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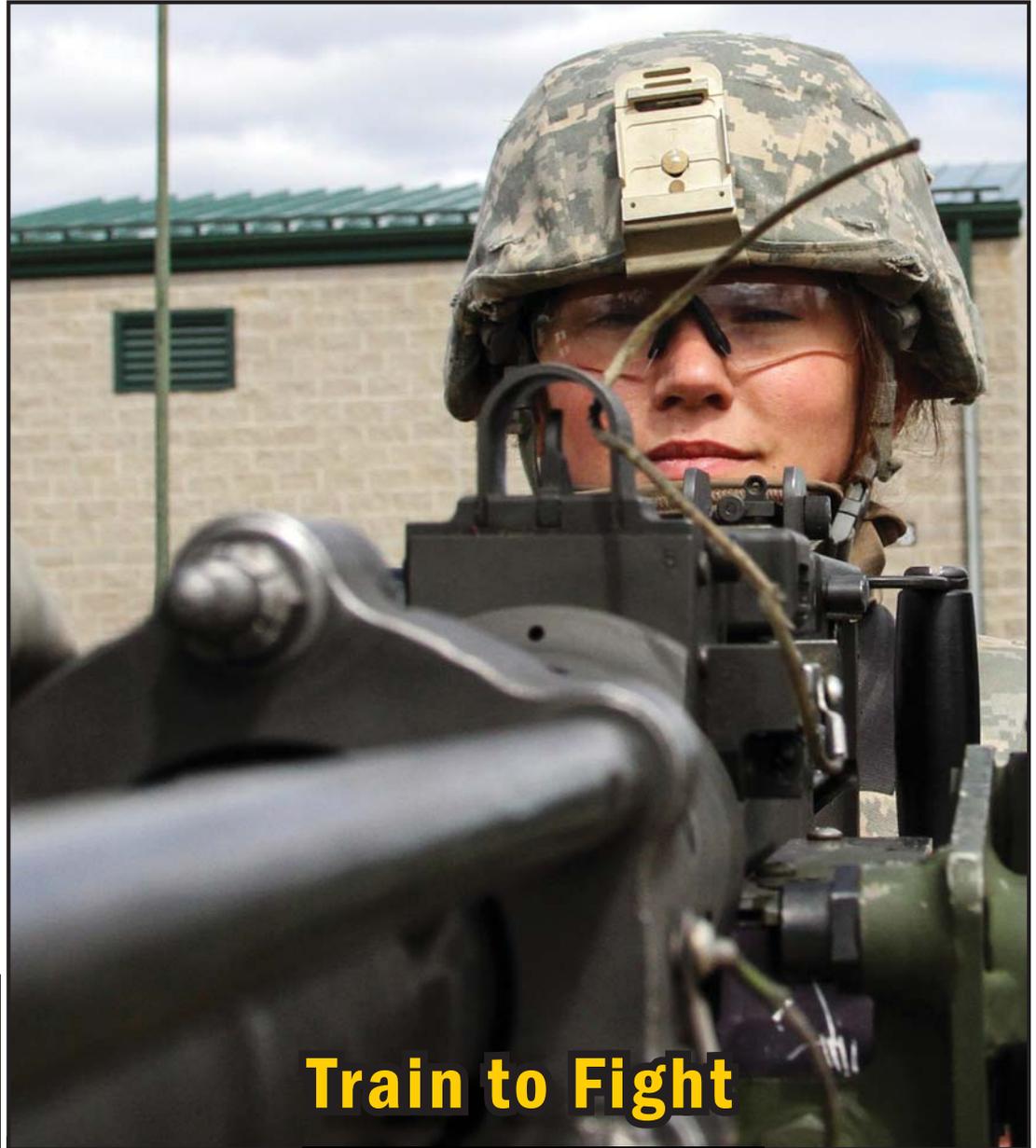
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Train to Fight

Pvt. Amanda Hanna, a mechanic assigned to the 366th Engineer Company based out of Canton, N.Y., inspects an M2 .50 caliber machine gun in preparation for a firing exercise as part of Operation Cold Steel at Fort McCoy, Wis. (Photo by Spc. Jeremiah Woods)

At AUSA's Hot Topic forum on Army installation management, senior military and civilian leaders discussed base services, training facilities, security, and how installations affect readiness – the Army's number one priority.

See stories Pages 6, 15, and 19

Green – Iraq, Afghanistan vet – nominated as Army secretary

AUSA Staff

A 1986 U.S. Military Academy graduate who served in Iraq and Afghanistan has been chosen to serve as secretary of the Army.

President Donald Trump announced on April 1 that he has picked Dr. Mark E. Green of Tennessee for the post, but the formal nomination cannot take place until the Senate returns to work the week of April 24.

Green is a member of the Tennessee Senate who served his first three years in the Army as an infantry officer and went on to receive a medical degree and serve as a special operations flight surgeon during combat tours in Iraq and Afghanistan.

In his self-published book “A Night with Saddam,” Green describes how he was part of Operation Red Dawn, the 2003 capture of Iraqi dictator Saddam Hussein.

Green said he sat with Saddam for the first 24 hours after his capture providing medical care and using an interpreter to speak with Saddam for about six hours.

In a 2013 interview, Green said he was asked to stay with Saddam to prevent a suicide attempt.

“If you think about it in a historical sense, Hitler killed himself. We never captured him. Pol Pot, we never captured him,” he said, calling Saddam “one of the most notorious dictators of all time.”

The six-hour interview, which has been described as an interrogation, happened because Saddam couldn’t sleep, Green said in an interview with Fox 17 (WZTV) in Nashville.

After leaving the military as a lieutenant colonel, Green founded a medical staffing company, Align



Army secretary nominee Mark E. Green served in the Army as a special operations flight surgeon during combat tours in Iraq and Afghanistan. (Photo courtesy of Mark Green)

MD. He also founded a nonprofit foundation providing health care in impoverished regions of the world.

Defense Secretary Jim Mattis praised the nomination. “I am confident of Mark’s ability to effectively lead the Army,” Mattis said.

Adding, “Mark will provide strong civilian leadership, improve military readiness and support our service members, civilians and their families. I appreciate his willingness to serve our country. He had my full support during the selection process, and he will have my full support during the Senate confirmation process.”

In a brief statement, Green said, “I am deeply humbled that President Trump selected me to be his

Secretary of the Army. The responsibility to lead the largest branch of the military service comprised of the brave men and women of our nation is truly incredible and a cherished duty.

“As a seventeen-year-old taking the oath of service at West Point, my dreams have been far exceeded with this hallowed responsibility.”

Green also reacted to Mattis’ endorsement, saying he was “humbled to have this warrior leader’s support” and that he “looked forward to partnering to serve soldiers and the nation.”

Green is the second person chosen by Trump for the Army secretary job. The first, billionaire and Florida Panthers owner Vincent Viola, withdrew his nomination for business reasons.

Army business transformation efforts must move quickly

AUSA Staff

In a small office at the Pentagon, the job of transforming the Army’s way of doing business is as big a mission as how it fights.

And, it must move quickly.

Speaking at a breakfast sponsored by the Association of the U.S. Army’s Institute of Land Warfare, Lt. Gen. Edward Cardon, director of the Army’s Office of Business Transformation, said the position he’s occupied for just six months is almost certain to grow because of the Trump administration’s focus on business reform.

“The Army’s business transformation has to go as fast as our warfighting innovations,” Cardon said. “The question is, how do we organize now for what we know is going to come?”

An example, he said, is the ponderous ordeal soldiers once endured to request leave, a process that included more than a dozen manual entries with a natural vulnerability to error.

Replacing that now is the Integrated Personnel and Pay System–Army, or IPPS-A, a system that soldiers will be able to access on a mobile device.

“That’s transformational, and everyone across the Army will feel that,” Cardon said.

Adding, “But when you look at processes across the Army, there is stuff like this all over the place,” he said, explaining that there are roughly 800 sepa-

rate IT systems in the Army and more great ideas coming from soldiers every day.

“It makes it very difficult to see the Army,” he noted.

see next page



Lt. Gen. Edward Cardon, director of the Army’s Office of Business Transformation, speaks at an AUSA Institute of Land Warfare breakfast. (AUSA News photo by Luc Dunn)

Both art and science help explain what Congress is up to

View from the Hill

John Gifford

Director

AUSA Government Affairs

This month's column will blend science and art.

Science explains things using observation, formulas and logic. Art is different. Art is intuitive. Art uses gut feelings and inference. It is not always logical.

Life is comprised of both art and science when we try to explain things, and that is why I will use both to try to explain what Congress is up to.

Let's start with science.

Sir Isaac Newton proposed three laws of motion in 1665. The laws of motion explain the movement of physical objects on Earth. I found these non-technical versions of the laws on NASA's website:

Law 1. If an object is not moving, it will not start moving by itself. If an object is moving, it will not stop or change direction unless something pushes it. This is also called "inertia."

Law 2. Objects will move farther and faster when they are pushed harder.

Law 3. When an object is pushed in one direction, there is always a resistance of the same size in the opposite direction.

What does this have to do with the United States Congress? This is where art comes in.

Metaphorically, the actions of Congress sometimes follow the laws of motion. For instance, right now there is "inertia" in Congress on funding the government.

Eleven out of 12 appropriations bills were not finished by Oct. 1, 2016, when the new fiscal year started. To avoid a shutdown, Congress passed a continuing resolution which lets things go on like they were last year, until someone pushes to pass the new funding bills. They set a deadline of April 28, 2017.

As I write this column in early April, Congress has departed Washington, D.C., to spend two weeks in their states and districts.

When they return (the week you are reading this), they will face the fact that at midnight on



April 28, the government will partially shut down unless they can act.

Congress is depending on Law 2. They plan to push real hard when they get back to D.C. to move the spending bills quickly. They will only have four legislative days to pass them.

Unfortunately, they will also have to deal with Law 3.

If the Republicans push hard to pass the spending bills, but they also throw in policy riders that defund Planned Parenthood or fund a border wall, the Democrats will push back just as hard.

The spending bills will come to rest, and it will take an external force to get them moving again before the government shuts down.

So here are the five options for Congress:

1) Pass an omnibus appropriations bill that wraps together the 11 remaining spending bills for fiscal year 2017 (FY17);

2) Pass a "cromnibus" bill, which provides new appropriations for the less controversial bills like defense, but also includes a continuing resolution for the bills they can't agree on;

3) Pass a short-term continuing resolution, perhaps until just before the Memorial Day recess to give themselves more time to work out a solution;

4) Pass a full-year continuing resolution which keeps appropriations at the level of FY16; or

5) Stay in gridlock, leading to a partial government shutdown until Congress can do one of the first four options.

My crystal ball, and some rumors from professional staff on Capitol Hill, lead me to predict that Option 3 is most likely, while Option 2 is still possible and much more desirable.

And even though members of Congress are saying that there is no way they want a government shutdown, Option 5 is still the wildcard pick if you believe that Congress tends to follow Newton's first law of motion.

Science can explain many things in life. But it takes art to explain why Congress is unable to discharge its constitutional responsibility to fund the government.

Congress should not abdicate its responsibility. If Congress "kicks the can down the road" by simply extending the continuing resolution for the rest of the year, it would be in Army Chief of Staff Gen. Mark Milley's words, "professional malpractice."

Congress should aspire to do better than that. Congress must stop the gridlock and do what is right for the country – pass the FY17 appropriations bills so that our military has the resources it needs to defend America.

See you on the high ground.

Army business from preceding page

Harnessing and using the Army's vast troves of data is another area ripe for transformation, he said, suggesting improvements could come sharing best practices with the private sector.

Determining how many tanks the Army has is an easy data point, but finding out whether a tank's engine can be tweaked to be more efficient in temperatures of more than 100 degrees is much more difficult.

"Intuitively I think that's possible," Cardon

said, "but we have no data that says that. A lot of our data right now is subjective in nature."

Data collection is not without its risks, Cardon said, pointing to security breaches in which millions of government employees' personal data were hacked.

But it can be addressed using programs such as the recent "Hack," the Pentagon pilot adapted to the Army that offered cashrewards to hackers who find vulnerabilities in select, public-facing Army websites.

The industry red teams are powerful, he said, because "you're getting the best of the outside to

come in and do this."

Cardon encouraged leveraging best business practices through public-private partnerships as a way to run the business side of the Army. Right now, he said, the partnerships exist only to generate the warfighter.

"We have this tremendous force, but I also see how the strategic environment with technology is very different from even 10 years ago," Cardon said, adding that business reform will depend on leaders' "ability to recognize that and educate ourselves in this and go forward and think about what that means to the business of the Army."



Top: At the Association’s Council of Trustees meeting, Nicholas Chabraja, left, outgoing chairman of AUSA’s Council, and retired Gen. Carter F. Ham, right, AUSA president and CEO, welcome incoming chairman Phebe Novakovic.

Bottom: Chabraja and retired Gen. Gordon Sullivan unveil a plaque dedicating the AUSA Conference and Event Center to Sullivan.

AUSA News

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Gen. Carter F. Ham, USA, Ret.
President

Lt. Gen. Guy C. Swan III, USA, Ret.
Vice President, Education

Peter F. Murphy, Editor

Luc P. Dunn, Production Manager

Advertising Information and Rates Available

Desiree Hurlocker, Advertising Production Manager

Display Advertising

Jerry Foley

Sightline Media

Call: (703) 851-4885

E-Mail: gfoley@sightlinemg.com



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The Institute would like to invite you—past and present servicemembers, Army civilians, friends of the Army and others with an interest in and knowledge of national defense—to submit a manuscript to one or more of our writing programs. Membership in AUSA, while always encouraged, is not a requirement for participation.

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Army force structure and intelligence review is underway

AUSA Staff

A review of the Army's force structure and intelligence capabilities is underway to find out what will be needed to meet the future demands of war, said Lt. Gen. Robert P. Ashley Jr., the Army's deputy chief of staff for intelligence.

Speaking at a breakfast forum hosted by the Association of the U.S. Army's Institute of Land Warfare, Ashley said the review looks to close intelligence gaps, many of them involving technology, for emerging missions. The review will be made public in late summer, he said.

There are six areas of focus, Ashley said:

1. Dissolving a stovepipe culture in electronic warfare, cyber and signal intelligence capabilities in favor of a common architecture across the services that could integrate interception and exploitation in the face of likely threats and identify contingency missions.

2. Balancing manned and unmanned airborne intelligence, surveillance and reconnaissance sensor technology and access to targets.

3. Automating aggregation and analysis of information coming from multiple sensors so soldiers have time to think about and understand what they're seeing. Ashley referred to this as the challenge of "reducing the cognitive burden."

4. Developing multisensor payloads instead of platforms that provide single capabilities. "How



A review of Army force structure and intelligence capabilities will be made public in late summer, Lt. Gen. Robert Ashley Jr., Army deputy chief of staff for intelligence, said. (AUSA News photo by Luc Dunn)

much stuff can you put on an airborne or ground platform? Nobody pays money to see the one-ball juggler." Aggregating capabilities on one platform and fusing them farther up the stream closer to command would ease the burden on remote bandwidth.

5. Streamlining the processing, exploitation and dissemination of collected information. The Army, Ashley said, could never afford all the people it would take to go through all the information col-

lected from multiple sensors.

6. Synchronizing data below the battalion level with computers that can crunch the numbers while soldiers do analysis.

AUSA's Institute of Land Warfare published a paper on the science and technology focus of Army intelligence. The paper is available here: <https://www.ausa.org/publications/army-intelligence-focus-areas-science-and-technology>

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Susan Rubel
Director
AUSA Affinity Programs

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You are critical to our success, and we are committed to providing you with the best member services possible.

As the Army's professional association, we hope you're taking advantage of all our professional development activities, publications, meetings and events, and the chapter networking opportunities available to you.

But don't stop there – and we won't either.

To thank you for your dedication, we're in the process of strengthening our products and services to bring you even greater membership value.

Keep an eye on the membership benefits listing in each issue of ARMY Magazine and AUSA News to check out our latest products and services.

UPDATED – Apple Products

Apple recently improved the AUSA member discount on Macs and it now provides discounts on iPads, Apple Care and some Apple accessories.

Visit the Apple website or call 1-(800) MyAp-



For more information on the benefits of AUSA membership, visit www.ausa.org/benefits-services.

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NEW – Military Kids' Life

AUSA membership now offers a 25 percent discount on the award-winning magazine for children of U.S. service members. With its entertaining stories, military kid-friendly tips, facts about military life, colorful photos and creative activities, Military Kids' Life encourages kids to focus on the bright side of their unique life. Visit their website and the 25 percent off will automatically apply.

Your Opinion, Please

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Let us know how we can better serve you by emailing Susan Rubel, Director of Affinity Programs, at srubel@ausa.org.

For Army families, excellence may no longer be affordable

AUSA Staff

The Army must begin a frank discussion with soldiers and their families to lower expectations about future benefits and community services, Sgt. Maj. of the Army Daniel A. Dailey said.

Soldiers and their families "want what every American wants – the American dream," Dailey said at a forum about future installations sponsored by the Association of the U.S. Army's Institute of Land Warfare.

He noted, they've been trained to think big because the Army has tried to provide "excellence in everything" for them, such as child-development centers that far exceed the standards of most private-sector care.

Excellence may no longer be affordable, he said, suggesting the Army should establish a baseline of support for soldiers and families and then have what he called an "adult conversation" about what is possible.

Baseline services must be "of a quality level commensurate with the quality of soldiers we expect," but that may mean providing less than what is available today.

He acknowledged that this conversation has the



Sgt. Maj. of the Army Dan Dailey, speaking at the AUSA Army Installations Hot Topic forum, warned that the Army is facing a pinch on community services and programs as the service grows. (AUSA News photo by Luc Dunn)

risk of lowering morale, but said he hopes the discussion will help determine priorities.

"I don't think we have done a good job in leveling expectations," Dailey said, warning that the Army faces a pinch on community programs as the

size of the service grows.

"The problem is going to get a little worse," he said. "We have to have the discussions, and we have to assume people are not going to be happy about it."



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Simpler PCS moves are focus of AUSA Facebook Live Series

AUSA Family Readiness

Patty Barron
Director
Family Readiness

The AUSA Family Readiness Directorate is thrilled to announce the launch of our NEW Facebook Live Series: “AUSA Spouse: Voice for a Simpler PCS.”

Every Thursday in June, AUSA will host a subject matter expert on issues not always debated when discussing permanent change of station (PCS) moves.

And, even if you are not finding yourself in a PCS cycle, we hope that the topics selected will enlighten your continued military journey in some way.

The goal of the series is to promote AUSA’s value to military families.

By providing a spotlight on military lifestyle issues, AUSA will engage the community of military spouses it strives to serve.

“AUSA prides itself on being the Voice for the Army – Support for the Soldier,” retired Lt. Gen. Guy Swan, association vice president for education, said.

Adding, “We have the attention of the Army in ways other organizations do not. It is our hope that by bringing attention to some of these issues, Army families will feel empowered to initiate change through the advocacy portals AUSA can connect them to.”

This series is informative, but we also want it to be interactive. Be sure to add your voice to this important conversation.

All Facebook Live episodes will begin at 12:00 p.m. Eastern.

We’ll be having several prize giveaways.

Here’s a look at our schedule and episode titles.

Thursday, June 1

“Registering Your Business on Your New Post – Challenges and Solutions”

With frequent moves causing employment instability, spouse-run businesses are seeing a rise in popularity and success. But there are a few rules for running a business on post, and registration is at the top of the list.



We’ll walk you through the process, share tips, and highlight possible obstacles you might encounter along the way.

Speaker: Erica McMannes, CEO and co-founder, HireMadSkills, Inc.

<http://www.hiremadskills.com>



Every Thursday in June, the AUSA Family Readiness Directorate will host Facebook Live discussions with subject matter experts on issues not always debated when discussing permanent change of station (PCS) moves.

Thursday, June 8

“Maintaining Consistency in Your Child’s Education”

Since PCS moves can happen outside the traditional summer season, it’s important to have safeguards to keep consistency in your child’s education.



This discussion will explore Military Families for High Standards’ efforts for academic stability, and how you can use the Interstate Compact and other tools to make sure this part of your transition runs smoothly.

Speaker: Christi Ham, chairwoman, Military Families for High Standards

<http://militaryfamiliesforhighstandards.org/>

Thursday, June 15

“Political Involvement in Your New Community: Yes, You Can”

No matter your affiliation, it’s clear that we’ve entered a period of increased political awareness and interest.

As a military family member, how can you participate? What should you keep in mind in your pursuits? We’ll dive into all things activism, from general best practices to the specifics of community engagement.



Speaker: Angie Drake, co-founder, Homefront Progressives

<http://homefrontprogressives.org/>

Thursday, June 22

“Maintaining and Growing Your Non-Profit during PCS”

We wear many hats during a PCS move, but how

do you manage the role of “boss” during the process?

This episode will explore how to maintain engagement in your community or business from afar, along with tips for advancing your business and nonprofit goals even when in-person involvement isn’t possible.

Speaker: Yvonne Coombs, co-founder, Operation Deploy Your Dress

<https://www.facebook.com/operationdeployyourdress>



Thursday, June 29



“Health & Wellness Happy Hour – Making Time for Self-Care”

Fast food, long drives, erratic schedules and plans gone wrong: moving can involve some heavy stressors!

Self-care and mindfulness will go a long way during this time, and we’ve got some tips and ideas for staying sane and feeling good. Grab your favorite “mocktail” and join us for this virtual health and wellness party!

Host: Claire Yanta-O’Mahoney, founder and trainer, Fleur de Lis Fitness

<http://fdlfitness.com/>

Register here for more information and eligibility: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/ausa-spouse-voice-for-a-simpler-pcs-tickets-33437948805>

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Operation Proper Exit

Wounded warriors remember and honor buddies left behind

NCO and Soldier Programs

**Sergeant Major of the Army
Kenneth O. Preston, USA, Ret.
Vice President, Noncommissioned
Officer and Soldier Programs**

Greetings from the Association of the United States Army (AUSA), our Army's association for education and professional development, and a major supporter of the Army's Soldier for Life efforts.

This past month I had the honor of traveling with an amazing group of six soldiers to Kuwait and Afghanistan as part of an initiative called Operation Proper Exit.

This visit gave me the opportunity of a lifetime – the chance to see the changing and ever-positive outlook on life from a warrior's perspective.

This perspective originates from the heart and soul of men and women in combat and from their willing obligation and determined commitment to our nation.

No regrets, no remorse, they are always grateful for the opportunity to serve our nation and with the warriors who stood and continue to stand shoulder-to-shoulder with them.

Operation Proper Exit is one of many initiatives of the Feherty's Troops First Foundation.

This foundation was co-founded by David Feherty and Rick Kell in August 2008 to provide programs for wounded warriors and their families that are focused on relationship building, mentoring, re-integration and looking forward.

Our veterans – soldiers, sailors, marines, airmen and coastguardsmen – have often returned to distant battlefields to honor fallen comrades and recall the memories of those unique locations that have occupied their dreams for many years.

Veterans who landed on Normandy beach, or led a combat patrol to retake Seoul, or defended Tan Son Nhut Airbase during the Tet Offensive, return to those battlefields to honor their buddies, while others seek to make sense and find a purpose for this chapter in their lives.

For the last 16 years, warriors severely wounded in combat, evacuated from theater during their tour of duty, waking for the first time in a hospital bed at Walter Reed or Brook Army Medical Center, are searching for answers and the opportunity to put behind the past and move forward.

Operation Proper Exit serves that purpose.

They have the opportunity to visit hospitals



Six wounded warriors pose with soldiers during trips to Kuwait and Afghanistan as part of Operation Proper Exit. This initiative provides seven to 10 days in theater and a return to the brother and sisterhood of the comrades they left behind.

Top: Sgt. Will Hoyum, second from left, Master Sgt. Chris Corbin, third from left, and Sgt. 1st Class Randy Nantz, far right.

Bottom: Staff Sgt. George Perez, second from left, Master Sgt. Leroy Petry, third from left, and Spc. Matt Stubblefield, second from right.



where they were treated and specific areas where a warrior was maimed for life, and to psychologically close this chapter and leave that location under their own terms and conditions.

Operation Proper Exit provides these warriors seven to 10 days in theater, to piece together the sights, sounds and smells of the battlefield and, most importantly, return to the brother and sisterhood of the comrades they left behind.

Each of the previous 20 Operation Proper Exit tours – 10 to Iraq and 10 to Afghanistan – were unique in its own way.

This trip, number 21, was unique in and of itself,

unique for the six warriors with their own personal stories who had the opportunity to return to theater, and unique for those warriors deployed who had the opportunity to meet and learn their stories.

Making the journey from their hometowns across the country, the six warriors rendezvoused in Washington D.C.

The Army chief of staff, Gen. Mark A. Milley and his wife, Hollyanne, hosted the six warriors at a luncheon before their departure to Camp Arifjan, Kuwait.

Everywhere this group traveled during their visit,
see next page

Operation Proper Exit from preceding page

each location was met with a gathering of troops and civilians applauding the arrival and the return of these warriors.

Spc. Matt Stubblefield

Making this trip to Afghanistan for Operation Proper Exit 21 was Spc. Matt Stubblefield, U.S. Army retired.

Matt was assigned to D Company, 1st Battalion, 26th Infantry Regiment (Blue Spaders), 3rd Brigade of the 1st Infantry Division based out of Fort Knox, Ken.

Serving as a M-ATV (Mine Resistant Ambush Protected (MRAP) All-Terrain Vehicle) driver in Narizah, Afghanistan, Matt was seriously injured by an Improvised Explosive Device (IED) on April 3, 2011.

Six years have passed since that fateful day and his injuries and the many surgeries that followed resulted in the amputation of his left leg below the knee and a damaged right leg limb that today requires a permanent supporting brace.

Looking as young as a 16-year old and getting teased for his looks on occasion, the 26-year-old had one special request when asked by Maj. Gen. J.T. Thompson, commander of the 1st Cavalry Division: he wanted to drive a M-ATV again.

That special request became a reality during the visit when an Air Force security team securing the airfield equipped with M-ATVs made a dream come true.

Looking back to that fateful April 3 day, Stubblefield had been in country only 90 days, he was left unconscious sitting at the wheel of his M-ATV only to gain full consciousness and awareness at Walter Reed Hospital.

Coincidentally, while touring the hospital at Ba-



Spc. Matt Stubblefield was seriously injured by an Improvised Explosive Device (IED) on April 3, 2011. During Operation Proper Exit 21, he met a trauma surgeon and a nurse who remembered worked on him the evening he arrived injured six years ago.

gram Airfield, Stubblefield met a trauma surgeon and a nurse who worked on him the evening he arrived injured six years ago.

Both medical professionals, now on another tour of duty, remembered him as they walked him through the emergency room where they performed life saving measures and prepared him for medical evacuation to Landstuhl, Germany.

Sgt. Will Hoyum

Also, returning to Afghanistan for the first time



Left: Sgt. Will Hoyum, assigned as a truck driver conducting recovery operations, was paralyzed from the chest down by an IED on June 19, 2012. 'This is the best I've felt about myself in five years,' he said of the visit to Afghanistan.



Right: Staff Sgt. George Perez was injured by an IED on Sept. 14, 2003. After his rehabilitation, he became the first amputee to certify for static line jumps, returned to combat with the 82nd in Afghanistan in 2005, and was selected by the Golden Knights, the Army's elite parachute team.

was Sgt. Will Hoyum, U.S. Army retired.

Hoyum was serving with A Company, 307th Brigade Support Battalion, 1st Brigade of the 82nd Airborne Division.

Assigned as a truck driver conducting recovery operations of inoperative or severely damaged vehicles from the battlefield, Hoyum had a fateful encounter with an IED on June 19, 2012.

The injuries sustained from the homemade bomb left him paralyzed from the chest down.

Now confined to a wheelchair, this warrior at heart never accepted defeat. Hoyum was determined to not let his lack of mobility in this austere environment keep him from this lifetime opportunity.

The warriors of this band of brothers all took turns grabbing a leg and an arm to help Hoyum on and off ground and air transportation. He participated in every activity on the itinerary.

Whether it was sitting in the cockpit of a C-17 for takeoff, wearing body armor and a helmet again, or riding in the back of an MRAP, Hoyum got to feel, smell and see many of the memories he left behind.

As the visit was nearing its end, Hoyum said, "This is the best I've felt about myself in five years."

Staff Sgt. George Perez

Staff Sgt. George Perez, U.S. Army retired, was serving with B Company, 1st Battalion, 504th Parachute Infantry Regiment of the 82nd Airborne Division on Sept. 14, 2003 when he sustained multiple injuries from an IED, including the amputation of his left leg below the knee.

But Perez is very unique as he continued his service in the Army after rehabilitation at Joint Base San Antonio and Walter Reed.

Perez rejoined the 82nd in 2004 where he became the first amputee to certify for static line jumps.

Amazingly, this warrior returned to combat with the 82nd in Afghanistan in 2005, and ultimately was selected by the Golden Knights, the Army's elite parachute team.

With more than 6,500 jumps with the Golden Knights, Perez was only two weeks into his justly deserved retirement from the Army when he joined Operation Proper Exit 21

For Perez, this trip was also an opportunity to return to the brotherhood of warriors he left behind.

Sgt. 1st Class Randy Nantz

Sgt. 1st Class Randy Nantz, U.S. Army retired, was serving with 5th Special Forces Group on Dec. 22, 2006, when an Explosively Formed Penetrator (EFP) ripped through the door of his up-armored High Mobility Multipurpose Wheeled Vehicle (HUMMV).

The molten dart ripped through his lower body striking the fuel tank under the driver's seat, leaving his legs covered with burning fuel.

Nantz's injuries sustained from the blast included 22 percent of his total body surface with third degree burns, amputation of his left leg below the knee and severe damage to his right leg and lower extremities.

see next page

Operation Proper Exit from preceding page

Joining the Army immediately after the attacks on 9/11, Nantz's goal was to serve his country as an infantry soldier.

In his early 30s when he joined the Army, Nantz quickly demonstrated his fitness and leadership abilities, ultimately resulting in his qualification and selection for the Special Forces.

Master Sgt. Chris Corbin

Master Sgt. Chris Corbin, U.S. Army retired, was serving with 7th Special Forces Group in Hyderabad, Afghanistan on Feb. 17, 2011, when he stepped on an IED resulting in the bilateral below-the-knee amputation of his legs.

For Corbin, this was his second visit to Afghanistan as part of Operation Proper Exit.

Sporting a beard and a pony tail, and looking like one of the stars from Duck Dynasty in an Operational Camouflage Pattern Army Combat Uniform, Corbin's vast experience from more than 21 years of service and three combat deployments was evident throughout the trip.

With a promise to pay homage and respect to a close personal friend and Special Forces warrior who was killed recently, Corbin returned to these distant battlefields for him and his friend's family.

"We were injured, but we are still soldiers and want to serve," said Corbin during one of his talks with troops.

He added, "Some assembly is required."

Master Sgt. Leroy Petry

The sixth warrior on this trip was also a return visitor to Afghanistan and the battlefield that cost him his right hand.

Master Sgt. Leroy Petry, U.S. Army retired, and



Master Sgt. Leroy Petry received the Medal of Honor for his actions on May 26, 2008. Already wounded, Petry grabbed and threw away an enemy grenade that had landed next to his soldiers, resulting in the amputation of his right arm. He applied his own tourniquet and continued to lead his soldiers until the mission was completed.



Master Sgt. Chris Corbin was serving with 7th Special Forces Group on Feb. 17, 2011, when he stepped on an IED resulting in the amputation of his legs. He returned to pay respects to a friend and fellow special forces warrior who was killed recently.

Medal of Honor recipient, works as a military liaison for Feherty's Troops First Foundation.

Petry devotes his time and energy supporting programs like Operation Proper Exit that focus on improving the lives of veterans and our military.

As each military unit and combat outpost was visited by these six warriors, Petry's presence on the list attracted an audience of both military and civilian fans to hear him and each of these soldiers tell their stories.

Petry was serving in the Paktika Province on May 26, 2008, with the 2nd Battalion, 75th Ranger Regiment, when, during a night mission, he sustained a gunshot wound through both his left and right upper thighs.

Continuing to lead his soldiers in the fight against a determined enemy, Petry grabbed and threw away an enemy grenade that had landed next to his soldiers.

The detonation of the grenade resulted in the amputation of his right arm below the elbow.

Petry applied his own tourniquet and continued to lead his soldiers until the mission was completed and the unit extracted.

Every gathering of soldiers and civilians this group encountered left the venue standing a little taller and feeling proud of their contributions to our nation and Afghanistan.

One of the highlights of the visit to Kabul was a ceremony hosted by Gen. John W. Nicholson, commander, Resolute Support Mission, and U.S. Forces Afghanistan, and Command Sgt. Maj. David M. Clark.

The ceremony gave each of the returning warriors an opportunity to tell their stories to the audience, and the opportunity to meet and honor a group of four bilateral amputee Afghan soldiers.

Attending the ceremony with his Afghan soldiers was former Sgt. Maj. of the Army Roshan Safi, who



Sgt. 1st Class Randy Nantz was serving with 5th Special Forces Group on Dec. 22, 2006, when an Explosively Formed Penetrator (EFP) ripped through the door of his up-armored HUMMV, causing severe burns to 22 percent of his body and amputation of his left leg.

spent a decade in this leadership position before moving to serve as the senior enlisted advisor to the president of Afghanistan.

For those on the sidelines, seeing these American and Afghan soldiers sitting together and sharing a meal and a few stories with each other demonstrates the bond among warriors.

The event also reminds us of the sacrifices of blood and treasure our two nations have contributed.

For the returning six warriors, there is no doubt these heroes are soldiers for life, dedicated Army alumni who will forever tell the soldier's story in those circles they travel.

A special thanks to Rick Kell and retired Command Sgt. Maj. Tom Capel for their continued service and commitment to Feherty's Troops First Foundation and all the things like Operation Proper Exit, they provide for our warriors.

Read and learn more about Feherty's Troops First Foundation at: <http://www.troopsfirstfoundation.org/>

Also, a special thanks to Col. Adam Rocke, director of the Soldier for Life Program, who joined the six warriors on this trip and was instrumental in the successful outcome of this visit.

Read and learn more about the Army's Soldier for Life Program at: <https://soldierforlife.army.mil/>
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Monthly Benefit Highlight



A Starkey Hearing Technologies Program

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AUSA chapters donate to build the National Army Museum

Army Historical Foundation

Ten Association of the U.S. Army (AUSA) chapters have contributed to the National Museum of the United States Army (NMUSA) Veterans' Hall Program to ensure their chapters will be prominently displayed on the Veterans' Hall Donor Wall as a permanent tribute to their members.

"AUSA has been a leading supporter of the Army Historical Foundation's (AHF) effort to get the National Army Museum built," said retired Gen. Gordon R. Sullivan, AHF's chairman.

Adding, "We're very pleased with the support and generosity of so many chapters that are helping to both raise awareness of and contribute to the project."

The chapters being recognized include Central Texas-Fort Hood, Fairfax-Lee, Greater Atlanta, Redstone-Huntsville, Braxton Bragg, George Washington, Alamo, Stonewall Jackson, Chattahoochee Valley-Fort Benning, and Connecticut.

Sullivan also mentioned that 36 other chapters that have contributed to the NMUSA campaign are working toward Veterans' Hall Donor Wall recognition.

"As the project continues, we hope many other AUSA chapters show their support of their Army and its history by getting their names on the Veter-



'AUSA has been a leading supporter of the Army Historical Foundation's (AHF) effort to get the National Army Museum built,' said retired Gen. Gordon Sullivan, AHF's chairman.

ans' Hall wall as well," Sullivan noted.

The National Museum of the U.S. Army Veterans' Hall will provide a unique setting to honor the service and sacrifice of America's veterans.

The multi-purpose space at the museum will be used for veterans to host reunions, meetings, dinners, and official functions in a patriotic atmosphere.

The hall will also showcase artwork, artifacts,

the interactive Registry of the American Soldier, and will host a variety of educational outreach initiatives including presentations, demonstrations and lecture series.

"The Veterans' Hall is a unique space within the museum that is specifically focused on veterans. While the museum as a whole tells Army's storied history, the Veterans' Hall provides space for active duty and retired soldiers to reflect on their service and with one another," said retired Lt. Gen. Roger Schultz, AHF's president.

"Particularly with AHF and AUSA's close affiliation, we hope that all AUSA chapter members will rise to the occasion in support of such an important project," he added.

For a starting sponsorship level of \$2,500, organizations will have their names displayed on the Veterans' Hall Donor Wall and be recognized in a special book published after the dedication ceremony.

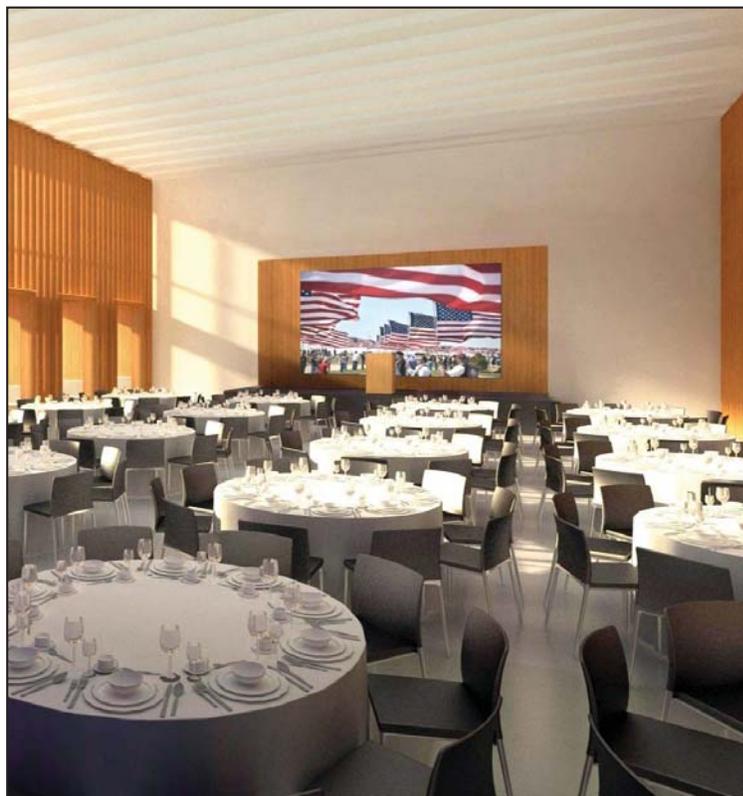
Groups will also receive an official campaign banner and certificate to display. Additional benefits, such as exclusive invitations and an opportunity to host an event in the Veterans' Hall, are associated with higher giving levels.

For more information on the Veterans' Hall Program, visit armyhistory.org or contact Beth Schultz Seaman, director of Grassroots Development, at (800) 506-2672 or beth.schultz@armyhistory.org.

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The National Museum of the U.S. Army Veterans' Hall will provide a unique setting to honor the service and sacrifice of America's veterans. It can be used to host reunions, meetings, dinners and official functions in a patriotic atmosphere.

Failed/failing Army installations pose a risk to readiness

AUSA Staff

The Army faces a \$72 billion problem with failed or failing installations that poses a critical risk to readiness and morale, senior officials said at a forum sponsored by the Association of the U.S. Army's Institute of Land Warfare.

"We have been on a failed funding strategy, resource strategy, with our installations and facilities," said J. Randall Robinson, acting assistant Army secretary for installations, energy and environment.

"This has had a corrosive impact on our installations," Robinson said at a one-day Hot Topic forum at AUSA's Conference and Event Center in Arlington, Va.

He added, "This is a reality that gets worse and worse every year."

Robinson and Lt. Gen. Gwen Bingham, the assistant Army chief of staff for installation management, said the Army needs \$10.8 billion to improve the condition of 22 percent of the infrastructure that is in poor or failing condition, and additionally needs to spend \$10.2 billion a year for six consecutive years to restore the condition of other facilities.

Realistically, that isn't going to happen.

While Robinson and Bingham talked of efforts to make installations more efficient and to build more multipurpose structures than can be easily modified when missions change, they also don't expect to see \$72 billion allocated to fix what's wrong.



J. Randall Robinson, acting assistant Army secretary for installations, energy and environment, and Lt. Gen. Gwen Bingham, assistant Army chief of staff for installation management, said the Army needs 'a bold shift' in management planning. (AUSA News photos by Luc Dunn)

Robinson said he did not expect to see additional money for installations "in the immediate future," although he and Bingham talked about changing how installations are budgeted, managed and

resourced in a process that could take 10 years to complete.

Bingham said the Army needs "a bold shift" in installation management planning.

CAPITOL HILL UPDATE A listing of bills that AUSA is currently tracking.

ACTIVE DUTY/GUARD & RESERVE ISSUES

House Action

H.R. 1384 (Reserve Component Benefits Parity Act)
Cosponsors: 48

- Amends titles 5, 10, 37, and 38 of the United States Code to ensure that an order to serve on active duty under section 12304a and 12304b of title 10, United States Code, is treated the same as other orders to serve on active duty for determining the eligibility of members of the uniformed services and veterans for certain benefits and for calculating the deadlines for certain benefits.
- Introduced by Rep. Steven Palazzo, R-Miss.
- **Referred to Committees: Armed Services; Veterans' Affairs, Oversight and Government Reform**

RETIREE ISSUES

House Action

H.R. 303 (Retired Pay Restoration Act)
Cosponsors: 58

- Permits additional retired members of the Armed Forces who have a service-connected disability to receive both disability compensation from the VA for their disability and either retired pay by reason of their years of military service or Combat-Related Special Compensation.
- Introduced by Rep. Gus Bilirakis, R-Fla
- **Referred to Committees: Armed Services; Veterans' Affairs**

H.R. 333 (Disabled Veterans' Tax Termination Act)
Cosponsors: 33

- Permits retired members of the Armed Forces who have a service-connected disability rated less than 50 percent to receive concurrent payment of both retired pay and veterans' disability compensation
- Extends eligibility for concurrent receipt to chapter 61 disability retirees with less than 20 years of service.
- Introduced by Rep. Sanford Bishop, D-Ga.
- **Referred to Committees: Armed Services; Veterans' Affairs**

Senate Action

S.66 (Retired Pay Restoration Act)
Cosponsors: 6

- Permits additional retired members of the Armed Forces who have a service-connected disability to receive both disability compensation from the VA for their disability and either retired pay by reason of their years of military service or Combat-Related Special Compensation.
- Introduced by Sen. Dean Heller, R-Nev.
- **Referred to Committees: Armed Services**

SPOUSE/FAMILY ISSUES

House Action

H.R. 578 (Military Residency Choice Act)
Cosponsors: 7

- Amends the Servicemembers Civil Relief Act to authorize spouses of servicemembers to elect to use the same residences as the servicemembers.
- Introduced by Rep. Rob Wittman, R-Va.
- **Referred to Committee: Veterans' Affairs**

Vietnam veterans honored at Roanoke Valley ceremonies

Chapter Highlight Stonewall Jackson

Candy Long
Community Journalist
The Roanoke Times

Vietnam veterans and their families gathered at the Salem Veterans Memorial at noon on March 29 for one of several municipal wreath-laying ceremonies held across the Roanoke Valley.

The ceremony observed the 44th anniversary of the final withdraw of American troops from Vietnam and serves as part of the 50th anniversary remembrance.

Operation Chopper, the first United States armed forces combat mission against the Viet Cong that began on Jan. 12, 1962.

Fifty years later, President Obama issued a congressional proclamation declaring March 29, 2012, as Vietnam Veterans Memorial Day with the promise of memorials and remembrances to occur across the nation from 2012 to 2025.

In 2015, representatives of Salem and Roanoke cities, Roanoke County and the Town of Vinton, in partnership with the Stonewall Jackson Chapter of the Association of the United States Army, founded a committee tasked with holding at least two events a year from 2015 to 2017.

March 29, 2025, will mark 50 years since the last combat troops were withdrawn from Vietnam.



Councilwoman Jane Johnson presents a proclamation declaring March 29 as Vietnam Veterans Memorial Day in Salem to Ken Ray, AUSA Stonewall Jackson Chapter. (Photo by Candy Long)

Councilwoman Jane Johnson, on behalf of the City of Salem, read a proclamation declaring it Vietnam Veterans Day in Salem to memorialize the fallen and missing in action and to honor the

wounded, POW's, their families and all that served during the Vietnam era.

"Whereas a grateful nation should express its appreciation, support and respect to all veterans of the Vietnam War," Johnson read from the proclamation, "including more than 1,600 of our service people missing in action and their families for their sacrifice on our behalf."

It is estimated that nearly 60,000 service people lost their lives, including the nearly 1,600 now considered missing in action. Approximately 9 million actively served during the Vietnam War era and it is estimated that about 7 million are still living today.

"Whereas, out of great respect for the military personnel who served our country during the Vietnam War, the City of Salem is privileged, honored and humbled to participate in this celebration," Johnson continued to read.

Following the proclamation announcement, a wreath was laid in front of the memorial and Vietnam era veterans in attendance who served between Nov. 1, 1955, and May 15, 1975, were recognized and given a commemorative 50th anniversary lapel pin.

"We thank this committee," said Johnson, "for its work to commemorate the war and to recognize our Vietnam veterans."

(Editor's note: Copyright, The Roanoke Times, reprinted with permission.)



Donald Taylor, left, receives his pin commemorating the 50th anniversary of the Vietnam War from Salem Vice Mayor Bill Jones. (Photo by Candy Long)

Association of the United States Army Institute of Land Warfare

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3rd Region Cocklin Award presented to 'Ray' Almodovar

Third Region Highlight

A Huntsville, Ala., business executive received the Association of the U.S. Army's Third Region highest award at its annual awards banquet at the conclusion of the three-day region meeting convened prior to the association's Global Force Symposium and Exposition.

A.R. "Rey" Almodovar, co-founder and chief executive officer of Intuitive Research and Technology Corp., accepted the Robert F. Cocklin Award presented each year to an individual who has made significant contributions to the U.S. Army and the nation.

It is named in honor of the late Maj. Gen. Robert F. Cocklin, a past president of the Association of the U.S. Army.

Almodovar founded Intuitive in 1999 to provide management, technical and engineering services to the Department of Defense and the commercial industry.

Prior to founding Intuitive, he served for 14 years as an Army civilian employee.

Almodovar is a mentor of youth and is also active in the Huntsville community.

He serves on the board of directors of the National Children's Advocacy Center, the Business Council of Alabama and the Huntsville Hospital

Foundation.

Intuitive is a leader in industrial and mechanical systems, electrical engineering, business management, systems analysis and programmatic support.

The company has been named as one of the Best Places to Work by the Huntsville/Madison County Chamber of Commerce for the last eight years.

Intuitive was also named by Military Times as one of the top 10 "Best for Vets" employers.

Also at the banquet, AUSA Alabama President Dave Seay received the Earl L. Denton Soldier of the Year Award.

The award recognizes an individual from one of the region's chapters who provides support to AUSA through volunteering at the chapter, regional or national level.

Jim Rountree, vice president for family programs in the Huntsville-Redstone Chapter, and his wife, Carolyn, received the Brenda M. Dougherty AUSA Lifetime of Service Award.

This award is presented annually to an AUSA Third Region member who has demonstrated a lifetime of dedicated service to AUSA through volunteer efforts at the chapter, state and/or regional levels.

AUSA's Third Region includes the states of Alabama, Florida, Georgia, Mississippi, North Carolina and South Carolina, plus Panama, Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands.



Rey Almodovar, chief executive officer of Intuitive Research and Technology Corp. in Huntsville, Ala., displays the Robert F. Cocklin Award he received March 11 at the AUSA Third Region annual awards banquet. The award is presented each year to an individual who has made significant contributions to the U.S. Army and the nation. It is named in honor of the late Maj. Gen. Robert F. Cocklin, a longtime past president of the Association of the United States Army.

Moeller helps Army Reserve celebrate 109 years of service

U.S. Army Reserve Sgt. 1st Class Joshua Moeller, the Army's 2016 Noncommissioned Officer of the Year, is helping the U.S. Army Reserve celebrate its 109th birthday on April 23 in conjunction with events scheduled across the country to commemorate the force's proud history and accomplishments.

Moeller, a decorated senior drill instructor and cavalry scout, won the Army's coveted award in October by outscoring, at the Army Best Warrior Competition, nine elite Regular Army and Army National Guard competitors.

These outstanding soldiers were tested in urban warfare tactics, physical fitness, battle drills and other grueling events.

Moeller became the third Army Reserve soldier to earn this honor in four years. As NCO of the Year, he serves as an ambassador for the Total Army, exemplifying military service to other soldiers and the public.

Moeller joined the Army to serve his family, community and nation.

"I wanted to give back something to the country that gave me the greatest set of freedoms in history, and asked only that I honor it in return," he said.

He completed three tours of duty in Iraq and Afghanistan as a scout helicopter maintenance team leader, maintenance technical inspector, and



Sgt. 1st Class Joshua Moeller, U.S. Army Reserve, the Army's 2016 Noncommissioned Officer of the Year, and a senior drill instructor, shown here with his soldiers, is assisting the Army Reserve celebrate its 109th year of service to the nation.

Stryker platoon senior scout.

The 36-year-old Riverside, Calif., native has over 16 years of service in the Army Reserve. His brother, sister, stepfather, uncle and three grandfathers – two of whom each spent over 20 years in the

Army and Marine Corps – contributed to his family's proud tradition of military service.

(Editor's note: This article is based on a story from the Executive Communications Branch, Army Reserve Communications, Fort Belvoir, Va.)

Garrison commanders discuss energy, security, facilities

Luc Dunn
AUSA News

Garrison commanders from around the Army discussed the ways installations affect readiness to include energy, security, and facilities, at the Association of the U.S. Army's Hot Topic forum on installation management held at the AUSA Conference and Event Center in Arlington, Va.

Readiness, the number one priority of Army Chief of Staff Gen. Mark Milley, "begins on installations," said Davis Tindoll Jr., who serves as director, IMCOM Sustainment Directorate, U.S. Army Installation Management Command.

Garrison commanders have two primary tasks in support of readiness, Tindoll said: sustaining installation facilities, and providing base operations and support (BASEOP) services.

"There are somewhere in the neighborhood of 56 BASEOP services, ranging from running a golf course, to issuing ID cards, to making sure you have access control at the gate," he said.

Col. John Lawrence, garrison commander, Fort Riley, Kan., explained his installation's efforts on Net Zero, an energy-conserving program encouraging installations to only use as much energy as they create.

"When we talk Net Zero, you have to look at facilities," Lawrence said.

At Fort Riley, he said, the electric and gas rates are already the lowest in the Army, so the primary focus is on improving water reclamation. "It comes down to knowing what resources you have, and implementing those for savings."

The Army also needs to improve installation security, said Col. Patrick Duggan, garrison com-

mander Joint Base Fort Myer – Henderson Hall, Va. "How much more brick, mortar, razor wire fences and guards do we need?" he asked, adding that "physical security only keeps the curious out."

In the future, installation security will be less about what is visible than what is unseen, Duggan said.

The Army needs "better preparation against the emerging threats of virtualization, abstraction and

miniaturization" such as miniaturized drones, unmanned boats and cars strapped with homemade bombs, and cyberattacks.

The bottom line, he said, is linear solutions like guards and fences are being applied to nonlinear threats, and a more holistic approach is needed, "changing the way we support, sustain and – most importantly – defend."

see page 21



Garrison commanders speak at the Association of the U.S. Army's Hot Topic forum on installation management. From left: Col. Patrick Duggan, Joint Base Fort Myer – Henderson Hall; Col. Angelia Holbrook, Fort Belvoir; Col. John Lawrence, Fort Riley; and Col. Edward 'Deacon' Maddox, Letterkenny Army Depot. (AUSA News photo by Luc Dunn)

Top civilian employees recognized at chapter dinner meeting

Chapter Highlight Redstone-Huntsville

Jeff Martin
Military Reporter
WAAY-TV, Huntsville, Ala.

The Association of the U.S. Army's Redstone-Huntsville Chapter recognized the top civilians on Redstone Arsenal at a dinner meeting April 4.

"They take an oath, just like everyone else does that is in uniform, to support and defend the Constitution of the United States," said John Wright, the chapter president.

There were six categories of civilians recognized. In the following list, the name in italics was named the winner in that category.

Robert Moore, the deputy to the Commanding General, United States Army Security Assistance Command, was named the overall chapter winner.

Management/Executive

Dr. Myra S. Gray
Rebecca Weirick
Robert L. Moore

Technical/Technical Management

Joshua Call
Kendall W. Cunningham
Claudienne Purifoy-Fears
Larry W. Tarr
Anthony L. Samuels
Steven C. Miller
Kimberly Gillespie
Kevin L. Creekmore

Professional/Technical

Pamela Lang
Daniel J. Stewart

Rebecca K. Shelton
Christopher N. Fewell
Kevin L. Osterbauer
Roberta J. Hauck
Jon M. Towers

Supporting Staff

Teolaonda Miller
Carol D. Garth
Melissa S. Cooper

Department of Defense

Jodi L. Gott
Joe W. Little

Non-Appropriated Funds

Esther Davidson
Francine Stone

All names are spelled as presented in the event's program.

(Editor's note: This article was reprinted with permission from WAAY-TV, Huntsville, Ala.)



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Educate / Inform / Connect

Garrison commanders from page 19

Facility priorities should be focused on the needs of the senior mission commander, “what he wants to do for the readiness of his soldiers,” Lawrence said. At Fort Riley, this meant improving the conditions of mission training facilities – live, virtual and constructive.

“In other words, I have a battalion in the field, I’ve got personnel on a simulator, and then I’ve got people in gaming” all linked to one system where the brigade commander can see all three elements on a map without telling the difference, Lawrence said.

Presenting a clear picture of an installation to senior leadership is also important, said Col. Angelia Holbrook, Fort Belvoir, Va., garrison commander. Plans must “correctly depict the situation” to avoid issues with manpower and available space.

Holbrook also discussed the continuing work on the National Museum of the United States Army, saying, “The construction of the museum will be a significant boost to the installation and the economy of south Fairfax County.”

Col. Edward “Deacon” Maddox, garrison commander, Letterkenny Army Depot, Pa., said his installation is feeling pressure from the current government hiring freeze. Getting people to “fill the workload the workload and generate combat power is becoming difficult,” he said.

View the full panel video by clicking here.



Retired Lt. Gen. Guy Swan, right, AUSA vice president for education, presents the Association of the U.S. Army’s Award for Distinguished Service to retired Maj. Gen. Gus Hargett for his contributions to America’s Army as president and CEO of the National Guard Association of the United States; Tennessee adjutant general; and member of the Army’s Reserve Forces Policy Board.



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Public Affairs
Maneuver Center of Excellence

The 75th Ranger Regiment team of Capt. Michael Rose and Master Sgt. Josh Horsager, 75th Ranger Regiment, captured the 2017 Best Ranger title April 9 after three-days of grueling competition during the 34th annual David E. Grange Best Ranger Competition at the Maneuver Center of Excellence, Fort Benning, Ga.

The team maintained the number one ranking going into the third day after a strong showing overnight and through the final day of events, which included the Darby Queen obstacle course, water confidence course and the final buddy run.

Rose was also a member of the 2014 winning team.

The 75th Ranger Regiment team was able to slip past Staff Sgt. Carlos Mercado and the 2009 winner Master Sgt. Chad Stackpole of the 82nd Airborne Division Team that finished in second place.

“This competition was just as tough as the last one, my body is toast right now” said Rose, a member of the 2-75th Ranger Regiment, Fort Lewis, Wash.

Adding, “I’m more proud of this win because we brought the title back to the 75th Ranger Regiment and this one is for them.”

His partner, Horsager, echoed that sentiment.

“This is something I’ve looked forward to since I joined the Army,” said Horsager.

He added, “It’s been one of my career goals and I’m proud to represent the 75th Ranger Regiment.”

Rounding out the top three was last year’s winning team of Capt. Robert Killian and Staff Sgt. Erich Friedlein of the Army National Guard.

Of the original 53 teams beginning the competition, only 21 completed the Buddy Run on the final day.

U.S. Army Ranger teams and 106 Rangers from around the world participated in the competition that has been compared to the Ironman and Eco-Challenge competitions.

The Fort Benning event challenges two-man Ranger teams in events that test physical conditioning, Ranger skills and team strategies.

The events are purposely scheduled back-to-back and around the clock for 58 hours, allowing little time for rest and meals.

Rangers Lead The Way!



Capt. Michael Rose and Master Sgt. Josh Horsager pose for the official winner’s photo, holding the iconic Colt .45 M1911 pistol, at the Ranger Memorial. The duo achieved victory in the 34th annual David E. Grange Best Ranger Competition at the Maneuver Center of Excellence, Fort Benning, Ga. (Photo by Markeith Horace)



Rose and Horsager complete the Buddy Run, the final event of the grueling competition.

‘Great War’ was launched by ‘small event’ 100 years ago

AUSA Staff

World War I began with the smallest of incidents and turned into one of the most complex of global events, a lesson that should be heeded today, according to a panel of historians gathered at the Association of the U.S. Army on the 100th anniversary of the U.S. entry into “the war to end all wars.”

In 1914, the world was stable when Archduke Franz Ferdinand, presumptive heir to the Austro-Hungarian Empire, was assassinated in Bosnia. That “small event” launched the “Great War” in Europe, said Michael S. Neiberg, chairman of war studies in the Department of National Security and Strategy at the U.S. Army War College. And once war begins, “it can be virtually impossible to get out.”

It took several years for the U.S. to agree to join the war, with politics playing a major role in that hesitation, Neiberg said.

Once Congress agreed to enter the war on April 6, 1917, the U.S. military was unable to deploy quickly and took a year to be effective in Europe, he said.

Among the myths of the war is that the U.S. Army resisted working under French and British command, said Edward Lengel, chief historian of



Michael Neiberg, chairman of war studies in the Department of National Security and Strategy at the U.S. Army War College, discusses World War I as part of a panel co-hosted by AUSA and the Center for Military Diplomatic History. (AUSA News photo by Luc Dunn)

the White House Historical Association.

In fact, “amalgamation” was happening by November 1917, “but the collaboration was not an easy one,” he said.

The U.S. Army proved to be exceptionally adapt-

able as the war went on, he said.

The April 6 discussion was co-hosted by AUSA and the Center for Military Diplomatic History that promotes the application of history to contemporary problems.

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Gen. John W. Vessey Jr.	208	Delaware	15
Tobyhanna Army Depot	200	MG Robert B. McCoy	15
Major Samuel Woodfill	189	Texas Capital Area	15
Arsenal of Democracy	169	Carlisle Barracks – Cumberland Valley	11
Rock Island Arsenal	168	St. Louis Gateway	11
Rhode Island	163	Korea	10
North Texas – Audie Murphy	162	Fairfax Lee	7
Redstone – Huntsville	162	Last Frontier	7
Arizona Territorial	116	Greater Atlanta	6
Tucson – Goyette	109	Newton D. Baker	6
Capital District of New York	105	Greater Augusta – Fort Gordon	3
Maj. Gen. Harry Greene, Aberdeen	105	SGM Jon R. Cavaiani	2
Gen. William C. Westmoreland	105	Indiana	2
First Militia	101	Isthmian	2
Central Ohio	91	MG William F. Dean	2
Kuwait	86	San Francisco	2
Northern New Jersey	58		
Thomas J. “Stonewall” Jackson	38		
Houston Metroplex	38		
George Washington	18		
Monmouth	18		
Stuttgart	16		

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As of March 31, 2017

Chapter	Increase
George Washington	15
Northern New Jersey	14
Fort Rucker – Wiregrass	13
Monmouth	13
Fairfax Lee	12
Massachusetts Bay	11
Captain Meriwether Lewis	10
Chattahoochee Valley – Fort Benning	10



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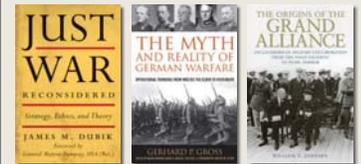
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