

FRONT & CENTER

A time to honor, celebrate, remember

The month of May always seems so incredibly busy. Annual Training units are beginning to roll through the gates at Camp Shelby while children are graduating from high school and college and families are getting ready for summer vacation. Even though this time of year is hectic, we still have some very important opportunities to recognize service members, veterans and their Families during various events in May.

During the month, we will be hosting Retiree's Day at the Mississippi Armed Forces Museum on May 16, Armed Forces Day is May 17, the Laying of the Wreaths Ceremony May 23 and College Career Day will be hosted May 23.

Armed Forces Day will be recognized by a 10K/ 2-mile Fun Run and walk at 7:30 a.m. May 18, hosted by Medical Task Force Shelby.

Congratulations team on a job well done completing the Army

Physical Fitness Test. I encourage each of you to continue to challenge yourself physically and always strive for a better score than your last APFT. Thanks to HHD for your logistical coordination and efforts ensuring the test was conducted efficiently and to standard.

Team, we continue the task of preparing service members for their mobilization missions as we welcome the 79th Infantry, California Army National Guard; Rhode Island Army National Guard Special Operations Detachment, Road Island Army National Guard; 143rd Sustainment Command, Florida Army National Guard; 65th Field Artillery Headquarters Fires Brigade, Utah Army National Guard and the 203rd Transportation Company, Minnesota Army National Guard.

These are just a few of the units that will be passing through our gates as they train and prepare for their upcoming missions supporting Overseas Contingency Oper-

ations.

This month we will welcome home members of the 167th Infantry Battalion, Alabama Army National Guard; 144th Infantry Battalion, Texas Army National Guard and the 508th Military Police Company, New Jersey Army National Guard. Thanks to all of you for your continued support and sacrifice during your deployment.

Summer Annual Training has begun. Let us welcome our comrades in arms from around the state as they complete their summer training here.

Welcome members of the Mississippi Army National Guard from the following units – 850th Transportation Company, 858th Horizontal Engineer Company, 168th Engineer Brigade, Headquarters 890th Engineer Battalion as well as Headquarters and Headquarters Company 223rd Engineer Battalion. Also welcome our brothers in arms from the Tennessee Army National

Guard, Headquarters 1/278th Armored Cavalry Regiment as they complete their annual training here at Camp Shelby.

Summer is here and safety should always be in the forefront of your mission and daily activities. Be cautious when swimming, boating, participating in outdoor sports and working outdoors.

Hydration is extremely important as the Mississippi summer temperatures rise. Use the battle buddy system with your team to recognize risks, implement preventative measures and react immediately in the event of an emergency.

It is important to keep an emergency kit available at home for the unexpected incidents associated with inclement weather that can present itself rapidly in the Pine Belt. Always ensure you have your team's alert roster readily available at work and at home in the event of an emergency.



Col. Brad Smith

Thanks, team, for your continued hard work and steadfast attitude for success. God Bless you, your Families and the United States of America!
SOLDIERS FIRST!

SOLDIER

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Cool, Casual Day

Camp Shelby is proud to participate in the Muscular Dystrophy Association's Cool and Casual Day Program May 24. Come on, everyone and let's have maximum participation! (Remember, there are prizes for the departments that raise the most money so get EVERYONE to at least order a bracelet).

The MDA is a non-profit organization dedicated to the cure and treatment of more than 43 neuromuscular diseases. This is a fun program that allows employees to purchase T-shirts or bracelets from MDA to dress down for the day.

Funds raised from Cool and Casual Day will stay in Mississippi to provide wheelchairs and braces, clinic visits, summer camp for children, as well as vital research. Please have all orders/money turned in May 2 to Camp Shelby's Family Assistance Office. Thank you for your participation and let's make a difference by dressing Casual for a Cure!

For more information, please contact Blenda Gann at CSJFTC Family Assistance, Bldg 1001 Rm. 140 or call 601-558-2405

NOTE: *If you have mission requirements on May 24th, you cannot participate in MDA's Cool and Casual Day.

VOW requirements

Camp Shelby Soldiers transitioning from Active Duty must coordinate with the DPCA Plans/Ops Office and the ACAP counselor in Building 1441 to start their demobilization process as well in advance of the end of their orders as possible. Ideally that would be six months prior to the end of the order, but no less than 60 days from the order end-date.

The Veterans Opportunity to Work Act requirements may be completed online or in the classroom setting. Soldiers may complete the requirements online or attend the classes which are held every Thursday in Building 1613 beginning at 7 a.m. Attendance to the classroom version must be coordinated with DPCA Plans/Op and the ACAP Counselor prior to attendance. If you complete VOW via virtual means, you must schedule an appointment with the ACAP Counselor for review of the documents produced in order to be cleared to con-

tinue the demobilization process.

For more information, call the Camp Shelby ACAP Office at 601-558-2298.

H2H

Are you, or is someone you know looking for a job? Hero2Hired (H2H) is a Department of Defense program created to help Guard and Reserve members find employment. In addition to searchable job postings of military-friendly employers all over the country, H2H provides many other valuable tools to find a job, all in one place. Visit www.H2H.jobs and sign up today!

Security courses

The Department of Defense Defense Security Service (DSS) Center for Development of Security Excellence (CDSE) offers security education, training and certification. Courses offered by CDSE are available to U.S. government employees and military members. Some courses are also available to employees of companies that have government contracts. There is no charge for any CDSE course; however, some courses require purchase of textbooks. The American Council on Education's College Credit Recommendation Service (ACE CREDIT) has evaluated and recommended college credit for 13 CDSE courses. Additional information about CDSE including course descriptions and registration can be found at www.cdse.edu/ For more information, contact the Camp Shelby Education Center at 601-558-2029 or email: John.junkins1@us.army.mil

SIFT testing available

The Selected Instrument for Flight Training (SIFT) has replaced the Army Flight Aptitude Selection Test (AFAT) and is now available at Camp Shelby Education Center. SIFT Testing requires a completed DA Form 4187 with verification of a GT score of 110. For more information contact john.junkins1@us.army.mil or visit the education center.

NRA Life of Duty

The National Rifle Association is offering free annual memberships for military service members, law enforcement officers and first responders through the Life of Duty program. For more information or to sponsor a membership, go to the NRA Life of Duty website at

<http://www.nralifeof-duty-tv/#/home>

Military HOMEFRONT

This is the official Department of Defense web site for reliable Quality of Life information designed to help troops and their Families, leaders and service providers. Whether you live the military lifestyle or support those who do, find what you need! - www.militaryhomefront.dod.mil/

VWIP program

Oak Arbor, a division of Pine Belt Mental Health, has received a VWIP grant and is partnering with Pearl River Community College Workforce Development to provide services focused on enhancing the employability of eligible veterans within the Perry, Lamar and Forrest County areas. The programs will be Pipefitting, Commercial Truck Driving, EMT, Electrical and Welding. Additional training will be offered in Forklift training and Microsoft applications. Those completing the respective program will also get a Career Readiness Certificate. ACT scores are not required; only high school or GED. CDL training doesn't require high school or GED. EMT, CDL and Welding will be in Hattiesburg. Pipefitting will be in Poplarville. The program will pay for tuition and supplies. The point of contact at Oak Arbor is Latibiyatta McLendon, at tbuckhalter@oak-arbor.com or 601-545-2925; at Pearl River CC POC is Deborah Hewitt at dhewitt@prcc.edu or 601-554-5503. For more information, contact John Junkins at john.junkins1@us.army.mil

MS degree in....

A team from the USM Center for Logistics, Trade and Transportation delivered a presentation on the MS Degree in Logistics, Trade and Transportation April 18. This unique degree is in demand and could pave the way for a career on the Mississippi Gulf Coast and other areas. For more information on this and other educational programs, contact the Camp Shelby Education Office at 601-558-2029 or email Mr. John Junkins at john.junkins1@us.army.mil

College Credit Exams

The Camp Shelby Education Center has fifteen (15) college credit exams (undergraduate) which are available at no cost for Soldiers. Each exam is worth three semester hours. Online study guides are available through AKO

and Petersons. For a listing of the exams and web site study guides, send an email request to john.junkins1@us.army.mil

Engineer, Const. Camp

The Society of American Military Engineers (SAME)/US Army is hosting its annual Engineering and Construction Camp June 16-22 in Vicksburg, Miss. The camp provides high school students with a great hands-on experience in engineering and construction activities. Vicksburg's wide-ranging engineering community provides a wealth of offerings in cutting edge engineering topics. The one-week program is supervised by professional engineers and volunteers from engineering organizations in the lower Mississippi Valley. The crewmates (campers) are exposed to a wealth of knowledge about the various career choices in the fields of engineering and construction, focusing primarily on water resources engineering. Applications are normally distributed to high schools in January for submission to the camp Student Affairs Committee by the middle of March each year. For more information and the application process, go to <http://samecamps.org/>



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