

# THE **1**ST INFANTRY DIVISION POST

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◀◀ FORT RILEY, KAN. ▶▶



## Division's best to compete for Gainey Cup

By Staff Sgt. Aaron P. Duncan  
4TH IBCT PUBLIC AFFAIRS

A cavalryman team from Troop A, 1st Squadron, 4th Cavalry Regiment, 4th Infantry Brigade Team represented the 1st Infantry Division at the 2015 Gainey Cup competition May 4 to 8 at Fort Benning, Georgia.

The Gainey Cup is a competition named after retired Command Sgt. Maj. William "Joe" Gainey, the first senior enlisted advisor to the chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff. Gainey, in a video on the competition's website, gave a warning to the teams: "You need to tighten up your stirrups," he said. "I guarantee these tasks are going to be both physically and mentally challenging, and your basic scout combat skills will be tested to the max."

The event identifies the best scout squad in the Army. Units can't create teams exclusively for the competition – they have to be an existing squad, according to the competition's rules. The "Quarterhorse" squadron shined in competition after competition leading up to the Gainey Cup.

Competing on behalf of the division and Fort Riley were Staff Sgt. Brian J. Heather, Sgt. Juan F. Rocha, Sgt. Timothy M. Yanez, Sgt. Dawonta R. Henderson, Spc. Joel Garcia and Spc. Christopher Omara.

To represent the "Big Red One," the Quarterhorse squad had to first win battalion and division-wide competitions. The battalion competition, Quarterhorse Crucible, was scored individually. Every Soldier in the squad scored in the top 10 percent, with two securing first and second places.

Heather credited his squad's success to the Soldiers' hardworking and adaptive mindsets.

See GAINEY, page 6

## HONORING THE PAST, PREPARING FOR THE FUTURE



**LEFT:** Maj. Gen. Paul Funk II, commanding general of the 1st Infantry Division, and Division Command Sgt. Maj. Michael Grinston render salutes after placing a wreath of remembrance under the New Zealand flag at an outdoor memorial service on April 25. The day is one of reflection for 1st Inf. Div. comrades in arms from Australia and New Zealand. Each year, the Armed Forces of those countries stop to remember the fallen at ANZAC Cove in Gallipoli. The sacrifice of those brave young men in WWI was a defining moment for both nations.

**ABOVE AND LOWER RIGHT:** Soldiers of 1-75th Iraqi Army practice urban terrain maneuvers and basic tactics in preparation for Combined Arms Breaching Exercise.

COURTESY PHOTOS



## Veterans association dedicates Vietnam memorial

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

Five decades ago the 1st Infantry Division received orders to deploy to Vietnam, and while the Soldiers who served with the 16th Infantry Regiment during the conflict will never forget it, the regiment's association has ensured future generations will remember those who fought.

The 16th Infantry Regiment Association dedicated the 16th Infantry Vietnam Monument on the grounds of Fort Riley's U.S. Cavalry Museum May 1. Veterans from across the country attended the ceremony, part of the Department of Defense's Vietnam War 50th Anniversary Commemoration program.

"Today we remember the heroic efforts of over 8,000 Soldiers of the 16th Infantry Regiment who served in the

Republic of Vietnam," retired Lt. Col. John Schatzel, adjutant of the association, said, "and especially the 565 who perished there between 1965 and 1970 in an effort to bring freedom, peace and stability to that war-torn area."

In 1965, the 2nd Battalion, 16th Infantry Regiment – then part of 2nd Brigade, 1st Inf. Div. – became the first element

See MEMORIAL, page 8



Brig. Gen. Eric J. Wesley, 1st Inf. Div. senior mission commander, greets members of the 16th Infantry Regiment Association after the unveiling of the 16th Infantry Vietnam Monument May 1.

## Fort Riley wins fifth U.S. Army deployment excellence award

By Andy Massanet  
1ST INF. DIV. POST

When it comes to team excellence, the combined efforts of Fort Riley and the 1st Infantry Division has translated occasional or first-time successes into habit. For the fifth time in seven years, Fort Riley earned

the Chief of Staff of the Army Combined Logistics Excellence award.

Fort Riley's Logistics Readiness Center was named No. 1 in the "All-Army Installation" category for the continental United States.

According to an internal Army memo, Fort Riley pro-

vided the Army and the nation with "first-class support. Your selection... is an achievement that should make you rightfully proud. Your selection indicates that you are the best in the Army. The outstanding logistics program resident in your organization has significantly improved readiness. Keep up

these outstanding efforts and continue to excel."

For the leadership that oversees the work performed, the award is more a result of commitment to the mission and to 1st Infantry Division Soldiers.

"We have a team of true professionals who are dedicated to excellence," said Larry Githerman,

Director of Logistics, United States Army Garrison at Fort Riley. "They do not work to win the award. They work to support our Soldiers, 1st ID and the Army. The award is merely recognition for their sense of duty and pride in what they do each day, sometimes under extreme weather conditions and short timelines."

This latest recognition does not surprise Col. Robert Law, commanding officer of the 1st Sustainment Brigade, 1st Infantry Division.

"The Logistics Readiness Center winning this award for the fifth time in seven years,"

See AWARD, page 3

The next USAG Resilience Day Off will be:

May  
22

### SAFETY HOLIDAY

As of Thursday, May 7

**121**

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

### HIGHLIGHTS



**INTRODUCE YOURSELF TO ALMA, KANSAS, AND CHECK OUT THIS WABAUNSEE COUNTY GEM.**

SEE PAGE 16.

### ALSO IN THIS ISSUE



**BOSS GROUP SADDLES UP FOR A WEEKEND AT COWBOY FITNESS RANCH.**

SEE PAGE 13.



# Disposition of unused buildings saves post \$1.6 million in costs

By Maria Childs  
1ST INF. DIV. POST

In the on-going efforts to deal with buildings that no longer house a mission, more than 60 percent of unused and temporary buildings on Fort Riley were re-located or demolished over the past year, according to Mike Goreham, chief of the planning division for the Directorate of Public Works.

The moves spared the post a \$1.6 million price tag for maintenance of those facilities, which total about 400,000 square feet, Goreham said. He added that it costs approximately \$4 per square foot to maintain a building for a year.

According to B.J. Watson, master planner with the Directorate of Public Works, “if we have buildings that are not in use and that we don’t need, we have to maintain them so they aren’t falling apart or cre-

ating situations where they have freezing pipes. You have to continue to spend utility dollars on those buildings to maintain them.”

The \$1.6 million savings does not include another 18 buildings demolished as part of the facility reduction program. Those 18 buildings included almost 200,000 square feet and their demolition saved an additional \$800,000.

Not only does it cost in utilities but safety such as fire protection, pest control and several other maintenance factors add to the cost. The longer a building sits empty, the more it costs. Getting it listed for demolition or relocation as soon as possible helps mitigate expenses.


“I think Fort Riley has a strong record of using the facility reduction program for other building demolition,” Goreham said. “We get our paperwork in line and we get in the queue.”

Goreham said each year DPW does space management which helps determine what space is needed by each unit to ensure they have that room. They make sure they are listed in the Army Station and Installation Plan. The ASIP gives DPW a picture on how large units are and allows them to forecast changes in size.

That picture is always changing. When a unit representative says they are about to change size, DPW planners look for a location to better fit the new need. The planners also begin looking at options for the building being left.

Goreham said it’s an ever-changing landscape.

“You have to look at the information you have and make the best recommendation for use that you can when sometimes the picture isn’t clear,” Goreham said.



**Public Service Recognition Week**  
**“Army Civilians – Key to Mission Success”**


**3-9 May 2015**

For nearly 240 years, Army Civilian employees have been an integral part of enhancing and sustaining the readiness of America's Army in times of war and peace. The Army team appreciates our civilian workforce for their daily support to Soldiers, their Families and our Nation. Our civilian employees provide mission-essential capabilities, stability, continuity and leadership, all which are vital to our success. It is important that we extend our appreciation for their tremendous contributions during Public Service Recognition Week and throughout the year.


We take great pride in the professionalism of our total Army, both military and civilian personnel. It is incumbent upon the Army's senior leaders to continue to develop and maximize the potential of the Army Civilian Corps so that they remain a highly motivated workforce. Collaboration between employees, managers and the Army as an enterprise is essential to making this happen. For this reason, we are renewing our emphasis on improving the dialogue among our senior leaders, supervisors and our Army Civilian employees. Doing so will enhance the working relationship of our entire workforce.

Army Civilian employees serve as technical experts, functional managers and enterprise leaders throughout the force, and we want them to know that we are committed to providing opportunities for their growth today and in the Army of 2025 and beyond. To that end, we have implemented such innovative programs as the Senior Enterprise Talent Management (SETM) program for GS-14s/15s (and their pay plan equivalents) as well as the Enterprise Talent Management (ETM) program for GS-12s/13s (and their pay plan equivalents). These programs will help ensure professionalism in the future force. We are also working on a future initiative, Emerging Enterprise Leader (EEL), for our GS-11s/12s (and their equivalents). Through focused career management and training/developmental opportunities like the SETM, ETM and EEL, we will be able to enhance the professionalism of our Army Civilian Corps even more.

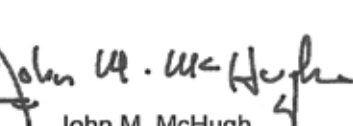
To the Army Civilian employees who we honor during this Public Service Recognition Week – Thank you for a job well done. Army Strong!



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

## 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.



# 'Big Red One' officers gather for annual dinner

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

Officers from throughout the 1st Infantry Division's history met for the 96th time April 25 in Alexandria, Virginia, to reminisce about the past and to hear about the "Big Red One's" current operations. This year's dinner marked the 50th anniversary of the division's receipt of orders to deploy to Vietnam.

"The support of the active division continues to be very strong," said retired Lt. Gen. Robert Durbin, chairman of the Officers of the First Division dinner committee. "We are especially proud of our division's activities this past year."

Brig. Gen. Eric J. Wesley, 1st Inf. Div. and Fort Riley senior mission commander and deputy commanding general for support, updated the gathered officers on the division's activities in the past year, which included deploying its headquarters to Southwest Asia to aid in the fight against ISIL.

"This is an amazing collection of valued people; the officers and spouses of the Big Red One," Wesley said. "This is a great honor, and it's also equally humbling. Humbling because there is momentum to the legacy of this division that all of us that are currently in the division extract from – and those who have come before us and those in this room are the ones that put the momentum to that legacy."

Wesley told the officers about how today's Big Red One Soldiers have found new meaning in the letters "BRO" – brave, responsible and on-point.

"As I look around this room," Wesley said, "it is apparent to me that although it is a new moniker, it's not a new idea, and it's not new behavior.

"It's the legacy of the people in this room that allow that moniker to be a brand that Soldiers can plug into as part of the Big Red One."

The keynote speaker for the evening was retired Gen. Gordon R. Sullivan, former 1st Inf. Div. commanding general, 32nd Army chief of staff and president of the Association of the United States Army.

"It is a distinct honor for me to be here," Sullivan said.

Sullivan, who served in Vietnam, spoke about the legacy of Big Red One Soldiers in Vietnam.

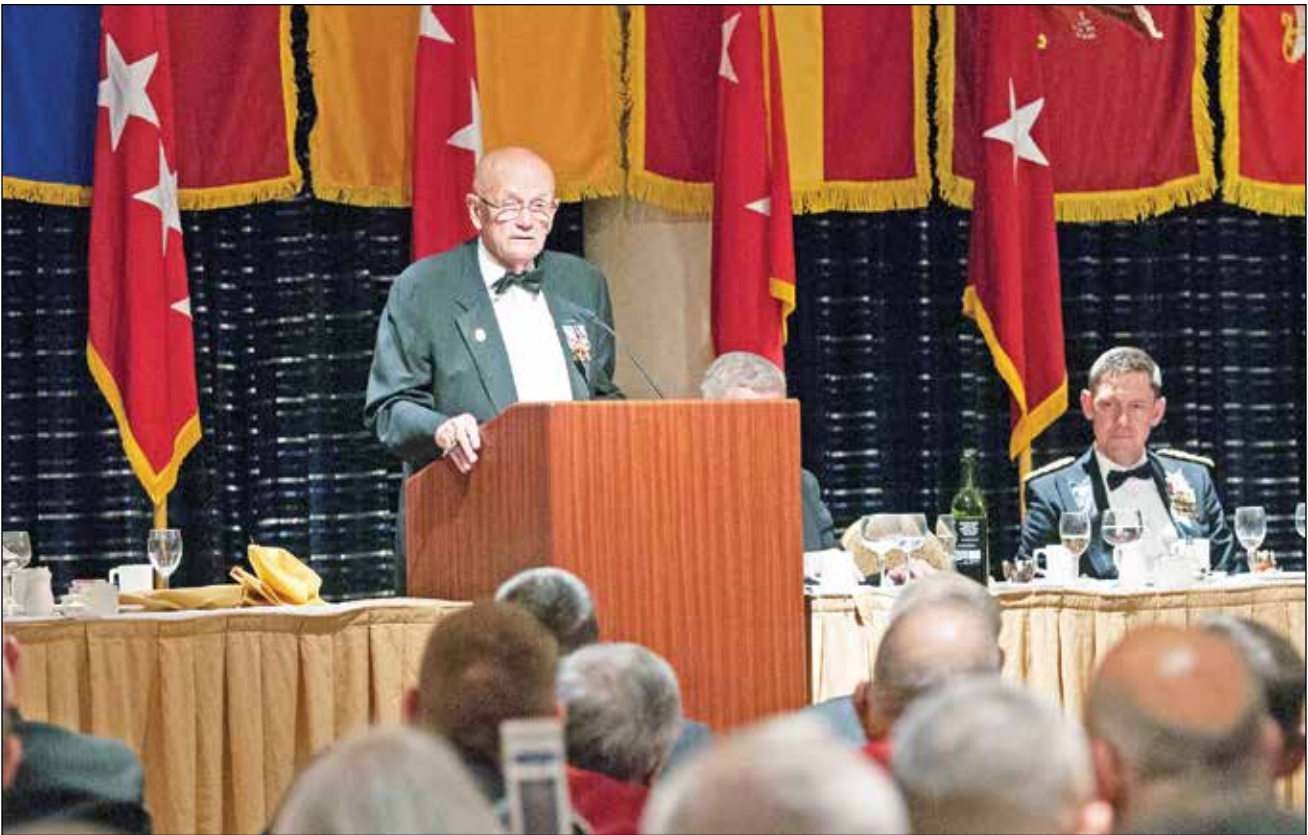
"The 1st Infantry Division led the way in the war in Vietnam," Sullivan said, adding that the Soldiers, noncommissioned officers and men of the division that made a difference during the conflict. "It's not the stuff – it's the troops who did it.

"Thanks to all of you for your service, thanks for your courage. I am proud to say I am an American Soldier. I have been for my entire adult life in or around the Army, and I am proud to say that I have soldiered with men and women like you."

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**ABOVE:** Retired Gen. Gordon R. Sullivan, former 1st Inf. Div. commanding general, 32nd Army chief of staff and president of the Association of the United States Army, gives his address as the keynote speaker of the Officers of the First Division's 96th Annual Dinner April 25 in Alexandria, Virginia.



**RIGHT:** Brig. Gen. Eric J. Wesley, 1st Inf. Div. and Fort Riley senior mission commander and deputy commanding general for support, addresses the annual gathering of officers of the 1st Inf. Div..

## TUESDAY TRIVIA CONTEST WINNER



The winner of the Tuesday, May 5, Trivia winner was Christina M. Mork who correctly answered: How many forms of ID does an adult need to bring to the ID card branch when requesting a DOD ID card?

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

**CONGRATULATIONS, CHRISTINA!**

## AWARD Continued from page 1

Law said, "is indicative of the quality of people in our LRC and how much Fort Riley as a whole, the 1st Infantry Division and the Garrison combined, invests in our ability to sustain the installation and the division."

He added that "Fort Riley's Sustainment Mission Command Capability extends from the Division G4 and [1st Infantry Division] Sustainment Brigade down to the Brigade Support Battalions, the Army Field Support Battalion and the Logistics Readiness Center with

all levels working closely to ensure there are no seams or gaps in our logistics support. I am very proud of the effort our partners in the LRC do on a daily basis to take care of our Big Red One Soldiers and their support to the mission of the division and all its subordinate units."

Meanwhile, Kansas Senator Jerry Moran posted his congratulations on Facebook: "The recognition is well-deserved and yet again demonstrates the 'Big Red One's' incredible capability to deploy quickly anywhere in the world."



## IRWINFORMATION

### What are Tricare On Line appointments?

Tricare On Line appointments allow you to make, change and cancel military hospital or clinic primary care and select self-referral appointments. View future and past appointments. Set up email and text message reminders. Set earlier appointment notifications. Act on behalf of yourself and your family members.

### What types of appointments are supported by TOL?

Primary care and select self-referral specialty appointments can be scheduled via TOL appointments. Please note appointment availability is determined at the military hospital and clinic level. If you cannot find an appointment, please contact your military hospital and clinic directly.

If you have a question for IrwINformation, send it to [IACHInformation@amedd.army.mil](mailto:IACHInformation@amedd.army.mil) or call 785-239-8414.

### Can I access appointments on behalf of my family members?

Yes, you can access TOL appointments on behalf of:

- Yourself
- Other adult family members who have granted access
- Minor children under 18 years of age

### Can I set up appointment reminders to alert me of my military hospital or clinic appointment(s)?

Yes, you have the ability to define up to three email addresses and mobile phone numbers, including international numbers, for receiving text reminders for military hospital or clinic appointments. Set reminders when prompted after booking an appointment on TOL or by accessing the TOL “Profile”.

## Smoking cessation research study offers TRICARE beneficiaries chance to quit


### TRICARE

If you are a TRICARE beneficiary ready to quit smoking, the Department of Defense community offers a new program. The Freedom Smoking Quitline is a research study funded by the National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute of the National Institutes of Health and co-sponsored by the United States Air Force and the University of Tennessee Health Science Center.

The study is interested in enrolling TRICARE beneficiaries motivated to quit smoking. If selected, you will receive four 30-minute telephone-counseling sessions and eight weeks of free nicotine replacement therapy (NRT) mailed to your home. If after three months you are still smoking, you will be eligible to receive additional counseling treatment and nicotine patches or gum. During a final telephone survey, about 12 months later, they will ask you some questions about your smoking status and level of satisfaction with the program. Best of all, your participation and the NRT are 100 percent free.

To be eligible to participate in the study you must meet the following requirements:

- In the past 12 months, you have smoked five or more cigarettes a day.
- 18 years or older.
- Active Duty, Retirees and Dependents DOD Tricare Beneficiaries.



- Have access to a phone.
- Interested in attempting to quit smoking within the next 30 days.
- Live in the continental United States, Alaska or Hawaii.
- Able and willing to use Nicotine Replacement Therapy nicotine patch or nicotine gum.
- Never been diagnosed with an unstable heart condition
- Not currently pregnant or breastfeeding.
- Willing to discontinue any medication you are taking for the purpose of smoking cessation, such as nicotine replacement therapy or medications such as Wellbutrin or Chantix.

Those interested in the Freedom Smoking Quitline program, can call 1-844-I-AM-FREE (1-844-426-3733) toll free, Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. CDT. The Quitline counselor requires about 30 minutes to determine eligibility and get you enrolled. More information about Research Study is available online.

## Stay in shape, prepare for fitness tests with FitText

By Katie Lange  
DOD NEWS  
DEFENSE MEDIA ACTIVITY



Staff Sgt. Roger Ashley | U.S. ARMY PHOTO

**Spc. Ian Hagen participates in the Army Physical Fitness Test to see who has the best overall physical endurance during the 2015 Combined TECs' Best Warrior Competition hosted at Fort McCoy, Wis. He will next compete at the U.S. Army Reserve Command competition beginning May 3.**

Summer is around the corner – a time when everyone wants to be in shape, as well as when many service members are also thinking about their physical fitness tests.

A text-messaging initiative called FitText was recently launched by the Army National Guard that’s meant to help anyone maximize their physical training, including service members readying themselves for their fitness assessments and family members looking to stay healthy.

FitText was launched ahead of this summer’s Army National Guard physical fitness tests so Soldiers could show up for them prepared.

“I could cram the night before [an academic] test and do fine,” said Col. Eric Morgan, the Army National Guard’s chief surgeon. “Physical fitness is not something you can cram for the night before.”

Those who sign up for the free service will get three to four text messages a week that offer fitness training program plans, healthy eating resources, motivational messages for training and other tips.

Morgan said military members often face tough issues when it comes to balancing their duties, their families and their health. That’s especially true for National Guard Soldiers, who can be called up for duty at a moment’s notice.

“There clearly is a need for our Guard Soldiers to be medically ready and fit to mobilize for a national emergency,” Morgan said. “The Guard’s soldiers – they need to balance their guard and civilian jobs. Family commitments can also weigh heavily, so all these factors actually affect your health and fitness.”

Examples of some of the texts include discussions over whether carb loading is a myth, how to master a 2-mile run with the right techniques and how to stay on track with training using a workout planner. There are also tips about things like how to stay hydrated before, during and after physical fitness tests.

Most of the texts have links back to GuardYourHealth.com, the website for a larger health initiative aimed at Army National Guard soldiers.

While the program was developed for the guard, Morgan said all branches of the military and civilians are welcome to use it.

The colonel said the program also helps build mental resilience on top of the physical aspect.

“There’s a lot more to fitness than just passing your physical fitness test. It really does go down sometimes to

the basics, like how much sleep you’re getting and what types of foods you are eating,” Morgan said.

The developers of FitText wanted to reach a core part of their audience comprised of 18- to 24-year-olds whose primary mode of information collection is on their smartphones.

Morgan said within two weeks of the April 15 launch, FitText already had 988 subscribers.

The Guard Your Health website, which was launched in August 2013, has seen a 281 percent increase in page views in the past year. Morgan said the ability to link to GuardYourHealth.com through phone messages will continue to help spread the site’s message.

“There are so many tremendous resources there,” he said.

And if you subscribe to FitText and don’t like it, you can easily opt out of the program.

WWW.1DIVPOST.COM



## RILEY ROUNDTABLE

National Teacher Day is May 10.  
What inspires you most about  
being a teacher?



"Inspiring children because you can make a difference in a kid's life. A teacher also inspired me at some point."

**SHAWNI STICCA**  
**COLORADO SPRINGS, COLORADO**  
3rd grade teacher at  
Fort Riley Elementary School



"Being able to see the children making growth academically and socially to be good citizens and people. That's the most important thing."

**KRISTIN REEDER**  
**MANHATTAN, KANSAS**  
4th grade teacher at  
Fort Riley Elementary School



"The kids - I work with all age ranges. No matter what level they come to me, watching them grow and meet goals we set together is inspiring."

**LAURA THOMPSON**  
**MANHATTAN, KANSAS**  
Speech and Language Pathologist at  
Custer Hill Elementary



"I think children amazing us on a constant basis when they reach beyond themselves and help another child with academics or show kindness to one another."

**ANITA ROGGE**  
**MANHATTAN, KANSAS**  
1st grade teacher at  
Morris Hill Elementary



"When you're teaching and you see them get it and the lightbulb comes on - that's what keeps me going."

**MICHAEL WHALEY**  
**CHAPMAN, KANSAS**  
7th grade math teacher at  
Fort Riley Middle School

## THE 1ST INFANTRY DIVISION POST

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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](mailto:usarmy.riley.imcom.mbx.post-newspaper@mail.mil)



Asian/Pacific Heritage Month:

"Many Cultures, One Voice: Promote Equality and Inclusion"

1 - 31 May 2015

During the month of May we honor Asian and Pacific Americans for their military service and contributions to the success of our Nation. Despite historic obstacles, Asian and Pacific Americans have persevered and contributed to every aspect of American life. This month, we pay tribute to the tenacity, hope and resolve of Asian and Pacific American Soldiers, Civilians and Family members who have helped shape our history and make America's Army a model institution for diversity and inclusion.

We take this time to remember the challenges and celebrate the achievements that define our history. The Army is fortunate to gain its strength from the vast diversity of languages, religions and cultural traditions found in our ranks, and that well represent the American people we serve.

The Army is the strength of the Nation and historically a leader in creating opportunities for all. We firmly value the principles of diversity and inclusion and continue to lead American society in maximizing the potential of future leaders from all backgrounds. As we celebrate the contributions of Asian and Pacific Americans to our military profession, we are assured that the American dream is attainable by all who desire it. 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

## Commission recommendations sent to Congress

By Jim Garamone  
DOD NEWS, DEFENSE MEDIA ACTIVITY

WASHINGTON – President Barack Obama sent the recommendations of the Military Compensation and Retirement Modernization Commission to Congress yesterday.

In the letter accompanying the report, Obama thanked the commission members and said their recommendations "represent an important step forward in protecting the long-term viability of the all-volunteer force, improving quality of life for service members and their families and ensuring the fiscal sustainability of the military compensation and retirement systems."

The president is prepared to support specific proposals for 10 of the Commission's 15 recommendations.

Since the commission released its report to the president in January, DOD officials have thoroughly vetted all the recommendations. The department and the White House want to move slowly on four of the commission's 15 recommendations and will begin executing the remaining 10.

The four that require more study are: the proposal for a blended retirement system, reserve component duty statuses, exceptional family member support and commissary and exchange consolidation.

The 10 recommendations the president is prepared to support either in their entirety or with modifications are: the Survivor Benefit Plan, financial education, medical personnel readiness, DOD and Department of Veterans Affairs collaboration, child care, service member education, transition assistance, dependent space-available travel and the report on military-connected dependents.

Defense Secretary Ash Carter will submit proposals for legislation to Congress on some of the recommendations. For his part, Carter also praised the commission for its 18-month independent review. The commission looked at retirement and compensation programs administered both inside and outside DOD.

"Their work confirmed many positive changes that we're making to uphold our commitments to our people, and also pointed out areas where we can do better," Carter said in a Pentagon release.

The commission's last recommendation on the military TRICARE health benefit program needs more work, the secretary said.

"While we agree with the commission that reforms to the military health care system are needed, we also believe that the TRICARE proposals in President Obama's fiscal 2016 budget serve as a good first step by offering service members, military families and retirees greater choice and control over their health care decisions," Carter said in the release.

The department will work with the commission, interagency partners and Congress this year to develop additional reform proposals for the fiscal year 2017 budget proposal.

Former Assistant Secretary of Defense for Force Management and Policy Alphonso Maldon Jr. chairs the commission.

The commission was chartered as part of the fiscal 2013 National Defense Authorization Act. The commission held public hearings at military posts across the country and solicited advice from veterans service organizations, think tanks and the general public.

## Army looks at credentialing Soldiers for civilian jobs

By Lisa Ferdinando  
ARNEWS

WASHINGTON – While the Army does a great job of training Soldiers for the battlefield, it needs to do a better job of getting members credentialed for the civilian marketplace, Maj. Gen. Rex A. Spidler said.

There are "great opportunities" for the Army in this area, said Spidler, deputy chief of staff, Army Training and Doctrine Command, also known as TRADOC.

Spidler, a keynote speaker at the American Legion National Credentialing Summit here, April 28, said it is a large-scale effort for his command since 500,000 people go through TRADOC schools each year.

The Army trains its members to engage in the complex world, where the next battle is "unknown and unknowable," he said. "We're not quite sure what we're going to see when we go into that next battle."

Under such circumstances, the Army requires a highly-trained force and depends on Soldiers to think innovatively and survive and thrive in chaos, Spidler said.

"That means in all of the training that the young Soldier receives when he comes in at the beginning of that pipeline, until he gets pushed out at retirement or anytime

in between there, he is learning how to operate in chaos," he said.

That benefits Soldiers far beyond the battlefield, he said.

"We're training them how to survive and win in any environment that they're engaged in," he said.

Leaders need to make sure Soldiers have the best skills to benefit the Army, he said. But it is also important Soldiers can get credentialed and transfer those skills to the civilian marketplace once they leave the force, he added.

"Even after 35 years of being in the military, if this is my last year, which I hope it's not, I have to get another job," Spidler said. People are living and working a lot longer, he said.

Soldiers embody the values taught them in the military, he said, making them great employees in the civilian world.

The Army's Soldier for Life program is an example of showcasing how Soldiers serve their whole lives - from when they enter the Army, through when they re-enter the civilian world and are productive members of their community.

"The work that we are doing here is not just limited to that 18-year-old, who is joining the military looking for a skill - that is also applicable to the 50-year-old, who is tran-

sitioning out of the military," he said.

It is important for leaders to make sure the message of credentialing, education and opportunities gets out in an understandable fashion, he said. "We have some work to do," he said.

Credentialing and readiness go hand-in-hand, said Col. Reed Hudgins, TRADOC's director of credentialing, certification and licensing.

That hand-in-hand walk begins when Soldiers enter the Army, and it continues their entire career, Hudgins said during a panel discussion.

"It's a lifelong process; a process that speaks to readiness for us inside the military," he said.

Credentialing saves money since the training or certification could be low or no-cost to the Army, maintains a professionalized force with industry's best practices and keeps members interested and challenged, he said.

Since industry's best practices make up credentialing, the skills are in demand, fresh and viable, he noted.

Credentialing is not just for the active Army, he said. "It's applicable to the total force; without the National Guard, without the Reserve, we can't do what it is we do," he said.

The American Legion

conference brought together veterans, government officials and members of all the services for a two-day event that began April 28.

The conference highlighted the importance of creating a skilled workforce that not only strengthens the military in these challenging times, but also helps the military member, said Steve Gonzalez, assistant director, veterans employment and education division at the American Legion.

The two-day meeting aimed to reassess what is needed to be the "21st-century military force we need," while also considering the military drawdown and transition of those who served the nation, Gonzalez said.

Those in the military and their families should find out now what opportunities for credentialing are available to them, so they can make the greatest use of the education, training and opportunities, to benefit them now and down the road, he said.

One of the challenges, Spidler said, is to ensure a discussion occurs not only at the individual level through word of mouth, but also from an institutional standpoint so Soldiers are aware of the opportunities the day they join.

"I think we have an opportunity here to change that," he said.



# Alert Soldier saves drowning child

By Staff Sgt. Kristen Duus  
1st Brigade Combat Team, 1st Armored Division

WASHINGTON – For one El Paso family, Sgt. 1st Class Lynnette Hobson-Shearwood was in the right place at the right time.

Hobson-Shearwood hails from Trinidad and Tobago. She’s the Supply Support Activity platoon sergeant for 1st Armored Division’s Alpha Company, 501st Brigade Support Battalion, “Ready First” Brigade Combat Team.

The senior noncommissioned officer has been working evenings in preparation for the unit’s rotation to the National Training Center in mid-May.

But Hobson-Shearwood left work early April 23 and arrived home shortly after 6:00 p.m. Instead of following her normal routine, she went straight to her backyard to water her plants.

“I heard a baby making a whimpering sound,” Hobson-Shearwood recalled. “I didn’t see an adult in the yard and I noticed a little boy in pampers and he was over the pool, pulling on something in the water. I thought it was a doll.”

Fearful that the 2-year-old boy would fall in, she called out to the neighbors. No one heard her, so she jumped the fence. It was not until she approached the child that she realized it was not a doll in the water. It was a one-year-old boy, submerged in the water. Only his ankle was above water.

“I came around to the pool and I could get him without



Sgt. 1st Class  
Lynnette Hobson-Shearwood

jumping in,” Hobson-Shearwood said. “I picked him up, put him on the side of the pool, and started doing CPR on him.”

The fully-dressed child was unconscious and had already started to turn blue when she grabbed him from the water.

“All I was saying was, ‘Please God, don’t let him die,’” Hobson-Shearwood said.

After what seemed like an eternity of performing CPR, the infant, named Troy, coughed up water.

“Once he started breathing, I put him on his side in the recovery position and I went knocking on the back door,” she said.

Troy’s grandmother was home and she immediately called 911. Hobson-Shearwood continued to tend to the child until the paramedics arrived.

“When he took his first breath, I was so glad,” Hobson-Shearwood said. “He started to regain his color and I was hoping he didn’t suffer any brain damage.”

Hobson-Shearwood said Troy’s family has visited her several times to thank her for her actions, and told her after several days in the intensive care unit that he is showing signs of a full recovery.

The soldier credits her quick actions on the training she has received in her 20 years in the Army. She said she doesn’t consider herself a hero, adding that anyone would do the same thing in that situation.

“It’s an incredible act,” said Army Capt. Ramses Diaz, Hobson-Shearwood’s company commander. “Anyone who has kids, anyone who has been around kids, I’m sure would feel that was an act of bravery that she performed. She doesn’t want to be considered a hero, and we would all like to think we’d do the same thing, but we are not all put in those situations and she was that night, and she acted in a heroic manner.”

While Hobson-Shearwood downplays her heroics, she said she can’t emphasize enough the importance of water safety.

“I am always big on teaching children to swim,” she said. “You can start to teach them to swim from three months old. I think once you have children around, you should learn CPR and basic first aid.”

Troy’s family is forever grateful to her for saving the life of their child, and want to now celebrate two birthdays for him, to include the day he was brought back to life, April 22, Hobson-Shearwood said.

## GAINNEY Continued from page 1

“What separates all of these Soldiers from their peers – not only in this squadron, but the cavalrymen I have seen elsewhere – is their commitment to success,” Heather said.

The squad trained daily since winning the division competitions in December, using every bit of time they

could to master basic cavalryman skills.

The Soldiers accomplished this all while the squadron to which they were assigned was inactivating. The 4th Squadron, 4th Cavalry Regiment, 1st Armored Brigade Combat Team, 1st Inf. Div., is set to reorganize on June 16.

“We were able to overcome every road block that came our way and get in some good training,” Heather said. “If they have learned anything from this whole experience, win or lose, they have learned when you find an obstacle, you have to find a bypass. You have to get past your roadblocks and keep moving forward.”



Capt. Keith Thayer | 4TH IBCT

The 1st Inf. Div. 2015 Gainey Cup team, which is from Troop A, 1st Sqdn., 4th Cav. Regt., 4th IBCT, is pictured in front of division headquarters Feb. 25 at Fort Riley. They competed May 4 to 8 at Fort Benning, Georgia, for the title of best cavalry squad in the Army. Pictured from left to right are Spc. Joeland Garcia, Sgt. Dawonta R. Henderson, Sgt. Juan F. Rocha, Sgt. Timothy M. Yanez, Spc. Christopher Omara and Staff Sgt. Brian J. Heather.



# ‘Devils’ hit ground running

Story and photos by Staff Sgt. Bernhard Lashleyleidner  
1ST ABCT PUBLIC AFFAIRS

Col. John Reynolds III, commander, 1st Armored Brigade Combat Team, 1st Infantry Division, led more than 4,000 “Devil” brigade Soldiers on a 5-mile motivational run April 20 at Fort Riley.

The run symbolized to everyone in the division that 1st ABCT, 1st Inf. Div., was back and ready for its next mission and it marked the brigade’s first official day back from its deployment.

The brigade’s Soldiers completed a successful nine-month deployment to both Kuwait and Iraq in support of Operations Spartan Shield and Inherent Resolve in early March. The troops recently concluded their block leave period, resuming normal operations in the brigade.

At the conclusion of the run, Reynolds welcomed the Devil brigade back and thanked the Soldiers.

“Well done,” Reynolds said. “No other formation across the Army in the last five years has been as flexible and determined as the Devil brigade.”

The run was also the first time in nine months that elements of the entire brigade were together in one location.

“I thought this was one of the best runs we have ever had,” said Spc. Kereese Ray, chemical, biological, radiological and nuclear specialist. “What a way to start off my week.”



Staff Sgt. Bernhard Lashleyleidner, 1st ABCT

**ABOVE, Soldiers of the Devil brigade stand in formation and listen to remarks given by Col. John Reynolds III, commander, 1st ABCT, 1st Inf. Div., after completing the brigade motivational run April 20 at Fort Riley, Kansas. The run symbolized the brigade’s first official day back from their nine-month deployment to Kuwait.**

**BELOW, Col. John Reynolds III, commander, 1st ABCT, 1st Inf. Div., leads the formation during a brigade-wide motivational run April 20 at Fort Riley, Kansas. The run marked the organization’s first official day back from its deployment to Kuwait and Iraq.**





# International officers meet with ‘Big Red One’ Soldiers

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

More than 30 officers from 33 countries visited Fort Riley April 29 to 30 to learn about Army training and meet 1st Infantry Division Soldiers.

“Every continent is represented,” Maj. Gen. William Duffy, U.S. Army deputy intelligence officer, said of the group. “These are the army attachés sent by their nations to represent them and be their liaison to the United States.”

Duffy said the group traveled to several military installations throughout the Midwest as part of an orientation trip to share how the U.S. Army operates and get an introduction to American culture.

“The idea is to build partnerships, friendships – show other armies how we work so that when we work together in the future, we know each other and can be more successful,” the general said. “We really wanted to go to Fort Riley because it’s a division-level post, so we get to see a bit of the tactical Army and other nations can see how we operate at that level and maybe incorporate some of those ideas into their militaries.”

The results of the trip can last and improve future operations.

“The United States doesn’t go to war or go anywhere alone,” he said. “We always do it with partners.”

While on post, the foreign officers received a command brief and tour of 1st Inf. Div. headquarters, took an aerial

tour of the post, visited with 1st Armored Brigade Combat Team leaders, observed the virtual training available to Soldiers at the Mission Training Complex and watched 1st Attack Reconnaissance Battalion, 1st Aviation Regiment, 1st Combat Aviation Brigade gunnery.

“I thought it was really fantastic,” said Col. Bengt Alexandersson, military attaché and assistant defense attaché from Sweden, “particularly the volume that you can be able to train almost a whole battalion, or from the single Soldier up to the divisional level.”

Alexandersson said he was impressed by the large amount of training space available at Fort Riley.

The group’s last stop before leaving Fort Riley was a visit to the post’s Cavalry Museum, where the international officers had an opportunity to look back through the military history of the country.

“This is one of the highlights of my job here,” said Bob Smith, director of Fort Riley museums, who gave the officers a guided tour. “They’re such an extraordinary bunch.”

Smith said groups like this respond well to the hands-on portion of the tour, where the officers were able to hold reproductions of weapons and uniforms from various historical eras.

“Everyone enjoys history,” Smith said. “We are all one humanity, and we all have the same interests. Sometimes our politics differ and things like that, but we’re all one group.”



Maj. Fatouma Wadale Mana, military attaché, Cameroon, listens to Capt. Derek Duhoux, 1st CAB, 1st Inf. Div., explain some of the capabilities of a AH-64 Apache helicopter April 29 at Fort Riley, Kansas. About 40 foreign military attaché officers observed a 1st ARB, 1st CAB gunnery at the Multi-Purpose Range Complex during a tour of Fort Riley.

Staff Sgt. Jerry Griffis  
1ST INF. DIV.



Retired Lt. Col. Steven Clay, president of the 16th Infantry Regiment Association, speaks to a group of veterans and active-duty Soldiers at the unveiling ceremony for the 16th Infantry Vietnam Monument May 1 on the grounds of Fort Riley’s U.S. Cavalry Museum.

## MEMORIAL Continued from page 1

of the regiment to deploy to South Vietnam.

“We have installed a number of monuments, bronze plaques and stone tablets in various locations literally around the world commemorating the efforts and sacrifices of 16th Infantry Soldiers who answered their nation’s call,” said retired Lt. Col. Steven Clay, president of the 16th Infantry Regiment Association. “This year, it was a foregone conclusion for the board to decide to commemorate the 50th anniversary of the beginning of the regiment’s participation in the Vietnam conflict.”

Soldiers of the 16th Regiment earned two Medals of Honor, 10 Distinguished Service Crosses and 11 campaign streamers during the conflict.

“Fifty years ago, you all know that our nation was in some turmoil – there was a contentious war, there was political and cultural upheaval and there was unrest in the streets,” said Brig. Gen. Eric J. Wesley, 1st Infantry Division senior mission commander. “Soldiers became a lightning rod for blame and criticism by the way they were treated, and in some ways, by the way they were not treated.”

Wesley said that while today in the United States there are contentious views on two wars and some political and cultural discord, Soldiers are the hope in this era.

“Fourteen years of war, and you walk into any airport in this uniform, someone is going to walk up to you and say ‘thank you for your service,’” the senior mission commander said. “After Vietnam, our nation went through a national catharsis and then learned some massive lessons from that era.

“It’s as if our very culture, the national culture, learned this: that whatever the policy, that whatever the conflict, that whatever the war, it is not the Soldier to whom we hold account.”

Wesley said active-duty Soldiers directly benefitted from the efforts of Vietnam-era veterans.

“If someone thanks you in an airport for your service, it’s the veterans in this audience who own the pathway of endurance that produced it,” he said. “We had to go through a period like that to become the Army we are today.”

Wesley joined members of the 16th Infantry Regiment Association in unveiling the black granite memorial in its permanent spot near Cavalry Parade Field.

“I am the luckiest guy that ever walked,” said retired Brig. Gen. David C. Martin, last commander of the 1st Bn., 16th Inf. Regt., in Vietnam. “Every Soldier I saw was there to fight. Everyone understood the rules of the game. And everyone understood that we’re second to nobody.”



## IN BRIEF

### TRAFFIC UPDATES

For traffic updates, see the Traffic Report on page 2 or visit [www.riley.army.mil](http://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](http://www.facebook.com/FortRiley) or follow @FortRiley on Twitter.

### CEREMONIES

For U.S. Army Garrison Fort Riley ceremony information, visit [twitter.com/usagceremonies](http://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 at 8630 Sustainment Drive.

### 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](http://rileymwr.com/rileys) or call 785-784-1000.

### NO DOUGH DINNER

The USO is helping to bring families together with free dinners. The next USO No Dough Dinners are scheduled for 5 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. May 13 and 28 at Fort Riley USO building 251 on Cameron Ave. Be sure to bring your ID. For more information, call 785-240-5326 or email [usofortriley@uso.org](mailto:usofortriley@uso.org).

### PATRIOT PET SHOW

The Patriot Pet Show is scheduled for 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. May 15 at the Fort Riley Main Exchange. There will be contests, coloring books for children, information booths on vet services and housing regulations. Other events include adoption and registration with on-post veterinary service, a visit from Sparky the Fire Dog, fire department demonstration and treats for pets.

### POOLS OPEN MAY 24

Four Corvias community pools open for the season on May 24. Pool hours are 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. Monday through Saturday and 1 p.m. to 6 p.m. Sunday. For more information, visit <http://riley.corviasmilitaryliving.com/pools>.

### FAMILY BINGO

Family Bingo is scheduled for 2 p.m. May 24 at Rally Point. Doors open at 1 p.m. Admission for adults is \$10 and children are \$5. For more information, call 785-784-5434.

### 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](http://rileymwr.com/library).

### RILEY RIDE

Heading to Aggieville for drinks? Get home to Fort Riley safely with Riley Ride. The transportation service is open to all Department of Defense ID cardholders and runs Friday and Saturday evenings. For more information, call 785-239-5614.



Leading the pack of 4th MEB, 1st Inf. Div., troops during a unit run to open Dauntless Week, Jared Estes, front right, and Col. Andy Munera, commander, 4th MEB, are joined by the brigade staff April 24 at Fort Leonard Wood, Missouri. Estes helped the "Dauntless" brigade begin its annual Dauntless Week to share his story of resilience and overcoming tragedy with the troops of 4th MEB.

# Seeing the race to its end

## 4th MEB Soldiers hear message of resilience

Story and photos by Staff Sgt. Kelly S. Malone  
4TH MEB PUBLIC AFFAIRS

FORT LEONARD WOOD, Missouri – The 4th Maneuver Enhancement Brigade welcomed inspirational speaker Jared Estes April 24, to tell Soldiers his story of resilience and overcoming tragedy.

"There are two messages for the troops that Jared carries," said Col. Andy Munera, commander, 4th MEB, 1st Infantry Division. "One is resilience and the second is the downside to drunk driving."

Estes' story began more than three years ago in Kansas when a drunk driver traveling at a high rate of speed slammed into the back of the car in which he, his wife of only six months and two of their friends were riding. There

See RESILIENCE, page 12



Motivational speaker Jared Estes, while receiving a tour of Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 4th MEB, 1st Inf. Div., fits and seals an M50 joint service general purpose mask April 24, before he takes the stage at the Fort Leonard Wood, Missouri, main post chapel to share his story of resilience and overcoming tragedy with brigade troops April 24.

### MORE ONLINE

• For more information about inspirational speaker **Jared Estes**, go to [www.jaredestes.com](http://www.jaredestes.com).

# Speaker paints picture of Holocaust

## Kansas City native shares memories on Holocaust Day of Remembrance

STAFF REPORT

Kristallnacht. The night of broken glass. Irene Starr said she remembers well her parents speaking of it as she spoke of that experience to Soldiers, family members and civilians from the 1st Infantry Division and Fort Riley., She talked about her parents' experiences in Germany pre-WW II at the Holocaust Day of Remembrance observance April 15.

Starr, a Kansas City native, represents the Second Generation Speakers Bureau of the Midwest Center for Holocaust Education.

Her parents, Ruth and Norman "Sally" Stiefel escaped Germany at the onset of the Holocaust. They were

each born in Germany and immigrated to the United States in March 1939.

Of Norman's family of 17 siblings, only seven survived the Holocaust and each of those seven immigrated to America during the 1920s or 1930s.

At the observance Starr reviewed how anti-Semitic discrimination caused job loss and forced people to sell off property at low prices. She said her father experienced this discrimination, losing his job of 15 years and eventually being imprisoned at the Buchenwald concentration camp for five weeks following Kristallnacht.

Irene said she believes her father's German military service in World



Irene Starr

War I may have helped gain his release. Her parents departed Hamburg March 16, arriving in New York March 24, 1939.

During the Days of Remembrance observance, hosted by staff members from the 1st Combat Aviation Brigade, 1st Infantry Division Equal Opportunity Office, the audience participated in interactive education and observed a moment of reflection, lighting electronic candles on each table. Guests also tasted a sampling of foods from a traditional Jewish menu.

The Day of Remembrance was established by the U.S. Congress to memorialize the six million Jews murdered in the Holocaust, as well as the millions of non-Jewish victims, of Nazi persecution.

For more information about Midwest Center for Holocaust Education, visit <http://mchekc.org/second-generation-speakers-bureau>.

# Corvias '15 housing survey available

## Resdent feedback will help with future improvements to on-post living

CORVIAS

Corvias Military Living, the military housing division of Corvias Group, is asking all residents to complete the 2015 Headquarters Department of the Army (HQDA) Residential Communities Initiative (RCI) Resident Survey.

The survey gives on-post residents an opportunity to provide feedback to the Army, RCI and Corvias Military Living on how their housing needs are being met.

"The results of this survey are very important to us. They play a big role in how we assess our performance and the level of care we're providing for our residents," said Chuck Parker, Division President of Corvias Military Living. "Delivering the highest quality of service to our service members and their families remains a top priority and these results will help us determine what we do well and what we can improve on to provide an even greater living experience."

Residents should have already received an electronic survey. Residents who do not receive a survey or who have questions should email [ARMY-Housingsurvey@celassociates.com](mailto:ARMY-Housingsurvey@celassociates.com). Residents must fill out and submit the online survey by June 7.

All residents who complete the survey will be entered to be entered to win one grand prize of \$1,500.

The survey takes less than 20 minutes to complete and will ask questions on topics such as residents' evaluation of their present home, community amenities, resident activities, the community maintenance team and property management team, among others.

All survey answers are strictly confidential and residents are urged to offer honest responses. Personal data is not tabulated and the survey does not identify the resident in any way. The feedback provides the Army and Corvias with vital information to evaluate the current state of the partnership and guide future improvements to the housing facilities and residential services.

# iWatch program depends on you

## 'See something, say something' is program's slogan

By Kalyn Curtis  
1ST INF. DIV. POST

"See something, say something." That's the slogan of the Army's iWATCH program. Established in 2010, the program is intended to provide community members with phone numbers and points of contact in order to report suspicious activity.

"According to Fort Riley antirterrorism officer, Patrick Burch, community members should familiarize themselves with iWATCH and signs of suspicious activity," Burch said there are two key active elements about the iWATCH program, including educating the community to identify suspicious activity and be aware of what is going on around them.

"Suspicious behavior is often defined by somebody that is engaged in activity that is normally not seen in that venue," Burch said. "Report even though you're not sure because people have a tendency when they see something to go through the process of explaining it a way so that it fits there."

See iWATCH, page 12



COMMUNITY CORNER

Celebrate, appreciate military spouses always

By Col. Andrew Cole  
GARRISON COMMANDER

Although Military Spouse Appreciation Day is May 8, we recognize the importance of consistently honoring and appreciating spouses of the men and women who defend our nation. Military spouses are the strength of our Soldiers and play key roles in the success of our Army's mission. Much like our Soldiers, spouses serve and sacrifice, too. While working full-time jobs, many are dedicated to keeping

our homes together, balancing finances and taking care of our children as we tend to the mission.

They give up their spouses during deployments, as well as the comforts of home during overseas assignments and often sacrifice their own careers or interests in support of ours. Through all this, military spouses are also our source of



Colonel Cole

moral support and encouragement. They remain the cornerstone in our constantly changing lives. Military spouses are our homefront heroes. Join me in publicly saying "thank you" for their dedication, sacrifices and loyalty. There are many programs at Fort Riley that support military spouses in their efforts. These programs range from employment and financial readiness to family advocacy and relocation assistance. Most of them are housed under Army Community Service. Find out more

about these programs by calling 785-239-9435. President Ronald Reagan signed a proclamation officially recognizing Military Spouse Appreciation Day in 1984. The Department of Defense has since declared the Friday before Mother's Day each year as Military Spouse Appreciation Day.

*If you would like to comment on this article or suggest a topic for Community Corner, email [usarmy.riley.incom.mbx.post-newspaper@mail.mil](mailto:usarmy.riley.incom.mbx.post-newspaper@mail.mil) or visit my Facebook page at [www.facebook.com/fortrileycg](http://www.facebook.com/fortrileycg).*



K-STATE SPORTS

An official groundbreaking ceremony for the new home of the K-State women's soccer team, just south of Tointon Family Stadium, will take place at 10 a.m. Saturday, May 9.

K-State breaks ground on fields for soccer, football

Initial phase of competition, practice fields underway

K-STATE SPORTS

MANHATTAN, Kan. – With the inaugural season of K-State women's soccer debuting in the fall of 2016, K-State Athletics announced today ground has been broken on new practice and competition fields.

An official groundbreaking ceremony for the new fields will take place on Saturday, May 9 at 10 a.m. Dignitaries to be in attendance include: K-State university first lady Noel Schulz, K-State athletics director John Currie and K-State women's soccer head coach Mike Dibbini.

The new home for soccer will be located just south of Tointon Family Stadium as two grass fields consisting of a Bermuda surface, new irrigation and drainage system are being constructed on the current site of the former football practice fields. The first phase of the project, which began on Monday, April 27, is being managed by Mid-America Sports Construction and Wildcat Construction and is anticipated to be completed by July.

"While exploring all options for our soccer program, we wanted to find the location that will best serve our student-athletes and also provide the best experience for our fans," Currie said. "This latest project will not only provide our soccer program with a new home but will also serve the practice needs of our football student-athletes while providing the long-term flexibility for further improvements and expansion in additional phases."

Both soccer and football will utilize the space, as a practice field on the east side of the site will accommodate both sports. The soccer competition field is being built along College Avenue on the west side of the site, and will provide versatility for future fan experience amenities including lighting, bleacher seating, a press facility, decorative fencing and a scoreboard. Fans will be able to utilize the existing restroom and concessions facilities at Tointon Family Stadium for games in the fall of 2016. The cost of the initial phase of the project is estimated at

ATHLETIC UPGRADES

• The new facility for soccer and football, in addition to the current Vanier Football Complex project at Bill Snyder Family Stadium, brings the department's facility enhancements total to \$192 million following the opening of the West Stadium Center, Basketball Training Facility, Intercollegiate Rowing Facility and Mike Goss Tennis Stadium.

\$2.1 million and will be totally funded by department-generated revenue.

"The first phase of our new soccer complex will be treasured by our student-athletes, our fans and supporters," said head coach Mike Dibbini about the new stadium. "This is an integral step to providing a World-Class Student-Athlete Experience and help deliver the Best Fan Experience in the Big 12. We are thrilled for the launching of our program and to be a part of the K-State family."

The Bermuda playing surfaces on both fields will provide the best overall experience for the student-athletes in both programs and also provide the long-term flexibility for expansion.

K-State may play an occasional soccer match at Memorial Stadium on the Kansas State University campus, but the construction of a soccer-only facility along College Avenue avoids interference with the significant day-to-day use of Memorial Stadium by Recreation Services, ROTC, the K-State Marching Band and various student and community groups.

The new facility for soccer and football, in addition to the current Vanier Football Complex project at Bill Snyder Family Stadium, brings the department's total facility enhancements total to \$192 million following the opening of the West Stadium Center, Basketball Training Facility, Intercollegiate Rowing Facility and Mike Goss Tennis Stadium.

With members from 32 different states, K-State Athletics continues to accept memberships in the K-State Soccer Founders Club. To join or receive more information, contact the K-State Athletics Ticket Office at (800) 221-CATS.

Identity theft poses a severe threat

Official: Consumers must be proactive, use tools available

By Maria Childs  
1ST INF. DIV. POST

Doppelgangers look like us. Identity thieves try to present themselves as us.

Lt. David Rhodes, supervisory detective, Fort Riley Police Investigations, said identity theft is when someone uses another's personal information without permission to obtain a line of credit in their name. Often, people find out they are a victim of identity theft when they are denied a line of credit.

"Ultimately, it is the consumer's responsibility to protect their identity," Rhodes said. "The consumer has to be really proactive and use the tools that are out there from the federal government, lenders and financial institutions, but we still have to be proactive in making sure we do things to stay ahead."

There are three steps to reporting identity theft. First, a consumer must file a complaint with the Federal Trade Commission online at [www.ftc.gov/identitytheft](http://www.ftc.gov/identitytheft). The consumer then fills out an affidavit and requests a copy. Once the affidavit is obtained, a report can be made at the local police department.

Rhodes said there are tools available to prevent identity

REPORTING IDENTITY THEFT

- Report it to the financial institution. Call the phone number on account statements or on the back of credit or debit cards.
- Report the fraud to local police immediately. Keep a copy of the police report, which will make it easier to prove a case to creditors and retailers.
- Contact the credit-reporting bureaus and ask them to flag accounts with a fraud alert, which asks merchants not to grant new credit without approval.
- In the event of an emergency, call 911. For non-emergencies or to report a crime, call the Fort Riley Police Desk at 785-239-6767.

theft, but it is up to the consumer to use those measures. He said placing a fraud alert on a credit report prevents identity theft by forcing creditors to obtain further proof of identity. Checking credit reports annually for unauthorized activity also helps detect it.

A consumer can obtain a free credit report from the three major credit reporting agencies each year. Rhodes recommends getting a copy from each at different times of the year to be able to detect unauthorized credit activity in a timely manner.

"It's easier to be proactive than reactive," Rhodes said.

Some tips Rhodes suggested in the effort to prevent identity theft include:

- Don't carry a Social Security card in a wallet or write the number on checks. Only give out a Social Security number when absolutely necessary.
- Protect Personal Identification Numbers. Never write a PIN on a credit or debit card

or on a slip of paper kept with the card.

- Watch out for "shoulder surfers." Use the other hand to shield the keypad when using pay pads and ATMs. Some thieves use thermal viewers attached to phones to determine what keys were pushed and in what order. To defend against this, after a transaction is complete rest fingers on all the keys for a short time before leaving.
- Collect mail promptly. Ask the post office to put mail on hold when away from home for more than a day or two.
- Pay attention to billing cycles. If bills or financial statements are late, contact the sender.
- Keep receipts. Ask for carbons and incorrect charge slips as well. Promptly compare receipts with account statements. Watch for unauthorized transactions.
- Tear up or shred unwanted receipts, credit offers, account statements, expired cards, etc., to prevent dump-

"The consumer has to be really proactive and use the tools that are out there from the federal government, lenders and financial institutions, but we still have to be proactive in making sure we do things to stay ahead."

LT. DAVID RHODES  
FORT RILEY POLICE

ster divers from getting personal information.

- Store personal information in a safe place at home and at work. Don't leave it lying around.
  - Don't respond to unsolicited requests for personal information in the mail, over the phone or online.
  - Install firewalls and virus-detection software on home computers.
  - Check credit reports once a year. Check it more frequently if there is a possibility someone has gotten access to account information.
- For more information about identity theft, visit [www.onguardonline.gov](http://www.onguardonline.gov), or call Rhodes at 785-239-8136.

Secretary of Homeland Security to visit K-State

Johnson to deliver a Landon Lecture at end of month at McCain

K-STATE NEWS

MANHATTAN – Jeh Johnson, Secretary of the U.S. Department of Homeland Security, or DHS, will deliver an installment in the Landon Lecture series on current affairs at 10 a.m. May 27, at Kansas State University's McCain Auditorium.

"Secretary Johnson's visit to Kansas State University is timely as construction of the Department of Homeland Security's National Bio and Agro-defense Facility gets underway this summer adjacent to campus," said Jackie Hartman, the university's chief of staff and director of community relations. "NBAF will be the na-



K-STATE NEWS

**Jeh Johnson, Secretary of the U.S. Department of Homeland Security, will deliver a Landon Lecture at Kansas State University on May 27.**

tion's premiere foreign animal disease research lab, and we look forward to hearing about the role it will play in helping DHS keep the U.S. homeland secure."

DID YOU KNOW?

- Jeh Johnson became the nation's fourth secretary of homeland security Dec. 23, 2013.

Johnson became the nation's fourth secretary of homeland security on Dec. 23, 2013. Before joining DHS, Johnson served as general counsel for the Department of Defense, where he was part of the senior management team and led the more than 10,000 military and civilian lawyers across the department. In this role, he oversaw the development of the legal aspects of many of the nation's counterterrorism policies, spearheaded reforms to the military commissions system at Guantanamo Bay in 2009, and co-authored the 250-page report that paved the way for the

repeal of the "don't ask, don't tell" law in 2010.

Johnson's career has included extensive service in national security, law enforcement and as an attorney in private corporate law practice. He served as general counsel of the Department of the Air Force from 1998 to 2001, and was an assistant U.S. attorney for the Southern District of New York from 1989 to 1991.

In private law practice, Johnson was a partner with the New York City-based law firm of Paul, Weiss, Rifkind, Wharton & Garrison LLP. In 2004, he was elected a fellow in the prestigious American College of Trial Lawyers. He also is a member of the Council on Foreign Relations.

A 1979 graduate of Morehouse College, Johnson earned his law degree from Columbia Law School in 1982.

WWW.1DIVPOST.COM



# Directorate of Emergency Services offers safe grilling steps

Grillers should pay special attention to wind conditions

By Maria Childs  
1ST INF. DIV. POST

Some like it hot, some like it cold. Some fire up the grill no matter what the weather looks like. But during the spring and summer months, grilling increases.

Ivan May, lead fire inspector, Directorate of Emergency Services, said when grilling picks up, it is important to address rising safety concerns.

A grill is not only hot while cooking food, it must also cool before being stored near anything that could catch fire. Placing a grill too close to

“The best thing I can advise is during red flag warning, if you insist on grilling, be aware of your environment.”

IVAN MAY | DIRECTORATE OF EMERGENCY SERVICES

anything that can burn is considered a fire hazard and is a common cause of structure and grass fires.

“We have had problems with people taking their BBQ grill and pushing it right up against their vinyl siding,” May said. “We’ve even had issues where the people prop-

**MORE INFORMATION**

- For more information on grilling safety, contact **Ivan May**, lead fire inspector for the Directorate of Emergency Services at (785)240-3713, or email him at [ivan.d.may.civ@mail.mil](mailto:ivan.d.may.civ@mail.mil)

erly grilled, but as soon as they shut it off, they put it right by the structure and it started a fire.”

Being aware of surroundings is key to preventing structure or grass fire. May said this is especially important when the National Weather Service issues red flag warnings in the area.

Grillers should be conscious of the wind and the

direction embers will to blow, May said.

In the event of a grill fire, evacuate the area and call 911. For more fire safety information, visit [www.usfa.dhs.gov](http://www.usfa.dhs.gov).

**GENERAL TIPS**

- Grills should be placed well away from the home, deck railings.
- Never leave a grill unattended.
- Keep the grill out from under eaves and overhanging branches.
- Keep the grill clean by removing grease or fat buildup from the grills and trays below the grill.
- With any type of grill keep a 3-foot safe zone in all directions. This will help keep kids and pets safe.
- Never grill indoors.

**CHARCOAL GRILLS**

- Chimney starters allow the charcoal to start as a fuel.
- If using a starter fluid, use only charcoal starter fluid.
- Keep charcoal fluid out of the reach of children and away from heat sources.
- When finished grilling, let the coals completely cool before disposing in a metal container. The coals can also be watered down, which will help prevent embers from remaining warm.
- Used coals should not be discarded in the garbage or woods.

**PROPANE GRILLS**

- When using propane grills, check the gas tank hose for leaks before using it for the first time each year. To check for leaks, apply a light

soap and water solution to the hose. A propane leak will release bubbles.

- If the grill has a gas leak, by smell or the soapy bubble test, and there is no flame, turn off the gas tank and grill.
- Open the lid on the gas grill before lighting. Don’t allow a buildup of gas before lighting it.
- If the leak stops, get the grill serviced by a professional before using again. If the leak does not stop, call the fire department.
- If gas is smelled while cooking, immediately get away from the grill and call the fire department. Do not move the grill.
- Propane cylinders should not be stored in buildings or garages.



## Play a round at Custer Hill Golf Course.

Operation hours are weather dependent.  
Call ahead at 785-784-6000.

### Is Your Spouse Deployed?



## HEARTS APART

### Services for Waiting Families

**HEARTS APART** offers support to Families who are living separately from their sponsors due to mission (i.e. deployment, unaccompanied tour, extended TDY, etc...) requirements.

The program sponsors events and services to help make life a little less stressful during separations. Participants will have an opportunity to attend social activities, educational workshops, and to meet, share and network with other Families.

*Family members are eligible to participate in Hearts Apart activities 30 days prior to, during and 90 days after effective date of orders.*



To register for Hearts Apart send an email to [usarmy.riley.imcom.mbx.acs@mail.mil](mailto:usarmy.riley.imcom.mbx.acs@mail.mil) or 785-239-9435



For additional information contact an ACS Outreach Coordinator at 785-239-9435.

# SPOUSE RESILIENCY TRAINING

**WHEN**  
Feb 23-26 & May 26-29  
9am - 3pm

**WHERE**  
Army Community Service  
7264 Normandy Drive

**A fun and interactive seminar that enhances your ability to grow and thrive in the face of military life’s challenges by applying everyday skills!**

Free Childcare available with pre-registration (child must be registered with C/S)

To register please contact Army Community Service at 785-239-9974/9435

### What does the Resiliency Training do?

- Enables Family members to “bounce back” from adversity and grow
- Introduces Family members to their true potential
- Focuses on “Hunting the Good Stuff”
- Develops the ability to understand the thoughts, emotions and behaviors of self and others
- Enhances effectiveness and well-being by teaching competency skills

### What skills are focused on?

- Self-awareness
- Self-regulation
- Optimism
- Mental Agility
- Strength of Character
- Connection



# K-State commencement ceremonies set for May

K-STATE NEWS

MANHATTAN – Nearly 3,400 Kansas State University students will celebrate the completion of their degrees at commencement ceremonies Saturday, May 9, at K-State Salina, and Friday, May 15, and Saturday, May 16, on the university’s campus in Manhattan.

The class of 2015 is the 148th to graduate from Kansas State University since the first class graduated in 1867.

The university will award more than 2,600 bachelor’s degrees; 734 master’s degrees; 124 doctoral degrees; 108 Doctor of Veterinary Medicine degrees; and more than 30 associate degrees. More than 260 students are earning their degree through distance education.

A live webcast of the ceremonies will be available at [www.k-state.edu/graduation/](http://www.k-state.edu/graduation/). A virtual commencement ceremony for distance students is available at [www.dce.k-state.edu/students/commencement/](http://www.dce.k-state.edu/students/commencement/).

Commencement for K-State Salina will be at 10 a.m. May 9 in the Student Life Center. The speaker will be Steven Dandaneau, the university’s vice provost for undergraduate studies.

Ceremonies on the Manhattan campus start May 15 with commencement for the Graduate School at 1 p.m. in Bramlage Coliseum. Nancy Kassebaum Baker, a native Kansan and former U.S. senator for nearly two decades, will be the commencement speaker and receive an honorary doctorate from Kansas State University, the 129th person to receive the honor. Previous recipients include such distinguished individuals as Dwight D. Eisenhower, the U.S. president and military leader; Gordon Parks, a noted photographer; Aaron Copland, a famous composer; and Alf Landon, Kassebaum Baker’s father and former Kansas governor.

Commencement for the College of Veterinary Medicine

will be at 3:30 p.m. May 15 in McCain Auditorium. Dan Thomson, Jones professor of production medicine and epidemiology and director of the Beef Cattle Institute, will deliver the commencement address.

Representing the Kansas Board of Regents at both ceremonies May 15 will be Regent Helen Van Etten, Topeka.

The following is the schedule and speakers for the May 16 ceremonies:

- College of Arts & Sciences, 8:30 a.m., Bramlage Coliseum, with Peter Dorhout, dean of the college.
  - College of Architecture, Planning & Design, 10 a.m., McCain Auditorium, with Jan Burton, Denver, Colorado, co-founder of Rhino Cubed, a tiny structure design company.
  - College of Education, 11 a.m., Bramlage Coliseum, with Gail Shroyer, professor of curriculum and instruction.
  - College of Business Administration, 12:30 p.m., Bramlage Coliseum, with Julie L. Davis, principal of Davis & Hosfield Consulting, Chicago, Illinois, a litigation support service specializing in financial consulting.
  - College of Agriculture, 2:30 p.m., Bramlage Coliseum, with John Niemann, president of Cargill Food Distribution, Wichita.
  - College of Human Ecology, 4:30 p.m., Bramlage Coliseum, with Carol E. Kellett, professor and dean emeritus of the college.
  - College of Engineering, 6:30 p.m., Bramlage Coliseum, with Douglas R. Sterbenz, Topeka, retired executive vice president and chief operating officer at Westar Energy.
- DVDs of the ceremonies may be ordered through the K-State Campus Store at 800-KSU-CATS or 785-532-6583.
- The university’s Army and Air Force ROTC units will have commissioning ceremonies at 10 a.m. May 15 in Forum Hall in the K-State Student Union.



Staff Sgt. Kelly S. Malone | 4TH MEB

**Command Sgt. Maj. Jon Stanley, 4th MEB, 1st Inf. Div.’s senior noncommissioned officer; Jared Estes, motivational speaker; and Chap. [Maj.] Nathan McLean watch Soldiers form up an early morning 4th MEB unit run April 24. Estes met with troops later at the Fort Leonard Wood, Missouri, main post chapel where he shared his story of resilience and overcoming tragedy.**

## RESILIENCE Continued from page 9

was a massive explosion and, after awaking from a two-week coma, Estes learned more than 50 percent of his body was burned and his wife didn’t survive.

It was the driver’s third drunk driving conviction.

Estes sat in the courtroom during the driver’s trial, and said he didn’t think he was a bad person, just that he made a lot of bad choices..

“When his family was arguing for less jail time, it almost sounded like they were arguing on my behalf,” Estes said during his presentation. “It was obvious that the best thing that could happen to this guy was for him to go away for a long time.”

One Soldier said he was heavily impacted after hearing Estes speak about making good choices.

“It makes you think a lot about the choices of what you do after work,” said Pfc. Anthony Le, bridge crew member, 50th Multi Role Bridge Company, 5th Engineer Battalion, 4th MEB, 1st Inf. Div. “The safety briefs we always get before the weekend starts usually go in one ear and out the other. Just listening to Jared, it makes them stick in your head.”

“It means the world to me to have done that run today. It was like a bucket list, amazing moment for me”

**JARED ESTES**  
MOTIVATIONAL SPEAKER

Estes espoused several other life lessons during his visit, including attitude.

Spc. Zachary Lacy, military police officer, 988th Military Police Company, 92nd Military Police Battalion, 4th MEB, 1st Inf. Div., said his attitude about self-pity changed after listening to Estes’ presentation.

“People in the military do have a lot of self-pity because they get a ticket or are about to get an Article 15, so they start feeling sorry for themselves,” Lacy said. “This man actually went through a whole life change, lost his wife and could have died in that car accident, and he still doesn’t have self-pity for himself.”

To kick off the day of positive messages, Estes joined Munera along with the brigade’s senior noncommissioned officer, Command Sgt. Maj. Jon Stanley, and the 4th MEB troops on an early morning unit run.

“It means the world to me to have done that run today,” Estes told the troops throughout the day. “It was like a bucket list, amazing moment for me.”

Estes repeatedly told the Soldiers they were his heroes.

“For me, I feel like I was forced into a really dark place and forced to find my way out,” Estes said. “You guys, I believe, are the models of true courage and true perseverance because you signed up to go into those dark places and you were going to have to find your way out.”

Estes looks different than he used to with his scars and prosthetic ear which he said showed him his hardest life lesson of “letting go” of who he used to be and accepting the new Jared.

Estes said we all have something in our lives we are struggling with.

“Not everyone’s scars are on the outside,” said Estes.

## iWATCH Continued from page 9

The second active element depends on community members taking action and reporting suspicious activity to local law enforcement for further investigation.

Some examples of suspicious behavior include:

- People drawing or measuring important buildings
- Strangers asking questions about security procedures
- Briefcases, suitcases, backpacks or packages left behind
- Vehicles left in no parking zones in front of important buildings
- Intruders in secure areas where they do not belong
- Persons wearing clothes too big and too hot for the weather
- Chemical smells or fumes that seem out of the ordinary for the specific location

- People asking questions about sensitive information, like building blueprints, security plans or VIP travel schedules without a need to know

- People purchasing supplies or equipment that can be used to make bombs or weapons or purchasing uniforms without proper credentials

If you witness any suspicious activity, report it by calling the Antiterrorism office at 785-239-6303/6044 or the Fort Riley Police Department at 785-239-MPMP (6767); or by email at [usarmy.riley.imcentral.list.iwatch@mail.mil](mailto:usarmy.riley.imcentral.list.iwatch@mail.mil).

Those reporting suspicious activity should take note of when the activity occurred, what type of activity it was, where the activity occurred and what was seen.

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 8

• Furious 7 (PG-13) 7 P.M.

SATURDAY, MAY 9

• Home (PG) 2 P.M.

• Furious 7 (PG-13) 7 P.M.

SUNDAY, MAY 10

• Furious 7 (PG-13) 5 P.M.

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



# Sports & Recreation

## IN BRIEF

**CUSTER'S CHALLENGE**  
Custer's Challenge is scheduled for 10 a.m. on May 16 at Whitside Fitness Center. The race is 3 miles with 12 obstacles. Registration is \$25 and includes a drink ticket and an official Custer hat. Register online at [rileymwr.com/sports](http://rileymwr.com/sports). Advance registration is required. There will be no same-day registration.  
For more information, call 785-239-3146.

**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 is open and offers more than 20 rental water crafts, primitive camping and more. The Fort Riley Marina is at 7112 Highway 82 on Milford Lake. For more information, visit [rileymwr.com/odr](http://rileymwr.com/odr) or call 785-239-2363.

**SALSA NIGHT**  
Salsa Night is scheduled for 8 p.m. May 22 at Rally Point. Doors open at 7 p.m. The event is open to adults 18 and older. Admission is free.  
There will be live music, salsa, merengue, bachata and more. For more information, call 785-784-5733.

**RUN FOR THE FALLEN**  
Honor our fallen Soldiers and remember those who have given the ultimate sacrifice at the Run for the Fallen May 30 at Riley's Conference Center.  
Registration begins at 8 a.m. It will include 4 and 2 mile courses around main post. The 4 mile course begins at 9:11 a.m. and the 2 mile race begins at 9:20 a.m. Pre-registration is not required and pets and strollers are permitted.  
For more information, call 785-239-3146.

**ANNUAL CAR SHOW**  
The Fort Riley annual car show is scheduled for 9 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. June 20 at McCormick Park. Registration takes place from 9 a.m. to noon. Registration is \$20 the day of the event. Advance registration is \$15 and begins June 1 at Auto Skills. The event is free and open to all.  
For more information, call 785-239-9764.

**PT GOLF**  
PT Golf runs through Aug. 27 on 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.  
For more information, call 785-784-6000.

**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 information, visit [www.teamrwb.org](http://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.



EJ HERSOM | DOD NEWS  
Staff Sgt. Corey Davis aims an arrow during the archery competition of the Army Trials at Fort Bliss in El Paso, Texas, March 31. Athletes in the trials were competing for spots on the Army's team in the upcoming 2015 Department of Defense's Warrior Games to be held in June on Marine Corps Base Quantico in Quantico, Virginia.

## Soldier's wife, sports provide strength to overcome illness during Army Trials

By Shannon Collins  
ARNEWS

EL PASO, Texas — As the crowd applauded, the veteran dipped his head to receive his first gold medal. His eyes held back tears, but a slow grin crept onto his face when somebody yelled, "hold hands."  
He grabbed the hands of his fellow athletes and raised them into the air to celebrate his own victory in rifle shooting, as well as the victories of his fellow wounded warriors.  
Staff Sgt. Cory Davis was one of many Soldiers who participated

during the Army Trials March 28 through April 3 at Fort Bliss, Texas. The trials determine who will compete as part of the Army team during the 2015 Department of Defense's Warrior Games June 19 to 28 at Marine Corps Base Quantico, Virginia.  
"I won a gold medal," said Davis, still in shock. "I didn't expect to win. They were cheering my name. It was the first time I ever won a gold medal. Now I have something I can take back to my kids."  
Growing up in San Diego, Davis said he had always wanted

to work on helicopters and the Army gave him that chance. He enlisted in the active-duty Army for nine years, took a break and then became a National Guard avionics mechanic technician with the 1107th Theater Aviation Sustainment Maintenance Group in Springfield, Missouri. He's worked on helicopters for 15 years and loves it, he said.  
For Davis, this past year has been an emotional one.  
During a deployment to Afghanistan in April 2014, Davis

See ARMY TRIALS, page 14

# LIFE SKILLS IN ACTION



COURTESY PHOTOS  
**ABOVE:** Spc. Bradley Hall races through a tire obstacle as part of fitness training at the Rancho Cortez "Cowboy Fitness Ranch" in Bandera, Texas, March 14. Hall was one of about two dozen Soldiers who volunteered for a new Life Skills Training Event through the Better Opportunity for Single Soldiers, or BOSS, program at Fort Riley, Kansas. The program offers single Soldiers a chance to learn life skills like leadership, mentoring and resiliency.

**RIGHT:** Soldiers participate in a fitness class at the Rancho Cortez "Cowboy Fitness Ranch" in Bandera, Texas, March 14.



**Soldiers practice newly acquired roping skills at the Rancho Cortez "Cowboy Fitness Ranch" in Bandera, Texas, March 14.**



## Army takes new approach to grow resilient Soldiers

By Bob Everdeen  
USAG PAO

About two dozen single Soldiers here traveled to Bandera, Texas, in mid-March to hone their leadership, mentoring and resiliency skills. But this wasn't a military-directed training exercise, it was a voluntary trip led by the Better Opportunity for Single Soldiers, or BOSS, program.  
The group saddled up Friday night for a weekend at the Rancho Cortez "Cowboy Fitness Ranch" to participate in activities like horseback riding, roping contests and a campfire. But that's where the cowboy

clichés ended. After the long drive from Kansas to Texas, the group was up early the next morning for a 7 a.m. workout, which was followed by a healthy-eating demonstration, a yoga class, water aerobics, high-intensity interval training and a mind-body class. Not exactly a relaxing weekend at the spa.  
The Cortez Ranch is known for offering visitors a range of programs that revolve around moving, fueling and de-stressing the body. The BOSS participants chose the location and the program as part of an Army-wide initiative aimed at growing Soldier leaders.

"The Life Skills Training Events are part of a new pilot program within BOSS," said Sgt. Adam Hughes, Department of the Army BOSS Representative at Installation Management Command in San Antonio. "This is not a free trip or recreation event, it's quite simply a leadership and mentoring program designed to give Soldiers skills that they can use the rest of their lives. It ties in nicely with the Army's Soldier for Life principles."  
If the BOSS pilot program succeeds—it's currently being tested across 18 Army installations—it could be expanded. Single Soldiers

at other posts have opted to engage in life skills programs like auto skills training, wilderness survival skills classes and basic cooking courses. According to Hughes, the possibilities are endless.  
"The Life Skills Training Events have the potential to completely reboot the BOSS program across the Army," he said. "Soldiers walk away from these events with the knowledge and ability to not only do certain things, but to also teach others these skills—it's a win-win for the Army, the individual Soldiers and the communities they serve and live in."

## Spirituality keeps Soldier motivated for DOD Warrior Games

By Shannon Collins  
DOD NEWS, DEFENSE MEDIA ACTIVITY

FORT MEADE, Md. — A former 82nd Airborne infantryman said his life changed during a mission in Kandahar, Afghanistan.  
"I made a deal with God to spare me," said Timothy Payne, a medically-retired staff sergeant, who served for 11 years. "I said, 'Why don't you just take my legs instead of taking my life?' And the next day, I got blown up, died and came back. Now I'm just trying to stay motivated and be an inspiration to other Soldiers."  
Payne stepped on a 25- to 35-pound improvised explosive device that was either pressure plated or command detonated and lost both of his legs, above the knees.  
He lost some fingers and a portion of his left arm and had to learn to become right-handed. He had more than 100 surgeries and received more than 100 units of blood.

As he was recovering from his injury, he also dealt with a death in the family, his brother-in-law. He said it was during this dark time that he found his faith.  
"I was suffering from depression. I was suicidal. I had all these different issues and kept it all to myself," Payne said, adding that is when he decided to read the Bible and asked for his pain to be taken away. "And now I'm just staying positive, motivated and clear-minded. You have to cleanse the body, cleanse the mind and strengthen the spirit. I just try to push on, stay motivated and share my story with other people."  
He said his faith also helped him become more resilient. When he joined the Army after Sept. 11, 2001, he wanted to become an Army Ranger.  
"After 9/11, I wanted to work with the best to get to the head of the snake to kill terrorism at the heart. I wanted to get the bad dudes," said Payne, who had done two tours in Iraq before his tour in Afghanistan.



EJ HERSOM | ARNEWS  
Timothy Payne competes in discus during the Army Trials on Fort Bliss, Texas. He was selected for the Army team to compete at the Department of Defense's Warrior Games in seated discus and swimming.

"Before I got hurt, I was so focused on training for Special Operations that I tried out twice, but got injured and selected for a different job," he said. "I

See WARRIOR GAMES, page 14



NEW KIND OF SHELL GAME



1st. Lt. Ben Nagle | COURTESY PHOTO

Members of the K-State and Fort Riley Trap and Skeet Teams take a break from friendly competition during their fifth annual match May 2 at Fort Riley. This event is K-State's final match of the year and follows a busy season of intercollegiate competitions culminating with the Association of College Unions International national championships. The Fort Riley team is composed of active duty Soldiers, military retirees and military dependent youth.

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hurt his ankle and lost control of his right arm. He said doctors thought it was the ulna nerve. They medically evacuated him to Germany and then back to the United States. After performing several tests, the doctors discovered he had Parkinson's disease – a progressive disorder of the nervous system that affects movement.

At only 45 years old, Davis said he is a little young to be diagnosed with the disease, so he was taken by surprise. His wife, Dawn, helped him through the stages of acknowledging and accepting the Parkinson's diagnosis.

"It took me back a little bit, and now I'm just trying to live with not knowing what's next. But Dawn, she's my resource, my rock," Davis said, his voice choking with emotion. "She pushes me to compete. She continues to challenge me. She's the one who's accepted the diagnosis. She's my biggest supporter."

Davis met his wife, Dawn, a fellow National Guardsman, a few weeks before they deployed together to Afghanistan in 2010.

"But we fell in love with each other during the deployment and got married six months after we got back," Davis said with a smile. They were deployed for almost a year. He and Dawn have two daughters, Ashley and Sydney; two step-children, Trenton and Whitney; and four grandchildren, Hayden, Autumn, Kinley and Brooklynn. Dawn has been in the National Guard for six years and is a human resources administrator.

Dawn said her husband is her hero.

"Before my husband was deployed, he was a strong and healthy man. He came home with a life-altering condition with no cure," she said. "He has put forward great tenacity and perseverance in overcoming the symptoms he encounters each day. This makes me place him higher on the pedestal I thought he could never rise higher from. He is my hero, and I am filled with pride when he approaches each obstacle he faces every day. His constant attitude of not giv-

ing up makes me so very proud and happy he is not allowing a terrible disease to control his life."

While Davis was recovering from his disease at the Warrior Transition Unit on Fort Leonard Wood, Missouri, his wife, along with Army Trials athlete Sgt. 1st Class Sam Goldenstein, the Adaptive Sports Site coordinator on Fort Leonard Wood, encouraged him to give adaptive sports a try.

"I had been spending time in my room doing nothing, getting pretty depressed," he said. "Sam comes in and said, 'Cory, what do you want to do? We've got archery, shooting, this, this and this.' She's been great. She motivated me and inspired me to do more. She's even got me and my wife going to a tennis camp. Every time I see her, I just smile because I know it's because of her and my wife that I'm here at the Army Trials."

Goldenstein said she takes strength from Davis as well.

"I wish all my Soldiers were like him," said Goldenstein, an Army Reservist from the 325th Combat Support Hospital in Independence, Missouri. "From day one, he was like, 'I'm going to come out and support your program.' He's always there helping out, helping others. I've seen how the adaptive sports help him as well. I've sat there at regionals, and I've seen him keep his composure, keep control of his motor functions. It's so amazing to see. I was a proud mama there. I was proud to see him doing it again at the Army Trials. This is huge for him. He's come a long way.

"It's been because of competitions like this. It's taught him, 'Hey, I have to stay calm. I have to focus on this. I can't let my injuries distract me or take over,'" she said. "It's been beneficial for him in numerous ways physically and mentally, and he's helped recruit other people. He feels like he's an NCO [non-commissioned officer] again. He's also taken the lead back home with helping train others. He's a great mentor."

Davis' competitions began when Sam put together a team

to compete in the Veteran Affairs' Valor Games in San Antonio, Texas, in October 2014, where Davis won two bronze medals for shooting the air rifle. He then went to Nellis Air Force Base, Nevada, in March and won a silver medal in shooting the air rifle and a bronze medal for sitting volleyball.

During the Army Trials, he got into

the men's compound archery finals and his sitting volleyball team also did well. He earned a gold medal in the men's standing rifle and his shooting scores were some of the highest shooting scores of the day.

Throughout the Department of Defense's Warrior 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.

Competitors from U.S. Special Operations Command and a team from the British military will also participate in the games.

“He is my hero, and I am filled with pride when he approaches each obstacle he faces every day. His constant attitude of not giving up makes me so very proud and happy he is not allowing a terrible disease to control his life.”

DAWN DAVIS | STAFF SGT. CORY DAVIS' WIFE

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just wanted to work with the best to get the bad guys, but after I got blown up, I just changed. God took my trigger finger away too. He wants me to help save lives and live in peace. I would never have found Jesus unless I had lost my legs because I was so focused on the mission at hand, destroying the enemy and protecting our country. That all changed, and it's a blessing. I just do what I can now for others, and I just keep on going."

Payne also turned to sports to stay active. He participated in the Chicago Marathon, New York City Marathon, L.A. Marathon and the Boston Marathon with the help of the Achilles Freedom Team and scuba dives through the Soldiers Undergoing Disabled Scuba Diving, or S.U.D.S., program.

"I try to swim a mile or two every day," he said. "When I got hurt, the doctors preached mind, body and spirit. If I keep my body strong and active and just keep going, then it's going to help strengthen my mind. It also keeps my mind occupied too so I don't dwell on bad things. With all these different sporting events, you're focused on training; you're building your muscles up, and you're just staying motivated and positive. It's the best thing for me. I don't want to just sit around and waste time. I just always want to be out and doing something and interacting with others, sharing my story."

During the Army Trials, Payne won a bronze medal in the 50-meter breast stroke.

"He probably had the most 'ah hah' moment of all the swimmers," said Glen O'Sullivan, Army team swim coach. "He had done some swimming prior to the camp, but wasn't prepared to use his entire body in swimming. He gave me some looks when I told him to kick. We developed a kick for him to practice. It was awesome to see him get a medal."

At the Army Trials, Payne motivated and inspired his fellow athletes.

"He was a great mentor to me," said Sgt. 1st Class Kevin Hawkins, Fort Leonard Wood Warrior Transition Unit. "When I became injured multiple times, he inspired me to keep my head up in times of hard situations. Just seeing how he overcame so many difficult situations in his life and remained a positive, focused individual, I can truly say he will always be an inspiration in my life."

Payne will compete for the Army team in seated discus and swimming events during the 2015 Department of Defense's Warrior Games on Marine Corps Base Quantico, Virginia, June 19 to 28.

Wounded, ill and injured Service members and veterans from the Army, Marines, Air Force, Navy and Coast Guard will compete with athletes from Special Operations Command, and a team from the British military. They will compete in track and field, shooting, swimming, cycling, archery, wheelchair basketball and sitting volleyball events.







# Travel & Fun in Kansas

★ May 8, 2015

## HOME OF THE BIG RED ONE

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# Exploring Alma

*From architecture to antiques and from touring the museum to fresh made foods that cure the munchies, Alma has a hidden find around almost every corner.*

Antique Emporium



## Artistic entrances



## Eclectic offerings and authentic welcomes



Stephanie Evans works at the Alma Creamery. Founded in 1946, the Creamery still makes it's cheese on site. Ask to see the "Kansas Cut" when shopping for an edible souvenir.



Visit the Wabaunsee County Historical Museum and discover the native son who was the assistant commandant of the Marine Corps and learn of Alma's history as a stop for refuge along the underground railroad.



Jeanette Rohler, military mom, bakes pecan caramel or original glazed cinnamon rolls daily in small batches at Alma Bakery & Sweet Shoppe. These rolls sold out quickly.

Story and photos by Collen McGee | USAG PAO

The small town of Alma, Kansas, also known as the city of native stone, is at the head of the Native Stone Scenic Byway, one of 11 such designated routes in the state.

The town is picturesque today and holds bits of history within the limestone walls. Alma was once a stop on the underground railroad. Between 1857 and 1860, slaves seeking freedom would find refuge with

town residents before they continued their flight north.

Today, Alma serves as the Wabunsee County seat and residents still welcome travelers no matter which direction they are headed.

Several eclectic shops, eateries and a museum line the central street. There are antique stores, a family run bakery, a local pizza kitchen and a museum available to explore.

The museum exhibits include military memorabilia from past residents and historic documentation of the place Alma held in the fate of Kansas as a free or slave state when it was admitted to the union.