

# thePost

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## NEWSNOTES



### Daylight Saving Time clocks in Sunday

It's almost time again to spring forward and set clocks to reflect daylight saving time. Sunday, March 9, at 1 a.m., clocks should be set forward one hour. Safety officials encourage everyone to use the event as a reminder to change the batteries in their smoke detectors.

### Casualty assistance class scheduled March 18-19

The Fort Dix Casualty Assistance Center, in direct support of the Department of the Army Casualty Mortuary Affairs Operations Center, will conduct a formal two-day Casualty Notification Officer and Casualty Assistance Officer training for all Soldiers eligible to perform those duties. Eligible are Soldiers in the grade of Sergeant First Class (E7) and above and Captains (O4) and above. The mandatory required training will be at Timmermann Center, Building 5441, Room 103 at Fort Dix, from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. March 18 and 19. Point of contact for this action is Shirley Hartmann at (609) 562-3147 or email Shirley.Hartmann@conus.army.mil.

### Dix Tax Center offers return help

The Fort Dix Tax Center, located in Building 5407, is open Monday through Thursday from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., and closed Friday. Tax returns will be prepared by appointment only; please call 609-562-6859 for an appointment.

Fort Dix is able to provide free basic tax preparation and e-filing to military personnel and their families through the Internal Revenue Service sponsored Volunteer Income Tax Assistance program.

Militaryonesource.com also provides free on-line income tax preparation for active duty, National Guard, and Reserve service members and their families. Free tax preparation and electronic filing are also available through the Internal Revenue Service at [www.irs.gov](http://www.irs.gov); click on the link "Use Free File to Prepare Your Taxes."

## WEATHER

**FRIDAY** -- Chance of light rain and cooler with daytime high of 49 degrees and overnight low of 37.

**SATURDAY** -- Continued chance of rain, high of 43 degrees and low of 23, with winds gusting up to 26 mph.

**SUNDAY** -- Clear and sunny, high of 41 and overnight low of 25 degrees.

**MONDAY** -- Clear and cool, breezy with a high of 40 degrees and overnight low of 28 degrees.

**TUESDAY** -- Fair and cool, high of 43 degrees and overnight low of 32.

**WEDNESDAY** -- Mostly cloudy with slight chance of showers, high of 53 and overnight low of 42 degrees.

**THURSDAY** -- Probability of rain, daytime high of 64 and overnight low of 45.

# Teachers target arms

## SARG puts weapon skills in hands of every Soldier

Shawn Morris  
Public Affairs Staff

Being fit to fight includes proficiency with one's assigned weapon, but it doesn't end there. Deploying Soldiers need to become familiar with as many U.S. weapons systems as possible.

Such is the mission of the Fort Dix Small Arms Readiness Group (SARG), whose two dozen instructors teach Soldiers how to operate and maintain weapons ranging from those designed for individual use to the crew-served variety.

"What the SARG offers is subject-matter expertise on all weapons systems," explained SARG 1st Sgt. Kevin Lawson.

"In a combat environment, a Soldier can find himself on any weapon," added Lawson. "Our ultimate goal is to teach them to survive in combat."

SARG instructors share their expertise on weapons including the M9 and M11 pistols, M16 and M4 rifles, M24 sniper weapon system, M60 and M240 machine guns, M249 Squad Automatic Weapon, M2 HB machine gun, M203 grenade launcher and MK19 grenade machine gun. They employ high-tech training aids such as the Laser Marksmanship Training System and the Engagement Skills Trainer.

"These are people who are excellent marksmen," said 1st Lt. Todd Waldrop, SARG commander, of his instructors. "They love to shoot, and they love to teach."

While these instructors have been teaching on Fort Dix for some time, March 3 marked the beginning of a new chapter in SARG's history as the organization began conducting operations for the newly formed Reserve Training Center-East (RTC-E), part of the Army Reserve's 108th Division (Institutional Training).

RTC-E's mission is to provide pre-mobilization training for Reserve Component units that will soon be



Shawn Morris

**HANDS-ON APPROACH** -- Staff Sgt. Kennon Lopez, 688th Engineer Company, left, receives Primary Marksmanship Instruction March 3 at the Small Arms Readiness Group, Reserve Training Center-East, from instructor Sgt. Eric McGarrah as part of pre-mobilization training.

(continued on page 3)

## Cyber war ongoing, major US challenge

John J. Kruzal  
American Forces Press Service

**WASHINGTON, March 3, 2008** -- Deputy Defense Secretary Gordon England today was the latest in a series of government officials to express concern about the United States' cyberspace vulnerabilities.

"Cyber warfare is already here," said England. "It's one of our major challenges."

Describing the new battlefield, the deputy secretary said, "I think cyber attacks are probably analogous to the first time, way back when people had bows and arrows and spears, and somebody showed up with gunpowder and everybody said, 'Wow. What was that?'"

England, speaking to an audience gathered here for a Veterans of Foreign Wars conference, noted that President Bush addressed the threat by establishing a task force to coordinate U.S. government efforts to safeguard computers against cyber attacks.

In addition, the United States and other NATO allies are expected to address the issue of cyber defense when the 20th NATO summit convenes in Bucharest, Romania, in early April.

Estonia, a NATO member, was victimized by a series of data-flooding attacks April 26 to May 18 that brought down the Web sites of several daily newspapers and forced Estonia's largest bank to shut down its

(continued on page 3)

## Army set to muster 10k IRR Soldiers

**Human Resources Command News, March 3, 2008** -- The U.S. Army Human Resources Command (HRC) will conduct a muster of approximately 10,000 Individual Ready Reserve (IRR) Soldiers in the U.S. Army beginning in March.

The muster is a follow-on to the successful pilot program the Army conducted last year involving thousands of IRR Soldiers.

This year HRC, with support from the U.S. Army Reserve Command, will conduct three different types of one-day musters at Army Reserve Centers located across the continental United States.

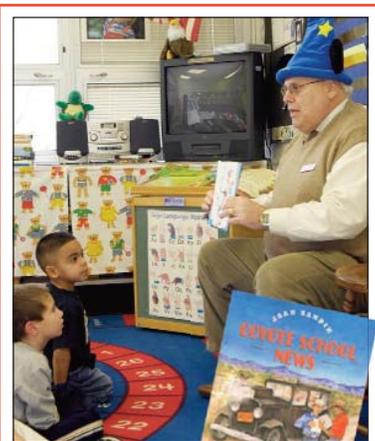
The three types of musters are:

readiness musters, personnel accountability musters, and unit affiliation musters.

There will be eight readiness musters conducted between March and June at Fort Devens, MA; Los Alamitos, CA; Fort Lawton, WA; Fort Totten, NY; Decatur, GA; Arlington Heights, IL; Grand Prairie, TX; and Fort Meade, MD.

The readiness muster is a one-day event consisting of readiness and personnel accountability tasks such as a Reserve Component orientation brief, records review, security clearance updates, medical and dental screening, identification card issue, presen-

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Jennifer M. McCarthy

## Fulfilling the need to read

Daniel May, left, and Anthony Ruiz listen intently while Bob Voigt reads the Cat in the Hat to Mrs. Salkowski's Kindergarten class March 5 as part of the Fort Dix Elementary School's Read Across America Week. For story and more photos, see page 5.



# First Sioux receives Medal of Honor

The Army Medal of Honor



Carrie McLeroy  
Army News Service

WASHINGTON — During the final allied offensive of the Korean War, Master Sergeant Woodrow Wilson Keeble risked his life to save his fellow Soldiers. Almost six decades after his gallant actions and 26 years after his death, Keeble became the first full-blooded Sioux Indian to receive the Medal of Honor.

The White House announced Friday morning that Keeble will receive the Medal of Honor posthumously in a ceremony scheduled for 2:30 p.m. March 3.

Keeble is one of the most decorated Soldiers in North Dakota history. A veteran of World War II and the Korean War, he was born in 1917 in Wahba, S.D., on the Sisseton-Wahpeton Sioux Reservation, which extended into North Dakota. He spent most of his life in the Wahpeton, N.D. area, where he attended an Indian school.

In 1942 Keeble joined the North Dakota National Guard, and in October that year, found himself embroiled in some of the fiercest hand-to-hand combat of World War II on Guadalcanal.

## Guadalcanal

"Guadalcanal seemed to be on his mind a lot," Russell Hawkins, Keeble's stepson, said. "His fellow Soldiers said he had to fight a lot of hand-to-hand fights with the Japanese, so he saw their faces. Every now and then he would get a far-away look in his eyes, and I knew he was thinking about those men and the things he had to do."

At Henderson Field on the South Pacific Island, Keeble served with Company I, 164th Infantry — the first Army unit on Guadalcanal.

"I heard stories from James Fenelon, who served with him there, and he would talk about how the men of the 164th rallied around this full-blooded Sioux Indian whose accuracy with the Browning Automatic Rifle was unparalleled," Hawkins said. "It was said he would go in front of patrols and kill enemies before his unit would get there."

The Sioux have a word for that kind of bravery, according to Hawkins — wovaditaka. "It means don't be afraid of anything, be braver than that which scares you the most."

Keeble personified the word according to fellow Soldiers, and earned the first of four Purple Hearts and his first Bronze Star for his actions on Guadalcanal.

## Korea

Keeble answered the call to arms again when war broke out in Korea. He was a seasoned, 34-year-old master sergeant serving with 1st Platoon, Company G, 19th Infantry Regiment, 24th Division.

According to eyewitness accounts, while serving as the acting platoon leader of 1st Plt. in the vicinity of the Kumsgong River, North Korea, on or about Oct. 15, 1951, Keeble voluntarily took on the responsibility of leading not only his platoon, but the 2nd and 3rd Platoons as well.

In an official statement 1st Sgt. Kosumo "Joe" Sagami of Co. G said, "All the officers of the company had received disabling wounds or were killed in action, except one platoon leader who assumed command of the company." The company's mission was to take control of a steep, rocky, heavily fortified hill. Hawkins recalled how the man everyone knew as "Woody" described the terrain.

"We were driving through Colorado on a trip, and Woody was pointing at something out the window," Hawkins said. By that time, Keeble had suffered seven debilitating strokes and lost the ability to speak.

"I pulled over and realized he was pointing at a large, rocky cliff with an almost sheer drop. I asked Woody if that was what it was like during that battle in Korea and he nodded,



photo by Vets Incorporated, Wahpeton, ND

Master Sgt. Woodrow Wilson Keeble was awarded the Medal of Honor, posthumously, on March 3.



www.army.mil/medalofhonor/keeble/profile

## Woodrow W. Keeble during the Korean War

"yes," Hawkins said. "It wasn't quite a straight drop down, but you could get up the hill faster on your hands and knees than on your feet."

Sagami wrote that Keeble led all three platoons in successive assaults upon the Chinese who held the hill throughout the day. All three charges were repulsed, and the company suffered heavy casualties.

Trenches filled with enemy soldiers, and fortified by three pillboxes containing machine guns and additional men surrounded the hill. Following the third assault and subsequent mortar and artillery support, the enemy sustained casualties among its ranks in the open trenches. The machine gunners in the pillboxes however, continued to direct fire on the company.

Sagami said after Keeble withdrew 3rd Platoon, he decided to attempt a solo assault.

## Die trying

"He once told a relative that the fourth attempt he was either going to take them out or die trying," Hawkins said.

"Woody used to tell people he was more concerned about losing his men than about losing his own life," he added. "He pushed his own life to the limit. He wasn't willing to put his fellow Soldiers' lives on the line."

Armed with grenades and his Browning Automatic Rifle, Keeble crawled to an area 50 yards from the ridge line, flanked the left pillbox and used grenades and rifle fire to eliminate it, according to Sagami.

After returning to the point where 1st Platoon held the company's first line of defense, Keeble worked his way to the opposite side of the ridge line and took out the right pillbox with grenades.

"Then without hesitation, he lobbed a grenade into the back entrance of the middle pillbox and with additional rifle fire eliminated it," Sagami added.

Hawkins said one eyewitness told him the enemy directed its entire arsenal at Keeble during his assault. "He said there were so many grenades coming down on Woody, that it looked like a flock of blackbirds." Even under heavy enemy fire, Keeble was able to complete his objective. Only after he killed the machine gunners did Keeble order his men to advance and secure the hill.

"When I first started hearing these stories I was amazed that a man of Woody's size (more than six feet tall and 235-plus pounds), could sneak up on the enemy without being noticed," Hawkins said. "So one day, I was out helping him mow the

lawn, and I asked him how he did it. He just shrugged his shoulders. "I joked with him and told him those soldiers must have been blind or old or something, because he would never be able to sneak up on a young guy like me."

Hawkins said he continued to mow then was startled when Woody popped up from behind some bushes near him. "He could have reached out and grabbed me by the ankles, and I didn't even know he was there!" Keeble had slid on his back behind the brush. Although Hawkins was not positive, he believed Keeble might have used a similar maneuver when attacking the pillboxes.

Keeble's selfless acts on that rugged terrain in 1951 did not come without a price. According to Sagami and other eyewitnesses, he was wounded on at least five different occasions by fragmentation and concussion grenades.

"His wounds were apparent in the chest, both arms, right calf, knee and right thigh and left thigh," Sagami cited blood at the wound locations as evidence. Hawkins said 83 grenade fragments were removed from Keeble's body, but several others remained.

Never complained "You could tell that the wounds bothered him sometimes, but he never complained."

Sagami wrote in his statement that Keeble did not complain on the battlefield either. "At no time did he allow himself to be evacuated during the course of the day. Only after the unit was in defensive positions for the night did he allow himself to be evacuated."

According to Hawkins, every surviving member of Co. G signed a letter recommending Keeble for the Medal of Honor on two separate occasions, once in November 1951 and then again in December that same year.

On both instances, the paperwork was lost.

Keeble was awarded the Distinguished Service Cross Dec. 20, 1952 for his actions in Korea, not the Medal of Honor his men believed he deserved. He also earned the Purple Heart (First Oak Leaf Cluster); Bronze Star (First Oak Leaf Cluster); and the Silver Star as a result of his heroics throughout his tour in Korea. He was honorably discharged March 1, 1953.

Even after his discharge, Keeble never severed his ties with the Army, Hawkins said, and was a champion for veterans and their causes.

"He was always going to different veterans events and he supported the Disabled American Veterans organization. He would wear his uniform in parades, and was the first in line for any type of fundraiser."

Though Keeble knew of his unit's failed attempts to award him the Medal of Honor, Hawkins said he never sensed any bitterness from him.

"Whenever someone would bring it up to get medals, he wasn't there to get medals; he was there for his men and his country. He enjoyed the small things in life, and concentrated on what he had, not what he didn't have."

Those who didn't know Keeble the Soldier saw him as a kind-hearted, gentle man full of humility, according to Hawkins.

"Woody was a very upbeat person. If you didn't know his war record, you'd think he was just a happy-go-lucky guy. His glass was always half full, never half empty."

In later years, Keeble fell on hard times and was forced to pawn all his medals. He had one lung removed, and in the months and years following the surgery suffered more than a half dozen strokes that Hawkins said eventually left him speechless.

"But his mind remained sharp, and he was the same man inside."

Keeble's family was presented with a duplicate set of medals in May 2006, and they, along with his uniform and other memorabilia, are housed at the University of North Dakota in Grand Forks.

The family's battle to upgrade Keeble's Distinguished Service Cross to the Medal of Honor began in 1972, when both Woody and his wife, Dr. Blossom Hawkins-Keeble, were still alive. According to Hawkins, the family unknowingly started off in the wrong direction.

"We thought the paperwork had been lost, but were unaware that it no longer existed. It just got lost on the battlefield, it never made it off the battlefield." When the family finally realized this fact, they sought the support of the Sisseton-Wahpeton tribe and gathered recorded statements from the men who served with Keeble. The team soon learned that since the statute of limitations for awarding the Medal of Honor was three years from the date of the heroic action, it would literally take, "An Act of Congress," to realize the goal.

Searching for the past Beginning in 2002, the tribe involved senators and representatives from North and South Dakota. Armed with written evidence, eyewitness accounts and letters from four senators supporting the effort, tribe officials contacted the Army, which reviewed the evidence and concluded Keeble's actions were worthy of the medal. Finally, on March 23, 2007, North Dakota Senator Byron Dorgan introduced a bill, cosponsored by Senators Kent Conrad (ND), Tim Johnson (SD) and John Thune (SD), authorizing the president, "To award the Medal of Honor to Woodrow W. Keeble for his acts of valor during the Korean conflict."

Congress passed the bill in early December 2007. Hawkins represented Keeble in a White House ceremony March 3, where he accepted the Medal of Honor on his behalf.

"We are just proud to be a part of this for Woody," Hawkins said. "He is deserving of this, for what he did in the Armed Services in defense of this country."

Hawkins added that this victory is as important for the Sisseton-Wahpeton tribe and North and South Dakota as it is for Keeble and his family.

"We are all extremely proud that Woody is finally receiving this honor. He epitomized our culture — values of humility, compassion, bravery, strength and honor."

He added that Woody was the embodiment of "woyuhunah or, 'the one,' always trying himself in a way so that those who knew him would be proud of him. "He lived a life full of honor and respect."

Hawkins said his feelings about Keeble echo those of all who knew him. "If he was alive today, I would tell him there's no one I respect more, and how he is everything a man should be: brave, kind and generous. I would tell him how proud I am of him, and how I never realized that all this time, I was living with such greatness."

# Witty wordsmith slew liberalism's sacred cows

Steve Snyder  
Public Affairs Staff

Born in 1925, William Frank Buckley Jr. wasted little time in a life which ended on Feb. 26 this year.

He founded the politically conservative magazine *National Review* in 1955, wrote a twice-weekly column *On The Right* that was distributed to more than 320 newspapers since the early 1970s; wrote over 50 books, mainly collections of columns but also 10 Blackford Oakes spy thrillers; hosted 1,429 episodes of the PBS current events TV show *Firing Line* from 1966 to 1969 where he debated most of the country's top thinkers; crossed the Atlantic Ocean three times in his sailboat, built a harpsichord and frequently played it, savored fine wine and strong cigars, and absolutely refused to express an engaging sense of humor.

I remember reading a few of my brother's *National Review* circa 1958. Features on Ted Williams spitting at the crowd in an incident at Fenway Park and of Russell Kirk defending the James Bond books stick in my mind. I became a fan, especially during the 1960s when Buckley's band of NR staffers which prominently featured ex-communists, intransigent Catholics, neo-conservatives, and Social Darwinists who spewed crudite venom upon hippie pinkos, commie freaks who were then busy ransacking American culture.

Buckley founded the *National Review* in 1955, proposing to "stand against history, yelling 'stop' at a time when no one else is inclined to do so, or to have much patience with those who urge it."

For over a generation, conservatives had been considered beyond respectable intellectual pales. Few could get excited by the pasty formality of Herbert Hoover, the unsmiling isolationism of Senator Robert Taft, or the thoughtless, lower-class crudities of Senator Joseph McCarthy.

But in the mid-1950s, Buckley began to change all that.

"Because there was Ronald Reagan there was Barry Goldwater, and before there was



Getty Images

## William F. Buckley Jr. March, 1976

Barry, there was *National Review*, and before there was *National Review* there was Bill Buckley with a spark in his mind," observed *Newsweek* columnist George Will with his usual perspicacity.

Buckley's books, too, shook up a complacent liberal establishment. He blasted the "superstitions of academic freedom" in *God and Man at Yale*; defended Joe McCarthy as a patriot, with some reservations, in *McCarthy and His Enemies*; and dissected liberal folly in *Up From Liberalism*.

In his Blackford Oakes spy novels, Buckley resolved to "write a book in which the good guys and bad guys were actually distinguishable from one another." And Blackie Oakes was a good guy — and an American.

"The purpose of an open mind is to close it, on particular subjects. If you never do — you've simply abdicated the responsibility to think," Buckley mused on one occasion. For him, "Truth is a demure lady, much too ladylike to knock you on your head and drag you to her cave. She is there, but people must want her, and seek her out."

One chuckles now, recalling that Buckley once criticized Eisenhower for not waging the Cold War vigorously enough or Kennedy for being soft during the Cuban Missile crisis.

But quirks aside, WFB led American conservatives into the promised land. And he traveled first class all the way.



CBS

NOT SUFFERING FOOLS GLADLY — In debates during their mayoralty campaign for New York City in 1965, Conservative Party candidate William F. Buckley Jr., right, made intellectual mincemeat out of the eventual winner, liberal Republican John V. Lindsay, left. Although unfailingly cordial, Buckley still refused to mask his disdain for someone (in Buckley's opinion) who was addicted to tedious, unthinking clichés in lieu of serious ideas. Many, alas, were to share Lindsay's fate over the years.

# the Post

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**LEARNING LINE-UP** — Soldiers from the 688th Engineer Company receive Primary Marksmanship Instruction March 3 at the Small Arms Readiness Group, Reserve Training Center-East, as part of pre-mobilization training.

## Trainers target arms skills

(continued from page 1)

called to active duty and likely deployed in the ongoing fight against terrorism.

By completing such training before the mobilization begins, the amount of time the unit spends on active duty is more likely to meet the desired one-year activation limit, rather than spending mobilization days on training that can be done in advance.

Less time spent at the unit's mobilization station also translates into more "boots-on-the-ground" time in the theater of operation.

"Their training schedule looks great," said Staff Sgt. Nathaniel Day of the 688th Engineer Company, one of the first units to participate in the new RTC-E training at the SARG. "This is nice that we're spending a whole day on two weapons systems."

Day and his fellow combat engineers received Primary Marksmanship Instruction on the M9 pistol and M203 grenade launcher at the SARG.

This instruction marked only one part of the unit's training at Dix, with the RTC-E's approximately 200 Soldiers sharing the lessons they all learned while fighting in the Global War on Terrorism with these soon-to-be-mobilized troops.

To maintain this realistic and relevant training, the SARG is looking for Army Reserve and National Guard veterans of Operation Iraqi Freedom and Enduring Freedom who would like to be part of First Army's Operation Warrior Trainer (OWT) and become instructors.

Those interested should e-mail CW2 Ralph Long at [Ralph.Long@first.army.mil](mailto:Ralph.Long@first.army.mil).

Although the RTC-E officially began operations on Fort Dix March 2, the unit is scheduled to conduct a flag-unfurling ceremony in Timmermann Center March 7 at 8:30 a.m.



photos by Shawn Morris

**TAKING AIM** — Spc. Gary Helms, 688th Engineer Company, left, receives Primary Marksmanship Instruction March 3 at the Small Arms Readiness Group (SARG), Reserve Training Center-East, from Staff Sgt. Michael DiPeta, SARG instructor, as part of pre-mobilization training.

## Cyber war ongoing

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online banking network.

"Estonia happens to be very advanced, in terms of networks in their country," England said. "So a strength was turned into a vulnerability."

The deputy defense secretary is the latest in a series of government officials who recently expressed concern about the United States' cyber vulnerabilities and the impact they might have on a wide variety of functions in the country.

Last week, the Pentagon's top intelligence official told a Senate committee that cyber threats are contributing to the "unusually complex" security environment the United States faces.

"A global military trend of concern is ... the sophisticated ability of select nations and non-state groups to exploit and perhaps target for attack our computer networks," Army Lt. Gen. Michael D. Maples, director of the Defense Intelligence Agency, told the Senate Armed Services Committee in testimony on Feb. 27.

Joining the Pentagon's top intelligence official at the hearing on current and future threats facing the United States was the director of national intelligence, retired Navy Vice Adm. John M. "Mike" McConnell.

Asked by senators about cyber threats, McConnell said,

**The United States information infrastructure, including telecommunications and computer networks and systems, and most importantly the data that reside on these systems is critical to virtually every aspect of our modern life.**

"We're not prepared to deal with it."

"The United States information infrastructure, including telecommunications and computer networks and systems, and most importantly the data that reside on these systems is critical to virtually every aspect of our modern life," he continued.

"Threats to our intelligence infrastructure are an important focus of this community," McConnell said.

China, Russia and possibly other nation-states have been assessed as being capable of collecting or exploiting data

held on U.S. information systems.

"The threat that also concerns us a great deal, and maybe even more so, is if someone has the ability to enter information in systems, they can destroy data," he added.

"And the destroying data

committee of the House Armed Services Committee on Feb. 27.

"In the area of cyberspace, maybe even more so, is if both nation states and non-state actors continued to seek ways and means to counter the advantages we obtain from our use of information and to turn those same advantages against us in both conventional and unconventional ways," Vickers said.

Vickers said the Defense Department is working closely with interagency partners to scope future missions, address the partners' respective roles and to determine how best to face potential adversaries' attempts to counter our information advantages.

"We are making progress," he said, "but much remains to be done."

### CORRECTION

As reported in the Feb. 15 edition of the Post, food donated to the Warrior Transition Unit on Fort Dix was given by members of the Bordentown Township Senior Council.

**Fort Dix Weather Hotline**  
 Checking to see if weather has caused a delay in opening at Fort Dix?  
 After 6 a.m.,  
 ● Call 562-4065  
 ● Log in to [www.dix.army.mil](http://www.dix.army.mil)  
 ● Tune in to WDIX Channel 2

# NEIGHBORHOOD

## THE CORNER

### Applicants needed for retiree license plates

In accordance with a Department of the Army initiative, Fort Dix has been in the process of establishing a retired Army license plate for New Jersey retirees.

The original application for the license plate was submitted to the New Jersey Department of Motor Vehicles Services (MVS) in October 2007. The application to establish the plates is currently being reviewed by MVS for approval.

Once MVS approves the license plates, they will mail the license plates out to each of the Army retiree applicants. There are currently 235 Army retiree applicants who have submitted applications.

If you have questions or require additional information, please call the Retirement Services officer, Fay Marshall-Dease, at 562-2666 or e-mail fay\_marshalldease@us.army.mil

### Red Cross to hold blood drive at chapel

AFGE Local 1999/American Red Cross will sponsor a blood drive **March 14** at the Main Chapel from 8:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. Everyone able to do so is encouraged to donate the "Gift of Life," as blood supplies are extremely low. Blood type O+ (universal donor) and O- are urgently needed, as are A+, B+, and AB+.

If you wish to be a donor, call your directorate point-of-contact by **March 7** to register in order to allow for proper staffing at donation site. To eliminate waiting in line, the best time to donate is between 8:30 and 11 a.m. - no appointments are needed.

Please ask about qualification for Sickle Cell Donor and Double Red Blood Cell Donor programs. If you plan to donate blood, please bring your ID card and list of any medications you are taking. It is also recommended that you increase your fluid intake and eat normally prior to donating.

It is requested that you obtain your supervisor's approval for absence from the work site before going to donate blood. Federal employees are permitted four hours of administrative leave (with supervisory approval) as "retiree time" following donation.

### Fort Dix to host real-estate seminar

Fort Dix Army Community Service, in Partnership with Operation RE/MAX, presents a seminar for military spouses, active, retired, and veteran service personnel called "Becoming a Real Estate Agent" **March 20** from 5:30 to 7 p.m. in Bldg. 5201 Maryland Avenue.

Joseph A. Trela, broker/owner and former military crew chief, will discuss requirements, costs, time involved, referral agents, and working from home. A question-and-answer session will follow the seminar.

Call Rod Martell at 562-2186 to register. Seating is limited to 20 attendees.

### Home seminar and fair coming to McGuire AFB

McGuire Air Force Base will host a homebuyer's/seller's seminar and fair **March 14** from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Club, Bldg. 2508.

For more information, call 754-3662 or 754-3397.

### Walston Aid Station changes sick call hours

Sick call hours for Soldiers mobilizing or demobilizing at Fort Dix have changed for the Walston Aid Station located at the McGuire Air Force Base clinic. The new daily hours are 7 to 8 a.m. For more information, personnel can call 562-5481.

### 305th Med Group makes cancellations easy

Soldiers who cannot get to scheduled medical appointments on time at the 305th Medical Group, McGuire Air Force Base, may cancel their appointments by calling 754-9287. The phone will be staffed until 2 p.m., when it will switch to a message system that will be checked hourly.

## Dix leaders kickstart kids' reading

Wayne Cook  
Public Affairs Staff

Leaders and volunteers from across the post joined the students at the Fort Dix Elementary School to help them celebrate Dr. Seuss' Birthday Week and Read Across America by reading with the children March 5.

Seventeen senior leaders and other volunteers including Col. Larry Boyd, deputy commander for mobilization, Steven Melly, director of Public Safety and chief of police, Sarah Johnson, director of Morale, Welfare, and Recreation, and Assistant Fire Chief Keith Adams, gave up some of their valuable time to take a moment to read to and encourage the students to read.

Command Sgt. Maj. Anthony Young, mobilization command sergeant major, challenged the children of Mrs. Adrian's fourth-grade class to always read so they could build up their knowledge of different subjects and not have to rely totally on things that others had told them.

Boyd read a book titled "The Flag We Love" by Ralph Masiello, to which the children of Miss Kerner's fourth-grade class were completely enthralled. They took turns answering and asking questions of the colonel, to which he patiently and politely answered every one.

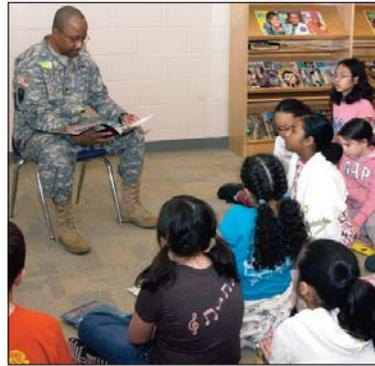
Read Across America is a program run by the National Education Association to both celebrate Dr. Seuss' contributions to literacy and also to encourage students to read more often.



photos by Wayne Cook

**Chad Gardner, Youth Center Keystone Club member, above left, reads "Oh the Places You'll Go" by Dr. Seuss to Jacob Carver of the School Age Services program in celebration of Dr. Seuss' Birthday Week and Read Across America March 3. Seventeen installation leaders and other volunteers, like Col. Larry Boyd, deputy commander for mobilization, left, and Kelly Cezar, right, participated in the annual event run by the National Education Association.**

Jennifer M. McCarthy



## Army vet volunteers for today's troops

Wayne Cook  
Public Affairs Staff

For some time, Frank Dodson of Shamong has pondered what he could do to help out Soldiers involved in the Global War on Terrorism. Now he spends his time volunteering at the Joint Readiness Center (JRC) with the American Red Cross.

Dodson, a former sergeant who served in the Army from 1966 to 1969, made many calls to the post to see if there was any way he might be able to volunteer and help out the deploying and returning Soldiers, and always seemed to hit a brick wall.

"I wanted to help Soldiers but didn't know how or where to go. I couldn't seem to get anywhere when I called the post. I wanted to find a way to

give back to those who have given me, and all of our country, so much," said Dodson.

One day as he was working out at his local gym, Dodson met a retired Air Force pilot who men-

**Frank Dodson, a former sergeant who served in the Army from 1966 to 1969, made many calls to the post to see if there was any way he might be able to volunteer and help out the deploying and returning Soldiers.**

tioned the American Red Cross chapter on Fort Dix.

A phone call later to Patrizia Selk-Welkenbach, the volunteer manager on the post for the Red

Cross, and he was set up to process as a Red Cross volunteer.

Nowadays, you may find him sitting over at the JRC providing free coffee, snacks and books for the men and women processing through the facility. He makes himself available to those who wish to take a moment and talk with him.

"I just want to do something, my little bit for the Soldiers who are walking the wall today. I get a great feeling helping out. It's not much, but I'm glad to be doing it," he said.

Glad also are the men and women who are served by the many volunteers from the Red Cross who are touched daily by their humble giving.

Look in future editions for more stories about other Red Cross volunteers during March, Red Cross Month.

## Scouts take hands-on approach to learning

1st Lt. Antonia Greene and  
Sgt. Charlotte Martinez  
Army Public Affairs

Cub Scout Pack 34 from Fort Dix Elementary gathered out at the Unit Training Equipment Site (UTES) at Fort Dix Jan. 26 spending the day getting familiar with the Army up-armored HMMWV and tank recovery vehicles, courtesy of the New Jersey Army National Guard.

The den masters coordinated with the UTES shop Officers-in-Charge, 1st Lt. Jennifer Johnson, allowing the boys a practical day in the field, learning about the Army's vehicles.

"I love it when the kids come out because they get to see what the military really does, not just what they see on television. It gives them hands on," 1st Lt. Jennifer Johnson, the shop officer-in-charge said.

The cub scouts were given a safety briefing by Johnson before getting started, and were equipped with helmets and ear plugs, like real Soldiers.

The boys toured the M1114 High Mobility Multi-wheeled Vehicle (HMMWV) and learned about its function in the war on terrorism - the main transportation in and around the towns of Iraq and Afghanistan for both American and Coalition forces.

The scouts also got a look inside the M88 Recovery vehicle. Tank Recovery vehicles like the M88 were fielded to recover damaged vehicles from the frontline while under fire and the boys were certainly impressed with it's design and capabilities.



1st Lt. Antonia Greene

**TANKS FOR THE MEMORIES -- Kids and leaders from Cub Scout Pack 34 spent Jan. 26 getting acquainted with various military vehicles at the Fort Dix Unit Training Equipment Site. The tour was organized by the New Jersey Army National Guard.**

Then, they were off to the races. The boys saw how the vehicles fared on the tank trails and HMMWV driving course before concluding their visit.

"We are not a pack that just sits around," said Staff Sgt. Ricky Crawford with the 72nd Field Artillery Brigade HHB, cub master for the pack.

"We want to let everyone know the pack is still alive and kicking," Craw-

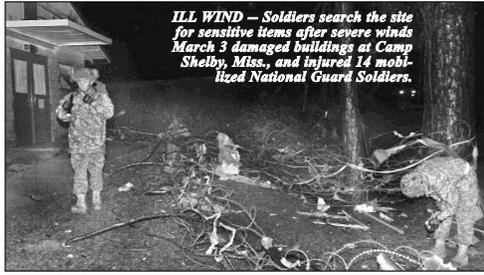
ford said, "We are still here and looking for more boys and their parents to join us."

"We are learning how to fold the American flag to train for a flag ceremony at the Non-commissioned officer Academy," said Crawford, "We are also planning a trip to McGuire Air Force Base to explore some of the airplanes as well as the USS New Jersey."

"Some of the things we do at our

meetings include, field trips, camps, first aid training, and the boys enjoy board games, among other things," said David Boron, one of the parents and the wolf den leader.

For more information on where and when they meet and how you can join the cub scouts at Fort Dix, call the Committee Chairperson, Kristie Darts, at (609) 553-1132 or stop by the Scout hut, building 5341 across the pond from the shopette.



**ILL WIND** — Soldiers search the site for sensitive items after severe winds March 3 damaged buildings at Camp Shelby, Miss., and injured 14 mobilized National Guard Soldiers.

## Soldiers injured in storm

**Capt. Christopher J. Heaths**  
39th IBCT PAO

**CAMP SHELBY JOINT FORCES TRAINING CENTER, Miss., March 4, 2008** — Fourteen soldiers with the Arkansas National Guard's 39th Infantry Brigade Combat Team were injured last night when severe weather passed through Camp Shelby.

Injuries were mainly limited to minor cuts and bruises, with one soldier suffering a more severe, yet non-life-threatening injury, officials said.

At about 11 p.m., an unconfirmed tornado passed through the post just south of Hattiesburg, Miss., seriously damaging a barracks building, which housed soldiers from the 39th's 1st Battalion, 153rd Infantry, units based in Mena, DeQueen and Sheridan, Ark.

The building's roof was partially blown

away by strong winds, with the remainder collapsing on several soldiers inside. The 39th's soldiers from neighboring barracks quickly responded with a search-and-rescue effort and established triage.

Along with the battalion's physician assistant, the 39th's medics and combat lifesavers who came to the scene to help actually outnumbered the injured soldiers. Civilian emergency officials arrived in short order and were able to quickly get the soldiers transported to the local hospital, where all 14 were treated and released.

Brigade officials confirmed all soldiers have been accounted for and that the families of the injured soldiers have been notified.

A complete damage assessment to the post is expected to take place today.

The 39th, with headquarters in Little Rock, is conducting mobilization training at Camp Shelby in preparation for an upcoming deployment in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom.



Lisa Evans

## Sweet makes sweet sweets guess

**Fitness Coordinator Gina Accardo presents Zenaida Sweet, wife of retired Air Force Tech. Sgt. Billy Sweet, two tickets for dinner at Club Dix for the closest guess of how many sweetheart candies were in a jar. Sweet's guess was 508; Actual count 512. Sweet and her husband have both worked out at Griffith Field House several times per week for nearly 10 years.**

## Kids learn finance basics

**Wayne Cook**  
Public Affairs Staff

"Fiscal reliability is the responsibility of the young and the old" was the message during a session of the Military Saves program at the Youth Center Feb. 29.

More than 25 youths showed up for the session on how to handle credit, saving money, buying a cell phone, and guarding against identity theft. The event was hosted by the Youth Center, Army Community Service, and the Better Business Bureau.

Melissa Compianck, president of operations and market-

ing, Better Business Bureau, shared tips with the youths including things to know about credit. She administered a test to those in attendance to help them see how much they knew and how much more they needed to learn about having credit and handling credit affairs, responsibilities of owning a cell phone, and how to protect themselves from identity theft.

Some of the youth members were surprised at how much they knew, or in some cases, didn't know. "It was educational," said Armand Brown, 15, of Browns Mills. "I learned about identity theft and how to protect my identification card and Social Security number. I also learned that the more efficiently you handle and pay off your bills, the better your credit will be."

"We want to educate the kids. Make them smart and savvy consumers as early as possible so they have a healthy financial future," said Compianck during the session. The session was led by Cheryl Shervington, Youth Center; Bobby Brown, Army Community Service; and Ron Happell, financial contractor, Army Community Service.

To learn more about saving, go to [www.militarysaves.org](http://www.militarysaves.org), or call Brown or Happell at 562-4245.

## IRR muster

(continued from page 1)

tation of training and unit opportunities, and exit surveys. The readiness muster is typically conducted for Soldiers assigned to the IRR for more than 12 months.

The Army will also conduct personnel accountability musters at more than 450 Army Reserve Centers in the continental United States and abroad. The personnel readiness muster is intended for Soldiers in the first 12 months of being assigned to the IRR. The purpose of this muster is to educate the Soldier on participation requirements and present training and promotion opportunities. They are also offered the Post Deployment Health Reassessment Program (PDHRA) and are required to update their personal information.

New this year is a test pilot program called the unit affiliation muster, which involves a visit by the IRR Soldier to a Reserve unit in addition to muster activities.

Orders will be issued to the IRR Soldier to report to a local Reserve Center, and they will be paid \$190 for successfully completing the muster. IRR Soldiers who complete their muster requirement will be credited as satisfac-

tory participants for the year.

"The muster program not only affords us the opportunity to collect required information but also allows our Reserve Soldiers to remain IRR members. There are a lot of opportunities available to them through either more active IRR participation, affiliation with an Army Reserve Troop Program Unit (TPU), or volunteering to mobilize in support of the Global War on Terrorism," said Lt. Col. Craig Smith, who is in charge of the Army's IRR Muster Program this year.

A Soldier typically becomes a member of the IRR after successfully completing a tour of duty as a Regular or Reserve Army Soldier. Soldiers remain members of the IRR until their total military service obligation expires. Officers are required to submit a request for resignation of their commission to be removed from the IRR rolls. Soldiers who retire after 20 years of service are not kept in the IRR unless it is of their own accord.

Persons who are unsure of their status may telephone the Communications Hub Office of U.S. Army Human Resources Command at 1-800-518-5298.

## Stress issues addressed

**Lisa Evans**  
Public Affairs Staff

Stress is part of life. But sometimes, stress becomes something more: A problem coping at work or at home, problems getting along with family or co-workers, using alcohol or another substance to wind down at night or even relying on substances prescribed by a doctor, or using substances gotten legally or illegally to get you through the night or day.

If stress is building up, or problems are affecting your life or your work, the Employee Assistance Program (EAP) is there to help.

"There are many ways to stress-proof a job, but not all are in our control. Finding ways to control the reaction to problems beyond your control is what the EAP is designed to do," Dr. Denise Horton, professional counselor, said.

EAP sessions are available to all employees and all are entitled to six free sessions with the EAP counselor.

"The operative question is, 'What is it that is impacting their abilities and what can we do to make the workplace more productive?'" Horton said.

Horton also strongly suggests a complete physical to rule out health reasons why stress is becoming a burden.

Horton directs the EAP at Fort Dix and said they will set hours from 4:30 to 5:30 p.m. and work around employee schedules when they can. Employees may be afraid to use their leave time, but supervisors can contribute up to four administrative leave hours to be used for EAP counseling.

Horton stresses not letting fears of someone finding out you are seeking help stop you from accessing programs that are your right. Privacy is assured just as with any other medical, dental or mental health appointment unless specific permission is given to share the information with a supervisor or family member. Even the appointments themselves are considered private.

At the EAP Substance Abuse counseling center on post, the parking and entrance are away

from the road so that employees using the service are shielded from casual sight. The only exceptions to the privacy privilege is in rare cases of a medical emergency or should an employee threaten harm to someone else or themselves or if child abuse is present.

The priority of the Fort Dix EAP is military since EAP is part of the Human Resources Military, but Horton's motto is people first.

"People, I think, are your most important asset and if they're not functioning, the rest of the place goes down," Horton said.

With joint basing ongoing, stress on the installation is up, Horton said, and she expects more problems.

**The profile of current suicides is 26- to 35-year-old white males with legal, financial and/or alcohol and drug-abuse problems.**

"Since 1993, we have been defending ourselves, reinventing every which way to stay alive. There is more to come. Some of the older workers are hanging by their toe nails; they can't afford to retire and they don't know that they have jobs," Horton said.

Horton sees 20 to 25 people per year and says there are three things to remember about the EAP. First: The sessions are confidential, private, available and qualified. Second: Asking for help is not a sign of weakness. It's a strength to ask for help. And third: It gives people a sounding board to share their cares with.

"It's the people sitting at a computer all day that worry me. I don't see them. I like prevention. With the fear of losing a job, the problem gets too big," Horton said.

Horton said people don't think about the help available and so struggle through alone when they don't have to. As much as she tries, the word just doesn't get out there well enough. Horton made a point of visiting every director on base and presenting the information for the EAP. She has

created 'stress baskets' filled with informational brochures and handed them out to directors, creates posters and brochures that are placed around the installation, and works hard on prevention campaigns, handing out pens with red ribbon clips for Red Ribbon Week, worked with the Great American Smoke Out, and created a wall of signatures promising drug free lifestyles.

The EAP information is covered in the new employee orientation, but new employees may not go to the orientation for some months and then the EAP is one slide among more than 150 others and easy to forget. So Horton visits offices frequently and meets with people.

"We try to make ourselves present everyday. We try, we try," Horton said.

She knows there are people she could help, but they aren't aware of or are too fearful to use her services. When problems get too big to handle is when something happens to force the issue and bring it to the notice of the police or emergency services. Traffic accidents caused by drug or alcohol use, or even by lack of sleep or inability to concentrate, and suicide are all too possible when stress becomes too great. And now we are in the time of year that suicide attempts increase.

Horton said that Fort Dix only gets demobbed Soldiers for five days, so there is not a lot of time to talk with them or assess them. And spring is always the high time for suicide.

"Christmas isn't the high time. By spring, more people are getting out and drinking more, Christmas bills are coming due, school is letting out. March, April and May have the highest suicide rate," Horton said. "I'm like a dog with a bone if someone is suicidal or saying they are going to kill someone. I put some people in the hospital on suicide watch."

Her goal is to prevent problems becoming so difficult there seems no way out. By supplying a place to talk out problems and get needed help, Horton hopes to help Soldiers, families and employees of Fort Dix live more stress-free lives.

# Military police unit trains to protect officials

**Ryan Morton**  
Public Affairs Staff

Imagine playing a role where you have to not only protect someone physically, but protect their reputation as well. That's the task the 396th Military Police Detachment is about to embark upon.

This exclusive 28 Soldier unit from Denver, Co., has just completed their preparations at Fort Dix, and will soon head to Iraq to perform this protective role.

Their job - protecting high-ranking dignitaries and officials - is very much like secret service agents assigned to guard the president.

"It's a very demanding position because we have to be a Soldier and diplomat at the same time. We have to be professional and courteous, but at the same time, be able to use force if necessary," said Sgt. 1st Class Grant Von Letkemann, 396th commander.

According to Von Letkemann, these Soldiers in many ways play a public relations role because they represent the dignity in everything they do.

"The Soldiers have to make sure the boss is taken care of

and viewed positively and professionally," he said.

These Soldiers have to know the cultural aspects as well as the military and protocol structures, and in a plethora of ways they do not follow a regular Army training module.

An example of this is they do not run convoys, unlike most Army units. Convoys are run at larger intervals than motorcades because their purpose is to transport personnel and equipment. If one vehicle gets attacked, the others have a greater amount of time to react to the activity and therefore have fewer casualties or losses. With dignitaries and officials, they run motorcades at much tighter intervals to be able to react more quickly should an attack occur, and thus offer protection.

This Protective Services Detail (PSD) is highly sought after by many Soldiers. According to Von Letkemann, many Soldiers who wanted to serve in this mission were turned away due to lack of spaces available.

"This is a great assignment because you get to see sides of the Army that typical Soldiers don't get to see. It's unique because you get to see many of

the behind-the-scenes, day-to-day operations of how the Army works," he said.

This unit was formed in 2000 as a law-and-order detachment and was first mobilized in 2002 during the Winter Olympics in Salt Lake City, Utah, as a Special Response Team (SRT), which is the military's version of a civilian SWAT team. They were mobilized again in 2003 during Operation Iraqi Freedom I to provide law-and-order support in Kuwait and Saudi Arabia.

They recently concluded their training at Dix using a Blackhawk helicopter and ground motorcade transporting their official to various parts of the installation to meet with foreign officials and dignitaries.

"Part of our evaluation is how we react to the changes that are thrown at us. We have to maintain our professionalism, security and situational awareness, while adapting to the changes on a moment's notice," Von Letkemann said.

According to Von Letkemann, the Soldiers adapted very well to the challenges they faced and appear very motivated and ready for the mission at hand.



photos by Ryan Morton  
**SERVE AND PROTECT** - Soldiers from the 396th Military Police Detachment from Colorado escort and protect a high-ranking military official exiting a blackhawk helicopter as part of their training in preparation for a deployment in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom. Sgt. Jason Thompson, 396 MP Det., left, talks to a role-player as part of the training exercise.

## Housing amendment, insurance assures safe housing for everyone

**Capt. Nick Mitchell**  
Judge Advocate

The Fair Housing Amendments Act of 1988 (hereinafter "FHA") prohibits housing discrimination on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, disability, family status and national origin. The FHA covers private housing, housing that receives Federal financial assistance, and State and local government housing. It is unlawful to discriminate in any aspect of selling or renting housing or to deny a dwelling to a buyer/renter because of the disability of that individual, an individual associated with the buyer/renter, or an individual who intends to live in the residence. The FHA also covers financing, zoning practices, advertising, and new construction design.

The FHA requires owners of housing facilities to make reasonable exceptions in their policies and operations to afford people with disabilities equal housing opportunities. For example, a landlord with a "no pets" rule may be required to grant an exception and allow a blind individual to keep a guide dog in the residence. The FHA also requires landlords to allow tenants with disabilities to make reasonable access-related modifications to their private living space, as well as to common use spaces (the landlord is not required to pay for the changes). The FHA further requires that new multi-family housing with four (4) or more units be designed and built to allow access for disabled persons. This includes accessible common use areas, doors wide enough for wheelchairs, kitchens/bathrooms that

**Complaints of FHA violations may be filed with the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development.**

**For more information or to file a complaint, contact:**

Office of Program Compliance and Disability Rights  
Office of Fair Housing and Equal Opportunity  
U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development  
451 7th Street, S.W., Room 5242  
Washington, D.C. 20410

www.hud.gov/offices/theo  
800-669-9777  
800-927-9275 (TTY)

**For questions about accessibility provisions of the FHA, you may contact Fair Housing Accessibility FIRST at:**

www.fairhousingfirst.org  
888-341-7781 (voice/TTY)

**For FHA publications, call the Housing and Urban Development Customer Service Center at:**

800-767-7468

starting at part 100. Homeowners may be able to save hundreds of dollars a year on homeowners' insurance by shopping around. You can also save money with these tips:

- Consider a higher deductible. Increasing your deductible by just a few hundred dollars can make a big difference in your premium.
- Ask your insurance agent about discounts. You may be able to get a lower premium if your home has safety features

such as dead-bolt locks, smoke detectors, an alarm system, storm shutters or fire retardant roofing material. Persons over 55 years old or long-term customers may also be offered discounts.

- Insure your house NOT the land under it. After a disaster, the land is still there (usually). If you do not subtract the value of the land when deciding how much homeowner's insurance to buy, you will pay more than you should.

- Do not wait until you have a loss to find out if you have the right amount and type of insurance.
- certain that you purchase enough coverage to replace what is insured. "Replacement" coverage gives you money to rebuild your home and replace its contents. An "Actual Cash Value" policy is cheaper but pays only what your property is worth at the time of loss - your cost minus depreciation for wear and age.

- Ask about special coverage you might need. You may have to pay extra for computers, cameras, jewelry, antiques, art, coin/stamp collections, musical instruments, etc.

- Remember that earthquake and flood damage are not covered by a standard homeowner's policy. The cost of a separate earthquake policy will depend on the likelihood of earthquakes in your area. Homeowners who live in areas prone to flooding should take advantage of the National Flood Insurance Program (1-888-CALL-FLOOD (1-888-225-5356) - www.fema.gov)

- If you are a renter, do not assume that your landlord carries insurance on your personal belongings. Most likely you will need to purchase a separate renter's policy.



Ryan Morton

### Signed, sealed, delivered

Spc. Mildred Allen, 444th Adjutant General (AG) Company (Postal), of Pittsburgh, Penn., receives a package and checks it for correct information during a mobilization training exercise held March 3. Allen and her unit will be deploying to Iraq soon to run an Army Post Office.

**WDIX Channel 2**  
24/7 information



**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*

# Fort Dix veterinarian tends to more than animals

Lisa Evans  
Public Affairs Staff

At the age of 26, Capt. Lewis Singleton III, doctor of veterinary medicine, is exactly where he wants to be.

Singleton had been enrolled at Tuskegee University School of Veterinary Medicine about two years when an Army recruiter approached him about a potential scholarship that would pay his way through school. The scholarship is very hard to get, Singleton said, requiring a high GPA, leadership experience, letters of recommendation and an essay about why the student wanted to be in the Army Veterinary Corps.

Fewer than 100 people were chosen from the 28 vet schools in the country that year, and one of them was Singleton.

Singleton was president of various organizations in school so had the necessary leadership skills, and his essay apparently hit the right note. And although he had no personal connection to and no immediate family in the military, the whole concept of the Army Veterinary Corps and the range of duties required of its veterinarians was exactly what Singleton was aiming for.

"I became a veterinarian actually to create cures to diseases for people using the animal model," Singleton said. "My original aspiration was never to be a clinician. I love animals, but my passion's people."

His grandmother had high blood pressure, diabetes, and glaucoma.

"I got in vet school and learned that all the physicians had to do was explain preventive measures to patients, (the doctors) never explained that to my grandmother. My goal was to get in there and fix that, at least do my little part," Singleton said.

As a result of his dedication to helping people and animals, Singleton began work at Fort Dix July 2007. Since then,



Lisa Evans

**POOCH SMOOCH** -- Airman Jonathan Harris gets a his from his dog Mercedes while Capt. Lewis Singleton assesses the dog's health.

only 20 to 25 percent of his time has been spent caring for pets.

A large part of his job is auditing outside facilities, military working dog (MWD) disease prevention and treatment, responding to the Department of Defense Hazardous Food and Non-Prescription Drug Recall System immediately to prevent illness, participating in the McGuire/Dix/Lakehurst Avian Influenza outbreak response plan, assisting the public health teams in improving bite report response systems, coordinating with the pre-deployment Warrior Training program to train MWD handlers on advanced first aid, hiring employees, counseling employees and Soldiers, handling soldier challenges such as time management, and discussing life concerns outside the military such as school and family.

He said all this is simply requirements of his role as a leader.

"Thankfully I have an outstanding team of Soldiers and staff to help me accomplish all of that," Singleton said.

The majority of Singleton's

time is spent doing inspections and audits. Singleton's primary mission is to ensure that the food Soldiers and their families eat is safe, and that the working dogs that will save Soldiers' lives are healthy. Any facility the military gets food from is inspected by the Army Veterinary Corps, which covers not just the Army, but the Navy, the Marines, and the Coast Guard; everybody but the Air Force who has its own health professionals. The veterinarians, veterinary staff, and warrant officers inspect factories in much the same way the FDA does.

Soldiers under Singleton's command inspect the food produced at the Shopette, Burger King, the Child Development Centers, and School Age Services. Singleton also inspects the animals at the CDC, even the hermit crabs and fish, as well as the animals' environment and living conditions.

Veterinarians are "farm to fork students," Singleton said, with training in soil, to bacteria to viruses to zoonotic diseases. The warrant officers who work with the veterinarians are trained specifically for dog

safety.

The Army Veterinary Corps encompasses research for Soldiers in the field - in vital areas such as blood-clotting factors, tourniquets, and vaccines. Veterinarians are essential to drug development because all medications must go through animals before being administered to humans. Singleton said that the Army Veterinarian Corps even has veterinarians who train medical doctors in battlefield medicine using new concepts and discoveries.

"We have veterinarians in every aspect of the military. We're involved in political aspects, public relations overseas. (Veterinarians) get the public to appreciate the U.S. by treating goats and crops - everything. But our primary mission is MWDs and MRE's (Meals Ready to Eat)," Singleton said.

Working 11 and 12-hour days, Singleton manages to complete all of his duties, if not always on the day he hoped to. A typical day starts about 7:30 or 8 a.m. when he catches up on e-mails or taskings from superiors. Taskings with short suspense dates get first attention. Singleton will have three to four notes from customers wanting a call back, two or three files of blood work to interpret, and each month Military Work Dogs have things to take care of, possibly a physical or medications to adjust, x-rays or magnetic resonance imaging (MRI's) to take at McGuire.

"There is only one me. And I have five missions of equal priority. When all are equal, some missions fall all the way to the bottom. Soldiers, MWDs, and food are all priorities. Without those priorities, the dogs and humans are at risk of becoming sick or dying from bad food or the dogs missing something," Singleton said.

"The primary mission of my job is to make sure the handlers and the dogs are taken care of. The handlers know if anything is wrong even before blood work would show anything. Some owners wait three to four months to bring their pets in and that makes treatment diffi-

cult. Handlers bring their dogs in sooner. Over-conscientious handlers are adamant on care," Singleton said.

People tell him all the time that they appreciate having a vet on base. And though he isn't primarily a clinician, he said, the clinic is dedicated to caring for pets and he enjoys doing so. Singleton adds that he would like to tell people to be patient with the vet clinic. In the month of January, he had only two days of clinics for pets, and this month he only had a total of four days. Singleton would like to see that change.

He would like to have a weekend clinic and a night clinic per quarter for people who can't get to the office during the day. He is trying to hire another veterinarian to work on base to support customers' needs better, and would like to see at least three days per week clinic time.

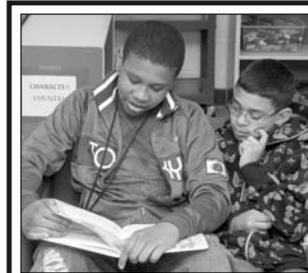
When asked, Singleton said he is not involved with catching feral cats, but once caught, they are brought to him to be scanned to see if they have a microchip. With the microchip, lost pets can be returned to the owners. Singleton said that the clinic has plenty of microchips

so he encourages all families to bring their pets in to receive a chip. During the examination of patient Mercedes, a pit bull/collie mix breed, Singleton asked Airman Jonathan Harris if Mercedes was chipped and encouraged him to have that done. He also encouraged the owner to have the dog spayed as soon as possible.

During his examination of Mercedes, Singleton showed a deep care for the pet and her owner. With gentle hands he examined her, assessing her health. So, although he said he didn't go into veterinary work as a clinician, his manner with Mercedes and her owner shows that he cares deeply for the welfare of the pets he sees.

"All in all, I definitely enjoy my job. It's been definitely rewarding even with all the work I have to do. You won't find me complaining. I really believe that if life throws you lemons, make lemonade," Singleton said.

Well, he isn't making lemonade but he is providing a service that is appreciated by all, even if not everyone is aware of the impact he has on their lives when they pop open that MRE or bite into a donut.



Wayne Cook

## Sharing stories

Chad Gardner, Youth Center Keystone Club member, reads "Oh the Places You'll Go" by Dr. Seuss to Jacob Carver of the School Age Services program on March 3. The reading was in celebration of Dr. Seuss' Birthday Week and Read Across America.

# Announcements

## Cinema Schedule

754-5139  
**McGuire Air Force Base**

**Friday, Mar. 7 @ 7:30 p.m.**

**Cloverfield** - Lizzy Caplan, Jessica Lucas, T.J. Miller, Michael Stahl-David, Mike Vogel, Odette Yustman - Five young New Yorkers throw their friend a going-away party the night that a monster the size of a skyscraper descends upon the city. Told from the point of view of their video camera, the film is a document of their attempt to survive the most surreal, horrifying event of their lives.

MPAA Rating: PG-13 - violence, terror and disturbing images  
Run time: 85 minutes

**Saturday, Mar. 8 @ 7:30 p.m.**

**Meet the Spartans** - Sean Maguire, Carmen Electra, Ken Davitian, Kevin Sorbo, Diedrich Bader - Thirteen strapping warriors must protect their homeland from invading Persians and bad punchlines.

MPAA Rating: PG-13 - crude and sexual content throughout, language and some comic violence  
Run time: 84 minutes

### Future Features...

#### The Eye

Friday, Mar. 14 @ 7:30 p.m.  
PG-13, 97 minutes.

#### Over Her Dead Body

Saturday, Mar. 15 @ 7:30 p.m.  
PG-13, 97 minutes.

## Chapel Services

562-2020

### Sunday Services

Protestant.....8-9 a.m.  
Catholic Mass.....10:15-11:15 a.m.  
Gospel.....11:30 a.m.-1 p.m.

### Camp Victory - Chaplain's tent

Hour of Power.....8-9 a.m.  
Protestant.....8-9 a.m.  
Mormon.....8-9 a.m.  
Jewish.....8-9 a.m.

### Wednesday Services

#### Main Chapel

Protestant 7:30-8:30 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

#### \*\*Special Events\*\*

Stations of the Cross  
Every Friday, February 8 - March 14, 6 p.m.

#### --Coming in March--

Installation Prayer Breakfast - deadline for tickets is Mar. 12

#### Wednesday, March 12, 7:30 a.m. at Club Dix

#### Easter Egg Hunt

Saturday, March 15, 11 a.m.

#### Palm Sunday Gospel Service

Sunday, March 16, 11:45 a.m.

Holy Thursday Catholic Service - Washing of the Feet

#### Thursday, March 20, 6 p.m.

Holy Thursday Catholic Service - "Jesus - From Crib to Cross"

#### Thursday, March 20, 7:30 p.m.

Good Friday Catholic Service - Veneration of the Cross

#### Friday, March 21, 6 p.m.

Good Friday Protestant Service

#### Friday, March 21, 7 p.m.

Holy Saturday Catholic Service - Easter Vigil

#### Saturday, March 22, 7:30 p.m.

Easter Sunday Sunrise Service - followed by breakfast

#### Sunday, March 23, 7 a.m.

Easter Sunday, Regular Services

#### Protestant Easter Service - 9 a.m.

#### Catholic Easter Service - 10:15 a.m.

#### Gospel Easter Service - 1:30 a.m.

#### Sunday, March 23

#### Gospel Joy Night

#### Saturday, March 29, 8:30 p.m.

Gospel 33rd Anniversary Service/Dinner

#### Sunday, March 30, 11:30 a.m. service followed by dinner

For additional services or Religious Support please call 562-2020

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

The Main Chapel staff is in need of piano and organ players during the Protestant and/or Catholic services on Sundays to fill in as needed. For information please call the chapel at 562-2020.

*Read the Post*

## MWR presents

**Joint Forces Racquetball Tournament**  
The two day, single elimination tournament is scheduled for March 15 & 16. Trophies for 1st and 2nd place finishers.  
Call or come by Griffith Field House for more information 562-4888.

**Texas Hold'em Tournament**  
Mar. 19 at Club Dix

## ACS Meetings

**Friday, Mar. 7**  
Army Family Team Building  
Instructor Training Course  
8 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.  
McGuire CDC #2

**Saturday, Mar. 8**  
EFMP Easter Egg Hunt  
12 - 2 p.m.  
Doughboy Gym

**Monday, Mar. 10**  
Playgroup  
18 mo. - 3 yrs.  
11 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.  
McGuire CDC #2

**Tuesday, Mar. 11**  
Hearts Apart  
10 a.m. - 12 p.m.  
ACS, Bldg. 5201

**Wednesday, Mar. 12**  
Playgroup  
Birth to 18 mo.  
11 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.  
McGuire CDC #2

**Investor Education & Consumer Rights**  
1:30 p.m. - 2:30 p.m.  
ACS, Bldg. 5201

## Youth Center

562-5061  
Bldg. 1279 Locust Street

### Hours of Operation:

Monday - Friday from 2-7 p.m.  
Saturday from 1-7 p.m.  
Sunday CLOSED

**Administrative Hours:**  
Tuesday - Friday from noon-6 p.m.

## Weekly Schedule

**Friday, Mar. 7**  
Power Hour Store  
2:30 - 4 p.m.

**Power Hour Activity**  
begins 3:15 p.m.

**Photo Club**  
3:45 - 4:45 p.m.

**Computer Lab**  
4 - 6 p.m.

**Keystone Club**  
6 - 8 p.m.

**March Birthday Celebration**  
**Saturday, Mar. 8**  
Cookie & Ice Cream Social  
3 - 5 p.m.

**Monday, Mar. 10**  
Power Hour  
2:30 - 4:30 p.m.  
Computer Lab  
4 - 6 p.m.

**Tuesday, Mar. 11**  
Power Hour  
2:30 - 4:30 p.m.  
Computer Lab  
4 - 6 p.m.

**Wednesday, Mar. 12**  
Power Hour  
2:30 - 4:30 p.m.  
Sports & Fitness  
3:45 - 4:45 p.m.  
Computer Lab  
4 - 6 p.m.

**Thursday, Mar. 13**  
Power Hour  
2:30 - 4:30 p.m.  
Computer Lab  
4 - 6 p.m.  
Torch Club  
3:45 - 4:45 p.m.

## Dining Facilities

**Bldg. 5610** Open Every Day  
Breakfast 6:30 a.m.  
Lunch 11:30-1 p.m.  
Dinner 4:30-6 p.m.

**Bldg. 5986** Open Every Day  
Breakfast 6:30 a.m.  
Lunch 11:30-1 p.m.  
Dinner 4:30-6 p.m.

Meal Rates: Breakfast - \$2.10  
Lunch - \$3.85 Dinner - \$3.85

PT uniforms are not to be worn when eating at Fort Dix dining facilities

## Helpful Hotlines

**Family Advocacy**  
562-5200

**Chaplain**  
562-2020

**American Red Cross**  
562-2258

**Army Emergency Relief**  
562-2767

**Sexual Assault**  
562-3849

**Victim Advocacy**  
694-8724

**Child/Spouse Abuse**  
562-6001

**Emergencies**  
911

**Providence House hotline**  
871-7551

**NJ Domestic Violence hotline**  
800 572-SAFE

**Fort Dix Victim Advocate**  
562-2767

**McGuire Victim Advocate**  
754-9672

## Arts and Crafts

562-5691

Bldg. 6039 Philadelphia Street

### Hours of Operation:

Tuesday to Thursday from 9 a.m. - 4:45 p.m.  
Wednesday to Thursday from noon - 5 p.m. and 6 - 8:45 p.m.  
Friday from 11 a.m. - 4:45 p.m.  
Saturday from 9 a.m. - 4:45 p.m.

### Programs

**Adult Craft Classes**

March 6 - 27; April 3 & 10  
Intro to Drawing & Painting Course - \$30

April 24

Scrapbooks for your Graduate

**Kids Craft Classes**

Saturdays, 2:30 - 4 p.m.  
March 1 & 8; 22 & 29 Intro to Drawing Class  
\$20 plus materials

\$5 pre-registration fee

for other classes call Arts & Crafts

562-5691

### Crafty Birthdays

Arts & Crafts offers Craft 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.

## Off Post

### Combat Stress Support Group

Informal gathering for dinner and discussion with Chap. (Lt. Col.) Dave Hunter every Monday at 6:30 p.m.

Brother's Diner 1 in Browns Mills

127 Trenton Road (Texas Avenue)

They offer a 10 percent military discount.

\*Joining the group soon will be members of the Vietnam Veterans of America who will offer their support and experience to today's Soldiers.

### VFW Post 6590, Cookstown

Will be having a 2 for 1 steak night at their post right outside McGuire AFB. Representatives from the state will be on hand and available for questions.

Event is scheduled for March 15 at 6 p.m. Cost is \$24.95

Any questions call 758-7466

## NCO Call

at Club Dix

Wednesdays at 6 p.m.

WWW.DIX.ARMY.MIL

New and improved to better serve

YOU

Log on today

CREATE IN '08  
at the

Arts & Crafts  
Center

call 562-5691 for more information

## Veterinary Clinic

The Fort Dix/McGuire Veterinary Treatment Facility has March appointments available. Your animal must be registered prior to being scheduled for an appointment.

Clinic hours are Monday through Friday, 8:30 a.m. to noon and 1 to 4 p.m. Call Dawn at 562-6636 with any questions.

## United Communities Housing Information

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

United Communities is now offering

Self-Help Delivery!

Please check the United Communities Web site for details:  
www.mcguiredixuc.com

## Fort Dix/McGuire Residential Refuse Collection Schedule

### MONDAY

McGuire AFB  
3800's & 3900's

### TUESDAY

ALL OF FORT DIX INCLUDING  
QUARTERS: 201, 502, 1900

### THURSDAY

McGuire AFB  
4000's EXCEPT 4013-4027  
4200's EXCEPT 4252-4260

### FRIDAY

McGuire AFB  
4013-4027  
4252-4260  
4300's, 4400's and 4500's

\*\*\* IT IS VERY IMPORTANT THAT YOU ONLY PUT TRASH OUT ON YOUR SCHEDULED DAY. THIS HELPS KEEP YOUR NEIGHBORHOOD CLEAN\*\*\*

RECYCLING IS PICKED UP EVERY THURSDAY

\*IT IS VERY IMPORTANT THAT ONLY RECYCLABLES ARE PUT IN YELLOW/BLUE RECYCLING BINS\*

GREEN WASTE IS PICKED UP EVERY MONDAY AND TUESDAY.

From the Crib... to the Cross

The Story of God's Love

The story of God's love through Jesus' life  
Thursday, March 20, 2008  
7:30 p.m.  
Fort Dix Installation Chapel  
Reception to follow  
For more information call (609) 562-2020



posterized photo from oldschoolerbyassociation.com

# Roller Derby skaters rock Dix

Steve Snyder  
Public Affairs Staff

Pick-up teams from the Penn-Jersey She Devils Roller Derby clashed Thursday night at the Doughboy Gym on Fort Dix, working the kinks out in preparation for a new season. The She Devils skate out of Mount Laurel with their big Shamrock shake-down scheduled at the International Sports,

Skating, and Fun Center on 1 Hoytech Bld. in Mount Laurel on March 2. Fans can see the Sadistic Sweethearts take on Dishonor Roll with the doors opening at 7:30 p.m. Advance tickets for adults cost \$10 (it's \$12 at the door) with children from 5-10 getting in for \$5 and those under 5 years of age getting in free. All home games start at 7:30 and will be played at the International Center in Mount Laurel. After March's extravaganza, other homers are slated for April 26, June 28 and July 19 before the playoffs roll around in September. Roller derby as played by the She Devils is considerably tamer than what I remember seeing on television years ago. Then, it resembled professional wrestling. And who can forget the *Kansas City Bomber* as

portrayed so vividly on the Silver Screen by Raquel Welch. Now, the sport seems more like skating punctuated with spills. Crashes are a part of the game and fans seem to enjoy mass melee a lot more than when only one or two skaters hit the deck. Accompanying pictures catch high-spirited skaters attempting to transcend their counterparts in a game of skill.



Lisa Evans



Steve Snyder



Lisa Evans



Steve Snyder



Capt. Jon Powers, 50th IBCT

## On your marks

Soldiers from the New Jersey Army National Guard's 50th Infantry Brigade Combat Team, Headquarters and Headquarters Company, begin the 2-mile run portion of the Army Physical Fitness Test at Rider University in Lawrenceville March 2.

## Players prep for playoffs

Robert Williams  
Fort Dix Nuggets' coach

The Fort Dix Golden Nuggets 11- thru 12-year-old basketball team defeated the McGuire Heat Friday night at the McGuire Fitness Center 28-25. The Nuggets tied the Heat for a share of first place to end the season.

It wasn't an easy game for the Nuggets, who were beaten by McGuire earlier in the season by a score of 21-19 to end their winning streak of four straight games. The Nuggets pride themselves on defense having held every team to 25 points or less to bring their record to 7 and 1.

Hashim Russell, a forward for the Nuggets said it best, "defense wins games."

The Nuggets knew it was a very important game because pride was at stake with the rivalry between two military teams -the Army and the Air Force- which they talked about this past week.

Trey Calloway, the center for the Nuggets, scored his season high with 16 points, 12 rebounds and five blocks. Michael Sifford added six points two blocks and six rebounds. Jalen Hooks, the Nuggets' point guard, hit two important free throws in the fourth quarter to help seal the win.

Kyle Kerr, Isaiah Wilson and Carlton Wright took charge of the offense by passing the ball to the players with the hot hand. Every Nuggets' player showed up for the game ready to play good defense and cut down on the turnovers.

The game was fought so hard that McGuire had a total of 18 fouls and Dix had 21. In the first game between the two teams Dix had 19 and McGuire



Ed Mingin

**HOLDING COURT** - Robert Williams goes up for two in the 13-15 division.

had 15. It was a game that everyone knew was going down to the wire because in the first game McGuire led 2-1 in the first quarter. In the game Friday night, McGuire again led the Nuggets 2-1 at the end of the first quarter.

The Nuggets led McGuire 12-10 at the half, but McGuire came back and led Dix 19-18 to end the third quarter. The fourth quarter created a lot of excitement in the game because big time turnovers were being committed by both teams.

Dix managed to hold off McGuire for the win. This is the type of basketball games that fans love to see, and support their team. Playoffs will start next weekend and the way things are going, these two teams could meet again in the championship game, providing they can get by the three other teams looking for a big upset. Fans love the underdogs, and as a coach, I have to keep in mind that you can be knocked off by any team on any give day.

## Bowler rolls perfect pair



courtesy photo

Retired Army Master Sgt. Fred Cornish has been on a hot streak lately. Within the last three months, he's bowled two perfect 300-point games. He had a close call with perfection again during this time, rolling a 299 to miss a perfect game by one pin. During this time, he also managed to roll a career-high 792 series. These impressive accomplishments have come during the Friday Night Mixed League, of which he is president.

## Valentine Scotch Doubles Tournament

Place	Name	Score	Place	Name	Score
1	Dee Coleman/JC Coleman	1142	6	Krystal Martinez/Rob Fisher	998
2	Asa Peck/Kevin Graham	1059	7	Fred Cornish/Tony Chiera	967
3	Mike Murray/Gary Johnson	1034	8	Angela Thomas/Eric "ET" Thomas	955
4	George Nieves/Ben Faulkner	1033	9	Lelei Brown/Leo Brown	923
5	Frank Chaney/Barbara Nieves	999	10	Wayne Pittman/Kristina Newberry	912

The next tournament at the Fort Dix Bowling Center is scheduled for March 15. Check in is 3:30 p.m., start time is 4:15 p.m. Bowlers competing at the bowling center will get a chance to enjoy the new Brunswick Pro Anvilane Synthetic Lanes, which were installed in January. For more information, call 562-6895.

## Sports Shorts

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

**Joint Forces Racquetball**

The Joint Forces Invitational Dig and Dive Racquetball Tournament will begin March 15.

All entries must be received by 5 p.m. March 12. Entry into the competition is free.

The event will be held at the McGuire Fitness Center, Griffith Field House and the Doughboy Gym. Call Chris O'Donnell 609-562-6495 or e-mail christopher.odonnell@us.army.mil for entry form and more information.

**Little League**

The Fort Dix Little League Baseball Program will be holding registration Feb. 18 - March 28. The program is

open to all family members of active duty, retired military, civilian or contract employees. Cost to register is \$50 for children 3-15.

For more information, or to register, call CYS at 562-4702 or 562-5231. Chris and Steve at Youth Sports, 562-2819 can also provide additional information.

**Shawnee Skiing**

In an effort to honor the brave men and women defending our freedom and our great Nation, Shawnee Mountain is pleased to announce Military Appreciation Weekend on Friday, Saturday and Sunday, March 14, 15 and 16.

As a special "Thank You" all active military and their immediate family (spouse and children) will receive free lift tickets and ski or snowboard rentals for any / all of the three days. Valid military picture ID is required.

All branches of our armed forces are eligible, including Army, Navy, Air Force, Marines, Coast Guard and

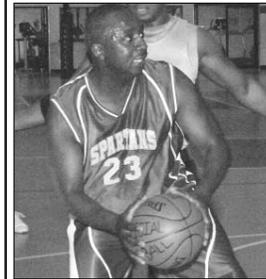
National Guard active duty members.

For all retired military and reservists and their immediate family a discount of 50 percent off lift tickets will be offered during the Military Appreciation Weekend. Again valid picture ID will be required.

As a special bonus, those attending Military Appreciation Weekend are welcome to enjoy the Costume Carnival Day and Parade taking place at Shawnee Mountain on Sunday, March 16 at 1 p.m. Shawnee Mountain is located in the Pocono Mountains of Pennsylvania just off Exit 309 of Interstate 80. General information call 570-421-7231.

For lodging information, call 888-845-5248 (townhomes and chalets), 800-SHAWNEE (Shawnee Inn), or 800-POCONOS (vacation bureau). Or visit Shawnee Mountain on-line at www.shawneemt.com where on-line booking links are available.

## FCI gets lock on first place



Ed Mingin

The Spartans, Ray Drinkard at left, were in first place until the past week at the Griffith Field House. FCI has now taken over first place with a perfect 6-0 record. After dropping two games, the Spartans are now tied for fourth with TLC.

**Standings**

1	FCI	6-0
2	Wildcats	5-1
3	Renegades	4-1
4	Spartans	4-2
4	TLC	4-2
6	Roadrunners	3-3
7	JTF	2-3
8	Navy	2-4
8	HHB 72nd	2-4
10	Stallions	1-6
11	Lightning	0-5

**Fort Dix 2008 Madden Bowl**

5 Minute Quarters  
Skill: All Madden

Sign up for free today at Griffith Field House!

Open to Fort Dix Personnel Only. Must be 18 years old or above.

May 3rd-4th at the Ft Dix Rec Center

For more information contact Chris O'Donnell @ 562-2769/3961

## Top troops rewarded



Second Lt. Dean Hillman, left, receives promotion to first lieutenant from Capt. Benjamin King during a ceremony at Club Dix Feb. 27. Sgt. 1st Class Brian Thomas, right, is promoted to master sergeant by Maj. David Dean.



photos by Shawn Morris

Capt. Jason Frankenfield, left, receives the Army Commendation Medal from Lt. Col. Scott Zipprich during a ceremony at Club Dix Feb. 27. Sgt. 1st Class Luz Harbin, right, receives the Army Achievement Medal from Lt. Col. Joseph Chirico, Mobilization Readiness Battalion commander.



## Chaplains' Corner

Master Sgt. Anthony Pamplin  
Chapel Staff NCOIC

*"This, then, is how you should pray: Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our debts, as we also have forgiven our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from the evil one."* Matthew 6:9-13

The Lord's Prayer, also known as the Our Father or Pater Noster, is probably the most commonly known prayer in Christianity. On Easter Sunday 2007, it was estimated that 2-billion Protestant, Catholic, and Eastern Orthodox Christians read, recited, or sang the Lord's Prayer in hundreds of languages and in places of worship all over the world.

Prayer is the place where pride is abandoned, hope is restored and faith is lifted. It is simply the avenue of communicating between you and God.

All of us want to connect with someone who can identify with our circumstances and share in our day-to-day

life. People are seeking answers to life's struggles, problems, and challenges in a world filled with chaos.

Prayer draws us closer to God and reminds us that we must depend on Him and not ourselves. "Because he loves me, says the LORD, I will rescue him; I will protect him, for he acknowledges my name. He will call upon me, and I will answer him; I will be with him in trouble, I will deliver him and honor him." Psalm 91:14-15.

When you drive across a bridge, it is fully supported by the integrity of the bridge. It doesn't matter how you are feeling or what you are worried about. What gets you safely to the other side of the bridge is the integrity of the bridge, which you are willing to trust.

In the same way, God asks us to trust His integrity, His character, His compassion, His love, His wisdom and His Word (Bible). As we deal with the difficulties of life, we are to cast our cares on God and receive from Him a peace that defies the circumstances. The more we know God, the more apt we are to trust God.

**Much Prayer Much Power  
Little Prayer Little Power  
No Prayer No Power**

## Job fairs scheduled

Karen Galvin  
RecruitMilitary

Free hiring events for veterans, personnel who are transitioning from active duty, Reserve, National Guard, and military spouses will be presented by RecruitMilitary, the President's National Hire Veterans Committee, the American Legion, and the Military Spouse Corporate Career Network.

Scheduled dates include March 19 from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the New Jersey Performing Arts Center in Newark and March 20 from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the USTA Billie Jean King National Tennis Center on Long Island, N.Y.

For more information or to

register as a job-seeker, visit [www.recruitmilitary.com](http://www.recruitmilitary.com)

RecruitMilitary's partnership with the President's National Hire Veterans Committee (HireVets First), a U.S. Department of Labor entity, was so successful for the 45 nationwide events in 2007 that we are putting on 104 Career Fairs across the nation in 2008 to help even more of our returning troops and veterans and their spouses in more cities find employment.

The DOL and RecruitMilitary, along with the American Legion and MSCCN, are really hoping for a great turnout for this event presented to benefit all those military veterans, transitioning personnel, and Guard and Reserve members in the area.



## Banner day

Soldiers of the 366th Military Police Company accept their unit's Yellow Banner before deploying in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom. Accepting the banner during a ceremony at Infantry Park are, from left, Sgt. Zachary Grason, Sgt. Joshua Woods, Staff Sgt. Ervin Busby, Staff Sgt. Randall Brisco and Sgt. Casey Roe.

Lisa Evans



# AIR FORCE NEWS



## Airman songbird soars after being cast in Air Force talent spectacular

**Airman 1st Class Rebekah Ply**  
305th Air Mobility Wing Public Affairs

*McGUIRE AIR FORCE BASE, N.J.* - Dreams do come true.

After a lot of hard work and dedication, Airman 1st Class Alice Lewis, 621st Contingency Response Wing logistics planner, was recently selected as a vocalist for the 2008 Tops in Blue cast.

Tops in Blue is an all-active duty U.S. Air Force special unit made up of talented amateur performers selected for their entertainment abilities. The group's main mission is to perform for military personnel and their families throughout the world.

"I would love to see my talent take me to any big stage, just as long as someone's gaining a blessing from hearing me sing, whether it be in a small



*courtesy photo*

**REACHING THE TOP-Airman 1st class Alice Lewis, 621st Contingency Response Wing, was selected to be a member of the 2008 cast of Tops in Blues.**

church down a long dirt road, or a Broadway stage in New York," Airman Lewis said during the week-long Tops in Blue

audition process.

Recently, her dream came true. At only 23 years old, with less than one year in the Air Force, Airman Lewis accomplished what she set out to do.

"I was ecstatic when I found out I was chosen for Tops in Blue," Airman Lewis said. "My commander, and all the wing commanders, surprised me at a staff meeting.

"Becoming a member of Tops in Blue was one of my dreams before I joined the military," she said. "Once I joined the Air Force, nothing was going to stop me from accomplishing my dream."

Even when she was young, Airman Lewis seemed to be a natural entertainer. "I can't remember a time I was not interested in singing. I've had 13 years of classical training, which covers a great part of my life, and before that, I was always on stage somewhere singing," she said.

Not only does Airman

Lewis excel as a vocalist, she also excels as an Airman.

"With less than a year in the military and six months time-on-station, Airman Lewis has earned the First Term Airman Center's Sharp Troop Award, 621st CRW Airman of the Quarter, accolades for outstanding job performances and now an opportunity to join Tops in Blue," said Tech. Sgt. Wade Johnson, 621st CRW logistics planner and supervisor.

"Airman Lewis is an amazing person, and she has a beautiful voice," Sergeant Johnson said. "She will truly be missed, but this is possibly a chance in a lifetime for her."

For other Tops in Blue- and entertainer-hopefuls, Airman Lewis encourages everyone to follow their dreams.

"Go for it," she said. "You never know what you're capable of until you try. It's hard work, but you'll love every minute of it."



*Tech. Sgt. Scott T. Staruk*

## Walking a 'Rocki' path

**Staff Sgt. Dmitry Skylar and his military working dog, Rocki, participate in an obstacle course on a range on Fort Dix, Feb. 14, as part of training as students in the Air Force Phoenix Warrior Course 08-3 K-9 track. The course is taught by the U.S. Air Force Expeditionary Center's Expeditionary Operations School and 421st Combat Training Squadron and prepares security forces for upcoming deployments.**

## Driving class targets young adults

Alive @ 25 driver education classes will be held March 12-13 for McGuire personnel aged 26-years-old or younger.

Alive @ 25 is a single, four-hour course providing attendees a chance to hear and be heard regarding decision-making while on the road. What risk will you accept when you are driving? When do you choose not to accept the risk? Why?

The course is not about road or traffic education like stopping at red lights or obeying speed limits; rather it's about the decision-making and behaviors drivers with less driving experience will accept. The program was first developed in Colorado in 1996. Since its implementation, the state has witnessed a dramatic decrease in fatalities involving drivers ages 26 and younger.

For drivers age 25 years and

younger, the national fatality rate is 13 fatalities per 20,000 drivers; for Alive @ 25 graduates, the rate dramatically decreases to 1.1 fatalities per 20,000 - 90 percent less than the national average.

"There is no doubt in [the

program is spreading like wild fire. Numerous New Jersey State Troopers are in the process of becoming certified instructors and will teach the course at local schools across the state and to drivers who may have less driving experi-

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*www.pw.vsh.bc.ca*

New Jersey National Safety Council members' minds that this program works," said Tom Dinsley, 305th Air Mobility Wing Ground Safety manager said. "It is the best and most effective tool to reduce the risk of fatality in our most at-risk driving group."

The Freehold Regional School District is taking a "no-prisoners" approach by requiring students to have the training before they can receive a student parking pass their senior year. Other districts are also taking a stand and playing a

## Free Air Expo to fly over the McGuire skies

The 305th Air Mobility Wing will host the 2008 McGuire Air Expo - which is free and open to the public - May 31 and June 1.

The two-day event, themed "Above All ... Be Inspired," will culminate Air Force Week in Philadelphia activities and feature performances by the U.S. Air Force Thunderbirds, F-15 Eagle and F-22 Raptor air demonstration teams. A large number of current and former military aircraft, including the base's own KC-10 Extender and C-17 Globemaster III, will also be on display.

Gates will be open from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. daily with performances from 11 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Static displays will be open all day. Admission and parking are free.

Base officials expect more than 300,000 guests to attend. As America's Premier Joint Warfighting Base and Air Mobility Center of Excellence, McGuire is home to two active-duty Air Force wings, one Air Force Reserve wing, one Air National Guard wing, and an Expeditionary Mobility Task Force. Installation support responsibilities span Active, Reserve, and Guard units from nearby Fort Dix and Naval Air Engineering Station Lakehurst.

For more information about the 2008 McGuire Air Expo, visit [www.mcguireairbase.com](http://www.mcguireairbase.com) or call McGuire's air expo information line at (609) 754-1919.

## Program boosts financial finesse

**Airman 1st Class Rebekah Ply**  
305th Air Mobility Wing Public Affairs

The Air Force recently implemented the Military Saves Campaign, endorsed by the Office of the Secretary of Defense, to improve financial readiness of Airmen and enhance mission readiness.

According to the Web site, Military Saves is a social marketing campaign to persuade, motivate and encourage military families to save money every month, and to convince leaders and organizations to be aggressive in promoting automatic savings.

The campaign is a growing network of organizations and individuals committed to helping and supporting military members and their loved ones build personal savings arsenals to provide for their immediate and long-term financial needs.

"In response to lower savings rates, predatory lending and subprime mortgages affecting the United States as a whole, the Consumer Federation of America recognizes that Airmen and their families could benefit from a campaign specifically targeted to them,"

said Betsy Conzo, Airman and Family Readiness Center community readiness consultant.

The focus areas of Military Saves are saving for an emergency, paying off high-cost debt, buying a home, contributing to the Thrift Savings Plan or a 401(k), and saving through the DoD Savings Deposit Program when deployed.

To become part of a global movement dedicated to personal financial stability, the Military Saves Web site first encourages everyone to make "The Saver Pledge."

"I will help myself by saving money, reducing debt and building wealth over time. I will help my family and my country by encouraging other Americans to build wealth, not debt."

The Airman and Family Readiness Center is here to assist Airmen in a variety of areas, including financial management and planning. The AFRC staff encourages all Airmen and their families to become involved with the Military Saves Campaign. "Military Saves encourages Airmen to plan for their future," Ms. Conzo said. "Setting financial goals is the first step to becoming financially free."



*Kenn Mann*

## One big push for mankind

Members of the 305th Aerial Port Squadron move pallets of equipment and supplies for Joint Task Force Operation Burnt Frost onto a C-17 Globemaster III. The Joint Task Force (JTF) was the recovery part of Operation Burnt Frost. Formed in less than one week, Operation Burnt Frost, stood ready at McGuire to deploy anywhere in the world at a moment's notice, to recover debris from a non-functional satellite shot down Feb. 20. The Joint Task Force consisted of 15 Federal agencies that handled the environmental effects of the satellite's reentry into the atmosphere. The errant satellite, launched in 2006, suffered main computer failures shortly after launching and without intervention would have fallen to Earth this month. While normally a satellite would break apart on reentry and cause little alarm to anyone, officials were concerned that this satellite's nearly full fuel tank may pose a problem. The size of a school bus, this tank contained hydrazine, a toxic fuel often used to power spacecraft, which might have hurt or killed people if it hit the ground.