

Sill summer concerts tops across Army

Did you know keeping an Army ready to fight and to win takes more than hard work and training?

Fort Sill's Family and Morale, Welfare and Recreation takes great pride in providing quality of life programs that include great concert events for our Soldiers, family members, retirees and the surrounding community.

Fort Sill has a solid reputation, both within the Army and the music industry, as a leader in concert production. We proudly boast that Fort Sill is ranked as one of the best installations Armywide when it comes to

producing the Army Concert series.

Because of our success, it has become a tradition for us to host the Army Concert Series around the Fourth of July holiday. The event is our largest fundraiser in support of FMWR programs.

The concert series has brought many genres of music, including artists such as Reba McIntyre, Alabama, Destiny's Child, Willie Nelson, John Michael Montgomery, Ted Nugent, Toby Keith, Tim McGraw, Dirks Bentley, Trace Adkins, REO Speedwagon, Charlie Daniels, Montgomery



Did you know?

By Col. Paul Hossenlopp
Fort Sill Garrison commander

Gentry, Lynyrd Skynyrd, and the O'Jays. Extensive market research and concert attendance has shown that country music fares extremely well in Southwest Oklahoma, and has consistently had the largest number of attendees. This allows the installation to meet the financial objectives needed to continue to participate in

the tour. Hosting a concert is a major undertaking, financially and with manpower requirements.

The annual Independence Day weekend Army Concert Tour is designed to generate funds for the installation FMWR fund and offer participating installations the opportunity to book talent at a minimal investment.

Each participating instal-

lation's financial performance is analyzed by the Army Entertainment Division. Funds generated from the concert stay at Fort Sill to support Soldier and family programs, and help fund other events throughout the year that do not generate a profit.

Unfortunately, the annual fireworks display that usually follows our concert is canceled this year because of the countywide burn ban. This was a tough decision for the commanding general to make, but we must be good neighbors and having a fireworks display while

there is a burn ban just doesn't make sense.

Mark your calendars Saturday for this exciting concert featuring Miranda Lambert, Merle Haggard and Stoney LaRue. Parking is on Conklin Field (inside Gate 2), and entry to Polo Field begins at 6 p.m. The concert begins at 6:20 p.m.

To reach me

To send questions or comments to me, please mail your comments to Commander, USAG-Fort Sill, 462 Hamilton Road, Suite 120, Fort Sill, OK 73503.

Thanks and have a great Fort Sill day.

Concert

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can deliver just that for these heroes," she said.

Opening the show at 6:20 p.m. is LaRue, whose live single, "Oklahoma Breakdown" topped the Texas charts for more than four weeks, and drew Red Dirt fan support and interest into LaRue's

musical talents and artistry. In the country music world, LaRue is known as a charismatic performer with flawless vocals.

Haggard has changed the sound of country music with his songwriting and singing for the common folks. More than 40 of his singles have reached No. 1 in major trade magazines. Three of his songs, "Today I Started Loving You Again," "Okie From Muskogee" and

"Big City," have logged more than 1 million plays.

Ride-and-Drive promotion

Family and Morale, Welfare and Recreation teamed up with the Fort Sill Main Exchange to host the Ride-and-Drive promotion at the Exchange parking lot Friday from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. in support of the Army Concert Tour Saturday.

The event offers the military

community an opportunity to get behind the wheel of a wide variety of Chevrolet vehicles. Each driver will receive a GM T-shirt and backpack. Drivers can sign up for a chance to win two VIP tickets to the concert or several general admission tickets to the concert. Winners do not have to be present to win. The 2010 Military Tribute Camaro will also be on display.

GM Military Discount, a program designed to offer GM vehicles at discounted prices, is the supporting sponsor for the concert. Military members who register on GMmilitarydiscount.com are eligible to receive substantial discounts on the purchase of new vehicles at GM dealerships.

For more information, call 442-2025.

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