



THE FIGHTING FIRST

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BIG RED ONE

FORT RILEY, KANSAS

Breaching the Battlefield

'Big Red One' Soldiers try unmanned vehicles

Story and photos by Spc. Hubert Delany 22ND MOBILE PUBLIC AFFAIRS DETACHMENT

GRAFENWOEHR, Germany — U.S. Soldiers, Marines, Department of Defense civilians and troops from the United Kingdom observed and tested a series of unmanned, remote-controlled ground vehicles during a combined training event at Grafenwoehr Training Area, Germany, April 2.

conducted in preparation for a larger, upcoming demonstration of unmanned capabilities, called the Robotic Complex Breach Concept. "Being able to take Soldiers out of harm's way and accomplish the mission is very an attractive option to any commander," said U.S. Army Lt. Col. Jesse Curry, commander

of the 82nd Brigade Engineer Battalion, 2nd Armored Brigade Combat Team, 1st Infantry Division.. "It's a capability that the enemy will not know how to counteract wher we implement it. This type of technology

enables us to stretch further while conserving resources." The military-vehi-

cle mounted Automated The training event was Direct and Indirect Mortar, the M58 Wolf Smoke Generator, and the "Terrier" armored digger were some of the existing technologies used throughout the exercise. All were outfitted with new technology that allows them to be remotely controlled.

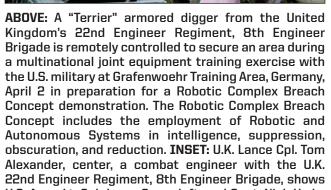
as well as each other's systems," said U.K. army Staff Sgt. Joe Ferries, a combat engineer with the U.K. 22nd Engineer Regiment, 8th Engineer Brigade. "All the lessons learned here are going to have massive benefits for our armies and the next mission."

Ferries, who supervised a portion of the training, said he believes this kind of training is a natural part of improving any military.

School were among some of the units observing the training. Each unit's service members got a chance to test the equipment and provide feedback to developers.

The Robotic Complex Breach Concept exercise will further test the capabilities of the new equipment, which is designed to enhance existing intelligence, suppression, obscuration and reduction capabilities for breach operations.

"This was testing of genuine and unique technology, partnered with cutting-edge Curry, who has served in the military for over 20 years. "Our potential enemy's goal is to counteract what we have in our inventory, so we need to incorporate additional technology to enable our Soldiers to be successful in their jobs."



"This has been a great opportunity to show each other how to work on new systems,

I his training is quite relevant," Ferries said. "We will always have to compare and improve our procedures and technologies."

The 1st Combined Arms Battalion, 63rd Armor Regiment, 2nd ABCT; the 82nd BEB; the Maneuver Support Center of Excellence; and the U.S. Marine Corp's Engineer

development to address a U.S. Army Lt. Col. Jesse Curry, left, and Capt. Nick Hyde, complicated problem," said both with the 82nd Brigade Engineer Battalion, 2nd Armored Brigade Combat Team, 1st Infantry Division, how to remotely operate a Terrier armored digger during a multinational joint equipment training exercise at Grafenwoehr Training Area, Germany, April 2, in preparation for a Robotic Complex Breach Concept demonstration. The Robotic Complex Breach Concept includes the employment of Robotic and Autonomous Systems in intelligence, suppression, obscuration, and reduction.

Fort Riley sappers conduct mini Best Sapper competition

By Staff Sgt. Elizabeth Tarr 1ST ABCT PUBLIC AFFAIRS

Two sapper teams assigned to 1st Engineer Battalion, 1st Armored Brigade Combat Team, 1st Infantry Division, and one sapper team assigned to 41st Clearance Company, 4th Engineer Battalion, 36th Engineer Brigade, III Corps, ruck marched more than 19 miles in under 12 hours while competing in a variety of events during a miniature "best sapper" competition April 4 on Fort Riley.

Each team consisted of two members, a mixture of both sapper-qualified officers and enlisted personnel who demonstrated their competence in combat engineering.

The competition of both technical and tactical events included knot tying; constructing poncho rafts; land navigation; nonstandard physical fitness test; assembling an M4, M9, M249, M240 and M2 weapons within 15 minutes; four-mile ruck march; constructing a jungle antenna; threat weapons recognition; transporting a simulated casualty using a stretcher;

repel techniques; pathfinder operations; and a written exam.

We want to physically and mentally challenge them and allow them to experience doing these tasks under stress," said Capt. Mike Ecklund, assistant operations officer for 1st ABCT. "This also allows us, as coaches, to know where we need to tighten up, and where we need to retrain before competition day."

Ecklund competed in 2017, winning third place out of 48 teams, and decided to coach the participants this year. Although he enjoyed competing, coaching has been a true test of his skills.

"I have to know these skills much more thoroughly to be able to coach," he said. "It's one thing to know these skills but to be able to coach and mentor has been a challenge."

According to Ecklund, the competitors are unaware of which tasks they will have to complete during the competition but the training is focused on the most challenging tasks - from

See SAPPERS, page 8

Sexual Assault Awareness and **Prevention Month begins at** Fort Riley with Denim Day

By Sgt. Michael C. Roach **19TH PUBLIC AFFAIRS DETACHMENT**

Soldiers of 1st Infantry Division and Fort Riley stood in formation on Custer Hill Parade Field April 3 to celebrate Denim Day, which honors sexual assault survivors and signified the beginning of this year's Sexual Assault Awareness and Prevention Month.

"I can see through your uniform that you got the message that it's Denim Day," said Maj. Gen. Joseph M. Martin, 1st Inf. Div. and Fort Riley commanding general. "Many of you may not know what that means or why it is important, so I am going to take a few minutes to talk about it. Some foreshadowing: it is much more important than just a day in a more casual or unique uniform."

Denim Day is a campaign which originated after a ruling by the Italian Supreme Court in which a rape case was overturned on the grounds that the teenage victim was wearing jeans believed to be so tight that she would have had to help her rapist remove them. The day after the ruling, women in the Italian Parliament wore jeans to work in solidarity with case's victim.

Martin acknowledged societal failings that surround sexual assault and harassment in the past and present before making note of progress that has been made on that front and the impact it has on the Army's readiness and effectiveness.

"We've made immense progress over the past few years in terms of sexual harassment and assault prevention, but it is not enough to rest on our laurels," he said. "Ladies and gentlemen, we need to eliminate sexual assault altogether."

Martin placed responsibility on his Soldiers, whom he mandated with an altruistic responsibility to uphold the standard, before stressing the implications that failure in this regard could have for the overall organization.

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USO FORT RILEY OPERATIONS UNDER NEW MANAGEMENT

TRACI TAYLOR BRINGS A BACKGROUND WITH NONPROFITS TO FORT RILEY AND LOOKS TO THE SOLDIERS AND THEIR FAMILIES TO MAKE THE USO BETTER FOR THEM. **SEE PAGE 13**

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KIDSFEST FEATURES GAMES, FUN AND SPIDER-MAN AS MOMC CONTINUES SEE PAGE 11.

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EXPLORE THE QUAINT **COMMUNITY OF GOESSEL AND** THE MENNONITE **HERITAGE CENTER** SEE PAGE 14.



HOME OF THE BIG RED ONE

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A march for heroes: 'Big Red One' Soldiers participate in commemorative march

By Sgt. Patrick Jubrey **1ST CAB PUBLIC AFFAIRS**

Marching with 50-pound ruck sacks through sand and hills, an all-female team of five Soldiers from the 1st Combat Aviation Brigade, 1st Infantry Division, took part in the 26.2-mile Bataan Memorial Death March at White Sands Missile Range, New Mexico, March 25.

Team members were Capt. Alyssa Crandall and 1st Lt. McKenzie Hudgins from 3rd Assault Helicopter Battalion, 1st Aviation Regiment, Head-quarters and Headquarters Company, 1st CAB; 1st Lt. Marybethe Vosburgh from Company E, 1st Heavy Attack Reconnaissance Squadron, 6th Cavalry Regiment, 1st CAB; and 1st Lt. Stephanie Preekett and 1st Lt. Brittany Dannewitz from Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 1st CAB.

"It was an awesome event; a humbling experience that is once in a lifetime," Dannewitz

said. "This event was physically demanding (during the event) but one that you were encouraged along the route from teammates, volunteers and others on the course cheering one another on being one team one fight in honor and remembrance."

The annual memorial march began in 1989 and honors the 75,000 U.S. and Filipino World War II Soldiers who surrendered to Japanese forces on April 9,



Courtesy Photo

First Lt. Stephanie Preekett, 1st Lt. Brittany Dannewitz, Capt. Alyssa Crandall, 1st Lt. Marybethe Vosburgh, and 1st Lt. McKenzie Hudgins, Soldiers from the 1st Combat Aviation Brigade, 1st Infantry Division, start their 26.2 mile journey on the annual Bataan Memorial Death March at White Sands Missile Range, New Mexico, March 25.

> 1942, according to the White Sands Missile Range Public Affairs Office. About 1,000 Americans and 9,000 Filipinos subsequently died as they were marched 65 miles through scorching jungles to prisoner-of-war camps. The survivors wouldn't be freed until 1945 when joint U.S.-Filipino forces recaptured the Philippines.

> "I was very honored to participate as a member of the 1st CAB team," Hudgins said. "It was very memorable experience to

complete a competition that was as much a testament of mental endurance as it was physical endurance."

The team contributes the successful completion of this event in part to the training that they did prior.

"However, the majority of my pride and sense of accomplishment stems from the tightknit bonds made with my four teammates during training and the march itself," Hudgins said.

Rucking to remember



On March 25 1st Lt. Brittany Muth, right, and Master Sgt. Michael Holmberg, both with the 97th Military Police Battalion, 1st Infantry Division, participated in the 29th Annual Bataan Memorial Death March held at White Sands Missile Range, New Mexico. The march, which is 26.2 miles, is in honor of the 75,000 American and Filipino prisoners of war by the Japanese during World War II.

Soldiers answer tough questions during visit to Polish elementary school

By Master Sgt. Nathan Hoskins **1ST INF. DIV. PUBLIC AFFAIRS**

POZNAŃ, Poland – "Do you like Tupac!?" exclaimed a young student who was barely able to confine himself to his small wooden folding chair.

Giggles turned into boisterous laughter, spreading across the small auditorium as about 40 fellow sixth graders from J. Kusociński Primary School No. 71 in Poznań, Poland, joined in.

The youngster with slightly disheveled hair - thanks to an extended playground break - asked his question with an ear-to-ear grin, but his question was serious. Besides, his shirt read "200% hardcore."

weapons?" "Can I serve in the U.S. Armv?" "What books to you read?" "What's your favorite drink?"

The English teacher leading the event for the school, Joanna Mazurczak, was able to quell - if only for moments at a time – the children's energy, which was buzzing between them as if they were playing tag with electricity.

Mazurczak said while she was delighted to moderate the question-and-answer session, she was more delighted the Soldiers took time to come visit with her students.

"Our students learn English, and they're very curious about everything that is connected with the language," she said. "These engagements show them that learning English is not only with a book during lesson, but they can learn by talking to (Soldiers). This is mainly the idea." Mazurczak said her school hosts children who are not as fortunate or oftentimes lack motivation. Events like this help reverse that trend and turn these experiences to something real. "Actually, this area of Poznań, is the part of Poznań where the kids (lack) motivation, so we try to do many different things that show them that learning English is good for them," Mazurczak said. "It can give them an extra advantage. They can do something with it; they can talk to people; they can talk to foreigners." One foreigner, a Soldier who was helping motivate the students, who took quite a bit

With

of the rapid-fire questions was Spc. Wildane Milhomme, a religious affairs specialist with the 53rd Movement Control Battalion based out of Joint Base Langley-Eustis, Virginia.

Milhomme didn't know what she was getting into before arriving to the school, but once she was in, she was all in.

"At first, I was kind of nervous in that we didn't know what to expect, but as soon as we actually hit the ground, the children seemed very friendly, very welcoming," Milhomme said. "What stood out to me was to see how very interested they were about being a U.S. Army Soldier, and they wanted to know the process of how

Originally from Cape Coral, Florida, Milhomme looked at home in front of the exuberant students, and she was warmed that one student asked if she was able to stay in touch with her family back home. Then she was impressed when they asked Goza a very pointed question: "What inspired you to join the Army?

Goza explained it takes a person with a lot of love and pride in their country to serve in the military. He chose his words carefully because every one of them meant something to him. He could see the students absorbing every word.

Goza saw that pride as he atched the Soldiers interact

"They got to tell their story and be proud of being a Soldier serving their country in a foreign land in a peaceful setting," Goza said. "They're not being shot at, so they don't have to worry about having to carry a weapon."

The peaceful setting was not lost on Milhomme. She said on an assignment like this, to a modern European city, it's easy for Soldiers to sometimes relegate themselves to the amenities of malls and shopping centers. However, volunteering to engage with the local community is so much more rewarding and purposeful – for the Soldiers and the students.

"We felt like it was fulfill-

ing something special, in a way, by just being there and talking to them," Milhomme said. "I think it's the best way for us to represent our country and our job in a positive way."

Goza, now 56 years old, still remembers moments from his time in grade school.

"In the future, when those kids get to be older, they may remember," Goza said. "I can still remember doing things in elementary school that affect me today. Those kids are old enough to remember 20 years from now when the Americans came and talked about Tupac.

"I don't even know who

Nine Soldiers were seated alongside each other in matching wooden folding chairs facing the small juvenile crowd April 5, and all nine Soldiers laughed in dismay. This question took them by surprise.

This was the first time any U.S. Soldiers had visited the students since the Mission Command Element moved its headquarters from Germany to Poznań in May 2017, and they intended to take full advantage of it.

The MCE, led by the 1st Infantry Division since March, is based in Poznań where it serves as the division-level headquarters between U.S. Army Europe in Wiesbaden, Germany, and two regionally aligned forces brigades spread throughout Central and Eastern Europe, to include Poland.

The meeting, which is just the start of an enduring outreach program, was initiated by Maj. Christian Goza, the MCE and 1st Inf. Div. deputy chaplain. He coordinated with the school with the help of a linguist who once attended there when she was young.

"It was a very, very small part, but it was a part of building community relationships between Poznań and the U.S. military," said the chaplain from Chattanooga, Tennessee.

Though Goza said he believes this initial meeting was a small beginning, he also believes it could lead to much more.

"If we (inspire) one person in that class one person you never know, by the time they reach 30, they may be making huge decisions for the country of Poland," Goza said.

Back in the auditorium, the decisions being made were a bit less compelling "Which Polish soup is best?" And questions only intensified from there "What's your day like?" "When do you wake up?" "What do you like to do for fun?" "Do you use

to become a Soldier."

with the children.



ing. We felt like we were do- he is."





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Fort Riley named Tree City again

By Will Ravenstein 1ST INF. DIV. POST

For the 31st straight year, Fort Riley has been named "Tree City USA" by the Arbor Day Foundation.

"We started this soon after I got here (and) we have been plugging away on it for years," said John Barbur, Conservation Branch, Environmental Division, Directorate of Public Works. "Through times when we had a lot of money and manpower and times where we didn't have a lot of money and manpower, but we've been able to maintain the standards that are required by the National Arbor Day Foundation."

To be called "Tree City USA" cities must meet four requirements. They must have: A tree board or department, a tree care ordinance, a community forestry program with an annual budget of at least \$2 per capita and an Arbor Day observance and proclamation.

Fort Riley hosts one of the longest running streaks for the Army in winning the award according to Barbur.

"On Army installations, not sure if it's true or not, but we used to be tied with another installation as far as the number of years being (a tree city)," he said. "I know there was one Air Force base that was one year ahead of us, but I'm not sure if they are in the program anymore or not. Fort Riley is kind of one of the leaders on trying to maintain the standards on our urban forests. Our forests in the cantonment areas."

Barbur's department is in charge of the beautification of Fort Riley.

"A lot of what we plant is in key, important visitor areas that are used for ceremonies and things like that. such as Cavalry Parade Field and the cemetery," he said.

While proud that he and his crew are able to keep Fort Riley green, Barbur stated invasive insects are starting to threaten the tree population on Fort Riley.

"I also have done a lot of weed control, particularly noxious and invasive weeds. We also get some play in the alien insect species we are trying to control.

"One of them that is very close, that will have an effect on Fort Riley, is the emerald ash borer has been coming into and running through the United States," Barbur said. "Right now, I think, it's in over 30 states. For us it's as close as Shawnee County or Topeka. So, it's just a short time, maybe a couple of years, if no one hauls infested wood it will be maybe a couple of years before we have to deal with that. We have a lot of ash trees not only on the cantonment area but also in the wild land areas, forest areas, of Fort Riley. There will be a significant number of trees dying in a few years from now."

Though Barbur and his crew do what they can to stop the infestation, he admitted that the treatment is harmful to the trees themselves.

"Part of our issue is that we have a lot of alien insects that are killing our trees and there is not a lot we can do about it," he said. "To control what is in the tree, the treatment kills the tree itself. Really not much can be done about that."

Despite budget and manpower cuts, the Conservation Branch was able to plant 29 new trees while pruning 239 more before removing 636 trees in 2017.

Barbur said they will continue to do what they can for Fort Riley in the future.



Ready to train

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Soldiers from 2nd Battalion, 34th Armor Regiment, 1st Armored Brigade Combat Team, 1st Infantry Division and employees from the Directorate of Plans, Training, Mobilization and Security work together to install visual modifications and multiple integrated laser engagement system gear to M2 Bradleys April 6. The "Dreadnaughts" Soldiers will act as the opposing forces for an upcoming field exercise.

### Post the Guidon



gt. Michael C. Roach | 19th Public Affairs Detachmen

Maj. Gen. Joseph M. Martin, 1st Infantry Division and Fort Riley commanding general, presents Company I, 1st Battalion 16th Infantry Regiment, 1st Armored Brigade Combat Team, 1st Inf. Div., and Company C, 601st Aviation Support Battalion, 1st Combat Aviation Brigade, 1st Inf. Div., with streamers as part of the Sober Armies Bravely Expedite Readiness program on Custer Hill Parade Field, Fort Riley, Kansas, April 3.

"I'm proud to be able to recognize those two companies ... for their dedication to taking care of each other over the last two quarters," Martin said during an address to the post-wide formation at Denim Day, an event designed to begin Sexual Assault and Harassment Awareness Month. "Let me be clear the command teams are here to represent the companies, but the SABER award is something that only comes from a cohesive and dedicated team. Preventing drug and alcohol incidents doesn't come from simply not drinking; it comes from engaged leaders who are creating a culture of trust."

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Cooking School

### Grilled Pork Tenderloin with Honey and Sage



This simple combination of grilled pork tenderioin with honey and sage is as delicious as it is easy to put together. This sweet glaze complements the rich taste of the pork without overpowering it. We recommend grilling the tenderioins, however this recipe can also be prepared roasted in the oven.

### Grilled Pork Tenderloin with Honey and Sage Serves: 4

### 2 Allegiance Pork Tenderloins

- 6 tablespoons honey
- 1 tablespoon hot water
- 3 teaspoons fresh sage Salt and Pepper

Light your grill. While it preheats combine the honey, water and sage in a small mixing bowl. Season the pork tenderloins with salt and pepper.

Once your grill is hot grill the pork tenderloins. Turn them in a roling manner, grilling two to two and a half minutes a side on all four sides for medium. Three to three and a half minutes a side for medium well to well done. When the pork is cooking on the flnal side brush with the honey glaze. After taking off the grill glaze with the remaining honey and let rest five minutes before serving.

Serve with roasted vegetables or over grits or polenta.

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### **TRAFFIC REPORT**

### ACCESS CONTROL POINT HOURS

Those with a valid military ID card, or who have an access pass or badge, wanting access to Fort Riley on weekends should use Estes, Ogden, Henry or Trooper gates.

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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:

Grant Gate is open from 5 a.m. to 8 p.m. Monday through Friday. It is closed weekends and federal holidays.

#### **COLYER MANOR PROJECT**

This project began March 19 and is expected to take approximately one year to complete. During this time, you may notice increased construction machinery, traffic and noise during the hours of 7 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Additionally, residents will encounter the following detours during the project:

- Access to Venable Drive will be available via G Street only. Craig Avenue will be closed.
- Access to Booth Avenue, Hosmer Court and Attucks Court will be available via Colyer Avenue/Pistol Range Road only. King Avenue and Booth Avenue South of Pistol Range Road will be closed.

Parents with school-age children should note that bus routes and pick up/drop off locations may be affected by these detours. Please contact USD 475 at 785-717-4049 for details.



DURTYA

### **Director profile – Steve Crusinberry:** It's all about the 1st Infantry Division

#### By Will Ravenstein 1ST INF. DIV. POST

For Steve Crusinberry, director of Directorate of Plans, Training, Mobility and Security, it is about the Soldiers stationed on Fort Riley and their families.

"Here, in this directorate, we do everything we can to just support the Soldiers and their families," Crusinberry said. "That's the bottom line. That's what we come here to do every day. Anything we can do to make life better for these guys, that's what we get paid to do, that's what we do. That time as an active Soldier, you won't understand unless you've lived that. You just won't."

Crusinberry, who retired as a major in 2006, began his military career as a private in 1983. In 1987 he left the Army and went back to school.

"I went to ROTC and served in the guard and reserve then went to the active component," he said. "I was an infantry guy, EOD officer, served as a foreign area officer and ended up here at pathy for the units that I Fort Riley in 2000 as a young major. I started working for Larry Githerman (Director, Logistics Readiness Center) ... That was a long time ago

and a life far-far away." That knowledge of how

the Soldier thinks when in the garrison or out in the field helped Crusinberry move up through the civilian ranks until he was hired as the director in August of 2014.

"I retired from the Army in 2006 and I took a little self-time and did some other things," he said. "In 2009 I came back to work here at Fort Riley in DPTMS as a GS-12, Operations Branch chief and have been here ever since. Kind of worked my way up the ladder and was hired in 2014 as the director. I'm a blessed man."

With an Army background, he said, he has a high level of empathy for the Soldiers and that has affected the work ethic amongst the DPTMS employees.

"I think that being a retired Soldier gives me em-

serve and support," he said. "I know what the 'Devil' brigade is going through. Even though it's been a long day and I have been working hard, I still get to go to the house and see my wife, have a nice dinner and go to sleep. I know the guys in Devil brigade don't get to do that, and it's a blizzard out, they are sleeping out in tents. That brings it home to me.

"I've done that, so I know what it's like. All my guys, especially in the range world and at the airfield, have done that before too. They have a lot of respect and empathy for what our Soldiers are going through."

Crusinberry admitted that while he does not always work overnight, if the Soldiers are out there so are his employees.

"We work a lot of long hours," he said. "Sometimes that could be difficult, but I don't work as hard as those guys sleeping out in the field or that division staff in the office dealing with a last minute deployment at midnight. I've got nodes where guys where we have 24-hour operations. They don't shut down. I rest easy knowing I have great people out there doing their jobs the way they are suppose to do their job.

"If we keep it in our mindset that we are here to do whatever is required to support the warfighter and his family and the mission of fighting, deploying and winning the nations wars then it's pretty easy."

That work effort put forth by the DPTMS employees makes Crusinberry's vision a reality.

We support Soldiers and families," he said. "I consider them the most important asset we have. We support the warfighter, that's what we do and we are proud of that. We support the 1st Inf. Div. It's all about the 1st Inf. Div. and our total Army partners in the Guard and reserve. If you keep that in mind you can never go wrong. If we do that we have no problems."

### Fort Riley Soldiers to compete at Best Ranger Competition

#### POST STAFF

Fort Riley Soldiers are representing their respective units at the 35th Annual Best Ranger Competition in Fort Benning, Georgia, April 13 through 15.

The 62-hour event features 100 rangers competiting as 50 teams with one team earning the title "Best Ranger."

### History of the Best Ranger Competition

In July 1981, the Ranger department was asked to design and conduct a Ranger Olympics to identify the best two-man buddy team.

From the very beginning, the objective was clear: the competition should place extreme demands on each buddy teams' physical, mental, technical and tactical skills as Rangers. The standards of performance were to test the mettle of those Ranger-qualified Soldiers who dared to compete. The Best Ranger Competition was named in honor of Lt. Gen. David E. Grange Jr., former Ranger instructor and Ranger department director, and who, at one time, commanded Fort Benning, Georgia, the 2nd Infantry Division, and the U.S. Sixth Army.

Richard A. Leandri, Grange's close personal friend, formed the Chairborne Rangers of Clearwater, Florida, in 1979, to financially support the competition and provide awards to the winning teams.

In 1981, Col. Duane Cameron, commander of the Ranger department, developed the operational concept and schedule of events for the first Best Ranger Competition, which was further refined by his successor, Col. Eugene Hawkins.

In 1982, buddy teams from each of the three Ranger department divisions competed against each other in the first Best Ranger Competition. The competition expanded in 1982, to include teams from the Ranger battalions and Special Operations units throughout the Army.

In 1985, the competition was further expanded to include light infantry units, and by 1987, the increased interest in the competition resulted in an Armywide invitation to all units with Rangercoded positions. Many of the participating commands conduct preliminary competitions to select the teams that will represent them on Fort Benning each year, resulting in only the best Ranger-qualified Soldiers competing.





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#### SIGHT -

If you see blowing dirt, persistent bubbling in standing water or unexplained discoloration of vegetation, these may be signs of a natural gas leak.

If you see yellow instead of blue flames from your natural gas appliance burners, have them serviced by a licensed professional. A yellow flame is a warning sign natural gas isn't burning efficiently, which can increase the potential for carbon monoxide poisoning.

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If you suspect a natural gas leak, leave the area immediately, then dial 911 and call Kansas Gas Service at 1-888-482-4950. Do not use any electrical devices, such as a light switch or wireless phone, in the area.

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If you need to dig, know what's below. Always call 811 at least two full working days before you dig, excavate, plant trees or set fence posts.

| To report a natural gas leak: | 1-888-482-4950 |
|-------------------------------|----------------|
| Call before you dig:          | .811           |
| For more information:         | 1-800-794-4780 |





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#### HOME OF THE BIG RED ONE

APRIL 13, 2018 | 5

What is the worst smell in the world?



### "Poop"

#### JOSIAH VENEGAS, 5 FORT RILEY. Kansas

Son of Courtney and Spc. Zach Venegas, 1st Battalion, 7th Field Artillery Regiment, 2nd Armored Brigade Combat Team, 1st Infantry Division



### "Rotten cheese."

KAYLEN WEAVER, 6 NEW PORT RICHIE, Florida.

Daughter of Stephanie and Sgt Justin Weaver, Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 1st Combined Arms Battalion, 63rd Armor Regiment, 1st Infantry Division



### "Skunk"

AUSTIN REICH, 5 WAYNESVILLE, North Carolina

Son of Bethany and Spc. Lane Reich, 1st Engineer Battalion, 1st Armored Brigade Combat Team, 1st Infantry Division



### "Skunk"

AUBREY KERBS, 17 LAKEWOOD, Washington.

Daughter of Erin and Sgt Thomas Kerbs, 1st Battalion, 5th Field Artillery Regiment, 1st Armored Brigade Combat Team, 1st **Infantry Division** 



### "Rotten cheese."

JADA DUPREE, 10 MANNING, South Carolina

Daughter of Ebony and Staff Sgt. Jamell Dupree, 1st Battalion, 7th Field Artillery Regiment, 2nd Armored Brigade Combat Team, 1st Infantry Division

### THE 1ST INFANTRY DIVISION POST

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COMMANDING GENERAL Maj. Gen. Joseph M. Martin PUBLIC AFFAIRS OFFICER Lt. Col. Joey Sullinger

### RILEY ROUNDTABLE | Multinational exercise shows new technology

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A U.K. Terrier armored digger clears a minefield and prepares to breach an obstacle during a Robotic Complex Breach Concept assessment and demonstration, at Grafenwoehr, Germany, April 5. The Terrier is a combat engineer vehicle capable of accomplishing combat and construction-engineering tasks while manned or remotely controlled.

Story and photos By Sgt. Gregory Summers 22ND MOBILE PUBLIC AFFAIRS DETACHMENT

GRAFENWOEHR, Germany – A spotlight shined in the training area of Grafenwoehr, Germany, as troops from the U.S., U.K. and Department of Defense civilians gathered to watch as several new pieces of technology and concepts were used during a Robotic Complex Breach Concept assessment and demonstration April 6.

"We are evaluating capabilities and the performance of a complex breach using robotics systems," said Keith Briggs, the assistant engineering lead for the Robotic Complex Breach Concept.

Soldiers conduct breach operations when they encounter complex obstacles along their movement that may be reinforced with mines. The unit works together to secure the area and suppress any enemy contact while using smoke to obscure their breach and mine-clearing operations to continue their assault to the objective.

fying the presence of Chemical, Biological, Radiological and Nuclear threats, which alerts the unit of the hazard and allows them to plan accordingly.

The LMAM is a directfire missile used for neutralizing enemy targets.

"The LMAM allowed us to work faster and support the breach with our fires support," said 1st Lt. Cody Rothschild, a fire support officer with 1st Battalion, 7th Field Artillery Regiment, 2nd Armored Brigade Combat Team, 1st Infantry Division.

military-vehicle The mounted Automated Direct and Indirect Mortar is a mobile mortar that increases unit lethality. It can be manually operated by a standard mortar crew or remotely operated by a fire direction center.

"The ADIM was a great asset to our breach today and definitely increased our survivability," Rothschild said.

The other robotic systems demonstrated ground equipment capabilities and

included the M58 Wolf and

the Terrier armored digger equipped with technology allowing them to be remotely controlled.

The M58 Wolf is a remote controlled, M113 armored personnel carrier variant, unmanned vehicle equipped with a smoke generator capable of producing continuous obscuration that inhibits the enemy's optical and infrared detection.

"My team utilized the M58 Wolf smoke generator," said Capt. Josiah Mc-Coy, commander, Company B, 1st Battalion, 63rd Armor Regiment, 2nd ABCT, who led the maneuver element involved with the breach. The Wolf "helped out the engineers and allowed us to set the conditions."

As the smoke obscured the enemy's view, the Terrier cleared the mines and breached the obstacle for other maneuver elements to pass through.

The Terrier, currently fielded by the U.K. army, is a combat engineer vehicle capable of accomplishing combat and construction-engineering tasks while manned or remotely controlled.

Soldiers with the 82nd Brigade Engineer Battalion, 2nd ABCT, maneuvered their way through the obstacle utilizing the innovative robotic systems together with their U.K. counterparts of the 22nd Engineer Regiment, 8th Engineer Brigade.

The multinational effort, combined with the advancements in technology, allowed the maneuver element to complete all phases of the breach.

McCoy added that the robotics breach provided a unique opportunity for combined arms to work together while using automated breaching assets.

"I think this was a great opportunity to increase our skill sets and strengthen our relationships with other entities," McCoy said. "This opened our eyes to what capabilities are out there and how we can improve now until this tech is implemented."

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"The breach is one of the most difficult tasks that Soldiers can be faced with on the battlefield," Briggs said, "so the opportunity to deploy robotic assets in place of a Soldier is something we are heavily striving for."

The robotic assets used during the breach included aerial technology with the Lethal Miniature Aerial Missile System, Puma and Instant Eye.

The Puma is an unmanned aerial vehicle that is designed for reconnaissance and has an integrated payload specifically for identifying buried objects such as mines or improvised explosive devices. This technology allows Soldiers to identify mines early during their advance.

The Instant Eye is equipped with a chemical detection module for identi-



Pvt. 1st Class Brandon Norton, an M1 Abrams crewmember and an Albany, Oregon native with Company B, 1st Battalion, 63rd Armor Regiment, 2nd Armored Brigade Combat Team, 1st Infantry Division, prepares to launch a Lethal Miniature Aerial Missile System for aerial support during a Robotic Complex Breach Concept assessment and demonstration, at Grafenwoehr, Germany, April 6.

ASK DR. JARGON

Furthering Education

Dear Dr. Jargon:

Since my husband deployed I am interested in furthering my education. I have heard of something called the My Career Advancement Account; usually referred to as MyCAA. Can you give me more information?

Signed Eager Learner

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Kansas institutions which accept MyCAA scholarships include Southwestern College, Barton County Community College, Cloud County Community College, Hays State University, Emporia State University, Kansas State University, the University of Kansas, and many more. Furthermore, many of these institutions are represented at Fort Riley.

Those eligible for the MyCAA scholarships include spouses of service members on active duty in pay grades E-1 to E-5, W-1 to W-2 and O-1 to O-2 who have successfully completed high school and have the ability to request tuition assistance while their military sponsor is on Title 10 military orders are eligible.

Spouses married to members of the National Guard and reserves in these same pay grades are eligible.

Those who are not eligible include the following:

- •Spouses who are married but legally separated (or under court order or statute of any state or U.S. territory) from a member of the armed forces on Title 10 orders
- •Spouses whose National Guard or reserve military sponsor is in a warning orders or alert, postdeployment, demobilization or transition status
- •Spouses married to a member of the Coast Guard

If you wish to find out more contact the professionals at the Education Services Division of the Directorate of Human Resources. They are at 211 Custer Ave. on post, or you can call them at 785-239-6481.

They are experts at helping Soldiers and military families at Fort Riley find the right school. Also, you can log on at https://aiportal. acc.af.mil/mycaa/Default.aspx.

P.S. I'm still learning too!

6 | APRIL 13, 2018

'Big Red One' Soldiers test, evaluate new equipment in Germany

Story and photo by Spc. Dustin Biven 22ND MOBILE PUBLIC AFFAIRS DETACHMENT

GRAFENWOEHR, Germany - In the fields of Grafenwoehr, Germany, service members from the U.S., the U.K. and other U.S. Department of Defense entities watched as several new unmanned aerial tools were explained and demonstrated during a multinational joint equipment training brief April 2.

Led by a group of civilians from the U.S. Army Tank Automotive Research, Development and Engineering Center, the training brief served as a precursor to a scheduled Robotic Complex Breach Concept demonstration. That demonstration will see the use of new air and ground equipment for the first time by Soldiers.

The unmanned aerial capabilities on display included the Lethal Miniature Aerial Missile System, Puma and Instant Eye, which provided Soldiers the ability to evaluate and detect hazards in the training area from a safe distance.

"The aviation assets are invaluable," said Staff Sgt. Brian Logan, a Chemical, Biological, Radiological and Nuclear specialist with the 2nd Armored Brigade Combat Team, 1st Infantry Division. "One of the aviation systems, the Instant Eye, can actually detect hazardous exposure such as chemical or biological threats. The best way to prevent a CBRN injury is avoidance, and that's what these assets allow us to do, avoid unnecessary exposure."

Another aerial asset, the Puma system, is a small unmanned aircraft that gives Soldiers the ability to reconnoiter an area and capture photos and other mission enhancing abilities without placing individuals in harm's way.

"The Puma system allows Soldiers to perform many forms of reconnaissance,"

said Kenneth Martin, an operator of the Puma system. "Using a change detection software, this aircraft can identify any changes made to a route or road over a period of time, to help identify possible hazards."

In addition to aerial assets being used for reconnaissance, the LMAMS gives Soldiers the capability to attack enemy targets from a safe distance that may not be in visual range.

'The LMAMS is a direct fire missile used for neutralizing enemy targets or soft shell vehicles," said Beler Watts, a spokesman for the LMAMS. This system helps our service members reach threats that the standard weapon can't reach with a very low collateral damage footprint."

Select service members who will be participating in the breach exercise had the opportunity to attend a week-long course to better understand the capabilities of the aviation assets prior to the demonstration.



Army Pvt. Jonathan Jackson, a cannon crew member assigned to the 82nd Brigade Engineer Battalion, 2nd Brigade, 1st Infantry Division, Fort Riley, Kansas, launches a Puma aviation system during a multinational joint equipment training brief April 2, in Grafenwoehr, Germany. The Puma was demonstrated prior to a scheduled Robotic Complex Breach Concept demonstration. The Robotic Complex Breach Concept includes the employment of Robotic and Autonomous Systems (RAS) in intelligence, suppression, obscuration and reduction.

"After attending the course and finding out exactly what these systems can do, I am impressed," said Spc. Jackson Thomas, an

Intelligence Analyst assigned to 82nd Brigade Engineer Battalion, 2nd ABCT. "Having the ability to capture images of our routes and iden-

tify any disturbed land that could indicate possible hazards saves not only lives, but other assets and equipment to keep our force effective."

'Dagger' brigade maintains safety, trains for vehicle rollovers

Story and photo by Spc. Hubert Delany 22ND MOBILE PUBLIC AFFAIRS DETACHMENT

GRAFENWOEHR, Germany - The U.S. Army makes the safety and welfare of its Soldiers a high priority and implements training measures to reduce the chance of Soldiers being injured.

One such measure, the Mine-Resistant, Ambush Protected Egress Trainer, assisted Soldiers from 299th Brigade Support Battalion, 2nd Armored Brigade Combat Team, 1st Infantry Division, in executing the proper procedures during a vehicle rollover exercise at Grafenwoehr, Germany April 4.

"My team and I have heard of rollovers before, but we had no idea the training was going to be as intense as it was," said Pfc. Matthew Aguilar, an M1 Abrams tank system maintainer with the 299th BSB. "This was a really great opportunity."

The purpose of the MRAP Egress Trainer and the event as to train the "Dagger" brigade Soldiers on how to help themselves, as well as members of their team, egress a vehicle in the event of a vehicle rollover.



Staff Sgt. Daryl Carrol, right, a Baltimore, Maryland, native and a motor transport operator with the 299th Brigade Support Battalion, 2nd Armored Brigade Combat Team, 1st Infantry Division, helps a Soldier from his unit exit a Mine-Resistant, Ambush-Protected Egress Trainer during a vehicle rollover exercise at Grafenwoehr Training Area, Germany, April 4. The training teaches Soldiers how to effectively react in the event of a vehicle rollover.

Soldiers received will help were all looking around to see the frame with the troops inthem from freezing up in the who needed help." event of a rollover

Aguilar said he believed

side 360 degrees to simulate a vehicle rollover

by mixing things up and giving the Soldiers the realistic training they deserve."

During the training, the machine operators worked to give each group of Soldiers different experiences through combinations of rotations, as well as other Soldiering tasks, to give participants a more realistic and personalized training exercise.

Each Soldier was required to engage and disengage combat locks on the vehicle's doors, keep a fellow Solder from slipping out of the gunner seat and operate a harness while upside down.

"The best part for all of this as a DOD civilian, especially because most of us are exmilitary, is that we remember how things were 20 years ago," Darnell said. "We realize that teamwork between the Soldiers is critical.

"Take the gunner for example. The Soldiers who are sitting in the back seats have to pull him down and keep him secure to make sure his head doesn't stick out of the vehicle if it's rolling." The U.S. Army identified the need for vehicle rollover training in 2003 when the U.S. Army Forces Commander, Gen. Larry Ellis, was moved by the deaths of three Soldiers who were killed in a Stryker

rollover accident.

By September 2007, the U.S. Department of Defense issued regulations requiring all Soldiers deploying to Afghanistan or Iraq have some kind of rollover training.

The Dagger brigade Soldiers, deployed in support of Atlantic Resolve, practiced their rollover training prior to their deployment and used this opportunity to maintain and use the past knowledge learned.

"These Soldiers really learned how to keep their heads on straight," said Staff Sgt. Ernest Charbonier, an M1 Abrams tank system maintainer with 299th BSB and one of the operators of the MET. "Despite their regular duties on our deployment, they still remained focused on their training and their battle buddies. The Soldiers did great while they were here."

The rollover training the Solders went through is not just for U.S. troops, but also available to multinational units who request it and who come to train alongside their U.S. counterparts.

Aguilar, a Bakersfield, California, native, said he thinks the training he and his fellow

"One of our biggest fears as Soldiers is if one of us gets in an accident, that they might not be able to help himself (or) the rest of the team," Aguilar said. "That didn't happen with us. Immediately when everyone had to exit the vehicle, we and his team are "100 percent better prepared" if something like this happened in real life.

The MET works by suspending the chassis section of a military vehicle inside a cylindrical metal frame. The machine operators then spin

"What this system actually does is critical," said David Darnell, a Soldier training program manager for U.S. Army Europe. "This is training that you can have any kind of simulation. You can make the training much more complicated

There are four MET and eight Humvee Egress Assistance Trainers in U.S. Army Europe and hundreds of rollover trainers throughout the Army.



Civilian retirement: buybacks, deposits, re-deposits, credit for service

By Andy Massanet 1ST INF. DIV. POST

When it comes to planning for retirement, time can work against Soldiers if they are not both knowledgeable and actively engaged in the process.

That might seem to make little sense; after all, a career with the Department of the Army can last anywhere from 20 to more than 40 years. There's plenty of time, right?

Not really, according to Michael Gooden, Army Benefits Center-Civilian Branch manager, especially when it comes to getting credit toward retirement for previous military or civilian service through a buy-

Date

Week One

April 1 - 7

Week Two:

April 8 – 14

Week Three

April 15 - 21

Week Four:

April 22 - 30

tirement plan

etween 7-5pm CT.

of in your absence.

ow it affects your retirement

(18)

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or change your TSP election and the TSP Website at <u>www.tsp.gov</u> contribution allocation or interfund transfer. TSP is a critical eler

Goal

Thrift Savings Plan (TSP)

If you are in the Federal Employees' Retirement System (FERS), you should contribute 5% to your TSP account to take full advantage of employer matching money. Visit th Army Benefits Center-Civilian (ABC-C) Website at <u>https://www.abc.army.mil</u> to make

Military and Civilian Deposits/Redeposits

Have you performed active duty military service? Do you have any outstanding civilian deposits or redeposits? Visit the ABC-C Website at <u>https://www.abc.army.mil</u> to see

Retirement Calculators

back system for government employees who have either previous military time or federal employment that took place before a break in that service.

Kristine Tiroch, human resources specialist at the ABC-C, agrees, adding "the retirement planning process includes determining whether the employee is entitled to credit for either previous military or civilian service."

Typically, Gooden said, employees will fall into two main categories: one is a former military person with a number of years in the active-duty military who enters government service and wishes to apply that active duty time towards their civilian

service. The other is a civilian worker who was employed for a time as a government worker, left that service to pursue other interests or opportunities, then wishes to reenter government service again.

But in either case, for every year that goes by without the employee buying back their time, interest accumulates and the cost of doing so rises.

For those with previous military service

For former military persons, the key concept is buying back military time served so it can be applied to the total civilian retirement time. This way military service can boost the total time creditable for service toward retirement.

For example, a person employed under the Federal Employees Retirement System, who has been in civilian government service for 10 years, and has five years of military service can pay into the retirement plan. Then he or she will then have 15 years of total service creditable toward retirement.

"By making this deposit they would be paying into the civilian retirement system," Gooden said. For those with previous military, the Post-56 Buyback method uses a formula that requires the deposit be equal to a certain percentage of base pay over the entire military service period, plus interest.

"The main thing to remember is, if I served six years on active-duty military, based on my earnings (over that period), I can make a deposit to have that military service count toward my civilian service and retirement contributions," Gooden said.

To begin the Post 56 buyback process the employee can visit the ABC-C website at https://www.abc.army.mil/ retirements/FERSPost56.htm for FERS employees or https:// www.abc.army.mil/retirements/CSRSPost56.htm for Civil Service Retirement System/CSRS Offset and follow the four-step process.

Even those who have retired after a 20-year or more career can use the buyback method, but to do so they must waive the pension after retirement from government service is attained, and buy back the time through payments deducted each month.

"Some people will do that, but it has to make good financial sense to them," Gooden said. "To buy back that much military service requires a considerable investment. Most elect to receive their military retirement check separately and simply add it to their income."

In any case, however, employees should contact the ABC-C staff to be sure of the process and the buyback amounts required for credit. The military deposit must be paid in full prior to retirement to receive credit. The Post-56 military buyback process could take 6 months or longer to complete.

For those with previous government service

According to the ABC-C website, if the work history of a civilian employee in FERS includes a period of service during which retirement contributions were not withheld from the salary, contributions are needed to ensure

that time is credited to his or her civilian retirement.

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The FERS-covered employee must pay a deposit of 1.3 percent of the basic pay earned during the non-deduction service, plus interest, in order to receive credit for that period of service. The interest will vary based on the date the civilian service was performed.

Also, according to the ABC-C website, FERS employees can only make a deposit for service prior to Jan. 1, 1989. Non-deducted service after this date is not creditable and payment cannot be made to receive credit.

In other words, Gooden said, "non-deductive service - that is service in which retirement deductions were not contributed to the FERS retirement system — that is performed prior to Jan. 1, 1989, can be credited toward an employee's retirement after the deposit is made."

On the other hand, employees who worked for the government, quit and took a refund of their civilian retirement deductions may make a redeposit of those funds. If the service is credited under FERS rules, you must pay a deposit of 1.3 percent of the basic pay received during the period of refunded service, plus interest.

Again, time is critical.

"We're getting a large number of employees that say they had their non-deducted service (service for which no retirement funds were withheld) back in the 1980s," Gooden said. "Now, they are getting ready to retire and no one ever told them about this deposit or re-deposit and now they have all this back interest. And they are getting all this right when they are getting ready to retire. So ideally, if they do the estimate early and this service can be identified three to five years prior to retiring, which will give them time to make those payments."

Gooden said that frequently a spouse will travel with his or her Soldier and work in temporary appointments in places like Germany or Korea and are not paying into the retirement system. Those are the years that are eligible for the buyback program for government employees. But if they wait for 15, 20 or 25 years before using the buyback system, Gooden added, then interest will have accumulated over that time.

"I've seen it countless times where the actual deposit, if they had made it early, would have been around a couple hundred dollars. But by the time you add 20 years of interest, you're talking around a thousand dollars on top of the original \$200. So now they're paying \$1,200, \$1,300."

Employees with questions should contact the folks at ABC-C, 785-240-2222, or toll-free at 877-276-9287, as soon as possible to begin, or continue, retirement planning. Benefit specialists are available from 7 a.m. to 5 p.m., Central Standard Time, Monday through Friday.

Employees can receive guidance on a variety of topics. "We handle retirements, deposits, redeposits and estimates," Gooden said.



**Beneficiary** Forms Are your Designation of Beneficiary form(s) filled out and up-to-date? Are they uploaded in your electronic Official Personnel Folder (eOPF)? Visit the ABC-C Website a <u>https://www.abc.army.mill</u> for links to the beneficiary forms. The TSP-3 should be mailed to the address on the form. This will ensure your loved ones will be taken care Become familiar with these websites so you can make a giant leap forward in improving your al security in 2018!

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### **DENIM** Continued from page 1



Sgt. Michael C. Roach | 19th PAD

Maj. Gen. Joseph M. Martin, 1st Infantry Division and Fort Riley commanding general, speaks to a postwide formation during Denim Day, an event signifying the start of Sexual Assault Awareness and Prevention Month on Fort Riley, Kansas, April 3. For the past 19 years, the campaign has gathered momentum with supporters wearing denim jeans as a visual means of protest against the misconceptions that surround sexual assault, according to denimdayinfo.org.

"There is more to duty than just showing up," Martin said. "If we accept the praise of others, we must also live up to the standard that is expected of us. In short, we need to be immaculate in regard to respecting others and their dignity. These actions translate directly into the readiness as an organization. Your brothers and sisters in arms should not feel unsafe in the company of other Soldiers. This is a vital subject with serious ramifications for our force."

For 19 years, the campaign has continued to gather momentum with supporters wearing denim jeans as a visual means of protest against the misconceptions that surround sexual assault, according to denimdayinfo.org.

"I am giddy with excitement," said Barbara Garber, SHARP Program Manager for 1st Inf. Div., about the Denim Day formation. "We were at our sexual assault review board and (Martin) was like 'this is how we are going to support it.' He's absolutely fantastic and he has the entire division here, as you can see everybody is in blue jeans, it is absolutely amazing. I am giddy with excitement that there is this much support for sexual assault survivors on this post."

While Denim Day's official date this year is April 25, the "Big Red One" is still supporting the cause without sacrificing its training obligations, said Garber, originally from Baltimore, Maryland.

'While it's tragic that blaming victims was ever commonplace, I can tell you that only together we can ensure that it disappears completely," Martin said. "That behavior and that attitude is not who we are in the Army. We are protectors of this nation and we are brothers and sisters in arms and every day, on and off duty, regardless of rank or age. I expect you to act like that.

### SAPPERS Continued from page 1



### Army secretary discusses possible locations, talent acquisition steps for Futures Command

### By David Vergun ARMY NEWS SERVICE

WASHINGTON — "There's been quite a bit of interest" in the location for the new Army Futures Command, said Secretary of the Army Mark T. Esper, adding the location announcement would be made in the coming months.

Esper spoke at a Heritage Foundation event moderated by Thomas Spoehr, the director of the Foundation's Center for National Defense.

Spoehr mentioned the national buzz over the possible location of Amazon's second headquarters, and wondered if the Army was generating similar interest over the unannounced Futures Command location. The list of potential locations is being narrowed down, the secretary said. The main criteria is to find an unbeatable center of innovation, where the Army can gather top talent from academia and industry.

The Army will need these innovators to support the Army's six modernization priorities, Esper said. They will need to visualize what the Army will look like 30 years from now, the threat and strategic environment of the future, and the range of innovative technical and material solutions that will be available to provide overmatch for the Army.

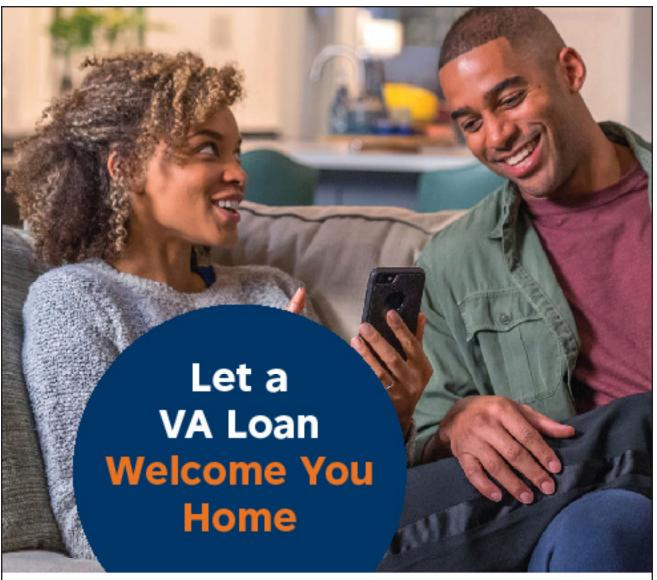
The Army's six modernization priorities are the development of improved long-range precision fires, a next-generation combat vehicle, future vertical lift platforms, a mobile and expeditionary Army network, air and missile defense capabilities and Soldier lethality. Eight cross-functional teams, or CFTs, are leading that effort and will become part of Futures Command. The Army will need talented engineers to work on lasers, directed energy and hypersonics, Esper said, in addition to cyber experts to secure the Army's networks and make them more mobile and resilient. The Future Vertical Lift priority will also require the best experts in the field, especially since interest in the industry is so high. The secretary noted that for every dollar the Army spends on FVL, he said industry spends \$3.

The idea, he continued, is to bring smart people into the discussions early on to discuss the requirements, allow for reasonable tradeoffs in those requirements, build prototypes, experiment, take prudent risks and get those solutions to Soldiers in the field in as timely a manner as possible.

Besides bringing talented people to Futures Command, Esper noted another important aspect of the effort is acquisition reform. Projects need to move more efficiently through the requirements and acquisition process, he said. Sustainment and interoperability should be considered with the joint force and partners. That will all occur up front with everyone participating in the CFTs, he said.

Congress, he added, has been supportive of these efforts and has offered some flexibility in spending, such as with Other Transactional Authority. OTA is a term referring to the Title 10 authority to enter into transactions other than contracts, typically for prototype projects.

The Army has some 800 weapons and equipment programs, he said. Top leadership is looking at each of these programs, with an eye to ending some and putting others on hold, based on a modernization priority list.



Did you know Navy Federal offers mortgage options that require no

Staff Sgt. Elizabeth Tarr | 1ABCT Public Affairs Sgt. Gary Coggins, a best sapper competitor with Company B, 1st Engineer Battalion, 1st Armored Brigade Combat Team, 1st Infantry Division, assembles an M240 during a miniature sapper competition April 4.

the sapper handbook — that requires multiple repetitions to master. Sgt. Gary Coggins, a competitor with Co. B, 1st Eng. Bn., said he wanted to compete because he wants to stand out among his peers and represent his unit and regiment.

"Being a sapper encompasses everything it means to be an engineer," he said. "Winning this competition is the echelon of all prizes for engineers. We're coming to win it."

The competition is scheduled to be held April 14 through 20 in Fort Leonard Wood, Missouri.



DATE: April 25, 2018 TIME: 7:30 AM - 4:00 PM WHERE: Hilton Garden Inn 410 S. 3rd Street Manhattan, Kansas

Attendees will gain an appreciation of cyber security risks, how to defend against and mitigate those risks, employee management, training and policy issues, budgeting for cybersecurity, how to recover from security breaches, resources available to small businesses, and what to expect in this area going into the future.

### **RESISTER NOW AT** https://csbdc.ecenterdirect.com/events/23618 CONTACT US NOW FOR MORE INFO icabdc@washburn.edu or call (785) 234-3235

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### APRIL 13, 2018 | 9



Staff Sgt. Wallace Bonner | 2nd ABCT Public Affairs

Jeff Smith, founder, FiveSeven Solutions, instructs a group of Soldiers during a leadership development class at the Tower Chapel annex in Grafenwoehr Training Area, Germany, March 30, 2018. The training focused on providing tools to Soldiers to guide their own development as leaders using tools like journals where they reflect on their leadership goals and how to achieve them.

| leadership goals and how to                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |                                                                                                       |                                                                                                                                                     |                                                                                                        |                                                                                                                           |                                                                                                                                                     |                                                                                                                                                           |                                                                                                                                                           |                                                                                                         |
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| DININ' D                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           | DEALS                                                                                                 | MONDAY                                                                                                                                              | TUESDAY                                                                                                | WEDNESDAY                                                                                                                 | THURSDAY                                                                                                                                            | FRIDAY                                                                                                                                                    | SATURDAY                                                                                                                                                  | SUNDAY                                                                                                  |
| Ike's Place Ba                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     | <b>r &amp; Grill</b><br>416 Goldenbelt Blvd.<br>JUNCTION CITY<br>(785) 579-6644<br>ikesplacegrill.com | 1/2 Price<br>Boneless<br>Tenders                                                                                                                    | TRIVIA NIGHT<br>+ 1/2 Price All<br>Draft Beers,<br>\$2 Jumbo Tacos                                     | l                                                                                                                         | Prime Rib<br>Dinner +<br>\$3 Premium<br>Pints all Day                                                                                               |                                                                                                                                                           | Pasta Night<br>\$9.99 w/<br>Salad all day                                                                                                                 | HAPPY HOUR<br>ALL DAY<br>\$2 Drafts,<br>\$2 <sup>.50</sup> Margaritas,<br>\$2 Wells                     |
|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    | . ,                                                                                                   | Μ                                                                                                                                                   | on-Fri H                                                                                               | *certain restrictions apply                                                                                               |                                                                                                                                                     |                                                                                                                                                           |                                                                                                                                                           |                                                                                                         |
| Wing I<br>WING                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     | t<br>439 W. 6th Street<br>JUNCTION CITY<br>(785) 223-5282<br>wingitplace.com                          | 2 for \$9.99<br>Country<br>Fried Chicken<br>Dinners                                                                                                 | \$1 Mini Shakes                                                                                        | 2 for \$10<br>Nachos (Beef<br>or Chicken)                                                                                 | 5 BBQ<br>Chicken<br>Sandwiches<br>\$9.99                                                                                                            |                                                                                                                                                           | *certain rest                                                                                                                                             | 1/2 Price<br>Slushes<br>ALL DAY (Med<br>or Large only)                                                  |
| Pizza H                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            | <b>Ut</b><br>412 E. Chestnut St.<br>JUNCTION CITY<br>(785) 238-4144                                   | Large 3<br>Topping and<br>Breadsticks<br>\$16.99<br>(Additional charge for<br>Pan or Stuffed Crust)<br>Code 55 Delivery Fees<br>& minimums required | All You Can<br>Eat Supreme<br>Dinner Buffet.<br>Pizza, Wing-<br>Street Wings<br>& More!<br>5:30 - 7:00 | Wing<br>Wednesday<br>60¢ Bone Out<br>or<br>80¢ Bone In<br>Wings                                                           | All You Can<br>Eat Supreme<br>Dinner Buffet.<br>Pizza, Wing-<br>Street Wings<br>& More!<br>5:30 - 7:00                                              | Large 3<br>Topping,<br>Breadsticks &<br>Cookie \$21.99<br>(Additional charge for<br>Pan or Stuffed Crust)<br>Code KW Delivery Fees<br>& minimums required | Large<br>1 Topping<br>& Medium<br>3 Topping<br>\$19.99<br>(Additional charge for Pan<br>or Stuffed Crust)<br>Code LF Delivery Fees<br>& minimums required | All You Can<br>Eat Supreme<br>Lunch Buffet.<br>Pizza, Wing-<br>Street Wings<br>& More!<br>11:30 - 1:00  |
| Cracker Bo                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         | arrel                                                                                                 |                                                                                                                                                     |                                                                                                        |                                                                                                                           |                                                                                                                                                     |                                                                                                                                                           |                                                                                                                                                           |                                                                                                         |
| Cracker<br>Barrel<br>Bld Country store                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             | 115 N East St<br>JUNCTION CITY<br>(785) 762-5567                                                      | <b>Now Offering Catering</b><br>Delivery Available • Contact Gerald (785) 762-550                                                                   |                                                                                                        |                                                                                                                           |                                                                                                                                                     |                                                                                                                                                           |                                                                                                                                                           |                                                                                                         |
| Coach                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              | <b>'s</b><br>720 Caroline Ave.<br>JUNCTION CITY<br>(785) 238-5522                                     | 65¢ Tacos<br>\$2.50<br>tall beers                                                                                                                   | Chicken Fried<br>Steak Dinner<br>\$10<br>\$2 bottles                                                   | STEAK NIGHT<br>\$9 Steak<br>Dinner<br>\$2 pints                                                                           | Fajitas \$9<br>Margaritas \$3<br>Specialty<br>pints<br>\$2.50                                                                                       | Ribeye Dinner<br>\$16<br>\$2 Coors It<br>pints                                                                                                            |                                                                                                                                                           | Buy 1 Coach's<br>Burger get<br>1 half off<br>All Day<br>\$2.50 tall<br>beers                            |
| Stacy's Rest                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       | <b>aurant</b><br>118 W Flint Hills Blvd<br>JUNCTION CITY<br>(785) 238-3039                            | <b>Chicken &amp;</b><br><b>Noodles</b><br>Sr. Size \$7.00<br>Reg. \$8.00<br>Inc Tax                                                                 | <b>Pork Cutlet</b><br>Sr. Size \$7.00<br>Reg. \$8.00<br>Inc Tax                                        | <b>Meatloaf</b><br>Sr. Size \$7.00<br>Reg. \$8.00<br>Inc Tax                                                              | <b>Fried Chicken</b><br>Sr. Size \$7.00<br>Reg. \$8.00<br>Inc Tax                                                                                   | Roast Beef<br>and Liver &<br>Onions<br>and Catfish<br>Sr. Size \$7.00<br>Reg. \$8.00<br>Inc Tax                                                           | Cooks Choice                                                                                                                                              | April 1st<br>• Roast Beef<br>• Baked Ham<br>• Roast Turkey<br>Sr. Size \$8.00<br>Reg. \$9.00<br>Inc Tax |
| The Cove at Aco                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    | <b>5710 Farnum Creek Rd.</b><br>MILFORD<br>(785) 463-4000                                             | LECTION CLOSED<br>Book for private event                                                                                                            |                                                                                                        |                                                                                                                           | Fajita Night<br>Chicken \$12<br>Steak \$15<br>Trivia Night<br>7-9pm<br>Long Island<br>Ice Tea \$5                                                   | Crab Legs<br>\$22                                                                                                                                         | Prime Rib<br>\$25<br>1st Saturday<br>each Month<br>Karaoke                                                                                                | Bloody Mary &<br>Mimosa Bar<br>12-4 pm<br>Happy Hour<br>All Day                                         |
| TymeOut      Transformer      Transformer |                                                                                                       | Closed                                                                                                                                              | 6oz Steak<br>\$7.99<br>16oz Coors<br>Light Draw<br>\$2.99<br>Well Drinks<br>\$2.99                     | NEW ITEM<br>Hamburger<br>Steak w/<br>Mushroom Gravy<br>\$11.99<br>\$2.99 Well Drinks<br>\$1.00 OFF any<br>16oz Craft Beer | 8oz KC Strip w/ Shrimp or Cla<br>16oz KC Strip \$24.<br>Double Crown \$7.<br>16oz Long Islands \$<br>16oz Bloody Mary's \$<br>22oz Coors Light Draw |                                                                                                                                                           | 4.99<br>7.99<br>\$5.99<br>\$4.99                                                                                                                          | Closed                                                                                                  |
| The Donut                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          | Hole                                                                                                  |                                                                                                                                                     |                                                                                                        | -                                                                                                                         | -                                                                                                                                                   |                                                                                                                                                           |                                                                                                                                                           | :                                                                                                       |
| <b>Denut</b><br>Hole                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               | 431 W. 18th St.<br>JUNCTION CITY<br>(785) 579-4730                                                    |                                                                                                                                                     |                                                                                                        | order yo<br>\$3.50<br>onuts & Brea                                                                                        | ) for a                                                                                                                                             | Dozen                                                                                                                                                     |                                                                                                                                                           | :                                                                                                       |

Check **Dinin' Deals** each Friday in the **1st Infantry Division Post** and each Saturday in **The Daily Union** for upcoming specials and coupons for your favorite local restaurants! 

# Come Celebrate at IHOO Wednesday, April 18th

IHOP Junction City KS (785) 238-4800

6AM-10AM Free Short Stack

> 2PM-5PM BOGO Free

10AM-2PM 5 Burgers

5PM-10PM Kids Eat Free



# **Community Life**

### APRIL 13, 2018

### HOME OF THE BIG RED ONE

### PAGE 11 🖈



Tanya Rollins and her 3-year-old son, Oliver Rollins, draw a picure at KidsFest, at Riley's Conference Center April 8. The event honored military children as one of the many activities being held in April as part of the observance for Month of the Military Child.

**KIDS' STUFF** 

### Month of the Military Child in full swing with library's spring party, & KidsFest

### Story and photos by Gail Parsons 1ST INF. DIV. POST

ilitary children were treated to a weekend of activities April 7 and 8 to recognize the role they play in the Army.

The unseasonably cold, dreary weather forced some changes to scheduled Month of the Military Child activities, but it didn't dampen the spirits of the hundreds of children who showed up to the library's Spring Party on Saturday and Sunday's Kids-Fest at Riley's Conference Center.

"The weather slows us down a bit, but it never stops us," said Amelia Knapp, Child and Youth Services director during KidsFest.

She said last year's turnout was about 1,500 and it looked as though they would be on track to meet those numbers this year.



# Fort Riley school has Science Day

Elementary students get hands-on feedback from K-State partners

Story and photo by Will Ravenstein 1ST INF. DIV. POST

Fort Riley Elementary School hosted their annual Science Day April 5.

Creative challenges like making a land yacht powered by a fan, sending mini lasers through a series of mirrors and attempting to fly a paper airplane through a hula hoop let students be creative with their problem solving skills.

The stations, located in the gymnasium, were manned by Kansas State University students who are working on becoming teachers.

The hands-on opportunity to impact learning while having fun was on the mind of the K-State students.

"It is really awesome we get that one-on-one time with the kids," said junior Nicole Davis, of Sheridan, Wyoming and spouse of Wyatt Davis, 1st Combat Aviation Brigade, 1st Infantry Division. "It's just really cool to see them learn, get excited to learn and to want to learn more. It helps us as future teachers (on knowing) which projects we can do with our kids in order to help their



Brooklyn Winter, 4, daughter of Staff Sgt. David Winter, 1st Infantry Division Artillery, builds a castle at the 'upcycle art' station at the Fort Riley Elementary School Science Day April 5.

learning experience be what it can be."

The partnership with K-State, began by a military spouse who worked there, has been a beneficial and exciting one according to Fort Riley Elementary School principal Becky Coy.

"We are very fortunate to keep that link," she said. "What we love about our K-State students is the excitement they bring. Their energy and excitement, they want to be here."

See SCIENCE, page 10

## Commissary agency holds Industry Day

Meets with suppliers to plot course for fiving patrons better service

By Jessica Rouse DECA PUBLIC AFFAIRS SPECIALIST "We want strategic initiatives that helpdrive sales, protect margins and the benefit and

"I am really pleased to see the turnout of our military families," she said. "Our children sacrifice a lot for the Soldiers and families."

A buffet with kid-friendly foods like tater tots, mini corndogs and chicken nuggets offered a nice start or break to an afternoon filled with activities. Tables were set up from several post groups to include Directorate of Family, Morale, Welfare and Recreation, Army Community Services, Girl Scouts, the American Red Cross and several others.

Children colored, made crafts, played games and had a chance to visit with Spider-Man, who showed up to talk to the children about bullies.

"Have you ever been bullied?" he asked a couple of youngsters.

See KIDS, page 12

Gabriella Gonzalez, 5, jumps over the bars at an obstacle course set up April 8 at Riley's Conference Center during KidsFest.

"I am really pleased to see the turnout of our military families. Our children sacrifice a lot for the Soldiers and families." AMELIA KNAPP | CHILD AND YOUTH SERVICES DIRECTOR DURING KIDSFEST

### FORT LEE, Va. —The Defense Commissary Agency and its industry partners met March 26 at agency headquarters in Fort Lee, Virginia, to discuss opportunities to better serve military members and their families.

During what was billed as Industry Day, DeCA's interim director and CEO, Robert J. Bianchi, emphasized to the agency's industry partners —vendors, suppliers and brokers — that the military customer is the tie that binds them.

"We're all in this together, and I think we all have a common goal here — to serve our military members and their families," said Bianchi, a retired Navy rear admiral, who is also dual-hatted as the chief executive of the Navy Exchange Service Command.

"We've got to focus on the customer," he added. "We've got to get back to being relevant to them. We want strategic initiatives that help drive sales, protect margins and the deliver value to the patron."

ROBERT J. BIANCHI INTERIM DIRECTOR, DEFENSE COMMISSARY AGENCY

benefit and deliver value to the patron."

Those initiatives include maintaining 98 percent product availability, increasing customer satisfaction during their journey through the store and maintaining the savings benefit among other things.

Bianchi also has begun exploring more joint sales promotions, which led to DeCA hosting a conference of military resale marketing representatives in February. This first-of-its-kind meeting was a huge success, he said, resulting in the development of eight joint promotional events between the military exchanges and the commissary in 2018.

See COMMISSARY, page 12

### Sweet partnership delivers goods

### Girl Scouts, USO Fort Riley turn cookie sales into donations

#### Story and photo by Andy Massanet IST INF. DIV. POST

A partnership between the Girls Scouts of Northeast Kansas and Northwest Missouri resulted in the donation of approximately 28,000 boxes of Girls Scout cookies to USO Fort Riley.

The shipment arrived April 5 and was received by Scott Payne, center director for USO Fort Riley, Traci Taylor, USO Center operations and programs manager, and a host of parents and Girl Scouts that included 8-yearold Rachel Barrera and her 5-year-old sister, Katherine. Both are the daughters of Staff Sgt. Angel Barrera of 1st Squadron, 4th Cavalry Regiment, 1st Armored Brigade Combat Team, 1st Infantry Division, and his spouse, Joy Barrera.

"Today were getting about 2,800 cases of cookies and each case has 10 boxes of cookies," Taylor said. "It's part of our Care to Share effort."

According to Cathy Stage, event coordinator for the Girls Scout Service Unit 706 and spouse of Sgt. 1st Class James Stage of Company I, 1st Combined Arms Battalion, 2nd Armored Brigade Combat Team, 1st Inf. Div., the cookie selling effort began last winter. "The girls started selling the cookies on Dec. 22 and (sales) ended on March 11," Stage said. "And the folks who bought them were given the option of keeping them or donating them to others."

The partnership between Fort Riley USO, and the Northeast Kansas and Northwest Missouri is now several years old, Payne said.

"It's is a fantastic partnership," he said. "Every year, we receive a ship of cookies like you see here. Anywhere from 1,500 and 2,000 cases donated to the Girls Scouts and that have been passed on to us. So we thank the community members for donating cookies that we are able to receive to pass out to service members and family members. We do

that through our Single Soldier Homecoming kits. The Soldiers who are redeploying come back and they have a hygiene kit, some snacks and information about the local area. We also distribute them to Soldiers and their families at programs like out no-dough dinners, family game nights, seasonal events like out Fourth of July Barbecue and Victory Week as well, so we'll be distributing them from now all the way up through August. It's just one of those morale boosters."

For more information about USO Fort Riley visit https://for-triley.uso.org/, or call 785-492-5710.

For more information about the Girls Scouts of Northeast Kansas and Northwest Missouri, visit https://www.gsksmo.org/.



Rachel Barrera, 8, right, and her 5-year-old sister, Katherine, work to unload Girl Scout cookies from a truck April 5. Both are the daughters of Staff Sgt. Angel Barrera of 1st Squadron, 4th Cavalry Regiment, 1st Armored Brigade Combat Team, 1st Infantry Division, and his spouse, Joy. The cookies were donated to Fort Riley and 1st Infantry Division Soldiers as part of a partnership between the Girls Scouts of Northeast Kansas and Northwest Missouri and USO Fort Riley.

### FORT RILEY POST-ITS

### FORT RILEY KIDS FISHING DAY

Welcome spring with the Fort Riley Fishing Day, 12 noon to 4 p.m. April 21, at Moon Lake, Fort Riley. Registration will begin at 11:30 a.m.

A limited number of loaner rods and reels are provided for those who do not have them. Fishing bait, tackle, snacks, and refreshments are all provided. Volunteers will be on-site helping the kids with anything needed. No experience is necessary! Bring out your youngsters for a guaranteed good time! For more information

For more information call the Fort Riley Conservation Office at 785-239-6211 or the Fort Riley Outdoor Recreation Center at 785-239-2363.

#### SUPERHERO SATURDAY

It's time to super-suit up and get ready to save the world: Superhero Saturday is coming April 21. The day starts with a youth obstacle fun run at 9 a.m., followed by a breakfast buffet



and a kids' comicon. Breakfast will be served until 11:30 a.m. and the comicon will run through noon. Participate in any or all of the events for one low price. Registration costs \$12 in advance and \$15 on the day of and includes a superhero cape for the first 150 registered youth. Costumes are encouraged.

For details call 785-239-2807.

### MWR ARTS AND CRAFTS CENTER

A framing and matting class is scheduled for 6 p.m. April 16, at the Arts and Crafts Center, 6918 Trooper Dr. Fort Riley.

Cost is \$10. Subjects covered in this onenight class include material selection, mat cutting, frame chopping and assembly, and glass cutting.

All materials are provided for handson instruction. Students will not be working on their own projects. This class is required before using the matting and framing area. For more information call 785-239-9205.



Spring Craft Market: While you're out for the Post Wide Yard Sale on May 5, swing by Rally Point Field to find the perfect Mother's Day present for Mom, pick up some new home decor, or come to browse and enjoy the warmer weather.

The Rally Point is at 2600 Trooper Drive Fort Riley. Vendors are still wanted. For more information call 785-239-4983.

### CIVILIAN PERSONNEL ADVISORY CENTER CLOSED FORT RILEY REEL TIME THEATER SCHEDULE TEMPORARILY

CPAC (Bldg. 319) is closed temorarily and all services, including New Employee Orientation, will start operating from Bldg. 253 on April 16.

### TACO TUESDAY AND PASTA WEDNESDAY

Stop by Riley's Conference Center for lunch 11 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Taco Tuesday features an all-you-can-eat meal with a choice of meat, hard and soft shell tacos, salsa bar, rice, beans, salad bar and dessert.

Pasta Wednesday features pasta main dish, green beans, focaccia and Greek salad.

The buffet costs \$9.95, which includes a drinks. A salad bar only is available for \$5.95. For more information 785-784-1000.

### **USO NO-DOUGH** DINNERS SCHED-ULED

USO Fort Riley, will make it easy on your pocket-book in April with a No-Dough Dinner 5 p.m. April 26.



Event will be held at the Culimary Arts Lab, 251 Custer Ave.

For more information call (785) 240-5326, visit USO Fort Riley Facebook or the website: https:// fortriley.uso.org/.

#### **POKEMON SPELLING BEE**

Think you are the biggest nerd around? Prove it! Come on out to the Warrior Zone and compete in our Pokemon Spelling Bee! sponsored by the Better Opportunities for Single Soldiers - BOSS - and the Warrior Zone, 7867 Normandy, Fort Riley. Event is scheduled for 8 p.m., April 21, and is open to all DOD cardholders 18+ years of age. For details call 785-240-6618.

BOSS Volunteer opportunities include the Fort Riley animal shelter on April 14, 6 to 7:30 p.m.

BOSS Bible study has been postponed until another location has been found where it can be held.

Visit the BOSS office or call 785-239-BOSS for more details for general information on these or other events.

### Friday, April 13

Tomb Raider (PG-13) 7 p.m. Saturday, April 14 I Feel Pretty (PG-13) 2 p.m. Love, Simon (PG-13) 7 p.m Sunday, April 15

Thoroughbreds (R) 5 p.m. Theater opens 30 minutes before first showing For more information, call 785-239-9574. Regular Showing: \$6, children are \$3.50, children 5 and under are admitted free. 3D Showing: \$8

First Run: \$8.25, 3D; First Run: \$10.25;

### **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.

### FREE AUDIO BOOKS

All military branches will get to take advantage of this service at no cost. Thousands of audiobook titles are available instantly on demand or have the CD shipped for free.

This service is open to all veterans, service members and their families residing in Kansas.

For more information, visit www.Kansas.3LeafGroup.com

#### 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.

#### COMMUNITY CORNER

# Military children continue to impress

### By Col. John D. Lawrence FORT RILEY GARRISON COMMANDER

or those who attended last week's Fort Riley Town Hall you know



the Military Child, the Army has developed ways to recognize and honor the commitment, contributions and sacrifices young people make to our nation through the strength they provide their Soldiers and other family members.

Fort Riley's Directorate of

page at https://www.facebook. com/rileymwr for a full list of remaining local MOMC events.

April also has two other annual observances - National Child Abuse Prevention Month and National Autism Awareness Month. We use this time to add even more focus on the welfare

of our military families, no

matter their situation. It's also

for community support, housing, medical, educational and personnel services to families with special needs. You can find out more at iach.amedd.army. mil/efmp.html.

This month, I ask you to take some time to "Light It Up Blue" for Autism Awareness and



thanks to the outstanding musical presentation by some of our Child and Youth Services kids. They were a

great example



Colonel Lawrence

of military children around the world who are "Brave Hearts, Resilient Souls.

Since 1986, when Secretary of Defense Caspar Weinberger designated April as Month of

Family Morale, Welfare and Recreation kicked off this year's celebration with a parade and proclamation signing and have more than a dozen more events lined up for the remainder of the month. There's a family pool party tomorrow and Superhero Saturday, family bowling, kids' fishing day, library night, a lock-in, field trip and more later this month. For beginning authors, there's a "Young Lives, BIG Stories" contest; enter at www.armymwr.com/

momc. Visit MWR's Facebook

a chance to remind everyone about the resources we have available to strengthen families and to help them improve each day, especially when facing frequent moves, challenging training schedules and multiple deployments.

The Exceptional Family Member Program, working in concert with other military and civilian agencies, is designed to provide a comprehensive, coordinated, multi-agency approach

to participate in some of the family-friendly events around post. April is a great time for us to take a few moments to thank military children for their special contributions to a strong Army family and to reaffirm our commitment to spending quality time with them all year long.

— To comment on this awrticle or to suggest a topic for Community Corner, email usarmy.riley.imcom.mbx.postnewspaper@mail.mil.





FEMA

Ready .





In the multipurpose room students displayed their coding skills as they showed the robots they created specific tasks complete.

"The future is bright," Coy said. "Unfortunately, in the news you always hear the bad things going on in the world. We've got great kids and the future is bright. The opportunity for them to problem solve something that was important to them, like taking the trash out or feeding the dog, are all practical things."

Coy said Science Day also gives the students more opportunities to explore outside of the classroom.

"I've always told teachers and families that teaching science is like candy - they want it so bad," she said. "They do love the opportunities they can have with science. Get their hands on things and figure things out. We know that we've got to do more of that, cause we don't know what the future will hold or what jobs will be out there. So we need thinkers."

With school funding in the local and national news as of late, Coy said she is thankful for USD 475's vision for the future.

"We are very fortunate to be in a district that is trying to look to the future," she said. "What is challenging about that is that we don't know what the future is for kids. We do know that robotics and coding is part of it.

"We are excited for the future for the teachers and the kids. They get to do things that are practical, problem solvers and fun again ... The State Board of Education Commissioners are wanting us to get out there, are supporting us through the social and emotional needs along with problem based learning. It's very exciting time to be in education, I believe. We've got exceptional families and kids that we just got to let them have it. Let them have opportunity to solve what ever problems they want to

solve. That is our future - we don't even know what's going to be out there to solve."

For those parents and students who were unable to attend, they missed a lot of smiles, laughs and opportunities to be excited about learning according to Coy.

"The excitement for learning and what learning is looking like in the area of science and math," she said. "It's the excitement, you can see an excitement that the kids were able to present their little robot program. It's that excitement. What's really cool to see is the excitement from the parents for what their child did. That's the part that they might have missed."

Surgeon David Cancelada, MD

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For military dependents or retired military members only.

Friday, January 26, 1-3 pm

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# Ft. Riley, start your weight loss journey!

#### HOME OF THE BIG RED ONE

### APRIL 13. 2018 | 13

### New USO manager eager for feedback

### Taylor looks to mix established programs with initiatives

### Story and photo by Gail Parsons 1ST INF. DIV. POST

With a history of working with nonprofit agencies behind her, Traci Taylor has taken on the position of USO operations and program manager.

Taylor began at the USO Fort Riley March 26, so she has not been on the job long enough to know of changes she will make, but she has been there long enough to be impressed with the facility and the volunteers who make it operate.

"Initially, I just want to carry on some of the initiatives and programs and events that my predecessor had established. I really feel like those events are important and anticipated — the No-Dough dinners we do once a month, there's coffee connections, there's family game night, those are all things my predecessor had established," she said. "We will continue to offer what we have always offered. I hope to look at some new ideas for connecting not only with family members but also service members and finding out what their needs and interests are when it comes to programs and events that we can provide."

She looks forward to meeting the Soldiers and their families, garnering feedback, and learning what they would like the USO to be and to provide.

Crystal Bryant-Kearns, site manager for the USO Pathfinder program, said this is a good time for anyone who has ideas for programs and events to make their voice heard.

'(Taylor) is requesting feedback 'what do you think about your USO, what would you like to change? Is there a program



Traci Taylor, operations and program manager at the Fort Riley USO, says she looks forward to meeting the Soldiers and their families, garnering feedback and learning what they would like the USO to be and to provide.

you're missing that would add value?"" Bryant-Kearns asked. "I think it is exciting when you have a new fresh face come in and they want to know what is working right and what to improve on."

Taylor's familiarity with the USO comes from having friends volunteer and work for the agency; her familiarity with the Army comes from her family.

"I have a brother who is a Vietnam vet and my father is a World War II vet, one of the few left," she said. "I am a native to Manhattan, so I have been a neighbor of Fort Riley my entire life. When the opportunity was presented to me that I could be the force behind the force and support military families and military members I was very excited to do that."

While she was aware of the programs and events the USO provides to give service members and their families she was quickly impressed with the work the volunteers do.

"I see not only dedicated paid staff, but also extremely dedicated volunteers," she said. We do events that rely heavily on volunteer help. We value the time that is given because we couldn't do what we do without volunteers."

She believes she will be a good fit in the position because it is one that suits what she looks for in life. She said she wants to impact people, which is what generally goes with nonprofit work.

"(Everything comes down to supporting a mission) and mission-driven work is something that really excites me," she said. "And, I know that the impact that we have here at the USO can make a difference to one family member, one service member, and then that can filter out to other people."

The USO provides a space for Soldiers and their families to grab a quick bite to eat, kill time with some gaming, relax and watch a movie, use a computer and more.

### "We do events that rely heavily on volunteer help. We value the time that is given because we couldn't do what we do without volunteers."

TRACI TAYLOR **OPERATIONS AND** PROGRAM MANAGER, **USO FORT RILEY** 

"We invite folks to stop in anytime," Taylor said. "We have friendly volunteers who will fix them something to eat, they can take a moment for R and R, have a cold drink - this is Fort Riley's USO, this is their USO. We want them to feel very comfortable with stopping by for any reason even if it's just hanging out or coming by with a friend to spend some time."

A quote she said they use at the USO, "we facilitate goodness" plays into everything she will strive for at USO Fort Riley. It could mean anything from a simple cup of coffee, or a place to have warm conversation in an environment where people care for one another.

As a sports mom for a teenager and an elder care giver for her father, caring is part of her life — a trait that hasn't gone unnoticed by Bryant-Kearns.

Traci is truly is a caregiver. If there is a word to describe her, it is caregiver," she said. "She is a caregiver to her child and her father, but she really is a caregiver to all. She is always there to offer a hug and words of encouragement, she is an optimist and is a positive force and we are happy to have her here."

### **TUESDAY TRIVIA CONTEST**

~~~



The question for the week of April 10 was: Where on Fort Riley's website will I find the page detailing the SHARP (Sexual Harassment/Assault Response and Prevention) program?

Answer: www.riley.army.mil/Services/Soldier-Services/Sexual-Harassment-Assault-Response-and-Prevention/

This week's winner is Becky Bengtson, mother of Pfc. Richard Bengtson, of Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 1st Battalion, 18th Infantry, 2nd Armored Brigade Combat Team, 1st Infantry Division.

Above are Becky and Pfc. Richard Bengtson.

CONGRATULATIONS BECKY!

FORT RILEY SIGNS MONTHLY PROCLAMATIONS

Col. Charles J. Masaracchia, left, chief of staff for the **1st Infantry Division**, and Command Sgt. Maj. Andrew T. Bristow II, U.S. Army Garrison Fort Riley command sergeant major, signed proclamations for the Month of the Military Child and Child Abuse **Prevention Month** during the April 3 Town Hall meeting at Riley's **Conference Center.** Collen McGee | FORT RILEY PUBLIC AFFAIRS





Youth soccer schedule: April 14

KINDERGARTEN. FIRST GRADE

- 9 a.m. Herren at Langevin at Field No. 3
- 10 a.m. Hibbs at Runnells, at Field No. 3
- 11 a.m. Linville at Nichols at Field No. 3
- 9 a.m. Milford at Wakfield in Wakefield
- 9 a.m. Gray at Ogden in Ogden
- SECOND, THIRD GRADE
- 9 a.m. Nichols at Heil-
- mann at Field No. 6 10 a.m. Nichols at Val-
- dez at Field No. 6
- 10:30 a.m. Ogden at Wakefield in Wakefield

FOURTH, FIFTH GRADE

- 9 a.m. Maynard at Runnells at Field No. 6
- 10:15 a.m. Maynard at Mancini on Field No.
- 10:15 a.m. Casillas at Ogden in Ogden

SIXTH THROUGH **EIGHTH GRADE**

- 11 a.m. Junction City at Gates at Field No. 5
- 12:30 a.m. Langevin at Hernandez/Nunn at Field No. 5



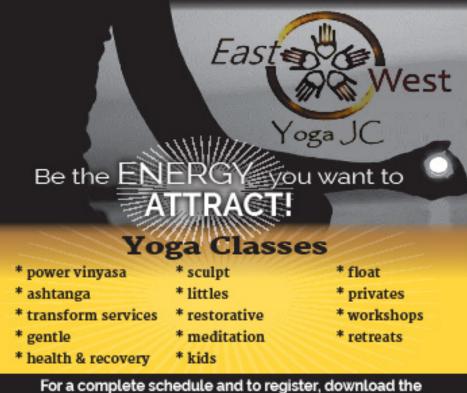


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14 | APRIL 13, 2018

KIDS Continued from page 9

One young man admitted he had, while the other said he didn't think he had.

Spider-Man then asked them what they would do if they were bothered by a bully. "Be mean to him," one child

said. That wasn't quite the answer Spidey was looking for, but he did coach them in other options.

The military police were also on hand to conduct Identa-Kid, which allowed parents to have their child's fingerprints and photograph put on record should it ever be needed.

The post library was also present despite having hosted more than 200 people at their Spring Party just the day before.

Although it was a spring party, the winter-like weather forced them indoors and to make several changes to their schedule.



Gail Parsons | POST

No Month of the Military Child event would be complete without a visit from Scarlet and Riley. The bears visited with children and had their photos taken with kids and adults during the Month of the Military Child Kidfest on April 8 at Riley's Conference Center.

"I think it was a great success even with the hiccups," said Rebecca Basil, project manager. "I didn't think we would have as many children as we did."

To accommodate the children inside the library, she and her staff developed a craft proj-

tral for more details.

Camps begin May 29 and

There is a complete list

finish Aug. 10, with a different

and details on pamphlets

inside CYS, highlights in-

clude: Cooking and Cul-

ture, June 11-15; SAC

Got Talent, June 25-29;

theme scheduled each week.

ect to make birdfeeders out of tongue depressors.

The cold, wet weather also caused the KidsFest to cancel some activities that were planned for the outdoors, but there was still enough to keep everyone busy inside.

Gabrielle Nickerson attended with her daughters, 5-yearold McKenna Nickerson and 4-year-old Jaleah Emerson.

"It's been fun," she said while the girls stopped for a snack. "They really enjoyed seeing the princesses and seeing their children out of school."

For Nickerson, the event was special because it showed her children and others that while their parents are usually the ones on the front stage, the children are just as important because they are the ones who stand behind their parents.

"It is nice for them to be recognized as part of the military," she said.

Child and Youth Services gears up for camp

Enrollment period for ll-week camps to begin April 16

Staff report **1ST INF DIV. POST**

April 16 marks the open enrollment period for the Fort Riley Child and Youth Services Summer Camps through the Custer Hill School Age Center.

Stop in to Parent Central Services, building 6620 on Normandy Drive, 785-239-9885.

The 11-week camps are available for students who were in grades K-5 during the 2017-18 school year, not what grade they will be in when school resumes in August.

The camps are broken down to one-week periods so parents can pick and choose to work around any planned vacations.

With the CYS sliding fee Survivor Week, July 16-20 calculator in effect, camps will and Hollywood, July 30 to cost between \$59 and \$208 a Aug. 3. week, check with Parent Cen-

Custer Hill Youth Center, grades six through 12 will be enrolling for summer camps as well.

A waitlist is being starte to guage interest for the age group. With the CYS sliding fee

calculator in effect, camps

Special Focus on Retiree Families "We are accommodating \checkmark time and space just for our Ø

military retirees and their families at this first of its kind event. It's the right thing to do for those who have dedicated service to the nation...This is just one way we can recognize that

service and practically say 'thank you." -COL Theodore Brown IACH Commander

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For more information Contact IACH Public Affairs (785) 239-8114

sary. Now that I have these new customers in our commissary stores, I have to keep them. And to keep them we will have to do what I would call a reset."

cludes technological updates that give DeCA new abilities and insights into pricing, planograms, store resets and customer buying patterns, allowing its sales team to maximize savings for customers. The updates will also assist the team in achieving the agency's goal of 98 percent

cusing on include introduc-

"We have given our customers three options now," he said. "They can go through the self-checkout, a bagger-less lane or have their groceries bagged for them.

"These are the things that I think will draw customers back to us," Bianchi said to the industry reps. "They are wins for everyone involved, even more so for the customer because they are saving their hard-earned money."

on maintaining baseline patron savings. He told the group to expect to see coordinated themed promotions with other military resale activities, like the bounce back commissary and NEX coupon and MILITARY STAR card promotions. STAR card usage in commissaries is on the rise. To date, the card has been used for almost \$80 million in transactions. Other initiatives include introducing a savings campaign, adding new products product lines, focusing on natural and organic products and applying customer-first principles throughout the agency.

Ultimately, Bianchi wanted to reaffirm with DeCA's industry partners the agency's commitment to joint business planning that can better serve the military customer.

"Good ideas are always welcome," Bianchi said. "If there are good ideas out there I'm willing to listen. We will work together to get it up and running, and we will all succeed together."



Will Ravenstein | POST Spc. Albry Crumpton, 1st Combat Aviation Brigade, 1st Infantry Division, shows off his "look" during a role-playing exercise at the "Can I Kiss You" training April 6 at Barlow Theater. The training was part of the Army's required yearly sexual assault training each Soldier has to undertake.



Ran

will cost between \$30 and \$104 a week, check with Parent Central for more details.

COMMISSARY Continued from page 9

Bianchi's initial efforts toward increased commissary and exchange promotions began in December, when DeCA and the NEX piloted a "bounce back" coupon promotion at eight

co-located stores. At those eight stores, customers who spent more than \$50 at the commissary received a coupon worth \$5 off \$25 in items purchased at the accompanying NEX.

"I wanted to see if we could do two things: bring customers back to the commissary and also see if it would translate to sales at the NEX," Bianchi said.

Resetting the agency in-

product availability. Other things DeCA is

Bianchi is also focusing in commissary store brands

During the weeklong promotion, those eight stores rang up almost 60,000 transactions over \$50. The NEX saw a 10 percent coupon redemption rate, and the commissaries gained new customers.

"When we ran the numbers we found that 3 percent of customers hadn't shopped in a commissary in a year and nearly 6 percent hadn't shopped in three to four months," Bianchi said. "The program was a success. We got customers to come back to shop the commising a natural and organic commissary store brand, increasing the agency's presence on social media channels and improving the agency's ability to measure customer feedback in realtime.

Since taking the reins of the commissary agency in November, Bianchi has personally reached out to installation commanders to determine what their communities wanted from their commissary. From that engagement came the bagger-less checkout lane initiative that's being piloted at 121 commissaries worldwide.

ASAP Scavenger Hunt

- WHO-Open to all ID card holders and DoD Civilians
- WHAT— Fun family oriented alcohol free event in recognition of National Alcohol Awareness Month
- WHEN—Starting 2 April 2018 continuing throughout April. Forms must be turned in to Army Substance Abuse Program (ASAP) Building 7424 by 2 May 2018
- · WHERE—Various locations on Fort Riley (some locations will have hours of operations listed on back of entry form)
- ADDITIONAL INFO—
 - · One participant per form. (Forms can be picked up at ASAP or printed off from the Fort Riley Facebook page).
 - · Prizes will be randomly drawn after 2 May 2018. Winners do not need to be present and will be notified using the contact information on your form.
 - Participants may contact ASAP @ 785-240-6266 or 785-239-4151 for help with locations.





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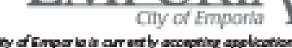
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Goessel: a town rich in Mennonite history

Story by Will Ravenstein 1ST INF. DIV. POST

Nestled in the heart of wheat country lies the community of Goessel, Kansas, just a little over 1 1/2 hours southwest of Fort Riley and 20 minutes north of Newton.

The area was not originally named Goessel. The settlement was first a village called Gnadenfeld. In 1874 a large migration of German Mennonites from Russia, settled in central Kansas. Those in this area settled in a pattern of villages similar to their home in Russia. However, it was years before a trading center developed.

The Mennonite Brethren congregation built a church in 1890. It was the first public structure there. One of the first businesses, a creamery station, opened around 1890, and a blacksmith shop opened in 1894.

In early 1895, Dr. Peter Richert was looking to establish a hospital. He first needed a post office to receive shipments of medicines and supplies. He also needed a name for the post office. Oral tradition from long time residents, states that he sent in the name "West Branch" as this was the name of the township. It was supposedly rejected because the Postal Department did not want any more names with North, East, South or West. On Jan. 30, 1895, the

North German Lloyd steamship "Elbe" was passing through the English Channel when it was rammed by another ship at 5 a.m. It sank in 20 minutes, with 22 half-frozen survivors making it to safety in one lifeboat, while 350 people drowned.

Through this scene of terror, Capt. Kurt Von Goessel calmly gave orders and saluted as he went down with his ship.

The story made worldwide news, and was covered on the front page of the New York Times on Jan. 31.

Yacht clubs around the world flew flags at halfmast.

Since the captain's ship made regular runs from Germany to New York, he had American acquaintances, including the music composer S. B. Mills, who wrote a piano march titled "Elbiata" in his honor. He was described as having im-



The sunsets on the rural Kansas town of Gossel. Located about 90 miles southwest of Fort Riley, Gossel has a rich history celebrates the immigration of Mennonites from Russia.

On March 13, 1990, Goessel was damaged by an "extreme F5" tornado during a found. The museum shows tornado outbreak. The severity of the damage left behind by this tornado led some meteorologists to believe that the Goessel tornado was among the strongest documented at that time. Goessel is proud of its Mennonite heritage and features an eight-building complex that is home to the Mennonite Heritage Museum, 200 North Poplar St. that was dedicated in 1974. Inside, several buildings artifacts from early Mennonite households, farms, schools,

churches and the Bethesda Mennonite Hospital can be the life of the immigrants who



beccable character and was highly respected in national circles, for his heroic rescues at sea.

He left behind a wife and children.

Back in Kansas, Richert read the story of the captain. Because of the worldwide significance of the story, and heroic nature of the captain, Richert sent in the name "Goessel" to the U.S. Postal Department and a charter was approved April 13, 1895.

moved to Goessel.

Goessel is known for a large festival held each year called Threshing Days. The festival features more than 100 exhibitors from a seven-state area and showcases antique equipment related to farming throughout the last century, old-fashioned threshing demonstrations and ethnic Mennonite food.

More information about the town and Threshing Days visit the city website, www.goesselks.com.

Courtesv photo

Courtesy photo

Alexanderwohl Mennonite Church, located on K-15 near Goessel welcomes visitors to attend services. for more information visit www.alexanderwohl.org.

O Fort Riley Military Base 70 tion City Alta Vista Salina Courtesy pho An<mark>ti</mark>que farm implements are part of the mu<mark>s</mark>eum exhibits at the White City Mennonite Heritage and Agricultural Museum in Gossell, a town set<mark>t</mark>led by Russian Mennonites in the 1800s. Ev<mark>e</mark>ry year th<mark>e</mark> town is filled with farming equipment during Threshing Days. The 2018 Threshing Days will be held Aug.3 through 5. 🖽 4) Gypsum 🚘 1 h 28 min Hope Assaria 85.9 miles Council Gro borg Lost Springs Tampa 135 Cottonwood 56 erson 150 Falls Hillsboro Marion (177) Goessel Florence

Museum gives visitors a look at what Mennonite life was like in 1800s during harvest time.

POST STAFF

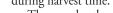
Nestled just 11 miles north of K-15 and I-135 is the small historic town of Goessel, Kansas. The descendants of the Alexanderwohl Mennonites, who settled the area, wanted to share their early way of life by establishing the Mennonite Heritage and Agricultural Museum. The Mennonites settled in the community in 1874. The museum was dedicated in 1974 to preserve the lifestyle their ancestors would have experienced as early settlers in Kansas.

The museum is a replica of the village system the Mennonites built, including a bank and cook shack.

The families that came to the area were farmers, and the cook shack, which is essentially a wagon, was used to prepare food out in the fields particularly



Spc. Shell travels back in time, where honor was more than just a word, next week as he explores Renaissance Festivals in Kansas.



They used a threshing stone, which is on display, to thresh the wheat. Threshing is the process of separating the edible part of the cereal grain from the inedible parts.

Another building in the museum is the South Bloomfield School. It was a one-room schoolhouse. It's modeled after a typical rural schoolhouses of the time and includes artifacts that were used in the school.

The fall hours for the museum start on Oct. 1, which are noon to 4:00 p.m. Tuesday to Saturday. However, the museum is closed from December through February except by appointment. To find more information about the museum, go to www.goesselmuseum.com. Information provided courtesy of Goessel Museum.

