

THE **1**ST INFANTRY DIVISION POST

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FORT RILEY, KAN.

A return to Normandy
Hero's remains to be scattered along North Atlantic

Story and photos by
Staff Sgt. Jerry Griffis
1ST INF. DIV. PUBLIC AFFAIRS

MELBOURNE, Fla. – The “Big Red One” paid its final respects to one of its own March 7 at Our Lady of Lourdes Catholic Church in Melbourne, Florida.

Family, friends and service members, both active and retired, commemorated the life of retired Command Sgt. Maj. William F. Ryan, who passed away Feb. 23 at the age of 90.

Ryan was a member of the 1st Inf. Div.'s 16th Infantry Regiment during D-Day and the Battle of the Bulge in World War II. He went on to serve in Korea and Vietnam during his career.

“We have lost a treasure,” said Robert B. Humphries, president of the 16th Infantry Regiment Association.

A highly decorated Soldier, Ryan earned three Bronze Stars for valor, a Legion of Merit, the French Legion of Honor, two Purple Hearts and the Combat Infantryman's Badge.

“Bill was always fun to be around and upbeat,” Humphries said. “He enjoyed talking about World War II with a lot of Vietnam veterans and they enjoyed listening to his many stories.”

Ryan traveled back to France each June to commemorate the Allied landing at Normandy.

“He was very well respected by the folks in France,” Humphries said. “He had many good friends that he looked forward to seeing each trip.”

See RYAN, page 7



Lorraine Ryan receives an American flag from Command Sgt. Maj. Nathan Williams, 1st Bde. Eng. Bn., 1st Inf. Div., March 7 during a memorial service in honor of her late husband, retired Command Sgt. Maj. William F. Ryan, in Melbourne, Fla. Ryan died Feb. 23 at the age of 90.

A CUT ABOVE



Student skills team captain Pfc. Ronald Ibale, 3rd AHB, 1st Avn. Regt., 1st CAB, 1st Inf. Div., holds up the silver-medal ribbon his team earned March 9 at the 40th Annual Military Culinary Arts Competitive Training Event at Fort Lee, Va., while fellow members and supporters of the “Big Red One” Culinary Arts Team applaud. The Fort Riley team took home 24 medals overall, including two gold and five silver.

‘Big Red One’ culinary team stands out at annual all-military event, wins 24 medals

Story and photos by
J. Parker Roberts
1ST INF. DIV. PUBLIC AFFAIRS

Soldier chefs from across Fort Riley netted a total of 24 medals in the 40th Annual Military Culinary Arts Competitive Training Event which took place March 7 to 12 at Fort Lee, Virginia.

The competition is an opportunity for service members from all military branches to be recognized for their skills and to learn from the professional chefs who judge the contests.

Ten “Big Red One” Soldiers represented the division in categories such as hot military

kitchen trailer, cold desserts and centerpieces.

The team placed fourth out of 13 in the competition to determine the Culinary Team of the Year, taking home two gold, 13 silver and nine bronze medals overall.

Throughout the competition, visitors and competitors took in each team's buffet table, where

“Usually people come here and they just look at it from a competitive standpoint ... I look at it as coming here and finding things to bring back to Fort Riley.”

STAFF SGT. SAMUEL PARKER
DHQB, 1ST INF. DIV.

their artistic and culinary abilities were on full display.

“The table is an all-night, all-day mission,” said team captain Staff Sgt. Jeffrey Matthews, Division Headquarters and Headquarters Battalion, 1st Infantry Division, who added he and his

See CHEFS, page 8

Soldiers alert residents, stop spread of Fort Riley house fire

By Corey Schaadt
1ST INF. DIV. PUBLIC AFFAIRS

On a Sunday afternoon, the sun was out and so were the people of Fort Riley. Soldiers and families were taking advantage of the warmest weather they'd seen in weeks when Staff Sgt. Rudy Rosalez caught a glimpse of smoke rising from his neighbor's porch.



Staff Sgt.
ROSALAZ



Staff Sgt.
RODRIGUEZ

He thought nothing of it; it was probably just another family grilling out in the spring-like weather, he said. Seconds later, he glanced back and saw the flames. This was no barbecue.

Rosalez and Staff Sgt. Sidronio Rodriguez, both of 5th Squadron, 4th Cavalry Regiment, 2nd Armored Brigade Combat Team, 1st Infantry Division, spotted the fire March 8 just as they walked out of Rosalez's on-post home. He turned to reassess the situation and realized the flames had grown to almost two-and-a-half feet.

The father of two boys said he “did what any parent, father or man would do” and rushed to warn his neighbors, sending Rodriguez back to get an extinguisher.

“I banged on the door and screamed at the top of my lungs, ‘Get out,’” Rosalez said.

Rosalez's frantic banging on the door alerted three young children who were playing video games in the living room only a few feet from the flames. He warned them of the growing fire and they rushed to get their parents.

See FIRE, page 2

IRON RANGERS: Leadership, training ‘made the difference’ for successful deployment

By Maj. Fredrick Williams
1ST ABCT PUBLICS AFFAIRS

CAMP BUEHRING, Kuwait – Soldiers of the 1st Battalion, 16th Infantry Regiment, 1st Armored Brigade Combat Team, 1st Infantry Division, returned from a nine-month Kuwait deployment March 8 to their home at Fort Riley, Kansas.

The battalion initially deployed in support of U.S. Army Central's theater

cooperation mission in Kuwait, while maintaining readiness to respond to contingency operations throughout the Middle East. Shortly after arriving in Kuwait, the “Iron Rangers” battalion was called into action in June 2014 by the brigade and U.S. Army Central, in response to Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant forces taking control of Mosul, Iraq.

See IRON RANGERS, page 8



Master Sgt. Mike Lavigne | 1ST INF. DIV.

Sgt. Benjamin Ware, infantryman, 1st Bn., 16th Inf. Regt., 1st Inf. Div., describes the limits of the sector he's responsible for securing to Maj. Gen. Paul E. Funk II, commanding general of the “Big Red One” and the Combined Forces Land Component Command-Iraq, in Baghdad Dec. 24, 2014.

Fort Riley undergoes fire, emergency services program inspection

Fort Riley firefighters rescue one of two victims of a simulated aircraft crash during a training exercise March 10 at Marshall Army Airfield.



Story and photos by Maria Betzold
1ST INF. DIV. POST

Fort Riley firefighter, Eric Boyd, established a secure water line from the fire hydrant to the fire truck to ensure his colleagues could extinguish the structure fire March 12 at the fire training grounds located in Camp Funston.

“Just like anything else, if you're not proficient in it, you're going to

mess up,” Boyd said. “Training is the most important thing we can do.”

Four training exercises, similar to the one Boyd participated in, took place March 10 and 12 at the fire training grounds in Camp Funston and Marshall Army Airfield. The training corresponded with the Fire and Emergency Services Program Inspection.

Craig Wilgus, Installation Management Command fire protection

specialist, said the Fire Department does an annual self-assessment, and every three years IMCOM validates those records and checks them against federal standards for fire service responses.

“I'm not here to tear a department down; I'm here to build them up,” Wilgus said. “Overall, great exercise.

See INSPECTION, page 3

The next USAG Resilience Day Off will be:

MARCH
23

SAFETY HOLIDAY

As of Thursday, March 19

072

days have passed since the last vehicular fatality at Fort Riley. Thirty-nine more and the post will celebrate with a safety holiday to take place at each unit's discretion.

HIGHLIGHTS



LOCAL ATHLETIC DIRECTORS EXPERIENCE CONVOY TRAINING AT FORT RILEY, SEE PAGE 9.

ALSO IN THIS ISSUE



FLAG FOOTBALL KICKS OFF SPRING INTRAMURAL SEASON, SEE PAGE 13.



Kitchen fires pose residential risk

By Maria Betzold
1ST INF. DIV. POST

According to the National Fire Protection Association, cooking is the number one cause of home fires.

Rich Watson, Health and Safety Officer, Directorate of Emergency Services here at Fort Riley, said unattended cooking is by far the leading contributing factor in kitchen fires, but kitchen fires are preventable if correct measures are in place.

“Be alert when cooking and keep things that can catch fire away from the cooking area,” Watson said.

Watson added that the Fort Riley Fire Department responded to a report of a structure fire in a residential area on post recently. When the first unit arrived, they saw smoke coming through the front door. The door was left open when the resident left the building. Watson said closing the door after evacuating helps contain the fire.

Once inside the on-post house, firefighters found a burning pot of cooking oil on the stovetop. They were able to extinguish the fire using a lid that was sitting next to the stove.

“By utilizing the tips contained in this article, you should be able to prevent a similar incident from occurring in your home,” Watson said.

KITCHEN FIRE SAFETY TIPS

- Never leave cooking unattended. If leaving the kitchen for even a short period of time, turn off the stove.
- After leaving, close the door to help contain the fire.
- Keep anything that can catch fire, including oven mitts, towels and other similar tools away from the stove.
- Keep the stove and burners clean.
- Wear short or closefitting clothes. Loose clothing can dangle onto the burner and catch fire.
- Keep children and pets away while cooking.
- Keep pot handles turned inward on the stove.
- When cooking with oil, add food gently to the pot or pan so the oil does not splatter.
- Keep a lid nearby when cooking to smother small grease fires.
- Follow cooking directions on prepackaged meals to decrease fire risks.
- Use barbecue grills outside only.
- When a grill is in use, it should be kept in an open space, away from anything that might catch fire, including siding, deck railings, leaves or tree branches.
- Never add charcoal starter fluid to coals or kindling that have already ignited.
- If using a charcoal grill, be sure to store fluid out of the reach of children and away from heat sources.
- If there’s a kitchen fire, call 911. Ensure the fire department is on the way as soon as possible. Never try to remove the pan from the house while it is on fire.
- Never use water, salt or flour on a grease fire.
- If unable to extinguish the fire, get out of the house and stay out.

Permanent firearms registration procedures to change April 1

By Maria Betzold
1ST INF. DIV. POST

The post’s privately-owned firearms registration procedure will officially change April 1. The process will be smoother and easier for all Soldiers, civilians and visitors who wish to access the post with a legal firearm.

Soldiers, civilians and visitors with privately-owned firearms will be able to permanently register them at the Visitor Control Center at the Henry Gate.

The process used to require firearm-owners to travel to the Military Police Station located at 219 Custer Avenue to complete the permanent registration.

Soldiers were required to gain a temporary registration at the gate, go to their commander for his or her signature on the FR-102, weapon registration request form, then go to the Military Police Station to obtain a permanent registration.

Civilians were asked to temporarily register weapons at the gate then proceed to the Military Police Station to permanently register their firearm.

This policy change also pertains to visitors who wish to possess firearms on the post.

Everyone must register their firearms before bringing them on the installation. The process allows law enforcement to vet the weapon to determine if there are any legal or safety issues.

“We are giving the Visitor Control Center the capability for them to do it all in one spot and not have to hit multiple locations,” said Michael Magar, lead security specialist, Directorate of Emergency Services.

“So if a Soldier came to the Visitor Control Center with that FR-102 already complete, they would leave the center with a permanent registration.”

Fort Riley only registers firearms, which does not include bows, crossbows or other weapons.

“A firearm is any rifle, pistol, shotgun or other device designed for or capable of propelling a projectile by explosive or compressed charge,” Magar said.

Airsoft and paintball guns do not require registration because they are not meant to hurt or kill, Magar said.

To be processed, the firearms have to be physically present when you bring them to the Visitor Control Center but they should not be brought into the building, said Magar.

Magar also said that civilians, retirees and DOD employees do not need the registration request form as they don’t have a commander. In these cases, the Directorate of Emergency Services would provide registration approval.

Magar said the requirement to register firearms has been in effect for more than a decade.

The modification to the firearms procedures is not associated with the access control changes that have been taking place.

FIRE

Continued from page 1

Rosalez then fell back on his “Big Red One” training and directed Rodriguez and the owners of the house to grab a garden hose and fire extinguishers, said Capt. Jason Demars, Fort Riley Fire and Emergency Services.

Rosalez said when he went to the other unit of the duplex to extend the warning, “I banged on the door. Nothing. So, I opened it myself.”

Inside the home, he found the occupant and repeated the warning he gave the others.

“I evacuated everyone,” Rosalez said. “I was basically calling the shots because nobody else would.”

Rosalez successfully got all of the occupants out of the two homes, and Rodriguez and the others extinguished the fire. By being in the right place at the right time, reacting quickly to an emergency and taking control of the situation, Rosalez potentially saved the lives of four adults and seven young children.

Demars said if Rosalez had not noticed the fire or passed it off as a barbecue, the plastic siding would have fully ignited within two to three minutes, resulting in a “potentially very bad outcome.”

“Do I think Rosalez is a hero?” Demars asked. “You betcha.”

TRAFFIC REPORT

ESTES ROAD

The portion of Estes Road on the right side of Normandy is scheduled to be closed March 19.

Traffic changeover will be conducted during a non-rush-hour time of day. Prior to the changeover, the Normandy left lane will be widened. No roads will be closed for the widening work on Normandy.

DICKMAN AVENUE

Road repairs on Dickman Avenue are scheduled to begin April 1 and end July 1.

Dickman Avenue will close at Pershing Avenue at the south end of the construction and just south of the AFFES gas station/Shopette at Huebner and Dickman on the north end of the construction. Both entrances will remain open at the AAFES gas station/Shopette.

The designated detour between Huebner Road and Dickman Avenue is Holbrook Avenue. Detour signage will be posted. During the road closure, the GSA vehicle service facility, Bldg. 386, and the main post fuel point will only be accessible via Carr Avenue from Pershing Avenue.

TROOPER – MCCORMICK

Phase 2 of work on Trooper-McCormick is scheduled to begin March 24 and end April 30. This will close the southbound side of Trooper, south of Fire Station Five to the intersection at Trooper and McCormick. All Trooper southbound traffic will detour at the roundabout at Trooper and Rifle Range Road to First Street.

Phase 3 is scheduled to start April 30 and end May 7. This will close the

northbound side of Trooper for three days at the intersection of McCormick and Trooper. All northbound Trooper traffic will turn left onto First Street and use the roundabout at Trooper and Rifle Range Road. Drivers going eastbound on First Street to McCormick and Trooper will not be able to make a left turn onto northbound Trooper and should detour to the roundabout at Trooper and Rifle Range Road.

HAMPTON PLACE

A portion of Hampton Place, from Jackson Avenue north to Ashby Drive, will be closed to thru traffic through May.

A pedestrian and bike detour is in place during this time. The closure is part of the demolition and construction project in the Warner Peterson Community.

Access to Custer Hill Elementary School will be available from Ashby Avenue.

For more information, contact Corvias Military Living at 785-717-2200.

ACP HOURS OF OPERATION

Access control point hours are:

Four Corners/Trooper/Ogden: Open 24/7

Henry: Open 24/7

12th Street: Open from 4 a.m. to 7 p.m., Monday to Friday; closed on weekends and federal holidays.

Rifle Range: Open for construction vehicles only.

Grant: Open from 5 a.m. to 7 p.m., Monday to Friday; 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturdays; closed Sundays and federal holidays.

Estes: Open from 5 a.m. to 7 p.m., Monday to Friday; closed weekends and federal holidays.



ABOVE: Soldiers with DHHB, 1st Inf. Div., collect mail outside the Combined Joint Forces Land Component Command-Iraq mail room March 4. Soldiers of the 1st Inf. Div. re-established a military mail system that had been dormant in the country since 2011.

LEFT: Sgt. 1st Class Roy Frazier, an inspector general non-commissioned officer with DHHB, 1st Inf. Div., carries packages and letters to the Combined Joint Forces Land Component Command-Iraq mail room March 4. Soldiers of the 1st Inf. Div. deployed to Iraq re-established a military mail system that was dormant in the country since 2011.

‘Big Red One’ Soldiers build postal capacity from ground up in Iraq

By Staff Sgt. Daniel Stoutamire
1ST INF. DIV. PUBLIC AFFAIRS

Even in a time of constant digital communication — an age of Twitter, Facebook and FaceTime — there remains something special for deployed Soldiers about a tangible letter or package sent by loved ones halfway around the world.

For those service members deployed with Combined Joint Forces Land Component Command- Iraq, postal operations have been a challenge since Soldiers began arriving in country late last year. It’s not 2009 anymore, and there is not nearly the kind of postal infrastructure in Iraq that existed then. However, through a combination of creativity and determination, things have steadily improved.

“Mail frequency is demanded at all levels of the military,”

said Maj. Jon Hermesch, the deputy personnel officer with the 1st Infantry Division and CJFLCC-I. “As we progress during the digital age of email and video communications, the simple act of receiving an actual letter is difficult to measure, but we know it is of great importance for communication purposes, and it also enables service members to acquire many items that they do not have access to at their current location.”

Mail is transported to Iraq via aircraft from a regional hub in Kuwait. Given the high operational demand on those aircraft to move things like life support supplies and additional personnel, the amount of space left over for mail can be minimal.

“As CJFLCC-I establishes new bases and expands existing ones, many items are needed

there that bump postal off (aircraft),” Hermesch said. “However, through dedicated leaders and continuous monitoring, we have been able to push mail regularly.”

Another constraint is tight limits on force manning levels, which means there aren’t as many trained personnel dedicated to postal operations in theater as there were during the years of a much greater U.S. troop presence in Iraq.

“During (Operation Iraqi Freedom), we could push postal units to every location,” Hermesch said. “This limited number of positions forces us to think smarter on how we accomplish the same mission without putting more boots on ground.”

One of the few postal non-commissioned officers in Iraq, Sgt. Alana Abraham, said things are steadily improving.

“In the last few weeks, the mail has improved quite a bit,” said Abraham, an Austin, Texas, native, who is in charge of postal operations at Camp Taji, which is near Baghdad. “We’ve received mail three weeks in a row, which, in turn, improved the morale of the American troops on ground here.”

The division has mail offices in Iraq at the Baghdad Diplomatic Support Center, Camp Taji, Erbil the Baghdad Embassy Complex, as well as a location at Camp Buehring, Kuwait.

“It’s about getting the Soldiers a little bit of home in a box,” said Lt. Col. Greg Johnson, personnel officer with the 1st Inf. Div. “It’s important for service members’ resiliency and for them to understand that all those back home support what we are doing over here and it also says the chain of command cares.”

IMCOM HERO OF THE WEEK



Maria Betzold | POST
Tom Black, Directorate of Plans, Training, Mobilization and Security Range Safety Officer, was named Hero of the Week March 11 during an Installation Management Command video teleconference. Black was honored for supporting the 2nd Brigade Combat Team’s Combined Arms Live Fire Exercise Oct. 26, 2014, to Nov. 19, 2014. The maneuver area live-fire training included 8-kilometer movement to a contact scenario, breach, infantry military operations in urban terrain, indirect fires and combat aviation support. The brigade’s proficiency and overall mission readiness increased as a result of Black ensuring conditions for a safe, realistic training event. Lt. Gen. David Halverson, IMCOM commander, recognizes outstanding members of the command weekly during his IMCOM commander’s update brief.

TUESDAY TRIVIA CONTEST WINNER



The winner of the last two Tuesday Trivia is Courtney Brandenburg, pictured here with daughter Morgen and son Logan.

On March 10 Courtney correctly answered the question “Where can I find a SiteMap to learn about website organization?”

On March 17 she also correctly responded to “Where can I learn more about obtaining a free pocket guide of Fort Riley Hazardous Plants and Animals?”

Every Tuesday, check out Fort Riley’s Facebook page for the Fort Riley Tuesday Trivia question of the week at www.facebook.com/FortRiley. Every answer will be available somewhere on the official Fort Riley website at www.riley.army.mil.

CONGRATULATIONS, COURTNEY!

INSPECTION Continued from page 1

As (Fort Riley’s) shown in the past on live fires, they can put them out safely, but we can always operate better and safer. That’s part of what the inspection is about.”

Wilgus added the purpose of the inspection is to ensure the safety of the firefighters as well as the community.

The assessment covered everything from fit-testing the firefighters’ masks to checking facilities for life-saving fea-

tures, such as exit lighting and sprinkler systems.

Wilgus used the standard operating procedures written by the Fort Riley Fire Department as well as federal and national standards for his assessment.

“Overall on the inspection, they’re doing great,” Wilgus said.

Although the inspection results were not immediately available, Wilgus said the

Fort Riley Fire Department is very progressive and did well during their training exercises.

“I’ll take a lot of what I learned here and when I go to Fort Campbell, Fort Benning or Fort McCoy later this year,” Wilgus said. “If they need it or there’s something they could do better, I can say ‘Hey, I saw this process. I can’t tell you to use it, but I can recommend it.’”

Power of resiliency

‘Lost Boys’ of Sudan share stories of survival, freedom

Story and photo by
Tywanna Sparks
IRWIN ARMY
COMMUNITY HOSPITAL
PUBLIC AFFAIRS OFFICE

“Lost Boys” of Sudan Sgt. Daw Dekon, Warrior Transition Battalion wounded warrior, and Capt. Gabriel Deng, 1st Sustainment Brigade, 1st Infantry Division shared their story of hope and survival during a spiritual resiliency event March 11.

The audience at the WTB Clamshell sat quietly as Dekon, Deng and fellow “Lost Boys” offered first-hand accounts of the genocide and civil war that drove an estimated 20,000 youth from their families and villages in southern Sudan during the late 1980s.

“We are here today to share our story,” Dekon said. “Each of us has a past. You have to have a past to be able to achieve a future. Our story is not unique and there are similar stories around the world.”

At age 9, Dekon was separated from his family when the civil war broke out. To escape death or induction into the northern army, Dekon along with thousands of boys from across southern Sudan fled in large groups to refugee camps in Ethiopia. Many died along the way due to disease, enemy attacks, wild animals and starvation.

“We didn’t have mothers or fathers, no shoes and no clothes,” said featured guest Biem Akol. “There was no one there to take care of us, only ourselves. All we had was

hope, determination and faith in God.”

Although faced with hardships no child should experience, “giving up was not an option,” Dekon said. “The choices we made as young men brought us here today. As long as we are alive, we don’t give up and we continue to push.”

And they continued to push through more obstacles once they arrived in Ethiopia.

“The local people were not friendly to us and they put us in an isolated area,” Deng said. “Disease came into our camps that took our fellow brothers away from us. We could no longer bury the dead and we had to take bodies to the bush.”

After four years in Ethiopia, civil war forced them to



“Lost Boys” of Sudan Sgt. Daw Dekon, Warrior Transition Battalion wounded warrior, and Capt. Gabriel Deng, 1st Sustainment Brigade, 1st Infantry Division shared their story of hope and survival during a spiritual resiliency event March 11.

flee back to Sudan. Many died on that journey, especially when crossing the Gilo River. Those unable to swim were swept away in turbulent currents. Others were taken by enemy fire or crocodiles.

Walking more than a thousand miles, half died before reaching Kenya to the Kakuma Refugee Camp in 1992.

In 2001, nearly 4,000 “Lost Boys” came to the United States seeking peace, freedom and education.

Dekon and Deng settled in Kansas City, Missouri. Dekon joined the U.S. Army in 2005, trained as a linguist and deployed to Iraq three times. Deng earned a bachelor’s degree from the University of Kansas City, Missouri,

in 2009 and commissioned into the U.S. Army after graduation.

Biel also settled in Kansas City, married and earned a bachelor’s degree.

“I thank God for being in America today,” Biel said. “Because of God, we made it. Because of our hope, determination and faith, we made it.”

March is National Colorectal Cancer Awareness Month

By Dr. Ryan Rusnok
IACH GENERAL SURGERY CLINIC

March is National Colorectal Cancer Awareness Month. Colorectal cancer is cancer involving the large intestine or rectum. An estimated 136,830 men and women were diagnosed with colorectal cancer and 50,310 died of cancer of the colon and rectum in 2013, according to the American Cancer Society.

This makes it the third leading cause of cancer related deaths in the United States. The

most recognizable symptoms of colon cancer include blood in the stool, abdominal pain, changes in bowel habits, low blood count, weight loss and weakness. However, colorectal cancer can often present no symptoms during early stages.

Irwin Army Community Hospital offers colorectal cancer screening to all military beneficiaries. Colorectal screening tests have the ability to identify pre-cancerous growths called polyps or early-stage cancer that is potentially treatable. Screening tests for colorec-

tal cancer can reduce risks by up to 90 percent. The national death rate due to colorectal cancer has continued to drop over 20 years as polyps are found earlier – before they transform into cancer.

Colorectal cancer screening should occur in all adults over the age of 50 or sooner depending on personal risk factors. Risk factors include having a family history of colon or rectal cancers, especially in 1st degree relatives, such as mothers, fathers, brothers and sisters; having a family member who developed cancer at age 55

or younger; having been personally diagnosed with prior colon cancer or polyps; or being diagnosed with an inherited polyp syndrome or inflammatory bowel disease.

It’s important to discuss colorectal cancer screening with primary care providers. There are several options for colorectal cancer screening. After learning about the benefits and risks of each test, patients can decide which screening method is best for them. Get screened today. Stay vigilant, stay healthy. Call 785-239-DOCS for an appointment.



Col. Rise Ware (center), IACH commander, explains a monitoring system in the new hospital to Kansas Sen. Jerry Moran March 7 during his visit to Fort Riley.

Kansas senator visits Fort Riley

Story and photo by
Amanda Kim Stairrett
1ST INF. DIV. PUBLIC AFFAIRS

Kansas Sen. Jerry Moran stopped at Fort Riley March 7 to get the latest facts and figures to advocate on behalf of the post before heading back to the nation’s capital.

Moran met with Brig. Gen. Eric J. Wesley, 1st Infantry Division senior mission commander; Col. Andrew Cole, Fort Riley garrison commander; and Col. Risa Ware, Irwin Army Community Hospital commander, to discuss the post’s value to the state and nation as well as get a tour of the new hospital.

Moran was appointed to the Senate Appropriations Subcommittee for Defense in late January and was preparing for a meeting with Army Chief of Staff Gen. Ray Odierno and Secretary of the Army John McHugh.

“My purpose in being here

on Saturday is to have the latest facts and figures for this opportunity to put Fort Riley front and center in front of two people, both who are going to be making decisions related to the future of Fort Riley and other military installations across the country,” Moran said.

Moran also talked about the Feb. 9 U.S. Army Listening Session in Junction City, Kansas, when more than 4,200 citizens attended to speak out and show their support of the 1st Inf. Div. and Fort Riley. The public forum was an opportunity for the community to provide input to Army representatives, led by Brig. Gen. Roger Cloutier Jr., as officials consider troop and funding cuts that could affect the installation.

“That was a great demonstration of the value of Fort Riley – not only to Kanas, but the country,” Moran said.

Moran said he learned from the listening session the value of

infrastructure at military installations. He talked about Fort Riley’s capability to deploy quickly, its abundance of space – both air and ground – and the more than \$1 billion in construction invested in the post’s schools, houses and new hospital.

He wanted to see the hospital and the latest picture “so that I, too, can be making a case,” he said.

He and members of his staff were led on a tour of the facility, which is still under construction, by Ware and Capt. Todd Mandley, chief of IACH’s Health Facility Project Office.

The visit was positive and went well, Ware said. She said it was great the senator sought information to support Fort Riley. His visit and his work in Washington, D.C., on the post’s behalf will help the population IACH serves, she continued.

“As long as we can keep a robust population at Fort Riley, the hospital will be good,” Ware said.

IRWIN INFORMATION

What is urgent care and how is it different that emergency care?

Urgent care is not the same as emergency care. You’ll need urgent care to treat a condition that doesn’t threaten life, limb or eyesight but needs attention before it becomes a serious risk to health.

Examples of urgent care include minor cuts, migraine headaches, urinary tract infection, sprain, earache or rising fever. You’ll make a same day appointment with your primary care physician, family doctor or urgent care clinic for urgent care ser-

vices. Irwin Army Community Hospital Urgent Care Clinic is open 11 a.m. to 11 p.m., seven days a week and is co-located with the emergency room.

You may also contact the Nurse Advice Line at 1-800-TRICARE (874-2273), Option 1 to talk to a registered nurse who can answer your urgent care questions, give health care advice, find a doctor or schedule a next-day appointment.

If you have a question for Irwin Information, send it to IACHInformation@amedd.army.mil or call 785-239-8414.

HOME WANTED

Dalia

Dalia showed up in the impound room as if she owned the place. Dalia is a bit shy but very friendly. She loves to be petted and will purr when she warms up to people. She is approximately two to three years old, is ok with other cats and is OK with small dogs. Dalia is looking for a quiet family that will give her time to adjust. She more than likely will hide the first couple days.

Dalia's Adoption Fee is \$62, which includes microchip, distemper and rabies vaccines, leukemiaest and deworming. If interested in adopting Dalia, call 785-239-6183 or send an email to nicole.p.storm@us.army.mil.

Other shelter animals can be seen on www.facebook.com/fortrileypets.



RILEY ROUNDTABLE

What do you like to do when the weather warms up?



"I like to play baseball, I've been playing it every year since I was six."

PFC. JEAN RODRIGUEZ

HARLEM, NEW YORK

Infantryman - 2nd Armored Brigade Combat Team, 1st Infantry Division



"When it's nice and warm outside, and the weather is just perfect, I like to be inside and watch Workaholics."

PFC. ERIC MILLER

SAHUARITA, ARIZONA

Infantryman - 2nd Armored Brigade Combat Team, 1st Infantry Division

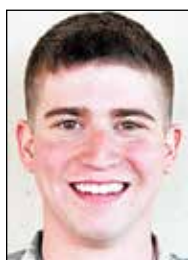


"Going on long runs and picnics with the wife."

SPC. KAHEEM WASHINGTON

QUEENS, NEW YORK

Infantryman - 2nd Armored Brigade Combat Team, 1st Infantry Division



"Play football because I am good at it."

PFC. CHRISTOPHER TENNANT

OAK CREEK, WISCONSIN

Infantryman - 2nd Armored Brigade Combat Team, 1st Infantry Division



"I like to take personal picnics and read."

SPC. JUAN ROSETE

JOPLIN, MISSOURI

Infantryman - 2nd Armored Brigade Combat Team, 1st Infantry Division

Fort Riley, partners conduct tornado severe weather response exercises

By Chris Hallenbeck
EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT OFFICE
DIRECTORATE OF PLANS, TRAINING,
MOBILIZATION AND SECURITY

Fort Riley conducted a severe weather tabletop training exercise March 11. The exercise included Fort Riley and 1st Infantry Division representatives, as well as local community partners.

The exercise consisted of a mock Enhanced Fujita-4, or EF4, tornado severe weather emergency in which critical decisions had to be made between local authorities and leaders on and off post. The exercise was conducted in three modules: Initial Watches and Warnings, Incident and Response, and Short-Term Recovery. Each module consisted of situation updates and participants functional group response.

The event was the first time many community, state, and federal partners off post attended a severe weather training exercise with the installation. Our partner agencies that participated were Geary County Emergency Management, Joint Force Headquarters Kansas-Kansas Army National Guard, Kansas Division of Emergency Management, Army North Defense Coordinating Element Region VII, and Unified School District 475.



COURTESY PHOTO

Fort Riley and partnering emergency management agencies participate in a spring and summer severe weather tabletop exercise March 11.

We have a great relationship with our county, state, and federal emergency management partners. By including them in on our protection exercise, we have the opportunity to enhance the relationship prior to an actual emergency event. This also gives each of us a better understanding of each other's capabilities, operational procedural and limitations.

Conducting exercises like this helps us to rehearse and synchronize all efforts

of response and recovery in response to an event like this. It is also important for our partners to understand our procedures during an emergency event.

By the end of the day all participants walked away with a better understanding of each others role in the installation overall emergency response plan and confidence that the Fort Riley staff and leadership is ready if needed to respond to an emergency event of this type.

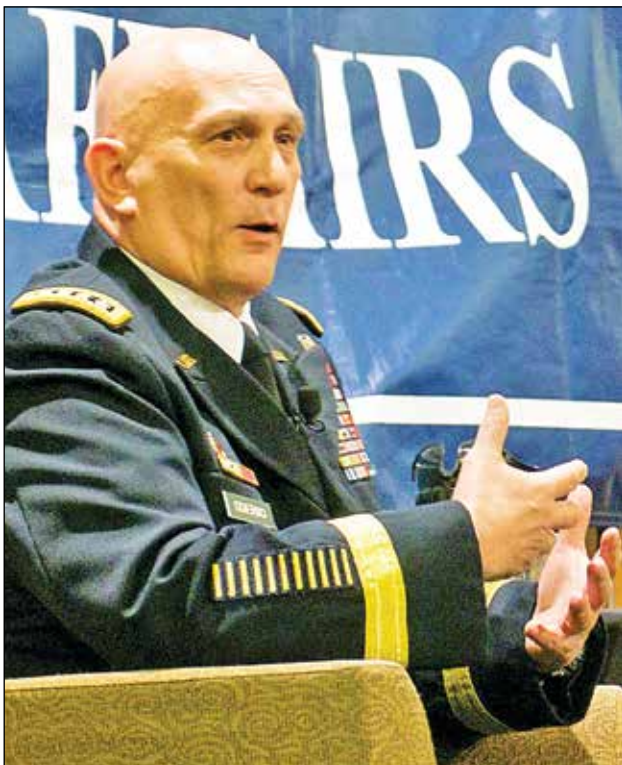
Budget cuts do not support global security environment

By Amaani Lyle
DEFENSE MEDIA ACTIVITY

While the Department of Defense contemplates some \$500 billion in budget reductions, the global security environment continues to worsen, Army's chief of staff said.

Ultimately, Gen. Ray Odierno said, there is no parity between what the Army is doing – or may be asked to do – and the resources it will be given to accomplish those tasks.

"We're being asked to reduce a bit quicker than I think we should," he said, addressing a March 11 meeting of the Baltimore Council of Foreign Affairs



Staff Sgt. Mikki L. Sprengle | DMA

Army Chief of Staff Gen. Ray Odierno addresses a question during the Baltimore Council on Foreign Affairs moderated discussion at the Hyatt Regency in Baltimore March 11.

today serves as one of the largest threats to global security. Odierno said the group takes advantage of disenfranchised populations and ungoverned territories.

The general described Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant, also known as ISIL, ideology as a deep-seated dissatisfaction with many people in different parts of the world. He said the terrorist group serves as a rallying point for those who join it.

While Odierno said recent military actions have

"stopped the advance" of ISIL and are now preventing the group from gaining more territory or improving their position in Iraq or Syria, he balked at a solely military approach to overcome the group.

"I don't think that will defeat ISIL," he said. "I think that will encourage it even more."

Instead, Odierno said people of the Middle East, such as those in Iraq and Syria, must be involved in helping to take ISIL down

from both a military and ideological perspective, with economic conditions in mind.

Continued training of Iraqi and Syrian security forces is also critical in creating organic deterrence against terrorist threats, Odierno said.

"This is a long-term ... generational [issue]," he said, also citing the need to reach beyond borders and continually assess the conditions in regard to terrorist cells ungoverned by geography or international law.

EAST ASIA AND EUROPE

The United States spent more than a decade fighting in Afghanistan and Iraq, and threats continue to bubble up out of that region. At the same time, new threats have grown elsewhere in the world.

Concerns from North Korea, China, and the Russian invasion of Ukraine, for instance, continue to plague U.S. forces and their allies. As such, Odierno said the Army has fervently assessed NATO capability and the security relationship to respond to those threats.

Of the Asia-Pacific rebalance, Odierno said there is some concern that China's growing military capability could influence trade in the vast region. "We want to make sure that trade stays free and open, and that our partners are able to continue to participate in that."

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ARMY OF THE FUTURE

The general said the increasing "velocity of instability" in a technologically competitive era calls for an Army capable of swift reaction and possessing a comprehensive, innovative approach to problem solving.

The "Army of the future," he said, must be able to quickly integrate new technologies and new concepts. He said the Army's success will result from its ability to adapt and to solve problems.

CRISIS IN THE MIDDLE EAST

A current test of the Army's ability to adapt and solve problems is the Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant, a terrorist organization that

Army installation management chiefs call for efficiencies

By J.D. Leipold
ARMY NEWS SERVICE

Katherine Hammack opened the Association of the U.S. Army's "Hot Topics" forum on installation management, March 10, by telling the packed house about what she had recently testified before the House Appropriations Committee.

"We know that degraded readiness makes it difficult for us to provide for the common defense," said Hammack, assistant secretary of the Army (installations, energy and environment). "The Budget Control Act creates risk for sending insufficiently trained and under-equipped Soldiers into harm's way - and that is not a risk this nation should accept."

"I would be negligent if I didn't talk about Army Installation Management and the need for another round of BRAC [Base Closure and Realignment Commission] - we need another round of base realignment and closure in 2017 and although our need for a BRAC is more exposed by the downsizing of the Army's force structure, it is really a way to manage infrastructure that is left over from World War II when we were an Army of 8 million," she said. "As we shrink to an Army of 490,000 or smaller, we see a growth in excess infrastructure."

Hammack said that with an Army of 490,000 active-duty Soldiers, excess infrastructure lies at 18 percent. Excess infrastructure will get larger as the Army's population gets smaller - 475,000 Soldiers by the end of 2016, down to 450,000 by the end of 2017.

Lt. Gen. David D. Halverson, commander of the Army's Installation Management Command, later said, "There are other looming concerns... a near-term threat to our effectiveness is sequestration... it can't be ignored."

"The Army has been on a tight budget for a few years... fiscal year 2015 doesn't look any better," he said.

Halverson said training would be underfunded, which would result in decreased training levels; Soldier and family readiness programs would be weakened and investments in installation training and readiness facility upgrades would affect long-term readiness.

He added that base operations support, sustainment, restoration and maintenance funding levels do not allow the Army to fix everything. Hammack had testified about the shortfall, saying the Army had a \$3 billion maintenance backlog and 5,500 major work orders because of reduced sustainment funding in 2013 and 2014.

"Fiscal year 2016 is a breaking point for our Army," said Halverson, adding that it would be difficult for the Army to lead around the world because installations have bills to pay and utility costs are the largest expense other than civilian pay.

He cited a few examples of those costs. Fort Bliss, Texas, has a water bill of about \$200,000 per month; Fort Bragg, North Carolina, spends nearly \$3 million monthly on electricity and the power bill at Schofield Barracks, Hawaii, runs a staggering \$5.2 million monthly.

In all, the Army consumes about \$1.3 billion a year for utilities, he said.

Hammack said the Army was not just standing still over utility costs but was working to manage those costs and operations, installation energy as well as resiliency and sustainability through partnering - one of which is the utility energy savings performance contract which allows private industry to invest on Army installations to make improvements in energy efficiency at no cost to the Army.

"The Army has the most robust energy savings performance contract in the federal government - over \$2.2 billion in private-sector capital has been invested in improving the efficiency on installations since the program started in the late 1990s," she said.

Student chefs shine at culinary competition

Story and photo by J. Parker Roberts
1ST INFANTRY DIVISION

While the veteran members of the “Big Red One” Culinary Arts Team cheered them on from the bleachers, the newest Soldier chefs put their training to the test March 9 in the Student Skills Team Event at the 40th Annual Military Culinary Arts Competitive Training Event at Fort Lee, Virginia.

The student skills competition is broken down into two areas: preparation and cooking, said team manager Staff Sgt. Samuel Parker, Division Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 1st Infantry Division.

“They’re looking for perfection,” Parker said. “They’re not competing against other teams; they’re competing against the standard.”

Parker said student chefs are new to the culinary world and could not have won a gold or silver medal in any other competition to qualify for the team. While student team captain Pfc. Ronald Ibale, 3rd Assault Helicopter Battalion, 1st Aviation Regiment, 1st Combat Aviation Brigade, 1st Inf. Div., participated in the competition last year, he still qualified for the student team.



Student members of the “Big Red One” Culinary Arts Team compete March 9 at the 40th Annual Military Culinary Arts Competitive Training Event at Fort Lee, Va.

“We’re glad to have him,” Parker said of Ibale. “Everyone on the student-skills team is self-driven. They have a love and a passion for it.”

Ibale said winning the silver medal felt good and that he and his fellow Soldiers were motivated to do well so that they could continue to compete.

“It was really good,” said student team member Pfc. Amber Tomlin, 97th Military Police Battalion, immediately following the event. “Honestly, because

of how much we practice, it was pretty relaxing.”

As the students competed, the rest of the team from Fort Riley shouted encouragements from the stands, which Tomlin said helped.

“We put a lot of emphasis on this particular category,” said Staff Sgt. Jeffrey Matthews, DHHB, 1st Inf. Div. “The (American Culinary Federation) puts a great amount of focus on this just because they want to train junior chefs coming into the profession. They want to keep the American Culinary Federation going. So with this, the students get to do the skills phase and move into the cooking phase.”

Matthews said the five student chefs formed a strong team.

“We started out practicing over and over again, honing our crafts,” he said, adding that the team traveled to various schools and competitions to train in the weeks leading up to the Fort Lee event.

“Some of these skills that they learn, they can go back and use them in their dining facilities,” Matthews said. “The classical cuts, the skills, the technique, the organization overall is something they can take to every level and use throughout their career in the military.”

Culinary Arts Team prepares five-star meal in two-axle kitchen

Story and photo by J. Parker Roberts
1ST INFANTRY DIVISION

Showcasing the quality dining they can produce in even the most basic kitchen space, members of the 1st Infantry Division’s Culinary Arts Team earned silver medals March 10 in the hot mobile kitchen trailer portion of the 40th Annual Military Culinary Arts Competitive Training Event at Fort Lee, Virginia.

Using a kitchen that can be moved almost anywhere troops go, the team prepared a three-course meal for 50 featuring Cajun seafood gumbo, filet mignon with chasseur sauce and an apple-infused bread pudding served with caramelized apple slices, strawberry coulis and homemade vanilla bean ice cream.

Meals were provided to the panel of judges as well as the public, many of whom stood in line for hours to obtain tickets to the meal.

“Everything was delicious,” said Chief Warrant Officer 5 Michael Peavley, 401st Army Field Support Brigade in Afghanistan, who was

one of many diners who stood in line.

Peavley said the dessert was his favorite, noting he never had anything like it before.

“Overall, I think we did very well,” said team manager Staff Sgt. Samuel Parker, Division Headquarters and Headquarters Brigade, 1st Inf. Div. “We came here, we executed, we did what we trained for.”

Parker said working on a mobile kitchen trailer can be difficult because the ovens may not heat evenly, but his team was able to cook everything from steaks to cookies to the standard.

“I forgot how hot it could be when all the burners are going,” said Spc. Yin Jenkins, 2nd General Support Aviation Battalion, 1st Aviation Regiment, 1st Combat Aviation Brigade, 1st Inf. Div., who took point on the dessert plate. “It turned out how I wanted, but I wish I would have taken just a couple more seconds to make the sizes more equal.”

She said the judges paid close attention to everything from the taste to the portion of the meals.



Members of the “Big Red One” Culinary Arts Team put the finishing touches on dessert, an apple-infused bread pudding served with caramelized apple slices, strawberry coulis and homemade vanilla bean ice cream March 10 during the hot mobile kitchen trailer portion of the 40th Annual Military Culinary Arts Competitive Training Event at Fort Lee, Va. The team members also prepared seafood gumbo and filet mignon for 50 diners and earned silver medals for their work.

“To win an (American Culinary Federation) silver medal, you’ve accomplished something; it’s not an

easy task,” said team captain Staff Sgt. Jeffrey Matthews, DHHB, 1st Inf. Div. “It’s not just the meal itself

– it’s the organization, how well you work together, cleaning, sanitation – all this comes together.”

Directive opens 4,100 special ops positions to women

By David Vergun
ARMY NEWS SERVICE

WASHINGTON – A directive signed by Army Secretary John M. McHugh, Feb. 25, opened more than 4,100 positions to women in the U.S. Army Special Operations Command, or USASOC.

Directive 2015-08 opened positions in the U.S. Army Special Forces Command, National Guard airborne battalions and tactical psychological teams. Although recent news has focused on female Soldiers attending the pre-Ranger course, USASOC officials said the directive is significant because it opens unit positions in direct operational roles.

“In the aggregate, there have been approximately 5,000 positions opened within the command since 2013,” according to a USASOC statement.

About 1,000 positions were opened to women following the 2013 rescinding of the Direct Ground Combat Rule by the defense secretary. This paved the way for more women to serve in direct combat roles and in military occupational specialties that were previously open only to males.

Over the last two years, USASOC has been reviewing all positions that were closed and has maintained a “phased approach to opening of previously closed positions in order to remain synchronized with the Army,” an official said.

Since 2013, the integration of women into USASOC has



COURTESY PHOTO

Then-Maj. Michele P. Harper, a pilot with the 449th Theater Aviation Brigade, out of Morrisville, N.C., prepares for takeoff. At the time, Harper, a Hendersonville, N.C., native was the only female Black Hawk helicopter pilot in the North Carolina Army National Guard.

been so rapid that the proportion of females to males serving in USASOC’s civil affairs and military information support operations, or MISO, is now comparable to that of women serving in the active Army overall, according to the command. MISO replaced the term psychological operations in 2010.

There are more than 1,000 women assigned to USASOC, and, “based on the recent opening of additional positions, that number will increase over time based on how Human Resources Command locates and assigns Soldiers to the command,” according to USASOC.

Most positions with the 160th Special Operations Aviation Regiment - all pilots, crew chiefs, and enabler positions - opened to women as of July

23, 2014, except for 13F fire support specialist, as it is still a closed military occupational specialty in the Army.

Women have filled many positions and some are now “operationally employed into combat missions,” according to a USASOC statement. Additionally, women have been assigned to non-aviation, battalion-level positions within the 160th Special Operations Aviation Regiment.

The secretary of the Army’s directive resulted in the Army recoding about 4,000 “enabler positions” down to the battalion level in 1st Special Forces Command and Special Warfare Center and School. “Most likely, this will allow women to

See DIRECTIVE, page 8



A memorial display, honoring retired Command Sgt. Maj. William F. Ryan, sits in Our Lady of Lourdes Church in Melbourne, Florida, March 7. Ryan, who fought with the 1st Inf. Div.’s 16th Inf. Regt., during the invasion of Normandy and during the Battle of the Bulge, died Feb. 23 at the age of 90.

RYAN Continued from page 1

There is even a street named after him in one French village.

Ryan corresponded with people all over the world – from French citizens to young Soldiers.

“My father was the great communicator,” said Corrine Button, Ryan’s daughter.

Button said her father was always good working on after action reviews and correspondence while he was in the Army.

“He continued that in his retired life, always writing letters to friends all over the world,” Button said.

When Ryan returned from Belgium, France, Russia or England – whether to lay a wreath on a memorial in honor of a fallen Soldier, dedicate a museum for small French

towns liberated by Soldiers or the 70th D-Day anniversary – he always wrote about the events and sent his accounts to people all over the world.

“He also was very proud to be a 16th Infantry Soldier,” Humphries said. “Bill was proud of the World War II Soldiers and enjoyed the chance to talk about the experience.”

Maj. Gen. Paul E. Funk II, 1st Inf. Div. commander, talked about Ryan’s impact from Iraq recently.

“I spoke with Command Sgt. Maj. Ryan on many occasions, and he was a true patriot to our country,” Funk said.

Button shared the story about her father and his habit of continuing, even after retiring, a well-known military practice. He always sent an af-

ter-action report to the young guys in the military, she said, “and they so looked forward to it.”

“My father wanted to keep the morale up,” Button said. “He mentored many young guys who hung on every word he spoke because they knew he spoke the truth. For this reason and countless others, he will be so missed.”

Ryan’s final request was to have his ashes spread at Normandy.

“My father loved going back to Normandy and remembering the many men lost,” Button said. “This was his wish to return to the North Atlantic Ocean for his Merchant Marine service and also back to Normandy. I hope to follow through on his wish soon.”

CHEFS Continued from page 1



Sgt. Michael Allen, 1st ARB, 1st Avn. Regt., 1st CAB, 1st Inf. Div., studies the “Big Red One” Culinary Arts Team’s multiple award-winning buffet table display March 8 at the 40th Annual Military Culinary Arts Competitive Training Event at Fort Lee, Va. The 10-member team from Fort Riley earned 24 medals at the event, which ran March 7 to 12.

team were awake for 30 hours straight arranging the team buffet table. That included putting the final touches on Catrina, a life-sized, edible sculpture inspired by the sugar skulls popular during the Mexican holiday Día de los Muertos, or Day of the Dead. “It’s stressful; it’s like a marathon,” Matthews said. Despite the stress, the team captain said he and his Soldiers received valuable training at the competition. “Everybody enjoys the atmosphere, the camaraderie,” he said. “They’ve enjoyed the experience.” The Soldiers who competed at the annual event came home with more than just medals. “It’s always a great learning experience,” team manager Staff Sgt. Samuel Parker, DHHB, 1st Inf. Div., said. “Usually people come here and they just look at it from a competitive standpoint. I do the same as well, but at the same time I look at it as coming here and finding things to bring back to Fort Riley.” The competition also served as an opportunity for chefs to be discovered and recruited for higher-level service. Spc. Corey Maxwell, now with the Office of the Secretary of Defense Dining Facility at the Pentagon, was

recruited after competing with the Fort Riley team in 2014. “I was approached by the Pentagon ... here at Fort Lee,” Maxwell said. “For my (military occupational specialty) in the Army, there’s only so many other places you can go that are above this.” The chef said he would serve at the Pentagon for the next three years, after which he planned to retire and open a restaurant in Dallas with his mother, a baker. “I’m the type of guy who believes you can learn from everything,” he said. “The leadership and the talent that I was able to derive just from the Fort Riley team – taking that to the Pentagon and the mentorship and the learning abilities that you have there – it’s a great catalyst for anything that you do.” Matthews said Maxwell, with whom he competed last year, took the time to talk with the 2015 team’s Soldiers and talk about his experience with “Big Red One” culinary arts. “He came down to visit this team and said how much the experience helped him to progress his career,” Matthews said. “This training event is a stepping stone for other opportunities.” Maxwell said the secret to success in the culinary field was asking questions.

“I’ve been in less than three and a half years in the Army, and if it wasn’t for asking questions and going out and finding opportunities, it’s really easy to get caught up in the mix,” he said. “If you have a drive to learn and a drive to do something – not even with the Army, but just in this industry – you have to go out and do it.” Members of the Big Red One team said they were satisfied with their accomplishments at the competitive event. “It’s not easy,” said Sgt. Michael Allen, 1st Attack Reconnaissance Battalion, 1st Aviation Regiment, 1st CAB, 1st Inf. Div., of the team’s high medal count. “Some people come here and they don’t leave with anything.” Allen is new to the Fort Riley team but not to the competitive training event. He previously competed in 2009 with the Fort Bragg, North Carolina, team which was named installation of the year for that year. “Being at Fort Riley is great; it’s centrally located, so I’ve had opportunities I wouldn’t have at other duty stations,” Allen said. “We got a chance to train with Johnson County Community College, who won nationals last year for student skills, and then we got to compete with Metropolitan Community College in Omaha, (Nebraska), who are on their way to go compete for nationals in Orlando, Florida.” Allen said he tried to tailor his meals to the areas he was assigned. His chicken recipe earned the team one of their two gold medals. “Normally I do whatever’s local,” he said. “I wouldn’t have done chicken if I was on the coast.” Sgt. Maj. Robert Clark, 1st Inf. Div. Food Service senior noncommissioned officer, traveled with the team. “We brought a half-experienced, half-inexperienced team this year,” Clark said. “I think the student-skills guys, the younger guys, actually got some value for next year’s competition, so they can pass that along to the guys who haven’t done it before.” Clark said his main objective for the competing Soldiers was that they learn from the competition and bring those learned skills back to Fort Riley to share with their peers. “It’s only going to make the program better,” Clark said of the competition’s impact on Fort Riley dining facilities. “This is only one tenth of the stuff we’ve got going on at Fort Riley, and this showcases the talent we have in the 1st Infantry Division.”

IRON RANGERS Continued from page 1

The battalion conducted split operations at Camp Beuhring, Kuwait, and in Baghdad, Iraq, where a number of their Soldiers remained for most of their nine-month deployment. “Almost immediately upon arriving in Kuwait, elements of the task force were alerted and deployed to Iraq to secure critical infrastructure and diplomatic sites to enable United States Government Operations in Iraq,” said Lt. Col. Trent Upton, battalion commander, 1st Bn., 16th Inf. Regt., 1st ABCT, 1st Inf. Div. With their new mission, the Soldiers became the first U.S. Army conventional force to deploy to Iraq since Operations Iraqi Freedom and New Dawn, which officially ended Dec. 31, 2011, and in support of what would become known as Operation Inherent Resolve. The battalion consisted of a number of Soldiers who had never deployed prior to arriving in Kuwait, and the new mission in Iraq was a different proposition for some first-term Soldiers. “It was a little nerve racking at first, not knowing what I was going into, but I was willing to do my job and if I had to put my life on the line, I would do it,” said Pfc. Ryan Swan, an infantryman with Company A, 1st Bn., 16th Inf. Regt., 1st ABCT, 1st Inf. Div. “I was confident in my leadership and knew I was protected by my leaders’ decisions, so it wasn’t too hard for me.” Ryan, a native of Long Island, New York, credited his leadership with mentally preparing the junior Soldiers in his company by frequently talking about their experiences on previous deployments and giving them timely advice. In comparison, for the more seasoned leaders in the battalion, the deployment was no different than any other deployment to the Middle East. “We had a high operational tempo the whole time,” said Sgt. 1st Class Carl Long, a scout platoon sergeant with Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 1st Bn., 16th Inf. Regt., 1st ABCT, 1st Inf. Div. “We were con-

stantly moving and training, but it was not that great of a change compared to the rest of my previous four deployments.” Long, a Shannon, Mississippi native, said he found the lack of experience by junior Soldiers was mitigated through proper training. “The training we conducted at Fort Riley prior to the deployment and the individual training we conducted here in Kuwait is what really made the difference,” Long said. In addition to making history as the first conventional force to deploy to Iraq in support of Operation Inherent Resolve, the Iron Rangers also had the distinction of having only the second female in the U.S. Army to qualify as a loader on an M1A2 Abrams tank crew Dec. 10, 2014. Cpl. Brittany Robbins, a human resources specialist with Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 1st Bn., 16th Inf. Regt., 1st ABCT, 1st Inf. Div., performed the task during Table VI tank gunnery with her crew receiving the “Distinguished Tank Crew” honor. “The thing I enjoyed most about this experience was the hard work and camaraderie we shared as a team,” Robbins said. “It took everyone in the tank working together to achieve success.” Throughout the nine-month deployment, the battalion hosted several senior military and civilian leaders while performing their mission in Iraq: Kansas Sen. Pat Roberts; then-Secretary of Defense Chuck Hagel; Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff Gen. Martin Dempsey; Army Chief of Staff Gen. Raymond Odierno, and then-Sergeant Major of the Army Raymond Chandler, to name a few. “We have earned a reputation for teamwork and mission accomplishment under the toughest conditions, which will serve us well in our future endeavors,” said Upton. “Our operations in support of Operation Inherent Resolve were of historical significance and are a source of unit pride.”

DIRECTIVE Continued from page 7

be assigned during the normal assignment and move cycle this summer or coming fall,” a USA-SOC official said. The recent directive will not affect specialties closed Army-wide to women. It will only open USASOC positions in military occupation specialties, or MOS’s open to women elsewhere in the Army. Regarding the 75th Ranger Regiment, USASOC “is synchronized with the Army and

U.S. Special Operations Command, SOCOM, efforts as we move forward between now and January 2016 toward making a recommendation” regarding gender integration, officials said. USASOC “is collaborating with the Army and SOCOM on the physical standards validation for Special Forces Assessment and Selection and the Ranger Assessment and Selection Program, and with SOCOM’s social science studies

focused on [Special Operations Forces, or SOF] specific issues,” according to the command. The U.S. Army Training and Doctrine Command has been studying all aspects of gender-integration efforts, officials added. All Soldiers are evaluated in a gender-neutral environment with the end goal of identifying the Army’s best performers and those with the greatest potential for future service.

COMMUNITY CORNER

Enjoy the weather, stay prepared

By Col. Andrew Cole
GARRISON COMMANDER

Even as we're getting ready to spend more time outdoors as temperatures become warmer in March, it's important to remember to keep ourselves and family members prepared for any upcoming spring or summer severe weather. There's always the possibility of extreme weather conditions. Tornadoes, high winds, thunderstorms and floods often characterize our Kansas spring and summer seasons. One of the best ways for us to stay prepared is by following our Ready Army Campaign mantra: Get a kit, make a plan and be informed. Some items to consider stashing inside our kits include weather alert radios, flashlights, batteries, cell phones, chargers, first aid kits, drinking water,

a three-day supply of nonperishable food, propane, blankets, hats, clothes, shoes and cash. Have a plan, which includes shelter locations and contact numbers, for yourself and family members should you experience severe weather in your location. Make sure everyone knows and practices the plan. Also, ensure children know how to contact emergency services. Local radio stations that give official weather updates in the Fort Riley area include: KCLY-FM 100.9 in Clay Center; 1420 AM, 97.4 and 103.5 in Junction City; KMAN 1350 AM, KROCK 101.5, KXBZFM 104.7 and 95.3 in Manhattan; 580 AM in



Colonel Cole

Topeka; 1150 AM and Sunny 102.5 in Salina; and 98.5 in Abilene. Local TV stations that give official weather updates in the Fort Riley area include: WIBW Channel 13, KTKA Channel 49 and KSNT Channel 27. For official weather reports from Fort Riley's 2nd Weather Detachment, visit www.riley.army.mil/UnitPage.aspx?unit=weather. Fort Riley's Facebook and Twitter pages are also resources for updates on all issues pertaining to the post. They can be found at www.facebook.com/FortRiley, and <https://twitter.com/FortRiley>.
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REMEMBER & HONOR

GOLD STAR WIVES' DAY

April 5, 2015

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Photos by Amanda Kim Stairrett | 1ST INF. DIV.

ABOVE, BELOW: Members of the 1st Inf. Div. Band perform "Home on the Range" March 12 at the Kansas State Capitol in Topeka, Kansas. Representatives from the "Big Red One" band not only played in the building's historic rotunda, but joined representatives from the Kansas Music Educators Association and the Washburn Jazz Combo to discuss the importance of music in schools with Kansas legislators. The events were part of KMEA's Music Education Advocacy Day.



ON POINT!

1ST INF. DIV. ENSEMBLE TAKES PART IN KMEA'S MUSIC EDUCATION ADVOCACY DAY

RIGHT: Spc. Thomas Spencer plays with four other brass players from the 1st Inf. Div. Band March 12 at the Kansas State Capitol in Topeka.



Corvias 'springs into fun' with event for military housing residents

By Maria Betzold
1ST INF. DIV. POST

Corvias Military Housing is sponsoring an event to encourage military housing residents to get outside and enjoy spring. "Spring into Fun" is scheduled to take place from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m. April 3 at the Rally Point Field across from the Corvias program office. Tanya Moore, resident relations manager for Corvias, said events like "Spring into Fun" are tailored to families living on post and the events are always free. "It gives them something fun to do and a way to get out of their homes," Moore said. "It also allows us to give back to our military families." The event offers an egg hunt, train rides, petting zoo, a roaming magician, games, snacks and prizes. Children at the event must be accompanied by an adult and pets are not allowed. The street in front of the program office, G Street, will be closed during the event and parking attendants will provide parking and control traffic.

The event is only open to families who live in Corvias housing at Fort Riley. "It's a way to build community and get the residents in contact with their neighbors," Moore said. She said there were approximately 1,500 people at "Spring into Fun" last year.

FAMILY ADVOCACY PROGRAM

April 18

2PM

MAIN EXCHANGE

Family Fashion Show

Spring Into Fashion!

Parents and kids, show off your spring outfits! Walk down the runway in your "Sunday best," athletic wear or something blue, in support of Child Abuse Prevention Month. Parents and expectant parents are invited. Clothing provided by the Exchange. Open to the public!

Sign up by contacting the Family Advocacy Program: registration deadline is March 31.

MANHATTAN AIRPORT EXPANSION ONE STEP CLOSER



Monte Volk | FORT RILEY GARRISON PUBLIC AFFAIRS OFFICE

A ribbon-cutting ceremony celebrated the completion of phase one of a two-phase passenger terminal expansion at Manhattan Regional Airport March 6. Phase two is scheduled to begin later this spring. The overcrowded terminal building will increase from 12,500 to 42,000 square feet upon completion. The expanding regional airport terminal enables deployments and connects Fort Riley Soldiers to families with flights daily to Dallas-Fort Worth and Chicago O'Hare airports.

CONFIDENTIAL ALCOHOL AND TREATMENT EDUCATION PROGRAM

785-239-5047/785-240-5127 | catep@conus.army.mil

Scholarship money for college available

FORT RILEY EDUCATION SERVICES

APPLICATIONS AVAILABLE

The 2014-2015 Fort Riley Combined Scholarship Board will award scholarships to qualified military family members who will further their education toward an undergraduate or vocational degree. Applicants must be a high school senior who is eligible for graduation or a student currently enrolled in college or vocational school, or spouse pursuing a college or vocational degree.

• Applications for the **Fort Riley Combined Scholarship** can be picked up at the Fort Riley Education Center. The application and required documents must be mailed or postmarked by March 25 to: Fort Riley Combined Scholarship Board, P.O. Box 2082, Fort Riley, KS 66442.

Each applicant must also be a family member of an active duty, retired, or deceased military member of the greater Fort Riley community.

Applications for the Fort Riley Combined Scholarship can be picked up at the Fort Riley Education Center. The application and required documents

must be mailed or postmarked by March 25 to: Fort Riley Combined Scholarship Board, P.O. Box 2082, Fort Riley, KS 66442. Each applicant is required to complete and submit pages 1 to 7 of the application, a transcript, a 375 to 400 word essay and a letter from the high school counselor. The letter must state the student's name, class ranking, cumulative GPA, and ACT or SAT scores. This letter is required for high school seniors only.

Fort Riley annual drinking water report available

STAFF REPORT

The Environmental Division, Directorate of Public Works posted the annual Consumer Confidence Report, or CCR, on the internet. Fort Riley, like other public water suppliers, is required to provide this information based on Safe Drinking Water Act requirements.

The CCR provides information on the type and name of the water source; information on contaminants including a mandatory monitoring list; information on detected regulated and unregulated contaminants; any violations associated with monitoring and reporting; and additional health

information for immuno-compromised individuals.

Information about CCRs can be obtained from the Environmental Protection Agency's Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 1-800-426-4791. Copies also can be obtained by contacting the Water Quality Protection Regulations Manager at 785-239-2630. The direct link is:

- www.riley.army.mil/Portals/0/Docs/Services/RileyServices/Environmental/FR2015CCR.pdf

A link to the CCR is also posted on Fort Riley Environmental Division Facebook page at:

- www.facebook.com/FortRileyEnvironmentalOffice

Riley Ride Schedule

Looking for a safe ride on Friday or Saturday night to Aggieville? Pick up a ticket at Leisure Travel or bring cash (exact change only) to the bus. Tickets are \$5 for two rides in either direction or \$10 for five rides in either direction. For more information, call 785-239-5614.

Building 7003	10 p.m.	10:30 p.m.	3:07 a.m.
Bowling Center	10:03 p.m.	11:33 p.m.	3:04 a.m.
Warrior Zone	10:05 p.m.	11:35 p.m.	3:01 a.m.
Building 7000F	10:10 p.m.	11:40 p.m.	2:59 a.m.
Building 7000G	10:12 p.m.	11:42 p.m.	2:54 a.m.
Building 7000A	10:15 p.m.	11:45 p.m.	2:52 a.m.
Rally Point	10:20 p.m.	11:50 p.m.	2:48 a.m.
Building 210	10:25 p.m.	11:55 p.m.	2:45 a.m.
WTB Barracks	10:32 p.m.	12:02 a.m.	2:38 a.m.
Building 694	10:37 p.m.	12:07 a.m.	2:33 a.m.
12 th and Bluemont (Aggieville)	11 p.m.	12:30 a.m. Bus waits until final return	Departs at 2:15 a.m. for final return to Fort Riley

←NEW STOP!!

NOW SHOWING

Barlow Theater is now in digital!
Tickets cost \$5.50 for adults and \$3 for children
Tickets for 3-D and first-run movies cost extra.
Children younger than 5 are admitted free.

FRIDAY, MARCH 20
• Fifty Shades Of Grey (R) 7 P.M.

SATURDAY, MARCH 21
• McFarland USA (PG) 2 P.M.
• Fifty Shades Of Grey (R) 7 P.M.

SUNDAY, MARCH 22
• Hot Tub Time Machine 2 (R) 5 P.M.

For movie titles and showtimes, call
785-239-9574



Maria Betzold | POST

Brad Dietz, athletic director at Seaman High School in Topeka, Bobby Taul, athletic director at Hayden Catholic High School and Curtis Simons, athletic director at Emporia High School, navigate through the simulated route during a team building exercise March 9 at the Mission Training Complex.

TEAMWORK Continued from page 9

Westerhaus was one of six athletic directors who completed the team building training exercise. The mission replaced their monthly athletic director meeting and included a tour of the rest of Fort Riley.

The exercise called for three roles: driver, truck commander and gunner.

Westerhaus said he was in two roles – the gunner and the truck commander in the front passenger seat.

The truck commander, is traditionally the navigator and radio operator of the vehicle. But Westerhaus said he was instructed not to shoot or do other activities for this mission. He said he felt a little helpless.

The gunner was responsi-

ble for the Humvee and everyone’s safety, and the driver is in control of where the vehicle is going and the speed.

Westerhaus said the exercise showed him how all team members are required to do their part to successfully complete the tasks.

“To me, those people who are involved in those types of activities usually rely on each other easier because you know everyone has each other’s back,” Westerhaus said. “That’s why you do that team building exercise because you realize you have to rely on other people to be successful as team – that’s the bottom line.”

Curtis Simons, from Emporia High School, said the team building exercise made

him remember why communication is so important for any team.

He described when he was in the gunner seat, he initially talked quietly, but by the end of the exercise he got louder so his teammates could hear what he was saying and why it was important.

“It makes you stop and think about what you’re doing,” Simons said.

The other participating athletic directors included David Wonnell, Shawnee Heights High School, Brad Dietz, Seaman High School in Topeka, Penny Lane, Washburn Rural High School in Topeka, and Bobby Taul, Hayden Catholic High School in Topeka.

EDUCATION Continued from page 9

All K-12 military-connected educators, post-secondary educators as well as other school professionals, joined military families at the event.

“Having conversations to better understand veteran and spouse student situations as it relates to their military connectedness is key to helping those students be successful,” Risberg said.

Several higher education classes that were offered featured panels of veteran students who are currently attending two or four-year colleges. The students shared their struggles and strengths in the classroom when they were transitioning from military to civilian life. Some panels included students who are still serving.

Wesley Briggs, a retired tank mechanic for the U.S. Army, participated in one of the panels. Briggs has been retired from the military since July 2014 and is now an information technology student at Manhattan Area Technical College. He said the symposium is helping build up the relationship between institutions and military families.

“(Institutions) don’t know what veterans go through and do because of the jobs they do.”

WESLEY BRIGGS |
RETIRED, U.S. ARMY

“(Institutions) don’t know what veterans go through and do because of the jobs they do. I think this is good for them to see what it’s like for the military and the veterans,” Briggs said.

Educators and other school professionals came from a variety of universities and schools including: K-State, Manhattan Area Technical College, Cloud County Community College, supervisors and training specialists from Kansas works and Heartland Works, and principals and counselors from Geary County USD 475 and Manhattan-Ogden USD 383. Army Community Service managers were also in attendance.

Briggs said in his experience, students who have had no military background are

more free-flowing than veterans or other military family members. He said he struggled the most in the classroom.

“The way a veteran approaches college is going to be completely different than someone who has never been in the military will approach college,” Briggs said. “I have a much more direct way I approach things and the guys I have been in the military with are the same way.”

Risberg said veterans usually have more difficulty transitioning because they have been functioning in an environment that is so different than a traditional higher education classroom. She added some service members are still serving while they attend college and have mission essential duties that may arise and educators need to know how to handle these situations.

“Educators and other school professionals can better serve these students if they understand the culture of the military lifestyle and are aware of resources and services that can help them help their students,” Risberg said.

CONVENIENT CARE

Child care available starting April 1

Whiteside North offers hourly service for kids 6 weeks to 5 years

By Heather Wilburn
FAMILY AND MWR MARKETING

Parents who need child care will soon have an additional resource. Whiteside North CDC will open for hourly care April 1.

Whiteside North is located less than a mile from the new Whiteside Fitness Center and

MORE INFORMATION

• For more information, visit rileywmr.com or facebook.com/rileycyss.

will provide care for children 6 weeks through 5 years of age.

“The facility is strategically located to provide support to the new fitness facility, and is conveniently located to support appointments at Irwin Army Community Hospital, as well,” said Michelle Durgin, Fort Riley Child,

Youth and School Services coordinator.

In order to use hourly care, patrons must be registered with CYSS, complete an hourly care orientation and receive a traveling file. Beginning March 1, patrons can make reservations online at <https://webtrac.mwr.army.mil/webtrac/rileycyms.html> or by phone at 785-240-6787.

Whiteside North CDC is located at 678 Warrior Road. For more information, visit rileywmr.com or facebook.com/rileycyss.

WHEN DISASTER STRIKES...

WILL YOU BE READY?

READY ARMY

- Be Informed
- Make A Plan
- Build A Kit
- Get Involved

Learn more at www.ready.army.mil

EASTER SUNRISE SERVICE

"I am the Resurrection and the Life, he who believes in me will live even if he dies..." John 11: 25

**April 05, 2015
7:00 A.M.**

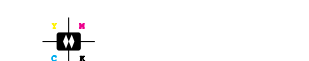
OUTDOOR CHAPEL

Inclement weather location Victory Chapel

Guest Speaker:
CH (COL) Keith Croom

Garrison Chaplain

FOR MORE DETAILS, CONTACT YOUR UNIT CHAPLAIN



Sports & Recreation

IN BRIEF

INTRAMURAL VOLLEYBALL, SOCCER
Intramural volleyball and soccer leagues begin March 23.
Leagues run through April 20. Both leagues qualify for Commander's Cup points. Call 785-239-2813.

GOLF TOURNAMENT
Tee off in the twilight. Custer Hill Golf Course will host its first-ever Night Golf Tournament March 28. Registration for this nine-hole tournament begins at 6 p.m., and play starts at 7 p.m. with a shotgun start. Registration costs \$30 per player, or \$25 per club member, and includes night sticks and glow golf balls.
For more information, call 785-784-6000 or visit rileymwr.com/golf. Keep up with the latest golf news by following CHGC on Twitter at twitter.com/custerhillgolf.

FLAG FOOTBALL
Hit the gridiron with Fort Riley Sports, Fitness and Aquatics. The Flag Football Tournament is coming to Long Fitness Center at 9 a.m. April 25.
The tournament is open to all DOD ID holders ages 18 and older. Registration costs \$150 per team and closes April 22. For more information, call 785-239-2813 or visit rileymwr.com/sports.

CINCO DE BOWLING
Celebrate Cinco de Mayo at Custer Hill Bowling Center's Cinco de Bowling from 6 p.m. to midnight May 2. For just \$9 per person, guests get three hours of bowling with shoes included, along with games and contests, door prize drawings and a festive atmosphere. Custer Hill Bowling Center is located at 7485 Normandy Drive.
For more information, visit rileymwr.com/bowling or call 785-239-4366.

CYSS SEEKS YOUTH SPORTS OFFICIALS
Child, Youth and School Services is looking for officials for youth outdoor and indoor soccer, flag football, basketball, baseball and softball. Volunteer and paid positions available. Training provided and experience is not necessary. A background check is required. For more information, call CYSS Sports at 785-239-9223 or 785-240-5207.

OPEN MIC NIGHTS
Better Opportunities for Single Soldiers Open Mic Nights are 6:30 p.m. Wednesdays at Custer Hill Bowling Center. Attendees must be 18 years or older.

FUSION CLASS
Fusion classes are offered at 6 p.m. Tuesdays and Thursdays at King Field House. Fusion combines cardio dance and muscle training. For more information, call 785-239-3146.

LOOKING FOR A WAY TO SERVE VETERANS?
Team Red, White and Blue is a national veterans outreach organization enriches lives of America's veterans by connecting them to their community through physical and social activity.
For more info, visit www.teamrwb.org. For Team RWB local chapter events, see "Team RWB Fort Riley" on Facebook.

SKEET AND TRAP
An introductory clinic is offered by appointment covering basics of sport of shooting. Gun rental, ammo and protective equipment are provided. Cost is \$11.25 per round and \$6.25 for ammunition. For more information, call Outdoor Recreation at 785-239-2363.

Flag football kicks off spring intramural season

By Maria Betzold
1ST INF. DIV. POST

Members of the 977th Military Police Company huddled and discussed their season-opening game strategy. The Fort Riley Five-0 team members finished their huddle, shouted and the game began. The team started the season with a win against the 24th Transportation Company during the first game of the Community Life Flag Football League March 11 at Long Fitness Center.
Staff Sgt. Reggie Hawkins, 977th MP Co., 97th MP Battalion, said he was looking forward to the spring season. He added his team played during the fall season, and the spring season gives them an opportunity to continue building unit cohesion and spend time outdoors.
"I like the extra physical fitness we get to do," said Staff Sgt. Reggie Hawkins, 977th MP Co., 97th MP Battalion. "I like the camaraderie

within the unit. Just getting that extra exercise in – that's what I look forward to."
After coming in second place last year during a flag football league, Hawkins said his goal is to be in the championship game again this year.
This is the third year Fort Riley fielded a flag football league, and there are eight teams participating. Renee Satterlee, intramural sports coordinator, said the league is open to all Department of Defense cardholders, and spectators are always welcome.
She added intramurals help Soldiers in other ways than physical health. Intramurals provide a connection for Soldiers that goes beyond the work environment.
Spc. Josh Custodio, 977th MP Co., 97th MP Bn., agreed.
"It's good to just hang out with the boys," Custodio said.
Custodio said their team practices once or twice a weekend. He added their entire team works

shiftwork because they are part of the MP Battalion, and have scattered work schedules as an obstacle. Hawkins added it provides a chance for them to play with Soldiers on different shifts and get to know more people in their unit. Those who make it to the games also make a great effort during the game, Hawkins said.
"We make the best of it," Hawkins said. "The guys that come out here are really excited to play, and whenever they get in, they give it their full effort."
Austin Mueller, coach, said he has Soldiers the battalion he's never met who want to become more involved with intramural football.
"It pulls in people from administration to the motor pool and from E-1 to O-1," Mueller said. "It does give the chance to meet and become close with people within the unit."
For a schedule of games and information, visit <http://rileymwr.com/sports/>.



Spc. Joshua Custodio, 977th MP Company, 89th Military Police Brigade, throws the football downfield during a March 11 flag football game at Long Fitness Center. The game was the first in the Community Life Spring League.

'Lifeline' wins dream, earns hoop title against 'Nightmares'

Story and photos by
Maria Betzold
1ST INF. DIV. POST

The fall intramural basketball league ended March 11. The champions were the "Lifeline" Soldiers from the Delta Company, 299th Brigade Support Battalion, 2nd Armored Brigade Combat Team, 1st Infantry Division.
It was Spc. Justin Zeigler's third time as part of a championship team. For Zeigler and his teammates, basketball is simply fun.
"Basketball has always been my favorite sport," said Spc. Marquis Becton, Co. D, 299th BSB, 2nd ABCT, 1st Inf. Div.
Becton said he wasn't surprised his team took the championship. From the beginning he imagined his team would play well.
"I figured we would at least get pretty far," Becton said.
He said every team member had a decent amount of experience. Becton said he started playing basketball in grade school.

Teammate, Spc. Darius Bass, Co. D, 299th BSB, 2nd ABCT, 1st Inf. Div., agreed experience factored into the win.
"Pretty much the whole team is experienced," Bass said.

Bass, Becton and Zeigler said their unit has participated in basketball for the past three years.
Now people on this winning team have taken their experience and camaraderie and are applying it at the

National Training Center at Fort Irwin, California.
Although there is no spring league for the Nightmares to miss while at NTC, Renee Satterlee, intramural sports coordinator, Directorate of Family and Morale,

Welfare and Recreation, said Soldiers have asked about starting a summer basketball league.
For more information and a schedule of spring intramural sports, visit <http://rileymwr.com/sports/>.



Spc. Marquis Becton (28), 3rd Assault Helicopter Battalion, 1st Aviation Regiment, 1st Combat Aviation Brigade, 1st Infantry Division, dribbles down the court during the March 11 championship basketball game. Becton's team won with a final score of 65-45.



A 'Nightmare' Soldier from 3rd Assault Helicopter Battalion, 1st Aviation Regiment, 1st Combat Aviation Brigade, 1st Infantry Division, sets up for a shot during the March 10 intramural basketball championship game. The team took second place in the basketball against the first-place 'Lifeline' team from the Delta Company, 299th Brigade Support Battalion, 2nd Armored Brigade Combat Team, 1st Infantry Division. Though no spring league is scheduled, the Directorate of Family Moral Morale and Welfare is exploring an option for a summer league.

Tee-ball, baseball, softball seasons lining up for summer of play

By Heather Wilburn
FAMILY AND MWR MARKETING

Swing for the fences with Child, Youth and School Services' offerings.
Registration for Youth Sports tee-ball, coach pitch baseball and softball, and player pitch baseball and softball runs through April 17. Tee-ball registration is open to children ages 5 to 6 and costs \$45 per child. The season runs May 18 to July 10.
Coach pitch baseball and softball are open to boys and girls ages 7 and 8. Registration costs \$45 per child, with the season set to run May 18 to July 10.
The player pitch baseball and softball season is scheduled to run May 11 to July 17. Registration is open to boys and girls ages 9 to 13 and costs \$45 per child.
Youth Sports will conduct a baseball clinic May 6 to 8 for players looking to refine their skills. The clinic is open to boys and girls ages 8 to 18 and runs from 12:30 to 2 p.m. daily. Registration runs from March 26

to April 30 and costs \$10 per player.
For the littlest of sluggers, Start Smart tee-ball allows kids ages 3 to 4 to begin developing tee-ball fundamentals. Registration runs April 15 to May 27 and costs \$20 per child. The season runs June 1 to July 6.
Youngsters can also learn the basics with Start Smart soccer, open to boys and girls ages 3 to 5. Registration is ongoing through April 1 and costs \$20 per child. The season runs April 7 to May 12.
Start Smart lacrosse allows youth to build skills. Registration is April 15 to May 27 for boys and girls ages 5 to 7 and costs \$20 per child. The season will start June 1 and end July 6.
Youth Sports and Fitness will offer a soccer clinic March 18 to 20, from 12:30 to 2 p.m. daily. Registration is open through March 11 for boys and girls ages 5 to 18 and costs \$10 per player.
Children interested in individual sports can check out the Running Club and Tennis Club. Registration for both of these ac-

tivities runs through April 1 and is open to youth ages 8 to 18. Registration for each club costs \$20 per child.
These activities take place at Colyer Manor Complex, with the exception of Start Smart tee-ball and Start Smart lacrosse, which are held at CYSS Parent Central, and the tennis club, which is to be determined.
Some activities require physical assessments or sports physicals at registration. More information about requirements is online or by visiting CYSS Parent Central.
Be part of the team when you volunteer as a Youth Sports coach. Volunteering as a coach or becoming an official is a great way to give back to the Fort Riley community and make a difference in the lives of children.
Hours spent volunteering can be credited toward the Military Outstanding Volunteer Service Medal.
For more information, contact CYSS at 785-239-9223 or 785-240-5207, or visit rileymwr.com.



Outdoor recreation ready to equip for Spring adventures

By Megan Rutledge
FAMILY AND MWR MARKETING

Spring has sprung and there's no better time to venture into the great outdoors. From paintball and sport shooting to Zorb Ball bubble soccer and boating, Outdoor Recreation has something for everyone this season.

Fort Riley's Kids Fishing Day is back. Bring the whole family out for some fishing fun April 25 from noon to 4 p.m. at Moon Lake.

Children ages 15 and under fish for free. Don't have any fishing gear? No worries ... That is what Fort Riley's Outdoor Recreation is here for. Loaner rods and reels are available. Fishing bait, tackle and snacks are all provided as well.

Volunteers will be on site to help children bait their hooks and catch and release their

fish. Children ages 16 and up are welcome to fish but are required to have a Kansas fishing license. On-site registration begins at 11:30 a.m.

The event is a joint venture between Outdoor Recreation, the Fort Riley Outdoorsmen Group, Conservation and the Kansas Department of Wildlife, Parks and Tourism.

"The FROG is really the driving force behind the fishing day," said Angelia Lentz, outdoor recreation program manager. "They give a lot of time and attention to the event, and it wouldn't happen without them."

The Fort Riley Marina on Milford Lake opens for the season April 24. The marina is located on Milford Lake and has more than 20 watercraft available for rent, including pontoons, jet skis and fishing boats. The Kansas State Boaters Safety

Card or an NASBLA-approved certificate or card is required to rent and operate any motorized boat; the next boater safety course Outdoor Recreation is scheduled for April 28.

The marina also features a playground and pavilions, as well as primitive camping for \$7 per night.

The Outdoor Recreation Center is located at 1806 Bufalo Soldier Drive in Camp Funston.

To learn more about any Outdoor Recreation program, call 785-239-2363 or visit ri-



Get a kick with commander's cup spring sports leagues

By Heather Wilburn
FAMILY AND MWR MARKETING

It's time to dust off those cleats and get ready for friendly competition – the Intramural Soccer League kicks off March 23 at Long Fitness Center.

The league runs through April 20. The Intramural Volleyball League also begins March 23 and runs through April 20. Games will be played at King Field House.

Both leagues qualify teams for Commander's Cup points.

Ready to hit the gridiron? Don't miss the Flag Football Tournament April 25 at Long Fitness Center. The tournament kicks off at 9 a.m. Registration costs \$50 per team – or free for company-level teams of active-duty Soldiers – and is open to all DOD ID holders ages 18 and older. Registration closes April 22.

Swing for the fences ... softball is back.

The Intramural Softball League runs from May 4 to August 3. Registration is free and open to company-level teams

of active-duty Soldiers. Registration ends April 28. Coaches meetings will be 2 p.m. April 7 and 14 at Whitside Fitness Center.

For more fun on the field, sign up for the Spring Fling Softball Tournament. The event is set for 8 a.m. May 9 at Sacco Softball Complex. Registration is \$50 per team, free for active-duty teams and is open to all DOD ID card holders. Registration closes May 6.

For more intramural sports program info, visit rileymwr.com or call 785-239-2813.

RECRUITING CYSS YOUTH SPORTS COACHES AND OFFICIALS

VOLUNTEER AND PAID POSITIONS AVAILABLE

You can **make a difference in your community** by providing your gifts of time, energy, and skills to fill a unique role in helping children develop character and confidence.

Coaching and officiating is needed in many sports including soccer, flag football, volleyball, cheerleading, basketball and others throughout the year.

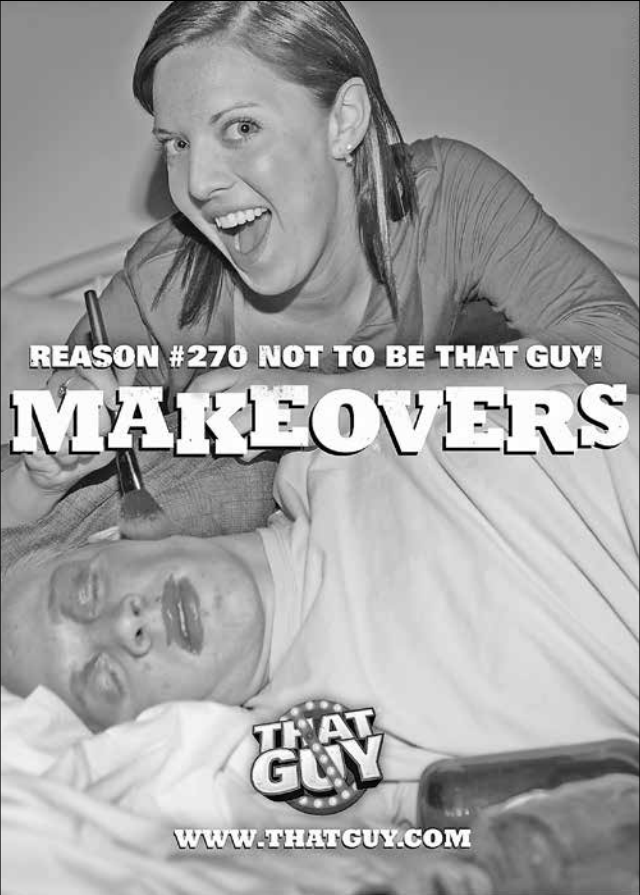
Training for Coaches and Officials is provided

All volunteers receive one free youth sports enrollment per family, per season volunteered, with one exception: "Head" coaches receive free youth sports enrollment for each of their family members they are coaching.

Soldiers registered as volunteers can also earn points toward the Military Outstanding Volunteer Service Medal.

Come be a part of our great youth sports programs and have fun!

All CYSS volunteers and officials must pass a background check and attend mandatory training.





Travel & Fun in Kansas

IN BRIEF

For links to attractions and events in the Central Flint Hills Region, visit www.rileymwr.com and click on the Fort Riley and Central Flint Hills Region Calendar.

JUNCTION CITY
C.L. Opera House presents Reza the illusionist Tuesday March 24 at 7:30 p.m.
Hailed by critics as the Nation's top touring illusionist has been featured in 31 countries and is considered one of the fastest-rising stars in the industry.
Tickets: Adults: \$18 Seniors (65+) / Military: \$15 Students (18 and under): \$12

SALINA
Event: "American Music in Motion"
When: 4 p.m. March 29
Where: Stiefel Theatre for the Performing Arts, 151 S. Santa Fe, Salina, Kansas
Experience a fusion of classical music and contemporary dance featuring popular American classics, such as Gershwin's Rhapsody in Blue, Barber's Adagio for Strings and Bernstein's West Side Story.
This collage of American music features central characters who tell a story through music and dance.
Cost: Adults – \$27, \$22; Students – \$15
Phone: 785-823-8309
Email: execdir@salinasymphony.org

MANHATTAN
March 30 at K-State's McCain Auditorium, straight from Austin, Texas, The Intergalactic Nemesis, a series of shows like no other comes to life. Its format is called a Live-Action Graphic Novel. "Twin Infinity" is the final chapter.
Three actors voice dozens of characters, a Foley artist creates all the sound effects, and a pianist plays a cinematic score, while more than 1,250 individual fullcolor high-resolution comic book panels tell a hilarious sci-fi adventure story visually from an enormous movie screen. And it's all done live in front of your eyes.
Join Pulitzer Prize-Winning reporter Molly Sloan and the man of her dreams, Ben Wilcott, as they race to rescue her fiancé, also Ben Wilcott, from a secret society of spies that spans the globe – and beyond! Say what? Never mind. Trust us. This show's funny. The year is 1942. Are you ready for the adventure?
Haven't seen the first two? No worries. Twin Infinity is designed to stand alone. No previous Intergalactic experience necessary.
Hours: 7:30 p.m.
Phone: 785-532-6428

MONTEZUMA
50 Greatest Photographs from National Geographic showcases some of National Geographic's most compelling photographs from its more-than-120-year history.
In addition to photographs from the magazine, visitors learn the stories behind them and more about the photographers.
For some images, visitors will be able to see the sequence of images made in the field before and after the perfect shot. Exhibit on tour through National Geographic Traveling Exhibit Service.
Cost: Free but donations are appreciated
Address: 111 N Aztec St, Montezuma, Kansas.
Hours: Tue-Sat 9:00-12:00, 1:00-4:30, Sun 1:30-4:30. Closed Mondays & major holidays.
Phone: 620-846-2527

Go east to Lawrence, Kansas: Two musical events, Two consecutive evenings at Kansas University's Lied Center



Bernadette Peters is scheduled to perform Tuesday, March 24, 7:30 p.m. Throughout her illustrious career, Peters has dazzled audiences and critics with her performances on stage and television, in concert and on recordings. One of Broadway's most critically acclaimed performers, Peters has won numerous accolades including three Tony Awards, a Golden Globe, two Grammy Awards, three Emmy nominations and has a star on the Hollywood Walk of Fame.

She recently appeared in City Center's Encores! production, A BED A CHAIR: A New York Love Affair featuring the music of Stephen Sondheim

and orchestrations by Wynton Marsalis. Other recent credits include a recurring role on the NBC-TV series Smash, and starring roles on Broadway in A Little Night Music and Follies. Peters received both the Tony Award and Drama Desk Award for her performance in the Andrew Lloyd Webber musical, Song and Dance. She earned her second Tony Award for her performance in Annie Get Your Gun. She also received Tony award nominations for her memorable performances in the critically acclaimed revival of Gypsy, The Goodbye Girl, Sunday in the Park with George, Mack and Mabel and On The Town. In addition to these honors, Peters earned a Drama Desk nomination for Into the Woods. Her career also boasts an impressive list of television credits including, Grey's Anatomy, Ugly Betty and Living Proof. Peters has also lit up the silver screen in 17 films throughout her distinguished career, has recorded six solo albums and has written two children's books. In addition to being a Tony Award-winning Broadway legend, Peters is

also a huge proponent of dog adoption. Along with Mary Tyler Moore, she founded Broadway Barks, an annual animal adopt-a-thon that helps many of New York City's shelter animals find permanent homes. Bernadette Peters' performance offers an opportunity for the Leid Center to support the Lawrence Humane Society. Leading up to the performance, attendees can meet adoptable dogs in the Lied Center lobby.



Stewart Copeland and Jon Kimura Parker are reimagining chamber music in a concert with Yoon Kwon, Marlon Martinez and Judd Miller scheduled for 7:30 p.m. March 25 at KU's Lied Center. Stewart Copeland, rock star drummer and a founding member of the famous group The Police turned acclaimed film composer and filmmaker, was ranked by Rolling Stone magazine as the fifth greatest drummer of all time.

Copeland will be joined by pianist Jon Kimura Parker, media personality, educator and veteran of the international concert stage, to produce cutting-edge chamber music that is propulsive, engaging and entirely unique. Parker and Copeland's work includes improvisation and moves beyond the notes on a page. The performance will feature Copeland's compositions and standard classical repertoire, including Parker's suite

based on Stravinsky's Rite of Spring. Instrumentation includes piano, violin, double-bass and percussion instruments, as well as an Electronic Valve Instrument, or EVI. For more information, call the ticket office 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. at 785-864-2787 weekdays. Ticket prices for the 'Off the Score' Performance are on sale now at the following rates: \$20 to \$35 Adult \$11 to \$19 Student/Youth

Vacation is possible with Leisure Travel's pre-purchase plans

By Megan Rutledge
FAMILY AND MWR MARKETING

Leisure travel can make warm spring getaway travel plans. Don't think you have enough money to pay for a trip all at once? Don't worry ... you don't have to. The friendly staff at Family and MWR's Leisure Travel Services will work with you. The Layaway Purchase Plan makes it possible to afford a vacation, even during financially challenging times. Leisure Travel specializes in all-inclusive layaway vacations to places like Mexico, Jamaica and the Dominican Republic. Customers will find lots of specials, exclusive pricing and value-added benefits included in the ever-changing offers. As a Leisure Travel Services customer, you will not only enjoy the benefits of being able to make payments but the great value of an all-inclusive vacation package. The way it works is simple: You spread the payments out over time. The size of the payment and the number of payments will depend on how much time exists between the first deposit on your trip and the date the

final payment is due to the vendor being used. The initial deposit for a tour or vacation package is usually \$100 to \$250 per person. For each trip, the initial deposit to the vendor being used must be satisfied before we implement the payment plan. Most tour and vacation package vendors require final payment 45 days prior to the start of travel. Cruise lines vary in the initial deposit amount due; the range is usually \$100 to \$450 per person. This year, many cruise lines are reducing their deposit amount by as much as 50 percent. Leisure Travel will make sure you are taking advantage of any and all discounts available at the time you make your reservation. Cruise lines usually require final payment 75 to 90 days prior to the departure date. In order to get the most benefit out of a Layaway Purchase Plan, you will want to give yourself plenty of lead time. Plan today for the trip you will experience six to 10 months from now. Leisure Travel Services is located at 6918 Trooper Drive. For more information, call 785-239-5614 or visit rileymwr.com/itr.

Dirty Kanza 200 organizers introduce Dirty 'lite' version

EMPORIA, Kan. – The Dirty Kanza Lite is a bicycle fun ride using some of the same roads covered during the Dirty Kanza 200, a challenging event for the ultra-endurance off-road cycling community. The 20-mile option will use an out-and-back route with a water station at the turn-around point. The 50-mile option will continue on from that same water station, following a large single loop back to Emporia. The 50-miler will pass a convenience store about two-thirds of the way through the course. Riders must provide their own personal support crew to come rescue them, should they need to abandon the event. The DK Lite will begin and end in front of the historic Granada Theatre, 807 Commercial Street, in downtown Emporia, Kansas. The ride is scheduled to begin at 6:40 a.m., right after the Dirty Kanza 200 and DK Half Pint racers have left the Starting Line. The course will take riders from downtown Emporia out onto the gravel roads of the Flint Hills region of east-central Kansas. Once home to the Kanza Nation, the Flint Hills have been

called the "eastern-most part of the Great Far West." Come watch the hearty and courageous racers of Dirty Kanza 200 as they begin their 200-mile epic battle with the Flint Hills. Then set off on an adventure at a comfortable pace. After the ride, hang out in Emporia for the many activities planned for the day. Then end the day at the DK200 Block Party and welcome the Dirty Kanza 200 racers back to Emporia. The Dirty Kanza Light is scheduled for May 30 and will start at 807 Commercial Street, Emporia, Kansas. Register online by 11:45 p.m. May 2 at <https://www.bikereg.com/dirty-kanza-lite>. Participants can ride either 20 or 50 miles. Selecting a distance above is only for planning purposes.

