

the Post

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December 14, 2007

NEWSNOTES

Job interviews to be held soon at ACS

Contemporary Staffing Solutions will be accepting applications and conducting interviews Dec. 18 from 9 a.m. to noon at Army Community Service, Bldg. 5201 Maryland Avenue.

Some of the positions they will be hiring for are administrative/office support, executive administrators, human resources, project managers, CSS technical service, IT management, quality assurance and technical writers. Some of these positions are Temporary, Term-Hire, Direct Hire and Contract, Contract to Hire and Direct Hire.

Call Rod Martell at 562-2186 for more information.

DoD taking nominations for ESGR Freedom Award

The Department of Defense opened the nomination season for the 2008 Secretary of Defense Employer Support Freedom Award Nov. 1.

Nominations will be accepted at www.esgr.mil until Jan. 21, 2008. The Secretary of Defense Employer Support Freedom Award is the U.S. government's highest recognition given to outstanding employees.

For questions regarding the nomination process, please call Hank Pierre of the New Jersey ESGR Committee at 562-0156.

United Communities seeks Resident Board members

Fort Dix and McGuire Air Force Base are seeking additional Family Housing Residents to serve on the housing privatization Resident Representative Board (RRB).

The RRB's objective is to provide resident input to improve their housing communities.

RRB members need to be UC family housing residents and willing to obtain input from other residents. The RRB meets once a month, typically at 1 p.m. on the second Wednesday on Fort Dix or McGuire.

The next RRB meeting is scheduled for Dec. 12 at 1 p.m. in the McGuire Club, 2508 East Third Street. For more information or to join the RRB, call Judith Holliday at 754-3361 or Rich Sample at 562-5025 or send e-mail to judith.holliday@mcguire.af.mil or richard.sample@us.army.mil.

The Post nears end of contract year

The 2007 contract year for the Fort Dix Post ends with the Dec. 21 issue. Publication will resume for 2008 with the Jan. 11, 2008 edition.

WEATHER

FRIDAY -- Mostly sunny, slight chance of showers, high of 42 degrees and overnight low of 24.

SATURDAY -- Cloudy and colder, high of 32 and nighttime low of 30 degrees.

SUNDAY -- High probability of rain, snow and wind, with a high of 42 degrees and overnight low of 22.

MONDAY -- Partly cloudy, continued cold with daytime high of 38 and low of 21 degrees.

TUESDAY -- Sunny and cold, daytime high of 31 and overnight low of 19 degrees.

WEDNESDAY -- Partly cloudy, slight chance of rain, high of 39 degrees and low of 28.

THURSDAY -- Morning clouds giving way to afternoon sun, with a daytime high of 41 and overnight low of 22 degrees.

Dix, McGuire top CFC goals

Fort Dix and McGuire Air Force Base closed out the Combined Federal Campaign Dec. 13 with the announcement that both installations topped their annual goals for the annual charitable fund drive.

In a ceremony at the McGuire Community Club, Col. Ronald Thaxton, Fort Dix commander, told the crowd that the community contributed more than \$45,800 to the annual charitable fund raising drive, well exceeding its \$33,000 goal.

Col. Balan Ayyar, McGuire and 305th Air Mobility Wing commander, announced that the Air Force community contributed \$175,000 to

the campaign, again topping the \$160,000 goal set at the opening of the campaign.

The ceremony opened with the posting of the colors by the McGuire AFB Honor Guard, and the singing of the national anthem by Air Force Staff Sgt. David Weaver.

In a continuing tradition of sharing CFC success stories with contributors, Dan Templar of the Boy Scouts of America told the audience that the program has traditionally relied on donations to remain in operation and serve the boys and young men of New Jersey.

Many of the values and goals of

the Boy Scouts mirror those of the United States military, he added, giving Combined Federal Campaign donations from the two installations even more impact.

Bruce Conway, South Jersey CFC Campaign manager, thanked the two commanders and the community for the successful campaigns this year, and presented each with a statue of an eagle.

The presentation of the awards marks the official closing of the campaign.

The mission of the CFC is to promote and support philanthropy through a program that is employee

focused, cost-efficient, and effective in providing all federal employees the opportunity to improve the quality of life for all with one efficient campaign.

CFC is the world's largest and most successful annual workplace charity campaign, with more than 300 CFC campaigns throughout the country and internationally to help to raise millions of dollars each year.

Pledges made by Federal civilian, postal and military donors during the campaign season support eligible non-profit organizations that provide health and human service benefits throughout the world.

Congress notified of furlough process

Jim Garamone
American Forces Press Service

WASHINGTON, Dec. 11, 2007 -- The Defense Department has officially notified Congress that the department will begin the furlough process for civilian employees of the Army, the Marine Corps and the combatant commands.

Congressional leaders have released a letter from Deputy Defense Secretary Gordon England dated Dec. 7. In it, England gave legislators the required 45-day notice before beginning furloughs.

The furloughs will become necessary if Congress does not pass a global war on terror spending bill. "Without GWOT funding, only operations and maintenance funds in the base budget are available to cover war-related costs," England said in the letter.

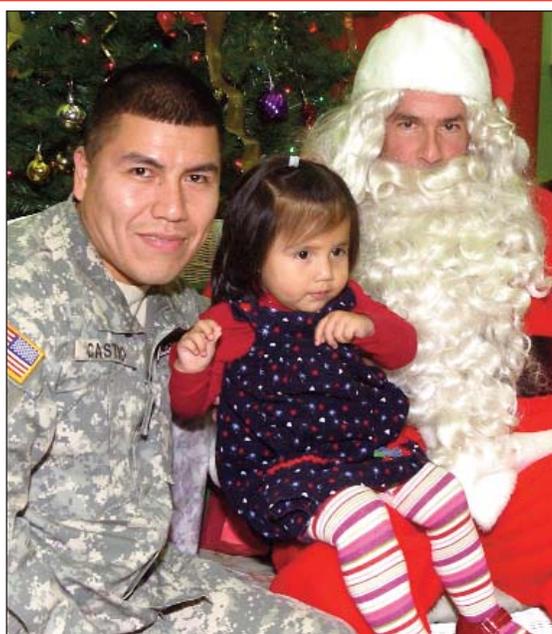
"O&M funds also cover salary costs for a large number of Army and Marine Corps civilian employees."

England reminded legislators of a letter he sent Nov. 8 to explain what would happen without supplemental war funding.

"I emphasized that without this critical funding, the department would have no choice but to deplete key appropriations accounts in order to sustain essential military operations around the world," he wrote in his Dec. 7 letter.

The House passed a \$50 billion bill last month with funds to continue the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan, but it included legislation that directs the president to withdraw most combat troops from Iraq by December 2008.

(continued on page 4)



Wayne Cook

Holidays with heart

Little Pamela Castro's not sure what to make of Santa Claus, but she knows she's okay as long as her father, Sgt. Jose Castro, Joint Force Headquarters, is at her side. They both attended the Army Community Services sponsored Hearts Apart Holiday Party at the Youth Center Dec. 11. Story, more photos, page 7.

FESTIVAL OF LIGHTS -- More than 130 people from Fort Dix, McGuire Air Force Base and the surrounding communities gathered at the Main Post Chapel to share a celebration of Hanukkah Dec. 10. For highlights on the ceremony, friendship, food and fun, see story and photos on page 5.

Wayne Cook



Ryan Marton

STILL TRAINING -- While holiday activities abound on post, more than 2,000 Soldiers, Sailors and Airmen continue to train for deployment to Iraq on Fort Dix ranges. Most will head home for a short holiday break Dec. 23. Among the Soldiers is Pfc. William Shaw, 186 MP Co., Iowa National Guard, Johnston, Iowa. For more photos and a story on Shaw and his unit, see page 10.

WINTER WONDERLAND -- The Heat Miser entertains the Fort Dix community at the traditional Holiday Celebration Dec. 11 at Griffith Field House. For more photos, see page 6.

Ed Mingin



Warriors in winter...

compiled by Steve Snyder



courtesy of U.S. Forces Japan
"We crossed France, went into parts of Belgium and hit the Bulge in a big snowstorm. Our vehicles became almost inoperable. And the tanks one after another were blown up and we could see dead tankers and wounded tankers running for cover all over the place. That was not a pretty sight. We haled out of these tracks and started running through the snow to get some kind of coverage, and actually retreated back up onto a hill, dug in, and spent the night in a big snowstorm. We were wet and I thought, 'Boy, I don't think we can make it. And that night there were tracer bullets all over, lots of artillery - very, very scary. And you'd rationalize things, like, 'nothing worse can happen but getting killed.' But, there were things worse than being killed."
Burnett Miller, "The War"

"An unexpectedly early winter, with heavy snows and abnormally freezing weather during Christmas week, prevented the delivery of regular supplies. A January thaw brought mud so deep on the roads that hundreds of army wagons had to be abandoned. Even when transport was available, the Continental Congress's neglect of the army and the commissary officers' failure to forward food, clothing, and supplies... added to the troops sufferings. At one point Washington reported that he had almost 3,000 men who were unfit for duty because they were barefoot and otherwise naked... Many soldiers deserted... Camp fever - probably typhus - and smallpox were epidemic during the Army's stay at Valley Forge, and medical supplies were lacking. About 2,500 men died and were buried in unmarked graves."
Valley Forge: Weather and Much More from Answers.com



The photo by Steve Snyder
SNOW DAY -- Snow occasionally slowed training on Fort Dix but never stymied it for very long.

Great War hurt women, crippled families Demographic demons bled war-torn Brits

Steve Snyder
Public Affairs Staff

War is hell. And not only for combatants.
In a recent issue of *National Review* magazine (Nov. 5, 2007, page 64) John Derbyshire traces how the death of 700,000 young Englishmen in the First World War condemning a like number of their female counterparts to lives of "untold quantities of sorrow, stoicism, and loneliness, of unwilling spinsterhood."
"One of the most heart-breaking books ever written is Vera Britain's *Testament of Youth*," writes Derbyshire.
Beginning in 1914, the 20-year-old Vera lost, one by one, "all the men she cared about," starting with the poet Roland Leighton and ending with her brother. And she was far from being the Lone Ranger.
Derbyshire quotes the headmistress of a fancy girls'



George Washington at Valley Forge print by Frederick Coffay John at AllPosters.com
VALLEY FORGE -- Eleven thousand colonial troops under the command of Gen. George Washington moved into Valley Forge, Pa., on Dec. 19, 1777, making a camp there until June 19, 1778. The encampment was 22 miles northwest of Philadelphia, close enough to keep tabs on British raiding parties yet far away enough to avoid surprise attacks. Hungry and poorly-clothed troops, many barefoot and half-naked, suffered through the harsh winter. About 2,500 froze to death or starved as Valley Forge came to symbolize the heroism of American Soldiers overcoming tremendous hardships in their struggle for liberty.



http://www.multimed.com/revolt/trenton2.html
TRIUMPH AT TRENTON -- Defeats by the British in New York couldn't kill the fight left in George Washington and the colonial rebels he commanded. On Christmas night 1776 Gen. Washington led 2,400 American troops across the Delaware River, meeting up with James Ewing's men at about 20:00. The combined American forces then converged on Trenton. American artillery woke up and blew away Hessians, German mercenaries fighting for the English, and within an hour 22 Hessians were dead, 98 wounded and almost a 1,000 held prisoner. The Americans had triumphed. As 1777 dawned, Gen. Washington commanded 5,000 men and 40 howitzers in New Jersey. Nobody was going to throw the rebels out of the Garden State.



National Archives
BATTLE OF THE BULGE -- By December 1944 the German Army was in dire straights. The Allies had successfully invaded the mainland of France at Normandy and were, it seemed, pressing inexorably on to the German heartland. So on Dec. 16, 1944, the German high command risked all in a major offensive. Panzer tanks rolled through frozen wastes in the Ardennes forest, hoping to split Allied lines in half while capturing Antwerp near the Atlantic coast and then sweeping north to encircle and destroy four Allied armies which might bring the Allies to the negotiating table. The battle lasted until Jan. 25, 1945 with more than a million men participating. But the Allies won, in the cold.



National Archives

study of the characteristics of human populations, is.
I suspect such harsh realities lay behind the Army's much ballyhooed Family Covenant concerned with supporting families at home while troops are engaged abroad.
To quote from the Nov. 9, 2007, issue of *the Post*: "Right now more than 50 percent of the military is married - the highest number in military history, leaders report."
What happens to children and spouses of military families if, during some future campaign, casualties rise to catastrophic proportions?
One supposes the Army will try to pick up whatever pieces it can.
Great Britain's experience is instructive. Defending a nation's legitimate interests, let alone building an empire or financing imperialistic adventures, is never cheap. And it sure ain't easy. Or painless.

Colonials stung Hessians at Iron Works Hill battle



More than 100 re-enactors filled Mount Holly with pomp and musket fire Saturday in a lively commemoration of the Battle of Iron Works Hill.
The battle took place 231 years ago in Mount Holly and "played a small but crucial part in the American victory at the Battle of Trenton," according to a riveting account by Jason Harris appearing in the Dec. 6 issue of the *Burlington County Times*.
About 2,000 Hessians, German mercenaries hired by the British, invaded Mount Holly because they believed that up to 3,000 American Soldiers were bivouacked there. But they found fewer than 1,000 on Dec. 24, 1776, and commandeered a brewery and began partying after pushing the Americans back.
Hungover, the Hessians couldn't get to Trenton on Dec. 26 to stop George Washington. And the rest is history.
photos by Steve Snyder



the Post

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Ryan Morton

Radioactive results

Sgt. 1st Class Jeron Verrett, 21st Civil Support Team, inspects an area on Fort Dix for possible radiation levels during a training exercise Dec. 10. The 21st CST is an Air Force and Army AGR (Active Guard/Reserve) unit stationed on Fort Dix/McGuire Air Force Base. In the scenario, a mysterious package was delivered to the mailroom and the 21st CST members performed an inspection.

New Year brings housing allowance increase

Fred W. Baker III
American Forces Press Service

WASHINGTON, Dec. 12, 2007 – Most servicemembers receiving a housing allowance will see more in their 2008 paychecks.

The average increase more than doubled for 2008 at 7.3 percent over last year's 3.5 percent average increase.

The Defense Department will pump an additional \$600 million into the housing allowance program, for a total of \$17.5 billion for 2008. This is paid out to 1.2 million servicemembers receiving the allowance.

Overall, members with dependents will see an average increase of \$83 a month, according to a Defense Department release. An E-4 with dependents will see about a \$63-per-month increase, while an E-8 will pocket about \$79 more.

Not all rates saw increases, though. Rates are based on average current rent, utilities and renter insurance by market. In markets where those costs decreased, allowances went down accordingly. But a DoD rate-protection feature locks in rates for servicemembers already living in an area to protect their current rental leases. The cost of buying a home is not included in the data.

Officials collect data on 369 military housing areas in the United States, including Hawaii and Alaska. They then calculate 48 different rates per area based on pay grade and dependant status, to come up with more than 17,000 different rates. Of those, just under 12 percent of the allowance rates saw a decrease, according to officials.

Not surprisingly, cities in California, New York and Hawaii took most spots on the top 10 highest allowance rates in the United States.

San Francisco saw the top rates for allowances with dependents at an average of \$2,853 monthly.

In 2005, housing rate increases represented a final phase of a DoD plan to eliminate servicemembers' out-of-pocket housing expenses. Out-of-pocket expenses were estimated at nearly 20 percent in 2000, according to DoD releases.

"It's come a long way. It just gets better and better every year. The members are seeing increases in most locations every year, so the program is doing what it's supposed to do," said Susan Brumbaugh, director of the Basic Allowance for Housing, Per Diem, Travel and Transportation Allowance Committee.

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Drinking water quality remains high on Dix

Fort Dix water plant personnel working along with the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection (NJDEP) have determined that a calculation error was made in the determination of total trihalomethanes (TTHM) levels in the water system in July 2007 and that the Fort Dix water system did not in fact exceed the established maxi-

mum contaminant level for trihalomethanes.

The NJDEP issued a notice of violation (NOV) for that time period, but is now considering rescinding that NOV since the Fort Dix water system did not actually exceed the limits for the trihalomethanes.

"The bottom line is that the Fort Dix water system has been producing high quality drinking water which meets or exceeds the Safe Drinking Water Act and the NJDEP requirements for drinking water," said Dave Peckham, Fort Dix Director of Public Works. "We submitted another set of water samples to the testing laboratory in November and confirmed that our TTHM levels are below the maximum contaminant levels allowed by NJDEP."

The annual water quality report for the installation is available at www.dix.army.mil, or in hard copy at the DPW Environmental Office or the Public Affairs Office.

**Fort Dix
Weather Hotline**
Call 562-4065
at 6 a.m. daily
for information on
weather delays

Dix recognizes top civilian employee

Lisa Evans
Public Affairs Staff

Joy Lumb said she is "too glib and naïve for city kids" but she seems to be perfect for the children of Fort Dix.

As the recipient of the Fort Dix Civilian Employee of the Year award, Lumb was nominated by Linda Johnson.

"I feel I have never seen or met anyone as dedicated to children. She is extremely responsible as to time, is always there and stays late. She's always planning and spending her own money on community service projects. Her whole goal is community service for the good of the military," said Johnson.

Lumb credits the whole staff with her award.

"We have a good staff and they're trained well. This is an excellent program. We have a great group of kids here and I just love them," she said.

She also was quick to credit the other nominees.

"The ladies on the list were all equally eligible for the award; all were more worthy than I was. In fact, I wasn't going to go to the party, but I did and had a good time. I was almost in tears when they called my name," said Lumb.

An Army brat, Lumb settled at Dix when her father retired. She began work on post in college, worked her way through a master's degree in Student Personnel Services/Counseling, and has dedicated 20 years to the job.

Working with YRC (Youth Reach in the Community), she concentrated on what the children can do for the community.

"I am teaching kids moral and ethical codes, right from wrong. If kids are only with me a year or so, I am still a role model," Lumb said.

In addition to being a role model, she believes in giving children a head start in technology, teaching what she calls basic computer skills to children aged six to 11. Beginning with how to be safe on the Internet, she then judges skill levels and places the children accordingly.

Recently, the children used PrintShop to make t-shirts and bags to give away. In the near future, the children will be using Music Looper to make music and make slide shows with music and other enhancements.

They will also use animation software and plan to make movies in the future.

Lumb's co-workers were not surprised she won the award.

"She knows no time, arrives early and leaves two hours late every day. She's great; a true friend who can be trusted with anything," said Maria Klein.

"All nominations were an honor, but I just screamed when she won because she is fair, honest, loving, and caring. Joy is a joy, she truly is," said Marie Posci.

"She's the best person I've known in my lifetime. She's a good listener and a helping hand at work and out. When my mom was in the hospital, Joy drove me to the hospital and stayed with me, then took me home. Her weakness is that she's too nice," said Eduarda Rivera, who has known Lumb for 15 years.

"That's why she won," Posci added.

Lumb's co-workers had to go back a few years for an example of when a parent was actually angry with Lumb. In 1999, a parent shouted at Lumb for being late one snowy, slick morning.

She handled the incident with her usual calm, soothing the parent quickly.

"Parents love her, are very open with her. They have nothing but positive things to say about her," Rivera said.

"Joy was selected because she truly has a passion for the children and the job," Johnson concluded.

The other nominees for the Civilian Employee of the Year were: Marcella Atwood, Directorate Moral, Welfare and Recreation; Rita M Grmek, Resource Managers Office; Donna A. Grosvenor, Human Resources-Military; Jacqueline H. Holliday, Directorate Moral, Welfare and Recreation; Fay Marshall-Dease, Human Resource-Military; Kim M. Mickles, Resource Management Office; Ray D. Perkins, Religious Service Office-Chaplain's Office.



Ed Mingin

GOOD JOB -- Col. Ronald R. Thaxton, installation commander, presents Joy Lumb with the Fort Dix Civilian of the Year award during the holiday party.

Attorney judged to be Supervisor of Year

Lisa Evans
Public Affairs Staff



Ed Mingin

SUPER SUPERVISOR -- John G. Hollis, Supervisory Attorney (General) receives the Supervisor of the Year award from Col. Ronald R. Thaxton, installation commander. Hollis came to Dix as a civilian in 1994, when he handled environmental law for the installation.

Congress notified

(continued from page 1)
The measure failed in the Senate. President Bush has vowed to veto any bill that includes a troop-withdrawal timetable.

England's letter begins a process that could affect 100,000 civilian employees. "Specific furlough notices will be issued in mid-January," England said in his letter. "The department will also begin notifying appropriate labor organizations."

If the legislation does not pass, the Army will be the first service affected, in mid-February, and the Marine Corps about a month later. The services will be forced to divert operations and maintenance funds to continuing combat operations. Civilian employees in the United States and overseas would be affected.

"The furlough will negatively affect our ability to execute base operations and training activities," England wrote. "More importantly, it will affect the critical support our warfighters — support which is key to our current operations in both Afghanistan and Iraq."

Congress has passed a \$460 billion Defense Appropriations Act for 2008, but this is not enough to fund ongoing operations.

England told the lawmakers the Defense Department has no choice but to begin the furlough process. "While these actions will be detrimental to the nation, there are no other viable alternatives without additional congressional funding," he wrote.

Wayne Cook
Public Affairs Staff

The Fort Dix Fire Department responded to a call for assistance at the old Trash to Steam Plant Dec. 10. While conducting an inspection of the plant Charles Young, a fire inspector, discovered a box with a note attached that read, "You have been contaminated with radiation and you are going to die a slow and painful death."

His call for help initiated an unannounced training exercise that put the firefighters' skills to the test.

Upon arriving at the scene Fire Capt. Todd Harris made contact with Young, conducted an interview to ascertain the facts surrounding the incident, and directed the victim to remain at a safe distance from the scene and the firefighters until they could verify his physical status.

Using radiation and biological-chemical detectors, the firefighters checked Young for contamination.

returned to Dix as a civilian to work as an environmental specialist. At the time, Dix had the most environmental violations in the U.S. military, but after years of improvements, it is now top in the Army for environmental awareness.

Now, as Supervisory Attorney (General), he oversees 12 persons, four military and eight civilians in Claims and Legal Assistance for reserve units, active duty and JRC deployment, for both military and civilian personnel.

"They make my job really easy; they're all terrific, good natured and eager to serve," Hollis said of his staff.

In addition to Fort Dix, Hollis supervises a satellite office, at Fort Devens, Mass., covering the entire New England Region for Claims and Legal Assistance. Both offices help Soldiers with individual problems and wills as well as aiding dependents and retirees with any legal problems they may have.

One big project Hollis supervises and is currently underway is the new Civilian NSPS (National Secure Personnel System) implementation.

"The challenge is to make sure everyone accepts it, since it is coming, and to make it transparent so there are no surprises for anyone," Hollis said.

Another big project is the competition for the Army Chief of Staff Excellence in Legal Assisting competition.

"Unfortunately we are caught in the middle," Hollis said.

"Technically we are a reserve institution, but mostly we have active-duty Soldiers going through the base, so we are competing as a reserve institution." The problem is that most of the work is with active-duty Soldiers, Hollis said.

With tax season approaching Hollis is ramping up the yearly tax service for Soldiers, dependents and retirees.

"Actually, it's turned out quite well," Hollis said of his tenure with Fort Dix.

The other nominee for the Supervisor of the Year Award was Luis E. Lopez, Human Resources-Military.

Fire department tests training



Wayne Cook

CLEAN SWEEP -- Firefighters go through the decontamination line as a precaution after clearing a building of possible chemical, biological, or radiological contaminants during an exercise at the old Trash to Steam Plant Dec. 10.

Festival of Lights celebrations dazzles with food, fun for all

Wayne Cook
Public Affairs Staff

More than 130 people from Fort Dix, McGuire Air Force Base, and the surrounding communities gathered at the Main Chapel to celebrate a Hanukkah party Dec. 10.

The happy revelers packed the fellowship hall, which was brightly decorated for the occasion, including a large menorah - the symbol of the Jewish Festival of Lights.

The crowd was entertained by the Odessa Klezmer Band while joyous partygoers danced to the celebration.

Chap. (Col.) Ira Kronenberg, deputy installation chaplain, began the festivities by lighting the menorah, and Air Force Chap. (Capt.) Raphael Berdugo, McGuire Air Force Base chapel staff, sang traditional songs of the Jewish holiday season.

Col. Ronald Thaxton, installation commander, and Col. Balan Ayyar, commander, 305th Air Mobility Wing, welcomed those in attendance and wished everyone a happy Hanukkah and holiday season.

Dinner was enjoyed by all and consisted of traditional items such as kosher meats, coleslaw, cucumber salad, latkes (potato pancakes), and doughnuts - the latter two items are served because they

are fried in oil, symbolizing the miracle of the oil. (For more information on the origin of Hanukkah, see this weeks Chaplain's Corner.)

The party was a big hit, especially for Spc. Dale Elliott, 438th Military Police, Kentucky Army National Guard. "I really like to experience different cultures and religions. This was a wonderful event. Everyone was great and I learned some things about the faith that is the foundation of my own faith. I truly enjoyed myself," said Elliott.

Another Soldier who was impressed by the evening's event was Spc. Scott Barrett, 438th Military Police.

"I think it was great. I'm glad to see them put on an event like this and to see Jews and non-Jewish people celebrate together," said Barrett.

To close out the night, the children all bubbled over with excitement as they received their Hanukkah presents.

The Hanukkah Party was put on by the Jewish Chaplains Fund with the generous help of the Jewish War Veterans, Post 126, of Cherry Hill.

As they departed, everyone was invited to attend a Passover Seder in March that will be held at the Main Chapel and will be the last one presided over by Kronenberg, as he is set to retire from the Army in April.



LIGHTING UP THE ROOM - Spc. Dale Elliott, 438th Military Police Company, above left, takes a break from the Forward Operating Base training site to enjoy the Hanukkah Party and a conversation with a member of the Jewish War Veterans at the Main Chapel Dec. 10. (Col.) Ira Kronenberg, deputy installation chaplain, below, lights the candles of the menorah to begin the Hanukkah party. The Odessa Klezmer Band, below left, provided festive and traditional music for a packed house.



photos by Wayne Cook



Chaplain's Corner

Chap. (Col) Ira Kronenberg
Deputy Installation Chaplain

This past week Jews the world over celebrated the Holiday of Hanukkah. However, while Hanukkah is a Jewish holiday, its message is universal. Hanukkah, celebrates not only a Military Victory, it celebrates one of our most cherished freedoms, the Freedom of Religion.

In 165 B.C., the Greeks who ruled over Judea prohibited the Jewish people from celebrating their religion. They desecrated the Temple in Jerusalem and placed an idol in the Temple.

After the Jews revolted and drove the Greeks from their land, they returned to rededicate the Temple. They found only enough olive oil to light the menorah, the candelabra, for one day. It took eight days to process new oil. However, a miracle occurred and the oil burned for eight days.

The founders of our country realized that there could not be true liberty and justice without religious freedom. It is why the First Amendment to our constitution, when listing our freedoms begins with "Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof."

I have always been proud to serve in the United States Army where these words have meaning everyday. Chaplains of all faith groups, serve the religious needs of all Soldiers. It has always been my belief, that if the whole world showed the same religious tolerance that is practiced in our Armed Forces, our services would no longer be needed. "For the world would not know war anymore."

Department of Defense meets recruiting goals

Jim Garamone
American Forces Press Service

4,783, for 101 percent of its goal.

The Air National Guard and Army National Guard easily made their November goals at 133 percent and 116 percent, respectively. The Air National Guard had an accessions goal of 551 and signed up 735 airmen.

The Army National Guard brought in 5,135 soldiers, with a goal of 4,423. Officials at the National Guard Bureau said they enlisted 264 soldiers under the Active First program in November. That program gives recruits an enlistment bonus upon joining the active-duty force and another bonus when they transfer to the Guard.

The Army Reserve also exceeded its accessions goal for November at 101 percent. The component enlisted 2,980 soldiers, with a goal of 2,954.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 11, 2007 - All military components met their recruiting goals in November, Defense Department officials said here yesterday.

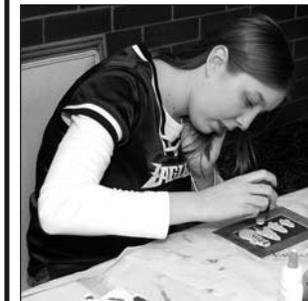
It was the sixth month in a row that all services made their recruiting goals, officials said.

The military is recruiting in a difficult environment, defense officials said. Only three out of every 10 Americans in the targeted age group qualifies for military service. A good American economy and feelings against the Iraq war degrade the propensity of young Americans to enlist, officials said.

The Army had a November goal of 4,750 and signed up



Exceptional families celebrate



Sophie Casciano, above, puts the finishing touches to her Christmas project at the Exceptional Family Member Program Christmas Party held at Club Dlx Dec. 6. Caitlyn Crawford, left, puts some sparkle and concentration into her artwork during a craft session. In addition to arts and crafts projects, program members enjoyed tasty snacks, a sing-a-long and a visit from Santa and Mrs. Claus.

photos by Wayne Cook

American Red Cross
562-2258

Chaplain
562-2020

Family Advocacy
562-5200

Army Emergency Relief
562-2767



Winter Wonderland Fort Dix Holiday Party 2007



photos by Ed Mingin

The festivities started at Fort Dix Dec. 11 with the holiday party. Marissa Pontarelli, age 11, and Elizabeth Maruccu, 10, from the Keystone United Figure Skating Club in Warwick, Pa., entertained partygoers with a dazzling display on the skating rink, left photo. One of the highlights of the party was "Name That Tune," where teams competed in a competition of song knowledge. Charlene Hayward belts out a song title to Steve Melly, above, but the MRB, along with help from Maruccu, dominated the contest, top photo.



A gingerbread town was built during the holiday party, as builders put together edible houses, above. Joy Lumb, Chris Fielder, Cathy Spiegel, Diana Messersmith, Maria Klein and Marie Poci get started with their gingerbread house, below. The Warrior Transition Unit took top honors with their gingerbread creation.



Cody Dolkiewicz, 12, from the Keystone United Figure Skating Club, and Henry Melon-Lopez do battle with their guitars during the song contest, above.

NEIGHBORHOOD

THE CORNER

Teen Center to host Career Mentoring

The Fort Dix and McGuire Air Force Base Youth Centers, along with the McGuire Family Support Center, are sponsoring a Career Mentoring Program for 14-18 year olds at the Fort Dix Teen Center Friday evenings from 6 to 7 p.m. through Jan. 18, 2008.

For more information, call the Fort Dix Youth Center at 562-5061, the McGuire Youth Center at 754-5437, or the McGuire Family Support Center at 754-3154.

Volunteers needed for speaking engagements

The Fort Dix Public Affairs Office is currently looking for officer and senior NCO volunteers to help us in our community relations efforts by becoming part of our speaker's bureau. All that's needed for speaking engagements is enthusiasm, personality and the ability to read and engage the audience.

So if you have the availability and desire to connect with our neighbors and bring a personal touch to the Fort Dix community, please call Gerry Zanzalari, Fort Dix Public Affairs, at 562-4034.

Alcoholics Anonymous meetings held weekly

Part of the mission of the Army Substance Abuse Program is to support 12 Step Programs in the community. There are two Alcoholics Anonymous meetings on Fort Dix.

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).

There is no cost except the desire to stop drinking behaviors that are harmful to self and others. If you or someone you care about needs help, these meetings are ANONYMOUS. For more information, call 562-2020 or 4011, or stop by Bldg. 5203.

Garden Terrace 1100 Area fenced off

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

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. Detour 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.

Party brings good cheer to Hearts Apart

Wayne Cook
Public Affairs Staff

Lights, music, food, fun, presents, children, families - all present and accounted for during the Army Community Service (ACS) Hearts Apart Holiday Party held at the Youth Center Dec. 11.

Families of deployed military members, those who recently returned from duty overseas, and those preparing to ship overseas all gathered to share an extravaganza of holiday spirit.

Dinner was served courtesy of Elzbieta Ravin, president of Hugs for Children, Inc., Randolph Township. Ravin has been involved with Fort Dix since 2004, when she held her first Holiday Gift Drive. This year she not only supplied the food, but also gifts, and helped to arrange the entertainment for the evening event. Hugs also provides gifts for families at Fort Campbell, Ky., and Fort Bragg, N.C.

The house was packed as the members of the Paper Mill Playhouse of Millburn took the stage. The youthful cast sang and danced to the performance of Santa, You've Got Mail; An International Holiday Celebration. The colorful sets, festive costumes, and cheerful music, combined with the energetic acting and dancing of the cast members, kept smiles on those in the audience throughout the entire performance.

The stage show celebrated the holidays of the season - Hanukkah, Christmas, and Kwanzaa - showing an appreciation for all.

Col. Ronald Thaxton, installation commander, Command Sgt. Maj. Bonita Davis, installation command sergeant major, and Command Sgt. Maj. Anthony Young, mobilization sergeant major, all showed up at the party and extended their warmest greetings for the holiday season and thanked the families for their sacrifices while their loved ones deployed in support of the war.

"It is good to have all of the families with members who are deployed, have deployed, or are going to deploy to come together in the holiday season to gather in a spirit of cooperation. The show encapsulated the reason for the season and that is the spirit of celebrating Christmas, Hanukkah, and Kwanzaa. The spirit of cooperating and appreciating the differences in our faiths is what makes us strong as a nation and a people," Thaxton said.

"I enjoyed the food and the show and I really want to thank those who sponsored the event and all the hard work that was put into pulling it off. The children are all happy, and isn't that what this is all about, anyway?" he asked.



REINDEER PAUSE - Members of the cast of the Paper Mill Playhouse's "Santa You've Got Mail, An International Holiday Celebration" performed during the Hearts Apart Holiday Party at the Youth Center Dec. 11. The group of children performers hail from Millburn and brought a whole lot of spirit and cheer with them. Hailey Favereaus, held by her father, Sgt. Josh Favereaus, 1/309th Training Regiment, 72nd Field Artillery Brigade, spends a moment with good old Santa Claus at the Hearts Apart Holiday Party.



Of course, the evening wouldn't be complete without a visit from Santa Claus, and the children lined up to see him and get their pictures taken with him. Each child received a present, courtesy of ACS, Vietnam Veterans of America, West Central District N.J., Chapter 899 in Bordentown, and Hugs for Children, Inc.

The table centerpieces were donated by Rehl's Farm and Nursery of Allentown and were also gifts to the families.

Those who attended the party took home great memories with them.

"I loved the party. The kids really enjoyed themselves. I was overseas last Christmas and I will be going back over soon. It was great for the kids to have this time of fun," Sgt. Edwin Gonzalez, 103rd Engineers, Philadelphia, Pa.

"This is our second time attending. It is great. The kids love it. They do a great job here. We are lucky they

put this on for us," said Sgt. 1st Class Lynette Falkenstein, 1/309th Regiment, 72nd Field Artillery Brigade.

According to a consensus of the guests, the party was a smashing success.

"It went off so well because everybody involved really cares. They put their hearts into it," said Joan Cole, chief of ACS.

One of the many people who was very visible moving in and out of the audience to help take care of the families in attendance was Jessica Simes, a relocation assistant at ACS.

Simes is not only an employee of ACS, but also the wife of a deployed Airman. She initially started out by joining the Hearts Apart program as a

deployed spouse on both McGuire Air Force Base and Fort Dix. Because of her desire to help Soldiers and Airmen, Amada Espinoza, relocation program manager and outreach man-

ager, ACS, helped Simes land a job in the organization.

Simes worked the entire event as her children attended under the watchful eyes of the wives of members from her husband's unit, the 6th Airlift Squadron at McGuire.

"I really love my job and how this all came together. The neat thing about working with these people is they all seem to love their jobs. Almost everyone who returned reservations showed up for the party. There were tons of people here and they all seemed to enjoy themselves. It was great. Everyone I spoke to said they enjoyed it. So many different groups came together to pull this off," said Simes.

As the families said goodbye and bid everyone they could a grateful thank-you, they headed out the door with their children clutching their precious treasures ever so tightly.

Art winners announced

The following is a list of winners by category at the Annual Fine Arts Exhibit:

- Monochromatic**
age 9 and younger
 - First Place - Christina Khayyam "Land of a Million Dresses"
 - Second Place - Natalie Young "Pink Land"
- ages 13 - 15
 - First Place - Kayan Storey "Pumpkins"
- Pastels and Chalk**
age 9 and younger
 - First Place - Natalie Young "Friends Forever"
 - Second Place - Matthew Miller "Snowman"
- ages 10 - 12
 - First Place - Valerie Nolasco "Peace"
- Collages**
age 9 and younger
 - First Place - Jessica Hill "Secret Gardens"
 - Second Place - Natalie Young "Friends"
- Watercolor**
ages 10 - 12
 - First Place - Valerie Nolasco "Flower"
- ages 13 - 15
 - First Place - Kayan Storey "Fantasia"
- Acrylic on Canvas**
ages 10 - 12
 - First Place - Valerie Nolasco "Harvest"
 - Second Place - Dustin Rice "The Rice Family Christmas Tree"
 - Third Place - Olivia Schultz "Christmas Snowfall"
- ages 13 - 15
 - First Place - Joy Craig "Simple Gifts"
 - Second Place - Kennedy Perkins "Family Members and Love"
 - Third Place - Kayan Storey "Candy Cane"



Season to be jolly

Laughs were on the menu at Club Dix Dec. 12 as comedians from the Funny Biz Comedy Show traveled from New York to entertain the post. The show, sponsored by the Times Square Arts Center Home of the World Famous Laugh Factory, was headlined by comedian Rob Stapleton, right, who has appeared on BET's Comic View. Also appearing were Vince August, Ryan Reiss and Gina Brillon. Making her stand-up debut was Directorate of Information Contractor, Maria Inguagual. Encouraged by her friends and employers to try the stage, Inguagual hoped to just, "go have fun."

photos by Jennifer McCarthy



Army screens Soldiers for mild brain injuries

Kimberly Gearhart
Special to American Forces Press Service

SCHWEINFURT, Germany, Dec. 10, 2007 — A pilot program is assessing Soldiers returning here from Iraq for possible mild traumatic brain injury.

Mild traumatic brain injury, or mTBI, has been called the signature wound of the war on terror. Identifying and treating that injury has become a priority for Army medical commands worldwide.

The pilot testing program uses "automated neuropsychological assessment metrics" to identify affected Soldiers. The first post-deployment mTBI screenings are being conducted here as part of the reintegration process for Soldiers of 2nd "Dagger" Brigade Combat Team, 1st Infantry Division.

"The screening is intended to take pre-deployment measurements for a baseline, then retest after the deployment to measure for differences," said Army Lt. Col. Daniel Duecker, Schweinfurt Health Clinic commander.

In the case of the Soldiers of the Dagger Brigade, however, no baseline reading was taken prior to their deployment. Consequently, Army Col. Mary Lopez, project officer in charge of the testing project, was unsure of what results — if any — her team would unearth.

"I didn't expect the testing to tell us much without the baseline for comparison, but the garrison commander (requested) it, ... because it's the right thing to do for the Soldiers," said Lopez, who is a member of the Army's Surgeon General Office.

Lopez added that the range of results considered normal is broad, and of all pre-screenings performed, "we've not found anyone that legitimately

fell below the norms."

This is why having a baseline for comparison is more precise, as it allows for a comparison between Soldiers' post-deployment performance and their own norms.

What they found in testing Schweinfurt Soldiers, however, surprised Lopez and her team. Thanks to key questions imbedded in the tests, Lopez and her team were able to identify soldiers at risk for mTBI and recommend follow-up through the Schweinfurt Health Clinic.

"The screening is intended to take pre-deployment measurements for a baseline, then retest after the deployment to measure for differences."

*Army Lt. Col. Daniel Duecker
Schweinfurt Health Clinic commander*

The key factors in a case of mTBI include an injury event — such as a blow to the head — which causes an alteration of consciousness. Such "alteration" can be losing consciousness, seeing stars or simply being temporarily disoriented. "Compared to those who reported no injury, we found significant differences in reaction time, concentration, and short-term memory" in Soldiers reporting at-risk incidents, Lopez explained.

Results from the first groups to complete mTBI screening were provided to the area medical command. "Colonel Lopez's team was able to ... let the providers here know what they can expect to see in Schweinfurt, so that we can channel our resources in the best way to help these soldiers," said Army Col. Theresa Schneider, Bavarian Medical Department Activity commander.

Once the pilot program is fully tested, Lopez hopes to push it out to medical facilities in theater, where Soldiers can be tested and their recovery

tracked by doctors downrange, she said. "Soldiers (with mTBI), like football players on the field, look physically normal, but they're different. Their reaction time is off, concentration is off, and in a wartime environment, that's very dangerous," Lopez said.

With the assessment tool, doctors will be able to monitor recovery in such a way as to ensure Soldiers are not returned to the fight until their recovery is complete, she said. "It is a treatable condition. They do recover," Lopez said, noting that patience, time and understanding are keys to coping with and treating mTBI.

Once Soldiers return from deployment, family members may begin noticing irritability, sleeplessness, chronic headaches, clumsiness, and memory problems. This five-symptom cluster is a common sign of mTBI, with families often the first to notice such changes.

"The family is the most important element in any kind of rehab," Lopez stressed. "We see the Soldier for an hour or two; you are with him every day. It is important for families to understand what the recovery process is and what they can do to help."

"The (Soldier) is different, but they do recover. You have to understand that they are going to forget things and they're going to be irritable, but once the headaches stop and the sleeplessness ends, there will be improvement," the colonel said.

Soldiers often may be reluctant to seek treatment, Schneider noted, and it may fall to spouses to ensure Soldiers are helped. Overall, she said, "there are (many) avenues available: the clinic, family readiness group, chain of command and the chaplain. The important thing is to get people talking about and aware of the situation."



Artillerymen on target

Spc. Antonio Oliveira, Sgt. Joseph Turner and Staff Sgt. James Nunes, Charlie Company, 103rd Field Artillery Brigade, from left above, receive the Saint Barbara award during a ceremony held at Bravo Company Dec. 5. Eric Spevak, Fort Dix honorary commander, near right, receives awards and gratitude from Capt. Mark Bourgery, Charlie Company commander. Spevak hosted Thanksgiving dinner for the unit.



photos by Shawn Morris



Ryan Morton

Capt. Mark Bourgery and 1st Sgt. Jeffrey Andrade, commander and first sergeant of Charlie Battery, 103rd Field Artillery Battalion, Rhode Island National Guard, receive their unit's Yellow Banner, which will fly above Infantry Park until the unit returns from its deployment to Iraq.

Sexual assault avoidable

Elizabeth Dailey
Sexual Assault Prevention trainer

As the holiday season approaches and festivities swing into action, we come together as friends, colleagues, and family to celebrate.

But before getting too caught up in the fun, take a moment to think about personal safety. After sending the RSVP for that holiday party, and before setting out for the night, consider the following:

- DoD statistics show that 70 percent of sexual assault victims know their attackers: They are friends, acquaintanc-

- es, co-workers, supervisors or spouses.
- Alcohol is involved in as many as 80 percent of sexual assaults.
- One in four women and one in six men will be sexually assaulted in their lifetime.
- Drugs used to facilitate sexual assault are colorless, odorless, and tasteless and can be put into any drink, alcoholic or not.

There are steps that can be taken to reduce the risk of sexual assault and create a safer and more enjoyable holiday season:

- Always attend a party with at least one trustworthy friend; stay close to one another, and leave together, staying together all the way home.
- We all know to have a designated driver, but make that someone you trust and keep an eye out for each other.
- Never leave a drink unattended. If you take a break, don't leave your drink on a table or the bar. But if you do, throw it out and get a fresh drink. Don't take chances.

- If you suspect your or a friend's drink has been tampered with — seek medical attention immediately. Signs to watch for are feeling drunk after minimal or no alcohol consumption, light-headedness, sleepiness, nausea, blurred vision, memory loss or confusion.
- Know your limit. Don't over drink just because it's a party.
- And finally, No means no. You have the right to say no to a drink or to an advance.

Keep these tips in mind, and remember you cannot control every situation. If you are sexually assaulted, don't blame yourself. There is help available and all assaults should be reported.

For more information or to report a sexual assault, call the SARIC (Sexual Assault Response Coordinator) at 562-3849. Someone is always available, round the clock. If you are interested in safety training or brochures on the SARP program, please call 562-4375.



Wayne Cook

Gung-ho graduates

The members of Class 02-08 from the Fort Dix Chemical, Biological, Radiological, and Nuclear Defense School graduated Dec. 11. Pictured are, from left in front, Sgt. Greg Giannelli, Sgt. Steven Kiger, Staff Sgt. David Schnop, Staff Sgt. David Derr and Sgt. Gary Taylor. In rear, from left, are Spc. Patrick Raby, Staff Sgt. Shawn Burch, Spc. Jessie Coomer, WO1 Mathew Rowley, Spc. Alex Anderson and Spc. Stephen Yaroscak.

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MILITARY MATTERS

Troops receive housing bonus

Fred W. Baker III
American Forces Press Service

WASHINGTON, Dec. 12, 2007 – Most servicemembers receiving a housing allowance will see more in their 2008 paychecks.

The average increase more than doubled for 2008 at 7.3 percent over last year's 3.5 percent average increase.

The Defense Department will pump an additional \$600 million into the housing allowance program, for a total of \$17.5 billion for 2008. This is paid out to 1.2 million servicemembers receiving the allowance.

Overall, members with dependents will see an average increase of \$83 a month, according to a Defense Department release. An E-4 with dependents will see about a \$63-per-month increase, while an E-8 will pocket about \$79 more.

Not all rates saw increases, though. Rates are based on average current rent, utilities and renter insurance by market. In markets where those costs decreased, allowances went down accordingly. But a DoD rate-protection feature locks in rates for servicemembers already living in an area to protect their current rental leases. The cost of buying a home is not included in the data.

Officials collect data on 369 military housing areas in the United States, including Hawaii and Alaska. They then calculate 48 different rates per area based on pay grade and dependant status, to come up with more than 17,000 different rates. Of those, just under 12 percent of the allowance rates saw a decrease, according to officials.

Not surprisingly, cities in California, New York and Hawaii took most spots on the top 10 highest allowance rates in the United States. San Francisco saw the top rates for allowances with dependents at an average of \$2,853 monthly.

Military housing allowances have come under heavy scrutiny by Congress and senior department officials since the 1980s and have increased historically since 2000.

In 2005, housing rate increases represented a final phase of a DoD plan to eliminate servicemembers' out-of-pocket housing expenses. Out-of-pocket expenses were estimated at nearly 20 percent in 2000, according to DoD releases.

"It's come a long way. It just gets better and better every year. The members are seeing increases in most locations every year, so the program is doing what it's supposed to do," said Susan Brumbarth, director of the Basic Allowance for Housing, Per Diem, Travel and Transportation Allowance Committee.

Cadet volunteers for deployment as enlisted military police officer

Ryan Morton
Public Affairs Staff

The military, according to many officials, has been stretched almost to its breaking point in fighting the Global War on Terrorism. Service men and women have given and continue to give so much of themselves in fighting this cause, and some have even put their lives on hold and stepped up and volunteered to go when they didn't have to.

That's the case with Pfc. Kasey McLaughlin, who would be a college junior and Reserve Officer Training Corps (ROTC) cadet right now if she weren't with the 186th Military Police Company of the Iowa National Guard, preparing for a deployment to Iraq.

She and her unit are currently at Fort Dix training for a detainee operations mission.

McLaughlin became involved with this unit about a year ago when she was attending Loras College in Dubuque, IA. She attended ROTC through the University of Dubuque, though, because Loras doesn't offer an ROTC program. As part of her ROTC training requirement, she had to find an officer and shadow that officer in an Army reserve or National Guard drilling environment.

She chose the 186th MPs and enjoyed working with this unit so much that she put college on hold to join her fellow Soldiers when she found out they were going to deploy. Doing this, however, was not an easy task.



Ryan Morton

SELFLESS SERVICE – Pfc. Kasey McLaughlin left college and her Reserve Officer Training Corps program to deploy with the 186th Military Police Company, Iowa National Guard. McLaughlin and her unit are undergoing mobilization training at Fort Dix in preparation for a detainee operations mission.

She first had to break her ROTC contract and join the 186th MPs as an enlisted Soldier. To make matters more difficult, she had two weeks to make up her mind and pull all the strings to make it happen. Then, she had to go to her job-specific Military Police Advanced Individual Training (AIT) school for her Military Occupation Specialty (MOS) and get through the school in time to train with her unit.

The next thing she had to do was convince her family of the reasoning behind her decision. "Everyone, especially my mother, was and still is wonder-

ing what I was thinking," McLaughlin said.

While her family might wonder about some things, their support remains strong and unwavering through this whole process. McLaughlin also feels a very strong bond with the Soldiers in her unit and wants to use this experience to gain a better perspective on the world and gain experience toward her career goal of becoming a police officer.

"I knew that I wanted to do everything I could to go with this unit because they're really like one big family," she said.

McLaughlin plans to go back to school after the deployment and continue with her double major of criminal justice and English literature, and continue serving in the National Guard. She wants to continue her military education via Officer Candidacy School (OCS) and gain her commission through that route.

"I hope to gain a better world view from what I see over there and gain a better understanding of the Iraqi culture and people, and a better understanding of leadership and what it takes to be a leader," she said.

Jamaican-born 'Twin Towers' live American Dream

Shawn Morris
Public Affairs Staff

The American Dream is alive and well and living in Wrightstown.

It's current residence is at the Sugar Cane Caribbean Grill, owned by a pair of Jamaican-born Soldiers known as the "Twin Towers."

"We wanted to bring something different and make it affordable so even the private could afford a meal," explained Sgt. 1st Class Earl Williams, a unit mobilization assistant with the 72nd Field Artillery Brigade.

"There was nothing around here to eat," added Staff Sgt. Paul Francis, an observer controller/trainer with the 72nd FA Bde.

Williams and Francis are mobilized together at Fort Dix, but their friendship started years ago in another unit -- the Army Reserve's 773rd Transportation Company, stationed in New York.

"The friendship evolved from there," said Williams. "We're not only friends in the military; we're also friends in the civilian world. A lot of people tell us we're like brothers."

These brothers-in-arms deployed to Iraq together, Williams for six months and Francis for nearly 10.

"We still hung out together, went to the gym together, went on missions together," explained Francis.

Following the deployment, Williams got promoted out of the 773rd and joined the 72nd.

"When he got promoted out, I followed," said Francis.



BATTLE BUDDIES – The Sugar Cane Caribbean Grill in Wrightstown, left, serves authentic Jamaican cuisine at an affordable price. The newly opened restaurant is owned by Staff Sgt. Paul Francis and Sgt. 1st Class Earl Williams, from left below. These Soldiers, known affectionately as the "Twin Towers," are mobilized at Fort Dix with the 72nd Field Artillery Brigade. Their restaurant is located across from Taco Bell, and can be reached at 353-1532.

photos by Shawn Morris

This move led the duo to being mobilized at Fort Dix, and having the opportunity to open a restaurant together, which they did Oct. 12.

"I have the restaurant background," said Francis, who used to own a restaurant in Brooklyn, and whose family members own several eateries.

"You're going to run into a lot of stumbling blocks along the way, but you have to have the drive and will, and never stop trying for what you want to accomplish," he added.

"When you're here, you're going to feel like you've had a home cooked meal," said Williams.

"All the meals are prepared here by a Jamaican chef,"

Francis explained.

"His belief is it has to be authentic," Williams added. The menu and atmosphere certainly feel authentic. The restaurant offers authentic Caribbean cuisine at affordable prices. Lunch specials are available for \$5 and under.

"We're just here trying to diversify the area," said Williams. "You can get a break from the fast food."

"We've gotten good support from the Soldiers themselves and the community," added Francis.

As for being known as the "Twin Towers?"

"We're tall, so it just happened," explained Francis. "Also, we're from New York."



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

FORT DIX WANT'S YOU



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



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

Announcements

Movie Schedule

at the McGuire AFB Theatre
Movie Hotline 754-5139

Friday, December 14 @ 7:30 p.m.

Bee Movie - Jerry Seinfeld, Renée Zellweger, Matthew Broderick, Patrick Warburton, John Goodman - Barry B. Benson is a graduate bee fresh out of college who is disillusioned at his lone career choice: making honey. On a rare trip outside the hive, Barry's life is saved by Vanessa, a florist in New York City. As their relationship blossoms, he discovers humans are mass consumers of honey and decides to sue the human race for stealing bees' honey.

MPAA Rating: PG - mild suggestive humor

Run time: 100 minutes

Saturday, December 15 @ 7:30 p.m.

Fred Claus - Vince Vaughn, Paul Giamatti, John Michael Higgins, Miranda Richardson, Rachel Weisz - Fred Claus (Vince Vaughn) has lived almost his entire life in his little brother's very large shadow. He could never live up to the example set by the younger Nicholas (Paul Giamatti), who was just a perfect...Saint. Fred's dirty dealings have landed him in jail. Over Mrs. Claus's objections, Nicholas agrees to bail his big brother out on one condition: that he come to the North Pole and work off his debt making toys. The trouble is that Fred isn't exactly elf material and, with Christmas fast approaching, this one bad seed could jeopardize the jolliest holiday of the year. Has Fred finally pushed his little brother to the brink? This time, what Fred may have stolen is Christmas itself, and it is going to take more than Rudolph to set things right.

MPAA Rating: PG - mild language and some rude humor

Run time: 116 minutes

Future Features...

Mr. Magorium's Wonder Emporium

Friday, Dec. 21 @ 7:30 p.m.
PG, 94 minutes.

Lions for Lambs

Saturday, Dec. 22 @ 7:30 p.m.
R, 92 minutes.

Volunteers are needed

Fort Dix Special Observance 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

Main Chapel

562-2020

Sunday Services

Protestant 9 - 10 a.m.
Catholic Mass 10:15 - 11:15 a.m.
Gospel 11:30 a.m. - 1 p.m.

Camp Victory - Chaplain's tent

Protestant 8 a.m. - 9 a.m.
Catholic 8 a.m. - 9 a.m.
Mormon 8 a.m. - 9 a.m.
Jewish 8 a.m. - 9 a.m.

Wednesday Services

Main Chapel

Protestant 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

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 services available by request

For additional services or Religious Support please call 562-2020

Religious materials are available at the JRC, the Main Chapel, and Camp Victory

Holiday Events and Services

Sat., Dec. 15 - Youth Team Ministry Pageant, dinner to follow, 4 p.m.

Sun., Dec. 23 - regular scheduled services

Mon., Dec. 24 - Catholic Mass, 5 p.m.; Candlelight Service, 7 p.m.

Tues., Dec. 25 - Catholic Mass, 10:15 a.m.

Sun., Dec. 30 - regular scheduled services

Mon., Dec. 31 - Catholic Mass, 6 p.m.

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.

Dec 14 - Dec 20

Friday

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

Saturday

Annual Keystone Club

Christmas Ball
7 - 10 p.m.

Monday

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

Tuesday

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

Wednesday

Power Hour
2:30 - 4:30 p.m.
Sports and Fitness
3:45 - 4:45 p.m.
(weight training)
Computer Lab
4 - 6 p.m.

Thursday

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

Friday

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

Saturday

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

Army Community

Service

Bldg. 5201, 562-2767

Community Newcomer's Orientation

Information - Tour - Free Lunch - Free Child Care - and Much More!
Every 3rd Thursday of each month
9 a.m. - 2 p.m.

at Army Community Service
*New service and family members are invited to attend this orientation to discover more of the little known wonders of Fort Dix and the surrounding area.

EFMP Support Group

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

Dining Facility Schedule

Bldg. 5501 OES Closed

Breakfast 6 - 8 a.m.
Lunch 11:30 - 1:30 p.m.
Dinner 4:30 - 6:30 p.m.

Bldg. 5517 NCOA Closed

Breakfast 6:30 - 8 a.m.
Lunch 11:30 - 1 p.m.
Dinner 4:30 - 6 p.m.

Bldg. 5610 Surge Every Day

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

Bldg. 5640 Surge Closed

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

Bldg. 5985 Camp Victory (FOB)

Breakfast 5 - 6:30 a.m.
Dinner 6 - 7:30 p.m.

Bldg. 5986 Surge Every Day

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

Meal Rates Breakfast - \$2
Lunch - \$3.65 Dinner - \$3.65

United Communities

Housing Information

Leasing Office- 723-4290
Maintenance Office- 724-0500
Maintenance Scheduling,
Progress, and
Trash Concerns - 724-0550

Residential Refuse Collection

*Mondays:

McGuire AFB, 3800s and 3900s

*Tuesdays:

All of Fort Dix, including Quarters 201, 501 and 1900

*Thursdays:

McGuire AFB, 4000s, 4400s and 4500s

Recyclables are picked up every Thursday

Yard and garden waste is picked up every Monday and Tuesday

PLEASE PUT TRASH OUT ONLY ON SCHEDULED DAYS. HELP KEEP YOUR NEIGHBORHOOD CLEAN!

Family Advocacy - 562-5200

Chaplain - 562-2020

American Red Cross - 562-2258

Army Emergency Relief - 562-2767

MWR

Calendar of Events

Outdoor Rec. Christmas Trees on sale. For more information call 562-2707.

Come to the Arts and Crafts Center, Bldg. 6039, to create your holiday decorations. Special classes available for cards, wreaths, gingerbread houses and more. Call 562-5691

Read

the Post

2007 International and Military Mail Christmas Mailing Dates

To ensure delivery of holiday cards and packages by December 25 to military APO/FPO addresses overseas and to international addresses, we suggest that mail be entered by the recommended mailing dates listed below. Beat the last-minute rush and take your mail to your Post Office by these suggested dates. And don't forget you can print postage, labels, and Customs Forms online 24/7 using Click-N-Ship at usps.com/clicknship.

Remember, all mail addressed to military post offices overseas is subject to certain conditions or restrictions regarding content, preparation, and handling. APO/FPO addresses generally require Customs Forms. To see a table of active APO and FPO addresses and mailing restrictions by individual APO/FPO ZIP Codes, go to pe.usps.com and click "Postal Bulletins." Go to the current issue and see the heading "Overseas Military Mail."

Military Mail Addressed To	Express Mail® Military Service (EMMS)®	First-Class Mail® Letters/Cards	Priority Mail®	Parcel Airmail Mail® (PAL) #	Space Available Mail® (SAM) #	Parcel Post®
APO/FPO AE ZIPs 090-092	Dec 18	Dec 11	Dec 11	Dec 4	Nov 27	Nov 13
APO/FPO AE ZIPs 200	N/A	Dec 4	Dec 4	Dec 4	Nov 27	Nov 13
APO/FPO AE ZIPs 094-098	Dec 18	Dec 11	Dec 11	Dec 4	Nov 27	Nov 13
APO/FPO AA ZIPs 340	Dec 18	Dec 11	Dec 11	Dec 4	Nov 27	Nov 13
APO/FPO AP ZIPs 962-966	Dec 18	Dec 11	Dec 11	Dec 4	Nov 27	Nov 13

1/ EMMS: Express Mail Military Service is available to selected military post offices. Check with your local Post Office to determine if this service is available to your APO/FPO address.

2/ PAL: PAL is a service that provides air transportation for parcels on a space-available basis. It is available for Parcel Post items not exceeding 30 pounds in weight or 60 inches in length and girth combined. The applicable PAL fee must be paid in addition to the regular surface rate of postage for each addressed piece sent by PAL service.

3/ SAM: SAM parcels are paid at Parcel Post postage rate of postage with maximum weight and size limits of 15 pounds and 60 inches in length and girth combined. SAM parcels are first transported domestically by surface and then to overseas destinations by air on a space-available basis.

International Mail Addressed To	Global Express Guaranteed® (GXG)®	Express Mail® International	Priority Mail® International®	First-Class Mail® International
Africa	Dec 19	Dec 12	Dec 4	Dec 4
Asia / Pacific Rim	Dec 19	Dec 17	Dec 11	Dec 11
Australia / New Zealand	Dec 19	Dec 17	Dec 11	Dec 11
Canada	Dec 20	Dec 18	Dec 11	Dec 11
Caribbean	Dec 19	Dec 17	Dec 11	Dec 11
Central & South America	Dec 19	Dec 17	Dec 4	Dec 4
Mexico	Dec 19	Dec 17	Dec 11	Dec 11
Europe	Dec 19	Dec 17	Dec 11	Dec 11
Middle East	Dec 19	Dec 17	Dec 11	Dec 11

4/ GXG is available to over 190 countries via an alliance with Federal Express. See a retail associate at participating locations for a complete list of countries and money-back guarantee details, or go to pe.usps.com and click "International Rates and Fees." See "Country Listing." You can also see the March/April 2007 issue of MailPro. Some restrictions apply. Free shipping supplies are available. Purchase postage online and receive 10% discount.

5/ EMS is available to over 190 countries with delivery in 3 to 5 average business days. Guaranteed, money-back service is available to Australia, China, Hong Kong, Japan and Korea (Republic of South). Flat rate shipping options and free packaging are available. Purchase postage online and receive an 8% discount.

6/ Priority Mail International is available to over 190 countries with delivery in 6-10 average business days. Flat rate shipping options and free packaging are available. Purchase postage online and receive a 5% discount.

*Average number of days may vary based upon origin and destination

WANTED

1000 Soldiers with the Boldness, Audacity, Aggressiveness, and Stamina to train our nations finest Soldiers, Sailors, and Airmen.

Make History with the BEST of the BEST

Come Join

72d Field Artillery Brigade

For information on how to join us, call our Brigade Recruiting and Retention Team at (609) 562-3309 or email us at DIVEAST72FABDREUP@usar.army.mil

Wounded 'Knight' returns to playing field

Elizabeth M. Lorge
Army News Service

A former West Point football player who was wounded in action joined the Army's top brass for the coin toss at Saturday's Army-Navy Game in Baltimore.

Still learning to walk after an improvised-explosive device in Baghdad claimed both of his legs in May, Lt. Col. Greg Gadsdon marched onto the playing field, and he said it reminded him of the three times Army beat Navy when he was a player.

"You could feel the specialness of the game, you could feel the energy in the crowd. It did bring back memories of being a player," he said. "I think especially for a senior, who knows this is his last game, and you're part of a tradition and it's pretty awesome."

"I really was honored to go out there with some of the senior leaders in the Army and accompany them. It was an honor and a privilege that they

afforded me and I was so appreciative. At the end of the day, it's a game, but those guys who are out there are going to be leaders in the Army and the Navy and the Marines in a short year and there's going to be a different set of stakes that they're playing for," he added.

A field artillery officer, Gadsdon attended West Point so he could play football, but fell in love with the Army, so much so that he decided to remain a Soldier in spite of his injuries.

"I believe I still have something to offer the Soldiers. That's as simple as I can say it. I love being a Soldier and right now I think I still have something to offer. As long as this is the case, I'm up for still being a Soldier," he said.

Deployed with the 2nd Battalion, 32nd Field Artillery, Gadsdon remembers the blast and thinking he didn't have his rifle. He remembers his first sergeant resuscitating him as he almost bled to death - he needed 70 pints of blood that first night alone - and he remembers hearing the helicopter coming to evacuate him, but little else until weeks later in Walter Reed Army Medical Center.

Doctors had to amputate his left leg after infection caused his arteries to collapse. They were able to save his right leg, but Gadsdon and his wife decided his quality of life would be better without it. He said his healing sped up very quickly after it was gone and he was

finally able to leave intensive care.

His right arm was also badly damaged and he needed at least two more surgeries in the next year. He still goes to Walter Reed for therapy every day.

Although his injuries and recovery have, of course, been tough on his family, Gadsdon said that they have ultimately brought his family closer together.

"It's changed their life," he said. "But I think it's also brought us together. In tough times, there's really two ways to go, you can come together or you can go apart and I think it's been something that has brought us together. I am so proud of my kids because they have really embraced what has happened to our family."

Learning to walk without knees or ankles has been challenging, but Gadsdon credits prosthetics and the excellent therapists at Walter Reed, and looks at it like training for anything else.

"It's tough, but so is basic training, so is going through West Point, so is war. If you understand that what you're going through is going to be tough, then you prepare yourself for it and you go through it. There's no shortcuts," he said.

Committing to walk on the field at the Army-Navy Game was also a good goal for Gadsdon to work towards.

"Once I committed to it I said, 'Well, I have to make sure

I can walk," he said.

He pushes himself, but he warns wounded Soldiers against pushing themselves too hard and trying to do anything before their bodies are ready.

"Just be patient and realize that you have had a significant event that's happened to you and take your time," he said. "I've found that that's really one of the most challenging things, to really be patient, kind of listen to my body. I'm not the same guy I was and I'll push too hard I can do something to hurt myself and that's what I mean about being patient."

Gadsdon also wants Soldiers to know that the Army will take care of them.

"One thing I'm really proud of is how the Army has responded to me," he said. "As a commander, you put so much into trying to take care of Soldiers. And I found myself on the other end of being taken care of and it's been absolutely phenomenal."

"I just have to say that (Army medical personnel) are performing phenomenally. The tremendous trauma that my body's been through, I have nothing but great things to say. In other wars, I wouldn't have survived. The fact that three to five months after this happened, I'm in prosthetic limbs and I'm starting to learn how to walk again, is even hard for me to appreciate. These guys have really, really been doing some super work."



U.S. Military Academy

RETURN TO ACTION — Chief of Staff of the Army Gen. George Casey Jr., Superintendent of West Point Lt. Gen. Buster Hagenbeck, Lt. Col. Greg Gadsdon and Secretary of the Army Pete Geren leave the playing field after the coin toss at the 108th Army-Navy football game in Baltimore. Gadsdon is a former West Point football player who lost both legs to a roadside bomb in Baghdad.

Soldiers in Iraq hear sons win football championship

Patti Marquess
Army News Service

FORT CAMPBELL, Ky. (Dec. 10, 2007) — Twelve Soldiers in Iraq were not able to see their sons win the Kentucky Class 2A state football championship Saturday as the Fort Campbell High School Falcons defeated highly-favored Newport Central Catholic 21-7.

Even though they have not been able to see their sons play football this season, the Soldiers have been able to listen to the games via the Internet at www.oldies1480.com, a local radio station out of nearby Cadiz, Ky. These Soldiers and many others were gathered Saturday to listen to the state championship game online.

"This victory means so much to so many, and we are very excited over here about Fort Campbell being state champions," said Lt. Col. Chris Croft, father of Falcons quarterback C.J. Croft, by telephone from Iraq immediately following the game. "We had a packed house listening to the game, and it was absolutely fantastic."

"Obviously, I'm very proud of C. J., and all that he has accomplished, but there is also a lot of pride among all Fort Campbell Soldiers for this football program. This team represents our community extremely well every time they

take the field, and this is just a great way to wrap up a wonderful season, and we just want to say 'way to go Falcons!'"

The championship game, played in the vast setting of Papa John's Cardinal Stadium in Louisville, Ky., was attended by about 1,000 enthusiastic Falcon fans, and the outcome brought tears and smiles to everyone in attendance.

"We're all very emotional right now because winning this state championship means so much to our kids and our community," said Falcons head coach Shawn Berner after the game. "Our guys played with so much heart and emotion today because they wanted to make their dads and their school proud, and they fully accomplished that. I don't think I've ever seen a happier bunch in my life."

The camaraderie and spirit exhibited by the Fort Campbell players and coaches developed through the season, and eventually spread throughout the entire high school, the post and surrounding communities.

"The way this team went about achieving this goal all year was amazing," said David Witte, Fort Campbell High School principal. "There was never really a star in this group -- they all worked together as a team, which is a theme we try to push throughout the entire school. This team sort of set the example for all of us to follow."

"We had a very emotional send-off Friday when the team left for Louisville. The whole school and half the post turned out to wish them well. When the buses pulled out, there was not a dry eye to be found."

This faith and support was very important to the Falcons when they took the field Saturday as 21-point underdogs to the Thoroughbreds.

"We started the season 0-2, and nobody really gave us a chance," said Falcon senior defensive back Olan Andrews. "We've had so much support from everyone at Fort Campbell all year, and we believed in ourselves and our coaches, and now we've shown everyone what we can do."

Many people came to the huge stadium expecting Newport Central Catholic to take a big lead on Fort Campbell early in the game. Instead, the first quarter turned into a defensive battle with neither team being able to score.

It was not until midway through the second quarter that the scoreboard lit up with any digits other than zero, and to the surprise of many, Fort Campbell scored first.

Sophomore running back Troy Turner, who quietly rushed for 109 yards on 17 carries, helped lead the Falcons downfield on their first drive of the second period.

With 7:30 showing on the clock, Falcons' sophomore wide receiver Chris Allen

made a diving catch in the back of the end zone to haul in a 10-yard pass from Croft. Senior kicker Allan R. Johnson then made good on the point after kick to give Fort Campbell a 7-0 lead.

Newport Central Catholic answered the Falcons challenge with only 35 seconds left in the first half when Thoroughbred quarterback Rob Kues hit wide receiver Matt Ritter with a 26-yard pass, tying the score 7-7 at the half.

With 11:25 showing on the clock Fort Campbell made its second strike of the game when C.J. Croft hit senior wide receiver Lorenzo Hines with a 7-yard pass for the touchdown. The extra point kick was good, and the Falcons led 14-7.

Newport Central Catholic, however, was not about to roll over, and the Thoroughbreds stormed back for a first-and-goal opportunity on the Falcons 6-yard line at the 6:20 mark.

Fort Campbell's dominating defense then rose to the challenge, making a memorable goal line stand.

The Thoroughbreds scoring threat vanished on their seventh attempt when Ritter caught a pass on the 5-yard line and was immediately hit by

Falcon junior defensive back Raquan Durrante, forcing a fumble which was recovered by Falcon senior linebacker Josh McWherter.

McWherter knew the fumble recovery was crucial, and he also knew his dad, Lt. Col. Fred Witnick, serving in Iraq, was listening online.

"I just grabbed the ball and held on to it as tight as I could," McWherter said. "I knew my dad was going to listen to the game, and I wanted him to know I was doing all I could to help us win the game. I hope they're proud of us over there and know we were playing for them."

A few plays later, Falcon senior running back Dexter Durrante Jr. blasted through the Thoroughbreds defense on the left sideline on a 67-yard touchdown run, giving Fort Campbell a commanding 21-7 lead with 2:54 left in the game.

On the final set of downs, Newport Central Catholic advanced the ball to the Fort Campbell 32-yard line at the 2:17 mark. Central Catholic launched a long pass toward the end zone which was intercepted by Raquan Durrante to end any hope the Thoroughbreds had of another state championship.

Be **BETTER** than Santa this year

Battle the Holiday Bulge

with Holiday Fitness Fun 2007!

Added extra pounds this holiday?

This year handle the holidays, before THEY handle YOU! Does your belt mysteriously shorten over the holidays? Statistics show that the average person gains anywhere from 7-10 lbs. over the holiday seasons...don't let this be you!! Attend 24 Griffith Field House Fitness/Aerobic Classes from Nov. 7 through Jan. 2, 2008 and receive a FREE MWR Sports & Fitness CD Case! The FREE CD Case alone is so worth it, you know you'll definitely want to come to class!

To sign up for the Holiday Fitness Fun Program, sign, date and return the bottom portion of this flyer to the class instructor. You will then receive an attendance card that you should bring to every class. Sorry we will not mark cards after the fact, classes must be noted at time of attendance. ALL participants who have completed 24 classes by Jan. 2, 2008 and have their cards annotated will be presented with a CD Case!

Griffith Field House, Bldg. 6051 01B R. Millville St. 609 562-4804 or www.dixmwr.com

Annual Basketball is here!

2008 Fort Dix Intramural Basketball League

Fort Dix Intramural Basketball League is open to all Fort Dix Personnel (I.D. Required) Must be at least 18 Years Old.

Sign up today at the Griffith Field House Bldg 6053

For more information, Contact Chris O'Donnell @ (609) 562-2769/3961

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

Krafty Birthdays

Arts & Crafts offers Krafty Birthday Parties! Parties include up to 2 hours of party room use, one craft project with instruction and all materials, with many exciting projects to choose

from. When making party reservations, please make sure to stop by in order to select the craft and make payment.

Create 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. It makes a great last-minute gift idea, too.

Hearts For Heroes

Show your appreciation for our active duty and retired military. Come in anytime and paint a small heart which will be given to a military member. All hearts will be donated so there is no cost to participate!

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.

Contemporary Ceramics and Mosaic 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 complete your masterpiece with a food-safe glaze and expert firing.

And now we have new lower prices in the mosaic studio. This ancient craft is simple and relaxing, and you can create one of a kind home décor or gift items. Open during normal sales store hours.

Pottery Studio

Offers classes covering both hand-building and wheel-throwing techniques. Once you've completed the initial class, come in anytime during studio hours.

Honoring the Colors

Reveille 6 a.m. (0600 hours)

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

Retreat 5 p.m. (1700 hours)

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

Military personnel in uniform

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.

WDIX Channel 2
24/7 information

Read
The Post!

Making spirits bright



Wayne Cook

Santa and Mrs. Claus take time out of tier busy pre-Christmas schedule to drop by Club Dix and visit with the children and families at the Exceptional Family Member Program Christmas Party Dec.6, above.



Ed Mingin

Command Sgt. Maj. Bonita Davis, installation command sergeant major, above, awards a bicycle donated by BAE Systems to Hailey Barker, 6, during the Annual Installation Tree Lighting Ceremony outside Wurman Hall Dec. 7.



Steve Snyder



Maj. James Linzey enjoys snacks and warm beverages provided by Club Dix during the Tree Lighting Ceremony Dec. 7.

Steve Snyder

George Warren, Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW), Department of New Jersey, above left, gives 19 boxes containing 600 donated toys to Bobby Brown, Army Community Service. The toys were donated to the VFW by Dollar Tree stores. Brown said the toys would be distributed at various installation holiday functions.

photos by Wayne Cook



Wayne Cook

Santa and Mrs. Claus arrived at the Annual Installation Tree Lighting Ceremony at Wurman Hall by fire truck, above left, courtesy of the Fort Dix Fire Department. The couple handed out presents and listened to the wish lists of little girls and boys, including Garrett Maser, above.



Christmas spirit was on display in the form of several brightly decorated wreaths outside the Fort Dix/McGuire BX/PX Nov.30. A concessionaire had his wares up for sale for those looking to adorn their homes with the festive decorations.

Santa Claus took time out from his busy schedule Dec. 8 to let the furry fly with Team Dix's furry friends, right, during the Paws with Claus event at Outdoor Recreation. Friendly felines and cuddly canines joined the man in red for a unique holiday celebration. Outdoor Recreation is also selling Christmas Trees during December. They are located in Bldg. 6045 Doughboy Loop, next to the Indoor Pool, and can be reached at 562-6667/4210. Also available to rent there are downhill skis, snowboards, canopies of various sizes, camping tents, sleeping bags, lanterns, tables, chairs, super-cooker grills, and Fort Dix hunting and fishing permits.

Steve Snyder



courtesy photo

Students from the St. Philomena School in Philadelphia load boxes packed with items donated for mobilized Soldier into vehicles provided by the Fort Dix Mobilization Readiness Battalion (MRB), above. Sixth, seventh and eighth graders separated the items, while the eighth graders packaged them with help from Kindergarteners.