

## COMMUNITY CORNER

# Measures should be taken to prevent drinking and driving

By Col. Kevin Brown  
GARRISON COMMANDER

The question was posed to me the other day – How far should a Soldier go to stop a friend from driving drunk?

The question stemmed from an incident where a Soldier was trying to stop his friend from driving. The intoxicated Soldier was already in the car, and his friend tried to block him in. The driver hit the gas, hit his friend and drove away. Obviously the driver shouldn't have been behind the wheel, but did his friend take the correct action?

The answer to that is no.

While it is everyone's responsibility to look out for each other and prevent others from placing themselves and others at risk – this should never happen at the risk of their own personal safety.

Jumping in front of a car whose driver is under the influence and their known ability to make sound reason or judgment calls is impaired, to say nothing about the impaired reflex response, isn't advisable. The driver who fails to submit to warnings to not drive while intoxicated, refuses alternate methods of transportation and denies the support or warnings should be informed they will be reported to the authorities if they drive one foot further.

The legal consequences of driving under the influence are by far of lesser impact than a death inflicted by an intoxicated driver. Driving under the influence is illegal and lethal and should be treated as such. If you can-



Col. Brown

not secure the keys within reason, than you should call for assistance from those who can.

Those who get DUIs are not those drivers who have gotten behind the wheel for the first time and get caught. National statistics show drunk drivers have driven hundreds of times without getting caught and think they can drink and drive. It is when they get stupid or have a serious incident they are identified.

Instead of waiting until you've been out drinking with friends to decide how to get home, make plans ahead of time and encourage your friends to do the same. Stop by Information, Ticketing and Registration and pick up cards for the Riley Ride, which offers nine pick-up and drop-off locations at Fort Riley and one in Aggieville. The program offers rides between 10 p.m. and 3 a.m. on the weekends.

Individuals can purchase a \$5 Riley Ride card that gets them one round-trip ride to Aggieville and back, or a \$10 Riley Ride card that gets them two round trips to Aggieville and back and one one-way ride.

For more information on the Riley Ride program, call 785-239-5614 or 785-239-4415. Riley Ride is open to all Department of Defense ID cardholders. People must have their ID card with them to get a ride.

You may notice on the signs at Henry and Trooper gates, the lists of units with Soldiers who get DUIs. Those signs should be blank. Without endangering ourselves, we need to encourage others to do what's right – to make the responsible choice. And, if you know someone who all too often makes the wrong decision, talk to them about getting help.

ThatGuy.com, a Defense Department campaign with the goal of reducing excessive drinking among young servicemembers, offers these signs that a person may need help:

- Neglecting major work or family responsibilities
- Missing work, poor performance reviews and/or disciplinary actions
- Getting drunk regularly
- Lying about how much he/she is drinking
- Believing that alcohol is necessary to have fun
- Having frequent hangovers
- Having blackouts
- Getting in trouble with the law because of drinking
- Changing moods, such as temper flare-ups, irritability or defensiveness
- Becoming That Guy

Visit the Fact section at [www.ThatGuy.com](http://www.ThatGuy.com) to learn more about talking to your friends about their drinking. You can help make a difference.

To comment on this column or suggest a topic for Community Corner, e-mail [rile.post.newspaper@comus.army.mil](mailto:rile.post.newspaper@comus.army.mil).



Junction City High School JROTC members Cadet 2nd Lt. Dillon Long, junior, and Cadet 1st Lt. Robyn Harmon, senior, demonstrate rifle spinning Feb. 1 at Custer Hill Elementary School.

Shandi Dix  
POST

## JROTC cadets teach Custer Hill students flag folding, demonstrate gun spinning

By Shandi Dix  
1ST INF. DIV. POST

Five members of the Junction City High School JROTC performed Feb. 1 for Custer Hill Elementary School's Personal Best assembly.

"The students here at Custer Hill receive the Personal Best assembly based on their own personal best in the classroom which means turning in homework, following directions, making good choices and so on," said Silvia Casey, student support monitor.

The JROTC cadets showed the stu-

dents how to fold an American flag and what a flag looks like when it needs to be retired.

"The 50 stars stand for the 50 states and the 13 stripes for the 13 colonies," fifth graders said when asked what they learned during the assembly.

A demonstration of gun spinning also was given.

Students asked many questions about the rifles JROTC cadets use in their demonstrations.

Second graders learned cadets have to fix a gun if they break it and do pushups.

The guns used were only for spinning, not for shooting, fifth graders said.

This was the first time the JROTC students performed at Custer Hill.

"I thought it would be a good thing for the students to see because the majority of kids here at Custer Hill are military children," Casey said.

Students performing were seniors Cadet 1st Lt. Robyn Harmon and Cadet 2nd Lt. Chris Weimer, junior Cadet 2nd Lt. Dillon Long Jr., sophomore Cadet Master Sgt. Tommy Hodgson and freshman Plt. Peter Jang.

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