

## COMMUNITY CORNER

# 'Are we doing things right?'

By Col. Kevin Brown  
GARRISON COMMANDER

Like other installations around the world, Army Community Service at Fort Riley is the home to many Soldier and Family services, as well as employees who can help Soldiers and Family get access to services that may not be housed there.

What we want to know at Fort Riley, as well as in the Installation Management Command is, "Are we doing the right things? Are we doing things right? And, what are we missing?"

I encourage you to share your responses to these questions, not only with Fort Riley leaders, but with IMCOM leaders as well. If you are on Facebook, become a fan of Lt. Gen. Rick Lynch, the IMCOM commanding general. Lynch often posts questions to Soldiers, Families and civilian employees. Don't be afraid to share your thoughts.

At Fort Riley, there are numerous ways to share your answers to these questions. Send us an Interactive Customer Evaluation comment by clicking the ICE link at [www.rileyarmy.mil](http://www.rileyarmy.mil). Post your comments on the Fort Riley page on Facebook at [www.facebook.com/FortRiley](http://www.facebook.com/FortRiley). Also, look for information on upcoming community forums to share your thoughts with Fort Riley leaders in person.

Through the Army Family Covenant, we have made great strides in Family programs at Fort Riley. ACS has expanded

to include the ACS Annex on Huebner Road. Free child care is offered for

many events through the covenant. Military Family life consultants are available to meet with Soldiers and Families.

Parenting support programs offer numerous classes throughout the year. Employment, financial and relocation assistance also are available through ACS.

ACS truly is the place to get the services you need. As an extension to ACS' services, join Fort Riley leaders and community members Jan. 28, 2011, as we celebrate the opening of the newest facility on post to support Soldier and Family resiliency – the Resiliency Campus Headquarters.

The new headquarters will house classrooms, the Kansas State Research and Extension Office, Volunteer Program, a mind fitness area and Army Family Team Building and Army Family Action Plan staff. Also on Jan. 28, the Directorate of Family and Morale, Welfare and Recreation, along with ACS staff, will host a Women's Conference at Riley's Conference Center to support our spouses and encourage resiliency throughout our Families.

The conference will be from 8:15 a.m. to 3 p.m. and will offer sessions on relationships during deployment, finances, self defense, antiquing,



Col. Brown

party hosting and burlesque dancing.

To register for the conference, drop off or mail the registration form available at [www.rileymwr.com](http://www.rileymwr.com) to the Leisure Travel Center, 6918 Trooper Drive, on Custer Hill. Free child care will be available, and lunch will be available for \$10. For more information, call 785-239-5614.

In January, Fort Riley also will celebrate its next round of Resilient Spouse Academy graduates. The RSA includes training on suicide intervention, information on responding to reports of abuse, Master Resiliency Training and financial training. To be a part of this program, contact ACS at 785-239-9435. Classes also will be offered in March, April, June and August 2011.

If you have participated in these programs and enjoyed them, let your fellow Soldiers and spouses know about them. If you didn't enjoy them, let us know what we are missing and what we can do better.

Fort Riley employees work hard every day to support our Soldiers and Families, but we need to make sure our efforts are having the most impact they can. Let us know your thoughts as our Soldier and Family programs continue to grow to meet the challenges of supporting our ever-changing Army.

If you have a comment on this article or would like to suggest a topic for the Community Corner, e-mail [rile.post.newspaper@conus.army.mil](mailto:rile.post.newspaper@conus.army.mil).

## SANTA'S HELPERS



COURTESY PHOTO

"Santa" on behalf of Dick Young, retired command sergeant major and Fort Riley supporter, poses with Soldiers of the Better Opportunity for Single Soldiers Program, from left to right, Spc. Adam Page, Pfc. Brendan O'Neal, Spc. Nhan Kim, Pfc. Larry Joseph Collins, Spc. Rorie Cabonce and Sgt. David Merschhoff. Page, O'Neal Collins and Cabonce are with Company F, 2nd Battalion, 24th Armor Regiment, 1st Heavy Brigade Combat Team, 1st Infantry Division. Kim and Merschhoff are with 701st Brigade Support Battalion, 4th IBCT, 1st Inf. Div. Volunteers teamed with members of the Directorate of Family and Morale, Welfare and Recreation's Family Advocacy and Exceptional Family Member programs to host more than 100 children at a Christmas party Dec. 7 at Riley's Conference Center.

## HOUSE FILL AD

## AAFES Exchange to give away guitars to deployed troops in contest

AAFES PUBLIC AFFAIRS

DALLAS – The Army and Air Force Exchange Service and Monster Energy Drink are giving away 10 Epiphone Monster guitars to troops currently deployed in support of operations New Dawn or Enduring Freedom.

Now through Dec. 31, select patrons are invited to post a story about their memorable experience involving Monster Energy Drinks or the Exchange to their personal Facebook account and provide a link to the Exchange's official Facebook fan page at [www.facebook.com/AAFES.BX.PX](http://www.facebook.com/AAFES.BX.PX).

"Patrons serving the contingency theater are invited to let their imagination run wild – sing, rap, jingle, monologue or animate," said Jeffery Helm, the Exchange's senior enlisted advisor. "Just keep it clean and original."

Entries can range from 30 seconds to five minutes and can either be in a video or audio clip.

Only authorized Exchange patrons currently deployed in support of operations New Dawn or Enduring Freedom are eligible to participate in Weeman's Monster Experience. Entries receiving the most "likes" by Dec. 31 will take an Epiphone Monster guitar home.

Log on to the Exchange's "The Monster Experience" to see a video by Weeman or get additional details at [www.facebook.com/AAFES.BX.PX#!/note.php?note\\_id=466302982009](http://www.facebook.com/AAFES.BX.PX#!/note.php?note_id=466302982009).

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