

Firefighters host structural training on post

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

Firefighters from Kansas Taskforce 2 including fire departments from Lawrence, Manhattan, Pottawatomie County, Forbes Field from Topeka and Fort Riley conducted a two-week structural collapse training course April 4 through 12 at the Fort Riley Fire Department's training grounds in Camp Funston, Fort Riley.

The objective was to clear obstacles and save the simulated debris trapped victims. The training included classroom instruction as well as working in the field familiarizing firefighters with equipment used in this kind of scenario.

This was the first time the taskforce instructors offered this training in the state of Kansas and a first for the Fort Riley team to be involved. For most of the firefighters, this was step one in learning how to respond for building support, breaching and breaking of concrete as well as search and rescue.

"It enables us to take on any kind of situation, instead of just doing medical calls or fires, we can now handle structural collapses," said Ross Lyons, firefighter from the FRFD. "This broadens our spectrum of what we're able to handle as a department or as a taskforce."

The taskforce works together especially in the event of a larger-scale event such as a tornado or earthquake. Capt. Ryan Trudo, who helped teach the course, said it is crucial firefighters from the taskforce be familiar with working together because the first responders to an incident are the most important to success.

"The first few hours of an incident dictate the next four days and what can get done," Trudo said. "With what they are capable of doing and with the equipment that's here on Fort Riley and in Manhattan and our mutual aid partners and the taskforce the survivability profile of victims is much better ... that's the key for Fort Riley and surrounding communities."

In the event of a larger-scale incident in the community, the taskforce partners help whoever needs it because it is easier than calling in another taskforce from across the state or even out-of-state. The

See FIREFIGHTERS, page 7



Brandon Myers, from Pottawatomie Tribal Fire Department, and Sal Portelli, from Manhattan Fire Department, work together to secure the chains to a car before removing it from the top of a pile of concrete as part of a structural training course at Fort Riley April 4 through 12. This scenario simulated a tornado or other major natural disaster that would displace a vehicle.

FIGHT LIKE A RANGER



Staff Sgt. Brian Kohl | U.S. ARMY PHOTO

First Lt. Timothy Nelson, an operations and training officer with 2nd Battalion, 34th Armor Regiment, 1st Armored Brigade Combat Team, 1st Infantry Division, prepares to drop into Victory pond during the Combat Water Survival Assessment on the last day of the Best Ranger Competition 2016 on Fort Benning, Georgia, April 17. The 33rd annual David E. Grange Jr. Best Ranger Competition 2016 is a three-day event consisting of challenges that test competitor's physical, mental and technical capabilities. See the full story on www.riley.army.mil.

Garrison finalizes move to Building 500

By Maria Childs
1ST INF. DIV. POST

The boxes are unpacked and U.S. Army Garrison Fort Riley employees are settling into their new offices at Summerall Hall, 500 Huebner Road, after about 19 months of being displaced due to a leak on the second floor of the building and the extensive damage that came after.

"It's good to be home," said Bill Bunting, director of the Resource Management Office. "And it's good to see everybody."

The leak damaged walls and flooring in the building. While fixing that, an upgraded heating, ventilation and air conditioning system was installed to replace the old one.

"The best thing for us is we have our space back," Bunting said. "You have the convenience of being in a headquarters. The synergy of the garrison is back. I get more work going down that hallway because I see everybody."

Directorates that moved into the building include the Garrison Command Team, Garrison Safety Office, Resource Management Office, Directorate of Family and Morale, Welfare and Recreation; Plans, Analysis and Integration Office, Public Affairs Office, Directorate of Plans, Training, Mobilization and Security as well as Internal Review and Audit Compliance.

Although Tim Livsey, deputy garrison commander at Fort Riley, was not the deputy when the command team was in the building before, he said he enjoys who is in the building now that was not here before, including PAO and DFMWR.

"It gives us greater synergy as we tell the story with PAO

See GARRISON, page 7

Aviation Brigade to open facility for unmanned aircraft company

1ST INF. DIV. PUBLIC AFFAIRS

As the 1st Infantry Division continues to lead the Army in unmanned aircraft and aerial systems, the 1st Combat Aviation Brigade will host a ribbon-cutting ceremony May 2 for the newly completed Gray Eagle hangar.

The state-of-the-art facility houses the unmanned aircraft operated by the "Phoenix" company, a virtual training simulator and the ground control station where operators can control the Gray Eagles throughout the recently

expanded air corridor between Fort Riley and the Smoky Hill gunnery complex near Salina, Kansas.

The ribbon-cutting ceremony will feature remarks from Maj. Gen. Wayne W. Grigsby Jr., 1st Inf. Div. and Fort Riley commanding general, and Col. John Cyrulik, commander of the 1st CAB. Following the ceremony, guests will have the opportunity to take a guided tour through the hangar.

Company F, 1st Attack Reconnaissance Battalion, 1st Aviation Regiment, 1st CAB, activated in April 2012 to operate the Gray Eagle, which provides aerial reconnaissance and assault

capabilities. The company most recently deployed to Afghanistan from January 2015 to October 2015 in support of Operation Inherent Resolve.

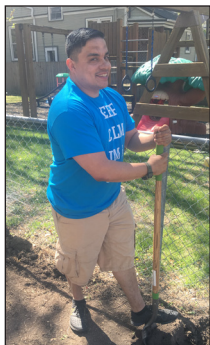
The Gray Eagle is a medium-altitude long-endurance system designed to perform better at higher altitudes and sees better than its predecessors with combat-proven results. New targeting systems and a new engine also allow the aircraft to fly longer and higher and carry more weight than any of the Army's previous unmanned systems.

A ribbon-cutting ceremony for the new Gray Eagle hangar will take place May 2 on Fort Riley.



Sgt. Jarrett Allen | 1ST CAB

VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT



Pfc. Jaime Arismendez, Company A, 101st Brigade Support Battalion, 1st Armored Brigade Combat Team, 1st Infantry Division, volunteered at the Ronald McDonald House with Better Opportunities for Single Soldiers. His job was to remove weeds and till the dirt in a garden area in the backyard of the home. The owner did not have a tiller, so Arismendez used a shovel, and did it manually. After tilling, he spread new manure and topsoil on the dirt and mixed it all in with the old dirt.

ALSO IN THIS ISSUE



COMMANDING GENERAL READS A BOOK TO CHILDREN AND FAMILIES APRIL 20, SEE PAGE 9.

ALSO IN THIS ISSUE



KIDS AND FAMILIES CELEBRATE MONTH OF THE MILITARY CHILD BY REELING IN THE FUN AT KIDS FISHING DAY APRIL 23 AT MOON LAKE, SEE PAGE 9.

Rehearsal step one for ‘Big Red One,’ Danger Focus

By Andy Massanet
1ST INF. DIV. POST

Members of the Fort Riley U.S. Army Garrison Directorate of Plans, Training, Mobilization and Security joined senior leadership of the 1st Infantry Division for a Combined Arms Rehearsal prior to beginning the Danger Focus exercise occurring between April 28 and June 3.

The rehearsal took place April 21 at the Close Combat Tactical Training facility on the Seitz Regional Training Campus at Fort Riley.

Maj. Gen. Wayne W. Grigsby Jr., commanding general of the 1st Inf. Div. and Fort Riley joined Brig. Gen. Patrick D. Frank, 1st Inf. Div. deputy commanding general for support and Brig. Gen. John S. Kolasheski, 1st Inf. Div. deputy commanding general for maneuver, were in attendance.

The intent was to synchronize actions and movements in both time and space, according to Clay Nauman, DPTMS Plans and Operations Chief.

“That synchronization is in terms of weapons systems, aircraft and logistics routes,” said Nauman. “DPTMS’s overall priority is to ensure the safety of all personnel involved in this complex training event.”

Weapons include small arms, mortars, Bradley Fighting Vehicles, tanks, multiple launch rocket systems, cannon artillery, attack helicopters and unmanned aerial systems.

Over the coming weeks, Danger Focus will escalate from practice and simulation, to the firing of blanks before culminating in a live-fire exercise. The DPTMS Training Division has been preparing for Danger Focus since the end of the Warfighter exercise April 15.

Danger Focus is based on a situation in which two fictional countries are in conflict. One nation is a coalition partner with the United States and her allies, while the other is an opposition nation with her own allies. For the purpose of this exercise, the 1st Infantry Division is partnered with other American forces, and those American assets are combined into a multinational force.

While the premise is fictional, the area of operations is the region around Fort Riley.

The terrain board rehearsal required a large amount of space on which to lay out a grid for unit designations, and the CCTT building was an ideal location for the rehearsal which helps prepare field commanders for the simulation and live-fire portions of the exercise.

Earlier this year, division leaders employed the terrain board rehearsal as a part of a comprehensive leader

development training program led by Kolasheski, who is the senior officer mentor for the ‘Big Red One.’ Developed during several months in which many battalion commanders were changing over, the program is designed for incoming maneuver and fires battalion commanders to provide a running start in commanding their units in the field.

In a Feb. 26 story in the 1st Infantry Division Post, Kolasheski said terrain board rehearsals give commanders “the opportunity to think through an NTC (National Training Center) fight so when his actual unit goes there, he (the battalion commander) has already considered different ways to execute some of his possible assigned missions.”

The program is bearing fruit now as the 1st Inf. Div., gears up for further training at NTC in Fort Irwin, California, in advance of eventual deployment later this year.



Andy Massanet | POST

The Fort Riley garrison training division from the Directorate of Plans, Training, Mobilization and Security joined senior leadership of the 1st Infantry Division for a Combined Arms Rehearsal prior to begin the Danger Focus exercise April 28 to June 3. The rehearsal took place April 21 at the Close Combat Tactical Training facility on the Seitz Regional Training Campus, Fort Riley. Bill Raymann, left, chief of the training division, Directorate of Plans, Training, Mobilization and Security, joins Maj. Gen. Wayne W. Grigsby Jr., commanding general of the 1st Infantry Division and Fort Riley, for a portion of the briefing.

TRAINING DIVISION HITS GROUND RUNNING

“Fort Riley has a tremendously robust training capability. It is amazing just how much of the installation they are able to utilize without constraints usually encountered at military instillations.”

COL. WILLIAM CANALEY | PROJECT LEAD FOR FIELD OPERATIONS FOR THE
U.S. ARMY PROGRAM EXECUTIVE OFFICE FOR SIMULATION, TRAINING AND
INSTRUMENTATION

Simulation provider teams with garrison staff

By Andy Massanet
1ST INF. DIV. POST

With the recent exercises — Warfighter from April 6 to 15, and Danger Focus in progress throughout May — a constant is the simulation technology used by the Fort Riley Training Division of the Directorate of Plans, Training, Mobilization and Security.

On March 29, as 1st Infantry Division and garrison personnel were preparing for both exercises, Col. William Canaley, project lead, Field Operations for the U.S. Army Program Executive Office for Simulation, Training and Instrumentation, visited Fort Riley.

The organization’s staff develops, acquires and sustains simulation, training, testing and modeling solutions for Fort Riley and other posts.

The importance simulation training plays in preparing 1st Infantry Division Soldiers to fight and win was evident as the division prepared for the exercises. According to Capt. Joseph Codichini, 1st Infantry Division, G3 assistant training officer, Maj. Gen. W. Wayne Grigsby Jr., commanding general, 1st Inf. Div. the emphasis on all Big Red One Soldiers, from senior leadership to junior enlisted ranks is unequivocal and is a key theme for every exercise.

“Through Danger Focus,” Codichini said at the time, “Maj. Gen. Wayne W. Grigsby Jr., requires all Soldiers, from senior leaders to privates, to be fully

trained and certified prior to attendance (to the National Training Center at Fort Irwin, California).”

All 1st Inf. Div. Soldiers attend training at NTC before heading overseas. Training at Fort Riley in comprehensive, simulated environments is essential to preparing not only the 1st Inf. Div. Soldier but also Soldiers with other components.

Using PEO STRI technologies, the garrison training division strives to produce what Bill Raymann, the training division’s chief, calls “unique training environments.”

Much of the virtual technology available at Fort Riley’s Seitz Training Campus’ Mission Training Complex was developed by PEO STRI staff and they continue to maintain it.

The systems at the MTC are diverse and complex. Mark Wilson, a PEO STRI liaison representative, has been with the training division on a permanent basis for more than 10 years.

“Our relationship (with PEO STRI) is very important for us,” Raymann said. “They enhance our ability to support not only the 1st Infantry Division, but our regional partners as well.”

Since leaders and missions at each post have different goals and requirements, Canaley tries to determine needs.

“He’s visiting installations with significant support footprints to gain a better understanding of the unique

training challenges each location experiences,” Wilson said.

Aside from providing realistic simulations, the technology allows training to take place without the high cost of physically moving Soldiers and equipment.

Over the past year alone, the training division has created approximately 24,000 training opportunities. That number, Raymann points out, is not necessarily a total number of individual Soldiers. Rather, the number refers to training places or opportunities, which could be for a Big Red One Soldier, Army National Guard or Reserve Soldier, or other component.

In the larger view, Fort Riley’s capabilities support the Total Army concept developed and implemented by senior Army leadership.

Grigsby’s pursuit of the Total Army concept has been far reaching, supporting the vision of Fort Riley as a regional training hub for all kinds of military components.

According to Steve Crusinberry, director of the Directorate of Plans, Training, Mobilization and Security, in 2016, the 1st Infantry Division and Fort Riley have supported the training of not only its own forces, but those of Kansas, Nebraska and Oklahoma National Guards. In addition, Crusinberry said, Grigsby has “reached out to TAGs (Adjutants General) for Minnesota, Iowa and Missouri.”

“Fort Riley has a tremendously robust training capability,” Canaley said at the conclusion of his visit. “It is amazing just how much of the installation they are able to utilize without constraints usually encountered at military instillations.”

Canaley also focused on the “synergy between the Fort Riley team, the Warrior Training Alliance and the PEO STRI liaison representative. All involved are focused on providing quality on-time training and training support to the 1st Infantry Division Soldiers. The Training Support Center had a locally developed and exceptionally efficient ordering and management system that makes drawing required equipment and support items a breeze.”

Canaley recognizes the budgetary challenges Fort Riley garrison faced in providing realistic simulation environments.

“Budgetary challenges are very real and are likely to continue to exist for a number of years. PEO STRI provides a level of support directly related to the established training requirements. We don’t decide what the requirements are, but we do understand the impact of fiscal constraints ... As the Army adjusts training requirements, the real level of training requirements will emerge. But it will take a number of iterations before we settle on the right level of support for training. At the end of the day, division commanders across the Army will have a significant influence regarding what right looks like.”

WWW.FACEBOOK.COM/FORTRILEY



John T. Bonacorda: a ‘Big Red One’ Soldier



THEN
& NOW

By Phyllis Fitzgerald
SPECIAL TO THE POST

John T. Bonacorda served in the Army from 1965 to 1985 but not until his last assignment did he become a Big Red One Soldier. He joined the Army from his home in Bronx, New York ,and went to Fort Dix, New Jersey, for basic and advanced individual training. In the first year, he earned three military occupational specialties: 63B wheeled vehicle mechanic, 63C tracked vehicle mechanic and 67N helicopter repairman. Within his first year of training, he also attended jump school.

He served in several locations and held a variety of positions in his career. In 1967, Bonacorda was sent to Vietnam with the 162nd Assault Helicopter Company as part of “Operation Junction City.”

He spent two years in Amherst, New York, as a recruiter.

When he was assigned to Fort Stewart, Georgia, with the 24th Infantry Division as headquarters motor sergeant, he received orders one day to report to the commanding general’s office in his Class A’s. He had concerns such as “What did I do? Am I getting reduced in rank?” When he arrived, The Adjutant General and his wife were both there. The Adjutant General gave the Commanding General a set of orders directly promoting him to Warrant Officer 1.

Bonacorda says the Army saved the best assignment for last. In 1984, for his final tour before retiring, he was assigned to the 556th Maintenance Company, 541st Maintenance Battalion, 1st Infantry Division.

In May 1985, he retired from the Army after 20 years of service as a chief warrant officer 2. When he retired, he initially lived in Manhattan, Kansas, but later moved to California. Four years later, he returned to Junction City, Kansas, to help his Army daughter who was a truck driver and having twins.

He worked for Walmart and Brinks for almost 13 years collectively and finally retired again.



One funny memory shared was while he was assigned to the 556th Maintenance Company, 541st Maintenance Bn., 1st Inf. Div. During morning formation, all of the warrant officers were standing in the back of the formation. The commander asked the first sergeant why they were all in the back to which the first sergeant replied, show me in the books where they belong and I will put them there.

Bonacorda said he enjoys retirement and is involved with the Veterans of Foreign Wars, American Legion, Field Artillery Organization, Warrant Officer Organization, Military Officer’s Association and Military Order of the Purple Heart as well as several other organizations. He is a member of the color guard for the VFW and participated in events in the local and surrounding communities. He is also past 4th District Commander of the VFW. He stays active with events involving the community and veterans.

Editor’s Note: To submit your “Big Red One” story, email fitzmiss@yahoo.com

Tax center wraps up another year

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

Staff of the Tax Center on post wrapped up another busy season April 15, at an awards ceremony with Col. Andrew Cole Jr., garrison commander, and Command Sgt. Maj. James Collins, garrison command sergeant major.

As of April 20, the Tax Center staff helped community members of Fort Riley file 7,108 federal taxes, 3,400 state taxes, save more than \$1.2 million in costs and earn more than \$10.7 million in refunds.

“I think we’re right on average with last year and past years,” said Elizabeth Thurston, manager of the Tax Center. “The savings that we save service members and the convenience and free service are the best benefits we give people ... We accomplish so much in 13 weeks. We have these concrete numbers and these concrete dollars that we can say ‘this is what we saved you’ and we operate on such low funds.”

During the course of the tax season, the Tax Center received

37 positive Interactive Customer Evaluation comments from those who used the center’s services. Lt. Col. Joseph Mackey, Deputy Staff Judge Advocate, read off one of the comments he said stood out.

“This is by far the most professional, efficient, customer service driven practice ever experienced in 30 years of active and post-active service,” Mackey read. “Mrs. Elizabeth Thurston and her staff provided world-class, top-notch service from the initial contact until the overwhelming feeling of gratitude walking out the door. There are no words or tangible altitudinal endowment that can equal my heartfelt appreciation for the work done here. At this point my response of thank you is dwarfed in comparison to the standard of excellence displayed at this organization. Keep up the great service you provide to the men and women who serve.”

Both military and civilian staff of the center were awarded with a certificate and medal, while Thurston accepted a certificate from the Internal Revenue Service for 10 Years of Service by the tax center.



Col. Andrew Cole Jr., garrison commander at Fort Riley, presented a certificate from the Internal Revenue Service to the tax center for 10 years of service. Elizabeth Thurston, manager of the Tax Center, accepted the award.

“We currently deal on Fort Riley with challenges associated with our family members that sometimes result because of financial issues,” Cole said. “Financial problems are normally the root cause that compound issues that happen at home with our Soldiers. So I have a special thanks to say to you all, because of the effort you put in, and you Soldiers

who are away from your organization ... What you do is you help keep families safe, you help keep Soldiers out of trouble, and that’s what it’s all about.”

The Tax Center services were provided at no cost to the Soldiers, their family members and retirees of the Fort Riley community during the 2016 tax season.

SUICIDE PREVENTION

THE POWER OF 1

TRAFFIC REPORT

ACCESS CONTROL POINT HOURS OF OPERATION

Until further notice, the Estes Access Control Point is closed every Saturday and Sunday, but will remain open Monday through Friday for privately owned vehicles only.

Also until further notice, 12th Street ACP is closed to privately owned vehicles on Saturdays. The commercial side remains open Saturdays. The 12th Street ACP is closed to all traffic Sundays but it 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 vehicle traffic. Motorists wanting access to Fort Riley on Saturday or Sunday should use Ogden, Henry or Trooper gates.

The access control point hours are now as follows:
Henry /Four Corners/ Trooper/Ogden: Open 24/7

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

Rifle Range: Closed to all traffic.

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

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

TROOPER DRIVE-MCCORMICK ROAD INTERSECTION IS OPEN

The redesign of the intersection of Trooper Drive and McCormick Road has been completed. It now includes a pedestrian crosswalk that will allow for safer conditions for pedestrians. Drivers are asked to exercise caution and yield to all pedestrians in the crosswalk.

CONSTRUCTION ON RIFLE RANGE ROAD CONTINUES

Construction on Rifle Range Road will affect traffic flow. The work started in September 2015 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 follow all guidance posted on signs.

HENRY DRIVE-RAY ROAD ROUNDABOUT CONSTRUCTION TO SLOW TRAFFIC

Traffic changes will be in effect until approximately May 15, vehicles will be required to slow to 20-miles per hour on both Ray Road and Henry Drive to accommodate the continuing work.

ESTES ACCESS CONTROL POINT CLOSED TO COMMERCIAL VEHICLES MARCH 7

Use of the Estes Access Control Point by commercial vehicles is prohibited. The closure is due to an upgrade project and will be in effect until the project is complete, a period of time that could be several months. During this time all commercial vehicles will need to enter the installation through 12th Street during duty hours and through Henry during non-duty hours.

TUESDAY TRIVIA CONTEST



The question for the week of April 29 was: "What is hotline number for Victim Advocate, to report abuse or neglect?"

Answer: go to www.riley.army.mil/News/Article-Display/Article/468325/fort-riley-victim-advocate-program.

This week's winner is Lena Hall. Her spouse is Sgt. Sam Hall, 1161st Forward Support Company, 1st Battalion, 161st Field Artillery, Kansas Army National Guard. Lena is pictures with her spouse.

CONGRATULATIONS, LENA!

I'm 'pawsitively' perfect



Loomy is approximately a 1-year-old female Labrador, who needs a home where she can be active. She is not aggressive, but it should be a home without small children because she gets excited around people. Loomy is friendly, housetrained, smart, eager to please and good with other dogs. She does not appear to be gun-shy.

She does need some obedience training. She needs someone that can work with her on leash training and behavior around people. Her bad habits can be fixed with training, routine and patience. Her personality would probably work well for a hunting or running dog. Loomy will be available in approximately 1 to 2 weeks.

Loomy's Adoption Fee is \$82, which includes: microchip, vaccines including distemper & rabies, heartworm test and deworming. She is not spayed.

If interested, call 785-239-6183. If no one answers leave a message. You can also contact us via email at nicole.p.storm@us.army.mil.

Other shelter animals can be seen on www.facebook.com/fortrileypets. All stray animals on Fort Riley are picked up by the Military Police and brought to the Fort Riley Stray facility. The animals are held for three business days to allow owners to claim their pets. After this time, animals may be adopted or euthanized. Animals are usually only euthanized in the cases of severe aggression or life-threatening illness. Animals must be registered, microchipped and up to date on vaccines before being released to owners.

Fort Riley Stray Facility
Building 226 Custer Ave., Main Post
10 a.m. to noon and 1 p.m. to 4 p.m.
Monday through Friday
785-239-6183 or 785-239-3886

New urgent care pilot program is available for prime beneficiaries

TRICARE

To increase access to care, Department of Defense officials are launching an Urgent Care Pilot Program for TRICARE Prime beneficiaries. This program allows Prime enrollees to have two visits to a network or TRICARE authorized provider without a referral or prior authorization.

The Urgent Care Pilot Program, scheduled to begin May 23, is for:

- Active Duty Family Members enrolled in TRICARE Prime or TRICARE Prime Remote
 - Retirees and their family members who are enrolled in Prime within the 50 United States or the District of Columbia
 - ADSMs enrolled in TRICARE Prime Remote and stationed overseas but traveling stateside
- Active Duty Service Members enrolled in TRICARE Prime are not eligible for this program as their care is managed by their Service. The pilot also excludes Uniformed Services Family Health Plan enrollees. TRICARE Overseas Program enrollees can receive an unlimited number of urgent care visits, but only when they are traveling stateside and seeking care.

There are no point of service deductibles or cost shares for these two urgent care visits, but network copayments still apply.



Once you receive urgent care, you must notify your primary care manager within 24 hours or the first business day after the urgent care visit. Authorization requirements have not changed for follow-up care, specialty care or inpatient care.

When you are not sure of the type of care you need, or you require care outside of standard business hours, call the Nurse Advice Line. If the NAL recommends an urgent care visit, and a referral is submitted, that visit will not count against the two pre-authorized visits allowed under the Urgent Care Pilot. However, if you call the NAL and get a referral to a military hospital or clinic and you go elsewhere for care, that visit will count against your two preauthorized visits.

If you need more information, please visit the Urgent Care Pilot Program web page on the TRICARE website.

Nurse retires after lifetime of service

Story and photo by Tywana Sparks
IACH PUBLIC AFFAIRS

As a teenager, Sonja Risetter, Irwin Army Community Hospital Department of Primary Care registered nurse supervisor, knew she was destined to be a nurse. Now, years later, Risetter is retiring after serving 35 years, 20 of which were at IACH.

"It was a natural calling for me," Risetter explained. "I care about people and I'm very dedicated to patients."

Her passion for nursing began in high school assisting with her family's chiropractor business, and continues through her last days at IACH.

"In the 20 years I have worked here I have never walked through those doors thinking I don't want to be here," she said. "I love what I do and I've never regretted one day."

Those who worked with her agree she is not only great

with patients, but a great leader, mentor and friend.

Tiffany Morgan, DPC chief nurse, worked with Risetter for seven years and describes her as a hard act to follow.

"It was a natural calling for me. I care about people and I'm very dedicated to patients."

SONJA RISETTER | IACH

"She is a wonderful nurse advocate and will stand behind her nursing staff. She sets the example for patient care."

Morgan said one of Risetter's strongest points is her ability to diffuse any situation.

"Because of her presence, Sonja can walk in a room and the whole environment changes. Her former patients

love her. We have patients who stop by just to see her."

Another primary care nurse, Kathy Bergmeier describes Risetter as a generous person.

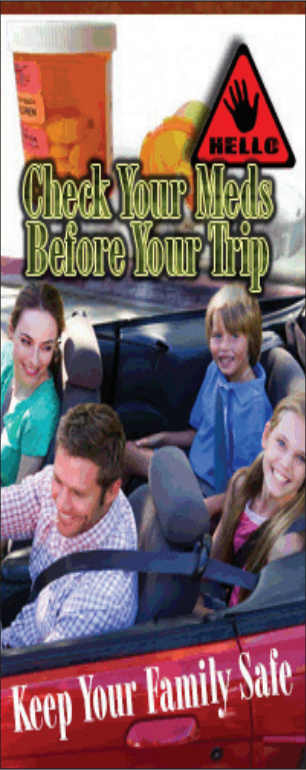
"I have known her for over 13 years and I have to say she is the most generous person I know. Sonja is generous with her time, resources, energy and kindness. She is a lady of moral principles and does the right thing for the staff, patients and the facility," she said. "She has been a true friend and will be missed not only for her friendship, but also for her knowledge."

Retirement is not the end of her time here at IACH.

"I plan to come back and volunteer in any way I can," Risetter said. "Even if it's sitting at the front desk greeting patients, I will be back. Nothing is more rewarding than taking care of people willing to die for our country and our freedoms. I love our Soldiers and their families."



Sonja Risetter, Department of Primary Care registered nurse supervisor, is surrounded by Department of Primary Care staff she has worked with during her 20 years at Irwin Army Community Hospital. From left to right are: Dale Dubois, certified nurse assistant; Wendy Austgen, secretary; Tammi Daggett, licensed practical nurse; Kathy Bergmeier, registered nurse; Laura Vician, LPN; Sonja Risetter; Staff Sgt. Joey Nunley, noncommissioned officer in charge; LaShon Graves, RN; and Jill Sommer, RN.



RILEY ROUNDTABLE

It's National Pet Month.
How do you enjoy spending
time with your pet?



"Walking. Usually I take her for a walk with my baby in the stroller – it's something we can do together."

JANE LARSON
MANKATO, MINNESOTA

Wife of 1st Lt. Dan Larson, Irwin Army Community Hospital



"I like running with him because it burns off his energy."

CAPT. TESS STELLPFLUG
SCOTTSBLUFF, NEBRASKA

Irwin Army Community Hospital



"Playing tag with him."

JAYDEN FURNISS
MANHATTAN, KANSAS

7-year-old daughter of Capt. William Furniss, 1st Combat Aviation Brigade, 1st Infantry Division



"I like playing games with him."

LAYCEN FURNISS
MANHATTAN, KANSAS

4-year-old son of Capt. William Furniss, 1st Combat Aviation Brigade, 1st Infantry Division



"Snuggling with him."

ELLIE HALL
MINDEN, NEVADA

5-year-old daughter of T.J. Hall, 1st Engineer Battalion, 1st Armored Brigade Combat Team, 1st Infantry Division

THE 1ST INFANTRY DIVISION POST

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COMMANDING OFFICER AND PUBLISHER

Maj. Gen. Wayne W. Grigsby Jr.

PUBLIC AFFAIRS OFFICER

Lt. Col. Kimeisha McCullum

PUBLISHER

John G. Montgomery

FORT RILEY EDITORIAL STAFF

EDITOR

Patti Geistfeld

ASSISTANT EDITOR

Andy Massanet

STAFF WRITERS

Maria Childs

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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

SAFETY HOLIDAY



As of Wednesday, April 27, 59 days have passed since the last vehicular fatality at Fort Riley. Fifty-two more and the post will celebrate with a safety holiday to take place at each unit's disarm.

SAFETY CORNER

Be cautious when selecting tools for the job

By Alex Bender

GARRISON SAFETY OFFICE

As the name implies, hand tools are extensions of our hands. When we misuse our hands, we experience pain. When we misuse hand tools, the possibility of injury to ourselves or people working around us increases. Furthermore, using a tool incorrectly can damage the tool or cause the tool to fail.

Think about it: How many times have you used a stapler as a hammer? Or a chair as a step stool? Most workplace injuries occur because people are using the wrong tool for the job.

In order to prevent, preventable accidents and unnecessary pain we can take some simple steps. For example:

- Take time to find the staple-remover instead of using your fingernail to pull a staple.
- Never stand on a chair, especially one with casters, to change an overhead light bulb or hang a picture.
- Use tools only for their intended purpose. Before you select a tool, think about the job you will be doing. Using a tool for something other than its intended purpose often damages the tool and could cause you pain, discomfort or serious injury.

Some common hand tool injuries are:

- Cuts, abrasions, amputations and punctures. If hand tools are designed to cut or move metal and wood, remember what a single slip can do to fragile human flesh.
- Repetitive motion injuries. Using the same tool in the same way all day long, day after day, can stress human muscles and ligaments. Carpal tunnel syndrome, inflammation of the nerve sheath in the wrist, and injuries to muscles, joints and ligaments are increasingly common

if the wrong tool is used or the right tool is used improperly. Injury from continuous vibration can also cause numbness or poor circulation in hands and arms.

- Eye injuries. Flying chips of wood or metal are a common hazard often causing needless and permanent blindness.
- Broken bones and bruises. Tools can slip, fall from heights or even be thrown by careless employees, causing severe injuries. A hammer that falls from a ladder is a lethal weapon.

As warmer months approach, opportunities to work outdoors whether in the motor pool, those "honey do" projects or repairing equipment that has been in winter storage, using the correct tool for the job is the first step in safe hand tool use.

Tools are designed for specific needs. According to the 2014 edition of the National Safety Council's "Injury Facts," hand-tool injuries accounted for 43,250 cases involving days away from work in 2011.

Here are some simple tips that might keep you out of the first aid kit or the emergency room:

- Use Quality Tools. Quality professional hand tools will last many years if they are taken care of and treated with respect. Manufacturers design tools for specific applications. If you use your screwdriver as a chisel or a pry bar, you can't expect it to be in good shape when you actually need to drive a screw.
- Pick the right tool. Non-powered hand tools are designed for cutting, pinching gripping, such as pliers, snips and cutters. Striking tools are hammers, driving tools, screwdrivers, hand wrenches, nut drivers and T-handle wrenches.

Struck or hammered tools are punches, chisels and nail sets.

- Think about ergonomics. Improve your work posture, awkward postures make more demands on your body. For example, avoid raising your shoulders and elbows. Relaxed shoulders and elbows are more comfortable and will make it easier to drive downward force. If you are sitting, stand, if you are standing reposition your workpiece or work on a lower work surface.
- Use insulated tools. Many jobs require the use of insulated tools. Inspect insulated tools frequently. Watch for any wear or cracking of the insulation. Keep them clean, dry and free of surface contaminants which can compromise their insulating properties. If the dielectric insulation has been breached by cutting, wear or a burn, the tool should be taken out of service to ensure safety.
- Employ safe hand off. Tools should always be carefully handed from one employee to another — never tossed. Pointed tools should be passed either in their carrier or with the handles toward the receiver. Using hand tools in unsafe ways is a major cause of injuries for workers.
- Check your distance. If you work in a cramped space, you may not be able to use a long-handle tool. Use of a long-handle tool may cause awkward postures or harmful contact pressure on your hand as you use more force. Instead, use a tool that fits within the work space. A short-handle tool can help you reach your target directly as you keep your wrist straight.

If you need more information about selection of tools, contact the Garrison Safety Office at 785-239-3421.

FROM THE INSPECTOR GENERAL

Concerned Soldier seeks advice about warrant

Dear IG,

I am a junior enlisted Soldier, spouse and father of two. I was recently informed by my first-line supervisor that I need to provide him with a good date and time for him to come by my off-post residence to conduct a home inspection. I know that my time in service and knowledge of the inner workings of the military are limited, but this just did not seem right. I asked my team leader where I could find the regulation that covers these inspections, and was informed that the policy exists, but my team leader was unwilling or unable to provide the regulations or policy. I have nothing to hide; however, I do not feel anyone has the right to come to my residence, where I pay the bills and tell me their opinion on the state of cleanliness of my residence. I dare not state my spouse's opinion of this matter. I have no issues complying with this request if there is a policy or regulation covering home inspections, but I am unaware of a policy and my leadership has been unwilling or unable to provide me with any real guidance concerning this matter. Please Help.

Respectfully,
Concerned Soldier

Dear Concerned Soldier,

Your team leader is correct in the fact that a policy exists which provides guidance for all leaders making visits to Soldier's homes, but he appears to be using the incorrect terminology. The correct term would be "Leader Home Visits." The policy that covers home visits for on- and off-post housing can be found in the commanding general's

policy letter #9, para 3(b)(9), dated Nov. 3, 2015. Home visits are not inspections and they certainly are not searches. The intent is for leaders to get to know Soldiers and their families better. Perhaps during a home visit, when the Soldier or a family member is on their "home turf," a leader may learn something that otherwise would not have been discovered at work or during the duty day. However, during the course of a home visit, a leader may request to conduct an inspection of the Soldier's residence. At this time, the Soldier or adult family member may grant or deny the request as they see fit. Policy letter #9 specifically states, "Leaders should seek to visit their Soldier's quarters at least semi-annually."

On- and off-post family housing is not like the barracks or other billeting in which a command can conduct a health and welfare inspection. Soldiers have more protections against inspections in on- and off-post family housing, which is not within the command's control. The 4th Amendment of the U.S. Constitution applies to these home visits and must be adhered to. The 4th Amendment protects against unreasonable searches and seizures and requires probable cause for the issuance of a search warrant.

However, a warrant is not needed to enter or inspect a house when the resident allows the entry or inspection. If a leader, while acting with the resident's permission, observes anything he or she believes to be illegal, such leader should contact local law enforcement authorities. The leader should not act without the proper authorities. The law enforcement

authorities have the duty to apply for and execute search warrants or authorizations, not the concerned leader.

Bottom line, a leader must ask for permission from the Soldier or adult resident before entering or inspecting a Soldier's house. A leader may go to a Soldier's house, ring the doorbell and ask to enter. If the Soldier or other adult resident consents to the leader entering, this does not give the leader the right to inspect the house. The Soldier or adult resident has to specifically allow an inspection of the house. Also, permission may be revoked at any time. Therefore, once the Soldier asks the leader to leave, the leader must comply and leave the residence.

There are a number of best practices out there to help ensure all home visits are successful. Here are a couple.

- Do not conduct a home visit when the Soldier is not present.
- Two leaders or the leader and their spouse conduct home visits together in order to avoid misunderstandings or miscommunication.

Conclusion: a leader may visit a Soldier's house, but may not enter or inspect the house without permission. Any illegal activity observed should be immediately reported to the proper local authorities. Any and all references used for this article can be found in the Staff Judge Advocate section of the commander's dashboard, on the Fort Riley SharePoint.

If you have any additional questions, please call the Office of the Inspector General at 785-239-IGIG (4444).

Sincerely,
Fort Riley IG

Corvias Military Living invites residents to participate in Army housing survey

CORVIAS MILITARY LIVING

Corvias Military Living staff is asking on-post residents to complete the 2016 Headquarters Department of the Army Residential Communities Initiative Resident Survey. The survey gives residents an opportunity to provide feedback to the Army, RCI and Corvias Military Living on how their housing needs are being met.

"We consistently seek feedback from our residents to assess the level of service we are providing, so we are extremely grateful for the participation in this survey," said Chuck Parker, Division

President of Corvias Military Living. "The results we collect from the survey will be instrumental in helping us achieve our goal to provide our residents with the best possible service and quality of on-post living."

An electronic survey will be emailed May 5. Residents who do not receive a survey or who have questions should contact the appropriate community office. Residents must fill out and submit the online survey by June 6.

Residents who complete the survey have the opportunity to win a weekly prize of \$250 and a grand prize of \$1,500. In

addition, \$1 will be donated to the Family Readiness Groups for every completed survey.

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

Survey answers are confidential and residents are urged to offer honest responses. Personal data is not tabulated and the survey does not identify the resident.

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Middle East expert shares perspective, experience with ‘Big Red One’ Soldiers

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

Author and Middle East expert Emma Sky visited Fort Riley April 21, meeting with leaders across the “Big Red One.” Sky also spoke with a group of 1st Infantry Division Soldiers about Iraq’s recent history and potential future outcomes of conflicts in the area during a presentation at Riley’s Conference Center.

“She’s done it all,” said Maj. Gen. Wayne W. Grigsby Jr., commanding general of the 1st Inf. Div. and Fort Riley, referencing Sky’s years as a political advisor to various world governments. “The last time I met with her ... we were updating the (counterinsurgency) doctrine in the United States Army, and she came and spent two or three days with me talking about this.”

Sky’s book “The Unraveling: High Hopes and Missed Opportunities in Iraq” is required reading for 1st Inf. Div. Soldiers.

“She thinks differently than all of us,” Grigsby said. “That’s why we have to listen.”

This was Sky’s first visit to Fort Riley. “I just came from a change of command ceremony,” she said. “It was wonderful to see the Big Red One spirit.”

Sky is a member of the Order of the British Empire and senior fellow at the Jackson Institute for Middle East Politics. She served as political advisor to Gen. Ray Odierno, then commander of Multi-National Force-Iraq, from 2007-2010.

“At the moment, the focus everyone has is on ISIS,” she said. “ISIS is a symptom of a problem – it’s a symptom. And we can smash the current iteration of ISIS, but if the root causes which crated the conditions



Emma Sky, author and Middle East expert, speaks with Maj. Gen. Wayne W. Grigsby Jr., commanding general of the 1st Inf. Div. and Fort Riley, during her visit April 21 with “Big Red One” Soldiers.

for the rise of ISIS are not addressed, then ‘son of ISIS’ is likely to emerge in the future.”

Following her presentation, Sky took questions from the gathered Soldiers. When asked if partitioning Iraq would bring peace to warring religious factions, the advisor said this wouldn’t end conflicts in the nation.

“They’re not fighting about God; they’re fighting about power,” she said. “It’s about greed, not about God. And that is the root cause of the problem, and if we misunderstand the root cause of the problem, we might come up with the wrong solutions.”

She said the goal should be to create a system of governance by which individuals and groups can compete nonviolently, adding that American is a “great success” of such a system.

“You can create nations out of any group of people,” Sky said. “It’s a social construct.”

BEST SAPPER RESULTS



COURTESY PHOTO

From April 17 to 22, 1st Lt. Juan Quiroz and Sgt. James Starr, 1st Engineer Battalion, 1st Armored Brigade Combat Team, 1st Infantry Division, and Capt. Ryan Wolf and Staff Sgt. Derrick Baker, 82nd Engineer Battalion, 2nd Armored Brigade Combat Team, 1st Inf. Div., represented the “Big Red One,” their respective units and Fort Riley at the 2016 Best Sapper Competition at Fort Leonard Wood, Missouri. Quiroz and Starr finished in 16th place. Almost 50 teams began the 10th annual event. Area of competition included a ruck march, exam and land navigation. The yearly event is open to two-Soldier teams of Army or Marine engineers where at least one member has graduated from the Sapper Leader Course. Sappers are combat engineers or other personnel who support the front-line infantry.

GIVING BACK TO THE COMMUNITY



Collen McGee | FORT RILEY PUBLIC AFFAIRS

LEFT TO RIGHT: Back row: Amanda Van Tyle, district sales manager of Snyders Lance Inc; Matt Clemmer, Acosta Sales and Marketing; Crystal Tinkey from USO Fort Riley; William Rasco, assistant store manager of the Fort Riley Commissary; Front Row: Jill Iwen, USO Fort Riley director, Rachel Wiggins from General Mills and Thelma Thompson from Acosta Sales and Marketing. After a disastrous fire in a local apartment complex, the USO Fort Riley and the Defense Commissary Agency, along with some of their vendors, packaged boxes for each family affected by the blaze. The majority of the families displaced by the April 12 fire were military, the agencies decided to provide each family with a starter pack with things like laundry soap, sundries and snacks to get them started. One vendor also provided a check for \$500 to fill gaps until the rental insurance could kick in.

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GARRISON

Continued from page 1

here — strategically located in the center of the building - about why Fort Riley is the best place to live, train, deploy from and come home to,” Livsey said. “DFMWR being the largest garrison directorate — having that headquarters element here is very powerful.”

Livsey said the footprint was no accident.

“Everyone who is here is here for a reason, well thought out based on support to the garrison commander in support of the senior commander,” Livsey said. “At a certain level of command, he needs to be able to reach out very rapidly and get people rather than have them drive up. Having them in the building gives him immediate tough capability to execute mission command for a garrison.”

Being on main post, the directorates were split up, but still had to find a way to communicate and collaborate. Livsey said now it is easier for the directorates to follow the garrison commander’s goal of collaboration, continuous improvement, customer-focused service and communication.



Maria Childs | POST
Summerall Hall, 500 Huebner Road, is home to the U.S. Army Garrison Fort Riley Headquarters and many other directorates including the Garrison Safety Office, Resource Management Office, Directorate of Family and Morale, Welfare and Recreation, Plans, Analysis and Integration Office, Public Affairs Office, Directorate of Plans, Training, Mobilization and Security as well as Internal Review and Audit Compliance.

“It’s nice that people are back and we can put a personal touch on it with face-to-face interaction,” he said.

KNOW WHERE TO GO	
Garrison Safety Office – Basement rooms 11, 12, 13, 114, 15, 16, 16A, 16B, 16C, 17, 18	Plans, Analysis, Integration Office – 2nd floor rooms 216, 217, 218, 219, 220, 221
IRAC – 1st floor rooms 110A, 110B, 110C, 110S	Public Affairs Office – 2nd floor rooms 210, 210A, 210B, 213, 214A, 214B, 214
Resource Management Office Financial Operations – 1st floor rooms 110, 118, 119 116, 120, 120A, 120B, 120C, 120D	Command Group – 2nd floor rooms 203, 204, 205, 206, 206A, 207, 207A, 209
Resource Management Office Man Power – 108	Directorate of Plans, Training, Mobilization and Security – 3rd Floor rooms 301, 301A, 301B, 302A, 302B, 302C, 304, 305, 305A
Directorate of Family and Morale, Welfare and Recreation Financial Operations – 1st floor rooms 117A, 117B, 117C	Ceremonies – 3rd floor rooms 308, 308A, 308B, 308C
Directorate of Family and Morale, Welfare and Recreation Marketing – 1st floor rooms 109A, 109B, 109C, 109D	Emergency Management Office/ Anti-terrorism – 3rd floor rooms 310, 310A, 310B, 310C
Directorate of Family and Morale, Welfare and Recreation Admin – 1st floor rooms 100, 101, 102, 104, 105, 105A, 105B, 106, 106A	Video teleconference room – Room103
USAG Main Conference Room – Room 202	Safety Classroom – Room 12
	901st MI Counterintelligence – Room 20

FIREFIGHTERS

Continued from page 1

federal emergency management agency has created an industry standard, and part of the standard is the tools firefighters use for search and rescue missions.

Andrew Avantagiato firefighter from FRFD, said this training is part of the specialized areas of fire service, and it is important firefighters with this training are on the same page and understand the language and use of the tools, including a raker shore, a tool used to stabilize walls or structures when conducting a search and rescue mission.

“Almost everyone is taught the same curriculum,” Avantagiato said. “You could take a guy taught here

at Fort Riley, Kansas, and pair him with Florida taskforce 1 or New Jersey taskforce 1 and tell him to go build a raker shore and they know how to build a raker shore together.”

Jacob Kirkland, a firefighter from Manhattan Fire Department, said he learned what his taskforce colleagues are capable of including their strengths and weaknesses.

“It makes it easier to work with them,” Kirkland said. “It makes when you’re working a large scale event like that easier when you know what other people are capable of.”

Firefighters who attended this course received Structural

Collapse Certification through Kansas State University in Manhattan, Kansas.

Kirkland said this is just the beginning.

“This is the basic intro to structural damage,” Kirkland said. “We get a basic knowledge of how this works ... once a year they have a big mock training event in Salina that all the taskforces go to. This is just the beginning of a career long learning process that we are going to go through.”



Maria Childs | POST
Patrick Hallenbeck, 190th Fire Department from Forbes Field, Topeka, Kansas, drills concrete during a structural training course at Fort Riley April 4 through 12.



IN BRIEF

TRAFFIC UPDATES

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

SOLDIER FOR LIFE TRANSITION ASSISTANCE PROGRAM EVENTS

May 6 beginning at 8:30 a.m., Agricultural Orientation Day, River Creek Farms and the Kansas Farm Bureau. Event will be held at the Soldier and Family Assistance Center, 674 Warrior Road.

May 7, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., Johnson County Sheriff's Office Career Fair. Event will be held at 111 S. Cherry St., rooms 200 and 201, Olathe, Kansas.

May 12, 1 to 3 p.m., Employer Networking event scheduled for bldg. 210, room 118D, Custer Avenue, Fort Riley.

May 13 beginning at 8:30 a.m., Agricultural Orientation Day, Prairie Lavender Farm, K-State Drone Lab. Event will be held at the Soldier and Family Assistance Center, 674 Warrior Road.

May 20 beginning at 8:30 a.m., Agricultural Orientation Day, Sheep and Horse Farm, Blueville Nursery. Event will be held at the Soldier and Family Assistance Center, 674 Warrior Road.

May 24, 9 to 11 a.m., Caterpillar Facility Tour. Those attending will find opportunities for quality control technicians, welding and accounting. Group will meet outside Bldg. 212 on Custer Ave., Fort Riley. Interested people should RSVP to hans.j.lokodi.mil@mail.mil.

THREAT AWARENESS AND REPORTING PROGRAM TRAINING

Threat Awareness and Reporting Program training will be offered for Soldiers, Department of the Army civilians and contractors at Barlow Theater May 11 and June 1, 10 to 11 a.m.

For information or to schedule training call 785-240-3097.

RECYCLING CENTER CHANGES

Fort Riley's Recycling Center in building 1980, Camp Funston, will undergo a construction project designed to enhance recycling capability. A state-of-the-art materials sorting system will be installed.

The new system will allow the facility to recycle larger quantities of materials resulting in more waste being diverted from local landfills and more revenue being produced for unit funds and other Family, Morale, Welfare and Recreation activities across the installation. Construction will begin April 4 and is projected to take up to 12 months to complete.

During that time recycling activities will be temporarily moved to building 1630, at the corner of I and 7th Streets in Camp Funston. Hours of operation will remain unchanged. They are 6 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday, except holidays and Garrison Resiliency Days Off when the Recycle Center is closed.

For more information, call the Recycle Center, 785-239-2094 or 785-239-8686.

USO EVENTS ANNOUNCED

- A Sip and Chat event for spouses is held every Wednesday from 9 to 10:30 a.m.

- Operation Happy Birthday: USO volunteers will deliver a cupcake to Soldiers during the month of their birthday. See USO Facebook page to sign up.

- Staff at the USO staff is planning to hold a family game night the 3rd Friday of every month. Family game night for this month is scheduled for 5:30 p.m., April 21.

RILEY RASCALS RESALE MARKET SET FOR MAY 14

The Riley Rascals Resale Market is scheduled to take place from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m., May 14, at Rally Point on Fort Riley.

This is an opportunity to buy or sell gently used children's clothing, toys and goods. The market is for children's goods only; no car seats or cribs are allowed.

Admission is \$1 for people 13 years old and older. Those 12 and under are admitted free.

The event still needs vendors as well. Booth space is \$25.

For more information, call 785-375-3260.



ABOVE AND BELOW: Fort Riley families celebrated Month of the Military Child April 20 as they listened to Maj. Gen. Wayne W. Grigsby Jr., commanding general of the 1st Infantry Division and Fort Riley, and his wife Cynthia, read them a book during the Military Child Education Coalition's Tell Me a Story event at Marshall Army Airfield. The commanding general read "Mercedes and the Chocolate Pilot" by Margot Theis Raven, which is based on a true story about the Berlin Airlift and candy that dropped from the sky.

Command performance

Senior leader's storytelling accentuates Month of the Military Child

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

Fort Riley families celebrated Month of the Military Child April 20 as they listened to Maj. Gen. Wayne W. Grigsby Jr., commanding general of the 1st Infantry Division and Fort Riley, and his wife Cynthia, read them a book during the Military Child Education Coalition's Tell Me a Story event at Marshall Army Airfield.

The commanding general read "Mercedes and the Chocolate Pilot" by Margot Theis Raven, which is based on a true story about the Berlin Airlift and candy that dropped from the sky.

"Events like this allow us to slow down and focus on what really matters – our family," Grigsby said before he began reading. "This program allows our children to learn about our history and share stories that relate to our lives."



"Events like this allow us to slow down and focus on what really matters – our family. This program allows our children to learn about our history and share stories that relate to our lives."

MAJ. GEN. WAYNE W. GRIGSBY JR.
COMMANDING GENERAL OF THE 1ST INFANTRY
DIVISION AND FORT RILEY

About 27 Fort Riley families attended with more than 50 children.

Tara Habbab, an organizer of the event and a Fort Riley spouse, said Tell Me a Story, a bi-annual event at Fort Riley, is an initiative to empower military children by making connections using literature. Each family received a copy of the book and constructed chocolate parachutes.

"It is to encourage family reading and the process of reading together as a family," Habbab said. "We read the book then we go into small groups and have facilitators who help. We want children to think about the book. It's another level of understanding and connecting with the book."

Happy Garner, the other event organizer and Fort Riley spouse, said the books read at the events are meant to strike a chord with military families.

See STORYTELLING, page 12



Guest speaker Lynn Wilson, wife of Retired Lt. Gen. Bob Wilson, talks to the women of the Spouses Club at Riley's Conference Center April 20 about her book and about entertaining.

Spouses club talks entertainment

Author discusses book on art of entertaining at group's monthly luncheon

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

Fort Riley Spouses Club members came together for their monthly luncheon Riley's Conference Center April 21. Author Lynn Wilson was in attendance, and a theme for the luncheon was based on her book "At Ease: A Salute to Creative Entertaining."

"The whole reason I did this book was because I was worried we were getting away from entertaining and the camaraderie between our neighbors and our units," Wilson said. "So I wanted to talk to them about having fun with entertaining and let them know it's easy, fun, doesn't have to be expensive and get them excited about entertaining again."

Wilson, wife of Retired Lt. Gen. Bob Wilson, lived on post in the early 90s during Desert Storm. She has been on tour with her book, visiting Spouses Clubs on multiple installations, but Fort Riley would be her last

MORE ONLINE

- For more information about the **Fort Riley Spouses Club**, visit www.fortrileyocsc.com.

stop on her tour. Wilson donated \$1 from every book she sold at the luncheon back to the Spouses Club. Wilson had reached out to Veronica Lane, 1st Vice President and wife of Sgt. 1st Class David Lane, 1st Infantry Division Sustainment Brigade, to get involved with the club and promote her book.

"She has ties here to Fort Riley, Lane said. "Her husband was stationed here. She was actually president of Fort Riley Officer's Club when she was here. And it just so happened to work with our schedule that she could come visit this month. She shows the longevity of spouses. Her husband served for 38 years, so she has a wealth

See ENTERTAINMENT, page 12

Kidsfest celebrates Month of the Military Child

Event brings community, post together to illustrate military kids' sacrifices

By Season Osterfeld
1ST INF. DIV. POST

Children cheered and played all afternoon at Kidsfest April 24 hosted by staff and volunteers of Child, Youth and School Services at Riley's Conference Center. The event concluded fes-

tivities during Month of the Military Child celebrated each April.

"(It) is a time to recognize military children," Cheryl Greathouse, administrator for CYSS, said. "They have a unique lifestyle. It's just a time to motivate them and really provide some thanks to them for being there to provide some support to their military sponsors."

The conference center was packed with booths featuring different games, prizes and activities. Outside there was a bouncy house, small train ride,

face painting and other offerings. Guests were also treated to a special appearance by a superhero for photos and autographs.

"My favorite thing is seeing the smiles on the children's faces," Greathouse said. "We try to have a variety of things for them to do, special guests, so it's just fun to see them exploring everything and getting excited about all the fun activities."

The celebration was a time for children and their families to get together for an afternoon of fun.

Hailey Arias, 9, whose father is away for training with the National Guard, attended with her mother and grandmother.

"I think it's really fun," Arias said. "I get to be with my nana."

Not all the children in attendance were there as guests. Several of the booths had young volunteers there to celebrate by helping. One such booth had four youngsters handing out free books. They also read to younger children.

See KIDFEST, page 12

COMMUNITY CORNER

Mental health plays important role in resilience

By Col. Andrew Cole Jr.
FORT RILEY GARRISON COMMANDER

May is Mental Health Awareness Month. The stress of military

life effects the mental health of Soldiers, families, retirees and Department of Defense civilians. This may result in outward signs such as sleep problems, nightmares, relationship problems, social isolation and problems with alcohol or drugs. Seeking care for mental wellness is no different from seeking health care for physical problems.

Balancing the demands of a military career with family responsibilities can be challenging for Soldiers and their families. It is common for military families to experience stress in response to times of transition, such as

before, during and after deployment. The ability of military families to build resilience and overcome these barriers is critical to a warrior's psychological strength and mission readiness.

There are things that you can do to maintain good physical and mental health including getting adequate sleep, eating nutritious food, exercising regularly, staying socially connected and learning to manage stress in a healthy way.

Know warning signs and be prepared to recognize when problems develop in yourself, fellow Soldiers, co-workers or family members. Sometimes the last person to know there is a problem is the one who needs help.

Some mental health problems can be corrected with counseling. Whatever difficulties are being experienced, there is support available at Fort Riley. Non-medical counseling is available through the Military Family Life Counselor program and through Military One-

Source. These programs offer trained, licensed, professional counselors for service members and their families to speak with free of charge for up to 12 sessions.

If you seek counseling from the MFLC program or Military OneSource, the information shared with counselors is strictly confidential and off the record, except to meet legal obligations or prevent harm to self and others. Both programs strive to promote a culture that encourages service members and families to seek assistance when coping with the concerns of daily life and to eliminate barriers service members feel prevent them from reaching for help.

Non-medical counseling helps military families with a variety of common concerns within the military lifestyle including anger, anxiety, loss or grief, relocation adjustment concerns including homesickness, separation, stress reactions to the deployment cycle, stress reactions to reintegration and

the transition from warrior to civilian.

To contact a MFLC, call 785-221-9483. Counselors are available to meet in-person on or off the post. The sessions can occur in individual, couple, family or group settings through walk-in and flexible appointment times.

You can also access Military OneSource non-medical counseling online, www.militaryonesource.mil or call 800-342-9647 to talk to a counselor on the phone or face-to-face.

Resources are also available online to adopt and maintain a healthy lifestyle. Online support termed Operation Live Well is available at health.mil/Military-Health-Topics/Operation-Live-Well.

— 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.



Colonel Cole

LIBRARY HOLDS 'DERBY DAYS'



Maria Childs | POST

Meg Reber, 8, daughter of Capt. Pascal Reber, 2nd Armored Brigade Combat Team, 1st Infantry Division, pets a horse from the Commanding General's Mounted Color Guard at the Post Library April 23. "Derby Days" was held by library staff to celebrate the Kentucky Derby. Terri Seaman, director of the library, said the library staff tries to have events like this every month. "With the Color Guard, the kids get the chance to pet the horses and see what they do," Seaman said. For more information about library events, call 785-239-5305.

Game night allows families to reconnect

Monthly program puts a priority on parents, kids unplugging together

Story and photo by Season Osterfeld
1ST INF. DIV. POST

Families and friends gathered for an "unplugged" family game night April 21 at the United Service Organizations Fort Riley.

About every third Friday of the month, volunteers of the USO Fort Riley host a family game night focused on bringing families together with board games and by putting away electronic devices for a few hours. Attendees are given a box to store their cellphones and other items inside for the duration of the event. If they leave them in the box the entire time, they receive a prize.

"It's helping us to disconnect from electronics, reconnect with the family," Jill Iwen, director for the USO Fort Riley, said. "Sit down together, you're face-to-face connecting, talking. It's intimate in that way."

Tables and sofas were filled with families and friends talking and laughing as they played several of the dozens of board games available. Children were rushing about between different tables, playing with new and old friends throughout the facility. Iwen said many of the families have formed new friendships through the Unplugged Family Game Night.

"They've kind of become a big family," Iwen said.

Betty Harth, wife of Staff Sgt. Jon Harth, 541st Combat Sustainment Battalion, 1st Infantry Division Sustainment



Jacquelyn Farrah, center, wife of Sgt. 1st Class Daniel Farrah, 44th Engineer Battalion, 2nd Infantry Division, watches her sons play Battleship during Unplugged Family Game Night April 21 at the Fort Riley United Service Organizations. Farrah's husband is currently deployed and the family game night provided a fun way for her and her sons to get out of the house and keep busy, Farrah said.

"It's helping us to disconnect from electronics, reconnect with the family. Sit down together, you're face-to-face connecting, talking."

JILL IWEN | FORT RILEY USO

Brigade, brought her four children for a fun evening of family bonding. Harth said this was their fourth time attending and the family game night offered her a chance to get away from the routines of everyday life.

"Just to relax away from the house, no electronics," Harth said. "It's just fun to get out of the house."

The evening also brought first-time visitors looking for new ways to spend time together like Jacquelyn Farrah, wife of Sgt. 1st Class Daniel Farrah, 44th Engineer Bat-

talion, 2nd Infantry Division, South Korea, and her two sons. Sgt. 1st Class Farrah is in South Korea in an unaccompanied tour

"We usually have a friend who comes here and they love it, so I thought we should try it," Farrah said. "I like it a lot. I love that there are a lot of games."

The Unplugged Family Game Night first began in 2014. A reservation is required and can be made on the USO Fort Riley Facebook page. When spaces run out, a wait

list is created and even families on the wait list still get the opportunity to play if they attend, Iwen said.

"We can make sure that every family that comes can have their own table," Iwen said. "We've not had to turn a family away."

In addition to the many board games, food and drinks are provided, as well as access to the USO's other games, such as the foosball table and pool tables.

Iwen said she hopes to see the Unplugged Family Game Night grow further and become a part of more families' monthly plans. It is a way the USO can bring Soldiers, their families and the Fort Riley community together.

"It's been a blessing to have this program and watch it grow over the years," Iwen said.

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KINGPINS FOR A DAY

Photos by Season Osterfeld | POST

ABOVE: David Scruggs, Directorate of Public Works for Fort Riley, watches the ball roll down the lane after tossing it between his legs while facing backwards during Garrison Bowling April 21 at the Custer Hill Bowling Center. Scruggs was one of four on Team DPW facing off in a bowling "civil war" against the Directorate of Family, Morale, Welfare and Recreation. RIGHT: David Roudybush, director of the Directorate of Family, Morale, Welfare and Recreation, crushes Jeff Williamson, director of the Directorate of Public Works for Fort Riley, underfoot during Garrison Bowling April 21. Team DPW took the win in the end with a final combined score of 416-410.



JROTC BLUE JAY BATTALION TOPS IN NATION



COURTESY PHOTO

The 3rd Brigade U.S. Army Cadet Command inspected the Junction City High School JROTC Blue Jay Battalion April 19. This is an all-day inspection filled with drilling, portfolio program reviews and cadet led briefings that happens every 3 years. At the end, the battalion received a score of 230 out of 230 which made the battalion the highest scoring unit in the nation.

Boy Scout Troop 60 holds open house

Members encourage involvement within the Fort Riley community

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

The members and leaders of Boy Scout Troop 60 of Fort Riley hosted an open house at the Scout Hut April 19. “We just want to get involvement of the community here in Fort Riley,” said troop leader Lt. Col. Brandon Garner, 1st Armored Brigade Combat Team, 1st Infantry Division. “There’s a variety of troops both in Manhattan and Junction City, but just (want) to get the word out that there’s one here on post that’s partnered with the Society of the 1st Inf. Div.”

During the open house, some of the younger scouts were working on their First Aid merit badge. Sergeant 1st Class Richard Hatt, 2nd Armored Brigade Combat Team, 1st Inf. Div., went over previous lessons with the scouts discussing the signs of heart attack in preparation for a new lesson that evening. Boy Scout Gabriel McCoy, 12, son of Stephanie and Maj. Brad McCoy, 2nd ABCT, 1st Inf. Div., was working on going into the Scout Master Conference where they would decide if he could move up in ranks of the Scouts. “What I like about being a Boy Scout is that we have campouts and lockins,” McCoy said. “A lot of the merit badges



Sgt. 1st Class Richard Hatt goes over previous lessons with the scouts, discussing the signs of heart attack in preparation for a new lesson that evening during their Open House at the Scout Hut April 19.

are fun. I haven’t done this particular merit badge yet, but I assume aviation will be fun, and engineering and all those like robotics. Our meetings are fun. Not only are we working, but we get to have fun too. We’ll play football afterwards sometimes, and I think pretty much all of it is fun.” Before the end of the night, McCoy had moved up in rank to a First Class Scout. He said he wants to advance all the way to Eagle Scout, and he wants to achieve that rank and help improve his community. The older boys of the troop were working on their leadership skills. Two of them were preparing for their Eagle Scout projects.

MORE INFORMATION

• Boy Scout Troop 60 has meetings every Tuesday from 6:30 to 8 p.m. at the Scout Hut.

“I am making an information sign and bulletin board for the unmarked trail at Moon Lake,” said senior patrol leader Jackson Cyrilik, 13, son of Lisa and Col. John Cyrilik, 1st Combat Aviation Brigade, 1st Inf. Div. “I enjoy the thrill of it and going out into the wilderness and all of the activities. I would tell people that there’s a little bit of work involved, but most of it is fun.” Jackson’s mother, Lisa, has also become very involved in Troop 60 through Jackson and his brother Grant, 12.

“[Scouts] is multi-tiered, and all the time, they’re working on different things,” Lisa said. “It’s one of the most cost-effective activities. The fees break down to \$2 a month and then their uniform and whatever dues your troop might have. We try to cover as much as we can with the little that we bring in.” The troop has meetings every Tuesday from 6:30 to 8 p.m. at the Scout Hut. For more information about Troop 60 and what they do, visit their Facebook page.



Guest speaker Sam Devinki talks to those in attendance at the Days of Remembrance at Morris Hill Chapel April 21 about his family’s trials during the Holocaust.

Days of Remembrance: Honor the sacrifice, learn from the past

Speaker tells the horrors of Holocaust, cautions to never let happen again

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

There was not a dry eye in the house of Morris Hill Chapel April 20 as the 1st Infantry Division Band played music in honor of the Days of Remembrance. Hosted by the 1st Combat Aviation Brigade, 1st Infantry Division, the event featured guest speaker Sam Devinki, who lost family members to the Nazis.

“Holocaust is a word of Greek origin meaning sacrifice by fire,” said Sgt. Thomas McCormick, 2nd General Support Aviation Battalion, 1st Aviation Regiment, 1st CAB, 1st Inf. Div. “Days of Remembrance is an opportunity for us to remember the suffering that was endured, and the efforts that were made to put an end to such suffering. And it’s a call to conscience today in our world to make sure that we aren’t the silent ones, standing by, contributing to the suffering of others.”

Days of Remembrance is an annual event in the United States, which officially takes place this year from May 1 to 8. This year’s theme is “Learning from the Holocaust: Acts of Courage.” Before the ceremony began, Betti Weiss of the Manhattan Jewish Congregation, gave the Yom Hashoah Prayer. “Hashoah” is Hebrew for “The Catastrophe.” The ceremony continued with a video called “Why We Remember the Holocaust,” which started with an elderly woman’s voice saying “We must understand. That’s where our redemption is.”

Then, David Neveau, 1st Armored Brigade Combat Team, 1st Inf. Div. gave a short reading from Elie Weisel’s memoir “Night.” Devinki was born in a displacement camp in Rensburg, Germany, in 1956, and was brought to the U.S. by his parents in 1950. He now resides in the Kansas City area, working as president of Devinki Real Estate, which was started by his parents in 1955. “We’ve been here for 65 years ... My family truly lived the American dream,” Devinki said. Devinki started his presentation with a video about the Holocaust Museum in Washington D.C. and then talked to those in attendance about the history of his family members, trials they faced trying to hide from the Nazis and their unfortunate deaths at Nazi hands. “I rarely get the chance to speak to a group like this,” Devinki said. “As all of you guys know, you cannot be punished for disobeying an order that’s illegal. If you’re ordered to do something that illegal, to kill women, kill children, kill unarmed people, that’s something you cannot be punished for. And that’s something the German army didn’t understand ... As the guys who protect this country, you need to understand what happened, and you need to understand what you can do to prevent it from happening again.” When Devinki finished his presentation, he was awarded with a certificate of appreciation from Maj. Gen. Wayne W. Grigsby, commanding general of the 1st Inf. Div. and Fort Riley, and Col. John M. Cyrilik, 1st CAB commander.

Kansas tornado season here

Take steps before and during storms to help keep your family safe

By Maria Childs
1ST INF. DIV. POST

An easy way to remember what should be done when a tornado warning is issued is to follow the National Weather Service’s advice and “DUCK” — go DOWN to the lowest level of the building, get UNDER something sturdy, COVER your head and KEEP in the shelter until the storm has passed and an all-clear has been given. Chris Hallenbeck, from the Emergency Management Office at Fort Riley, said taking the time to develop a plan before a severe weather event impacts our area could save your life and those of ones you love. Using the tenants of the Ready Army Program is a good place to start. Be Informed, Make a Plan, Build A Kit and Get Involved. Part of being informed is knowing where you can take shelter if caught outside during a severe weather event. Designated buildings around the installation have severe weather shelter signs leading residents and visitors who may be caught outside during a storm to take shelter there. The buildings are not designated Federal Emergency Management Agency storm shelters.

They are just a building that has staff present 24 hours a day, 7 days a week that the public can use to take immediate shelter if caught out in the open during severe weather. The installation protection staff works closely with the staff of the designated buildings for shelter during severe weather; however, they also want to emphasize that the public should never leave the safety of their home to take shelter in one of these buildings. “We work with them to make sure their plan is up-to-date and they understand the importance of having their building designated as an emergency weather shelter,” Hallenbeck said. There are three buildings on Custer Hill. They are the 1st Armored Brigade Combat Team Headquarters, 2nd ABCT Headquarters and 1st Infantry Division Sustainment Brigade headquarters buildings. The 1st Combat Aviation Brigade headquarters building on Marshall Army Airfield is also one. On main post, the Directorate of Emergency Services Police Station and Irwin Army Community Hospital are emergency weather shelters. “If you go to one of the designated buildings, follow the instructions of the staff member on duty and they will direct you to the designated shelter area to seek safety,” Hallenbeck said.

Corvias Military Living staff follow the same kind of procedures. They educate and share preparedness information through their newsletters and social media websites. Residents have safe places to go in their residents including safe rooms, basements, lower level interior rooms with no windows and bathrooms. Every family who moves in to a house on post receives an information sheet about severe weather in Kansas upon arrival. Clay Boyer, from Corvias Military Living, said it is important for residents to take the information given to them and be prepared with a plan for when severe weather strikes. “Many of our residents are not familiar with the ever changing Kansas weather, and can be caught off guard by how fast a standard storm can become a severe weather event,” Boyer said. “We recommend that all residents and members of the community educate themselves and utilize all available resources to develop a plan for severe weather.” For information on signing up for Fort Riley AtHoc text messaging severe weather alerts and other weather preparedness information, visit www.riley.army.mil/Community/Ready-Army/. For more preparedness information, visit www.ready.gov.

TORNADO SAFETY

BEFORE TORNADO

- During any thunderstorm, listen to local news or a NOAA Weather Radio to stay informed about tornado watches and warnings and check the Weather-Ready Nation tips.
- Know how your community sends warnings. Some communities in tornado-prone areas have sirens. Others depend on media and smart phones to alert residents to severe storms.
- Pick a tornado-safe room in your home, such as a basement, storm cellar or an interior room on the lowest floor with no windows. Make sure all members of your family know to go there. Don't forget pets if time allows.
- Conduct a family tornado drill regularly so everyone knows what to do if a tornado is approaching.

DURING TORNADO

- The safest place to be is in an underground shelter, basement or safe room.
- If no underground shelter or safe room is available, move to a small, windowless interior room or hallway on the lowest level of a sturdy building. This will be the safest alternative.
- Mobile homes are not safe during tornadoes or other severe winds.
- If you are caught outdoors, seek shelter in a basement, shelter or sturdy building.
- If you cannot quickly walk to a shelter, immediately get into a vehicle, buckle your seat belt and try to drive to the closest sturdy shelter. If you see large objects flying past while you are driving, pull over and park. Stay in the car with the seat belt on or put your head down below the windows, covering with your hands and a blanket, if possible.
- If you can safely get noticeably lower than the level of the roadway, exit your car and lie in that area, covering your head with your hands.

For more informatoin, contact the Fort Riley Emergency Management Office at (785) 240.0400.
To receive severe weather alerts at Fort Riley, visit www.riley.army.mil/Community/ReadyArmy.

Fort Riley honors volunteers of the year

Ceremony on post recognizes nearly 30 volunteers for efforts

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

Several volunteers from Fort Riley gathered at Riley's Conference Center April 18 to be recognized for their efforts across the installation and in the surrounding communities.

There were 27 volunteers recognized, five of which were given Volunteer of the Year in their specific categories.

Presented the prestigious Volunteer of the Year award was Sgt. First Class Nathaniel York, Headquarters and Headquarters Detachment, 97th Military Police Battalion.

"I think a big part of [volunteering] is making sure the military can give back to the community," York said. "I started off with just my children and doing scouting, and I had seen how much the kids got out of that, and I went on to the schools and school programs. I think I just like helping people more than anything else ... I try to foster that volunteer spirit."

York was awarded a two-year membership to the United States Automobile Association, a \$100 check, 30 days or 1,000 miles of driving a new Jeep donated by sponsor Briggs Auto, and a \$200 gift certificate for gasoline.

The Youth Volunteer of the Year was awarded to R.J. Hatt,



The Volunteer Family of the Year was awarded to the Staff Sgt. Thomas Miller Family, 1st Sustainment Brigade, 1st Infantry Division, for their work with the ATV ranges on post during the Volunteer of the Year ceremony April 18 at Riley's Conference Center.



Volunteer of the Year was awarded to Sgt. First Class Nathaniel York, 97th Military Police Battalion, during the Volunteer of the Year ceremony at Riley's Conference Center April 18.

son of Lisa and Sgt. 1st Class Richard Hatt, 2nd Armored Brigade Combat Team, 1st Infantry Division. R. J. was awarded a \$50 gift certificate to Best Buy from sponsor Corvias Military Living. Hatt was nominated by the Spouses Club for his work help-

ing set up and tear down for their events.

The Volunteer Family of the Year went to the Staff Sgt. Thomas Miller Family, 1st Sustainment Brigade, 1st Inf. Div., for their work with ATV ranges.

KIDFEST Continued from page 9

"I really like it because I get to see different people and I get to share with them a little of me, they share with me a little of them," Miles Bray, 12, son of Maj. Amy Bray, Medical Department Activity, said.

Bray was one of several youth volunteers at the reading booth eagerly awaiting to read to others and suggest his favorite books to them.

Parents also appreciated Kidsfest as a way to see their children recognized and made comfortable within the military community.

"I like how they have all the kids together, keeping them engaged," Sgt. Jazmyn Riley, 101st Brigade Support Battalion, 1st Armored Brigade Combat Team, 1st Infantry Division, said. "My daughter, when she was staying with my mom while I was in training, she couldn't really relate with these kids, but now that she's here, she really can."

Further, Kidsfest brought together the Fort Riley and surrounding communities to honor



Children go for a train ride around a field during Kidsfest April 24 at Riley's Conference Center. Volunteers and staff of Child, Youth and School Services, along with sponsors from the surrounding communities provided a number of games and activities for military children as a final celebration for the Month of the Military Child.

military children and the sacrifices they make for their families.

"I like seeing our CYSS organization come together in conjunction with the community and our other on post partners,"

Greathouse said. "I think it's just seeing those partnerships come together and everybody helping to honor military children."

This year's celebration was the second time Kidsfest was

"It's something that I enjoy doing, plus being outside, and my family likes being outside, and it helps us bond more as a family," Thomas said. "I was very surprised. I have no words for it."

The family was awarded a large flat-screen television from sponsor Corvias Military Living.

The Volunteer Family Member of the Year was awarded to Renee Fletcher, wife of Capt. Donald Frazier, 1st Battalion, 7th Field Artillery Regiment, 2nd Armored Brigade Combat Team, 1st Inf. Div.

"Everything we do is just to give, and I am just really honored and humbled," Fletcher said.

She was awarded 100 Apple Bucks from the Manhattan Area Chamber of Commerce.

Retired Volunteer of the Year was awarded to Cpl. (Ret.) Richard Heitman for his work with Child, Youth and School Services Sports. He was unable to attend the ceremony and accepted the award at a later date.

Between all the volunteers of Fort Riley, they accumulated of 8,754 hours of service. This equaled more than \$3 million in savings for the installation.

"They were chosen for their dedication to serve and representing the very best of Fort Riley," said Maj. Gen. Wayne W. Grigsby, Jr., 1st Inf. Div. and Fort Riley commanding general. "We develop both military and civilian leaders here, and we do this as a team. It's said that what we do for ourselves dies with us, but what we do for others in the world remains and is immortal."



Maj. Gen. Wayne W. Grigsby, commanding general 1st Infantry Division and Fort Riley, speaks to the Sexual Assault Awareness and Prevention Month panel about the importance of what they were doing April 19 at Kapaun Chapel.

Panel addresses sexual assault

Prevention, awareness month spurs opening up issue to discussion

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

Subject matter experts from the installation and agencies of Geary and Riley counties, participated in a panel discussion at Kapaun Chapel on Fort Riley. The panel was convened April 19 as part Sexual Assault Awareness and Prevention Month.

The event was hosted by staff of the Sexual Harassment-Assault Response and Prevention Program of Fort Riley and presented an opportunity for command teams to ask questions and clarify any information about sexual assault and the Army's response.

"This is a very important event," said Maj. Gen. Wayne W. Grigsby, Jr, 1st Infantry Division and Fort Riley commanding general. "It is essential to learn how to deal with not only victims, but also those who have been accused of sexual assault."

Commanders had a chance to bring up questions, hypothetical situations and previous incidents without using names. The record of incidents in different units are found in the Sexual Assault Review Board.

"We need to be looking at the SARBs, not only for your unit, but across the board and start identifying the trends that are happening across the installation," said Brig. Gen. Patrick Frank, Deputy Commanding General for Support.

Members of command teams brought up many questions that were addressed by the subject matter experts and were able to walk away

with more clarification than they had come in with.

"It's really good because we're able to get a lot of the senior leaders together and address resources that are out there to not only prevent sexual harassment and assault, but also react to it appropriately to help the victims and to help everyone get the assistance that they need," said Lt. Col. Travis Habbab, 1st Attack Reconnaissance Battalion, 1st Aviation Regiment, 1st Combat Aviation Brigade, 1st Inf. Div. "It was an opportunity for us to bring up issues that we've seen at the leadership level that could potentially lead to future events. And we can all be on the watch for those types of circumstances and hopefully prevent it in the future."

Jessica Haymaker, of Kansas State University's Center for Advocacy, Response and Education, responded to questions about incidents between members of the Fort Riley community and those of the K-State community.

"I think it's really important to be a part of the conversation in any collaborative setting," Haymaker said. "As was mentioned, both our populations are very similar. They're similar in size, demographic makeup and, interestingly enough, they have similar policies. To understand how our communities cross over, how perpetration crosses over and to address and hold accountable, and get services for individuals I think is really important for everyone to talk about in the best, most confidential way that we can."

For more information about options on post for those who have experienced sexual harassment or assault, contact the SHARP office at 785-239-2277.

ENTERTAINMENT Continued from page 9

of wisdom and is going to show some of our younger spouses that entertaining and cooking for people is not this big, hard thing and that it can be easy and fun. And I think it's a skill that people are kind of starting to lose between having house parties and dinner parties, so I'm excited to hear her speak."

Tables across Riley's Conference Center were decked out based on different party themes from the book.

To start the luncheon, members gave donations to their charity of the month, the Crisis Center of Junction City. Ladies also began voting for new officers for the new year of the Spouses Club. Krista Parker, wife of Maj. Jarod Parker, 1st Inf. Div., was running for President, and believes the Spouses Club is a great opportunity for all of the Spouses across the installation.

"It's just a great place to meet new people, especially when



The tables of Riley's Conference Center were decorated with party themes from "At Ease: A Salute to Creative Entertaining" by guest speaker Lynn Wilson, wife of Retired Lt. Gen. Bob Wilson for the Spouses Club Luncheon April 20.

you're new to a post," Parker said. "I always look ahead when we're moving and try to search out their Facebook page and what not. It's just like an instant community. We do a lot for the surrounding area through our fundraising and we just get to know more people in the com-

munity. And we just get to give back, which I feel like, especially at Fort Riley, that the civilian community gives so much to us, and we're able to give back to them."

For more information about the Fort Riley Spouses Club, visit www.fortrileyocsc.com.

STORYTELLING Continued from page 9

"Resiliency, strong peer connections, a sense of pride and accomplishment and being part of the community are all underlying things that we share in our Tell Me a Story program," Garner said.

Staff Sgt. Travis Hocken-smith, 1st Engineer Battalion, 1st Armored Brigade Combat Team, 1st Infantry Division,

brought his wife, Julie, and two kids, Natalie and Nathaniel, to the event.

"It's very important," Julie said about reading as a family. "Natalie struggles with reading, so anything I can get her involved with that involves reading is a good thing. I try to emphasize the importance of reading."

Julie said her husband is preparing for a deployment, so the book and its message was a great example for her kids to connect with their dad.

"We've been to one of these events before and the kids love the books," Julie said. "We take them home and they become bedtime stories."

Sexual Assault Awareness & Prevention Month April • 2016

KNOW your part DO your part

What can you do?

- Intervene
- Distract
- Take Action
- Support
- Enlist Others to Help

Where can you turn?

- Fort Riley 24/7 hotline: 785-307-9338.
- SHARP representative: 785-239-2277 or 785-239-3379
- DoD SAFE hotline: 1-877-995-5247 • safehelpline.org



Sports & Recreation

IN BRIEF

CUSTER HILL 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.

OFFERINGS FOR FITNESS-MINDED INDIVIDUALS

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 DFMWR fitness department professionals to get started:
Vincent Spencer, fitness coordinator, vincent.j.spencer2.naf@mail.mil, 785-239-3146.
Jocelyn Heminitz, fitness specialist, jocelyn.n.heminitz.naf@mail.mil, 785-239-2616.
Choose between the following:
• 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 to 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 WILL REMAIN CLOSED UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE

Eyster Pool is closed. No re-opening date has been determined.
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 physical training 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 to Friday. For more information, call the aquatics program manager at 785-239-9441.

YOUTH SPORTS OFFICIALS

The Child, Youth and School Services staff is 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.sportsman.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.

Gone fishin'



Carter Cole, 6, son of Staff Sgt. Matthew Cole, 3rd Battalion, 66th Armor Regiment, 1st Armored Brigade Combat Team, 1st Infantry Division, grins as he holds up a sun perch he just removed from his fishing line for his mother. It was the second fish he had caught at the Fort Riley Kids Fishing Day April 23 at Moon Lake.



Kids, families angle for fun at Moon Lake

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

Carter Cole, 6, son of Staff Sgt. Matthew Cole, 3rd Battalion, 66th Armor Regiment, 1st Armored Brigade Combat Team, 1st Infantry Division, grinned as he held up the sun perch he just removed from his fishing line. It was the second fish he caught at the Fort Riley Kids Fishing Day April 23 at Moon Lake.

Staff from the Directorate of Public Works Conservation Branch, in conjunction with representatives from the Fort Riley Outdoorsmen Group, Directorate of Family and Morale, Welfare and Recreation Outdoor Recreation, Directorate of Emergency Services, Corvias Military Living and the Kansas Department of Wildlife, Parks and Tourism, sponsored the event. It was held to celebrate Month of the Military Child. Bait and tackle was provided as well as fishing rods.

Tom Duckworth, fish and wildlife biologist for the conservation branch of the Directorate of Public Works, spent some time handing out rods to children, and he said this event is about making memories among families.

"It's pretty satisfying when they bring that rod back and they tell you they caught a fish or that they caught their first fish," Duckworth said. "That makes it worth doing."

He said it's a good time to fish in the state of Kansas because the weather is mild, the insects aren't out yet and the fish are just waking up because the water is getting warmer. Workers from DPW stocked Moon Lake with 1,200 pounds of channel catfish days before the event.

"The hope is that it sparks an interest there and they ask their parents to go fishing because there is a lot of opportunities to fish on Fort Riley," Duckworth said.

First Sgt. Alejandro Romar, 1st Battalion, 16th Infantry Regiment, 1st ABCT, 1st Inf. Div., brought his three children to the event. His kids learned about fishing from their grandfather in Germany. Romar himself was only a beginning fisherman.

"They've been asking me to go fishing for a while now," Romar said. "It's better to come out when it is free and there are qualified people who can help me do it."

He said he was enjoying spending time with his kids while his wife was at home working on homework for school.

"It's a time for families to come out and have a good time — that's good for any community — especially for kids," Romar said. "Fort Riley is a busy place. Parents can come out here and have time with their children before they deploy."

More than 250 children showed up with their guardians to participate in the event. Children under the age of 16 were allowed to fish for free with no fishing license. Volunteers were on sight to assist those fishing during the event.

Steven Wahle, an organizer for the event and fish and wildlife biologist for the conservation branch of DPW, said the event is in honor of Earth Week and to get kids and their families outdoors.

See FISH, page 14

Sgt. Jonathon Beasley, 97th Military Police Battalion, helps Anthony Romar, 9, son of 1st Sgt. Alejandro Romar, 1st Battalion, 16th Infantry Regiment, 1st Armored Brigade Combat Team,, 1st Infantry Division, change the hook on his fishing line during the kids fishing day event at Moon Lake April 23. Beasley was one of many volunteers who taught kids how to fish.

Ruh-Roh! Fido's Field Day held at Post Exchange

Event gives dog lovers and their pets a chance to gather for a bit of fun

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

The staff of the Directorate of Family and Morale, Welfare and Recreation partnered with the Army and Air Force Exchange Service at Fort Riley for the event Fido's Field Day Fun Run and Pet Party April 23 at the main Post Exchange. The event included a 2-mile fun run, vendor booths for pet products and services, a variety of contests and dog races.

"We wanted to provide an event where people could bring their dogs out because I know we have a lot of events on post where they cannot bring their dogs and they consider their dogs part of their family," said Taylor Ferrarin, recreation programmer for DFMWR and an event organizer.

This is the first time this event has been hosted on post. About 135 people brought their pets to participate throughout the event.



Kylie Nunley, 10, daughter of Staff Sgt. Hannah Nunley, 97th Military Police Battalion, runs with Dakota during the 2-mile fun run at Fido's Field Day Fun Run and Pet Party at the Main Post Exchange April 23.

Sgt. Sydney Chilson, 82nd Engineer Battalion, 2nd Armored Brigade Combat Team, 1st Infantry Division, brought Kodiak, one of her three dogs, to the event.

"It's nice to get out here and see other dogs and see vendors specifically for the animals," Chilson said. "It's just fun to get out of the house for a little bit."

She said the event is a great opportunity for her to get her dogs out and about with other dogs. She

See FIDO, page 14

Former K-State student now a taekwondo master

Born at Fort Riley, National Guard mechanic excels as Soldier, in martial arts

By Spc. Heidi Schuler
CALIFORNIA NATIONAL GUARD
PUBLIC AFFAIRS

CAMP BUEHRING, Kuwait — The sun is setting over the horizon as Sgt. Cassandra Peel practices one of her final kicks of the day. Precision. Power. Passion.

Peel said these words come to mind as she delivers one swift kick after another.

Peel, an avionics mechanic with Bravo Company, 640th Aviation Support Battalion, 40th Combat Aviation Brigade, is a self-proclaimed “Army brat,” born at Fort Riley, Kansas.

Parented by two retired service members, Peel and her four siblings grew up intimately familiar with the Army lifestyle. After first grade her family relocated to Kaiserslautern, Germany, where Peel spent the majority of her childhood.

Today, Peel is well-traveled and proficient in German. But she has another skill set that may come as a revelation even to those who know her fairly well: a 2nd degree black belt in taekwondo.

Peel, who is now an assistant instructor at a taekwondo academy in Arcata, California, was first drawn to the sport six years ago during her freshman year in college at Kansas State

University. She attended her first sessions at a nearby taekwondo academy in Hays.

“It was the community (that drew me in),” Peel said. “The people are like family.”

During Peel’s training, she learned self-improvement, courtesy, integrity and perseverance. With her military upbringing and background in taekwondo, it seemed only natural for her to join the Kansas Army National Guard in 2011.

“I had always dreamed about joining the military,” Peel said, stating that her parents’ success steered her in that direction.

Army Sgt. Brittany Bergman, a fellow mechanic in Bravo Company, has known Peel since they both graduated from Army basic training in 2012.

“She sets a standard that females can strive to meet,” Bergman said, describing Peel’s character as sincere, determined and strong.

Peel emphasized the usefulness of self-defense classes for increasing one’s confidence and personal safety as a “hard target.”

“Stand up for yourself,” Peel said. “A lot of people are too passive. Be assertive and be vocal.”

Following her deployment, Peel plans to test for her 3rd degree black belt. After the necessary “time in grade” she will be prepared to rank up, proving once more that she is an unparalleled, well-rounded individual.

“My philosophy on life is to enjoy the present and focus on making yourself and those around you happy, and life will work itself out,” she said.



Staff Sgt. Ian Kummer | ARMY

Taekwondo professional and California Army National Guard Sgt. Cassandra Peel, an avionics mechanic in Bravo Company, 640th Aviation Support Battalion, 40th Combat Aviation Brigade, takes a break from taekwondo practice at Camp Buehring, Kuwait, April 2.

Veterans overcome challenges through annual ‘Face of America’ ride

By Shannon Collins
DOD NEWS, DEFENSE MEDIA
ACTIVITY

WASHINGTON — More than 700 cyclists, including nearly 175 disabled veterans, rode two routes — either 110 miles from Arlington, Virginia, or 120 miles from Valley Forge, Pennsylvania, — and met up in Gettysburg, Pennsylvania, as part of World T.E.A.M. Sports’ annual “Face of America” ride.

The acronym T.E.A.M. stands for The Exceptional Athlete Matters. World T.E.A.M. Sports has organized athletic events for disabled and able bodied citizens since 1987.

The “Face of America” ride is one of the largest noncompetitive bicycle rides in the national capital region. It gives veterans of all eras from all over the nation with various disabilities a chance to meet up, make new friends and share resources.

HELP WITH POST TRAUMATIC STRESS DISORDER

For Bill Czyzewski, a Vietnam veteran who served with the 11th Armored Cavalry Regiment as a tank loader, cycling became his post-traumatic stress.

“I’ve been riding the past six years, and I couldn’t believe how much the PTSD went away after I started riding a bike for the first time,” he said. “It was amazing.”

Czyzewski was shot March 1, 1970, seven months after his arrival in Vietnam. He lost his left leg seven years later. He said World T.E.A.M. Sports encouraged him to do a 60-mile ride. Then he did the Face of America ride, he said, and then the next year, he went cross-country.

“We put our back tires in the San Francisco Bay, came across the Golden Gate Bridge and came right across the middle of the country,” he said. “We left May 28 and got to Virginia Beach on July 28. It took us two months.”

He said he loves participating in the Face of America ride because now he can help younger veterans with their PTSD.

For former Army Sgt. Albert Gonzalez, who served as a field artillery specialist and has PTSD from his time in Iraq from 2004 to 2005, he said riding his recumbent bike gives him clarity.

“Riding a recumbent is a lot different than riding an upright bike,” he said. “It’s like being in a convertible on a country road. I’m just with my Christian music, and I’m at peace the whole time.”

He said he dedicated his Face of America ride to a fellow San Antonio police department worker who recently took his life. Gonzalez was riding with Team Rescue 22 in memory of the 22 veterans who take their lives each day.

CAMARADERIE

Gonzalez said he rides with Face of America for the camaraderie.

“This is my third year doing it, and I come for all of the camaraderie, the brotherhood, all the support and everything you get from Face of America,” he said. “It’s great to ride with everybody and to hear the different stories from World War II to Korea to Vietnam, to us telling our stories about Iraq to them.”

Carl Morgan, a medically retired Army Sgt. 1st Class computer specialist and observer controller who has a spinal cord injury, said he also enjoys riding alongside veterans of all eras.

“I’ve met some World War II vets out here on some rides, so it’s just phenomenal to meet all of the great history,” he said.

Morgan, who rides a hand cycle, said he also just enjoys riding.

“The opportunity to come out here and see the countryside, this is what we fought for, and to get a good look at it firsthand, it’s great. It’s a great ride,” he said.

COMMUNITY SUPPORT

The riders stopped every 10 to 20 miles along the way for 20-minute breaks and received snacks and cheers from volunteers and community members.

Autumn Schaffer, 8, daughter of Nathan Schaffer, who served in the Army in Afghanistan and Iraq, and her grandmother, Virginia Wantz, stopped by to thank the veterans with their church group at one of the stops in Pennsylvania.

“I think it’s really cool that they can still ride bikes,” Schaffer said.

“We wouldn’t be here if it weren’t for them fighting for our country and serving our country,” Wantz said. “We’re out here to salute them and tell them we appreciate their service.”

“We wouldn’t be here if it weren’t for them fighting for our country and serving our country,” Wantz said. “We’re out here to salute them and tell them we appreciate their service.”

POSITIVE CHANGES

Jose Santiago, A former Army corporal combat medic who has PTSD from his time in Iraq from 2003 to 2004 and a traumatic brain injury, leads a team of about 50 cyclists — 25 percent of them are from Puerto Rico. He said Face of America is like a family reunion, and that he has seen the impact rides like Face of America has had on some of his riders.

“Last year, we had a veteran here, he had so much rage,

and ever since he’s been riding, his whole attitude has been changing,” Santiago said. “His wife said, ‘When he doesn’t ride, I can see the attitude. I tell him, ‘You need to go ride.’” That’s pretty neat.”

LEAVE NO MAN BEHIND

Medically retired Army Sgt. Norberto Roman, a cargo specialist with PTSD and chronic bronchitis from deployments to Iraq from 2003 to 2004 and from 2004 to 2005 had a special mission this year. He led a Rescue 22 team on a memorial ride. Each of his riders were veterans of each branch of the military who wore a photo of a service member who had taken his or her life.

He said they also didn’t leave anyone behind on the ride.

“When we start pedaling, if we see someone struggling on a hill, we help push,” Roman said. “It’s amazing being able to come on a weekend like this from all parts of the U.S. and people from Puerto Rico and just being one. It’s not about being Army, Navy, Air Force, Marines or Coast Guard. It’s about the armed forces — brothers and sisters pushing each other just to cross that finish line to get the job done.”

ENCOURAGING OTHERS

Medically retired Navy Petty Officer 1st Class Jerry Padgett II, a search and rescue emergency medical technician, has a spinal injury and traumatic brain injury from an improvised explosive device blast in Afghanistan. He encourages any veterans who may be considering participating in Face of America to give it a try.

“If not FOA, go out to your local park and recs and find out if they have any adaptive sports,” he said. “You just have to make the effort and know that you’re not alone and to connect. The only one true disability in life

is the lack of communication. I was told I wouldn’t walk and talk again, but I’m talking.

“One day,” he continued, “I had a plan to go on that lonely walk, but my neighbor out of nowhere gave me a hug and said, ‘Hey, how are you doing?’ I looked at him and said, ‘Why did you do that?’ He said, ‘You did you do that?’ He said, ‘You looked like you needed a hug,’ I said, ‘I did.’ You never know what kind of battle somebody come out of, civilian or military. But finding teams at Face of America like Warriors4Life will

hold you until eventually, you’re able to hold someone else.”

Morgan echoed Padgett’s sentiment.

“Get out and try it; it could change your life,” he said. “Just get out here and get around other people who understand what you’re going through. You meet so many people who are going through some of the similar things (in) that day-to-day mental battle. Get out there and start doing some stuff. It’s great.”

FIDO Continued from page 13

usually try to spend time outdoors with her dogs, but events make it easier.

“It brings about a sense of community,” Chilson said. “In the case of an event like this, it allows people to get their dogs involved. I don’t have kids, the animals are like my kids. It’s nice for me because I can bring my aspect of my family and still get involved.

Staff Sgt. Hannah Nunley, 97th Military Police Battalion, brought her two daughters, Aubrey, 2, and Kylie, 10, as well as two dogs, Boomer and Dakota. This month for school, Kylie is required to participate in 20 minutes of exercise a day so the family came out to the event for a new way to make that happen.

Kylie said it was different exercising with a dog by her side.

“It was hard because they kept stopping or slowing down,” Kylie said.

Hannah said events like this allow her kids to spend more time with their pets and enjoy a sense of community at Fort Riley.

“It strengthens the bond between kids and their animals, but also shows them responsibility of having to take care of a pet, and then when you can do it as a family it gets us all together,” Hannah said. “It’s a no-cost family bonding event.”

FISH Continued from page 13

“Fishing is a sport that can be done with the whole family,” Wahle said. “You don’t have to be a certain age to do it. It’s getting people outside in nature and it’s fun.”

Diyana St. John, 9, daughter of Sgt. Kenneth St. John II, 5th Squadron, 4th Cavalry Regiment, 2nd Armored Brigade Combat Team, 1st Inf. Div., said she enjoyed spending time with her family during the event.

“I like the part where you get to throw (the line),” St. John said. “I also like the part where you get a fish. I can’t count how many times we’ve went fishing.

For more information about fishing opportunities on Fort Riley, call 785-239-8579.

WWW.1DIVPOST.COM



E.J. Hersom | DOD

Retired Army Sgt. Albert Gonzalez sets pace for the Rescue 22 team during the Face of America bike ride in Gettysburg, Pa., April 24, 2016. More than 150 disabled veteran cyclists were paired amongst 600 able-bodied cyclists to ride 110 miles from Arlington, Va., to Gettysburg over two days in honor of veterans and military members.



Travel & Fun in Kansas

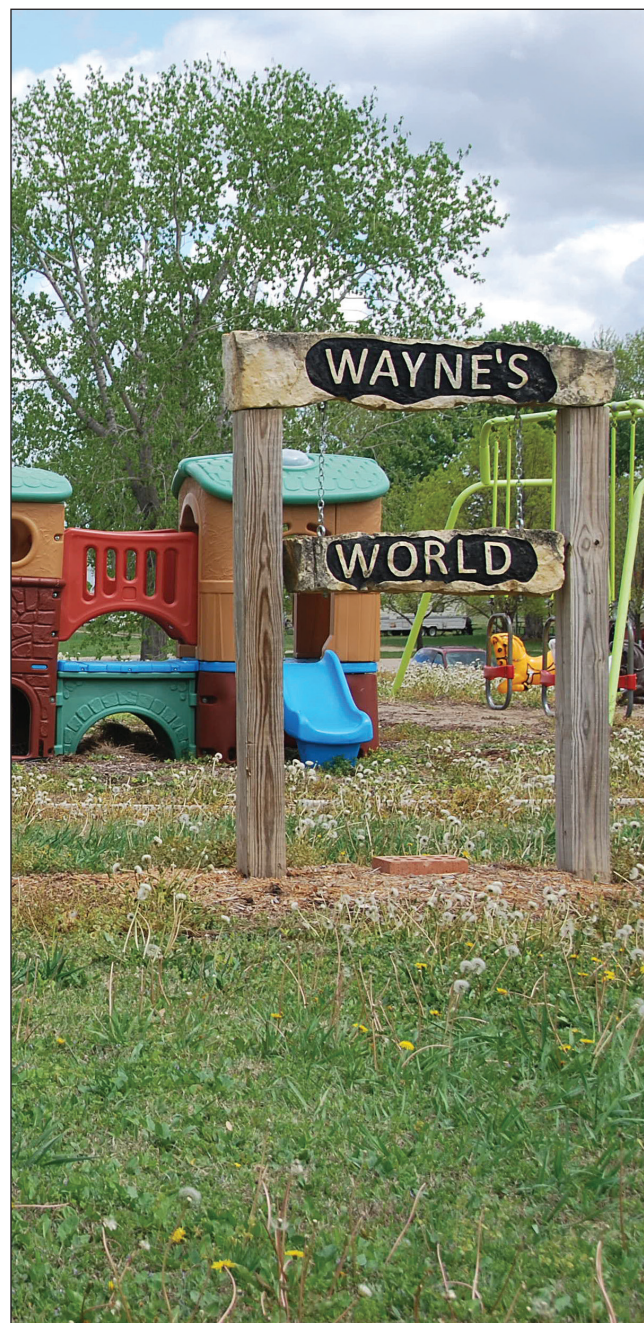
★ APRIL 29, 2016

HOME OF THE BIG RED ONE

PAGE 16

Visiting Wakefield

Kansas burg welcomes visitors yearning for outdoors



LEFT: Wakefield is home to a museum run by volunteers of the community. It sits at the north end of the Milford Reservoir at 604 6th Street. Volunteers use artifacts to preserve the small town's history of a community founded in the 1850s by English immigrants from the Old World and people who relocated from New England. The museum is open from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. Wednesday through Sunday from April to December. **RIGHT:** Next to Milford Lake is the campground at Clay County Park, where visitors can find long-term and weekend camping using campers or tents. The park has spots for fishing and colorful playgrounds all of which are easily reached by privately-owned vehicles.

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

Wakefield, Kansas is a destination option for anyone interested in fishing, camping and other outdoors activities. Whether getting in touch with nature, or going on a weekend family outing, the small community has something for almost everyone.

As visitors drive west into Wakefield, they are greeted by Milford Lake, next to which is the campground at Clay County Park.

Open from March 1 to Oct. 31, visitors to Clay County Park can find long-term and weekend camping or campers and tents. The park also has spots for fishing and playing that are accessible by vehicle. The

campgrounds are inexpensive for families wanting to spend the weekend next to the lake, with tent sites costing \$10 per night. For more information on Clay County Park, call 785-461-5774.

There is also Timber Creek Park on the other side of Milford Lake, just outside Wakefield city limits. The park includes primitive camping along with modern-day services. These campsites are also affordable, starting at \$8 per night. The park is open to campers with services such as vault toilets and drinking water from April 15 through Sept. 30. From Oct. 1 to April 14, the park has free camping, but no services, for those willing to brave the cooler temperatures. It is pet friendly and also features a swimming beach.

For more information
on Timber Creek Park, call
785-238-5714.

Wakefield also has a local museum run by community volunteers. The museum sits at the north end of the Milford Reservoir at 604 Sixth St. The volunteers use artifacts to preserve the small town's history of a community founded by English immigrants from the Old World and New England in the 1850s.

The museum is open from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. Wednesday through Sunday from April to December.

Just outside of the museum, visitors can enjoy a packed lunch in the park or gazebo on the same block.

For more information about Wakefield events and attractions visit www.wakefieldks.com.

AREA EVENTS

**MANHATTAN AREA
HISTORIC SUMMIT MAY 5**

The 2016 Manhattan Area Historic Summit will be held 6:30 to 8:30 p.m., Thursday, May 5, at the Manhattan Public Library, 629 Poyntz Avenue. The event is free and everyone is welcome.

The 50th anniversary of the National Preservation Act will be commemorated with the keynote presentation titled "Preservation 50: Mission Possible!" The speaker is K. Vance Kelley, American Institute of Architects, principal Treanor Architects and Advisor for the National Trust for Historic Preservation.

Also planned is a panel discussion of tips and tools for purchasing and renovating an older home featuring Penny Alonzo, KS State Bank; Eileen Meyer, ERA High Pointe Realty; Mel Borst, Borst Restoration and John Stamey, Re:done.

Concurrent sessions will also be presented on renovating and register listing a Mid-Century modern house by Brenda Spencer, Spencer Preservation, and the process of rehabilitating Sam Kimble's farmstead and its transformation into a vacation rental by Kail Katzenmeier, Capstone 3D Development Studio. After closing remarks there will be a drawing for door prizes.

For more information about the 2016 Manhattan Area Historic Summit please call 785-565-6490.

Riley County currently has 30 National Register properties two National Register Historic Districts and four State Historic Register listings.

For more information about Kansas properties on the National and State Historic Registers go to www.kshs.org.



The Wakefield Museum has a wealth of artifacts both inside the facility and adorning the grounds.

