

# THE 1ST INFANTRY DIVISION POST

★ 1DivPost.com FRIDAY, MAY 20, 2016 Vol. 8, No. 20 ★

Fort Riley, Kansas



**LEFT:** Brig. Gen. John S. Kolasheski, deputy commanding general for maneuver, 1st Infantry Division, speaks at a victory with honors ceremony May 12 at 1st Inf. Div. headquarters at Fort Riley. Kolasheski talked about his time serving with the “Big Red One” and the pride he felt being a part of a unit with deep ties for the Kolasheski family. **RIGHT:** Brig. Gen. John S. Kolasheski, left, 1st Infantry Division deputy commanding general for maneuver, and Maj. Gen. Wayne W. Grigsby Jr., right, 1st Inf. Div. and Fort Riley commanding general, salute during the national anthem at a victory with honors ceremony May 12 at 1st Inf. Div. headquarters at Fort Riley. The ceremony was held in honor of Kolasheski, who is departing the “Big Red One” to serve as commandant of the U.S. Army Armor School at Fort Benning, Georgia.

## Victory with Honors

### ‘Big Red One’ bids farewell to deputy commanding general

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

The 1st Infantry Division bade farewell to one of its senior leaders May 12 in a victory with honors ceremony at “Big Red One” headquarters, 580 1st Division Road.

The event was in honor of Brig. Gen. John S. Kolasheski, the 1st Inf. Div.’s deputy commanding general for maneuver, as he departed his position at Fort Riley to serve as the commandant for the U.S. Army Armor School at Fort Benning, Georgia.

Throughout the ceremony, one theme was apparent: the significance of friends and family and the ways in which paths cross during military careers.

“We have deep ties to Fort Riley and the 1st Infantry Division,” Kolasheski said.

The general’s father-in-law was stationed at Fort Riley in 1949 and his brother-in-law was assigned to the Big Red One in the 1990s. Kolasheski’s father commanded a 1st Inf. Div. tank battalion in Germany in the 1970s.

This was a second tour with the 1st Inf. Div. for the departing general and his family. Kolasheski, who has served as the deputy commander for maneuver the past 11 months, was assigned to the 1st Inf. Div. from 2001-2005 and deployed with it twice in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom.

Kolasheski said, “It has been a privilege to serve here as a member of the Fighting First Division — America’s oldest and most storied division.”

Maj. Gen. Wayne W. Grigsby Jr., 1st Inf. Div. and Fort Riley commanding general, who has known Kolasheski since 2001, spoke about his friend during the ceremony.

“It’s very hard for me today to say goodbye to such a great family and a great friend,” Grigsby said. “The entire community will miss the entire Kolasheski family dearly.”

Grigsby said the Army was a better place because of Kolasheski and his integrity as a leader was to be commended.

“It was important to understand and be connected to something that is bigger and greater than ourselves,” Kolasheski said. “To be able to serve here in the capacity that I was granted has been very moving and personally satisfying.”



Maj. Gen. Wayne W. Grigsby Jr., 1st Infantry Division and Fort Riley commanding general, speaks at a victory with honors ceremony May 12 at 1st Inf. Div. headquarters at Fort Riley. The ceremony was held in honor of Brig. Gen. John S. Kolasheski, the “Big Red One’s” deputy commanding general for maneuver, as he transitions to his new assignment as commandant at the U.S. Army Armor School at Fort Benning, Georgia.



A crew from the 2nd Battalion, 130th Field Artillery Brigade, Kansas Army National Guard, sends a round downrange from high mobility artillery rocket system May 14 at Fort Riley. The live fire was part of a combined training event with the 1st Infantry Division Artillery and the 1st Battalion, 5th Field Artillery Regiment, 1st Armored Brigade Combat Team, 1st Inf. Div.

## Rockets light up training grounds at Fort Riley

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

The familiar booms of 1st Infantry Division howitzers were joined by a different sound May 14 as “Big Red One” artillery units teamed with the Kansas Army National Guard for a weekend training mission.

Soldiers from the guard’s 2nd Battalion, 130th Field Artillery Brigade traveled from their home station at Hiawatha, Kansas, to Fort Riley where they worked with 1st Infantry Division Artillery and the 1st Battalion, 5th

Field Artillery Regiment, 1st Armored Brigade Combat Team. Active-duty Soldiers of the 1st Bn., 5th FA Regt., were conducting their Table 18 gunnery — battalion-level certifications — as the guard crews fired their high mobility artillery rocket systems.

High mobility artillery rocket systems aren’t commonly seen at Fort Riley as no “Big Red One” units use the weapons system.

Soldiers from both organizations used the word “opportunity” to describe the benefits of the training.

“This partnership we have is very, very special,” said Maj.

Gen. Lee Tafanelli, Kansas adjutant general.

Active-duty Soldiers at Fort Riley and their Kansas National Guard partners have worked alongside each other downrange for the last decade, Tafanelli said. Now Army leaders are stepping up that partnership at home when it comes to training opportunities.

That effort is coming straight from the top: Gen. Mark Milley, the Army’s chief of staff. Soon after taking over as the Army’s senior leader last fall, Milley emphasized the importance of one Army — one Army made of its active

duty, National Guard and Reserve components.

“When you look at the threats that we face as a nation, you look at the size of our Army, we know we have to do things together,” Tafanelli said. “Our active component, the National Guard and the Reserve — everyone has to come together to make the mission successful. So opportunities that we have like this where we can train together and really get that familiarity down and really get an understanding of each other’s capabilities, and the

See ROCKETS, page 8

#### FORT RILEY VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT



R.J. Hatt, son of Lisa and Sgt. 1st Class Richard Hatt, 2nd Armored Brigade Combat Team, 1st Infantry Division, helps with set up and tear down of Fort Riley Spouses Club meetings and events. He also participated in the Milford Lake Clean Up project, the clean-up of the yard at Custer House and he helps cub scouts with service projects in an effort to help them achieve their badges. RJ Hatt was named teen winner of volunteer of the quarter May 3. To learn more about volunteer opportunities, call Becky Willis at 785-239-4593.

#### ALSO IN THIS ISSUE



FORT RILEY LEADERS, STAFF BID FAREWELL TO CHAP. (COL.) KEITH CROOM AND HIS WIFE, KELLY, AT LUNCH AT A LOCAL RESTAURANT MAY 10, SEE PAGE 11.

#### ALSO IN THIS ISSUE



SENIOR LEADERS, TEE OFF DURING A GOLF SCRAMBLE MAY 13 AT CUSTER HILL GOLF COURSE SPONSORED BY THE ASSOCIATION OF THE UNITED STATES ARMY, SEE PAGE 15.





## 'Truckmasters' support Danger Focus

Story and photo by Sgt. Takita Lawery  
1ST INF. DIV. SUST. BDE.

Soldiers assigned to the 24th Composite Truck Company, Heavy and 526th Quartermaster Composite Supply Company, 541st Combat Sustainment Support Battalion, 1st Infantry Division Sustainment Brigade, conducted daily logistics package missions from May 1 through May 17 at Fort Riley.

The purpose was to resupply the 1st Armored Brigade Combat Team's Danger Focus training exercise. Danger Focus is a validation exercise in which the division ensures the brigade is prepared for deployment.

"The convoys gave the Soldiers valuable training and experience in a real-world situation," said Staff Sgt. Quincy Lawery, a squad leader from Montgomery, Alabama, assigned to 24th CTC.

The 24th CTC and 526th CSC worked equally to support the "Devil" brigade's exercise, and their Soldiers will train together soon at the National Training Center in Fort Irwin, California. Each company teams up every day of the week to transport necessities such as food, water, fuel and barrier materials to the Soldiers out in the field.

First Lt. Alexander Besancon, a platoon leader within the 24th CTC, had positive comments about working with a fellow company in the brigade during the high-profile exercise.

"We're learning from each other," she said. "We're learning about fuel and water while they're learning about transport and convoy operations."

During the NTC rotation, the "Truckmasters" company will be attached to 375th Combat Sustainment Support Battalion, a Reserve unit out of Mobile, Alabama, where its

Soldiers will be responsible for establishing a logistics support area and supporting the brigade with various classes of supply.

"I'm excited to go to NTC because I will get a feel of what to expect if I was to deploy," said Spc. Dwayne T. Powell, a motor transport operator from Fort Worth, Texas, assigned to 24th CTC.

While taking advantage of conducting tactical convoy operations in support of the Devil brigade's upcoming NTC rotation, 24th CTC Soldiers are also preparing themselves for their own field exercise. They conducted many training events, such as reacting to direct fire, vehicle recovery and reacting to improvised explosive devices.

"Supporting 1st ABCT and conducting tactical convoys gave the Soldiers and leaders a chance to gauge our proficiency and identify areas that need improvement so our field exercise will be a success," Lawery said.



**Spc. Ryan Gere, a motor transport operator assigned to the 24th Composite Truck Company, Heavy and 526th Quartermaster Composite Supply Company, 541st Combat Sustainment Support Battalion, 1st Infantry Division Sustainment Brigade, inspects his weapon system attached to a Humvee prior to rolling out on a tactical convoy mission May 11 at Fort Riley. Gere is one of many Soldiers participating in supporting the 1st Armored Brigade Combat Team, 1st Infantry Division's Danger Focus training exercise.**

## Veteran 'Quarterhorse' Soldier gets front row seat to training

Story and photo by Staff Sgt. Warren W. Wright Jr.  
1ST ABCT PUBLIC AFFAIRS

A veteran and honorary member of 1st Squadron, 4th Cavalry Regiment, 1st Armored Brigade Combat Team, 1st Infantry Division, spent the day touring training sites with key unit leaders during a May 10 visit to the Fort Riley training area.

Retired Maj. Bill Shae, who served as Troop A commander after returning from the Vietnam War in the early 70s, spent the day speaking with "Quarterhorse" Soldiers and reminiscing about his time in uniform.

"Bill's been great," said Lt. Col. Bradley Laauwe, the squadron's commander. "He's been a link to our living history, and he helps tie us back and gets us in touch with some of the older vets that are out there."

The visit took place, as the squadron's troopers were conducting operations for Danger Focus, a month-long training event designed to prepare the squadron and the rest of the brigade for their upcoming rotation to California's National Training Center at Fort Irwin later this summer.

Shae's first stop during his visit was with his counterpart, the current commander of Troop A, Capt. Michael Baker, where he talked about serving in Berlin in the 1960s and a two-month long exercise he conducted in the Mohave Desert — a comparison to the squadron's upcoming rotation at NTC.

Spending time with the squadron gave Shae the opportunity to reflect on how the Army operated when he was a Soldier, and how some things have changed and some things have stayed the same in comparison to today's Army.

"I think the biggest thing (that's changed) is simply the



**Retired Maj. Bill Shae, left, honorary member of the 4th Cavalry Regiment, speaks with Lt. Col. Bradley Laauwe, right, the commander of 1st Squadron, 4th Cav. Regt., 1st Armored Brigade Combat Team, 1st Infantry Division, during a visit to the squadron as its Soldiers conduct operations as a part of Danger Focus on May 10 at a Fort Riley training area. Shae, a native of Denver, was the commander of the squadron's Troop A as a captain during the early 1970s.**

technology," the Denver native said. "I don't think the doctrine has changed that much. When I listened to the (after action review), I thought that could have been me standing up there and one of our tank companies having gone through the training."

Shae also said he was impressed with the caliber of Soldier serving in today's Army.

"These guys and gals are here because they want to be, and they're committed to what they're doing and they're committed to the training and they're committed to the operations," Shae said. "I think we do a whole lot more today with a lot less than we had in my day because of the quality of the Soldiers that were here today."

Sgt. Daniel Chapin, a cavalry scout with the squadron, spent the day driving Shae from training site to training site and used that time to learn from Shae's experiences.

"It's good to hear the opinion of how it used to be from

somebody that's actually been there as opposed to reading about it in a book," Chapin said.

Chapin said he recognizes he "stands on the shoulders of giants."

"We have to go back and look at what qualities and traits these people had and how they were successful with the mountainous amounts of issues they had to deal with," he said.

At the end of his trip, Shae said he was impressed with how the "Big Red One" develops great leaders. And how the division has "made a concentrated effort to make sure leaders, from the division all the way down to the squad leader, know what they're job is; know how to do it well and that they are learning how to motivate others to be able to do their job."

"I don't care how well trained the individual Soldier is," he said. "If you don't have a chain of command that provides quality leadership, then things are not going to run well."

### DANGER FOCUS: FIRST THING IN THE MORNING



**Capt. Jason Randolph | 1ST BATTALION, 5TH FIELD ARTILLERY REGIMENT**  
Gun A15 of 2nd Platoon, Battery A, 1st Battalion, 5th Field Artillery Regiment, 1st Armored Brigade Combat Team, 1st Infantry Division, conducts a Time on Target mission early in the morning May 13 at Fort Riley in support of Operation Pine Ridge. Operation Pine Ridge is the external evaluation of the battalion by 1st Infantry Division Artillery to certify the "Hamilton's Own" battalion on Artillery Table 10, which further enables 1st ABCT with accurate, timely and lethal field artillery fires. Operation Pine Ridge is one of the many operations tied to the ongoing Operation Danger Focus throughout the month of May 2016.

# HOOAH!

send your vote home

Be Army strong on election day.

Go to [FVAP.gov](http://FVAP.gov) to learn more about absentee voting and request your ballot, or contact your Voting Assistance Officer for more information.







# Brian Coleman: a ‘Big Red One’ Soldier



THEN  
& NOW

By Phyllis Fitzgerald  
SPECIAL TO THE POST

Sgt. 1st Class Brian Coleman served in the Army from 1982 to 2003. Three of his tours were at Fort Riley and he is a Desert Storm veteran.

Coleman was originally from Chicago, Illinois, and he joined the Army there in 1982. He was sent to Fort McClellan, Alabama, for Army Basic Training and Advanced Individual Training. He received training in the military occupation specialty 54E/54B, as a nuclear, biological and chemical specialist.

He was assigned to Fort Hood, Texas, for a year and then Korea for a year prior to becoming a “Big Red One” Soldier. He was assigned to Headquarters and Headquarters Troop, 1st Squadron, 4th Cavalry Regiment, 1st Armored Brigade Combat Team, 1st Infantry Division, as an NBC specialist. This tour lasted four years.

Next, he went to Fulda, Germany, with the 511th Military Intelligence Company. After serving there for two years, he returned to Fort Riley.

This time Coleman was assigned to Company C, 3rd Battalion, 37th Armor Regiment, 2nd Armored Brigade Combat Team, 1st Inf. Div. He deployed with this unit to support Operation Desert Storm. After the unit got back from the deployment, it was redesignated as 1st Squadron, 13th Cavalry Regiment, 2nd ABCT, 1st Inf. Div.

He then went back to Korea for one year at Camp Eagle before returning for the third and final time to Fort Riley. This time he was assigned to the Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 1st Personnel Service Battalion, 1st Inf. Div., in the chemical shop. For his next assignment, Coleman



stayed at Fort Riley and went to HHC, 1st ABCT, 1st Inf. Div.

One memory that stuck with him from his time during Desert Storm happened during a Scud missile attack.

“We were at Kobar Towers and there was a Scud missile attack,” Coleman said. “After the attack, I had to go out and help place the chemical alarms out for any future attacks. The interesting thing that happened during the attack was that the local Saudis continued to cook outside.”

In 2003, he retired. Out of Coleman’s 21 years of service, 12 of those were at Fort Riley with the Big Red One.

Another memory he wanted to share happened not long after he retired.

“I was walking outside the in/out processing facility on Main Post when a Soldier drove by me, looked at me, turned his car around and came back to tell me he was one of my Soldiers from some time ago and to thank me,” Coleman said. “What this Soldier told me was I had corrected him early on in his career for not rendering the proper respect to the flag. He reminded me of what I had told him, ‘your flag never ran away from his enemy, and you should never run away from your flag.’ He

said those words had stuck with him his entire career.”

After retirement, he took a job with Homeland Security in Pine Bluff Arsenal in Arkansas. Coleman worked there three years but his family stayed in Junction City.

Coleman said Junction City is a great place to raise a family. They owned a home and his wife, Betty, stayed there with the kids as so they could graduate from Junction City High School with their friends.

He took a job with the garrison safety office and was able to return to Junction City in 2006. Coleman worked with the safety office for six years and then transferred to the resource management office and still works there.

He also works with the national Veteran’s Services and National Veterans of Foreign Wars, Washington D.C. Coleman assists Soldiers retiring or departing the service with their pre-discharge claims on Fort Riley co-located with the Soldier for Life Transition Assistance Program. He is the post commander for the Junction City VFW Post 8773.

*Editor’s Note: To submit your “Big Red One” story, email [fitzmiss@yahoo.com](mailto:fitzmiss@yahoo.com).*

*Editor’s Note: Last week’s “Big Red One” story incorrectly referred to Robert ‘Bob’ Rector using the name Brown in some references. We apologize for this error.*

HOUSE AD



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.

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

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: "Where can I find the Fort Riley Government Phone List / Phone Directory?"

Answer: go to [www.riley.army.mil/About-Us/Phone-Directory/](http://www.riley.army.mil/About-Us/Phone-Directory/).

This week's winner is Andrea Frazier, wife of Sgt. 1st Class Allen W. Frazier with Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 1st Armored Brigade Combat Team, 1st Infantry Division.

CONGRATULATIONS, ANDREA!

Irwin Army Community Hospital provider named Army's best

By Tywana Sparks  
IACH PAO

An Irwin Army Community Hospital provider was selected as the Army's top occupational therapist among company-grade officers.

Capt. Katie Odom, officer-in-charge of the Occupational Therapy Clinic and deputy chief of the Warrior and Family Recovery Center, is the 2015 Army Medical Service Corps Award of Excellence recipient.

The award provides personal recognition to outstanding junior AMSC officers and warrant officers who make significant contributions to the Army Medical Department mission and performed in an exceptional manner. Since the program's initiation in 1982, the AMSC chief has presented the award in various categories to recognize

outstanding young officers and to encourage their future contributions to the corps.

Odom, a native of Texas, was humbled after receiving notification of her award selection.

"There are many occupational therapists throughout the Army who are well deserving of this award," Odom said. "Being selected was exciting and definitely an honor. Several of my leaders and mentors were winners of this award which made it more exciting."

According to her leaders, Odom has not only served Fort Riley beneficiaries, but also has extended her influence and leadership throughout the Army.

Odom serves as a member on the AMSC research committee at the recommendation of the Occupational Therapy Consultant to the Office of the Surgeon General.

"In this role she is collaborating to reassess the Army-wide AMSC lines of research and develop the AMSC Junior Researcher Mentorship program," said IACH's chief of orthopedic surgery, Maj. Jason Dutton. "She also published a manuscript 'Combating the Suicide Epidemic' in a peer reviewed journal in January, enhancing the breadth of knowledge in her field and representing Army Medicine internationally."

On Fort Riley, Odom's influence also extends outside the walls of the hospital, Dutton explained.

"She was hand selected to serve as the IACH and the 1st Infantry Division subject matter expert for the Performance Triad Pilot Study. She also collaborated with the Office of the Surgeon General P3 Performance Triad cell in this role and directly trained more than 150 military leaders on fitness and preventative

measures, impacting more than 3,000 1st ID (1st Infantry Division) Soldiers," Dutton said.

Dutton also described Odom as a superb leader who continually seeks learning opportunities to increase her knowledge level.

Despite all the attention Odom received, she remains humble, looks forward to opportunities to excel and is proud to serve the military community.

"I look forward to new experiences during my next assignment as the U.S. Army Institute of Surgical Research Burn Center rehabilitation chief," she said. "I also hope to get published to solidify what we do as OT professionals and gain support and funding for my profession. I love what I do and who I serve. The patient population in the military is the best patient population you can serve in the world."



Jorge Gomez | IACH PAO

Occupational Therapist Capt. Katie Odom is the recipient of the 2015 Army Medical Specialist Service Corps Award of Excellence.

New urgent care pilot program scheduled to begin soon for TRICARE Prime beneficiaries

TRICARE

The Department of Defense is launching an Urgent Care Pilot Program for TRICARE Prime beneficiaries in an effort to increase access to care. The program allows Prime enrollees two visits to a network or TRICARE authorized provider without a referral or prior authorization.

The Urgent Care Pilot Program, scheduled to begin spring 2016, 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

- Active duty service members 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. This 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 seeking care while traveling stateside.

There are no point of service deductibles or cost shares for

these two urgent care visits, but network copayments still apply.

Once patients receive urgent care, they must notify their primary care managers about that care 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.

Those unsure about the type of care needed, or those who require care outside of standard business hours, should call the Nurse Advice Line. If the nurse recommends an urgent care visit and a referral is submitted, that

visit will not count against your two pre-authorized visits allowed under the Urgent Care Pilot.

However, if a patient calls the NAL and receives a referral to a military hospital or clinic, then goes elsewhere for care, that visit will count against your two preauthorized visits.

For more information, visit the Urgent Care Pilot Program web page on the TRICARE website.

SUICIDE PREVENTION

THE POWER OF 1



RILEY ROUNDTABLE

What are your plans for summer break?



"I'll be taking my child to college orientation at Ohio State, and we'll be going on a family vacation to Orlando to Harry Potter World."

SUSAN MARSHALL  
MANHATTAN, KANSAS

6th grade teacher at Fort Riley Middle School



"We're sending our son back to school and we'll be going to a family reunion."

MELANIE AIONO  
SAN DIEGO, CALIFORNIA

6th grade teacher at Fort Riley Middle School



"I'll be going to horse shows and following my kids to horse shows. I'm also planning my daughter's wedding."

TINA NELSON  
JUNCTION CITY, KANSAS

6th grade teacher at Fort Riley Middle School



"I'm going to the Advancement Via Individual Determination conference and to Los Angeles for the Navy Reserve."

JASON LUBBROSE  
ST. GEORGE, KANSAS

Counselor at Fort Riley Middle School



"I'm teaching summer school and going to Colorado for a family reunion. I'm also going to be in three weddings in August."

CASSIE PERA  
MANHATTAN, KANSAS

6th grade teacher at Fort Riley Middle School

FROM THE COMMANDING GENERAL

Summer transitions can bring added stress



Maj. Gen.  
Wayne W. Grigsby Jr.

The men and women who serve in the United States Army represent the strength of our nation. They are our blood and treasure and it is our obligation as leaders to care for and protect them. The families who stand behind the service members who protect our nation's assets at home and abroad are our own beloved families.

As we approach the summer, we also approach a pivotal time for many Army families. July marks a time of transition for many service members. Transitions can be wrought with seams and stressors, and the impact of transition on the resilience of service members and families is evident in the historical trends of suicide across the Army in July. Fort Riley aligns similarly to big Army trends during summer months.

Also evident during this vulnerable time is the great support of the Army community and "Big Red One" family through the myriad of Fort Riley garrison

programs and resources that work in unison to combat the stress of these changes in Soldiers, spouses, children and families. Under the best circumstances, moving and change are stressful, and talking to someone about the stress your family is facing can be cathartic.

Consultants from the Military and Family Life Counseling Program augment existing military behavioral health programs to support service members and families

who are struggling, and can assist families with issues they may face throughout the cycles of deployments and permanent change of station moves. Moving your home and family is never easy and there are inevitable bumps in the road along the way. Army Community Services' Relocation Program assists families with getting in touch with the right person at the right time for the numerous problems transitioning families may face.

Moving can be a financially unstable time for many Soldiers and families. In the Fort Riley region, Army Community Services' Army Emergency Relief is also available for an extenuating financial crisis and the Red Cross is available across this great nation. Financial stress may increase when a spouse is forced to move from a job. Army Community Services' Employment Readiness Program is the connection to jobs for spouses, assisting with resumes and job searches.

Beyond the programs and resources available, we have leaders and communities, both inside and outside the gate, who embrace our Soldiers and families like their own – that is what a resilient community is about. Resilience is the capacity to recover quickly from difficulties – the ability to spring back. It is not the absence of difficulties.

In this upcoming period of transition, it is imperative we do not lose sight of the difficulties many of our Soldiers and families will face. It is even more important we do what we can, where we can, every day to improve our abilities, our family's abilities and our community's abilities to withstand and recover from the ever-changing Army family environment.

Duty First!

Wayne W. Grigsby Jr.,  
Maj. Gen., USA  
1st Infantry Division  
and Fort Riley commanding general

Keep safety at the forefront on, off duty

As we begin the countdown to Memorial Day and the traditional start of summer, I encourage leaders, Soldiers and Army civilians at all levels to keep safety at the forefront of every activity, both on and off duty. This is historically the deadliest time of year for Army accidents, we must all do our part to keep one another safe.

Last fiscal year, 37 Soldiers died and another 17 suffered life-altering injuries in off-duty mishaps between Memorial Day and the first day of fall in late September. Of those fatalities, 30 involved driving or riding: 15 on motorcycles and 15 in



Assistant Secretary of the Army  
Katherine Hammack

four-wheeled vehicles, with drownings and accidental discharges of privately owned weapons rounding out the total. A quick review of the re-

ports reflects that a majority of these accidents were due to a momentary indiscretion in decision-making and, therefore, wholly preventable. I know we can and will do better this summer.

To stay a ready Army, we must be a safe Army — every day is critical in our fight against risk. I ask that you use the upcoming summer holidays and National Safety Month, observed during June, to enhance and refocus your risk management efforts for the months ahead. More information on both seasonal safety and National Safety Month is available from the U.S. Army Combat

Readiness Center at safety.army.mil.

Whether you're a leader, Soldier or civilian employee, safety isn't just important, it's personal. Think ahead. Build good decisions into your plans to live another day and enjoy all the fun summer has to offer. Thank you for the incredible job you do every day for our Army and our Nation. I look forward to working with you well into the future.

Army Safe is Army Strong!

Hon. Katherine Hammack  
Assistant Secretary of the Army, Installations, Energy & Environment



SECRETARY OF THE ARMY  
WASHINGTON

06 MAY 2016

MEMORANDUM FOR SEE DISTRIBUTION

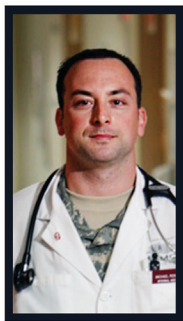
SUBJECT: Army Directive 2016-20 (Authorization to Use Headphones in Uniform)

1. Reference Army Regulation (AR) 670-1 (Wear and Appearance of Army Uniforms and Insignia), 10 April 2015.
2. Effective immediately, unless the unit or installation commander prohibits otherwise, Soldiers may use headphones, including wireless or non-wireless devices and earpieces, in uniform only while performing individual physical training in indoor gyms or fitness centers. Soldiers may not wear headphones beyond the permitted area in any manner, including around the neck or attached to the uniform. Headphones will be conservative and discreet. Ear pads will not exceed 1-1/2 inches in diameter at the widest point. Soldiers may wear electronic devices, such as music players or cell phones, as prescribed in AR 670-1, paragraph 3-6a(2)(b). They may also wear a solid black armband for electronic devices in the gym or fitness center. Soldiers may not wear the armband beyond the permitted area.
3. These provisions are punitive with regard to Soldiers. Violation by Soldiers may result in adverse administrative action and/or charges under the provisions of the Uniform Code of Military Justice.
4. This directive applies to the Active Army, Army National Guard/Army National Guard of the United States, and U.S. Army Reserve.
5. The Deputy Chief of Staff, G-1 is the proponent for this policy and will ensure its incorporation into AR 670-1 as soon as practicable.
6. This directive is rescinded upon publication of the updated AR 670-1.

Patrick J. Murphy  
Acting

Irwin Army Community Hospital

Missed appointments  
are missed opportunities for others.



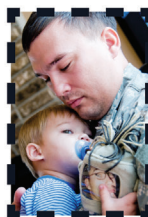
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NO-SHOW PATIENT



WOULD BE PATIENT



WOULD BE PATIENT



WOULD BE PATIENT

THE 1ST INFANTRY DIVISION POST

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Circulation 8,800 copies each week.

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

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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, May 18, 80 days have passed since the last vehicular fatality at Fort Riley. Thirty-one more and the post will celebrate with a safety holiday to take place at each unit's discretion.

The next USAG  
Resilience Day  
Off is

MAY  
27



# Fire back: Burn survivor shares his road to recovery

By Maria Childs  
1ST INF. DIV. POST

After several months of recovery in a burn center, Jared Estes' only goal was to visit the grave of his 23-year-old wife, Paige, to let all his anger out during that visit.

In March 2005, Estes was involved in a car accident caused by a three-time DUI offender in Wichita, Kansas. The accident took the life of his wife after only six months of marriage. Now, Estes travels around the country to share his story about overcoming tragedy and loss.

Estes visited Fort Riley May 12 and 13 to speak about what he learned through his journey.

"When we were getting ready to go (to the grave) I was so excited because this had been my goal for so long and I had been using it to push myself,"

Estes said. "When I was using it to push myself, I always had this picture of what it would look like. In it, I saw myself kneeling down by Paige's grave and sometimes I had my hands on the ground or grabbing piles of dirt and slamming them on the ground, screaming or crying, and throwing the fit I felt like Paige deserved from me."

When he got to the cemetery the first thing he realized is that he did not have the strength or balance to kneel, so he sat in a lawn chair instead. He recalled thinking about the promise he made to himself to do this and how it made him feel when he was not able to keep the promise he made to himself.

"I started to think about how it was my goal to get to that cemetery and I didn't have a goal after that," Estes said. "Then, I started to wallow. I started thinking

about how much better off my friends and family would be if I died and what a burden I must be for them ... from there, I looked at my future and I didn't see anything good. I just saw more surgeries and court dates and people not treating me like myself."

All at once, he came to the decision that he was giving up. Estes began contemplating suicide. While he was sitting there making this decision, Paige's mother showed up. Paige's siblings were in the car and wanted to see Jared. They got out and headed toward him.

"It was almost like (Paige) stepped out of that car," Estes recalled. "For some reason that led me to think about what if it was them in this accident and not me, what would I want for them? And how it would be for them to come back from this and to be strong again — I would give or sacrifice anything to help them get back. Then I thought what if Paige and I's roles were switched and I was gone watching her give up like I was in that cemetery. It just hit me how selfish my line of thought was before that. In life, nothing is about you and when you try to make it about you that's the feeling you have inside."

Estes' story is one about resiliency. Despite enduring an incredible loss and more than 50 surgeries for his life-threatening injuries after the accident, he was able to get back up and find reasons to continue living.

"I believe we can be masters of our circumstances," Estes said. "We can take those difficult things that should have held us down, that should have pushed us back, that should have beat us and use those things to help propel us into the future and use it to help the people around us too."

Civilian employees of the United States Army Garrison Fort Riley were given credit



COURTESY PHOTO

**Soldiers of the 1st Combat Aviation Brigade, 1st Infantry Division, listen May 12 to Jared Estes, a motivational speaker from Wichita, Kansas, share his story about being involved in a car accident that took the life of his wife, Paige. Paige was killed in a car accident nearly 11 years ago by a drunk driver, who hit the car going more than 100 mph.**



Maria Childs | POST

**Jared Estes, a motivational speaker from Wichita, Kansas, shares the story of his wife, Paige, May 13 at Barlow Theater. Paige was killed in a car accident nearly 11 years ago by a drunk driver, who hit the car going more than 100 mph.**

# Rifle Range Road construction project continues

By Maria Childs  
1ST INF. DIV. POST

The final phase of the construction on Rifle Range Road in the Colyer Forsyth neighborhood will begin May 31, following the closure of Seitz and Fort Riley Elementary Schools for summer break. Because there are two elementary schools and the housing area close together, it leads to traffic congestion and this project is designed to help with the traffic flow.

David Scruggs, chief of the engineering division of the Directorate of Public Works, said the first phase of the construction project on Rifle Range Road began in August 2015. Detours have not begun yet and right now, residents can drive down the road, but that will change.

"We don't have the final layer of asphalt on it yet, so we're going to do that all at one time so we get one nice smooth road," Scruggs said. "It's still drivable but it is not the final product."

The whole project consists of widening the road to accommodate a center turning lane the entire length of the project and adding additional right turn lanes for eastbound traffic, west of the Seitz Elementary School bus and drop off entrance and westbound, at the first two drives to the new Fort Riley Elementary School. The project also installs storm drainage as well as curb and gutters for the entire length of the project.

Beginning May 31, three drainage structures will be installed. Local traffic will need

to detour by using Lookout Drive to Black Kettle Drive to Roustabout Road. During the installation of the drainage structures access to Seitz Elementary and the drop-off and bus lane will be limited or restricted. That is why these structures are to be installed during extended school breaks if weather allows. The detour for local traffic during the installation of another two drainage structures will use Macon Street to Lookout Drive. These detours will only be in place for the duration of the actual construction and not the entire phased construction period

"The plan is to be done by Aug. 12, which is the Friday before school starts," Scruggs said. "I think it is very realistic unless we have some really bad weather."

Scruggs said he encourages those passing through the areas to slow down, follow the speed limit and pay attention to the detour signs.

"The detour puts more traffic on those roads," Scruggs said. "Once we get it done, it will be well worth the inconvenience."


Bayer Construction from Manhattan, Kansas, is the contracted company doing the construction project. Scruggs said workers were proactive in getting ahead when the weather warmed up early.

"They've got a month jump on that with the good weather," Scruggs said. "The contractors took advantage of some good weather in the spring and were able to do some good work because it warmed up early enough."




COURTESY PHOTO

**Construction on Rifle Range Road in the Colyer Forsyth neighborhood consists of widening the road to accommodate a center turning lane the entire length of the project and adding additional turn lanes into Seitz Elementary and Fort Riley Elementary Schools. The contracted company, Bayer Construction out of Manhattan, Kansas, is beginning the final phase of the construction May 31.**



Fort Riley Recycles  
Camp Funston, BLDG 1980  
239-2094

### 2016 HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE Collection Event Schedule




PUBLIC WORKS  
Fort Riley, Kansas

Date	Day	Location
April 21, 2016	Friday	Fort Riley Post Exchange, 2210 Trooper Drive "EARTH DAY"
May 16, 2016	Monday	Corvias Leasing / Relocation Center- 2460 A G street
June 4, 2016	Saturday	Warner Peterson Community Center, 5570 A.P. Hill Drive
June 11, 2016	Saturday	McClellan Place Community Center, 6728 McClellan Loop
June 18, 2016	Saturday	Colyer Forsyth Community Center, 22900 Hitching Post Road
June 25, 2016	Saturday	Ellis Heights Community Center, 44647 Lee Street
July 9, 2016	Saturday	Morris Hill Elementary School, 4400 1st Division Road
August 13, 2016	Saturday	Fort Riley Junior High School, 4022 1st Division Road
September 17, 2016	Saturday	Child Development Center, 6620 Apennines Drive
October 15, 2016	Saturday	Sacco Softball Complex, 3220 McCormick Road
November 19, 2016	Saturday	Fort Riley Fire Station #1, 5000 Normandy Drive
December 3, 2016	Saturday	Rally Point (BINGO Hall), 2600 Trooper Drive

**All Events 0800-1500**

**Date, time, and location are subject to change.**

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# Soldiers, University of Kansas partner for ‘cyberdefense’ competition

1ST INF. DIV. STAFF REPORTS

LAWRENCE, Kan. — The University of Kansas School of Engineering hosted a cybersecurity competition April 30 to May 1 to pit Jayhawk engineering students and 1st Infantry Division Soldiers against a group of professional hackers.

The competition consisted of three teams: one of only 1st Inf. Div. Soldiers and two a mix of Soldiers and students from KU’s “cyberdefense” team, the JayHackers. Each team was given virtual systems to fortify and maintain before professional hackers attempted to break into them.

The KU-hosted Cyber Blitz is a phenomenal opportunity to partner with academia and practice our technical skills to defend our networks,” said Lt. Col. Charles Smith, the 1st Inf. Div.’s chief information officer.

The event blended partnership, training and education with the university to enhance the technical skills to operate in the contested cyber environment, he said.

On day one of the competition, Soldiers and students received lectures and briefings in the morning and spent the afternoon checking their systems and making them secure as possible. A group of professional hackers arrived May 1 to try to break into the systems.

“We give the teams systems with vulnerabilities,”



COURTESY PHOTO

**Soldiers of the 1st Infantry Division partner with University of Kansas School of Engineering students during a cybersecurity competition May 1 at the university in Lawrence, Kansas. Students and Soldiers teamed to “fight off” a group of professional hackers attempting to breach their virtual systems.**

said Bo Luo, associate professor of electrical engineering and computer science and adviser to the Jayhacker team. “They may contain Trojan horses or backdoor accounts. However, we don’t give the professional hackers any prior knowledge of the systems, so they will have to scan the systems to find vulnerabilities to penetrate.”

The JayHackers team is a group of students interested in cybersecurity. It allows students to apply their skills outside of the classroom in national competitions. In October 2014, the team placed first in the inaugural Central Area Networking and Security Workshop at KU.

This competition was an outreach event as part of a \$4.7 million, five-year grant from the National Science Foundation to KU to educate cyberdefense experts dedicated to public service.

The initiative, called “CyberCorps: New Scholarship for Service Program at the University of Kansas — Jayhawk SFS,” supports dozens of undergraduate, master’s and doctoral students, who following graduation commit to work at government cybersecurity jobs safeguarding critical infrastructure.

The event was also part of a larger engagement plan supporting the Army’s Soldier for Life program with KU’s Scholarship for Service program, Smith said.

## RIISING TO THE TOP



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

Maj. Gen. Wayne W. Grigsby Jr., far right, 1st Infantry Division and Fort Riley commanding general, and Command Sgt. Maj. Joseph Cornelison, far left, the division's senior noncommissioned officer, attach a streamer to the guidon of Troop D, 1st Squadron, 6th Cavalry Regiment, 1st Combat Aviation Brigade, 1st Inf. Div., for the 2nd quarter best company, troop or battery competition as 1st Sgt. Vincent Farrell and Capt. Wesley Cogdal, command team for Troop D, present the troop guidon. The quarterly competition is an administrative competition that tallies cumulative scores across companies in the division and Fort Riley in areas ranging from the Army physical fitness test to weapons qualifications and includes scores for areas such as medical readiness and other administrative milestones.

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# Commanding general welcomes new officers into nation’s military

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

MANHATTAN Kan. — The commanding general of the 1st Infantry Division and Fort Riley played a key role in the careers of 21 new Army and Air Force officers May 13, administering the oath of office to cadets of the Kansas State University Reserve Officers’ Training Corps during their commissioning ceremony in K-State’s Forum Hall.

“It’s incredible,” said Maj. Gen. Wayne W. Grigsby Jr. of the partnership between the installation and the university. “Fort Riley and K-State is truly a leadership factory, and every day we build leaders.”

Grigsby charged the new second lieutenants to do great things for the nation and to do right by their fellow Soldiers and Airmen.

The commanding general is himself a graduate of the Salisbury University ROTC program, commissioning as a second lieutenant on May 26, 1984.

“This brought back all my memories, of my family getting up there,” he said. “To see families up there supporting these less-than-one-percent, it just does my heart good. Our country is in great hands with these young leaders. We have nothing to worry about.”

Grigsby said there were three things the new officers needed to remember — be great leaders, be experts in what they do and be great teammates.

“If they follow those three simple things throughout their career, they will continue to serve and do great things for our country,” he said.

In addition to preparing for military careers, the cadets have also had to maintain the rigors of college life.

“Over the past two to four years ... these cadets have worked hard to find the time to write papers, do their engineering projects and all of the other requirements Kansas State has thrown at them while trying to balance their requirements to do physical training at 6 a.m., conduct synchronized meetings at least once a week, complete a military lab to better develop themselves as leaders and other tasks the Army and Air Force ROTC programs have required for them to grow as future officers,” said Lt. Col. Ryan M. Miedema, professor of military science for K-State. “They have all had their individual trials and tribulations, which have taught every one of them something different.”

Miedema thanked the many parents in the audience, saying that without them, the cadets would not be where they are today.



Maj. Gen. Wayne W. Grigsby Jr., 1st Infantry Division and Fort Riley commanding general, administers the oath of office to members of the Kansas State University Reserve Officers' Training Corps May 13 during their commissioning ceremony in K-State's Forum Hall. The 21 second lieutenants will go on to serve in units throughout the Army and Air Force.

## ROCKETS Continued from page 1

more we can work together just makes it a much better, ready Army.”

This Total Army Concept has trickled down to affect Soldiers’ everyday training opportunities.

On May 14, that meant three of the 1st Bn., 5th FA Regt.’s batteries were firing cannons on Fort Riley as a platoon HIMARS crews were nearby sending their rockets downrange.

“So what we’ll see is a combined shoot that will allow them to fire on the same target at the same time,” said Col. Thomas Bolen, DIVARTY commander. “So really when we talk about massing fires, that is a true massing of fires. Not only the full weight of 1-5’s cannon units, but the HIMARS on top of it. ”

The DIVARTY master gunner sees the pluses of the combined training at his level, saying it “benefits DIVARTY just because DIVARTY is everything that’s field artillery, and being able to work with not only canon units, but canon units, rocket units, anything that is part of the field artillery community,” Sgt. 1st Class Jeffrey Depasquale said.

“It adds capabilities to the division, to the brigade to shoot at different levels and to be able to hit the deep fight of battlefield in what canon systems can’t hit,” he said of getting to work with HIMARS crews again.

It is the job of the DIVARTY’s men and women not only to help coordinate and oversee training and qualifications for the Big Red One’s artillery units, but also that of partner units like the 130th FA Bde.

Bolen and Col. John Rueger, 130th FA Bde. commander, started work on a combined training event eight months ago when both were new to their positions.

“And we got a chance to start working together and start planning from the training perspective on what events we’d like to try and work toward over the next 12 to 18 months,” Rueger said, “and this is a long road to where we are now and we’re seeing it come to fruition.”

The 130th FA Bde. is based out of Manhattan, Kansas, and has several battalions headquartered throughout north-east Kansas. Tafarielli said ge-

ography makes the partnership between the brigade and division even more special.

Regardless of the high-level concepts, each participating unit was getting the opportunity to prepare its Soldiers for missions they could conduct in a deployed environment. The live fire allowed Rueger’s crew to train like they would in combat, he said.

“We don’t get to do this very often in the HIMARS battalion,” Rueger said, “so it’s another opportunity for us to do that and also to be able to integrate into other organizations or other components as we would if we actually went to war. So it’s a great opportunity for us to exercise all aspects of that.”

The brigade typically gets to fire its HIMARS once a year, but Rueger expected that to change with the new partnership with the 1st Inf. Div. and DIVARTY.

Bolen said it was an exciting day.

“We’ve had a really good time not only looking forward to the execution, but just building the relationship with the 130th and the Kansas Guard over the last few months as we’ve planned this,” Bolen said.

The biggest pro for the National Guard Soldiers is getting out to shoot live rounds and seeing other units training, said Capt. Michael Sprigg of the 2nd Bn., 130th FA Bde.

“There’s always a lot of takeaways from that, so that’s the biggest benefit that we just have additional time to get out here in the field and train and do something that we haven’t done before,” Sprigg said.

Units of the 130th FA Bde. will be back at Fort Riley this summer for their annual training rotation where the brigade headquarters will set up a tactical operations center in a field environment. It will allow the brigade and its battalions to “connect up all of our systems and function and train as an entire brigade together,” Rueger said.

After talking with a HIMARS crew waiting to fire at the range last week, Depasquale put the partnership and opportunities they created into perspective: “We’re training today, but we might be fighting tomorrow overseas.”



Amanda Kim Stairrett  
1ST INF. DIV.  
**Sgt. 1st Class Jeffrey Depasquale, left, 1st Infantry Division Artillery master gunner, talks with Sgt. Josh Marshall and Staff Sgt. Steven Levins of Battery B, 2nd Battalion, 130th Field Artillery Brigade, Kansas Army National Guard, May 14 at a Fort Riley training area. Crews from the 2nd Bn., 130th FA Bde., were at Fort Riley to conduct their monthly training, and fired their high mobility artillery rocket systems.**



# Fort Riley Army hotel staff is on point with customer service

By Maria Childs  
1ST INF. DIV. POST

Setting goals is an important key to achieving success. The staff at Intercontinental Hotels Group Army Hotels knows that and sets a winning metric for guest satisfaction throughout the entire portfolio of 41 installations. Each location has a different threshold for success set by the management in each location. The process is designed to meet an achievable goal, but the bar can be raised for continuous improvement.

“At IHG Army Hotels on Fort Riley, we take that goal — and lift the bar even higher,” said Paul Oltmanns, manager of the hotel at Fort Riley. “The numbers don’t mean as much as the continuous improvement. Year to date, our hotel is exceeding not only the goal set

by IHG Army Hotels, but also our local standards set in 2015. Additionally, the Fort Riley team has set an even higher goal for 2016 and we are striving to achieve that.”

In 2015, the hotel had a satisfaction score of 4.78 out of 5. According to Oltmanns, the score is on track to be close to the same this year.

He said it has always been a priority for his team to improve their overall satisfaction, but a rise began in March 2014. By October 2014, the hotel staff took ownership of and made sure, they did everything they could to keep guest satisfaction at the highest level possible.

“Our team understands ownership and empowerment,” Oltmanns said. “Each team member knows that they make a difference. We meet daily, weekly and monthly. If a team member feels they can

change something for the better, they take action. A guest should never have to wait for great service, so each of our team members work decisively and progressively to produce results.”

Oltmanns said he strives to hire team members who understand the military culture and train team members who may not know about the culture.

“Our team is what makes us unique,” Oltmanns said. “We take pride in serving the service members and their families here at Fort Riley. More than 75 percent of our team is military attached and really understand our guests’ needs. Each team member understands that their responsibility is to make the guests’ stay the best possible. Each member of our team treats every guest as if they are a guest in their own home.”

# Online tool helps Soldiers achieve goals

By Hannah Kleopfer  
1ST INF. DIV. POST

Using the Army Career Tracker helps a Soldier make sure they are achieving the career progress they want reach in the Army.

“It’s an online tool, and it helps Soldiers and leaders with any kind of goal they have for professional and personal development,” said Sgt. 1st Class Jason Snell, transition liaison, 1st Infantry Division. “It helps them manage subordinates, leaders or mentors. It can help them keep up with educational goals.”

Every Soldier is required to fill out their Individual Development Plan using the ACT.

“For new Soldiers at their first duty station, it is required for them to fill out their IDP in the first 180 days,” Snell said. “And for Soldiers who PCS, it is required for them to update theirs in the first 30 days at a new station. That development

plan then becomes the transition plan for that Soldier.”

Sponsors are able to see what Soldiers are doing and where they want to go through the IDP and ACT, and are able to find an idea of where to place them at their new duty station before even speaking with them.

The ACT tracks development for the Soldier, which includes timelines to guide them on when they intend to start and complete goals they have established. Leaders are able to see what subordinates are doing, and subordinates are able to manage their mentors and reach out to them.

“Leaders are then able to go in and see what goals are or are not being met,” Snell said. “It’s something that leaders can integrate with counseling.”

This also ties in with the Soldier for Life program.

“Fort Riley is very unique with their program,” said Maj. Hans Lokodi, transition liaison, 1st Inf. Div. “We work

with K-State on academic research to shape the program ... on ways to enhance transition. We’re also working with the community to build employment events, career skills programs and credentialing and educational opportunities for them to use throughout their career. We’re pushing ahead here by using the Army Career Tracker and sponsorship. We’re also unique in that our positions don’t exist at other installations. Other places don’t have green suiters working in this position.”

According to Snell, Fort Riley is in the lead with the transition program as they follow and maintain compliances of congressional requirements, as well as implementing policies from Maj. Gen. Wayne W. Grigsby Jr., commanding general of the 1st Inf. Div. and Fort Riley.

For more information, contact the Big Red One Transition Program office at 785-239-0245.

# Voting assistance teaches Soldiers about process

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

Voting assistance officers gathered for a workshop at Barlow Theater May 10 to learn how to help the Soldiers in their unit with the voting process.

“What you’re doing is very important,” said Lt. Col. Scott Allen, deputy chief of staff, 1st Infantry Division.

Kathleen Jones of the Federal Voting Assistance Program came to lead the training for voting assistance officers. Her three main objectives were informing on the absentee voting laws, educating on the responsibilities of the officers and teaching them how to navigate fvap.gov.

“There is a myth that the absentee ballot doesn’t count in the election,” Jones said.

Jones informed the voting assistant officers on how to provide Soldiers the ballot at Fort Riley or abroad. Soldiers who are not located near where they are registered to vote can still exercise the right to have a voice in the election process. Soldiers stationed in a different state or country from where they are registered, may use the Federal Post Card Application or the Federal Write-In Absentee Ballot.

Voting assistance officers were educated on the laws of their position and the responsi-



**Kathleen Jones of the Federal Voting Assistance Program explains the absentee voting ballot to voting assistance officers during a training session at Barlow Theater May 10.**

bilities of promoting ways to vote to their units.

Rebecca Bossemeyer, Geary County clerk, spoke to the voting assistance officers during their training workshop to explain how things worked at her office when FPCAs or FWAPs come in.

“The earlier they can do this (return the FPCA or FWAP), the better,” Bossemeyer said.

For more information on voting or registering to vote, contact a voting assistance officer or go to fvap.gov.

# Operation Victory Kids designed to protect children from speeding drivers on post

CORVIAS MILITARY LIVING

Corvias Military Living has developed the “Victory Kids” pilot program to help remind drivers of the presence of small children in the residential areas. The move came in light of concerns in recent months on the part of residents of Hampton Place north of Jackson Road about drivers speeding through the neighborhood.

Those concerns were addressed through a partnership between Corvias, the Directorate of Emergency Services, the Fort Riley Army Garrison and area residents.

Corvias will distribute “Kidalert!” signs to resi-

dents of Hampton Place, which are three-dimensional, neon, plastic kid-shaped signs designed tell drivers of the presence of youngsters.

Residents may keep these signs on loan to place along the curb edge when children are at play. The purpose of these signs is to remind drivers of the children living and playing there and prompt them to slow down.

It is the hope of Corvias officials and garrison authorities that the program will make drivers and residents mindful that children are always present in post neighborhoods, and may not be aware of traffic dangers.

The program is also intended to help DES law

enforcement since police officers cannot be everywhere at once.

Residents in other portions of on-post housing are asked to notify DES and their community office if there are other areas where speeding is a problem.

Residents wishing to purchase “Kidalert!” signs may do so at [www.step2.com/p/kidalert-v-w-s?clid=COSi8cCGm8wCFQU](http://www.step2.com/p/kidalert-v-w-s?clid=COSi8cCGm8wCFQU) MaQodVHIGvw. They are \$30 each.

Corvias staff thanks residents across the post for their help in keeping children safe. Those with questions may contact their community office.

WWW.1DIVPOST.COM







## IN BRIEF

### TRAFFIC UPDATES

For traffic updates, see the Traffic Report on page 4 or visit [www.riley.army.mil](http://www.riley.army.mil) and click on "Advisories."

### INSTALLATION SAFETY FAIR/SAFETY STAND-DOWN DAY

Garrison staff will hold the event at Riley Conference Center June 16 from 8:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. It will include several activities including a demonstration of kitchen fire awareness, fire extinguisher and the Danger of Power Take Off mannequin demonstration and others.

### SOLDIER FOR LIFE TRANSITION ASSISTANCE PROGRAM EVENTS

May 24, 9 to 11 a.m., Caterpillar Facility Tour in Wamego, Kansas. Available will be opportunities for quality control tech, welding, and accounting. Those attending will meet 8:30 a.m. outside bldg. 212, Custer Ave. RSVP to [hans.j.Lokodi.mil@mail.mil](mailto:hans.j.Lokodi.mil@mail.mil).

May 27, 8:30 a.m., Agricultural Orientation Day, Prairie Lavender Farm, K-State Drone Lab. Event takes place at Soldier and Family Assistance Center, 674 Warrior Road

May 27, 8 a.m., Kansas State University Tour, Manhattan Campus. Those attending will meet at the Fort Riley Welcome Center outside Henry Gate. The tour will return 3 p.m. , RSVP to Dominic Barnes at 785-313-7820 or [dombarnes@ksu.edu](mailto:dombarnes@ksu.edu).

### 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.

### CENTRAL ISSUE FACILITY CLOSING FOR INVENTORY

The Central Issue Facility will close at noon, May 25 for inventory. It will reopen 7:30 a.m., May 31.

### 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 Fort Riley volunteers will deliver a cupcake to Soldiers during the month of their birthday. See USO Fort Riley Facebook page to sign up.

### DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY RESIDENT SATISFACTION SURVEY

The survey was sent to all Soldiers residing on post May 5 and will run through June 6. Fort Riley is looking to have the largest survey completion in the Army. The information from these surveys will help gauge the satisfaction of projects and identify areas of improvement. Residents who complete the survey have an opportunity to win a \$250 weekly prize and a grand prize of \$1,500.

### 2016 LAW ENFORCEMENT TORCH RUN

Soldiers from the 97th MP and staff with the Directorate of Emergency Services will participate in the torch run to support the Kansas Special Olympics on June 2. On post the run will take place from Ogden Gate along Huebner Road to Grant Gate from noon to 1:30 p.m. At the end of the run there will be a ceremony and presentation of the donation check.



## Sweet partnership benefits service members

### Girl Scouts, USO Fort Riley deliver more than 30,000 packages of cookies

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

The Girl Scouts of Northeast Kansas and Northwest Missouri shared a sweet treat with the Soldiers of Kansas, and it comes in a variety of flavors. About 30,000 packages of Girl Scout cookies were delivered to the USO Fort Riley following cookie season this year.

"With three military bases in our council's footprint (Fort Riley, Fort Leavenworth and McConnell Air Force Base) partnering with the USO Fort Riley was a no-brainer," said Julie Bode,

manager of product sales, Girl Scouts of Northeast Kansas and Northwest Missouri. "We wanted to choose an organization that would mean a lot to our girls and our customers."

Jill Iwen, director of the USO Fort Riley, said the program allows the community to support service men and women. The USO Fort Riley staff and volunteers use this donation to support service members deploying downrange and to welcome troops home. They also use it to give a pick-me-up to troops working guard and 24-hour duty, the local chaplain and Family Readiness Group partners. They reach out to both the Airmen of McConnell Air Force Base, the service men and women of Fort Leavenworth as well as the many Kansas National Guard and Reserve components throughout the state.

"Every time a package of cookies is purchased, customers are not only helping girls achieve goals set at both personal and troop levels, but participate in a tremendous show of gratitude and appreciation to the Troops at Fort Riley and throughout the state of Kansas," Iwen said. "We hope that the donation of cookies, especially a favorite like Girl Scout cookies, reminds our service members and their families how much we appreciate them and the sacrifices they make."

Girls participating in the annual Cookie Share Program take orders from friends and family and they sell cookies at booths. At either time, a customer can opt to purchase packages for the USO Fort Riley to pass on to active-du-

See COOKIES, page 14



Soldiers with the 97th Military Police Battalion at Fort Riley unload Girl Scout cookies after receiving them from the USO Fort Riley in early April. The Girl Scouts of Northeast Kansas and Northwest Missouri donated nearly 30,000 packages of cookies to the USO Fort Riley this year.



Fort Riley Garrison Commander Col. Andrew Cole Jr. speaks about contributions from Team Croom at a farewell lunch May 10 at a local restaurant in honor of Chap. (Col.) Keith Croom and his wife, Kelly, as they prepare to depart to the U. S. Army War College at Carlisle Barracks in Carlisle, Pennsylvania.

## Team Croom leaves behind a thankful Fort Riley community

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

The Religious Support Office staff hosted a farewell lunch May 10 at a local restaurant in honor of Chap. (Col.) Keith Croom and his wife, Kelly, who partnered together as the former garrison chaplain team at Fort Riley as they depart to the U. S. Army War College at Carlisle Barracks in Carlisle, Pennsylvania.

"We're leaving a lot of great people," Croom said.

Croom said he received questions about why Team Croom does ministry the way they do. He said he feels it is important to display a humble, servant attitude because that is what Christ did. Keeping the integrity and character of Christ in their ministry at a high standard is something Team Croom strived to do.

"It sends a message to everyone in here you are very special to us, and more importantly, you are special to the Lord," Croom said. "We want you guys to feel special because we love you. We hope we are great witness for our Lord."

See CROOM, page 14

The Croom Clan has been a Godsend for us. The mentorship provided by these two, the selfless behind-the-scenes service that they have committed to, not only to families, but Soldiers as well, has been fantastic."

COL. ANDREW COLE JR.  
FORT RILEY GARRISON  
COMMANDER



Chap. (Col.) Keith Croom, former garrison chaplain at Fort Riley, speaks about his experiences at Fort Riley during a farewell lunch May 10 at a local restaurant. "We're leaving a lot of great people," Croom said.

## Families find hidden gems at post-wide yard sale



A family selling lemonade, coffee and other goodies during the post-wide yard sale May 14. The post-wide yard sale is a biannual event, and the next one will take place in the fall.

### Community gets chance to clean out homes, add new stuff to collections

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

Community members bundled up and came out in the cool spring weather searching for treasures during the post-wide yard sale May 14.

People hauled out old tires, baby clothes, furniture and other knick-knacks they no longer wanted, and others used the yard sale as an opportunity to sell their homemade crafts.

"I love it," said Brittany Ross, wife of Sgt. 1st Class Derek Ross, 2nd Battalion, 34th Armor Regiment, 1st Armored Brigade Combat Team, 1st Infantry Division. "There are a lot of

"There are a lot of people coming on base, and it's a good opportunity to clean out the house before anyone moves or anything like that. My goal is to get rid of my junk."

SGT. 1ST CLASS DEREK ROSS  
1ST INFANTRY DIVISION

people coming on base, and it's a good opportunity to clean out the house before anyone moves or anything like

See YARD SALE, page 14



COMMUNITY CORNER

# Summer allows time to make family memories

By Col. Andrew Cole Jr.  
FORT RILEY GARRISON COMMANDER

School will be out soon and that means kids will have free time — so now is the time to plan fun kid and family activities. Don't sit in the house this summer and watch television or play video games — get out and take advantage of the many things happening on post or explore the nearby Kansas area.

The staff at the Directorate of Family and Morale, Welfare and Recreation has facilities and events available, so now is the time to start planning. Having a plan can be the key to getting involved in activities. Sit down with the family and make choices based on interest levels. Get everyone involved in the process. Once you commit your plans to a calendar it is easier to stay engaged and active.

Fort Riley School Age Center staff will hold 11 summer camp sessions from May 30 to Aug. 12. Sessions run week-to-week, allowing parents to sign up for only the weeks they need. Trips this year include a visit to Wichita Sports Forum, Kansas State University, Rolling

Hills Zoo and Rock Springs Ranch. The center is on post at 5810 Thomas Ave.

Staff at the Fort Riley Youth Center at 5800 Thomas Ave., will also hold 11 sessions. There will be art, sports, games, swimming, plus the opportunity to visit several locations including K-State, Kansas City Jazz Museum, Skyzone and Kenwood Cove.

For more information on the summer camp program, visit Parent Central Services at 6620 Normandy Drive or call 785-239-9885.

June is Dads Make a Difference month, and staff at the Family Advocacy Program at Army Community Service is celebrating with family events all month. For a list of suggested activities, find the Strong Dads Challenge calendar at [riley.armymwr.com](http://riley.armymwr.com). For more information call 785-239-9435.

A couple of the highlighted activities are as follows.



Colonel Cole

The Strong Dad Fishing Derby is scheduled from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. June 4 at Moon Lake. Advance registration is required by June 3. The first 100 registered kids ages 5 to 14 receive free fishing poles and tackle boxes.

The 8th Annual Dad's Tea Party is scheduled from 10 a.m. to noon June 25 at Riley's Conference Center. Advance sign-in starts at 9 a.m. This year's theme is "Doc McStuffins." There will be story time, crafts and music, along with a teddy bear clinic where you can bring your stuffed friend to be fixed or mended, because the Doc is in. Costumes are encouraged and advance registration is required by July 17.

During the month of June you can snap, share and win during the Strong Dads Challenge. Take a photo of you and your child completing a family activity and email it to [dads@rileymwr.com](mailto:dads@rileymwr.com), or post it on Facebook and tag the Fort Riley Parenting page or include the hashtag #8DMDM. The grand prize will be awarded in July.

A good free outdoor activity is swimming at Custer Hill Pool

located at 7465 Normandy Drive. The pool will be open this season from May 28 to Aug. 14. The hours of operation are 1 to 7 p.m. each day.

If you prefer indoor activity where you can stay cool, staff at the Custer Hill Bowling Center will have special activities during the summer months and it is worthwhile physical activity. According to the United States Bowling Congress, it burns more than 100 calories per hour, uses 134 muscles, builds strong bones, sustains hand and eye coordination and promotes balance and coordination. Bowling 3 games is the equivalent to walking 1 mile. You can have fun and bond together as a family at the same time.

These as well as many other activities are available on Fort Riley for summer fun. I encourage everyone to make a plan to make some family memories this summer.

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



Spc. Lawrence Evans | 1ST INF. DIV.  
**Chief Warrant Officer 2 Matthew David, 1st Infantry Division bandmaster, conducts a combined 1st Inf. Div. Band and Junction City Community Band May 11 in the division band's rehearsal hall on Fort Riley. The two bands will perform a joint concert at 7:30 p.m. May 21 at the C.L. Hoover Opera House in Junction City, Kansas. The springtime pops concert, "Night at the Movies," will feature music from throughout Hollywood's history, from superhero films to movie musicals.**

## Division band to play at opera house in Junction City

'Night at the Movies' the theme for concert with Junction City band

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

The 1st Infantry Division Band will again join forces with the Junction City Community Band for a free concert May 21 at the C.L. Hoover Opera House. The springtime pops concert is titled "Night at the Movies."

The concert begins at 7:30 p.m. and doors open at 7 p.m. No ticket is required, though seating is limited.

"Our first rehearsal with the community band was excellent," said Chief Warrant Officer 2 Matthew David, 1st Inf. Div. bandmaster. "We gather in the band hall in the evenings so that the civilians can come by after their work hours. Each group has been practicing on their own, which when put together is a great product. It's the true essence of working with our community to put together a tangible product."

The 1st Inf. Div. Band performs regularly with the Junction City band, most notably during the holiday season, where the audience typically fills the 400-seat opera house to capacity.

This is David's second time working with the community musicians after taking the helm of the on-post band in January.

"Many of the band members have built friendships with these fellow musicians," he said of the part-

### IF YOU GO

**"Night at the Movies"**  
» 7:30 p.m. Saturday  
» C.L. Hoover Opera House  
135 W. Seventh St., Junction City

No tickets required; seating is limited. Doors open at 7 p.m.

nership. "I personally go to church with members in the clarinet section, so it was a pleasure to be able to catch up with them in the breaks."

David said the music featured in the concert evokes memories of good times with friends and family.

"I am really excited because the audience will see Soldiers, noncommissioned officers and civilians conducting the band," the bandmaster said. "I enjoy sharing the podium with other conductors not only because I get the opportunity to play clarinet in the concert, but also to see the different interpretations that each conductor pulls out of the ensemble."

"Everyone who attends is in for a treat."

The performance will feature music from throughout Hollywood's history, from superhero films to movie musicals.

"I always love it when we get together with the Junction City Community Band," said Spc. Lawrence Evans, a pianist with the 1st Inf. Div. Band. "They're just such a class act and very talented musicians."

Evans, who helped to organize the "Night at the Movies," said the two bands hope to do more joint concerts throughout the year.



Kids dig in the sand of the beach at the Fort Riley Marina during the Fun in the Sun event May 14. Families had the opportunity to go out on the pontoon, tour the lake and eat a free lunch during the annual event, as well as search for treasure on the beach.

## Marina site for Fun in the Sun event

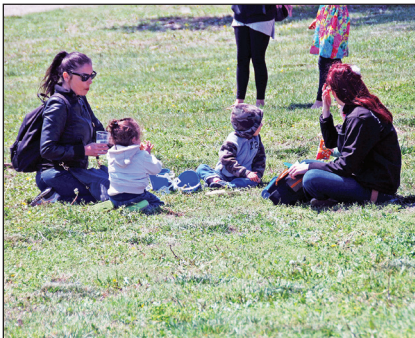
Families get chance to tour lake, take out pontoons, enjoy free lunch under the sun

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

Burgers were cooking on the grill and music filled the air at the annual Fun in the Sun event at the Fort Riley Marina May 14.

"It's a big family program," said Travis Engle, recreation specialist with Outdoor Recreation, the Directorate of Family and Morale, Welfare and Recreation. "We've got big families coming out here. We're getting them out here to the marina, which is a little bit off the beaten path, and getting them informed on things to do here in the Flint Hills region and Fort Riley."

Families had the opportunity to go out on the pontoon, tour the lake and eat a free lunch during the event. They were also able to try out kayaks and canoes, and the kids had a chance to take part in a treasure hunt on the beach.



Families enjoy their free lunch during the Fun in the Sun event at the Fort Riley Marina May 14.

The annual event brought in families during the day for an opportunity to get outdoors and see what the marina has to offer.

"We came here a couple years ago and the kids had a blast, so we decided to come back," said Nadine Tychnowitz, wife of Sgt. 1st Class Stephen Tychnowitz, 1st Infantry Division Sustainment Brigade. "It's a good thing to do. I think a lot of people don't know about the marina and what's out

### MORE ONLINE

• For more information on outdoor recreation, go to [www.army.rileymwr.com](http://www.army.rileymwr.com).

here."

Kids ran around on the playground and played on the bounce house slide that staff of DFMWR had brought to the marina.

"We came out so the kids could play," said Chief Warrant Officer Ty White, 2nd General Support Aviation Battalion, 1st Aviation Regiment, 1st Combat Aviation Brigade, 1st Inf. Div. "They love the slide."

Families were able to come and go and stay as long as they liked to try out the many activities offered by the staff of DFMWR.

"It's a good overall event," Engle said. "This is a culmination of our outdoor kids' program. They can come out here and bring in their passports and get their little goodie bags, and it's on their list of activities so they can check that off."

For more information on outdoor recreation, go to [www.army.rileymwr.com](http://www.army.rileymwr.com).

## Trucking Industry Day

### Shell Rotella SuperRigs

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By Shell Rotella

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Joplin, MO

Trucking Job Fair  
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Transportation Provided

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Or 785-239-0245

# MEMORIAL DAY

IT DOESN'T TAKE A HERO TO ORDER MEN INTO BATTLE.

IT TAKES A HERO TO BE ONE OF THOSE MEN WHO GOES INTO BATTLE.

— GEN. H. NORMAN SCHWARZKOFF JR.  
AUG. 22, 1954 – DEC. 27, 2002

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**SATURDAY, MAY 21**  
• Barbershop: The Next Cut (PG-13) 2 P.M.  
• Criminal (R) 7 P.M.

**SUNDAY, MAY 22**  
• Criminal (R) 5 P.M.

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



# Junction City High sophomore named ‘Military Youth of Year’

Boys & Girls Club honoree advances to regional competition

By Hannah Kleopfer  
1ST INF. DIV. POST

Essence Carter, 16, was named Boys & Girls Club Kansas Military Youth of the Year March 1 at the Topeka Civic Center, Topeka, Kansas. Carter is a sophomore at Junction City High School, and is the daughter of Sha-

“It (center) has given me a voice, opinion and confidence. I get to become a role model for the younger kids, and I’ve become a better person.”

ESSENCE CARTER | BOYS & GIRLS CLUB  
MILITARY YOUTH OF THE YEAR



rone and Bernard Washington, both of whom are retired from the Army. “I wasn’t planning on ap- plying, but my sister talked me into it,” Carter said. “I

started to realize what the center means to me. It has given me a voice, opinion and confidence. I get to become a role model for the younger kids, and I’ve become a better person.” To apply for the position, youth must give written and oral presentations along with letters of recommendation, a review of academic records and an assessment of their community service. “We had a lot of late nights here where we wouldn’t leave until 11 at night,” Carter said.

“We would get lots of great ideas the later it would get.” Before being awarded her title, Carter went to Topeka, where she was judged by a panel for her community service and other criteria. The Boys & Girls Club have a youth and military youth of the year that represent the state at the regional and national levels. “It’s a big honor to represent the state that I love,” Carter said. She stays active in her school and community

through playing violin for the orchestra, participating in the flag line and being part of a college prep club. Carter said she would like to attend Washburn University and then go to the University of Baylor for law school. Carter will advance to the regional competition during a week in June in San Antonio, Texas, along with the Boys and Girls Club Youth of the Year to represent Kansas. “I’m excited to go and meet new people,” Carter said.

MORTAL KOMBAT WARRIORS



Hannah Kleopfer | POST

Soldiers gathered at the Warrior Zone May 14 for the quarterly video-gaming tournament hosted by the staff, featuring the game Mortal Kombat. The winner was Spc. Eugene Nunn, 1st Engineer Battalion, 1st Armored Brigade Combat Team, 1st Infantry Division. He took home a brand new PlayStation 4. “I feel this new line of events we’re running at the Warrior Zone gives the Soldiers a new outlet of fun, the ability to network with other Soldiers that share the same interest and a reason to get out of the barracks,” said Quinton Williams, program specialist. There were 16 participants for the afternoon tournament. “It gives us something to do and we have fun,” said Pvt. Daniel Rodriguez, 1st Battalion, 7th Field Artillery Regiment, 2nd ABCT, 1st Inf. Div. Rodriguez beat his friend Pvt. Mitchell Young, 1st Bn., 7th FA Regt., 2nd ABCT, 1st Inf. Div., to move forward in the competition.

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Get ready for the 2016 Summer Olympics and Read for the Win!  
Sign up for the Summer Reading Program.  
Bounce House • Face Painting • Healthy Snacks • Goodie Bag

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## CROOMContinued from page 9

If you’ve been around me for five minutes, you know I am human, and so if He can do a work in my life, He can certainly do that in yours.”

Croom also addressed how the team could do ministry together. He said being a chaplain is a calling, not just an individual calling, but a calling shared with your spouse.

During the lunch, Fort Riley Garrison Commander Col. Andrew Cole Jr. presented Chap. Croom with the Meritorious Service Medal. The citation was signed by President Barack Obama. Kelly received Lady

Victory and the Helping Hand awards from Maj. Gen. Wayne W. Grigsby Jr., 1st Infantry Division and Fort Riley commanding general.

“The Croom clan has been a Godsend for us,” Cole said. “The mentorship provided by these two, the selfless behind-the-scenes service that they have committed to, not only to families, but Soldiers as well, has been fantastic. Whether it be the Vacation Bible School, the art to resiliency things we do that has an impact on our Soldiers, whether it is the late night phone call saying someone has to put the uniform

on and tell somebody some bad news. How we do that and how we mentor each other in doing that is very important.”

While at Fort Riley, Team Croom delivered religious support to more than 47,000 Soldiers, civilians and family members of the community. Kelly organized events such as Vacation Bible School and opened her home for senior spouse events.

“We couldn’t have asked for a better team,” Cole said. “It’s thankless business, but it is necessary business, not just for these two (the Crooms), but for all of you who are bearing the cross.”



Maria Childs | POST

**The Girl Scouts of Northeast Kansas and Northwest Missouri donated nearly 30,000 packages of Girl Scout cookies to the USO Fort Riley following cookie season this year. “With three military bases in our council’s footprint (Fort Riley, Fort Leavenworth and McConnell Air Force Base) partnering with the USO Fort Riley was a no-brainer,” said Julie Bode, Manager of Product Sales, Girl Scouts of NE Kansas and NW Missouri.**

## COOKIESContinued from page 9

ty service and family members. Girls who sell 12 or more packages also earn a patch to reward their efforts as well as a patch from the USO.

The Girl Scouts of Kansas Heartland distributed more than 117,500 packages of cookies through this program since it began in 2010, according to their website.

Sgt. Jonathan Beasley, Headquarters and Headquarters Detachment, 97th Military Police Battalion, heard the USO Fort Riley had Girl Scout cookies,

and he immediately put in a request to get some for his battalion.

“For me, it’s an avenue to make a Soldier feel appreciated,” Beasley said. “It’s civilians who volunteer at the USO, and it’s just another avenue of showing somebody they care.”

And according to the sales manager, appreciation to service members is something the girls learn through this program along with other skills they will use as they grow up.

“The annual Cookie Pro-

gram isn’t just another fundraiser,” Bode said. “Focusing on what we call the five skills, girls participating in the program learn money management, people skills, goal setting, business ethics and decision making. Girls who participate can earn both an annual pin and yearly badges and the skills they learn by being part of the Cookie Program are skills they use for a lifetime. All proceeds remain in our council; the Girl Scouts of Northeast Kansas and Northwest Missouri serving girls in 47

## YARD SALEContinued from page 9

that. My goal is to get rid of my junk.”

Ross and her friend Amanda Stewart, wife of Staff Sgt. Gary Stewart, 1st ABCT, 1st Inf. Div., partnered for the event at Stewart’s home to sell their old stuff. Ross also set up her homemade crafts to sell during the yard sale.

Next door, a new family to the area took the opportunity to sell some things they had unpacked and found no need for.

“My wife got me into this,” joked Sgt. Chris Misamore, 299th Brigade Support Battalion, 2nd Armored Brigade Combat Team, 1st Inf. Div. “It worked well for us actually. There was miscellaneous stuff from when we left Hawaii and we picked up when we got here.”

Misamore moved to Fort Riley three days before the post-wide yard sale.

“Fort Riley is different from other places I’ve been,” he said.



Hannah Kleopfer | POST

**Brittany Ross, wife of Sgt. 1st Class Derek Ross, 2nd Battalion, 34th Armor Regiment, 1st Armored Brigade Combat Team, 1st Infantry Division, sold some of her homemade crafts during the post-wide yard sale May 14.**

“It’s quieter and family oriented.”

While many people were selling old belongings, some youth took it as a business opportunity to create lemonade stands. Some even offered hot coffee and snacks

for people to munch on while they browsed yard sales.

The post-wide yard sale is a biannual event, and the next one will take place in the fall.



**Jennie Pilarski, wife of Sgt. Albert Pilarski, 2nd General Support Aviation Battalion, 1st Aviation Regiment, 1st Combat Aviation Brigade, 1st Infantry Division, sold some of her crafts during the Spring Craft Market at Rally Point Field May 14.**

## Post tries spring attraction

### Officials pleased with inaugural Spring Craft Market

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

Rally Point Field was filled with people May 14 for the first-ever Spring Craft Market.

On the field were booths of Fort Riley community members and off-post participants, selling their business and homemade crafts and products for the Spring Craft Market, hosted by staff of the Directorate for Family and Morale, Welfare and Recreation.

“There’s a lot of spring festivals, and spring and summer are a huge season for craft markets,” said Erin Ritter, recreation programmer. “Fall Apple Day has a small vendor booth and then we have

a winter one, so we thought a spring market would be a good thing to try.”

The cool morning temperatures didn’t deter vendors from bundling up and promoting their products.

“I did the Chriskindle market in December, and it was really wonderful,” Lisa Volland, a craft booth vendor, said. “And all the customers are just so nice. I told my mother that she would see a difference in the customers here and the ones we usually see. Everyone is just so polite, and all the children are so well-behaved, so it’s really a delight to do this.”

Volland had products from her business filling up her tent. She also brought products she was selling for an elderly woman who was unable to attend.

Other community members took the opportunity to promote their side businesses as well.

“I started selling on Etsy and (DFMWR) had contacted me and asked if I would try this, and I thought I might as well try it because I have never done a craft show before,” said Jennie Pilarski, wife of Sgt. Albert Pilarski, 2nd General Support Aviation Battalion, 1st Aviation Regiment, 1st Combat Aviation Brigade, 1st Infantry Division. “I just want to get my name out there, hand out some cards, sell some products and maybe get a few wedding bookings.”

While people filed through and browsed the tents, they could also stop by the Riley’s Food Truck for a convenient meal.

“I think we did really well for a first year event,” Ritter said. “We had 67 vendors sign up. I’m really impressed.”

Ritter said she thought this would become an annual event.

# 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](http://www.riley.army.mil/Community/ReadyArmy).





# 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. 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.

For more information, contact the Whitside Fitness Center at 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.isportsman.net](http://www.fortriley.isportsman.net).

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

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



## Kansas State wins trap and skeet competition



The Kansas State University Trapshooting team members take turns during the annual competition against the Fort Riley Outdoorsmen Group May 14. They took home the win this year.

“We want to welcome the Wildcats as always. This is the sixth time we have done this in the last seven years.”

**OLLIE HUNTER**  
FORT RILEY OUTDOORSMAN GROUP, CHAIRMAN OF THE TRAP AND SKEET COMMITTEE

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

The annual trap and skeet tournament between the Fort Riley Outdoorsmen Group and the Kansas State University Trapshooting team took place May 14 at the Fort Riley trap and skeet range. This year, K-State was able to take home the coveted trophy for the third time, winning 423–411.

“We lost last year by one target and the year before by a handful,”

said Kyle Colner, K-State team captain.

Before the tournament started, members of K-State and FROG talked before Ollie Hunter, chairman of the trap and skeet committee, FROG, briefed the group about how the event would take place.

“We want to welcome the Wildcats, as always,” Hunter said. “This is the sixth time we’ve done this in the last seven

See SHOOTING, page 16

## Golfing up a storm

### Association of the United States Army partners with garrison for golf scramble

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

As the Kansas storm clouds rolled in, the strength of the partnership between the Association of the United States Army and the United States Army Garrison Fort Riley was evident. The members of each organization were in full swing at the Custer Hill Golf Course May 13 during a golf scramble.

Col. Andrew Cole Jr., Fort Riley garrison commander, opened the scramble with some comments about the partnership.

“Thank you for coming out here today to support our event,” Cole said. “This is a great opportunity for us to execute some resiliency today ... despite our schedules, despite the 15 million things going in all direction, AUSA is truly always there to help provide support to us.”

The partnership between the Fort Riley chapter of the AUSA, the 1st Infantry Division and the Fort Riley garrison is manifested in many ways including this



Col. Andrew Cole Jr., Fort Riley garrison commander, tees off on the first hole during a golf scramble at Custer Hill Golf Course. The event was sponsored by the Association of the United States Army.

See GOLF, page 16



Maj. Gen. Wayne W. Grigsby Jr., 1st Infantry Division and Fort Riley commanding general, hits the ball on the tenth hole as his team watches during a golf scramble May 13 at Fort Riley's Custer Hill Golf Course. The partnership with the Association of the United States Army is manifested in many ways including this tournament.



Shannon Collins | DOD

Medically retired Army Sgt. Monica Southall celebrates with 1st Maj. Cpl. Pellegrina Caputo of the Italian army after both received gold medals in shot put in their respective disability categories during the track and field competition at the 2016 Invictus Games at the ESPN Wide World of Sports Complex at Walt Disney World Resort, Orlando, Florida, May 10. Caputo asked Southall to trade jerseys to share in the camaraderie of the games.

## Competitors further camaraderie at Invictus

By Shannon Collins  
DOD NEWS, DEFENSE MEDIA ACTIVITY

ORLANDO, Fla., — While the competition was fierce at the 2016 Invictus Games held at the ESPN Wide World of Sports Complex at Walt Disney World Resort, the athletes said the camaraderie was stronger.

Many of them said they created lifelong friendships with athletes from other countries during the May 8 to 12 games. Army reservist Staff Sgt. Zed Pitts said he gained friends and coaches in cycling and running.

**MAKING FRIENDS**

Pitts met British army sergeant and cyclist Andrew Perrin at the 2015 Department of Defense Warrior Games and raced against and with him at this year's Invictus Games.

“I met him at the 2015 Warrior Games. He scored a gold [medal] in his category, and I was in one category under him. He’s kind of been guiding me,” Pitts said. “I look up to him as a superior cyclist. He’s like a semipro back home. He’s received training

See INVICTUS, page 16

## Spirit of Invictus

### Fort Riley wounded warrior wins medals

COURTESY INVICTUS FOUNDATION

Many Soldiers suffer life-changing injuries, visible or otherwise, while serving their country. How do these men and women find the motivation to move on and not be defined by their injuries?

How can they be recognized for their achievements and not given sympathy? Prince Henry of Wales asked these questions. On a trip to the warrior games in the United States in 2013, he saw how the power of sport could help physically, psychologically and socially. His mind was made up.

London would host the inaugural Invictus games in 2014. It would be an international sporting event for wounded, injured and sick servicemembers.

The word Invictus means unconquered. It embodies these warrior’s fighting spirit and what these tenacious men and women can achieve, post injury. The games harness the power of sport to inspire recovery, support rehabilitation and generate a wider understanding and respect for those who serve their country.

The Invictus Games were held this year in Orlando, Florida at the ESPN Wide World of Sports Complex from May 8 to 12.

For more information and stories on the Invictus Games visit [invictusgamesfoundation.org](http://invictusgamesfoundation.org).



COURTESY PHOTO

Fort Riley was represented at the Invictus games by Staff Sgt. Ashley Anderson, an interment - resettlement specialist assigned to the Warrior Transition Battalion. She is shown with Prince Henry of Wales, during the Invictus Games, May 8 to 12 in Orlando, Florida. Anderson, a native of Winnebago, Minnesota, threw the discus 23.78 meters and the shotput 9.61 meters, earning her a silver medal in both events.



INVICTUS

Continued from page 15



Shannon Collins | DOD

Army Reserve Staff Sgt. Zed Pitts stops for a photo with his German friend, fellow runner, 1st Sgt. Naef Adebahr and his friends after Adebahr earned his bronze medal in the men's 200-meter dash and Pitts earned his silver medal in the men's 100-meter dash in their respective disability categories during the track and field competition at the 2016 Invictus Games at the ESPN Wide World of Sports Complex, Walt Disney World, Orlando, Florida, May 10.

from like professionals, so it's pretty cool that he looked at me as a cyclist with a lot of potential. He gives me a lot of guidance and training tips. He reminds me over and over again that I must enjoy the sport if I want to go far."

Pitts said Perrin was encouraging him throughout the time trial and criterium competitions here May 9, even though they were racing each other. When Pitts crashed, Perrin went back to check on him.

"Me and Zed, we get along really well," said Perrin, who earned a gold medal in the time trial and criterium at the Invictus Games. "We make good friends. We communicate all the time."

Pitts has also made friends with 1st Sgt. Naef Adebahr of the German army, who earned the 200-meter bronze medal in track and field.

"The camaraderie is unbelievable here," Adebahr said.

"Everyone here helps the others, and that's very good. Zed is a beautiful person. He inspired me. We help each other out."

HELPING HAND

During the women's wheelchair races, Ulfat Zwiri, a government employee from Jordan, had trouble with her wheelchair. But as she finished, athletes from other countries came back to encourage her and finish with her. Her father was proud of her.

"I'm very happy she managed to finish the race with high morale and confidence, Yaseen Ahmad Salem Alzwiri said of his daughter. "The Invictus Games have changed her completely. She's very positive. It's changed her remarkably. These games are a wonderful vehicle for raising the morale of soldiers and for creating bonds of friendship between all the different nations."

Army Capt. Kelly Elmlinger said she was impressed with Zwiri and felt bad when she noticed Zwiri didn't have a pair of racing gloves, she didn't have an extra pair to give her.

"I give her all the credit in the world," Elmlinger said. "That was the first time she had gotten in a wheelchair. She didn't have racing gloves, and for her to put herself out there to start and to finish, it

doesn't matter her time. It's amazing for her to make this journey and for her to put herself out there like that. That takes a strong individual."

Elmlinger said she enjoys the competition and the camaraderie. "With military adaptive individuals, we have this underlying bond that's just unspoken," she said. "It makes it very easy to hate you in the moment of competition, but when you're done, you're hugging and high-fiving."

MAKING FRIENDS

Team USA captain medically retired Army Capt. Will Reynolds said most of the athletes make lifelong friends with their competitors at the Invictus Games.

"You have this network of individuals who you can rely on for recovery tips and athletic training tips. It's just like something that never goes away. This group of people is always going to be connected now. The camaraderie is pretty strong."

who you can rely on for recovery tips and athletic training tips," he said. "It's just like something that never goes away. This group of people

is always going to be connected now. The camaraderie is pretty strong."

Air Force Master Sgt. Israel "DT" Del Toro said he has a blast hanging out with athletes from different nations. "I've known a lot of them from either the Warrior Games or the previous Invictus Games and to see them again is great. I love joking with them," he said.

Medically retired Marine Corps Cpl. Anthony McDaniel said he enjoys how everyone gets along.

"Whether we're on the court or on the field, it's all competition, but it's good competition. When we're off, it's all love," he said. "Everybody's getting along. Everybody's networking, communicating and just supporting each other — regardless of whether you finished first, finished last or whether you've never done this sport before. It's all about the love of the sport, and the love of the people who are here."

SHOOTING

Continued from page 15

years. K-State just got back from the national championship tournament. FROG has won this tournament three times before and we won last year."

While the K-State team had similar years of experience, the experience for FROG members had a wide range, with the oldest participant at 69 years old, and the youngest at 23 years old.

In the trap shoot, Colner took third place, Hunter took second and Joshua Love, FROG, took first. In the skeet shoot, Trevor Turner, K-State, took third, Hunter took second and Gabe Goetzman, K-State took first. Goetzman also took the overall first place. Second went to Hunter, and third went to Richard Statsman, FROG.

The partnership between Fort Riley and K-State has grown even more in the last year as the Fort Riley trap and skeet



HANNAH KLEOPFER | POST

The Kansas State University Trap and Skeet team took home the trophy May 14 at Fort Riley after the annual trap and skeet shoot against the Fort Riley Outdoorsmen Group.

range has become the home range to K-State's team.

"It's excellent," Colner said. "We don't have anywhere to shoot skeet around campus, so

coming out here, especially for the price we can get it at, we can shoot as much as we want. It definitely helps us advance as a better team."

GOLF

Continued from page 15

golf tournament. It is also demonstrated in retirement ceremonies, leadership and professional development opportunities and partnering for the celebration for the 100-year anniversary of the "Big Red One."

"We're gonna play golf," said Phil Mattox, president of the Fort Riley chapter of AUSA. "Just so I can beat the sergeant major; he's not on the garrison side, but he is with the division — he's not going to win today."

In a golf scramble, each player on a team tees off from the same hole. The players then play the best ball in play, and the lowest score wins the game.

The AUSA's partnerships with the BRO and the Fort Riley community provides diverse, year-round support, especially during Christmas season with "Operation: Santa Claus," where they help take care of Soldiers and families.

"They are a voice locally and to Washington D.C.



MARIA CHILDS | POST

Col. Andrew Cole Jr., Fort Riley garrison commander welcomes golfers to the garrison golf tournament sponsored by the Association of the United States Army May 14 at Custer Hill Golf Course.

for the Army to our elected officials and congressional legislators on the behalf of our active duty, retirees and veterans and our Army families — both spouses and our Army children," Cole said. "Their sponsorship of our golf tournament, as well as corporate and individual member support helps support Fort Riley and the Flint Hills Region through

advocacy for our Soldiers, spouses and children."

The winning team included Ken Steggeman, director of the Directorate of Human Resources; Bill Bunting, director of the Directorate of Resource Management; Larry Githerman, director of the Logistics Readiness Center; and Harry Hardy Jr., supervisory attorney for the consolidated legal office.

BACK ALLEY ADVANTAGE



Maria Childs | POST

Left to right, the Directorate of Family and Morale Welfare and Recreation team consisting of Chris Mullins, recreation programmer; Cheryl Erickson, director of Army Community Services; Michael Schack, Survivor Outreach Services Financial Counselor and Vila Hall Jr., lead maintenance mechanic at Custer Hill Bowling Center, took the championship at Garrison Bowling May 12 at Custer Hill Bowling Center. Not pictured is Jane Brookshire, Army Family Action Plan Program Manager, Army Community Service, who played in game one of the tournament. The team faced staff from the Directorate of Plans, Training, Mobilization and Security. The final score was 550-467. "This is the first time I've bowled in a long time," Schack said. "It's just fun entertainment. Everyone can do it, it doesn't matter how good or bad you are you can have fun bowling."







# Travel & Fun in Kansas

## SALINA

### Shop, see, savor — an hour away

By Collen McGee | Fort Riley Public Affairs  
Photos courtesy of Salina Convention and Visitor bureau

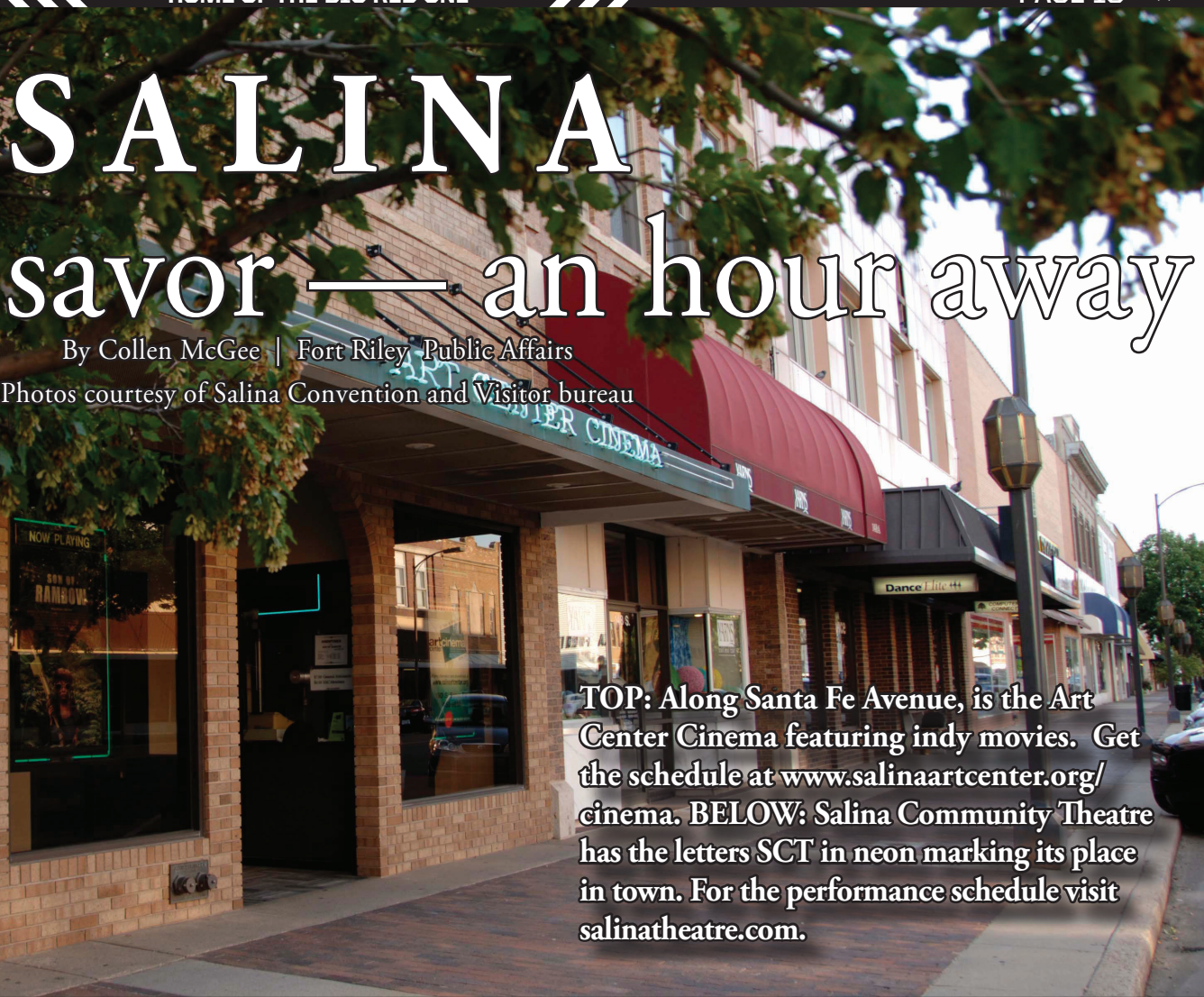
Travel west on Interstate 70 until it intersects with Interstate 135 and you'll find a medium sized Kansas town with more than a few unique places to take the family. A short drive and you can while away a day building memories. From the Rolling Hills Zoo to the Salina Symphony, there is something for almost every taste and budget. Some of the free events and attractions include the downtown sculpture tour and Friday Night Live. The tour comprises 22 sculptures. Visitors get to vote for their favorite through the end of the year. The winning sculpture is purchased by the city and added to the permanent collection. Ballots and flyers are available at shops throughout the downtown area.

New this year is the Friday Night Live series of summer entertainment events including art demonstrations and live music. An events schedule is available at [salinaarts.com](http://salinaarts.com)

One of those events is perfect if you and the family are up to getting a little soggy. How about taking part in the May 20th community-wide Water Fight at Swensson Park? Bring a towel. Another option to get a good soaking is Kenwood Cove Water Park. Try the Purple twister or the Tsunami Swirl water slides and the Funderstorm, a 350-foot cyclone chute. The park is open on warm days and specifics about operating hours can be found at [www.kenwoodcove.com](http://www.kenwoodcove.com)

If you are looking for a festival, schedule a drive for June 9 to 12. The 40th Annual Smoky Hill River Festival in Oakdale Park will have four stages featuring folk, jazz, classical, rock and funk. There are several make-and-take art projects for the kids and more than 30 food vendors. There are also a few races for the fitness buffs. Festival details can be found at [riverfestival.com](http://riverfestival.com).

Along with the arts and water parks, the Salina Farmers Market features fruits, vegetables, beef, chicken, pork, lamb, eggs, herbs, hand-made soaps and baked goods. Find the freshest market information on Facebook.



TOP: Along Santa Fe Avenue, is the Art Center Cinema featuring indy movies. Get the schedule at [www.salinaartcenter.org/cinema](http://www.salinaartcenter.org/cinema). BELOW: Salina Community Theatre has the letters SCT in neon marking its place in town. For the performance schedule visit [salinatheatre.com](http://salinatheatre.com).

