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The Real McCoy

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Take action to avoid common summer pests

STORY & PHOTO BY GENEVE N. MANKEL
Public Affairs Staff

Despite a long, frigid and record-breaking winter, ticks in the area are thriving.

David Beckmann, Fort McCoy Natural Resources Branch wildlife biologist, said there was hope the hard winter weather would lessen the occurrence of ticks, but they are out in full force.

“The snow cover may have actually helped insulate the ticks (during the extremely cold weather),” he said. “We aren’t seeing any reductions in the tick population from previous years.”

Fort McCoy offers the right mix of landscape and weather conditions that make human contact with ticks probable.

Ticks prefer wooded areas with brush and vegetation and thrive in hot and humid conditions. Tick exposure can occur throughout most of the year.

“Ticks come out as soon as it’s warm and the snow melts,” he said. “During the spring turkey season hunters have seen ticks, and fall deer hunters have, too.”

Beckmann said the three types of ticks found around the installation are the wood tick, which is the most common here, the deer tick — or blacklegged tick, and the lone star tick, which is rare but has been found in low numbers.

Several prevention measures can be taken to reduce tick exposure.

Beckmann said pants can be tucked into socks or boots and long-sleeved shirts should be worn. “You want to restrict ticks from getting onto your skin,” he said.

Wearing light-colored clothing will allow ticks on the clothing to be more visible.

“After going out to the field, people should do a full-body check before a tick has a chance to get embedded.”

On the chemical side, Beckmann said permethrin-containing products work well and are the best option in helping to reduce tick exposure. These products are generally designed to treat clothing and should not be applied to the skin.

Products containing DEET are not effective in repelling ticks, Beckmann said.

Deer ticks carry the most common
(See **PESTS** page 9)



Employers participate in a Boss Lift event with the 32nd Infantry Brigade Combat Team at Fort McCoy's Tactical Training Base Justice.

Employers gain Army insight with Boss Lift event

STORY & PHOTO BY SCOTT T. STURKOL
Public Affairs Staff

Wisconsin employers participated in Army familiarization activities June 4 during a Boss Lift event sponsored by the 32nd Infantry Brigade Combat Team (IBCT) of the Wisconsin Army National Guard.

Boss Lift is an event coordinated through the Department of Defense Employer Support of Guard and Reserve (ESGR) program. It offers employers an opportunity to visit military installations throughout the nation to observe National Guard and Reserve members involved in training exercises. Employers see, firsthand, the quality of training and leadership activities their uniformed employees receive as part of the Total Force.

The itinerary for this event included a flight on a UH-60 Blackhawk helicopter, a tour of the 32nd IBCT's Tactical Operations Center and a live-fire range, and a lunch with Soldiers.

Wisconsin National Guard Command Sgt. Maj. Bradley Shields from Madison, Wis., said events like Boss Lift are important.

“The support employers provide, especially over the last 12 years, is critical to our success,” Shields said. “Without it, our Soldiers could not support our state and country like they do.”

Several employers noted they were interested to learn more about what Soldiers do when they are away from their civilian jobs as well as meet other employers.

“I think it’s a great opportunity to meet with other engaged employers who are supporting these efforts,” said Gregory Banaszynski of Milwaukee, president of Activate Healthcare in Wisconsin. “This is a firsthand look at what service men and women are doing each day. As an employer, we are proud to do our part.”

Carl Huber, coordinator for the Veteran and Nontraditional Student Center at the University of Wisconsin-Superior, said coming to Fort McCoy for the first time was a pleasant experience.

“I’m not from a military background, so, in my experience, an event like this is useful in helping us understand more about our troops who are coming home from overseas and joining the workforce,” Huber said. “It’s important for me to learn and understand their experiences.”

Even for Army veterans like Wally Obermann, who is currently the police commissioner in the Vilas County Sheriff's Office in Minocqua, Wis., participating in a Boss Lift event is an important reminder of the service and sacrifices of reserve-component forces.

“I really enjoy being able to come and see what is going on here (with the training),” Obermann said. “One of our deputies, a lieutenant in the department, is with the 32nd (IBCT), so it’s good to see where he comes to do some of his training.”

The deputy is 1st Sgt. Gregory Fulton, a 32nd IBCT combat engineer from Arbor Vitae, Wis. Fulton earned the Silver Star for

meritorious service while deployed to Afghanistan in 2009. “He’s a wonderful member of the force and a good man,” Obermann said.

Brendan Majerus, from RockTenn Company in Beloit, Wis., said his son served as an Army airborne ranger for eight years and deployed to both Iraq and Afghanistan. He said it’s important for employers to help returning veterans, like his son, transition into finding civilian jobs, and support those who are serving in the Guard and Reserve.

“We have to continue to do whatever we can do,” Majerus said. “Coming (here) also helps us learn more about how we can support our service members.”

Even those who are very familiar with Fort McCoy learned from attending the Boss Lift event.

“You really get a better appreciation for what Soldiers and service members do for us when you attend something like this,” said Gary Kirking, president of the Sparta School Board. “You can also learn from the others in attendance on how they support those (service members) on their staff.”

James Arzt, from Walker Stainless in New Lisbon, added, “We always want to find ways to better understand how we can provide support. It’s our way of showing that we appreciate what they (service members) do.”

For more information about the Wisconsin ESGR Committee, contact Mike Hallquist at 715-858-9676, by email at michael.s.hallquist.ctr@mail.mil, or visit the ESGR website at <http://www.esgr.mil>.

COMMUNITY



Jil Bohnert, fuel supply technician, prepares a fuel key for Pfc. Yevheniy Andreyko of the Veterinary Services Office.



Gary Flock, fuel operator for the Logistics Readiness Center Central Fuel Operations office, runs through a fuel operations checklist while working at a Fort McCoy fuel pump station.

Logistics Readiness Center team fills Fort McCoy fuels mission

STORY & PHOTOS
BY SCOTT T. STURKOL
 Public Affairs Staff

Whether it's coordinating maintenance or ensuring Fort McCoy has enough unleaded gasoline, diesel fuel or JP-8 jet fuel, the team at the Central Fuel Operations (CFO) office keeps the installation fuels mission flowing smoothly every day.

The CFO, located in building 405, is part of the Logistics Readiness Center, a tenant organization. Its staff is responsible for ensuring the availability of the fuel needed to keep tactical vehicles as well as government service vehicles moving. It's a tall order to keep the tanks full.

"Annually, our team manages the flow of more than 1.1 million gallons of three types of fuel at Fort McCoy," said Customer Services Branch Supervisor Michelle Martin. "The fuel itself is owned by the Defense Logistics Agency, and we work with them to manage the ordering and distribution of the fuel used at this installation. We also have a great team that takes great pride in taking care of our customers."

The team has many responsibilities

that have to be tracked every day, including the managing of all fuel keys for the installation, ordering fuel and tracking usage as well as maintaining the fuel facility and equipment.

When the post has a large presence of troops during training season, the CFO just gets busier. Martin said they are tested consistently but the job always gets done efficiently. She cited the recent Warrior Exercise (WAREX) where more than 4,500 troops were on post using the fueling points on a regular basis for more than two weeks.

"Any unit here for training must fill out a Fort McCoy Training and Support Form 38," Martin said. "On that form the unit lists what their projected fuel usage is for the duration of their time of training. During WAREX, this is what every unit had to do. We kept ahead and planned out the tens of thousands of gallons of fuel that were used during that large exercise."

Jil Bohnert, fuel supply technician, completes the fuel ordering, tracking and fuel key distribution for CFO. She is also a key player in completing a monthly report that reconciles fuel used at Fort McCoy.

Bohnert said her team exhibits great communication and support, which makes the work they do to support Fort McCoy as a "Total Force Training Center" even better.

"I work with some of the best people fulfilling a very important mission for Fort McCoy," Bohnert said. "We work hard every day to make sure the fuel this post needs to do its mission is available at all times."

The CFO mission also manages care for millions of dollars worth of fuels equipment. Petroleum, Oils and Lubricants Responsible Officer Keith Presley oversees fuels distribution and serves as the quality assurance evaluator for fueling assets that include pumps, tanks and miles of fuel lines.

"We have fueling assets all over the post," Presley said. "I work with our fuel operators to maintain the assets and call in repairs whenever we need them done."

"We also have the fuels storage areas, which we make sure stay functioning and well maintained," Presley said.

"It's a busy but rewarding job because we know we are supporting

an important mission in getting our Soldiers trained," he said.

Good maintenance, hard work and attention to detail are some of the factors that have led to the central fueling areas on post to having an excellent safety record, Presley said. Customers also have a big role.

"We appreciate our customers who take safety around fuel storage and pumping areas very seriously," Presley said. "Whether it is loading or offloading fuel, our community and those people who come here for training have been very good about practicing good fuel safety."

Fuel Operator Gary Flock said he's seen, firsthand, how important the fuels mission is to overall troop support.

"When it's busy here with a lot of training going on, we know we have to make sure our fuels areas are all functioning correctly every day," Flock said.

"For me, I know that by doing my job well, we are providing valuable support to our Soldiers. I'm very proud to support this mission here."

The CFO's reach of support goes well beyond Fort McCoy, Bohnert said.

"We also provide fuel keys and management support for units throughout Wisconsin as well as Illinois," she said.

"Our facilities also support fuel keys from other Department of Defense installations."

The CFO succeeds in all phases of its mission, Martin said, because of the great employees.

"Everyone here works well as a team," Martin said. "We all work hard to reach out to our customers and give them the timely support that is needed. Also, when someone on the team needs help, another team member always steps up."

Those same team members also look to make continuous improvements.

Over the past year, pump equipment has been upgraded at the central fueling point, and new fuel-tracking software has been installed.

"The fuels mission never stops at Fort McCoy," Martin said.

"Our team will continue to make sure you'll be able to keep your tanks full anytime you need fuel."

For more information about the CFO and the fuels mission at Fort McCoy, call 608-388-7099.

TRAINING

Fort McCoy firefighters train in technical rescue

STORY & PHOTOS BY SCOTT T. STURKOL
Public Affairs Staff



Fort McCoy firefighters participate in high-angle technical-rescue training at a 65-foot-tall rappelling tower in the installation cantonment area. Team members (above) begin to lower a simulated patient while team members on the ground (below) prepare to receive the patient.



Sixty-five feet above the cantonment area, atop one of the post's rappelling towers, Fort McCoy firefighters practiced lowering a simulated patient down the tower's steep wall to safety to firefighters on the ground.

The scenario practiced by the firefighters is all a part of technical-rescue training, according to Fort McCoy Station Chief Brady Brever.

"We've started training in technical rescue to increase our capabilities," Brever said. "Though we have completed some low-angle technical-rescue training in the past, this is the first time we are also including high-angle style training of technical rescue."

Technical rescue is defined as those aspects of saving life or property that employ the use of tools and skills that exceed those normally reserved for firefighting, medical emergency and rescue, according to the Alabama Fire College (AFC) of Tuscaloosa, Ala., the agency that conducted the training.

These disciplines include rope rescue, confined space rescue, trench and excavation rescue, and more.

AFC Instructor Stacey Rose and another instructor trained firefighters over eight class days in Rope Levels I and II.

Rope Level I training teaches students to construct a multi-point anchor system and determine incident needs as related to choosing anchor systems, effective knots and expected loads.

Firefighters learn to construct a compound-rope, mechanical-advantage system and to operate that system in a high-angle environment. They also learn to ascend and descend a rope in a high-angle environment, and how to construct a fixed-rope system for rappelling.

"We worked through a number of scenarios over the course of the training," Brever said. "These courses are the initial phase of the technical-rescue training, but once we are all done we will have the certifications needed to offer this additional lifesaving set of skills to the Fort McCoy community."

Rose said AFC has done this training for many Department of Defense (DOD) fire departments for "quite some time."

"They wanted to expand their lifesaving capability here," Rose said. "With the type of terrain here (at Fort McCoy), this is good training for them to have."

Once the full round technical-rescue training is done, the Fort McCoy Fire Department will receive certification from the Pro Board Fire Service Professional Qualifications System and the International Fire Service Accreditation Congress. Those certifications also will translate to DOD certifications, Rose said.

"Having these skills available with our fire services personnel are great for when you need it," Brever said. "We will support the Fort McCoy community first. We could also support surrounding communities through mutual-aid agreements."

Other technical rescue courses will be completed in the future, Brever said.

For more information about the Fort McCoy Fire Department, call 608-388-2508.

TRAINING

Navy corpsmen train in Army field sanitation course

STORY & PHOTOS BY SCOTT T. STURKOL
Public Affairs Staff

Navy corpsmen from the Det. 1, Bulk Fuel Company B, 6th Engineering Support Battalion, 4th Marine Logistics Group (MLG) of Green Bay, Wis., gained a big dose of preventative-medicine education while training in a 40-hour field sanitation course at Fort McCoy's Regional Training Site (RTS)-Medical complex recently.

The course, taught about twice monthly, identifies proper sanitation tactics, techniques and procedures to maintain healthy living for troops deployed to encampments in austere locations.

"Field sanitation techniques really came into play during World War II where we learned ways of preventing disease and maintaining healthier living conditions for deployed troops," said course instructor Dave Meyer.

Navy corpsmen are medical assistants who assist Navy doctors and dentists in their procedures, and perform field procedures, perform injections, clinical tests and clerical work associated with medical records. Corpsmen from the 4th MLG can add practicing and teaching proper field sanitation and hygiene to that list.

"We will be deploying for training with our unit soon, so this training is timely," said 4th MLG Hospital Corpsman 2nd Class John Christian. "In the course we've learned more on some things we've trained on before, but we've also learned many new things.

"Our training here will help us point out things that are wrong and help keep our Marines healthy," Christian said.



Aimee Carrington, an instructor at Fort McCoy's Regional Training Site-Medical, teaches students in the field sanitation training course about the importance of food handling and service while deployed.

The Sailors had numerous blocks of instruction and hands-on training in field sanitation practices involving areas of food and water

treatment and safety, as well as identifying potential medical threats.

"Some students might come to this training thinking all they are going to learn about is the proper handling, set up and operation of latrines," Meyer said.

"When they are done, they have a whole different perspective because they learn about the water treatment, food safety and even pest control. All of what we teach lends to good, sound preventative-medicine practices."

Meyer teaches the course with fellow instructor Aimee Carrington.

"This course is essentially a preventative medicine course for small units who don't have the ability to have a larger preventative medicine team to manage these different tasks," Meyer said.

"When the students leave here, we want them to have a strong understanding in field sanitation practices."

Hospitalman Samuel Livingston, also from the 4th MLG, said the training was very beneficial.

"This instruction will really

help prepare us for what we do, and we can share what we learn with others," Livingston said.

Another corpsmen from the 4th MLG, Hospitalman Chad Wolding, said the training will be useful in many situations.

"In addition to this training coming just in time prior to us going to the field, it also will help us in the long run for everything else we do," Wolding said. "This is definitely good training."

At the end of the course, the Sailors had to pass a course completion test to earn certification, Meyer said. Once certified, they are then ready to go practice what they've learned in the field.

"We always want our students to be as prepared as they can be," Meyer said.

The 4th MLG is a Marine Corps Reserve unit headquartered in New Orleans, La. Navy corpsmen who attended the course are enlisted men and women who work in hospitals, on ships and in the field working to treat injured and sick Sailors and Marines.

RTS-Medical is a training platform for the medical warfighting function, said Gerry Meyer, RTS-Medical administrative officer. It provides and supports a variety of individual- and section-level medical skills sustainment training and unit-level collective training at Fort McCoy.



U.S. Navy corpsmen learn how to reset a thermometer for food preparation.

TRAINING

Senior mechanics trained in RTS-Maintenance course

STORY & PHOTO BY SCOTT T. STURKOL

Public Affairs Staff

Fort McCoy's Regional Training Site (RTS)-Maintenance facility teaches a variety of courses to more than 700 Soldiers each year. One course — the Senior Construction Equipment Repairer Course — impacts motor pools across the Army.

RTS-Maintenance is the only Reserve Component schoolhouse Armywide to teach this 28-day course to Guard and Reserve Soldiers.

This also means the students who graduate set out to lead motor pools at their units and installations. Course capacity is set at 12 students and can also include active-duty Soldiers.

Students who complete this course return to their units as senior mechanics who maintain and fix construction equipment, said RTS-Maintenance Chief Instructor, Master Sgt. Christine Wolf. They can also serve as motor pool sergeants where they can pass their knowledge and skills onto others, and maintenance management at motor pools.

Soldiers attending the course are aligned under the 91 "Lima" Army career field designation series as 91L30.

Noncommissioned officers assigned to become senior construction equipment repairers are required to supervise and perform unit, direct and general support maintenance on construction equipment, according to the official Army description for the career field.

Construction equipment repairers, in general, are responsible for maintaining trucks, bulldozers, graders, power shovels and other heavy equipment that is needed for construction operations.

Each student participates in classroom sessions and "hands-on" training in military occupational specialty-specific tasks. The training teaches students to troubleshoot electrical, diesel engine, hydraulic, power train and brake systems. Battlefield damage assessment and



Staff Sgt. Harold Quezada, from the 827th Engineer Company of Horsehead, N.Y., works on a grader engine while in training at the Senior Construction Equipment Repairer Course at Fort McCoy's Regional Training Site-Maintenance.

repair as well as recovery operations also are taught.

The course's program of instruction (POI) recently was expanded to include more maintenance-management training, Wolf said. "By expanding the POI, we create more opportunities for learning for our students."

Staff Sgt. Dean Kulppi, a student in the course from the Army Reserve's 1st Brigade, 75th Division at Arlington Heights, Ill., said he thought the POI changes "have really made this advanced leadership course better."

"It has increased the 'hands-on' portion of training and focused in on training that is more relevant to what we will be doing as senior mechanics," Kulppi said.

The POI change also helps increase the life of the equipment being maintained, said Course Instructor Staff Sgt. Dana Freeman.

"Knowing good maintenance management is absolutely necessary to operate a motor pool," Freeman said. "Army equipment gets a lot of use, so, training our students in sound maintenance practices, in turn, extends the life of that equipment."

In each course, three instructors are as-

signed to support and teach 12 students, Wolf said.

"First and foremost, that student-to-teacher ratio is needed to ensure safety," Wolf said. "The students work on large pieces of equipment in this course, so it's essential to make sure we follow and teach all the important levels of safety."

Sgt. 1st Class Matthew Severson, a 91L30 course instructor who has more than 30 years of experience as a military and civilian mechanic, said students also receive a high level of support.

"In addition to safety, having three people available for each class provides a broad level of expertise, experience and support," Severson said. "It's not often in training situations you will have this many instructors available."

Some students travel half-way around the world to attend this course.

"I'm just glad to be here to be able to learn more about being a mentor and a leader to my junior Soldiers in construction equipment maintenance," said Staff Sgt. Romy Laguana from the 1224th Engineer Support Company of the Guam National Guard in Hagatna,

Guam.

"The only time it gets cold in Guam is when you open the freezer," said Laguana, referring to being in Wisconsin for the first time. "But I have received a warm welcome here. The (RTS-Maintenance) facility has excellent instructors, the post facilities are set up well, and I can tell there are a lot of civilian workers here who really care about Soldiers."

Overall, RTS-Maintenance trains Soldiers in a host of courses that also include Wheeled Vehicle Mechanic, Wheeled Vehicle Recovery, Standard Army Maintenance System — Enhanced, and more.

The Senior Construction Equipment Repairer Course has been taught at Fort McCoy since RTS-Maintenance was established as a tenant organization in 1989, Wolf said.

The organization has multiple training facilities, including nine classrooms that are fully-equipped with the latest in digital and computer-based audiovisual equipment, as well as field training sites with mire pits for vehicle recovery training.

For more information about RTS-Maintenance, call 608-388-3938.

"Knowing good maintenance management is absolutely necessary to operate a motor pool."

Staff Sgt. Dana Freeman

Regional Training Site-Maintenance Instructor

OBSERVANCES

Arlington's journey: From division to reconciliation

BY JIM GARAMONE

American Forces Press Service

ARLINGTON, Va. — As Arlington National Cemetery marked the 150th anniversary of its first burial in May, it was a scene of harmony and reconciliation.

It didn't start that way.

Before the Civil War, the property overlooking the Potomac River — called the Custis-Lee Mansion or Arlington House — was the home of Robert E. Lee. The house and grounds belonged to Lee's wife, Mary, and in 1861 the Lee Family had called Arlington home for 30 years.

Lee was at Arlington House when he received word that Virginia had seceded from the Union in April 1861. This caused a crisis for Lee, who was a U.S. Army colonel at the time. He had been offered command of the Union Army, and he agonized over the decision on whether to stay with the Union or go with his state.

On April 20, Lee submitted his resignation from the Army. He left Arlington House two days later. He ultimately rose to command the Confederate army.

Across the river in Washington, another Southern officer came to a different decision. Montgomery C. Meigs was a Georgian who graduated from West Point as a Corps of Engineers officer and had built many of the major projects of the day. Meigs considered his oath to "support and defend the Constitution" as paramount, and when his home state of Georgia seceded, he stayed with the Union.

Meigs rose to be quartermaster general of Union forces.

He was one of the first officers anywhere to understand the importance of logistics in military operations, and he welded together a system that capitalized on the Union's manufacturing and transportation expertise.

For Arlington House, whether Lee stayed with the Union or went with Virginia didn't really matter in 1861, because the property was so strategically important, Arlington National Cemetery Historian Stephen Carney said.

The property included high ground and dominated two bridges into the district. If Confederate forces placed artillery units on the heights, they would have had everything from the White House to the



DOD file photo by William D. Moss

Two Soldiers from the 3rd U.S. Infantry, known as the Old Guard, move marker to marker placing one American flag at each tombstone during the "Flags In" ceremony at Arlington National Cemetery, Arlington, Va., May 27, 2010.

Capitol and more in range.

In one of the first movements of the Civil War, Union forces occupied Arlington and built two forts on the heights as part of the defenses for Washington.

Lee's Family lost the land for failure to pay tax on the land. Mary Lee had attempted to pay the tax — a total of \$92.07. She did not appear in person, but asked an agent — possibly her cousin, to do so, according to Carney. But the federal government refused to accept the tax payment from that person.

The government acquired the house and land for \$26,800 in 1864 and built a Freedman's Village on the property to house the freed slaves who gravitated to Washington.

On April 30, 1864, the Army of the Potomac began the Overland Campaign against the Army of Northern Virginia. Union Lt. Gen. Ulysses S. Grant moved across the Rappahannock River and immediately ran into Lee's forces at the Battle of the Wilderness.

But instead of a one-day battle,

as was the case before, the warfare ground on with battles in Spotsylvania, Yellow Tavern, North Anna, Cold Harbor and so on. It was a blood-letting the likes of which the world hadn't seen. Estimates vary, but Civil War historians put the number of casualties in the range of 55,000 for the Union and 34,000 for the Confederates.

Washington was the closest city and served as the base of operations. It was a hub where rivers, roads and rail came together. It was both a supply center and a hospice, Carney said.

And in charge of it all was Union Brig. Gen. Montgomery Meigs, the quartermaster general. Meigs detested the Confederacy and the officers who had betrayed their oaths to the United States of America.

He was responsible for supplying the needs of the Union Army, and he also was responsible for burying them.

In May 1864, the graveyards of Washington and neighboring Alexandria were overwhelmed by the

demand. Meigs ordered a review, Carney said.

Engineers came back saying that Arlington was the most suitable site. "It was high above the river and the center of many roads," Carney said.

That it was the home of Robert E. Lee — the author of much of the destruction — was not lost on Meigs, Carney said.

Meigs served under Lee in the pre-war Army as the two worked to improve navigation on the Mississippi River. They knew each other well. When Lee followed his state, Meigs felt betrayed. Establishing a cemetery on the property would ensure the Lee Family could not re-occupy the land or house, Carney said.

The first military burial at Arlington was Pvt. William Henry Christman on May 13, 1864. The 67th Pennsylvania Infantry Soldier was buried a good distance north of Arlington House. Meigs saw this and ordered the next burials to be in what was Mary Lee's rose garden, feet from the door to Arlington House, Carney said.

Meigs formally declared the cemetery open in June 1864, and thousands of burials followed.

At the end of the war, Meigs gathered the bones of thousands of Union Soldiers that had been hastily buried at Virginia battlefields, and placed them in a burial vault in the rose garden.

The Lee Family ultimately received payment from the federal government for Arlington House, but no one ever lived in the house again, Carney said.

The cemetery became a focal point during Decoration Day. Thousands of Americans journeyed to Arlington to place tributes on the graves of those buried at Arlington. The cemetery also became a visible sign of reconciliation — it features a Confederate Monument with the graves of Confederate veterans around it.

The construction of the Memorial Bridge in 1932 symbolically linked the Lincoln Memorial in Washington with Arlington House in the midst of the cemetery.

OBSERVANCES

Fort McCoy observes Memorial Day with prayer luncheon

STORY & PHOTO BY SCOTT T. STURKOL

Public Affairs Staff

Remembering and never forgetting the sacrifices of those who died defending America's freedom was the overall message of the Fort McCoy Religious Support Office's (RSO) Memorial Day Prayer Luncheon May 22.

Garrison Commander Col. Steven W. Nott first reminded attendees to take a moment to remember the reasons behind Memorial Day before participating in other activities during the weekend.

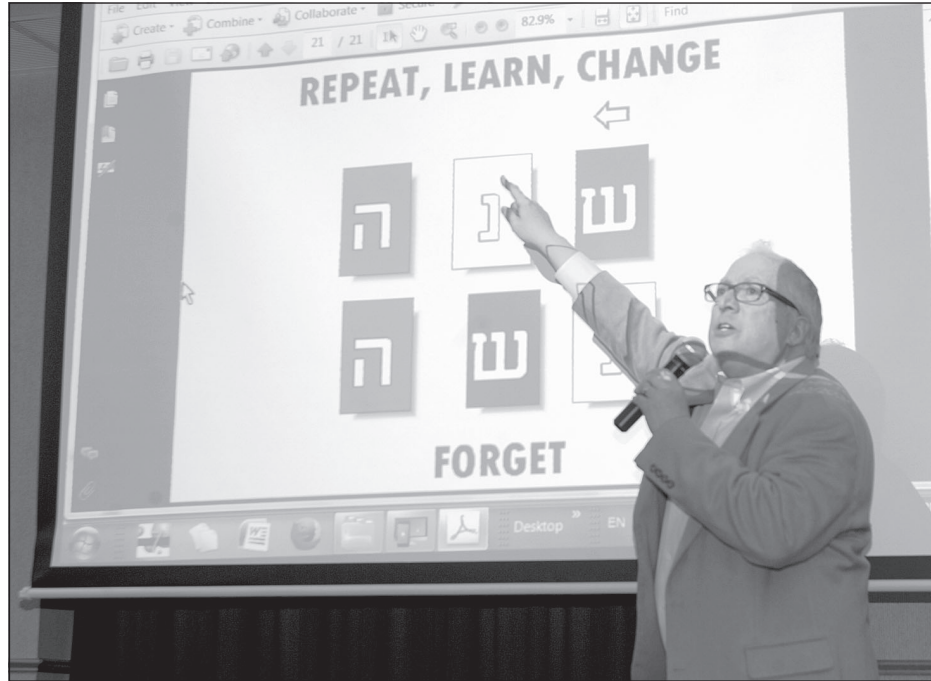
"Before you go out, do something to remember the importance of Memorial Day," Nott said.

Nott was followed with a similar message from the guest speaker — Rabbi Saul L. Prombaum, spiritual leader of Congregation Sons of Abraham in La Crosse, Wis.

Prombaum's presentation was entitled, "Those Who Cannot Remember the Past ... An Imaginary Conversation Between George Santayana and His Hebrew 101 Instructor." His presentation was infused with a bit of humor, but it also carried a serious undertone of "never forgetting."

Prombaum showed how different interpretations could be made by a Hebrew student of the famous quote by philosopher, essayist, poet and novelist George Santayana, "Those who cannot remember the past are condemned to repeat it."

He discussed forgetting and remembering



Rabbi Saul (Simcha) Prombaum, spiritual leader of Congregation Sons of Abraham in La Crosse, Wis., gives a presentation during the Fort McCoy Memorial Day Prayer Luncheon May 22 at McCoy's Community Club.

and whether "repeating the message" helps with remembering. "Walking around in darkness is what happens when you forget," Prombaum said.

Prombaum added, "When people live in

the dark, where the memories are slipping away, bad people can take advantage of others of those lapses in their memory. It's a scary thought isn't it?"

On a positive note, Prombaum said when

a person has good memory and a history of things that have happened, they should proclaim it. "You have got to learn from history," he said.

Memorial Day is about getting together and talking about the people who have lived and "the people who gave their lives," Prombaum said.

He told service members that if someone thanks them for their service, they should tell that person thank you, and then tell them about someone who was influential in their decision to join the military.

"In that way, you are creating that human bridge," Prombaum said. "Someone gets a chance to thank you, but they are also learning from you, and that might change the way they think."

In conclusion, Prombaum said putting all the elements — remembering, focusing and proclaiming — together, and not forgetting, is especially important on Memorial Day to remember the sacrifices of those who gave their lives. "Put that at the top of the agenda (for the day)," he said.

In addition to the presentation, the luncheon included music provided by Dana Tock of Sparta, Wis., and prayers led by Master Sgt. Diane Mazyck of the U.S. Army Reserve Command and Col. Lawrence Mosley of the 88th Regional Support Command.

The RSO supports the religious needs of the Fort McCoy community. Call the RSO at 608-388-3528 for more information.



Photo by Meredith Moseley



Submitted photo

Soldiers support community events

(Above) Chief Warrant Officer 4 Tim Pickerill, from Regional Training Site-Maintenance, at Tomah, speaks to the audience during the Memorial Day observance at the Veterans Affairs Medical Center May 23 in Tomah, Wis.

(Left) Staff Sgt. David Moseley, from the 1st, 338th Training Support Battalion, 181st Infantry Brigade, speaks at a Memorial Day program in Merrillan, Wis., May 26.

Sixteen Fort McCoy-affiliated military personnel supported Memorial Day activities. For more information about the Fort McCoy Speakers Bureau or supporting community events, contact Fort McCoy Public Affairs at 608-388-2407.

OBSERVANCES

Oscar-winning filmmaker leads AAPI Heritage Month observance

STORY & PHOTO BY SCOTT T. STURKOL

Public Affairs Staff

Fort McCoy's annual Asian American and Pacific Islander (AAPI) Heritage Month observance was supported by an Academy Award winner — Chris Tashima.

Tashima, a Japanese American, recalled how he became an actor and a filmmaker. He discussed how he won an Oscar for the live action short film, "Visas and Virtue," and related work he's been doing about Asian American veterans from World War II who trained at Fort McCoy in the 1940s.

Tashima traveled to Fort McCoy from California to support the May 27 observance.

"It's a great honor for me to be asked to be here," Tashima said. "I have great respect for service (members) and for what you do."

In his conversational presentation — delivered without a microphone or a slide presentation — Tashima spoke from the heart about his Family's life during the 1960s and 70s in Southern California.

"(Growing up) I kind of knew I was different but I didn't know what it meant," Tashima said. "I remember having feelings about the movies and TV shows that I saw, and how it made me wonder how I fit in (with society) because of that."

In his early years, Tashima said he eventually felt disconnected.

"I think when you are little, you don't know what race is," Tashima said. "In first and second grades, I think I was only one of two people of color in my class. You just get a sense about it."

As he grew older, Tashima said he wasn't thinking much about becoming an actor, or being a part of the film industry, until he saw the first Star Wars movie in 1977.

"It completely shifted my appreciation for movies," Tashima said. "That turned me around. It made me want to become a director, because it showed the unlimited potential of your imagination, what you could do with movies, and how you could just take people to another place."

With a newfound appreciation for movies, Tashima said he set out for film school after high school. When he didn't get accepted, he opted for college instead.

"I dropped out of college thinking that if they aren't going to let me make films, I will just make films on my own," Tashima said.

The transition after leaving college was difficult, but he said as time went on he learned more about his own history and more about being an Asian American. Eventually, he began doing more and more things to honor his heritage.

"My parents had gone through the internment camps (during World War II) when they were children," Tashima said. "It was something that I grew up knowing about, but it wasn't until I was older and understood the impact of what that really meant and represented."

Tashima said he progressed from wanting to be a director of big blockbuster movies to doing more with acting. While he was in his mid-20s, he found work at Hollywood studios as an extra including making a small appearance in the movie, "The Sure Thing," which starred John Cusack.

Eventually, he said he auditioned and was hired as an unpaid actor to work with the East-West Players theater group in Los Angeles to perform in a musical there. The group was looking for Asian American actors specifically, and it was there he said he had his greatest growth as an artist.

"I was learning about the history of Asian Americans because the play we were doing was about re-telling our stories on stage," Tashima said.



Academy Award-winning filmmaker and actor Chris Tashima from Los Angeles speaks to the audience about his experiences and history during the Fort McCoy Asian American and Pacific Islander Heritage Month observance May 27.

After years of working in the theater group, Tashima said his artistic focus in acting, screenwriting and filmmaking shifted to telling stories about Asian Americans who have contributed so much to America.

"I wanted to tell the stories about people in my Family and the experiences of people I didn't learn about (historically) in high school or college," he said. "The stories are about people who have contributed to this country and who still are."

Tashima took his years of acting experience in the theater group and used it to eventually start making films about Asian Americans. In the mid-1990s he began work directing and acting in his Academy Award-winning film.

"Visas and Virtue" is a 26-minute portrait of Holocaust rescuer Chiune "Sempo" Sugihara, who was a diplomat at the Japanese consulate in Lithuania during World War II. Sugihara is credited with helping save thousands of fleeing Polish Jews from the Holocaust of Nazi forces. The film was adapted from an original one-act play written by Tim Toyama.

"I gladly took that role because it was about a multi-dimensional, heroic character," Tashima said. "It was so rare to be able to do that kind of role."

Tashima received the Academy Award in 1998. Since then he's continued to work on projects highlighting prominent accomplishments of Asian Americans. A recent project includes telling the story of the 100th Infantry Battalion — an Army unit composed largely of Japanese Americans who were former members of the Hawaii Army National Guard.

The 100th was a segregated unit that eventually merged with the 442nd Infantry Regiment and became the most-decorated unit during World War II. Soldiers with the 100th trained at then-Camp McCoy from June 1942 to January 1943.

"I've been learning about them, what they faced and how

they overcame (obstacles)," Tashima said. "The story about the 442nd is still one I want to tell.

"From what I've learned (about the unit), the welcoming they received from the people of Wisconsin is well remembered," he said, "which is also why I am grateful to be here for this event."

Fort McCoy Equal Opportunity Adviser and Sexual Assault Response Coordinator Master Sgt. Matthew Fitzgibbons said having Tashima share his story at the observance was special.

"He brought to light the importance of integrating other cultures into everything we do," Fitzgibbons said. "He used examples of how that integration is taking place in Hollywood and other places. It was also nice to learn about the history of his Family and what they have done and of what he knows about the 100th Infantry Regiment. He shared some good history that I believe was appreciated by everyone."

AAPI Heritage Month is celebrated throughout the Department of Defense and the United States every May. It is a celebration of the culture, traditions and history of Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders in the United States.

"During Asian American and Pacific Islander Heritage Month, we celebrate the accomplishments of Asian Americans, native Hawaiians, and Pacific Islanders, and we reflect on the many ways they have enriched our nation," said President Barack Obama in the 2014 presidential proclamation for AAPI Heritage Month. "Like America itself, the AAPI community draws strength from the diversity of its many distinct cultures — each with vibrant histories and unique perspectives to bring to our national life."

For more information about cultural observances and other related activities at Fort McCoy, contact Fitzgibbons at 608-388-3246.

SAFETY

DOD emphasizes 'Critical Days of Summer'

BY SGT. 1ST CLASS TYRONE C. MARSHALL JR.
American Forces Press Service

WASHINGTON — As the summer season approaches, the Defense Department is redoubling its efforts to promote safety and emphasize responsibility to all service members and their Families, DOD's director of personnel risk reduction said in late May.

During a joint interview with the American Forces Press Service and the Pentagon Channel, Leonard Litton discussed the department's efforts to reinforce caution during the "Critical Days of Summer."

"The theme for this summer is doing the right thing for the right reasons," Litton said. "And (Defense) Secretary (Chuck Hagel) reiterated that because the summer safety season is an important season for safety. We do tend to lose anywhere from 80 to 100 of our service members during this period of time."

Accidents and ensuing loss, he said, occur mainly because of summer outdoor activities such as riding motorcycles, boating, parasailing and other warm-weather leisure pursuits.

"Some of those activities tend to have a little bit more risk associated with them," Litton said.

Litton explained the importance of the "Critical Days of Summer" safety campaign and why DOD emphasizes caution and careful consideration of summertime activities.

"Generally we look at those (days) from the Memorial Day holiday through the Labor Day holiday — those 101 days that span that time period," he said.

"There's a lot of travel that goes on," Litton said. "Folks are generally taking their vacations. Schools are out, and so sometimes folks may try to drive a little too far (without adequate rest)."

People also may try to drive when the weather's not very good, he said, and sometimes outdoor events are attended where alcohol is involved, which may lead to poor choices in performing activities requiring "a lot of mental focus or a high



U.S. Army graphic illustration

level of dexterity."

When considering the importance of safety, "you have to think about what it is," Litton said.

"In my mind, safety is not really an entity," he said. "I can't take safety and put it in a box. I can't let you touch it, feel it, see it. To me, safety is really an outcome."

DOD is well-acquainted with getting safe outcomes, Litton noted, through proper planning, training, equipping and providing personal protective equipment necessary.

"You plan, you identify the risks, you mitigate any high risks you may identify and you accomplish the task," he said. "We do that very well on active duty.

"We've taken accidents and mishaps from about a total of 600 in the mid-2005 ... all the way down to 311 in fiscal year '13," he continued, "so we've cut that number almost in half."

Litton emphasized applying safety principles learned and employed on duty to situations off duty.

"We do it well on duty, but off duty, sometimes we forget that training that we've had. We just do things that aren't smart," he said.

"So what I want to encourage all the service members to do

is take that great risk training we've given you — applied to that everyday job — and do it off duty as well," Litton added.

Applying these risk principles off duty, he said, may prevent mishaps and fatalities that need not happen.

Litton provided an example of what can happen when the application of risk principles aren't applied off duty.

"We had a service member (who) went out with his buddy to go enjoy a day on the river," he said. "(There were) two of them. They tried to put two people into a one-man kayak ... that doesn't make a lot of sense.

"Also, neither one of them had a life jacket or personal floatation device," Litton continued. "On duty, we wouldn't take two people and put them in a single-seat fighter cockpit. It just doesn't make sense."

One service member, Litton said, drowned during this particular incident.

"We lost a valuable team member because they didn't apply what we taught them on the job off the job," he said.

Litton encourages service members to seek additional information of safety and risk mitigation activities — beginning at their units.

"Almost all commanders and supervisors are trained in safety and risk-mitigation activities," he said. "Almost all units will have a safety officer or a safety NCO."

Additionally, he said, each service has a website and safety center to provide information on travel safety.

"Again, we want to reiterate that safety is everyone's responsibility," Litton said. "We look to the leader to set a command climate that is conducive to safe operations."

It also gives people the freedom to speak up, he said, when they see something that doesn't look or feel right and they think the unit is taking too much risk in an activity or at an event.

"Everyone from the (youngest enlisted person) to the general officer has the responsibility to speak up when they see something they believe doesn't look right or we're taking excessive risks," Litton said.

PESTS

(From page 1)

tick-borne diseases, Lyme disease, Anaplasmosis, Ehrlichiosis and Babesiosis.

After a tick is removed, the bite site should be monitored for a bull's-eye rash, which can indicate contraction of Lyme disease. Beckmann said not everyone gets this type of rash and should watch for flu like symptoms, which also could accompany Lyme and other tick-borne diseases.

Military and Department of Defense civilian personnel who encounter ticks at the installation can remove the tick themselves, said Tracy Saboy, Fort McCoy Health Clinic chief. Personnel who are unable to remove the tick themselves can visit the health clinic, building 2669, for assistance.

Embedded ticks should be removed as soon as possible. Beckmann suggests using tweezers to pull the tick out. It's important to grasp the tick as close to the skin as possible and pull. Don't squeeze the tick too tightly to lessen the risk of squeezing fluid from the tick into the blood stream, he said.

A tick that has been attached for more than 24 hours, whether previously removed or still

attached, should be taken to the health clinic, Saboy said.

The ticks are sent to an entomologist at the Public Health Command to be tested for disease, Saboy said. Based on the results, treatment for the affected person can be administered.

For questions regarding tick exposure, call the clinic at 608-388-3025.

Beckmann said it's also important to take precautions against ticks at home and with pets.

"It's especially important for dogs and cats to have some type of tick treatment, whether it is a collar or (topical product)."

Beckmann said by keeping yards maintained and vegetation down, the presence of ticks can be reduced greatly.

Precautions should also be taken to avoid mosquito exposure. Although the occurrence of mosquito-transmitting diseases in humans is extremely rare, mosquito bites can be irritating and bothersome.

Beckmann said mosquitoes are attracted to stagnant-water locations, such as ponds, and water collected in receptacles, such as tires,

containers, flower pots etc.

Fort McCoy has not had a mosquito-control program in place for several years because the installation is required to reduce the amount of chemicals used that could affect the environment, Beckmann said. In many cases, mosquitoes can travel 10 miles or more from their hatching site.

Reducing the collection of stagnant water sources is the best mosquito-prevention method, he said. Products that have a concentrated amount of DEET work best as personal repellents. For more information about ticks or mosquitoes, call the Fort McCoy Natural Resources Branch at 608-388-2252.

A brochure containing information about ticks found in the area, created by the Natural Resources Branch in partnership with Michigan State University, is available at the Permit Sales office, building 2168, and the Installation Safety Office, building 1678. This brochure, along with information on hazardous plants, can also be downloaded from the Fort McCoy i-Sportsman website at www.mccoy.isportsman.net.



Brochures, such as this one about ticks, are available at the Fort McCoy Safety Office and the Permit Sales Office.

NEWS

Fort McCoy updates its threatened, endangered species list

BY SCOTT T. STURKOL
Public Affairs Staff

Wisconsin's Threatened and Endangered Species List was recently updated. Included in that update were eight changes to listed species that occur on Fort McCoy.

According to Tim Wilder, Fort McCoy Endangered Species biologist, five species that occur on post were delisted. They include the Blanding's turtle, Creamy Gentian (a plant), Snowy (White) Champion (plant), Bog Bluegrass (plant), and the Bewick's Wren (bird). Species added to the list were the Upland Sandpiper (bird), Black Tern (bird) and the Ottoo Skipper Butterfly.

Wilder explained the impact of the list changes to Fort McCoy.

"We do not foresee any impacts to the day-to-day military training from these changes," said Wilder, who works at the Directorate of Public Works Natural Resources Branch (NRB). "The greatest potential for impacts to Fort McCoy result when state-listed species are considered within the NEPA (National Environmental Policy Act) review process for construction projects."

The Blanding's turtle and Bog Bluegrass remain federal species of concern that could be added to the federal list of threatened and endangered species in the future, Wilder noted. The Blanding's turtle will still be classified as a state protected species.

In the newly listed species, both the Upland



File photo

The Blanding's turtle is one of five species to be delisted on the installation. The turtle remains a federal species of concern, and could be added to the federal list of threatened and endangered species in the future.

Sandpiper and Ottoo Skipper inhabit prairie- and savanna-type habitat on Fort McCoy, such as the Badger Drop Zone, Barrens Natural Area and some training areas.

"Fort McCoy has the largest-known remaining population of the Ottoo Skipper left in the state," Wilder said. "We anticipate the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources

(WDNR) will look hard at any construction project that may impact this species. Surveys to gather additional information on the distribution and relative abundance of the Ottoo Skipper will continue this summer."

Much of Fort McCoy's 60,000 acres is naturally well-suited for wildlife habitat. The maneuver area is divided into 82 training areas

totaling 45,648 acres. Harvest and biological data are collected regularly to monitor wildlife populations and wildlife health.

Wilder said Fort McCoy works with the WDNR and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service to execute the installation's Integrated Natural Resource Management Plan.

"In that plan, we spell out what we will do in regard to state-listed species occurring on the installation," Wilder said.

Among the efforts to care for the varied species is conducting surveys of places on Fort McCoy where the species occur.

Surveys are conducted for state-listed species when current survey data are insufficient. Also, species that are on the federal endangered or threatened list as well as state list receive priority for surveys.

"Going out, conducting surveys and compiling data are just a few examples of the work we do with our agency partners," Wilder said. "In the NRB, as a whole, we all work together to ensure we take great care of the natural resources at Fort McCoy."

According to the WDNR, the state's Threatened and Endangered Species List has been revised 11 times since 1972 — the most-recent update taking place in January.

The WDNR's Natural Heritage Conservation Program policy recommends that the list be reviewed every five years or earlier, as needed, based on changes in species population conditions.

For more information about Wisconsin's Threatened and Endangered Species List, visit <http://dnr.wi.gov/topic/EndangeredResources/ETList.html>.

(Information courtesy of the Directorate of Public Works Natural Resources Branch.)

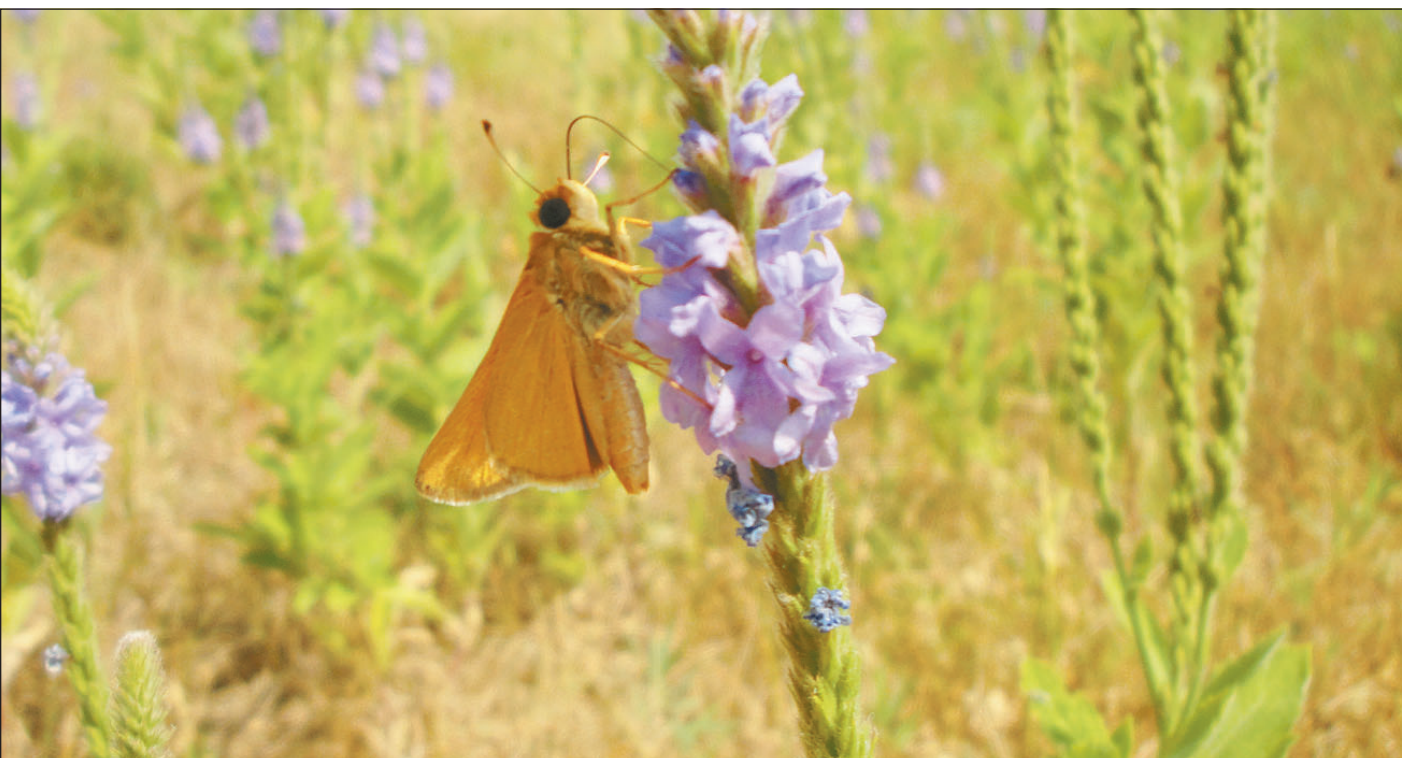


Photo by Nate Tucker

The Ottoo Skipper Butterfly, an addition to the 2014 Fort McCoy endangered species list, is pictured in a Fort McCoy training area.

Recreation

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

Better Opportunities for Single Soldiers (BOSS): Building 2000. Meets second Thurs. of each month. Call 608-388-3944.

Community Activity Center: Building 2000. **Leisure Travel Services Office, Recreation Center, and Computer Lab:** Open Tues.-Sat. noon-8 p.m. Movies play Fridays and Saturdays at 5 p.m. Call 608-388-3213.

McCoy's: Building 1571. Thunder Bowl Bowling Center open Mon.-Fri. 11 a.m.-10 p.m. and Sat.-Sun. 4-10 p.m. Extreme Bowling every Fri. 4-9:30 p.m. Call 608-388-7060.

Pine View Campground/Recreational Equipment Check-out Center: Building 8053. **Open Sun.-Thurs. 8 a.m.-6 p.m. & Fri-Sat 8 a.m.-9 p.m.** Call 608-388-2619/3517.

Rumpel Fitness Center: Building 1122. Open Mon.-Thurs. 5 a.m.-8 p.m.; Fri. 5 a.m.-7 p.m. & Sat.-Sun. 6 a.m.-2 p.m. **Indoor swimming pool, atrium, sauna and steamroom:** Open Mon.-Thurs. 6 a.m.-7 p.m., Fri. 6 a.m.-6:30 p.m., & Sat.-Sun. 9 a.m.-1:30 p.m. Call 608-388-2290/3200.

Sportsman's Range: Open Mon., Thurs. & Fri: 3-7 p.m. and Sat-Sun: 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Call 608-388-3517.

Whitetail Ridge Ski Area: Closed for the season. Call 608-388-3517/4498.

Woodshop: Building 1133. Call 608-388-3544 for availability.

Dining

Fabrew Coffee Shop: Building 1538. Open Mon.-Fri. 6 a.m.-4 p.m. & Sat.-Sun. 7 a.m.-2 p.m. Call 608-269-2618.

McCoy's: Building 1571. **Primo's Express:** Open Mon.-Fri. 11 a.m.-8 p.m.; (buffet Mon.-Fri. 11 a.m.-1 p.m.) and Sat.-Sun. 4-8 p.m. Call 608-388-7673. **Sports bar:** Open daily 5-10 p.m. ATM located inside. Catering/Admin. call 608-388-2065. Manager has discretion on closing time.

Snack Avenue: Building 1538. Located inside Express. Mon.-Sat. 6 a.m.-9 p.m. and Sun. 9 a.m.-7 p.m. Call 608-269-5604 or 608-388-4343.

Specialty Express Food Court: Building 1538. Open Mon.-Fri. 7 a.m.-4 p.m.; Sat. 7 a.m.-2 p.m. & Sun. closed. Breakfast available 7-10:30 a.m. Call 608-269-5615 Ext. 303.

Whitetail Ridge Chalet: Building 8061. Closed for the season. Adult lounge and outdoor deck. Available for private parties. For information, call 608-388-3517/2260.

Services

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

Barber Shop (Exchange): Building 1538. Open Mon.-Fri. 9 a.m.-5 p.m. and Sat. 10 a.m.-3 p.m. Call 608-269-1710.

Beauty Salon: Building 1538. Open Mon.-Fri. 9 a.m.-5 p.m. and Sat. 9 a.m.-3 p.m. Call 608-269-1075.

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

Car Wash: Building 1568. Self-service and automatic bays. Open 24/7. Change and token machines. Call 608-388-3213/4161.

Commissary: Building 1537. Open Thurs.-Sun. 10 a.m. - 6 p.m. Early Bird/ Self Check out open Tues.-Sat. 9-10 a.m. Call 608-388-3542/3543.

CWT (Carlson Wagonlit Travel) SAToTravel: Building 2180. Open Mon.-Fri. 7:30 a.m.-4 p.m. Call 608-388-2370, or 608-269-4560, or 1-800-927-6343.

Education/Learning Center: Building 50, Room 123. Open Mon.-Fri. 7:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m. Call 608-388-7311.

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

GNC: Building 1538. Open Mon.-Fri. 9 a.m.-5 p.m. and Sat. 10 a.m.-3 p.m. Call 608-269-1115.

ID Card/DEERS Section: Building 35. Open Mon.-Fri. 7:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m. Call 608-388-4563.

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

facilities services

This schedule is projected through June 26, 2014. ***Bold, italic typeface*** denotes new hours since the last update. Call ahead to verify hours.

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

Laundry Facilities: Buildings 651, 755, 1671, 1735, 1856, 2002, 2568, 2671, 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 Mon.-Sat. 6 a.m.-9 p.m. and Sun. 9 a.m.-7 p.m. Call 608-269-5604, Ext. 203.

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

Post Office: Building 1654. Open Mon.-Fri. 9 a.m.-3 p.m. Call 608-388-3825.

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

RIA Credit Union: Building 1501. Open Mon.-Wed. 9 a.m.-1 p.m.; Thurs. and Fri. 9 a.m.-1 p.m. and 2-5 p.m. ATMs located in building 1501 (24/7); McCoy's, building 1571; the Exchange, building 1538; and building 51 (24/7). For information, call 608-388-2171.

RV Storage Lot: Next to Building 1763. Short- or long-term storage. Fees charged. Authorized patrons only. Call 608-388-2619/3517.

Service Station/Express/Class VI: Building 1538. Open Mon.-Sat. 6 a.m.-9 p.m. and Sun. 9 a.m.-7 p.m. Call 608-269-5604 or Ext. 4343. GAS PAY AT THE PUMP OPEN 24/7. ATM located inside. Cash transactions available during Express and Main Store hours.

Visitor Control Center: Closed. Visitor passes issued at the Main Gate. For information call 608-388-2000.

Worship

Catholic: Chapel 10, Building 1759. Mass, Sunday 9:30 a.m. Call 608-388-3528.

Christian Fellowship Bible Study with lunch: Building 2675. Wednesdays from 11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. Call 608-388-3528.

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

Latter Day Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints, 702 E. Montgomery St., Sparta, Wis. Sunday services 10 a.m.-1 p.m. Call 608-269-3377.

Protestant: Chapel 1, Building 2672. Protestant Worship on Sundays from 9:30 -10:30 a.m. Fellowship follows service and meets across the street from the Chapel in building 2675 from 10:30-11:30 a.m.

Protestant Women of the Chapel Bible Study: Building 2675, Wednesdays from 9-11 a.m. Call Shawn Mosley at 608-366-1349.

Spanish Language: Worship Services held in Norwalk (Catholic); Tomah (Seventh-Day Adventist). Call 608-388-5268.

For information about Chapel and worship schedules in the surrounding communities, call 608-388-3528. If you have an emergency, call 608-388-2266 and they will contact the On-Call Duty Chaplain for further assistance.

Family Support

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

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

Child Development Center: Building 1796. Open Mon.-Fri. 6:30 a.m.-5:15 p.m. 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, with no records kept. Available Mon.-Fri. 8 a.m.-4 p.m. or by appointment. Call 608-469-1432.

Red Cross: Fort McCoy active-duty Soldiers and their Family members can call 877-272-7337 for emergency assistance. For other Red Cross services, call 800-837-6313, 608-788-1000 or call the installation operator at 608-388-2222 and request Red Cross assistance.

School Age/Youth Center: Building 1751. Activities for youth grades kindergarten through fifth. Offers after-school, nonschool and inclement-weather care for eligible youth. Open Mon.-Fri. 6:30 a.m.-5:30 p.m. Call 608-388-4373/2238.

SK/ESUnlimited Instructional Program: Building 1668. Provides instructional classes for children and youth from infancy through the end of their senior year in high school. Children and youth are provided opportunities to explore new skills, pursue and nurture personal interests and interact socially with others. Register at Parent Central Services 608-388-8956.

Health Care

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

Alcoholics Anonymous meetings: Building 60, room 102, Thursdays at 6 p.m. Park in the front parking lot. Call 608-388-0587.

Fort McCoy Civilian Employee Assistance Program: Provides screening and referral services for eligible civilian employees and their Family members who are experiencing difficulty due to personal problems

related to substance abuse, mental health, marital/Family discord or other problems. For more information, contact the Army Substance Abuse Program at 608-388-2441/5955.

Occupational Health Clinic: Building 2669. Open Mon.-Fri. 7 a.m.-3 p.m. Call 608-388-3209/2414.

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 the TRICARE website at <http://www.tricare.mil>.

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

Organizations

Adjutant General Corps Regimental Association, Spartan Chapter: Meetings held monthly. For information, visit the group's Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/AGCRA/Spartan> or call Staff Sgt. Cassandra Ross at 251-327-8400.

American Federation of Government Employees (AFGE), Local 1882: Building 1411. Office hours 7 a.m.-4 p.m. weekdays. Meets second Tues. of each month at 5 p.m., at AFGE Office. Call 608-388-2397.

American Society of Military Comptrollers: Meets several times throughout the year. Call Maureen Richardson at 608-269-1912 or Joanne Scholze at 608-269-5696.

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

Friends and Spouses of Fort McCoy: Meets every third Thursday. For information, send an email to fsfomccoy@gmail.com.

Reserve Officers Association, Fort McCoy-Readiness 43: Call David W. Alderfer (LTC-Retired) at 920-535-0515 or email jstvdave49@centurylink.net.

Warrant Officers Association, Chapter 0317: For more information, call 608-388-0576, 608-388-4856 or email usawoamccoy@outlook.com.

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Editorial Content	608-388-2769

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

Co-ed 'blind' volleyball tournament set for June 27, 5:30 p.m. at CAC

Located at the Community Activity Center (CAC), building 2000, the tournament is open to authorized CAC patrons. Teams of six co-ed players (minimum of four players) must win two out of three games to advance to the next round. Prizes will be awarded to the first-place team.

Register at the CAC, or online at <https://webtrac.mwr.army.mil/webtrac/mccoyrectrac.html>, no later than June 20. For more information, call 608-388-3213.

Motorcycle Safety Foundation Basic Rider Course

Course is offered for free to active-duty, Reserve and National Guard service members. Future course dates include June 18-19 and 28-29; July 16-17 and 23-24; Aug. 13-14 and 27-28 and Sept. 10-11 and 24-25.

Registration can be done through the Installation Management Command Registration System at <https://apps.imcom.army.mil/AIRS/default.aspx>. Call 608-388-7712 for more information.

NEWS NOTES

Aug. 9 concert tickets on sale; concert volunteers needed

Tickets for Fort McCoy's Aug. 9 concert featuring BOSTON and The Doobie Brothers are on sale.

Tickets can be purchased for \$40 at Market Bar in Sparta; Fox Hole Pub, Sparta; Ace Hardware Tomah and La Crosse; Festival Foods, Onalaska; and on post at McCoy's Community Club, building 1571; Pine View Campground, building 8053 and the Community Activity Center, building 2000.

Tickets will be \$45 the day of the show. Tickets are subject to availability.

More information about the concert is available at the website www.mccoymwr.com or by calling the Concert Hotline at 877-864-4969.

Volunteer ticket takers, wrist banders, beverage servers, ticket sellers, parking attendants, will call personnel and cleanup crews also are needed to support the concert.

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

For details about volunteering, call 608-388-4161.

Workshop on overcoming adversity set for June 19

The lunch and learn session, "Seeing Adversities as Doors to Opportunity," will be offered Thursday, June 19 from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. at McCoy's Community Club, building 1571.

Educator Phillip Hatfield, will present his story of having an attitude of gratitude and appreciation of life after losing his leg in an accident in 2008. Hatfield's humorous and inspiring story will help attendees become empowered to excel at their goals, dreams and ambitions.

Register by Monday, June 16 by calling Army Community Service at 608-388-3505.

Lunch will be available for purchase. The presentation is open to all military, retirees, civilian workforce, Family members and registered Fort McCoy volunteers.

Paintball tournament set for June 21

Fort McCoy's Tactics Paintball and Laser Tag facility, located at Whitetail Ridge Ski Area, will host a paintball tournament Saturday, June 21 at 9:15 a.m. The tournament is open to the public.

Players must be at least 10 years old and will compete in three-person teams. The tournament will be double elimination — teams must win two out of three matches.

The registration fee is \$30 per team plus the cost of paintballs. Free equipment rental will be available. Player-owned paintball guns are authorized.

Prizes will be awarded to members of the top-three winning teams.

Register online at <https://webtrac.mwr.army.mil/webtrac/mccoymwr.html>, or re-



Photo by Scott T. Sturkol

CAC library

Danen Hemmersbach, recreational assistant for the Directorate of Family and Morale, Welfare and Recreation (DFMWR), leads books on a shelf at the Community Activity Center (CAC) library in building 2000. The CAC offers free books to authorized DFMWR patrons, to include all military, retirees, civilian workforce, Family members and registered Fort McCoy volunteers.

turn a completed registration form to Pine View Campground. Teams must be registered by 8:30 a.m. the day of the tournament.

For more information about the tournament, call 608-388-3200. For more information about the Tactics Paintball and Laser Tag facility, visit <http://mccoymwr.com/home/paintball-laser-tag.html>.

'Deployment Survival' to be offered June 24 at ACS Center

A "Deployment Survival" class will be held Tuesday, June 24 from 9 to 10 a.m. at the Army Community Service Center, building 2111.

The presentation is geared toward deploying personnel and their loved ones. Class topics include pre-deployment considerations, managing separations, having a plan in place, staying in touch and safety precautions.

Register no later than Thursday, June 19 by calling ACS at 608-388-3505. The presentation is open to all military, retirees, civilian workforce, Family members and registered Fort McCoy volunteers.

Financial class teaches participants to survive on \$40k a year

The workshop, "How to Survive and Thrive on \$40k a Year," will be held Thursday, June 26 from 9 to 11 a.m. at the Army Community Service Center, building 2111.

The presenter is Danny Kofke, author of the books, "How To Survive (and perhaps thrive)

On A Teacher's Salary," and, "A Simple Book Of Financial Wisdom: Teach Yourself (and your kids) How To Live Wealthy With Little Money." Kofke has been featured on television and radio programs and in print and online publications.

Register by Wednesday, June 25 by calling 608-388-3540/3505. The presentation is open to all military, retirees, civilian workforce, Family members and registered Fort McCoy volunteers.

Dodgeball tournament at fitness center June 26

A five-on-five dodgeball tournament will be held Thursday, June 26 at 5:30 p.m. at the Rumpel Fitness Center, building 1122. The tournament is open to all Morale, Welfare and Recreation authorized patrons who are 16 years old and older.

Prizes will be awarded to the first- and second-place teams in the three-game match, single-elimination tournament.

Register at the fitness center by June 24 or call 608-388-2290 for more information.

Commissary healthy lifestyle festival set for June 27-29

The Fort McCoy Commissary will participate in the Defense Commissary Agency's (DeCA) "Your Healthy Lifestyle Festival — Shop Healthy! Eat Healthy! Be Healthy!" campaign June 27-29. The event, held during

normal store hours from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. each day, is open to authorized commissary patrons.

The Fort McCoy Commissary will feature a farmer's market with commissary produce and a sidewalk sale featuring grocery and meat items.

The Rumpel Fitness Center also will offer a fitness class Friday, June 27 at 11 a.m. in the commissary parking lot. Fitness center personal trainers will be available to answer questions and provide information Saturday, June 28 from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. A booth with fitness flyers, healthy recipes and health advice as well as an Army Community Service resiliency information booth will be available Saturday and Sunday during the event.

Free health screenings including blood-pressure management and hearing conservation consultations, will be offered by the Fort McCoy U.S. Army Health Clinic during the event. Times are to be determined.

In a press release, Sallie Cauthers, DeCA's marketing and mass communications specialist, said the initiative, being held from June 6 to July 6 at commissaries worldwide, may be one of the largest partnership events ever initiated by DeCA. The promotion represents a hybrid of previous years' Family Fun Fitness Festival and summer farmer's markets.

For more information, visit the commissary website at www.commissaries.com, or call 608-388-3542.

Financial Peace course begins at Fort McCoy July 10

Financial Peace University Military Edition will be offered at Fort McCoy starting Thursday, July 10.

The 13-week course, produced by financial expert Dave Ramsey, will be held Thursdays from 11:30 to 1 p.m. at the Fort McCoy Chapel Center, building 2675.

The course is available to military personnel, Department of Army civilians and Family members who have not taken the course at Fort McCoy.

Class space is limited. To register or for more information, contact the Fort McCoy Religious Support Office at 608-388-3528, or send an email to eve.e.bean.civ@mail.mil.

Centershot Archery program seeking volunteers

The Centershot Archery Ministry program at Fort McCoy is seeking volunteers to teach archery to youth.

The eight-week, chaplain-sponsored program is designed to teach archery to 5-17 year olds while helping to develop self esteem, character and spiritual resiliency.

The start date of the program is to be determined and will be dependent on the number of volunteers.

For more information about volunteering, call the Fort McCoy Religious Support Office at 608-388-3528.

ABOUT POST



Photo by Scott T. Sturkol

Challenge Academy Run/Walk

Participants in the Wisconsin Challenge Academy Run and Walk take off from the starting line May 21 near building 905 on Fort McCoy. The participants included Challenge Academy cadets, their Family members, and Soldiers from Fort McCoy. The Challenge Academy is a program for at-risk teens of a specific age group looking to make positive changes in life, earn a high school equivalency diploma, learn necessary job skills, and develop character. For more information, call 608-269-9000.



Submitted photo

Operation Military Kids earns award

The Wisconsin National Guard (NG) honored Operation Military Kids, an operation affiliated with Fort McCoy's Child, Youth and School Services (CYSS), with the Community Partnership Award. Pictured with the award are (from left to right): Sue Curtis, University of Wisconsin-Extension (UWEX) military liaison; Tina Jeffords, Wisconsin NG child and youth coordinator; Ruth Price, military family life consultant; Rebecca Boehlke, Military OneSource consultant; Kim Sandleback, 115th Fighter Wing and Volk Field Family program coordinator; Maj. Gen. Donald P. Dunbar, Adjutant General, Wisconsin NG; Becky Walley, Fort McCoy school liaison officer; Aaron Bower, UWEX interim chancellor; Brig. Gen. Mark E. Anderson, Assistant Adjutant General for Army (Wisconsin NG); and Brig. Gen. Gary L. Ebben, Assistant Adjutant General for Air (Wisconsin NG). This award is given to an organization that has exemplified the partnership spirit in support of the Family program.



Photo by Staff Sgt. Camillo Santiago

RTS-Maintenance Change of Command

Master Sgt. Chad Kleifgen takes the flag of leadership for Regional Training Site (RTS)-Maintenance from Maj. Victor O. McGee prior to it passing to Maj. Joshua S. Mau (left) June 6 during a change of command ceremony in building 905. RTS-Maintenance, a tenant unit of Fort McCoy, offers basic and advanced noncommissioned officer ordnance training, heavy-wheeled maintenance mechanic training, Standard Army Maintenance System-Enhanced computer maintenance record tracking training and vehicle recovery training.