

# the Post

Camp Dix - Fort Dix  
1917-2007

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## 90 years of service Fort Dix celebrates, mission goes on

Shawn Morris  
Public Affairs Staff

In 1917, an Army installation was created from the sandy soil of central New Jersey to train mobilizing Soldiers as they prepared to fight their country's battles.

Ninety years later, that same installation has mobilized and provided training for five-million

troops – and the mission is still underway for Fort Dix.

"We train and mobilize Soldiers to win on America's battlefields. Over 4,500 of America's sons and daughters are here at Fort Dix training," said Col. David McNeil, installation commander, during the Fort Dix 90th Birthday Celebration on Doughboy Field July 18.

More than 400 Soldiers, civilian workers, distinguished guests and civic leaders gathered at Doughboy

Field's newly renovated grandstand to take part in the historic celebration, which honored Soldiers who served in the nation's past wars and conflicts along with those defending the United States today.

More than 5 million Soldiers have passed through Fort Dix.

The event began with an invocation by Chap. (Col.) Larry Biederman, installation chaplain, and the playing of the National Anthem by

(continued on page 6)



**SOLEMN OATH** -- Korean War Veteran Larry St. Laurent, left, administers the oath of enlistment and re-enlistment to several-dozen volunteers.



Sgt. Pascual Flores, 1079th Garrison Support Unit

**LIVING HISTORY** -- Living historians with the First New York Independent Battery fire a volley for the nation's war veterans from an authentic field-tion at Doughboy Field July 18.



Ed Mingin

**NEW CO** -- Col. Ronald R. Thaxton, left, takes command of Fort Dix during a ceremony held on Doughboy Field July 18. Thaxton accepts the guidon from Diane M. Devens, director of the Northeast Region, Installation Management Command.

## Fort Dix greets new commanding officer

Shawn Morris  
Public Affairs Staff

Rain-soaked clouds darkened skies but couldn't dampen spirits as Col. Ronald R. Thaxton became the 70th commander of Fort Dix during a traditional change-of-command ceremony at Doughboy Field July 18.

"I am deeply honored and humbled to accept this responsibility," said Thaxton, who takes the reigns of command from Col. R. David McNeil.

"This has been the most professionally rewarding experience of my career," said McNeil, who commanded Fort Dix for the past three years.

"It's been an awesome time. The people here are great.

Hosting the change of command ceremony for Thaxton and McNeil was Diane M. Devens, director of the Northeast Region, Installation Management Command, who was joined by Maj. Gen. Alan D. Bell, deputy chief for the Army Reserve and deputy commanding general of Operations, Readiness, Training, and Mobilization, U.S. Army Reserve Command.

"It's a beautiful day for a change of command," said Devens, referring to the rainy weather McNeil called, "infantry sunshine."

"Allow me to say how happy I am to welcome Col. Thaxton and his

family," she said. "Fort Dix is one of the toughest places to command in my region. It's hard, but it will be a career highlight."

Devens also had words of praise for the outgoing commander.

"(Col. McNeil) has truly led the way for the Army, training, preparing and mobilizing the best fighting force in the world," she said. "He has performed superbly."

Thaxton may be new to the command of Fort Dix, but he already seems to grasp what lies ahead for him as installation commander.

"I remembered today that my last easy day was yesterday," he said.

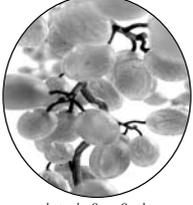
Thaxton enlisted in the Army as an

(continued on page 6)

# Valenzano vintners vent vintage vino

Steve Snyder  
Public Affairs Staff

Viva Valenzano!  
As part of a state-wide publicity campaign called *Wine Trails*, geared towards informing the public about New Jersey wineries, the Valenzano Winery opened its sumptuous vineyards to the public last Sunday for a festival. Festivities included music by a band, food, tours of the vineyards accompanied by explanations of how the wine-making process proceeds, and, of course, wine tasting featuring grapes grown and cultivated in Burlington County.



photos by Steve Snyder

All for a modest \$5 cover charge. Taste treats prominent in Valenzano's offerings include **Chambourcin**, an abundantly-flavored dry red wine aged in American oak; **Cabernet/Merlot**, a blend of cabernet franc, merlot, cabernet sauvignon and chambourcin wines; the winery's award-winning **Cynthiana**, another oak-aged red wine; the gorgeously red and sweet **Shamong Red**, a table wine crafted with local Concord (labrusca) grapes; **Vidal Blanc**, hailed as "The White Wine of the East Coast," a soft, crisp, fruity white best served with light meat, seafood or shellfish; **Chardonnay**, whose oak-fermented body yields a taste nuanced with soft citrus influences; **White Cabernet**, a semi-sweet blush wine squeezed from cold-pressed Cabernet Franc grapes; **Pineand Blush**, a light, refreshing and sweet concoction made from 100 percent red Concord grapes and fruit wines as varied as **Cranberry**, **Blueberry**, **Strawberry** and **Raspberry**, made from ripened fruits hand-grown from New Jersey's top farmers.

Except for the **Cynthiana** and **Chambourcin**, none of the aforementioned wines costs more than \$10 per bottle.

My spies at the Class Six store inside Fort Dix's Shopette inform me that they carry Valenzano blends but I wasn't able to locate any when I dropped in recently. Apparently they're hidden from loyal customers to make way for Cape May brands and other strange brews under the "Local" shelf.

Task, task. But the convenience of shopping at the Class Six store shouldn't stop wine lovers from visiting Valenzano's for a total imbibition experience (see pictures).

The winery lies down off Route 206 in Shamong. Take Route 206 south past Route 70 at the Red Lion Circle and keep going about four-and-a-half miles until reaching the traffic light at Tuckerton Road where you turn left and head down towards 1320 Old Indian Mills Road.

Valenzano's can be reached at (609) 268-6731 or on the web at [events.valenzanowine.com](http://events.valenzanowine.com).



**WINE TRAILS** -- Wine flows liberally at the open house held at the Valenzano Winery Sunday, part of the Garden State Growers Association efforts to introduce consumers to wineries, a la wine trails, in their local areas. Wine tasting, good food and a band helped cement Valenzano's reputation as a posh refuge for the cultivated in Burlington County.



**IN THE SWING** -- Visitors relax at the "Vintner Pavilion," above left, savoring wine in the shade. On the right, enthusiasts help to thin the vines, part of the wine-making process.



## Millions select new Seven Wonders of the World

Steve Snyder  
Public Affairs Staff

One hundred million voters can't be wrong!

Or can they?  
That's how many people voted in an online poll consisting of Internet and cellphone text messages conducted by Swiss-based foundation *New7Wonders*, who released the results of their massive survey in a glitzy show at Lisbon on July 7 attended by luminaries as sparkling as actress Hilary Swank, actor Ben Kingsley and pop diva Jennifer Lopez.

Organizers of the poll say that votes poured in from 200 countries in a contest designed to pick the seven most fascinating man-made wonders across the globe. Officials from the non-profit *New7Wonders* admitted, though, that there was no way to prevent people from voting more than once for their respective favorites.

The New 7 Wonders of the World, then, according to this tsunami-sized popular outpouring are the pyramid and other Mayan ruins at **Chichen Itza** on the Yucatan peninsula in Mexico; the **Christ the Redeemer Statue** overlooking the bay at Rio de Janeiro in Brazil; the **Great Wall of China**; the lost city of the Incas, **Machu Picchu**, in Peru; the ancient city of **Petra** in the Jordanian desert; magnificent ruins of the **Coliseum** in Rome and the famed mausoleum **Taj Mahal** in India.

The vote was drawn from 21 contenders and has attracted some criticism from authorities as august as the United Nations Educational Scientific and Cultural Organization



[www.inca-trails.net](http://www.inca-trails.net)

**MACHU PICCHU** -- A llama guards Machu Picchu, a pre-Columbian city created by the Inca empire. This "Lost City of the Incas" is perched 7,970 feet up on a mountain ridge in the Andes range in Peru. The Inca treasure has been designated a World Heritage Site because it's "an absolute masterpiece of architecture and a unique testimony to Inca civilization." Machu Picchu is among the new Wonders of the World.

(UNESCO), which keeps its own list of World Heritage Sites, now totalling 851 places. UNESCO seems to be questioning whether you can break down wonders of the world to a list as inclusive as only seven.

Swiss adventurer Bernard Weber began the *New7Wonders* campaign in 1999 to inspire "a common pride in the global cultural heritage." At the very least, Weber's efforts have certainly spurred a renewed interests in geography both in its natural and human realms.

The original Seven Wonders of the World included the Egyptian pyra-

mids, the Hanging Gardens of Babylon, the statue of Zeus at Olympia, Greece; the temple of Artemis at Ephesus, Turkey; the mausoleum of Halicarnassus, the Colossus of Rhodes and the Pharos lighthouse off Alexandria, Egypt.

As noted in the *Post*'s story about world wonders in this year's Jan. 19 issue, all of the original wonders were awesome indeed but ignored domains lying beyond Western Civilization. This year's version remedies that defect which is not to imply that its picks were perfect. Geography rocks!



[www.prairienet.org](http://www.prairienet.org)

**CHICHEN ITZA** -- The pyramid, above, and other Mayan ruins at Chichen Itza on Mexico's Yucatan peninsula were voted one of the seven Wonders of the modern World.



painting "Pollice Verso" by Jean-Leon Gerome, 1872

**COLISEUM** -- A giant amphitheater in the center of Rome, the Coliseum originally sat about 50,000 spectators who thrilled to gladiatorial contests, above, and other public spectacles including mock sea battles, animal hunts, executions, reenactments of famous battles and dramas based on classical mythology. Surviving ruins still impress today, serving as architectural homages to imperial Rome.

## Lady Bird Johnson, 1912-2007

Claudia Alta (Lady Bird) Taylor Johnson, widow of President Lyndon B. Johnson, died of natural causes at her home in Austin, Texas, on the afternoon of July 11.

She was 94.  
Many critics of President Johnson nevertheless agreed with him when he once described his wife as "the brains and money of this family."

Lady Bird had a calming, soothing affect upon her husband during their 39-year marriage. Most everyone agrees that he could not have reached the pinnacle in politics without her. Using charm and gentle kindness, she fussed quarrels away, converting many political foes into the Johnson tent.

"She was the eye of the hurricane, the calm center of the maelstrom that was Lyndon Johnson," according to Bonnie Angelo, a reporter who covered Mrs. Johnson for *Time* magazine.

Lady Bird became First Lady after Lyndon was thrust into the presidency in November 1963 following the assassination of President Kennedy in Dallas. She sat beside her husband that day in the deadly motorcade, later consoling the bereaved Mrs. Kennedy.

First Lady Johnson was an early supporter of the environment, championing highway beautification and worked to ban eyestores like bill-



[www.congressionalgoldmedal.com](http://www.congressionalgoldmedal.com)  
**Lady Bird Johnson**

boards, replacing them with trees and flowers. She founded the \$10 million National Wildlife Research Center in Austin which opened in 1995 and changed its name to the Lady Bird Wildflower Center in 1998.  
"Her leadership transformed the American landscape and preserved its natural beauty as a national treasure," said President Gerald Ford when he awarded Lady Bird the Presidential Medal of Freedom on Jan. 10, 1977.

The environmental champion was also a very shrewd businesswoman, purchasing KTCB, a small radio station in Austin in 1942 for \$21,000 of her inheritance. Within 20 years, the station and affiliates bought with its profits became a multimillion-dollar radio and TV enterprise.

Protest of course, were poured back into Lyndon's political coffers. Lady Bird raised two daughters - Lynda Bird and Luci Baines - and suffered four miscarriages during her married life. But she was never one to complain.

She received her nickname "Lady Bird" when only a toddler because her nursemaid described her as "purty as a lady bird."

Her father was the prosperous owner of two country stores and a cotton gin but still, Lady Bird recalled using an oil lamp until she was nine and never forgetting the day "when we finally got inside plumbing."

"Like all Americans, but especially those of us who call Texas home, we loved Lady Bird... She made the world beautiful in so many ways, and was beautiful to all of us who knew and loved her," said former President George H.W. Bush and First Lady Barbara Bush.

But Lady Bird's fans weren't limited to Texas. We all loved her.  
- Steve Snyder

## the Post

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# Canadians, Americans join forces for training

Wayne Cook  
Public Affairs Staff

Attendees to the Intermediate Leadership Education (ILE) course, formally known as Command and General Staff Officer Course, might at times get caught off guard when they first meet their instructors. One of the instructors may be wearing a slightly different uniform and have a bit of an accent.

That instructor might be Canadian Army Reserve Lt.Col. (Lt.Col.) Bryan Sherman, who is attached to the course as part of an exchange program between the Canadian Army and the 98th Training Division.

Sherman is a career officer with more than 30 years in the Canadian Army. Originally trained as an artillery officer, he made the leap to instructing as he progressed up the rank ladder. He performed his duties stationed in Toronto, Ontario, and was later transferred to Kingston — also in Ontario. Although Sherman volunteered many times for overseas duty, each time circumstances changed and the opportunity evaded him.

Sherman jumped at the chance to participate in the exchange program with the 98th when the occasion was presented.

"It's one of the best points of my career, so far. We are very similar with some differences in how we teach. I have found there is great compatibility. I am very pleased. Everyone has been very understanding and helpful with my transition to the unit. The transition has gone pretty well," said Sherman.

The Canadian trainer shares his class workload with three other instructors during each two-and-a-half-week cycle. Phases one and three of the program are taught at the ILE School on Fort Dix, while phase two is taught at the respective home stations. The instructors at Fort Dix are responsible for the training of phase two at Training Area Devens in Massachusetts, thus Sherman has had the opportunity to train off-station as well as at the school.

According to Sherman, the students seem curious at first, but after a class or two they warm up to him and except him as any other instructor. Due to isolated incidents with groups or individuals from Canada, the students are at times curious as to Canada's stand with the United States. Sherman then takes the opportunity to assure those who are curious that Canada is a long-time ally of the United States and most Canadians view United States citizens as friends.

When it comes to leadership education, Sherman says that the Canadians have a much more traditional approach as much of the training is done in the field versus the more classroom-driven training provided in the United States.

"I believe we (the instructors) really share our experiences in a reciprocal manner. There are some really good instructors here and I am happy



Lt.Col. Bryan Sherman, Canadian Army Reserve

to see that some of them may be headed north as part of the exchange training program," he said.

"There is a group of instructors who initially had no interest in visiting Canada, but since we've been together they seem to have gathered interest in going north. Canada and the United States have been friends forever and I think this program only strengthens our relationship," said Sherman.

The tour of duty with the 98th was originally a two-year stint, but just recently it has been changed to add another year. The opportunity to serve an additional year at the school is welcome news to Sherman.

"The whole U.S. experience has been great. I've traveled to Washington D.C., New York City, Boston, Philadelphia, and other places. I've really enjoyed it so far. I would like

to keep doing this. It is fun," he shared.

Lt. Col. Morales, the battalion commander, has been a great supporter of the exchange program and been very understanding of my concerns. It sounds like the 6th Brigade really wants to keep this program going. I'm in favor of that happening," he said.

Sherman hails from Aurora, Ontario, about one hour north of Toronto. He is married and has three children — one 17 years old and in the Reserve, one 14 years old and an Air Cadet, and an 11 year old.

"My children think it is really cool that I am down in the United States teaching," Sherman said.

So do the students and staff of the ILE School. This Canadian has proven himself a true asset to the school and a real ally of the United States.



Ryan Morton

## Coming Soon

The Joint Readiness Center will soon open a new coffee shop. The grand opening is tentatively scheduled for early August and will service on average between 250-300 Soldiers per day with various coffees, cappuccinos, espressos, pastries, and muffins. The shop will be called "City Coffee" which currently has a location in Camden, and within the next 6-12 months will build a location at McGuire Air Force Base.

# WDIX

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# Living historians bring out big guns for birthday



Sgt. Pascual Flores, 1079th Garrison Support Unit

**FIRED UP** — Living historians Paul Gauthier, Jeffrey Cohen, Robert Zawislak, James Lynch and Blake McCauley, from left above, from the Sixth New York Independent Battery (NYIB) prepare to fire a Civil War-era, 10-pounder Parrott Rifle during the Fort Dix 90th Birthday Celebration at Doughboy Field July 18. Sixth NYIB Quartermaster Tom Burke, below left, displays his private collection of Civil War memorabilia during the birthday celebration. It cost Burke 13 years and nearly \$10,000 on this collection. The gun crews took a break from firing during the event's invocation.



Sgt. Pascual Flores, 1079th GSU



Ed Mingin

Sgt. Pascual Flores  
1079th Garrison Support Unit

To the spectators who gathered at Doughboy Field partaking in the Fort Dix 90th Birthday Celebration, the Soldiers positioned in the distance by their cannons represented the changes in time in the art of field artillery.

To the Soldiers dressed in Army Combat Uniforms (ACUs) from the 3rd Battalion, 112th Field Artillery, New Jersey Army National Guard, the members of the Sixth New York Independent Battery represented an era of soldiering not seen since the late 1800s.

Standing by their guns, the "living historians" from the "Sixth New York Independent Battery (NYIB)," attired in the wool uniform worn by Soldiers of the Union Army of that time, prepared their 12-pounder Napoleon smoothbore cannon and 10-pounder Parrott Rifle gun for the rendering of honors during the installation's birthday celebration.

Jeffrey Cohen, commander of the 6th NYIB, accompanied by 12 living historians, transported to the field of Fort Dix two field guns with limbers

and a quartermaster section armed reproductions and original pieces.

"We have participated in events from as far north as Fort Ontario, N.Y., to down south at Greenwood, Miss., since the unit was formed five years ago," said Cohen.

With a similarity in the numbers required for the operation of their respective field guns, the members of the NYIB faced more steps in the preparation of their weapons than today's artillerymen.

These muzzle-loaded field pieces dating back to the American Civil War required the cannoneer to load a measured amount of black powder followed by a shell that was rammed into the breech of the weapon. The next steps before the cannon can be fired are the piercing of the powder bag through the vent with a sharp wire, and inserting a friction primer that was attached to a lanyard into the bag.

Preparation before the next round can be fired involves brushing out the barrel before another powder charge can be added, starting the procedure all over again.

The Model 1857, 12-pounder Napoleon could project a 12.3-pound projectile to a distance of 1,619 yards. It was the last cast bronze gun used by the American army that originated from France.

Designed by Robert Parker Parrott in 1860, the 10-pounder Parrott Rifle was an accurate rifled gun constructed of cast iron and wrought iron with a range of 1,850 yards.

With a sweat-soaked shirt from wearing a wool jacket, Cohen concluded, "This is the least we can do to honor our men and women in uniform."

The roots of the Sixth NYIB can be traced back to Rahway where it continues to serve since it was mustered into the military in June 1861.

**"This is the least we can do to honor our men and women in uniform."**

Jeffrey Cohen  
CO, 6th NYIB

**Read The Post!**

**NCO Call**  
at Club Dix  
Wednesday evenings  
at 6 p.m.

# Army launches teaching program to combat post-traumatic stress

WASHINGTON, Army News Service, July 18, 2007 - The Army launched today a "chain-teaching" program to help Soldiers and their Families identify symptoms and seek treatment for those suffering from Post Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD) and mild Traumatic Brain Injury (TBI). The chain-teaching program, available at Army Knowledge Online or [www.us.army.mil](http://www.us.army.mil), includes a standardized script and supporting audiovisual products that leaders will use to teach Soldiers about the signs and symptoms of these behavioral and mental-health issues.

All active-duty and reserve-component Soldiers will receive the training within 90 days of the launch. Training will take place at Fort Dix as part of Officer and Non-commissioned Officer Professional Development.

"We emphasize that every commander needs to be able to do an individual assessment of each Soldier," said Col. C. Elisabeth Ritchie, psychiatry consultant to the Surgeon General of the Army. "If a Soldier has an issue, that commander needs to be able to reach out and help that Soldier. Soldiers also need to be able to help each other."

A version designed specifically for Family Readiness Groups will be available July 24.

"Combat is inherently brutal and difficult, and it impacts humans in different ways," said Army Chief of Staff Gen. George Casey Jr. "We have made significant improvements in the identification and treatment for PTSD and mild TBI, but we must aggressively work research, prevention and treatment of these injuries and encourage Soldiers and their Families to seek treatment."

All Soldiers in combat suffer stress, but most recover quickly. Those whose symptoms persist may have PTSD, PTSD and mild TBI are genuine medical and psychological conditions that can neg-



Senior Airman Steve Czysz

**HIGH-STRESS SITUATIONS** - Soldiers from the 82nd Airborne Division are ready for the unexpected as they prepare to clear a house in Ar Raqqa, Iraq. All Soldiers in combat situations like this suffer stress, but most recover quickly. Those whose symptoms persist may have Post Traumatic Stress Disorder. The Army has launched a "chain-teaching" program to help Soldiers and their Families identify symptoms and seek treatment for those suffering from PTSD, as well as mild Traumatic Brain Injury.

atively impact a Soldier's personal life, professional abilities and health. Soldiers may be affected by only one or both conditions at the same time.

By seeking help, Soldiers can receive professional assessments that direct them toward the right care for their specific conditions.

"It's impossible not to be changed by going to war," said Dr. Deborah Warden, national director for the Defense and Veterans Brain Injury Center, headquartered at Walter Reed Army Medical Center. "Parsing out what parts are a stress reaction and what parts have to do with a previous concussion is difficult."

Previously referred to as "shell shock" or "battle fatigue," PTSD follows a terrifying physical or emotional event, and causes the individual to have persistent, frightening thoughts and memories or

flashbacks. Soldiers with PTSD may have any of three kinds of symptoms for weeks or months after the event: re-experiencing the event over and over; avoiding people, places or feelings that remind them of the event; and feeling keyed up or on-edge.

Mild TBI, also known as a concussion, is caused by trauma to the head but may have no physical signs. It is accompanied by loss of consciousness, loss of memory of events immediately before or after the trauma, confusion and disorientation.

TBI and PTSD share such common symptoms as difficulty concentrating, memory problems and irritability, but TBI symptoms can also include headaches, dizziness and balance problems. A person with PTSD may have nightmares and anxiety that worsen.

Soldiers may still suffer from PTSD even if they were not hospitalized or personally injured, just as they may suffer from mild TBI without having been knocked out. In fact, mild TBI is frequently the result of repeated exposure to mild explosions or moderate explosions resulting in significant pressure changes in Humvees, according to health experts.

The chain-teaching program does not replace behavioral-health assessment tools and measures already in effect. It provides command emphasis and education at unit and Family levels to reinforce the Army's commitment to provide the best health care possible.

The program equips Soldiers to recognize PTSD and mild TBI symptoms in others.

"It is important to remember, although you may not be struggling, your battle buddy may be. We know that combat and operational experiences will impact every Soldier differently," says the chain-teaching script.

The training encourages Soldiers to realize their careers are endangered not when they seek help for their problems, but when they allow a mental-health condition to worsen without proper care.

"This is an attempt to shift the culture," Col. Ritchie said. "We know it will take time, but we need to act now."

"Our Army is doing everything possible to come to grips with a very challenging and complex issue," said Gen. Casey. "This is not just a medical problem; it is an Army problem, and we are going to do all we can to help our Soldiers."

The new program is part of the overall Army Medical Action Plan, the Army's initiative to develop a holistic approach to a sustainable system where Soldiers are supported, treated and vocationally rehabilitated to prepare them for successful return to duty or transition to active citizenship.

More information on the chain-teaching program and other behavioral-health programs is available at [www.behavioralhealth.army.mil](http://www.behavioralhealth.army.mil). Check the August issue of "Soldiers" magazine for the story titled "Battling PTSD." (Information provided by the U.S. Army Medical Command Public Affairs.)



Steve Snyder

## Trained to standard

Graduates from the Fort Dix Chemical, Biological, Radiological and Nuclear Defense School Class 9-07 are Pfc. Joshua Black, Sgt. Garrett McMullen, Sgt. James Kilonsky, Spc. Daniel Rose, Spc. Ryson Reed, Sgt. Matthew Baab, Sgt. Theodore Hullett, Sgt. Richard Harkless, Sgt. Ramone Raine, Pfc. Chad Smith, Pfc. Randall Jackson, 1st Lt. Alexis Wample, Staff Sgt. Christopher Lazar and Spc. Matthew Barker.

Read The Post!

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# Dix celebrates 90 years of service to America —



**Steve Whitmore, World War II veteran 61-year Fort Dix Employee**



**Larry St. Laurent, Korean War Veteran**



**Maj. Gen. (Ret.) Rocco Negriz, Vietnam Veteran and former commander**



**Maj. Gen. (Ret.) John Herring, Vietnam Veteran, former commander**



**Col. (Ret.) Mike Warner, Vietnam Veteran former commander**



**Col. Larry Boyd, Deputy Commander for Mobilization, Gulf and Iraq War Veteran**

(continued from page 1)  
the Army Jazz Band. McNeil also led an impromptu singing of the Air Force song with Col. Rick Martin, 305th Air Mobility Wing commander, McGuire Air Force Base, in recognition of the upcoming 60th Birthday of the Air Force.

Guests were then treated to a brief narration of the nation's military history since 1917, with several veterans speaking on behalf of the millions who have served during the past 90 years.

"I'm honored to be here today to represent all the men and women who served in World War II," said Steve Whitmore, chief of operations for the Directorate of Public Works. Whitmore has worked at Fort Dix for 61 years following his discharge from the Army.

"The post looked a lot different in 1946, but it has always been the best in the Army. I wish Fort Dix a happy anniversary, and another 90 years of service to the Soldiers," he said.

Whitmore was followed by Korean War veteran Larry St. Laurent.

"I spent two weeks (at Fort Dix prior to deployment), but it has a lot to do with my life," said St. Laurent, explaining how he settled in the Fort Dix area and met his wife there.

St. Laurent was followed by three former Fort Dix commanders representing Vietnam War veterans: Retired Maj. Gen. Rocco Negriz, retired Maj. Gen. John P. Herring, and retired Col. Mike Warner.

"It's particularly satisfying to see the wonderful shape this post is in," said Herring, who commanded Fort Dix from 1991 to 1992. "Today, Fort Dix is in the forefront of Department of Defense and Army training."

"Fort Dix has served the Army, the Department of Defense and the country for 90 years in peace and in war," he continued. "It has contributed immeasurably to the security of this country."

The former commanders stressed the strong workforce and community ties at Fort Dix, and the post's ability to remain relevant in an ever-changing world.

"One of the things that makes Fort Dix unique is the great relationship it has with the surrounding communities," said Warner, who led the post from 1992 to 1994.

"The people of the surrounding communities have been full partners in this post," Herring added.

"Fort Dix is blessed with one of the most dedicated, highly skilled workforces in the Department of Defense," he continued. "It will soon be the home of the (Army Reserve's) 99th Regional Readiness Command."

"Fort Dix has continued to transform," said Warner, "to evolve to meet the changing needs of our country."

One big change has been the transformation from the linear battlefields of yesteryear to the asymmetrical warfare the nation must engage in today.

"What's being done now is something that wasn't envisioned years ago," said Negriz, who commanded the installation from 1986 to 1988.

"The battlefield is now the Global War on Terrorism," McNeil explained.

"The Global War on Terrorism is one of the dangerous periods in our history," said Col. Boyd, deputy commander for mobilization, representing service members from the end of the Vietnam War up to the present. "Yet our Soldiers continue to volunteer and answer the call to duty."

"In the 1970s, 80s and 90s, and now in the new millennium, we here at Fort Dix have been all that we could be; we have been an Army of one; and we are Army strong," said Boyd, an Iraqi Freedom veteran who was stationed at Fort Dix during Operation Desert Shield/Desert Storm in the early 1990s.

"During the 1990s and 2000s, Fort Dix continued to deploy Soldiers in support of humanitarian and peacekeeping missions around the world, including Bosnia, Kosovo, Rwanda, Somalia, Haiti, Honduras, and more missions on the edges of freedom," he continued.

"In 1999, Fort Dix hosted a completely different type of humanitarian mission," Boyd explained. "During Operation Provide Comfort, the installation housed over 4,000 Kosovo refugees fleeing overcrowded camps set up when hostilities in their country flared."

"Since Sept. 11, 2001, we have mobilized and demobilized over 100,000 Soldiers here at Fort Dix," he continued. "These men and women are the strength of our great nation — the Ultimate Weapon of national resolve."

Following the speakers, a couple-dozen citizen-Soldiers were administered the oath of enlistment or re-enlistment by St. Laurent.

McNeil capped off the event with talk of Fort Dix's future as a joint installation with McGuire Air Force Base and Lakehurst Naval Air Engineering Station.

"Joint basing — it's going to be a great thing," he said. "We train as a joint team, we fight as a joint team, unfortunately we sometimes die as a joint team — why shouldn't we live as a joint team?"

"I think we're here to stay," McNeil predicted. "I'm looking forward to another 90 years."



**Ed Mingin**  
**JOB WELL DONE -- Outgoing Fort Dix Command Col. R. David McNeil speaks to the crowd during the installation change-of-command ceremony on Doughboy Field July 18.**



photos by Ed Mingin



**TRADITION -- Soldiers representing nearly two dozen Army units, above, line Doughboy Field during the Fort Dix change-of-command ceremony July 18. The Army Blues Jazz Band, left, provides entertainment and the playing of the National Anthem for the event. Col. Ronald R. Thaxton took command of Fort Dix to become the 70th commander in the post's 90-year history. Thaxton takes over for Col. R. David McNeil, who spent the past three years leading Fort Dix through Army transformation, joint basing, and the Global War on Terrorism.**



Shawn Morris

**WIND BENEATH HIS WINGS -- Col. Ronald R. Thaxton presents a bouquet of flowers to his wife Maria during the Fort Dix change-of-command ceremony held on Doughboy Field July 18. Thaxton takes over command of Fort Dix from Col. R. David McNeil.**

## Thaxton takes challenge of Fort Dix command —

(continued from page 1)

infantryman in 1979 and became an officer upon completion of Officer Candidate School in 1981 where he was commissioned an infantry second lieutenant. His first assignment was a platoon leader for Company B, 4th Battalion, 10th Infantry, 193rd Brigade, Republic of Panama.

He holds a bachelor of science degree in education from the University of Maryland and a master of science degree in national security strategy from the National Defense University.

He is a graduate of the Infantry Officer's Basic and Advanced Courses, Army Combined Arms Services and Staff School, Army Command and General Staff College, and the National War College.

During the course of his career, Thaxton has had several assignments overseas and with the U.S. Army Civil Affairs and Psychological Operations Command (Airborne) at Fort Bragg, N.C. Overseas assignments include the Federal Republic of Germany, the Republic of Panama, Bosnia and Herzegovina, and Afghanistan.

Other assignments include: Platoon observer/controller with the National Training Center at Fort Irwin, Ca.; company commander and assistant S-3 with the 3rd Basic Combat Training Brigade at Fort Dix; battalion S-4 with the 7th Ranger Training Battalion;

brigade S-1 with the Ranger Training Brigade; battalion S-3 with 3rd Battalion, 11th Infantry at Fort Benning, Ga.; battalion S-3 and executive officer with the 3rd Special Operations Support Command (Airborne), Republic of Panama; humanitarian and civic assistance officer and executive officer to the deputy director J34, U.S. Southern Command, Republic of Panama; chief, Civil Affairs Policy Division, U.S. Special Operations Command; inspector general, U.S. Army Civil Affairs and Psychological Operation Command; and the deputy chief of staff for Information Operations (G7), U.S. Army South, Fort Sam Houston, Texas.

Thaxton has received the Bronze Star Medal, Defense Meritorious Service Medal with one oak leaf cluster, Meritorious Service Medal with four oak leaf clusters, Joint Service Commendation Medal, Army Commendation Medal with three oak leaf clusters, Joint Service Achievement Medal with one oak leaf cluster, Army Achievement Medal with two oak leaf clusters, Combat Infantryman's Badge, Expert Infantryman's Badge, Ranger Tab, Master Parachutist Badge and the Pathfinder Badge.

Thaxton is married to the former Maria Quintan Garcia of Colon, Republic of Panama. They have two sons, Alejandro and Anibal, and a daughter, Tasha.

# NEIGHBORHOOD

## THE CORNER

### ACS to host Exceptional Family Member games

The Army Community Service Exceptional Family Member Program (EFMP) is sponsoring an EFMP Summer Games for EFMP members from Fort Dix, McGuire Air Force Base, Fort Monmouth and Naval Air Engineering Station Lakehurst military communities Aug. 25 at John Mann Park from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Games include basketball, baseball, horseshoes, swimming, bowling, relay races and other competitions for EFMP and Family members. Prizes and trophies will be awarded.

Registration is mandatory and will be held June 25 through Aug. 3. Call Evelyn Dingle, EFMP manager, at 562-2767 for more information or to register.

### State to offer Army retiree license plates

The Fort Dix Retiree Council would like to solicit your help in supporting the New Jersey Retired Army Retiree License Plate Initiative.

In order to apply for the New Jersey Retired Army plates, 150 applicants are required. There is a fee of \$15 for each set of license plates per car.

To apply, call retired Command Sgt. Maj. Walker at 351-5020, retired 1st Sgt. Tamayo at 670-3386, or the RSO 562-2666. Information needed is name, rank, address, and current license plate number.

Checks and money orders should be made payable to the Fort Dix Retiree Council. Only N.J. residents can apply.

### Garden Terrace 1100 Area fenced off

As of July 2, the Garden Terrace 1100 Area was fenced off to become part of the Garden Terrace construction area. No families are residing in the 1100 Area since this change occurs.

The additional fencing will not affect access to any other portion of Fort Dix. Access to the Fort Dix Youth Center and the Garden Terrace 1200, 1500, and 1600 housing areas will continue to be via West 10th Street off of New Jersey Avenue. Access to the Fort Dix Elementary School and the Juliestown Road checkpoint will continue to be via Montpelier Street off of New Jersey Avenue. The portion of Juliestown Road between Montpelier Street and West 10th Street will continue to be temporarily closed. The detours signs will remain in place to direct traffic. The Juliestown Road checkpoint will be unaffected by this change.

The purpose of the fencing is to provide a construction area that is independently fenced off from the remainder of the Fort Dix cantonment area.

This will alleviate the need for hundreds of construction personnel to access any on-post housing area. It will also prevent the need to route construction vehicles through the installation to the housing area from the Commercial Vehicle Gate.

The fencing will prevent heavy construction traffic from entering adjoining residential neighborhoods, thus protecting neighborhood children from traffic as well as from other ongoing construction activities. The fencing will also allow for a smoother construction flow which should shorten the amount of time for project completion by one year thus lessening the inconvenience to neighboring residents.

Construction in the 1100 Area will last about 1.5 years. As construction areas are completed, they will be removed from the fenced-in construction area as soon as possible. Throughout the project United Communities will try to meld convenience to neighboring residents with the safety and performance of construction activities.

### Fines to increase for N.J. traffic violations

Starting Aug. 15, the price of a ticket for violation of New Jersey Law 39-3-29 (Failure to show your driver's license, registration or insurance card at the time you are stopped is increasing from \$44 to \$173 per violation, or \$519 for all three.

## Noted author brings D-Day to Dix

David Moore  
Public Affairs Staff

While many historians in 1989 were writing about famous World War II military leaders, Maryland's command historian and D-Day author Joseph Balkoski reached deep into available resources and interviews to tell the story of citizen-soldiers of all ranks, offering insight into the making of a pre-war Army National Guard division as it prepared for the active-duty mission of the Normandy invasion.

The author set a new standard for telling the Soldier's story through the World-War-II veteran's eyes of 29th Infantry Division Soldiers, and splashing the pages of his first book "Beyond the Beachhead" with detailed maps and squad-level tactics from training to real-world combat events.

The author is expected to visit Maryland Soldiers of the 1st Battalion, 175th Infantry, whose forefathers were a part of the Normandy campaign in France that began the liberation of Europe and rid the world from Nazism.

The author, along with 175th veterans of World War II, will view mobilization training known as theater immersion training, make a presentation at Timmermann Center, and have dinner with 175th Soldiers July 28.

Subsequent D-Day books have followed with the same intricate detail but Balkoski expanded his own Normandy beachhead with books titled "Omaha Beach," weaving personal accounts of D-Day and detailed research about various large and small units on that historic day, and third book, "Utah Beach: The



David Moore

**FOOTSTEPS OF TIME** -- Joseph Balkoski, the author of such books as "Beyond the Beachhead: The 29th Division at War," "Omaha Beach" and "Utah Beach," right, conducts a 2004 staff walk at Utah Beach in Normandy, France, with Maj. Gen. Daniel E. Long Jr., then commanding general of the 29th Infantry (L) Division, center, and Col Kenneth Smith, then division chief of staff, during a commemoration of the 60th Anniversary of D-Day in 2004.

Amphibious Lands and Airborne Operations," which again detailed joint and Allied operations and the complexity of D-Day operations. The author has left his own tracks in England and France walking the land, digging deep into primary

World War II D-Day operations resources, and telling the Soldier's story through first-hand accounts.

The author's books -- "Beyond the Beachhead," "Omaha Beach" and "Utah Beach" -- are expected to be available at the AAFES Exchange July 25.

## Fire safety everybody's responsibility

Gerry Zanzalari  
Public Affairs Staff

Fort Dix is lucky. Lucky in the sense that it hasn't had a major residential fire on the post in more than two years according to Jeff Silagy, fire chief, Fort Dix Fire Department.

"The last fire we had was in Army housing where someone used the heater room of their home for storage against housing regulations," said Silagy. This individual escaped injury but the home suffered significant damage.

Three children, ages two, six and nine on other Army installations were not as lucky. Tragically, these children died as a result of fire- and smoke-related injuries. Preliminary Army investigations indicate that the smoke detectors in the homes where these children lived had been disconnected.

These deaths could have easily been avoided if the smoke detectors were operating. Disconnecting hard-wired detectors or tampering with any battery-operated detector is never recommended. Remember that Fort Dix regulation 420-8 prohibits removal of, or tampering with, any smoke detector.

Any problem with your smoke detector should be immediately referred to United Communities at 723-0500. What can you as a family member do to ensure fire safety? Silagy offered the following tips:

- Never disable a smoke detector.
- Change the battery twice each year, whenever you change your clocks in the spring and again in the fall.
- If your smoke detector activates for no reason, call 911 immediately and let the professionals determine why.
- If your smoke detector activates as a result of cooking or non-fire causes, clear the air by waving a towel near the detector and possibly opening windows to vent the smoke.
- Test your detector at least monthly. Press the test button (if available) to ensure the unit is operating.
- Plan and practice an escape route twice per year, at least once after dark.
- Make sure your family has an agreed upon meeting place such as a neighbor's home or other safe location away from your home and out of emergency vehicle access routes in case of a fire.

Carbon monoxide or CO detectors are also required in Army housing. They are particularly important if your housing unit has natural gas heating, a gas stove or a gas fireplace.

"If your CO monitor is activated, get everyone out of the house as soon as possible," said Silagy. "And please remember that the



file photo

fastest way to report an emergency is to call 911. Do not call the fire station directly," said Silagy. "Fire safety is an ongoing concern for all of us."

**READY, AIM, FIRE!** -- Members of the Fort Dix and McGuire Air Force Base Fire Departments show Team Dix members how to properly operate a fire extinguisher.

## Fort Dix newcomers get lay of the land



photos by Ryan Morton

Jackie Holliday, MWR marketing specialist, above, talks to Janice Sierra, 1st Lt. Juan Sosa, and Staff Sgt. Tina Direny, from left at right, and other Soldiers and civilians during the Newcomers' Orientation held at Army Community Service July 19.



# MILITARY MATTERS



**HIGH-TECH TOOLS** — Sven Zarling, Otto Bock International, demonstrates the running capabilities of a prosthesis in development that is designed to give above-the-knee amputees the mobility they need to remain on active duty. Fred W. Baker III

## New prosthesis may keep troops in fight

Fred W. Baker III  
American Forces Press Service

WASHINGTON, July 18, 2007 — A new prosthesis under development will give service members more flexibility and help them better perform their military jobs if they choose to stay on active duty. A preview of the new technology yesterday at Walter Reed Army Medical Center drew key staff and several service members amputees. The open forum allowed users to see improvements in prototype form and ask developers questions or offer suggestions. In 2006, Otto Bock HealthCare, a global provider of prosthetic components that started out providing devices for German World War I veterans in 1919, began developing a prosthetic knee system that is an upgrade to its already popular C-Leg. It was awarded a three-year \$1 million contract to develop a leg that will allow more service members to stay on active duty if they choose to. The prosthesis is for above-the-knee amputees and uses a microprocessor to control the knee's hydraulic functions and anticipate the wearer's actions and make changes in real time. This will give service members greater flexibility to change speeds or directions without sacrificing stability. Mobility will be improved, allowing more movement without the user having to concentrate on the knee, said Hans-Willem van Vliet, the program manager. The new system will have more sensors, a faster hard drive, more memory, and will provide smooth transitions between movements such as level-ground walking, climbing stairs, and running. It also will allow service members the ability to turn around while walking and walk backward in one fluid movement, something that is not possible with the current C-

The new prosthesis should be available to service members in 2009.

Leg. It will adapt automatically between walking speeds and gaits, Vliet said. He emphasized that engineers have not simply improved the C-Leg, but have completely rebuilt the technology on the inside. Engineers also are working to stretch battery life to 50 hours on one charge. This will give service members on long road marches the duration they need to reach a power supply for recharging. Requirements also call for making the system salt-water resistant, a difficulty with the onboard computer systems. They also are planning a remote control, about the size of a car-lock remote, that will allow the user to switch among as many as 10 modes with the click of a button. The current C-Leg allows service members two operating modes: one for walking and one for bicycling or another activity. To switch between modes, the wearer has to swing the leg forward in a jerky fashion. In some instances the user may not be able to switch modes because of limited movement. Reprogramming a mode requires a visit to a technician. Air Force Lt. Col. Andrew Lourake, a pilot at Andrews Air Force Base, Md., is the first above-the-knee amputee to return to active duty as a pilot. He was fitted with a C-Leg five years ago. Lourake said he could not do his job without the C-Leg because it allows him to switch between walking and flying modes. Still, he said, he is impressed with the new design and plans to be one of the first to own one, even if he has to pay for it out of his own pocket. The current C-Leg costs about \$30,000. The new system is expected to cost about the same. "I'm excited. It has a lot of the stuff that I asked for a couple of years ago. It's huge in functionality and active living," Lourake said.

## North Korea expected to field high-threat missile

Donna Miles  
Army News Service

WASHINGTON, July 9, 2007 — U.S. officials are "deeply concerned" that North Korea is close to fielding a new short-range missile that could ultimately end up on the international arms market, an outgoing senior defense official said July 6. Richard Lawless, who retired June 30 after almost five years as deputy assistant secretary for Asian and Pacific affairs, told Pentagon reporters the new missile would destabilize the Korean Peninsula and the region. "As this system approaches operational status and is deployed in large numbers, you have for the first time in the North Korean inventory a solid-fuel, highly mobile, highly accurate system whose only purpose, given its range, is to strike the Republic of Korea," he said. Lawless said the United States is "talking to the North Korean government very actively about this" issue. "We have a problem with this new system because it is much more accurate and much more survivable than the huge Scud missile force already targeted on the Republic of Korea," he said.

But an even bigger concern, Lawless said, is that North Korea could end up exporting the missiles around the world. "The North Koreans don't build anything they're not willing to sell to somebody else for the right price," he said. "So if that system is proven and deployable, I would assume it would also go on sale on the international arms market. And wherever it goes, it will have that same capability: solid fuel, highly mobile, highly accurate to 120 to 140 kilometers." Lawless said the missile tests demonstrate that North Korea has no intention of allowing the Six-Party Talks to curb its capabilities expansion. The talks, which include North and South Korea, China, Japan, Russia and the United States, are aimed at a nuclear-free Korean Peninsula. Through the talks, North Korea agreed in February to shut down some of its nuclear facilities in exchange for fuel aid and more normalized relations with the United States and Japan. "All other five members of that six-party group (are) watching very carefully how the North Koreans execute and whether they execute in sequence and on schedule," Lawless said. A lot is riding on how North Korea complies with its commitment, he said. "Immediately in front of us, we have a situation where the North Koreans are responsible for shutting down and then allowing the International



Soldiers from the 15th Field Artillery Regiment participate in an exercise this year in South Korea. North Korea's newest missiles threaten South Korean civilians, as well as U.S. forces stationed there.

Atomic Energy Agency to verify the shutdown of some very specific facilities," Lawless said. "If they do that on time, as promised according to the sequence schedule, that will be an indicator to the United States government that we have somebody that we can deal with." But past experience casts doubt on that outcome, he acknowledged. "If, on the other hand, games continue to be played -- if there is basically a bait-and-switch approach, which has characterized previous interactions with the North Koreans -- I think we will have to re-consider."

## Gen. Bell: North Korean nuclear threat 'very real'

Ashley Rowland  
Stars and Stripes

SEOUL, South Korea, July 3, 2007 — U.S. Forces Korea Commander Gen. B.B. Bell said July 2 that North Korea's nuclear weapons program is "extremely provocative, threatening and dangerous," and criticized the country's testing of short-range missiles last week while nuclear inspectors were visiting. "These were not failure missile tests. These were successful tests," Gen. Bell told reporters at the National Press Center. North Korea fired three surface-to-surface missiles last week that landed in its own waters, the third time since May 25 that the country has test-fired short-range missiles, according to the Associated Press. The missiles are modern, rapid, and easier to handle than those North Korea has used in the past, Gen. Bell said. "These missiles in general appear to be performing as they are designed," he said.

North Korea's conventional weapons aren't as advanced as those used by the United States and South Korea, Gen. Bell said, but it has more than 250 long-range weapons systems that clearly are aimed at South Korea. "This is a very real threat which cannot be ignored," Gen. Bell said. Those missiles would have regional and worldwide impact if launched, but he said there are "hopeful signs" that North Korea plans to follow denuclearization agreements reached during talks in February. He also praised an agreement U.S. and South Korean military officials signed last week that outlines the transfer of operational wartime command on the peninsula. According to the agreement, South Korea will take wartime control of its forces in April 2012. Gen. Bell said South Korean leaders are capable of leading a coalition of both countries' forces during conflict, and that the military alliance between the two countries remains strong.

North Korea fired three surface-to-surface missiles last week that landed in its own waters, the third time since May 25 that the country has test-fired short-range missiles.



### Army Community Service (ACS)

562-2767

Bldg. 5201, on the corner of 8th Street and Maryland Avenue

#### Hours of Operation:

Monday through Friday, 7:45 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

\*A Department of the Army Accredited Soldier and Family Service Organization

# Soldiers train for police duty in Iraq

Ryan Morton  
Public Affairs Staff

Summer is here and training is in full swing at Fort Dix with thousands of Soldiers preparing for a multitude of missions. They train for an assortment of tasks such as security forces, convoy operations, critical sight security, and detainee operations, among others.

The 506th Military Police Detachment, "Law and Order," would qualify for training in the "other" category. They are part of the Washington State National Guard out of Tacoma, Wa., and recently completed preparations for an upcoming deployment to Iraq in support of the Global War on Terrorism.

Their mission, however, is a bit different from what most MP units do. Most serve in a security forces or detainee operations faculty, but this Law and Order unit will perform the duties of running a local town police station or city precinct. The 506th will set up shop at Camp Victory, Iraq, handling everything a domestic station would such as traffic accidents, physical and sexual assaults, thefts, domestic violence, and suicides.

Since these approximately 48 Soldiers arrived on the installation in late May, they have been much immersed in their training leading up to the final stanza called the Army Training Evaluation Program, or ARTEP. In their ARTEP, they are based at a mock police station and are dispatched out to different areas around post responding to various disturbances. In one scenario, the station dispatch received a call about a fight breaking out between a couple of Soldiers. The MPs were then off on the beat and made their way out to the scene to handle the situation and break up the scuffle. The trainers who evaluated the MPs played the fighting Soldiers and the witness who phoned in the fight. The MPs were graded on how they responded to the situation, interviewed the witnesses and suspects, recorded sworn statements, and whether or not they followed proper protocol and procedure.

According to the trainers, these Soldiers passed with flying colors.

"They really did a great job. They were well-prepared, were well-versed on the procedures, and I look forward to giving their command group a good report," Staff Sgt. George Kaschak, a trainer from the 218th MP Company, said.

Their command group features Lt. Col. Steve Donnelly, their provost marshal. The provost marshal serves in the capacity of what a sheriff or police chief would be in a town, only he'll be reporting directly to the mayor or garrison commander in Camp Vic-



photos by Ryan Morton

**REAL-WORLD TRAINING** — Spc. Rob McGruder, 506th Military Police Detachment, Washington State National Guard, left, responds to a mock altercation during the Army Training Evaluation Program (ARTEP) portion of mobilization training at Fort Dix. The 506th is preparing for deployment to Iraq in support of the Global War on Terrorism, where its Soldiers mission will be to respond to traffic accidents, physical and sexual assaults, thefts, domestic violence, suicides and altercations, such as above. The Fort Dix Department of Defense Police assisted with the 506th's training, providing vehicles and expert advice.

tory. He has been very pleased with how his fellow Soldiers have responded to the challenges presented before them.

"This has been some very intense and good training. The Soldiers have received some really good feedback and positive critiques from the trainers," Donnelly said.

"One of the things that seems to help is the fact that this unit is aided by a plethora of combat experience. One-third of the Soldiers are veterans of conflicts such as Operations Iraqi and Enduring Freedom and Bosnia and Kosovo, and 8 to 10 Soldiers are civilian police officers.

"It's been invaluable to have these vets. We have some younger Soldiers who are just out of basic (training) and MP school, and our vets have been extremely supportive in helping them with the transition," Donnelly said.

"The biggest thing the vets instill is how realistic the situation gets when you get into the country and they encourage everybody to take the training that we do very seriously," he said.

This type of encouragement reinforces and helps keep the number-one goal in the forefront of their minds: Getting everyone back home safe and sound.



**POLICE CALL** — Sgt. Alyssa Myracle of the 506th Military Police Detachment, Washington State National Guard, left, frisks Sgt. 1st Class Jerome Capel, a 2-309th trainer, during the Army Training Evaluation Program (ARTEP) portion of mobilization training at Fort Dix. Spc. Matthew Wiswell, above, practices the paperwork portion of being a military police officer.

## Play Soccer!!!

Fort Dix Youth Sports League

Registrations Run from June 18th to July 27th

(Practices Start the First Week of August.)

- ★ Soccer Registrations are open to Dependents or Family Members of Active Duty, Retired Military, DOD Civilians, or Contractors that have their Child Registered with CYSL.
- ★ Children ages 3 - 8 are eligible to register during Open Registration. Children ages 9 - 10 will be put on a Waiting List.

Open registration. Children ages 9 - 10 will be put on a Waiting List.

★ Before Play, all Children must have a current Physical.

For More Information, Please Contact Chris or Steve at the Youth Sports Office (609) 562-2819/5519

# Announcements



## Movie Schedule

at the McGuire AFB Theatre  
Movie Hotline 754-5139

**Friday, July 20 @ 7:30 p.m.**

**Ocean's Thirteen** - George Clooney, Brad Pitt, Matt Damon, Matt Damon, Andy Garcia - Danny Ocean (George Clooney) and the gang would have only one reason to pull off their most ambitious and riskiest casino heist—to defend one of their own. Ruthless casino owner Willy Bank (Al Pacino) never imagined that the odds were against him when he double-crossed Danny Ocean's friend and mentor Reuben Tishkoff (Elliott Gould). He may have taken down one of the original Ocean's eleven, but he left the others standing and, worse for him, gave them a shared purpose: to take Bank down on the night of what should be his greatest triumph—the grand opening of his new casino, appropriately named The Bank. Their strategy is twofold. First they will ruin him financially by turning the tables on the precept that the house always wins. The knockout punch will be to Bank's personal pride and joy: his reputation as the only hotelier who has earned the Royal Review Board's Five Diamond Award on every single one of his hotels.

MPAA Rating: PG-13 - brief sensuality

Run time: 113 minutes

**Saturday, July 21 @ 7:30 p.m.**

**Knocked Up** - Seth Rogen, Katherine Heigl, Paul Rudd, Leslie Mann, Jay Baruchel - Rising journalist Allison Scott (Katherine Heigl) hits a serious bump in the road after a one-night stand with irresponsible slacker Ben Stone (Seth Rogen) results in pregnancy. Rather than raise the baby on her own, she decides to give him a chance to prove he is father material. However, he is unsure if he is ready to be a parent, and both wonder if they would be compatible lifetime partners.

MPAA Rating: R - sexual content, drug use and language

Run time: 132 minutes

**Future Features...**

**Nancy Drew**

Friday, July 27 @ 7:30 p.m.  
PG, 113 minutes.

**Fantastic Four: Rise of the Silver Surfer**  
Saturday, July 21 @ 7:30 p.m.  
PG, 89 minutes.

## Main Chapel

562-2020

### Sunday Services

Protestant at 9 to 10 a.m.  
Catholic Mass at 10:15 to 11:15 a.m.  
Gospel at 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m.  
Catholic CCD is held at 9:15 a.m.

**Camp Victory in Chaplain's Tent**  
General Christian at 7 to 8 p.m.

Catholic Mass will be celebrated in the Main Chapel at 12:30 p.m. every Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday through Aug. 9, 2007

**Protestant-Gospel Sunday School**  
at 10 a.m.

### Wednesday Services

Main Chapel

Protestant Bible Study noon  
Chapel Library

Chapel 5 (Bldg. 5950)

Protestant at 7:30 to 8:30 p.m.  
Fellowship Hall  
Catholic at 7:30 to 8:30 p.m.  
Sanctuary

**Camp Victory in Chaplain's Tent**

General Christian at 7:30 to 8:30 p.m.

### Religious Services

**Islamic Prayer room**  
open 7 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday - Room 24

**Adult Bible Study**  
Wednesdays at noon and 7 p.m.

**Catholic Adult Bible Study**  
Sundays, 11:30 a.m.

**Christian Women of the Chapel** hold a Bible Study - Tuesdays, 9:30 a.m. to noon

**Christian Men of the Chapel** hold a Prayer Breakfast - Fourth Saturday of each month, 9 to 11 a.m.

**Youth of the Chapel**  
Every second and fourth Tuesday  
7 to 9 p.m.

**Jewish Services**  
Contact the Chapel for dates and time

## Army Community Service

Bldg. 5201, 562-2767

### EFMP Support Group

3rd Thursday each month  
10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.  
Army Community Service

### EFMP Kidz Plus Program

Free swim for members and families  
2nd and 4th Thursdays  
5:30 to 6:45 p.m.  
Indoor Pool

## McGuire AFB Family Advocacy Program

754-9680

### July Schedule

#### Play Groups

Mondays

Toddlers

#### Wednesdays

Infants

Child Development Center #1

11 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.

### The More the Merrier: Playgroup

for Multiples

first Friday of the month

PAX terminal

### Anger Management

last three Fridays of the month

Health and Wellness Center

1 - 3 p.m.

For information and registration call 754-9680

## Youth Center

Bldg. 1279 Locust Street  
562-5061

### Hours of Operation:

Tuesday - Friday 2 to 7 p.m.

Saturday 1 to 7 p.m.

Sunday & Monday CLOSED

### Administrative Hours:

Tuesday - Friday noon to 6 p.m.

### July 24-28

#### Tuesday

Self-Directed Activities

1 - 7 p.m.

Categories Game Tournament

3 - 5 p.m.

#### Wednesday

Self-Directed Activities

1 - 7 p.m.

#### Thursday

Self-Directed Activities

1 - 7 p.m.

#### Friday

Self-Directed Activities

1 - 7 p.m.

TEEN CENTER

Beach Volleyball Games

#### Saturday

DDR Tournament

3 - 5 p.m.

Note: The Teen Center is open Fridays and Saturdays from 7 to 11 p.m. except during the Youth Center's Midnight Basketball nights.

### 24-hour Hotlines

Sexual Assault.....562-3849  
Victim Advocacy.....694-8724  
Child/Spouse Abuse.....562-6001  
Emergencies.....911

Or, visit the Fort Dix Department of Defense Police Department in Bldg. 6049 on 8th Street.

Family Advocacy  
562-5200

Chaplain  
562-2020

American Red Cross  
562-2258

Army Emergency Relief  
562-2767

# MOBILIZATION

WDIX  
Commander's  
Channel 2

YOU CAN USE  
NEWS

WDIX  
Commander's  
Channel 2

### Post Shuttle Bus

562-8888

Monday to Sunday -- 7 a.m. to 10 p.m.  
During the day Starr Tour buses are used, in evening the military Bluebird buses are run.

### Dix Shoppette/Class Six/ Gas Station

723-0044

Bldg. 5359, Texas Avenue  
Monday to Friday - 6 a.m. to 10 p.m.  
Weekends - 7 a.m. to 10 p.m.

### BX/PX & Mall

723-6100

Monday to Thursday - 10 a.m. to 8 p.m.  
Friday and Saturday - 8:30 a.m. to 8 p.m.  
Sunday - 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.

### Commissary

754-4154

Monday to Friday - 7 a.m. to 8 p.m.  
Saturday - 9 a.m. to 8 p.m.  
Sunday - 10 a.m. to 7 p.m.

### Military Clothing/Sales Store-Alterations

723-2307

Bldg. 5601, Texas Avenue  
Monday to Saturday 10 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.  
Sunday - Closed.

### Firestone

723-0464

Bldg. 4201 on Texas Avenue  
Monday to Friday - 7 a.m. to 7 p.m.  
Saturday - 7 a.m. to 5 p.m.

### Recreation Center

562-4956

Bldg. 5905 on Doughboy Loop  
Monday through Friday - 1 to 10 p.m.  
Saturday and Sunday - noon to 11 p.m.  
AT&T Cyber Zone offers computer access for a fee

### McGuire Shoppette

723-4705

East Arnold Avenue by the 24-hour gate  
Monday to Thursday -- 6:30 a.m. to 9 p.m.  
Friday -- 6:30 a.m. to 7 p.m.  
Saturday -- 9 a.m. to 10 p.m.  
Sunday -- 9 a.m. to 7 p.m.

### Burger King

723-8937

Bldg. 5399, Texas Avenue  
Monday to Saturday 6 a.m. to 8 p.m.  
Sunday 7 a.m. to 8 p.m.

### Java Cafe & Computer Lab @ Club Dix

723-3272

Monday - Friday - 7 a.m. to 10 p.m.  
Saturday-Sunday - Closed.

### McGuire Gas Station

723-4705

East Arnold Avenue by th 24-hour gate  
Monday to Friday - 6:30 a.m. to 7 p.m.  
Saturday -- 9 a.m. to 7 p.m.  
Sunday -- 9 a.m. to 6 p.m.

### Spouses' Club Thrift Shop

723-2683

Tuesday and Thursdays - 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.  
First Wednesday of the month - 4 to 8 p.m.  
First and 3rd Saturday of each month - 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

### Dining Facilities

Bldgs. 5640 and 5986

Breakfast Mon-Sun 6 to 7:30 a.m.  
Lunch Mon-Sun 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m.  
Dinner Mon-Sun 4:30 to 6 p.m.

### Outdoor Recreation

562-6667

Bldg. 6045 Doughboy Loop  
Equipment for rent includes skis, snowboards, canoes, flat bottom boats, canopies of various sizes, tents, tables, chairs and more.  
Monday to Friday 10 a.m. - 5 p.m.  
Saturday 4 p.m.

### Club Dix

723-3272

### Dix Cafe

Tuesday to Friday 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.  
**Revolutions Lounge**  
Opens 4:30 p.m. Tuesday to Sunday  
Karaoke every Thursday at 8 p.m.

### Fort Dix Post Office

723-1541

6038 West 9th Street  
Monday to Friday -- 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.  
Saturday -- 9:00 a.m. to noon  
Lobby hours  
Monday to Friday 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.



## Infantry tears up training

*Spec. Victor Villavicencio, 175th Infantry Battalion, Maryland National Guard, above, participates in mobilization training at Fort Dix in preparation for a deployment in support of the Global War on Terrorism. Sgt. Steve Hartman, left, and Pfc. Ernest Tamayo, right, learn about convoy operations, while Sgt. Stephen Szabo, below right, deals with a Civilian On the Battlefield (COB).*

*photos by Ryan Morton*



**These MWR Activities Host Birthday Parties and Group Outings!**

|  |   |
|--|---|
| <b>Aquatics</b><br>(609) 562-2808          | <b>John Mann Park</b><br>(609) 562-6667 |
| <b>Arts &amp; Crafts</b><br>(609) 562-5691 | <b>Bowling Center</b><br>(609) 562-6895 |

**Call today and leave the fun to us!!**

**Volunteers are needed**  
for  
**Fort Dix Special Observances Committees**

- Martin Luther King Jr. Birthday*
- Black History Month*
- Women's History Month*
- Holocaust Remembrance Day*
- Asian Pacific Heritage Month*
- Women's Equality Day*
- Hispanic Heritage Month*
- Native American Heritage Month*

For more information call Denise Horton at 562-4011

# Citizen Soldiers answer the call

**Spc. Eric A. Rutherford**  
115th Mobile Public Affairs  
Detachment

Santa brought Brian Tarr a special kind of present this year — a present that he wasn't expecting. He was opening gifts with his family when a knock came at the door. Thinking it was a friend stopping by to deliver good tidings, Tarr went to open it.

"As soon as I saw that purple hat, I knew what it was," said Tarr, an infantryman with Alpha Company, 1-175th Infantry. "I opened the door and the FedEx guy handed me my package and asked if I was in the military. It was addressed to Spc. Brian Tarr. I stuffed it under my shirt and went back inside to my family. I told them that it was just an old friend stopping by to wish me Merry Christmas."

After two years of civilian life, Tarr had received his Individual Ready Reserve recall orders calling him back to duty on Christmas Day.

"I took the package into the bathroom and read it," Tarr said as he stared thoughtfully out of the window of a humvee parked online at the training Forward Operating Base here. "I left it in there, and my niece found it and brought it out in front of my

mom. I asked her not to freak out and ruin Christmas."

Tarr, a West Palm Beach, Fla., resident, is one of about 12 Soldiers who were called up from the IRR to serve with the Frederick, Md. unit. Tarr, who was in college at the time, didn't get upset by the news, even though it was delivered on Christmas Day.

"It didn't bother me. I knew this was going to happen," Tarr said. "This is my calling. My morale and motivation helps Soldiers. What I know can help people stay alive."

Tarr, an Operation-Iraqi-Freedom veteran, said he is anxious to finish mobilization training and put his skills to use in the fight in Iraq.

About half of Alpha Co. has already served on combat tours. Ten percent of the company is made up of IRR call-ups.

"They bring a lot to the table, a lot of motivation. They are here and they are doing the best that they can," said 1st Sgt. Duane Diven of Alpha Company. "Our guys want to get going. They want to get out there."

Diven, who returned from a deployment to Guantanamo Bay in April, said that after 22 years, he continues to serve because he likes what he does, and he believes in the cause.

"Everything we do is vital.

Our mission is just another piece of the pie. It is essential to the peace process."

Alpha Company was mobilized May 22 and arrived at Fort Dix on May 25 to receive training for their yearlong deployment to Iraq, which begins later this summer. The company is training on convoy operations, route reconnaissance, weapons familiarization and first aid, among other Soldier skills. The infantry unit's mission in Iraq will be force protection and convoy operations.

Tarr said their mission will help with the progress in Iraq.

"Progress is being made," he said. "Good stuff doesn't make a story. Bad stuff and violence make a story. Since I was there in '03 to '04, progress has been made. I am looking forward to seeing the progress."

When it comes to the training and deployment, Tarr said Soldiers should listen to what trainers have to say.

"Stay motivated and stay positive," he said. "You've got 50 to 60 guys to boost you up when you are down. Remember, it can always get worse. These are only blanks flying over your head here. And training can be fun. Take everything you can get here. Every little piece helps. This is good training."

The advice Diven gives to

Soldiers getting ready to deploy is a little simpler.

"Get fit. Get mentally and physically prepared," he said.

The IRR, which consists of around 300,000 personnel, is an Army program that allows Soldiers who have completed their active duty or reserve time, but still have time left in their eight-year Military Service Obligation to return to their civilian life with the possibility of being recalled to duty.

Most Soldiers who join the Army sign an eight-year contract. Any time of that contract not served as an active duty Soldier, National Guardsman or Reservist is fulfilled under the Individual Ready Reserve. During that time, a Soldier can be recalled to active duty.

For the citizen-Soldiers of Alpha Company 1-175th Infantry, that possibility became a reality. That reality for many of them became an opportunity to once again answer America's call for service.

While deployment can be difficult on a Soldier and his family, it can be especially hard on a Soldier who has been a civilian for some time.

Alpha Company Soldiers, whether IRR recalls or not, have been dealing with the difficulties and persevering during their training for deployment to Iraq.



Spc. Eric A. Rutherford

**Spc. Brian Tarr with 3rd Platoon, A Company, 175th Infantry discusses a convoy in an after action review. Tarr, of West Palm Beach, Fla. is a 50 caliber gunner for 4th squad. Tarr was called to duty out of the Individual Ready Reserve to serve a tour in Iraq with the Frederick, Md. unit.**

# MOUT site offers MPs realistic training



photos by Ryan Morton

**TRAIN AS YOU FIGHT** — Soldiers from the 603rd Military Police Company go through exercises at Fort Dix's Military Operations in Urban Theater (MOUT) site. During training at the MOUT site, Soldiers run across scenarios that will prepare them for many situations they will face while in theater. Pfc. Justin Hurley, top left photo, and Spc. Joshua Anderson, above, keep a lookout for insurgents as their unit secures the area. Spc. Brian Sanchez takes the point during a patrol through the village, left. During the exercise, even casualties are simulated, bottom left. The 603rd, from Belton, Mo., has been at Fort Dix for the past month, as they prepare to deploy to participate in the Global War on Terrorism. The MOUT site is one of several training areas that offer more realistic training to Soldiers.



# Californian and British chaplains join forces



courtesy photo

**TWO NATIONS** — Anglican Royal Army Chap. (Maj.) Jerry Sutton, 4th Battalion, Parachute Regiment, United Kingdom, and Chap. (Maj.) James Linzey, Task Force 143, California National Guard, perform a communion service together June 24.

**Wayne Cook**  
Public Affairs Staff

The two clergymen came from homes more than 5,000 miles apart yet fate brought them together this past month at Fort Dix.

Chap. (Maj.) James Linzey, 1/143rd Field Artillery, California National Guard, Walnut Creek, Ca., is on assignment with Task Force 143, the largest contingency of California National Guard Soldiers to mobilize in support of the Global War on Terrorism. His job is to supply spiritual support for more than 800 Soldiers. Part of that duty is to perform services for worship.

While engaged in mobilization training with the 143rd at Fort Dix, Linzey made the acquaintance of Anglican Royal Army Chap. (Maj.) Jerry Sutton, 4th Battalion, the Parachute Regiment (4th PARA), United Kingdom.

Sutton's job, likewise, was to support the spiritual needs of more than 120 British paratroopers who were undergoing diverse training as part of an exchange program with the United States.

Linzey, who was preparing a service for the American Soldiers, recognized a unique opportunity to engage clergy from two allied nations in the performance of a church service and invited Sutton to assist him in the administering of the service June 24, and again on July 1, including the serving of communion. Both chaplains enjoyed the experiences and found them to be fulfilling.

Sutton found the reception of the British paratroopers by the American Soldiers and civilians to be genuinely welcoming and heart-warming.

"The welcome we have received here has been overwhelming. I have never had such a warm and rich experience before," said Sutton.

While the British were here, Sutton and Linzey worked on other joint projects together, further enriching their friendship and professional experience as well.

Sutton and the 4th PARA are back in the United Kingdom, while Linzey and the 143rd continue with training on the installation, but neither of them will forget the time they met and served together in New Jersey.

## ARTS & CRAFTS

Bldg. 6039  
Philadelphia Street

562-5691

Registration & sales  
store hours:

### Tuesday

9 a.m. to 4:45 p.m.

### Wednesday-Thursday

noon to 5 p.m., 6 - 8:45 p.m.

### Friday

11 a.m. - 4:45 p.m.

### Saturday

9 a.m. - 4:45 p.m.

## PROGRAMS

### Summer Art Kamp for Kids and Teens

July 24-27, July 30-Aug. 3

Aug. 21-24

12:30 - 2 p.m. for kids

2:30 - 4 p.m. for teens

Our popular annual Art Kamp has expanded sessions. Children ages 6-12 and teens can explore a variety of mediums to include pottery, ceramics,

sewing and a variety of crafts. A \$50 fee for each session includes materials, and there are family and multiple-session discounts available.

### Krafty Birthdays

Arts and Crafts offers fun and affordable Krafty Birthday parties, which include up to two hours of party room use, one kraft project with instruction and all materials, plus a digitally mastered photo t-shirt for the birthday child! Your choice of crafts includes ceramic painting, create-a-critter stuffed animals, jewelry, and a variety of other fun and popular crafts.

### Contemporary Ceramic Studio

Looking for a place to walk in, relax and get creative? This is the place for you and your family to paint functional or decorative items to give as gifts or keep for yourself. We have many bisque ware items to choose, from plates and mugs to piggy banks, lots of project ideas, and a helpful staff to get you started. You do the painting and we'll com-

plete your masterpiece with a food-safe glaze and firing. Come and have fun!

### Christmas in July

Get an early start on those Christmas gifts and decorations this year. For the whole month of July, receive 20-percent off all Christmas items.

### Sewing Classes

Wednesdays, 6:30 - 8:30 p.m.  
July 25.....Surprise in a Kit  
July 21.....Fabric Trip to Philly Fabric Row

### Frame Shop

Stop by to learn about all kinds of framing techniques. In no time you'll be framing your own photographs, paintings and posters.

### Create A Critter Special

Take 25-percent off any outfit when you stuff a critter! Discover a menagerie of adorable animals to stuff, dress and cuddle. From the basic Teddy bear to giraffes and lions, we've got them all! Great fun for the whole family and you'll love our low prices. A great last-minute gift idea!

## Honoring the Colors

Reveille  
6 a.m. (0600 hours)

Retreat  
5 p.m. (1700 hours)

### Military personnel in uniform

Stand at attention, face the flag and salute at first note.

Stand at attention, face the flag for Retreat, then salute at first note of *To the Colors*.

### Military personnel not in uniform, civilians

Stand at attention, face the flag and place right hand over heart at first note.

Stand at attention, face the flag for Retreat, then place right hand over heart at first note of *To the Colors*.

### Military personnel in formation or in a group

Senior Soldier calls group to "Attention," then "Present, Arms" at first note. Calls "Order, Arms" at conclusion.

Senior Soldier calls group to "Attention," then "Parade, Rest" at first note of Retreat. Calls group to "Attention" and "Present, Arms" at first note of *To the Colors*, then "Order, Arms" at conclusion.

### Individual military personnel, civilians in a vehicle

Stop vehicle and exit. Follow steps above.

Stop vehicle and exit. Follow steps above.

### Group of military personnel in a vehicle

Stop vehicle. Individual in charge exits and follows steps above.

Stop vehicle. Individual in charge exits and follows steps above.

### Other bugle calls heard on post are:

Tattoo.....9 p.m. (2100 hours)  
Call to Quarters.....9:30 p.m. (2130 hours)  
Taps.....10 p.m. (2200 hours)

## Relationship Safety

Everyone has the right to feel safe in his or her relationships. Are you or do you know anyone in an abusive relationship?

### Look for these signs:

- threats or intimidation
- isolation from family and friends
- denying access to money
- sexual abuse
- involving or using children in adult conflicts
- destroying personal possessions
- feeling fearful
- painful put-downs
- use of weapons

### Important phone numbers:

Providence House hotline  
871-7551  
NJ Domestic Violence hotline  
800 572-SAFE  
Fort Dix Victim Advocate  
562-2767  
McGuire Victim Advocate  
754-9672

For emergency assistance  
call 911

WWW.DIX.ARMY.MIL

New and improved to better serve YOU

Log on today

## FORT DIX WANTS YOU



TO BE A  
VOLUNTEER

## MAKE A DIFFERENCE

Fort Dix is looking for interested residents who would like to volunteer

"Fort Dix volunteers improve the quality of life for all residents"

For those residents who want to make sure the Fort Dix community is the best it can be please

Call Army Community Service at 562-2767

# Soldier wins Pan Am Games gold

**Tim Hippi**  
Army News Service

**RIO DE JANEIRO, Brazil** — Two-time Olympian Sgt. 1st Class Jason Parker won a gold medal in the men's 10-meter air rifle event July 15 in XV Pan American Games Rio 2007 at the Deodoro Sports Complex.

Parker tallied a Pan Am Games record of 695.9 points, eclipsing the mark of 692.5 set by Canada's Angel Valarte at

the 2003 Pan Am Games in Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic.

Matt Rawlings of Wharton, Tex., won the silver medal with 694.2 points. Mexico's Jose Luis Elias Orozco took the bronze with a 690.9 total.

The U.S. teammates were tied with a Pan Am Games record of 594 points after the qualification rounds. Parker prevailed over Rawlings in the 10-shot finals, 101.8-100.2.

Parker, 33, a 10-year Army veteran from Omaha, Neb., is

one of the most highly decorated international rifle shooters with the U.S. Army Marksmanship Unit at Fort Benning, Ga. His victory is a significant step along the road to Beijing, China, for the 2008 Olympic Games.

"It's great to have a win here at the Pan American Games," Parker said. "This is a very prestigious event with an Olympic-style atmosphere. It is a tough competition and we use it to get ready for the Olympics."

"This whole spring was geared towards Beijing. The last 18 months (prior to the Olympics) are always about the final touches because you can't be going into next season still looking for answers. You have to be performing by next season so you can get your peak goal at the Olympic Games."

With Team USA's two Olympic quota slots already secured for the event, Parker was relaxed and focused throughout the competition here.

"It was kind of an up-and-down type of competition," he said. "I started off really, really strong, and the middle and later parts of it wasn't bad, but it wasn't great."

Parker closed with shots of 10.5, 10.4, 10.4, 10.3, 10.7 and

10.4. "My last six shots were really good," he said. "They saved it for me."

Parker's recent training has been focused on the 50-meter rifle 3-position event, scheduled for July 19.

"The scores are still there in air gun; I know I can shoot them," he said. "But I've been spending a little more time on the small board. That's where I can see all my effort going

right now. I feel real confident of walking out of here with two gold medals."

Parker enlisted in the Army in January 1997. After completing basic and infantry training, he was assigned to USAMU in April 1997.

Ten years later, he's a Pan Am Games champion. Along the way, Parker was selected as USA Shooting's 2003 Male Rifle Shooter of the Year.

In 2002, he was a world champion and World Cup gold medalist.

In both 2001 and 2002, he was named the Military Marksmanship Unit's Soldier of the Year, and in 2001 he was named Army Athlete of the Year.

"I want to say thanks to my family and the U.S. Army Marksmanship Unit," he said. "Without them, I wouldn't be able to do any of this."



**SHARP SHOOTER** — Sgt. 1st Class Jason Parker (center) of the U.S. Army Marksmanship Unit at Fort Benning, Ga., wins a gold medal in the 10-meter air rifle event July 15 at XV Pan American Games Rio 2007 in Rio de Janeiro. Parker is flanked by silver medalist Matt Rawlings (left) of Wharton, Texas, and bronze medalist Roberto Jose Elias Orozco of Mexico.

# Woods honors troops



Tim Hippi

**Sp. Carmel Louis-Jacques (front and center in uniform) of Army Human Resources Command in Alexandria, Va., supplies water to Soldiers and Family members who carried a 75-foot-long American flag during the closing ceremonies of the AT&T National July 8 at Congressional Country Club in Bethesda, Md.**

**Tim Hippi**  
Army News Service

The world's top-ranked golfer frequently played U.S. Army Morale, Welfare and Recreation courses as a youngster.

"Yeah, I certainly did," said Tiger Woods, who paid tribute to troops throughout the inaugural AT&T National PGA Tour event July 3-8 at historic Congressional Country Club. "I played a lot of military facilities around the country."

"For one, they were cheaper, and I could get on as a dependent, which was kind of nice. The only thing that was frustrating is a lot of the bases had an age limit of ten. The military is very strict on age limits."

That indeed was a problem for Woods, who pitted against Bob Hope on the "Mike Douglas Show" at age 2, shot 48 for nine holes at age 3 and was featured in "Golf Digest" at age 5.

"Once I turned ten and tried to play more golf around the country, that's when we would start playing other bases," Woods recalled of making the rounds with his father, Earl, who served 20 years with the

Army before Tiger was born. "I just had a great time playing them. There are some great courses on bases."

Earl Woods became friends with Vuong Dang "Tiger" Phong, a Vietnamese Army colonel, while serving in Vietnam. He later tagged his son, Eldrick, with the nickname.

Little more than a year after the death of his father - his best friend, role model, mentor and hero - and little more than two weeks after the birth of his first child - a daughter named Sam Alexis - Tiger played host to the Earl Woods Memorial Program and AT&T National.

He dedicated both events to the men and women of the U.S. Armed Forces.

"Even though my dad was retired, I basically grew up on a military base," Woods said. "Just understanding the commitment that it takes each and every day for the servicemen and women, what they do for us, I just think that it was something that should be honored, and that's why we're doing it."

"If I didn't have that experience of growing up with a military father, I wouldn't think that I would understand the commitment and the things that they have been doing, and

especially with what's been going on overseas, I think it's just a small way of saying thank you."

Woods, the world's No. 1 player consecutively since July 2005, donated 30,000 tickets for the tournament to active-duty military personnel. Admission prices were kept paltry by PGA Tour standards, with a weekly badge costing \$65 and daily passes \$20 and \$25 - with free parking. Children 11-and-under also were admitted for free.

"I love what Tiger has done here," said Phil Mickelson, a two-time Masters winner who ranks second among active golfers with 31 PGA Tour victories. "It really is a cool feeling. I think it is such a great position to be in that Tiger's been in to be able to host an event and to be able to have such an effect on so many lives."

Sgt. Maj. Mia Kelly of Fort Belvoir, Va., and Master Sgt. Andy Amor of Andrews Air Force Base, Md., played in Woods' foursome during the Pro-Am on July 4.

Kelly said Woods made her feel as though she was playing at Fort Belvoir Golf Club, her home course.

## Sports Shorts

**Griffith Field House**  
Saturday & Sunday  
9 a.m. to 5 p.m.  
Monday - Friday  
6 a.m. to 9 p.m.

Dingle, EFMP Manager.

### Soccer Registration

Soccer registrations are open to dependents or family members of active duty, retired military, DoD Civilians, and contractors who have registered with Child and Youth Services.

Children 3-8 are eligible to register during open registration. Children 9-10 will be put on a waiting list. All children must have a current physical before playing.

For more information, call 562-2819.

### Local speedway offers discount

Once again New Egypt Speedway is offering a discount off the price of an adult admission ticket to all active duty military personnel and their spouses, with proper ID. For more info call (609) 758-1900 or visit the track's website at [www.newegyptspeedway.net](http://www.newegyptspeedway.net).

### Outdoor Recreation

Get outside and enjoy the weather with a trip with Outdoor Rec.

July 20  
Blue Fishing  
Cost: Adult \$55  
Children \$40

For more information call Outdoor Recreation at 562-2727.

### Youth Sports registration

It's time to get ready for some football! Youth Sports will be holding football and cheerleading registration May 1 - July 27. An annual registration fee of \$18 is required, along with a fee of \$80 for football or \$50 for cheerleading.

Participants must be registered with Child Youth Services. Call 562-4702 or 562-5231 for more information.

### Summer Games

The Army Community Service Exceptional Family Member Program (EFMP) is sponsoring an EFMP Summer Games for EFMP members from Fort Dix, McGuire, Fort Monmouth and NAES Lakehurst military communities, 25 August 2007 at John Mann Park, Fort Dix from 1100-1500. Games include basketball, baseball, horse shoes, swimming, bowling, relay races and other competitions for EFMP and Family members. Prizes and trophies will be awarded.

Registration is mandatory. Registration: Monday, 25 June - Friday 3 August 2007. Call ACS at 609-562-2767, POC: Evelyn

**ARMY TEN-MILER TEAM**

**28 July at 0900**

Griffith Field House will host Army Ten-Miler

**\*Time Trial Qualifications.**

\*The eight member team will be comprised of both men & women based on the fastest certified times.

To register or for more information, contact: Chris O'Donnell at 609-562-2769

Griffith Field House, Building 6053 Ft. Dix, NJ Phone: 609-562-4888 Web Site: [www.army.com](http://www.army.com)

**Get ready For Summer with the Griffith Field House**

**Super Summer Slim Down!**

Attend 18 Griffith Field house fitness/aerobic classes from June 18th to July 30th and receive a Free MWR Water Bottle!

Just fill out and return the bottom portion of this flyer to your class instructor and receive your Attendance Card. All participants that have completed 18 classes by July 30th, and their attendance cards have been validated by an instructor, will be presented with their free Water Bottles.

For more information, contact the Fitness Coordinator at: (609) 562-2707/4888

**2007 Super Summer Slim Down!**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Status: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Griffith Field House  
Building 6053 8th & Millville  
(609) 562-4888