

640th RTI



Utah National Guard

Commander's Corner

“My fondest professional memories are those of serving along with your Soldier “

I'm thrilled beyond expectation with recent Family Assistance activities; most recently, our Holiday Spouse Party and then the Christmas family lunch where we had Family photos with Santa. I hope you felt welcome and were able to make contact with new people.

On March 10th at 5:00 PM the FRG will be hosting a Pinewood Derby contest and Silent Cake Auction for you and your kids. Look for details herein. Thank you, again, to our volunteers for sponsoring these unique activities!

If you didn't know about past activities here's how to fix that. I'm asking that you please give your contact information to my Family Assistance Volunteers whose contact information is listed herein. We want you informed of all key events, but more importantly we want to be able to contact you individually in emergencies. We will add you to our emergency "calling tree" which will allow a Family Assistance volunteer to get a hold of you rapidly in emergencies, and to keep in touch with you personally. Ask your Soldier if he or she provided that information at January drill. If not, call Mrs. Summer Montgomery and give her your phone number and preferred social media contact information. We will protect it as an official document and never use it for anything other than assisting and informing you.

This is my last Commander's Corner. My last National Guard drill is this June. I've greatly enjoyed my 33 years of Utah National Guard service, especially these two years commanding the 640th Regiment (RTI). My fondest professional memories are those of serving along with your Soldier and meeting with you. I hope you and your Soldier feel great satisfaction in your Utah National Guard affiliations, and that it is a springboard for you!

COL Edward Gundersen

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Upcoming Events:

March 10 **Pinewood Derby and Silent Cake Auction**

Message from the FRG

Hello Everyone,

I hope that you all had a wonderful holiday season. I would like to thank all that came out and supported our Christmas party. We had a wonderful turnout and the pictures that were taken of your families with Santa are priceless.

We have a lot of fun activities planned for this year and we are looking for volunteers that are willing to help. We need lots of help with the upcoming Pinewood Derby and Cake Auction. It is going to take place on the 10th of March at 5 pm. (See attached flyer) We need people that would be willing to help with registration, car and cake judging, along with set up and take down. This is going to be a great family fun night and we are so excited!!! This is a great chance for the entire family to put their creativity and racing skills to the test.

The FRG is looking for anyone willing to volunteer in any capacity throughout the year. Opportunities include fundraising, party planning and organization, even set-up and take down, food preparation for fundraisers and other activity. We are trying really hard to take care of our families, and we can't do that without your help.

I am really enjoying this opportunity that I have to be your FRG leader ,and I am here for anyone that needs any help or support. Please call or email if you have any question or would like to volunteer.

Summer Montgomery

435-862-9840

sumwhere828@hotmail.com

State to focus on earthquake preparedness in 2012

Caleb Warnock - Daily Herald

Posted: Sunday, January 1, 2012 12:30 am

State officials are gearing up to make 2012 a statewide year of earthquake preparedness.

For the first time in history, a statewide earthquake drill will be held. At 10:15 a.m. on April 17, hundreds of thousands of Utahns will run to get under a desk or table and then hold on. The event is voluntary, and already 400,000 people have signed up to participate. The state has set a goal to get at least a quarter of the state's population, 700,000 people, in on the drill.

"This is the culmination of a lot of smaller exercises that have happened," Joe Dougherty, spokesman for the Utah Division of Emergency Management. "It takes a couple of years to get to this place. It's not like we have any secret information that an earthquake is going to happen, but we are always trying to be prepared."

The majority of those signed up to participate are school children. BYU has signed up, as have all three Utah county school districts. But the state would like everyone to get on board.

"We are asking schools, families, businesses, government, volunteer organizations, faith-based organizations, Scouts, universities," he said. "We want the entire state to get prepared."

To that end, the state is encouraging families and individuals to make preparedness a resolution for the new year.

"Why not resolve to be ready in 2012," he said. "Start coming up with your community plan. Start building your emergency kit. Make that your resolution this year."

He encouraged people to check the state's website, shakeout.org/utah, and if your city is not already signed up, encourage your elected officials to get your whole city on board.

Committing to participate in the statewide drill is a good start, he said. But it is not enough.



"We need people to create a culture of preparedness," he said.

"It is not just earthquakes. Flooding is much more common. People need to be prepared for winter storms and extended power outage. They just need to start and do something."

Officials are encouraging everyone to follow Be Ready Utah on either Facebook or Twitter or both. For more information, visit shakeout.org/utah and beready.utah.gov.

Earthquake facts

- In a magnitude 7.0 earthquake, Provo could sustain \$14 billion of damage to buildings, with 48,000 displaced families and 3,000 dead.
- The Wasatch Front has an average for three earthquakes every year with a magnitude 3.0 or less, and one quake every 50 years of magnitude 6.0.
- In the event of a major quake, access to cash, ATMs and online banking is likely to be limited. Grocery stores and pharmacies are likely to be closed or unable to restock.
- Homeowner's insurance policies do not cover earthquake losses. Homeowners can purchase separate earthquake policies, but few in Utah have.

Preparing Your Family For an Earthquake

The Plan

- Stock up on at least a three-day supply of food, water, clothes, medical supplies and other necessary equipment for everyone in your family. Make sure everyone knows where to find them.
- Decide where and when to reunite your family should you be apart when an earthquake happens.
- Choose a person outside the immediate area to contact if family members are separated. Long distance phone service will probably be restored sooner than local service. Do not use the phone immediately after the earthquake.
- Know the policies of the school or daycare center your children attend. Make plans to have someone pick them up if you are unable to get them.
- If you have a family member that does not speak English, prepare an emergency card written in English indicating that persons identification, address and any special needs such as medication or allergies. Tell that person to keep the card with him/her at all times.
- Conduct Earthquake: Duck, Cover & Hold drills every six months with your family.
- Know the safest place in each room because it will be difficult to move from one room to another during an earthquake.
- Locate the shutoff valves for water, gas and electricity. Learn how to shut off the valves before a quake. If you have any questions, call your utility company.

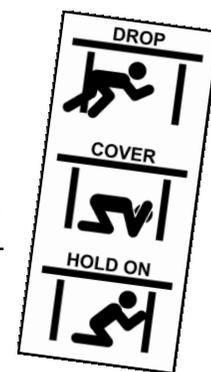
nals are stored safely.

- Before a quake occurs, call your local Red Cross chapter and Office of Emergency Services to find out about their plans for emergency shelters and temporary medical centers in case of such a disaster.
- Establish all the possible ways to exit your house. Keep those areas clear.
- Know the locations of the nearest fire and police stations.
- Take photos and/or videos of your valuables. Make copies and keep them in another city or state.
- Include your babysitter and other household help in your plans.
- Keep an extra pair of eyeglasses and house and car keys on hand.
- Keep extra cash and change. If electricity is out, you will not be able to use an ATM.

When preparing for an earthquake, plan on having enough supplies to get you and your family through at least the first 72 hours. After a major earthquake, there's a good chance that traditional emergency response teams will be too busy to take care of you and your family. You need to prepare your home and neighborhood.

General Tips

- Stay away from heavy furniture, appliances, large glass panes, shelves holding objects, and other large decorative masonry, brick or plaster such as fireplaces.
- Keep your hallway clear. It is usually one of the safest places to be during an earthquake.
- Stay away from kitchens and garages, which tend to be the most dangerous places because of the many items kept there.



- Make copies of vital records and keep them in a safe deposit box in another city or state. Make sure origi-



The 640th Regiment Family Readiness Group Presents The First Annual Pinewood Derby and Silent Cake Auction

Who: All Soldiers and their Dependents

When: March 10th @ 1700 .

Where: 640th RTI TASS Drill Floor

Pinewood Derby Entry Donation: \$5.00 per car (no car limit per family)

Pinewood Derby Prizes will be awarded to the youth by age group, Soldier, Spouse, and an overall winner.

Prizes will also be awarded to various cake categories.

Other prizes will be awarded to a variety of categories upon the completion of the Derby and Cake Auction.

Pinewood Derby

Rules:

BSA Rules will be in affect to allow cars to be used again.

Helpful Links:

http://meritbadge.org/wiki/index.php/Pine-wood_Derby_Official_Rules

<http://pinewoodderby.org>

For more information or for volunteer opportunities or RSVP please contact:

Summer Montgomery @ 435-862-9840

sumwhere828@hotmail.com



Silent cake auction will occur immediately after the Pinewood Derby.



Summer Montgomery

Family Readiness Group Leader
 sumwhere828@hotmail.com
 435-862-9840

Ami Bruce

Family Readiness Support Assistant
 Ami.bruce@us.army.mil
 801-432-4200
 801-599-5860

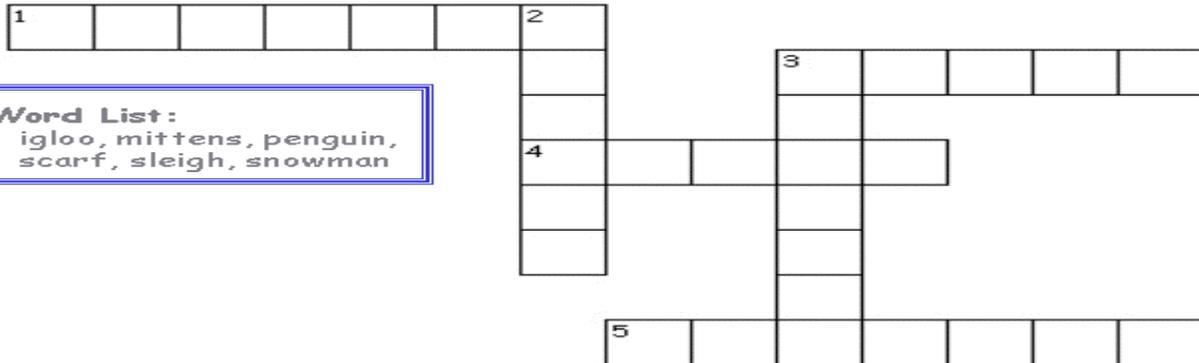
Laura Roberts

Family Assistance Center Specialist
 Laura.j.roberts1@us.army.mil
 801-878-5037
 801-913-0620

Military One Source	www.militaryonesource.com 1-800-342-9647	A 24/7 resource for military members, spouses, and families.
American Red Cross	www.redcross.org	Financial and counseling assistance available to active duty, guard, reserve, and veteran personnel.
Guard Family Program	www.jointservicessupport.org	Offers tips and information for military families.
Military Wives	www.militarywives.com	Connection and support for military spouses and loved ones.
Military Kidz	www.militarykidz.com	A fun online resource for kids to learn and play.
The Family Support Center	www.familysupportcenter.org	Parent education classes, counseling, crisis nurseries, parent advocate program and more.
Tutoring	www.tutor.com	Free tutoring!

Kids Corner

Winter Crossword



Word List:

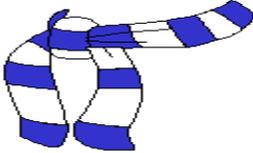
igloo, mittens, penguin,
scarf, sleigh, snowman

Across

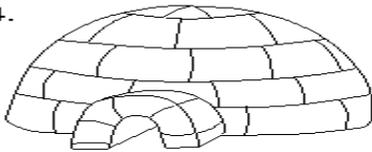
1.



3.



4.

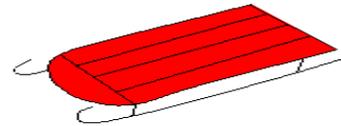


5.



Down

2.



3.



Riddle Time.....

Where do snowmen keep their money?

In a snow bank.

