

‘Big Red One’ leaders announce campaign plan for community

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

Leaders of the 1st Infantry Division laid out the roadmap to the future of the “Big Red One” and Fort Riley to members of the greater Flint Hills community Dec. 11 during the CAMPLAN 2020 rollout in the division’s Joint Operations Center.

The 2020 plan is the fifth campaign plan the division has drafted. Past campaign plans have facilitated the creation of \$1.8 billion in facilities and infrastructure, created relationships with three regional airports in Manhattan, Salina and Topeka, launched the Soldier for Life Transition Assistance Program and led to the ability for Fort Riley to annually train 22,000 reserve partners and federal, state and local agency personnel.

“We developed a strategy to take Fort Riley into the next five years that will allow us to improve our operations, compete for resources and communicate our relevance to external audiences,” said Maj. Gen. Wayne W. Grigsby Jr., 1st Inf. Div. and Fort Riley commanding general. “The 1st Infantry Division has always been an adaptable, learning organization with a positive, nurturing command climate. You will see that the minor changes we’ve made to the existing campaign plan will bring us and our surrounding communities closer together and help us all reach our collective goals.”

Grigsby identified the mission of both Fort Riley and the Big Red One as building and maintaining combat-ready forces to protect the United States and its interests at home and abroad.

“Diminishing resources make training more difficult, but our state-of-the-art ranges, virtual gaming facilities and open maneuver areas enable cost-effective training,” Grigsby said. “That is what makes Fort Riley the best place to train in the Army.”

Fort Riley is also the best place to live, deploy from and come home to, the commanding general said.

The CAMPLAN 2020 presentation also recognized the National Guard and Army Reserve. Grigsby said the division wanted Fort Riley to become a mobilization site so the post could train, equip and deploy Soldiers from the Guard and Reserve. This would allow Fort Riley to compete for resources and bring more people to the central Flint Hills area.

“For years, we would go to combat and be shoulder-to-shoulder with our reserve-component partners, but then when we come back here we would have cylinders of excellence ... and in some cases, when you looked at it, it was not very efficient, nor was it effective,” said Brig. Gen. John S. Kolasheski, 1st Inf. Div. deputy commanding general for maneuver. “So

See CAMPLAN, page 8



Amanda Kim Stairrett | 1ST INF. DIV.
Maj. Gen. Wayne W. Grigsby Jr., 1st Infantry Division and Fort Riley commanding general, speaks to the greater Flint Hills community Dec. 11 during the CAMPLAN 2020 rollout in the division’s Joint Operations Center.

A WREATH OF HONOR



Fort Riley Garrison Commander Col. Andrew Cole Jr. renders a salute after placing a wreath honoring those who have served in the United States Army during the annual Wreaths Across America ceremony Dec. 12 at the Fort Riley Post Cemetery. Wreaths were laid for each branch of the military and prisoners of war and missing in action

Wreaths Across America ceremony honors military fallen

Story and photos
by Andy Massanet
1ST INF. DIV. POST

In an event resplendent with the flags of the 50 states of the union and the colors of the nation, the Fort Riley Post Cemetery was again the locale of the annual Wreaths Across America ceremony Dec. 12. It was the ninth such observance at the post.

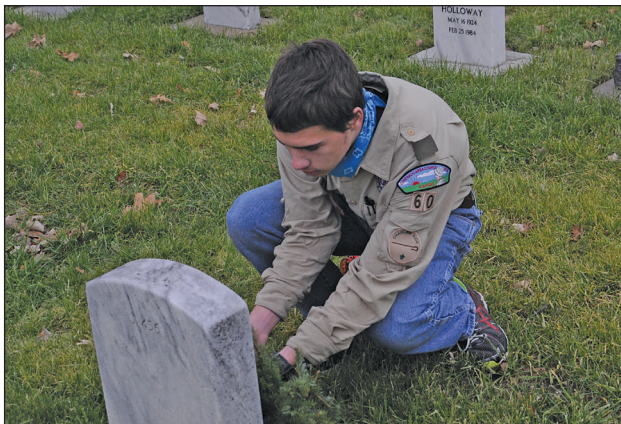
Fallen service members past and present of the United States Army, Navy, Marine Corps, Air Force, Coast Guard, Merchant Marines and those listed as either prisoners of war or missing in action, were honored and remembered during this traditional holiday event.

The ceremony culminated with a group of people adorning selected gravesites with holiday wreaths. As with past events, the sites are selected each year on a rotating basis, because there are not enough wreaths to decorate every gravesite at the cemetery.

Fort Riley Garrison Commander Col.

“There is a price that is paid — by a small number of people — to ensure our way of life.”

COL. ANDREW COLE JR. |
FORT RILEY GARRISON COMMANDER



R. J. Hatt, 16, of Fort Riley Boy Scout Troop 60 places a wreath at a gravesite during the annual Wreaths Across America ceremony at the Fort Riley Post Cemetery Dec. 12.

Andrew Cole, Jr. placed a commemorative holiday wreath on a stand designated for the United States Army, and provided keynote remarks. Garrison Command

Sgt. Maj. Jason Schmidt placed the wreath on a stand for the Prisoners of War and Missing in Action.

See WREATHS, page 8

Soldiers battle, earn Expert Infantryman Badges

By Spc. Derrik Tribbey
1ST ABCT PUBLIC AFFAIRS

Hundreds of Soldiers with the 1st Armored Brigade Combat Team, 1st Infantry Division, competed for the Expert Infantryman Badge Dec. 11 after a week-long competition at Fort Riley.

Of the 366 Soldiers tested, 14 earned the EIB.

“It was really hard; it was a lot of studying,” Pfc. Jonathan Tucker, an infantryman with 3rd Battalion, 66th Armor Regiment, 1st ABCT, 1st Inf. Div., and the only private to earn the badge, said. “But it feels great to finish strong.”

Soldiers were tested on physical fitness, battle drills, medical tasks, marksmanship and communications. Prior to the qualification, Soldiers were given a week to prepare. They coached each other and were mentored by prior badge recipients.

Of the 14 Soldiers who earned their badges, three Soldiers passed without failing any event: Sgt. Benito Carrion, a section sniper, and 1st Lt. Eric Piper, a mortar platoon leader, both with 1st Battalion, 16th Infantry Regiment, 1st ABCT, 1st Inf. Div., and Sgt. Travis

See BADGE, page 8

Soldier earns recognition for good deed

By Maria Childs
1ST INF. DIV. POST

Staff Sgt. Michael Lindsay of the 97th Military Police Battalion was in the Post Exchange sometime around Veterans Day when he encountered what turned out to be a troubled Soldier who was considering taking his own life.

Lindsey spoke to the Soldier just for a couple of minutes. Then Lindsey left.

Lindsey said he didn’t think anything about it. He was merely being nice.

On Veterans Day, Lindsay was the subject of a favorable comment on the post’s Interactive Customer Evaluation system, which was then forwarded to the Fort Riley Garrison command team.

The anonymous ICE comment read, “I would (like to) thank an MP Staff Sgt. Lindsay. He stopped and talked with me and listened to me when I felt no one cared. Just by talking, he saved my life. He did not know it, but I was thinking of taking my life. Because he cared, I did not. So please thank him and he is the reason I trust Fort Riley Military Police.”

Lindsay received a certificate of appreciation from the command team Dec. 11.

“Everybody in the uniform is a member of our family,” said Garrison Commander

See RECOGNITION, page 8

The next USAG Resilience Day Off will be:

DEC.

24

SAFETY HOLIDAY

As of Thursday, Dec. 10,



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

HIGHLIGHTS



CHRISTKINDL MARKET HITS RILEY’S CONFERENCE CENTER, SEE PAGE 9.

ALSO IN THIS ISSUE



‘BIG RED ONE’ AND FORT RILEY SOLDIERS GET INSIDE LOOK AT THE CHIEFS GAME AND ONE FAMILY IS GIVEN A CAR, SEE PAGE 13.

‘Demons’ respond in force with brigade-level exercise

By Capt. Keith E. Thayer and Staff Sgt. Jerry Griffis
1ST CAB AND 1ST INF. DIV. PUBLIC AFFAIRS

The 1st Combat Aviation Brigade of the 1st Infantry Division, conducted Demon Response, an exercise at the brigade level designed to validate collective tasks and to provide combat power to the ground force commander, Dec. 8 to 11 at Fort Riley, Kansas.

“This is a brigade-led effort to exercise our responsiveness and ability to react to what is called the National Defense Chemical, Biological, Radiological, Nuclear, and Explosive Reaction Force mission,” said Maj. Jacob Roper, executive officer, 2nd General Support Aviation Battalion, 1st Aviation Regiment, 1st CAB, 1st Inf. Div.

The 1st CAB is currently assigned as the aviation task force element of the Defense Chemical Reaction Force. The force is part of a larger collaborative response capability between local, state, tribal and federal agencies, according to the Joint Task Force Civil Support mission statement.

The exercise began with an alert and recall of personnel, which started a planned and coordinated sequence of tasks that would normally be executed if the brigade was called into action.

“We went from sleeping in our beds peacefully on Tuesday morning to receiving the alert notification and at that moment we started following what’s called an ‘in-hour sequence,’” Roper said.

Demon Response was essential for units to demonstrate and exercise distributed mission command. The brigade validated this capability by deploying the brigade tactical command post and elements of the 2nd GSAB, 601st Aviation Support Battalion and 3rd Assault Helicopter Battalion, 1st Aviation Regiment, to support Defense CBRNE Reactionary Force operations.

“We have different force packages and each one of those force packages contains both air and ground support convoy,” Roper said.

There were a lot of moving pieces, Roper added, to get everything set up, ready to go and fully operational within a 48- to 72-hour time frame.

Simultaneously, the 1st Attack Reconnaissance Battalion, 1st Aviation Regiment, and 1st Squadron, 6th Cavalry Regiment, conducted complex offensive, defensive and stability operations at Fort Riley.

Collective supporting tasks, including sling-load operations, tactical air traffic control management and forward area refueling operations, were conducted along with medical evacuation, decontamination, resupplies and transport of first responder personnel. Air crews rapidly responded to the scenario-based, nuclear-related incident in real time, which helped further demonstrate the brigade’s ability to perform its mission.

John Ball, Demon Response officer in charge, and members of the 1st Inf. Div. Emergency Deployment Readiness Team represented the commanding general and senior commanders to validate the brigade’s mission readiness.

The team of inspectors was on hand during the course of the exercise to evaluate the performance and provide mentorship to the “Demon” brigade Soldiers as they performed mission essential tasks across all functional areas.

“We validate the ability of units on mission to meet their mission requirements and get out the door with force package one within 24 hours and force package two in 48 hours,” Ball said.

As an effort to further develop lasting relationships with surrounding aviation units, Soldiers from the 35th Combat Aviation Brigade, 35th Infantry Division, and Missouri Army National Guard were invited to take part



Capt. Keith E. Thayer | 1ST CAB

A UH-60M Black Hawk from the 3rd Assault Helicopter Battalion, 1st Combat Aviation Brigade, 1st Infantry Division, conducts sling-load training Dec. 10 at Demon Stage Field, Fort Riley, Kansas. The 1st CAB air crews were validating their ability to provide lift capability if called upon as part of the Defense Chemical, Biological, Radiological, Nuclear and High-Yield Explosive Reactionary Force.

in the exercise. The Soldiers provided observer-controller-trainer assistance through each phase of Demon Response.

“In the event of an attack on the continental United States or even potentially a catastrophic national disaster, 2nd GSAB, 1st Avn. Regt., and the 1st CAB have assumed the DCRF mission for the entire year, starting in June in fiscal year 2015 and going until June fiscal year 2016,” Roper said.

Leaders and staff personnel from the 2nd Battalion, 227th Aviation Regiment, 1st Air

Cavalry Brigade, 1st Cavalry Division, Fort Hood, Texas, observed the Demon Response exercise and shadowed brigade staff members to gather best practices, 2nd Bn., 227th Avn. Regt. leaders said.

“We are ready, on call for when the nation needs us to respond to a catastrophic CBRNE event,” Roper said.

The 1st Air Cavalry Brigade, 1st Cavalry Division, will assume the DCRF mission June 1.

Natick investigates self-healing protective clothing

By Jane Benson
NATICK SOLDIER RESEARCH, DEVELOPMENT AND ENGINEERING CENTER
PUBLIC AFFAIRS

NATICK, Mass. — Army researcher Quoc Truong wants to fill in the gaps in Soldier protective clothing — literally.

Truong is a physical scientist at the U.S. Army Natick Soldier Research, Development and Engineering Center. He is collaborating with other researchers at NSRDEC, the University of Massachusetts Lowell, and Triton Systems, Inc., on the technical development of self-healing coatings that contain micro-capsules of fluid, which will be used to mend chemical-biological, or CB, protective clothing.

“When Soldiers are wearing a chem-bio protective garment, they are basically isolating themselves from their environment and any harmful agents, such as nerve gases, viruses and bacteria,” Truong said. “Soldiers are very active and can encounter thorny bushes or other things that could result in pin-hole-sized damage to their chem-bio garment while carrying out their missions. The damage may not be visible to the human eye, but it is there.”

The self-healing technologies will enable cuts, tears and punctures in fabrics to quickly repair themselves. This means that the protective qualities of the garments will be far less apt to become compromised by tears and punctures. The technology will be in-

corporated into both the Joint Service Lightweight Integrated Suit Technology and the Joint Protective Aircrew Ensemble garments.

“The self-healing coatings can be a spray-on coating or a continuous coating — depending on the type of protective clothing they are applied on,” Truong said. “The idea is just like when a scratch breaks open the skin. Our body has the ability to heal and mend, make a scab and heal. The same idea applies to the self-mending fabric; when the fabric containing these self-healing materials gets cut, it comes back together and heals. It forms something very much like a scab on the skin except it is on the fabric.”

The technology combines innovative approaches to gap-closure with healing micro-capsules that are activated when torn to repair cuts and punctures. The self-healing layer contains reactive agents to deactivate dangerous threats, including deadly chemicals, and also acts to reform the physical barrier to bacteria and viruses. When integrated into a CB protective garment, the self-healing technologies help ensure that the CB protection is uninterrupted.

The JPACE’s protective mechanism is based on a selectively permeable membrane; therefore, the microcapsules are embedded into the selectively permeable membrane and/or in a supporting reactive selectively permeable membrane layer, to act as the self-healing supporting barrier material. When the membrane breaks, these microcapsules open and mend the tear in about 60 seconds, filling the gap with the aid of the gap-closure technology.

“This helps preserve the capabilities of the fabric,” Truong said. “The idea is to support chemical-biological protective clothing. The self-healing textile would have the ability to neutralize the chemical agents. The selectively permeable membrane structure acts like a barrier to agents, but allows warm/hot body sweat, i.e., moisture vapor, to be transported from the body to the environment outside of the protective clothing.”

The JSLIST chemical protective overgarment is based on a non-woven material that carries activated carbon spheres. Thus, it is air permeable and doesn’t lend easily to the use of microcapsules. So, the JSLIST suit configuration has to be sprayed with microcapsules and a foaming agent.

Truong is dedicated to continuously improving safety for the Soldier. “Ideas to help the Soldier come to me all the time,” Truong said. “It makes me feel good to know that some of these ideas can be transformed into protection for the Soldier.”

The technology also has commercial applications. “For instance, this technology could be used to develop self-mending tents to ensure protection against the elements since holes would be repaired quickly,” Truong said. “It could also be used for commercial workers who handle chemicals, work in the rain, or work in extreme cold. Their protective clothing would be self-mending to keep them safe, dry and protected from the elements.”

HORSIN’ AROUND



Spc. Nicole Fox | CGMCG

Sgt. Nathaniel Boyd, Commanding General's Mounted Color Guard, sits at muleskinner position as his teammates, Sgt. Sven Kramer and Sgt. Robert Harvey, hook up the Percheron draft team to one of the unit's wagons Dec. 9 at Fort Riley. New members practice driving to build a solid bond with the horses and confidence as a cohesive team. As seasoned members of the CGMCG begin to transition out of the unit, new members are stepping up to serve as muleskinners and swampers – teams that man the unit's wagons.

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Soldiers execute Raven mission

Story and photo
by Spc. Derrik Tribbey
1ST ABCT PUBLIC AFFAIRS

Soldiers with the 1st Armored Brigade Combat Team, 1st Infantry Division, trained on the RQ-11 Raven Dec. 1 through 14 at Fort Riley.

With this training, Soldiers will have a new perspective on the battlefield.

The RQ-11 Raven is a durable and lightweight unmanned aircraft system. Multiple functions allow the user to control the camera, altitude and throttle.

Chief Warrant Officer 2 Jeff Hamilton, 1st ABCT UAS operations technician, 1st Inf. Div., was the lead instructor.

“I hope the students will return to their units competent and able to execute the Raven mission,” Hamilton said. “The role of UAS is to extend the eyes of the commanders.”

The qualification training consisted of classes, day and night flights, equipment checks and a final exam.

“The students have become confident in launching and controlling the Raven,” said Staff Sgt. Bruce Beadle, master Raven trainer with the 2nd Battalion, 34th Armor Regiment, 1st ABCT, 1st Inf. Div. “This system is a great tool. Even if you’re a cavalry scout, an engineer or an infantryman, the possibilities are endless with the Raven.”



Pfc. Michael Ballesteros, an infantryman with 2nd Battalion, 34th Armor Regiment, 1st Armored Brigade Combat Team, 1st Infantry Division, tosses a RQ-11 Raven into flight during an unmanned aircraft system training course Dec. 4 at Fort Riley.

Beadle said Soldiers must familiarize themselves with the system to operate it proficiently.

“Being able to get intelligence and imagery is a great tool,” said Spc. Tyler Bishop, an infantryman with Company A, 2nd Bn., 34th Armor Regt., 1st ABCT, 1st Inf. Div., and a Raven

training course student. “Before the class, I thought it would be complicated to fly the Raven, but once I took the course I felt I had a better handle on how to operate it. This helps with mission readiness. Being able to see ahead helps the troops on the ground.”

‘Big Red One’ Soldiers battle for best of quarter competition

Story and photo
by Staff Sgt. Jerry Griffith
1ST INF. DIV. PUBLIC AFFAIRS

On a cold December morning before most people were even awake, six Soldiers from Fort Riley were already dressed and preparing for the first event of the 1st Infantry Division Soldier and Noncommissioned Officer of the Quarter Competition on Dec. 8. The competition was held for one week, beginning on Dec. 7.

The quarterly competition draws upon the best Soldiers from units on Fort Riley and the 1st Inf. Div. The Soldiers and non-commissioned officers who are selected must go through training and appear before boards at their battalion and brigade levels.

“It was a really good competition due to the fact it tested all aspects of what a Soldier should already know and be capable of doing,” said Spc. Steven Gonzalez, a competitor from 541st Combat Sustainment Support Battalion, 1st Infantry Division Sustainment Brigade, 1st Inf. Div.

The events for this quarter included a physical fitness test, a zero and qualification rifle range with iron sights, day and night land navigation with both a compass and a Defense Advanced GPS Receiver, warrior skills testing and a written test covering Army doctrine.

Soldiers have personal reasons for why they participate in the competition, but some of those hit closer to home than others.

“This actually tests you and you have to dig deep,” Gonzalez said, “What always drives me is my family because they are my rock and they always push me to do better.”

Spc. Julia Rodriguez, a competitor from the 97th Military Police Battalion, 89th Military Police Brigade, said although her leaders were a huge factor contributing to what kept her going, there was an even larger influence that drove her.

“My dad is my biggest fan,” Rodriguez said. “I want to make him proud most of all.”

For Staff Sgt. Matthew Frazee, a competitor from 267th Signal Company, 1st Inf. Div. Sust. Bde, 1st Inf. Div., inspiration to do his best came from watching the junior enlisted Soldiers compete.

“They were willing to get in there and get their hands dirty and get after it and step up above everybody else,” Frazee said. “That kind of motivated me.”

While the competition challenged the NCOs and Soldiers mentally and physically, there were one or two events that stood out as the most challenging.

Frazee said the hardest moment for everyone was the medical lane, where competitors had to treat and drag a “casualty” to safety while under simulated combat, complete with exploding simulation grenades and blank rounds firing in the background.

“Mentally, it’s always the board that is hardest to prepare for,” Frazee said. “Before you



Spc. Julia Rodriguez, 97th Military Police Battalion, 89th Military Police Brigade, drags a simulated casualty during the week-long 1st Infantry Division Soldier and Noncommissioned Officer of the Quarter competition at Fort Riley.

walk in that door, you never know what to expect and your heart is always racing and you have the butterflies.”

Cpl. Regina Parmer, 1st Squadron, 6th Cavalry Regiment, 1st CAB, 1st Inf. Div., said the competition gave her an opportunity to learn and grow.

“I took a lot away from the competition that I know I can learn from and also take back to my Soldiers and to help train them,” Parmer said. “Overall, I did my best and that’s all I can do.”

Winners of the competition will be announced Jan. 8.

CHRISTMAS PARADE



1st Lt. Melissa Turner | CGMCG
Spc. Nicole Fox and Sgt. Nathaniel Boyd, Commanding General's Mounted Color Guard, guide the unit's Percheron draft horse team, Jenny and Joy, on Dec. 4 down Poyntz Avenue in Manhattan, Kansas, during the Mayor's Spirit of the Holidays Lighted Parade. The CGMCG won the Mayor's Trophy Award for the wagon's light and decoration display.

BREAKFAST WITH SANTA



COURTESY PHOTO
Chloe Suber, 4, daughter of Sgt. Marcus Suber, 287th Military Police Company, 97th MP Battalion, tells Santa what she wants for Christmas during the MP's Breakfast with Santa event Dec. 11.

DIVARTY RUN



Master Sgt. Michael Krabbenhoft | DIVARTY
Col. Tom Bolen, 1st Infantry Division Artillery commander, speaks to recently arrived “Big Red One” Soldiers about the history of Fort Riley during a morning history run Dec. 8. The history run is a recent addition at Fort Riley where all in-processing Soldiers conduct physical training with a Fort Riley senior leader, who leads them on a running tour of the historical areas of post.

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Sleeping safe is the key to prevent Sudden Infant Death Syndrome

By Hannah Kleopfer
1ST INF. DIV. POST

Sudden Infant Death Syndrome causes around 2,500 deaths every year in the United States, according to the specialists at the American Academy of Pediatrics. While SIDS is sometimes unpredictable, there are several precautions new parents and caregivers can take to prevent this from happening.

“A huge thing is putting babies to sleep on their stomachs,” said Michelle Penman, B.S.N.R.N. and home visitor for the New Parent Support Program. “Safe sleep prevention is easily remembered by ABC. That’s alone, on their back, and in a crib”

These things prevent the risk factor of SIDS due to outside sources that are not medical-related. Recently, researchers of the AAP have said that putting babies to sleep on their stomachs is harmful. The research has also stated that it is not recommended to co-sleep, which violates the first two rules of the ABCs.

“I always say that adult mattresses are for adults. They’re comfy and soft and full of pillows and blankets, which are all deadly to infants. It’s the asphyxiation that they’re con-



cerned with. And sometimes parents do roll, which can lead to Sudden Infant Death Syndrome, but it’s the bedding that’s the main concern,” Penman said.

She also explained that another main cause of SIDS is overheating. She said she often finds that new parents are very concerned about the baby getting too cold, but it is the temperature of the house that should be keeping an infant warm and not blankets. The best temperature is between 69 and 72 degrees.

Another problem that Penman sees often is when parents try to put too much in a crib. She said that the only things that should be in the crib are a mattress and fitted sheet. Things such as soft and fuzzy baby blankets shouldn’t be used in the crib, but can be good for laying on the floor when playing with the baby.

Army Community Services offers an infant safety class every quarter. For more information about the class, contact the staff at ACS at 785-239-9435.

Fort Riley Fire Department reminds to use caution during holidays

By Maria Childs
1ST INF. DIV. POST

The upcoming holiday season is upon us and it is important to remember a few fire safety rules, regulations, policies and other important information.

The National Fire Protection Association estimates the Christmas tree, both natural and artificial, is normally the primary culprit ignited in an estimated 920 reported structure fires between 2007 and 2011. These fires caused multiple deaths, civilian injuries and a costly \$73 million in property damage.

During the same time period, decorative lights involved an estimated 600 home structure fires. These fires caused approximately 36 civilian deaths, 64 civilian injuries and \$33.6 million in property damage.

Lars Vesper, assistant chief of the Prevention Branch of the Fort Riley Fire Department, said he encourages the community to be aware while decorating for the holiday season and to remain vigilant after decorating is done.

“Not only are we thinking about the safety aspect of it, but also the fire prevention side of it is important too,” Vesper said.

He said this includes lighting candles and then not monitoring them, as well as using space heaters. It is mainly the holiday season that spikes the numbers.

“There are safety tips and responsibilities that we as human beings should engage,” Vesper said.

He said if members of the community are using space heaters, it should be kept three feet

away from combustibles when in use, plugged directly into an outlet—not a strip protector or extension cord. It should have a tip-switch and be unplugged when not in use.

The Kansas Fire Incident Reporting System of the Kansas State Fire Marshal’s Office reported an estimated \$58 million loss in 2014. Although these totals include the entire state of Kansas, specifics were not provided or broken down to just holiday safety reportable fires.

“The people on this post are not exempt from these statistics,” Vesper said. “We all need to be cognizant.”

Vesper said he would like to remind everyone when decorating for the holiday season to remember the following fire safety tips:

- Candles, incense, incense burners and any other item that produces an open flame are not permitted in offices or barracks. Flameless candles and electric scent pots are permitted, but ensure these items are turned off when unattended.
- When decorating walls and doors, don’t cover more than 20 percent of the surface with combustible materials such as fabric, paper or plastic.
- Do not place holiday decorations where they may block emergency egress — stairways, corridors, near doors, etc.
- Use only flame retardant decorations. For questions or concerns, call the Fire Department.
- Avoid using multiple extension cords plugged into

one socket. If you must use one, ensure it’s of the gauge required for the appliance. Make sure the cord does not pose a tripping hazard or pass through windows or doors and do not piggy-back one extension cord into another.

- Use only FM- or UL-listed electrical materials. Any electrical appliances with worn or broken cords or loose bulb connections should not be used. Damaged cords should be replaced with new ones.
- Connect no more than three strands of mini light sets or a maximum of 50 bulbs for screw-in-style light string sets.
- Fire-resistant artificial trees are permitted and preferred. Live trees in office buildings or barracks are not to be used.
- Turn off decorative lights when the room is unoccupied for a prolonged period of time.
- Never staple outside decorative lighting extension cords to the outside of your home. Multiple cord hangers are available at your local home shopping stores.
- Do not hang decorations on fire-protective systems or devices such as sprinkler heads, fire doors or extinguishers.
- Exercise your offices fire escape plan during the season, to ensure everyone understands the plan and what is expected to get everyone out safely.

For more information about holiday safety or for questions about these safety tips, contact the Fort Riley Fire Prevention offices at 785-240-1038.

Flavored nicotine hooks youth

By Jorge Gomez
IACH PUBLIC AFFAIRS

Pvt. Hunter Chubb had already quit smoking. Basic training left him no choice.

“That was a good thing,” said the preventive medicine specialist with the Fort Riley Public Health Department. “I came to appreciate my newfound freedom.”

Weeks after completing boot camp, his freedom was cut short. A friend introduced him to the electronic cigarette. It wasn’t the first time he’d seen the device. But there was something different.

“It looked really cool,” said Chubb, “similar to owning a flip phone and seeing a smartphone for the first time. You just really want it.”

An array of juices, or flavored nicotine, also made vaping an appealing recreation.

“Vaping’ and ‘juices’ are terms the industry uses to distinguish the activity from smoking or tobacco consumption,” said Wayne Darsow, Fort Riley Public Health nurse practitioner.

Chubb said his initial interest in the electronic device was more about the technology and social lures.

“I didn’t have a desire for nicotine, so I started with the lightest level available,” he said.

He began vaping at 6 mg/mL of chocolate-flavored nicotine, which is considered entry-level strength. A week later he increased it to 12. A month later to 18.

“I wanted to keep feeling the effect from when I first started,” Chubb said.

Darsow said Chubb’s description is typical of a smoker who gradually develops a nicotine tolerance. To maintain the euphoric effect, smokers increase the number of cigarettes they smoke to intensify the levels of nicotine. With electronic devices, vapers increase the nicotine strength level in the juice.

“After a while I started smoking cigarettes because vaping wasn’t enough,” Chubb said.

He was back to where he was before he joined the Army.

Electronic nicotine devices, or e-cigarettes, are marketed as healthy alternatives to smoking, Darsow said.

Advertisements for e-cigarettes report they are free from chemicals that cause cancer and other respiratory diseases.

“E-cigarette ads are also attracting a younger population,” Darsow said. “YouTube commercials for e-cigarettes show attractive people promoting the latest features. Their message is that vaping is glamorous, independent, and high tech. And this appeals to youth.”

Darsow said he doubts that vape juice flavors like cotton candy and chocolate are targeted to adults.

“It’s no accident that e-cigarette use among youth is increasing,” Darsow said. “It’s very easy for students to vape in schools without teachers suspecting a thing. Vaping leaves no smell behind.”

Data from the Center for Disease Control indicates that e-cigarette use among middle and high school students tripled from 2013 to 2014.

The upward trend among youth usage is a serious public health problem, Darsow said.

“We don’t want our kids experimenting with vaping. Nicotine exposure at an early age permanently alters neuro-receptors in the brain that then manifest into an addiction,” said Darsow.

Currently e-cigarettes are not officially deemed tobacco products by the federal government. That means there is little regulation on the marketing of e-cigarettes, Darsow said.

In November, the Kansas City metro area adopted ordinances raising the legal age to purchase cigarettes, e-cigarettes, and related products to 21. But in spite of these local and regional movements to curb sales among youth, e-cigarettes are not subject to the same marketing restrictions as traditional cigarettes.

“E-cigarettes are the perfect machine luring a new generation of young people to lifelong nicotine dependence. We as a community must be vigilant to protect our youth through education while policies and regulations catch up,” Darsow said.

“I wholeheartedly believe that vaping is more addictive than cigarettes,” Chubb said.

In October 2015, Chubb learned about the Fort Riley Tobacco Cessation Support Program and enrolled. A health condition coupled with the news of becoming a father gave him the motivation to quit – again.

“This time I’m quitting for good,” he said. “But if I relapse it won’t be because of the latest features on an electronic device. I know better now.”

TUESDAY TRIVIA CONTEST



The question for the week of Dec. 8 was “What is the email address of the Danger’s Voice Signal University Coordinator?”

Answer:
<http://www.riley.army.mil/Services/EducationandTraining/DangersVoiceSignalUniversity.aspx>

This week’s winner is Berisha Johnson Etheridge. Etheridge’s spouse is stationed at Fort Riley.

CONGRATULATIONS BERISHA!

TRAFFIC REPORT

CONSTRUCTION ON RIFLE RANGE ROAD CONTINUES

Construction on Rifle Range Road will affect traffic flow. The work started in September and has been contracted for 374 days. As a result, the work will affect travel to the schools in the area. School officials have been briefed and can offer guidance. There are detour and guidance signs posted, including detour routes along Tank Trail Purple and through the Forsyth Housing area. Motorists are asked to exercise patience and follow all posted guidance.

ALL SCHOOL ZONES IN EFFECT

School zones are in effect. Tickets will be issued. Be vigilant. Some school zones have lights and others have posted speeds and times.

ACCESS CONTROL POINT HOURS OF OPERATION

Until further notice, the Estes Access Control Point is closed permanently every Saturday and Sunday, but will remain open Monday through Friday to all traffic including commercial vehicles.

Also until further notice, 12th Street ACP is closed to privately owned vehicles on Saturdays. The commercial side remains open Saturdays. 12th Street ACP is closed to all traffic Sundays. 12th Street ACP is open to all traffic Monday through Friday. Effective Dec. 12, Grant Street ACP closes permanently every Saturday and Sunday, but remains open Monday through Friday to all privately owned vehicles. Motorists wanting access to Fort Riley on Saturday or Sunday should use Ogden, Henry or Trooper gates. The access control point hours are:

Four Corners/Trooper/Ogden: Open 24/7

Henry: Open 24/7

12th Street: Open from 5 a.m. to 7 p.m., Monday through Friday; closed to non-commercial traffic Saturdays; closed Sundays and federal holidays.

Rifle Range: Closed.

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

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

Fort Riley weekend and Holiday Dining Facility Schedule

Two of Fort Riley’s three dining facilities will run on a holiday schedule through December. Updated hours are:

Dec. 19-20: Devil’s Den and Demon Diner, open 9:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. and 5 to 6:30 p.m.

Dec. 24-27: Devil’s Den, open 9:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. and 5 to 6:30 p.m.

Irwin Army Community Hospital DFAC is open regular hours through the holidays.

WWW.FACEBOOK.COM/
FORT RILEY

RILEY ROUNDTABLE

What is your favorite holiday tradition?



"My favorite holiday tradition is putting up the Christmas tree because I get to spend time with my family and it's fun. Christmas is my favorite time of the year."

TARA MANDLEY

6th grader at Fort Riley Middle School



"We do this thing called White Sunday. It is a religious thing in my family. It's basically a kids day off where we sing and dance."

MOVEA PINE

6th grader at Fort Riley Middle School



"It's always food for me. My mom and I cook a prime rib together every year."

**SCOTT LEVENDOFSKY
BELLEVILLE, KANSAS**

Music director for Fort Riley Middle School



"Back home, we always ride sleds hooked up to four wheelers."

**CPL. DAVID NORIEGA
BRIGHAM CITY, UTAH**

Company B, 601st Aviation Support Battalion,
1st Combat Aviation Brigade, 1st Infantry
Division



"Spending time with family and relaxing."

**1ST LT. CONNOR DOWNS
PITTSBURGH, PENNSYLVANIA**

United States Army Garrison

Posting travel plans on Internet deemed unsafe

CID PUBLIC AFFAIRS

Quantico, Va. — As Soldiers and their families prepare for the holiday season, the U.S. Army Criminal Investigation Command warns that posting travel plans on social media sites makes your home vulnerable to burglary.

While Soldiers should always be vigilant in their postings to avoid releasing sensitive information, revealing personal holiday travel information puts Soldiers, their families and their homes at risk.

"Social media is a powerful and frequently used tool for Soldiers, their families and friends to stay connected, especially during the holiday season," said Daniel Andrews, director of the CID's Computer Crime Investigative Unit. "Unfortunately, criminals use the same social media sites to conduct surveillance and identify potential targets."

In fact, Andrews said, posting vacation plans is like announcing to criminals that your residence will be unoccupied for an extended period.

"We recommend that personnel avoid publicizing the details of holiday plans and travel arrangements, whether upcoming or in progress," Andrews said. "Wait until the vacation is over to comment on it and share photos, but still be cautious about what information you make publicly available."

Additionally, personnel are advised to take basic home security measures before leaving their house.

The FBI's "2014 Crime in the United States" reported an



estimated 1,729,806 burglaries in the U.S., with burglaries of residential properties accounting for 73.2 percent. The average dollar loss for each burglary incident was \$2,251.

Basic home security measures, such as locking all doors and windows, not leaving spare keys outside, using variable light timers, keeping valuables out of sight, and having a friend retrieve mail and newspapers are the first line of defense against burglary.

The use of a home security or video system is a further deterrent for criminals.

"Criminals are always on the lookout for opportunities to exploit. Whether driving through neighborhood streets or surfing social media sites, the criminal's goal is to identify 'soft targets' that are lucrative and present the least chance of being caught," Andrews said.

"This underscores the very real connection between the physical and virtual worlds."

CID officials encourage Army personnel to take the following steps to reduce their risk of being targeted by crooks in the virtual world:

- Update your privacy settings on social media sites before leaving for vacation.
- Do not "check in" to airports or your holiday destination on social media sites. Sites, such as Facebook, use the GPS built into a phone to allow users to "check in" to businesses and locations across the country. This information tells would-be burglars that the home is likely to be vacant until the user announces their arrival at the airport for their return flight.
- Do not post in "real-time." Posting information about your location while you are there is equivalent to telling

a would-be burglar that you are not home. To minimize the risk of burglary while you are away, post information after you return home from the holidays.

- Remove GPS data from pictures. GPS data, to include location coordinates, is automatically attached to photos taken from both smart phones and many digital cameras. When posted in real-time, the GPS coordinates gives a would-be burglar your exact location, which makes your home vulnerable if you are not there.

- Do not geotag posts or tweets. Much like the Facebook "check in" feature, geotagging or adding your exact GPS coordinates to a Tweet or post tells would-be burglars exactly how close you are to your home.

- Monitor what family members post. A would-be burglar only needs one member of the family to announce that the family has left for vacation to know the house might be empty. Speak to all members of the family, especially teens, about what they are posting online.

Additionally, personnel should review CID's Computer Crime Investigative Unit's crime prevention and online safety flyers at www.cid.army.mil/cciu2can.html for more ways to avoid being victimized.

For more information on CID or to report a felony-level crime or provide information concerning a crime, contact your local CID Office or the Military Police, or visit www.cid.army.mil.

FROM THE INSPECTOR GENERAL

Soldier looks for advice on lost leave after moving

Dear IG,

I recently arrived at Fort Riley and reported to my new unit. When I received my Leave and Earnings Statement I noticed I was charged 30 days of leave. When I left my last duty station I was approved by my battalion commander for 20 days of Permanent Change of Station leave and ten days of Permissive Temporary Duty for house hunting. I do not understand why I did not receive my ten days of PTDY. Please help, I want my days back.

Lost Leave

Dear Lost Leave,

Sorry to hear about this situation. No one in the Army likes to lose hard earned leave days. The regulatory guidance covering the rules and steps for PTDY for house hunting is explained in AR 600-8-10, Leaves and Passes. After reading your statement, I have to ask the question, did you report to Fort Riley Housing on day one of your PTDY? If you did not you will be charged leave for that ten day period.

As stated in, AR 600-8-10, Para 5-32, f (11), a

"Soldier must report to the gaining on-post housing office prior to starting house hunting. Failure to do so will result in (the) Soldier being charged leave for (the) entire period." The housing office will stamp your DA Form 31, Request and Authority for Leave, which will then begin day one of your PTDY for house hunting. If you failed to report to the housing office on day one of your PTDY, you will be charged leave and will not have those leave days credited back to you. If you

did report to the housing office and your DA Form 31 was stamped, I recommend you bring this issue to the attention of your leadership and submit a copy of your DA Form 31, stamped by the housing office, to your S-1. The battalion S-1 will then begin the process of adjusting your leave days and crediting the ten days of PTDY back to you.

If you have any additional questions, feel free to contact the Office of the Inspector General at 785-239-4444.

Commissaries accepting scholarship applications

By Mike Perron
DECA PUBLIC AFFAIRS SPECIALIST

FORT LEE, Va. — The Scholarships for Military Children Program, entering its 16th year, is accepting applications from eligible students now at commissaries worldwide.

A total of 700 scholarship grants, each worth \$2,000, will be awarded for the 2016-17 school year. Those students selected for the honor will join nearly 9,000 who've been awarded more than \$13.9 million in scholarship grants over the past 15 years.

At least one scholarship will be awarded at every commissary location where qualified applications are received. Additional recipients will be selected based on a

prorated basis, which means more scholarships will be awarded at those commissaries with larger numbers of applicants.

To qualify for consideration, applicants must be a dependent, an unmarried child and younger than 21 — 23 years old if enrolled as a full-time student at a college or university — of a service member on active duty, a Reserve or Guard member, retiree or survivor of a military member who died while on active duty, or survivor of a retiree.

Applications must be hand-delivered or shipped via U.S. Postal Service or other delivery methods to the commissary where the applicant's family normally shops, no later than close of business Feb. 12. Applica-

tions cannot be emailed or faxed.

Applicants should ensure that they and their sponsor are enrolled in the Defense Enrollment Eligibility Reporting System database and have a military ID card. The applicant must attend or plan to attend an accredited college or university, full time, in the fall of 2016 or be enrolled in studies designed to transfer to a four-year program.

Students who are awarded a full scholarship or receive an appointment to one of the military academies or affiliated preparatory schools are not eligible to receive funds from this program. A full scholarship is usually defined as one that provides for payment of tuition, books, lab fees and other expenses.

Fisher House Foundation, a nonprofit organization that helps service members and their families, administers the program. Scholarship Managers, a national, nonprofit, scholarship management services organization, manages and awards the scholarships.

The commissary's industry partners — vendors, suppliers and manufacturers — and the general public donate money to the program, and every dollar donated goes directly toward funding the scholarships.

For more information, students or sponsors can visit www.militaryscholar.org. You can also call Scholarship Managers at 856-616-9311 or email them at militaryscholar@scholarshipmanagers.com.

THE 1ST INFANTRY DIVISION POST



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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

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

SUICIDE PREVENTION

THE POWER OF 1



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BADGE

Continued from page 1

Hodson, a Bradley gunner with 3rd Bn., 66th Armor Regt. “Something I will always remember is working with my buddy, (Spc. Dongsu) Shin,” Tucker said. “Before we went through every event, we practiced with each other. He graded me and I graded him, and I definitely wouldn’t have gotten my badge if he wasn’t in it.”

Spc. Dongsu Shin, an infantryman with 3rd Bn., 66th Armor Regt., not only earned the respect of his fellow Soldiers, but also the respect of Maj. Gen. Wayne W. Grigsby Jr., 1st Inf. Div. and Fort Riley commanding general.



Spc. Derrik Tribbey | 1ST ABCT
Spc. Dongsu Shin, an infantryman with 3rd Battalion, 66th Armor Regiment, 1st Armored Brigade Combat Team, 1st Infantry Division, trains on the M249 machine gun prior to testing for his Expert Infantryman Badge Dec. 9 at Fort Riley.

“He’s ready to stand up because he led the way,” Grigsby said about Shin. “He’s a great leader, he’s confident in his craft and he’s a great teammate.”

On the final day, Soldiers had to march 12 miles with 35-pound ruck sacks. Immediately following the march, Soldiers were tested on casualty care. After one week of preparation and another week of testing, the 1st ABCT Soldiers were ready to stand before their peers and receive their badges.

“Getting pinned makes you realize all the hard work and dedication that you put in is really worth it,” Shin said.

WREATHS

Continued from page 1

The event was organized by the Herington, Kansas VFW Post 1281 Auxiliary, an organization Cole thanked in his remarks.

The intent of every Wreaths Across America event is to remember and honor the sacrifices and service of American service members, and teach younger Americans the value of that service.

In his remarks, Cole reminded those in attendance that less than one percent of the American population are serving in the armed forces today.

“That’s why ... education and teaching our next generations about the cost and importance of freedom” is so important Cole said. “There is a price that is paid — by a small number of people — to ensure our way of life. We must impress upon and teach our children about

these sacrifices ... and to respect, honor and appreciate our soldiers, sailors, airmen, marines and their families.”

Later in brief remarks, James Ratcliff, commander of the 4th District of the Veterans of Foreign Wars urged young people in the audience to go beyond the placing of the wreath and take note of the names of those resting in the gravesites.

“They are more than just numbers,” Ratcliff said. “When you go home, research those names on the Internet. You’ll find they were sons, daughters, mothers, fathers, brothers and sisters.”

Among those placing wreaths at gravesites were Boy Scout Troop 64 from Junction City and Boy Scout Troop 60 and Cub Scout Packs 260 and 660, all from Fort Riley.

Wreaths Across America is held the second Saturday



Andy Massanet | POST
Service members past and present of the United States Army, Navy, Marine Corps and Air Force, the Coast Guard, Merchant Marines and those listed as either prisoners of war and missing in action, were remembered and honored during the annual Wreaths Across America event at the Fort Riley Post Cemetery Dec. 12.

in December, with simultaneous observances held in more than 700 locations in all 50 states and 24 national veteran cemeteries on foreign soil.

CAMPLAN

Continued from page 1

what we’re trying to do is integrate all those training opportunities, especially because it is a fiscally difficult environment that we find ourselves in.”

Kolasheski said it was critically important to look at how National Guards from the states around Kansas can work together in the future.

“I thought it was actually very good and very well

presented to the community and the state that was represented here,” John Armbrust, executive director of the Governor’s Military Council, said of the rollout. “I think what they did is put it in not only historical perspective, but also in the perspective of the overall Army mission, how Fort Riley fits into that and how the communities fit into that piece with Fort Riley.”



Amanda Kim Stairrett | 1ST INF. DIV.
Members of the greater Flint Hills Region listened during the CAMPLAN 2020 rollout Dec. 11 in the division's Joint Operations Center.

RECOGNITION

Continued from page 1

Col. Andrew Cole Jr. “In the instance of what we’re here to say thanks to you about is taking initiative to fill a gap when there wasn’t someone there and someone was in need, you answered the call... we don’t do this because we are seeking glory or seeking the spotlight, we do it because it was the right thing to do.”

Cole said sometimes it is difficult to know when we have saved a life or made an impact on someone else’s life, but in this instance, it was clear.

“That’s the leader we need, that’s the leader the

Army needs,” Cole said about Lindsay.

Lindsay said it is important to him that the community of Fort Riley understands the police are not just there to get people causing trouble, but also for safety and protection. And that’s why he stopped and talked to a Soldier who needed help that day – because he cared.

“I showed that I cared and prevented him from taking his life,” Lindsay said. “It makes me feel good that I made a positive influence on someone’s life.”



COURTESY PHOTO
Staff Sgt. Michael Lindsay of the 97th Military Police Battalion received a certificate of appreciation Dec. 11 from Fort Riley Garrison Commander Col. Andrew Cole Jr. and Command Sgt. Maj. Jason Schmidt after Lindsay encountered a Soldier who was considering taking his life and gave him a reason not to.

IN BRIEF

TRAFFIC UPDATES

For traffic updates, see the Traffic Report on page 4 or visit www.riley.army.mil and click on "Advisories."

CENTRAL ISSUE FACILITY CLOSING FOR INVENTORY

The Central Issue Facility is closed Dec. 16 to 21. It will reopen for business at 7:30 a.m. Dec. 21.

SOLDIER FOR LIFE TRANSITION ASSISTANCE PROGRAM EVENTS

Jan. 4: 1 to 2:30 p.m., Employer Workshop, Fort Riley Transition Center, building 212, room 201, Fort Riley.

Jan. 21: 10 a.m. to noon, Law Enforcement Industry Workshop, Texas Department of Public Safety, Wichita, Salina, Emporia Police Departments, Education Center, Custer Avenue. building 217, room 202, Fort Riley.

Feb. 1: 1-2:30 p.m. Employer Workshop, Fort Riley Transition Center, building 212, room 201, Fort Riley.

Feb. 15 to 19: 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., Project Management Professional Transition Boot Camp. Hilton Garden Inn Hotel, Manhattan, Kansas, Register at www.vets2pm.com.

Feb. 18: 10 a.m. to noon, Industry Workshop, Trade and Vocational, Education Center, Custer Avenue building 217, room 202, Fort Riley.

IMPORTANT REMINDER

Visitors are reminded that a temporary Fort Riley access badge or pass is required for anyone without a Department of Defense ID card. If you know the exact date of your visit, it is recommended to get a temporary badge or pass early at the Visitor Control Center by calling 785-239-2982 or emailing usarmy.riley.imcom-central.mbx.des-vcc@mail.mil.

There are longer wait times for passes during periods of higher traffic, especially weekday mornings and weekday afternoons.

If you're unable to get a pass early, make sure to allow extra time the day of your visit to get through processing at the Visitor Control Center.

Please visit www.riley.army.mil/Units/GarrisonCommand/EmergencyServices/AccessInformation.aspx for details.

SANTA AT THE LIBRARY

Don't miss Santa at the Fort Riley Post Library Dec. 19.

Santa will be giving out candy and presents from 1 to 3 p.m. You can also get your picture taken with him. For more information, call 785-239-5305.

CHILD, YOUTH AND SCHOOL SERVICES

The CYSS fees for the 2015–2016 school year scheduled to go into effect Nov. 1 will be delayed. The fees are now scheduled to be implemented Jan. 1.

LAST DAY FOR HOLIDAY MAIL

Dec. 19 - First Class Mail

Service for standard-sized, single-piece envelopes and small packages weighing up to 13 ounces with delivery in three business days or less.

Dec. 21 - Priority Mail

Domestic service in one, two or three business days based on where the package starts and where it's being sent. Includes variety of flat rate options.

Dec. 23 - Priority Mail Express

Fastest domestic service, with guaranteed overnight scheduled delivery to most locations.



Caitlyn Snide, center, selects a holiday tree at the Trees for Troops event Dec. 12. Helping her are two volunteers from the 1st Battalion, 16th Infantry Regiment, 1st Armored Brigade Combat Team, 1st Infantry Division: Pvt. Anthony Douglas of Youngstown, Ohio is at right, and Pvt. Micah McBride of Sumter, South Carolina.

Spirit of giving takes root at Fort Riley

Hundreds of holiday trees made available to local Soldiers, family members

Story and photo by Andy Massanet
1ST INF. DIV. POST

A number of Soldiers and military family members at Fort Riley will have a happier holiday this year thanks to the Trees for Troops event at Riley's Conference Center Dec. 12.

A total of 345 trees were donated by the Christmas SPIRIT Foundation and their corporate partner Federal Express. The

organizations teamed together with the Outdoor Recreation Division of the Directorate of Family and Morale, Welfare and Recreation, to provide the opportunity for Fort Riley Soldiers and their family members to have a tree for the holidays.

"The Christmas SPIRIT Foundation and FedEx have been working together to bring the Trees for Troops program to military members and their families for over ten years," said Angelia Lentz of the Outdoor Recreation Division. "In that time, the Fort Riley DFMWR Outdoor Recreation Center has had the honor to assist in the distribution of thousands of real Christmas trees to our Soldiers and their families at no charge."

Soldiers and family members began queueing up for the trees as early as 8 a.m. for the event that officially started at 9 a.m.

They registered and were offered free cards and tree ornaments then entered the tennis court area of Riley's Conference Center. Inside waited a team of many volunteers, including 'Big Red One' Soldiers as well as Soldiers from the Better Opportunities for Single Soldiers team from Fort Riley, the Junior Reserve Officers Training Corps class from Junction City High School, and Boy Scout Troop 41 and Cub Scout Pack 41, both from Junction City.

See TREES, page 11



Lyvann Abner, 2, pets a reindeer at the Christkindl Market with her sister and dad, Spc. Jonathan Vasquez, 1st Battalion, 5th Field Artillery Regiment, 1st Armored Brigade Combat Team, 1st Infantry Division.

Holiday Rein

Christmas spirit beckons visitors to Christkindl Market

Story and photo by Hannah Kleopfer
1ST INF. DIV. POST

Between the giggles of children and the scent of food wafting throughout Riley's Conference Center, the 7th annual Christkindl Market beckoned community members with Christmas cheer.

"It's good to get everyone to come together and get ready for the holidays," said Meredith Storm, sponsorship and advertising coordinator for the Directorate of Family and Morale, Welfare and Recreation.

Under tents outside and throughout the center, vendors from Fort Riley and the surrounding communities set up

See CHRISTKINDL MARKET, page 12

"It's good to get everyone to come together and get ready for the holidays."

MEREDITH STORM
DIRECTORATE OF
FAMILY AND MORALE,
WELFARE AND
RECREATION

IF YOU GO

Holiday concert

» 7:30 p.m. Dec. 18 & 19

» C.L. Hoover Opera House

135 W. Seventh St., Junction City

Admission is free and no tickets are required. Space is limited to 400.

Two bands are better than one

'Big Red One,' Junction City Community bands join forces for holiday concerts

J. Parker Roberts

1ST INF. DIV. PUBLIC AFFAIRS

As the days grow short and colder in the central Flint Hills, members of the 1st Infantry Division Band are busy preparing to make the C.L. Hoover Opera House merry and bright.

The Soldier band will join the Junction City Community Band for a holiday concert at 7:30 p.m. Dec. 18 and 19 in the multi-level performing space, 135 W. Seventh St. in Junction City. The opera house opens at 6:30 p.m. and the seating begins at 7 p.m. Admission is free and no tickets are required. Space is limited to 400 concert-goers per performance.

"It's the time of the year that the 1st Inf. Div. and Fort Riley can officially say 'thank you' and give back," said Chief Warrant Officer 3 Jeff Price, commander of the 1st Inf. Div. Band. "The neat thing about something like this is it allows us to remind people that we're also members of the community ... we live and work in the community."

Price, of Morgantown, West Virginia, said the combined bands allow for a high amount of variety in a short amount of time.

See BANDS, page 12

Corvias throws annual holiday party for residents

Staff says free gathering a way to 'give back some appreciation' to families

Story and photo by Hannah Kleopfer
1ST INF. DIV. POST

Lines formed outside the door of the Colyer-Forsyth community center Dec. 11 as children and parents waited to take part in the holiday festivities hosted by the staff of Fort Riley Corvias Military Living.

"This is for our residents ... so they can come in and have the opportunity to meet Santa," said

Sarah Fellows, Corvias Resident Services specialist. "It's a fun event for families to come and get out and meet more of us that they don't see on a daily basis. And it gets all of them out together, too. We have a lot Soldiers deployed right now so their spouses get to come and meet some more families that are in the same boat they are."

As families came inside they received tickets to enter drawings for toys that the staff of Corvias purchased for the event. Everyone could receive up to five tickets at no cost, and if they donated canned foods, they could get more entries.

See PARTY, page 12



Families got the opportunity to ride around the neighborhood with the Commanding General's Mounted Color Guard during the Corvias "Tis The Season" holiday party at the Colyer-Forsyth community center Dec. 11.

Corvias picks winner of interior decorating contest

Military spouse thanks husband for suggestion to enter, help in decorating

By Hannah Kleopfer
1ST INF. DIV. POST

For Soldiers and their families who find themselves moving from house

to house, they know that it's really the personal touches that can transform a house into a home.

The staff of Fort Riley Corvias Military Living had an interior decorating contest for community members. Photos of their home were posted on Facebook and people could vote for the home based on the photos. The top three finalists were named Dec. 8.

Finalist and winner of the contest Angela Perez was convinced by her husband, Warrant Officer 1 Edmund Perez, Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 1st Combat Aviation Brigade, 1st Infantry Division, to enter the contest.

"My husband saw it and he suggested that I submit some pictures because I'm always decorating and moving things around," Perez said.

Perez explained that decorating the house was something she and her husband enjoyed doing together. She usually buys things to decorate the house according to the season and then her husband puts them together.

Finalist Alondra Rogers-Clements, wife of Sgt. Recil Clements, 1st Squadron, 4th Cavalry Regiment,

See DECORATING, page 12



COMMUNITY CORNER

Happy and safe holidays to Fort Riley family

Col. Andrew Cole Jr.
FORT RILEY GARRISON COMMANDER

The holiday season is a time to reflect and celebrate our beliefs and traditions with family and friends. Family makeups may include our families we were born, adopted or married into. It can also include our Army teammates we have chosen to consider brothers and sisters. Today's Army is diverse and that means our Soldiers, family members, and civilian employees celebrate the season in many different ways. No matter how we choose to celebrate the season – we are all one Army family and need to take care of each other and stay safe.

Take a moment to stop and reflect on what the season means to you. Take the time to remember and honor our fellow Soldiers that will be serving in

locations far from home during this time of year, a time when it is more difficult to be away from family and friends. As fellow Soldiers we know and understand the sacrifices that our Soldiers make when they serve to protect our freedoms during the holidays. Their sacrifices give us the opportunity to enjoy the holidays with our loved ones.

During this time of year, enjoy a responsible, safe and joyous celebration — no matter who and how you choose to celebrate. Keep safety at the forefront of thinking in everything you do. I want Fort Riley Soldiers and families to have an accident-free holiday.



Colonel Cole

There have been several messages during this season to remind you to stay safe — but I would like to say one more time — be aware of and minimize your daily risks in all activities from hanging lights on your home to traveling the busy and sometimes hazardous roadways.

Be careful if you are traveling. Drive safe. This time of year there is always more traffic, worse winter weather conditions, and the possibility that someone may be driving under the influence, drowsy, or distracted. This can provide a more dangerous time to travel — so stay aware and alert to hazards.

If you choose to drink — don't drive. Call a friend, or use one of our resources to get you home safely. Even if you think you are okay to drive don't take the risk it isn't worth the troubles it could create for you or your family.

If you are having difficulty coping with the extra stressful emotions of this season, remember there are caring, trained professionals that can help you including Army Community Service counselors, Alcohol, Substance Abuse counselors and chaplains. No matter what you are struggling with, someone out there cares and is willing to help.

Always look out for each other, be responsible and make this a safe and joyful season. Remember we want all our Soldiers, family members and civilian employees back safely after the holidays.

— *To comment on this article or to suggest a topic for Community Corner, email usarmy.riley.imcom.mbx.post-newspaper@mail.mil or visit my Facebook page at www.facebook.com/fortrileycg.*

Holiday Meals for Military fills a need

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

About 300 black and white patterned bags provided by Thirty-One Gift Company filled with all the fixings for a holiday meal lined the walls of the Courtyard Marriott in Junction City, Kansas. Each bag including a \$25 WalMart gift card to buy the meat for the meal, was given to a service member in need.

This program is part of Operation Homefront, an organization that helps service members in times of need. In 2015, about 8,500 families received Holiday Meal kits at 25 different active duty bases including Fort Riley.

Staff Sgt. Jody Staggs Company A, 101st Brigade Support Battalion, 1st Armored Brigade Combat Team, 1st Infantry Division, picked up a bag for his family of five. He said having a community who

supports military members is something he is thankful for during this holiday season.

“For families in need, it definitely helps them out,” Staggs said. “The cost for the holidays and buying gifts for kids, this takes a lot of the burden off.”

Holiday Meals for Military started in 2009. The event is open to all Soldiers between the pay grades of E-1 through E-6. Thirty-One Gift Company donated all the totes, while WalMart donated the food to fill them.

Jacqueline Watts, director of programs for the central region of Operation Homefront, said this event is all about giving back to those serving our country.

“I think it's great because I see the need for these families,” Watts said. “There are women who come in here while their spouses are deployed ... it's a great value.

Christmas is hard on any family — military or not.”

Cpl. Jack Fields, 1st Support Maintenance Company, 541st Combat Sustainment Support Battalion, 1st Sustainment Brigade, 1st Infantry Division, came to pick up his tote with his wife, Bryanna and his 3-year-old daughter, Faith.

“Honestly, it's really hard to describe (the value of the community support),” Jack said. “It's very helpful that people are out there willing to help those serving the nation.”

The Fields family also participated in the Back-to-School Brigade program offered by Operation Homefront while stationed at Fort Riley last August. This program donates school supplies to service members and their families.

“There are no words to describe the support these programs give us,” Bryanna said.



Cpl. Jack Fields, 1st Support Maintenance Company, 541st Combat Sustainment Support Battalion, 1st Sustainment Brigade, 1st Infantry Division, and his wife, Bryanna, watch at their daughter, Faith, 3, colors a picture at the activity table Dec. 8 at the Courtyard Marriott in Junction City, Kansas.

WWW.1DIVPOST.COM

Fort Riley Holiday Services

Catholic Masses
24 December: 1630 at Victory Chapel
24/25 December: 0000 (Midnight) at St. Mary's Chapel
25 December: 0900 and 1200 at St. Mary's Chapel

Traditional and Contemporary Combined Christmas Eve Service
24 December: 1500 Refreshments & Carriage Rides at Main Post Chapel
1800 Service at Main Post Chapel

Gospel Watch Night Service
31 December: 2200 at Morris Hill Chapel

NOW SHOWING

Barlow Theater is now in digital!
Tickets cost \$6.00 for adults and \$3.50 for children
Tickets for 3-D and first-run movies cost extra.
Children younger than 5 are admitted free.



FRIDAY, DECEMBER 18
• Steve Jobs (R) 7 P.M.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 19
• Studio Appreciation Advance Screening – Point Break – Free Admission (PG-13) 2 P.M.
• The Peanuts Movie (G) 7 P.M.

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 20
• The 33 (PG-13) 5 P.M.

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



Pfc. Jaime Arismindez, 101st Brigade Support Battalion, 1st Armored Brigade Combat Team, 1st Infantry Division shakes up the glitter and “snow balls” inside the ornament that Soldiers crafted during the Arts and Crafts 101 class at Warrior Zone. The class was for Soldiers of Better Opportunities for Single Soldiers.

Soldiers enjoy arts, crafts class

Single Soldiers find course perfect fit for year’s holiday season

Story and photo by Hannah Kleopfer
1ST INF. DIV. POST

Inside the Warrior Zone Dec. 9, Soldiers joked around as they poured glitter and listened to Christmas music. The members of Better Opportunities for Single Soldiers were participating in one of their first arts and crafts classes led by Kelly Schmidt, wife of Garrison Command Sgt. Maj. Jason Schmidt. She owns a home-based business, Born in the Barn, that sells household decorations.

“They had some Soldiers request that they wanted to do

some arts and crafts classes,” Schmidt said.

Because she already knew some of the BOSS members so they thought it was a good fit to ask her to help them with a holiday-themed craft for the season. Schmidt led the hour and a half long class, teaching the Soldiers how to make a personalized Christmas ornament that she makes for her own boutique. She talked the participants through each step throwing in jokes along the way, making the atmosphere fun and light.

“I think it’s a really good event ... and it brings the single Soldiers together to communicate ... ,” said Pfc Jaime Arismindez, 101st Brigade Support Battalion, 1st Armored Brigade Combat

Team, 1st Infantry Division. “I’ve been trying to get involved in more events and go do more (things) like this.”

Between the splashes of glitter and ribbon on the ornaments, Soldiers also included a special photo that went inside the clear bulb. Everyone decided on using photos of loved ones or symbols that meant something to them. Mendez said he chose a picture of his nieces and nephews and planned on sending it to them as a gift.

The members of BOSS come up with events to bring the Soldiers together as often as possible. For the new year the group has more events planned such as cooking classes and service projects. Go to rileymwr.com to find out more about BOSS.

TREES Continued from page 9

“It is very rewarding to be a part of bringing this opportunity to Fort Riley and is always one of my favorite events of the year,” Lentz said. “The staff at the Outdoor Recreation Center love being a part of creating these Holiday memories for our Fort Riley Families.

Every year this event brings together people from our community. The event couldn’t happen without the assistance of some amazing volunteers.”

According to the Christmas SPIRIT Foundation website, www.christmasspiritfoundation.org, the trees were part of an overall effort by Christmas SPIRIT Foundation, Federal Express and donations by many Christmas tree growers, retailers, and private donors across the nation. Nearly 20,000 trees were donated to military installations across America this year.

While a majority of the trees at Riley’s Conference Center found homes on Dec. 12, not all the trees were given away. Between 100-120 trees remained on Dec. 14, and personnel from DFMWR’s Outdoor Recreation Center began loading up the trees to take to the center.

As of press time, some were still available. To find out more information, call 785-239-2364.

 WWW.FACEBOOK.COM/FORTRILEY

WORSHIP	
Protestant Services	
Victory Chapel	239-0834
Contemporary Protestant Service	
Sunday School [K-12 & Adult]	.....0915-1015
Sunday Worship	.....1045
Morris Hill Chapel	239-4815
Gospel Protestant Service	
Sunday School	.....0930
Sunday Worship	.....1100
Main Post Chapel	239-6597
Traditional Protestant Service	
Sunday Worship	.....1030
Catholic Services	
Victory Chapel	239-0834
Sunday Mass	.....0900
Sunday Catechism	.....1040
Saint Mary's Chapel	239-6597
Saturday's Vigil Mass	.....1630
Sunday Mass	.....1200
Mid-day Mass- Mon., Wed., & Fri.	.....1200
Tuesday & Thursday Mass	.....1800
IACH Chapel	239-7872
Mid-day Mass- Tue. & Thur.	.....1200
Wiccan Service	
Kapaun Chapel	239-4818
Fort Riley Open Circle-SWC	
1st & 3rd Wednesday monthly	.....1800

Fort Riley Religious Services

Off-Post Services

LDS Religious Services
Church of Jesus Christ of LDS

- 1705 McFarland Rd., Junction City, KS 785-238-8720
- 2812 Marfan Ave., Manhattan, KS 785-539-5445/3357

Muslim Religious Service
Islamic Center- 785-340-7053
1224 Hylton Heights Rd., Manhattan, KS icmanhattan.org

Jewish Religious Service
Manhattan Jewish Congregation- 785-539-8462
4509 Wreath Ave., Manhattan, KS manhattanjewishcong.org

Chapel Youth Program (SNAC)
Meets Sundays, see calendar
MS Youth- 1530-1700 at Morris Hill Chapel
HS Youth- 1830-2000 at Victory Chapel
785-240-6499

AWANA
Meets Sundays, see calendar
1530-1700 Victory Chapel
785-239-9313

**Protestant Women of the Chapel (PWOC)**
Weekly Tuesday Meetings at Victory Chapel
0900-1130 & 1830-2030
Morning Childcare Provided.
For more information email rlcypwoc@gmail.com or Facebook "Fort Riley PWOC"

**Catholic Women of the Chapel (CWOC)**
Weekly Wednesday Meeting at St. Mary's Chapel
0900-1130
Childcare provided.
For more information email fortrileycwoc@gmail.com or Facebook "Fort Riley CWOC"

SFL-TAP Industry Workshop

Law Enforcement Industry

Thursday, 21 January
10:00 AM– 12:00 PM
Building 217, Custer Ave, Room 202
Fort Riley



Emporia, KS Police Dept
Wichita, KS Police Dept
Texas Dept of Public Safety
Salina, KS Police Dept

Specialized Workforce Orientation:

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Interview Process
Deciding on the Offer
Tips & Best Practices

FLINT HILLS TECHNICAL COLLEGE

BANDS

Continued from page 9

“It’s going to be a musical multimedia spectacular,” said Spc. Lawrence Evans, a pianist with the 1st Inf. Div. Band. “You’ll have the regular concert setting with our musicians on risers, and we’ll also have a Santa Claus corner where Santa will read (‘A Visit from St. Nicholas’) while the band plays the arrangement and there will be shout-outs from deployed Soldiers from the 2nd Armored Brigade Combat Team, (1st Inf. Div.).”

Evans, originally from the Washington Heights neighborhood of New York City, said the concert would be a mixture of vocalists, ensembles and holiday favorites. A total of 16 members of the community band will join 36 members of the “Big Red One” band on stage.

“It’s going to sound great,” Evans said. “But it’s very important that people know it is not ticketed this year, so to get a good seat, or to get a seat at all, show up early.”

This will be the third and final holiday performance at the C.L. Hoover Opera House for Price, who will step down as band commander in January.

“The band is an important tool for the division to get out and tell the Army story,” Price said. “I’ve been richly blessed to be a Big Red One Soldier, and this really is a very supportive community. My family ... this is our home. To be able to play for the people I live and work with on a daily basis in the community, that’s important to me.”



Sgt. 1st Class Rob Frazier | 1ST INF. DIV.

Staff Sgt. Patrick Buzard, a trombonist with the 1st Infantry Division Band, plays during an ensemble performance Dec. 8 in the foyer of the 1st Inf. Div. headquarters. The 1st Inf. Div. Band will join the Junction City Community Band for free holiday concerts Dec. 18 and 19 at the C.L. Hoover Opera House in Junction City.

During the concert, Price will introduce Chief Warrant Officer 2 Matt David from Jacksonville, Florida, who will take over as bandmaster in January.

“As Army musicians, one of the parts of our primary mission is to foster support from the community,” said 1st Sgt. Terrina Anderson, clarinetist and senior non-commissioned officer of the band from Longview, Texas. “It’s definitely always a good time to be able to go out and perform for the community.”

CHRISTKINDL MARKET

Continued from page 9

MORE ONLINE

- **Fort Riley MWR:** <http://rileymwr.com/main/>

“I said I’d love to be a part of this because my husband works at Irwin Army Community Hospital,” Pyle said. “I think it’s great for me because (Fort Riley is) such a big part of the Manhattan community and the K-State community.”

Pyle said the people who helped put on the event were so helpful and organized and

she was very impressed with the staff.

The market was also intended to bring in ties of German culture, which was an aspect of the event that drew in Staff Sgt. Derek Czerniak. While he had never been stationed in Germany, he said that he had visited before and decided to come to the market

to feel some of the German culture again. He also brought his wife Katie and their son Brayden, 18 mos. Czerniak and his wife said their favorite part was the food.

While people shopped, choirs from the local elementary schools sang inside, and dance and tumbling classes from Fort Riley performed for audiences outside. Families waited in line to ride a train around the area or take pictures as their children petted reindeer.

DECORATING

Continued from page 9

4th Infantry Brigade Combat Team, 1st Infantry Division, also enjoys decorating her home to make it a place she loves.

“It’s really important that it’s a place that feels like home and that it’s the same for my daughter,” Rogers-Clements said.

She explained that her 4-year-old daughter is autistic so it’s important to her their home be a comfortable spot for her, which they achieve by

decorating with her favorite cartoon character, Scooby Doo. She said she tries to keep their home reflective of her family and what they like and value.

Third finalist Angela Bogle and husband Maj. Everett Bogle decorated their home according to the Christmas season.

In the end, voters chose the Perez family’s home decorated for the fall and Thanksgiving season. The Perez family won the grand prize of \$200.



Hannah Kleopfer | POST

Winner of the Corvias interior decorating contest, Angela and Warrant Officer 1 Edmund Perez, Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 1st Combat Aviation Brigade, 1st Infantry Division, entered photos of their home decorated in fall décor.

PARTY

Continued from page 9

“This entire event and everything we do for the families is 100 percent free,” said Bobbi Jo Sample, accounting manager of Corvias. “It’s a way to give back some appreciation.”

The next stop through the building was for hot cocoa and cookies. Families could

stop and enjoy the snack before finally meeting Santa, Mrs. Claus and their elves.

While some kids cried when they met Santa Claus, sisters Aliyah and Briana, daughters of Heike Rodriguez and Staff Sgt. Luis Rodriguez, 1st Sustainment Brigade, 1st

Infantry Division, excitedly went up to talk to him. They said they thought he sounded a lot like Santa Claus, knowing he can’t be everywhere all the time. Their mother said they had been to the event last year, which they enjoyed and they wanted to come again.

Families waited outside for the toy drawing held at 5:30 p.m. and an opportunity to ride a carriage pulled by the Commanding General’s Mounted Color Guard.

To find out more go to their Facebook page, Fort Riley On-Post Housing.

Sports & Recreation

IN BRIEF

BOWLING SPECIALS

Wednesday through Friday: From 1 to 6 p.m., \$2.50 games and \$2 shoes.

Wednesday: From 6 to 9 p.m., \$1 games and \$1 shoes.

Thursday: From 6 to 9 p.m., \$5 cover, which includes shoes and 50¢ games.

Friday: From 6 to 9 p.m., \$15 for unlimited bowling for up to six people, shoes not included.

Saturday: Extreme bowling from 6 p.m. to midnight, \$9 for shoes and up to three hours of bowling.

Sundays: From noon to 6 p.m., family fun, \$35 per lane, which includes two hours of bowling, one large two-topping pizza, two pitchers of soda, and shoes for up to six people.

PLAN TO BE MORE FIT IN 2016

The Directorate of Family and Morale, Welfare and Recreation has a comprehensive offering of options for health- and fitness-minded individuals on post.

Contact one of the following MWR fitness department professionals to get started:

Vincent Spencer, Fitness Coordinator, vincent.j.spencer2.naf@mail.mil, 785-239-3146.

Jocelyn Hemnitz, Fitness Specialist, jocelyn.n.hemnitz.naf@mail.mil, 785-239-2616.

Choose between the following rates:

- One person, one-hour training session — \$25.
- Two people, one-hour training session — \$40.
- Three people, one-hour training session — \$48.

Personal training sessions can be purchased at Whitside Fitness Center Monday through Friday, 9 a.m. to 6:30 p.m., and Saturday, 9 to 11 a.m.

You can also purchase a session of massage therapy:

- 30-minute session — \$30.
- 60-minute session — \$60.
- 90-minute session — \$90.

For more information call 785-239-2573.

EYSTER POOL CLOSING TEMPORARILY

Eyster Pool is closed through approximately Jan. 13.

During this time, all programs — including physical therapy supported by both Irwin Army Community Hospital and Warrior Transition Battalion, pregnancy Physical Therapy, lap swim and recreational swim — will be held at Long Pool, inside Long Fitness Center. Because this pool is not equipped with a computer point-of-sale system, all daily entry fees and pool passes will need to be paid using cash or check.

Unit PT, requests for Thursdays only will be accepted during this time; this is to decrease maximum occupancy with the early-morning lap swim program.

The Aquatics Office at Eyster Pool will be open from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday-Friday. For more information, call the aquatics program manager at 785-239-9441.

YOUTH SPORTS OFFICIALS

Child, Youth and School Services staff are looking for officials for youth outdoor and indoor soccer, flag football, basketball, baseball and softball.

Volunteer and paid positions are available. Training is 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.

ISPORTSMAN SYSTEM

Fort Riley has an automated check-in and check-out system called iSportsman. Individuals can register at www.fortriley.isportsman.net.

To access Fort Riley training area, use the iSportsman website. Check-in and check-out may be done with any personal device with Internet access, visit the iSportsman kiosk at 1st Division and Vinton School roads or the Environmental Division Office, building 407, during normal business hours.

For more information, contact the Environmental Division at 785-239-6211.

CHIEF CONCERN: THANKING OUR TROOPS



Spc. Jayson Morton, 1st Combat Aviation Brigade, 1st Infantry Division, his wife, Whitney, and sons, Eli and Silas, walk onto the field at the Kansas City Chiefs Salute to Service game Dec. 13 at Arrowhead Stadium. The family was given a 2016 Ford Fusion from the non-profit organization Cars 4 Heroes during the game. The Chiefs won the game 10-3 against the San Diego Chargers.

1st Infantry Division Soldiers honored at Chiefs' military appreciation game

Story and photos by Sgt. 1st Class Mark Albright
1ST INF. DIV. PUBLIC AFFAIRS

KANSAS CITY, Mo. — Soldiers with the 1st Infantry Division and Fort Riley attended the Kansas City Chiefs' Salute to Service game Dec. 13 at Arrowhead Stadium. The Soldiers joined other military branches participating in the opening ceremony and recognition before kickoff.

"I thought it was very exhilarating," said Spc. James May of the 82nd Engineer Battalion, 2nd Armored Brigade Combat Team, 1st Inf. Div. "This was my first professional game. It was awesome."

The Soldiers took part in an on-field detail to honor the national anthem and American flag in the ceremony.

Maj. Gen. Wayne W. Grigsby Jr., 1st Inf. Div. and Fort Riley commanding general, served as the Chiefs' honorary team captain, standing midfield for the coin toss.

"It was awesome to go out on the field," said Staff Sgt. Christopher Low, Wichita, Kansas, native and member of the 1st Infantry Division Sustainment Brigade. "I love the Chiefs more than any other team, in any sport. Being out



Staff Sgt. Christopher Low, 1st Infantry Division Sustainment Brigade, renders a salute during the opening ceremony of the Kansas City Chiefs Salute to Service Game Dec. 13 at Arrowhead Stadium. Low, a life-long Chiefs fan, participated in the opening ceremony for the game and cheered on the Chiefs to a win over the San Diego Chargers with a final score of 10-3.

See CHIEFS, page 14

Soldiers bag new Xbox games for tournament win

Story and photo by Hannah Kleopfer
1ST INF. DIV. POST

Soldiers walked out of the Warrior Zone with free Xbox Ones, thanks to staff of Warrior Zone and the Directorate of Family and Morale, Welfare and Recreation, who hosted a Halo 5 tournament Dec. 13.

The tournament featured 72 players arranged in 18 teams of four players each.

The first place team members received an Xbox and the second place team members received the Halo 5 game. There were raffles for two additional Xbox giveaways, one just for players and one for players and spectators.

"I love doing tournaments," said Quinton Williams, supervisory recreation assistant. "The fact that we had a good turnout like this is encouraging for our programming team."

Many Soldiers, such as Pvt. Jonathan Nunnelley, 3rd Battalion, 66th Armored Regiment, 1st Brigade Combat Team, 1st Infantry Division, wanted to come for the exciting idea of winning a new Xbox. He also wanted to get his friends involved in the tournament and Xbox gaming in general.



Soldiers from Delta Company, 3rd Assault Helicopter Battalion, 1st Aviation Regiment, 1st Combat Aviation Brigade, 1st Infantry Division won first place at the Halo 5 tournament on Dec. 13. From left, Spc. Roberto Reyes, Spc. Austyn Maxedon and Spc. Chris Daubig. Joining them on the team at far right is Chase Daubig, brother of Spc. Daubig. Each received an Xbox One and a copy of Halo 5 for their victory.

"I like the competitive aspect and to look my opponent in the eye instead of being online," Nunnelley said.

The tournament brought in many Warrior Zone regulars who participate in other activities and clubs. Players of the team Zero Goats Dead in the West decided to play in the tournament after hearing about it in their Anime Club meeting which is held at the Warrior Zone. The Soldiers, Spc. Kyle Lammert, 1st Squadron, 6th Cavalry Regiment,

See TOURNAMENT, page 14

Holiday Hoops: 1st Battalion, 5th Field Artillery Regiment wins close contest

Story and photos by Hannah Kleopfer
1ST INF. DIV. POST

Nine basketball teams were organized with Soldiers from across Fort Riley to play in the annual Holiday Hoops Tournament Dec. 12 at Whitside Fitness Center.

Sgt. David Newland, Division Headquarters and Headquarters Battalion, 1st Infantry Division, refereed the games. He said the tournament ran pretty smoothly and gave Soldiers the opportunity to come together for some exercise and camaraderie.

“It’s something we do every year to promote morale and welfare right before the holiday,” Newland said.

The tournament was single elimination and by the end, the teams of 258th Human Resources Company and 1st Battalion, 5th Field Artillery Regiment were matched up for the championship game.

The score remained close during a 15-minute first half that featured a flurry of three-pointers toward the end of the period.

In the second half, 258th AGHR began to lose its momentum and the

1st Bn., 5th FA Regt. started to pull away. Both teams started fouling more, sending shooters to the free-throw line. The team members of 1st Bn., 5th FA Regt. gained some power as they pushed harder and started to drive the ball to the basket down the baseline. As the second half neared the end, players of 258th AGHR tried different approaches to come back, but nothing was successful. The Soldiers of 1st Bn. 5th FA Regt. kept the ball in the last few seconds to win the tournament 52–36.

Team members of 1st Bn., 5th FA Regt. received their medals and t-shirts after shaking hands with the players of 258th AGHR in the spirit of sportsmanship.

“It was a very nice tournament,” said Spc. Anthony Dicks, 1st Bn. 5th FA Regt. “It’s a good way to get everybody involved here at Fort Riley because we don’t really see everybody. I’m an 88 (transportation field) he might be a 92 Alpha (automated logistics specialist), so it’s really good to get everybody together as a community, battle buddies, and play good team ball.”

The tournament was free and counted toward Commander’s Cup points for intramurals.



Pfc. Korey Bobb, 258th Human Resources Company, 1st Sustainment Brigade, 1st Infantry Division tries to grab the rebound during the championship game of the Holiday Hoops Tournament at Fort Riley’s Whitside Fitness Center Dec. 12.



LEFT: Players of 258th Human Resources Company, 1st Sustainment Brigade, 1st Infantry Division and 1st Battalion, 5th Field Artillery Regiment, 1st Armored Brigade Combat Team, 1st Inf. Div., go up for a rebound during the championship game of the Holiday Hoops Tournament at Fort Riley’s Whitside Fitness Center Dec. 12. RIGHT: Spc. Marcus Allen, 1st Bn., 5th FA Regt., 1st ABCT, 1st Inf. Div. goes up for a layup during the second half of the championship game. Nine teams were organized with Soldiers from across Fort Riley to play in the annual event, which was free for Soldiers and counted toward Commander’s Cup points for intramurals.



CHIEFS Continued from page 13

on the field just made me smile. I’m glad we won, that’s seven in a row.”

With “Big Red One” and Fort Riley Soldiers cheering them on, the Chiefs won the game 10–3 against the San Diego Chargers.

During the game, multiple 1st Inf. Div. Soldiers were recognized, including the Gold Star family of Sgt. Milton A. Gist Jr., a member of the 2nd ABCT, 1st Inf. Div., who was killed by an improvised explosive device Jan. 30, 2007, in Ramadi, Iraq.

Leo Morton, chancellor of University of Missouri-Kansas City; Maj. Gen. Wayne W. Grigsby Jr., 1st Inf. Div. and Fort Riley commanding general; and Command Sgt. Maj. Joseph Cornelison, the division’s senior noncommissioned officer, presented the Gist family with a four-year, \$50,000 memorial scholarship to the university. Gist is survived by his mother,

Anginette Morgon, his wife, Rah, daughter Jendayah and son Jakweli.

Non-profit organization Cars 4 Heroes founder Terry Franz presented Spc. Jayson Morton of the 1st Combat Aviation Brigade, 1st Inf. Div., and his family a 2016 Ford Fusion in the third quarter of the game.

“It’s extremely, extremely helpful to say the least,” Morton said. “It’s weird because you hear about things like this happening and you see things, but you never think something like that could happen to you.”

According to its website, Cars 4 Heroes provides free, reliable transportation to veterans and their families who otherwise are not able to obtain transportation for themselves.

“Seeing Morton’s reaction when he got the car was priceless,” May said. “It’s something I will remember for the rest of my life.”

TOURNAMENT Continued from page 13

1st Combat Aviation Brigade, 1st Inf. Div.; Spc. Samuel West, 24th Transportation, 1st Sustainment Brigade, 1st Inf. Div.; Spc. Justin Alvira, 1st Aviation Regiment, 1st Combat Aviation Brigade, 1st Inf. Div. and Sgt. Dylan Sonnenberg, 1st Sqdn., 6th Cav. Regt., said they felt okay about their chances in

the tournament, depending on which side they were on.

“If we stick together, talk and call out targets we should do just fine,” West said.

In the end, though, their team wasn’t quite able to make it. The winning team was The Baggies and the second place team was Last Alive Gaming.

People ‘elfed’ at holiday bowling party

Story and photos by Hannah Kleopfer
1ST INF. DIV. POST

Little elves could be found throughout the Custer Bowling Alley Dec. 13 as Fort Riley families came together for an afternoon of activities and entertainment at the annual holiday party. The theme of the day was “Elf Yourself,” which was inspired by the beloved Christmas movie “Elf.”

Manager Ashaleen Noriega said they decided to do something different this year since the facility had gotten updates such as big screen televisions so they were able to play the movie during the event as families bowled and ate snacks.

“It gives the opportunity for families to come and enjoy an activity that’s indoors,” Noriega said.

Families arrived dressed up in elf hats, Santa costumes and Christmas-themed outfits. The event was an opportunity for people to take part in the Christmas spirit even during the dreary weather of the weekend.

“I thought it would be a fun event for the whole family to enjoy,” said Denise Guerra, wife of Sgt. 1st Class Robert Guerra, 1st Combined Arms Battalion, 18th Infantry Regiment, 2nd Armored Brigade Combat Team, 1st Infantry Division. “It’s something to do on a Sunday afternoon that’s not video games.”

Guerra and her kids, Robert, 12, Anthony and Benjamin, 9, and Olivia, 4 all said they were having fun at the event. Olivia said she liked it because she was winning, while Anthony and Benjamin said they were pretty new to the game of bowling but were still having fun.

In another room at the bowling alley, kids could meet Santa, who read a Christmas story to a small group. There was a table with hot chocolate and cookies as well.

The event cost \$35 per family, which included the two hours of bowling, photos with Santa, games and a large pizza and pitcher of soda.



Children listen to Santa Claus read a Christmas-themed book during the “Elf Yourself” bowling party at the Custer Bowling Alley Dec. 13. During the storytime, the children had hot cocoa and cookies.



Denise Guerra, wife of Sgt. 1st Class Robert Guerra, 1st Combined Arms Battalion, 18th Infantry Regiment, 2nd Armored Brigade Combat Team, 1st Infantry Division, helps her daughter Olivia, 4, bowl during the “Elf Yourself” bowling party at Custer Bowling Alley Dec. 13. For \$35, families received two games of bowling, a large pizza and a pitcher of soda.

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FORT RILEY



