

OPERATIONAL TEST COMMAND Unit welcomes new command sergeant major A3

NEWS BRIEFS

Trees for troops

‘Tis the season and Trees for Troops is back to donate fresh trees to Fort Hood Soldiers this Christmas. The free trees are first come, first serve, with E1-E4 picking up beginning at noon today, while E5 and up can pick up at 8 a.m. tomorrow, depending on availability, at Hood Stadium.

‘Holiday Memories’ concert

Williamson County Symphony Orchestra is performing “Holiday Memories” at 7:30 p.m. Saturday at Howze Auditorium. The free “Pops-type” concert will be filled with the music of the holiday season. Doors open at 6:30 p.m. For more information, call 288-7835.

NORAD tracks Santa

For more than 60 years, NORAD has been tracking Santa in preparation of Christmas. Starting at 2:01 a.m. EST on Dec. 24, website visitors can watch Santa make preparations for his flight at www.noradsanta.org. NORAD’s “Santa Cams” will stream videos on the website as Santa makes his way over various locations. Then, at 6 a.m. EST, trackers worldwide can speak with a live phone operator to inquire as to Santa’s whereabouts by dialing the toll-free number 1-877-HI-NORAD (1-877-446-6723). You can also text this number for automatic updates (standard data rates apply for non-Verizon customers); by sending an email to noradtrackssanta@outlook.com or by following the official NORAD Tracks Santa social media channels. Additionally, any time on Dec. 24, Amazon Alexa users can ask for Santa’s location through the NORAD Tracks Santa skill for Amazon Alexa, and OnStar members can push the blue OnStar button in their vehicles to locate Santa. Bing users can also find Santa’s location on Dec. 24.



WWE wrestler Elias kicks Bobby Lashley during a doubles match Tuesday at Hood Army Airfield. The WWE Tribute to the Troops filmed its annual two-hour special on Fort Hood throughout the day, concluding with several match-ups.

Let’s get ready to rumble



ABOVE, WWE Superstar AJ Styles flies off the corner of the ring to hit WWE Champion Daniel Bryan Tuesday during the Tribute to the Troops special event at Hood Army Airfield. RIGHT, Charlotte Flair uses the top rope as leverage as she flies down onto her opponent during a tag team match for the filming of WWE’s 16th annual Tribute to the Troops special. The two-hour special will air at 8 p.m., Dec. 20 on USA.

BY BRANDY CRUZ
Sentinel News Editor

World Wrestling Entertainment’s 16th annual Tribute to the Troops returned to Fort Hood for the first time in eight years Tuesday, bringing several dozen iconic and current wrestling superstars with them.

“Every year, the WWE puts on a show at one of the bases in the United States,” wrestling legend Ric Flair said. “Obviously, they’re (Soldiers)

our heroes, so for them to think of us as something special is amazing.”

Tribute to the Troops is WWE’s largest celebration for Soldiers and their Families. Historically, WWE takes its ever popular form of wrestling entertainment straight to the troops. It began with overseas tours, but now remains in the United States, where they are able to see a small glimpse into the lives of what

See **WWE**, A6



Hood lights up season with patriotic display

BY BRANDY CRUZ
Sentinel News Editor

Red, white and blue is shining brightly on Fort Hood after the annual Christmas tree lighting ceremony Friday at III Corps Headquarters.

“It’s a great night, it’s a beautiful night in Texas and it’s a great night to reflect and kick off this holiday season,” Lt. Gen. Paul E. Funk II, commander of III Corps and Fort Hood, said.

With the sounds of Christmas music filling the air, the holiday

season was officially kicked off with the lighting of the patriotic tree and a night of festivities.

Hundreds of people were treated to the sounds of the 1st Cavalry Division Band, as well as special

See **Tree**, A7



Photo by Brandy Cruz, Sentinel News Editor

Carolers from the Meadows Honor Choir sing several Christmas songs to help put everyone in the Christmas spirit Friday night during Fort Hood’s annual tree lighting ceremony.



Photo by Brandy Cruz, Sentinel News Editor

Bikes assembled for Celebration of Love

Chaplain (Capt.) Patrick Bracken and Pvt. Taylor Stephens of the 15th Military Intelligence Battalion assemble a pink bicycle Monday during Fort Hood’s Celebration of Love bike assembly party. 1,200 bikes and a multitude of toys will be presented to Fort Hood Families on Friday night during the 13th annual Celebration of Love event. Additional photos and full coverage will be featured in the Dec. 13 edition.



Photo courtesy of the George Bush Presidential Library and Museum

Former President George H.W. Bush celebrates following a parachute jump for the 10th anniversary and rededication ceremonies of the George Bush Presidential Library and Museum in College Station, Nov. 10, 2007.



Tributes flow in as nation mourns passing of George H.W. Bush

BY JIM GARAMONE
Defense.gov

WASHINGTON — President Donald J. Trump has declared Dec. 5 as a national day of mourning for former President George H.W. Bush, who passed away Friday night at age 94.

Trump joined countless others in paying tribute to Bush and his lifetime of service as a Navy pilot in World War II, congressman, ambassador to the United Nations, CIA director, vice president and president.

“Through his essential authenticity, disarming wit and unwavering commitment to faith, family and country, President Bush inspired generations of his fellow Americans to public service – to be, in his words, ‘a thousand points of light’ illuminating the greatness, hope and opportunity of America to the world,” Trump said in a statement released Saturday by the White House.

“With sound judgment, common sense and unflappable leadership, President Bush guided our nation, and the world, to a peaceful and victorious conclusion of the Cold

War,” he said. “As president, he set the stage for the decades of prosperity that have followed. And through all that he accomplished, he remained humble, following the quiet call to service that gave him a clear sense of direction.”

Defense Secretary James Mattis said Bush “took his experience in war to build a better world as our commander in chief. His service to our nation demonstrated how we as a people can draw on our humility, diversity and devotion to our country to meet every challenge with fortitude and confidence.”

“We will miss him, but at the going down of the day, his example will long guide our Sailors, Soldiers, Airmen and Marines for how to live life without regret,” Mattis said.

International leaders

All praised Bush’s steady hand on the tiller as the Soviet Union imploded and democratic government arose in Central and Eastern Europe. “When the Iron Curtain came down, the world needed politicians with visions and will,” wrote NATO Secretary General Jens Stoltenberg. “President George H.W. Bush was capable and committed.

He seized the moment and shaped history. He will be remembered as one of the architects of the post-Cold War era and as a true trans-Atlantist.”

Bush was born into privilege, but was a true “servant leader.” “George H.W. Bush’s life is a testament to the notion that public service is a noble, joyous calling,” President Barack Obama wrote in a release. “And he did tremendous good along the journey. Expanding America’s promise to new immigrants and people with disabilities. Reducing the scourge of nuclear weapons and building a broad international coalition to expel a dictator from Kuwait. And when democratic revolutions bloomed across Eastern Europe, it was his steady, diplomatic hand that made possible an achievement once thought anything but – ending the Cold War without firing a shot.”

The man who defeated him in 1992 – President Bill Clinton – gave thanks for Bush’s “great long life of service, love and friendship.”

The two men became close while working together in the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina.

“He never stopped serving. I saw it up close, working with him on



The Saudi Arabian newspaper “Arab News” features a front-page article of U.S. President George H.W. Bush during Operation Desert Shield in Saudi Arabia, Jan. 11, 1991.

tsunami relief in Asia and here at home after Hurricane Katrina,” Clinton said. “His remarkable leadership and great heart were always on full display. I am profoundly grateful for every minute I spent with President Bush and will always hold our friendship as one of my life’s greatest gifts.”

All spoke of Bush’s devotion to his wife of 73 years, Barbara, who died

earlier this year. “After 73 years of marriage, George and Barbara Bush are together again now, two points of light that never dimmed, two points of light that ignited countless others with their example,” Obama said.

On Twitter, the U.S. Navy posted a picture of President Bush with the words, “Fair winds and following seas, sir. We have the watch.”

Time running out to opt into Blended Retirement System

BY GARY SHEFTICK
Army News Service

WASHINGTON — Less than a month remains for Soldiers to opt into the Blended Retirement System and so far only 19 percent of those eligible have switched to the new plan.

Pentagon officials are concerned many Soldiers will be missing out on benefits under BRS that they can take with them if they leave the Army before serving 20 years.

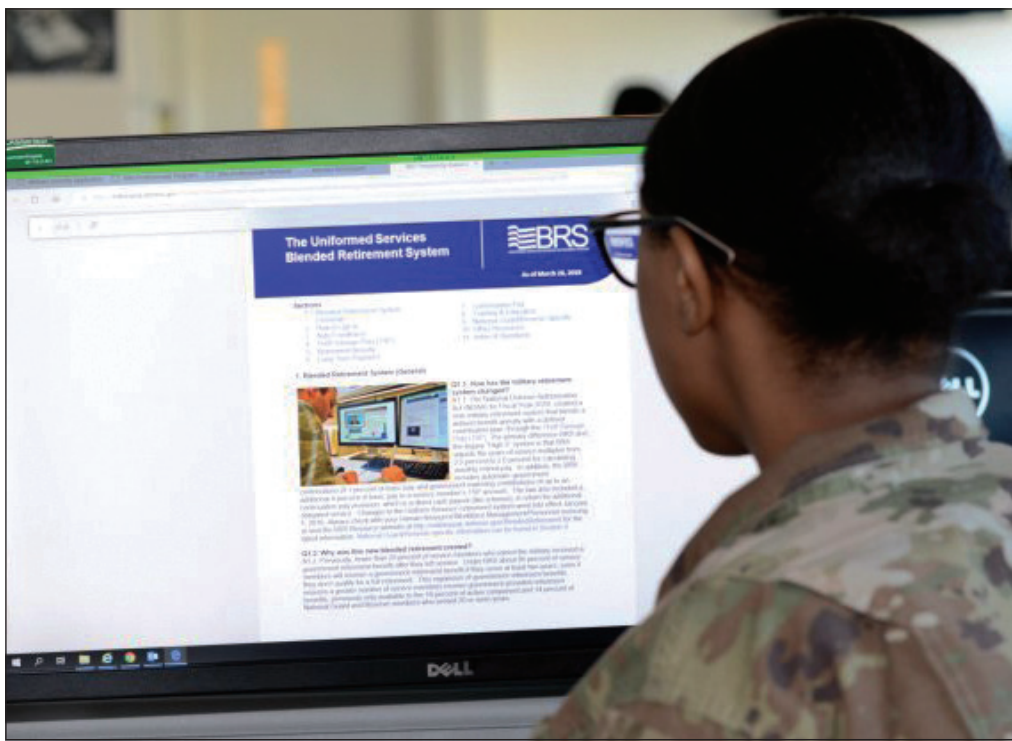
One key benefit of the new retirement system is that Soldiers can keep their money from the Thrift Savings Plan – including government contributions and matching funds – when they leave the service.

Under BRS, Soldiers will receive matching funds from the government every paycheck for their TSP contributions on up to 5 percent of their earnings. And if they decide to leave service before retiring, they will be able to keep those funds.

“This is an opportunity for Soldiers to get something, whether they serve to retirement or not,” said Henry Manning, a senior official with the Office of the Assistant Secretary of the Army for Manpower and Reserve Affairs.

He and Maj. Yungsong Han with that office have traveled to a number of installations across the Army to brief Soldiers on the new retirement system.

“We find 80 percent of the people in the audience say that they’re going to retire,”



Manning said, “while the reality is that probably only 20 percent of them will actually retire.

“If you’re somebody who plays the odds, chances are opting in would be a better thing for you to do,” he said.

The clock is ticking, though, he added.

While all military members who began their service this year automatically fall under the new retirement plan, Congress

gave existing troops until Dec. 31 to opt into BRS.

Active duty Soldiers who had fewer than 12 years of service as of Dec. 31, 2017, are eligible; and so are reserve component members with fewer than 4,320 points.

For those who do not stay in 20 years, opting into BRS is definitely beneficial, Manning said. “At least when you walk away, you walk away with the funds

that the government has contributed (to TSP).”

About 350,000 active duty service members have opted into BRS so far, but the percentage of Marines who have chosen the new system is double the percentage of Soldiers. About 48 percent of eligible Marines have switched to BRS.

Manning explained that’s because the Corps required all Marines to fill out a form, whether they wanted to stay with the legacy plan or opt into the new. Other services only required those who want to change to go online and sign up.

All eligible Soldiers, however, were supposed to take online training this year concerning BRS.

A total of 93 percent from both active and reserve components have completed that online training, Han said.

Installation personal financial managers have also been training in BRS and can provide free counseling to service members and their Families. In addition, MilitaryOneSource provides free financial support 24/7 at 1-800-342-9647, and a BRS calculator is at militarypay.defense.gov/Calculators/BRS.

“Soldiers are still vacillating on whether they want to opt in,” Manning said. “If you’re not certain, you definitely want to opt in, because at least you walk away with some money at the end of your tour.”

A Soldier studies the Blended Retirement System website at militarypay.defense.gov/BlendedRetirement.

Never leave
a fallen
comrade

Not all wounds are
visible
Be willing to listen

Talk to your chaplain or behavioral
health professional or call 1.800.342.9647

It's your responsibility to get help for a fellow Soldier Buddies can prevent suicide

Operational Test Command: Welcomes new command sergeant major

BY MICHAEL NOVOGRADAC
U.S. Army OTC Public Affairs

Family and friends gathered to welcome a new command sergeant major taking over as standard bearer of the U.S. Army Operational Test Command in a ceremony here Monday.

Command Sgt. Maj. William Justice arrived after serving as command sergeant major of the 2nd Brigade Combat Team, 1st Cavalry Division.

Justice takes the place of Sgt. Maj. Danny Boivin, who has been with OTC since Sept. 6, when he stepped up as OTC interim senior enlisted leader.

Boivin will return to the Airborne and Special Operations Test Directorate at Fort Bragg, North Carolina, where he will oversee training and safety during airborne operational drop tests, as the senior test parachute jumper.

Brig. Gen. William “Hank” Taylor, commanding general of OTC, deferred honors to the Noncommissioned Officer Corps before officiating the ceremonial passing of unit colors between Boivin and Justice.

Praising Boivin, Taylor said, “I have had the privilege in the last four months of serving by my side, an absolute warrior in Sgt. Maj. Danny Boivin. He took on the mission to come here in September and to serve by my side and he came absolutely without hesitation.

“The command has not missed a beat with having my airborne partner here. Sgt. Maj. Boivin’s incredible professionalism and operational experience was so important for us at a time when we were executing operational tests, truly, all over the world.”

Taylor began telling the history of the Noncommissioned Officer Corps, beginning with the Continental Army in 1775.

“Since that beginning, the Army’s non-commissioned officers have stood apart from NCOs throughout the world,” he said. “All of us leaders and commanders always know that we can count on our noncommissioned officers to be our teammates, but also to help us uphold the standards. That is why I believe we are truly the greatest Army



Photos by Tad Browning, Audiovisual Production Specialist, OTC

ABOVE, Incoming OTC Command Sgt. Maj. William Justice receives the OTC colors from OTC Commander Brig. Gen. William “Hank” Taylor during Justice’s assumption of responsibility ceremony Monday. **RIGHT,** Command Sgt. Maj. William Justice speaks from the podium as the unit’s new standard bearer during OTC’s senior enlisted leader assumption of responsibility ceremony Monday.

in the world. And our primary reason for that is that our NCOs stand apart from all the armies in the world as the best in the world.

“NCOs lead Soldiers,” Taylor continued. “NCOs ensure Soldiers’ welfare. NCOs will always accomplish the mission. One of the greatest things I love is ‘The NCO Creed.’ And it goes in there, ‘The NCOs live the Army values.’ And they ingrain those values into our Soldiers under their charge. NCOs take responsibility, set the example and always lead from the front.”

Taylor then remarked how Justice made a short trip from across Fort Hood where he has been the command sergeant major of the “Black Jack” Brigade.

“A cavalryman by trade, Command Sgt. Maj. Justice has successfully led at all echelons; serving twice as a battalion command sergeant major, the National Training Center Operations Group CSM and recently as

the 2nd BCT, 1st Cav. ‘Black Jack’ CSM.”

“OTC is a unique organization,” Taylor continued, speaking directly to Justice. “And I am convinced the operational experience you bring to the fight makes you uniquely qualified to be our senior enlisted leader. Under your charge, and as the standard bearer for this command, I am confident that our Soldiers and our civilians will continue to carry the highest standards as we operationally test every piece of equipment that the Army is going to field.”

During his time making remarks at the podium, Justice said, “First, and foremost, I would like to thank God for this day; his grace, his love and all his blessings that make days like today possible.”

With his wife Tina present, he expressed excitement about continuing to serve the Army at OTC, within the Central Texas community.

Justice said behind every Soldier is a



strong support network of Family and friends that allow them to do what they do.

“Mine starts with my wife,” he said. “Thank you Tina, for your love and support and for once again being up to the challenge of what is put in front of us.”

To Taylor, Justice said, “I will work every day to earn the trust that you’ve placed in me, sir.”

To the OTC team of nearly half Soldiers and half Army civilian employees, Justice said, “This team of military and civilian professionals has made my transition to the team smooth, and has made Tina and I feel very welcome.”

He said after spending the last few weeks with the OTC Family, he realized the importance of the operational testing mission.

“This mission will be unlike any I have had in my career,” Justice said. “I believe there are many great callings in this professional of arms we are a part of, however, I can think of none greater than to be charged with ensuring the equipment that we put in the hands of America’s sons and daughters provides the capability that they need to execute their missions for our country.”

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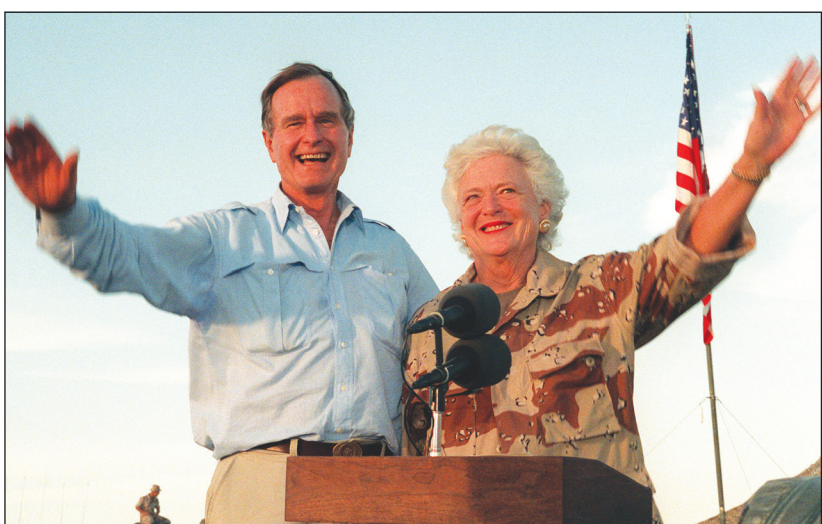
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GEORGE H.W. BUSH



Salute to service: Nation mourns presidential passing



BY LT. GEN. PAUL E. FUNK II
III Corps and Fort Hood Commanding General

III Corps and Fort Hood salutes President George H.W. Bush's life of service to our Nation. Under President Bush's resolute leadership, more than 25,000 Fort Hood Soldiers were victorious in Operations Desert Shield and Desert Storm in 1991. My Family and the entire Phantom Corps sends condolences to the Bush Family

Paul E. Funk II

PAUL E. FUNK II
LTG, U.S. Army
Commanding



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Phantom Voices

WHAT IS YOUR FAVORITE HOLIDAY MOVIE AND WHY?

"Elf" because I think it's hilarious."

1st Lt. Gabriella Bermudez,
Phantom Warrior Academy

"Home Alone." It's funny and old school."

Staff Sgt. Casey Brinkley,
3rd Cav. Regt.

"It's A Wonderful Life." It's a really good story about somebody who makes sacrifices."

Keith Gogas,
Deputy to the Garrison Commander

"Home Alone" because he's able to fend for himself."

Staff Sgt. Joseph Gonzales,
411th MP Co.

"Elf." It's so silly. I love it."

Mallory Gonzales,
civilian

Santa’s Workshop opens for holidays

BY KELBY WINGERT
Sentinel Staff

Fort Hood Santa’s Workshop officially opened for the holiday season after a ribbon-cutting ceremony at the organization’s headquarters next to the Clear Creek Commissary, Nov. 29.

Santa’s Workshop is a Fort Hood non-profit that has been active in the Fort Hood community since 1985, when it began as a small project to help provide toys to around 20 Families in need with the 13th Support Command (Corps), which is now the 13th Expeditionary Sustainment Command.

Each year since the organization became a post-wide non-profit, Santa’s Workshop has provided thousands of toys to thousands of Fort Hood Families and children. “The rough math I did, this

organization has touched probably over 50,000 children,” estimated Brig. Gen. Darren Werner, 13th ESC commander and adviser to Fort Hood Santa’s Workshop. “Over 50,000 children that have come through Fort Hood and have been given the great opportunity to receive toys out of this program, and that’s something to be very proud of for the entire community. I am proud to be part of the 13th ESC as its roots helped establish this operation and how this great proud organization continues it on.”

This year, Santa’s Workshop expects to provide toys to more than 1,300 Fort Hood Families, according to Santa’s Workshop President Emily Damboise.

The support the organization receives from military and community leaders is what makes each year



Emily Damboise, Fort Hood Santa’s Workshop president, welcomes sponsors and local community leaders to the ribbon-cutting ceremony at the organization’s headquarters, Nov. 29.

successful, Damboise said. Many of those leaders were invited to the ribbon-cutting ceremony.

“As I mentioned before, we would not be able to do this without our community, our volunteers and also our military community,” Damboise said. “Fort Hood means a great deal to us. And I have found out why we call it the ‘Great Place’ -- it is because of the great people and the units that we have here. The support that we’ve had from moving out, or if we have truckloads of toys, we can just do a shout out, I’ll have Soldiers come in and roll up their sleeves and help out.”

III Corps and Fort Hood Commanding General Lt. Gen. Paul E. Funk II called Santa’s Workshop an “incredible” part of Fort Hood.

“The fact that we live in a community that is that generous, the

surrounding communities around us that have that much concern for their Soldiers and their Families, it is an incredible honor to just be part of this community,” Funk said. “From us, the Fort Hood community, I want to say thanks to the surrounding communities who make this all possible.”

During the ceremony, Damboise recognized two important friends to the Santa’s Workshop organization.

“I have a very special couple that I have grown to know over the past couple years, and they come and visit us from Hutto,” she said, introducing retired Staff Sgt. Edward Morgan and his wife, Marilyn. “Usually they’ll call me and say ‘I’m about 30 minutes out and we have toys for you.’ They’ve brought us all kinds of items. Usually when they come in and we

talk about their military career and we hug, tears of joy. We are just so honored to know you and be friends with you and thank you so much for supporting Santa’s Workshop.”

In closing her remarks – an emotional moment for Damboise, who is in her final year with Santa’s Workshop as her Family prepares its next move – she highlighted the journey the organization’s board of directors goes through each year.

“Usually in the springtime, when we have a brand new board, we go ‘How are we going to do this?’” Damboise said to the sponsors and community leaders at the ceremony. “We want to take care of our children. We want to take care of our Families and our Soldiers. And we do. We come together, and it’s because of all of you.”



III Corps and Fort Hood Commanding General Lt. Gen. Paul E. Funk II delivers remarks at the Santa’s Workshop ribbon-cutting ceremony, Nov. 29.



Santa’s Workshop President Emily Damboise is joined by 13th ESC Commander Brig. Gen. Darren Werner and Santa Claus to cut the ribbon for the official opening of Santa’s Workshop for the season, Nov. 29.



III Corps

THE PHANTOM CORPS

AMERICA'S ARMORED CORPS

Dining Facility Operations Schedule

December 2018

OPEN
(Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner)

OPEN
(Holiday, Weekend)

OPEN (Breakfast & Lunch only)
CLOSED (Dinner)

CLOSED

IRONHORSE

Building #41018
Old Ironside & 77th St.

SUN	MON	TUES	WEDS	THUR	FRI	SAT
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
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16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31	1	2	3	4	5
6						

Breakfast: 7:30-9 a.m. Monday-Friday
Lunch: 11:30 a.m.-1 p.m. Monday-Friday
Dinner: 5-6:30 p.m. Monday-Friday
BDE Food Service/MSG Chambers: 286-5004

(WKND, HOL): 9:30 a.m.-11 a.m.
(WKND, HOL): 11:30 a.m.-1 p.m.
(WKND, HOL): 5-6:30 p.m.
DFAC/SFC Johnson: 618-8914

PATRIOT INN

Building #12007
Old Ironside & 33rd St.

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Lunch: 11:30 a.m.-1 p.m. Monday-Friday
Dinner: 5-6:30 p.m. Monday-Friday
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(WKND, HOL): 9:30 a.m.-1 p.m.
(WKND, HOL): 11:30 a.m.-1 p.m.
(WKND, HOL): 5-6:30 p.m.

FREEMAN CAFE

Building #39041
Tank Destroyer & 67th St.

SUN	MON	TUES	WEDS	THUR	FRI	SAT
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Breakfast: 7:30-9 a.m. Monday-Friday
Lunch: 11:30 a.m.-1 p.m. Monday-Friday
Dinner: 5-6:30 p.m. Monday-Thursday, 4- 5:30 p.m. Friday
CW3 Sturdivant: 553-680078

(WKND, HOL): 9:30-11 a.m.
(WKND, HOL): 11:30 a.m.-1 p.m.
(WKND, HOL): 5-6:30 p.m.
DFAC/SFC Roseman: 288-7631

OPERATION IRAQI FREEDOM

Building #21020
Battalion & 58th St.

SUN	MON	TUES	WEDS	THUR	FRI	SAT
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Lunch: 11:30-1 p.m. Monday-Friday
Dinner: 5-6:30 p.m. Monday-Thursday, 4-5:30 p.m. Friday
BDE Food Service/W01 Arroyo: 286-6603 or DFAC SFC Maciel: 287-8930

(WKND, HOL): 9:30-11 a.m.
(WKND, HOL): 11:30 a.m.-1 p.m.
(WKND, HOL): 5-6:30 p.m.

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Battalion & 21st St.

SUN	MON	TUES	WEDS	THUR	FRI	SAT
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31	1	2	3	4	5
6						

Breakfast: 7:30-9 a.m. Monday-Friday
Lunch: 11:30 a.m.-1 a.m. Monday-Friday
Dinner: 5-6:30 p.m. Monday-Thursday, 4-5:30 p.m. Friday
BDE Food Service/W01 Bowers: 286-6853

(WKND, HOL): 9:30 a.m.-11 a.m.
(WKND, HOL): 11:30 a.m.-1 p.m.
(WKND, HOL): 4-5:30 p.m.
DFAC/SFC Virostek: 288-2292

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9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31	1	2	3	4	5
6						

Breakfast: 7:30-9 a.m. Monday-Friday
Lunch: 11:30-1 p.m. Monday-Friday
Dinner: 5-6:30 p.m. Monday-Thursday, 4-5:30 p.m. Friday
BDE Food Service/MSG Perry or DFAC/SFC Miller: 288-2143

(WKND, HOL): 9:30-11 a.m.
(WKND, HOL): 11:30 a.m.-1 p.m.
(WKND, HOL): 4-5:30 p.m.

Installation Food Service: 287-6595

III Corps Food Service: 287-0573

Division Food Service: 287-3134



Photo by Staff Sgt. Taresha Hill, 3rd Cav. Regt. Public Affairs



Photo by Staff Sgt. Kevlin Ringold, 13th ESC Public Affairs

ABOVE, Brian Kendrick, WWE Cruiserweight Superstar, participates in a combative demonstration at Kieschnick gym Tuesday. In honor of WWE's 16th annual Tribute to the Troops celebration, superstars and legends took part in outreach opportunities around post including visiting unit physical training, meet and greets and special matches for service members and their Families to attend. **LEFT,** Sgt. Dustin Stewart, a trooper with Field Artillery Squadron, 3rd Cavalry Regiment, explains the many capabilities of the Stryker to WWE wrestler Jey Uso.

WWE: Superstars join Soldiers for training

Continued from A1

troops do day in and day out.

"It's meant to be a celebration for Soldiers and their Families and it's meant to be just a small thank you for everything they do for us,"

explained John Saboor, WWE vice-president of special events.

During their stop at Fort Hood, the stars had breakfast with Soldiers, joined them in physical training, toured the Warrior Transition Unit, participated in live-fire training and

even learned how to rappel at the Phantom Warrior Academy's Air Assault Course, among other things.

"They get to do some pretty cool stuff with their job and so do we," Capt. Steven Moreno, commander of the Phantom Warrior Academy, said. "Getting to share some of that experience with them, having them go off rappel towers and experience something they've never experienced before, so they get an appreciation for what we do."

Mickie James said rappelling was more difficult than she initially believed, something which fellow superstar Alicia Fox would agree. Fox, who is afraid of heights, managed to make it down the small tower with a lot of encouragement.

"I'm just not good with heights," Fox said. "I'm a firm believer in gravity."

WWE topped the day off with a special episode taping at Hood Army Airfield, surrounded by hundreds of Fort Hood's finest Soldiers.

"What an incredible, incredible honor it is to be here today and performing for you guys," Ronda Rousey



Photo by Brandy Cruz, Sentinel News Editor

Soldiers watch in excitement as WWE wrestling trio The New Day celebrates Christmas early during the filming of Tribute to the Troops.

ey told the crowd of fans who have watched her journey from mixed-martial arts fighter, to the Ultimate Fighting Championship and now to the WWE Raw Women's Champion. "I talk a lot about what a true champion is, but from the bottom of my heart, you guys are the true champions."

Col. Hank Perry, garrison commander of Fort Hood, said the Tribute to the Troops is a much-deserved morale booster for the Soldiers, who had a break from their daily work to watch the event and meet their favorite stars.

"It's great," Perry said beaming. "I mean ... I just shook hands with Ronda Rousey!"

Soldiers were just as excited as Perry about the opportunity to see the wrestling superstars in person and hoped to get a glimpse of their favorite wrestler.

"I've been a huge wrestling fan since I was a little kid," Spc. Patrick Mendoza said. "It's a true blessing and we appreciate everything they do for us."

While the Soldiers were thankful for the wrestlers, the wrestling superstars were in turn, thankful for the troops for all they do day in and day out.

"I just want to say thank you from

the bottom of my heart for all the sacrifices you've made, for all the courage, all the perseverance, for everything you do for us," Rousey told the crowd of Soldiers. "And thank you for the biggest gift of all, which is our freedom."

Agreeing with Rousey's sentiments was Braun Strowman, who said giving back to the troops is his favorite part of being a wrestler.

"I've said it time and time again, if these guys didn't do what they did, I wouldn't be able to do what I do, so just an opportunity to get to come back here again and say thanks and show my support for the troops," Strowman said.

While many people look at the WWE Superstars as their heroes, Flair said it's the American Soldiers themselves who are his heroes.

"When we sit at home, feel comfortable and we feel safe and at peace, we owe it all to these people here who are sacrificing so much of their lives," Flair said. "On behalf of WWE, myself and my family, thank you for everything. We don't take it lightly, we don't take it for granted. God bless all of you and I hope you have a happy holiday."

WWE's Tribute to the Troops two-hour special will air at 8 p.m., Dec. 20 on USA.



Photo by Brandy Cruz, Sentinel News Editor

"It's heavier than I thought," said Staff Sgt. Elliot Mendez, as he holds the WWE Smackdown Tag Team Championship belt belonging to Sheamus.



Photo by Staff Sgt. Taresha Hill, 3rd Cav. Regt. Public Affairs

WWE wrestlers Jimmy and Jey Uso get a taste of what it takes to be a cannon crew member as they work together to adjust the elevation on a howitzer, as the wrestlers toured Fort Hood during the WWE's Tribute to the Troops event Tuesday. The wrestlers were introduced to several different types of weapons used by American Soldiers.



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Tree: Lights, music, Santa kick off season

Continued from A1

carolers from the Ellison Chamber Singer, Oveta Culp Hobby Choir and Meadows Honor Choir. The audience was encouraged to sing along and celebrate the kick-off of the holiday season.

With his Family by his side, Funk thanked all the volunteers within Fort Hood and the surrounding communities who helped make the event possible every single year.

“Through peace and war, Americans have gathered together and celebrated this season in tree lighting ceremonies across the country for years and years,” the general said. “This tree will serve as a reminder of the beauty of our world and will be the focal point of our community throughout the season.”

Funk encouraged everyone to take this time to reflect on the holiday season, cherish the moments with their Families and continue to pray for Soldiers deployed across the world.

“For all of us blessed to be home with our Families this year, take



the time to enjoy the moments with your loved ones,” he added.

Celebrating the season in style, Funk then removed his uniform hat and replaced it with a red Santa hat, complete with three stars.

“I’d be remiss if I didn’t get out the old seasonal headgear,” he laughed.

Joined by Cooper Barrett, Arabella Oliver and his grandson Jack Brown, Funk flipped the giant candy cane switch to power the Christmas tree.

Following the ceremony, a huge line of Families waited to take a photo with Santa Claus himself inside III Corps Headquarters. The community was invited inside for photos with Santa, snacks and cake.

“Happy holidays, thanks for what you do, please take the time to reconnect with Family and friends, and don’t forget those out there serving in harm’s way tonight,” Funk said on behalf of the entire Funk Family.



Photos by Brandy Cruz, Sentinel News Editor

TOP-LEFT, Lt. Gen. Paul E. Funk II, commander of III Corps and Fort Hood, is in a festive mood Friday as he puts on a Santa hat and prepares to light the Fort Hood Christmas tree. **ABOVE**, The patriotic red, white and blue colors light up the front of III Corps Headquarters.



Daniel and Elizabeth Saxby have opposing reactions to meeting Santa Claus Friday night after the Fort Hood Christmas tree lighting ceremony at III Corps Headquarters.



LEFT, Tabitha Madrid and her 5-year-old son Jayden enjoy the carolers singing favorite Christmas songs Friday night during Fort Hood’s annual Christmas tree lighting ceremony. **BELOW**, Oveta Culp Hobby Choir director Nathan Johnson leads his students in Christmas carols Friday during Fort Hood’s annual Christmas tree lighting ceremony. Three local choirs were invited to participate in the annual event, along with music from the 1st Cav. Div. Band.



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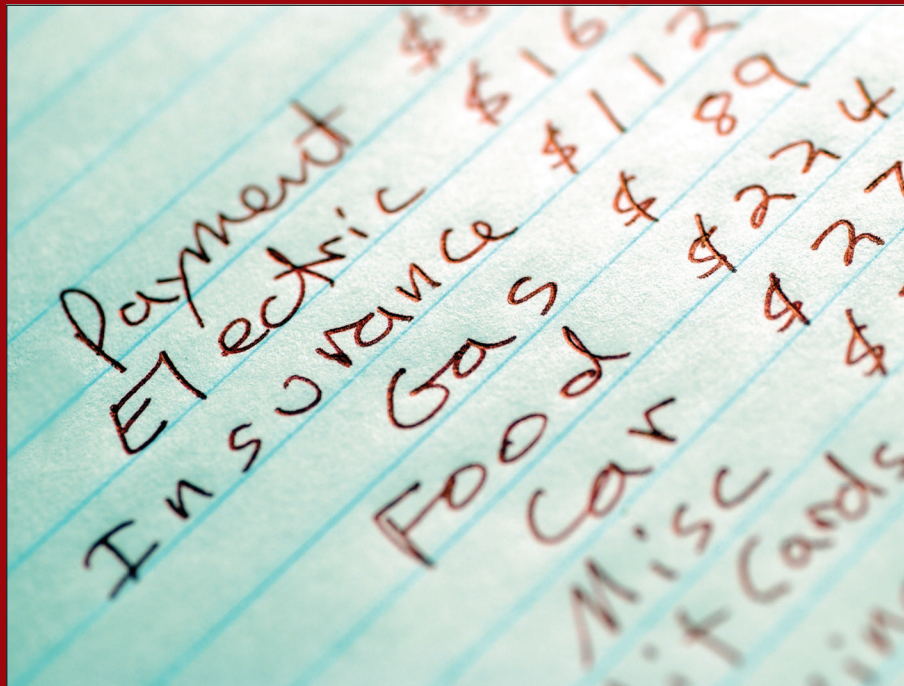
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SECTION B

PetsB2
Health Works.....B5
Traveling SoldierB8



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Courtesy photo



Photo by Brandy Cruz, Sentinel News Editor

LEFT, Building and sticking to a budget is key to surviving the holidays without adding debt. **RIGHT,** A variety of inexpensive items can be used for stocking stuffers, such as the displays at the Clear Creek Exchange.

Spending less on gifts, saving for future

BY ARIANA-JASMINE CASTRELLON
Sentinel Living Editor

Creating and managing a budget can be difficult, especially during the holidays, but the Army Community Service Financial Readiness Branch on Fort Hood can help.

ACS Financial Readiness Branch offers one-on-one budget, investment, savings and debt management planning, financial assistance classes and financial education events throughout the year. They also have many third party resources that they can refer to Soldiers, their Family members and veterans. Some of those resources are: Army Emergency Relief, Education Program, Thrift Savings Plan, U.S. Savings Bonds, Military Saves, Money Matters, Housing Resources for Military Members, Army OneSource, Military OneSource, Office of Service Members Affairs, Saveandinvest.org and Better Business Bureau Military Line. Along with the financial assistance that ACS Financial Readiness Branch offers, Soldiers should be receiving annual training through the Command Financial Specialist Program.

Manager Karen Bradshaw said that during the holidays, Soldiers can find themselves overspending on gifts for their Families.

"I think they equate the more expensive the gift, the more it shows that 'I care,'" Bradshaw said.

"Sometimes the homemade gifts go

a long way. It might go a longer way as far as being appreciated and might be a lot cheaper."

Bradshaw said that the biggest financial problem she sees with Soldiers is not budgeting within their means and during the holidays, they are trying to buy their loved one's the "latest and greatest." Bradshaw said that there is nothing wrong with having a big Christmas, but if Soldiers and their Families want to stay out of debt, they need to plan ahead of time and budget and save throughout the year.

"If you only have X amount of dollars, that's the lifestyle you've got to have," Bradshaw said. "Soldiers don't make enough, we can't pay them enough for what they are doing, but they do have a set income."

Personal Financial Readiness Specialist Sylvia Gavin said that it is her job to assist and guide Soldiers, their Families and veterans with personal financial management, but she does not make the decisions for them. Gavin said that practicing budgeting early on can assist Soldiers and their Families in the future.

"What we try to do with the young Soldiers, is get them into a pattern," Gavin said. "If you have that solid base in there, of taking care of your expenses, taking care of your savings and investments, then when that added piece comes in as a Family, then he or she is well-rounded in order to know how to take care of a household."

Gavin said that some holiday alternatives could include making homemade gifts, baked goods, giving cash instead of gift cards, sending an e-card or having a conversation with the Family and making a group decision not to have gifts. Gavin shared that during a budgeting class she asked the room what date they should begin holiday planning and some of the replies she received were two months before, one month before, the day before.

"Christmas planning should actually start right after Christmas," Gavin said. "You know what happens right after Christmas? Everything goes on sale."

Gavin shares that a com-



Photo by Brandy Cruz, Sentinel News Editor


The Clear Creek Exchange has tags like the one pictured, with ideas for gifts under \$25.

mon mistake everyone makes during the holidays is spending more than they actually have, the getting themselves into debt and by planning a year in advance shoppers can alleviate that problem.

ACS Financial Readiness is located inside the old hospital, Bldg. 36000 Darnall Loop on the second floor.



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'Gift' of community partnerships

BY STAFF SGT. KELSEY MILLER
1st Cav. Div. Public Affairs

A bright-eyed little girl of about four years ran back and forth from toy-filled table to toy-filled table. She pointed to various toys with a smile and a laugh that filled the room. So many toys. As she approached a table, there sat a My Little Pony play set which included three ponies.



A child admires a My Little Pony toy set as Soldiers and their Families assigned to the 1st Cav. DIVARTY were invited to select toys for their loved ones during a toy delivery event as part of the Army's community partnership initiative.

"That one's the mom, that's the dad and that's the baby," she said pointing to each. She looked up at the woman standing behind her with longing eyes. "Can I have this one?"

The holiday season is upon us. For most it means time with Family and friends, traditions and a nice break from the normal everyday pace, but for others, it can be a challenging and stressful time of year.

Leon County Judge Byron Ryder and his staff appeased some of the holiday stress for Soldiers assigned to the 1st Cavalry Division Artillery Brigade, by hosting their annual toy delivery event held in the brigade's headquarters building, Nov. 27.

Every year, Leon County collects toys from citizens within its community to give to Soldiers.

It is a tradition that has been carried out for the past several years, and they do it because they want to take care of Soldiers.

"The entire Leon County really comes together every year to do this," said Col. Brett Forbes, commander of DIVARTY. "This is

one of the ways they give back to service members in general. It is truly a great outpouring, and we really appreciate it. It is unbelievable."

Relationships built between Army units and their surrounding communities are paramount to the success of the organization as a whole. Units from across Fort Hood are partnered with various surrounding communities as part of the Army's community relations initiative.

Leon County and DIVARTY have a unique and special relationship because of the distance between the community and Fort Hood. It is not always easy, but it makes collaborations between the two even more special.

"These people are the most incredibly generous and passionate people," said Maj. Daniel Chase, the DIVARTY chaplain and the brigade's community partnership liaison. "They just want to help Soldiers and bring joy to their lives."

Before the toy delivery event started, Ryder and his staff vigorously set up toys on tables placed in the shape of a horseshoe inside the headquarters conference room, as they eagerly waited for the Soldiers from the unit to arrive.

Then, approximately 50 Soldiers and Family members lined up to select and collect toys for their little loved ones.

The conference room opened and, starting with the junior Soldiers, they filed through, scanning the various tables to select a toy



Photos by Staff Sgt. Kelsey Miller, 1st Cav. Div. Public Affairs

Col. Brett Forbes, commander of DIVARTY, talks to a Soldier about his children and the toy he chose during their annual toy delivery event. Leon County Judge Byron Ryder and his staff appeased some of the holiday stress for Soldiers assigned to the 1st Cavalry Division Artillery Brigade, by hosting their annual toy delivery event, Nov. 27.

for their children. It was a store, without the burden of exchanging money for the unwrapped gifts displayed on the tables.

"The community of Leon County understands the significance of what these Soldiers do," Chase said. But the chaplain said while the county staff recognizes the contributions of the Soldiers, the significance of their own deeds escapes them.

"They don't even realize the impact they are having."

As the event wound down, Soldiers walked out of the conference

room with smiles on their faces, discussing with each other why they chose what they did for their children. Some even stopped and thanked the county staff and shook their hands in an attempt to show their gratitude.

"It is just so awesome and it makes you feel great," said Chase with a smile, referring to the kindness of the Leon County community. "It validates you as a Soldier and makes your blood, sweat and tears absolutely worth it. What a great community."



FORT HOOD CHAPEL SERVICES



GARRISON CHAPLAIN OFFICE 288-6545
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Sunday Mass, 9 a.m., Main Post Chapel
Sunday Spanish Mass, 1 p.m., Main Post Chapel
Religious Education, 1st Sunday, 3 p.m., Main Post Chapel
Noon Mass, Tuesday to Friday, noon, Main Post Chapel
Religious Education, Wednesday, 6 p.m., Comanche Chapel, 287-0241
Noon mass, Friday, noon, CRDAMC Chapel
Confession, 30 minutes prior to weekend Masses or by appointment call 286-6749, Main Post Chapel
Religious Education, Tuesday, 9 a.m., Main Post Chapel
Knights of Columbus, 2nd Tuesday, 6:30 p.m., Main Post Chapel

PROTESTANT

A.L.E. (Anglican, Lutheran, Episcopalian), Sunday, 9 a.m., 33rd St. & Battalion Avenue Chapel
Grace Community Sunday School, Sunday, 9 a.m., 25th St. & Battalion Avenue Chapel
Religious Education, Sunday, 10:30 a.m., 25th St. & Battalion Avenue Chapel
Samoan Traditional, Sunday, noon, Bulldog St. & Battalion Avenue
Sojern Single Soldiers Ministry, Sunday, 5 p.m., 67th St and Support Avenue
Protestant Womens of the Chapel, Tuesday, 9 a.m., Main Post Chapel

GOSPEL CONGREGATION

Sunday School, Sunday, 9:45 a.m., Comanche Chapel
Gospel Service, Sunday, 11 a.m., Comanche Chapel
Youth Service, 3rd, 4th, 5th Sunday, Comanche Chapel
Bible Study, Wednesday, 7 p.m., Comanche Chapel
Gospel Sisterhood and Brotherhood Groups, 3rd Tuesday, 7 p.m., Comanche Chapel

TRADITIONS

Traditions Service, Sunday, 10 a.m., Bulldog St. & Battalion Avenue
Traditions Children's Church, Sunday, 10 a.m., Bulldog St. & Battalion Avenue
Choir practice, Thursday, 5:30 p.m., Bulldog St. & Battalion Avenue
Bible Study, Wednesday, 6 p.m., Bulldog St. & Battalion Avenue

CHAPEL NEXT

Contemporary Service, Sunday, 11 a.m., Main Post Chapel
Children's Church, Sunday, 11 a.m., Main Post Chapel

JEWISH

Shabbat Service, Friday, 7 p.m. and Saturday, 9:30 a.m., 19th Street Chapel

LATTER DAY SAINTS INSTITUTE

LDS Services, Sunday, 5 p.m., North Fort Hood Chapel

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OPEN CIRCLE

Classes, Wednesday, 7:30 p.m., Main Post Chapel
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BUDDHIST

Thursday, 11:30 a.m., 167th St and Support Avenue
Thursday, 6 p.m., 33rd Street & Battalion Ave

NORTH FORT HOOD

Protestant, Sunday, 9:30 a.m. (subject to change), North Fort Hood Chapel
Latter Day Saints, Sunday, 5 p.m., North Fort Hood Chapel

ADDITIONAL SERVICES/STUDY

Marriage 101, 1st Wednesday of month, 9 a.m., Family Life Chaplain Training Center
Children in the Middle, 2nd Wednesday of month, 9 a.m., Family Life Chaplain Training Center
Men of Honor, Monday, 11:30 a.m., Spiritual Fitness Center, 33rd Street & Battalion Avenue

Prayer Path, Tuesday, 11:45 a.m., Spiritual Fitness Center, 33rd Street & Battalion Avenue
Bible Study, Tuesday, noon, CRDAMC Chapel.
13th ESC Chapel Bible Study, Wednesday, 11:30 a.m., 67th St. and Support Avenue
Strum Away Stress, Wednesday noon, 3rd Street & Battalion Avenue
120 IN Men's Bible Study, Wednesday noon, 25th St. and Battalion
Perinatal Bereavement Group, 1st Wednesday, 3 p.m., CRDAMC
1 ABCT Interdenominational Worship Service, Wednesday noon, Bulldog and Battalion Avenue
MasterLife, Thursday noon, 33rd St. and Battalion Avenue
Community Connections (Christian Discipleship – Adult Studies, Navigators, Marriage Studies, MasterLife, Men of Honor, FPU and AWANA), Thursday, 5 p.m., Main Post Chapel
Mothers of Preschoolers (MOPS) and MOMSNext, 1st and 3rd Thursday, 9:30 a.m., Main Post Chapel



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Tuesday Bible Study	7:00PM
Wednesday Bible Study	6:00PM
Thursday Choir Practice	6:00PM
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NORAD's Santa Claus tracking program kicks off for 2018

COURTESY STORY
NORAD

PETERSON AIR FORCE BASE, Colo. – The North American Aerospace Defense Command is celebrating its 60th anniversary of defending the homeland along with its tradition of tracking Santa's journey around the globe on Dec. 24.

"In addition to our day-to-day mission of defending North America, we are proud to carry on the tradition of tracking Santa as he travels along his yuletide flight," said Gen. Terrence O'Shaughnessy, commander NORAD and U.S. Northern Command. "The same radars, satellites and interceptors employed on Dec. 24 are used year-round to protect Canada and the United States."

NORAD is a binational U.S. and Canadian Command charged with aerospace and maritime warning and aerospace control of North America as well as monitoring aerospace activity globally. However, every year during the holidays, NORAD assumes the supplementary mission of tracking Santa as he travels around the world. It all started in 1955 when a local ad directed children to call Santa direct – only the number was misdialed. Instead of reaching Santa, the phone rang through to the crew commander on duty at the Continental Air Defense Command Operations Center, the predecessor to NORAD.

Now, the 63rd iteration of NORAD Tracks Santa kicked off Saturday, with a revamped website, social media channels, "Santa Cam" streaming video and a call center that will be operating around the clock on Dec. 24. More than 1,400 volunteers are expected to join NORAD on Peterson Air Force Base in Colorado Springs to help track Santa's journey.

NORAD Tracks Santa is truly a global experience, delighting generations of Families everywhere. This is due, in large part, to the efforts and services of numerous program contributors.

This year's contributors include: the 21st Space Wing, Acuity Scheduling, Adobe, Alaska NORAD Region, Analytical Graphics, Inc., Aingo, Amazon Alexa, Avaya, Bing, Canadian NORAD Region, Canadian Forces Museum of Aerospace Defence, CenturyLink, Cesium, Cherry Hill Programs, The Citadel Mall, Civil Air Patrol, Christmas in the Park, Colorado Springs Chamber & Economic Development Corporation, Continental NORAD Region, CradlePoint, Defense Video & Imagery Distribution Systems, DoD News, DoD Education Activity, The Elf on the Shelf, Getty Images, Globelink Foreign Language Center, Hewlett Packard, Historic Arkansas Riverwalk of Pueblo, Kids.gov, Lockheed Martin, Marine Toys for Tots Foundation, Microsoft, Microsoft Azure, Naden Band of Maritime Forces Pacific, Newsline360, Office Depot, OnStar, Plantronics, Portable North Pole, Prefixa, Proactive, S4, SiriusXM, Space Foundation, Strategic Air Command & Aerospace Museum,



Courtesy photos

The holiday season has arrived. There's magic in the air and Santa's elves have come down from the North Pole to help NORAD Track Santa. Make sure to visit our website to find out what the elves are up to. And remember to track Santa with NORAD on Dec. 24.

U.S. Air Force Band, U.S. Air Force Academy Band, U.S. Department of State Family Liaison Office, U.S. Olympic Committee and Verizon.

The NORAD Tracks Santa website can be found at www.norad-santa.org. On Dec. 24, users may call or text 1-877-HiNORAD for Santa's up-to-date location.

The defense of Canada and the United States is NORAD's top priority. NORAD is on alert around the clock, every day. For 60 years, NORAD aircraft have identified and intercepted aircraft in the execution of NORAD's North American air sovereignty and air defense missions.

Because NORAD is a binational command, our responses do not distinguish between the two nations and draw on forces from both countries.

Additional NORAD Tracks Santa details:

Starting at 2:01 a.m. EST on Dec. 24, website visitors can watch Santa make preparations for his flight. NORAD's "Santa Cams" will stream videos on the website as Santa makes his way over various locations. Then, at 6 a.m. EST, trackers worldwide can speak with a live phone operator to inquire as to Santa's whereabouts by dialing the toll-free number 1-877-Hi-NORAD (1-877-446-6723). You can also text this number for automatic updates (standard data rates apply for non-Verizon customers); by sending an email to noradtrackssanta@outlook.com or by following the official NORAD Tracks Santa social media channels. Additionally, any time on Dec. 24, Amazon Alexa users can ask for Santa's location through the NORAD

Tracks Santa skill for Amazon Alexa, and OnStar members can push the blue OnStar button in their vehicles to locate Santa. Bing users can also find Santa's location on Dec. 24.

Featuring Santa's North Pole Village, the website includes a holiday countdown, games, activities, information regarding NORAD's mission of Homeland Defense, and more. The website is available in eight languages: English, French, Spanish, German, Italian, Japanese, Portuguese and Chinese. Tracking opportunities are also offered through social media on Facebook, Twitter, YouTube and Instagram.

Public signups to work in the NORAD Tracks Santa operations center and receive calls from children around the world are currently ongoing. Anyone interested in volunteering to take calls must be older than 15 years of age and be able to travel to Peterson Air Force Base in Colorado Springs, Colo. on Dec. 24. Interested individuals can sign up until Dec. 12 at: 2018SantaTrackerVolunteer.us.me.



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NOV. 15
A daughter, **Crimson Rose**, to Sam and Monique Elbert.

NOV. 18
A daughter, **Eliza Thien-Grace**, to Richard and Alicia Ngo.

NOV. 19
A son, **Harold Michael**, to John and Beth Halcomb, 1st Cav. Div.
A daughter, **Sofia Isabella**, to Roy and Evelyn Moreno, 1st Cav. Div.

NOV. 21
A son, **Carth Samuel**, to Seth and Ralesha Ritter, 1st Cav. Div.
A son, **Dylan Reed**, to Travis and Megan Stout.

NOV. 22
A son, **Christian Zane**, to Joel and Victoria Saldivar.
A daughter, **Morrigan Ravensong**, to Dawyne and Samantha Medici-Darrow.
A son, **Volco**, to Rojet and Corinna Umagat, 1st Cav. Div.
A daughter, **Andrea Marie**, to Cesar and Angelica Serrano.
A daughter **Nova Aniah**, to Carvon Davis and Dahae Choi.

NOV. 23
A son, **Baron Michael**, to Chase and Tiana Passig, 3rd Cav. Regt.
A daughter, **Ella Jungwon**, to Casey and Chaelin Williams, 62nd QM Bde.
A son, **Ethan Allen**, to David and Gisela Peterson.

NOV. 24
A daughter, **Anna Marie**, to Sean and Marissa Ellsworth, 1st Cav. Div.
A son, Alberto Emanuel, to Jonatan and Yecxi Campos, 1st Cav. Div.

NOV. 25
A son, **Chancellor Grey**, to Demetrius and Diamond Lewis, 11th Sig. Bde.
Daughters, **Makayla Jane and Madelynne Jo**, to Joshua and Erin Silverman.

NOV. 26
A daughter, **Zoey Ann**, to Thomas Beeman and Nina Shain, 1st Cav. Div.

NOV. 27
A son, **Arthur Harris**, to Jacob and Aimi Whittaker, 69th ADA Bde.

Collaboration, partnerships paving path for Military Health

MILITARY HEALTH SYSTEM COMMUNICATIONS OFFICE

Collaboration and partnership are paving the path forward for the Military Health System, explained two senior medical leaders, Nov. 28, during the 2018 meeting of AMSUS, the Society of Federal Health Professionals.

Army Maj. Gen. Ronald Place, director of the Defense Health Agency's National Capital Region Medical Directorate and the transitional Intermediate Management Organization, talked about the value of a market construct to support military treatment facilities under the DHA. This model calls for centralized functional capabilities at the DHA headquarters to ensure standardization and ensure efficiencies and intermediate management functions managed by market offices. Asking the audience to set aside their desire to take notes, he guided attendees through a series of illustrations and examples demonstrating how shared values can guide the transition designed to optimize the experience of care for providers, patients, and other stakeholders.

"Success for the markets will be that our key stakeholders value them as the absolute best, most valuable and efficient structures for peacetime and contingency operations," said Place. "The process needs to be an orchestration of partnerships, optimizing services and



Courtesy photo

Maj. Gen. Lee Payne, assistant director for combat support at the Defense Health Agency, speaks at the AMSUS 2018 DHA general session.

the experience of care within each of the markets, much like an orchestra plays together to provide an experience of music."

Capitalizing on the theme of partnership and collaboration, Air Force Maj. Gen. Lee Payne, DHA's assistant director for combat support, took the stage to describe the agency's plans to support the Department of Defense's combatant commands and to collaborate with the military services to improve support to combat operations.

Payne discussed the need for establishing partnerships to coordinate medical support

activities across the DHA in tandem with other support organizations to meet the needs of combatant commands, highlighting those that have already become part of the DHA organization, such as the Joint Trauma System and Armed Services Blood Program, among others.

Payne said DHA is in the process of assigning liaison officers to some combatant commands to enhance communication and collaboration, an opportunity he said DHA is committed to expanding to every combatant command.

"We consider ourselves the

engine for this partnership," said Payne. "Such capabilities were on display nationally and internationally during the aftermath of Hurricane Florence and Typhoon Mangkhut when combatant commands responded and partnered with the Federal Emergency Management Agency or the United States Transportation Command."

In the future, Payne suggested that the DHA will stand up such support teams that demonstrate excellence in collaboration.

The four-day conference continued through Nov. 30.

2018 Military Health changes

MILITARY HEALTH SYSTEM COMMUNICATIONS OFFICE

The Military Health System experienced significant changes during 2018, with the planning for and starting the transition of Phase One MTFs to the authority, direction and control of DHA. Congress called for changes in the Military Health System in the National Defense Authorization Acts for Fiscal Year 2017 and Fiscal Year 2019, which redefined the roles of the military medical departments and the Defense Health Agency, specifically with respect to administration of military hospitals and clinics.

The law requires the military departments to transition administration of military medical treatment facilities to the director of the DHA not later than Sept. 30, 2021. The DHA director has authority for the administration of each MTF, including budgetary matters, information technology, health care administration and management, administrative policy and procedures, military medical construction and any other matters the secretary of



Courtesy graphic

This December, we offer a look back at the highlights of 2018.

Defense determines appropriate.

The ultimate goal of this transition for the Department of Defense is a more integrated, efficient and effective Military Health System. The consolidation of MTF-based health care delivery in a single

agency will facilitate enhanced military and medical force readiness; improved patient experience; and reduced costs to the Department through unity of effort, standardization of medical care and integration of health care services.

New training mannequins help Soldiers save lives

BY BRYAN GATCHELL

FORT BENNING, Ga. — Personnel from the office of the Program Executive Officer for Simulation, Training and Instrumentation brought new, technologically advanced medical training mannequins to Fort Benning recently to increase the realism of medical trauma training and ultimately to save lives and limbs.

The mannequin, which is called a Tactical Combat Casualty Care Exportable (TC3X), can scream, breathe, bleed and move. It has arteries, has lungs and has a compartment for storing fake blood when the mannequin bleeds.

John Matthews, an assistant program manager for PEO STRI, specializes in training combat medics within the Army so they can use PEO STRI's medical training tech-

nology. He said the new mannequin can help recreate the stress they may face in the field.

"The realism of it creates that white-knuckle sensation and adrenalin for the Soldier," Matthews said. "So when this actually happens in real life, (the Soldier) doesn't faze or lock up. He's able to go through the motions, the training that he learned and save the Soldier's life or limb."

Previous medical trauma training mannequins would have moulage placed on it to show a bloody wound, a chemical burn or more. The Soldier would treat the mannequin, occasionally addressing the instructor, who watches the Soldier as they provide treatment, by narrating what steps they are taking to treat the wounded.

"In the case of a real injury, they would be talking to the patient — to



Photo by Patrick Albright, U.S. Army

Soldiers at Fort Benning, Georgia, train one another on using the Tactical Combat Casualty Care Exportable system, a medical trauma training mannequin. Personnel from the office of the Program Executive Officer for Simulation, Training and Instrumentation.

the Soldier," Matthews said. "This system, this mannequin, actually has a two-way radio built into the head to where the instructor's 50 yards away acting as the patient, saying

'My chest hurts! My chest hurts!' 'What happened to my leg? Save me! Where's my leg?'"

Not only does the TC3X simulate the pulmonary and respiratory

systems of a human being, but sensors on the mannequin provide data to the instructor or observer. The instructor or observer can then use that data to provide thorough feedback to the Soldier on their performance.

So far, PEO STRI has fielded the TC3X at five other locations. Their plan is to place 77 TC3X systems at 41 locations within the Army. Initially, Fort Benning is due to have three, but once they have TC3X systems at as many locations as possible, they will expand the number of systems at each location. Fort Benning is set to have 11 systems in total, according to Matthews.

"Fort Benning is particularly important to us because it's a basic training site," he said.

Matthews said that training the Soldiers initially will improve their lifesaving skills in the field.



Photos by Brandy Cruz, Sentinel News Editor

Hood children train like super heroes

ABOVE, Liam Dunn, 5, poses for a photo with Spider-Man, Saturday during the Marvel Super Hero Training event at the Clear Creek Exchange. **ABOVE LEFT,** Josephine Dutton, 6, does a “Hulk smash” activity, Saturday during the Clear Creek Exchange’s Marvel Super Hero Training. **LEFT,** Jonathan Edans helps his 1-year-old son Christopher with some “Spidey crawls.” Saturday during Marvel Super Hero Training at the Clear Creek Exchange. The annual super hero training event integrates super hero toys with fitness to encourage children to be active. Greg Boyer, marketing account manager with Marvel, said they bring the program to between 20-25 military installations annually. The program is divided into 30-minute sessions and allows children to train with Captain America’s shield, practice Spider-Man’s “Spidey crawl,” “Hulk smash” the floor with Incredible Hulk fists and even wield Thor’s mighty hammer. After their training, the children were given red super hero capes and an autograph from Spider-Man himself. They also had the opportunity to meet and pose for a photo with Spider-Man and were given a 20 percent in-store discount if they wanted to purchase Marvel super hero items. More than 100 children went through the 19 sessions on Saturday. “We love Fort Hood, because they always know how to put on a show for us,” Boyer said.

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ACROSS	DOWN
1 Like many announcers' private side comments	1 Earthy color
8 Glistening	2 Artist Kahlo
14 Give a cue to	3 Mist over
20 Sounded like a frog	4 — -jongg
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22 Worrier's cry	6 Plunk lead-in
23 Deeper level of longing?	7 Häagen-Dazs rival
25 Walk like a little 'un	8 Storied fireman Red
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28 "Uh-uh"	11 Camelot wife
30 Legal claim	12 Raggedy —
31 White water whereabouts	13 — opus
35 Give it a go	14 Road hazard
36 Place to bathe on the grass outside a house?	15 Sorority "P"
38 "Marvyl"	16 In a curious way
40 They cause actions	17 Word before circus or blitz
42 Really boring chairs, desks and tables?	18 More ashen
47 Two-grid vacuum tube	19 Latest thing
52 Cry to a matador	24 Singer John
53 Manning of the Giants	29 Be next to
54 Far-off	32 Small hotel
56 Of charged particles	33 Conquers
57 Extreme type	34 Writer
59 Lysol target	35 Bellow
61 What 1066 is famous as?	36 Connect with
64 Territory split in 1889	37 Match well
66 Pertaining to	39 Duo + one
68 Bad, to Jules	40 Tally a total
69 Viral malady	41 1982 Disney cyberfilm
70 "Allow me to provide a leavening agent, if nothing else?"	42 "— better believe it!"
76 Blvds. and avenues	
78 China's Long March leader	
79 Aquatic bird	
80 — Leone	
83 "Pray that I find some cool gross stuff!"	
88 Isle of Man man, e.g.	
90 Scout unit	
91 — pittance (hardly any)	
92 Garage job	
94 Atop, to bards	
96 Short snooze	
97 Bit of voice mail	
100 Hankerings to take pictures of small and distant objects?	
103 Places for milk products	
105 Bored feeling	
106 Measure of how much a ship swerves off course?	
110 2000-15 TV series	
112 Facet	
116 Horror film lab aide	
117 With 108-Down, deteriorate	
118 Pre-entree dishes	
121 Lanai wreath	
122 Join the club	
124 Chatter that's engaging?	
129 Entertainer Ungams	
130 Give kudos	
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132 Abides	
133 Breadwinner	
134 What vets provide	

PUZZLING-LY
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114 Romero of "Batman"
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128 Remote button abbr.

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#1,910 Average time of solution: 67 minutes



Courtesy photos by MakeAWish Foundation

Maj. Jeremy Caldwell, right, accepts the Lori Schultz-Betancourt Indomitable Spirit Award in October at the Make-A-Wish Foundation's annual conference in Phoenix. The Caldwell Family received the award after they raised more than \$42,000 in memory of their son, Bryce Caldwell, who received a wish trip to visit the Denver Broncos headquarters in 2017 before he died from a brain tumor called diffuse intrinsic pontine glioma, or DIPG.



Bryce Caldwell, the son of Maj. Jeremy Caldwell, enjoys his wish trip to the Denver Broncos headquarters in 2017. He died later that year from a brain tumor called diffuse intrinsic pontine glioma, or DIPG.

In son's honor, Army Family raises \$42,000

BY SEAN KIMMONS
Army News Service

MAXWELL AIR FORCE BASE, Ala. — While many children dislike being the middle child, Bryce Caldwell saw it as the best of both worlds.

He loved the attention of being younger and once he was thrust into the role of big brother, it sort of became his calling.

Right from when the Caldwell Family's third son was brought home from the hospital, Bryce adored and protected him.

"Bryce was always hovering over him, kissing him, hugging him," said Maj. Jeremy Caldwell, his father. "He was just so proud to be an older brother."

Almost a year ago on Dec. 14, 2017, Bryce, a 6-year-old boy who not only loved his brothers but also football, died from a brain tumor called diffuse intrinsic pontine glioma, or DIPG.

Earlier that summer, through the Make-A-Wish Foundation, Bryce visited Denver Broncos players and had the chance to play on a real football field with his brothers.

Although his life was short-lived,

Bryce's smile and personality often drew people to him.

"He would have this incredible light about him," Jeremy said in a phone interview. "He was so warm and caring even at such a young age."

Shortly after their son's death, Jeremy's wife, Suzy, found information on a 14-week hiking and fundraising challenge sponsored by the non-profit organization.

The culminating event was a 26.3-mile strenuous hike through the Talladega National Forest that is completed in one day.

With help from their friends, Will and Kate Searcy, the Caldwells were able to raise more than \$42,000 for the challenge — enough to grant five wishes from children with life-threatening illnesses.

For their efforts, the Caldwells were awarded the Lori Schultz-Betancourt Indomitable Spirit Award last month at the nonprof-



Bryce Caldwell, left, takes a photograph with Denver Broncos linebacker Von Miller during his wish trip to the Broncos headquarters in 2017. Bryce, the son of Maj. Jeremy Caldwell, died later that year from a brain tumor called diffuse intrinsic pontine glioma, or DIPG.

it's annual conference in Phoenix.

The Caldwells were left speechless when they found out they were considered for the award among the other nominees.

"We never expected when we went on this journey to get an award," Jeremy said.

They also never expected to raise so much.

Dealing with the frustration and grief of losing a child, the Caldwells thought the challenge would help channel those emotions into something positive.

"It was a good way to focus all of that energy," said Jeremy, who is currently a student at the Air Command and Staff College at Maxwell Air Force Base.

He has also deployed to Iraq twice to fly UH-60 Black Hawk helicopters.

Their initial goal was to raise \$2,500, the minimum pledge needed for one person to take part in the challenge.

But the outpouring of support they received from the local community and the military community across the world was much more.

"All I can say is that we are blessed we had so many good people behind us, lifting us up at such a difficult time in our lives," Jeremy said.

After seeing their son's joy dur-

ing his wish trip to the Denver Broncos headquarters in June 2017, Jeremy and Suzy just wanted other families to have the same opportunity.

The trip provided some welcome relief from all the weight put on their shoulders at a time when they constantly worried about medications, doctor appointments and MRI scans.

"You can just focus on your family and enjoy the moment and the happiness that you see in your kid's face," he said.

"That's the incredible, almost healing, factor of these wish trips and that was an inspirational part of why we kept pushing to raise the amount of money that we did."

The Caldwells have also raised nearly \$8,000 for another nonprofit that supports research to cure pediatric brain cancer like DIPG.

There are even plans to tackle the hiking challenge for a second time.

"I don't know if we'll get to the 40-something thousand dollars again, but maybe we'll just focus on getting to one wish," Jeremy said. "That's the initial goal and we'll see where it goes."

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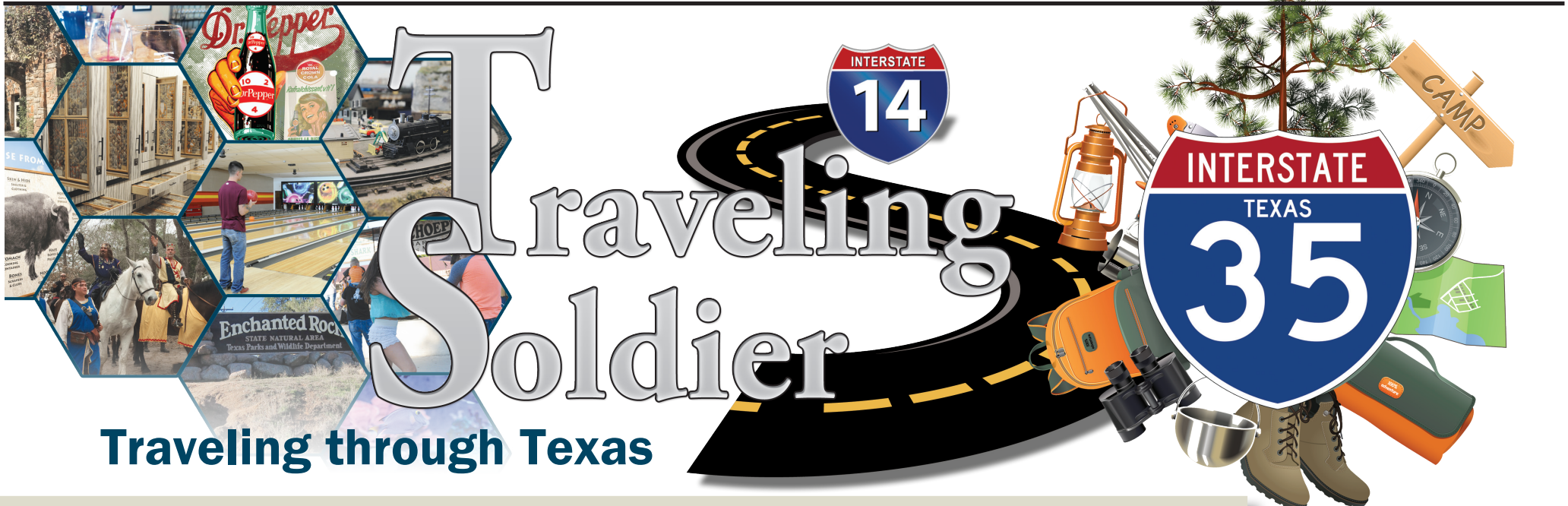
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Photos by Ariana-Jasmine Castrellon, Sentinel Living Editor

Participants show off their paintings following a Painting with a Twist class in Harker Heights. The painting class allows painters over the age of 21 to bring wine into the studio and drink, while the studio teaches them how to paint a pre-designated work of art.



Fun art, not fine art

Painting With a Twist

BY ARIANA-JASMINE CASTRELLON
Sentinel Living Editor

HARKER HEIGHTS — Learning how to paint is like learning how to ride a bike — in the beginning you have no idea what you are doing. Painting can be difficult, so having a glass of wine, or the whole bottle in some cases, can help take the edge off.

Painting with a Twist, located in Harker Heights, allows painters over the age of 21 to bring in their favorite alcoholic beverage (wine) into the studio and drink while painting a

pre-designated work of art. The studio does sell wine in case painters run out and they do provide cups, or painters can bring their own. Painting with a Twist has donated over four million dollars to non-profit organizations across the United States and was first established by two women named Cathy Deano and Renee Maloney. The types of painting classes available are: girls' night out, date night, bachelorette parties, coffee and canvas, private events, family, children's, team building, S.O.S. and standard.

The studio has set paintings and designated times for each class, so it is a good idea to buy tickets online ahead of time, instead of paying once you arrive. It is like buying movie tickets ahead of time, if you wait until you get there to pay, there may not be any available seats.

The studio can hold two class sessions at the same time and



Andrew Ciserano, Katelyn Tillet and Danielle Verderber proudly hold up their paintings after a Painting with a Twist class.

each class instructor will have a different painting to teach. When visitors go online, photos of the paintings being taught show up next to each of the available class times, so painters already know what they will be taught.

I bought two tickets ahead of

time, one for my boyfriend and one for myself. I have always wanted to learn how to create a landscape painting, so I bought two tickets for a class that provided that step by step experience — it was that, or a snowman. I should have picked the snowman. The paintings available correspond to the time of year — for example in December, most classes offered are holiday related paintings. I went into the class assuming that because the painting was being taught step by step, that I was going to walk out with a Picasso masterpiece and that is not at all what happened. I have not painted anything, other than the accent wall in my bedroom, in years, so trying to paint a landscape piece of art was difficult. The instructor even told us that we picked the most difficult piece to learn how to paint. The instructor created a fun environment and reminded us that we were painting for fun, and not necessarily.

to walk out with a fine art piece, but to walk out with a one of a kind art piece. I felt like a lot of other painters were in the same boat as I was, and it did not seem like anyone was a professional painter they were just there to relax, laugh and enjoy a stress-free art class. During the process I was not very confident that my painting would turn out very well, but by the end of it, all the steps came together and it really did look like a personal art piece that I was pretty proud of for my first-time painting in years. For hours of operation, class tickets, or more information, visit www.paintingwithatwist.com.



ABOVE, Danielle Verderber works on a painting during a recent class at Painting with a Twist in Harker Heights. RIGHT, A painting instructor leads a recent class on several painting techniques at Painting with a Twist in Harker Heights.



Sports & Leisure

Thursday, December 6, 2018

www.FortHoodSentinel.com

SECTION C

Game BreakersC3

Hood CalendarC4

Centex Calendar.....C5



Photo by Kelby Wingert, Sentinel Sports Editor



Photo by Master Sgt. David Long, U.S. Air Force

ABOVE, Staff Sgt. Altermese Kendrick draws her bow and takes aim at the target during the archery competition at the 2018 Invictus Games in Sydney, Australia. **LEFT,** Medals and mementos from Kendrick's adaptive sports competitions cover an entire cabinet in her office.

FINDING ACTIVE HEALING

Adaptive sports provide relief from 'dark place,' renew purpose

BY KELBY WINGERT
Sentinel Sports Editor

When Staff Sgt. Altermese Kendrick struggled to recover from surgery to repair an extensive labrum tear almost three years ago, she found herself in a dark place. The chaplain's assistant was passionate about physical fitness and dedicated much of her time to staying active, which in turn benefited her mental and spiritual well-being as well.

"Running was my prayer time, my God time, my strong time, my good time that helped everything else in my life," she said.

But when her hip failed to heal fully, causing back problems and severe pain, all that changed.

"No more running, no jumping, things like that that I used to do all the time," she said.

It was May 2016 and Kendrick was recovering at the Warrior Transition Brigade at Joint Base San Antonio – Fort Sam Houston when she found the light to illuminate the dark space she found herself in – adaptive sports.

"I didn't know anything about adaptive sports, but I used to be very active, physically," Kendrick explained. "I was introduced then to adaptive sports when I went to one of the camps that they had and they introduced us to all of the sports."

That introduction opened up a whole new world for Kendrick, who discovered a deep love of adaptive sports and began competing in competitions like the Department of Defense Warrior Games.

"I just really learned how to do

things differently – slow, calm, trying to still be strong," she said. "And adaptive sports showed me how to do that in a different kind of way."

Most recently, Kendrick, a chaplain's assistant now assigned to Fort Hood, competed in the 2018 Invictus Games in Sydney,

Australia, in October. The Invictus Games are an international adaptive sports competition for wounded, ill or injured service members and veterans from 18 allied nations. The United Kingdom's Prince Harry established the Invictus Games Foundation in 2014 after a trip to the U.S. for the 2013 Warrior Games.

At this year's Invictus Games, Kendrick competed in archery, powerlifting and rowing. The atmosphere at this international competition was much different than that at the DoD Warrior Games, she said. At the Warrior Games, while competing against other U.S. military branches, the competition itself is more aggressive, but at the Invictus Games – where each nation's team includes a mix of

military branches – the event is less about the competition and more about the camaraderie, Kendrick said.

"It was more about having fun and the togetherness than it was about competing and winning," she said. "It was a different

energy, it was a different kind of feel. It was beyond great. It felt like a deeper mending, a different level of healing."

Despite not placing in first, second or third in any of her events

See **Adaptive**, C2



Photo by Kelby Wingert, Sentinel Sports Editor

A paddle bearing the autographs of all of Team USA from the 2018 Invictus Games hangs on the wall in Staff Sgt. Altermese Kendrick's office.



Photos by Master Sgt. David Long, U.S. Air Force

ABOVE, Staff Sgt. Altermese Kendrick participates in the powerlifting competition at the 2018 Invictus Games in Sydney, Australia. **LEFT,** Staff Sgt. Altermese Kendrick waves to the crowd after completing her lift at the powerlifting competition at the 2018 Invictus Games in Sydney, Australia.

SPORTS BRIEFS

DEC. 7

Golf Scramble canceled

The quarterly Garrison Commander Golf Scramble at the Courses of Clear Creek, scheduled for Friday, has been canceled due to inclement weather.

For more information, call 287-4130.

Phantom Warriors game

The Fort Hood Phantom Warriors

varsity men's basketball team will host the North Lake Community College men's basketball team for a scrimmage at 6 p.m. Friday at Abrams Physical Fitness Center.

All Phantom Warriors games are free and open to all. For more information, visit www.facebook.com/FortHoodVarsityBasketball.

DEC. 8

UFC Fight Night

The Backbone NCO Lounge will host a UFC Fight Night watch party Saturday night.

Doors open at 7 p.m. and the event is open to ages 18 and up.

DEC. 15

Jingle Bell Dash

A Jingle Bell Dash 5K Walk/Run is set for 8 a.m. Dec. 15 at Abrams Physical Fitness Center.

For more information, visit www.hood.armymwr.com.

hood.armymwr.com.

ONGOING

Hood Stadium closed

Hood Stadium will be closed until March 29, 2019, for turf renovation.

Phantom Warrior Lanes hours

- Mondays: closed
- Tuesdays-Thursdays: 10:30 a.m.-10 p.m.
- Fridays-Saturdays: 10:30 a.m.-

midnight

- Sundays: noon-8 p.m.

YOGA CLASSES

Applied Functional Fitness Center

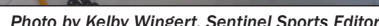
- Monday, Wednesday, Friday, 11:45 a.m.-12:45 p.m.
- Monday and Wednesday, 5:30-6:30 p.m.
- Beginner's yoga, Thursday, 11:45 a.m.-12:45 p.m.

Continued from C1

Kendrick's Team USA teammate Sebastiana Lopez finished first in the event and after seeing Kendrick sacrifice her chance for a bronze medal, Lopez presented her with her gold medal. The medal is now in a frame, displayed on a wall in Kendrick's office at the Fort Hood



ABOVE, Medals and mementos from Kendrick's adaptive sports competitions are displayed in her office. **RIGHT,** Staff Sgt. Altermese Kendrick prepares to draw her bow during the archery competition at the 2018 Invictus Games.



Staff Sgt. Altermese Kendrick, a chaplain's assistant at Fort Hood, competed in the 2018 Invictus Games in Sydney, Australia, in October. Kendrick's office is filled with medals and other mementos from her competitions.

Chaplain and Family Life Training Center. Out of all the medals she's won from the past two years of competitions, this one means the most to her.

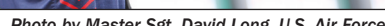
“What I really wanted from being a part of the games was to inspire other people as I left,” Kendrick said. To her teammate Lopez, that’s exactly what she did when she didn’t get upset about a situation that cost her a medal.

"I just didn't see it that way," Kendrick said. "I saw it as someone else – they really tried, they got that

medal and I was really happier for her than I was sad for myself."

Kendrick hopes to compete for a third and final time at the 2019 DoD Warrior Games next summer, and aims to secure a spot on Team USA for the next Invictus Games, which will be in 2020 in The Netherlands.

Adaptive sports will continue to



keep a large influence over Kendrick's life and she tries to spread the word far and wide.

"The most challenging part is I wish that more people knew about adaptive sports," she said. "I think that there's a shadow on it and I think we should remove it."

Being involved with adaptive sports promotes healing and rehabilitation not just for wounds of the body, but for wounds of the mind and spirit, as well.

"There is a dark place that a lot of people know about that exists," Kendrick said. "It's a real place and it lives, it's real energy, it's a real force that people fight all the time to not go back to that dark place. And I know other people I've trained with who say the same thing about that dark place and adaptive sports is just one of the tools. It's not every tool, but it's something that helps people. And it's not just the games – the games are great, they're awesome, but they're an event. It's not the everyday healing process, it's something we can look forward to."

In addition to healing, being active in adaptive sports teaches resiliency, she added.

"Resiliency is a state of being that is necessary," the chaplain's assistant said. "It's a learned state of being. Even though I couldn't do some of the things I used to do, I still wanted to be active. So in order to do that, I had to adapt."

Kendrick is passionate about encouraging others to give adaptive sports a chance, noting there are countless local and national programs that can help, including the Fort Hood Warrior Transition Unit, the Department of Veterans Affairs, Project Hero and more.

"We want the strongest people, we want the strongest military on the planet," she said, "but in order to do that, we have to keep people strong in their spirit and in their minds, and adaptive sports can help to do that."

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The Fort Hood Sentinel is the post newspaper for the Army base at Fort Hood, Texas, which was established in 1942 as Camp Hood. The digital newspaper collection starts in 1953, as no copies of the earlier editions have been located. The Fort Hood Sentinel describes the life and events happening at Fort Hood, including information from the Department of the Army on issues relevant to the Soldiers. Advertisements are included, giving an interesting perspective on life in a military settlement over the years.

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<http://texashistory.unt.edu/explore/collections/FTSENT/>





Photos by Kelby Wingert, Sentinel Sports Editor

ABOVE, Sgt. Justin Jordan catches an interception for the 89th MP Bde. "Black Knights" team. **RIGHT,** Spc. Sherman Farr runs a touchdown for the 89th MP Bde. "Black Knights" team during the game against the Diamond Tough Reapers from Fort Sill, Oklahoma.



Hood teams play in Game Breakers

BY KELBY WINGERT
Sentinel Sports Editor

FRISCO — Three teams of Fort Hood Soldiers traveled to Frisco over the weekend to compete in the Red Bull Game Breakers 7-on-7 football championship at The Star, the Dallas Cowboys' training complex.

Red Bull had previously hosted a qualifier tournament at Hood Stadium, which eight Fort Hood unit teams competed in. The top three — which were the 89th Military Police Brigade "Black Knights," 61st Multifunctional Medical Battalion and 3rd Battalion, 8th Cavalry Regiment — would advance to the championship tournament, Dec. 1.

The championship tournament was originally to be played at the Cotton Bowl Stadium, but was moved to The Star shortly before the start of the tournament.

The Game Breakers rules are quite a bit different than typical flag or two-hand-touch football. First, the playing field is much smaller — only 45 yards long. The rules also allow for points to be

scored both from offensive plays and defensive plays, including one point for every offensive first down.

The different style of play and

rules took "a lot of getting used to," Sgt. Justin Jordan, team captain and quarterback for the Black Knights, said.

"It's a lot different from flag

(football), because when the receivers are dropping the ball, I'd just run a few yards and pick up a first down," he said. "But seeing as the quarterback (in this game) is

immobile, if the receivers don't get open, I'm just forced to pass somewhere or out of bounds."

At the championship tournament, the three Fort Hood teams competed against other military teams from Fort Bliss and Fort Sill, Oklahoma. A collegiate tournament was also happening at the site.

All three Fort Hood teams were knocked into the losers bracket after their first or second game of the tourney. The Black Knights battled their way through the losers bracket, beating the other two Fort Hood teams in the process, to face the Diamond Tough Reapers from Fort Sill in the semifinal game.

The Reapers proved too much for the Black Knights, as the 89th MP Bde. team fell 36-13.

The Black Knights enjoyed the competition against the other installations, Jordan said, but he had some thoughts about how the event organizers could heat up the competition.

"I would love to see them mix it up and have the military play the college teams," he said.



Members of the 89th MP Bde. "Black Knights" team huddle during halftime of the semi-final game against the Diamond Tough Reapers from Fort Sill, Oklahoma, during Saturday's Red Bull Game Breakers 7-on-7 football championship at The Star in Frisco. The Black Knights fell to the Reapers 36-13.



Brandy N. Collins
BCBA, LBA, MSP
The Founder and Owner of Guiding Light Concepts, LLC

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FORT HOOD

calendar of events

Trees for Troops available Dec. 6-7

Soldiers can pick up free Christmas Trees from Trees for Troops beginning at noon today for E1-E4 and 8 a.m. for E5 and up Friday at Hood Stadium. Trees are first come, first served while supplies last. Military I.D. is required for active duty and spouse dependents. For more information, visit <https://hood.armymur.com>.

Sentinel file photo

DEC. 8

'Holiday Memories' concert
Williamson County Symphony Orchestra is performing "Holiday Memories" at 7:30 p.m. Saturday at Howze Auditorium. The free "Pops-type" concert will be filled with the music of the holiday season. Doors open at 6:30 p.m.
For more information, call 288-7835.

DEC. 14

Meet Dat Nguyen
Soldiers and their Families are invited to meet former Dallas Cowboy Dat Nguyen from 11 a.m.-1 p.m. Dec. 14 inside the Clear Creek Exchange. For more information, visit <https://bit.ly/2zj7ENP>.

DEC. 15

Jingle Bell Dash
Jingle Bell Dash 5K Run / Walk is set for 8 a.m. Dec. 15 at Abrams Physical Fitness Center.
The event is free and open to all. There will also be an ugly Christmas sweater contest.
Runners are encouraged to register online at <https://bit.ly/2TsboY>. On-site registration will also be available from 7-7:30 a.m. on race day.
For more information, call 285-5459.

THROUGH JAN. 6

Nature in Lights
Due to flooding, the normal route for Nature in Lights at the Belton Lake Outdoor Recreation Area is currently reduced, but efforts are ongoing to increase the number of displays as soon as conditions permit. Nature in Lights is something the entire Family can enjoy and is open nightly from 5:30-11 p.m., through Jan. 6.
For more information, visit www.hood.armymur.com or call the BLORA office at 287-2523.

JAN. 19

Saddle Night
BLORA is hosting rides through part of the Nature in Lights display on your horse at 6 p.m. and 8 p.m., Jan. 12 as part of Saddle Night. Personal horse and proof of coggins required. Enter the park at Liberty Hill Road. Cost is \$40.
For more information, call 936-346-0350.

JAN. 24

MLK Observance
A Martin Luther King Jr. Birthday Observance is set for 1:30-2:30 p.m. Jan. 24 at Phantom Warrior Center.
Rex Thomas, Fort Hood EEO Manager, will be the guest speaker.

ONGOING

Hood Stadium closure
Hood Stadium will be closed until March 29, 2019, for turf renovation.

SFAB recruiting

Security Force Assistance Brigade is looking for leaders, self-motivators and change makers to join their ranks. Soldiers in SFAB are combat advisors. 11B, 11C, 11Z, 35F, 68W, 92Y and other MOS's interested in volunteering to join SFAB should go to www.armyreenlistment.com/sfab.html.

FLEP applications due

The Office of the Judge Advocate General is now accepting applications for the Army's Funded Legal Education Program. Under this program, the Army projects sending up to 25 active duty commissioned officers to law school at government expense.
Selected officers will attend law school beginning the fall of 2019 and will remain on active duty while attending law school. Interested officers should review Army MILPER Message 18-081 and Chapter 10, Army Regulation 27-1 (The Judge Advocate General's Funded Legal Education Program) to determine their eligibility.
Applicants must send their request through command channels, to include the officer's branch manager at AHRC. Send the original application to the Office of the Judge Advocate General, ATTN: DAJA-PT (Yvonne Caron-Rm 2B517), 2200 Army Pentagon, Washington, D.C. 20310.
Submission of the application well in advance of the deadline is advised. Interested officers should contact the III Corps Office of the Staff Judge Advocate at 287-3421.
This program is open to commis-

sioned officers in the rank of second lieutenant through captain. Applicants must have at least two, but not more than six, years of total active federal service at the time legal training begins.
Eligibility is governed by statute (10 U.S.C. 2004) and is non-waiverable. Eligible officers interested in applying should immediately register for the earliest offering of the Law School Admission Test.

Alcoholics Anonymous

Alcoholics Anonymous meets from 11:45 a.m.-12:45 p.m. every Thursday at Black Jack Chapel (Bldg. 31001, 73rd Street and Battalion Avenue, across from Popeye's).
For more information, contact Tess Myers at maritess.a.myers.civ@mail.mil or call 553-9536.

Briefings

Special Operations Recruiting hosts weekly briefings at 11:45 a.m. at the Special Operations Recruiting Center, Bldg. 4336, 77th St. Topics are psychological operations on Tuesdays, civil affairs on Wednesdays and Special Forces on Thursdays.
For more information, call 288-5324 or visit goarmysof.com.

Tobacco cessation classes

Carl R. Darnall Army Medical Center's Health Promotion office offers Freedom from Tobacco cessation classes every Wednesday at 9 a.m.

Free vanpool to Fort Hood

Free vanpool rides are available from Georgetown and Round Rock to Fort Hood for military service members and Department of Defense civilians. The vanpool operates for those with a work schedule of 7 a.m.-3:30 p.m. For more information, call Tracee Franklin at tracee.m.franklin.civ@mail.mil or call 288-8957.

Textile Recycle Program

Garments may now be dropped off at the Fort Hood Recycle scrap yard. Accepted items include shirts, shoes, socks, pants, belts, hats, cotton towels and rags. Items should be relatively clean (no oily or heavily contaminated materials).
Donated items will be spot checked and rejected if contaminated or not clothing related. Items can be dropped off 7:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m. at Bldg. 4621, 72nd Street, near Railroad Drive. For more information, call 287-2336.

2018

SFL-TAP CALENDAR OF EVENTS

The Soldier for Life - Transition Assistance Program (TAP) Center is in the Copeland Soldier's Service Center, Bldg. 18010, in Room B308. The SFL-TAP Center is open Monday - Thursday, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., and Friday from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. You can obtain more information by calling the Admin Desk at (254) 288-5627 or 553-6363 with questions or to schedule an appointment. Appointment are required for most seminars & workshops.

Active service members are required to begin their transition (TAP) processing no later than 365 days prior to separation.

USEFUL WEB PAGES AND RESOURCES

Facebook: (daily job postings & announcements): www.facebook.com/FortHoodSFLTAP *Includes monthly 'TAP News' Newsletter
LinkedIn: (great site to build your network before separation): www.linkedin.com/groups/8349907
Twitter: <https://twitter.com/FortHoodSFLTAP>

WEEKLY 'CSP' BRIEFING

Caliber Collision—18 Week Training: Collision Repair that teaches all aspects of the trade except painting. Classes are tentatively scheduled to start every six weeks. Upon completion of the class, placement will be at a regional Caliber Collision center. INTERESTED? Attend the mandatory CSP Briefing EVERY Tuesday at 1330 in RM B110 in the Copeland Center.

HOW TO GET STARTED:

STEP ONE: Pre-Separation Briefing: Required by law for all separating military personnel prior to reaching 365 days of remaining service. Online briefing can be viewed at: www.sfl-tap.army.mil.
STEP TWO: Upon completion of Step One, Call the center's administrative staff at (254) 288-2227/5627 or (254) 553-6363 to schedule your mandatory **Initial Counseling Appointment. DO NOT SCHEDULE YOURSELF!**
Initial Counseling appointments are located at the Copeland Soldier Service Center, Building 18010. During this appointment, your counselor will schedule you for the 5 day workshop.

MOVIE GUIDE

EXCHANGE

ADMIT ONE

FRIDAY/DEC. 7

Nobody's Fool, R, 7 p.m., (3*)

SATURDAY/DEC. 8

The Grinch, PG, 1 p.m., (3*)
Ralph Breaks the Internet, PG, 4 p.m., (3*)
Overlord, R, 7 p.m., (3*)

SUNDAY/DEC. 9

The Grinch, PG, 1 p.m., (3*)
Nobody's Fool, R, 4:30 p.m., (3*)

FRIDAY/DEC. 14

Fantastic Beasts: The Crimes of Grindelwald, PG-13, 7 p.m., (3*)

SATURDAY/DEC. 15

The Grinch, PG, 1 p.m., (3*)
Instant Family, PG-13, 4

p.m., (3*)
The Girl in the Spider's Web, R, 7 p.m., (3*)

SUNDAY/DEC. 16

Fantastic Beasts: The Crimes of Grindelwald, PG-13, 1 p.m., (3*)

* Palmer Theater opens 30 minutes before first showing.

ADMISSION

ADMISSION		3*	2*	1*
Adult	2D	\$6.00	\$5.00	\$3.00
	3D	\$8.00	\$7.00	\$5.00
Child (6-11)	2D	\$3.00	\$2.50	\$2.50
	3D	\$5.00	\$4.50	\$4.50

Children under 5 are admitted free
Palmer Theater is located in Bldg. 334 at the corner of 31st Street and 761st Tank Battalion Ave.
For a recording of all upcoming features, call 287-3851

**Dec. 6****The Weeks**

The Weeks will perform at 7 p.m. Dec. 6 at Antone's in Austin.

Dec. 8**Kaleider**

Kaleider will perform at 9 p.m. Dec. 8 at Stubb's Waller Creek Amphitheater in Austin.

Dec. 11**Magic Sword**

Magic Sword will perform at 8 p.m. Dec. 11 at Stubb's Waller Creek Amphitheater in Austin.

Dec. 27**Cotton Mather**

Cotton Mather will perform at 8 p.m. Dec. 27 at Stubb's Waller Creek Amphitheater in Austin.

Dec. 28**Charlie Belle**

Charlie Belle will perform at 9 p.m. Dec. 28 Stubb's Waller Creek Amphitheater in Austin.

Dec. 29**The Revolution**

The Revolution will perform at 8 p.m. Dec. 29 at Emo's in Austin.

Dec. 30**Kinky Friedman**

Kinky Friedman will perform at 8 p.m. Dec. 30 at Stubb's Waller Creek Amphitheater in Austin.

Dec. 31**Lettuce**

Lettuce will perform at 8 p.m. Dec. 31 at Emo's in Austin.

Jan. 4**Pink Floyd Laser Spectacular**

Pink Floyd Laser Spectacular is set for 8 p.m. Jan. 4 at Emo's in Austin.

Jan. 12**Jesse McCartney**

Jesse McCartney will perform at 8 p.m. Jan. 12 at Scoot Inn in Austin.

Jan. 17**12th Planet**

12th Planet will perform at 7 p.m. Jan. 17 at Empire Garage in Austin.

Jan. 18**Zack Morgan & Friends**

Zack Morgan & Friends will perform at 10:30 p.m. Jan. 18 at Stubb's Waller Creek Amphitheater in Austin.

Feb. 7**Ward Davis**

Ward Davis will perform at 8 p.m. Feb. 7 at Stubb's Waller Creek Amphitheater in Austin.

Feb. 8**Soccer Mommy**

Soccer Mommy will perform at 8 p.m. Feb. 8 at Mohawk in Austin.

Feb. 12**Aaron Carter**

Aaron Carter will perform at 8 p.m. Feb. 12 Stubb's Waller Creek Amphitheater in Austin.

Feb. 22**Muse**

Muse will perform at 6:30 p.m. Feb. 22 at Toyota Center in Houston.

Feb. 27**Dropkick Murphys**

Dropkick Murphys will perform at 5:30 p.m. Feb. 27 Stubb's Waller Creek Amphitheater in Austin.

For more information, visit

www.ticketmaster.com

www.uterwincenter.com

www.acl-live.com.



Armado Christmas Bazaar starts Dec. 13

Courtesy photo

The Armado Christmas Bazaar is a fun, authentic Austin experience. For 11 days leading to up to Christmas, visitors can shop national and local art, handmade gifts, stock-

ing stuffers and more while enjoying live music from the Armado stage and sips from a full bar. This annual tradition and cultural icon is one of Austin's longest running art and

music festivals and runs from 11 a.m.-10 p.m. Dec. 13-24 at the Palmer Events Center in Austin. For more information, visit armadillobazaar.com.

WHAT'S GOING ON

across Central Texas

WACO, TEMPLE, AUSTIN



The Central Texas Food Bank and Central Texas Veterans Administration Health System host monthly food pantry distribution days for Central Texas veterans at three VA locations to serve veterans in the community and improve food security. Free, healthy food, including fresh fruit and vegetables when in season, is available for veterans in need.

The Doris Miller VA Medical Center hosts its food distribution day on the first Wednesday of each month from 9-11 a.m. The location is the center's Building 6 on 4800 Memorial Dr. in Waco.

The Austin VA Outpatient Clinic, located at 7901 Metropolis Dr. in Austin, hosts its distribution day on the fourth Tuesday of each month from 9-11 a.m.

The Olin E. Teague Veterans' Medical Center, located at 1901 South 1st St. in Temple, hosts its distribution day on the fourth Thursday of each month from 9-11 a.m.

Veterans should bring bags or boxes to carry home groceries.

For more information about the Food Pantry Truck visits, call 743-1394 or 1-800-423-2111, Ext. 41394.

KILLEEN

Mayborn Science Theater reopens

The Mayborn Science Theater, located on the campus of Central Texas College, has reopened after undergoing a major renovation to upgrade its show capabilities and offerings. For more information, visit www.starsatnight.org.

Elite Toastmasters

Elite Toastmasters invites residents to attend its monthly meeting tomorrow. Elite Toastmasters will host Central Texas Speakers' Bureau as members audition. Elite Toastmasters meets each fourth Thursday of the month, except on holidays, from 6-8 p.m. The event is free to the public. Location will be determined at a later date.

For more information about this club, or event email Shirley Mobley at tmd55shirley@gmail.com.

Pioneer Farmers Market

Pioneer Farmers Market offers high-quality, locally grown produce, farm-fresh eggs, local raw honey, homemade jams and jellies, baked goods, handmade crafts and jewelry. New vendors are always encouraged to join as space permits. The market is in front of Tractor Supply Company in Killeen, behind McAlister's, near Hobby Lobby. It is open from 9 a.m.-2 p.m. every Saturday (weather permitting). To see what will be for sale at the market or for more information, visit www.on.fb.me/1P9D6l7.

Volunteer drivers needed

The Central Texas Veterans Health Care System is seeking volunteer van drivers interested in transporting veterans in the Killeen area to and from their scheduled appointments at the Olin E. Teague Veterans' Medical Center in Temple.

Transportation for veterans from outlying areas, such as Killeen, is provided through a van fleet donated in collaboration with area disabled Ameri-

can veterans organizations and its members.

Volunteers must meet qualifications for drivers, such as a valid driver's license, proof of current insurance, a safe driving record and a background check. Applicants must also pass a physical examination. Volunteers are eligible for meals, flu shots and an extensive volunteer recognition program.

If interested, call the Voluntary Service Office in Temple at 743-0515, or 743-0740.

HARKER HEIGHTS

Frost Fest

Harker Heights is hosting its 15th annual Frost Fest from 5:30-8:30 p.m. Dec. 14. Festivities include free hot chocolate and cookies, a wreath decorating contest, Santa, Holiday Farmers Market and more. Frost Fest is held within the Market Heights Shopping Center, providing shopping opportunities and partnerships with local businesses.

- **Holiday Farmer's Market:** Check out our vendors at this year's Holiday Farmers Market at Frost Fest. The Holiday Farmers Market provides free opportunities for farmers, value added foods, hand crafted items, hot and ready to serve foods, cottage food vendors and student organizations to sell their hand made products.

- **Wreath Decorating Contest:** Try your luck at competing in our Wreath Decorating Contest at Frost Fest. Prizes are awarded to 1st, 2nd and 3rd place. All entries must incorporate this year's theme: "Texas Christmas, Ya'll."

For more information, email nbroemer@ci.harker-heights.tx.us, call 254-953- 5465 or visit <https://bit.ly/1rGVQuT>.

Frosted Mug Run

A Frosted Mug Run 5K is set for 8:30 a.m.-noon Dec. 8 at Harker Heights Community Park. Cost is \$30.

Registration includes: Race, T-shirt, mug and one craft beer at the finish line.

(Root beer will be offered as a substitute beverage for those that do not drink beer or for runners under the age 21). This is a timed race and awards will be given out .

A free Kids Fun Run is also planned for children 12 and under.

For more information or to register, visit <https://bit.ly/2zJaf11>.

BELTON

Market Days

Market Days offers shoppers a chance to buy, sell and trade in downtown Belton. The event is 8 a.m.-5 p.m. every third Saturday of each month in historic downtown Belton on Central Avenue. Entertainment and food will also be provided.

TEMPLE

Invention & Discovery Family Day

The Temple Railroad and Heritage Museum hosts a free Family day event from 11 a.m.-1 p.m. on the first Saturday of each month. Attendance to the event is free and open to the public.

Regular admission charges apply to view the rest of the museum. The museum is located in the Santa Fe Depot at 315 W. Ave. B in downtown Temple. The museum is open 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Tuesday through Saturday. For more information, call 298-5172.

WACO

'Titanic: The Artifact Exhibition'

In the early hours of April 15, 1912, a vessel weighing more than 52,000 tons called the RMS Titanic collided with an iceberg on its maiden voyage from Southampton to New York City. Carrying an estimated 2,224 passengers, a mere 706 survived. Now, nearly 106 years later, experience one of the most tragic yet inspiring moments in modern history.

Baylor University's Mayborn Museum is hosting its first blockbuster exhibit in "Titanic: The

Artifact Exhibition." Entrance to the exhibit is like returning to 1912 and patrons will receive a replica boarding pass of an actual passenger aboard the Titanic.

Patrons will begin a chronological journey through the life of Titanic, moving through the ship's construction, life on board, the ill-fated sinking and amazing artifact rescue efforts. Patrons will marvel at the re-created interior of the ship and will be able to press their palms against an iceberg while learning of countless stories of heroism and humanity. The exhibit will continue until Jan. 6, 2019. Ticket prices for members are \$6, while non-members are \$19 for adults, \$13 for children ages 2-12 and \$16 for seniors. For more information, visit <http://www.baylor.edu/mayborn>.

Farmers market

Waco's downtown farmers market is open from 9 a.m.-1 p.m. every Saturday at 400 N. University Parks Dr. The market features local agricultural producers and artisan vendors from within 150 miles of Waco. Enjoy food, crafts, live music and more in downtown Waco. For more information, visit www.wacodowntownfarmersmarket.com.

Cameron Park Zoo

Cameron Park Zoo has many events planned over the next few weeks. Some of these events are:

- **Cameron Park Zoo Members Activities — Dec. 14:** Join us at the Pavilion from 3-5 p.m. for special activities just for members. Santa will be at the Pavilion for photos and a train will be making rounds around a portion of the Zoo (pickup and drop off at the Pavilion). Stick around and enjoy The Polar Express for free that evening.

- **Zoovie Night: The Polar Express — Dec. 14:** Join us for the final movie in our movie series on Dec. 14. We will end the movie series with the Family favorite The Polar Express. Our members only event will take place from 3 p.m.-5 p.m. at the Pavilion and members may attend the movie at no charge valid membership card and ID will be required for admission). Admission for this movie will be \$5 for non-members and free for Cameron Park Zoo members. We will open the gates at 5:15 p.m. for guests to get their spot picked out for the movie and the movie will begin at dark. We will be serving hot beverages at our concession stand. Concessions will be available for purchase. No outside food or drinks are allowed.

Since it will be dark throughout this event, no animals will be on exhibit.

- **Cameron Park Zoo Members Day: — Dec. 15:** Join us at the Pavilion from 9-11 a.m. for special activities just for our members! Santa will be at the Pavilion for photos and a train will be making rounds around a portion of the Zoo.

For more information, call 750-8400, or visit <http://www.cameronparkzoo.com/specialevents/upcoming-events>.

AUSTIN

Blue Genie Art Bazaar

The Blue Genie Art Bazaar is a unique holiday art show held in Austin. Open for more than 15 years, the free Bazaar features handmade artwork and gifts from more than 200 local and regional artists – with a portion of proceeds going to the Make-A-Wish Foundation. The show runs through Dec. 24 at 6100 Airport Blvd. in Austin. Hours are 10 a.m.-10 p.m. daily and 10 a.m.-6 p.m. on Dec. 24. For more information, visit www.bluegenieartbazaar.com.

54th Annual Trail of Lights

Austin's Trail of Lights is the city's largest holiday tradition and second largest event in the city. Run by the Trail of Lights Foundation, the annual event in Zilker Park celebrates the unique spirit and people of Austin The park is open from 7-10 p.m. from Dec. 10-31.

For more information, visit austintrailoflights.org.



All real estate advertised in this newspaper is subject to the Federal Fair Housing Act of 1968, which makes it illegal to advertise any preference, limitation or discrimination based on color, race, religion, or national origin, or, an intention to make such preference, limitation or discrimination. The Fort Hood SENTINEL will not knowingly accept any advertisement for real estate which is in violation of the law. Our readers are hereby informed that all dwellings advertised in this newspaper are available on an equal opportunity basis.

MISCELLANEOUS

[illegible]

GARAGE SALE: DISABLED AMERICAN VETERANS YARD SALE. December 7th, 8th, & 9th. 8 AM to 4 PM. 4601 East Ave H Nolanville, TX 76559. All proceeds will go to pay funeral costs of a recently deceased veteran.

For more news, go to www.forthoodsentinel.com

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