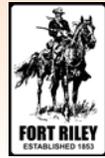




# Fort Riley Community



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

December 6, 2002

America's Warfighting Center

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Post/Skidmore

PFC Gary Dempsey II, an Operation Santa Claus Elf, helped guide several shopping carts to the check-out lines after a shopping spree for toys at a Manhattan department store.

## Operation Santa Claus



Post/Skidmore

With more than 20 shopping carts full of toys to get loaded, elves from Operation Santa Claus had their hands full.



Post/Skidmore

Operation Santa Claus Guest Shopper Debbi Freeman had no problem filling several shopping carts.

### Organization helps families have happy holiday

By Gary Skidmore  
Command Information Officer

Twelve Operation Santa Claus elves and four guest shoppers with spending on their minds and money in their pockets filled more than 20 shopping carts with toys for needy children Tuesday morning at a local Manhattan department store.

Spending nearly \$5,000 during the first of many shopping trips, the elves and their leader, Operation Santa Claus Executive Director Charlie Quick and his band of elves, had everything selected, tallied and loaded onto their van in under two hours.

"Not a bad time," said Quick as he smiled contently.

"We've filled more carts before," said Quick, "but the age groups we're buying for right now are older so the toys cost more this time, so we fill fewer carts."

During this trip, Gloria Elder, a representative from the Noncommissioned Officers Association and guest buyer, spent a lot of time making sure what she bought was going to be the right gift.

Elder said that buying for someone else's child is difficult because unlike buying for her own children, she has to take special care in

picking a gift for a stranger.

"It's hard and kind of emotional, too, when you sit back and look at the aspects of the whole shopping experience. You're shopping for somebody else's child and not your own; it's a little heartwarming and a little emotional. You put a lot of your heart into what you're picking out for somebody else's child. You know what your own children want for Christmas, but when you shopping for someone else's child you have to wonder what they have and what they want and need."

Operation Santa Claus provides Christmas gifts to boys and girls, ranging in age from infants to 14-years-old, said Quick. "We'll be taking care of more than 1,700 families, which comes to about 3,400 children."

Quick said donation boxes for Operation Santa Claus are set up at local businesses in Junction City and Manhattan, Wal-Mart, K-Mart and Alco stores, the Post Exchange, brigade headquarters, Irwin Army Community Hospital and the post headquarters, building 500.

Quick said the reason he continues to volunteer for the organization because the heart of Christmas is a child unwrapping presents on Christmas day.

"Our goal is to not turn away any organization trying to provide Christmas cheer to less fortunate families."

Anyone wanting to volunteer or give donations may call 239-6944 or 239-6945.



## Fort Riley dining facilities compete for title of 'Best Mess'

By Jamie Bender  
Staff writer

Post dining facilities were decked out in their holiday finest for the Thanksgiving feast Nov.

27. After careful and thoughtful judging, the 937th Engineer Group Dining Facility was found to be the 'best mess.'

Four DFACs on Fort Riley were visited and judged for the competition by Col. Thomas Luebker, assistant division commander (support), 24th Infantry Division and Fort Riley, Chief Warrant Officer 3 Julius Thomas, installation food advisor and Sgt. 1st Class (P) Leroy Heyward III, installation food program supervisor. The group judged each DFAC's decorations and tasted the food.

Decorations were made from any edible substance, from sugar to bread dough and included statues and cornucopias full of fruit. At each DFAC, Luebker spoke to the cooks who had put so much work into their displays. "The Army tries to regulate everything," he said. "Do not loose the creative energy that you have shown here today. Creative people with talent and creative gifts are how we make a better Army." Luebker said he was impressed with the talent that was shown in all of Fort Riley's DFACs.

The facilities were judged on the creativity, detail and originality, as well as their sanitary conditions and the taste of the food served, said Thomas. While all the DFACs had cre-

ative displays, the 937th En. Grp was judged to be the best on Fort Riley. According to Luebker, "These soldiers used their God-given talents to create these works of art."



Post/Bender

A bread cornucopia full of fruit and a decorative cake adorn the 937th Engineer Group's dining facility display table. The 937th En. Grp. won the 'Best Mess' contest.



Post/Bender

The 4th Battalion, 1st Field Artillery displayed fruit and vegetables on their table display as part of the DFACs Thanksgiving decoration competition.





Post Files

Lt. Paul Wilson, fire fighter, Fort Riley Fire Department, explains what the department's ladder truck is used for to fifth grade students at Ware Elementary during the school's fire safety day.



Post Files

### Firemen teach students safety

Fort Riley and Junction City fire-fighters visited students at Ware Elementary Nov. 27 as part of the school's Fire Safety Day. Firemen showed kids the equipment they use to fight fires and talked to them about fire safety.

Also at the event was the fire safety house. The house is a fully functional one used to teach youth about household fire safety. After the safety demonstrations in the house, the students 'escape' on a chain ladder.

Lt. Carlos Gonzales, fire fighter, Fort Riley Fire Department, explains what the gauges, levers and connections are for on the ladder truck to fifth grade students at Ware Elementary during their Fire Safety Day.

## Blood drive helps local supplies

Fort Riley's 24th Infantry Division, Medical Activity and Dental Activity are sponsoring a Red Cross Blood Drive Dec. 11-12 at King Field House.

The hours will be 9 a.m. - 3 p.m. and blood donors must be 17-years-old, weigh 110 pounds and be in general good health. Most medications do not cause a donor to be unable to give blood.

Due to current restrictions related to variant Creutzfeldt-Jakob disease, more commonly known as Mad Cow disease, a person

cannot donate blood if he or she has, since Jan. 1, 1980, spent time of six months or more in any combination of countries from the United Kingdom, Eastern Europe, Western Europe, Oman and/or Turkey. Also, a person is not eligible to donate if since Jan. 1, 1980, he has spent a cumulative time of three months or more in the United Kingdom or had a blood transfusion in the United Kingdom.

Blood donated through the Fort Riley blood drive helps the Cen-

tral Plains Red Cross Blood Region supply the blood needed by Erwin Army Community Hospital, as well as the hospitals in Manhattan and Junction City. They also cover Fort Riley blood requirements for the national military blood reserve.

For more information, call Central Plains Blood Region in Wichita, 1-800-719-8929 or the Red Cross office on Fort Riley, 239-1887.

## Don't forget to stay active over holidays

K-State Release

Plates will be full this holiday season and Nancy Gyurcsik, an assistant professor of exercise and health psychology at Kansas State University, wants to remind everyone to stay active.

Gyurcsik said people tend to gain weight over the holidays and it is important to stick with personal dieting goals. She suggests eating a light dinner before going to Christmas parties to cut down on the temptation to eat high-fat foods. Gyurcsik also said that by eating slowly the brain will recognize when the stomach is full, stopping a person from overeating.

"It's something you have to really think about and remind yourself of," she said. "If you don't stick to your goals, then you will simply go back to your habitual behavior."

Some popular activities Gyurcsik suggests participating in over the holidays include taking a walk, playing tag or flag football, even raking the leaves with family and friends. Exercise does not have to be structured running or a fitness class to be considered physical activity, she said. It can be anything that raises your heart rate.

"You can be imaginative and incorporate fun when doing physical activity," Gyurcsik said.

She also reminds exercisers to wear several layers of clothing when doing any form of activity in the cold and wind. Gyurcsik suggests wearing proper clothing that moves the sweat away from the skin, which does not include 100 percent cotton.

## Normandy Theater

**Friday:**  
7 p.m.  
Red Dragon (R)

**Saturday:**  
7 p.m.  
The Transporter (PG-13)

**Sunday:**  
7 p.m.  
Brown Sugar (PG-13)

**Thursday:**  
7 p.m.  
Red Dragon (R)

**Dec. 13:**  
7 p.m.  
Ghost Ship (R)

## Fire Chief stresses holiday safety

By John D. Boyd  
Fire Chief, FRFD

The holiday season is upon us. Thanksgiving has come and gone and Christmas is knocking at the door. Christmas trees, lights and decorations are traditional holiday decorations that can be a fire safety hazard in the home. Additionally, cooking and baking are also hazards in the home.

There are many simple measures families can take to protect their home from fire.

One of the most common fire hazards in a home is unattended cooking. Since the beginning of this year, Fort Riley has had five kitchen fires in family quarters, all caused by unattended cooking. In the event you do have a kitchen fire, turn off the stove and cover the pan, if it safe to do so, and evacuate the quarters. Then, call 911 from a neighbor's quarters.

The situation can actually be made worse if a family attempts to put out a grease fire with water, as it only causes the fire to spread. "The best action a family can take in preventing kitchen fires is to never leave cooking food unattended," said Lt. Col. Wesley Anderson, director, Public Works.

Since family housing residents can be found liable for damages caused by unattended cooking, it is best to have renter's insurance. A good renter's insurance policy should cover any negligence on your part as well as providing full replacement value for any property in the quarters, according to Charlie Williams, housing manager, Fort Riley.

Parents should keep toddlers and other small children away from the kitchen when cooking and baking are in progress. If children must be present, they should be kept in high chairs or play pens. Additionally, "fire salts" that produce colored flames on wood fires should be kept away from children, as they will make a child sick if swallowed. In addition to fires, another holiday hazard for children are plants. There are several holiday plants that are very toxic when eaten. These include holly berries, mistletoe, Jerusalem cherry and amaryllis. Care should be taken to ensure

these common plants are kept away from children and pets. After Thanksgiving, many people put up Christmas lights and trees.

While lights can be a spectacular sight to see, if installed improperly they can be dangerous.

When purchasing Christmas lights, only Underwriters Laboratories (UL) approved lights should be purchased. The UL marking shows that the lights have been tested and are safe to use.

Mistakes can still be made though, as some lights are only for indoor use. Lights marked "For Indoor Use" should never be used outdoors. Also never use more than three standard sets of lights per outlet. Using more than three can overload a circuit and cause a fire. Before placing lights into service, inspect them for cuts, breaks and burned out bulbs. This helps to ensure electrical shorts will be discovered before they become dangerous. Also, always turn off your Christmas lights before going to bed.

If you're planning to have a real Christmas tree, select a fresh tree to minimize the risk of fire. You can tell if a tree is fresh when it still smells like pine and its needles are hard to pull off its branches. Before erecting the tree in the house, saw off about two inches from the bottom of the tree at an angle. Also, keep plenty of water in the stand. A tree can use in excess of one gallon of water per day. When placing a tree inside, keep it at least five feet away from any heat sources; vents, radiators, etc., that can rapidly dry the tree out. Try to avoid decorations that are sharp, easily breakable, very small or resemble food or candy as well. Young children can become injured or mistake food-like ornaments for the real thing.

Another safety tip to help ensure a happy and safe holiday includes ensuring that all costumes and decorations are made from flame-retardant or non-combustible materials. If entertaining smokers, provide large, deep, no-tip ashtrays, and keep an eye on anyone who is drinking and smoking. Empty ashtrays often, and wet their contents before

dumping them. Many trash can fires on post have resulted from smoldering cigarette butts. Also, after the party, check cushions and furniture for smoldering cigarette butts. In addition, candles should be secured to non-tip candleholders and kept away from Christmas trees, decorations, curtains and other combustibles. Never put lit candles near windows or exits to ensure you are not trapped if they catch on fire.

Also, do not leave candles burning unattended or within reach of small children. Be sure to blow them out before you leave the room or go to sleep. Following these fire safety tips can help ensure everyone has a safe holiday season.

If you have any additional fire safety questions or concerns, contact the Fort Riley Fire Department, 239-4257.

BRIGGS SUPERCENTER  
3 x 6 1/2"  
Black only  
briggs 12/qtr.d

CENTRAL MICHIGAN UNIVERSITY  
4 x 6"  
Black only  
central-michigan.doc



# Fort Riley Sports

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## 4th Bn., 1st FA, 924th Military Police duke it out for Commander's Cup

By Gary Skidmore  
Command Information Officer

With only a few more events left this season, 4th Battalion, 1st Field Artillery and the 924th Military Police Battalion men's teams are neck and neck in the race for the Fort Riley Commander's Cup. Each battalion has 2922 points for sporting events. However, taking the lead in the race, with a total of 2972, is the 4th Bn., 1st FA because they've had more people tryout for all Army teams than any other battalion. According to Barry Sunstrom, Fort Riley Inframural Coordinator, battalions also get points for that.

In the women's race for the cup, the ever powerful 924th MP Bn. leads the race by more than 790 points over its nearest competitor, 1st Finance Battalion. According to Sunstrom, the Commander's Cup Program is a year-long program of sports competition for active duty men and women consisting of 15 different sports.

"The purpose of this program is to help promote Army readiness through the recreation avenue of sports," said Sunstrom.

According to Sunstrom, another

reason Fort Riley is so active in the program is the program builds teamwork, camaraderie, physical fitness and esprit de corps within the units, which in turn enhances the odds that their soldiers will be successful in completing the mission.

Sunstrom said a few of the more popular sports are softball, basketball, flag football, track and field, soccer and wrestling.

"Although this program has been designed to fit the needs of Fort Riley, most installations have their own variations of the Commander's Cup. According to Sunstrom, the teams don't advance to a higher level, although some of the more exceptional athletes do submit applications and get selected for the All Army Sports Programs. This adds to teams points in the race for the cup.

Sunstrom said that in order to compete for the Commander's Cup, a battalion-sized unit must submit a memorandum, signed by their commander, listing the sports the battalion will participate in for competition toward the cup.

"This memorandum must be received by the commander by Feb. 14 of each calendar year. Participation and championship

### Commander's Cup points standings as of Nov. 22

#### Men's

Unit	Points	All Army	Total
4-1 FA Bn.	2922	50	2972
924TH MP Bn.	2922	25	2947
MEDDAC	1300	0	1300
1ST Finance Bn.	1280	0	1280
541ST Maint. Bn.	913	0	913
HHC, 937 EN/	507	0	507
82ND Med.			
1-34 AR BN	463	0	463

#### Women's

Unit	Points	All Army	Total
924th MP Bn.	1290	0	1290
1ST Finance Bn.	500	0	500
541ST Maint. Bn.	360	0	360

and women may select 8 of the sports listed by the unit," said Sunstrom.

According to Sunstrom, men must select 11 of the 15 sports,



'Cats center, Nicole Ohlde, drives for two points during the 115 - 37 win over Arkansas-Pine Bluff.

## Wildcats win big

By William Biles  
Staff Writer

Holy Cow! Not only did the No. 7 ranked Kansas State Wildcats beat Arkansas-Pine Bluff Golden Lions, 115 - 37, in Women's College Basketball Monday, they also set a new team record for most points scored in a single game. The game was played at Bramlage Coliseum in Manhattan.

The Wildcats' 115 point outing surpassed their old record of 110 points, set against Texas-Pan American in 1987. In fact, Monday night's game set several new records for the Wildcats. One was the 78-point margin of victory, which eclipsed the previous mark of 77, set in 1975 with a 105 - 28 win over Fort Hays State.

The win lifted the Wildcats to 6 - 1 on the season, while the Lady Lions fell to 2 - 1.

Leading the 'Cats in scoring was guard Laurie Koehn, with 23 points. Koehn was on fire, shooting a 66 percent margin of completion and going 70 percent from the paint.

Other top-scorers players were forward Kendra Wecker and guard Megan Mahoney, each with 22 points. Center

Nicole Ohlde contributed 17 points.

Guard Danisha Garrison led in scoring for Arkansas-Pine Bluff with 16 points. The Lions were held to 27 percent shooting for the game, including just 15 percent in the first half.

As a result of her performance during Monday's game, Ohlde became the all-time leader in blocked shots at K-State. Her 102 career blocks put her two blocks over the previous leader, Olga Firsova, who achieved her 100 blocks from 1998 - 2000.

The six-foot-four-inch center is also 22 points from making the top-ten all-time scoring list with her 1206 career points.

The Cats went into Monday's game coming off of their first loss of the season last Saturday, 63 - 57 to Stanford.

"I'm really pleased with the quick turnaround," said Deb Patterson, Wildcats head coach. "This team hates losing, and it just hangs over your head and your heart. I thought our team did a nice job tonight bouncing back."

The Wildcats play again tonight, 5 p.m., at Bramlage Coliseum, against Middle Tennessee State in a semi-final game of the Commerce Bank Wildcat Classic.

## Custer Hill Lanes offers more than just bowling

By Gary Skidmore  
Command Information Officer

With 40 lanes under one roof, one of the largest bowling centers in the Army is at Fort Riley, and according to Tom Petteregrew, Chief MWR Business Operations, Custer Hill Lanes offers much more than bowling.

"The Bowling Center will begin featuring "STRIKE ZONE" an Army concept eatery," said Petteregrew. "Construction on renovating the snack bar area will be done at the beginning of the second quarter and will add new facings in the snack bar, with a menu suitable to all age groups."

Petteregrew said the theme has been successful at other bases and should also be successful here as a destination to go to for the family.

Petteregrew said the bowling snack bar currently offers snack bar service during the evening but also has begun to offer a \$5 quick luncheon, hot meal, Monday - Friday.

"The service for the "hot meal"

See Bowling Page 12



Kenny Daniels gets ready to send his ball down the lanes at the Bowling Center. Daniels bowls every Wednesday night with friends from work.

## Coyote earns reputation as craftiest of wildlife - Survives persecution

By Alan Hynek  
DES Biologist

The wily coyote has earned its reputation as the craftiest of wildlife. It has been shot at, poisoned, cussed and demonized. Yet, this remarkable animal has not only survived an attempt at extermination, it has become the most widespread of all the large predators in North America.

Coyotes are omnivorous, eating a wide variety of prey and some plant matter. About 90 percent of their diet consists of mice, rats, rabbits, squirrels and carrion. Deer are occasionally consumed, but mostly sick or injured animals. Coyotes have excellent hearing, sight and smell. In fact, the coyote's sense of hearing and smell are so keen that a sudden change in odor or noise can make it change its course mid-step. Its agility in this respect is incredible, perhaps unique to all wildlife.

Coyotes, as well as wolves, were treated as spiritual creatures by many Native American tribes. Many legends involve the coyote, where they are particularly powerful and cunning.

The coyote was respected and imitated for its cunning and versatility. European settlers found the coyote on the plains, prairies, and deserts of central and western North America. They were soon regarded as a threat to livestock and considered a nuisance animal. Many states had a bounty on coyotes and some counties conducted organized hunts. Still, the coyote persisted. Today, they are probably more adept at survival than at any time in their past.

Even though they are still a threat to livestock, wildlife damage control is focused on individual coyotes rather than the entire population. It has been learned that only a few out of the population are most often the cause of

### On the Wildside: News About Nature



Coyotes are omnivorous, eating a wide variety of prey and some plant matter. Coyotes play an important role in the balance of nature. Complete removal of this predator would

have a significant impact on the small mammals and mesopredators, such as raccoons and opossums.

Although conflicts occasionally arise, the coyote has its rightful place. Many farmers now appreciate its value as a scavenger and a predator of rodents. The coyote's economic importance and its role in nature should be considered in any evaluation of the animal.

Over the years, the coyote has been coveted for its pelt. In the 1980's, it was not uncommon to fetch upwards of \$100 on a good tanned fur. Today, the price per pelt averages \$10-\$20. Most coyote furs, as well as other furs, are shipped to Canada and countries overseas where wearing furs is much more common.

Coyotes are best known for their trademark howl. The coyote can also bark, growl, wail and squeal. Although often silent in daytime, it may make itself heard

at any time from sunset to sunrise, and especially at dusk and dawn. Often times the howling of one triggers that of the others, resulting in an impressive concert. Two coyotes howling in unison can create the illusion of a dozen or more. The coyote can also sound farther away than it is.

The coyote's howling, which appears to be a means of communication with other coyotes, intrigues researchers, although no one is really sure. One howl invariably brings a reply, then a sort of commentary followed by another prolonged cry, and finally a volley of raucous yelpings.

I think the coyote is just letting us know it is there.

For more information, please contact the Conservation Division, Building 1020, 239-6211 or visit our website at <http://www.riley.army.mil/Services/Fort/Environment/NatResources/>



# ITR

The Information, Ticketing & Registration Office is located in building 6918 (across from the PX). ITR hours of operation are Monday - Friday 10 a.m. - 7 p.m. The office is closed on weekends and holidays. ITR will be closed for the Thanksgiving holiday on Nov. 28 and 29 and will reopen with normal hours on Dec 2. For further information, call ITR at 239-5614 or 239-4415. Check out the Department of Army Leisure Travel Website at [www.offduty-travel.com](http://www.offduty-travel.com) for more great deals on travel.

## BOSS

Better Opportunity for Single Soldiers is having an Improv Show. Tickets are now available at ITR for the performance on Dec. 13, 8 p.m., at Rally Point. Cost is only \$5 for an evening of great fun, excitement and laughs.

## Harlem Globetrotters

The Original Harlem Globetrotters "Reclaiming the Game"

on Jan. 3, at the Salina Bi-Centennial Center. Tickets now available through ITR

## Union Station

Union Station in Kansas City is a wonderful place to explore history and science. Your best value is a Science City Passport that includes Science City and two shows. In the city, dance with a Samba band, walk through the inside of a human body, see new science demos and explore the traveling exhibit Robotics in the exhibit gallery. Explore the magic of the circus in Circus Magicus, the traveling exhibit. See a giant-screen movie or planetarium show. Take a guided tour of the building and visit the history exhibit Candy, Coffee and a Smile. Discount tickets are now available through ITR.

## Dixie Stampedo

Stampedo into Christmas with Dixie Stampedo. Get into the spirit of season with a special Christ-

mas show for the whole family. This time, it's North Pole vs. South Pole! You'll be enchanted as elves serve your Yuletide feast and Santa arrives by sleigh. Holiday music, a nativity scene and even wise men on camels all say "Merry Christmas!" Dixie Stampedo style. Discount tickets available through ITR.

## Holiday Travel

ITR now assists you with leisure commercial travel. Make your holiday plans early for better pricing and ticket availability. A computer KIOSK is available at ITR for customer use in booking airline tickets through the Internet or call ITR for assistance in booking your commercial travel.

## Czars "400 years of Imperial Grandeur

All the drama and intrigue of 400 years of Russian history comes alive in Topeka. The State Historical-Cultural Museum-Preserve, "Moscow Kremlin," one of

the most prestigious museums of Russia, is proudly presenting this exhibition in the new permanent Kansas International Museum through March 15. From the moment you begin your self-guided tour, you will be awe-struck by the magnificence and grandeur of this exhibit, which includes 267 artifacts from the era. The eleven galleries depict the lives of the czars through the artifacts that touched their lives. Discount tickets available through ITR.

## Sawyer Brown Christmas

Sawyer Brown Christmas is coming to the Salina Bicentennial Center on Dec. 14, 7 p.m. Tickets are now available through ITR.

## Holiday Gift Ideas

Need holiday gift ideas? Stop by ITR for area discount movie tickets, tickets to Science City, Czars exhibit or Kansas Cosmosphere and Space Center. Tickets are not date specific and make

great holiday gifts. Let ITR surprise that special person with a Dream Cruise or a package for Walt Disney World or Branson. Call for further information.

## Santa Suit Rental

It's time to make a reservation for that special guest in "red" for your unit or organizational parties. Cost is only \$25.

## Silver Dollar City

Come home to Silver Dollar City for an Old Time Christmas. The city lights up in splendor with over 4 million lights as the Holiday Light Parade winds its way through the streets proclaiming the Gifts of Christmas. The festival features a five-story special effects Christmas tree, Tinker the Talking Christmas Tree that sings and interacts with kids and the living nativity. Silver Dollar City truly appeals to all ages. Discount tickets available to numerous other attractions in Branson. Let ITR put together a holiday pack-

age get-a-way.

## McCain Auditorium

Tickets available for all performances through ITR for McCain performances at Kansas State University, Manhattan. Stop by and pick up complete performance schedule.

## Kansas City Chiefs

Tickets still available for the following home games St. Louis Rams - Sunday and San Diego Chargers - Dec. 22. Tickets are \$65 each without transportation and \$80 with transportation.

## Discount Movie Tickets

Passes may be used at Carmike Cinemas in Manhattan and Westside Twin in Junction City. Cost is \$5 for J.C. and \$5.50 for Manhattan. This is a great savings for evening shows; a savings of up to \$2 per ticket.

# MWR facilities become smoke free, offer something for everyone

By Chad Baldwin  
DCA

Take a breath of fresh air. Starting tomorrow all Fort Riley Morale, Welfare and Recreation facilities will have fresher air when they become smoke free.

Custer Hill Lanes, building 7485, Normandy Dr., is one of the facilities that will be smoke free starting tomorrow. The lanes offer Extreme Bowling, open bowling and a new lunch buffet in this new smoke free environment.

Custer Hill Lanes also hosts T.G.I.F., Fridays, 4 p.m.-6 p.m., and offers special catering for birthdays, unit functions and all special occasions.

If a smoke free New Year's celebration sounds appealing to you, then why not bring in the New Year bowling?

Custer Hill Lanes is having a New Years Eve Bowling Party, Dec. 31. Partiers can participate in five hours of bowling, a breakfast buffet and dancing.

If bowling does not "strike" up your interest, Rally Point is another MWR hot spot.

On Fridays at Rally Point, you will find a fun-filled, smoke-free family atmosphere with Family Night Fridays. Bring the kids out for dinner and a movie. Dinner starts at 5 p.m. and the movie

starts at 6 p.m. Football fans can come out to Rally Point, building 2600, Trooper Dr., on Sundays and

watch up to eight different National Football League games at a time. Games are shown on all of the 41 TV's located throughout

the facility during NFL Sunday Ticket. Doors open at 11 a.m. Fort Riley and the surrounding community are also invited to

come dance the night away during Rally Point's New Year's Eve Party.

Patrons can enjoy today's

hippest music while dancing it up on the new expanded dance floor.

Custer Hill Lanes and Rally Point are open to everyone.

AT&T-AFC  
8 x 14"  
Black only  
Mastercard Services You Want

## Bowling

continued from page 1

is fast and home-style for the soldier, his family and for others working on Custer Hill," said Pettegrew. "Hot meals, vary from meat loaf, turkey and dressing, chicken fried steak and spaghetti to fried chicken," said Pettegrew. He said the menu is prepared weekly, and to find out what is being served from 11:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m., call 239-4366.

New to the bowling center is TGIF, which literally means Thank Goodness It's Friday, the end of the workweek.

According to Pettegrew, the concept was created with soldiers in mind.

"The target audience is the soldier," said Pettegrew.

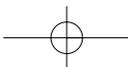
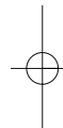
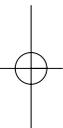
"Since this is replacing the, "Over the Hump Nite" from Riley's, most may think it is a "command driven" function. But, the real idea is to have a facility catering to our soldiers and provide a relaxing atmosphere for enjoying some camaraderie at the end of the week."

Pettegrew said the center offers a variety of specialty programs for the bowling center including the Extreme Bowling light and smoke show with a DJ every Friday and Saturday, and also a family night is planned for during the next quarter. There are ABC mixed leagues, a Wednesday Night Mixed Doubles league and Friday Night Mixed Doubles league; Tuesday SAS Bowling, as well as open bowling programs.

"Birthdays, group outings and other individual programs are also offered," said Pettegrew.

For more information on programs and events at Custer Hill Lanes, call 239-4365.

Cyan Magenta Yellow Black



# Shoplifting means trouble - fines, jail time, embarrassment could result

By William Biles  
Staff Writer

Webster's Dictionary defines shoplifting as larceny committed in a shop, the stealing of any thing from a shop. The Uniform Code of Military Justice defines it as a whole lot of trouble for the perpetrator of the crime.

When soldiers get caught stealing on post, they may be charged under UCMJ Article 121, larceny, said Capt. Alison Tulud, legal assistance attorney, Office of Staff Judge Advocate.

If soldiers are caught shoplifting on post and it goes to the court martial level it becomes a federal offense, said Tulud. The soldier's entire chain-of-command may be involved, and if convicted, the accused will have a felony on his record, she added.

In addition, if the amount of goods exceeds 500 dollars, the

soldier can receive a loss of rank, no pay and allowances due, a dishonorable discharge from the service and serve up to five years of confinement, said Tulud.

If the amount is under 500 dollars, a soldier can receive loss of rank, no pay and allowances due, a bad conduct discharge from the service and up to one year of confinement, she added. "In either case, you may lose any type of security clearance you hold," Tulud concluded.

Once in military court, the case will be scrutinized to see how much thought went into committing the crime or if it was an impulse stemming from too much temptation.

"We are looking at greed as opposed to need," said Tulud. "If it turns out you did it out of greed, it can be a lot worse."

The court will seek out the rea-

sons for the crime very thoroughly. "There will be a full background investigation on the individual. Previous offenses reflect negatively on the soldiers chances of leniency and it will probably be time to say good-bye to their military career," stated Tulud.

In shoplifting cases, the rank of the soldier plays an important part, she said. "If you are a higher-ranking person (noncommissioned officers and officers) and are convicted of larceny, you're going to get hit pretty hard," Tulud said. "NCOs and officers have more responsibility and need to set an example for every soldier."

Civilians caught shoplifting on post will get into trouble as well.

The case goes to the Magistrate Court where a civilian judge will weigh the facts.

If accused of the crime, there are two directions the case may go, said Tulud.

One of the options is a diversion.

A diversion is sometimes offered to first-time offenders or for minor offenses, she said. "The court can offer you help by giving you a diversion, which is like a form of probation. The court can order you to perform community service or have you attend a class or counseling to help you," Tulud said.

The cost of the shoplifters alternative class is \$65, which the offender must pay for.

The lawbreaker is also responsible for any fines and costs of restitution the court might impose.

"If you get a diversion, it's like a free ride, however, if you mess up within that time span, the con-

sequences can be harsh," said Tulud.

The alternative if diversion is not granted by the court is the case may go to trial.

"If your case goes to trial and you're found guilty, you can receive a maximum fine of 100,000 dollars and/or jail time," she said. "This is all based on the recommendation of the probation officer."

Minors who are caught shoplifting also face consequences.

A juvenile offender will go before the Juvenile Review Board.

"The JRB tries to fix the problem by helping the individual. It's a 'changed behavior' attitude that we have on the board," Tulud said.

The juvenile delinquent's file will be sealed and the sentence is

usually a form of community service for a set amount of time, she added.

"I would like to stress, on cases involving juveniles, that the JRB is more about helping to fix the problem and to reform the child before it goes any further," Tulud said.

"All shoplifting cases are judged on a case-by-case basis, so the court's decision will depend on a myriad of factors, including the defendant's history and character," said Tulud.

"Unfortunately, shoplifting is one of those crimes where, if you succeed once then you are more apt to commit the crime again," she said.

Once a person gets caught, the sheer embarrassment is hopefully enough to turn most people around, she said.

## Prairie Christmas celebration planned

The Historical and Archeological Society of Fort Riley will be having a celebration of Christmas for its members Sunday, 3 - 5 p.m., at Custer House.

Holiday frontier customs of the mid-west will be the theme for the celebration. There will also be a guest speaker dressed as Maj. Gen. George A. Custer's wife, Libby.

Libby will speak on how the settlers of her day celebrated Christmas, said Rachelle Boslego, president, HASFR.

During the celebration, members will also sing Christmas carols while a mandolin player strings out the melodies. Light refreshments will be served, as well as light snacks.

If you would like to go to the celebration, call Boslego at 717-2818 to find out more.

## Army vs Navy game this weekend

Army News Service

Army will battle arch-rival Navy tomorrow at Giants Stadium in East Rutherford, N.J., and SoldiersRadio.com will air the gridiron classic live.

Coverage will begin with pre-game activities at 11:30 a.m., followed by the kickoff at 12:20 p.m. The radio program can be accessed by going to [www.SoldiersRadio.com](http://www.SoldiersRadio.com) where the Quicktime stream will automatically open; or by going to the Army homepage at [www.army.mil](http://www.army.mil), then scrolling down and clicking on the "Soldiers Radio Live" link.

CBS Sports will also televise the game nationwide (and worldwide over the American Forces Network) for the seventh consecutive year, and so will ESPN Radio.

Despite both Army and Navy struggling through rebuilding seasons this year, each with 1-10 records, a sellout crowd of more than 80,000 is expected to fill the Meadowlands for this 103rd match-up of the two academies. Last year, the Black Knights closed out their season with a 26-17 victory over Navy in Philadelphia's Veterans Stadium.

Army has won 11 of its last 16 games with Navy for an overall 49-46-7 advantage in the series, which dates back to 1890. Hard-fought Army victories were commonplace during the

decade of the 1990s, with the Black Knights prevailing in seven of those 10 match-ups.

The Army-Navy rivalry began with a challenge by a group of midshipmen at Annapolis to a group of cadets at West Point. Navy had been playing football since 1879, but only one cadet, Dennis Mahan Michie, knew anything about football, having played the sport while attending Lawrenceville Prep. Army accepted the challenge, but lost that historic first game 24-0 in 1890.

One year later, though, the Black Knights avenged that loss with a 32-16 victory. The series has remained close ever since. Neither academy has been able to win more than five games in a row, a feat that was most recently accomplished by Army from 1992 through 1996.

Pre-game activities tomorrow will include an academy prisoner exchange at 11:51 a.m. and then the Leapfrogs and Golden Knights will jump into the stadium between 12:01 and 12:10 p.m. An Army fly-over will take place at 12:13 as the Black Knights take the field and the Navy flyover takes place two minutes later when the Mids take the field.

**Editor's note: An article by Jim Fox, sports editor at West Point, was combined with information from Soldiers Radio and Television and the academy Web page.**

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