to learn more about these new issues by visiting the Army OneSource website at <https://www.myarmyonesource.com/familyprogramsandservices/>.

In addition, you can follow the progress on all issues that are currently being worked by selecting “Active

Issue Search” at the bottom of the page and then search by issue number or keyword.

The website allows you to submit a new issue directly to your garrison or unit AFAP process, and provides AFAP brochures, articles and videos to download. You also can download the “HQDA AFAP Issue Search” application for free on your iPad®, iPhone® and iPod Touch®.

As I have said many times before, our Army will not break because of its Soldiers but it will break because of the stress placed upon our Soldiers and their Families. Never before have we asked so much of our Army Families. Because of this, the Army will continue to fully fund and staff Army Family programs and keep our promise of providing Soldiers and Families a quality of life that is commensurate with their service.

In order to ensure the promise is always kept, we must continue to identify inefficient, redundant or obsolete programs and services so we can redirect those resources to where we truly need them. I challenge each of you to help us in this endeavor. In the near future, I will communicate to you where and how you can help.

Moving forward, the AFAP process will not only be the identification of quality-of-life issues, but also the identification of potential offsets to resource those quality-of-life issues.

■ CPAC

(From page 1)

“We provide the same services to the NAF employees that CPAC provides to the appropriated fund employees,” Reneau said. “In addition, we conduct NAF wage surveys in the St. Paul, Minn., area to help set wages for NAF employees, here at McCoy.”

Unlike other CPACs, Fort McCoy's CPAC also provides retirement services, such as classes, because of its Army Reserve support mission, Kohn said.

On May 11, 2010 President Obama signed a Presidential Memorandum to modernize the federal hiring process. “We have made significant improvements in the last year in our ability to process recruit actions in a more timely manner,” Kohn said.

Both the appropriated fund and NAF personnel support advances in technology to help accomplish the mission and best serve customers, Kohn, Pattison and Reneau said.

Kohn said the USA Staffing automated announcement and referral system for personnel actions will replace the Resumix job application system.

Appropriated fund employees will see an automation update for their official personnel files (OPFs), and NAF employees will see paper copies of their application process replaced with an automated version.

Pattison said the Fort McCoy CPAC will be one of the last CPACs to receive the system — scheduled by March 31, 2012 — because it is busy handling the wrap-up of its Base Realignment and Closure actions.

Other CPACs have received this system, so McCoy personnel who apply for a job at another installation may use the new system.

More information about the system, including training for employees and supervisors, will be released as the USA Staffing implementation date approaches, Pattison said.

For more information about CPAC or general government job information in the Fort McCoy community, call 608-388-2722.

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