

# COLYER MANOR NEWSLETTER

February 2012

Fort Riley, KS

One Company. One Mission. Families First.®

## From the Desk of Alison Birney Community Management Director

Many families are faced with the difficult decision of whether or not to stay at their duty station while their service member is deployed. Although several units have recently returned to Fort Riley from deployment, units are still scheduled to deploy in the near future which leaves a number of families wrestling with the very question of: to stay or to go?

The Picerne Military Housing team empathizes with our residents and the challenging and stressful decisions they must make. While every family situation and deployment experience is unique, we encourage our families to make decisions that are the best for their family. With that being said, our residents are our top priority and we understand that during a deployment is when we are needed most. For this reason, we provide many benefits to our residents. Should you choose to stay, here are some of the benefits you can look forward to from Picerne Military Housing:

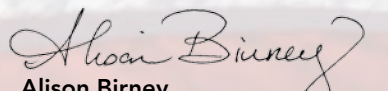
- **Resident Activities** – Regularly scheduled free events for residents that are held throughout the year.
- **Down Range Day Off** – Event geared towards spouses of deployed or unaccompanied Soldiers and typically includes free childcare (space available) and a special activity.
- **Neighborhood Centers** – Offer our families a variety of amenities including a club room, multi-purpose room, fitness center, outdoor pool, business center, media room and Wii café.
- **Picerne's "Honey-Do" Coupon Program** – Spouses of deployed Soldiers are entitled to one hour of non-routine maintenance assistance in the home for work the service member would normally perform, such as hanging a picture, moving a couch, etc.
- **Lawn Care** – Picerne provides a regularly scheduled grounds maintenance service for the convenience of the resident.
- **House Watch** – If you choose to go on vacation or visit family during the deployment, you can request a home check. Our friendly maintenance team will stop by your home to make sure everything is in working order while you are away.

- **Accessibility to On-Post Support Systems** – Fort Riley provides a great support system through Family Readiness Groups (FRG) and Army Community Service (ACS).
- **Community** – Staying at Fort Riley leaves your family in the care of a community that understands the special needs of families during deployments.

### Additional considerations include:

- If you move out of your on-post home, you are not guaranteed a home when you return.
- Housing both on and off post may not be immediately available when you return
- If on-post housing is not available, can you afford to live off-post? There are credit checks, security deposits, utilities and other incidentals that can become costly.
- It may be difficult on your children to take them out of school and place them in a new school.
- If you move off-post when you return, your children may be assigned to a new school district.
- If you leave, you may feel like an outsider when you return since you will have missed out on Family Readiness Group meetings and other local activities.
- The Army does not pay for you to move during a deployment, it will be an out of pocket expense to leave and to return to Fort Riley.
- The deployment time has shortened to nine months and the dwell time has been increased up to 24 months which is an appealing reason for families to stay.

As you plan for upcoming deployments, please allow your neighborhood team to support you by making contact with your Neighborhood Office. Living on post will greatly benefit your family throughout the deployment. Remember, Picerne Military Housing is here for you.

  
Alison Birney  
Community Management Director



## NEIGHBORHOOD OFFICE

### Neighborhood Manager

Linda Denning

### Assistant Manager

Kassie Mailhot

### Maintenance Supervisor

Dave Gingles

### Hours of Operation

M-F 8 a.m. to 6 p.m.  
SAT 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

### Address

3011 Craig Avenue

### Phone

(785) 717-2255

### Fax

(785) 717-2256

### Website

[www.rileypicerne.com](http://www.rileypicerne.com)

### E-Mail

[colyermanor@picernemh.com](mailto:colyermanor@picernemh.com)

## Our Family for Families First scholarship and grant applications available

Our Family for Families First, John G. Picerne's private charitable foundation, was established to support the educational goals of children and spouses of active-duty Service Members. College scholarships in the amount of up to \$50,000 for the children of active-duty Service Members and educational grants in the amount of \$5,000 are available each year for spouses of active-duty Service Members stationed at Aberdeen Proving Ground, Fort Polk, Fort Bragg, Fort Meade, Fort Rucker, Fort Riley and Fort Sill. Scholarship and grant applications for 2012 are available online at [www.ourfamilyfoundation.org](http://www.ourfamilyfoundation.org). Scholarship applications are due February 16, 2012 and grant applications are due May 17, 2012. Please review the information located on the web site for eligibility requirements and to learn more about the Our Family for Families First Foundation.

The Foundation is committed to supporting military families in the pursuit of higher education, instituting a tradition of community service and encouraging professional career paths through education, internships, and mentoring programs and has awarded more than \$3 million since 2006. It also serves to further the primary mission of Picerne Military Housing – putting military Families First™.

## GREEN CORNER

### TIP OF THE MONTH:

Did you know...up to 15 percent of the heat in your home can escape through unprotected windows? The following tips can help you conserve energy by simply using solar heat produced by the sun! During the winter, make the most out of sunlight by opening window coverings on south-facing windows to warm your home. Additionally, close window coverings at night and in rooms that do not receive direct sunlight. This will insulate the windows from cold drafts and aid your home in retaining heat.



## Friday, February 3

**Forsyth Neighborhood Center  
6 to 8 p.m.**

**Join us for an evening filled with fun, a variety of board games and activities for children of all ages, snacks and prize giveaways!**

**Children must be accompanied by an adult.**



## On-post solicitation information

Solicitation is restricted to specific times and locations designated by battalion or company commanders. Solicitation is not authorized in any housing areas; recreation service facilities including libraries, recreation centers and dayrooms; Riley's Conference Center; Rally Point; Warrior Zone or in areas other than locations specifically designated by battalion or separate company commanders. Additionally, businesses are not authorized to sell door-to-door.

If you witness any unauthorized solicitation on the installation or in your neighborhood, you can submit a written report to the Solicitation Office in Building 253 Cameron Avenue on Main Post during the hours of 7 a.m. – 12 p.m. and 1 – 5 p.m., Monday through Friday. The office is closed on garrison resilience days off. After hours reports can be made through the Fort Riley Police Department at 785-239-6767.



## Don't let this happen in your home!

Protect your belongings by following a few simple steps during the winter months:

- Disconnect hoses from all outside water faucets.
- If you plan on leaving your home for an extended period of time, keep the heat on to prevent pipes from freezing. Leave your thermostat set between 60 and 65 degrees.

In extremely cold weather follow these guidelines:

- Open cabinet doors under the bathroom and kitchen sinks to let warm air from your home circulate around the pipes.
- Turn on faucets to a slow trickle to help prevent pipes from freezing.
- If a pipe freezes, open the cold water faucet nearest the frozen pipe to relieve the pressure of expanding ice that may cause a pipe to burst.

If you are planning a vacation or extended time away from your home, register with your Neighborhood Office for Home Watch. When you register your home, the Neighborhood team will make a routine check of the property and can take appropriate actions if needed.

## New Playgroup at Normandy Drive CDC

CYSS is offering an indoor playgroup for children from birth through 5 years old in Building B of the Normandy Drive Child Development Center (CYSS Central Registration Complex). The playgroup will be held Monday - Thursday from 9 – 11 a.m. The playgroup is an open play format with no specific structure, but has an emphasis on gross motor skills (i.e. free play, building blocks, bicycles, etc). A CYSS staff member will be available onsite for any assistance required by parent or child. Parents must stay with their children and be in direct eye contact with them at all times.

To participate, children must be registered with CYSS. If your child is not registered with CYSS, you can go to the main CYSS building and register him/her; however, current shot records are required for registration. For any additional information, please contact CYSS by calling 785-239-9885.

If you have any suggestions on making this group better, you are welcome to attend the Parent Advisory Council (PAC) meetings on the third Thursday of each month at 4:30 p.m. at the CYSS main registration building.

## Scoop the Poop



**Clean Shoes 🐾 Clean Paws 🐾 Clean Yards  
Happy Neighbors!**



## Get Paid • Catch Rays • Save Lives



Are you looking for a fun, summer job? Are you a certified lifeguard? Picerne is looking for lifeguards to work at our neighborhood pools this summer. Our lifeguards provide assistance and assure the safety of our residents while visiting neighborhood pools.

Duties of a lifeguard include maintaining safety around the pool by enforcing the rules and regulations, supervising all activity at the pool, maintaining the pool area and assisting with other duties.

If you are interested or would like more information about the lifeguard positions, contact Jeremy Brown at 785-717-2236 or 785-223-2851 or scan the QR code to the right with your mobile device. If you do not have a QR scanner on your phone, you can search for the application in the App Store on your mobile device to download a reader.



[www.rileypicerne.com/aquatics](http://www.rileypicerne.com/aquatics)

# FEBRUARY

SUNDAY MONDAY TUESDAY WEDNESDAY THURSDAY FRIDAY SATURDAY

	Trash Day (3100-3150)	Trash Day (3000-3069)				Family Game Night 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. Forsyth NHC	
			1	2	3	4	
Super Bowl XLVI	Trash Day (3100-3150)	Trash Day (3000-3069)			Sweet Heart Dinner and Dance – Riley's	Sweet Heart Dinner and Dance – Riley's	
5	6	7	8	9	10	11	
	Trash Day (3100-3150)	Valentine's Day Trash Day (3000-3069)			USD 475 No School		
12	13	14	15	16	17	18	
Guess What Your Mate Will Say - Riley's	Presidents' Day Trash Day (3100-3150)	Trash Day (3000-3069) Spring Landscape Cleanup	Spring Landscape Cleanup		Women's Conference -Riley's		
19	20	21	22	23	24	25	
	Trash Day (3100-3150)	Trash Day (3000-3069)		March	All Picerne Offices closed 11 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.		
26	27	28	29	1	2	3	