During Fort Polk’s Memorial Day Ceremony held May 26 at Warrior Memorial Park, this group of Soldiers placed four wreaths near the Global War on Terrorism Monument, each in memory of fallen service members from conflicts past and present. For full story and more photos from the event, see pages 6-7 of today’s Guardian.
Guardian staff asked the Fort Polk community, “The Miami Heat and Dallas Mavericks are battling for the NBA championship. Who do you like and why?” Here are their replies:

Maurice Carter: Dallas. They’re older and more experienced. Plus, I don’t like the Heat.

D.J. Condry: I think the Heat will win in six. They’re more athletic on offense and defense and no one can guard LeBron James.

Brian Hire: Dallas. They had a good season and are coming on strong now.

Robert Cushionberry: The Mavs in four. I’d rather see Dirk get a ring before LeBron.

Candice Vance: The Heat. LeBron James is my favorite player.

Erik Moore: The Heat in five. They’ll cause matchup problems the Mavs can’t handle.

DeMarcus White: Dallas. I think Miami is overrated and they put my team (Boston) out.

Jerome Williams: The Heat. LeBron needs a ring, plus Dallas can’t beat the Heat defense.
10th Mtn Div Soldier killed in Afghanistan

The following change of command ceremonies are scheduled to take place at Fort Polk:

- Col. Mark A. Bertolini relinquishes command of the 162nd Infantry Brigade to Col. Matthew F. McKenna June 17 at 9 a.m. at Tiger Field, North Fort Polk.
- Col. Jamie P. Houston relinquishes command of the U.S. Army Dental Activity to Col. David G. Smith July 8 at 9 a.m. at Warrior Field.

**DTS training**

Defense Travel Service classes are ongoing at Fort Polk’s Library and Education Center, bldg 660.

Each class has 20 computers, so space is limited.

Registration is required to attend these classes:
- Thursday, “Travellers training,” 9-11:30 a.m., room 215.
- June 16, “Approving and reviewing officials,” 1-3:30 p.m., room 215.
- June 21-23, “Organizational Defense Travel Administrator, train the trainer” (requires certifying officers legislation training certificate to attend), from 9 a.m.-3:30 p.m., room 215.

For more information call 531-0421 or e-mail Rene.Pardue@us.army.mil.

**NAF positions**

Applications are being accepted for the following nonappropriated-fund jobs on Fort Polk.

For more information call the NAF Branch, 531-6301/6631/4955, or visit the web site at www.jrtc-polk.army.mil/cpac/NAF.htm.

- Child and youth program assistant, $11.95-$13.41 per hour; part-time, closes Tuesday, SCNAFEP110052.
- Child and youth program assistant, $13.41 per hour; full-time, closes Tuesday, SCNAFEP110053.
- Child and youth program assistant, $11.95-$13.45 per hour; part-time, closes Tuesday, SCNAFEP110054.
- Recreation assistant, $9.46-$11.46 per hour; flexible, closes Tuesday, SCNAFEP110055.
- Supervisory program specialist, $31,305 annually; full-time, closes Tuesday, SCNAFEP110056.
- Child and youth program assistant, $10.95-$13.41 per hour; flexible, closes June 30, SCNAFEP11020C.
- Recreation aide (lifeguard), $8-$10 per hour; flexible, closes Tuesday, SCNAFEP11003OC.

Please see Briefs, page 5

**ACAP to host several employers in June**

**ACAP**

The Army Career and Alumni Program Center, located at 7950 Alabama Ave., bldg 2155, Suite 105, hosts the following employer days:

- **Troops to Teachers**
  
  Tuesday, 8 a.m.-noon. Troops to Teachers provides counseling and referral services to military personnel interested in beginning a second career in public education. Assistance is offered for teacher certification requirements and employment opportunities. For more information visit the Internet at www.proudtoserveagain.com.

- **Government Personnel Mutual Life Insurance Company**
  
  Tuesday and June 14, 21 and 28, 9:30 a.m.-3 p.m. This company has openings for former military personnel to become agents and managers.

- **WyoTech**
  
  Tuesday and June 14 and 28, 9 a.m.-noon. This technical school offers educational opportunities in automotive, diesel, collision and refinishing, motorcycle, marine and other tech fields.

- **Valerus**
  
  Wednesday, 9 a.m.-1 p.m. Valerus delivers reciprocating and rotary gas compressor packages, production equipment, gas processing solutions, liquid separation systems and professional field services to the oil and gas industry. The company is recruiting shop mechanics, field service techs, heavy wheel mechanics, welders, welder fitters and CDL drivers for Louisiana and other areas.

- **L3 Communications**
  
  Wednesday, 8 a.m.-1 p.m. L3 Communications seeks former and transitioning military applicants to join their team. The company is contractor in command, control and communications, intelligence, surveillance and reconnaissance, government services, aircraft modernization and maintenance and has the broadest base of electronics systems in the industry.

- **Northrop Grumman**
  
  Thursday, 8:30 a.m.-1 p.m. Northrop Grumman is a global security company providing innovative systems, products and solutions in aerospace, electronics, information systems and technical services to government and commercial customers worldwide. For more information visit the Internet at http://careers.northropgrumman.com.

- **Universal Technical Institute**
  
  Thursday and June 16 and 30, 9 a.m.-noon. UTI has educational opportunities in automotive, diesel, collision repair and other tech industries. For more information visit the Internet at www.UTI.edu.

For more information call 531-1594.
Army news

Wounded Soldier to receive Medal of Honor for action in Afghanistan

WASHINGTON — An Army Ranger who lost his right hand and suffered shrapnel wounds after throwing an armed grenade away from his fellow Soldiers will be the second living Medal of Honor recipient from the conflicts in Iraq and Afghanistan.

On July 12, 2011, President Barack Obama will award Sgt. 1st Class Leroy Arthur Petry with the Medal of Honor for conspicuous gallantry. Petry will receive the Medal of Honor for his courageous actions during combat operations against an armed enemy in Paktya, Afghanistan, May 26, 2008.

Petry now serves as part of Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 75th Ranger Regiment at Fort Benning, Ga.

"It's very humbling to know that the guys thought that much of me and my actions that day, to nominate me for that," said Petry, on learning he had been nominated for the medal.

At the time of his actions in Afghanistan, Petry was assigned to Company D, 2nd Bn, 75th Ranger Regiment at Joint Base Lewis-McChord, Wash. Petry's actions came as part of a rare daylight raid to capture a high-value target.

On the day of the actions that would earn Petry the Medal of Honor, he was to locate himself with the platoon headquarters in the target building once it was secured. Once there, he was to serve as the senior noncommissioned officer at the site for the remainder of the operation.

Recognizing one of the assault squads needed assistance clearing their assigned building, Petry relayed to the platoon leader that he was moving to that squad to provide additional supervision and guidance during the clearance of the building.

Once the residential portion of the building had been cleared, Petry took a fellow member of the assault squad, Pvt. 1st Class Lewis Robinson, to clear the outer courtyard. Petry knew that area had not been cleared during the initial clearance.

Petry and Robinson, both Rangers, moved into an area of the compound that contained at least three enemy fighters who were prepared to engage friendly forces from opposite ends of the outer courtyard.

The two Soldiers entered the courtyard. To their front was an opening followed by a chicken coop. As they crossed the open area, an enemy insurgent fired on them. Petry was wounded by one round, which went through both of his legs. Robinson was also hit in his side plate by a separate round.

While wounded and under enemy fire, Petry led Robinson to the cover of the chicken coop. The enemy continued to deliver fire at the two Soldiers.

As the senior Soldier, Petry assessed the situation and reported that contact was made and that there were two wounded Rangers in the courtyard of the primary target building.

Upon hearing the report of two wounded Rangers, Sgt. Daniel Higgins, a team leader, moved to the outer courtyard. As Higgins was moving to Petry and Robinson's position, Petry threw a thermobaric grenade in the vicinity of the enemy position.

Shortly after that grenade exploded — which created a lull in the enemy fire — Higgins arrived at the chicken coop and assessed the wounds of the two Rangers.

While Higgins evaluated their wounds, an insurgent threw a grenade over the chicken coop at the three Rangers. The grenade landed about 10 meters from the three Rangers, knocked them to the ground, and wounded Higgins and Robinson. Shortly after the grenade exploded, Staff Sgt. James Roberts and Spc. Christopher Gathercole entered the courtyard, and moved toward the chicken coop.

With three Soldiers taking cover in the chicken coop, an enemy fighter threw another grenade at them. This time, the grenade landed just a few feet from Higgins and Robinson.

Recognizing the threat that the enemy grenade posed to his fellow Rangers, Petry — despite his own wounds and with complete disregard for his personal safety — consciously and deliberately risked his life to move to and secure the live enemy grenade and throw the grenade away from his fellow Rangers, according to battlefield reports.

As Petry released the grenade in the direction of the enemy, preventing the serious injury or death of Higgins and Robinson, it detonated and amputated his right hand.

With a clear mind, Petry assessed his wound and placed a tourniquet on his right arm. Once this was complete, he reported that he was still in contact with the enemy and that he had been wounded again.

After the blast that amputated Petry's hand, Roberts began to engage the enemy behind the chicken coop with small arms fire and a grenade.

His actions suppressed the insurgents behind the chicken coop. Shortly after, another enemy on the east end of the courtyard began firing, fatally wounding Gathercole.

Higgins and Robinson returned fire and killed the enemy.

Moments later, Sgt. 1st Class Jerod Staidle, the platoon sergeant, and Spc. Gary Depriest, the platoon medic, arrived in the outer courtyard. After directing Depriest to treat Gathercole, Staidle moved to Petry's position. Staidle and Higgins then assisted Petry as he moved to the casualty collection point.

Higgins later wrote in a statement, "if not for Staff Sergeant Petry's actions, we would have been seriously wounded or killed."

Petry is the ninth service member to have been named a recipient of the Medal of Honor for actions in Afghanistan and Iraq. Of prior recipients, all but Petry and Staff Sgt. Salvatore Giunta were awarded the honor posthumously.

Included among those recipients are Spc. Ross A. McGinnis, Sgt. 1st Class Paul R. Smith, Petty Officer 2nd Class Michael A. Monsoor, and Marine Corps Cpl. Jason L. Dunham, all for actions in Iraq. Staff Sgt. Salvatore Giunta, Staff Sgt. Robert Miller, Sgt. 1st Class Jared C. Monti and Navy Lt. Michael P. Murphy were awarded the Medal of Honor for actions in Afghanistan.

Petry currently serves as a liaison officer for the United States Special Operations Command Care Coalition-Northwest Region, and provides oversight to wounded warriors, ill and injured service members and their families.

He enlisted in the United States Army from his hometown of Santa Fe, N.M. in September 1999. After completion of One Station Unit Training, the Basic Airborne Course and the Ranger Assessment and Selection Program — all at Fort Benning, Ga. — Petry was assigned to 2nd Battalion, 75th Ranger Regiment.

Petry has served as a grenadier, squad automatic rifleman, fire team leader, squad leader, operations sergeant, and weapons squad leader.

He has deployed eight times in support of the War on Terror, with two tours to Iraq and six tours to Afghanistan.

Petry and his wife Ashley have four children, Brittany, Austin, Reagan and Landon.
Briefs
Continued from page 3

Burn ban
Due to the recent lack of rain, the Louisiana State Fire Marshal and the Louisiana State Forester have jointly issued a state-wide total burn ban until further notice.

Giant voice test
The Fort Polk mass warning notification system will be tested Tuesday at 10 a.m.

Researcher needed
An energetic, dynamic and knowledgeable person is required to fill a position as a Fort Polk health promotion research assistant.

This contract position is equivalent to a GS-7. The HPRA is responsible for the day-to-day administrative support of the installation health promotion program as well as researching trends, statistics and collecting data to track the impact of the HP program on the installation.

The work involves developing research methodologies, collecting, organizing, analyzing, interpreting, reporting, communicating and disseminating high quality data and information regarding installation characteristics, activities and operations.

Completion of a bachelor’s or master’s degree is required with associated research experience. Minimal travel is required. E-mail resumes to lisa.m.martinez2@us.army.mil.

Be sure to include supervisor contact information on resume.

The closing date for this announcement is June 15.

Thrift Shop
Fort Polk’s Thrift Shop, located in bldg 2531 on Alabama Avenue (last building on the right), is open Tuesdays and Thursdays from 9:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m., the first Saturday of the month from 9:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m. and the third Wednesday of the month from 9:30 a.m.-2 p.m.

Donations can be dropped off any time.

Consignments are accepted Thursdays only. Volunteers are needed.

Call 537-0459 for more information.

Watch WSTV
Watch “Around the Services” on Fort Polk’s own WSTV on channel 3, on and off post.

The daily, half-hour program features military news from top defense officials and military services from around the world.

The show airs Mondays at 11:30 a.m. and 4:30 p.m., Tuesdays at 3 a.m. and 6:30 p.m., Wednesdays at 3 a.m., 11:30 a.m. and 6:30 p.m., Thursdays at 7 a.m. and 6:30 p.m., Fridays at 3 a.m. and 2:30 p.m. and Saturdays at 11:30 a.m.

Resource guide

It serves as an all-inclusive directory of installation services and includes classes and programs as well as their location, time, date, costs and contact information.

Keep kids out of trouble during break

By Sgt. 1st Class DAVID C. COOMER
DES

FORT POLK, La. — Fort Polk’s Directorate of Emergency Services anticipates an increase in juvenile activity during the summer months and wants to mitigate common crimes such as graffiti, vandalism, theft and damage to government/private property. DES reminds sponsors that they are ultimately responsible for their family members’ actions while on Fort Polk and will be held responsible.

The number of juvenile cases involving shoplifting, vandalism, criminal mischief, criminal trespassing and criminal damage to private property increase during summer months. Many of the crimes are committed at night by youths who aren’t supervised by their parents or legal guardians.

Juvenile crimes likely increase in the summer because there are more opportunities for risky activity.

The Juvenile Review Board, according to Joint Readiness Training Center and Fort Polk regulation 190-2, is an advisory board to the garrison commander to review cases involving juvenile family members who commit criminal or regulatory offenses either on or off the Fort Polk military reservation.

Juvenile Review Board members are from the following agencies: DES, Youth Services, Chaplain Services, Army Substance Abuse, Picern Military Housing, Social Work Services, Army Community Services and the School Liaison Officer.

Listed below are some of the possible consequences of juvenile delinquent behavior and the current Fort Polk curfew hours for juveniles:

- Possible actions recommended by the JRB include community service:
  - First offense, 8-32 hours
  - Second offense 32-64 hours
  - Third offense 80-120 hours
  - Financial restitution
  - Bar from post
  - Prison/detention center visit
  - Denial of all recreational activities/Army and Air Force Exchange Service facilities
  - Parents required to vacate post quarters
  - Refer to Vernon Parish district attorney for prosecution

Fort Polk’s Office of the Staff Judge Advocate announce the following courtmartial results:

- U.S. vs. Pfc. David Zuno, April 28: Zuno, Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 4th Brigade Special Troops Battalion, 4th Brigade Combat Team, 10th Mountain Division, guilty of violating Article 86, absent without leave, was sentenced to five months confinement, reduction to E-1, forfeiture of $978 for six months and a bad conduct discharge.
"Any nation that does not honor its heroes will not long endure."
— Abraham Lincoln

FORT POLK, La. — The sun shone with gentle intensity May 26 as Fort Polk Soldiers, Veterans of Foreign Wars representatives, local dignitaries and families of men and women lost in action gathered at Warrior Memorial Park to honor the installation’s fallen Soldiers.

No birdsong interrupted the solemnities; the crowd of guests and Soldiers sat hushed, many with heads bowed, as the haunting strains of Taps augmented the reverent silence of the spring morning.

The keynote speaker, retired U.S. Army Forces Command Commander Gen. Charles C. Campbell, spoke of sacrifice.

The sacrifices of these men and women in arms, said Campbell, preserve a “legacy of liberty,” a legacy begun at Lexington and Concord at the onset of the American Revolution that continues today.

“Their sacrifice is their duty when duty calls,” said Campbell. “They do good knowing it might be their final act in this world.

“On this day we honor the memories of our honorable dead.”

Brig. Gen. Clarence K.K. Chinn, commanding general of the Joint Readiness Training Center and Fort Polk, said the people who serve alongside fallen veterans should also be remembered and honored.

He asked World War II, Vietnam and Korean War veterans at the service to stand and be recognized.

One of these men — retired Command Sgt. Maj. Curley L. Faulk — has seen more action than most. The Sulphur resident enlisted in the Navy in 1945. He retired from the Army in 1972 after serving in three theaters of war: World War II, the Korean War and Vietnam.

Faulk stood with obvious pride at the ceremony. Dressed in full uniform, he said it’s important to remember those who gave their lives so Americans can enjoy the freedoms they have today.

“I always think about my fellow Soldiers and the young Soldiers serving today. It was an honor for me to serve and protect this country.”

Survivors of Fort Polk’s fallen were invited to place a rose on the park’s Global War on Terrorism monument, and wreaths were placed around the monument for Soldiers who lost their lives during World War II, the Korean and Vietnam Wars and for those who served from 1775 to today.

One of these survivors is Stephanie Laningham, the widow of Pfc. Ira B. Laningham, who fell in January in Logar Province, Afghanistan. As she laid her white rose at the foot of the monument, she took a deep breath and looked upwards, at the monument, at the sky.

Another survivor, Staff Sgt. Miranda Ryan of Flatonia, Texas, placed a flower on the monument in honor of her stepbrother, Pfc. Christopher R. Kilpatrick, killed in Iraq in 2005. Dressed in her uniform, she silently laid her rose on the monument.

“There are no words for this,” a member of the crowd said as the survivors — four in all — were escorted to place their flowers.

Fort Polk has experienced much loss since the War on Terror was declared in 2003.

One of these survivors is Stephanie Laningham, the widow of Pfc. Ira B. Laningham, who fell in January in Logar Province, Afghanistan. As she laid her white rose at the foot of the monument, she took a deep breath and looked upwards, at the monument, at the sky.

Another survivor, Staff Sgt. Miranda Ryan of Flatonia, Texas, placed a flower on the monument in honor of her stepbrother, Pfc. Christopher R. Kilpatrick, killed in Iraq in 2005. Dressed in her uniform, she silently laid her rose on the monument.

“There are no words for this,” a member of the crowd said as the survivors — four in all — were escorted to place their flowers.

Fort Polk has experienced much loss since the War on Terror was declared in 2003.

Since that day, 84 Fort Polk Soldiers have fallen on fields of battle.

“Those Soldiers demonstrated their love of country not by words but by actions,” said Campbell.

“We are proud and grateful for their willingness to be guardians of our freedom.

“Let each day we remain free be a Memorial Day.”

Editor’s note: For more pictures from Fort Polk’s Memorial Day commemorative ceremony, see page 7.

Remembering fallen Soldiers

Fort Polk commemorates Memorial Day, ‘honorable dead’

By RACHEL REISCHLING
Guardian staff writer

Fort Polk commemorates Memorial Day, ‘honorable dead’
Campbell urges Soldiers to live passionately

By CHUCK CANNON
Guardian staff writer

FORT POLK, La. — Sounding more like a Southern Baptist preacher than a 40-year Army veteran, retired Gen. Charles “Hondo” Campbell brought a message during the Joint Readiness Training Center and Fort Polk Memorial Day Prayer Breakfast May 26 at the Warrior Community Center.

“The scripture teaches us that where our treasure is, our heart is also,” Campbell said. “I have been able to wed my passion with my profession; that is truly a gift from God.”

Campbell urged those in attendance to live life passionately.

“My faith was a wellspring of support and strength during my 40 years of service,” he said. “It was a great ride.”

Campbell then listed in bullet form some truths he had gleaned during his military career.

• Greatness is not found in power and prestige.
• Spontaneous, selfless acts rarely just happen.
• How we live our life is more important that what we achieve in life.
• Life’s most profound lessons must be experienced.
• What is most valuable is not “what” we have in our lives, but “who” we have — and the most important “who” is Jesus Christ.

Campbell said he owes all that is good in his life to his obedience — to God’s word.

“What we reap is what we sow,” he said. “There are consequences for our actions; God will not ignore sin.”

Campbell said it is possible to attain wealth and power without God.

“But we will never achieve the purposes for which he created us unless we’re obedient to His will,” he said.

Campbell closed with prayer, thanking God for His blessings on the United States, on those who have served in the armed forces and for those serving now.

Following Campbell’s message, JRTC and Fort Polk Commander Brig. Gen. Clarence K.K. Chinn, presented the former commanding general of Forces Command a small trophy of Christ holding a Soldier. After thanking Campbell for his service, leadership and words of encouragement, Chinn’s thoughts turned to his country and fellow Soldiers.

“God bless the USA and our deployed troops,” Chinn said.

Col. Francis Burns, Fort Polk garrison commander, began the morning’s festivities by reflecting on his images of Memorial Day as a kid.

“I remember marching in a Memorial Day parade as a young Cub Scout, opening day ceremonies for little league, visiting cemeteries, tidying up gravestones and looking at a tombstone that had my name on it — my namesake, United States Marine Corps Corporal Francis Bernard Burns, he said.

Burns said his uncle fought in the Korean War from 1950-1951 and was awarded the Bronze Star with Valor and two Purple Hearts — the second awarded posthumously.

“His act of selflessness is found in John 15:13: ‘Greater love hath no man than this, to lay down his life for his friends,’” Burns said.

In introducing the guest speaker, Burns spoke of Campbell wearing the body armor and helmet of a U.S. Soldier.

“I’m reminded of Ephesians 6: 13-17,” Burns said. “Therefore put on the full armor of God, so that when the day of evil comes, you may be able to stand your ground, and after you have done everything, to stand. Stand firm then, with the belt of truth buckled around your waist, with the breastplate of righteousness in place, and with your feet fitted with the readiness that comes from the gospel of peace. In addition to all of this, take up the shield of faith, with which you can extinguish all the flaming arrows of the evil one. Take the helmet of salvation and the sword of the spirit, which is the word of God.’”

Capt. Kristin Soileau provided musical entertainment. Prayers were offered by Chap. (Maj.) Stan Allen for the United States and Chap. (Lt. Col.) Bill Harrison for Soldiers and their Families.

An Old Testament reading was led by Chap. (Capt.) Uzoma Uwakwe and Spc. Jonathan Brodhagen. Lead the New Testament reading, Brodhagen was recently selected to the Army’s Chaplain program.

Chap. (Col.) David Waters opened the breakfast with prayer and Chap. (Lt. Col.) Dixey Behnken offered the benediction.

Fort Polk remembers

Left: Andrea Buzinski, spouse of fallen Fort Polk Soldier Sgt. Keith T. Buzinski, 2nd Battalion, 30th Infantry Regiment, 4th Brigade Combat Team, 10th Mountain Division, who was killed in Afghanistan in April, places a white rose at the Global War on Terrorism monument and takes a moment to pay her respects during a Memorial Day ceremony in Fort Polk’s Warrior Memorial Park May 26.

Right: Soldiers fire a salute to the “honorable fallen” during Fort Polk’s commemoration of Memorial Day May 26.
and the elevation of positive emotions. Studies new field as a tool capable of stress reduction recent studies on mindfulness have looked at this expression, disordered eating and addiction. Most useful in the treatment of pain, stress, anxiety, dependence of religion.

by Buddhist teachings, there is nothing religious purposefully acknowledged and accepted in the in which each thought, feeling or sensation is defined as a conscious, present-centered awareness “mindfulness” practices. Mindfulness can be de-

nied as a conscious, present-centered awareness “mindfulness” practices. Mindfulness can be de-
Airman tests strength, endurance in Spartan Death Race

By SARAH PEACHEY
Guardian staff writer

FORT POLK, La. — The Spartan Death Race is no easy task. It requires participants to endure 48 straight hours of mental and physical tasks, testing their bodies and minds against fatigue. At different intervals throughout the course, racers must face problem-solving tests and decipher the best and fastest solution for those tests.

Joe De Sena and Andy Weinberg founded the Death Race six years ago in Pittsfield, Vt. They were tired of simply running races and wanted to create something that was a test of physical abilities and endurance; thus, they founded the Spartan Death Race. Senior Airman Kris Cisowski, from Fort Polk’s Detachment 1, 20th Air Support Operations Squadron, decided to face the challenge June 25.

“I just got back from a year deployment in Afghanistan. While I was there, I read an article about the death race. I e-mailed the race owners and signed up,” said Cisowski.

The race pushes participants to physical exhaustion. Tasks in a recent race required participants to low crawl under barbed wire, carry foot bridges in teams, eat onions, dive in ponds for bags of pennies, chop logs, decipher Greek text using a Greek dictionary and more within a 48-hour period.

“They don’t tell you what you’re going to do until you show up for the race. They don’t give you a list of equipment until the day prior. It forces you to expect the unexpected,” said Cisowski.

Expecting the unexpected is the main part of the race. “They told one guy to show up on the 24th for the race, but he was called in a day prior at midnight for a pre-race brief and they actually started then,” said Cisowski.

Cisowski has never done a race like this, he said. He’s competed in 5Ks, but nothing as difficult as the death race. “I want to go out and get it done. I’m not in it to win or be first. I just want to be able to do it. I will push myself to that bloody, bruised, broken part. Hands down,” he said.

The race will be no easy feat and Cisowski has been preparing his body since he first registered, he said. He runs about three miles in the morning, followed by his unit’s physical training. Over his lunch hour he fills buckets with sand and carries them, a task used in the death race in the past. Some days he will chop wood or carry around a piece of railroad track.

After his workday, he spends two hours at the gym and runs another three to five miles. “It’s preparing myself to be physically exhausted,” he said.

According to the Spartan Death Race’s website, 90 percent are expected to drop out. More than 260 racers signed up and some have already dropped out, said Cisowski.

Cisowski said his year-long deployment to Afghanistan changed him. “I lost 18 pounds from this training. Past military training has helped me mentally prepare and push myself beyond physical limits I didn’t think I could pass,” he said. “Seeing other people do it makes me want to meet them and compete with them.”
Landrieu calls Camellia center ‘first class’

By ANGIE THORNE
Guardian associate editor

FORT POLK, La. — The grand opening of Picerne’s fourth neighborhood center at Fort Polk took place June 1. The Camellia Terrace Neighborhood center, 5300 Magnolia Dr., may have been the last to open, but as the saying goes, it wasn’t the least in terms of amenities and attributes.

Each neighborhood center has its own look and theme. The Camellia Terrace Center looks similar to a large-scale beach cottage filled with 8,149 square feet of fantastic features such as a clubroom, multi-purpose room, media room, game room (with dance station), fitness room (with rowing machine), computer lab, laundry facility, swimming pool and kiddie pool. The décor is light and breezy with beach accents and a fanciful feel that invites the community in with open arms.

The theme of this center is Fort Polk’s Joint Readiness Training Center. With the Camellia Terrace Neighborhood Center, Picerne recognizes JRTC for its dedication to improving unit readiness. There are photos throughout the center that show Soldiers taking part in exercises preparing them for actual operations.

The grand opening ceremony commenced as Mary Ann Clary, program director for Picerne Military Housing, Fort Polk, addressed the audience of dignitaries and Camellia residents. Clary reminded the audience that Fort Polk and Picerne Military Housing signed a partnership July 1, 2003. “We have done many fabulous things in those eight years. We’ve built 360 new homes, renovated more than 2,500 additional homes and today we are opening our fourth neighborhood center here at Fort Polk,” said Clary.

She said these neighborhood centers are more than just a pool, fitness room or computer lab. “These centers are the heart and soul of each neighborhood at Fort Polk. Everything from the grand opening June 1.

Please see Camellia, page 18

Lemon lot moved

The Fort Polk Lemon Lot, across from Wheelock Fitness Center between Georgia and Alabama avenues, has moved to the Exchange parking lot off Colorado Avenue. To place a vehicle at the Lemon Lot, please call the Fort Polk Better Opportunities for Single Soldiers program at 531-1948. The cost is $5 per month.

Summer reading

The summer reading program returns to Allen Memorial Library. Sign up for “A Midsummer Knight’s Read” beginning Saturday. Throughout the summer, the library hosts several activities to go with its medieval theme including: Castle building, necklace making and medieval architecture origami. The program continues through July 31. Sign up and get your log book at the library. For a full schedule and for more information visit www.fort-polkmwr.com/library or call 531-2005.

Arts, Crafts contest

Calling all local artists for the 2011 Arts and Crafts Contest. Artists can submit work in ceramics, painting, woodworking, 3D art and more.

The army-wide contest will take submissions until June 30. Forms must be submitted with a non-refundable entry fee of $15. Forms and information can be found at the information center or the library.

Community Briefs

You deserve a neighborhood, not a complex.

Sycamore Point and Timber Ridge are apartment communities thoughtfully designed with the look and feel of a genuine neighborhood.

Look around. Home is here.
It’s time you were too.

Just minutes from Fort Polk, Sycamore Point

• Newly Designed Interiors
• Washer & Dryer Hookups
• Ceiling Fans
• Icemakers
• Stone & Designer Flooring
• Tennis Courts
• Covered Parking

Located on Entrance Road in Leesville • For Leasing Information, call 337-537-0028
www.sycamore-point.net
submitted online at artsworks.fwmr.army.mil. Participants must have an AKO username and password to submit the form. If anyone interested does not have an account with AKO, a current AKO user can sponsor an account for them. For more information on the contest or if a sponsor cannot be found for an AKO account, call Rebecca Stanley at 531-4384.

P.O.L.K.

Put your strength to the test and become a member of Polk Outstanding Lifting Klub at Cantrell Fitness Center. To qualify, men must lift a combined weight of 1,000 pounds or more, and women must lift 500 pounds or more. The total combined weight is the weight of one squat, bench press and deadlift rep each.

Participants have three opportunities per lift and the best lift will count. When a participant qualifies, their picture and the total weight lifted will make the wall, and they will receive a prize. When you are ready to qualify, make an appointment at Cantrell’s front desk and get the official rules. For any questions, call Victoria Clark at 531-1955.

Exchange sweepstakes

The Army and Air Force Exchange Service and Mars/Wrigley are partnering to offer “house money” to one lucky authorized shopper. The sweepstakes gives shoppers at the Fort Polk Exchange the opportunity to win a $50 gift card. Entering the giveaway automatically also registers patrons into a national sweepstakes for a chance to win a $10,000 check toward rent or mortgage. The sweepstakes runs from June 1-30. The and in-store drawing for a $50 gift card will take place at the Exchange on or about July 23. Contestants must be 18 years old and no purchase is necessary to enter.

MWR auction

Fort Polk’s Family Morale, Welfare and Recreation is spring cleaning and has items you might want. Visit bldg 3218 on Louisiana Avenue (next to Burger King) June 13-15 to view items. Bidder will be awarded items by June 17. Used to the gym in June, have a chance to win a prize. The more you participate, the better your chance at winning. Just fill out a special form at the Cantrell Fitness Center front desk by July 7, attention Victoria Clark. The drawing for prizes is July 8. For more information call Victoria Clark at 531-1935.

Pool activities

The South Fort 50-meter pool is now open. The official summer season hours are from 1-8 p.m. Tuesday through Friday and noon-8 p.m. Saturday and Sunday. For more information call 531-1988.

The South Fort 50-meter pool offers swim classes on Saturdays. Adult classes are from 9-10 a.m. and youth classes are from 10:30-11:30 a.m. The fee is $5 per person per lesson. Space is limited to 25 students per session so register early. Children must be potty trained to participate. Call 531-1988 for details.

First aid, CPR classes

The American Red Cross will conduct a First Aid and CPR (adult, infant and child)/ AED class Saturday and June 26 from 8:30 a.m.-3 p.m. at the Soldier Family Assistance Center, bldg 220, 1778 Third Street. The cost for the course, including book, is $50. Registration is through Central Louisiana Chapter at (318) 442-6621 or cenlared-cross.org.

Men’s Health Month

Cantrell Fitness Center focuses on Men’s Health during June. All month long, Cantrell will help men and women kick-start a healthier lifestyle by hosting special activities. For example, individuals who wear blue any Monday in June, sign up for a free body fat analysis, recruit a male friend to join you at the gym, or log 20 trips

交换抽奖

The Army and Air Force Exchange Service and Mars/Wrigley联合推出“House Money”给幸运的授权购物者。抽奖让购物者在Fort Polk Exchange有机会赢得一张50美元的礼品卡。参加抽奖自动也将注册成为全国抽奖的成员，有机会赢得10,000美元的房租或其他贷款。抽奖从6月1-30日举行。店内抽奖也将举行，可以在7月23日前参与抽奖。参赛者必须是18岁及以上，无需购买即可参加。

MWR拍卖

Fort Polk的Family Morale, Welfare and Recreation正在春季大扫除，并有物品出售。访问Louisiana Avenue (next to Burger King)的bldg 3218查看物品。竞得者将获得物品由6月17日。在6月使用健身房，有机会赢得奖项。参加者必须在7月7日之前填写特殊的表格，注意Victoria Clark。抽奖于7月8日举行。更多信息请致电Victoria Clark 531-1935。

游泳池活动

South Fort 50米泳池现在开放。官方夏季时段时间为1-8 pm，周二至周五，中午-8 pm，周六和周日。更多信息请拨打531-1988。

首先，CPR课程

美国红十字会将举办First Aid and CPR (adult, infant and child)/ AED课程，周六上午8:30 -下午3:00在Soldier Family Assistance Center，bldg 220，1778 Third Street举行。课程包括书本，费用为50美元。可通过中央路易斯安那州分会（(318) 442-6621）或cenlared-cross.org注册。

Men’s Health Month

Cantrell Fitness Center专注于Men’s Health在6月。整个6月，Cantrell将通过举办特别活动来帮助男性和女性开启更健康的生活方式。例如，任何周一穿蓝色的人，在6月，签署免费身体脂肪分析，招募男性朋友与您一起到健身房，或记录20次旅行。
Bernice Lopez, former U.S. Army sergeant, performs boxing drills with her coach, Sgt. 1st Class Sidney Russell, Joint Readiness Training Center Operations Group, Task Force 2, in front of Fort Polk's Cantrell Gym. Lopez, who has had two battles with lung cancer, trains with Russell six days a week for two hours a day.

Please see Boxing, page 13
South Polk Elementary undergoes facelift for 2011 school year

By SARAH PEACHEY
Guardian staff writer

FORT POLK, La. — South Polk Elementary School teachers, maintenance and technology staff and more than 50 Soldier volunteers began moving furniture and emptying the school May 26 in preparation for renovations that began May 30. Walking through the school was like walking through a ghost town. Cabinet doors hung open, completely empty, and the only sign that classrooms ever existed in the building were the white boards left hanging. “The contractor will be tearing out the ceiling, lights and grid work, pulling out carpet and putting up walls. In the process, we have to upgrade our fire protection, so a sprinkler system will be installed around the building. Our stairwells will be enclosed with doors on both ends,” said Charles Balthrop, principal of South Polk Elementary.

The school was built in 1978 as an open classroom, meaning there are no walls. South Polk has been using bookshelves as dividers between classrooms in recent years.

The open classroom idea stemmed from a movement beginning in Britain after World War II. The school was built in the late 1960s, suggesting students learn better in “open” environments. The movement began fading away in the late 1970s.

SPE renovations were discussed in 2009, but paperwork processing created a glitch and the construction was put on hold, said Balthrop.

“Once students were accustomed to the open classroom, they stayed focused. Our test scores showed that this year. While we don’t have definitive evidence to prove that, we know it didn’t hurt our kids,” said Balthrop. “We’ll be able to see the change when the work is complete.”

Balthrop said the walls in the school could help ease parental concerns. “We’re all used to a certain type of classroom. When you come in here, it’s different. Having an enclosed classroom will probably leave parents more at ease, making the children more at ease,” he said.

The contractor in charge of completing the school’s facelift created a nine-week schedule he plans to stick with, said Balthrop. “If everything goes right, we will be more than ready for the beginning of the school year in August,” he said.

The final school day for students was May 26. “Students left about 11:30 a.m. and we attacked it (moving). By 3 p.m. it was pretty well taken care of,” said Balthrop. “We had people from maintenance helping, technology staff taking down computers and active boards and all the teaching staff helping move things out of the building.”

They also had more than 50 volunteers from the 1st Maneuver Enhancement Brigade, the 115th Combat Support Hospital and the 83rd Chemical, Biological, Radiological, Nuclear and Explosive Battalion. The Soldiers helped move furniture, clean up trash and assist wherever needed.

“We had a great outpouring of volunteers from the Soldiers that have come in. If it hadn’t been for them, we wouldn’t have gotten this job done so quickly. I was touched they would sacrifice a long weekend or block leave to help us here,” said Balthrop. The Soldiers had varied reasons for volunteering.

“I’m just trying to help the kids,” said Sgt. George Hernandez, 115th CSH. “Some of us will have kids eventually and I’m sure we would appreciate it if people did this for our kids.”

“So far I’ve just helped pick up trash and move things,” said Pfc. Nichelle Holliday, 115th CSH. “We want to show these kids that they deserve nice things and Fort Polk wants to help them.”

Additional Soldier volunteers planned to carry on through Memorial Day weekend, but Balthrop said they wouldn’t be needed. “Because of the help of Soldiers earlier this week and today, we’ll get done early.”

South Polk Elementary teachers and staff welcome the change. “I think the teachers are excited about having this. We were all hesitant at first, but since we’ve been working on it, the teachers are excited to see it come to pass. I think parents will be pleased with what they see,” said Balthrop. “I don’t know when we can have an open house yet, but we will have something to showcase the school when we can. I’m just so thankful Brigadier General (Clarence K.K.) Chinn (commanding general, Joint Readiness Training Center and Fort Polk) and Command Sergeant Major (Jeffery) Hot (JRTC and Fort Polk command sergeant major), have been so supportive and took the time to provide us with Soldier assistance.”

While the school is under construction, all South Polk Elementary offices will be housed in North Polk Elementary School library. The $2 million renovation project is expected to be completed Aug. 5.

Family and friends have noticed a difference, not only physically, but in her demeanor as well.

“Boxing definitely makes her happy because when she was sick she was depressed all the time — when she started boxing it gave her something to look forward to,” Jordyn said.

“She was always happy when it’s time to go to boxing,”

Both Lopez and Jordyn said they feel indebted to Coach Russell for treating her like she didn’t have cancer.

“She inspired me because it showed me that I can do anything no matter what because her sickness didn’t stop her.” Jordyn said.

“She was very proud of her and I thank Coach Russell for everything. He was the one telling her, ‘you’re not sick, it’s all in your head.’ I think it’s because of him that she honestly let it go and now she’s happy,”

Lopez said she doesn’t have an answer for her recovery, but has some words of advice for others experiencing what she has gone through.

“Hang on and listen to your body. A doctor who just met you 20 minutes ago, he’s going off of what he sees in X-rays or labs and what you tell him. You know your body.”

Lopez said she feels healthy and the only time she felt sick and like she was dying was when she was going through treatments.

“All I know is two years ago, I was planning my funeral; fours years ago, I weighed 100 pounds. Now, I’m 42-years-old, a grandma and boxing guys half my age.”
FreedomFest approaches

FORT POLK, La. — July 4 is just around the corner and that means it’s time for FreedomFest 2011. The event is held July 2 at Headquarters Field with country music superstar Blake Shelton headlining the event.

Festivities begin at 3 p.m. with jumpers for the kids, games and plenty of food. FreedomFest wraps up with the biggest fireworks display in west-central Louisiana.

There is no on-site parking but shuttles will be available. Vehicles with a Department of Defense decal can park on the installation and catch a ride on the shuttle. All others must park at Headquarters Field with country music superstar Blake Shelton

Exchange takes on Family career mission

FORT POLK, La. — Understanding that serving the military today means caring about the community’s tomorrow, the Army and Air Force Exchange Service is focusing on active-duty, veteran, retired, National Guard and Reserve Families’ career aspirations.

With more than 31 percent of nearly 43,000 AAFES associates identifying themselves as military Family members, and veterans accounting for another 12 percent of the workforce, the Exchange understands the unique perspectives its customers bring to “the other side of the cash register.”

“The values of loyalty, professionalism and commitment are exactly what we look for when hiring,” said the Exchange’s senior vice president of human resources, Jim Moore. “We know it’s difficult to start over with each transfer, which is why we developed special programs with spouses in mind.”

The Exchange’s spouse continuity and employment preference programs allow wives and husbands to build a career alongside their sponsor with each relocation. In 2010, almost 900 military spouses received promotions through this effort.

Military spouses are just one of the many groups the Exchange helps to find or keep employment.

In fact, the Exchange has partnerships with several organizations dedicated to offering career assistance and creating opportunities for those who have served, including the Army Spouse Employment Partnership, Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve and Army Wounded Warrior Program.

“Hiring our military, their Families and veterans is one small way we can support those who have sacrificed for us,” said Moore.

The Exchange’s commitment to hiring current and former military personnel and their Families has been recognized by a variety of organizations including Military Spouse Magazine’s “Top 10 Military Spouse Friendly Employers,” G.I. Jobs magazine’s “Top 100 Military Friendly Employers” and CivilianJobs.com’s “Most Valuable Employers for the Military.”

Complete details on how to apply for a career with the Exchange, along with a listing of current available opportunities, are available at www.applymyexchange.com.

Questions concerning the military spouse or hiring partnership programs can be directed to the Exchange’s Human Resources Support Center at HRSC@AAFES.com.

VBS assists kids with summer activities

**MAIN POST CHAPEL**

Since school is out for the summer, parents may need a little assistance keeping the kids occupied. The Main Post Chapel can help with its Vacation Bible School scheduled Monday-June 10 from 8:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. Registration is ongoing at the chapel Monday through Friday from 9 a.m.-3 p.m. and during Sunday services. Classes are offered for pre-K through sixth grade. Students are registered in the grade level they complete this school year.

The day before VBS begins, the MPC hosts Vacation Bible School Kick Off, Sunday from 10:30 a.m.-2 p.m. at the Main Post Chapel. The kick off is a chance for parents to meet each other and for children to meet their classmates. Waterslides and bouncers will be available for kids. The theme this year is Son surf Beach Bash.

Here are some important announcements to remember:

• All students attending VBS must enter and exit the chapel by using the sanctuary doors only.

HAPPY HOUR: 4-7PM

$1.50 Domestic Beer

$2.00 Imports

$1.00 OFF All Mixed Drinks

337-238-1228

In fact, the Exchange has partnerships with several organizations dedicated to offering career assistance and creating opportunities for those who have served, including the Army Spouse Employment Partnership, Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve and Army Wounded Warrior Program.

“Hiring our military, their Families and veterans is one small way we can support those who have sacrificed for us,” said Moore.

The Exchange’s commitment to hiring current and former military personnel and their Families has been recognized by a variety of organizations including Military Spouse Magazine’s “Top 10 Military Spouse Friendly Employers,” G.I. Jobs magazine’s “Top 100 Military Friendly Employers” and CivilianJobs.com’s “Most Valuable Employers for the Military.”

Complete details on how to apply for a career with the Exchange, along with a listing of current available opportunities, are available at www.applymyexchange.com.

Questions concerning the military spouse or hiring partnership programs can be directed to the Exchange’s Human Resources Support Center at HRSC@AAFES.com.

For more information call Margaret Matthews at 239-2748 or Katreena Dodd at 397-5027.

• Parents must be physically present when dropping off and picking up children. No sibling or other children are permitted to pick up children at VBS. If another adult is picking up your child, a letter must be turned in to the VBS teacher with the name of the adult and dates of pick up. The person must have an I.D. to show to the VBS prior to receiving the child.

• Newsletters will come home each day.

• All students will need a plain T-shirt by Wednesday for VBS. Please make sure your child’s name is on the T-shirt tag. A volunteer will iron on the VBS theme logo, and the children will wear the shirts during the VBS closing program.

• “Slips are for Water” day will be held Saturday during game time at VBS. Permission slips will be given Monday for parents’ signature. All students can wear swim suits under their clothing and are required to wear water shoes of some type. Also, please send a plastic bag for wet swim suits, a towel and sun screen.

For more information call Margaret Matthews at 239-2748 or Katreena Dodd at 397-5027.
Pretty babies

There are plenty of pets nearby looking for homes: Whether you want a cute kitty, precious puppy or an older pet who needs extra special care, the Fort Polk Stray Animal Facility is sure to have the perfect pet for you and your Family. The facility is located off of La. Hwy 10 after you pass La. Hwy 467 heading south and is open Monday through Friday from 10 a.m.-3 p.m. For more information or to confirm someone is available for your visit call 531-1322. You can find the facility on Facebook by searching “Polk Pets.”

CHUCK CANNON/ GUARDIAN

GIVE A MEMBERSHIP. GET $25.

We want to make our member benefits available to even more military personnel and DoD civilians. So, if you refer an eligible applicant to Navy Federal, you could get $25!* And the best part is, when they sign up, they’ll get a $25 bonus! $25 for you and them—what could be better?

Stop by your local branch or call 1-888-842-6328.

Town Plaza Shopping Center
1770-A South 5th Street, Leesville, LA

ARMY, MARINE CORPS, NAVY, AIR FORCE, DoD—JOIN US TODAY!

*This offer may not be combined with any other new-member offers or the time of account opening. Family members are also included. You will be charged $5 minimum balance transfer and 14.75% APR on all remaining balances. Accounts subject to approval. Annual percentage rate (APR) may apply. Offered 02/12/20 to 07/31/20. Offered while supplies last. Must use Navy Federal’s mobile banking app. Rates may vary depending on creditworthiness. Rates may vary depending on creditworthiness. Rates subject to change. Rates may vary depending on creditworthiness. Rates subject to change.

Guardian
June 3, 2011/15
Summer preschool
Child, Youth and School Services hosts Strong Beginnings Boot Camp and part-time summer preschool in two sessions: Tuesday-July 1 and July 5-Aug. 5. Programs run Monday through Friday from 9 a.m.-2 p.m. Children may attend one or both sessions. Strong Beginnings is for children 4-5 years old and summer preschool is for children 3-4 years old. Call 531-7030.

Sports sign up
Registration continues for the following sports:
• Youth soccer is open to children ages 3-18. Cost for 3-year-olds is $20 and 4-18-year-olds is $40. Cost covers team jerseys and equipment. A skills assessment and parent meeting take place Aug. 9 and 11 at 6 p.m. at Perez Field.
• Tackle football is open to children ages 8-14. Cost is $75 and includes team jersey and player and team equipment. Players must provide their own football pants. A skills assessment and parent meeting will be held Aug. 16 and 18 at Perez Field at 6 p.m.
• Cheerleading is open to youth ages 8-14. Cost is $40 and includes a T-shirt, pompons and an award. Uniforms are not included. A skills assessment and parent meeting will be held Aug. 16 and 18 at Perez Field at 6 p.m. To register call 531-6004/4304.

Beat heat with bowling
Registration is ongoing for the Child, Youth and School Services “Beat the Heat” summer bowling program for ages 5 and up. Cost is $50 and includes bowling fees and a T-shirt. Youth receive beginners’ instructions from a certified bowling instructor for five weeks. Participants can choose to attend Tuesdays or Thursdays. Classes are held from 10 a.m.-noon at the Strike Zone Bowling Center. Teams are determined during the first week.
A tournament, prizes and party are planned for the final week. There are 10 openings per session. Call 531-6273.

Camp Warrior
Camp Warrior is held at North Toledo Bend State Park June 14-17 and July 25-28. The camp is for youth in grades six through 12. Cost is $145 per session. Army Family Covenant benefits may be used to help pay the fee. Register at Parent Central Services in bldg 400, Radio Road. For details call 531-1991.

Swim classes
Child, Youth and School Services is registering youth for the Middle School and Teen Program summer trips.
Children must be registered with CYSS. The following trips are held from 1-6 p.m. unless otherwise stated:
• Today — Hiking in Kisatchie Forest. Cost is $5 and kids need to bring a lunch.
• Wednesday — Fishing at Catfish Cove. The event is free but bring a lunch.
• June 22 — Shreveport Boardwalk, 9 a.m.-6 p.m. Cost is $10 and kids need to bring money for shopping.
• June 29 — SPAR Water Park. Cost is $5 and kids should bring about $25 for spending money. For more information call 531-1991.

Summer trips
Child, Youth and School Services is registering youth in grades six-12 for the Middle School and Teen Program summer trips.
Children must be registered with CYSS. The following trips are held from 1-6 p.m. unless otherwise stated:
• June 29 –– SPAR Water Park. Cost is $5
• July 11-21 –– Hiking at Kisatchie Forest. Cost is $5 and kids need to bring a lunch.
• July 18 –– Fishing at Catfish Cove. The event is free but bring a lunch.
• July 22 — Shreveport Boardwalk, 9 a.m.-6 p.m. Cost is $10 and kids need to bring money for shopping.
• July 29 — Paintball at Shreveport Boardwalk. Cost is $15 and kids need to bring money for snacks and spending money. For more information call 531-1991.

CYSS summer camp
Child, Youth and School Services is registering youth for summer camp. Youth in first through fifth grade, as of April 2011, are eligible to register. Summer camp ends Aug. 5. The camp runs daily, Monday through Friday, from 5:30 a.m.-6 p.m. for 10 weeks. Parents are welcome to register their child at any time during the camp season. Each week brings new adventures for participants. Fees are based on income. For more information call 531-1995.

JOIN NOW!
Join during the month of June and receive 3 MONTHS FREE
Join now and experience everything we have to offer: state-of-the-art equipment, unparalleled customer service and much more!
* Requires 18 month membership

1772 South 5th Street • Leesville, LA 71446
(337) 239-3222
LeesvilleLA@anytimefitness.com

MORE THAN 1,500 CLUBS anytimefitness.com

16/ Guardian
June 3, 2011
FORT POLK, La. — After the first inning of the May 31 post intramu-
ral softball game between the Mad Batters and Operations Group, it
seemed as if Ops Group players had
the opposition just where they
wanted them. Ops Group put up
three quick runs then held the Mad
Batters scoreless and it looked as if
the rout was on.

However, in the end it was the
Mad Batters squad that had Ops
Group’s number, forging a 5-5 tie in
regulation before claiming a 6-5 vic-
tory in 10 innings on Field No. 4 at
Fort Polk’s Soldiers Athletic Com-
plex.

“We’ve been a ‘come from be-
hind’ team all year,” Mad Batters
catch James Houston said. “We al-
ways fall behind early, then come
back for the win. I can’t explain it; it
just happens that way.”

That was the Mad Batters modus
operandi for their game against Ops
Group. Leadoff batter Mark Vechini
began the game with a single, then
was forced out at second by
Cleonus Roberts. Roberts came
to plate Vechini, who led off the fifth
inning with a single. But the lead
was short lived as the Mad Batters
responded in the bottom of the fifth.

Harrison led off the inning with a
double, moved to third on a single
by Francis Burns and scored a single
by Edington.

Pitching and defense dominated
the next four innings. At one point,
Houston retired 11 Ops Group bat-
ters in a row between the sixth and
ninth innings, before the run was
broken up with a 10th inning lead-
off triple by Thomas Bebout. But
Houston left Bebout stranded at
third, retiring the next three Ops
Groups batters on popups.

In the bottom of the 10th, with
the pitch and tried to get it over the
infield. I knew if I could do it then
Royce had enough speed to score.”

While slow pitch softball games
are typically high-scoring affairs,
Houston said defense and pitching
dominated on this night.

“Defense was the key for us,”
Houston said. “We were down 5-1
and they didn’t score again. We hit
the ball hard all night, it just went
right at their players.”

Houston, who is scheduled to
leave Fort Polk in June, said the
Mad Batters are peaking at the right
time.

“We’ve won seven in a row after
starting 0-3,” he said. “We’ve gotten
great defense and pitching and
we’ve had timely hitting. We should
do well in the season-ending tour-
nament if we keep playing like we
are now.”

The championship tournament is
slated for June 20-23.
Landrieu said, “Wow, this is a first class, inviting Army,” said Burns.

He explained to those gathered that roughly $180 million has been invested in Fort Polk Family housing. “That’s a huge investment in the future of our Soldiers and Families,” said Burns.

Burns agreed with Clary that it’s the partnerships and relationships between the community and Picerne that enhance the quality of life for Soldiers, Families, civilians and retirees serving at Fort Polk. “Picerne creates more than housing, they create community. This is where Fort Polk Soldiers hang their hats. Spouses, often single handedly, raise a Family and children live and learn. That is vitally important to the relevance, readiness and success of today’s Army,” said Burns.

Burns closed by saying that Fort Polk is thriving and growing. “We all have a part to play in making this installation the best hometown in the Army,” said Burns.

After touring the new neighborhood center, Landrieu said, “Wow, this is a first class, inviting community center. It’s exactly what military Families need.”

She said she was happy to be at Fort Polk to help cut the ribbon on one of these extraordinary neighborhood centers. “I think this center complements and supplements the terrific Family housing that is being built here. It’s a privatization model that is working all over the country. To come here and see the results of this kind of quality housing and community service support around Fort Polk’s military Families is wonderful,” said Landrieu.

Landrieu said she attended the event to focus on the extraordinary contributions military Families make every day. “I want to highlight and advocate for more help and support from the federal level for military Families and their quality of life,” said Landrieu.

Landrieu said that military Families are a large part of a Soldier’s ability to serve the country. “They are a very important part of our military. We need to care for them and be attentive to their needs. I think Soldiers fight better and with more confidence when they know their spouse and children are well taken care of. Fort Polk is really breaking through and is becoming a model for that kind of atmosphere,” said Landrieu.

As part of the celebration, Staff Sgt. Benjamin Collins, 46th Engineer Battalion, and his Family, were the Camellia residents chosen to help cut the ribbon at the grand opening. He said he thinks his Family was chosen for this honor because of his granddaughter, Kaylee Griffin, 10 months old. “We are always taking her to get cookies at Picerne. She is so cute and they all love her,” said Collins.

He said he was privileged to cut the ribbon. “This is the first time anything like this has happened to my Family,” said Collins. He thinks the center is great. “I’m glad it’s finally open. We live just up the hill so this is really accessible to us,” said Collins.

As a native of Hawaii, his spouse, Atesa Collins, feels right at home in this beachy atmosphere. She said she loves the center. “It’s beautiful. I’ll probably use the workout room and pool the most,” said Atesa.

Though two of their children were at work and one was at school, their daughter Kristahra Collins, 20, was there to help cut the ribbon. “This is a great place. It’s important to the community because it gives kids something to do and parents don’t have to worry about where their kids are or what they are doing,” said Kristahra.

Sgt. Rigel Lovell, Headquarters and Head- quarters Company, United States Army Garrison, is another Camellia Terrace resident that attended the grand opening. “The center is cool. My wife and I walked through a couple of days ago and we used the pool Sunday. She loves it,” said Lovell.
Unit Encounters

1st MEB

88th BSB — Hosts a spouses’ tour June 29. The tour departs the Family Readiness Center parking lot at 9 a.m. For more information contact Trisha Edington at ledington@hotmail.com.

88th BSB steering committee — Holds a meeting Wednesday at 4 p.m. at battalion headquarters. For more information call Melissa Box at 531-2847.

HHD, 519th MP Bn — The Family Readiness Group hosts a meeting June 21 from 5:30-6:30 p.m. in the battalion classroom. For more information contact (573) 842-7149 or e-mail mandie_m23@yahoo.com.

91st MP Det, 519th MP Bn — The FRG hosts a meeting June 21 from 6-7 p.m. at the detachment. For more information contact (337) 718-6337 or e-mail maggie_piper@yahoo.com.

204th MP Co, 519th MP Bn — The FRG hosts a meeting July 18 from 6-8 p.m. at Showboat Theatre. For more information contact (337) 213-1447 or (337) 718-7300 or e-mail 204brfrg@gmail.com.

209th MP Co, 519th MP Bn — The FRG hosts a meeting July 18 from 6-8 p.m. at DeRidder High School. The meeting is for pre-K to seventh grade. Cost is $30. Registration dates are Saturday, June 11, 18 and 25, from 9 a.m.-noon at Bailey’s Cafe, 107 Mahlon St., DeRidder, or 10 a.m.-noon at Taco Bell, 1145 Entrance Road, Fort Polk. For more information visit www.cdc.deridder.org or call (337) 208-7769.

Tennis camps

The annual Stephens Youth Tennis Camps will be held at Leesville Country Club. The classes are targeted for beginners and offered free of charge. Class dates are as follows:

• Ages 6-7, June 15-16 from 9-11:30 a.m.;
• Ages 8-11, June 22-24 from 9 a.m.-1 p.m.;
• Ages 12-14, June 29-July 1 from 9 a.m.-1 p.m.

Call 239-0355 for more information.

Clubs and Groups

Leesville TOPS

Take Off Pounds Sensibly meets Thursdays at the Vernon Parish Library, 1401 Nolan Trace in Leesville. Weigh-in runs from 5:05-5:55 p.m. Meetings start at 6 p.m. For more information call 208-6025.

DeRidder TOPS

Take Off Pounds Sensibly meets Tuesdays at the Wesley United Methodist Church, 701 N. Texas Street in DeRidder. Weigh-in runs from 5:30-5:55 p.m. Meetings start at 6 p.m. For more information call 531-8107.

Running club

The CenLa Runners Club meets Saturdays at 7 a.m. in the parking lot of Maple Terrace Housing Area on North Fort. Runs vary in distance and terrain. Call 348-2924 for details.

Purple Heart meeting

The Military Order of the Purple Heart Chapter 727 meets the third Saturday of each month at 10 a.m. in the New Llano American Legion Hall. Recipients of the Purple Heart are welcome. The next meeting is June 18. For details call 238-0170.

Chapter meeting

The Korean War Veterans Association, chapter 180, meets at 10 a.m. the second Saturday of each month at the Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 3106 in Leesville. The next meeting is June 11. Call 239-7341 for more information.

Resurrection Life

Resurrection Life Worship Center, 608 Nolan Trace, Leesville, holds its 10th anniversary June 10-12. Events include opening worship at 7 p.m. June 10, a musical at 7 p.m. June 11 and worship at 11 a.m. and 4 p.m. June 12. For more information visit www.rlwinternational.com or call 228-1151.

Family, friends day

Mt. Zion Baptist Church in DeRidder celebrates its annual Family and Friends Day Sunday at 5:30 p.m. Guests are Pastor Clemon Turner and the New Birth Baptist Church of Leesville.

Eastern Star

The Order of the Eastern Star hosts meetings the second and fourth Monday of each month at the Pride of Leesville Lodge, 1106 Butler St., Leesville. Prince Hall affiliated members are invited. The next meeting is June 13. For more information call (337) 348-9697/6334.

Boy Scouts

Boy Scouts of America meets Tuesdays at 6 p.m. at Rivers of Living Waters Church, 509 N. Third St., Leesville.

Omega Psi Phi

Omega Psi Phi Fraternity meets the second Tuesday of each month. The next meeting is June 14. For details call 208-7059 or 424-2286.

Garden club

The Vernon Parish Garden Club meets the second Saturday of each month from 2:50 p.m. at the Vernon Parish Library. The meeting features refreshments and a guest speaker. The next meeting is June 11. For details call 239-5919.

Pleasant Hill VBS

Pleasant Hill Baptist Church, 1210 M.W. Harrison, Leesville, hosts vacation Bible school Monday-June 10 from 9 a.m.-1 p.m. Lunch will be served daily and revival will be held each night at 7 p.m. For more information or transportation call (337) 304-6717 or e-mail mandie_m23@yahoo.com.

Kappa Alpha Psi

Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity meets on the second Wednesday of each month. The next meeting is Wednesday. Call (662) 616-7555 or e-mail nayari.cameron@us.army.mil for details.
WE, MARKET BASKET STORES, INC., DBA. MARKET BASKET NO. 40, are applying to the Office of Alcohol & Tobacco Control of the State of Louisiana for a permit to sell beverages of "High and Low Alcohol Content" at retail in the Parish of Vernon, at the following address: 9058 Shreveport Highway, Leesville, LA. David Sklyar Thompson, President.

MULTI FAMILY GARAGE SALE, Saturday June 4, 2011 from 0700-1300. 6304 Noldan St, Dogwood Terrace.

FOR RENT: Immaculate 3 bedroom, 2 bath, central a/c, close to lake. Military welcome. Electricity on. $800 per month, $300 deposit. Call 318-565-4368. 6-24

FOR RENT: 2 Bedroom 2 Bath, Gulf Front Condo at Phoenix I, Orange Beach Alabama, Please go to website, (www.meyerre.com) Property ID: P1012 review photo of unit and Amenities. Call (800) 213-9544

VERY NICE, three bedroom, one bath home in Leesville, 1407 South 11th St.. $700 per month, $700 deposit. No Pets. Call 537-3287 or 208-7092.

FOR RENT TO WORKING PEOPLE. One and two bedroom residencies. Call 318-793-8901. 6-10

IMMACULATE 3BR/2BA HOME in one of DeRidder's newest neighborhoods. Granite countertops, 9ft ceilings throughout, many other amenities. Asking $166,900. 985-226-3567.

**FOR RENT: 2 Bedroom 2 Bath, Gulf Front Condo at Phoenix I, Orange Beach Alabama, Please go to website, (www.meyerre.com) Property ID: P1012 review photo of unit and Amenities. Call (800) 213-9544

***HOME FOR SALE*** Pitkin, LA Completely Remodeled Custom 3 Bedroom/ 2 Bath Brick Home, Living Room plus Den, Ceramic Tile Throughout, Large Fenced Back Yard... CALL FOR DETAILS!! (318)358-5455 or (318)613-4582

**RECENTLY UPGRADED & REMODELED!! This beautiful brick home features custom utility room, custom built kitchen with oak cabinets, and much more. It also has a workshop and sits on two city lots. Remodeled and upgraded perfectly! You can't miss out on this GREAT BUY!!! 106 KIMBERLY DR Leesville, LA 71446 MLS #29-56 List Price $151,500 Call Candice Skinner Today for a showing! 337-353-4272

VERY NICE, three bedroom, one bath home in Leesville, 1407 South 11th St.. $700 per month, $700 deposit. No Pets. Call 537-3287 or 208-7092.

FOR RENT TO WORKING PEOPLE. One and two bedroom residencies. Call 318-793-8901. 6-10

IMMACULATE 3BR/2BA HOME in one of DeRidder's newest neighborhoods. Granite countertops, 9ft ceilings throughout, many other amenities. Asking $166,900. 985-226-3567.
**CHAPEL RENTALS**

Attractive 1,2 & 3 BR.

**FOR LEASE:**

Brand NEW home today!!

**GET Land:** Need a Home, I CAN HELP

**WE CAN GET**

WE CAN GET

**NEW Home-NO Problems**

**SPECIAL PROGRAM**

We now take Visa, MasterCard & Discover.

**BACK Home COLLECTION**

**Find Your Treasure Here!!**

Rent-A-Center

2414 S. 5th St. Suite F

Leesville, LA 71446

Next to Wal-Mart

**PLACE YOUR AD IN THE HANDS OF EVERY SOLDIER AT FORT POLK.**

Call your local advertising representative today

**JENNIFER RUSSELL**

801.867.5310

Sales@thefortpolkguardian.com
Call 318-565-4059 or 318-430-0072. Motion picture, paid $229 but just asking $90, call 337-718-3166.

HYPER GIRLS MOUNTAIN BIKE $30.00. Roadtiller $200.00 OBO Both in good condition if interested please call 337-424-1364.

**I WILL PAY 20X face value for U.S. Silver coins dated 1964 or prior. Call 337-353-2923.

NEED RIDE pickup owner from New Llano Adolph’s to Fort Polk will help with gas. Please call Charles 337-718-6513. Have Bicycle to carry.

DENIED SOCIAL SECURITY Disability or SSI? We can help you! No money up front. Call now (318) 221-0767.

VA HOME LOAN You served your country, now let us serve you! Free Pre-Approval. Great interest rates. Louisiana Mortgage Associates, Sulphur, LA 318-533-8677, 6-17.

APPOINTMENTS or Walk-Ins Welcome

The Works
Cut, Color & Blowdry $2.00 off
1 Month Unlimited Tanning $5.00 off

Hair & Tanning Salon
$10.0% Military Discount

Men’s Cut
$13.00 with Shampoo

ALL WOOD GUN CABINET. Holds 8 guns with shelves on side. Storage on bottom with keys, In great shape. Asking $250 or best offer. Call 318-565-4059 or 318-430-0072.

POND STOCKING Grass Carp/Game Fish. Malone’s Fish Farm 501- 676-0207 or See Store Display at Tractor Supply in Natchitoches. Delivery Available.

30 ROUND STEEL AK-47 MAGAZINE with 1 box of 7.62x39mm ammo. As new condition. $20.00. 3 each Italian Carcano steel charger clips. Fits 6.5 or 7.35mm ammo. $15.00. Call 337-238-2970.

FOR SALE: Oak Dining room table with 6 chairs first $275.00. For more information please call 337-238-1509.

YAMADA WASHER AND DRYER SETS, heavy duty, excellent condition. $275. Call 337-462-2500, 6-3.

BRAND NEW WHIRLPOOL GAS RANGE FOUR BURNERS WHITE FOR SALE $275 or Best Offer. Call 337-353-1020 or 337-396-5007.

UNITED TAN

For more info call 337-378-7181 ask for Jeremiah.

MOTORCYCLE JACKET, Fieldsheer brand, black, 3X, new condition, removable pads, paid $229 just asking $90, call 337-718-3166.

**ACE CONSTRUCTION Drywall, Room Additions, shingles, Kitchen, Cabintets, Flooring and carpentry. FREE estimates. 337-912-3512.

**MOSES & SON A-Round Tuart Handyman Service From the Roof to the Floor. We do it all, no job too small. Call us for your home repair and remodeling needs. Free Estimates. 337-375-5988.

**TRACTOR WORK BUSH HOGGING, driveways repaired, disk in garden, sod broken, dirt spread, and all types of blade work. Free estimates. Job no too small. Phone 337-239-6902.

**GUARDIAN


25 New Drivers Needed ASAP! 1-888-247-9245 or visit www.VERITTcareers.com. EOE. (LA-SCAN)

TRAJECTORS

**TRACTORS SALE Mulching Kit for 46 inch Zero Turn Husqvarna Riding Lawnmower includes cover plus 2 sets of blades used only 2 times. Sell $40.00 call 337-357-5007.

Pesticide Applicator Training is also available! 6-3. Training is also available! 6-3. Turn in ads to the Public Affairs Office, Sulphur, LA 70663, or fax to: 318-352-3667.

FOR SALE: Malone’s Fish Farm 501-676-0207 or See Store Display at Tractor Supply in Natchitoches. Delivery Available.

WANTED: Grass Carp/Game Fish. Malone’s Fish Farm 501-676-0207 or See Store Display at Tractor Supply in Natchitoches. Delivery Available.

POND STOCKING Grass Carp/Game Fish. Malone’s Fish Farm 501-676-0207 or See Store Display at Tractor Supply in Natchitoches. Delivery Available.

FOR SALE: Oak Dining room table with 6 chairs first $275.00. For more information please call 337-238-1509.

YAMADA WASHER AND DRYER SETS, heavy duty, excellent condition. $275. Call 337-462-2500, 6-3.


FOR SALE: 2005 CHEVY COBALT. OBO. Call Richard at 318-565-4059 or 318-430-0072. Asking $4500

FOR SALE: Malone’s Fish Farm 501-676-0207 or See Store Display at Tractor Supply in Natchitoches. Delivery Available.


318-565-4059 or 318-430-0072. Motion picture, paid $229 but just asking $90, call 337-718-3166.

**ACE CONSTRUCTION Drywall, Room Additions, shingles, Kitchen, Cabinets, Flooring and carpentry. FREE estimates. 337-912-3512.

**MOSES & SON A-Round Tuart Handyman Service From the Roof to the Floor. We do it all, no job too small. Call us for your home repair and remodeling needs. Free Estimates. 337-375-5988.

**TRACTOR WORK BUSH HOGGING, driveways repaired, disk in garden, sod broken, dirt spread, and all types of blade work. Free estimates. Job no too small. Phone 337-239-6902.

Pond Stocking Grass Carp/Game Fish. Malone’s Fish Farm 501-676-0207 or See Store Display at Tractor Supply in Natchitoches. Delivery Available.

For more info call 337-378-7181 ask for Jeremiah.

Auto services - MOTO R CYCLE JACKET, Fieldsheer brand, black, 3X, new condition, removable pads, paid $229 but just asking $90, call 337-718-3166.

**ACE CONSTRUCTION Drywall, Room Additions, shingles, Kitchen, Cabinets, Flooring and carpentry. FREE estimates. 337-912-3512.

**MOSES & SON A-Round Tuart Handyman Service From the Roof to the Floor. We do it all, no job too small. Call us for your home repair and remodeling needs. Free Estimates. 337-375-5988.

**TRACTOR WORK BUSH HOGGING, driveways repaired, disk in garden, sod broken, dirt spread, and all types of blade work. Free estimates. Job no too small. Phone 337-239-6902.

Housekeeping - HOUSE KEEPING, references, quality work. Call 337-240-2328, 6-3.

For more info call 337-378-7181 ask for Jeremiah.

Looking for - LOOKING FOR heat and air window unit at least $1500 BTU. Good condition, reasonably priced. Call 318-565-4059 or 318-430-0072.

Southern Lumber - 2006 HARLEY DAVIDSON XL CUSTOM SPORTSTER 1200 Chrome and Screaming Eagle package. Two sets leather bags. One extra bag.


Parts - **2006 PT CRUISER. Auto. Comes with a kick system -212’s. $104K 516-528-5070.

Parts - 2005 CHEVY COBALT. Getting rid of 2005 Chevy Cobalt. $1000 as is (negotiable), to sell or sell for parts. For more info call 337-378-7181 ask for Jeremiah.

2006 HARLEY DAVIDSON XL CUSTOM SPORTSTER 1200 Chrome and Screaming Eagle package. Two sets leather bags. One extra bag. $5,400 Asking $23,500 316-528-5070.
At Don's Home Furnishings

Our Price Tags Are The Same Everyday During Our HALF PRICE Sale

Every Item In The Store IS Tagged Down!* • 50% off • 25% off • 10% off

This Savings Is Off The Same Price Tags We Use Everyday, All Year Long! Because At Don's, We Believe Half Price Should Really Mean...

Save Like Never Before!

All Red Tagged Merchandise 50% off Regular Sale Price!

Now is the Best Time To Decorate Your Home...
With New Living Room, Dining Room, Den or Bedroom Furniture. We carry Coffee and End Tables, Lamps, Recliners, Day Beds, Rockers, and Accessories. Items in Stock

Special Military Pricing Schedule

All Green Tagged Merchandise 25% off Regular Sale Price!

FREE DELIVERY AND INSTALLATION

HOURS: Open Monday-Saturday 9 a.m. Until 6 p.m.

Hwy. 171 Just N. Of Rosepine  Hwy. 171 Just S. Of Leesville
337 462-3003  337 239-4611

If The Sign Out Front Doesn't Say "DON'S", You're At The Wrong Place!