



November 23, 2018
Vol. 11, No. 22

The Real McCoy®

Published for Fort McCoy, Wis. — Proudly Serving America's Army Since 1909



Instructors Manny Ortiz and Hunter Heard complete some training Nov. 14 in a new utility terrain vehicle they received for use in the Cold-Weather Operations Course at Fort McCoy. The first class of the 2018-19 training season starts Dec. 3.

Installation prepares to begin 2018-19 CWOC training season

STORY & PHOTOS BY SCOTT T. STURKOL
Public Affairs Staff

Fort McCoy's third season of training with the Cold-Weather Operations Course begins Dec. 3 with the first of six, 14-day class sessions planned for the winter of 2018-19.

The goal is to train as many as 300 service members during the training season. During the 2017-18 training season more than 230 students — including Marines, Sailors, and Soldiers

— graduated from the course. "Our second season went great, and we're looking forward to another great training season," said Bill Hamilton, lead Cold-Weather Operations Course (CWOC) instructor who works for contractor Veterans Range Solutions, which supports the Directorate of Plans, Training, Mobilization and Security, or DPTMS. "This coming season, we should see Guard, Reserve, and active-duty service members (See **CWOC**, Page 2)

Commanders learn about combat support hospitals in RTS-Medical course

STORY & PHOTOS BY AIMEE MALONE
Public Affairs Staff

Regional Training Site (RTS)-Medical at Fort McCoy ran a Combat Support Hospital/Field Hospital Commander and Command Sergeant Major Course from Nov. 6-8 to help prepare new commanders for the challenges they'll face in the future.

The three-day course is designed to provide leaders the required guidance, knowledge, techniques, and procedures required to perform their duties as a Combat Support Hospital (CSH) or Field Hospital (FH) commander or command sergeant major. It covers topics such as Tactical Standing Operating Procedures, organization and equipment, hospital layouts (including utilities), operations orders, and leadership.

"Our intent is to help these commanders ... have successful tenures and avoid some of the leadership potholes in the road," said Col. Cynthia Hopkins (See **COURSE**, Page 4)



Col. Cynthia Hopkins, site director for Regional Training Site-Medical, leads a training session during the Combat Support Hospital/Field Hospital Commander and Command Sergeant Major Course on Nov. 7 at Fort McCoy.

Commander supports Veterans Day event

Fort McCoy Garrison Commander Col. Hui Chae Kim gives a Veterans Day presentation to students and staff at Sparta High School on Nov. 12 in Sparta, Wis.

Numerous speakers participated in local Veterans Day events. See more photos of that participation on Page 8.

Also, Kim recently reached his six-month point as commander; learn more about this and Kim on Page 3.



Photo by 1st Sgt. Leonardo I. Ramos Jr.

**Inside
This
Edition:**

**Comanche
dancer
entertains
Page 7**



**McCoy holds
prayer
luncheon
Page 9**



**Black Hawk
helicopter
turns 40
Page 12**



**This
month in
history
Page 14**



NEWS

CWOC

from Page 1

training with us and possibly more multiservice participants.”

The third season also has some changes to the curriculum, said CWOC Instructor Joe Ernst. Two additional days were added to the course, a new marching route was established with new bivouac sites, and the course will incorporate the use of the Home Station Instrumentation Training System (HITS).

HITS is a training aids, devices, simulators, and simulations system that supports after-action review (AAR) capabilities for units at the battalion and below level, said Fort McCoy Training Support Officer Rob Weisbrod with DPTMS. HITS provides automated tools and instrumentation for unit leaders and designated observer-controller/trainers to collect, analyze, and present training-performance feedback to their unit in a multimedia AAR and take-home package.

“Using HITS will help us with our training and will give our students another tool to build their skills while at the same time helping us to improve course operations,” Ernst said.

Fort McCoy’s CWOC is modeled after the Cold-Weather Leader Course, which is taught by the Army Northern Warfare Training Center (NWTC) at Black Rapids, Alaska, Hamilton said.

“In our training, we complete training scenarios all over the post,” Hamilton said. “Our students use ahkio sleds to haul all of their

equipment, and they will traverse through nearly 35 miles of terrain starting on North Post and ending at Big Sandy Lake on South Post. Our program of instruction is nearly identical to that at NWTC with the exception that we don’t teach certain skills, such as mountaineering.”

Student also learn about a wide range of cold-weather subjects, including skiing and snowshoe training, using the ahkio sleds, setting up the Arctic 10-person cold-weather tent, and more.

“This year, we also have new skis for the students to use,” said Instructor Manny Ortiz. “The students will spend a lot of time learning about the skis, and we think these new skis will be an improvement over what we’ve used previously.”

Training also focuses on terrain and weather analysis, risk management, cold-weather clothing, developing winter fighting positions in the field, camouflage and concealment, and more, Ortiz said.

The instructors also received some new equipment to help with course operations, including a new Polaris utility terrain vehicle and a new wetsuit when coordinating cold-weather immersion training.

“Also, as a team of instructors, I believe we will be even better in conducting the training as some of us were new to this last year,” Ortiz said. “We now all have an entire season of training done as a team, and we know each other well, so I think we will be even better than

before.”

“I think we did really well last year,” said Instructor Hunter Heard. “Through working together, we continued to improve ourselves as the training continued. We’ll continue to refine and polish what we do to make ourselves as instructors and the course overall that much better.”

Instructor Mike Nguyen said he’s looking forward to the upcoming season.

“I’m looking forward to seeing the student and instructor interaction that takes place during each course,” Nguyen said.

“Last year, we had students who came in here who were quiet and were just trying to figure things out. Then, by the end of the course, they were more outgoing and taking the initiative. That growth in learning is always good to see.”

Hamilton said course feedback from students has been one of the key factors for course improvement, and they’ll continue to adjust and improve the curriculum based on that feedback.

“We always want to make the training even better,” Hamilton said. “We want our students to leave here with the best training experience possible.”

Hamilton said training slots are currently available for later classes as well. Units from any service interested in sending service members to the CWOC training should email Hamilton at bill.hamilton@veteransrangesolutions.com or call 608-388-0624/0804.



Cold-Weather Operations Course Instructor Joe Ernst looks over a pair of skis Nov. 14 in the warehouse for the course equipment at Fort McCoy. The skis are a new type of ski that will be used during the 2018-19 course training season.



Cold-Weather Operations Course students complete snowshoe training during course operations March 7 during the 2017-18 training season.

NEWS

Garrison commander reflects on first 6 months: 'This is a great team'

BY SCOTT T. STURKOL

Public Affairs Staff

Col. Hui Chae Kim has come a long way to become the garrison commander at Fort McCoy. And more than six months after taking command, Kim said he's learning more every day about the great team that works every day on post.

Snowy start

Before even taking command, Kim and his wife, Doris, arrived at Fort McCoy on an April evening when an out-of-the-ordinary spring snowstorm dropped about a foot of snow at the installation.

"That was an interesting start to our time here," Kim said. "It definitely wasn't like where we came from in Hawaii."

Then it was a few weeks of getting settled into their home in the South Post military family housing area and preparing for new things and new experiences at Fort McCoy.

To Kim, his arrival just added to his past experiences at the post. In 1994 as a lieutenant, he attended a unit movement officer course and later, in 2008, he completed a unit mobilization for deployment at Fort McCoy.

He also had previously been on post for exercise planning conferences, having once been stranded because of a snowstorm for three days.

"We had to check out of our room each day, board a bus to the airport, and come back because there just were no flights going out of La Crosse," Kim said. "So (throughout) those three days, a bus from Fort McCoy would take us back and forth."

He said it was then that he learned to appreciate what the Fort McCoy team does for its customers. "They go the extra mile," he said.

Taking command

The day of the garrison change-of-command ceremony, May 19, was the same day as one of Fort McCoy's largest events — the Armed Forces Day Open House.

The ceremony was well-attended, and Kim recalls the experience making him slightly nervous.

"It took me back to when I was a new second lieutenant right out of Officer Basic Course being put into a platoon leader position," Kim said. "I've never felt more uncomfortable. That's what it felt like ... being a new platoon leader, in a brand new job, who is hoping not to fail the team."

But Kim said he soon learned that he had no reason to worry because he was becoming a part of a team that's like no other.

"At every turn, every single day, the team here continues to inform me and gets me the knowledge to make those important decisions to move Fort McCoy forward," Kim said.



Photo by Scott T. Sturkol

Garrison Commander Col. Hui Chae Kim stands at attention during the garrison change of command ceremony May 19 at Rumpel Fitness Center at Fort McCoy.

"I truly appreciate the whole garrison team and our entire enterprise team that includes everyone at Fort McCoy. It has just been fantastic."

Total Force Training Center

Having completed transient training at Fort McCoy as a lieutenant, staff officer, and battalion commander, Kim said he always saw the installation's team as being among the best. Now that he's gotten to know more about the team, he's been impressed.

"We truly are a Total Force Training Center," Kim said. "We are the premier Army Reserve garrison installation that continues to advance our training facilities and support the warfighter to be more lethal. And that's how I continue to see it."

"Training is priority No. 1," he said. "We have the high level of transient training and a great emphasis on (supporting) training as well as constantly improving our training land and ranges, which are state of the art. We continue to take what we have in World War II wood, and we upgrade it and we advance and modernize. It's just fantastic what's going on here."

"I will tell you from my perspective as a battalion commander when I was here, the customer service, the ability to have state-of-the-art training facilities, and in providing overall support, Fort McCoy has never failed to deliver," Kim said.

Strategic planning

In order for Fort McCoy to continue to succeed, Kim said he understands the importance of long-range strategic planning.

"I completely concur that, as a garrison and as an organization, where you point the tip of the sword in going forward is important," Kim said. "We do that with the 5-year Strategic Business Plan. With the Strategic Business Plan and the seven lines of effort that are a part of it, it was phenomenal to be able to walk into that here and be able to continue to support and fight for resources to get after that vision."

"It's made it so much easier, as a garrison commander, that the team here continues to push that Strategic Business Plan and adjust when needed," he said. "Every day we are trying to improve and get after accomplishing those set objectives (in the plan). It's made my job much easier."

Kim said he's also appreciated the support from his leadership since his arrival, including Maj. Gen. Patrick Reinert, Fort McCoy's senior commander, and Installation Management Command-Readiness Director Brenda Lee McCullough.

"In just my short tenure, I can't say enough about the great support from Maj. Gen. Reinert and what he has done for Fort McCoy," Kim said. "I also can say that about Ms. McCullough and her team. We truly appreciate her support for Fort McCoy."

Kim said that because of the work and support by everyone at Fort McCoy, the installation now is truly is a four-season training center.

"All 12 months of the year, there is training occurring at Fort McCoy," Kim said. "I thank all of our partners from around the post — our enterprise team — for helping us all continue to be successful."

Realizing a dream, strongest influences

Becoming a garrison commander may be a realization of a dream for Kim and his family — the American dream.



Photo by Scott T. Sturkol

Col. Hui Chae Kim, garrison commander, addresses the Fort McCoy community during the 2018 Veteran's Day Prayer Luncheon on Nov. 8 on post.



Courtesy photo

A younger Hui Chae Kim is shown with his father, Song Kim, in this 1990s-era photo. Col. Kim said his father and mother have been among the biggest personal influences in his life.

When he was 8 years old, he immigrated to the United States with his parents, Song and Pyong Kim, and his sister Suk and brother Chol. As a family, they wanted to find the American dream and it's also why Kim credits his parents as his biggest life influence.

"It's really Mom and Dad," Kim said. "To give up everything in their home country of South Korea and to take the risk with three young kids and \$20 to come to America without being able to read, write, or speak English ... they did what they had to do to get us through. They are my example of hard work, not complaining, and just getting it done. It really has been a great example with them."

Kim also credits his best friend and wife, Doris, for keeping him strong every day. "She continues to stay positive and supports not only the military, but everyone. She gave up her career to support us. She is just fantastic," he said.

Kim said his family has achieved the American dream and sees it as a great story.

"We love America," he said "We assimilated and for them to be able to put all three of us through college was amazing. My older sister is a business owner in Virginia. My little brother is a major in the Air Force. ... It is achieving the American dream."

Continuing the legacy

Kim said he will work hard to continue Fort McCoy's success. He will do what he has to in order to help the team achieve excellence, as it has over and over in the past.

"When I trained here, I was a beneficiary of the great work this team has done" Kim said. "There's great people who are part of the community here and the workforce here. They go above and beyond their call of duty every day, and I want that legacy to continue. Again, this is a great team."

NEWS



Col. Craig Parsons with the 3rd Medical Command (Deployment Support) in Fort Gillem, Ga., talks to students in the Combat Support Hospital-Field Hospital Commander and Command Sergeant Major Course on Nov. 7 at Fort McCoy.

COURSE

from Page 1

Hopkins, site director for RTS-Medical.

The course is conducted in a classroom setting, and attendees are encouraged to speak up about their own experiences to begin discussions.

"I want this to be an interactive course. I want there to be dialogue," Hopkins said.

Col. Craig Parsons with the 3rd Medical Command (Deployment Support) in Fort Gillem, Ga., said the course was extremely useful to new commanders and command sergeant majors.

"This is the first time they can come together in this collective group and share their experiences. Any other time, they will meet in these exercises and that's not the time to get to know each other and share experiences and activities," Parsons said.

"No. 1, it's given them the opportunity to

coordinate and mingle with their peers, and No. 2, to understand exactly what's expected of them as commanders and sergeant majors," he said.

"You can't get that anywhere else."

Col. Cindy Saladin-Muhammad with the 94th Combat Support Hospital in Seagoville, Texas, said she found the course very useful as a new commander.

"I think it's very helpful to the combat support hospital and field hospital commanders as they go out to start serving," she said.

She said the section covering logistics was especially helpful to her, as was the discussion about the upcoming conversion from the combat support hospital to the field hospital.

"Just to leverage all the experience in the room has just been fantastic," Saladin-Muhammad said.

Saladin-Muhammad said she also appreciated the chance to learn about the resources available at Fort McCoy, both at RTS-Medical and installationwide. Garrison personnel attended sessions to discuss Fort McCoy's training capabilities, and course attendees toured RTS-Medical to see the medical training equipment and facilities available.

RTS-Medical is one of three regional training sites available to units in the Army Reserve. It specializes in training service members to set up hospitals from bare ground and keep them running in a deployed or austere environment.

The organization has been a tenant activity and training partner at Fort McCoy since 1991.

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

"I think it's very helpful to the combat support hospital and field hospital commanders as they go out to start serving."

COL. CINDY SALADIN-MUHAMMAD
94th Combat Support Hospital,
Seagoville, Texas

NEWS

Tomah schools receive \$250,000 DOD Education Activity grant to expand STEM program

The Tomah Area School District was recently awarded a \$250,000 grant from the Department of Defense Education Activity.

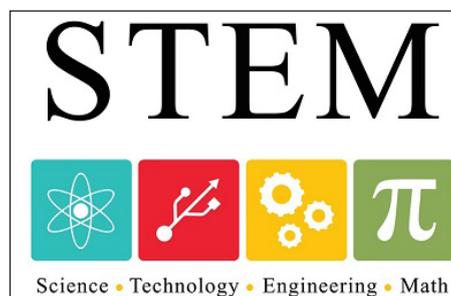
According to the Committee on Science, Technology, Engineering and Math (STEM) Education of the National Science and Technology Council, it is critical to national security that students spark interest in critical and fast-growing careers in STEM.

The prekindergarten through 12th grade education system is poised to increase and sustain student engagement in STEM, district officials said. This grant will provide Tomah Area School District with the college- and career-ready resources necessary to expand the district's STEM programming.

"We are thrilled to be the recipient of this STEM grant money, which will be used to

expand design opportunities to all students through integration of more hands-on, relevant learning applications in core content areas," said Cindy Zahrt, superintendent of the Tomah Area School District. "This grant will help us increase the engagement of students in STEM activities and advance our mission of high-quality student learning: every child, every day."

The \$250,000 award allows for the creation of a design lab at Tomah High School. Teachers and students will have access to design software, robotics, 3D printers, and augmented- and virtual-reality capabilities. The first year of the grant is a planning year and the focus will be on providing professional development to teachers in the use of design tools and seeking ideas for specific purchases



from STEM Advisory Committee members.

The Tomah Area School District covers approximately 454 square miles in Monroe, Jackson, and Juneau Counties. The district is bordered by Fort McCoy and Volk Field Air National Guard Base. More than 3,000

students attend schools within the district.

The Department of Defense Education Activity awarded \$29 million across 36 grants as part of its 2018 cohort.

These grants will serve more than 166,000 students across 20 states, 66,000 of whom are military-connected. The education partnership and resources division provides school personnel and stakeholders with evidence-based resources and supports to increase understanding and awareness related to the unique challenges faced by military-connected students and families. Learn more about the division at www.dodea.edu/Partnership/about.cfm

(Article prepared by the Department of Defense Education Activity and the Tomah Area School District.)



Photo by Scott T. Sturkol

ACOE virtual visit

Members of the Fort McCoy workforce meet with an Installation Management Command representative during a virtual site visit Oct. 25 in building 100 as part of the Army Communities of Excellence (ACOE) Program. As one of six garrison finalists, Fort McCoy received the visit that will help determine if the installation will be a winner in the upcoming 2019 ACOE awards. The post won a Silver Award in the 2018 competition and a Bronze Award in the 2017 competition. Army Communities of Excellence is an annual competition that uses the Baldrige Framework for Performance Excellence to evaluate Army installations. Much of the work to participate in the competition is coordinated by the Fort McCoy Plans, Analysis and Integration Office with other agencies supporting.

TRAINING



Photo by Scott T. Sturkol

Humvee training

Soldiers drive Humvees in a convoy during training operations Oct. 30 at Fort McCoy, Wis. Thousands of troops trained at Fort McCoy in October to start off another busy training year for fiscal year 2019. In fiscal year 2018, 148,733 service members trained on post, and in fiscal year 2017, a record 155,975 personnel trained at Fort McCoy.



Photo by Master Sgt. Sarah Johnson

Slingload training

A Soldier prepares to participate in slingload training Nov. 4 as part of operations for the 89B Ammunition Supply Course at the Sparta-Fort McCoy Airport. The training includes connecting a simulated ammunition pallet to a Chinook helicopter with two cable hook-ups. The course is taught by the 13th Battalion, 100th Regiment at Fort McCoy.



Photo by Scott T. Sturkol

Keep on truckin'!

Soldiers with the 103rd Expeditionary Sustainment Command operate a military truck on the cantonment area Nov. 14 at Fort McCoy during training operations. Thousands of troops are completing training on post during November.

OBSERVANCES**Comanche dancer shares traditions with Fort McCoy**

BY AIMEE MALONE
Public Affairs Staff

A Comanche fancy dancer visited Fort McCoy on Nov. 15 to share some of his traditional dances for National American Indian Month/ Native American Heritage Month.

Jared Wahkinney has been competing at powwows in the Men's Fancy War Dance category for 10 years in his home state of Oklahoma and others. He's also been invited to showcase his skills throughout the United States and in Europe.

Fancy dance is a style of dance performed by multiple tribes in the United States, Wahkinney said. "The dance itself is a very quick, athletic, fast-moving dance," he said.

"The dance originated with the Piankishaw of Oklahoma," Wahkinney said. "As Comanches, we liked to trade for everything we had. So we traded our songs, ... and they gave us this dance."

Wahkinney showed Fort McCoy community members the Comanche War Dance and Comanche Southern Plains War Dance. He then led volunteers from the audience in the Comanche Two-Step, a couples' social dance.

He also showed the audience his regalia, all of which was handmade by members of his family.

The observance was organized by the Fort McCoy Equal Opportunity Office and the 181st Multi-Functional Training Brigade. Wahkinney is the nephew of Lt. Col. Mark Woommavovah, deputy commander of the 181st MFTB.



Photos by Scott T. Sturkol

Jared Wahkinney, a Comanche dancer from Oklahoma, is shown in his dancer regalia during the Fort McCoy observance of National American Indian Month/Native American Heritage Month on Nov. 15 at Fort McCoy.



Audience members participate in a dance Nov. 15 led by Comanche dancer Jared Wahkinney.



Jared Wahkinney receives a commander's coin for excellence Nov. 15 from Garrison Commander Col. Hui Chae Kim for his performance.

OBSERVANCES**Installation personnel support local Veterans Day events**

Contributed photo

Sgt. 1st Class Angelica Reese with the Fort McCoy Noncommissioned Officer Academy gives a Veteran's Day speech Nov. 12 at the Sparta (Wis.) Meadowview Middle School.



Photo by 1st Sgt. Leonardo I. Ramos Jr.

Soldiers from Fort McCoy form a color guard during the Veterans Day program Nov. 12 at Sparta High School in Sparta, Wis.



Contributed photo

Col. Brad Shultze, 181st Multi-Functional Training Brigade commander, gives a Veterans Day speech Nov. 9 at Bangor High School in Bangor, Wis.



Photo by 1st Sgt. Leonardo I. Ramos Jr.

Garrison Commander Col. Hui Chae Kim interacts with students during the Veterans Day program Nov. 12 at Sparta High School.

OBSERVANCES

Fort McCoy holds 2018 Veterans Day Prayer Luncheon; honors vets past, present

BY AIMEE MALONE

Public Affairs Staff

The Fort McCoy Religious Support Office coordinated the Veterans Day Prayer Luncheon, the installation's official observance of Veteran's Day, on Nov. 8 to honor all those who have served in the U.S. military.

The guest speaker was Chaplain (Col.) Robert Whitlock of U.S. Army Forces Command. Whitlock's talk centered on the concept of being a "keeper" and looking out for others.

"Every one of us needs a keeper," Whitlock said. "Most of us need more than one. You're probably not the Good Samaritan. You're probably the one who got the snot beat out of you."

The Bible is full of stories about being your brother's keeper, Whitlock said, and it's important to remember to follow that maxim both in the military and in everyday life.

"Anyone can be a keeper," he said. "Everyone should be a keeper."

Being a keeper always costs something, Whitlock said. Sometimes it's time or money.

"For others, especially those who have worn this uniform, it may cause you to have to lay down your life," he said. "I think every Soldier ought to have a heart to heart with themselves and come to the conclusion that because I wear the nation's cloth, I know I'm willing to lay my life down. ... I know I'm willing in order to be a keeper of my brothers and sisters."

Music was provided by Challenge Academy cadet Johnny Ladwig, retiree Karen Birkeness, and Tammy Leach.

Additional prayers were offered by Chaplain (Lt. Col.) Raymond Leach, Chaplain (Maj.) Erik Spicer of the 181st Multi-Functional Training Brigade, Chaplain (Maj.) Dawn Siebold of the 88th Readiness Division, Pastor Brian Young with Sparta Faith Evangelical Free Church, Pastor Scott Mann with Tomah Gloria Dei Lutheran Church, and Chaplain Jef Skinner of the Monroe County Sheriff's Department.

Attendees also sang several praise songs, and Garrison Commander Col. Hui Chae Kim provided closing remarks, thanking RSO for organizing the event and Whitlock for speaking.

"These events don't just happen," Kim said. "I really would like to thank you. You informed me, and you inspired me."



Chaplain (Col.) Bobby Whitlock, U.S. Army Forces Command chaplain, gives his presentation as guest speaker during the installation's Veterans Day Prayer Luncheon on Nov. 8 at McCoy's Community Center at Fort McCoy.

Photos by Scott T. Sturkol



Karen Birkeness, retired Fort McCoy employee, and Tammy Leach, Fort McCoy family member, play the national anthem during the start of the luncheon. They also collaborated on special music selections.



Cadet Johnny Ladwig with the Wisconsin Challenge Academy sings a prelude song during the start of the luncheon. He was later coined by the garrison commander for his participation.



Fort McCoy community members listen to one of the special prayers offered during the luncheon.

ADS

COMMUNITY

Post holds early November prescribed burn; more possible if weather cooperates

STORY & PHOTO BY SCOTT T. STURKOL

Public Affairs Staff

Fort McCoy personnel completed a second prescribed burn on North Post on Nov. 1 as part of the fall prescribed burn season.

“We have held two days of prescribed burns this fall, burning 131 acres,” said Charles Mentzel, Fort McCoy forestry technician who oversees the prescribed burn program. “Those areas included some segments along the railroad tracks on South Post and part of Range 4 on North Post for Range Maintenance to work safer and easier.”

Personnel with the Fort McCoy Directorate of Emergency Services Fire Department; Directorate of Public Works Environmental Division Natural Resources Branch; Directorate of Plans, Training, Mobilization and Security; and the Colorado State University Center of Environmental Management of Military Lands, under contract with the post, help coordinate each prescribed burn at the post.

Earlier in the year, the prescribed burn team was able to complete burns in several areas of the post.

The first burns started in February and continued in March and April. In late October, the team completed the burn along the railroad

tracks and, on Nov. 1, they completed the Range 4 burn on North Post.

As fall fades into winter, Mentzel said they are hoping to get a few more burns completed before snow permanently arrives for winter.

“Plans for more burns are completely up to the weather and training that’s taking place,” Mentzel said.

“If the weather cooperates, there are a few more areas we would like to finish.”

In fall 2017, post personnel were able to complete prescribed burns into early December as conditions were favorable. That late-season work helped get ranges and training areas ready for Operation Cold Steel and other training that started in early 2018.

Prescribed burns improve wildlife habitat, control invasive plant species, restore and maintain native plant communities, and reduce wildfire potential, Mentzel said.

“Prescribed burns benefit the environment many ways and are one of the tools we can use on a large scale to improve our wild habitat,” he said.

“The burns also set back small trees and shrubs and make them grow again from the stump. This allows for more food for deer and other animals and removes unwanted (tree) species from the understory, such as white pines growing underneath an oak forest.”



Firefighters with the Directorate of Emergency Services Fire Department watch over a prescribed burn Nov. 1 on North Post at Fort McCoy.

Army observes November as Military Family Month

Military Family Month is celebrated every November. It recognizes and honors military families for their numerous contributions and daily sacrifices to the Army and the nation.

The observance was established by the Armed Services YMCA in 1996.

The Army recognizes and appreciates the tremendous service, patriotism, and sacrifices of Army families. Soldiers receive an incredible strength from Army families who make selfless contributions to support the warriors and the nation.

Army families often endure unique challenges of persistent conflicts, relocations, and numerous separations while supporting Soldiers with personal courage and pride. Programs that support the Total Force remain a top priority to mitigate the challenges of military life, foster life skills, strengthen resilience, and promote a strong and ready Army.

This results in families feeling important, supported, and



MILITARY FAMILY MONTH
The Strength of Our Soldiers is Our Families

connected to the Army and the nation.

The Army is committed to the quality of life of Soldiers and Families and provides a diverse network of programs and serves to enhance life skill competencies.

Family programs and services include child and youth programs, sports, recreation and fitness, spouse employment assistance, Army family team building, financial readiness training, survivor support, mobilization and deployment support, and relocation assistance.

Military Family Month is an opportunity for Army leadership to collaborate with garrisons, community leaders, and local

businesses to conduct observances, events, and awareness campaigns throughout the month of November.

Fort McCoy’s Army Community Service (ACS) Center often host events and activities in observance of Military Family Month. ACS events are open to military members, retirees, civilian workforce, Family members, and registered Fort McCoy volunteers unless otherwise stated.

For more information, call 608-388-7262.

(Article prepared by the Office of the Assistant Chief of Staff for Installation Management and the Fort McCoy Public Affairs Office.)

Central Issue Facility closing for inventory

The Fort McCoy Central Issue Facility (CIF), building 780, will be closed Dec. 10-14 for a 100 percent inventory as mandated by Army regulations.

All emergency requests for CIF support must be approved through CIF property Book Officer Thomas Lovgren by calling 608-388-5275 or 608-630-5595 (cell).

Christmas Tree Lighting scheduled for Dec. 6

The annual Christmas Tree Lighting is scheduled for 4:30 to 7 p.m. Dec. 6 at McCoy’s Community Center, building 1571.

The event is open to Fort McCoy community members and their Families. No advance registration is required.

It features carols sung by the children enrolled in Child and Youth Services, door prizes, crafts, pictures with Santa, and a gift shop for children to purchase presents for parents.

Food specials will also be available from 4 to 7 p.m.

NAF property sale planned for Dec. 12

A Nonappropriated Fund Property Cash and Carry Sale is scheduled for Dec. 12 at building 1560.

Items for sale will include children’s toys and furniture, office furniture, kitchen appliances, skeet and trap machines, and coolers.

The sale opens at 8 a.m. for military members, dependents, and retirees. ID will be required.

At 8:30 a.m., Department of Defense civilians may enter the sale; a spouse or child may accompany the ID holder. The sale opens to the public at 9 a.m.

All buyers must stay in line; saving places is not allowed. Items are sold as is. No loading assistance is available.

Items must be paid for by cash or check and taken at time of purchase.

Members of the public must procure visitor passes at the Visitor Control Center.

A valid ID is required. For information on visitor’s passes, call 608-388-4988.

For information about the sale, call 608-388-2232.

FEATURE



Photos by Scott T. Sturkol

An aircrew with the 1st Battalion, 147th Aviation Regiment of the Wisconsin National Guard at Madison operates a UH-60 Black Hawk helicopter Oct. 30 at Fort McCoy.

Black Hawk helicopter celebrates 40 years of aviation service to Army

The UH-60 Black Hawk has been the Army's front line utility helicopter for the past 40 years, and it shows no signs of letting up, said service officials at Redstone Arsenal, Ala.

The helicopter is a regular fixture every year at Fort McCoy, particularly during major exercises such as the Combat Support Training Exercise.

Black Hawk crews with the 1st Battalion, 147th Regiment of the Wisconsin National Guard in Madison, for example, support a wide variety of Guard and Reserve training on the post regularly.

Now in its fourth decade of service, the Black Hawk was developed as a result of the Army's requirement in 1972 for a simple, robust, and reliable utility helicopter system to satisfy projected air-mobile requirements around the globe.

Named after Native American war chief and leader of the Sauk tribe in the Midwest, Black Hawk, the first UH-60A was accepted by the Army in 1978, and entered service in 1979 when it was delivered to aviation components of the 101st and 82nd Airborne Divisions.

Since that time, the Black Hawk has accumulated more than 9 million total fleet hours and has supported Soldiers in every major contingency operation the Army has executed, including Grenada, Panama, Iraq, Somalia, the Balkans, Afghanistan, and throughout the Middle East.

Over the years, the helicopter has been modified and upgraded to support evolving missions and roles, including mine laying, medical evacuation, and special operations.

Today, the Army continues to integrate emerging technology enhancements into the Black Hawk fleet to increase the performance, reliability, availability, and maintainability of the platform through addition of technologies such as the integration of the improved turbine engine; upgrades to the airframe, including an improved troop seat for additional crashworthiness; and a lightweight, composite all-moving tail.

"Developing and fielding an aircraft that has earned and maintained an extraordinary reputation of remarkable service supporting Soldiers over a full spectrum of military operations these past 40 years is the direct result of the incredible efforts of all the government and industry teammates who have supported the Black Hawk program throughout the history of the program," said Col. Billy Jackson, program manager for Program Executive Office for Aviation's Utility Helicopters Program Office. "I'm exceptionally proud of this team and the herculean effort everyone puts in managing a very complex program with such sustained success."

Today, the UH-60 Black Hawk makes up the Army's largest rotary wing fleet with more than 2,100 airframes in the current inventory. As production of the most current H-60M model continues, over the coming years the Army will divest its remaining UH-60A and L aircraft, to be replaced by 760 UH-60Vs.

With multiple versions of the H-60 Black Hawk in service, the helicopter is considered the "workhorse" of Army aviation. Besides

being the U.S. Army's primary tactical transport helicopter, approximately 1,200 H-60s operate in 30 partner and allied nations.

For nearly half a century the Black Hawk has served remarkably as the primary medium lift, multi-role helicopter for the U.S. Army. With planned major upgrades on the horizon, the platform will be a key component of the Army aviation fleet through 2054.

"The Utility Helicopters Program Office, in collaboration with our government and industry partners who support the Black

Hawk, have worked diligently for 40 years to provide operational commanders and Soldiers the much needed capabilities the Army's workhorse helicopter provides," Jackson said. "We will continue to adapt to meet current and future needs to ensure the Black Hawk remains relevant in the operational environment over the next 40."

(Article prepared by the Army Program Executive Office for Aviation. The Fort McCoy Public Affairs Office also contributed information for this article.)



An aircrew uses a UH-60 Black Hawk to help drop water during a prescribed burn at Fort McCoy on April 16, 2016.

FEATURE

Fort McCoy ArtiFACT: Healy & Bigelow's Kickapoo Indian Oil

Archaeologists with Colorado State University's Center for Environmental Management of Military Lands recovered numerous glass bottles and fragments from a farmstead site on Fort McCoy that was last occupied in the early 20th century, including an intact pharmaceutical bottle with embossed lettering that reads "Healy & Bigelow's Kickapoo Indian Oil."

The farmstead was operated by Berton S. Hawley until his death, with five standing structures present at the time the property was purchased by the U.S. government from Hawley's widow in 1936.

This bottle of "medicine" was produced between 1882 and 1906. The concoction was recommended by the company as a cure for rheumatism, earache, cholera, toothache, diarrhea, sore throat, stomachache, burns, and cramps. It was also used as mouthwash. The bottles were sold by both druggists and travelling medicine shows.

The Kickapoo Indian Medicine Co. shows employed as many as 300 Native Americans, who would travel from their winter headquarters in New Haven, Conn., across the country to demonstrate "Indian" life while plying their wares.

The "Kickapoo Indians" who traveled with the shows were typically from other tribes, but nonnative performers would also play roles as Quakers, frontier scouts, or fakirs.

Traveling medicine shows were popular near the end of the 1800s and were reminiscent of traveling circuses or fairs.

They featured live music, Wild West showcases of shooting prowess, menageries, vaudeville, musical comedy, magic acts, pie-eating contests, and more.

Other offerings from Kickapoo Indian Medicine Co. included a cough cure; liver pills; salve; worm killer; medicated soap; and a prairie plant offered as a "female remedy," which was later rebranded as a suppository.

The passage of the Food and Drug Act of 1906 brought changes and challenges to the Kickapoo Indian Medicine Co., including new packaging that removed the word "Indian" from the labels and advertising. The company continued as the Kickapoo Medicine Co., expanding and establishing laboratories in Philadelphia and St. Louis and advertising in druggist magazines as late as the 1930s.

All archaeological work conducted at Fort McCoy was coordinated by the Directorate of Public Works Environmental Division Natural Resources Branch. Visitors and employees are reminded they can not collect artifacts on Fort McCoy or other government lands and leave the digging to the professionals.

Any person who excavates, removes, damages, or otherwise alters or defaces any historic or prehistoric site, artifact, or object of antiquity on Fort McCoy is in violation of federal law.

The discovery of any archaeological artifact should be reported to the Directorate of Public Works Environmental Division Natural Resources Branch at 608-388-8214.

(Article prepared by Colorado State University Center for Environmental Management of Military Lands.)



Photo by Colorado State University Center for Environmental Management of Military Lands

Shown is a Healy & Bigelow's Kickapoo Indian Oil bottle found during a past archaeological dig at Fort McCoy at an old farmstead.



Photo by Aimee Malone

Health Benefits Fair

Fort McCoy community members talk with health insurance representatives at the Health Benefits Fair on Nov. 19 in building 2187 at Fort McCoy. The fair gives workforce members a chance to ask questions about insurance to prepare for the annual open enrollment season. The event is coordinated by the Directorate of Human Resources.



Photo by Scott T. Sturkol

New Pine View Campground cabins

Cabins are shown Nov. 14 at Pine View Campground at Fort McCoy. Overall, 10 new cabins were placed at the campground between September and November. All cabins will soon be ready for use. A grand opening ceremony is planned for the new additions to the campground.

FEATURE



File photo

From Nov. 20, 1950, this shows Soldiers participating in the Infiltration Course at then-Camp McCoy, where exploding mines and overhead machine-gun fire made combat training realistic for the men of the 887th Field Artillery Battalion. The Soldiers crawled for 15 to 20 minutes through 60 to 100 yards of barbed wire while under fire.

This month in Fort McCoy history

75 years ago — Nov. 20, 1943

Opening of the new Camp McCoy bus depot was scheduled for Nov. 20, 1943, said Col. George M. Macullin, post commander. Along with the new depot comes a change in policy which will see free bus transportation for soldiers inside camp.

The depot, which will accommodate several buses, was completed under the supervision of the post engineers chief, Col. H. E. Fillinger. The construction of the 20 by 150-foot depot took nearly a month. Actual use was expected to begin the following week.

The depot housed a ticket office, waiting rooms for passengers, checking and military police facilities. Checking was to be done at the depot and buses would continue on through to Sparta, La Crosse, and Tomah.

Col. H. F. Wilkinson, post supply director, whose section handled intra-camp bus services, said there would no longer be a fare for the intra-camp buses, which were driven by the supply division enlisted men. In the past, a five-cent rate had been in effect.

72 Years Ago — November 1946

A letter received from Headquarters Fifth Army ordered that Camp McCoy operate with 72 fewer people. The cut, which was effective immediately, allowed the post 245 enlisted men, a drop of 71, and 38 officers, one less than the last allotment. The total number of people authorized at the station complement was 795. The civilian strength of 500 remained the same.

This personnel allotment must be strictly adhered to. Since the post cannot exceed its authorized budget for civilian personnel, an understrength in military cannot be used to offset an overstrength in civilians or vice versa.

Due to the separation of some 100 McCoy men, an emergency requisition for approximately 40 men will be sent to Fifth Army Headquarters in order to bring the required number of enlisted personnel to the authorized ceiling of 245.

67 Years Ago — Nov. 16, 1951

Korean combat veterans stationed at Camp McCoy were the drivers of vehicles involved in 83 percent of McCoy's fatal accidents during August through October 1951. They were the drivers of 33 percent of vehicles involved in accidents causing injury or death during the same period. The group was only 14.5 percent of McCoy's enlisted men.

A report was released on the accidents in early November 1951 by Brig. Gen. Frederic B. Butler, McCoy's commanding general. The report stated that during August through October 1951, five of the six Camp McCoy men fatally injured were Korean returnees. Of these five, two were passengers in cars driven by Korean veterans. The remaining three were driving their own cars when killed.

Korean veterans, usually with only 30 to 45 days having elapsed since being in the combat zone, seldom were given vehicles and were at the center for less than 48 hours. Within this time, they were either discharged or given a 30-day leave before reassignment.

Lloyd Guggenbuehl, McCoy's safety engineer, said fatigue has been the major factor accounting for accidents involving members of the post.

30 Years Ago — November 1988

Covered in a shroud of smoke, Fort McCoy firefighter Ron Kimball tended to a fire in the boiler room of building 2170. A malfunction in the boiler caused it to explode. The explosion caused considerable damage to the building's interior and

exterior. A privately owned vehicle parked outside of the building was also damaged. The building was unoccupied at the time, and there were no injuries.

20 Years Ago — November 1998

Students from Sparta High School were helping Fort McCoy fight the invasion of glossy buckthorn, an exotic plant. The students, who were juniors and seniors, learned about the real problems that exotic plants pose to native species, plant communities, and wildlife, said Kim Mello, Fort McCoy wildlife biologist.

"Most people are unaware of the seriousness of this problem," Mello said. "In my opinion, exotic plants are the most serious ecological problem that we are facing."

Exotic plants are plants that are not native to an area. They were brought here by a number of methods. For example, European settlers brought plants to this country for ornamental purposes. Mello said a plant in its native habitat is kept in check by other plant or animal species that evolved with it. Those balances often don't exist when a plant is introduced elsewhere.

Glossy buckthorn is a particular threat to Fort McCoy plant species because it is a very invasive and aggressive plant, Mello said. Robins and other birds eat the purple berries that grow on this shrub and when the birds defecate, they help spread the seeds to other areas of the installation, Mello said.

To help eradicate the buckthorn plants at three of the project sites, the Sparta students either cut off the plants or pulled the plants up by the roots.

Installation staff then applied herbicide on the stump of the cut-off plant. Mello said prescribed burning also will be used as a means to control buckthorn in the spring.

SAFETY

Be ready: Don't let frost bite your equipment

During the winter, driving becomes more hazardous, and extreme weather can take its toll on both vehicles and drivers.

Taking appropriate steps, such as conducting by-the-book preventive maintenance checks and services and applying risk management before hitting the road, could save drivers from breakdowns and potentially dangerous situations.

Climate changes have an effect on vehicles and equipment. Reliable transportation is vital to keeping Soldiers safe and accomplishing missions. Soldiers and leaders must realize highways and roads can quickly become slick and treacherous during winter.

As road conditions deteriorate, drivers shouldn't overreact with quick starts, turns, or stops. When starting, drivers should accelerate slowly while keeping the front wheels pointed straight ahead. They should also keep their speed down and increase following distances behind other vehicles. A four-second gap or more is a good interval on a slippery road.

Applying brakes with steady pressure may prevent locked wheels and skids. If the vehicle begins to skid, drivers should lightly turn into the skid and ease the foot off the gas pedal until they regain control.

Another important factor to consider before entering the winter season is vehicle preparation. Vehicle operators need to keep assigned equipment in proper running condition throughout the colder months. Vehicles should be winterized around September or early October — before cold weather sets in.

During the winter, not only should vehicles be kept fully mission capable, they also need to be winterized in an effort to avoid inconvenient or dangerous situations while traveling in inclement weather. The last thing a driver needs is a vehicle that breaks down in harsh winter weather.

As nearly any driver can attest, the cold months can be quite hard on Army vehicles. Not only does an engine require special attention to get it purring in freezing temperatures, the exterior and other components can take a beating as well. Although Army vehicles are designed to operate well in all temperatures, take the following measures before the winter weather arrives:

- Perform preventive maintenance checks and services. Conduct the before, during, and after checks as prescribed by the vehicle's technical manual. Ensure scheduled maintenance is performed in accordance with the vehicle service intervals.
- Check engine coolant. Make sure the recommended coolant has the proper mix of antifreeze and water. A coolant system is not only designed to keep the engine from overheating or freezing, it's also responsible for protecting it against corrosion.
- Check the oil. Refer to the equipment



Photo by Scott T. Sturkol

Soldiers prepare their vehicles for use for Operation Cold Steel II on April 18 at Fort McCoy during a spring snow storm.

manual for the vehicle-specific oil level and viscosity. When the outside temperature changes, it will influence the internal engine temperature, so make sure to use the proper oil for the conditions.

- Check battery. Have the battery checked by maintenance personnel. Ensure the battery connections are free of corrosion. A vehicle battery can die without notice. During extreme winter temperatures, a battery's life may be reduced by 30 percent.

- Check the lights, defroster, and heater. Ensure all components are fully operational.

- Check tire tread depth. Ensure the depth is within the measurement prescribed by the manual and the tires are serviceable to avoid hydroplaning or loss of control.

- Check tire pressure. Make sure to inflate tires with the proper PSI listed in the manual. Tire pressure is especially important during the winter, as a properly inflated tire will help guarantee better traction in wet, snowy conditions.

- Check brakes. Ensure the brake lines and

hoses are serviceable and brake fluid is at the proper level.

- Check windshield wiper blades and fluid. Check the condition of windshield wiper blades and replace worn blades before driving. Also, check and fill the wiper fluid reservoir. Limited visibility while driving during the winter months can be frustrating. Precipitation and salt buildup on the windshield can wreak havoc while driving in winter weather.

- Check basic issue items. Ensure the basic issue item (BII) inventory is complete and all items are in the vehicle during operations. Components of BII are designed to help personnel during emergencies.

- Inspect tire chains. Ensure they are serviceable and crews are trained on how to properly install them.

- Carry an emergency kit. Additional items such as gloves, ice scraper, windshield washer fluid, jumper cables, first-aid kit, snow shovel, and flashlight will assist during emergency situations.

- Don't be overconfident. Whether the

vehicle is a four- or two-wheel drive, both will slip on ice, so drivers must be extra careful.

- Check road conditions. Know the difference between conditions. Vehicle operations may start out as green or amber but could change to red or black during your mission.

Along with these tips, it's imperative that drivers heed the warning and caution statements listed in the vehicle's manual. Prior planning, winterizing vehicles, and applying safe habits are all key components of safe driving habits.

Through proper understanding of winter driving and vehicle operations, the Army can reduce accidents. With the information and resources available in the Driver's Training Toolbox, every Soldier has the tools to drive and complete the mission safely. Visit the Driver's Training Toolbox at <https://safety.army.mil/driverstrainingtoolbox> for more information.

(Article prepared by the U.S. Army Combat Readiness Center.)

NEWS NOTES

Flu shots available at Fort McCoy health clinic

Flu vaccinations are available at the Fort McCoy Occupational Health Clinic, building 2669.

Clinics will be 8 a.m. to noon and 1 to 2 p.m. Nov. 27 and 29 and Dec. 4, 6, 11, and 13.

Call the clinic at 608-388-3209 for more information or to make an appointment.

Connect the Tots play group set for Nov. 27

The "Connect the Tots" play group will meet at 9:30 a.m. Nov. 27 at Army Community Service Family Building, building 2161.

The play groups are for children 5 years old or younger. Through play, transitions, circle time, songs, activities, and informal conversations, parents learn about developmental ages and stages and gain tools to help understand their children's behavior.

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

Additional play groups are scheduled for Dec. 4 and 11. For more information or to register, call 608-388-2412.

Meet at McCoy Mingle 1st Wednesday every month

McCoy Mingle, a chance to socialize with other Fort McCoy community members, is held 4-5 p.m. the first Wednesday of each month at McCoy's Community Center.

Food and drink specials will be available. The event is open to the entire Fort McCoy community.

Upcoming dates include Dec. 5.

Breakfast with Santa set for Dec. 8

Breakfast with Santa is scheduled for 9 to 11 a.m. Dec. 8 at South Post Community Center.

The event is open to Fort McCoy community members and their Families. Registration is required by Dec. 5.

Children can have breakfast with Santa and get the chance to meet him. Breakfast will be french toast sticks, scrambled eggs, sausage, juice, and coffee. Breakfast for children 5 or under costs \$3. Breakfast for older children and adults costs \$7.

For more information or to register, call 608-388-2065.

Federal, Tricare open season ends Dec. 10

Federal Employee Health Benefits (FEHB) and Tricare open season will end Dec. 10.

Open season is an annual period when you can enroll in or change health care coverage plan for the following year.

Tricare beneficiaries will experience open season for the first time between Nov. 12 and



Photo courtesy of the Directorate of Family and Morale, Welfare and Recreation

Fowl 5k

Participants in the Fowl 5k Run/Walk take off at the start of the event Nov. 14 in front of Rumpel Fitness Center at Fort McCoy. Dozens of people participated. The winner of the male and female categories each received a turkey for winning their categories. The event was coordinated by the fitness center staff and the Directorate of Family and Morale, Welfare and Recreation.

Dec 10. Enrollment choices made during this period will take effect Jan. 1, 2019.

Outside of the Tricare Open Season period, military members may still enroll in or change between TRICARE Prime and Tricare Select plans within 90 days after experiencing a qualifying life event.

Tricare Open Season doesn't apply to the premium-based plans that offer continuous open enrollment throughout the year: Tricare Retired Reserve, Tricare Reserve Select, Tricare Young Adult, and Continued Health Care Benefit Program.

For more information about Tricare, visit <https://tricare.mil/About/Changes/Open-Season>.

For more information about FEHB, visit www.opm.gov/healthcare-insurance/health-care.

FEDVIP dental, vision plans open to military retirees

In 2019, dental and vision insurance plans for military retirees and their families will be available through the Federal Employees Dental and Vision Insurance Program (FEDVIP).

The first opportunity to enroll in a plan is during the Federal Benefits Open Season, which ends Dec. 10.

The Tricare Retiree Dental Program (TRDP) will only be available until Dec. 31.

Retired service members and their families who were eligible for TRDP are eligible to enroll in a FEDVIP dental plan.

They're also eligible to enroll in a FEDVIP

vision plan if enrolled in a TRICARE health plan.

Family members of active-duty service members who are enrolled in a TRICARE health plan can enroll in a FEDVIP vision plan.

Children enrolled in or eligible for TRICARE Young Adult aren't eligible for FEDVIP.

To learn more about FEDVIP, visit <https://tricare.benefeds.com>.

Exchange committed to hiring veterans, military spouses

As Americans honor the service and sacrifice of military members during National Veterans and Military Families Month, the Army and Air Force Exchange Service remains dedicated to hiring service members and spouses.

In 2018, the Exchange has hired more than 5,000 veterans and military spouses, said Air Force Chief Master Sgt. Luis Reyes, Exchange senior enlisted adviser.

In 2018, the Exchange reaffirmed its commitment to hire 50,000 veterans and military spouses by 2020.

Veterans and military spouses can find job opportunities worldwide at applymyexchange.com.

Veterans make up nearly 12 percent of the Exchange worldwide workforce, and the Exchange employs more than 6,300 military spouses.

The Exchange's spouse continuity program

assists military spouses in maintaining a career while supporting their Soldier or Airman, often allowing them to retain their job category and benefits during moves.

The Exchange was named a 2019 Top 10 Military Friendly Employer and top Military Spouse Friendly Employer by Victory Media, publisher of G.I. Jobs and Military Spouse magazine.

In 2018, the Exchange made Military Times' Best for Vets Employer for the fifth year in a row.

La Crosse Rotary Lights trip scheduled for Dec. 14

A trip to see the La Crosse Rotary Lights display is scheduled for 5 to 10 p.m. Dec. 14.

The bus ride costs \$10 and will depart from McCoy's Community Center, building 1571. Admission to the light display is free, but visitors are encouraged to make cash or nonperishable food donations.

Carriage rides are also available for \$20 for a couple or \$30 for a family. There is no cost to walk through the park.

To reserve a spot on the bus, call 608-388-3011 by Dec. 7.

Early bird special offered on Whitetail Ridge passes

Early bird specials are available through Dec. 15 on Whitetail Ridge season passes.

Military members and Department of Defense civilian employees can get individual lift passes for \$150 (add \$65 for each additional family member) and equipment rental for \$130.

Prices increase to \$170 (add \$85 for each additional family member) for lift passes and \$150 for equipment rental on Dec. 16.

Members of the public can get individual lift passes for \$210 (add \$95 for each additional family member) and equipment rental for \$180.

Prices increase to \$230 (add \$115 for each additional family member) for lift passes and \$200 for equipment rental on Dec. 16.

Daily rates are also available during the season. Whitetail Ridge's season is mid-December through mid-March, dependent on the weather.

Hours in 2018-19 will be 4:30 to 9 p.m. Friday, 10 a.m. to 9 p.m. Saturday, and noon to 6 p.m. Sunday.

Season passes are available 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday at the Pine View Campground office, building 8053, or by calling 608-388-3517.

Next issue of The Real McCoy

The next issue of The Real McCoy will be published Dec. 14.

The deadline for submissions to be considered for publication is noon Dec. 5.

For more information about The Real McCoy, call 608-388-4128.

Recreation

Automotive Skills Center: Building 1763. Open 1-9 p.m. Thurs.-Fri. and 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Closed Nov. 3-26. 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.-Sun. Extreme bowling 4-9 p.m. Fri.

Leisure Travel Services Office: Open 10 a.m.-5:30 p.m. Mon.-Fri. Call 608-388-3011.

Pine View Campground/Recreational Equipment Checkout Center: Building 8053. 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Mon.-Fri. Call 608-388-2619.

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: By appointment. Two-day notice required. Call 800-531-4703.

Whitetail Ridge Chalet: Building 8061. Closed for the season. Chalet available year-round for private parties. Call 608-388-3517.

Dining

McCoy's Community Center: Building 1571. Catering/administration, call 608-388-2065.

Primo's Express: Open 11 a.m.-9 p.m. Mon.-Fri., 4-11 p.m. Sat., and 4-10 Sun. Buffet (pizza, pasta, and rotating hot dishes) available 11 a.m.-1 p.m. Mon.-Fri. Call 608-388-7673.

Sports bar: Open 4-11 p.m. Mon.-Fri. and

4-10 p.m. Sat.-Sun. 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. Closed for the season. Chalet available year-round for private parties. Call 608-388-3517.

Services

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

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

Car Rentals (Enterprise): Info 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 and automatic bays and vacuums. Open 24/7. May close during extremely cold weather. Accepts cash, tokens, or credit cards. Token machine on site. Tokens also sold at McCoy's Community Center, building 1571. Call 608-388-4161.

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

facilities services

This schedule is projected through **Dec. 13, 2018**. **Bold, italic typeface** indicates a change since the last publication. Call facilities to verify hours. To report updates, call 608-388-2769.

7:30 a.m.-3 p.m. Mon.-Fri. Call 608-388-4563 to verify 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: Open 24/7. Exclusively for use by Soldiers training on Fort McCoy. Civilians and retired military are not authorized to use these facilities. Call 608-388-3800 for which buildings are open.

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.

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. Call 608-388-4988 for hours.

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 608-388-8068 or 815-793-0148

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.

Wis. Services from 10 a.m.-1 p.m. Sun. Call 608-269-3377.

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

Protestant Women of the Chapel: Building 2675. Bible study, 8:30-10:30 a.m. Wed.

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

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. 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,

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

Garrison CommanderCol. Hui Chae Kim
Public Affairs OfficerTonya Townsend
Deputy Public Affairs Officer.....Bill Coppernoll
Editor.....Scott T. Sturkol
Public Affairs SpecialistTheresa R. Fitzgerald
Editorial Assistant.....Aimee Malone
Commemorative Area CaretakerRobin R. Michalski
Editorial Content608-388-2769

Read this publication online at <http://www.mccoymilitary.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

This civilian enterprise newspaper is an authorized publication for members of the U.S. Army. Contents of The Real McCoy are not necessarily official views of, or endorsed by, the U.S. Government, Department of Defense, Department of the Army or Fort McCoy. The Real McCoy is published semimonthly using offset presses by the Public Affairs Office, Fort McCoy, WI 54656-5263, (608) 388-4128. Minimum printed circulation is 4,000.

All photos are U.S. Army photos unless otherwise credited.

Everything advertised in this publication shall be made available to purchase, use or patronage without regard to race, color, religion, sex, national origin, age, marital status, physical handicap, political affiliation or any other nonmerit factor of the purchaser, users or patron. If a violation or rejection of this equal opportunity policy by an advertiser is confirmed, the printer shall refuse to print advertising from that source until the violation is corrected.

All editorial content of The Real McCoy is prepared, edited, provided and approved by the Public Affairs Office at Fort McCoy. The Real McCoy is printed by the River Valley Newspaper Group, a private firm in no way connected with the Department of the Army, under exclusive



written contract with Fort McCoy. The civilian enterprise printer is responsible for commercial advertising.

The appearance of advertising in this publication, including inserts or supplements, does not constitute endorsement by the Department of the Army, Fort McCoy or the River Valley Newspaper Group of the products or services advertised.

Send news items to the Public Affairs Office, ATTN: (IMMC-PA), 100 E. Headquarters Road, Fort McCoy, WI 54656-5263, or call 608-388-4128 or 2769 or send e-mail to usarmy.mccoymilitary.com-central.list.pao-admin@mail.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 608-388-2266.

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.



<https://home.army.mil/mccoymilitary.com>

www.facebook.com/FtMcCoy

www.twitter.com/USAGMcCoy

Looking for work on the installation? Search for Fort McCoy jobs at www.USAJOBSS.gov.

