

# The Sustainment Times

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## River Run

No Pain  
No Gain

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*Sustain to Victory*

## Commanders Corner

Greetings from the Command Staff,

I am proud of the way our team has come together and I want you all to continue to strive to improve in your area of responsibilities. As you know our time line for deployment has changed from early summer to early fall. This will give us additional time to train and prepare for the critical mission ahead. A small team of command staff and myself has returned from a recent trip to Iraq where we learned first hand the details of the mission and the facilities we will be utilizing while in country. The facilities are great and should provide a good quality of life for our entire team. We have a huge and important mission ahead and when executed successfully our results will create additional stability and security for the people of Iraq.

*See Commanders comments Pg. 4*



Col. O'Connell, talks mission to the Military Affairs Council at a recent breakfast meeting in Manhattan, Kansas.

## River Run

*By Pfc. Andrea Merritt*

*1st SB PAO*

Physical fitness is one of the most important facets of Army life. Soldiers are taught to always be physically ready, and every morning during physical training they work to maintain that level of fitness. The first sergeant of HHC 1<sup>st</sup> Sustainment Brigade, 1<sup>st</sup> Sgt. James Snowden, is serious about PT and takes a very active approach to ensure his Soldiers are able to meet the standard.

Snowden, whose company's motto is "Fired Up," turned the heat up on his Soldiers May 25 by conducting a 7.2-mile release run at the Riverwalk Trail, which is located less than a mile from the Washington gate. "With the run, it is challenging and exhausting as well. It's a way for the Soldiers, as they run, to build camaraderie. A lot never did the run before.

*See Run, Pg.12*



Sfc Michael Lynch, Detachment Sergeant, Ltc Robert Brem, Special Troop Commander and Cpt William Kelo, Detachment Commander. CP Taji, Iraq

## Respect and Authority

*By Spc. Audrey Etgen*

*1st SB, S-1 office*

In order to describe the effects of a lack of "Respect and Authority" to superiors in a unit, it would be better if at first, all definitions of these words are defined.

In definition, respect means admiration. To take this further, some synonyms used

*See Respect Pg. 11*



Sgt Dover runs hard all the way to the finish line.

## CSM CARDOZA TIME

To all Officers, fellow Noncommissioned Officers, Enlisted and Family members, as you know our ever changing schedule has changed again. We received orders to delay our deployment till a possible September time frame. I ask that you take this new time to further strengthen your Family bonds before our new deployment date.

Have in mind that we will be holding our first annual Brigade organizational day on the 13<sup>th</sup> of June; I ask that you give maximum participation so that everybody gets to know each other. After this event we will move along to our block leave.

Though many will probably be upset and not quite understand why we are *See CSM Cardoza continued Pg. 12*

## F Det, 15th Finance trains with the Black Hawk's

*By Pfc. Andrea Merritt*

1st SB PAO

Soldiers who work as financial management technicians usually spend their day in an office environment making sure military personnel are paid the money they are entitled to. The Soldiers of the 15<sup>th</sup> Finance Detachment were able to break away from their desks recently and team up with Company A, 2<sup>nd</sup> Battalion, 1<sup>st</sup> Aviation Regiment, to conduct load training.

The training, which was conducted on a Black Hawk helicopter, taught the finance clerks the proper procedures for entering

and exiting the aircraft as well as how to buckle the safety belts. "Basically, for finance, when we do a finance mission to outlying (forward operating bases) about 95% of our missions are done by aircraft," said Capt. Chris Wurst, company commander of the 15<sup>th</sup> Finance Det. "A majority of our Soldiers have not had the opportunity to ride in a Black Hawk or any type of aircraft so we wanted to get them familiarized with the aircraft," Wurst said. The first part of the exercise took place inside the hangar due to rain. The crew chief began with a safety brief, where he discussed craft procedures with the

*See Black Hawk Pg. 12*

## Mayors of Platte County visit Ft. Riley!



LTC Brem leads a discussion with the Mayors of Platte County during a recent visit to Ft. Riley. The Mayors are interested in helping soldiers and their Family's

## 1SB welcomes new DCO

*By Pfc. Andrea Merritt*

1st SB PAO

In the Army, as a Soldier

moves up in his career he moves on to new duties with added job responsibilities, which may get him sent to new places



*See DCO Pg. 10*

## Under the oak tree counseling.

*By Sgt. Stephen Baack*

1st Inf. Div PAO

It's no secret that safety is a hot issue in the Army. Ask practically any commander or first sergeant about his priorities, and the word "safety" will come up.

Prominent members of Army leadership are stepping forward to

more closely scrutinize the prevailing methods of imparting safety advice to their Soldiers. One of those methods, the weekend safety briefing, is beginning to take the heat. "In the past, we've taken the safety approach of preparing for weekends and long weekends – leave, pass, and things of that nature. There's the traditional, everybody-information safety briefing," said Command Sgt. Maj. John Fourhman, 1<sup>st</sup> Infantry Division com-

mand sergeant major. "Nobody's really paying attention. Their minds are already on what they've planned on doing for the weekend."

Fourhman said that while what well-meaning first sergeants and commanders are telling their Soldiers comes from a good place and is good information about safety, some Soldiers just aren't listening.

*See Counseling Pg. 13*

## Commanders Comments Continued from Page 2

We have trained hard and will continue to train hard. Keep up the great work!

Most of you will be taking time off during block leave. Have a great time with your families and be safe as you travel. You have worked hard these past months and deserve this break. I want to thank the Families of the Brigade; you have given your full support to this organization and we do appreciate it. I hope you all will attend Organization Day on the 13<sup>th</sup> of June; it promises to be a good time for all. I also want to thank the FRG's for their tireless efforts to provide assistance and support to our soldiers and their families. Your work is not unnoticed and your efforts will help assure our success in all we do. Thank you!

SUSTAIN TO VICTORY!

Col. Kevin O'Connell

## Special troops gets new CSM

LTC Robert Brem talked to the soldiers of the Special Troop Battalion about how important the role of CSM is and how much he would miss MSG Jamison and how much he looked forward to working with CSM Thomas. "Msg. Jamison was the right leader to be by my side to help guide me through this very busy and tumultuous time."

The Change of Responsibilities Ceremony was held at the King Field House and after it was over all the soldiers had an opportunity to say goodbye to MSG Jamison and hello to CSM Thomas.



## Song Writing Competition

CSM Cardoza is looking for a new 1st Sustainment Brigade song written to the tune of the Big Red One song. Below is an example of what the new song may look like.

This competition is open to any 1st Sustainment Brigade soldier or family member.

The winner gets a \$25.00 gift certificate to a local restaurant along with a Commanders Coin, CSM's parking space for a week and a four day pass.

Submit your entry to CSM Cardoza by June 28, 2007

Good Luck!



## *From the HHC Commander*

Greetings! Everyday the Knights continue to show why they are standard bearers for excellence. From range operations to training on CFLCC tasks to numerous pre-deployment requirements they continue to show they are the best at what they do. The past months have shown that the pace of operations will maintain at a high level for the foreseeable future. We have held small weapons qualification ranges, Convoy Live Fire Ranges, a Battalion Field Training Exercises, hosted reenlistment ceremonies and promotion ceremonies, all in addition to our daily missions. Every Soldier in the company has met the daily challenges thrown at them with great motivation and dedication to duty. Great work!

We live in a fluid environment and everyday presents new challenges. While not everything can be foreseen, we do our best to keep everyone informed of changes and adapt to our new schedules. Although we have moved to the right a bit for deployment purposes, we are continuing to march on with our current mission in anticipation for deployment.

I want to thank Mrs. Zamary Marzan Rosario for her outstanding work as the HHC FRG Leader. Last month's FRG meeting at the bowling lanes was a big success! I also want to thank Mrs. Melanie North for volunteering as the HHC FRG Co-Leader. Volunteers such as these really make the unit truly successful. I encourage everyone to enjoy their block leave and relax during their break from operations. Our goal is to have 100% of our Soldiers take leave and spend time with Families and Friends.

Be smart and be safe, on duty and off. CPT Adena J. Weiser, Knight 6

## **“On Blast”**

### BIRTHDAYS

MAJ DEXTER -2LT KAMINSKI-SSG BLACK  
SSG GILLIARD -W01 ROLLINS - SPC RUFF  
SFC JARVIS - SFC MILES - SFC TALBOT  
CPT HARRELL—SSG TAPIA—SPC CURTIS  
SSG BROOM - CPT NEYPES -SPC FADELY  
SGT ANDERSON - SPC ORES—SPC SAS-  
FRAS - SPC TORRESVARGAS - SSG  
WECHSLER - SPC MONTGOMERY



Congratulations to SPC Williams who recently reenlisted.

### MORE BIRTHDAYS

SSG MORRIS - SPC MCKINNEY - SPC ECK-  
MAN - SPC BROSKOWSKY - SGT MORA-  
PLATA - SPC WILLIAMS - PFC DAILY

Welcome to all new Soldiers and Families. HHC now has 287 Soldiers assigned and growing!

## *Upcoming Events:*

13 June	Family Fun Run, Brigade HQ's Building 06:30
13 June	15th Finance Detachment Deployment Ceremony, McCormick Field 09:00
13 June	First Sustainment Brigade “Organization Day”, McCormick Field 11:00—15:00
14 June	Division Run and Army Birthday Celebration
14 - 27 June	Block Leave
16 June	24th Trans “BBQ in the Park”, Wyman Park 13:00—16:00

*Sustain to Victory*

## *HHC Family Readiness Group Corner*

Hello! Feeling mix emotions; feeling happy because we'll have are soldiers home for a little bit more, but confused because we were ready to start the countdown? I know, been there done that. It's okay to feel this way, but on the other side let's enjoy the summer with the best companionship ever and shout "Hooray!!!" because they are still with us.

The 2nd annual Silver Lining Program will take place July 25-28, 2007 in Washington, D.C.! The Silver Lining Program is for deserving high school students who have demonstrated through their action, intention, or circumstances the desire to overcome extreme happenings and expand their awareness, creating a dramatic life change. Through the program, students will receive an all-expense paid travel experience that will allow them to grow intellectually, academically, and culturally. In addition, the trip will offer universal sharing, personal growth, and the opportunity to establish bonds and friendships that may last a lifetime. Travel is a means of personal growth and enrichment in a young person's complete education. Realizing that not all youth have the resources to afford the costs related to a valuable travel program, the SYTA Youth Foundation provides financial resources and programs to make a positive difference in the lives of young people.

*See Applications below*

### 1SG Snowden's Monthly PT Tip

"Put a little fun in your daily routine. Try doing sets of push-ups and sit-ups between every commercial break of your favorite TV show. Challenge yourself with a goal of 20, 30, 40, or 50 reps. Before you know it, you would have at least completed over 100 of each in less then an hour. Remember you should not stop until the regularly scheduled program continues."

*1SG James Snowden*



### SAFETY STAND DOWN TRAINING



A number of valuable safety classes were held at Kapaun Chapel during a recent safety day. The base fire department held a fire extinguisher class were soldiers could practice putting out a small fire. There were classes on suicide prevention, small rodent identification, heat casualties and more.

At the end of the day 1SG Snowden asked a number of soldiers what they intend to do over the weekend and how they intend to be safe. Everyone seemed to enjoy the training.

### *Applications* continued

. Applicants must be between the ages of 14 and 19 years old.

. The nominee must be available for travel to Washington, D.C. July 25- 28 2007.

. The nominee shall demonstrate through an essay (approximately 500 words), video presentation, or other media how she/he overcame extreme circumstances, expanded their awareness, and has created a dramatic life change. Applications can be found on [www.sytayouthfoundation.org](http://www.sytayouthfoundation.org) or call the SYF administrative offices at 248-693-1872 ext. 204. Completed applications can be mailed or faxed to:

SYTA Youth Foundation, 3048 W. Clarkston Road

Lake Orion, MI 48362

Ph: 1-248-693-1872 ext. 204

*Sustain to Victory*



## 1<sup>st</sup> Sustainment Brigade Signal Company Newsletter Strength and Honor!

CPT Rubin R. Neypes

Greetings WARBIRDS!  
It has finally come...BLOCK LEAVE!!! "If you got the time, take the time," when it comes to time with Family and loved ones, or time off of work, this is the time; you have definitely earned it. I encourage all to have a fun filled and safe block leave experience.



I wanted to offer a great big offering of gratitude to the FRG for their successful efforts in their fund raising. The "Pie-in-the-Face" was a great idea. It offered our Soldiers and Family members the opportunity to let their hair-down and let loose, while raising funds for our WARBIRD Readiness Group. Thank you FRG and Soldiers for the great turn-out. We look forward to our next Company FRG outing!

Again, I want to wish all a great time on their time off of work. I encourage all to be safe; always have a plan, no matter what your doing or where your going. But above all, please embrace this time with Family and loved ones.

Phoenix 6

Hello once again! I hope that everyone's summer has been wonderful so far. The weather has been beautiful. It is the perfect time to get out and have fun with the family. There are many activities going on. Here are just a few ideas. The pools on post are now open and on June 23, there is a Hawaiian Luau from 6-10 pm, just \$10 per family. Custer Hill Lanes offers special bowling prices between \$.025 and \$1 on Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays.

The Library has story hour at 11:30 and 1:30 every Saturday. Also on June 30th, the library is hosting a 4th of July watermelon social from 1-3.

*See FRG Continued Pg. 15*

## Chaplains Corner



Soldiers of the Brigade meet at the Devils Den Dining facility for a prayer breakfast hosted by Chaplains Hayes and VanHook. The crowd listen to songs, messages and even a few jokes told by Col O'Connell.

Chaplain (Col) Thomas Day, the installation Chaplain spoke on what its like to be a Sustainer; not only for the Army but for God as well. There was great food and inspirational songs for everyone.



On June 6, 1944 thousands of brave 1st ID soldiers landed on Omaha Beach near Normandy France. The morning of the invasion, President Franklin D. Roosevelt offered

the following prayer to the nation.

*" Last night, when I spoke with you about the fall of Rome, I knew at that moment that troops of the United States and our Allies ..*

*See Prayer on Pg. 14*

# Promotions & Awards Ceremony



Sfc McGuire and his wife Sherry



Spc Zastrow holds up Certificate of Achievement.



Sfc. Montes poses with Cpt. Weiser.



Ssg. Maude and family smile for the camera.



Sfc. McGuire pins Spc. Fadely.



Sfc. Surprise and family pose with Lt.

## FT. RILEY TO CELEBRATE ARMY'S 232ND BIRTHDAY

June 14, 2007 10 AM

Fort Riley will celebrate the Army's 232nd birthday with a ceremony and cake cutting at 10 a.m. June 14 at the U.S. Cavalry Museum.

Several Fort Riley Soldiers will be in period uniforms while the history of the Army is read. Pvt. Lonnie Worley, a young Soldier who recently arrived at Fort Riley, and Maj. Gen. Carter Ham, commanding general of the 1st Infantry Division and Fort Riley, will cut a birthday cake with a saber. The 1st Inf. Div. Band will provide music for the celebration.

### SRP HELD IN ANTICIPATION OF DEPLOYMENT

In preparation of their pending deployment, Soldiers of the 1st Sustainment Brigade underwent Soldier Readiness Processing on May 25 at the SRP site.

More than 200 Soldiers went through processing that day. It began at about 9:00 a.m. and ended around 2:00 p.m.

During SRP, Soldiers went through medical processing to update their immunizations as well as receive vision and hearing screenings. They also updated their finances and wills and appointed powers of attorney as necessary.



Cpt. Weiser presents an Army Achievement Medal to Sgt. McGinley.



Cpt. Weiser presents Sfc. Smith an Army Commendation Medal from his old unit.



A medic attempts to find Pfc. Erika Keown's vein in order to draw blood during SRP May 25.

## “Soldier on the Street”

Recently, we asked a group of Soldiers the question “What are your plans for block leave?” The following are the responses we received.



Spc. Nate Norval, Brigade Supply Specialist  
HHC 1<sup>st</sup> Sustainment Brigade

“I’m moving into base housing during block leave with my family.”



Pfc. Ryan Foltin, Ammunition Stock Control Specialist  
HHC 1<sup>st</sup> Sustainment Brigade

“I’m going home to see my family in Westchester, PA. I’m going to stop by to visit mom and dad, I got to pick up the wife and kids and spend the week in Virginia at my parents house.”



SSgt. Yolanda Williams, Human Resource  
NCO, HHC 1st Sustainment Brigade

“I will be taking my kids to King Island in Indiana. Also, I’ll be traveling to South Carolina to drop my kids off with their dad for the remainder of the summer.”



Spc. Jasmine Burks, Combat Medic  
Special Troops Battalion, 1st Sustainment Brigade

“For block leave I’m going to Atlanta and Alabama to see my dad’s side of the family. I’m taking my daughter with me to give her a break away from day care. I’m also going to start clearing housing and going to school. Fired up!”

# 24TH TRANSPORTATION COMPANY TRUCK MASTERS



## DCO Continued from Pg. 3

After 23 months as the battalion commander of the 101<sup>st</sup> Forward Support Battalion, Lt. Col. Christopher McCurry has arrived to the 1<sup>st</sup> Sustainment Brigade to begin his duty as its new deputy commander.

“(I felt) sad (to leave). I’ll miss the great Soldiers, (noncommissioned officers) and officers in the ‘Guardian’ battalion, but it’s the Army way to cause change and allow someone else the chance to excel,” McCurry said.

McCurry arrived to the 1<sup>st</sup> SB May 17 and immediately stepped into his new role. While the commander of the brigade, Col. Kevin O’Connell, and other members of his staff were in TDY in Iraq, McCurry was in charge.

“As the commander, or officer in charge, in the 101<sup>st</sup> FSB, I was ultimately responsible for everything my battalion did or didn’t do. It was my job to set the direction for the unit and provide my intent to the battalion staff and subordinate companies,” said McCurry.

“Now, as the DCO, I’m second in charge and responsible for supporting and enforcing the brigade commander’s intent and leading the brigade staff,” McCurry explained, as he described how his new duties differ from his old ones.

Some of McCurry’s accomplishments as battalion commander of the 101<sup>st</sup> FSB were transitioning the battalion from supporting a heavy brigade combat team to supporting the transition team missions, improving the battalion’s physical fitness posture, maintaining an active and functioning family readiness group program despite no threat of deployment and maintaining a proactive safety program with minimal DUIs.

One week in country and all we have to drive is this single Camel.



Amanda Kunze graduates from Wamego High School and her father was in thousands of miles away in Iraq. It was a great day for the Kunze family.

The early word from Iraq is “The Soldiers are doing fine!”



See DCO Continued Pg. 15

## A message from the Rear Detachment Commander



CPT Harrell listens to ideas at a recent meeting with the Platt Mayors Council

Greetings to all,

I thank all the Soldiers and Families that have been participating in the numerous events within the Brigade. Your support and involvement is critical to the forming of our Brigade. There are so many upcoming events I will encourage you to take a look at the FRG calendar and add to it as necessary. One event I will speak about is the Family Fun Run that is on the schedule, families are encouraged to participate. That means with babies in strollers, dogs on leashes, kids and spouses on bikes or combinations of them all.

I look forward to meeting those families that I don't know yet at the Brigade Organization Day and hope that you all come over and visit the Mayors of Platte County that will be sponsoring our units and families..

Sustain to Victory!

CPT Harrell, Rear Detachment Commander

## *Respect* Continued from Pg. 2

are adoration, appreciate, awe, honor, recognize and regard. But, in definition it means to admire.

Authority by definition means power, expert, or management. Leadership means guidance and unit by definition would be whole. One appropriate synonym

to use would be one.

To put all of these words together would be the adoration or admiration of expert guidance to the whole. In the Army, all of these attributes are to be given without regard of personal opinion.

All of the people over us are in some type of leadership role. The admiration, or respect of leaders, is not always given when it is not always received. If there were a lack of "Respect and Authority" in the Army or unit, there would be total hatred in the unit.

In a whole respect is earned by both the disciple, which is the root word for discipline, and the leader, who provides guidance.

In this situation, the subordinate will respect or admire the superior of leader, but first the subordinate would need to take the discipleship of the leader. In the Army, this is given automatically by doing what the leader or superior says. To defy a leader or superior would mean to me that a subordinate does not admire the person in leadership and rejects his or her discipleship.

In the Army, rank is earned through points, not because of the admiration of the Soldiers or the guidance given to them. A person will, in truth, reflect who they are. Dictatorship is not guidance nor is not having a firm hand when necessary a true definition of a leader.

People and their personalities will always be what comes to mind first. The rank a Soldier wears is not always remembered later on when he or she is gone. What is remembered, is whether or not this Soldier had the attributes stated earlier.

*See Authority Pg. 14*

## Oak tree Continued from Pg. 3

Fourhman said that while what well-meaning first sergeants and commanders are telling their Soldiers comes from a good place and is good information about safety, some Soldiers just aren't listening.

Gen. Burwell B. Bell III, commander of U.S. Forces in Korea, said that this is because no one is accountable during these briefings. Bell noticed that any given Soldier listening to a weekend safety briefing can deduce that what the commander or first sergeant is saying applies to the Soldier next to him or her – but not to himself or herself.

Bell may be critical of the current state of safety communication between the Soldier and the leader, but he states he has a better way: what he calls "Under the Oak Tree" counseling.

Also called "Oak Tree" counseling for short, the goal of this type of safety counseling is to push the responsibility for counseling, along with the responsibility for the safety and the well-being of Soldiers, back down to the first-line supervisor level, according to Fourhman.

"Really, Oak Tree counseling is nothing more than a dialogue between the first-line supervisor and the subordinate that ends up in a contract between that subordinate and that first-line supervisor about how that Soldier is going to behave safely," said Fourhman. "So really, it's just that built-in communication between the Soldier and the first-line supervisor."

Fourhman emphasized that the new approach is informal, that the contract between supervisor and subordinate is verbal, and *See Counseling Pg. 13*

*Sustain to Victory*

## Run Continued from page 2

I know once they accomplish it they feel more confident,” Snowden said.

It was the first run the company conducted at the trail since September 2006, which was five months before the unit modularized. The trail was first introduced when the unit was still the 1<sup>st</sup> Infantry Division, Division Support Command, and there were only five Soldiers because the rest of the unit was moving back to Fort Riley from Germany. “The advantage of five Soldiers, as opposed to 200 plus, is you have more one on one ... with small groups you can focus on individuals,” Snowden said.

The Soldiers took off running at about 6:30 a.m. and the first person returned to the finish approximately 45 minutes later. The proof of their hard workout

showed on their sweat-drenched PT uniform and salt-covered faces. “I haven’t done a run like that in about two years. My body didn’t remember how to run that far and I was exhausted when I got back,” said Spc. David Reardon, a signal support specialist attached to HHC 1<sup>st</sup> SB. “I was proud of myself ... (the run) was very hooah,” Reardon said. “The Soldier may have self doubt at first, but once they complete it they know they achieved something,” Snowden said.

Every other week, Snowden takes charge of the company and conducts first sergeant’s PT with his Soldiers. At the unit, Tuesday is for push-up improvement, Thursday is for sit-up improvement and the rest of the week they conduct cardio-respiratory endurance training.

When Snowden was a young Soldier, they used to do push-ups, sit-ups and run all in one PT session, he said. “I always told myself, when I came up I was going to change things up a little bit to allow one muscle group to recover,” Snowden said. “Recovery helps out. It allows muscle fibers to recuperate.” “I know what works. Now I have a chance to apply my own regiment,” said Snowden, who is an avid runner.

After the run, many of the Soldiers were visibly winded, but they had the energy to bellow out a loud and thunderous “Fired up!” when the first sergeant released them from formation.

## CSM CARDOZA Continued from Pg. 3

are still having block leave during this time, I would like inform you that the reason for this is to promote Service Member and family quality time together. Though we will probably be having a one week block leave closer to deployment, most of us will probably use it to transport Family members back home and to finish last minute personal packing.

For those of you taking the block leave, we hope you have a safe and blessed time. Keep in mind all safety standards that we have, abide by and maintain your level of discipline always at a high level and once you are on leave, stay on it! I do not want to see you here at work.

I would like the Family members to know that while I was down range I gather a couple of good pieces of information. One of them is that once we are down range your spouses will have plenty of communication capabilities available to

*See Comments Pg. 14*

## Black Hawk Continued from page 3

Soldiers. Once the brief was complete, the troops practiced boarding the helicopter.

The Soldiers lined up in a single-file line and entered the aircraft four at a time through the cabin doors in furthest seat away so the last person in wouldn’t have to climb in over everyone, said Spc. Patrick Rogers, the crew chief for the exercise. The rain eventually stopped so everyone moved outside onto the airfield to practice loading the aircraft with the blades of the helicopter spinning.

After the Soldiers practiced loading the aircraft, the crew took them on a short familiarization flight to let the Soldiers get an idea of what it feels like to do the maneuvers they may encounter in Iraq, Wurst said. “At a point, it was like we were on a roller

coaster. It was really fun and it went really fast, said Pvt. Carmita Cando, a finance specialist in the 15<sup>th</sup> Finance Det. “It also helps a lot for the people who have never been in one to actually know how it feels and be ready when you’re going to get in one so you already know the feeling and you’re prepared,” Cando said.

Unfortunately, due to technical difficulties, the exercise was cancelled. Only half of the Soldiers were able to experience the thrill of a ride on a Black Hawk. The aviators said once the Combat Aviation Brigade gets back from its rotation at the National Training Center the 15<sup>th</sup> Finance Det. could contact them and get the other Soldiers onto the aircraft, Wurst said. “It’s a good opportunity for the aviation guys to do their training as well as the other units that are deploying to do their training,” Wurst said.

## Counseling Continued from page 11

that using a checklist would miss the point altogether. “Really, what we’ve done in the past is we’ve gone to almost a checklist Army,” said Fourhman. “We’ve got all kinds of good forms and guides and methods of preparing for the weekend, but there’s really no ownership in filling out a checklist.”

“They really don’t have an obligation to the Soldier to follow up on what that Soldier told them that he is going to do,” Fourhman added. “At the same time, that Soldier is telling his first-line supervisor what he wants to know, or what that checklist says just so he can get on with his life and get on with his weekend.”

For Oak Tree counseling to work, supervisors need to know more than simply what the Soldier is planning on doing during the weekend. A supervisor needs to get together with their Soldiers, said Fourhman, and establish a clear mission with contingency plans – much like that of a Soldier in combat.

“I’m not so worried about that Soldier because in combat we empower young sergeants or staff sergeants to take a fire team or a squad out on patrol on the streets of Baghdad,” said Fourhman. “But before we do that, we have a clear mission. We give mission requirements to that platoon leader who passes it down to that squad leader as a warning order. We give him a patrol order – or he turns it into a patrol order – issues it to his squad, does rehearsals, does pre-combat checks, inspections ... then they go out of the [forward operating base] and execute the mission. Now while they’re on mission, if they get in trouble there’s always a [battle plan].”

The central piece in establishing this weekend battle-plan is set up by the supervisor prompting his subordinate. According to Fourhman, the first step is for the supervisor to ask exactly what the Soldier is planning on doing during the weekend or break. The next step is to ask the Soldier pointed questions about back-up plans should his primary plan fall apart.

“Of course, what the last resort is, if the Soldier gets in trouble, he has a contract with his supervisor to get on the telephone and call him, the CQ, the company commander – whoever it is – and make sure there are systems in place so the Soldier always has a course of action to follow other than to get in trouble or continue to do an unsafe activity,” said



Fourhman.

Fourhman also encourages leaders to have a set of back-up plans in place such as unit-contact cards or a unit taxi fund in case the Soldier has had too much to drink – with the caveat that the Soldier should have the confidence to know he won’t be standing in front of the first sergeant on Monday trying to come up with an explanation. That, Fourhman emphasizes, is the only way those types of contingency plans will work.

“It truly has to be a non-punitive way of getting home,” he said.

Oak Tree counseling is not designed to set up Soldiers for punitive actions, but is rather a preventive measure for supervisors, said Fourhman.

Though Fourhman often uses the squad leader and team leader analogy to describe the counseling method because it describes the youngest and most inexperienced leaders in the Army, he says it really applies to first-line supervisors at every level. “If I’m a young sergeant, then I expect my section sergeant to know what I’m doing,” said Fourhman. “If I’m that section sergeant, then my platoon leader should have had that same dialogue with me and knows where I am. But you really do have to have buy-in from the sergeants major and the first sergeants because that’s probably the level that can manage it down to squad leader or express the importance of it to that squad leader.”

“It’s not ‘check the block,’” said Fourhman. “It’s something that you have to do continuously. It’s something that you have to do before a weekend night, a long weekend, or a pass. You have to build that trust and continue that dialogue between your subordinates constantly.”

For more information about Under the Oak Tree counseling, log on to <https://crc.army.mil/home/>, click on the Stats/Reports tab, and go to “Leading on the Edge: Gen. B.B. Bell’s Video Series.”

## PRAYER Continued from Page 7

were crossing the Channel in another and greater operation. It has come to pass with success thus far. And so, in this poignant hour, I ask you to join with me in prayer: Almighty God: our sons, pride of our Nation, this day have set upon a mighty endeavor, a struggle to preserve our Republic, our religion, and

*“They fight not for the lust of conquest. They fight to end conquest. They fight to liberate.”*

our civilization, and to set free a suffering humanity. Lead them straight and true; give strength to their arms, stoutness to their hearts, steadfastness in their faith.

They will need Thy blessings. Their road will be long and hard. For the enemy is strong. He may hurl back our forces. Success may not come with rushing speed, but we shall return again and again; and we know that by Thy grace, and by the righteousness of our cause, our sons will triumph. They will be sore tried, by night and by day without rest - until the victory is won. The darkness will be rent by noise and flame. Men's souls will be shaken with the violence's of war. For these men are lately drawn from the ways of peace. They fight not for the lust of conquest. They fight to end conquest. They fight to liberate. They fight to let justice arise, and tolerance and good will among all Thy people. They yearn but for the end of battle, for their return to the haven of home.

Some will never return. Embrace these, Father, and receive them, thy heroic servants, into Thy kingdom. And for us at home -- fathers, mothers, children, wives, sisters and brothers of brave men overseas -- whose thoughts and prayers are ever with them -- help us, Almighty God, to rededicate ourselves in renewed faith in Thee in this hour of great sacrifice. Many people have urged that I call the Nation into a single day of special prayer. But because the road is long and the desire is great, I ask that our people devote themselves in a countenance of prayer. As we rise to each new day, and again when each day is spent, let words of prayer be on our lips, invoking Thy help to our efforts.

Give us strength, too -- strength in our daily tasks, to redouble the contributions we make in the physical and the material support of our armed forces. And let our hearts be stout, to wait out the long travail, to bear sorrows that may come, to impart our courage unto our sons whose-soever they may be. And, O Lord, give us faith. Give us faith in Thee; faith in our sons; faith in each other; faith in our united crusade. Let not the keenness of our spirit ever be dulled. Let not the impacts of temporary events, of temporal matters of but fleeting moment -- let not these deter us in our unconquerable purpose.

With Thy blessing, we shall prevail over the unholy forces of our enemy. Help us to conquer the apostles of greed and racial arrogances'. Lead us to the saving of our country, and with our sister nations into a world unity that will spell a sure peace -- a peace invulnerable to the schemings of unworthy men. And a peace that will let all men live in freedom, reaping the just rewards of their honest toil.

## COMMENTS Continued from Pg. 12

to them to keep in touch with you and keep you informed of their status. Second, I know that one of the most important things to you will be that your deployed Service members will be safe. After spending a couple of weeks in our future area of operation, I am certain to tell you that we will be provided with the best equipment and best training / training facilities. “We will be fine”. As long as we maintain a 100% level of readiness at all times.



For our Service Members, I would like for you to strive to obtain an Eagle Card; you can use it in all facilities within the FOBs to include the post office. It will be in your best interest and one of the best things you can use for your spending needs while deployed. Make sure you build and work on an allowance that will not affect your financial stability. Once again I hope to see you at the Organizational day and look forward to meeting your families.

Sustain to Victory!

CSM Cardoza

## Authority Continued from Page 11

Loyalty, duty, respect, selfless service, integrity and personal courage are the Army's values. If we were all to live by these values everyday, would that not make a perfect Army world?

The Army's definition of respect is treat people as they should be treated and expect others to do the same. Would we not all admire one another if this were the case? Junior enlisted Soldiers are lead by the noncommissioned officers above them and the NCOs have a chain as well.

Soldiers are, and have always been, a reflection of leadership. And outside point of view looking into the unit, or the “one,” would conclude from seeing smiling faces and motivated Soldiers that the leadership is outstanding, that there is cohesion and respect throughout the unit. However, if others see disgruntled , non-motivated

*See conclusion on Pg. 15*

*Sustain to Victory*

**FRG** Continued from Pg. 7

Complimentary watermelon and lemonade will be provided.

Spiderman is coming to Fort Riley and Junction City. On Friday, June 15, Spiderman will be at the 12th Street Community Center in Junction City from 10-11am. Then, he will make an appearance at Long Gym which is in building 8069 from 5:30-7pm. There is free admission and it is open to all ages.

At the Westside 4 Dickinson movie theatre in Junction City, every Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday family movies are being shown. Admission is free. There will be a different movie shown every week. Movie times are at 10am and 12:30pm. The first movie is the week of June 5-7 and the last on will be August 7-9. We would also like to announce that there is an organization that provides a bulk package of food for only \$25. Items such as chicken, ham, beef, and frozen items like fish, potatoes, fresh fruits and desserts are available in every package. It is a wonderful way to save a few pennies.

There is a package available every month. If you would like more information or would like help placing an order, please contact me at (706) 478-1263, or email me at [monica.l.neypes@us.army.mil](mailto:monica.l.neypes@us.army.mil). If you would like to see the menu for the month then go to [prairielandfood.com](http://prairielandfood.com).

If you have anything else to add to the newsletter, please contact me and let me know. I hope that everyone has a wonderful time during block leave and continues to have a good summer. Stay safe and have fun!

Monica Neypes, FRG Leader

**This months promotions**

SGT Lajoie from SPC

PFC York from PV2

SFC Surprise from SSG

**DCO** Continued from Pg. 3

There were no DUIs in his battalion for over a year until about 60 days before he changed command, said McCurry. He credits this to being blessed with good Soldiers and having leaders who stayed involved with their Soldiers.

"We did under-the-oak-tree counseling's. I expected my NCOs and officers to know what their Soldiers were doing," said McCurry.

"I believe that when we fail it's because of one of two reasons. We failed to teach the standard or we failed to reinforce the standard," said McCurry.

As the deputy commander of the 1<sup>st</sup> Sustainment Brigade, McCurry hopes to be a help to the commander and to take care of Soldiers and their families, said McCurry.

**Conclusion** Continued from Pg. 14

Soldiers, the first thing to come to mind would be "what is wrong?"

Part of the NCO creed says, "I will be fair and impartial when recommending both rewards and punishment." To an outstanding, admired leader or leadership this would be taken seriously. It is hard to not mix the "automatic" and the "earned." We are a people brought together for one purpose— to defend this nation and constitution voluntarily, to sacrifice everything we have, and lay our lives on the line! Trust needs to be built between both Soldier and leader.

In conclusion, to make everything make sense, if there were a lack of "Respect of Authority" for leaders and superiors in a unit, there would be unhappy, hateful people who despise everyone around them, who would not be willing to lay down their lives for a single cause but be forced. Hatred and lack of discipleship of the soldiers could possibly mean total anarchy.

**Signal Company holds pie in the face contest**

SGT Muniz before and after.

*Sustain to Victory*