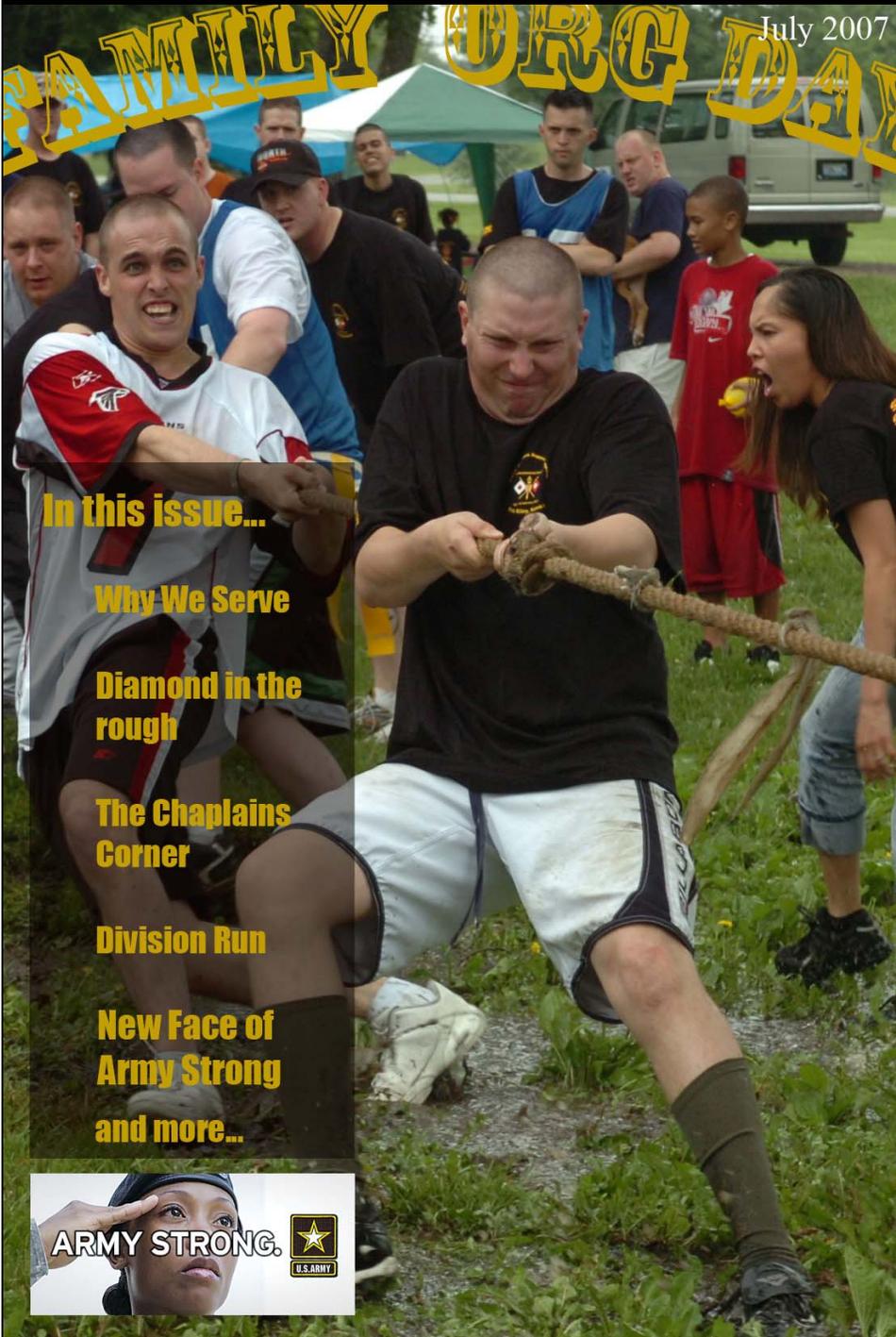


The Sustainment Times

Published by the 1st Sustainment Brigade Public Affairs Office

July 2007



In this issue...

Why We Serve

Diamond in the rough

The Chaplains Corner

Division Run

New Face of Army Strong and more...



Farewell to 15th Fin. Det. Pg. 6

L'ILLUSTRATION



LES PETITS DE U - INDEPENDENCE DAY - A PARIS

1 ID

**1
9
1
7**

Pg. 3



Family Fun Run Pg. 8

Commander's Corner

Col. Kevin G. O'Connell, Commander of the 1st Sustainment Brigade

First Sustainment Brigade Family,

Welcome to the July edition of the Sustainment Times. First of all, I'd like to thank SSG Maude of our Brigade PAO office on putting together an outstanding newsletter. It has been noticed. Keeping up our verbal and written communication while we're here at Fort Riley and in Iraq will be a key part of our success. I'd also like to welcome everybody back from block leave that many enjoyed in late June. Everyone got back safely and responsibly and I appreciate that.

As you well know, we're closing within two months of our deployment to Iraq. Many have had one or more deployments already and a good number are going for the first time. That means the old hands need to continue a strong Pre-deployment training focus and help the less-experienced do the most they can right now before we head out. Even though we were planning on leaving mid-July and now have been shifted to September there is still a lot of valuable training taking place. Continue to make that a priority in the weeks to come. This will pay huge dividends as we perform a huge sustainment mission in Iraq. We're still adding personnel, recently picking up human resources and financial management missions when we're deployed so the brigade is a huge animal and growing almost daily. As the old saying goes, we will fight like we train, so train hard and we'll see the value later on.

Also, let me applaud the great work for taking care of our families. The FRG's are up and running, the chaplains are doing Strong Bonds Retreats. We enjoyed a successful

See Comments, Pg. 14



Col O'Connell fills in for MG Ham at the Army's birthday party hosted by the Post Museum. The Army turned 232 years old on June 14, 2007.

Ft. Riley celebrates the Army's 232nd Birthday

By Anna Staatz

Ft. Riley Post Staff Writer

Fort Riley Soldiers, Family and area community members took a few moments June 14 to commemorate the Army's 232nd birthday, complete with cake and a historical review with period uniforms.

"From the American Revolution to the Global War on Terrorism, American Soldiers have always been willing to put their boots on the ground and fight for the freedoms and the way of life we enjoy," said Col. Kevin O'Connell, commander of the 1st Sustainment Brigade. O'Connell delivered remarks at the brief ceremony on behalf of Maj. Gen. Carter Ham, commanding general of the 1st Infantry Division and Fort Riley, who was called away on emergency leave.

A history of the Army was read, commemorating past conflicts in which American Soldiers fought. Uniforms from the wars were displayed by members of the 3rd Heavy Brigade Combat Team.

O'Connell also asked the audience to keep today's Soldiers serving overseas in their thoughts.

"These Soldiers are still volunteering to do the heavy lifting for our nation and some pay the ultimate sacrifice to defend America," O'Connell said. "Soldiers are reenlisting in record numbers because they believe their service is making a positive difference in the world and it truly is."

O'Connell and Pvt. Lonnie Worley, Fort Riley's youngest Soldier, cut the birthday cake served to guests with a saber offered by the Commanding General's Mounted Color Guard.

1ST INFANTRY DIVISION BAND



August 23
7 p.m.
Stage Band
Heade Heights playground,
Jackson Avenue
Custer Hill, Fort Riley
...

Sept. 13
7 p.m.
Concert Band
Drumfire Park,
Schofield Circle
Main Post, Fort Riley

CG'S SUMMER CONCERT SERIES

All concerts are free and open to the public. Bring your lawn chairs and blankets and enjoy the music.

Update on the Brigade Song

Since no one submitted a suggestion for the new 1st Sustainment Brigade song, CSM Cardoza has declared that his song is the winner and thus, HE will claim the prize.



Go ahead, make my day!

CSM Cardoza challenges anyone to knock him off.

CSM Time

CSM Frank G. Cardoza

I would like to start this months newsletter by welcoming everybody back from their block leave, I trust that everybody had a wonderful, restful and safe time off and that everybody is ready to continue preparing for our future deployment.

As you are aware, we will be breaking off for two days during the first week of July in celebration of our Independence Day. I can not emphasize enough on safety issues. The 4th of July is one of the deadliest holidays of the year; please remain alert and aware of your surroundings at all times. Remember that drinking and driving can kill and will not be tolerated in this command. Another danger to avoid is Drinking and Swimming. Swimming by it self can prove challenging enough, but when you throw alcohol on top of it, it can easily turn deadly! Be sure to supervise your Family and guests as well; inform them of the dangers and everyone will have a safe and fun time. Also remember to swim in authorized areas only.

See CSM on Pg. 14



The Big Red 1

PARIS



July 4, 1917

1917 marks the beginning of the First Infantry Division, better known as The Big Red One. General John (Blackjack) Pershing arrived in France with the first American Expeditionary Force and on the 4th of July, the 2nd Battalion, 16th Infantry, paraded through the streets of Paris to bolster the sagging French spirits. At Lafayette's tomb, one of General Pershing's staff uttered the famous



words, "Lafayette, we are here!" Two days later, July 6, the First Expeditionary Division was renamed the First Infantry Division.

The fighting first lead the way for multi-national troops in World War One, winning battles at Cantigny, Soissons, and the Argonne Forest.



A day of fun for the whole Family at the first,

Sustainment Brigade Org Day

Flag football was just one of the many sporting events held at Org Day.



Staff Sgt. Nimley attempts an outside sweep as Master Sgt. Beane blocks...

By Kimberly Howard

Contributing writer

I have always viewed Organizational Days and similar events to be “mandatory fun.” I generally try to avoid them, and when I woke up to pouring rain on June 13 a thousand excuses came to my mind of why I shouldn’t haul my kids all the way out to the far side of Ft. Riley. I was making little jokes under my breath about the fact that the unit was about to go to war, but didn’t have a rain plan for a picnic.

Ultimately guilt gave in, and I found myself on my way to McCormick Park. I must say it started off well—our first event was letting my daughters dunk COL O’Connell in the dunking booth. From there things only improved.

See Org Day on Pg. 9





GREAT FOOD

FUN 4 ALL



MUSIC &

GAMES



Special Troops Battalion Voice

Lt. Col. Robert D. Brem, Commander of the Special Troops Battalion, 1st Sustainment Brigade

Welcome back!

I am happy to see that everyone is back and had a good time off during block leave. There will be one additional time for leave prior to deployment so if you have use it or lose it days you may want to take advantage of this opportunity.

As the clock moves forward, we must focus our attention on training, Family readiness and last minute details to insure a smooth and safe transition into theater.

We will conduct some mandatory training here at Fort Riley, under relatively mild weather conditions, saving ourselves a number of days in Kuwait. There will also be additional training that will further hone your war fighting skills.

This additional time will also allow you the opportunity to transition your children into school, move family members if need be and prepare legal documents, etc. Use your time wisely.

You all are working hard and it is much appreciated. The mission ahead is a big mission and it will need the expertise and commitment of Americas finest Soldiers and Families. Keep up the good work.

Lt. Col. Robert Brem



Newly promoted Capt. Stephen Kildow with Lt. Col. Brem.

F Detachment, 15th Finance ready to deploy



Lt. Col. Brem addressing the 15th Finance Det. Soldiers.

By Anna Staatz

Ft. Riley Post Staff Writer

Just 20 Soldiers stood in formation at the deployment ceremony for F Detachment, 15th Finance Battalion, but Lt. Col. Robert Brem, Commander of the Special Troops Battalion, 1st Sustainment Brigade, 1st Infantry Division, said their impact would be great.

The detachment will serve several functions while deployed, including supporting the monetary needs of Soldiers in Iraq – such as assisting with cashing checks and other support; paying government contracts for commanders in theater and helping nurture the Iraqi dinar.

“They will play an absolutely essential but often unseen role on the battlefields of Iraq,” Brem said, noting the detachment would be responsible for the allocation of millions of dollars on any given day during their stay in Iraq.

Capt. Chris Wurst, detachment commander, said the role of nurturing the Iraqi dinar would be important in helping the country’s economy.

Instead of paying Iraqi contract workers in American dollars, the detachment would work towards transitioning into paying in dinars. The deployment, expected to last about 15 months, is Wurst’s second tour in Iraq, but it is the first for other Soldiers in the detachment.

“I hope they understand how important they are in helping the Iraqis, civilians, and Soldiers,” Wurst said.

For 2nd Lt. Philip Kaberline and his wife Erin, the deployment will be unique for several reasons. The deployment is Kaberline’s first tour, but something he is looking forward to.

“I’ve spent many long nights awake with the anxiety of getting ready to go, and I’m ready to get there and go to work,” he said.



Erin said they had prepped for the deployment by talking – a lot – about different situations they might face. During Phillip’s absence, she will give birth to their first child.

See 15th Finance on Pg. 14

Sustain to Victory

From the Company Commander

Capt. Adena J. Weiser, Commander of HHC, 1st Sustainment Brigade



Spc. Robert Pendlay swears to uphold the Constitution of the United States at his re-enlistment ceremony.

July events

Training

- 9-27 JULY BN DIGEX
- 10 JULY M2/M249 RANGE
- 16-20 JULY BDE STAFF EX
- 25-26 JULY BN CONVOY LFX

Local

- JULY 4, HUTCHFEST 2007, HUTCHINSON, KS
- JULY 4, SUMMERFEST 2007 MAIZE, KS
- JULY 14, FORT HARKER DAYS, KANAPOLIS, KS
- JULY 14, SOLDIER FAIR PARADE, SOLDIER, KS
- JULY 14, .LITTLE APPLE JAZZ FESTIVAL CITY PARK, MANHATTAN, KS
- JULY 28, CZECHFEST, WILSON, KS



Spc. Robert Pendlay shares the moment with his family.

Physical Training "Tip of the Month"

1st Sgt. James C. Snowden of HHC, 1st Sustainment Brigade

Guys tend to abandon the push-up for the bench press sometime around puberty. Which is why you usually have to wait in line at the gym for a bench, but there's always plenty of floor space for the taking. Call it a natural rite of passage. After all, doesn't everybody agree that pressing a plate-loaded bar off your chest is far more manly—and effective—than pushing your body away from the floor?

"Think again! The push-up and the bench press both work your chest, shoulders, and triceps, but the push-up also trains your abdominals, lower back, upper back, and glutes."

Besides the classic push-up, we've found six variations (elevated push-up, wide-arm push-up, diamond push-up, basketball push-up, three point push-up, and deep push-up) that will help you reach almost any goal—whether you want a stronger core, a leaner midsection, or, yes, a bigger chest. And the best part? No gym—or spotter—is required.

MSG Robert E. Beane



HHC, Family Readiness Group Corner

Zamary Rosario, HHC Family Readiness Group Leader

July Birthdays

- SFC JOHNSON, REGINALD
- CW4 LESTER, DARREN LAMONTE, WRIGH
- SFC CLARK, LADANNA ROCHELLE
- MSG EBLEN, THOMAS MARTIN
- SFC VANDEWOESTYNE, MARK ANTHONY
- SSG SIMMONS, LAYVONDA KAY
- MSG GRIFFIN, IAN CHRISTOPHER
- SFC MCNIGHT, ERIK SCOTT
- SGT BARTEE, DAPHNE MICHELLE

See Birthdays on Pg. 16

B.O.S.S. events for July

- 7 Gaming Tournament Bldg 8067
- Day Trip to Arts in the Park Man. Jazz Fest
- 10 Brigade BOSS Meeting @ company conference room
- 11 Post BOSS Meeting @ Bldg 253(MWR bldg)
- 20 Battle of the Bands (need volunteers)
- 21 10k,5k,2k Prairie Run (need 12 volunteers)
- 25 Post BOSS Meeting Ft. Riley Conference Center
- 28 Car Wash (need volunteers)



Family Fun Run



Soldier on the Street

We asked Soldiers the following question: What did you enjoy most about the “Family Org Day?”



CW3 Russell Campbell, Command Food Service Technician “I

enjoyed the opportunity to cook and feed everyone.”



Staff Sgt. Sonia Tapia, Support Operations “The tug of war, because it brought out the beast on everyone. I love nothing more than to see the camaraderie in between everyone and the spirit of the unit.”



Spc. Cassandra McKinney, Human Resources Operations Cell “Football, because I almost ran a touchdown”

Org Day Continued from Pg. 4

I was thoroughly impressed by the whole event. Rain or no rain, I saw no griping Families or Soldiers. The playgrounds and inflatable toys gave the kids plenty to do, and it was fun to hear the results of the various competitions broadcast over the P.A. system and hear the corresponding groans.

The piece de resistance was the food. I expected greasy hamburgers fried to a crisp and slimy hotdogs. Instead there were large juicy burgers, bratwurst, and (the best) shish kabobs along with all the fixings.

I was truly sorry when it was time to leave. I had to go early because my son decided to take a mud bath. I didn’t get to see my husband get dunked (although I did sponsor my daughters’ efforts to make sure their dad was soaked), but I do understand that my husband followed in our son’s footsteps by falling into a large mud puddle during the tug of war.



A huge debt of gratitude goes out to all of those who worked so hard to create such a special day for the Soldiers and their Families—even under less than ideal weather circumstances.

It was a pleasure to get to see the 1st Sustainment Brigade Sustain to Victory!





Country singer Chely Wright pays a visit to Ft. Riley

Diamond in the rough

By Pfc. Andrea Merritt

1st Sustainment Brigade PAO

Many parents may believe they have the most beautiful baby in the world, but only one couple has earned the bragging rights to having the most beautiful baby in Kansas.

Averi Velez, the 9-month old daughter of Marla and Sgt. Anthony Velez, a training noncommissioned officer with the 24th Transportation Company who deployed in late April, won the title of Overall Supreme Sweepstakes Queen in the Kansas State Our Diamond Miss Pageant June 2 in McPherson, KS.

In the competition, which had four divisions, the young pageant princess crawled away with the titles of State Beautiful Baby Queen and World of Babies runner-up in addition to Overall Supreme Sweepstakes Queen.

Averi's first glimpse of pageant life began April 22, exactly one week before her father deployed.

"I just did it for fun really. I was just kind of bored and I met with a pageant leader in Junction City and she talked me into doing (the local pageant,)" Marla said.

She admits her husband wasn't too thrilled about the pageant at first.

she modeled a party dress, swimwear, sleepwear and sportswear.

During the pageant, competitors were judged on overall appearance, personality, presentation and choice of garment.

"She had so much personality up there. She kept clapping, she waved, she smiled. She even played with the other babies in between," Marla said.

The pageant group paid Averi's entry fees for the competition and it proved to be a worthwhile investment when she won.

"I just wanted her to do one and have her dad walk her out," said Marla. "She keeps doing so well. She keeps advancing."



Averi's dad deployed a week after she won her first pageant, but he stayed posted on her progress via telephone.

"He knew we were going (to state.) He called and asked how she did, I told him and he was very excited. He told everybody," Marla said. "I told some of the other spouses and they already knew because their husbands told them."



SSG Lori Enman's son Carl poses with county western singer Chely Wright at a recent visit to Ft. Riley. The singer performed in Junction City at a free concert in the park.

Now, after winning the local and the state competitions, Averi is on her way to nationals, which is scheduled for July 21 in Chickasha, Okla. She will have a chance to win a crown, banner, trophy and a \$1,000 savings bond.

Averi will have much support from her mother and older brother as well as from her father, who will be rooting for her from a distance.

"It keeps me busy and my kids make me happy so it really gives me something to look forward to," Marla concluded.



JUNE 14, 2007



Col. O'Connell looks on as the Bulldog Brigade passes by

THE FIRST INFANTRY DIVISION RUN



Sustain to Victory

We hold these truths

Why

Independence Day is the national holiday of the United States of America commemorating the signing of the Declaration of Independence by the Continental Congress on July 4, 1776, in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

At the time of the signing the US consisted of 13 colonies under the rule of England's King George III. There was growing unrest in the colonies concerning the taxes that had to be paid to England. This was commonly referred to as "Taxation without Representation" as the colonists did not have any representation in the English Parliament and had no say in what went on. As the unrest grew in the colonies, King George sent extra troops to help control any rebellion. In 1774 the 13 colonies sent delegates to Philadelphia Pennsylvania to form the First Continental Congress. The delegates were unhappy with England, but were not yet ready to declare war.

In April 1775 as the King's troops advanced on Concord Massachusetts Paul Revere would sound the alarm that "The British are coming, the British are coming" as he rode his horse through the late

night streets. The battle of Concord and its "shot heard round the world" would mark the unofficial beginning of the colonies war for Independence.

The following May the colonies again sent delegates to the Second Continental Congress. For almost a year the congress tried to work out its differences with England, again without formally declaring war.



We

By June 1776 their efforts had become hopeless and a committee was formed to compose a formal declaration of independence. Headed by Thomas Jefferson, the committee included John Adams, Benjamin Franklin, Philip Livingston and Roger Sherman. Thomas Jefferson was chosen to write the first draft which was presented to the congress on June 28.

After various changes a vote was taken late in the afternoon of July 4th. Of the 13 colonies, 9 voted in favor of the Declaration, 2 - Pennsylvania and South Carolina voted No, Delaware undecided and New York abstained.

The following day copies of the Declaration were distributed. The first newspaper to print the Declaration was the Pennsylvania Evening Post on July 6, 1776. On July 8th the Declaration had its first public reading in Philadelphia's Independence Square. Twice that day the Declaration was read to cheering crowds and pealing church bells. Even the bell in Independence Hall was rung. The "Province Bell" would later be renamed "Liberty Bell" after its inscription -

Proclaim Liberty Throughout All the Land Unto All the Inhabitants Thereof

And although the signing of the Declaration was not completed until August, the 4th of July has been accepted as the official anniversary of United States independence. The first Independence Day celebration took

place the following year - July 4 1777. By the early 1800s the traditions of parades, picnics, and fireworks were established

as the way to celebrate America's birthday, were established as the way to celebrate America's birthday.



Serve

..to be self-evident,

Chaplains Corner

Maj. Terrence E. Hayes, 1st Sustainment Brigade Chaplain

As the deployment date gets closer, we remember we are trying to take a big group of people and move them to a desert. The same thing happened a long time ago. The Lord told Moses in the book of Exodus to do the same thing, only on a much bigger scale. The nation of Israel left Egypt, crossed a big desert area and eventually entered the Promised Land; It wasn't easy. However, right in the middle of their camp was a small tent, the Tabernacle where God chose to dwell. He dwelt with his people, in the desert and like Israel, he will dwell there with us and our Families.



Finally, we are available for marriage counseling, family counseling – any way we can be of spiritual help for you and your family. In Iraq chaplains will be offering a variety of spiritual programs from chapel services, Bible studies, and relationship building. Those same programs are available here at Fort Riley. Our new Rear Detachment Chaplain, CH (LTC) Quigg is already here and will be a fine addition to help families here at Fort Riley while we are gone. Please don't hesitate to contact him after we leave.

May the Lord sustain and encourage you and yours. God bless you.

Chaplain Terry Hayes

ment and better prepare for deployment. Also, there are a fair amount of incoming soldiers to further strengthen our company. The most recent is 2LT Peter Wilcox. Please take the time to welcome him into the company.

“Now it is time to get back to work to prepare for this quickly arriving deployment.”

We had some exciting happenings around the company... especially for SGT Hollywood Morales. He was recently picked to be the focus of an Army Strong campaign video. A camera crew followed him around for a few days to get the feel of what it is like to be a signaller in today's modern Army. Therefore, if you see him around, congratulate him and ask for his autograph.

Finally, have a great month of July. Remember to have fun in everything you do, but also remember to be safe.

Capt. Rubin R. Neypes

To help prepare for our deployment, Chaplain Van Hook of the 1ST STB is offering two retreats. The first is the Strong Bonds Family Retreat, 18-19 August. It will be conducted at the Holiday Inn in Salina. They have large, clean rooms, and a pool with a long slide. It's about an hour from Ft. Riley. Units will be receiving information for sign up. Secondly, Chaplain Van Hook will lead a singles retreat called Pick a Partner, at the same hotel, 1-2 September. It will be a great place for a singles retreat. Contact Chaplain (CPT) Van Hook or his assistant, SPC Lucas to sign up. His office is in the STB headquarters.





1st Sustainment Brigade

Signal Company Newsletter

Strength and Honor!

Greetings WARBIRDS!

I certainly hope you all had an excellent block leave. It is always important to spend quality time with your family and take care of the home front. The 4th of July this month is another great opportunity. However, always keep safety in mind, especially when dealing with fireworks.

Now it is time to get back to work to prepare for this quickly arriving deployment. There are some big things planned for the company in the coming months. We have a large DIGEX planned to work with our equip-

Para los Hispanos, the newest face of Army Strong

By Pfc. Andrea Merritt

1st Sustainment Brigade PAO

Last summer, a large production crew invaded Fort Riley and used hundreds of its Soldiers to film commercials to introduce the Army's newest ad campaign and slogan- Army Strong.

June 28, almost a year after the launch, a much smaller crew

See Army Strong on Pg. 16

Rear D

Capt. Nicole Harrell

Hello All

I wanted to remind you to place special emphasis on the notification procedures we have laid out for the families. There is a report that a local FRG member (in another brigade) was notified by someone in a Class A uniform and asked for personal information on the wife and deployed soldier, to include banking information, stating that the soldier was WIA. Yes, he had the uniform right but the spouse did not fall for it because she called the rear det to confirm and it was not true. At no time will we come and ask you for information we already have. Do not give out your information to anyone and consider everyone suspect, use the information we gave you to combat this and if it does not sound right most likely it isn't. If you should find yourself in a position such as this please exercise safety and call the local police.

Thank you

CPT Nicole Harrell

CSM Continued from Pg. 3

Be cautious when handling fireworks. Make sure that you have a fire extinguisher or a bucket of water available should a fire break out. Insure that you are in an authorized area while setting them off. Monitor minors closely; fireworks are not toys. For those of you that live in Fort Riley, fireworks are not authorized on post, but there will be firework displays in the surrounding communities.

Each one of you is important to our mission. Have fun! Be safe!

Sustain to Victory!

CSN Frank Cardoza

15th Fin. Continued from Pg. 6

"I'm very lucky that my mom and dad live in Junction City, so they will be here with me," she said. Phillip's parents reside in nearby Topeka.

The couple prepared for their daughter's early months by recording Phillip reading children's books, so she would know his voice, Erin said.



Jamie Oberg of Channel 49 News interviews a Soldier and his Family.

Comments Continued from Pg. 2

Organizational Day down at McAllister Park in June. In addition to that, ground is being broken on July 2 for our new Brigade, Battalion Headquarters, COFs and motor pools down on Trooper Drive, just down from the PX. Those facilities should be complete by the time we redeploy which is another reason to come back.

Finally, as new people come in don't forget the importance of sponsorship. It can be a bewildering experience coming to a new post, and a good sponsor can make all the difference. And I can't close without mentioning safety. The summer is upon us. Continue your vigilance is promoting safety Don't mix drinking with driving or swimming, boating or motorcycles. If you're out enjoying fireworks, remember those can be out of hand quickly, so stay alert when involved in these activities.

It's an honor to be your commander. Keep up your hard work and enjoy the Fourth of July holiday!

Family Photo Day

When you're offered a deal that seems too good to be true, it probably is. But as a heartfelt thank you to the soldiers and families of The Big Red One, professional studio photographer Jim Turner of Lindsborg, Kansas, is offering a deal both amazing and true: free family photos.

On Thursday, July 12, Turner will set up a studio at Fort Riley at the 1st STB, Bldg 7054. There he will take family and individual portraits free of charge for troops set to deploy soon. There are no sitting times. First come first served.

All portraits that Turner takes that day will be posted to a website. The pictures can be reviewed by the individuals and families within a day after they are taken.

Then Turner will arrange to give each individual or family two free 4x6 prints of their choice.

An unlimited number of additional photographs may be ordered from Turner at a huge discount. For example, 8- by 10-inch portraits will be \$1.93. Both large and small sizes will be available.

A Navy veteran, Turner has volunteered his time and services "to thank soldiers and their families for their dedication to their -- and our -- country." He is a successful studio photographer of 35 years' experience with headquarters in the town of Lindsborg, an hour's drive away in central Kansas just south of the intersection of I-70 and I-135.

The website at which the photographs will be available for viewing and ordering is:

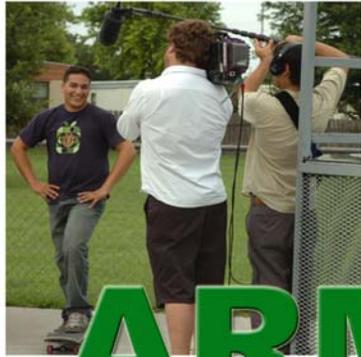
<http://acionline.com/turner.html>

No password necessary.

CW3 Russell Campbell



THE NEW FACE OF....



ARMY STRONG

Para los Hispanos



Sustain to Victory

Birthdays Continued from Pg. 8

SPC MEDFORD, GERALD EDWARD
 SSG SASSER, JAMES WILLIAM
 SFC CARROLL, YOLANDA NASHALE
 SFC SICKELS, SCOTT ALAN
 SSG DUDLEY, MARCUS CHARLES
 SSG NIMLEY, ISAAC NAH
 CPT MALCOLM, MARK WILLIAM
 SPC VICENTE, RODNEY CERDON
 SGT DIDIER, SHERI AMBER
 SGT HERNANDEZ, ISRAEL
 SPC MCWILLIAMS, MISTY MICHELLE
 SPC PENDLAY, ROBERT LAWERANCE
 CPT WEST, TARA K
 SGT ALCAIDE, JESSICA LARUE
 SGT MORENO, ANGELINA PROVENCIO
 SPC GRIFFIN, SETH STEVEN
 WO1 MORRIS, BRANDON SCOTT
 SGT THOMPSON, DENNISUR ROSAN
 SGT O'DONNELL, JONATHAN EDWARD
 PFC HORN, AMELIA RENEE
 SPC GREGORY, THOMAS PAUL
 SPC YOUNG, CHRISTOPHER AUSTIN
 PFC MORRIS, LISA MARIE
 SPC CARY, ROBERT LEE
 SGT COPELAND, ERIC JAMES
 SPC HARMON, ERIC M
 PFC SMITH, BRITTANY LEIGH
 PFC MCCLAIN, DANIELE DAVION

Army Strong Continued from Pg. 13

returned to Fort Riley to film another Army Strong ad, which will be featured on goarmy.com.

Sgt. Frank Morales, a signal support systems specialist with the 1st Signal Network Support, 1st Sustainment Brigade, was chosen from about 20 candidates to feature in the ad, which will be the first Spanish ad to appear on the site.

"About two years ago we launched the for parents section of our website. We started out with three videos with

we wanted to add a Hispanic profile. It just took us a while to find the right candidate," said Suzanne Nagel, goarmy.com program manager with the Army Accessions Command

In order to feature in the ad, candidates had to be young, meet height and weight requirements, be physically fit and not have any pending UCMJ actions. Also, candidates and their parents had to be bilingual, speak both Spanish and English.

"We were looking for somebody the command felt would be a good representative for the Army because, ultimately, anybody who appears in a commercial for goarmy.com has to be a good role model and a good spokesperson for the Army," Nagel said.

"Sgt. Morales was recommended by his command along with several other people. I don't think we had a bad candidate, there was just something about his story and his parents," Nagel said.

Morales, a native of Puerto Rico, left home and joined the Army when he was 19. He has been stationed in Germany and served a tour in Iraq in 2004. Now he is preparing for another deployment, which is scheduled for September.

"I love the Army and if I can show people what it is and help somebody make a decision to join, that's good," Morales said. "I have a lot of pride, not just in the uniform, but in my ethnic background. I really like to represent the Hispanic community as a good example."

The ad was shot to depict a simple day in the life of a Soldier. There were no helicopters, Soldiers jumping out of airplanes or anything that would appear in a cliché Army commercial.

"I actually thought it would be more of a planned out thing instead of me expressing myself and answering questions. I thought there would be more of a script," Morales said.

The crew filmed Morales as he conducted physical training with his unit, set up an antenna, conducted roll-over training, ate in 3rd Brigade's dining facility, skateboarded in a park, and spent time with his wife and daughter.

"In the end we, just want the real story so we can capture who he is and the audience can see who he is," said Jose Montenegro, director of client services. Montenegro oversees the Hispanic online communications for the Army.

"I'm very happy with the information we are getting and the beauty of it is it's not so planned out. It's reality so it makes it a lot easier," Montenegro said.

Reality really hit when the team interviewed Alicia Morales, Morales' wife. She sat on a swing as her husband and daughter played in the background. She shed a few tears as she recalled how things were when her husband left for Iraq.

"I was tearing up because they were asking how it was when he went to Iraq. When they went to Iraq, the same day, I found out I was pregnant, so it was nerve wracking," Alicia said.

"It's not only because he was in Iraq and it's a dangerous place, it's because I was pregnant and you get lonely and sad," Alicia said. "If it wasn't for my family and his family, I don't know what I would have done."

After a 15-hour day, the group wrapped the shoot and ended their day.

