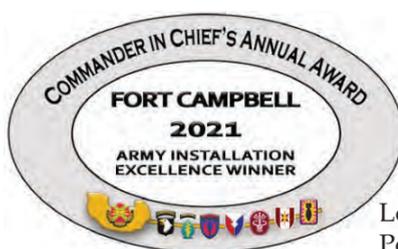


APSU offers military students one-stop shop with new center



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GATE OPENINGS

Fort Campbell Gates 2 and 5 are open 5-10 a.m. Monday-Friday and closed weekends, days of no scheduled activities, or DONAS, and federal holidays. All other gates will observe their normal hours of operation. For updates or more information about gate hours, download the Digital Garrison App and select Fort Campbell.

YOUR ARMY

Post leaders congratulate DoDEA on 75 year anniversary

On behalf of Maj. Gen. JP McGee, commanding general of the 101st Airborne Division (Air Assault) and Fort Campbell, and our entire military community, we congratulate the Department of Defense Education Activity as they celebrate 75th years of excellence. — A2

YOUR SOLDIERS



Proud Americans welcome new commander

Soldiers assigned to 2nd Battalion, 32nd Field Artillery Regiment, 1st Brigade Combat Team, 101st Airborne Division (Air Assault), bade goodbye to Lt. Col. Christopher Carter and welcomed Lt. Col. Brian Dyer Oct. 5 during a change of command ceremony on the Division Parade Field. — A7



Division's Triple Threat Band honors legacy after 60 years

101st Airborne Division (Air Assault) Band members have a long history of pushing themselves forward as both musicians and Soldiers, and that legacy can be traced back to the "Triple Threat Band" that served from approximately 1957-61. — A4

HALLOWEEN



Post to mark Halloween with run, Operation Friendly Ghost

With Halloween right around the corner, many children and Families are preparing for the holiday. Fort Campbell residents will find there are a couple activities available Oct. 30 for Soldiers and Families complete with a costumed run followed by trick-or-treating. — A5

PERFORMANCE TRIAD

Sleep is vital for health, performance, & wellbeing

U.S. ARMY GARRISON-FORT CAMPBELL

On-post housing improvements continue



SIRENA CLARK | FORT CAMPBELL COURIER

John Clark, ICC independent consultant, left, Christine Leary, project engineer, Issac Wright, superintendent, and Matt Kondus, assistant development manager conduct a walk-through inspection Oct. 12 in one of the newly-renovated New Hammond Height housing units on Cordes Street. Campbell Crossing expects the units on Cordes Street to be ready within the next two weeks once final touchups are completed.

Sirena Clark
Fort Campbell Courier

Campbell Crossing completed final walk-through inspections of nine newly-renovated housing units in the New Hammond Heights community on Cordes Street Oct. 12 after months of planning and construction.

Karsten Haake, project director for Campbell Crossing, Lendlease Communities' privatized housing community on Fort Campbell, said residents can expect to see an increasing number of housing improvements over the next few years.

New look

The nine homes are the first set of renovations from an \$87.4 mil-

lion housing development plan the Army approved in 2020. Lendlease Communities successfully negotiating an additional \$233.1 million investment into on-post housing. Ted Reece, chief of the Directorate of Public Works-Housing Services, said the large investment would lead to significant changes for on-post communities in the future.

"The Army and Lendlease have embarked on a multi-phased \$322 million new home build, renovation and demolition project," Reece said. "Over the next five years, Lendlease will construct 680 new homes, renovate 495 units and demolish 680 legacy homes that no longer meet the needs of our current occupants."

see HOUSING on Page A7



DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE EDUCATION ACTIVITY

Schools exhibit academic excellence

DoDEA marks 75th anniversary

Mari-Alice Jasper
Fort Campbell Courier

Oct. 14 marked the beginning of the Department of Defense Education Activity's 75th anniversary yearlong celebration during the 2021-2022 school year, which continues its tradition of excellence in education.

DoDEA operates 160 schools in eight districts across 11 countries, seven U.S. states and two U.S. territories for more than 67,000 students. This includes the six schools at Fort Campbell.

Colonel Andrew Q. Jordan, Fort Campbell garrison commander, said DoDEA's administrators and staff understand what's important to military Families and their students - high-quality education in a supportive, dependable and stable environment.

"These dedicated professionals are experts in dealing with the challenges and hardship unique to military children, like permanent change of station moves and deployments," Jordan said.

High-quality education

Fort Campbell's schools are among the most academically competitive in the area, Jordan said.

One thing that sets Fort Campbell schools apart from other schools is the learning environment.

In the past five years, Fort Campbell has welcomed three 21st Century school facilities - Marshall Elementary School in 2015; Barkley Elementary School in 2017; and Fort Campbell High School in 2018.

see SCHOOLS on Page A1

1ST BRIGADE COMBAT TEAM



SPC. LYNWOOD THOMAS | 1ST BCT

Members of the Fort Campbell Army Ten-Miler Team assigned to 1st Brigade Combat Team, begin running Oct. 10 in the 37th Annual Army Ten-Miler at Fort Campbell. The race, typically hosted in Washington, is virtual this year to mitigate the risk of spreading COVID-19. Runners competing in the race will do so at their home stations. Participants have from Oct. 10 to Nov. 29 to complete the run and submit their times no later than Nov. 30.

Ready to run

1st BCT Soldiers run in virtual Army Ten-Miler

SpC. Lynwood Thomas
1st Brigade Combat Team

A handful of Soldiers assigned to 1st Brigade Combat Team, 101st Airborne Division (Air Assault) took their marks Oct. 10 to run in the 37th annual Army Ten-Miler at Fort Campbell hosted by the Directorate of Family and Morale, Welfare and Recreation.

The race, typically hosted in Washington, is virtual this year to mitigate the risk of spreading COVID-19. Runners competing in the race will do so at their home stations. Participants have from Oct. 10 to Nov. 29 to complete the run and submit their times no later than Nov. 30.

Carrie Howell-Rattigan, MWR Sports, Fitness and Aquatics operations assistant, said MWR followed to all COVID-19 mandates and guidance to facilitate the virtual run.

"Every year Fort Campbell usually sponsors two teams," Howell-Rattigan said. "Because it's virtual this year, everyone registered as members of our team. They will run here at Fort Campbell. We have one Soldier who will be running separately. He's in the field, and he will be running out in the field and turning in a time for us from his smart watch. Then we'll submit the times and see how we stack up against other garrisons. All the garrisons submit teams to run the race."

MWR hosted a qualifying race to identify Soldiers for Team Fort Campbell that includes a men's and a women's group, each with seven participants.

"It's really, really fun to go to D.C. to run it and to see all of the monuments and everything," said Maj. Jen Purser, S2, intelligence officer, Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 1st BCT. "I've done the Ten-Miler like 10 times in D.C., and the route is super cool. You get to see the Washington Monument, and you're running down the Washington Mall. It's just beautiful, and it's fun to go as a team, but if we get to do this or do nothing, I'd rather be able to do it from here."



SPC. LYNWOOD THOMAS | 1ST BCT

Second Lieutenant David Kim, S2, Intelligence Planner, Headquarters and Headquarters Company Brigade, 1st Brigade Combat Team, 101st Airborne Division (Air Assault), stretches Oct. 10 before running in the 37th Annual Army Ten-Miler at Fort Campbell.

see RUN on Page A7

YOUR ARMY

U.S. ARMY GARRISON-FORT CAMPBELL

Post leaders congratulate DoDEA on 75 years

On behalf of Maj. Gen. JP McGee, commanding general of the 101st Airborne Division (Air Assault) and Fort Campbell, and our entire military community, we congratulate the Department of Defense Education Activity as they celebrate 75th years of excellence.

DoDEA's administrators and staff understand what's important to military Families and their students, which is high quality education in a supportive, dependable and stable environment.

These dedicated professionals are experts in dealing with the challenges and hardship unique to military children, like permanent change of station moves and deployments.

DoDEA's programs and strategies keep



Col. Andrew Q. Jordan
Fort Campbell garrison commander

parents and students connected during periods of separation and allow our service members to continue their focus on our nation's defense.

Fort Campbell Families are the beneficia-

ries of this exceptional school system. Fort Campbell's elementary, middle and high schools are among the best, most academically competitive in the area.

Fort Campbell High School is one of only two DoDEA stateside high schools specifically serving the Army population. Over the last five years, Fort Campbell High School achieved a 100% graduation rate, and graduates earned a total of \$27.8M in college scholarships.

DoDEA continues to deliver on its mission of educate and empower military-connected students to succeed in a dynamic world. The U.S. Department of Education recently recognized Fort Campbell's Andre Lucas El-

ementary as a National Blue Ribbon School for 2021. We are beaming with pride that Andre Lucas Elementary is one of only three DoDEA schools, and one of 325 schools nationally, to be recognized for their academic excellence.

This is due in large part to DoDEA's dedicated service to our Families through conflict wars, natural disasters, 9/11, COVID-19 and more. DoDEA has been a sustained partner.

We here at Fort Campbell congratulate and commend you on the 75 years of contributing to Soldier readiness and improving the quality of life for military Families here at Fort Campbell and around the world.

Congratulations! Air Assault!

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AWARENESS MONTH

ACS-FAP offers assistance for domestic abuse

Jayne R. Stalder
Family Advocacy Program

Domestic abuse and violence happens in a variety of ways. It may be a pattern of abusive behaviors or it might be one act of violence. Soldiers and Family members should never suffer in silence. Fort Campbell offers two programs that are available 24 hours a day to address such matters.

Blanchfield Army Community Hospital's Family Advocacy Program is the reporting point of contact for all incidents of child abuse and domestic violence. During duty hours please call 270-798-8601. After duty hours contact the hospital operator at 270-798-8400 and ask to speak to the on-call social worker.

Victims of domestic violence

may call Army Community Service-Family Advocacy Program hotline 24 hours a day to learn what their reporting options are and obtain a greater understanding of supportive services that are available.

The ACS-FAP staff have many years in the field and understand patterns of unhealthy relationships. We want to create a safe pathway ahead for those affected by domestic violence regardless if they choose to stay in their relationship or leave for safety.

Military life is tough, and we know military Families endure a variety of hardships that increase or exacerbate already stressful situations. Domestic violence might occur when a Family is trying to deal with a complex set of problems. The staff of ACS-FAP understands and wants to ensure

Military life is tough, and we know military Families endure a variety of hardships that increase or exacerbate already stressful situations.

each and every one of our military Families have the tools to adjust to military life, remedy stressful situations and communicate through conflict, albeit relationships, parenting, financial, spiritual, transportation, work life balance and more.

When abuse or violence persists. Tell someone. Seek support. Understand the available options. Know what your community resources are. Increase you and your Family's safety.

If you know someone who might be in an abusive relationship, but

aren't too sure what to say, here are a couple starting points:

- "I'm concerned for your safety."
- "It's not your fault."
- "You are not alone."
- "You do not deserve this."

What do you do when you suspect an individual is abusive to his or her partner? You might help the person identify and recognize his or her violent or aggressive behaviors. Do not allow that person to blame the victim. Remind him or her that love is not a form of belittling, degrading or humiliating. Love is respect.

When Families find themselves yelling at one another, becoming angry with one another, feeling on the verge of lashing out, disengage. Call a "technical time out." Take some time to gather your thoughts and think clearly through the situation. Sleep on it and reengage when those emotions aren't so raw.

If you need assistance or support, ACS-FAP prevention, education, and training specialists know and understand Family life and can provide tools to strengthen the resilience found within our military Families.

We offer a variety of classes centered on relationship engagement, as well as parent and child interactions. Don't hesitate to join one of our classes. We are here to support you through your military life's journey.

ENERGY ACTION MONTH



SIRENA CLARK | FORT CAMPBELL COURIER

Captain Gabriella Lawrence, 72nd Veterinary Detachment, 531st Hospital Center, speaks with Mir Khan, energy engineer, Directorate of Public Works, Oct. 13 at Fort Campbell Exchange. October is Energy Action Month and an opportunity for Families to learn how to change habits or create new ones to use energy more efficiently.

Post community learns about energy conservation



SIRENA CLARK | FORT CAMPBELL COURIER

Ruchi Singhal, left, senior program manager at Tennessee Valley Authority, explains a lightbulb display to Kimberly McClintock and her son Ayden, 12, Oct. 13 at Fort Campbell Exchange. October is Energy Action Month and an opportunity for Families to learn how to change habits or create new ones to use energy more efficiently. The display demonstrates the difference in wattage between LED and incandescent bulbs.

EAGLE JUSTICE



COURTS-MARTIAL RESULTS

• At a general court-martial, a Private (E-2) was convicted by a military judge, pursuant to his pleas, of two specifications of assault consummated by battery upon an intimate partner, seven specifications of willfully disobeying a superior commissioned officer, one specification of willfully disobeying a noncommissioned officer, and one specification of false official

statement in violation of Articles 128, 90, 91, and 107 Uniform Code of Military Justice (UCMJ). Sentence: confinement for 90 days; to be discharged from the Army with a bad-conduct discharge.

• At a general court-martial, a Specialist (E-4) was convicted by a military judge, pursuant to his plea, of one specification of assault consummated by a battery in violation of Article 128, UCMJ. Sentence:

reduction to the grade of E-1; 3 months of hard labor without confinement; to be discharged from the Army with a bad-conduct discharge.

OVERALL JUSTICE ACTIONS

Total Courts-Martial: 2
DUI General Officer Memorandums of Reprimand: 10
Other Misconduct GOMORs: 11
Article 15s: 137

Administrative Separations: 118

- Illegal Drug Use: 40
- Other Serious Misconduct: 20
- Pattern of Misconduct: 7
- Rehab Failure: 6
- Unsatisfactory Performance: 5
- Physical or Mental Conditions: 27
- Failure to Meet Weight Control Standards: 7
- Lack of Family Care Plan: 2
- Other: 4

Fort Campbell COURIER

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NEWS

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AWARENESS MONTH

Banner contest winners speak out against domestic violence

Sirena Clark
Fort Campbell Courier

As people exit TC Freeman Gate and Gate 1, they will see banners designed by Maj. Derek Folk and Kathy Deluca-Strunk to raise awareness of domestic violence.

Oct. 12, Folk assigned to 212th Medical Detachment, 531st Hospital Center; and Deluca-Strunk were named the winners of the Domestic Violence Awareness Month banner design contest hosted by Army Community Service-Family Advocacy Program.

Both Folk and Deluca-Strunk had their own reasons for designing banners to support the cause in speaking out against domestic violence.

Deluca-Strunk's design expressed that domestic violence could happen to anyone, she said.

"I wanted to convey that seeking help is not a sign of weakness or anything to be ashamed of, and that it's OK to accept help from others. In addition, I wanted to represent that the victim can be male or female," said Deluca-Strunk while pointing out the parameters that define domestic abuse go beyond physical hitting.

"Domestic abuse can happen to anyone, and it's not just limited to physical abuse," she said. "It can be in the form of verbal abuse or mental cruelty, which may prevent the victim from seeking help due to low self-esteem issues."

Deluca-Strunk hopes her banner will encourage victims to seek help.

Folk wanted to use his banner to highlight that domestic violence happens in and out of the military.

"Domestic violence is an ongoing issue across the military and society as a whole," he said. "As a clinical psychologist, I frequently see individuals who have been affected by domestic violence in some way. There is no room in our society for violence, especially within a relationship or family setting."

Folk decided to use colors commonly associated with domestic violence throughout the theme of his design.

"The purple ribbon is commonly associated with raising awareness for domestic violence and showing support for its victims, which made it an ideal focal point for the design," he said. "As requested by the Family Advocacy Program, the



SIRENA CLARK | FORT CAMPBELL COURIER

Major Derek Folk, 212th Medical Detachment, 531st Hospital Center recently works on his Domestic Violence Awareness banner design at the Behavioral Health Center. Folk won first place for his design and was given an award certificate for the banner. Domestic Violence Awareness Month was established nationwide in 1987 as a way to advocate for victims and awareness that domestic violence can happen to anyone regardless of race and socioeconomic stature.

"United to End" campaign logo was incorporated, and its colors were utilized throughout the design."

Domestic violence awareness

Domestic Violence Awareness Month was established nationwide in 1987 as a way to advocate for victims and awareness that domestic violence can happen to anyone regardless of race and socioeconomic stature.

According to the U.S. Department of Justice's Bureau of Justice Statistics, 95% of assaults on spouses or ex-spouses are committed by men against women. Nearly one-third of women who seek care from hospital emergency rooms are there for injuries resulting from domestic

violence, and every year approximately 4,000 victims of the 3 million reports are interactions that end with the death of the victim.

The National Coalition Against Domestic Violence, estimates 72% of all murder-suicides involve an intimate partner and 94% of the victims of these murder-suicides are female.

While domestic violence affects both genders, the percentage of deaths and victims are overwhelmingly female.

How to get help

The National Domestic Violence Hotline at 800-799-7233 is anonymous and confidential. The website <https://www.thehotline.org/> is another resource where

victims can start an online chat if calling isn't possible, or they also can start a text by reaching out to 88788. For those needing protection or shelter, Clarksville Area Urban Ministries operates a SafeHouse that can be reached at 931-552-6900.

On post, ACS-FAP is a resource for victims of domestic violence and is located at 1501 William C. Lee Road and can be reached by phone at 270-412-5500. The domestic abuse victim advocate hotline, available 24 hours a day, can be reached at 931-980-5787. To report domestic violence or child abuse, contact Blanchfield Army Community Hospital's Family Advocacy Program at 270-798-8601 during business hours, 270-798-8400 after hours, or call 911.



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NEWS

101ST AIRBORNE DIVISION (AIR ASSAULT) BAND

Division's Triple Threat Band honors legacy after 60 years

Ethan Steinquest
Fort Campbell Courier

CLARKSVILLE, Tenn. - 101st Airborne Division (Air Assault) Band members have a long history of pushing themselves forward as both musicians and Soldiers, and that legacy can be traced back to the "Triple Threat Band" that served from approximately 1957-61.

The unit earned the nickname from Gen. William Westmoreland in 1959 after surprising United States Army Central, or Third Army, with its first-class performance during a readiness inspection, proving themselves as equally capable musicians, infantrymen and paratroopers.

Surviving band members have maintained a strong spirit and connection to one another, most recently reuniting Oct. 9 at Clarksville's Best Western Plus Atrium Inn and Suites for an evening of music, fellowship and reflection.

"I've been to just about all of the reunions we've had since we started doing them in 1984," said retired Maj. George Carter. "It just solidifies our friendships because we know everybody and what we've done together. When one of us passes on, it affects all of us because we're so close. In a band, you're close every day, and we love that - we love being musicians."

Carter's years of experience in that field came flooding back when the 101st Airborne Division (Air Assault) Band's brass quintet kicked off the reunion, perform-



ETHAN STEINQUEST | FORT CAMPBELL COURIER

Retired Maj. George Carter delivers remarks during a memorial service hosted as part of the Triple Threat Band reunion Oct. 9 at Clarksville's Best Western Plus Atrium Inn and Suites. Members served in the 101st Airborne Division (Air Assault) Band from approximately 1957-61 and earned the nickname from Gen. William Westmoreland for their strong performance during a readiness inspection from United States Army Central, or Third Army.

ing a decades-spanning selection of standards.

"I was very pleased with everything that's happened, especially the support we got from Fort Campbell and the 101st Airborne Division Band," said event organizer and retired Chief Warrant Officer 3 Danny Jaynes. "It's all about camaraderie, and we have that primarily because of our leader, Col. Eugene W. Allen."

Allen passed away in 2020 and was among several Triple Threat

Band members honored during a memorial service at the reunion. While serving as Fort Campbell's warrant officer bandmaster, his "never give up" mentality created a strong unit culture that continues inspiring his former Soldiers.

"There's an old saying in jump school: 'When you get to the end of your rope, tie a knot and hang on,'" Jaynes said. "My rope had a lot of knots in it, but these guys carried me through. It was a spirit that permeated itself through the



ETHAN STEINQUEST | FORT CAMPBELL COURIER

The 101st Airborne Division (Air Assault) Band's brass quintet performs during the Triple Threat Band reunion hosted Oct. 9 at Clarksville's Best Western Plus Atrium Inn and Suites. Triple Threat Band members served in the 101st Airborne Division (Air Assault) Band from approximately 1957-61 and earned the nickname from Gen. William Westmoreland for their strong performance during a readiness inspection from United States Army Central, or Third Army.

unit, not to give up through adversity."

Jaynes later followed in Allen's footsteps as bandmaster in 1983 and began organizing the first Triple Threat Band reunion. Through his connections to younger Soldiers serving at the time, the events grew into a cross-generational celebration of the 101st Airborne Division (Air Assault) Band.

"These Triple Threat guys were long gone out of the Army by the time I even got here, other than Mr. Jaynes, who was the bandmaster," said retired 1st Sgt. Charlie Doepker. "There were a lot of stories I heard from him when I was assigned back here in the 80s,

so I already knew about some of the history and the names even though I'd never met them. It's fun to connect the dots."

Attendees spent much of the evening sharing pieces of that history, laughing together as they recalled favorite moments. But whatever they went through, they were united in their goal to accomplish the Army's mission.

"The big thing I try to tell people who ask about the band is that we represent the Army," said retired Army 1st Sgt. Mike Noland. "If you get a band out there like the Screaming Eagles who look and sound great, that's what the public sees, and we take pride in representing the Army that way."

Celebrating a birthday?

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NEWS

U.S. ARMY GARRISON-FORT CAMPBELL

Post to mark Halloween with run, Operation Friendly Ghost

Sirena Clark
Fort Campbell Courier

With Halloween right around the corner, many children and Families are preparing for the holiday. Fort Campbell residents will find there are a couple activities available Oct. 30 for Soldiers and Families complete with a costumed run followed by trick-or-treating.

GLOtober

Those interested in a run complete with Halloween costume contest, the Directorate of Family and Morale, Welfare and Recreation will host GLOtober, a 5K and 1-Mile fun run that begins 5 p.m. Oct. 30 at Shaw Physical Fitness Center, 7979 California Road. Race registration begins at 4 p.m. and the costume contest begins at 4:30 p.m.

"GLOtober run is a great opportunity for you to include Family fitness into your Halloween tradition," said Carrie Howell-Rattigan, operations assistant, MWR Sports Fitness and Aquatics.

Participants will be given glow gear to light up the evening during the run. The event is free and stroller-friendly. Families with children are welcome and costumes are encouraged.

"Fun events like these promote healthy relationships among Families and encourage a healthy lifestyle through fitness in the Fort Campbell community," said Brian Hinton, sports fitness supervisor, MWR Sports Fitness and Aquatics.



FORT CAMPBELL COURIER ARCHIVE

Private First Class Jquan Wright, 194th Military Police Company, 716th Military Police Battalion, gives candy to 4-year-old trick-or-treater Victoria Ojada during the 2019 Operation Friendly Ghost on post. This year Operation Friendly Ghost takes place 6-8 p.m. Oct. 30. More than 50 Fort Campbell Military Police and Better Opportunities for Single Soldiers volunteers will be posted throughout neighborhoods to help Soldiers and Families safely cross streets while trick-or-treating.

Operation
Friendly Ghost

Families can rest assured when the time for trick-or-treating arrives, Military Police along with Better Opportunities for Single Soldiers volunteers will be on the look-out to make sure little ghosts and goblins stay safe.

More than 50 Fort Campbell Military Police and 30 BOSS volunteers will be posted throughout neighborhoods 6-8 p.m. Oct. 30 to ensure

residents feel safe and to prevent the occurrence of petty crimes, said 1st. Lt. Sydney Valencia, 194th Military Police Company, 716th Military Police Battalion.

Volunteers will be posted at nearly every crossing point to safely guide trick-or-treaters across streets, she said.

Sergeant Russell Lovelace, BOSS president, said all Soldiers can volunteer with BOSS regardless of marital status.

"BOSS' mission has always been to improve the quality of life for all Soldiers, not just single Soldiers," Lovelace said. "Making our streets safer with our volunteers is just one way BOSS can ensure the mission will be as successful and safe as possible."

Operation Friendly Ghost is a chance for volunteers to interact with the community in a fun way, all while helping military police, he said.

"By doing this not only do we connect with more Soldiers by word-of-mouth, but we also are showing the community BOSS can assist with other programs on the installation," Lovelace said.

Karsten Haake, project director, Campbell Crossing, said residents who do not want to participate in passing out candy for Halloween are asked to keep the outside lights of their home off. This will help trick-or-treaters easily identify these homes.

"Our overall mission is to provide safe communities where our military Families can live, work and thrive," Haake said. "We are thankful for the extra measures Fort Campbell has taken through Operation Friendly Ghost to ensure our Families on post can enjoy a safe and fun night of trick-or-treating."

Stay alert

Halloween tends to present potential dangerous for pedestrians and drivers alike because there are an increased number of people on

the sidewalks in areas that may not be well-lit. The combination of low lighting with small children dressed in dark clothing can lead to traffic accidents at crossing points if both parents and drivers aren't vigilant, Valencia said.

"For the drivers we are asking that if it isn't absolutely necessary, that they don't drive inside the neighborhoods," she said. "Obviously some people are going to have to come and go as regular traffic, however, maintain the driving speed in those neighborhoods, drive slowly because kids are going to be dressed up and not all of them will have a light source on them."

Valencia said parents should pay close attention to small children while trick-or-treating so they don't wander into streets or into traffic. Parents of older children who are going out alone this Halloween should know exactly what neighborhoods their children will be visiting.

Valencia said military police are not just going to neighborhoods to monitor trick-or-treating, and she hopes residents will feel comfortable approaching them if they feel something is wrong or need to report an incident.

"They aren't out there just to be watchful eyes, they're out there to assist and get involved with the community on this holiday and so if anyone needs anything at all, they can walk up to any one of those volunteers and get information," she said.

HALLOWEEN SAFETY TIPS

The Following Halloween safety tips were provided by U.S. Food and Drug Administration; Consumer Product Safety Commission; National Highway Traffic Safety Administration; and Centers for Disease Control and Prevention:

- Wear costumes that are flame resistant. Homemade costumes should be made of flame-resistant fabrics such as polyester or nylon
- Avoid tripping and falling by ensuring costumes are not too long
- Wear make up and hats rather than masks that can obscure your vision

- Don't wear decorative colored contact lenses unless you have seen an eye care professional for a proper fitting and been given instructions for how to use the lenses
- Don't eat candy until it has been inspected at home
- In case of a food allergy, check the label to ensure the allergen isn't present
- Tell children not to accept or eat anything that isn't commercially wrapped
- Walk on a sidewalk if one is available. If there is no sidewalk, walk facing traffic, as far to the side as safely possible so

you can move quickly out of the road if you feel threatened by traffic. Drivers do not expect to see pedestrians in the roadway or to come out from between parked cars or behind shrubbery. Expect that drivers will not see you and wait for them to pass.

Follow the rules of the road at driveways and intersections. Cross with a traffic signal if there is one and even if you have the right of way, make sure traffic has stopped or passed before you step into the street. This will be easier to do if electronic devices do not distract you from picking up visual and auditory information about traffic.

Make yourself as visible to motorists as possible, especially at night and in low light by carrying a flashlight, wearing a small flashing strobe light, and wearing reflective clothing. Bright colored clothing is not enough. Drivers need time to detect, identify, and react to an object they see in the road. The sooner they see you, the sooner they can react. Reflective materials on the parts of your body that move, such as feet, legs, and arms, can be seen at greater distances by drivers in the dark. Carry your flashlight on the side closest to traffic.



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NEWS

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NATIONAL NIGHT OUT



SIRENA CLARK | FORT CAMPBELL COURIER

Hayley Bodenhamer, left, and Deandra Haikey, Campbell Crossing team members, pass out candy Oct. 7 during National Night Out at the Division Parade Field. The nationwide celebration is geared toward heightening crime prevention awareness. Law enforcement and firefighters, along with other agencies, attended the event which serves as an avenue for Soldiers and their Families to get to know their local law enforcement better while bringing the Fort Campbell community together, and strengthening the neighborhood spirit and police-community partnerships.

**Families travel through time,
connect with MPs, firefighters**

Sirena Clark
Fort Campbell Courier

Soldiers and Families traveled back through time and picked up a few treats along the way Oct. 7 during National Night Out.

A convoy of cars carrying Fort Campbell Soldiers and Families rolled through the reverse parade at the Division Parade Field. Members of the still parade shouted and waved from their decorated displays, eager to hand out candy and other goodies to Families. Each display was decorated to represent a different decade from the 1960s to the '90s.

Campbell Crossing has participated in National Night Out for more than a decade. The staff and residents look forward to the event all year long, said Karsten Haake, project director, Campbell Crossing.

While the event is full of fun and prizes, its purpose is greater than that, Haake said.

"National Night Out is a nationwide celebration geared toward heightening crime prevention awareness and strengthening the neighborhood spirit and police-community partnerships, which is something we hope to achieve each year through this event," he said.

Fort Campbell Military Police and Fort Campbell Fire and Emergency Services attended the event to show their support for the community.

Specialist Justin Irwin, 551st Military Police Company, 716th Military Police Battalion,

said he hopes National Night Out builds trust in the community between residents and law enforcement.

"It's important to let the community know we're out there to help them and to make people less afraid of coming to law enforcement or the fire department," Irwin said.

Daniel Bennett, fire inspector, Fort Campbell Fire and Emergency Services, took time during the event to teach Families about fire safety.

"Anytime we have an opportunity to educate the public on fire safety is an opportunity that we want to take, because it's something that can be overlooked," Bennet said.

Other participating agencies included Army Community Service-Family Advocacy Program, Directorate of Family and Morale, Welfare and Recreation, Directorate of Public Works and Fort Campbell Exchange. About 15 organizations were represented during the event.

"The overall safety of our residents is of utmost importance to Campbell Crossing and this event really brings that goal full circle in a fun and educational way," Haake said. "Through this event we are providing an avenue for Soldiers and Families to get to know their local law enforcement, all while bringing the Fort Campbell community together to send a message to criminals that our neighborhoods are fighting back and taking a stand against crime."

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NEWS

1ST BRIGADE COMBAT TEAM

Proud Americans welcome new commander

Spc. Lynnwood Thomas
1st Brigade Combat Team

Soldiers assigned to 2nd Battalion, 32nd Field Artillery Regiment, 1st Brigade Combat Team, 101st Airborne Division (Air Assault), bade goodbye to Lt. Col. Christopher Carter and welcomed Lt. Col. Brian Dyer Oct. 5 during a change of command ceremony on the Division Parade Field.

Dyer, a native of Sandusky, Ohio, began his military career in 1999 with the Ohio National Guard and was commissioned in 2004 as a second lieutenant in the Field Artillery branch.

He has a bachelor's degree in economics from the United States Military Academy at West Point, where he attended from 2000 to 2004.

Dyer returns to the division, after previously being assigned to 4th Brigade Combat Team where he served as the Fire Support Officer for 2nd Battalion, 506th Infantry Regiment.

Colonel Kevin Sharp, commander of the 1st BCT, welcomed Dyer and his Family with kind and encouraging words.

"Brian is coming to us from Fort Sill, where he had fantastic placement and access as the artillery branch continues to refine fires in large-scale combat," Sharp said. "The wealth of knowledge and experience he brings with him to the formation will make the "Proud American" battalion even more lethal."

Dyer thanked Sharp for the warm welcome and for the opportunity to lead the Proud Americans.

"Col. Sharp, thank you for entrusting us with America's most precious asset, its sons and daughters," he said. "Kami and I do not take this responsibility lightly and are so humbled and appreciative of this truly incredible opportunity."

The new commander thanked his Family for being his support system and gave a quick and thoughtful hello to the troops of 2-32nd FAR.

"To the Soldiers of the 2nd of the 32nd Field Artillery Regiment, Proud Americans, my Family and I are honored to join your team as we prepare for our next rendezvous with destiny in the Bastogne Brigade and the 101st Airborne Division," Dyer said.

Carter's goodbyes were filled with thanks, to the leaders, staff, Soldiers and supporters of 2-32nd FAR.

"I must express my gratitude to the Soldiers and leaders of the Proud Americans," he said. "The five battery guidons on the field represent 690 Soldiers from 42 different occupational specialties all focused on that single purpose: To provide lethal and accurate artillery fire in support of the Bastogne Brigade."

He bade the Proud American Soldiers farewell with emphasis on their efficiency and tenacity.

"It has been my absolute life's honor to be your commander," Carter said. "You are a powerful team, and I am incredibly proud of each and every one of you. You are the most lethal formation in the brigade,



SPC. LYNNWOOD THOMAS | 1ST BRIGADE COMBAT TEAM

Colonel Kevin Sharp, commander of 1st Brigade Combat Team, 101st Airborne Division (Air Assault), passes the battalion colors to Lt. Col. Brian Dyer, incoming commander of 2nd Battalion, 32nd Field Artillery Regiment, 1st BCT, 101st Abn. Div, Oct. 5 during a change of command ceremony at the Division Parade Field.

and your excellence in making those guns behind you come to life will lead them to victory in their next rendezvous with destiny - just as it did during all those campaign streamers blowing in the wind."

Sharp spoke of how impressed he was with Carter's professionalism, unflappable demeanor and compassion toward Soldiers.

"Chris is the most engaged leader I have ever known," Sharp said. "His genuine concern for his Soldiers is evident in his ability to retain the backstory of just about every member of the Proud Americans. His laser focus on the fundamentals of artillery gunnery, establishing and enforcing standards, and his ability to demonstrate his genuine concern for the health and well-being of his Soldiers was inspiring."

Sharp talked of Carter's accuracy in preparing the formation for large-scale combat, saying it was exactly what the Army is asking of their tactical level leaders.

"Another phenomenal thing about Chris is his dedication to the team," he said. "His loyalty to his battalion, to this brigade, and the division are also inspiring. Chris, I know you'll do a fantastic job on the Army staff or wherever they decide to place you based on your tremendous talent."

HOUSING

Continued from Page A1

The Oct. 12 walk-through inspections are the first fruits of the housing improvements that will set the bar for what residents can expect to see.

Haake said the renovations will make homes feel brand new.

"There's an improved floor plan, upgraded counters and Energy Star appliances, new flooring throughout, they'll get a more modern feel, especially with the color selection we have," he said. "We looked at all the windows, which are all upgraded to Energy Star for reduction of energy consumption and, more importantly, for the comfort of our Families."

From the flooring to the paint, the units that underwent renovation are almost entirely new, while saving the original structure. This includes the exterior with new siding, roofing, gutters and a new HVAC for units that needed it, Haake said.

"We also inspected each one of the homes to make sure that all the studs are structurally sound," he said, adding he is excited to see the completion of this first round of renovations.

Supporting mission readiness

The renovations are a way for Fort Campbell to compete with the quality of housing off the installation, Haake said, but it also is important for Soldier and Family well-being.

"We know that Families are critically important to our Soldiers," he said. "We make it our goal to take care of our Families on the home front, so Soldiers will be able to perform their mission better. If I can do that and take that worry away from our Soldiers so they can focus on their duties, I think that's a success."

Making the necessary changes to the overall condition of housing on the installation and advocating for Soldiers is essential to support Soldiers' service, Reece said.

"Soldiers are asked to spend a considerable amount of their career in training and leaving their significant others home," he said. "Having the peace of mind that someone is advocating for their Families and ensuring safe and quality homes are being delivered certainly contributes to mission readiness."

Fort Campbell pride

Aside from supporting mission readiness, Reece and Haake said competitive housing on the installation contributes to feelings of pride of being stationed at Fort Campbell, and over

time could make the installation a more attractive and desirable assignment.

"Our primary goal is to deliver safe and quality homes for Soldiers and their Families," Reece said. "We want the Fort Campbell housing experience to be part of why a Soldier would choose to return to this duty station."

Haake said being able to equalize the quality of housing both on and off post would demonstrate that Fort Campbell values its Soldiers and Families.

"We looked at the safety, quality and overall aesthetic of the houses, as well as the value for BAH which is important to our residents," he said. "Additionally, we know our residents value community and proximity to work. Those are consistently things that come up and we make it our goal to ensure we are providing homes in a community where military Families can live, work and thrive. These improvements will help us continue in this commitment."

Campbell Crossing expects the units to be ready for leasing within the next two weeks once final touchups are completed.

To learn more about ongoing development projects at Campbell Crossing, visit <https://www.campbellcrossingllc.com/community-development>.

SCHOOLS

Continued from Page A1

21st Century schools are state-of-the-art facilities designed to serve today's students and prepare them for the future. The energy and environmentally sustainable schools feature neighborhood classrooms, and other accommodations such as science labs, amphitheatres and learning studios.

Judith Minor, associate director for performance and accountability and director of student excellence for DoDEA Americas, said 21st Century schools such as FCHS encourage learning.

"This building unites DoDEA with a team of local community members, school staff and the garrison to foster lifelong learning and to prepare our students to be college and career ready," Minor said during FCHS's grand opening ceremony in 2018. "The 21st Century school is in and of itself a teaching tool. The building provides hands-on learning experiences in science, technology, engineering and mathematics."

Fort Campbell schools also employ outstanding educators. A few have been recognized as DODEA Americas Southeast District Teacher of the Year including Erin Crossan for 2022.

Josh Adams, Kentucky Community superintendent, DoDEA Southeast District, said he is proud to have Crossan representing FCHS and the Southeast District.

"This is a real honor for her, her school and her colleagues as well," Adams said about Crossan, who serves as a Language Arts teacher at FCHS. "She is a great example and representative of outstanding teaching in DoDEA schools. She is a dedicated and passionate teacher and also a veteran, so she really represents our schools and community very well."

Blue Ribbon Schools

Fort Campbell schools have been recognized nationally through the U.S. Department of Education 2021 National Blue Ribbon Schools Program. In September, Andre Lucas Elementary



FORT CAMPBELL COURIER ARCHIVE

Karyn Oxendine, reading specialist at Marshall Elementary School, helps Sophia Kranz, first grade student, spell "duck" to complete her sentence on the board, Feb. 15, 2018. Marshall Elementary School was the first 21st Century school built on post. 21st Century schools are state-of-the-art facilities designed to serve today's students and prepare them for the future. The energy and environmentally sustainable schools feature neighborhood classrooms, and other accommodations such as science labs, amphitheatres, and learning studios.

School was named an exemplary high-performing school.

The school system has a long history of receiving the award since 1988.

Every year the Department of Education recognizes excellent schools across the nation in one of two performance areas - exemplary high-performing schools that are among their state's best with the highest testing scores in language arts and math over a three-year period; or exemplary achievement gap closing schools that are among their states most successful in closing achievement gaps among their students.

A limited number of schools receive the award annually. This year only 325 of the nearly 140,000 K-12 schools in the United States received the prestigious recognition.

Steven Gardner, principal, Andre Lucas, said receiving the award confirms all the hard work the school's staff has put into students has paid off.

"At Andre Lucas Elementary School we be-

lieve that working through the PLC [Professional Learning Communities] process has led to our success," Gardner said. "Each team meets weekly and develops lesson plans with high-level cognitive demand tasks and differentiated instruction. Teachers teach at the level of each student so that each child receives instruction at the level where they will be challenged and can experience success."

Adams said the award is evidence the school's staff approach education as a team.

"We are so proud to have another National Blue Ribbon School on Fort Campbell," Adams said. "It is a real testament to the effort and commitment of our educators, students, Families and school leaders. These awards are not given for the effort of one. They come to great teams that work together for our children."

Outstanding achievement

FCHS Falcons have set a high standard in the area with a 100% graduation rate every year since 2017. In the past five years, FCHS seniors have raked in \$27.8 million in scholarship earnings.

In 2021, seniors received 151 college acceptance letters.

Stacy Daniels, senior guidance counselor, FCHS, said these achievements can be attributed to DoDEA's emphasis on college and career readiness.

"In DoDEA, students are at the heart of all we do," Daniels said. "We begin implementing college and career readiness at a very young age. The standards we use throughout our grade levels are designed to be relevant to the real world, allowing students to master more critical thinking and unique problem-solving skills and to reflect the knowledge, skills and social foundations that our students need for success in both college and work."

Fourteen percent of FCHS Class of 2021 committed to serving in the U.S. Armed Forces.

Justin Ausburn, FCHS alumnus, knew from a young age he wanted to join the U.S. Army.

"I want to make the highest rank possible, which would be Command Sergeant Major of the Army," he said before graduation. "You've

always got to shoot for the highest."

Jack Cogbill, FCHS Class of 2020 valedictorian, planned to study computer science while attending Harvard University with a four-year Army ROTC scholarship. Cogbill also intended to pursue a military career.

As guidance counselors, Daniels said one of the most important things they do is support their students.

"The best thing we can do as counselors is invest time into getting to know students - learning their hopes, dreams, goals and even fears," she said. "Standing by their side as they have college application or scholarship questions, writing dynamic letters of recommendation, being a constant source of encouragement, and being a 'sounding board' as student work through their college decisions are the ways I have found to best support students."

Guidance counselors also support Families, she said.

"We often meet to wade through the myriad of college questions, Family concerns, FAFSA issues and we work together to figure out how to pay for college," Daniels said. "It is very important to me to help students have higher education options that are affordable for our Families."

Celebrating 75 years

Tom Brady, DoDEA director, said from the organization's beginning, it has maintained an ongoing focus on continuous improvement, the future, and its promise and commitment to ensure excellence in education for every student, every day, everywhere.

"As a DoDEA community, we take great pride in our history of accomplishing the mission," he said. "While there has been much change over the history of DoDEA, one thing remains constant - students are at the heart of everything we do."

For more information and resources about the 75th anniversary, visit the DoDEA website at <http://www.dodea.edu/75>.

Editor's Note: This is the first article in ongoing coverage of Department of Defense Education Activity's 75th Anniversary. For more, visit www.fortcampbell-courier.com.

RUN

Continued from Page A1

Although she is part of the women's team, everyone trained individually, Purser said.

"Every week I've been increasing my mileage and trying to run it faster," she said. "I've been doing some fartlek runs, where you'll run striding for about 400 meters and then a jog for 100 meters. Then you sprint again and jog. Then track work - I like to do a 400-meter sprint and then an 800-meter sprint, rest in between and then do another rotation."

For Purser running the Ten-Miler is a tradition.

"I grew up in a military Family with my parents," she said. "We were in Virginia, so we ran it a couple times when I was a kid and I ran it when I was a cadet, I also went to school in Virginia. Since then, I've run it individually a couple times and I've been on teams a couple times. It's really, really fun to be on a team."

The Oct. 10 race was the first Ten-Miler for 2nd Lt. David Kim, S2, Intelligence Planner, HHC, 1BCT.

"It's a very exciting event, and I'm really looking forward to trying my best," Kim said. "For this race it's just being able to represent Fort Campbell. I haven't been able to participate in an event as big as this. I know it's a virtual event, but for me, still being able to represent Fort Campbell and compete against all the other units in the Army - that's just really big; being able to represent something bigger than myself."

He has done some training, but it's been difficult trying to balance it with other competing interests, like getting ready for Pre-Ranger School.

"Unfortunately, it hasn't been as regimented, but I've been doing a lot of long distances - more than 10 miles, and then also some anaerobic workouts, anywhere from 2 to 3 miles at about a 6-minute pace or below," Kim said.

Being part of a team has been one of the highlights of participating in the Army Ten-Miler, Kim said.

"It feels really good, especially during such a hard and long event," he said. "I'm sure I'll see a lot of these other team members during the event, and just being able to motivate them on the way around on the turnaround - it's very motivating."

Both Kim and Purser were happy to be running with other Soldiers from Bastogne, but they encourage Soldiers and civilians who are interested in the Army Ten-Miler to get information and participate.

Purser gave her teammates words of encouragement before the race began, telling them to just enjoy themselves.

"Have fun," she said. "Don't put too much pressure on yourself and just have fun. I think most of the team is made up of people from 1st Brigade. Go, Bastogne!"



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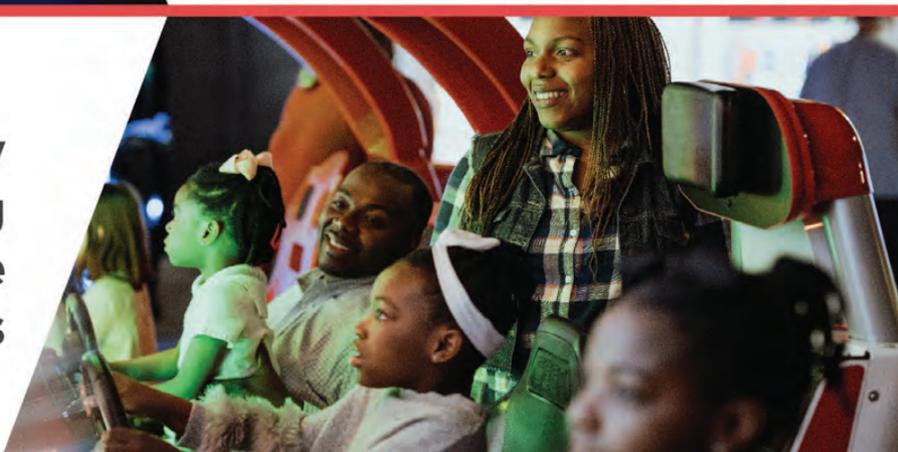
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COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS

Supporting Soldiers



ETHAN STEINQUEST | FORT CAMPBELL COURIER

Jasmin Linares, coordinator, APSU Military Student Center, gives Soldiers and Families a tour of the newly renovated William E. & Sadako S. Newton Military Family Resource Center Oct. 8 during a reception at Austin Peay State University's Military Student Center, 426 College St., is open 8 a.m.-5 p.m. Monday-Thursday and 8 a.m.-4:30 p.m. Fridays.

APSU offers military-affiliated students one-stop shop with new center

Ethan Steinquest
 Fort Campbell Courier

When former Army Specialist Kaytah Meija first started college, she struggled to connect with others who hadn't experienced life as a Soldier before finding a home at Austin Peay State University's Military Student Center.

"I suffer from social anxiety, so I thought I was just going to be that hermit in class," said Meija, now a graduate teaching assistant studying psychology at APSU. "But the center gives you a place you can open up and meet people you wouldn't have otherwise."

Meija wasn't alone, and after a growing demand the newly renovated William E. & Sadako S. Newton Military Family Resource Center opened earlier this year to meet the needs of APSU's military-affiliated students.

Fort Campbell joined APSU to celebrate the center's move into a dedicated building with a reception hosted Oct. 8, followed by

a dinner commemorating the Governor's Guard ROTC program's 50th anniversary.

"For years, APSU has been a leader in providing higher education for military-affiliated students, and about a quarter of our enrollment is military-affiliated," said APSU President Michael Licari. "That is a tremendous component of our campus - it is in the soul of our institution. We are fortunate to have a longtime relationship with Fort Campbell, which has brought many students to APSU and has allowed us to effectively serve their unique needs by bringing new and innovative programs and initiatives to APSU."

All of those initiatives are consolidated under one roof at the new Military Family Resource Center, which first opened its doors to students in January.

"We were looking for a place to create a one-stop shop where we could provide services from other departments to our military-affiliated students," said Jasmin Linares, coordinator, APSU Military Student Center.

MORE INFO

Austin Peay State University's Military Student Center, 426 College St., is open 8 a.m.-5 p.m. Mondays-Thursdays and 8 a.m.-4:30 p.m. Fridays. For more information, call 931-221-1685 or email msc@apsu.edu. The Military Student Center provides the following:

- **A computer lab** with online access, a printer and CAC readers
- **A dining area** to eat, study or talk with your peers
- **A lounge** to unwind and relax
- **Events** including educational, informational, and Family-oriented programming throughout the year
- **Programs** throughout the academic year that address the unique challenges facing our military-affiliated student population
- **Student/Peer Coaching** including guidance on and advice on how to navigate college and transition from military to college life
- **Texts for Vets** which relies on student textbook donations to provide textbooks for fellow students, free or charge. This is a first-come, first-served program

The center consolidates multiple services at one location.

APSU's Office of Career Services, Veterans Upward Bound, and the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs all have representation in the center. Community partners

like the Montgomery County Veterans Service Organization also plan to use its flex office space to regularly provide additional services.

see STUDENTS on Page B3

101ST AIRBORNE DIVISION (AIR ASSAULT)

APSU awards Soldier for notable career



ETHAN STEINQUEST | FORT CAMPBELL COURIER

Major Filanza Starmack, deputy G33 chief of operations, 101st Airborne Division (Air Assault), center, receives an award from Col. Kirby "Bo" Dennis, division G3, 101st Abn. Div., left, and Michael Licari, APSU president, in recognition of her service as an outstanding ROTC alumna during the APSU Homecoming Military Alumni Chapter Dinner, hosted Oct. 8 in the Morgan University Center's ballroom.

Spc. Jacob Wachob
 40th Public Affairs Detachment

Major Filanza Starmack, G33 chief of operations, Headquarters and Headquarters Battalion, 101st Airborne Division (Air Assault), was recognized Oct. 8 during Austin Peay State University's Homecoming Military Alumni Chapter Dinner for her achievements in military service.

Starmack began her military career after commissioning through APSU's ROTC program in December 2009, and graduated with a bachelor's degree in public management. She has served in a variety of assignments including a deployment to Iraq and tours at Fort Campbell; Fort Belvoir, Virginia; and Hunter Army Airfield, Georgia.

Her award was presented by Col. Kirby Dennis, assistant chief of staff, 101st Abn. Div., and Michael Licari, APSU president. Starmack was accompanied by her daughters and husband, 1st Sgt. Robert Starmack, 3rd Brigade Combat Team, S6 noncommissioned officer in charge.

"It's important for me that my daughters were here to see me

win this award because I've always wanted to be an example for my daughters as a strong woman and a strong mother," Starmack said. "This is a moment for them to see that they can grow up and accomplish great things too, and I'm incredibly thankful that my husband was able to be here to support me, fresh off of his rotation at JRTC."

Starmack said she was honored to be recognized by the university and that her time there set her up for military success.

"I'm very thankful for my education from Austin Peay, I owe my successes to them because they've equipped me to become an effective leader," she said. "They pushed us really hard to excel so that we knew what it meant to work hard and motivate our Soldiers to match our work ethic."

Following the completion of her bachelor's degree, Starmack went on to earn two master's degrees, one in business government security and another in business administration.

"I really believe that education is the key to improving your life's circumstances," she said.

see AWARDS on Page B3

NEWS

CAREER SKILLS PROGRAM

Program connects Soldiers with post-service opportunities

Ethan Steinquest
Fort Campbell Courier

After serving 22 years in the Army, retired Sgt. 1st Class Brian Ashford knew it would be challenging to transition back into the civilian workforce, but the Fort Campbell Career Skills Program, or CSP, was there to help.

Through partnerships with dozens of workforce programs, CSP connects Soldiers like Ashford – now a senior auditor at the United Services Automobile Association – with the resources they need to find employment after leaving the military.

“My background within the Army is in the finance community, so there was a carryover with my skills even though some of what I’m doing is different,” he said. “I love the company, its mission and my team, and without CSP I don’t think it would have been possible to get here.”

Ashford worked with Hiring Our Heroes, a free 12-week program for active-duty Soldiers seeking corporate careers, to line up a job after learning about resource options at CSP’s monthly briefings.

“The CSP office takes walk-ins, but we strongly encourage Soldiers to attend a briefing first so they can find out about multiple career skills programs, internships and DOD Skillbridge opportunities,” said Teresa English, CSP coordinator. “They get to talk to local and nationwide program managers directly.”

CSP briefings are scheduled for 1 p.m. the first and third Tuesday of each month through Dec. 7 at the Staff Sgt. Glen H. English Jr. Army Education Center Auditorium, 202 Bastogne Ave. The CSP office, 5663 Screaming Eagle Blvd., is open 9 a.m.-4 p.m. Mondays-Fridays, and can be reached at 270-798-3195 or 270-798-4974.

“We’re a supplemental part of the Transition Assistance Program process,” English said. “If Soldiers come early and often, with the proper planning, they can hopefully get in one of our awesome programs. We’re averaging an 85-90% job placement rate for Soldiers going through our programs, so it’s definitely worthwhile.”

Captain Ryan Kowal, 1st Battalion, 320th Field Artillery Regiment, 2nd Brigade Combat Team, 101st Airborne Division (Air Assault) is among the Soldiers currently working with CSP and attended his first briefing on Sept. 21.

“I have a little under a year of service left, so I’m trying to get out ahead of it and do all the paperwork,” Kowal said. “I’m interested in getting some information on the Hiring Our Heroes fellowship program. Looking online at some of the opportunities and companies they have partnerships with, there are several I’m interested in working with ... I’ve been doing logistics management for my last two years here and I’m passionate about it, so I want to be able to keep doing what I love.”

Applying for programs early is encouraged because spots fill up quickly; however the CSP staff also will assist veterans after they separate



ETHAN STEINQUEST | FORT CAMPBELL COURIER

Lauren Kovaleski, transition manager for Fort Campbell’s USO Pathfinder Program, addresses Soldiers preparing to transition into the civilian workforce Sept. 21 during a Career Skills Program briefing at the Staff Sgt. Glen H. English Jr. Army Education Center.

in many programs.

“I wanted to get some certificates to put on my resume, but it just kept on falling through because I didn’t plan accordingly,” said retired Army Staff Sgt. Paul Cota, now an intern with the U.S. Department of Agriculture preparing for a full-time position. “I felt like every door was closing, but I remembered the USO has a transition counselor to help with career placements.”

Cota first learned about the USO’s Pathfinder Program through a CSP briefing, and after reaching out to them he was able to use the skills he learned serving with the 72nd Veterinary Detachment, 531st Hospital Center to connect with the USDA.

“I did food inspection for the entire time I was in the Army, and we did a lot of what the USDA does,” he said. “Right now, they’re training me to be an agricultural commodity grader for shelled eggs, and I’ve already been licensed for that. Next they’re going to start training me to be a grader for poultry.”

English said there are approximately 400-600 Screaming Eagles like Cota leaving the Army each month, and CSP serves an estimated 5-10% of them. Soldiers involved with career skills programs can potentially save thousands of dollars in educational fees in addition to finding employment.

“Many of our classes average training cost is \$4,000” she said. “But the important part is, they’re leaving with either a guaranteed job or

a high probability of a job and they don’t have to invest the time, and the money into a technical school ... they’re already work-ready the day they leave the gate.”

For many companies partnered with CSP, investing in veterans is a priority because of their unique work experience, skill sets and leadership qualities.

“It is an honor to employ our men and women who have served our country and have given so much,” said Brooke Neely, the recruiter for Ryder’s Pathway Home Diesel Technician Training Program at Fort Campbell. “At Ryder, we understand the value skilled veterans bring to our team, and for over 85 years we’ve built our reputation on ideas and values that may sound familiar [to them]: Character, judgment, relationships and results.”

Ryder operates the free 12-week program at seven military installations including Fort Campbell as part of a larger veterans’ hiring initiative launched in November 2011. Since then, the chain has hired nearly 11,000 veterans, and the Pathway Home Diesel Technician Training Program accounts for 207 of them according to a company fact sheet.

“We’ve placed several graduates right here close to home to include Paducah, Bowling Green, Nashville and surrounding areas,” Neely said. “These service members were able to transition from the military with no unemployment time, allowing them to fill job vacancies right here locally. In addition, Ryder

employees are often found serving their communities in many different ways from volunteering to continuing their service through the National Guard or Reserve.”

Sergeant Alexander Ferreras, 160th Special Operations Regiment (Airborne), is considering his options for staying connected with the Army and attended a CSP briefing Sept. 21 to learn more about commercial driver’s license, or CDL, courses.

“From what I hear you can get a job the day after you graduate, so having that fallback and being able to work anywhere within the states is helpful because I’m also trying to potentially join the National Guard,” he said. “I’m trying to get as many licenses and certifications as I can, and I don’t mind driving, traveling and getting paid for it.”

By providing training opportunities for Soldiers like Ferreras, English said CSP helps streamline their transition into the civilian workforce benefitting their Families and communities in turn.

“We want them to leave Fort Campbell, go out the gate and have a job waiting for them,” she said. “And not just a job, we want them to have a career they’re excited about, that’s going to help them take care of themselves and their Families. Regardless of your rank, there’s a high level of stress that’s involved with getting out of the service when you’ve got a Family to take care of, so we want this process to be as smooth as possible.”

BLANCHFIELD ARMY COMMUNITY HOSPITAL

101st Soldier, ER staff help Family after baby is born in parking lot

Maria Yager
Blanchfield Army Community Hospital

Early one September morning, a Fort Campbell Family’s newest addition decided she was ready to make her debut and was born in her Family’s car in a Blanchfield Army Community Hospital parking lot.

A few hours prior, mom Mercedes Simons, who was eight and a half months pregnant, said she began feeling pain.

“I had been feeling contractions throughout the day when I was at home, but I thought they were Braxton Hicks contractions because that’s what I was used to experiencing,” Mercedes said.

She chalked it up to typical pregnancy discomforts and asked her husband to go to the store for pain reliever. While her husband was out, Mercedes said her contractions became very intense.

“I don’t think I was even paying attention to how far apart they were but now thinking back they were probably like a minute apart at that point,” she said.

That’s when Mercedes realized she was in labor.

“It was crazy. I did not know how serious it was whenever I came back from getting my wife some Tylenol,” said Sgt. Keenan Simons, who works as a wheeled vehicle mechanic on the post.

They grabbed their 5 year-old son, Micah, and set off for the 20-minute journey to BACH.

About the time Mercedes said her pain was the most intense, she reached down and could feel the top of the baby’s head beginning to crown. Despite feeling cramped in the passenger seat, she instinctively maneuvered her body and slid off the pants she was wearing.

“When I looked over and saw she had taken her pants off, I was like, OK – I need to get there like right now because I know my wife,



U.S. ARMY PHOTO BY MARIA YAGER

Mercedes Simons, left, formally introduces her newborn daughter to Spc. John McDaniel, a combat medic assigned to 1st Battalion, 26th Infantry Regiment, 2nd Brigade Combat Team, 101st Airborne Division. McDaniel first met baby Evelyn when he assisted her parents in her delivery in the parking lot of Blanchfield Army Community Hospital.

and she wouldn’t do something like that,” Keenan said.

Mercedes felt her baby was ready to be born, even though they were still 10 minutes out from the hospital, she said.

“It felt like forever going down Tiny Town Road. I had never heard my wife scream like that,” Keenan said. “I was thinking that we still had time because when we went to the hospital the day before they said she wasn’t ready yet.”

Once they arrived at BACH, Keenan pulled up at the first entrance he saw – C Entrance. An entrance for patients seeking access to the outpatient clinics and only accessible during the day.

That was when Mercedes’ water broke and the baby’s head popped out. Because of the amount of pain she was in, she wasn’t able to help her husband with directions to the emergency center entrance, she said.

“Whenever I pulled up to that

entrance, I realized it wasn’t the ER,” said Keenan, who had been deployed most of his wife’s pregnancy and didn’t know his way around BACH.

Keenan said he knew he needed to get them help, and so he began to yell for help.

“I didn’t think anybody would come,” he said. “I thought it was just me, her, Micah and the baby.”

But as fate would have it, a fellow Soldier heard his call and ran to the car.

Specialist Spc. John McDaniel, a combat medic assigned to 1st Battalion, 26th Infantry Regiment, 2nd Brigade Combat Team, 101st Airborne Division (Air Assault), was waiting in the parking lot for a Soldier from his unit when he saw a car speed by and come to a stop outside the C entrance.

“The dad unlocked the car door, and when I opened it, I saw that the mom was giving birth in the car,” McDaniel said. “The husband

was huddled over the wife and when I looked down all I saw was the baby’s head was crowning.”

McDaniel said his training kicked in and he instantly assessed the situation.

“The mother was conscious, and she was breathing well,” he said. “I looked at the baby, and the baby was head down.”

McDaniel learned the basics of labor during his advanced initial training two years ago.

Knowing there was no time to leave Keenan and Mercedes to run for help, McDaniel said he helped Keenan better position Mercedes.

“The baby came out really naturally,” McDaniel said. “The dad is the one who caught her. I helped the mother and the dad the best I could and then I ran to the ER for help.”

Pamela Paquet, BACH registered nurse, had just finished discharging a patient when McDaniel entered the hospital and called for help. She and fellow nurse Jennifer Chappell ran out to the parking lot.

“I thought the patient was in the ER parking lot,” Paquet said.

But when she saw McDaniel continue running past the ER parking lot, she yelled to Chappell to get a wheelchair and picked up her pace as she followed the Soldier around the building.

“We made it to the car where dad was in the driver seat, holding the baby over the mother with the umbilical cord still attached,” Paquet said.

Paquet told Keenan to lower the child to avoid reverse transfusion of blood back into the placenta.

After Paquet and McDaniel assessed Mercedes, Keenan passed his daughter to McDaniel, so the nurse could clamp and cut the umbilical cord.

“I carry my own clamps for this reason and have worn more amniotic fluid than I would like to

admit,” said Paquet, who has had to assist in a number of precarious deliveries over the years.

As Chappell checked on Mercedes, Paquet examined the baby and listened for her cry.

The first cries are important because they can indicate if the baby’s lungs are functioning outside the womb.

While examining the baby, Paquet said she turned the baby over so that she was in a face-down position and asked for Keenan’s shirt. Warm from his body, she used the shirt to stimulate the baby until she started to cry more.

Chappell then helped Mercedes into the wheelchair, to quickly get mom to Labor and Delivery for further care. Paquet followed along and continued to work on the baby to help her clear her lungs. She administered tactile stimulation until the baby let out a loud healthy wail indicating she could breathe well on her own.

With mom and baby safely in the hospital, Keenan and McDaniel had a brief moment to talk outside.

“I was able to talk to the dad for a minute after he got the mom escorted away. He just kept saying ‘thank you, thank you,’ and hugged me,” McDaniel said.

“In that moment, I realized how much this meant to them, and I was just glad that I was able to be there and help them make sure everything was OK,” McDaniel said.

Keenan agreed and said he was in shock at how quickly everything happened. He said he felt very grateful he could be there for his family and that everything worked out OK, giving thanks to those who helped.

“I’m just happy that the baby is healthy and that my wife was strong to do that with no medication. I’m just really proud of her,”

NEWS



ETHAN STEINQUEST | FORT CAMPBELL COURIER

Retired Major Margaree King Richard delivers the keynote address for the Austin Peay State University Homecoming Military Alumni Chapter Dinner, hosted Oct. 8 in the Morgan University Center's ballroom.

AWARDS

Continued from Page B1

“Education gives you opportunities to turn your life around, and then in turn better those around you, creating a better community.”

Starmack advocates for Soldiers to better themselves by furthering their education.

“The Army benefits greatly by having Soldiers who are educated, because by becoming educated Soldiers develop bet-

ter versions of themselves,” she said. “As Soldiers build upon their education, they become sharper, they enhance their ability to think critically, which is what wins battles.”

Starmack has committed herself to a life of service, and is highly regarded by her superiors.

“Major Starmack is the most humble leader who I’ve worked with throughout my 21-year career,” Dennis said. “I can unequivocally say that Maj. Starmack is dedicated, professional and driven to

serve her country. When we were executing Operation Allies Welcome, the evacuation of the Afghans, she called me immediately and volunteered to support that operation, which speaks volumes to her commitment to service.”

Starmack was humbled that Dennis presented her with the award, and said it affirms his belief in her ability to drive forward in her career.

“I live my dream every single day when I put on this uniform and serve my country,” she said.

STUDENTS

Continued from Page B1

“Future or current students can walk in our doors and get a lot of things accomplished in one visit,” Linares said.

“They don’t have to go to different departments, different buildings or different locations to get what they need ... they can come attend an event like a financial aid presentation, speak to the military adviser on ideas about how to better services or just mingle and talk with like-minded people.”

Linares said approximately 15-30 students use the facility each day, and there are eight students employed there through VA work study programs or as graduate assistants. Since most of its employees also are former military, that means Soldiers feel right at home.

“One of the things I like to tell people when they visit for the first time is that we know and we’ve been there,” said retired Army Maj. Gen. Walter Lord, military adviser in residence, APSU. “We’ve separated from the Army, and one of the most challenging things a student veteran will find is the feeling of separation. They’re so used to being together with their buddies in the Army and they feel separated from that. What I tell them is, your tribe might look a little different now, but your tribe is still there right here in this building.”

After touring the new building firsthand, Soldiers and Families gathered in the Morgan University Center ballroom for APSU’s Homecoming Military Alumni Chapter Dinner, which doubled as a 50th anniversary celebration for the Governor’s Guard ROTC program.

“The Army post’s leadership has long supported the (ROTC) program’s efforts because they want to continue providing exceptional leaders like those who are gathered in this room,” said Lt. Col. Mark Barton, APSU professor of military science. “And the next generation of military personnel that will com-

mission out of the program.”

Major Filanza Starmack, deputy G33 chief of operations, 101st Airborne Division (Air Assault), is among many distinguished leaders who graduated from the Governor’s Guard, and she was recognized for her achievements in military service during the dinner.

Starmack commissioned as a military police officer through ROTC in 2009, and has since served in a variety of leadership positions including: executive officer, Headquarters and Headquarters Detachment, 716th Military Police Battalion, Fort Campbell; platoon leader, 218th Military Police Company, Fort Campbell; S3 operations officer, 502nd Military Police Battalion Criminal Investigation Division, Fort Campbell; DES operations officer, 212th Military Police Detachment, Fort Belvoir, Virginia; anti-terror/force protection officer, Office of Security Cooperation-Iraq, Baghdad, Iraq; S3 operations officer, Headquarters Battalion, Fort Belvoir; S3 operations officer, Washington CID Battalion, Fort Myer, Virginia; HHD commander, 3D MP Group CID, Hunter Army Airfield, Georgia; and installation provost marshal, Fort Campbell.

Her awards and decorations include the Defense Meritorious Service Medal, Army Commendation Medal, Army Achievement Medal, National Defense Service Medal, Global War on Terrorism Service Medal, Army Service Ribbon, Overseas Service Ribbon and the Air Assault Badge.

“This great ROTC program has produced an incredibly long and proud line of leaders over the years,” said Col. Kirby “Bo” Dennis, division G3, 101st Abn. Div., who presented Starmack’s award.

Starmack was impressed by how expansive the center is. She appreciates how much time and effort went into the project.

“I hope the students use this space to find strength and motivation to meet their goals,” she said. “I hope they surround themselves with likeminded people who support them.”

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NEWS

ARMY & AIR FORCE EXCHANGE SERVICE

Employment opportunities available at Fort Campbell Exchange

Army & Air Forces Exchange Service release

The Exchange is where heroes work, and the Fort Campbell Exchange is looking to expand its ranks at Main Store and Express locations.

"The PX offers training, competitive pay and great benefits, as well as a rewarding atmosphere," said Steve Shaw, Fort Campbell Exchange general manager. "The Exchange is Family serving Family, and we are looking forward to growing that Family with those who have a passion for serving Soldiers and the Fort Campbell community."

Benefits for regular full-time and part-time Exchange associates include paid vacation and sick leave. Additionally, the Exchange's associate transfer program helps military spouses retain employment during permanent change of station, allowing them to keep their benefits and build toward retirement.

The team's deep passion for serving sets the Exchange apart. Associates share a special bond with service members - 85% have a military-connection. They have served in the Armed Forces or are

the parent, spouse or extended Family member of someone who is wearing or has worn the country's uniform.

At the Exchange, 45% of the U.S. workforce is made up of veterans, military spouses or Family members, and the Exchange is closing in on its goal of hiring 50,000 veterans and military spouses.

Anyone interested in an exciting career with the Exchange can visit ApplyMyExchange.com or contact the Fort Campbell Exchange Human Resources office at 270-439-1849 or 270-439-5513.

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For most shoppers, having their credit card bill paid in full would probably be the top of their holiday wish list, and Military Star is making those wishes come true with its eighth annual Your Holiday Bill Is on Us sweepstakes.

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Come join our team, apply at ApplyMyExchange.com

CONTRIBUTED GRAPHIC

Fort Campbell Exchange is looking to expand its ranks at Main Store and Express locations. You can apply online at ApplyMyExchange.com or at any on-post Burger King, Subway and Popeye's restaurant.

it. Ten second-place winners will receive \$1,000 statement credits and 25 third-place winners will receive \$500 statement credits.

"Military Star serves the Fort Campbell community every day, and the holidays are a special time to celebrate and thank our heroes," Shaw said. "Shopping for the holidays with Military Star could mean winning

a big gift for yourself. The more you use your Military Star card, the more chances you have to win."

Authorized shoppers can use their military star card at any military exchange, commissary, ShopMyExchange.com, myNavyExchange.com, ShopCGX.com, Armed Forces Recreation Centers, Exchange mall vendor and more.

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For rules, visit MyECP.com/Customer-Ads/Page/Exchange beginning Nov. 1.

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NEWS

COMMUNITY BRIEFS

HUNTING AND FISHING CLOSED NOV. 1-21

Fort Campbell will be conducting a training exercise Nov. 1-21. All hunting and fishing activities in the rear area will be closed during this time. Customers wishing to hunt and fish should take this into consideration prior to purchasing permits through iSportsman. Hunting and fishing activities will be open weekly prior to the training exercise and following its conclusion as the training schedule allows. The annual youth deer hunt has been rescheduled for Nov. 27 and 28. Additional questions related to hunting and fishing activities should be directed to the Fort Campbell Fish and Wildlife customer service line 270-798-9824.

GATES 2 AND 5 OPEN

Fort Campbell Gates 2 and 5 are open 5-10 a.m. Monday-Friday and closed weekends, days of no scheduled activities, or DONSAs, and federal holidays. All other gates will observe their normal hours of operation. For updates or more information about gate hours, use the Digital Garrison app or visit <https://home.army.mil/campbell/index.php/gate-hours>, or <https://www.facebook.com/FortCampbell/>.

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AWARENESS MONTH ACTIVITIES

Fort Campbell Family Advocacy Program, Army Community Service, is hosting several events to promote awareness about domestic violence in October. For more information about FAP-ACS, call 270-412-5500.

•**Virtual Walk:** Participants can walk or run to show their support of healthy relationships by helping the community reach a total of 1,101,101 steps during the month of October. Number of steps will be tracked by submitting them to fap.dvam@gmail.com or by posting them on the FAP-ACS Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/groups/2633729496867615>.

•**Outreach Drive Thru** 10 a.m.-noon Oct. 29 at 1501 William C. Lee Road to share information about healthy relationships and prevention of Family violence.

HALLOWEEN COSTUME CONTEST

The Fort Campbell Commissary is accepting submissions for a Halloween costume contest from Oct. 1-31, with winners announced no later than Nov. 15 and 14-16-pound turkeys

as prizes. To compete, submit a photo of yourself, your Family or your pet in their Halloween costume at www.commissaries.com/halloween-costume-contest. Entries are limited to one per person.

FOOTPRINTS ON OUR HEARTS

Blanchfield Army Community Hospital will host Footprints on Our Hearts, a remembrance ceremony for patients and Family members who have lost a child during pregnancy, 2 p.m. Oct. 15 at 650 Joel Drive. Friends, neighbors and extended Family members are also invited to support attendees. Remembrance activities are planned to allow Families to connect with those who have dealt with similar experiences, and the event will end with a walk around BACH's wellness track for reflection and unity. Face masks are required for attendees over the age of 2 when social distancing is not possible. For more information, call 270-798-8400.

'MARKETING ME' WORKSHOP

The Fort Campbell Spouse employment center will host a "Marketing Me" workshop from 9-11 a.m. Oct. 19 at 5662 Screaming Eagle Blvd. Participants will learn how to use marketing techniques during a job search, explore networking opportunities and use multiple resources to develop an action plan for their next job hunt. For more information or to reserve a spot, call 270-412-1720.

FEDERAL RESUME WORKSHOPS

The Fort Campbell Spouse Employment Center will host a Federal Resume Workshop from 1-3 p.m. Oct. 19. Participants will learn how to set up an account of USAJobs.gov. This workshop is designed to help people understand hiring preferences, the components of a job announcement, resume tips, and required documentation. Workshop is open to military spouses, military retirees, Family members and Department of the Army civilian employees. To make a reservation, call 270-798-4412.

HEALTHY KIDS, HEALTHY FAMILIES: SLIME TIME

USO Fort Campbell is celebrating Halloween with Slime Time, this month's Healthy Kids, Healthy Families program, 4 p.m. Oct. 19 at 6145 Desert Storm Ave. Families can pick up a grab bag for their children with the essen-

tials for making slime and a healthy Halloween snack. Registration is required and opens 6 p.m. Oct. 13 at <https://bit.ly/3BdU7FT>. For more information, call 270-697-4144.

SPOOK AND SPLASH AT GARDNER INDOOR POOL

Put on your finest Halloween costumes for a spooky good time from 5-8 p.m. Oct. 22 at Gardner Indoor Pool, featuring an aquatic pumpkin patch, climbing wall and other activities. Each participant will take home a pumpkin and a goody bag. Participants are encouraged to bring costumes, a bathing suit and a towel. Costs are \$3 for DoD ID card holders and \$5 for non-DoD ID card holders, and the climbing wall is available at no additional fee. For more information, call 270-798-5611.

USO SPECIAL DELIVERY WITH HEIDI MURKOFF

Military mothers are invited to join USO Fort Campbell and "What to Expect When You're Expecting" author Heidi Murkoff for a baby shower 11 a.m. Oct. 23 at 6145 Desert Storm Ave. Attendees can have their pregnancy questions answered, connect with other mothers in the community through games and have chance to win prizes. The event is open to pregnant mothers or those with children 6 months or less (those children can also attend), whether they are active duty, reserve, National Guard members or military spouses. For more information, call 270-697-4144.

NIGHT OF WORSHIP

Crossroads Youth, a garrison religious services ministry, will host "Night of Worship," 6 p.m. Oct. 24 at Liberty Chapel, 3111 Bastogne Ave. This event is open to all teenagers in grades 6-12, parents and volunteers. Music will be performed by Crossroads Worship team. For more information, call 270-798-6124.

ACS VOLUNTEER RECRUITMENT FAIR

Discover new opportunities within the community at the Army Community Service Volunteer Recruitment Fair from 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Oct. 27 at 1501 William C. Lee Road. Representatives from several local organizations will be in attendance to answer questions and help those interested get involved. For more information, call 270-956-2934.

PETS OF THE WEEK



SIRENA CLARK | FORT CAMPBELL COURIER

Ginny, a 1-year-old ginger and white female domestic long hair cat, and Luna, a 4-year-old female spayed black and brindle dog, are available for adoption at Fort Campbell Stray Animal Facility, 5290 8th St. The facility is open 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Monday-Saturday. Adoption fees are \$115 for Ginny and \$47 for Luna. Adoption fees include the cost of sterilization, rabies vaccination and microchipping. For more information, call 931-472-5820.

SEND YOUR ANNOUNCEMENTS

COMMUNITY BRIEFS: Event announcements must be received no later than the Monday before publication. The Fort Campbell Courier accepts announcements and news tips via email at fortcampbellcourier@gmail.com. For more information, call 270-798-6090.

**BEGINNING
OCTOBER 11TH -**

**Monday-Friday
7am-8am
with Joe Dubin**

**MORNINGS
on main street**



Your daily cup of Joe

The show will air on: **YouTube** - Main Street Nashville/Mornings on Main Street playlist
Facebook - Mornings on Main Street (@morningsonmainstreet)



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