



THE 1ST INFANTRY DIVISION POST



www.riley.army.mil

FRIDAY, AUGUST 18, 2017

Vol. 9, No. 33



FORT RILEY, KANSAS

Soccer Field Day

Kansas State University soccer team visits Fort Riley



COURTESY PHOTOS

ALL: Members of the Kansas State University soccer team visited Fort Riley Aug. 9, spending the day with the Soldiers of their partner unit, 3rd Battalion, 66th Armored Regiment, 1st Armored Brigade Combat Team, 1st Infantry Division. The players took part in the Leadership Recreation Course, ate MREs with the “Burt’s Knights” Soldiers and saw a variety of military vehicles and equipment.

Army family there for survivors of fallen

By Andy Massanet
1ST INF. DIV. POST

Randy Frank, husband of Gold Star mother Keeley Frank, reflected on the loss of Keeley’s son, Sgt. Kevin A. Gilbertson of the 1st Battalion, 77th Armor Regiment, 2nd Brigade Combat Team, 1st Infantry Division, Aug. 4, a decade after his death. Gilbertson died Aug. 31, 2007 from wounds sustained at the hands of enemy forces in Ramadi, Iraq.

“Once that service member joins (the Army), the whole family joins,” Randy said.

Keeley grieved alone over the loss of her son for eight years.

“I loved him,” Keeley said. “We were close and when it came to high school time, he asked me, ‘mom, can I go into the service?’”

Military recruiters had been coming to Gilbertson’s high school and he became interested, Keeley said. In Gilbertson’s case there was the buddy system through which friends could go into the Army together, but the friend Gilbertson signed with decided not to join. He enlisted on his own anyway.

“He loved it,” Keeley said. “From day one, especially all the exercise, lifting weights, that is what he really liked the most. But he didn’t tell me a lot of what he did there (in the Army). He did tell his stepfather — he passed away in 2005. They talked a lot so Kevin probably told him things.”

Gilbertson would come home to rest. At times he’d bring home Army friends.

“He didn’t want (to) have anything to do with uniforms or nothing,” Keeley said.

After Gilbertson’s death, support from the Cedar Rapids, Iowa, community — where she lived, where Gilbertson was born and raised, where he joined the Army and where he was laid to rest — was limited, Keeley said.

“When I was in Cedar Rapids I didn’t get any kind of support,” Keeley said. “The only kind of support they had was they wanted me to get on the Internet, and I didn’t want to do Internet. I really didn’t have nobody, because nobody knew how to handle my situation.”

Even the few relatives available to Keeley — a sister and a nephew — struggled to help her.

“They really didn’t know how to help me or understand what I was going through,” Keeley said. “My sister and I lost our dad and our mom, but that’s completely different than losing a child. I was pretty much on my own ‘til I met him (Randy Frank). Then everything turned around.”

When Keeley met Randy he was a certified emergency manager in Iowa. He is also an Army veteran who served as a fire support specialist.

Today, Randy is the commander of the District IV, Kansas American Legion, which includes Fort Riley, but he was similarly active in veterans’ affairs in Iowa. While organizing an event they met, grew close and eventually married. But Randy knew Keeley was hurting and wanted to help her.

“I knew she needed closure,” he said. “I knew that Kevin was a 1st ID Soldier and I needed to get her back up here because in my experience in the Army I knew we took care of our own.”

In 2015, Randy got a job in Kansas and the Franks moved to Hillsboro, Kansas.

DEALING WITH LOSS IS A PERSONAL JOURNEY

Survivor Outreach Services — which is Army-wide and has a branch at Fort Riley — offers a variety of services and support for families who have lost loved ones while serving their country.

“There are so many people affected by the death of a Soldier: spouses, children, brothers and sisters, grandparents and aunts,” said Christina Gary, the SOS coordinator at Fort Riley since 2009. “You have to take that into account. Everybody’s needs are different, everybody’s grief is different.”

Soldiers are aware of the need to be there for one another, to look out for each other.

“I had a very high regard for Kevin Gilbertson,” said Maj. Nathan Strickland, executive officer of the 1st Combined Arms Battalion, 63rd Armor Regiment, 2nd Armored Brigade Combat Team, 1st Infantry Division.

This unit has adopted the Franks as its Gold Star family.

“His assigned position was gunner and he was probably the best gunner



COURTESY PHOTO

Keeley Frank, left, lost her son Sgt. Kevin Gilbertson, right, of the 1st Battalion, 77th Armor Regiment, 2nd Brigade Combat Team, 1st Infantry Division, in Aug. 2007 in Ramadi, Iraq. With the help of senior 1st Inf. Div. leadership and the Fort Riley Survivor Outreach Services, Frank made the journey from solitary mourning to her rightful place in the Army family.

in the platoon, not just for technical skills, but also for all-around junior-level leadership,” Strickland said. “He was a guy who if you had something that really needed to be done and it couldn’t get screwed up, then Kevin was one of those guys you could say, ‘hey, I need to get this done,’ and he would.”

An operational tank requires four Soldiers to perform, the tank commander, gunner, loader and driver. In the case of Gilbertson’s team, “the

whole was greater than the sum of the parts,” Strickland said. “Kevin was always outspoken and willing to express himself. He was very well-liked.”

Even in the strongest of units, the death of a teammate is difficult.

“It’s a hard to thing to bounce back from,” Strickland said. “It rattles everyone badly. It hurts the platoon because they are all so tight.”

See FALLEN, page 6

FORT RILEY VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT



Nicholet Wilson, Dental Activity, has volunteered with the Directorate of Morale, Welfare and Recreation events. She also volunteers with USO Fort Riley by assisting Soldiers, retirees and families. She helps serve meals at the monthly No Dough Dinners.

To learn more about volunteer opportunities, call Becky Willis, Army Volunteer Corps Program manager, at 785-239-4593.

IN THIS ISSUE



FORT RILEY GATHERS FOR HISTORY AND ICE CREAM, SEE PAGE 7.

ALSO IN THIS ISSUE



GET SQUIRRELY IN HISTORIC MARYSVILLE, SEE PAGE 12.

Kansas National Guard battalion changes command at Fort Riley



Col. Doug Ferguson, commander of the 155th Armored Brigade Combat Team, Mississippi National Guard, passes the colors of the 2nd Combined Arms Battalion, 137th Infantry Regiment, Kansas National Guard, to Lt. Col. Carlin Williams, incoming battalion commander to 2nd Combined Arms Bn., 137th Inf. Reg., during a change of command ceremony Aug. 12 at Camp Funston. Through the interstate partnership program, the ‘Volunteer’ battalion falls under the 155th ABCT, Mississippi National Guard. As the number of brigade combat teams were decreased across the Army National Guard, battalions from various states were placed together under the remaining BCTs based off of brigade and unit needs, Ferguson said.

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

The 2nd Combined Arms Battalion, 137th Infantry Regiment, Kansas National Guard, welcomed a new commander during a ceremony Aug. 12 at Camp Funston. Lt. Col. Carlin Williams, incoming battalion commander to 2nd Combined Arms Bn., 137th Inf. Regt., assumed command from Lt. Col. Jason Nelson, outgoing battalion

commander to 2nd Combined Arms Bn., 137th Inf. Regt., who held the position for 18 months. “To the Soldiers of the ‘Volunteer’ battalion, you have done everything I have asked you with professionalism and enthusiasm,” Nelson said during his final remarks. “I did not accomplish all the major feats over the last 18 months, you did. Your commitment to the battalion and this Army National Guard is second to none.” Nelson praised the Soldiers as exceptional and always leading

the way. In his final comments to them, he challenged them to push themselves further. Col. Doug Ferguson, commander of the 155th Armored Brigade Combat Team, Mississippi National Guard, which the Volunteer battalion falls under, attended the change of command as the reviewing officer. During his remarks, he complimented Nelson’s hard work and sacrifices made to ensure the battalion’s success and smooth relationship with the 155th ABCT.

“What I did find from the very beginning was a professional leader who was confident in the capabilities of his Soldiers and he understands that loyalty is not for those above him who assess his performance, but to those placed in charge,” Ferguson said. “Since that day, I have learned that not only is Jason a competent leader, but witnessed first-hand the extraordinary and other uncommon abilities that 2-137th possess.” When Ferguson said he first met Williams, he expressed interest in going to the National Training Center, Fort Irwin, California, something Ferguson thought made him too eager. However, Williams grew on him and proved himself willing to take on any task presented and tackle any obstacle. “From day one, Carlin dove headfirst in being a team member in the brigade leadership commander, doing any task that any Soldier of any rank might be asked to do — I don’t think he ever slept,” he said. “All his energy and drive and confidence immediately convinced me that he is the ideal leader to carry on the 2-137th legacy.” Through the interstate partnership program, the Volunteers fall under the 155th ABCT, Mississippi National Guard. As the number of brigade combat teams were decreased across the Army National Guard, battalions from various states were placed together under the remaining BCTs that they complemented, based off of brigade and unit needs, Ferguson said. He said he was hesitant at first about having a Kansas National

Guard battalion under his command, but the Soldiers have proved themselves to be reliable, skilled and confident as a unit, making them an important asset to the 155th ABCT. “For a long time, I thought this caliber of Soldiers could only be found in Mississippi, but Jason and his battalion have made me a believer in Kansas,” Ferguson said. Part of those traits, he said, comes from the Volunteer battalion training at Fort Riley — a resource he hopes to one day use for the 155th ABCT. “It’s a great relationship and what makes part of the great relationship is the resource of Fort Riley being in 2-137’s backyard,” Ferguson said. The relationship between the Volunteer battalion and the 155th ABCT is one that matches the state of the world today, Williams said. With many organizations crossing international lines and businesses hiring employees all over the country and world, it makes sense to see similar things happening with the Army National Guard. “It’s been really great,” he said of the relationship with 155th ABCT. “Society is more global today than it has (been). We’ve got people who live and work different places than where they come and drill, so for me, I just see it as an extension of the changes within the world. We work with them just like many people work with companies that are far away.” The 2nd Combined Arms Bn., 137th Inf. Regt., held their change of command at Fort Riley because it is a central location for training and equipment maintenance for the

companies, Williams said. The unit recently returned from an NTC rotation with the 155th ABCT as they prepare for a deployment in the upcoming year. As part of the recovery from NTC and preparation for additional training leading up to the deployment, the Volunteer battalion came to Fort Riley to access the Maneuver Area Training Equipment Site on Camp Funston. “Our unit’s equipment is here and all the companies are spread out throughout the state of Kansas, so this is a central location where we can bring everyone together — this is where we train, this is where all our equipment is and this is where we gather when we’re coming all together,” he said. Williams said he is prepared to take on any challenges the unit may face leading up to and during their deployment. However, he believes they will overcome any issues because of the years the Soldiers have spent working and training together within. Unlike active-duty Soldiers who change units more frequently, Army National Guard Soldiers remain together for years, allowing them to build strong ties with one another. “We’ve got a level of camaraderie and esprit de corps that’s kind of different then what traditional units see,” he said. Ferguson said he looks forward to seeing what Williams will do and what sort of mark in the unit’s history he will leave. “He won’t be another Col. Nelson, he will be Col. Williams and he will put his own imprint on the unit’s legacy,” Ferguson said.

Decade's first dining out for Warrior Transition Battalion

Story and photo by Sgt. Tamara Thompson
1ST INF. DIV. SUST. BDE. PUBLIC AFFAIRS

The Warrior Transition Battalion, 1st Infantry Division Sustainment Brigade, held their first dining out at the Courtyard by Marriott hotel in Junction City, Kansas, Aug. 5. Sgt. 1st Class Jennifer Cox, force protection noncommissioned officer for the 1st Inf. Div. Sust. Bde., spoke about her experience of having a brain tumor removed while working at a WTB in 2015. “I just want to share my story in a way that will encourage them or motivate them to ... keep going, because life is hard,” Cox said. Cox, a military police officer, began her career in 2001 at Fort Carson, Colorado. She has been a drill sergeant, worked with Military Police Investigations and the Criminal Investigation Division and, most recently, served as cadre at a WTB while at Joint Base Lewis McCord, Washington. “Being the cadre at the WTB is the opposite of being a drill sergeant,” she said. “I felt like I found my niche for it because I really enjoy helping people.” Cox was diagnosed with a brain tumor four months after the birth of her second child. In February 2015, Cox had a craniotomy. According to Cox, the long recovery period was challenging but she was able to overcome the pain and regain her energy. “One of the most important things I have learned is you have to keep going,” Cox said. “If you try and look at it too big it can be overwhelming... you have to

ask for help and have people you can rely on. It has to be a team effort.” During the event, the attendees were able to mingle and enjoy a meal. It was also a chance for Cox to spend time with Soldiers who knew of her experience while she was dealing with the brain tumor. “Watching Sgt. 1st Class Cox in the whole situation, it never occurred to her, you can tell, that this or a hell of a lot more would get her down,” Maj. David Raines, WTB executive officer, said. “When I thought about a message not only for our cadre and our Soldiers in transition, and what is possible, I immediately thought of Sgt. 1st Class Cox.” According to Cox, her biggest struggle is dealing with her brain. “My brain just doesn’t function the way that it used to,” she said. “That’s normal with any kind of head injury... other parts of my brain are kicking in and I’m just having to learn to do things a little bit differently than I used to.” Cox remains grateful her tumor was benign and she didn’t have to do chemotherapy and radiation. She said her family’s support motivates her and, she draws inspiration from others, especially children, who have to go through brain cancer. “I have been fortunate to stay on active duty,” Cox said. “I have days I wish (I could) wake up on my own schedule and put on civilian clothes, but honestly, when it comes down to it, nothing gives me more purpose than putting on the uniform and serving my country.”



Sgt. 1st Class Jennifer Cox, 1st Infantry Division Sustainment Brigade, speaks at the 1st Warrior Transition Battalion Dining Out Aug. 5 at the Courtyard by Marriott hotel in Junction City, Kansas. Cox was the guest speaker for the first WTB dining out in 10 years.

NATIONAL GUARD PREPARES FOR DEPLOYMENT AT FORT RILEY



COURTESY PHOTO

A Soldier from the 2nd Combined Arms Battalion, 137th Infantry Regiment, Kansas National Guard, lays out and cleans equipment Aug. 12 at the Maneuver Area Training Equipment Site on Camp Funston. The unit recently returned from an NTC rotation with the 155th Armored Brigade Combat Team, Mississippi National Guard as they prepare for a deployment in the upcoming year.



THE FIGHTING FIRST!

Carlton Franklin: A ‘Big Red One’ Soldier



By Phyllis Fitzgerald
SPECIAL TO THE POST

A native of Dallas, Carlton Franklin served with the Marine Corps for 15 years, from December 1991 to December 2006, before joining the Army for the final seven years of his career.

Franklin received his Marine basic training at San Diego. He received training as an accounting clerk and Marine aviation maintenance data specialist for F-18 fighters. During his 15 years in the Marine Corps he was assigned to the Marine Corps Air Station is MCAS

“In 2007, after all personal family matters were resolved I decided to return to defending this great nation,” Franklin said.

His decision was due to the fact he missed the military environment and the camaraderie, he said. He joined the Army in October, 2007.

Being prior service, Franklin was only required to attend Advanced Individual Training. At Fort Eustis, Virginia he trained as an 88N, transportation management coordinator. After training, Franklin was assigned to Fort Riley, serving in the S-4 logistics, branch of the 1st Infantry Division Sustainment Brigade as a movement supervisor.

In 2007, while deployed to Camp Taji, Iraq, he was injured and transported to the Fort Riley Warrior Transition Battalion to recover from injuries.

In February 2012, Franklin was assigned to the Warrior Transition Battalion but this time as cadre.

“I was instrumental in helping wounded warriors either heal to get back in the fight or transition smoothly into civilian population,” Franklin said. “During this tenure, I had the privilege and honor of serving as platoon sergeant and acting first sergeant for approximately 500 warriors. I had the distinct honor of working and learning from 1st Sgt. Ruben Roman, Sgt. 1st Class Galley, and Sgt. 1st Class Mitchell — all of whom helped to make this assignment successful.”

In December 2014, Franklin retired and stayed in the Junction City, Kansas ,area “because I fell in love with Junction City, its people, and the community, which is full of retired veterans.”

The Franklins have four children,. Three have graduated from Junction City High School, while the fourth graduated from high school in Texas. One of their daughters is serving in the United States Air Force and Carlton’s spouse, Darnetta, works as a supervisory medical support assistant at Irwin Army Community Hospital.

“It is a career in which she loves,” Franklin said.

Today Carlton works at the Department of Veteran Affairs as a contact representative helping Veterans enroll for their health benefits. He is also a Shriner at Fayum Temple 209, and a Mason.

“My favorite Big Red One Memory is the camaraderie and the great relationship working with CW2 Davis and Maj. Schmidt – we were a great team. We were able to get Soldiers in and out of country successfully and had fun doing it. Our colonel trusted us to get the job done in a timely manner. Also, the personal relationships I have/had with Sgt. 1st Class Shawn Boiko, Sgt. 1st Class Anthony Gibson, 1st Sgt. Ruben Roman, Master Sgt., Coleman, and Staff Sgt. Marlon Bates I will forever treasure.”

THEN & NOW



Yuma, Arizona; Camp Lejeune, North Carolina; Quantico, Virginia, the Marine Corps Recruiting Depot at Parris Island, South Carolina; the Naval Air Station at Meridian, Mississippi, NAS-Joint Base Fort Worth, Texas, and Camp Pendleton, California.

“While stationed at Camp Pendleton I made the decision to depart the Marines due to personal family issues with my elderly mother,” Franklin said.

While living in Dallas, he became a law enforcement officer for the Dallas Police Department. He served with the DPD for approximately 9 months.

“During this time, I was afforded the opportunity to complete my education by obtaining my Associate’s Degree from Barton County Community College,” Franklin said. “After healing, in January 2009, I was re-assigned to Fort Eustis, Virginia as a transportation supervisor.”

While there, he deployed and served in Baghdad.

In December 2010, Franklin returned to the ‘Big Red One’ at Fort Riley, and was assigned to the 1st Armored Brigade Combat Team S-4 shop as a transportation supervisor.

He assisted Chief Warrant Officer 2 Katrina Davis, Maj. Mike Volpe and Maj. Eric Schmidt in the deployment and re-deployment of 1st ABCT personnel and equipment.

Breaking the mold through leadership

Story and photo by Chad L. Simon
1ST INF. DIV. PUBLIC AFFAIRS

Warrant Officer Elida Garza, human resources officer, Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 1st Combat Aviation Brigade, 1st Infantry Division, has always tried to set the example, from being the oldest of four children to being a Soldier and now a warrant officer in the Army.

According to fiscal year 2016 statistics, women comprise 15 percent of the Army’s total personnel, and Hispanic women account for 10 percent of all warrant officers. However, Garza is accustomed to being a minority.

The 10-year Army veteran was born the U.S. but was raised in Piedras Negras, Mexico, until her father’s jewelry business faltered when she was 9 years old. At that point her family moved back to the U.S. to live in Eagle Pass, Texas, where her father found a job as a truck driver.

The move to Texas lead to Garza taking more of a leadership role in her family as her father was gone for periods of time.

“I was the oldest of four kids,” Garza said. “I had three brothers so they looked up to me. My mom needed help and I was trying to learn English myself. I had to help her pay bills because she didn’t understand. My dad traveled a lot so he was never home, so I was a second mom to my brothers because my mom was busy.”

A self-described tomboy, Garza spent a lot of time feeding horses across from her home and roller skating. She played with

friends of her younger brothers because there were not many girls in the new neighborhood.

“My mom noticed I was being a tomboy, so she enrolled me in modeling classes,” Garza said. “I modeled for stores in the mall. I competed in beauty pageants and became a beauty queen.”

Garza enjoyed the opportunity to see herself in a different light, but still remained grounded in who she was as a person.

“I enjoyed it,” Garza said. “It was something different. I don’t want to say that I was shy, but I went from being a tomboy to seeing a different side of myself.”

“As you grow up you realize that this ‘outside thing’ does not matter as much. It is good for confidence, but the outside is just superficial. How smart you are and what your goals are is what matters. That does not change, ever. Between having good grades, playing soccer in school and being (in the) Junior Reserve Officer Training Corps, it helped shape me. Not because my mom wanted me to be a pageant queen like she was and her sisters were. There is something more to me than that.”

Garza’s plans and goals after high school were not typical in her traditional Hispanic household. She wanted to attend college and pursue dentistry in San Antonio. Instead, she took one year of classes at a local community college before joining the Army.

“My dad didn’t want me to go to the university in San Antonio because he thought I should get married before I was to leave the house,” Garza said.

“I did go to junior college for one year after I graduated from high school and he was OK with that I think because I still lived in the house. I don’t think he really liked the idea of me going out and getting my degree and being independent. He thought I should be somebody’s wife first, and I didn’t agree with that.”

If her parents didn’t like Garza’s ideas of wanting to be an independent woman, they sure weren’t going to like her reason for joining the Army — love.

“My dad was never really home,” Garza said. “I guess he didn’t think it would be for real. When the recruiters picked me up, my mom was there and she was like ‘Do your best.’ I don’t think she was prepared for it. I also didn’t tell her that I had got married in secret either.”

Garza’s high-school sweetheart planned to join the Army.

“I really loved him, so I told him ‘I will just join the military with you,’” she said. “We swore in side-by-side together, and we both became human resource specialists. We went to the same basic training and AIT (advanced individual training). Talk about awkward honeymoons — we got married five days before we swore in.”

Garza rose to the rank of staff sergeant before being selected to become a warrant officer.

“The Army has awesome opportunities,” Garza said. “I learned leadership skills. I liked the discipline, the following of orders, the chain of command, the background to the purpose of me processing paperwork. I

like that I can actually help out a Soldier. It is just so much more to me than just administrative paperwork. I am processing paperwork for someone that needs their orders amended. We can really help out Soldiers, not just process paperwork.”

Garza credits her successful military career to leaders she’s had during her time in the Army, but especially at her first duty station, Joint Base Lewis-McChord near Tacoma, Washington. She didn’t have far to look for a role model.

“Sgt. Rebecca Fontes, she was the first leader I had in the Army,” Garza said. “I still keep in contact with her even though she had to get out of the Army. She instilled into me to do research and how to be a strong female leader. I looked up to her a lot. She always has a positive attitude. She was amazing at physical fitness. I told her I wanted to be an NCO (noncommissioned officer) like her and I did become an NCO. I called her and told her that she was my role model.”

Garza’s first officer in charge was Chief Warrant Officer 3 Victor Trinidad. He laid the groundwork for Garza to one day become a warrant officer.

“He taught me that you never stop being an NCO, you are just in background working in the shadows like Batman,” Garza said. “I just really like that because at the end of the day it is selfless service, one of our seven Army values. I learned a lot from him, and I said one day I would be become a warrant officer.”



Warrant Officer Elida Garza, human resources officer, 1st Combat Aviation Brigade, 1st Infantry Division, stays in physical shape by running up “Demon Hill” Aug. 10 at Fort Riley, Kansas. Garza believes in being in great physical shape to set the standard for her Soldiers.

Though she had great role models at her first duty station, like all Soldiers, Garza has had to deal with personal challenges while being in the Army, including a miscarriage and a divorce. She feels those hard times made her a better Soldier and a better leader.

“I have come through some difficult chapters in my life,” Garza said. “Anything can happen to you. You can have

a miscarriage and lose a baby. You can get divorced, but it will always be how you react to those situations that matters. You have the power. After that, you have this knowledge in you to help somebody else that is struggling with a similar challenge. You already know how to help them.”

Garza reacted to her miscarriage by becoming

TRAFFIC REPORT

ACCESS CONTROL POINT HOURS

Those wanting access to Fort Riley on weekends should use Estes, Ogden, Henry or Trooper gates.

For more information about Fort Riley access procedures, visit www.riley.army.mil.

The access control point hours are:

Henry/Trooper/Ogden/Estes:

Open 24/7. Commercial traffic at Estes is required to have an access pass or badge prior to trying to access.

12th Street:

Open from 5 a.m. to 7 p.m., Monday to Friday closed weekends and federal holidays. This gate will have inbound commercial vehicle lanes only. Although personally-owned vehicles will be allowed access, there is no designated POV lane.

Outbound traffic is not authorized. Badges and passes may be issued to commercial drivers prior to access at the gate.

Grant:

Open from 5 a.m. to 2 p.m., Monday to Friday; closed Saturdays, Sundays and federal holidays.

ACCESS CONTROL POINT HOURS CHANGING

Hours of operation at two of Fort Riley’s access control points have

changed. Until further notice, the Grant Street gate will be open from 6 a.m. to 2 p.m. Monday through Friday, closed weekends and federal holidays. Hours of 12th Street gate will be 5 a.m. to 7 p.m. Monday through Friday only, closed weekends and federal holidays.

The changes are necessary to maintain Soldiers’ readiness for future training and deployment requirements.

Four additional access control points – Estes, Henry, Ogden and Trooper – remain open 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

For more information about visiting Fort Riley, go to www.riley.army.mil/ and click on the yellow “Accessing Fort Riley” tab on the right-hand side of the page. Questions about visiting Fort Riley can be answered by the Directorate of Emergency Services security branch; call 785-239-3138 or 785-239-2982.

TROOPER DRIVE ROAD WORK

Night road work will be performed on Trooper Drive starting at Rifle Range Road to Apennines Drive from 6 p.m. to 5:30 a.m. The work begins Aug. 7 and is expected to continue until Sept. 29.

New Beginnings for appraisal program

1ST INF. DIV. POST STAFF REPORT

New Beginnings, according to the Department of Defense Personnel Advisory Service, is designed to implement improvements to DOD Human Resource practices and policies, including implementation of a new Defense-wide Performance Management and Appraisal Program. New Beginnings encompasses reforms impacting Performance Management, Hiring Flexibilities, Training and Development and Workforce Incentives.

The new performance management and appraisal system will begin implementation at Fort Riley in April with those in GS-13 and above positions attending training before entering the new system June 1. The rollout will be in stages with the last segment of civilian employees entering the new system July 1, 2018.

To find out more information, the staff of the 1st Infantry Division Post will publish it as it rolls out and from the frequently asked questions addressed by the team at the DOD Civilian Personnel Advisory Service.

Question and answer for this week:

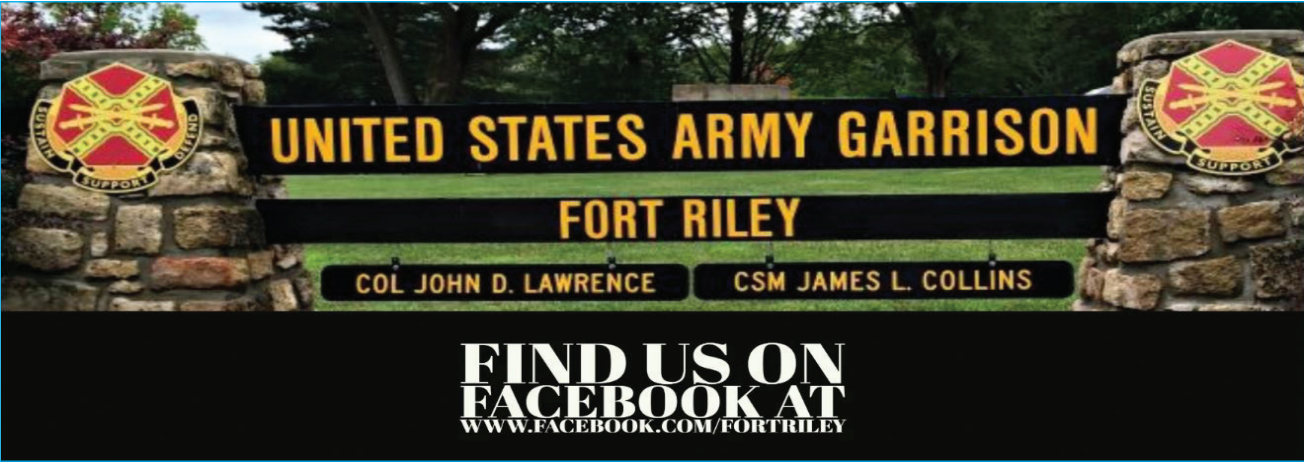
Q: What does the Hiring Manager’s toolkit consist of?

A: The Hiring Manager’s Toolkit addresses the four key phases of the hiring process: Planning to Hire, Attracting the Candidate, Making Hiring Decisions and Shaping Early Experiences, and promotes collaboration between the hiring manager and Human Resources professionals. The toolkit provides an all-encompassing resource for hiring managers, and is comprised of an online collection of guides, checklists, quick references, pamphlets, and tip sheets for the hiring manager and Human Resources staff. Here are a few examples of the guides included in the toolkit: Guide to Workforce Planning, Job Analysis Guide, Hiring Options Guide, Guide to Veterans Hiring, Interview Guidelines, and the Onboarding Guide.

TO FIND OUT MORE ABOUT THE NEW BEGINNINGS SYSTEM, VISIT WWW.CPMS.OSD.MIL/SUBPAGE/NEWBEGINNINGS/NBHOME

CORRECTION

Editor’s Note: Last week, two Soldiers were not properly identified in a story on page 8 in the 1st Infantry Division Post. To view the full story with proper unit citation for the Soldiers, visit www.riley.army.mil/News/Article-Display/Article/1279999/courtesy-patrol-keeps-soldiers-safe-out-of-trouble-at-night/.



RILEY ROUNDTABLE

Who was the most influential women in your life?



"My mom because she takes care of me and when I was a baby she fed me and changed me."

ZARIAH JOHNSON
MANHATTAN, KANSAS

Daughter of Frederick Johnson, Fort Riley contractor



"My mother. She's brought me to the world and taught me things no other woman could have."

STAFF SGT. MARYANN ESPIRITU
GUAM

Company E, 1st Attack Reconnaissance Battalion, 1st Aviation Regiment, 1st Combat Aviation Brigade, 1st Infantry Division



"My mother. She taught me all the values that I have today."

STAFF SGT. MAHAMADOUN SANGHO
COLUMBIA, SOUTH CAROLINA

24th Composite Truck Company, 541st Combat Sustainment Support Battalion, 1st Infantry Division Sustainment Brigade



"My mother. She pretty much taught me everything I need to know."

STAFF SGT. ERNEST ADAMS
SUMTER, SOUTH CAROLINA

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



"My mom's friend Yolanda, because she brought us our first couch and she was one of the first people we met when we came to America."

DANIELLA OKORIE
JUNCTION CITY, KANSAS

Daughter Capt. Daniel Korie, 1st Battalion, 7th Field Artillery Regiment, 2nd Armored Brigade Combat Team, 1st Infantry Division

THE 1ST INFANTRY DIVISION POST

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

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

Circulation 8,800 copies each week.

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

COMMANDING GENERAL
Maj. Gen. Joseph M. Martin

PUBLIC AFFAIRS OFFICER
Lt. Col. Joey Sullinger

PUBLISHER
Chris Walker

FORT RILEY EDITORIAL STAFF
Collen McGee, Andy Massanet, Maria Childs, Season Osterfeld, Suet Lee-Growney and Kalene Lozick

MEDIA SALES MANAGER
Meredith Storm

MEDIA SALES REPRESENTATIVES
Kim Maguire and Shannon Fritz

CONTACT US
For business or advertising matters, call The Daily Union in Junction City at 785-762-5000.
For news offerings, call the Fort Riley Public Affairs Office at 785-239-3328 or DSN 856-3328, or email usarmy.riley.imcom.mbx.post-newspaper@mail.mil

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

FATALITY-FREE DAYS

404

As of Wednesday, Aug. 16, 404 days have passed since the last vehicular fatality at Fort Riley. Safe driving doesn't happen by accident. For more information about safety, call the Garrison Safety Office at 785-239-0514.

COMMAND TEAM CORNER

Celebrate 100 years of the 'Big Red One' at Victory Week

Soldiers, families and friends of the 1st Infantry Division,

Get ready for a celebration literally 100 years in the making.

When the 1st Infantry Division formed in June 1917, our goal was to end the war in Europe before it could cause destruction on a global scale. At battles like Cantigny, we proved the might of the American warfighter and the capability of the "Big Red One."

For the next century, we built upon that early legacy in World War II, Vietnam, the Balkans, Afghanistan and Iraq. It's a proud tradition we carry on today, and one we are celebrating now during Victory Week.

Typically held in June to commemorate our birthday — June 8 — and the Army's birthday — June 14 — Victory Week is our annual celebration of all things Big Red One. From sporting events to ceremonies, it is a time to reflect on our history and come together as a Team.

This year, we rescheduled Victory Week to Aug. 16-25 to enable as many units as possible to participate. This includes Headquarters and Headquarters Battalion,



Brig. Gen.
William A. Turner

recently returned from Iraq where the division supported Iraqi Security Forces in their fight to defeat ISIS and liberate the city of Mosul; 1st Armored Brigade Combat Team, 1st Inf. Div., recently redeployed from South Korea where they were deterring North Korean aggression; and the 1st Combat Aviation Brigade, 1st Inf. Div., recently redeployed from Afghanistan where they were fighting the Taliban. We are indeed fortunate to have nearly the entire division together at Fort Riley, but also want to remember 1st Heavy Attack Reconnaissance Squadron, 6th Cavalry Regiment, 1st CAB, which continues to serve in South Korea, and a number of 1st Infantry Division

Sustainment Brigade units serving around the globe. It will be a great week as our Big Red One Soldiers who are present will join tenant and garrison units at Fort Riley in sporting competitions with the ultimate goal of taking home the coveted Commander's Cup. It will be a great week.

Sporting events began this week, including basketball, flag football, combatives and more. I hope you were able to attend and cheer on your favorite units, but if not, no worries — finals for basketball and soccer will take place Aug. 21, bowling, softball and football will be Aug. 22 and combatives will be Aug. 24. I wish all of our Soldiers and Airmen the best of luck as they vie for first place.

In addition to sports, there are plenty of Victory Week events for families and friends to enjoy. The Victory Fest concert and fireworks display will be Aug. 19 on Marshall Army Airfield. Victory Fest will begin at 11 a.m. with local bands on the second stage — including our own 1st Infantry Division Band — followed by headliners Lit, The Charlie Daniels Band, The All-American Rejects and Eli Young Band on the main stage. This event is open to all. For

tickets and more information, see victoryfest2017.com.

While a time for celebration, Victory Week is also a time to remember those who made the ultimate sacrifice in service to the nation. During the Victory Park Memorial Ceremony Aug. 22, we will lay a wreath in the beautiful park next to division headquarters dedicated to our fallen Soldiers. In our 100th year, we will memorialize 85 personnel and will unveil their stones during the ceremony.

We will also have the opportunity to properly honor those who served their country in Vietnam at a special Vietnam Veterans Welcome Home Ceremony Aug. 23 on Marshall Army Airfield. I invite all interested veterans to attend, giving the Big Red One and your supporters in the greater Flint Hills community a chance to give you the honorable return you deserved more than 50 years ago. Please RSVP to rileywelcomehome@gmail.com. And finally, please join us for the division review on Aug. 25 which will conclude the week's festivities.

I hope to see you all at the many events and ceremonies we have planned for Victory Week.

Duty First!

Brig. Gen. William A. Turner
1st Inf. Div. and Fort Riley acting senior commander

SAFETY CORNER

Back to school: Keep children safe on, off playground

By Dawn Douglas
GARRISON SAFETY OFFICE

It went by so fast, but summer is almost over. This means back-to-school season is upon us. While school shopping for supplies, clothes and meals, one of the most important tasks parents should complete before sending children back to school is the talk about safety.

While there are a lot of ways children can get injured, the most common safety topics are:

- Bus safety
- Backpack safety
- Playground safety
- Sports safety

SCHOOL BUS SAFETY

Team Riley, school buses are designed for safety, with flashing lights, giant mirrors, high seat backs and that bright yellow color, riding a bus to school is safer than riding in the family vehicle or walking. School buses across the nation are adding lap and shoulder belts to ensure the safest ride for children. Children need to know the importance of wearing seat belts and imitation is the best example.

Some other safety tips include:

Getting On:

Speak to your children about safety while waiting for the bus including staying away from traffic, selecting the safest route to the bus stop, paying attention to instructions given by crossing guards and the school bus driver.

Behavior:

Remind children, if seat belts are available, they should buckle up. Allowing the bus driver to operate the bus without distraction is important in getting your child to their destination safely. Speaking to

children in advance about appropriate behavior on the bus including remaining seated, keeping head, arms and hands inside of the bus and protecting personal belonging are key discussion points.

Getting Off:

Exiting the bus can be very dangerous due things like crowding behavior, which can cause trips and falls. Explaining to children they must use handrails while exiting, make sure vehicle drivers can see them when they are crossing the street and crossing at designated cross walks can help prevent accidents and injuries.

Remember, according to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, more school-age pedestrians have been killed during the hour before and after school than any other time of day. Although drivers are required by law to stop for a school bus when it's loading or unloading passengers, they often don't. Children should not rely on them to do so.

BACKPACK SAFETY

When you move your child's backpack after he or she drops it at the door, does it feel like it contains 40 pounds of rocks? Maybe you've noticed your child struggling to put it on, bending forward while carrying it or complaining of tingling or numbness. If you've been concerned about the effects that extra weight might have on your child's still-growing body, your instincts are correct.

Backpacks that are too heavy can cause a lot of problems for kids, like back and shoulder pain and poor posture. The American Chiropractic Association recommends a backpack weigh no more than

10 percent of a child's weight. In addition, select backpacks that have padded back and shoulder traps, multiple compartments, compression straps on the sides or bottom to stabilize content and have some type of reflective material.

PLAYGROUND SAFETY

Forty years ago everything on the playground was made of metal. Slides were so hot they could burn skin; giant strides and spinning merry-go-rounds jerked and slung kids in different directions; and monkey bars put children 10 feet in the air with rock-hard earth or concrete underneath.

Fortunately, playgrounds are not made like that anymore and that's a good thing. But a recent study by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention finds emergency departments still see more than 20,000 children ages 14 and younger for playground-related traumatic brain injury each year.

The biggest injury concern on playgrounds are falls. Some of the top equipment associated with injuries are climbers, swings, slides and overhead ladders, according to the National Program for Playground Safety. To prevent traumatic head injuries parents should make sure that:

- Playgrounds have adequate surfacing to absorb the impact of falls — rubber mats, loose fill material, shredded tires should be at least 12 inches deep
- The area under and around play equipment should be free and clear of obstructions at least 6 feet in all directions.
- Watch out for bolts, hooks, rungs, etc. that could catch strings or items of clothing.

- There should be no opening that measures between 3.5 and 9 inches to prevent head entrapments.
- Playgrounds should have adequate supervision and read equipment criteria to determine age appropriateness. Toddlers should not play on equipment that was designed for school age children.

SPORTS SAFETY

One of the biggest issues involving sports related injuries is concussions. Every three minutes a child in the U.S. is treated for a sports-related concussion. Don't think it's just football players — or boys — who bang their heads. In sports in which girls and boys participate, girls suffer a higher percentage of concussions, according to a 2013 Game Changers report by Safe Kids Worldwide.

About 12 percent of all emergency room visits involved a concussions in basketball incidents, 11.5 percent of girls and 7.2 percent of boys were diagnosed with concussions. In soccer, 17.1 percent of girls and 12.4 percent of boys suffered concussions.

Know the symptoms of concussions — confusion, forgetfulness, glassy eyes, disorientation, clumsiness or poor balance, slowed speech and changes in moods, behavior or personality.

Send your children off school equipped with everything tool they need to achieve maximum success, including safety. For more information, contact the United States Army Garrison Safety Office, 785-240-0647.

July US district court results released

OFFICE OF THE STAFF JUDGE ADVOCATE

United States District Court at Fort Riley is part of the United States Federal Court system for the District of Kansas. The Court handles all traffic tickets issued to Soldiers and civilians that occur on Fort Riley and all criminal cases against civilians.

JULY 6, 2017

Nathen W. Moore; Junction City, Kansas, pleaded guilty to Possession of

Paraphernalia. District Court sentence: \$500 fine and \$25 special assessment.

Amber L. Flores; Fort Riley, Kansas, pleaded guilty to Disorderly Conduct. District Court sentence: \$200 fine and \$5 special assessment.

Michelle D. Olson; Junction City, Kansas, pleaded guilty to Theft of Government Property. District Court sentence: \$250 fine and \$25 special assessment.

Scott G. Zima; Junction City, Kansas, pleaded guilty to Stalking. District Court

sentence: one year supervised probation, \$50 restitution, and \$25 special assessment.

JULY 20, 2017

Ryan W. Irvine; Wamego, Kansas, pleaded guilty to Driving While License is Suspended or Revoked. District Court sentence: \$100 fine and \$10 special assessment.

Kelly R. Barber, Fort Riley, pleaded guilty to Criminal Damage to Property and Disorderly Conduct. District Court sentence: \$200 fine and \$15 special assessment.

The next USAG Resilience Day Off is

SEPT.

1

WWW.FACEBOOK.COM/FORTRILEY

FALLEN Continued from page 1

As for the importance of SOS, Strickland said, “it (SOS) is very important in setting the context for these events (death of a Soldier). There are so many circumstances, and these things tend to happen so quickly, with so many variables around them that the families often only know the result of these actions and they don’t know what their loved one was actually doing and what the teammates were actually doing.”

Strickland added this uncertainty leads to families not knowing how the Army regards them now that the Soldier has been lost.

“I think that SOS helps them process through some of that ambiguity so they can find their own meaning out of these events,” he said. “The Soldiers lean on each other and know when something is bothering one of them, whereas parents might not have that.”

For all that is available for Soldiers – and, whether they take advantage of the support the Army makes available is up to them – the families have a more challenging row to

hoe. And the reason, as Gary said, is that grief over the loss of a Soldier “is a personal journey.”

Gary said families who lose a Soldier go through feelings of isolation from the community they are part of, but with a significant difference: “They often think that, since their Soldier is gone, they are no longer part of the Army.”

Overcoming that doubt requires work that establishes trust, Gary said.

“There’s a lot of trust-building that takes place here (at SOS),” she said. “You just can’t pick up the phone and say ‘oh hey, come on down, let’s get involved.’ They (those who are grieving) aren’t really that open. So you have to establish a relationship with them, in order to get them to move out of that closed space that they’re in. Then they can get more involved because the more involved that they are, the more connected they feel, they feel like their Soldier’s not forgotten and they’re not forgotten. And that’s really what we’re here for.”

The ‘closed space’ Gary refers to speaks of the tendency for people who are grieving to remain apart and isolated from those who might help them.

REJOINING THE COMMUNITY

Once in Kansas, the Franks began to come to Fort Riley to participate in events intended for Gold Star families. But it all began with an invitation.

“One of the first major outreaches to Keeley was from (Brig.) Gen. Frank,” Randy said.

Brig. Gen. Patrick Frank (no relation) was, at the time, the deputy commanding general for maneuver for the Big Red One. He eventually became the 1st Inf. Div. acting senior commander while Maj. Gen. Joseph Martin and the Division headquarters deployed to Iraq from 2016 to 2017.

“He sent her an invitation to an event,” Randy said. “I can’t remember what the event was but it was up there near the 1st ID headquarters, where the stones are located (Victory Park). He was very good to us. He’s a wonderful Soldier. He took the time to step away from the dignitaries to speak to

Keeley, which really impressed me. Then later, his wife did the same thing. Without knowing anything about her (Keeley), they both sat at a picnic table, just the two of them, for about 45 minutes talking about whatever.”

Gary said talking to survivors of a Soldier in combat is not easy, adding that death is usually a topic avoided.

“I’ve talked to senior leaders who are unsure how to talk to a person who has lost a Soldier,” Gary said. “They might say ‘I’m so sorry for your loss,’ when what the grieving person really wants to know if they are still welcome.”

There are many military families out there who have not reached out to the Army for support, Gary said, and Randy agrees.

“We’re not the only Gold Star Family that needs closure,” he said. “There are many others out there who need it, but you have to reach the point where you feel you need that closure, and then you can reach out for it.”

For more information about Fort Riley Survivor Outreach Services, call 785-239-9435.

GARZA Continued from page 3

even more physically fit than she was prior to her pregnancy.

“I didn’t know how to cope with it so I focused on physical fitness,” she said. “Two months after it I enrolled in Air Assault (School) and I completed the course. That helped me from within to say that I am a person that this happened to, and it could happen to anyone, but that there was nothing wrong with my body.”

Garza has learned to take a step back and allow her Soldiers to lead since becoming a warrant officer one year ago. She is supportive of their ideas and allows them to put their ideas into action.

“I came up with the idea, but we go out as a shop,” said Sgt. Bevelyn Kozma, human resources noncommissioned officer, 1st CAB. “We have gone out to lunch or bowling. Some leaders separate themselves from that, but she is very easy to talk to about anything.”

Kozma sees the same qualities in Garza that Garza saw in Fontes a decade ago.

“I think she sets a great example,” Kozma said. “She has medals up on her wall and I think ‘Man, I might want to try and do something like a marathon.’ I look up to her and I am inspired by her. If I

think I can’t do something or I have a little doubt, she has no problem telling me ‘You know you can do that.’ She gives me motivation.”

Some of the motivation is to be the best Soldier possible, no matter a Soldier’s gender.

“I think she is a true example what a female should be in the Army,” Kozma said. “As in, don’t let the other gender tell you that you can’t do something when you believe you can do something. Just keep moving forward regardless of how many obstacles you have to jump over. Just keep moving forward and drive on.”

‘Devil’s Den’ open for business



Pvt. Julio Angel Diaz Rivera, center, a tank driver with 3rd Battalion, 66th Armored Regiment, 1st Armored Brigade Combat Team, 1st Infantry Division; Command Sgt. Maj. Mulivai Matau, 1st Bn., 16th Inf. Regt., 1st ABCT, senior noncommissioned officer; and Col. Charles Armstrong, 1st ABCT commander; cut a celebratory cake during the grand reopening of the 1st ABCT dining facility, the Devil's Den, Aug. 7. The grand reopening followed a remodeling of the facility and updating of the menu

Story and photo Capt. Jonathan T. Camire
1ST ABCT PUBLIC AFFAIRS

Following the return of the Soldiers from their recent rotation to South Korea, the 1st Armored Brigade Combat Team, 1st Infantry Division, celebrated the grand reopening of the Devil’s Den dining facility Aug. 7.

Devil’s Den closed in September 2016 in preparation for brigade’s nine-month rotation to South Korea. Upon returning to Fort Riley, the Devil brigade dining facility personnel spent weeks preparing the dining facility, according to Warrant Officer Deandria

Rogers, food service officer. Along with preparing the DFAC for operation, the DFAC personnel updated their menus, upgraded the cooking equipment and repainted the facility.

“It felt good to see the Soldiers come in with so much excitement in their eyes,” Rogers said. “We have more plans and ideas for the dining facility. We want to make the facility more than a dining facility but an atmosphere where Soldiers can relax.”

The Devil’s Den personnel are planning on incorporating additional fitness bars and more remodeling of the DFAC to include incorporating the brigade logo and photos of their recent rotation to South Korea.

“The food was great,” said Pvt. Julio Angel Diaz Rivera, a tank driver with 3rd Battalion, 66th Armored Regiment, 1st ABCT. “It is a very friendly environment and a lot of variety of food.”

Rivera, at 19 years of age, was the youngest Soldier in the DFAC during the grand opening and participated with the cutting of a cake with Col. Charles Armstrong, commander of the 1st ABCT and Command Sgt. Maj. Mulivai Matau, 1st Bn., 16th Inf. Regt., 1st ABCT, senior noncommissioned officer.

The Devil brigade dining facility will provide meals for an average of 1,200 Soldiers, families and civilians across the installation daily.

Family and MWR Presents
In partnership with Junction City, Kansas State University and City of Manhattan

ELI YOUNG BAND

THE ALL-AMERICAN REJECTS

THE CHARLIE DANIELS BAND

LIT

TICKETS Starting at \$25

Music Festival
Fireworks
Auto Show
Family Activities
USO Show Troupe

August 19, 2017
Marshall Army Airfield - Fort Riley
MORE INFORMATION AVAILABLE ONLINE
VictoryFest2017.com
OPEN TO THE GENERAL PUBLIC • PHOTO ID REQUIRED

Cars & Coffee
Third Sunday of the month, 11am
Warrior Zone

- \$2 GRANDE COFFEE
- 50¢ WAFFLES & PANCAKES
- CAR MEET
- YARD GAMES
- CAR OF THE MONTH

- Free to attend
- Must be 18+ to enter the Warrior Zone

For more information, call 785-240-6618

Everything you need to know about Fort Riley and the surrounding area is at your fingertips!

Whether you are on your computer, tablet or phone, get info in seconds at:
www.mybaseguide.com/army/23/fort_riley

FORT RILEY
GUIDE AND DIRECTORY
All content is approved by the Fort Riley Public Affairs Office

Find out more about Fort Riley, even while on the go! Scan the QR code to download the app.

The MyBaseGuide mobile app is available on Android, iOS and Windows devices.



Members of the Historical and Archaeological Society of Fort Riley talk while dressed in period attire during the organization's annual Ice Cream Social Aug. 13 at the Custer House. The Ice Cream Social was HASFR's annual membership drive to recruit more people as lifetime members.

Did You Know?

• Never look at the uneclipsed or partially eclipsed sun through an unfiltered lens. This is important even if wearing eclipse glasses or holding a solar viewer at the same time. The sun's rays are too powerful coming through these devices and will damage a person's eyes.

Don't lose sight of safety for eclipse

Officials urge using caution when viewing astronomical event

By Douglas H. Stutz
NAVAL HOSPITAL BREMERTON
PUBLIC AFFAIRS

NAVAL HOSPITAL BREMERTON, Wash. — The much-anticipated Aug. 21 total eclipse of the sun — with the sun being completely blocked out by passage of the moon — will be initially visible in Oregon and continue across North America to South Carolina. This will be a spectacular sight, but caution should be taken to keep your sight.

"Do not stare at the sun anytime," said Navy Cmdr. David Hessert, Naval Hospital Bremerton, Ophthalmology Clinic Department Head.

Staring — even squinting — at the sun can cause serious damage. Ophthalmologists strongly recommend to people avoid looking directly at the sun during the upcoming total eclipse. Sight safety is the reason.

According to the American Academy of Ophthalmology in association with the American Astronomical Society, staring at the sun during the total eclipse for even a short time without wearing the right eye protection can permanently damage the retina.

"There is no treatment from getting such eye damage. It affects clarity of vision and even reading from a distance. Prevention is the key," stressed Hessert, acknowledging that the upcoming event is certain to attract more than its share of curiosity sight-seekers.

On the day of the eclipse if the sky is clear, most will be able to see a partial eclipse lasting two to three hours. Anyone within an approximate 70-mile-wide path from Oregon to South Carolina referred to as the 'path of totality' will experience the total eclipse. At that point, the moon will completely cover the face of the sun for up to 2 minutes 40 seconds and there will be total darkness.

"Unless you travel to Oregon, you will be viewing a par-

See ECLIPSE, page 9

The

Inside SCOOP!

Apple pie, ice cream social brings people together for historical society

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

The smell of warm apple pie, fresh from the oven, wafted from the Custer House and down the sidewalk groups of people to come inside and join chatting guests and members of the Historical and Archaeological Society of Fort Riley for the annual Ice Cream Social Aug. 13.

The Ice Cream Social was HASFR's annual membership drive to recruit more people as lifetime members.

"It's our big membership drive," said Shauna Laauwe, president of HASFR and wife of Lt. Col. Brad Laauwe, Headquarters and Headquarters Battalion, 1st Infantry Division. "We always take memberships via our website, but this is our time where we invite the community into Custer House and we let them sample some of Libby Custer's apple pies that are sold at (Fall) Apple Day."

Members of HASFR work to preserve and share Fort Riley's history with installation residents and visitors. Laauwe said. They do this by acting as docents for Custer House, hosting quarterly history chats, providing ghost tours and walking tours, such as the tour of homes and more. The organization also works directly with the Fort Riley Museums.

"We're a private organization, we're in coordination with the museums," she said.

See SCOOP, page 9

"We always take memberships via our website, but this is our time where we invite the community into Custer House and we let them sample some of Libby Custer's apple pies that are sold at (Fall) Apple Day."

SHAUNA LAAUWE
PRESIDENT, HISTORICAL
AND ARCHAEOLOGICAL
SOCIETY OF FORT RILEY

MORE INFORMATION

• For more information about the Historical and Archaeological Society of Fort Riley, visit www.fortrileyhistoricalsociety.org.



Children of Maj. Steven Robinette, 1st Armored Brigade Combat Team, 1st Infantry Division, chow down on apple pie made with Libby Custer's recipe during the Historical and Archaeological Society of Fort Riley for the annual Ice Cream Social Aug. 13 at the Custer House.

University, district earn technology grant

BY K-STATE NEWS

SALINA, Kan. — Jobs in science, technology, engineering and math are some of the most in-demand in today's workforce. Coupled that with an expanding focus put on STEM curriculum in the classroom, Kansas State University Polytechnic Campus and Geary County Unified School District 475 have joined together to enhance technology education for elementary, middle and high schools in Junction City, Milford, Grandview Plaza and Fort Riley.

Kansas State Polytechnic and USD 475 have been awarded a more than \$160,000 Title II grant that will help 12 schools in Geary County implement adequate technology

training for teachers, specifically in computer science and robotics, and increase STEM-related learning opportunities for underrepresented students. The grant, "Enriching and Integrating 21st Century Science and Skills into Today's Classroom Through Effective Partnerships," also provides for the purchase of new technology pieces for each classroom, such as a 3-D printer, Osmo kits, a Circuit Playground and Edison robots.

"The primary goal of the grant is to get new technology in both the hands of the teachers and the students through experiential and engaged learning, which is the polytechnic approach that this campus is passionate about," said Terri



K-STATE NEWS
Educators from Geary County schools tour the mechanical engineering technology lab during their visit to the Kansas State University Polytechnic Campus in June as part of the teacher institute funded by a grant awarded to USD 475 and Kansas State Polytechnic.

Gaeddert, director of academic operations for Kansas State Polytechnic. "We have a rich history that is rooted in technology education, so Kansas

State Polytechnic is proud to be collaborating with USD 475 on this vital effort to grow STEM

See GRANT, page 10

Aquatics program manager talks career

By Suet Lee-Grownney
1ST INF. DIV. POST

For 18 years, Hedy Noveroske has been the aquatics program manager at Fort Riley's Directorate of Family and Morale, Welfare and Recreation, but her career in the aquatics department began years before that.

Noveroske's journey began in 1990 during her teenage years when DFMWR was still called the Directorate of Community. Her first stint was lifeguarding at the Main Post Pool, a facility that is now closed.

"I started there as a lifeguard when I was 16 (years old) and worked through the

summer of my high school years and a little bit into my college years," she said.

Between her first few years of lifeguarding at several Fort Riley pools, and then accepting her permanent position as the aquatics program manager, Noveroske took some time off to start a family. She returned to lifeguarding in the summer of 1998 and in the following year, she was subsequently encouraged to apply for her current position.

"The aquatics director then was moving to Baumholder, Germany, so the position opened," Noveroske said.

See CAREER, page 9

FORT RILEY POST-ITS

VICTORY FEST 2017 TICKETS ON SALE

Victory Fest is Aug. 19 at Marshall Army Airfield and tickets are now available.

Individual general admission starts at \$25 for Department of Defense identification card holders, students and veterans. Non-affiliated civilian tickets start at \$35. Children 4 and under are free.

Four-ticket general admission packs start at \$85 for Department of Defense ID holders, students and veterans. Non-affiliated civilian tickets start at \$125.

Platinum access individual tickets, which include all-day access, covered seating, meals and more, are \$100 for ages 5 and up.

General admission group tickets are \$20 each. A minimum purchase of 25 tickets is required.

For more information or to purchase tickets, visit victoryfest2017.com.



USO KIDS FISHING DERBY

USO Fort Riley will host a Kids Fishing Derby and family barbecue Aug. 20 from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. at Moon Lake. Each child will receive a free fishing rod, reel and tackle kit while supplies last. The event is open to all children ages 5 through 15. Participants must register in person and in advance at the USO Center.

For more information, call 785-240-5328.



PARENT AND CHILD CRAFT CLASS

The Arts and Crafts Center, 6918 Trooper Drive, will have a parent and child craft class Aug. 20 from 1:30 to 4 p.m. The craft is mask making for \$5 per person.

Classes are divided by age and advanced registration is required. To register or for more information, call 785-239-9205.



SOLAR ECLIPSE VIEWING PARTY

Corvias will host a Solar Eclipse Viewing Party Aug. 21 from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Colyer Forsyth Community Center, 22900 Hitching Post Road. Viewing glasses and snacks will be available.

The event is free and open to all Corvias on-post residents. Children must be accompanied by an adult. No pets are allowed.

ADVENTURE PARK GRAND OPENING

The Outdoor Adventure and Travel Center will open the new Outdoor Adventure Park to the public Aug. 26 at 12:45 p.m.

Free use of park elements will be available all weekend.

Adventure Park Elements include:

- Ropes Course
- Paintball Courses
- Archery Range
- Rock Wall
- And more!

The Outdoor Adventure and Travel Center is at 5202 Normandy Drive. For more information, call 785-239-2363.

FALLEN HERO RUN

Honor the fallen service men and women who made the ultimate sacrifice for our nation during the Fallen Hero Run Sept. 9 at Riley's Conference Center.

Registration for the 2-mile run is free and will begin at 8 a.m. Ceremonies begin at 9 a.m. and the run will begin at 9:11 a.m. Strollers and patriotic items, including flags and guidons, are allowed. For mor information, call 785-239-2583.

FALL APPLE DAY PIE SALES

Fall Apple Day Festival is scheduled for Sept. 23 and apple pies are for sale. Pre-orders are not required, but pies go fast during the festival.

To reserve a pie, visit <https://squareup.com/store/HASFR>.



CAR SEAT SAFETY CHECK LANE

Certified child passenger seat technicians will teach how to ensure your child is riding safely. Technicians can assist with installations and inspections.

No appointment is needed and parents are encouraged to bring their children. The checklane will be Aug. 31 from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. at Rally Point.

For more information, call 785-239-3391.

CARS & COFFEE

Cars & Coffee is held every third Sunday of the month at 11 a.m. at the Warrior Zone. Participants can enjoy \$2 grande size coffees, 50 cent waffles and pancakes, yard games and get the chance to be named the Car of the Month. The event is free to attend and open to the public.

For more information, call 785-240-6618.

FORT RILEY REEL TIME THEATER SCHEDULE

Friday, Aug. 18
War For The Planet Of The Apes (PG-13) 7 p.m.

Saturday, Aug. 19
Dunkirk (PG-13) 2 p.m.
Girls Trip (R) 7 p.m.

Sunday, Aug. 20
Valerian And the City of A Thousand Planets (PG-13) 5 p.m.

Theater opens 30 minutes before first showing

For more information, call 785-239-9574.

Regular Showing: \$6
3D Showing: \$8
First Run: \$8.25
3D First Run: \$10.25

FORT RILEY LEISURE TRAVEL

Discount tickets are available for events in the surrounding area as well as major theme park destinations.

Upcoming events with discount tickets include:

Great Wolf Lodge - Kansas City Hotel: Blackout dates apply. Waterpark tickets included for all guests.

B&B Junction City Gem Theater: \$30 value gift card for \$25 good for movie tickets and concessions.

Kansas City Sprint Center: Disney on Ice - Dream Big tickets for the Sept. 14 to 17 performances for \$20 to \$33 depending upon show and seats selected.

And much more!

For more information on tickets and travel packages available through the Leisure Travel Center, call 785-239-5614/4415.

MILITARY SPOUSE NETWORKING EVENT

USO Fort Riley will host a Military Spouse Networking Event Sept. 21 from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. This program is for spouses to connect with each other and to engage with local employers and organizations. Advance registration is required. To register, visit www.facebook.com/events/344094686024755.

For more information, call 785-240-5328.

BLUE STAR PROGRAM

The Directorate of Family and Morale, Welfare and Recreation offers the Blue Star Program to family members who are geographically separated from their service member. The benefits are also open to Gold Star families and Soldiers in the Warrior Transition Battalion. Discounts and events are available to those enrolled in the program. For information about eligibility, call 785-239-2172 or email bluestar@rileymwr.com.



COMMUNITY CORNER

Victory Week an opportunity to celebrate division’s proud history

By Col. John D. Lawrence
FORT RILEY GARRISON COMMANDER

I am honored to have the opportunity to participate in this year’s 100th anniversary celebration for the 1st Infantry Division, the U.S. Army’s oldest continuously serving division. The “Big Red One,” storied combat legacy dates back to World War I and continues through today.

As we celebrate the division’s history during Victory Week now through Aug. 25, we’ll learn more about the heritage of the unit and the men and women who’ve served in it. They are the cornerstone of the freedoms we enjoy in this country — and in many other areas around the world — today.



Colonel Lawrence

Family and community members are encouraged to join and support the celebration, which includes ceremonial events, sports, recreational activities, a division review and presentation of the coveted Victory Cup. Even kids ages 5 to 15 can get in on the celebration with a free fishing derby and family barbecue at Moon Lake Aug. 20 at 10:30 a.m., where kids will receive a free fishing rod and tackle kit. And, of course, don’t forget tomorrow’s Victory Fest music event. Pick up tickets at the gate and join Fort Riley and Flint Hills neighbors for a full day of fun and entertainment.

Victory Fest takes place at Marshall Army Air Field (just off Interstate 70); gates open to the public at 10 a.m. and activities and music go through 11 p.m. There will be family activities, a car show, food and beverages, national and local bands on two stages and a fireworks show to end the celebration. Bands include The Charlie Daniels Band,

Eli Young Band, The All-American Rejects and Lit. Visit www.victoryfest2017.com if you need more information or tickets, then join me and the rest of the Fort Riley and 1st Infantry Division family for a day of music and fun.

Also during Victory Week is the Vietnam Veterans Welcome Home Ceremony that takes place Aug. 23 at 3 p.m. at Marshall Army Airfield. The public is encouraged to also attend this event to show support and recognize the efforts and sacrifices of those who served during the Vietnam conflict.

This is a special year for the 1st Infantry Division — the 100-year milestone of courageous service and sacrifice. Please join us for Victory Week events as we honor this legacy.

— *To comment on this article or to suggest a topic for Community Corner, visit my Facebook page at www.facebook.com/fortrileycg.*

WWW.FACEBOOK.COM/FORTRILEY

WORSHIP

Protestant Services	
Victory Chapel	239-0834
Contemporary Protestant Service	
Sunday Worship.....	1100
Children’s Church.....	1115-1215
Morris Hill Chapel	239-2799
Gospel Protestant Service	
Sunday School.....	0900
Sunday Worship.....	1100
Main Post Chapel	239-0834
Traditional Protestant Service	
Sunday Worship.....	1030
Catholic Services	
Victory Chapel	239-0834
Sunday Mass.....	0845
Sunday Catechism.....	1000
Saint Mary’s Chapel	239-0834
Saturday’s Vigil Mass.....	1630
Sunday Mass.....	1200
Mid-day Mass– Mon., Wed., & Fri.....	1200
Tuesday & Thursday Mass.....	1800
IACH Chapel	239-7872
Mid-day Mass– Tue. & Thur.	1200
Buddhist Service	
Normandy Chapel	239-2665
Sunday	1430
Meditation Practice– Mon.- Fri.....	1230
Open Circle Service	
Kapaun Chapel	239-4818
Fort Riley Open Circle– SWC	
1st & 3rd Friday monthly.....	1800

Wednesday Night Family Night

Weekly light dinner and fellowship at 1800, followed by 1845 classes at Victory Chapel 785-239-3359


Club Beyond - Faith Based Youth Program


Grades 6th - 12th, Meets Sundays

MS Youth-1530-1700 at Morris Hill Chapel

HS Youth-1830-2000 at Morris Hill Chapel 785-370-5542

Club Beyond is a Non-Federal Entity and is not part of the DoD or any of it's components and it has no government status.






Protestant Women of the Chapel (PWOC)

Weekly Tuesday Meeting 0900-1130 & Evenings at 1830-2000 at Victory Chapel

Childcare Provided.

For more information email rileypwoc@gmail.com or Facebook “Fort Riley PWOC”



Catholic Women of the Chapel (CWOC)

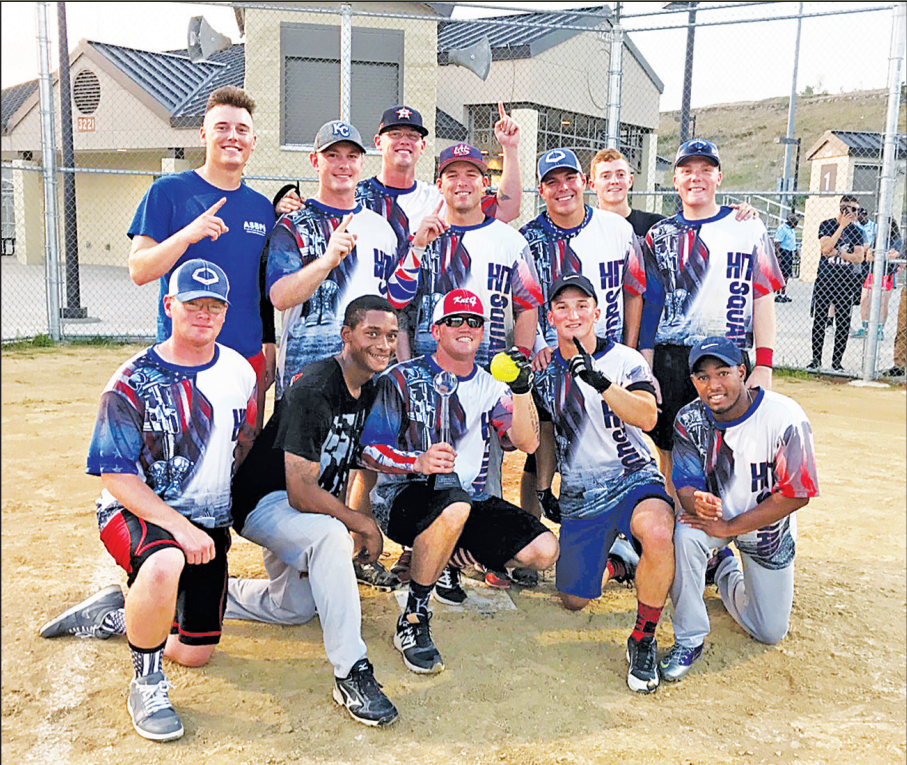
Weekly Wednesday Meeting at St. Mary’s Chapel 0900-1130

Childcare provided.

For more information email fortrileycwoc@gmail.com or Facebook “Fort Riley CWOC”

****Check for schedule over Training Holiday weekends****

INTRAMURAL CHAMPS



COURTESY PHOTO

The 82nd Brigade Engineer Battalion, 2nd Armored Brigade Combat Team, 1st Infantry Division team poses for a picture after claiming victory in the Intramural Softball Championship Game Aug. 10 at Sacco Softball Complex. The team beat the Office of the Staff Judge Advocate and Criminal Investigations Department team 14-4.

Drones pose safety issue for military bases

Defense Department cracks down on drone use at installations

By Terri Moon Cronk
DOD NEWS, DEFENSE MEDIA ACTIVITY

WASHINGTON — The increased use of commercial and privately owned small unmanned aircraft systems has raised Defense Department concerns for the safety and security of its installations, its aviation and its people, a Pentagon spokesman told reporters today.

Guidance was sent Aug. 4 to the services and to

installations about the use of small unmanned aircraft systems — commonly called drones — over and around military installations in the United States, Navy Capt. Jeff Davis said.

PUBLIC GUIDANCE

The new guidance specifies how DoD will interact with local communities about UAS restrictions on and near military installations, Davis said, adding it follows classified guidance that was provided to the services and installations in early July.

“Protecting our force remains a top priority and that’s why DoD issued the specific, but classified policy

developed with the Federal Aviation Administration and our interagency partners that details how DoD personnel may counter the unmanned aircraft threat,” he said.

FEDERAL AVIATION ADMINISTRATION REGULATES UAS ACTIVITIES

All UAS activities within the U.S. must follow appropriate FAA regulations and guidelines, Davis said, noting that UAS activity outside FAA rules and guidelines is considered “unauthorized activity.” Specific guidelines on the proper use of drones are listed on the FAA website, www.faa.gov/uas, he said.

“We support civilian law enforcement investigations in the prosecution of unauthorized UAS operations over military installations,” Davis said, “And though we do not discuss specific force-protection measures, we of course retain the right of self-defense. And when it comes to UAS or drones operating over military installations, this new guidance does afford us the ability to take action to stop those threats.”

Davis said such action includes tracking, disabling and destroying drones, depending on circumstance and the type of installation where UAS activity is detected.

ECLIPSE Continued from page 7

tial eclipse, which is still just as damaging without the proper eye protective wear,” Hessert said. “If a person is in the area where the sun is completely covered by the moon, they can view. But never during any of the partial phase from anywhere.”

The moon will gradually block the sun from view. Once the sun is covered, the light of day will become deep twilight. The sun’s outer atmosphere, called the solar corona, will then appear like a halo around the moon in front of it. Bright stars and even planets will become more visible in the sky.

“Here in Washington, we will only experience a partial eclipse. At no time during the event will it be safe for us to look at the sun without eclipse glasses,” added Navy Capt. John Hardaway, of NHB’s Ophthalmology & Refractive Surgery.

There is only one safe way to look directly at the sun, whether during an eclipse or not and that is with special-purpose solar filters. These solar filters are used in “eclipse glasses” or in hand-held solar viewers. They must meet a very specific worldwide standard known as ISO 12312-2.



Mark Rankin | USACE

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Nashville District is encouraging the public to view the total eclipse at Corps of Engineers lakes when the sun sweeps over Kentucky and Tennessee from noon to 3 p.m. Central Time Aug. 21.

Hessert and Hardaway both stress that ordinary sunglasses, even dark ones, or using homemade filters, are not safe for looking at the sun.

“Regular sunglasses do not block enough light to prevent the sun from burning the eye. Even very dark sunglasses are not nearly dark enough. Eclipse glasses are very dark. So dark that you can’t see anything at all through them unless you are looking directly at a bright source of light,” Hardaway said.

The American Academy of Ophthalmology and American Astronomical Society also suggest the following steps to safely watch the total eclipse:

- Always read and follow all directions that come with the solar filter or eclipse glasses.
- Help children to be sure they use handheld solar viewers and eclipse glasses correctly.
- Carefully look at the solar filter or eclipse glasses before using them. If there are any scratches or damage, do not use them.

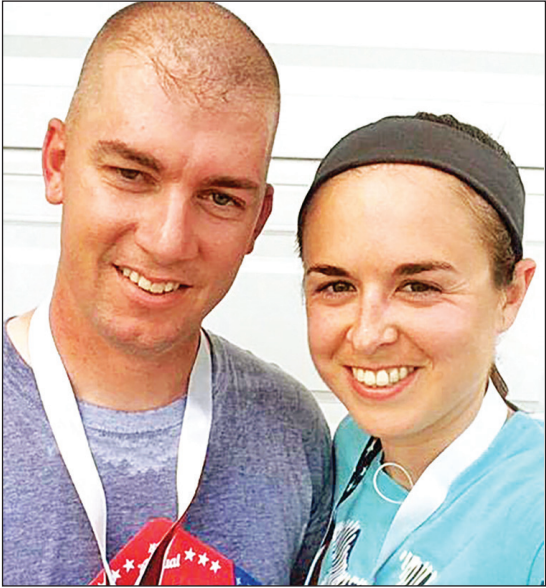
- Before looking up at the bright sun, stand still and cover both eyes with the eclipse glasses or solar viewer. After glancing at the sun, turn away and remove the filter — do not remove it while looking at the sun.

- The only time that anyone can look at the sun without a solar viewer is during a total eclipse in the ‘path of totality.’ When the moon completely covers the sun’s face and it gets dark. Then, as soon as the sun begins to reappear immediately use the solar viewer again to watch the remaining partial phase of the eclipse.

- Never look at the unclipped or partially eclipsed sun through an unfiltered camera, telescope, binoculars or other similar devices. This is important even if wearing eclipse glasses or holding a solar viewer at the same time. The sun’s rays are too powerful coming through these devices and will damage eyes as well as the solar filter.

For the most optimal viewing time Aug. 21 is 1:04 p.m. but the partial solar eclipse can be seen at Fort Riley between 11:37 a.m. to 2:31 p.m.

TUESDAY TRIVIA CONTEST



The question for the week of Aug. 15 was: Where can I find details of this year’s Vietnam Veterans Welcome Home Ceremony, including the time and place and how Vietnam Vets can RSVP to be a part of the ceremony?

Answer: www.riley.army.mil/vietnamveteranswelcome/

This week’s winner is Molly Houser, wife of Sgt. 1st Class Steven Houser, of the 300th Military Police Company.

Pictured above are Steven and Molly Houser.

CONGRATULATIONS MOLLY!

SCOOP Continued from page 7

“We help preserve the history of Fort Riley ... We work with Junction (City) with some of their events. We do historical chats.

“Our job is just to preserve and teach. Fort Riley’s population is transient. We keep the spirit and history of Fort Riley alive.”

The social also served as a platform to start presales on apple pies for the Fall Apple Day Festival and recruit more volunteers to help make them, said Maggy Gray, one of the HASFR pie queens and wife of Lt. Col. Pete Gray, professor of Military Science at Kansas State University.

The pie queens, members of HASFR and volunteers

plan to make about 1,500 pies this year using Libby Custer’s recipe.

“It’s to raise awareness about HASFR and get new members and we’re also ... talking about Apple Day and selling apple pies, which is our big fundraiser, and not only are we recruiting members, but hopefully we are recruiting people to help us make apple pies — 1,500 pies takes a lot of volunteers,” she said.

Gray said HASFR members encourage people to preorder their pies as they sell out quickly at Fall Apple Day.

For more information about HASFR, visit www.fortrileyhistoricalsociety.org.



CAREER Continued from page 7

“The sports director at that time was like, ‘Go for it!’.”

In June of 1999, Noveroske came on board as the aquatics manager. She has had the opportunity to travel to other military installations to see how their aquatics department is run.

“It’s interesting, it’s fun; I’m kind of set in my ways here,” Noveroske said. “There’s a part of me that envies the professionals that go out, and they go from installation to installation.”

With 27 years of service at the aquatics department her belt, Noveroske saw and grew with the waves of changes the organization encountered through the years.

“I love to see how I started almost 20 years ago, how not only just the government has changed, (but also) the directorate itself has changed,” she said. “I love how the aquatics world has changed, the certifications, the responsibilities, the facilities.”

Noveroske had the opportunity to work at the Custer Hill Pool before all the updates were installed.

“To see what we have now compared to back then is amazing,” she said. “Eyster Pool has been renovated at least three times since I’ve been here, so seeing the programs change (has) been fun.”

According to Noveroske, the most rewarding part of her job is seeing how the programs at aquatics department play a positive role in the lives of Soldiers, their families and the Fort Riley community.

“To see the 4-year-old kiddo start from being scared in the

water to learning how to float on his or her back and kicking to the side, the 15-year-old kid coming in to get their first job (and) going through the certification class, and learning the skills to saving someone’s life —not just out on land, but also in the water ... it’s rewarding to see that,” she said.

“I’ve had Soldiers come in and re-enlist with their unit, and they’ve got the American flag behind them, they’re standing in the water, their hands are up and they are swearing back in,” Noveroske said. “I’ve had two of them; it gave me chills.”

Noveroske said she has had the Kansas Wildlife, Parks & Tourism Game Wardens come in and do water training as well.

“It’s so awesome to be able to, not just help out the community right here, but also outside of the installation,” she said.

Reed Scott, sports program coordinator at DFMWR, has known Noveroske the entire time she has been employed. He has not only seen her responsibilities grow, but also change with the times.

“She’s great; she’s somebody (whom) I can count on ... It makes my job a lot easier knowing there is somebody I can 100 percent count on, I don’t have to look at her twice to know it’s going to get done correctly” Scott said. “I think that’s a cool thing.”

Although Noveroske does not work for Scott, he considers her a valuable coworker.

“I consider that to be a very valuable asset to the organization.” Scott said.

**Irwin Army Community Hospital**
is **Your** Hospital

Every visit should earn your hospital a high five.

Inform a member of the team if it's anything less.

You are empowered to provide immediate feedback.

You are also empowered to support your hospital by filling out a JOES survey.

As a satisfied patient you can earn your hospital up to \$1,000 to benefit your family here at Fort Riley...by giving us high marks on JOES.

Participate in making a positive impact because IACH is your hospital.



GRANT

Continued from page 7

curriculum in the school district’s classrooms and help create a more viable pathway to future STEM careers.”

In June, the two entities kicked off the grant’s agenda with a two-week teacher institute for Geary County educators to learn computer and programming concepts. Kansas State Polytechnic mechanical engineering technology and computer systems technology professors taught sessions that covered the basics of coding, robotic programming, 3-D printer operation and gaming. The 20 participating teachers from the fourth through 12th grades also learned how to effectively use the different technology pieces purchased for their classrooms, and on the last day of the institute, took part in a variety of hands-on aviation, unmanned aircraft systems and robotic demonstrations on campus.

“The United States is facing serious employment challenges in the technology sectors — the demand for computer programmers is very high in nearly every type of market”

TROY HARDING | PROFESSOR,
KANSAS STATE UNIVERSITY POLYTECHNIC CAMPUS

Next, a student camp was offered July 24 through 28 for those Geary County teachers to practice the skills, new ideas and innovative techniques were learned in the institute. They created grade-appropriate exercises and curriculum they taught to 20 USD 475 middle school students. Just like at the teacher institute, on the last day of the camp the students visited Kansas State Polytechnic to tour the technology spaces and participate in applied

activities. Conclusions from the student camp will help shape how Geary County teachers build their lesson plans and integrate the new technology education into their classrooms.

Kansas State Polytechnic also will work with Geary County educators four times during the school year to answer any questions, help refine the curriculum and provide professional development on evolving technologies. In summer 2018, an additional 20 Geary County educators will

take part in a second teacher institute as the final piece of the grant. The 40 total teachers who participate, including library media specialists and technology integration specialists, will then instruct their peers in future years to keep advancing STEM education in USD 475.

“There have been several shifts in the state science standards over the past few years that have directed our focus to making engineering, technology and science applications central elements in the science curriculum,” said Daniel Dinkel, a kindergarten-fifth grade STEM instructional coach for USD 475 and the grant project coordinator. “We believe students best learn science content through engaging in the practices of the subject, and this grant promotes high-quality instruction and enhances the availability of technology needed to do that.”

“The school district has done a great job with previous training and has always encouraged us to focus more on STEM, but sometimes budget constraints have made it challenging,” said Abby Allen, a third-grade teacher at Spring Valley Elementary in Junction City. “Because of this grant, technology is now readily available in our classrooms and our comfort level with integrating new concepts into lesson plans has strengthened. Overall, our ability to teach STEM-related activities has been taken to the next level.”

According to a recent list of the nine most in-demand jobs of 2017 compiled by CareerCast, the need for relevant STEM education is apparent as tech roles make up one-third of the study. Troy Harding, a computer systems technology professor at Kansas State Polytechnic

who instructed Geary County educators in the teacher institute, echoes the opportunity for more technology professionals and believes working with grade schools and high schools can help clear the way for more students interested in STEM.

“The United States is facing serious employment challenges in the technology sectors — the demand for computer programmers is very high in nearly every type of market,” Harding said. “Anything we can do to help the next generation get excited and feel confident in solving problems with technology is a win-win. It has become obvious to me after this experience that building K-12 and higher education partnerships will provide a better understanding of the issues we both face. This will help us build a more comprehensive approach to technology education.”

WWW.TWITTER.COM/FORTTRILEY



VIETNAM VETERANS / 1ST INFANTRY DIVISION

Welcome Home Ceremony 2017

WHEN: 3 P.M. AUG. 23, 2017
2:30 P.M. — VETERANS WISHING TO PARTICIPATE IN CEREMONY

WHERE: BUILDING 837

SPEAKER: MAJ. GEN. JOSEPH MARTIN

RSVP: 1ST LT. STEPHANIE PREEKETT AT 785.240.3866 OR EMAIL
RILEYWELCOMEHOME@GMAIL.COM



W O M E N ' S U N I T Y D

