

Discussion Training



Corey Schaadt | 1ST INF. DIV.

Gen. David G. Perkins, commander of the United States Army Training and Doctrine Command, leads a training discussion with platoon leaders and platoon sergeants April 20 at Fort Riley. The subject of the lecture was the development of the Army Operating Concept.

General explains Army Operating Concept to ‘Big Red One’ leaders

By J. Parker Roberts
1ST INF. DIV. PUBLIC AFFAIRS

On post to tour Fort Riley and visit with “Big Red One” leaders, Gen. David G. Perkins, United States Army Training and Doctrine Command commanding general, spoke with Soldiers about the Army Operating Concept April 20 at Riley’s Conference Center.

“This is a great opportunity, and I think what you’re going to hear is stuff that you haven’t thought of before; you haven’t



General Perkins

heard it before and it will be illuminating in terms of where the Army and the nation, frankly, is going,” said Brig. Gen. Eric J. Wesley, 1st Infantry Division and Fort Riley senior mission commander, as he introduced Perkins to a packed room of division, brigade and battalion commanders at the con-



Corey Schaadt | 1ST INF. DIV.

Gen. David G. Perkins, commander of the United States Army Training and Doctrine Command, discusses the Army Operating Concept during a training discussion April 20 at Fort Riley. Soldiers were allowed time to ask questions and make comments during the event.

ference center. “We have a rare opportunity, in having the TRA-DOC commander, of having both a thinker and a warfighter unlike most that you’ve met.”

The Army Operating Concept describes how the Army will employ forces and capabilities in

complex environments against increasingly capable opponents. Perkins said that understanding the concept allows leaders to understand where the Army is going and why it is going there.

See PERKINS, page 8



Staff Sgt. Jerry Griffis | 1ST INF. DIV.

Soldiers of 1st Infantry Division Sustainment Brigade change their unit patches to the “Big Red One” patch April 22 at Cavalry Parade Field on Fort Riley, Kansas. The changing of the patches was part of an inactivation/activation ceremony and the 1st Infantry Division Sustainment Brigade also uncased new colors for the ceremony.

‘Durable’ Soldiers join division in wearing ‘Big Red One’ patch

By J. Parker Roberts
1ST INF. DIV. PUBLIC AFFAIRS

It was a sound like no other as hundreds of “Durable” Soldiers removed their left arm patches in unison, replacing them with the “Big Red One” patch worn by their fellow Soldiers across the 1st Infantry Division.

The 1st Sustainment Brigade, 1st Infantry Division, conducted a redesignation and patching ceremony April 22 on Fort Riley’s Cavalry Parade Field. Following direction from Gen. Raymond T. Odierno, the chief of staff of the Army, the brigade switched to the 1st Inf. Div. shoulder sleeve insignia, cased its colors and uncased new colors as the redesignated 1st Inf. Div. Sustainment Brigade during the ceremony.

“The patch matters,” said Brig. Gen. Eric J. Wesley, 1st Inf. Div. and Fort Riley senior mission commander, who served as the presiding officer for the afternoon ceremony.

Wesley spoke about what the patch meant to Big Red One Soldiers like Col. Robert McCormick, a wealthy World War I veteran of the division and president of the Tribune Company in Chicago who, Wesley said, considered his nine months with the division as “the single greatest accomplishment of his life.”

Upon his death in 1955, McCormick left his \$55 million estate to

the McCormick Foundation, whose role in part is to sustain the legacy of the Big Red One “and that patch you just put on your shoulders,” Wesley told the Durable Soldiers in formation on the field.

The 1st Sust. Bde. was originally formed as Division Trains in 1917 to support the newly formed 1st Inf. Div.

“I can’t tell you how great it feels to once again be wearing the Big Red One patch – in my case, on both uniform sleeves,” said Col. Robert A. Law III, 1st Inf. Div. Sust. Bde. commander, who previously served with 3rd and 4th infantry brigade combat teams and with the division’s headquarters. “This has been a long time coming.”

Law said that despite his brigade’s new patches, colors and name, the mission – to provide trained and ready units for future contingency operations and to coordinate, synchronize and execute sustainment operations in support of the division – has not changed.

“There is no doubt that this brigade has been an integral part of this division throughout its history,” Wesley said. “But today, you will wear that patch, and it will forever be part of your fiber and the legacy of your life as a Big Red One Soldier. And no one will ever take that away from you.”

Employers hire more than 250 heroes during annual career fair

Story and photo by Maria Childs
1ST INF. DIV. POST

Cpl. Peter Baina is transitioning out of the Army from Company G, 1st Battalion, 28th Infantry Regiment, 4th Infantry Brigade Combat Team, 1st Infantry Division. He was one of 580 Soldiers, veterans and spouses who attended the Hiring Heroes Career Fair April 22 at Fort Riley to connect with employers. Eight-five percent were offered a job.

Riley’s Conference Center was temporarily home to nearly 100 employers from across the United States, including Texas Department of Public Safety, Walmart,

University of Phoenix, El Dorado Correctional Facility and many more.

“All of the employers I talked to were really professional and knew what they were doing,” Baina said. “I was really impressed.”

Karen Hannah, Department of Defense Hiring Heroes program manager, said employers from the event offered 267 jobs to service members, veterans or wounded warriors. Job interviews were offered on the spot in many cases, and 81 Soldiers, veterans, or family members were interviewed. Ninety-four percent of those interviewed were offered jobs at the career fair.

“(Employers) know the great talent they have, they’re well-trained, well-educated, (and have) the tenacity to get the job done,” said Hannah. “They’re used to being on a dynamic team and just great hardworking individuals.”

The Hiring Heroes Career Fair allows Soldiers to network with job seekers before, during and after the event. The night before the career fair a “Networking with Industry” workshop provided a relaxed setting where Soldiers could meet employers.

Baina visited more than 10 employers during his time at the fair. He said all the employers he visited went the extra mile to explain what the

job entailed and how to apply for it.

“I was told ‘I’m looking for veterans like you,’” Baina said.

He is leaving the military in July, and used the transition program to assist with his shift to civilian life.

Hannah said the transition program plays an important role in helping a Soldier that change.

“They have a great transition assistance program,” she said. “They have resume writing classes, dress for success, information about the department of labor, the VA. They have a great program to train them on what they need to do to look for jobs when they get out.”



Alycia Hobbs, Company C, 299th Brigade Support Battalion, 2nd Armored Brigade Combat Team, 1st Infantry Division, takes a note from a representative from Barton Community College at the Hiring Heroes Career Fair April 22 at Riley’s Conference Center.

The next USAG Resilience Day Off will be:

May
8

SAFETY HOLIDAY

As of Thursday, April 30

114

days have passed since the last vehicular fatality at Fort Riley. One hundred eight more and the post will celebrate with a safety holiday to take place at each unit’s discretion.

HIGHLIGHTS



PARTNERSHIP PROVES NO OBSTACLE FOR SOLDIERS, K-STATE CHEERLEADERS, SEE PAGE 9.

ALSO IN THIS ISSUE



FLAG FOOTBALL TEAMS BATTLE IT OUT ON THE FIELD AT LONG FITNESS CENTER, SEE PAGE 13.

Dailey sets sights on military education

By Sgt. William F. Smith
4TH INF. DIV.

FORT CARSON, Colo. – The importance of improving military education while continually improving the Army profession were two topics Sgt. Maj. of the Army Daniel A. Dailey shared with members of the Fort Carson community April 20 to 21.

“As the Army gets smaller we have to invest in the people who will lead us into the future,” Dailey said. “We are revamping the entire military education system. Our education system doesn’t transfer well into the civilian sector. While we rebuild our courses force-wide, we are focusing on maximizing opportunity for two programs: credentialing and academic equivalency.

“We are the largest academic institution in the world and have the largest online delivery system in America,” Dailey said. “We have the academic ability to accredit our own courses, to give you the maximum amount of credit for the work that you do, especially the ones that translate into work that is done out in the civilian sector.”

Dailey addressed about 600 Soldiers and Family members at McMahon Auditorium, discussing topics affecting the future of all Soldiers and Families, while answering questions about any concerns they had.

“We will continue to be the smartest, most-educated and well-trained fighting force in the world,” Dailey said.

“My goal is to make sure that Soldiers are getting all they deserve when they exit the Army,” he said. “We are making changes to the non-commissioned officer [NCO] education system to ensure Soldiers will earn maximum credit for the schools they attend while they are in the Army.”

There is a new grassroots program being developed, which Dailey said stemmed from his approach to leadership when he was a squad leader. It is called “Not in My Squad.”



Staff Sgt. Nancy Lugo | 4TH INF. DIV.

Sgt. Maj. of the Army Daniel A. Dailey addresses Soldiers from 2nd Battalion, 12th Field Artillery, 1st Stryker Brigade Combat Team, 4th Infantry Division April 21.

Dailey said he recommended to the Army chief of staff that he thought they need to back off the requirements coming down from the big Army and put it into the hands of the people who can actually influence it.

The Not in My Squad concept is about leaders taking charge and Soldiers taking ownership of their actions, while making the Army a better organization, Dailey said.

“When I was a young staff sergeant, I had nine Soldiers in my squad,” he said. “I didn’t know everything, I wasn’t the most experienced individual, I wasn’t the best or the brightest. What I did know was that those young men and women were mine - they fell under my charge. Nothing was going to happen to them on my watch.

“If someone is harassing your Soldier then you need to do something about it,” he said. “We have to get past this thing where we steal from each other. That might be a Soldier’s pride; might be their honor; might be their tape player. We don’t steal from each other. The concept Not in My Squad is about taking charge. I can’t think we are stealing from each other. I need NCOs to take charge and say ‘this is the best squad in the Army’ and if it isn’t, then ‘I am going to do something about it.’”

The Army’s top enlisted adviser visited with Soldiers from various units, observed training and spoke one-on-one with Soldiers about concerns they had about the future of the Army.

“To meet the sergeant major of the Army [SMA] was truly inspirational,” said Spc. Nick Barta, combat medic, Company C, 64th Brigade Support Battalion, 3rd Armored Brigade Combat Team, 4th Infantry Division. “The fact he took the time to address our concerns in person shows how much he cares about taking care of Soldiers. I really like the SMA’s Not in My Squad concept. If everyone had that mentality the Army would be that much better.”

Dailey challenged every Soldier to ask themselves two questions every day: Who do you trust? And do your Soldiers trust you?

“If you can get through those two questions without any guilt then you are doing your job,” he said. “If there is any guilt associated with those two then you need to change the way you are leading your Soldiers or change the people you are hanging around with.”

The trip marked Dailey’s first visit to Joint Task Force Carson since he became the 15th Sergeant Major of the Army, Jan. 30. He was the 4th Infantry Division command sergeant major from March 2009 to November 2011.

McHugh scales up civilian workforce transformation

By David Vergun
ARNEWS

WASHINGTON – A new roadmap for Army civilian professional growth has been announced by Army Secretary John M. McHugh - and more changes are coming over the next year or so.

“Our Army demands that civilian employees commit to a lifetime of professional and personal growth,” said McHugh, in a memo April 10, introducing Army Directive 2015-24.

“I hold each Army civilian accountable for mapping and navigating a progressive program of self-development,” McHugh wrote. He added that commanders, supervisors and managers have a shared responsibility in that endeavor.

The changes described in the directive affect a large portion of the 298,000 Army civilians, who make up about 22 percent of the total force. Future changes will impact the remainder of the civilian workforce.

The full title of 2015-24 is “Department of the Army Senior Enterprise Talent Management Program and Enterprise Talent Management Program,” or SETM and ETM respectively.

Explaining some of those changes was Gwendolyn R. DeFilippi, deputy assistant secretary of the Army - Civilian Personnel, Office of the Assistant Secretary of the Army for Manpower and Reserve Affairs.

SETM

SETM, a leader development program for GS-14s and 15s, was launched a few years ago, DeFilippi said. It



Rodney E. Speed | ARNEWS

Thomas Greco, right, a Senior Executive Service, or SES, officer with the Office of the Deputy Chief of Staff, G-2, administers the oath of office to six newly-hired Army civilians at the civilian personnel office on Joint Base Langley-Eustis, Va., Sept. 8, 2014. As part of the Army's acculturation pilot, new civilian hires are administered the oath of office by a SES or general officer.

originally offered civilians a chance to increase their knowledge through a residency at the Army War College, with a follow-on reassignment to broaden their experiences.

Now, that program has been expanded with a senior fellow program, where civilians can become part of a “think tank” for a year. Another program enhancement, she said, is participants can be detailed into a senior executive service-level position for up to a year to gain broader experience and see what it is like leading at that level.

There is also a SETM-TDY module, which gives selectees a six-month career-broadening assignment where they gain valuable experience in another organization before returning to their unit. SETM modules present huge incentives for

leaders to further develop in their current jobs or move on to larger enterprise positions, DeFilippi said.

Those who are interested need to immediately begin the application process, which closes May 15. To apply, go to the SETM automated website. Those who are selected will begin the program in 2016.

ETM

The ETM program is new - this is its first year. It is designed for GS-12s and 13s, with most of the openings at the 13 level, she said. If GS-12s have the right level of civilian education system, or CES, and a bachelor’s degree, they can apply for two of the modules while GS-13s can apply for all four modules.

Those who are accepted to the program can be assigned to

a 90-day project that requires some tough problem-solving skills, she said. Accomplishing this will enhance one’s resume and boost the chance to be selected for a future job.

Secondly, up to 20 participants will get the opportunity to attend a 10-month Command and General Staff College residency on Fort Leavenworth, Kansas. In the coming years, the number eligible will increase to 90, she said.

Thirdly, participants will get the chance to shadow a Senior Executive Service, or SES, or GS-15 at their installation or on a temporary-duty assignment, if necessary. When we say shadowing, we mean working alongside the executive and getting in on the nuts and bolts of decision-making techniques.

Finally, there’s a 10-week structured experiential leader development module that is spread out over 10-months, which allows Army civilians to participate in an existing DOD program. Called the Executive Leadership Development Program, or ELDP, it allows civilian employees to gain a greater understanding of the DOD mission, which in turn develops a cadre of future leaders with joint and interagency perspectives and skills.

The deadline for applying for this program is also May 15 and applications can be made using the SETM Automated website.

EEL

Still in development is the Emerging Enterprise Leader initiative, or EEL, a program

See **WORKFORCE**, page 3

TRAFFIC REPORT

ESTES ROAD

The portion of Estes Road on the right side of Normandy is closed.

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 have begun and will continue until July 1.

Dickman Avenue is closed at Pershing Avenue at the south end of the construction and just south of the AAFES gas station/Shoppette at Huebner and Dickman on the north end of the construction. Both entrances to the AAFES gas station/Shoppette will remain open.

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

TROOPER - MCCORMICK

Phase 2 of work on Trooper-McCormick has begun and will continue until April 30. The work closed 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 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.

TUESDAY TRIVIA CONTEST WINNER



The winner of the Tuesday Trivia Staff Sgt. Cody Dailey, Company D, 1st Battalion, 16th Infantry Regiment, 1st Armored Brigade Combat Team, 1st Infantry Division. Dailey is pictured in center with family members (from left to right) Charlee, Trevor, Tristan, Stephanie and Tyler.

On April 28 Dailey correctly answered the question “Where can I learn more about the 1st Infantry Division Band – musical ambassador for the United States’ premier fighting force?”

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, STAFF SGT. CODY DAILEY!



A firefighter lights grass on fire during a prescribed burn April 15. Prescribed burns occur in Kansas during spring months to help rejuvenate grassy areas.

Blazing Trails

Firefighters conduct prescribed burns

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

It’s that time of the year—when a smoky scent covers the Fort Riley area.

Mark Neely, Fort Riley wild land manager, said prescribed burns are done for a variety of reasons but are completely weather dependent. Some of those reasons include construction preparation, hazardous fuel reduction, obnoxious weed control and mitigating wildfires. A prescribed burn has a lot of planning and preparation that must be considered.

“A lot of things have to line up to execute a burn,” Neely said. “It’s just like a prescription and you have to meet the parameters inside this prescription to be able to get the burn and meet the objectives.”

For the fire department to execute a burn, it cannot be too windy or too wet. The fire department also takes training schedules into consideration. The ideal temperature lies between 40 and 95 degrees Fahrenheit. Wind direction and speeds slower than 15 mph also define ideal burn conditions. The weather conditions

match requirements the most in early spring months, Neely said.

Some areas at Fort Riley are burned on a rotational basis. These areas are burned at least every three years.

hazardous fuel reduction and habitat management lead as the two most common reasons to burn,, Neely said.

Neely said before executing (or igniting) a burn, the wild land team visits, the sight several times to ensure the burn plan’s viability for safety. The firefighters burn near schools and homes and that plan

keeps homes and people safe. The plan includes a well-defined border.

“We know where the burn is going to go and we make sure that border is a solid border, whether it is a tank trail or a fire break we have to put in,” Neely said.

Neely said prescribed burns rejuvenate the ground to allow for maintained grasslands. The United States Forest Service states natural prairie grass thrives as a result of these burns and recycles nutrients back into the soil to promote regrowth.



WORKFORCE Continued from page 2

for GS-11s and 12s, DeFilippi said.

EEL components will include a local developmental assignment, a group project and problem-solving challenge at one’s installation, connecting with a mentor and self-study opportunities, she said. The goals are to broaden participants’ perspectives and build leadership competencies, but at a more localized level.

ACCULTURATION

Traditionally, new civilian hires are thrust into the workforce from day one without ever getting exposed to the Army culture and way of doing things, DeFilippi said. Soldiers get all of that in their initial military training.

The Army is conducting pilots at 18 locations, where new hires are presented with a more-informative introduction into Army life, she said.

On the first day, instead of a human resources person administering the oath of office, an SES, or general officer will do that.

Then, the civilians are told what the Army profession means and their part in it, she said. They are also introduced to the organizational structure.

Of course, the entire professionalization process cannot occur in the space of just one day, so it is spread out throughout the first year, she said.

Supervisors are an important part of the acculturation plan, she said. They are responsible for sitting down with their new employees and letting them know what the expectations are performance-wise. This occurs during the first week.

Then, supervisors will provide formal feedback at the six-month point and ensure performance appraisals are completed on time, she said. The importance is getting the personnel fully engaged with their super-

visor and to understand the mission.

DeFilippi said the acculturation program will likely launch Army-wide in fiscal year 2016.

She said that although it is still a pilot, many federal agencies have adopted much of the Army materials. The U.S. Department of Agriculture has already adopted the entire program and NASA has adopted parts of it for their new hires.

ACT

In 2011, all Army civilians were mapped to one of 31 career programs. The Army Career Tracker, or ACT, allows civilians to track their progress in their respective career program.

Each of those 31 career programs has a leadership chain and professional staff that includes career management support and career program managers, she said. It also provides supervisors access to career maps for their careerist to help with coaching and mentoring.

ACT is a web-based leader development tool that allows users to search through and select education and training opportunities, monitor their career development, get personalized advice from their leaders about which opportunities may be the most helpful and complete an Individual Development Plan, she said.

Fortunately, more than half of the civilian workforce uses ACT, DeFilippi said. The challenge is to get leaders on board to realize the value and benefit of using ACT to develop their careerists, she said, and to also get the other civilians that are not yet using ACT to realize how valuable it is for planning their careers.

INTERN PROGRAM

The Army is “refocusing” the intern program by matching job opportunities to what the Army’s needs are antici-

pated to be in the future, DeFilippi said.

For example, it is anticipated that more openings will need to be filled in the science, technology, engineering and cyber specialties so placement will be increased in those areas relative to other areas, she said, with more decision-making authority made at the Army headquarters level vice at the installation level.

CIVILIAN VOICES HEARD

DeFilippi said all of the aforementioned program changes came about with the input of Army civilians and leaders. “These programs and a few more that we are working on are the result of focus groups, questionnaires, the 2013 and 2014 FEVS [Federal Employee Viewpoint Survey] results and feedback from Army leaders and Army civilians to build a more professional foundation for the Army civilian corps.”

The Federal Employee Viewpoint Survey and other forms of feedback have shown that Army civilians want opportunities to grow developmentally throughout their careers, she said.

As the Army civilian workforce continues to draw down, those who are left will have even greater responsibilities in preparing Soldiers to fight our nation’s wars, she said.

Army needs dovetail with civilians’ desire to grow, so it makes perfect sense to offer those opportunities, she said.

DeFilippi said that civilians want to know that what they are doing in making a positive impact on the Army. “We want to make that happen,” she said. “We want Army civilians to know their voices have been heard and workforce engagement, along with civilian hiring, career management, training, development and sustainment are a priority for all of us.”

TORNADO SAFETY TIPS

PREPARING FOR A TORNADO

- Develop a plan of action.
- Pick a tornado safe room in your home.
- Have frequent drills.
- Have a NOAA Weather Radio with a warning alarm tone.
- Listen to radio and television for information.
- Sign up for Fort Riley AtHOCtext messaging alerts.
- If planning a trip outdoors, listen to forecasts.

SURVIVING A TORNADO

- Always remember “DUCK.”
 - DOWN TO THE LOWEST LEVEL
 - UNDER SOMETHING STURDY
 - COVER YOUR HEAD
 - KEEP IN THE SHELTER UNTIL THE STORM HAS PASSED
- Go to lowest level of the building, stay away from windows.
- If caught outdoors, seek shelter immediately.
- Get out of automobile and get into a sturdy structure or ditch. Or, buckle your seat belt and get below window level of your vehicle.

DEFINING A TORNADO

Tornadoes can occur at any time of day or night and at any time of year. A tornado is a violently rotating column of air extending from the base of a thunderstorm down to the ground. Tornadoes are capable of completely destroying well-made structures, uprooting trees and hurling objects through the air like deadly missiles.

• FORT RILEY EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT OFFICE (785) 240-0400



Soldier uses sports to stay resilient, motivated

By Shannon Collins
ARNEWS

EL PASO, Texas – Drive, camaraderie and a chance to be an athlete again drove one Army specialist from her hospital room to the archery range, track field and courts here to compete during the Army Trials.

Army Reserve Spc. Sydney Davis, a former volunteer firefighter turned medical laboratory technician, participated during the Army Trials, March 28 through April 3, on Fort Bliss, Texas. The trials were held to determine who will compete as part of the Army team during the 2015 Department of Defense Warrior Games, June 19 - 28, on Marine Corps Base Quantico, Virginia.

During the Army Trials, Davis competed in shot put, discus, recurve archery, air rifle, air pistol, wheelchair basketball and sitting volleyball. Showing her competitive spirit, she garnered a gold medal in recurve bow in archery, the bronze medal in air rifle, a silver medal in discus and a silver medal in shot put. She said her wheelchair basketball and sitting volleyball teams also did well.

In high school, Davis made it to state competition for discus and shot put and to state all four years for basketball. She just started archery two months ago. She moved away from competitive sports after high school, but within the last few months, she re-engaged to help with post-traumatic stress. She is serving on the Fort Belvoir Warrior Transition Battalion, or WTB, in Virginia.

“Sports have done a lot for me,” she said. “It gives me something to look for-



EJ Hersom | DOD

Army Spec. Sydney Davis throws shot put during the Army Trials on Fort Bliss in El Paso, Texas, April 1, 2015. Athletes in the trials are competing for a spot on the Army's team in the 2015 Department of Defense Warrior Games.

ward to, and it brings a bunch of people, who go through the same things together. We all support each other. We're competing but at the end of the day, we're all one team. I've given pep talks to several people; several people have given me pep talks. Everybody here is clapping for everyone and telling them they can do it. It's been invaluable. We're all in it for the Army, one team.”

Davis said adaptive sports show her she is resilient.

“Bouncing back, going through something that, to you, is personally traumatizing and being able to overcome, and I've been doing that through these sports. These give me self-worth and confidence,” she said, with an ever-present smile. “When you join a WTB, you feel like you're a broken Soldier, and you don't really feel like you can put out as much as a normal person could. I don't like feeling flawed, nobody does. But when

I'm able to do this and show what I can do, it pumps me up. Just because I took a step backward does not mean I can't keep going forward.”

Davis encourages anybody who may be discouraged to give adaptive sports a try, especially at the local level.

“One time, that's all it takes. That's what I did,” she said passionately. “I was in the barracks, alone, watching television every day - just depressed. Everybody kept pushing me to get out

and try stuff. I told them I didn't have any energy. I was like, 'I'm just going to pity myself in here.' And one time, that's all it took. I went out and started archery ... and it's addicting. When you realize you want to do something and you're good at it, it gives you that purpose and that drive. One day at a time, you get better and better and soon you're competing at a level like this and hopefully the Paralympics.”

Davis also encourages anybody considering trying out for the Army Trials next year to give it a shot.

“When I first got to the Army Trials, I thought I was alone,” she said. “I had doubts about myself. I didn't think I was good enough or strong enough. But there are so many friends and support. I'm not alone, and neither are you.”

She also said the coaches have been phenomenal.

“The coaches were fantastic,” Davis said. “They're first class. These coaches know what they're doing. It was an honor to have them come out and help us.”

The final selections for the Army team, which will compete during the DOD Warrior Games, should be announced later this month. Throughout the games, wounded, ill and injured Service members and veterans from the Army, Marine Corps, Air Force, Navy and Coast Guard will compete in track and field, shooting, swimming, cycling, archery, wheelchair basketball and sitting volleyball.

Also participating in the games will be competitors from U.S. Special Operations Command and a team from the British military.

TRICARE offers help for alcohol abuse

TRICARE

Everything in moderation rings true for many behaviors. If you use this saying, make sure you apply it when you drink alcohol. Excessive drinking is dangerous and irresponsible. But it can be hard to recognize a drinking problem in yourself or a loved one.

The American Academy of Family Physicians offers several questions to ask yourself to determine if you have a drinking problem:

- Have you felt that you should cut down on your drinking?
- Do you feel annoyed when people make comments to you about your drinking?
- Do you feel guilty about your drinking?
- Do you ever need a drink in the morning to get yourself going or to get rid of a hang-over?

According to AAFP, if you've answered yes to just one of these questions, you may have a problem with alcohol abuse. Many people drink without realizing how much alcohol they are consuming. One 12 ounce bottle of beer, a 5 ounce glass of wine, or a 1.5 ounce shot of 80-proof distilled drink, like whiskey or gin is considered a drink.

On average, a woman who has more than seven drinks per week or three drinks at one occasion has had too much to drink. A man who has more than 14 drinks per week or more than four drinks at one occasion has consumed too much alcohol.

If you consume alcohol, be sure you are aware of how much you are drinking and do not take risks. For example, you should never drink while driving or operating machinery or while taking medication.

If you find that your drinking has become a habit or you need a drink to relax, relieve anxiety or go to sleep, you should evaluate your drinking and talk to your doctor.

To help beneficiaries deal with alcohol abuse, TRICARE has an alcohol awareness program that aims to prevent alcohol misuse and/or abuse. TRICARE's “That Guy” campaign is a multi-media initiative, created specifically for the military community. That Guy encourages young enlisted personnel not to binge drink, by highlighting what's at stake when they do. You can also get resource and help for alcohol abuse at TRICARE's Alcohol Awareness page.



DOD seeks right standards for women in combat roles

By Terri Moon Cronk
DOD NEWS, DEFENSE MEDIA ACTIVITY

WASHINGTON – Following the 2013 reversal of a policy that prevented women from serving in direct ground combat roles, the Defense Department's unwavering position has been “the right standards and policies” must exist to support it, a senior Pentagon personnel official said here today.

Juliet Beyler, director of officer and enlisted personnel management in the office of the deputy assistant secretary of defense for military personnel policy, addressed the policy angle of the reversal in a discussion of women in combat at the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace.

“The experience gained in Iraq and Afghanistan and DOD discussions in 2010, '11 and '12 led the [Joint Chiefs of Staff] to the unanimous conclusion the time had come for us to change our thinking,”

Beyler said. “The tipping point had been reached.”

Now, the presumption is that every specialty should be open to women unless a case can be made to keep it closed, said Beyler, who served in the Marine Corps for 23 years. “That was a big [DOD] decision on assignment policy.”

Then-Defense Secretary Leon E. Panetta and Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff Army Gen. Martin E. Dempsey rescinded the direct combat definition and assignment rule in January 2013.

“They directed the development of plans, describing how each service and Special Operations Command intends to integrate women into those jobs previously closed jobs [to them],” she said. They also looked at how to review and validate their occupational standards to ensure they're up-to-date, operationally relevant and applied gender neutrally.

Defense Secretary Ash Carter is expected to announce final decisions early next year on integration of remaining closed occupations and any approved exceptions to policy.

“Since early 2013, DOD, services and Socom have been thoughtfully and thoroughly implementing this policy change,” Beyler explained.

Congress has since been notified by the services that 91,000 jobs once closed to women are now open to them, she said.

“One of the chairman's guiding principles was to ensure service members are set up for success with viable career paths,” Beyler said. “So, not only are we opening the occupations, we're identifying and opening all the schools, the skill identifiers and the professional development path. It's a holistic effort.”

Of the 240,000 positions still closed, most are in infantry, armor, artillery and special operations.

RILEY ROUNDTABLE

Free Comic Book Day is May 2.
Who is your favorite comic book hero and why?



"My favorite superhero is G.I. Jane because she represents a strong military woman. She's so empowering."

SGT. ALMA ARIAS

LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA
3rd Assault Helicopter Battalion, 1st Aviation Regiment, 1st Combat Aviation Brigade



"Superman because he can shoot heat visions, he has cold breath and super strength."

JAYDEN GRAHAM

LUMBER BRIDGE, NORTH CAROLINA
3rd grader at Custer Hill Elementary



"Wonder woman is going to be my favorite. She just defies all of the odds. She is a female so she is proud and she is strong. I don't know; I just love it."

JAYMIE DUBBS

PALM BEACH, FLORIDA
Food and beverage attendant at Riley's Conference Center



"G.I. Joe because I like a man in uniform."

MELINDA OXENDINE

LUMBER BRIDGE, NORTH CAROLINA
Child Nutrition Secretary at Custer Hill Elementary School



"I would have to say Superman, which is pretty cliché because everyone likes him. If you watch the movies and you read the comic books, the "S" on his chest means hope, and I think the world needs more hope anyway. Even if he's fake he could still take that to your everyday life. People need hope in their life and what they do during the day."

PFC. JUSTIN STORY

FROSTBURG, FLORIDA
Company B, 2nd Battalion, 34th Armor Regiment

THE 1ST INFANTRY DIVISION POST

This civilian enterprise newspaper is an authorized publication for members of the Department of Defense. Contents of The 1st Infantry Division Post are not necessarily the official views of, or endorsed by, the U.S. Government, or the Department of the Army. The editorial content of this publication is the responsibility of the 1st Infantry Division and Fort Riley PA Officer and printed by Montgomery Communications, Inc., a private firm in no way connected with the U.S. Government under exclusive written contract with Fort Riley.

The appearance of advertising in this publication, including inserts or supplements, does not constitute endorsement of the products or services advertised by the U.S. Army or Montgomery Communications, Inc.. Everything advertised in this publication shall be made available for purchase, use or patronage without regard to race, color, religion, sex, national origin, age, marital status, physical handicap, political affiliation, or any other nonmerit factor of the purchaser, user or patron. If a violation or rejection of this equal opportunity policy by an advertiser is confirmed, the publisher will refuse to print advertising from that source until the violation is corrected.

Circulation 8,800 copies each week.

A licensed newspaper member of the Junction City and Manhattan chambers of commerce.

COMMANDING OFFICER AND PUBLISHER
Maj. Gen. Paul E. Funk II

PUBLIC AFFAIRS OFFICER
Lt. Col. Sean Ryan

PRINTER
John G. Montgomery

FORT RILEY EDITORIAL STAFF

EDITOR
Angelique N. Smythe

ASSISTANT EDITOR
Andy Massanet

STAFF WRITERS
Maria Betzold and Kalya Curtis

MEDIA SALES MANAGER
Melissa Tyson

MEDIA SALES REPRESENTATIVES
Jessica Wineinger, Susan Jacobs, Kim Maguire and Shannon Fritz

CONTACT US
For business or advertising matters, call The Daily Union in Junction City at 785-762-5000.

For news offerings, call the Fort Riley Public Affairs Office at 785-239-8854 or DSN 856-8854, or email usarmy.riley.imcom.mbx.post-newspaper@mail.mil

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR
The Post welcomes letters to the editor. Letters should not contain any libelous statements or personal accusations. Letters accepted for publication must include the writer's full name and phone number. Letters may be edited for space, but never for content. Send a fax 785-239-2592 or e-mail usarmy.riley.imcom.mbx.post-newspaper@mail.mil

Report Suspicious Activity or Behavior

iWATCH ARMY

iREPORT i KEEP US SAFE

See Something Say Something

ARMY ANTITERRORISM

Fort Riley Tip Line/Hotline
240-WARN (9276)

Army Civilians – A Critical Component of the Army Total Force

The 2014 Federal Employee Viewpoint Survey (FEVS) results, released by the Office of Personnel Management (OPM) in October, confirmed that Army Supervisor-Employee engagement challenges still remain, but it also showed that we're making great strides in the right direction.

We recently released a tri-signed memo to all commanders directing specific actions to improve communication and training for Army supervisors (military and civilian). We want every Army Civilian to know that we have a greater understanding of the scope and implications of their concerns. We also wish to assure them that we will continue to set the conditions for further success. Although responsibility for ensuring positive action and appropriate accountability lies with Army leaders at all echelons, we believe that local-level leaders are best positioned to champion this effort.

In this effort, two-way communication is a key element to building strong teams. Just as supervisors should keep individual employees informed of their career development and performance, employees should communicate and assist first-line supervisors in establishing performance objectives and developing Individual Development Plans. Such open and continuous dialogue by all parties will ultimately ensure success.

Today, our Army has a highly-skilled and motivated Civilian workforce that continually demonstrates an unparalleled ability to provide unique capability and capacity to our deploying forces. The unmatched expertise, stability and continuity is a true force multiplier. All of us must continually recommit ourselves to ensuring we have the best civilian and uniformed partnership possible.

Please do your best to ensure that every Army Civilian within your command understands our efforts and receives this message. We also highly encourage all Army Civilians that receive an invite to the 2015 FEVS survey to respond and let us know how we are doing. Together, we can work to maintain the enduring strength of our Total Army team. Army Strong!

Daniel A. Dailey
Sergeant Major of the Army

Raymond T. Odierno
General, United States Army
Chief of Staff

John M. McHugh
Secretary of the Army

EDUCATION

New tool helps you get the most of your tuition assistance

By Rosemary Freitas Williams
DEPUTY ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF DEFENSE FOR MILITARY COMMUNITY AND FAMILY POLICY

Prepare to be dazzled. This week we launched with pride an online tool to help service members and veterans make the best use of their tuition assistance benefits. It's called "TA DECIDE." Military and veteran students interested in using tuition assistance benefits can use this tool to access essential information related to educational institutions without getting overwhelmed with unnecessary info. This ranges from tuition and fees to course completion and graduation rates.

The Defense Department is committed to ensuring service members have the best tools they need to meet their individual education and career goals. The Voluntary Education Program is a significant benefit that people in uniform earn every day. We owe it to them to ensure they have what they need to get the most of the benefit. The TA DECIDE

tool greatly improves transparency of the educational programs offered to our service members through an agile on-line experience, contributing to good use of taxpayer dollars.

Although there are lots of school comparison tools, this one is different. It's designed specifically for service members, whose full-time warrior/part-time student experience is quite different from other students. It quickly pulls up information and provides clear comparisons that are custom tailored to tuition assistance participants. TA DECIDE means they have the information needed to make informed educational choices based on the facts around the experiences of other students just like them.

How it works: This new tool is the result of a robust collaboration between the Departments of Defense, Veterans Affairs and Education as well as with the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau. We are leveraging existing tools, such as the Department of Education's



Rosemary Freitas Williams
Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense for Military Community and Family Policy

College Navigator and the Department of Veteran Affairs' GI Bill Comparison Tool. TA DECIDE takes data feeds from these tools, along with the considerable data collection efforts of the Defense Department's Tuition Assistance program.

Service members can use TA DECIDE on their own to conduct searches and comparisons or they can use it as a support tool when working with the Defense Department's world-wide network

of education counselors.

As pleased as we are with the launch of TA DECIDE, we'll always be looking for ways to make it better. For example, down the road we're looking to provide even more data elements and measures that will better facilitate in-depth discussions between service members and our field force of education counselors.

We are proud of TA DECIDE; the bottom line is that the Defense Department is firmly committed to the Voluntary Education Program and its support of the professional and personal development of service members. This important program enhances our service member's ability to meet their personal and professional goals. It also prepares them to successfully transition to civilian life. I encourage you to explore TA DECIDE and see how it can help you meet your education goals. Please share this resource with the service members and families around you, so they, too, are aware of this valuable tool.

HEALTH

Children's program aims to curb obesity, boost nutrition

By Amaani Lyle
DOD NEWS
DEFENSE MEDIA ACTIVITY

As concerns persist over ever-rising obesity levels among American children, the Defense Department will bolster its Healthy Children programs to weave fitness, nutrition and tobacco-free living into military children's curriculum, a Pentagon official told DOD News.

According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, obesity rates in the United States have tripled since 1980, and these statistics portend possible jeopardy to the readiness of future service members, said Barbara Thompson, director of DOD's Office of Family Readiness Policy, during a DOD News interview on the observance of April as the Month of the Military Child.

"We have a moral imperative ... and a national security imperative to make sure our children are healthy and ac-

tive," Thompson said. "We know that many [military family] children – in fact, over 50 percent – either enter the military or seriously consider entering the military when they grow up, so we want them to be as healthy and as physically fit as possible."

AWARENESS OF HEALTH RISKS

In the face of health risks such as obesity and poor nutrition, building awareness is the first step toward mitigating them, Thompson said.

"We normally see children as being active and eating healthy, but ... through marketing and busy lifestyles, children are not getting the healthy nutrition and opportunities for physical play that they need," she said. "Children are bombarded with messages on foods that are high in fat, high in sugar and [generally] not good for them."

So whether students are in child development or after-school programs, DOD

initiatives embed healthy eating, cooking and daily physical activity tips into the lesson plans in hopes such behavior will carry over into the home environment, Thompson said.

"Children's parents are their most important teachers and models," she added, "so we don't want to have a different set of rules at home."

Also embedded into the department's military child curriculum is DOD's Operation Live Well, Thompson said, adding that the program examines holistically healthy living through tobacco cessation, nutrition and physical activities.

EATING HEALTHY

Thompson also cited the nationally recognized "5-2-1-0" child nutrition guideline developed by the "Let's Go!" organization. It calls for five servings of fruits or vegetables every day, two hours or less of computer and television screen time, one hour of physical activity and zero sweetened beverages.

"If we can keep that on our radar screen as a mantra and tailor our lifestyle across the 5-2-1-0 message, our children will be healthy and active," she said.

Thompson referenced the health and wellness coaching element in the popular online resource, Military OneSource.

"You actually get somebody who's in your corner, providing the motivation for you to stay in tune with your goals," she said, "whether it's with nutrition or physical activity, so that you're not alone in trying to change your behaviors."

Defense Department officials want to keep military children fit and healthy, Thompson said, both in their own interest and as a concern about potential future service members who may fail to meet required physical fitness standards.

"Less than 25 percent of our youth age 17 to 24 can enter the military, primarily due to physical requirements," Thompson said.

Two Fort Riley Soldiers named to Warrior Games team

U.S. ARMY WARRIOR
TRANSITION COMMAND

ALEXANDRIA, Va. – The U.S. Army Warrior Transition Command announced, April 24, the names of the 40 wounded, ill and injured Soldiers and veterans, who have been selected to compete as part of Team Army during the 2015 Department of Defense Warrior Games. Among those names is a sergeant from Fort Riley.

The 2015 Department of Defense Warrior Games are scheduled, June 19-28, on Marine Corps Base Quantico, Virginia. Army athletes will compete in eight sports against similar teams from the Marine Corps, Navy and Air Force. The U.S. Special Operations Command and the British armed forces will also field teams this year.

“The Warrior Games are a truly inspirational experience,” said Col. Chris Toner, commander, U.S. Army Warrior Transition Command and assistant surgeon general for Warrior Care and Transition. “The Army Team comprises [of] courageous men and women athletes, who have overcome tremendous physical and mental challenges with the same drive and determination that made them great Soldiers. Every year they set the bar higher, push each other farther, and together as a team they conquer new challenges.”

Soldiers and veterans from Team Army will compete in archery, cycling, shooting, sitting volleyball, swimming, track, field and wheelchair basketball. The event is a Paralympic-style competition. In addition to winners in each event, the games will feature a pentathlon format “Ultimate Warrior” com-

petition and the Chairman’s Cup, awarded to the team with the highest medal total.

Each military branch is responsible for selecting its own team. To select the Army athletes, regional trials were held earlier this year. The best athletes from those competitions gathered in late March to compete at the Army Trials on Fort Bliss, Texas.

Leading up to the Warrior Games, the Army team will engage in multiple group training events to further prepare athletes and to build cohesiveness.

The 2015 Army team includes:

- ◆ Staff Sgt. Ashley Anderson, Fort Riley, Kansas
- ◆ Spc. Anthony Atemon, Fort Bragg, North Carolina
- ◆ Staff Sgt. Thomas Ayers, Clarksville, Tennessee
- ◆ Spc. Dustin Barr, Fort Bragg, North Carolina
- ◆ Capt. Frank Barroqueiro, Gainesville, Georgia
- ◆ Capt. Steven Bortle, Pearl City, Hawaii
- ◆ Spc. Laurel Cox, Fort Belvoir, Virginia
- ◆ Spc. Sydney Davis, Fort Belvoir, Virginia
- ◆ 1st Lt. Kelly Elmlinger, Joint Base San Antonio
- ◆ Staff Sgt. Randi Gavell, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma
- ◆ Sfc. Samantha Goldenstein, Saint Robert, Missouri
- ◆ Sgt. Colton Harms, Fort Riley, Kansas
- ◆ Staff Sgt. Vester Hasson, Fountain, Colorado
- ◆ Sgt. Sean Hook, Summerville, South Carolina
- ◆ Sgt. Blake Johnson, Gaith-



EJ Hersom | DOD NEWS

Army Sgt. Stefan Leroy runs a 1,500-meter event during Army Trials on Fort Bliss in El Paso, Texas, April 1, 2015. Stefan was one of 40 athletes chosen to represent the Army during the 2015 Department of Defense Warrior Games.

- ersburg, Maryland
- ◆ Staff Sgt. Sean Johnson, Aberdeen, South Dakota
- ◆ Sgt. Nahale Kawaiola, Honolulu, Hawaii
- ◆ Spc. Chasity Kuczer, Elizabethtown, Kentucky
- ◆ Sfc. Katie Kuiper, San Antonio, Texas
- ◆ Spc. Stefan Leroy, Bethesda, Maryland
- ◆ Staff Sgt. Monica Martinez, Bethesda, Maryland
- ◆ Staff Sgt. Andrew McCaffrey, Arlington, Virginia
- ◆ Staff Sgt. Michael McPhall,

- Glennville, Georgia
- ◆ Staff Sgt. Billy Meeks, Las Cruces, New Mexico
- ◆ Cpl. Mathew Mueller, Colorado Springs, Colorado
- ◆ Staff Sgt. Joshua Palmer, Columbia, Missouri
- ◆ Staff Sgt. Eric Pardo, San Antonio, Texas
- ◆ 1st Lt. Christopher Parks, Fort Hood, Texas
- ◆ Staff Sgt. Timothy Payne, Winston-Salem, North Carolina
- ◆ Cpl. Jasmine Perry, Clarksville, Tennessee
- ◆ Sgt. Zedrik Pitts, Helena,

- Alabama
- ◆ Spc. Haywood Range, Palm Beach Garden, Florida
- ◆ Capt. Will Reynolds, Bethesda, Maryland
- ◆ Staff Sgt. Alexander Shaw, Clarksville, Tennessee
- ◆ CW3 Timothy Sifuentes, Junction City, Kansas
- ◆ Sgt. Bethany Stewart, San Antonio, Texas
- ◆ Sfc. Michael Smith, Fort Sam Houston, Texas
- ◆ Sgt. Patrick Timmins, Colorado Springs, Colorado
- ◆ Sgt. Nicholas Titman, Col-

- orado Springs, Colorado
- ◆ Sgt. Ricardo Villalobos, Lexington, North Carolina
- Alternates:**
- ◆ Spc. Quintarious Almon, Vestavia, Alabama
- ◆ Sgt. Jessica Brennan, Skowhegan, Maine
- ◆ Spc. Terry Cartwright, Fort Belvoir, Virginia
- ◆ Sgt. Jodie Lemons, Gaithersburg, Maryland
- ◆ Staff Sgt. Monica Southall, Henrico, Virginia
- ◆ Sgt. Joshua Wirth, Fort Gordon, Georgia

Army Ten-Miler registration opens May 5

ARLINGTON, Va. – Army Ten-Miler officials announced that priority registration for all U.S. Service members will open at 6:30 a.m. EDT, May 5.

Other runners, who have participated in seven or more Army Ten-Miler races, will also be able to register beginning May 5.

U.S. Service members must use a “.mil” address to register. Officials will post a searchable

database for seven-time or more Army Ten-Miler runners.

For the public at large, general registration will open at 6:30 a.m. EDT, May 19. Entry is on a first-come, first-serve basis. Race registration will cap at 35,000 runners, officials said.

Installations will be able to obtain pre-paid entries for their teams during both registration sessions.

For those who miss registration in May, the Army Ten-Miler online transfer program will open June 2.

Last year nearly 1,500 runners were able to enter the race through the transfer program.

The 31st Annual Army Ten-Miler will begin at 8 a.m. Oct. 11 – the day before the opening of the Association of the United States Army’s Annual Meeting and Exposition at the Walter E. Washington Convention Center, Oct. 12 to 14.

Produced by the U.S. Army Military District of Washington, the Army Ten-Miler always attracts military and civilian runners from around the world.

All race proceeds benefit Soldier and family morale, welfare, and recreation programs.

The race’s two-day Health and Fitness EXPO will be held from 8:30 a.m. to 6 p.m., Oct. 9 to 10, both days.

The Marriott Crystal Gateway Hotel in Arlington, Virginia, will again serve as the headquarter hotel for this year’s race. The hotel, located less than a mile from the Pentagon on the Metro Blue and Yellow lines, will host the all-you-can-eat pasta dinner on Saturday evening, Oct. 10.



Staff Sgt. Jennifer C. Johnson | JFHQ-NCR/MDW

Runners take off during the Army Ten-Miler celebrating the race's 30th anniversary at the Pentagon, Oct. 12, 2014.

Editor’s note: This information was taken from a news release. To learn more, visit www.armytenmiler.com.

Base Realignment, Closure requested to divest excess infrastructure

By J.D. Leipold
ARNEWS

WASHINGTON – Another round of base realignment and closure was called for by the Army’s top installation management officer as a way to rid the service of excess infrastructure and modernize facilities.

The Army has drawn down the active-duty force by 80,000 Soldiers already, and expects to have an active-duty end strength of 490,000 Soldiers by the end of 2015. In fiscal 2016, the Army will continue that drawdown, and expects to reduce by an additional 15,000 Soldiers. By the end of FY 2016, the Army will have reduced itself from a wartime high of 570,000 to just 475,000 – a reduction of 95,000 Soldiers.

That loss of Soldiers means there will be unused infrastructure in the Army – an infrastruc-

ture that will be empty, but will remain costly to maintain. Right now, the Army estimates an 18 percent excess in infrastructure, and that percentage will continue to grow as more Soldiers leave the Army, said Lt. Gen. David D. Halverson, commander of Army Installation Management Command and assistant chief of staff for installation management.

The general, joining in with virtually all senior Army leaders, said the service needs another round of base realignment and closure. He spoke, April 21, during an Association of the U.S. Army Institute of Land Warfare breakfast.

“The Army needs to right-size its infrastructure to ensure that our dollars buy us what we need,” Halverson said.

What the Army needs, Halverson said, is to reduce excess infrastructure so that it may instead spend those funds on modernizing the infrastructure it does need.

“In time, just putting off the health of your installations is degrading, and that’s a fine balance,” he said. “You can do it for one year, you can do it for two years, but overall, you will not be able to modernize the capability that we need and so those are the decisions we have to look at now.”

COST OF POWER

Halverson said that while the Army is making headway in cutting electricity and water costs – which presently run \$1.6 billion Army-wide – it is still “a fixed cost that doesn’t go anywhere but up ... and it’s still very concerning.”

Through efforts with the office of the assistant secretary of the Army for installations, energy and environment, Halverson said, the Army has been forming more non-acquisition-based partnerships with industry as a way to reduce power costs.

“Those partnerships are amazing,” he said, citing a recent energy partnership that started recently on Fort Benning, Georgia. “The Army is leading the way with new energies and with our approaches to buying contracts to use other people’s money to sustain and get better mission assurance of our energy and our water on posts - that’s what we need to do for 2025.”

Another initiative Halverson cited was a new desalination plant now on Fort Bliss, Texas, which allows the Army to make its own water at a cheaper price. The reverse-osmosis plant desalinates groundwater for use by El Paso and the installation. Presently, it is the largest non-seawater desalination plant in the world.

Additionally, Fort Bliss expects to place in operation by the end of the year, a 20-megawatt solar farm consisting of 94,000 photovoltaic panels. The \$120 million project will make it the largest of its type within the U.S. military.

Fort Huachuca bids farewell to Morse Code training on National Morse Code Day

By Tanja Linton
FORT HUACHUCA PUBLIC AFFAIRS

FORT HUACHUCA, Ariz. – It’s the beginning of the end of an era at Fort Huachuca. On April 24, National Morse Code Day, the last Manual Morse Code class began here. In the future, the course will be taught by the Air Force at Goodfellow Air Force Base, Texas.

National Morse Code Day is celebrated on what would have been Morse’s 224th birthday. On May 24, 1844, Samuel F. B. Morse dispatched the first telegraph message in Morse code, the message, “What Hath God Wrought?” sent from the U.S. Capitol to Alfred Vail at a railroad station in Baltimore, Maryland.

The military first used Morse code during the Crimean War. Both the Union and Confederate armies heavily relied on Morse code during the Civil War. President Abraham Lincoln utilized it to get military intelli-

gence as well as command and control of his generals in the field.

Even in our increasingly high-tech world, there is still a need for this old school mode of communication, explained David Germain, chief of Morse Code Training and sole remaining civilian Morse code instructor at the 304th Military Intelligence Battalion. “We train Morse code because the adversary still uses Morse code,” Germain said. He and the other instructor for the course, Air Force Tech. Sgt. Joshua Henrichs, are training two Airmen to serve as Morse code instructors at the new course in Texas.

Air Force Tech Sgt. Ryan Kilcrease agrees there is a continued need for Morse code training. “It remains the cheapest and most reliable means of communication,” added the instructor-in-training.

Senior Airman James Gosnell, also training to become a new instructor, learned Morse code at Fort Huachuca

and upon completion of his training was assigned to Osan Air Force Base in South Korea for two years. He said the assignment was challenging.

“It took me nearly two months to get up to speed learning to keep up with some of the fastest transmitters in the world,” he said.

The Army, in a memo signed April 5, 1985, became the executive agency for training the Morse Code Course at Fort Devens, Massachusetts. A few years later, Fort Devens consolidated the Morse code training into a joint learning environment providing training to Army, Navy, Marines and Air Force. In 1993, the Morse code course moved to Fort Huachuca where it continued to be trained in a joint environment. The Army celebrated 30 years of being the Executive Agency to conduct Morse Code Training on April 5.

Over the years, the Navy and Marines reversed the training pipeline and started to send their students to

Pensacola then to Fort Huachuca to attend the Morse code training. In 2006, the Air Force followed suit.

In late 2004, early 2005 the Department of Defense sent out a message stating there was no longer a need or requirement for operators trained in only Morse code. Based on that message, the Navy no longer sent their students to Fort Huachuca to be trained, deciding instead to conduct their own training in Pensacola, Florida. By 2007, the Marines also stopped attending Morse code training at Fort Huachuca.

That same year the training consolidated two separate courses, the Basic Morse Training course and the Advanced Morse Training course from 22 weeks of training down to 16 weeks of training. The cut in training time for the Army was due to the course not being considered as a primary Military Occupation Specialty, but as a secondary training for three Army specialties. In 1991, the course

trained on average 1600 students annually for all the military services.

The current Morse code course is self-paced and 81 days are allotted to complete it. A student successfully completed it in a record 27 days. Master Sgt. Adella Creque, superintendent, 316th Training Squadron here, says the course is hard to because a student has to master one segment before moving on to the next and may fail several times before advancing.

In 2012 the Army stopped enrolling students in the Morse Code Course since it no longer has a requirement to train Soldiers. A cooperative agreement between the Air Force and Army allowed the training to continue here at Fort Huachuca until now.

“I think [Morse code] will always be out there. It’s cheap, easy, effective and reliable to use. There will always be a need for it,” said Germain about the future need for Morse code.

First Lady announces jobs, training for 90,000 vets, spouses

By Terri Moon Crank
DOD NEWS
DEFENSE MEDIA ACTIVITY

MANASSAS, Va. – First Lady Michelle Obama announced April 23 that numerous technology and energy companies have committed to hire or train 90,000 veterans and military spouses in the next five years as part of the Joining Forces initiative.

Celebrating the fourth year of Joining Forces this month, the first lady spoke to an audience of veterans, family members, business owners and government leaders here at Micron Technologies, which produces memory-storage devices.

Obama and Dr. Jill Biden, wife of Vice President Joe Biden, launched Joining Forces in 2011 to honor and support service members, survivors, veterans, and their families, according to the initiative’s website.

Joining Forces began at a time when the unemployment rate was 12 percent for service members returning from the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan and one in three of the youngest veterans who sought work could not find jobs, Obama said.

“We issued a call to people all across the country,” the first lady said. “We challenged folks to ask themselves one simple question: ‘What can I do to honor these families who have given us so much?’ And we were overwhelmed by the response we received.”

PRIVATE SECTOR’S CONTRIBUTION

Shortly after Joining Forces was launched, President Barack Obama also challenged the private sector to hire 100,000 veterans and military spouses.

Now, less than four years later, “America’s businesses have continued to race past my husband’s initial goal, and together, those businesses who answered the president’s call have hired or trained more than 850,000 veterans and military spouses,” the first lady said.

Additionally, federal government hiring produced a workforce that now comprises 30 percent veterans.

By making a commitment to hire veterans and military spouses, such companies are shining examples of what’s possible, she said.

PRODUCING RESULTS FOR VETERANS, SPOUSES

“Altogether, the unemployment rate for post-9/11 veterans has fallen by almost five points. And for those youngest veterans, it’s been cut by almost half from its peak,” the first lady said.

As companies hired veterans and military spouses, they learned about the skill, character and resilience that “define our veterans and military spouses,” she said.

“Veterans and spouses were excelling in their companies ... getting promotion after promotion and inspiring their colleagues with their talent and with their determination,” the first lady said.

The first lady pointed out that the technology and energy sectors are driving national economic growth.

“These are industries full of good, high-paying positions where our vets can continue to thrive for years and even decades to come,” she said.



FIRST LADY
OBAMA

And because the solar industry is “adding jobs 10 times faster than the rest of the economy,” President Obama announced earlier in April “a significant expansion of our successful pilot program to train transitioning service members for careers in solar jobs.”

To make sure there’s a job waiting for veterans when they leave the military, the Solar Energy Industries Association is pledging to hire or train 33,000 veterans and spouses over the next five years, she added.

COMPANIES COMMIT TO TRAINING

“These companies know that many of the jobs they’re hiring for require specialized training,” the first lady said. “So in many cases, they’re not just hiring these veterans; they’re actually partnering with a variety of educational institutions to create internships and apprenticeships and job-training programs.”

Micron is in a pilot program through the Northern Virginia Technology Council to match student veterans at local institutions of higher learning to 50 high-tech companies throughout the area.

“Veterans get hands-on experience and the companies connect with a pipeline of top-notch talent,” the first lady said. That kind of win-win partnership is one of many across the country helping veterans and military spouses, she added.

JOINING FORCES: LONG-TERM COMMITMENT

While the first lady called her announcement an amazing accomplishment, she added that more work is required.

“And that includes connecting our vets not just with any job, but with good jobs – jobs you can raise a family on, the kind of high-growth jobs of the future,” she said.

And today, Obama said she’s calling on all companies across the nation in every industry and of every size “to do their part to provide even more opportunities for our military families.”

The first lady added, “Keep asking yourselves that same question we posed four years ago: ‘What can I do to give back to our veterans and their families?’ Can you make a commitment, or another [one] to hire more veterans and military spouses? Can you partner with a local school or veterans service organization on job-training opportunities?”

“There are so many ways you can make a difference, whether you’re a multinational name-brand, or a start-up that’s just getting off the ground.”

The first lady praised the veterans, transitioning service members and military spouses in the audience.

“I can’t thank you enough. This nation can’t thank you enough for your service. What you do is rare. What you do is needed. What you do is special. And I want you to know that we’re nowhere near the finish line,” she said. “Joining Forces is a long-term commitment to you and to your families, and we’re going to do whatever we can to serve you as well as you’ve served us.”

PERKINS Continued from page 1

“TRADOC is the architect of the Army,” Perkins said. “TRADOC designs the Army, we acquire the Army, we build the Army and we improve the Army; Forces Command makes ready the Army and combatant commanders fight the Army.”

Perkins assumed command at TRADOC in March 2014 after serving as commander of the Army Combined Arms Center at Fort Leavenworth, Kansas. He previously served as commander of 1st Battalion, 63rd Armor, 3rd Brigade, 1st Inf. Div., and operations officer for the division.

“Leaders focus on big questions and don’t get sidelined with small answers,” the general cau-

tioned his audience. “I said ‘what we’re going to do is focus on big questions and then we’re going to answer big questions.’ And that’s what an operating concept does.”

Perkins explained the steps that went into updating existing Army doctrine designed to oppose the Soviet Union with the help of NATO into one that addresses the more complex and shifting combat environment Soldiers face today. The Army Operating Concept, titled “Win in a Complex World,” does just that.

“I get a lot of pushback by putting the word ‘win’ in there,” he said, noting that some critics of the concept think that it is too difficult to

define the term. In response, Perkins said that defining winning takes place at the strategic level, which is the level of Army operations for which the concept was written.

“You win at the strategic level.”

The TRADOC commander said the Army doctrine that the Army Operating Concept replaces focused on fighting the enemy, something he says is not necessary for victory.

“To win, you have to be able to fight, but there’s more to it than that,” he said. “If you want an Army that can win without fighting, that means whoever your adversary or potential adversary is, they must know without any

doubt that if it comes to a fight, you will” win decisively.

However, Perkins said that if there is a doubt that you may not win the fight, the enemy will fight.

“What a great opportunity for a leader development program,” said Lt. Col. Joey Errington, 2nd Armored Brigade Combat Team, 1st Inf. Div., deputy commander, of Perkin’s talk. The general “was able to come in here with the Army Operating Concept and be able to describe it, explain it and get into more detail for the users of it, which is the leaders here on Fort Riley.”

IN BRIEF

TRAFFIC UPDATES

For traffic updates, see the Traffic Report on page 2 or visit www.riley.army.mil and click on "Advisories."

GENERAL INFORMATION

For general information about events and services at Fort Riley, visit www.facebook.com/FortRiley or follow @FortRiley on Twitter.

CEREMONIES

For U.S. Army Garrison Fort Riley ceremony information, visit twitter.com/usagceremonies.

FORT RILEY SPOUSE CHOIR

Fort Riley spouses, family members and Soldiers are invited to lend their voices to the Fort Riley Army Spouse Choir.

The Fort Riley Army Spouses Choir mission is to provide support for one another during good times and the hard times, too. We do this by letting our voices be heard around post and in the surrounding communities.

We are always accepting new members and welcoming back old friends.

To find out more, come join us at rehearsals each Thursday evening at 6:30 at the Army Band Rehearsal Hall.

RIGHT ARM NIGHT

Head to Rally Point to celebrate a new spin on an old Army tradition – it's time for Right Arm Night from 4 to 6 p.m. at Rally Point.

Held the first Friday of each month, Right Arm Night features fun competitions that challenge both brain and brawn. Past events included sumo suit wrestling and a trivia challenge.

Military units, garrison directorates and other organizations are invited to compete for bragging rights ... or just come enjoy the fun.

The event also offers free food, while supplies last, and great drink specials.

Rally Point is located at 2600 Trooper Drive. For more information, visit rileymwr.com/rally-point or call 785-784-5733.

COMEDY NIGHT

Don't miss a chance to be in on the joke ... Comedy Night is back at Rally Point May 2.

Doors open at 6 p.m. and the show starts at 8 p.m. The show features comedian Tim Gaither who has performed at the Improv, Laugh Factory and Comedy Store, and has been heard on the Bob and Tom Show and much more.

Tickets cost \$10 in advance and \$12 at the door and are available at Rally Point, cash only. Guests must be age 18 or older.

Shows take place on the first Saturday of each month.

Rally Point is located at 2600 Trooper Drive. For more information, visit rileymwr.com/rally-point or call 785-784-5733.

MOTHER'S DAY BRUNCH

This year, celebrate Mom with a brunch at Riley's Conference Center.

Mother's Day Brunch is set for May 10. Seatings run from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Brunch costs \$14.95 for adults and \$7.95 for children ages 5 to 11, and is free for children 4 and younger. Reservations are strongly recommended.

Riley's Conference Center is at 446 Seitz Drive. For information, visit rileymwr.com/rileys or call 785-784-1000.

SUMMER READING PARTY

Stop the summer bummers early. Sign up for the 2015 Summer Reading Program during the library's Summer Reading Party from 1 to 3 p.m. May 30.

Enjoy hot dogs, dancing, a dunk tank and a bounce house and then stick around for movie night.

During the Summer Reading Program, youth read for points and prizes, but most of all read for fun. This year's theme is Read to the Rhythm.

The Fort Riley Post Library is at 5306 Hood Drive. For more information, call 785-239-5305 or visit rileymwr.com/library.

EVENT VISITOR GUIDELINES

Due to new access control procedures, visitors are reminded to prepare for and follow these instructions:

- During this special event, visitors may enter Fort Riley without stopping at the Visitor Control Center.
- All vehicles with a visitor (any occupant who does not have a Department of Defense ID card or Fort Riley access badge or pass) must enter through Henry Gate, located at Exit 301 of Interstate 70 (I-70).
- All visitors 16 years or older must have a government-issued photo ID (e.g., driver's license, state ID card, passport) or DoD credentials. No exceptions are granted.
- Visitors must inform gate guards of the reason for their visit.
- Drivers entering Fort Riley must have a valid vehicle registration and proof of insurance and be prepared to show to law enforcement if requested.
- All vehicles entering Fort Riley may be subject to a random vehicle search upon entering the installation.

For more information about Fort Riley or the May 9 post-wide yard sale, visit www.riley.army.mil or the installation's social media sites (Facebook, Twitter, YouTube, Flickr).



Cheerleaders from Kansas State University maneuver through "The Tough One" April 23 at Fort Riley. The cheerleaders were partnered with groups of Soldiers during a physical training exercise conducted with the Soldiers of 5th Sqdn., 4th Cav. Regt., 2nd ABCT, 1st Inf. Div. "The Tough One" comprises a rope climb and a walk across elevated beams to a ladder that leads up to a cargo net that must then be climbed down.

Tough enough

Partnership proves no obstacle for Soldiers, K-State cheerleaders

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

Cheerleaders from Kansas State University visited Fort Riley April 23 to get hands-on experience at the Fort Riley Confidence Course.

K-State's athletic department has an ongoing community partnership with the Soldiers of 5th Squadron, 4th Cavalry Regiment, 2nd Armored Brigade Combat Team, 1st Infantry Division. The two organizations routinely participate in events together.

"What is great about this is we expose some of these athletes at K-State to the Army and our Soldiers have a blast because it's great to come out to an obstacle course and watch other people do it," said Lt. Col. Bradford T. Duplessis, commander, 5th Sqdn., 4th Cav. Regt. "I think it's a win-win."

The cheerleaders started the afternoon listening to a safety brief and then conducted stretching with the Soldiers. The cheerleaders were placed into groups and then paired up with small groups of



A cheerleader from Kansas State University climbs a rope April 23 on the confidence course at Fort Riley. K-State's athletic department has an ongoing community partnership with the Soldiers of 5th Sqdn., 4th Cav. Regt., 2nd ABCT, 1st Inf. Div. The rope climb is the beginning portion of "The Tough One."

MORE INFORMATION

- For more information about the K-State cheer team, contact Coach Ruoff at 785-532-7983 or at druoff@kstatesports.com, or visit online at www.kstatesports.com/cheer/

See PARTNERSHIP, page 12

Celebrating National Family Week

Observance opportunity to reflect on importance of family relationships

By Alix Kunkle
1ST INF. DIV. POST

From the beginning of our lives to the end, relationships we make with people – no matter how big or small – might be the things that matter the most.

Soldiers and their families will have a chance to celebrate those

DID YOU KNOW?

- This is the first year Army Community Services is celebrating National Family Week.

relationships with National Family Week, which is celebrated May 3 through May 9.

According to Toiane Taylor with Army Community Services on Fort Riley, children who grow up in healthy family situations tend to become valuable citizens later in life.

"Children who are raised in healthy family situations are able to replicate that later in life, and it makes for a stronger community with stronger families," Taylor said.

This is the first year ACS is celebrating National Family Week – though there's nothing officially planned; however, Taylor said that might change in future years.

She does say, though, there are plenty of opportunities offered throughout the year to help strengthen family relationships.

See FAMILY, page 12

Post-wide yard sale gaining popularity

Event officials promise something for everyone at event taking place May 9

By Maria Childs
1ST INF. DIV. POST

The Fort Riley annual post-wide yard sale is scheduled for 8 a.m. to noon May 9. Residents of the post will set up their yard sales in various locations so consumers can begin shopping for good bargains.

Curtis Wood, Directorate of Plans, Transportation, Mobilization and Support, said consumers can expect to find many baby cloths, kid's toys, furniture, and household appliances. He added just about anything you can think of will probably be at the yard sale.

"Come on out all you thrifty shoppers there is something for everyone," Wood said.

Wood explained anyone can attend the yard sale, but only residents of Fort Riley can sell items during the sale. Items must be from the household. They cannot be purchased from outside commercial enterprises for resale at the yard sale, nor can an individual buy from any other source such as a flea market or other yard sales with the purpose of resale.

"Visitors are welcome to shop," Wood said.

Commissary to introduce in-store Wi-Fi

By Kevin L. Robinson
DECA PUBLIC AFFAIRS SPECIALIST

Wi-Fi access for patrons at the Fort Riley commissary is now available, according to Peter Howell, Commissary Officer for the Fort Riley Commissary.

"We are live as of [April 24]," Howell said, "and we are live with In-Store Wi-Fi for customers' use. We encourage they use the www.commissaries.com website to check on sales and events and the Rewards Card App found on either the Apple or Android platform."

The new availability is part of an initiative for a number of stateside stores as the Defense Commissary Agency begins its scheduled roll out of the online service.

See WI-FI, page 12

COMMUNITY CORNER

Teen family members make impact volunteering

By Col. Andrew Cole
GARRISON COMMANDER

Baltimore. The city name elicits scenes of young people getting violent, looting and destroying what people worked hard to build. It is heartbreaking for the residents and those here who call the area home. Scenes like those on recent news reports might make some think twice about the value of teen-aged people – not me. I can tell you our Fort Riley young folks are doing some amazing volunteering both on and off the installation.

Let's look at a few things in recent weeks. Boy Scouts from Troop 60 just did some major renovations for our dog park. They built something that will bring joy to pet owners for years to come. What they built will endure. Check out our Child and Youth School Services facilities. You will see teens in there volunteering, taking time to mentor those younger kids who may



or may not have a big brother or sister to look up to. In fact, there are programs in our CYSS that rely on volunteers of all ages and our teens are no less important to those programs than the adults who step up. I want to first say thank you to our teens who volunteer wherever their calling takes them – on or off the installation. You are part of this Fort Riley, Kansas, Army family and your dedication enhances the relationships we have with the communities outside of our gates.

Second, I ask parents to keep an eye out for volunteer opportunities for your kids. Let them serve in their own way. Those events they help set up and then clean up are part of the fabric of our community life. If you are a teen looking for an opportunity, start with CYSS, the Fort Riley USO or Army Community Services. Those organizations are great sources for opportunities that will challenge and grow you. Who knows, you might be the next youth soccer or softball coach.

Child abuse seminar instills awareness

Seminar focuses on struggles military kids face at key moments

Story and photo by Maria Childs
1ST INF. DIV. POST

Army Community Service staff hosted a child abuse awareness workshop April 13 for professionals who regularly work with military families. The workshop provided guidance about struggles military children face during crucial moments in life.

Tiffany Clark, executive director of Court Appointed Special Advocates, was an event speaker and shared why it is important to be aware of child abuse and what resources exist. “If less kids were abused and we could work ourselves out of a job, that would be awesome,” Clark said. Clark said CASA is a service used after an investigation is in progress. She said it is crucial to report any suspicion of child abuse. “If you suspect there is child abuse as a citizen and you are concerned, you don't have to investigate it, you don't have



Vicky Roper, director of education and awareness and the Prevent Child Abuse Kansas Director for Kansas Children's Service League, speaks about statistics of child abuse in Kansas during a workshop for professionals who work with military families at Army Community Service April 13.

to know if it is true – you just have to call it in,” Clark said. “People trained to investigate will be called. You may be the child's only link to help because maybe five other people saw it but nobody else called.” Although CASA does not take reports of suspicion, CASA volunteers play an important role in a child abuse case. Clark added a volunteer's responsibility is to bring the child's perspective to the courtroom. “We want the judge to know what the child thinks of

his or her life,” Clark said. “We want the judge to know how the child is coping.” Representatives from Kansas Children's Service League also spoke about the importance of adverse childhood experiences, including all forms of abuse, alcohol or drug abuse within a household and one or no parents. Vicky Roper, director of education and awareness and the Prevent Child Abuse Kansas Director for Kansas Children's Service League, said her presentation

WHERE TO TURN

- Call the **Fort Riley Police Department** to report suspected child abuse or neglect at 785-239-8477 or the **Department of Children and Families Hotline** at 1-800-922-5330.

is life changing for different audiences. “I think we need to take a dual-generation approach,” Roper said. “... we speak to people who have a tremendous amount of adverse childhood experiences ... they recognize and work hard to prevent those experiences with their own children.” She said when people have adverse childhood experiences often they'll have more mental health, education and work-related problems to work through as an adult. Call the Fort Riley Police Department to report suspected child abuse or neglect at 785-239-8477 or the Department of Children and Families Hotline at 1-800-922-5330. For more information about child abuse prevention, call Army Community Service at 785-239-9435.

Custer's Challenge bringing obstacle course

Officials: Fort Riley event open to all children 12 and older

By Maria Childs
1ST INF. DIV. POST

A 3-mile obstacle course challenge is scheduled to begin at 10 a.m. May 16 on the hill behind Whiteside Fitness Center. Twelve obstacles break up the course, including balance beams, tunnel crawls, various climbs and a spear throw. Vincent Spencer, fitness coordinator, Directorate of Family and Morale, Welfare and Recreation, said the event is open to everyone 12 and older



Graphic by MWR

and registration closes May 14, without exception. It is the first year for an obstacle race at Fort Riley. “Some of the things involve navigation of over objects and crawling under,” Spencer said. “As far as coordination and agility, 12-years-olds can handle it. If we allowed people younger than that, it becomes questionable whether it is safe for them.”

The registration fee of \$25 per person includes the race, beverages and donuts. He said there is no limit on participants but only 50 people will be allowed in the obstacle course at one time for

MORE INFORMATION

- To register for **Custer's Challenge**, visit <http://rileymwr.com/sports>.

safety. Every 15 minutes a new wave of people can start. “It will be a fun run,” Spencer said. “There's a spear throw that might be a little challenging and there's one where (participants) carry tires. The rest is crawling up and down stuff and doing monkey bars.”

Spring clean your finances with tips from financial whiz

K-State expert: Time to purge useless files

K-STATE NEWS

MANHATTAN – It's spring-cleaning time, when we rid our home of dust and clutter that have accumulated over the year – but what about the financial clutter? A Kansas State University personal financial planner said this is the perfect time of year to assess financial health and get rid of some unnecessary documents.

Cliff Robb, associate professor of personal financial planning in the College of Human Ecology, said getting rid of bills that pile up is one way to clean up finances, but there are other “cleaning” practices that should become an annual habit in order to become financially fit. This includes investing in retirement, checking credit reports and updating critical life documents, such as wills. “There are two big mistakes people tend to make with a retirement account, or a 401(k),” Robb said. “The first mistake is not opening up a retirement account as soon as possible. Many times people will put off the decisions – what to allocate, where to allocate, how much of their paycheck to invest – because those are hard decisions. But putting it off is always negative because it's costing you time and investment. “The second common mistake is people will set up their account and not look at it again until they near retirement age,” he said. “Every few years, you should review your allocations because as you near retirement, you should be adjusting those allocations into less risky investments.”

Robb also suggests consolidating retirement accounts into a single 401(k), which you legally can do at no cost. While you're checking on your retirement, check your credit report, which also is free through the website www.annualcreditreport.com. You have the option of checking the report from all three providers at one time annually, or staggering it and checking one provider every four months. “There are three different major providers of credit report material and you have access to each one of these,” Robb said. “Whichever option you take – getting all at once or staggering the reports – is up to your personal preference. However, it's important to al-

ways look at all three reports because each report is subject to different information. You might find one provider has an inaccuracy and the other doesn't. If you do find an inaccuracy, clear that up with the credit provider.” Have you gotten married in the last year or had kids? Robb said this time of year is a good time to review any big life changes and make sure your insurance lines up with your new lifestyle. And although it is uncomfortable, also use this time to create or update your will.

Once you get the big stuff out of the way, then it is time to throw away the clutter. “The biggest thing to consider when deciding whether or not to throw out paperwork is if it could be critical to your tax filing,” Robb said. “If it is part of your tax documentation, then you need to keep either the paper copy or make an electronic copy because tax documents need to be retained for seven years. That is the typical window when the Internal Revenue Service may choose to review your documentation. If you need to support anything in your taxes, you need seven years of documentation to be able to defend it.” If it isn't needed for taxes, you can toss it. Here are some documents that are OK to shred or dispose of securely: • Monthly bank statements or statements past a year old; just keep annual statement. • Paperwork for debts that have been paid. • Old leases or contracts that are no longer current. • Monthly utility bills.

If you don't feel comfortable disposing of these documents, Robb suggests scanning them and storing them electronically. “Those documents can be stored in some other kind of safe cloud-based software such as Dropbox or a shared file storage, and then you know you will always have access to them,” Robb said. “This is useful because those documents can be accessed in an emergency when the paper documents might have been destroyed or inaccessible.” For more information, visit Financial Planning Day on May 1 at Kansas State University. From 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., financial planning professionals from around Kansas will be at the K-State Student Union and Chester E. Peters Recreation Complex, offering pro bono financial advice to students and the community.



RESOURCES AVAILABLE

The next Resilient Spouse Academy courses are scheduled for June. For more information contact Jane Brookshire at 785-239-9974.

Homecoming expectations home can be a challenge

By Kalyn Curtis
1ST INF. DIV. POST

It's a happy moment, hugging a spouse or loved one for the first time in several months, but what happens when they step foot in their home?

For many, reintegration has been on the mind for some time. However, that homecoming may not be the fairy tale dreamt of for the last several months.

"One of the things that I always try to emphasize is, expectations," said Chaplain David Stoner, Headquarters Fort Riley Army Garrison. "The expectations have got to be known, and they have to be realistic. In a sense of, if you're coming home and you think you're going to step back into the roles, or that he or she is going to be waiting there with a big bouquet of flowers and great stuff is going to happen, you might be setting yourself up for failure."

Chaplain Stoner said many soldiers are eager to jump right back into the roles they previously held before deployment. He said parents are especially eager to jump into the disciplinary role, which can make the relationship awkward.

Stoner said the key to reintegration for the soldiers is for them to ease back into their roles. Family members can help the soldiers ease back into their roles by evaluating their expectations of reintegration.

"Biggest thing is, don't think that just because they're back that they're going to be around all of the time," Stoner said. "There's going to be a lot of requirements for the unit. There's a lot of meetings, things they have to get turned in. Too often people get pretty upset, they say 'you're back, I thought I was going to get to see my spouse.' It's one of the biggest arguments so be prepared for a busy schedule."

For those anxiously awaiting the arrival of loved ones, there are resources spouses can to help the reintegration process get before their loved one arrives.. One of those resources is the Resilient Spouse Academy, a four day course that covers tools for reintegration, including: financial success, master resiliency training and suicide prevention.

One program included with Resilient Spouse Academy is ASIST, Applied Suicide Intervention Skills Training. The course highlights how to identify people at risk for suicide and how to approach them.

"The overall goal is to reduce the stigma that we're still fighting, and to hopefully prevent suicide," said Larry D. Wesley Jr., ASIST Trainer. "It's a shared community issue, it's not just with the doctors or the nurses or the military police it's a shared thing."

Octavia Lyerly, Resilient Spouse Academy participant, said the most important thing she learned was from the ASIST program. She said the lessons of clues to look for in a suicidal person is important to her because she has dealt with suicide issues through her previous job and some family.

Lyerly said the program taught her that even though someone may act as if everything is ok, looks can be deceiving.

"I think a lot of times people associate happiness with everything being ok, and sometimes people may be putting their best face forward," Lyerly said. "They may not necessarily be as happy as you think so you need to pay attention to that too. Is the person overly happy or has their mood changed over time. Each person is different so you never know how a person is going to react to a traumatic experience."

Both Wesley and Stoner said if someone feels they need to talk, they can seek assistance through the unit or division chaplain office, behavioral health or the military and family life consultants at (785) 239-9435.



Sp. John Burgess, 701st Brigade Support Battalion, 4th Infantry Brigade Combat Team, 1st Infantry Division, takes notes during the Werner Enterprises Transportation employer day April 23.

Soldiers offered post-Army career opportunities

Transportation group gives outgoing Soldiers a leg up

Story and photo by Maria Childs
1ST INF. DIV. POST

"Have you ever been to Omaha, Nebraska?" asked the recruiter from Werner Enterprises, a transportation and logistics company.

"No, but I could go there," said Staff Sgt. Prince Rawls, Headquarters and Headquarters Troop, 4th Squadron, 4th Cavalry Regiment, 1st Armored Brigade Combat Team, 1st Infantry Division.

Werner Enterprise Transportation recruiters hosted an em-

ployer day April 23 for Soldiers separating from the military.

Rawls is beginning his job search because he plans to separate from the Army in July.

Though some Soldiers stay in the local area after leaving the Army, others relocate and go wherever the next job leads.

Sgt. Geri Rodriguez, 701st Brigade Support Battalion, 4th Infantry Brigade Combat Team, 1st Infantry Division, said employer days help connect Soldiers with employers and provide better chances of landing a job. She attended employer days in the past and received information about various jobs.

"I think getting to hear the different opportunities

there are with all these different companies and how they are actually coming out here to speak to us to let us know is a really good opportunity," Rodriguez said.

Rodriguez said she was looking to relocate to her hometown of Fontana, California. When she leaves the military in July, she wants to be somewhere she considers home.

She is looking for a job doing administrative or human resources work. She said she was interested in hearing how many job opportunities one employer had to offer, and the employer day made that easier.

"It was nice to hear the good things about the company," Rodriguez said.

Uber employer day held for Soldiers

Story and photo by Maria Childs
1ST INF. DIV. POST

Uber, a transportation company, launched in the Manhattan area April 25, and in an effort to search for new drivers, recruiters hosted an employer day through the Soldier for Life Transition Assistance Program April 21.

Uber works through a mobile application where someone can request to be picked up at their location and the nearest driver who is currently working is called to pick the rider up. Previously, two cities in Kansas were available for this service – Wichita and Kansas City. Recently, the app was launched in Leavenworth, Topeka, Lawrence, and Manhattan.

Sp. Johnathan Cleary, 1st Combined Arms Battalion, 63rd Armor Regiment, 2nd Armored Brigade Combat Team, 1st Infantry Division, applied for a driving job right after he met with the recruiters. He said he hoped to be driving the first weekend the company was established in the area.

"If I can control when I start work and when I'm off work, it's convenient in every aspect," Cleary said.

Cleary heard about the employer day through email. He said the flexibility of the hours was the most appealing thing about the company. Cleary plans to move out of the area when he separates from the military in May, but until then



Staff Sgt. Lawrence Whitfield, 1st Sustainment Brigade, 1st Infantry Division, listens during the Uber employer day April 21.

he wants to start driving in the Manhattan area.

Uber allows the opportunity to become an entrepreneur and run a standalone business within the company. Cleary said that was also appealing for him because he has always wanted to own his own business.

Staff Sgt. Prince Rawls, 4th Squadron, 4th Cavalry Regiment, 1st Armored Brigade

Combat Team, 1st Infantry Division said Uber provides a safe environment for Soldiers and veterans to make money. He said Uber reminded him of a cab service he saw in Germany while he was stationed there.

"It's like a company I saw in Germany where it's like a mini-cab," Rawls said. "You call them, they come pick you up. You know what the fare is up front. They get you there safely."

Rawls said the launch in Manhattan encouraged him to try the job at Uber before he officially leaves the military.

"I thinking of trying it this weekend just to get a feel for it," Rawls said.

For more information about employer days or the Soldier for Life program, contact Sharone Washington at 785-239-9621.

Mother's Day brunch scheduled at Riley Conference Center

Goal of event to make moms feel like they have day off

By Kalyn Curtis
1ST INF. DIV. POST

Mother's Day is just around the calendar's corner. What better way to celebrate than treating mother to brunch?

Flowers and chocolate may be the go-to gifts during Mother's Day, but add a meal out to that and it only can increase the fond memories build for that day.

Luckily, at the Riley's Conference Center a Mother's Day brunch is scheduled to honor those who tackled the tasks included with motherhood. The brunch begins at 10 a.m. and continues through 1 p.m. May 10.

Christopher Downs, Food and Beverage Manager, said the goal of the Mother's Day brunch is to make mothers feel like they have a dedicated day off.

"Mothers just enjoy coming and having a day where they don't have to cook. They enjoy letting someone else do it," Downs said.

Downs said the brunch consists of a variety of breakfast and lunch items including; omelets, baked potatoes, sausage and gravy, along with a champagne fountain and desserts.

There is an admission fee of \$14.95 for adults, \$7.95 for children 5 years and older.

Downs said in previous years hundreds attended the brunch. Reservations are recommended. Those interested in attending or needing more information may call 785-784-1000.

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, MAY 1
• Get Hard (R) 7 P.M.

SATURDAY, MAY 2
• Home (PG) 2 P.M.
• The Gunman (R) 7 P.M.

SUNDAY, MAY 3
• Home (PG) 5 P.M.

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

Kansas City site for Armed Forces Day banquet

Medal of Honor recipient to attend city's inaugural event

AMERICAN FALLEN WARRIOR MEMORIAL FOUNDATION

KANSAS CITY, Kan. – Kansas City will pay tribute to the military by hosting its first-ever Armed Forces Day banquet May 16.

The inaugural Kansas City Armed Forces Day banquet, titled “Celebrating Freedom and Honoring Service,” will bring together hundreds of active duty military personnel, Reservists, veterans, their families, families of military Fallen Warriors (Gold Star), business and community leaders, in what organizers are calling “the most prestigious, patriotic event of the year ... anywhere.”

Hosted by the American Fallen Warrior Memorial Foundation, the banquet – held at the Kansas City Convention Center – will feature a Medal of Honor recipient, a film producer, and numerous presentations,

all designed to shine the spotlight on the military. WDAF-TV FOX4 News Anchor John Holt will emcee the event.

Retired Col. Donald “Doc” Ballard, Kansas National Guard, a Medal of Honor recipient, also will be a featured speaker.

“I believe that it is time for the people of Kansas City to become more aware and more educated on just how important freedom is here in the Kansas City area,” said Ballard. “Freedom just did not happen ... Veterans fought for it, and the military is still fighting for it today. I want the everyday people to come and be inspired and educated.

“Military veterans, in some cases, pay with their lives; others come home with disabilities they have to live with for the rest of their lives. Families also pay a different price, to include losing a son or daughter to the war. I believe we owe the veterans and their families a huge debt of gratitude; they are the ones who paid the price for the ones who did not serve.”

Open to the general public, the banquet has been enthusiastically endorsed by mayors Mark Holland of Kansas City, Kansas, and Sylvester “Sly” James Jr., of Kansas City, Missouri.

Rex Pratt, producer and director of the 2008 War Documentary “Warriors in Their Own Word,” is also a featured speaker, along with John West, Director of Community and Charitable Programs for ALON Brand dba 7-11. Steve Amer-son, “America’s Tenor,” is providing entertainment for the event.

“Kansas City has an opportunity – with this banquet – to show America how to take measured steps in honoring and paying back the greatest military force in the world,” said Retired Navy Chief Petty Officer Jack Barnes, President of the American Fallen Warrior Memorial Foundation. “I urge community, business and other leaders in the Kansas City area to support this event, and show how a ‘military-rich metropolitan area’ honors its military by celebrating freedom and hon-

oring their service on this very important holiday.

“We all know there are just a small number of people who will serve in the United States Military. I have the belief that the military is more like a family owned business, where only a few proud men and women go off to fight the wars, and the people that did not – or will not – serve, for whatever the reason, should be more respectful of the ones who did. The question that should be asked of the other people is: what is your freedom worth to you and how much do you owe these veterans for going in your place? I would also ask them to come and learn more on how they can get involved and say thank you to the veterans for paying the price. Say thank you to the families that lost loved ones fighting for your freedoms. Get involved and take an interest in knowing more about the cost of freedom,” said Ballard.

For more information about “Celebrating Freedom & Honoring Service,” call 855-647-3411, extension 06, or visit www.celebrateandhonor.org.

WI-FI ACCESS INFORMATION

- Here are some things to know about access to a commissary's Wi-Fi connection:
- Anyone can access the store's Wi-Fi from the sales floor area
 - Users must accept the Defense Commissary Agency's “terms of service” agreement
 - Some websites are blocked
 - Patrons with questions about access should contact the store's customer service representative

WI-FI Continued from page 9

Through the Commissary Patron Internet Mobile System the agency is gradually opening customer Wi-Fi access initially at all stateside commissaries to include Alaska, Hawaii and Puerto Rico.

Up to now, patron Wi-Fi has been deployed to stores in Virginia.

“Many of our patrons come to the commissary with their smart phones and tablets. Store Wi-Fi will help them maximize their commissary benefit,” said Duane Woodfin, an information technology specialist and wireless expert.

“There’s a lot of valuable shopping information on www.commissaries.com. Customers can find digital coupons for the Commissary Rewards Card, our sales flyer, the savings aisle for access to promotional prices and much, much more.”

Woodfin said no decision has been made yet regarding DeCA’s expansion of CPIMS to overseas stores.

WWW.1DIVPOST.COM

FAMILY Continued from page 9

For example, ACS and Fort Riley’s Child, Youth and School Services hold a number of events in April for Month of the Military Child. Each quarter of the year, there are a number of parenting classes offered. And this month, the main focus is preparing for summertime.

“We do get a number of requests to do presentations so (families) can get ready for summer in a safe way,” she said. “Our children like to be entertained, and it can cause some stress for families.”

Some of those activities include sports teams and day camps offered through CYSS. June also is Dads Make a Difference Month, and July features a rodeo for exceptional family members. After that – it’s time to prepare for school again.

All of it’s geared toward helping families become stronger, and to build relationships with one another – because, as Taylor said, it’s all that matters in the end.

“The bottom line is, our relationships are what matters,” she said. “When people find themselves at the end of their lifetime, it’s all about the folks who have impacted them, and those they have impacted.”

PARTNERSHIP Continued from page 9

Soldiers from 5th Sqdn., 4th Cav. Regt., at each station along the course.

“We have had a few Soldiers come to our practices and work out with us and it has been fun watching our team and the Soldiers interact,” said Michael Kearns, assistant cheer coach at K-State. “They have been building relationships that I know are going to last a long while.”

Many of the Soldiers, such as Spc. Rose Marzheuser, a petroleum supply specialist with 5th Sqdn., 4th Cav. Regt., were excited to see the cheerleaders try something Soldiers do on a regular basis.

“I thought everybody would be nervous to talk to each other, but actually combining the cheerleaders and the Soldiers worked,” Marzheuser, who is from Sarasota, Florida, said. “We all cheered each other on with the events and it was pretty cool.”

Dani Ruoff, head cheer coach for K-State, said the team had been looking forward to this day for a while.

“The team has actually been a little bit nervous about it, which I think is awesome,” Ruoff said.

Ruoff said the confidence course provided a good opportunity for the cheerleaders to work together as a team one last time before tryouts. It also pro-



Staff Sgt. Jerry Griffis | 1ST INF. DIV. A cheerleader from Kansas State University pauses while climbing beams on “The Tough One” April 23 on the confidence course at Fort Riley, Kansas.

vided an opportunity for some competition among the cheer team.

When asked which event was the toughest, everyone, to include both cheerleaders and Soldiers said “The Tough One” was the hardest. The Tough One comprises a rope climb and a walk across elevated beams to a ladder that leads up to a cargo net that must then be climbed down.

“I am kind of scared of heights, so overcoming the height part was probably the toughest for me,” Katy Fernandes, cheerleader for K-State, said. “I was so scared, but once I got over it I was fine and I thought ‘it’s not that bad.’”

After the confidence course was over, the cheerleaders ate

“They have been building relationships that I know are going to last a long while.”

MICHAEL KEARNS
KANSAS STATE UNIVERSITY

Meals, Ready to Eat, tried on military uniforms and viewed demonstrations of U.S. Army vehicles and weapons.

“I think what is important about the partnership is we have Soldiers who are about the same age group as these athletes out here and so what we try to do is show the diversity of the squadron, the diversity of the Army, because I think that is important in our partnerships too,” Duplessis said. “I think this just further connects the ‘Big Red One’ with the community.”

ARMED FORCES DAY
***** MAY 16, 2015 *****

**“Celebrating Freedom & Honoring Service”
Banquet**

Kansas City Convention Center
Grand Ballroom, 6:00 pm
Military/Veterans & Families FREE with RSVP

For more information:
www.celebrateandhonor.org
info@celebrateandhonor.org - 855-647-3411 ext 6

HONOR THOSE WHO ANSWERED
THE CALL TO SERVE

General Public Invited - RSVP Today!

Sports & Recreation

★ May 1, 2015

HOME OF THE BIG RED ONE

PAGE 13

SOFTBALL LEAGUE

The Intramural Softball League runs from May 4 to Aug. 13 at the Sacco Softball Complex. Registration is free and open to company-level teams of Soldiers only, with at least 18 players per team.

The registration deadline is April 24.

Participation qualifies team members for competition in the Commander's Cup.

For more information, call 785-239-2813.

PT GOLF

PT Golf begins April 30 and running through August 27 Thursdays at 6:30 a.m. at Custer Hill Golf Course.

PT Golf is open to platoon-level four-person teams. It is a nine-hole alternate shot format and players run from shot to shot. Teams get the following four clubs: driver, seven-iron, wedge and a putter. Teams may use their own clubs but must stick to those four.

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.

SOFTBALL TOURNAMENT

It's time to register for the Spring Fling Softball Tournament, presented by Fort Riley Sports, Fitness and Aquatics.

This year's tournament will take place May 9 at Sacco Softball Complex, with the first game at 8 a.m. Registration is open to all DOD ID card holders ages 18 and older and costs \$50 per team.

Registration is free for company-level teams of active-duty Soldiers. The deadline to sign up is May 6. Team slots are limited, so sign up soon. For more information, visit rileymwr.com/sports or call 785-239-2813.

FUN IN THE SUN

Join the Fort Riley Marina for Fun in the Sun from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. May 16 and check out all the marina has to offer. Take advantage of free water craft rides, free canoe and kayak usage, inflatable playstations and even free food.

The Fort Riley Marina opens for the season April 24 and offers more than 20 rental water crafts, primitive camping and more.

The Fort Riley Marina is located at 7112 Highway 82 on Milford Lake. For more information, visit rileymwr.com/odr or call 785-239-2363.

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.

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.



ABOVE: Sgt. Kevin Johnson, 267th Signal Battalion carries the ball during an April 22 game at Long Fitness Center. Johnson's team won. **RIGHT:** Pfc. Marc Delacruz, 526th Special Troops Battalion, jumps for the ball during the same football game.

Reach for it... caught in the act

Spc. Jayuan Mincey (left) 267th Signal Battalion, catches the football during an April 22 game at Fort Riley's Long Fitness Center. Mincey's team won the game.



Photos by Maria Childs | POST

Class teaches confidence, defense, action



Cara Vaughn, military spouse, kicks a mannequin during a self-defense class April 14. The class was taught by Soldiers from the 116th Military Police Company.

Story and photo by Maria Childs
1ST INF. DIV. POST

Stop! Leave me alone! Get away from me! were the words thundering through the Combatives Center during the Sexual Harassment/Assault Response and Prevention Program self-defense class April 14 and 15 taught by 116th Military Police Company Soldiers.

Sgt. 1st class Mylls Cheffey, 116th MP Co., 97th MP Battalion, started the class by telling his student to be loud when a situation is uncomfortable. He said even if someone doesn't necessarily pose a threat, but a gut feeling is present and you feel uncomfortable, the best way to handle it is to confront the person by saying something like "I see you" or "Leave me alone."

"You have to say it in the right tone," Cheffey said. "You don't only project confidence when you do that you also draw attention."

"Even if you're by yourself, now other people are aware – that's the biggest thing about all of this," said Staff Sgt. Daniel Sutterley, 116th MP Co., 97th MP Bn.

Cheffey said making yourself a hard target is the key to prevention.

"By keeping a strong posture, you have the ability to stop that attack," Cheffey said.

Cheffey added the more people surrounding an uncomfortable situation, the less likely an attack will happen. He said if something does and people are around, they are likely to intervene or call police. Parking far away to protect a car is a common way to become isolated, which Cheffey discouraged.

"I would take a hundred scratches on my truck rather than a confrontation with someone who was trying to take something from me or do harm," Cheffey said. "We can fix scratches."

Sutterley said eye contact can detour an attacker because the assailant knows his face was seen and could be identified.

Cara Vaughn, military spouse, attended with her husband the first day. She said it is important to learn to defend herself before she finds herself in an uncomfortable situation. She listed an example of walking out of a grocery store at night and a guy confronting her in a parking lot.

Her husband, Sgt. Paul Vaughn, a Soldier transitioning from 701st Brigade Support Battalion, 4th Infantry Brigade Combat Team, 1st Infantry Division due to inactivation, said he wanted her to be able to defend herself.

For more information about the 1st Infantry Division SHARP or sexual assault prevention, call 785-239-3379 or visit www.sexualassault.army.mil/.

K-State runner breaks record

Freshman collegiate sprinter clocks 11.40, breaks 20-plus year program record



K-STATE SPORTS

BERKELEY, Calif. – A'Keyla Mitchell recorded yet another record-setting performance, this time in the 100-meter dash to headline a dominant showing by K-State Track and Field at the Brutus Hamilton Challenge in Berkeley, California. Squaring off against California, University of Texas at El Paso and Utah State in a scored competition, the Wildcat women finished first with 188 points and the men took second with a final tally of 143 points.

On the Track...
A'Keyla Mitchell continued her freshman campaign with her fourth record-setting performance of the year. Already with the 60-meter, 200-meter and 4x400 indoor records, Mitchell clocked 11.40 to easily best a field of five in the 100-meter dash. The race marked Mitchell's first 100m competed in this outdoor season, as she broke a 20-plus year K-State record on the track – Latricia Joyner set the previous record of 11.51 in 1991.

For Mitchell, her latest effort adds to a long list of accolades accrued in her first full season in Purple and White. The Corpus Christi, Texas, native nabbed All-American honors in both the 200m and 4x400 during the indoor season, was voted Big 12 Outstanding Freshman of

the Year and now has seven program top-10 marks across the indoor and outdoor seasons. Her record-setting time from today currently ranks No. 3 in the Big 12, tied for ninth in the Division I West Region and tied for 13th in the country.

Mitchell's fellow freshman teammate, Terrell Smith, also had a banner day on the track, clocking the third-fastest time in school history in the 200-meter. Smith, who entered the meet with the fifth-fastest time in program history at 20.92 seconds, sped his way to first-place in 20.77 seconds in Saturday's action.

The performance by Smith was the best by a Wildcat since Carlos Rodriguez set the school record at 20.72 seconds in 2013. The win also marked Smith's first of the outdoor season, as he currently ranks No. 3 in the Big 12.

Also picking up wins on the track was Sonia Gaskin in the 800-meter and the women's 4x400 squad of Mitchell, Gaskin, Tia' Gamble and Sarah Kolmer. In the 800m, Gaskin outlasted Ena Leufroy (2:07.32) in 2:07.00 for her second victory in the event this season. Joining her on the track was Marija Stambolic, who took fourth overall in a personal best time of 2:09.44 – the second time in her career she has ran sub-2:10.00 in the event.

The 4x400, meanwhile, capped off action for the women on the track, as Gaskin, along with Mitchell, helped the relay squad to a definitive victory, finishing the race in 3:37.23 – nearly

eight seconds better than second-place finisher, Academy of Art (3:45.08).

Elsewhere in season-best efforts, Ifeanyichukwu Otunoye and Gamble excelled in the 100m and 400-meter hurdles, respectively. Otunoye, who most recently set a new personal best in the long jump, clocked a wind-assisted 10.58 seconds for third-place – third-fastest by a Wildcat sprinter this season.

The hurdles saw Gamble narrowly miss on a first-place finish, marking 59.21 seconds to Emma Redick's time of 59.17. Despite the narrow defeat, Gamble's time bested her previous season-high of 1:00.32, set at last weekend's Kansas Relays.

Lastly on the track, rounding out a number of top-three finishes for the Wildcats were Christopher Campbell, the women's 4x100 and the men's relay squads. In the 400-meter, Campbell clocked 47.73 seconds to take third-place, and he also helped the 4x400 to a second-place finish in 3:11.64. The men's and women's 4x100s, both took third-place in 40.84 and 46.26 seconds, respectively.

In the Field...

Alyx Treasure and Nate Gipson swept the women's and men's portions of the high jump. For Treasure, she cleared a season-best 1.84m/6-00.50 for first-place. The height cleared was the best by a Wildcat high jumper this season and No. 2 in the conference to date. Her teammate, Kim Williamson, took second in the event with a final mark of 1.75m/5-08.75.

On the men's side, Gipson and Zack Riley both cleared 2.15m/7-00.50 to

place first and second, respectively. Gipson's mark, also an outdoor season best for the freshman, came on one less attempt than Riley, giving him his first victory in the event. With their latest efforts, both Gipson and Riley rank within the top-five of the conference.

Dani Winters picked up her second-straight victory in the shot put, marking 16.48m/54-01 on her final attempt of the afternoon. Winters, who entered the meet coming off an outdoor personal best performance of 16.64m/54-07.25 at the Kansas Relays, is ranked third in the Big 12 in the event.

Both Nija Collier and Megan Vanderpool made their way into the K-State top-10 in the triple jump and pole vault, respectively. In the triple jump, Collier leapt 12.49m/40-11.75 to finish runner-up to UTEP's Nick-evea Wilson (12.78m/41-11.25). A freshman from Houston, Collier's latest effort moved her to No. 10 in school history – she also set the No. 6 indoor mark of 12.76m/41-10.50 at Big 12s earlier this year. Vanderpool, meanwhile, cleared 3.65m/11-11.75 on her second attempt to finish fourth in the pole vault. Also a season-best, Vanderpool's fourth-place effort moved her into a tie for sixth-best in school history with Keara Walsh.

Finally, also notching top-three efforts for the Wildcats were Tommy Brady in the men's pole vault and Zanri Van der Merwe in the women's long jump. Both finishing second in their respective events, Brady's (5.08m/16-08) and Van der Merwe's (5.71m/18-09) final marks were also season-bests.

Wildcat women golfers finish ninth at Big 12 Championship

K-State finishes season with 93-53-2 record

K-STATE SPORTS

SAN ANTONIO, Texas – The Kansas State women's golf team finished in ninth place after a final-round score of 16-over par 304 on Sunday during the 2015 Big 12 Women's Golf Championship at the par-72, 6,246-yard Dominion Country Club. The Wildcats carded a three-day score of 46-over par 910.

"We had a pretty good season overall," head coach Kristi Knight said. "We had two team wins and two individual wins. Unfortunately, we never got four scores this week. Big 12 Women's Golf is a great league as it is the only league in the nation with every team in the top-62 in the country."

Connie Jaffrey ended the event tied for 25th place at 10-over par 226, including a 2-over par 74 performance on Sunday to improve seven places during the final round. Madison Talley finished a successful season in a tie for 32nd at 13-over par 229. The Clarksville, Arkansas,

product led the Wildcats with a 1-over par 73 in the final round to improve eight spots. Katherine Gravel-Coursol was one shot back at 14-over par 230 to tie for 35th.

Seniors Olivia Eliasson and Carly Ragains both finished their golfing careers at K-State on Sunday. Eliasson tied for 38th with a score of 16-over par 232, while Ragains was one stroke behind her at 17-over par 233 to tie for 40th.

Entering the day with a 10-shot advantage, Baylor held on to the top team spot to capture the 2015 Big 12 Championship with a winning score of 3-over par 867. The Bears finished 12 shots better than second-place TCU, which jumped three positions on the final day.

Oklahoma State's Kenzie Neison defeated Baylor's Laura Lonardi in the second playoff hole to win the individual championship. Both players finished with a 54-hole score of 4-under par 212.

K-State finished the season with a 93-53-2 record. The Wildcats will return five players from this year's squad, including Talley and Jaffrey, who competed in every event during the 2014-15 season.



Guard supports 2015 Boston Marathon



Courtesy Massachusetts National Guard

Soldiers and cadets, with the Massachusetts National Guard, approach and conquer Heartbreak Hill, which is known to be the highest inclined point along the marathon route, while running the 119th Boston Marathon April 20.

By Sgt. Darius Brown and Sgt. Eric Gibb
65TH PUBLIC AFFAIRS OPERATIONS CENTER

BOSTON – Early on a cool, drizzly morning, runners, volunteers and spectators participated in the 119th Boston Marathon. With a course that stretches from Hopkinton, Massachusetts, to the well-known finish line in downtown Boston, thousands of people cheered on the many runners, walkers and mobility-impaired participants, who endured the 26.2-mile course.

Massachusetts National Guard Soldiers and Airmen provided approximately 500

Soldiers and Airmen to assist federal, state and local police with public safety and support.

Col. Mark Merlino, commander of Joint Task Force Patriot, supervised the combined Guard's efforts to assist federal, state and local police to keep the route safe for the runners - from Hopkinton to the edge of Boston.

"Our Soldiers and Airmen effectively supported the 119th Boston Marathon as we worked closely with officials from the Massachusetts Emergency Management Agency, the Boston Athletic Association and our many interagency partners

to ensure a safe and successful race," said Lt. Col. James Sahady, spokesman for the Massachusetts National Guard.

Soldiers, from units that included the 747th Military Police Company of Ware, Massachusetts, walked, ran and provided security, alongside other important roles, further cementing the presence of the Massachusetts National Guard's integral role into this major event.

The level of manpower is appropriate for this mission, said Capt. Tyler Field, commanding officer of the 747th Military Police Company. The company is just one se-

curity entity amongst the many units and organizations that supported the race.

Soldiers set up entry control points to verify the credentials of the participants, staff and observers at the starting point in Hopkinton.

"The 747th is a great addition to the security aspect as well as the public relations aspect, because we can engage in friendly interactions with the crowd along with providing a sense of protection,"

said Spc. Tom Therrien, a Military Police Soldier, assigned to the 747th Military Police Company.

As people from around the world travel to take part in the marathon, the same went for members of the National Guard throughout the nation.

Col. Mark Doll, of the New York Air National Guard, traveled from Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam, Hawaii, where he is stationed, to run in this year's marathon.

"It is Patriot's Day. No better place in America to be than Boston," Doll said. "It is a privilege and an honor to be included with these elite runners."

Fort Riley kids, families spend day fishing for fun

By Kalyn Curtis
1ST INF. DIV. POST

Hook, line and sinker - were some of the items used to create a good time during Kids Fishing Day on Moon Lake.

Hundreds of family members baited hooks and cast out lines April 25 at Moon Lake in celebration of the Month of the Military Child.

The event was a joint venture between several organizations including Fort Riley's Directorate of Public Works Environmental Division Conservation Branch, the Fort Riley Outdoorsmen Group, the Directorate of Family, Morale

and Welfare's Outdoor Recreation, and the local chapter of Fishing Future.

Families were loaned fishing poles and bags of tackle for each child. The bags were also filled with fish ID books and a brochure about the lakes and ponds on Fort Riley where fishing is allowed.

Kids Fishing Day offered military families a chance to bond with their kids by getting outside and learning about different types of fish in Moon Lake, and what Kansas has to offer when it comes to the outdoors.

"A lot of folks, because of the diversity of the military families and how they come from all around the United States, a

lot of folks don't know what's available for Kansas," said Jim Champagne, Business Director for Corvias Military Housing. "Really, Kansas especially the Central Flint Hills are focused on the outdoors. It's the hunting and the fishing and the outdoors, so this is kind of a good opportunity to expose them to those events."

Champagne said there were a variety of experienced fishers participating in the event, from kids who have never fished before, to kids who spend a lot of their free time devoted to reeling in the catch of the day.

Kevin Meade, father of two, said bringing his kids fishing is another way to bond. Meade

said he has gone as far bringing his family fishing in Alaska.

"It's mostly time that I get to spend with the kids," said Meade. "Mom doesn't particularly like fishing, but I do. So when dad and the kids get to play, it's a really good day."

Kalynn, Meade's 11 year old daughter, said she is not much of a fisher, but the family does spend most of their time together in the outdoors, and fishing is just another one of those things they can do together.

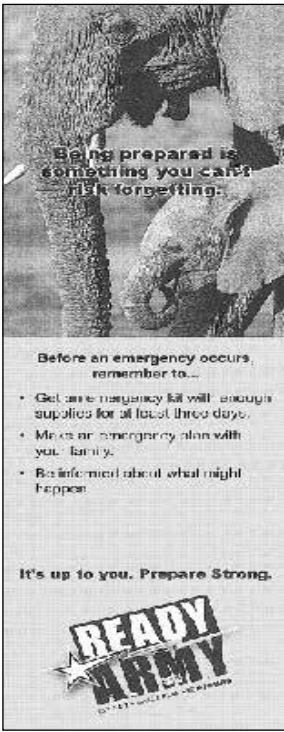
"I'm not much of a fisher," said Kalynn. "I've never really fished, whenever my parents and my brother go, I usually try to stay home. But I'd be

home alone for half of the day, so I had to come. I'm actually kind of enjoying this."

Steven Wahle, the organizer for Kids Fishing Day, said they start planning for the event months in advanced.

"Oh, we start planning for the event months in advanced," Wahle said. "We can expect between three and four hundred kids, so that's what we plan for. The Fishings Future, again they are the ones that provide almost all of the bait and almost all of the tackle, and all of the fishing poles."

For more information on the Fort Riley Outdoorsmen Group, and upcoming outdoor events visit: www.fortrileyoutdoorsmensgroup.com.





Travel & Fun in Kansas

Explore Kansas one booth, one bite at a time





WAMEGO Kan. – For the 26th year, the Kansas Sampler Festival launches the statewide travel season. The festival is the largest outdoor travel show in the state and attracted more than 11,700 people in 2014 who learned what there is to see, do, hear, taste, buy, sip and experience in Kansas.

This year the festival, which travels every two years to a different community, is in Wamego for the second year. Last year in the same location, there were 288 exhibitors from 153 communities teaching the public about architecture, art, commerce, cuisine, customs, geography, history and people of Kansas.

The festival hours are Saturday, May 2 from 10 a.m.-5 p.m. and Sunday May 3 from 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Admission is \$5 for adults and \$3 for children ages 7-12. Children 6 and under are free.

The primary focus of the event is to help people plan day trips around the state. Every part of the state is represented from Columbus to Colby and Elkhart to Atchison. The weekend event resembles a living travel brochure of Kansas.

Kansas musicians and historic performers provide entertainment; food vendors either promote a restaurant or serve a food product made in Kansas or from an ethnic recipe. A wine and beer tent features five Kansas wineries, a distillery and one micro brewery.

In addition, entrepreneurs in the two Kansas Product tents and the From the Land of Kansas tent sell everything from hats, honey, fine art, pottery, jellies, quilted bags, fudge, handcrafted furniture and more.

For the second year, twelve of the top Kansas photographers will be in one tent to showcase their work and give educational programs throughout the weekend. Some returning favorites are the Paradise Ranch Pack Goats and Mammoth donkeys, some animals from Hedrick’s Exotic Animal Farm in Nickerson, and the Abeldt Family Sheep Farm of Hope featuring shearing demonstrations, are a few exhibitors.

The volunteers in the Kansas Explorers Club tent instruct people on the basics of exploring the state. Marci Penner will ask Kansas questions on The Stump where visitors can vie for donated prizes.

The festival is a project of the Inman-based Kansas Sampler Foundation but a local committee led by Michelle Crisler of the City of Wamego and supported by Bunny McCloud and Betsy Riblett organized and prepared the site.

Michelle Crisler, local festival director said, “We have been working really hard and are ready to stage a terrific festival in our final year of hosting. It has been our pleasure for Wamego to be the site of this amazing statewide celebration.”

“The park will be bursting with everything Kansas,” said WenDee LaPlant, Foundation assistant director, “Barns, art, scenic drives, specialty shops, attractions, events, are all promoted here. It’s a guarantee that no one will leave this park without being amazed at all that Kansas has to offer.”

The Kansas Sampler Festival was born of a book-signing in 1990 for the Penner’s book, “Kansas Weekend Guide.” It was held on the Penner Farm near Inman with a tent of exhibitors. The event grew and was named, Kansas Sampler Festival. The festival was held on the Penner Farm from 1990 to 1997.

The decision to take the festival on the road exposed more people to the exhibitors and purpose for the festival. Two-year hosts, include; Pratt (1998- 1999), Ottawa (2000-2001), Independence (2002-2003), Newton (2004-2005), Garden City (2006-2007), Concordia (2008-2009), Leavenworth (2010-2011) and Liberal (2012-2013).

For more information, visit www.kansassamplerfestival.org.

IN BRIEF

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

JUNCTION CITY
Event: Arts in the Park
When: 6 a.m. to 4 p.m. June 13
Where: Heritage Park, Junction City
The Junction City Arts Council, in conjunction with the Junction City Juneteenth Committee, local businesses and artists will conduct the Arts in the Park event to promote arts and artists in Junction City and the surrounding areas and to provide a family-friendly event that promotes the unique cultural identity of Junction City.
On the schedule so far are skits by both the JCAC and Juneteenth Committee members, a 3 km Fun Run with color powder, a Sidewalk Sale in the area adjacent to the Park. Don't forget to stop by the Farmer's Market while there.
For more information, visit <http://www.junctioncityac.org/arts-in-the-park-2015.html>.

FORT RILEY
Event: Post-wide yard sale
When: 8 a.m. to noon May 9
Where: Fort Riley residential areas
The general public is invited to the post-wide yard sale May 9 from 8 a.m. to noon at Fort Riley. Due to new access control procedures, visitors are reminded to prepare for and follow these instructions:

- During this special event, visitors may enter Fort Riley without stopping at the Visitor Control Center.
- All vehicles with a visitor (any occupant who does not have a Department of Defense ID card or Fort Riley access badge or pass) must enter through Henry Gate, located at Exit 301 of Interstate 70.
- All visitors 16 years or older must have a government-issued photo ID (e.g., driver's license, state ID card, passport) or DoD credentials. No exceptions granted.
- Visitors must inform the gate guards of the reason for their visit.
- Drivers entering Fort Riley must have a valid vehicle registration and proof of insurance and be prepared to show to law enforcement if requested.
- All vehicles entering Fort Riley may be subject to a random vehicle search upon entering the installation.

Cost: Free

ANTHONY
Event: 2015 Sunflower Balloon Fest
When: 6 a.m. to 10 p.m. May 8 to 10
Where: 227 W. Main St., Anthony, Kansas
“It’s Happening in Anthony Kansas” is the 18th Annual Sunflower Balloon Fest.
It is the backdrop for a great event featuring the Kansas Cosmosphere Rocket Launch activities for kids; Show and Shine Car Show; Walk Pink, Walk Proud, Walk Kansas Fun Run; F-4 Flight Simulator; Scouts Dutch Oven feed; Walk-a-Round Magic Show; parade; helicopter rides; powered parachutes; arts and craft vendors; Lewellen Amusement Carnival; fireworks and the main feature, hot air balloons.
For more information, email info@anthonychamber.com or call 620-842-5456.
Cost: Free

ABILENE
Event: Mother’s Day Tea
When: Saturday, May 9 at 10 a.m. Reservations are required by May 4
Where: Dwight D. Eisenhower Presidential Library and Museum, Abilene, Kansas.
The second annual Mother’s Day Tea will be held at the Eisenhower Presidential Library indoor courtyard on Saturday, May 9 at 10 a.m.
The tea will feature a program by Eileen Hadley Givens, granddaughter of Douglas McKay, Secretary of the Interior under President Eisenhower.
This year commemorates the 70th anniversary of Ida Stover Eisenhower’s selection as Kansas Mother of the Year. The event is open to everyone and reservations are required by May 4.
For more information, call 785.263.6764
Cost: \$15

MANHATTAN
Event: 25th Annual Yard Art Classics Car Club: Car Show & Arts in the Park
When: Car Show 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Arts in the Park Schedule: Thundering Cats Big Band 1:30 p.m. Street Side, Doo Wop music from the 50's & 60's 5 p.m. Manhattan High School Choirs 7 p.m.
Where: Manhattan City Park, 1101 Fremont Manhattan, KS 66502
Phone: 785-539-4078

Ride home safely. Take the Riley Ride.

Pick up a \$5 or \$10 card at ITR and use it to ride between Fort Riley and Aggieville on Friday and Saturday nights. Open to all DoD ID cardholders.
Call 239-5614 for more information.

Fort Riley stops include Bldg. 7000F, Bldg. 7000G, Bldg. 7000A, Bldg. 7000C, Bldg. 7000D, Bldg. 210, WTB P-Lot, Bldg. 694 and Bldg. 1865A.

