

the Post

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September 21, 2007

NEWSNOTES

Soldier Show on stage at Timmermann Center

The 2007 U.S. Army Soldier Show will light up the stage at Timmermann Center Sept. 23, with two shows at 1 and 6 p.m. The show, which features a variety of entertainment by Soldiers on tour around the world, is open to the public. Those attending must enter the post through the main gate on Route 68.

Seminar open for Spouses to Teachers program

Army Community Service is partnering with the Troops to Teachers program to offer military spouses the same benefits. A seminar outlining the program and the process is set for Oct. 17 at 11 a.m. in the ACS Conference Room, Building 5201, Maryland Avenue. To learn about the financial and educational benefits of the program, call Rod Martell at 562-2186 to register. Seating is limited to 20 people, so sign up now!

Heating season is upon us -- almost

It is normal at Fort Dix this time of year to experience significant differences between daytime temperatures and nighttime temperatures outdoors. Your building's air conditioning system will shut down automatically with the cool nights, but will start again as afternoon temperatures rise. The Director of Public Works monitors the changing weather conditions and will direct the facilities maintenance staff to shut down the air conditioning systems and turn on the heating systems once the daytime temperatures no longer sufficient to warm up the buildings. Until that point, it is recommended that you dress in layers so you remain comfortable throughout the day.



Vietnam veteran Curt Anderson joins in an exuberant welcome home Sept. 16 for Soldiers returning to Fort Dix from Iraq, xxxxx and other members of the Vietnam Veterans of America Chapter 899 gather at the post to welcome and farewell every Soldier, a show of support veterans of the Vietnam war did not receive.

WEATHER

FRIDAY -- Mostly sunny with a high near 83, some clouds into evening, overnight low of 61 degrees.

SATURDAY -- Sunny with a high of 87, breezy in afternoon with overnight low of 57.

SUNDAY -- Sunny, continued warm with daytime high of 82 and low of 57 degrees.

MONDAY -- Sunny, high near 80 and low of 56.

TUESDAY -- Sunny, high of 81 and overnight low of 59 degrees.

Training partners NY bound

Staff Sgt. Adam Navarro
72nd Field Artillery Brigade

Following a long, hot summer of training, the 174th Infantry Brigade is going home to Fort Drum, New York this month.

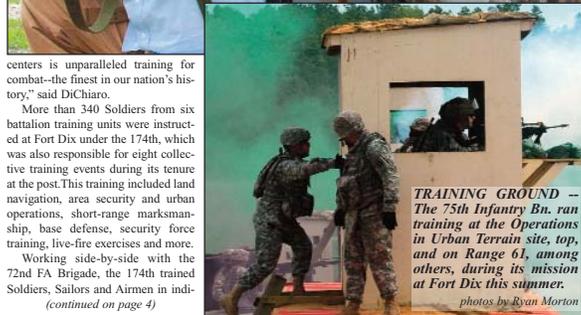
As a training unit, the 174th has earned the nickname "The Away Brigade" because it's always moving from one mobilization site to the next.

Training mobilizing Soldiers alongside the 72nd Field Artillery (FA) Brigade, the 174th completed its support mission at Fort Dix, the nation's most active mobilization station.

From April through mid-September, the 174th has been preparing and mentoring Soldiers at Fort Dix prior to their deployment to Iraq and Afghanistan. Primary mission objectives assigned to the 174th by First Army Command included partnering with the 72nd FA to train National Guard and Army Reserve Soldiers for the Global War on Terrorism.

According to Col. Larry Boyd, deputy commander for mobilization, "The 174th Infantry Brigade, under the command of Col. Joe DiChairo, is a very professional team of trainers who have been critical to the successful training of Soldiers, Sailors, and Airmen who were mobilized here at Fort Dix during this Surge period. My hat's off to these Warriors. Thanks for sharing our foxhole here with us at Team Dix!"

"In my opinion, what our Soldiers receive at the First Army mobilization



centers is unparalleled training for combat--the finest in our nation's history," said DiChairo.

More than 340 Soldiers from six battalion training units were instructed at Fort Dix under the 174th, which was also responsible for eight collective training events during its tenure at the post. This training included land navigation, area security and urban operations, short-range marksmanship, base defense, security force training, live-fire exercises and more.

Working side-by-side with the 72nd FA Brigade, the 174th trained Soldiers, Sailors and Airmen in indi-

(continued on page 4)

TRAINING GROUND -- The 75th Infantry Bn. ran training at the Operations in Urban Terrain site, top, and on Range 61, among others, during its mission at Fort Dix this summer. photos by Ryan Morton

Yesterday's warriors reunite

Former service members attend post Retiree Day

Sgt. Shawn Morris
444th MPAD

Generations of past warriors found common ground at Griffith Field House Sept. 15 as Fort Dix held its annual Retiree Appreciation Day.

More than 500 retirees and their families packed into the gym to gather information from nearly three-

dozen organizations and a keynote speaker from the Military Officers Association of America.

"The main goal is to get the retirees reconnected with the service. A lot of them will never come on post until this happens," explained Henry Melon-Lopez, director of Human Resources-Military. "We also bring a couple great speakers who can update them on new legislation."

This year's keynote speaker was retired Air Force Lt.Col. Shane Ostrom, deputy director for the Benefits Information Department, Military Officers Association of America.

"We thank each and every one of you for your service," Ostrom told those in attendance. "I hope what you see here today will help you understand what's going on up on (Capitol Hill) to protect your benefits."

Ostrom identified MOAA's current three main objectives: To eliminate inequities in the Survivor Benefits Plan; to oppose beneficiary cost increases in TRICARE; and to fight for a minimum 3.5-percent pay raise

for Active Duty troops. While Ostrom is hopeful, he warned that dealing with federal legislators means compromise and giving up some things to get others.

"You have to be realistic," he explained. "You want to try to affect the masses as much as possible."

Ostrom also noted several issues that will compete for funding, including a protracted war on terrorism, military recruiting and retention goals, a declining military knowledge base in Congress, and an unwillingness for personal sacrifice among the nation's civilian population.

(continued on page 3)

Suggestions wanted at AFAP conference

A conference sponsored by the Army Family Action Plan (AFAP) is scheduled for October 25, 8 a.m. to 4:30 pm at the Timmermann Conference Center. AFAP provides a forum for military family members, civilians and retirees to let military leadership know what works, what doesn't and to offer suggestions on how to fix things.

Local changes have included improvements to roads on Fort Dix, upgrades in commissary services, improved processes for the Case Management Program at the JRC, Fort Dix.

Army's 'quick ship' bonus nearing end

ARNEWS -- The U.S. Army's Recruiting Command's \$20,000 "quick-ship" bonus program for aspiring recruits ends Sept. 30.

The bonus applies to new recruits with no prior military service who enlist for at least two years active duty in America's Army. They must agree to report to basic training within 30 days of enlistment. The quick-ship bonus contributes to the Army's strength and efforts to grow the active force by over 34,000 Soldiers.

"America's Army is strong," said Lt. Gen. Michael D. Rochelle, the

Army's Deputy Chief of Staff, G-1. "To attract interested young men and women we know that we must have cutting-edge enlistment and retention options ... We will meet our commitments worldwide and provide the best led, best trained and best equipped Soldiers to combatant commanders. We urge your continued support."

The \$20,000 quick-ship bonus can be combined with the Army's other cash enlistment bonuses, up to a maximum combination of \$40,000 if an enlistee signs up for at least four years.

Breakfast and lunch will be provided and the conference is open to all branches of the military and Department of Defense employees. So come on out, bring your ideas along and help improve Army life at Fort Dix.



David Moore

A welcome signal

Soldiers of the 198th Signal Battalion, Delaware National Guard, touch down on American soil at McGuire Air Force Base Sept. 16, on their way to demobilize at Fort Dix.



Military mystique mesmerizes movie mavens



Steve Snyder
Public Affairs Staff

What do verbose, high brow, ear-ringed and bifocal film critics for fancy New York magazines do when they go home at night? Exhausted, perhaps, by sitting through one moronic cinematic offering after another, they probably kick off their shoes and turn on the VCR. But to watch what?

War movies, I suspect. Films exploring the trauma of combat are loaded with action and have long been crowd-pleasers. And the spectacle of war is made to fill a large screen. But I think character development holds more lasting satisfaction, especially in war flicks. The military mystique continues to fascinate, especially appealing, perhaps, to those ordinarily having little contact with the martial world.

Lists of great or the "best" war movies are a dime a dozen. They're worthwhile but risk wearing out their welcome. Maybe it's time to look at performances by actors whose portrayals of military men have been so strong as to become stereotypes in their own right.

Actors bring roles to life and thereby feed the military mystique, attempting to answer on screen: What is a Soldier? and What makes him tick?

Categorizing performances into military types helps make a vast volume of roles manageable to lone intellectuals.

Let's call our first category the **old pros**. They're roles exploring the lot of veterans who are combat-hardened and natural leaders in the field.

Old pros pictured on this page include Sean Connery as a Russian submarine commander in *The Hunt for Red October* (1990), left corner top of page; Lee Marvin as a sergeant in *The Big Red One* (1980), middle of the top of the page; Richard Burton firing his weapon in *The Wild Geese* (1978), upper right middle; Victor McLagen raising his sword in *Gunga Din* (1939), on the extreme right; Burt Lancaster about to take away a knife from Ernest Borgnine in *From Here To Eternity* (1952), above right; William Holden



HIREG GUNS -- Richard Burton's Col. Faulkner leads mercenaries against the Simbas in Africa to rescue a national leader and, incidentally, grab the rights to copper riches in 1978's "The Wild Geese," a bloody and unsentimental thriller in which the action never seems to slow, let alone abate. Burton is joined by Roger Moore, Richard Harris and Jack Watson, cuthroats all and warriors bad to the bone.

barking a command in *The Devil's Brigade* (1968), to the right of Lancaster; Charlton Heston leading a cavalry charge as *Major Dundee* (1965), bottom left flanked on his right by Spencer Tracy as Maj. Robert Rogers in *Northwest Passage* (1940).

Old pros are invariably hard core and tough on their troops but for the most part are loved by subordinates because they ask nothing they aren't willing to do themselves and they genuinely care about their men.

They're disciplinarians with hearts, however hard-boiled. Our second category is still a harder breed, though, determined to accomplish their objectives and woe be those who stand in their way. Let's call them **zealots** (fanatics?), remembering that it's a stereotype that's evolved from Hollywood and may not be as prevalent as Tinseltown sometimes suggests.

On the positive side, **zealots** are determined and results-oriented. But on the negative side of the ledger they're sometimes almost as tough on their own men as they are on the enemy.

Zealots gracing this page include George Peppard as a German flying ace in World War I in *The Blue Max* (1966), second from the left on small frames on top; Robert Shaw as the German tank commander in 1965's *The Battle of the Bulge*, second from the right in frames at top of the page; George C. Scott as Patton (1970), flank-



IN YOUR FACE -- Former D.I. Lee Ermy must have been many a Marine recruit's worst nightmare as he demonstrates in this scene from Stanley Kubrick's "Full Metal Jacket," made in 1987. War is hell. For Marines, boot camp is, too.



NAPALM FOR BREAKFAST -- Robert Duvall as an air cavalry commander, tries to persuade a young Soldier to test the waters for surfing amid VC fire in 1979's much acclaimed epic of the Vietnam War, "Apocalypse Now." Duvall's character "loves the smell of napalm in the morning" because "it smells like victory."



CHARGE -- Victor McLagen personifies rough-hewn NCOs in Britain's imperial forces ruling India in director George Stevens' rousing spectacle, "Gunga Din" (1939).



TOP KICK -- Sgt. Ernest Borgnine tries to carve a piece out of his first sergeant, Burt Lancaster, in 1952's cinematic paean to the brown-shoe Army, "From Here To Eternity," set at Schofield Barracks in Hawaii just prior to the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor that propelled America into World War II. There has never been a more convincing screen portrayal of a first sergeant than Lancaster's nor an Army ballad more haunting than "Re-enlistment Blues."



SCOUTING REPORT -- Spencer Tracy as Maj. Robert Rogers, leader of Rogers' Rangers during the French and Indian War, receives word from Mohawk scouts during the Ranger punitive expedition to St. Francis in Canada in 1940's "Northwest Passage." His rangers destroyed the Indian camp before being chased back to a deserted fort in upstate New York. Tracy's portrayal was as dynamic and charismatic as the leader he portrayed.



HARD CHARGING -- Played superbly by Charlton Heston, Major Dundee tries to calm his bucking steed in the 1965 film of the same name featuring Richard Harris (right, above), James Coburn and Ben Johnson in addition to the redoubtable Heston. Directed by violence-obsessed Sam Peckinpah, "Major Dundee" chases Apaches, Santa Berger and French Lancers down Mexico way while harshly disciplining Harris' accompanying Confederate troops. Heston excels in this hagiography of a hard guy.

Top of the page photo IDs of actors and films they appeared in, from left to right, Sean Connery, standing, and Alec Baldwin in *The Hunt for Red October* (1990); George Peppard in *The Blue Max* (1966); Lee Marvin in *The Big Red One* (1980); Jeff Daniels in *Gettysburg* (1993); Robert Shaw in *The Battle of the Bulge* (1965) and George C. Scott as Patton (1970).



CALL TO ARMS -- Flanked by Vince Edwards, left, Lt. Col. William Holden calls the first Special Forces unit to attention in "The Devil's Brigade," a 1968 effort that effectively showcased Holden's hard-bitten persona along with other seasoned vets of military movies such as Claude Akins and Richard Jaeckel.

the Post

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Warriors reunite

(continued from page 1)

"We believe the military and veterans of this country deserve to be at the top of the pecking order," Ostrom said. "(The nation) has to really decide where the priority lies."

Despite this competition for funding, Ostrom is confident that, as a team, retirees can obtain their goals.

"We have to speak up as a group," he insisted. "That's how we get our power."

Gaining strength through numbers is a goal of many veteran and retiree organizations, such as the Fort Dix Retiree Council.

"This is a very special day where we say thank you to our retirees," said George Waters, Fort Dix Retiree Council president. "We are indeed grateful for the service our retirees have provided."

The council not only works to make life better for retirees at Fort Dix and its surrounding communities, but also fights for favorable legislation at the state and national level.

"Our goal is to make the retirees aware of every benefit that they're entitled to," explained Charles Piscopo, a veteran service officer with the New Jersey Department of Military and Veterans Affairs.

"Not only are there federal benefits, there are benefits from the state of New Jersey," he added.

Awareness of the latest legislation seemed to be foremost on the minds of many retirees in attendance.

"You get a chance to meet old friends, but the most important thing is you gain



1st Sgt. David Moore, 444th MPAD

APPRECIATION SUPPORT— Neville, Thomas, above left, and Patricia Heard of Fort Dix Human Resources-Military, register retirees for the Retiree Appreciation Day held Sept. 15 at Griffith Field House. William F. Mead, Marine Corps veteran and the state's vocalist for the Veterans of Foreign Wars, right, performs the Star Spangled Banner during the opening ceremonies of the event.



information that has been instituted," said retired Sgt. Maj. Artis Arrington. "Being a retiree, you don't keep up with the changes."

"I come to find out what's new, and sign some petitions," said retired Sgt. 1st Class Bob Newcomb, who served in the New Jersey National Guard's 50th Armored Division.

"The people here are the ones who are going to go and tell (the politicians)," he explained. "They're very knowledgeable."

"This is the third or fourth

one I've been to," he added. "They're always well-organized."

Veterans and retiree organizations represented at the event included the Military Order of World Wars, the 24th Infantry Regiment Combat Team Association, the Association of the United States Army, the Armed Forces E-9 Association, The Retired Enlisted Association, Veterans of Foreign Wars Posts 10065 and 6805, and the Twenty Plus Club.

Government entities with representatives on hand includ-

ed the New Jersey Department of Military and Veterans Affairs, the Social Security Administration and TRICARE.

Fort Dix provided representatives from Retirement Services, the Veterans Administration Clinic, Human Resources-Military Casualty, Fire and Emergency Services, DoD vehicle registration and ID cards, Army Community Service, Army Emergency Relief and Arts and Crafts. The McGuire Air Force Base 305th Medical Group was also present to provide information.

**FORT DIX
WANTS YOU**



**TO BE A
VOLUNTEER**

Call Army
Community Service
at 562-2767
to find out more about the
Fort Dix
Volunteer Program

Dix worker puts 'oorah' on film

David Moore
Public Affairs Staff

When a wounded Marine returned home to Deptford Township, Sept. 14, behind him was a Fort Dix worker who made sure the moment in the warrior's life was remembered by the wounded veteran and his family forever.

And the saying 'Once a Marine, always a Marine,' stood out that day when Bill A. Zullo, a former Marine sergeant who is a civilian technician at the post's Directorate of Information

Management Research, Analysis and Maintenance Inc. (RAM), filmed the entire event that placed an estimated 4,000 to 6,000 people on the route along township streets to welcome home a local hero.

"The goal was to film the event through the eyes of a child, so it was understood that on that day a town and the state stood together for a moment to pay honor to that Soldier. I did it for his future daughter and the rest of the family," Zullo, a professional videographer, said. "I felt like this was something I had to do."

The story of Cpl. Raymond D. Hennagir, 21, began on June 16 in Iraq when, during his second tour of duty an Improvised Explosive Device (IED) took both his legs and four fingers.

Most of the 28,000 in the town heard of one of their own being wounded. Within 48 hours of hearing reports the Marine was returning home, municipal leaders and volunteers began to launch plans to get him home to his family.

Zullo, who lives in West Deptford Township and received Hennagir's family approval to film, called Deptford Police Chief John J. Marolt to ask if he could ride in the front police cruiser. Zullo said he wanted to be in the cruiser behind the Hennagir



ALL THE WAY -- Estimates are between 4,000 and 6,000 residents of Deptford Township filled the route to welcome a wounded Marine home.

photos by David Moore

family vehicle containing his fiancé, Sherri Baskerville, sisters, Sherri English and Nadia Pinzutti.

Hennagir arrived off Cooper Street, one of the township's busiest streets, escorted by motorcycle riders and the New Jersey State Police.

For the last few miles riding in a red Mustang convertible, Hennagir saw signs, banners and flags being waved by residents on the way home, where the crowd forced closure of his street.

Uniformed representatives from the Marines, Navy, Air Force, and Army lined Hennagir's street.

Soon the crowd broke out in a impromptu, emotional version of 'God Bless America' that left all who attended in tears.

Looking back on the event Tuesday, involving Hennagir's parents' Donna and Mike English, as well his fiancé and future daughter, Kelsey, Zullo said "It was an incredible emotional moment."

Zullo, a Vietnam and Beirut Marine, explained why he wanted to be a part of this event.

In 1976, when he was then a

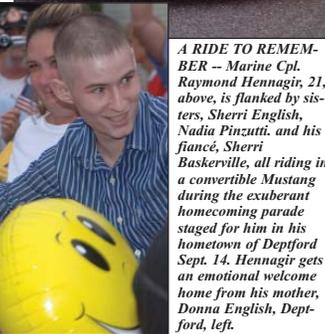
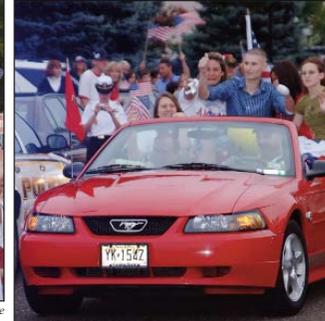


MARINE TO MARINE - Bill Zullo, of the Fort Dix Directorate of Information Management and a Marine Corps veteran, tells the story of a wounded Marine veteran's return home to Deptford on Friday, September 14.

First, the DOIM technician who has spent many hours at the post's Joint Readiness Center talking to Soldiers said, "I know what the Soldiers are thinking and I know the fear, I've been there."

Second, there's an inside story for Zullo and what sparked his participation.

In 1976, when he was then a



A RIDE TO REMEMBER -- Marine Cpl. Raymond Hennagir, 21, above, is flanked by sisters, Sherri English, Nadia Pinzutti, and his fiancé, Sherri Baskerville, all riding in a convertible Mustang during the exuberant homecoming parade staged for him in his hometown of Deptford Sept. 14. Hennagir gets an emotional welcome home from his mother, Donna English, Deptford, left.

sergeant, he was involved in a motorcycle accident involving a deer on Thanksgiving eve near Exit 3, Route 295.

Many cars drove by that night, but then one Jeep with two couples in it stopped and picked him up and drove home to Underwood Hospital.

He remembers fading in and out. He woke up in the emergency room.

He never found out their

names, but he did remember one of the girls saying 'When somebody needs help, you should help them.' I try to live by that."

Though he never found out who helped him, he tries to live by what he was told during his moment of crisis.

Zullo said his daughter is familiar with that story, but asked before the welcome home, why just help one Sol-

dier coming home injured?

He explained he can't help everyone in that situation, but if each person who could help someone did then the world would be a better place.

"That Marine and his family will look back on that day and he and his daughter will remember that America, my hometown stood together in unity for a moment to honor his service," he said.

Training partners move to new mission

(continued from page 1)

vidual and collective tasks and practical exercises focused on sharpening their skills, thus preparing them for the mission ahead.

Following the completion of 40 individual and 11 collective tasks, an evaluation phase called an ARTEP (Army Training Evaluation Program) is initiated.

Overall unit performance is measured through a 24-hour per day, five-day event wherein each unit is rated based on execution of its pre-defined mission objectives.

Much of the success the 174th brings to training lies in the vast experience of its members. Sgt. First Class Vernon Roach, 1-314th Operation Warrior Trainer has eight mobilizations under his belt with three tours in Iraq and one in Afghanistan.

Roach says he really enjoys his job and he gets a sense of pride and personal satisfaction in being a trainer.

"It makes me feel good knowing that I can train soldiers and possibly give them a better chance on the battlefield. The main reason I'm here is to give back. I love my job," said Roach.

His brigade commander agrees. "I'm the proud owner of some of the Army's best trainers, getting the best combat veterans as Opera-

tion Warrior Trainers, coming off multiple combat tours, and sharing lessons learned with their comrades who are preparing for similar missions," said DiChairo.

Sgt. Roderick Herzog, 3rd-314, also an Operation Warrior Trainer, is a combat engineer with experience on more than 150 patrols on Iraq's deadly IED-infested highways. He spends time now teaching other Soldiers what he learned during those patrols, and says it's an NCO's job to impart his or her knowledge to other Soldiers.

"I wish I would have had this training back when I deployed. Now soldiers who go through this training receive the benefits of our mistakes and our successes. They're getting the most current, up-to-date training, and I'm honored to be a part of it," said Herzog.

Following their stint at Fort Dix, the 174th packed up to head to Fort Bragg, North Carolina for yet another training mission.

Colonel Michael Miklos, Commander of the 72nd FA Brigade, said as his sister brigade departs, "We know that next summer is going to be even better as we continue the close relationship between the professionals of both brigades and our ability to accomplish the First Army training mission at Fort Dix."



David Moore

Making the grade

A Soldier does prep work on Grand Concourse, a key road on Fort Dix ranges, for contract pavers to finish off the hard surface that will make access to the post's ranges easier. Paving and striping was scheduled to be complete this week.

NEIGHBORHOOD

THE CORNER

Spouses' Club to hold Super Signup at Club Dix

The Fort Dix Spouses' Club is holding its annual Super Signup event Oct. 5 starting with social time at 5 p.m. and the main program from 6 to 8 p.m. at Club Dix.

Come and greet past club members, meet new faces and learn about how our service enhances your community! There will be representatives from Arbonne, Home & Garden Party, Mary Kay, MWR, Pampered Chef, Party Lite, Stampin' Up and more!

The Fort Dix Spouses' Club is an all-ranks club, which includes all spouses of active duty or retired military (Army, Air Force, Coast Guard, Navy, Marines) or reserve components, regardless of rank (E1-O7), federal civil service & contract employees and/or their spouses, as well as active duty military members or reserve components, regardless of rank (E1-O7).

Members of the spouses' club pride themselves on service to their community while at the same time enjoying some fun participating in book club, hobby/craft time, monthly luncheons, volunteer time on post and other events.

They also run the Fort Dix Thrift Shop located on Pennsylvania Avenue. Hours are Tuesday through Thursday from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., the first Wednesday of the month from 4 to 8 p.m., and the first and third Saturdays of the month from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

For more information regarding the event, e-mail fort dixspousesclub@comcast.net or call Susan DuKavas at 723-2784 or Susan Crawford at 234-9758.

Flowers available at Self Help Store

Chrysanthemums are available at the Self Help Store beginning Sept. 21 for Fort Dix tenant organizations. The flowers are available on a first-come, first-served basis until gone.

The Fort Dix Self Help Store is located in Bldg. 532 on Delaware Avenue and is open from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday through Saturday. Take a few minutes to help beautify your part of the installation.

Classes starting soon at Main Chapel

CCD begins Sept. 23 from 9:15 to 10 a.m. Anyone interested in teaching please call Hilde Dreyer at 562-4853. Registration forms for children are available in room 18 on Sundays and at the reception desk during the week.

The Christian Women Of The Chapel (CWOC) have begun their fall series. Regular meetings will begin Sept. 11 from 9:30 a.m. to noon. All women are invited to attend.

MOMS Club to host local Open House

The MOMS Clug of the Browns Mills Area is hosting an Open House Sept. 25 at 10 a.m. in the Pemberton Library meeting room. Come and join moms and children just like yourself for fun, playgroups, park days, seasonal outings, speakers, coffee chats, and much more.

Refreshments and snacks will be served and, as always, children are welcome. If you can't make this meeting, we meet at 10:30 a.m. on the first Monday of every month at the Pemberton Library. For more information, e-mail BrownMillsMOMS@aol.com

ACS to host Accent Reduction Classes

Army Community Service, in conjunction with Burlington County College, will offer Accent Reduction Classes for non-native service members and foreign-born family members who would like to improve their enunciation by reducing some of their native-speaking accent.

Classes will begin Oct. 15 and are held in the ACS conference room from 6 to 9 p.m. Call Amada Espinoza, Relocation Readiness program manager, at 562-3271.

Alcoholics Anonymous meetings held weekly

Each Tuesday night at Bldg 9013 is a closed meeting for members from 7:30-8:30 p.m. On Thursday nights, there is a meeting at the Main Chapel from 7-8 p.m. (use the 8th Street parking lot entrance; the meeting is in the lounge near Fellowship Hall)

Public Lands Day call for caring

Shawn Morris
Public Affairs Staff

Land in New Jersey is valuable as anyone who has purchased a piece of the Garden State knows. But land should be measured not only in dollars and cents, but in its value as a community resource.

During the National Public Lands Day celebration from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. at Lake Of The Woods Sept. 29, Team Dix and members of the surrounding communities will have a chance to give something back to one of Fort Dix's natural treasures.

"We wanted to focus on Lake Of The Woods because it's an unknown resource," explained Jennifer Tronco-Armento, Fort Dix Natural Resource management ecologist. Past Public Lands Days have focused on Laurel Pond and Willow Pond.

Lake Of The Woods, according to Tronco-Armento, is included in the Fort Dix fish-stocking program, and is in decent shape for not having received much attention.

"There's on bank that we need to stabilize," she said, "and we're rebuilding a bridge." Tronco-Armento also said that more than 50 plants need planting, and some split-rail fence has to be installed.

"We're also doing some nest boxes and turtle-basking platforms," she added.

National Public Lands Day began in 1994. This past year, nearly 100,000 volunteers worked in approximately 1,100 locations nationwide, including many military installations.

The Department of Defense provides Legacy Awards of up to \$6,500 for military lands open to the public for recreation. In 2006, 27 installations received such awards.

Volunteers should arrive at Lake Of The Woods ready to get dirty. T-shirts will be given to the first 100 volunteers. For more information, call Tronco-Armento at 562-5428.



photos by Shawn Morris

GIVING BACK -- Jim Orpen, Tasha Prosser and Mary Prosser, above from left, lay down mulch during National Public Lands Day 2006 at Fort Dix. This year's NPLD celebration will be held at Lake Of The Woods off Range Road Sept. 29 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Jennifer Tronco-Armento of Fort Dix Natural Resources, near left, will be on hand to make sure volunteers can make a contribution to the environment.



Moral ground firm in war on terrorism

2nd Lt. Moshe Grusscott
Chaplain Candidate

In the Jewish liturgical tradition, a different portion of the Torah (the five books of Moses, from the beginning of Genesis to the end of Deuteronomy) is read in synagogue every week on the Sabbath, so that by the end of the year all five books have been completed.

Last Saturday, Jews around the world read Deuteronomy 21:10-25:19, which discusses, among many other things, some of the laws of warfare. The portion begins with the words "when you go out to war against your enemies..." and proceeds to lay out some of the pertinent laws of war.

Traditional Judaism believes every word of the Torah (Hebrew Bible) to be Divine; since no single word is superfluous, something can be learned from every word. And so the rabbis asked a question: Why does the Torah have to state "when you go to war against your enemies?" This last phrase is seemingly redundant because war is always, inherently, against an enemy; after all, one does not go to war against their friends. What does this phrase add?

Some rabbis answered that the

Torah is teaching a lesson: While war is not ideal and should always be the last resort, if you do go to war then the only prudent way to fight it is by viewing the opposing army as an enemy. War must be fought fully and overwhelmingly, with full confidence in one's cause and full confidence in the wrongness of the other side, or it isn't worth fighting at all.

There are those in today's relativistic world who would find this approach to be old-fashioned and nationally prejudiced. "Who are we to know who is right and who is wrong?" is the sentiment more commonly expressed in discussing today's conflicts.

But history has proven that it actually leads to more bloodshed when war is fought half-way, without clear objectives or confidence in one's cause. During the Cold War, it is only because the United States consistently maintained that our way of life was superior to the communist system that we had the resolve to eventually defeat that system. And when wars are won more quickly and decisively, less blood is shed in the long run. It should go without saying that in

the Global War on Terror, Americans need to view the enemy as being morally wrong, and not just as some force we need to defeat tactically in order to live peacefully. In Iraq today, U.S. troops are not fighting the good Iraqi people themselves, but rather a relatively small group of barbaric insurgents who cut off heads, burn children, and

attack innocents in order to achieve their goal of attaining power for themselves. They use immoral means to achieve immoral ends.

Our troops need to know that Americans not only support their mission from a strategic perspective but also from a moral perspective: That the essence of what they're fighting for is right.

The above-mentioned portion of the Torah concludes with the somber commandment to "remember what Amalek did to you on the way when

you left Egypt"...and proceeds to command Israel to war with Amalek until their destruction. Amalek is seen in the Bible as embodying absolute evil. And what did Amalek do to deserve this label? "When you were weary and worn out, they met you on your journey and attacked those who were weak and lagging behind; they had no fear of God" (Deut. 25:18). Amalekites are all those who target the weak and innocent ("the weak ones who are lagging behind") on purpose. They don't respect the normal rules of warfare and for this the Bible singles them out for special contempt amongst all of Israel's other enemies, who at least had the courage to fight conventionally.

Modern day terrorists seem to fit the mold of the Amalekites by purposely targeting the weak. It is this small but determined enemy who our troops confront today. Our troops need to know that we support them for many reasons, including wanting to live safely, but primarily because we believe in their cause.

Chaplains' Corner

Sharing FORT DIX



FROM WIGGLE TO WING -- A Hawttail Moth caterpillar, above, is ready to make a cocoon. (Photo by Daniel Saveria, DOL.) At right, a Luna Moth completes the drying process before it launches into flight.



Ryan Morton

Cup of G.I. joe

Nikki Dyer, left, serves Spec. Elido Vasquez at the recently opened "City Coffee" located in the Joint Readiness Center. City Coffee is set to officially kick-off its new operation with a grand-opening ceremony Oct. 8 at 9 a.m.

MILITARY MATTERS

Eligible Soldiers must register for revamped TRICARE insurance

Bonnie J. Powell
Army News Service

FALLS CHURCH, Va., Sept. 14, 2007 - National Guard and Reserve members participating in the TRICARE Reserve Select healthcare plan must sign up for the restructured TRS by Sept. 30, 2007, in order to continue their coverage.

TRS was authorized by Congress in 2005 as a premium-based healthcare plan for National Guard members and Reservists. The revamped version, effective Oct. 1, 2007, is affordable and simpler, with one premium level instead of the current three-tier system.

"There have been many improvements in reserve-component pay and benefits in the past few years," said Assistant Secretary of Defense for Reserve Affairs Thomas F. Hall. "TRS is a robust healthcare plan. It represents a substantial benefit available to our Reserve and National Guard servicemembers and their families."

Monthly premiums are \$81 for the servicemember and \$253 for member-and-family coverage. TRS offers coverage comparable to TRICARE Standard and Extra. The revamped program also includes expanded survivor coverage, continuously open enrollment and much more. Gone are service agreements and differing qualifications for each of the three tiers.

There are only two qualifications under the restructured program. First, servicemembers must be selected reserve members of the Ready Reserve. Second, they must not be eligible for, or currently covered by, the Federal Employee Health Benefits program (either on their own or through family members).

Reserve Affairs sent a letter in August to reserve-component servicemembers currently covered by TRS, explaining the program changes and how to continue coverage. As of early September, only 15 percent of approximately 11,000 current members had completed and submitted the new TRS request forms.

To continue TRS coverage, all current members must go to <https://www.dmdc.osd.mil/appj/trs/>, print out the new TRS request form, sign it and return it to their regional contractors by Sept. 30. If payment is usually made by check, the first month's payment must also be included. Members who pay electronically do not need to include a payment if they meet the deadline.

National Guard members and Reservists can find out more about the updated plan through the "My Benefits" portal at www.tricare.mil. Reserve-component points of contact - identified at www.defenselink.mil/ra/html/tricare.html - can answer additional questions.

New Army Combat Shirt debuts

Debi Dawson
Army News Service

WASHINGTON, Sept. 14, 2007 - In response to Soldier feedback, Program Executive Officer-Soldier has designed the new Army Combat Shirt to be even more breathable.

The flame-resistant ACS is in development for use under body armor. It is designed to replace two layers, the Army Combat Uniform jacket and moisture-wicking T-shirt, thus reducing bulk and heat stress.

"As providers of the world's best equipment to the world's best Soldiers, we collect and rely on Soldiers' input and ideas to constantly improve all of our products," said Brig. Gen. R. Mark Brown, Program Executive Officer-Soldier. "All of our clothing and equipment is battle-proven and live-fire tested. Those labels can't be earned in a laboratory."

The ACS features a mock-turtleneck, long sleeves in the universal camouflage pattern, flat seams that reduce bulk and chafing and built-in anti-abrasion elbow pads. The shirt is moisture-wicking, anti-microbial and odor-resistant.

The latest version of the shirt includes upgrades based on Soldier feedback collected since the shirt was first distributed in the spring for limited-user evaluations.

"Even though we developed the Army Combat Shirt to be lighter, more comfortable and breathable, we listened to Soldiers who tested it and said they wanted it to be even more breathable and comfortable," said Maj. Clay Williamson, assistant product manager for clothing and individual equipment. "The fabric that made up the torso of the ACS was replaced with a fabric that provides breathability that is off

the charts."
However, to retain modesty, the original fabric was maintained in the mid-chest area. Both fabrics have a four-way stretch.

Another change that increased breathability was replacing the elastic cuffs designed to keep out sand with adjustable cuffs similar to ACU jacket cuffs. The cuffs can be loosened for ventilation or tightened to keep out sand and other debris. Changes were also made to the neck band.

Although the ACS was designed to be worn under the Interceptor Body Armor, test participants noted the short breaks between patrols made it impractical to change into the ACU jacket.

They wanted changes to the ACS that would identify them and their unit. In response, hook and loop tape was added to the right sleeve to accommodate a name tape, rank and infrared flag. The left sleeve also sports hook and loop tape for a unit patch.

The ACS with the most recent improvements will be available in late September for follow-on user evaluations.



courtesy photo

SOLDIERING IN STYLE -- The new Army Combat Shirt is in development for use under body armor and is designed to be as breathable and comfortable as possible.



1st Sgt. David Moore, 444th Mobile Public Affairs Detachment

Freedom flight to home

Staff Sgt. Charles Shuck, 28, of the 178th Military Police Company, Fort Hood, Texas, and Gabe, began wrapping up their 13-month long deployment when they arrived wrapped up their 13-month long deployment by arriving at Fort Dix Sunday that drew the attention of all the children and parents waiting for their own loved ones also returning hom from Operation Iraqi Freedom. The Lansford, Pa, native said Gabe was one of the most successful canines for 26 finds of of illegal weapon caches to included and Improvised Explosive devices.

Army helps former Soldiers transition into civilian life

Ryan Marton
Public Affairs Staff

When a person serves in the military, he or she has to consider a number of variables regarding his or her future to make some key life decisions. A major decision is whether to remain in the military or transition to the civilian world following completion of his or her service. For many, this can be a very difficult and, at times, agonizing decision to make.

For some, military life fits like a glove and they have no problem signing on the dotted line for another stint, or serving a whole 20-year career; but for others, the decision can be extremely arduous.

The military has programs to help service members make

this very important life decision when this crossroad is reached. The Army Career and Alumni Program, or ACAP, and the Transition Assistance

Army Career and Alumni Program and Transition Assistance Program are available to all military personnel who are contemplating a return to civilian life.

Program, or TAP, are tools designed to help veterans navigate through the waters in this process.

These programs offer services that assist with resume writing, searching for jobs in various career fields, job fairs and listings, how to survive a

job interview, and even how to dress and negotiate job offers.

ACAP and TAP are available to all military personnel who are contemplating a return to civilian life. TAP, which is also known as TurboTAP, and ACAP are part of the mandatory pre-separation counseling provided by the military to all exiting and retiring servicemen and women.

If you are approaching the end of your military service and are not sure what you'll do, or are definitely considering leaving the service and would like to take advantage of these programs, check out the ACAP site at

<http://www.acap.army.mil>, or TurboTAP, at

www.turbotap.org. You can also access the TurboTAP link through the ACAP site.

Read
The Post!

Announcements



Movie Schedule
at the McGuire AFB Theatre
Movie Hotline 754-5139

Friday, September 21 @ 7:30 p.m.

Rush Hour 3 - Jackie Chan, Chris Tucker, Hironaka Sanada, Youki Kudoh, Max von Sydow - In Paris, chief inspector Lee (Jackie Chan) and detective James Carter (Chris Tucker) encounter the Chinese Triad crew. The unlikely cop duo continue their unique brand of crime-fighting and high-kicking comedy.

MPAA Rating: PG-13 - sequences of action violence, sexual content, nudity and language

Run time: 90 minutes

Saturday, September 22 @ 7:30 p.m.

Stardust - Claire Danes, Michelle Pfeiffer, Robert De Niro, Charlie Cox, Sienna Miller - To win the heart of Victoria (Sienna Miller), a beautiful but cold object of his desire, a young man named Tristan (Charlie Cox) ventures into the realm of fairies to retrieve a fallen star. What Tristan finds, however, is not a chunk of space rock, but a striking girl named Yvaine (Claire Danes). However, Tristan is not the only one seeking the star. A king's four sons need the star as they vie for the throne. Tristan must also overcome the evil witch Lamia (Michelle Pfeiffer), who needs the star to achieve eternal beauty. As Tristan sets out to protect the star and bring her back to his beloved, his journey will bring unforeseen romance, highflying adventure, and incredible encounters with a pirate captain, a shady trader, and an enchanted unicorn among other surprises. But if he can survive on his wits and the strength of his newfound love, Tristan will also uncover the secret to his own identity, and a fate beyond his wildest dreams.

MPAA Rating: PG-13 - fantasy violence and some risqué humor

Run time: 99 minutes

Future Features...

The Invasion

Friday, Sep. 28 @ 7:30 p.m.
PG-13, 99 minutes.

War

Saturday, Sep. 29 @ 7:30 p.m.
R, 91 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 begins Sep. 23 at 9:15 a.m. - Interested teachers call Hilde Dreyer, 562-4853

Protestant-Gospel Sunday School - 10 a.m. Teachers and substitutes needed. Sign up outside Room 21 or call Chap. Biederman or Chap. Logan at 562-2020 or Thuan Domski at 893-7627.

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

FOB 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 - Bible Study - Tuesdays, 9:30 a.m. to noon

Christian Men of the Chapel - 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 High Holiday Schedule
Fort Dix Main Chapel

Yom Kippur Fri. 21 Sep. 1830
Kol Nidre Fri. 21 Sep. 1830
Morning Service/Yizcor Sat. 22 Sep. 1000
Nilah and break the Fast Sat. 22 Sep. 1730

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.

Sep 21 - Sep 27

Friday

Power Hour 4 - 6 p.m.
Computer Lab 2:30 - 4:30 p.m.

Keystone Club 6 - 7 p.m.

Saturday

Back 2 School Shopping at Jackson Outlets 1:30 - 6 p.m.

Youth Center CLOSED

Monday

Power Hour 4 - 6 p.m.

2:30 - 4:30 p.m.

Arts & Crafts Club 3:45 - 4:45 p.m.

Computer Lab 4 - 6 p.m.

Tuesday

Power Hour 2:30 - 4:30 p.m.

Goals for Growth 3:45 - 4:45 p.m.

Computer Lab 4 - 6 p.m.

Wednesday

Power Hour 2:30 - 4:30 p.m.

Sports & Fitness 3:45 - 4:45 p.m.

Computer Lab 4 - 6 p.m.

Thursday

Power Hour 2:30 - 4:30 p.m.

Tech/Video Club 3:45 - 4:45 p.m.

Computer Lab 5 - 6 p.m.

Goals for Growth Program starts Sep. 18, and runs through Nov. 20. The program is a 10 week program that will be held on Tuesday afternoons from 3:45 - 4:45. The program is open to 11 and 12 year olds and will be led by Ms. Erica Bryant. Contact the Youth Center with any questions and to register.

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

Army Community Service

Bldg. 5201, 562-2767
Hearts Apart

Sept. 25
10 a.m. - 1 p.m.
Army Community Service

**Lunch and Learn Series:
Avoiding Homework Hassles**

September 21
11:30 - 12:30
Army Community Service

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

**Third Annual
Highway to Healthcare
Charity Road Ride**

to benefit DEBORAH Hospital Foundation
Sunday, September 30
Registration begins at 8:30 a.m.
Riders depart Deborah at 10:00a.m.
For further information call 609-893-1200 ext. 4532 or 4778 or visit
www.highwaytohealthcare.org

Computer Classes
for 3 - 5 year olds

Tuesdays (starting October 2)
4:15 - 5:15 p.m.
Fort Dix Child Development Center

BASIC COMPUTER SKILLS

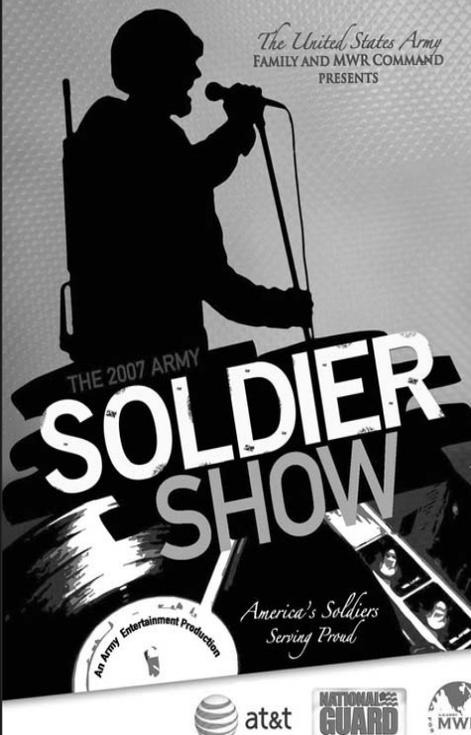
KEYBOARD FAMILIARIZATION

**PRACTICE DESKTOP SKILLS with
PULL DOWN MENUS**

Register TODAY through September 18!

\$45 (A month paid in advance is due on the 1st)

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the Post



The United States Army
FAMILY AND MWR COMMAND
PRESENTS

THE 2007 ARMY
SOLDIER SHOW

An Army Entertainment Production
America's Soldiers
Serving Proud

at&t NATIONAL GUARD MWR

Timmermann Center, Bldg 5441, Fort Dix NJ
September 23
Two Show times: 1:00pm & 6:00pm
For more information: (609) 562-6709

Secretary of Navy visits Lakehurst

LAKEHURST, Sept. 18, 2007 — The Honorable Donald C. Winter, Secretary of the Navy (SECNAV) paid a visit to Naval Air Engineering Station (NAES) Lakehurst on Sept. 17 to meet with Navy officials and contractors for an Electromagnetic Aircraft Launch System (EMALS) update and facilities tour.

Hosted by Mr. John Wendolowski, Director of Support Equipment and Aircraft Launch and Recovery Equipment Department at Lakehurst, the visit marked the first time in the almost ninety year naval history of the installation that a seated Secretary has visited Lakehurst.

In addressing the Naval Air Systems Command (NAVAIR) employees at the installation, Dr. Winter described EMALS as "one of the most significant advancements in aircraft carrier technology since the development of nuclear power." He went on to thank the Lakehurst team for "all their hard work in successfully bringing this technology to the fleet and providing this tremendous capability for the future of the Navy." After meeting and seeing the professionalism of the Lakehurst team, Dr. Winter concluded by saying "you will be directly supporting the pilots and aircraft of our Navy as they serve in the defense of our Nation. I know you are up to the task."

EMALS is a multi-phase research and development acquisition program that is designed to replace the current steam catapults used on aircraft carriers to launch aircraft from their decks. EMALS will be installed on the CVN-21 future class of carriers that is currently scheduled to be at sea by 2014.

The present steam catapults are large, heavy, energy inefficient, manpower intensive and dependent on steam provided by the ship's engineering plant. EMALS is intended to be inherently more survivable, provide better performance, be less manpower intensive and have a lower life cycle cost than steam catapults. EMALS

will be capable of launching all conventional and short takeoff fixed wing carrier aircraft currently projected for the Navy inventory through 2030, including the Joint Strike Fighter. The goal is to be capable of launching all future aircraft projected in the inventory through 2050.

General Atomics, of San Diego, CA is the contractor for the System Development and Demonstration (SDD) Contract that includes the design, fabrication, delivery, integration, test and support of one full scale, full length, shipboard representative EMALS facility. Hensel Phelps Construction Co., of Aurora, CO is the contracting firm that is building the infrastructure, supporting buildings and related utilities for the EMALS program.

The new EMALS testing and support facility in Lakehurst, scheduled for completion in 2008, will serve the Navy for many years to come. It will be used to test and evaluate future EMALS modifications as well as test and evaluate both upgraded aircraft and completely new aircraft that may be used in the future.

Also visiting Lakehurst for the EMALS briefing and tour were Mary Noonan, Chief of Staff to U.S. Congressman Chris Smith, Dr. Delores Etter, Assistant Secretary of the Navy for Research, Development and Acquisition (ASN RDA), Vice Admiral Dave Architzel, Principal Deputy to ASN RDA, Rear Admiral Kevin McCoy, NAVSEA Deputy Commander for Ship Design, Integration and Engineering, Rear Admiral Steven Eastburg, NAVAIR Assistant Commander for Research and Engineering and Ms. Steffanie Easter, NAVAIR Assistant Commander for Program Management.

Receiving awards were Vincent Sieracki for his career achievement with the Navy as an engineer and manager and George Sulich for his work with EMALS. Both were presented with the Superior Civilian Service Award.



Pascual Flores

Wounded warriors care for kids

Nine Soldiers assigned to the Warrior Transition Unit (WTU) at Fort Dix received a Certificate of Achievement for their assistance to the Army Community Service's "Kids With Special Needs Games" event that was held on the installation. They are, from left, Staff Sgt. Gregory S. Friend, Sgt. Michael A. Dean, Sgt. Curtis E. Barry, Spc. Larry W. Jackson, Pfc. Jymc J. Dickson, Pfc. Darrell I. Houck, Pfc. Freddie J. Morton, Pfc. Chewy Y. Ramirez, and Pvt. Joshua M. Adams.

Army vessel honors African-American

BALTIMORE, Md., Army News Service, Sept. 16, 2007 - The logistics support vessel Major General Robert Smalls (LSV-8), the first Army vessel named for an African American - was inducted into the Army's watercraft fleet yesterday during a commissioning ceremony at Baltimore's historic Inner Harbor.

The 314-foot long, 5,412-ton vessel officially joined the Army Reserve's 203rd Transportation Detachment as more than 300 guests looked on.

Smalls is the second of two improved LSVs based on the six earlier Gen. Frank S. Besson-class vessels. LSV-8 is named in honor of Robert Smalls. As a 23-year-old slave during the Civil War he commandeered a Confederate transport steamer loaded with armaments and used the vessel to spirit his wife, children and 12 other slaves to freedom. Hailed as a hero by Union leaders, Robert Smalls went on to become the first African-American to captain a vessel in U.S. service and later served as a major general in the South Carolina militia, a state

legislator, a five-term member of the U.S. Congress and U.S. Collector of Customs in Beaufort, S.C.

That LSV-8 bears Maj. Gen. Smalls' name is due largely to the efforts of Kitt Haley Alexander, a writer and artist who spearheaded a seven-year effort to have an American military vessel named after the Civil War hero.

LSV-8 is named in honor of a Civil War slave who commandeered a Confederate transport steamer to spirit his wife, children and 12 other slaves to freedom.

"I knew that this man deserved more recognition from this nation," she said, "and I first approached the Navy about naming a ship after him. After that didn't work out I ended up sitting near the Army's chief of military history at a social function and after speaking with him later, he said that Robert Smalls' service in the militia might allow the Army to name a vessel after him." After a lengthy verification process, the Civil War hero was ultimately selected to give his name to the vessel.

Maj. Gen. Robert Smalls and the other seven LSVs currently in Army service are designed to provide worldwide transport of general and vehicular cargo. Fitted with huge bow and stern loading ramps, the ships each boast a 10,500-square-foot central cargo deck large enough to hold up to 24 M1 Abrams main battle tanks.

The Kuroda and Smalls launched in 2003 and 2004, respectively - are updated variants of the six earlier Besson-class LSVs and incorporate improved bow ramps, upgraded communication and navigation systems, and a host of other refinements.

The vessels in the Army's watercraft fleet range in size from small workboats to the LSVs, according to U.S. Army Transportation Corps officials. Army vessels have participated in each of the nation's conflicts since the Revolutionary War, and currently play a vital role

in supporting operations in Iraq and Afghanistan, as well as participating in humanitarian-relief efforts in the Pacific and Caribbean.

"This is a tremendously capable vessel, and we're very fortunate to have such an asset in the Army and the Army Reserve," said Chief Warrant Officer 4 Steven C. Brown, commander of the 203rd Trans Det. and LSV-8's vessel master. "We've trained very hard to bring this ship into the Army's fleet, and this commissioning ceremony is a way of saying that Maj. Gen. Robert Smalls and her crew are ready to undertake their wartime missions."

"This is a great day, and one I will never forget," said Freddy Meyer, great great grandson of Maj. Gen. Smalls and one of many of the former slave's descendants on hand for the ceremony.

"Maj. Gen. Smalls was a renaissance man - an educator, a politician, a Soldier, a businessman and a family man, and the Army could not have picked a better person to name this ship after," he added.



photos by Shawn Morris

Academy awards achievers

First Sgt. Curtis Brockman, incoming Headquarters Company first sergeant at the Fort Dix Noncommissioned Officer Academy, above left, receives the guidon from Command Sgt. Maj. Franko Antolovich, NCO Academy commandant, during a ceremony held on Sharp Field Sept. 14. Brockman takes over from Master Sgt. Shandrel Daniels, above right.



Sgt. Adam Flores, center, receives an award for his selfless service and commitment to Soldiers during his time as dental NCO at Mills Clinic from Command Sgt. Maj. Franko Antolovich, NCO Academy commandant, left, and Col. Ronald Burkholder, chief of restorative and preventive dentistry, right.



Tech. Sgt. Mark Olsen, 177th Fighter Wing Public Affairs

Review by the officials

Governor Jon S. Corzine, commander-in-chief of the New Jersey National Guard, left, and Maj. Gen. Glenn K. Rieth, the adjutant general of New Jersey, second from left, applaud as Soldiers and Airmen of the New Jersey Army and Air National Guard pass in front of the reviewing stand during the 24th Annual Military Review at the National Guard Training Center at Sea Girt Sept. 16.



www.state.nj.us/military/museum

The National Guard Militia Museum at Sea Girt is hosting a special "New Jersey in World War II" exhibit timed to coincide with the release of Ken Burns' new documentary series, "The War."

Sea Girt Militia Museum hosts World War II exhibit

SEA GIRT, Sept. 20, 2007 -- The National Guard Militia Museum of New Jersey (NGMMNJ) at Sea Girt is pleased to announce its "New Jersey in World War II" exhibit, inspired by the Ken Burns documentary series "The War."

In conjunction with the screening of the series, the museum has partnered with New Jersey Network (NJN) by sharing some of its trove of oral history interviews. NJN has posted excerpts from the interviews of three World War II veterans, which may be viewed at www.njn.net/television/specials/war/oralhistories/.

The NGMMNJ's oral history program is affiliated with the Library of Congress and has holdings of more than 300 interviews with war veterans from WWII to the present. Summaries of many of these interviews are available on-line at www.state.nj.us/military/museum/oralhistory.html.

The museum's exhibit commemorating New Jerseyans at war includes an "Arts and Letters of War" display featuring the work of Newark Evening News war correspondent Warren Kennet, "Newark's Ernie Pyle," and the first journalist ashore at Normandy; William Foley, formerly of Edgewater, whose wartime sketches as a rifleman in the 94th Division led to a postwar career as a professional artist, and combat photographer Albert Meserlin, formerly of East Orange, who spent the final months of the war as General Dwight D. Eisenhower's personal photographer, a position that gained him a ringside seat at the German surrender in May, 1945.

The exhibit also relates the story of Sgt. Curtis Culin of Cranford. Culin's idea of

attaching steel prongs to tanks to cut through dense Norman hedgerows, a creation dubbed the "Rhino Plow," materially aided the American breakout from Normandy and gained an accolade for "Yankee ingenuity" from Gen. Dwight Eisenhower.

The display also highlights the wartime history of Culin's outfit, the 102nd Cavalry, New Jersey National Guard, which landed at Normandy on D-Day plus two, was the first American unit into Paris, and ended the war in Pilsen, Czechoslovakia, as well as the story of the 44th Division, proclaimed "New Jersey's Own" (with a little New York help) in the pre-war National Guard. The 44th fought its way from France into Austria and captured the famed Wernher von Braun of V-2 rocket fame. In the postwar years Von Braun became the father of the American ballistic missile system and moon exploration program.

New Jersey's home front is evoked with images of scrap drives in Asbury Park, the South Amboy Red Cross Women's Motor Corps and the New Jersey State Guard, which replaced the National Guard when it was called to active duty. Artifacts on display include souvenirs brought back by New Jerseyans from the front, including rare items like a Japanese winter uniform worn on Attu and Kiska islands, a German paratrooper's camouflage smock, an Afrika Corps pith helmet and a rare Sturmgewehr 44, the world's first "assault rifle."

The exhibit is part of an ongoing museum series on the role of the Militia and National Guard in the larger history of New Jersey, which will include permanent and topical tempo-

rary exhibits. In addition to its exhibits, the museum serves as a source of information on New Jersey's military history for public and scholarly research.

Museum admission is free, although donations are appreciated. Admission requires a photo ID for adults.



Wayne Cook

HEALING PROCESS -- Col. Judith Robinson, commander, Walston Medical Support Element, left, congratulates Sgt. Michael Matthews, Warrior Transition Unit, after pinning on his Purple Heart medal during a ceremony at Bravo Company Sept. 18. Matthews was awarded the Purple Heart for wounds received while deployed with Charlie Company, 3rd Battalion, 106th Infantry, performing security convoys in Basra, Iraq.

Reserve Soldier earns Purple Heart award

Wayne Cook
Public Affairs Staff

Sgt. Michael Matthews, Warrior Transition Unit (WTU), was awarded the Purple Heart during a ceremony held at Bravo Company Sept. 18. Presenting the award was Col. Judith Robinson, commander, Walston Medical Support Element.

The Purple Heart is awarded in the name of the president of the United States to any member of an Armed Force who, while serving with the U.S. Armed Services after April 5, 1917, has been wounded or killed, or who has died or may hereafter die after being wounded.

Matthews received the Purple Heart for wounds received during a route security mission on March 2, 2007, with Charlie Company, 3rd Battalion, 106th Infantry, out of California. His unit was conducting a mission near Basra, Iraq, when the vehicle Matthews was assigned to was hit by multiple impro-

vised explosive device. His body was hit by several pieces of shrapnel and he sustained burns to 20 percent of his body.

During the attack on the convoy, Spc. Christopher Young, Matthews' driver and close friend, was killed.

Matthews, then a corporal, was emergency air evacuated to Germany where he underwent initial treatment for his wounds, and then was sent to Fort Sam Houston in Texas for further treatment. Finally, he was sent to Fort Dix to complete his rehabilitation and demobilization processes.

Having completed his rehabilitation, Matthews has requested to remain on active status and been granted a permanent change of station to the WTU as a squad leader assisting other wounded Soldiers as they undergo their rehabilitation.

Attending the ceremony in support of the 21-years-old sergeant were more than 100 members of the WTU, the Mobilization Readiness Battalion and some of his loved ones.

"I volunteered for the duty. I knew what I was going into. I went out there knowing what I was facing. I love being in the Army and I loved my job. Thanks for all of the support during my healing process," Matthews said.

"To the fallen Soldiers and their families I say, rest in peace and God speed," he answered when asked what his thoughts were after going through such an ordeal.

His answer is not such a surprise when you understand his family history. Matthews, whose home is in Fairfield, Calif., has a grandfather who served in World War II and was also awarded the Purple Heart, and his father retired from the Air Force after serving 28 years including five deployments. It appears the military is in his blood and spirit.

This tough and determined Soldier epitomizes what the Army is all about and is a great representative of the newest generation of American Soldiers.



courtesy photo

Residents go extra yard

Master Sgt. Thomas Feck and family, center, receive one of several Yard of the Month awards from Command Sgt. Maj. Ken Davidson, installation command sergeant major, left, and Chief Master Sgt. Brian Mosier, 30th Civil Engineer Squadron, McGuire Air Force Base, right. Each month during the summer, one Yard of the Month and one Honorary Yard of the Month are selected in the McGuire and Fort Dix housing areas.

Sports Shorts

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

Joint Base Half Marathon

Fort Dix, Lakehurst Naval Air Engineering Station, and McGuire Air Force Base will hold its Inaugural Joint Base Half Marathon, Saturday, Sept. 29 at 8:30 a.m.

The 13.1-mile route will be on paved surfaces within McGuire Air Force Base and Fort Dix's cantonment Area. There is a 3-hour time limit to finish the marathon. The entry fee includes a T-shirt, a participation medal, pasta dinner, information packet, post run snacks, along with tons of fun and entertainment!

Participants will pick up their Packet the day prior, Friday, Sept. 28, between 4 and 6 p.m., with the Pre-Race Carb Dinner following at 6 p.m. at the Community Center. Guest speaker will be Col Tom Kastner, USA, coach of the US Army Marathon Team.

Cost for dinner is included in your registration fee.

There will also be a 5K Run/Walk and a Kids

Run. Arrival time for all races is 5-7:30 a.m. Security will direct participants where to park and to main event area. For further details, please call Lt Terry DeMille at 754-4750.

Griffith Class Schedule

Monday
Cardio Kick Express
4:30 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.

Total Toning
5:15 p.m. - 6:15 p.m.

Tuesday
Sculpting Express
9:30 a.m. - 10:00 a.m.

Spin-It
noon - 12:45 p.m.

Intro to Fitness
5:15 p.m. - 6:15 p.m.

Wednesday
Circuit Training
5:15 p.m. - 6:15 p.m.

Thursday
Step & Sculpt
noon - 12:45 p.m.

Pilates Fusion
5:15 p.m. - 6:15 p.m.

Friday
Spin-It
noon - 12:45 p.m.

For more information about activities at the Griffith Field house, or to verify class times, call 562-4888.

Pool Hours

Monday - Friday
Military Lap Swim
6 - 8 a.m.

Retirees/Dep. Lap Swim
10 - 11:30 a.m.

Active Duty/DOD Lap Swim
11:30 a.m. - 1 p.m.
Recreation Swim
1 - 5 p.m.

Saturday
Lap Swim
10:30 a.m. - noon

Recreation Swim
noon - 6 p.m.

Hydro Aerobic Class
10:30 - 11:30 a.m.

Monday - Wednesday
Hydro Aerobic Class
7:30 - 8:30 p.m.

Bowling leagues started for fall

Tuesdays at 6:30 p.m.
Kegglers (five-person mixed teams)

Wednesdays at 9:30 a.m.
Petticoat Ladies (ladies only, three-person teams)

Thursdays at 6 p.m.
McGuire Intramural (bowl for Commanders Cup points)

Fridays at 7:30 p.m.
Mixed Doubles (four-person mixed teams)

To sign up, call Tod or Gary at 562-6895 or e-mail Bowling@dixmwr.com.

Honoring the Colors

Reveille
6 a.m. (0600 hours)

Military personnel in uniform

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

Military personnel not in uniform, civilians

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

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.

Individual military personnel, civilians in a vehicle

Stop vehicle and exit. Follow steps above.

Group of military personnel in a vehicle

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

Retreat
5 p.m. (1700 hours)

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

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

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.

Stop vehicle and exit. Follow steps above.

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



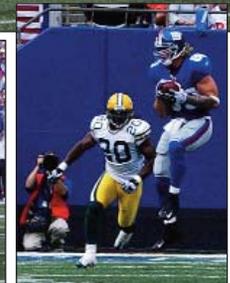
N.J. aviators lift spirits high at Giants Stadium

Four UH-60 Blackhawk helicopters piloted by Soldiers of the 1st Battalion, 150th Aviation Regiment, a General Support Aviation Battalion that is part of the New Jersey Army National Guard, fly in formation over Giants Stadium in East Rutherford at the beginning of the New York Giants game against the Green Bay Packers Sept. 16, right. After landing the choppers, the pilots and crew members, below, were honored during the game with cheers and applause from National Football League players, stadium employees, and the fans. These Soldiers spent 18 months deployed to Iraq in support of the 42nd Infantry Division, also known as the "Rainbow Division," and the First Infantry Division, also known as the "Big Red One." Earlier that day, the same choppers and Soldiers provided a similar flyover at the 24th Annual Military Review for New Jersey National Guard troops at Sea Girt.

photos by Sgt. Shawn Morris, 444th MPAD



Having "Army Strong" Soldiers on their side wasn't enough to help the New York Giants, as they lost to the visiting Green Bay Packers 35-13 Sept. 16. The Giants are now 0-2 for the season.



Ed Mingin

Golfing for gold

Bob Steelman, Chang Yi and Tom Prendergast, winners of the Sept. 12 Commander's Cup, from left, celebrate their victory at Mulligan's. The next Commander's Cup will be Oct. 17. Col. Ronald R. Thaxton, installation commander, is scheduled to participate.

Fitness Equipment Orientation Seminar for Senior Citizens



Friday, October 5 at the Griffith Field House

For Fitness-Minded Seniors, ages 55 and up.

- Get Familiar with the Cardiovascular & Nautilus Equipment
- Learn how to properly use the Machines
- Learn how to use proper body mechanics to maximize your workout.

For more information, call 562-2707/4888