



### Post student attends camp

Girls learn about science and technology at GROW workshop

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### 24th ID leads slow-pitch powerhouses

Battalion, company teams finish sixth week of play

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Thursday, July 1, 2004

America's Warfighting Center

Vol. 47, No. 26

## Around The Army

### Armywide:

The European Stars and Stripes reported June 30 that at least 5,600 Individual Ready Reserve Soldiers will be involuntarily reactivated. IRR servicemembers are those who left active duty but still have time left to serve on their military obligation.

The government will be allowed to order up to one million members of the Selected Reserve, Individual Ready Reserve, and Inactive National Guard without their consent, for a period not to exceed 24 consecutive months.

For more about this story and other military news in the European and Pacific Theaters, visit [www.esirripes.com](http://www.esirripes.com) on the Internet.

### Fort Eustis:

The Wheel reported June 24 that a group of civilian police officers and military police from around the country had been training on Fort Eustis in an intense, 30-hour "Credible Use of Force Certification Training" course for two weeks.

The officers got hands-on training in several areas of less-lethal restraining tactics that included edged weapon awareness, pepper spray usage, expandable baton procedures and control and restraint techniques.

In the wake of the Abu Ghraib incidents, proper training is a very sensitive area for MPs, but Fort Eustis military police officers who organized the training said the training sessions were scheduled far in advance of the headlines.

For more about this story and other Fort Eustis news, visit [www.militarynews.com/wheel/](http://www.militarynews.com/wheel/) on the Internet.

### Walter Reed:

The Stripe reported June 25 that police started issuing citations to anyone found using a cell phone while driving in the District of Columbia and on Walter Reed Army Medical Center's main installation.

The penalty for anyone caught is \$100; however, first-time offenders who buy a hands-free device before imposition of a fine may have the fine suspended. Proof of acquisition of a hands-free accessory is required.

For more about this story and other news at Walter Reed Army Medical Center, visit [www.dcmilitary.com/army/stripe/](http://www.dcmilitary.com/army/stripe/) on the Internet.

# Fort Riley Post

## Army advances brigade changes

By Joe Burlas  
Army News Service

WASHINGTON — Now that the 3rd Infantry Division at Fort Stewart, Ga., has reset into the first modular combat force — growing from three brigade com-

bat teams to four — the Army is getting set to modularize other divisions.

It plans to reconstitute more divisions after they return from operations Iraqi Freedom and Enduring Freedom.

Speaking on background to members of the Pentagon press

corps June 22, a senior Army official announced the schedule to convert the nine other divisions of modular brigade-plus sized units of action through fiscal year 2007.

The 101st Airborne Division, based at Fort Campbell, Ky., will convert this fiscal year. In FY05, the 4th Infantry Division at Fort

Carson, Colo. and the 10th Mountain Division at Fort Drum, N.Y., will reset into modular forces.

In FY06, the 1st Cavalry Division at Fort Hood, Texas, the 25th Infantry Division at Schofield Barracks, Hawaii and the 82nd Airborne Division at Fort Bragg, N.C., will convert.

Pending funding and approval by the Department of Defense, the Army plans to modularize its remaining three divisions — the 2nd Infantry Division in South Korea; 1st Infantry Division in Würzburg, Germany; and the 1st

See Changes, Page 8

# Water-logged

## Soldiers get wet in order to survive

By James H. Tamez  
19th PAD

Soldiers of 2nd Battalion, 34th Armor, learned how to keep from drowning June 9-10.

Headquarters and Headquarters Company scheduled the drownproofing classes at Eyster Pool as part of its preparation for deployment to Iraq this fall.

"With this training, we hope to prevent any Soldiers from drowning," said Spc. Scott ShROUT, lead instructor for the drownproofing classes.

"We want to prevent Soldiers from dying in water-related accidents," said 1st Lt. Cory RETTER, HHC's executive officer. "We must always prepare for possible contingencies."

The training requires Soldiers to jump into the water while wearing their uniforms and Load Bearing Equipment. The goal is "to boost their confidence and to help increase Soldier readiness," Retter said.

When a Soldier jumps into the water, he sinks to the bottom of the eight-foot pool, comes back to the surface, takes a breath and drops back down to the bottom. ShROUT explained. "From there, he is going to detach all of his equipment and swim to the other side of the pool, a distance of 15 to 20 meters."

"That's not all. 'We have added one additional step to the training,'" ShROUT said.

"When the Soldiers reach the other side of the pool, they have to tread water for two minutes before they can exit the pool."

The training is more difficult than it sounds, ShROUT insisted. "When BDUs are submerged, their weight can be increased by 10 to 12 pounds. The LBEs become heavier as well. Combine that with the

See Wet training, Page 8



Staff Sgt. Doug Clayton of Headquarters and Headquarters Detachment, 541st Maintenance Battalion, steps into the water during drownproofing at Eyster Pool June 23. After entering the water, he removed his gear and used his BDU trousers as a flotation device.

## Troops to get more armor

### New deltoid extension protects sides

By Joe Burlas  
Army News Service

WASHINGTON — Deployed troops will soon start getting side protection for their Interceptor Body Armor, thanks to the efforts of Program Executive Office Soldier.

The IBA Deltoid Extension was one of dozens of pieces of equipment PEO Soldier officials showed off to the Pentagon press corps during a media briefing June 14.

In the two years since the organization stood up, it has researched and fielded or is in the process of researching more than 350 pieces of equipment — everything from boots to parachutes to new rifles — in order to save Soldier lives, improve their quality of life and increase their effectiveness on the battlefield, said Brig. Gen. James MORAN, PEO Soldier executive officer.

"Outfitting Soldiers is just as important as (acquiring) a major piece of equipment," Moran said. At about 16 pounds, IBA is lighter than the 25-pound Vietnam-era flack jacket it replaced and it offers better protection, Moran said.

The Deltoid Extension will add about another five pounds and protects the sides of the ribcage and shoulders.

However, the extension comes

See Armor, Page 8

# Three commands welcome new leaders

## 75th Division brigade:

By April Blackmon  
Staff writer

"The challenges for this brigade are many for the next several years, but the right team is on the job," said Col. Gasper GULOTTA, outgoing commander of the 3rd Brigade, 75th Division (Training Support) June 23.

The team Gulotta referred to is 3rd Bde, 75th Div's, new commander Col. Michael COURTS and his family.

"I understand our important mission as we prepare the force in this time of war," Courts told the assembled Soldiers of his brigade



Col. Michael Courts

and well-wishers attending the change of command ceremony at Cavalier Parade Field. "My family and I are proud to serve with you and look forward to the weeks and months ahead. I pledge to you my complete loyalty and support."

See Courts, Page 2

## Brigade Combat Team:

By April Blackmon  
Staff writer

Fort Riley welcomed a new 3rd Brigade, 1st Armored Division, commander June 25. Col. David BISHOP succeeds Col. Russell GOLD as commander of the 3rd Brigade Combat Team.

"I am truly humbled to join this great outfit and I assure you, Bulldogs, that you will get 150 percent, my best effort each and every day," Bishop said.

A U.S. Air Force Academy graduate, Bishop received his bachelor's degree in international affairs in 1984. He later earned



Col. David Bishop

Services Staff School, U.S. Army Command and General Staff College and the U.S. Army War

See Bishop, Page 3

## Medical Dept. Activity:

By Jan Clark  
IACH

Irwin Army Community Hospital and Fort Riley welcomed a new commander of the U.S. Army Medical Department Activity and Irwin Army Community Hospital during a ceremony June 24, at Cavalry Parade Field.

Col. Marilyn BROOKS succeeds Col. Julie MARTIN, who has commanded MEDDAC and IACH about two years and moves to a new assignment as chief of staff, Madigan Army Medical Center, Fort Lewis, Wash.



Col. Marilyn Brooks

Brooks comes to Fort Riley following an assignment as deputy commander for nursing at Womack Army Medical Center, Ft. Bragg, N.C.

"I am truly blessed and honored to have the opportunity to command this medical activity for

See Brooks, Page 5





## Post news in brief

### Knights seek parachutists

The U.S. Army Parachute Team, the "Golden Knights," are accepting applications to attend their annual assessment and selection program in September. A downloadable version of the application is available on the Golden Knights' Web site: [www.armygold-enknights.com](http://www.armygold-enknights.com).

To become a Golden Knight, applicants must have a minimum of 150 freefall parachute jumps, a flawless civilian and military record and volunteer to become Airborne qualified.

Applications are being accepted until July 30. Packets can be sent to the U.S. Army Parachute Team, P.O. Box 70126, Fort Bragg, NC 28307. For more information, call the Golden Knight Administration Office at 396-4800.

### Holiday trash collection:

The trash collection schedule for Fort Riley will change July 5-9 because of the July 4 holiday. The schedule will be:

- July 5:** No pick up.
- July 6:** Colby Manor, Main Post, Marshall Army Air Field.
- July 7:** 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.
- July 8:** Warner Heights and Burnside Heights. (No change from regular schedule.)
- July 9:** Meade Heights, McClellan Heights, South Warner Heights and Peterson Heights south of Thomas Avenue. (No change from regular schedule.)

For more information, call 239-6274.

### Heat injury training online

Civilian supervisors wanting to provide their employees information about "heat injury," can make use of a Powerpoint presentation on the Web at: <http://chppmwww.apgea.army.mil>.

Numerous other presentations are available for use to promote summer safety.

For more information, call Becky Mabrey R.N., Occupational Health Preventive Medicine Service, Fort Riley, at 239-7042.

### Center plans celebration

The Civilian Personnel Advisory Center will close non-appropriated fund and appropriated fund services July 1, so employees can participate in organizational day events.

### Army seeks new warrants

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](http://www.usarec.army.mil/warrant) on the Internet.

### 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.

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# Gulotta moves to research position

## Fort Riley tour required correct judgments about Soldier preparedness

By *Christie Vanover*  
Community Rel. Officer

After two years of ensuring that thousands of Army reserve component Soldiers were ready for the Global War on Terrorism, Col. Gasper Gulotta is moving on. Gulotta took command of the 3rd Brigade, 75th Division (Training Support), in July 2002. It was the first time the West Point grad had overseen the readiness of reserve component Soldiers.

Gulotta held traditional assignments as a company commander and battalion commander, but the aviation officer also served previously as a maintenance test pilot in the UH-1 and AH-1 aircraft and as a nuclear weapons analyst with U.S. Strategic Command.

In addition to his bachelor's degree, he holds a master of sci-

ence degree in systems management, a master of science degree from the Nuclear Engineering Department at Massachusetts Institute of Technology and a master of arts degree in strategic studies from the Air University.

With military experience and numerous degrees under his belt, Gulotta was ready for his role as a brigade commander.

His goal in 2002 was to pull active duty and reserve component Soldiers and government civilians together to accomplish the preservation of the American way of life.

Within months, his command climate changed from peacetime training to a wartime mission.

With the start of Operations Enduring and Iraqi Freedom, Gulotta and his small staff was responsible for mobilizing 10,000 Reserve and National Guard Sol-

diers. "This is the Army and every Soldier at his core has got to be a warrior," Gulotta said.

Gulotta believes there is a latent capability within reserve component Soldiers that is brought out by training.

"When you get them mobilized and put them in the field, within 60 days, they're as good as any active duty Soldier," he said. "That's something I've come to appreciate."

Not only did Gulotta oversee the training readiness of these Soldiers, he made a recommendation to the Fort Riley garrison commander as to whether the Soldiers were ready for their mission.

His recommendations ultimately reflected upon Maj. Gen. Dennis E. Hardy, Gulotta said.

"I'm not just someone from another division that's here to do that training. I'm here to do that on behalf of the commanding general of Fort Riley," he said. "We are part of the team to train. The leadership of this post today understands much better what we do than they did a year and half, two years ago."

As a tenant unit headquartered on Main Post, the brigade is not widely known among Soldiers on Custer Hill. However, Gulotta's brigade became well known in other areas.

One of Gulotta's aspirations was to develop the Outdoorsman's Club. As a hunter who enjoyed Fort Riley's 'sportsman's paradise,' he wanted to bring others together to enhance their quality of life while off-duty.

Because of the priorities of the war, the club is still in its infancy stage, but Gulotta hopes it will continue to grow after he leaves.



Post/Blackmon

A member of the Colonial salute battery of 1st Battalion, 5th Field Artillery, presents a smoke-filled canister from Old Thunder to departing 3rd Brigade, 75th Division (Training Support), commander Col. Gasper Gulotta June 23.

For the second time in his career, Gulotta handed his command to Col. Michael Courts. Courts followed Gulotta's leadership with the 1st Battalion, 223rd Aviation Regiment, at Fort Rucker, Ala., in 1999.

Gulotta, his wife and his three children have plans to move to Virginia after leaving Fort Riley. There he will serve as the special assistant to the director of the Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency.

In that position, he will look for new ideas and technologies that can benefit the future technological needs of the Army.

Gulotta said he is looking forward to his new assignment. "The Army offers you the opportunity to lead Soldiers and to also work in technical fields that are intellectually challenging," he said. "Taking an intellectual capability and being able to apply that to Army problems is very exciting to me."

With his excitement about the new position, Gulotta said he is going to miss working with Soldiers and training them for their wartime missions. "As brigade commander, this has been my best job in the Army," he said.

## Courts continued from page 1

A 1981 graduate of the U.S. Military Academy at West Point, N.Y., Courts was commissioned an officer in air defense artillery. He received a master of arts degree in management from Webster University and another in strategic studies from the U.S. Army War College. He also is a graduate of the Combined Arms and Services Staff School and Armed Forces Staff College.

Courts began his military career as a Vulcan platoon leader in Company A, 67th Armor. He later served as air defense artillery liaison officer, 2nd Battalion, 75th Infantry (Ranger), at Fort Lewis, Wash.

After flight school in 1984, Courts served as aero-scout platoon leader, assistant S3 and S3 of the 214th Attack Helicopter Battalion at Fort Lewis. Courts followed that with assignments as assistant S3 for 6th Cavalry Brigade (Air Combat), commander of Troop A, 3rd Squadron, 6th

Cavalry (Attack Helicopter), S3 of 3rd Sqdn., 6th Cav., at Fort Hood, Texas; and S3, 1st Battalion, 229th Attack Helicopter Regiment, at Fort Bragg, N.C.

Courts also served as chief, Air Attack Section, Allied Land Forces Central Europe in Heidelberg, Germany; chief of contingency operations, C3 Headquarters, Stabilization Force in Sarajevo, Bosnia-Herzegovina; executive officer, 4th Brigade, 1st Cavalry Division, at Fort Hood and in Bosnia-Herzegovina; and as commander, 1st Battalion, 223rd Aviation Regiment, at Fort Rucker, Ala.

Following battalion command, Courts served as synchronization staff officer, Comanche, Force Development Aviation G8, at Headquarters, Department of the Army, at the Pentagon; and most recently as director of military strategy, Department of National Security and Strategy, U.S. Army War College.

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# Gold praises 3rd Brigade Soldiers he led

By Gary Skidmore  
Command Info. Officer

When Col. Russ Gold was in sixth grade at North Palm Beach Elementary School, he was elected captain of the patrols for the school year. It was his first leadership position that involved making sure students got off their bikes at the right place and ensuring pedestrians used the crosswalks.

On June 25, Gold relinquished another leadership position, that of 3rd Brigade Combat Team commander.

Having commanded the brigade for two years, Gold saw his Soldiers deploy to war and stay in-country as a stabilization force, successfully taking the fight to the enemy while providing support to the Iraqi people through civil military operations.

During their deployment, Gold said his Soldiers only voiced concerns about their conditions and the length of their deployment.

"When we got to Iraq, conditions were terrible," Gold said.

"What our Soldiers were subjected to every day -- drive-by shootings, IEDs (improvised explosive devices), snipers, etc., and the toughest was dealing with uncertainty in an asymmetrical fight -- was incredible," he said.

Gold said the average temperature from July to September was 128 to 134 degrees, with a heat index of up to 154.

"The first group that went in only had two water bottles a day, and the water was hot. That's it, no ice, and they had to wear their body armor. Despite this, we did not have one heat injury while we were in Iraq, which demonstrates clearly how well trained and led our Soldiers were," Gold said.

"They wanted a mark on the wall," said Gold, referring to when they were projected to return to Fort Riley. He said they weren't worried about the length of the stay, just when they were scheduled to return home, so they had something to look forward to.

"If I told them we would be there longer than a year, they wouldn't mind, as long as they knew when they would be home so they could pace themselves and keep their families informed."

Gold said their second concern

was having a communications link with their families back home.

"They wanted communications via cell phones or Internet because the Army's married now and they wanted to talk to family," Gold said. "That's good and bad," he said. "It's good for many reasons. One was to stop rumors. The bad side was that's where some rumors also started."

The last concern of the Soldiers was wanting to watch TV during the football season, Gold recalled.

"Some of these guys were eating one MRE a day, and they were handing that," he said. "They just didn't complain. They were focused, they had a task, they had a purpose and they had a mission. They knew they were making a difference, and they had a lot of pride in that."

Gold said he is proud for having commanded the brigade and there is no true way to frame in words the gratitude he has for his Soldiers and their families.

"I'm leaving here humbled," Gold said. "I'm leaving here proud of the Soldiers and their commanders, and I'm leaving here knowing the brigade was successful in its mission."

Gold said the brigade conducted 66 percent more combat missions than any other brigade combat team in Iraq at that time.

"We took 73 percent more bad guys out, including 17 from the infamous deck of cards, and most importantly we had one-tenth the casualties that anyone else had," Gold said. "And we had the whole west side of Baghdad, to include Abu Ghraib."

When Gold took command of the brigade, he said he brought a true passion for the care of Soldiers with him.

"It's not phony. It's not self-serving. I have a true passion about what it means to work as a team," Gold said. "We're all in this together, and it makes it more fun, even in war, if you can believe that."

Gold also said he brought his personal values to the brigade.

"Integrity, loyalty and gratitude are three values I pride myself on," Gold said. "No BS. I'm going to tell you what I know. I'm going to lay it all out so you know what to expect."

Gold said the hardest part of the job in Baghdad was establishing a selective government.

He began one briefing for the secretary of defense saying, "another thing I didn't learn in the Army War College ... There's nothing I learned that would have prepared me to set up a government during combat stability and security operations simultaneously."

Gold said his brigade set up 28 neighborhoods and two districts and showed local Iraqi leaders how to conduct meetings. Gold's proud of the fact that the meetings have matured from yelling and screaming to participants holding up their hands and waiting to be called upon.

"We showed them how to set up an agenda, how to set up committees, such as education and utilities. They worked together to do it, and by the time I left I was on the flank just watching it all take place," Gold said.

However, the most gratifying piece came when Sunnis voted for Shia and Shia voted for Sunnis during internal elections in the districts, Gold said. "And even more amazing was when they voted for women to represent them," he said.

"I truly commanded the brigade, I didn't run it," said Gold about his time as its leader.

The difference, he said, was being able to act more like a cheerleader for his units than having to manage the units for the battalion commanders.

"I had great commanders and NCO leadership. I gave my leaders general guidance and they executed. They knew what right looked like and they attacked it aggressively and with precision," he said.



Post/Blackmon  
Incoming 3rd Brigade commander Col. David Bishop (left rear), outgoing commander Col. Russell Gold (left front) and Brig. Gen. Frank Kearney, assistant division commander for maneuver, inspect the units of the 3rd Brigade Combat Team June 25 during a change of command ceremony at Cavalry Parade Field.

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## Bishop

continued from page 1

College.

Following graduation from the academy, Bishop was cross-commissioned into the Army as an armor officer. During his career, he has served as a tank platoon leader and company executive officer at Fort Stewart, Ga., from 1984 to 1987. After graduating from the Armor Officer Advanced Course, he served as battalion S1 and commander of Company C, 1st Battalion, 35th Armor, at Erlangen, Germany; assistant S3 for 2nd Brigade, 1st Armored Division; commander of Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 1st Armored Division (Port Support) in Dhahran, Saudi Arabia; and commander, HHC, 4th Battalion, 70th Armor.

He served as battalion S3 and battalion executive officer with the 2nd Battalion, 69th Armor, at Fort Benning, Ga., from 1995 to 1997 and commanded the 3rd Battalion, 69th Armor, at Fort Stewart from 2000 to 2002.

Bishop's non-troop assignments include two years as an assignment officer at Armor Branch, U.S. Army Personnel Command, and inspector general and aide de camp at Headquarters, Department of the Army, at the Pentagon.

Bishop served as branch chief in the IS Policy and Strategy Division at Headquarters, U.S. Forces Korea, in Seoul before his arrival at Fort Riley.

During his speech at the change of command ceremony, Gold offered Bishop some advice:

"Dave, the old Cavalry proverb that says feed the horses before the men, the men before your officers and the officers before yourself is the same advice I'll give you and ask you to provide these great Soldiers in formation today with clear guidance and direction."





# MPs teach Soldiers how to clear buildings

By Christopher Selmek  
19th PAD

For some infantrymen, few moments are as stressful as the time spent clearing a building.

The enemy knows the terrain better, they might have weapons and they might have hostages.

Those situations aren't reserved for infantry Soldiers alone.

Military operations in urban terrain are an increasing worry for Soldiers of all occupations.

"It's normal to be nervous when you hear that first gunshot," said Capt. Jonathan Spurlock, commander of Company B, 2nd Battalion, 34th Armor.

"That's because it's totally unnatural to (continue an) assault when you're in that kind of danger. You have to be able to put that fear aside, sometimes, and be able to do your job," he said.

The Fort Riley Special Reaction Team, an elite group of military policemen designed to react to hostage situations, has been training the Soldiers of 2nd Bn.,

34th Armor, for such operations. Though the unit is an armor battalion, commanders speculate that their mission will change in the event of an eventual deployment to Iraq.

"These Soldiers are all tankers, so they're going to go over and be cross-trained for something that is not their primary mission," said Staff Sgt. Jonathan Thrush, SRT member.

"I know that if I were to be transferred to a tanker battalion, I'd want to know all I could about it beforehand," he said.

"Whereas many times we conduct MOUT training as an afterthought, the SRT by doctrine is a MOUT-oriented force," Spurlock said.

"Therefore, who better to train my Soldiers than the Fort Riley Special Reaction Team?" he asked.

This is the first time this kind of training has been available to armor crewmen, although Spurlock said he would like to make it much more regular.

"Most units don't get this training," he said. "You have to be like

a sponge and absorb it all because there are a lot of buddies not here today who are relying on you to be their instructors for this."

SRT members taught Co. B Soldiers the bare essentials of

clearing a building using an empty barracks on Custer Hill June 15.

"What we are teaching is doctrine laid out in FM (Field Manual) 3-06.11," said Capt. Mike Bro-

mund, SRT commander. "This training is all orientated towards law enforcement. However, there are only so many ways to clear a room."

Soldiers learned such essentials

as being aware of where gun muzzles are being pointed, staying alert and secure methods for guarding each other.

Instructors also stressed that repetition was important in training because in the heat of the moment it is often easy to slip up. "You will not have time to get a good site picture," Thrush said.

"Once your heartbeat gets up, your fine muscle control goes out the window. You need to be able to fall back on this training," he said.

All this preparation led up to the second day of the training June 16, when the company moved to the post's MOUT facility for a live-fire exercise.

"Based on the current situation in Iraq, we're moving more toward a MOUT operation skill set that our Soldiers need to be able to utilize," Spurlock said. "This training will give them the confidence they need."

The importance of this training was not lost on the Soldiers.

"If we're ever in Iraq, the stuff you learn today will save your life," Spurlock said.



Post/Selmek

Soldiers from Company B, 2nd Battalion, 34th Armor, prepare to storm a building during their Special Reaction Force training June 16.

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# Martin guides many hospital improvements

By Mike Heronemus  
Editor

Col. Julie Martin never expected to make colonel. She never expected to command a medical activity. She leaves Fort Riley with both achievements under her belt and a new challenge in her upcoming dual-hatted assignment as chief of staff for Madigan Army Medical Center, Fort Lewis, Wash., and the U.S. Army Medical Command's Western Medical Region.

Martin said farewell to Fort Riley and her peers, Soldiers and friends during a change of command ceremony June 24, on Cavalry Parade Field. As she recalled her more than two years in command, her voice choked with emotion.

## Brooks continued from page 1

the next two years," Brooks said during the ceremony.

"I am doubly privileged to command at Fort Riley and be a part of this leadership team. Col. Martin is leaving a legacy of customer service and compassionate quality care, a legacy worthy of emulation," she said.

Brig. Gen. William Fox Jr., commander, Great Plains Regional Medical Command, praised Martin's accomplishments during her time as commander.

"Her leadership under adversity and her masterful management of the complex business of delivering healthcare here during a period of enormous increase in the support requirements for the global war on terrorism has been nothing short of outstanding," he said.

A native of Sylacauga, Ala., Brooks received her baccalaureate degree in nursing from Austin Peay State University, Clarksville, Tenn., and her master of science degree in nursing from Vanderbilt University, Nashville, Tenn.

Her military education includes graduation from Command and General Staff College.

Brooks has held positions as staff nurse and head nurse of intensive care units at Fort Campbell, Ky.; Fort Bragg and in Germany.

After five years on active duty,

During her 26 1/2 years in the Army, Martin said she has done more than she ever wanted to do.

"Being a medical service corps officer, when I came in the service, pretty much being a deputy commander for administration in my field was the pinnacle of your career. ... possibly brigade command of a field medical hospital."

"That's changed during her time in service. Nurse corps and medical service corps officers now see more opportunities, including chances for commanding a medical activity, becoming a regional commander or even being promoted to general officer, she said.

Army leader development initiatives have since opened up a number of general officer positions in medical centers to medical officers in specialties other than dentists, nurses and physi-

she transitioned to the active Reserve.

During her years as a civilian nurse, she worked as a head nurse at Veterans Administration Medical Centers in Nashville, Tenn., and Fayetteville, N.C.

Brooks served as an instructor and assistant professor at Fayetteville (N.C.) Technical Community College, Austin Peay State University, and Bowie State University, Bowie, Md. She has also taught advance medical surgical and critical care courses.

Brooks re-entered the active Army during Operations Desert Shield and Desert Storm in 1990 as a head nurse at Fort Bragg.

She has since held positions as charge nurse and head nurse at Walter Reed Army Medical Center, Washington, D.C.; Director of the Critical Care Course at Fitzsimons Army Medical Center, Aurora, Colo.; commander, 6th Army Medical Department Recruiting Detachment (Battalion), Sausalito, Calif.; and deputy commander for nursing, Fort Stewart, Ga.

"I pledge my absolute commitment to continue to provide high quality care to our community, richly deserving of no less," Brooks said. "Now, let's get to work and get the job done."

cians, she said. "I thought I'd come in for 20 years and that would be a very successful career. I'd retire as a lieutenant colonel and go on with the next part of my life," Martin said. But, she was selected for the War College before taking command.

"I got picked up for O-6, got picked up for command, got picked up for an eight designator in my specialty, which is the premier designation in your field awarded by the surgeon general, all the same year before coming to Fort Riley," she revealed.

Martin's time at Fort Riley will be memorable, she said, because "to be a MEDDAC commander is so ... I've enjoyed MEDDAC. If I had my choice, I'd rather command a MEDDAC than a medical center because it's a smaller place, you're a community hospital, you can really get to know everybody that works here and it's like a family."

One of MEDDAC's greatest achievements under Martin's guidance was successfully integrating reserve component Soldiers into the organization to meet the additional missions related to the global war on terrorism, she said.

In the past 18 months the hospital and attached reservists processed nearly 30,000 Soldiers going out or coming back from deployments. "When I looked at that number, I said, 'we did all that work?' It's mind boggling that we were able to do that and still hold things together at the hospital while some of our own staff deployed at different times to Iraq."

One primary medical service unit was integrated into the hospital organization, "but there were



Post/Heronemus

(From left) Incoming U.S. Army Medical Department Activity Commander Col. Marilyn Brooks, Great Plains Regional Medical Command Commander Brig. Gen. William Fox Jr., and outgoing MEDDAC Commander Col. Julie Martin sing "The Army Song" concluding the change of command ceremony June 24.

lots of onesies and twosies from various other units. Molding them and integrating them into one organization, that was the challenge," she said.

While processing Soldiers for deployment and redeployment, MEDDAC was preparing for the new Tricare contract that goes into effect this year, Martin said. The new contract requires Irwin Army Community Hospital to do things that the contractor was doing in the past, she said.

Martin counted the go-ahead to renovate the third floor Women's Health Initiative project as a significant achievement realized during her watch.

The project was designed some time ago and waiting for funding, which Martin succeeded in get-

ting. "We stood up a new division June 1, 2004," she said, explaining a reorganization of the hospital's functions that she expects to be more efficient and better for patient care.

"We had a managed care division that was responsible for making sure the Tricare contractor was adhering to our patients, doing business-type analyzing of work going into our network and doing business case analysis to deter-

mine whether we should bring more in or should we enter into another agreement," she explained. "That function wasn't doing as well as it could be doing because of staffing, because of how we were organized," Martin said. "So we created what we call a Clinical Services Division that incorporates the managed care function, the appointment function, the medical management function of providing care to our patients and referral management and put that all into one division, resourced it and put it under one deputy commander."

The icing on the cake for Martin's tour as commander was the Joint Commission Survey, she said. "Basically, it's the NTC (National Training Center) for the hospital, your time in 'the Box,' your time to show how well you provide patient care," she said.

The hospital received a full three-year accreditation. "We only received four recommendations, which is a very low number. Most facilities surveyed under the patient tracer methodology implemented this year are getting like nine plus recommendations," Martin said.

With so many good things accomplished during her time as commander, Martin had one wish not realized.

"Everyone who visits us says we need more staff," she said. "I wish I had had the money to hire more staff and do more than what we've been able to do."

CITY OF MANHATTAN  
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View from Iraq

Artillery Soldiers find themselves in different kind of mission

Kevin E. Morgan
2nd Platoon Leader
Btry: B, 1st Bn., 5th FA

Starting our tour in Iraq was like waking up in a dream in which everything was new, different and strange. I distinctly remember going on my first mission with my platoon in the little town of Tammim, a small suburb of Ar Ramadi. We stopped and dismounted just like we had trained to do at Fort Riley. As we looked around, the full reality of it all struck me: "We're not in Kansas anymore."

The unfamiliar sound of the call to afternoon prayers reverberated through the streets. Unfamiliar people spoke to me in a language I could not understand. Their clothes were as strange to me as mine were to them. I was not yet used to the desert-patterned uniforms issued to us, nor the heavy body armor we were wearing. The odors of the butcher shops and the sewage running in the street mixed into a strange aroma that I was not excited to become familiar with.

Reality strikes home

Strangest of all was the loaded weapon each of us held in our hands. This assured me that this was not a dream but an all too serious reality. From my earliest days in basic training, my drill sergeants had beaten into me that our weapons were to be loaded only upon instruction from the tower and pointed up and down range at all times. Yet here we stood, all with loaded weapons held at "low ready" just in case anything should happen. It felt like a scene from "Black Hawk Down," not something this Oklahoma-born soldier was used to experiencing in person.

We quickly grew accustomed to our surroundings and practiced distinguishing the normal from the suspicious. We no longer looked at every piece of trash as a possible Improvised Explosive Device but started looking for the telltale signs like wires and fresh dirt.

The people became more

familiar to us as we began to interact with them on a daily basis. We even started picking up phrases in Arabic. A few of the children who could speak some English would come up and talk to us. We began to see them not as just some Iraqis, but as people we knew: "There's Hamed over there," "here's the guy who owns that little bakery on the corner," or "here's that kid we talked to the other night."

New mission

I serve in a unit that trains to shoot artillery routinely up to 18 miles away. We are not normally trained to even see our enemy, but we are fighting a different war now. The men in my platoon are experts at their jobs. I would argue there are no finer Soldiers than the mismatched bunch of guys I am privileged to lead, but they were given a mission that was totally unfamiliar to them.

Nobody told them they were not supposed to be good at their new jobs, that they were just a bunch of "Redlegs" not trained for this. If someone did, they did not listen. The men in the battery established a name for themselves in the division as a battery that got the tough missions done and developed good, if not great, relationships with the local community. At one point our battery captured the largest weapons cache in the division area and captured three enemy lieutenants all in one night, putting a huge dent in the enemy's ability to do harm to U.S. forces. Not bad for a bunch of Redlegs.

One of the biggest differences between this war and more traditional wars lies in our weapons of choice. Instead of our primary weapons being howitzers and rifles, we use dollars and pockets full of candy. As we try to win the hearts and minds of the Iraqi people, we maintain our personal security by traditional means, but winning the objective takes a different plan of attack.

We began by starting to fund projects at the local university, schools and the fire and police stations. When my battery transi-

tioned from this mission after four months, plans were under way to fix the local sewer and water lines. We had also given away over half a million U.S. dollars to the local economy.

Every time we went on a dismounted patrol to talk one-on-one with the people, we filled our pockets with candy that our families had sent to us. We even went out on a local holiday similar to Halloween, giving out copious amounts of gum and candy. While we could not win over the entire country, we tried to do our part in this little piece of the world. Black market fuel prices, espe-

cially for liquid propane gas, were among the greatest concerns we heard from the people in our region. The government distributors were frequently unable to meet the local demand, and the price on the black market for a canister of LPG was five to six times the reasonable price. We stopped and confiscated several "bongo" trucks full (usually 60 to 80 canisters) of LPG, which we gave away to local families in the neighborhood. This was very much a "Robin Hood" operation, and we all felt good doing it. Eventually the local distributors' supply evened out and the black

market price matched the fair market price.

The men of 2nd Platoon have done an outstanding job. With the rest of the battery, battalion and the men and women in the brigade, we have lived up to our division's motto: "No mission too difficult. No sacrifice to great. Duty First!"

These Soldiers have accomplished every mission given them without hesitation, and the sacrifices have been great. Some we have known have given the ultimate sacrifice, and we honor their lives. Others have made less obvious sacrifices that will never be

honored but that are great and dear to their hearts.

Some missed the births and first words of their children. Others missed being able to mourn with family over the death of a close loved one. Some have had to put off starting a family while others will lose the one they left behind.

Just a year spent away from those held dear is a sacrifice that often goes unnoticed because it is our common experience. But through it all, we overcome. The missions may be difficult, our sacrifices may be great, but we hold fast to our mission: "Duty First!"

Commander's Comment

Enjoy holiday, but remember to be safe

On this Fourth of July, we will celebrate the 228th anniversary of our nation's independence. This day marks our commitment to the ideals of "life, liberty, and pursuit of happiness," which are embodied in the Constitution. On this day, we should remember the sacrifices of our forefathers and the commitments of our Soldiers on the frontlines of today's conflicts.

As we gather with family and friends in celebrating our independence, remember the safety of all those around you.

So that all return safely, commanders and directors must ensure soldiers and civilians are briefed prior to being released for the holiday weekend.

At risk behavior: Leaders must set a positive example and get involved with their Soldiers' and civilians' holiday accident prevention planning. I strongly encourage everyone to watch over



Maj. Gen. Dennis Hardy

each other, especially recently redeployed Soldiers, and assist them through what could be a difficult time of readjustment.

POV safety: Fort Riley recently experienced

a POV fatality in which the primary contributing factor was non-use of seatbelts. Therefore, stress the importance of using seatbelts, observing posted speed limits, getting plenty of rest prior to traveling, reducing driving distractions, such as cell phone use while driving, and no alcohol prior to or during driving. Recreational safety: Emphasize

the potentially fatal consequences of not wearing life jackets and drinking while boating. The Fourth of July is traditionally very hot and humid. Make certain everyone in your group drinks enough water to keep them hydrated to prevent heat related injuries. Always make sure you have sun-screening lotion to prevent sunburn.

Fire prevention: Many of us will light our barbecues and use fireworks to celebrate. Take precautions to prevent a fire. Use fireworks safely, only in designated areas and only under adult supervision. Remember that a small spark can result in an enormous fire.

Before releasing your Soldiers for the long weekend, ensure that every Soldier views the "Be Safe" video, as directed by the chief of staff of the Army (Army Safety Campaign Plan, 28 April 2004).

The "Be Safe" video will be aired on Fort Riley Channel 2 at 9:15 a.m. and 1:15 p.m. daily through July 1.

I ask you to personally commit to focus on safety. Further, I am charging our first-line leaders to engage with their subordinates, set conditions for a successful holiday and positively change high-risk behavior. Together, we can make this happen.

I encourage you all to take this time to be with family and loved ones. Have a safe and enjoyable Fourth of July. Finally, I invite all soldiers, family members, and civilians to help celebrate the Fourth of July by attending celebrations in our surrounding communities. Enjoy the holiday and return safely.

Maj. Gen. Dennis E. Hardy, Commanding General, 24th Inf. Div. (Mech) and Fort Riley

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# Commentary

## Pen Points

# What have you got to say to readers?

By Mike Heronemus  
Editor



Mike Heronemus

In most other Army newspapers, readers will find commentary written by other readers. Some comments come in the form of Question of the Week columns that show the faces of people responding to whatever queries the newspaper's staff has decided to ask that week.

The Fort Riley Post printed such a column before I came on board as editor. This newspaper has not published such a column since December 2003.

One of the reasons for that has been lack of staff - not enough people to do everything we wanted to do. The Public Affairs Office is alleviating that shortage with some temporary employees, so manpower won't be an excuse in the near to distant future.

A second reason for not printing the column was the oft-mundane questions being asked. Most of us are not interested in the holiday plans of a stranger, so why ask three people on post to reveal such plans or their answers to other mundane questions?

The purpose of such columns in most other Army newspapers is to solicit opinions and ideas that express individual points of view that evoke thought on the part of the reader.

For example, one newspaper asked readers: "If you were the sergeant major of the Army, what would you try to change?" Good question. It got good answers, too, because it got away from personal information and sought pertinent ideas.

The staff at the Fort Riley Post is compiling a list of pertinent questions to ask our readers. We plan to revive the Question of the Week column with the first issue in August. It will appear under the

column logo "Riley Roundtable." We hope the name keeps us and readers attuned to the reason for printing such a column.

Readers can help us make Riley Roundtable an important part of the Post. We would like to have your ideas for questions we should ask our readers - active duty and reserve component Soldiers, retirees, family members and civilian employees. Mail your questions to The Post, Public Affairs Office, Building 405, Fort Riley, KS 66442; e-mail them to [mike.heronemus@riley.army.mil](mailto:mike.heronemus@riley.army.mil), or call me at 239-8854.

On page six in this issue readers will find a commentary from a Soldier serving in Iraq. Another is planned for the July 9 issue.

### We want reader contributions

In the past, I have solicited personal contributions in the form of commentary and printed those articles when received.

I hope more readers will find the time to write me a letter or send me an e-mail expressing their thoughts on issues of the day.

I find "Letters to the Editor" columns in a few Army newspapers. Those letters often express significant concerns of the writer but also of other readers who didn't write.

Sometimes the writer expresses appreciation for some achievement or service they have witnessed.

Some letters evoke responses,

even opposing ideas.

We solicit comment in the form of letters, but a few rules must be followed:

All letters must include the full identification of the writer, the writer's residence and a daytime phone number where he or she can be reached for clarification of their comments.

No letter will be printed if it is a personal attack on someone or states inaccurate information. All letters will be subject to editing for length and clarity, but letters requiring significant editing will not be printed without the edited version being approved by the letter writer.

All letters printed in the Post will appear with the name of the writer at the end. Letters sent by anonymous writers will be thrown into the trashcan without a second thought.

### Another way to contribute

Many of Fort Riley's Soldiers are back from Operation Iraqi Freedom. Many brought back, or sent back while they were there, photographs of what they were doing, seeing and experiencing. The Post offers those Soldiers the opportunity to share some of their photos with its readers.

Soldiers who provide photos for scanning at the Public Affairs Office in building 405 on Main Post or who e-mail images to [mike.heronemus@riley.army.mil](mailto:mike.heronemus@riley.army.mil) will have them considered for publication in an ongoing feature we will print under the logo of "Fotos from the Front."

Photos may be printed individually or with others, depending upon how many are received.

All photos must be accompanied by a description of what is taking place in the photo and complete identifications of the

people in the photo. The person supplying the photo must include his or her name and daytime phone number in case I have to call for clarification on the information provided.

The Post is your newspaper. The staff wants your input and your contributions to make it a newspaper that readers will look forward to getting each week.

We think printing thoughtful comments about questions relating to the general readership, commentary columns like the one appearing on page six today, letters to the editor and personal photos are ways to make that happen.

If you have other ideas about what you would like to read and see in the Post, call me at 239-8854. Let's talk.

## Grunt *By Wayne Ulden*

TODAYS TECHNOLOGY IS GREAT, BUT I CAN ONLY CARRY JUST SO MANY BATTERIES...



Got an idea for a news story? Know someone with an unusual hobby or talent? Want to let others know about someone's great achievement. Let us know about it. Call 239-8854 or send an e-mail to [mike.heronemus@riley.army.mil](mailto:mike.heronemus@riley.army.mil).

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BLUE/July 2004



Country singer Mark Wills visits with 3rd Brigade Combat Team Soldiers (from center to right) Spc. David Dobson, Spc. Ben Brewer and Pfc. Wes Huberty, while visiting Fort Riley June 24.

# Country singer visits post

## Staff report

Country music recording star Mark Wills could have been napping in the Kansas afternoon heat June 24, but when he found out Fort Riley was a short trip down the road, visiting Soldiers at the Army's Warfighting Center took precedence.

Wills' father was stationed at Fort Riley with the 1st Infantry Division (Big Red One) in the 1970s after fighting in Vietnam. His father now lives in Georgia. Wills reached his father by phone June 24, and said he let him know he was visiting the post. "I've always been a law enforcement and military fan," Wills said, "and I've tried to use my job to be more a part of the military and support it."

Wills said he has visited other Army installations, including Fort Bragg, N.C., where the 82nd Airborne Division is located and Fort Campbell, Ky., where the 101st Airborne Division is located. His most memorable experience, Wills said, was being part of a USO tour that entertained Soldiers in Iraq last December. "We hope to go back this

December, if they'll let us," he said. While at Fort Riley, Wills also visited with members of the Commanding General's Mounted Color Guard, members of the 1st Infantry Division's rear detachment at the Soldier and Family Support Center, and Soldiers and families shopping at the Main Post Exchange. Also visiting the post during the Country Stampede event were country music singers Shevy Smith and Daryl Worley.

## Wet training continued from page 1

Kevlar and any additional equipment that the Soldier might be carrying in the field. "It is a lot different than swimming back home with only a pair of swimming trunks on. It's a whole different animal because you are much more restricted when you are swimming" with all that Army gear on, Shrout said. Pvt. Jose Cortez agreed the training was a little harder than it looks. "The equipment weighs you down more than you think, especially when you start using your arms."

The training provides an added benefit for the unit's leaders. "(It) helps us to recognize the Soldiers that are not very good swimmers or are unable to swim at all," Shrout said. Reiter said he thinks training such as drown proofing helps unit morale, too. "So far the training has been really good," Shrout said. "This has been a blast. We've been trying to have fun with everything because fun training makes a happy Soldier."

The Soldiers are having a good time, Reiter said. "At the same time they are learning a useful skill." Soldiers taking part in the drown proofing understand its importance, Reiter said. "We heard that some Soldiers in Iraq have drowned in accidents," Cortez said. "This training will help us." The most important thing for a Soldier to do if he finds himself in a body of water is to keep his head, Shrout said. "Do not panic. Think back to your training, drop your extra equipment and swim to the surface," he said.



Sgt. Thomas Skinner of the 541st Maintenance Battalion uses his BDU trousers as a flotation aid during drown proof training at Eyster Post June 23.

Post/Bender

## Changes continued from page 1

Armored Division in Wiesbaden, Germany — in FY07. Funding has already been secured for the first seven division conversions, including the 3rd Infantry Division, through the Army's operation account and an emergency supplemental bill passed by Congress. The Army National Guard will also modularize its brigade combat teams into more robust units of action, starting with three brigades next year, the senior Army official said. An additional six National Guard brigade conversions are planned each year in FY06-10. The FY07-10 National Guard modularization schedule is also pending DoD approval and appropriate funding. The modularization will rely heavily on the Training and Doctrine Command because it will affect some 100,000 positions, many requiring Soldiers in less needed Cold War formations, such as field artillery and air defense brigades, to retrain for positions in more demand today. That demand is for more infantrymen, military police, civil affairs specialists and truck drivers, the official said. The official called the Army's resetting and restructuring efforts the most massive change the Army has seen in 50 years. The change will ultimately create an Army with a deeper pool of units to deploy for the global war on terror, the official said. That deeper pool could eventu-

ally mean shorter unit deployments of six- or nine-month rotations, he said. This is about resetting the Army for continuous operations, not contingency operations, the official said. In addition to moving artillery, military intelligence and other combat support and combat service support assets normally found at division or above levels down to units of action, modularization also beefs up the number of combat troops available to the Army when compared to most Cold War-structured brigades.

Find past issues of the Fort Riley post on the post Web site: [www.riley.army.com](http://www.riley.army.com). Just click on the Post online link and go to the archives.

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## Armor continued from page 1

with a price for the Soldier. Moran explained that it could limit movement and block air from circulating under the body armor — decreasing the Soldier's ability to cool off in a hot environment. "Everything we do is a balance," Moran said. "We want all Soldiers to come back without any injuries. At the same time, we want them to be combat effective. Nothing can be made to be indestructible." Despite the weight of IBA, Moran said he has no doubt that the new body armor has saved lives. In the past 18 months, the Army purchased about 300,000 full sets of IBA. The current Army budget buys 50,000 Deltoid Extension sets fiscal year, all of which will be shipped to selected troops by the end of September, according to Col. John Norwood, program manager for PEO Soldier-Equipment. The Army plans to request enough funding in next year's budget to equip all 132,000 Soldiers in the Central Command area of operations with the extension. "We have a clever enemy, an adaptable enemy, so we must be clever and adaptable," Moran said.





# Fort Riley Sports & Recreation

Thursday, July 1, 2004

America's Warfighting Center

Page 9

## Sports news in brief

### Davidson wins tennis title

Richard Davidson of 4th Battalion, 1st Field Artillery, defeated Anthony Mottas, also of 4th Bn., 1st FA, in the post men's open singles tennis tournament June 24.

Six players signed up to compete but only three played, said Barry Sunstrom, intramural sports coordinator.

Davidson defeated Mottas 6-1 and 6-3 in the best two-of-three-games match for the post title.

### Race track cuts admission

Heartland Park will salute all current and former members of the U.S. armed forces during the Wyoming Ethanol National Open drag race July 3.

All current armed forces members, reservists and retirees who present their military ID card at Gate D of Heartland Park will receive free admission that day.

Any person accompanying military members who also present a military ID will receive \$5 off the regular \$10 admission. Gates open at 7 a.m. Races begin at 9 a.m.

The National Open will feature Super Gas, Super Street and Top Comp classes as well as Heartland Park's regular bracket race classes of Super Pro, Pro E.T., Sportsman and Trophy.

### Royals slate military day

The Kansas City Royals will host the third annual Military Appreciation Day Aug. 21, at Kauffman Stadium. The baseball game begins at 6:05 p.m.

Pre-game events include a ceremony honoring all military branches, static military displays, military flyovers and the posting of the colors by Fort Riley Soldiers recently redeployed from Iraq.

Discounted tickets ranging from \$6 to \$12 are available for Soldiers and family members at the Information, Ticketing and Registration office at Fort Riley.

Concessions at the game will cost \$1.

For more information on the events, call Sgt. John Edwards at (816) 318-0007, ext. 2610. To buy tickets, call ITR at 239-5614 or 239-4415.

### Freedom Run goes 10K

The annual Coors Freedom Run will take entrants over a 10K course in Junction City July 4. The race will start at Heritage Park, Sixth and Washington streets at 7:30 a.m.

For more information, call 238-6137 or visit [www.jcks.com](http://www.jcks.com) on the Internet.

### 10K run set in Lenexa

The Lenexa Community Days 10K Freedom run will take place during the town's Independence Day celebration. For more information, call (913) 541-8592 or visit [www.lenexa.org](http://www.lenexa.org) on the Internet.

### Local events:

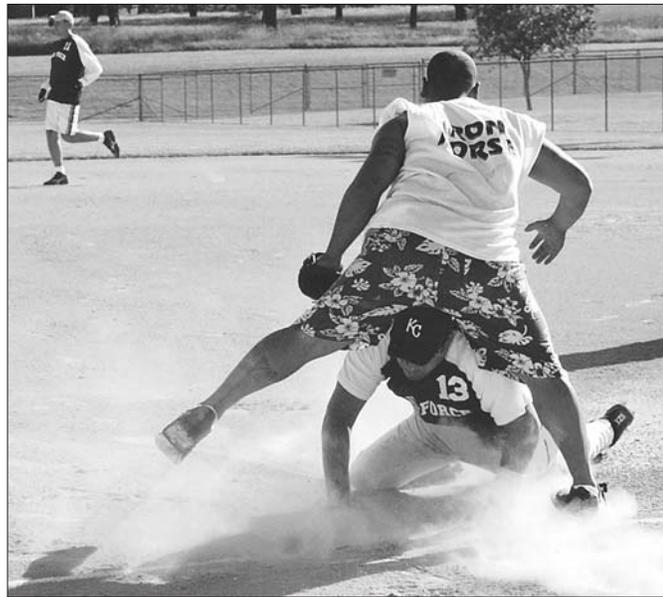
July 5 - Sign up for July Swimming Lessons

July 8 - Aerobics, 5:30 to 6:30 p.m.

# Down and dirty



Catcher Christopher Payne, 10th ASOS, tags out Clifford Hope, Company A, 1st Battalion, 13th Armor, but then drops the ball, allowing a score. Post/Blackmon



## 24th ID leads league teams

### Staff report

Powerhouse 24th Infantry Division (Mech) continued winning in battalion level slow-pitch softball June 22, defeating 125th Personnel Services Battalion 14-1 in the first game and 4-1 in the second.

U.S. Army Medical Department Activity also booked two back-to-back wins against 4th Battalion, 1st Field Artillery. They defeated the Artillerymen 15-7 in the opener and 14-7 in the second game.

Company C, 70th Engineer Battalion, won two games in company league play June 22. It blasted the 523rd Military Police Company 21-6 in an 8 p.m. game then handed the 977th Military Police Company a 19-7 drubbing in a 9 p.m. game.

Battery A, 4th Bn., 1st FA, won both its company league games. It won a nail-biting shootout 16-15 against rival Headquarters and Headquarters Battery, 4th Bn., 1st FA, then defeated the battalion's Service Battery in easier fashion, 23-8.

Company A, 1st Battalion, 13th Armor, split its games. It defeated 3rd Brigade, 75th Division (Training Support), 15-10 after losing to 10th ASOS 11-9.

In other company level games: Detachment D, 15th Personnel Services Battalion, defeated 172nd Chemical Company 10-8.

The 596th Signal Company defeated HHB, 4th Bn., 1st FA, 18-13.

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Bati Tiumal, third baseman for Company A, 1st Battalion, 13th Armor, and runner Edgar Rodriguez of the 10th ASOS collide at third base. The Airmen won the game 11-9, June 22.

Post/Blackmon

## Prairie runs set for July 24

### Staff report

The July 24 Fort Riley Prairie Run consists of three races: 10 miles, five miles and two miles race.

Each race is open to the Fort Riley military community and the general public.

The 10-mile race will be used to select runners for an active duty Army team to represent Fort Riley at the Army 10-Miler in Washington, D.C.

For rules and qualification information, contact the Sports Office at 239-2172.

The two-mile race is not a fun run. Dogs, strollers, baby joggers, skateboards, roller skates, motorized vehicles, bicycles and headsets are not allowed on the racecourse.

Runners must pay a \$10 entry fee if registering before July 16. A T-shirt will be included in the entry fee.

Runners must pay a \$12

entry fee if registering after July 19. A T-shirt is not guaranteed for late registrants.

Checks to pay for entry fees should be made out to IMWRF (Installation Morale, Welfare and Recreation Fund).

Runners will start and finish at King Field House, building 202 on Main Post.

Runners may pick up packets and register between 6 and 6:45 a.m., July 24 for all three races.

The five- and 10-mile races

begin at 7 a.m. the two-mile race begins at 7:10 a.m.

An awards ceremony is planned for about 9:15 a.m.

Awards will be given to the top three finishers in each gender and age category for each race.

An overall first place award will be given to the top male and female finisher of each race.

For more information, call 239-2172.

## Prairie's landscape reveals old-time fences

### Settlers used hedgerows, barbed wire, stone walls to hold livestock

By Alan Hynek  
Fish, Wildlife Biologist  
Conservation Division



Alan Hynek

The Fort Riley landscape is typical Flint Hills prairie, dominated by rolling meadows with gallery forests along the streams and rivers.

The Flint Hills were shaped by decades of erosion, drought and floods. The native vegetation evolved to withstand extremes in temperatures

and heavy impacts by large grazers, including bison, deer and elk.

Early settlers brought many changes to the vast sea of prairie. Some of those are still visible on Fort Riley. Most notable are permanent structures that were meant to contain livestock or in some cases to keep them out of crop fields.

Most Soldiers and outdoorsmen on

the fort have probably noticed long rows of gnarled and twisted Osage orange trees, complete with a few strands of rusty old barbed wire. An occasional rock wall is apparent, stretching across the grasslands of Fort Riley.

Osage orange is not native to Kansas but is well adapted to the area. The natural range for these fiercely

armed trees extended north from Texas to about central Oklahoma.

Before the invention of barbed wire, these living fences were the most practical solution for corralling livestock. When planted close together, these trees become entangled to form a nearly impenetrable barrier.

Osage orange is long lived, with many trees approaching the century mark. The stems of these trees contin-

See *Wildside*, Page 11





# Airmen continue to fly high in company league play



*Post/Blackmon*

Outfielder Zach Laird makes a diving catch for the 10th ASOS team June 22.



*Post/Blackmon*

Company A, 1st Battalion, 13th Armor, pitcher Travis Potter dives head first for third base as the ball gets away from Edgar Rodriguez of 10th ASOS.

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Stone walls such as this one can be found on the prairie of Fort Riley. They were built by early settlers.

DES/Suleiman

# Army marksmen win military title

## Pistol shooters beat teams, reservists beat individuals

By Bernard E DeLisle  
Army News Service

A. Rose, Adam Sokolowski and Sean Watson.

NORTH LITTLE ROCK, Ark. — U.S. Army Marksmanship Unit shooters from Fort Benning, Ga., scored decisive victories to win big at this year's 45th Annual Interservice Pistol Championships June 14 to 17 at Camp Joseph T. Robinson.

Like last year, the AMU shooters were followed in second place by the U.S. Marine Corps team from Quantico, Va., with 4,614 points and 153 X's.

Third place in the team aggregate went to the Army Reserve Team with a final tally of 4,579 points and 179 X's.

The USAMU fielded two marksmanship teams that joined those from other U.S. military active and reserve components in competing at the annual event.

That team was made up of Albert Wood, distinguished in pistol and rifle; Jason Sargent, Keith Sanderson and James M. Henderson, all distinguished pistol shooters.

The Interservice Matches, hosted by the National Guard Marksmanship Training Unit at Camp Robinson, attracted 62 individuals on eight pistol teams composed of some of the top marksmen from across the U.S. military.

Just like last year, members of the U.S. Army Reserve led the way in the Individual Championship, scoring first and third place victories in the Individual Championship Grand Aggregate. Henderson led all individual competitors and set a new match record with a first-place score of 3,536 points and 184 X's.

With the many styles of barbed wire created over the years, collecting became a common pastime. However, it is illegal to remove any artifacts from federal property, including barbed wire.

Zins took second place individual honors with a total score of 3,522 points and 181 X's. Third place went to Sanderson with 3,496 points and 150 X's.

For more information, call the Conservation Office at 239-6211 or stop by building 1020 on Huebner Road.

## Wildside continued from page 9

ued their contribution to ranchers in the barbed wire age while serving as an excellent source for fence posts. The wood of Osage orange is hard and durable and can stand for decades.

intense, the fences could stand for generations with little maintenance.

Stone walls are not as common as hedgerows on Fort Riley, but evidence of these structures remain. While the material to create a stone wall was almost limitless in the Flint Hills, the time and energy to create them was intense.

Some stone walls were elaborately built with several layers of horizontally laid rock and a single layer of flat limestone on top laid at an angle to dispel water.

The history of using stone walls for livestock fencing came from Europe, where use of stone walls continues today. Although the initial construction was labor-

Within many hedgerows are a few strands of rusted barbed wire. The barbed wire industry began in 1872 when three men - Joseph Glidden, Jacob Haish and Isaac Ellwood - decided they could improve the current standard of livestock fencing.

farm. Using parts of an old coffee grinder, the three men fashioned "S"-shaped barbs. Then two strands of straight wire were attached with one end to a tree and the other end to a grinding stone. The strands were then twisted, securely attaching the hand-fashioned barbs. Although the process has become much more efficient, the same method is used today.

The popularity of barbed wire boomed in the late 1800s. Farmers, ranchers and blacksmiths tried their hand at creating the perfect barbed wire.

developed. Even more were created and sold locally without legal protection.

After much trial and error, the seemingly endless varieties of barbed wire have been reduced to only a few patents currently in use today.

With the many styles of barbed wire created over the years, collecting became a common pastime. However, it is illegal to remove any artifacts from federal property, including barbed wire.

Hundreds of patents were

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# Fort Riley Community Life

Thursday, July 1, 2004

America's Warfighting Center

Page 13

## Community news briefly

### Hospital offers kids' physicals

Irwin Army Community Hospital School and Sports Physical Fairs will be July 24 and Aug. 7.

Appointments for these two days will be available for scheduling beginning July 1, by contacting the Tricare Service Center appointment line at (784) 784-1200.

About 950 appointments are available during these two days. Limited appointments also are available in the Primary Care Clinics for children requiring physicals before July 24.

Parents of children requiring physicals should pick up their school and sports physical forms at the hospital's Patient Assistance Desk on the first floor before fair dates. No appointment is necessary for children requiring immunizations only.

Walk-in hours for the Immunization Clinic are Walk-in hours for the Immunization Clinic are 7:45 to 11:15 a.m. and 1 to 3:45 p.m. Monday, Wednesday and Friday; 1 to 3:45 p.m. Tuesday; and 7:45 to 11:15 a.m. Thursday.

### Musicians needed for services

The Contemporary Protestant service meeting in Kapana Chapel needs acoustic and electric guitar players as well as an additional keyboard player.

Services are Sundays at 11 a.m.; rehearsals are Wednesday nights and Sunday mornings.

Anyone interested should call Chaplain (Maj.) James Paulson at 239-3359.

### Latinos offer free classes

The Geary County Latino Organization Inc. offers free English classes at the Junction City Municipal Building, 700 N. Jefferson St. The classes are offered through the Community in School Program in Junction City.

Registration is from 6:30 to 8 p.m. July 6-8 at the Municipal Building.

Classes begin July 13 and will run from 6:30 to 8 p.m. Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays.

Free childcare for children 18 months and older will be provided, if needed.

For more information, call 238-2885. Spanish speaking assistance is available.

### Society seeks tour docents

The Historical and Archaeological Society of Fort Riley needs docents who can volunteer two hours every few months to share the post's history with others.

HASFR docents give group tours of the Custer House and tours of Fort Riley. The training is free and provided by museum curator Bill McKale.

For further information, call Alicia Broadwater at 717-3266.

### 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.

## Simple errors delay military mail

By Blanka Stratford  
Army News Service

FORT McPHERSON, Ga. — Something as simple as adding the name of the destination country to an address can delay the delivery of mail to servicemembers overseas.

It is a problem that the military postal system encounters daily,

said Capt. Faye Slater, Third Army and Coalition Forces Land Component Command chief of theater postal operations.

To alleviate this situation, Slater said help is needed from the family and friends of deployed servicemembers. Senders statewide are actually slowing the delivery of the mail by not properly addressing letters and packages. The sender needs to know

the adding the name of the country and the name of the base camp of a servicemember is stationed to mail makes addresses incompatible with regulated military addresses.

"The U.S. Postal Service system has automated sorting machines that read the address and determine whether a letter or package goes through military postal channels, regular USPS or international postal channels," Slater said.

A recent case of this common mistake occurred when Soldiers' mail was found in the post office in downtown Baghdad rather than being sent to where the Soldiers were deployed.

"They brought us 21 letter trays filled with mail dated between December and February," said Lt. Col. Edward

See Mail, Page 14



Patti Smith reads aloud to her students at the Jefferson Elementary School summer reading workshop. Smith said the focus of the workshop was building comprehension skills through thinking techniques. The program took place June 1-18 from 9-11 a.m. each day.

Post/Hamilton

## Children spend summer with books



Patti Smith and Joey Walder, a second-grader, lead the class in reading aloud at the summer reading workshop held at Jefferson Elementary School. For every hour of reading completed, a student received a star, according to John Triplett, librarian at Jefferson Elementary School on Fort Riley. Triplett said his goal was to have 50 stars by Flag Day, June 14, but the students far exceeded the goal, putting in 100 hours of reading.

Post/Hamilton



Megan Hitchcock, a second-grader, places her star on the star readers' board at the Jefferson Elementary School summer reading workshop. Hitchcock earned a star for completing one hour of summer reading.

Post/Hamilton

## Middle school student GROWS

### Girl attends science, technology summer camp

By Jamie Bender  
Staff writer

A Fort Riley Middle School student expanded her growing interest in science and technology when she attended Kansas State University's Girls Researching Our World workshop June 22-24.

Sarah Crim said she always has been interested in math, science and technology. That's why she applied to attend the special summer camp program.

Career opportunities in science, math and technology are growing. A study conducted in 2000 by the Commission on the Advancement of Women and Minorities in Science,

Engineering and Technology Development found that in the next eight years, more than 5.3 million new high-tech jobs will need to be filled.

While careers in science, math, engineering and technology are more available to women these days, many girls lose their interest in science and math at the beginning of middle school, according to a Kansas State University Web site. The GROW program was developed to help keep girls interested and to show them the career options open to them.

"It's a lot of fun," Sarah said about her interest in sciences. "[Science classes] are more challenging and interesting."

Sarah said she feels the camp will help with her future education.

"We learned about the options we have in college," she said. "I had wanted to be a marine biologist for a long time."

The three-day camp took place on the K-State campus. Activities included classes on subjects such as water quality, DNA, engineering and wildlife habitats.

"They had an escort from the college with them at all times," said Sarah's mother, Rhonda Crim. Sarah said she enjoyed the hands-on classes the most.

"The classes were the most fun because they were hands-on and you learned a lot about what you can do for a career," she said. "There was one

See Sarah, Page 14



Sarah Crim (right) of Fort Riley and fellow team member Megan Fitzgerald of Topeka, build a bridge to learn more about building structures.

Post/Blackman





### Community news briefly

#### Rally Point hosts giveaway

Rally Point patrons will get a chance July 2 to win tickets to the upcoming Jessica Simpson concert in Kansas City, July 8. Local radio station, Z96.3 will give away two pairs of tickets each hour from 7 to 9 p.m.

Patrons can register at Rally Point and must be present to win.

Fort Riley's Rally Point Restaurant and Bar is located at 2600 Trooper Drive.

#### Special Needs Rodeo for kids

The Junction City Rodeo Association will host the Eighth Annual Special Needs Rodeo July 17, at the 4-H/Senior Citizens Center on Spring Valley Road in Junction City.

Cowboys and cowgirls will need to arrive at 5:45 p.m. Children ages 5-12 with special needs are welcome to be rodeo participants.

Children will be dressed in their own rodeo gear, such as a cowboy hat, bandanna, and a rodeo T-shirt, all for them to take home. Children will be matched with their own cowboy or cowgirl.

Just like in the real rodeo events, a professional rodeo announcer will highlight each child as they perform their events.

For more information, call the Exceptional Family Member Program at 239-9435. Please RSVP no later than July 9 if you plan to have a child participate.



#### Military band entertains post crowd

Members of the 95th Army Reserve Band perform under the direction of Chief Warrant Officer Wayne Bennett June 22. The Oklahoma City reservists presented the outdoor concert of popular and Broadway show tunes in front of the "Duty" statue outside the U.S. Cavalry Museum on post.

Post/Blackmon

### Sarah continued from page 13

class called Building a Career in Structures where we had to build a bridge. We built it out of aluminum and wood. It was about six feet long. It turned out pretty well. I held all 15 of us."

Rhonda said she has encouraged her three daughters' interest

in science. "I want them to do what they want, not just what's acceptable for women," Rhonda said. "Science catches their attention, especially Sarah's."

As a Girl Scout leader, Rhonda promotes learning in science-

related projects.

"We have done everything from making Goo and Gaek, to field trips to hands-on museums," she said.

GROW is a yearlong program with several one-day trips throughout the school year.

"The trips have to be approved by the school, so she has to keep her grades up to be able to attend," Rhonda said.

More programs are available for girls as they advance in school.

Rhonda said she hopes that as

she gets into high school Sarah will want to stay involved.

"There are lots of things I can do in high school, too," Sarah said.

For more information on the GROW program, visit the K-State Web site at [www.ksu.edu/grow/](http://www.ksu.edu/grow/).

### Mail continued from page 13

Passineau, commander of the joint military mail terminal at Baghdad International Airport. "Based on the attached (tracking) tags, this mail never went through the military mail channels, but was sent directly from John F. Kennedy Airport and passed through either Kuwait or Jordan." Slater said it is important for

loved ones who remain at home to understand the step-by-step procedures that shape the entire military mailing system and current updates on any and all developments made to the military postal service.

She hopes to develop awareness by presenting the general public with an idea of the mea-

sures and steps taken between the time a letter or parcel initially leaves a sender's hands and the time it is finally picked up by a recipient.

Particularly in a war zone, there may be instances when several critical measures must be taken into consideration. "For example, the delivery may

possibly be heading for a remote site that is not located near a main logistics hub, and it is not easily accessible," Slater said. "If that's the case, other issues may emerge, such as organizing a convoy and sustaining certain security procedures, and those issues may delay the anticipated time of the parcel's arrival."

Before a letter or package even reaches such proximity to its final destination, it must undergo a series of transfers, starting from the mailbox or post office where it is first dropped off, through the state's general mail facility and to one of USPS' international gateways for loading on an aircraft for delivery to the military overseas.

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# Travel & Fun in Kansas

## Leisuretime ideas

### Leavenworth:

**A Journey Fourth/Discovery Days** — Commemoration of Lewis and Clark's Bicentennial expedition, River Fest, Leavenworth's Sesquicentennial with re-enactments, food, crafts, entertainment, fireworks and keel boat docking; activities at Landing Park and downtown include the Discovery Days Parade, Riverfront Festival/150th Birthday of "First City" of Kansas, old wagon displays, community band presentations, historic games for children, historic theme quilt show and art exhibit, historic crafters, exhibits and displays at Frontier Army Museum and Richard Allen Cultural Center's African-American historical exhibits; afternoon and evenings July 1-2, 10 a.m. to 10 p.m. July 3 and noon to 4 p.m. July 4. For more information, call (913) 682-2313 or (800) 844-4114 or visit [www.lvarea.com/mainst](http://www.lvarea.com/mainst) on the Internet.

### Fort Scott:

**Military Holiday** — Celebrate Independence Day with soldiers and civilians of the garrison, traditional games, 30-gun salute and living history demonstrations; 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. July 3-4; Old Fort Boulevard, Fort Scott National Historic Site. For more information, call (620) 223-0310 or visit [www.nps.gov/fose](http://www.nps.gov/fose) on the Internet.

### Wichita:

**1870s Independence Days Festival and Sesquicentennial Event** — Watermelon seed spitting contests, pie-eating contests, schoolyard games, croquet and Professor Farquar's Traveling Medicine Show provide old-fashioned amusements; skits and scenarios by the Cowtown Cowboys; social dancing by the Entre Nous Club Victorian Dancers; tunes by the Harmonica Hombres; saloon performances by the Dixie Lee Dance Troupe & Varieties, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. July 3 and 5, noon to 5 p.m. July 4; 1871 Sim Park Drive, Old Cowtown Museum. For more information, call (316) 264-6398 or visit [www.old-cowtown.org](http://www.old-cowtown.org) on the Internet.



Post/Blackmon

Showing support for his father as well as his country, this small patriot marches with his miniature float in the 2003 Sundown Salute parade in Junction City.



Post/Blackmon

A Statue of Liberty model carries her torch in last year's Junction City parade.

## Communities celebrate July 4th

By April Blackmon  
Staff writer

Several communities in the area will be celebrating Independence Day in a variety of fashions. Junction City, Manhattan and Wamego are sponsoring numerous activities this holiday weekend.

The area's largest event is the 32nd annual Sundown Salute at Heritage Park in Junction City. This four-day celebration began July 1, and includes a wide range of activities for people of all ages, including a carnival, parades and live music. The annual fireworks display will be south of the auto salvage yard on U.S. Highway 40. Spectators can see the display from Heritage Park and Sertoma Park.

### Sundown Salute Events

**July 2**  
6 p.m. -- Carnival, craft, concession vendors open, Heritage Park

6 p.m. -- Hamburger feed, free to first 500 people, Municipal Building, 700 N. Jefferson St.

6 p.m. -- J.C. Youth Theatre presents "We the People," at the Junction City Little Theatre on 18th Street. Admission will be charged.

8 p.m. -- Youth parade around Heritage Park

9 p.m. -- Car light parade around Heritage Park

9 p.m. -- Street dance in front of Club Coyote on Seventh Street

10 p.m. -- Movie in the Park series, "Top Gun," Heritage Park

### July 3

8 a.m. -- Vendors open

8 a.m. to 5 p.m. -- Freedom car show at Heritage Park

10 a.m. -- Parade, "Let Freedom Ring," along Sixth Street from Eisenhower Drive to Washington Street

10 a.m. -- Carnival opens

Noon -- Veteran's ceremony in Heritage Park

1 p.m. -- Hedrick's Petting Zoo opens in Waters True Value Parking lot

1 p.m. -- Rattlesnake wranglers and virtual fishing machine,

Municipal Building

2 p.m. -- J.C. Youth Theatre presents "We the People," at the Junction City Little Theatre on 18th Street. Admission will be charged.

3:30 p.m. -- JOCO and the J's perform on Heritage Park bandstand

4:30 to 6:30 p.m. -- Mutton bustin' and ranch rodeo at Historical Society Museum, Sixth and Adams streets

7 p.m. -- JOCO and the J's perform on the big stage on Sixth Street between Jefferson and Washington streets

8 p.m. -- Opening act, Jeff Scheetz on the big stage

8:30 p.m. -- Former members of E.L.O. and E.L.O., Part II: The Orchestra performing the music of E.L.O. on the big stage

10 p.m. -- Fireworks

### July 4

7:30 a.m. -- Coors Freedom Run, 10K, starts at Heritage Park

8 a.m. -- Vendors open

9 a.m. -- Coors Fun Run starts at Heritage Park

10 a.m. -- Ministerial Alliance on big stage

Noon -- Carnival opens

1 p.m. -- Hedrick's Petting Zoo opens

1 p.m. -- Virtual fishing, Municipal Building

1 and 3 p.m. -- JOCO and the J's perform, park bandstand

2 p.m. -- J.C. Youth Theatre presents "We the People," at the Junction City Little Theatre on 18th Street. Admission will be charged.

5:30 p.m. -- Recital by Carabel's Dance Studio on the bandstand

6:30 p.m. -- Recital by Center Stage Dance Studio on the bandstand

7 p.m. -- JOCO and the J's perform on the big stage

7:30 p.m. -- The Benders on the big stage

9 p.m. -- Liverpool performs on the big stage

### Thunder Over Manhattan

Manhattan's celebration will be at Cico Park off Kimball Avenue. Activities begin with a Solar Kiwanis Pancake Feed at 7:30

a.m., in Pottorf Hall and a skateboard competition. Rides and entertainment for children, food vendors and entertainment by the City Band and Dustin Evans and The Good Times Band will begin at 6 p.m., east of Pottorf Hall. The fireworks display will start at 9:45 p.m.

Friends of the Sunset Zoo - Kid's Day. Children 12 and younger are admitted free of charge courtesy of the Friends of Sunset Zoo. Admission price is \$4 for adults. 9:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

### Wamego

A four-day carnival at the City Park highlights Wamego's festivities. The annual Walter P. Chrysler Antique Car Show will feature hundreds of antique and restored cars, as well as many modern cars of note.

This year's parade will begin at 6 p.m. The event is followed by a community picnic in Wamego City Park and traditional fireworks display. Wamego is 15 miles east of Manhattan on U.S. Highway 24.

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