



12 December 2012 1ABCT Weekly Newsletter: please pass along to Soldiers, Family and Friends of 1ABCT. You can always stay up to date with local events by going to 1st Infantry Division page at <http://www.riley.army.mil/default.aspx> or if you are having issues reading this you can click on this link to read the weekly news. <http://www.riley.army.mil/UnitPage.aspx?unit=1bct>. We are always up and posting new information on FaceBook! Join us on the Official 1ABCT FaceBook Page at www.facebook.com/1HBCTDEVILBRIGADE?v=wall&ref=sgm

Fort Riley Current News Updates: This information has recently been updated, and is now available.

<http://www.riley.army.mil/OurPost/CurrentNews.aspx> In addition to the Current News page there are Garrison Commander's Community Corner articles <http://www.riley.army.mil/DocumentList.aspx?lib=GC-Corner>

'BRO' begins stigma-reduction campaign: Lt. William Milzarski said he knows how it feels to bring the war home. "The nightmares started in late May after my battalion's first major engagement in Afghanistan," the infantry officer said recently. "By September, we had conducted more than 100 combat missions, and the nightmares were coming every night." Although Milzarski's time in the war zone eventually ended, the nightmares never did. "I knew something was wrong, and I sought help," the 1st Infantry Division Soldier said. "I see a counselor every week; I take it day-by-day; I accept the help that is available; and I do what I need to do to get better." Milzarski's story of struggle and recovery is detailed in the first collection of posters released Dec. 3 as part of the 1st Inf. Div.'s new "I know how it feels" campaign. The campaign is designed to show Soldiers, Family members and civilians throughout the "Big Red One" formation that they are not alone in their struggles; others who stand to their left and right have been in their shoes and know how they feel. "Our goal is to eliminate the feelings of isolation that many people often feel when they are struggling," said Judy Woodward, 1st Inf. Div. community health promotion officer. "The stories we will share during this campaign are the stories of our very own teammates who have faced periods of adversity in their lives and found their way to a better day." Woodward said each poster that will be released as part of the "I know how it feels" effort will not only include important stories of survival, but also list a variety of local and national resources designed to provide help to every member of the Army Family. "The most important thing we want everyone to understand is that they are never alone," she said. "We stand as one in the Big Red One." Milzarski said he hopes by sharing his story as part of the new campaign; it will encourage other Big Red One Soldiers to seek the help they need. "Follow Me, the motto of the infantry, isn't just for combat," he said. "Follow Me is for recovery, too." By Mollie Miller, 1st Inf. Div. Public Affairs

Military OneSource (MOS) It is now easier than ever to access the “Monthly Focus” feature on the redesigned Military OneSource (MOS) website: Please visit www.militaryonesource.mil; Roll your cursor over “Monthly Focus” on the top, blue navigation ribbon; CLICK on any of the displayed items; Or, CLICK on the words, “view a comprehensive list of resources on this month’s focus.” This December, we focus on the Family Readiness System, “the network of programs, services, people and agencies that promote the readiness and quality of life of service members and their families.” To learn what services are available and how to access them, please view the attachment. Also, the articles and materials listed on the MOS website Family Readiness System page can help you get acquainted with the many facets of the program. Items, some of which may require login, are listed under these headings: *Child Abuse and Domestic Abuse * Children, Youth and Teens *Deployment *EFMP/Special Needs *Money Management *Non-Medical Counseling *Parenting *Spouse Education and Career Opportunities. With a few CLICKS on the MOS website, you can easily share, order, or comment on these materials - so please feel free to do so! If you have a question about MOS, please do not hesitate to contact Bonnie Murdock at Bonnie.murdock@militaryonesource.com or 913-424-3038.

Ready Army- Prepare yourself for winter driving - see flyer also see the Ft Riley website:

<http://www.riley.army.mil/UnitPage.aspx?unit=ReadyArmy>




Holiday Travel

Be Prepared for Winter Weather Driving



➤ **Check the following items on your car**

- Antifreeze levels
- Battery and ignition system
- Brakes
- Exhaust system
- Heater and defroster
- Lights and flashing hazard lights
- Windshield wiper equipment
- Tires

➤ **Have a Emergency Winter Car Kit**

- Blanket or extra clothes
- Candle with matches
- Snacks / Water
- Flares / Flashlight
- C. B. radio, cellular phone or ham radio
- Cell Phone charger
- Small shovel
- Windshield ice scraper
- Tow rope / Jumper cables
- Bag of sand or cat litter for traction
- Emergency Contact Phone Numbers

➤ **Stay Informed!!**

- Sign up for AtHoc Text Message Alerts in the back of the room





An old mail article I like to put out each winter! Prepare your car with an onion? Say what? Snowy weather will be coming our way! Here are a few ways you can prepare your car (and yourself) for snow, ice and cold: -Car stuck in the snow? First, try to rock your car back and forth. If this doesn't work, you need to look for traction for the back wheels. Car mats will do, or branches, dirt and sand from outside. If you have tried everything else, let some air out of both the back tires to provide better traction. Drive out slowly, and then stay slow until you reach the first gas station that has an air pump. If you are planning to drive in the snow, keep a rubber bathmat cut in half in your trunk, or roof shingles – either of these can help you to get your car out of the snow. -Lock Iced Over? If your locks are frozen, heat your key with a lighter before putting it in the lock. If you have a small straw, blow hot air into the lock. WD-40, alcohol and antifreeze will help to remove ice from your lock as well. -If the weather calls for snow, put cardboard over your windshield to keep it clean of snow and ice. Rubber mats or car mats work as well. If you have ice on your windshield, put salt or rubbing alcohol on it to melt the ice. **To prevent ice from sticking on to your windshield, wipe a cut onion on the glass** – it works wonders!

OTC SELF CARE MEDICATIONS AT IACH: The snuffle and sneezing season is upon us! Did you know you don't have to head to the supermarket to get your over-the-counter relief? Take the Self Care Class and earn a card. TRICARE beneficiaries can simply present the self care card at Irwin Army Community Hospital pharmacies to get over-the-counter cold and flu remedies, pain relievers and basic care medications. You can take the class online at http://iach.amedd.army.mil/sections/clinics/preventiveMedicine/OTC_Dec_2009.pdf and return a completed certificate for a card.

Ways to beat the flu from IACH: get a flu shot, wash your hands, eat healthy, exercise, quit smoking and if you do get sick please do these things: STAY HOME! Get plenty of fluids, and call 785-239-DOCS if you need to be seen.

Some tips from the MPs to keep each of you safe when at home when a solicitor comes to your door, soliciting is prohibited on Ft Riley: a. Keep all doors and windows locked at all times. b. Do not open your door to strangers. c. If you do open the door then ask for a business card and let the individual know that your spouse is taking a nap and that you will talk with them when they get up. d. take note of the description (hair color, height, shirt, pants, shoes etc) of the person.. Immediately write the description down and report the description without delay to the Fort Riley Military Police at 239-6767 or 239-3055. e. Observe from the window what kind of vehicle they are driving and get a license plate number and state, if possible.

****Just added** The Wing Nuts Youth Aviation Program:** The Flint Hill EAA Chapter 1364 has a special program that runs the second Saturday of every month from 9 am - 12 pm. Students in grades 5th-12th can participate in their *Wing Nuts* Youth Program. The program gives students an opportunity to learn about aviation through the restoration of a Piper TriPacer airplane. The program is free to enroll and is held in the EAA Hanger at the Junction City Airport in Freeman Field. Head to www.1364eachapter.org for more information!

****Just added** Irwin Army Community Hospital will host their annual Christmas Tree Lighting ceremony at 4 p.m. Dec. 12** at the IACH flagpole courtyard. The public is invited to attend. For more information, call 785-239-8414

Rolling Hills Wildlife Adventure- 6 miles west of Salina KS- Now – 13 March 2013 ‘The Nature of the Dogs’- A photographic exhibit that seeks to capture the true nature of dogs- their beauty, character, and spirit. Open Daily 9am-5pm 785-827-9488 or www.rollinghillswildlife.com. Military Discount available.

Looking to do something in Manhattan? <http://www.manhattancvb.org/CurrentEvents.aspx>

Check out things to do in Topeka at <http://www.topeka.org/thingstodo.shtml>

****Just added**** Don't forget Salina has many activities and events too: <http://www.salinakansas.org/>

Kansas City Christmas 2012 Events, Lights & Trees Guide <http://www.kansascity.com/2012/11/13/3915122/holiday-lighting-events.html> and <http://www.visitkc.com/holiday/holiday-events/index.aspx>

Wichita, KS also offers a lot of holiday fun too! <http://www.zvents.com/wichita-ks/events/holiday>

Just added Needed some vacation ideas, ski packages, concerts? Check out Leisure Travel on Ft Riley for great deals!
<http://rileymwr.com/itr/>

Just added Check out the Manhattan Public Library for events happening for teens, kids and families these next few weeks! Check their website out at <http://www.manhattan.lib.ks.us/> or contact 785-776-4741 or email lauram@manhattan.lib.ks.us

Manhattan Town Center: Holiday Music Festival - Now- Dec. 15: Enjoy the sights and sounds of the holidays during the Holiday Music Festival Now-December 15, in the Picnic Place. Performance schedule is available at Customer Service and our Brigade Facebook page in the December photo album.

Toys for Manhattan- Now- December 13th: Toys for Manhattan accepts new and experienced toys and gifts for distribution to underprivileged families as Christmas presents for their families. This year the shop is located at 8711 E Hwy 24 (the old Rambler's Steakhouse). Anyone can drop off donations at the shop on Tuesday and Thursday evenings through December 13 between 5 p.m. and 8 p.m. There are drop sites in the city for daytime hours as well: Riley County Police Dept, 1001 S Seth Child Road, McCullough Development, 210 N 4th Street, Manhattan Fire Dept, 2000 Denison Ave, Orscheln Farm and Home Supply, 530 McCall Rd, O'Reilly Auto Parts, 700 Ft. Riley Blvd. All have convenient curbside parking for drop off. The distribution season is Saturdays, December 3, 10, and 17 from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. and goes to those who otherwise may go without this Christmas season. You are providing a brighter holiday for less fortunate families in our community. POC ph: 785-313-2013 or email at santalady@scicable.com

****Reminder** Operation Santa headquarters are still open at Building 261 on Main Post; they are still in need of toy or money donations.**

Drop-off locations include: At Fort Riley – Armed Forces Bank, CAB headquarters, Garrison headquarters, 1st Infantry Division headquarters, 1st ABCT headquarters, 2nd ABCT headquarters, IACH, Main Post Exchange, Op. Santa headquarters and Picerne Neighborhood Housing centers. In Manhattan: Toys can be dropped off at American Family Insurance, 3320 W. Anderson Ave.; Caldwell Mortgage Company, 2630 Claflin Road; Gymnastics Plus, 2730 Amherst Ave.; Kmart, 401 E. Poyntz Ave.; Manhattan Chamber of Commerce, 501 Poyntz Ave., Navy Federal Credit Union, 4th Street, next to Dick's Sporting Goods; Wal-Mart, 102 Bluemont Ave.; and Walgreens, 2719 Anderson Ave. and 325 Bluemont Ave. In Junction City: Wal-Mart, 521 E. Chestnut St. For monetary donations, cans are located at the following places: At Fort Riley: Habañero, Military Clothing and Sales and the Warrior Zone; In Junction City: Armed Forces Bank, 429 W. 18th St.; Daily Union, 222 W. Sixth St.; Meritrust Credit Union, 343 E. Chestnut St.; Quantico Tactical, 916 N. Washington St.; and Value Place, 331 E Ash. St

****Just Added** Manhattan Ice Rink.** The ice rink in City Park opened for the 2012-2013 season on Monday, November 19, 2012. The cost is \$3.00 per person to skate and skate rental is available for \$3.00 per person. Visitors who will not be skating do not need to pay admission. Key FOB's good for 10 admissions and/or skate rentals are \$25.00 and will be available for purchase at the Manhattan Parks and Recreation Office, 1101 Fremont, between 8:00 am and 5:00 pm, Monday through Friday as the skating season approaches. The hours of operation will be 3:00-7:00 p.m. weekdays and 1:00-7:00 p.m. weekends. On the following dates the Ice Rink will open at 1:00 p.m. due to the schools not being in session: November 21, November 23, December 24, December 26-31, January 2-4, February 8, and February 14. FREE SKATE DAY on January 21 (Martin Luther King Jr. Day), 10:00 a.m.-6:00 p.m. The Ice Rink will be closed on November 22, December 25, and January 1. Reservations will also be accepted for private gatherings. The reservation season is December 1-February 28. For more information on reserving the ice rink, or hockey and skating lessons, contact the Manhattan Parks and Recreation Office, 587-2757. Check out this album on our Facebook!

****Just added** Fort Riley Custer Hill Lanes Bowling Update:** Weekday programming : • Lunchtime – From 11 a.m. to 1 p.m., Monday to Friday – Cost is \$1 for games and \$1 shoes or \$7 special, which includes one personal one-topping pizza, one fountain soda and two games of bowling with shoes. • Afternoons – From 1 to 5 p.m., Monday to Friday – Cost is \$1.50 games and \$1 shoes. • After School Deal – From 3:30 to 5 p.m., Monday to Friday. Cost is \$5 a person, which includes two games, shoes and a snack. **Evening programming:** • Mondays – Children bowl FREE from 6 p.m. to close. Children get to bowl free all night with a paying adult. Three children per one adult and shoes are included. Adults pay \$2.75 per game and \$2.50 for shoes. Games must correspond with the same number of games bowled as children. • Tuesdays - Nifty Fifty Night, 6 p.m. to close – Cost is \$.50 games and \$.50 shoes. Hotdogs, popcorn and small soda are \$.50 each • Wednesdays – Red Pin Night, 6 p.m. to close – Cost is \$2 games and \$2 shoes. Get a strike with the head red pin and win a coupon for a free game of bowling. • Fridays – Ghost Bowling, 6 p.m. to close – Cost is \$9 per person, which includes shoes and bowling with ghost pins; \$1 fish sandwiches all day and night long. **Weekend programming:** • Saturday afternoons, from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. – Cost is \$1.50 games and \$1 shoes. • Saturday Night Extreme: 6 p.m. to midnight – Cost is \$10 per person and \$6 for children 12 and younger, which includes shoes and bowling. Also available are \$10 one-topping pizzas and \$3.50 pitchers of soda all night. • Sundays – Family Fun Day, all day – Cost is \$35 per lane, which includes two hours of bowling, one large two-topping pizza, two pitchers of soda and shoes for up to six people.

Snow Creek, Inc in Weston MO (close to KC) will be opening soon for the winter! They offer military discounts on lift rentals and slope prices, etc. For more information on their prices and events please contact them by ph at 816-640-2200, email them at info@skisnowcreek.com , website www.skisnowcreek.com and starting 13-24 December they will be having their 12 Days of Christmas Giveaway! Be sure to tell all your friends to "Like" them on Facebook for Giveaway notifications and chances to win every day! Facebook link: http://r20.rs6.net/tn.jsp?e=0015MmR8xRIO56sRVgRHY_3p05Uw2igdabMaiX5sXNAEhe6p_i4fXJfyzGNwbon6Umi671Tm6y9b4llfMpgbn5nZgKmOJkmPYfPtgf-tG6kZJHJxzeMuiOhJsmCb_vEz1xu

Temporary Exhibit: FORCES: The Shaping of Manhattan, Fort Riley and Kansas State University; Now – 13 January at the Flint Hills Discovery Center. Military Discounts are available. This exhibit is a partnership between the Riley County Historical Museum; the U.S. Cavalry Museum, Fort Riley; Conservation and Restoration Branch, Fort Riley; the Costume and Textile Museum, KSU; and the KSU archives. The exhibit explores the period between 1853 and 1914: our pioneer beginnings, the transition to building a community, and growth into the 20th century. PH: 785-587-2726

Outdoor Rec "Frosty" Contest runs from Dec – Feb: Each time it snows, take pictures of you and your friends making a snowman for the chance to win prizes from Outdoor Rec. One entry per snowfall is allowed. Submit your pictures to Outdoor Rec on Rifle Range Road, for more information please contact 785-239-2363.

As weather permits, Fort Riley's Skeet and Trap Range is open from noon to 8 p.m., Wednesdays and Thursdays, and from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., Saturdays and Sundays. For more information on the range, call the Outdoor Recreation Center at 785-239-2363.

Have a golfer on your Christmas list? Don't forget about the Custer Hill Golf Christmas Sale Dec 1-24th. For more information and store hours please contact 785-784-6000.

Family Night is every Wednesday at Habañero continues in December. Doors open at 4:30 p.m. and a Family-friendly movie will start at 5 p.m. at the restaurant. For more information, call 785-240-2782. During the month of December, Children 12 and younger eat for **½ price** with the purchase of an adult meal at Habañero

Holiday Horse Drawn Carriage Rides - Now- Dec. 22 Enjoy the winter beauty of Aggieville from a horse drawn carriage. Friday and Saturday, 4-7PM, November 30th - December 22nd. Where: Aggieville at Triangle Park on **Friday and Saturday nights ONLY!** 4-7pm. Cost is \$5/person

A Magical Photo Memory with Santa has begun at the Fort Riley Exchange and Santa will be there until 24 Dec, hours he is visiting is Mon- Sat 10am-6pm and Sundays Noon to 6pm.

ASAP 3D Month Search for the Holiday Shoe Scavenger Hunt to get the clues go to the Ft Riley MWR page at <http://www.facebook.com/#!/rileymwr?fref=ts> , it's the whole month of December, new clues will be updated weekly on the page. It's open to all Ft Riley Soldiers, Civilians and Family members- whoever returns the shoe to ASAP will receive a prize basket!

****Reminder** Looking for something to do during the holidays? With the kids or Adult Activities? Again please check out the Ft Riley MWR's Winter Guide of Events and Activities that is now up and posted on their Page; check out all what is happening for December 2012, January, and February 2013! Lots and Lots to do!!! <http://www.rileymwr.com/main/WinterGuide2012Print.pdf>**

Fort Riley will host its semiannual Postwide graduation ceremony at 1 p.m. Dec. 13 at Riley's Conference Center. Counseling and Education services will be closed at 10:30 a.m. because of the graduation ceremony. For more information, call 785-239-3649/6481

****REMINDER** If you missed their concert last night check out The 1st Infantry Division Band is set to host its yearly holiday concert on Dec. 14 at Junction City's C.L. Hoover Opera House.** This year's performances will feature the brass quintet, Gunpowder and Lead, and a 25- to 35-member concert band. The Junction City performance will feature 11 musicians from the Junction City Community Band. Each performance starts at 7 p.m. and is free and open to the public. You may also drop off unwrapped toy or monetary donations at this time to assist w/ OPSC.

****Updated** USO Fort Riley No Dough Dinners in 2012:** USO Fort Riley No Dough Dinners will be from 5 to 6:30 p.m. at 7856 Drum Street on Custer Hill, unless location is otherwise noted, [facebook.com/usoftriley](https://www.facebook.com/usoftriley). Some dinner locations may change. For information, call 785-240-5326 or email usofortriley@uso.org. USO Fort Riley also is on Facebook at [facebook.com/usoftriley](https://www.facebook.com/usoftriley) Click on "Events" to see the most up to date information for No Dough Dinners. **Dinner Date's in December due to the holiday's is 13 December. The USO Fort Riley will also be open from noon to 6 p.m., from Dec. 17 to Jan. 2, when the 1st Infantry Division is on a half-day schedule. Starting in 2013- No Dough Dinners will be held 2 days prior to payday!!! 11 Jan and 13 Feb- mark your calendars – these two events will be held at the USO Center also! 30 Jan and 27 Feb, 13 and 28 March will all be back the USO DFAC on Drum Street.**

This year Hanukkah begins in the evening of 8 Dec and ends the evening of 16 Dec, the Temple Beth Shalom at 4206 SE Munson Ave Topeka, KS is hosting Chanukah Happenings on Friday 14 Dec starting at 6pm w/ Program and Dinner followed by Chanukah and Shabbat service at 7:30pm. For more information please contact them at 785-272-6040.

SFAC and WTB Holiday Party, 14 December at 675 Warrior Road Clamshell Fabric Structure from 5pm to 7:30pm. - Open to all WTB/MEB Soldiers and their Families! Santa will have presents for the children with activities, music and crafts. YOU WON'T WANT TO MISS THIS EVENT!

****Just added** Attached is for a movie night on 14 Dec at Purple Swirl Frozen Yogurt:** Bring a gift for Operation Santa Clause and get FREE POPCORN! See flyer below. Purple Swirl is located in the parking lot of the new Dillions in MHTN off Anderson.

****Just added** Christmas Spectacular - Dec. 14 - Dec. 16:** Come celebrate the holiday season with us. The Columbian Theatre is hosting a dinner theatre. You will eat a buffet dinner in the art gallery where you can enjoy the current art exhibit while you eat, then go upstairs to our beautiful historic theatre for the live Christmas production. Dinner will be catered by Friendship House. If you can't make it here in time for dinner, please join us for the show anyway. Showtime is at 7:30pm on Friday & Saturday and 2:00pm on Sunday. You can order tickets over the phone by calling 800-899-1893 or on the internet at www.ColumbianTheatre.com. Show only: \$20/adults and \$15/children & students with ID card. Dinner/Show: \$37/adults, \$32/students, and \$26/children under 12.

****Updated** Ft Riley Arts and Crafts Center Project Dates** Christmas Bulb Decorations: 15th, 1:30pm to 3:30pm, cost \$12. For more information on these classes please contact 785-239-9205

****Just added** Murder Mystery Dinner - Dec. 15 :** Discover WHODUNIT at a comedic holiday themed murder mystery event where you become the detective and solve the crime. December 2012 "Once there WAS a Santa Claus" starring: Mrs. Christine Claus, The Easter Bunny, The Good Fairy, Cupid, and The Bogeyman. The members of CLUELESS (Children's Legendary Unknown Existence League of Extra Special Somethings) have gathered for the 2012 annual meeting at the Claus's home in the North Pole. All magical creatures have the ability to take on human form for 24-hour periods of time, so all members of the audience are CLUELESS. The coveted title of Exalted Extra Special Something is bestowed on one magical creature every year – who then receives one year of vacation while everyone else in CLUELESS scrambles to cover for them. Is being a holiday figurehead so stressful that someone would kill for a little time off? Holiday Inn at the Campus 6pm-8:30pm \$65/ticket. Other dates for this event are Dec 20 (lunch Noon-1:30pm for \$55 and 21 Dec dinner 6-8:30pm \$65. For more information please contact 785-341-7334 or email whodunitcapers@gmail.com

****Just added** The K State Women's and Men's Basketball teams will be playing thru out the Holiday season at home!** K-State Women's Basketball vs. UTEP - Dec. 16, K-State Mens Basketball vs. Texas Southern - Dec. 18 @7pm, K-State Men's Basketball vs. UMKC - Dec. 29 @6pm, K-State Mens Basketball vs. South Dakota - Dec. 31@1pm For more information please contact them at 1-800-221-CATS or online at <http://ev12.venue.net/cgi-bin/ncommerce3/EVExecMacro?linkID=kansuse&evm=main> Go Cats!!

****Just added** DFAC Holiday Hours: See flyer for the Christmas Meal on the 24th below:** Devil's Den will serve the meal on 24 December 2012, Christmas Eve. It's going to be a brunch serving time frame so breakfast will be offered also during this time. The meal cost is the normal holiday rate of \$7.50 for non-meal card holders. The dining facility will be opened on Christmas Day for a brunch and supper meal. (0930-1300 Brunch and 1700-1830 Supper) On 26,27, and 28 Dec the DFAC will be on normal operational hours with 3 meals. Devil's Den will close after the dinner meal on the 28th of Dec. and will reopen for normal operational hours on the 2nd of Jan 2013.

**Join Us For
Movie Night
at
Purple Swirl**

Dec 7: Elf
Dec 14: Polar Express

Starting at 6pm

*Bring a new unwrapped toy for
Operation Santa Clause
and get a free popcorn!*

**Menu
Christmas 2012**

Shrimp Cocktail with Sauce
Clam Chowder, Broccoli Soup
Roast Turkey with Gravy
Baked Ham with Raisin Sauce
Carved Beef (Prime Rib)
Mashed Potatoes, Candied Yams, Savory Bread Dressing
Hot Rolls
Italian Style Pasta Salad, Potato Salad, Crab Meat Salad
Corn on the Cob, Baked Green Bean Casserole,
Assorted Fresh Fruits
Cranberry Sauce
Desert Bar with Assorted Pies, Apple Cobbler,
Whipped Topping
Assorted Decorated Holiday Cookies
Mixed Nuts
Hard Candy, Candy Cane & Ribbon Candy Pieces
Assorted Beverages

****Just added** Wreaths Across America Ceremony will be held on 15 Dec at the Post Cemetery on Huebner Road at 11am.** WAA is a nonprofit organization founded to continue and expand the annual wreath laying ceremony at Arlington National Cemetery in 1992. Their Mission, Remember, honor, Teach is carried out in part by coordinating wreath laying ceremonies on a specific Saturday in December at Arlington and other locations in all 50 States. Open to the public. For more information on this organization please go to their website at wreathsacrossamerica.org

Childcare on Ft Riley at Warren East for December: Dec 15, 10am-4pm and Dec 18, 6-8pm.. Be sure to make your reservations in advance at Warren East CDC. Saturday childcare includes lunch at 1130. Patrons may either use their AFC hours or pay the hourly rate to take advantage of the care. For more information please contact 785-239-0822

****Just added** 9 Pin No Tap Bowling Tournament 15 December at Custer Hill Bowling, starts at 11am.** \$20 Entry Fee, Cash prizes for 1st – 3rd place. For more information please contact them at 785-239-4366 or www.rileymwr.com/bowling

****Just added** Lawrence Indoor Aquatic Center** Dec 15, Jan 12, & Feb 23, 11:30am-6pm \$6/adult, \$5/children (5-17). The weather outside may be frightful, but the temperature inside the Lawrence water park is wonderful! Kept at a perfect 87 degrees, this facility is ideal for those wanting to escape from the severe Kansas winter...at least for the afternoon! The zero-depth entry, play features, slide, diving boards, and lap lanes meet the needs from tykes to adults. Cost includes entrance to the park and transportation. Children must be accompanied by parents or guardians. Pre-registration is required. Please contact ODR @785-239-2363 for more information or to register.

Here Comes Santa Clause, Dec 15 from 1-3pm at the Ft Riley Library FREE event for more information please contact them at 785-239-5305 (Santa will be there!)

Don't miss your opportunity to get your tickets for the LOL Comedy Tour December 15th at Rally Point. Get your tickets early to pick out your premier seats since tickets are going quickly. The Comedians are Josh Blue, winner of Comic Last Standing, and the Gls of Comedy. I have attached Rally Point's seating chart and also links to the comedian's YouTube clip. Tickets are \$10 in advance and this show will sell out, tickets are available for purchase at Leisure Travel Center and Rally Point. For more information visit www.rileymwr.com or call 239-2807. Josh Blue- <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gT9-VNOTJa4> Gls of Comedy- <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BGrV9M6YaX0&feature=plcp>

USO Fort Riley also has added to their webpage the 20 Days of Holiday Fun at the USO- lots of events going on starting 16 Dec... check their webpage at [facebook.com/usoftriley](https://www.facebook.com/usoftriley) for more details on their events!

Family Bingo at Rally Point on 16 Dec at 1pm –For more information or to purchase your tickets, please contact 785-784-5434.

****DEADLINE 17 DEC *YMCA has begun sign-ups for 3rd – 6th grade basketball.** *3rd & 4th graders play together. We have a girl's league and a co-ed league. Girls can play in the co-ed league if they wish to do so. *5th & 6th graders play together. We have a girl's league and a co-ed league. Girls can play in the co-ed league if they wish to do so. Make sure you get the correct form. You can pick up registration forms here at the YMCA front counter; attached is the form to this e-mail, and are available online at www.junctioncityfamilyymca.com. They will also be sent home from school with the kids starting this week. Make sure to check their backpacks. The deadline is December 17th at 7:30pm. After that day there will be a \$5 late fee. Practice days and times are completely up to the volunteer coach. Games will be played on Saturday morning's beginning in January. If you have any questions please feel free to contact the POC. **And remember, we are always looking for volunteer coaches. POC is Brett Stewart, Program Director Junction City Family YMCA 785-762-4780 or email at bstewart.ymca@gmail.com Flyers are located on our Facebook page in the December album or at the YMCA.

Ugly Sweater 4 Mile Run/Walk on 18 Dec at 2pm - an event for the whole family to showcase their ugly Christmas sweaters. Join ASAP and MWR for this event to promote healthy choices. Prizes and refreshments will be provided. Also a golf cart will be available if you start the event and need help getting to the finish line! For more information please contact 785-240-6267.

****Just added** Yellow Ribbon Socials- December 18th from 6:00pm – 9:00pm** at the Purple Swirl Frozen Yogurt (in West loop Shopping Center). They will have their Holiday Party!!!! Wear your ugly Christmas sweater (or other accessory) and bring a dish!!! Any sort of dish- maybe what makes your hometown famous, or just what makes YOU famous!! Bring a dish!!! Keep in mind that they will have frozen yogurt available, so base what you bring on what we will already have available. For more information, please contact Alison Pulcher at (785)776-8829 ext 252. **Open to all Spouses who have Soldiers TDY, stationed at another base/post, etc.**

****Just added** OCSC December Monthly Luncheon (Dirty Santa Gift Exchange) 11am on 20 Dec at Riley's Conference Center.** This month we encourage you to take a break from the craziness of the season as listen to holiday music and enjoy the company of others. We will be playing a down and dirty games of Dirty Santa so don't forget to bring a wrapped gift of \$10 value. Gifts can be as traditional as a church cookbook or wacky as a garden gnome. They be gently used from your home, stellar Black Friday finds, homemade treasures or repurposed beauties. The great the variety of wrapped gifts the more fun it will be to play our game. Cost is \$15/person. Please RSVP to reservations@fortrileyocsc.com for more information on this group please check out their website at www.fortrileyocsc.com

****Updated** Middle School and Teen Center December Activities:** Winter Break Camp runs from 21 Dec to 4 Jan. For more information please contact 785-239-9222. See flyer located in the December and January photo albums on the BDE FaceBook page.

****Just added** Family Climb Time: Dec 21, Jan 18, & Feb 15, 2-4pm – FREE!** Are you craving Family fun during these winter days? Outdoor Recreation and Craig Fitness Center are teaming up to offer you an exciting escape from your regular routine. Trained staff will belay while you, your Family, and your friends climb on the wall. Pre-registration is required. Please contact ODR @785-239-2363 for more information or to register.

****Just added** Warrior Zone Activity: SOLSTICE PARTY on 21 Dec at 7pm.** Come celebrate the shortest day of the year at our first ever Solstice party! Food, tournaments, prizes and a little Viking lore, for more info please call WZ at 785-240-6618

Kansas City Chiefs still offering \$25 tickets available for **Sun 23 Dec against the Indianapolis Colts-** contact Sam Dearth at 816-920-4813 or via email at SDearth@Chiefs.nfl.com

Bowling with Santa will be from 11 a.m. to 9 p.m. Dec. 23 at Custer Hill Bowling Center. Santa will be on site from 1 to 5 p.m. for pictures and to hand out treats. For more information, call 785-239-4366.

****Just added** BOSS Free Bowling! BOSS Soldiers, we have a present for you from the Custer Hill Bowling Alley. Free Bowling with shoes anytime of the day from Dec 24-30.** See your BOSS reps for your FREE cards (must have them to present at time of Bowling) or you may also call 785-239-2677 to get a ticket.

Chapels at Fort Riley will be offering a variety of religious services throughout the holiday season. Main Post Chapel will offer a Christmas service from 10:30 to 11:30 a.m. Dec. 23. Advent Communal Penance service will be offered at 6 p.m. Dec. 18 at Morris Hill Chapel. A Children's Mass will be celebrated at 4:30 p.m. Dec. 24 at Morris Hill Chapel. A Midnight Mass will be celebrated at 12 a.m. Dec. 25 at St. Mary's Chapel. Christmas Mass will be celebrated at 9 a.m. Dec. 25 at Morris Hill Chapel and noon Dec. 25 at IACH Chapel. Liturgical service will be offered at 10 a.m. Dec. 25 at IACH Chapel. Additionally, the Orthodox congregation will celebrate the Christmas Divine Liturgy at 10 p.m. Dec. 24 at St. Mary Magdalene Orthodox Church, Manhattan. Morris Hill Chapel Gospel Service and Kapaun Chapel Contemporary Service will not offer any special holiday services.

****Reminder** Riley's Conference Center is currently waiving the room rental and service charge for holiday parties** between now and Dec. 31. Space is limited and filling up fast. Call 785-784-1000 for additional information

****Reminder** Commissary** will be closed Dec. 25 and Jan. 1, and it will close early at 5 p.m. Dec. 24. All other days, the Commissary will maintain its regular hours as follows: from 9 a.m. to 8 p.m., Monday to Saturday, with early bird hours from 7 to 9 a.m.; and from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Sundays. **Army and Air Force Exchange Service stores:** The Exchange will be closed Dec. 25. The Exchange will close early at 6 p.m. Dec. 24. The Exchange will maintain its regular hours from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. Dec. 31 and will be open holiday hours from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Jan. 1.

****Updated** Youth Sports Registration Dates:** Snow Tubing at Snow Creek in Kansas City, Dec 27th 1-10pm; Register by 21 December. Ice Skating at Crown center on 4 Jan, register by 28 Dec, Racquetball for Grades 6-12th Grade, register by 28 Dec for more information on these fun activities call 785-239-9885

****Just added** Warrior Zone Activity: World of War Craft Guild Play 27 Dec 6-10pm. For more info please call WZ at 785-240-6618**



**OFFICIAL WEBSITE OF THE
TOPEKA ROADRUNNERS**

South Division Regular Season Champs (07-08, 09-10, 10-11)
South Division Playoff Champs (07-08) • Regular Season League Champs (10-11)



****Just added** VetTix has partnered with them and are giving out donated tickets to military! More tickets have just been added for this Saturday, the 28th and the 29th of December!** To check out their schedule go to their official site of the Roadrunners at <http://topekaroadrunners.pointstreaksites.com/view/topekaroadrunners/the-official-home-of-topeka-roadrunners-hockey> and then join Vet Tix <http://www.vettix.org/> to get a great deal! Take the whole family to see some really good hockey!!!

****Just added** Warrior Zone Activity: Ring in 2013 on the 31st here at the ZONE! Free buffet and champagne toast at midnight. Tournaments, Live DJ, and more! Make the ZONE your on-post party place! For more info please call WZ at 785-240-6618.**

****Updated**** Custer Hill Bowling Center will host a New Year's Eve Bowling Party from 7 p.m. to 2 a.m. Dec. 31. The cost is \$15 per individual or \$100 for a lane for eight people. Tickets include entry, party favors, two bottles of sparkling juice per lane, breakfast buffet at 12:30 a.m. and door prize tickets. **Ticket prices will increase at the door, so advance purchase is recommended.** *Ticket includes entry, party favors, 2 bottles of sparkling juice per lane, breakfast buffet from 12:30am, and door prizes. Tickets will increase to \$18.50/person or \$150.00 per lane of 8 on 31 Dec. For more information, call 785-239-4366.*

****Just added**** **Manhattan Happenings: New Years Eve Event-** The Little Apple Ball Drop is almost here! And it's the biggest event in the area for holiday celebration. Join more than 10,000 people who will line the streets in and around Aggieville for festivities that start at 10:00 pm! There is a laser light show, music, presentations, and the dropping of the glass apple, much like what happens in the BIG apple. Space fills up QUICKLY so get out there early.

****Reminder**** Beginning 7 January 2013 Ft. Riley Child Youth and School Services will provide after school activity bus services from the following locations Monday – Friday to the Fort Riley Middle School and Teen program located at 5800 Thomas Ave. **Pick up times listed:** 1750 Freshman Academy, 1750 JC Middle School, 1800 JC High School Registration with CYSS is required as well as a transportation permission slip. All forms can be obtained http://rileymwr.com/main/?page_id=249 . Additionally in lieu of the winter bus service from Peterson Heights to the Fort Riley Middle School students may be dropped off at the bus stop at 5800 Thomas Ave to ride the bus to the Middle School. If you wish for your children to wait inside the Teen center for the bus and or have breakfast they will have to be enrolled in the morning care program. Call 239-9222 for pricing information. Youth awaiting transportation to the MS from the Teen center, will be allowed to wait inside the foyer from 0730 to the Pick Up time of 0740.

****Reminder**** **Picerne scholarship, grant applications available now:** Applications for the 2013 Our Future Scholarship and 2013 Educational Grant are now available at www.ourfamilyfoundation.org. The Foundation is committed to supporting military Families in the pursuit of higher education and has awarded more than \$3.5 million since 2006. **Applications for the Our Future Scholarship must be submitted by February 14, 2013**, and will be awarded to high school seniors with plans of attending a four-year university or college in the amount of up to \$50,000 each. The foundation will select 10 children of active-duty service members at Fort Riley, Fort Meade, Md.; Fort Bragg, N.C.; Fort Polk, La.; Fort Rucker, Ala.; Fort Sill, Okla.; and Aberdeen Proving Ground, Md., to receive the scholarships based on merit and need. Recipients of a scholarship will be notified by April 8, 2013. "We are honored to help military Families reach their educational goals, and we hope these scholarships help the children and spouses of active duty service members to reach higher," said Maria Montalvo, executive director. **Applications for 2013 educational grants must be submitted by May 9, 2013.** Grants are given in amounts up to \$5,000 for the spouse of an active-duty service member at the installations listed above. Applicants may be in any stage of the educational process. Recipients of a grant will be notified by July 12, 2013. Applications and all necessary paperwork for both the Our Future Scholarship and Educational Grant must be submitted by the due date in order to be considered. Awards for both the scholarship and grant are for use beginning in the fall of 2013. **Applications are available now at www.ourfamilyfoundation.org.** Please contact info@ourfamilyfoundation.org or 401-228-2836 with any questions about eligibility or

the application process. Our Family for Families First was established by John G. Picerne, president and CEO of Corvias Group and Picerne Military Housing, to support the spouses and children of active-duty service members assigned to Picerne Military Housing installations. Families **do not have to reside in on-post housing** in order to qualify for scholarships or grants. The Foundation also serves to further the primary mission of Picerne Military Housing – putting military Families First.

****Reminder** Scholarship Programs of the Fisher House Foundation:** Scholarships for military children will officially open 1 Dec. For more information go to www.militaryscholar.org ; several scholarships out there, also Spouse scholarships available.

Peace Forum & Youth Peace Project Exhibit: A call for youth artwork, videos, and written work about peace. The Rotary Peace Forum will be held at the School of Leadership Studies building on the Kansas State campus on Saturday, February 23rd. The peace forum provides an opportunity for community members to engage in dialogue about peace and develop an increased awareness of opportunities both locally and globally to promote peace through service. Children ages **6 to 25** are welcome to submit projects individually or as a group Accepted projects can include **written work, videos, and artwork**. All projects submitted will be subject to a selection process. Individuals whose projects are selected for the exhibition will be notified via e-mail and displayed in the KSU Leadership Studies Building. All projects submitted must be **original work and** submitted before **Friday, Jan. 25th**. For more information please go to their link at

<http://www.clubrunner.ca/portal/SitePages/SitePage.aspx?accountid=4397&pid=60361>

For application please go here: <http://www.clubrunner.ca/Data/5710/4397/HTML/182766//Youthpeaceprojectexhibitionnew2.pdf>

Welcome to the Military Community and Family Policy (MC&FP) Weekly eNewsletter providing you with access to the latest Quality of Life news and information from the Department of Defense and dates for upcoming Guard and Reserve onsite sales. The link below will open up the MC&FP Weekly eNewsletter in your browser. If the link below does not work, please copy and paste the entire link into your browser window. <http://apps.militaryonesource.mil/mcfp/weekly> You can now receive the MC&FP Weekly content and news in an RSS feed! Learn more about Military OneSource RSS feeds, and sign up today for the Weekly RSS feed by selecting the URL below: <http://www.militaryonesource.mil/rss> Your MC&FP Team! Military Community and Family Policy Office of the Secretary of Defense Providing policy, tools, and resources to further enhance the quality of life of service members and their families

As tax filing season approaches, you are invited to take advantage of these MOS services: Free Online Tax Filing: On 8 January 2013, Military OneSource (MOS) will launch the H&R Block At Home® free online tax filing service. Eligible users will be able to access the service through the MOS website, www.militaryonesource.mil , following login. There are many reasons to use this service: It employs a simple interview process to allow you to quickly complete your return. You may file your federal return and up to three state tax returns, and you do not have to complete a return at one session. H&R Block guarantees all calculations, and your returns are protected by industry-recognized security safeguards. Thus, this service can offer you peace of mind and save you both time and money. MOS Tax Consultants: All year long, you have access to MOS tax consultants by calling 1-800-342-9647. MOS tax consultants can help you maximize your refund. They can address tax-related questions regarding self-employment, divorce, capital gains, and deductions from your individual retirement account. They can also help you plan for next

year so as to avoid unexpected issues. All services are free and confidential. Tax-Related Articles: Articles on subjects such as tax benefits for parents; filing taxes when a service member is deployed; the earned income tax credit; and the estate tax; are available to print, download or share for free on the MOS website, www.militaryonesource.mil The attached article, "H & R Block Free Tax Filing Service," includes tips on how to access your W-2 from the Defense Finance and Accounting Service (DFAS), and also discusses who is eligible for MOS Tax Services



Coming Soon: H & R Block Free Tax Filing Service

REVIEWED DEC 2, 2012

To learn more about the H&R Block At Home® service, please see the FAQs. Please wait for the service to launch here at Military OneSource before trying to access your H&R Block account. The free offer is only valid through the Military OneSource site.

Reminders

- Be sure access to H&R Block software through the link provided on the Military OneSource website.
- Remember to wait until you receive all of your W-2s and other tax documents (1098 etc.) before you file your return. Otherwise, you may have to amend your return.
- Make sure you have your Adjusted Gross Income and Electronic Filing Pin from your 2011 tax return before you start your return. You can reset your pin at <http://www.irs.gov/Individuals/Electronic-Filing-PIN-Request>
- Remember that e-filing is subject to the IRS calendar. Though you maybe able to complete your return, it will not be submitted to the IRS until the IRS begins accepting e-file returns.
- If you are prompted for payment, please call Military OneSource for assistance.
- H&R Block free-file allows for 1 Federal and up to 3 state returns per user.

W2s

You may have access to W2s and other tax statements through your myPay account on the DFAS website www.dfas.mil. If you do not remember your login information for myPay, this would be a great time to update and re-access your account. Please note that:

- A schedule for when these tax statements will be available on myPay or mailed to your address, is usually posted on the DFAS website between mid-November and mid-December each year.
- Service members who have separated may also access myPay for a year after separation. Therefore, it is important to keep myPay login information available, as it will save time when you are ready to file your taxes.

DFAS 2012 Tax Statement Delivery Schedule

| Form/Document | Date available on myPay | Dates mailed via the U.S. Office |
|---|-------------------------|----------------------------------|
| Retiree Annual Statement (RAS) | Dec. 4, 2012 | Dec. 19, 2012 – Jan. 10, 2013 |
| Retiree 1099R | Dec. 13, 2012 | Dec. 19, 2012 – Jan. 10, 2013 |
| Annuitant Account Statement (AAS) | Dec. 15, 2012 | Dec. 19, 2012 – Jan. 10, 2013 |
| Annuitant 1099R | Dec. 15, 2012 | Dec. 19, 2012 – Jan. 10, 2013 |
| Active Duty Army, Navy, Air Force W-2 | Jan. 24, 2013 | Jan. 24-29, 2013 |
| Reserve Army, Navy, Air Force W-2 | Jan. 8, 2013 | Jan. 10-14, 2013 |
| Marine Corps Active & Reserve W-2 | Jan. 14, 2013 | Jan. 15-20, 2013 |
| Civilian employee W-2 (DoD/Non-DoD) | Jan. 5, 2013 | Jan. 8-12, 2013 |
| Military VSI/SSB W-2 * | Not available via myPay | Jan. 5-10, 2013 |
| Savings Deposit Program 1099INT | Jan. 22, 2013 | Jan. 22-23, 2013 |
| Vendor Pay 1099 | Not available via myPay | Jan. 20-31, 2013 |
| Vendor Pay MISC W-2 | Jan. 31, 2013 | Jan. 20-31, 2013 |
| Travel PCS W-2 ** | Jan. 31, 2013 | Jan. 20-31, 2013 |
| Army Non-Appropriated Fund Civilian Pay W-2 *** | Jan. 20, 2013 | Not available |

* Voluntary Separation Incentive/Special Separation Benefit

** Permanent Change of Station

*** Military non-appropriate fund civilian employees receive tax statements from their respective military service. Army NAF employee tax statements are made available via myPay.

Eligibility

The following individuals are eligible for the free tax filing service:

- All Active-duty service members of the U.S. Army, U.S. Marine Corps, U.S. Navy, and U.S. Air Force.
- National Guard and members of the Reserve (regardless of activation status), includes members of the Coast Guard Reserve activated as part of the Department of the Navy under Title 10 authority.
- Spouses and dependent children of eligible service members, and who are authorized in DEERS.
- A family member who is taking care of the affairs of an eligible service member when the service member is deployed.
- A severely injured service member of one of the services noted above, or a designated family member of a severely injured member who is incapable of handling his or her own affairs. Medically retired individuals are eligible until 180 days past their End of Tour of Service, retirement date, or discharge date.

Questions?

If you have questions about this tax service or about your own tax returns, please call 1-800-342-

9647 and ask to speak with a Military OneSource tax counselor. Trained tax counselors are currently available Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. to 10 p.m., EST.

Contact a Consultant Now: 1-800-342-9647

TTY/TDD: 1-866-607-6794

En español llame al: 1-877-888-0727

<https://www.militaryonesourceeap.org/achievesolutions/en/militaryonesource/>

Ft Riley Tax Center is tentatively set to open on 17 January 2013- will post more information as I receive it.

Check out these websites for more information or events going on: Ft Riley MWR <http://rileymwr.com/main/>

The 1st Infantry Division website <http://www.riley.army.mil/default.aspx>

More Social Media sites for Fort Riley can be located here! <http://www.riley.army.mil/NewsViewer.aspx?id=2873>

Reference herein to any specific commercial products, process, or service by trade name, trademark, manufacturer, or otherwise, does not necessarily constitute or imply its endorsement, recommendation, or favoring by the United States Government. The views and opinions of authors expressed herein do not necessarily state or reflect those of the United States Government, and shall not be used for advertising or product endorsement purposes.