

COMMUNITY CORNER

Safety top priority; requires effort from all, commander says

By Col. William Clark
GARRISON COMMANDER

One of my top priorities as the garrison commander at Fort Riley is safety. It is something I take very seriously, and it is something I feel we need to work together to improve every day. On- and off-duty accidents can affect our work place, and we must ensure we are mitigating risks to minimize accidents.

From the highest levels of the Army, this is a priority. So much so, safety is one of the key lines of effort in the Installation Management Command's Campaign Plan 2012-2020. The campaign plan, now in its fourth version as of November 2011, maps out the way forward for

IMCOM in order to provide Soldiers, Civilians and their Families with a quality of life commensurate with the quality of their service. In the campaign plan, IMCOM identifies five keys to success in achieving optimal safety on our installation. They are:

- Effective privately owned vehicle – motorcycle and auto – safety programs in place
- Heightened safety awareness across the command
- Employ hazard control measures to foster a safe working and living environment
- Require and promote safe and healthy practices



Col. Clark

in professional and personal activities

- Support senior commander's safety and occupational health programs

Fort Riley already implements several programs to help meet these keys to success.

For example, Fort Riley's Garrison Safety Office offers a four-hour defensive driving course and has car and motorcycle simulators to help drivers sharpen their skills on the road.

Classes are available for Soldiers, Family members and civilians, and once completed may make drivers eligible for insurance discounts.

Our commanders understand the importance of safety and encourage use of tools to mitigate risks. Tools include

the use of the Composite Risk Management system as the primary decision-making process to identify hazards, reduce risk and prevent loss. For those traveling, use of Travel Risk Planning System, or TRIPS, is encouraged, if not required.

Further, according to the campaign plan, "Commanders and leaders will lead the way in changing behavior to prevent accidents and will empower Soldiers, Families and civilians at all levels to speak up when they see someone ignoring safety rules or doing something risky. Safety is everyone's business and it is our responsibility to ensure safe performance in all we do. Everyone will be held accountable for accident prevention." With that, I ask that you

help ensure you and your battle buddy, friend or coworker are always keeping safety in mind. Utilize the resources at your disposal. And if you see something that appears unsafe, notify your unit or organization's safety officer or contact the safety office.

The Garrison Safety Office offers training and information on all safety matter, ranging from defensive driving to severe weather safety.

For more information on training and training materials or any of the programs mentioned above, call the safety office at 785-239-2514 or visit www.1id.army.mil/UnitPage.aspx?unit=usag.safety

Remember, a safe culture extends far beyond just getting behind the wheel of your vehicle. Safety is one of my

SAFETY LINKS

- U.S. Army Combat Readiness/Safety Center: <https://safety.army.mil/>
- Composite Risk Management: <https://safety.army.mil/crm/>
- Travel Risk Planning System: <https://trips.safety.army.mil/>
- Fort Riley Garrison Safety Office: www.1id.army.mil/UnitPage.aspx?unit=usag.safety

top priorities, but it requires your help to maintain a safe environment at Fort Riley.

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Students to celebrate savings in February

By Melony Gabbert
1ST INF. DIV. POST

More than 1,100 students at Jefferson and Ware elementary schools will take part in Military Saves Week and sign a "Saver Pledge" Feb. 19 to 26, according to William Brooks, manager, Armed Forces Bank, Fort Riley.

The bank will work with local students as part of the 2012 Military Saves Campaign.

To kickoff the campaign, Jo Ann Rooney, acting under secretary of defense, signed a memorandum designating the week of Feb. 19 to 26 as Military Saves Week. The military community is invited to join federal, state and local resources, including military banks and credit unions to focus on financial readiness, reduce debt and save money.

On Feb. 3, Garrison Commander Col. William Clark will sign a "Military Saves Week proclamation, Brooks said.

The Armed Forces Bank will host contests for students at the two elementary schools, as well as brainstorming activities and bank tours.

Students at the schools will

sign the Saver Pledge, which states: "I promise to help myself by saving money and using debt responsibly or not at all. I promise to help my Family, our friends and my neighbors by encouraging them to do the same."

During the week, all Armed Forces Bank branches will deposit \$10 into any new savings accounts.

"One checking account can have up to five savings accounts attached to it, so someone could break the bank that week," Brooks said.

The bank also will waive the minimum deposit requirement for 12 months for accounts opened during Military Saves Week.

In addition to Military Saves Week, another program the bank offers – the Saving Cents program – is designed to make saving easy. The program allows all purchases made on Visa debit or check cards to be rounded up to the nearest dollar with the rounded up amount transferred into up to five attached savings accounts. Members can elect to have amounts rounded up from \$1 to as much as \$5 per transaction.



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