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The Real McCoy®

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Photo by Spc. Brianna Saville

Cold Steel II heats up

A Task Force Triad primary marksmanship instructor for Operations Cold Steel II fires an M2 .50-caliber machine gun at Range 26 on Feb. 17 as part of crew-served weapon familiarization at Fort McCoy. Task Force Triad, hosted by the 416th Theater Engineer Command, will conduct training at Fort McCoy for Operation Cold Steel II through May 31. More than 3,000 Soldiers are expected to attend this mounted crew-served weapons qualification training. See more photos of Operation Cold Steel II on page 3.

Marines complete Frozen Badger exercise, further test installation's joint capability

BY SCOTT T. STURKOL
Public Affairs Staff

More than 120 Marines with the Marine Unmanned Aerial Vehicle Squadron 2 (VMU-2) tested themselves in Wisconsin winter extremes during their Frozen Badger exercise at Fort McCoy from mid-January to late February.

VMU 2 is part of Marine Aircraft Group 14 and the 2nd Marine Aircraft Wing (MAW) at Marine Corps Air Station Cherry Point, N.C. The Frozen Badger exercise was a training

event designed to improve VMU-2's capabilities in extreme cold-weather environments, according to 2nd MAW Public Affairs.

While deployed to Fort McCoy, the unit operated RQ-21A Blackjack unmanned aerial vehicles (UAVs) in multiple training scenarios from Young Air Assault Strip on South Post. According to Naval Air Systems Command, the RQ-21A "provides the warfighter with dedicated day and night intelligence, surveillance, and reconnaissance coverage, target acquisition, and communication re-

lay via a dedicated and cost-effective airborne sensor system capable of delivering actionable intelligence to the tactical commander in real time."

The expeditionary nature of the Blackjack, according to the command's fact sheet on the UAV, makes it possible to deploy with minimal footprint from both austere land-based and shipboard environments.

Lance Cpl. Danielle Krenzel with 2nd MAW Public Affairs was on hand to complete video documentation of the UAV operations as well (See **BADGER**, Page 4)

Emergency-response exercise, Vigilant Triad, includes active-shooter scenario, lockdown

As part of an emergency-response exercise, Vigilant Triad, Fort McCoy will lock down the installation from 9 to 11 a.m. March 21.

The post will evaluate its ability to respond to an active-shooter event for its annual Vigilant Triad exercise. The exercise, coordinated by Fort McCoy's Directorate of Plans, Training, Mobilization and Security (DPTMS), includes in the scenario an installation lockdown for two hours, during which all public-access gates will be closed.

Visitors to the installation should plan accordingly if they had plans to come to the installation between those hours. The active-shooter response scenario will focus on areas in and around building 50 on the cantonment area. Scenarios also will be conducted across the installation (See **EXERCISE**, Page 2)

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NEWS

Contractors complete arbor work throughout post, improving tree health

Annually, personnel with the Forestry Office of the Directorate of Public Works Environmental Division Natural Resources Branch inspect trees throughout the post in high-traffic areas that need trimming and arbor work completed on them.

In January and February, dozens of trees were pruned, trimmed, and even removed through a contractor, said Fort McCoy Forester James Kerkman.

“We have this work done primarily to improve safety as well as to improve the health of trees,” Kerkman said.

One area where extensive tree pruning took place was at the Pine View Campground picnic area.

“The south half of the picnic area had large trees pruned of several dead and hazardous branches,” Kerkman said. “The pruning of the north half of the picnic area is planned next year. With the available funding, I focused on the more heavily used area to remove hazards and improve safety.”

Kerkman said younger trees were pruned near the Installation Safety Office, too. “This work improved the trees’ structure and raised the crown to prevent conflicts with mowing, pedestrian movements, and parking,” he said.

In front of the Fort McCoy Commissary and Exchange, two large oaks were pruned of dead and hazardous branches to increase safety, as well.

“There are more trees in that area that are marked for removal,” Kerkman said.

On South Post, where County Highway A meets State Highway 16, a contractor also began work on removing large pine trees near the Fort McCoy stone gates on that location. The gates were built by the Works Progress Administration from 1940-41.

Work in this area actually started last summer, but wet ground forced the contractor to wait until the ground froze, Kerkman said.

“The pine trees were part of the original design, but they have grown so large they present a falling hazard and could damage the gates,” Kerkman said. “A few years ago, one of the trees that has multiple stems lost a stem in a storm, ... but (it) luckily missed the stone gate. The stem was 18 inches in diameter and 40 feet long.”

New white pine trees will be planted in place of the old trees later this spring, Kerkman said.

Trees also were removed within 20 feet of the cantonment



Photo by James Kerkman

Calvin Swenson with contractor Viking Brothers Landscaping of Rubicon, Wis., cuts a branch off a pine tree Jan. 29 at Pine View Campground. The work was part of an overall project to have trees trimmed throughout post.

security fence north of Pine View Campground for security purposes, he said.

“I also plan on having some trees along Quarry Hill road (on South Post) removed sometime this spring that are impacting traffic,” Kerkman said.

The purpose of the Fort McCoy Forestry Program is to pro-

vide a scientific basis for managing the forest resources, Kerkman said. The major forest types present on post are scrub oak, jack pine, oak, red pine, and white pine. Lesser amounts of aspen, red maple, and paper birch are present.

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

EXERCISE

tion, including public-access gates, to test Fort McCoy’s capabilities and allow evaluators to critique performance.

During the course of the response exercise, Fort McCoy personnel and residents may expect changes to traffic patterns, closed roads, and other delays in and around the cantonment area in addition to the lockdown and gate closures.

“We are sharing detailed information about the response exercise because we want to ensure that community members inside and outside the gate do not confuse this event with a real-life emergency,” said Public Affairs Officer Tonya Townsell with the Fort McCoy Public Affairs Office.

“So, be aware that when March 21 rolls around, yes, Fort McCoy will be conducting an exercise with an active-shooter scenario; yes, activity will happen around the public gates; and, yes, the installation will lock down with

little to no movement on the installation.”

Townsell said exercising this response scenario is “good news.”

“We regularly exercise our emergency responses to natural and man-made incidents,” Townsell said. “These drills are a part of a continuing effort by the Department of Defense to refine and improve emergency response.”

In the event of a real emergency, Fort McCoy will provide updated information through social media.

“Our official social media sites are a good place to visit to help dispel rumors,” Townsell said. “However, to stop people from confusing the response exercise with a real-life emergency, we won’t be posting exercise-specific emergency messaging to social media during the Vigilant Triad exercise.”

(Article prepared by the Fort McCoy Public Affairs Office and the Directorate of Plans, Training, Mobilization and Security.)

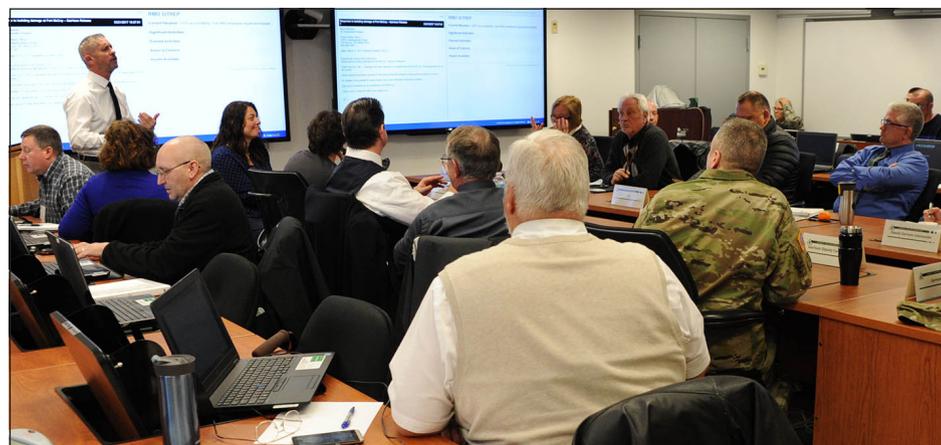


Photo by Jamal Wilson

Plans, Operations and Security Division Chief Scott Frosch (standing) with the Directorate of Plans, Training, Mobilization and Security gives an update briefing to Fort McCoy team members March 21, 2017, in the Installation Emergency Operations Center during Vigilant Triad 2017 at the installation.

(From page 1)

NEWS

Training begins for Operation Cold Steel II at Fort McCoy



Photos by Scott T. Sturkol

Soldiers at Fort McCoy for training in Operation Cold Steel II prepare vehicles and weapons March 1 on the cantonment area. Operation Cold Steel II began Feb. 19 and continues through May 31. Operation Cold Steel is the U.S. Army Reserve's crew-served weapons qualification and validation exercise to ensure America's Army Reserve units and Soldiers are trained and ready to deploy on short notice as part of Ready Force X.



Soldiers prepare for a Cold Steel II training run at Range 18 on Feb. 28 on Fort McCoy's North Post. Several installation live-fire ranges are in use for Cold Steel training.



Soldiers training in Operation Cold Steel II fire weapons Feb. 28 at Range 34 on Fort McCoy's North Post.

NEWS



Photos by Lance Cpl. Jalline L. Martinez, 2nd Marine Aircraft Wing

Marines with Marine Unmanned Aerial Vehicle Squadron 2 prepare an RQ-21A Blackjack for launch during the Frozen Badger exercise Feb. 9 at Young Air Assault Strip at Fort McCoy.

■ BADGER

(From page 1)

as other training. In one of Krenzel's approved videos, she interviewed Master Sgt. Rodrigo Marquez with VMU-2 about why the unit was testing the UAVs at Fort McCoy.

"Part of this mission of Frozen Badger (was) to make sure that the aircraft works properly ... (and) that the launch and recovery systems work well in the cold," Marquez said.

Marquez said the extreme cold weather the Marines faced during their time on post, including times when temperatures were as cold as minus 20 degrees, affected their equipment. He said they adapted by using heat blankets to keep frost off of equipment and also brought some equipment indoors to keep it warm before operating it in the cold.

Cpl. John Bachelor, also a VMU-2 Marine, discussed the process of preparing the RQ-21A Blackjack for a mission in another video by Krenzel.

"The process is you have to do preflight (checks) with the UAV to make sure everything is alright," Bachelor said. They also make sure "you can get a link with (the UAV)" and "good video for the reconnaissance. You have to make sure it's safe to fly. ... Once you make sure that is done, then you can launch the bird."

The VMU-2 Marines also did many other training events in their time at the installation. This included holding an Advanced Motor Operator Course at Fort McCoy's Wheeled Vehicle Driving Course on North Post near Whitetail Ridge Ski Area.

Krenzel also covered the Marines training on the driving course and interviewed VMU-

2's Cpl. Nicholas Chapman.

"We held the (course) for some of the (Marines) who haven't seen what these (vehicles) can do," Chapman said, referring to the unit's Humvees. "They learned what (the vehicles) can drive over and what they can do. They're not just meant to drive on the road."

The unit members also completed a Combat Lifesaver Course and several participated in the Fort McCoy Cold-Weather Operations Course (CWOC).

Lance Cpl. John Cook with VMU-2 described his participation in skiing training as a student in CWOC Class 18-04 in a video by Lance Cpl. Paige Stade, also with 2nd MAW Public Affairs.

"I learned a lot," Cook said in the video about skiing. "Being from Texas, you don't see much snow. It's kind of a new thing for me. I learned it's a lot like anything else in life ... you just have to go for it. If you fall, you have to get back up and you have to try again. And I fell a lot."

The Frozen Badger exercise was essentially a smaller continuation of the 2nd MAW's Ullr Shield exercise that saw more than 1,200 Marines complete cold-weather training at Fort McCoy from early January to early February, said Training Coordination Branch Chief Craig Meeusen with the Directorate of Plans, Training, Mobilization and Security (DPTMS). Both exercises helped validate Fort McCoy's joint national training center capability.

"It (was) a great cooperative training effort by everyone involved," Meeusen said.



Navy Hospital Corpsman 1st Class Kyle E. Keeler with Marine Unmanned Aerial Vehicle Squadron 2 instructs a Combat Lifesaver Course on Feb. 5 as part of the Frozen Badger exercise at Fort McCoy.

NEWS

Fort McCoy LRC team completes successful rail operations, training

STORY & PHOTOS BY SCOTT T. STURKOL

Public Affairs Staff

In late January and early February, many members of the Fort McCoy Logistics Readiness Center (LRC) team successfully supported the training and management of rail operations for hundreds of Marines and Soldiers for large rail movements on post.

Movements Branch Chief Terry Altman with the LRC Transportation Division said everything went very well. "Everything was loaded correctly, and there were no accidents or incidents," he said.

The effort first required completing a rail movement for Marine Wing Support Squadron 271, a unit from Marine Corps Air Station Cherry Point, N.C., that trained at Fort McCoy during the Ullr Shield exercise in January.

"They were just returning to home station and wanted to do some cold-weather rail operations," said Fort McCoy Transportation Officer D.J. Eckland with the LRC Transportation Division. "They got what they asked for."

During the training, the Marines dealt with frigid below-zero temperatures and several inches of fresh snow while loading 34 railcars with 77 pieces of equipment and more than 50 containers. During the operation, temperatures dipped as low as minus 15 degrees, and snow fell on several different days.

The Marines rail movement was followed by a four-day cold-weather rail operations exercise and real-world deployment of equipment by two Army units for two separate overseas operations.

The exercise, held Feb. 5-8, was an opportunity to take a regular rail-loading operation and turn it into training for Soldiers with the 397th Engineer Battalion at Eau Claire, Wis., and the 983rd Engineer Battalion of Monclova, Ohio, Eckland said.

A classroom session began the training Feb. 5 with 89 people attending. The classroom portion was taught by a Marine Corps mobile training team from Barstow, Calif.

Then, with lots of support from the LRC team, service members with each unit took turns loading their equipment on railcars. The 397th loaded 36 railcars with 65 pieces of equipment and nine 20-foot Equivalent Units (TEU) containers. The 983rd loaded 30 railcars with more than 80 pieces of equipment and four TEU containers.

In addition to Altman, Eckland said a lot of LRC personnel had a hand in making the largest rail movement at Fort McCoy in two years a success. They included Freight Rate Specialists Dean Muller and Leslie Koenig; Traffic Management Specialist Marcel Vanie, Unit Movement Coordinator Anthony Reeves, Transportation Intern Derrick Dawson, Transportation Assistant Dennis Diercks from the Motor Pool, and Chris Brown and other members of the locomotive support team with contractor Accent Controls Inc.

Eckland also said Directorate of Public Works (DPW) Rail Inspector Don Peterson, police officers with the Directorate of Emergency Services, and members of Fort McCoy snow-removal contractor Kaiyuh Services LLC provided critical support as well.

"Everyone came together and did an outstanding job," Eckland said.

Some of the equipment loaded as part of the training will return to the installation later in the year as part of the equipment's redeployment. The next railcar-loading/movement operation at Fort McCoy is expected sometime this summer.



(Above and below) Marines with Marine Wing Support Squadron 271, a unit from Marine Corps Air Station Cherry Point, N.C., and Fort McCoy Logistics Readiness Center personnel coordinate the loading of railcars Jan. 30 at Fort McCoy.



NEWS

Soldiers build winter operations skills during CWOC Class 18-05



Photos by Scott T. Sturkol

Instructor Hunter Heard talks with students in the Cold-Weather Operations Course (CWOC) Class 18-05 during snowshoe training Feb. 21 at Fort McCoy. The students were all Soldiers, mostly from the Wisconsin Army National Guard. CWOC students are trained on a variety of cold-weather subjects, including snowshoe training and skiing as well as how to use ahkio sleds and other gear. Training also focuses on terrain and weather analysis, risk management, cold-weather clothing, developing winter fighting positions in the field, camouflage and concealment, and numerous other areas that are important to know in order to survive and operate in a cold-weather environment. The training is coordinated through the Directorate of Plans, Training, Mobilization and Security.



A Cold-Weather Operations Course student practices skiing as part of course training Feb. 23 at Whitetail Ridge Ski Area.

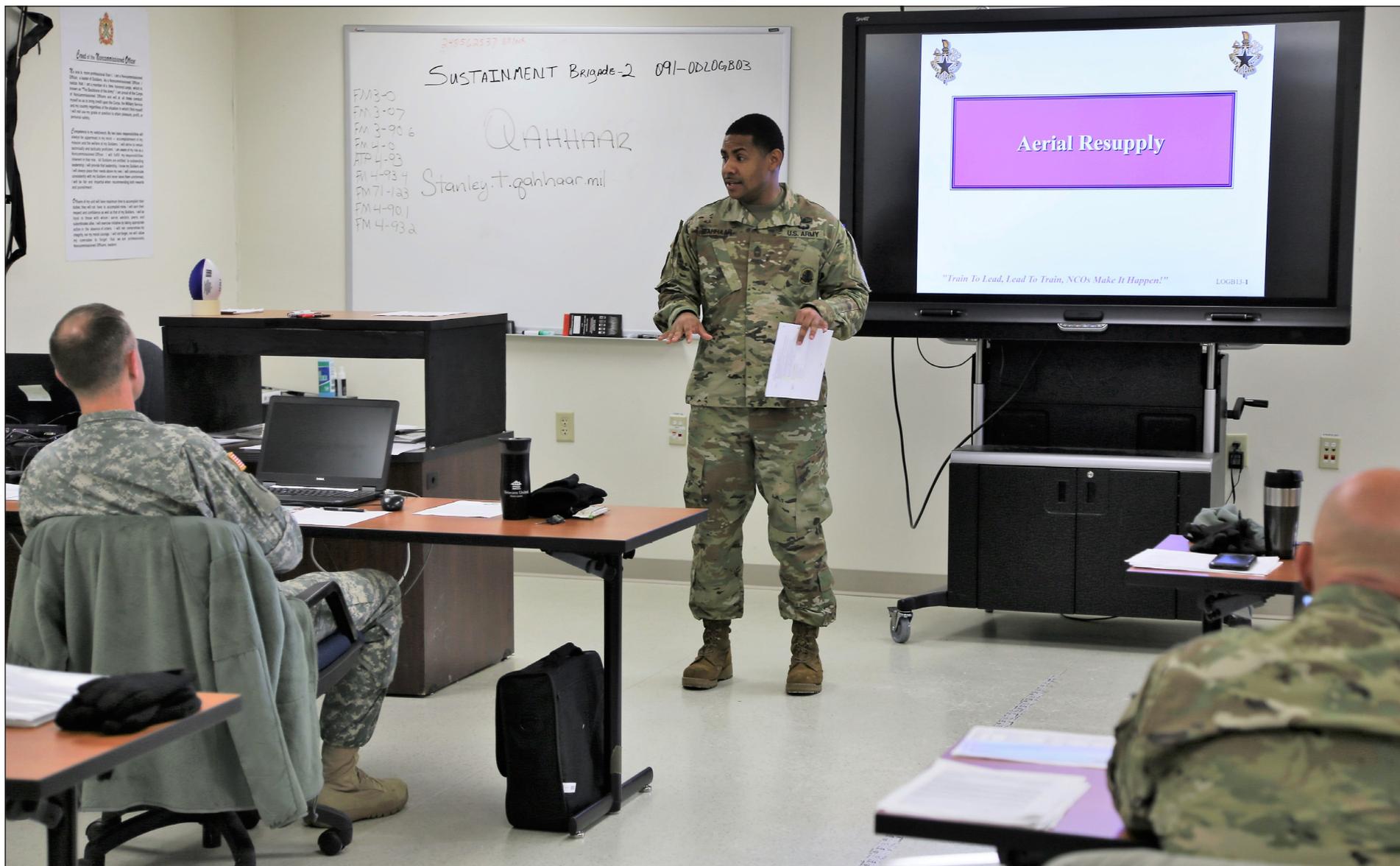


Cold-Weather Operations Course Class 18-05 students prepare equipment for an outdoor training session Feb. 21 at Fort McCoy.



Class 18-05 students rest after building an improvised shelter Feb. 28 at a training area on Fort McCoy's North Post.

NEWS



Master Sgt. Stanley Qahhaar, 89B Senior Leader Course instructor with the 13th Battalion, 100th Regiment, holds a class session Jan. 16 at Fort McCoy.

Ammunition supply Soldiers grow abilities, expertise in Senior Leader Course

STORY & PHOTO BY SCOTT T. STURKOL
Public Affairs Staff

Nearly a dozen Army senior ammunition specialist noncommissioned officers (NCOs) built up their leadership and career field skills during participation in the four-week 89B Senior Leader Course (SLC) at Fort McCoy from January to February.

The 89B SLC is taught by the 13th Battalion, 100th Regiment (13th, 100th). The 13th, 100th is an ordnance battalion that provides training and training support to Soldiers in the ordnance maintenance 89B military occupational specialty series.

The unit, aligned under the 3rd Brigade, 94th Division of the 80th Training Command, has been at Fort McCoy since about 1995.

Master Sgt. Stanley Qahhaar leads training in the 89B SLC. He said the course is taught in

two two-week phases.

“In this course, we cover a lot of logistics and support operations,” Qahhaar said. “We also cover leadership skills, and we get back to the basics of the career field. Our students also work with students in the (89B) Ammunition Supply Course, and they get plenty of work done in the field.”

Soldiers attending the SLC are “seasoned” NCOs, meaning they’ve been in the career field quite a while and now get the opportunity to improve even more at their assigned skill sets.

According to the Army job description for a senior ammunition supply specialist, these NCOs supervise the receipt, storage, issue, and preparation of ammunition, ammunition components and explosives for transportation and storage.

They also supervise ammunition stock control and accounting procedures for surveillance

inputs, conduct ammunition inspections and tests, and perform inspections of containers and vehicles transporting ammunition.

89B NCOs also inspect storage locations, ensuring compliance with storage compatibility, quantity distance, and explosive safety limits. And, they ensure compliance with all ammunition safety requirements as prescribed in applicable Army regulations.

“There’s a lot of information to understand and process,” Qahhaar said.

Staff Sgt. Amanda Kingsley, an ammunition inspector with the 1034th Combat Sustainment Support Battalion at Camp Dodge, Iowa, said she appreciates the opportunity to learn more while training at Fort McCoy.

“The classroom environment is outstanding and there are excellent facilities here,” Kingsley said. “We also were able to manage an ammunition demolition training event, which had us

working with the (ASC) students.”

Sgt. 1st Class Bronson Sargent, an instructor and facilitator with the 13th Battalion, 108th Regiment at Redstone Arsenal, Ala., said the SLC gives a greater understanding of all the tasks assigned to an 89B NCO.

“I’ve been an ammunition supply specialist at the company and battalion level,” Sargent said. “This training helps give me a better idea of how it works at a brigade level. ... What I’m seeing is this training is about supervising and doing the right thing at all levels.”

Qahhaar, who’s taught the same course at Fort Lee, Va., and Redstone Arsenal, said SLC students should leave the course with a firm understanding of what their roles and responsibilities are as well as how they can train others.

“We want them to be leaders and continue to grow as leaders,” Qahhaar said.

ADS

Thousands of tons of concrete recycled annually at McCoy

STORY & PHOTOS BY SCOTT T. STURKOL

Public Affairs Staff

A contractor began recycling tons and tons of old concrete in February on Fort McCoy's North Post.

Concrete is recycled every year at Fort McCoy each year for new purposes, such as material to create a road base or upgrade tank trails.

Contractor Panacea Group of Seymour, Wis., began work in February with a rock crusher at a Directorate of Public Works (DPW) staging area on North Post, said DPW Construction Inspection Branch Chief Dan Hanson.

"The work consists of crushing 4,000 tons of recycled asphalt and 20,000 tons of recycled concrete," Hanson said.

DPW Water and Wastewater Branch Supervisor Michael Miller, who oversees recycling efforts at Fort McCoy, said the Army has a standing goal to reduce the amount of waste sent to a landfill by 50 percent.

"The term for not sending waste to a landfill is called diversion," Miller said. "One of the things you can do to divert waste is recycle it."

Military installations such as Fort McCoy have many types of waste streams, Miller said. Old concrete is part of the construction and demolition (C&D) waste stream, which also must have a recycle rate of at least 50 percent.

"At least 85 to 90 percent of the C&D waste weight is concrete, so by recycling and reusing that concrete alone, we are surpassing that 50 percent goal," Miller said.

DPW General Engineer John Adams said the contractor set up a rock crusher, primarily to crush the concrete.

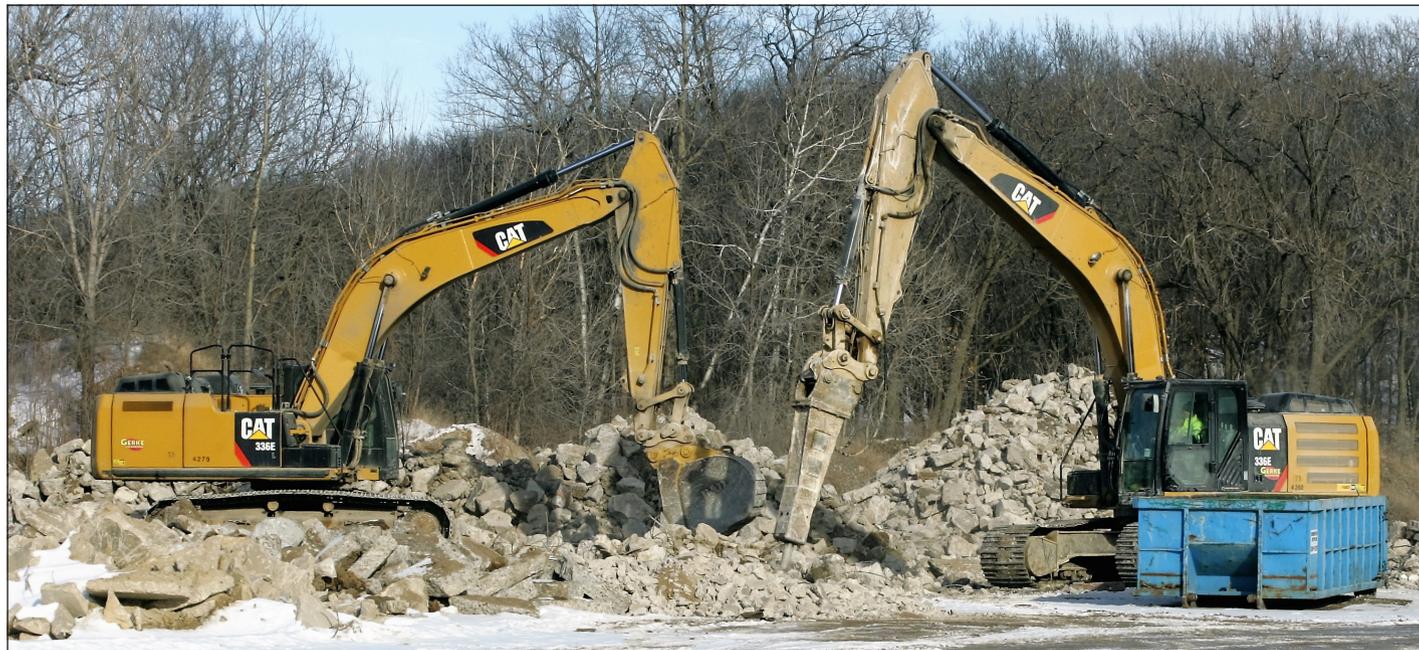
"During this process, the contractor separates metals from the concrete for recycling as well," Adams said. "Most of the concrete that is crushed and recycled comes from the demolition of old buildings and other infrastructure within the cantonment area at Fort McCoy."

"It can be old footings or foundations, old stairways, or parking areas," Adams said.

When the demolition is done, the old concrete is hauled to the holding area on North Post. Once there is a sufficient accumulation of concrete and materials that need to be crushed and recycled, a task order is created to have a contractor like Panacea Group come in and get the work done, Adams said. One example is the tons of old concrete moved from the summer 2017 demolition of the old West Silver Wetland Dam that was on South Post.

Adams said metals separated from the concrete are sorted in two piles for ferrous and nonferrous materials. Ferrous metals have iron in them, such as rebar. Nonferrous metals include aluminum, brass, copper, nickel, tin, lead, and zinc, as well as precious metals such as gold and silver.

"Once the metals are weighed, they are



Workers with contractor Gerke Excavating Inc. of Tomah, Wis., break up and move old concrete before it's placed in a rock crusher Feb. 12 at a location on North Post at Fort McCoy.



A worker with contractor Gerke Excavating Inc. moves pieces of old concrete to a rock crusher Feb. 12.

hauled off site," Adams said. "During the process they submit weight tickets of what was separated to DPW."

The concrete recycling process has been very beneficial for the installation and the environment, Miller said. For many years, crushed

concrete gravel has been used for road and trail improvements throughout the installation.

"You also have to look at the cost of sending something like that to the landfill," Miller said. "With nearly 100 percent of the concrete being recycled at Fort McCoy, that's hundreds of tons

of material we are not paying to be sent to a landfill somewhere, which is significant.

"You also have to look at the cost of not having to buy new materials for the road improvements that take place annually on post," Miller said. "It's a great savings all around."

COMMUNITY

This month in Fort McCoy history

75 years ago — March 27, 1943

To ensure sufficient food for civilian populations living near Camp McCoy, Col. George M. MacMullin, post commander, placed food supplies on a point rationing system. Food for all military purposes was issued through a post rationing officer. Additional requirements, previously purchased in outside stores, for officers' and enlisted men's clubs, was to be obtained by the Office of Price Administration.

73 Years Ago — March 3, 1945

Winners were announced in the Camp McCoy arts contest, which was judged by a committee headed by Col. George M. MacMullin, post commander. Winner in three divisions was Pfc. Henry Wenclawski, Chicago artist, whose "Anticipation," a study of men shooting dice; "Strictly GI," a sculpture of a Soldier from a bar of GI soap, and "The Taster," a watercolor work showing a mess sergeant sampling soup while the cook looks on hopefully, were judged top in their respective classes.

Murals painted by Wenclawski, discovered during a 1996 renovation, are on display in building 842 of the Fort McCoy Commemorative Area. The murals were styled after "Varga girls," a style of pin-up art popular during the 1940s.

30 Years Ago — March 25, 1988

After being registered as a trademark by the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, both the name and design of the word "Triad" became officially owned by the Department of the Army and Fort McCoy. Registration assures that the specific name and design belong to, and can only be used by, the Fort McCoy newspaper.

Formerly known as The Real McCoy, Triad first appeared as the newspaper's name on May 22, 1975, when it was selected as the winning entry in a contest to rename the post newspaper.

The newspaper returned to its roots and was renamed "The Real McCoy" in January 2008 in honor of the 100th anniversary of the installation in 1909.

20 Years Ago — March 13, 1998

The U.S. Army Noncommissioned Officer (NCO) Academy at Fort McCoy became the only NCO Academy in the Army to offer seven of the eight NCO development courses

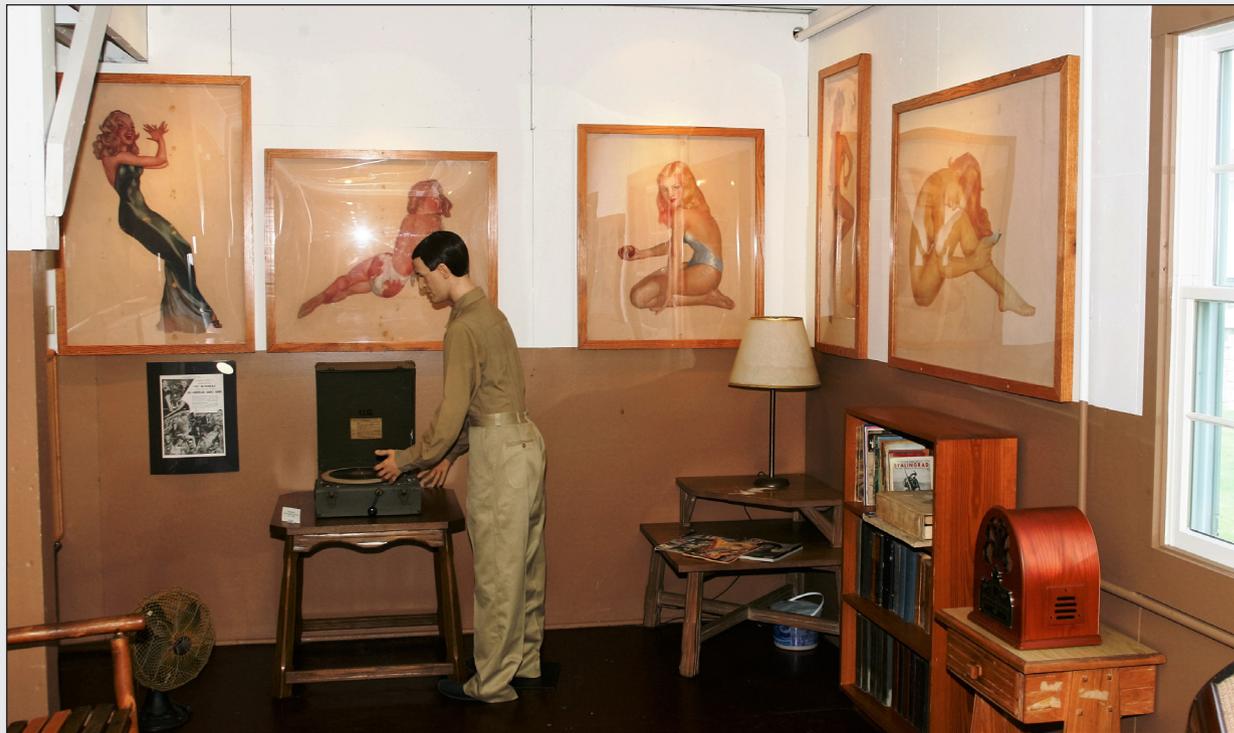


Photo by Scott T. Sturkol

Murals painted by Pfc. Henry Wenclawski, a World War II-era Chicago artist, discovered during a 1996 renovation, are shown on display in building 842 of the Fort McCoy Commemorative Area.

with the addition of Primary Leadership Development Course (PLDC).

Fort Bliss, Texas, was the only academy that offered the eighth class, the sergeant major course. PLDC was last taught by the academy at Fort McCoy in September 1995.

The PLDC mission returned to the Fort McCoy NCO Academy after the NCO Academy at Fort Chaffee, Ark., was closed in 1997 due to a base realignment and closure decision.

10 Years Ago — March 28, 2008

Kentucky Army National Guard Soldiers found themselves upside down, bracing themselves on the ceiling of their Humvee, which had become a floor. Seat belt strapped on and weap-

ons, ammunition, radios, personal gear, and fighting equipment tumbling in every direction, the Soldiers learned how to survive and escape an overturned Humvee.

About 500 Kentucky Guard Soldiers went through the Humvee Egress Assistance Training as a segment of their pre-deployment mobilization training.

Humvee Egress Assistance Training is still available on post.

The Humvee is mounted on an axle-like apparatus that allows instructors to rapidly turn over the vehicle sideways in a 360-degree pattern, degree by degree, fast enough to simulate what an improvised explosive device might do or the results of a rollover into a ditch.

Good Friday, Easter events planned at installation RSO

The Fort McCoy Religious Support Office (RSO) is planning several events and services to celebrate Good Friday and Easter.

An ecumenical service is planned for Good Friday from 11:30 a.m. to noon March 30 at Chapel 10, building 1759.

A fish lunch will be provided by RSO after the service in building 2675. Reservations are requested for lunch, but anyone is welcome to join.

For more information or to RSVP, call 608-388-3528 or email fatai.o.ajao.civ@mail.mil.

A sunrise service will be conducted for Easter at 6:35 a.m. April 1 at the water tower on South Post. Doughnuts and hot drinks will be

provided after the service at 7 a.m. at South Post Community Center.

Protestant and Catholic Easter services will also be conducted at the usual time April 1, 9:30 a.m. to 10:15 a.m., in Chapel 1, building 2672, and Chapel 10, building 1759. A potluck brunch will follow at the RSO, building 1759. There will be an Easter egg hunt for children during the brunch.

For more information about the activities or the services provided by RSO, call 608-388-3528 or email joshua.a.beyer1.mil@mail.mil or fatai.o.ajao.civ@mail.mil.

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



Photo by Scott T. Sturkol

Fort McCoy community members participate in a past Ash Wednesday service. Ash Wednesday is the traditional start of the Christian Lenten season.

OBSERVANCES

Guest speaker: Black WWI Soldiers persevered despite obstacles

BY AIMEE MALONE

Public Affairs Staff

Fort McCoy community members gathered Feb. 15 at McCoy's community Center to celebrate Black History Month with a luncheon and educational speaker.

The Department of Defense's theme for the 2018 observance was "African-Americans in Times of War."

"For far too long, African-Americans bravely fought and died in the name of freedom, while at the same time struggling to attain equality, respect, and the full privileges of citizenship. ... Their valorous acts in the face of grave injustice revealed the true meaning of American patriotism — service before self," states the Black History Month presidential proclamation issued Jan. 31 by President Donald J. Trump.

Guest speaker William Thompson, a historic interpreter from Minneapolis, focused on black and African-American troops who served during World War I (WWI).

About 10 percent of the U.S. population was black during the 1910s, but they made up 13 percent of the Army during World War I. Reasons for this varied, Thompson said. In some areas of the country, black Americans were drafted at a higher rate, but they might also have been motivated to volunteer by patriotism or the promise of opportunity.

The Army was segregated at the time, and new black recruits were seen as a source of unskilled labor. African-Americans were typically put in support jobs during World War I for a number of reasons, Thompson said. One was that an influx of immigrants from Europe made some government officials wary of divided loyalties in draftees and recruits.

"One of the first jobs given to African-American Soldiers was guarding the White House, (other) federal buildings, and crucial infrastructure because they thought there was no way African-Americans have loyalty to anybody else except the United States," Thompson said.

About 80 percent of African-Americans who joined the military during WWI ended up in pioneer infantry battalions, stevedore regiments, labor battalions, or development battalions.

"The most prestigious of the labor battalions was the pioneer infantry battalions, and that was considered a really good position to end up in if you were African-American," Thompson said. "My grandfather was in a pioneer infantry battalion because he was a mechanic."

Other labor battalions were primarily used for unskilled labor and received minimal training and supplies, Thompson said. White units were given priority for lodging and supplies, so an African-American unit might sleep in tents and eat outside. Most didn't receive official uniforms.



Photo by Scott T. Sturkol

Freelance historic interpreter William "Bill" Thompson of Minneapolis gives his presentation during the installation observance of African-American History Month on Feb. 15 at Fort McCoy.

The African-American Soldiers who were assigned to combat units experienced similar deprivations, Thompson said. Black Soldiers were often trained in small, scattered groups after locals objected when whole units were sent to one base (especially in the south) for training. Some didn't meet the other members of their unit until arriving in Europe just before battle.

One of these units, the 368th Infantry Regiment, was ordered into battle without essential tools like maps, then ordered to liaison with French troops. When the unit failed in its mission, the black Soldiers were deemed cowards, despite the fact that units of white Soldiers also failed with the proper equipment, Thompson said.

"That reputation would carry into World War II," Thompson said. It wasn't until the Army desegregated during the Korean War that the reputation began to change.

The 93rd Infantry Division, another segregated unit, was handed over to and commanded by the French Army. The French Army thought much more highly of its black American Soldiers than the U.S. Army, Thompson said. By the end of the war, the 371st Infantry Regiment — a subordinate regiment — had earned 184 Croix de guerre medals from France. The Croix de guerre is a military decoration that rewards feats of bravery, either by individuals or groups, in WWI and WWII. The medal could be given to any member of the armed forces, both French citizens and foreigners, who had

been mentioned in army dispatches.

"And then they came home, and there were parades ... but at the end of the day, they were still living in Jim Crow(-era) America," Thompson said.

He said he didn't want to end the presentation on a sad note, but he was glad that enough progress had been made to study and acknowledge the contributions that had formerly been ignored.

"It's a victory that we're here talking about them today," Thompson said.

The observance was coordinated by Regional Training Site-Maintenance.

The next Equal Opportunity observance will be for Women's History Month on March 22.

NEWS NOTES

March basketball competitions planned at Rumpel Fitness Center

Rumpel Fitness Center, building 1122, will be holding several basketball competitions throughout March in celebration of March Madness.

A **March Madness bracket contest** will start March 11. The bracket will be posted at the fitness center after Selection Sunday. Brackets must be submitted before March 12. The participant with the most points will win a prize.

A **three-on-three basketball tournament** is set for 4:30 p.m. March 14. A minimum of three people and a maximum of five people are allowed on each team. Teams can be co-ed, and prizes will be given to the winning team. Registration is required by March 5.

A **“Super 8” competition** is scheduled for March 19. Participants will complete a variety of shots. Registration is required by March 18.

The **“Hot Shots”** competition is March 20. Participants will shoot from various areas of the basketball court. The participant with the highest score will win a prize. Registration is required by March 19.

A **free-throw contest** is scheduled for March 21. Participants have two minutes to make as many free throws as possible. Registration is required by March 20.

For more information or to register, call 608-388-2290.

‘Connect the Tots’ play group meets March 13

The “Connect the Tots” play group will meet at 9:30 a.m. March 13 at the Army Community Service Family Building, building 2161.

The play group is for children 5 years old or younger. Through play, transitions, circle time, songs, activities, and informal conversations, parents learn about developmental ages and stages, gain tools to help understand their children’s behavior, and become empowered to prepare the family and children to enter school ready to learn.

ACS events are open to military members, retirees, civilian workforce, Family members, and registered Fort McCoy volunteers.

Additional play groups are scheduled for March 27 and April 10, 17, and 24. For more information or to register, call 608-388-2412.

Education plan workshop scheduled for March 15

An Individualized Education Plan workshop is scheduled for 9 to 11 a.m. March 15 at Army Community Service, building 2111.

This workshop will provide parents with basic tools to understand the special education process in easy-to-understand terms.

This training is a collaborative effort with ACS and Wisconsin Family Assistance Center for Education, Training & Support.

ACS events are open to military members, retirees, civilian workforce, Family members,



Photo by Scott T. Sturkol

CIF equipment issue

Soldiers at Fort McCoy for training in Operation Cold Steel II are issued training and cold-weather equipment at the Logistics Readiness Center Central Issue Facility (CIF) on Feb. 27. Since 2011, the Fort McCoy CIF has been issuing Reserve Soldiers their entire Organizational Clothing and Individual Equipment needs.

and registered Fort McCoy volunteers. Registration is required by March 8.

For more information or to register, call 608-388-7262.

Caregiving class planned for March 20

A “Caregiving and the Sandwich Generation” class is scheduled for 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. March 20 at South Post Community Center.

According to AARP, the “sandwich generation” is traditionally defined as those who have a living parent and are supporting a child. This class will offer caregivers helpful information and tips, along with opportunities to share, ask questions, and participate in meaningful discussion.

ACS events are open to military members, retirees, civilian workforce, Family members, and registered Fort McCoy volunteers. Registration is required by March 16.

For more information or to register, call 608-388-2412.

Sit, Sip, Paint party planned for March 23

A “Sit, Sip, Paint” canvas-painting party is scheduled for 5:30 p.m. March 23 at McCoy’s Community Center, building 1571.

The workshop is a step-by-step painting demonstration by artist Linda Oldenburg. Participants will paint a 16-by-20-inch work of art. No artistic ability is required, and all art supplies are provided.

Social hour begins at 5:30 p.m., and painting begins at 6:30 p.m.

Wine, beverages, and food will be available to purchase. The workshop costs \$35 per person. The event is open to the public.

Space is limited. Register by calling 608-388-2065/3011 or at McCoy’s Community Center by March 16.

Easter Eggstravaganza set for March 24

Easter Eggstravaganza is scheduled for March 24 at the Fort McCoy Exchange and Constitution Park.

Festivities kick off with breakfast with the Easter bunny from 8 to 11:20 a.m. A special breakfast menu with French toast sticks will be available in addition to the usual breakfast menu at the Exchange food court.

Photos with the Easter bunny will be available from 9 to 11:20 a.m. Crafts and activities, including face painting, coloring, egg toss, and donut decorating, will start at 9 a.m. and end at 11:20 a.m.

At 11:20 a.m., Families can participate in a parade from the Exchange to Constitution Park. At 11:30 a.m., an Easter Egg Hunt will start at Constitution Park. A separate egg hunt is available for children in the Exceptional Family Member Program. The inclement weather location for the egg hunt will be Rumpel Fitness Center.

No advance registration is required. For more information, call 608-388-3200.

April Showers 5k set for April 18

The April Showers 5k run/walk is scheduled for 2:30 p.m. April 18 at Rumpel Fitness Center, building 1122.

The event is free and open to all eligible Directorate of Family and Morale, Welfare and Recreation patrons. Medals will be awarded to the top runners in each category. The Commander’s Challenge Award will be given to the organization with the most registered participants. The event helps bring awareness to child abuse and sexual assault. Participants are encouraged to wear blue or teal to show support.

Registration is required by April 11. For more information, call 608-388-3200.

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.

Team members will be expected to train together prior to the Army Ten-Miler, which will take place 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.

Armed Forces Day Open House scheduled for May 19

The annual Fort McCoy Armed Forces Day Open House will be 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. May 19. This Family-friendly event is free and open to the public.

The installation’s Commemorative Area will serve as the hub of activity for this event and will showcase the History Center, five World War II-era buildings, the Equipment Park, and Veterans Memorial Plaza.

Planned activities include guided installation bus tours, a sandbag-filling station, personalized ID tags, camouflage face painting, military equipment displays, and much more.

Guests must enter the installation through Gate 15 off Highway 21 between Sparta and Tomah, Wis. Adults must be prepared to present photo identification.

For more information about the event, call the Fort McCoy Public Affairs Office at 608-388-2407.

Post welcomes new employees

New employees started working in several post organizations in January and February.

Welcome to the following new employees:

- **Alan McCormick** and **Terry Spencer** — Directorate of Emergency Services.

- **Jan Artley** and **Darren Barnard** — Directorate of Plans, Training, Mobilization and Security.

- **Timothy Peterson** — Directorate of Public Works.

- **Kelsi Anderson** — Equipment Concentration Site-67.

- **Jackelyn Hanson** and **Rebecca Hemmersbach** — USARC Pay Center.

Next issue of The Real McCoy

The next issue of The Real McCoy will be published March 23. The deadline for submissions to be considered for publication in the March 23 issue is noon March 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: 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 Check-out 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. Dependent on weather. Check www.facebook.com/WhitetailRidge/ or call 608-388-3517 for latest information.

Dining

McCoy's Community Center: 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 (pizza, pasta, and rotating hot dishes) available 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.-Sat. and 8 a.m.-3 p.m. Sun. Call 608-269-5604 or 608-388-4343.

Specialty Express Food Court: Building 1538. Open 10 a.m.-6 p.m. Mon.-Fri. 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. Dependent on weather. Check www.facebook.com/WhitetailRidge/ or call 608-388-3517 for latest information.

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 8 a.m.-3 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

facilities services

This schedule is projected through **March 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.

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 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 8 a.m.-3 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.-Sat. and 8 a.m.-3 p.m. Sun. Call 608-388-4343. 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: 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.

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.

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

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.

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 fsofmcceo@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, email usawoamccooy@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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- Editorial Content608-388-2769

Read this publication online at <http://www.mccooy.army.mil>

FIREARM REGISTRATION POLICY

All privately owned firearms brought on the installation must be registered through the Directorate of Emergency Services (DES) Police Department. Firearm registration is required by Army Regulation 190-11, 4-5, "Privately owned weapons and ammunition." Firearms are required to be registered prior to entrance or immediately upon entering any lands identified as Fort McCoy property. For more information, call 608-388-266.

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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