



March 6, 2009 Vol. 3 No. 9

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Hot topics

USAG Hawaii sets its way ahead [▶Article](#)

African American Civil War heroes paved way for modern Army [▶Article](#)

Covenant news

Help available for Fort Bragg Exceptional Family Members [▶Article](#)

Katterbach CDC expansion means more spaces, improved safety [▶Article](#)

Community becomes part of solution at Ansbach AFAP conference [▶Article](#)



West Point WTU signs Army Warrior Health-Care Covenant

West Point Garrison Commander Col. Dan Bruno, left; Col. Mike Deaton, Keller Army Community Hospital commander; and Capt. Curtis Edwards, West Point Warrior Transition Unit commander, sign the Army Warrior Health-Care Covenant Feb. 27 at the Buffalo Soldier Pavilion. [▶Article](#)

Army Warrior Healthcare Covenant signed at Kimbrough [▶Article](#)

Top honor awarded to USAG Schinnen ACS Director [▶Article](#)

More responses lead to improved services at Fort Monmouth

"When I took command here more than 18 months ago, I wanted to devise a means of staying in touch with members of the installation community to enable me to know if the products and services we're offering are on track and meet our community's expectations," said Garrison Commander Col. Stephen M. Christian. [▶Article](#)



Forts McPherson and Gillem Job Shadow Day

Sgt. Daniel Evans, garrison Directorate of Emergency Services dog handler, talks with students from Hapeville Charter School about his job as a dog handler at Job Shadow Day Feb. 19 at The Commons on Fort McPherson, Ga. Helping in the presentation was Evans partner Duke, a 7-year-old German shepherd trained as an explosive detection dog. [▶Article](#)

Redstone garrison builds toward future work force

With an aging work force headed toward retirement, work force development is on the minds of many organizations at Redstone. The new Garrison Intern Program is working toward continuing to provide a quality staff for the organization that gives support to the entire installation. "The vision is to bring people in at the ground level to re-energize this work force." [▶Article](#)

'Wagonmasters' kick off month-long blood drive at Fort Hood

Needles, some people can't stand them. Soldiers should be used to them, but often times, they still cringe at the thought of being poked in the arm, even if it is for a good cause. The Soldiers of the 15th Sustainment Brigade, 13th Sustainment Command (Expeditionary) kicked off a month-long blood drive Feb. 15 to support fellow Soldiers and support the military community. [▶Article](#)

Fort Riley: Program finds civilian jobs for Wounded Warriors



Calvin McCloy appears to be in his comfort zone, handling phone calls from civilian employees worldwide from his desk within Fort Riley's Army Benefits Center. "We do benefits, estimates and retirements for all the Department of the Army civilian employees," said McCloy, who was wounded in a 2005 bomb attack in Iraq. [▶Article](#)



Fort McCoy Preschoolers learn about proper dental care

Lt. Col. David Schlaack, a Fort McCoy dentist, shows preschoolers at Fort McCoy's Child Development Center, how to brush their teeth, while Staff Sgt. Michelle Housen (left) and Candace Hendersin watch. ▶ [Article](#)



Carson singer's music showcases Army spouses

Amy Downing, a Fort Carson spouse of a 3rd Brigade Combat Team, 4th Infantry Division Soldier, meets with country music artist Lee Brice in December. Downing was a semifinalist in Operation Rising Star in November. ▶ [Article](#)



Preliminary bouts set stage for Fort Hood Boxing Smoker championship fights

Advised by trainers that he needs to add speed to his punching power, Spc. Rivera Jonathan, 23, 20th Engineer Battalion, 36th Engineer Brigade, pummeled the speed bag while preparing for his first bout in the light middle-weight division of the Fort Hood Boxing Smoker taking place this week at Abrams Physical Fitness Center. ▶ [Article](#)

Fort Buchanan CDC dedication ▶ [Photos](#)

Military Culinarians compete

The 34th U.S. Army Culinary Arts Competition, Feb. 28 - March 13, at Fort Lee, Va., features more than 180 military culinarians from all branches of the Armed Forces. Ten teams are competing for the Installation of Year award, which will be announced at the awards ceremony March 13. Competitors are also vying for Armed Forces Chef of the Year, Junior Chef of the Year and Best Field Cooking Team awards. ▶ [Slideshow](#)



Keiki create edible art at monthly program in Hawaii



Growing up, I heard it a thousand times: "Don't play with your food." Yet, today, I still have the hankering to hammer out the occasional mashed potato sculpture or draw a smiley face in ketchup on my hamburger. Why? Because it's fun. As 14 keiki and their parents gathered at the Armed Services YMCA (ASYMCA), they too experienced the fun of playing with food during "Kids in the Kitchen," Feb. 23 at Wheeler Army Airfield, Hawaii. The monthly event brought keiki under the age of 5 together for a day of interactive, edible art. The keiki learned the importance of food and well-rounded meals and snacks by artfully arranging the items on their plate. ▶ [Article](#)

Bowling returns to Fort Lewis



Bowling has returned to Fort Lewis, Wash., boasting flat-panel TVs, a full snack bar, video arcade, sound system and laser light show. Braving a wet winter afternoon, hundreds attended the grand opening of Fort Lewis' Bowl Arena Lanes March 7, ready to bowl. Garrison commander Col. Cynthia Murphy cut a ceremonial ribbon with assistance from Julius Walker, a military retiree and local United States Bowling Congress Hall of Fame inductee. ▶ [Article](#)

Finance gurus speak to Fort Carson Soldiers

Two Colorado state commissioners visited Fort Carson during a Military Saves Week program Feb. 24 to talk to Soldiers about investing safely and beginning a savings plan. Fred Joseph and Chris Myklebust, spoke about developing a savings plan and avoiding fraudulent investors. "One thing I can promise you a savings account will do is it will allow you to buy back your life," Myklebust said. ▶ [Article](#)

Year of the NCO news



Kaiserslautern kicks off Year of NCO
Soldiers from the 21st Theater Sustainment Command (left) Sgt. Brian Meehan, Sgt. Teddy Mendez and Warrant Officer 1 Joseph Kaiser play a game of pool Feb. 27 at the U.S. Army Garrison Kaiserslautern's Right Arm Night at the Irish Pub on Vogelweh Housing. [▶Article](#)

Benning honors NCOs in ceremony
[▶Article](#)

Hospital Corps celebrates 122 years of service -- Year of the NCO [▶Article](#)

SMA visits servicemembers, kicks off 'Year of the NCO' in Europe [▶Article](#)

Sill drill sergeant appreciates Year of the NCO [▶Article](#)



Year of the NCO: Coaching teams, leading Soldiers is much the same
1st Sgt. Romeo Satsatin served as the head coach for the 2008 All-Army men's basketball team. Satsatin, stationed in Heidelberg, Germany, says coaching is much like being a noncommissioned officer. [▶Article](#)

Campbell honors NCO's
"We're going to make sure that those who are selected as noncommissioned officers of the month, of the quarter and of the year are more than just a picture on the wall at the PX," said Deputy Commanding General, 101st Airborne Division and Fort Campbell, Brigadier General Stephen Townsend. [▶Article](#)

Fort Buchanan's Year of the NCO Kick-Off
[▶Article](#)

NCOs influence Leavenworth chaplain's decision to join Army
A blinding bolt of lightning came down from heaven and a voice from out of the blue called down to me and said, "Reverend Triplett, I want you to be a chaplain in the U.S. Army!" Not really. It was a still small voice that spoke to me through my dad and my father-in-law, who were both professional noncommissioned officers who served our country in time of war. [▶Article](#)



NCOs gather for 5k fun run at Casey
More than 50 Noncommissioned Officers leap forward when USAG Red Cloud Command Sgt. Maj. Earlene Lavendar (left), fired the guy to begin the Year of the NCO 5k Fun Run on USAG Casey Feb. 28. "This is the kind of event you can get not only the NCOs to do but also all of those who want to support the corps, to come out and enjoy themselves," said Lavendar. "It feels good to get up on a Saturday morning, no pressure, and let everyone know, 'hey, we are here for the Army.'" [▶Article](#)



Fort Hood celebrates Year of the NCO with plenty of backbone
Command Sgt. Maj. Don Felt, the command sergeant major for garrison at Fort Hood, inducts III Corps NCOs at the Fort Hood Year of the NCO ceremony Feb. 27 at the post's new NCO club, "The Backbone." [▶Article](#)

Commentary: NCOs - making Soldiers the best they can be
I have a lot of memories about my interactions with noncommissioned officers. Heck, I was one for 22 years. But nothing holds a more visceral memory than the twin thoughts of NCOs and PT. I thought I was in pretty good shape when I enlisted in the Army. I was a runner and had worked in the Oregon woods fighting forest fires. How tough could the Army be? [▶Article](#)

Force protection news

Security threats: be aware

- Thumb drives
- USB pens
- USB watches
- Miniature cameras
- Multifunction devices

Safety news

Fort Monroe: Fire Department challenge: 'spring forward, power up!' [▶Article](#)

Redstone Arsenal: Rocket munitions don't make good souvenirs [▶Article](#)

Fort Bragg Fire and Emergency Services wins safety seat award [▶Article](#)

Red Cloud Soldiers learn about suicide [▶Article](#)



Heidelberg's Rumbling Rubbish teaches residents fine art of recycling

Marty Hanson, an environmental protection specialist for U.S. Army Garrison Heidelberg and Marcus Ecker, a sanitation inspector inspect the refuse containers in a recycling island on Heidelberg's Mark Twain Village Feb. 25. The two men were performing the inspections to develop a baseline before the residents begin the 15-week Rumbling Rubbish program. [▶Article](#)

Installation paper of the week



Fort Gordon, Georgia

[▶Current Issue](#) (March 6)

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Married command sergeants major discuss deployments, Family life in the military

LaToya Sizer worries when her husband Richard deploys and adjusts when he gets back. Nothing unusual about that; deployments and separations are common place in today's Army. "We also know all the support that's out there for couples dealing with deployments, such as reintegration services and speaking with military chaplains, when necessary," Sizer said. [▶Article](#)



Kudos for consulates: USAG-Miami presents awards recognizing long-term partnerships

The members of the U.S. Army Garrison - Miami Passport and Visa Office play a part of the extensive base operations support the garrison provides to U.S. Southern Command by handling all official requests for travel documentation in their area of focus. The garrison team handles travel paperwork for all the armed services in the Southern Florida region, as well as the 32 United States military groups located in embassies and deployed areas. They have been working with South Florida consulates for 10 years. [▶Article](#)

Schweinfurt engineers improve terrain, training area

In an effort to improve parts of the training area near, dubbed Area Mike, the U.S. Army Garrison Schweinfurt Directorate of Public Works partnered with the 500th Engineer Horizontal Company of the 15th Engineer



Battalion. In collaboration with area improvements, the engineer troops are assisting in relocating biotopes, or habitats, occupied by a species of frogs that could potentially be disturbed. This type of labor is not only supporting their training, but maintaining the environment as well. [▶Article](#)

Historic characters take the stage at Women's History Month observance at Belvoir

While snow covered the ground, the Belvoir community gathered at the Officer's Club to observe Women's History Month March 3. This year's theme is "Women Taking the Lead to Save Our Planet." First Sgt. Cynthia Moody presented Sojourner Truth's speech, "Ain't I a Woman?" with passion. Truth mesmerized her audience with her speech in 1851 at the Women's Convention in Akron, Ohio. After Moody's presentation, Marypat Begin-Ortiz delivered a powerful message of her own. Begin-Ortiz is the chief of Belvoir Plans, Analysis and Integration Office. [▶Article](#)