



a division of Corvias group

# Community

LIVING, MADE BETTER

DECEMBER 2012

## Fort Polk

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

### Neighborhood Offices

Camellia Terrace  
5300 Magnolia Drive  
[camelliaterrace@picernemh.com](mailto:camelliaterrace@picernemh.com)  
337-537-5045

Cypress Terrace  
5473D Bilger Court  
[cypressterrace@picernemh.com](mailto:cypressterrace@picernemh.com)  
337-537-5050

Dogwood Terrace  
300 Warren Court  
[dogwoodterrace@picernemh.com](mailto:dogwoodterrace@picernemh.com)  
337-537-5055

Maple Terrace  
100 Pendleton Drive  
[mapleterrace@picernemh.com](mailto:mapleterrace@picernemh.com)  
337-537-5065

Palmetto Terrace  
200 BellRichard Avenue  
[palmettoterrace@picernemh.com](mailto:palmettoterrace@picernemh.com)  
337-537-5040



## PICTURES WITH SANTA

Picerne will hold our annual Pictures with Santa and his Merry Elves on December 4 at the Dogwood Terrace Neighborhood Center and again on December 6 at the Maple Terrace Neighborhood Center from 4 to 7 p.m. each night. We look forward to seeing you and your family there for pictures with Santa, refreshments and fun. Remember Santa is only with us for a short time, so make arrangements now to attend and be sure to bring your wish list as we will have a mailbox for Santa. Additional details on this event are available from your neighborhood office and team.

### SatisFacts survey

Picerne Military Housing's goal is to provide the best homes, service and value to our residents. SatisFacts Research, a satisfaction research company, will be conducting a random phone survey to help us determine where we can make improvements. The survey takes about 5 minutes and is voluntary. These are customer service calls regarding your satisfaction and are not sales calls.

Residents living in Maple Terrace and Palmetto Terrace will receive a website link to take the survey online. Please contact your Neighborhood Office for additional information.

### Service Schedules



Picerne Military Housing offers a variety of services to make your life easier. Don't forget to check out [www.polkpicerne.com/residents/calendar](http://www.polkpicerne.com/residents/calendar) for your trash, recycling, lawn care and pest control schedules.



### Candle safety

Candles cause twice as many fires in December as they do in the average month. Proper safety should be practiced around candles all year, and everyone should pay special attention around the holidays.

GREEN CORNER

Turn off or unplug holiday lights during the day. This saves energy and also helps your lights last longer.

## Holiday safety tips

We ask that you be diligent in safety when decorating your home. Any electrical decorations used on the outside of your home should only be those that have been tested and labeled by an approved testing laboratory such as Underwriters Laboratories (UL) and are marked for outdoor use. Decorations used inside of your home should be marked (UL) and for indoor use. Below are some simple rules to follow to keep your home and family safe.

- Turn off lights or displays when not at home or before going to bed.
- Keep electrical connections off the ground and clear of metal objects.
- Use plastic clips, not metal nails, staples or tacks, to hold strings of outdoor lights in place.
- Run cords above ground, keeping them out of puddles.
- Tape plug connections with plastic electrical tape to make them as watertight as possible.
- To prevent moisture from entering bulb sockets, bulbs should face the ground.
- When using spotlights or floodlights to light your home or trees, ensure they are marked for outdoor use to withstand rain.



## Christmas tree care

Choosing and caring for a Christmas tree may mean the difference between a safe holiday and a disaster for your family. It's important to understand the danger of an improperly cared-for tree. According to the U.S. Fire Administration, there are 6 times more fires caused by Christmas trees in late December as there are in early December. A dry tree can catch fire with the flame from a candle or match and is capable of completely engulfing a typical family room in less than 40 seconds. One of the key things to remember is that you need to water your tree. Keeping your

thirsty Christmas tree well hydrated is the best way to fireproof it. Keep the water in the stand well above the fresh-cut bottom of the trunk. No need to put more than water in there - your tree isn't picky about flavor or caffeine or sugar. Water is the best for Christmas trees. Another concern is heat; Christmas trees dry out with heat, so place your tree away from heat sources like the fireplace or heater vents. The cooler the Christmas tree stays, the better.

After the holidays, the Fort Polk Environmental and Natural Resources Management Division (ENRMD), in cooperation with Fort Polk Girl Scouts, Picerne Military Housing and IESI, are offering to recycle your real Christmas tree free of charge.

Recycling is EASY! Just remove all tree trimming items, such as tinsel, lights, garlands, ornaments and ornament hooks from the tree and on-post housing residents can place Christmas trees on the curb side and officials will pick-up the trees for recycling. Christmas trees can also be dropped off at the ENRMD office, Building 2543 (for more information call 337-531-6011).

## Traveling this holiday season?



Families that will be traveling during the holidays should notify their neighborhood office that they will be gone so that we can keep a watchful eye on your home while you are away. We also recommend that you sign up for the House Watch program with the Provost Marshall Office so that they can also keep a watchful eye on your home while you are away.

## NO ROOF DECORATIONS

Picerne Military Housing does not allow families to place decoration on the roofs of our homes. The most important concern is safety, anytime anyone is on a roof a significant safety issue develops. Falls from ladders and roofs account for over 22,000 injuries annually across the country during the holiday season.

### Upcoming Events

**December 4**  
Pictures with Santa  
Dogwood Terrace NHC, 4-7 p.m.

**December 6**  
Pictures with Santa  
Maple Terrace NHC, 4-7 p.m.

Stay up-to-date with Fort Polk's event calendar! Go to:  
[www.polkpicerne.com/residents/calendar](http://www.polkpicerne.com/residents/calendar)



## ARMY FAMILY TEAM BUILDING

Army Family Team Building (AFTB) is the primary education and training mechanism for Army families. On each installation AFTB works to educate and empower members of the military community to develop skills and behaviors that strengthen self-reliance, promote retention and enhance readiness. In addition, the AFTB program provides an opportunity to become a volunteer and for service members to receive promotion points.

The classes consist of three course modules that are building blocks that focus on Army culture, leadership and interpersonal skills.

Level 1: "Army 101": Courses are targeted toward family members new to the Army.

Level 2: "Management Training": Courses are targeted toward those who are emerging leaders in the Army Community

Level 3: "Professional/Personal Development": Courses are targeted toward leaders in the Army community to foster productive cohesive groups.

For more information about the AFTB program and training dates, contact your AFTB Coordinator at 337-531-9421 or email [polk.AFTB@conus.army.mil](mailto:polk.AFTB@conus.army.mil). In addition, the training courses are available online at the Army OneSource website at [www.myarmyonesource.com](http://www.myarmyonesource.com).

