

SHOWING APPRECIATION



Shandi Dix | POST  
Country music artist Wade Bowen and his band perform June 23 during the 2011 94.5 Country Stampede at Tuttle Creek State Park, Manhattan. Bowen was one of 19 artists performing at this year's festival. Other artists and bands performing included Eric Church, Nikky Gritty Dirt Band, Joe Nichols, Lady Antebellum, Jerrod Niemann, Blake Shelton, Brad Paisley, Colin Raye and Sawyer Brown. According to Country Stampede CEO Wayne Rouse, festival officials gave out about 24,000 free tickets this year to military members for Military Appreciation Day June 26. "We do it to say 'thank you' for the sacrifices our Soldiers and their Families make and have made so that we may enjoy the freedoms we have," Rouse said about Military Appreciation Day. "We also want to say 'thank you' to the Families and Soldiers that relocate to Fort Riley and become part of our great community."



Shandi Dix | POST  
Pottawattamie County Sheriff's Department officers Andrew Couchman, far left, Phil Soelter, second from left, and Spc. Charles Girlinghouse, 287th MP Co., 97th MP Bn., third from left, watch over the crowd attending the 2011 94.5 Country Stampede June 23 at Tuttle Creek State Park in Manhattan.

## DES provides patrol support at recent Country Stampede

By Shandi Dix  
1ST INF. DIV. POST

Fort Riley's Directorate of Emergency Services provides courtesy patrols during large community events in which Soldiers and Family members participate.

During the 94.5 Country Stampede, June 23 to 26, in Manhattan, five to seven Department of the Army civilian law enforcement officers and 97th Military Police Battalion Soldiers conducted the courtesy patrols at each evening's festivities, while partnering with the Riley County Police Department and Pottawattamie County Sheriff's Department.

"The purpose is to be a uniform presence to remind Soldiers of their duty to behave

while still having a fun time," said Sgt. Brian Hornaday, Fort Riley Police Department. "It also provides the Riley County Police Department and Pottawattamie County Sheriff's Department an alternative to arresting Soldiers for minor infractions by releasing them to us for transport back to the installation. Not all Soldiers who are arrested go to jail because of our courtesy patrols. Most of the walking patrols in and around the venue are made up of at least one Fort Riley police officer. This is a proactive community policing approach to prevent Soldiers from having to face civil or criminal penalties off of the installation."

DES law enforcement officers — civilian and Soldiers — have conducted these patrols

for more than five years.

The Fort Riley officers also assist the partnering civilian police as military liaisons, Hornaday said.

"In the past, the courtesy patrols have been instrumental in preventing Soldiers from being charged with crimes in the civilian court system," Hornaday said. "If the courtesy patrols can be proactive in identifying a Soldier or Soldiers who are behaving inappropriately, they can stop the behavior, thus preventing any further negative reflection upon them."

Civilian and Soldier officers also conduct courtesy patrols during the annual Sundown Salute event in Junction City, which is July 1 to 4 this year.

HOUSE  
FILL AD

COMMUNITY CORNER

## Commander encourages Families to be safe, enjoy July 4 activities

By Col. Kevin Brown  
GARRISON COMMANDER

Fourth of July is a time to celebrate our nation's independence. Often this holiday goes hand in hand with fireworks. While fireworks are a fun and traditional way to celebrate the Fourth, I want to remind all our Fort Riley residents that they are not allowed on post.

Additionally, selling, manufacturing, possessing or discharging pyrotechnics, explosives or incendiary devices, which includes fireworks, is not allowed. Besides just setting off fireworks, this means you cannot even possess fireworks at your home or in your car while on post.

For more information about fireworks safety and rules on Fort Riley, call the Fort Riley Fire and Emergency Services at 785-239-4258 or visit their Web site at <http://www.riley.army.mil/UnitPage.aspx?unit=DES.Fire>.

For those who live outside our gates in the Central Flint Hills Region, should investigate their city or county's local regu-

lations about fireworks. You can do so by calling the local law enforcement office.

If you plan to use fireworks this Fourth of July, please ensure you keep safety first.

The following are some tips for using consumer fireworks safely:

- Never light fireworks indoors or near a dry grassy area.
- Always have a bucket of water and/or a fire extinguisher nearby.
- Do not wear loose clothing while using fireworks.
- Stand several feet away from lit fireworks.
- If a device does not go off, do not stand over to investigate it. Put it out with water and dispose of it.
- Always read the directions and warning labels on fireworks.
- Supervise children around fireworks at all times.



Col. Brown

fireworks safety, visit [www.usfa.dhs.gov](http://www.usfa.dhs.gov).

Perhaps the safest route to enjoy fireworks is to attend one of many local fireworks displays put on by trained professionals in the Central Flint Hills Region. Among them are:

**Sundown Salute**  
» Junction City  
» 10 p.m. July 4

**Thunder Over Manhattan**  
» CCo Park  
» Dark, July 4

**Warnego fireworks**  
» Warnego Rec Complex  
» 10 p.m. July 4

Fireworks are as much a part of the Fourth of July as the many other traditions of picnics, parades and pool parties, but we can celebrate our nation's freedom in a safe, responsible way. Please keep these tips in mind when you celebrate the Fourth of July holiday.

*If you would like to comment on this article, or suggest a topic to be covered in the Community Corner, email [rile.post.newspaper@comus.army.mil](mailto:rile.post.newspaper@comus.army.mil).*

## Home wanted

Ranger

Ranger is a male German shepherd mix. He is about 3 years old. He's not neutered, but he is house trained.

Ranger seems a little timid when he first meets people, but he seems to be friendly. He appears to be get along with other dogs, but it is unsure if he gets along with cats.

Those who are considering adopting Ranger but have other pets in the home should bring their other pets into the Stray Facility to see if they're compatible with Ranger.



Fort Riley Stray Facility, Building 226 Custer Ave., Main Post  
Noon to 4 p.m., Monday through Friday  
785-239-6183