

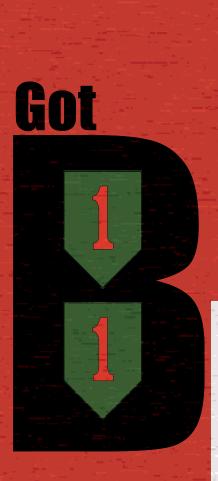
Unofficial 1st Infantry Division Magazine of Soldiers and Families | www.riley.army.mil | facebook.com/lstInfantryDivision

Family Strong

Soldiers' spirits remain high with help from Family members near and far

ightarrow Eagle Scout project helps build Family ties and improve historic trail on Fort Riley

→1ID museum Cantigny unveils new Dietz painting honoring 'Black Lions' battle











FOR SOLDIERS

The 1ID Facebook page provides you with up-to-date information about what's going on throughout the Division. Want to find a friend? See photos of the most recent ceremony or video of past Division events? It's all there!

FOR FAMILIES

Want the latest information about what your Soldier is up to, both here and abroad? The 1ID Facebook page is your best resource. From video messages to news reports, the page helps Families feel connected no matter where they are.

Follow us today! Be a part of the Big Red One!



No Mission too Difficult. No Sacrifice too Great.

Family Issue 2011 | www.riley.army.mil

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COVER: Pfc. Jordan Boswell and his wife, Tifany, hold their 9-day-old son, Connor, following a welcome-home ceremony Oct. 21, at Fort Riley, Kan. Boswell and more than 250 of his fellow Soldiers from 1st **Battalion, 7th Field Artillery Regiment,** 2nd Heavy Brigade Combat Team, 1st Infantry Division were returning from a 12-month deployment to Iraq.

MOLLIE MILLER, DUTY FIRST! MAGAZINE

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10 division runners earn top

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Maintaining high standards

Division Command Sgt. Maj. Charles Sasser

irst and foremost, let me say that ${\rm I}$ am proud to be here as Danger 7. We have a great team that is wellrounded and will take the mission here to a higher level than ever before. Never forget that lots of great folks have preceded us here in the Big Red One and there have been many sacrifices. As I get around I will be taking a hard look at a few things. Before I cover that let me say that the mission always comes first and I am here to support it and will always solicit down to the lowest level on ways we can do it better. Let's take care of our own.

We as officers, warrant officers, noncommissioned officers and Soldiers of the mighty 1st Infantry Division must work together to ensure all troopers are not being deprived of the care and leadership they deserve. You may hear me say from time to time, "If it's important to me, it better be important to you." I am never above recommending to the boss how we can do things better as long as it does not conflict with the guidance put in place by our leadership and our ment, appearance, haircuts, uniform, cusregulations and policies.

In my mind, discipline and morale are the two most important ingredients in a unit. They go hand-in-hand and feed off each other. Be proud of yourself, your service and your unit. Our service members do not want to be a part of an orga-



nization with low standards. Sometimes that means tough love in order to ensure they are safe and doing the right things. It starts with the command teams and continues down to the lowest level. We are professionals—less than one percent of one percent of the nation.

Standards such as serviceable equiptoms and courtesies along with many more are a part of our proud history that we will not ignore. Don't get caught short. We are not looking for perfection, but we are not rookies. We are professionals. Create, maintain, and most of all, enforce our standards. Notice I did not say my

In my mind, discipline and morale are the two most important ingredients in a unit. They go hand-in-hand and feed off each other. Be proud of yourself, your service and your unit.

standard or the commander's standard. Embrace them—they are our standards.

Loyalty is the most important Army Value to me, and it goes both ways. It includes honesty when there's been a slipup because bad news does not get better with time so keep the chain of command informed. Never bad mouth a unit or service or anyone in it. If you don't have anything good to say keep it to yourself. If you lose trust it must be earned back.

Certain additional duties are required on Fort Riley. It's all part of the mission and will be taken seriously. You are representing your units, service and nation. You are the Unit. You are the Service. You are the

LEADER CHECKLIST

- Lead the way
- Lead by example
- Own up to mistakes
- Don't make excuses
- **Support the Chain of Command and NCO Support Channel**
- Are always learning
- Are always teaching
- Are tough and fair
- Know how to reinforce standards
- Know how to apply corrective actions/training
- Leave things better than they found them

Nation. Be a team player, watch your lane and let the right level of leadership address their issues. Administrative and logistical requirements never stop. Don't allow our service members to get behind their peers in other units. Encourage everyone, Soldiers and Family members, to improve themselves as time permits through good fitness, education and other opportunities. We want them to be tough, smart and wellrounded. Maintain weapons proficiency. We must all strive to be experts. Know all your weapons systems.

We are always representing. Look, act and think like a professional at all times. Think through every decision and everything you say. Keep your billets and work areas clean, neat, functional and secure. Take pride in your areas. Don't forget Families. They are just as important as our tasks and missions and must be well-informed and taken care of.

Duty First!



Soldiers of 2nd General Support Aviation Battalion, 1st Aviation Regiment, 1st Combat Aviation Brigade, compete in Victory Week's Color Guard Competition in front of 1st Inf. Div. headquarters

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Maj. Gen. William Mayville, commanding general of the 1st Infantry Division and Fort Riley, his wife, Shand, and their children, Andrew, Margie and Chas, gather for a rare family photo following the division's change of command ceremony May 25. Mayville's sons Andrew and Chas are both activeduty Army officers.

with the very first cry. Almost like a light being turned on, a mother's worry switch is flipped with the first squeaks of her little one's tiny voice.

(continued on page 6)



Story by Mollie Miller • Duty First! Magazine

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LEFT: With their Army days still a few years off, Chas and Andrew Mayville pose for a picture in Orlando, Fla. RIGHT: Shand Mayville visits with her children following the 1st Infantry Division change of command ceremony May 25. Pictured with Shand are, from left, Chas, Andrew and Margie.

(continued from page 5)

Do they have all their fingers and toes? Are they breathing OK? Is their color good?

Through the years, the things moms worry about change but the worry itself remains constant.

"A mother's protective nature never goes away," said Shand Mayville, wife of Maj. Gen. William Mayville, commanding general of the 1st Infantry Division and Fort Riley. "It doesn't matter how old the kids are, in our eyes, they are still our babies."

With ease, a mother's concerns evolve as their babies grow and test their wings. What happens, though, when the things moms have to worry about change from skinned knees and bad grades to improvised explosive devices, enemy bullets and ambushes? How do these women make it through a year or more wondering if their babies are hungry, if they are warm enough, if they are safe? What do these mothers go through when they lose control of their little ones and have to trust that those leading their children in a war zone will care for them just as they would?

Many mothers of Soldiers find it hard to articulate how they make it through the difficult days of ing our young sons and no one could promise me deployment, often only saying they make it through because those young men and women they love with all their hearts are counting on them to be strong.

"The hardest thing for a parent is to let go of a child and not have any control over the situation," Vicki Cody, wife of former Army Vice Chief of Staff Gen. (ret.) Richard Cody, wrote in her book, "Your Soldier, Your Army: A Parent's Guide." "It's human nature to want to make everything right and

protect our kids no matter what their age."

Mayville, whose two oldest children are active duty Army officers, knows well the difficulties that come in the days between a farewell kiss and a welcome home embrace. As the daughter of a career Soldier and the wife of a Soldier who has "deployed" more often than she can even count, Mayville thought she knew a lot about how to handle the long separations but when it came time for her oldest son Chas to leave for Iraq a few years ago, she wasn't ready at all.

"When it's your dad or your husband deploying, you are not quite as aware of things," she said. "It is a totally different story when it is your child. When I pictured Chas sitting on a cot (in Iraq), I still pictured my 7-year-old little boy who used to wear animal costumes all the time."

In her book, Cody describes the day she sent her sons off to war. As her boys headed out to do their part to keep the nation safe, Cody wondered where all the time had gone and what had happened to the days when her biggest worry was if her sons were skipping school or drinking.

"Suddenly, real world dangers were confrontthey would be OK," Cody wrote. "At that point, I knew that I just had to have faith or I was going to drive myself crazy."

Mayville said "keeping the faith" during a deployment, no matter how bleak news might seem, is a very important part of staying sane during the separation. Understanding that Chas received the best possible training, was with the best military in the world and was with buddies and leaders who really cared about him always gave Mayville a





LEFT: Shand Mayville and then-cadet Andrew Mayville attend a formal event at the United States Military Academy at West Point. Andrew, like his older brother Chas and his dad, Maj. Gen. William Mayville, elected to attend West Point and pursue a career in the active-duty Army. RIGHT: Shand Mayville and then-Lt. Chas Mayville pause for a quick photo during a family visit. Chas was the first of the Mayville children to follow his dad into the family business.

sense of peace when she thought about her child downrange.

Packing "really great" care packages gave her a little peace as well.

"Sending Chas care packages made me feel a little more in control," Mayville said. "It was a little like packing him a really good lunch, just in a bigger lunchbox that was going a further distance."

LIVE IN THE NOW

Mayville said that today, she knows more parents who have lost their children than she knows spouses who have lost their husbands and thoughts of these parents weigh heavily on her heart.

"I think about those families every day," she said. "I think about every one of those mothers and how they have had their last good night of sleep."

Mayville said she thinks often of the great price these families have paid in the name of freedom and how she and the nation must make themselves worthy of that immeasurable sacrifice.

"I carry around a prayer that Eleanor Roosevelt carried with her that reads, 'Dear Lord, lest I continue in my complacent ways, help me to remember that someone died for me today. And if there be war, help me to remember to ask and to answer, am I worth dying for," she said. "I really do believe it is our responsibility to make the sacrifices worth it."

This year, for the first time in four years, all of Mayville's Soldiers, including her husband, and her little girl will be somewhere in the United States for

In this business, you have to learn to live every moment as it comes. Don't get bogged down in the 'what ifs.' Spend as much time as possible together. Live today and enjoy what you have right now. Tomorrow will come soon enough."

- Shand Mayville, wife of Maj. Gen. William Mayville, commanding general of the 1st Infantry Division & Fort Riley

the holidays. Because of this, the Army daughter, wife and mother said she will decorate her Christmas tree for the first time in years, celebrate the Army family she loves and not think about the deployments that may be just around the corner.

"In this business, you have to learn to live every moment as it comes," she said. "Don't get bogged down in the 'what ifs.' Spend as much time as possible together. Live today and enjoy what you have right now. Tomorrow will come soon enough."

Despite the challenges and constant worry that come with sending her sons off to war, Mayville said she wouldn't trade her life for anything. She is incredibly proud of the young men she and her husband have raised and of their continuing commitment to the 'family business.'

"Though it is sometimes tough, it has never occurred to me that I wouldn't want to be part of this life," she said. "Like Jimmy Buffet said, some of it's magic, some of it's tragic, but I've had a good life all the way."

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SACRIFICE *

Parents of Big Red One Soldier attend Fort Benning dedication honoring late son, fellow Medal-of-Honor recipient

Story & photos by Stephanie Hoff | Duty Firsrt! Magazine

WHEN KINDERGARTNER ROSS
MCGINNIS WAS ASKED TO
DRAW A PICTURE OF WHAT HE
WANTED TO BE WHEN HE GREW
UP, THE IMAGE OF A SOLDIER
MATERIALIZED UPON THE PAGE.

A little over a decade later, Thomas and Romayne McGinnis would find themselves in a recruiter's office on their son's 17th birthday, granting parental consent for Ross to enlist in the United States Army.

Following his completion of basic training at Fort Benning, Ga., in 2004, Ross was assigned to Schweinfurt, Germany to serve with the 1st Infantry Division's 1st Battalion, 26th Infantry Regiment.

"He was a good friend to everybody," Thomas said.

"He was a jokester, he liked to have fun," added Romayne. "He was always making the guys in his unit laugh. He really cared for them and he would've done anything for them."

Just how much Ross cared for his brothers in arms became evident one fateful day in December 2006. Ross' battalion had been serving in Iraq since that August with assignment in Eastern Baghdad.

In the early afternoon of Dec. 4, Ross was serving as a machine gunner in the hatch of his platoon's Humvee when an insurgent, positioned on a nearby rooftop, threw a grenade through the hatch into the vehicle. Immediately realizing the four Soldiers down in Humvee wouldn't have time to escape before the grenade ignited; Ross threw his back over the grenade, pinning it between his body and the Humvee's radio mount.

"Grenade ... it's in the truck," Ross shouted.

According to official reports, then 19-year-old Ross was killed instantly when he absorbed all lethal fragments and the concussive effects of the grenade with his own body. The other four Soldiers in the vehicle survived the blast.

The warning Ross shouted were the last words of an American hero, said Sgt. 1st Class Cedric Thomas, McGinnis' platoon sergeant and one of the Soldiers who was in the vehicle during the attack.

"I looked out of the corner of my eye as I was crouching down and I saw him pin it down," Thomas described in interviews following the blast.

"McGinnis could have escaped the blast. He had time to jump out of the truck. He chose not to. He gave his life to save his crew and his platoon sergeant. He's a hero. He's a professional. He was just an awesome guy."



STEPHANIE HOFF, DUTY FIRST! MAGAZINE

ABOVE: Thomas and Romayne McGinnis prepare to cut a ribbon Sept. 23, signifying the dedication of Fort Benning's Maneuver Center of Excellence headquarters as McGinnis-Wickham Hall. The newly re-opened building received nearly \$170 million in renovations and is dedicated in honor of the McGinnis' son, Spc. Ross McGinnis, and Cpl. Jerry Wickham. McGinnis was serving with the 1st Infantry Division's 1st Bn., 26th Inf. in 2006, when he placed himself over an enemy's grenade, saving the lives of four of his fellow Soldiers. McGinnis was posthumously awarded the Medal of Honor in June 2008 for his heroic actions. OPPOSITE PAGE: A plaque honoring Spc. Ross McGinnis sits on display outside of Fort **Benning's Maneuver Center of Excellence**

On June 2, 2008, just days before what would have been their son's 21st birthday, Thomas and Romayne accepted the Medal of Honor on behalf of their son. Ross was the second U.S. Soldier to receive the honor for their actions while serving in Operation Iraqi Freedom.

"I actually think that every person mean easy."

serving in the military now has the same integrity that my son had," Thomas said. "If they're put in that (situation), they'd have done the same thing. It's just that they aren't all presented with that opportunity."

Ross' remains were laid in their final resting place in Arlington National Cemetery on March 23, 2007. Tom and Romayne were among two busloads of mourners who traveled all night from Ross' hometown of Knox, Pa. to attend the ceremony.

Over the years since their son's passing, the McGinnis' have been invited to attend numerous events and dedications in honor of their heroic son.

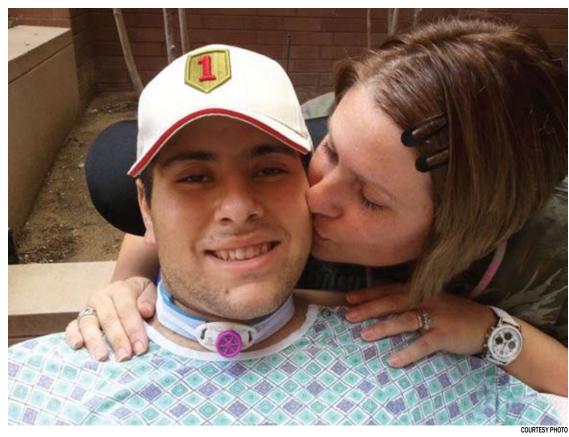
This past September, they traveled to Fort Benning, Ga., where Ross officially began his career as a U.S. Soldier. On Sept. 23, the post's leaders officially re-dedicated the newly restored head-quarters building to honor Ross and his fellow Medal of Honor recipient Cpl. Jerry W. Wickham. Wickham, just 25 years old at the time of his death, was awarded the Medal of Honor posthumously for his actions near Loc Ninh, Republic of Vietnam in 1968.

McGinnis-Wickham Hall was named after the two young Soldiers because they displayed the bravery and selfless-service desired in today's Soldiers, said Maj. Gen. Robert Brown, commanding general of the post's Maneuver Center of Excellence.

As humbled as they are by the honors that have been bestowed upon their son since that heroic day in Eastern Baghdad, the McGinnis' maintain that, for their son, the choice he made Dec. 4, 2006, was a "no-brainer."

"He did what he had to do," Thomas said. "It didn't matter to Ross that he could have escaped the situation without a scratch. What mattered to him were the four men placed in his care on a moment's notice. One moment he was responsible for defending the rear of the convoy from enemy fire; the next moment he held the lives of four of his friends in his hands. The choice for Ross was simple, but simple does not mean easy."

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Pfc. Matt Leyva, with his mom, Rene Sochia Leyva, was deployed to Afghanistan with 2nd Battalion, 34th Armor Regiment, 1st Heavy Brigade Combat Team, 1st Infantry Division when he stepped on a pressure-plate improvised explosive device Aug. 9. The blast caused injuries that cost the 21-year-old Soldier both of his legs and four

Priority No. 1

Family of BRO wounded warrior learns to celebrate the small successes

By Mollie Miller | Duty First! Magazine

MA, I LOVE YOU."

Pfc. Matt Levva's words came heard. out in a breathy whisper barely audible above the sounds of the son's hospital bed, Matt whisbusy intensive care unit at Brooke pered the same words again and, Army Medical Center in San An- for a moment, the 1st Infantry Ditonio, Texas. Across the room, vision mom from upstate New Rene Sochia's eyes locked on her York stopped breathing ... and son and she wondered if she had then the tears began to fall.

really heard what she thought she

As Rene moved closer to her

"I started crying like a big baby," Rene said recently as she recounted her son's first words following an explosion in Afghanistan that took both of his legs and four of his fingers. "It seemed like forever since I had heard his voice so when I finally did, even if it was just a little whisper, it sucked the life right out of me."

Rene's life has been plenty full of moments that have "sucked the life" out of her since her cell phone rang Aug. 9, while she was preparing dinner in her Cicero, New York home.

THE CALL

"It was about 4:10 p.m. when I answered the phone," she said. "The man on the phone asked me if I had talked to Matt that day and then told me that there had been an accident in Afghanistan and Matt was hurt."

The caller, Capt. Ricky Brown, the rear detachment commander for Matt's unit, 2nd Battalion, 34th Armor Regiment, 1st Heavy Brigade Combat Team, 1st Inf. Div. Brown told Rene that Matt stepped on a pressure-plate improvised explosive device, lost his right leg below the knee and was being treated in Afghanistan. As soon as she heard her son was so seriously wounded, Rene began crying and handed the phone to her husband, Ed.

"The captain said he would call again as soon as he had more information," Ed recalled.

After the initial conversation with Brown, Ed and Rene received several "update" calls, calls that, after awhile, Matt's parents just didn't want to get.

"Every time someone would call, there would be more injuries," Ed said.

The reports about Matt's condition gradually grew more serious as callers told Rene and Ed that the explosion had actually caused injuries that resulted in the amputation of both Matt's legs and the loss of four of his fingers, two from each hand. Soon, the reports turned very grave and the Army began making arrangements to send Ed, Rene, Matt's sister, Ashley, and Matt's wife, Raelynn, to Germany because they did not think the 21-year-old Soldier was going to make it.

"Once I heard they were going to



Leyva, with his parents, Ed and Rene, and his sister, Ashley, poses for a picture in early October at Brooke Army Medical Center in San Antonio. This photo was taken the day that Leyva was able to sit up for the first time since being injured.

send us over, I knew it was very bad,'

'HALF MY BOY'

Rene said she will never forget the moment her eyes locked on her son in the hospital room in Landstuhl Regional Medical Center in Germany.

"I just saw my boy, half my boy, laying there with machines all over," she said. "All I could see was his face ... but that was all I needed to see."

Rene said she sat with her son for a little bit and told him that he didn't get to leave her yet, that that was just not how it was going to happen. After awhile, she knew, somehow, that Matt was going to

Ed, a firefighter/paramedic in New York, wasn't so sure though.

"I knew he was bad," he said. "I didn't know if he would be strong enough to overcome all the injuries. I was trying to prepare to be strong for everyone."

Shortly after Matt's family arrived at Landstuhl, doctors were able to stabilize the Soldier enough to transport him to Brooke Army Medical Center in San Antonio, Texas. The family followed their Soldier to Texas ... and, for the most part, had when he was small." has been there ever since.

"The first week in San Antonio was very dicey," Ed recalled. "Matt had a fever all the time and his heart rate was very high and he just wouldn't stop bleeding."

While Ed was very concerned and concentrating on what was going on with Matt medically, Rene remained calm and focused on her son.

"I just sat with him, whispering in his ear and rubbing his head," she said. "It was so hard, I just wanted to take all his pain away and I couldn't."

The medical team at BAMC started bringing Matt out of an induced coma about 10 days after he arrived in San Antonio. Rene said the day her boy finally opened his eyes and she could see that her son was "still there" was an amazing day.

"It was still Matt," Rene said, smiling at the memory.

ROAD TO RECOVERY

Though she admits to "a few" breakdowns, Rene said she maintains a positive attitude during a sometimes "overwhelming" experience because Matt is counting on her to be there for him.

"Seeing his strength makes me feel like I can be strong for him," she said.

Ed said everything in his life has changed since he got the call about Matt's injury.

"Things like this make you rethink your priorities," he said. "Right now, there is nothing more important than getting Matt well—nothing."

For now, the family is addressing Matt's road to recovery one day at a time, celebrating small successes like the first time the 21-year-old was able to sit up on

"Matt is my hero for what he is doing now," Ed said. "He is so strong and he is not letting anything get him down."

Celebrating things like the first time Matt sat up and his first words remind Rene of her son's first round of "firsts."

"This experience has been a lot like the time when he was a newborn," she said. "The first night I saw him in Germany, all I wanted to do was crawl in bed with him and protect him just like I

Though uncertain of exactly what the future holds for them and their son, Rene and Ed said that for now and for the immediate future, they will remain in San Antonio to support their son's recovery.

"Matt has said that as long as we stick by him, he's going to be alright," Rene said. "As long as he needs us, we are going to be right by his side."

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BUILDING

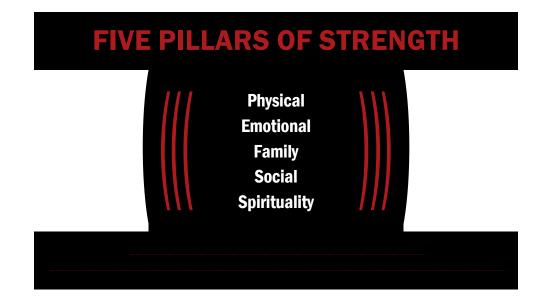
STRONG

1st Infantry Division's Strong Bonds Resiliency program tailors itself to the single Soldier, the couple and the Family

Story by

Lt. Col. David Lockhart

1st Infantry Division Chaplain



he Army has determined there are five different areas of strength—each deemed with an equal value of significance and importance—required to develop a strong Soldier. The Army's program lists: physical, emotional, family, social and spirituality as the 'Five Pillars of Strength.'

The 1st Infantry Division's Strong Bonds Resiliency program has specialized programs for single Soldiers, couples, and Families. In three months time, brigade unit ministry teams coordinated and planned more than 60 Strong Bonds retreats at Forts Riley, Sill, Leonard Wood and Knox. More than 50 Strong Bonds retreats are scheduled for the upcoming months. These three-day overnight retreats, which include lodging, meals and childcare, are effective tools that commanders use to increase Soldier and Family resiliency.

The Strong Bonds Single Soldier program is designed to assist Soldiers with establishing relationship goals and gaining essential skills required to make a good choice when selecting a partner for life. In addition to relevant teaching and skills training, Strong

for relaxation, recreation, fellowship and fun. Soldiers develop a deeper understanding and appreciation for why it is important to see themselves from another's perspective.

The Fort Riley Strong Bond Couples program is filled with adventure, discovery and ensuring a deep recommitment for the couple's marriage relationship. The training is designed to strengthen relationships, inspire hope and rekindle marriages; even start the journey of healing for relationships under fire. Couples can enjoy a romantic and exciting get-away, all while engaging in an innovative and highly effective marriage relationship training program.

The Big Red One's Strong Bonds for Families is based on a curriculum designed especially for military Families. Through smallgroup and one-on-one activities, Family members learn how to maintain closeness during frequent relocation, long separations and repeated reunions. For Soldiers and Families who are raising children, the challenges of maintaining closeness while raising healthy children can seem over-Bonds off-site retreats include time whelming. Strong Bonds Family

teaches Soldiers, spouses and children to work together in order to ensure Army families stay close. Children from the age of 8 and older are encouraged to attend a majority of the training. The curriculum inspires and empowers Families to achieve excellence through an environment of love, discovery and adventure.

Every family is a work in progress. The unit ministry teams have the ability to help identify not only the areas of concern in the family dynamic, but to also highlight the strengths that the family possesses so that those strengths can help form the foundation of the family transformation.

The BRO's Strong Bonds program has a support system tailored for each individual Soldier and Family member. The Strong Bonds training assists participants in discovering the principles and skills that will give you the tools to overcome life's obstacles. Through experiential training, with caring facilitators, relaxation and biofeedback sessions and other helpful processes, participants will have the opportunity to develop skill sets to live a healthy and happier

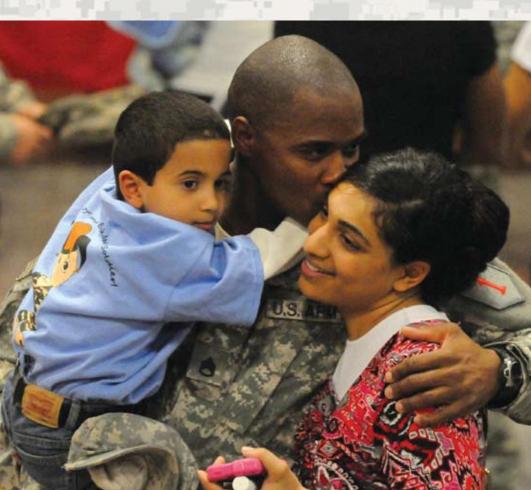
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Emma Miller, 6, catches a ride with her dad, Maj. John Miller. during the 3rd **Assault Helicop**ter Battalion's **Family Fun Run in** August. The **Family Fun Run** welcomed dozens of Nightmare **Soldiers and their Family members** to morning physical training.





Ware Elementary School students walk hand-in-hand along Mc-Clellan Loop on Sept. 9 during Ware Elementary School's sixth annual Freedom Walk. The walk commemorated the 10th anniversary of the Sept. 11 attacks.



LEFT: Fort Riley welcomed home Soldiers of the 1st HBCT, 1st Inf. Div. during a redeployment ceremony Oct. 3 at the post's Building 88312. The "Devil" Brigade Soldiers were greeted by their Family and friends upon their return from a year-long tour to Iraq. **RIGHT: The Family Readi**ness Group of 1st Battalion, **16th Infantry Regiment was** all smiles during the 'Back to School Bash' held at Fort Riley's Moon Lake. This fun-filled day consisted of free Domino's pizza, bounce houses, watermelon, drinks and fun. The Families, Soldiers and friends were all invited to come out and enjoy.





A 1st Inf. Div. Soldier and his son proudly display their support for the Big Red One on Oct. 1 at Kansas State University's annual Fort Riley Day football game.



A 2nd Heavy **Brigade Combat** Team, 1st Infantry **Division Family** gathers for a photo following a redeployment ceremony Oct. 21 at Fort Riley, Kan. More than 200 "Dagger" **Brigade Soldiers** returned that day. some of the first of more than 3.000 that would return throughout October and November.



Cpl. David Dyer, a cavalry scout with 1st Squadron, 4th Cavalry Regiment, 4th Brigade Combat Team, 1st Infantry Division, escorts his children to their first day of school Aug. 15, 2011.



A Family stops to visit with the 1st Infantry **Division's Commanding General's Mounted Color Guard while** attending the 2011 Fort **Riley Fall Apple Day** Festival on Serpt. 24at the post's Artillery Parade Field. More than 8,000 attendees visited the annual event, which is intended to offer residents of surrounding communities the opportunity to interact with the post's Soldiers and to learn about various organizations.



First Lt. Ashley Longaker, left, and 2nd Lt. Amanda Stafford, begin their first mile of the 2011 Army Ten-Miler, Oct. 9 in Washington D.C. The event marked the first time for both Longaker of 4th IBCT, 1st Inf. and Stafford of the 97th MP Bn., to participate in the event, which is celebrated its 27th consecutive year. The Fort Riley Women's Team finished with a combined time of 5 hours and 8 minutes, awarding them 12th place in the **Active Duty Women-Commanders Cup category.**

Finishing strong

BRO men's & women's teams respresent division well at annual Army Ten-Miler

By Stephanie Hoff Duty First! Magazine

WASHINGTON, D.C.—Ten Soldiers of the 1st Infantry Division represented the Big Red One with top performances in the 27th annual running of the Army Ten-Miler.

The Fort Riley and 1st Inf. Div.'s men's team placed 39th, and the women's team placed 186th out of nearly 600 teams overall.

More than 30,000 runners from across the globe descended upon the nation's capital Oct. 9 for the 27th annual race, which is currently the third largest competitive run in the world.

"I have a great time competing (in the ATM). I spend a lot of time running and conditioning, so getting to run (in the ATM) is a great honor," said Capt. Alex Tignor, captain of the men's team. The race marked Tignor's second consecutive year representing the BRO in the competition. Tignor,

who serves in 701st Brigade Support Battalion, 4th Infantry Brigade Combat Team, 1st Inf. Div., came in 766th place out of the race's 21,914 finishers. He crossed the finish line with a time of 1:07:58.

The Fort Riley and 1st Inf. Div. Men's Team finished with a combined time of 4 hours and 17 minutes, awarding them 16th place out of 47 teams entered in the Active Duty Men-Commanders Cup class. With a combined time of 5 hours and 8 minutes, the Fort Riley's Women's Team was award-

ed 12th place in the Active Duty Women-Commanders Cup category.

"It feels amazing to be here and able to compete in this event," said 1st Lt. Ashley Longaker, STB, 4th IBCT, 1st Inf. Div. Her participation marked Longaker's first time competing in the national event, where she received a personal record with a completion time of 1 hour and 17 minutes.

The 10 participants selected to represent Fort Riley in the race were chosen for the team after capturing top spots in either the 10-mile Run during Victory Week in June or the 10-5-2 Prairie Run in July. Both races are conducted annually at Fort Riley and serve as a qualifier for active-duty Soldiers to represent the Fort Riley and the 1st Inf. Div. in the ATM.

The team's runners said they plan to continue training during the upcoming year in hopes of representing the division and Fort Riley in next year's ATM.



Gen. Raymond Odierno, Chief of Staff of the U.S. Army, poses for a picture with Soldiers of the 1st Infantry Division's Army Ten-Miler team, following the completion of the 27th annual Army Ten-Miler. Ten Soldiers of the division represented the Big Red One with top-ranking performances in the annual race.

INDIVIDUAL COMPLETION TIMES

MEN:

■ Capt. Kevin Power - 1:02:43

■ 2nd Lt. Jonathan Buckland - 1:04:32

■ Chief Warrant Officer Jason Chase – 1:04:32

■ Capt. Oliver Highley - 1:05:27

■ Capt. Alex Tignor - 1:07:58

■ Capt. Bridget Robshaw - 1:13:23

■ 1st Lt. Ashley Longaker - 1:17:29

■2nd Lt. Amanda Stafford - 1:17:57

■ Mai. Yesenia Hutcher - 1:20:06

■ 2nd Lt. Kathryn Buckland - 1:27:42



Participants in the 2011 Army Ten-Miler raise their hands in celebration as they begin the race Oct. 9 in Washington D.C.

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Not on my ATC

Fire-finder radar operator says success in profession all about sacrifice, duty and pride

By Spc. John A. Martinez TF Centaur PAO

KHOWST PROVINCE, Afghanistan—

A radar dish malfunctioned Sept. 15 near Combat Outpost Chamkani, a small outpost located in a remote, mountainous region near the Pakistan border. A repair team was summoned to perform the risky task of mending it.

In order to restore the broken radar, the Soldiers needed to first traverse a mountain in one of Afghanistan's hostile environments. Within an hour, the team diagnosed the system, replaced the radar and was ready to move on to sition Battery, 82nd Airborne Division. the next mission.

The team was led by U.S. Army Sgt. 1st Class Christopher B. Sutton, a firefinder radar operator from Kankakee, Ill., with Headquarters and Headquarters Battery, 1st Battalion, 6th Field Artillery, 3rd Brigade Combat Team, 1st Infantry Division, Task Force Centaur. Sutton, a 14-year Army veteran, works with intricate computer systems known as lightweight counter mortar radar. The main function of the system is to detect incoming mortars and identify their firing location.

comes with it," Sutton said. "This job saves lives."

Part of that job is making sure the LCMR system is in good working order, he said. The LCMR plays a role in detecting the firing location of incoming enemy mortars.

"The LCMR is a tool well-suited for the fight coalition forces who are currently engaged in with insurgents," said Spc. Magella Correa of Kahaluu, Hawaii, one of Sutton's team members and a mechanic from Battery D., 26 Target Acqui-

"Because of the LCMR's ability to detect and designate where enemy mortars are fired, we are able to find and counter-fire on the insurgent that attacked us," Correa said.

Sutton said he started his career primarily to "see the world through a secured job."

As he matured, so did his desire to care for his growing family, which now consists of his wife, Tiffany, his son, Christopher, and his daughter, Icis.

Working long hours and being constantly on the move isn't easy, he added.

"I love this job and everything that For Sutton, however, his Family plays a large part in why he does this job.

> "It's hard to be away from them, especially missing out on my son's soccer games and my daughter's gymnastics and piano lessons, but they understand this is my job," he explained. "This is what I do to take care of them as well as the nation as a whole."

> Since Sutton's team, based out of Forward Operating Base Salerno, is in constant demand, they are never in one spot for long. He stays in contact with his family as much as possible via Skype.

> "I'm based at FOB Salerno, but I don't live there; I visit," Sutton joked. "Wherever they need us, we go."

> Most of his time is spent making the journey to a number of different COPs, Sutton said. They are constantly on the move and as a result are given warm welcomes at several of the more remote COPs, like Chamkani.

> "It's a great honor to know you are recognized for doing good work," he

> Being a fire finder radar operator isn't easy. It requires its technicians to



Sgt. 1st Class Christopher B. Sutton, a fire finder radar operator from Kankakee, III., with Headquarters and Headquarters Battery, 1st Battalion, 6th Field Artillery Regiment, 3rd Brigade Combat Team, 1st Infantry Division, Task Force Centaur, makes adjustments recently to a lightweight counter mortar radar system at Combat Outpost Chamkani. Afghanistan. Sutton, a 14-year Army veteran, is entrusted with maintaining and operating the radar system, which is used to detect incoming mortars and to identify their firing location.

be highly knowledgeable about the equipment to be able to troubleshoot the dish, Sutton said.

"As with most jobs, skills are perishable," he said.

For Sutton's team, they stay sharp by staying busy.

"Most Soldiers get their training through classes and reading. We get ours through actual hands on experience and in most cases, while under duress," he said.

Many people think of their job as just a "9-to-5," but that's not the case for Sutton.

"Being a Soldier is being dedicated

try. It's more than wearing a uniform, it's about sacrifice, hard work and doing everything you can to wear the uniform with pride," Sutton said. "To me, every Soldier's job is an important

"Sgt. 1st Class Sutton is a hard charging, mission-first leader," said Warrant Officer Bryan Nelson of Longview, Texas, also of HHB, 1st Bn., 6th FA.

"It's Sutton's knowledge of the radar systems that is so essential to the mission readiness in our (area of operation)," Nelson said. "By keeping the radars up to date and operational, Sut-

to the military lifestyle and our counton is providing over watch of insurgents indirect fire in all of Task Force Duke."

> Sutton credits his family as the ones providing him inspiration to do the things that need to be done regardless of how tired he may be or how dangerous the task.

"My Family looks at me as their hero, so I work hard on being that person for them," Sutton said. "My son told me 'Dad, you're my hero,' and because of his words, I do everything I can to do things better than before because I don't want to ever let my Family down."

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operation

Son's project helps improve historic experience at Fort Riley

By **Sgt. Keven Parry** CAB PAO

s an Army pilot and chief warrant officer, Kevin Francisco is generally use to being the one who gives orders. On Oct. 10, he, along with several Soldiers of Company B, 2nd General Support Aviation Battalion, 1st Combat Aviation Brigade, 1st Infantry Division, fell under a new chain of command; Francisco's teenage son, Brason.

Brason, a Boy Scout with Troop 64 in Junction City, is currently working to attain the coveted rank of Eagle Scout. For his Eagle Project he chose to assist with the improvement of the nature trail behind the First Territorial Capitol on Fort Riley.

The Eagle Project is a requirement to obtain the rank of Eagle Scout, the highest rank in the Boy Scout program. The projects serve as an opportunity for scouts to demonstrate leadership skills while simultaneously conducting a service to the community.

The trail, which once had spanned nearly five miles, has been vastly shortened over the years because of weather and lack of resources. Only about a mile of the original trail remains functional, said Teresa Young, the First Territorial Capitol's site administrator and tourist counselor. The usable portion of the path crossed a creek bed where a narrow footbridge was the only means available for crossing.



GT. KEVEN PARRY, CAB, 1ST INF. DIV. PUBLIC AFFAIRS

Brason Francisco and his father, Chief Warrant Officer Kevin Francisco, stand on the completed bridge at the conclusion of Brason's Eagle Project at the First Territorial Capitol site on Fort Riley.

The Soldiers of the 'Demon' Brigade, along with Scouts from Brason's troop and their Family members, widened the bridge to allow for more adequate walking space and added hand rails for improved safety. The Eagle Project also reinstalled 11 sign posts along the trail that

EAGLE SCOUTPROJECT

The Soldiers of the "Demon" Brigade, along with Scouts from Brason Francisco's Troop 64, and their Family members, chose to assist with the improvement of the nature trail behind the First Territorial Capitol on Fort Riley. This project has included widening the bridge to allow for more adequate walking space and adding hand rails for improved safety. The Eagle Project also has re-installed 11 sign posts along the trail that provide information regarding the natural vegetation of the area.

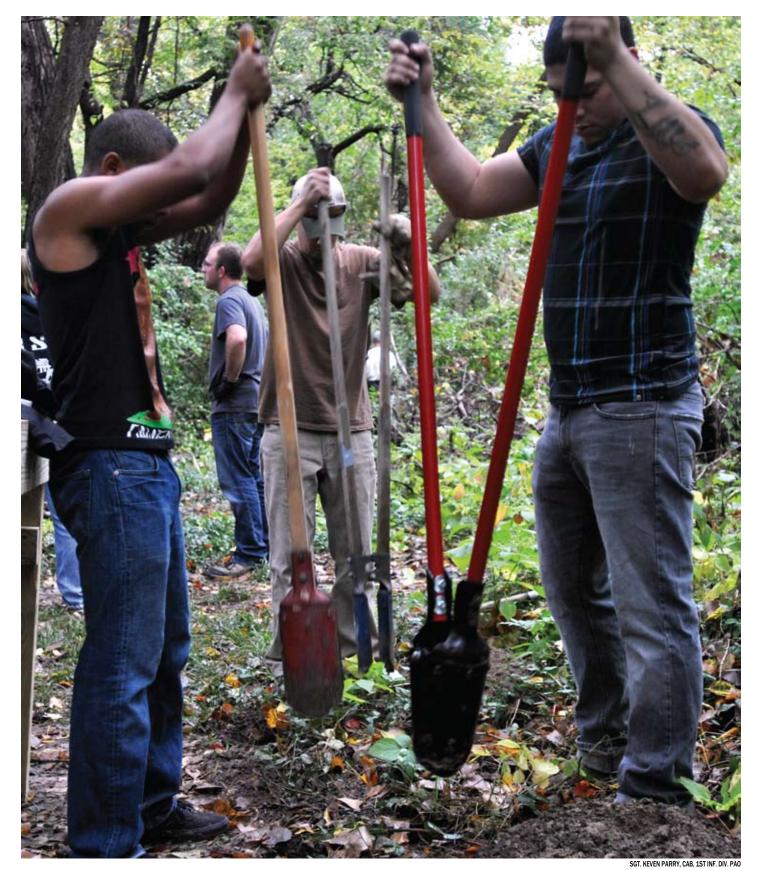
provide information regarding the natural vegetation of the area.

"(We're) trying to make it interactive so more people will come out," Brason said.

The Eagle Project occurred alongside an effort to re-extend the trail. Volunteers also worked to clear much of the path that nature had reclaimed.

"There's more volunteers than I expected," Kevin said. "It went much faster than I expected due to the large amount of volunteers."

Following the completion of the project, Brason remained a couple of merit badges shy from achieving his Eagle Scout rank. Once accomplished, he and his father already are looking forward to assisting his younger brother in moving up the organizations ranks as well.



Volunteers dig support holes for a bench during Brason Francisco's Eagle Project on Oct. 10 at the First Territorial Capitol site on Fort Riley.

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Around the Division — 4th MEB

"The same leadership, hard work and dedication that produced such successes on the **CCMRF** mission will carry the 4th MEB to success as they face the challenges of full-spectrum operations."

> Col. Robert Risberg, chief of staff for the **1st Infantry Division**



Soldiers of the 4th MEB, 1st Inf. Div., run through a mock-scenario Aug. 18, 2010, at Fort Leavenworth, Kan. The simulated training exercise designed to prepare the Soldiers on managing the consequences of a chemical, biological, radiological, nuclear or high-yield explosive domestic accident or incident.

Shifting Gears

4th MEB passes on CBRN-response mission, refocuses on combat role

By Sgt. Heather Denby 4th MEB PAO

FORT LEONARD WOOD, Mo. – The Big Red One's 4th Maneuver Enhancement Brigade added another page to its history books Oct. 1 when it culminated its mission of Federal military response to a potential Chemical, Biological, Radiological, Nuclear and high-yield Explosives event in the homeland.

The brigade relinquished its authority and designation as the Task Force Operations component to U.S. Northern

Command's CBRNE-Consequence Management Response Force, or CCM-RF, to the 1st Maneuver Enhancement Brigade in a formal ceremony Sept. 30 at Fort Polk, La.

The event officially marked the end of 4th MEB's two-year stint as one of the lead components to the CCMRF mission. Over the last two years, the 'Dauntless' Brigade provided a variety of personnel and resources needed to assist Federal, state and local civil authorities during a CBRN response operation, including

chemical detection, engineering, and search and rescue.

October 1 additionally marked the transition of the CCMRF to the Defense CBRN Response Force, or DCRF—a 5,200-person force that offers additional life-saving and life-sustaining military forces, to include CBRN decontamination and medical personnel.

Since its designation as Task Force Operations, the brigade has conducted more than 40 exercises nationwide including two command post exercises at Fort Leavenworth, Kan., and two mission readiness exercises at Camp Atterbury, Ind. The unit was also responsible for directing more than 25 subordinate units from all branches of the military, including the Marine Corps' Chemical, Biological Incident Response Force and the Air Force Radiation Assessment Team.

Force Operations has done a magnificent job in providing a critical capability to the nation," said Col. Frank Y. Rangel Jr., 4th MEB commander. "Based throughout the United States, our Soldiers, airmen and Marines have trained over the last two years to provide specialized skills when it would matter most—during an emergency when American lives are at stake.'

While operating in their CCMRF role, the Dauntless Soldiers, led by Joint Task Force-Civil Support, operated as the command and control headquarters for CCMRF.

The brigade's leadership and Soldiers have since been busy focusing on a new mission: full-spectrum operations.

"Relinquishing our current mission is bittersweet," said Capt. John Tribe, the 4th MEB Headquarters and Headquarters Company commander. "Our brigade stood up and was given the task to defend the country in the event



Col. Frank Rangel, commander of the 4th MEB, 1st Inf. Div., relinquishes the brigade's authority and designation as the Task Force Operations component to U.S. Northern Com- diately followed by participation "The joint service team of Task mand's CBRNE-Consequence Management Response in the 1st Infantry Division's mis-Force on Sept. 30 at Fort Polk, La. The ceremony officially sion readiness exercise at Fort Rimarked the end of the brigade's two-year mission as one of the lead components to the CCMRF mission.

> of a domestic terrorist attack in the Decision Making Processes. wake of 9/11."

"My guys have worked hard to build a strong, functional relationship with state, local and federal authorities to provide the support they might need if another attack had occurred."

Still, the Soldiers of the 4th MEB must transition back to a combat-oriented mindset and prepare for future tasking as a fully-functional, deployable combat unit after two years of stateside training and operations. While operating stateside, Title 10 Federal military forces must adhere to the Posse Comitatus Act, which stipulates those forces cannot provide law enforcement within the U.S., according to the Center for Law and Military Operations.

"Basically, our Soldiers will need to learn what they can and cannot do to prevent hostile behavior as we prepare to transition to a much wider scope of operations including worldwide deployments in support of combat operations," said Maj. Kari Hadley, the 4th MEB judge advocate.

During the brigade's tenure as Task Force Operations, the only time 4th MEB transferred the CC-MRF mission was during the seven days following a New Years Eve tornado that struck Fort Leonard Wood, damaging many buildings and some Army equipment.

Less than two weeks after the relinquishment of its CCMRF mission, the 4th MEB is scheduled to conduct its first field training exercise as a combat-oriented brigade in preparation for overseas deployments.

The training was nearly immeley, Kan., where the Soldiers utilized Army Battle Command Systems and practice full Military

"Fourth MEB has done an outstanding job as Task Force Operations," said Col. Robert Risberg, chief of staff for the the 1st Infantry Division. "Growing from a brand new maneuver support organization into the premier Defense Support of Civil Authorities unit in the Army in only three years was not easy and serves as a testament to the great men and women of the Dauntless Brigade.

"The same leadership, hard work and dedication that produced such successes on the CCMRF mission will carry the 4th MEB to success as they face the challenges of full-spectrum operations," he said.

"The entire Big Red One team salutes the 4th MEB and its job well-done!"

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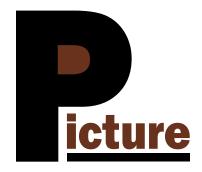


Around the Division — 4th IBCT



SGT. GENE A. ARNOLD, 4IBCT PA

From left, Staff Sgt. Joshua Durbin, of Company A, 1st. Sgt. Brandon McGuire, the senior noncommissioned officer of Company D, and honorary Command Sgt. Maj. Ian Field, unveil the 09-11 Operation Iraqi Freedom painting by James Dietz to a crowd of spectators on the 93rd anniversary of the Battle of Cantigny on May 28 in Wheaton, III.





'Black Lions' celebrate Battle of Cantigny with new painting

By **Sgt. Gene A. Arnold** 4IBCT. PAO

WHEATON, ILL.—TO CELEBRATE THE 93RD ANNIVERSARY OF THE BATTLE OF CANTIGNY, THE 1ST BATTALION, 28TH INFANTRY REGIMENT, 4TH INFANTRY BRIGADE COMBAT TEAM, 1ST INFANTRY DIVISION, PRESENTED A PAINTING OF ITS LATEST WAR OPERATIONS TO THE 1ST INFANTRY DIVISION MUSEUM ON MAY 28 IN WHEATON, ILL.

"There is a doughboy statue of a 1-28 Inf. Reg. Soldier, in the reception area of the 1st Infantry Division Museum, during World War I in the Battle of Cantigny," said Cpt. Sean M. Rufolo, the commander of Company D, 1st Bn., 28th Inf.

Not many know that the Battle of Cantigny was the first war offensive fought by Americans in World War I. On that faithful day of battle in Cantigny, France the 1st Bn., 28th Inf., also known as the "Black Lions" and the 1st Inf. Div., made the ultimate sacrifice in securing freedom. Keeping with its valorous tradition, the "Black Lion" Soldiers continue to defend the American way of life in many conflicts to include Operation Iraqi Freedom.

"(Now) we'll have another representation of the battalion with the (Sept. 11) Operation Iraqi Freedom deployment painting by James Dietz," Rufolo said.

"We're adding to the history of the 1st Infantry Division and to the 'Black Lions' legacy," he added.

Dietz, a well-known artist who depicts military wars, used a consolidation of photos taken by the Soldiers across the battalion while on patrol with Iraqi forces in the province of Salah Ad Din, Iraq to create the painting.

A special treat to the presentation, was the attendance and co-presentation with honorary Command Sgt. Maj. Ian Field.

Seven-year-old Ian visited the division's Black Lion Soldiers this past April as part of the Make-A-Wish program.

The bond the Field family has developed with their 'Black Lions' Family continues to strengthen since that day.



SGT. GENE A. ARNOLD, 4IBCT PA

Honorary Command Sgt. Maj. Ian Field and 1st. Sgt. Brandon McGuire, of Company D, 1st Battalion, 28th Infantry Regiment, 4th Infantry Brigade Combat Team, 1st Infantry Division, walk to the 09-11 Operation Iraqi tory of the 1st Infantry Divi-Freedom painting to get a sneak peak before its unveiling May 28.

We're adding to the history of the 1st Infantry Division and to the 'Black Lions' legacy."

Cpt. Sean M. Rufolo, commander of Co. D, 1st Bn., 28th Inf.

"It's great to see Ian again," said 1st Sgt. Brandon McGuire, the company's first sergeant and Ian's Team Chief during his "Make-A-Wish" visit to Fort Riley, Kan.

"It's a good opportunity for (1st. Sgt. McGuire) to meet with him again," Cpt. Rufolo said. "I think Ian gets very excited when he see's (1st Sgt. McGuire) ... he's very comfortable with him."

The Big Red One's Commanding General's Mounted Color Guard and 1st Infantry Division Jazz band also were on hand to partici-

pate in the day's events.

The spectators who attended the ceremony walked the grounds and halls of the museum as a new display was added with the new Multi Camouflage Uniform, currently used in Afghanistan for Operation Enduring Freedom.

"It's a good opportunity to be a part of a piece of history by giving it to the organization that helped us acquire it," Rufolo said.

"It's always great to do anything with the community and give a good picture of today's Soldier," McGuire said. "I'm very proud to represent the division and 4th Brigade ... being a part of the Cantigny Museum; the Soldiers of the past and today."

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