

Construction explodes across post

Did you know all Fort Sill Garrison employees are required to attend one of the State of the Garrison meetings?

Meeting dates are June 8, 10-11:30 a.m. and 1-2:30 p.m.; and June 9, 1-2:30 p.m. all at the Religion Support Operations Center.

Fort Sill is currently in an exciting time in the long and impressive history of this fine installation.

I'd like to briefly update you on what has happened, what is happening and what we are planning to have happen here in the areas of construction, support to families and Soldiers, and improvements in services across the installation.

Although this article will be brief, this subject is also on the agenda at our next scheduled Quarterly Live Town Hall June 3 from 5-6:30 p.m. Please watch for more information on the exact time and date in future editions of the Cannoneer.

Military construction

Fort Sill is in the middle of almost \$450 million in Base Realignment and Closure construction projects.

I am proud to say we are almost complete and every planned BRAC construction project is either complete or in some phase of construction.

The \$210 million Air Defense Artillery School campus is complete. This state of the art facility is just west of Henry Post Army Airfield and boasts three very large general instruction facilities, a complex of barracks that can house more than 850 Soldiers and can surge to house more than 1,200 Soldiers and a new Tactical Equipment Maintenance Facility. A brand new dining facility is included on the campus, along with a large outdoor training area that enables ADA operations to occur simultaneously.

Other BRAC projects include the just-opened 31st ADA Brigade Headquarters and two battalion headquarters buildings for 3-2nd ADA Battalion and 4-3 ADA Battalion. This \$132 million

dollar project is nearing completion with the three headquarters buildings already handed over to the units and the company operations facilities and motor pools to follow shortly.

Other ongoing projects include the Joint Fires Effects Training System, which is a state of the art simulator that will allow the joint team to train as if they were in Afghanistan or Iraq.

A brand new Armed Forces Reserve Center is under construction on the corner of Sheridan Road and Mow-Way Road. This impressive, four-building structure, will house both U.S. Army Reserve and Oklahoma National Guard units. Once completed seven National Guard armories and eight reserve centers will close in Oklahoma, consolidating those units into this facility.

In addition to BRAC projects, Fort Sill has other Military Construction, Army (MCA) projects, both on-going and planned. The rehabilitation of our trainee barracks continues in a \$170 million dollar project which will rehabilitate our five trainee barracks, or what we call starships.

Along with this rehabilitation we are in the midst of building two mega-dining facilities, which, when completed, will have a capacity to feed 2,400 Soldiers each in support of our basic training mission.

Also on the east side of the installation, we are planning the construction of a new chapel, which is planned to have a capacity of 1,200.



Did you know?

By Col. Raymond Lacey
Fort Sill Garrison commander

Other exciting MCA projects are a new Advanced Individual Training complex to be constructed just south of Frontier Chapel for our field artillery AIT Soldiers.

A new fitness center is planned just south of Truman Education Center to help ease some of the overcrowding we are experiencing in our current fitness centers. A Warrior Training Unit complex is scheduled to start in the near future and we are building a \$65 million single Soldiers

a 232 capacity, state-of-the-art facility.

Soon to start construction is a new youth center, which will be built just north of New Post Chapel at the sight of the former Post Movie Theater, for those of you that may remember that structure across from Prichard Field.

Improvements are planned for the Fort Sill Golf Course adding lights for our driving range and our hope is to eventually light the front

ment and dining options on the installation.

Our housing partner, Picerne Military Housing will complete the administrative aspects of financial closing process May 28. Approximately 90 days later they will begin construction on our 432 new homes in Buffalo Soldier Acres. Buffalo Soldier Acres is on the south end of post between Fort Sill Boulevard and Sheridan Road on what once was Cedar Lakes Golf Course. The initial work will install necessary utilities and roads. The plan is to start seeing houses about a year after the ground work starts. Also, part of the closing is monies to renovate the majority of our existing homes. The detailed plan on

ther from the new Burger King. This almost-10,000 square foot facility will have a sandwich shop, shoppette and gas station. Construction is scheduled to begin in December.

The current Sheridan Road Shoppette on the corner of Mow-Way Road and Sheridan Boulevard will be expanded to almost twice its size with improved facilities. This project is scheduled to begin in December 2011 after the new complex is complete.

Future projects AAFES is considering are expanding the current Main Post Exchange, expanding the Fort Sill Boulevard Shoppette and expanding the Quarry Hill PX offerings in the basic combat training area.

In summary, I have tried briefly to give you an overview of the expansion and transformation occurring here at Fort Sill.

In our town hall meeting, I will try to provide more detail and answer questions you may have. There are many more projects and improvements occurring everyday on post and many more planned.

My hope is to have the three-mile track repaved by the end of the summer. Improvements to signage throughout the installation are on-going, with special emphasis on those locations our Soldiers and families visit initially and often as they conduct business on the installation. We have named these "Touch Points."

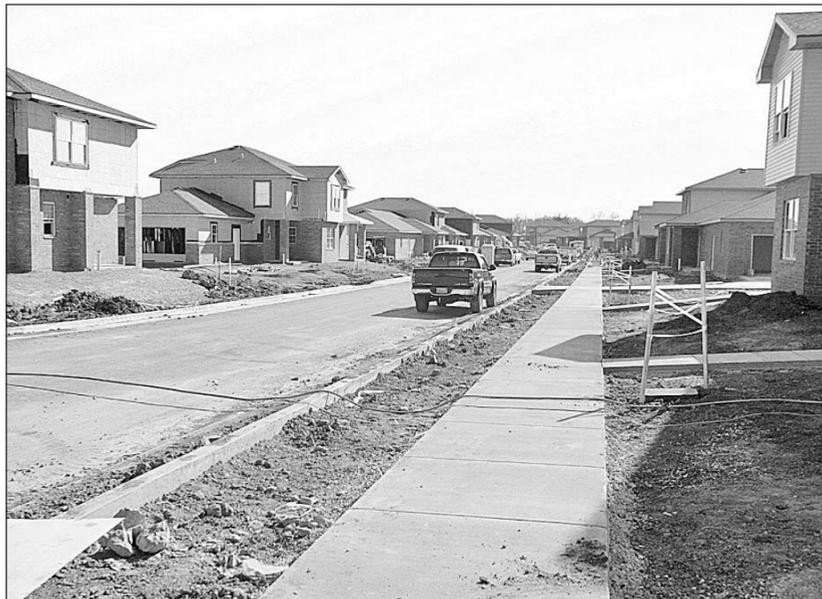
I hope this gives you a little clearer picture of what is going on and my thanks goes out to all of the members of Team Sill for making this all happen.

To reach me

To send questions or comments to me, please e-mail fscoms@conus.army.mil or you can 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.

Team Sill-Oklahoma PRIDE.



File photo by Keith Pannell

In this file photo from 2007, contractors work to finish the Patriot Estates housing on time. In about four months, Picerne Family Housing is scheduled to begin construction on the next phase of new housing, called Buffalo Soldier Acres, on what used to be called Cedar Lakes Golf Course, south of Building 4700.

complex along Sheridan Road.

Support to families

We are nearing completion of our third child development center. This facility will increase our total capacity on post to 588 slots for our children. The new CDC is expected to open Sept. 1 and will be

nine holes on the course to enable extended play.

A 1,200-person capacity tent is planned near to the Patriot Club. The hope is this tent will allow the club to host larger unit and community events and entertainment such as bands, to continue to improve entertain-

ment and dining options on the installation. The existing structure will be demolished and a new dual food structure will be built a little further east to enable more parking and a longer drive-through. Construction is planned to start in June.

Also planned is a new shoppette/gas station which will also be located on Sheridan Road, a little fur-

the Cannoneer

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