

Real-life military officer stars in film *Battleship*



Submitted by Maggie Birchmeier, Hospitality team member

The 2012 film *Battleship* features U.S. Army colonel, Gregory D. Gadson. Gadson was stationed at Fort Riley as a colonel in the early 2000s. The film will be shown in Grosh Cinema Saturday, Dec. 23.

Gregory D. Gadson was born Feb. 19, 1966. He is a retired colonel in the United States Army and the former garrison commander of the U.S. Army Fort Belvoir. He is also a bilateral above-the-knee amputee, occasional actor, and motivational speaker. He served in the U.S. Army for more than 20 years as a field artillery officer and served on active duty for Operations Desert Shield and Desert Storm, Operation Joint Forge, Operation Enduring Freedom, and Operation Iraqi Freedom.

In 1989, Gadson graduated from the United States Military Academy at West Point, New York. He also holds a master's degree in information systems from Webster University and a master's degree in policy management from Georgetown University. He is a graduate of the Command and General Staff College and the Advanced Field Artillery Officers Course and

in 2010, he became an Army War College Fellow at the Institute of World Politics in Washington, D.C.

Gadson played football at West Point between 1985 and 1988, wearing the No. 98 jersey and serving as co-captain. In 2007, he was present when the New York Giants beat the Washington Redskins at FedEx Field at the invitation of West Point classmate Mike Sullivan, who was then on the coaching staff of the New York Giants. This win was the beginning of a 10-game road winning streak and came after Gadson had made an inspirational speech to the team. The streak culminated in the Giants winning Super Bowl XLII and in recognition for his contribution, Gadson received a specially minted Super Bowl ring. Gadson has since remained with the team as a motivational speaker.

In 2012, Gadson made his acting debut in *Battleship*, an American science fiction naval war film as Lieutenant Colonel Mick Canales, playing a war veteran who regains his appetite for the fight when Oahu is threatened by an alien attack. Director Peter Berg, having seen news articles about Gadson, decided to cast him as an army officer trying to recover from the loss of his legs.

Christmas Dinner reservations open

Reservations are now open for Christmas dinner. Staggered seating times will be available between 11 a.m. and 2 p.m. Monday, Dec. 25, in Prairie Star Restaurant. The cost is \$16 per adult and \$8 per child. The menu includes:

Starter: Choice of shrimp bisque, Lettuce tossed with artichoke hearts & roasted yellow pepper with ranch dressing or tossed greens with a choice of dressing

Entrée: Choice of roast prime rib au jus & horseradish, grilled raspberry chicken or grilled salmon with dill sauce

Sides: Choice of rice pilaf or smoked gouda scalloped potatoes

Vegetable: asparagus & broccoli medley

Dessert: choice of egg nog snickerdoodle cheesecake or apple tart with caramel

A boxed dinner option will be offered for the evening meal. The boxed dinners must be picked up by 4 p.m. Christmas Day.

Sign up for both meal opportunities at the host stand in Prairie Star Restaurant. Please contact Brook Marcotte, Dining Services Leader, at 323-3821 with questions.

Resident Committee Sign Up

Resident Committee sign-ups for 2018 are now open. Existing committees include Art Committee, Messenger Delivery Committee, Messenger Preparation Committee, Building and Grounds Committee, Library Committee and Ambassador Committee.

The roster for each committee is available in the Blue Book located at the Hospitality Desk. Additional spaces are provided for new members to add their names. If you would like to remove yourself from a committee, simply cross your name out. Please complete this by the end of the day Sunday, Dec. 31.

Once sign-ups close, the committee chair will contact all new members regarding meeting times and responsibilities. Please contact Monte Spiller at 323-3801 with questions.

Line Dancing

Thursday, Dec. 14, at 7 p.m.

Line Dancing starts at 7 p.m. today, Dec. 14 in the Community Room with Jayme Minton,

Support Services Director. No prior sign up is necessary.

For the first class, Jayme will lead the Electric Slide and Cupid Shuffle. The second session will meet Thursday, Dec. 21, and will cover Achy Breaky Heart.

Caroler Performance

Friday, Dec. 15, at 2 p.m.

You're invited to enjoy carols performed by students from the Flint Hills Christian School at 2 p.m. Friday, Dec. 15, in the Community Room. All are welcome.

Meadowlark Singers Winter Concert

Friday, Dec. 15, at 7 p.m.

The Meadowlark Singers invite you to their Winter Concert at 7 p.m. Friday, Dec. 15, in the Community Room. The singers, led by Jane Boys, will entertain you with an evening of great singing and fellowship!

Cranmer's Anniversary Party, NEW TIME

Saturday, Dec. 16, at 2 p.m.

You're invited to celebrate with Bob and Carla Cranmer for their 60th Wedding Anniversary at 2 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 16, in the Community Room. Refreshments will be served and cards are welcome.

Vespers Services

Sunday, Dec. 17, at 7 p.m.

The Vespers services will be led by Rev. Kent Dorsey and Special Music from First Christian Church. Vespers service will begin at 7 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 17, in the Community Room. All are welcome.

Shopping Trip

Wednesday, Dec. 20, at 10 a.m.

Take advantage of the complimentary transportation to local shopping centers. Transportation will travel to Dillons and Walmart at 10 a.m. Wednesday, Dec. 20, departing from the Village Entrance. Please register in the Blue Book to participate.

Parkinson's Partners Luncheon

Friday, Dec. 22, at 12 p.m.

Those affected by Parkinson's disease are invited

to join the Meadowlark Parkinson's Program for an informal lunch and fellowship at noon Friday, Dec. 22, in the Community Room. Please sign up in the Blue Book by Monday, Dec. 18. Cost for the lunch is \$9, plus tax.

Parkinson's Exercise Class and Care Partners Support Group will follow the luncheon at 1 p.m. Exercise class will meet in the Community Room and the Care Partners Group will meet in the Living Room. Please contact Michelle at 323-3899 with questions.

Do Right Daddies

Friday, Dec. 22, at 7 p.m.

Back by popular demand—the Do Right Daddies are coming to Meadowlark Hills! You're invited to see some of Meadowlark's own perform. The Do Right Daddies, Dave Zervas and Karl Zervas, will perform at 7 p.m. Friday, Dec. 22, in the Community Room.

If you've never experienced the Do Right Daddies do their thing, then mark your calendars to attend!

KSU Bowl Game Watch Party

Tuesday, Dec. 26, at 8 p.m.

The Kansas State Wildcats will take on the Bruins on UCLA in the Cactus Bowl Tuesday, Dec. 26. The Watch Party will start at 7:30 p.m. with refreshments in the Game Room. Kick-off is at 8 p.m.

Tommy Lee

Friday, Dec. 29, at 7 p.m.

Saxophonist Tommy Lee will perform at 7 p.m. Friday, Dec. 29, in the Community Room. Tommy has been playing in the Manhattan area since 1949 and is a familiar face at Meadowlark. Tommy will be entertaining as a one-man band, so stop by the Community Room to see the show!



LUNCH SPECIALS

Monday to Friday, 7 a.m. to 4 p.m.
Saturday & Sunday, 7 to 11 a.m.

Monday, Dec. 18

Grilled Ham & Cheese with Choice of Side
*ham, American and cheddar cheese on your choice of
toasted white or wheat bread*
\$3.99 / \$5.99

Tuesday, Dec. 19

Cheesy Chicken Melt with Choice of Side
*shredded chicken, cream cheese & cheddar cheese
melted together inside an everything bagel*
\$3.99 / \$5.99

Wednesday, Dec. 20

Philly Cheesesteak with Choice of Side
*deli sliced roast beef, swiss cheese and sautéed
peppers and onions on your choice of toasted white
or wheat bread*
\$3.99 / \$5.99

Thursday, Dec. 21

White Chicken Chili with Cornbread Muffin
*shredded chicken, great northern beans & onions
in a creamy soup served with a cornbread muffin*
\$3.99 / \$5.99

Friday, Dec. 22

Quesadilla Day
*your choice of cheese, chicken or steak with veggies
from the salad bar inside a crispy flour tortilla*
\$4 / \$5 / \$6

PRAIRIE STAR RESTAURANT

Extended Hours
Monday to Friday, 7 a.m. to 8 p.m.
Saturday, 9 a.m. to 8 p.m. Sunday, 9 a.m. to 7 p.m.

All specials include beverage, starter and dessert.
 An extra vegetable can be substituted for the starch at no additional charge.
 The restaurant can accept up to four reservation per time, depending on party size.
 Reservations can be made in person or by calling 323-3820.

SUNDAY	Dec. 17 ~ Lunch \$12	Dinner \$12
	Ranch Cornflake Chicken Roasted Red Potatoes Vegetable du Jour	Spaghetti & Meat Sauce Garlic Toast Vegetable du Jour
MONDAY	Dec. 18 ~ Lunch \$10	Dinner \$12
	Meatball Sub Sandwich French Fries Choice of Vegetable	Stuffed Pork Tenderloin with Spinach & Portobello Mushrooms Wild Rice Vegetable du Jour
TUESDAY	Dec. 19 ~ Lunch \$7	Dinner \$13
	Taco Bar <i>(does not include drink, starter, or dessert)</i>	Braised Beef Brisket with Bordelaise Sauce Potato Pancake Vegetable du Jour
WED.	Dec. 20 ~ Lunch \$10	Dinner
	Hot Turkey Sandwich Mashed Potatoes Choice of Vegetable	Fried Catfish with Tartar Sauce Hashbrown Casserole Vegetable du Jour
THURS.	Dec. 21 ~ Lunch \$7	Dinner \$12
	Salad Bar <i>(does not include drink, starter, or dessert)</i>	Chicken Cordon Bleu with Supreme Sauce Rice Pilaf Vegetable du Jour
FRIDAY	Dec. 22 ~ Lunch \$10	Dinner \$14
	Cheesy Beef Goulash Choice of Vegetable	Almond-Crusted Trout Swiss & Green Onion Scalloped Potatoes Vegetable du Jour
SAT.	Dec. 23 ~ Lunch \$10	Dinner \$13
	BBQ Pulled Chicken Sandwich Sweet Potato Fries Coleslaw	Braised Short Ribs Roasted Red Potatoes Vegetable du Jour

DRINK SPECIAL

Cranberry Margarita
 1 oz. Jose Cuervo Tequila, 1.5 oz. Cranberry Juice, 1 oz. Lime Juice, 1/2 oz. Cointreau
 with Cranberry Garnish / \$3.75

Grosh Cinema Movies

December 17 to December 23, 2017

Show Times: 1, 4 and 7 p.m., Monday – Saturday / 2 and 6 p.m., Sunday

Sunday, Dec. 17 – The Christmas Project (2013)

A progressive new minister's arrival in a small village threatens to end an age-old tradition that brings a yuletide miracle to one of the residents.

Co-Starring: Hans Matheson, Samantha Barks, Lesley Manville & Sylvester McCoy

Rated PG; 1 hr. 15 min.

SARAH'S PICK! Monday, Dec. 18 – The Santa Clause (1994)

The snow hits the fan when advertising executive Scott Calvin accidentally kills Santa and suddenly finds himself saddled with jolly Saint Nick's job. While initially a Scrooge, Scott eventually becomes a true believer in this merry family comedy.

Co-Starring: Timothy Dalton, Simon Russell Beale, Clive Brunt & Benedict Cumberbatch

Rated PG; 1 hr. 37 min.

Tuesday, Dec. 19 – Southside with You (2016)

Chronicling a fateful summer day in 1989 when Harvard Law student wooed a pretty young attorney by taking her on a memorable South Side Chicago date, this engaging romantic drama charts the beginnings of Barack and Michelle Obama's relationship.

Co-Starring: Tika Sumpter, Parker Sawyers, Vanessa Bell Calloway & Phillip Edward Van Lear

Rated PG-13; 1 hrs. 24 min.

Wednesday, Dec. 20 – The Little Rascals (1994)

Inspired by Hal Roach's "Our Gang" TV series, this delightful family film promises shenanigans from the funniest little mischief makers of all time.

Co-Starring: Travis Tedford, Kevin Jamal Woods & Jordan Warkol

Rated PG; 1 hrs. 22 min.

SARAH'S PICK! Thursday, Dec. 21– Jingle All The Way (1996)

A desperate dad must match wits with a sleazy Santa, a stressed-out mailman and a horde of parents to procure a hot new toy on Christmas Eve. And since disappointing his son isn't an option, he's determined to get it by means possible.

Co-Starring: Arnold Schwarzenegger, Sinbad & Phil Hartman

Rated PG; 1 hr. 29 min.

Friday, Dec. 22 – August Rush (2007)

After cellist Lyla and guitarist Louis share an enchanted night together, circumstances rip them apart, and the child produced by the union is raised by an opportunistic stranger (Robin Williams) who nurtures the boy's musical talent. Determined to find his parents, the boy -- known as August Rush -- relies on music to draw his mother and father to him.

Co-Starring: Freddie Highmore, Keri Russell & Jonathan Rhys Meyers

Rated PG; 1 hrs. 52 min.

Saturday, Dec. 23– Battleship (2012)

The classic Battleship board game moves to the big screen in this at-sea adventure about defending planet Earth from a mysterious enemy fleet. At the center of the action is a pair of naval officer brothers and their commanding superior.

Co-Starring: Gregory D. Gadson, Rihanna & Taylor Kitsch

Rated PG-13; 2 hrs. 11 min.

Weekly Opportunities Calendar Dec. 17- Dec 24

Sunday • December 17

Breakfast at Verna Belle's—Omelets with Fruit

9:00 a.m. ~ Miller Worship Service, MFR
 10:00 a.m. ~ Worship Service, CR
 2:00 p.m. ~ Wroten Worship Service, WL
 7:00 p.m. ~ Vespers with Rev. Kent Dorsey & Special Music from First Christian Church, CR

Monday • December 18

Breakfast at Verna Belle's—Biscuits & Sausage Gravy

7:30 a.m. ~ 1st Pres. Men's Bible Study, LR
 8:30 a.m. ~ Dental Hygiene Clinic, MS
 9:30 a.m. ~ Seated Strenght, CR
 10:20 a.m. ~ Weights 101, CR
 11:00 a.m. ~ Sit & Be Fit, CR
 12:00 p.m. ~ Yoga, CR
 1:00 p.m. ~ Blood Pressure & Responder Clinic, GR
 1:00 p.m. ~ Parkinson's Exercise Class, CR
 1:30 p.m. ~ Ladies Pool Table Time, BP
 3:30 p.m. ~ MLH Singers Practice, CR
 5:30 p.m. ~ 5th Floor Supper, MR
 7:00 p.m. ~ Community Bingo, CR

Tuesday • December 19

Trash pick-up day

Breakfast at Verna Belle's—Breakfast Bierock with Fruit

10:30 a.m. ~ Steady Yourself, CR
 11:15 a.m. ~ Chair Yoga, CR
 12:00 p.m. ~ Seven Dolors Book Discussion, LR
 2:00 p.m. ~ LifeStory Writing Group, LR
 3:00 p.m. ~ Coffee Corner, CR
 4:00 p.m. ~ Newspaper & Bible, LR

Wednesday • December 20

Breakfast at Verna Belle's—Breakfast Burrito with Fruit

9:30 a.m. ~ Seated Strength, CR
 10:00 a.m. ~ Walmart/Dillons Shopping Trip, VE
 10:00 a.m. ~ Worship Service, LR
 10:00 a.m. ~ Memory Activities Class, KSU CL
 10:00 a.m. ~ Memory Café, WCR
 10:00 a.m. ~ Memory Care Partners Support Grp, TR
 10:20 a.m. ~ Weights 101, CR
 11:00 a.m. ~ Sit & Be Fit, CR
 12:00 p.m. ~ Yoga, CR
 1:00 p.m. ~ Pitch, GR
 3:00 p.m. ~ Rock Steady Boxing, CR
 3:00 p.m. ~ Call Hall Ice Cream, KR
 4:00 p.m. ~ Lutheran Video Worship Service, LR

*Meadowlark News Channel can be viewed on Channel 1960

Thursday • December 21

Breakfast at Verna Belle's—Biscuits & Sausage Gravy

8:30 a.m. ~ Messenger Ladies, WCR
 10:00 a.m. ~ Meadowlark Bible Study, LR
 10:30 a.m. ~ Steady Yourself, CR
 11:00 a.m. ~ Parkinson's Webinar, KSU CL
 11:15 a.m. ~ Chair Yoga, CR
 1:00 p.m. ~ Blood Pressure & Responder Clinic, GR
 2:00 p.m. Low Vision Support Group, KSU CL
 5:30 p.m. ~ Meadowlark Circle Dinner, MR
 7:00 p.m. ~ Line Dancing, CR

Friday • December 22

Breakfast at Verna Belle's—Waffle or Pancake

9:30 a.m. ~ Seated Strength, CR
 10:20 a.m. ~ Weights 101, CR
 11:00 a.m. ~ Sit & Be Fit, CR
 12:00 p.m. ~ Parkinson's Partners Luncheon, CR
 1:00 p.m. ~ Parkinson's Exercise Class, CR
 1:00 p.m. ~ PD Care Partners Support Grp, LR
 1:00 p.m. ~ Hand & Foot Card Games, GR
 7:00 p.m. ~ Do Right Daddies, CR

Saturday • December 23

Breakfast at Verna Belle's—Omelets with fruit

9:00 a.m. ~ Rock Steady Boxing, CSC
 9:30 a.m. ~ Painting for Fun, KSU CL

Room Abbreviations

BP, Billiards Parlor	LB, Library
CH, Collins House	LR, Living Room
CR, Community Room	MFR, Miller Friendship Rm
CON, Conference Room	MR, Manhattan Room
GR, Game Room	PS, Prairie Star Restaurant
GC, Grosh Cinema	TR, Tranquility Room
KR, Kansas Room (Pub)	VE, Village Entrance
KSU CL, KSU Classroom	WL, Wroten Library
PSP, Prairie Star Patio	CSC, Combative Sports Center
HD, Hospitality Desk	MS, Miller Spa

CORRECTION

Unfortunately, a December milestone birthday wasn't listed in the Nov. 30 Messenger. Please note **Brian Spooner** will celebrate his **80th Birthday Wednesday, Dec. 27**. Happy birthday, Brian!

