

## COMMUNITY CORNER

## Carnival, concert, ceremonies among Victory Week 2012 events

By Col. William Clark  
GARRISON COMMANDER

The 1st Infantry Division and Fort Riley have a lot to celebrate this month—the Army's birthday, the "Big Red One's" birthday and the history and lineage of the historic division.

To celebrate, the 1st Inf. Div. and Fort Riley will host the annual Victory Week, which began June 7 and ends June 15. This time also will be used to honor current and former members of the 1st Inf. Div. and affiliated units,

commemorate fallen warriors and induct nominated members of the 1st Inf. Div. Distinguished Members of the Regiment.

We kicked off Victory Week June 7 with the Victory Carnival, which runs until June 10 at Rally Point Field. Following the completion of the last day of the carnival, Fort Riley will host the band, Daugh-



Col. Clark

try, whose lead singer, Chris Daughtry, was a former candidate on American Idol and now has four No. 1 singles.

The concert will be outside of Riley's Conference Center. Gates open at 5 p.m., and the opening band will begin playing at 6 p.m. Daughtry will take the stage between 7 and 8 p.m.

From June 11 to the 14, unit activities, including sports competitions like sand volleyball, paintball, arm wrestling, water polo and a 10-mile run will take place across post.

Results of the athletic com-

petitions will be tallied, and the battalion with the highest score at the end of the week will earn the division's Victory Cup.

As I mentioned, it's not all fun and games, though. We will take time to remember division Soldiers who have fallen during the past year in a Victory Park Ceremony June 13.

Also scheduled are a Ceremony of Remembrance event and dinner, and Boot Camp for Heroes, both of which focus on honoring the children of the division's fallen Soldiers.

I encourage all of you to help us celebrate our history and remember those who have made the ultimate sacrifice.

We'll close the week with Titan 25, the largest mixed-martial arts event to take place at Fort Riley, June 15.

For more information on Victory Week, visit [www.rileymwr.com](http://www.rileymwr.com) or [www.riley.army.mil](http://www.riley.army.mil). Also be sure to check [www.facebook.com/1stinfantrydivision](http://www.facebook.com/1stinfantrydivision) and [www.facebook.com/fortriley](http://www.facebook.com/fortriley) during Victory Week for other updates.

Also, we've included a two-page spread in this week's

post newspaper on pages 6 and 7 that includes a plethora of information on all the events listed above and more. Here you'll find details on events, event parking information, maps and more.

I think you'll find Victory Week has a little something for everyone. So come out and enjoy the week with the Fort Riley and Big Red One Family.

If you would like to comment on this article or suggest a topic for a future Community Corner, email [usarmy.riley.incom.mbx.post-newspaper@mail.mil](mailto:usarmy.riley.incom.mbx.post-newspaper@mail.mil).

## OCSC, ESC merge to form new Our Community Spouses' Club

By Pamela Redford  
1ST INF. DIV. POST

Uniting the Officer and Civilian Spouses' Club and the Enlisted Spouses Club is not a new concept at Fort Riley, but until this year, the idea had been nixed by both organizations.

Although it's been talked about and voted down in past years, 2012 was different, according to Bevin Landrum, president of the newly merged Our Community Spouses' Club.

"To simply say that because a spouse's husband is enlisted, he or she doesn't have the potential to be a vital part of this organization is pretty much in this day and age foolish," Landrum said. "Our goal is to be the premier social, philanthropic and mentoring organization in the area. But how can we be the premier anything if we exclude or limit the people who want to join us?"

The change of heart came about when spouses of Fort Riley's senior leaders approached both of the boards and asked them to reconsider a merge, she said.

"We had a pretty robust conversation about it. Change scares everybody. We've got decades of tradition on both sides, and nobody wants to lose that identity," Landrum said.

The resulting debate led the board of the OCSC to ask themselves if they could realistically provide services that would meet their mission statement and the needs of a broad spectrum of people. In the end, the answer was a resounding, "yes."

"Military spouses are working and more educated now than they ever have been. They've involved in their communities and volunteer their time," Landrum said. "It just became obvious that (OCSC) would be more strong and successful if we said we want any spouse with the same goals to be a part of our club."

Additionally, the merge will reduce some redundancies in programming and services between the clubs, saving money in the process.

"We have enjoyed a very financially stable club," Landrum said. "Last year was just stellar with just over \$33,000 raised and given back to the community in disbursements. We had 191 members last year. This year, we have 300. Obviously we have more manpower, energy, experience and talent to

### OCSC FUNDRAISER

The OCSC is having a fundraiser. For a small donation, hire their flock of pink flamingoes and get a good laugh from a friend or neighbor. Good for practical jokes, the celebration of a birth or a holiday, walking out in the yard to a sea of pink flamingoes is certain to bring an immediate smile to the face, said Bevin Landrum, president, OCSC. All proceeds go to the community assistance

fund for disbursement at the end of the year.

- \$20 - Rent a flock of 20 flamingoes for 48 hours and flock your victim's lawn yourself
- \$30 - OCSC Mother Flockers will do the flocking on post
- \$40 - OCSC Mother Flockers will flock off post

For more information, call 808-778-6118 or 808-352-5233 or email [wherestheflock@gmail.com](mailto:wherestheflock@gmail.com).

"There are a lot of organizations that spouses can get involved with. I know because I'm asked to be a part of so many. When I look at time commitment I put in and ask others to be a part of, I can look at our list of community assistance donations and count up 33,000 reasons why my time is good investment with OCSC."

BEVIN LANDRUM | PRESIDENT, OCSC

meet our goals."

With the decision made to dissolve the ESC, full thought and consideration was put into setting up the kind of organization that would be as strong in future years as it has been in past years, Landrum said.

Last March, the OCSC board began hammering out a framework for implementing the merge by June 1. The ESC decided not to vote in a new board and to simply cease their operations, while the OCSC board voted in changes to its constitution and bylaws.

Still, much work is yet to come, Landrum said. The 2012-2013 year will be a transition year for the club with many changes to implement. In addition to the normal board, a transition team will finalize changes to programming and price points on membership and activities.

Finding common ground on when to have meetings for working spouses, whether or not to have a sliding scale for junior enlisted Families and planning programming that will be engaging to a 20-year-old enlisted Soldier's wife and a colonel's wife are just a few of the issues currently being tackled by the transition board, Landrum said.

Shand Mayville, wife of Maj. Gen. William Mayville,

### COMMAND SPOUSE TRAINING



Pamela Redford | POST

LeAnn Fechter engages Fort Riley spouses in a question-and-answer panel discussion May 29 during a two-day command team spouses seminar at the Resilient Learning Center. The course was designed to enhance future or current company commander and first sergeants spouses' ability to take on the role of an informed, involved, productive and proactive member of a command team. Also pictured are, Capt. Matthew Fechter, 2nd Battalion, 34th Armor Regiment, 1st Heavy Brigade Combat Team, 1st Infantry Division; Maj. Arron Lummer, Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 2nd Heavy Brigade Combat Team, 1st Inf. Div.; and Mitchell Bridges, Fort Riley Family member.



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