



1ST CAVALRY DIVISION Ironhorse troops train with UASs A6

FORT HOOD SENTINEL

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 5, 2013

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NEWS BRIEFS

Abrams closing Sept. 15

Fort Hood's most used physical fitness center will close down Sept. 15 for an estimated 10-month, \$6.2-million renovation process.

The Abrams Physical Fitness Center, where roughly 1,000-1,200 patrons pass through each week, will undergo numerous changes, the bulk of which focuses on a more energy-efficient heating, ventilation and air conditioning systems.

The cost of the renovation, money allocated through Installation Management Command, is inclusive of the fitness center, the office complex, a reconfigured juice bar, improved conference rooms and changes to the pool.

Structurally, one of the biggest changes to Abrams will be reconfigured access to the workout rooms in an effort to make the building more of a multi-use facility. Other changes include repairs to the basketball court and a new set of bleachers, which will have more handrails and will be more accessible.

At the time of the re-opening, new workout equipment will also be introduced, according to Fort Hood Family and Morale, Welfare and Recreation officials.

Operation Rising Star Friday

Fort Hood's annual talent show, Operation Rising Star, begins at 7 p.m., Friday at the Phantom Warrior Center.

Call 287-6116 for details.

Sprint Triathlon set for Sept. 14

The sixth annual Sprint Triathlon will be held Sept. 14 at the Belton Lake Outdoor Recreation Area.

The race kicks off at 8 a.m. and includes a 3.1-mile run, 300-meter swim and 12-mile bike ride.

Participation is free and open to all. To register, stop by any Fort Hood fitness facility or register online at www.HoodMWR.com. For more information, call 285-5459.

Health benefit rep coming

Fort Hood's Civilian Personnel Advisory Center will host representatives from Blue Cross/Blue Shield, 9 a.m.-3p.m. Sept. 17 to answer questions from civilian employees pertaining to their health care plans and services.

The Fort Hood CPAC is located in Building 4220 on South 77th Street. The representatives will be available in Room 9. For more information about civilian health benefits, call the Army Benefits Center at (877) 276-9287, or go to www.abc.army.mil.

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Never Forgotten

Community feels relief in wake of Hasan sentencing

BY ERIN ROGERS

Sentinel Staff

With the court martial of U.S. v. Maj. Nidal Hasan ending in a death sentence Aug. 28 after nearly four weeks of legal proceedings, the overarching feelings among Fort Hood community members are those of agreement with the panel's decision of a death sentence and relief at the conclusion of the court martial.

The death sentence was one the government pushed for, especially during government lead counsel Col. Michael Mulligan's closing argument prior to the panel's deliberation of sentence.

"You cannot offer what you don't own; you cannot give away what is not yours. He can never be a martyr because he has nothing to give ... Do not be misled; do not be confused; do not be fooled. He is not giving his life. We are taking his life. This is not his gift to God, it's his debt to society. He will not now and will not ever be a martyr. He is a criminal, a cold-blooded murderer. On 5 November he did not leave this earth, he remained to pay a price. To pay a debt. The debt he owes is his life," Mulligan told members of the panel during closing arguments Aug. 28.

Community members seemed just as passionate about the sentencing.

"This guy is obviously guilty, we all knew it from the beginning, from day one," said Dale Pierce, a retired Soldier

and Fort Hood community member.

Pierce is also a friend and former coworker of Michael Cahill, a retired chief warrant officer 2 and one of the victims of the Nov. 5, 2009 massacre at the Soldier Readiness Processing Center.

"Cahill was the guy I'd always go see for sick call back when we were both in the Army. He was such a wonderful guy - didn't deserve what Hasan did to him, none of them did. Hasan deserves this sentence," Pierce said, adding that he hopes this death sentence will be an example and discourage others from trying anything like this ever again.

A few community members said the biggest disappointment out of this whole trial for them, is that the massacre is still classified as workplace violence, and not as an act of terrorism.

"Our legislators need to change Hasan's attack to a terrorist attack, it wasn't just workplace violence. I'm happy with the outcome of the death sentence, but very unhappy that the attack is still considered workplace violence," John Adair, a retired Soldier at Fort Hood, said. "He went against the people he swore an oath to protect, during a time of war, that's treason. He is a terrorist."

Jake Marshall, a Fort Hood civilian employee, agreed with Adair's thoughts about the workplace violence classification, but has an indifferent feeling toward

See Relief, A7



Photo by Erin Rogers, Sentinel Staff

The memorial dedicated to the Nov. 5, 2009 shooting victims stands in Fort Hood's Memorial Park across from III Corps Headquarters.



Lt. Col. Mark Johnson, commander, 163rd MI Bn., and Command Sgt. Maj. Roderick, the senior enlisted member of the battalion, case the battalion's colors during a deployment ceremony at West Fort Hood, Aug. 28. The colors will be unfurled when the unit arrives in Afghanistan for a nine-month deployment.

MI battalion cases colors, sets sights on Afghanistan; 'We are ready'

BY STAFF SGT. GREGORY SANDERS

504th BfSB Public Affairs

The symbolic beginning of an Afghanistan deployment for nearly 200 Soldiers assigned to 163rd Military Intelligence Battalion, 504th Battlefield Surveillance Brigade, was marked as the unit colors were cased during a deployment ceremony on West Fort Hood, Aug. 28.

"When we redeployed 13 months ago, today seemed so far away," said Lt. Col. Mark Johnson, battalion commander.

"We had no idea what our mission would be. We knew we had a year to rebuild our capabilities and prepare to deploy again."

The unit's mission is to provide tactical and technical intelligence collection capabilities for Coalition and Afghan forces in support of Regional Command-South.

"We are ready," Johnson said. "There is no better trained and ready military intelligence battalion in the Army."

Training for the nine-month

See Casing, A6



Photos by Sgt. Jordan Johnson, Sentinel Assistant Editor

Participants in the Fort Hood Grand Prix run up Support Avenue as they approach the finish line of the race Aug. 29. Per the rules of the race, teams had to finish as a group.

Fort Hood Grand Prix builds esprit de corps, promotes teamwork

BY SGT. JORDAN JOHNSON
Sentinel Assistant Editor

Service members from across the Great Place converged at Sadowski Field before sunrise Aug. 29 to participate in the Fort Hood Grand Prix.

The Grand Prix consisted of company- and troop-level organizations from Fort Hood fielding three-man teams. Each team had to run three miles while carrying the unit's guidon, and the team members had to

cross the finish line at the same time. Maj. Gen. Anthony Ierardi, 1st Cavalry Division commanding general and Fort Hood senior mission commander, said he expected leaders had chosen their best to compete in the race.

"What we're going to do here is have a road race. It's not going to be all that long of a road race, but I anticipate company commanders and first sergeants have chosen their three fastest runners to represent the company," Ierardi said. "Why

the company? Because it's the fundamental command organization in any Army unit that makes the mission happen. It's at the company level."

Before the company-level runners began the race, Ierardi reminded those in attendance that the race was not only about trying to finish first, but also to build unit spirit.

"The purpose of this mission this morning is to build esprit de corps and to have a friendly competition," Ierardi said. "Let's see who the fastest team is here at Fort Hood."

Shortly after Ierardi said those words, the race began. Hundreds of Soldiers lined up near the finish line and up-and-down Support Avenue to watch and cheer on their battle buddies for the inaugural event.

Ierardi's first words after the race were similar to his last ones before it began.

"The purpose of this today, to build teams, and here's what I saw," Ierardi said. "I saw troopers running together, working together to accomplish a single mission."

"We had Soldiers out here cheering for you and I'm darn proud of you guys," he said. "What we're going to do is award the first place trophy to the winning team this morning. I think the average time on this team was about 5.5 minutes a mile, which is smoking. You all did great out here, everybody who participated did great, and I'm sure

proud to be out here with you this morning."

Following the commanding general's words, he gave the microphone to Command Sgt. Maj. James Norman, 1st Cav. Div. command sergeant major.

"First of all, I want to give ... a round of applause to everyone who competed out here this morning," Norman said. "Hopefully you learned something, had a good time. We showed our unit pride, but overall, displayed our level of discipline and fitness to everybody out here on the installation."

After he showed appreciation to all participants of the Grand Prix, Norman switched his focus to the winning team, Company C, 2nd Squadron, 38th Cavalry Regiment.

"The inaugural champions and winners of the trophy for the Fort Hood Grand Prix are the three individuals representing Charlie Company, 2nd Squadron, 38th United States Cavalry. Hooah," Norman said.

All three members of the team spoke to the assembled crowd and displayed great levels of pride, especially Staff Sgt. Jeremy Lemma, an operations sergeant within the company.

"I'd just like to say everything we do in Charlie Company 2-38, we give 100 percent in everything we do. We're always in attack mode,"



Maj. Gen. Anthony Ierardi, 1st Cav. Div. commanding general and Fort Hood senior mission commander, speaks to service members following the completion of the Fort Hood Grand Prix Aug. 29. Standing behind Ierardi were three Soldiers from 2-38 Cav., the winners of the race.

Lemma said. "When it comes down to it, you do it ... for your unit, you do it for your country, I will do it for these colors right here. We're a cavalry squadron, so red and white, but we're an infantry company, so we're always blue. But at the end of the day, we're doing it for the red, white and blue."



Sgt. Matthew Kurz, team leader, and Staff Sgt. Adam Davila, long range surveillance paratrooper, hold their first place trophy for winning the Fort Hood Grand Prix, as Staff Sgt. Jeremy Lemma, operations sergeant, speaks to fellow service members at Sadowski Field Aug. 29. The Soldiers represented Co. C, 2-38 Cav.

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'Messengers' embark on mission to Kuwait for Operation Spartan Shield

BY STAFF SGT. KELVIN RINGOLD

11th Sig. Bde. Public Affairs

Approximately 200 Soldiers from the 62nd Expeditionary Signal Battalion deployed overseas after a ceremony at the Abrams Physical Fitness Center Sunday.

These signalers are led by Lt. Col. John Gregor, battalion commander, and Command Sgt. Maj. Woody Carter. The battalion last returned from deployment in October 2011 as one of the last units to return home from Iraq.

On Sunday, the Soldiers of the 62nd ESB, 11th Signal Brigade, deployed on mission to Kuwait and the surrounding areas in support of Operation Spartan Shield.

"Today, the mighty warriors of the 62nd ESB depart for their deployment to Operation Spartan Shield," said Maj. Michael Bush, rear provisional commander, 62nd ESB. "I want you to know that I am extremely proud of you, and I know you are going to do great things down range."

With a combination of



Photos by Staff Sgt. Kelvin Ringold, 11th Sig. Bde. Public Affairs
Moments before getting on a bus to Robert Gray Army Airfield Sunday, Sgt. Josh Vandenberg, his wife Erin, brother Jacob and mother Donna Vandenberg say a prayer together.

veteran Soldiers and new recruits throughout the battalion, there was an even mixture of those that have been deployed before, and those younger Soldiers that were awaiting their first trip.

The thing that echoed the most among Soldiers that were

new to the Army and never deployed before was an eagerness to put their training thus far in the military to the test.

"I'm looking forward to doing my job out there," said Pfc. Blake Carney, Company A, 62nd ESB. "I can't wait to do what we learned in my Advance Individual Training teachings."

For some junior Soldiers, the emphasis on the deployment centered on time with their battle buddies and going overseas in general.

To be able to form a stronger bond with other Soldiers will be nice, said Pvt. Dominique Armstrong, Headquarter and Headquarters Company, 62nd ESB. It will be nice getting to see a different country, too, he said.

Although this is the first deployment for a lot of Soldiers, some have been in the Army for a while, and have multiple deployments to show for it. For these battle tested veterans, there is one important thing to look forward to on this deployment.

"I'm looking forward to coming home," said 1st Sgt. Michael Knowlton, first sergeant of Co. A.

This deployment had an added significance to these signal Soldiers. The day they left for deployment also marked the 70th anniversary of when their brigade, the 11th Signal Brigade, was first constituted on September 1, 1943.

"Today is the brigade's birthday," said Col. John Parks, III, commander, 11th Sig. Bde. "It's an important day in the history of the brigade and an important day in the history of this battalion. I couldn't think of a more important way to spend it than to wish the Messengers off on a safe and speedy mission because no one else in the Army, the world, can do what you do."

As the 62nd ESB Messengers travel overseas defending the freedoms America holds dear, the importance of the jobs Soldiers do in the military, and how only a small portion of the American population can relate.

"These are important days and these are important times," Parks said. "You do what less than one percent of the American public does every day, and it's hard."

Right before the Soldiers loaded onto the buses to the airport, there was just one final piece of business to attend to. Seeing the Soldiers standing tall, together, inside the gym, their brigade commander had one request of them.

"Be safe, we are proud of you," Parks said. "Take care of each other and bring everybody back in one piece."

With those final words, the 62nd ESB Messengers gathered their equipment and gave those in attendance one final glance before getting on the buses and embarking on their next mission.



Soldiers of the 62nd Expeditionary Signal Battalion board an aircraft taking them overseas Sunday.

Mexican military leaders tour Fort Hood logistics facilities

BY STAFF SGT.

JASON THOMPSON

13th ESC Public Affairs

Senior logisticians with the 13th Sustainment Command (Expeditionary) hosted an information exchange visit by representatives of the Mexican Secretariat of National Defense as they toured several Fort Hood units during a Secretariat of National Defense site visit Aug. 14-15 focusing on the U.S. Army's logistics and maintenance processes.

The visit was part of a partner nation security cooperation initiative by the North American Aerospace Defense Command and United States Northern Command to build strong relationships between the partner nations.

"We feel it's important to build our partnership with our partner nations, and visits such as this help to facilitate that partnership," said Brig. Gen. Timothy McKeithen, the director of logistics and engineering for NORAD and USNORTHCOM. "By showing our partners how we approach maintenance and logistics within our command, it provides a transparency while we're working together with our partner militaries."

It was part of a three-stop trip through central Texas, which also included visits to Randolph Air Force Base and Naval Air Station Fort Worth. The purpose of the trip was to observe and exchange ideas on ground vehicle and aviation maintenance and logistics



Photo by Staff Sgt. Jason Thompson, 13 ESC Public Affairs
Brig. Gen. Clark LeMasters, commanding general of the 13th Sustainment Command (Expeditionary), discusses U.S. Army supply and maintenance systems with Mexican Air Force Brig. Gen. Javier Cuevas Gomez, deputy chief of staff for administration on the General Staff of the Mexican Air Force, during a visit to Fort Hood Aug. 14.

processes. During their trip, the delegation, led by Mexican Air Force Brig. Gen. Javier Cuevas Gomez, deputy chief of staff for administration on the General Staff of the Mexican Air Force, met with Brig. Gen. Clark LeMasters, commander of the 13 ESC, to discuss Army maintenance and logistics concepts and processes.

Cuevas Gomez said he and his fellow officers appreciated the tour and found it to be informative and helpful.

"Logistics are important for the functioning of the armed forces," Cuevas Gomez said. "We wanted to come here and visit (the U.S. Army's) systems so that we could become better and more effective."

Cuevas Gomez said one of his biggest take-aways was the

information he gained on the computer systems the U.S. Army uses, such as the Standard Army Maintenance System - Enhanced.

"It's great that all aspects of the logistics process from supply to the maintenance can be tracked through the connecting platforms," he said.

Following an in-brief at the 13th ESC, they toured the ground vehicle maintenance operations of the 115th Brigade Support Battalion, 1st Brigade Combat Team, 1st Cavalry Division. In the afternoon, they toured the Directorate of Logistics Support Maintenance Facility, which highlighted their maintenance and engine rebuilding and testing capabilities.

"We want to remain transparent," McKeithen added. "We walked them through our motor

pools so they could see our systems and our processes in action. They can then take in the information that we've provided and use that to implement into their systems as they need to."

The following day, the contingent toured the aviation maintenance facilities of the 615th Aviation Support Battalion, 1st Air Cavalry Brigade, 1st Cav. Div., where they viewed helicopter maintenance processes and also toured the medical evacuation hangar for 2nd Battalion, 227th Aviation Regiment, 1st ACB. The Mexican military leaders also toured the Supply Support Activities and observed how the parts resupply system operates. The tour ended with a brief walk-through of the Carl R. Darnall Army Medical Center, where they viewed a number of medical technical capabilities.

"By observing the maintenance and supply teams at the various sites, the delegation was able to follow the process, from identification of a fault, through the requisition process, to final repair, and return of the equipment to full capability," said Lt. Col. Stephen Costable, the mobility chief for the Support Operations section of 13th ESC.

"USNORTHCOM is the lead for this partnership," he said. "Our role in the visit was to support their efforts by showing the SEDENA delegation first-hand how U.S. Army maintenance and logistics systems operate at the unit level, and also show how they are linked to the national level logistics system."

Fallen Warriors

JASON TOGI

1st Cavalry Division

1st Lt. Jason Togi, 24, originally from Pago Pago, American Samoa, died Aug. 26, in Hasan Karez, Afghanistan, from injuries sustained when enemy forces attacked his vehicle with an improvised explosive device.

Togi entered the military service in September 2011 as an engineer. He was assigned to the 2nd Brigade Special Troops Battalion, 2nd Brigade Combat Team, 1st Cavalry Division since July 2013.

He deployed in support of Operation Enduring Freedom in July.

Togi's awards and decorations include the National Defense Service Medal, Afghanistan Campaign Medal with Campaign Star, Global War on Terrorism Service Medal, Army Service Ribbon and the NATO Medal.

TYLER JEROME PIMPIS

1st Cavalry Division

Spc. Tyler Jerome Pimpis, 25, originally from Londonderry, N.H., died from injuries suffered from a motorcycle accident in Killeen, Aug. 28. He was pronounced dead at the scene by Bell County Justice of the Peace William Cooke.

Pimpis entered the military in January 2010 as a track vehicle repairer. He was assigned to 5th Battalion, 82nd Field Artillery Regiment, 4th Brigade Combat Team, 1st Cavalry Division, since August 2012.

He deployed in support of Operation Enduring Freedom from March 2011 to January 2012.

Pimpis' awards and decorations include the Army Commendation Medal, Army Achievement Medal, National Defense Service Medal, Army Good Conduct Medal, National Defense Service Medal, Afghanistan Campaign Medal with campaign star, Noncommissioned Officer Professional Development Ribbon, Global War on Terrorism Service Medal, Army Service Ribbon, Overseas Service Ribbon and the Driver and Mechanic Badge.

Hasan arrives at Leavenworth

III CORPS AND FORT HOOD RELEASE

FORT LEAVENWORTH, Kan. — Inmate Nidal Hasan arrived at the United States Disciplinary Barracks for post-trial confinement here Friday.

Hasan was sentenced to death Aug. 28 following panel deliberations which lasted less than two hours at Fort Hood. The panel also included as punishment, forfeiture of all of Hasan's pay and allowances, dismissal from the service and a death sentence.

Given that the death sentence was imposed, the military justice system requires this case to be automatically appealed to the U.S. Army Criminal Court of Appeals and then to the United States Court of Appeals for the Armed Forces.



Hasan

Soldier held in connection to fatality

III CORPS AND FORT HOOD RELEASE

A Fort Hood Soldier assigned to 1st Brigade Special Troops Battalion, 1st Brigade Combat Team, 1st Cavalry Division, was apprehended by Fort Hood military police Sunday in connection with the death of retired Sgt. Ryan Dickinson on West Fort Hood.

Sgt. Brett Wessel, a 26-year-old married male, is currently in pretrial confinement.

The incident is under investigation by the U.S. Army Criminal Investigation Command. Charges have not been preferred at this time.

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9/11

A day that changed this nation forever

BY ANDY BIRD

Deputy Garrison Commander

"It was a day of tragedy, yet it had many miracles. It was a day filled with fear, but it was overcome by courage. It was a day of loss, yet it was strengthened by the unity of the country." - Christie Vanover, former Fort Hood Public Affairs specialist.

Next Wednesday, Sept. 11, will mark the 12th year when we honor and remember the 3,000 people killed in 2001. As everyone recalls, this day began when two hijacked civilian aircraft crashed into the towers of the World Trade Center in New York City; a third crashed into the Pentagon followed by a fourth that crashed in a field in southwestern Pennsylvania after passengers tried to take control of the aircraft to prevent the hijackers from crashing the aircraft into an important symbol of democracy and freedom.



Andy Bird

On this day, the president requests that American flags all across the country be flown at half-staff at individual American homes, at the White House and on all U.S. government buildings and establishments, both home and abroad. The president also asks Americans to observe a moment of silence beginning at 8:46 a.m. (Eastern Daylight Time), marking the moment when the first plane struck the North Tower of the World Trade Center on Sept. 11, 2001.

Traditionally, many people will observe a moment of silence at 8:46 a.m. (EDT). Some communities, particularly in the areas directly affected by the attacks, hold special church services or prayer meetings. People who personally experienced the events in 2001, or lost loved ones, may lay flowers or visit memorials.

There will be numerous TV specials on 9/11 to recount and memorialize the many acts of patriotism and individual heroism from the many civilians, first responders and our military on that fateful day in September. Many people lived to tell about their stories of survival or their story of a "hero" who gave their life so they and others survived. These are our true "patriots" that make



Courtesy photo

Patriot Day a memorable and special day each year.

"A man's country is not a certain area of land, of mountains, rivers, and woods, but it is a principle; and patriotism is loyalty to that principle." -George William Curtis

A patriot is a proud supporter or defender of his or her country and its way of life. We describe people that demonstrate this as patriotic, or acting with upmost patriotism.

In or around the World Trade Center, 2,606 people perished along with 343 firefighters/paramedics and 23 NYPD that day in New York. Flight 93 had 38 passengers, five flight attendants and two pilots on board when it crashed and the Pentagon lost 125 victims, 70 were civilians and 55 were military members.

We will never know all the untold accounts

of heroism and valor of the many patriots that stepped up that day to help preserve our way of life we so richly enjoy.

I'd ask that when you go out to work next Wednesday, take a moment; go out of your way and say "Thank you for what you do" to a policeman, fireman, paramedic or Soldier; while also remembering those that gave their life on and after 9/11.

As a military community, we don't take our freedom for granted. In closing, and in honor to all our Soldiers, Families, civilians and retirees in and around Fort Hood, THANK YOU for your selfless service and commitment each and every day in service to our nation.

"If our country is worth dying for in time of war, let us resolve that it is truly worth living for in time of peace." - Hamilton Fish

Phantom Voices

WITH THE VERDICT AND SENTENCING COMPLETE IN THE HASAN COURT MARTIAL, HOW DOES THIS AFFECT YOU, AND THE FORT HOOD COMMUNITY AS A WHOLE?



"It's good. I'm surprised it took so long, but I'm just glad it's over now."

Enesi Tuufuli,
civilian



"It'll be closure for the community; now that it's over they can move on."

Larry Banken,
retired



"It brings closure to the Families, finally."

Meagan Caton,
civilian



"I think it brings a peace of mind to the community. People will feel better now; it will probably boost morale."

Spc. Sheron Smith,
1st Cav. Div.



"Glad to see that justice is finally here. It's taken too long."

Teddy Morse,
retired

Long-term commitment: Some things to know before applying to rent, signing a lease

BY CAPT. REANNE WENTZ

Legal Assistance Attorney

So, you have decided to live off post.

You are allowed to live off post according to Fort Hood's First Sergeant's Barracks Policy if you are married, you have children that reside with you for more than 180 days of continuous custody or you are above the pay grade of E5.

There are many options available for rent in the Killeen, Harker Heights and Copperas Cove area. There are some important things for you to know before you sign an application or a lease.

After some searching, you found the perfect place to live.

Before you sign the lease, you may have to fill out and sign a rental application. You should read the lease and the rental application carefully. Make sure you understand what it is in it and feel free to ask questions. On the rental application, the landlord will ask you for certain information, including your criminal history, credit history, rental history and current income. The landlord or property management company may also ask you for an application fee. The application fee is money that a prospective tenant gives to the landlord to offset the cost of

screening the application to rent the property. You basically pay the landlord to check the information you provided. The application fee is usually nonrefundable, which means even if the landlord rejects your application, the landlord will probably not return the application fee to you. However, if the landlord rejects your application and did not provide you with a list of reasons explaining why the landlord can reject you when you applied, then you should get your application fee and application deposit refunded.

You may also be asked to pay an application deposit. An application deposit is money that you pay in connection with the rental application. It is a way to hold the property - to show the landlord that you intend to live in the house or apartment if your application is approved. The application deposit is not the same thing as a security deposit. (Security deposits come with a long list of different rules). The landlord may be required to refund your application deposit if he or she rejects you as a tenant. However, read the rental application closely. If you are accepted as a tenant and then decide that you no longer want to live in that house or apartment, the rental application may say that the landlord will

not refund your application deposit. Be sure you want to live in a place before you even fill out an application and pay any fees or deposits. This includes seeing the exact place you will rent, both inside and outside.

The landlord called to tell you that your application was approved. The landlord will provide you with a lease and you should make sure to read all of it. Ask questions to make sure you understand what responsibilities you and the landlord have in the lease. Some lease agreements require termination of the rights under the Servicemember's Civil Relief Act (SCRA). The SCRA is the federal law that allows, among other things, Soldiers to break their leases for deployment or PCS. Be sure to know if you are signing a lease like this.

There are lots of other issues that face Soldiers when they are renting property.

If you are still unsure about a rental application or a lease agreement and have questions, you may contact the Fort Hood Legal Assistance Office at 287-7901, located in Bldg. 13, on 52nd Street. There are attorneys that will help Soldiers with many landlord tenant issues, including reviewing leases.



Courtesy photos

ABOVE, Capt. Christopher Alferez, commander, 554th Med. Det. (Opt.), conducts an eye examination on a child during a humanitarian mission to South Africa as part of Shared Accord, an annual joint U.S.-Africa exercise. Two Fort Hood units, the 554th Med. Det. and the 176th Med. Det., provided optometry services to villagers during the exercise. RIGHT, Capt. Justin Pao, commander, 176th Med. Det. (Opt.), fits glasses to a South African patient during a humanitarian mission to South Africa as part of Shared Accord, an annual joint U.S.-Africa exercise. Two Fort Hood units, the 176th Med. Det. and 554th Med. Det. (Opt.), provided optometry services to villagers during the exercise.



1st Med Soldiers conduct optometry mission in South Africa, provide relief

BY HEATHER GRAHAM-ASHLEY
Sentinel News Editor

Optometry Soldiers from the 1st Medical Brigade recently returned from a three-week humanitarian exercise in South Africa.

Six Soldiers from the 176th Medical Detachment (Optometry) and the 554th Medical Detachment (Optometry) provided eye exams and treatment to more than 1,000 villagers near Port Elizabeth, South Africa, July 29-Aug. 4 as part of Shared Accord, an annual joint U.S. and Africa humanitarian exercise.

Working as part of Task Force Medical, the Fort Hood Soldiers, including two optometrists, three opticians and one technician,

brought 2,200 pairs of pre-made glasses to fit adults and children, and medicine to treat common optical ailments, Capt. Justin Pao, commander, 176th Med. Det. (Opt.), said.

Their efforts were augmented by four technicians from a local South African charitable organization that also provided equipment for the Soldiers.

Delays with Customs held up the Soldiers' equipment and the pre-made glasses, but did not stop the mission, Capt. Christopher Alferez, commander, 554th Med. Det. (Opt.), said.

When the glasses arrived Aug. 5 they were sent to the hospital and the patients were referred there for pick up.

"We filled out paper prescriptions and made arrangements for the patients to pick up their glasses at the local hospital," Alferez said.

The charity's technicians also acted as translators since many of the villagers spoke Xhosa.

While there, the optometry troops saw many of the same eye diseases they see here, but most cases were much worse.

"Diseases over there are usually in more advanced stages because of the lack of access to healthcare," Alferez said, adding they saw several cases of glaucoma, pterygium, dry eye and cataracts. "We referred a lot of cataracts (to the local hospital)."

Exposure to the sun and its UV rays over a long period of time add to the advanced eye disease cases, Alferez added.

Over the course of the medical exercises, the Soldiers saw 1,276 patients, about half of the total patients who came for the medical services.

Pao said that number was substantial, especially considering other stations on the site provided primary care services, dental care and HIV and tuberculosis testing, and there was not enough time for the patients to receive services at all the stations.

The Soldiers agreed that their experience in South Africa was positive.

"It was a once-in-a-lifetime experience," Spc. Kyle Tuttle said. "We worked a lot but it was all worth it."

Tuttle said he enjoyed going to the villages and seeing the people.

Happy patients were the best part, he said, "especially when

they put the glasses on so they can read and they have this huge smile."

Their work was not exclusive to optometry services, though.

The Fort Hood Soldiers arrived in Port Elizabeth July 23 and traveled to Bulembu Airport where they established their living areas of two-man tents.

Winter weather provided a challenge for the Soldiers as temperatures dipped in the 40s.

"It was very cold," Alferez said.

The team spent the next three days building the humanitarian and civil assistance site, about 15 kilometers away from their living areas, on a cricket field at Ama-calegusha Oval.

High winds interfered with eye charts in their work tents, so the Soldiers re-located to the cricket field's clubhouse.

Once the heavy-lifting was finished, the Soldiers conducted yet another type of humanitarian mission.

Before beginning their medical mission, the Soldiers participated in Nelson Mandela Day, a national observance in South Africa.

"The purpose of the holiday is taking the time volunteering to do something for others," Alferez said. "It's a day of service."

The Soldiers spent their day beautifying the Masincedane Training Centre, a school for disabled children.

"We repainted walls, planted and weeded a vegetable garden and conducted a police call of the grounds," Pao said.

They returned to Fort Hood Aug. 10 and are hoping to receive more humanitarian missions, Alferez said.



Court Martial results:

At a General Court-Martial Aug. 16, Pvt. Joshua Hauser, 1st Brigade Combat Team, 1st Cavalry Division, was convicted of three specifications of being absent without leave, one specification of willfully disobeying a superior commissioned officer, three specifications of failing to obey a regulation, one specification of making a false official statement and one specification of wrongful use of marijuana.

Hauser was AWOL three times for a total of 105 days, he disobeyed a military protective order, he manufactured and possessed spice, he used marijuana and he made a false official statement about his use during the course of the investigation. A military judge sentenced Hauser to be confined for 120 days and to be discharged from the service with a Bad Conduct Discharge.

At a Special Court-Martial Aug. 22, Spc. Jamice Romo, Headquarters and Headquarters Battalion, III Corps, was convicted of assault consummated by a battery, communicating a threat and damaging personal property.

Romo threatened to kill another service member's spouse and strangled and kicked her in their on-post quarters. A military judge sentenced Romo to perform 30 days of hard labor without confinement and be reprimanded.

Federal District Court results:

Depending on the circumstances, Soldiers and civilians can be prosecuted in a United States Federal District Court for crimes committed on Fort Hood. The U.S. Magistrate Judge responsible for the Fort Hood federal enclave presided over eight such cases, Aug. 23.

Spc. Natalia Clark, 1st Battalion, 21st Field Artillery Regiment, 41st Fires Brigade, was convicted of disorderly conduct and was sentenced to attend an anger management class and pay a fine of \$500.

Megan Meissner was convicted of disorderly conduct and was sentenced to probation for six months and to perform 40 hours of community service.

Kathryn Benefield was convicted of interfering with public duties and was sentenced to probation for one year, to attend intensive anger management classes and to perform 50 hours of community service.

Gastonleng Francois was convicted of simple assault and was sentenced to probation for one year, to perform 50 hours of community service, to attend intensive anger management classes and to attend mental health evaluation and counseling.

Sara Coufal was convicted of simple assault and was sentenced to probation for one year, to attend mental health and substance abuse counseling, and to perform 50 hours of community service.

Quinterral Bell was convicted of assault consummated by a battery and was sentenced to probation for six months and to perform 50 hours of community service.

Lejena U. Schlegel was convicted of assault consummated by a battery and was sentenced to probation for six months and to perform 40 hours of community service and attend an anger management class.

Michelle Sheets was convicted of theft of government property and was sentenced to probation for one year, to attend a theft alternative education course and to pay AAFES a fine of \$200.



Courtesy photo

A Soldier from the 554th Med. Det. (Opt.) works alongside South African soldiers to plant a vegetable garden at the Masincedane Training Centre July 26 during Mandela Day, a South African holiday devoted to service to others.

Welcome Home



Photos by Staff Sgt. David House, 85th CA Bde. Public Affairs

ABOVE, Maj. Javier Sostre, commander, Company B, 81st CA Bn., greets his family during the battalion's welcome home ceremony from a deployment to Afghanistan. RIGHT, Lt. Col. Charles Burnett and Command Sgt. Maj. Ronald Barker, 81st Civil Affairs Battalion command team, uncasing the battalion's colors during their welcome home ceremony from a deployment to Afghanistan.





Photo by Pfc. Paige Pendleton, 1st BCT, 1st Cav. Div. Public Affairs

Spc. Matthew Williamson and Pfc. Ector Munoz, both UAS repairers with Co. A, 1st BSTB, 1st BCT, 1st Cav. Div., train on maintenance operations steps on a new extended wing RQ-7B Shadow UAV.

'Assassins' train on new, upgraded Shadow UAV

BY PFC. PAIGE PENDLETON

1st BCT, 1st Cav. Div. Public Affairs

In an adaptable, ever-changing Army, equipment upgrades are to be expected. With those upgrades comes the need to keep Soldiers trained on the latest equipment.

Soldiers of Company A "Assassins," 1st "Centurion" Brigade Special Troops Battalion, 1st "Ironhorse" Brigade Combat Team, 1st Cavalry Division, learned the ups and downs of a new unmanned aerial vehicle during a training session Aug. 21-28.

After three days of classroom instruction, unmanned aircraft systems repairers and UAV operators headed to the field to conduct training on an upgraded model of the RQ-7B Shadow UAV, featuring a fuel-injected engine and longer wings than previous models.

These aircraft are used instead of Soldiers in certain circumstances for

a few reasons.

UAVs take the place of Soldiers during lengthy surveillance missions and in areas hazardous to manned aircraft and ground troops, Staff Sgt. Morgan Caffarello, a UAS repairer for the Assassins, said.

"The benefit of having (an) unmanned aircraft (is) it takes the danger away from the pilot," said Spc. Alexander Gonzalez, a UAV operator for the Assassins, adding that while it is not ideal for a UAV to go down, a piece of equipment can be replaced while a person cannot.

Gonzalez said UAVs track enemy forces, provide security and identify targets while conducting surveillance.

Upgrades for UAVs are continuous, Caffarello explained, requiring operators and maintainers to train and fly regularly, preserving their proficiency on the systems.

The extended wings give the



Photo by Pfc. Paige Pendleton, 1st BCT, 1st Cav. Div. Public Affairs

Pfc. Ector Munoz, a UAS repairer with Co. A, 1st BSTB, 1st BCT, 1st Cav. Div., learns maintenance steps on a new extended wing RQ-7B Shadow unmanned aerial vehicle at Fort Hood, Aug. 22. After three days of classroom instruction, 22 UAS repairers and UAV operators headed to the field to learn the new UAV model.

aircraft longer endurance, allowing the Shadow to fly longer missions, Sgt. 1st Class Timothy Callahan, a UAS repairer for the Assassins, said. The previous model could only spend up to six hours in the air.

Another feature, the fuel-injected engine, eliminates issues like ice in the engine at high altitudes, posing problems when using a carburetor, Callahan continued.

Assassin UAV operators and maintainers spend two weeks of every month in the field allowing them to develop muscle memory of the skills they use, Callahan added. Continued training allows Soldiers to operate faster becoming more proficient each time they fly.

"Everything is easy, and everything is difficult," Gonzalez said about learning the new system. "It just depends on how much focus

and how much time you actually put into it."

Caffarello said his favorite part of the training is how the new system puts Soldiers on an equal playing field.

Because the system is new, Soldiers from private to staff sergeant share an identical knowledge base, Caffarello added.

"I don't know anything more about the

system than (my private first class)," Caffarello said. "I like that it takes a lot of the rank out of it and (focuses) more on just (doing) our job."



Photo by Pfc. Paige Pendleton, 1st BCT, 1st Cav. Div. Public Affairs

Pvt. Kristina Bright and Spc. Jose Perez, UAV operators with Co. A, 1st BSTB, 1st BCT, 1st Cav. Div., conduct pre-flight checks on an RQ-7B Shadow UAV at Fort Hood, Aug. 22. The extended wings give the aircraft longer endurance, allowing the Shadow to fly longer and have longer time on station.



Courtesy photo

An extended wing RQ-7B Shadow unmanned aerial vehicle takes off from a launcher during UAV training for Soldiers with Co. A, 1st BSTB, 1st BCT, 1st Cav. Div., Aug. 22, at Fort Hood.



Photo by Staff Sgt. Tony Foster, Div. West Public Affairs

Div West welcomes new CSM

Command Sgt. Maj. Patrick K. Akuna Jr. accepts the NCO Sword from Maj. Gen. Warren E. Phipps Jr., First Army Division West commanding general, during an Assumption of Responsibility ceremony on Cameron Field Wednesday. Akuna came to Div. West from Fort Hood's 3rd Armored Cavalry Regiment and took the position as the division's senior-enlisted leader from Command Sgt. Maj. Steven Brown, who served as the division's interim senior enlisted advisor since July 30.

Casing: MI troops trained, ready to go

Continued from A1

deployment posed logistical and planning challenges, Johnson said. The battalion sent companies to all parts of the globe during the months of January to June to train alongside units expected to deploy and support the battalion in Afghanistan.

1st Lt. John Curtis, executive officer with Company A, 163rd MI Bn., took part in a joint training exercise in Germany aimed to strengthen relationships between Afghan forces and U.S. Soldiers, an exercise described as an advantage.

"We have already trained with them, so when we get to Afghanistan we have working relationships with their leadership, which is great for us," Curtis said.

Deploying to strange and foreign countries may seem a daunting task, but some Soldiers accept it as a part of life, while others look forward to the opportunity. One such Soldier is Spc. Shannon Klaczynski, who enjoys the prospect of going to Afghanistan for her first deployment.

"Deploying is one of the reasons I joined the Army. It is something to be excited about, more so to have the opportunity to do the job that I have been trained for so long," said Klaczynski, an intelligence collector assigned to the battalion. "I feel absolutely prepared for it."

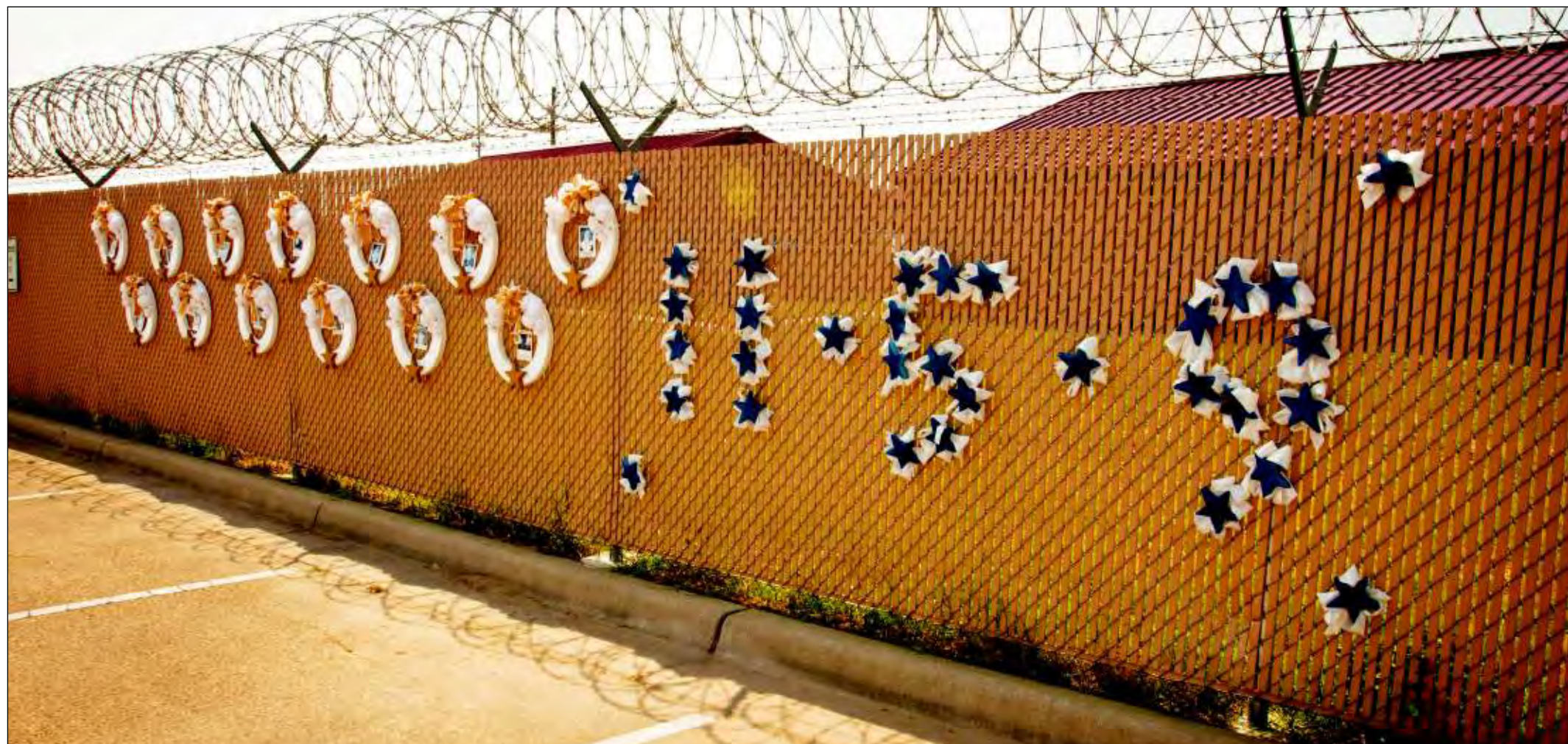


Photo by Sgt. Ken Scar, 7th MPAD

A makeshift memorial adorns the fence surrounding the crime scene, where 13 people were killed and more than 30 others wounded by then-Maj. Nidal Hasan Nov. 5, 2009. In the nearly four years since the attack, hundreds of mementos have been placed along this fence line outside the Soldier Readiness Processing Center.

Relief: Families are 'not alone'

Continued from A1

the death sentence, saying it is in justice's hands.

"The justice system is what it is, whether we disagree with it or not, so the sentencing is appropriate according to justice. But it was a terrorist act, not workplace violence," Marshall said. "I'm really not happier or sadder about the death sentence for him, it is what it is; but I am mad about the attack being classified as workplace violence - that isn't right."



Marshall

The most common feeling among the community members has to do

with the survivors and Families of the victims of Nov. 5, 2009, wanting them to have peace now that the trial is over.

"The most important thing now is that those survivors and Family members will finally have some sort of closure after almost four years," said Meagan Caton, Fort Hood Army spouse, while Larry Banken of Fort Hood had a stronger opinion on the subject.

"He deserves the death penalty, though it would be even worse to make him suffer for life in prison. He needs to suffer like he made the victims and Families suffer," Banken



Banken

said.

Mostly, the community members want the Families and survivors to know they are being thought of, said Roy Reynolds of Fort Hood, a retired Soldier.

"The sentence being passed will bring great closure to grieving people, hopefully, and even greater closure when the sentence is actually carried out," Reynolds said. "All the people who've suffered should know they're not alone."



Reynolds

"And they should know," he added, "we think of them daily."



Photo by Pfc. Erik Warren, 3rd Cav. Public Affairs

Family members address members of the media Aug. 28 following the announcement of a death sentence for Nidal Hasan.

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THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 5, 2013

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STAND-TO!

Key Army issues identified

Each week, the *Sentinel* will pull key issues from the Army's Stand-To! and highlight them here to better inform Soldiers and families on top issues from Washington, D.C. For more on these topics visit www.army.mil/standto.

Army Values

The Army Values are the foundation of the Army profession. The seven Army Values – Loyalty, Duty, Respect, Selfless Service, Integrity, Honor and Personal Courage – originate in the central beliefs of American culture. These describe the depth and substance of the American character – history, sacrifice and common heritage.

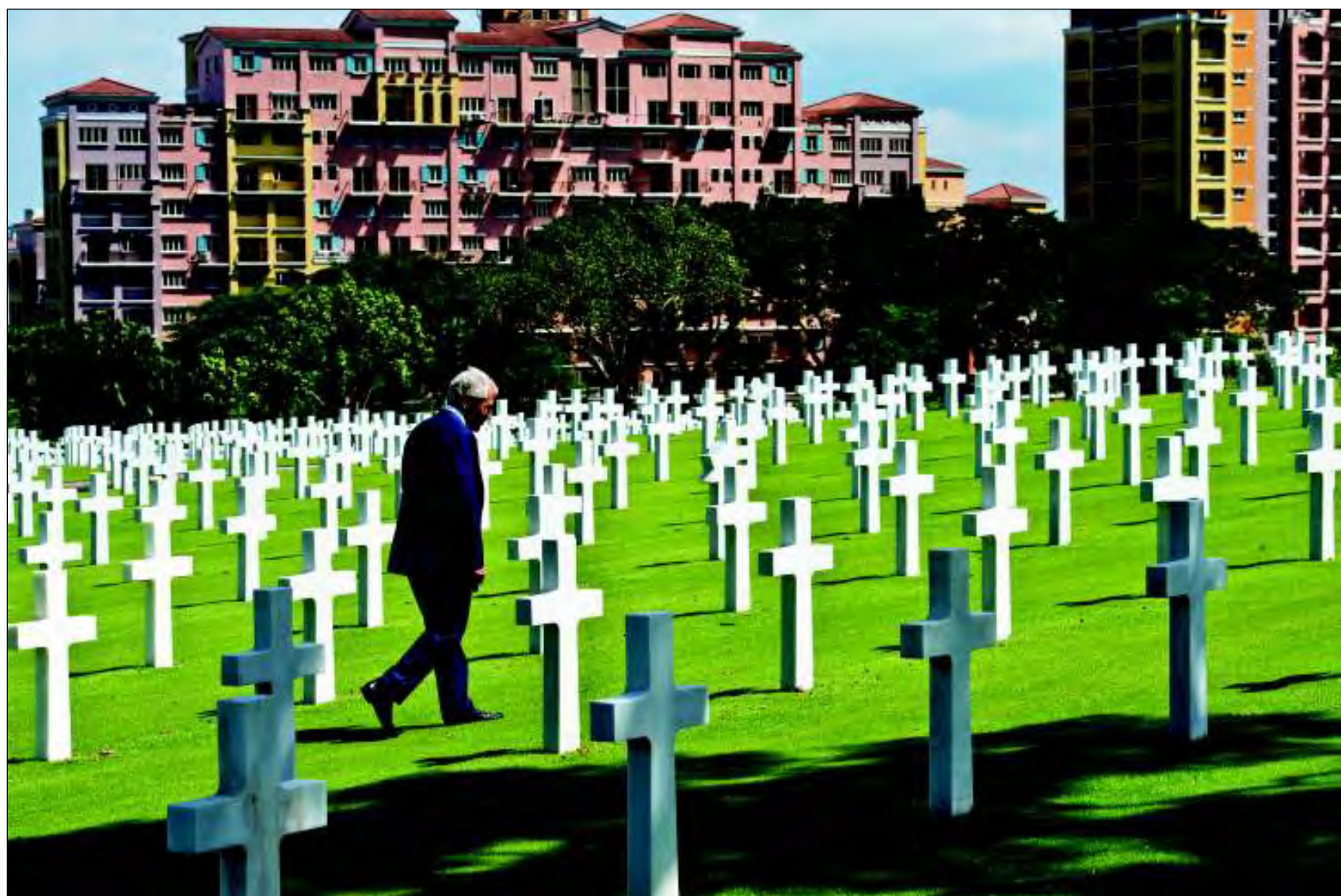
The moral and ethical tenets of the Army Values characterize the Army culture and promotes certain norms of conduct that include a unique service ethic expected of every Soldier – to make personal sacrifices in selfless service to the nation. The Army Values define the character of all Soldiers and guide their actions on and off duty. More importantly, these values shape the Army as a profession, signifying what is important and influencing how the Army operates daily.

In 2005, the Army launched the Army Values Campaign Plan to reemphasize and reinvigorate Army Values throughout the Army – both active and reserve components and Department of the Army Civilians. In 2011, the Army launched an introspective campaign, the Profession of Arms, to refine the Army's understanding of what it means to be a profession. The Army's Center for the Army Profession and Ethic (CAPE) developed training and leader development tools to help Soldiers and units understand, embrace and live as Army professionals.

Earlier this year, the U.S. Army Training and Doctrine Command's Combined Arms Center launched a yearlong education and training program, America's Army- Our Profession, to reaffirm the Army's understanding of the Army Profession and to motivate the commitment of upholding the Army ethic.

What continued efforts does the Army have planned for the future? America's Army will continue to emphasize the Army Values across the force. CAPE will continue to integrate professional military ethics and character development into leader development programs and unit training. Army professional military education will continue to integrate Army Values training into curriculum.

The Army's Soldiers and civilians are the best in the world and to sustain that hard-earned reputation, and America's trust, the Army must continue to adhere to these Army Values. The Army depends on every Soldier and Army civilian to continue to base their actions and decisions upon its seven core values. As the Army transitions, it will continue to build a strong professional Army founded upon a well-developed ethic.



Photos by Marine Corps Sgt. Aaron Hostutler, DoD

U.S. Defense Secretary Chuck Hagel visits the Manila American Cemetery and Memorial in Manila, Philippines, Friday. The 152-acre cemetery is the resting

place of 17,201 U.S. service members killed in World War II, most of whom died during operations in New Guinea and the Philippines.

Hagel praises 'unbreakable' US-Philippine alliance

BY CHERYL PELLERIN

American Forces Press Service

MANILA, Philippines — On the last stop of what he called a “very productive” trip to four countries in Southeast Asia, Defense Secretary Chuck Hagel met Friday with Philippine government and defense leaders and later paid his respects to U.S. troops laid to rest at the Manila American Cemetery.

The secretary left Washington, D.C., Aug. 22 and visited his counterparts in Malaysia, Indonesia and Brunei before arriving today in Manila.

In Brunei on Aug. 28 he attended a meeting of defense ministers from 10 countries that belong to the Association of Southeast Asian Nations, or ASEAN. The 10 member states are Burma, Brunei, Cambodia, Indonesia, Laos, Malaysia, the Philippines, Singapore, Thailand and Vietnam.

He attended the second-ever meeting of the ASEAN Defense Ministers Meeting-Plus, Aug. 29, a group made up of the 10 ASEAN defense ministers and eight dialogue partners: defense ministers from the United States, China, Japan, South Korea, Australia, India, New Zealand and Russia.

Friday in Manila, after meeting with President Benigno S. Aquino III at the Malacanang Palace, Hagel and National Defense Secretary Voltaire Gazmin held a press conference there.

“In my meeting with President



U.S. Defense Secretary Chuck Hagel, second from left, meets with Philippine President Benigno S. Aquino III at the Malacanang Palace in Manila, Philippines, Friday.

Aquino I noted that the deep and unbreakable alliance between the United States and the Philippines is an anchor for peace and stability and prosperity in this region,” Hagel said.

“Our close ties to the Philippines have been forged through a history of shared sacrifice and common purpose,” he added, “and continuing to strengthen the close partnership between our nations is an important part of America’s long-term strategy of rebalancing in the Asia-Pacific.”

An important topic of discussion among the three men and Foreign Secretary Albert del Rosario involved ongoing negotiations for a Framework Agreement that would allow

U.S. forces to operate on Philippine military bases and in Philippine territory and waters to help build Philippine armed forces capacity in maritime security and maritime domain awareness.

The last time the United States and the Philippines signed a mutual defense treaty was in 1951, and the new Framework Agreement would update the agreement for routine troop rotations and related activities, according to a senior defense official traveling with the secretary.

“The visit of U.S. Defense Secretary Chuck Hagel to the Philippines coincides with an important date for Philippines-U.S. defense relations,”

Gazmin said at the press conference. “For it was on 30 Aug. 1951 that the mutual defense treaty was signed. Today is the 62nd anniversary.”

“In the spirit of that (early) treaty and its continuing relevance today, President Aquino and I reaffirmed the progress being made in the ongoing discussions for our Framework Agreement,” Hagel said.

Hagel said the Framework Agreement will strengthen cooperation between the two militaries and help them work together more effectively. He noted that the negotiating teams are working hard to finish the agreement.

“The United States does not seek permanent bases in the Philippines,” Hagel said. “That would represent a return to an outdated Cold War mentality. Instead, we are using a new model of military-to-military cooperation befitting two great allies and friends.”

Increasing the United States’ rotational presence in the Philippines as it has done recently in Singapore and Australia will benefit the U.S. and Philippine militaries, Hagel said, by increasing their ability to train and operate together and support President Aquino’s defense modernization agenda.

The United States has a great deal of experience in building a modern military, the secretary said.

“And we would like to share what we’ve learned with our Philippine allies,” Hagel added.

President may strike Syrian regime, suggests Congressional debate, vote

BY KAREN PARRISH

American Forces Press Service

WASHINGTON — President Barack Obama said Saturday he supports a U.S. military strike against Syrian regime

targets in response to the regime’s use of chemical weapons against its own people, but he called on Congress to debate and vote on how America should react to “the worst chemical weapons attack of the 21st century.”

At the White House Rose Garden, Obama spoke of the Aug. 21 attack on Damascus suburbs that, he noted, killed more than 1,000 people, including several hundred children – “young girls and boys gassed to death by their own government.”

“Ten days ago, the world watched in horror as men, women and

children were massacred in Syria,” the commander in chief said. “... Yesterday, the United States presented a powerful case that the Syrian government was responsible for this attack on its own people.”

The president said U.S. intelligence reports “show the Assad regime and its forces preparing to use chemical weapons, launching rockets into highly populated suburbs of Damascus, and acknowledging that a chemical weapons attack took place. And all of this corroborates what the world can plainly see: hospitals overflowing with victims; terrible images of the dead.”

Obama called the attack “an assault on human dignity” that also presents a serious danger to U.S. national security and “risks making a mockery of the global prohibition on the use of chemical weapons.”

Syria is currently embroiled in a bitter civil war pitting President Bashar Assad and his regime against the rebel opposition. The situation presents a danger to U.S. friends and partners on Syria’s borders, Obama said, such as Israel, Jordan, Turkey,

Lebanon and Iraq.

The Syrian regime’s use of chemical weapons could lead to their escalated use in the region, he said, or their proliferation to terrorist groups intent on harming the United States.

“In a world with many dangers, this menace must be confronted,” the president said.

Obama said after careful deliberation, he has decided “that the U.S. should take military action against Syrian regime targets.” Such an intervention would be limited in scope and duration and would not place U.S. boots on the ground inside Syria, he said. “I’m confident we can hold the Assad regime accountable for their use of chemical weapons, deter this kind of behavior, and degrade their capacity to carry it out.”

Obama said the United States has military assets in the Middle East, and he noted that Army Gen. Martin Dempsey, chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, “has informed me that we are prepared to strike whenever we choose.”

Dempsey has also advised “that our

capacity to execute this mission is not time-sensitive,” the president said.

“It will be effective tomorrow, or next week, or one month from now,” Obama said. “And I’m prepared to give that order.”

Obama added, however, that as president of “the world’s oldest constitutional democracy,” he has also decided that as leader of a representational government, “I will seek authorization for the use of force from the American people’s representatives in Congress.”

He said he has spoken with U.S. Senate and House leaders, “and they’ve agreed to schedule a debate and then a vote as soon as Congress comes back into session.”

The president said his administration stands ready to inform Congress “what happened in Syria and why it has such profound implications for America’s national security.”

He added that he is confident that action need not wait on United Nations inspectors.

“I’m comfortable going forward without the approval of a United Nations Security Council that, so

far, has been completely paralyzed and unwilling to hold Assad accountable,” Obama said.

As a consequence, he added, many people “have advised against taking this decision to Congress, and undoubtedly, they were impacted by what we saw happen in the United Kingdom this week when the Parliament of our closest ally failed to pass a resolution with a similar goal, even as the Prime Minister supported taking action.”

Yet, any U.S. military actions against the Syrian regime will be more effective if they follow a debate in Congress and a vote, Obama said.

“We should have this debate, because the issues are too big for business as usual,” he said.

A government that considers even limited military force faces a grave decision, Obama acknowledged.

“I respect the views of those who call for caution,” he said. “But if we really do want to turn away from taking appropriate action in the face of such an unspeakable outrage, then we must acknowledge the costs of doing nothing.”



Obama

Army launches start of 50th anniversary commemoration of Vietnam War

BY J.D. LEIPOLD
Army News Service

WASHINGTON — The afternoon in the Pentagon auditorium Aug. 28 was a time for reflection on a war that spanned 10 years and cost the country the lives of more than 58,000 young men and women. It was also an occasion to honor and thank nine Vietnam War veterans who served a total of 14 tours in-country and 225 years in uniform.

Kicking off the Pentagon's first event commemorating the 50th anniversary of the conflict was the Army's top personnel officer, Lt. Gen. Raymond Mason, Army G-4, who opened the ceremony recalling personal memories, as well as his broader experiences as a young American citizen.

"I was a young Army brat and it was difficult for me to watch my dad come back after his third tour in Vietnam and not get treated appropriately, at least in my mind," he said. "I was just a pretty young guy at that time, but I could feel that it wasn't right. It struck me, and I knew if I ever had the opportunity to make that right I would do the best I could."

"Today, we are recognizing nine of our patriots and their families who stood up to the test of their generation and their decade," Mason continued. "I think it's well overdue. Nothing is more important than pausing and reflecting on the sacrifices of what these great men and women did and those who gave their last full measure."

On March 8, 1965, America's ground war in Vietnam began when 3,500 Marines were deployed with the American public's support. By Christmas, nearly 200,000 Soldiers, Marines, Airmen and Sailors were in the country. At war's end on April 30, 1975, nearly 3,000,000 Americans had been on the ground, in the air and on rivers of Vietnam. More than 58,000 Americans lost their lives.

While the official 50th anniversary of the War will be in 2015, the president and Congress requested the secretary of Defense to begin planning the commemoration in

Vietnam War 2007.

The goal is to get more than

“

Nothing is more important than pausing and reflecting on the sacrifices of what these great men and women did ...

— Lt. Gen.
Raymond Mason

”



Nine Vietnam veterans, representing 14 tours to Vietnam and 225 years in uniform, were recognized for their service during a Pentagon kick-off, Aug. 28, commemorating the 50th anniversary of the Vietnam War.



Photos by J.D. Leipold, ARNEWS

The Army's top personnel officer, Army G-4 Lt. Gen. Raymond Mason, hosted the Pentagon's first 50th anniversary commemoration of the Vietnam War, Aug. 28, honoring those who served in Vietnam during the 10-year war, between 1965 and 1975. Mason presented certificates to nine Vietnam veterans who work in the G-4 and who served 14 tours in-country and 225 years in uniform.

10,000 corporations, civic groups, as well as government and community organizations to join as partners and help sponsor hometown events to honor Vietnam veterans, their families and those who were prisoners of war and missing in action.

To date, 4,921 commemorative partners have signed on, including Army G-4, which became the first.

Following Mason's remarks, Vice Chief of Staff of the Army Gen. John Campbell thanked him and his team for leading the way for the rest of the nation to celebrate over the next few years the contributions of Vietnam veterans.

Son of an Air Force senior master sergeant, Campbell told of his years growing up on military bases around the world before attending West Point, and then recalled his first interaction with Vietnam veterans while a lieutenant in Germany.

"Both the battalion commanders were Vietnam veterans ... all the platoon sergeants, all the first sergeants, all the company commanders were Vietnam veterans," he said. The vets instilled in him their hard-fought lessons learned from Vietnam and



Army Vice Chief of Staff Gen. John Campbell praises nine Vietnam War veterans for their service, Aug. 28, at the Pentagon's kick-off of the 50th anniversary commemoration of the Vietnam War, which spanned from 1965 to 1975.

wanted to make sure the young lieutenants and Soldiers wouldn't make the same mistakes they had, he added.

Former G-4 and now retired Lt. Gen. Claude "Mick" Kicklighter serves as director of the U.S. Vietnam War Commemoration. During the event, he previewed the timeline of plans for honoring Vietnam veterans

across the country over the next few years.

"Veterans of Valor," a 30-minute documentary with the nine honorees recalling humorous and somber anecdotes of their war experiences and interspersed with still photographs of themselves in Vietnam was also premiered.

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Freedom Walk 2013

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When: September 11, 2013

Where: Killeen H.S.
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Killeen, TX

Time: 9:30 a.m.

Activities Include:
• Formal Ceremony • Freedom Walk

Attire:
• Casual or Patriotic • Comfortable Shoes

For more information, contact Rosalia Martinez at (254) 336-1707 or rosalia.martinez@killeenisd.org

Traveling Soldier

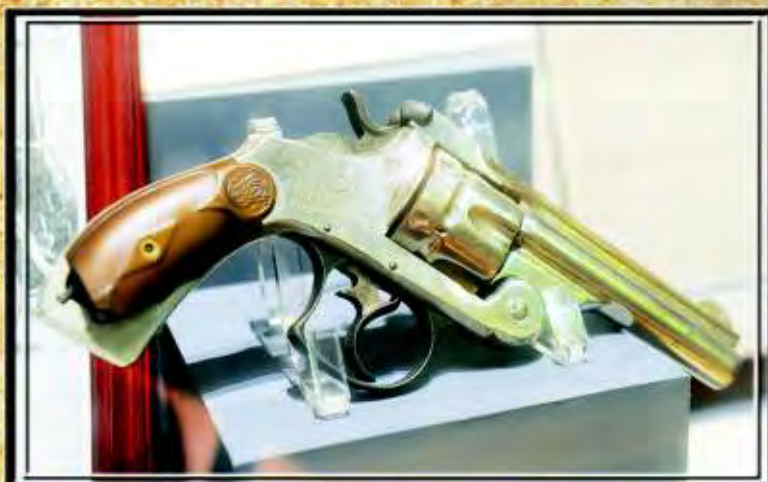


The Grapevine Historical Society Museum is located in downtown Grapevine among other historical shops, signatures and staples that are famous in Grapevine.



Photos by Photos by Erin Rogers, Sentinel Leisure Editor

The Grapevine Historical Society Museum is in an old train depot building, right next to the still-working train in Grapevine.



TOP, Visitors at the Grapevine Historical Society Museum peruse around and look at all the museum has to offer, learning about the history of the town. UPPER LEFT, Books, manuscripts and other precious papers from very early Grapevine are on display at the Grapevine Historical Society Museum. UPPER MIDDLE, An old treadle Singer sewing machine from the mid-1800s sits on display in the Grapevine Historical Society Museum. UPPER RIGHT, A Smith & Wesson "44 Russian" pistol carried by Grapevine's city marshal from 1923 to 1941 sits on display in the museum, donated by the marshal's son, J.B. Daniel. ABOVE LEFT, An Edison phonograph from 1903 sits on display in the museum. Phonographs like this one made it possible for families all over the country who couldn't go to live orchestras and shows, to have music in their homes. ABOVE MIDDLE, Different tools used around the home and kitchen in the early 1900s are on display at the Grapevine Historical Society Museum in Grapevine. RIGHT, Early farm and yard work tools sit on display at the museum in Grapevine.

Grapevine's history preserved

1700s - mid-1900s

BY ERIN ROGERS
Sentinel Leisure Editor

GRAPEVINE — My most recent Traveling Soldier adventures were a series of destinations in Grapevine, and while searching around for different things to do, I found out that the city of Grapevine has a lot of really interesting history — enough to have a museum dedicated solely to the town's past.

The Grapevine Historical Society is made up of a group of volunteers who have dedicated their time to researching, protecting and recounting accurate historical facts about Grapevine and the people who have lived in or around the city.

The society was formed in 1974 as a non-profit organization and has diligently researched and carried on the history and legacy left behind

by writers and photographers who documented Grapevine's history in the past.

When I first arrived, I noticed the museum was historical-looking before even going inside.

It's in an 1880s building that used to be the Cotton Belt Railroad Depot. When the society saved the depot building from destruction in the 70s, it became a symbol of the society's mission to preserve the community's history — the decision to make it home to the museum was never a question.

It's also surrounded by interesting shops and other old buildings from that time.

Located right by the railroad tracks, appropriately, the building has maintained its authenticity through continuous donations from residents in and around the area whose families have been a part of the town for years and years. Anything that contributes to the ongoing chronicling of Grapevine's history is welcome at the museum.

The artifacts in the museum include things from prehistoric times, like fossils and dinosaur tracks, all the way to things from the mid-twentieth century.

The first things I noticed when I walked into the building were a collection of Air Force uniforms worn by Capt. Bruce Rider during the Vietnam

War. Rider enlisted and joined the Air Force from 1968 to 1971, and claimed Grapevine as his home. His uniforms and medals are kept in the museum because he is one of Grapevine's most beloved and unforgettable citizens. He still speaks with student groups about his military service, the local government and world affairs, which are his passions.

The next thing was the biggest radio I've ever seen. A short-wave radio from 1912 that was used for communication from Grapevine to the Pitcairn Island in the Pacific when Grapevine residents learned that Pitcairn inhabitants were in need to clothing, food and other items.

Next to the radio are a collection of old

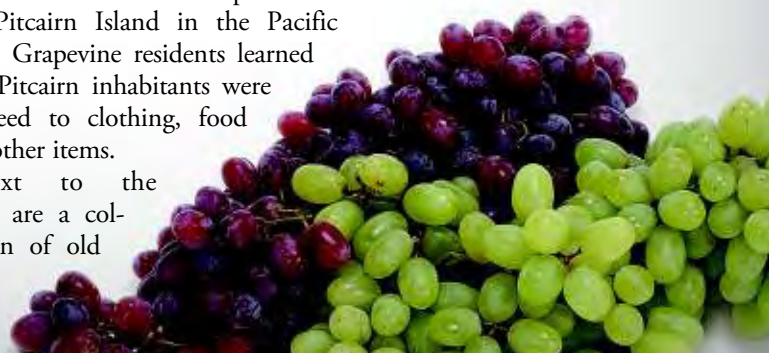
post office boxes from the Grapevine Post Office in the early 1900s.

I moved along to see old wheelchairs from the Grapevine church and a really rare Singer sewing machine before getting to a totally normal artifact with an absolutely abnormal story.

A standard mailbox with a cow painted on the side of it didn't seem to be anything unusual, but when I read its story I was happy I stopped to check it out.

The mailbox belonged to the Texas Jersey Cattle Company, Texas' oldest and first cattle-breeding company, from the 1890s. The company

See **Historical Society**, B7





ANNUAL FAIR

HONORS MILITARY FOR LABOR DAY WEEKEND



Photos by Erin Rogers, Sentinel Leisure Editor

The annual Central Texas State Fair lasted Friday through Sunday at the Bell County Expo Center to kick off Labor Day weekend. Along with a main event of Pro Bull Riding inside the Expo, vendors from all over Texas had mini-shops set up inside the venue, as well. Outside in the parking lot, a massive fair lasted all three days, complete with ferris wheels, thrill rides and carnival food all over the place. Texas country concerts happened on a stage in the parking lot all three nights, with Aaron Watson Friday night, Kyle Park Saturday and Stoney LaRue Sunday night. During the PBR event each night, mutton bustin' broke up the four or five heats of professional bull riders in the middle of the event. Saturday night at the fair was military appreciation night, which began with a dinner for Soldiers and their Families and admitted anyone with a Department of Defense ID card into the fair free-of-charge. The 1st Cavalry Division Horse Detachment kicked off the PBR event on Saturday's military appreciation night at the Central Texas State Fair, and held the American flag high while the national anthem was played. More than 100 bull riders competed at the state fair this year, and the planning for next year's Central Texas State Fair is already underway.



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Fort Hood Calendar of Events

Youth sports physicals set

The Carl R. Darnall Army Medical Center will hold the next annual sports physical clinic Saturday from 8 a.m.-3 p.m. at the Thomas Moore Health Clinic.

Children ages 4-18 years who are enrolled in Tricare are eligible to receive care at these clinics. All participants are required to make an appointment prior to the event. Walk-ins will be redirected to their primary care clinics.

Additionally, routine childhood immunizations will not be offered during the Sports Physicals Clinic this year. Parents should contact their primary care clinics to receive information on immunizations. Children with appointments must be accompanied by a parent or guardian and should be dressed in comfortable gym clothing and shoes.

Those over the age of 10 must have a DEERS identification card in their name. Parents or

guardians of children under the age of 10 will also be required to provide a DEERS identification card. Additionally, participants will need to bring a copy of their school's sports physical form and their immunization record.

The Killeen Parks and Recreation Department does not require sports physicals for participation. Killeen and Copperas Cove Independent School Districts only require sports physicals for students who are entering seventh, ninth or 11th grade, unless there has been a change in the student's medical condition since their last examination.

Fort Hood Child, Youth and School Services requires physicals for children of all ages in order to participate in activities.

To schedule an appointment for the sports physicals clinics, call the CRDAMC Appointments Line at 288-8888, weekdays from 7 a.m.-4 p.m.



Sentinel file photo

Capt. Chris Coleman, CRDAMC Family Medicine Residency Clinic, checks inside mouth of Cornelius Morris, 4, during a sports physical July 27 at Thomas Moore Health Clinic. The next sports clinic will be held Saturday.

SEPT. 6

Preschool Story Time

The Casey Memorial Library hosts a Friday Preschool Story Time featuring stories, songs and a craft based on a weekly theme beginning Friday. Day care children and homeschoolers are also welcome. The story times are held from 10-11 a.m. in Room 156 of the Library Annex. Call 287-2716 for more information.

SEPT. 6, 13, 20, 27

Operation Rising Star

Operation Rising Star, the annual competition that determines the best voice on Fort Hood, gets underway again starting Friday in the Phantom Warrior Center.

Register now for a chance to win the Ultimate Recording Music Experience, where the overall Army winner records, mixes and masters an album with studio professionals.

Locally, \$850 in cash prizes are up for grabs in the 2013 competition.

The competition dates are this Friday and Sept. 13, 20 and 27 at the Phantom Warrior Center. The competition begins at 7 p.m. each night.

The competition is open to active-duty, Reserve, National Guard or military Family members, 18 years of age and older with a valid DoD ID card.

Operation Rising Star is an individual singing competition. Similar to American Idol and other televised competitions, participants are judged by a panel of judges and by an audience of their peers. Singers compete each week for the chance

to win the local first place prize of \$500.

The audience can get into the fun, too. The most supportive unit or Family readiness group to attend each local performance date will receive \$300 for their unit fund.

Registration is open now, on a first-come, first-served basis. To register stop by the Better Opportunity for Single Soldiers office, located in Bldg. 9212 on Old Ironsides Avenue. For more information, call 287-6116.

SEPT. 14

6th annual Sprint Triathlon

The sixth annual Sprint Triathlon will be held Sept. 14 at the Belton Lake Outdoor Recreation Area.

The race kicks off at 8 a.m. and includes a 3.1-mile run, 300-meter swim and 12-mile bike ride.

Participation is free and open to all. To register, stop by any Fort Hood fitness facility or register online at www.HoodMWR.com.

For more information, call 285-5459.

Hunting, Fishing Day set

Hunting and fishing season is already here, so check out the Sportsmen's Center for a day of fishing, archery, shooting and turkey calling.

Fort Hood Hunting and Fishing Day will take place Sept. 14 from 6:30 a.m.-3 p.m. at the Sportsmen's Center, Bldg. 1937, located on Rod & Gun Loop.

The event includes a Fishing Derby from 6:30-8:30 a.m., and an

Archery Shoot at 9 a.m. Both events are free, however, participants must bring their own equipment and applicable permits.

For \$2 a round, there is also a "Turkey Shoot" at the Skeet Range, Bldg. 1943.

The final event of the day is the turkey calling contest for adult and youth from noon-2 p.m.

A barbecue lunch will also be served from 11 a.m.-3 p.m. Meals are \$7.50 for adults and \$3.75 for children 12 and under. The day ends with an awards ceremony. For more information, call the Sportsmen's Center at 532-4552.

Boxing Watch Party at Legends

Check out the boxing match of the season at Legends Pub Sept. 14 as Floyd Mayweather Jr. takes on newcomer Saul "Canelo" Alvarez.

Doors open at 7:30 p.m. The event is open to all, 18 years and older.

There is a \$10 cover charge, which includes the fight and free finger foods (while supplies last) and covered patio decks with out.

For additional information, contact Legends Pub, located in Bldg. 5764 on 24th Street at Tank Destroyer Boulevard, at 532-9324 or 287-5215.

SEPT. 15

Abrams closing for renovations

Fort Hood's most used physical fitness center will close down Sept. 15 for an estimated 10-month, \$6.2-million renovation process.

The Abrams Physical Fitness Center, where roughly 1,000-1,200 patrons pass through each week, will undergo numerous changes, the bulk of which focuses on a more energy-efficient heating, ventilation and air conditioning system.

The cost of the renovation, money allocated through Installation Management Command, is inclusive of the fitness center, the office complex, a reconfigured juice bar, improved

conference rooms and the changes to the pool.

Structurally, one of the biggest changes to Abrams will be reconfigured access to the workout rooms in an effort to make the building more of a multi-use facility.

At the time of the re-opening, new workout equipment will also be introduced.

Other changes include repairs to the basketball court and a new set of bleachers, which will have more handrails and will be more accessible.

SEPT. 19

Make, take craft night

The Casey Memorial Library hosts a "Make and Take Craft Night" from 5-7 p.m., Sept. 19.

All ages are invited to learn how to make a simple book in the library's Children's Room. For more information, call 287-2716.

The Backbone NCO Lounge hosts a UFC Watch Party Sept. 21 as Light Heavyweight Championship Jon Jones takes on top contender Alexander Gustafsson.

The event is free and open to all, 18 years of age and older. Doors open at 7:30 p.m.

The facility is located in Bldg. 194, 37th Street, adjoined to the Phantom Warrior Center. For more information, call 532-5073.

THROUGH SEPT. 30

Win a ride in a NASCAR pace car

Stop by the Fort Hood Leisure Travel Services for a chance to win a ride in a pace car at the Texas Motor Speedway. Texas Motor Speedway will select 10 November ticket buyers. Tickets are on sale at LTS, which is open Monday-Friday from 10 a.m.-6 p.m. For more information, call 287-7310. LTS is located in Building 136, 761st Tank Battalion Avenue.

OCT. 18

Halloween mystery dinner theater

Make Club Hood your destination for a Halloween-themed murder mystery dinner theater event at 7 p.m., Oct. 18.

Open to all 18 years of age and older, admission is \$37 per person, which includes salad, entrée, dessert and show.

Make your reservation by Oct. 15. For more information, call the club at 532-5073/5329.

ONGOING

Special Operation recruiting

The Fort Hood Special Operations Recruiting team offers Special Operations briefings to interested Soldiers weekdays from 11:45 a.m.-12:45 p.m.

Every Monday and Friday, the recruiting team offers a briefing on all Special Operations military occupation specialties, Tuesdays they brief Psychological Operations and a briefing on Civil Affairs is conducted Wednesdays.

Briefings are conducted Thursdays at 3:30 p.m., covering Special Forces. The briefings are conducted in Building 16007, located on the corner of 42nd Street and Old Ironsides. For more information, call 287-5566.

Community health survey

Fort Hood Army Public Health Nursing is conducting their periodic Community Health Needs Assessment. They are seeking community members to help make the "Great Place" greater.

An electronic survey is available now for beneficiaries of the greater Fort Hood area. The survey can be found at www.surveymonkey.com/s/FortHood.

According to Fort Hood Army Public Health Nursing, the survey helps to identify how beneficiaries feel about the resources available in and around the installation.

The final results are provided to installation leaders to see how the community can be improved.



Sentinel file photo

Soldiers compete in the strong man competition where participants signed up to hold a ceramic stein filled with two liters of water in front of them for as long as possible during the annual Oktoberfest extravaganza sponsored by Fort Hood's Directorate of Family and Morale, Welfare and Recreation at Fort Hood.

Oktoberfest coming

Fort Hood's Family Morale, Welfare and Recreation hosts its annual Oktoberfest celebration from 5-10 p.m., Oct. 4, at the Sportsmen's Center picnic grounds, located on 53rd Street next to Building 1937.

Fort Hood's Oktoberfest will feature a variety of German delicacies and a variety of beers, available for purchase.

In addition, the event offers

an animal adoption fair, tailgating games, live music from an authentic German music band and other games and activities to include a Beer Stein Strongman Competition.

Children's activities include a pumpkin patch, face painting and arts and crafts.

Oktoberfest is free and open to all. For more information, call 288-7835.



Army Career and Alumni Program Calendar

The Army Career and Alumni Program center is in the Copeland Soldier Service Center, Bldg. 18010. The office is open 8 a.m.-5 p.m. Monday-Wednesday and Friday, and 8 a.m.-4 p.m. Thursday. Appointments are required for seminars and workshops.

For updates or scheduling, call ACAP at 288-2227 or 288-5627. ACAP's Computer Lab is available to clients during afternoon hours in the afternoons Monday, Tuesday Wednesday and Friday 12:30-5:00 p.m., and Thursday from 12:30-3:30 p.m. The center is open on training holidays, but closed for federal holidays. For more information, visit the website at www.acap.army.mil.

SEMINARS

Sept. 9: Advanced Resume Writing: Resume/Application Development.
Sept. 11: SBDC: Small Business Development Courts.

Sept. 12: Starting a Business: Being Your Own Boss.

Sept. 17: Education Seminar: Troops to Teachers.

Sept. 18: Federal Resume: Federal Resume/Application Process.

Sept. 19: SCORE: Small Business Mentorship.

HIRING EVENTS

Sept. 9: A Mini Job Fair will be held in the Oveta Culp Hobby Soldier and Family Readiness Center 9 a.m.-1:30 p.m.

Sept. 23: A Mini Job Fair will be held in the Oveta Culp Hobby Soldier and Family Readiness Center 9 a.m.-1:30 p.m.

Sept. 24: An NCOA Career Fair is set for 10 a.m.-2 p.m. at Club Hood.

BRIEFINGS

Quarterly Pre-Retirement Orientation: The Fort Hood Retirement

Section hosts this quarterly event Aug. 21 at 9 a.m. at Club Hood. This briefing is required for all ranks retiring, including medical retirements. Spouses are encouraged to attend.

Pre-Separation Briefings: Presented at the center daily by appointment only, Monday through Friday.

This briefing must be completed prior to scheduling any seminars, workshops, or Veteran Affairs briefings and prior to clearing. Clients are required to have a current AKO user name and password to access ACAP computers. Space is limited. For appointments, call 288-2227 or 288-5627.

Transition/VA Benefits: This mandatory briefing is offered Tuesdays at Howze Auditorium from 9:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

All separating service members must receive this briefing at least six months prior to separation.

BOSS program: for Soldiers, by Soldiers, about Soldiers

BY PFC. PAIGE PENDLETON

1st BCT, 1st Cav. Div. Public Affairs

The Army has no shortage of Soldier programs, but one stands out by focusing on warriors who make up more than one-third of the force: single Soldiers.

Soldiers can look forward to a variety of activities through the Better Opportunities for Single Soldiers program. The lineup includes a 24-hour postwide softball tournament, pool parties, a cruise to Yucatan and Cozumel, Mexico, a water park trip and regular volunteer visits to make lunch for patients of the Central Texas Veterans Health Care System in Temple.

Developed in 1989 here at Fort Hood, the BOSS program's three pillars are to improve Soldiers' quality of life, offer leisure and recreational activities, as well as coordinate volunteer and community service

opportunities.

Spc. Molly Brown, the BOSS representative for 1st "Ironhorse" Brigade Combat Team, 1st Cavalry Division, thinks BOSS is a great way to network and make friends.

The pool parties have had amazing turnouts with at least 60 people attending the July event and around 200 at the most recent party, Brown said. People, including off-duty life-guarders, participated in the belly-flop contest.

Although Soldiers can be apprehensive about attending events for the first time because they don't know anyone, Brown said it really is a better opportunity for single Soldiers to get out and meet other people.

"My recruiter actually met his wife through BOSS and they're having a baby soon," Brown added.

Brown feels the more Soldiers are able to experience the Fort Hood

surrounding community, the more fun they can have.

"If you just feel like going out on a limb and going by yourself, go for it," Brown said. "Jump in the deep end."

Spc. Brian Seitz, a BOSS representative for the 2nd "Lancer" Battalion, 5th Cavalry Regiment of the Ironhorse Brigade, has noticed many Soldiers don't get out much because they think there are no activities for them.

Brown explained officers have Club Hood and noncommissioned officers can go to the Backbone NCO Lounge, while Patton's Pub, which was previously open to all ranks, is now the BOSS headquarters.

BOSS aids Fort Hood's more than 20,000 single Soldiers by getting them involved in the community and through events planned directly from their suggestions, explained Fort Hood's BOSS President, Sgt. Sonya Legaspi, a human intelligence collector assigned to the United States Army Garrison Reception Detachment at Fort Hood.

While BOSS is geared toward single Soldiers, participation is open to married Soldiers when slots for events are available, Legaspi continued.

Legaspi believes recreation and community service activities help maintain Soldiers' morale. BOSS recently hosted a fishing tournament, ice skating, camping trips and took Soldiers to volunteer at the American Red Cross and local animal shelters.

The program helps Soldiers adjust to Army life by keeping them occupied and active, Brown said. BOSS wants to make sure single Soldiers are safe and entertained.

Along with leisure and volunteering, unit BOSS representatives



Photos by Pfc. Paige Pendleton, 1st BCT, 1st Cav. Div. Public Affairs

Spc. Ross Snyder, an infantryman with 2nd Squadron, 3rd Cavalry Regiment, dives in the pool during a BOSS Pool Party, Aug. 8. The three pillars of BOSS are to improve Soldiers' quality of life, offer leisure and recreational activities, as well as coordinate volunteer and community service opportunities.



Spc. Ross Martin and Pfc. Travis Shelton, both unmanned aircraft systems repairers with Co. A, 1st BSTB, 1st BCT, 1st Cav. Div., pet a rescue dog at Texas Humane Heroes during a Better Opportunities for Single Soldiers volunteer trip in Killeen, Aug. 8.

advocate for single Soldiers' quality-of-life issues involving barracks, dining facilities and any other problems they may have, Brown explained.

"What we do is take feedback from the Soldiers themselves and pass it up the chain," Brown continued. "It works just like a normal chain of command."

From barracks-room issues to weekend closures of the nearest dining facility causing Soldiers without vehicles to catch a shuttle across post to get to chow, Brown said BOSS representatives get involved to help fix problems.

"If it takes longer than needed to get (something) fixed, then we step in," Brown added.

Seitz believes BOSS gives Soldiers a voice in telling their chain of command what they would like to see.

It is a Soldier-run program: for the Soldiers, by the Soldiers, Brown said.

Seitz feels BOSS is a close-knit organization with a Family atmosphere.

In addition to the three main pillars of BOSS, Seitz explained the community service done through the program can be tracked, potentially put toward earning a Military Outstanding Volunteer Service Medal.

Brown believes volunteering shows a Soldier's command they are actively involved outside of work and giving back to the community.

"Fort Hood is similar to any other place," Brown concluded. "You get what you put into it."

Anyone interested in volunteering, participating in activities or becoming a unit representative can contact BOSS at 287-6116.

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• 120-gr. FMJ • 20 rounds per box
SALE: \$4.99 Was \$5.99

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WHAT'S GOING ON Across Central Texas

2013 Veterans Welcome Home ceremony

The 2013 Central Texas Veterans Health Care System's Welcome Home ceremony for veterans is set for 4-8 p.m. Sept. 28 at Carl Levin Park in Harker Heights.

This event is free and open to all active-duty Soldiers, veterans and their immediate Family.

There will be local vendors, food, a job fair and live entertainment. There will also be information on veteran benefits, health care and community services.

Veterans should bring their DD214 to register for health care benefits on site.

If interested in volunteering for this event, call 662-5571.

For more information, call 743-1815 or visit www.centraltexas.va.gov/services/returning/index.asp.



Courtesy graphic

KILLEEN

Hispanic Heritage Festival

The 2013 Hispanic Heritage Festival, Car and Bike Show will be held 10 a.m.-7 p.m. Sept. 14 at the Killeen Community Center in Killeen.

Each year, Americans observe National Hispanic Heritage Month from Sept. 15 to Oct. 15, by celebrating the histories, cultures and contributions of American citizens whose ancestors came from Spain, Mexico, the Caribbean and Central and South America.

The day of Sept. 15 is significant because it is the anniversary of independence for Latin American countries Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras and Nicaragua. In addition, Mexico and Chile celebrate their independence days on Sept. 16 and Sept. 18, respectively. Also, Columbus Day or Día de la Raza, which is Oct. 12, falls within this 30 day period.

For more information visit <http://lulac4535.org/hispanic-heritage-festival/>.

HARKER HEIGHTS

Puppypalooza

The fourth annual Puppypalooza will be held 8:30-11:30 a.m. Saturday at Carl Levin Park in Harker Heights.

Dogs take over Carl Levin Park for the day. Enjoy demos, vendors, pet contests and other activities. Dogs need to be on a leash.

Activities include a dog swim (public pool), games, a dog-and-owner obstacle course, a fashion show (have your dog wear their favorite outfit or costume), K9 and other demonstrations and face painting.

Vendors include pet products and services, information, adoptions and food.

For more information, visit www.ci.harkerheights.tx.us/index.php/programs-a-events/events-calendar/fall-repeat-detail/2013/09/07/5724/14th-annual-puppypalooza or call 953-5465.

BELTON

Sami Show Arts & Crafts

The Sami Show Arts & Crafts will be held Saturday-Sunday at the Bell County Expo Center in Belton.

The hours are from 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Saturday and 11 a.m.-4:30 p.m. Sunday.

A Sami Show is an arts and crafts marketplace. Their events are designed to bring the finest arts and crafts and the latest trends in home decorating to the consumer.

The event features 85 booths filled with 75 artists and crafters from around the country displaying and selling their unique and hand-crafted items.

Tickets for the show is \$4 for adults, and children 12 and under are free.

For more information, visit www.samishow.com.

TEMPLE

Model Train Show

Central Texas Area Model Railroaders present the 31st annual Temple Model Train Show, held Sept. 21-22 at the Frank Mayborn Convention Center in Temple.

Sept. 21 times are from 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Sept. 22 times are from 11 a.m.-5 p.m.

Admission is \$5. Seniors, active-duty military and dependents with ID receive a \$1

discount. Children 12 and under are free with adult admission.

Events include Model Railroaders exhibit and swap meet, Operating Modular Layout demonstrations, videos and clinics and lots of fun for everyone.

For more information, visit www.centramod.net.

Operation Once in a Lifetime Monster 5K

The Operation Once in a Lifetime Fort Hood's Monster 5K will be held at 10 a.m. Oct. 26 at Wilson Park in Temple.

All race proceeds will benefit Operation Once in a Lifetime Fort Hood's "Feeding our Heroes" program. The adult race/walk will begin at 10 a.m. The children's 1K will begin at 11 a.m.

Costumes are encouraged to be worn for the "Monster 5K." Please keep in mind this is a Family-friendly event. Provocative and revealing or inappropriate costumes are highly discouraged.

Pre-registration is from now until Oct. 1, and it will be \$20 for adults and \$5 for children 12 and under.

Pre-registration from Oct. 1-25 will be \$25 for adults and \$10 for children 12 and under.

Race day prices will be \$30 for adult and \$15 for children.

The first 500 adults to sign up will receive a race day T-shirt. The first 100 children 12 and under will receive a race-day T-shirt.

There will be an after-race celebration. More details to come in the future.

For more information, contact Operation Once in a Lifetime Fort Hood at 233-1441 or by email Ash@OperationOnceinalifetime.com.

Registration is currently in the store. They will have it available online soon at www.operationonceinalifetime.com.

AUSTIN

Old Pecan Street Festival

The Old Pecan Street Festival will be held Sept. 28-29 in downtown Austin.

This event is a free Family event and an Austin tradition. It is the oldest and largest art festival in Central Texas with 600 performing and exhibiting artists.

This fall's festival features Shel, Mobley, Scorpion Child and more than 20 more musical acts, the Magic Sideshow, a full block of magicians and performers, face painting, a petting zoo, local and international food.

For more information, visit http://events.austin360.com/austin_tx/events/show/291251367-old-pecan-street-festival-fall.

FORT WORTH

Busch Whacked

The Armed Forces Foundation and NASCAR champion Kurt Busch will host the second annual Busch Whacked mud run from 6-9 p.m. Oct. 31 at Texas Motor Speedway in Fort Worth.

Busch Whacked will feature a grueling (and muddy!) obstacle course where you can compete alongside NASCAR drivers, crew members, media celebrities and fellow mud-runners.

Proceeds from the race will benefit the men

and women of the armed forces, veterans and their Families.

For more information and to register, visit www.getbuschwhacked.com.

COLLEGE STATION

'Running with Roy' Memorial Fun Run

The first annual "Running with Roy" Memorial 5K/10K Fun Run will be held Oct. 12 at the Texas A&M University campus in College Station.

Onsite registration begins at 7 a.m., and the races will begin at 8 a.m.

Both distances will start and end at Kyle Field.

This run is to benefit the Texas A&M University Corp of Cadets through the Texas A&M Foundation, honoring the life of Lt. Col. Roy Lin Tisdale '92 and the lives of all 29 Texas Aggies lost in the War on Terror, while celebrating all those who have or are currently serving in our United States Military.

Registration fees are students and youth under 12: \$20; adults: \$30; family entry (up to 4 entries): \$80; TAMU Corp of Cadets Team entry: \$20 per team member (no limit per team).

For more information and to register online, visit <http://runningwithroy.webconnex.com/tamu>.

GRAPEVINE

GrapeFest

The 27th annual GrapeFest, a wine experience, will be held Sept. 12-15 in the heart of historic downtown Grapevine.

The theme for GrapeFest is "Discoveries," and guests of all ages will find a variety of new wines, new vendors, new bands and more to discover and celebrate throughout the four-day festival.

Discover delicious Texas varietals at the People's Choice Wine Tasting Classic, the largest consumer-judged wine competition in the United States. Sample more than 125 wines from more than 35 Texas wineries in 10 categories. Guests receive a booklet detailing the available wines along with a ballot to select their favorites.

Sessions are held throughout the four-day festival. Fans of Texas wines can discover some new favorites, and Texas wine novices might just discover some of the best wines Texas has to offer. The winners of the competition will be announced at 5 p.m. Sept. 15.

Tickets are \$20 and advance purchase is recommended. Guests must be 21 and up.

For updated GrapeFest information and schedules, visit www.GrapevineTexasUSA.com/GrapeFest.

SONORA

Team Roping benefit for WWP

A benefit team roping will be honoring the Wounded Warrior Project Sept. 14 at the Sutton County Arena in Sonora.

Books are open from 1-2 p.m. Roping begins at 2:30 p.m.

Entry fee to compete is \$120 per person, cash only.

For more benefit information, call 432-634-7861 or 325-226-4294.

For more roping information, call 325-650-1604.

Concert Connection

SEPT. 10

Iron Maiden

Iron Maiden and Megadeth will perform at 7:30 p.m. Tuesday at the Austin360 Amphitheater in Austin.

SEPT. 13

Tegan and Sara

Tegan and Sara will perform at 7 p.m. Sept. 13 at Stubb's BBQ in Austin.

SEPT. 18

Maroon 5, Kelly Clarkson, PJ Morton

Maroon 5, Kelly Clarkson and PJ Morton will perform at 7 p.m. Sept. 18 at the Austin360 Amphitheater in Austin.

SEPT. 19

OneRepublic & Sara Bareilles

OneRepublic & Sara Bareilles will perform at 7:30 p.m. Sept. 19 at the Moody Theater in Austin.

SEPT. 23

The Weeknd

The Weeknd will perform at 7:30 p.m. Sept. 23 at the Cedar Park Center in Cedar Park.

SEPT. 26

Steve Miller Band

Steve Miller Band will perform at 8 p.m. Sept. 26 at the Moody Theater in Austin.

A Day to Remember, All Time Low, Pierce the Veil

A Day to Remember, All Time Low and Pierce the Veil will perform at 6:45 p.m. Sept. 26 at the Cedar Park Center in Cedar Park.

SEPT. 27

Miranda Lambert, Dierks Bentley, Charlie Worsham

Miranda Lambert, Dierks Bentley and Charlie Worsham will perform at 7:30 p.m. Sept. 27 at the Austin360 Amphitheater in Austin.

SEPT. 28

The Black Crowes

The Black Crowes will perform at 8 p.m. Sept. 28 at the Moody Theater in Austin.

OCT. 4

KC & the Sunshine Band

KC & the Sunshine Band will perform at 8 p.m. Oct. 4 at Extraco Events Center in Waco.

OCT. 9

ZZ TOP

ZZ Top will perform at 8 p.m. Oct. 9 at the Moody Theater in Austin.

OCT. 19

John Fogerty

John Fogerty will perform at 8 p.m. Oct. 19 at the Moody Theater in Austin.

OCT. 24

Barenaked Ladies

Barenaked Ladies will perform at 8 p.m. Oct. 24 at Moody Theater in Austin.

NOV. 1

Paramore

Paramore will perform at 7:30 p.m. Nov. 1 at Austin360 Amphitheater in Austin.

NOV. 29

Macklemore & Ryan Lewis

Macklemore & Ryan Lewis will perform at 7 p.m. Nov. 29 at Cedar Park Center in Cedar Park.

For more information, visit www.ticketmaster.com, www.uterwincenter.com or www.acl-live.com.



Photo by Daniel Cernero, Sentinel Staff

Abrams Physical Fitness Center, Fort Hood's most-used gym, will close on Sept. 15 for an estimated 10-month renovation project. The \$6.2-million project will address several needs and will focus on making the facility more energy-efficient, highlighted by a new HVAC system.

Abrams Physical Fitness Center closing for renovation

BY DANIEL CERNERO
Sentinel Staff

Fort Hood's most used physical fitness center will close down Sept. 15 for an estimated 10-month, \$6.2-million renovation process, officials from Fort Hood's Directorate of Family and Morale, Welfare and Recreation said.

The Abrams Physical Fitness Center, where roughly 1,000-1,200 patrons pass through each week, will undergo numerous changes, the bulk of which focuses on a more energy-efficient heating, ventilation and air conditioning system, according to Johnny Pelton, chief of Fort Hood DFMWR's recreation division.

"The doors will be more energy-efficient, the windows will be more energy-efficient," Pelton said, "and more going toward the green aspect of the facility."

The cost of the renovation, money allocated through Installation Management Command, is inclusive of the fitness center, the office complex, a reconfigured juice bar, improved conference rooms and the changes to the pool, Pelton said.

"This is the second year that the money will have been rolled over to make (the Abrams renovation) happen," he said. "The money is there."

Abrams is expected to reopen in July of 2014, and with a little more than a month's time before the

closing of the facility, Rodney Riley, Fort Hood DFMWR supervisory sports specialist, said plans are being made for the interim.

"We're already notifying the patrons that there are five or six other facilities available to them where they can do the same thing," said Riley, listing the following physical fitness centers: Harvey, Greywolf, Burba, Starker, West Fort Hood and the specialized facilities of Kieschnick and the Applied Fitness Center.

Structurally, one of the

biggest changes to Abrams will be reconfigured access to the workout rooms in an effort to make the building more of a multi-use facility.

"Right now, we have several rooms that the only way to access them is through the basketball court, so with the reconfiguration, they'll have access off of the hallway," Pelton said, noting that if there is a change of command or deployment ceremony, the rest of the facility won't have to be shut down to its patrons.

At the time of the re-opening, new workout equipment will also be introduced, Pelton said.

Other changes include repairs to the basketball court and a new set of bleachers, which will have more handrails and will be more accessible, Pelton said, creating a safer overall experience.

“The doors will be more energy-efficient, the windows will be more energy-efficient.”

– Johnny Pelton



THURSDAY
Despicable Me 2 3D**, PG, 7 p.m.

FRIDAY
The Wolverine 3D**, PG-13, 7 p.m.

SATURDAY
The Lone Ranger*, PG-13, 2 p.m.

2 Guns**, R, 6 p.m.

SUNDAY
Despicable Me*, PG, 2 p.m.

The Wolverine**, PG-13, 6 p.m.

MONDAY
Closed

TUESDAY
Closed

WEDNESDAY
2 Guns**, R, 7 p.m.

ADMISSION	4*	3*	2*	1*	
Adult	2D	\$7.50	\$5.50	\$5.00	\$3.00
	3D	\$9.50	\$7.50	\$7.00	\$5.00
Child (6-11)	2D	\$5.00	\$5.00	\$2.50	\$2.50
	3D	\$7.00	\$5.00	\$4.50	\$4.50

Children under 5 are admitted free.

Wednesday thru Friday Doors open 6:30 p.m.

Saturday and Sunday Doors open 5:30 p.m.

All matinee movies Doors open at 1:30 p.m.

Palmer Theater is located in Bldg. 334 at the corner of 31st Street and 761st Tank Battalion Avenue.

For a recording of all upcoming features, call 287-3851.

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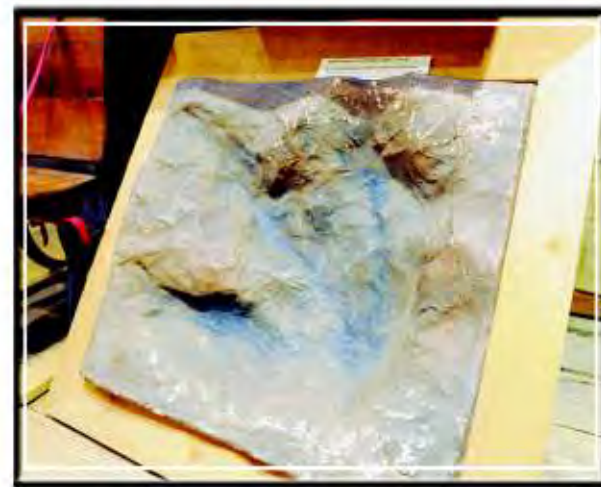
*As reported by Military Times/Edge Magazine

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Image Courtesy of the DoD.



FAR RIGHT, An automatic fire extinguisher from 1929, filled with carbon tetrachloride hangs in the museum. Extinguishers like this were common in the attics or other dangerously-hot locations in homes and shops during the early 1900s. RIGHT, Yearbooks and school papers from Grapevine schools' early days are on display at the museum.



Photos by Photos by Erin Rogers, Sentinel Leisure Editor

The cornerstone of one of Grapevine's first elementary schools sits on display right in the front door of the Grapevine Historical Society Museum, laid in the 1940s.

TOP, A hadrosaur footprint cast found beneath Lake Grapevine Stilling Basin in the 1980s. ABOVE, The early Grapevine Post Office mailboxes and bank teller machine.



Photos by Erin Rogers, Sentinel Leisure Editor

UPPER RIGHT, A fully-adjustable wheelchair from 1900. UPPER LEFT, Photos and paintings of Grapevine's early schoolhouses and churches are on display in the education section of the museum. ABOVE, Grapevine College and Masonic documents on display in Grapevine.

Historical Society: Early-Texas life

Continued from B1

moved to different towns many times (Grapevine to Fort Worth to Smithville, and Smithville back to Grapevine in the 1950s). With every move, the company kept the same mailbox and put it outside of their new location. Now it stays put at the Grapevine Historical Museum.

There are also a lot of different tools at the museum, especially from the early-pioneer farming era.

There are stories on the walls of the museum that tell about pioneer

domestic life that go along with artifacts from that time.

It was strange looking at everything the pioneers used and knowing that if they didn't know how to make something themselves, they did without it.

Pioneers had so many skills, a lot more than people have in today's world since we now have so many different tools and machines that do chores for us.

But back then, everyone did things themselves.

Something that stood out to me in the museum was a dinosaur footprint

— it didn't seem to fit with the rest of the pioneer life and early technology displays in the museum.

The hadrosaur footprints, found beneath Lake Grapevine Stilling Basin in the 80s sits among the other artifacts with its own story, too.

The museum is open all year and has staff available to answer questions on the self-guided tour. There is also a shop inside the building.

Call (817)-410-3185 with questions about their hours of operation or any other questions relating to the historical society.



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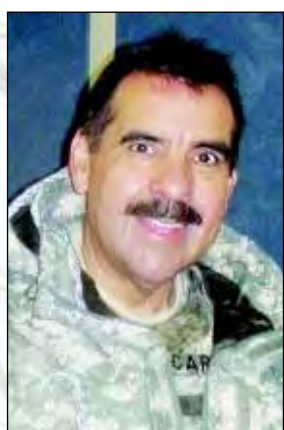
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Spc. Jason D. Hunt



Staff Sgt. Amy S. Krueger



Pfc. Aaron T. Nemelka



Pfc. Michael S. Pearson



Capt. Russell G. Seager



Pfc. Francheska Velez



Lt. Col. Juanita L. Warman



Spc. Kham S. Xiong

Photo illustration by Ila Stuart, Sentinel Graphic Designer & Daniel Certero, Sentinel Staff

'Remember them'

Families give voice to 13 fallen at sentencing

BY HEATHER GRAHAM-ASHLEY
Sentinel News Editor

Teena Nemelka lost her youngest son to the Nov. 5, 2009 mass shooting at Fort Hood, and the grief she carries is apparent.

Last week, Teena joined other family members to share the impact of the lives lost in the shooting during the sentencing phase of U.S. v. Maj. Nidal Hasan during two days of testimony, Aug. 26-27, at Fort Hood.

"He was my baby," she said, noting he was always at her side. "We

had a special bond." Her son, Pfc. Aaron Nemelka, 19, was one of the first to die in the shooting Nov. 5, 2009, inside Fort Hood's Soldier Readiness Processing Center, that claimed the lives of 12 Soldiers, a retired warrant officer and wounded more than 30 others.

Teena was among 19 family members who shared the impact the massacre had on their lives.

Watching the court martial and speaking during sentencing helped Teena move on from how her son died and forget the man who murdered him and 12 others.

Now, she focuses on celebrating her son's life.

"He was an awesome kid," Teena said. "He's dearly missed."

Family testimonies recalled the continued effects of their violent deaths, stolen futures, missed opportunities and cancelled plans.

The human toll from the massacre: eight widows, one widower, 12 minor children who

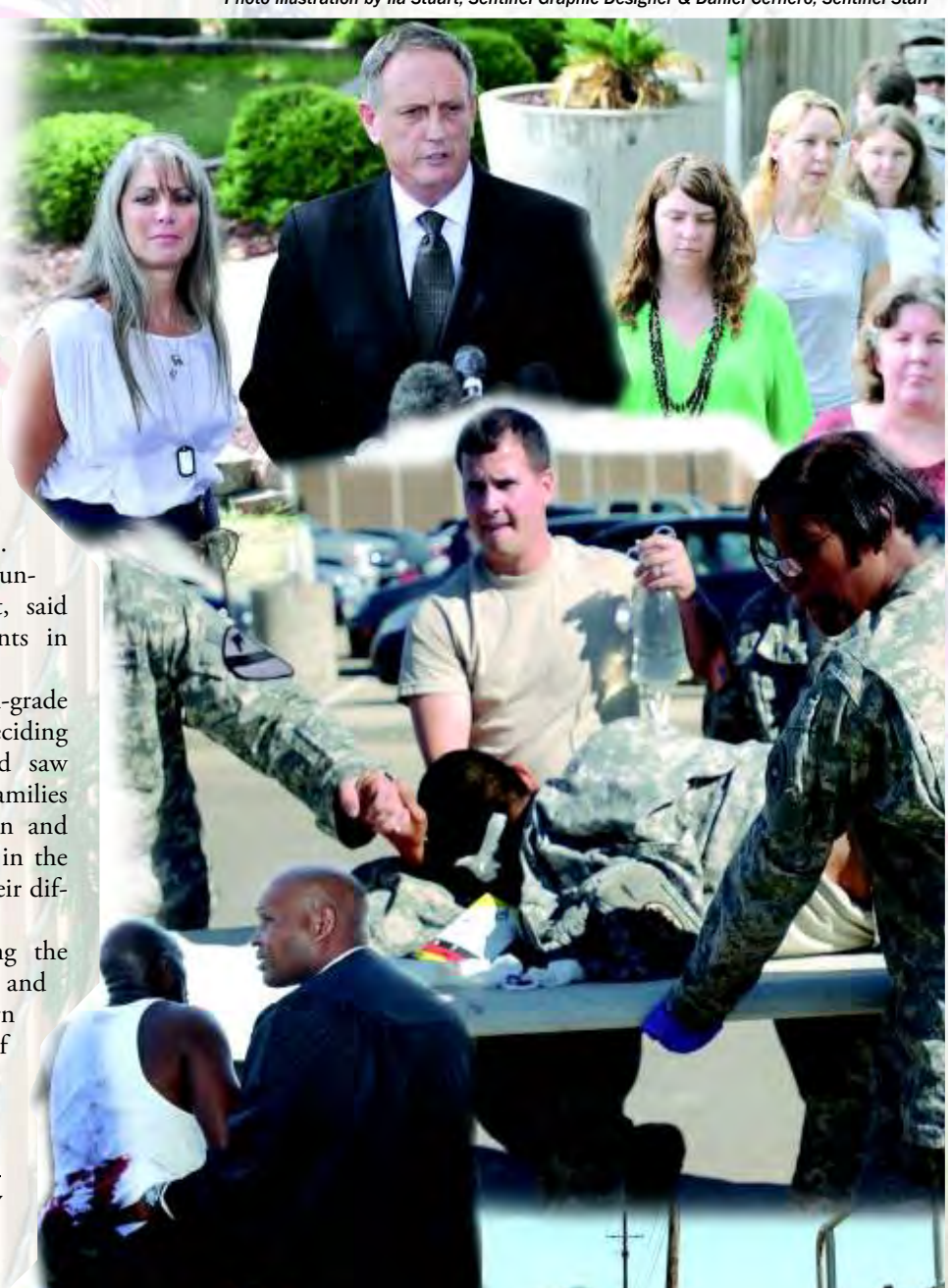
will grow up without a mother or father, 18 parents, 30 Soldiers wounded and one civilian police officer wounded and no longer fit for duty, Col. Mike Mulligan, lead counsel for the government, said during closing arguments in the sentencing hearing.

The panel of 13 field-grade officers tasked with deciding Hasan's fate heard and saw that cost firsthand as Families gave voices to the fallen and three Soldiers wounded in the shooting spoke about their difficult recoveries.

Many recalled hearing the news of the shooting and brushing away concern because of the size of Fort Hood.

Gale Hunt, who lost her son, Spc. Jason

See **Remember**, C7



- | | |
|--|---|
| CW2 (R) MICHAEL G. CAHILL
US ARMY RETIRED | SSG AMY S. KRUEGER
467th MED DET |
| MAJ LIBARDO E. CARAVEO
467th MED DET | PFC AARON T. NEMELKA
20th EN BN, 36th EN BDE |
| SSG JUSTIN M. DECROW
62nd SIG BN, 11th SIG BDE | PFC MICHAEL S. PEARSON
20th EN BN, 36th EN BDE |
| CPT JOHN P. GAFFANEY
1908th MED DET | CPT RUSSELL G. SEAGER
467th MED DET |
| SPC FREDERICK Z. GREENE
20th EN BN, 36th EN BDE | PFC FRANCHESKA VELEZ
1-8 CAV, 2nd BCT, 1st CD |
| SPC JASON D. HUNT
2-8 CAV, 1st BCT, 1st CD | LTC JUANITA L. WARMAN
1908th MED DET |
| | PFC KHAM S. XIONG
20th EN BN, 36th EN BDE |



Fort Hood shooting survivor continues charge forward nearly 4 years later

BY SGT. KEN SCAR
7th MPAD

Staff Sgt. Patrick Zeigler thought it was some kind of drill until a red laser blinked across his eye and a bullet exploded into his head.

He was in Station 13 of the Fort Hood Soldier Readiness Processing Center on Nov. 5, 2009, home from his second deployment to Iraq and moments away from being cleared to attend Officer Candidate School, when a

man sitting a few feet away wearing a U.S. Army uniform stood up, produced a gun, shouted "Allahu Akbar," and began firing.

He tried to crawl out of the building, slipping in the blood that was pumping out of his skull. He was shot three more times as he struggled – in the shoulder, arm and hip. The last thing he can remember is reaching for a chair leg to pull his weakening body toward the door, and the chair sliding toward him instead of him toward it.

Nobody knows exactly how he made it out of the building. A medic found him among the chaos of the unfolding tragedy – in which 13 were killed and more than 30 wounded – asking for a phone so he could reach his fiancé, Jessica.

Patrick returned to Fort Hood last week to be one of the prosecution's key witnesses in the court martial of the man who nearly took his life.

See **Zeigler**, C6



Photo by Sgt. Ken Scar, 7th MPAD

Staff Sgt. Patrick Zeigler, his wife Jessica, and their son, Liam, enjoy a moment in the sun together outside the Survivor Outreach Services building while waiting for the verdict in the court martial trial of Maj. Nidal Hasan, who was accused of carrying out the shooting rampage that killed 13 and wounded more than 30 Nov. 5, 2009. Zeigler, who was in the building that the shooting took place clearing to attend Officer Candidate School, was shot four times in the incident. Less than an hour after this photo was taken, Hasan was declared guilty of the shootings.



PET PLATOON

Fort Hood Stray Facility's Pets for adoption

The shelter is located on 80th St. and Engineer Dr. in Bldg. 4902. The Fort Hood Stray Facility is open 9 a.m.-4 p.m. Mon.-Thurs., 9 a.m.-3 p.m. Fri. and closed for lunch from noon-1 p.m. The facility is closed on Saturday and Sunday. For more information, call 287-4675. You can find us on Facebook at www.Facebook.com/strayanimalfacility.



2 years

Grey, domestic short-haired, female.
Ref.#13-638



2 years

Grey tabby, domestic short-haired, female.
Ref.#13-729



2 years

Black and white, domestic short-haired, male. Ref.#13-822



6 weeks

Grey and black, domestic medium-haired, male.
Ref.#13-825



2 years

Red, domestic short-haired, female.
Ref.#13-829



8 weeks

Grey and tan, domestic short-haired, female.
Ref.#13-835



'Sheila'

3 years, black, Labrador mix, female.
Ref.#13-630



'Duke'

2 years, white, St. Bernard mix, male.
Ref.# 13-749



'Coco'

1 year, black, Labrador mix, male.
Ref.#13-666



1 year

Tan-bridle, Catahoula mix, female.
Ref.#13-746



'Nala'

10 months, brown, Labrador mix, female.
Ref.#13-827



'Daisy'

18 months, tan, Terrier mix, female.
Ref.#13-813



Catch a Game

FORT HOOD

during the 2013 season

KISD Football Schedules: District 8-5A 2013		
DATE	HOME	AWAY
Aug. 30	Harker Heights	RR Stony Point
Sep. 06	Ellison	Manor
Sep. 27	Killeen	Copperas Cove
Oct. 04	Ellison	Belton
Oct. 11	Shoemaker	Killeen
Oct. 18	Killeen	Midway
Oct. 25	Ellison	Copperas Cove
Nov. 01	Shoemaker	Belton
Nov. 08	Harker Heights	Copperas Cove

TICKET PRICES:

- Pre-Game Adults: \$7.00
- Pre-game Students: \$3.00
- All tickets at the gate: \$9.00

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FOR AWAY GAMES:
Close at 3 p.m.

Friday games start at 7:30 p.m.

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1st Air Cav mental health specialist helps troops, combats stigma

BY SGT. CHRISTOPHER CALVERT
1st ACB, 1st Cav. Div. Public Affairs

When reaching out for help with a mental illness, there are many questions Soldiers often ask themselves. Is this going to impact my career? Am I going to be labeled by my peers and chain of command? How can someone I don't even know help me?

For Spc. Jack Buckwalter, a mental health specialist with Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 1st Air Cavalry Brigade, 1st Cavalry Division, easing troops' minds has become his daily mission.

"The Army has come a long way in the battle against stigma, but it's still prevalent," Buckwalter said. "Soldiers are always going to have second thoughts about seeking behavioral health. It's my job to make sure their worries are rested and ensure they receive the care they need and deserve."

Now working at Troop Medical Clinic 12 on Hood Army Airfield, the soft-spoken and reserved Buckwalter began his journey into the medical field shortly after graduating in 2008 from Warren County Technical School, N.J.

Upon graduating, "Buck," as he is often referred to by fellow members of his unit, attended college at Raritan Valley Community College for a year, where he tested the waters, trying to find what career he wanted to pursue.

After paying out of pocket for a year's schooling, Buckwalter began running short on funds and it became apparent he would have to

do something quickly if he wanted to continue his education.

"I was running out of money, so I initiated contact with a recruiter and I found myself in basic training at Fort Leonard Wood (Mo.) shortly after," Buckwalter said. "The next thing I know, I was at Fort Hood for only 23 days, including in-processing, and was then deployed to Afghanistan with 1ACB."

During his deployment to Camp Marmal, Afghanistan, Buckwalter admitted he was initially uneasy about deploying so quickly, but soon went on to make an impact for not only his brigade, but the entire Regional Command North.

"I ended up playing an instrumental part in establishing the first tele-behavioral health system in RC-North," Buckwalter said. "By doing so, the system (which is similar to Skype) allowed behavioral health access to forward operating and combined operating bases in the region that didn't have the personnel and clinics available to provide adequate care."

After Buckwalter and fellow colleagues implemented the tele-behavioral health system, similar systems were placed throughout RC-North to make up for the lack of facilities in the region at that time.

Upon redeployment, Buckwalter found himself once again playing a key role in the behavioral health field as he was informed his military occupational specialty was being added to 1ACB's modified table of organization and equipment – a first for the aviation unit.



Photo by Sgt. Christopher Calvert, 1st ACB, 1st Cav. Div. Public Affairs

Spc. Jack Buckwalter, a mental health specialist with HHC, 1st ACB, 1st Cav. Div., provides triage to a Soldier during a behavioral health assessment at Troop Medical Clinic 12 at Hood Army Airfield, Aug. 23. Buckwalter was the first organically assigned mental health specialist to the aviation unit and played an instrumental part in establishing the first tele-behavioral health system in Afghanistan's Regional Command North.

"I was told I was the first organic behavioral health specialist in an aviation unit," Buckwalter said. "Whereas in the past units would augment themselves with mental health specialists from other units, now we had an official slot for a mental health specialist on our MTOE."

Now a seasoned mental health specialist with a combat deployment under his belt, Buckwalter assists Soldiers with their mental health concerns not only at TMC 12, but throughout formations in the brigade by performing walkabouts to battle stigma.

Walkabouts are a method commonly used by mental health specialists to interact with Soldiers on an informal basis. They facilitate a relaxed opportunity for behavioral health members to chat with troops in order to dictate the warfighter's well-being and potential need for care.

During his more than 150

walkabouts since returning stateside, Buckwalter has joined Soldiers throughout the ranks of air cavalry in casual conversation to ensure their safety and welfare without coming across as intrusive.

"The mission for walkabouts is preventative care," Buckwalter said. "Walkabouts give me a chance to chill with Soldiers and discuss what's all going on in their lives if they feel like doing so. If they require help, it gives me the chance to come to them and provide them with several relaxation tips, or to point them in the right direction if I'm unable to assist."

Staff Sgt. George Watlington, HHC, 1st ACB, has worked side-by-side with "Buck" during the last several months and said he is impressed by Buckwalter's motivation and commitment to improve every day.

"He's the first line of defense at TMC 12," Watlington said. "When Soldiers enter the clinic with mental

health concerns, they see Buckwalter first most of the time and receive their triage or biopsychosocial interview from him. He has always expanding on his (military occupational specialty), and he's entering the Warrior Leader Course next week. He's in the molding process of becoming a great noncommissioned officer."

At the end of the day, Buckwalter said he's learned from each and every member of his team, and seeing a Soldier who was battling mental issues respond successfully to his team's treatment makes his job worth waking up for every morning.

"What's really cool is when a Soldier completes treatment," Buckwalter said. "They might come in one day droopy and leave smiling when they walk out of the door after receiving the help they needed. That's when I get a sense of job satisfaction and know what I do truly has an impact."

ROSH HASHANAH HOLIDAY SCHEDULE

Rosh Hashanah
Tashlich
Rosh Hasanah
Yom Kippur/Kol Nidre
Yom Kippur

Sept. 5: 9:30 a.m.-2 p.m.
Sept. 5: 7-8 p.m.**
Sept. 6: 9:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.
Sept. 13: 7-9 p.m.
Sept. 14: 9 a.m.-12:30 p.m.

Yiskor/Memorial
Yom Kippur
Yom Kippur/Nielah
Sukkot
Simchat Torah

Sept. 14: 1-1:45 p.m.
Sept. 14: 2-3:30 p.m.
Sept. 14: 6:30-8 p.m.
Sept. 18: 7-9 p.m.
Sept. 26: 7-9 p.m.

All services will take place in the Religious Education Facility of Spirit of Fort Hood Chapel.

**Tashlich will take place at Chalk Ridge Falls, Belton Lake.

For further information contact Chaplain Karyn Berger at 646-981-3032.

Fort Hood Chapel Services

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Roman Catholic
Sunday Mass, 9 a.m.
Daily Mass, noon, Mon.-Fri.
Military Council of Catholic Women – contact 288-6545
Catholic Youth Ministries, (8th-12th grade), 4 p.m., Sun.

Jewish, Egalitarian Shabbat Service followed by light snack, 7 p.m., Fri.

Protestant
Sunday School, 9:30 a.m.
Sun. contemporary service, 11 a.m.
Awana 3-4:30 p.m., Sun.
PWOC, Tues. 9:30 a.m. and Thurs. 6:30 p.m.
Bob's Diner Youth Program
Arts Program, 6 p.m., Tues.
Middle School, 7 p.m., Tues.
High School, 6:30 p.m., Wed.

Community Programs
Community Connections, 5:30 p.m., Thurs.
Mothers of Preschoolers/Military, 1st Thurs.

9:30 a.m.

COMANCHE CHAPEL

TANK DESTROYER BOULEVARD
Protestant Gospel, 11 a.m., Sun.
Protestant Gospel Sunday School, 9:30 a.m., Sun.
Tutoring, 5:30 p.m., Wed., all ages
Joshua Generation Youth Fun Night, 7 p.m., Wed.
Bible Study, 7 p.m., Wed.
Intercessory prayer, 8 a.m., Sun.
Roman Catholic CCE 6 - 7:15 p.m., Wed

15TH STREET CHAPEL NORTH FORT HOOD CHAPEL

15TH STREET AND HEADQUARTERS AVENUE
Service times may change based on mobilization schedules. Call the Garrison Chaplain's Office for more information, 288-6545.
Catholic, 2 p.m., Sat.
Protestant, 9 a.m., Sun.
Protestant, 7 p.m., Wed.
Latter Day Saints, 11 a.m., Sun.

19TH STREET CHAPEL "THE OHANA PLACE"

Islamic (Jumah Prayers), 1 p.m., Fri.
Open Circle (Wiccan), 7 p.m., Wed.

25TH STREET CHAPEL ID MEMORIAL CHAPEL

25TH STREET AND BATTALION AVENUE
Eastern Orthodox, 11 a.m., Sun.
Call 768-7649 for further details and schedule.

33RD STREET CHAPEL SPIRITUAL FITNESS CENTER

Liturgical, 9 a.m., Sun.
Lutheran Church Missouri Synod Divine Service, 5 p.m., Sun.

58TH STREET CHAPEL OIF VETERANS CHAPEL

Catholic Confession, 4 p.m., Sat.
Catholic Mass, 5 p.m., Sat.
Spanish Catholic Mass, noon, Sun.

67TH STREET CHAPEL 13TH ESC CHAPEL

CORNER OF 57TH STREET AND SUPPORT AVENUE
F3 Protestant, 10 a.m., Sun.

73RD STREET CHAPEL 1ST CAV. MEMORIAL CHAPEL

Protestant, 10 a.m., Sun.

76TH STREET CHAPEL IRONHORSE CHAPEL

Traditional Protestant Service, 10 a.m., Sun.
Protestant Samoan, noon, Sun.
Messianic Jewish, 7 p.m., Fri.

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Protestant (General), 11:30 a.m., Wed.

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Photos by Erin Rogers, Sentinel Staff

Maurita Herbert receives her award from Andy Bird, deputy garrison commander, and Col. Matt Elledge, garrison commander, at the Garrison Quarterly Civilian Recognition Ceremony at Howze Theater Aug. 29.

Barbara Krakowiak receives her award from Andy Bird, deputy garrison commander, and Col. Matt Elledge, garrison commander, at the recognition ceremony at Howze Theater Aug. 29.

Quarterly civilian recognition awards years of service

BY ERIN ROGERS
Sentinel Staff

The United States Army Garrison Quarterly Civilian Employee Recognition Ceremony awarded 113 Fort Hood civilian employees at Howze Theater Aug. 29.

This quarterly recognition ceremony at Fort Hood stands to recognize the Army's civilians and present career service awards for those civilians who have demonstrated outstanding accomplishments and honor to the garrison and Fort Hood, to those who have rendered exceptional service to garrison, met the federal length of service criteria, who go above and beyond job expectations and serve as role models for excellence.

The event recognized employees with five, 10, 15, 20 and 25 years of service to the military from the Directorate of Family and Morale, Welfare and Recreation; the Directorate of Public Works; the Directorate of Human Resources; the Directorate of Emergency Services;

the Directorate of Plans, Training, Mobilization and Security; the Directorate of Aviation Operations; the Resource Management Office; the Staff Judge Advocate Office; the Staff, Plans, Analysis, Integration Office; the Equal Employment Opportunity Office and the Garrison Safety Office.

"We have a lot going on in the Army right now, these past few months and upcoming months, but it's kind of cool that we take the time out to recognize our most precious resource – our people," said Andy Bird, deputy garrison commander.

After the National Anthem and invocation by Chap. (Maj.) Michael Baumann, Family life chaplain, Bird then led the more than 100 attendees in reciting the Army Civilian Corps Creed.

"Today we're honoring 113 civilians, which adds up to about 1,870 years of service to the Army," Bird said before introducing the guest speaker for this quarter's ceremony.

Ron Gerner, director of Aviation

Operations on Fort Hood and guest speaker for the event, recounted to the audience his military-loaded history, to include being a self-proclaimed military brat while growing up, and then being in the Army himself when he was older. Gerner has nearly 45 years of federal service, including his prior active-duty service, and is now a part of the garrison civilian employee community.

"We never think of what it takes to run a garrison," Gerner said. "How many people it actually takes, and their sacrifices."

Gerner then played a USAA video

about Robert Griffin III and his take on life growing up in the Army, and the sacrifices Families make for each other.

"Not only was my dad fighting for our country, but I knew he was also representing our Family," Griffin said on the video. "We understood the sacrifices that had to be made, and when he told me I had to become the man of the house, I did. Military Families have to stick together through it all."

After the video, Gerner told the civilians in attendance, "These are the Families you support daily, the

Army Family."

Gerner went through the challenges that the Army and its civilians have gone through over the past four years, including no pay raise, sequestration and furloughs.

"But," Gerner said, "if you stick this out, there is a bright light ahead. Being an Army civilian is worth it. The Army career is a bright light – a worthy career."

After Bird and Col. Matt Elledge, garrison commander, presented the more than 100 awards to Fort Hood's civilians, Elledge closed out the ceremony with a few words to the recipients.

"Never quit," Elledge said. "We can't afford to quit. You guys are who make this place run every day. I'm always amazed with you. Never quit," he said again. "Our Soldiers, Families and your Families depend on you daily."

"I'm honored and humbled by you," Elledge added. "You're the epitome of what a garrison should be – you're what other garrisons go after. We can't do this without you."

“Today we're honoring 113 civilians, which adds up to about 1,870 years of service to the Army.”
– Andy Bird

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AUG. 23
 A son, **Cory Jamal**, to Deontra and Robyne Damond, of Copperas Cove.
 A son, **Brett William**, to Andrew and Stephanie Raines, 1st Cav. Div.
 A daughter, **Olivia Kaylee**, to Robert and Crystal DeLille, 306th MI Bn.
 A daughter, **Shailey Elizabeth Coral**, to Jason and Corinne McCann, 1st Cav. Div.

AUG. 24
 A son, **Ayden Richard Frerck**, to Alexander Frerck and Alesha Williams, 3rd Cav. Regt.
 A daughter, **Jaháziel Sarah-Grace**, to Andre and Shashawnah Barrett, of Killeen.
 A daughter, **Lillian Rose**, to Robert and Amanda Durbin, of Fort Hood.

AUG. 25
 A daughter, **Antoinette Maria Martins**, to Nicholas Martins and Michelle Ramirez, 89th MP Bde.
 A son, **Mason Alexander**, to Randy and Hannah Ashley, 1st Cav. Div.

AUG. 26
 A daughter, **Vanessa Rose**, to Robert and Felishia Wallace III, 1st Cav. Div.
 A son, **Andrew Anthony III**, to Andrew and Shareeta Vance Jr., 3rd Cav. Regt.

AUG. 27
 A son, **Hatali Terrell II**, to Hatali and Nicole Broderick Sr., 11th Sig. Bde.
 A son, **Thomas Avery**, to Timothy and Crystal Marshall, 1st Army Div. West.
 A son, **Dillinger Charles**, to Benjamin and Ashley Mendez, 504th BfSB.
 A son, **Fabian Alejandro Muñiz Burgos**, to Edwin Muñiz and Mildred Burgos, 1st Cav. Div.

AUG. 28
 A son, **Rylan Warren**, to Marc and Macey Renick, 1st Cav. Div.
 A son, **Cristofer**, to Cristian and Julieta Trujillo, of Fort Hood.

AUG. 29
 A daughter, **Julyanna Grace**, to Gabriel and Amanda Collins, 3rd Cav. Regt.

Recognize signs of suicide to save a life

BY KELLY FORYS-DONAHUE
 U.S. Army Public Health Command

ABERDEEN PROVING GROUNDS, Md. — “What? Are you serious? So-and-so tried to kill himself?”

Unfortunately, at some time in your life, you may have heard these questions spoken in your circle of friends. Suicide is real. Most of us know someone whose life has been affected by suicidal behavior (a completed suicide or a suicide attempt), and the pain and stress of the suicidal behavior spreads like a ripple to family, battle buddies, friends and co-workers. All of those individuals – including you – who could be impacted by suicidal behavior can help to recognize risk factors and stressors and act to increase the chances of saving a life.

There is not one single factor or set of factors that indicate a person is thinking about suicide. Sometimes, we can look back at an incident of suicidal behavior and say, “Wow, we should’ve seen that coming,” but other times, the behavior seems to happen out-of-the-blue. Noticing the signs and risk factors of suicidal behavior is not always easy. Risk factors for suicide vary from person to person and change over time in the same person. An individual can have one or multiple risk factors contributing to a suicidal behavior. Some of these risk factors include:

Relationship problems

If someone has an argument with his significant other, it does not necessarily mean that he is going to hurt himself. However, relationship problems such as the death of a loved one or friend, break-ups and divorces are stressful and can be associated with suicidal behavior.

Substance use, abuse

Alcohol and drugs are often abused in a misguided attempt to help cope with life stress. A sudden increase in substance use can signal a problem. Drug and

alcohol use can increase the likelihood of risky behaviors, such as being careless or impulsive with weapons, which are associated with completed suicides.

Life stressors

Getting in trouble on the job, having civilian or military legal problems, and dealing with money issues or health problems are both mentally and physically exhausting. Difficulty sleeping can add to the stress. Life stressors alone or coupled with other risk factors can lead to suicidal behaviors.

Behavioral health issues

Stress can lead to behavioral health problems such as depression, anxiety and adjustment issues. For some individuals, a terrifying event may lead to post-traumatic stress disorder, or PTSD. Individuals who are feeling depressed or anxious might withdraw from social support, making it more difficult for them to deal with everyday stress. When a person is alone, he may begin to isolate from people making it more difficult for family, battle buddies, friends and coworkers to see that he or she is struggling. Without support from people who care, individuals can feel hopeless about the future and may not ask for help.

Having one or more risk factors does not necessarily mean that a person is going to hurt himself. However, the risk factors described above have been shown to be associated with suicidal behavior. If we can all look for those factors and talk to the individual experiencing those stressors about how he is doing, together we can make a difference and improve the health and well-being of our family members, battle buddies, friends and co-workers.

Counselors treat thousands of people for relationship problems, substance abuse, depression, PTSD and stress each year. Trained therapists are available at behavioral health clinics on post, in the civilian community and in Veterans Administration clinics.

The best way to help prevent suicidal behavior is to pay attention to your loved ones, battle buddies, friends and coworkers and watch for changes in their behavior. Reach out to someone you trust in your organization or in your personal life.

Remember ACE: Ask, Care, Escort. If you see changes, or if something just seems “off,” say something, ask him if he is thinking about hurting himself. Show him that you care. Take him to get help. Call 1-800-273-TALK (8255) for the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline. Your actions could save a life.



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Zeigler: Constant road to recovery; moving on with Family

Continued from C1

shooting have not been easy, but Patrick, who was a 1st Cavalry Division scout with 6th Squadron, 9th Cavalry Regiment, 3rd Brigade Combat Team when he was shot, has gone on to apply the same Army Ethos that helped him out of that building to every aspect of his life after that day.

"I've had to re-learn how to walk four times," he said in a phone interview from his home in Rochester, Minnesota, where he was re-stationed to the Fort Riley Warrior Transition Remote Care Unit to

better continue his recovery. "After every brain surgery, I'd be set back to the point where I'd have to re-learn."

Today, he walks with a limp, but without a cane.

With such serious head injuries, doctors were uncertain what his quality of life would be, but his progress has exceeded all expectations.

"The biggest change has been the medical necessity of taking care of myself, and the lack of independence," he said. "(But) I'm not in very much pain. I have pretty bad pain in my head, usually in the morning when I wake up, but the

meds I'm taking are just over-the-counter stuff, so it's sort of a non-issue.

"My personality and my outlook on the world really hasn't been affected," he added. "I can joke around a lot and I still have a pretty conservative outlook on things."

Initially, his doctors were unsure that he would be able to speak again, but his voice is clear and fluid as he speaks about what keeps him positive.

"Mostly my wife, Jessica," he said. The two were married in a wedding arranged by the TV show "Extreme Makeover: Home Edition" in 2010. "She keeps me on my toes."

"It's a new kind of life for us," Jessica said. "It's been (four) whole years of all-day, every-day therapy, and it's not over by any means, but it's the same for tens of thousands of wounded warriors. A brain injury doesn't heal. He's still paralyzed on half of his body, but the mental resiliency is there. Honestly, we couldn't hold our breath and wait for the outcome (of the court proceedings) because nothing will change. What's done is done. It's important that we find our own footing and move on with our lives."

Moving on is exactly what they're doing, despite the difficult fact that Patrick has finally had to let go of his dream of being an officer.

"I went through the complicated steps to re-enlist while I was a wounded warrior, in the hopes that I would be able to re-classify or something like that," he said. "But it looks like I'll be medically retiring once my medical boards are complete."

Patrick is still fighting every day to keep his wounds from overcoming him — this past year he spent six months in the Walter Reed Army Medical Center because his medications were making him ill — but he and Jessica want the U.S. Army and Fort Hood communities to know they are doing OK.



Sentinel file photo

In this file photo, 104th Eng. Co. Soldiers work on the new house for Staff Sgt. Patrick Ziegler and his wife Jessica. The Soldiers were some of the many volunteers from Fort Hood.

"We're both looking forward to going back to school and starting new careers on the civilian side of things," Patrick said. "We're going to get some distance from everything that's happened to us and go on with our lives, and that's the most important thing everybody should know."

Staying true to that course, Patrick and Jessica took their biggest leap forward a little less than a year ago.

"We were told that, because of

his brain injury, we would probably not be able to have children," Jessica said. "It was something we'd hoped for but didn't necessarily think would happen."

Patrick beat the odds yet again, as he and Jessica were interrupted several times during the interview for this story by the loud and happy vocalizations of their son, Liam Patrick Zeigler, who will turn 1 in October.



Sentinel file photo

In this file photo, Staff Sgt. Patrick Zeigler, his wife Jessica, their wedding party, and cast members of "Extreme Makeover: Home Edition" react as they see their new home for the first time.



Courtesy sketch by Brigitte Woolsey, AP

An artist's rendering of Zeigler during his victim impact testimony Aug. 26.

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PREMIER CROSSWORD/ By Frank A. Longo TWO-CHANNEL CONNECTION

<p>ACROSS</p> <p>1 Old Glory, for one</p> <p>5 Up in smoke</p> <p>11 Refluxes of tides</p> <p>15 Ankle-knee connector</p> <p>19 I, to Greeks</p> <p>20 "Speak up!"</p> <p>21 Ark captain</p> <p>22 Chipotle item</p> <p>23 "Great job, play more!?"</p> <p>25 Be sweet on</p> <p>26 Wilson of film</p> <p>27 One half of a 45</p> <p>28 Eat</p> <p>29 Stingy type</p> <p>30 Get a B, e.g.</p> <p>31 Mauna —</p> <p>33 Sharp rise in new findings?</p> <p>36 Napoleon's birthplace</p> <p>40 Gem, e.g.</p> <p>41 Writer — Jackson Braun</p> <p>42 — out (supplement)</p> <p>43 Ice melter</p> <p>45 — word (coinage for one occasion)</p> <p>48 Throbs</p> <p>49 Perpetual pampering?</p>	<p>53 Country singer Evans</p> <p>55 Born, to Gigi</p> <p>56 Gridiron gp.</p> <p>57 Repulsive</p> <p>59 Fiennes or Macchio</p> <p>62 Fishermen, often</p> <p>65 "Hear No Evil" star</p> <p>67 Really move on the dance floor</p> <p>71 Round of applause all for oneself?</p> <p>73 Company symbol on a container of breathing gas?</p> <p>75 Capital of Croatia</p> <p>76 Scrape the bottom of</p> <p>78 Flushes</p> <p>79 Antipasto bit</p> <p>81 Loved by</p> <p>83 "— Beso" (1962 hit)</p> <p>84 56-Across stats</p> <p>87 Old phone part</p> <p>89 Distinctive feature of blasting material?</p>	<p>93 Is on hold, say</p> <p>96 Spanish for "silver"</p> <p>98 Draft-eligible</p> <p>99 Item in a pod</p> <p>100 Congenital</p> <p>102 Bands of three</p> <p>105 Most morose</p> <p>107 Quaint theater where everyone hung out?</p> <p>111 Post-it note abbr.</p> <p>112 Soccer immortal</p> <p>113 Change formally</p> <p>114 Slugger Willie</p> <p>116 Evade artfully</p> <p>120 "Woe is me"</p> <p>121 — de foie gras</p> <p>122 Alternate title for this puzzle</p> <p>124 Madison Avenue prize</p> <p>125 Hens and cows</p> <p>126 Bright-shining</p> <p>127 Appellation</p> <p>128 Composer Jerome</p> <p>129 Acoustic pair</p>	<p>130 Pint-size</p> <p>131 Otherwise</p> <p>DOWN</p> <p>1 Small lies</p> <p>2 Actress Singer</p> <p>3 Just slightly</p> <p>4 Judges' mallets</p> <p>5 Bar drink</p> <p>6 Cherished</p> <p>7 Intelligible</p> <p>8 Hunky guy</p> <p>9 Most scant</p> <p>10 Before, to Kipling</p> <p>11 Spices up</p> <p>12 Idaho city</p> <p>13 Cake creator</p> <p>14 Singer Crow</p> <p>15 Cork up, as a bottle</p> <p>16 Maui native</p> <p>17 Emulate Tara Lipinski</p> <p>18 "Baloney!"</p> <p>24 Certain woodwind player</p> <p>29 Early hi-fi format</p> <p>32 Berry rich in antioxidants</p> <p>34 See eye to eye (with)</p> <p>35 Sis, say</p> <p>36 Frame of a cartoon</p> <p>37 Japanese island</p>	<p>38 Calling the shots</p> <p>39 Nearly</p> <p>44 WJM anchor Baxter</p> <p>46 Pop singer Mariah</p> <p>47 Chunk of history</p> <p>50 Animal at "una corrida"</p> <p>51 East — (Asian nation)</p> <p>52 Spotted, as money</p> <p>54 Playwright Edward</p> <p>58 Ad catchphrase</p> <p>60 Little lake</p> <p>61 Texas — (poker game)</p> <p>62 Singer Scaggs</p> <p>63 Stunt legend Knievel</p> <p>64 Very zealous</p> <p>66 Put out</p> <p>68 Freaks out</p> <p>69 Tunes out</p> <p>70 Canon — Rebel</p> <p>72 Best possible</p> <p>74 Bad-pun responses</p> <p>77 Keep waiting</p> <p>80 Mr. Big</p>	<p>82 However, briefly</p> <p>84 Pair of identical products sold as a unit</p> <p>85 Writer Steel</p> <p>86 "Babbitt" author Lewis</p> <p>88 White Rabbit's woe</p> <p>90 Tree flutterer</p> <p>91 New royal of 1981</p> <p>92 Kit —</p> <p>94 Confronts</p> <p>95 Canonized Fr. woman</p> <p>97 Walked (on)</p> <p>101 Slip away</p> <p>103 Electrical resistance measure</p> <p>104 Subject to legal action</p> <p>106 Singer Warwick</p> <p>108 Large city in Nebraska</p> <p>109 Ward off</p> <p>110 Ordinance</p> <p>115 Withered</p> <p>117 "You're on!"</p> <p>118 Mouth parts</p> <p>119 Lightish sword</p> <p>122 Salary ceiling</p> <p>123 Actor Bruce</p>
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LEFT, Teena Nemelka (center) listens to a media briefing before her statement is read to members of the media Aug. 28 following the unanimous panel decision of a death sentence for Hasan.



Nemelka is flanked by Fort Hood public affairs officials and other surviving Family members of those killed Nov. 5, 2009, at Fort Hood. RIGHT, Gale Hunt, mother of Spc. Jason Hunt, holds up a

photo of her son while talking with the media Aug. 28 outside Club Hood, following the panel's unanimous decision of a death sentence for Hasan.

Remember: Testimony reveals plans, lives shattered

Continued from C1

Hunt, to the shooting, said her initial thought when she heard about the massacre also was about the post's massive size.

"I thought, 'Fort Hood is a big place,'" she said.

Gale knew her son was inside a medical building receiving inoculations before deployment. She and her daughter tried to call Hunt.

At 11:30 p.m., two uniformed Army officers arrived at her house. Hunt's murder affected the entire Family.

"My daughter didn't eat," Gale said. "I cried for four hours and cleaned house for two weeks."

Angela Rivera, whose husband Maj. Libardo Caraveo was killed at the SRP, knew something was wrong when she couldn't reach her husband after learning about the shooting.

Her fears were confirmed early the next morning when two Army officers arrived at her door.

Rivera has had a difficult time since then. She couldn't tell the couple's young son, J.P., about his father's death. Her daughters lost the man who raised them and her eldest daughter began failing at school and became suicidal. Her younger daughter eventually asked to go live with her biological father.

"I had just lost my husband and my daughter is telling me she doesn't want to live anymore," Rivera said. "We struggle every day just to get out of the house."

Juan Velez lost not only his daughter, Pfc. Francheska Velez, but also his unborn grandchild that day.

"It hurt me down to the bottom of my soul," he said through an interpreter.

Juan said the impact of his daughter's death has been "too hard" for him to express and the whole Family has been affected.



A Soldier reaches out to touch photos of those slain in Nov. 5, 2009's shooting during the Nov. 10, 2009 memorial service.

"None of the three of us have been able to get over her death," he said.

Shoua Her's dreams of spending the rest of her life with her husband, Spc. Kham See Xiong, were also shattered Nov. 5, 2009. They had three children when they arrived at Fort Hood in July 2009 and hoped to add to their Family.

"We had talked about having more children, growing old together and buying our first house," Her said. "All that was stripped away from me. My kids will never know their father but through stories and others' memories of him."

Cindy Seager's husband, Capt. Russell Seager, an Army Reserve nurse, was working to complete another degree in counseling when he was killed. He joined because he "always wanted to be a Soldier."

After working with veterans at the Veterans Administration, Seager knew he could help those returning from combat but he wanted deployment experience to better understand those he would help.

After her husband's death, Cindy said she had to learn to be independent again.

"My life is just not the same," she said.

Capt. John Gaffaney also was a nurse who joined the Army to help Soldiers, his widow, Christine, said.

He was a Navy and Army National Guard veteran who fought to re-enter the Army and help Soldiers with post-traumatic stress disorder.

His Harley Davidson motorcycle still sits in the garage where he left it, and two rooms of their house that held his collections remain untouched, Christine said.

Gaffaney's death has left their son angry and unwilling to talk, she said. Her husband's death has left her lost.

"I never thought we'd be apart," Christine said. "I became very lost, I am still very lost."

Jeri Krueger's daughter, Staff

Sgt. Amy Krueger, joined the Army shortly after 9/11, determined to take on Osama bin Laden.

Since Amy's death, there has been a hole in the Family.

"When a parent loses a child, there is an irreplaceable void," Jeri said. "There's a part of you missing."

As photos accompanied the testimonies, Family members described those pictured, as well as the moment captured.

Cheryl Pearson smiled at a photo of herself and her son, Pfc. Michael Pearson, at his graduation from basic training at Fort Leonardwood, Mo.

"That's a hug I will remember for the rest of my life," she said while looking at the photo. "We were best friends."

Pearson wanted to serve his country and travel, then go home to Illinois and become a music theory and guitar teacher, Cheryl said.

"I just wanted to see who he was going to be," she said.

Unable to cope, Phillip Warman started drinking after he received the news about the death of his wife,

Lt. Col. Juanita Warman.

"I had friends take my weapons away because I didn't trust myself," he said.

Phillip entered rehab 10 months later, and he now pushes coins from his Alcoholics Anonymous meetings into his wife's grave at Arlington National Cemetery.

Christy Greene cannot open the box to look at photos of her husband, Spc. Frederick Greene.

"It's all you're ever going to have," she said about the photos.

Greene's mother, Karen Nourse, said her son always wanted to be a Soldier and his death has affected her deeply.

"Days are never the same," she said. "I get up in the morning and prepare myself to get through the day."

Joleen Cahill's husband, retired Chief Warrant Officer 2 Michael Cahill, was the lone civilian killed in the attack, shot when he charged Hasan with a chair in an attempt to stop the rampage.

She left the den, "his domain," as he left it and, like many of the other Families, kept his cellphone on so Family members could call.

Joleen said the shooting has affected the entire Family.

"We've all had to deal with the trauma of this," she said. "Mike was the glue of my Family. We're fighting to get back together."

Marikay DeCrow, the widow of Staff Sgt. Justin DeCrow, had her remarks read to the panel as stipulated testimony.

With her husband's death, "my everything disappeared," her remarks stated.

After hearing the Families' words, the panel deliberated for less than two hours before unanimously deciding on the death sentence for 13 counts of premeditated murder.

Families of the fallen expressed satisfaction with the death sentence and the opportunities to put voices to their fallen loved ones.

"We had to do it for our loved ones because they had no voice anymore," Teena said. "It goes back to him always wanting to be there for me."



Photo by Pfc. Erik Warren, 3rd Cav. Regt. Public Affairs



ABOVE, In this file photo, wreaths, flags and memorials cover the fence outside Fort Hood's SRP site. The fence surrounds the building where 13 were killed and more than 30 others were wounded in a mass shooting Nov. 5, 2009. LEFT, Joleen Cahill, widow of retired Chief Warrant Officer 2 Michael Cahill, the lone civilian killed in the shooting, addresses members of the media Aug. 28 following the panel's unanimous decision of a death sentence for Hasan.

Sentinel file photo

PRESENCE PATROL

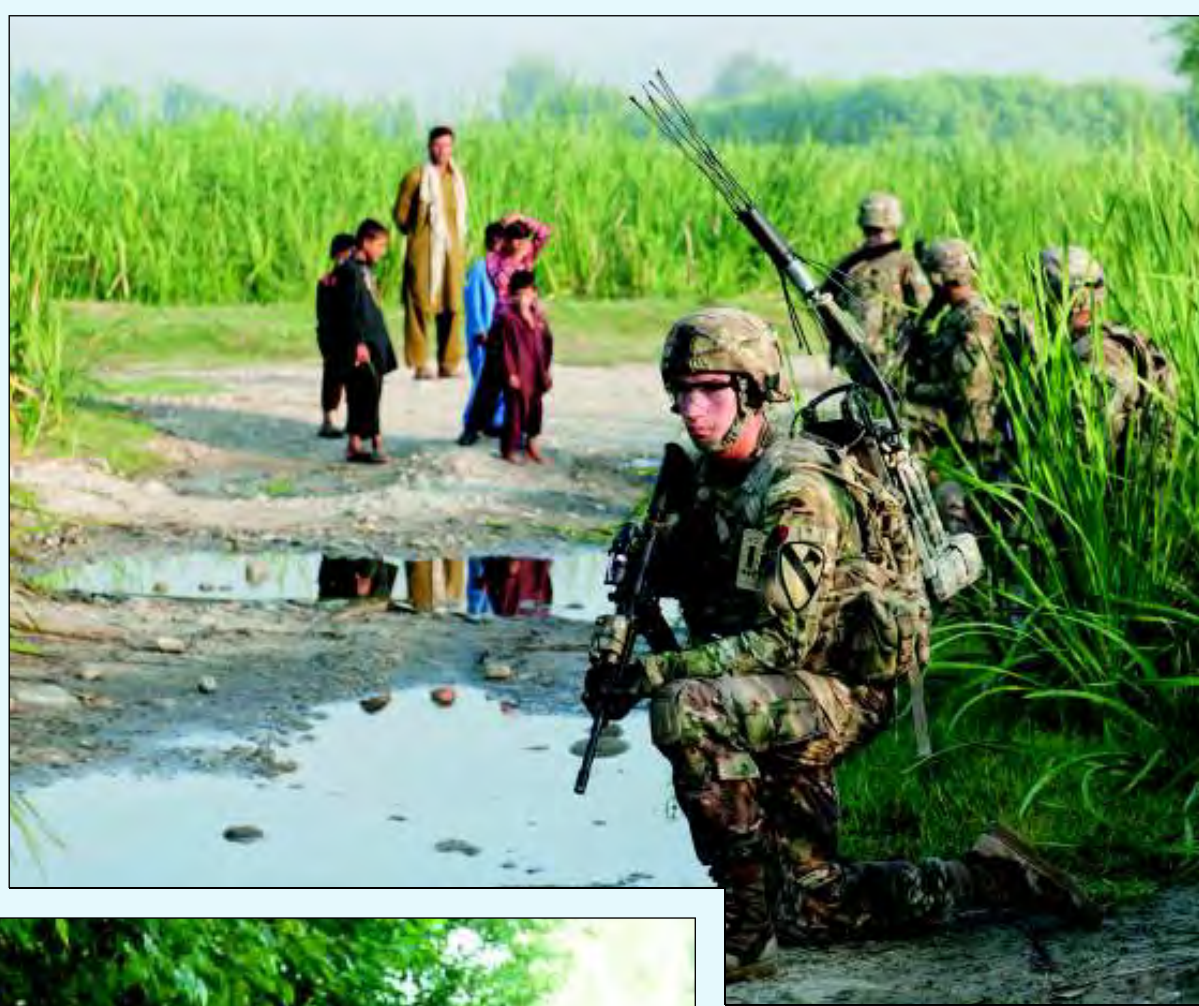


Soldiers assigned to Troop B, 4th Squadron, 9th Cavalry Regiment, 2nd Brigade Combat Team, 1st Cavalry Division, gather

for a briefing prior to a presence patrol around Forward Operating Base Fenty in Nangarhar province, Afghanistan, Aug. 22. The

purpose of the early morning patrol was to check the security of Fenty's perimeter as well as engage the local population.

Photos by Sgt. Margaret Taylor, 4th BCT, 10th Mtn. Div. Public Affairs



ABOVE, Pfc. Nicholas Peterson, assigned to Trp. B., 4-9 Cav. Regt., 2nd BCT, 1st Cav. Div., pulls security with his team, during a presence patrol around Forward Operating Base Fenty in Nangarhar Province, Afghanistan, Aug. 22. LEFT, Pfc. Shaun Innocenti, an M249 light machine gunner assigned to Trp. B., 4-9 Cav. Regt., 2nd BCT, 1st Cav. Div., pulls security on a dirt path with his teammates during a presence patrol around Forward Operating Base Fenty in Nangarhar Province, Afghanistan, Aug. 22. BELOW, Pfc. Stephen Godwin, a forward observer assigned to Trp. B., 4-9 Cav. Regt., 2nd BCT, 1st Cav. Div., walks down a dirt path with his team during a presence patrol around Forward Operating Base Fenty in Nangarhar Province, Afghanistan, Aug. 22.

ABOVE, Soldiers assigned to Trp. B., 4-9 Cav. Regt., 2nd BCT, 1st Cav. Div., conduct a presence patrol around Forward Operating Base Fenty in Nangarhar Province, Afghanistan, Aug. 22. BELOW, Pfc. Arturo Brooks, a dismounted team member assigned to Trp. B., 4-9 Cav. Regt., 2nd BCT, 1st Cav. Div., pulls security during a presence patrol around Forward Operating Base Fenty in Nangarhar Province, Afghanistan, Aug. 22.



SPORTS BRIEFS

SEPT. 7

SAMC 5K Run/Walk

The Fort Hood Sergeant Audie Murphy Club is conducting a 5K at 9 a.m. Saturday on Sadowski Field to promote awareness for Hearts for Humanity and the humanitarian assistance for the installation American Red Cross.

This event, where participants can run or walk, is open to all civilian and military personnel in the surrounding communities.

SEPT. 9

Intramural Flag Football

The 2013 Flag Football season begins Monday.

To sign up a team in the east league, which includes units in 3rd Cavalry Regiment, III Corps, 69th Air Defense Artillery Brigade and 13th Sustainment Command (Expeditionary), call 287-9639 or visit Starker Physical Fitness Center.

To sign up for the west league, which includes 1st Cavalry Division units, call 287-0194 or visit Greywolf Physical Fitness Center.

Only active-duty military members are allowed to participate.

SEPT. 14

Duathlon

The annual duathlon will be held Sept. 14 at Belton Lake Outdoor Recreation Area.

The race kicks off at 8 a.m. and includes two 3.1-mile runs and a 12-mile bike ride portion. The traditional swim portion of a triathlon was canceled due to the low water levels of the lake.

Participation is free and open to all.

To register, stop by any Fort Hood fitness facility or register online at www.HoodMWR.com.

For more information, call 285-5459.

SEPT. 21

Phantom Warrior Classic

Fort Hood's Centurion Cross-Fit will host a bodybuilding, physique, figure and bikini championship at 9 a.m. Sept. 21 at Harker Heights High School.

Tickets for the event cost \$15 for pre-judging, \$30 for finals or \$45 for VIP.

For more information, visit www.phantomwarriorclassic.com or call Shauna Cremean Anduze at 251-5727 or Tony Douglas at 214-929-9398.



Photos by Daniel Cernero, Sentinel Sports Editor

ABOVE, The 2013 Copperas Cove Bulldogs take the field for the first time in the season-opener against A&M Consolidated Friday night at Bulldawg Stadium. BELOW, A&M Consolidated running back Brandon Jackson stiff-arms Copperas Cove linebacker Michael Sumrall in the first quarter Friday at Bulldawg Stadium. Jackson topped 100 yards in the game and also scored two touchdowns.

Cove loses 'wild' opener

BY DANIEL CERNERO

Sentinel Sports Editor

COPPERAS COVE — The game clock read 0:01.

Seconds earlier in real-time, Copperas Cove teammates hoisted kicker Jayson Stanley into the air after he had converted a 25-yard field goal attempt, which gave the Bulldogs a 3-point advantage on what was the sixth lead change in the game's final four minutes.

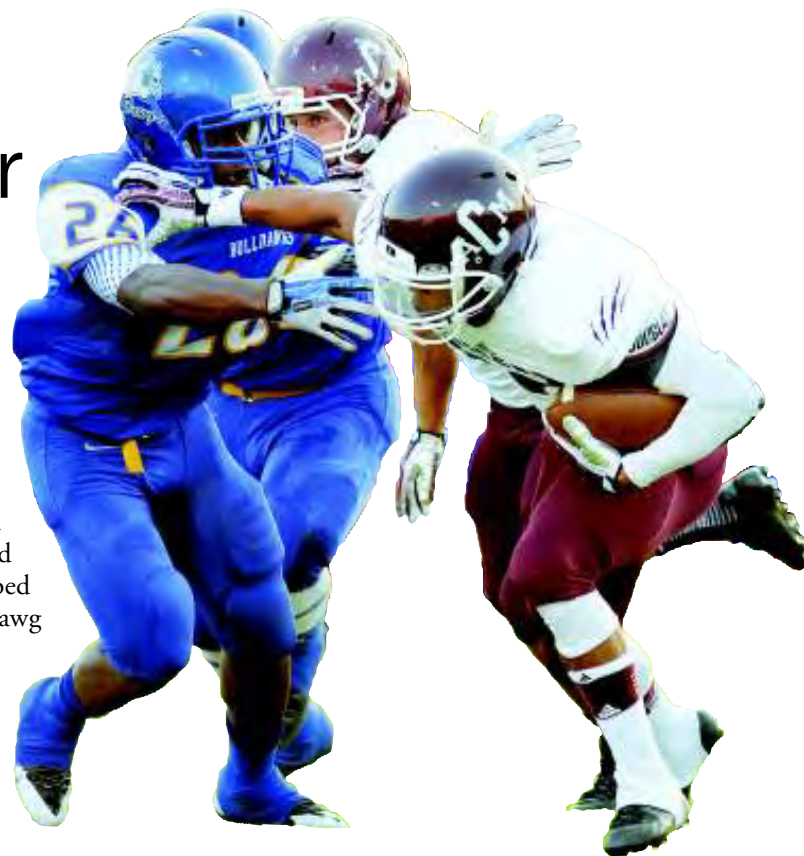
But the game clock still read 0:01, time for one final play.

Copperas Cove employed the squib kick it routinely uses, sending the ball to about the A&M Consolidated 45-yard line. A mob of players surrounded the ball before the Tigers were able to relay it back to Brandon Jackson, who took

the ball from the left half of the field toward the right sideline before running out of room around the A&M 40-yard line. Jackson then turned and pitched the ball back to Derrick Dick, who danced around, doing "whirlybird things" as his coach described it, dodging incoming Bulldawg tacklers.

Looking downfield, Dick noticed a Copperas Cove team that had overloaded to one half of the

See **Football**, D5



Club Championship winner finishes with 10-stroke lead

BY DANIEL CERNERO

Sentinel Sports Editor

The Courses of Clear Creek's 12th annual Club Championship wrapped up its two-day competition Sunday as golfers completed 36 holes over Labor Day weekend.

The winner, local Manny Bhakta, a winner of two previous Club Championships, cleared the field by 10 strokes, finishing at even par overall after scores of 70 Saturday and 74 Sunday.

"Today, I never really was in a danger

of making worse than a bogey at any point," Bhakta said, crediting his consistency throughout the tournament for his win.

The key stretch, Bhakta said, was early in the round Saturday as he played on Panther Claw.

"I missed about two or three greens in a row," he said, "and I was able to get up and down. I actually chipped shots that had a chance to go in. That kind of kept things going, and that was the key."

Bhakta said his experience with the course left him knowing how to approach the ins and outs of this challenging course.

"The golf course was right there in front of you. You just have to play

disciplined golf — fairways, greens — and when you miss a green, you have to give yourself the chance to get up and in," he said. "You can get in trouble here very easily. Both sides of the fairways have tree lines and ravines and all of that stuff, so you can lose your golf ball very easily if you try to force the issue."

As a repeat winner, Bhakta said he came into the tournament with the expectation to win.

"I've played a lot of golf here between 2001 and 2006," he said, noting previous wins. "I just hadn't been coming to play this tournament, because there was another tournament over Labor Day weekend that I had been playing in Brownwood."

"And then I decided to come back over because it's close," said Bhakta, who now lives in Harker Heights. "It's a



Photos by Daniel Cernero, Sentinel Sports Editor

Tournament runner-up Jacob Morton prepares to finish his last round of golf Sunday afternoon at the Courses of Clear Creek. Morton, the winner of the post's intramural golf tournament back in May, finished second with a two-day total 154, 10 over par.

two-day deal, I can sleep in my own bed instead of being in Brownwood, and this is truly a home course for me."

That familiarity with the course helped Bhakta navigate the two days and know when to take chances.

"Nothing is new. All of the shots, depending on the winds conditions, having played here for five or six years, I feel like I've hit those shots before," he said. "You kind of know where you can miss a shot and still recover."

Jacob Morton, the Fort Hood Soldier who won the post's intramural championship back in May, finished as the runner-up with a two-day score of 154 (75, 79).

"This was a lot harder, because

the competition was a lot harder," Morton said comparing the two events. "This (event) brings out the golfers. It brings out the sticks."

Morton said the course was in the best condition he's seen it this year, but it was set up in a way to really challenge the golfers over the two days.

"The course was difficult, because they moved us back and gave us really hard pins, which they should. It was all fair," he said. "I just got in trouble early. I actually played +1 on the back (nine) and parred the last seven holes."

The field gathered in the clubhouse after play Sunday for a catered lunch and the handing out of awards to the winners of each flight.



Manny Bhakta lines up his final putt of the tournament Sunday afternoon at the Courses of Clear Creek. Bhakta finished at even par for the tournament (70, 74), 10 strokes better than his competition.

NASCAR INSIDER

by RICK MINTER / Universal Uclick

Chase contenders: Some rise to the top, some have disappointing runs, at Atlanta Motor Speedway

As often is the case since NASCAR instituted the Chase for the Sprint Cup, when it comes to crunch time, the cream rises to the top.

The finishing order of Sunday night's AdvoCare 500 at Atlanta Motor Speedway, the next-to-last race before the start of the championship-deciding, 10-race Chase, found eight Chase contenders in the top 10.

Kyle Busch, who seized the lead with a strong restart with 33 laps to go, scored his fourth win of the season, while Joey Logano continued his two-month hot streak with a runner-up run that saw him come from behind both early and late in the 500-mile race.

Since finishing 40th at New Hampshire Motor Speedway on July 14, Logano hasn't finished worse than eighth and has risen from 18th in the points standings to eighth.

He said that assuming he holds on to his Chase spot through Saturday night's race at Richmond, he considers himself one of the favorites to take the title.

"I feel like, with three straight top-fives right now, we have a really good shot at it," Logano said. "This team is super strong, and it looks like we're hitting our stride at the right time, right here."

Martin Truex Jr. finished third despite severe pain from a broken wrist suffered the week before at Bristol Motor Speedway, while fellow Chase contenders Kurt Busch and Ryan Newman completed the top five.

Jeff Gordon was sixth, Dale Earnhardt Jr. eighth and Kevin Harvick ninth, with only seventh-finishing Juan Pablo Montoya and 10th-place Brian Vickers joining the Chasers in the top 10 at Atlanta.

Kyle Busch secured his spot in the Chase, joining Jimmie Johnson, Clint Bowyer, Kevin Harvick, Carl Edwards and Matt Kenseth. He said that just like his win at Atlanta, winning his first Sprint Cup championship will be an uphill climb. But he's encouraged by his team's rebound from a



Kyle Busch in Victory Lane after winning the Sprint Cup AdvoCare 500 at Atlanta Motor Speedway.

had start to win the AdvoCare 500 and cruise into the Chase just a year after he missed the cut for the championship run.

"What I'm most proud of [from Atlanta] is not necessarily what I did, but just what these [crew] guys were able to do," he said. "It all comes full circle sometimes, but we were in a whole different situation 365 days ago and not being able to make the Chase, and [Sunday] was a night where we needed to prove to ourselves that we're championship contenders."

Three drivers who entered Atlanta with their Chase berths secure had disappointing runs, as Jimmie Johnson was involved in a pit road incident on his first stop and struggled to a 28th-place finish, which followed finishes of 36th at Bristol and 40th at Michigan. Clint Bowyer blew an engine while leading and finished 39th, and Carl Edwards, who led 68 laps in the early going, faded to 18th at the end.

Edwards said that contact with Gordon doomed his chances of winning at Atlanta, where he got his first Cup win. He and Gordon discussed the incident after the race but didn't come to any agreement about what happened.

"[Gordon] wasn't very happy with our conversation, but at the end of the day, I feel like he was the aggressor," Edwards said. "The bigger picture for us is we had a



Busch celebrates his AdvoCare 500 win with a burnout.

pretty bad night." Gordon said that Edwards caused most of the trouble after the first run-in between the two of them, which he said was partially his fault.

"[Edwards] decided that he was going to get me back, I guess, every other time I was around him all night," Gordon said.

Kasey Kahne, who will be in the Chase at least as a wild card entry, was involved in the same pit-road incident as Johnson, lost 31 laps while his car was being repaired, and finished 36th.

Dale Earnhardt Jr., Greg Biffle and Kurt Busch head to Richmond in the top 10 but not assured of Chase berths, while Newman and Truex are 14th and 15th, respectively, in the standings with a win apiece, giving them chances to secure wild card Chase berths.

Defending Cup champion Brad Keselowski will need a dramatic turn of events at Richmond to even have a chance to try to defend his title. He blew an engine after leading 31 laps, finished 35th and dropped four spots in the standings to 15th, 28 points out of the top 10.

Keselowski said that to say he's frustrated with his season is an understatement, but he said it's not because his cars aren't fast. "We ran up front, and we continue to show that we at least have the pieces of what it takes every week to be a title threat and to be in the Chase," he said. "But we just haven't put together all those pieces every week, and that's what it takes."

NOTEBOOK

Kevin Harvick makes up for 2012 loss with easy win in Nationwide race at Atlanta Motor Speedway



Kevin Harvick takes the checkered flag in the Nationwide Series race at AMS.

A year after dominating the 2012 Nationwide Series race at Atlanta Motor Speedway, leading 157 of 195 laps only to lose to Ricky Stenhouse Jr. on the last lap, Kevin Harvick rolled to a relatively easy win in Saturday's Great Clips/Grit Chips 300.

Harvick dominated the last half of the race, leading 132 laps, and held off Kyle Busch in the closing laps to secure his first Nationwide victory of the season, the 40th of his career and his second at AMS.

Busch was the runner-up ahead of Sam Hornish Jr., Kasey Kahne and Kyle Larson.

Hornish's finish allowed him to push his points lead from six to 10 over second-place Austin Dillon, who finished eighth at Atlanta.

SPRINT CUP STANDINGS

1. Jimmie Johnson, 837
2. Clint Bowyer, 809
3. Kevin Harvick, 795
4. Carl Edwards, 795
5. Kyle Busch, 786
6. Matt Kenseth, 768
7. Dale Earnhardt Jr., 750
8. Joey Logano, 729
9. Greg Biffle, 727
10. Kurt Busch, 719

Ganassi betting on Kyle Larson's talent over his seat time in appointing him driver of No. 42 Chevrolet in 2014

Sprint Cup team owner Chip Ganassi has a track record of taking chances when he hires race drivers, and that was the case again as he's picked the relatively inexperienced Kyle Larson as the new driver of his No. 42 Chevrolet beginning next year.

In choosing Larson, a 21-year-old racer who has just 24 Nationwide Series career starts and six more in the Camping World Truck Series, Ganassi is betting that the youngster's immense talent will overcome his lack of seat time in vehicles similar to the ones he'll drive on the Sprint Cup circuit. Larson has a win and a second-place finish in Trucks this season and six top-five finishes in the Nationwide Series, but he's a regular winner on short-track circuits.

And in teaming up with Ganassi, Larson, who has been under contract with the veteran team owner since last year, also is gambling that Ganassi, who hasn't won a Cup race since 2010, can deliver him a car capable of continuing his upward career climb.

Fellow racer Ryan Newman said that while Larson is short on NASCAR starts, his experience in sprint cars and other forms of motorsports has him prepared to take over the car now driven by Juan Pablo Montoya.

"I think Kyle has definitely proven across the board he can drive absolutely anything — anywhere, anytime," Newman said, adding that the real tests will come off the track. "I think the biggest challenge he's going to have ahead of him is not what happens outside of this [media] room, it's what happens inside of this room — the media part of it; the publicity part of it," Newman said.

For his part, Larson said he's up to the challenges. He said his sprint car experience will help him transition from the

Nationwide cars he's now driving to the more powerful Cup cars.

"With my sprint car background, they're 1,400-pound cars with 900-horsepower engines," he said. "I'm used to having way too much horsepower. I think that will translate well to the Cup cars."

Larson said that even if there are some unknowns as far as moving up to the Cup series so quickly, he wouldn't do it any other way.

"These opportunities don't come about very often," he said. "You never know when you have another shot like this. You have to capitalize on it and do the best you can."

Ganassi, who also fields the No. 1 Chevrolet driven by Jamie McMurray, said he believes his team can give Larson cars capable of continuing his career climb.

"I think our cars have shown they can run in the top five, top 10 on a pretty regular basis this season," he said, adding that he's not expecting Larson to take him to Victory Lane immediately. "I think Kyle is the kind of driver, when he sees an opportunity in front of him, he takes it. If that means it's a win — hey, great. There's no pressure for him to win his first year out."



Chip Ganassi (right) announces the appointment of Kyle Larson as the new driver of the No. 42 Sprint Cup Chevrolet in 2014.

Chase Elliott becomes youngest winner in Truck Series history with victory on road course at CTMP

Chase Elliott, the 17-year-old son of Sprint Cup veteran Bill Elliott, scored a dramatic — and controversial — victory in Sunday's Camping World Truck Series race on the road course at Canadian Tire Motorsport Park in Bowmanville, Ontario.

Elliott, who became the youngest driver ever to win a major NASCAR race, grabbed the lead just yards from the finish line after contact with race leader Ty Dillon — contact that sent Dillon crashing into the retaining barrier.

Elliott motored away to score his first Truck win in just his sixth career start.

"We only have so many shots to win these things. I really hate to win them like that; I really do," Elliott said in his Victory Lane interview. "That's not how I race, and that's never been how I've raced before."

"I had a shot, I was up next to Ty and I knew he was going to try and chop me off. I tried to make up the difference ...



Chase Elliott celebrates his Chevrolet Silverado 250 victory with his father, Sprint Cup veteran Bill Elliott (left), and his mother, Cindy.

"Sometimes you've got to do what you've got to do to get to Victory Lane."

Elliott said an angry Dillon, who finished 17th and is third in series points, 63 behind leader Matt Crafton, leaned in his window after the race and told him there would be payback, most likely this week at Iowa Speedway.

"He just told me I was better than that, and we're probably going to have some problems next week at Iowa, so we'll have to play it by ear when we get there," Elliott said.

Allmendinger to return to Sprint Cup full-time in 2014

A.J. Allmendinger, whose racing career appeared to be in great jeopardy when he failed a drug test in July 2012 and lost his ride with Penske Racing, will return to the Sprint Cup circuit full-time next season as driver of the No. 47 Toyota, the same car he's been driving on a limited basis this season.



A.J. Allmendinger

He said during a press conference at Atlanta that the one-car JTG-Daugherty Racing team suits him fine.

"Everybody's got such good family values," he said. "It's been great for me to be a part of the race team so far. It's a good, little race team ... I feel like we can really build this race team and make it stronger."

Allmendinger has made four starts already in the car this season, with a best finish of 10th at Watkins Glen.

The hiring of Allmendinger means that the car's longtime driver, Bobby Labonte, will be looking for a new ride in the future. He was set to drive the No. 51 Phoenix Racing Chevrolet this weekend at AMS, but broke three ribs in a bicycling accident last week. He was set to share the No. 47 with Allmendinger in the remaining races this year, but whether he'll return to the car is uncertain.

Allmendinger said he won't be a part of pushing Labonte out of the car.

"That's not my decision, and I'm not going to push for that either," he said.

NUMERICALLY SPEAKING

1,390 Laps led by Denny Hamlin in the past 17 Sprint Cup races at Richmond International Raceway, tops among all drivers.

0 Laps led at Richmond by Joey Logano (seven career Cup starts) and Brad Keselowski (eight Cup starts), the fewest of any contenders for the Chase for the Sprint Cup.

250 Major NASCAR victories for Toyota with Kyle Busch's win in the AdvoCare 500 at Atlanta Motor Speedway.

4 Points positions lost at Atlanta Motor Speedway by Brad Keselowski and Kasey Kahne, the most of any Chase contenders.

Baltimore, Denver kickoff NFL season; Week 1 picks, upset alert



Couch Potato

Sports Commentary

BY SGT. JORDAN JOHNSON

Sentinel Assistant Editor

Joe Flacco and the Baltimore Ravens head out west to begin the NFL season against Peyton Manning and the Denver Broncos tonight, and I couldn't be more ready for the games to commence. The excitement of the NFL is unparalleled in our country.

Week 1 offers a couple complete duds – Miami Dolphins at Cleveland Browns, Kansas City Chiefs at Jacksonville Jaguars – but thanks to fantasy football, I will have some sort of rooting interest during every game of the season.

Who will come out on top in Week 1?



Thursday night

The season begins with the defending Super Bowl champions hitting the road and visiting the mile-high air of Denver. Last season, the Ravens and Broncos met in an epic playoff encounter that saw Baltimore snatch victory from the jaws of defeat on its way to the championship, while Manning was left to wonder if another Super Bowl appearance will ever become a reality.

I expect both squads to again win their division and make the playoffs, but one team will have to begin the season with an L. I don't think it's fair the Ravens have to start this season on the road after winning it all last season, but hey, life isn't always fair, and I think the Broncos playing at home will be too much for Baltimore to overcome.

The game will be close, but no player works harder in the offseason than Manning, and he will be prepared to lead the Broncos on a late scoring drive to eek out the win.

Sunday's main event

In another rematch of playoff opponents from last year, *Sentinel* Editor Dave Larsen's Green Bay Packers face a stiff test as they head to the Bay Area to battle the San

Francisco 49ers. During said playoff contest, Colin Kaepernick set an NFL record for rushing yards by a quarterback as the 49ers ran roughshod over the Packers. The QB's performance was amazing, and the game was great to watch – unless you were pulling for the Pack.

I look for Green Bay to play angry and head back to Wisconsin with a W.

Divisional showdowns

There are numerous matchups between division foes this weekend, highlighted by the Atlanta Falcons visiting the New Orleans Saints, the New York Giants going for their annual win in Dallas versus the Cowboys, and the new-look Philadelphia Eagles heading to our nation's capital to welcome Robert Griffin III back from injury.

Drew Brees' Saints are ready for a bounce-back season after last year's disastrous effort, and they'll start by beating up their rival and closest competition in the division, the Falcons.

Eli Manning has made winning in Dallas a habit – the Cowboys haven't beat the Giants in the Big D since 2007 – and I look for more of the same Sunday night when the Giants

visit the 'Boys. Say what you will, but I just can't pick Tony Romo to come through on a big stage, which is exactly what a Sunday night game is.

Picking the Eagles to win at Washington may be considered an upset by some, but Philly is my pick to win the division, and I think the team takes a positive first step Monday evening by knocking off the Redskins in the first Monday Night Football game of the year. This is a make-or-break year for Michael Vick, and I foresee him coming out of the gate strong.

Outside of those three games, there are three additional divisional matchups. One such game is the New England Patriots traveling to upstate New York for a tilt with the Buffalo Bills. As lopsided as the game seems, I'm slightly tempted to predict the upset. C.J. Spiller is set for a monster year and E.J. Manuel gives the team hope at the QB position. Combine that with New England's brand new receiving corps, and I think Buffalo gives Tom Brady a great game, but the Pats will sneak it out.

Another one will see Adrian Peterson begin his quest for history as the Minnesota Vikings visit the Detroit Lions, but Calvin Johnson's crew will steal his thunder and come

out on top. The final matchup of division foes will pit the Arizona Cardinals versus the St. Louis Rams. To keep it simple, the Rams win.

Quick hits

Cincinnati edges the Bears, the Dolphins sink at the Browns, Tampa Bay soars over the Jets, Tennessee loses at Pittsburgh, the Colts clobber the hapless Raiders, Jacksonville wins a game as they topple the Chiefs and Houston dominates San Diego in a game most people east of Texas won't watch.

Upset alert

Last week in this very column, I picked the Seattle Seahawks to advance all the way to the NFC championship game. This week, I have the team on upset alert as they travel to Carolina to battle the Panthers. Do I think the Panthers are better than the Seahawks? Absolutely not. But teams out west have historically struggled during games starting at 1 p.m. EST, which is when the Seahawks' game begins Sunday. There are upsets galore every year, and I don't imagine this year being any different. I'm still picking Seattle to win, but am prepared to taste defeat in that prediction.

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PRO GOLF TIP

From Chuck McPhilomy, assistant golf professional at the Courses of Clear Creek.

Under pressure, hit a full shot

When you really need to hit a great shot, choose to hit a full shot instead of hitting a half shot or easing up on a longer club. Too often when you try to hit a half shot or ease off an iron, you will have a tendency to pull the shot left. Trust your natural swing with a full shot.

QUOTE OF THE WEEK:

"I would much rather be hitting the driver and a nine-iron out of the rough than hitting a driver and a four-iron out of the fairway."

– Jack Nicklaus

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Army rugger humbled honoring fallen peers

BY TIM HIPPS
IMCOM

GLENDALE, Colo. — Maj. Nate Conkey was elated to help All-Army win the 2013 Armed Forces Rugby Sevens Championship and humbled the next morning by a remembrance ceremony honoring all military rugby players who made the ultimate sacrifice.

With the bagpipes of retired Army Chief Warrant Officer 5 Jay Leasure blaring "Amazing Grace," Conkey walked from the sideline, placed a rugby ball alongside a U.S. Army flag at midfield and saluted his fallen military rugby mates.

Conkey, 34, of Joint Base Lewis-McChord, Wash., stood Army Strong throughout the roll call of Soldiers, Airmen, Marines, Sailors and Coast Guard rugby players who gave all.

"I knew a lot of them," said Conkey, a 2000 graduate of the U.S. Military Academy at West Point, N.Y. "Many players that I've coached, men that I've played with, men that I've been good friends with, are on that list. Probably 10 or 15."

The ceremony preceded Aug. 18 play in the Serevi Rugbytown Sevens international tournament at Infinity Park. Conkey tried to control his emotions, but eventually set them



Photos by Tim Hipps, IMCOM

Maj. Nate Conkey, a 2000 graduate of the U.S. Military Academy at West Point, N.Y., who is now stationed at Joint Base Lewis-McChord, Wash., scores the first try for All-Army during the Soldiers' opening victory over All-Air Force at the 2013 Armed Forces Rugby Championships Aug. 16, at Infinity Park in Glendale, Colo.

free.

"We almost take it for granted," he said. "It's almost a little too easy to process the emotion sometimes. We almost become immune to it. We kind of have to (in order) to sustain ourselves and go back out, talking big stuff to perform our mission. It's amnesia, of sorts.

"Then when you're out there, and

it's just you and the bagpipes, you're standing there and you start to hear some of the names, you remember that these are very, very real people that have impacted your life," he continued. "We almost have the mission of carrying their names forward and doing them justice.

"We never forget them," he said. For a few calm minutes Aug. 18

morning, Conkey was allowed to stop, regroup and pay his respects as the bagpiper played "Amazing Grace" to the roll call of fallen U.S. Army rugby players.

As the Soldiers' names were announced, Conkey walked to midfield and placed an Army rugby ball on the ground next to a miniature Army flag.

"Sometimes you lose track of the bigger picture and you kind of get stuck in your moment, but then you're allowed to reflect when it's just you, that music, the ball, the players' names being read aloud," Conkey said. "You certainly feel it."

One night earlier, Conkey was on the same field celebrating his first gold medal after his seventh shot at an Armed Forces Rugby Championship, in only his second try at Sevens, no less. He also was named to the Armed Forces All-Tournament Team.

"It certainly was quite the high beating Air Force for the gold medal," Conkey said Sunday before returning to the field to play three more matches against teams from other divisions of the tourney. "It's also exciting that we have more action today."

Conkey plays rugby with the gusto of a man who can't get enough action, always looking for someone to hit or a loose ball to scoop up and run.

"We're going to go out and we're going to compete," Conkey said. "I love feeding off of other people's quotes, and everybody wants to quote Vince Lombardi and say: 'Winning isn't everything, it's the only thing.' He also said it's an all-time thing: 'Winning is a habit. Doing the right thing is a habit.'"

"When we take that field, we want to do nothing else than feed that habit," Conkey said. "Yes, we want to get guys some playing time. Yes, we want to enjoy ourselves. But what better way to go out and have fun than by winning games in an awesome atmosphere and in front of a great crowd?"

Conkey did not play rugby while attending West Point. He took up the sport at age 24, while stationed at Fort Campbell, Ky. He returned to West Point as an instructor and served as assistant rugby coach from 2007 through 2011. 2nd Lt. Will Holder, who graduated from West Point in May and joined Conkey on the Armed Forces Rugby All-Tournament Team in August, played for coach Conkey at the academy.

"He's been the emotional side of this team," said Holder, who scored two tries in All-Army's 19-14 victory over All-Air Force in the Armed Forces championship match. "He's been the one to pick us up and pump us up every single game — make sure our heads are in it and keep us in line. It was awesome to be able to finally play with him. He coached me my first three years at West Point."

Conkey cherishes being an on-field leader and coach, of sorts, for younger teammates whom he coached before.

"I'm certainly the oldest," Conkey said. "I haven't been necessarily playing rugby as long as some of the other guys. Andy Locke and Will Holder were born with a rugby ball in their hands. I didn't pick it up until a little later in life."



Maj. Nate Conkey (far left) leads the All-Army rugby squad in a chant of "Hip hip hooray" as they display gold medals secured by 2nd Lt. Will Holder's last-second, diving try that lifted the Soldiers to a 19-14 victory over All-Air Force for the 2013 Armed Forces Rugby Sevens Championship.

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Football: A&M returns kickoff for last-second win

Continued from D1

field, so he swung around back to the left half of the field, using the wall his fellow blockers set up, running untouched into, rather through the end zone and over to the visiting stands in celebration.

"What was impressive was how many of our kids came down and set up the wall, which shows football smarts," A&M Consolidated coach David Raffield said after the 44-41 win. "I'm proud of them."

"We had our chance to get the ball," Copperas Cove coach Jack Welch said describing the final play. "It was right there."

The final second of the game nearly rendered everything up that point insignificant, but not quite, because the previous 47 minutes and 59 seconds by itself were already a Central Texas classic.

A double-digit comeback, turnovers by both teams, multiple lead-changing drives of less than a minute – it was opening-week

magic.

After three quarters and a combined 38 points, the two teams exploded for 44 combined points in the game's final four minutes.

Carrying the Bulldawgs on offense was junior quarterback Manny Harris, making his varsity debut while shaking the dust off of a portion of the Copperas Cove playbook not often used.

Harris threw the ball 50 times, completing 68 percent of his passes while piling up more than 500 yards and four touchdowns.

"We opened up our offense a lot," Harris said. "My receivers, they were just catching everything. I think I matured as a quarterback today."

His coach agreed, adding that his maturation process has created a poised and confident quarterback.

Those receivers Harris alluded to – notably the senior trio of Phillip Baptiste, Derrick Giles and Hunter McVeigh – each

pulled in key catches in the game's second half.

Giles credited Harris for putting the ball "right on the spot" with his passes.

"We've been working during the summer, all of us," said Giles, who finished with more than 100 yards receiving, highlighted by a 63-yard touchdown catch in the fourth quarter. "He's been working with all of the receivers, getting extra work in, so we're all comfortable with each other."

"The line gave him time, and he found the open man," Giles added.

Baptiste hauled in 12 catches and nearly 250 yards and a score while McVeigh had two critical touchdown receptions in the fourth quarter.

The emergence of the passing attack coincided with a struggling run game in the season-opener as the A&M defense team fixated on shutting down Vondareaz King, who had torched the Tigers for more than 200 yards rushing the previous year.

King finished with 72 yards and a touchdown on 22 carries, but did fumble twice in the red zone.

"There's no doubt that they were keying on Vondareaz," Welch said. "It was obvious."

The emotions for both teams touched each side of the spectrum, but it was the Tigers that walked away winners for the second straight year.

"There's not a better place to play than Copperas Cove," Raffield said. "This is old-school Friday night football; the whole town is out here. You know it's a hostile deal. It's a great experience for all of us."

Welch took solace in the maturity he saw in his young team in this one game, which seemingly packed a season's worth of in-game scenarios into 48 minutes.

"This ballgame was good for us," Welch said. "We wanted to win; we'd feel better about ourselves. But we're the same team."

Both coaches are keen on continuing the early-season challenge down the road.

"You find out a whole lot about yourself," Welch said. "You can't do that in the ballgames where you're beating somebody (by) 35, 45 points. You have to play people that you know have the ability to beat you any time they line up, and these guys do."

"It makes you better."



Photo by Daniel Cernero, Sentinel Sports Editor

A&M Consolidated junior Derrick Dick climbs the fence by the visiting stands to celebrate after scoring the game-winning touchdown on a kick return that started with 0:01 on the game clock Friday night at Bulldawg Stadium in Copperas Cove. The score gave the Tigers a 44-41 win.

HIGH SCHOOL FOOTBALL

WEEK 1:

Canyon 30, Killeen, 16

Georgetown 35, Ellison 14

Waco 37, Shoemaker 14

Round Rock Stony Point 47, Harker Heights 31

A&M Consolidated 44, Copperas Cove 41

Temple 48, Round Rock 42

Waco Reicher 19, Gatesville 8

Rockdale 47, Salado 21

Lampasas 27, Smithville 6

WEEK 2:

Thursday:

Lampasas at Austin Travis, 7 p.m.

Friday:

Vandegrift at Killeen (Buckley)

Manor at Ellison (Hood)

Harker Heights at Round Rock

Copperas Cove at Waco

Round Rock Stony Point at Belton

Temple at Westlake

Waco University at Gatesville

Salado at Lorena

Saturday:

Juvenil Nuevo Leon at

Shoemaker (Buckley), 6 p.m.

*All games start at 7:30 p.m. unless noted otherwise.

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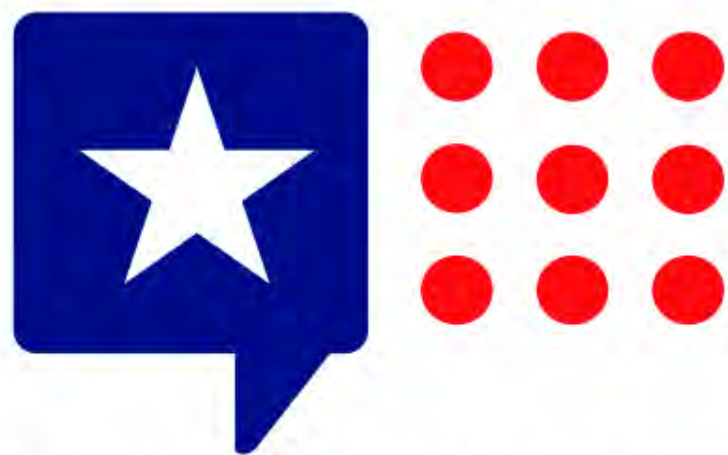


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