



<b>Weather Forecast</b>		<b>Today</b>	<b>High:84 Low:64</b>
<b>Saturday</b>	<b>High:93 Low:67</b>	<b>Sunday</b>	<b>High:96 Low:70</b>

# FRIDAY

# Fort Riley Post



Sundown Salute

Several local events are held in celebration of Independence Day.

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July 12, 2002

America's Warfighting Center

Vol. 45, No. 28

## Independence celebrated

By Steven Cooke  
Staff Writer

Fort Riley and Junction City celebrated the nation's birthday with the Sundown Salute, right in heart of America.

It began with the Coors 10 kilometer Freedom Run at 7:30 a.m., July 4, and ended with a six hour concert on July 5, that ended at midnight.

Fort Riley had a strong presence in the 10 kilometer run in the Army categories of the race. Lt. Col. David Boslego, Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 24th Infantry Division, won first place in the men's division, while the women of 596th Signal Company placed first in the overall women's competition. The 1st Battalion, 34th Armor, was the battalion champions. The 596th Signal Company, 2nd Platoon, won first place in the platoon category.

After the run was completed, there was the Junction City and Fort Riley Shrine Parade.

Company's A, B and C of 1st Battalion, 34th Armor marched in the parade. An M1A1 Abrams tank, M2 Bradley, M109 Paladin and Scout vehicle were also on display in the parade. Toward the end of the parade, the Fort Riley Honor Guard marched with horses and a covered wagon.

Children along the parade route were seen saluting with undeniable excitement in their eyes as the soldiers passed.

In the parade, viewers could see Maj. Gen. Thomas Metz, commanding general, 24th

Infantry Division (Mech) and Fort Riley, riding in a WWII vintage Willys Jeep. In the parade, there also were clowns in little clown cars and kids from the local sports teams.

After the parade, folks gathered at the Vietnam and Desert Storm Memorials for a wreath laying ceremony. The ceremony honored all the soldiers who have served in the armed forces. The short, but poignant, ceremony was led by Metz and Command Sgt. Maj. Kenneth Fyffe, Fort Riley garrison sergeant major. Assisting Metz and Fyffe were Sgt. 1st Class Richard Everett, Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 24th Infantry Division and Sgt. 1st Class William Baker, Battery C, 1st Bn., 4th Air Defense Artillery.

After the wreath laying, the crowd spent the rest of the day checking the various kinds of entertainment and vendors.

Center stage in Heritage Park was the United States Air Force Band Nightwing, followed by the Community Band, Rythem X and JAAZ Trio.

The Nightwing Band is a four-piece band that makes up one component of the 60 member, USAF Heartland of America Band. The band performs about 100 shows a year. At Sundown Salute, they performed a lot of familiar pop hits, but put a special emphasis on patriotic songs said Tech. Sgt. Jimmy Weber, Nightwing band member.

Other festivities at Sundown Salute included an arts and crafts fair at the municipal building, an art display at the Junction City



Post/Bender

Maj. Gen. Thomas Metz, commanding general, 24th Infantry Division (Mech) and Fort Riley and Sgt. 1st Class Richard Everett place a wreath at the Heritage Park Vietnam Memorial during a ceremony at the Sundown Salute in Junction City.

Arts Gallery, a car show at 8th Street and Jefferson Avenue and much more. A big highlight was the "Kids Zone," featuring the Hedricks Petting Zoo. At the petting zoo, children could get up close and personal with such exotic animals as the emu, zebra, bison and the alpaca, which is related to the llama. There also

were pony and camel rides. Another big event was the Mud Bogging on Grant Avenue. Mud Bogging is a traditional event where people drive big 4X4 trucks through deep mud. The objective is to get the furthest in the mud or travel the same distance, but faster than anyone else. Judging by the hundreds of people

that turned out to watch, Mud Bogging is a big deal to the members of the Fort Riley and Junction City communities. Later on that evening was a free concert by country music recording artist Chad Brock. Then, at 10 p.m., over Milford Lake was a fire works extravaganza. There were long lines coming

in and out of Milford Lake. Some people that could not get in simply parked on the side of the highway and watched the show from there. The next day, folks who missed the entertainment or simply couldn't get enough on the Fourth of July could come back out and

See Salute Page 6

## Fort Riley below Army average on accidents so far this year

By Jason Shepherd  
19th PAD

Even though the Army has an increase in accidents and deaths during the current fiscal year, Fort Riley has enjoyed a decrease due to more command involvement and safety programs.

According to the U.S. Army Safety Office website, there have been 140 "Class A" ground accidents so far this year, including 28 on-duty accidents and 112 off-duty accidents. A "Class A" accident is one which involves a fatality, a permanent disability or more than \$1 million damage in equipment. These 140 "Class A" accidents are up almost 18 percent from the same period last year. There have also been 147 fatalities so far this fiscal year, also up almost 18 percent from last year.

Some of these deaths have even

touched Fort Riley. However, even with the increase of "Class A" accidents and fatalities Army wide, Fort Riley has seen a decrease. With the accident at the National Training Center in March, the total amount of "Class A" fatalities is four, which is two less than last year with three months to go.

Paul Burns, Fort Riley safety and occupational health manager, credited the officers and noncommissioned officers for the decline.

"Command involvement is at an all time high here at Fort Riley and in the Army as a whole," he said. "(All commanding generals) have placed a top down emphasis on safety. In addition to the direct command involvement, the (Directorate of Environment and Safety) Safety Division provides many valuable tools to assist leaders and soldiers to make the right decision, the safe deci-

sion." Vehicle accidents are the number one killer of soldiers in the Army. There are many factors that cause fatal car or motorcycle accidents which include excessive speed and alcohol, lack of seat belts, aggressive driving, driver fatigue and age. So far this year, Fort Riley has had only one privately owned vehicle fatality.

The faster a car is going, the more distance it takes the driver to stop. Speeding also reduces the amount of time a driver has to act and the ability to navigate the road. Add in alcohol, and the driver is 15 times more likely to be involved in a crash. About 48 percent of all fatal car crashes involve intoxicated or alcohol impaired drivers. Seat belts prevent deaths in 42 percent of all potentially fatal crashes. Add an airbag and the odds of living go up to 47 percent. Aggressive driving is also a major cause of accidents.

There are three types of aggressive driving which include impatience and inattentiveness, power struggle and recklessness and road rage. Drivers between the ages of 18-24 are at a higher risk. Over 54 percent of fatal crashes include fatigue and falling asleep at the wheel for this age group.

Even though POV accidents are higher this year, there are other types of accidents. Last month, a soldier was killed in Fort Hood, Texas, after being thrown from a High Mobility Multipurpose Wheeled Vehicle turret. The Humvee was traveling at a high rate of speed when it hit a water obstacle at about 35 miles per hour.

According to a memo released by III Corps Commander, Lt. Gen. B.B. Bell, most (if not all) accidents are preventable.

"The carnage will only stop when our senior leaders empower and demand of

our first line supervisors that they penetrate their squads, sections and crews and positively change irresponsible and dangerous behavior, on and off duty."

Burns added that the safety website has the means to empower these senior leaders and first line supervisors to do the right thing.

"(The DES) also provides other proactive items such as inspections, good dissemination of safety related messages and information to commanders and safety representatives and training courses."

Leaders looking for safety classes can find them on the intranet at <https://intranet.riley.army.mil/des/Safety/Safetyhome.html>

Soldiers must have a user name and password to be able to get on the site. On that website, visitors can find bulletins on safety, fatalities, as well as briefings, trainings and regulations.



## Thousands en route to Fort Riley

By Christie Vanover  
Staff Writer

Thousands of reservists and national guardsmen from 24 states are en route to Fort Riley to train at America's Warfighting Center during Operation Hickory Sting.

The month-long operation is a training exercise that will prepare the 30th Enhanced Separate Brigade, North Carolina Army National Guard, for their National Training Center rotation in the summer of 2003.

Fort Riley is headquarters to the only mechanized integrated division in the Army, the 24th Infantry Division (Mech), and therefore is responsible for providing training, readiness oversight for its three enhanced sepa-

Thomas Metz, commanding general, 24th Inf. Div. (M) and Fort Riley. "The 30th is one enhanced separate brigade that is very high in the queue of being able to support the national command authority."

Approximately 8,000 soldiers will begin training at Fort Riley next week, nearly doubling the post's daily military population.

"During the course of the next three weeks the focus of training will shift to aviation operations, force-on-force maneuvers with Abrams tanks and Bradley fighting vehicles, artillery live fire, civilians on the battlefield and the numerous logistical tasks associated with an operation of this size," said Maj. Kevin West, 24th Inf. Div. training officer for the 30th Enhanced Separate Brigade.

"The logistical and command and control aspects of this operation are immense. We have the 30th Corps Support Group responsible for deployment operations, the 38th Main Support Battalion, Indiana Army National Guard, supporting the 30th ESB during the operation and the 143rd Area Support Group, Connecticut Army National Guard, running redeployment operations," said West.

Fort Riley's active duty units will also play a major roll in Operation Hickory Sting as they provide the Opposing Force.

"One of the challenges at the NTC is you're fighting a home team OPFOR because you're fighting a unit that is stationed at the training center and fights on the ground all the time. When the



# Special Needs Rodeo exciting, fun for all

Next week our great neighbors in Junction City will host the sixth annual (Yahoo!!) Junction City Special Needs Rodeo, which will be held at the 4-H Senior Citizens Center on Spring Valley Road in Junction City on July 10.

This is a wonderful opportunity for the entire family to experience an event that is clearly a part of the history and culture of the region.

Each child will start their rodeo experience by getting fit-

ted in their "Rodeo Duds," which consists of bandannas, cowboy hats and a Rodeo T-shirt all to take home.

Each child will then pair up with their one-on-one cowboy or cowgirl partner who will escort the children to events such as the goat relay, steer roping, bareback riding, steer wrestling and much more. Just like in the "real rodeos," there will also be a pro-

fessional rodeo announcer on hand to spotlight each child as they perform their events. The

laugh with the Rodeo Clown to the volunteers who gain enjoyment simply by ensuring the kids are having a great time. It is sure to be fun for all!!

Please join us and witness the smiles on the kid's faces as they experience a moment in time as a Real Life Cowboy!

For more information or to RSVP, contact Laurie McCauley, Exceptional Family Member Program at 239-9435. Please RSVP by July 17.

## Around Fort Riley: *By Col. Philip Pope, Garrison Commander*

Williams, commander, 1st PSB. The decision was a result of Total Army Analysis 07.1, which will create more effective, viable and deployable elements to support and sustain the smaller and more lethal force for the 21st century.

"It is always sad to see a great unit, or, in this case, two great units fade away. For the soldiers of Fort Riley, it will be comforting to know that the personnel and finance soldiers who support them will be staying here...just under a different name," said Lt. Col. Bruce Gubser, commander, 1st Fin. Bn.

Following the inactivations and reorganizations, the Fort Riley military population will decrease by 58.

The 1st PSB manages combat-essential personnel information

and provides direct military personnel support to commanders, soldiers, retirees, Department of the Army Civilians and strength managers. The PSB headquarters provides command and control for assigned and attached units.

The current A and B personnel detachments are scheduled to reorganize in mid-September as detachments D and E of the 15th PSB. They will perform the direct support dimension of the personnel information and casualty management systems, manage the Personnel Accounting and Strength Reporting database and provide personnel services to commanders.

The 1st Finance Battalion provides centralized finance support to commands, units, activities and personnel at Fort Riley and to Army personnel assigned to US

Strategic Command at Offutt Air Force Base, Neb. It provides command and control for assigned finance detachments.

The new detachments, D and E of the 4th Fin. Bn., will provide military pay support and finance database maintenance for Fort Riley's units and personnel.

"Although the battalion headquarters will not be at Fort Riley, the same finance soldiers who statistically rate among the top military pay operations in CONUS will continue to support the great soldiers and families at Fort Riley," said Gubser.

The 1st PSB inactivation ceremony is today at 9 a.m. on Ware Parade Field, and the 1st Fin. Bn. will hold an inactivation ceremony on Tuesday at 9 a.m. on Ware Parade Field. The public is invited to attend.

# Service support battalions to inactivate soon

*By Christie Vanover  
Media Relations*

Two of Fort Riley's service support battalions, 1st Personnel Services Battalion and 1st Finance Battalion, are inactivating in mid-September to achieve and ensure a balanced and ready force.

Although their headquarters elements are inactivating, the remaining personnel and finance detachments will reorganize under a different III Armored Corps Personnel and Finance Battalion.

"They will remain in place at Fort Riley to ensure Fort Riley's soldiers continue to receive the exceptional personnel and finance support they have become accustomed to," said Lt. Col. Harry

# Cats, dogs on Fort Riley must have microchips

*By Steven Cooke  
Staff Writer*

As of June 24, all pet dogs and cats living on Fort Riley are required to have a microchip installed for identification purposes.

"It's a way of reuniting the pet with the owner," said Capt. Douglas Riley, Veterinary Services officer in charge. "If a pet gets

lost, it can be scanned for information of whom it belongs to."

Riley believes it will also reduce the stray population.

"Millions of animals are being put to sleep every year," Riley said. "We're trying to reduce that number by finding their owner."

Riley explained that the actual microchip is about two millimeters in length. The procedure takes about two seconds.

Riley said the procedure is generally good for everyone.

"It's not a means to punish anybody but to reunite pets with owners," Riley said. "One visit to a Stray facility and they will understand why we are doing this."

The procedure costs \$17 for the first pet and \$15 for each additional pet.

Veterinary Services is located at Marshal Army Airfield, building 814. For more information, call 239-3886.

## Grunt *By Wayne Uhdén*



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# Fort Riley EMTs work hard, train often

By Christopher Selmek

19th PAD

When people think of emergency medical technicians, what some usually picture is a scene from Rescue 911. Heroic ambulance drivers speed through traffic to reach a dying car accident victim -- an innocent human being clinging desperately to a life that can only be saved by the care EMS technicians alone can provide.

Action packed moments like this do occur from time to time, when the ambulance roars out of the lot fast enough to squeal the tires with the sirens blaring. More often, however, EMT's experience long periods between rescues. These moments may not make a good television show, but they are part of the job all the same. During these times the EMTs bond with their partners and try to keep busy, or after regular hours they try to get some rest.

In fact, the most important part of the job is preparation. The post's emergency medical technicians have to be ready night and day for any situation, from car crashes to heat injuries. This means that keeping

things in working order is extra important.

The first thing any team does when they come on duty at 8 a.m. is to spend about an hour doing preventative maintenance checks and services on the vehicles and all of the equipment inside.

"PMCS everyday," said Mike Scheidt, intermediate defibulator technician at Irwin Army Community Hospital, "that way when we go out on a run everything is just as it's supposed to be, because that's not a time to have a problem."

"The field is no time to find out that something's wrong," said Gary Crump, defibulator technician.

From the start of their duty day to the end at 4 p.m. is considered the teams on-duty time. During this time they perform the PMCS and conduct medical training to refresh themselves on the basics of their field. Occasionally, this training coincides with similar training being done by one of the medical units or support battalions on post, in which case, the EMT's may offer to conduct the training.

The IACH EMT team is entirely civilian, and the force is sometimes stretched thin due to multiple emergencies or a member of the team taking leave, so they must request assistance from one of the military doctors in the emergency room.

"We are civil service," said Scheidt, "so we are not contracted. We are government employees."

After the regular duty day is over for the EMT's at 4 p.m., their shift is still not over. From 4 to 11 p.m. is stand down time.

"Stand down time does not mean that you are idle," said Scheidt. "We're still helping out in the emergency rooms, still doing ambulance runs when they come in and lab runs to who knows where."

From roughly 11 p.m. to 7 a.m. is sleep time, though one member of the team must be awake at all times to man the radio room and receive any incoming transmissions.

Although stand down and sleep time may be somewhat more relaxed than the regular work day, it is still part of the twenty four hour shift, and therefore, still technically on duty. Every member of the team has one full day of work and then two days off, unless for some reason they should chose to switch shifts with another EMT.

Although the EMTs spend significant time at home and with their families, the relationships formed while on duty are binding and similar in many ways to any relationship they have at home.

"We spend one third of our lives together," said Crump. "Every third day we spend 24 hours together. It becomes just like you're family at home."

In the end, though, as much as the team may have squabbles or good times, it all boils down to professionalism and care for the patient, which is really the reason each one of them has this job.

"It's all about compassion," said Crump. "From someone who's just got an ingrown toenail to someone who's really hurting, you've got to have that compassion."



Post/Selmek



Post/Selmek

**Lt. P.E. Wilson, Fort Riley firefighter, and Mike Scheidt, intermediate defibulator technician at Irwin Army Community Hospital, practice preparing a patient for transport.**

**Spc. Vanessa Robinson, Company C, 125th Support Battalion, simulates a spinal injury as emergency medical technicians treat her injuries during training.**

## Problems deterred with help from Soldier Risk Reduction Program

By Kevin Doheny

19th PAD

The Army operates like a well-oiled machine, but even the best of the best can have accidents.

Webster's Dictionary states an accident is an unexpected happening causing loss or injury, which is not due to any fault or misconduct on the part of the person injured.

No person can stop all accidents, but reducing the rate of accidents can be done.

This is the main goal of the Soldier Risk Reduction Program.

"The main goal for the program is to reduce the risk factors or soldiers and enhance their readiness," said Bill Powers, chief at the Soldier and Family Support Center.

"We use this tool to allow the commanders to 'target' the risk

factors determined to be most detrimental to meet mission requirements."

The SRRP is based on receiving information from various resources throughout Fort Riley. The staff then inputs the information that these resources provide and compares it to previous months, quarters and years.

From there, the SRRP specialist takes a long look at it for trends, or lack there of, and informs commanders on what their battalion or brigade trends have been for a certain time frame.

"I track the different areas and look over the input, then I can sit down with the commanders and inform them on what their problem area might be," said Nicole Sizemore, Soldier Risk Reduction Program specialist at the SFSC. "Then, every other month I can sit down with the all the organiza-

tional experts together, the Installation Prevention Team, and look at these trends. From there we go to the particular experts and work with them to see what we need to do to help prevent a certain problem."

The IPT members are the organizational experts from 14 different agencies on post. Their information is vital to the SRRP because it is what makes up the charts and information the SRRP specialist use to determine certain trends.

For example, the military police give a report to the SRRP that says there were a certain number of traffic stops in the month of June.

Then, the SRRP specialists input the information into their system and compare it with Junes from previous years. If they see a rise in traffic stops in a certain battalion they report to that battal-

ion's commander and inform him or her of the battalion's rise in June traffic stops.

From there, the commander can use this information to brief his soldiers on proper procedures when driving on and off-post.

"Commander awareness is often spread thin," said Powers. "The SRRP allows the commander an opportunity to really focus on certain risk factors affecting

unit readiness, analyze what it means and have a chance to address it."

"The commanders have used this tool and have given us positive feedback," said Sizemore. "I can report to the commanders and let them know ahead of time that they have had a problem with, for example AWOLs in a certain quarter, then they can turn around and inform their staff about this

problem."

With this new system of being able to track down certain trends that affect unit readiness, commanders can now try to prevent the problems that can be detrimental to the unit's mission.

The SRRP is not 100 percent effective in preventing all accidents, but instead, it is a preemptive strike that helps deter problems before they occur.

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# Briefs

## Change of Command

The 3rd Brigade, 75th Division Training Support) will Change of Command July 26, at 9 a.m. on Ware Parade Field. Outgoing commander is Col. Robert Townsend and the incoming commander is Col. Gasper Gulotta. The ceremony will be held in King Field House in case of inclement weather.

## Elections

Primary state elections will be held on Aug. 6. Exercise your right to vote! For more information, call 239 6694.

## Renovations

Fort Riley is planning to renovate building 226, which is located within the Main Post Historic District on the fort. The Main Post Historic District is listed on the National Register of Historic Places. For more information about this project, contact Fort Riley's Historic Architect at 239-4443.

## Marriage Enrichment Class

Want to make a good marriage better? Want to better understand your spouse? Want to have your spouse better understand You? Come learn how to deal with misunderstandings and how to stop the argument cycle at the monthly Marriage Enrichment Class on July 23 from 7-9 p.m. at the Soldier and Family Support Center, room 30. Free childcare will be provided if you bring your child's hot records. Register by July 22 by calling 239-3436. The class is presented by Chaplain (MAJ) Paulson, the Fort Riley Family Life Chaplain.

## Microchip ID For Pets

All Fort Riley residents are required to have their pets implanted with a microchip ID. The Fort Riley Veterinary Services will microchip all dogs, cats and equine through July 31, on a walk-in basis. The microchip costs \$17 for the first animal and \$15 for every other animal implanted the same day.

Appointments are still required for pets need vaccinations or need to be seen for other health concerns.

Veterinary Services is located at Marshal Army Air Field, building 814.

For more information, call Sgt. 1st Class Clinton Ball, noncommissioned officer in charge of Veterinary Services at 239-3886 or 239-2732.

## Finance Office Closure

On Monday, the 1st Finance offices will be open from 9 a.m. - 3 p.m. and on Tuesday the offices will be closed all morning and will reopen at 1 p.m.

## Standards of Conduct Reminder

In accordance with FORSCOM regulations, 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 at 239-0468.

## Softball Tournament

The Sergeant Audie Murphy Club Softball Tournament will be held July 20-21, at Fort Riley's Softball Complex. There will be a horseshoe tournament, raffle, dunk tank and concession stand at the complex as well. The entry fee for the tournament is \$120.00 per team, and there is an ASA Sanction fee of \$15.00 if your team is not ASA sanctioned. Teams must provide their own ASA .47 core red-stitch balls. Proceeds from the tournament will go to the Sergeant Audie Murphy Club College Scholarship Fund. The first and second place teams will go to the ASA Men's D State Qualifier. The Consolation Bracket will receive T-shirts.

## Spouses of 1st BCT

The spouses of the 1st Brigade Combat Team at Fort Riley hosted a welcome reception in honor of Janice Connor, wife of the new 1st BCT commander, Col. Arthur Connor. The Custer House was the setting for the event on June 27. Approximately 50 people, including Pam Metz, wife of Maj. Gen. Thomas Metz, commanding general, 24th Infantry Division (Mech) and Fort Riley, were on hand to meet Connor and enjoy some refreshments. The Connor family is coming to Fort Riley from Pennsylvania, where Col. Connor recently graduated from the Army War College. The family is very pleased to be at such a historic post and they look forward to many good days ahead.

## Tuition Assistance

Effective Oct. 1, 2002, 100 percent TA (Tuition Assistance) will be paid for soldiers enrolled in postsecondary courses. Soldiers may use 100 percent TA up to \$250 per semester hour and up to \$4500 per year. See an Army Education Counselor for details and to

enroll.

## Thrift Shop

The Fort Riley Thrift Shop is seeking volunteers to help with merchandising, sorting and pricing donations, pulling expired items, straightening shelves, customer service and consignments. Thrift Shop business hours are 9:30 a.m. - 2:30 p.m., Tuesday - Thursday and the first Saturday of each month from 10 a.m. - 1 p.m. Volunteer benefits include first choice of new merchandise, discounts on donated items and a friendly working environment. Childcare expenses are reimbursed. In addition the Thrift Shop is seeking persons interested in serving on next year's board. Positions open include chairman, vice chairman, secretary and publicist. For more information about a specific position, please contact the Thrift Shop at 784-3874 during business hours.

## The Shoppe

Please stop by and see our wonderful selection of handcrafted gifts and antiques. We have many new items in and lots of Americana. You never know what you will find in our ever-changing inventory. The Shoppe is located in building 259 on Stuart Ave., west of the Fort Riley Honor Guard Stables. Call 239-2783 for more information. Hours of operation are 10 a.m. - 2 p.m., Tuesday - Saturday.

## Special Forces

A Special Forces recruiter will be visiting Fort Riley Aug. 12-16. Briefings will be held at the post re-up building 7626, at 10 a.m. and 1:30 p.m. daily. There will be an additional briefing at 6 p.m. on Aug. 13 and 15. A PT test will be conducted at Long track at 7 a.m. Aug. 14 - 16. Candidates must wear Bdu's and running shoes. For more information, call Sgt. 1st Class Hawkins at (719) 510-4493.

## Organizational Day

The Staff Judge Advocate office will be closed July 26 for their Organizational Day. They will re-open for business July 29 at 9 a.m.

## Mail Training

An "Introduction to Unit Mailroom Operations" class will be offered on Monday, 9 a.m. - 4:40 p.m., at building 217, room 209 and again July 24, 9 a.m. - 4:40 p.m., at building 7305. Pre-enrollment is required. Call 239-5411 for enrollment.

DOD 4525.6-M, Vol. II, DOD Postal Manual, requires each

commander who has a unit mailroom to appoint a unit postal officer and alternate unit postal officer(s). Each mailroom must also have a primary unit mail clerk and at least two alternate(s), no more than three. Prospective mail clerks are required to attend a class and bring with them a copy of their memorandum of on-the-job training (20 days OJT period is required). Unit postal officers (if not involved in mail handling duties) only need to attend the class; they do not have to take a test. If unit postal officer is involved in mail handling duties, then they must have a minimum of 20 days OJT and will have to take the unit mail test. Prior to rotations, commanders should ensure they have sufficient personnel appointed to perform necessary mail handling duties. For more information call Sylvia, 239-5411.

## Pregnancy Physical Training

Pregnancy Physical Training is held every Monday, Wednesday and Friday, on the basketball court at Long Fitness Center, 8069 Normandy Dr., from 6:30 - 7:30 a.m. 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. Participation in the Pregnancy PT pro-

gram is encouraged, although participation is not mandatory. For more information, call Sgt. Carrie Jensen, 2nd Platoon, 568th Engineer Company at 239-5827 or leave a message at 762-7012.

## NAF Job Fairs

The NAF personnel division will sponsor job fairs at Riley's Conference Center on the following dates: July 24, Aug. 21, Sept. 18, Oct. 16, Nov. 13 and Dec. 11. Applications will be accepted from 9 - 9:45 a.m., for immediate vacancies in Morale, Welfare and Recreation activities. Interviews will begin at 10:15 a.m. with job offers made as selections are made.

Contact the Fort Riley CPAC NAF office at (785) 239-2325 for additional information.

## Youth Sports

Soccer and volleyball camps

are being offered this summer. Contact the Sports Director at Youth Services for further information at 239-9223/9224.

## Baby-sitting Classes

An American Red Cross baby-sitting class will be held at Youth Services on Thursday and again on Aug. 15. Classes are for youth 12 years and older. There is a \$10 registration fee.

Each class will be one-day only, from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., with a one-hour lunch break. A Red Cross certificate in baby-sitting will be awarded upon course completion. There will not be any infant/toddler Cardiovascular Pulmonary Resuscitation (CPR) offered with these classes. Graduates will be eligible to be placed on a baby-sitting referral list at CYS Central Registration.

Call Central Registration at 239-4847 for information.

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# Fort Riley Sports

July 12, 2002

America's Warfighting Center

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## Runners have many reasons for doing Freedom Run

By Jamie Bender  
Staff Writer

Some people run because Army Physical Training requires

them to. Some people run to stay in shape. Remarkably, some people run for fun.

There were 206 people registered to run the 10K Freedom Run

that began and ended at Heritage Park on July 4, and there were probably 206 different reasons to run.

Maj. Gen. Thomas Metz, com-

manding general, 24th Infantry Division and Fort Riley, fired the shot that started the race at 7:30 a.m.

Wayne Strohmman crossed the

finish line 32 minutes and 13 seconds later, just missing the record time of 31:10. Strohmman runs an average of 90 miles a week, 10 to 15 miles a day, he said. This was his first time at the Freedom Run. Strohmman took a year off from running and has been back at it for about four months now. He said that running every morning gives him a peaceful feeling.

Sara Wells was the first female to cross the finish line. She came in at 36:15. Her training involved swimming and interval running, she said. Wells said that the people she meets at races are one of the best parts of the sport. "Everyone is competitive out there during the race, but very friendly before and after," she said.

Several runners from Fort Riley entered the race just to compete against each other.

Scott Chase, a medic with the Medic Platoon of 1st Battalion, 34th Armor, has run in about seven races. The longest was a half marathon, which is about 12 miles long.

"The finish line is the best part," he said. The hardest part is getting up early to train, and the halfway point of the race, he added.

The day before a race, like many runners, Chase eats pasta for energy and drinks plenty of water. His time for the Freedom Run was just over his goal of 45 minutes.

Carlos McCarroll, also with 1st Bn., 34th Armor, Medic Platoon,

just did normal Army Physical Training to train for the race. "Back in '98 and '99 I ran 10K every week for about six months," he said. McCarroll likes the way he feels after running and admits that the hardest part of training is getting started.

Ronald Godwin said he is a cross-country runner by heart. He started running during his freshman year in high school. He emphasized the need to hydrate well before a long run. He said he averages two gallons of water throughout the day before a race.

Some entrants didn't enter to run. The Fort Riley Ruckers, members of the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society Team in Training program, did the 10K with their 30-pound rucksacks and boots. The Freedom Run is just a step in their training program for a road march the Wichita Marathon on October 13.

The Ruckers are a team of six medics from Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 1st Battalion, 34th Armor. Four of the members were able to attend the Freedom Run.

Troy Thorne, the organizer of the team, said that the team has been training by running daily and road marching on the weekends. "The Army standard for a 25 mile road march is five hours," said Thorne.

Along with Thorne, Mikhail Schork, Jason Liska and Joseph Naylor completed the 6.2-mile course in 75 minutes.



Post/Bender

The Fort Riley Ruckers from Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 1st Battalion, 34th Armor, cross the finish line after road marching the Sundown Salute's 10K Freedom Run on July 4.

## Fort Riley Raptors, Milford Lakers play T-ball, have good time

By Jamie Bender  
Staff Writer

The Fort Riley Raptors hosted the Milford Lakers in an exciting game of T-ball on July 2, at Fort Riley field 1.

In a game where everybody bats and no score is kept, everybody wins. The Raptors' coach, Jake Jacob, said "I just want everyone to have fun, learn something and want to come play again next week."

The Milford Lakers had a large turnout of kids to play. Lakers' Coach Stacy Cribb said they usually have 16 to 19 players on their team that regularly show up to play.

In the top of the first inning, the bases were loaded as Lakers' Jade Gray stepped up to bat. Gray ran to first base and Cassidy Meadows ran home. With the bases still loaded, Anthony Hines made it to first and Jamie Dawn Gray made it home. Last to bat for the Lakers was Gage Beasley.

The players take different positions in the field every inning to practice each position.

In the top half of the last inning, Raptors' Shelby Cowan played third base. The Lakers had a hard time getting past her as she tagged out Cassidy Meadows followed by Jade Gray and Anthony Hines. Coach Jacob said it was the first time the Raptors had gotten three outs in a single inning.

Perhaps this is why Shelby, the only girl playing for the Raptors, is referred to as the "Queen of the team."

After the game, Coach Jacob went to the Raptors players and gave them praise and encouragement. He said he sees a remarkable improvement every time the team plays. "They come out with more confidence every time. They hit better, and more importantly, catch the ball with more confidence," he said.

Lakers' Coach Cribb said the Lakers have improved greatly over the last five games, and twice-weekly practices.

"[T-Ball] is a great introduction to the sport of baseball," said Gerard Cribb after the game.



Post/Bender

Zachary Moreland heads for home at the end of an inning during his teams T-ball game against the Milford Lakers on July 2, at Fort Riley field 1.



Post/Bender

The Fort Riley Raptors and the Milford Lakers congratulate each other after their game.

## New Whitetail Wall of Fame recognizes Fort Riley's trophy deer

By Chris Newell  
DES Biologist

Although the summer heat is upon us, it's not too early to start thinking about the upcoming fall hunting seasons. If big game is your forte, and you need a little ump-start, come visit the Fort Riley Whitetail Hall of Fame. The FRWHF was established in 1984 and has recently been updated. A new "Wall of Fame" addition at building 1020 to showcase pictures of deer and any other

hunters are very proud of and a feat worthy of a certificate. In order to have an animal entered into the FRWHF, it must meet or exceed the minimum qualifications established. Minimum qualification scores are 140 inches for typical and 165 inches for non-typical antlered deer harvested with a firearm or found dead on Fort Riley. Minimum archery qualification scores are 125 inches for typical and 150 inches for non-typical deer. All deer harvested with a firearm or archery equipment must be taken in accor-

Individuals finding the carcass of a deer on post and wishing to retain the antlers must obtain a Kansas salvage tag. Salvage tags must be issued if antlers are attached to the skull. Only the Conservation Officer may issue

salvage tags for salvage antlers. The CO has the discretion not to issue a salvage tag if circumstances of the find are deemed suspicious. This regulation does not apply to naturally shed antlers

antlers to the DES, Conservation Division, building 1020 on Huebner Road, for official scoring. After a B&C score sheet has been filled out by one of our staff and the animal has met the minimum qualifications established, the

deer's score will be entered into the FRWHF.

Certificates of accomplishment will be awarded to all who have deer entered into the FRWHF. The top 25 entries will be posted

"Wall of Fame" is by no means exclusive to the FRWHF postings. Pictures of all your outdoor adventures are welcome.

For those interested in harvesting a big, mature Kansas whitetail, the opportunity exists. For a white-tailed deer to produce large, massive antlers like we all see in the magazines, three factors are involved, genetics, nutrition and age. In Kansas, we have the first two bases covered, however, due to the over-harvesting of immature bucks, most Kansas white-tails do not get the opportunity to

harvest has averaged 75 percent being two-year-olds and younger. Basically, this translates into, we are not letting our bucks mature into trophy sized animals.

This means hunters are a key component of trophy deer management. Hunters should be selective in their harvest. This may mean passing up several immature bucks before a mature buck comes along. Also, if you let that little buck go by and fill a doe tag instead (there are plenty available), he will have the chance to live another year and possibly

### On the Wildside: News About Nature

# Sports Commentary

## Williams' sisters taking women's tennis to new heights at Wimbledon

By Kevin Doheny  
19th PAD

Saturday in Wimbledon, England, at the famed Centre Court, Serena Williams out-dueled her sister Venus in what has become habit in tournament finals in women's tennis.

Just as the case at the U.S. Open last September and at the French Open last month, the Williams' sisters ran their way through the tournament to face one another in the tourney final.

Serena and Venus have dominated women's tennis over the last few years. Since 1999, the sisters have won six of

the last 11 major tournaments and have risen to number one and two respectively in the world rankings.

This sort of showing has a resemblance to another professional sport, the Professional Golf Association and Tiger Woods.

The Williams' sisters dominate their opponents, and before major tennis tournaments begin, the question not who will be in the final, but rather who will be there to face one of them, or will they both make it.

Even with all the accolades and congratulations this talented duo receives, a debate about integrity between the two still remains.

In a past tournament, some fans and media questioned one of the sisters "taking it easy" on the other in a tournament final, so she could win the event.

The media also raised a question as to whether Richard, father of the famed sisters, was in control of the matches between the two, and was outcome was already decided before they walked onto the court.

I think this is absurd!  
I have an older brother, and any chance I get to beat him at something, I take it. It is just the way a competitive athlete works.

Think about it, why would either one want to sit around the dinner table at

night and listen to the other sister talk about her championships?

I believe the complaining comes from the rest of the tennis world getting their tails kicked by the two best women tennis players in the world.

The world had better get used to seeing the Williams' sisters on top of the tennis scene because, even though they are at the top of their game, they are still very young. Serena is only 20 and her older sister is only 22.

Even through all the hoopla and controversy, both remain the best of friends. Even after the media raised questions and doubts of their accomplishments, they brush it off and continue to dominate the

sport.  
It was a great scene Saturday as Venus handed over her crown to younger Serena and reminded her to curtsy, which is tradition to all past winners at the All England Lawn Tennis and Croquet Club.

The sisters didn't stop with winning the singles title either; they took home the doubles trophy as well.

So the world had better get used to these two being on top for a while, as much as the golfing community had to get used to the dominating performances of a young Tiger Woods.

Only time will tell what the sisters will do next.

## Task Force 1-41 participates in joint training exercise with Kuwaitis

By Heather Boyne  
82nd Airborne Div. PAO/Kuwait

Soldiers from the U.S. Army's Task Force 1-41 and the Kuwaiti Army's 57th Mechanized Battalion executed a coalition joint training exercise recently in northern Kuwait.

"The Kuwaitis don't stand alone," said Maj. Tim Newsome, operations officer, Task Force 1-41. "They have a good friend, (the U.S.), to help defend themselves."

One way to ensure that the Kuwaiti and U.S. troops can defend Kuwait effi-

ciently side-by-side is to participate in training missions together, according to Newsome.

The mission of the exercise was for Task Force 1-41, which is comprised of units from the 3rd Basic Combat Team, 3rd Infantry Division, based at Ft. Benning, Ga., to relieve the 57th from designated fighting positions while defending the border of northern Kuwait.

The exercise takes place every six months. This was the last in a sequence of computerized training events that were completed with the Kuwaitis. This was the only event that included real-world training, using real vehicles and soldiers

in an operation in the field.

During the exercise, companies from Task Force 1-41 replaced Kuwaiti tanks with M1A2 Abrams Tanks at the fighting positions.

Task Force 1-41 would take control of the battle while the 57th pulled back and reconstituted after the exchange.

This creates a cycle in which the Kuwaiti and U.S. soldiers will be able to keep replacing each other to maintain a strong defense in the battlefield, said Maj. John Morris, the task force executive officer for Task Force 1-41.

Overall, the training mission was successful, because it helped both sides

coordinate to fight efficiently together, Morris said.

"If there is one thing that the (troops) got out of the exercise, it is the confidence to fight side-by-side and succeed," he said.

The Kuwaiti and U.S. soldiers who exchanged fighting positions quickly and efficiently under limited visibility demonstrated that both forces have a tremendous ability to work cohesively in the field, he added.

"The Kuwaitis were very responsive to the mission," said Morris. "They were very motivated about the training and demonstrated professionalism."

This exercise also shows soldiers what their purpose is in Kuwait.

"It shows soldiers we are a coalition partner here to prevent conflict and maintain stability in the area," Morris added.

Training augments the success of the overall mission in Kuwait, and joint training prepares soldiers for war, said Pfc. Derrick Fiedler, a driver and radiotelephone operator for the Task Force 1-41 Technical Operations Center.

"It gets us used to operating under stress so soldiers know what to expect; it keeps our skills high," Fiedler said. "An army that doesn't train is an army that is not prepared."

## Salute continued from page 1

ave fun. The craft fair, Kids Zone and art gallery were open all day on Friday. At 6 p.m., the popular band the Benders rocked Heritage Park for hours with oldies.

In the end, participants had a lot to say about the success of this year's Sundown Salute.

"This is nice. They need to do it more," said Barbara Winder of Junction City.

"We're having fun, and enjoying the 4th," said Pfc. Justin Hamer, Battery C, 4th Battalion, 1st Field Artillery.

"That was one of the best parades I've seen," he said.

"We're having fun today. It's good for the kids," said Heidi Hamer, Justin's wife.

"It's pretty cool," said Yvette

Serrano, 11, of Junction City. "I liked feeding the animals, the band and the parade."

"The band (Nightwing) was pretty tight. They sounded just like Christina Aguilera."

"My favorite part was the band, parade and the horses," said Caylee Collins, 10, of Junction City.

For Collins another special moment was when the Nightwing band sang happy birthday to her.

"I felt shy at first," said Collins.

"But I felt special because other singers probably wouldn't do it," she said.

Some feel that it is important for Fort Riley to participate in

events like Sundown Salute.

"It fosters a greater sense of community between Fort Riley and Junction City on our nation's birthday," said Capt. Andrew Turner, 1st Brigade Combat Team, project officer.

Turner said approximately 300 soldiers officially participated in the Sundown Salute activities.

He also said Fort Riley participation in Sundown Salute could prove to be beneficial in the long run.

"I would hope it would generate a greater sense of pride and appreciation for the sacrifices our soldiers and family members provide for our nation on a daily basis."

## Hickory Sting continued from page 1

our 1st Brigade," said West.

The 1st Brigade Combat Team and 937th Engineer Group are providing logistical support and subject matter experts and the 41st Maintenance Battalion is establishing a Joint Visitors Bureau. Observer-controllers from First U.S. and Fifth U.S. Armies are also operating under the control of the 4th Brigade, 8th Division (Training Support).

"Our intent this summer is to replicate the NTC rotation here at Fort Riley, so when they get out to the NTC in 2003, they'll know what to expect, and they will have a feeling like they have already done that before," he said.

West added that the 30th Brigade would experience logistical challenges by deploying to Fort Riley because traditionally the brigade trains at Fort Stewart, Ga., and Fort Bragg, N.C., which are installations the soldiers are familiar with that are closer to home.

When the unit deploys to Fort Riley, it must ship its entire equipment to Kansas, and the soldiers must ensure that they have what they need to support them when they are in the field.

Several hundred of the vehicles have already been transported to Fort Riley by rail cars and being downloaded at Camp Funston, where the soldiers will stay prior to deploying to the training areas.

Travelers who enter Fort Riley through the Ogden gate could experience delays over the next month as convoys transport the brigade's equipment from the rail-

head across Huebner Road.

Communities will also see an increase in airflow at the Manhattan Regional Airport, as well as increased helicopter traffic.

"This is an opportunity for Fort Riley to validate the warfighter center concept. We have the maneuver area, we have the support structure, we provide an OPFOR for the units and we feel we can provide them with the best training experience possible," said West.

**Editors note: Tune into FOX 43 (CH 6) this Sunday at 9:30 a.m. for more on this story.**

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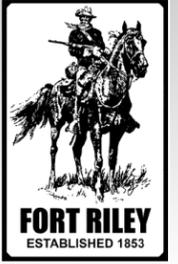


**AD**



Fort Riley

# Community



In Step on Channel 2

6:30 a.m.....In Step  
8 a.m.....In Step  
Noon.....In Step  
6 p.m..... In Step  
10 p.m.....In Step

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## Sundown Salute

Local events highlight Fourth of July



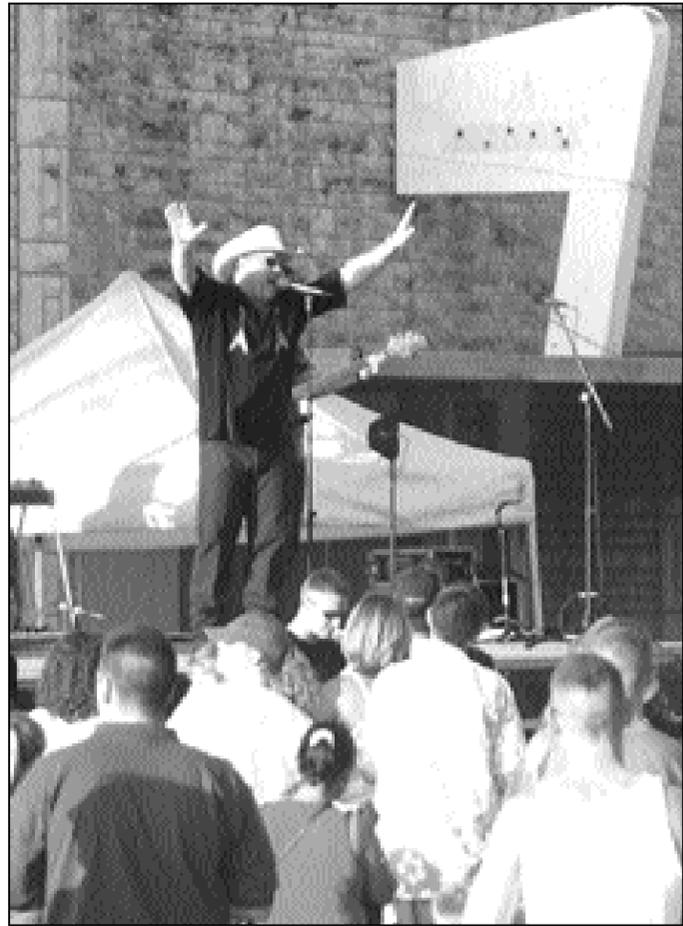
Post/Bender

A patriotic clown marches in the Junction City/Fort Riley Shrine Parade on July 4. Editor's note: Tune into FOX 43 (CH 6) this Sunday at 9:30 a.m. for more on this story.



Post/Cooke

Pamela Holden and Rich Penner of Manhattan visit the Vietnam Veterans and Desert Storm Memorial in Heritage Park. Both said they recognized some of the names on the memorials.



Post/Bender

Country singer Chad Brock wows fans during his free concert at Heritage Park during the Sundown Salute in Junction City on July 4.



Post/Cooke

Sgt. 1st Class William Baker, Battery C, 1st Battalion, 4th Air Defense Artillery, waves to the crowd as he drives by in the Junction City/Fort Riley Shrine Parade.



# Wreath laying ceremony honors soldiers

By **Jamie Bender**  
Staff Writer

Maj. Gen. Thomas Metz, commanding general, 24th Infantry Division and Fort Riley, and Sgt. 1st Class Richard Everett, Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 24th Infantry Division, laid a wreath at the Vietnam Memorial, while Command Sgt. Maj. Kenneth Fyffe and Sgt. 1st Class William Baker, Battery C, 1st Battalion, 4th Air Defense Artillery, laid a wreath at the Desert Storm Memorial in Heritage Park on July 4.

The ceremony was opened with a prayer, followed by the color guard and singing of the National Anthem by Erin Barnes. Chelsea Henderzahn signed the song for the hearing impaired.

David Bossemeyer, Junction City mayor, welcomed everyone

and thanked the soldiers of Fort Riley for being the "lifeflood of our community."

After laying the wreath, Metz spoke about the changes in warfighting values. He reminded everyone of the Christmas Eve during WWI when both sides stopped fighting in honor of the holiday. He said that today we are fighting a war against those with very dissimilar values than ours.

Metz spoke of the current war on terrorism and said that we are doing what needs to be done; we are taking it to the enemy. He praised the fact that the people of Junction City and Fort Riley chose to gather together for the holiday, "as we have the right to."

"We are so fortunate to be surrounded by wonderful people," Metz said, and concluded, "We will face trouble, and go to sleep at night with prayers of thanksgiving. God bless you and America."



Post/Bender

Wreaths were laid at the Desert Storm and Vietnam Memorials in Junction City's Heritage Park on July 4.

# Library reading program challenges, rewards kids

By **Christopher Selmek**  
19th PAD

The Fort Riley post library is in the sixth week of the Children's Summer Reading Program, which is open to all children living on Fort Riley.

The program, which lasts for seven weeks, began in June and will conclude on July 20. The purpose of the reading program is to encourage children to read books from many different subject areas by highlighting a specific topic each week.

Children can read as many books as they wish from any category, but they have to read at least one from each category to continue in the program. Upon completing a book, the children report it to the librarian on their next visit.

The topics this summer, in order, have been: animals, science, sports, history, art and fiction. During the seventh week there will be no specific topic, and children can choose their favorite book to read for that week.

Prizes will be awarded to the readers at a party on July 20 at 4:30 p.m. at the library.

# Space Available Travel affordable option for summer vacations

By **Steven Cooke**  
Staff Writer

There are many benefits that come along with being in the military. One benefit that servicemembers are privy to is Space Available Travel.

Space Available Travel offers members of the military and their dependents the opportunity to fly all over the world or almost nothing. In fact, most of the time it is free, but some terminals must collect a head tax or a federal inspection fee.

Still, Space Available Travel can be a great alternative to commercial air travel.

According to Sgt. Jason Shepherd, non-commissioned officer in charge, 9th Public Affairs Detachment, Space Available Travel can be a big benefit to soldiers far from home. "Everything went well," Shepherd said of his trip from Bosnia to Atlanta, Ga. to visit his wife.

"I wouldn't have gone home to visit my family if it wasn't for Space Available Travel because it was free."

Flights leave regularly out of most Air Forces and Air National Guard Bases around the world.

The way the program works is that the government sets aside seats on routine missions for service members. If a flight is going where you want to go, and there

is space available, then you can ride on that flight for free.

For example, if you want to go to Germany, you can fly out of the closest air base to you and into the nearest one to where you want to go in Germany.

The program is open to active duty, Reserves and National Guard members and retirees. In some instances, dependents can also participate when accompanied by their sponsor.

The first step is to register.

Servicemembers can register in person, by e-mail, over the phone or by fax with the Passenger Service Center in the passenger terminal. Servicemembers can register on behalf of their dependents. When registering, it is important to have all travel documentation.

Required documentation depends on the servicemember's status. Active duty soldiers, Reservists and National Guard, should have proper military identification and leave papers. Reservists and National Guard members also need to have authentication of Reserve status for travel eligibility.

Sponsors who register in person, for family members traveling with them, should present all required documents: identification cards, passports, immunization records and visas, when required by the Department of Defense Foreign Clearance Guide.

Family members may not travel within the continental United States except with active duty military personnel on emergency status indicated in their leave orders. Family members may travel on domestic leg segments of international flights during the beginning or end of their international flight.

Once you have registered and your status has been established, you will be put into a priority category. The first three are the most common.

Category one is for emergency travel on a round-trip basis in connection with serious illness, death or impending death of a member of the immediate family.

Category two is for sponsors on environmental and morale leave, and their accompanying family members. Military personnel must also be on ordinary leave.

Category three is for members of the uniformed services in an ordinary or reenlistment leave status and uniformed services patients on convalescent leave. Servicemembers that are on convalescent leave may only travel overseas if their leave form is so annotated. Also in category three are military personnel traveling on permissive temporary duty orders for house hunting.

After registering passengers compete for space. Priority is given to passengers based on their category and their date and time of registration. Category one

receives top priority and then category two, and so on. Your original date and time of sign-up is yours through to your destination. You will receive a new date and time when you register for your return travel. Service members have the option to stand by for any flight they believe they may have a reasonable opportunity on which to travel.

Travelers should keep in mind that required passengers or cargo might require the removal of Space Available Travel passengers at any point. If removed en route, servicemembers may re-register with their original date and time of registration.

Travelers remain on the register for 60 days or the duration of their leave orders or authorization, whichever occurs first.

"They will be instructed on how to sign up for Space Available Travel and what time to show up for the flight on the day of the flight, and also what proper paperwork they need to bring," said Maj. Tony DeJesus, chief of current operations, McConnell Air Force Base.

One of the Space Available Travel websites offers some tips when using the benefit.

Plan the trip, be flexible, be patient. As a rule of thumb, military ports offer more travel opportunities than commercial gateways. If possible, travel at off-peak Space Available Travel periods. Be as

flexible as possible in choosing a destination. There is a head tax on Continental United States outbound or federal inspection fee on Continental United States inbound international commercial charters.

When traveling Space Available Travel with young children, prepare for possible delays along the way where baby supplies may not be readily available. A good supply of games and books is also recommended. Be aware that a baby's ears, like adults, are sensitive to altitude pressure changes. Space Available Travel is just that-space that is available after all mission requirements are fulfilled. Military aircraft are subject at all times; first and foremost, to Department of Defense mission response.

The closest Air Forces facilities to Fort Riley that offer Space Available Travel are Forbes Field in Topeka and McConnell Air Force Base in Wichita.

"Though we have many flights departing Forbes Field, not all of them will carry Space Available Travel, and we do not have any regularly scheduled flights to any destination," DeJesus said. "Though we do travel occasionally to the Pacific and Europe, and many stateside locations," he said.

The Space Available Travel information line at Forbes Field is 785-861-4558 and at McConnell it is 316-759-5404.

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# Financing summer travel can be tricky

By Timothy Thomas  
JA Attorney

The summer months are upon you, and it is time for a well-earned vacation. You have the perfect spot picked out for you and your loved ones, but are coming up a little short on cash. Where will you find the money? Many shady businesses are homping at the bit to try and fix his problem for you, but beware of the price!

One popular selling pitch is the unsolicited credit card offer. They offer to "rebuild your credit" if you have poor credit or to "get your credit started" if you have no credit. The first thing to remember is that the only way to rebuild bad credit is time; payments made on time for a long time and paying down what you owe so that it is not so high compared to your monthly income. Seeing one more charge card on your credit report is not going to make someone likely to lend you money! The best way to build new credit is to

start off with a small store charge card or take out a small bank loan and pay it off on time.

The second thing to look out for is the sneaky language. Even on legitimate credit cards, there are deceptive phrases that can entice you into signing on. "Pre-approved." What exactly does that mean? It means you have not yet been approved! In fact, everyone in America is "pre-approved" for a credit card if you think about it. This language can make you feel as if you have been selected, judged and deemed worthy of a new credit card, when in fact you have to apply for the credit card and may very well not get the rates you thought you were going to get. You may also have to pay a monthly fee that is too high or an interest rate that starts at a low rate but then shoots up after six months.

Not all credit card companies are legitimate. Some are downright frauds. Beware of the following signs from fraudulent credit card offers: special offers of computers or other prizes for

ordering now, requests for your bank account number over the phone, requests for payment in advance to even get your card, cards that have strange names or are unknown obscure companies and pre-approval offers over the phone. Most legitimate credit card companies require you to fill out an actual application, on paper, that you can mail in, and they are affiliated with one of the major, well-known credit card companies. They don't ask for advance payments, bank information over the phone or hide their interest payment information, and they generally don't have high monthly service charges. Many have none at all.

A related phenomenon that tends to surround military bases is the check-cashing enterprise. These businesses will cash your check in advance, waiting patiently until your next payday to deposit it. They can wait patiently because they end up charging outrageous and often hidden fees for this service. A soldier who is utilizing this service will find out

that their whole paycheck eventually starts going to pay off the advance check and not other bills.

The only way to keep your credit clean and your money flow in the black is to use smart money sense in planning for vacations or other desires.

Budgeting out a few dollars a month for a vacation or a new item may seem slow and painful, but it is not nearly as agonizing as dealing with a credit report destroyed by a bad credit card choice, hundreds of dollars thrown away on phony credit card schemes or hidden high interest rates or the stress of trying to cover advanced or bounced checks. Always pay off your necessities first; look into the niceties second. If you want a credit card, research it like you would a new car or apartment. Bargain shop! Be suspicious! This could affect you for a very long time.

If you ever have any questions or need help, make an appointment with legal assistance at 239-3117.

## Soldier Show scheduled

The Army Soldier Show 2002, an Army Entertainment Production, will be performed on August 10 in Manhattan. The Army Soldier Show is a variety show performed by soldiers.

Fort Riley has two soldiers involved in the show this year. Sgt. Albert Latuch, a network switching operator/maintainer, is performing, and Sgt. Tobin Atkinson, an infantryman, is the stage manager.

There will be two performances, one at 2 p.m. and another at 7:30 p.m., at Kansas State University in the McCain Auditorium.

Tickets will be available soon at the Information, Ticketing and Reservation Center.

For more information, contact ITR at 239-5614.

## Kids can die in cars during summer heat

By Paul Burns

DES, Safety Division

According to the National SAFE KIDS Campaign at least 130 children have died since 1996, most of them age 3 and younger, as the result of being left or trapped in a hot, parked vehicle.

When the thermometer outside reads 93 degrees Fahrenheit, the temperature inside a parked car - even with a window cracked - can reach 125 degrees Fahrenheit in just a few minutes. A child or pet left inside an automobile for a short period of time can suffer heat stroke, which may lead to a permanent disability or even death.

The National SAFE KIDS Campaign offers several tips to ensure the safety of children and pets during summer heat. Never leave your child or pet in an unattended car, even with the windows down. Teach children not to play in or around cars. Always lock automobile doors and trunk, even in the garage or driveway. Store car keys out of children's sight and reach.

If your child gets locked inside a car and shows signs of heat-related injuries, get him or her out and dial 911 immediately. Keep the rear fold-down seats closed to prevent children from getting into the trunk. Be wary of child-resistant locks. Teach older children how to disable the driver's door locks if they unintentionally become trapped. Contact your auto dealership to get your vehicle retrofitted with an internal trunk-release mechanism.

Remember, never leave a child or pet inside an automobile, even if you think you will be back in a minute. It only takes a few minutes for the inside of a vehicle to become hot enough to cause heat stroke.

## School, sports physicals should be scheduled now

By Emilie Howe

MEDDAC PAO

Irwin Army Community Hospital is booking appointments for the 2002-2003 School/Sports Physicals, July 23-25, 10 a.m. - 3:30 p.m. and 3 - 5:50 p.m. The School/Sports Physicals appointments are available only to TRICARE Prime beneficiaries.

Parents or guardians are required to book an appointment for School/Sports physicals through the Fort Riley TRICARE Service Center. No walk-ins will be accepted.

Due to the limited number of appointments, no physicals for the Fort Riley Children's Development Services; Headstart; daycare physicals or children under 4 years of age can be taken during the time of School/Sports Physicals.

If your child plans on participating in school sports, Kansas law requires students currently in the 5th-12th grades to have a yearly sports physical.

Before children are allowed to participate in the school's athletic programs, the coaches must have a current sports physical exam for 2002-2003 school year. Last

year's sports physical form 2001-2002 is not renewable.

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.

A parent or legal guardian must be with a child who is under the age of 18. Bring your child's yellow immunization card and military ID.

It is required by regulation that children who have reached the age of 10 must have a military ID card, and they should bring it with them on the day of their School/Sports Physical appointment.

ITR hours of operation are Monday - Friday 9 a.m. - 6 p.m., Saturdays 8 a.m. - noon (thru August) Closed Sundays and Holidays. For further information, top by ITR, building 6019, across from PX, or call 239-614/4415.

### Walt Disney World

The Tampa Bay Buccaneers will conduct their pre-season training Camp at Disney's Wide World of Sports complex July 29 through Aug 21. General daily practices will be held each morning and afternoon of camp. Disney-MGM guests will get a first look at the new fall lineup of shows. From July 12 - Oct. 5, stop by ITR for further Walt Disney World discount ticket information and packaging. Military discounts also available to other attractions and shows in Orlando.

### Kaw Valley Rodeo

Coming to Cico Park, Manhattan on July 25-27. Discount tickets now available through ITR.

### KC Chiefs

Limited tickets available through ITR. Register for opportunity to purchase game tickets July 8-12 at ITR.

#### 2002 Schedule:

Aug. 17 Houston Titans  
Aug. 30 St Louis Rams  
Sept. 15 Jacksonville Jaguars  
Sept. 29 Miami Dolphins  
Oct. 20 Denver Broncos  
Oct. 27 Oakland Raiders  
Nov. 17 Buffalo Bills  
Dec. 1 Arizona Cardinals  
Dec. 8 St Louis Rams  
Dec. 22 San Diego Chargers

### Superclubs

All inclusive resorts in the Bahamas, Jamaica, Curacao and Brazil where virtually everything, meals, drinks, entertainment, etc., is included in one low, up-front price...and tipping is prohibited! When booked through ITR, 54 percent discount applies for active and retired U.S. military personnel and DoD civilians, Armed Forces Guard and Reservists and foreign military personnel on duty in the U.S. with U.S. Military. Let ITR assist you in making that dream get-a-way come true.

### Anheuser-Busch Adventure Parks

Pa.; Busch Gardens and Adventure Island in Tampa, Fla.; and Discovery Cove in Orlando. Special military admission discounts available.

### Almond Resorts

Two beautiful all-inclusive resorts in beautiful and safe Barbados. Military/DoD discounts of 50 percent. Let ITR put together a vacation get-a-way.

### Marriott Vacation Club Military Family Promo

The \$89 package includes three days and two nights at a Marriott property in Orlando, a tour of the new Horizons by Marriott Club, and \$100 in "Marriott Destination Dollars." The destination dollars can be used for dining, attractions or shopping. Customers must be 21 years of age

or older and other restrictions apply. Area attraction tickets are also available through ITR. A \$10 per package booked will be paid to Fort Riley ITR. Further information available on the www.armymwr.com web site.

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