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| Weather Forecast | | Today High:85 Low:61 |
| Saturday High:88 Low:63 | Sunday High:86 Low:62 | |

FRIDAY

Fort Riley Post

Happy 150th Birthday Fort Riley

Soldier Show July 5

The Army: An entity known for strength, determination and...dancing? That's right, dancing. The 2003 Soldier Show will be in town July 5 to show what the Army can do in "Legacy."

See Page 9

June 27, 2003 America's Warfighting Center Vol. 46, No. 25

National Guard troops wrap up NTC rotation

NC National Guard Release

Fort Irwin, Calif. — Operation Tarheel Thunder, the National Training Center rotation for the 30th Heavy Separate Brigade, North Carolina Army National Guard, came to a successful close last week in the wake of fierce mock battles in the Mojave training area.

Since May 31, more than 5,000 soldiers and airmen from North Carolina and more than a dozen supporting states have called Fort Irwin home as they underwent the world's most intense mechanized combat training. The three-week rotation pitted the 30th's Brigade Combat Team against the home field's Opposing Forces — the Blackhorse soldiers of the 11th Armored Cavalry Regiment. As is the case with all rotational units doing "battle" with the 11th, the Guard soldiers have left with valuable lessons in the art of war and will use them to hone their skills as a vital part of the world's best fighting force.

The training at NTC comes as soldiers continue to see duty in Southwest Asia in the wake of Operation Iraqi Freedom. Hundreds of North Carolina National Guard soldiers and airmen are on duty, even now, as the U.S. and its allies plan for a new and free Iraq. Those Guardsmen are part of more than 150,000 Guard and Reserve soldiers, sailors, airmen and marines involved in the effort.

The 30th HSB has not been tasked with any missions in Southwest Asia or anywhere else, and so the soldiers will return to their everyday lives back home. However, according to officials, they are well-trained, motivated and ready if the call to duty ever does come.



Members of the 30th Heavy Separate Brigade, 24th Infantry Division (Mech), Tactical Operation Center gathered on top of Hill 720 around the antenna farm, as the sun begins to set at the National Training Center, Fort Irwin, Calif.

West Nile virus debuts earlier than usual, precautions should be taken

Army preventive medicine specialists are waging a war against the West Nile Virus. Although there have been no cases of humans infected by West Nile Virus in the United States so far this year, according to U.S. Centers of Disease Control statistics as of June 11, the virus has been detected earlier than usual in birds and mosquitoes this summer. Therefore, experts say protective measures are important.

The virus, which can cause a form of encephalitis (inflammation of the brain), normally resides in birds and infects humans through mosquitoes that bite both the birds and humans. So, preventing mosquito bites is the best way to prevent human infection.

"Personal protection is the first line of defense," said Lt. Col. Dave West, an entomologist for

Medical Command's Propensity Office for Preventive Medicine at Fort Sam Houston, Texas.

"People should wear long sleeves rolled down, wear insect repellent with DEET and wear uniforms treated with permethrin," West said.

Staying indoors at dusk, dawn and early evening, when mosquitoes are most active, also will help, he said.

Mosquitoes reproduce in standing water, so eliminating pools (even small ones such as in old tires or tin cans) can reduce the threat, West said.

Many military installations will take measures to control mosquito populations, but West noted that, "even with the most effective control measures, there will still be mosquitoes out there."

West Nile Virus is not transmitted from person to person —

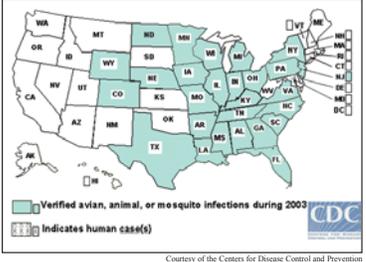
except, in rare cases, by blood transfusion or organ transplant from an infected donor — and there is no evidence a person can be infected directly from birds, according to medical experts.

West Nile Virus is commonly found in Africa, West Asia and the Middle East. In 1999 it was identified in New York and it has since spread to 44 states. Last year there were 4,156 reported human cases and 284 deaths in the U.S.

Most humans infected with the virus have no symptoms. Some develop mild symptoms such as fever, headache, body aches, skin rash and swollen lymph glands. Less than 1 percent of infections cause serious illness, which could include encephalitis or meningitis (inflammation of the spinal cord). Some 3 to 15 percent of encephalitis cases result in death. The elderly are most at risk, experts say.

"Most of our military population is young and healthy. Even though we may become infected, most people will not show signs of disease," West said.

The Web site of the U.S. Army Center for Health Promotion and Preventive Medicine states that there is no vaccine or specific medication against West Nile



Mechanics from 2nd Battalion, 34th Armor, work on the battalion's vehicles and tanks earlier this week in preparation for the unit's Tank Table VII.

Several occupations to get new designators

By Marcia Triggs
Army News Service

Personnel specialists Army-wide are changing more than 50 percent of the enlisted force's occupational codes. For most enlisted soldiers it will just be an alphanumeric change, for others it could mean a career change.

The Army has 230 military occupational specialties — a number that changes everyday, said Randy Newman, chief, Classification Structure Branch. By fiscal year 2009, about 150 of them will be renamed or deleted, he said.

The codes will be aligned with the officer and warrant officer codes for clarity as directed by the former Army Chief of Staff, retired Gen. Eric K. Shinseki.

The Engineer Career Management Field will be renaming 20 specialties. The Aviation CMF will be renaming 19 specialties. These two have the most soldiers to receive a new nomenclature. However, these soldiers will be among the least affected by the realignment of job designators.

Decreasing confusion on what jobs fall under the Engineer CMF will be the primary benefit, said Lt. Col. Jack Smith, Enlisted

Engineer Branch chief.

Engineers now have specialties ranging from diver, 00B; interior electrician, 51R and heavy construction equipment operator, 62E, to topographic analyst, 81T. It was quite confusing around the Army as to what MOSs were engineering, Smith said. With the CMFs 12, 51 and 81 converting to CMF 21, there won't be any doubt who's an engineer, he said.

"The only consternation will be for those senior NCOs [noncommissioned officers] whose goal is to become a Zulu and make the rank of sergeant major. Their quest will change slightly," Smith

Combat engineering senior sergeant, 12Z, will be converted to 21Z. However, general engineer supervisor, 51Z, will be reclassified to 21X and topographic engineering supervisor, 81Z, will be reclassified to 21Y. Bottom line, Smith said, they will be sergeants major responsible for leading troops.

The Aviation Branch is not consolidating any individual specialties, and the change will not affect promotion or assignment eligibility, said Master Sgt. David Wagner, the senior career adviser

See Designators Page 2

Soldiers sought for Army advertisements

Staff Reports

In continuing with the Army campaign, 'An Army of One,' the Secretary of the Army has approved the production of a series of television and Internet commercials and photography shoots in support of recruiting operations. The U.S. Army Recruiting Command has been tasked to produce the new commercial advertising spots and is in search of soldiers to be in those commercials.

The purpose of the project is to increase awareness of the benefits of becoming a soldier, according to USAREC.

The advertising will feature 'true' soldier stories of accomplishment, empowerment, dedication and challenging events. USAREC will feature stories that reflect specific benefits of becoming a soldier, such as continuing education, enlistment bonuses, the Montgomery GI Bill, technical training, health benefits, retirement and many others.

Soldiers interested in being involved in the commercial advertising should fill out the USAREC Soldier Survey. See your unit first sergeant or command sergeant major for more information and to fill out the survey, or contact the Public Affairs Office, building 405 at 239-2824.

A photograph must be submitted with

each application. The Public Affairs Office is available to photograph applicants if they require assistance.

Units may submit as many nominations as are available, however, the candidates must be carefully screened, and they should also have interesting stories beyond their job performance. USAREC is looking for soldiers, particularly minority soldiers, who have interesting family backgrounds, hobbies, reasons for becoming a soldier or aspirations. Casting personnel will be on Fort Riley July 16 - 18. Although USAREC is interested in casting minority soldiers for the project, all nominated soldiers will be considered.



Letters to the Editor

Agencies plan DUI crackdown over holiday

The Kansas Highway Patrol and law enforcement agencies across the country will participate in the "You Drink & Drive, You Lose" mobilization, an impaired driving enforcement crackdown. From today until July 13, officers will be out in full force setting up sobriety checkpoints and aggressively patrolling roadways to stop impaired drivers and to protect families traveling at the beginning of the summer and over the Independence Day holiday weekend.

improvement, fatalities in alcohol-related crashes are on the rise nationally. The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration estimates that in 2002, 17,970 people were killed in alcohol-related crashes. That means impaired driving caused about 42 percent of the 42,850 total traffic fatalities. Patrol Lt. Col. Terry Maple said, "Our message is simple: If you drink and drive, you lose. You can lose your license, your vehicle and your money to fines, court costs and lawyer fees. You could lose your freedom, lose your life

or worse yet, take someone else's."

Maple and other troopers remind drivers of these important safety tips: If you plan to drive, do not drink. If you plan to drink, choose a sober designated driver before going out. If you cannot tell if you have had too many drinks, do not risk it. If you feel "buzzed," you are most likely impaired. Take a taxi or mass transit or call a safe ride program, ask a sober friend to drive you home or spend the night where you are.

Report impaired drivers to law enforcement. Cell phone users can dial *47 to reach the Kansas Highway Patrol.

The "You Drink & Drive, You Lose" campaign, which began in December 1999, focuses on highly visible criminal justice-related efforts to deter impaired driving. The comprehensive impaired driving prevention effort is designed for states and communities to use to save lives.

Kansas Highway Patrol

Honor Guard receives thanks from family

To the soldiers from Fort Riley, I want to thank you for the wonderful ceremony you gave for Gerald Grimes at the Ash Rock Cemetery. It was so nice and the family appreciated it so much. I only wish I'd known about you when my husband passed away three years ago in May. Thanks from the whole family. It was great.

Marjorie Ballard

Grunt *By Wayne Ulden*



Designators continued from page 1

for the Aviation Branch.

"The most-asked question is whether the change means that aviation soldiers will become combat arms, and the answer is no," Wagner said. "Our pilots and the officers are considered combat arms, but enlisted soldiers will still be combat support."

Most of the realignment changes will take place fiscal year 2004, but the process will be staggered until FY09, said Randy Newman, chief, Classification Structure Branch.

"The reason the reclassifications will take so long is because I only have a limited number of MOS codes to use," Newman said. "For example, medical specialists, CMF 91, will be moved to CMF 68. However, right now aviation is coded CMF 68."

Medical specialists will be among the last to get their new designators, but they were the first to announce how the realignment will "doctor" its field.

In October 2001 combat medics, 91B, and licensed practical nurses, 91C, were combined and reclassified as health-care specialists, 91W. A six-year transformation began for the active-duty medic and an eight-year transition for the reservists.

The advanced individual training for health-care specialists located in San Antonio, Texas, was also extended to 16 weeks from the 12-week course.

"Our medics can now operate autonomously on diverse battlefields," said Lt. Col. Ron Hamilton, chief, Health Services

Branch. "Based on a study that looked at how civilians in the medical field are trained and medics in Ranger battalions and in the Marine Corps and Air Force, we modified how our medics are trained and re-certified."

Commanders in Iraq and Afghanistan have said that the medics now have the right skill sets to sustain injured soldiers, Hamilton said. Training is now heavily focused on trauma, sustaining injuries and the use of digital diagnostic equipment, he added.

Personnel specialists also have a long road ahead. Over the next four years, the position "administrative specialist," also widely recognized as 71L, will not be renamed but deleted, said Sgt.

Maj. James Miller, the Adjutant General Branch sergeant major.

"There has been some anxiety and concern among our personnel soldiers, but we have been preparing them mentally for the upcoming changes," Miller said. Soldiers know that a draw down is inevitable, he said, but some soldiers are ready for a change and look forward to reclassifying into another MOS.

The Army's personnel specialists will move to CMF 42, and with the change in nomenclature officials are hoping to streamline the career field and produce a more diversified administrative soldier.

To date, 115 MOSs have been recoded. To see the list of MOSs, go to http://www4.army.mil/ocpa/read.php?story_id_key=2056



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Soldiers must keep personal items secure in barracks rooms

By Brian W. Underdahl
Chief, Claims Division

Unfortunately, sometimes soldiers living in barracks are the victims of theft.

Theft can hurt a soldier financially and damage his or her morale. There are some simple precautions you can take to help keep your property safe.

If you are the victim of a barracks theft, you may file a claim for your loss with the Fort Riley Claims Office. For the claim to be payable though, you need to make sure you take precautions.

You need to keep your personal property secure. This is as easy as locking the doors and windows to your room and your wall locker. If you need to leave the room, keep all your money, bank cards and other small valuable items in your locked wall locker. It is never a good idea to leave cash or other valuable items out in the open, even in a secured room. If a

room is not properly secured, any claim filed may not be payable, as regulations require that soldiers secure their property. Units do have safes or other security procedures for storage and securing extremely valuable small items.

If you have high dollar items, such as a camera, DVD player or stereo, record these items on an inventory sheet. You can obtain the form from your unit supply room. When you pick up the form, make sure you fill it out completely, making note of all high dollar value items. Make sure you write down the make, model number and serial number of each high dollar value item. Then, ask your noncommissioned officer or someone in your chain of command to sign and verify the items on this inventory. Make a copy of the inventory for your records and one for the unit files. Keeping the inventory is very important. Without an inventory you will have to find some other

way to prove ownership for any claim you might file. Without adequate proof of ownership and value, your claim for a stolen item may not be payable or paid as you claim.

When deploying, you need to take extra measures to ensure your belongings are secure. First, make sure your inventory is up to date. Second, keep a copy of your inventory with you and in an additional secure place other than at your unit. Lastly, ensure that your wall locker is banded.

If you are the victim of a barracks theft, there are a few very important steps you need to take. First, call the military police immediately, as well as your chain of command. The military police must investigate and issue a police report for any claim to be payable.

Then, contact the Claims Office, 239-2633 or 239-3830, as soon as possible to report your claim and receive further advice.

Talk Around Town

“What are you going to do to celebrate the Fourth of July holiday?”



“I am going to spend time with my children at the Wild West Festival in Hays. I will also attend the military appreciation celebration at the park.”

Sgt. 1st Class Kayla Murphy
89th Regional Support Command



“I will enjoy my time off with my wife and daughter.”

Master Sgt. Jack Harwood
89th Regional Support Command



“I will be attending a family reunion in Kansas City -- mostly just enjoying my family and relaxing.”

Sgt. 1st Class Melvin Gaines Jr.
89th Regional Support Command

Agent Authorization Pass enables commissary use by non-military

DCA Release

Directorate of Community Activities is getting the word out about the Department of Defense Agent Authorization Pass. This tool enables servicemember's, retired and active duty, to continue to enjoy the benefits of commissary and exchange savings during unusual circumstances. The pass helps to ease the financial burden on members of the military force who are deploying and those who need physical assistance. The key is making servicemembers aware, during the deployment or assignment process, that their dependents can obtain an Agent Pass on their behalf.

Adult commissary patrons, who for a variety of reasons become unable to physically shop in the commissary for a temporary period, may seek Department of Defense Agent Authorization, as defined in DoD Directive 1330.17-R (Armed Services Commissary Regulations), para 1.

201.11. It allows a military member to request an individual be authorized to shop in the commissary on a temporary basis in his or her stead.

A specific named person may be authorized on a temporary basis, not exceeding one year unless extended for continuing hardship, to shop for an authorized patron under certain conditions. These conditions include extreme hardship or when no adult family member is capable of shopping due to sickness or because of being stationed away from the household.

This could be a valuable tool in the current military environment, where significant members of the military force are involved in the Global War on Terrorism, particularly when dependent children may be in the care of individuals not authorized commissary privileges — grandparents, aunts and uncles, close family friends. Under these circumstances, commissary benefits are still authorized for these dependents.

Obtaining an Agent Pass Authorization prior to deployment will ensure dependents can continue to take advantage of the commissary benefit. This authorization is not granted by the Defense Commissary Agency, but instead is a function of the local commander who controls access to the installation.

In order to receive an Agent Card for those deploying, you will need copies of the orders and/or a letter from the commander and a copy of a Power of Attorney. For those who need to have an Agent Card designated to someone and are unable to do so due to medical issues, a statement from the doctor will be needed. With the proper paperwork, the selected individual who is receiving the Agent Card, along with the servicemember and/or spouse, needs to go to DCA, 253 Cameron Ave., to get the card.

For more information, call DCA, 239-3467.

News from 3 BCT

The soldiers from Bravo Company, 1st Battalion, 325th Airborne Infantry, attached to 1st Brigade's 1st Battalion, 13th Armor, went to a house in a district on Baghdad on June 16 after tips from several local residents indicated a large stash of weapons was buried on the property. The tips turned out to be a home run for the soldiers of Bravo Company, as they dug up five mortar tubes, 50 82mm mortars, 15 to 20 rocket propelled grenade launchers and 40 RPG rounds. The biggest find in the raid however was the discovery of several



Spc. John Wollaston reporting

boxes of Ba'ath party documents and identification badges. According to Bravo Company Commander, Capt. Gabe Barton, the burial of the weapons and documents was very hastily done. Some of the RPGs were still in the plastic they had been shipped in. This raid is part of the 1st Armor Divisions Operation Scorpion Sting, a total effort by the 1st Armor Division to root out the remaining remnants of the old regime of Saddam Hussein and crack down on the illegal arms dealing going on within the city.

Corps warns: Be safe while boating

Staff reports

With Independence Day approaching, many families are planning to spend their holiday weekend at one of Kansas' many lakes.

The Army Corps of Engineers cautions against the use of alcohol while enjoying water activities such as boating and swimming.

“Celebrations are great, but booze and boating don't mix,” said Emily Harbaugh, water safety ranger, Army Corps of Engineers at Milford Lake.

In a study of boating fatalities in four states, 51 percent of people who died had a blood alcohol content of .04 or higher and 30 percent had a blood alcohol content of .10 or higher, said Harbaugh.

“A blood alcohol content as low as .01 percent can impair judgment, decrease coordination and change a person's mood,” she said. “With the combination of these effects, one can see that alcohol can become deadly.”

There are several factors that can affect the body besides alcohol.

The body is not only influenced by the alcohol consumed, but also by the various stress fac-

tors of water recreation, said Harbaugh. “Some of these factors include sun, engine noise, glare, wave action, temperature and wind. When one combines these external effects with alcohol, results can be tragic.”

Boaters under the influence of alcohol are not only putting their

lives in danger, but others on the lake as well, she said.

The Corps encourages everyone to be considerate of others that use area lakes and to do their part in ensuring this is another safe and enjoyable holiday weekend, Harbaugh said.

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Briefs

Thrift Savings Plan

The Thrift Savings Plan is having an open season through Monday.

The TSP contribution limit for FERS employees for 2003 is 13 percent. The TSP contribution limit for CSRS employees for 2003 is 7 percent. The loan interest rate for new loans is 3.87 percent. You must enroll online for TSP, no hard copies will be accepted.

Go to www.abc.army.mil or call 1-877-276-9833. For more information on TSP, go to www.tsp.gov

Childcare Openings

The Fort Riley Child Development Center currently has openings for the full-day preschool for children 3-5 years of age. The hours available are 6 a.m. to 6 p.m. Cost is based on total family income. Children must be registered with Child and Youth Services before they can be enrolled in the CDC. Contact CVS Central Registration, 239-9478 or 239-4847, for information and an appointment.

Holiday Range Closure

Military training is not scheduled to be conducted at Fort Riley July 3 - 7 in observance of the Independence Day holiday and weekend. Range Control Headquarters and all range support facilities will be closed from 12:01 a.m. Thursday until 12:01 a.m. July 7.

If guards are required at the Ammunition Holding Area during this closure period due to unit requirement or safe haven, the Fort Riley Operations Center will notify the G3 Sergeant of the Guard, who will report for duty. The Range Control Communications Section will resume normal operations at 12:01 a.m. July 7, at which time communications with radio stations normally monitoring Range Control frequencies will be re-established. For more information, call Lee Breidenstein, Range Control Headquarters, 239-4516.

Changes of Command

The Fort Riley Criminal Investigation Division, Battalion Change of Command is scheduled July 18, 9 a.m. at Cavalry Parade Field. The incoming commander will be Lt. Col. James W. Gray. He is coming to Fort Riley from duty at Scott Air Force Base, where he was the force protection officer, Transportation Command. Leaving Fort Riley CID will be Lt. Col. Michael R. French. French is retiring after 21 years of service.

In case of inclement weather, the ceremony will be held at Hanger 817.

The 924th Military Police Battalion will have a Change of Command Wednesday 9 a.m., at Cavalry Parade Field. Lt. Col. Pamela L. Martis will relinquish command to Lt. Col. Anthony D. Zabek. In case of inclement weather, the ceremony will be held at Hanger 817.

Softball Scorekeepers Needed

The Fort Riley Sports Office is looking for a few more individuals who would like to become scorekeepers for slow pitch softball games. The games are in the evenings and on weekends. It can be a good source of extra income during the summer months. Anyone that might be interested should contact Barry Sunstrom, 239-3945.

Refuse Collection Schedule

Due to the upcoming July 4 holiday, the refuse collection schedule will change. Collection days will be: Monday, Colver Manor, Main Post Housing and Marshall Air Field; Tuesday, Peterson Heights, O'Donnell Heights, Ellis Heights and Montie Heights; Wednesday, Warner Heights and Burnside Heights and Thursday, Meade Heights, McCullum Heights, South Warner Heights and South Peterson Heights. There will be no trash collection on July 4.

All trash must be placed on the curb no later than 7:30 a.m. During this Holiday week there will be no special pickups.

IACH School Physicals

Irwin Army Community Hospital will be offering 2003-2004 school physicals July 26 and Aug. 9. Appointments for school physicals are available only to Tricare Prime beneficiaries. Parents or guardians are required to book an appointment for the physical through the Fort Riley Tricare Service Center. No walk-ins will be accepted. Due to the limited number of appointments, no physicals for daycare or children under 4 years of age will be taken during the time of the school physicals.

A school physical is required for children under 8 years of age who will be enrolling in the Kansas Public School System for the first time.

When going to a physical appointment, a parent or legal guardian must be with a child who is under the age of 18. Bring the child's immunization card and military identification card to the appointment. If a legal guardian is accompanying the child, bring the Power of Attorney document. Parents or guardians may pick up the school/sports physical forms in advance and fill them out prior to their child's appointment. The forms are available at the hospital's information desk.

Beneficiaries who need to have their child's school physical done before the hospital's dates may go to Konza Prairie Community Health Center, Junction City, or Junction City Youth Clinic.

For appointments, call the Tricare Service Center, 784-1200, or toll free, 1-800-874-9378.

Elk Applications

The Kansas Department of Wildlife and Parks has released the 2003 big game application

booklets, which includes elk application procedures. These may be picked up at the Outdoor Recreation Center, building 9011, or the Conservation Division, building 1020. They are also available for download from the KDWP website: <http://www.kdwp.state.ks.us> Applications must be postmarked by July 11.

Battle of the Bands

Battle of the Bands 2003 will be held July 11, 9 p.m., at Rally Point.

Battle of the Bands is a competition between six local bands. They will be judged in several categories, such as originality, crowd response and musicianship. Bands must perform live for approximately 30 minutes each. Prizes will be awarded.

Audition tapes are being accepted now through today to Better Opportunities for Single Soldiers, building 253. Bands must have a minimum of three members.

Tickets will be available in advance at Information, Ticketing and Registration for \$5. They will also be sold at the door. For more information, call 239-8147.

Special Needs Rodeo

The Junction City Rodeo Association will be hosting the Seventh Annual Special Needs Rodeo July 19, 6 p.m.

The kids will have their own "rodeo outfits," and each child will be paired up with their one-on-one cowboy or cowgirl partner. The partner will escort the child to each of the events. Kids can also take a horseback ride at the end of the arena. The children can finish up their evening watching the Junction City Rodeo, where they and their families will be special guests.

The Special Needs Rodeo will be held at the 4-H Senior Citizen Center on Spring Valley Road, Junction City. For more information or to RSVP, contact Laura McCauley, Exceptional Family Member Program, 239-9435. Please RSVP by July 8.

Soldier Show

The U.S. Army Soldier Show is coming to Fort Riley for two shows in July. The 17-member cast will perform at McCain Auditorium at Kansas State University, July 5 at 2 and 7:30 p.m.

The fast-paced, family-friendly musical medley features soldiers performing a variety of music styles ranging from current pop hits to patriotic, country to rhythm and blues, contemporary Latin to nostalgic rock and roll and pays special tribute to Irving Berlin, the "founding father" of today's Army Entertainment program.

Tickets to the event are free. Advance tickets for military personnel and their families are available at Information, Ticketing and Registration, 239-5614. Tickets are also available at McCain Auditorium.

For more information, contact

Employment Readiness Program

The Employment Readiness Program is offering several Orientation/Intake briefs for members of the Army family. Attend an orientation to learn about the employment assistance offered, get information about the current Kansas job market and complete your enrollment for job search assistance. Orientation briefs are scheduled for Tuesday, then again July 8, 15 and 22, 9 a.m. - 12 p.m. at the Soldier and Family Support Center, building 7264. Pre-registration is required.

For more information, contact the Employment Readiness Program, 239-9435 or 239-9437.

Human Patient Simulator

Fort Riley medics are invited to schedule time for using the Human Patient Simulator. Irwin Army Community Hospital will offer information for practicing the lessons learned in classes for Emergency Medical Technicians/Paramedics or classes for treatment of battlefield injuries.

To reserve a time, call Staff Sgt. Kevin Lockett, NCOIC for the Health Specialist (91W) Transition Program, 239-2111.

Praise Team Leader/Pianist Needed

The Contemporary Protestant service is looking for a Christian praise team leader and pianist for their praise team. Service meets Sundays at 11 a.m. Rehearsals are Wednesday, 6 p.m. and Sunday, a.m.

If interested, call Chaplain Paulson, 239-3436.

Breast-feeding Classes

The Women and Infant Care Center of Irwin Army Community

Standards of Conduct Reminder

Only duly appointed contracting officers can obligate the government contractually. Failure to comply with this requirement will result in an "unauthorized commitment" - an agreement that is not binding solely because the government representative who made it lacked the authority to enter into that agreement on behalf of the Government. Unauthorized commitments must be investigated, and the perpetrators are subject to adverse actions.

Ordering officers may, by virtue of their written appointment, obligate the government up to their designated approval limits. Also, government purchase cardholders may obligate the government when funds are certified by an approved funds certifier, so long as they remain within designated single purchase and monthly purchase limits. For additional information, contact the Directorate of Contracting, 239-0468.

Adopt-a-Room

Fort Riley organizations are invited to participate in the Women Infant Care Center Adopt-A-Room project. This beautification program is striving to change the appearance of the patient rooms and give them a softer, family oriented look. The rooms are on the third floor in the Women and Infant Care Center. New mothers are encouraged to bring their own pillows, blankets or towels to add to their comfort during their hospital stay.

For more information on the Adopt-A-Room program, call Maj. Susanna Itara at 239-7434.

Outdoor Service

The Fort Riley Contemporary Protestant service will have an outdoor service and picnic at Moon Lake's North Pavilion on Sunday, 11 a.m. The public is invited.

Thrift Shop

Are you getting ready to move? Let the Fort Riley Thrift Shop help you get ready for the packers. Sort through your belongings and call the Thrift Shop to come and pick up any donations (in good condition) from your house.

Visit the Thrift Shop in building 267, Stuart Ave., 784-3874. Hours of operation are 9:30 a.m. - 2:30 p.m. Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday and 10 a.m. - 1 p.m. on the first Saturday of each month.

Letters to the Front

The Fort Riley Public Affairs Office wants to publish your letters in support of troops deployed for Operation Iraqi Freedom. If you have a message you want to send to the troops, e-mail it to afzppomr@riley.army.mil Please write "letter" in the subject line of your e-mail.

Nursery Workers Needed

Looking for workers who are interested in working at the nursery's on post at any of the chapels (Main Post, Morris Hill, Normandy and Kapaun Chapels). You must be able to work Sunday mornings for worship services. Those who are interested must be 18 years of age or older and must be CPR and First Aide certified, or willing to get certified at their expense. Call Sgt. 1st Class Lang, 239-2799, for more information.

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Visit the Thrift Shop in building 267, Stuart Ave., 784-3874. Hours of operation are 9:30 a.m. - 2:30 p.m. Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday and 10 a.m. - 1 p.m. on the first Saturday of each month.

Letters to the Front

The Fort Riley Public Affairs Office wants to publish your letters in support of troops deployed for Operation Iraqi Freedom. If you have a message you want to send to the troops, e-mail it to afzppomr@riley.army.mil Please write "letter" in the subject line of your e-mail.

Employment Readiness Program

The Employment Readiness Program is offering several Orientation/Intake briefs for members of the Army family. Attend an orientation to learn about the employment assistance offered, get information about the current Kansas job market and complete your enrollment for job search assistance. Orientation briefs are scheduled for Tuesday, then again July 8, 15 and 22, 9 a.m. - 12 p.m. at the Soldier and Family Support Center, building 7264. Pre-registration is required.

For more information, contact the Employment Readiness Program, 239-9435 or 239-9437.

Human Patient Simulator

Fort Riley medics are invited to schedule time for using the Human Patient Simulator. Irwin Army Community Hospital will offer information for practicing the lessons learned in classes for Emergency Medical Technicians/Paramedics or classes for treatment of battlefield injuries.

To reserve a time, call Staff Sgt. Kevin Lockett, NCOIC for the Health Specialist (91W) Transition Program, 239-2111.

Praise Team Leader/Pianist Needed

The Contemporary Protestant service is looking for a Christian praise team leader and pianist for their praise team. Service meets Sundays at 11 a.m. Rehearsals are Wednesday, 6 p.m. and Sunday, a.m.

If interested, call Chaplain Paulson, 239-3436.

Breast-feeding Classes

The Women and Infant Care Center of Irwin Army Community

Standards of Conduct Reminder

Only duly appointed contracting officers can obligate the government contractually. Failure to comply with this requirement will result in an "unauthorized commitment" - an agreement that is not binding solely because the government representative who made it lacked the authority to enter into that agreement on behalf of the Government. Unauthorized commitments must be investigated, and the perpetrators are subject to adverse actions.

Ordering officers may, by virtue of their written appointment, obligate the government up to their designated approval limits. Also, government purchase cardholders may obligate the government when funds are certified by an approved funds certifier, so long as they remain within designated single purchase and monthly purchase limits. For additional information, contact the Directorate of Contracting, 239-0468.

Adopt-a-Room

Fort Riley organizations are invited to participate in the Women Infant Care Center Adopt-A-Room project. This beautification program is striving to change the appearance of the patient rooms and give them a softer, family oriented look. The rooms are on the third floor in the Women and Infant Care Center. New mothers are encouraged to bring their own pillows, blankets or towels to add to their comfort during their hospital stay.

For more information on the Adopt-A-Room program, call Maj. Susanna Itara at 239-7434.

Outdoor Service

The Fort Riley Contemporary Protestant service will have an outdoor service and picnic at Moon Lake's North Pavilion on Sunday, 11 a.m. The public is invited.

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Nursery Workers Needed

Looking for workers who are interested in working at the nursery's on post at any of the chapels (Main Post, Morris Hill, Normandy and Kapaun Chapels). You must be able to work Sunday mornings for worship services. Those who are interested must be 18 years of age or older and must be CPR and First Aide certified, or willing to get certified at their expense. Call Sgt. 1st Class Lang, 239-2799, for more information.

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More Briefs

Organizational Days

DOL will be closed on July 18 for an Organization Day.

The 924th Military Police Battalion is having its annual Organizational Day today. The Vehicle Registration Office will close at 9 a.m.

The Shoppe

The Shoppe has the gifts you need to say "Farewell" or "Thank You" to someone special. Come and see what The Shoppe has to offer! The Shoppe is located in building 259, Stuart Ave., 239-2783. Hours of operation are 10 a.m. - 2 p.m., Tuesday - Saturday.

Mail Training

An 'Introduction to Unit Mailroom Operations' class will be offered Wednesday and July 9, 9 a.m. - 2 p.m. at building 319. The 'Official Mail Training' class will be offered July 16, 9 a.m. - 2 p.m. at building 319.

Pre-enrollment is required. Call 239-5411 to enroll.

Soldier Retirement Info

Soldiers with DEIMS dates after Aug. 1, 1986, who are eligible under current Service regulations to serve continuously to 20 years, must choose between the High-3 and the CSB/REDUX retired pay plans between their 14 and a half and 15th year of active duty, although retirement won't occur until the soldier has completed 20 years of service. The 14 and a half to 15 years of active duty is calculated from the soldier's basic active service date (BASD) Not the DEIMS date. Members who elect CSB/REDUX are entitled to a

\$30,000 career status bonus (CSB) payable at their 15th year of active duty. The CSB may be paid in a lump sum or a series of up to five annual payments. In no case will an election become effective before a member's 15th year of active duty. CSB/REDUX retired pay will always lag behind High-3 retired pay, so wise investment of the CSB by members who elect CSB/REDUX is necessary to lessen or possibly eliminate that gap.

All servicemembers who are between their 14 and a half and 15th year of active duty should contact the Retirement Services Office for an appointment to choose between retired pay plans. The Retirement Services Office is located in building 210, 239-3320 or 239-3667. For more information concerning CSB/REDUX, go to www.pdcspcr.army.mil/Retirement

Enlisted Spouses Club

The Fort Riley Enlisted Spouses Club is a service organization designed for Enlisted Spouses E1 - E9, active duty, retirees or widows. The club helps support Fort Riley and surrounding communities with donations to worthy causes as well as the donation of time and services to projects. The second purpose of ESC is to foster and promote recreational and social activities among the members while providing a support system for the enlisted spouses of Fort Riley.

For more information on the club or upcoming meetings, call 784-3191.

New OB Class

The New OB Class is held every Tuesday morning, 8:30 - 11:30 a.m., on the 4th floor of Irwin Army Community Hospital.

A positive home pregnancy test is required before scheduling your attendance of the New OB Class. Spouses, or men and women who are the support persons for the pregnant soldier or military dependent, are welcome to attend. The New OB Class is not a labor and delivery class.

Expectant mothers will be introduced to the IACH OB/GYN staff members; fill out their OB charts, review medical and genetic history with an OB/GYN staff member, and will also be given a copy of "Pregnancy and Childbirth." This is a three-ring binder with information about appointment schedules, facts about pregnancy, childbirth, infant care and a local resource directory.

To schedule your attendance of the New OB Class, call the TRI-CARE Service Center, 784-1200 or toll-free, 1-888-874-9378.

Pregnancy Physical Training

Pregnancy Physical Training is held every Monday and Friday, 6:30 - 7:30 a.m., at the Armed Forces YMCA, 16th and Washington St., Junction City, and on Wednesday, it is held at Normandy Chapel, building 7865, Fort Riley. The program is designed to serve the special needs of the pregnant soldier by providing appropriate physical training and a health education program. Pregnancy PT supports the Fort Riley units by offering consistent health guidance for pregnant soldiers.

Every Tuesday is an hour-long education program, which is held

in the Education Bay, fourth floor, Irwin Army Community Hospital, 6:30 - 7:30 a.m. Short presentations by health care staff members cover a variety of topics, such as infant car seats, skincare during pregnancy and the common discomforts of pregnancy.

Spouses, or men and women who are the support persons for the pregnant soldier, are welcome to attend. Participation in the Pregnancy PT program is encouraged although participation isn't mandatory. Limited openings are available for this program.

To participate in the Pregnancy PT program, call Sgt. Carrie M. Jensen, Headquarters Platoon, 568th Engineer Company, 239-4260, or leave a message at 762-7012.

Tobacco Cessation

Community Health Nursing of Irwin Army Community Hospital offers free Tobacco Cessation classes. This is a four-week program, which meets once a week and is run by trained medical professionals. Participants may choose to quit smoking without medication or healthcare providers may prescribe Zyban. Nicotine patches are also offered during the class.

For those concerned about gaining weight after kicking the tobacco habit, a dietician teaches healthy ways to avoid weight gain. Military servicemembers, their families and DoD civilians are eligible to participate.

To register, call Community Health Nursing at 239-7323.



Kyle Jones, 3, looks at a cricket with Gail Bias, lead education technician for Module 5, Fort Riley Child Development Center, during a field trip to the Milford Nature Center Tuesday. Kyle is the son of Spc. Shontrina Jones, Headquarters and Headquarters Detachment, 101st Forward Support Battalion.

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USO rocks Camp Doha crowd with largest show in Army history

By Christopher Selmek
19th PAD

CAMP DOHA, KUWAIT — The largest USO show since Vietnam, hosted by USO celebrity board chairman Wayne Newton and featuring such famous stars as Kid Rock, Nappy Roots and Leann Womack, took place June 18 in the PX parking lot.

The show went on for approximately five hours and was divided into two halves, with the second half being devoted mainly to musical guests Lee Anne Womack, Nappy Roots and Kid Rock.

"I'm sure it's going to be a phenomenal show," said Capt. Jennifer Hicks-McGowan, before the show. "It's the largest USO show in Army history."

The performance took place on the largest stage built for any USO show since the Vietnam War. The main stage was 36 by 48 feet and had two wings of 28 by 16 feet each.

"It's very overbuilt," said Capt. Andrew Adamson, 489th Engineer Team. "I have a lot of guys who were contractors back home building houses. It's a lot like building the foundation of a house, because there are no walls."

The show had superficial similarities to the last USO show held on Camp Doha, which also featured Wayne Newton, Neil McCoy and Paul Rodriguez, but had many more guests and ran much longer.

"It is so wonderful to be back here," said Newton after running out on stage singing F-R-O-U-B-L-E with four of the Dallas Cowboy cheerleaders. "Someone

once said that all my hero's have been cowboys, but all my heroes are in this audience here tonight," he said.

Newton then introduced Brittany Murphy, star of several movies including the recently released "Just Married." She performed several songs of a slightly old-fashioned flavor.

Newton next introduced country singer Chely Wright, who sang several of her top songs and also expressed her extreme gratitude for all members of the military.

"There's a reason why a five-year-old girl from Kansas can say she wants to be a country singer and grow up to do that," she said. "(It is) because of you and all your brothers in the military who fight and work every day, for no glory, to secure our liberty. For that I thank you."

Neil McCoy then came to the stage and performed two songs, "Wink" and "The Shake." He also allowed the cheerleaders to come on-stage and dance a second time, which received a huge ovation from the troops.

Paul Rodriguez performed a standup routine afterward, eliciting thunderous applause and cheers from the crowd.

Newton performed one more song on the keyboard and said some words about the group tour of Iraq before bringing out the

performers for one last rendition of "My Country 'Tis of Thee." Newton, McCoy, Rodriguez and the cheerleaders swayed in time and gave their individual thanks to the soldiers.

At that point Newton retired as host for the night and allowed the celebrities to introduce the bands as they came on.

"It's so wonderful to be here, and I feel truly blessed to be able to say thank you to all our troops," Alyssa Milano said, before going on stage to introduce Bubba Sparxxx, a hip-hop artist.

Gary Sinise, most famous for his role as Lt. Dan in the movie Forrester Gump, next appeared to introduce country singer Lee Ann Womack.

The next act of the night was the popular hip-hop group Nappy Roots.

They performed several of their most well known songs, adding one encore after screams for their return were heard louder than for any previous act.

"Today was a great chance for Nappy Roots to give you a taste of home and of what you're missing back in the states, and to show our appreciation by thanking you for what it is you do," said B. Steele, one of the Nappy Roots who is known for his blue cutoff jacket and cowboy hat.

John Stamos, perhaps best

known as Jesse from the 90's television show "Full House," first came on-stage to make the introduction for the final act, Kid Rock.

"We all wanted to come over here and show our appreciation," said Stamos. "It's been a trip."

While his back was turned, his wife, Rebecca Romijn-Stamos, walked out behind him, eliciting thunderous cheers from the crowd that her husband at first pretended were for him.

"I wanted to get an understanding firsthand of the kinds of things you guys go through," said Romijn-Stamos. "I wish everybody had the opportunity to do that. I am so in awe of everything that you do."

Finally, Kid Rock made his appearance on stage and really riled up the crowd with his songs "Bawdibabs," "Only God Knows Why," and a love-song duet with Brittany Murphy.

"I'm fortunate that they asked me to be here," Rock said later. "I started out when the U.S.S. Cole was bombed and 27 soldiers were lost, and as they were leaving, it just happened that someone was playing one of my songs."

So, I did a charity concert and gave all the money to the USO. I did a few more shows after that, and now I'm here."

Lt. Gen. David McKiernan, Coalition Task Force-7 commander, closed the show by asking troops to show their appreciation to the performers for taking time out of their schedules to visit Kuwait. "Give these performers a round of applause," McKiernan said. "They came here for you. I hope you enjoyed the show."

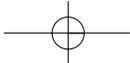
"I wanted to get an understanding firsthand of the kinds of things you guys go through."

—Rebecca Romijn-Stamos
Model/Actress

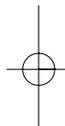
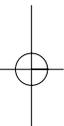
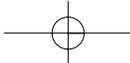


19th PAD/Schuck
Brittany Murphy, star of "Just Married," blows a kiss to the soldiers during the USO show at Camp Doha, Kuwait, June 18. Murphy sang several songs at the event.

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Stars to help observe 50th anniversary of Korean War armistice

Army News Service

Randy Travis, Ed McMahon and James McEachin will join the nation in honoring Korean War veterans July 26 for the 50th anniversary of the Korean War armistice.

The star-studded event at the MCI Center in Washington, D.C., will be one of many July 25-27 as the nation commemorates the signing of the armistice that brought a ceasefire in Korea July 27, 1953.

Events in the nation's capital will include a wreath laying at the

Tomb of the Unknowns in Arlington National Cemetery July 26, 10 a.m. and an Armistice Day ceremony at the Korean War Veterans Memorial on the national Mall July 27, 10 a.m.

Travis, a country music star with more than 20 number-one hits, will perform during the MCI Center event July 26, beginning at 4:30 p.m. McMahon will be the Master of Ceremony and McEachin will narrate a special script about the Korean War.

McMahon and McEachin are both Korean War veterans. McMahon was a Marine Corps pilot and McEachin an infantry-

man in the Army.

All Korean War veterans, family members, next of kin and the public are invited to attend the events. Free tickets for the MCI Center event can be ordered by calling toll free 1-866-751-2403.

Discount hotel reservations for the weekend events can be arranged by calling 1-800-554-



2220 (ext. 102.)

"Korean War veterans are true heroes," said retired Air Force Maj. Gen. Nels Running, former executive director for the Department of Defense 50th Anniversary of the Korean War Commemoration Committee.

"This commemoration event is our nation's way of

telling all Korean War veterans 'thank you,' and that we have not forgotten what you have done for our country and all freedom loving people in the world," Running said.

Running's three-year term as executive director of the Commemoration Committee expired June 18. During his tenure, more than 13,000 commemoration partners joined the DOD committee in thanking and honoring Korean War veterans and their families. A series of nation-wide educational events and commemoration programs were conducted across America. These events included

Opposing Forces team from Fort Riley to train cadets at West Point

By Jamie Bender
Staff writer

Garth Swisher, OPFOR noncommissioned officer in charge

The role of the OPFOR team is to be mentors for the squad leaders, said Swisher.

"Officers from the 75th Division will be the mentors for the platoon leaders."

The team will use the crawl/walk/run method to teach the cadets, said Sgt. 1st Class Todd Jones, OPFOR noncommissioned officer.

"There will be some classroom work and then we will work up to two five-day field training exercises," he said.

The mission includes training for the

trainers as well.

"When we get there we will be trained to make sure that all the trainers, who are coming from all over, will be all teaching the same thing," said Sgt. 1st Class Kevin Peel, OPFOR NCO.

"The biggest thing is to make sure we are all on the same sheet of music teaching the different squads the same thing at the same time."

The team has conducted its own forced marches and training to prepare for the mission.

"They have been doing a lot of the same tasks that they use to prepare for the OPFOR Challenge and basic mission

skills," said Sgt. 1st Class William McLaren, 1st sergeant, 1st Bn., 383rd Regt.

The team is prepared to face the challenges that will come with the mission.

"One of the biggest challenges we will have is getting them to successfully complete their missions and work together with their squad leader and follow the direction of their platoon leader," said Sgt. 1st Class Brad Carthey, observer/controller/trainer.

"I believe that the forced march will be a big challenge for the cadets," said

Jones. "There are a lot of collective tasks that go with it. It's also a live fire, so we have to practice fire control, fire discipline and fire direction."

The OPFOR team was selected for the mission based on their past performance, said McLaren. "The tasking came down to the brigade," he said. "Our battalion was selected because of the historical performance that our OPFOR have in all areas, including lane execution, the Challenge and their professionalism."

Editor's note: The team departed for West Point Military Academy last week.

Special compensation for some disabled veterans now authorized

Air Force Print News

mentality of war."

Automatic qualifiers include any military retiree with at least 20 years of service who is rated as at least 10 percent disabled by injuries related to the award of a Purple Heart, officials said.

Payments are retroactive to June 1 for those whose disability occurred before that date. Those who apply and are approved will begin receiving payments about 60 days after approval. Depending on the number of applicants, approval could take months, officials said.

Thousands of applications already await approval in the disabilities office here, with more

arriving every day, officials said.

"This is a good deal for some of our veterans," said Col. Larry Van Buren, who is heading up the reviews. "This authority granted by Congress will help veterans in a meaningful way."

Family members are not factored into determining the amount of the monthly payment. The compensation is payable only to those considered disabled by Veterans Affairs.

To qualify, retired Reserve applicants must have retired with 7,200 or more total points.

Information and applications are available online at <https://www.dmdc.osd.mil/ersc/>

Free concert at Rally Point tonight



Country singer Anthony Smith will hold a free concert at Rally Point tonight at 9 p.m.

The singer, whose hit song, "If That Ain't Country," hit the country charts earlier this year, will take time to give the performance as part of the Spirit of America Tour, a project of the Robert and Nina Rosenhal Foundation, Inc.

RANDOLPH AIR FORCE BASE, Texas — Some military retirees will soon be receiving monthly payments for service-related health problems thanks to a provision of the 2003 National Defense Authorization Act.

Combat-related special compensation allows some disabled military retirees to collect payments for both their military service and their service-related disability.

The number of people qualifying may be larger than the term "combat related" implies.

According to the legislation, a veteran with "combat-related" disabilities is any 20-year military retiree with at least a 60 percent combined disability rating. His or her injuries are a "direct result of armed conflict," are a result of "hazardous" military service, were incurred while serving in "conditions simulating war" or were incurred "through an instru-

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