



# TASK FORCE PROVIDER NEWSLETTER



Issue No. 6 | Feb. 2024

## Task Force Provider

Greetings, Families and Soldiers of Task Force Provider,

Let's open by making a point to recognize this Provider team for the valuable contributions they've made here on the Eastern flank of NATO. Provider Soldiers continue operations supporting major, multi-national exercises that strengthen interoperability with our allies and deter potential adversaries in Europe. Every day, Providers have continued to set the V Corps theater for sustainment, enabling the collective defense and security of the Baltic and Black Sea Regions. Be proud of your Soldiers; they are making a difference in the world and what they're doing matters!

While sustaining ready, combat-credible land forces in Eastern Europe, your Providers continue to also train, honing lethality and readiness to win in an environment of contested sustainment. This week, we completed a brigade-wide live fire exercise to certify dozens of machine gun crews across our multi-composition force. These Soldiers prepared to defend logistics missions in a variety of environmental conditions and against an array of potential enemy actions. We are proud of the hard work that



the cadre and crews of Dogface Soldiers put into this outstanding two-week training event.

Provider Soldiers also continue to master basic Soldier tasks through recurring Leaders Time Training. This time is set aside every week and protected to allow our sergeants and young officers to focus on building the technical and tactical capacity of our sections and teams. Also, a number of our Providers are preparing for Expert Soldier Badge training scheduled to run at the end of our rotation here. Finally, every month we hold Marne Foundational Day training to foster conditions for open and respectful climates and facilitate meaningful discourse. This focus builds better Soldiers and better leaders of people, our most valuable resource.

We'd also like to congratulate the 329th Movement Control Team for accomplishing their mission and redeployment to Fort Liberty, North Carolina. Welcome to the 949th MCT from Boise, Idaho! We are looking forward to your contribution to our team of teams.

Congratulations to our organic A Company, 87th Division Sustainment Support Battalion, for accomplishing their mission! We are grateful to your and your Families' sacrifices in sup-



*First Lt. Clarissa Xedos, an ordnance officer and Spc. Anthony Burns, a motor transport operator carry M240B machine guns to the range for a convoy live fire exercise in Swietoszow, Poland, Feb. 14 . (U.S. Army photo by Spc. Elsi Delgado)*



*Task Force Provider crews participate in a convoy live fire exercise in Swietoszow, Poland, Feb. 13. The 3rd DSB tests Soldiers and teams with individual and collective unit defense and convoy live fire exercises to ensure readiness to protect critical logistics and mission command systems on any battlefield. (U.S. Army video by Spc. Elsi Delgado)*



port of our national interests in the Central Command area of operations. Enjoy your well-deserved reunions and rest.

Soon, Task Force Provider will bid farewell to our A Company, 129th DSSB here. Thank you for your service and commitment to our mission in Europe. Your contributions have been key and a huge part of our teams' successes.

In March, we will also see off the 414th Transportation Company and then the 325th Transportation Company, both of which have trained hard and contributed the finest logistics support to this Task Force. Before our next newsletter hits emails, we'll also have watched Task Force Grizzly, 787th Combat Sustainment Support Battalion, hand off their responsibilities and head home. Finally, our 826th Ordnance Company will head home, also handing off responsibility for a critical mission in Europe to their relief.

As April begins, the 98th Support Maintenance Company will return to Alaska and the 606th MCT will return to Texas.

As April wans, our organic 90th Human Resources Company, 414th Signal Company, the brigade headquarters company, the 87th DSSB headquarters company and C Company all come home. April will close with our 436th Movement Control Battalion returning to New York.

There's much left to do, not the least of which is welcoming and setting our relieving units up for continued success. It is time to focus, and push hard to finish strong! With that, I would ask our Soldiers and Families to work together to set their homes for redeployment success. We encourage everyone to use the resources available (learn more about these in our Virtual Town Hall), go slow and deliberately, and manage expectations to ensure soft and smooth landings! You have all earned it! Thank you for what you do.

**Heart of the Rock! Rock of the Marne!**

*Right: Chief Warrant Officer 3 KaShauna Kynard, Task Force Provider's Senior Warrant Officer, hosted a Warrant Officers Forum on Powidz, Poland, Jan 31. The forum was held to improve understanding and educate leaders at all levels on warrant officer roles, responsibilities, the state of the cohort, career progression, and warrant officer recruiting. (U.S. Army photo by Spc. Elsi Delgado)*



*Above: Col. Jennifer McDonough and Command Sgt. Maj. Jeffrey Campbell, the command team of the 3rd Division Sustainment Brigade, gives a challenge coin to Spc. Joshua Coddington, a wheeled vehicle mechanic assigned to Headquarters and Headquarters Company, Division Sustainment Troops Battalion, during her visit to the convoy live fire exercise site in Swietoszow, Poland, Feb. 6. Coddington and his crew were top performers during the mounted machine gun tables for the two-week, brigade-wide training event that certified lethal gun truck crews to protect combat logistics missions. (U.S. Army photo by Sgt. Demetrysean Lewis)*

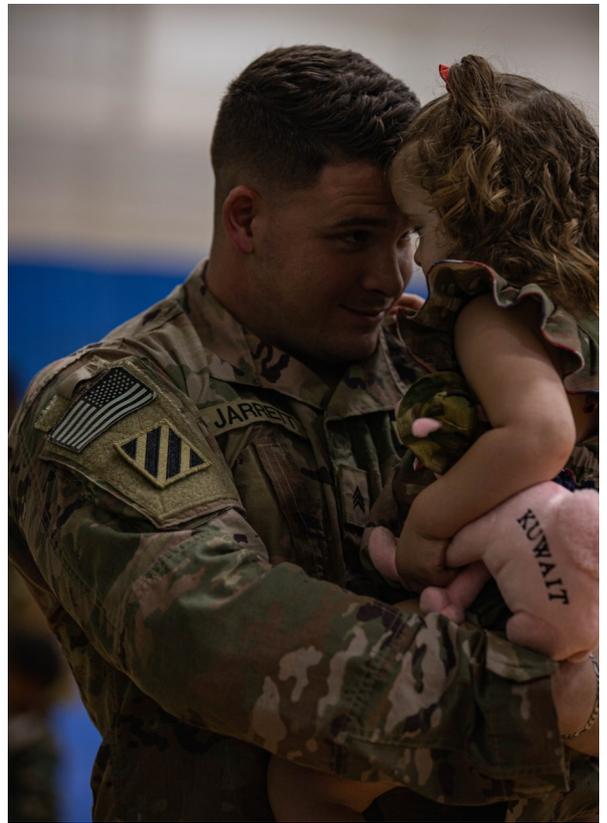


*Above: Task Force Provider command and staff deployed at Powidz, Poland, conduct a sustainment rehearsal on a sand table outside the headquarters, Feb. 3. The 3rd DSB is participating in a Command Post Exercise that will challenge the integration and reporting of all warfighting functions in a simulation designed to generate tough decisions and catastrophic consequences against a live, free-thinking adversary.*





**Sgt. 1st Class Paul Teregeyo, a Sexual Assault Response Coordinator for the 3rd Division Sustainment Brigade, instructs a Marne Guardian course on Jan. 18, in Karliki, Poland. The Marne Guardian program promotes an environment where peers hold each other accountable to follow and uphold the Warrior Ethos and Army Values. These Soldiers are deployed as part of a rotation of forces to Poland to support multinational training and operations and deter adversaries in the European theater. (U.S. Army photo by Spc. Elsi Delgado)**



**Above and Below: Soldiers assigned to A Company, 87th Division Sustainment Support Battalion returned home Feb. 9 from an 11-month deployment in support of Operation Inherent Resolve. During their deployment, A Company, 87th DSSB deployed to 14 locations across six countries that fall under the United States Central Command area of operations. These countries include Iraq, Syria, Jordan, Qatar, Saudia Arabia, and Kuwait. The team maintained two supply support activities facilities in Iraq that were in charge of supplying troops throughout Iraq and Syria. Both SSAs received and issued over 767,000 parts valued over \$122,000,000. The water purification and distribution team purified and supplied potable water to over 600 personnel in the U.S. and coalition forces. The team established a fuel system supply point in Erbil and a forward fuel support point in Syria. Both locations received and issued over 14,000,000 gallons of petroleum products.**



**Pfc. Tariq Wrighinton, a utilities equipment repairer, assigned to Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 3rd Division Sustainment Brigade, 3rd Infantry Division, works on a deployable rapid-assembly shelter heater during a convoy live fire exercise in Swietoszow, Poland, Feb. 6. (U.S. Army photo by Spc. Elsi Delgado)**



**Above: Spc. Maguel Squires, a petroleum supply specialist assigned to Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 3rd Division Sustainment Brigade, fuels a light medium tactical vehicle during a convoy live fire exercise in Swietoszow, Poland, Feb. 12.**





## Task Force Pyramid

Greetings Families, friends, and loved ones of Task Force Pyramid! Over the last month, the task force continued to provide unwavering logistics support throughout Area of Operations Victory. The battalion held a basketball tournament in honor of Martin Luther King Jr. weekend and elements of the 553rd Division Sustainment Support Battalion from Fort Cavazos, Texas, conducted their pre-deployment site survey with the battalion headquarters. The 414th Transportation Company completed turn-in of their Army Prepositioned Stock equipment as it prepares to re-deploy and the 541st Transportation Company from Fort Campbell, Kentucky, takes over their mission.



Above: Photo of POW "Long March" around 27 Jan., 1945. Below: More than 30 U.S. Army Soldiers assigned to the 3rd Infantry Division and Garrison Support Element- Poland participate in Exercise Long March from Zagan, Poland, to Spremberg, Germany, Jan. 26-28. The Soldiers, the first American military members to participate since the original march in 1945, walked 60 miles over three days along the original route of the Stalag Luft III evacuation to recreate the forced march of allied prisoners in World War II as the German military fled Russian advancement during the final winter of the war.



At the end of January, the task force sent 13 Soldiers to participate in the 79th anniversary of the Stalag Luft III Long March to commemorate the lives of Allied prisoners of war lost during movement from Zagan, Poland, to Spremberg, Germany. The Soldiers traveled on foot over 60 miles in three days, marking the first time a member of the American armed forces executed the annual event. In the first week of February, the battalion chaplain, Capt. Wilson, led a group of 39 Soldiers on a Build Strong and Ready Teams event to Krakow, Poland. The Soldiers also visited the famous concentration camp, Auschwitz, and were guided through the area with a tour guide. Finally, the Task Force transitioned to



Above: Sgt. Luvia Zamora, front, and Sgt. Willie Jones, both motor transport operators assigned to C Company, 87th Division Sustainment Support Battalion, 3rd Division Sustainment Brigade, 3rd Infantry Division, secure a 703rd Brigade Support Battalion M88 armored recovery vehicle to an M1302 trailer of the enhanced heavy equipment transporter system in Skwierzyna, Poland, to deliver to a gunnery exercise in Wedrzyn, Feb. 1. Below: Motor transport operators assigned to C Company, 87th Division Sustainment Support Battalion, 3rd Division Sustainment Brigade, 3rd Infantry Division move an M88 armored recovery vehicle to a 703rd Brigade Support Battalion gunnery exercise in Wedrzyn, Poland, Feb. 1. The Soldiers are running continuous transportation missions in support of the division's 2nd Armored Brigade Combat Team.





mounted machine gunnery which will serve as the culminating training event for most of the task force.

Equipment for the units that will replace 414th Transportation Company and 826th Ordnance Company began to arrive last week. This week, the first elements of both their replacements will arrive in theater. As we continue our transitions, the support requirements for various exercises throughout the region to further deter aggression will increase. All our Soldiers are eager to return home, but they know they first must set their successors up for success and execute a seamless transition. We are proud of everyone within the task force and are up for this task.

As the battalion headquarters and Charlie Company prepare to return to Fort Stewart, we want to ensure the Soldier Family Readiness Group points of contact within the battalion are known: Capt. Esther Keller (917-751-6689) is the battalion liaison at FSGA and can be reached by phone and the Signal app. In Poland, the points of contact are Capt. Bruce Colvin (678-570-7619) for the headquarters company and Capt. Marshall Bailey (757-403-1371) for Charlie Company, both of whom can be reached on the Signal app.

**Base of the Pyramid!**



Staff Sgt. Daniel Parker, a signal operations support specialist assigned to the 436th Movement Control Battalion, prepares ammunition for a convoy live fire exercise in Swietoszow, Poland, Feb. 14. (U.S. Army photo by Spc. Elsi Delgado)

## Task Force Empire

Headquarters Detachment continues to plan and execute movement control functions while also preparing for the redeployment process. HHD Soldiers did an outstanding job during the brigade convoy life fire exercise. Sgt. 1st Class Whitlock did a tremendous job planning, resourcing, and executing the two-week training event for our team at Swietoszow, Poland. Staff Sgt. Moog stepped above the rest by volunteering to teach other Soldiers in the brigade how to safely mount, dismount, conduct function checks and operate the M2 machine gun. Staff Sgt. Parker was also recognized by Provider 6 for his outstanding attention to detail and performance as the range safety officer.

The 956th MCT has been diligently working to assist with movements throughout their area of responsibility, assisting a unit at Jasionka with redeployment operations, involving weighing over 200 vehicles. Meanwhile, the CCO



Soldiers assigned to the 329th Movement Control Team and the 949th Movement Control Team, both serving in Europe under the Army Reserve's 436th Movement Control Battalion's Task Force Empire, performed a transfer of authority ceremony at Mihail Kogalniceanu Air Base, Romania, Feb. 5. Both movement control teams are among a multi-compositional array of units within 3rd Division Sustainment Brigade, 3rd Infantry Division working alongside NATO allies and regional security partners to provide combat-credible forces to V Corps, America's forward deployed corps in Europe. The command team of the 329th MCT cased their unit's guidon and the 949th MCT command team uncased theirs, symbolically demonstrating the formal transfer of responsibility for the mission to provide oversight and facilitate movement operations in the Black Sea region. The 329th MCT is based in Fort Liberty, North Carolina, as part of the 82nd Division Sustainment Brigade, and the 949th MCT deployed from Boise, Idaho. (U.S. Army Reserve photos by Sgt. Logan Ubaldo, Lechuga)

team in Jasionka has been experiencing a surge in shipments, requiring customs clearance processing forms for dozens of shipments of vehicle and aircraft parts, electrical equipment, maintenance kits, and repair parts. TMR Processing team has processed 16 movement requests of all kinds. Their efforts ensured timely and efficient transportation for several hundred passengers, hundreds of pallets and containers and are preparing for increased operations in support of the Defender Exercise coming up.

The 949th Movement Control Team has been busy coordinating the movements and personnel within their area of operations. Firestone continues to focus on steady state operations at MK Air Base and throughout the European Command AOR, processing Transportation Movements Requests and ensuring personnel and equipment get processed in and out of theater. Move them Out!

Wildcards had a busy month conducting maintenance and training, including setting up satellite communications. They received mental resiliency and SHARP/EO training from the Brigade's Prevention Working Group as they visited units throughout the Baltics. Always Bet on Us!

Track the Move! The Bellwether team continues to provide seamless transportation support through movement control to AO Victory Central-West. The team works from three different forward operating site locations, processing hundreds of commercial transportation requests and diplomatic clearance packets, and are getting shipments through customs in support of unit operations and to increase readiness. The Bellwethers also supported two redeployment missions into and out of both Powidz and Poznan for hundreds of deploying/redeploying personnel. Move, Ship, Get out the way!

We continue to work with the National Movement Coordination Center (NMCC) staff to accomplish missions and ensure diplomatic relations remain positive. These relationships are essential for U.S. Army movements throughout the European Theater.

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*Right: Soldiers assigned to the 98th Support Maintenance Company retrieve a Stryker vehicle mired in several feet of mud in Swietoszow, Poland, Feb. 7. The 3rd Infantry Division's mission in Europe is to engage in multinational training and exercises across the continent, working alongside NATO allies and regional security partners to provide combat credible forces to V Corps, America's forward deployed corps. (U.S. Army photos by Maj. Darryl Kothmann)*



## Task Force Grizzly

Dear Task Force Grizzly Families,

In the last full month of our 9-month deployment to Poland, the command team would like to look back at the exceptional contributions and experiences of our Soldiers while supporting operations to deter adversaries and build interoperability with allies. Task Force Grizzly continues to excel in performing crucial sustainment functions across Central Europe and the Baltic States. Over the course of this rotation, our Soldiers have completed hundreds of sustainment convoys, driving well over one hundred thousand kilometers, and transporting hundreds of millions of dollars' worth of equipment and parts, and delivering nearly 25 million gallons of fuel.

Earlier this month we welcomed the newest members to the Grizzly team: Alpha Company, 553rd DSSB (Aces) who arrived to replace Alpha Company 129th DSSB (Hydra). As we prepare for the transfer of authority between the two companies, we thank the Soldiers of Task Force Hydra for their steadfast dedication to the mission and their untiring commitment to sustainment operations in Area of Operations Victory.

Since the headquarters element arrived in July, we have promoted over 30 junior enlisted Soldiers, Noncommissioned Officers, and Officers; that's more than half the unit! Several more Soldiers have been recommended for promotion or received their promotable status. This month we also had several re-enlistments, where some Sol-



diers obtained bonus money in exchange for extending their service obligation.

As an organization focused on continuous learning, several of our Soldiers enrolled or completed college and military education courses while in Poland. Over the last two months, more than 40 Soldiers have graduated from the Army Combatives Level One Course. This five-day course includes training Soldiers in hand-to-hand combat techniques based on Brazilian Jiu-Jitsu such as pummeling, knee strikes, trapping an opponent's arm, chokeholds, and grappling over a weapon. January's class, the first of its kind on Forward Operating Site Powidz, graduated 18 students; the second class graduated 25 students. Interest continues to grow, and we expect more than 35 Soldiers to graduate in March.

Service to others remains a common theme among Task Force Grizzly Soldiers, many of whom donated more their time and talents to local organizations in February. Over 80 of our Soldiers have now volunteered at least 75 hours at the USO, MWR, or Red Cross, earning themselves award of the Military Outstanding Volunteer Service Medal.

Task Force Grizzly's Soldier and Family Readiness Groups (SFRGs) continue to plan re-deployment and re-integration activities for our return in the spring. We are excited to be with you very soon. Until then, we extend our warmest regards from AO Victory.

Podtrzymać Walkę! (Sustain the Fight!)



*Col. Jennifer McDonough and Command Sgt. Maj. Jeffrey Campbell, the command team of the 3rd Division Sustainment Brigade, gives challenge coins to human resources Soldiers assigned to Task Force Provider for having the highest grade point average and being distinguished honor grad in the postal operations course in Powidz, Poland, Feb. 9. The Postal Operations course trains the Soldiers how to operate a post office while deployed or overseas.*

## How do I keep tabs on Task Force Provider?

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Or see more of our imagery  
on <https://www.dvidshub.net/unit/3SB>

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*Soldiers from across the 3rd Division Sustainment Brigade's Task Force Provider participate in Exercise Long March from Jan. 26-28, a re-enactment of the original prisoner of war forced march from Zagan, Poland, to Spremberg, Germany, in World War II. Tens of thousands of allied prisoners of war suffered from malnourishment alongside numerous maladies, severe cold, snow and ice, and uncertainty of their fate as they were forced into inner Germany, with an estimated thousands dying from exposure, disease and exhaustion.*



*Task Force Provider crews prepare vehicles for a convoy live fire iteration during a brigade-wide exercise in Swietoszow, Poland, Feb. 13. The 3rd DSB tests Soldiers and teams with individual and collective unit defense and convoy live fire exercises to ensure readiness to protect critical logistics and mission command systems on any battlefield. (U.S. Army video by Spc. Elsi Delgado)*



## Task Force Hellraiser

Friends and Family, greetings from your Task Force Hellraiser team, the 3rd Division Sustainment Brigade Home Station Mission Command here at Fort Stewart and Hunter Army Airfield. We hope everyone has been able to keep up with their new year's resolutions as we have...mostly...been able to.

As the deployment is rapidly coming to an end we are working diligently to prepare for your Soldiers' return and developing the plan to ensure they are fully integrated back at Fort Stewart. This integration will include all of the available resources that Fort Stewart and Hunter Army Airfield have available to support you and your family during this transition.

Over the last month we were excited to receive over 100 Soldiers from Alpha Company, 87th DSSB, from their deployment to the U.S. Central Command area of responsibility. They finished their reintegration on Feb. 15 and are set to begin their much-needed leave to spend time with their family and friends. We also welcomed over 50 Soldiers that have recently arrived at Fort Stewart or Hunter Army Airfield. In the same time period, we sent more than 10 Soldiers to the U.S. European Command area of responsibility in support of operations there with Task Force Provider.



*Soldiers with the 87th Combat Sustainment Support Battalion, 3rd Sustainment Brigade, fire a .50 caliber machine gun during a small arms range at Fort Stewart, Georgia, Jan. 31. Soldiers participate in a .50 caliber machine gun qualification range to increase weapons readiness and unit lethality. (U.S. Army photo by Pfc. Rebeca Soria)*

In order to keep our Soldiers "Ready to Go!" Task Force Hellraiser qualified over 100 Soldiers on the M4 rifle, 32 on the M240B machine gun, 34 in the Combat Lifesavers Course, 44 in military drivers training, and more than 40 in the Tactical Combat Casualty Course. Additionally, the 274th Movement Control Team conducted Gunnery Table II at the Close Combat Tactical Trainer, a digitally simulated training environment on Fort Stewart that provides realistic training in preparation for their convoy live fire at the end of the month.

We said farewell to two of our company commanders, Capt. Chris McDonald and Capt. Michaela Bauman from the 258th Movement Control Team and 274th Movement Control Team respectively. We are grateful for their leadership and hard work during their time in command.

To ensure our Soldiers remain mentally resilient, Chaplain Cameron, Division Sustainment Troops Battalion chaplain, hosted two Unit Ministry Team lunches and a prayer breakfast. Lt. Col. Hoaglin and Command Sgt. Maj. Thornton hosted an SFRG event, inviting Soldiers and their Families to make and decorate strawberries to take home and hand out during the first motorpool formation on Monday. Finally, we hosted our monthly Hellraiser fitness competition and raised the stakes: instead of small teams representing each company all personnel available to compete across each company participated and the 274th Movement Control Team was declared the victor.

**"Ready To Go!" "To Hell and Back!"**



*Soldiers assigned to 3rd Sustainment Brigade, 3rd Infantry Division, lift weights during a physical training competition at Fort Stewart, Georgia, Jan. 24, 2024. Competitive events help motivate Soldiers to improve their overall physical readiness. (U.S. Army photo by Pfc. Elisha Hall)*



*Spc. Aicha Linares, an intelligence analyst assigned to the 3rd Division Sustainment Brigade, 3rd Infantry Division's Task Force Provider, gives an introduction on who she is and what she does for the Army to the students of the complex of general education and vocational school during a visit in Trzemeszno, Poland, Jan. 17, 2023. Throughout the visit, the Soldiers exchanged stories of why they joined the military and what life in the military is like. The students practiced English language skills while hosting the U.S. Soldiers that deployed as part of a rotation of forces to provide sustainment for training and operations on NATO's eastern flank. (U.S. Army photo by Sgt. Demetrysean Lewis)*



## Chaplain's Corner

I wish a happy and peaceful February to you! The phrase might sound like a greeting for a holiday season that doesn't really exist, but why is that? Probably because for all the great holidays in February and the great history we celebrate in it, December kind of has a lock on the month-long "good will towards man" vibe, which I think is an absolute shame.

Now, I hold no illusions that I'm going to start a new national holiday with a newsletter, but I find that some of the most important changes I've ever made were to the perspective of an individual. Perspective is one of the most powerful elements of our culture and of our reality. Contrary to popular belief, perspective will not change an objective truth; that is, two plus two will equal four regardless of your feelings on the matter.

Perspective, however, can change just about everything else. It can change you, and then you can go out and make new and objective changes in the world. One perspective is that this might be the longest time you've ever been separated from your Soldier or your family. Another perspective may be that Poland is about one of the best places your Soldier can be, given that circumstance. Neither perspective changes the objective truth,

but one has a much more useful response in dealing with that information.

If I could change just one perspective of even just one person today, it would be that of the anger and the hurt that someone else put into your life. Soldiers and families, you have said or done something that the other didn't like during this deployment. Unkindness or inconsiderate moments have occurred. Nothing I can say will make those things un-happen, and it's good to recognize that that boundary was crossed; you need to take steps to make sure it doesn't happen again.

But holding onto the resentment, the bitterness, the pain, fixes nothing. You will be reunited soon, and not an ounce of love or peace was ever aided by any amount of contempt. This is where perspective comes in: The injustice, the fault, was theirs. The responsibility to forgive is yours. Forgiveness is not permission to continue poor decisions, nor is it weakness or "losing a fight." Forgiveness is the conscious decision to let go of the toxic feelings in your own heart that are not helpful to resolving a situation.

So, my wish for this month is that we make it "Forgiveness February." If you've wronged someone, apologize. Don't apologize seeking absolution, but simply to state your recognition of the wrong you have done. If someone has wronged you, you don't have to wait for their apology to forgive them. Forgiveness precedes healing for both parties, and the hurt they caused can't ever stop hurting if you can't ever let it go. The forgiveness is directed at them, but the peace and relief it brings will be primarily your own.