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THE 'DEVIL' BRIGADE

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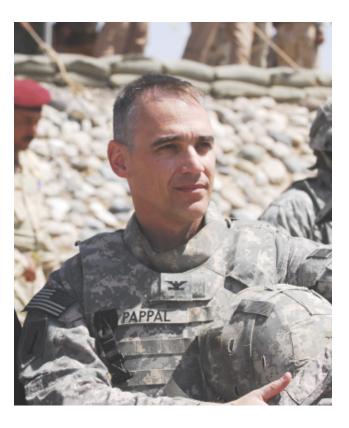
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vFRG website: Family Members and Approved Personal can also go onto the vFRG and log into their Soldier's BN's vFRG site, where more information can be found. www.armyfrg.org

#### 'Devil' PAO

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To all of the Devil Soldiers, Family Members, and Friends:

Welcome to 2013! Hopefully everyone enjoyed their Christmas holidays with family and friends. I hope everyone took a little break from our normal pace, whether you went on leave or worked through the half day period. This is going to be a great year in the Devil Brigade. The fielding of the Bradley Fighting Vehicle has started back up and right behind that will be the M1A2SEP fielding. These vehicles are the bread and butter of an Armored Brigade and it will finally be nice to actually have trained lethal crews to operate this state-of-the-art equipment. For those that may not have noticed; the Kansas weather has gotten cold, so if you are training in the fields during the next few months ensure that you wear the appropriate cold weather gear so you do not become a cold weather casualty. Also, give yourself more time to do things so you do not get hurt in an accident on the roads during inclement weather. This applies

in the field or out of it. Give yourself extra time to clear your windows on cold frosty mornings and more time to drive when the roads are slippery. I expect each of you to make an individual risk assessment of the roads where you live. Make sure to call your leader and let them know of your conditions so you can mitigate an unnecessary accident. I trust each of you to do this, and please do not abuse that trust. I don't want to lose anyone! In order to stay Army Strong; I need each of you on the team. We spent a lot of hard work over the past year building this team. A year ago, we were just developing a team in the Devil Brigade by bringing all the individual battalions back from all the different places they were sent to fulfill mission requirements. We were a team on paper only. Now, when I look across the formation today; I see a true team who looks out, helps, and supports each other like family. That

is what good people and units do, and I appreciate it. Keep up the great work this year and train hard. We have a good plan with a lot to do!

NO MISSION TOO DIFFICULT. NO SACRIFICE TOO GREAT.

DUTY FIRST.





I would like to start by saying Happy New Year to everyone and welcome back to Fort Riley for those that left for the holidays. My hope is that 2013 is very prosperous to the Devil Brigade as we continue New Equipment Fielding and Training. It won't be long before this BCT is the most modern Armored Brigade in the Army's inventory. Since the last letter, we have reelected the Commander In Chief, and enjoyed some much needed time with families at Thanksgiving and Christmas. I want to call some special recognition to SFC Felton and the entire Devil's Den staff for the massive effort to provide such an outstanding Thanksgiving meal to over 4,000 Soldiers and families. The theme and attention to detail were very evident, but the quality of the food was commented by many as the best they ever had. Well done!

As we closed out the 1st Quarter of FY13, we recognized the Iron Ranger Battalion as the best in the Brigade for earning top honors in the Devil's Stakes competition. Complet-

ing the honors for the Quarter are SGT Williams from the Iron Rangers and PFC Duncan from The Pale Rider Squadron who were recognized as the BCT NCO and Soldier of the Quarter. They will represent the Brigade at the end of March in the Division NCO and Soldier of the Quarter competition. I am looking for another fine showing and hope we can take both categories again.

My talking point this installment is Army schools and money. Anyone watching the news lately has heard of the financial difficulties facing the country. As the Army copes with a decreasing budget to accomplish its mission, some would wonder how it affects them. I would tell you that training Soldiers takes a lot of money and who we send to school in the future will be scrutinized by those who spend the money. The opportunity to go to school in some cases may get

more and more difficult as we look at ways of trimming expenses. I can predict that schools will only go to those "Best Qualified". I ask everyone that gets a slot in any school, to put forth the maximum effort. The new policy for PME is a one time opportunity. As funding gets more restrictive, schools from NCOES to localized Troop Schooling will require more supervision as well as more stringent to reduce the chance of failures and maximize the use of available funds. I can speak for the senior NCO Corps in the Brigade and say that we already select those who are the absolute best. Keep these things in mind as you establish your goals for the future. I wish each and every one of you a great New Year in 2013. Keep up the great work that each of you do for the Brigade. I am proud of you and look forward to seeing you all throughout the year.

NO MISSION TOO DIFFICULT. NO SACRIFICE TOO GREAT.

DUTY FIRST.

#### Chaplain's Corner

A few years ago psychologist Ruth W. Berenda and her associates carried out an interesting experiment with teenagers designed to show how a person handled group peer pressure. They brought groups of ten teenagers into a room for a test. Subsequently each group of ten was instructed to raise their hands when the teacher pointed to the longest line on three separate charts. What one person in the group did not know was that the other nine had been secretly instructed ahead of time to vote for the second longest line, rather than the correct longest line. Regardless of the group instructions given to all ten teens at test time, nine of the teens were going to vote for the wrong answer.

The desire of the psychologists was to determine how one person reacted when completely surrounded by a large number of people who obviously stood against what was true.

The experiment began with the nine teen-agers voting for the wrong line. The lone teen who didn't know the deception plan would typically glance around, frown in confusion, and slip his hand up to vote with the group, even though the teen was voting for the wrong answer. Time and time again during the test, the self-conscious teen-ager would sit there saying a short line is longer than the long line, simply because they lacked the moral courage to challenge the group. 75% of the groups of ten teen-agers had unanimous answers in the test, meaning the wrong answer.

How do we keep our moral compass pointed toward truth even in the face of overwhelming pressure to compromise? What helps us to break from the pack and to pull away from the crowd? One suggestion comes from an ancient writer, "Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make your paths straight." (Proverbs 3:5-6.) One of the marks of a resilient Soldier is their spiritual fitness. As we start this New Year, muster up your courage to exercise spiritually and build up your spiritual muscles. You will find that your spiritual health will impact the other areas of your life. Chaplains stand ready to provide and perform ministry to help you build your spiritual resilience.

Peace, Chaplain (MAJ) Don Carrothers

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#### WHAT MAKESYOU STRONG?



MAJ Josef Hatch HHC, 1st ABCT

My wife and kids.



1LT Christopher Macleish 4-4 CAV

My troops. Watching how hard my Troopers work, seeing how strong they are and knowing that, for their sake, I must work harder and be strong so that they will never worry that their leadership will fail them.



SSG William Ho'omana HHC, 1-1 BSTB

My family as a whole makes me strong. From my grandparents to my children.



SPC Lakeesha Archer HHC, 1st ABCT

Making my daddy proud.

# Firearms policy changes coming

Fort Riley is preparing to implement changes to its firearms policy in 2013. The changes were made as part of an Armywide policy change that went into effect last year and will be implemented in phases over the course of the coming year, according to Ray Coffey, chief, Physical Security, Directorate of Emergencies Services.

Members of the Fort Riley community will want to take note of upcoming changes to the Fort Riley firearms policy. Some of the changes include:

- All persons must declare possession of firearms before entering Fort Riley.
- All persons must present valid registration of firearms at the gate. Gate guards will assist with unregistered

firearms declared at the gate.

 Registration information must be entered in the Centralized Operations Police Suite, or COPS, and

registration form must be properly stamped by DES for it to be considered valid.

- Registration will include a back ground check with the National Crime Information Center, or NCIC. The registration form will be updated with additional questions to facilitate the NCIC check.
- Soldiers who choose to have firearms on post and live in onpost quarters are required to store firearms in their unit arms rooms. However, unit commanders can authorize a Soldier to store firearms in his or her on-post residence, excluding barracks.
- Privately-owned firearms will only be transported in vehicles at Fort Riley while traveling by the most direct route to and from

authorized locations, including hunting areas, firearm ranges, quarters, Army and Air Force Exchange Service locations, Directorate of Family and Morale, Welfare and Recreation facilities, Environmental Division, Directorate of Public Works' facilities or unit and organizational parking lots. All weapons, including firearms, must be properly secured in the vehicle and must not be taken into public or private establishments. Firearms and privately-owned weapons should only be removed from unit vehicles for use at authorized recreational areas and for secure storage, like arms rooms and quarters, according to the regulation.

- Secure placement in vehicles is for temporary use only and is not permitted for permanent storage. Additionally, Soldiers, Family members, employees, visitors and recreationists should be aware of certain key points of the existing policy that will continue to remain in effect:
- All firearms are prohibited at Fort Riley unless they are properly registered.
- Concealed carry is not authorized at Fort Riley.
- Firearms being transported at Fort Riley must remain unloaded and out of reach of all passengers in the vehicle.
- All privately-owned firearms transported or secured in vehicles at Fort Riley must be locked in the trunk, or, if a vehicle has no trunk, in a storage area of the vehicle beyond the reach of the vehicle's occupants. If this is not possible, the firearm must be transported in a closed case, with a trigger lock in place or similar device utilized, accord-

ing to Fort Riley Regulation 190-1. Additional signage will be posted at gates during the implementation. More information about the upcoming policy changes and the implementation plan will be available in the coming months.

#### Christmas

#### Abroad

SGT Roland Hale, RC-E



Top: Maj. Gen. William Mayville, commanding general, 1st Infantry Division and Regional Command - East, sits down for a Christmas Day meal Dec. 25 with Fort Riley Soldiers serving at COP Zerok, Afghanistan.

Bottom: A Soldier deployed to Afghanistan with the 4th Infantry Brigade Combat Team, 1st Inf. Div. serves up slices of a holiday meal Christmas Day at COP Zerok. Two Fort Riley-based 1st Inf. Div. units are currently deployed to Afghanistan in support of Operation Enduring Freedom.



# ACS to host spouse's seminar at Riley's

Family members have an opportunity to get ready for reintegration with their Soldier following a redeployment.

Army Community Service is hosting a Beyond the Beans and Bullets seminar from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Jan. 12 at Riley's Conference Center.

The seminar will include discussion among military spouses about the best ways to handle reintegration, said

Cheryl Erickson, director, ACS.

"It's much easier to discuss it with people who are in the same boat," Erickson said.

The event was conducted in the same manner last year and was a success, she said.

"The feedback has been phenomenal because they learn more from each other," Erickson said.

Three sessions will be conducted throughout the seminar, including tips and tools for managing redeployment,

staying relaxed and budgeting for redeployment.

During each session, table discussions will be facilitated with different questions posed. The table groups will be mixed with seasoned and newer spouses to talk through issues.

"Every redeployment is different, and every person is in a different place in their life," Erickson said. "We can always get some new tips or tools to help us manage the challenges."

Youth, ages 6 to 17, also can participate in the concurrent children's redeployment workshops as well. The children's workshops will be split according to age groups.

"It will be more activity-orient-

ed, rather than the adults going to the different sessions," said Marvin Springer, outreach coordinator, ACS. "They have the opportunity also to learn some skills as well during this training."

Children's activities will be centered on reintegrating with returning parent(s).

Additionally, information tables will be set up to help with the reintegration process. Spouses and Families can browse through the tables during the event. Some of the organizations that will be in attendance include the "Her War, Her Voice" support group and the Leisure Travel Center.

"We'll know when the unit's block leave is, so (LTC) can put out all the travel deals for that time, so (Families) can look at that during breaks," Erickson said.

Even if people think they may not need the tools, everyone is still encouraged to come out for the camaraderie, Erickson said.

"It's good for the kids, it's a nice break, and there will be door prizes," Erickson said.

Drawings for three digital tablets will be conducted.

The seminar is free to participants. Walk-ins will be accepted, but adult participants are encouraged to register in advance.

Child care is provided. Participants needing child care are required to pre-register.

A "no-host" lunch pasta and salad bar will be available for \$7.50 at the conference center.

To register for the seminar or for more information, call ACS at 785-239-9435.

#### THE DEVIL'S CORNER 'Devil' Soldier finds ASAP's shoe



Christine Hurt, ASAP

Staff Sqt. Paul Wright, STB, 1st ABCT, poses for a picture after discovering a horseshoe under the Christmas tree at ACS. ASAP created the scavenger hunt during December to create awareness about National Drunk and Drugged Driving Prevention Month.

The Army Substance Abuse Program's Hunt for the Holiday Shoe has officially come to an end.

The horseshoe was discovered by Staff Sgt. Paul Wright, Special Troops Battalion, 1st Armored Brigade Combat

Team, 1st Infantry Division, under a Christmas tree at the ACS build-

The scavenger hunt was designed to guide Soldiers to different agencies throughout post to help them become aware of the available resources, said Chris Bowman, prevention coordinator, ASAP.

The event also was a way to create awareness about December being National Drunk and Drugged Driving Prevention Month.

The hunt began with the first clue posted on the Directorate of Family and Morale, Welfare and Recreation's Facebook page. New clues were posted weekly.

The clues led to different locations, including the Custer Hill Bowling Center, Leisure Travel Center and Army Community Service.

"The event was well received by the Soldiers and the Family members from Fort Riley," Bowman said. "We had many Family members involved in the hunt who said they enjoyed going place to place looking for the next clue."

Wright said he was skeptical at first about participating, but was pleased when he found the mystery shoe.

"I was pretty excited about winning," Wright said. "It gave me the option to point my Soldiers in the right direction – I'll be sharing some of the items with them – the services."

# Fort Riley, Big Red 1 Soldiers celebrate holidays while deployed to Afghanistan

BAGRAM, AIRFIELD, Afghanistan -- Two Fort Rileybased 1st Infantry Division units. the 4th Infantry Brigade Combat Team and Division Headquarters and Headquarters Battalion, spent Christmas Day this year at combat outposts across eastern Afghanistan.

While the mission did not stop for the Soldiers, they did their best to celebrate the holiday season.

Maj. Gen. William Mayvilled and Command Sgt. Maj. Charles Sasser Jr., command team, 1st Inf. Div. and Regional Command-East, did their part to spread Christmas cheer by visiting



SGT Roland Hale, RC-E

A 1st Inf. Div. Soldier serving in Afghanistan with the 4th IBCT enjoys a Christmas meal Dec. 25 at COP Zerok, a small U.S. base in eastern Afghanistan's mountainous Paktika Province, Afghanistan.

"Big Red One" troops at several outposts. Mayville and Sasser were accompanied by a jazz trio from the 1st Inf. Div. Band, which performed for Soldiers at each stop.

Both units are scheduled to return to Fort Riley in the spring, so in addition to Christmas, they celebrated the day as the last major holiday they will spend apart from their loved ones.

# USO makes changes to No Dough Dinners, locations

Some changes are being made to the USO No Dough dinners for the upcoming year.

The USO will be trying a "No Dough Dinner Light" for the first dinner in January and also the first dinner

in February. Dates for regular No Dough dinners will be changing as well.

The dinners, one of the many ways USO Fort Riley seeks to lift the spirit of the troops and their Families, were started to give Families a night off from cooking and originally scheduled right before pay day, according to April Blackmon, director, USO Fort Riley.

The No Dough Dinner Light will still be serving full meals, but lighter in terms of the amount of the number of people being served, Blackmon said.

"It's an experiment we're going to try based off of our previous year's attendance records for the first dinners in January and February. We were seeing maybe 100 (attendees) at most," Blackmon said.

The meal will still have all the trimmings people have enjoyed in the past, including a main dish, fresh veggies and other sides, Blackmon said.

The light dinner will have a capacity for about 100 to 150 attendees, instead of the usual 300.

The No Dough Dinner Lights also will be hosted at a different location – the USO Fort Riley center.

"It's normally at our dining facil-

ity or off sight somewhere," Blackmon said. "We've never done it in the USO

center before, so it'll be an interesting experiment for us to see how well it works," Blackmon said.

The first No Dough Dinner Light is scheduled for 5 to 6:30 p.m. Jan. 12 at the center.

Normally, the dinners are during weekdays, but this dinner will be during a Saturday to see how it works out, Blackmon said.

The USO also is changing the official scheduled dates for regular No Dough Dinners.

The regular dinners were initially scheduled the day before pay day to give Families a helping hand, Blackmon said.

"Well, we learned that many folks get paid the day before pay day, so, with that in mind, we've now decided to bump it to two business days before pay day," Blackmon said.

The last day before getting paid can be a little tough for people, she said.

"We target an audience of 300 on normal No Dough Dinners – that's troops and Families, and we will be doing

some off-site locations this year they can look forward to," Blackmon said

All USO dinners are volunteeroperated events.

"We have folks who volunteer for just one dinner, (and) we have folks who volunteer every dinner," Blackmon said. "It's a Familyfriendly volunteer opportunity, so parents can have some of their older children helping out with the dinners," Blackmon said.

The USO dinners would not be possible without the help of volunteers, she said.

"As long as we have volunteers and donations, the dinners will go on, so we hope to never run out of volunteers,"

Blackmon said.

To volunteer, visit http://usovol-unteer.org/custom/500/index.php or call 785-240-5328. Schedules, menus and other information can be found at the USO Fort Riley Facebook page at www.facebook.com/USOFtRiley.

# THE DEVIL'S CORNER Chaplain shares 'the parable of the gift'

Gifts, gifts, gifts. This time of year, we are all consumed by gifts. We buy gifts, we give gifts and the greatest part of all, we receive gifts. On Christmas morning, many homes are strewn with wrapping paper torn to shreds, with gift parts all over the house, as children dive into the newest and greatest toy they have ever had. As the day draws to a close, and full stomachs turn into heavy eyes, gifts are unofficially distributed into a few different categories.

Some gifts remain unopened. waiting for a relative to arrive, or perhaps some of us didn't feel in the spirit and simply left gifts unopened.

Other gifts were opened and quickly rejected – set aside as useless – like the ugly sweater that Aunt Samantha knitted. Some gifts also were rejected because we didn't understand them. I recall one Christmas in the late 1970s when my sister received a cassette tape player and cried all afternoon because she wanted an 8-track tape player instead.

Yet another category of gifts falls into the easily broken or quickly boring gifts. A cheap kids' meal toy from a fast food restaurant is like this. The toy is fascinating at first, but in just a few minutes, it will get thrown aside for something better, or it will simply break. We all get presents like this that will fascinate us for a short time on Christmas day and maybe a bit longer, but soon will be in the trash or stuck in the back of a drawer and forgotten.

The best gifts of all, and the hardest to find, are the kind of gifts that become part of our lives. Some might have been lucky enough this

Christmas to get their first smart phone, bike or even a car. I began using my first electronic organizer more than a decade ago. Eventually, after several generations of upgrades, it has morphed into an expensive smart phone. I could not imagine life today without this useful tool; it goes with me everywhere I go.

Christmas is a Christian holiday to celebrate the birth of Jesus Christ our Lord. An angel appeared before his birth and told Joseph, his father, to name the baby Jesus, "because he will save his people from their sins" – Matthew 1:21. This is a gift which many have left unopened year after year. Some have considered it and quickly discarded the gift as useless. Some have toyed with the notion of faith, but have allowed the worries of everyday life to steal away the hope and joy that comes from a life of faith in Christ. Others, like me. and I hope like you as well, have received this gift and have allowed the "gift of God" - Eph 2:8 - to become central in our lives. I can no longer imagine life without it.

"Because of his great love for us, God, who is rich in mercy, made us alive in Christ." – Ephesians 2:4-5.

## Parent to Parent offers workshops for Families

What does a gummy bear do when it's put in water? That's just the type of question the Parent to Parent cadre

of Fort Riley said they love to explore with fellow military parents and their children.

Blair Benz, Jennifer Dixon and Sandra Hatch make up the threeperson team of Fort Riley's Parent to Parent program of the Military Child Education Coalition. Together, they provide interactive workshops for Soldiers and Families with the goal of making learning come alive and enabling parents to become "their children's best advocates," Hatch said.

"And it's free," Benz added.

Benz started bringing her daughter, Raina, 2, to workshops when they first moved to Fort Riley in 2010.

Two years later, Benz found herself leading them.

"To be on this team. you have to be a military spouse," Dixon said.

Benz, Dixon and Hatch know the military way of life because they live it every day. They have navigated the waters of switching schools, multiple moves, deployments and redeployments. "Change is inevitable, especially in this lifestyle," Benz said.

"The whole point is to (be able to) relate to our audience, no matter what the topic is," Dixon said.

Each member brings her own strengths to the program. The team laughed as Hatch confessed she's a math nerd. Benz, on the other hand, is more artistic.

"As a parent, the logic and the math are the things that I'm not the most comfortable with, so I need those things

because I need to make it accessible for (my daughter)," Benz said. "If I have an aversion to it or it's an unknown

to me, it doesn't mean she shouldn't have it."

The workshops are interactive and cover general education topics like music, science and reading, as well as more

focused topics, like preparing for college, learning styles and parentteacher conferences.

Several workshops are geared specifically to military Families, like staying connected during deployment, building resiliency and



Julie Fiedler, 1ST INF. DIV. POST

Jennifer Dixon, Parent to Parent cadre, right, helps brothers Zander Purcell, 3, left, and Jonas, 1, center, with a craft activity during a recent early literacy workshop for the CYSS play pals group Dec. 3 at the Normandy CDC.

easing transitions.

"We also have a redeployment reintegration workshop, and (it's) fabulous," Hatch said.

"Our workshops cover anywhere from birth to the college years," Dixon said. "Each (workshop is) research-based, so the information is important; it's pertinent."

"(The workshops are) disguised as something really fun. The kids have a great time. The parents are totally involved (and come) away feeling like they're empowered," Benz said.

The team's enthusiasm seems to be contagious.

"We feel so passionately about the information. It's wonderful information. It's robust. It's researched. But it's also useful and accessible," Benz said. Parent to Parent provides free

workshops to any military-based group. Family members can request a workshop from a menu of

> options. From informal play groups to organized Family readiness groups, with coffee groups, mom groups and teen groups thrown in, the team said it welcomes the opportunity to reach as many Families as possible.

"You provide the people and the place, and we'll provide the resources and the workshop," Hatch said.

Recently, the group started a collaborative partnership with the Marianna Kistler Beach Museum of Art in Manhattan. The first event, which was in the fall, was free and open to military Families. The event featured a special

tour of the museum, followed by a science workshop, led by the Parent See PARENTS, page 15 PARENTS Continued from page 14

to Parent team that tied into the exhibit.

"It all connected," Dixon said.
"So many Families have never been to the (Marianna Kistler Beach Museum of Art), and it's a wonderful, small little gem of a museum. It's a neat opportunity for new experiences, but also great information for the parents on incorporating science into their children's lives on a daily basis," Benz added.

The next workshop at the museum will focus on math and tie into the exhibit. The Parent to Parent team can tailor their standard workshop offerings to better fit a group's specific needs.

"We tend to focus everything around the military child and how to make their education the best that we can," Hatch said.

"There isn't a workshop where we don't have someone walk away and say, 'Wow, I didn't know that.' That's so gratifying," Benz said.

The group cited several success stories from participants, as well as in their own lives. One mother hadn't anticipated the variety of curricula across different school systems, Benz said. What is called 'algebra' in one school might be called 'eighth-grade math' in another. The mother came away with the idea to photocopy her children's textbook covers to avoid disruptions to her children's learning plans.

"If you have a copy of what exactly they did at that previous school, it can help them better place the child before they lose time in learning a new subject," Hatch said.

"The crux behind the program (is to) prepare parents (so that) they can help make those transitions

more successful," Benz said. "It saves a lot of frustration, not just for the children, but also the Families."

Dixon picked up a tip in a workshop she uses in her own household. The simple routine of implementing a homework box has helped her Family stay more organized and has helped ease stress.

"This is information that every parent would benefit from," Benz said. "This is not for somebody else. This is for you."

The team conducts workshops at Fort Riley, Manhattan, Ogden and Junction City.

As for the gummy bear? It will expand, not dissolve, when put in water.

Upcoming workshops include Early Literacy, featuring a story and activity at 10 a.m. Jan. 7 and Jan. 28 at Building 6620; Learning Styles at 5:30 p.m. Jan. 10 and 6 p.m. Jan. 15 at the Middle School Teen Center; School Transitions at 6 p.m. Jan. 29 at the MSTC; and a math workshop at 10 a.m. Jan. 24 at the Marianna Kistler Beach Museum of Art

For more information or to request a workshop, email ptop. riley@militarychild.org.

### Fort Riley Tax Center offers free services to Soldiers, Family members

With the end of the holiday season, a new season looms – tax season. Many people dread this time of year, but Soldiers, their dependents and retirees have the Fort Riley Tax Center to make filing state and federal returns a quick, easy and free task.

The Fort Riley Tax Center will celebrate its grand opening at 3 p.m. Jan. 22 at Building 7034. Once open, the tax center's hours of operation will be from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m., Monday to Friday, and from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturdays. Walk-ins are welcome, but appointments, which are available Monday to Friday, are encouraged.

Trained tax preparers will prepare 2010, 2011 and 2012 federal tax returns, in addition to state returns. State returns, however, will only be prepared in conjunction with federal returns

Last year, 7,627 federal and 5,790 state returns were prepared. saving Soldiers and Families about \$1.5 million in preparation fees. More than \$15 million in tax refunds also were secured.

If you are thinking of forgoing the tax center in favor of quick cash from a refund-anticipation loan, don't.

The tax center can electronically file your refund. Electronic filing and direct deposits drastically reduce the time it takes to get your refund. On average, filers see their refunds in less than a week.

Instant rebates offered by most

commercial tax services are nothing more than loans with incredibly high interest rates.

If you prepare your taxes on your own, bring them into the tax center. One of the certified tax preparers will check over your state and federal returns to make sure you've got it correct. If the IRS questions your taxes, the tax center can provide help.

The tax center is just one more service provided at Fort Riley to help ease the burden on Soldiers and Family members. The staff at the tax center provides excellent customer service and will make filing taxes a positive experience.

Along with all of your W-2 forms, be sure to bring the following items – if applicable – with you when you head to the tax center:

- Social Security card required for everyone, including children
  - Power of attorney
- All 1099-R Forms Pension and Retirement
- All 1099-INT Forms Interest Income Statement
- All 1099-DIV Forms Dividend Income Statement
- Form 1098 Mortgage Interest Statement
- Form 1098-E Student Loan Interest Statement
- HUD-1 Forms for those who have purchased or sold a home in 2009
- Bank routing and account
- Receipts for deductible expenses
  - 2011 Tax return
- Form 8332 signed by custodial parent if a non-custodial parent is

claiming a child exemption. The Tax Center will be open through April 15, but why wait? Gather your forms and make your appointment today. Remember, appointments can be made by calling 785-239-1040.



# Family Readiness Training 2013 Schedule

Free Child Care for all Family Readiness Group (FRG) Classes. Pre-registration Required!

Family Readiness Group (FRG) Leader Class: Instruction and guidance to assist newly appointed FRG Leaders, FRSA's and Commanders.

Each part is a 3-hour course.

Jan 8-9 / Mar 12-13 / May 14-15 / Jul 16-17 / Sep 10-11 / Nov 11-13: 9:00 am - 12:00 Noon

Key Caller Class: This class provides instruction and guidance to appointed Key Callers.

Feb 5 / Apr 2 / Jun 4 / Aug 6 / Oct 1 / Dec 3: 10:00 am – 12:00 Noon

<u>Funds Custodian Class</u>: This class provides instruction and guidance to appointed Funds. Custodians

Jan 15 / Mar 12 / May 7 / Jul 16 / Sep 10 / Nov 19: 10:00 am — 12:00 Noon

<u>Care Team Training</u>: Instruction on Care Team's responsibilities and guidance on how to handle issues volunteers will face (such as dealing with family's reactions).

Feb 13 / May 15 / Aug 14 / Nov 13: 1:00 – 3:00 pm

\*<u>Femily Readiness Support Assistant (FRSA) Training</u>: This training will provide FRSA's a basic knowledge of their roles and responsibilities as well as acquaint them with the various Army Community resources available to Soldiers and Family members.

\* Mandatory to all new FRSAs - \* Commanders Welcome - \* Open to all FRG Volunteers

Mar 5-6 / Sep 2-3 / Aug 28-29: 9:00 am - 3:00 pm

To register for a class please contact: Army Community Service 7264 Normandy Drive, Fort Riley, KS 66442 (785) 239-9435

# COURTS-MARTIAL IN 1ST ABCT

| Unit: HHC, 1-16 INF REGT.            |  |
|--------------------------------------|--|
| <b>Charges:</b> Article 86 - Failure |  |
| to Report; Article 134 - Previ-      |  |
| ous Overindulgence in Liquor         |  |
| <b>Punishment:</b> To forfeit \$1331 |  |
| pay per month for 1 month; to        |  |
| be restricted to place of duty,      |  |
| gym, place of worship, dining        |  |
| facility, PX or shoppette for 30     |  |
| days.                                |  |
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Bring your sweetheart and celebrate
Valentine's Day with a night of gourmet food,
good music and dancing. Each evening will
include a cocktail hour with hors d' oeuvres, a
four course gourmet meal, and culminate
with lively music and dancing.

In order to make this a truly special occasion, reservations will be limited and tickets must be purchased in advanced for each evening.

OPEN TO THE PUBLIC
For More Information, call 785-784-1000







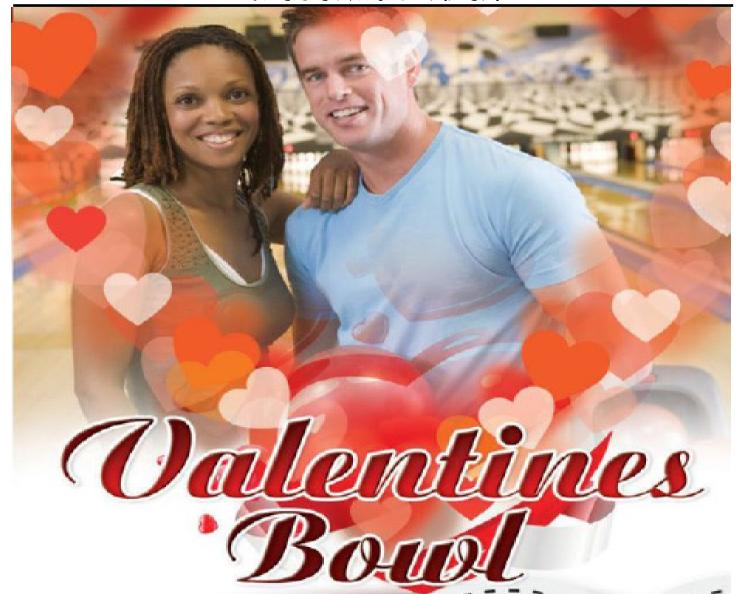


#### Winter Weather Communications

- Make sure you have at least one of the following in case there is a power failure;
  - · Battery-powered radio (for listening to local emergency instructions).
  - National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) weather radio receiver (for listening to National Weather Service broadcasts).
- · Find out how your community warns the public about severe weather.
  - · Fort Riley AtHoc Text Messaging
  - Radio
    - KJCK-AM / 1420
    - KMAN-AM / 1350
    - KCLY-FM / 100.9
    - KQLA-FM / 103.5
    - KXBZ-FM / 104.7
    - KBLS-FM / 102.5
  - Television.
    - Fort Riley Command Channel / Channel 2
    - WIBW/Channel 13
    - KSNT / Channel 27.
    - · KTKA / Channel 49
- · Know the Winter Storm Warning Terms
  - Winter Weather Advisory: Expect winter weather conditions to cause inconvenience and hazards.
  - Frost/Freeze Warning: Expect below-freezing temperatures.
  - Winter Storm Watch: A winter storm is likely.
  - . Winter Storm Warning: The storm is in or entering the area.
  - <u>Bizzard</u> Warning: Snow and strong winds, near-zero visibility, deep snow drifts, and life-threatening wind chill



Fort Riley Emergency Management Office (785) 210-0400



FEB 14

\$20.00 include 2 hrs
of bowling, shoes, 2
small pizza's with fountain drink and
each couple will also receive a
heart/key necklace. If children
accompany them, the kids will
receive \$1.00 game and shoes
that night.

MWR

Custer Hill Bowling Center

For more information call 785-239-4366



Necklaces will be limited to the first



#### Teen Workshops

20 November 2012

6:00-7:00pm Work Ethics 7:00-8:00pm Customer Service

27 November 2012

6:00-7:00pm Time Management 7:00-8:00pm Netsmartx-Internet safety

4 December 2012

6:00-7:00pm College Applications 7:00-8:00pm Life INC

11 December 2012

6:00-7:00pm Resume Building 7:00-8:00pm ACT/SAT Prep

8 January 2013

6:00-7:00pm Partfolios 7:00-8:00pm Teen Resources

15 January 2013

6:00-7:00pm Learning Styles 7:00-8:00pm Building Your Brain.

29 January 2013

6:00-7:00pm Transition-HS-College 7:00-8:00pm Money Matters

12 February 2013

6:00-7:00pm Work Ethics 7:00-8:00pm Customer Service

26 February 2013.

6:00-7:00pm Time Management 7:00-8:00pm Interviews & Applications Who: High School Students

Parents are welcome to attend

What: Learn employment skill: and school planning.

Where: Teen Center

5800 Thomas Ave

Ft. Riley, KS

When: See Schedule

6:00-7:00pm

And 7:00-8:00pm

For More Information

CALL:

(785) 240-3261

(785) 239-1648











# hired!

# TEENS 15-18 years

Apply for CYSS HIRED! Apprenticeships

#### Earn \$500 Cash Award

The HIRED! Apprenticeship Program provides
high school students ages 15-18 years
(Dependents of Active Duty, Retired or DOA Employees)
with career exploration opportunities in
Morale, Welfare and Recreation (MWR) operations.

#### Spring Session

February 10, 2013 through May 4, 2013

Application Deadline for Spring Session: January 18, 2013

#### **Summer Session**

May 19, 2013 through August 10, 2013

Application Deadline for Summer Session: April 26, 2013





Join us to learn more about the Army and yourself at
Army Family Team Building Classes

Level 1 Level II Level III January 23-24 February 19-21 March 19-21 or (for working spouses) February 2 - Stress Management/ - Leadership Styles Personality Traits - Delegation -Chain of Command - Problem Solving - Coaching and Mentoring - Benefits and Entitlements - Intro to leadership Financial Readiness

All classes are held in the RLC Building 7285 Normandy Drive from 9am- 3pm

Free childcare is provided with registration.

To register call ACS Resilience Learning Center (785) 239-9435

Going to a Ball?
Customs and Courtesies:
A Night Out
February 13 10:00-12:00

#### DO YOU HAVE WHAT IT TAKES?

ARMY VOLUNTEER CORPS AND ARMY COMMUNITY SERVICE
VOLUNTEER ORIENTATION CLASSES ARE HELD ON THE FOLLOWING MONDAYS FROM 1000 – 1200 AT
BUILDING 7264 NORMANDY DRIVE:

JANUARY14 JULY 8

FEBRUARY11 AUGUST12
MARCH11 SEPTEMBER 9
APRIL 8 OCTOBER 7
MAY13 NOVEMBER 4
JUNE 10 DECEMBER 9

When registering for this class, please specify the date or distance learning and provide the following information: your name, sponsor's name, unit, and rank. For those requiring child care we will also need the name and age of your child.

Parents are responsible to preregister their child with CYSS at BLDG 6620 prior to registering for this class. Students needing childcare will register at least 10 working days before the scheduled class so that we can coordinate childcare. Students who are unable to attend a scheduled class for any reason will be responsible to contact both CYSS – 24 hours in advance to cancel childcare and then ACS to cancel their class reservation. Failure to do so may result in the student being held financially responsible for the cost of childcare during that time.

ACS also offers a distance learning option. Simply stop by ACS to pick up your distance learning package. Read through the materials and email your answers to the address on the check on learning. Your volunteer orientation training certificate will be emailed to you after processing. Childcare is not available for this option.

#### BE A PART OF THE ARMY VOLUNTEER CORPS

Call: 785-239-9435

Email: usarmy.riley.imcom.mbx.acs@mail.mil

Volunteer Coordinator

# THANK YOU FOR YOUR SERVICE



2003

# 1/2 MILITARY PRICE TICKETS

DAYTONA 500 • FEBRUARY 24, 2013

To purchase this and other great offers, contact your on-base MWR ITT/ITR ticket office.

For event information, visit DAYTONA500.com







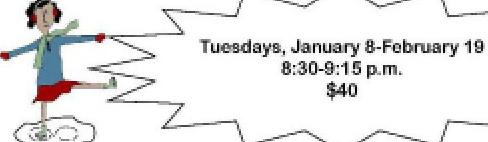


Other scale 2/2/10 and we solded to availability All sales are final No refunds or exchanges. Other was not be combined with other discounts or premotions.

#### Youth Ice Skating Lessons!

|  | DAY       | DATES                 | TIME                | CLASS                          | FEE  |
|--|-----------|-----------------------|---------------------|--------------------------------|------|
|  | Saturday  | January 5-28          | 8:30-9:00 a.m.      | Youth Beginning (ages 4-5)     | \$35 |
|  | Saturday  | January 5-26          | 9:15-9:45 a.m.      | Youth Beginning (ages 4-5)     | \$35 |
|  | Saturday  | January 5-26          | 10:00-10:30 a.m.    | Youth Beginning (ages 6-12)    | \$35 |
|  | Saturday  | January 5-26          | 10:45-11:15 a.m.    | Youth Beginning (ages 6-12)    | \$35 |
|  | Saturday  | January 5-26          | 11:30 a.m12:00 p.m. | Youth Beginning (ages 6-12)    | \$35 |
|  | Saturday  | January 5-26          | 12:15-12:45 p.m.    | Youth Intermediate (ages 145U) | \$35 |
|  | Tuesday   | January 5-February 19 | 7:30-8:15 p.m.      | Teen Beginning (ages 13-17)    | \$40 |
|  | Saturday  | February 2-23         | 8:30-9:00 a.m.      | Youth Beginning (ages 4-5)     | \$35 |
|  | Saturday  | February 2-23         | 9:16-9:45 a.m.      | Youth Beginning (ages 4-5)     | \$35 |
|  | Satisfay  | February 2-23         | 10:00-10:30 a.m.    | Youth Beginning (ages 6-12)    | \$35 |
|  | Saluday   | February 2-23         | 10:45-11:15 a.m.    | Youth Beginning (ages 6-12)    | \$35 |
|  | Sounday   | February 2-23         | 11:30 a.m12:00 p.m. | Youth Beginning (ages 6-12)    | \$35 |
|  | Settistay | Fobruary 2-23         | 12:15-12:45 p.m.    | Youth Intermediate (ages 145U) | \$40 |
|  |           |                       |                     |                                |      |

# |Le Skating Lessons!

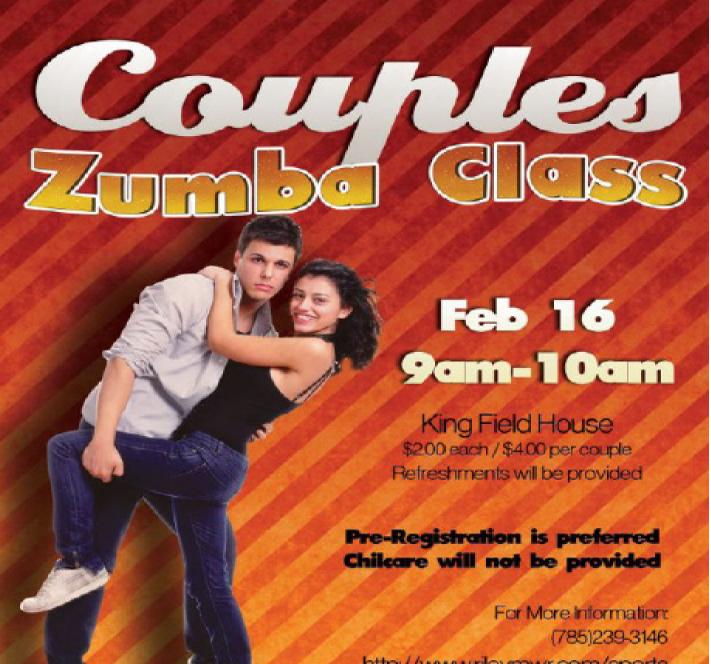


# Youth Hockey Lessons for ages 12&U!

Mondays, January 7-February 18 7:15-8:15 p.m. \$40



To register for ice skating or hockey lessons, please contact the Parks and Recreation Office at 1101 Fremont, or call 687-2767, or register on-line at https://rt.manhattan.ks.us!



http://www.rileymwr.com/sports





#### REGISTRATION FORM

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_ PHONE:\_\_\_\_ E-MAIL:\_\_\_

FAX COMPLETED FORM TO: 785-239-6870 OR DROP OFF AT KING FIELD HOUSE SPORTS OFFICE



#### SATURDAY CHILD CARE 1900-2300

January 5 February 2 March 2 April 6
May 4 June 1 July 13 August 3
September 7 October 5 November 2 December 7

#### FRG CHILD CARE 1800-2000

with CYSS.

January 8 February 12 March 12 April 9
May 14 June 11 July 9 August 13
September 10 October 8 November 12 December 10

TO MAKE AN APPOINTMENT FOR CARE,





TENESTICAL STREET

Cost is \$10/family or \$5/single. Hot dogs, chips, ince and cookles will be served throughout the juice and cookles will be served throughout bring movie, or if you and your family would like to bring movie, or if you and your family welcome too.



For More Information Call 785-239-9441



# Command Spouse Training Seminar

February 11<sup>th</sup> & 12<sup>th</sup>, 0900-1200 FREE Childcare is available with early registration Call ACS to register 239-9435

- A Day In The Life Of
- Integration into the Company
- Roles and Responsibilities

- Crisis and Coping
- Customs and Courtesies
- Q&A Panel

# Kansas Concealed Carry Handgun Licensing Course

Who: Any Pale Rider or Pale Rider family member 21 or older (see accompanying flyer for further details about eligibility). Sponsored by the Dickinson County Sheriff Reserves.

What: The full KS CCH licensing course and qualification at a discounted rate. YOU WILL BE FULLY LICENSED TO CARRY IN 31 STATES!

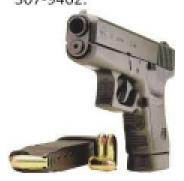
When: 25 slots available for Saturday, 2 FEB 13 and 25 slots available for Sunday, 3 FEB 13. Both courses are 0800 to 1700. Slots will be filled on a first come first serve basis.

Where: DKSO Range, 1181 2350 Ave; Abilene, KS

Why: For personal, family and public protection. This is also an opportunity for further personal development.

Cost: \$80 for the course (SPECIAL PALE RIDER DISCOUNTED RATE), including lunch. \$100 permit fee for the KS Attorney General and \$32.50 fee for the County Sheriff. Total cost is \$212.50.

POC: For further information contact CPT Nick Blunt at <u>nicholas.d.blunt.mil@mail.mil</u> or (785) 307-9462.







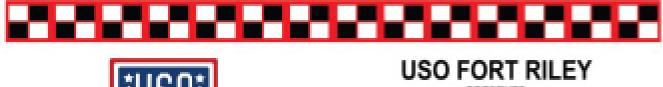
#### USO Fort Riley

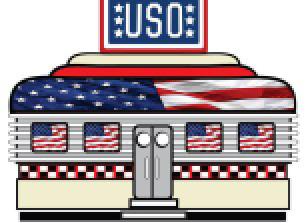


#### No Dough Dinners

- All are 5-6:30 p.m., Bldg. 7856 Drum Street, Custer Hill loop, unless otherwise noted:
- Dec. 13, 2012
- 2013 dinners move to 2 days before pay day
  - \* Jan. 11 & Feb. 13 "No Dough Dinner lite" at the <u>USO Center on Trooper Drive</u>
  - Jan. 30 & Feb. 27; March 13 & 28

Latest info & details at <u>www.facebook.com/usoftriley</u>





PRESENTS

# NO DOUGH DINNERS!

USO is helping you to stretch your dollars by providing

# FREE DINNER!

For up to 300 Troops and families just before payday!

#### 2013 No Dough Dinner Dates

January 12 & February 13 are No Dough Dinner Life Events

January: 30

February: 28

March: 13 & 28

April: 11 & 29

May: 13 & 29

June: 12 & 27

July: 11 & 30

August: 13 & 28

September: 11 & 27

October: 11 & 30

November: \*13 \*Tust one dinner scheduled due to Thankspining

December: "11 "Just one dinner scheduled due to Christmas & New Year holidays.

For details, please call 785-240-5326 or via e-mail at usofortriley@uso.org. For upcoming dinner menus, check us out on www.facebook.com/usoftriley.

