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Ullr Shield validates post's joint capability, expands Marines' skills

BY SCOTT T. STURKOL

Public Affairs Staff

From early January to early February, more than 1,200 Marines participating in the 2nd Marine Aircraft Wing's Ullr Shield exercise accessed training venues across Fort McCoy and experienced some of the coldest weather Wisconsin could throw at them.

The Marines trained at areas such as the Combined Arms Collective Training Facility (CACTF), Young Air Assault Strip, Sparta-Fort McCoy Airport, Leadership Reaction Course, Confidence Course, Improved Tactical Training Base Freedom, numerous live-fire ranges, and more. And during all the time they trained, temperatures dipped as low as minus 15 degrees and snow fell on several different days.

"Their successful training here once again validates Fort McCoy's joint national training center capa-



Photo by Sgt. Joselyn Jimenez

A Marine with Marine Medium Tiltrotor Squadron 266 fires an M240 machine gun from the ramp of an MV-22 Osprey on Jan. 19 while flying over a Fort McCoy live-fire range.

bility," said Training Coordination Branch Chief Craig Meeusen with the Directorate of Plans, Training,

Mobilization and Security (DPT-MS).

The 2nd Marine Aircraft Wing

(MAW), headquartered at Marine Corps Air Station (MCAS) Cherry Point, N.C., began coordination to

hold the cold-weather training at Fort McCoy in September 2017, Meeusen said. Now that the exercise is wrapping up, he said it appears they achieved many of their training goals.

"This has been the largest Marine Corps winter training exercise that we've had in years, and it has been a great cooperative training effort by everyone involved," Meeusen said.

One of the biggest training events that took place involved the training held with the Marine Corps aircraft of the 2nd MAW, such as the VMM-266 Osprey, UH-1Y Venom helicopter, and CH-53E Super Stallion helicopter.

On Jan. 19, VMM-266 Osprey aircraft and aircrews from the 2nd MAW's Marine Medium Tiltrotor Squadron-266 held a familiarization flight over Fort McCoy and conducted live-fire tail gunnery training.

In a released video made by Staff (See **MARINES**, Page 3)

Operation Cold Steel II set to start at Fort McCoy training crews

STORY & PHOTO BY STAFF SGT. DEBRALEE BEST

Operation Cold Steel II Public Affairs

Operation Cold Steel (OCS) II begins operations at Fort McCoy on Feb. 19. Task Force Triad, hosted by the 416th Theater Engineer Command, will conduct training at Fort McCoy from Feb. 19 to May 31 for OCS II. More than 3,000 Soldiers are expected to attend this mounted crew-served weapons qualification training.

OCS II's Task Force Bullion, hosted by the 377th Theater Sustainment Command, will provide ground qualification at Fort Knox, Ky., from March 1 to May 13 for approximately 3,400 Soldiers.

The first iteration of OCS II spanned two months from Oct. 12 to Dec. 15 at Fort Hunter Liggett, Calif. During that time, the 79th Theater Support (See **STEEL**, Page 4)

Commander highlights installation's way ahead to workforce

STORY & PHOTOS BY SCOTT T. STURKOL

Public Affairs Staff

Garrison Commander Col. David J. Pinter Sr. highlighted Fort McCoy's continued growth in supporting training America's Army and how to continue that success for the future during two sessions of the Garrison Commander's Workforce Briefing on Jan. 24 in building 905.

"This is not only an overview and look at where we've been, but also where we're going," Pinter said.

People taking notice

During fiscal year (FY) 2017, a record 155,975 personnel trained at Fort McCoy — up more than 18,000 from FY 2016. The continued increase in troop training is happening, Pinter said, because the (See **BRIEFING**, Page 2)



Garrison Commander Col. David J. Pinter Sr. provides his annual briefing to the Fort McCoy workforce Jan. 24 in building 905.

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NEWS



Members of the Fort McCoy workforce listen in during the morning session of the Garrison Commander's Workforce Briefing by Col. David J. Pinter Sr. on Jan. 24 in building 905.

■ BRIEFING

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world is taking notice of what the Fort McCoy team can bring as “value-added” to military training.

Pinter said having senior leaders visit Fort McCoy in recent years has helped tell the installation's story to many.

“We’ve (continuously) been inviting our senior leaders and our local communities to come out and see what happens at Fort McCoy,” Pinter said. In doing this, it shows the capability that exists on post and what Fort McCoy can provide its customers.

Fort McCoy regularly supports the training for Army active- and reserve-component forces as well as forces from all the military services. This training support includes exercises, battle-drill training, weekend training, and more.

And since Fort McCoy's top priority is readiness, Pinter said there is no question the installation is getting to be well known for its capacity and capability to be the four-season “Total Force Training Center” that Fort McCoy's motto describes.

“The team here is doing a great job,” Pinter said.

Supporting command imperatives

At the beginning of the briefing, a video by Lt. Gen. Kenneth R. Dahl, commanding general of Installation Management Command (IMCOM), was played for the audience.

According to the IMCOM video, Dahl “refreshes his priorities for the command, explains how those priorities are tied to the chief of staff and secretary of the Army priorities and how IMCOM garrisons must use a ‘divest, reshape, invest’ strategy, according to the tenants of Total Army Strong, in order to help the Army

maintain readiness in a fiscally challenging environment.”

Pinter noted some important points in the video.

“Keep in mind the (video) theme — divest, reshape, and invest,” Pinter said. “That’s an important theme for us to remember.

“You also may have recognized that some of the pictures in the video include Fort McCoy,” Pinter said. “That tells me that (Lt. Gen.) Dahl recognizes us at every garrison commander's forum. It highlights the successes of Fort McCoy because we've demonstrated that fiscal responsibility and we've ensured that we know what the customer needs and we've delivered on those needs.”

People make it happen

Pinter discussed how the Fort McCoy team is likely the most valuable asset to the installation's success to carry out the post's vision “to be the premier Total Force Training Center and power projection installation for America's defense forces.”

He said each team member helps establish a “cornerstone” of trust, and that trust is connected to the words in the Soldier's Creed; the Civilian Corps Creed; Family and community covenants; and the Army values of loyalty, duty, respect, selfless service, honor, integrity, and personal courage.

“What makes the people (who work at Fort McCoy into Team McCoy are those cornerstones of trust,” Pinter said.

And it's the people of the installation team, through telling the Fort McCoy story far and wide, who have helped the mission grow on post, Pinter said.

The colonel highlighted the 2nd Marine Aircraft Wing's Ullr Shield cold-weather exercise, held from early January to early February this year, as well as training with Air Force partners in 2017 that has shown what Fort McCoy has done to make things happen.

“We can sustain four seasons of training,” Pinter said. “We understand how to do that, and we know it's a team effort.”

Continuing excellence

In addition to establishing a new record number of people training at Fort McCoy in FY 2017, the installation was also recognized with many awards, including a Bronze Award in the Army Communities of Excellence program, a Secretary of the Army Conservation Award, and numerous command-level awards.

Pinter said that excellence is a result of many efforts by the Fort McCoy team, including the five-year Strategic Business Plan that serves as a roadmap for the installation now and into the future.

“The success of a business plan is (achieved) if it can continue to be implemented by future leaders,” Pinter said. “I think we've been able to do that here at Fort McCoy.”

Fort McCoy's strategic objectives in the current five-year Strategic Business Plan include:

- sustaining and modernizing Fort McCoy's cantonment, Range Complex, strategic mobility, physical security, quality of life, and information technology infrastructure.
- maintaining and expanding Fort McCoy's institutional and transient training customer base.
- attracting, retaining, and developing a competent, professional workforce.

- increasing Fort McCoy's military value through efficient cantonment facility management and access to additional maneuver space.

- enhancing communication and collaboration internally and with enterprise transformation organizations and tenant training organizations.

- delivering high-quality, responsive, and innovative quality of life programs and services for Soldiers, Families, retirees, employees, and the transient training population.

- ensuring Fort McCoy's military value and relevance to the Department of Defense (DOD) and the region are recognized throughout the DOD, our regional communities, and among our elected officials at all levels as a premier training center of choice.

“This goes back to telling our story and building those partnerships,” Pinter said.

Pinter also highlighted changes in program management and continued focus on excellent customer service.

This included discussing the implementation of the DOD Performance Management and Appraisal Program and ensuring all Fort McCoy personnel have received the Operation Excellence customer service training.

Other notes of interest from the briefing included the announcement of several internal initiatives being completed, such as the installation on-boarding strength increasing from 83 to 87 percent, a Sharepoint collaboration for the post, and the publishing of a human resources handbook.

Pinter also announced that a garrison change of command will take place May 19 with more information about the command change to be announced at a later time.

NEWS

MARINES

(From page 1)

Sgt. Kowshon Ye of the 2nd MAW Public Affairs team, Capt. George Carpenter with Marine Medium Tiltrotor Squadron 266 explained that tail gunnery is one of the core mission-essential tasks for an Osprey and that training in the cold and snow presented some extra challenges.

“The snow kind of brings its own dangers in the environment,” Carpenter said. “For example, there’s no contrast between the ground and the snow you are blowing up so a whitout situation is a lot more difficult to land in.”

Marines with the 2nd MAW’s Marine Air Control Group (MACG) 28 also challenged themselves to a frigid workout Jan. 19 by conducting training at the Confidence Course on the Fort McCoy cantonment area. Ye captured the training in another video and in it, Capt. Keff Brown, an officer with MACG 28, said it was a challenging event for them.

“The confidence course helps Marines build confidence by going over high obstacles,” Brown said in the video. “It takes a little bit of endurance and mobility. ... The snow and ice did not impede them at all. ... The camaraderie, teamwork, and leadership (of the Marines) all showed through (as well).”

Cpl. Joseph Betts with Marine Tactical Air Command Squadron 28 was also featured in Ye’s Confidence Course video. The Marine described his experience.

“There is snow and ice, so you have to be careful everywhere,” Betts said. “You have to use your head more when going over those obstacles so you don’t slip and fall. We pushed each other to see who could go through the quickest. And we looked out for each other (for safety) because that’s what Marines do.”

The Marines also conducted a chemical, biological, radiological, and nuclear defense drill and urban operations training at the CACTF. At Range 2 and at many other live-fire ranges, the Marines trained on the M2 .50-caliber machine, the M4 rifle, and more.

They also practiced carrying rucksacks while snowshoeing and skiing, and dozens also practiced cold-water immersion training in the icy waters of Big Sandy Lake on South Post.

Capt. Andrew Fabre with MACG 28 participated in the Cold-Weather Operations Course (CWOC) at Fort McCoy in December and came back in January for Ullr Shield. He said Fort McCoy is a great place for the cold-weather training they wanted to accomplish.

“Fort McCoy is a top-notch training facility and base,” Fabre said. “Our mission cannot be completed without our Marines operating at a high level. (The CWOC and other cold-weather) training allows us to prepare for any environment with cold extremes, which also allows us to remain focused on the threat and the mission instead of the environment.”



Photo by Scott T. Sturkol

A Marine Corps UH-1Y Venom helicopter at the installation for the 2nd Marine Aircraft Wing’s Ullr Shield exercise flies near Young Air Assault Strip on South Post on Jan. 24 at Fort McCoy.



Photo by Scott T. Sturkol

A Marine participates in cold-water immersion training at Big Sandy Lake on South Post on Jan. 17 as part of the exercise.



Photo by Lance Cpl. Cody Rowe

Capt. Jonathan Zehner, officer in charge of Marine Air Control Squadron 2, leads his platoon during a conditioning hike Jan. 13 at Fort McCoy.



Photo by Lance Cpl. Jailline L. Martinez

Marines with Marine Air Control Group 28 prepare to fire their M16A4 rifles Jan. 17 on a range at Fort McCoy.



Photo by Lance Cpl. Cody Rowe

Marines assigned to Marine Wing Headquarters Squadron 2 conduct a ski patrol during the exercise Jan. 17 at Fort McCoy.

NEWS

■ STEEL

(From page 1)

Command (TSC) hosted Task Force Coyote, training approximately 2,000 Soldiers on crew-served weapons, including the M2 machine gun, M249 light machine gun, M240B machine gun, and MK-19 40-millimeter grenade machine gun.

Soldiers training in this iteration focused on ground qualification, expending more than 1.2 million rounds of ammunition.

This second iteration of OCS II at Fort McCoy focuses on mounted gunnery operations with the same crew-served weapon systems, planners said. It will mirror the first OCS, held in March and April 2017, also at Fort McCoy.

In 2017, an estimated 1,800 Army Reserve Soldiers from approximately 60 Army Reserve units trained in the inaugural OCS, which was hosted by 84th Training Command.

The purpose of OCS in 2017 was to create a more deployable, combat-ready, and lethal fighting force within the Army Reserve by training and qualifying participating units on the crew-served weapons within the Army arsenal. That will continue.

“Cold Steel benefits the (unit Soldiers) by training them and giving them an experience that they most likely have never had in the Army Reserve or even in the history of the Army Reserve,” said Command Sgt. Maj. Freddy Trejo, Task Force Triad senior enlisted adviser for Operation Cold Steel II.

“We’re putting weapons in their hands, getting them qualified, increasing their confidence as Army Reserve Soldiers, and we are sending crews back to units completely qualified and trained.”

In addition to crew-served weapons qualification, an estimated 250 Soldiers are train-

ing as vehicle crew evaluators. Newly trained Army Reserve Master Gunner Common Core graduates are teaming with seasoned active-component master gunners to conduct gunnery autonomously at the unit level.

During OCS II at Fort McCoy, Army Reserve Soldiers will train and qualify on the MK-19, M240B, M2 and M249 platforms mounted to various military vehicles, including Humvees, Medium Tactical Vehicles, Heavy Expanded Mobility Tactical Trucks, and Heavy Equipment Transports.

Approximately 50 crews from Task Force Triad also will travel to Fort Knox after completing gunnery table IV, or individual crew convoy protection platform qualification, to participate in a bridge combat support training exercise (CSTX). Upon completion of the CSTX, these crews will complete gunnery table III, a sectional gunnery of two to five protection platforms.

“Operation Cold Steel is designed to train Soldiers on a way to effectively acquire and engage targets on a mounted platform,” said Staff Sgt. David Jenkins, operations noncommissioned officer for Task Force Cold Steel II. “This is something that has not been trained on in the Army Reserve in a while other than during (pre-mobilization).

“From the operations at Fort McCoy conducting gate IV, they can effectively go on to (situational training exercise) lanes and ... conduct the convoy live-fire exercise,” Jenkins said.

“Completing these gates will make the transition to mobilizing a little faster. This will make our units a better equipped and ready force.”



Staff Sgt. Jason Kelly with 366th Engineer Company, 412th Theater Engineer Command, receives ammunition for zero firing in preparation for completion of live-fire qualification during Operation Cold Steel at Fort McCoy in March 2017.



Skiing training

Students in the Fort McCoy Cold-Weather Operations Course Class 18-03 learn to ski and about skiing techniques Jan. 25 at Whitetail Ridge Ski Area at Fort McCoy.

The students included Marines with the 2nd Marine Aircraft Wing of Marine Corps Air Station Cherry Point, N.C., and Soldiers with the 181st Multi-Functional Training Brigade at Fort McCoy.

In addition to skiing, students are trained on a variety of cold-weather subjects, including snowshoe training as well as how to use ahkio sleds and other gear.

Photo by Scott T. Sturkol

NEWS

Birthday video features USO Wisconsin-Fort McCoy as one of 15 sites

STORY & PHOTO BY SCOTT T. STURKOL

Public Affair Staff

Members of USO Wisconsin at Fort McCoy did their part to create a video that recognized the national USO's 77th birthday Feb. 4.

"USO Wisconsin was just one of 15 international USO locations to be represented in the video," said Ellie Hazlett, director of operations and volunteer management at USO Wisconsin. "That is a great honor for our organization and for Fort McCoy. I was happy we had a chance to be a part of it."

USO Wisconsin Inc. is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization. It currently operates six centers in Wisconsin that serve more than 25,000 military Families throughout the state. The USO has had a continuous presence in Wisconsin since 1943 through the global parent company, USO Inc.

Three of the five Wisconsin USO centers are at Fort McCoy, which is also where the video was filmed.

"We filmed our portion of the video at Improved Tactical Training Base (ITT) Freedom," Hazlett said. "We had some active-duty Marines who were staying at the base, and they helped us by appearing in the video."

The Marines were from units associated with the 2nd Marine Aircraft Wing, which is headquartered at Marine Corps Air Station Cherry Point, N.C. Their main line in the video was "Happy Birthday USO." USO volunteer Heather Morales, who also is a Gold Star spouse with the 32nd Infantry Brigade Combat Team of the Wisconsin National Guard, also assisted with the video.

Hazlett oversees all USO operations at Fort McCoy and throughout Wisconsin. She said USO involvement at Fort McCoy has grown since USO centers were established on post in 2015.

"It's essential for us to provide services for Soldiers in our state," Hazlett said. "The fact that from (Fort McCoy) we are able to not only provide support for our service members from Wisconsin, but also for service members from all over the country, is wonderful."

USO centers at Fort McCoy are located at ITTBs Freedom and Liberty and on the cantonment area in building 1501. Hazlett said USO Wisconsin also recently purchased a mobile USO truck for \$42,000 to bring USO services to troops just about anywhere.

"The truck is mainly assigned to Fort McCoy but also can be



Ellie Hazlett (center) of USO Wisconsin shows a video to Marines with the 2nd Marine Aircraft Wing at Improved Tactical Training Base Freedom on Jan. 25 at Fort McCoy. The video was made with the support of the Marines to wish the national USO a happy birthday. The video aired nationally Feb. 4.

used for military events and units throughout the state," Hazlett said. "To find out more, people just need to contact me."

And as the 2018 training season gets even busier at Fort McCoy, Hazlett said she and her team of volunteers will be ready to go.

"We will do as much as we can with the resources we have," Hazlett said. "It's an honor to support our troops in any way possible."

The three USO centers not at Fort McCoy are located at

General Mitchell International Airport and the Military Entrance Processing Station in Milwaukee and at the La Cross International Airport.

"Our mobile USO truck, essentially, is also like a USO center," Hazlett said.

"It offers all the same capabilities on wheels."

For more information about USO Wisconsin operations at Fort McCoy, or to become a USO volunteer, contact Hazlett by email at ehazlett@usowisconsin.org.

Directorate of Emergency Services offers advice to keep property safe, secure year-round

The security of government and personal property is a year-round responsibility.

Security is everyone's responsibility, said Mark Reaves, Physical Security Office chief with DES.

Below are a few safety tips that work hand in hand with the commander's crime-prevention program.

Protecting vehicles

- Never leave a vehicle running.
- Never leave keys in the car or ignition, even inside a locked garage.
- Install a vehicle alarm or mechanical lock for the steering wheel or ignition. Always activate any auto alarms or anti-theft devices.

- Always lock the doors and leave the windows rolled up.

- Do not leave money, checkbook, or credit cards in the vehicle at any time.

- Keep books, CD or MP3 players, and any other valuables out of sight. Expensive items in full view invite theft even if the vehicle is locked. Don't advertise the types of equipment in a vehicle.

- Always park in a high-traffic, well-lighted area, if possible

Bicycle thefts

- Keep bicycles locked at all time when unattended by using a u-shaped lock or cable.

- Use an engraver to place identifying marks on an unpainted or major part of the bicycle. Be able to identify a bicycle by more than color and features.

- Take a picture of the bicycle and of the serial number and keep it in a safe place.

- Register bicycles with the department of public safety and or a local police station.

Office thefts

- Do not leave high-value items in plain sight and unattended. Place all valuable item in drawers that can be locked.
- Don't leave a purse or wallet in

the bottom drawer as it's a common storage spot.

Vacation tips

Burglars look for occupancy cues like outdoor lights burning 24 hours a day, piled-up newspapers, or advertising fliers hanging on the door knob. Use an inexpensive light timer when away, and ask a neighbor to keep the front of the home clean of papers and debris.

Burglars know to look for the hidden door key near the front entrance. Don't hide spare keys under rocks, in flowerpots, or above door ledges. Instead, give the spare key to a trusted neighbor.

Burglars prefer to enter through unlocked doors or windows. Sliding windows that are not secure can be seen from distance.

Don't leave telephone answering machine messages indicating the Family is away from the home for vacation.

Burglars love to hear that they have plenty of time to break in and ransack the home.

For more information about physical security at Fort McCoy, call 608-388-3794. For more information about crime prevention, visit www.crimepreventiontips.org.

(Article prepared by the Fort McCoy Directorate of Emergency Services.)

NEWS

Cold-Weather Operations Course Class 18-02: 'This course gave me confidence'

STORY & PHOTOS BY SCOTT T. STURKOL

Public Affairs Staff

Twenty-five Soldiers came to Fort McCoy to build a greater understanding of military operations in a winter environment as students in Cold-Weather Operations Course Class 18-02 during the first two weeks of January.

When they left, many said they not only had a greater understanding but the course also gave them skills needed to survive and operate in a winter-warfare environment.

"This course gave me confidence," said Staff Sgt. Joseph Chrysler with the 339th Psychological Operations Company of Arden Hills, Minn. "It gave me confidence in my cold-weather clothing and gear and helped me (rebuild) skills that are not used every day in today's Army. ... Also, some of the best parts of this course were learning to build a thermal shelter and (bivouacking) overnight in the elements."

The course, also known as CWOC, is modeled on the Cold-Weather Leader Course taught by the Army Northern Warfare Training Center (NWTC) at Black Rapids, Alaska, said course Instructor Bill Hamilton, who works for contractor Veterans Range Solutions, which supports the Directorate of Plans, Training, Mobilization and Security, or DPTMS.

Hamilton said the course is designed to challenge students.

"Our program of instruction includes overnight operations in the field," Hamilton said. "We teach them a finite set of individual, leader, and small-unit collective tasks within a structured 'crawl, walk, and run' methodology."

Tasks taught include cold-weather injury identification and treatment, proper ways to wear cold-weather clothing, cold-weather risk management, snowshoeing and skiing, and adverse effects of cold weather on military equipment, Hamilton said. Training also includes developing winter fighting positions in the field, camouflage and concealment, building improvised shelters, and numerous other areas that are important to know in order to survive and operate in a cold-weather environment.

"We start off with classroom training for a few days and then it's training in the field every day until we're done," Hamilton said. "In the field, the students spend time ruck marching for dozens of miles, skiing, snowshoeing, building tents and shelters, and more."

After being exposed to the cold-weather in the field, many students said understanding the Army Extreme Cold-Weather Clothing System, or ECWCS, was most helpful. The system, which is issued through the Fort McCoy Central Issue Facility, includes a lightweight undershirt and underwear, midweight shirt and underwear, fleece jacket, wind jacket, soft shell jacket and trousers, extreme cold/wet-weather jacket and trousers, and extreme cold-weather parka and trousers.

"You have to have confidence in your gear. ... It's how you stay alive in extreme conditions," said Staff Sgt. Anthony Steinhoff with the Wisconsin National Guard in Richland Center, Wis. "In this course, they teach you how to properly dress for the cold."

"Practical, hands-on application of using equipment seems to be one of the best ways for students to get familiar with the equipment needed to survive in cold-weather," Hamilton said.

Toward the end of the course, all students participated in cold-water immersion training. Joe Ernst, also a CWOC instructor, said cold-water immersion is critical to the ability to survive and operate in a cold-weather environment.

"The experience of a service member being introduced to water in an extreme-cold environment is a crucial task for waterborne operations and confidence building," Ernst said. "For a person to fall into water in that environment, the onset of panic generally introduces itself quickly. For our service members who



A Soldier participates in cold-water immersion training at Fort McCoy's Big Sandy Lake as part of training for the Cold-Weather Operations Course Class 18-02 on Jan. 17.



Soldiers learn about specialized knot-tying as part of course training Jan. 10.



Students assemble an Arctic 10-person cold-weather tent as part of course operations Jan. 17.

will be operating in an extreme-cold environment, it is a task that, if not trained for, can produce unnecessary casualties."

"The best parts of this course was learning to build an improvised shelter and the cold-water immersion," said Sgt. Hunter Carlson with the Wisconsin National Guard's 1158th Transportation Company at Beloit, Wis. "I didn't enjoy doing either of them, but I realize how important learning those skills are and being able to use them."

Army ROTC Cadet Molly Brown with the University of

Wisconsin-La Crosse said she appreciated all of the training.

"Everything you need to know to succeed in (cold-weather) is taught in this course," Brown said.

"This course significantly prepared me and taught me the skills needed to (operate) and survive in a cold-weather environment.

Immediately after the completion of Class 18-02, Class 18-03 began the following week with more than 50 students, both Marines and Soldiers.

SAFETY

Be ready for winter before any emergencies strike

Winter is the signature season of Wisconsin. It's normally a long season of cold temperatures, snow, and ice that can last from November through April. Yet winter doesn't slow Wisconsinites down.

In fact, Wisconsinites are just as mobile, social, and active during winter as they are during the summer months — both indoors and outdoors. But in order to ensure a safe and enjoyable winter, it is critical to be informed and aware of the potential risks and hazards associated with winter weather and how to avoid them.

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA)'s National Weather Service urges people to keep abreast of local forecasts and warnings by listening to NOAA weather radios, commercial radio stations, television, and social media and familiarize themselves with key weather terminology.

- A winter storm warning is issued when hazardous winter weather in the form of heavy snow, heavy freezing rain, or heavy sleet is imminent or occurring.

Winter storm warnings are usually issued 12 to 24 hours before the event is expected to begin.

- A winter storm watch alerts the public to the possibility of a blizzard, heavy snow, heavy freezing rain, or heavy sleet. Winter storm watches are usually issued 12 to 48 hours before the beginning of a storm.

- A hazardous weather outlook provides up to seven days' notice of any hazardous weather, including winter storms. It is issued daily, with more frequent updates whenever the outlook changes.

A blizzard warning is issued for sustained or gusty winds of 35 mph or more and falling or blowing snow creating visibilities at or below one-quarter mile; these conditions should persist for at least three hours.

- A wind chill warning is issued when wind chill temperatures are expected to be hazardous to life within several minutes of exposure.

- A wind chill advisory is issued when wind chill temperatures are expected to be a significant inconvenience to life with prolonged exposure, and, if caution is not exercised, could lead to hazardous exposure.

- Winter weather advisories are issued when accumulations of snow, freezing rain, freezing drizzle, and sleet will cause significant inconveniences and, if caution is not exercised, could lead to life-threatening situations.

- A dense fog advisory is issued when fog will reduce visibility to one-quarter mile or less over a widespread area.

- Snow flurries are light snow falling for short durations. No accumulation or a light dusting is all that is expected.

- Snow showers are snow falling at varying intensities for brief periods of time. Some accumulation is possible.



FOR WINTER!

- Blowing snow is wind-driven snow that reduces visibility and causes significant drifting. Blowing snow may be snow that is falling and/or loose snow on the ground picked up by the wind.

- Sleet is rain drops that freeze into ice pellets before reaching the ground. Sleet usually bounces when hitting a surface and does not stick to objects. However, it can accumulate like snow and cause a hazard to motorists.

- Freezing rain is rain that falls onto a surface with a temperature below freezing. This causes it to freeze to surfaces, such as trees, cars, and roads, forming a coating or glaze of ice. Even small accumulations of ice can cause a significant hazard.

Extended exposure to extremely cold temperatures can cause frostbite or hypothermia and become life-threatening. Infants and elderly people are most susceptible.

Wind chill is not the actual temperature but rather how wind and cold feel on exposed skin.

As the wind increases, heat is carried

away from the body at an accelerated rate, driving down the core body temperature. A wind chill of 20 below zero will cause frostbite in just 30 minutes.

Frostbite is localized damage to body tissue caused by extreme cold. The condition causes a loss of feeling and a white or pale appearance in extremities, such as fingers, toes, ear lobes, or the tip of the nose. If symptoms are detected, get medical help immediately.

Hypothermia is a condition brought on when the body temperature drops to less than 95. It can kill. Warning signs include uncontrollable shivering, memory loss, disorientation, incoherence, slurred speech, drowsiness, and apparent exhaustion.

If traveling by car, plan carefully and listen to the radio or television for the latest weather forecasts and road conditions. If bad weather is forecast, drive only if absolutely necessary. If stranded, stay with the vehicle and call for assistance. Always keep a well-stocked emergency supply kit in the vehicle.

Winter is a great time to be in Wisconsin and with a little knowledge and taking the time to prepare, winter can be just as enjoyable as any other season.

Additional information is available online from:

- <https://www.ready.gov/winter-weather>.
- the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention — <http://emergency.cdc.gov/disasters/winter>.
- the American Red Cross — <http://www.redcross.org/get-help/prepare-for-emergencies/typesof-emergencies/winter-storm>.
- Ready Army — www.ready.army.mil.

Prepare strong. Get an emergency supply kit with enough supplies for at least three days, make an emergency plan with Family, and be informed about what might happen.

The Fort McCoy Emergency Management office is part of the Directorate of Plans, Training, Mobilization, and Security. Call 608-388-2763 for more information.

(Article prepared by Fort McCoy Emergency Management.)

ADS

FEATURE

New instructors making impact in 13th, 100th courses for 89B specialty

STORY & PHOTOS BY SCOTT T. STURKOL

Public Affairs Staff

Three new instructors are supporting the 13th Battalion, 100th (13th, 100th) Regiment at Fort McCoy in the 89B10 Ammunition Supply Course (ASC), 89B Senior Leader Course (SLC), and the 89B Advanced Leader Course (ALC) during the fiscal year 2018 training year. Each said he is glad to be a part of the team.

The 13th, 100th is an ordnance battalion that provides training and training support to Soldiers in the ordnance maintenance military occupational specialty (MOS) series. The unit, aligned under the 3rd Brigade, 94th Division of the 80th Training Command, has been at Fort McCoy since about 1995.

"I am excited to be working with this particular team of instructors," said new ASC instructor Sgt. 1st Class Jeremy VanStrein. "They all have an overwhelming wealth of knowledge of the ammunition field and are extremely dedicated to helping Soldiers succeed."

In the ASC, VanStrein is teaching in a four-week course that provides training for Soldiers who are reclassifying to the 89B MOS. Soldiers who are 89B-qualified are tasked with receiving, storing, and issuing conventional ammunition, guided missiles, large rockets, explosives, and other ammunition and explosive-related items. During the two phases of the course, the students learn all of the entry-level basics about the course.

"I like being able to pass down my knowledge and experience as an ammunition specialist to Soldiers interested in this field," VanStrein said. "I've had great instructors in the past, and I would like to be able to make a positive impact with these students' careers just as my past instructors have made a positive impact on my career."

Master Sgt. Stanley Qahhaar leads training in the 89B SLC. He taught the same course at Fort Lee, Va., and Redstone Arsenal, Ala. Since the SLC was brought to Fort McCoy in fiscal year 2017, he relocated to Wisconsin to teach it here.

"It was an adjustment coming here, but the (Fort McCoy) team here really made it a pretty good transition for myself and my family," Qahhaar said. "We were able to get moved into a home here on post, and at the unit, everyone has been really helpful in allowing me the time I need to settle in and teach this course."

The SLC also is taught in two phases over the course of four weeks. Qahhaar said that even though his students have been



Instructor Sgt. 1st Class Lester Hinton with the 13th Battalion, 100th Regiment teaches students in the 89B Advanced Leader Course on Jan. 16 at Fort McCoy.

ammunition specialists for quite a while, the training they receive builds their leadership skills and helps the students get back to the basics of the career field.

"We get out to the field, and we also do some training with students in the ASC," Qahhaar said.

Qahhaar said he also really appreciates how his entire instructor team works together when anyone needs some support.

"It's just been awesome with everyone," Qahhaar said. "This is a great instructor family."

In the 89B ALC, Sgt. 1st Class Lester Hinton teaches seasoned 89B Soldiers some advanced skills in ammunition supply oversight and leadership. Though he's new to teaching this ALC on post, he's not new to Fort McCoy.

"This is my third time coming to Fort McCoy," Hinton said. "I first came here when the (ASC) started here in 2009, and now I'm here on orders to teach the ALC for a year. What the students learn in (ALC) is important to not only them, but also

the Soldiers they lead so we go into detail on a variety of subjects."

Hinton said he is like all the other instructors on the team in that he really enjoys what he does.

"I have fun," Hinton said. "It doesn't usually matter who I'm with really, but in working here with this great staff of men and women we really do have fun and enjoy our work. It's a great (team) to be a part of."

The 13th, 100th started all new sessions of the ASC, SLC, and ALC in January, so the "schoolhouse has been hoppin'," said course manager Sgt. 1st Class Douglas Dobitz. And since it's been busy, he said he's happy to have such a great team.

"We went through this training expansion more than a year ago and it's been a big deal for us and for Fort McCoy," Dobitz said.

"And since it started here, we've had great people leading the effort in all of our training. This year is no different."



Instructor Sgt. 1st Class Jeremy VanStrein teaches students in the 89B Ammunition Supply Course Jan. 16 at Fort McCoy.



Master Sgt. Stanley Qahhaar, instructor for the 89B Senior Leader Course, holds a class session Jan. 16 at Fort McCoy.

COMMUNITY

This month in Fort McCoy history

75 years ago — Feb. 6, 1943

Ten nurses among 28 new officers in camp — Col. George M. MacMullin, post commander, announced the arrival of 28 officers to augment Camp McCoy's officer personnel. The group included 10 nurses. Among the others, four were assigned to Post Supply, one to Post Engineer, two to Post Personnel, two to Military Police, three to Post Operations, and six to Post Medical Division.

72 Years Ago — Feb. 8, 1946

Post donates \$2,020 — Camp McCoy contributed \$2,020.94 to the national March of Dimes fund as a result of the post campaign for aid to the infantile paralysis victims.

The separatees, permanent military, and civilian personnel of the post were commended for their part in making the drive a success here by Brig. Gen. John K. Rice, commanding general. The camp contribution represented an average donation of 35 cents from each of the 5,779 people working on post.

30 Years Ago — Feb. 26, 1988

Field Bakers Platoon — Members of the 4th Marine Expeditionary Brigade (MEB) Field Bakers Platoon give new meaning to the term "early risers." The 13-man platoon was up at the crack of dawn and, by the time the rooster crowed, had the first of the day's 330 loaves of bread rising in the pans.

The platoon, based at Camp Lejeune, N.C., was among the first to arrive at Fort McCoy for Operation Alpine Warrior-88, and is responsible for providing freshly baked bread for the 4th MEB.

The operation was headquartered in a tent, which had to be heated about 3:30 every morning because otherwise, the cold weather made it too cool inside for dough to rise properly.

Baking began at 5 a.m. sharp and continued on an hourly schedule until 3 p.m. each day. The field bakers had their jobs honed to a precise art, and everything was done by the clock. From the time the ingredients went into the mixer until the loaves were placed on the cooling racks, it took exactly two hours.

The weight of each loaf was precisely prescribed, too. Cutters sliced pieces of dough that weighed exactly 1 pound,



Photo by Maurice A. Van Coillie

Soldiers with the 355th Chemical Smoke Generator Company complete training with generators in February 1952 at then-Camp McCoy.

14.5 ounces before baking. That weight was determined by the weight of one batch of dough — 108 pounds, which became 54 loaves.

When the baking was completed, the loaves were wrapped in plastic and shipped off to 4th MEB mess halls to be consumed the next day.

20 Years Ago — Feb. 13, 1998

Color Guard supports Clinton visit — With less than 24 hours notice, six members of the Army Reserve Readiness Training Center at Fort McCoy provided color guard support for President Bill Clinton's Jan. 28 visit to La Crosse, Wis.

Sgt. 1st Class Kathleen Crocker, the sergeant of the guard, said it was a scramble to put the group together for Clinton's appearance and address in La Crosse, but the group didn't hesitate to seize the opportunity. Fort McCoy does not have a regular color guard. Several of the six members had never been part of a color guard before. The NCO Academy provided last-minute help with web belts to hold their needed gear.

The group had only about one hour of practice on site to mesh their skills as a team. The following day, Installation Commander Col. Roy L. Higgins presented members of the group with an Installation Commander's Certificate of Appreciation and a Commander's Coin.

10 Years Ago — Feb. 22, 2008

McCoy forward operating bases undergo improvements to increase capabilities — The Fort McCoy Forward Operating Bases (FOBs) are undergoing changes to improve the mobilization training environment capabilities.

FOBs have increased overall capacity with the installation of additional tents and have the ability to support more than 1,000 Soldiers or two battalion-sized units at each site. The mobilizing Soldiers' quality of life on the FOBs should improve as well with the addition of new bunk beds, foot and wall lockers, showers, sewer systems, and concrete bunkers. The addition of bunk beds has decreased the number of Soldiers housed per tent from 16 to 12. Plus, all sleeping tents will have new heating or cooling units installed.

Organizers establishing Fort McCoy Running Club for post athletes

A group of active running athletes at the installation are organizing the Fort McCoy Running Club.

The club is open to military members, civilians, and contractors. This is an organized group that provides group runs for their members to promote fitness and provide formalized training programs, including training for first timers in 5K, 10K, and half-marathon training programs, and more.

"Our goal is to introduce running as a healthy lifestyle choice and a sport," said Lt. Col. Mark Woommavovah with the 181st Multi-Functional Training Brigade and one of the club organizers.

"Running is the most accessible and afford-

able activity that anyone can do," Woommavovah said.

"Running is booming (here), and there is no time like the present to improve your health, fitness and lifestyle through running through participation in a club like this."

Most beginning runners have a reason to start running.

Often that reason centers around health, feeling and looking better, or just getting out more.

"We will provide the inspiration needed to get you out the door and on your way," he said.

The biggest benefit of joining the Fort McCoy Running Club is participants will be train-



Photo by Scott T. Sturkol

Fort McCoy community members participate in a post running event in June 2017.

ing with others with various abilities.

"The idea is each member motivates each other," Woommavovah said.

"As a member, too, you will be held accountable for your exercise regimen by fellow runners. You'll also be making some great new friends."

To be a part of the Fort McCoy Running Club, or for more information, contact Woommavovah at 608-388-4929 or Tony Steinhoff at 608-388-7351.

"We will start group runs in March, once a week to start, on a day yet to be determined," Woommavovah said. "Members will be notified of all training runs, which will be on a club Facebook page, and we will also post it at Rumpel Fitness Center."

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

OUTDOORS

Hundreds attend Winter Extravaganza 2018 at Whitetail Ridge

More than 600 people made their way to the slopes of Whitetail Ridge Ski Area on Jan. 20 to take part in Fort McCoy's Winter Extravaganza 2018.

Mild temperatures and excellent hill conditions greeted the hundreds of visitors to the event, which is open to the public.

This year's Winter Extravaganza brought together people from surrounding communities, such as Tomah, Sparta, Onalaska, and La Crosse, with Fort McCoy to enjoy events from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m.

This event, according to Recreation Programming Manager Nick Sanjari with the Directorate of Family and Morale, Welfare, and Recreation, or DFMWR, brings people together to enjoy many activities throughout the day. The activities are designed to be Family-inclusive and allow people to show their skills in skiing and snowboarding.

Special events during the day included a slalom race, rail jam, obstacle course, tug of war, horse-drawn sleigh rides, and a hot-dog-eating contest. Also, raffle prizes were drawn throughout the day.

DFMWR organizers say the event helps to foster effective community partnerships with local cities and towns and is a great way to highlight all that is available at the ski area.

The Whitetail Ridge Ski Area will remain open into March, weather permitting.

The area is open 4:30-9 p.m. Fridays, 10 a.m. to 9 p.m. Saturdays, and noon to 6 p.m. Sundays.

Upcoming events at the ski area include the Military Appreciation Day/Chili Taste Off on Feb. 10.

For more information about the ski area, go online to <https://mccoy.armymwr.com/us/mccoy/programs/whitetail-ridge-ski-area>, or by calling 608-388-4498.

Groups also can make reservations to use the ski area by calling 608-388-3517 or 800-531-4703.

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



Photos by Christie Clark

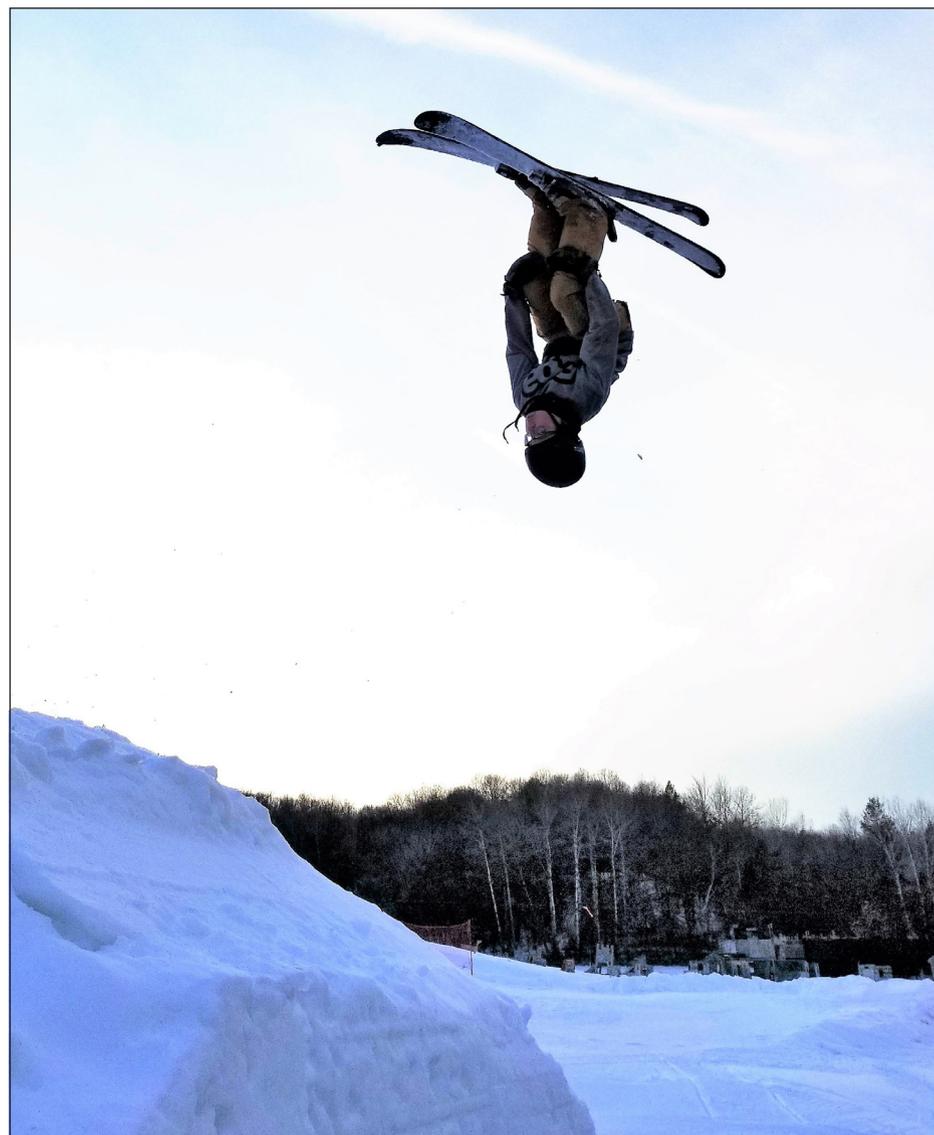
A child participates in the youth obstacle course during Winter Extravaganza on Jan. 20 at Whitetail Ridge Ski Area at Fort McCoy.



A skier turns around poles in a slalom skiing event Jan. 20 as part of Winter Extravaganza festivities at the ski area.



A snowboarder rides a rail during Winter Extravaganza at Whitetail Ridge on Jan. 20.



A skier does a trick off of a jump during Winter Extravaganza action Jan. 20.

NEWS NOTES

Military Appreciation, chili contest scheduled for Feb. 10

Military Appreciation Day and the Chili Taste-Off are scheduled for Feb. 10 at White-tail Ridge Ski Area.

Military Appreciation Day is 10 a.m. to 9 p.m. Military members and their Family members get half off lift tickets, equipment rental, and tubing passes. Raffle prizes (for military members only) will be drawn at noon.

The Chili Taste-Off is 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Participants submit their favorite recipes, and chalet guests can taste it and vote on their favorites. Participants must register and be set up by 10:30 a.m. These events are open to the public. For more information or to register, call 608-388-4498.

McCoy troop to hold cookie sale at Exchange Feb. 10, 24

Fort McCoy Girl Scout Troop 4207 will be hosting a Girl Scout cookie sales booth 10:45 a.m. to 1:15 p.m. Feb. 10 and 24 at the Exchange. Many varieties of cookies will be available for purchase. Sales support Troop 4207 and the Fort McCoy USO.

Ash Wednesday services planned for Feb. 14

On Wednesday, Feb. 14, there will be holding two Ash Wednesday services held at Fort McCoy. The Protestant service will be a short service with ash distribution from 7:45-8 a.m. in building 2672. The Catholic service will be 11:30 a.m. to noon in building 1759.

Ashes will also be available throughout the day at the RSO (building 2675) and at the 88th Regional Support Directorate (building 60), for those who are unable to attend the services. For more information, contact the Religious Support Office at 608-388-3528.

Combined Football Challenge scheduled for Feb. 14

A Combined Football Challenge is scheduled for Feb. 14 at Rumpel Fitness Center, building will attempt the following football challenges: 40-yard dash, cone drills, standing broad jump, 20-yard short shuttle run, bench press, tire roll, and sled push. Prizes will be awarded to the top male and female participants. 1122.

Registration is required by Feb. 13. The event is open to eligible Directorate of Family and Morale, Welfare, and Recreation patrons.

For more information, call 608-388-3200.

Black History Month observance set for Feb. 15 at McCoy's

Fort McCoy's observance of African-American/Black History Month is scheduled for noon Feb. 15 at McCoy's Community Center, building 1571.

The guest speaker will be William Thompson. The Department of Defense's theme for



Photo by Tonya K. Townsell

Groundhog Day tour

Visitors to the installation for a tour look over displays in the Fort McCoy History Center on Groundhog Day, Feb. 2. The tour was coordinated by the Fort McCoy Public Affairs Office, and dozens of people attended. The History Center features displays of photographs and memorabilia that reflect the roles the installation has held since 1909. Renovated in 2015, the building is now handicapped-accessible. The History Center is open year-round by appointment to groups of 15 or more.



Photo by Scott T. Sturck

SHARP training

Garrison Sexual Assault Response Coordinator Jamie Cram teaches Fort McCoy workforce members during Sexual Harassment/Assault Response Program (SHARP) training Jan. 24 at Army Community Service at Fort McCoy. The class is required for both military members and government civilians. It covers prevention and intervention strategies for sexual harassment and assault, as well as what support resources are available. Classes are 9 to 10:30 a.m. Feb. 15, March 7 and 20, April 25, May 8 and 30, June 6, July 17, Aug. 9 and 23, and Sept. 5 and 18. To register or for more information, call Cram at 608-388-8989.

the 2018 observance is "African-Americans in Times of War." Participants should get lunch on their own before the observance begins.

The event is coordinated by Regional Training Site-Maintenance. For more information, call 608-388-3938.

AER representative training set for Feb. 14, 21

Army Emergency Relief (AER) unit representative training is scheduled for 1 to 2:30 p.m. Feb. 14 or 21 at Army Community Ser-

vice, building 2111.

The training helps explain what AER is and what a unit representative does.

AER is dedicated to "helping the Army take care of its own" by providing financial assistance to Soldiers with money donated by Soldiers.

Learn more about AER by going online to <https://www.aerhq.org>.

Registration is required by Feb. 10.

For more information or to register, call an AER representative at Army Community Service at 608-388-3540.

Flag shadow-box workshops set for Feb. 20, 22

Flag shadow-box workshops are scheduled for 4 to 7 p.m. Feb. 20 and 22 at the Army Community Service Wood Shop, building 1133.

The shadow boxes will hold a folded U.S. flag and military memorabilia. All materials and instructions are provided. Class sizes are limited, and children must be accompanied by an adult.

Registration is required by Feb. 14. ACS events are open to military members, civilian workers, Family members, and registered Fort McCoy volunteers.

Call 608-388-3505 to register.

'It's All About Us Day' scheduled for Feb. 24

The "It's All About Us" workshop is scheduled for 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. Feb. 24 at Army Community Service Family Building, 2161.

Participants will get a chance to try out new activities, such as quilting, painting, chair yoga, quilling, latch hook, nail art, and journaling.

Crafting supplies will be provided, or participants may bring their own projects. Bring a potluck dish or snacks, along with the recipe, to share.

Families should bring their own drinks.

The event is open to military, retirees, civilian workers, Family members, and registered Fort McCoy volunteers. Participants must be 12 years or older, and children under 18 must be accompanied by an adult.

Space is limited. Registration is required by Feb. 2. For more information or to register, call 608-388-3505.

Dates set for tryouts for post's Army Ten-Miler team

Tryout races have been scheduled for Fort McCoy's 2018 Army Ten-Miler team.

Soldiers must compete in at least one of the three qualifying 10k races. The top eight runners will be selected for the team.

The team is open to permanent party active-duty or Reserve Soldiers in units at Fort McCoy. Selected team members will be expected to train together prior to the Army Ten-Miler on Oct. 7 in Washington, D.C.

The three qualifying races are the April Showers Run at 2:30 p.m. April 18, South Post Run at 9 a.m. May 19, and Commander's Run at 7 a.m. June 14. Advance registration is required for all races.

For more information, call Rumpel Fitness Center at 608-388-3200 or Lt. Col. Mark Woommavovah at 608-388-4929.

Next issue of The Real McCoy

The next issue of The Real McCoy will be published Feb. 23. The deadline for submissions to be considered for publication in the Feb. 23 issue is noon Feb. 14.

For more information, call 608-388-4128.

Recreation

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

Better Opportunities for Single Soldiers (BOSS): Meets 4:30 p.m. third Thurs. of each month at McCoy's Community Center. Call 608-388-3200.

McCoy's Community Center: Closed Feb. 17-19. Building 1571. Offers books, arcade, gaming area, and bowling. Manager has discretion on closing time. Call 608-388-7060.

Bowling Center: Open 11 a.m.-11 p.m. Mon.-Fri. and 4-10 p.m. Sat. Extreme bowling 4-9 p.m. Fri.

Leisure Travel Services Office: Open noon-8 p.m. Mon., 2-8 p.m. Tues., and noon-8 p.m. Wed.-Fri. Call 608-388-3011.

Pine View Campground/Recreational Equipment Checkout Center: Building 8053. Open 8 a.m.-5 p.m. Mon.-Fri. Call 608-388-2619. For weekend/night assistance, call the camp host at 608-633-1044.

Rumpel Fitness Center: Building 1122. Open 5 a.m.-8 p.m. Mon.-Thurs., 5 a.m.-7 p.m. Fri., and 6 a.m.-2 p.m. Sat.-Sun. Call 608-388-2290.

Indoor swimming pool, atrium, sauna and steamroom: Open 6 a.m.-7 p.m. Mon.-Thurs., 6 a.m.-6:30 p.m. Fri., and 9 a.m.-1:30 p.m. Sat.-Sun.

Sportsman's Range: Closed for the season. Call 608-388-9162/3517.

Tactics Paintball & Laser Tag: Open 12:30-4:30 p.m. Mon.-Sat. and 9 a.m.-2:30 p.m. Sun. Reservations available. Call 800-531-4703.

Whitetail Ridge Ski Area: Building 8061. Open 4:30-9 p.m. Fri., 10 a.m.-9 p.m. Sat., and noon-6 p.m. Sun. Call 608-388-3517.

Dining

McCoy's Community Center: Closed Feb. 17-19. Building 1571. ATM located inside. Catering/admin., call 608-388-2065.

Primo's Express: Open 11 a.m.-9 p.m. Mon.-Fri. and 4-10 p.m. Sat. Buffet 11 a.m.-1 p.m. Mon.-Fri. **Pizza available 9-11 p.m. Mon.-Fri.** Call 608-388-7673.

Sports bar: Open 4-11 p.m. Mon.-Fri. and 4-10 p.m. Sat. Manager has discretion on closing time.

Snack Avenue: Building 1538. Located inside Express. Open 6 a.m.-7 p.m. Mon.-Fri., 7 a.m.-7 p.m. Sat., and 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Sun. Call 608-269-5604 or 608-388-4343.

Specialty Express Food Court: Building 1538. Open 7:30 a.m.-4 p.m. Mon.-Fri. Breakfast available 7:30-10:30 a.m. Call 608-269-5615, ext. 303.

Whitetail Ridge Chalet: Building 8061. Open 4:30-9 p.m. Fri., 10 a.m.-9 p.m. Sat., and noon-6 p.m. Sun. Call 608-388-3517.

Services

Alteration Shop: Building 1538. Open 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Mon.-Fri. and 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Sat. Call 608-269-1075.

Barber Shop (Exchange): Building 1538. Open 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Mon.-Fri. and 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Sat. Call 608-269-1710.

Car Rental (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 bays. Automatic bay closed for repairs. Open 24/7. Accepts cash, tokens, or credit cards. Token machine on site. Call 608-388-3544.

Commissary: Building 1537. Open 10 a.m.-6 p.m. Mon.-Sat. Early bird/self-checkout open 9-10 a.m. Mon.-Fri. Call 608-388-3542/3543.

CWT (Carlson Wagonlit Travel) SatoTravel: Building 2180. Open 7:30 a.m.-4 p.m. Mon.-Fri. Call 608-388-2370, 608-269-4560, or 800-927-6343.

Education/Learning Center: Building 50, room 123. Open 8 a.m.-4 p.m. Mon.-Fri. Call 608-388-7311.

Exchange: Building 1538. Open 8 a.m.-7 p.m. Mon.-Sat. and 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Sun. Call 608-269-5604, ext. 101 or ext. 4343.

ID Card/DEERS Section: Building 35. Open 7:30 a.m.-3 p.m. Mon.-Fri. Call 608-388-4563 prior to any visit to verify the ID Section is operational.

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

Launderette/Dry Cleaning: Building

facilities services

This schedule is projected through **Feb. 22, 2018.** **Bold, italic typeface** indicates a change since the last publication. Please call facilities before visiting to verify hours. To report updates to this page, call 608-388-2407.

1538. Open 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Mon.-Fri. and 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Sat. Call 608-269-1075.

Laundry Facilities: Buildings 1671, 2763, and 2877 open 24/7. Exclusively for use by Soldiers training on Fort McCoy pursuant to military orders. Civilians and retired military are not authorized to use these facilities. Call 608-388-3800 (Troop and Installation Support Branch, building 490).

Military Clothing: Building 1538. Open 8 a.m.-7 p.m. Mon.-Sat. and 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Sun. Call 608-269-5604, ext. 203.

Patriot Outfitters: Building 1538. Open 9 a.m.-6 p.m. Mon.-Fri. and 9 a.m.-4 p.m. Sat.-Sun. Call 608-269-1115.

Permit Sales: Building 2168. Open 7 a.m.-3:30 p.m. Mon.-Fri. Call 608-388-3337.

Retirement Services Office: Building 35. Open 7:30 a.m.-3 p.m. Mon.-Tues. and Thurs.-Fri. Call 608-388-3716.

R.I.A. Credit Union: Building 1501. Open 9 a.m.-1 p.m. Mon.-Wed. and 9 a.m.-1 p.m. and 2-5 p.m. Thurs.-Fri. ATMs are located in building 1501 (available 24/7); McCoy's, building 1571; Exchange, building 1538; and IHG Army Hotels, building 51 (available 24/7). Call 608-388-2171.

RV Storage Lot: Next to building 2880. Short- or long-term storage. Fees charged. Authorized patrons only. Call 608-388-2619/3517.

Service Station/Express/Class VI: Building 1538. Open 6 a.m.-7 p.m. Mon.-Fri., 7 a.m.-7 p.m. Sat., and 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Sun. Call 608-269-5604 or ext. 4343. Pay-at-the-pump gas is open

24/7. ATM inside. Cash transactions available during Express hours. **Visitor Control Center:** Building 35. Open 6-10 a.m. Mon.-Fri. Call 608-388-4988.

Family Support

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

Army Substance Abuse Program: Building 1344. Open 7:30 a.m.-4 p.m. Mon.-Fri. or by appointment. Call 608-388-2441.

Child Development Center: Building 1796. Open 6:30 a.m.-5:15 p.m. Mon.-Fri. Call 608-388-3534/2238.

Military and Family Life Consultant Program (MFLC): Building 2111. Provides education, information, and support for anyone affiliated with the military. MFLC services are confidential. Available 8 a.m.-4 p.m. Mon.-Fri. or by appointment. Call 608-469-1432.

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

School Age/Youth Center: Building 1792. Activities for youth grades kindergarten through 12. Offers after-school, nonschool, and inclement-weather care for eligible youth. Open nonschool days 6:30 a.m.-5:30 p.m. or 2:30-5:30 p.m. Mon.-Fri. For After School Program. Call 608-388-4373.

SKIESUnlimited Instructional Program: Building 1668. Provides instructional classes for children and youth from infancy through the end of their senior year in high school. Register at Parent Central Services. Call 608-388-8956.

Health Care

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

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

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

Occupational Health Clinic: Building 2669. Open 7 a.m.-3 p.m. Mon.-Fri. Call 608-388-2414.

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

Troop Medical Clinic: Building 2669. Open for sick call 7-8 a.m. and appointments 8 a.m.-3 p.m. Mon.-Fri. Authorized use only for Extended Combat Training Soldiers on orders of less than 30 days. Personnel on orders for more than 30 days are eligible for TRICARE Prime Remote and will see off-post providers. Call 608-388-3025.

Worship

Catholic: Chapel 10, building 1759. Mass at 9:30 a.m. Sun. Fellowship follows service from 10:30-11:30 a.m. at building 2675. Call 608-388-3528.

Jewish: Congregations of Abraham, 1820 Main St., La Crosse, Wis. Call 608-784-2708.

Mormon: Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, 702 E. Montgomery St., Sparta, Wis. Services from 10 a.m.-1 p.m. Sun. Call 608-269-3377.

Protestant: Chapel 1, building 2672. Protestant worship at 9:30 a.m. Sun. Fellowship follows service from 10:30-11:30 a.m. at building 2675.

Protestant Women of the Chapel Bible Study: Building 2675. 8:30-10:30 a.m. Wed. Call or text Amber Bailey at 325-280-9380 or visit www.facebook.com/groups/PWOCFortMcCoy/.

Spanish Language: Catholic services in Norwalk at 4 p.m. Sun.; call 608-823-7906. Seventh-Day Adventist services in Tomah; call 608-374-2142.

Call 608-388-3528 for more information about Chapel and worship schedules in the surrounding communities. The RSO is on Facebook at www.facebook.com/FtMcCoyRSO.

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

Organizations

Adjutant General Corps Regimental Association, Spartan Chapter: Meets monthly. For more information, visit www.facebook.com/AGCRASpartan or call Staff Sgt. Cassandra Ross at 251-327-8400.

American Federation of Government Employees (AFGE), Local 1882: Building 1411. Open 7 a.m.-4 p.m. Mon.-Fri. Meets at 5 p.m. second Tuesday of each month. Call 608-388-1882.

American Society of Military Comptrollers: Meets several times throughout the year. For more information, call Maureen Richardson at 608-269-1912 or Bonnie Hilt at 316-209-2787.

Association of the United States Army - AUSA (Robert B. McCoy Chapter): For information on meetings, visit www.mccoysusa.org.

Friends and Spouses of Fort McCoy: Meets third Wednesday of each month. For info, email fsofmccoy@gmail.com.

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

USO Wisconsin at Fort McCoy: Building 1501. Open 9 a.m.-4 p.m. Mon.-Fri. by appointment. For more information or to volunteer, call 414-477-7279 or email ehazlett@usowisconsin.org.

Warrant Officers Association, Chapter 0317: For more information, call 608-609-2212 or 785-979-7370, or email usawoamccoy@outlook.com.

DAILY BUGLE CALLS

5:50 a.m. - First Call • 6 a.m. - Reveille • 6:45 a.m. - Assembly • 7 a.m. - Breakfast • Noon - Mess Call (Dinner) • 5 p.m. - Retreat/To the Colors • 5:45 p.m. - Mess Call (Supper) • 10:30 p.m. - Tattoo • 11 p.m. - Taps

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Send advertising inquiries to River Valley Newspaper Group, P.O. Box 4008, La Crosse, WI 54601 or call 608-374-7786/877-785-7355.

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SEVERE WEATHER ANNOUNCEMENTS/PROCEDURES

During any severe winter weather situation, a liberal leave policy will automatically be in effect.

This policy affords supervisors and employees flexibility in addressing an individual request for leave or a work schedule adjustment due to weather, accommodating a late arrival, and/or an employee's request for an early departure due to weather conditions.

Annual leave may be requested and approved in 15-minute increments. If the Garrison Commander should deem that due to an extreme weather situation all post operations would need to be suspended during the duty day, then that announcement will be made via a command-approved, postwide email communication, with employee notifications then disseminated through their supervisory channels.

If such a decision were to be made outside of the normal duty day, then a Fort McCoy Public Affairs Office authorized announcement will be released through Fort McCoy's Facebook page at www.facebook.com/FtMcCoy.

In addition, information regarding liberal leave/post closure can be obtained after duty hours by calling 608-388-7777 or dialing toll-free 800-982-3585, extension 7777.



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