



September 13, 2019  
Vol. 12, No. 17

# The Real McCoy®

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

## Hundreds attend 2019 RAD at McCoy

Nearly 600 military retirees and family members attended the 2019 Retiree Appreciation Day (RAD) on Sept. 6 at Fort McCoy.

The annual event is coordinated by the Fort McCoy Soldier For Life-Retirement Services Office (SFL-RSO) of the Directorate of Human Resources.

"This year's event went very well with many attendees," said Fort McCoy Retirement Services Officer Mitzi Hinton. "Retiree Appreciation Day is an important event where they can get updates on the resources, entitlements, and benefits they have."

RAD included a full day filled with a variety of activities. Garrison Commander Col. Hui Chae Kim (See RAD, Page 4)



Photo by Master Sgt. Michel Sauret/U.S. Army Reserve Command

## Luckey visits Global Medic

Lt. Gen. Charles D. Luckey, commanding general of the U.S. Army Reserve Command, talks to joint and internationally allied troops who are training together Aug. 14 during the Global Medic exercise at Fort McCoy. Global Medic is a strategic joint and multinational exercise that incorporates more than 2,000 troops. See more about Global Medic, Patriot Warrior, and other exercises in special insert of this edition.



Photo by Scott T. Sturkol

(From left) Sgt. 1st Class Justin McCarthy with the 108th Training Command at Charlotte, N.C.; Sgt. 1st Class Eric Juhl with Bravo Company, 3rd Battalion, 415th Infantry Regiment of Helena, Mont.; Sgt. Roger Williams with Charlie Company, 3rd Battalion, 1st Brigade, 334th Regiment, 95th Training Division in Milwaukee; and Sgt. Daniel McElroy with 3rd Battalion, 1st Brigade, 320th Regiment, 95th Training Division at Fort Belvoir, Va., are shown Aug. 21 at Fort McCoy. All four Soldiers plus another Soldier not pictured provided aid to a car accident in Sparta, Wis., on Aug. 15.

## Right place, right time Soldiers deliver heroic response to accident

BY SCOTT T. STURKOL  
Public Affairs Staff

During the early evening of Aug. 15, Sgt. Roger Williams had left Fort McCoy to go back to his hotel in Sparta, Wis., after wrapping up a day of training at the installation. Little did he know his drive back to the hotel would play a role in saving the lives of a grandfather and his two granddaughters.

Just after 6 p.m., the serpentine belt on Williams' "fairly new" car broke as he was just getting into Sparta after traveling about 8 miles from the post.

"My car started acting up, then my battery light came on, and the car started overheating," said Williams, who serves in Milwaukee with Charlie Company, 3rd Battalion, 1st Brigade, 334th Regiment, 95th Training Division. "It was bad, so I (See HEROIC, Page 3)

Inside  
This  
Edition:

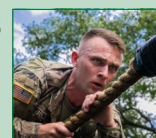
DHR employee  
earns  
monthly award  
Page 2



Mechanics  
turn 'platinum'  
wrenches  
Page 5



Army Reserve's  
top Soldiers  
prepare  
Page 7



Teens find  
inner  
superheroes  
Page 9





## NEWS

# Fort McCoy observes National Preparedness Month

National Preparedness Month, recognized each September, provides an opportunity to remind us that we all must prepare ourselves and our families now and throughout the year.

This year's observance will focus on planning with the theme: "Prepared, Not Scared. Be Ready for Disasters."

Take time to learn lifesaving skills like CPR and first aid. Check insurance policies and coverage for potential hazards, such as flood, wildfires, and tornadoes.

Make sure to consider the costs associated with disasters and save for an emergency. Also, know how to take practical safety steps like shutting off water and gas.

The devastating hurricanes, tornadoes, and wildfires of 2018 reminded the nation of the importance of preparing for disasters. Often, Army personnel will be the first ones in communities to take action after a disaster strikes

and before first responders arrive, so it is important to prepare in advance to help yourself and your community.

The goal of National Preparedness Month is to increase the overall number of people, families, and communities that engage in preparedness actions at home, work, businesses, and schools.

The 2019 weekly themes are "Save Early for Disaster Costs" for week one (Sept. 1-7), "Make a Plan to Prepare for Disasters" for week two (Sept. 8-14), "Teach Youth to Prepare for Disasters" for week three (Sept. 15-21), and "Get Involved in Your Community's Preparedness" for week four (Sept. 22-30).

The Army's primary means of promoting National Preparedness Month is through Ready Army, a proactive community-awareness campaign promoting preparedness throughout the Army.

The Ready Army website, [www.ready.army.mil](http://www.ready.army.mil), provides various

sources of information and resources for successful emergency planning. You can also visit <https://www.ready.gov/september> for more information on National Preparedness Month and resources to help you and your family prepare for the unexpected.

Information is also on the Fort McCoy Facebook page at [www.facebook.com/FtMcCoy/](http://www.facebook.com/FtMcCoy/) and Twitter at [twitter.com/usagmccoy](https://twitter.com/usagmccoy) using the hashtags #PrepareNow, #FloodSmart, #YouthPrep, and #ReadyKids. New information will be updated weekly throughout the month.

Responsibility for the safety and resiliency of the Army lies with each member of the Army Family. Engagement among Army leaders, Soldiers, families, and civilians is pivotal to highlighting the role each individual plays in preparedness. Preparedness planning serves as a force multiplier, allowing leaders to dedicate time and energy to the most significant needs of the Army community.

During this year's observance of National Preparedness Month, the Fort McCoy Emergency Management Office will send out a communitywide email detailing each week's theme and links to visit to get more information to assist the community in preparing and planning for a disaster.

For more information about preparing for disasters or to request readiness materials, call 608-388-2763.

(Article prepared by the Fort McCoy Emergency Management Office.)



## Talent show

Child and Youth Service (CYS) students put on a talent show for friends and family Aug. 23 at the School Age Center/Youth Center at Fort McCoy.

The students put on a wide variety of acts for the show, including singing, comedy, skits, and a science demonstration.

The talent show was a wrap-up event for the CYS summer camp.



Photo by Aimee Malone

## DHR's Trudy Ward awarded Civilian Employee of the Month



Photo by Bill Coppemall

Garrison Commander Col. Hui Chae Kim presents a commander's coin for excellence Sept. 5 to Trudy Ward during the Garrison Commander Staff Meeting in building 102.

Trudy Ward with the Directorate of Human Resources (DHR) was selected as the Fort McCoy Garrison Civilian Employee of the Month for August 2019.

Ward serves as the chief of the Administrative Services Division with DHR. As the division chief, Ward is the official mail manager for the installation, the records manager for the garrison, the publications and forms officer for the garrison, the Freedom of Information Act and Privacy Act officer for the garrison, and contracting oversight representative on three contracts.

She was nominated for the recognition by DHR Director Terry Streeton.

"I nominated her because she is awesome at what she does for us," Streeton said. "Nearly everyone across the installation knows Trudy and the work she does. She's very deserving of the recognition."

Ward received a commander's coin for excellence from Garrison Commander Col. Hui Chae Kim as well as a certificate of recognition. She received the award Sept. 5 during the Garrison Commander Staff Meeting.

"I was very surprised to receive this recognition and very thankful, as well," Ward said.

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



## NEWS

# HEROIC

from Page 1

pulled into the Sparta Floral parking lot, which is near a four-way stop.”

Realizing he had something seriously wrong with his car, Williams contacted Sgt. 1st Class Justin McCarthy with the 108th Training Command at Charlotte, N.C., who was still back at Fort McCoy. “I’m not a car guy, so I gave him a call to see if he could help,” Williams said.

McCarthy immediately said he’d be over to help Williams. When McCarthy left Fort McCoy, he also had other Soldiers accompanying him in following vehicles. These Soldiers were: Master Sgt. Ryan Cameron with U.S. Army Reserve Command (USARC) Headquarters of Fort Bragg, N.C.; Sgt. 1st Class Eric Juhl with Bravo Company, 3rd Battalion, 415th Infantry Regiment of Helena, Mont.; and Sgt. Daniel McElroy with 3rd Battalion, 1st Brigade, 320th Regiment, 95th Training Division at Fort Belvoir, Va.

All of the Soldiers are current or prior drill instructors who were at Fort McCoy from July to August to support Best Warrior and Drill Sergeant of the Year preparatory training for candidates entering U.S. Army-level competitions. Williams said he was just happy to see his fellow Soldiers arrive to help him figure out how to fix his car.

### A ‘loud screeching’

The hood was up on Williams’ car, and McCarthy and the others figured out that the problem was a broken serpentine belt.

“I just got on to my phone to see where I could locally find a serpentine belt for my car, and out of nowhere, we hear this loud screeching noise,” Williams said.

The screeching that Williams and the other Soldiers heard around 6:45 p.m. was the sound of a 2007 Pontiac Torrent driven by 63-year-old David R. Turner of Tomah, Wis., jumping a median. It soared through the air into a utility pole directly across the road from where the Soldiers were working on Williams’ car.

“We watched it happen like it was in slow motion,” McElroy said.

“From the car jumping the median to crashing into the pole and catching on fire.”

“When that vehicle hit that pole, there was a big explosion

“You are  
my guardian  
angels ... all  
of you. I really  
don’t know  
what else to  
say other than  
thank you.”

DAVID R. TURNER  
*Tomah, Wis.*

with a transformer blowing at the same time,” McCarthy said. “The only thing holding that pole up was the lines above. The utility pole was completely snapped off its base.”

### Immediate response

When Williams, McCarthy, McElroy, Juhl, and Cameron saw what was happening, none of them hesitated a second to respond.

“I was already on my phone, so I called 911,” Williams said.

“Everyone else was already by the vehicle trying to get to the occupants inside.”

Juhl said there was a lot of smoke, and it was hard to see inside the car.

“We focused on the driver first because we just expected a driver,” Juhl said. “All of the airbags were deployed, and with all the smoke ... you really couldn’t see too far into the vehicle. So as we started working on the driver side, (three of us) broke the window and got the door bent down.”

After breaking the window, McCarthy said the smoke in the car started clearing out. Turner was partially awake and asked “how are the girls?”

In the back seat were Turner’s two granddaughters — 4-year-old London and 2-year-old Delilah.

Two of the Soldiers heard the girls speak, and they were able to focus on the girls in the back, Juhl said. They were able to quickly get the girls out.

“They were asking how (their grandfather) was doing right away,” McElroy said. “When we looked in the back of the car, we were able to see the two car seats. One was rear facing and the other was forward facing.”

The girls were taken out of the car first, and Turner was taken out of the vehicle soon thereafter.

“I think the whole thing from the crash ending to getting everyone out of the car took less than two minutes,” Williams said.

“We had most everything under control before the first responders arrived just minutes after the crash.”

### What are the chances?

Williams said the chance of his car breaking down at that spot at that time, and having that many of his fellow Soldiers on the scene to help with the car fix was slim.

“A serpentine belt should never break on a car with just 16,000 miles,” Williams said, referring to his 2018 model car. “How do you explain how I had to pull in that very parking lot, which is just feet away from where that accident took place? For some reason, we were meant to be there.”

“It really was a case of being at the right place at the right time,” McCarthy said. “It was a very unfortunate accident that occurred, but you can’t think of having a more perfect set of people out there to actually respond to the scene other than regular first responders. The very people who are training people to be the best warriors in the Army are the people who showed up and used their well-rounded expertise to assist this family.”

Juhl said, “I was definitely glad to have been there. We have all this wealth of training, and I’m glad it served a good purpose.”

“We were all there trying to figure out how to get a serpentine belt off a car, but instead we were able to help a family,” McElroy said.

“We never thought about where to go or what to do. We just went into action without thinking about it.”

### A grateful grandfather

Turner and his granddaughters are all fine with no serious injuries from the accident. Local reports show Turner passed out while driving the car, which was on cruise control, because of a medical issue.

Four of the five Soldiers met with Turner in Tomah on Aug. 23 after the accident to see how he was doing and to meet with local media.

“I remember you guys were talking to me and trying to calm me down,” Turner said to the Soldiers at their meeting. “I remember you taking me out of the vehicle. ... You are my guardian angels ... all of you.

“I don’t really know what else to say other than thank you,” he said.



Photo by Bill Copperrnoll

David R. Turner (center) stands with four of the five Soldiers on Aug. 23 in Tomah at Winnebago Park.



## NEWS

### RAD

from Page 1

welcomed all the RAD attendees to kick off the event in the morning session in building 905, and a host of guest speakers gave briefings on health care, veterans' services, retirement benefits, legislative actions that could affect retirees, and more.

Following the morning events, attendees then were able to grab a buffet lunch on their own at McCoy's Community Center, which had been set up with extra seating.

An afternoon benefits fair held at Rumpel Fitness Center rounded out the day. The benefits fair included numerous agencies that support military retirees and their families.

The Fort McCoy Commissary held a sidewalk sale throughout the day that offered customers extra savings on items. Fort McCoy's Commemorative Area and History Center also were open for RAD attendees to learn more about the post's 109-year history.

Hinton said the SFL-RSO can provide military retirees and family members with more information and support for pre-retirement and post-retirement services.

Pre-retirement services include individual pre-retirement counseling; preparation of the Retired Pay Application, DD Form 2656; Career Status Bonus/REDUX counseling; and active-duty survivor assistance.

SFL-RSO post-retirement services include assistance with retired pay actions; providing TRICARE, Medicare, and Social Security information; referral to the Veterans Affairs; obtaining lost service documents; and more.

The date for the 2020 RAD will be set soon.

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



Photos by Scott T. Sturkol

**Retired Lt. Col. Shane Ostrom provides a legislative update Sept. 6 to attendees at the 2019 Fort McCoy Retiree Appreciation Day in building 905. Ostrom discussed pay and benefits, medical care plans, and other military retiree programs.**



**Retiree Appreciation Day attendees visit a benefits fair Sept. 6 in Rumpel Fitness Center.**



**Customers look over products during a sidewalk sale Sept. 6 at the Fort McCoy Commissary. That sale was set up as part of Retiree Appreciation Day activities.**



**Personnel with the Tomah (Wis.) Veterans Affairs Medical Center were also set up Sept. 6 outside of Rumpel Fitness Center to support attendees at Retiree Appreciation Day.**



## NEWS

# Mechanics have 'platinum' wrenches supporting 88th RD Draw Yard

**STORY & PHOTOS BY CHERYL PHILLIPS**

*88th Readiness Division Public Affairs*

Turning wrenches may not sound like a glamorous Army Reserve job, but for units that depend on well-tuned vehicles and equipment to perform their mission, the mechanic deserves credit.

Nearly two dozen Army Reserve mechanics with the 322nd Support Maintenance Company of Arden Hills, Minn., completed their annual training (AT) at the 88th Readiness Division Draw Yard, getting on-the-job training in a program called Platinum Support. The Army Reserve mechanics provided real-time services for units participating in Combat Support Training Exercises (CSTX) 86-19-03 and 86-19-04.

Platinum Support gives maintenance and supply Soldiers the opportunity to perform hands-on maintenance and repair of equipment and vehicles to generate and regenerate combat power and preserve the capital investment of Army Combat Systems and equipment. Army Reserve Soldiers enhance their technical skills while working on real-world missions. This year, Platinum Support ran July 14 to Aug. 13 and involved about 60 Army Reserve Soldiers.

Spc. Benjamin Larson is a 91B wheeled vehicle mechanic who worked in Platinum Support. He joined the Army Reserve two years ago to obtain student loan repayment for his studies in business administration at the University of Wisconsin-Stout.

"I also joined the Army Reserve because I eventually want to join the active Army, and I saw the Army Reserve as an introduction to the Army," he said.

The university sophomore chose 91B as his military occupational specialty (MOS) because he "worked in shops during high school" and "thought it would be a good fit," he said.

For Larson, the camaraderie with fellow Soldiers is what he likes the most about his job. He also said that a lot of the work is computerized and "easy to pick up."

"I like turning wrenches," he said. "I love AT. I like to get in depth with my MOS."

Along with his colleagues, Larson performed annual services on vehicles. He said he appreciates the behind-the-scenes role he played in getting "vehicles back into shape to go right back out to units" training at Fort McCoy so they can achieve their mission.

Spc. Md Arifur Rahman another Army Reserve Soldier who supported Platinum Support, is a 91D generator mechanic. He said he joined the Army Reserve to gain U.S. citizenship.

"My second reason for joining the Army Reserve is to explore the Army. It's the best in the world, and I wanted to be part of that and learn," he said.

Rahman has a master's degree in electrical engineering. He works as an electrical engineer in his civilian career.

"I really like working with electric; it's what I'm good at," he said. "I like to use my head and troubleshoot. I like to figure out problems. I enjoy the challenge."

During Platinum Support, Rahman could be found going out to training sites to repair equipment on the ground, like the Multi-Temperature Refrigeration and Cooling System (MTRCS) that stores food to feed troops in the field. No refrigeration means spoiled food, which means increased costs to replace the food. Rahman said he found the MTRCS the most challenging to work on since he had never seen one before.

Keeping the work and parts flowing in the maintenance bay is Matt Clancy, maintenance coordinator lead at the Draw Yard. He said the work done by the Army Reserve mechanics is an "extremely valuable" adjunct in picking up services, as his normal complement of civilian mechanics is fully engaged



**Sgt. Kevin Harris fills an oil can while working on a vehicle July 25 as part of the Platinum Support training program at the 88th Readiness Division's Draw Yard at Fort McCoy.**



**Spec. Jacob Prokosch finds the right tools to work on a Multi-Temperature Refrigeration and Cooling System on July 25 at the Draw Yard at Fort McCoy.**



**Pvt. Zachary Coombes (left) and Sgt. Jesse Gilbert troubleshoot a Multi-Temperature Refrigeration and Cooling System on July 25 while working at the Draw Yard at Fort McCoy as part of Platinum Support.**

prepping for the CSTXs.

Draw Yard Officer in Charge Maj. Michael Zinnecker said the Army Reserve mechanics did many recovery missions

for the CSTXs and repaired many MTRCS', with more to be completed in the coming days. He also described their work as "invaluable" to ensuring unit readiness.



ADS





# TOTAL FORCE TRAINING CENTER

SPECIAL INSERT TO THE REAL McCoy FEATURING LATE-SUMMER 2019 TRAINING COVERAGE AT FORT MCCOY



## Army Reserve premier exercise, CSTX, continues to evolve during McCoy training

BY SGT. 1ST CLASS DEBRALEE BEST  
86th Training Division

The Combat Support Training Exercise (CSTX) hosted by the 86th Training Division (TD) at Fort McCoy has undergone an evolution in recent years, but most of those changes have taken place in the past two years.

This year's two exercises in July and August were evidence of those changes.

These changes are designed to change an Army Reserve Soldier's training to resemble a peer-to-peer competitor battlefield instead of an insurgent battlefield. The previous model of training focused on an established area of operations or a forward-operating base as well as stability operations including nation building, infrastructure improvement, and defending themselves against small team of insurgents and improvised explosive devices. This focus has shifted in the past two years with the use of tactical assembly areas (TAA), allowing more staging and moving forward into kinetic operations.

"Instead, units have to come out here like its brand new property, brand new land, brand new battlefield space. They have to be tactically sound in their movement; they have to practice the fieldcraft of occupying an assembly area, defending themselves, (and) being able to establish communication with their higher headquarters and adjacent units and subordinate



Photo by Staff Sgt. Robert Larson/181st Multi-Functional Training Brigade

**A Soldier deployed to Fort McCoy for Combat Support Training Exercise 86-19-04 participates in a training scenario Aug. 13 on the installation's South Post.**

units; and then (they) ultimately be able to perform those collective tasks in which their specific units would be assigned," said Col. Richard Smested, deputy commander, 86th TD.

Each military occupational specialty begins its collective tasks as at any other CSTX, but with the idea that the threat is real.

"All (Soldiers operate) under the idea that at any given time they may have to defend themselves in an environment where they don't know exactly where the enemy is or how active — or as we say, kinetic. The battlefield may actually be in the next one to 24 hours," Smested said.

Austerity is another measure the 86th TD uses to shift the ideas of battlefield operations.

"I think you notice (austerity) because we force it. You give them locations that aren't so spacious, in a sense, and you make them get into the woods and the weeds a little bit," said Command Sgt. Maj. Doug Dieckman, senior enlisted adviser, 86th TD.

The 86th TD also uses austere operations to work with units to expand their planning skills.

"We as an Army are weak in our fieldcraft, and in order to bring our rotational training units into a position of being better at fieldcraft, we had to start with the planning process, enabling them in being more engaged in planning their movement to an austere environment and owning it," said Col. Tamara Ardent, chief of staff, 86th TD. "The change with CSTX is that we used to do a lot more of the planning and dictate this is where you're going in the field. Now, in the planning process, we give them an area of operations, and they analyze the terrain and identify where they best would be suited to set up their tactical posture in the field environment."

But, Dieckman also said forcing that change — while increasing the tactical advantage — is not all that needs to be done.

"People are understanding what austere means more and how (to) take advantage of where I'm at to provide some cover and concealment so I don't have to create it. So, taking advantage of their surroundings, I think that's better," said Dieckman. "The message about being austere and the where part of it, kind of what it looks like, I think is more clear, but now it's developing security, getting your communications established and going from there."

The 86th TD also works into the scenario a time for units to "jump TOC" (tactical operations center) or move their entire operation to another location on the battlefield. This is another opportunity for Soldiers to learn to move and conceal themselves better.

"Iteration two when we jumped people, ... the TAAs looked much better, much more concealed. They've got concertina wire set up (and) they're fortifying their area, so having them jump their TOC and occupy a new TAA is huge for learning, and it gives them an opportunity to make corrections on their deficiencies and educate their Soldiers on what it actually means," Dieckman said.

All of these changes work together with another transition — a linear battlefield.

"One of the things that's also a little different is we've returned to what we used to call more of a linear battlefield where we have a clear identification of where the forward



Photo by Master Sgt. Michel Sauret/U.S. Army Reserve Command

**Lt. Gen. Charles D. Luckey, commanding general of U.S. Army Reserve Command, talks to troops in the field Aug. 14 during Combat Support Training Exercise 86-19-04 operations at Fort McCoy.**

edge of the battlefield is. ... We have brigade combat teams that are notional in front of our units who are at this exercise, and this exercise is really occupying a core support area and understanding that we've got combat forces in front of us who are engaged in a more force-on-force type of battle," Smestad said. "Which is different than what we did in the past. That was more of an asymmetrical warfare where we could have enemy forces or insurgent forces anywhere on the battlefield, and there was no such thing as the front edge of the battle or a forward part of the battlespace. We're trying to get back to more of what we would have called the more traditional land warfare."

The changes to the battlefield continue to evolve, but there have also been other changes to operations. One of these was the inclusion of a senior trainer, which began two years ago.

The senior trainer is part of the training unit's chain of command and therefore has more authority and pull with the unit, Ardent said.

"The inclusion of the senior trainer ... has had significant benefit in that the senior trainer is really looking at the

(See CSTX, Page 2)



# Airport seizure training adds to capabilities of Fort McCoy

**STORY & PHOTO BY SCOTT T. STURKOL**  
Public Affairs Staff

When special operations Airmen with the 123rd Special Tactics Squadron of the Kentucky Air National Guard at Louisville conducted an airborne-insertion jump at Sparta-Fort McCoy Airport on July 16 during the Patriot North 2019 exercise, the action confirmed a training capability long planned for at the installation.

Three Airmen completed the jump in a scenario aimed at airport seizure that would lead to the establishment of an air hub to receive supplies by military airlift aircraft, such as the C-130 Hercules and C-17 Globemaster III.

As the training event unfolded, Directorate of Plans, Training, Mobilization and Security Director Brad Stewart was nearby to watch.

"For Fort McCoy, the greatest outcome of this training was it

was the first time in Fort McCoy history that anyone remembers a unit conducting airport seizure operations at our very own Sparta-Fort McCoy Airport," Stewart said. "It's another first in Fort McCoy's history among many others that have happened in the last 10-15 years."

Nearly five years ago, Stewart said, he and other members of his directorate had talked with leaders of the Army's 82nd Airborne Division about paratroopers conducting similar airport-seizure training. While the training with the 82nd has not formulated yet, the Patriot North training scenario brought the capability to fruition, Stewart said.

"Having the flexibility to offer a real training environment to conduct this mission is extremely beneficial to any military force that wants to do that," Stewart said. "We can work in collaboration with the Wisconsin Air Guard at Volk Field to also do



**Special operations Airmen with the 123rd Special Tactics Squadron of the Kentucky Air National Guard at Louisville conduct an airborne insertion jump at Sparta-Fort McCoy Airport on July 16 at Fort McCoy.**

this. That means we could possibly provide two locations in this area where a unit can train on operations on how to seize an airport and to start bringing in supplies for either stockpiling or for supporting forces already in theater."

Any time the U.S. military deploys, Stewart said, those troops have to have a location via either a sea port or airport to receive more supplies

to support forces and to bring in follow-on forces.

Training scenarios featuring airfield seizure have been done at Fort McCoy's Young Air Assault Strip by special operations troops in the past, but seizing the airport area has not been done because a lot more goes into coordinating it.

"We have to issue a restricted FAA notice in order for the air space

to be open to allow the paratroopers or other personnel to jump in. This action is to ensure they will not collide with something in the air," Stewart said. "Airports by nature are usually very busy, so giving troops that training opportunity is rare. But, it can be done here. They can come here to train like they fight."

Lt. Col. Ashley Nickloes, deputy exercise director for Patriot North 2019, said the exercise planning team always enjoys the capabilities that Fort McCoy provides.

"A lot of people do not realize what Fort McCoy and Volk Field bring to the area and to the Guard," she said.

"(Fort McCoy) is a unique training area that allows us to have so many different training venues to train so many troops."

More airport seizure training opportunities are likely part of future training operations at the installation, Stewart said.

## CSTX

from Page 1

defensive posture and doing the coaching and mentoring from that chain of command from the rotational training units so that has also had an impact on their proficiencies as they go through the exercise in respect to austerity," she said.

This inclusion allows the 86th TD to focus on the exercise as a whole and not individual Soldiers.

"The senior trainer has provided a solid avenue of mentoring and coaching that the platform really did not have the ability to do," said Arendt. "It allows us, the 86th to really focus on providing a quality exercise, a smooth running operation."

Another change integrated into the platform is an expanded supply chain. In 2018, CSTX had a satellite location at Camp Ripley, Minn., that units at Fort McCoy were tasked to supply. This year a fuel operation was included called Northern Strike.

"Even in the planning process, ... everyone has a more challenging experience to develop a plan to support that type of operation," Arendt said. "Not only for (those of) us planning the platform is it more difficult, but for all the units in the exercise that have to be integrated, it's more difficult because there's a distance that they're not used to, and there is the reality that things need to be pushed in order for people to have what they need on the other end. That makes it truly real."

Supplying a unit from a distance, like Camp Ripley, trains for real-world issues that units have to work to fix.

"It taught everyone to do their job better because we had live complaints and live problems," said Arendt. "It's not just a quick

fix because you can't just bop over to the next TAA on Fort McCoy and fix it. ... What I'm trying to say, in a nutshell, is it stressed the supply chain, and it stressed all of the units' understanding of the importance of all of their systems. It's really the only place I think in the United States Army where we can test an extended supply chain operation."

The Northern Strike mission not only provided real-world delivery of fuel to Michigan but also allowed the Soldiers to experience a mission beyond the confines of Fort McCoy, giving them more robust and realistic training. It also provided training to establish trailer transfer points and still be provided engagements from opposing forces.

"If you think about the distance, that was a true training mission for our transportation units," Arendt said. "They were literally in civilian traffic hauling a commodity, and it was a distance. Again, the transportation company here going 5 miles on Fort McCoy is different than going 100 miles, 200 miles through tolls. It's good training."

For the August CSTX, the 86th TD developed a proof of principle for a 21-day noncontiguous exercise. The boots-on-ground time was cut to 15 days, but commanders were given an additional six days to complete training they felt they needed.

"It is going to be much more compressed, so the efficiency and the effectiveness of our training time really needs to be ramped up and used to the benefit of the Soldier, even more so," Smestad said.

Main reasons for this change are to reduce strain on employers and to provide Soldiers more concentrated training.

"Twenty-one days is a long time, and it's a stress on Reserve Soldiers at large. It's a 21-



Photo by Scott T. Sturkol

**Service members at Fort McCoy for training in the 86th Training Division's Combat Support Training Exercise 86-19-04 drive military vehicles in a convoy Aug. 20 on South Post at the installation.**

day exercise when really their employers are committed to 14 days. Obviously our Reserve Soldiers step to the plate many places, but the strain on us alone on providing a 21-day exercise means we're here early and stay late. It's just a strain," Arendt said. "Secondly, I think if done right, ... the condensed exercise (will) be able to create a more intense scenario."

Units will lose two days on arrival and departure times for the exercise as well as two days on the field training exercise. This means they will have less time to prepare to enter the field and less time to pack upon leaving the field.

The removal of those six days will really ramp up the units' timelines and, Arendt said, create more proficiency where the Army needs to improve.

"One would like to think the 15-day exercise

would give a more intense environment for units to actually come in, move to the field, ... establish their operations, move their operations and then move again to redeploy that they're going to learn more about what I think is a key lost art: Mobility for the core support area," Arendt said.

"We need to be a mobile force. If we were ever to face a near-peer competitor, it will be a moving battlefield, and the core support area needs to train for intensity and movement," she said.

"Units have to get more proficient at establishing their operations quickly, getting their job done, tearing it down quickly and moving. That's what I hope we see in a 15 day (exercise), an increased intensity that actually gets us closer to what we need to be training for."



# Multiservice medical personnel build skills during training

STORY & PHOTOS BY AIMEE MALONE

Public Affairs Staff

Multiservice medical personnel got hands-on training at multiple exercises that took place in August at Fort McCoy with assistance from the installation's Medical Simulation Training Center (MSTC) and Regional Training Site (RTS)-Medical.

Global Medic is an inter-service training event that provides opportunities for military medical personnel to improve their proficiencies in realistic training environments while combining forces with other service branches and national armies, according to the Army Reserve. It ran in conjunction with Patriot Warrior and Combat Support Training Exercise 86-19-04 at Fort McCoy, bringing in service members from the Army, Navy, Air Force, Marines, and international partners.

The MSTC provides state-of-the-art medical training for both medical and nonmedical personnel, ensuring highly educated, innovative, and adaptive Soldiers.

RTS-Medical is one of three regional training sites available to units in the Army Reserve. The staff members specialize in teaching units how to set up and run all aspects of a combat support hospital (CSH). Soldiers are expected to be able to get a combat support hospital (CSH) running on their own, moving the equipment to the site and building the hospital from bare ground.

RTS-Medical also provides medical training dummies that can simulate patient responses and live-weight dummies that allow service members to recreate the experience of evacuating and treating injured personnel in the field. RTS-Medical staff members train service members in moulage, the art of applying mock injuries for the purpose of training emergency response teams and other medical and military personnel, to add to the realism of the exercise.

RTS-Medical staff members have studied at the same makeup schools as Hollywood artists, said Col. Cynthia Hopkins, site director for RTS-Medical, in a 2018 article.

"Their injuries look extremely realistic," she said.

Cpl. Katie Spencer with the 865th CSH, based in New York, spent most of her time at a CSH set up at Integrated Tactical Training Base (ITTB) Liberty, learning how to treat patients and manage medical procedures. Operating in an ITTB allows units to simulate the unpredictable nature of a deployed environment. She said Global Medic was a great experience and helped her learn a lot.

"I learned how to do two types of intubation," she said. "We learned how to unload and treat (patients) from a Blackhawk. We learned how to do FAST (focused assessment with sonography in trauma) exams and ultrasounds."

The hands-on experience really helped her feel confident about the skills she's learning, Spencer said. She said she feels much more confident about using her medical skills in a real-world scenario.

"So I've learned about intubations in classrooms ... but we never actually got to try it," she said. "This is great because you touch it and you see it on the screen."

"You also have people here to help you," Spencer said. "I was scared to do it at first."

Having both instructors and more experienced personnel on hand to first show her the proper process and then correct her methods if needed helped a lot, she said.

Overall, Spencer said, Global Medic was a great training experience.

"Every day, I was excited about learning something else," she said.

Global Medic participants also interacted with personnel and training scenarios in CSTX 86-19-04 and Patriot Warrior, including aeromedical evacuations. Patriot Warrior allows Airmen the opportunity to train with both joint and international military partners in airlift, aeromedical evacuation, and mobility support, according to the Air Force. CSTX provides Soldiers with an austere, realistic, tactical environment to achieve, improve, and sustain critical premobilization readiness.



Navy medical personnel apply moulage to medical dummies during operations Aug. 16 for Global Medic 2019 at a Regional Training Site-Medical facility at Fort McCoy.



Army medical personnel apply care to a simulated patient Aug. 20 during a Global Medic 2019 training scenario at a training combat support hospital on Integrated Tactical Training Base Liberty on North Post at Fort McCoy.



# Patriot Warrior: More than an exercise

BY STAFF SGT. CHRISTOPHER MORRIS

4th Combat Camera Squadron

More than 600 Air Force Reserve Airmen from 42 installations descended upon three different military installations during Patriot Warrior 2019.

Fort McCoy served as the primary exercise site, while Dobbins Air Reserve Base, Ga., and Minneapolis-Saint Paul Air Reserve Station, Minn., acted as support locations.

The exercise is the Air Force Reserve Command's (AFRC) premier exercise, according to AFRC. It affords Reserve Airmen the opportunity to train with both joint and international military partners in airlift, aeromedical evacuation, and mobility support.

Incorporating more than 67 career fields, the exercise builds the strategic depth and accelerates the readiness of the Air Force Reserve command by testing individual Air Force Reserve units in numerous real-world scenarios. Starting from a bare-bones location, service members stood up a fully operational base, equipped with mobile hospitals that accept simulated patients flown in on military aircraft. Over the course of 19 days, Airmen worked alongside Soldiers, Sailors, Marines, and international service members to accomplish command and control operations, air drops, explosives training, patient care, and logistics operations.

"Patriot Warrior is a great exercise because it gives us realistic scenarios that we might actually face," said Staff Sgt. Ashlee Rodriguez, radio frequency transmission systems craftsman with the Air Force Reserve's 433rd Aeromedical Evacuation Squadron at Joint Base San Antonio, Texas.

Patriot Warrior simulates wartime activities in austere environments, which present unique challenges for participants.

"You definitely have to be resourceful," said Rodriguez. "Things don't always go as planned, so we often find ourselves having to think outside the box and use resources in unconventional ways to accomplish the mission."

Patriot Warrior also demonstrates the lethality of the Air Force Reserve command while providing top-notch training to Reserve Airmen.

"This exercise definitely helps us put our skills to use," said Maj. Kubwimana "Moses" Mhayamaguru, a flight surgeon in the Air Force Reserve's 943rd Aerospace Medical Squadron at Davis-Monthan Air Force Base, Ariz.

"What I looked forward to is the interactions with the aeromedical-evacuation teams and actually getting patients from the teams and getting them on the aircraft, with the pieces of the puzzle in place, just like a deployed location."

Patriot Warrior was held Aug. 6-24.



Photo by Tech. Sgt. Chris Hibben/4th Combat Camera Squadron

**Two Army HH-60 Blackhawks come in for a landing behind a C-17 Globemaster III during Patriot Warrior operations Aug. 17 at Sparta-Fort McCoy Airport at Fort McCoy.**



Photo by Staff Sgt. Christopher Dyer/4th Combat Camera Squadron

**Air Force Reserve Airmen and British Royal Air Force members participate in a litter carry obstacle course Aug. 20 at Fort McCoy during exercise Patriot Warrior.**



Photo by Tech. Sgt. Chris Hibben/4th Combat Camera Squadron

**Airmen and Soldiers load simulated patients onto a C-17 Globemaster III during Patriot Warrior operations Aug. 17 at Sparta-Fort McCoy Airport.**



## NEWS

# Top Army Reserve Soldiers make ready for final competitions during preparatory training at Fort McCoy

**STORY & PHOTOS BY SGT. KEVIN LONG**

*Exercise News Day*

The Army Reserve's Best Warriors and Drill Sergeants of the Year carried out 27 days of intensive training Aug. 4-24 at Fort McCoy.

The training was in preparation for the 2019 Army Best Warrior and Drill Sergeant of the Year competitions, which pit the best of the Army, Army Reserve, and Army National Guard against each other.

The competition consists of six events: a board, written exam, physical-fitness assessment, warrior tasks and battle drills, weapons range shooting, and a mystery event.

The competitions help promote readiness, self-improvement, and lethality for Army Reserve Soldiers preparing for combat, said Staff Sgt. Gary Millner, an instructor from the 84th Training Command.

"It gets them ready to be able to go down range (on deployment)," Millner said. "If a Soldier is ready to go to combat, they know all the tasks and drills."

Sgt. James Baird, a drill sergeant with the 95th Training Division, is an alternate for the Drill Sergeant of the Year competition. He said the competitions are all about becoming a better Soldier.

"The outstanding thing about when you volunteer to do these things is, at the very least, you walk out a better Soldier than you walked in," Baird said. "You get a chance to get in there and get better at some tasks you may have never done before ... and get yourself where you need to be as a Soldier."

Spc. Collin George, a military police Soldier from the 102nd Military Police Company, was preparing to compete in the Best Warrior competition. He said competitions like Best Warrior have helped him improve as a Soldier.

"These competitions really keep me on my toes and give me something to strive for," George said. "It's instilled that discipline in me, and I've taken a lot out of it."

All of the training events at Fort McCoy replicated real-world scenarios. For example, the medical class utilized advanced training dummies, which mimic the breathing and blood flow of a human body.

"We did a whole medical day with some really high-speed dummies that breathe and react to a tourniquet," George said. "They'll keep bleeding if you don't put the tourniquet on right."

The six Soldiers who took part in the training represent the best the Army Reserve has to offer. All of them have won multiple competitions to reach this level.

Sgt. Joshua Smith, Spc. Collin George, Sgt. Edward Singh, and Spc. Kalon Williams will represent the Army Reserve at the Army Best Warrior competition.

Sgt. Michael Yarrington and Sgt. James Baird represented the Army Reserve at the Drill Sergeant of the Year competition.

The Drill Sergeant of the Year competition began Aug. 17, and the Army Best Warrior Competition is scheduled for Oct. 7.



**Sgt. Joshua Smith slides down a rope Aug. 14 as part of an obstacle at Fort McCoy. Smith was training in preparation for the 2019 Army Best Warrior competition. Others were training for the 2019 Army Drill Sergeant of the Year competition.**



**Spc. Collin George reassembles an M240B machine gun with his eyes covered during a weapons class Aug. 14 at Fort McCoy.**



**Spc. Kalon Williams descends the cargo net on an obstacle Aug. 14 at Fort McCoy during the training.**



## FEATURE

# This month in Fort McCoy history

## 73 Years Ago — Sept. 20, 1946

From uniforms to “civies” — now from “civies” to uniforms. Camp McCoy, the one-time big separation center, completely reversed the process when it became an Armed Forces Induction Center. According to Col. Newton G. Bush, post commander in 1946, the transfer of the induction station from Fort Snelling, Minn., to this post was considered in line with the strict economy policy that was announced by the War Department. It involved both personnel and monetary considerations.

In serving North Dakota, South Dakota, Minnesota, Iowa, and Wisconsin, it was expected that Camp McCoy would process 180 men per day. Housing capacity for 1,000 men was also set up.

## 30 Years Ago — Sept. 1, 1989

Capt. Bill Sharer accepted the flag of command of Headquarters Company, U.S. Army Garrison Fort McCoy, passed to him by Capt. Bill Brase, in a change-of-command ceremony Sept. 1, 1989.

Brase, who was assigned to Fort McCoy for the four previous years and was the post's military personnel officer before commanding the headquarters company, left to become the deputy G1/adjutant general of the 1st Armored Division in Ansbach, West Germany.

Sharer, who was at Fort McCoy since March 1987 in the Directorate of Plans, Training, Mobilization and Security, said he planned to help the Soldiers of the company by enhancing their esprit de corps.

## 20 Years Ago — Sept. 10, 1999

Operation Platinum Wrench completed its second year at Fort McCoy by September 1999. The training offered Soldiers a number of hands-on training opportunities.

The M915A4 Glider Kit conversion program, a U.S. Army Reserve Command program, marked the end of its second year of production with the completion of about 30 Glider Kits.

The vehicles were line-haul tractors, which were used to deliver supplies. Ed Lukasek, chief of Production and Supply Control for the Installation Materiel Maintenance Activity (IMMA), said the 890th Transportation Company of Green Bay, Wis., was scheduled to get the first completed Glider Kits by the first quarter of 2000. The vehicles were awaiting final inspection.

“The program saves a lot of money and gives the troops valuable training,”



File photo by Scott T. Sturkol

**Marcus Theatres Advertising Manager Bret Hoffman holds up a replica prisoner-of-war uniform Sept. 3, 2014, like the one used in the movie “Fort McCoy,” for donation to the Fort McCoy History Center during the movie’s premiere at the Ho-Chunk Cinema in Tomah, Wis. Also on hand during the presentation are Fort McCoy Public Affairs Officer Linda Fournier and actress Kate Connor, who starred in the movie as well as co-producing and co-directing the film.**

Lukasek said. The Platinum Wrench program for the summer of 1999 also was expanded to cover a number of different training missions. Missions included preparing shower and bath units for shipment, repairing canvas items, such as general purpose tents aid shelter covers, and performing supply functions to support the IMMA mission.

## 10 Years Ago — Sept. 25, 2009

Training as you fight and taking positive actions were keys for a Silver Star recipient who was well received by a Fort McCoy audience during a Year of the Noncommissioned Officer (NCO) event Sept. 25, 2009.

Sgt. Gregory S. Ruske, only the fifth U.S. Army Reserve Soldier to receive the Silver Star for heroic actions in Afghanistan or Iraq, said his actions were a great credit to his training and the NCOs who served as his trainers and mentors.

Ruske earned the Silver Star for his actions April 21, 2008, in Afghanistan's Kapisa province, a remote area not accessible by vehicles. Taliban operatives ambushed his unit while they were on patrol and unleashed a heavy gunfire and grenade assault. Ruske immediately responded, suppressing the enemy with accurate rifle and grenade fire.

Because he'd only been an NCO for a year, Ruske said he believed it was more appropriate for him to talk about how his life experiences and the NCOs he worked under had helped shape his military career.

Ruske said he was raised by a single mother, enlisted in the Army in the infantry field in 1998 and served three years on active duty

before being discharged in 2001. “I spent a lot of time in the field and wasn't a big fan of it,” Ruske said. “That was to be expected. I was an 18-year-old and thought I knew everything there was to know.

“I kept asking, ‘Why do we keep going to the field, training and doing the same thing over and over and over. It's getting a little monotonous and redundant,’” he said.

The most tangible benefit he could see was it allowed him to max out his physical training score in push-ups, Ruske said.

After he left active duty, Ruske attended college and received his degree. He went on to work as a corrections officer and joined the Army Reserve.

He was assigned to the 5025th Garrison Support Unit, an Army Reserve unit in Colorado Springs, Colo., before he volunteered to serve a tour of duty in Afghanistan. In Afghanistan, he served with 3rd Platoon, A Company, Task Force Gladiator, Combined Task Force 101.

## 5 Years Ago — Sept. 5, 2014

Marcus Theatres announced the award-winning “Fort McCoy” movie debut in Wisconsin at Ho-Chunk Cinema in Tomah and Cinema Theatre in La Crosse on Sept. 5.

With a good portion of the film shot at Fort McCoy and in La Crosse, local markets got the first opportunity in the state to see the movie.

“Fort McCoy” is a drama, written, co-produced, and co-directed by Kate Connor, who also stars in the film, playing her real-life grandmother. Based on a true story, she shares the experience of her mother's family in the

American Army and POW camp at then-Camp McCoy in the summer of 1944.

Connor's grandparents, Frank and Ruby Stirn, move to Fort McCoy for Frank to become a barber for the American Army. Upset that he cannot fight, Frank takes a stand when a Nazi SS officer threatens his wife. The film continues by telling that story and others, representing the family's time at Fort McCoy.

While an independent film, “Fort McCoy” picked up more than 20 awards and accolades, including Best Drama at Cannes Independent Film Festival. Plus Connor won Best Actress at the Milan International Film Festival.

In 2014, Monterey Media Inc. acquired North American rights to distribute the movie, which had a limited release planned for summer.

“Marcus Theatres is thrilled to be the first cinemas in Wisconsin to present this film to the Fort McCoy community,” said Rolando Rodriguez, president and chief executive officer for Marcus Theatres.

“In fact, on Sept. 3, there is an invitation-only premiere showing of the movie at the Ho-Chunk Cinema intended primarily for the military at Fort McCoy. This is Marcus Theatres' way of recognizing the connection between the movie and the base in a special way.”

(Note: A poster of the movie and two prisoner-of-war, or POW, shirts worn in the film, representative of the shirts worn by 1940s POWs, are on display in the Fort McCoy History Center.)



## COMMUNITY



Artist Jason Gerke, also known as The Doodler, draws a caricature of a student Aug. 15 at the Fort McCoy School Age Center/Youth Center.

# Fort McCoy teens find inner superheroes

**STORY & PHOTO BY AIMEE MALONE**  
Public Affairs Staff

Fort McCoy teens found their inner superheroes through resilience training Aug. 12-16 at Child and Youth Service's (CYS) School Age Center/Youth Center (SAC/YC).

As part of CYS summer camp, teens have been incorporating resiliency skills into their weekly lessons and activities. The week of Aug. 12 focused on character strengths.

"The students picked what they thought were their top character strengths then took a personality quiz to compare the results," said Tammie Noe, supervisory program specialist with the SAC/YC. Noe is also a master resilience trainer who specializes in family and youth resilience. She said some of the teens were surprised by what the quiz rated as their dominant character strengths.

According to the Master Resilience Training program, knowing character strengths can help teens bring the best of themselves to any situation. Good leaders rely on their character strengths and let others use theirs in order to be successful both individually and in teamwork.

Character strengths can also have a "shadow side," Noe said. Using a character strength too much,

especially in the wrong time or place, can cause problems. Learning about different character strengths can help teens learn when to use their own and when to let others shine, she said.

CYS students paired themselves with famous superheroes based on their character strengths. For example, Wonder Woman was paired with curiosity and an interest in the world, while Doctor Strange paired with spirituality, sense of purpose, and faith. Character strengths fell into 24 categories, including bravery, humor, optimism, perseverance, and more.

Caricature artist Jason Gerke, also known as The Doodler, visited the SAC/YC on Aug. 15 in conjunction with the leadership. He drew the teens as their matched superheroes. Gerke also drew group pictures of younger students attending the summer camp.

CYS provides programs and services for children of both military and civilian employees' families. Programs include full, part-time, or hourly child care; after-school care; summer camp; teen programs; instructional classes; career-preparation opportunities; and sports and fitness activities.

For more information about SAC/YC programs, call 608-388-8956.



Photos by Aimee Malone

Local community members and leaders participate in the 2019 Fort McCoy Community Appreciation Night on Aug. 22 at McCoy's Community Center.



Garrison Deputy Commander Lt. Col. Sheila Coker (left) and Command Sgt. Maj. Paul Mantha, garrison command sergeant major, are pictured with Alan McCoy of Sparta, Wis., on Aug. 22 during Community Appreciation Night. McCoy is the grandson of Maj. Gen. Robert Bruce McCoy for whom Fort McCoy is named after.

## Dozens attend Fort McCoy Community Appreciation Night

About 75 people attended the Fort McCoy Community Appreciation Night, held Aug. 22 at McCoy's Community Center.

This is an annual event to thank the community for their support of Fort McCoy throughout the year, said Public Affairs Specialist Theresa Fitzgerald with the Fort McCoy Public Affairs Office, which organized

the event.

Attendees included representatives with the Tomah and Sparta (Wis.) chambers of commerce, other officials, and business owners from surrounding communities near the installation.

Fort McCoy senior leaders, workforce members, and service members also attended the event.

## 86th Training Division sets roster for Army Ten-Miler team

The 86th Training Division's "Team Black Hawks" Army Ten-Miler team's roster is set for the October competition.

The 86th team is set up as a nonprofit running club comprising Soldiers actively serving in the Army Reserve, said team captain Maj. Roger Paige. The team was organized this year for the advancement of service member amateur athletic competition and to contribute to the esprit de corps of the Army, Army Reserve, and the 86th Training Division.

The team will compete under the Army Reserve mixed category (male and female members), Paige said. Each member is participating in this event in his/her personal capacity at his/her own expense and at no cost to the government. The team itself does not have official affiliation with the Department of Defense.

"We have some of the most talented and experienced Soldiers on this year's team," Paige said. "The roster consists of both noncommissioned officers and officers with a broad range of knowledge across several branches of the Army. We have eight runners and all are members of the 86th Training Division. We anticipate a very competitive team pace on race day and to improve on last year's ninth place finish."

Team members in addition to Paige are: Staff Sgt. Kelsi Anderson, Master Sgt. Makela Crayton,



Staff Sgt. William Holland, Lt. Col. Eric McGowen, Maj. Steven Nachowicz, Capt. Madeline Wilcox, and Maj. Amanda Wojtanowski.

The 2019 race will be held Oct. 13 at the Pentagon in Washington, D.C.

(Article prepared by the 86th Training Division and Fort McCoy Public Affairs Office.)



## NEWS NOTES

### 'Connect the Tots' play group offered Tuesdays

Army Community Service's Connect the Tots play group meets Tuesdays at the ACS Family Building, 2161.

The play group is for families with children 4 years old and younger. It uses toys, books, and other materials to help strengthen children's cognitive, physical, and creative selves and promote social-emotional skill building.

Through play, transitions, circle time and songs and activities, and informal conversations, parents learn about developmental ages and stages, gain tools to help understand their child's behavior and become empowered to prepare the family and child to enter school ready to learn.

The group meets 10 a.m. to noon Thursdays through Nov. 19.

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

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

### Donate to AER from Sept. 13-17 at Exchange

The Army & Air Force Exchange Service is running a donation drive for Army Emergency Relief and Air Force Assistance Fund from Sept. 13-17.

Participants who donate to the campaign while checking out at AAFES locations will receive a \$5 coupon good for a future purchase of \$25 or more.

For more information, visit [www.aerhq.org](http://www.aerhq.org), [www.afassistancefund.org](http://www.afassistancefund.org), or the Fort McCoy Exchange in building 1538.

### Road Kill 5K run/walk set for Sept. 18

The Fort McCoy Road Kill 5K Run/Walk is scheduled for 11:30 a.m. Sept. 18 at Rumpel Fitness Center, building 1122.

The race starts at the fitness center, heads out gate 20, goes up a steep hill, then returns to the fitness center.

Prizes will be awarded to the first- and second-place male and female finishers.

The event is open to all Directorate of Family and Morale, Welfare and Recreation-eligible patrons.

For more information, call 608-388-2290.

### Federal resume workshop scheduled for Sept. 18

A federal resume workshop is scheduled for 9 to 10:30 a.m. Sept. 18 at Army Community Service, building 2111.

Topics will include strategies for writing federal resumes; finding, interpreting, and applying for federal jobs through USAJOBS.gov; and KSA (knowledge, skills and abilities) Builder.

The class is open to military members, retirees, civilian employees, family members, and



Photo by Aimee Malone

### Teen Cooking Contest

A Fort McCoy family member serves her entry in the Teen Cooking Contest to Director Patric McGuane of the Directorate of Family and Morale, Welfare and Recreation who was serving as a judge for the contest on Aug. 23 at the School Age Center/Youth Center. Teen summer campers prepared appetizers for the contest. The entries were judged based on taste, presentation, creativity, and nutrition.

registered Fort McCoy volunteers.

Registration is required. For more information, call 608-388-3505.

### Hispanic Heritage Month event scheduled for Sept. 19

Fort McCoy's Hispanic Heritage Month observance is scheduled for 11:30 a.m. Sept. 19 at McCoy's Community Center, building 1571.

The Borinqueneers, a documentary about the Puerto Rican 65th Infantry Regiment.

USO-Wisconsin will offer free tacos after the event in building 1501.

For more information, call the Equal Opportunity office at 608-388-6153.

### Sensory class scheduled for Sept. 20

"Growing a Sensory-Sound Child" is scheduled for 9:30 to 11 a.m. Sept. 20 at Army Community Service (ACS), building 2111.

The class covers sensory dysfunction and reviews simple techniques to get back to sensory regulation.

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

For more information, or to register call 608-388-3505.

### Hixon Forest/La Crosse trip planned for Sept. 21

A trip to Hixon Forest and downtown La Crosse is planned for 3 to 10 p.m. Sept. 21.

The trip will involve an afternoon hike

through Hixon Forest, then dinner and sightseeing in downtown La Crosse.

The trip costs \$15 and covers transportation. Dinner will be on your own. The bus will pick up and drop off participants at McCoy's Community Center, building 1571.

The event is open to all Fort McCoy employees and their guests.

Registration is required by Sept. 14. For more information, call 608-388-3011.

### Military spouse job briefing set for Sept. 25

A military spouse employment briefing is scheduled for 9 to 10:30 a.m. Sept. 25 at Army Community Service, building 2111.

The workshop is designed to help military spouses understand the Department of the Army hiring system and the Priority Placement Program-Spouse.

The briefing will cover federal hiring programs to support military spouses, the registration process for the Priority Placement Program, and key components of a federal resume.

Registration is required. For more information, call 608-388-3505.

### Fort McCoy Job Fair scheduled for Sept. 25

A job fair is scheduled for 10:30 a.m. to noon Sept. 25 at Army Community Service, building 2111.

A human-resources specialist will be at Army Community Service to talk about job opportunities at Fort McCoy, including with

the Directorate of Family and Morale, Welfare, and Recreation; the Department of the Army; and Army and Air Force Exchange Service.

The job fair will follow the military spouse employment briefing.

For more information, call 608-388-3505.

### Shuttles to Oktoberfest planned for Sept. 26-28

Leisure Travel Services is offering shuttles to Oktoberfest in La Crosse, Wis., from Sept. 26-28.

The shuttle on Sept. 26 for the Torch Light Parade will leave at 5:30 p.m. and return by 9 p.m. The shuttle on Sept. 27 to the Oktoberfest grounds will depart at 5 p.m. and return by 11 p.m. The shuttle on Sept. 28 for the Oktoberfest parade will depart at 8 a.m. and return by 4 p.m.

All shuttles will depart from McCoy's Community Center, building 1571. The cost is \$10 per person and only covers transportation.

The shuttle is open to all Fort McCoy employees and their guests.

Registration is required by Sept. 20. For more information, call 608-388-3011.

### Arena Cheese Factory trip set for Sept. 26

A trip to Arena Cheese Factory in Arena, Wis., is scheduled for 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Sept. 26.

Arena Cheese Factory is home of the original "Co-Jack" cheese. The trip will include a tour to watch artisan cheesemakers work.

Admission to the cheese factory is free. Participants may bring a packed lunch or money to buy lunch at Grandma Mary's Cafe.

There is no cost for the bus trip. Registration is required by Sept. 24.

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

For more information, call 608-388-7262.

### Vertical Illusions bus trip planned for Oct. 19

Leisure Travel Services will offer a bus trip to Vertical Illusions in Wisconsin Dells, Wis., on Oct. 19.

The bus will depart from McCoy's Community Center, building 1571, at 8 a.m. and return at 6 p.m.

Transportation costs \$20 per person. Fees for Vertical Illusions activities are extra. Activities include zip lining, rock climbing, and rappelling. Visit [www.verticalillusions.com](http://www.verticalillusions.com) for information.

Registration required by Oct. 11. Open to Fort McCoy employees and their guests. Call 608-388-3011.

### Next issue of The Real McCoy

The next issue of The Real McCoy will be published Sept. 27. The deadline for submissions is Sept. 18.

For more information, call 608-388-4128.



Dining Facility

Dining Facility 1362, located at the Noncommissioned Officer Academy, is open. Military members and Department of Defense civilians on official orders for temporary duty training may use dining facilities. Groups of 10 or more must first coordinate through the Food Program Management Office at 608-388-6518/4739.

Hours

Breakfast — 6-8 a.m.  
Lunch — 11:30 a.m.-1 p.m.  
Dinner — 5-6:30 p.m.

Rates

Breakfast — \$3.45  
Lunch — \$5.60  
Dinner — \$4.85

Recreation

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

Better Opportunities for Single Soldiers (BOSS): Meets at 4 p.m. each quarter in building 1363. Next meeting: Sept. 12. Call 608-388-3200.

iSportsman: Portal for hunting, fishing, and outdoor recreational activities. Register, apply for permits, and sign in or out at <https://mccoy.sportsman.net>.

McCoy's Community Center: Building 1571. Offers books, arcade, gaming area, and bowling. Manager has discretion on closing time. Call 608-388-7060.

Bowling Center: Open 11 a.m.-11 p.m. Mon.-Fri. and 4-10 p.m. Sat.-Sun. Extreme bowling 4-9 p.m. Fri.

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

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

Rumpel Fitness Center: Building 1122. Open 5 a.m.-8 p.m. Mon.-Thurs., 5 a.m.-7 p.m. Fri., and 6 a.m.-2 p.m. Sat.-Sun. 24-hour access available to those who register. Call 608-388-2290.

Indoor swimming pool, atrium, sauna

and steamroom: Open 6 a.m.-7 p.m. Mon.-Thurs., 6 a.m.-6:30 p.m. Fri., and 9 a.m.-1:30 p.m. Sat.-Sun.

Sportsman's Range: Open 3-7 p.m. Fri. and 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Sat.-Sun. Call 608-388-9162/3517.

Tactics Paintball & Laser Tag: By appointment with two-day notice. Call 800-531-4703.

Dining

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

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

Sports bar: Open 4-11 p.m. Mon.-Fri. and 4-10 p.m. Sat.-Sun. Manager has discretion on closing time.

Snack Avenue: Building 1538. Located inside Express. Open 6 a.m.-7 p.m. Mon.-Sat. and 8 a.m.-3 p.m. Sun. Call 608-269-5604 or 608-388-4343.

Specialty Express Food Court: Building 1538. Open 10 a.m.-6 p.m. Mon.-Fri. Call 608-269-5615, ext. 303.

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

Services

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

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

Car Rentals (Enterprise): Info available at the Exchange, building 1538. Use the phone at the Enterprise sign. Call 608-782-6183 or 800-654-3131; use CDP# 1787245.

Car Wash: Building 1568. Offers self-service and automatic bays and vacuums. Open 24/7. May close during extremely cold weather. Accepts cash, tokens, or credit cards. Token machine on site. Tokens also sold at McCoy's Community Center, building 1571. Call 608-388-4161.

Commissary: Building 1537. Open 10 a.m.-6

facilities services

This schedule is projected through **Sept. 26**. ***Bold, italic typeface*** indicates a change since the last publication. Call facilities to verify hours. To report updates, call 608-388-2769.

p.m. Mon.-Sat. Early bird/self-checkout open 9-10 a.m. Mon.-Fri. Call 608-388-3542/3543.

Computer Lab: Building 50, room 100A. Open 7:30 a.m.-4 p.m. Mon.-Fri. Computers, projector, printer, scanner, fax machine available. Call 608-388-2474.

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

Education/Learning Center: Building 50, room 123. Open 8 a.m.-4 p.m. Mon.-Fri. Call 608-388-7311.

Exchange: Building 1538. Open 8 a.m.-7 p.m. Mon.-Sat. and 8 a.m.-3 p.m. Sun. Call 608-269-5604, ext. 101 or ext. 4343.

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

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

Laundrette/Dry Cleaning: Building 1538. Open 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Mon.-Fri. and 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Sat. Call 608-269-1075.

Laundry Facilities: Open 24/7. Exclusively for use by Soldiers training on Fort McCoy. Civilian, family members, and retired military members are not authorized to use these facilities. Call 608-388-3800 to find out which buildings are open.

Military Clothing: Building 1538. Open 8

a.m.-7 p.m. Mon.-Sat. and 8 a.m.-3 p.m. Sun. Call 608-269-5604, ext. 203.

Patriot Outfitters: Building 1538. Open 9 a.m.-6 p.m. Mon.-Fri. and 9 a.m.-4 p.m. Sat.-Sun. Call 608-269-1115.

Permit Sales: Building 2168. Hunting, fishing, and firearm permits. Open 7 a.m.-3:30 p.m. Mon.-Fri. Call 608-388-3337.

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

R.I.A. Credit Union: Building 1501. Open 9 a.m.-1 p.m. Mon.-Wed. and 9 a.m.-1 p.m. and 2-5 p.m. Thurs.-Fri. ATMs are located in building 1501 (available 24/7); McCoy's, building 1571; Exchange, building 1538; and IHG Army Hotels, building 51 (available 24/7). Call 608-388-2171.

Service Station/Express/Class VI: Building 1538. Open 6 a.m.-7 p.m. Mon.-Sat. and 8 a.m.-3 p.m. Sun. Call 608-388-4343. Pay-at-the-pump gas is open 24/7.

Visitor Control Center: Building 35. Call 608-388-4988 for hours.

Family Support

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

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

Child Development Center: Building 1796. Open 6:30 a.m.-5:15 p.m. Mon.-Fri. Call 608-388-3534/2238.

Housing Office: Building 6158. Open 7 a.m.-4 p.m. Mon.-Fri. Family Housing, Single Soldier Housing, and referral services. Call 608-388-2804.

Military and Family Life Consultant Program (MFLC): Building 2111. Provides education, information, and support for anyone affiliated with the military. MFLC services are confidential. Available 8 a.m.-4 p.m. Mon.-Fri. or by appointment. Call 608-388-8068 or 608-598-7324

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

School Age/Youth Center: Building 1792. Activities for youth grades kindergarten through 12. Offers after-school, nonschool, and inclement-weather care for eligible youth. Open nonschool days 6:30 a.m.-5:30 p.m. or 2:30-5:30 p.m. Mon.-Fri. for After School Program. Call 608-388-4373.

Health Care

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

Fort McCoy Civilian Employee Assistance Program: Screening and referral services for civilian employees and Family members experiencing difficulties due to problems related to substance abuse, mental health, marital/family discord, or other causes. Call 608-388-2441/5955.

Fort McCoy Sexual Harassment/Assault Response & Prevention (SHARP): 24/7 hotline: 608-388-3000.

Occupational Health Clinic: Building 2669. Open 7 a.m.-3 p.m. Mon.-Fri. Call 608-388-3025.

TRICARE: TRICARE North Region, 877-874-2273; TRICARE West Region, 877-988-9378; TRICARE South Region, 800-444-5445; TRICARE for Life, 866-773-0404; or [www.tricare.mil](http://www.tricare.mil).

Troop Medical Clinic: Building 2669. Call 608-388-3025 for available services or assistance locating local services while training at Fort McCoy.

Worship

Catholic: Chapel 10, building 1759. Mass at 9:15 a.m. Sun. Fellowship 9:30-11 a.m. Sun. at building 2675.

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

Mormon: Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, 702 E. Montgomery St., Sparta, Wis. Services from 10 a.m.-1 p.m. Sun. Call 608-269-3377.

Protestant: Chapel 1, building 2672. Service at 10:30 a.m. Sun. Fellowship 9:30-11 a.m. Sun. at building 2675.

Protestant Women of the Chapel: Building 2675. Bible study. Call 608-388-3528.

Spanish Language: Catholic services in Norwalk at 4 p.m. Sun.; call 608-823-7906. Seventh-Day Adventist services in Tomah; call 608-374-2142.

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

Organizations

American Federation of Government Employees (AFGE), Local 1882: Building 1411. Open 7 a.m.-4 p.m. Mon.-Fri. Meets at 5 p.m. second Tuesday of each month. Call 608-388-1882.

American Society of Military Comptrollers: Meets several times throughout the year. For more information, call 608-269-1912.

Reserve Officers Association, Fort McCoy-Readiness 43: For more information, call 920-535-0515 or email [justdave49@centurylink.net](mailto:justdave49@centurylink.net).

USO Wisconsin at Fort McCoy: Building 1501. Open noon-8 p.m. Thurs.-Mon. For more info or to volunteer, call 414-477-7279 or email [ehazlett@usowisconsin.org](mailto:ehazlett@usowisconsin.org).

Warrant Officers Association, Chapter 0317: For more information, email [usawoamccoy@outlook.com](mailto:usawoamccoy@outlook.com).

GIANT VOICE EMERGENCY-NOTIFICATION SIGNALS			
CONDITION	IF YOU HEAR	THIS INDICATES	INDIVIDUAL ACTIONS
Natural Disaster	3- to 5-minute steady tone or voice announcement	Disaster imminent or in progress. Examples: Tornado, flash flood, hazardous-materials release, wildfire.	Be alert. Ensure all personnel are warned. Take cover by evacuating to a safe location or sheltering in place. Notify supervisor of location. Tune in to local radio or TV stations for emergency information.
Attack	30-sec. to 5-min. wavering tone or voice announcement	Attack imminent or in progress. Examples: Vehicle bomb, terrorist action, release of biological or radioactive materials.	Be alert. Ensure all personnel are warned. Implement force-protection condition (FPCON) procedures as indicated. Take cover by evacuating to a safe location or sheltering in place. Notify supervisor of location.
All Clear	Voice announcement	Immediate threat from disaster or attack is over.	Be alert for secondary hazards. Account for all personnel. Check building. Await instructions on FPCON level. Report fires, injuries and other hazards.

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

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

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

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

The Real McCoy

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

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

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

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

Garrison Commander .....Col. Hui Chae Kim

Public Affairs Officer .....Tonya Townsend

Deputy Public Affairs Officer.....Bill Coppernoll

Editor.....Scott T. Sturkol

Public Affairs Specialist .....Theresa R. Fitzgerald

Editorial Assistant.....Aimee Malone

Commemorative Area Caretaker .....Robin R. Michalski

Editorial Content .....608-388-2769

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

FIREARM REGISTRATION POLICY

All privately owned firearms brought on the installation must be registered through the Directorate of Emergency Services (DES) Police Department. Firearm registration is required by Army Regulation 190-11, 4-5, "Privately owned weapons and ammunition." Firearms are required to be registered prior to entrance or immediately upon entering any lands identified as Fort McCoy property. For more information, call 608-388-2266.