



Dancers entertain at post celebration

Fort Riley observes Asian Pacific American Heritage Month.

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Fort Riley Post



Softball teams begin play Page 9

Thursday, May 27, 2004

America's Warfighting Center

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Around The Army

Fort Hood:

The Sentinel reported May 20, that Lt. Gen. Thomas Metz, former commanding general at Fort Riley, helped unfurl the flag of the Multi-National Corps Iraq May 15. Metz will command the new unit and take a lead role in improving combat tactics for U.S. forces in Iraq.

For more about this story and other Fort Hood news, visit www.militarynews.com/sentinel on the Internet.

Korea:

The Pacific edition of Stars and Stripes reported May 25, that Soldiers of the 2nd Infantry Division who are headed to Iraq will not lose their \$300 monthly Assignment Incentive Pay bonus while deployed.

Army officials announced the AIP program in March, offering an additional \$300 per month for Soldiers who volunteered to extend their tours in South Korea by 12 months. Soldiers had a 60-day window, from March 12 to May 12, to sign up for the program. "Approximately 8,000 from across the peninsula" took advantage of the offer," Manksie said.

For more about this story and other U.S. military news in the Pacific and European theaters, visit www.estripes.com/ on the Internet.

Fort Rucker:

The Army Flier reported May 24, that the post had created a new section of marine military police to patrol Lake Tholoco in order to help keep on post water enthusiasts safe. "The marine patrol section of the military police has been created to assist game law enforcement officers in patrolling the lake," said Capt. John Breen, deputy provost marshal, Directorate of Public Safety.

The Marine Patrol has been patrolling the lake since May 1, however, the program was expected to be in full swing May 29, with the opening of Lake Tholoco's West Beach.

For more about this story and other Fort Rucker news, visit www.armyflyer.com/ on the Internet.

Stuttgart:

The Citizen reported May 22, that gate guards in Stuttgart had begun to use handheld Installation Access Control devices to verify the identification of individuals attempting to enter area posts. Individuals who are not registered with IACS - or whose ID information has changed - were advised to return to the IACS office on Patch Barracks to have their data re-entered or confirmed.

For more about this story and other Stuttgart U.S. military news, visit www.stuttgart.army.mil/ on the Internet.

Stay In Step with Fort Riley

Show moves to 6:30 a.m. on Channel 13 WBW June 5 because of programming conflicts.

Infantry battalion trains for Iraq

Many Soldiers carry lessons from first rotation with them, go with buddies

By Gary Skidmore
Command Info. Officer

Sgt. 1st Class Eric Kloss said when his unit deploys to Iraq this time it will be a whole new ball-

game. "It's a whole different concept, a whole different battlefield and a whole different enemy in a sense," said Kloss, a platoon sergeant in Company C, 1st Bat-

talion, 41st Infantry. "Now it's a lot of guerrilla tactics," he said. "You don't know where they're going to hit you from." Kloss, who has deployed three

times in the past two years, said he learned something from every deployment that he can use in the upcoming deployment. "You learn from every deployment you go on," Kloss said. "I

want to be prepared, so I talk with friends who were just there so I know what to expect when I get there."

See Going again, Page 8

Unit fills need

Guard company fills evac mission

By Mike Heronemus
Editor

One flight took a heart attack patient from Irwin Army Community Hospital to Topeka.

Another took a young Fort Riley girl bitten by a brown recluse spider to a hospital in Kansas City.

Several flights took women about to deliver premature babies to hospitals specially equipped to handle early births.

A Saturday flight took a Soldier injured in a vehicle incident on a Fort Riley range to Irwin Army Community Hospital.

The 82nd Medical Company (Air Ambulance) didn't carry these patients. It couldn't.

Fort Riley's helicopter medevac unit deployed to its second tour of duty in Iraq early this year. In its place, 13 Soldiers with the 1256th Medical Company (AA), Minnesota Army National Guard, assumed air ambulance responsibilities for Fort Riley.

The 1256th Med. Co. formed in September 2002 with headquarters at the downtown airport in St. Paul, Minn.

The new unit was equipped with Black Hawk helicopters instead of the older Hueys most other Army National Guard air ambulance companies get, said Capt. Brian White, commander of the detachment mobilized at Fort Riley.

See Medevac, Page 3



Post/Heronemus
Chief Warrant Officer Kelly Nokes (left) and Sgt. Chad McNeish of the 1256th Medical Company (Air Ambulance) prepare to make a training flight from Marshall Army Air Field. The Minnesota Army National Guard unit was mobilized to replace Fort Riley's 82nd Medical Company (AA) while it is deployed to Iraq.

Soldier invited to help in event

Free trip home means role in bicentennial

By Kristen Hamilton
KSU Intern

Staff Sgt. Robert Dannenberg has been called a hometown hero. He recently visited his old stomping grounds of Alton, Ill., to take part in the bicentennial celebration of the Lewis and Clark Expedition, thanks to an official request from the Department of the Army.

"I was ecstatic - a free trip home," Dannenberg said of his official travel. Dannenberg said his invitation to attend was interesting. He said his name was posted at a local Alton restaurant and members of the Lewis and Clark Commission visited the restaurant. He said they saw his name on the list and decided to ask Dannenberg to represent the noncommissioned officers corps at the Lewis and Clark celebration.

"The NCO Corps was started during the Lewis and Clark expedition. It was the first time NCOs were charged with specific leadership duties over other soldiers," Dannenberg said.

Dannenberg, 22, is assigned to 1st Battalion, 41st Infantry and is getting ready to return to combat in Iraq for the second time. He recently completed his bachelor's degree and is making plans to pursue a master's degree. He said his academic and military achievements helped him earn his title of hometown hero. But Dannenberg shies away from the label. "I don't like to be called a hometown hero

See Celebration, Page 2

Road project begins Roundabout to ease traffic

By Mike Heronemus
Editor

Post planners say a roundabout at a major intersection on Custer Hill will ease traffic flow and reduce the possibility of accidents.

Initial preparatory construction began May 25. The entire project will tie up the intersection until August this year, said Alan Ingwersen of Public Works.

When work ends, traffic congestion at peak travel times should be reduced, he said. One reason for that is that cars won't back up in long lines waiting for traffic signals to change.

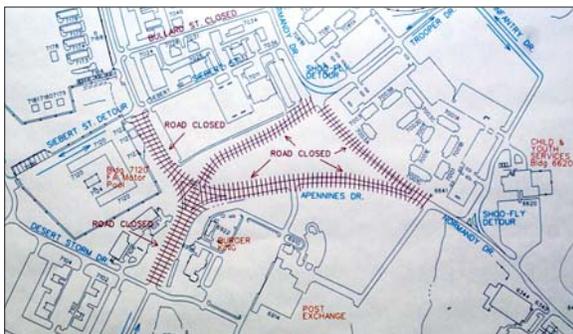
While the area is blocked to

traffic during construction, detours will route traffic around the site but allow reasonable flow to Custer Hill locations.

Safety was another factor in choosing the roundabout as a solution to the clogged intersection, Ingwersen said.

"Roundabouts eliminate 75 percent of the contact points that cause accidents. In a signalized intersection, there are 32 different points of contact, left turns being the most dangerous ones. A roundabout only has eight different points of contact," he said.

The project will cost about \$4.1 million. The prime contractor is MW Builders of Texas, who also are building post barracks.



DPW
Directorate of Public Works' map shows roads closed and detours available during roundabout construction on Custer Hill.



Post news in brief

Unit mailroom classes offered

Unit Mailroom Training will be conducted for newly assigned unit postal officers and unit mail clerks from 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. June 16 and 23 in building 319.

Safety classes scheduled

The Directorate of Environment and Safety plans to conduct the following classes in June:

— **HAZCOM Train the Trainer Course**, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. June 4 and 9, room 6 in building 407. The HAZCOM (Hazard Communication) Train the Trainer course trains unit instructors on hazard communication requirements. These trainers instruct others within their organization on safety precautions and information on chemical hazard hazards as required by federal law.

— **Environmental Team Training**, starts at 9 a.m. each day, June 7-8 and June 28-29, room 6 in building 407. Environmental Team training certifies environmental team leaders and members in how to handle hazardous materials and waste handling spill responses at the unit level. Leaders and team members must attend this course within 60 days of appointment to their duties.

— **Environmental Team Training Refresher**, 9 to 11:30 a.m., June 15, room 6 in building 407. Environmental Team Training Refresher is the annual refresher to the Environmental Team Training.

— **Hazardous Waste Operations and Emergency Response (HAZWOPER) Refresher**, all day June 25 (must have completed the 40-hour HAZWOPER course), room 6 in building 407. This course covers toxicology, medical surveillance, decontamination, site characterization, air monitoring, confined spaces, site emergencies and site/incident safety plans, site control safety plans as well as drum and container handling. This course provides a review on regulatory guidelines, training requirements, Hazard Communication, and personal protective equipment.

Army seeks warrant officers

The U.S. Army is looking for highly motivated Soldiers, Marines, Sailors and Airmen to fill its warrant officer ranks. Positions are open in all 45 specialties for those who qualify.

Applicants with fewer than 12 years active federal service are encouraged to apply.

For more information and all forms and documents required to apply, visit www.usarec.army.mil/warrant on the Internet or call (502) 626-0484/0458/0488/0478/1271/1860.

Stay In Step with Fort Riley

See what's happening on Fort Riley cable Channel 2 every day at 6:30 a.m., 8 a.m., noon, 6 p.m. and 10 p.m.



In memory of Fort Riley's fallen Soldiers

A special landscaped plot in Junction City's Heritage Park displays white crosses bearing the names and photos of Fort Riley Soldiers killed in Iraq. The Flint Hills Rotary Club built the crosses and sponsored the plot to honor the fallen Soldiers, said Connie Hall, a Rotarian and executive director of the Geary County Convention & Visitors Bureau. The plot is near the Kansas Vietnam Veterans Memorial in Heritage Park.

Post/Heronews

Mounted unit to carry mail

Staff report

Soldiers from the Fort Riley Commanding General's Mounted Color Guard plan to participate in the annual Pony Express Trail ride June 11. The unit will ride for two miles near Horton.

The ride commemorates how mail would have been delivered 144 years ago.

The National Pony Express Association will ride the original trail and deliver personal mail and commemorative letters from Sacramento, Calif., to St. Joseph, Mo., from June 1-11.

A rider will depart Sacramento, Calif., at 7 p.m. June 1 and the last rider will deliver the mail to the Patee House in St. Joseph, Mo., at 8 p.m. on June 11. The ride will be a 24-hour a day, non-stop event that consists of 550 riders and horses.

The riders will carry the com-

memorative letters and personal mail in a mochila — pony express style. Relief riders and horses will be positioned at intervals and will carry the mochila to the next remount station.

The trail will cover about 1,966 miles from California across Nevada, Utah, Wyoming, Colorado, Nebraska and Kansas into Missouri.

The 10-day event will commemorate the Central Overland and California Pikes Peak Express Company of 1860-61. The express company carried letters and telegrams over the Central Route beginning April 3, 1860, for 19 months.

The owners, Russel, Majors and Waddell, hoped to prove it passable and win a federal mail contract. They were not awarded that contract, but they created a history and a legend of bravery and daring.

Celebration continued from page 1

because there are too many others who really deserve it."

Dannenberg's primary role in the Lewis and Clark celebration came May 13, at the Eve of Discovery opening ceremonies. During the ceremony, 35 newly enlisted soldiers were sworn in. Dannenberg stood in the center of the group and reaffirmed his own oath.

"Another local Soldier who was injured in Iraq was supposed to do the swearing in but was unable to stand because of his injury. So, they flew a colonel in from Iraq to do it," he said.

Although Dannenberg prefers not to be in the spotlight, it was unavoidable during the hectic activities of his trip home. He gave interviews to numerous newspapers, visited with high school students, spent time at the local VFW and met a variety of high-ranking government officials from the mayor of his hometown to the secretary of the interior at the Pentagon.

In the midst of all these events, Dannenberg said he tried to focus on a three-part message.

"First, I wanted to say thanks for the support and tell people that it's really important for the Soldiers in Iraq. Second, I told them I was just one Soldier. Third, I talked about the Lewis and Clark expedition.

"It was an Army expedition. A lot of people don't know that. But it was and it brought huge gains in a variety of areas, including science. It also taught people that the NCO corps is the backbone of the Army," he said.

Dannenberg said he was asked about the war in Iraq, the people

and how he felt about going back. He said that he always told them, "Don't believe everything you see or hear on the news."

He added, "People wanted to know if I thought we can really accomplish the mission over there. I told them I believe we need to stay the course. It might be slow but this kind of work takes time."

Knowing that he is returning to Iraq, Dannenberg said that many of the high school kids he interacted with were still interested in joining the Army.

He said that he stressed the importance of every Soldier having his or her own experience.

Dannenberg said his time with the VFW was encouraging because "they understand that support can fluctuate but that it's really necessary and important." He said that the veterans paid his dues for the VFW, took him to lunch and invited him to future events.

In addition to the high school students and veterans, Dannenberg interacted with members of some other cultures.

"There is a local Arab community in Alton and I went to get gas one day in that area and they came out and thanked me for what we are doing in that part of the world and were really supportive."

Dannenberg is scheduled for deployment to Iraq within the next 30 days.

"The support that everyone gave me through this experience really helped calm the nerves of my parents," Dannenberg said.

"Knowing that you have a hometown that supports you really helps."

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Citizens send dogs goggles

Group helps Army canines

By Reginald P. Rogers
Army News Service

FORT MONROE, Va. — The military police motto “of the troops and for the troops” has been taken to heart by some American citizens concerned for the Army’s four-legged troops: the military working dogs.

The MWD teams, an intricate part of the U.S. mission in Iraq and Afghanistan, devote many hours to various missions many of these behind the scenes. The dogs work in heat and sandstorms, just like their human team members do.

The dogs’ welfare and the Soldiers’ efforts prompted Linda Cunningham of Hillsdale, Mich., to help.

“I just wanted to let Soldiers know the people at home appreciate their efforts in the Middle East,” said Cunningham, who works at Hillsdale’s Family Independence Office and volunteers at the local humane society.

“I also wanted to send goodies for the dogs because the dogs are providing a service to their country as well,” she said.

Cunningham said that when she was contacted by one of her co-workers about making a contribution to Soldiers serving in Iraq, they talked about aiding the MWDs specifically.

Cunningham’s research yielded an idea — Doggles for the dogs to protect their eyes from the desert sandstorms.

Cunningham, her co-workers and friend Lydia Ross of Seattle, Wash., solicited donations to purchase the Doggles.

The Doggles Company, which is based in North Carolina, agreed to sell the protective eyewear to the group at wholesale prices.

“The decision to send the goggles to the dogs was actually pretty simple,” explained Ken Di Lullo of the Doggles Co. “We were contacted several times, mostly by vets in Iraq. All it takes is a simple e-mail telling us what the need is, and we ship it out. Protecting the eyes of the military working dogs seems to be a big problem in Iraq, with the sandstorms.”

He said his company has sent the dog handlers at least a dozen Doggles, each time they were asked, which totals nearly 10 dozen.

According to Sgt. 1st Class Timothy G. Dawson, Training and Doctrine Command’s MWD manager, once the first few packages were shipped to MWD teams, the doors started opening and donations started pouring in.

“So far, Linda, Lydia and crew have collected more than \$2,200 from over 100 individuals and businesses in their local areas,” Dawson said.

They have received so many donations that they are sending out small packages every couple of weeks, bypassing the original plan to send out packages every four to six weeks.

Besides obtaining Doggles, another project for the group is trying to get boots to protect the dogs’ feet from the hot sand.

Cunningham — whom Ross nicknamed the “war dog coordinator” for spearheading the donation drive — said since sending initial donations to the Soldiers, she has become even more driven to take care of their needs.

“I cannot imagine the anguish the family members must feel while the Soldiers are deployed away from their families,” she said. “Now that I’ve been writing to them, I feel like ‘Mother Hen.’”



Post/Heronemus

Sgt. Karl Hansen uses a small tractor to push a Black Hawk helicopter belonging to the 1256th Medical Company (Air Ambulance) onto the aircraft parking area at Marshall Army Air Field, so a crew of the Minnesota Army National Guard unit subbing for Fort Riley’s 82nd Med. Co. (AA) can take a training flight.

Medevac

continued from page 1

Other detachments from the company were mobilized at Fort Hood and Fort Bliss, Texas; Fort Carson, Colo. and Fort Sill, Okla.

The detachment at Fort Riley includes Target and Wal-Mart employees, a U.S. Postal Service letter carrier, an emergency medical technician, a civilian medevac pilot, a fixed wing aircraft flight instructor, a mechanic, three full-time National Guard technicians and three college students, said Sgt. Gary Murray, the detachment’s senior noncommissioned officer.

The company’s Soldiers joined because they knew they would have a good chance to go somewhere and get to do something, White said.

This is the first deployment for the unit as a whole, White said. All of the company’s Soldiers received the same training as their

active duty counterparts in the 82nd Med. Co. and are fully qualified to perform their mission but this deployment will provide all of them some excellent experience and training, Murray said.

The company does a lot of training at home but seldom performs actual missions because St. Paul has a lot of civilian air medevac businesses, Murray explained.

The only real medevac missions the 1256th Med. Co. handle come when the governor calls the unit out in a disaster situation or when mobilized for federal duty, he said.

Fort Riley missions have been real missions, not just training, said Sgt. Chad McNeish. He helped fly a man who suffered a heart attack at the IACH emergency room.

The man suffered another cardiac arrest while the Black Hawk

was airborne, he said.

While the 1256th flies out of Marshall Army Air Field, Murray is scheduling the medics to spend about 10 hours a month working at IACH to hone their skills.

Murray said he hopes to arrange some training with the Junction City Fire Department, too. “These kids are eager to learn,” he said.

The company’s pilots and crew chiefs must log about 30 training hours flying each year, White said.

At Fort Riley, the pilot and crews try to fly each day even when they get no calls for actual missions.

The training is important to improving everyone’s skills, Murray said. “But the reason we’re here is to help Fort Riley,” when air ambulance services is needed, he said.

Message urges Soldiers to vote

Army’s AG sends e-mail to everyone

By Annie Shippen
Army News Service

WASHINGTON — The Army’s adjutant general e-mailed all Soldiers through AKO accounts on May 11, telling them to register to vote.

Brig. Gen. Gina S. Farrissee, the adjutant general, wanted to contact the Soldiers to ensure that they were aware of their ability to vote while overseas and saw the importance of registering to vote. The e-mail was sent to 1.3 million Soldiers.

“Hopefully the e-mail will affect the Soldiers and they will think, ‘Gee, I am overseas, or getting ready to be sent overseas and I need to register,’” said Col. John Karch, chief of Personnel Services Support Division, Human Resources Command.

The e-mail was sent over a several day period to avoid complications, and as of May 18, it had received 40,000 responses which are being sorted through in order to distinguish the rate of failure.

Karch said he is confident the e-mail reached 96 percent of the Army.

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Fort Riley Middle Schooler Chris Kirk lands in the long pit as Sgt. Kyle Smith (left), 924th Military Police Battalion, and Junction City Middle Schooler Amanda Puhr (second from left) wait to measure the jump.

Soldiers help school

Military police BOSS group mans Fort Riley Troopers' track, field meet

Jill Valkeenaar (right), Junction City Middle School track coach, logs the distance of a jump as Sgt. Kyle Smith, 924th Military Police Battalion, and Amanda Puhr, Junction City Middle School student, measure a jump.



Post/Skidmore

By Gary Skidmore
Command Info. Officer

"There's more to being an MP than arresting people and handing out tickets," said Sgt. Kyle Smith, 924th Military Police Battalion Better Opportunities for Single Soldiers president.

"We're involved with our communities," Smith said. "We like helping out our communities whenever possible."

Smith and 16 other Soldiers from the 924th MP Bn. did that recently when they volunteered to help at the Fort Riley Middle School track and field meet at Junction City High School.

"This is a good chance to show off the cool stuff we do," Smith said. "We brought a D.A.R.E. vehicle and a traffic vehicle out here and have three members of the bike patrol helping out," he said.

Smith said helping at the track meet included having Soldiers at each of the events assisting event staff any way they could.

Smith and Spc. Thore Hammitt spent their day at the long jump measuring distances and raking the sand after each athlete jumped.

"It's nice being out here," said Hammitt as he evened the sand in the pit after Fort Riley Trooper Chris Kirk completed his second leap.

"We help people in the communities a lot more than we give tickets," he said.

Janet Hoskins, athletic director for Fort Riley Middle School and host of the track meet, said the meet wouldn't be going as smoothly as it was had it not been for the MPs.

"There are two or three MPs at each event," Hoskins said. "There are five eighth-grade schools and four seventh-grade schools here," she said. "That's a lot of athletes. We couldn't do it without them."



Standing by to assist in replacing the bar if needed are Spec. Anthony Graham (right) and Pvt. Brandon Mayfield of the 924th Military Police Battalion.

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Fund needs \$30M

Money sought for memorial at Pentagon

AFPS

WASHINGTON -- The Pentagon Memorial Fund campaign was officially launched April 22, during a Capitol Hill ceremony.

Almost \$30 million is being solicited, according to a news release from the Washington, D.C., public relations firm handling fund-raising for the memorial on a pro bono basis.

About \$17.5 million of collected funds will be used to build the memorial, according to the release. Another \$10 million in donations, the release continued, will be earmarked for memorial maintenance.

The Pentagon Memorial will be built in a park-like setting among maple trees and will consist of 184 individual units — the number of people killed in the Sept. 11, 2001, terrorist-hijacked airliner attack on the Pentagon. Each memorial unit will consist of a bench bathed in light from a reflecting pool.

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Commentary

Cultural heritage

America gains strength from diversity

By Kevin B. Stuart
MEDDAC



Kevin Stuart

By presidential proclamation, every year since 1991 Americans have officially commemorated Asian Pacific American Heritage Month during May. The 2004 national theme for this year's observance is "Freedom For All, A Nation We Call Our Own."

Asian-Pacific Americans comprise many ethnic groups and cultures. Each of these groups, regardless of size, is important and is making essential contributions to the diversity of the United States.

It is the unique values, differences and actions of American individuals around our shared ideals of peace, freedom and prosperity that make this country great. Asian Pacific Americans continue to contribute greatly to these ends.

Immigration to America by Asians and Pacific Islanders has been seen as an opportunity for a better life. Since the Immigration Act of 1965, the United States has reaped a huge influx of brainpow-

er from Asian Pacific regions. In India, for example, a sluggish economy and a lack of available higher education and domestic jobs for a well-trained labor force were factors in the immigration of skilled professionals to the United States.

Asian Pacific Americans have quietly and effectively contributed immensely to American society. From art to agriculture, from business to politics and from science to military, all Americans have learned and benefited from the Asian Pacific Americans, whether they know it or not.

The future requires that all Americans - not just Asian Pacific Americans - help build a diverse, technological, sophisticated and cosmopolitan society with concern for human values and princi-

U.S. Population
Asian Pacific Americans constitute 3.8 percent of the U.S. population: Chinese (23.8 million), Filipino (20.4 million), Japanese (12.3 million), Asian Indian 11.8 million), Korean (11.6 million), Vietnamese (8.9 million), Laotian (2.2 million), Cambodian (2.1 million), Thai (1.3 million), Hmong (1.3 million) and all other Asians — Pakistani, Indonesian, Malayan, Bangladeshi, Sri Lankan and Burmese - (4.4 million)
Pacific Islander Population in the United States: Hawaiian (57.8 million), Samoan (17.2 million), Guamanian (13.5 million), Tongan (4.8 million), Fijian (1.9 million), Palauan (.4 million), North Mariana Islander (.3 million) and all other Pacific Islander (3.8 million)

ples. To build this America requires trust and knowledge. With the consideration, courage and understanding that can lead to wisdom, the tapestry of a modern America will continue to flourish. Equally important is the requirement for everyone to open up their individual and collective values and listen to the powerful voices of Asian Pacific Americans and other minorities.

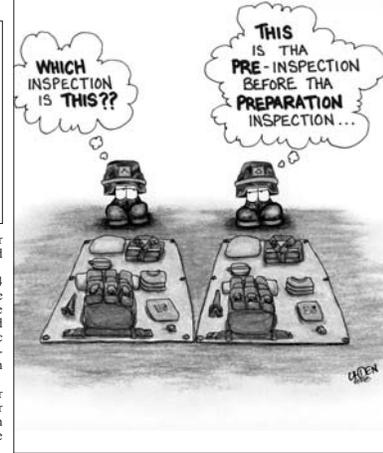
In our glorious history, America has truly spoken with a strong and eloquent collective voice. Asian Pacific Americans hold

some powerful ingredients to our nation's continued greatness and our ever-evolving shared ideals.

As we come to the end of 2004 Asian Pacific American Heritage Month, I hope we remember the numerous contributions and achievements that Asian Pacific Americans have made to our society and the impact they have in our world.

Let us learn to see one another simply as people and to remember that the more we learn about each other, the more knowledge we gain about ourselves.

Grunt By Wayne Ulden



Army One Source Q's and A's

Q. What services are available?
A: AOS assistance includes

parenting and childcare, education, relocation, financial and legal concerns, everyday issues

(such as finding services in a local community, consumer issues), emotional well-being,

health and wellness, addiction and recovery, disabilities, military life, work concerns, crisis

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life-issues library materials and pre-paid materials. For information, call (800) 464-8107.

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Fair offers ideas for next career

Officer Adam Perry, of the Richardson, Texas, Police Department, talks about employment opportunities with Staff Sgt. Tim Hardin of 1st Battalion, 13th Armor, during the Fort Riley job fair May 21. The fair was hosted by Fort Riley University and provided representatives from a wide range of businesses and industry to talk with Soldiers and others.

Army, VA add safety net to help disabled Soldiers

By Joe Burtas

Army News Service

WASHINGTON — Severely disabled Soldiers and their family members have a new way to find answers to service-related questions — the Disabled Soldier Support System, or DS3 as program officials call it.

Acting Secretary of the Army Les Brownlee and Veterans Affairs Secretary Anthoni J. Principi joined other Army senior leaders in announcing the initiative at a Pentagon media round table April 30.

DS3 is a single information source where severely disabled Soldiers or their family members can go for assistance in getting entitlement or services questions answered. That contact can be via the Army Information Hotline, 1-800-833-6622.

The intent of the program is to provide an additional safety net for severely disabled Soldiers who may have slipped through the cracks in the past after being medically retired, according to Brownlee.

"They have performed enormous service to the nation," Brownlee said. "With that said, their lives go on, but (those lives are) significantly changed. They may have lost an arm, leg or eye, but they have not lost their courage."

For purposes of the program, severely disabled means a disability rating, or the likelihood of a rating, of 30 percent or greater, and a special condition. Those conditions include the loss of an eye or limb, a spinal or disfiguring injury or a psychiatric disorder.

The disability rating and special condition do not have to be related to a combat wound or injury.

While Soldiers in the program or their family members can call for assistance anytime, program officials will contact the disabled Soldiers periodically for at least five years following registration into the program.

"This program is designed to be the advocate for the Soldier and his family," said Col. Michael Flowers, director of Human Resources Policy Directorate who oversees the DS3 task force.

"This is not a program to do anybody else's job," Flowers said. "It's about assisting to ensure we are doing it right. We take care of our own, even after retirement."

Doing it right isn't only ensuring severely disabled Soldiers know what entitlements and services are available to them, according to Lt. Col. Lorelei Coplen, TF DS3 deputy director. It's also sometimes doing the research and educating different organizations and agencies about what they can do for Soldiers, she said.

"We have had some cases where we called up and said you have the authority to do this and gave them the (Army regulation) paragraph and line number that

authorized them to do it," Coplen said.

While the program has only recently been announced, it has been reaching out and helping qualified Soldiers and their families for several months.

About 12,000 Soldiers have been wounded or injured during

Operations Iraqi Freedom and Enduring Freedom — 2,650 of whom required medical evacuation and treatment in Germany or the United States.

As of Feb. 16, 132 of those Soldiers had been enrolled in the program and have been getting active assistance.

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Command changes to improve logistics

By Reginald P. Rogers

Army News Service

Focus areas

FORT MONROE, Va. — As the Army changes the way it does business, the U.S. Army Combined Arms Support Command must also change in its mission to provide the materiel needed for sustainment, CASCOM officials said.

Task Force Logistics, in charge of the newest of the Army's 17 focus areas, includes logistician and support personnel from all branches of the military. CASCOM is a large piece of the TF Logistics puzzle and therefore plays a major part in the task of supplying the troops.

"Task Force Logistics was formed to review and redesign how a land-component commander is sustained," said Maj. Gen. Terry E. Juskowiak, CASCOM and Fort Lee, Va., commanding general. "The scope of this review extends from CONUS (continental United States) support to support of deployed forces; includes support to the Army, how the Army provides support to sister components once deployed; and how the Army will contribute to a joint logistics capability."

During the annual Combat Service Support Commanders and Command Sergeants Major Conference April 8-9 at Fort Lee, Va., Juskowiak pointed out that CASCOM is prepared for the changes

The Army's 17 immediate areas of focus are: The Soldier; The Bench; Combat Training Centers/Battle Command Training Program; Leader Development and Education; Army Aviation; Current to Future Force; The Network; Modularity; Active Component/Reserve Component Balance; Force Stabilization; Actionable Intelligence; Installations as Flagships; Authorities, Responsibilities, and Accountability; Resource Processes; Strategic Communications; Joint Expeditionary Army with a Campaign-quality Capability and Logistics.

To view a brief synopsis of each area, visit The Way Ahead at www.army.mil/thewayahead/.

that are taking place within the force.

The increased use of computer technology in Army logistics is a very near possibility, according to a report by the Petersburg, Va., Progressive-Index.

The report went on to say that commanders and sergeants major in attendance were told of the possibility of using computer simulations designed for military logisticians in the same manner that combat Soldiers use them to improve their fighting skills.

"(The conference) was a chance for us to review what happened, what went well and on what we need to put new emphasis," Juskowiak said after the conference.

He added that jointness and modularity present positive changes in the logistical spectrum because all services and organiza-

tions will work together to ensure Soldiers' needs are taken care of.

He also explained that if logisticians and battle commands are given the same "data points," such as where a hotbed of conflict is burning, the logistician could use the information to avoid sending a supply convoy through the middle of that battle scene. Or a petroleum shipment could be redirected to where it is more urgently needed.

"We're looking at how we do logistics from the foxhole back," Juskowiak said. "When I say back, I mean all the way back to the CONUS national level. What we do in the foxhole is very green, very Army-oriented. But as you go back, it becomes more and more purple — that is, more (of a) joint (concept). That's because more joint aspects will be put into the force."

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Post/Skådmøre

Spec. Tula Young, Company C, 1st Battalion, 41st Infantry, mans radios that keep the Soldiers training at Range 18 in contact with range control and the battalion headquarters. The unit is preparing to deploy to Iraq for the second time.

Going again continued from page 1

Kloss said that although he's concerned, he's not afraid to go back into harm's way. He admitted, however, that he has a heavy feeling about going back.

"Is this it? Is it my last time?" asked the 39-year-old Soldier.

Then, he said, "It's my job. I'm concerned for my Soldiers. You just don't know when they'll hit you" said the platoon sergeant. "I'm always asking myself, 'Did I drop them off in the right spot? Did I tell them to go down the right alley? Did I do the right thing?'" he said.

Kloss said part of his job is keeping morale high in his unit. "It's always a challenge to motivate your guys. You have to keep them motivated, especially when you're there. Sometimes it's devastating and sometimes it's just plain boring," he said about the situations he and his Soldiers will experience.

Kloss said when he goes back to Iraq, he will do so with some familiar faces.

"It's nice because you know how your partner reacts in a combat situation. That's a good thing. A familiar face is always good," Kloss said.

Many familiar faces in the battalion will be making this return trip back. "More than 60 percent

of the 700 Soldiers in the battalion were in Iraq last year," Kloss said.

Leading the battalion during this rotation will be Lt. Col. David Batchelor, who assumed command May 11. Batchelor said his transition has been smooth so far.

"It doesn't matter," Batchelor said about the transition. "This week, I'm just part of the team," he said on Range 18, where he and 10 other Bradley Fighting Vehicle crews were honing their combat skills.

"I have to be able to do everything the Soldiers do," Batchelor said.

Capt. Sidney Rossenquist, commander of Company B, 1st Battalion, 41st Infantry, said the training on Range 18 prepares Soldiers for combat. "This training is to prepare the crews to engage and destroy the enemy," he said.

"When a vehicle is going down the road, you have to be able to spot ... and engage the target quickly. This training allows crews to work together so they can go to war and engage the enemy before it destroys them," he said.



Post/Skådmøre

Lt. Col. David Batchelor speaks with media watching his unit, 1st Battalion, 41st Infantry, train on Range 18 May 19. The battalion is preparing to return to Iraq.

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Liquid armor protects, allows more flexibility

By Tonya Johnson
Army News Service

ABERDEEN PROVING GROUND, Md. — Liquid armor for Kevlar vests is one of the newest technologies being developed at the U.S. Army Research Laboratory to save Soldiers' lives.

This type of body armor is light and flexible, which allows soldiers to be more mobile and won't hinder an individual from running or aiming his or her weapon.

The key component of liquid armor is a shear thickening fluid. STF is composed of hard particles suspended in a liquid. The liquid, polyethylene glycol, is non-toxic, and can withstand a wide range of temperatures.

Hard, nano-particles of silica are the other components of STF. This combination of flowable and hard components results in a material with unusual properties.

"During normal handling, the STF is very deformable and flows like a liquid. However, once a bullet or frag hits the vest, it transitions to a rigid material, which prevents the projectile from penetrating the Soldier's body," said Eric Wetzel, a mechanical engineer from the Weapons and Materials Research Directorate who heads the project team.

To make liquid armor, STF is soaked into all layers of the Kevlar vest. The Kevlar fabric holds the STF in place and helps

stop the bullet. The saturated fabric can be soaked, draped, and sewn just like any other fabric.

Wetzel and his team have been working on this technology with Norman J. Wagner and his students at the University of Delaware for three years.

"The goal of the technology is to create a new material that is low cost and lightweight, which offers equivalent or superior bal-

istic properties as compared to current Kevlar fabric, but has more flexibility and less thickness," Wetzel said. "This technology has a lot of potential."

Liquid armor is still undergoing laboratory tests, but Wetzel is enthusiastic about other applications that the technology might be applied to.

"The sky's the limit," Wetzel said.

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Fort Riley Sports & Recreation

Sports news in brief

Activities alter operation hours

Effective May 30 through Sept. 11, hours of the Outdoor Recreation Center will change as follows:

Saturday and Sunday: 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Monday, Thursday and Friday: 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Tuesday and Wednesday: Closed

Also closed on May 31, July 5 and 6, and Sept. 4, for federal holidays.

Custer Hill Lanes will be open 5 p.m. May 28 to 1 a.m. May 29, 5 p.m. May 29 to 1 a.m. May 30 and 4 p.m. May 30 to 1 a.m. May 31. The lanes will be closed the rest of May 31.

Custer Hill Golf Course will be in operation from 7:30 a.m. to 7:30 p.m., May 28-31 and be closed June 1.

King Field House will be open 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., May 28-31. Leonard Gym will open from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. the same days. Long Gym will be open from noon to 5 p.m., May 28-31. Craig Gym will open 11 a.m. to 5 p.m., May 28-30 and will close May 31.

Long Pool will be closed May 28-31. Eyster Pool will open 11 a.m. to 6 p.m., May 28-30 and close May 31. The main post outdoor pool will be closed May 28, but will open from noon to 7 p.m. May 29-31. The Custer Hill outdoor pool will be closed May 28, but open from 11 a.m. to 8 p.m., May 29-31.

The skating rink will be closed May 28-31.

BOSS sponsors body building

Better Opportunities for Single Soldiers and two local businesses will sponsor the Mr. & Mrs. Fort Riley Body Building Competition at 7 p.m., June 12, at Barlow Theater. Spectators will be charged \$5 admission.

Contestants must pay a \$20 entry fee and can sign up at ITR across from the main post exchange.

Mark Monaco will be available to give a clinic for new competitors. He will teach each competitor the mandatory poses and will give training and nutrition advice if needed. Pre-judging begins at 7:30 a.m. and is free.

Women's competition will be divided into weight classes as follows: Lightweight 114 pounds and below, middleweight 115-124, heavyweight 125 and above. Masters competition will be for body builders 35 and older.

Men's competition will be divided as follows: Bantamweight 150 pounds and below, lightweight 151-174, middleweight 175-186, light heavyweight 187-198, and heavyweight 199 and above. Masters competition will be for men 35 and older.

For more information, call Monaco at 554-9701 or the BOSS president at 239-8147.

At Custer Hill Golf Course:

May 29 -- Golf Course Gaggle, 7 to 8 a.m.

May 30 -- Golf Course Gaggle, 7 to 8 a.m.

Play ball



Iris Munoz of the 523rd Military Police Company prepares to tag 10th ASOS runner Randy Paine May 19. The Air-men came back in the bottom of the seventh inning to win the game 5-4.

Unit slow-pitch softball leagues begin

By Mike Heronemus
Editor

Slow pitch softball players of 2nd Battalion, 34th Armor, led regular season battalion standings May 20, after two days of play. The 2nd Bn., 34th Armor, went undefeated in its first four games but won its first two games on forfeits by 1st Battalion, 41st Infantry, May 19.

The team came back May 20, with back-to-back wins against 70th Engineer Battalion. They blasted the Engineers 17-4 in the first game and 12-6 in the second.

MEDDAC's battalion team split two games with 1st Bn., 41st Inf., May 19. MEDDAC defeated the Infantry 11-5 in the first game, but the Infantry shellacked the Medics 18-0 in the second game of the evening.

Eight teams signed up to play in this year's battalion-level games: 2nd Bn., 34th Armor; 4th Battalion, 1st Field Artillery; MEDDAC; 125th Forward Support Battalion; 924th Military Police Battalion; 24th Infantry Division (Mechanized); 70th Eng. Bn. and 1st Bn., 41st Inf.

Company league

The 10th ASOS and 523rd Military Police Company led in the win column of company-level slow pitch softball standings after the first two days of play. The MPs recorded three wins and no losses. The Airmen booked three wins and two losses.

Two other teams — Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 24th Inf. Div. (Mech.) and 342nd Military Police Company — shared 2-0 records.

The Airmen lost their first game May 19, 5-4 against the 523rd MPs. They rebounded in the next game to defeat Com-

See Softball, Page 10



Michael Billings of 2nd Battalion, 34th Armor, watches the ball as he grabs second base in front of Brian Wright of 70th Engineer Battalion May 20. The Armor won 17-4 after five innings.



Brian Wright eyes a fly ball for the 2nd Battalion, 34th Armor. May 20 in a game the Armor won on the 11-run route in the fifth inning against 70th Engineer Battalion.



Nathanael Agosto, 596th Signal Company watched his team play May 24 from the team dugout. Agosto was an alternate on the team roster and used as a substitute when needed.

Army enlists rodeo pros

Seven more competitors to help recruit

By Matt Millham
Army News Service

LAS VEGAS — The U.S. Army added five riders to its professional rodeo team May 15.

The original team, announced April 17, with partner Professional Rodeo Cowboy Association, consisted of three bull riders.

The Army is now sponsoring seven cowboys and a cowgirl to represent the Army in hundreds of rodeos throughout the United States and Canada.

The partnership with PRCA will allow the Army to reach out to a segment of Americans "that we were certain we were missing," said Maj. Gen. Michael D. Rochelle, commander of U.S. Army Recruiting Command.

The partnership, which will run through the end of this year with an option to renew for 2005, is "part of the overall Army team," which includes partnerships with NASCAR, Professional Bull Riding and the Arena Football League, among others. But, said Rochelle, "What we are doing is, more than anything, in support of" the troops overseas.

Rodeo to benefit too

Steven J. Hatchell, commissioner of the PRCA, expects the partnership to be a boon to his organization as well as to the Army because, he said, traditional rodeo sponsors like alcohol and tobacco companies made televising the events problematic. "We are a television society and this helps us with television in a significant way," Hatchell said.

Hatchell said that with the Army partnership the PRCA is planning an expansion that will lead to increased television exposure similar to that of the Professional Golf Association. Already, he said, rodeo is seventh overall in attendance for all sports and saw an increase in attendance of four percent last year - the highest of any sport.

Millions attend rodeos

An estimated 23 million people attended the PRCA's roughly 700 sanctioned rodeos last year. The PRCA's premier events appear on CBS, ESPN, ESPN2 and Outdoor Life Network.

The announcement of the partnership came against the backdrop of one of professional rodeo's biggest competitions, the Pace Picante ProRodeo Chute-out at the Orleans Arena in Las Vegas, where \$500,000 in prize money was up for grabs. Three of the

See Rodeo, Page 10

Copperheads crawl on post's training ranges

Slithering reptile wears no rattles, prefers to hide rather than attack



Gibran Suleiman

Gibran Suleiman
Wildlife Biologist
DES Conservation Division

Many attributes make Fort Riley a great place for training America's Soldiers. One aspect that many might overlook, however, is the relative absence of venomous snakes. In fact,

On the Wildside: News About Nature

only one species of venomous snake has ever been documented on Fort Riley — the copperhead. The timber rattlesnake and the massasauga rattlesnake have been documented near Fort Riley, but never within the fort's boundaries.

Copperheads are easy to identify. They have seven to 20 light-edged brownish cross bands on their back and sides. Their pupils are elliptical, similar to a cat's eye and all copperheads have a small heat-sensing pit towards the tip of the head used for

thermal imaging.

Copperheads do not have any kind of rattle on their tail but can vibrate the tip of their tail when aggravated. They also emit a strong smelling musk when aggravated.

When compared to many non-venomous snakes, copperheads are rela-

See Wildside, Page 10



Softball

Eric Ashford, 3rd Brigade, 75th Division, slides into third base during his team's game against Company C, 2nd Battalion, 70th Armor.

Post/Skidmore



Post/Skidmore

Robert Winterowd, Co. C, 2nd Bn., 70th Armor gets a base hit during his team's game against the 3rd Bde., 75th Div.



Post/Heronemus

T.J. Bennett sprints past 523rd MP Co. first baseman Rebecca Bradley on an overthrown ball April 19. Bradley later tagged the Airman runner out when he tried to get back to base after running too soon on a fly ball that was caught.

Wildside

tively heavy bodied. Adult copperheads typically achieve lengths of two to three feet.

Copperheads eat a variety of prey but are particularly fond of rodents, frogs and cicadas.

Fort Riley is located at the extreme western border of the copperhead's range.

Although rarely fatal, copperhead bites are painful. Besides the pain, swelling of the immediate area around the bite area will also be immediately obvious. Because



Copperhead snakes can be found on Fort Riley. They have no rattles, show distinctive banding on back and sides and are nonaggressive. Bites are painful but seldom fatal.

of the swelling, any tight fitting clothing or jewelry should be removed immediately after a bite occurs.

A small percent of copperhead bites are dry bites — no venom is injected. The most important thing to remember in the event a bite is to get to a hospital calmly and safely. Ideally a bite victim will want to have someone drive them to the hospital. Because

copperhead's venom is mild, there is no need to drive using excessive speed.

Copperheads are typically only active during daylight but become active at night in the summer months. Copperheads rely on their camouflage and ability to remain still to avoid predators.

Most human bites occur on the victim's right hand. This would indicate the victim was trying to handle or was harassing the snake in some manner. Bites to the lower leg are also common, indicating that the victim accidentally stepped on the snake.

Although the majority of snakes lay eggs, the copperhead gives birth to live young. Females give birth to an average of five young during the summer. Young copperheads are born with a yellow-greenish tail. It is thought that the tail serves as a lure to attract small frogs. Young copperheads are born with venom and should be considered as potentially dangerous as adults.

A live adult copperhead is kept on display at the Conservation Division's office (building 1020) across from Camp Funston. For more information, call 239-6211. Office hours are 7:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday-Friday.

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263 Ats in the Park Brickell



14th PAD/Matt Millham

Steer wrestler Luke Branquinho, one of eight Army-sponsored cowboys in the Professional Rodeo Cowboy Association, leaps off his horse and onto a steer at the Pace Picante Pro Rodeo Chute Out in Las Vegas May 15. Branquinho won the steer wrestling competition and took home more than \$20,000 from the rodeo.

Rodeo

roping and team roping, won back-to-back all-around world titles in 2002 and 2003 at the Wrangler National Finals Rodeo.

He was the first cowboy ever to qualify for the Wrangler NFR in four events.

— Fred Whitfield, who has a total of seven world titles - six in tie-down roping and one all-around. He will be inducted into the Pro Rodeo Hall of Fame in August.

— Andy Bolich, a bareback rider who has won titles in Kalispell, Mont., and Omak, Wash.

— Wayne Folmer, a team roper who is a three-time Wrangler NFR qualifier and was fourth

in the world in 2003.

— Cody DeMoss, a saddle bronc rider who qualified for his first Wrangler NFR and was 12th in the world in 2003. He is in second place this year and has a shot at winning the saddle bronc title.

— Brittany Pozzi, a barrel racer who became the first rookie to qualify for the Wrangler NFR at the top of the standings in 2003. She finished seventh overall in her first PRC A season.

— Zack Oakes, a bull rider who won RodeoHouston and the PRC A's Xtreme Bulls in Clovis, N.M., earlier this year.

— Matt Millham is a member of the 14th Public Affairs Detachment.

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Fort Riley Community Life

Thursday, May 27, 2004

America's Warfighting Center

Page 11

Community news briefly

Holiday trash collection

Trash pick-up on post for the Memorial Day holiday will be:

May 31 — No pick-up, Memorial Day holiday.

June 1 — Cotter Manor, Main Post, Marshall Field.

June 2 — Ellis Heights, O'Donnell Heights, and Peterson Heights (north of Thomas Avenue). Dumpsters at buildings 27, 28, 45, 470, 471, 540, 541, 620, 510, and 5309.

June 3 — Warner Heights and Burnside Heights. (No change from regular schedule.)

June 4 — Meade Heights, O'Donnell Heights, South Warner Heights, and Peterson Heights (south of Thomas Avenue). (No change from regular schedule.)

For more information, call Paul Cassella at Contract Inspection Branch, 239-6274

Class teaches logic parenting

Fort Riley parents have been invited to enroll in a six-session course that teaches how to become a "Love and Logic Parent." Registration for the free course ends June 7. The course, sponsored by USD 475 will be taught on Mondays and Thursdays from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m., June 7-24 at the First Presbyterian Church, 113 W. Fifth St., Junction City. Free childcare and transportation will be provided. For more information, call Kathy Williams in the school district's community connections office, 238-6184, extension 2210 or send her e-mail at Kathywilliams@usd475.org.

Family groups still important

Family Readiness Group members should be aware that, even though many Soldiers have returned, there is still a need for an effective FRG. FRGs provide support, encouragement, and social outlets for family members and Soldiers during deployments and non-deployments. Commanders, FRG leaders and advisors have worked hard to establish and maintain their FRGs. After the deployment, FRGs should allow their key people and themselves some "down time" but must remember there will be other deployments. Continued support to the FRG and maintaining all the key tasks will make it easier to get organized when the next mission pops up. Army Community Service provides on-going training and assistance to FRGs. For more information, contact Sonya Brown via e-mail at sonya.brown@riley.army.mil or Pearl Speer via e-mail at pearl.speer@riley.army.mil, or call the Soldier and Family Support Center at 239-9435.

SFSC activities:

June 2 — PCS-South Korea, 1:30 to 4 p.m.
June 2 — Army Family Team Building Level II, 6:30 to 8:30 p.m.
June 4 — Army Family Team Building Level I, 11 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Stay in Step with FRG
See what's happening on Fort Riley's cable Channel 2 every day at 6:30 a.m., 8 a.m., noon, 6 p.m. and 10 p.m.

Volunteer of year named locally

Junction City Armed Services YMCA honored for best use of helpers

By Rudi Williams
AFPS
WASHINGTON — The Armed Services YMCA honored a Fort Drum, N.Y., Army medic, his wife and four young children and others May 13, during the organiza-

tion's 17th annual recognition luncheon on Capitol Hill. Army Staff Sgt. Dale Scherberger and his wife, Cheryl, were named "Volunteer of the Year" for their efforts on behalf of military families in their military community. The Junction City YMCA, an affiliate of ASYMCA, earned

honors for the best use of volunteers. It's "Operation Iraq: Spirit of Christmas" program earned the recognition. The ASYMCA's Fort Bragg and Pope Air Force Base branch in North Carolina received the 2004 Raytheon Achievement Award for their local "Operation

Kid Comfort" program. Highlights of the luncheon included the presentation of the Armed Services YMCA's Military Family Congressional Champion Award to New York Rep. John M. McHugh for his work with the defense community and military families.

The keynote speaker, Marine Corps Commandant Gen. Michael W. Hagee, told the audience that his maternal grandfather was very involved with the YMCA in the 1920s and 1930s in the Rhode Island and Massachusetts area.

See YMCA, Page 12

Heritage recalled



Cecilia Ruyle performs the "Samoan Princess" dance during Fort Riley's Asian Pacific Heritage Month program May 19 at Barlow Theater. Watching on stage are 24th Infantry Division (Mech) Command Sgt. Maj. Gilbert Canuela (left) and Chap. (Lt. Col) Daniel McClure. Canuela was the program's keynote speaker.

Asian Pacific people contributed much

By Mike Heronemus
Editor

Command Sgt. Maj. Gilbert Canuela returned to Fort Riley just in time to address people attending the annual Asian Pacific American Heritage Month program May 19, at Barlow Theater. The 24th Infantry Division (Mech.) command sergeant major spent the previous weekend in Germany where he spoke to hundreds of attending similar programs in Vilsbibach and Grafenwohr.

"Even if one person showed up today," Canuela said May 19, "that's OK, because what is important is that we remember." One of the new things Canuela said he will remember about others of his cultural heritage was that the first Asian Pacific Americans actually jumped ship from Spanish galleons. They went ashore in Acapulco and made their way north to the United States. America has long been the melting pot of the world's cul-

See Heritage, Page 13



Marie and Ronald Quiroz perform a Filipino "Polka Tagala" during Fort Riley's Asian Pacific Heritage Month observance May 19, at Barlow Theater. Post/Heronemus

Damp weather spreads 'lepto'

Disease hits wild animals, pets, people

By Keener A. Tippin II
and Cheryl May
KSU

MANHATTAN — Spring means flowers blooming from seasonal rains and more opportunities for leptospirosis to spread to domestic and wild animals. "Lepto is everywhere," said Dr. Kenneth Harkin, a Kansas State University veterinarian and infectious disease specialist, whose research emphasis is on leptospirosis. Harkin said lepto is more prevalent during spring months rather than winter because of weather conditions. "Lepto loves wet soil," Harkin said. "It's just too cold in the winter."

Leptospirosis is a bacterial disease that affects humans and animals, but according to Harkin, is rarely seen in cats. The bacteria are spread through infected animal urine that can get into water or soil and can survive there for weeks to months. Infected wild and domestic animals may continue to excrete the bacteria into the environment continuously or every once in a while for a few months up to several years, according to the Centers for Disease Control. Leptosira varieties have what are termed maintenance hosts and incidental hosts. Maintenance hosts are those animal species that serve as a reservoir for the leptospira organism, and in which transmission is very efficient. Incidental hosts include those species of animals that do not act as reservoirs but that can be infected by the organism. The organism replicates in the kidneys of maintenance hosts and is shed in the urine. Transmission can occur to the new host, either

See Lepto, Page 13

Patrols make MPs visible

Bike unit strengthens community interaction

By Jeff Buczkowski
Public Affairs Officer

Drivers passing by Fort Riley schools recently may have noticed bicyclists clad in highly visible black and yellow uniforms keeping an eye on the children. This is one of the many tasks assigned to the Military Police Bicycle Patrol. The mission of the bicycle patrol is to enhance the quality of life within the Fort Riley community and provide a positive assis-

tance and interaction program to the families living in the Fort Riley housing areas. "The purpose of the Bike Patrol is to interact with children and to be a visible presence in the community," explained Pfc. Shaun Spencer of the 300th Military Police Company. The group is small, made up of two Soldiers from Fort Riley's 300th Military Police Company and four from the 342nd Military Police Company from Ohio. They

operate in two-man teams. "We ride good, sturdy mountain bikes," said Sgt. David Parthemore, noncommissioned officer in charge of the bike patrol. Affixed to the bicycles are saddlebags containing reflective vests, bicycle tools, safety gear for night riding, hand-held radar guns and the rider's military paperwork. "The riders are all volunteers."

See Patrol, Page 12



Members of Fort Riley's military police bike patrol hone their riding skills while maneuvering through a serpentine course of traffic cones. Post/Buczkowski



Community news briefly

At the movies:

The doors at Barlow Theater open at 6:30 p.m. Tickets cost \$3 for adults and \$1.50 for children age 5 to 11. Children under age 5 are admitted free except during children's matinees or expected sell-outs.

May 27 — The Alamo (PG-13)

May 28 — Hellboy (PG-13)

May 29 — Walking Tall (PG-13)

May 30 — Hellboy (PG-13)

June 3 — The Girl Next Door (R)

Custer House reopens Side B

Custer House Side B has reopened and is available for rental by units or organizations wanting a special place to hold an event.

May has many open dates but June dates are filling up. Cost is \$20 with a refundable deposit of \$50.

To reserve a date, call Joanne Gulotta at 784-4922.

The Shoppe sells gift items

The Shoppe is in its new location in the U.S. Cavalry Museum, building 205, by calling 239-2743.

The Shoppe receives new gift items weekly for its stock of handcrafted items, unique farewell gifts, pottery, deployment candles, military items, and much more.

The Shoppe's hours are 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Tuesday through Friday and 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturday.

Men's group studies Bible

A long-term men's Bible study group meets from 5:15 to 6:15 a.m. each Thursday at Kapaun Chapel on Custer Hill. All men are invited.

For more information, call Chap. (Capt.) Glenn Palmer at 784-8384 or 239-9565.

Olympics group invites families

The local Special Olympics group invites families who have special needs individuals to join them in their upcoming events.

Special Olympics provides year-round training, education and athletic competition in a variety of Olympic-type sports for people age 8 and older with mental and physical retardation.

For more information, call Geary County representatives Otis Scroggins at 238-1342 or Bob Alan at 762-2149.

Crafts center sets classes

May 30 — Scrapbooking Get-Together, 1 to 4:30 p.m.

June 2 and 7 — Stepping Stones, 10 a.m. to noon

June 3 — Mold Pouring Orientation, 6:30 to 8:30 p.m.

Teen Center activities:

Upcoming activities planned by Teen Center staff include:

May 28 — Middle School Party, 8 to 10:30 p.m.

May 29 — Potluck BBQ, 6 to 9 p.m.

For more information, call the Teen Center at 239-9222.

The center is located at the corner of Thomas Avenue and Longstreet Drive on Custer Hill.

Thrift Shop seeks help

The Thrift Shop is looking for a bookkeeper, general manager and cashier. Anyone interested can pick up an application at the shop.

The shop is open from 9:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. Tuesdays and Wednesdays, from 9:30 a.m. to 6 p.m. Thursdays.

YMCA

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"My mother went to dances sponsored by the YMCA in the late '30s in the Newport (R.I.) area and that's where she met my father, who was a Navy chief. So this organization is pretty important to me," Hagee said to the audience.

Hagee said he talked to Marines and sailors during a recent visit to Fallujah, Iraq. "They're motivated and confident," he said, because "they're well-trained and they know they have the best equipment that this country can give them."

Knowing the American people are behind them is important to the deployed men and women, the general said. "Probably the most important thing is that they know that this country — organizations like this — support them. The most often asked question is, 'Do the American people know what we're doing and do they support what we're doing?' And I was very happy ... to report to them, 'Absolutely,'" he said.

"We ask a great deal from our armed service members and our families and they deliver every single day," he said.

With organizations like the ASYMCA and its volunteers, the armed forces would never lose that attitude, he said.

Patrol

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Pfc. Nathaniel Holobaugh (left), 342nd Military Police Company and Sgt. David Parthemore, 300th Military Police Company, talk with Fort Riley Middle School students on the Fort Riley bicycle path.

"We were all interviewed for the job," Parthemore said. "Riders need to have a good, positive attitude and be in good physical condition."

The patrol goes out two to three times daily for about two hours each time, Parthemore said. Riders cover an average of 20 miles per day.

During school season, the unit attempted to be at Fort Riley's schools during the times students are coming to or leaving school.

"We go out mainly during the times when school kids are out," Parthemore said.

The unit plans to work in shifts to conduct all-day patrols when the school year is completed and at night if required, Parthemore said.

The children got to know the police and looked forward to their visits, especially the elementary school students. The military police carry baseball cards that they hand out to the children and gained some notoriety with the students.

"Sgt. Parthemore is known as Dave the Barbarian at Fort Riley Elementary," Spencer said. Dave the Barbarian is a cartoon character popular with the younger children.

"All of us love to ride and be out there in the community, especially with the kids," Parthemore added.

Parthemore and Spencer agreed that the unit has been highly successful so far.

The patrol stopped numerous fights between students in the schoolyards and on Fort Riley's bicycle trail, Spencer said. The MPs also are better able to enforce Fort Riley policies, such as the requirement for rider to wear bicycle helmets.

"We see more on foot," Parthemore said. The unit also had a great deal of success at reducing neighborhood speeding.

"Drivers are more conscious of speed limits when we are around," Spencer said. "We've issued 32 tickets in 20 days, five for stop signs and the rest for speeding."

While they have been successful at reducing speeding, Parthemore quickly pointed out that speeding vehicles is not the patrol's primary focus.

"Bike patrol is out there, but we are a community-friendly force," he said.

"If you see us, wave," he added. "We are there to help the community."

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Jessica Bailey, 11 and Michela Rodriguez, 10, compete in a tug-of-war during Ware Elementary School's Field Day April 19.

Students 'go to field'

By Valerie Dey-Bolejock
105th MPAD

Ware Elementary School's first through fifth-grade students went outside April 19, for the annual field day fun that gives them a break from classroom work late in the school year.

Activities lasted all day with students moving to a new activity whenever the air horn sounded.

Activities included tug-of-war, tossing a rubber animal through a hoop, races, basketball throws, relay races and hula-hoops.

Groups were divided by classes. Field day activities showed children some fun games they can play at home and after school with friends. The day's purpose was to encourage children to remain active and to involve themselves in a healthy lifestyle, said the school principal.



Rebecca Salazar, 6, jumps a hurdle during the Ware Elementary School Field Day.



Jordon Riberts, 11, throws a toy fish toward the ground hoops at the Ware Elementary Field Day.

Crystal Fuentes, 9, continues playing hula-hoop with her last two hoops during the Ware Elementary School Field Day. Two of her hoops had spun down around her legs to the ground.

105th MPAD/
Dey-Bolejock



Heritage

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tures, Canuela said, stirred by the image of the Statue of Liberty and the words of the poet Emma Lazarus: "Give me your tired, your poor, your huddled masses, yearning to breathe free."

"America was created and shaped by successive waves of immigrants," Canuela said, mentioning briefly the historic roles Africans, Chinese, Japanese, Filipinos and Koreans played in shaping America's future.

Many Asian Pacific Americans left their personal marks in U.S. history, Canuela pointed out.

He mentioned Sen. Daniel Inouye of Hawaii, who fought in World War II and earned the Bronze Star and a battlefield commission to second lieutenant for helping rescue members of a battalion surrounded by German forces in the French mountains.

Inouye went on to earn the Medal of Honor while leading his men in an assault on a heavily defended hill in Italy.

Canuela also detailed the military service of Soldiers in the famed Hawaiian Japanese-American unit, the 100th Infantry Battalion of the 442nd Infantry Regiment.

The 100th Inf. Bn. became the most decorated unit in Army history for the time it spent in service.

Its members received more than 18,000 individual decorations for bravery and 9,500 Purple Hearts, Canuela said. The unit as a whole earned seven Presidential Unit Citations.

"So, from our history, it is clear to see that Asian Pacific Americans proudly and honorably served our nation," Canuela said.

He went on to name several other Soldiers of Asian Pacific heritage who acquitted themselves well in service to America, including several still in service or recently retired.

Among the famous people and celebrities Canuela mentioned in his speech were Jerry Yang, who created Yahoo; Dr. David Ho, who was Time magazine's man of the year in 1996 for his groundbreaking research into HIV; Dr. Ann Wong, creator of the computer memory chip; and martial artist and movie star Bruce Lee.

Others Canuela named included professional athletes, Olympic champions, and beauty queens.

All these people are proof that Asian Pacific Americans who want acceptance by others can achieve that acceptance, Canuela said. Some of that acceptance comes with personal achievements, he said, "but I've realized that we don't have to wait for acceptance to be granted to us."

"If you want it, and all of us do, you can have it at anytime," he said. "Regardless of our race, gender, color, title, age or position, we can help ourselves. All we have to do is to accept ourselves and to expect acceptance by others."

"Simply put, if you expect people to accept you, they'll probably do it," Canuela said.



Kathleen and Kelly Ann DelaCruz perform the "Polka Tagala," a Filipino dance.

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Lepto

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maintenance or incidental, by coming in contact with contaminated water, soil or the carcass of an infected animal.

The disease is caused by a bacteria related to the bacteria that causes Lyme disease and syphilis.

The incidence of infection from these two has declined in the past 30 years, most likely due in large measure to vaccination.

"While people may think of leptos as a disease spread by wildlife, it can come from backyard wildlife, including raccoons — even city dogs can get leptos," Harkin said.

Humans are also at risk for contracting leptospirosis. Symptoms can be relatively mild and include flu-like symptoms, ocular pain, redness of the eyes, nasal discharge, fever or muscle and joint pain. However, it can progress to more severe kidney and liver failure.

Leptospirosis has the potential to be severe and even fatal.

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Travel & Fun in Kansas

Chautauqua fills weekend with activity

Staff report

Geary and Riley County historical societies spearheaded plans to revive the local history about Bleeding Kansas for the first of four statewide events in the state's 2004 Chautauqua. The Bleeding Kansas era comes alive June 4-8 in Junction City's Heritage Park and on Fort Riley.

This spring's Chautauqua also revives a form of adult and community learning popular in the late 1800s. Those early Chautauqua events provided informal education, entertainment, hands-on activities and a demonstration of civic pride during evening

gatherings under a tent.

The events planned for the Junction City's Chautauqua program - followed by others in Colby, Fort Scott and Lawrence — include re-enactments of famous people of the times, adult and children workshops, live entertainment, period music, tours of the First Territorial Capitol and a cavalry encampment at Fort Riley, period craft demonstrations and hands-on activities for children in the Kid-Tauqua tent.

Abolitionist Frederick Douglass visits the big tent in Heritage Park from 7:30 to 9 p.m. June 4. Former President Abraham Lincoln and Stephen Douglas, an

American politician of Lincoln's time, visit the big tent the same time June 5.

Clarina Nichols, a leader in the early women's rights movement, visits the big tent from 7:30 to 9 p.m. June 6. David Atchison, who worked to bring Kansas into the Union as a slave state, will visit the big tent the same time June 7. John Brown, the famous fiery abolitionist, visits the big tent from 7:30 to 9 p.m. June 8.

Musical entertainment during Chautauqua includes spirituals in the big tent 7 to 7:20 p.m. June 4, folk songs by Bryan McBride in the Kid-Tauqua tent 4:30 to 5 p.m. June 5, the Junction City Municipal Band at the Heritage Park band stand from 6:30 to 7:20 p.m. June 6, and the Hiebert Dulcimers in the big tent from 7 to 7:20 p.m. June 7.

Native American and Civil War re-enactors will set up encampments next to the Geary County Historical Society Museum in Junction City. A display titled "Strange Fruit" will show the African-American experience.

Lunchtime local re-enactors at the Geary County Museum will portray Rep. Martin Conway, a pro-slavery legislator who turned abolitionist; Keetta Morris Hadden, Dr. John Stringfellow, and Ruth Berry Gordon, a Soldier's wife of the time.

For a complete schedule, check the Chautauqua insert in today's Post.



Post/Heronemus

Ron Harris portrays Rep. Martin Conway, a pro-slaver turned abolitionist.



Post/Heronemus

Gaylynn Childs portrays Ruth Berry Gordon, an early settler and Soldier's wife.



Post/Heronemus

Local organizers and participants in the upcoming Chautauqua gather outside the First Territorial Capitol at Fort Riley April 24th after planting a tree to mark Arbor Day and the 150th anniversary of the signing of the Kansas-Nebraska Act. From left are Carol Settgest, in charge of the local Kid-Tauqua events; Gary Dierking, site administrator at the First Territorial Capitol; Ron Harris, who portrays Rep. Martin Conway; Cheryl Collins, Riley County Historical Society; and Gaylynn Childs, Geary County Historical Society.

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