



April 14, 2017
Vol. 10, No. 07

The Real McCoy®

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

24-hour Vigilant Triad exercise practices installation's emergency-response capabilities

BY SCOTT T. STURKOL
Public Affairs Staff

Fort McCoy garrison and tenant organizations tested eight major training objectives during a simulated tornado touchdown at the installation during the 24-hour Vigilant Triad 2017 exercise held March 21-22.

Vigilant Triad completes the Installation Management Command annual requirement to conduct a full-scale exercise to refine and improve Fort McCoy's response to a local or regional all-hazards crisis. Such exercises are part of a continuing effort by the Department of Defense to refine and improve emergency response to natural and man-made disasters.

The Directorate of Plans, Training, Mobilization and Security (DPTMS) served as the lead Fort McCoy agency for the exercise. The exercise scenario began March 20 with installation emergency-response and emergency-management personnel monitoring a thunderstorm and tornado watch for the Fort McCoy area.

By early March 21, the scenario progressed to a severe thunderstorm (See **EXERCISE**, Page 3)



Photo by Jamal Wilson

Emergency responders with the Directorate of Emergency Services Fire Department treat simulated injured personnel March 21 during operations for the 2017 Vigilant Triad exercise at Fort McCoy.



Photo by Staff Sgt. Debralee Best

An Army Reserve Soldier prepares for live-fire qualification during Operation Cold Steel on April 3 at Fort McCoy. The exercise continues through April 25 at the installation.

Cold Steel exercise heats up Army Reserve readiness

BY MASTER SGT. ANTHONY L. TAYLOR
First Army

Deep in the late-winter woods, metallic clacking and repetitive booms rolled like thunder — first far, then near — in the cool, crisp air.

It was week three of Operation Cold Steel, the Army Reserve's first large-scale live-fire training and crew-served weapons qualification and validation exercise, taking place March 9 through April 25. The gunnery exercise is critical in ensuring that Army Reserve units and Soldiers are trained and ready to deploy on short notice and bring combat-ready and lethal firepower in support of

the Total Army Force and joint force partners around the world.

Eighteen master gunners from First Army provided expertise in crew-level gunnery qualifications and vehicle crew evaluator (VCE) training, which trains Soldiers to conduct crew-served weapons training and vehicle crew gunnery at the unit level.

The Army Reserve comprises approximately two-thirds Combat Service Support with a focus on units such as transportation, quartermaster, ordnance and logistics, so gunnery skills are new for many of the Soldiers participating in Cold Steel.

"In years past, if you said the word

'gunnery,' you would think of armor, tankers, or (mechanized) infantry," said Brig. Gen. Fletcher Washington, 80th Training Command deputy commanding general for operations and one of four general officers providing senior-level oversight at Cold Steel. "But now, under the new construct that we operate in this asymmetric battlefield, as soon as you step outside the gate, you are in enemy lines. There are no longer good guys on one side and bad guys on the other."

The Soldiers training at Cold Steel are part of the Army's Ready Force that can deploy quickly with (See **STEEL**, Page 7)

Inside
This
Edition:

Construction
of new
training venue
Page 2



McCoy teen
earns Youth of
the Year
Page 4



2017
troop projects
planned
Page 6



Twins
participate
in Cold Steel
Page 9



NEWS

New training venue under construction at Range 29

STORY & PHOTO BY SCOTT T. STURKOL

Public Affairs Staff

Construction work is ongoing for a new training venue at Range 29 on Fort McCoy's North Post.

The new training area is a Live-Fire Structured Collapse Venue Site, said Range Officer Mike Todd with the Directorate of Plans, Training, Mobilization and Security.

"The site is a large collapsed building that is simulated to be already hit by artillery or an airstrike, or it could also be simulated to be hit by a natural disaster as well," Todd said.

The new venue also includes a basement tunnel and, once completed, will offer troops a place to practice a variety of training scenarios.

"Soldiers could clear the structure and shoot targets within," Todd said. "Then fire and rescue personnel could go in and treat casualties and evacuate the injured from the site."

Like many recently constructed training venues designed for live fire at Fort McCoy, the Live-Fire Structured Collapse Venue Site will be made primarily of shock-absorbing concrete.

"The shock-absorbing concrete allows training (service members) to shoot in all directions once inside the structure," Todd said.

Estimated completion date for the project will be later in 2017. Construction was put on hold to allow for live-fire training to take place during Operation Cold Steel in March



The construction area for the new Live-Fire Structured Collapse Venue Site is shown on Range 29 in late February.

and April.

Range improvements, such as the construction of the site, are done to conform to Army Training Circular (TC) 25-8 requirements. The TC provides range development and oper-

ations guidance for range planners, engineers, coordinators, and mandated range-project review boards at all levels of the Army.

The work also aligns with Fort McCoy strategic objectives to sustain and modernize the

installation's range complex and multiple other areas.

For more information about range-improvement projects, call the Range Management Branch at 608-388-3721.

M9 qualification

Soldiers with the 1st Battalion, 219th Brigade Support Battalion, which is part of the 181st Multi-Functional Training Brigade, complete qualification training on the M9 pistol April 5 at Range 100 at Fort McCoy.

Range 100 is one of several live-fire ranges that is used regularly for weapons qualifications.

Fort McCoy has 31 live-fire ranges overall. In addition to the 1st, 291st, many units are scheduled to complete qualification training this spring at the installation.

Contributed photo



■ EXERCISE

going over the post with DPTMS Range Riders observing a funnel cloud southwest of the installation cantonment area followed by the Installation Emergency Operations Center (IEOC) activating a tornado siren at 8:25 a.m.

The scenario was that between 8:25 and 8:50 a.m. a tornado touched down on the cantonment area somewhere between the 1100 and 1200 blocks with multiple reports of damage, power outages, and casualties. Immediately after the “all clear” was given, Garrison Commander Col. David J. Pinter Sr. directed a level-four activation of the IEOC requiring all garrison and tenant organization action officers to report to the center.

Additionally, fire and emergency-response personnel with the Directorate of Emergency Services (DES) responded to building 1250, which was reported as seriously damaged in the tornado touchdown. In their response, DES personnel stabilized the building, evacuated and accounted for all personnel, and treated injuries.

Several people with the Fort McCoy workforce served as role-players during the DES response.

“We do our best with training like this to make it as real as possible,” said DPTMS Director Brad Stewart. “By doing this, it allows everyone to physically go through the steps they would have to take if this was a real-world disaster response.”

DES personnel also responded to a secondary incident within the scenario — a building fire at building 1860. While there, firefighter/emergency medical technicians with DES not only extinguished the fire, but also assessed and treated more victims played by installation workforce role-players. Members of the Oakdale (Wis.) Fire Department also participated in this scenario.

“We also had crew members with Xcel Energy here to participate and respond to restoring power and covering a ruptured gas line,” Stewart said. “And, Gundersen’s MedLink helicopter and crew were here to participate in casualty evacuations as well.”

Personnel with the Directorate of Public Works participated in their own emergency response to a simulated broken water main later on in the exercise. Other scenario inputs included media representatives reporting on the incident and participating in a press conference to test the Fort McCoy Public Affairs Office, and

the Directorate of Human Resources holding a personnel accountability review and executing casualty affairs notification procedures.

Because so many organizations participated in the training, Stewart said it was successful with all eight main training objectives being achieved or exceeded. Those objectives included:

- exercising and validating phase two of the Installation Emergency Management Plan.
- exercising all communication systems at directorate, special staff office, and tenant organization and activity nodes.
- integrating tenant organizations and activities into response and recovery operations.
- exercising installation command and control.
- establishing and operating the Incident Command Post.
- establishing and operating the IEOC.
- utilizing mass warning and notification systems.
- exercising personnel accountability.

“We also accomplished an additional 14 tenant organization and staff training objectives,” Stewart said. “This demonstrates that the overall exercise was a success with tenant participation, we exceeded our requirements, and stressed the garrison staff more than what may occur in a real-world incident.”

The exercise also followed priorities established by the garrison commander.

The priorities included validating emergency management systems to protect the life, health, and safety of population; limit property damage; support ongoing operations; and recover from the event.

Pinter said the exercise demonstrated how well everyone who participated can work together to respond to a disaster, such as a tornado.

“Having all of the (outside) organizations as well as our tenant partners from around the installation participate in this exercise showed this was a total Fort McCoy team effort and not just a garrison effort,” Pinter said. “We have a culture of value-based professionals at Fort McCoy who are always looking at continuous improvement, and this exercise was a demonstration of that effort.”

For more information about Vigilant Triad and Fort McCoy emergency management, call 608-388-3120.

(From page 1)



Photos by Jamal Wilson

Plans, Operations and Security Division Chief Scott Frosch (standing) with the Directorate of Plans, Training, Mobilization and Security gives an update briefing to Fort McCoy team members March 21 in the Installation Emergency Operations Center during Vigilant Triad 2017.



Fort McCoy firefighters prepare to extinguish a simulated fire during a scenario for the exercise.

NEWS

Fort McCoy teen named Wisconsin Military Youth of the Year

Hailing from the Boys & Girls Club of Fort McCoy, Kaylee Rowley has been named the Wisconsin Military Youth of the Year by Boys & Girls Clubs of America.

The Youth of the Year title is bestowed upon an exemplary young person in recognition of leadership, service, academic excellence, and dedication to living a healthy lifestyle. Now in its 70th year, the program honors the nation's most awe-inspiring young people on their paths to great futures and encourages all children to lead, succeed, and inspire. Rowley will represent all members of Boys & Girls Clubs of America-affiliated military youth centers in Wisconsin and will receive a \$5,000 college scholarship.

Like many military youth, Rowley moved with her family early in her life. She said making friends was definitely the hardest part about moving. When her family moved to Fort McCoy, her parents signed her up at the Child & Youth Services (CYS) School Age Center. There, she met other military youths who knew what it was like to move and have to start over.

They made her feel welcome, and she said this started her positive club experience. When Rowley experienced some challenges early in high school, the club was a place she could turn to for support, guidance, and a place of belonging.

At the Club, Rowley enjoys participating in the STEM Career Club and the Keystone Club. In STEM Career Club, teens are able to explore various careers through interactive and fun activities based on a different career each month. Favorites among the teens have been engineering, cooking, and enlisted Soldier. Rowley is looking forward to the next career focus, veterinary science, since that is her current career goal.

In Keystone Club, Rowley volunteers with younger club members. Rowley and the other teens have taught literacy skills



Contributed photo

Fort McCoy youth Kaylee Rowley is shown after receiving the Wisconsin Military Youth of the Year award March 14.

and sports development skills to the preschool and kindergarten youth at the School Age Center. Rowley is always a positive role member to other club members, CYS employees said.

When asked what she would say to encourage other young

people to attend the Youth Center, Rowley said, "My club experience has taught me that even if you aren't perfect, there are people who believe in you and there is a place you can go to help you be the best that you can be. That place is the Boys & Girls Club."

"Kaylee and all Youth of the Year nominees are living proof that Boys & Girls Clubs across the country are inspiring and enabling young people to achieve great futures," said Jim Clark, president and CEO of Boys & Girls Clubs of America. "Being named Youth of the Year is a lifelong honor. As the Wisconsin Military Youth of the Year, Kaylee will serve as a spokesperson for our young people, sharing her inspiring story and leading the way to transform communities for the better."

This summer, Rowley will join other state military winners to vie for the Midwest military regional title. If named the regional winner, she will be awarded an additional \$10,000 college scholarship, renewable for four years up to \$40,000.

Six youth will advance to Washington, D.C., in September 2017 to compete for the title of Boys & Girls Clubs of America's National Youth of the Year. The National Youth of the Year will receive an additional scholarship of \$25,000, renewable for four years up to \$100,000 and will have the opportunity to meet with the President of the United States in the White House.

Boys & Girls Clubs of America's National Youth of the Year recognition program is sponsored by Disney, Toyota, the University of Phoenix, and the Taco Bell Foundation. (No federal endorsement implied.)

For more information about the Youth of the Year program, visit www.youthoftheyear.org.

(Article prepared by the Boys & Girls Clubs of America and Fort McCoy Child and Youth Services.)

Installation holds Green Dot Challenge

Fort McCoy is holding an installation-wide Green Dot Challenge during April.

The 2017 Sexual Harassment/Assault Response and Prevention training uses the Green Dot curriculum, which teaches how people can intervene when they see harassment, bullying, or abuse instead of being passive bystanders.

During April, Fort McCoy community members are encouraged to keep track of their green dots, whether reactive or proactive. Reactive green dots are decisions people make to intervene when they see potentially harmful behaviors that could lead to problems like alcohol abuse, a sexual assault, child abuse, or the bullying of an autistic person. Proactive green dots are moments when someone decides to let others know that they do not believe in or condone bullying, sexual harassment, or any kind of power-based personal violence.

People can create green dots by attending awareness events like those being held on post during April, "liking" a bystander story on Facebook, or having a conversation with friends or family members about how to intervene if they see potentially harmful behavior.

Green dots do not have to be big gestures, but can be small decisions everyone

can make to contribute to a safer community. All of those small moments and decisions add up to big changes.

Containers are on display during April at Rumpel Fitness Center and McCoy's Community Center to show how many green dots Fort McCoy community members have created. Community members can drop green ping pong balls into the container to represent their green dots.

If someone adds a positive saying or quote regarding bystander intervention to your signature block, has a conversation with children about how to recognize harmful behaviors (or red dots), or give resources to a co-worker in need, he or she can add a green dot to the Fort McCoy map.

Fort McCoy's goal is to reach 500 green dots or more this in April. Be sure to check out the Main Gate electronic sign when driving on post to see if the goal has been reached. Fort McCoy community members are encouraged to cover Fort McCoy in green this April and throughout the year.

For more information about SHARP and the Green Dot program, call Army Community Service at 608-388-3505.

(Article prepared by Fort McCoy Army Community Service.)



NEWS



Photos by Scott T. Sturkol

Jamie Cram (left) with Fort McCoy Army Community Service provides remarks April 3 during the installation's kickoff event and luncheon for Alcohol Abuse Awareness Month, Autism Awareness Month, Child-Abuse Prevention Month, and Sexual-Assault Awareness and Prevention Month at Fort McCoy.

Post kicks off April with celebration of 4 awareness months

BY AIMEE MALONE
Public Affairs Staff

April is an especially busy month for awareness observances nationwide, and Fort McCoy kicked off the month by highlighting four of them.

An April 3 kickoff event and luncheon underscored the importance of Alcohol Abuse Awareness Month, Autism Awareness Month, Child-Abuse Prevention Month, and Sexual-Assault Awareness and Prevention Month.

Installation leadership signed four proclamations related to the awareness months, promising to raise awareness of the issues and help end sexual assault/harassment, child abuse, bullying, and other problems related to the awareness months. The proclamations were signed by Maj. Gen. Patrick J. Reinert, commanding general of the 88th Regional Support Command; Col. David J. Pinter Sr., Fort McCoy garrison commander; Lt. Col. Tammy L. Farrell, Regional Training Site (RTS)-Medical; Maj. Gloria Rosario, RTS-Maintenance; Maj. Kevin T. Gregar, 426th Regiment (Regional Training Institute) and Wisconsin Military Academy; Lt. Col. James Doemel, 181st Multifunctional Training Brigade; Command Sgt. Maj. Steven Dryer, Staff Sgt. Todd R. Cornell Noncommissioned Officer Academy; and Jim Davis, 86th Training Division.

Pinter said it is important to take the time



Fort McCoy Garrison Commander Col. David J. Pinter Sr. signs one of four monthly observance proclamations.

to highlight these issues and consider what can be done locally to both avert and solve problems.

"What do we need to do to prevent? What do we need to do to strengthen our community?" Pinter asked. "These are all social problems. We can control them."

While autism is a condition, the focus of the month is on bringing awareness to how people with autism function differently from

those without it.

"For autism awareness, we want to take time to learn acceptance, self-determination, appreciation, and inclusion," said Carrie Olson, Family Advocacy Program manager. "We want to push one step closer so that those with autism are valued for their unique talents and gifts."

Bystander intervention is the focus of the 2017 Sexual Harassment/Assault Response and

Prevention training. While the training focuses on how bystander prevention can help stop sexual harassment and assault, it's also a very good tool to prevent child abuse and alcohol abuse, which are also highlighted in April.

"It is up to us to be active bystanders and support those in need," Olson said.

"The first step to intervening is to recognize the signs and be in tune with those around us." It's important to speak up when noticing things that might be indicators of problems, such as unusual bruises or abrasions on a child or someone being isolated from their friends or coworkers, she said.

As part of the push to promote bystander intervention, the installation is holding a Green Dot challenge. (See article, page 4)

Pinter also stressed the importance of intervention in helping combat problematic situations.

"You know what right looks like. Choose the hard right instead of the easy wrong," Pinter said. "We're in this together. We're one team."

The event was coordinated by Army Community Service. Several related events are coming up in the second half of April, including a self-defense class April 19 and the "Voice of a Survivor" presentation April 26.

For more information about April awareness events, call Army Community Service at (608) 388-3505.

NEWS

2017 McCoy troop projects include new buildings, facility upgrades

STORY & PHOTO BY SCOTT T. STURKOL

Public Affairs Staff

One of the biggest Fort McCoy troop projects of 2016 — a shower facility at Improved Tactical Training Base (ITTB) Freedom on South Post — will be among several projects in 2017 that will continue to see work completed.

Troop projects are a regular part of planned improvements at the installation each year, said Troop Projects Coordinator Larry Morrow with the Directorate of Public Works. The projects provide valuable training for Army engineer units to train their Soldiers and also, on occasion, support training for engineer units from other military services.

“Having these projects completed is very important,” Morrow said.

“If we didn’t have these projects, many troops wouldn’t get the training they need, and the post wouldn’t benefit from the work they do to improve Fort McCoy training ranges and quality-of-life programs.”

In 2016, Soldiers with the Wisconsin National Guard’s 829th Engineer Company (Vertical) and 824th Concrete Section began work on the shower facility at ITTB Freedom.

“The project began with a bare patch of ground,” said Staff Sgt. Anthony Fiecke, project noncommissioned officer in charge for the 829th in 2016. He said the Soldiers first graded and prepared the ground for a foundation, then dug trenches and installed plumbing and electrical lines.

“For the foundation, we laid in almost 1,200 concrete blocks,” Fiecke said. “Then the project just kind of grew up from there.”

Morrow said the exterior of the shower facility was mostly completed in 2016. “Now this year, we’ll move to the interior to get work done,” he said.

The first troop-project work for 2017 begins in early May with troops working on the shower facility as well as others working to build a “lean-to” structure next to building 2876.

“All of our projects this year will be worked on by troops who are here for either the Warrior Exercise or the Combat Support Training Exercise,” Morrow said. “It will include Soldiers with various Army engineer units as well as personnel with Air Force civil engineer units.”

In addition to work on the shower facility and the construction of the lean-to structure, other planned projects include:

- installing parking lot lights at the Whitetail Ridge Ski Area.
- re-siding a building at Whitetail Ridge Ski Area.
- building a picnic shelter near building 1111 and a new building at Range 2.
- continuing development of the marshalling yard at Young Air Assault Strip on South Post.

“The marshalling yard is an ongoing, large project,” Morrow said. “This year, we will continue to have the area further developed for eventual use.”

Col. David O’Donahue, 157th Maneuver Enhancement Brigade commander, visited with 829th Soldiers while work was being completed on the shower facility in 2016. He said the project was a “perfect fit” for training.

“This is a project where you can practice your (military occupational specialty) and build something that is going to last a long, long time,” O’Donahue said.

Morrow said there may also be several smaller projects that might also be completed during the year.

“It’s likely some additional work will be completed, especially by units that are here for short training periods,” Morrow said. “As with any project, we appreciate the work they all do to improve our installation.”

For more information about troop projects, call 608-388-3551.



Soldiers with the Wisconsin National Guard’s 829th Engineer Company (Vertical) of Ashland and Spooner, Wis., work on a shower facility in June 2016 at Improved Tactical Training Base Freedom on Fort McCoy’s South Post.

■ STEEL

(From page 1)

the active-component units they support.

“The active component cannot deploy without the Reserve,” said Sgt. 1st Class Jaime Herrera, assigned to First Army’s 181st Multi-Functional Training Brigade (MFTB) and serving as one of two lead master gunners in support of Cold Steel. “The (Army Reserve) houses approximately 90 percent of all our sustainment units. ... If rapid-deployment active-duty units have to deploy, (Reserve units) have to go with them.”

The priorities at Cold Steel are to qualify vehicle gun crews, create VCEs to train Reserve units, and to qualify individual ground crews.

Sgt. 1st Class Joseph Mah, a member of the 348th Transportation Battalion of Houston, is one of a handful of Army Reserve master gunners participating at Cold Steel. He is working with the First Army master gunners to begin taking the reins from his active-component counterparts and help build the bench for the Army Reserve.

“I’m assisting the 181st (MFTB) in conducting master gunner briefs, running the (training) lanes and also as a (vehicle) crew evaluator,” Mah said.

“(A) master gunner is the (subject matter expert) of all things crew gunnery-related. The VCEs have an understanding of what gunnery is, and they’re able to give good (after-action reviews) to the crews to give them pointers on how to increase their scores and how to shoot gunnery and identify targets better.”

The units moving through Cold Steel are showing a lot of promise, Herrera said.

“The first chalk (group) was a little rough, and we knew it would be. They were our ‘guinea pig’ chalk where we learned a lot of our lessons and made adjustments, but they still came out all right,” Herrera said.

“Chalk two was a little smoother.”

Many Soldiers coming through the Cold Steel training lanes had never seen some of the crew-served weapon systems, Herrera added, but were walking away from the exercise with top rating marks.

“We have crews that are two specialists and a private first class, and they’re shooting distinguished rating (top gunnery



Photo by Staff Sgt. Debralee Best

Soldiers complete basic live-fire training on a Fort McCoy range April 1.



Photo by Staff Sgt. Debralee Best

Soldiers with the 412th Theater Engineer Command wait in staged vehicles to complete live-fire qualification during Operation Cold Steel on March 23 at Fort McCoy.

rating requiring 900 of 1,000 points),” Herrera said. “To go from zero experience to shooting top tier is a big deal.”

Soldiers training at Cold Steel’s night live-fire range, which is illuminated only by red and green glow sticks in their vehicles and a few overhead range lights, backed up Herrera’s assessment.

“I scored four out of five with a total score of only missing one target,” said Spc. Colton McKay, a petroleum supply specialist assigned to the 786th Quartermaster Company of Provo, Utah. “This is my first time doing anything gunnery.”

“I’ve (trained) with the (M240 machine gun) before, but that was when I was prior service in the Marines,” said Spc. Zachary McFarland, a motor transport operator assigned to the 182nd Transportation Company of Bay City, Mich. “We’ve been doing really good; we are one of the top teams currently in our chalk. I think the overall training has been really good.”

Lt. Col. Byron Perkins, Operation Cold Steel Task Force commander, said potential future Cold Steel exercises could have the Ready Force Soldiers that are training at this exercise lead future ones. But the Army Reserve needs to eventually run gunnery training on its own, he added.

“We need to create the culture where that’s part of theyearly training brief and yearly training calendar for units to run through gunnery,” Perkins said. “Because this is new, we don’t have the culture or the personnel right now.”

Lt. Gen. Charles Luckey, commanding general of the U.S. Army Reserve, visited several of the Cold Steel ranges and training sites.

“We’re making history. This is a big deal,” Luckey said to Soldiers in one of the first chalks to qualify. “Where we’re going isn’t where we’ve been. This is a different Army Reserve we’re building. So I want every Soldier in America’s Army Reserve back in the field.”



Photo by Master Sgt. Anthony L. Taylor

A spotting scope view of Army Reserve Combat Engineers, assigned to 366th Engineer Company, Canton, N.Y., engage targets on a gunnery crew live-fire qualification March 23 in a M113 Armored Personnel Carrier during the Operation Cold Steel exercise at Fort McCoy.

ADS

FEATURE

Dynamic duo: Identical twins run crews at Operation Cold Steel

STORY & PHOTO BY STAFF SGT. DEBRALEE BEST
84th Training Command

The smallest details make it evident that Staff Sgt. Jeshua Moore and Sgt. Gereld Moore are two different people. Gereld wears wire frames in his glasses while Jeshua's are a slightly thicker, black plastic. The rank difference is sometimes a giveaway as well, but not always.

Gereld has been asked many times why he was demoted, and Jeshua is constantly congratulated for Gereld's promotion.

In March, the two were at Operation Cold Steel at Fort McCoy, Wis., completing gunnery tables. The brothers were not on the same crews, though, but it wasn't due to causing confusion, but on the chance they are mobilized, they would operate within their own platoons with the 327th Engineer Company, 416th Theater Engineer Command out of Onalaska, Wis.

"The unit asked for volunteers. They were trying to set up an NCO (noncommissioned officer) with a gunner and a driver to make a gun crew," said Jeshua.

Since both are NCOs, the brothers volunteered.

"It's extra time," said Jeshua. "You don't get a whole lot of crew-served time in the Reserve. It's more crew-served time and extra training we wouldn't normally get, and then we can take that back to the unit and help train other soldiers on it to be more proficient."

Gereld volunteered because he said he doesn't always see interesting activities in the Army, and he thought Cold Steel would be fun.

"They're not just going to pay you to do fun stuff all the time, but this is one those things that we get the chance to do more fun stuff like shooting machine guns," he said.

Operation Cold Steel is the Army Reserve's crew-served weapons qualification and valida-



Staff Sgt. Jeshua Moore (left) and Sgt. Gereld Moore, both with the 327th Engineer Company, 416th Theater Engineer Command, are identical twins who running gunnery crews at Operation Cold Steel 2017 at Fort McCoy in March.

tion exercise to ensure that units and Soldiers are trained and ready to deploy on short-notice and bring combat-ready and lethal firepower in support of the Army and joint partners anywhere in the world.

While at Operation Cold Steel, Jeshua ended up with the nickname Big Moore since he is higher in rank. But, while Jeshua may outrank Gereld, it is actually Gereld who is older by 2 minutes.

"So, the whole time growing up, he was a little older, he got to do everything first and got everything first. I joined the Army first and I outrank him, so now I get to do everything first," said Jeshua.

Gereld responded with a shrug, a laugh, and, "Sure."

Jeshua wanted to join early in his childhood.

"I'd always wanted (to join) since I was little, but my parents wanted me to go to college. So I got an associate degree, and I worked for a couple of years and decided, 'Nope, still want to.' At first my mom — she's always been protective — she was against it at first. I told

her, 'I did what you wanted me to do. I went to college first. Now I still want to join,'" Jeshua said.

"She got used to the idea when I was in basic training. She came to the graduation. She got used to the idea, then obviously just like any other parent, she was really proud and had no problem with it then." Then he looked at Gereld and said jokingly, "Until you joined."

Gereld joined three years later after getting the "early 20s fun stuff" out of the way.

Gereld joined Jeshua's unit and had some regrets within the first few hours of his first battle assembly.

"My first day in the unit, as a brand new private first class, right out of (advanced individual training), we got a new first sergeant that day. He didn't know there were twins in the unit. He had his leadership meeting and saw all his NCOs. Never saw me. I was in the back of the platoon, back of the formation. After formation, we were told to go out and (conduct preventive maintenance checks and services on) the trucks. I was PMCSing the truck and, I hear the first sergeant coming my

way, yelling, 'Sgt. Moore!'

Yelling louder and louder, getting closer and closer. I step down off the truck, he spins me around and yells, 'Sgt., I'm talking to you! Wait a minute, you were wearing sergeant rank this morning.'

'No, first sergeant.'

'Yes, you were! I saw you at my leadership meeting!'

'No, first sergeant.'

He pulled me in his office; he was going to put me in for impersonating a noncommissioned officer, lying to a noncommissioned officer, (and) verbal disrespect to a noncommissioned officer. Not that I disrespected him, but when I started to stutter, I was shaking very badly. That was very scary for a new private."

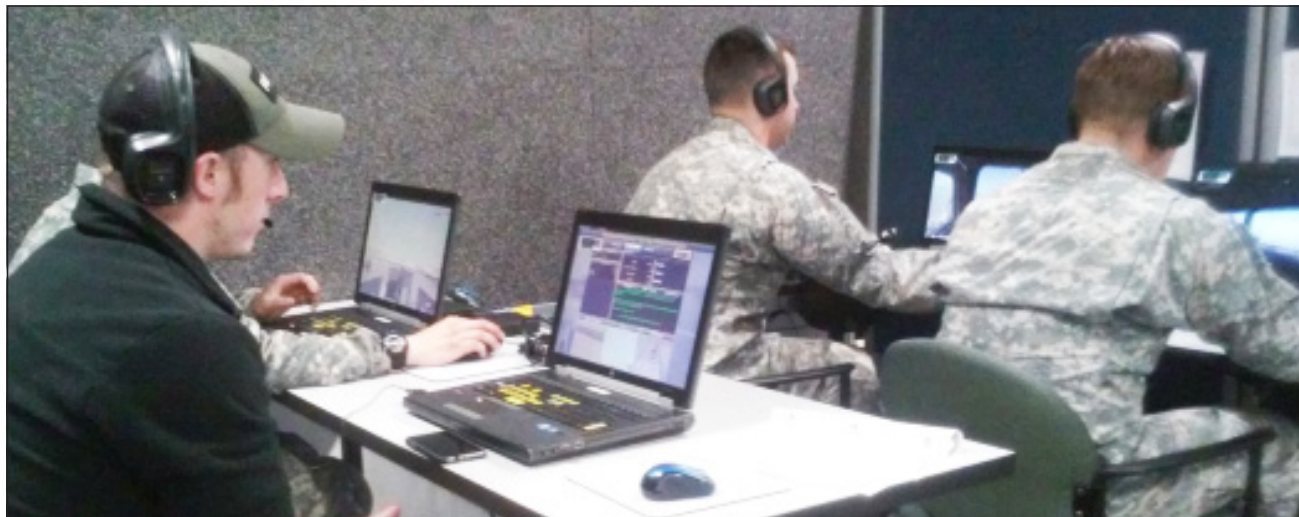
"Not even four hours into his first drill, and the first sergeant is screaming at him," laughed Jeshua.

"My platoon sergeant stood in the doorway, laughing as I was looking back for help and standing in front of the first sergeant's desk," added Gereld. "Finally someone came in and said, 'No, that's the twin; there's two of them.' It was a rough first day."

This is only one of countless stories the twins, who call Lancaster, Wis., home, have of mistaken identity. Gereld had an entire lunch with one of Jeshua's first sergeants, who didn't know until the end of the meal that it wasn't Jeshua. Jeshua visited Gereld during a battle assembly and had a platoon leader give him tasks to complete.

When Gereld was being mobilized, Jeshua visited in civilian clothing and was told he had to be in uniform. At this point, the siblings are used to it and just play it off.

"After this many years were pretty much used to it. Growing up, people getting us wrong and thinking we're the other one," said Jeshua. "I'm sure to this day there are some who didn't realize they were talking to the wrong one."



Cold Steel simulation training

Rob Miller (left), contractor with Booze Allen Hamilton Inc., teaches mounted crew gunnery on the Virtual Battle Space software program April 7 with Soldiers who are at Fort McCoy for training in the Operation Cold Steel exercise.

The training simulates Fort McCoy training areas and allows gunnery crews the ability to experience gunnery training before going out to a range to complete live-fire training.

This training took place at building 222 of Fort McCoy's simulation training complex.

Photo by Scott T. Sturkol

SAFETY

Stay safe while spring hiking; watch for risks

BY ART POWELL

U.S. Army Combat Readiness Center

Todd Orr is a lucky man.

After being attacked not once, but twice, by possibly the same bear while hiking near his Montana home, the 50-year-old drove himself 17 miles to the nearest medical facility for treatment and to alert authorities.

After the incidents, Orr posted a video of his injuries online with the comment, "Life sucks in bear country. Be safe out there!"

He was bleeding after the attack and suffered a fractured forearm, but was otherwise none the worse for the incident. The county sheriff told a local newspaper Orr should "go out and buy a lottery ticket" to celebrate his good luck after the encounter with what was believed to be a mother bear with cubs.

Run-ins with wildlife are a hazard while hiking, but just one of many.

Dennis Martin was 7 years old when he and some young friends played in the woods at a popular campground in the Great Smoky Mountains National Park. When the children came out of the woods, Dennis wasn't with them.

That was June 14, 1969, and Dennis has never been seen since.

An extensive search for the child turned up nothing. He is one of three people who disappeared without a trace in the Great Smoky Mountains National Park over the years. The others were a 16-year-old high school student who vanished while walking with a group, and a 58-year-old woman who walked around a turn in the trail ahead of her friends and was never seen again.

Foul play? Accidents? People who wanted to disappear? Whatever happened in the Smokies has occurred at other national parks and venues as innocent as a hiking trail in a local park.

Jeremy Barnum, a public affairs officer with the National Park Service, reports that from 2007 to 2013, there were 1,025 fatalities from various causes in the United States' 59 national parks. On average, about 160 visitors per year die, most from hiking-related falls, at national parks.

In general, visitors can stay safe if they follow simple rules, Barnum said. His advice applies to any hiking trip. Always plan and prepare for your hike. Select the most appropriate activity that matches your skill set and experience. Seek information before and when arriving at your selected hiking area about hazards and environmental conditions. Follow the rules and regulations. Use sound judgment while participating in recreational activities.

Other safety tips from the American Hiking Society include:

- Avoid hiking alone. The buddy system is safer during any type of activity.
- Tell someone where you are going and when you will return.
- Stay on marked trails.
- Never climb on waterfalls.
- Always carry quality rain gear and turn back in bad weather.
- Dress in layers and avoid cotton.

For more information, visit <https://safety.army.mil>, or call the Fort McCoy Installation Safety Office at 608-388-3403.

HERE IT COMES

Take a Hike!

- Always plan and prepare for your hike
- Plan ahead—know your terrain
- Select the activity that matches your skill level
- Learn first aid and carry supplies for unexpected overnight stays
- Check the latest weather forecast when you arrive at your hiking destination
- Know how to use your maps and GPS receivers
- Use sound judgement while on the trail—common sense goes a long way

READY ... OR NOT?

<https://safety.army.mil>

Ready ... or Not is a call to action for leaders, Soldiers, Army Civilians and Family members to assess their readiness for what lies ahead - both the known and unknown. #Armysafety

So are **YOU** ready ... or not?




COMMENTARY

Lent: Creating a desert space in our overcrowded lives

BY CHAPLAIN (LT. COL.) IKE EWEAMA
Religious Support Office

In the gospel, we read that after Jesus was baptized, “the Spirit immediately drove him out into the wilderness. He was in the wilderness forty days, tempted by Satan; and he was with the wild beasts; and the angels waited on him.” (Mark 1:12-13)

Where else but the desert could you have such a meaningful encounter of the Holy Spirit as well as Satan and of the wild beasts as well as the holy angels? The desert was the school where Jesus came to distinguish between the voice of God, which he should follow, and the voice of Satan, which is temptation. How many voices do we hear from the moment we get up in the morning until the moment we go to sleep at night? The countless voices in the daily paper, the soliciting voices on the radio and the television, the voices of those who live and work with us, not forgetting our own unceasing inner voices.

In the desert we leave most of these voices behind to focus on distinguishing between the guiding voice of God and the tempting voice of Satan.

In the desert, we come to know ourselves,

our strengths and weaknesses, and our divine calling. In the desert, Jesus encountered beasts and angels. There are wild beasts and angels in every one of us. Sometimes, owing to our superficial self-knowledge, we fail to recognize the wild beasts in us and give in to vainglory, or we fail to recognize the angel in us and give in to self-hatred.

But in the silence and recollection of the desert we come to terms with ourselves as we really are.

We are reconciled with the beasts and the angels in our lives, and then we begin to experience peace again for the first time.

Lent is the time for the desert experience. We cannot all afford to buy a camel and head off for the desert. But we can all create a desert space in our overcrowded lives.



Eweama

We can set aside a place and time to be alone daily with God, a time to distance ourselves from the many noises and voices that bombard our lives every day, a time to hear God’s word, a time to rediscover who we are before God, and a time to say yes to God and no to Satan as Jesus did.

How do we do this? Our life style must balance comfort with challenge — the need to take care with the need to take risks.

In other words, when we begin to truly say yes to God, our attitude ties in with the words of Christ, “Unless the grain of wheat falls to the ground and dies, it remains just a grain of wheat. But if it dies, it produces much fruit. The man who loves his life loses it, while the man who hates his life in this world preserves it to life eternal.” (John 12: 24-25)

This means that our life presently is not a destination but an individual journey that must be seen in the light of God’s purposes for each of us and that we must be accountable for whatever we do along the way.

Secondly, when we say yes to God, our way of life begins to be anchored on Christ Jesus, who faced death in order to give us life in abundance.

The prophet Isaiah explains to us and

insists that fasting without changing our behavior is not pleasing to God. “This, rather, is the fasting that I wish: releasing those bound unjustly, untying the thongs of the yoke; setting free the oppressed, breaking every yoke; sharing your bread with the hungry, sheltering the oppressed and the homeless; clothing the naked when you see them, and not turning your back on your own.” (Isaiah 58:6-7)

Is this a prescription for Lent? I think so. Perhaps during this Lenten season, we should stop praying for others as if we are virtuous enough to do so.

Perhaps we should take off our righteous robes just long enough during these 40 days to put ashes on our own heads, to come before God with a new humility and willing to confess, “Lord, be merciful to me, a sinner.”

Maybe we should be willing to prostrate ourselves before God and plead, “Lord, in my hand no price I bring; simply to the cross I cling.” That might put us in a position to hear God in ways that we have not heard Him in a long time.

I think creating a desert space in our overcrowded lives may be the beginning of a healing for which we have so longed in our personal lives and for the world around us.



Photo by Capt. Eric Hurtado

RTS-Maintenance recruiting tour

Students with Mosinee High School of Mosinee, Wis., interact with staff members from Fort McCoy’s Regional Training Site-Maintenance on April 5 at the installation. The students, 38 total, visited the base as part of a tour hosted by the Fort McCoy Recruiting Company. The students also visited some of the simulation training areas belonging to the Directorate of Plans, Training, Mobilization and Security.

NEWS NOTES

Training dates available for 2017 SHARP courses

Dates have been set for fiscal year 2017 Sexual Harassment/Assault Response and Prevention, or SHARP, refresher courses.

Overview training will be held from 8:30 to 10:30 a.m. April 18, May 11, June 13, July 13, Aug. 10 and 23, and Sept. 6 and 12. The training describes the effects of sexual harassment and sexual assault, examines prevention strategies, and discusses Department of Defense sexual-assault statistics and reporting.

All classes will be at Army Community Service, building 2111.

SHARP annual refresher training is mandatory and must be completed by Sept. 30. Advance registration is required. Unit or directorate training is available upon request.

For more information or to register, call 608-388-8951.

Self-defense class planned for April 19

A self-defense class is scheduled for 4:15 to 5:15 p.m. April 19 at Rumpel Fitness Center, building 1122.

The class will be taught by Robert Bird and employees of Choka U Gym. Bird has been training in self-defense and Brazilian jiu jitsu for almost eight years. He has won gold and silver medals at the International Brazilian Jiu Jitsu Federation's world championship.

The class is arranged by Army Community Service and is open to military members, retirees, civilians, Family members, and registered Fort McCoy volunteers.

For more information, call 608-388-8989 or email jamie.a.cram.civ@mail.mil.

Family crafting workshop scheduled April 22

Crafting Resilience Workshops start April 22 at Army Community Service's Family Workshop Center, building 2161.

The workshops provide time and space for families to create projects together and learn skills to increase resilience, including time management, journaling, and more.

Supplies are provided for a number of activities, including scrapbooking, stamping, card making, canvas painting, and no-sew quilt blocks. Some items have limited supplies. Family members also may bring their own projects.

The workshop will be from 9:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. Exceptional Family Member Program members can begin at 8:30 a.m. Family can register for two- to four-hour blocks of time. Additional workshops are scheduled for June 10, July 15, and Aug. 5. Registration is required by the Monday before a workshop.

Class size is limited. Children must be accompanied by an adult. Army Community Service events are open to military members, retirees, civilian workers, Family members, and registered Fort McCoy volunteers.



Contributed photo

Easy does it

Students in the Ammunition Supply Course prepare to load cargo into a shipping container during training April 2 at Fort McCoy. The course is taught by the 13th Battalion, 100th Regiment, which is a tenant organization at Fort McCoy.

For more information or to register, call 608-388-6507.

Holocaust Days of Remembrance to be observed April 24

The Fort McCoy observance for the Holocaust National Days of Remembrance is scheduled for 11:30 a.m. April 24 at McCoy's Community Center, building 1571.

The guest speaker is Rabbi Simcha Prombaum of Sons of Abraham in La Crosse.

For more information about Equal Opportunity observances, call 608-388-6153.

'Voice of a Survivor' scheduled for April 26

"Voice of a Survivor," a program about surviving sexual abuse, is scheduled for 10 to 11 a.m. April 26 in the building 60 auditorium.

Jennifer Nadler will talk about the two years of abuse she underwent at the hands of a male Family member and her recovery process. Nadler's presentation has earned multiple awards, including the 2015 Visionary Voice Award, the 2015 Makers: Women Who Make America award, and 2014 Award of Appreciation from Vera House.

Army Community Service events are open to military members, retirees, civilian workers, Family members, and registered Fort McCoy volunteers. No advance registration is required.

For more information, call 608-388-8989.

Drug take-back event scheduled for April 29

The Monroe County Safe Community Coalition will host drug take-back events 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. April 29.

People wishing to discard old medications, both prescription and over the counter, can take

them to Monroe County Solid Waste Management at 20448 Junco Road in Norwalk or the Sparta Police Department at 121 E. Oak St. in Sparta. The Sparta Police Department will hold a child passenger seat safety check and recycle event that same day. No appointments are necessary.

Permanent drop boxes are located at Scenic Bluffs Community Health Center in Cashton and the Sparta and Tomah police departments, which are all available during normal business hours.

Fort McCoy does not hold a separate drug take-back event, but community members are encouraged to take unwanted medications to one of these events or the permanent drop boxes. Tablets, capsules, liquids, ointments, patches, nonaerosols, and pet medications are all accepted.

For more information about discarding unused medications, visit www.mcsafecommunities.org or www.dea.gov.

AER scholarship applications due May 1

Army Emergency Relief, or AER, is accepting applications for its Spouse Scholarship Program and the Maj. Gen. James Ursano Scholarship Program for dependent children until May 1.

The Maj. Gen. James Ursano Scholarship Program is a need-based scholarship program established to assist dependent children of Army Soldiers in obtaining a first undergraduate degree. The spouse scholarship also is a need-based scholarship program established to assist spouses of Army Soldiers in obtaining a first undergraduate degree.

The entire application package for the 2017-2018 school year must be submitted online at www.aerhq.org by May 1.

For more information about the applica-

tion process and requirements, visit www.aerhq.org.

Madison zoo trip scheduled for May 6

A trip to the Henry Vilas Zoo in Madison is scheduled for May 6 in honor of Military Spouse Appreciation Day.

Family members will meet at Army Community Service at 8 a.m. and leave the zoo at 2:30 p.m. The zoo features a petting zoo, train, carousel, play area, and wildlife exhibits from around the world. Admission to the zoo is free, but there are fees to ride the carousel and train. Participants may bring their own lunches or purchase lunch at the zoo.

Army Community Service events are open to military members, retirees, civilians, Family members, and registered Fort McCoy volunteers. Registration is required.

For more information or to register, call 608-388-2412.

Opening acts announced for Aug. 12 Army Concert

Cassadee Pope will be the special guest at the Aug. 12 Army Concert featuring Toby Keith at Fort McCoy's Constitution Park. Waterloo Revival will open the concert.

Pope won season three on the reality television show *The Voice*. Her debut single, "Wasting All These Tears," has sold more than 1 million copies, solidifying Pope as part of a distinct group of solo, female country artists to score platinum certification of a debut single. Her chart-topping album "Frame by Frame" also features "I Wish I Could Break Your Heart." Pope and her duet partner, Chris Young, were nominated for Best Country Duo/Group Performance for their hit song "Think of You," making her first contestant from *The Voice* to receive a Grammy nomination.

Waterloo Revival duo Cody Cooper and George Birge met in middle school. In June 2016, Waterloo Revival signed to Toby Keith's record label and joined him on the "Toby Keith Interstates & Tailgates Tour."

The one-day ticket kickoff event is June 22, with tickets selling for \$45. Purchase tickets at these Kwik Trip locations from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. (June 22 only): Black River Street in Sparta, West McCoy Boulevard in Tomah by Kentucky Fried Chicken, Rose Street in La Crosse, Highway 16 in Onalaska, and Oak Forest Drive/Highway 35 in Onalaska. Tickets will be available on post at McCoy's Community Center, building 1571.

For updates about the concert, visit mccoy.armymwr.com or follow the Directorate of Family and Morale, Welfare, and Recreation on Facebook at www.facebook.com/mccoyarmymwr.

Next issue of The Real McCoy

The next issue of *The Real McCoy* will be published April 28.

Deadline for submissions to be considered for that issue is noon April 19.

Recreation

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

Better Opportunities for Single Soldiers (BOSS): 1 p.m. second Thurs. of each month in building 1121. Call 608-388-3200.

McCoy's Community Center: Building 1571. Offers books, arcade, gaming area, and bowling. Manager has discretion on closing time. **Closed April 16.** Call 608-388-7060.

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

Leisure Travel Services Office: Call 608-388-3011.

Sports bar: Open 4 p.m.-midnight Mon.-Sat. and 4-11 p.m. Sun.

Pine View Campground/Recreational Equipment Checkout Center: Building 8053. Open 8 a.m.-5 p.m. Mon.-Fri. Call 608-388-2619.

Rumpel Fitness Center: Building 1122. Open 5 a.m.-8 p.m. Mon.-Thurs., 5 a.m.-7 p.m. Fri., and 6 a.m.-2 p.m. Sat.-Sun. Call 608-388-2290.

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

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

Tactics Paintball & Laser Tag: Open 9 a.m.-2:30 p.m. Sun. and 12:30-4:30 p.m. Mon.-Sat. Call 800-531-4703.

Whitetail Ridge Ski Area: Closed for the season. Call 608-388-3517/4498.

Dining

McCoy's Community Center: Building 1571. ATM located inside. **Closed April 16.** Catering/admin., call 608-388-2065.

Primo's Express: Open 11 a.m.-10 p.m. Mon.-Fri. and 4-9 p.m. Sat.-Sun. Buffet 11 a.m.-1 p.m. Mon.-Fri. Limited menu after 2 p.m. Call 608-388-7673.

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

Snack Avenue: Building 1538. Located inside Express. Open 6 a.m.-7 p.m. Mon.-Fri., 7 a.m.-7 p.m. Sat., and 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Sun. Call 608-269-5604 or 608-388-4343.

Specialty Express Food Court: Building

1538. Open 7:30 a.m.-4 p.m. Mon.-Fri. Breakfast available 7:30-10:30 a.m. Call 608-269-5615, ext. 303.

Whitetail Ridge Chalet: Building 8061. Adult lounge and outdoor deck. Closed for the season. Available year-round for private parties. Call 608-388-3517/2260.

Services

Alteration Shop: Building 1538. Open 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Mon.-Fri. and 9 a.m.-3 p.m. Sat. Call 608-269-1075.

Barber Shop (Exchange): Building 1538. Open 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Mon.-Fri. and 10 a.m.-3 p.m. Sat. Call 608-269-1710.

Beauty Salon: Building 1538. Open 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Mon.-Fri. and 9 a.m.-3 p.m. Sat. Call 608-269-1075.

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

Car Wash: Building 1568. Offers self-service and automatic bays. Open 24/7. Accepts cash, tokens, or credit cards. Token machine on site. Call 608-388-3544.

Combat Cache: Building 1645. Open 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Mon.-Fri. and 9 a.m.-2 p.m. Sat.-Sun. Call 608-567-4231.

Commissary: Building 1537. Open 10 a.m.-6 p.m. Mon.-Sat. Early bird/self-checkout open 9-10 a.m. Mon.-Fri. Call 608-388-3542/3543.

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

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

Exchange: Building 1538. Open 8 a.m.-7 p.m. Mon.-Sat. and 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Sun. Call 608-269-5604, ext. 101 or ext. 4343.

GNC: Building 1538. Open 9 a.m.-6 p.m. Mon.-Fri. and 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Sat. Call 608-269-1115.

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

IHG Army Hotels: Building 51. Open

facilities services

This schedule is projected through **April 27, 2017.** **Bold, italic typeface** indicates a change since the last publication. Please call facilities before visiting to verify hours. To report updates to this page, call 608-388-2407.

24/7. Call 608-388-2107 or 877-711-TEAM (8326).

Launderette/Dry Cleaning: Building 1538. Open 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Mon.-Fri. and 9 a.m.-3 p.m. Sat. Call 608-269-1075.

Laundry Facilities: Buildings 651, 755, 1671, 1735, 1856, 2002, 2568, 2671, 2763, and 2877 open 24/7. Exclusively for use by Soldiers training on Fort McCoy pursuant to military orders. Civilians and retired military *are not authorized* to use these facilities. Call 608-388-3800 (Troop and Installation Support Branch, building 490).

Military Clothing: Building 1538. Open 8 a.m.-7 p.m. Mon.-Sat. and 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Sun. Call 608-269-5604, ext. 203.

Permit Sales: Building 2168. Open 7 a.m.-3:30 p.m. Mon.-Fri. Call 608-388-3337.

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

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

RV Storage Lot: Next to building 2880. Short- or long-term storage. Fees charged. Authorized patrons only. Call 608-388-2619/3517.

Service Station/Express/Class VI: Building 1538. Open 6 a.m.-7 p.m. Mon.-Fri., 7 a.m.-7 p.m. Sat., and 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Sun. Call 608-269-5604 or ext. 4343. Pay-at-the-pump gas open 24/7. ATM located inside. Cash

transactions available during Express hours.

Visitor Control Center: Building 35. Open 5 a.m.-5 p.m. Mon.-Fri. Call 608-388-4988.

Family Support

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

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

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

Military and Family Life Consultant Program (MFLC): Building 2111. Provides education, information, and support for anyone affiliated with the military. MFLC services are confidential. Available 8 a.m.-4 p.m. Mon.-Fri. or by appointment. Call 608-469-1432.

Red Cross: Fort McCoy active-duty Soldiers and Family members can call 877-272-7337 for emergency assistance. For other Red Cross services, call 800-837-6313, 608-788-1000, or the installation operator at 608-388-2222 and request Red Cross assistance.

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

SKIESUnlimitedInstructionalProgram: Building 1668. Provides instructional classes for children and youth from infancy through the end of their senior year in high school. Register at Parent Central Services. Call 608-388-8956.

Health Care

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

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

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

Occupational Health Clinic: Building 2669. Open 7 a.m.-3 p.m. Mon.-Fri. Call 608-388-2414.

TRICARE: TRICARE North Region, 877-874-2273; TRICARE West Region, 877-988-9378; TRICARE South Region, 800-444-5445; TRICARE for Life, 866-773-0404; or visit www.tricare.mil.

Troop Medical Clinic: Building 2669. Open for sick call 7-8 a.m. and appointments 8 a.m.-3 p.m. Mon.-Fri. Authorized use only for Extended Combat Training Soldiers on orders of less than 30 days. Personnel on orders for more than 30 days are eligible for TRICARE Prime Remote and will see off-post providers. Call 608-388-3025.

Worship

Catholic: Chapel 10, building 1759. Mass at 9:30 a.m. Sun. Fellowship follows service from 10:30-11:30 a.m. at building 2675. Call 608-388-3528.

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

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

Protestant: Chapel 1, building 2672. Protestant worship at 9:30 a.m. Sun. Fellowship follows service from 10:30-11:30 a.m. at building 2675.

Protestant Women of the Chapel Bible Study: Building 2675. 8:30-10:30 a.m. Wed. Children welcome to attend with their mothers. Call or text Amber Bailey at 325-280-9380 or visit www.facebook.com/groups/PWOCFortMcCoy/.

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

Call 608-388-3528 for more information about Chapel and worship schedules in the surrounding communities. The RSO is on Facebook at www.facebook.com/FtMcCoyRSO. If you have an emergency, call 608-388-2266 and the on-call duty chaplain will be contacted.

Organizations

Adjutant General Corps Regimental Association, Spartan Chapter: Meets monthly. For more information, visit www.facebook.com/AGCRASpartan or call Staff Sgt. Cassandra Ross at 251-327-8400.

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

American Society of Military Comptrollers: Meets several times throughout the year. Call Maureen Richardson at 608-269-1912 or Bonnie Hilt at 316-209-2787.

Association of the United States Army - AUSA (Robert B. McCoy Chapter): For information on meetings, visit www.mccoysusa.org.

Friends and Spouses of Fort McCoy: Meets third Thurs. of each month. For information, email fsofmccoy@gmail.com.

Reserve Officers Association, Fort McCoy-Readiness 43: Call David W. Alderfer (LTC-Retired) at 920-535-0515 or email justdave49@centurylink.net.

USO Wisconsin at Fort McCoy: Building 1501. Open 9 a.m.-4 p.m. by appointment. For information or to volunteer, call 414-477-7279 or email ehazlett@usowisconsin.org.

Warrant Officers Association, Chapter 0317: For more information, call 608-609-2212 or 785-979-7370, or email usawoamccoy@outlook.com.

DAILY BUGLE CALLS

5:50 a.m. - First Call • 6 a.m. - Reveille • 6:45 a.m. - Assembly • 7 a.m. - Breakfast • Noon - Mess Call (Dinner) • 5 p.m. - Retreat/To the Colors • 5:45 p.m. - Mess Call (Supper) • 10:30 p.m. - Tattoo • 11 p.m. - Taps

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

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