



U.S. Army Garrison Fort Hunter Liggett

THE GOLDEN GUIDON

January 2019



Veterans Transition Center
of Monterey County

The Fort Hunter Liggett community donated more than 800 pounds of food to the Veterans Transition Center in December!

The VTC provides vital services and temporary housing for Veterans in Central California. Find out more about their mission and how you can help: <http://www.vtcmonterey.org>. FHL Deputy Commander Lt. Col. Jason McKenzie is pictured with the VTC Deputy Director Jack Murphy (center), along with 1st Lt. Wanda Carr (far right), Sgt. 1st Class Thomas Ninkovich (far left) and VTC staff.

COMMANDER'S KEY HIGHLIGHTS

WELCOME BACK & HERE'S TO A GREAT 2019! Hope you all had a good holiday season with family and friends, and took some time off to recharge. We're starting the new year with several inspections from IMCOM so please ensure your sections are dress-right-dress.

NEW CSM. Our new command sergeant major - Command Sgt. Major Mark S. Fluckiger, is joining us this month and his official Assumption of Responsibility Ceremony is on February 22 at 9am, Track & Field.

COLD STEEL IS BACK. This year's exercise is scaled-down with fewer Army Reserve units qualifying at our ranges, but it is still critical that we provide the best support we can to the Soldiers. FHL exists solely to support mission readiness of all the branches of the military. Let's show them how capable we are to get them to unit readiness.

JANUARY OBSERVANCES. We're celebrating **FHL's 78 years** supporting troops. This would not be possible without everyone's teamwork and dedication to the mission. Thank you!

We're also observing **Martin Luther King, Jr. Day** with a creative writing contest. Theme: African American Struggles throughout U.S. History. Contest is open to military and their dependents, the FHL workforce and tenants. Please call (831) 386-3587 for more info.

**FHL celebrates
78 years
supporting troops
and has
a new motto:**

***Coyote Strong,
Army Strong!***



Winning motto submitted by
Chaplain Levi Marshall

U.S. Army Garrison Fort Hunter Liggett





READINESS

Operation Cold Steel,

hosted by the 79th Theater Sustainment Command, takes place in January-February this year, and is the U.S. Army Reserve's crew-served weapons qualification and

validation exercise to ensure America's Army Reserve units and Soldiers are trained and ready to deploy on short-notice as part of Ready Force X. Ready Force X units provides the Army and our joint partners combat-ready and lethal firepower in support of operations anywhere in the world.

Fort Hunter Liggett proudly provides firing ranges and other training support as the Army Reserve's largest Army Reserve installation in the country.



(U.S. Army Reserve photo by Capt. Eric Connor; 311th Expeditionary Sustainment Command)

(Photo by Amy Phillips, Public Affairs)



1st Sergeant Aaron Halter

assumed responsibility as the first-ever garrison HHC 1st Sergeant on December 17, 2018 with family and the FHL community in observance. His previous assignment was with the 301st Maneuver Enhancement Brigade at Joint Base Lewis-McChord, Washington. Halter is a California native and has 16 years of military service. He is a Chemical, Biological, Radiological, and Nuclear Specialist (74D) and served in the Active Component prior to transitioning to the Army Reserve in 2005. He holds a Masters of Science in Psychology and a Bachelors of Arts in Human Resource Management.



SHARP Coordinator, Tamara Streeter, conducted the annual sexual assault prevention training for Fort Hunter Liggett and Parks Reserve Forces Training Area staff in December 2018. The scenario-based training allows for group interaction and critical thinking as they work through issues presented and develop a course of action. The scenarios focus on the individual, not as a perpetrator or even potential victim, but as a person with a role in shaping the environment we want to live and work in. It focuses on the concept of "What would you do?" and solutions at the lowest level with non-confrontational interventions. By practicing these bystander techniques, we can create our own best outcomes.

The next SHARP "What Would You Do?" facilitated event will be held at PRFTA on February 20th, and at FHL on March 13th. Contact Ms. Streeter at (925) 875-4370 or tamera.l.streeter.civ@mail.mil.



(Photo by Amy Phillips, Public Affairs)

Learn how you play an important role in sexual assault prevention and resources available to you here: <http://www.sexualassault.army.mil/>.





COMMUNITY EVENTS



FHL 78th Anniversary Commander's New Year Greeting Sponsor Appreciation



The garrison commander kicked off the new year with an event to celebrate the garrison's 78 years in supporting troops. Col. Norman also thanked long-time sponsors for their support and presented (L-R) USAA, IHG, Keefers Inn, Soledad Police Department, and the VFW Post 6747 Auxiliary with certificates of appreciation. Their continued support enables the garrison to provide programs and events for Soldiers, Families and DoD Civilians. Soledad PD donated toys to all military dependents present. Picture is Soledad Deputy Police Chief Damon Wasson presenting a child with a bicycle. (Photos by Bryan Lee, FMWR)

December 2018 Holiday Festivities



(Left photos) FHL participated in the King City and Paso Robles (pictured) Christmas parades in December 2018 and won first place ribbons at both events thanks to all the hard work of Soldiers from FHL. (Photo by Amy Phillips, Public Affairs) The Resource Management Office won first prize for the door decorations contest with an entry consisting of a Monopoly board with various garrison directorates as properties. (Photo by Bryan Lee, FMWR)

(Right photos) The annual Breakfast with Santa hosted by FMWR was well attended with gifts for children donated by community organizations. Ugly sweater final contestants with Col. Kerry Norman at the December 2018 Employee Town Hall. Scott Henderson with DPTMS (far left) won with the ugliest sweater of all. (Photos by Bryan Lee, FMWR)





FEATURE



Mercy Air Stands By

Photo and story
by Cindy McIntyre,
Public Affairs

As part of their professional development, the FHL Fellows group received an aerial tour of the garrison in a Mercy Air Bell 412 helicopter, Oct. 25, 2018.

When a Soldier or Civilian has a medical emergency and needs to be airlifted, Mercy Air is ready. But don't expect to see prone patients on litters strapped to the outside of the helicopter as was done in the TV show *M*A*S*H*.

"They pioneered air evacuation like that in the Korean War," said flight paramedic Luke Wayman. "We don't do it like that anymore."

Those Korean War era Bell H-13 Sioux helicopters have been replaced by choppers that carry the patients inside where medical personnel can perform lifesaving procedures.

Maintaining a 24-hour presence with four shifts of personnel and pilots, the Fort Hunter Liggett medevac capability is backed by two helicopters. The Bell 412 can carry several patients, as long as the weight does not exceed 1,000 pounds.

"We can do anything in that helicopter that can be done in an ICU or trauma center," said Wayman. They are also able to fly at night using night-vision goggles in the Bell 412.

Wayman works with Janis Liles, flight nurse, and a pilot during their shift. While the pilots have 12-hour long shifts, the nurses and paramedics do one 48-hour shift per week, living in a modular building just off the helipad while they are here. Wayman lives in Lake Tahoe, a six-hour drive from Fort Hunter Liggett, and Liles lives four hours away in Folsom.

If the main helicopter isn't available, they will use the BK 117 (Lakota) which can handle two patients. "We have the same equipment in both," said Wayman, "except for a few sensitive instruments."

"We can switch helicopters in less

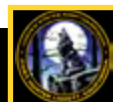
than 10 minutes," said Liles.

During busy training periods they might make up to four medevac flights a day. Many calls are for heat-related problems.

To get in the required flight time to maintain certification, the pilots fly several times a week over the hilly oak savannah and training areas that turn emerald in the winter rainy season, but are a beige-gold most of the year.

Wayman said both helicopters have stringent maintenance schedules and safety checks, and at a certain point they are completely disassembled and examined. "They look for micro-fractures and other issues," said Wayman. Then they build it back again.

Wayman stressed, "We want to make sure we uphold the promise we made to the base to take care of the troops here."





FEATURE



Made by Annelle Smith, QRP, with corks from wine bottles. (Photo by Annelle Smith)



Made by Pam Duke, FMWR, with a wooden pallet. (Photo by Pam Duke)

By Annelle N. Smith,
Qualified Recycling Program Manager

While the main reasons for recycling is that it is great for the environment, and supports the garrison recycling program and many garrison events for the FHL community, there are many other great reasons too:

- It reduces global warming and prevents unnecessary greenhouse gases reaching the atmosphere.
- Recycling reduces energy use.
- Up-cycling / down-cycling is good for environment and wildlife. Discarded plastic products have a great negative impact on wildlife.
- Reusing materials for new purposes can save considerable amount of money.
- People become environmentally aware and demand for recycled products increases.
- Crafting with recyclables can be an extremely enjoyable way to spend some time, on your own or with family.

Unfortunately, many people have lost sight of the traditional “make and make do” philosophy and modern life is fast-paced and everything is disposable. However, there are benefits in slowing down and thinking of ways to reuse common household items! Being creative and crafting with recyclables is good for the environment, saves money, and can form a basis of an enjoyable and engaging hobby!

If you are looking to make something useful out of something recycled, you may be surprised by just how many items you can reuse creatively. A simple plastic bottle could be turned into a garden sprinkler, a bird feeder or plastic flower ornaments! So never assume that the only possible destination for all those items is in the trash. There are many creative ideas you could find on the internet such as Pinterest. Tap into that creative psyche and have fun!

Contact me for more information:
831-386-2400 or annelle.n.smith.naf@mail.mil.



Made by Master Sgt. Juanito Bautista, 91st Training Division, from a wooden cable spool. (Photo by Medie Bautista)





SOLDIER & EMPLOYEE BULLETIN

• **TSP DEFERRAL RATE LIMIT IS \$19,000 FOR 2019.** Are you maximizing your TSP benefit to contribute to your retirement plan? Visit the TSP website to learn how: <https://www.tsp.gov/whatsnew/Content/currentLimitsAndRates.html>

• **CHANGES TO UCMJ.** The Military Justice Act of 2016 (MJA16) goes into effect on 1 January 2019. The Army has prepared for these changes through comprehensive training of commanders, legal professionals, and law enforcement personnel over the past 18 months. Some of the many significant changes include a new (shorter) version of special court martial, the prohibited activities with military recruit or trainee by person in position of special trust, fraudulent use of credit cards and other access devices, offenses concerning government computers, and broadens protections to victims of all crimes.



Have you checked out our new website yet? We can always use extra eyes to make sure the info is correct and links are working: <https://home.army.mil/liggett/>. Contact the Public Affairs Office if you see something that needs to be corrected: 831-386-2530.



This gets the attention of the garrison leadership!

Place your directorate's ICE link in your signature block and encourage customers to provide feedback.

Customer feedback helps us understand what works and what doesn't, and how the garrison performs. Here is the homepage for Fort Hunter Liggett which includes tabs for all services: https://ice.disa.mil/index.cfm?fa=site&site_id=442&dep=DoD

Garrison POC: Joel Pean, 831-386-2202



Housing Manager Laura Belton received the 2018 Real Estate Award for Excellence from CEL & Associates in recognition for providing high quality service to FHL residents. CEL & Assoc. is the Army Contractor to perform Resident Survey. Belton has been the housing manager since 2004 and hails from Salinas. (Photo by Amy Phillips, Public Affairs)



Clinton Tolle was promoted from FHL Training Chief to FHL Deputy Fire Chief at the FHL fire station, Dec. 20, 2018. He was given his new badge by Garrison Commander Col. Kerry Norman. (Photo by Cindy McIntyre, Public Affairs)

Col. Kerry E. Norman,
Garrison Commander

Amy Phillips, Public Affairs Officer/Editor
Cindy McIntyre, Public Affairs Specialist

The Golden Guidon is an authorized monthly publication for the U.S. Army Garrison Fort Hunter Liggett community. Content in this publication is not necessarily the official views of, or endorsed by, the U.S. Government, the Dept. of the Army, or Fort Hunter Liggett. Submit feedback, story ideas and other information of community interest to the editor at: amy.phillips.civ@mail.mil or call 831-386-2690.

