

# 100 YEARS

CELEBRATING A CENTENNIAL  
AT JOINT BASE LEWIS-McCHORD  
1917-2017







# PROUD TO SERVE THOSE WHO SERVE



**We Salute You  
Joint Base Lewis-McChord  
on your 100th Anniversary**



FOLDS of HONOR

PROUD PARTNER

**ENJOY RESPONSIBLY**

© 2015 ANHEUSER-BUSCH, BUDWEISER® BEER, ST. LOUIS, MO

CAR PROS KIA  
PROUDLY SERVES  
JBLM MILITARY  
MEMBERS AND  
THEIR FAMILIES



# THANK YOU

CAR PROS KIA TACOMA WOULD LIKE TO THANK JOINT BASE LEWIS-MCCHORD,  
ITS MEMBERS AND FAMILIES FOR 100 YEARS AS A MAJOR PART OF OUR COMMUNITY.



**AT CAR PROS KIA TACOMA YOUR SERVICE MATTERS.**

CAR PROS WAS FOUNDED BY A RETIRED MILITARY MEMBER, AND HIS FAMILY CONTINUES HIS COMMITMENT TO SERVING YOU AND YOUR FAMILIES. MILITARY DISCOUNT AVAILABLE.

**Car Pros**  
Kia of Tacoma

7230 S TACOMA WAY, TACOMA, WA 98409

[www.carproskia.com](http://www.carproskia.com)

**(253) 830-3010**

EVERYBODY KNOWS, CAR PROS SELLS FOR LESS!



# A well-deserved 100 candles

## Happy Birthday JBLM

By Ken Swarner  
Publisher

In this part of the country, any institution celebrating 100 consecutive years in operation is amazing — these milestones are certainly few and far between. The fact that the organization is a place that serves our greater good, protects us, and fights for our freedoms — well, that is simply awe inspiring. What started as Camp Lewis in 1917, became Fort Lewis, added McChord Air Force Base and is now Joint Base Lewis-McChord, turns 100 this year, and we explore those 10 decades in the magazine you now hold in your hands, or are enjoying online (at [northwestmilitary.com](http://northwestmilitary.com)).

It has been known by many names, including the *Evergreen*

Post and Guardian of the Northwest, but one fact has remained constant, the connection between the base and the community has been tight. Through it all, the ups and downs, the people here have championed our base, and frankly, vice-versa as well.

Community leaders first and foremost advocated for the situating of Camp Lewis in the South Sound for economic reasons. Local leaders knew the impact government paychecks could have on Tacoma and the surrounding towns, and they lobbied hard to bring the base here. In fact, the people of Pierce County literally

voted to give the land to the War Department. Today, that economic interest is still true — this is a military town, evidenced by the fact that in Pierce County alone, one-third of all paychecks cashed in area banks come directly from JBLM.

That is billions in annual payroll, not to mention government contracts, school impact funds and much more.

There has always been an economic interest in maintaining a military base in the area, but there are reasons we are lucky that far extend beyond our cash registers. We are fortunate to have such a diverse group of people in uniform and

their families, from all political and religious persuasions living among us. They volunteer and support our schools, civic clubs, churches and communities. They bring fresh ideas, patriotism and service, and a can-do attitude that enriches the South Sound.

They come and go, and thanks to social media, it's easier to stay in contact with now, but even if we only remember them as first names in our third grade class, or the mom that volunteered at the bake sale, we are better for knowing them.

JBLM's 100th Anniversary is more than dates and unit movements — it's a reminder of those friends we once had — of the lasting positive impacts military people have made on our community — and it's about looking forward to more of the same over the next 100 years.



**CANNON COMPANIES**



**SAFETY | QUALITY | INTEGRITY | TEAMWORK**

*Connecting the Future Since 1985*



**INDUSTRIAL ELECTRICAL  
MEDIUM / HIGH VOLTAGE**



**INSIDE / OUTSIDE PLANT  
TELECOMMUNICATIONS**



**PLAT DEVELOPMENT / SITE WORK  
CIVIL INFRASTRUCTURE**



**OCCUPATIONAL SAFETY  
TRAINING COURSES**

C9600 South L Street JBLM, WA 98433 | Phone: 253.922.2787 | Fax: 253.922.3245 | [CannonConstructionInc.com](http://CannonConstructionInc.com)

**PROUDLY SERVING JOINT BASE LEWIS-MCCHORD  
FOR OVER 20+ YEARS**





# [protection]

[pro•tec•tion] prə-'tek-shən: *The action of protecting someone or something, or the state of being protected. synonyms: defense, security, shielding, preservation, conservation, safekeeping, safeguarding, safety, sanctuary, shelter, refuge, lee, immunity, insurance, indemnity. More a person or thing that prevents someone or something from suffering harm or injury.*

Every day of our lives, we Americans have the peace of mind knowing we are protected by the strongest military in the world. In our small way, the Sunset Auto Family would like to extend some peace of mind protection back to those of you who serve in our military, active duty and retired.

**Warranty Protection for Life™** is a No Cost To You, Limited Powertrain Warranty that is honored at any ASE certified repair facility in North America for as long as you own a qualifying new or pre-owned vehicle. This includes most new Chevrolets, Fords and all qualifying pre-owned vehicles less than ten years old and with less than 100,000 miles\* from any Sunset dealership.

This is a Sunset Exclusive. No other dealership offers **Warranty Protection For Life™**.

Day or night. 24 Hours a day, no matter where you are in the United States and/or Canada now, or when your time in Washington at JBLM has concluded. Wherever you and your family call home, your vehicle from Sunset will be covered for life. More importantly, this is peace of mind you will appreciate even if you are deployed half way around the world defending this country - knowing your family AT HOME is protected!



## SUNSET CHEVROLET

910 Traffic Ave. - Sumner WA 98390  
"Tiny Overhead Sumner"  
**1-800-NEXT-CHEV**  
[www.SunsetChevrolet.com](http://www.SunsetChevrolet.com)



## SUNSET FORD

6616 166th Ave East - Sumner, WA 98390  
"Just off Highway 410"  
**1-800-NEXT-FORD**  
[www.SunsetFordOfSumner.com](http://www.SunsetFordOfSumner.com)



## SUNSET TRUCKS

401 River Road - Puyallup, WA 98371  
"On The Right Side of the Road"  
**1-888 NEXT-TRUCK**  
[www.SunsetTrucks.com](http://www.SunsetTrucks.com)



A dealer documentary fee of up to \$150 may be added to sale price or capitalized cost.  
\* Some restrictions apply. See dealer for complete details.

# It began with a glacier

## The rise and rise of Joint Base Lewis-McChord

By Ken Swarner

Joint Base Lewis-McChord was once covered by a mile-thick sheet of ice. Geologists believe the greater Puget Sound basin was carved out by this ice (named the Vashon Glacier), which scraped and drove across the region 30,000 years ago. It was this process that created the perfect flat terrain for military training that we see here today — which inspired first the Washington National Guard to use the land at the turn of the 20th century, and several years later, by the active Army preparing for World War I.

### But first

Prior to the discovery of our training grounds in the South Sound, the Northwest was placed on the map by Capt. George Vancouver's expedition by ship here, followed by the Lewis & Clark Expedition. Meriwether Lewis, the namesake of our base, and William Clark, arrived at the mouth of the Columbia River at present day Astoria, Oregon, on Tuesday, November 19, 1805, strengthening claim to the NW for the United States. Although they did not come this far north, it was these two captains, their NCOs and soldiers, who ushered the way for industry, settlers and of course, the military, to follow. And after their exploration, they reported to President Thomas Jefferson, "The Northwest ... is a land of sylvan beauty ... a multitude of lakes, rivers and streams. A huge inland body of water, allowing for ideal seaports, extends north and south for 50 miles; innumerable acres of straight and valuable timber, a rich topsoil, and from the ocean outside, easily accessible."

### Pierce County's first fort

At the turn of the 19th century, the U.S. Army's primary function was that of road building, map

making and exploring. Still, the primary incentive to settle the PNW was economics, not military advantage. The British, or more specifically the Hudson Bay Company, was the first to build forts here to protect those interests. First south in Vancouver, then Victoria, B.C., and finally Fort Nisqually in present day DuPont, the HBC brought the modern world to the region.

Soon, the HBC found it difficult to attract settlers, so in 1838, its subsidiary, the Puget Sound Agricultural Company, attracted nine families from Canada to start farms here. They left in 1842, dismayed by the primitive conditions. The PSAC switched to putting employees here, not settlers, and soon farms were actively producing 15,000 bushels of wheat a year, which also drew settlers from the United States to the region as well.

### The second fort

The Treaty of Oregon was signed in 1846, establishing the border between the U.S. and Canada at the 54th parallel, sending the HBC and PSAC packing. The need for a new fort to support the flood of American immigrants, worried about Native American attacks, brought five U.S. Army officers and 75 soldiers here in 1849 to establish Fort Steilacoom on the grounds of present day Western State Hospital in Lakewood. The number of problems with the Native tribes was low, so when the Civil War broke out, the active force moved out. In its place a voluntary militia of Californians and Washingtonians kept the peace for eight more years, but in 1868, the post was closed.

### The National Guard

As the population of the Wash-

ington Territory expanded, so did the need for protection. When the population reached 75,000 in 1880, a group of generals were elected by popular vote to organize a Washington National Guard. They formed six companies from men across the state, and to test their esprit-de-corps, an encampment was held near present day Olympia in 1885.

Subsequently, several more encampments followed, though the location changed. At American Lake, near the Olympia branch of the Northern Pacific Railway, 220 acres of land were selected in 1903 for a permanent National Guard training camp. This camp was named Camp Murray in 1915.

The terrain



Washington National Guard soldiers relax during a 1916 exercise at Camp Murray. PHOTO COURTESY OF HARRY MCMURRAY

proved excellent, and in 1906, 1908, 1910 and 1912, similar maneuvers were organized. These camps were instrumental in convincing Army officials to eventually build a permanent post here. For decades following Lewis and Clark's journey to the Pacific Northwest, settlers, soldiers and politicians recognized the strategic value of the South Puget Sound area. From Fort Nisqually to Fort Steilacoom to Camp Murray, the momentum slowly built towards the inevitable — the construction of Camp Lewis.



Army soldiers stand in a kitchen at Fort Steilacoom in 1855. BILL WOOD COLLECTION



# Alaska Airlines salutes those who serve.

To all who have served, we thank you.



*Alaska*<sup>®</sup>  
AIRLINES



# The start of something great

## Camp Lewis was a gift from the people of Pierce County

By Ken Swarner

The first soldier of any influence to recommend the construction of an Army post at American Lake was Maj. Gen. Arthur Murray. On a visit in 1912 to inspect National Guard training, Murray, who at the time was chief of the United States Army Board, delegated to inspect possible sites for building a training and mobilization camp, said, "There is no finer Army post site anywhere in the U.S. ... in this area there is every physical condition desirable for Army training

and maneuvers."

Five years later, Murray's vision came to fruition. It was a banker in Tacoma, Stephen Appleby (National Bank of Tacoma) — who knew the Army needed a mobilization for our potential foray into World War I — that convinced Maj. Gen. J. Frank Bell, commander of the West Department of the U.S. Army headquartered in San Francisco to appoint Capt. Richard Parks to check out the South Sound. Bell later visited and sent his endorsement to his superiors.

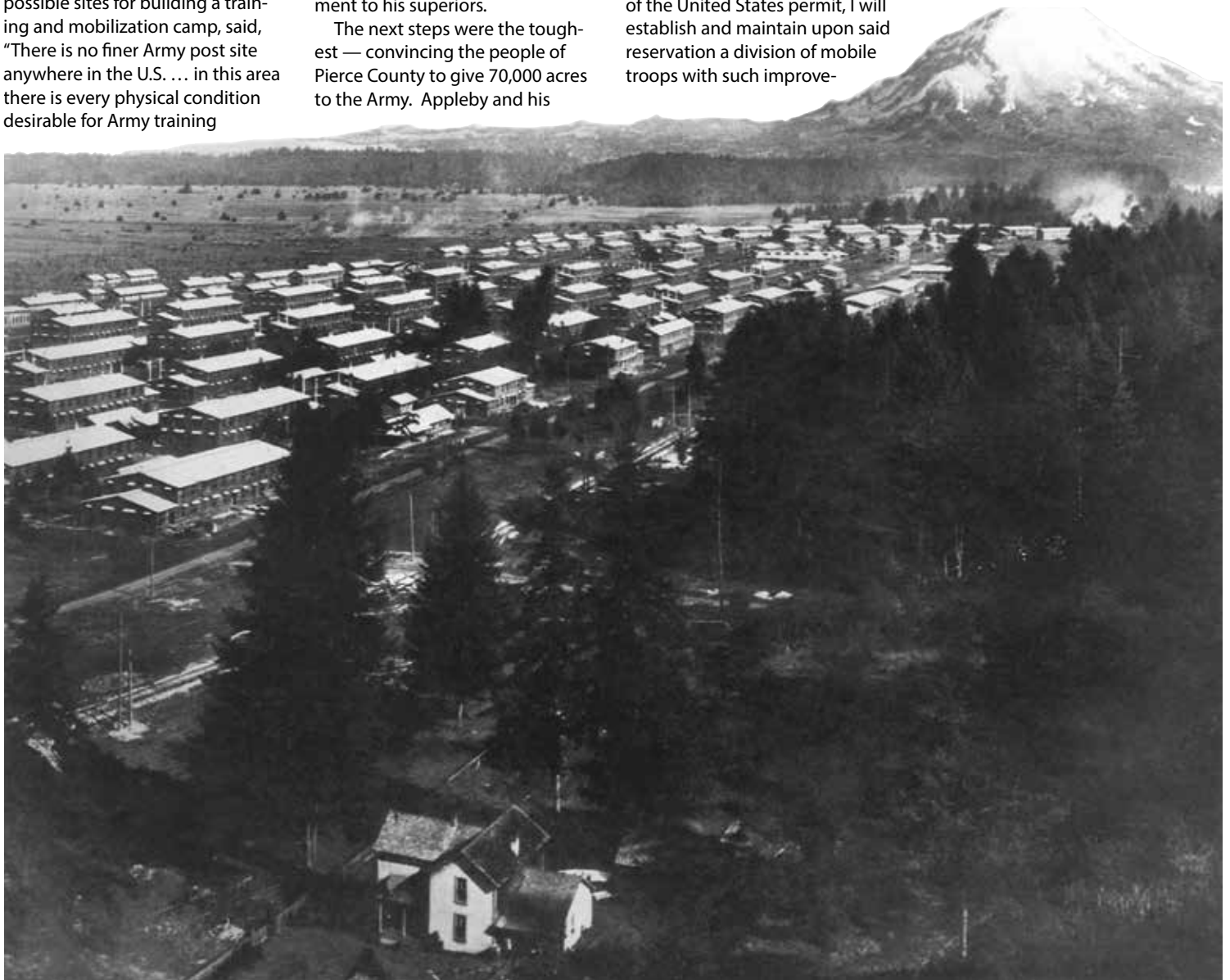
The next steps were the toughest — convincing the people of Pierce County to give 70,000 acres to the Army. Appleby and his

committee that included J.T. Lyle; former assistant attorney general of the state, Jesse O. Thomas; Frank Baker, publisher of the *Tacoma News Tribune*; and his father Elbert Baker campaigned for both local votes as well as to the Secretary of War Newton D. Baker (no relation to Frank and Elbert). At the end of December 1916, Secretary Baker promised, "... as soon as and as long as the appropriations made by Congress and the military demands upon the mobile forces of the United States permit, I will establish and maintain upon said reservation a division of mobile troops with such improve-

ments as are provided for in said appropriation."

Notice the agreement states "as long as." To this day, if the Defense Department ceases to use Joint Base Lewis-McChord, the land returns to Pierce County. On January 6, 1917, 86 percent of the 29,199 Pierce County voters who turned out to the polls approved bonding themselves for \$2 million to purchase 104 square miles of land to donate to the Army for the

Continued on page 12



BILL WOOD COLLECTION

The camp rose up from the 19th century farms that existed before the Army rolled in to town.





Nothing spells success like **JBLM**.  
**Congratulations** on turning 100.



**RAPIDGate®**



Learn more at:  
[www.rapidgate.com/JBLM100](http://www.rapidgate.com/JBLM100)

SureID® salutes the thousands of dedicated men and women at Joint Base Lewis-McChord who, since 1917, have helped keep our country safe and secure. We understand the magnitude of providing trusted security in today's uncertain world. Since 2004, our RAPIDGate® program has provided secure and streamlined access for nearly 25,000 employees at 2,000 companies that conduct business at JBLM.

Every employee at SureID recognizes JBLM as a vital part of America's proud military history. We wish you another 100 years of success in protecting the freedom we all enjoy.

A lot has happened since we began as McChord Federal Credit Union in 1955. We changed our name, expanded our membership, and now have branches in King, Pierce and Thurston counties. But we will never forget where it all started.

**THANKS FOR LETTING US BE A PART OF YOUR 100 YEARS!**



## ENJOY THE BENEFITS OF BEING A HARBORSTONE MEMBER:



Full suite of necessities for your personal and business financial success



Mobile and tablet apps for banking on your schedule anywhere, anytime



Helpful, friendly staff to assist with financial needs

**ANYONE IN WASHINGTON STATE CAN JOIN.**



**Harborstone.com**

Federally insured by NCUA.





# A gate of logs and stone

## Renowned architect left his mark on local area

By Nancy Covert

Spokane's famous Davenport Hotel, the *Spokane Chronicle* Building, even a modest home in Metaline Falls that now is used as a community theater, are just a few examples of the many early 20th century buildings designed by an Ohioan who came west to follow his career.

Once Kirtland Cutter began his practice in Spokane in the late 19th century, he branched out to designing homes in the Lakewood area for about 30 years. He concluded his career in 1939 in California.

One of Cutter's most distinctive works, a stone and timber structure near the main gate of Joint Base

Lewis-McChord, is visible from I-5 as motorists travel on that main route. Strictly ornamental today, it was for many years the actual main gate for Camp Lewis, as the base was known in 1917, the year the gate was constructed.

In his book about Cutter's architectural career, Henry C. Matthews, Washington State University professor of architecture, wrote that Chester Thorne was instrumental in having the military camp located on the site near American Lake and "may have helped to secure the commission for Cutter."

The gateway to the military establishment, built of rough hewn stone and logs, took its inspiration from the design of forts in the early years of Washington Territory. Two "fortified" blockhouses, similar to those that existed at Fort Nisqually (in present-day DuPont), support-

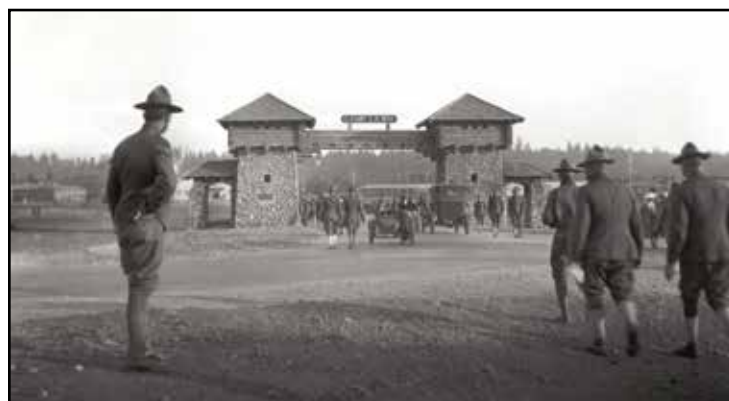


PHOTO COURTESY OF THE LAKEWOOD HISTORICAL SOCIETY

World War I soldiers and vehicles go inside and out Camp Lewis under the gate designed by Kirtland Cutter in 1917.

ed a canopy made of whole tree trunks spanning the roadway. Archways allowed the passage of pedestrians on either side.

In the Lakewood area, Cutter designed Thornewood Castle, Villa Carman, the Dolge House and the

Jones House.

Heather Hill, Ernest Dolge's home near Lake Steilacoom, is not as ornate as some of Cutter's other designs, but quality was not skimmed on the home of this

Continued on page 12

Visit us at [www.LakewoodCarTabs.com](http://www.LakewoodCarTabs.com)

## Military Discounts & Drive-Up Vehicle Tabs

TAB RENEWALS ★ TITLE TRANSFERS ★ ORDER ONLINE ★ DRIVE-UP & COUNTER SERVICE

### Happy 100th Joint Base Lewis-McChord

No matter what you drive, we've served our local military for 35 years with six customer service stations, online renewals, drive-up tab renewal pick-up, a full-service coffee shop, ATM machines, and experienced & dedicated licensing professionals.

Lakewood Vehicle Licensing • 10102 Bristol Ave • Lakewood (Located by the Lakewood Towne Center) • (253)588-7786

Save Time, Renew Online      [LakewoodCarTabs.com](http://LakewoodCarTabs.com)

## The start of something great

continued from page 8

future Camp Lewis.

### A city is built

With the flag waving enthusiasm, which pervaded the entire nation as the United States entered World War I in April 1917, thousands of laborers poured onto the once quiet Nisqually plain to build Camp Lewis, a city of 60,000. Under the leadership of Capt. David L. Stone, who later commanded Fort Lewis'

Third Division from 1936-1937, the site went from weeds and trees on May 26 to 1,757 buildings and 422 other structures 90 days later. Eleven barracks and six stables were built per eight-hour shift. Supplies to build the post included 53.9 million feet of lumber, 14,567 doors, 65.9 miles of pipe and 373 street lamps. The cost was \$7 million, included 10,000 laborers, and included the \$4,000 main gate built of field stone and squared logs with block houses still standing today at Liberty Gate. (see next story)

### Lewis' first recruit

On September 1, 1917, Herbert W. Hauck, who drove Col. Peter Davison from Seattle, spent the next three days as the only recruit at Camp Lewis. He was also the first soldier to arrive who would belong to the 91st Division, known as Washington's Own, even though the majority of division soldiers were from California. By the end of the week, however, 1,500 new recruits arrived from all over the western states to train, and before October, 10,000 recruits were

digging trenches and pulling KP across the base.

In all, 60,000 men trained at and deployed from Camp Lewis during WW I. The first commander of the camp, an 1879 West Point graduate and veteran of the Santiago and Manila campaigns was Maj. Gen. Henry Greene. Of course, technically, Lt. Fred Neville was the first commander of Lewis since his unit, Motor Truck Company No. 355 arrived early in May 1917, and was the only unit at the camp until late summer.

## A gate of logs and stone

continued from page 11

lumber baron.

Dolge was so proud of the work that went into his mansion that it's said he offered any visitor \$100 if the visitor could find any knotholes in the beams of the attic. It's also said that no one ever collected on Dolge's offer.

In 2012, Lakewood Historical Society members had the opportunity to tour Villa Carman for its summer fundraiser. It is hoped that

someday it can host tours to these other sites as well.

Kirtland Kelsey Cutter was born August 20, 1860, in the Village of East Rockport, near Cleveland, Ohio, spending his first 17 years at the home of his mother's grandfather, Jared Kirtland, a distinguished physician and naturalist. After his father's death, Cutter went to Europe, where he studied in the early 1880s. In October 1886, encouraged by his relatives, he made the long train journey on the Northern Pacific to Spokane Falls, Washing-

ton Territory.

The City by the Falls was ripe for development, but before Cutter launched his own architectural firm, he painted scenery for an amateur production of *The Mikado* at Joy's Opera House. The cast included some of his future clients.

His earliest structures followed the Queen Anne design; over the next several decades, however, Cutter incorporated a variety of styles in the distinctive homes he built, including Swiss, German, and ultimately Mediterranean and

Spanish. Especially noteworthy designs include the Davenport Hotel, the Idaho House designed for the 1893 Columbian Exposition, Lake McDonald Lodge at Glacier National Park in Montana, the Rainier Club in Seattle, and the interior rooms at the Tacoma Hotel.

Read more about this renowned early northwest architect in *Kirtland Cutter: Architect in the Land of Promise*, by Henry C. Matthews, published by the University of Washington Press, 1998.

## Snapshot



PHOTO BY JACK ALLISON

The Camp Lewis band plays a send off for 91st Division soldiers headed to France, loading trains here.





# A camp, a castle and a courtship

## The story behind Thornewood Castle

By Marguerite Cleveland

Tucked behind a moss, encrusted brick wall, sits an imposing 500-year-old Tudor, gothic mansion, the only English castle in the Pacific Northwest, and, just across the bustling I-5 corridor, sits the imposing Joint Base Lewis-McChord, considered the 7th largest city in Washington state. To see what these seemingly disparate entities have in common, you must look back in time 100 years ago.

In 1907, Chester Thorne, a prominent banker and well-respected civic leader, purchased a 400-year-old manor from England and had it dismantled and shipped back to Washington. He commissioned the famous architect, Kirtland Kelsey Cutter, to manage the three-year project that was to become Thornewood Castle. Known as "the house that love built", Thorne gifted the castle and especially its gardens, to his wife Anna. They resided at the home with their daughter Anita.

Chester Thorne was one of many Pierce County citizens advocating the passing of a bond issue to purchase 70,000 acres of land for the Army on the banks of American Lake. This is the only time in the history of the United States that a local community donated land for the purpose of building a military base. That sense of support among the military and civilian communities exists to this day.

Shortly before building began on Camp Lewis, Capt. David L.

the camp donated the money for the gate. It reflects

Cadwallader Corse and their three children. The now Lt. Col. Stone was transferred and went on

to a successful Army career built on the reputation he earned during his time at Camp Lewis. Stone kept in contact with the Thornes and especially Anita during the 1920s and 1930s.

Upon the death of his wife in 1929 and learning that Anita Thorne was now divorced, Brig. Gen. Stone and Anita began courting. The two married Jan. 1, 1936, in

a society wedding at Thornewood Castle celebrated by the Fort Lewis chaplain. After a honeymoon in California, Anita became an Army wife. For his final assignment, Maj. Gen. Stone returned to Fort Lewis where he lived on post in Quarters 1, the commanding general's home. Upon retirement, he and Anita moved into Thornewood Castle. Their love story continued until his death in 1959 and she followed in 1994, nine months short of her 100th birthday. They are buried side by side in the Fort Lewis Cemetery.

Thornewood Castle survived some tough years but was lovingly restored by the Robinson family and turned into a bed and breakfast. In 2001, the Stephen King movie, *Rose Red* was filmed at Thornewood. Fort Lewis went from a bustling WWI camp to a fort, and today, JBLM. The 100th anniversary of JBLM will be celebrated throughout 2017 with events in both the military and civilian communities.

Thornewood Castle, open for lodging only, is at 8601 N. Thorne Ln. SW, Lakewood, (253) 584-4393, [www.thornewoodcastle.com](http://www.thornewoodcastle.com).

PHOTOS COURTESY THORNEWOODCASTLE.COM  
**The Thornewood Castle is open for overnight stays close to JBLM with a history that dates back 100+ years.**



Stone arrived at the construction site to take charge. He was considered a go-getter and a careful steward of the government's money. Construction began in June of 1917 and in 90 days, 1,500 buildings were completed as well as roads, streets, and a modern sewer system. Camp Lewis was the first of the Army Camps built during WWI to open, and came in at the lowest price. During this time, Capt. Stone became good friends with the Thorne family.

The iconic "Liberty Gate" was designed by Kirtland Kelsey Cutter, whose design

the design of early Pacific Northwest blockhouses and has similarities to old Fort Nisqually. The "Liberty Gate", it has become a symbol of JBLM and has been used in countless tour guides, postcards and photos.

Chester and his daughter Anita often toured the camp on horseback with Stone. Meanwhile, Anna became involved in the YWCA Hostess House at the camp. She is prom-

inently mentioned by name for her work in the book, *The Ninety-First, First at Camp Lewis* by Alice Henderson. From the book, "It is to Mrs. Chester Thorne that the hundreds of thousands of visitors

to the charming place owe this beautiful building, the only one at Camp Lewis that is beautiful."

The Thornes continued to live at Thornewood Castle, and the family now included Anita's husband



won the competition to design the entrance way to the new camp. It is thought that Thorne recommended Cutter. The Hurley-Mason workers who built





BILL WOOD COLLECTION

An overview of Camp Lewis at the height of World War I.

# Welcome

... to Central  
Washington  
University



## CWU now offers classes at Joint Base Lewis-McChord.

With this new agreement, in addition to CWU classes already offered at Pierce College in Lakewood, it's never been easier or more convenient to obtain a degree. Attend in person, online, or pick a combination that suits your schedule. And best of all, we offer this hands-on, personal education for an incredible value.

For more information and a list of programs, visit [cwu.edu/piercecounty](http://cwu.edu/piercecounty) or call **253-964-6636**.



CWU-Pierce County

CWU is an AA/EEO/Title IX Institution. For accommodation e-mail: [DS@cwu.edu](mailto:DS@cwu.edu). 16UC0056bb

**CWU**

Central  
Washington  
University





# Camp Lewis at full steam

## 1918-19 is busy

By Ken Swarner

Once Camp Lewis was built, soldiers in-processed, trained and shipped out to Europe, including the 91st Division, which left in the late spring of 1918.

While the 91st had many names, the nickname the soldiers chose to carry with them as they boarded trains was the Wild West Division. At one time, Camp Lewis had 500 of America's best cowboys bucking horses. And since Lewis was the only cantonment to draw its draftees from Montana, Wyoming and Nevada, it had the monopoly on rodeo stars and cowpunchers.

The Army corralled its horses and mules on 400 acres at Lewis in an area called Remount. It was the only clearinghouse during World War I where animals were trained to see action on the front lines. During their stay, the cowboys taught the animals to pull artillery pieces and caissons of ammunition. And while the 91st Division was at Camp Lewis, the cowboys staged three rodeos, and as one observer said at the time, in civilian life a million dollars could not have brought together the assembly of rodeo stars who performed for as many as 30,000 people.

As soon as the 91st Division departed for France in June 1918, the 13th Infantry Division moved into Camp Lewis that same month.

While there is not a lot of information regarding the Blackcat Division, it is assumed they trained hard, ready to see action overseas. November 11, 1918 came however, the war was ended and the 13th never deployed. The division was later inactivated at Lewis in 1919.

### During the war

Camp Lewis primarily buzzed with military training from Fall 1917 to the end of the war. At the time, the post's commander Maj. Gen. Greene restricted recruits from Tacoma and Seattle in an effort to cut down vice and rowdy behavior. Instead, he had Greene Park built, located behind the current location of JBLM's main museum. The park provided entertainment including vaudeville shows as well as dancing at the Hostess House, silent movies and concessions.

### Future looked grave

The accomplishments at Camp Lewis during WWI were amazing. During the war against imperial Germany, the 91st, 4th, 13th, 44th, 18th and 41st divisions (mostly Reserve and Guard units) were trained, garrisoned and/or mobilized from here.

Immediately following the war, Secretary of War Baker assured Pierce County officials that Camp Lewis would remain open and permanent. However, by 1919,

as Camp Lewis officially became the property of the U.S. government, the War Department began dismantling the major portion of the camp, leaving only a limited tract of housing for a small party of troops.

The deed, as discussed, provided the clause that the land would revert back to the county if not used. And that would create great controversy into the next decade as Lewis' future looked uncertain.

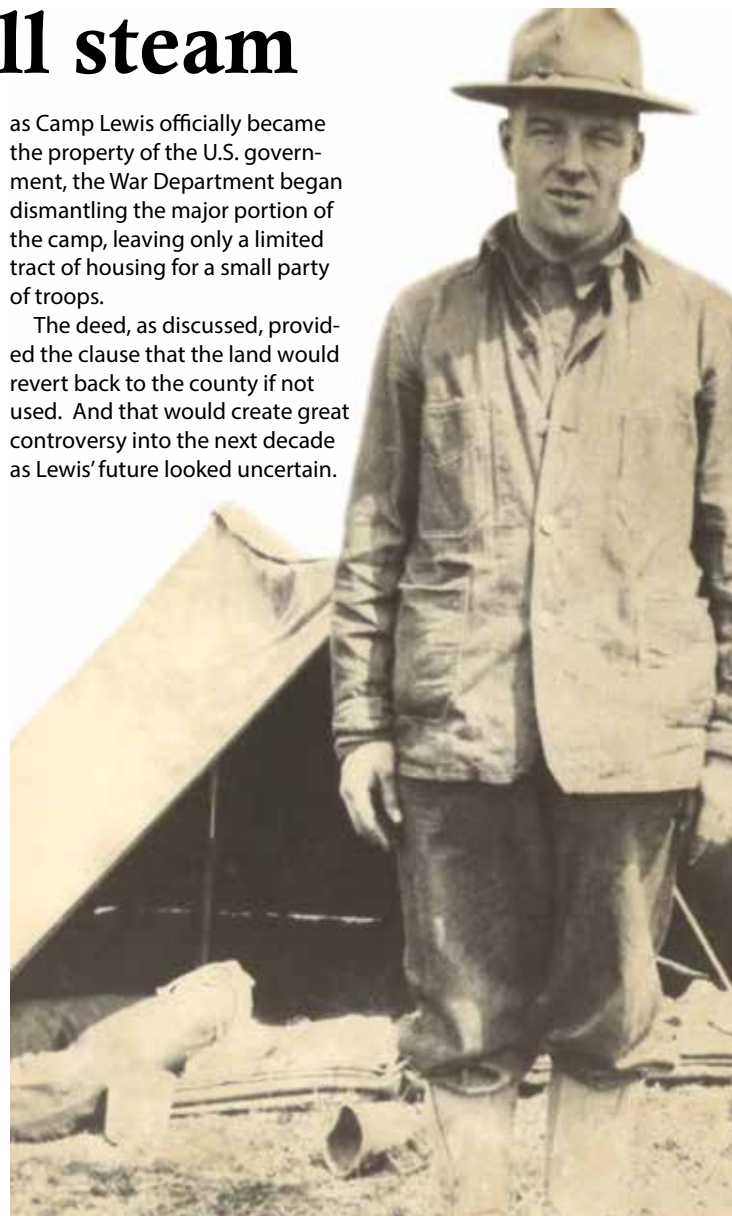


PHOTO BY JACK ALLISON

A 91st Division soldier stands in front of his tent on Camp Lewis in 1918.

## RANGER DAVE.BIZ

Marketing with the Ranger Publishing Co.

- 30,000 Weekly Newspapers
- Advanced Social Media Advertising
- Email Advertising
- Text Messages
- 14 Annual Events



Call to get started now!

360-280-1068

[DMAestas@NorthWestMilitary.com](mailto:DMAestas@NorthWestMilitary.com)

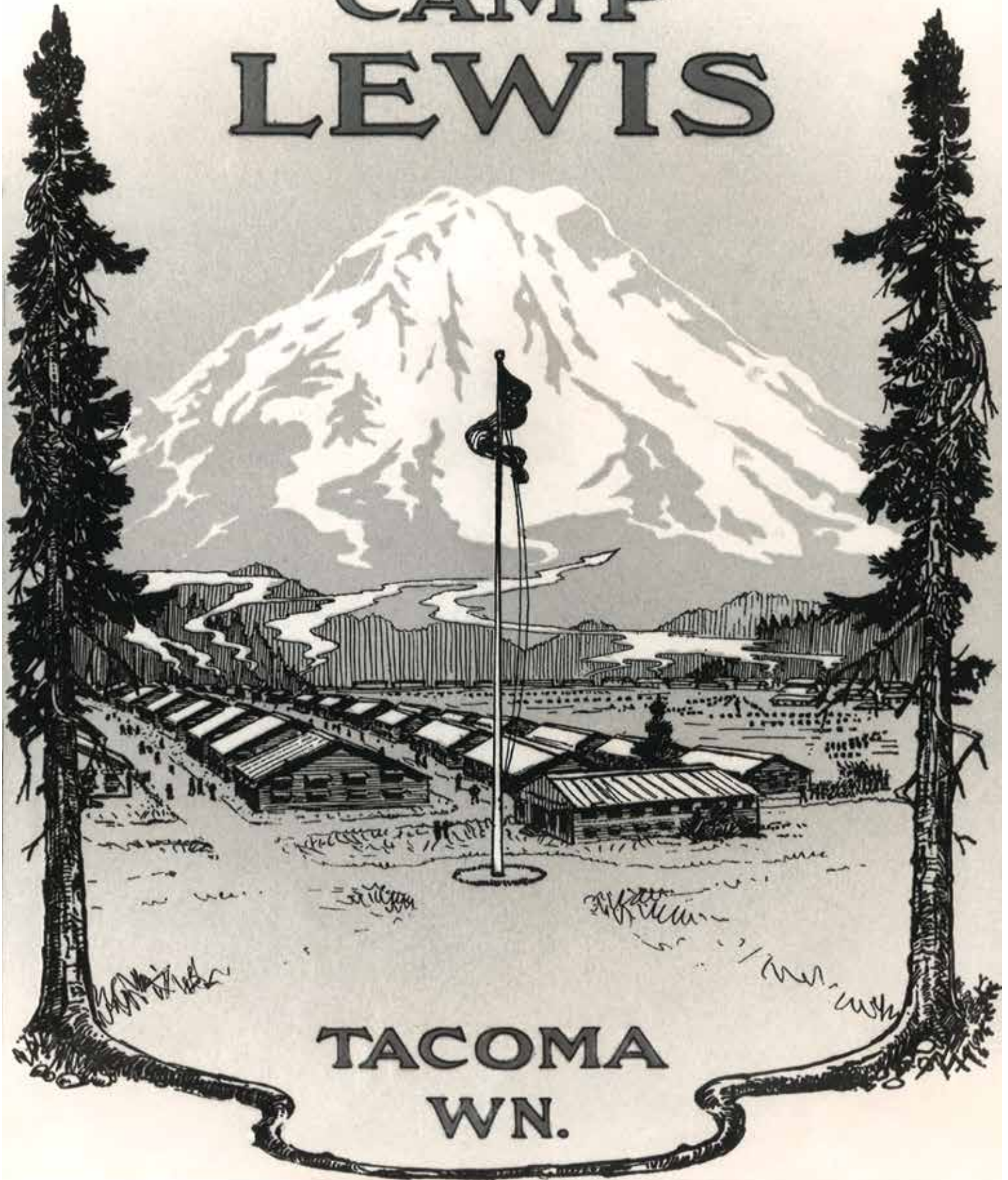
8560 Commerce Place Drive  
NE Lacey, WA 98516  
[shipwreckbeads.com](http://shipwreckbeads.com)

15%  
Military  
Discount!

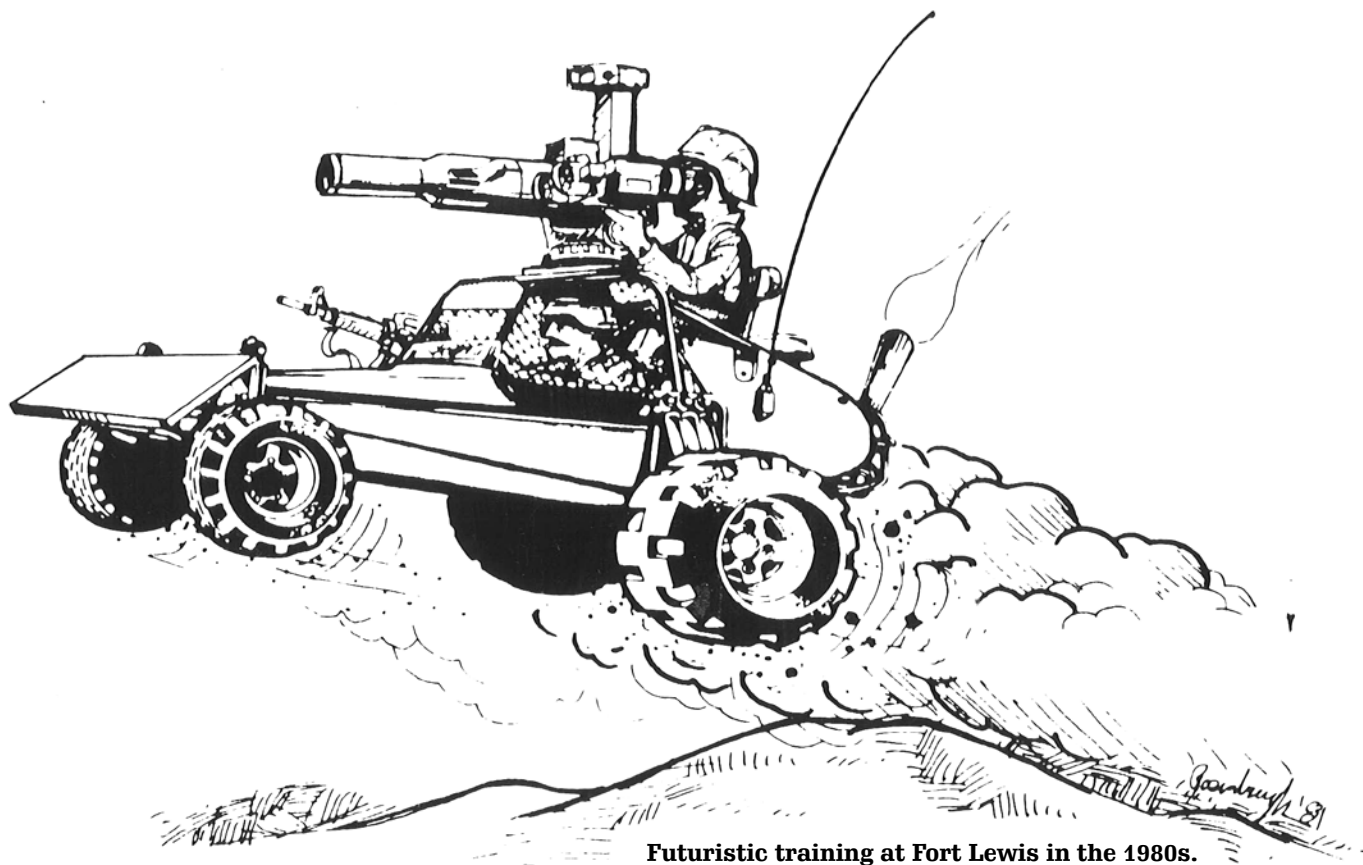
Shipwreck Beads would like to thank Joint Base Lewis-McChord for being an integral part of our community for the last 100 years!



# CAMP LEWIS







Futuristic training at Fort Lewis in the 1980s.

**Turn to The Ranger  
and NW Airlifter  
every week in 2017 for  
a look back at JBLM's  
100 years in the Northwest.**

**The  
RANGER**

*The Northwest*  
**Airlifter**

**and online at [NorthwestMilitary.com](http://NorthwestMilitary.com)**



# Keep terms or give it back

## A camp caught in the middle

By Ken Swarner

Following World War I, two events of consequence affected Camp Lewis. First, the vast majority of jubilant doughboys hurried home from Europe and immediately separated from the military. Second, the green timber, which had been rapidly hammered together to form the base in 1917, began to deteriorate. Soon there were few soldiers left to stare out broken windows onto empty streets littered with debris. As the roaring 20s began, Camp Lewis' future looked mighty bleak.

### The fight

The original agreement that governed the land deal was open-ended in Secretary Of War Baker's promise. Part of it stated, "... as long as the appropriations made by Congress ... demands upon the mobile forces (permit), I will establish (at Camp Lewis) a division of mobile troops." Notice, Baker said he would only keep a division here when it was necessary. After the war, the military was hallow — they didn't have a division to put here.

Tacoma newspapers, civic clubs and local government officials, however, weren't pleased that the land they gave wasn't being used to its potential. The part of

the agreement they remembered was "... if the U.S. should ever cease to use the tract as a site for a permanent mobilization, training and supply station, title to the land would revert to Pierce County."

In April 1922, headlines in Tacoma and Seattle read: "War Department plans virtual abandonment of Camp Lewis." While Secretary of War John Weeks down played the stories, he wasn't able to brush aside that the base wasn't being used. During the first half of the decade, as many as a couple thousand to as few as several hundred troops were stationed here. On September 23, 1921, the War Department put the headquarters of the Third Division at Camp Lewis, a few hundred troops, with the rest of the division units spread across the western states. It made little impact economically in the community.

Worse than the low troop population was the physical state of the camp. In 1922, *Tacoma Times* reporter Clark Squire wrote that the camp's roads, water and sewer systems were breaking down. He said the theater was condemned for fear the roof would collapse, and windows everywhere were shattered. While Congress wasn't keen on spending money on military camps, Camp

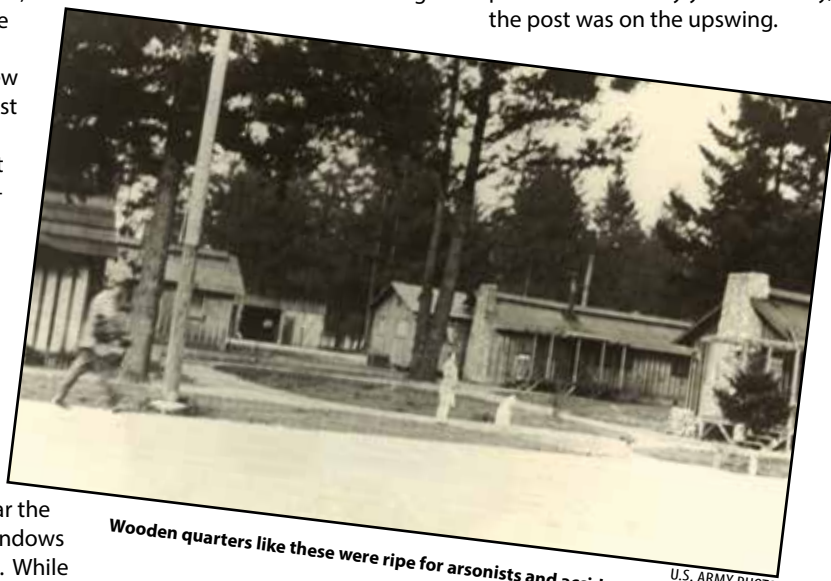
Lewis' Commanding General Maj. Gen. Robert Alexander estimated that it would cost \$4 million to rebuild the camp. He called Lewis a "ghost post." Most training at the time consisted of ROTC, the National Guard and the Citizen's Military Training camp program.

### A post is born

In 1925, auctioneers sold half of the base's buildings, 847 in all. At that same time, there were 250 fires that burned nearly a million dollars of property. One thousand officers and enlisted lived on the base, and a Congressional committee came inches to closing

the base.

It was the fact that the land would revert back to the county, however, that saved it. And in 1927, construction began on permanent brick buildings still in use today. The red brick quadrangle barracks on main post which today houses I Corps, DPCA and other units and agencies, along with the Main Post Chapel, housing for officers and Broadmoor and Greenwood housing areas rose from the dust of the old Camp Lewis. Then, on September 30, 1927, Camp Lewis was changed to Fort Lewis, becoming a permanent military post. After so many years of decay, the post was on the upswing.



Wooden quarters like these were ripe for arsonists and accidents — over 250 fires spread across the base in the 1920s. U.S. ARMY PHOTO



**Congratulations  
JBLM  
on 100 Years!**



**THE  
BUFFALO SOLDIERS  
MUSEUM**

NINTH & TENTH (HORSE) CAVALRY

1940 South Wilkeson, Tacoma, WA • 253-272-4257 • BuffaloSoldiersTacoma.org

**HANSON SUBARU**

Family Owned & Operated For Over 40 Years



**Happy 100th, JBLM!**



*If any other WA Subaru dealer offers an exact vehicle at a lower price than Hanson Subaru of Olympia, we will honor that competitor's price!*

2300 CARRIAGE LOOP SW • OLYMPIA AUTO MALL

**(888) 490-9863**

**www.hansonsubaru.com**





BILL WOOD COLLECTION

The picture, above present DuPont, captures the post around 1935-ish before Gray Field was built.



## *We Salute America's Heroes!*



LeMay - America's  
Car Museum



Washington State  
History Museum



Museum of  
Glass



Foss Waterway  
Seaport



Tacoma Art  
Museum



Children's Museum  
of Tacoma

Six great museums. Reduced admission for military.

[www.TacomaMuseumDistrict.org](http://www.TacomaMuseumDistrict.org)



# Lewis comes into its own

## In like a mouse, out like a lion

By Ken Swarner

Soldiering at Fort Lewis was different in the 1930s than it is today. Those were the days when the troops wore wrap-around leggings, felt campaign hats and wool olive drab uniforms. Privates represented half the ranks. Enlisted men rarely saw an officer except on paydays. Many soldiers were considered "married" to the Army since first term enlistees were denied getting married, in fact anyone below sergeant was banned to re-enlist if they had tied

the knot.

Promotions were slow, too. Once enlisted, soldiers couldn't even transfer units without being demoted to private, even if the change was right across the street. It was not uncommon for soldiers to spend years together in the same unit waiting for a promotion that rarely came. Dwight D. Eisenhower, for example, was a major for 16 years.

Work hours were ideal in the 30s. It was the Great Depression and a job in the military meant security, and the average day ended at noon. Wednesdays, Saturday afternoons and all day Sunday

were duty free, too.

### McChord Field

The Army Air Corps continued to grow in the 1930s and situating an airfield next to Fort Lewis made great sense to military planners. In 1938, the construction of McChord commenced on land already owned by the post plus 989 acres donated by Pierce County on a small civilian airstrip already in use. Named after Col. William McChord, who died in the crash of an A-17 during training in 1937, the War Department spent \$62,000 to add a couple hangars and a 6,000-foot by 600-foot wide runway.

A squadron of Douglas B-18 Bolos was the first aircraft to be stationed here in 1940, and by June 1947, McChord formed its first airlift wing to carry troops anywhere in the world.

McChord wasn't the only airbase built in 1938 — Gray Army Airfield was completed that summer as well. To celebrate the addition of both runways, the Army built a mock city and subsequently destroyed it in front of 3,000 spectators with 400 bombs.

### Troop explosion

Ten years into the rebuilding program at Fort Lewis, city leaders



PHOTO COURTESY OF JAMES ORAVEZ  
ROTC cadets learned the finer points of bridge building at Fort Lewis in the 1930s.

**Weichert,  
Realtors®**

Premier Properties

**Angela Aneff** REALTOR®

angelaaneff@weichertpremier.net

(360) 798-5773 Direct

13613 Meridian E., Suite 160, Puyallup, WA 98373

*Farm Fresh* Home Delivery

Sign Up Now And Get \$10 In Free Groceries!

Promo code:  
510002



SmithBrothersFarms.com | 1-877-MILKMAN





again began a campaign to lobby the War Department for more troops.

"It seems that this is the opportune time for us to press the matter of the establishment of Fort Lewis as a division post," Corydon Wagner, president of the Tacoma Chamber of Commerce, told the *Times* on May 8, 1935.

The chamber wanted the Pentagon to close smaller bases and pool its money to afford more troops at bigger posts like Fort Lewis.

That sentiment fell on deaf ears, but a year later, Brig. Gen. David Stone, the captain who supervised the construction of Camp Lewis in 1917, returned to command the

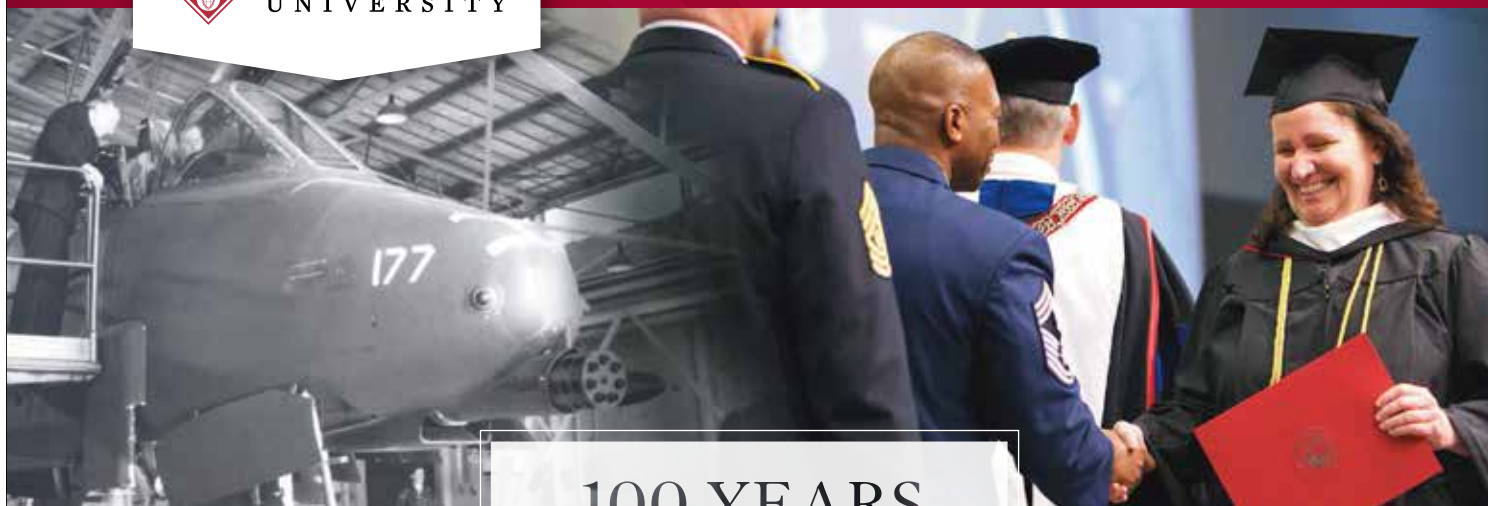
3rd Division in September 1936. He was awarded his second star a month later. Stone died in 1963 and is buried in the Fort Lewis cemetery.

At first, the population growth here was temporary. In the summer of 1937, 7,500 division soldiers conducted a month-long maneuver on the post. Then, in

1938, 1,800 men from the 15th Regiment left their 25-year tour in China and returned to the U.S. They lived in pup tents on Lewis and McChord until permanent barracks were built. And by the close of the 1930s, the 3rd Division was at 5,000 troops, a number that would swell to 30,000 by the close of 1940.



**Saint Martin's**  
UNIVERSITY



100 YEARS

## Congratulations, Joint Base Lewis McChord on your 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary!

Serving those who serve us, Saint Martin's is proud to be your longest standing educational partner, with over 5000 military graduates over the last 40 years.

Saint Martin's supports active and transitioning servicemembers, military families, and veterans, with programs in business, counseling psychology, education, engineering, social work and computer science, including the Microsoft Software and Systems Academy.



Locations at JBLM-Main, JBLM-McChord Field, and Lacey | 253-964-4688 | [www.stmartin.edu](http://www.stmartin.edu)



# A monument in the way

## The 91st Division's honor is CG's screen

By Ken Swarner

The top flag officer on Joint Base Lewis-McChord has enjoyed the nicest home on the base for decades, however one thing has been a little in the way — the monument to the 91st Division.

On Memorial Day 1930, a monument to

the first division to report to then Camp Lewis in 1917, was erected at the west end of the parade field on base. It was paid for by the 91st Division Association, in honor to that unit that eventually saw intense action in France during

World War I. Designed by Avarad Fairbanks, it still stands today in front of General's Row, the homes occupied by the base's flag officers, with the Command-

ing general's home, Quarters One, smack dab in the middle. Those homes were built in 1934, and at the time, it is unclear if anyone recognized the downside to living there. As they say in the real estate world, "location, location, location," and it just so happens that the 91st Monument blocks Quarters One's view of Mt. Rainier at the other end of the parade field. Oops!



PHOTO COURTESY OF TACOMA LIBRARY

Quarters One (center) and other general housing were built in 1934 with a monument blocking the commander's view of Mt. Rainier.



## DESTINATION: SAVINGS

See how much you could save at a GEICO office near you.



**GEICO**  
*Local Office*

253-584-7755  
[geico.com/tacoma](http://geico.com/tacoma)  
12930 Pacific Hwy SW

Some discounts, coverages, payment plans and features are not available in all states or all GEICO companies. GEICO is a registered service mark of Government Employees Insurance Company, Washington, D.C. 20076; a Berkshire Hathaway Inc. subsidiary. GEICO Gecko image © 1999-2016. © 2016 GEICO.





## Congratulations on 100 Years

Flags A' Flying is proud to serve our Military and their families.



### PRODUCTS

- Flags: American, Military, State, Intl, Nautical, Sports Team, Custom
- Campaign Streamers, Guidons, Unit Flags, Pennants
- Flagpoles: Indoor/Parade/Guidon & Outdoor 5' to 120'
- Flagpole Repair Parts & Accessories
- Flag & Medal Display Cases
- Patriotic Bunting, Pennant Strings, & Decorations
- Seasonal Garden Flags, Banners, & Windsocks

### SERVICES

Flagpole Delivery, Installation, Maintenance, Repair, Relocation, & Removal



### TACOMA LOCATION

3635 S. Lawrence St., Ste. J  
Tacoma, Washington 98409  
Local Tel: 253.471.7880  
Toll Free: 800.426.1511  
sales@flagsaflying.com

### STORE HOURS

Mon. - Fri: 8am-5pm  
Sat: 10am-4pm

FLAGSAFLYING.COM

## Happy 100th Anniversary JBLM!

- FHA, VA, Conventional, Jumbo, USDA, WA State Bond
- 20-day purchase closings
- Refinance



Apply Online  
tomohearnhomeloans.com



Tom O'Hearn  
Tolhearn@fairwaymc.com  
MLO#: 253494



206-406-9713

1833 Auburn Way N Suite D, E & F  
Auburn, WA 98002



Melissa Engle  
253-344-7996  
MLO#: 299509

## BUYING? SELLING? INVESTING?



f Tooker The Agent LLC

Active-duty "Realtor" 19 1/2 years

Ask About Our **25% Commission**  
**Military Only Programs** Back To You At Closing

Home Remodeling Services Available!

f Homes by Tooker **253-355-3320**

Amtrak



ONE of AMERICA'S TOP  
train trips SALUTES ONE of  
AMERICA'S TOP military bases



Amtrak Cascades congratulates JBLM for 100 years of keeping America safe. You are the cornerstone of protecting our great nation. We're realigning our train route to run alongside JBLM starting in fall 2017, making us proud to be your neighbor.

Experience the best of the Pacific Northwest aboard Amtrak Cascades, with daily service to 18 cities between Vancouver, BC and Eugene, including stops in Lacey and Tacoma. **We'd love to see you on-board soon.**

Save an additional  
**15%**  
off all tickets

for active military, veterans and their immediate families

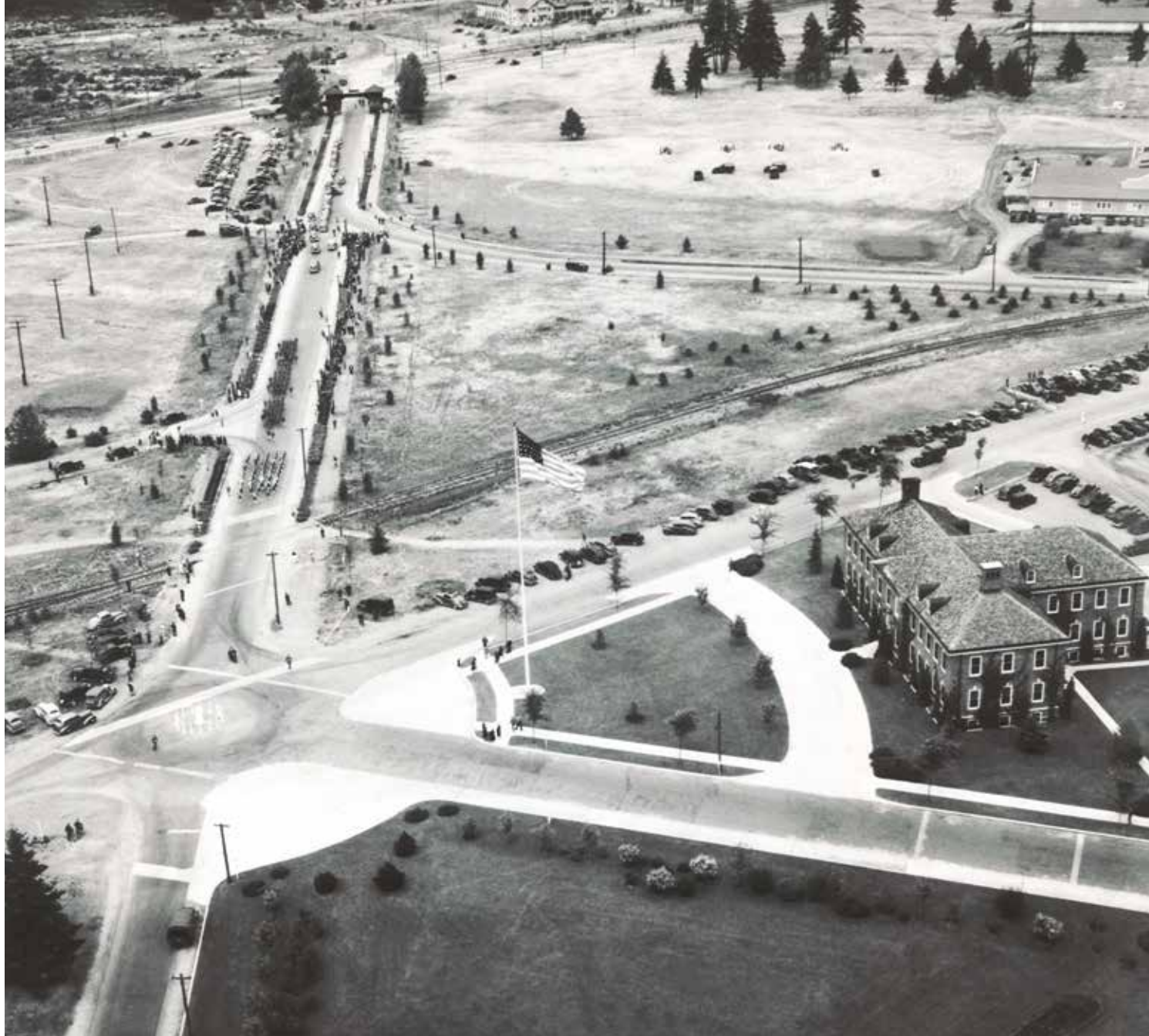
Restrictions apply:  
Visit [AmtrakCascades.com](http://AmtrakCascades.com)  
for details.



Always be safe around trains and tracks  
[StayBackFromTheTracks.com](http://StayBackFromTheTracks.com)



Washington State  
Department of Transportation  
[www.wsdot.wa.gov/rail](http://www.wsdot.wa.gov/rail)



BILL WOOD COLLECTION

The Crown Prince of Norway arrived at Fort Lewis for a visit on May 23, 1939.

*"Thank you!"*  
**JBLM**

# 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary

Call us and ask about our gift to show our appreciation!  
"All of US. Serving all of YOU"

**FAIRWAY**  
INDEPENDENT MORTGAGE CORPORATION

**VA LOAN**

**Weichert Realtors**  
Premier Properties

**206-743-7712 / YOURLENDERLARRY.COM**

FAIRWAY INDEPENDENT MORTGAGE CORPORATION IS A VA APPROVED LENDER THAT IS NOT ENDORSED, SPONSORED OR AFFILIATED BY THE DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS OR ANY GOVERNMENT AGENCY. NMLS #2289

**Jimmy John's is Proud to Serve Those Who Serve**  
*Congratulations JBLM on 100 Years of Service!*

**ORDER YOUR MINI JIMMYS NOW FOR YOUR NEXT CATERED EVENT! 12 & 24 PACKS AVAILABLE**

**FREAKY FAST**

**JBLM 253.301.4314** Bldg. 6029 Liberty Gate, Lewis Main **WWW.JIMMYJOHNS.COM**



**25% OFF FOR  
MILITARY AND SENIORS\***

# **Redder THAN EVER**

## **BREATHE IT ALL IN.**

With over forty thousand square feet, including the largest in the region, eighteen thousand square foot smoke-free gaming area, over fifteen hundred slot machines, five remodeled and expanded restaurants and a thousand space parking garage, it all just adds up. Come to play and you'll see.

\*All active and retired military with valid military ID and seniors (55+) with valid ID receive 25% off their meals at all dining venues and in the Gift Shop on purchases \$15 or more. Discount per valid ID only. Not valid with any other offer or promotion; discount excludes alcohol, tobacco and sundries.



**redwindcasino.com**

(360) 412-5000 | (866) 946-2444 | 12819 Yelm Hwy SE, Olympia  
OPEN MON, TUES & WED 8 am to 5 am | 24 HOURS 8 am THURS to 5 am MON



NCO homes as they looked in the early 1940s at Fort Lewis. Some of these homes still stand on the base today. U.S. ARMY PHOTO

# War redefines the Evergreen Post

## Lewis grows to record numbers

By Ken Swarner

Unlike its reputation in the 1920s and 30s, Fort Lewis, after 1940, would never again be seen as a deteriorating, low-population installation.

The post numbered 7,000 when the IX Corps' Headquarters arrived from San Francisco July 1, 1940 to oversee Lewis' impending and unavoidable growth. Four months later, the post swarmed to 26,000 with the arrival of the entire 3rd Division — so many that thousands spilled over into Camp Murray and McChord for housing. Fort Lewis was targeted to mobilize and train troops either drafted or called up through their National Guard units, which meant the need for new construction.

The building of North Fort Lewis began that same year on land called Third Division Prairie, which covered a two-mile by one-and-half-mile flat area near DuPont. The \$4 million building campaign was designed to house an entire division.

The 41st Division, one of four National Guard divisions to train here, was formed from units around the western states. They were first housed at Camp Murray when they arrived that spring, then moved onto North Fort once

it was complete. On March 26, 1941, several landowners were notified that the Army wanted their property to increase the southeastern border near Muck Creek, which was granted.

Both the 3rd and 41st divisions trained during 1941 — 37,000 troops in all using sticks for rifles and beer cans for grenades because supplies had yet to catch up. By fall, the population grew again to 50,000.

## Eisenhower slept here

Lt. Col. Dwight Eisenhower in-processed at Fort Lewis in November 1940, moving his wife and son into Quarters 2310. He arrived here with the 15th Infantry Regiment. As an executive officer, recently promoted from major to O-5, he devoted his time to the training of his unit which were stationed in tents on McChord. He referred to his stay at Fort Lewis as a turning point in his career.

"I could think of no better assignment," he wrote years later, "at a time when much of the world was at war."

After several weeks on post, Eisenhower was promoted to full bird colonel and assigned as chief of staff of the 3rd Division. Four months later, he became chief of staff for IX Corps, headquartered on Fort Lewis. By June, he was reassigned and PCSed to 3rd Army.

## War

First Lt. Vernon Rice, assistant post adjutant, was finishing some paperwork in his office the morning of December 7, 1941. In the next room, a duty officer listened to the radio.

Rice told *The Ranger* newspaper that the music faded out and news of Pearl Harbor's attack rocked the post. Soon cars began pouring back onto base — soldiers leapt out of bus windows to get to their units. The 3rd Division moved into bivouac areas in full combat gear, the 41st Division manned road blocks and the 115th Cavalry Regiment patrolled local beaches. All gates were closed tight, and that evening the post underwent a total blackout.

Five months later, the 3rd Division moved to Fort Ord, California, for amphibious landing practice, then pushed on for Africa. When WWII was over, the Marine Division had amassed 531 days in combat and suffered more casualties than any other infantry division — 34,224 killed, wounded or missing in action.

The 41st also left the post around the same time, moving to Australia as a staging for efforts on New Guinea. They earned the nickname "Jungleers" because they fought more actual months in the jungle than any other division in the Pacific.

North Fort became a staging area for processing troops after the 41st departed. Thousands of troops went through there, then, when the war ended, roughly 200,000 returned to civilian life through there as well. During the war, four divisions other than the 3rd and 41st trained at Lewis, including the 40th, 44th, 33rd and the 96th divisions — a total of 500,000 prepared for war here.

## Madigan's beginning

In addition to other WWII-era construction, Section V of the Fort Lewis Station Hospital was completed in 1944. Sections one through four were located in other places on the post, including on North Fort and near the DuPont Gate. They operated autonomously until August 5, 1944, when they became the Fort Lewis General Hospital, renamed Madigan General Hospital later that year in honor of Col. Patrick Madigan, a distinguished neuro-psychiatrist who died in 1944.

The various locations operated under one command, but over time Section V expanded to take on more and more of the main medical mission for the base. A gym and swimming pool were added in 1946, and the parking lot was paved in 1949. In 1952, 30 sets of family quarters and two enlisted barracks were also added.





U.S. ARMY PHOTO

Soldiers relax inside their 1940s barracks at Fort Lewis.

### Welcome 2nd Division

As was customary after WWI, the Army shrank in population following World War II. In fact, the Army only kept two and a third divisions on active-duty. Lucky for Fort Lewis, one of those was kept here. In 1946, Lewis was chosen to house the 2nd Infantry Division — the fighting Indianhead Division which landed at Normandy on D-Day Plus One and fought gallantly through the Battle of the Bulge and into Czechoslovakia.

Tacoma welcomed the 8,000-man division May 7, 1946, during a downtown Tacoma parade, which was followed by a dance and beauty contest. The division settled into a training routine including at the newly opened Yakima Firing Center. But they

weren't the only ones — the Army had a total of 30,000 troops here during the second half of the 1940s, including basic training of new recruits.

### McChord separates

McChord separated from Fort Lewis January 1, 1948, when the Army handed over the air mission to the newly minted United States Air Force. McChord Field was renamed McChord Air Force Base and received three new missions: air defense, humanitarian support, and transport and airlift.

Because of McChord's strategic location to Alaska and Asian countries, 1947 was a busy year for McChord as the Tactical Air Command moved the 62d Troop Carrier Group to McChord Field.



U.S. ARMY PHOTO

The 2nd Division marches in downtown Tacoma in 1946.



## Lacey Learning Center & Dupont Learning Center

A creative and fun learning environment!

Approved Military Childcare  
in Your Neighborhood.

**Military subsidy accepted.**

Streaming video will allow you to share in your child's day from work, home or anywhere you have Internet connection.

A full-day learning center for children ages 4 weeks to 12 years.

Both Center hours:  
Monday-Friday,  
5:30 a.m. to 6:30 p.m.



**Happy 100th  
Anniversary  
JBLM!**

**naeyc**

Nationally Accredited with NAEYC

**EARLY ACHIEVERS**

Washington State Early Achievers Provider

### REGISTER TODAY

3221 Willamette Drive NE / Lacey, WA 98516  
(360) 455-4495 / E-mail laceylearning@yahoo.com  
**www.laceylearning.com**

1555 McNeil Street / DuPont, WA 98327  
(253) 299-8188 / E-mail dupontlc@yahoo.com  
**www.dupontlearningcenter.com**

*We are sincerely grateful for  
your service!*



**Wellspring**  
Integrative Vitality Center

*Renew, Relax, Restore*  
*A Vitality Center in Yelm, WA*

9144 Burnett Rd. SE, Yelm, WA 98597; 360-400-2900; 360-400-5150  
[www.wellspringyelm.com](http://www.wellspringyelm.com)



*The City of  
Yelm...  
a proud  
Military  
Community  
since 1924*

*Happy  
Birthday,  
JBLM!*



U.S. AIR FORCE PHOTO  
McChord became an Air Force Base in 1947.

## McChord brings airpower to NW

### From a field to a base

By the United States Air Force

McChord Field became the headquarters of the GHQ Air Force Northwest Air District in 1940. The mission was to defend the Upper Great Plains and the Pacific Northwest. The first military group to arrive at the new Air Force field in mid-June 1940, was the 17th Bombardment Group from March Field in California along with the 89th Reconnaissance Squadron. They flew Douglas B-18, B-18A and B-23 bombers.

McChord Field celebrated its grand opening to the public July 3, 1940. Thousands flocked to see the newly constructed hangers, grounds, buildings and bombers. As the ceremonies ended, 100 Army Air Corps bombers took to the air with a fly-over of the field. After the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor December 7, 1941, the 17th Bombardment Group flew anti-submarine patrols off the west coast of the United States with the B-25 Mitchell medium bomber. As the first unit to oper-

ate the B-25, the 17th achieved another "first" December 24, 1941, when one of its Mitchells destroyed a Japanese submarine near the mouth of the Columbia River. In February 1942, the 17th Bomb Group was moved to Columbia Army Air Base in South Carolina.

Not only did McChord become one of the largest U.S. bomber training installations, McChord's military personnel went from 4,000 to more than 7,300 by January 1942. McChord also became a central point for airplanes and their crews moving to the Pacific theater and Alaska. As many as 600 civilians were hired to support McChord and to work on modifications to the various airplanes including P-38 & 39s and B-24s & 25s.

Col. Jimmy Doolittle came for a special visit to McChord and selected 10 aircrew members from McChord to participate in the April 1942 Doolittle raid.

When the 17th Bomb Group departed from McChord Field, the McChord mission was to support

*Congratulations*  
**JBLM ON 100 YEARS!**

Museum of Glass is proud  
to partner with JBLM on  
**HOT SHOP HEROES™**  
HEALING WITH FIRE

Museum of Glass is a [Blue Star Museum](#) – offering free admission to the nation's active-duty military personnel and their families

Photo by Russell Johnson





the Army Air Forces Training Command. The newly named Second Air Force bases, of which McChord was one, was responsible for the training of individuals, crews and units for bombardment, fighter, and reconnaissance operations, and resulted in deployments all around the world by II Bomber Command operations training units (OTU). McChord also had large maintenance facilities for Air Technical Service Command during the war. These maintenance facilities served as a P-39 Aircobra Modification Center April 1944 to May 1945. And during this time, "lend-lease" aircraft was sent through Alaska to Russia.

### Cold War

In 1945, McChord Field became a "permanent station" and was the headquarters of the 1st and 2nd Bomb Wings, part of the Continental Air Forces upon their return from combat in Europe. In August 1946, McChord was assigned to the Air Defense Command with the mission to defend U.S. soil.

McChord Field continued to grow after the war to about 3,000

acres and because of its location, resulted in the Air Force transferring P-61 Black Widow Fighters (425th Night Fighter Squadron). The National Security Act of 1947 resulted in the creation of the Air Force. McChord then separated from Fort Lewis, and on January 1, 1948, McChord Field was renamed McChord Air Force Base. McChord AFB received three new missions: air defense, humanitarian support, and transport and airlift.

Because of McChord's strategic location to Alaska and Asian countries, 1947 was a busy year for McChord as the Tactical Air Command moved the 62d Troop Carrier Group to McChord Field. McChord became a vital route to Alaska and to Asia. The 62nd also continued supplying humanitarian aid to flood victims throughout Oregon and Washington.

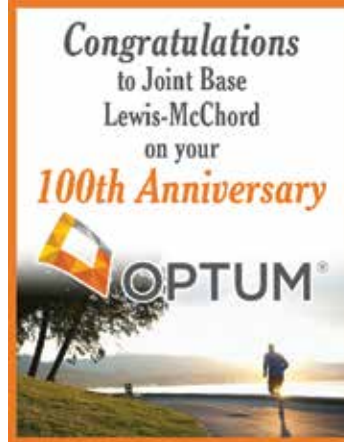
Because of an extremely cold winter in 1948 and 1949, the 62nd made national news because of their participation in operation "Hayride." Their mission was to drop hay to livestock that were stranded throughout the Pacific Northwest.

## Snapshot



RANGER NEWSPAPER PHOTO

Armor training on Fort Lewis in the 1990s.



## YOU'RE INVITED!

Breakfast ALL DAY Weekends 7am-3pm

supporting our troops!  
MILITARY DISCOUNT  
HONORED EVERY DAY  
**10% OFF**



9702 S Tacoma Way #102  
Lakewood, WA 98499

mybiscuitshouse.com BiscuitHouseCorp

# #1 MATTRESS

Thank you for your service

## HUGE MATTRESS Sale!

**NO CREDIT CHECK FINANCING!**

**50% OFF ALL CLOSEOUT MODELS IN STOCK!**

TWIN	\$59.00	QUEEN	\$199.00
FULL	\$99.00	KING	\$299.00

We Support Our Military

3916 100th St. SW, Lakewood, WA (253) 328-6167 [www.mattress-1.com](http://www.mattress-1.com)

MENTION THIS AD FOR A SPECIAL

# 10% JBLM DISCOUNT

**BROWN & HALEY**  
100 YEARS

VISIT OUR OUTLET SHOPS FOR GREAT SAVINGS

**FACTORY OUTLET STORE** 110 East 26th Street  
Tacoma, WA (253) 620-3067  
OPEN DAILY: MON-SAT 9:30am – 5:30pm, SUN 11am – 4pm

**FIFE OUTLET STORE** 3500-C 20th St. E.  
Fife, WA (253) 620-3030  
OPEN DAILY: MON-SAT 9:30am – 5:30pm, SUN CLOSED

[www.brown-haley.com](http://www.brown-haley.com)



# A decade of change

## Units moved, war and more

By Ken Swarner

Servicemembers that served at Fort Lewis in the 1950s might look back wondering with whom they served. Was it the 2nd or the 71st, and what was Gyroscope and STRAC?

The period between 1950 and 1959 was a time of adjustment and perpetual change for the Army and the Evergreen Post.

Alerted July 8, 1950, and put to sea July 24, the 2nd Division was the first combat unit to arrive in Korea from a U.S. base. The Indianheads were also the first United Nations force to cross the Naktong River and push the North Koreans back across the 38th Parallel. The division slipped quietly from Fort Lewis to the ports of Tacoma and

Olympia where they boarded C-4 vessels. They hoped for a quick end, but dreams were dashed when China joined the North that same year. For some 2nd Division soldiers, going home was postponed for four years, others never made it — they died in places like Punchbowl and Bloody Ridge.

After the 2nd departed, the post

received its first wave of reservists for a refresh-

of instruction before deployment, made possible by the 6219th

Reception Center, the first processing center reactivated on the west coast since WWII. The center processed 4,594 soldiers in the first eight days of the war. Canadian Army Special Forces arrived here in October 1950 also, becoming the first complete foreign unit to train at an American post.

The 44th Division from Camp Cooke, California, also took up residency while the 2nd was gone. As part of an extensive building campaign in early 1952, concrete barracks



Infantry soldiers practice beach landings at Solo Point on North Fort Lewis in the 1950s. U.S. ARMY PHOTO

er course before heading to Korea. By January 1951, 12,000 men had each received 15 days

INFANTS • TODDLERS • PRESCHOOL • BEFORE & AFTER SCHOOL • SUMMER CAMP



**AMAZING**  
STARTS HERE.™



Future leaders have their own way of learning, playing and engaging with the world. That's why we teach children at their own pace and create as many opportunities as possible. *Life Essentials*® nurtures individual potential in unique, developmentally appropriate ways.

To schedule a tour and enroll:

- Visit: [kiddieacademy.com/Lacey](http://kiddieacademy.com/Lacey)
- Call: 360.456.5700

★ Proudly Serving our Military Families and Now Accepting Military Fee Assistance ★

Kiddie Academy of Lacey

1130 Galaxy Drive NE • Lacey, WA 98516

**KIDDIE**  **ACADEMY.**  
EDUCATIONAL CHILD CARE





along 2nd Division Drive covering 100 acres of rangeland popped up on the landscape.

The decision to move the 44th here was music to the local business community who threw a welcome party in their honor as they arrived at the Port of Tacoma.

While at Lewis, the 18,000 soldiers of the 44th trained continuously here and at Yakima.

When the war in Korea ended, the 2nd Division returned to find the 44th here. To make things simple, the Army combined the troops under the 2nd Division. Then, in 1955, the 30,000 2nd Division troops were in for another surprise known as Gyroscope. In the summer of 1956, the division switched places with the 71st Division, Redcatchers, in Alaska. Eight shiploads carrying the 71st Division arrived in Tacoma between July 21 and Sept. 9. The Redcatchers, the third oldest division in the U.S. Army, were then dismantled weeks

after their arrival, reflagging as the 4th Division (Ivy Division).

The plan then was to have the 2nd and 4th divisions switch places every three years, however, that plan never materialized. The 4th therefore joined the Pentomic Division Plan to meet the demands of nuclear warfare.

Instead of three regiments, the 4th had five — each regiment designed to operate independently of each other.

That plan lasted a year. In 1958, while here at Fort Lewis, the 4th was designated to the XVIII Airborne Corps as a

rapidly deployable force, known as STRAC (Strategic Army Corps).

### McChord

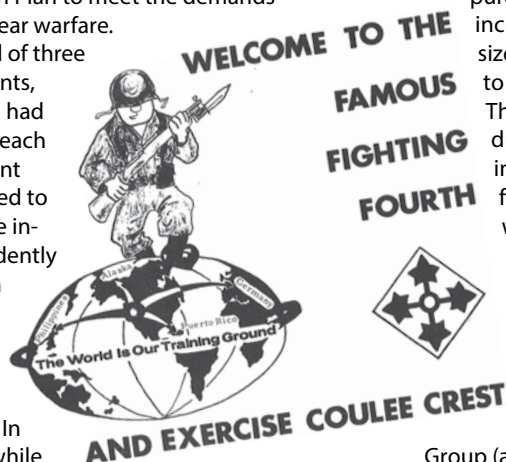
McChord Air Force Base was to see more construction during the 1950s. Additional land was purchase which increased the size of McChord to 4,616 acres. The runway was dramatically increased 9,000 feet, buildings were either replaced or upgraded. McChord was now home to the 325th Fighter All Weather

Group (a historic unit with over 500 victories). The 317th and the 318th All Weather Fighter Groups were assigned to the

325th Fighter All Weather Wing. The 319th was then transferred to McChord and was known to be the first "jet" units (F-94A Starfighter).

McChord was to become part of the air defense network and Radar and Command and Control organizations (the 25th Air Division) were headquartered at McChord where they remained until 1990. This air defense network was an essential part of the Cold War and resulted in the Distant Early Warning (DEW) Line, a chain of radar systems. This chain was used to detect threats from the Soviet Union including missiles, bombers and to give the U.S. enough time to carry out counter attacks. The DEW stations were kept occupied by the military until 1969. McChord consistently provided provisions to these stations. McChord's involvement in this network resulted in the construction of several alert hangars.

*(U.S. Air Force contributed to this report).*



Don't forget to Grab Some Home Made Fudge...

## The OLD CANNERY FURNITURE WAREHOUSE

Store Hours  
Mon-Fri 9-8  
Sat-Sun 9-6

Come for the Furniture, Stay for the Fun of It!



"Like" us on Facebook

facebook

253.863.0422

www.oldcanneryfurniture.com

We salute you,  
**JBLM**  
for turning 100!



Best of Western Washington:  
2009, 2010, 2011, 2013,  
2014, 2015 & 2016

South Sound Magazine





# Back to war for troops

## A turbulent decade for the post

By Ken Swarner

Home wasn't much more than a stopover between maneuvers for many 4th Division soldiers during the early 1960s. Division troops were involved in joint exercises with the Navy and Air Force and spent their share of time spitting out sand in the Mojave and Yakima deserts. In 1960 alone, division soldiers were involved in 16 major exercises away from the Evergreen Post.

Following the building of the Berlin Wall in June 1961, President Kennedy ordered a military buildup of Reserve units. Here, the Red Arrow Division, the 32nd from Wisconsin, reported for duty, as did four smaller Guard units from Washington, Utah, South Dakota

and California — 19,000 troops in all. They stayed a year.

In 1965, the need for 235,000 more active Army soldiers than the overall troop population the year prior saw the 4th Division expand from five infantry battalions to eight. The unit began receiving basic trainees direct to the unit in a program called "In-Unit Basic Training." By March 1966, 7,000 of these trainees had graduated and remained in the ranks bringing division strength to 15,000.

That population boom, however, pales in compar-



U.S. ARMY PHOTO  
Secretary of the Army Stanley R. Resco welcomes back from Vietnam members of the 9th Infantry Division July 10, 1969. The 9th processed back here in 1969, then returned permanently to Fort Lewis in 1972. (Notice the cigarette in SP-5 Ronald Everett's hand).

ison to the infantry training center and personnel center established here. Beginning in 1966, at first, Fort Lewis handled only troops headed back and forth to Alaska and Korea, but as the conflict in Vietnam escalated, the center was soon processing 600,000 personnel bound to and from Asia each year. When this center closed in 1972, roughly 2.3 million servicemembers processed through Fort Lewis, half of them to Vietnam.

In June 1966, a basic training center was also opened here with two brigades that grew to three, two months later. This camp schooled 25,000 basic

Thankful To Share The Skies With America's Finest  
*Congratulations JBLM On 100 Years!*



## INTERESTED IN FLYING?

- VA Approved
- Part 141 Flight School
- Private – ATP
- Flight Instructor
- Single & Multi-engine
- Financing Available

Looking for a career  
as a Professional  
Pilot?

**CALL US TODAY!**  
253-840-5758



Pierce County/Thun  
Airport-Puyallup, WA

[www.SIMFlightCenter.com](http://www.SIMFlightCenter.com)



Having trouble receiving your benefits from the VA? Is the IRS failing to deposit your tax refund and you don't know why?

As a Member of Congress, one of my most important responsibilities is to help constituents interact with the many agencies and offices of the federal government, including:

- |                                       |  |
|---------------------------------------|--|
| Military awards and commendations     | Tax matters and the Internal Revenue Service |
| Veterans' benefits                    | Housing                                      |
| Social Security and Medicare benefits | Student loans                                |
| Worker injury compensation            | U.S. Service Academy applications            |
| Small-business concerns               |  |

If you are hitting a brick wall when trying to resolve these matters, give my office a call and our constituent services representatives can ensure you receive the necessary assistance and resources.

**360-459-8514**  
[dennyheck.house.gov](http://dennyheck.house.gov)

Thurston & Mason County Office: 420 College Street SE, Suite 3000, Lacey, WA 98503

Pierce County Office: 6000 Main Street SW, Suite 3B, Lakewood, WA 98499

For Pierce County office, please call for an appointment

*If you are unsure in which district you reside, please visit [www.house.gov](http://www.house.gov) and enter your zip code or address*



trainees in the first six months. Two hundred drill sergeants were assigned, plus that same year, a drill sergeant school was opened, graduating 350 to 400 drill sergeants annually.

Finally, during this period, Fort Lewis also opened an advanced infantry training school on North Fort, graduating 1,900 men a week.

Rumors that the 4th Division would leave for Vietnam were true — the 2nd Brigade was airlifted to Vietnam in August 1966. A month later, the 4th's other two brigades were gone, too. The 4th Division never returned to Fort Lewis.

### Reforger

Early 1968 brought the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) closer to the Evergreen Post. Participating in a program called Reforger, the post accepted specific units which had stored their equipment and weapons

in Europe. Had a conflict arose in Europe, the plan was for those units to deploy quickly. In total, 6,000 Reforger troops stayed here from the 212th Artillery Group and the 3rd Armor Cavalry. That same year, Madigan received the 62nd Medical Group which is still here today as the 62nd Medical Brigade.

### McChord

In 1963, the 62nd Wing (Heavy) was responsible for the transport of nuclear weapons and equipment worldwide until early 1971.

In 1968, McChord AFB was relieved of its assignment from the renamed Aerospace Defense Command and was reassigned to Military Airlift Command (MAC) as one of three MAC bases in the western United States operating the C-141A Starlifter, which was piloted by the 8th Military Airlift Squadron.

*(The U.S. Air Force contributed to this report)*

## Change lives. Donate plasma.

Grifols has been a pioneer in plasma collection since 1941.



Dr Grifols and Dr Cohn at the 4th International Congress of Transfusion where the plasmapheresis technique was presented.

Active military receive a **\$5 bonus** on every donation.

**Biomat USA / (253) 473-7021**

5001 S 56th St, Ste J / Tacoma, WA 98409

In addition to meeting the donation center criteria, you must provide a valid photo I.D., proof of your current address and your Social Security or immigration card to donate. Must be 18 years of age or older to donate.

[grifolsplasma.com](http://grifolsplasma.com)

**GRIFOLS**  
Pride for Donors. Passion for Patients.

**CityUniversity**  
of Seattle



**NOW  
ON SITE**

— *at* —

**JBLM**

**UNDERGRADUATE MILITARY TUITION  
ONLY \$166 PER CREDIT**

- \$2500 Transitioning Veterans Scholarship available
- Six convenient locations in western Washington

**CityU**  
of Seattle

**ONLINE. IN PERSON. NONPROFIT.**  
CityU.edu | 888.422.4898



# A familiar pattern at Fort Lewis

## War is over, new division shows up

By Ken Swarner

The war in Vietnam had a diminishing effect on Fort Lewis as we entered the 1970s. Although the post recognized the 250,000th soldier to process through the North Fort Transfer Station February 20, 1970, the Army was already making plans to close both the basic training and personnel center here. Due to the reduction in men entering the Army, all personnel processing operations on the west coast were realigned into one station in Oakland, California, in late 1971. The last class of basic trainees ended here February 4, 1972.

While we stopped sending soldiers from here to Vietnam, in 1975, several planeloads of or-

phaned children were met at McChord, where they were screened at Madigan before continuing on to their new adopted families here in the United States, some of those growing up

right here in the South Sound.

### Octofolds arrive

When the 9th Division moved onto post, activating here May 26, 1972, Fort Lewis hadn't had a division homestationed since the 4th left in 1966. The division was a "Unit of Choice," meaning it filled its ranks completely with volunteers to the Army — no

drafttees were assigned.

Roughly 2,600 career soldiers formed the base of the unit, but then the 9th Division had to build itself through a rigorous recruiting system. High school seniors were asked which of 300 job

specialties they would like to learn. The first enlisted

female volunteer was assigned to Headquarters, 2-77th Armor, in July 1972 as the Women's Army Corps (WAC) began to dismantle. By the end of 1972, 8,000

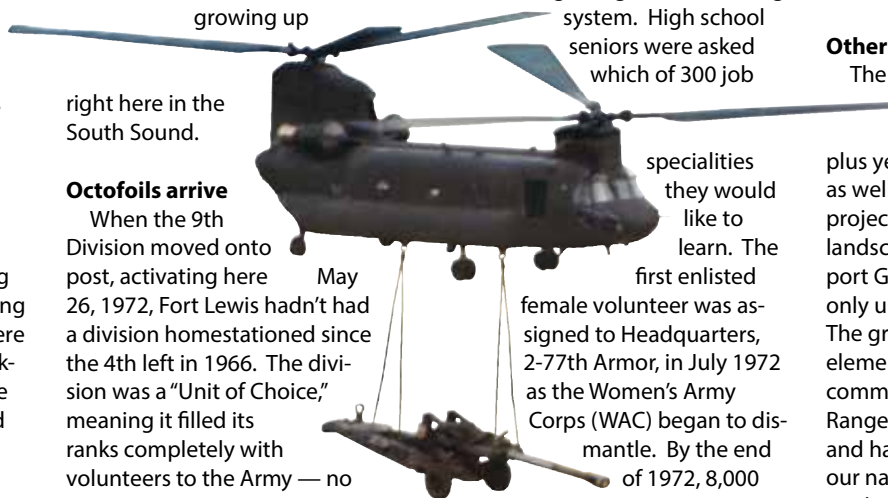
soldiers were assigned and training as the 9th Division. It would be in the 1980s, however, when the 9th would find its place in history as a test bed for the Army.

### Other names and places

The 1970s also saw a number of units arrive here that are still on post after 30-plus years in one form or another, as well as a number of building projects found their way to the landscape. The 593rd Area Support Group formed in 1973 as the only unit of its kind in the Army. The group brought many logistics elements together under one command. The 2nd Battalion, 75th Ranger Regiment, arrived in 1974, and has been deploying to serve our nation ever since.

Also in the 70s the Fort Lewis

Continued on page 38



U.S. ARMY PHOTO

A Chinook helicopter carries a howitzer over Fort Lewis in the 1970s.

effortless dentistry for today's lifestyle



**LIGHT DENTAL  
STUDIOS**

quality dentistry, affordable care  
saturday & evening hours

7 south sound locations

**Saluting Those Who Serve**  
*Congratulations on  
100 Years, JBLM!*



The Seattle Fire Department is an Equal Opportunity  
Employer that values diversity in its workforce.

Sign up to receive  
notifications for the  
next application period.

[WWW.SEATTLEFIREJOBS.COM](http://WWW.SEATTLEFIREJOBS.COM)







# Jane Fonda was here

## How the movie star crashed the gate

By Ken Swarner

"I shall return!" With those parting words, actress and political activist Jane Fonda was escorted off then Fort Lewis property by military police following her raid on the Evergreen Post, March 7, 1970.

The caper was part of an attempt by Fonda, and the daughter of Jim Thorpe, the famed Native American football star, to dramatize the "shabby treatment" of Native Americans over the past couple hundred years. They particularly wanted to further the cause of northwest Natives trying to acquire a piece of Fort Lawton (a sub post of Fort Lewis at the time), which had recently gone on the government's surplus list.

In the early hours of March 7,

1970 protestors staged a picket rally outside Lawton while Fonda and eight others drove through Lawton's gate. They were stopped by MPs, asked to leave, and they did.

Later that day, however, Fonda was discovered parading around 2nd Division Drive on Fort Lewis talking with soldiers. This time, she and several others with her, were detained by MPs for questioning and then released with letters of expulsion.

It was rumored that following Fonda's raid, 30,000 signatures were gathered by soldiers here calling for a boycott of Jane Fonda's films showing on the post.

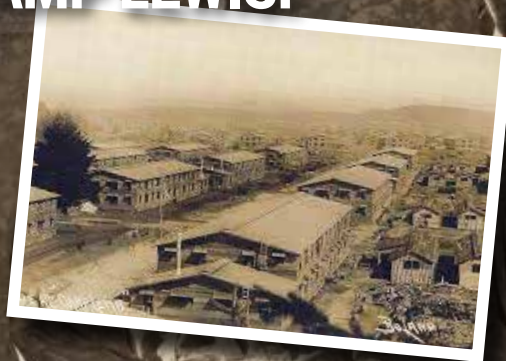
"If we are going to spend four bits to see her," one soldier was quoted in local press, "she's going to have to show us a lot more than she did Sunday."



PHOTO CLIP FROM BARBARELLA

Jane Fonda made history when she crashed the Fort Lewis gate in 1970.

**YOU'VE COME A LONG WAY CAMP LEWIS!**  
**CONGRATULATIONS**  
**JOINT BASE LEWIS-McCHORD**  
**ON YOUR 100TH YEAR.**



**Thank you for protecting our freedoms and giving  
 so much back to our communities and our state over the years.**





# 9TH INFANTRY DIVISION



RANGER NEWSPAPER PHOTO

The 9th Infantry Division (motorized) celebrates an organizational day in the 1980s.





# The HTTB and beyond

## An Army post at the center of attention

By Ken Swarner

Ninth Division soldiers and their machines were the big news in the early 1980's as officials began developing a revised future for the Army. Part of the new doctrine included assembling a light, mobile infantry division with the fire power to knock out heavy, armored forces.

In 1981, the 9th Infantry Division became that unit, ordered to test new technological concepts, structures and weapon systems of the Army under a framework at Fort Lewis called the High Technology Test Bed (HTTB). Already the 9th had advanced systems such as the TOW and Chaparral, but the HTTB also gave them dune buggies and

hang gliders.

One of the first systems they tested was MILES (Multiple Integrated Laser Engagement System) — laser tag for all practical purposes. By the end of that first year, two- and three-wheel motorcycles were in full test mode, as well as a dune buggy, known as the FAV (Fast Attack Vehicle), a program later replaced by the Humvee in 1985. A hotline was established at the time, and many of the concepts tested came from regular soldier suggestions.

By 1984, however, most of the testing ended (the last of it in 1988), and the 9th Division transitioned into the Army's first, and only, motorized division — again, a concept hoping to com-



The Light Attack Vehicle, also known as the Fast Attack Vehicle, was a concept tested on Fort Lewis in the 1980s. Some Marine and special operations units still use similar vehicles today.

Continued on page 38

*Congratulations JBLM*  
**100** — ON —  
**YEARS OF SERVICE!**

**Brandman University is honored to be a part of your military heritage since 1972.**

We offer bachelor's and master's degrees in the fields of Arts & Sciences and Business & Professional Studies.

**Learn more:**

**JBLM – Lewis Campus**  
**253-964-2509**

**JBLM – McChord Field Campus**  
**253-584-5448**

**Lacey Campus**  
**360-493-6392**

 **BRANDMAN**  
University  
CHAPMAN UNIVERSITY SYSTEM

**Brandman.edu**

Brandman University, a part of the Chapman University System, is a private, nonprofit institution accredited by the WASC Senior College and University Commission (WSCUC) that offers academic programs both online and at over 26 campuses throughout California and Washington. Not all programs are available at all locations. Program availability is subject to change.

3970-1207-2016



## PIERCE TRANSIT IS PROUD TO SERVE OUR COMMUNITY

### GIVE PIERCE TRANSIT A TRY TODAY – RIDE THE BUS!

Pierce Transit is here to get you where you need to go. Visit [piercetransit.org](http://piercetransit.org) to plan your trip. It's easy to plan trips in Pierce, King, and Snohomish counties, with our Trip Planner and interactive maps. Or, call Customer Service at **253.581.8000**, **Option 1**, Monday through Friday 6:30am to 6:30pm. We're here to help! Just give one of our safe, clean buses a try and you'll agree **Pierce Transit is the way to go!**

### FIND YOUR NEXT CAREER

Put yourself in the driver's seat with a career at Pierce Transit. Check out all the different career opportunities on our website [piercetransit.org](http://piercetransit.org). For new operators, we provide paid training and testing for a Commercial Driver's License (CDL). With a strong benefits package, competitive wages and a friendly atmosphere, you'll discover Pierce Transit is a great place to work.

*Pierce Transit is fortunate and honored to employ many active, reserve, and retired military personnel.*



[piercetransit.org](http://piercetransit.org) | 253.581.8000 | [f](https://www.facebook.com/piercetransit) [t](https://twitter.com/piercetransit)

### A familiar pattern

continued from page 34

Museum opened in 1972 in the old Fort Lewis Inn building where it is still today. Also constructed in the 70s were the Nelson Rec Center, Evergreen Library, Crittenberger Library, the barracks closest to the Fort Lewis Cemetery, and the Sheridan Gym.

### McChord goes on the chase

On November 21, 1971, two McChord fighters (the 318 Fighter Interceptor Squadron F-106s) were sent to track the flight that

D.B.Cooper (Dan Cooper) hijacked. Unfortunately, these fighters were not able to fly slowly enough to tail the Boeing 727. D.B. Cooper as the newspapers named him, still remains an unsolved mystery.

Then, tragedy struck the local areas in March, 1975 when a C-141A crashed killing 16 crew members in the Olympic Peninsula. Many lives were touched by this tragedy as the families of the fallen lived, worked and went to schools in our community.

*(U.S. Air Force contributed to this report).*

### The HTTB and beyond

continued from page 37

bine light forces in Humvees with heavy firepower.

### New units

The 1980s saw many more changes to the Fort Lewis landscape, beginning with the arrival of First Corps, known as "eye" corps, for the first 20 years it was here. I Corps arrived October 1, 1981 under the leadership of Lt. Gen. John Brandenburg, as the 9th Division joined under its wing. Eventually, I Corps would also command units not here including the 25th and 7th divisions, as well as Army Reserve and National Guard units across the United States, hence getting its name, America's Corps.

In 1984, the First Special Forces Group, still here today, took up residence at Fort Lewis, joining the 2-75th Rangers as tenant units under Special Operations Command. First Group started on North Fort but a few years later moved to its current location near Madigan.

### In other news ...

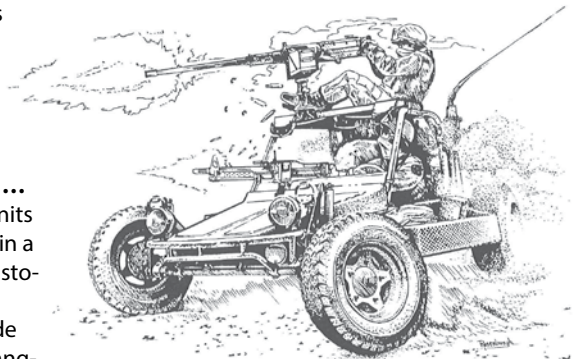
Fort Lewis units were involved in a number of big stories during the 1980s to include sending our Rang-

ers to Grenada in 1983 to free that island nation, where a few 2-75th Rangers died in a helicopter crash, then again in 1989 when our Rangers helped free the Panamanian people during Operation Just Cause. Two local Rangers were also killed in that battle jumping into the airport.

Also, in 1989, Fort Lewis soldiers from 3rd Brigade, 9th Division, fought huge forest fires at Yellowstone National Park. McChord also provided humanitarian aid during those fires.

Also at McChord, airmen traveled to Guyana to bring back the bodies of those who participated in the JonesTown Mass Suicide. That same year, after the eruption of Mount St. Helens, McChord provided communication to support the search and rescue mission.

Finally, as the 1980s ended and Congress was demanding budget cuts, the 2nd Brigade, 9th Division cased its colors forshadowing things to come for Fort Lewis.





***“Thank you for letting our 100 years  
be a part of your 100 years”***

# **We Coordinate All Your VA Benefits and Military Honors For You!**

**Trusted By More Families Than Any Other  
Funeral Home In The State.**

- 5 Military Sections with some of the area's most decorated war heroes
- Handled all active-duty deaths for JBLM during the Vietnam War
- More veterans buried here than at any other cemetery in the area!

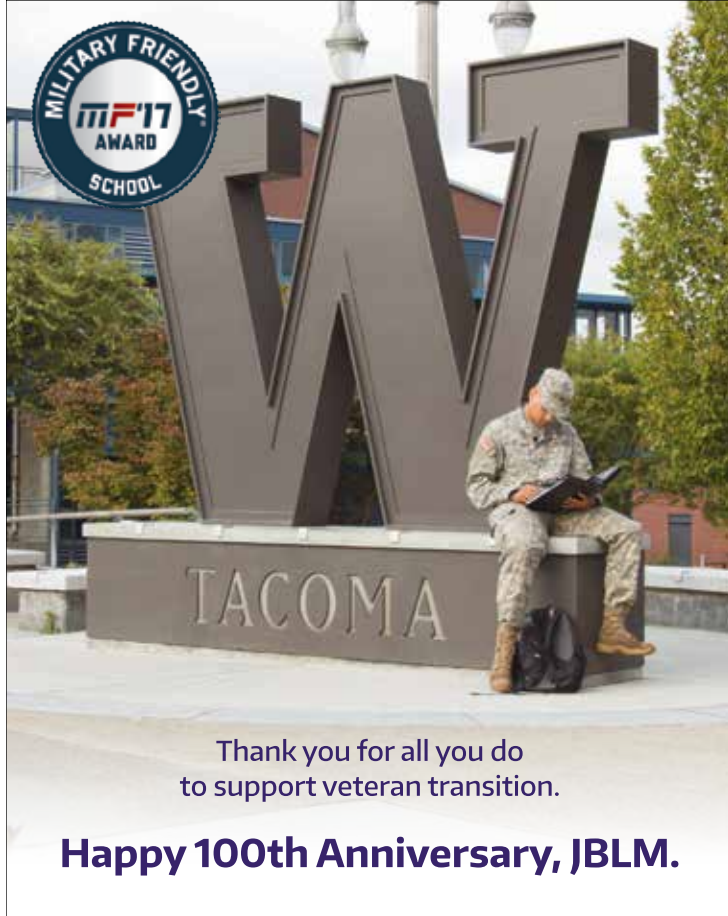
***WE CAN HELP YOU RECOVER YOUR LOST DD214  
AND OTHER SERVICE INFORMATION***

**20% OFF ALL VETERANS' PREARRANGEMENTS!**

**Call 253.448.3972 today  
for more information.**

4100 Steilacoom Blvd. SW  
Lakewood, WA 98499  
MountainViewTacoma.com





Thank you for all you do  
to support veteran transition.

**Happy 100th Anniversary, JBLM.**



**BAILEY | ONSAGER**  
PROFESSIONAL CORPORATION

• **COURTS-MARTIAL / MILITARY DEFENSE**

- **PERSONAL INJURY**
- **MEDICAL NEGLIGENCE**
- **VA DISABILITY CLAIMS**



**Darrin E. Bailey**  
Attorney & Veteran

SEATTLE, WA 98101  
(206) 667-8290  
(888) 407-5707



**Mike J. Berens**  
Attorney & Veteran

**www.baileyonsager.com**  
**www.soundmilitarylawyer.com**

*Over 31 Years of Combined Military Service*

100th Anniversary

1990s



RANGER NEWSPAPER PHOTO

Activation of the 199th Infantry Brigade at Fort Lewis February 1991.

## Ebb and flow in the 1990s

### One division down, quiet decade, ends with a bang

By Ken Swarner

The Department of Defense announced officially in January 1990 the end of the 9th Infantry Division (Motorized) — a crushing blow for the local community now wondering whether Fort Lewis would remain open. At the time, rumors suggested that the 7th Infantry Division from Fort Ord would move here, but that concern was overshadowed by conflicts in the Middle East.

#### War

President George Bush ordered troops August 7, 1990, to deploy to the Middle East and prepare for battle after Iraqi President Saddam Hussein invaded Kuwait. Immediately, the 593rd Area Support Group left, as did I Corps' Deputy Commander, Maj. Gen. Paul Schwartz, called to be liaison for the Coalition Forces. I Corps Commander Lt. Gen. Calvin Waller left Fort Lewis in November that same year to serve as deputy to Gen. Norman Schwarzkopf. (Both

generals returned shortly after the war in March 1991). In September 1990, 1-9 Cav from base deployed, followed by 12 more local units.

What was especially memorable here at home, and common place by the time the wars in Afghanistan and Iraq got underway in the 21st century, was the outpouring of support from the community, determined not to repeat the lackluster and hostile treatment of troops serving during the Vietnam War. Letter writing campaigns from local school children, yellow ribbons up and down public streets, parades, and even a 90-foot flag unveiled at a Lakes High School football game ushered in the patriotic spirit.

#### What followed the 9th?

The 9th Division was gone by February 1991, but there was some relief when soldiers from the 9th's 3rd Brigade ripped off their Octofoil patches and replaced them with the 199th Infantry Brigade patch, staying here as a motorized brigade under I Corps.

Joseph Windle, the commander, said at the time, "The 199th is more robust. The 3rd Brigade

Continued on page 51



*First business?*



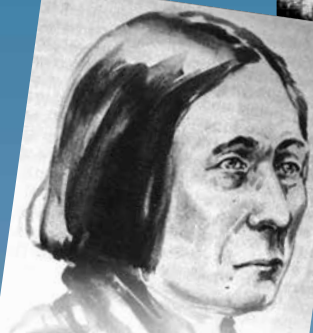
*Byrd Mill, Lake Steilacoom.*

*First army maneuvers?*



*Near American Lake, 1904.*

*Who am I?*



*Leschi, martyred Nisqually Leader*

*Delicious since when?*



*1959.*



**A lot of history has been made in Lakewood.**

**Visit us at:**

**Lakewood Historical Society Museum  
6211 Mt. Tacoma Drive (in historic  
Lakewood Colonial Center)  
12 to 4 pm, Wed-Sat**

*Where and when?*



*Tacoma Speedway, 1921.*

*1930's: an air field.  
Today?*



*Clover Park Tech College.*

*Before it was  
Little Church  
on the Prairie?*

*Today, Towne Center. In 1960?*



*Villa Plaza*

*It was a grocery store.*



***Some of our generous sponsors:***

**B & B Glass • Best Burgers of Lakewood • Better Properties Real Estate •  
Heritage Bank • Lakewood Hardware • Moon Rise Cafe • Mountain View  
Funeral Home/Memorial Park • Original House of Donuts • Parkwood  
Properties Management • Print Shop of Lakewood • South Sound Restaurant  
Group • Tacoma Country and Golf Club • Villa Realty • Water Rights, Inc**



# A decade of war

## Soldiers and airmen spend 10 years fighting

By Fort Lewis Museum, Army and Air Force sources

Fort Lewis became the leader of the Army's model Transformation Initiative process, which would serve as a model for change in the U.S. Army to create a new combat power (see previous chapter and following stories). With the terrorist events of September 11, 2001, however, the world and base entered a new era and century bringing new challenges and requirements. Assets were active in providing support for real-world missions on the "Global War on Terrorism" (GWOT) with Operation Enduring Freedom (OEF) in Afghanistan, force protection Operation Noble Eagle (ONE), and Operation Iraqi Freedom (OIF) in Iraq. Fort Lewis supported I Corps' implementation of a persistent individual soldier readiness training and exercise schedule and an aggressive acceleration of the swiftest deployability dates of the new Stryker Brigade Combat Teams (SBCTs) were also employed. From 2003, Fort Lewis had a central role in preparing units that deployed several times for 12 months or more rotations to either Iraq or Afghanistan to support the Global War on Terrorism.

### I Corps back at it

February 4, 2004, marked the

first time that I Corps command elements forward deployed in combat since the end of the Korean War. From February 2004 to January 2005, Task Force Olympia (TFO) deployed to Mosul where it assumed its mission from the 101st Airborne to form a headquarters to exercise command and control of all coalition and Iraqi forces in northern Iraq during Operation Iraqi Freedom (OIF). The HQs coordinated the efforts of both of the Army's first two Stryker Brigade Combat Teams, attached engineers, civil affairs, signal, and other supporting units as well as, ultimately, more than 12,000 Iraqi security forces. Then, and for the first time since the Korean War, in February 2009, Lt. Gen. Charles Jacoby, I Corps commander, led the entire I Corps staff of 900 soldiers and civilian employees to Iraq to replace XVIII Air-

borne Corps and assume duties as the Multi-National

nity Connector Program, as well as the Capt. Meriwether Lewis Chapter of AUSA's Subchapter program and funding from the Pierce

Military Business Alliance, local organizations and individuals supported service-members in hundreds of different ways. From the Single Soldier Project, which put Welcome Home Baskets in every returning single soldier's barracks room to numerous parades and welcome home barbecues, the South Sound military supporters wrapped their arms around deploying and returning servicemembers from war time after time, and continue to do so to this day.



Many memorial ceremonies were held at Fort Lewis during the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan.

Corps

— Iraq. During this period, Lt. Gen. Jacoby was second in command under Gen. Raymond Ordinerio in Iraq. I Corps returned to Fort Lewis a year later. In the meantime, as terrorism activity increased in Afghanistan, U.S. combat operations were augmented and Fort Lewis units took their turns to deploy and contribute to the region.

### Citizens take up support

On a much larger scale than during the Gulf War, and as a result of the command's outreach to local communities through the Commu-

### At McChord

The C-17 has done well in the high operations tempo of conflicts in Iraq and Afghanistan going back to day one of operations following 9-11. Most of the decade has been filled with a constant uptempo in war operations, humanitarian missions, and resupplies to the South Pole, including supporting Hurricane Katrina victims in 2005 and evacuating people from Haiti in 2010.

## Happy 100th Anniversary JBLM!

Since 1965 we've been proud to host service men and women as well as their loved ones.



Close to downtown Tacoma, it's simple to duck into town for fine dining, shopping or just to pick up essentials.

Thank You For Your Service!

We Support Our Troops



Best Western.

(253) 584-2212

6125 Motor Ave. SW, Lakewood



Military family events happen year-round, and we're happy to work with groups traveling for an event on base.

10% Military Discount w/ ID

## Jenny's Must Have

Luxurious Vintage & Handmade Essentials

USE CODE MILITARY10 AT [www.JennysMustHave.com](http://www.JennysMustHave.com)

(253) 318-5225



## Congratulations JBLM on 100!

Tacoma Country & Golf Club  
on American Lake Since 1905

13204 Country Club Dr. SW  
Lakewood, WA  
[golftcgc.com](http://golftcgc.com)





# CONGRATS JBLM ON PUSHING

# 100





PHOTO BY J.M. SIMPSON

4th Brigade Strykers practice techniques on Fort Lewis prior to deployment.

# JBLM and the Strykers

## A new century waits

By J.M. Simpson

From the horse-mounted soldiers of 100 years ago to the 450 horse-powered Strykers that characterize a significant portion of the post's mission today, the post has steadfastly served the country.

Strykers have met the challenges of a post-Cold War world with the development of a more flexible doctrine of war fighting that bridged the gap between heavy and light forces. And that history began here.

Put differently, the Army underwent at JBLM a "transformation" from the Cold War traditional tactics of "force on force" to a newer "networked battlefield" characterized by near instantaneous sharing of intelligence while at the same time providing speed and lethality to anywhere in the battle space — or on the globe.

This started in 2001 when a handful of soldiers tumbled from

the rear of a Canadian LAV III (light armor vehicle) and moved quickly toward one of the old World War II-era buildings on then North Fort.

In a moment, they entered the buildings and begun room-clearing operations.

They were the prelude to the next chapter — the Stryker chapter — in JBLM's history.

The word on the Army command's lips in 2001 was "transformation," and then Fort Lewis soldiers were enthused to be engaged in a new type of training.

This change, comprised of combining technology with a more responsive, deployable and sustainable force, took the shape of the Stryker.

In May 2002, the first 14 of the Army's new Strykers were delivered to A Company, 5th Battalion, 20th Infantry Regiment, 3rd Brigade, 2nd Infantry Division.

"This is a great day for the soldiers in the two brigades that form the tip of the Army Transformation

spear," said Lt. Gen. James Hill, Fort Lewis and I Corps commander.

### History was being made

"This new vehicle is all about the men and women who wear the Arrowhead or the Tropic Lighting patch on the left shoulder"

Built on the lines of the LAV III, the Stryker was then considered to be an interim vehicle until more advanced designs became available.

With a common chassis on which to build, the armored vehicle configured into a Mobile Gun System, plus eight infantry configurations to include a Mortar Carrier, Reconnaissance Vehicle, Anti-Tank Guided Missile Vehicle, Fire Support Vehicle, Engineer Support Vehicle, Command and Control Vehicle, Medical Evacuation Vehicle and the Nuclear, Biological and Chemical Reconnaissance Vehicle.

The Army has just taken delivery of the "Dagoon," the first Stryker

outfitted with a 30mm cannon.

Training immediately commenced, and JBLM soldiers found themselves in constant training to become experts in using the Stryker to conduct combat operations.

First Battalion, 23rd Infantry Regiment, became the first unit to fully field the Stryker. Training was conducted at Ft. Lewis, the Yakima Training Center, and the National Training Center at Fort Irwin. As more Strykers arrived, more soldiers were trained.

Learning to use the vehicle as a second home became second nature. The benches in the initial version of the Stryker made for a hard but passable bed.

With the Global War on Terror ramping up, it was only a matter of time before the theory of Transformation would be put to the test first in Iraq and later in Afghanistan.

Between November 2003 and October 2004, the Army's first





Stryker-equipped force received its baptism by fire in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom.

The deployment of then Fort Lewis' 3rd Brigade, 2nd Infantry Division to Mosul, Iraq validated the equipment, training, technology, doctrines and transformation of the Army's fighting forces.

Innovations like slat armor to protect from rocket propelled grenade (RPG) attacks and fire suppression systems became common practice.

### History's wars are hard teachers

"We literally wrote the book," said 1st Lt. Nicholas Kardonsky upon his return from Iraq in 2004, "on how to use the vehicle in combat."

Along the way, all Stryker soldiers earned the nickname "Ghost Soldiers" due to the relative speed, stealth and strength of the Stryker.

Then Col. Robert Brown, com-

mander, 1st Brigade, 25th Infantry Division, said in a 2005 *Washington Post* article that the Strykers saved the lives of at least 100 soldiers.

Speed in covering large areas of a city of two million people like Mosul was expected. But speed was also measured in other ways.

"We can take an engine, the air conditioning system and the transmission out and replace them all in less than an hour," said Sgt. Erik Stark, 296th Brigade Support Battalion-

ion, as he worked on a Stryker in Baghdad in 2006.

After 3rd Brigade's initial deployment to Iraq in 2003, the military base, named after Capt. Meriwether Lewis and its Strykers, continued to serve in the Global War on Terror.

In October 2004, 1st Brigade, 25th Infantry Division, deployed to Mosul, Iraq.

In the late spring of 2006, 3rd Brigade deployed for the second time to Iraq and returned in September 2007.

In May 2007, the newly flagged 4th

Brigade, 2nd Infantry Division, deployed to Iraq as part of the "surge." This marked the first time the Mobile Gun System was used.

By far, 2009 was the busiest for JBLM Stryker Brigades.

Third Brigade, 2nd Infantry Division deployed to Iraq for a third time; 4th Brigade, 2nd Infantry Division deployed to Iraq; and 5th Brigade, 2nd Infantry Division, deployed to Afghanistan in support of Operation Enduring Freedom.

And last, 4th Brigade deployed to Afghanistan in 2012.

The combat tours the JBLM Stryker brigades engaged in, solidified the Stryker's reputation as a fast, agile and lethal system by which soldiers could quickly and effectively engage an enemy.

The Strykers and the soldiers who served on them validated the theory of Transformation and positioned Joint Base Lewis-McChord and the Army to face the pivotal challenges of the future.

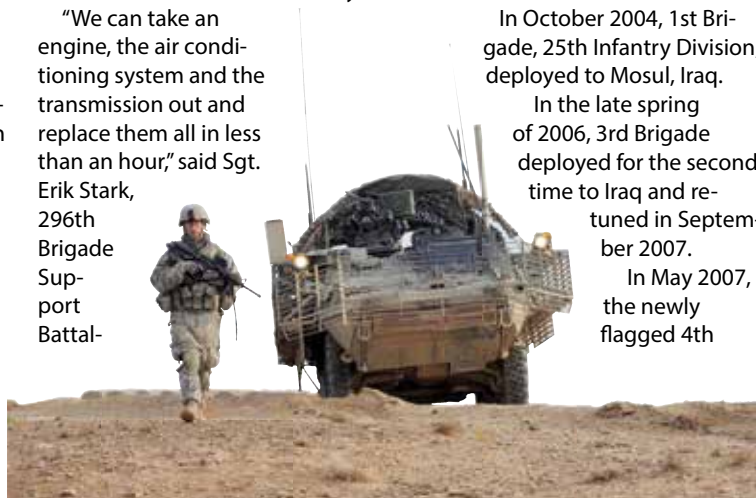
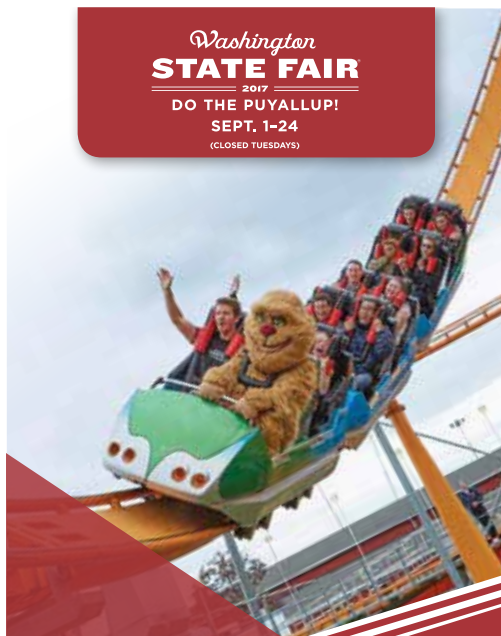


PHOTO BY J.M. SIMPSON

The Stryker proved itself on the barren plains of Kandahar Province in Afghanistan.

Washington  
**STATE FAIR**

2017  
DO THE PUYALLUP!  
SEPT. 1-24  
(CLOSED TUESDAYS)



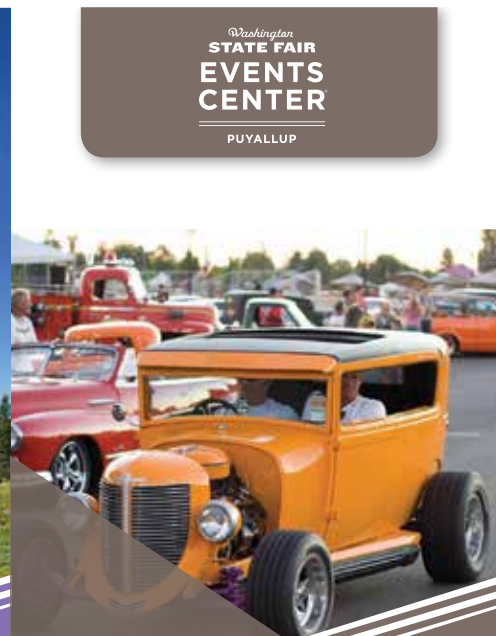
The State's  
**BIGGEST**  
Party!

Washington  
**STATE FAIR**  
PUYALLUP  
**SPRING FAIR**  
APRIL 20-23



The State's  
**BIGGEST**  
Celebration of Spring!

Washington  
**STATE FAIR**  
PUYALLUP  
**EVENTS CENTER**



The State's  
**BIGGEST**  
Event Center!

# Congratulations JBLM on 100 Years!

*Thank you to all who have served.*

## Support the Fisher House with your CFC Donation

**Did you know the Joint Base Lewis-McChord Fisher Houses —**

- Supports the military in King, Snohomish, Kitsap, Mason, Yakima, Pierce counties and Alaska
- Provides a home away from home and emotional support while a loved one is undergoing a medical crisis at MAMC
- Charitable contributions are an important source of funding
- You can make the difference in the lives of these Military Families far away from home facing difficult times alone



**King/Snohomish  
Yakima –**

**South Central Alaska  
Kitsap/Mason –**



**Pierce/South Puget Sound**

**[www.armyfisherhouses.org](http://www.armyfisherhouses.org)**



**Joint Base Lewis-McChord Fisher House CFC #56608**





# War from inside a Stryker

## A photojournalist's thoughts

By J.M. Simpson

In the damp of an April morning in 2004, soldiers assigned to 1st Brigade, 25th Infantry Division prepared for a "Lancer Challenge."

As stopwatches ticked, the soldiers confronted challenges — from carrying telephone poles to crawling through foot-deep mud — to complete the test.

Moments after finishing, a dirty

and wet Col. Robert Brown approached and asked if I would consider embedding with his brigade during its upcoming deployment to Iraq.

It was an invitation to go to war; I accepted.

Trained on the tough, agile and fast Stryker, the 1st Stryker Brigade Combat Team would replace the 3rd Stryker Brigade Combat Team, 2nd Infantry Division, in Iraq.

In August 2005 Mosul was the deadliest city on the planet, and the 5,000 soldiers of 1st SBCT were there to stabilize conditions in preparation for Iraq's first democratic elections.

Stabilization was tough as Taliban and al Qaeda fighters sought to control the city.

"The fight here is between street gangs," one soldier said as we stood on a street corner on a

sweltering morning.

"We just happen to be the biggest, strongest and best armed on the streets."

Amen to that.

With the Stryker's ability to move quickly and quietly in bringing force to a fight, the vehicle and its soldiers soon earned the nickname, "Ghost Soldiers."

Many times the insurgents tested the Strykers and the soldiers therein.

The wickedly ragged explosion of an improvised explosive device on another car and litter-cluttered Mosul street signaled the start of an ambush.

A hail of small arms fire interspersed by the swoosh of rocket propelled grenades, enveloped us.

"You have a guy on a roof with

Continued on page 48



PHOTO BY J.M. SIMPSON

A soldier takes a knee as a Stryker precedes him down a narrow street.

## USO NORTHWEST SALUTES JOINT BASE LEWIS-MCCHORD ON ITS 100<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY

For 75 years, the USO has strengthened America's military service members by keeping them connected to family, home, country and even football!

THAT'S RIGHT, Football, America's game.

Once again, the USO is providing our service members and their families with a fun and entertaining way to stay connected...

**FireFan**

DOWNLOAD THE APP TODAY AND ENJOY GAME TOKENS ON US!

ENTER CODE BELOW FOR FREE GAME PLAY

**USOFREE**







## War from inside a

**Stryker** continued from page 47

two RPGs; I repeat, you have a guy on a roof with two RPGs," a voice came over the radio.

The heavy thump, thump, thump of the Strykers' .50 caliber machine guns engaged, chewing apart a building's roofline.

"They've just sealed off both ends of the street," that same calm voice announced. "You are now in a box."

Spent shell casings cascaded into the Stryker as it filled with the smoke and dust of battle.

Eventually, our three Strykers broke the box and headed back toward Forward Operating Base Courage.

The fight had lasted 90 minutes. "We thought we were going to be called out to rescue you guys," one Ranger told me several years afterwards.

"It looked bad."

The Strykers that day proved resilient and tough; the "slat" armor surrounding it warding off the explosive force of RPGs.

Brown later commented to the *Washington Post* in 2005 that the Stryker had saved the lives of at least 100 soldiers during the deployment.

With its varied imaging abilities and its onboard tracking technology, Stryker soldiers not only knew where they were in relationship to each other but where they were in the battle space.

Like a hawk, the quick and quiet Stryker hunted the enemy down, and the soldiers it carried defeated them.

In some Strykers, soldiers had rigged coffee makers that produced a so-so cup of home.

At other times it served as a

means to convey American decency and goodwill.

Those came in the form of food, cooking oil, medical care and other

would crowd around soldiers and ask for small things — pencils, comic books, bottles of water and candy.

Stryker soldiers always obliged.

From the streets and alleyways of Iraq, then Fort Lewis Stryker soldiers assigned to 5th Brigade, 2nd Infantry Division found themselves deployed

to the wide-open plains of Afghanistan's Kandahar Province for the first time in 2009.

Again the speed and agility of the newer and improved Strykers — some with the V hull to help ward off IED blasts — proved invaluable as soldiers moved between villages across the desert in conducting a variety of missions.

Not far from an anteroom of hell called Spin Boldak, soldiers assigned to the 8th Squadron, 1st Cavalry Reg-

supplies the Stryker brought to the people of Iraq.

On a hot afternoon somewhere near Gogjali, a sparsely populated neighborhood east of Mosul, our Stryker stopped and we dismounted.

Sgt. Joshua Long, 1st Battalion, 5th Infantry Regiment, a medic from one of the tougher sections of Los Angeles, walked over to a small group of Iraqis.

One of them held a little girl. Her head and face were decorated with gashes.

Long examined her, opened his aid kit and within 10 minutes had patched her up.

"She'll be fine," he said to the Iraqis through our interpreter.

This was Stryker-borne American goodness.

During many missions, children



PHOTO BY J.M. SIMPSON  
An Iraqi girl talks to Stryker soldiers serving in Iraq.

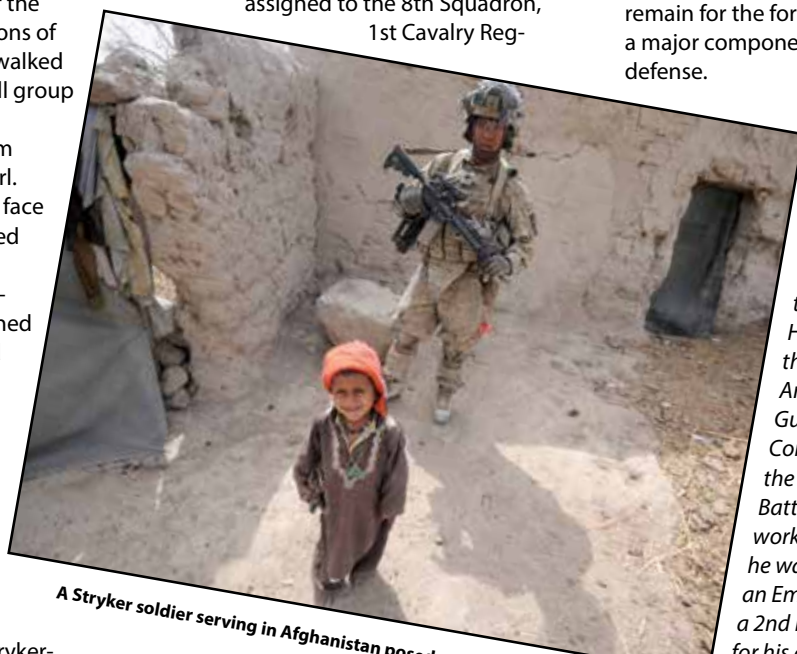


PHOTO BY J.M. SIMPSON  
A Stryker soldier serving in Afghanistan posed with a little girl during a mission.

iment, saddled up to conduct a humanitarian mission.

After about a 90-minute ride, the six Strykers rolled into Martsenzai.

Comprised of about 20 mud/brick structures, the scrawny chickens running about outnumbered the people living there.

I counted 12 individuals — and wondered where everyone else was.

The mission was to gather intelligence on the local Taliban while distributing food, blankets and clothing.

When we left, a pick-up truck just behind our Stryker struck an IED we had just rolled by.

Soldiers scrambled out, secured the area, and searched a nearby cluster of mud houses.

Of the few Afghanis encountered, none knew anything about the IED.

Such attacks were always present, and throughout it all the Strykers and the vast majority of its soldiers performed honorably.

The history of Joint Base Lewis-McChord and the introduction of the Stryker remain inexorably tied together.

As the mission of the Army and I Corps changes in response to world events, as the technology shaping the Stryker evolves, it will remain for the foreseeable future a major component of national defense.

*Editor's Note: Between 2005 and 2012, Simpson deployed five times to Iraq and three times to Afghanistan. He also covered the Washington Army National Guard's 81st Brigade Combat Team and the 876th Engineer Battalion. For his work in Iraq in 2007, he was nominated for an Emmy and awarded a 2nd ID combat patch; for his actions in Afghanistan, he was awarded Combat Spurs.*





# The rise of the joint base

## New decade ushers in big name change

By Ken Swarner

Goodbye North Fort Lewis, Main Post, even McChord Air Force Base, as the second decade of the 21st century began, so did a major name change at Fort Lewis and McChord Air Force Base. As a result of the Base Realignment and Closure process, the Evergreen Post became Joint Base Lewis-McChord, as well as, JBLM-Main, McChord Field and JBLM-North. The support functions, or typical garrison functions, as well as the property on both installations, fell under the command and ownership of the Army.

Commanding the new joint base is a U.S. Army garrison commander, an O-6 position with a deputy JBG, an O-6 Air Force position. The

deputy supports the joint base commander, as well as serves as the point of contact for Air Force commanders when it comes to problems related to support functions.

The joint base headquarters also moved into Building 1010, which for years had been home to the 4th Region ROTC command. Building 1010 was the original headquarters building for Fort Lewis, dating back to the late 1920s. President Dwight Eisen-

hower reportedly served in that building as a staff officer with the 3rd Infantry Division prior to World War II.

The changes took effect with a ceremony Feb. 1, 2010.

"This represents our future, represents our making history," Col. Thomas Brittain, the first garrison commander for the joint base, said at the time.



US ARMY PHOTO  
An iconic photo for Joint Basing shows Col. Thomas Brittain, right, shaking hands with his new deputy Col. Jerry Weldon.

### In other news ...

While the entire story of this decade still remains to be told, in all, Joint Base Lewis-McChord has operated at a high tempo these

past seven years as units and air crews continue to move back and forth from here and the Middle East, but also, this base has been a major participant in what President Barack Obama once labeled the Pivot to the Pacific. Corps, divisional and air units have been actively involved in training events around the Pacific Rim, and or hosting coalition partners here and at the Yakima Training Center.

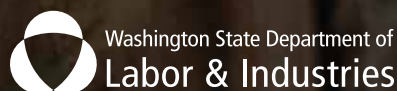
For years, beginning in the 1990s, all ROTC cadets across the country came to Fort Lewis for annual summer training. That program moved to Fort Knox in 2014.

Finally, since the war started in 2001, the troop population has steadily grown to 45,000 troops. Budget cuts trimmed that number closer to 40,000 when the 4th Stryker Brigade inactivated in March 2014.

## CONGRATULATIONS ON A CENTURY OF SERVICE

### L&I – Discover why our employees love working here

Help keep Washington safe and working. L&I has positions open that can use the job skills you learned in the military, including IT, investigation, occupational safety and health, building trade inspectors, admin. support, and management.



[www.Lni.wa.gov/Jobs](http://www.Lni.wa.gov/Jobs)



"My military experience has been a perfect fit for my career at L&I. The agency culture of teamwork and the opportunities for growth and development made it an easy transition."

*Asst. Director David Puente,  
Office of Human Resources*

FY17-270 [11-2016]



# Saluting the Men & Women

(dogs, horses and mules, too)

*on JBLM's 100th Year*



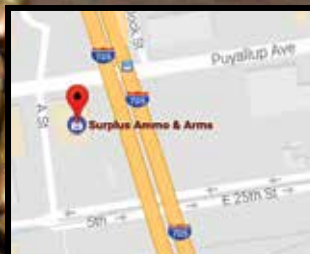
**Yelm Veterinary Hospital**

1120 West Yelm Avenue, Yelm  
360-458-7707 • [www.YelmDVM.com](http://www.YelmDVM.com)

**SERVING THE MILITARY SINCE 2008**

# SURPLUS AMMO & ARMS

**COME CHECK OUT OUR EVERYDAY LOW PRICES!**



102 PUYALLUP AVE  
TACOMA, WA 98421  
253.301.0642



100th Anniversary

REFLECTION



PHOTO COURTESY OF 446TH AIRLIFTWING  
Lt. Col. Anna Sullivan, left, was well known in the community as the 446th's spokesperson.

# Memories of McChord

## PAO for 446th shares her memories

By Gary Lott

As Joint Base Lewis-McChord (JBLM) nears its Centennial Celebration, many influential leaders of not only JBLM, but also the community that supports the military, are sharing some of their memories, good and bad, of their tenure at JBLM.

Former Chief of the 446th Airlift Wing Public Affairs, Lt. Col. Anna Sullivan (retired), shared some of her most memorable moments while serving on JBLM.

"The most memorable moment for me was the C-141 Starlifter mid-air collision a couple of weeks after I arrived in 1992," said Sullivan. "It was so tragic and every single person at McChord Air Force Base (at the time) pulled together for the recovery effort."

Sullivan even remembers the difficulty of having to speak with some of the family members for those 13 brave men lost in that accident.

"I worked in the McChord Command Post for 17 hours and talked to some members of those families. They were desperately hoping for good news and we couldn't tell them anything," said Sullivan.

"They had to wait for the chaplain's team to arrive at their house. It was heartbreaking."

Twenty plus years later and joining together as a community appears to be something that has continued to grow amongst the JBLM community.

Sullivan also shared some of her most memorable military missions as well.

"On the mission side was the immediate and overwhelming airlift response to places devastated by disaster, natural or manmade, such as Haiti, Rwanda, the Gulf Coast, Nepal and Africa," said Sullivan. "I went on some of those missions, and to see the results will be a memory that lasts with me forever."

Her impacts weren't just from her specific missions, but also from the overall structural changes to JBLM during her tenure here.

"JBLM has changed substantially with an influx of modernization dollars since I arrived in 1992. The facilities and infrastructure are great and getting better. The asbestos buildings from the 1940s and 1950s are gone, while environmentally responsible buildings are now here. There's better housing, better work spaces, and it makes a difference. I think it is clear that the Department of Defense



believes in the installation's impact from the investment being made."

Apart from the lack of asbestos, or obvious memorable and tragic moments for history buffs and/or war movie connoisseurs, there are many other reasons why it remains crucial to celebrate JBLM's history.

"It is important to celebrate the history of JBLM because of the amazing people who have served here," added Sullivan. "Famous or not, the real strength of the American military is the people who served, and I was so privileged to meet and work with real walking, talking American heroes."

Sullivan even shared some memories of her first arrival to JBLM, many years ago.

"When I first arrived from my as-

signment at a fighter unit fresh off of Operation Desert Storm, I knew little of the airlift mission. I needed to learn fast. So I went on a relief mission to Mogadishu, Somalia. It was an important story to tell, so I was escorting four media representatives from the Northwest. I had just been promoted, and when I got on the C-141, one of the crew told me I was the troop commander. It was nine days of fire hose learning. It was exhausting, exciting, and very, very educational."

Although some memories were tragic, while others were inspiring, the overall importance for Sullivan is to continue to honor, cherish and never forget the countless memories she holds from her time on Joint Base Lewis-McChord.

## Ebb and flow in the

**1990s** continued from page 40

relied on support from the division — the 199th as its own artillery, engineers, military intelligence, ground cavalry and chemical support." Two years later, the 199th redesignated to the 2nd Armored Cavalry Regiment here.

Other units came to Lewis in the early 90s too, these from units transferred out of Germany, to include 4-7 ADA (Patriot), the Triple Nickel Engineer Group, and others. Still, troop populations would remain low the rest of the decade, getting down to 16,000 at one time. Fort Ord was closed in the early 1990s, however, the 7th Division did not move here as rumored.

The post did see some building during the 90s, namely Evergreen Elementary school opened in 1991; the new Madigan Army Medical Center opened March 21, 1992, and the base began housing privatization as the decade came to a close.

## Future of Strykers

The big news of the 1990s was the start of Stryker testing at Fort Lewis. Like the 9th Division in the 1980s, Fort Lewis was once again at the forefront of development for a medium force — soldiers that

could get to the fight fast with enough firepower and protection to sustain a fight.

Known as Transformation (see accompanying stories to follow), this concept began here in 1999 when Army Chief of Staff Eric Shinseki designated the 3rd Brigade, 2nd Infantry Division, — technically the legacy of the independent brigades stationed here during the decade, — to be the first Stryker test concept, only known then as a prototype unit. While this is more a story for the 21st century, it is good to note that it began in the fall of 1999.

## Big change at McChord, too

In 1992, McChord's host wing was renamed from the 62nd MAW to the 62nd Airlift Wing (AW). The 36th AS transferred to Japan in 1993. The 7th AS then transferred from California, rejoining its old sister squadrons from World War II. At the end of the 90s another big development at McChord — the 62 AW traded its C141s for C-17s, accomplishing this between 1999 and 2002, and added the 10th AS in 2003. McChord also started hosting RODEO in 1994, and continued up to recent years, but that program has been faded out and will be replaced by Mobility Guardian in summer 2017.



**Happy 100th JBLM!**

**Veteran Owned**

**Thurston County**

**360-890-9288 – 24 / 7**

**Patriotrecovery.co**

## HAPPY ANNIVERSARY JBLM! RLTW! - RANGER BUSINESSES



**Willie's Distillery-  
Ranger/SF Owned**  
[www.highspiritsliquor.com](http://www.highspiritsliquor.com)  
**Poulsbo, WA.**



**MAESTRO STRATEGIC  
SOLUTIONS LLC.**



**RANGERSS.COM**  
**We have all the Ranger  
gear that you need!**

**Come see what Veteran  
Businesses are doing!**



**MyRangerBiz.org**



# Don and Joan Brown: A McChord life

## Former commander came back to area for good

By Jackson Hogan

Back in the far-off days of 1976, when Peter Frampton ruled the airwaves and Fort Lewis and Air Force Base McChord were separated, Maj. Gen. (retired) Don and Joan Brown moved onto McChord, and the four years they spent there are ones they will remember for the rest of their lives. Don arrived at McChord in April of that year to serve as the vice wing commander, and moved up a little over a year later to become the 62nd Military Airlift Wing Commander. Although they relocated to Scott Air Force Base in Illinois in 1979, when Don retired eight years later, the couple decided to move back to the South

Sound permanently.

Joan said she and Don missed the Northwest so much, that not

long after they had moved to Illinois, their daughter took notice and called them out.

"When we left here in 1979 to go to Scott Air Force Base in Illinois, our younger daughter came home from vacation, and said, 'Mom and Dad, all you do is talk about McChord and Washington. You never did that before, and it's disgusting. Stop it,'" Joan said.

Both Don and Joan made it clear that one of the main reasons they loved McChord, and why they returned later in life, was the community that they lived and worked with. Don said that in particular, he appreciated the work ethic of the people he was surrounded by.

"We thoroughly enjoyed everything about being here. And from my position, as the number two guy or number one guy, it's a very easy kind of job because everybody else worked so hard. And you



U.S. AIR FORCE PICTURE BY SGT. LAMAR WALKER

Guest speaker for McChord's Prayer Breakfast, Maj. Gen. Thomas A. Aldrich (second from right), 22d Air Force Commander, talks with Tacoma Mayor Mike Parker (right), while Brig. Gen. Elwood A. Kees, Jr. (center), 25th Air Division commander and Col. Donald D. Brown, 62d Military Airlift Wing commander and Mrs. Brown look on.

Continued on page 54

# Happy 100th Birthday!

**We are proud to serve military students around the world and at JBLM**

For a free, instant evaluation of how far your military training and experience will get you to a degree, log onto [fastforward.ctcd.edu](http://fastforward.ctcd.edu) or visit us at the Stone Education Center on Lewis Main to see how we can help you fast forward to your future through education.



(253) 964-1070



[www.ctcd.edu/jblm](http://www.ctcd.edu/jblm)



**CENTRAL  
TEXAS  
COLLEGE**





# An Army life

## Marion Sydenham Ball has been connected to the U.S. Army her entire life

By Margaret Bicker

Marion Sydenham Ball was born in 1923 in Ft. Missoula, Montana, as she puts it, "a child of the 4th Infantry Regiment." When Pearl Harbor was bombed on December 7, 1941, Ball interrupted her college studies to enlist in the Army Nurse Corps, but shortly after the war ended, she retired from the Corps and worked for a while as a civilian nurse until she left the profession to marry Army Major Robert Ball. For the next two decades, Marion served as an Army wife and mom. She and her husband, raised two sons: Robert and James.

In 1968, Major Ball was assigned

to Fort Lewis. At the time, says Mrs. Ball, "Ft. Lewis was the post to be sent to. Everybody wanted to be stationed here." The reason for that quickly became clear. Once the Balls discovered the mild climate and the wild beauty of the South Sound Region and the state as a whole, they never looked back. For almost fifty years, Ball and her family have lived near JBLM.

"It became," she says, "the most important place I've lived. It became my home."

As a civilian, Ball began volun-

teering at the base almost as soon as they arrived. She and some of her fellow Army wives

re-established the

Ft. Lewis branch of the Daughters of the United States Army, a non-profit organization that provided — and still

provides and largely academic support for the daughters of active duty and retired Army officers. The past national vice president of the Ft. Lewis Chapter of the Military Order of World Wars and frequent speaker for the Daughters of the American

Revolution, Republican Women, and the Army Retired Officers and Enlisted Spouses Club, Ball began volunteering with the Ft. Lewis Museum in 1973, serving as an executive board member for thirty years. In addition to her service as a board member, Ball has served the museum in a variety of other capacities, including Treasurer, Newsletter Editor, and Gift Store Manager.

After the Major retired from the military, the Balls both decided to pursue careers in the field of education. Major Ball went on to teach at Ft. Steilacoom Community College, while Mrs. Ball would have a successful twenty year career, teaching history to high school and college students on and near the base. From 1981 until 1986, she was the Director of the Military

Continued on page 55



## Then and Now...

## Crystal Mountain Proudly Salutes Our Military

### Get 50% Off Lift Tickets on Select Military Appreciation Days

### Military Discounts Available Year-Round

### Visit [CrystalMountainResort.com](http://CrystalMountainResort.com) for details



## A McChord life

continued from page 52

were able to walk around and be like, 'Gee, sergeant or airman so-and-so, thank you for doing that so well,' Don said. "If you have that kind of an attitude on people, it's very easy to be their leader. Tell them what needs to be done and get the heck out of their way."

The couple also loved to give back to their community. Joan told the story of how Don tried to provide insulation for on-base housing that was built back in the 1920s, and although he managed to get the job done, there was a bit of an incident.

"I was doing the dishes, and (my daughter) came down and tapped me on the shoulder, and said 'now, don't get excited, but Dad is hanging through the attic and there are mice pellets all over the floor,'" Joan said. "But he got it insulated!"

Joan was heavily involved in

volunteerism, as her and other military wives helped with various events and groups, such as teaching an English as a second-language program, working at the thrift shop, working with the Red Cross, and many other things. Joan said that her experiences really helped shape her viewpoint on how important helping people is.

"I had not realized until the Red Cross ceremony about how purely American volunteerism is," Joan said. "You know, Alexis de Tocqueville applauded it in *Democracy in America*. He said Americans see a problem, and then spontaneously come together to solve it."

With the great group of people that Joan and Don Brown lived and worked with, it's no wonder they chose to come back and live in Steilacoom.

"We had truly a great community relationship, and that's what brought us back," Don said. "Plus the mountains are nice."

## Snapshot

Members of 1st Special Forces Group (Airborne) conduct maritime training operations onboard MH-47 Chinook helicopters from 4th Battalion 160th Special Operations Aviation Regiment at Solo Point, Joint Base Lewis-McChord, Sept. 1, 2010.



U.S. ARMY PHOTO BY SGT. STANLEY JAMES

# We appreciate, support and hire members of our military!

## We are the winners of the 2016 US Army's Regional Exceptional Contributions Award.

**Best Military Discounts in the area**

**\$5 Meal Specials Rotating Every Month**

**10 Table Games With Huge Jackpots**

**5 Poker Tables With Live Play Beginning at 11am and Daily Tournaments At Noon & 6pm**



# HAWK'S PRAIRIE CASINO

**LOCATED OFF I-5 EXIT 111**

**8318 Quinault Drive NE, Lacey • HawksPrairieCasino.com • (360) 528-8888**





## An Army life

continued from page 53

Educational Programs at Ft. Lewis, helping soldiers earn their high school diplomas.

"I spent ... years teaching soldiers American history," says Ball.

In 2006, Mrs. Ball became one of the first women and the first non-politician to be inducted into the Ft. Lewis Civilian Hall of Fame in recognition of her many years of service to the base. Then, in 2008, the Ft. Lewis Military Museum's Army Family Gallery was dedicated to her in honor of all the work she has done with the museum over the years.

But Mrs. Ball, who at 93 still volunteers her time helping at the museum, takes all the recognition in stride. For her, the real honor has been the opportunity she has had to serve the Army over the years.

"The opportunity to volunteer at Ft. Lewis was very rewarding," says Ball.

## Snapshot

Soldiers from the 9th Infantry Division conduct Jeep training at Fort Lewis in the 1970s.



PHOTO COURTESY OF THE LEWIS ARMY MUSEUM

**HAPPY**  
*100th*  
*Anniversary*  
**JBLM**



*The Maestas Family*  
U.S. Army 1994-2014

**Happy 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary JBLM!**  
**Thank You!**

253-588-5000  
Supporting Military Since 1977  
12015 Pacific Hwy  
Lakewood, WA 98499

**Lakewood**   
**Transmission Inc.**



CONSOLIDATE HIGH  
INTEREST DEBT



PULL CASH-OUT



PAY OFF SECOND  
MORTGAGE



VETERANS NATIONAL  
★ LENDING GROUP ★  
A Division of Goldwater Bank, N.A.

**HOMES ARE APPRECIATING & VALUES ARE  
UP - YOU MIGHT HAVE EQUITY YOU DIDN'T  
KNOW ABOUT!**

VA Cash Out Refinance up to 100% of your NEW Value

- ➔ IRRRL details?! (Interest Rate Reduction Refinance Loan) Exactly, call and find out what an IRRRL is TODAY!
- ➔ Ask us how to have more than one VA home loan at a time using the same benefit.
- ➔ We lend in 48 states...moving? Local VA Specialists in Puyallup and DuPont Locations!

**PUYALLUP**  
**1-888-685-8654**

**DUPONT**  
**253-267-5415**



JBLMVAloans.com



15614 Meridian Ave E, #400  
Puyallup, WA

VETERANS NATIONAL LENDING GROUP, A DIVISION OF GOLDWATER BANK, N.A., NMLS# 452955, IS A VA APPROVED LENDER THAT IS NOT ENDORSED, SPONSORED OR AFFILIATED BY THE DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS OR ANY GOVERNMENT AGENCY. ALL RATES AND PROGRAMS SUBJECT TO CHANGE WITHOUT NOTICE. V2015-12-18





# A candied history

## Local confectioner and JBLM share history

By J.M. Simpson

Innovation can make history. Take Brown & Haley's Almond Roca as one such example.

At the beginning of World War I in 1914, Harry Brown and J.C. Haley started a candy company in Tacoma, Washington.

In 1916, Brown & Haley began producing a confection called the Mount Tacoma Bar. As the war wore on, the bar and other confections such as taffy chews and butterscotch balls became quite popular with soldiers stationed at then Camp Lewis.

After this country's entry into the Great War in 1917, the population at Camp Lewis grew larger. Not surprisingly, the increasing demand for the new company's

sweets kept pace.

This sugary-based surge in sales proved to be short-lived once the war ended and most of the soldiers stationed at Camp Lewis returned home to civilian life.

Brown & Haley decided to innovate, and so began a period of experimentation.

In 1923, the two confectioners' efforts resulted in the creations of a crunchy, log-shaped candy

piece comprised of a buttery toffee mixture wrapped up in a coat of chocolate and diced almonds.

"They knew that toffee absorbed moisture," explained

Chris Carson, the outlet manager, while he set up some historic tins of Almond Roca. "So they

wrapped it up in chocolate to make the toffee last longer."

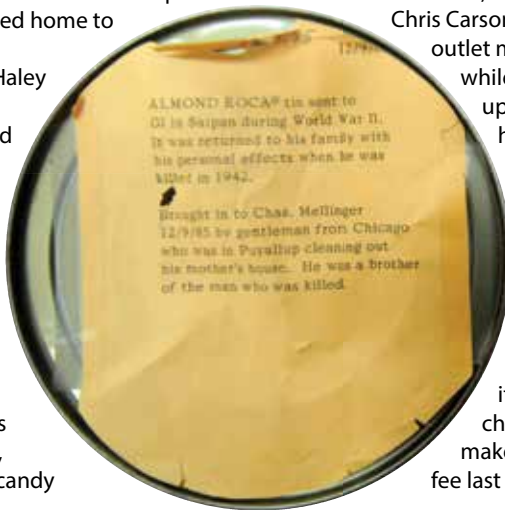


PHOTO BY J.M. SIMPSON  
This can of Almond Roca was sent to a soldier serving in World War II.

Wrapping the new confection in golden foil only added to its mystique.

Pleased that the almond and chocolate coating made the candy less messy, Brown handed out samples to Tacoma's residents, including Tacoma Public Library librarian Jacqueline Noel.

She named it Almond Roca.

Company lore holds that Noel chose the name because of the candy's hard crunch that was somewhat rock-like.

At the time, many almonds were imported from Spain, and "roca" is the Spanish word for rock.

During the first few years, Almond Roca shipped in traditional cardboard boxes or in decorative wooden boxes.

In 1927, Brown & Haley started shipping the candy sealed in

Continued on page 58



**Proudly Supports Our Troops**

**THE NORTHWEST HARLEY-DAVIDSON MILITARY PURCHASE PROGRAM**

Special financing for active military personnel serving our country

See store for more details.

**THANK YOU FOR 100 YEARS, JBLM!**


**HOURS:**  
(Sales, Parts & Apparel)

NORMAL: Tues.-Fri. 9-7 | Sat. 9-6  
Sun. 11-5 | Closed Mon.

WINTER: Tues.-Fri. 10-7 | Sat. 9-6  
Sun. 11-5 | Closed Mon.

SERVICE: Tues.-Sat. 9-6 | Closed Sun.-Mon.


**1-800-NWHOGGS (694-6447)**  
**www.nwharley.com**  
8000 Freedom Lane NE Lacey (off exit 111)



THE MUSEUM OF FLIGHT  
museumofflight.org

**Happy 100!**

**Joint Base Lewis McCord**





# Building Homes in the Northwest for More Than 35 Years



Tahoma Terra  
Yelm WA

The Ridge at Southwood  
Spanaway WA

Cherry Meadows  
Yelm WA

Walkers Ridge  
Lakewood WA

Horizon Pointe  
Lacey WA

Find the new construction home  
of your dreams!

[www.SoundbuiltHomes.com](http://www.SoundbuiltHomes.com)





# Ranger newspaper celebrates 66 years

## Paper continues to serve military and their families

By Jason de Paul

The *Ranger* newspaper may not be 100 years old like Joint Base Lewis-McChord, but it's been covering the base longer than it hasn't.

Established in January 1951, *The Ranger* has reported on a big portion of the base's history, starting publication just after the 2nd Division here deployed to fight in Korea.

"Our first forty years was as a civilian enterprise newspaper, a contract we had with then Fort Lewis to provide the command's information to the troops," said Ken Swarner, owner and publisher of *The Ranger*. "Since then, we've been independent of the base, however, continuing our tradition of supplying news and entertainment to the troops, their families and veterans."

Today, *The Ranger* is part of a larger media and marketing company, Swarner Communications, which provides news, information, and military discounts and contests to the JBLM and Naval Base Kitsap communities via print, events, social media, Internet, email and text. Swarner

also produces Tacoma Restaurant Week.

Merritt Benson, a communications professor at the University of Washington in Seattle started *The Ranger* newspaper in 1951. The name *Ranger* is an acronym meaning Regular Army, National Guard, Enlisted, Reserve. In 1964, he invited his student, Tom Swarner, to go to work for him at *The Ranger's* Lakewood office. Swarner worked for Benson until Benson's death in 1969, then bought the paper from Benson's wife. In the late 1980s, Swarner's sons, Ron and Ken, went to work for the company, and then bought it when Tom retired in 2006. In 2015, Ken bought Ron's shares, and is now the sole Swarner still in the business, however, Ken's brother-in-law, Bill White has worked in the business for 25-plus years as well.

Besides *The Ranger*, Swarner Communications has provided the *NW Airlifter* newspaper to the McChord community since 1980. It, too, began as a civilian enterprise contract with the base, however, following joint basing, it became independent.

In 2014, the company started inserting the weekly stateside edition of *Stars and Stripes* into all

*Ranger* by direct mail, and which should get the *NW Airlifter*.

A decision to provide both Air Force and Army news via a brand that appeals to both branches was chosen, and delivery under that name started in May of that year.

"It has been an honor and a privilege to be the number one read military newspaper in the South Sound area for sixty-six years," Swarner said. "The company looks forward to the next sixty-six years."

Besides media platforms, Swarner also hosts 14 to 15 military

support events a year — opportunities for military families to attend free events and receive activities, prizes and more in honor of their service. Recent themes included a Military Game Show Party in September, and a Salute to Military Families in August.



copies of *The Ranger* and *NW Airlifter*.

Finally, in 2015, the company started *JBLM Living* newspaper in base housing only. When the housing office started housing Army folks on McChord Field, and Air Force on the traditional Army side, it became impossible to know which homes should receive *The*

## A candied history

continued from page 56

airtight pink tins to ensure and extend freshness.

The New Cajita Rosa tin caught the public's eye as it demonstrated the value of merchandising and product freshness.

For a time, Brown & Haley advertisements used the tag line, "Candy so good we lock it up tight."

As the world headed into its second war and America prepared for war, the confection company supplied troops at Fort Lewis and abroad with tins of the pink, airtight tins of Almond Roca.

"We've had a long and wonderful history with Joint Base Lewis-McChord," continued Carson.

The war transformed the candy from a local favorite to a globally known brand. After the war, returning soldiers' demand for the candy broadened Almond Roca's appeal.

The simple innovation of wrapping toffee in chocolate, almonds and gold foil is part of the area's storied history.

"We are very proud of our ongoing association with the United States military," concluded Carson.

"It's been a great century for Brown & Haley and the military."

**PUBLISHER AND EDITOR:** Ken Swarner editor@northwestmilitary.com

**COPY EDITOR:** Melanie Casey

**CONTRIBUTORS:** Margaret Bicker, Marguerite Cleveland, Nancy Covert, Jackson Hogan, Gary Lott, J.M. Simpson

**PRODUCTION ARTISTS:** Diana Halstead, Chris Butler graphics@northwestmilitary.com

**INTERN:** Jessica Cudini

**SALES MANAGER:** Tony Worrell

**SENIOR ACCOUNT EXECUTIVES:** Ray Beckwith, David Maestas, Lynette Portello, Jan Purtell

**GENERAL MANAGER:** Bill White bw@northwestmilitary.com

**BUSINESS MANAGER:** Diana Halstead

**DISTRIBUTION:** Bill White bw@northwestmilitary.com

**HOW TO PRAISE US:** editor@northwestmilitary.com 253.584.1212

**COPYRIGHT:** *The Ranger*, *Northwest Airlifter*, *JBLM Living* and the *Weekly Volcano* are published and copyrighted by Swarner Communications and no portion may be reproduced in whole or in part by any means without the expressed written permission of the publisher.

*The Ranger*, *Northwest Airlifter*, *JBLM Living* and *Weekly Volcano* are local, independently owned and operated newspapers.

### ADVERTISE:

**VOICE** 253.584.1212 **FAX** 253.581.5962

**EMAIL** sales@northwestmilitary.com

**WWW.NORTHWESTMILITARY.COM** News and culture marching daily, centered on military in the South Sound.

**ADDRESS** 218 Wilkes St., Steilacoom, WA 98388 **VOICE** 253.584.1212 **FAX** 253.581.5962







**Pierce College is proud to be part of  
JBLM's 100 year celebration.**

As the longest-serving school on base, we are committed to the success of our students by saving them thousands of dollars on textbooks, providing shorter programs for in-demand careers, and maintaining flexible class options.



# Happy 100th Anniversary to JBLM!

## DISCOVER CLEARWATER ALL OVER AGAIN



15347 Suquamish Way NE | Suquamish, WA 98392 | 360.598.8700

866.609.8700 | [ClearwaterCasino.com](http://ClearwaterCasino.com)

