

thePost

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NEWSNOTES

Motorcyclists invited to Fort Dix Bike Blessing

Motorcyclists from the installation and McGuire Air Force Base, are invited to gather together at the Main Chapel to participate in a Bike Blessing Ceremony June 4 at 11 a.m. Following the blessing the riders will take a safety ride around the post. Riders are required to wear all the proper safety gear and must be motorcycle licensed. For more information call Sgt. 1st Class Fred Cohen at 609-562-2020.

Commissary posts Air Expo, Memorial Day hours

The Fort Dix/McGuire Commissary will be closed May 31 and June 1 for the Air Expo at McGuire Air Force Base. Store hours for May 26, Memorial Day, will be 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. with no Early Bird.

International Spouses head for historical Philadelphia

The Army Community Service (ACS) International Spouses Group is sponsoring a trip to Philadelphia to visit Independence Hall, the Liberty Bell and the Italian Market. The trip is scheduled for Friday, May 30. The group will depart from ACS (Building 5201) at 9 a.m. and will return by 3 p.m. All international spouses are invited to join in this exciting experience. Advanced reservations are required. Space is limited. Please call Amanda Espinoza at 562-2767 for more information and reservations.

Town Hall Meeting on air for community

DOM has placed the May 15 Fort Dix Town Hall Meeting on the Army Knowledge Online portal for your viewing. It can be viewed every day until June 1 at 10 a.m. and 2 p.m. To go to the website click on the hyperlink: <https://dixxwdoim00006/default.aspx> and following the attached instructions.

Housing construction to alter traffic patterns

The southern portion of McGuire AFB's Falcon Courts North, from West Scott Street south to the main gate on Bolling, will be fenced-off June 2 so that demolition and construction can begin safely in the 3800/3900 area.

After the main gate is closed on June 2, all access into and out of Falcon Courts North will be through a temporary gate located at the intersection of West Castle Street and Jones Mills Road. Families will have access to the schools and the Chapel via Schoolhouse Road which is located on the right side of Bolling just past the gate.

School bus routes might be affected by this change; schools will notify the affected parents.

These new traffic patterns will cause traffic congestion at the Jones Mills Road/Wrightstown-Cookstown Road intersection. To avoid congestion, two possible alternative routes are:

- Turn right leaving Falcon Courts North at the temporary gate on West Castle Street, then left onto Croshaw Road, then at the next two left turns to reach Defense Access Road.

- Turn right leaving Falcon Courts North at the temporary gate on West Castle Street, then right on Croshaw Road, then right at the three subsequent turns to reach Wrightstown-Cookstown Road.

WEATHER

FRIDAY -- Fair with a high of 70 and overnight low of 48 degrees.

SATURDAY -- High of 72 with some afternoon clouds, low of 47 degrees.

SUNDAY -- Mostly clear, high of 76 and low of 55.

MONDAY -- Clear, high of 84 and low of 58.



David Moore

BORN TO RIDE -- Bikers took off from Barb's Harley-Davidson May 18 for the Second Annual Armed Forces Freedom Ride. The ride, which winds through McGuire and ends at Fort Dix, benefits the Burlington County Military Affairs Committee.

Bikers salute military

David Moore
Public Affairs Staff

Leather or chrome, cruiser or sport bike, hi-tech or vintage — none of it mattered for nearly 1,300 motorcycle riders who rode to Fort Dix May 18 in support of the Second Annual Armed Forces Freedom Ride.

The event was a fundraiser to support the efforts of the Burlington County Military Affairs Committee and the Marine Corps Law Enforcement Foundation.

Riders and passengers began arriving at nearby south New Jersey diners a few hours before the event. Motorcyclists began lining up at Barb's Harley Davidson, West Collingswood Heights, at 8 a.m. in the preparation phase of the ride. Then at 10 a.m. under clear skies, they revved their engines and thundered out of the dealership's parking and rider training area to the tune of Steppenwolf's "Born to Be Wild."

Many said they thought the line of

motorcycles roaring out to Route 168 would not end. The convoy of motorcycle riders, escorted by New Jersey State Police and motorcycle police officers, from Medford, Winslow Township, and Pennsauken led the way along the 32-mile trip through Mount Holly with a destination of McGuire Air Force Base and Fort Dix.

Leadership from both McGuire and Fort Dix were also on hand to give the rider's their send off.

Quoting a Marine who had fought a battle in the Vietnam War, Col. James

Kerr, 514th Air Mobility Wing commander, said to the crowd "Freedom has a flavor the protected never taste." He thanked all the riders, as well as veterans and service members taking part in the ride.

Organizers for the event estimated that riders stretched along the highway for about three miles and took about 20 minutes to pass as a group on the road trip with bikers and cars waving to onlookers.

"It was an excellent ride. The peace (continued on page 12)

Civilian employers get taste of green with Dix Bosslift

Gerry Zanzalari/Lisa Evans
Public Affairs Staff

If the old saying, "If it ain't raining, you ain't training" holds true, more than 75 employers, honorary commanders, and friends of Soldiers who participated in the Fort Dix Boss Lift May 16 were most definitely training.

The group got a genuine taste of what Guard and Reserve employees actually go through to prepare for deployment in the Global War Against Terrorism.

Lt. Col. Cynthia Palinski, Boss

Lift Officer in Charge, welcomed the group at Timmermann Theater with hot coffee, refreshments and the equipment needed for the day's activities. Meals Ready to Eat (MREs), helmets, insect repellent, sunscreen and ponchos were issued to all.

The ponchos instantly became the most popular item of the day, as rain continued to fall.

But that didn't dampen the spirits or expectations of those involved in Boss Lift.

The idea behind the event is to expose employees of Guard and Reserve Soldiers to a typical day for (continued on page 4)



Lisa Evans

HELMET HELP -- Javier Ortiz, executive chef for the Hyatt Regency Hotel in Austin, Texas is fitted with a helmet by co-worker Maj. Charles Stampley, who works for the Regional Training Center East at Fort Dix. Stampley worked with Ortiz in Austin before he was mobilized.

Borough launches city center

Gerry Zanzalari
Public Affairs Staff

The Borough of Wrightstown unveiled its choice on May 19 of a developer to create a new city center.

Wrightstown Mayor Tom Harper announced the selection of Saylor's Pond Redevelopment LLC, as the contractor for the \$60 million makeover of the future town center.

The modernization is replete with more than 300,000 square feet of retail shops, a TGIF-style restaurant, banks, and a 120-room hotel and conference center.

Richard Haydinger, Sr., owner of Saylor's Pond Redevelopment, LLC and United Communities, told the assembled crowd he believes "Saylor's Pond Redevelopment is as much a part of the Wrightstown community as United Communities is a part of Fort Dix. We have assembled a great team (continued on page 3)



Courtesy Photo

FACING THE FUTURE -- An architectural drawing depicting what the Wrightstown revitalization project, phase one, will look like when completed, was presented along with the announcement that Saylor's Pond Redevelopment, LLC was awarded the contract for giving the area along Fort Dix Road outside the Wrightstown Gate the facelift.

Americans honor sacred dead on Memorial Day



www.sheilaomalley.com

Steve Snyder
Public Affairs Staff

The nation officially greets the approach of summer Monday as Memorial Day ushers in the traditional three-day holiday weekend. Cook-outs, boating excursions, visits with family and friends, concerts, baseball and war movies blaring on TV all signify that Americans know how to have a good time. But not everyone will be home to enjoy the festivities. American military forces are scattered around the globe, guarding the peace or actively fighting to sustain it. Memorial Day commemorations have to be tempered with security in Iraq as mad bombers abound. The moun-

tains in Afghanistan are more steep and isolated than many we're accustomed to and don't form a terrain especially hospitable to parties of any kind. U.S. sailors at sea might, if they're lucky enough to grab some free time in their 16-hour days, be treated to a barbecue at sea if their ship, again, has time. Flight and cargo crews in the Air Force don't get much of a break either, unless operation tempos tone down. Stand-downs are a luxury, not a necessity, for members of the United States military. The constraints of duty never loosen unduly. While enjoying our leisurely weekend let's not forget those forgoing such. And let's give some thought as to why



www.more4kids.info

our midst are undergoing tremendous sacrifices to insure our security. Some die in the attempt. Portraits shots below offer just a snap shot identifying a mere smidgen of contemporary warriors who made the ultimate sacrifice for their kinsmen. And some may have passed through Fort Dix. In which case we would have been privileged to serve them. Think about that the next time you deal with a Soldier. Keep in mind, also, what Lincoln said about "The mystic chords of memory, stretching from every battlefield and patriot grave..." Let's keep those chords in tune. A lot of Americans have died defending them.

"Blessed and beloved were they in life and even in death they were not separated: for swifter were they than the eagles, and braver than lions."

David's lament upon the deaths of Saul and Jonathan



Maj. Jeffrey R. Calero, 34
1st Bn., 20th Special Forces Group (Airborne) Massachusetts NG Queens Village, New York
Died of wounds suffered when a roadside bomb exploded when he was on dismounted patrol in Afghanistan on Oct. 29, 2007.



Sgt. 1st Class Brent A. Adams
Headquarters Co., 2nd Bde. Combat Team, 28th Infantry Div., Pennsylvania Army NG West View, Pennsylvania
The 40-year-old was killed when a roadside bomb detonated his military five-ton truck during combat operations in Ramadi, Iraq on Dec. 1, 2005.



Staff Sgt. Kyu H. Chay, 34
Headquarters & Service Co. 1st Bn., 3rd Special Forces Gr. New York, New York
Killed when a roadside bomb detonated near his humvee in Oruzgan province in southern Afghanistan on Oct. 28, 2006.



Spc. Segun Akintade, 34
Co. A, 2nd Bn., 108th Infantry Regiment, New York Army National Guard Brooklyn, New York
Killed by a roadside bomb and small arms fire near Allah, Iraq on Oct. 28, 2004.



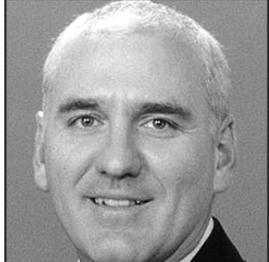
U.S. Army photo by Spc. Richard Del Vecchio
EYEBALLING -- U.S. Soldiers assigned to the 101st Airborne Division, 3rd Brigade Combat Team, stand in formation and wait for further orders before an air assault mission on May 11, 2008.



1st Lt. Louis E. Allen, 34
Headquarters Co., 42nd Infantry Division New York Army NG Milford, Pennsylvania
Died June 8, 2005 of injuries sustained in an alleged fratricide attack in Tikrit, Iraq on June 7. Another American Soldier has been charged with his murder.



Lt. Col. Richard J. Berrettini
52, Pennsylvania NG Medical Detachment Wilcox, Pennsylvania
Died stateside 11 days after suffering injuries when a roadside bomb blasted his vehicle in Khowst Province, Afghanistan, on Jan. 2, 2008.



Master Sgt. Steven Auchman
37, 5th Air Support Operations Squadron, 1st Air Support Operations Group Waterloo, New York
Died of injuries sustained when multiple rocket-propelled grenades struck his location in Mossel, Iraq, on Nov. 9, 2004.



Master Sgt. Arthur L. Lilley
35, Company B, 2nd Bn., 7th Special Forces Group Smithfield, Pennsylvania
Died of wounds sustained from enemy small-arms combat operations in Paktika province near Shkin, Afghanistan on June 15, 2007.



http://lighthousepatriotjournal.wordpress.com
MASTERING THE TERRAIN -- A CH-47 helicopter lands on its back wheels to board Afghan rebels and members of the Army's 10th Mountain Division (home-based in Fort Drum, N.Y.) as part of Operation Mountain Resolve. Helicopters give the Army wide-ranging mobility, a significant advantage in Afghanistan's mountainous terrain.



Sgt. Jan M. Argonish, 26
55th Brigade, Pennsylvania Army NG Peckville, Pennsylvania
One of three Soldiers killed when insurgents attacked during combat operations in Jalalabad, Afghanistan in 2007.



SFC Class Gladmir Philippe
37, Battery B, 3rd Bn., 18th Field Artillery Regiment Linden, New Jersey
Discovered missing from his post about 24 miles north of Baghdad on June 25, 2003. A search party found his remains west of Taji, Iraq on June 28.



Chief Warrant Officer John A. Quinlan, 36
2nd Bn., 160 Special Operations Aviation Regiment New Jersey
One of seven Soldiers killed when the MH-47 Chinook helicopter they were in crashed in southeastern Afghanistan on Feb. 18, 2007.



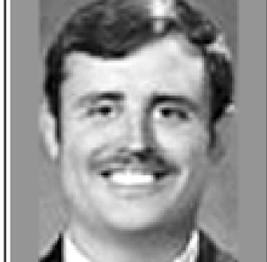
Staff Sgt. Vincenzo Romeo, 23
5th Bn., 20th Infantry Regiment, 3rd Bde., 2nd Inf. Div. Lodi, New Jersey
One of six Soldiers killed when a roadside bomb went off near their vehicle during combat operations in Iraq on May 6, 2007.



U.S. Army photo
FIRE AT NIGHT -- A fireball rises from a pile of munitions disposed of by coalition and Iraqi forces near Karbala, Iraq, on May 3, 2008.



Lance Cpl. Brian P. Parrello
19, Small Craft Co., HQ Bn. 2nd Marine Division, 2nd Marine Expeditionary Force West Milford, New Jersey
Died from hostile fire in Anbar province in Iraq in January 2005



SFC Peter P. Tycz II, 32
Co. C, 2nd Bn., 3rd Special Forces Group (Airborne) Tonawanda, New York
Killed when an Air Force MC-130H Combat transport plane crashed on takeoff in eastern Afghanistan on June 12, 2002



Sgt. Sameer A. M. Rateb
22, 1st Bn., 505th Parachute Infantry Reg., 3rd Bde. Combat Team, 82 Airborne Division Absecon, New Jersey
Died from injuries sustained in Baiji, Iraq, in 2007.



Petty Officer 1st Class David M. Tapper, 32
Naval Special Warfare Development Group Atco, New Jersey
Tapper, a Navy Seal, was wounded and died when his convoy made contact with enemy forces near Orgun, Afghanistan, on Aug. 20, 2003.



Staff Sgt. Christopher Howick
34
3rd Battalion, 10th Aviation Regiment, 10th Mountain Division Hamburg, New York
One of 10 Soldiers killed when a CH-47 Chinook helicopter crashed during combat operations east of Abad, Afghanistan on May 5, 2006.



Spc. Eric G. Palacios, 21
1st Bn., 18th Inf. Reg. 2nd Brigade Combat Team 1st Infantry Division Atlantic City, New Jersey
Killed in firefight with enemy small-arms fire during combat operation in Ramadi, Iraq, on Nov. 14, 2006.



Lance Cpl. Russell P. White
19, 3rd Bn., 6th Marine Reg. 2nd Marine Division Dagsboro, Delaware
Died in non-combat related incident at Camp Bulldog, Afghanistan, on June 20, 2004



Spc. David P. Mahlenbrock
20, Co. B, 65th Engineer Bn. 25th Infantry Division (Light) Maple Shade, New Jersey
Killed when he was clearing a route when a bomb exploded at Kirkuk, Iraq, in December 2004.

the Post

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Integrated human resource system headed your way

Soldiers and civilians at Fort Dix got a preview of the Army's new integrated pay and personnel system May 14 and 15 in three class sessions designed to explain not just how the system will work, but how it will work better for all concerned.

Lt. Col. David Hill, deputy program manager for the Army Defense Integrated Military Human Resources System (DIMHRS) Program Office, explained the process from the beginning. "DIMHRS is a Congressionally-mandated program designed to provide the Army with an integrated, multi-component, personnel and pay system. Personnel records will be available to HR professionals, combatant commanders, personnel and pay managers, and other authorized users throughout the Army 24 hours a day."

Hill said the system is designed to streamline Defense Department human resources processes, and will replace more than 65 systems now in use by Active, Reserve and National Guard Soldiers.

"The system was tested on an Infantry unit at Fort Benning," he said, "and out of 120 Soldiers, there were only three complaints."

This system will create one personnel record per Soldier, and will automate pay procedures so personnel actions automatically initiate pay and pay changes.

The system corrects problems now created by complex interfaces between the many systems now in use by providing each Soldier with a single, comprehensive record of service, and will feature a self-service capability that allows the Soldier to update portions of his or her personal information. In addition, personnel actions in DIMHRS (such as a promotion or activation) will automatically compute associated pay events, leaving fewer opportunities for error.

What is changing in DIMHRS?

In DIMHRS all Service Members will be paid on the first and fifteenth of each month. Bonuses and incentives will be paid on those days, and Soldiers can elect to have their discretionary allotments sent either once per month on the first, or each pay day. DIMHRS will issue pay slips to all Soldiers, taking over the function of MyPay.



Carolee Nisbet

SPREADING THE WORD -- Lt. Col. David Hill, DIMHRS Program Office, brought a "One Army, One System" message to Fort Dix May 14 and 15 about the Defense Integrated Military Human Resources System scheduled to revamp personnel and finance actions and records for all components beginning in May 2009.

Retirees and DoD federal reader to enter the system. This will protect Soldiers' information by ensuring that only those authorized to access their records will be able to do so.

DIMHRS is based on a commercial-off-the-shelf (COTS) product, PeopleSoft, used by major corporations across the country.

Adopting COTS technology requires adjusting terminology used within the program. This will mean that some terms familiar to Soldiers will be retired in favor of new language used in DIMHRS. The most prominent of these new terms is the "pay slip," which replaces the current Leave and Earnings Statement (LES).

DIMHRS for Commanders and DIMHRS is an integrated personnel and payroll system, which eliminates the need for

duplicate payroll input to maintain a Soldier's record. DIMHRS will place most Army HR functions into a single system.

DIMHRS will provide the capability to effectively manage Soldiers in all components of the Military across the full operational spectrum -- during peacetime, war, through mobilization and demobilization. DIMHRS will also support access to real time information for individuals in multi-service units.

Joint commanders will have access to accurate and timely data within DIMHRS, including the number, characteristics, location, and status of all deployed personnel. The system will additionally provide predictive decision support capabilities, personnel accounting and strength management, and timely integration of personnel requirements for deployment, sustainment and replacement operations. Strength accounting and reporting will be available by unit and location for personnel assets in-transit or scheduled for the combat theater. The system will also provide the capability to generate ad hoc and preformatted reports.

DIMHRS does not replace the Deployed Theater Accountability Software (DTAS). In deployed theaters, DTAS will track classified personnel data in addition to DIMHRS updates of Soldier information.

For those in the USAR or ARNG, DIMHRS will convert retirement points from legacy systems and will maintain any points earned after implementation. The system will serve as the source of data for computing Reserve Retirement Eligibility based on service and point data, and will also allow users to calculate approximate retirement pay at a future date and rank.

Soldiers' records will remain in DIMHRS until two years after their contractual obligations have ended. Records of Soldiers who retire after IOC will remain in DIMHRS until two years after their deaths.

Implementation of DIMHRS will follow extensive testing and redesign to incorporate the best new systems possible, and is now scheduled for March 1, 2009.

For more information, visit www.armydimhrs.army.mil.

(Carolee Nisbet, Fort Dix PAO, contributed to this article.)



Wrightstown renewal

(continued from page 1)
for this project and our commitment to the area is rock-solid. We're here to stay for at least the next fifty years.

The town center project, which was initiated in 1988, has come to fruition after years of work by the community and supporters.

Harper said "This is a blueprint for a new Wrightstown and the plan offered by UC was the best fit for the borough."

The company, headquartered in Marlton has close ties to the community and maintains a vested interest in the success of the project.

Several large retailers have expressed interest in the site, and Lourdes Health System is in discussions with the borough regarding the potential construction of a clinic and medical offices.

Harper was optimistic about the future of the town of fewer than 800 residents.

"Today we're talking about Wrightstown's future. It isn't an idea anymore -- it's a path that we are walking down toward a new life for an old town," he said.



Wayne Cook

THE WAY FORWARD -- Wrightstown Mayor Tom Harper, left, shares the podium with Richard Haydinger, Sr., owner of Saylor's Pond Redevelopment and United Communities, during a contract award announcement May 19. Haydinger's firm will head up a major modernization project for the town near the Wrightstown entrance to Fort Dix.

Civilian bosses get taste of Army green —

(continued from page 1)
a soon-to-deploy Soldier.

Palinski reviewed the scheduled activities and explained that, unfortunately, due to the weather, a scheduled flight in Blackhawk helicopters had to be cancelled. A bus ride would have to suffice. Spirits were high and despite the helicopter ride being cancelled, expectations weren't diminished.

Col. Ronald R. Thaxton, installation commander, then offered his thanks to everyone for attending and explained that Boss Lift was Fort Dix's way of showcasing the experiences and sacrifices made by Soldiers in their day-to-day duties. He went on to thank employers for their support of Guard and Reserve Soldiers and explained how they are an integral part of the foundation of their Soldier/employee.

After a group picture session, everyone boarded the buses. The first stop was the Small Arms Readiness Group (SARG) where M-9 pistol and M-4 rifle orientation and simulator training familiarized everyone with the weapons they would use later in a live-fire exercise. Following the successful simulator training, the group traveled to Range 59C for a hands-on experience with a Soldier's issued weapons. It continued to rain hard, but nevertheless, the ranges were jammed packed with participants eager to see the world through a Soldier's eyes. The pop-up targets were effectively vanquished as small arms fire echoed over the range.

MREs were the cuisine of the day and many of the employers weren't familiar with proper MRE preparation. A few even started eating their MRE cold while on the bus to the range until they realized that a hot lunch was within their grasp. Given the weather, a hot lunch was far more appealing. Following some individual instruction on how to heat the meal, smiles and compliments on the quality of the food were everywhere.

Balad was next on the agenda. The groups were welcomed to the Military Operation in Urban Terrain (MOUT) site by Maj. Gen. William Monk III, commanding general, 99th Regional Readiness Command. He offered the Army's thanks for all the support provided by employers and described the upcoming activity.

Monk went on to explain that very few people in the nation

are afforded the privilege of observing the actual conduct of a dismounted patrol training exercise. "This is as close to reality as it gets," said Monk. BG Robert Kenyon, commanding general, 11th MP Brigade from Ashley, Pa., then described the training that was soon to take place as preliminary to what the Soldiers would be experiencing in Fort Bliss, Texas. "At Fort Dix, our Soldiers learn to crawl and walk. When they get to Fort Bliss, they run," said Kenyon.

Following the completion of the dismounted patrol exercise, the groups took a brief time out to rest and become familiar with the next item on their agenda: Forward Operating Base (FOB), Camp Victory. But instead of once again venturing into the downtown, LTC John McKee, Officer in Charge, Fort Victory, presented a virtual slide show tour of the FOB. The tour included slides of troop housing, administrative offices; the sand table, where miniature troops and armor symbols are used to conduct real-time operation tracking; and the improvised explosive device (IED) setting zoo where inert examples of IEDs are displayed. Security procedures were described and guard towers, entry points and razor wire locations were displayed.

McKee went on to explain that at least one quarter of the troops at the FOB are women and that all practical amenities were provided. An operational internet café is available to provide internet access and to allow Soldiers the ability to contact friends and loved ones. Chaplains are always available and there is daily mail delivery.

It's been said that an Army travels on its stomach and the FOB at Fort Dix is no exception. Meals are expertly prepared by contractors who serve approximately 300 Soldiers at each seating.

Eggs to order are the highlight of breakfast. The dinner menu offered a choice of steak or chicken cordon bleu with vegetables and salads.

Following a hot, hearty meal, photos taken throughout the day by the Training and Audiovisual Support Center (TASC) were presented to the groups along with Expert marksman medals for achievement on the range. All in all, Boss Lift 2008 was a resounding, albeit somewhat soggy, success and clearly showcased a day in the life of a Soldier in training at Fort Dix.



Ed Mingin

BOSS TRAINING - Soldiers go through convoy training at Fort Dix's Balad, above, as civilian employers look on from an observation platform. The employers were on the post for BossLift, a program designed to show some of the training the Civilian-Soldier encounters and encourage support among the civilian employers. Left, Wendy Owen, with The Girl Scouts of Central and Southern New Jersey, tries on body armor before leaving for range 59. Sgt. Jonathon Stephens, Delta Co., 1/175 Infantry, Maryland National Guard helped Owen with fitting the armor and explained why and how body armor should be worn. Lower Left, Jung Choi, a guest invited to the Boss Lift and father of Pvt. 1st Class Min Choi, in whose honor the Wrightstown Gate was recently named, gets assistance from Reserve Training Center East trainer, Staff Sgt. Henry.



Lisa Evans



Ryan Morton

Not getting the Fort Dix Post?

Call the Public Affairs Office at 562-4036 to arrange weekly delivery of the newspaper to your building or organization.

WHEELBORHOOD

THE CORNER



Veterinary Clinic to hold pet microchip clinic

Help keep your pets from getting lost. The Fort Dix/McGuire Veterinary Treatment Facility will hold a pet microchip clinic May 28 from noon to 6 p.m. All military ID card holders and family members are eligible to bring their cats (in carriers) and dogs (on leashes) to have the microchips inserted. No appointments are necessary, and the procedure is fast and easy. Fee for each pet is \$21. Pet microchips will soon be mandatory on Fort Dix and McGuire. The clinics are for microchips only, no vaccinations or sick calls. For more information, call the VTF at 562-6636.

Spouses club to host tea

The Fort Dix Spouses' Club is hosting a High Tea June 7 at the home of Chaplain and Mrs. Biederman, Quarters 1, Juliustown Road. Come enjoy the beautiful setting at one of Fort Dix's great farmhouses for tea, delicate sandwiches, and gourmet desserts served with fancy china tea cups and tea pots. Have a favorite tea cup and saucer or maybe a hat and gloves with a great story? Bring it along and share with everyone. Door prize awarded for the best story!

Members from Fort Dix and neighboring installations, as well as non-military members from outside communities are invited.

Cost for the event is \$20 per person with all net proceeds returned to the community to benefit our Soldiers. There will be 3 seating options: 11 a.m., 1 p.m., or 3 p.m. Tickets can be purchased from any Spouses' Club Member, or at the Fort Dix Thrift Shop. For more information call the Thrift Shop at 723-2683, call Bonnie Reed at 499-3969 or email fort-dixspousesclub@comcast.net.

Pre-Retirement/Separation

The second quarter Military Pre-Retirement Orientation/Separation will be conducted June 17-20 in the Timmermann Conference Center, located at Pennsylvania Avenue and 8th Street. The seminar will begin each day at 8 a.m. and last until 4:30 p.m. Retirement eligible Soldiers are required to attend a Pre-Retirement Orientation within 120 days of retirement. Separating Soldiers are encouraged to attend. This is an opportune time to get all your retirement/separation questions answered. Registration is required. Call Fay Marshall-Dease at (609)562-2666 or e-mail fay.marshalldease@us.army.mil to register.

Six Flags Great Adventure seeks summer employees

Six Flags Great Adventure will be at Fort Dix Army Community Service, 5201 Maryland Ave. June 16 from 2 p.m. to 5 p.m. They are looking for people to work in security, entertainment, sales, ride management and other fields. There are limited opportunities for 15 years olds. Come early to fill out your application. For more information call "Rod" Martell at 609 562-2186.

First Cavalry reunion coming soon

The 1st Cavalry Division reunion will be held June 18-22 in Jacksonville, Fla. Correspondence should be sent to the 1st Cavalry Division Association, 302 N. Main Street, Copperas Cove, TX, 76522-1703. Call (254) 547-6537 or e-mail firstcav@icda.org.

Bikes bring bliss to military kids

1st Lt. Antonia Greene
72nd Field Artillery Training Support Brigade

Children's smiles and service-members' appreciation filled John Mann Recreation Park, May 18, when 112 new bicycles found their proud owners.

Fort Dix Family, Morale, Welfare and Recreation (FMWR) joined together with BAE Systems facility in Wayne, to sponsor the third annual bicycle giveaway for military families stationed at Fort Dix and McGuire Air Force Base.

BAE Systems is the sixth largest US defense company, with major operations across five continents. Engaged in the development, delivery and support of advanced defense and aerospace systems BAE Systems is a proud partner of the USO and an overall supporter of the military and its families.

"We supply our military personnel with equipment as a business - communications and navigational systems - so it's just a natural extension of the business that we do, to help at a personal and community level. In fact our motto at BAE is, 'We protect those who protect us,' and today is an expression of that," said Pete Howard, BAE Site Lead at the Wayne facility.

Volunteers from the 72nd Field Artillery Training Support Brigade picked up the bikes from the BAE warehouse May 14 and lined the FMWR warehouse with the new wheels awaiting Sunday's giveaway.

Many children were unaware that they were about to receive a new bike. "It was like Christmas in May," said Howard. "It's so rewarding to see their faces."

The basketball court behind the Fort Dix Bowling Center was overflowing with bicycles of all colors and sizes, each bike bearing a tag with the name of its owner-to-be.

"Each bike was donated courtesy of BAE Systems with a specific child in mind," said Jackie Holliday, Fort Dix FMWR Marketing Specialist. "It's truly a rewarding experience, seeing the bikes with the children's names on them."

Among the proud recipients were children ages two through 18. Fifty Air Force families and upwards of 60 Army dependents were all rewarded for their sacrifice and support of their military mommies and daddies.

When asked what she was going to do with her new bicycle, Nalani DeJesus, 10, had big plans. "I am taking my bike to Florida with me so I



photos by Staff Sgt. Adam Navarro, 72nd Field Artillery Training Support Brigade

FREE WHEELIN' - Nalani DeJesus, 10 and her brother Branden DeJesus, 8, stand with their new bikes given to them during the third annual Bike Give Away held at John Mann Park, May 18. Sponsored by Family, Morale, Welfare and Recreation and BAE Systems, the Bike Giveaway provided new bikes for more than 100 children of servicemembers.

don't have to borrow my cousin's (bike) anymore." DeJesus was all smiles, as she walked off with her new wheels.

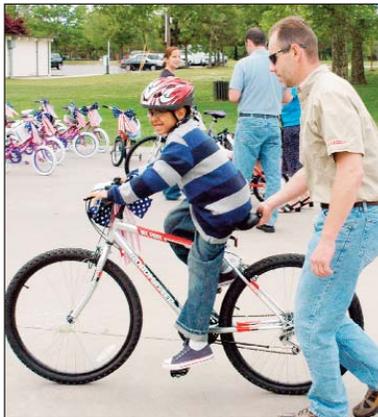
Capt. Javier Cortez, commander, Headquarters, Headquarters Battery 72nd Field Artillery Brigade called the event a great opportunity for family members.

"The event tells the Soldiers that their mission and their efforts don't go unrecognized and civilian corporations and other people appreciate what the Soldiers are doing for the nation."

Each bicycle came with a complimentary safety helmet and volunteers from BAE Systems were on site with tool kits to make any necessary seat adjustments and alterations.

In addition to new wheels, there were hotdogs on the grill, snacks and refreshments for everyone, compliments of BAE Systems.

Fort Dix commander, Col. Ronald R. Thaxton, presented a plaque to Howard thanking him for his continued support of our military. "This event shows that the defense industry not only supports the Soldiers deployed down range, but also supports the families in the rear. I can tell you of other families that they are very receptive and I hope to continue this endeavor with BAE Systems," said Thaxton.



RIDE ON - Gabriel Rouse, 8, tries out his new bike with the help of a BAE systems employee, Keith Brittain, May 14 during the third annual Bike Giveaway held at John Mann Park.

Job fair offers Soldiers opportunities

Wayne Cook
Public Affairs Staff

The U. S. Department of Defense Recruitment Assistance Division and Fort Dix's Warrior Transition Unit hosted the Hiring Heroes/Wounded Warriors Career Fair and Resume Workshop May 19-20.

May 19 began with words of encouragement and inspiration from Command Sgt. Maj. James Diggs, North Atlantic Regional Medical Command, who also thanked those involved with organizing the event for taking care of Soldiers.

Soldiers then received briefings on such subjects as resume writing, interview tips, job-placement strategies, how to dress for success, veteran's administration benefits, and many other topics.

A resume writing workshop was held for Soldiers needing to prepare or tighten up their resume. Volunteers from the Army Career and Alumni Program and also some of the prospective employers, helped the Soldiers prepare their resumes for the career fair.

The morning of May 20 began with Harvey Schiller, chairman and chief-executive-officer of GlobalOptions Group, Inc., addressing Soldiers in the auditorium of Timmermann Center and encouraging them to not limit themselves what job opportunities they should apply, but to sell all their skills and attributes of which prospective employers might not be aware.

"You have the challenge of letting people know who you are. Never be afraid of stress. The way to overcome stress is to have a good support group around you," said Schiller.

Schiller, a retired Air Force brigadier general and former chairman and CEO of YankeeNetworks, shared with the Soldiers what it took for him to realize success in his business life. An accomplished individual, Schiller is a former president of Turner Sports Inc., a former executive director/sec-



Wayne Cook

HATS OFF - Jeanine Nagrod of New Jersey Helmets to Hardhats, explains some of the virtues of being employed by her organization to Spc. Saran Poy, Bravo Company, Mobilization Readiness Battalion, during the Hiring Heroes/Wounded Warrior Career Fair held May 20 at the Timmermann Center.

retary general of the United States Olympic Committee, and has held many other prestigious business positions.

Having served in the military is what drives Schiller to share with and motivate military members towards success. "While I was attending military college at the Citadel, I was mentored by many staff members who served to increase my vision of my future. The military has provided the background to take on each new experience. I want military members to know that there is no limit to their opportunities and there is not to be afraid of change," Schiller said.

"I just think that this program, the uniqueness of it, is good. It will def-

initely serve America because it allows these Soldiers a chance to get out there and affect the business world," he continued.

Schiller's cousin, Carl Blum, also a successful businessman, attended the career fair. He had an agenda of his own. "My mission in retirement is to change the way veterans are released into the private sector. There are strategies and techniques that can be taught to find career enabling employment. I would like to, in the future, create a pilot project and take 20 to 25 veterans and have them create an employment agency where each individual would have responsibilities for such things as client recruitment, researching employment

opportunities, developing employment networks, and other such tasks," said Blum.

"Each individual has a thread running through them that are their own gifts, talents and skills that set them apart. I want to help find that thread that will help them realize their strengths and abilities and match them to a career that fits them. They will ultimately graduate from the program by placing themselves with a prospective employer. This would help develop in them the ability to find employment for their entire life. My goal is to join with the military and provide this opportunity throughout all of the military."

"I am focusing on the military member who has no formal education above a high school diploma. Most of these folks don't have career opportunities waiting for them when they leave the military. The private sector of this country owes training and commitment to those who have sacrificed more than they had to and should be rewarded for their work. I want to help make a difference in their lives," he added.

The halls of Timmermann Center were packed with Soldiers, Sailors, Airmen, Marines, and family members perusing the information provided at 67 prospective employer booths. More than 550 attendees, almost double the number from last year's event, took the opportunity to see what companies were seeking.

Companies and federal organizations represented included, Lowes, Northrup Grumman, Lockheed Corporation, CAI, Cherry Hill Fire Department, Johnson Controls, the National Security Agency, the Department of Homeland Security/ICE, the FBI, Defense Intelligence Agency, and others.

(continued on page 6)

New York Police train at Fort Dix



Ryan Morton
Public Affairs Staff

Police Officers from the New York Police Department's Emergency Service Unit (ESU) recently concluded a series of training exercises at Fort Dix.

During the week of May 12-16, ESU officers trained in areas such as weapons qualification and use with the .50 caliber and M-24 rifles, M-4s, and MP-5s, repelling, and fast-rope from helicopters. Fast-rope involves sliding down a rope attached to a helicopter onto a building or rooftop for quick reaction purposes.

"Over the last 20 years we trained at Camp Smith, NY, but with the training getting bigger and more extensive we were looking for a place that could better suit our needs, and Dix did just that," said NYPD ESU Detective James McEniry.

One training scenario involved a terrorist with hostages in a building. Upon hearing the call, ESU officers boarded a helicopter, traveled to the building, and while hovering over it, fast-ropped onto the roof-top utilizing quick reaction techniques and capa-



photos by Ryan Morton

FAST ROPE -- Police officers from the New York Police Department's Emergency Service Unit (ESU) fast-rope from a helicopter onto a building top during a training exercise on Fort Dix while other officials gather outside.

dinner at Club Dix.

ESU officers found the training extremely beneficial and the facilities at Dix more than suited their needs. They are now planning to use the installation again in the future and are working to coordinate us feel like family," said McEniry.

ESU officers found the training extremely beneficial and the facilities at Dix more than suited their needs. They are now planning to use the installation again in the future and are working to coordinate us feel like family," said McEniry.

Army exhibits high-tech gear

Kelly F. Pate
Army News Service

WASHINGTON - Set against a backdrop of aerial stunts in the skies over Andrews Air Force Base, Md., the Army's new technologies were on display at the Joint Service Open House for Armed Forces Day.

Department of Defense members and school-sponsored children had the grounds to themselves Friday on the first day of the three-day event where members of the Army -- active, Guard and Reserve -- explained equipment and provided technology demonstrations.

Inside Hangar 2, Soldiers with an Explosive Ordnance Disposal detachment gave visitors a chance to "drive" a TALON robot.

The TALON is a quick, durable, lightweight tracked vehicle used for explosive ordnance disposal, reconnaissance, hazmat and other missions.

The idea was to use remote controls and an electronic screen displaying the terrain from the robot's vantage point, to pick up a soda can while being able to see only what the robot electronically sees.

"The TALON is the work-force of the Army right now as far as robots," said Staff Sgt. Donald Pearl from the EOD detachment at Aberdeen Proving Ground, Md.

"It's one of the stronger robots we have in a smaller, compact version," he added.

Used in Iraq and Afghanistan, the robot can take an explosive downrange to place on an Improvised Explosive Device and detonate it, Pearl said.

If the robot goes down, the back-up plan is a high-tech bomb suit.

The displayed suit has an integrated helmet system with amplification adapting system to protect the ears.

The system is sensitive enough to nearly pick up the ticks of a watch but can also muffle-down the noise of a blast, Pearl said.

"With sixty-five pounds of

"The TALON is the work-force of the Army right now as far as robots. It's one of the stronger robots we have in a smaller, compact version."

Staff Sgt. Donald Pearl

Kevlar, it's a really good unit," Pearl said.

In one outdoor exhibit, members of 203rd Military Intelligence Battalion used a display of an Improvised Explosive Device mounted to a highway guard rail to show how a basic knowledge of electricity and circuitry turns into a deadly roadside bomb.

The display, which people began to refer to as "CSI Baghdad," included a battlefield forensics kit. Staff Sgt. Seymour Edwards said the process

of fingerprinting, bagging and tagging evidence and sending it back to the rear, and sending information back to the battlefield helps Soldiers identify the enemy.

Children climbed on board for a closer look at a Bradley Fighting Vehicle - the Army's way of getting troops in and out of the battlefield safely, said Spc. John Paul Thompson, 2nd Battalion, 5th Cavalry Regiment.

Next to the Bradley, the M1-A2 Abrams Main Battle Tank System Enhancement Package Version 2 was on display. The tank is equipped with a new night sight Drivers Vision Enhancer that enables

Soldiers to see through dust and includes a camera so the driver can look behind him when he backs up, said Spc. Jeff Van Camp.

"They added on the 50-caliber that can be used from inside using the tank's pinpoint accuracy, as opposed to the old version where you're rocking it on top," Van Camp said. The U.S. Army's parachute team, the Golden Knights, made time for photo opportunities in advance of a demonstration jump the next day.

The sky wasn't the only source of thunder at the event.

A roar from ground level invited visitors for an up-close look at the Army reccecar on display. Army Reserve Soldiers gave a walk-through of the process of how swamp water is

turned into drinking water for Soldiers, and new life-saving capabilities in firefighting and rescue vehicles.

Surrounded by technology displays, Army recruiter Staff Sgt. Steven Tirsell, who manned a booth inside Hangar 2, said the Army is a chance to reach for something better.

"The Army has given me experiences and opportunities I don't think I would have been able to get where I grew up back home," Tirsell said. "It's been fun."

Job Fair

(continued from page 5)

Many Soldiers experienced immediate success and were granted interviews on-the-spot while others were set appointments for interviews. One company showed up to the career fair with the need to fill five slots. The company's representative conducted on-the-spot interviews and filled all his requirements before the end of the fair.

A Soldier who had once served as the interpreter for General David Petraeus', commanding general of multi-national forces in Iraq, attended the career fair. She was notified at the FBI booth that they would be hand-carrying her resume directly to the Newark office on Wednesday.

The event was a hit with those who attended and took advantage of the opportunities afforded them.

"It's great! There are lots of good companies here. It has been very productive for me. The event has been very well organized," said Lt. Col. Anthony Daniels, 84th Army Readiness Training Center, Fort McCoy, Wisconsin.

"This has been really good. All you can do is come and hope. The more the information I have the better off I am. There's a lot of really good information available," Spc. Saran Poy, Bravo Company, Mobilization Readiness Battalion.

"So far, so good. There are a lot of good companies on hand. The event has been well organized. This is a great opportunity for Soldiers. It shows that there are a lot of companies out there that really care about our Soldiers. This is my first career fair as a prospective employee. It's all good, though," said Command Sgt. Maj. Anthony Young, command sergeant major for mobilization.

Following the fair, Sgt. Maj. James Clark, sergeant major for the Mobilizing Unit In-Processing Center and one of the coordinators of the event, said that he has been fielding phone calls from dozens of people who didn't have the opportunity to attend the career fair but would like to know when the next one will be.

Once again, the needs of Soldiers and other military members have been put first and employers across the country have been the beneficiaries of a highly skilled and dedicated manpower pool.

CIVILIANjobs.com

JOB FAIR

May 29, 2008
10:00 A.M. to 2:00 P.M.
Club Dix
6th Street & Alabama Ave., Building 5455
Fort Dix, NJ 08640
609.725.5272

Pre-register online at www.civilianjobs.com and be matched with companies based on your career and geographical preferences. Registration is free. A chance to win an Apple iPod Shuffle, to be given away at the job fair. Parking to attend the career expo is FREE of charge.

10:00 - 10:15 a.m.	Early Candidate Registration Begins
10:15 - 10:45 a.m.	Resume Briefing: MilitaryResumes.com provides Job Seekers with resume and job search tips.
10:45 - 10:55 a.m.	Early Candidate Registration Continues
10:00 a.m.	Singles Meet Open & Candidate Registration Continues

National and Regional Opportunities:

- Uniform Services
- Job Postings
- Technical
- Mechanical
- Dental
- Engineering
- Plus much more!

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Visit www.civilianjobs.com or
Call 1-866-851-9118

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Announcements

Cinema Schedule

754-5139
McGuire Air Force Base

Friday, May 23 @ 7:30 p.m.

Street Kings - *Keanu Reeves, Forest Whitaker, Hugh Laurie, Chris Evans, Cedric the Entertainer* - Tom Ludlow, a veteran LAPD Vice Detective, sets out on a quest to discover the killers of his former partner, Detective Terrance Washington. Captain Wander's, Ludlow's supervisor, duties include keeping him within the confines of the law--and out of the clutches of Internal Affairs Captain Biggs. Ludlow teams up with a young Robbery Homicide Detective to track Washington's killers through the diverse communities of Los Angeles. Their determination pays off when the two detectives track down Washington's murderers and confront them in an attempt to bring them to justice.

MPAA Rating: R strong violence and pervasive language
Run time: 108 minutes

Saturday, May 24 @ 7:30 p.m.

Prom Night - *Brittany Snow, Scott Porter, Jessica Stroup, Dana Davis, Collins Pennie* - Donna's senior prom is supposed to be the best night of her life. After surviving a horrible tragedy, she has finally moved on and is enjoying her last year of high school. Surrounded by her best friends, she should be safe from the horrors of her past. But when the night turns deadly, there is only one person who could be responsible...a man she thought was gone forever. Now, Donna and her friends must find a way to escape the sadistic rampage of an obsessed killer, and survive a night "to die for."

MPAA Rating: PG-13 violence and terror, some sexual material, underage drinking, and language
Run time: 88 minutes

Future Features...

Forgetting Sarah Marshall
Friday, May 30 @ 7:30 p.m.
R, 111 minutes

88 Minutes
Saturday, May 31 @ 7:30 p.m.
R, 108 minutes

Chapel Services

562-2020
Sunday Services
Protestant.....9-10 a.m.
Catholic Mass.....10-11-11:15 a.m.

Gospel.....11:30 a.m.-1 p.m.

Sunday School.....10 - 11:15 a.m.
CCD.....9:15 - 10 a.m.

Chapel 5 - Bldg. 5950, Church Street
General Protestant Service.....6:30 p.m.

NCO Academy Protestant Field Service -
Bldg. 5417, Texas Avenue
8:30 a.m.
June 8, 15/July 13, 20/August 10,
17/September 7, 14

Camp Victory - Chaplain's tent
Hour of Power
Protestant.....8-9 a.m.
Catholic.....8-9 a.m.
Mormon.....8-9 a.m.
Jewish.....8-9 a.m.

Wednesday Services

Main Chapel
Alpha Course
Beginning March 26, 6 - 8:30 p.m.

Special Notices

Wednesday, June 4 - Fort Dix Motorcycle
Motorcycle Blessing and Ride around the post. Will meet at the Main Chapel at 11 a.m. in the parking lot off New Jersey Avenue. Licensed riders only please. Riders are required to wear all proper safety equipment including helmet, long sleeve shirt, gloves, pants, over-the-ankle footwear and reflective gear.

Religious Services

Islamic Prayer room
open 7 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday through
Friday - Room 24
Christian Women of the Chapel -
Bible Study - Tuesdays, 9:30 to 11:30 a.m.
Christian Men of the Chapel -
Prayer Breakfast - Fourth Saturday of each
month, 9 to 11 a.m.

Jewish services available by request
For additional services or Religious Support
please call 562-2020

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

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.

MWR presents

CLUB DIX - 723-3272

Club Dix New Hours of Operation Effective
May 12

Java Cafe - M-F	0700-1330
Computer Lab - Mon & Tues	0700-1330
Wed - Fri	0700-2200
Saturday	1200-2200
Sunday	1000-1800
Lunch Served Tues-Fri	1100-1330
Sat - Mon	Closed
Bar Hours Wed	1700-2200
Thurs - Sat	1800-2300
Sun - Tues	Closed

June 20 - Texas Hold'em is back by popular demand
at Club Dix. Watch for details!

Fort Dix Child and Youth Services provides full day
summer camp for children 1st-8th grade. Call 562-
5231 more information.

Team Dix Day is 13 June! This year's theme is
"Margartaville" and competitions include a chili
cook off, a weight lifting contests AND some lucky
Dixan will have the chance to win \$10,000!!! Watch
for details.

John Mann Park is available for private parties, unit
functions and more. Call 562-6667

OUTDOOR RECREATION

50 percent off for all military families participating in
the following trips:

May 24 - mountain biking/hike at Sandy Hook
Beach
May 31 - Canoe/Kayak on Rancocas Creek

For more information call 562-6667

ARTS & CRAFTS

Arts & Crafts is hosting a "Tea Party" May 17, 11
a.m. to 1 p.m. Put on your finery and join us in the art
gallery for a special program on tea etiquette. A 20
percent discount is offered on all tea related pottery
pieces.

Discount of 20 percent on custom framing of personal
military related photos, portraits, or certificates
(non presentation items). Discount also applies to
coin holders, shadow boxes, and flag cases through-
out the month of May. Try out our new Sony Picture
Station and get special pricing on a photo package.
Hearts for Heroes - Come in anytime and paint a
small clay heart which will be given to a military
member. During the month of May, all military that
visit the Arts & Crafts Center will receive a Hearts for
Heroes Package.
Quilts for Kids - Every second Saturday of each
month from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. we stitch for children
in long term healthcare facilities, safe houses, and
wounded warriors and their families. This month we
will be focusing on "Red, White & Blue" quilts
which will be donated to ACS to give to the children
of deployed service members. All experience levels
are welcome, even men and mid-teens!

For more information call 562-5691.

Special Note

Due to Airspace restrictions required by the
McGuire Air Force Base Air Show, range 14 and
the Rod & Gun Club will be closed for recre-
ational shooting May 31 thru June 1.

ACS

562-2767
Bldg. 5201 Maryland Avenue

Monday, May 26

CLOSED

MEMORIAL DAY

Tuesday, May 27

Hearts Apart

10 a.m. to 1 p.m.
Bldg. 5201, ACS

Pre-Separation Briefing

8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Timmermann Ctr. Room 104

Wednesday, May 28

Playgroup Birth - 18 mos.

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

McGuire CDC #2

Pre-Separation Briefing

8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Timmermann Ctr. Room 104

Thursday, May 29

Pre-Separation Briefing

8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Timmermann Ctr. Room 104

Youth Center

562-5061
Bldg. 1279 Locust Street

Hours of Operation:

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

Administrative Hours:

Tuesday - Friday from noon-6 p.m.

Weekly Schedule

Friday, May 23

Power Hour Store

2:30 to 4 p.m.

Computer Lab

4 to 6 p.m.

Keystone Club Trip
to Trenton BGCA

6 to 9 p.m.

Saturday, May 24

DDR Competition

4 to 6 p.m.

Monday, May 26

CLOSED

MEMORIAL DAY

Tuesday, May 27

Power Hour

2:30 - 4:30 p.m.

Career Explorers

3:45 - 4:45 p.m.

Computer Lab

4 - 6 p.m.

Wednesday, May 28

Power Hour

2:30 - 4:30 p.m.

Sports & Fitness

3:45 - 4:45 p.m.

Computer Lab

4 - 6 p.m.

Thursday, May 29

Power Hour

2:30 - 4:30 p.m.

Computer Lab

4 - 6 p.m.

**FORT DIX MOTORCYCLES BIKE BLESSING
AND RIDE AROUND FORT DIX**



Wednesday 4 June 2008 at 1100
At the Fort Dix Main Chapel
In the parking lot off New Jersey Avenue

MILITARY MATTERS

Dog tags go beyond original purpose

Ginger Cocolo
Army News Service

ARLINGTON, Va. - In Section 60 of Arlington National Cemetery, where casualties from Iraq and Afghanistan are laid to rest, a mother recently clutched her son's dog tags. The chain drooped over the mother's clenched fist as rifles were fired and Taps played. Those pieces of metal gave her comfort, she said. The tags had once hung beneath her son's shirt, and over his heart, and the mother said when she holds them now, she feels close to him.

Much like that mother, Karen Meredith wrote about her son, Ken Ballard, killed in Najaf, Iraq, May 30, 2004. "When my son's body was returned to me, they gave me what was on his body when he was killed; his belt-buckle, his spurs (Cavalry), and his dog tags. I immediately put them on and have not removed them for anything; not for airport security, not for a mammogram. They stay close to my heart where my son will always be."

These small pieces of metal hanging from the neck of every servicemember are intended to help identify remains of the fallen and have been a uniform requirement since World War I. Science has come a long way since then and future identifi-

cation system just might render them obsolete, but the name, image, and personal connection many feel to their tags go beyond their simple, primary purpose.

At the American Civil War battle of Cold Harbor in 1864, before Union troops made a frontal assault on Confederate trenches, they wrote their names on pieces of paper and pinned them to their uniforms. They did not want to be forgotten.

During the Spanish American War, Chaplain Charles E. Pierce believed the identity of war dead should be practiced on a more scientific basis. He suggested a central collection agency where mortuary records would be gathered, and the addition of an "Identity Disk" in 1899, is considered the first institutionalized identification tag.

U.S. troops were issued identification tags en masse in 1908 and the tags have been a required part of the uniform ever since.

The nickname for the ID tag was first coined by William Randolph Hearst, who printed unfavorable stories about the New Deal and President Roosevelt in 1936. Having heard the Social Security Administration was considering the use of a nameplate for personal

identification, Hearst called it a "Dog Tag."

The tangible tags connect one personally to an otherwise large and anonymous world, and they are the center of countless stories -- like the one about Joe Beyrle, a paratrooper captured by the Nazis. A German soldier took Beyrle's dog tags and put them around his own neck. While wearing an American uniform and Beyrle's dog tags, the German soldier was killed. A telegram was sent to Beyrle's family in the states telling them he was dead.

In January 1945, Beyrle escaped and joined a Russian unit, fighting alongside them as a machine gunner for at least a month. After he was wounded by German bombers, he was taken to a hospital, and eventually made his way to the U.S. Embassy in Moscow, hoping to return home. Embassy officials at first, though, did not believe the fighter was Beyrle. It was not until Beyrle's fingerprints proved his identity that he finally was able to return home in September 1946. Ironically, he was married in the same church where his memorial service had taken place a year before.

Tanna Toney-Ferris was

walking her dog on a beach in Southern California, when her eyes caught an unusual rock piece. She bent down to pick it up and realized there was a military ID tag embedded in the rock also -- a key, fingernail clippers and a small screwdriver. Much to my amazement, I could make out his name, ID #, branch of service and his religion," said Tanna. "My first thought was that this Sailor had perished at sea and I held his last farewell to this world in my hand. All I could think of was how much I wanted to return this brave Sailor's Dog Tags to his family and I wasn't sure how to go about doing that. So for the next 3 years, they sat on a shelf with other treasures that I had found on our many walks along the beach."

Tanna finally found the now 62 year old veteran living in Wisconsin. Having served in the Navy on the USS Pledge, he had lost his first set of tags more than 30 years ago. After numerous e-mails and phone calls, they met in person and Tanna was able to hand him his tags.

Tanna is a member of the Patriot Guard Riders. This group rides their motorcycles to show respect for fallen



heroes, their Families, and dog tag is a daily reminder that the mourning family. This is the type of emotional response and connection people have for many who serve.

General John A. Logan, National Commander of the Grand Army of the Republic, wrote General Order #11 on May 5, 1868, for the observance of Memorial Day. He wanted us to sustain the fraternal feelings of those having died for their country, and for us to guard their gravesites, "a fitting tribute to the memory of her slain defenders."

As much as Memorial Day

is a day of remembrance, the dog tag is a daily reminder that the mourning family. This is the type of emotional response and connection people have for many who serve.

Most importantly, it is a reminder of the possibility of the ultimate sacrifice. We shall not forget.

COMMENTARY

Institutional Army to become Army Enterprise

Jacqueline M. Hames
Army News Service



Jacqueline M. Hames

ENTERPRISE DISCUSSION -- Lt. Gen. David Melcher, military deputy for budget, Office of the Assistant Secretary of the Army (Financial Management and Comptroller), speaks about adapting the Institutional Army to an Army Enterprise.

WASHINGTON - The Army's top uniformed budget officer stressed the importance of transforming the service to a capability-focused Army Enterprise during the Army Leader Forum at the Pentagon Tuesday.

Lt. Gen. David Melcher, military deputy for budget, Office of the Assistant Secretary of the Army (Financial Management and Comptroller), illustrated why it is necessary to adapt and transform the Institutional Army.

The Army should run more like an enterprise to better develop and maintain a force in period of extended conflict, he said, in which demands

exceed sustainable resources. He predicted tighter resources over the next few years, especially with a trend of smaller supplemental budget bills to finance the war on terror.

"We have enjoyed levels of spending over the last few years that are unprecedented in the Army's history, and may be the high-watermark for the Army's budget," he said.

Melcher said an Enterprise Management Task Force has been proposed to help implement business transformation across the Army. Though still being conceptualized, he said the task force may be managed by a three-star general and a senior executive service deputy.

It is necessary for an "enterprise approach" to counteract consumption-driven behaviors

present in today's Army, Melcher explained. Efforts to adapt the Army's current structure focus on continuous process improvement through programs like Lean Six Sigma, Enterprise Resource Planning, leadership training in enterprise management, and the revision of General Order #3.

General Order #3 assigns functions and responsibilities to organizations in Headquarters, Department of the Army. Though still in revision, the order is predicted to guide the Army Enterprise, Melcher said, and will support the Army's transformation.

The Army will grow from the business transformation stage to a Lean Six Sigma-centered institution before reaching the enterprise end-state. Lean Six Sigma is a process

improvement program which helps to eliminate unnecessary steps while improving output quality, and Melcher said it has a key role in transforming the Army into an enterprise.

"Lean Six Sigma is as much common sense as anything else," Melcher said. "The process will be 'evolutionary' rather than revolutionary," taking place over an extended period of time, he said.

By the spring of 2011, Melcher expects the Army will have established accountability metrics and mechanisms, instilled stewardship of resources as an Army value, and have established an effective governance structure and culture that supports the capability-focused Army Enterprise, he said.

Servicemembers in transition see improvement

Gerry J. Gilmore
American Forces Press Service

WASHINGTON, May 19, 2008 - The Defense Department recently merged two military support programs into one as part of efforts to better address departing servicemembers' financial and transition needs, a senior Pentagon official told U.S. legislators May 16.

The previously separate Financial Readiness and Transition Assistance programs were combined in March to form the new Office of Personal Finance and Transition. Jane Burke, principal director for military community and family policy, said in testimony before members of the U.S. House of Representatives' Veterans Affairs subcommittee on economic opportunity.

"Returning to private life after serving in the military is a very complex undertaking," Burke told legislators. "To assist them in doing so, we must empower our servicemembers with the tools and information they need to develop individual solutions to the challenges they may face as they return to civilian life."

The merger of the financial and transition assistance programs was made in recognition "that financial readiness, military and veterans benefits, and transition assistance are closely linked to one another and must be addressed as a whole," Burke explained. This, she said, is an example of the Pentagon's desire to improve programs that assist transitioning servicemembers and their families.

Whether having served on

active duty or in the reserve components, transitioning servicemembers' and families' primary goals "are finding a job, changing careers, enrolling in higher education, and ultimately improving their economic quality of life," Burke said.

The Defense, Veterans Affairs, and Labor departments have partnered over the past decade to assist servicemembers' return to civilian life, Burke observed.

All three organizations, Burke said, share responsibility for the transition assistance program's four key components:

- Mandatory predeparture counseling for departing active-duty, National Guard or reserve members, is performed by servicemembers' individual service branch. Servicemembers are introduced to information about employment opportunities and how to go about finding a job.

- Attendance at Department of Labor-sponsored transition assistance program employment workshops is vol-

untary for active-duty servicemembers and spouses, except for mandatory participation by Marine Corps members. Servicemembers receive information about labor market conditions, individual skills assessment, how to write effective resumes, proper interviewing techniques, and methods of searching for jobs.

"To meet this goal, we have asked the services to allow servicemembers to attend these sessions so they have access to the employment resources they need to help them transition into an educational institution"

Jane Burke

- Veterans Affairs benefits briefings are voluntary for active-duty servicemembers. These briefings address education and training, healthcare, home loans, life insurance, vocational rehabilitation and employment, disability benefits, burial benefits, and dependents' and survivors' benefits. Demobilizing National Guard and reserve-component members receive a VA briefing that includes information on the Disabled Transition Assistance Program.

- Participation in the Disabled Transition Assistance Program managed by Veterans Affairs is voluntary for active-

duty members. This program is for servicemembers and veterans who have or suspect they have a service-connected disability or an injury or illness that was aggravated by military service.

DTAP addresses re-employment, rapid access to employment, employment through long-term services, independent

living services, and self-employment. DTAP also addresses other issues such as medical, dental, optical, mental health treatment, special adapted housing, veterans centers, vocational/educational counseling, and special hiring authorities for federal employment.

The Defense Department has established a goal to have 85 percent of separating active-duty, National Guard and reserve members attend transition assistance program and disabled transition program seminars, Burke said.

"To meet this goal, we have tasked the services to allow

servicemembers to attend these sessions so they have access to the employment resources they need to help them transition into the workforce or into an educational institution," Burke explained.

When the transition assistance program was first developed in 1990, it was not designed with the needs of the National Guard and reserves in mind, Burke said. The 2007 launch of the www.TurboTAP.org Web portal addressed those concerns, she said.

TurboTAP "allows each servicemember, regardless of component, to obtain a lifelong account and a tailored individual transition plan based on their transition needs, which can also connect them to information on military and veterans benefits, many of which have significant cash value," Burke explained.

Examples of such programs include the Montgomery GI Bill, the Thrift Savings Plan and the Savings Deposit Program.

TurboTAP better meets the

needs of National Guard, reserve and active-component servicemembers and their families "because the Web site gives them the tools to connect and access the information to meet their needs when they are ready -- present or future," Burke said. Military Home Source and Military Home Front, are two other Defense Department-endorsed Web sites that, along with TurboTAP, contain important transitional, financial and benefits information for separating servicemembers.

Servicemembers and their families have sacrificed much in support of the global war on terror, therefore, Burke said, it is the department's duty "to provide our troops with the decision-making tools they need to help them with the key financial and transition decision points," to assist them in making careersecurity plans.

The new office of personal finance and transition in partnership with other federal and private agencies "will get us there," Burke said.

Wounded warriors on 'Road 2 Recovery'

Craig Coleman
Army News Service

WASHINGTON - Thirteen wounded warriors began a 480-mile bike trek Tuesday that started at the Walter Reed Army Medical Center and will end Sunday at Lowe's Motor Speedway in Charlotte, N.C., site of the Coca-Cola 600 NASCAR Sprint Cup Series.

The bike ride is sponsored by Road 2 Recovery, under the auspices of America Supports You, a DoD organization that connects citizens and business groups with military members and their families.

At the official send-off ceremony for the bike trek, Col. Patricia Horoho, commander of the Walter Reed Health Care System, called the Soldiers' willingness to make the ride a testament to their bravery and commitment to take control of their lives as they continue their recoveries.

"Although Walter Reed's team of dedicated doctors, nurses, physical therapists and countless others have been helping them recover physically, mentally and emotionally, it is our patients' personal courage and desire to be whole again that has been the catalyst for not only their success, but for ours as well," Horoho said.

Horoho said the long bike journey was symbolic of the road Warriors in Transition take from the point of their injury on the battlefield, through the entire journey of healing, to full recovery. "Some of today's riders have stood in harm's way for multiple deployments in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom or Enduring Freedom," Horoho said. "They are warriors in every sense of the word. We have the great and humbling privilege of providing care and comfort to America's heroes every day."

America Supports You has

more than 345 home-front groups as members, and more than 30 corporations have joined the effort.

America Supports You was founded, according to Allison Barber, deputy assistant secretary of defense for public affairs, to make it easy for the men and women in the military to get the support they need and deserve from the American people.

"It is thanks to the America Supports You program and, more importantly, to our citizens of this country, who every day continue to look for ways to support those of you who wear the uniform and your families, that we can make things like today happen," Barber said.

"We hope you feel embraced by the American people, who every day are trying to find ways to communicate one message to you: that America does support you," Barber said.



Craig Coleman

RECOVERY RIDE -- Spc. Justin Clark (seated), who is currently undergoing therapy at Walter Reed Army Medical Center, leads riders on the Road 2 Recovery 480-mile bike trek that began May 20.

Memorial Day ceremony to honor military heroes

ARLINGTON, Va. - A patriotic ceremony honoring the service and sacrifice of America's military members is scheduled for May 26 at 11 a.m. in Arlington National Cemetery.

This year's event, which marks the 140th observance of Memorial Day on these hallowed grounds, will be hosted by Maj. Gen. Richard J. Rowe Jr., Commanding General of the U.S. Army Military District of Washington and Joint Force Headquarters National Capital Region.

A wreath-laying ceremony will take place at the Tomb of the Unknowns, followed by a remembrance ceremony in the Memorial Amphitheater. The event will commence with a prelude concert by the U.S. Army Band at 10:20 a.m. inside the amphitheater.

Both ceremonies are free and open to the military community and general public. No tickets are needed to attend this event.

For people interested in observing the wreath ceremony, space is limited to standing room only. Inside the amphitheater, seating is available on a first-come, first-served basis. The amphitheater can accommodate 5,500 people, but attendees are encouraged to arrive early to ensure access to the event.

At 8 a.m., the cemetery gates open and a free shuttle service will begin transporting people from the visitors' center to the amphitheater. Attendees will be admitted into the ceremony site at about 8:30 a.m.

People driving to the cemetery may park their vehicles for free in the visitors' center parking garage until 1 p.m. In addition, Metro-rail will be operating all day, so attendees may ride the "blue line" to the subway station located just outside the cemetery's main entrance.

Meanwhile, DoD identification card holders may park at Fort Myer, then ride a free shuttle from the Memorial chapel parking lot.

Heightened security measures will require



The Amphitheater decorated for Memorial Day ceremonies.

attendees to pass through a checkpoint to gain access to the ceremony site. Purse searches will be limited to essential items and will be subject to security inspections. Potential weapons will be confiscated. Furthermore, large backpacks, camera bags, coolers, picnic baskets, bottled water and insulated beverage containers will not be allowed on the premises.

For details, contact the Public Affairs Office for Arlington National Cemetery at 703-607-8574 or e-mail gina.gray@conus.army.mil.

Volunteers honored by FCI



courtesy photos

The Federal Correctional Institution (FCI) Fort Dix held its 14th Annual Volunteer Banquet April 23. This event honors individuals for their contributions and services to the inmate population and community. Warden J. Grodolsky, above photo, presents the Joint Citizen Volunteer of the Year Awards to Simeon Rochonchou, right, and Rosalind Gabriel, left. Also nominated for the honor was Paula A. Griffin, not shown. They were honored for their tremendous contributions as Life Skills instructors at the FCI. In addition to their unselfish commitment toward the programming needs of the inmate population, they also have been instrumental with the development and implementation of a faith-based life skills program for the inmates. Their instruction has been insightful and relevant to the Bureau of Prisons' re-entry initiatives, which is to prepare inmates for a successful re-entry into the Community and family units. Scott Tawes, Correctional Officer, right photo, was awarded the Staff Volunteer of the Year Award for his contributions as a Volunteer Emergency Medical Technician (EMT) in the community.





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
Looking for information and assistance? ACS is here to serve you.
ACS serves all military branches of service, DoD civilian personnel and retirees.
The ACS Center is accessible to individuals with disabilities.

FORT DIX WANTS YOU



TO BE A VOLUNTEER

Call Army Community Service
at 562-2767
to find out more.



Ryan Morton

Customer appreciation

Peggy Lovell talks to Pelican salesman Chris Lindsay at the Paper Clips Customer Appreciation Day May 8. Suppliers such as Pelican, Zep, ADS, Grainger, and Dakota Outerwear Co. were on hand to talk to potential customers about their products and how Paper Clips can help them obtain the merchandise.



Ryan Morton

Leave the driving to us

Drivers from The Logistics Company (TLC) Motor Transportation Activity received certificates for being accident and incident free during the 2007 calendar year on May 14. The recipients are George Anderson, Kokon Agbonyor, Chris Ammann, Kathy Scarsi-Barton, Gabriel Bodon, Vincent Demajo, Charles Drayton, Julie Ennis, Mark Foust, Thomas Hanson, Dexter Hawkins, John Holmes, Donna Kramer, Lloyd Lacross, Martha Larson, Paul Maier, Chris Matthews, Michael McNair, Anthony Romayo, Jim Walentukonis, Ramon Ynosencio, also shown is Jose Landwehrle, motor transportation officer.

Chaplains' Corner

Chap. (Maj.) Allen Raub
Installation Staff Chaplain

Have you ever heard this statement before? "When the going gets tough the tough get going."

But what if you are laid up in a hospital bed, battling a serious illness or injury? What keeps you going then?

I was an Army hospital chaplain at Walter Reed Army Medical Center in Washington D.C. right after September 11, 2001 and I had the chance to observe firsthand how wounded and injured Soldiers found strength to keep going. I also read several extensive studies on coping that found seeking a connection with God staved off depression and improved life quality, despite how serious the illness or injury.

To see what might help physically struggling patients, the first comprehensive study of coping strategies was conducted at Duke University Medical Center. Nearly 600 severely ill patients aged 55 or over were studied with measures of 47 ways of coping.

Some coping methods included religious faith, while others did not.

This new study revealed that patients who sought a connection with a benevolent God, as well as support from clergy and church members, were less depressed and rated their

quality of life as higher, even after taking into account how severe their diagnosis.

Patients who gave spiritual support to others, by praying for them or encouraging their faith, also fared better emotionally, noted Dr. Harold Koenig and his research team. Coping strategies that excluded God's help were linked to greater depression and poorer quality of life.

Dr. Koenig commented, "Other research demonstrates that older persons who depend on religion for support experience lower rates of depression, have higher self esteem, and may even live longer than those who do not."

Dr. David B. Larson, president of the National Institute for Healthcare Research noted, "This study shows that religious coping can make a positive difference in patients' lives."

The Psalmist in the Bible described how God provided strength even during a traumatic event like illness or injury: "My flesh and heart may fail, but God is the strength of my heart" (Psalm 73:26).

What an incredible promise that God is with us giving us strength even during the most difficult times in our lives! If you are going through a real life challenge reach out to God and his people at one of the Fort Dix chapel congregations. You won't be going through the trial alone and God's people will be with you every step of the way.

AMERICAN SOCIETY OF MILITARY COMPTROLLERS

JERSEY DEVIL CHAPTER ANNUAL SCHOLARSHIP FUND

GOLF CLASSIC SCRAMBLE

MONDAY 14 JULY 2008
McGUIRE GOLF COURSE
8:00 AM SHOTGUN START

COST: \$70.00 EACH
INCLUDES:
GREEN FEES, CART,
PRIZES, LUNCH and DRINKS

MONEY DUE BY JULY 7 2008

Honoring the Colors

Reveille
6 a.m. (0600 hours)

Military personnel in uniform

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

Military personnel not in uniform, civilians

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

Military personnel in formation or in a group

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

Individual military personnel, civilians in a vehicle

Stop vehicle and exit. Follow steps above.

Group of military personnel in a vehicle

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

Retreat
5 p.m. (1700 hours)

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

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

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

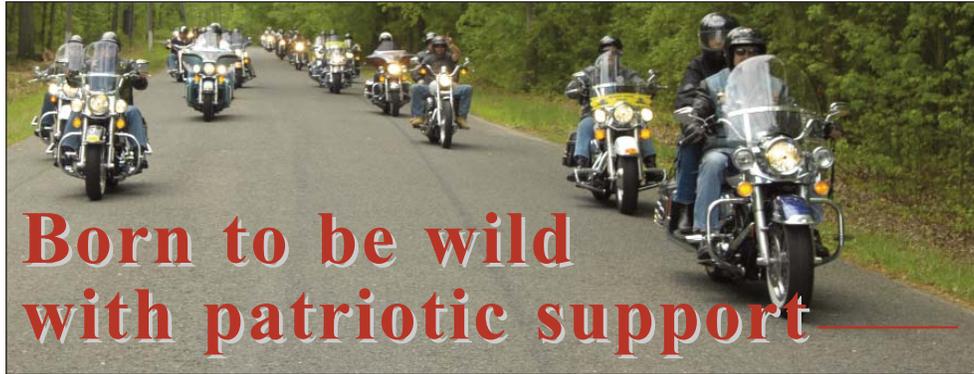
Stop vehicle and exit. Follow steps above.

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

Other bugle calls heard on post are:

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





Born to be wild with patriotic support

Ed Mingin



(continued from page 1)
ple were great who were involved with this trip," Sgt. 1st Class Juan Plata, of the New Jersey Army National Guard's Brigade Combat Team, said.

"This is a fabulous ride to show support for the military," Plata, who is preparing to deploy this Fall to Iraq.

Col. Ronald R. Thaxton, Fort Dix commander, introduced the event's special guest by reading the Medal of Honor citation of Brian M. Thacker of Maryland who received the award for his gallantry during the Vietnam War while serving as the team leader of an Integrated Observation System collocated with elements of South Vietnamese forces at Fire Base 6. Thacker was the last man out of the fire base after facing a superior enemy, ensuring that all his comrades were safe.

"This award that I wear is not an I award, but an us award. On that day, most everyone I saw was courageous. While I may have been the last one out, the second from last Soldier to leave was a South Vietnamese machine gunner," Thacker said.

"What everyone needs to know is whether you are pulling together as a member of an observation team or a squadron in some remote airfield it takes a team to be successful. When I look out and see all of you supporting this event I see a great patriotic team showing your support for the military and law enforcement," he said.

Barb Borowic, Harley-Davidson dealership owner, and Sue Manuel, also of the dealership were recognized for their support.

"The reason why I do this is I love you guys and what you do for us everyday," Borowic said to the crowd.

During the event riders received a complimentary barbecue lunch and event pin. The first 200 that registered for the event also received a t-shirt. There was also photo opportunities with John Runyan of the Philadelphia Eagles, and Flyer greets Bob Kelly Brian Propps and Dave Shultz.



David Moore photos

A DEPLOYING SUPPORT -- More than 1,100 motorcycle riders begin entering Fort Dix after a 32-mile ride from southern New Jersey to the premier power projection platform. Sgt. 1st Class Juan Plata, at left, a New Jersey Army National Guard Soldier preparing to deploy to Iraq this Fall launches with motorcyclist from Barb's Harley Davidson, Collingswood, N.J. Medal of Honor recipient, Brian Thacker, top left, speaks to the crowd at Fort Dix after being introduced by Fort Dix commander, Col. Ronald R. Thaxton. Col. James Kerr, 514th Air Mobility Wing commander (left), Col. Balan Ayyar, 305th AMW and installation commander (center), and Maj. Gen. Kip Self, USAF Expeditionary Center commander (right), lead the pack during the second annual Armed Force's Freedom Ride on May 18. The commanders led over 950 motorcycles riders to McGuire AFB and Fort Dix.



David Moore

MOTORCYCLES AND PERSONALITIES -- What appears to be a Sportster has ammo can saddlebags and olive drab paint, while patriotic red-white-blue adorns the bagger. Command Sgt. Major Antony Young, post mobilization command sergeant major, captures an image of the New Jersey Buffalo Riders and an unidentified military veteran rider enters Fort Dix with an oversized flag blowing in the wind.



Master Sgt. Dwayne Gordon, USAF photo



David Moore



Ed Mingin