



April 13, 2018  
Vol. 11, No. 07

# The Real McCoy®

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

## Fort McCoy's 2018 prescribed burn season underway

Several prescribed burns have already taken place at Fort McCoy in 2018, including recent large-scale burns at areas on both North Post and South Post, said Charles Mentzel, Fort McCoy forestry technician who oversees the prescribed burn program.

Personnel with the Fort McCoy Directorate of Emergency Services Fire Department; Directorate of Public Works Environmental Division Natural Resources Branch; Directorate of Plans, Training, Mobilization and Security; and the Colorado State University Center of Environmental Management of Military Lands, under contract with the post, help coordinate each prescribed burn at the post.

Mentzel said being able to start the (See **BURN**, Page 3)



Photo by Scott T. Sturkol

A member of the post's prescribed burn management team places fuel to start a burn March 22 at an area on South Post at Fort McCoy.



Photo by Scott T. Sturkol

## Snowy Cold Steel prep

Soldiers at Fort McCoy for training in Operation Cold Steel II prepare for a training session April 3 during a spring snow storm. Cold Steel II's Task Force Triad, hosted by the 416th Theater Engineer Command, is conducting training at Fort McCoy through May 31. See more about Operation Cold Steel II on page 5.

## CWOC training stated a 'phenomenal' success

**STORY & PHOTOS BY SCOTT T. STURKOL**  
Public Affairs Staff

From December through March, Bill Hamilton and his team of instructors with the Fort McCoy Cold-Weather Operations Course held six, 12-day sessions of the course in which hundreds of students were trained.

More than 230 students graduated from the course during the 2017-18 CWOC season, Hamilton said. Overall, more than 400 service members — including Marines, Sailors, and Soldiers — received some type of cold-weather operations training from the staff.

"The season I would say was a phenomenal success," said Hamilton, who works for contractor Veterans Range Solutions, which supports the Directorate of Plans, Training, Mobilization and Security, or DPTMS. "Even though (See **CWOC**, Page 7)



A student in Cold-Weather Operations Course Class 18-06 participates in cold-water immersion training March 14 at Big Sandy Lake on South Post at Fort McCoy.

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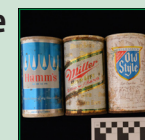
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Soldiers train in CSTX 78-18-03, Regional Medic Page 9



Garbage can be archaeological treasure Page 14





## NEWS

# 2018 Vigilant Triad exercise included active-shooter scenario, installation lockdown

Fort McCoy garrison and tenant organizations tested the installation's response to an active-shooter during the Vigilant Triad 2018 exercise held March 21.

Vigilant Triad completes the Installation Management Command annual requirement to conduct a full-scale exercise to refine and improve Fort McCoy's response to a local or regional all-hazards crisis, according to the Directorate of Plans, Training, Mobilization and Security, or DPTMS.

Such exercises are part of a continuing effort by the Department of Defense to refine and improve emergency response to natural and man-made disasters.

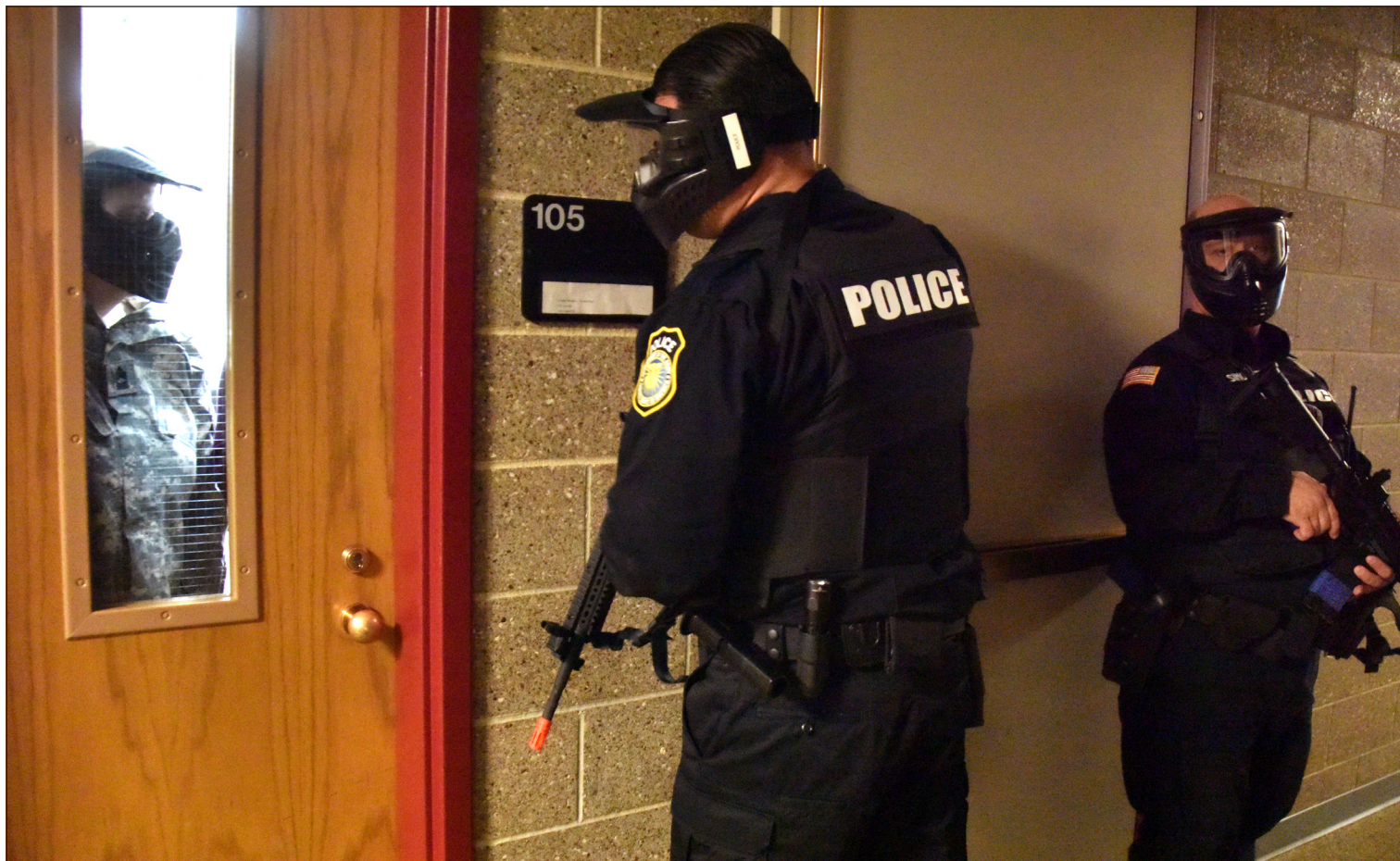
DPTMS served as the lead Fort McCoy agency for the exercise.

The active-shooter scenario focused on areas in and around building 50 on the cantonment area.

Scenarios also were conducted across the installation, including at public-access gates, to test Fort McCoy's capabilities and allow evaluators to critique performance.

During the course of the exercise, Fort McCoy personnel and residents saw changes to traffic patterns, closed roads, and other delays in and around the cantonment area in addition to the lockdown and gate closures.

*(Article prepared by the Fort McCoy Public Affairs Office.)*



Photos by Ty Bjornson

Officers with the Directorate of Emergency Services Police Department participate in an active-shooter scenario in building 50 during operations for exercise Vigilant Triad 2018 on March 21 at Fort McCoy.



Personnel with the Directorate of Emergency Services Fire Department move a simulated patient during the active-shooter scenario for exercise Vigilant Triad 2018 on March 21 at Fort McCoy.



Fort McCoy workforce members meet in the Installation Emergency Operations Center on March 22 during the after-action review of the 2018 Vigilant Triad exercise.



## NEWS

## ■ BURN

(From page 1)

prescribed burn season in February was helpful.

“The early season was terrific,” Mentzel said. “We try to get started as soon as the snow, weather, and fuel conditions allow us to get going. With all the precipitation last year, the grasses grew well all summer. This spring, there is a lot of fuel to burn. Recent snowfall has stalled our efforts, but we expect to burn again when the conditions allow us.”

In fall 2017, post personnel were able to complete prescribed burns into early December as conditions were favorable. That late season work helped get ranges and training areas ready for Operation Cold Steel and other training that started in early 2018.

“We wanted to be ready with Operation Cold Steel taking place again for the spring, so we wanted to get as many range acres burned prior to the spring,” Mentzel said. “If we hadn’t completed those burns last year, many wildfires could have occurred this spring, and training has to be delayed if there is a fire.

“We attempted to burn in late October when the conditions allowed us; however, we had not had a killing frost yet and the grasses still held too much water, so the burns were incomplete,” Mentzel said. “We thought we had missed our opportunity, but then we got lucky during

Thanksgiving week when conditions dried out almost better than in the spring. We burned for four straight days the last week of November and on Dec. 1 and completed many

ranges, including the whole northern impact area, thus allowing Cold Steel to train without delay this spring.”

Prescribed burns also improve wildlife habitat, control invasive plant species, restore and maintain native plant communities, and reduce wildfire potential, Mentzel said.

“By burning the ranges, where wildfires may typically start at Fort McCoy, we remove the fuel so that they cannot start,” Mentzel said. “Prescribed burns benefit the environment many ways and are one of the tools we can use on a large scale to improve our wild habitat.”

Mentzel said prescribed burns help set back invasive species, and they burn up their seed banks. Burns also give native species an opportunity to compete against some of the non-native species, as many native species depend on fire to help stimulate them and set back non-native species.

“The burns also set back small trees and shrubs and make them grow again from the stump,” Mentzel said. “This allows for more food for deer and other animals and removes unwanted (tree) species from the understory, such as white pines growing underneath an oak forest.”

Prescribed burns will likely continue into late spring as conditions allow, then will pick up again in the fall, Mentzel said.

*(Article prepared by the Fort McCoy Public Affairs Office and the Forestry Office with the Directorate of Public Works Environmental Division Natural Resources Branch.)*



Photos by Scott T. Sturkol

Personnel conduct a prescribed burn March 22 on South Post at Fort McCoy.



A firefighter with the Directorate of Emergency Services Fire Department oversees a prescribed burn March 22 at an area on South Post at Fort McCoy



## NEWS

# Fort McCoy timber harvest improves training capability, environment

STORY & PHOTOS BY SCOTT T. STURKOL

Public Affairs Staff

Spring 2018 at Fort McCoy is active with timber harvest activities on North Post, South Post, and along Highway 21.

One timber harvest is taking place along Burma Road on North Post, said Forestry Technician Charles Mentzel with the Forestry Office of the Directorate of Public Works Environmental Division Natural Resources Branch. FutureWood Corp. of Hayward, Wis., is cutting in training area M-7 on the north end of Burma Road.

“They are harvesting to the installation boundary to better distinguish the boundary and to allow more sunlight to the road,” Mentzel said. “Also, this area has high potential for fires escaping from the north impact area. Now, after harvest, any possible fires will be more manageable to stop if they happen in that area.”

In training area D-6 on North Post, Hayes Logging of Tomah, Wis., is harvesting trees.

“This is in and around Range 6,” Mentzel said. “This harvest will allow better visibility of the targets at the range and also will open up the road for more sunlight.”

FutureWood also is cutting trees in Pine View Recreation Area and in training area D-10W.

“This harvest is going to give an area for the fence to be moved back away from the road,” Mentzel said.

“Currently, the fence is too close to the road. Red pine plantations are being thinned along with aspen and jack pine. Recreation trails will be safer from over-mature falling because of this work.”

Jelinek Trucking Inc. of Black River Falls is



A worker with FutureWood Corp. of Hayward, Wis., moves logs March 22 that were harvested at a timber harvest area along Burma Road on North Post at Fort McCoy.

holding a timber harvest in training area B-29 near Highway 21 on South Post.

“This sale is thinning tree plantations where they are cutting jack pine, aspen, and red maple for regeneration,” Mentzel said. “They also will be cutting fence lines back for security reasons.”

Hayes Logging also is completing a timber harvest in the cantonment area and near training area C-1.

“They are cutting along fence lines and trimming back trees for security reasons and

also thinning plantations for optimal growth rates. This helps give troops training here more maneuver space and better areas for bivouacking.”

Timber sales are administered by the Omaha District of the Army Corps of Engineers and are sold by sealed bid, said Fort McCoy Forester James Kerkman.

Timber sale bidding is held once each year, typically in December. Revenue from the timber sales goes into an Armywide forestry account and is returned to fund forestry projects

at Fort McCoy.

The timber harvest activities also support Fort McCoy’s strategic objective of enhancing the post’s military training value through improved area utilization and land use initiatives, Kerkman said.

Mentzel said he is glad to see how the work comes to fruition and helps lead to a better training environment for all who come to Fort McCoy.

“From a forestry perspective, our mission here, first and foremost, is to serve the Army and create training environments that better serve our Soldiers who support future missions in defense of this country,” Mentzel said. “By thinning trees, the ones left will grow larger faster. This gives troops overhead cover and again allows for better maneuver space.

“The Range 6 project, for example, is getting rid of the need to cut a few trees each year that have been getting in the way of the targets,” Mentzel said. “And harvesting along the fence lines for security saves the government money from having to remove the trees individually.”

When a timber harvest is complete, Kerkman said a Land Rehabilitation and Maintenance (LRAM) crew will use a severe-duty shredder to grind the tree tops and branches left over from logging (called slash) and knock down the smaller trees the logger did not take, in areas where the military needs clear ground or to reduce fire hazard. The LRAM crew is part of the Directorate of Plans, Training, Mobilization and Security Integrated Training Area Maintenance program, which coordinates natural resource management and training activities.



Logs are shown stacked in piles March 22 near Range 6 on Fort McCoy’s North Post. Hayes Logging of Tomah, Wis., was harvesting trees there as part of a timber sale.



## NEWS



Soldiers prepare for vehicles for a training session for Operation Cold Steel II during a spring snow storm April 3 during at Fort McCoy. Operation Cold Steel II training will continue at the installation through the end of May. More than 3,000 Army Soldiers are attending this mounted crew-served weapons qualification training.

## Ready Force X training: Operation Cold Steel II ops continue at McCoy

**STORY & PHOTO BY SCOTT T. STURKOL**

Public Affairs Staff

Training for Operation Cold Steel II continues at Fort McCoy in preparing Army Reserve Soldiers with crew-served weapons qualification and more.

Operation Cold Steel II is a validation exercise to ensure Army Reserve units and Soldiers are trained and ready to deploy on short notice as part of Ready Force X, according to the Army Reserve.

Cold Steel II's Task Force Triad, hosted by the 416th Theater Engineer Command, is conducting training at Fort McCoy through May 31. More than 3,000 Soldiers are attending this mounted crew-served weapons qualification training.

The Cold Steel II training has a daily presence on the Fort McCoy Range Complex, especially at several live-fire ranges. Some ranges specifically supporting Cold Steel operations include Ranges 2, 18, 26, and 34.

"Training and range use for (Cold Steel) is similar to (2017)," said Training Coordination Branch Chief Craig Meeusen with the Directorate of Plans, Training, Mobilization and Security. "These ranges work well for the training they are completing with crew-served weapons."

Helping coordinate training activity on the Range Complex

are the personnel with the Directorate of Plans, Training, Mobilization and Security (DPTMS) Range Fire Desk. The desk operates communications with units using the Range Complex as well as Range Maintenance and other personnel throughout 46,000 acres of training areas on post.

"The desk is like the heartbeat of range operations," said Tim Caucutt, Fire Desk supervisor.

Located in building 2954 with other sections of the DPTMS Range Management Branch, the Fire Desk has a state-of-the-art communications center. Along one wall are large monitors that shows where action is taking place anywhere on the installation.

"It's a common-operating picture for all of Fort McCoy," said Range Control Technician Mark Confer. "We have a way of tracking everything, seeing where people are working, and what ranges are hot. Essentially, we follow what's going on all over the Range Complex."

In addition to the Fire Desk, the DPTMS Range Management Branch also includes Range Operations and its Scheduling, and Safety sections — all of which also support Cold Steel II operations.

The branch also includes Range Maintenance; Integrated Area Training Management (ITAM); and a contracted workforce for the tactical training bases, the Combined Arms Col-

lective Training Facility and shoot houses, as well as collective training and combat in the cities facilities.

ITAM includes Land Rehabilitation and Maintenance, Range and Training Land Assessment, and Geographic Information Systems.

Fort McCoy food service personnel also have been steadily supporting Cold Steel II ops, said Fort McCoy Food Service Manager Andy Pisney.

For food support, Pisney said the Logistics Readiness Center (LRC) Supply and Services Division and its Subsistence Supply Management Office provide food, ice, and more for training troops.

"For Cold Steel, we opened up Dining Facility (building) 2674, and it provides two hot meals daily to (participants)," Pisney said.

The LRC Central Issue Facility (CIF) also supports Soldiers training in Cold Steel II by issuing equipment they need, said CIF Property Book Officer Thomas Lovgren.

Since 2011, the Fort McCoy CIF has been issuing Reserve Soldiers their entire Organizational Clothing and Individual Equipment needs, Lovgren said.

During fiscal year 2017, the CIF issued more than 387,000 pieces of equipment, worth more than \$33 million, to thousands of troops who trained at Fort McCoy.



## COMMENTARY

# Completing a Cold-Weather Operations Course class is no easy task

**STORY & PHOTOS BY STAFF SGT. ROBERT LARSON**  
181st Multi-Functional Training Brigade

I attended the Cold Weather Operations Course (CWOC) Class 18-03 in February. I made it through most of the course, but my body and mind gave up on me toward the end, and I had to stop.

I'm an older Soldier — 51 years old, to be exact — and since I have returned to active-duty service, I have tried to challenge myself with events that push me outside my comfort zone.

Several years ago, while stationed at Fort Bliss, Texas, I completed the Bataan Memorial Death March. The event is held annually on White Sands Missile Range, N.M. It's 26.2 miles, and it tore my feet to shreds and battered the rest of my body. I suffered from exhaustion and dehydration for several days afterward. I have also run many 10k races and trail runs and ruck marched between 5 and 15 miles regularly.

But none of it prepared me for the extreme challenge that is the CWOC at Fort McCoy.

The course runs for two weeks during the winter. The instructors told us from the start that the classroom portion of the course was going to be a cake walk compared to the field part of the course. They warned us that some of us may even quit before it was finished.

I grew up in Eau Claire, Wis., just about an hour north of Fort McCoy. I thought they were just telling us about quitting to scare my class, which was composed almost entirely of Marines from Cherry Point, N.C. They told us not to let the stress of the training get into our heads.

I thought I was prepared. I was wrong.

After the week of classroom instruction was finished, we hiked out to our first field site. It was only 2 miles, but we did it in vapor barrier (VB) boots.

If you have never worn VB boots, they are hard to get used to. They are heavy, hot, and don't always fit properly. I have wide feet and had to go a size bigger than usual, which had one boot fitting OK, but the other boot was tight and rubbed the outside of my foot. After that first hike, I knew I was in trouble.

We spent most of the next three days hiking through the woods of Fort McCoy, moving from one field site to the next, in VB boots, most of the time with the added weight and encumbrance of snowshoes and rucksacks weighing about 50 pounds, pulling sleds of cold-weather equipment.

So with my feet already hurting, the class proceeded to cover more than 26 kilometers over those three days. I even tried moleskin and tape to help heal the blisters and hot spots I was developing on my feet.

On the first full day of the field portion of the course, we had to hike up and down the hills, covering about 5 kilometers. I struggled with the last big hill. I was winded and sore,



Marines with units associated with the 2nd Marine Aircraft Wing of Marine Corps Air Station Cherry Point, N.C., hike in snowshoes during Cold-Weather Operations Course Class 18-03 training Jan. 31 on North Post at Fort McCoy.



Cold-Weather Operations Course Class 18-03 students hike along a trail pulling ahkio sleds Jan. 31 at Fort McCoy.



Cold-Weather Operations Course Class 18-03 students stop for a meal break Jan. 31 while training on North Post at Fort McCoy.

but I had the instructors and several classmates encouraging me even when I wanted to quit.

On the second day, I started limping. One of the instructors asked me if I could keep going and I, being a stubborn and committed Soldier, said yes. Eventually they had me ride in an all-terrain vehicle with the medic that was following us.

I hit the wall on the third day near the end of a 6 kilometer hike. My feet were blistered and bleeding, and my hips and back were aching from the weight of the pack and pulling the sled. I was done.

Even though I had to bow out because of my blistered feet and pain, the rest of the

students battled on for a couple more days.

Overall, I liked the training and didn't want to quit, but I had gotten in to my own head that I could not go on. Putting up and sleeping in the arctic shelters, building the thermal shelters, and starting my own fire was really cool and informative.

I was looking forward to the water immersion training scheduled for the last day in the field, but the miles of marching with the VB boots, snowshoes, packs, and sleds had just beaten me down physically and mentally.

In the end, I learned that I was not ready, physically or mentally, for something this challenging. I was not in shape for the course and the toll that it would take on my body.

Anyone thinking about taking the course should consider training before attending.

Get yourself in peak physical shape. Ruck march as often as possible to toughen your feet. Be prepared for the mental assault that the training brings.

The class I attended taught me a lot about cold-weather operations and survival, and it taught me to keep on trying. I plan to attempt the training again next winter.

*(Note: CWOC students are trained on a variety of cold-weather subjects. Training focuses on terrain and weather analysis, risk management, cold-weather clothing, and more. The training is coordinated through the Directorate of Plans, Training, Mobilization and Security at Fort McCoy.)*



## TRAINING



Instructor Hunter Heard leads students in the Cold-Weather Operations Course Class 18-06 for snowshoe training March 7 on a training area at Fort McCoy.

## ■ CWOC

(From page 1)

we didn't train as many students as we originally planned, it was still nearly quadruple the amount of students we trained the previous season. That's a significant increase in students, and the feedback we received from those students showed we were doing something right."

The CWOC is modeled after the Cold-Weather Leader Course taught by the Army Northern Warfare Training Center (NWTC) at Black Rapids, Alaska, Hamilton said. And even though it's modeled after the NWTC training, it is very much a Fort McCoy course.

"In our training, we use all of the installation," Hamilton said. "Using ahkio sleds and hauling all of their equipment, students traversed through dozens of miles of terrain starting on North Post and ending at Big Sandy Lake on South Post. Additionally, our program of instruction is nearly identical to that at NWTC with the exception that we don't teach certain skills, such as mountaineering and related topics that are better served in mountainous areas."

During training, students learned about a wide range of cold-weather subjects, including skiing and snowshoe training as well as how to use ahkio sleds and the Arctic 10-person cold-weather tent.

"Our training also focused on terrain and weather analysis, risk management, cold-weather clothing, developing winter fighting positions in the field, camouflage and concealment, and numerous other areas that are important to know in order to survive and operate in a cold-weather environment," said Instructor Joe Ernst.

Hamilton said there were times where he would have liked to see more snow and cold weather.

"But in each class session, we were able to teach the skills we needed to teach and Mother Nature seemed to cooperate at times we needed her to," Hamilton said. "I think each student



A student in the Cold-Weather Operations Course Class 18-06 practices skiing during course training March 8 at White-tail Ridge Ski Area at Fort McCoy.

was able to effectively experience the challenges we put them through."

After each class session, students provided feedback to help make the course better for the next class. Hamilton indicated

that many students wanted to see more challenges in an already tough course.

"Going into next year, we are looking at expanding the course by another two days based on the feedback we received from students," Hamilton said. "This will make the course even tougher and more challenging. Each student who participates in the future will be tested to their limits."

Hamilton added the successful season wouldn't have been possible without his instructor team. In addition to himself and Ernst, the team comprises Hunter Heard, Manny Ortiz, and Mike Nguyen.

"This is a great team — these people are definitely the experts," Hamilton said. "I think we have the right mix of people doing this training. They proved it day after day during training."

Staff Sgt. Joshua Carlisle, a student in CWOC Class 18-05 from B Company, 1st Battalion, 128th Infantry at Rice Lake, Wis., was like many of the CWOC students who said the course not only challenged them, but also helped them grow their cold-weather survival skills.

"The course gives you the instruction to perform and function in the cold weather and then you have to go out and implement the training that was provided," Carlisle said. "It's a course ... that forces you to solve issues."

"Also, Fort McCoy has the right training areas for this type of training with enough maneuver (space) so it feels like you're isolated when you're out in the woods," Carlisle said.

CWOC classes resume again in December, Hamilton said, and they expect to have an average of 50 students per class.

"We're looking to make the training even better through learning more about how others teach similar training throughout the world," Hamilton said. "We want our students to leave here with the best training experience possible."



## TRAINING

# Students in season's last CWOC classes say training helped build cold-weather skills

STORY & PHOTOS BY SCOTT T. STURKOL

Public Affairs Staff

From experiencing snowshoeing for the first time to taking the plunge during cold-water immersion training, dozens of students who attended Fort McCoy Cold-Weather Operations Course Classes 18-05 and 18-06 in March say the training was challenging and an excellent skills builder.

"I gained a better understanding on how to use cold-weather gear and equipment," said Class 18-05 student Sgt. Philip Van Brocklin with Alpha Company, 2nd Battalion, 127th Infantry of the Wisconsin Army National Guard. "Also, the instructors are extremely knowledgeable in all aspects of the course and were able to answer almost every question I asked."

Master Sgt. Arnold Viljevac with the 157th Maneuver Enhancement Brigade, also a CWOC Class 18-05 student, said all of the course was a good training experience.

"I really enjoyed the survival aspect of the training," Viljevac said. "Learning about fire starting, building different shelters, and the cold-water (immersion) were all helpful. These are things we as Soldiers should know."

Students in both classes experienced the full gamut of cold-weather operations training. During training, students learn about skiing and snowshoe training as well as how to use ahkio sleds and the Arctic 10-person cold-weather tent, said Course Instructor Joe Ernst. Training also focuses on terrain and weather analysis, risk management, cold-weather clothing, developing winter fighting positions in the field, camouflage and concealment, and numerous other areas that are important to know in order to survive and operate in a cold-weather environment.

"This was the first time I received training where I was shown how to properly wear our cold-weather gear," said Staff Sgt. Joshua Carlisle, a CWOC Class 18-05 student with Bravo Company, 1st Battalion, 128th Infantry of the Wisconsin Army National Guard. "And making improvised shelters, to me, was the best part of this course."

Staff Sgt. Jesse Haney, a Class 18-06 student with Charlie Company of the 128th Infantry, said it will be good to pass on the knowledge he learned to fellow Soldiers.

"I would love to do a winter annual training like this with the whole unit and apply the training at the unit level," Haney said. "Learning about the Arctic tents, heaters, stoves, and cold-weather rations also are among the best parts of this course."

Building skills to survive and operate in

the cold weather is at the core of the training, said Instructor Bill Hamilton. Most of the best learning takes place in the field.

"I really enjoyed the field and practical exercises," said Staff Sgt. Thomas Van Buren, a Class 18-06 student with Charlie Company of the 128th. "I enjoy being out in the elements verifying that Army-issued gear works and practicing the skills I learned in the classroom."

"The course also gave me some great basic field craft skills that can be used at any time of the year," Van Buren said. "They will be skills that I can share when my unit is out in the field training."

For most of the students, being able to share their gained knowledge with others will be the best result of the training.

"I will bring back to my unit the information about cold-weather injuries and how to treat them," said Sgt. Amy Forseth with the Wisconsin Army National Guard's 829th Engineer Company. "I will also conduct training on the proper wear of the (Army's) Extended Cold Weather Clothing System and other cold-weather gear and on fire starting, snowshoeing,



Students in Fort McCoy Cold-Weather Operations Course Class 18-05 learn to ski and about skiing techniques Feb. 23 at Whitetail Ridge Ski Area at Fort McCoy.

and winter tactical movements."

With the completion of Classes 18-05 and 18-06, more than 230 students graduated from the course during the 2017-18 CWOC season, Hamilton said. Overall, more than 400 service

members —Marines, Sailors, and Soldiers — received some type of cold-weather operations training from the staff.

The next sessions of CWOC will begin in December.



A student in Cold-Weather Operations Course Class 18-06 comes up from underwater during cold-water immersion training March 14 at Big Sandy Lake.



## TRAINING

# CSTX 78-18-03: Medical unit packs up, moves out in 'jump' movement

STORY & PHOTO BY

**PFC. TAYLOR MARIE SMITH**

319th Mobile Public Affairs Detachment

Clouds of dust puffed up from the ground March 23 as Soldiers assigned to the 114th Medical Detachment broke down tents that formerly housed the unit's medical facilities at Improved Tactical Training Base Liberty at Fort McCoy.

Moving entire medical units can take up to two weeks in an operational environment. During Combat Support Training Exercise (CSTX) 78-18-03, leaders wanted to test the unit's ability to "jump" from one location to another while following the 256th Combat Support Hospital. It was the 114th's goal to get everything packed up as fast as possible so the unit could move to a new location quickly and efficiently.

"We've been pretty good with staying on task, and we have good leaders that know what they're doing," said Sgt. Eduardo Pereira, a physical therapy specialist with the



Soldiers, all assigned to the 114th Medical Detachment, pass tent poles to each other as they break down a tent site March 23 at Fort McCoy.

114th. The 114th is a Ready Force X, or RFX, unit. Capability, lethality, and combat-readiness are top priorities of Army Reserve RFX units, according to Lt. Gen. Charles D.

Luckey, chief of Army Reserve and commanding general, U.S. Army Reserve Command.

"As a unit, we are very ready for this mission. We've been training for

a while," said Pfc. Michael Jiles, a combat medic assigned to the 114th.

He explained that the 114th is capable of moving all the tents, medical supplies, and gear they have on the

drop of a dime.

The 114th is part of the 352nd Combat Support Hospital, 2nd Medical Brigade, and is based in Fresno, Calif.

## Army Reserve medical Soldiers ensure combat readiness during CSTX

BY SGT. TOBY COOK

319th Mobile Public Affairs Detachment

Army Reserve Soldiers spent the day getting real-world perspectives of various battle scenarios March 20 during their Combat Support Training Exercise (CSTX) 78-18-03.

The Soldiers were working at Improved Tactical Training Base Liberty on North Post at Fort McCoy completing CSTX tasks and building skills.

Getting back to basic soldiering skills and being able to deploy quickly is the focus for Lt. Gen. Charles D. Luckey, chief of Army Reserve and commanding general, U.S. Army Reserve Command.

For those Soldiers who do not conduct battle drills regularly, a CSTX serves as a refresher training to ensure the capability, combat-readiness, and lethality of the Army Reserve.

Personnel with the 399th Combat Support Hospital (CSH), 804th Medical Brigade, 3rd Medical Command (Deployment Support), of Danvers, Mass., had the opportunity to train on a variety of skills needed in a potential combat environment while at CSTX.

"This exercise is important because you never know when you will be in a combat situation, and this exercise will prepare you for that moment," said Spc. Dominique Lima, a surgical technician and cadre member with 399th CSH.

"We are not trying to make it too difficult," Lima said. "We are breaking it down to the lowest level, but we are giving them real-world scenarios."

The training is designed to ensure all medical personnel assigned to an Army Reserve Ready Force X unit, like the 399th CSH, are prepared for a quick-response deployment to anywhere in the world.

Medical Soldiers primarily focus on training specific to the medical field, but this training exercise promotes the opportu-



Spc. Melissa Bonilla-Sanchez, 399th Combat Support Hospital, 804th Medical Brigade, 3rd Medical Command (Deployment Support), watches a Soldier insert a nasopharyngeal airway into a mannequin during training March 20 at Fort McCoy.

nity to refresh basic combat skills.

"I'm a nurse and haven't done battle drills since Basic Officers Leadership Course seven years ago," said Capt. Diane Si-

moes, a nurse with 399th CSH.

"The staff was great; everybody was patient with us and made it into a teachable experience."



ADS



TRAINING

# Reserve Soldiers train at Fort McCoy for 46S MOS conversion

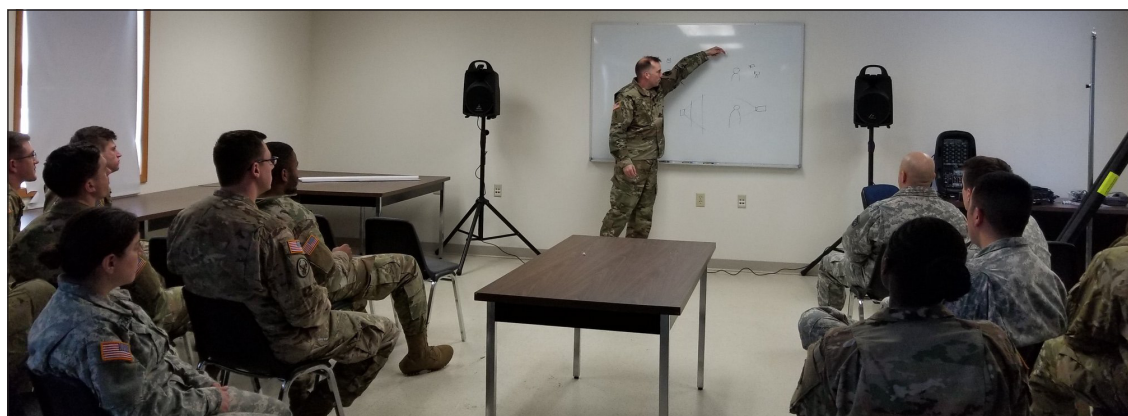


Contributed photos/319th Military Public Affairs Detachment

Reserve public-affairs Soldiers participate in a classroom session as part of training for the Army 46S military occupational specialty conversion for the public-affairs career field March 13 at Fort McCoy. Dozens of Soldiers participated in the training that converts the traditional 46Q and 46R public affairs career fields into the 46S mass-communication specialist field. Training took place at the installation through most of March.



Soldiers are interviewed on video at Integrated Tactical Training Base Liberty on March 13 by publicaffairs Soldiers participating in the 46S training.



Public-affairs Soldiers listen to an instructor give a lesson March 13 at a classroom on the cantonment area at Fort McCoy.



## SAFETY

# Keep warm while out riding your motorcycle

BY MASTER SGT. JEFFREY LUTZ

Indiana Army National Guard

We all know moving is a chore. What I didn't realize, however, was that getting my motorcycle to our new home would be the most difficult part.

It was dusk when I faced a decision: Should I ride my motorcycle that evening or leave it behind and return for it over the weekend? The motorcycle was the last thing I'd need to move and I really didn't want to leave it, so I decided to ride it. In retrospect, that was the wrong move.

The weather that evening was clear with temperatures in the low 40s. I had all of my safety attire, including a helmet, jacket, gloves, jeans, and riding boots. While my gloves were warm, they weren't wind resistant, and I wasn't wearing a thermal layer to protect my legs from the wind. But this was only a 23-mile trip, and I would be riding on state and country roads at no more than 55 mph. How difficult could it be?

With my wife and daughter following, each in separate vehicles, I led our convoy out of our old neighborhood and onto the route that would take us to our new home.

At mile 9, more than a third of the way to our destination, we reached an intersection that had a gas station. It would have made for a good warm-up spot; but with darkness upon us and the temperatures falling, I decided to press on. I wanted to get this bike home before it got much colder.

We'd made it several miles past the gas station when I noticed my hands were really cold. By now, however, we were on a stretch of road without any public places to pull off and get warm. If I needed to stop, I'd have to tough it out for 8 more miles. A few more miles up the road, though, I began shivering and losing feeling in my hands, legs, and feet. Still, I kept on. Then a wave of dizziness washed over me.

Up ahead, I noticed a traffic light. I found myself hoping the light will turn red so I could put my feet on the ground and catch a little warmth from the motorcycle's engine. But as I neared the light, it turned green, so I continued riding.

When I crossed under that stop light, I realized I was in bad shape. My shivering had turned to shaking and the dizziness was unbearable. I knew I was going to have to stop. But where? Ahead, just a tenth of a mile, was another traffic light. "Will it turn red?" I asked myself. "Will it allow me a little reprieve?" As I approached, it did turn red. I slowed, came to a stop, and placed my feet on the ground.

The intersection wasn't busy. The light had changed to allow a car coming from a parking lot to enter onto the main road. Waiting for the light to turn green, I took note of my



U.S. Army graphic illustration

condition. I was in rough shape, so I decided this is where I'd have to stop. If I didn't, I might crash. So, while still astride the bike, I pushed off onto the road shoulder. My wife and daughter followed suit.

When my wife arrived by my side, she asked if I was all right. I told her my symptoms. She offered to finish the ride for me but I declined. She then suggested I get in her car to warm up for a while. I agreed and started to dismount my bike.

With my dizziness and cold shakes, I focused all my effort to get the motorcycle kickstand into position. I managed to move it downward, but was having trouble getting it fully extended due to road's unevenness. I knew leaning the bike in the opposite direction of the kickstand would remedy the clearance issue I was having.

After several more unsuccessful attempts, I righted the bike and tried to find a better

spot of asphalt to get down my kickstand. But as I leaned forward to start my push, I began to fall. My wife, still standing next to me, noticed I was crumpling like a rag doll and went into action. She grabbed my coat and tried to hold me up, but I went to the ground with my bike.

I stirred as my helmet hit the ground. I heard my wife yelling orders at my daughter to call 911. I started to move and noticed my shoe was pinned under the bike. I informed my wife, and she helped pull me free. Despite my wife's protests, I tried to stand but soon thought better of it.

Paramedics arrived shortly afterward and examined me on the side of the road before loading me into the ambulance. Due to my involuntary shaking and slowed blood movement, however, they weren't able to get any medical tests taken prior to arrival at the hospital. It would take several warming blan-

kets and a few hours at the hospital before the doctors released me. They determined I'd been on the verge of hypothermia due to a lack of nutrition (I hadn't eaten all day), the cold temperature, and my lack of warm clothing.

There's a good reason veteran cold-weather riders wear multiple layers of clothing, leather outerwear, and even electrically heated riding suits to help insulate them against the cold. The combination keeps you warm and protected from the elements, creating a more enjoyable riding experience. Also, most heat loss occurs at the extremities, especially your head, so a full-face helmet will keep you warmer and less susceptible to wind chill.

I failed to properly prepare to a ride in cold temperatures, which was the wrong move. It was an experience I don't want to repeat.

For more information about motorcycle safety, call the Fort McCoy Safety Office at 608-388-3403.



## FEATURE

# Women's History Month: Success is built on those who came before

BY AIMEE MALONE

Public Affairs Staff

A modern woman's success is built on the sacrifices and battles of those who came before her, said Col. Michelle Link, guest speaker for the March 22 observance of Women's History Month at Fort McCoy.

Link is commander of the 372nd Engineer Brigade of Fort Snelling, Minn. She attended engineer officer school as one of five women out of 150 students in one of the first few classes that allowed female students.

Link is the granddaughter of immigrants, she said. She was the second in her family to graduate from college, and the first was older sister. Her grandparents worked in manual labor positions after emigrating from Ireland. Her mother was a waitress, and her father was a mechanic.

"My mother wanted her daughters to be self-reliant, and that meant we needed higher education," Link said.

"From my earliest memories, she always stressed the importance of education and made sure to remind us daily that we could be whatever we wanted to be when we grew up, but only if we went to school.

"They paid for one semester of college for me, and then I had the epiphany that I would join the Army," she said. "It'll be fun, they said. It'll be an adventure. You'll travel to great places."

Her mother didn't speak to her for two weeks after she joined, certain that she would

quit and abandon her education.

"Fast-forward 28 years, and my mother has told her circle of friends — which really means anybody who will listen to her — that her daughter's a general," Link said. "It doesn't matter how many times I correct her."

Link said it is important to acknowledge and remember the contributions and sacrifices of previous generations.

"I have not gotten to this point on my own. Rather, I stand before you today on the shoulders of giants and with the voices of a thousand women echoing in my head," Link said.

"It is my intention to pay tribute to some of those women who had the courage to fight for justice, equality, education, and opportunity and to the women who kicked open doors for the rest of us to walk through."

Women have been part of U.S. war efforts since the Revolutionary War, but they had to disguise themselves in order to serve alongside men, Link said.

Deborah Sampson Gannett of Plympton, Mass., was one of the first American female Soldiers. In 1782, she enlisted under a male name and served for 17 months during the Revolutionary War.

"At one point, she was wounded and cut a musket ball out of her own thigh so a doctor wouldn't figure out that she was, in fact, a woman," Link said.

When women were accepted into the military, they were only allowed to serve in auxiliary roles. As weapons and warfare changed in the 20th century, officials began to realize that



Photo by Scott T. Sturkol

**Col. Michelle Link, commander of the 372nd Engineer Brigade of Fort Snelling, Minn., gives her presentation as guest speaker during the Fort McCoy observance of Women's History Month on March 22 at McCoy's Community Center.**

gender mattered less on the battlefield than some would like to believe, she said.

"Nearly 240 years after Deborah Sampson

Gannett enlisted, the Pentagon opened all combat jobs to women. In 2015, former Defense Secretary Ashton Carter stated that there would be no exceptions to the new rule," Link said.

Link spoke about several influential civil-rights activists, including Rosa Parks, Daisy Gatson Bates, and Fannie Lou Hamer. Because she grew up in that era, these women and their words resonate with her even today.

"Just a decade after the civil-rights movement began, I would learn what the word desegregation meant," Link said.

"In 1976, I was in the sixth grade. It was the year of the bicentennial. ... It was also the year of desegregation in my school district. Those were big words for an 11-year-old."

Unfortunately, Link said, racism and discrimination are not relics of the past. According to the Southern Poverty Law Center, the number of hate groups rose from 917 to 954 in 2017. A large number of these are white supremacist, anti-Muslim, and anti-immigration groups.

"Also, for the first time, the SPLC added two male supremacy groups to the hate list," Link said. "The vilification of women by these groups makes them no different than hate groups that demean entire populations such as the LGBT community, Muslims, or Jews based on their inherent characteristics."

Current examples of hate and discrimination are easily found online, in newspapers, and on nightly newscasts, she said.

"Many of you may remember in August 2017 — all these years later after the civil-rights movement — activist Heather Heyer was murdered in Charlottesville, Va., while taking a stand against hate during an alt-right protest," Link said.

"Her ashes had to be interred in a secret location due to the continued threats against her family. And sadly, I need to look no further than the evening news to be reminded that the depths of hatred and racism have not abated," she said. "But I am comforted that there are those still willing to fight in defense of equality and justice for others.

"Education of girls across the globe remains a priority for anyone who truly wants a better world," Link said.

"Investing in the education of girls brings high returns in terms of breaking cycles of poverty and aiding economic growth, but also increases and improves survival rates and health for children and women, delays child marriage and early pregnancies, and empowers women both in the home and in the workplace.

"We are stronger as a nation and global world when we acknowledge the collective contributions of both men and women," Link said.

The observance was organized by the 1st Battalion, 351st Brigade Support Battalion. The next Equal Opportunity observance will be April 26 for Holocaust Remembrance Day.



Contributed photo/Directorate of Family and Morale, Welfare and Recreation

## Easter Eggstravaganza

Fort McCoy community members, including parents and their children, participate in the egg hunt March 24 at Constitution Park at Fort McCoy for Easter Eggstravaganza activities. The event, coordinated by the Fort McCoy Exchange and Directorate of Family and Morale, Welfare and Recreation, included a breakfast, crafting activities, a parade, and the egg hunt. Dozens of people participated.



## FEATURE

# 'Garbage' considered a treasure trove in Fort McCoy archaeological work

BY AIMEE MALONE

Public Affairs Staff

In summer 2015, archaeologists digging at Fort McCoy discovered a feature filled with chicken bones and beer cans that dated to the 1960s.

The average person might be disappointed and dismiss the find as garbage. To an archaeologist, it's a treasure trove of information, even if the era is a little more recent than what he or she had been hoping for.

"I don't like the term garbage. ... As soon as we start saying the archaeological record is full of garbage and we're studying other people's garbage, it makes it sound like it's not valuable or important," said Alexander Woods, Ph.D., an archaeologist with Colorado State University's Center for Environmental Management of Military Lands under contract with Fort McCoy.

"It's something of a bias to think that just because it's more recent, it doesn't matter. In 200 years, that chicken and beer feature would be a gold-mine find of the late 20th century," he said. "The chicken and beer is identical to the stuff we hope to find on the prehistoric sites, where we find smashed pottery and animal bone."

Archaeologists spend much of their careers studying what people left behind, hoping to learn about how people behaved and lived in the past. Studying the items that people used in everyday life can paint a very different picture from what is written down in history books or even private journals.

"Much of history, as historians will tell you, is written by the people who had money and power. There's a lot of history we don't actually know," said Kira Kaufmann, Ph.D., archaeologist with the Fort McCoy Directorate of Public Works Environmental Division Natural Resources Branch. "We learn about that history through archaeology, through digging up the past, which is oftentimes somebody else's garbage."

In the 1970s, an archaeologist named William Rathje helped train his students by conducting a "garbology" project, she said. He sent his students to interview people at their homes, asking questions about how much they drank, how much they ate, what sort of foods they ate,

***"You can use the word garbage, but that doesn't mean it's not valuable, and that doesn't mean it's not culturally beautiful and wonderful."***

ALEXANDER WOODS, Ph.D.,

Archaeologist with Colorado State University's Center for Environmental Management of Military Lands under contract with Fort McCoy



Photo by Colorado State University Center for Environmental Management of Military Lands

**Pictured are beer cans found on Fort McCoy during an archaeological dig. They were found on a site that dated to the 1960s.**

and more.

"Unbeknownst to the people, at the end of each week, when they would put their garbage by the curb, the students would pick up the garbage and sort through it," Kaufmann said. They found that what people said and what people actually did were two very different things.

Digging up ancient or historical garbage pits provides the same sort of information compared to what people wrote down or recorded about their lifestyles.

"Garbage pits and other features are discrete time capsules," she said. "That's why types of features are important. They teach us things we don't know from history books."

Both Woods and Kaufmann compared garbage pits and other archaeological features to time capsules: sealed containers that help preserve and protect what's inside them. The primary difference is that a feature usually contains what people were actually using and not what they chose to put inside as an illustration of their time.

A feature, often a filled-in pit or hole, is a part of an archaeological site and is an indication of human activity that provides a glimpse into the human past. Features can include hearths or fire pits, storage pits, middens, privies, garbage pits, and structures.

The feature that held the chicken bones and beer cans contained 161 animal bones, which were determined to have come from eight whole chickens because of a lack of cut marks on the bones and the number of a particular type of bone. The beer cans were dated to the 1960s based on the artwork and style of the cans.

While some might dismiss the find from the 1960s as too recent to be of any historical value, Woods said it's important to remember that the 1960s are now 50 years old, and things that were normal in that time period are much

more unusual today.

"Today, you'd be getting KFC. There'd be wings and legs; you don't see a bunch of dudes with beer going out in the woods and cooking whole chickens," he said. "That's already starting to look like something from a different era."

"In general, while we're not looking for the 1960s, it's starting to become historical. ... Sites from the 1960s are now qualifying for the National Register of Historic Places," Woods said.

"The old ammo storage building is full of counter culture. It's got Bob Dylan lyrics on the side. ... The Vietnam War and the protest against it are becoming history, and the people who have memories of it are plentiful and around," he said. "That's no longer true of the World War II-era folks. ... We're now going, 'Man, I wish we'd asked those folks a lot more questions.'"

Woods said that archaeologists don't spend a great deal of time studying more recent features, but it's important to realize that they can't just stop digging because they found a more recent time capsule than they were expecting.

"When we go out there to dig, we do not know what we are going to find," Woods said. "Most of our prehistoric sites, people have been returning to for thousands of years, including up into the 1960s and '80s."

"You know someone dug a hole, and you know someone filled it with dirt. ... You have to dig that with absolute scientific precision," he said.

Because these sites have been used for centuries, there's a possibility that something else is beneath the more recent finds or even mixed in with the dirt that was used to fill the hole after it was used.

"Fort McCoy has seen a lot of military training, so it's not at all atypical for us to find mid-20th century garbage in the middle of

thousand-year-old archaeological sites," Woods said.

Kaufmann and Woods said that's part of the reason why documenting and excavating these sites is important. It helps cut down on contaminating historical sites due to new construction or training activities. And it allows Fort McCoy staff members to save time and money when planning new construction because they already know whether a building or site can be used for a new purpose.

"There's been an incredible amount of preservation work done at Fort McCoy compared to other land-management programs," Kaufmann said.

"We want to be effective stewards of the land. We don't want to keep digging holes in thousand-year-old archaeological sites and filling them with chicken and beer," Woods said. "Fort McCoy has invested in a really innovative archaeological program to map and document archaeological sites on post."

Woods mentioned another find that some might consider too recent to be of any historical use that was exactly what archaeologists hope to find in older sites: a fire pit containing 33 .30-caliber blank cartridges and metal ammunition belt links, along with other refuse from the 1980s.

"A whole bunch of empty rounds, all stashed in the empty box. Two packs of Kools. A Saltine wrapper. You can see it; it's a whole story sealed in one little fire pit," Woods said. "If we'd found that 600 years later, that would have been a gold mine, a perfect, beautiful little story in one little feature. We just found it too early."

When an article about it was shared online through Archaeology Magazine's Facebook page, Woods said he read a lot of comments from people who'd served in the 1980s talking about how they'd tossed empty or leftover rounds into the fire after training, backing up the story they'd reconstructed from finding the fire pit.

"Archaeologists dig and love disposable stuff," he said. "You can use the word garbage, but that doesn't mean it's not valuable, and that doesn't mean it's not culturally beautiful and wonderful. It means it's been disposed of."

All archaeological work conducted at Fort McCoy was sponsored by the Directorate of Public Works Environmental Division Natural Resources Branch.

Visitors and employees are reminded they should not collect artifacts on Fort McCoy or other government lands and leave the digging to the professionals. Anyone who excavates, removes, damages, or otherwise alters or defaces any historic or prehistoric site, artifact, or object of antiquity on Fort McCoy is in violation of federal law.

The discovery of any archaeological artifact should be reported to the Directorate of Public Works Environmental Division Natural Resources Branch at 608-388-8214.



## FEATURE

# This month in Fort McCoy history

## 75 years ago — April 3, 1943

The Camp McCoy Quartermaster Laundry was judged the most efficient of any Army post laundry in the country during February 1943 by the Quartermaster General's office in Washington, D. C.

Monthly ratings of post laundries by the Quartermaster General's office were based on the number of employees' hours' work it took to do the total pieces washed. Average efficiency was considered 100 percent. Overall efficiency of the Camp McCoy laundry was 144 percent, according to the Quartermaster General's rating. More than 1 million pieces were washed during that month, totaling 55,266 bundles.

Each of the 10 departments in the laundry scored unusually high ratings to achieve the February record. The departments and their efficiency ratings were: marking, 131; washing, 143; extractor, 123; tumbler, 120; flat work ironer, 128; handkerchief ironer, 193; press unit, 132; four-girl shirt, 165; assorting and wrapping, 140; and employee's piece production, 120.

## 71 Years Ago — April 1947

Lt. Col. Edward O. Cooper, post finance officer at Camp McCoy since September 1946, received the Belgian Croix de Guerre "for exceptional services rendered in the defense and liberation of Belgian territory during 1944 and 1945," in addition to numerous other decorations and citations earned in both World Wars.

He was entitled to wear a total of eight battle stars, three for World War I and five for World War II.

Cooper served as private with the 35th Division during World War I and received his reserve commission in 1923. Called to active duty in 1940, he served at Fort Snelling, Minn., and Camp Barkley, Texas, until 1944, when he was shipped to the European theater of operations with the 90th Infantry Division. Returning to the United States in December 1945, he received an advanced fiscal course at Fort



File photo

Employees with the Camp McCoy Quartermaster Laundry work in the facility in this April 1943 photo. The facility was judged the most efficient of any Army post laundry in the country during February 1943 by the Quartermaster General's office in Washington, D. C.

Benjamin Harrison, Ind., and served as assistant finance officer at Fifth Army Headquarters before being assigned to Camp McCoy.

## 30 Years Ago — April 22, 1988

About 15 acres of a pine tree plantation on Fort McCoy's southeast end were destroyed in two separate fires April 8. Estimated cost of the damage was about \$6,045, which included loss and replacement of the stand of Norway pines.

Fort McCoy firefighters were called to the scene at 12:50 p.m. April 8, 1988, when fire was reported by troops training in the area. About 6 acres of pine trees burned before the blaze was brought under control about 3 p.m. Firefighters were called back to the area about 7 p.m., when another fire was reported.

They remained on the scene until about 11:45 p.m. Another 9 acres of pine were lost in the second fire.

The cause of the first fire was thought to be detonation of grenade simulators in the plantation area by troops training nearby.

## 20 Years Ago — April 10, 1998

Fort McCoy was honored as one of the finalists (first runners-up) in the U.S. Army Reserve category for the 1997 fiscal year Army Communities of Excellence (ACOE) competition.

The post was honored at an ACOE Award Ceremony on April 29 in Washington, D.C. Maj. Gen. Max Baratz, commanding general of the U.S. Army Reserve Command, made the presentations.

Fort McCoy Installation Commander Col. Roy L. Higgins, Installation Command Sgt. Maj. Larry Davis, Helen Hall of the Directorate of Human Resource Management, Karen Page of the Directorate of Personnel and Community Activities, Mary Zink of the Directorate of Business Services, and Pat Heilman, Fort McCoy ACOE coordinator, represented Fort McCoy at the ceremony.

## 10 Years Ago — April 3, 2008

Col. David E. Chesser became the Fort McCoy garrison commander during a change-of-command ceremony April 3 at Rumpel Fitness Center. Chesser succeeded outgoing commander Col. Derek J. Sentinella. Chesser said he looks forward to helping to lead the installation into its second hundred years of service.

He comes from a Family of veterans, with his father serving in the Army and his grandfather being a World War II Navy veteran. Chesser said he is the first member of his family to make the military a full time career.

Sentinella will begin a tour of duty in Korea later this year.



Photo by Greg Mason/Multimedia-Visual Information Branch

## Recognized for excellence

Members of the Fort McCoy workforce were recognized with the Commander's Certificate for Civilian Service in March. The certificate was awarded by Garrison Commander Col. David J. Pinter Sr. for "superior performance" while serving as a Fort McCoy Army Community of Excellence (ACOE) team member from Feb. 1 to Aug. 26, 2017. The team's work was instrumental in Fort McCoy's recognition as the Department of the Army 2018 ACOE Silver Award winner. Pictured are, front row (left to right): Jobi Spolum, Plans, Analysis, and Integration Office (PAIO); Judy Standifer, PAIO; Pinter; Laurie Hertzfeldt, Resource Management Office (RMO); Mary Fries, PAIO; and Jamie Gular, RMO. Back row, left to right): Ken Musselwhite, PAIO; Dave Thurston, Directorate of Emergency Services; John Ott, Directorate of Human Resources; Josh May, Directorate of Plans, Training, Mobilization, and Security (DPTMS); Dee Ann Hunter, Internal Review and Audit Compliant Office; Melissa Dubois, DPTMS; and Janeen Folgers, Directorate of Public Works. Not pictured is Jeff Winkler with PAIO.



## NEWS NOTES

### Parenting Support Group meets April 16

Parenting Support Group meets at 5 p.m. April 16 at South Post Community Center.

The group is for parents with children who have challenging behaviors and who are seeking support from others in similar situations.

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

### Storm spotter training offered by National Weather Service

The National Weather Service (NWS) will hold Skywarn Severe Weather Spotter at 6:30 p.m. April 18 at Western Technical College Safety Training Facility in Sparta.

The class will last about 2 hours and includes a multimedia presentation. Training is intended for storm spotters or potential storm spotters but is open to the public and free of charge. A review of recent and past severe weather will be included.

The NWS relies heavily on storm reports from spotters, which can include sheriffs' departments, local emergency-management officials, police and fire departments, amateur radio operators, or anyone else who has attended one of these classes. These reports can prompt warnings that save lives.

Todd Shea, warning coordination meteorologist with the weather service in La Crosse, organizes the training each year and encourages active volunteers.

"Accurate and timely reports of severe weather, by trained individuals, not only helps our office, but can save lives in the local community. We always need more eyes to the sky," Shea said.

Monroe County, as well as other areas of western Wisconsin, always needs more real-time weather reports to pass along to the National Weather Service. Preregistration is not required.

The training schedule is available online at [www.weather.gov/lacrosse/skywarn\\_schedule](http://www.weather.gov/lacrosse/skywarn_schedule). For more information, email [todd.shea@noaa.gov](mailto:todd.shea@noaa.gov).

### Arbor Day ceremony planned for April 27

Fort McCoy will host an Arbor Day ceremony and tree planting at 9 a.m. April 27 near building 2149.

The event is coordinated by the installation Forestry program, which is part of the Directorate of Public Works (DPW) Environmental Division Natural Resources Branch. Participants should meet at South "E" Street, near building 2138.

Participants will plant red pine seedlings to provide a screen between the cantonment area and Highway 21. The Arbor Day proclamation will be read and the 28th Tree City USA award will be presented.

To qualify for a Tree City USA designation, a town or city must meet four standards established by the National Arbor Day Foundation



Photo by Scott T. Sturkol

### April snow showers

An equipment operator with the Fort McCoy snow removal contractor, Kaiyuh Services LLC of Anchorage, Alaska, clears snow April 3 at Fort McCoy. The installation received several inches of snow during an early April storm.

(NADF) and the National Association of State Foresters to ensure that every qualifying community would have a viable tree management plan and program, according to the NADF. The four requirements are maintaining a tree board or department, having a community tree ordinance, spending at least \$2 per capita on urban forestry, and celebrating Arbor Day.

For more information about the 2017 Arbor Day/Tree City USA observance, call Installation Forester James Kerkman at 608-388-2102.

### South Post Housing Area hosts community garage sale

South Post Housing Area will host communitywide garage sales from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. April 27-29.

Community members will offer household goods and baked items. Individual sale times and dates may vary. From Highway 21, follow the signs to South Post and Ginger Road.

This event is open to the public.

### Young Lives, Big Stories contest ends April 30

Installation Management Command (IMCOM) Child and Youth Services celebrates Month of the Military Child with the Young Lives, Big Stories contest in April.

Each participant may submit one entry into

the contest. One winner from each category will receive a prize, and the top overall winner will receive the grand prize.

Drawn submissions are divided into the following age categories: youths 3 to 4 years old, 5 years old to first grade, and second through third grades. Written submissions are divided into the following categories: fourth to fifth grades, sixth to eighth grades, and ninth to 12th grades.

Winners will be selected by a panel of judges from IMCOM Headquarters. To enter and for complete rules, visit [www.armymwr.com/momc](http://www.armymwr.com/momc). The Young Lives, Big Stories contest runs April 1-30. All submissions must be submitted by 11:59 p.m. April 30.

### Resiliency workshop scheduled for May 1

A resiliency workshop is scheduled for 8:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. May 1 at Army Community Service, building 2111.

The topics covered will include hunting the good stuff, putting it in perspective, exploring emotional intelligence, positive self-talk, and easy ways to save money.

The workshop is open to military members, retirees, civilian workers, family members, and registered Fort McCoy volunteers.

Registration is required by April 26. For more information or to register, call 608-388-6712.

### Mud Assault set for June 9

Mud Assault, a challenging run featuring 25 obstacles and mud pits, is scheduled for 9 a.m. to noon June 9 at Whitetail Ridge Ski Area.

This is a Family-friendly fitness event featuring races for both children and adults.

There will be both competitive and non-competitive events.

Food, beverages, and T-shirts will be available for purchase.

The race is open to the public. Registration costs are:

- Children's race: \$10.
- Military members/Department of Defense civilians and Family members: \$20 until May 1, \$25 May 2 to June 1, \$30 June 2 to 8, or \$40 the day of the race.
- General public: \$25 until May 1, \$30 May 2 to June 1, \$35 June 2 to 8, or \$40 the day of the race.
- 10-person team special: \$175 until May 1.

Participants can register online at <https://webtrac.mwr.army.mil/webtrac/mccoyletract.html>.

Registration is also available in person at Pine View Campground, building 8053, or Rumpel Fitness Center, building 1121.

For more information, call 608-388-3517.

### New employees at Fort McCoy

New employees started working in several post organizations in March and April.

Welcome to the following new employees:

- **Holly Barnes** and **Dwayne Hathaway** — 88th Readiness Division.
- **Jody Seubert** — Civilian Personnel Advisory Center.
- **Karlene Grullon**, **Allen Lynn**, and **Mark Van Ells** — Directorate of Emergency Services.
- **Charles Hiner**, **Marc Mutka**, **Nicholous Radloff**, and **Renald Thompson** — Directorate of Plans, Training, Mobilization and Security.
- **Leigh Neitzel** — Directorate of Public Works.
- **Wesley Elliott**, **Melissa Van Horn**, and **Benjamin Windsor** — Equipment Concentration Site-67.
- **Michael Roman** — Network Enterprise Center.
- **Eric Haschke** — Resource Management Office.

The wrong name was printed in a previous edition welcoming new employees. Belinda Martin started in the Civilian Personnel Advisory Center in February.

### Next issue of The Real McCoy

The next issue of The Real McCoy will be published April 27. The deadline for submissions to be considered for publication is noon April 18.

For more information, call 608-388-4128.



**Recreation**

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

**Better Opportunities for Single Soldiers (BOSS):** Meets 4:30 p.m. third Thurs. of each month at McCoy's Community Center. Call 608-388-3200.

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

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

**Leisure Travel Services Office:** Open noon-8 p.m. Mon., 2-8 p.m. Tues., and noon-8 p.m. Wed.-Fri. Call 608-388-3011.

**Pine View Campground/Recreational Equipment Checkout Center:** Building 8053. Open 8 a.m.-5 p.m. Mon.-Fri. Call 608-388-2619. For weekend/night assistance, call the camp host at 608-633-1044.

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

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

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

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

**Whitetail Ridge Ski Area:** Building 8061. Closed for the season.

**Dining**

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

**Primo's Express:** Open 11 a.m.-9 p.m. Mon.-Fri. and 4-10 p.m. Sat. Buffet (pizza, pasta, and rotating hot dishes) available 11 a.m.-1 p.m. Mon.-Fri. Pizza available 9-11 p.m. Mon.-Fri. Call 608-388-7673.

**Sports bar:** Open 4-11 p.m. Mon.-Fri. and 4-10 p.m. Sat. Manager has

discretion on closing time.

**Snack Avenue:** Building 1538. Located inside Express. Open 6 a.m.-7 p.m. Mon.-Sat. and 8 a.m.-3 p.m. Sun. Call 608-269-5604 or 608-388-4343.

**Specialty Express Food Court:** Building 1538. Open 10 a.m.-6 p.m. Mon.-Fri. Call 608-269-5615, ext. 303.

**Whitetail Ridge Chalet:** Building 8061. Closed for the season. Chalet available year-round for private parties. Call 608-388-3517.

**Services**

**Alteration Shop:** Building 1538. Open 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Mon.-Fri. and 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Sat. Call 608-269-1075.

**Barber Shop (Exchange):** Building 1538. Open 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Mon.-Fri. and 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Sat. Call 608-269-1710.

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

**Car Wash:** Building 1568. Offers self-service bays. Automatic bay closed for repairs. Open 24/7. Accepts cash, tokens, or credit cards. Token machine on site. Call 608-388-3544.

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

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

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

**Exchange:** Building 1538. Open 8 a.m.-7 p.m. Mon.-Sat. and 8 a.m.-3 p.m. Sun. Call 608-269-5604, ext. 101 or ext. 4343.

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

**IHG Army Hotels:** Building 51. Open 24/7. Call 608-388-2107 or 877-711-

# facilities services

This schedule is projected through **April 12, 2018**. **Bold, italic typeface** indicates a change since the last publication. Please call facilities before visiting to verify hours. To report updates to this page, call 608-388-2407.

TEAM (8326).

**Launderette/Dry Cleaning:** Building 1538. Open 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Mon.-Fri. and 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Sat. Call 608-269-1075.

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

**Military Clothing:** Building 1538. Open 8 a.m.-7 p.m. Mon.-Sat. and 8 a.m.-3 p.m. Sun. Call 608-269-5604, ext. 203.

**Patriot Outfitters:** Building 1538. Open 9 a.m.-6 p.m. Mon.-Fri. and 9 a.m.-4 p.m. Sat.-Sun. Call 608-269-1115.

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

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

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

**RV Storage Lot:** Next to building 2880. Short- or long-term storage. Fees charged. Authorized patrons only. Call

608-388-2619/3517.

**Service Station/Express/Class VI:** Building 1538. Open 6 a.m.-7 p.m. Mon.-Sat. and 8 a.m.-3 p.m. Sun. Call 608-388-4343. Pay-at-the-pump gas is open 24/7. ATM inside. Cash transactions available during Express hours.

**Visitor Control Center:** Building 35. Open 6-10 a.m. Mon.-Fri. Call 608-388-4988.

**Family Support**

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

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

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

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

**Red Cross:** Fort McCoy active-duty Soldiers and Family members can call 877-272-7337 for emergency assistance. For other Red Cross services, call 800-

837-6313 or 608-788-1000.

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

**Health Care**

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

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

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

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

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

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

**Worship**

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

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

**Mormon:** Church of Jesus Christ of

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

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

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

Call 608-388-3528 for more information about Chapel and worship schedules in the surrounding communities.

The RSO is on Facebook at [www.facebook.com/FtMcCoyRSO](http://www.facebook.com/FtMcCoyRSO).

If you have an emergency, call 608-388-2266, and the on-call duty chaplain will be contacted.

**Organizations**

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

**American Society of Military Controllors:** Meets several times throughout the year. For more information, call Maureen Richardson at 608-269-1912.

**Association of the United States Army - AUSA (Robert B. McCoy Chapter):** For information on meetings, visit [www.mccoysausa.org](http://www.mccoysausa.org).

**Friends and Spouses of Fort McCoy:** Meets third Wednesday of each month. For info, email [fsofmccoy@gmail.com](mailto:fsofmccoy@gmail.com).

**Reserve Officers Association, Fort McCoy-Readiness 43:** For more information, call 920-535-0515 or email [justdave49@centurylink.net](mailto:justdave49@centurylink.net).

**USO Wisconsin at Fort McCoy:** Building 1501. Open 9 a.m.-4 p.m. Mon.-Fri. by appointment. For more information or to volunteer, call 414-477-7279 or email [ehazlett@usowisconsin.org](mailto:ehazlett@usowisconsin.org).

**Warrant Officers Association, Chapter 0317:** For more information, email [usawoamccoy@outlook.com](mailto:usawoamccoy@outlook.com).

**DAILY BUGLE CALLS**

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

This civilian enterprise newspaper is an authorized publication for members of the U.S. Army. Contents of The Real McCoy are not necessarily official views of, or endorsed by, the U.S. Government, Department of Defense, Department of the Army or Fort McCoy. The Real McCoy is published semimonthly using offset presses by the Public Affairs Office, Fort McCoy, WI 54656-5263, (608) 388-4128. Minimum printed circulation is 4,000.

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- Editorial Content .....608-388-2769

Read this publication online at <http://www.mccoysarmy.mil>

**FIREARM REGISTRATION POLICY**

All privately owned firearms brought on the installation must be registered through the Directorate of Emergency Services (DES) Police Department. Firearm registration is required by Army Regulation 190-11, 4-5, "Privately owned weapons and ammunition." Firearms are required to be registered prior to entrance or immediately upon entering any lands identified as Fort McCoy property. For more information, call 608-388-2266.

Information available 24/7 online and on Command Channel TV6

[www.twitter.com/USAGMcCoy](http://www.twitter.com/USAGMcCoy)

[www.facebook.com/FtMcCoy](http://www.facebook.com/FtMcCoy)

[www.mccoysarmy.mil](http://www.mccoysarmy.mil)

Channel 6 on post/Family Housing



Know someone looking for a job at Fort McCoy?

All federal jobs are posted online at [www.usajobs.gov](http://www.usajobs.gov). At USAJOBS, applicants can create resumes, apply

for positions, and save searches so they can be notified when new jobs meet their criteria.

To look for jobs at Fort McCoy, search for "Fort McCoy, WI" or ZIP code 54656 in the location field. For more information about federal jobs, visit [www.usajobs.gov](http://www.usajobs.gov).