

# the Post

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## NEWSNOTES

**Join Team Dix For July 4 Concert**  
**Fireworks Family Fun Doughboy Field**

**DJ, 6-7:30 p.m.**  
**R&B Artist Keyshia Cole in concert, 7:30-9 p.m.**  
**Silver Wings Parachute Team, 9-9:30 p.m.**  
**Fireworks 9:30-10:15 p.m.**  
**Free event -- Open to the Public!**

Shuttles will be provided for those without vehicle decals beginning at 5 p.m.

Vendors will be onsite beginning at 6 p.m. with food and refreshments.

Official photo ID required for all guests over 12 years of age.

Coolers and pets will not be allowed on the field.

Guests are encouraged to bring lawn chairs and blankets, as bleacher seating is minimal.

## WEATHER

**FRIDAY -- Chance of thunderstorms with light rain showers, high of 92 degrees and overnight low of 70.**

**SATURDAY -- Chance of thunderstorms with light rain showers, daytime high of 92 with high humidity, low of 71 degrees.**

**SUNDAY -- Thunderstorms likely, rainy and breezy, high of 85 degrees and overnight low of 69.**

**MONDAY -- Chance of thunderstorms with rain showers, cooler with high of 80 and low of 63 degrees.**

**TUESDAY -- Thunderstorms likely with light rain. Continued cooler with high of 82 degrees and overnight low of 62.**

**WEDNESDAY -- Clear and sunny, high of 84 and low of 65 degrees.**

**THURSDAY -- Clear and warmer, high of 87 and overnight low of 70 degrees.**

**FRIDAY -- Mostly cloudy, 40 percent chance of rain, with a daytime high of 88 and overnight low of 73 degrees.**

# All-Vol force hits 35 years

Staff Sgt. Michael J. Carden  
 American Forces Press Service

WASHINGTON, June 25, 2008 -- On July 1, the nation will mark 35 years of an armed military made up solely of volunteers.

Until July 1973, the military operated under an involuntary draft policy to produce manpower to fight the country's wars. Draftees served during both world wars, the Korean War and the Vietnam War.

Opposition to the war in Vietnam brought extreme scrutiny to the draft, and the public's increasing dissatis-

faction took its toll during President Richard Nixon's administration. Congress eventually approved the institution of the all-volunteer force, and although the framework for selective service remained in place, the armed forces stopped drafting people to serve.

For the past 35 years, volunteers manned 100 percent of the armed forces during the nation's times of need, including the Cold War as well as conflicts in Bosnia and Kosovo. They filled the ranks and fought in the Persian Gulf, Panama and Grenada.

Retention flourishes among the services -- in both the active duty and

reserve components -- as they continue to operate in Iraq and Afghanistan and conduct humanitarian missions at home and throughout the world, a senior Defense Department official said.

Bill Carr, deputy undersecretary of defense for military personnel and policy, said the nation and its armed forces are stronger in many ways, thanks most notably to the aptitude and experience today's volunteers bring to the table.

Carr said about 20 percent of servicemembers in the draft era were in the bottom third of the aptitude-test scoring range. Today, only 2 percent

of the force is in the bottom third, and more than 66 percent are in the top half.

"One thing that characterizes today's recruits is that they're so smart relative to average," he said. "Two-thirds are in the top half in math and verbal aptitude, and they can figure out what to do in ambiguous situations. You can see it in their performance, and they're just a remarkable group of people."

Experience is evident in today's armed force's retention statistics. Nearly one out of every two servicemembers re-enlists. During the draft, (continued on page 8)

# Civil Affairs trains with communities

Ryan Morton  
 Public Affairs Staff

Talking to police and city officials is just part of the real-world mission training civil affairs Soldier students at the Task Training Center (TTC) conducted during their 28 days of training at Fort Dix.

The 77 students are mobilized reservists from around the United States who are re-classifying to the civil affairs field and are currently preparing for upcoming deployments in support of the Global War on Terrorism.

As part of their mission during their final training week, they moved by convoy transport to police stations and town halls in neighboring communities such as Plumstead, Bordentown, Jackson, and Allentown, gathering area assessments -- the same type of preliminary mission Civil Affairs Soldiers do in such places as Iraq and Afghanistan when they are deployed in their new occupational specialties.

Area assessments involve the Soldiers going into towns, cities, and villages, and talking to the locals and authorities to discuss ways to improve the infrastructure and to catalog the needs of the community.

This includes services such as water, sewage, electricity, and road repairs, and how they are provided and how those services can be improved.

"The primary purpose of the exercise is to be able to communicate with people and gather pertinent information on ways to help the town. The Soldiers would then contact the proper authorities to make the improvements happen," said TTC instructor, Master Sgt. David Pittari.

The day before the students journeyed out to the towns, they trained with role-play actors called Civilians on the Battlefield (COBs) at Bastogne Range, or Range 12, in a mock village created for a variety of training scenarios.

The Soldiers went into each of the different buildings in the "town" and spoke to the COBs who played the police chiefs and various town officials, to gather the necessary information on community needs and shortfalls to complete their mission.

"Our primary concern is how the Soldiers are able to react with the local people in country," said Pittari.

"We're over there to win the hearts and minds of the people, and get them on the right track to be able to run things on their own and be self-sufficient," he said.

Civil Affairs Soldiers are the field commander's link to the civil authorities in his area of operations.

With specialists in every area of the government, they can assist a host government meet its people's needs and maintain a stable and viable civil administration.

Civil affairs units help military commanders by working with civil authorities and civilian populations in the commander's area of operations to lessen the impact of military operations on them during peace, contingency operations and declared war.

Civil Affairs forces support activities of both conventional and special operations forces, and are capable of assisting and supporting the civil administration in the area of operations.



TOWN TRAINING -- Staff Sgt. Blake Adams talks to Jackson Township Police Sgt. Lisa Matusz during a training exercise June 19. Adams, part of the Task Training Center school at Fort Dix, is a civil affairs Soldier who, with his fellow classmates, went to the neighboring townships assessing needs.



MEETING OF THE MINDS -- Pfc. Ronald Clemente and Sgt. 1st Class Charmaine Fournillier-Martin train with a Civilian on the Battlefield, or COB, at Fort Dix's Range 12, on June 18. Clemente and Fournillier-Martin are mobilized Civil Affairs Soldiers training at Dix's Task Training Center in preparation for upcoming Global War on Terrorism missions.

# Installation, friends bid farewell to Dix Deputy Commander

Carolee Nisbet  
 Editor

The Fort Dix community gathered in fellowship June 24 to bid farewell to Lt. Col. Roger Cotton, installation deputy commander.

During two hours of honor and laughter, Cotton was recognized for both the skills he brought to bear on major issues -- such as Joint Basing -- facing Fort Dix and the humor he included in sometimes tense negotiations.

On behalf of Col. Ronald Thaxton, installation commander, Col. Larry Boyd presented Cotton with a statuette of the Ultimate Weapon and warm words of praise for his service.

"Roger and his family have been a pillar in our community, and we are really going to miss them," Boyd said. "We're always glad to have good people around us, and believe me, these are good people."

Cotton took on the job of deputy commander in June 2006, and is moving on to attend the Army War College in Carlisle, Pa.

A native of Florida, he was commissioned as an Infantry officer following graduation from the United States Military Academy with a Bachelor of Science Degree in 1986. Prior to his current assignment, he spent more than 20 years in a variety of command and staff assignments. He served in Desert Shield and Desert Storm, and was also the aide-de-camp to the Chief, Army Reserve/Commanding General, USARC.

Cotton told the crowd he and his family enjoyed their stay at Fort Dix. "It was a great learning experience about leadership," he said. "It's all about heart and hard work. Fort Dix has a passion for the mission and the Soldiers."

Hannah, Leah and Micah Cotton were presented with tickets to Hershey Park, with instructions to be certain their parents have a good time.



ON THE ROAD AGAIN -- Air Force Maj. Robert Whetzel presents Lt. Col. Roger Cotton, deputy Fort Dix commander, with a memento to remind him of the Joint Base challenge that was Cotton's major mission while at Fort Dix. The presentation was one of many made at a farewell luncheon for Cotton at Club Dix June 24.

**Russian winters, vast population spelled disaster**

**Invading Russia doomed Germany's Wehrmacht in WWII**



Steve Snyder  
Public Affairs Staff

June 22 marked the 67th anniversary of Germany's invasion of the Soviet Union in World War II, a turning point in that vital conflict because it was in Russia where the Nazi military juggernaut was finally crippled, leading to its eventual defeat.

At dawn on June 22, 1941, Germany unleashed 3 million men, 3,500 tanks and almost 3,000 aircraft against the USSR on a front ranging from the Black to Baltic Seas. German chancellor Adolph Hitler ordered "maximum cruelty" against civilians, resulting in stiff Russian resistance.

On July 3, Russian premier Josef Stalin ordered a "scorched earth" policy to deny Germans any fruits of their invasion.

On July 16 the Center German Army group took Smolensk, just 220 miles from Moscow. On July 21 the Luftwaffe bombed Moscow.

July 29 saw Hitler, eager to occupy the rich Ukraine first, stop Center group's advance on Moscow and transfer its two tank armies to groups North and South. German generals argue fanatically against this. On Sept. 6 Hitler changes his mind, reinforces Center group to take Moscow before winter. The long German siege of Leningrad began on Sept. 15.

Three days later, Germans in the south occupied Kiev and reached the Crimea.

On Oct. 2, 1941, the first German attack towards Moscow began (Operation Typhoon). Rains and deep mud stopped the German advance to Moscow on Oct. 15. On Oct. 26, Germans occupied Kharkov. On Nov. 15, mud froze and Germans continued their advance on Moscow. They get within 27 kilometers of Moscow on Nov. 30 before strong Russian resistance stopped them.

On Dec. 6 at temperatures of 29 degrees below zero (F), a major Russian counterattack pushed Germans back from Moscow.

The Germans would never again seriously threaten to take Moscow and therefore failed to defeat Russia. The Germans needed to encircle, then eliminate, hundreds of thousands of Russia's finest troops. At first, they were wildly successful. But the Wehrmacht was worn down by continuous fighting and devastated by the cold Russian winter. The Russians continually retreated only to regroup and attack.

Finally, superior numbers won.



stupidbeaver.com/hitlers-biggest-mistakes

**NO QUIET ON THE EASTERN FRONT** -- Adolph Hitler had long planned for Lebensraum, acquiring new territory for German settlement in Eastern Europe before pushing on to Western Russia and the successful Nazi invasion of Czechoslovakia in 1939 was the first step in Hitler's master scheme, followed up by the German Army's (Wehrmacht) overrunning of Poland (1939), Denmark and Norway (1940), France, Belgium, Luxembourg and the Netherlands (1940), Romania (1940), and Greece and Yugoslavia (1941). The Germans then turned on their one-time Russian allies and attacked the Soviet Union on June 22, 1941, initiating Operation Barbarossa, the very successful early invasion of Western Russia (lasting until December 1941). But the Eastern Front war between Germany and Russia lasted until the Russians triumphed in 1945 after the Germans had succumbed to both Soviet numbers and cold geography. Over 30 million, mostly civilians were killed in this largest theater of war in history which saw Germans on the attack, above left, before many were killed or taken prisoner by Russians (above right).



Wikipedia, with modifications by Steve Snyder



Wikipedia



http://www.worldwar2roforum

**LARGEST TANK BATTLE IN HISTORY** -- After their terrible defeat at Stalingrad, Hitler and German High Command tried one last blitzkrieg to encircle Red Army forces. Operation Zitadelle (Citadel) was geared to destroying Red Army forces who were defending the Kursk salient. More than 7,000 Soviet T34 tanks took on 3,000 German MkIV Tiger and Panther V tanks, then, in what came to known by the victorious Russians as the Battle of Kursk, the largest tank battle in history. The Battle of Kursk Bulge started on July 5, 1943. Four million Soldiers eventually took part in the seven-week affair whose climax came on July 12th near the village of Prokhorovka. The Russians deployed so many T34 tanks (left, in foreground) that the Germans had to call on the Luftwaffe's new Stuka Ju 87Gs dive bombers (above right) to counter but in the end Russian tanks just proved too numerous (58,000 T-34s were manufactured during the war) and overwhelmed their foes. On July 23 the battle was over. Manpower casualties on both sides were in the tens of thousands with thousands of tanks destroyed or disabled. The German army was badly beaten and retreated home. For Europe and the civilized world, victory at Kursk was the beginning of the end of their Nazi nightmare.



www.nicks-aviation-art.com



http://www.mdb.com

**MILITARY GENIUS** -- Heinz Guderian is the father of the Blitzkrieg, which favors continual movement and great mobility, and his mode of combat rolled over Poland, forced an Allied retreat at Dunkirk and led to wild success in Operation Barbarossa, the initial attack on Russia. Guderian led the Second Panzer Army in Russia but was fired in late 1941 for failing to deliver a knockout blow.



Wikipedia

**CAVALCADE OF TERROR** -- The Germans were anything but genteel in occupying the enormous territory they temporarily gained by the invasion of Russia. Indeed, their occupation ranks with atrocities the Japanese committed in Nanking and other parts of China as the severest breach of civilized conduct during the Second World War. Nazi invaders routinely slaughtered millions of Jews and other minorities, hundreds of thousands of Soviet civilians, some who were executed and millions more who died from starvation as the Germans requisitioned food for their armies and fodder for draft horses. Upon their retreat from Ukraine and Belarus in 1943-44, the Germans applied a scorched earth policy, burning towns and cities, destroying infrastructure and leaving civilians to starve or die of exposure. One Russian historian has estimated Soviet war deaths at 26.5 million people, including military losses of 10.6 million and civilian deaths at 15.9 million. Russian Soldiers, at least, went down fighting.



Wikipedia

**Made movie musicals move**

**Classy Charisse danced to stardom**

Cyd Charisse proved that a starlet didn't have to be a bimbo to have sex appeal. Married almost 60 years to singer Tony Martin, Charisse is famous for classic Hollywood musicals she danced in, notably with Gene Kelly and Fred Astaire.

Her best films include *The Harvey Girls* (1946), *Singin' In The Rain* (1952), *The Band Wagon* (1953), *Brigadoon* (1954), *It's Always Fair Weather* (1956) and *Silk Stockings* (1957).

She died, at 86, on June 17 from an apparent heart attack. Hollywood mourns a giant.

— Steve Snyder



IMDb

**SCREEN SIREN** -- Cyd Charisse's opening dance in the 1966 spy film, "The Silencers," stole the show.



Everett Collection

**LEG UP** -- Nobody could keep with Gene Kelly's non-stop hoofing but Cyd Charisse, facing Kelly, right, in "Singin' In The Rain" (1952), came closer than anyone else. And Cyd was better looking, too.



rightwingnation.com

**HIGH STEPPIN'** -- Cyd shakes it up with Fred Astaire in "Bandwagon."

**the Post**

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# DoD Police instrumental in capture of shooting suspect

David Levinsky  
Burlington County Times

**WRIGHTSTOWN** — A Burlington Township man was charged with attempted murder after he shot another man during an altercation outside a bar, state police said.

Safford Swain, 27, was arrested Sunday shortly after the 3:11 a.m. shooting, which happened in the parking lot of Kelly's Bar on Rexall Avenue, said Sgt. Stephen Jones, spokesman for the New Jersey State Police.

Jones said Swain fired shots during an altercation involving several people.

Two of the shots hit John Currington, 33, of Burlington City in the lower back, Jones said.

Jones said state police were notified of the shooting by a Department of Defense officer stationed a short distance away from Kelly's at a checkpoint

guarding an entrance to Fort Dix. The officer heard several shots from the vicinity of Kelly's and moments later saw several vehicles traveling at high speed away from the

**State police were notified of the shooting by a Department of Defense officer stationed a short distance away from Kelly's at an entrance to Fort Dix. The officer heard several shots from the vicinity of Kelly's and moments later saw several vehicles traveling at high speed away from the neighborhood of the bar.**

neighborhood of the bar, Jones said.

Another Department of Defense officer stopped one of the vehicles for speeding on Saylor's Pond Road, Jones said.

Currington was a passenger in the vehicle that was stopped, and he told the officer he had been shot outside the bar, Jones said.

He also gave the officer a description of the vehicle that

Swain fled the bar in, Jones said. A short time later, Department of Defense police stopped a car that matched the description given by Currington, Jones said. Swain and

another person in the car were taken into custody for questioning, he said.

State police detectives found a handgun inside the vehicle, Jones said.

Swain was charged with attempted murder, aggravated assault with a firearm, unlawful possession of a weapon and possession of a weapon for an unlawful purpose. He was lodged in Burlington County

Jail in Mount Holly on \$250,000 bail.

Court officials said Swain did not make a first appearance in Superior Court yesterday afternoon because he was in the process of posting bail.

According to the state Department of Corrections, Swain served more than three years in state prison for a 2003 conviction for drug possession and distribution in Camden County. He was released on parole in July 2007.

No charges have been filed against the man who was stopped with Swain, Jones said. Jones declined to specify what prompted the altercation involving Swain and Currington.

No other injuries were reported from the altercation. Jones said the shooting remains under investigation.

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## POLICE LOG

Police Log is a weekly synopsis of significant police activities developed from reports, complaints, incidents or information received and actions taken, for the week of June 16 through 22.

The abbreviation DoD stands for Department of Defense; NAFD means Not Affiliated with Fort Dix (the subject doesn't live or work here); NCIC stands for National Crime Information Center; DWI means Driving While Intoxicated; CDS means Controlled Drug Substance; POV means Privately Owned Vehicle; MAFB stands for McGuire Air Force Base; USAF EC stands for US Air Force Expeditionary Center; AHCC stands for Ambulatory Health Care Clinic (MAFB); VMHBC stands for Virtua Memorial Hospital of Burlington County; CP# stands for Checkpoint Number.

Police and Fire Department personnel responded to a report of a small brush fire near Range 59A. The fire was extinguished.

While conducting a routine credential check of a vehicle attempting to enter the installation via the Main Gate, police discovered the vehicle operator, a civilian NAFD, had a suspended driver's license. The subject was cited and the vehicle released to a licensed driver.

While on routine patrol, police discovered a vehicle illegally parked in a restricted area. The vehicle was towed from the scene.

A Soldier, NAFD, entered the police station and surrendered a firearm to police stating he had a warrant from Bordentown. Investigation revealed an active warrant and the subject was transferred to the Bordentown Police Department.

While conducting a routine credential check of a vehicle attempting to enter the installation via CP#9, police discovered the vehicle operator, a civilian NAFD, had a suspended driver's license. The subject was cited and the vehicle released to a licensed driver.

Police responded to a report of counterfeit currency at Clothing Sales. Investigation revealed the store manager discovered counterfeit currency when making a deposit. The US Secret Service was notified. Investigation continues.

Police and Fire Department personnel responded to a fire alarm at Bldg. 5404. Investigation revealed the alarm was caused by heat from the laundry room.

Police at the Main Gate observed a vehicle entering the gate had a fuel leak. Environmental and Fire Department personnel responded and cleaned up the leak. The vehicle, operated by a Soldier NAFD, was towed from the scene.

While conducting a credential check of a vehicle attempting to enter the installation via CP#9 police discovered the vehicle operator, a civilian NAFD, had outstanding warrants from Wall and Westville Townships. Both departments were notified and issued new court dates.

Police responded to a report of accidental damage to private property in the parking lot adjacent to Bldg. 8102. Investigation revealed that during a convoy movement a spare tire became detached from a tactical vehicle and struck a parked and unattended vehicle. There were no reported injuries and the vehicles were released to the operators at the scene.

Police responded to an incident in the Garden Terrace housing area. Investigation revealed a resident witnessed another resident strike a child in an excessive manner. Investigation continues.

Police responded to a motor vehicle crash in the Visitor Center parking lot. Investigation revealed a vehicle, operated by a Soldier assigned to Fort Dix, struck another vehicle. There were no reported injuries and the vehicles were released to the operators at the scene.

While conducting a credential check of a vehicle attempting to enter the installation via CP#9 police discovered the vehicle operator, a civilian NAFD, had an outstanding warrant from Ocean County. The subject was transported to the police station for processing. At the station, the subject complained of difficulty breathing. Emergency Medical personnel responded and transported the subject by ambulance to Community Hospital in Toms River for further treatment. The subject was turned over to the Ocean County Sheriff's Department and the vehicle released to a licensed driver.

Police responded to a report of wrongful damage to private property at Bldg. 5641. Investigation revealed that person(s) unknown destroyed a vending machine and removed all the product and money. Investigation continues.

Police responded to a report of wrongful damage to government property at Bldg. 5997. Investigation revealed a Soldier, assigned to Fort Dix, attempted to gain access to a room by cutting a window screen. The unit chain of command was notified.

During a routine credential check of a vehicle attempting to enter the installation via the Wrightstown Gate, the operator, a civilian NAFD became agitated at police when access was denied. The subject refused to follow instructions and became combative. The subject was arrested and transported to the police station for processing. At the station the subject asked to be evaluated by medical personnel. Emergency medical personnel were dispatched. The subject was cited for disorderly conduct. The subject, and the vehicle, were released to the subject's sponsor.

A Fort Dix contract employee entered the police station and reported he had been assaulted by his supervisor in May. Investigation continues.

Police at the Wrightstown Gate heard screams and gunshots coming from Wrightstown Borough. They observed two vehicles depart the area at a high rate of speed on Saylor's Pond Rd. Both vehicles were stopped by police. Investigation revealed a passenger in the first vehicle had suffered two gunshot wounds. NJ State Police arrived on scene and took custody of the suspects. The second vehicle was found to contain the shooters and the weapon that had been used. The victim was flown by medic helicopter to Cooper Hospital in Camden. Further investigation revealed the subjects and victim were rival gang members with no known affiliation to the military and Fort Dix. Investigation continues by the NJ State Police.

There were 27 expired identification cards confiscated during the period.

There were 11 Magistrate Court Citations issued for violations. DWI incidents remain at seven for the year.

## Joint Base Update

# Easing employee stress

With so many changes all the time, it is hard to know which end is up some days. Right sizing, downsizing, BRAC, joint basing and reorganization keep employees worrying and wondering what will happen next.

While some see the changing landscape as highly stressful and confusing, others find the demands exciting and challenging. Either way one looks at it, prevention is a key to overall health and longevity in the workplace.

Personal traits that help individuals manage change include having a respect for the past, make sense of what is happening in the present, and having a vision for what is coming in the future. Researchers Minnick and Ireland label this "mental agility". Behavioral strategies that can be employed to help become agile within an organization include managing the changes rather than becoming a victim of them, being proactive in your approach, maintaining mental flexibility and creativity, keeping up the pace, and taking risks.

Individuals with a sense of personal competence communicate well, share ideas, develop critical networks, and continually develop skills that are in demand.

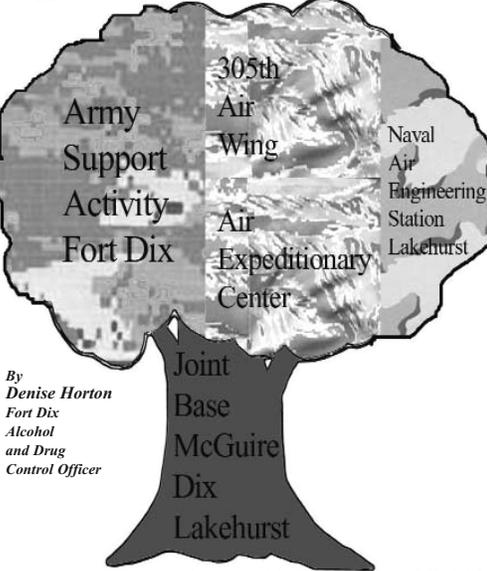
Behavioral strategies that help develop personal competence include collaborating with others, maintaining a broad base of knowledge about the organization, being open to learning, and being a good listener.

In managing change and stress, team work is important. Having ideas of where the team is going as well as where the team needs to go is critical.

Organizational strategies for managing change and stress includes clear and consistent communication, re-training where necessary, performance management, use of new technologies, social support from the group, and most importantly managing the diversity of the organization.

Agile and strong organizations manage the workload issues. Maintaining some level of control over the amount of work to be done and the ability to plan for the work are essential. Employee health and stress are strongly tied to these issues.

Knowing the resources is smart planning, both for the individual employee and the organization. Agencies on post



By  
Denise Horton  
Fort Dix  
Alcohol  
and Drug  
Control Officer

available to both military and civilian employees stand ready as resources for all. Many times civilian employees are not aware that they are entitled to use the services offered on post.

Military members do not want to be identified as someone with a problem. Whether a military or civilian member of this community, Fort Dix has a wide variety of services and resources open to both types of employee.

The Employee Assistance Program is an employee wellness program. An employee is entitled to six free counseling sessions - strictly confidential for civilian employees, accessing this program is as easy as picking up the phone. (609-562-4011, building 5203, Maryland Ave.)

The Civilian Personnel Advisory Center is available to help with employment related questions. (609-562-2298, building 5418, 3rd floor, Delaware Ave.)

Army Community Services offers a wide variety of social

services open to civilian employees such as information and referral, prevention and education classes to support healthy families. (609-562-2767, building 5201, Maryland Ave.)

Family, Morale, Welfare, Recreation Division offers programming for all seasons.

Employees can use the Arts and Crafts Center to lessen their stress and increase their creativity by participating in classes. The newest edition to the Center is a Sony Picture photo shop-No standing in line for pictures! (I can speak from personal experience that this is a cool way to get your photos - and the cost is worth the trip!)

Learn how to paint and create pottery or frame a picture. (609-562-5691, building 6039, Philadelphia Street)

Go on one of the trips with the Outdoor Recreation Department - low cost adventure open to you! Rent equipment for camping or try the John Mann Park activities. Plan a picnic and enjoy the pool with the Fort

Dix indoor pool! Physical fitness is one of the most important things a person can do to manage stress and cope with the stress of change.

Whether you try the Bowling Center or the Griffith Fitness Center, the staff is well trained and ready to assist you meeting your goals. Free training advice is available to you from the fitness staff. Social networking can be accomplished by meeting friends and co-workers at Club Dix for lunch.

Employee wellness is critical to the success of any organization.

I am sure I left off several organizations that may prove to be helpful to you. For example, if you are reading this article, you realize how important the POST is to the goal of good communication.

Take time to recognize what you need to meet change with a healthy attitude. Keep mentally and emotionally agile in times when there is change all around.

# NEIGHBORHOOD

## THE CORNER

### Alcoholics Anonymous meetings held weekly

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

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

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

### Operation Military Kids supports Soldiers' families

Operation: Military Kids (OMK) is a national initiative designed to support military youth when their Soldier parent is deployed.

OMK creates community support in places where the kids live. It delivers recreational, social, and educational programs as well as supporting the military kids in coping with the stress of knowing their deployed parents may be in harm's way.

OMK collaborates with schools to ensure that staff are attuned to the unique needs of the military students and educate the public on the impact of the deployment cycle on Soldiers, families, kids and the community.

For more information, visit [www.operationmilitarykids.org](http://www.operationmilitarykids.org) or call Rachel Lyons, county 4-H agent, at Rutgers Cooperative Extension 265-5052 or 973-285-8300 X3.

### Volunteers needed for speaking engagements

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

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

### Training brigade looking for experienced Soldiers

The 72nd Field Artillery Brigade is looking for experienced Soldiers to become trainers for service members mobilizing through Fort Dix.

For more information on necessary qualifications, call Recruiting and Retention at 562-3309 or e-mail [DIVEAST72FABDEREUP@usar.army.mil](mailto:DIVEAST72FABDEREUP@usar.army.mil).

### Medication disposal poses environmental threat

Proper disposal of unused or expired medicine is an emerging environmental issue. As with any household waste, the disposal method chosen can have a direct effect on safety and the health of the environment.

Disposal via the toilet or the sink takes your drugs into the local sewage system. Modern water treatment plants are not fully designed to deal with medication disposal. The full extent of environmental damage and the long-term health risks of even a small amount of medications in our drinking water remain unknown.

Any unused or expired medications can be brought back to your pharmacy for a safer, environmentally friendly disposal.

(Article provided by the *Walston Medical Support Element*.)

### 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.

## Families recruit fun at fest

Jennifer Chupko  
Public Affairs Staff

The Mid-Atlantic Recruiter Battalion celebrated Organizational Day on June 20.

This is the second time their event was held on the installation.

"There are two times a year that we can actually get every recruiter in the same place to let their hair down and relax and do something fun," said Maj David Southerland, battalion commander.

Recruiting during Organizational Day was replaced with families, food

and fun.

Some of the activities including face painting, volley ball, soccer and dancing.

Entry was free and open to all who wanted to attend. About 300 recruiters, their families and civilian staff attended.

"We have a civilian staff of about 21 people. They are part of the team, so the day was shared with all families, civilian and military," Southerland stated.

The Mid-Atlantic Recruiter Battalion is one of the nine battalions that make-up the first Recruiting Brigade located at Fort Meade, Md.

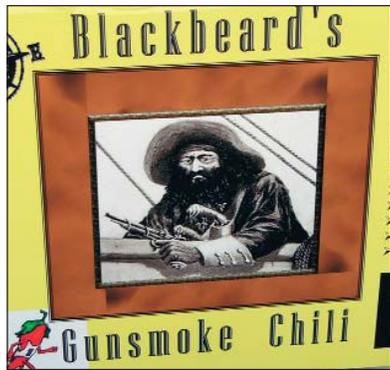


Jennifer Chupko

**POWER PEEK** - Nicholas Bultz, 6, shows off his web-slinging abilities and his Spiderman face paint, while Addison Harper, 2, peeks through the jungle gym tunnel during the Mid-Atlantic Recruiter Battalion Organizational Day held June 20 at Willow Pond.

## Pirate chili wins cook-off honors

The theme of the party might have been Margaritaville, but Jim Burke's pirate inspired, Blackbeard's Gunsmoke Chili took top honors at the Team Dix Day Chili Cook-Off held June 13 at John Mann Park. While most of the recipes contained similar ingredients, Burke's roasted garlic and combination of heat and smoke won the judges over.



Shawn Morris

**HOT STUFF** - The tablescap from Jim Burke's winning entry into the Chili Cook-Off held during Team Dix Day, June 13.

### Blackbeard's Gunsmoke Chili

James Burke

#### Ingredients

- 1 to 2 heads garlic, roasted
- 2 to 3 TBS olive oil
- 3 pounds ground round
- 1 pound hot Italian sausage, casing removed if links
- 2 large onions
- 2 green peppers
- 2 to 3 jalapeno peppers with seeds
- 2 29 oz. cans chunky tomato puree- see note
- 2 8 oz. cans tomato sauce
- 1 cup beef broth
- 1 cup beer or water
- Seasoning mixture
- 4 TBS chili powder
- 2 TBS paprika
- 1 tsp oregano
- 1 tsp ground cumin
- 1 tsp crushed dried peppers
- 1 dash Tabasco
- 1 dash liquid smoke

To roast garlic: separate cloves, remove papery outer skins and place on a square of aluminum foil. Drizzle with a tablespoon or two of olive oil, loosely wrap the garlic and bake at 350 degrees for 15 to 20 minutes until tender but not mushy

Meanwhile brown meats drain well and set aside

Chop, then sauté vegetables, including garlic, in 1 TBS olive oil in a large stockpot. Add seasoning mixture while vegetables are sautéing. Stir and cook about 8 minutes

Add meat, tomato puree, sauce, broth and beer. Simmer covered for 1 hour, then uncovered for 2 hours. Makes 10 to 12 servings.

Note: Crushed tomatoes can be substituted for the chunky tomato puree.

## Wii, Wii, Wii all the way home



courtesy photo

Peter Lawrence, 72nd Field artillery Bde., holds the new Nintendo Wii sports package he won in the Wii Tournament held at Club Dix on June 25. Taking second place was Sean Harkless and third place honors went to Jacob Carver. The tournament took over a month to complete and was held to advertise the Wii game system that is available for the public to play at Club Dix anytime.

## Commissary to close for reset

The McGuire/Dix commissary will close Aug. 3 at 4 p.m. while it undergoes a reset as part of the Defense Commissary Agency's ongoing effort to enhance the shopping experience and will be back in business Aug. 6 at 9 a.m.

"We regret to inconvenience our customers with the closure, and ask that patrons plan accordingly, but this is something we'll all appreciate when it's done," said store director John Zoubra.

The reset is part of an agency-wide program that systematically changes how products are displayed on shelves throughout a commissary in order to better serve customer shopping patterns. The goal is to give commissaries worldwide a more customer-friendly product flow and a layout that is as consistent as possible from location to location, according to Steve Arland, chief of DeCA's store reset and planogram team.

"Although we have to take into consideration that no two commissaries are constructed exactly alike, a customer-friendly product flow means dog food will be next to pet supplies instead of the charcoal peanut butter is best found next to the jam, and you shouldn't have to cruise three different aisles to find all your cleaning products. It's a simple matter of making the commissary layout more sensible by 'resetting' the store," he said.

DeCA is intent on making the commissary shopping experience faster and easier - making the commissary the place to shop every day, not just on pay day. One of the priorities is to help busy, active-duty shoppers make a quick run through their commissary and get home more quickly.

"The whole idea, in a nutshell, is to get convenience into the shopping experience," said Arland. Consistency is also part of the reset equation.

"Why shouldn't you be able to go to different commissaries and find basically the same layout?"

"We try not to inconvenience the customers while resetting stores," said Arland, "but we often have to close the store for a day, sometimes two, in order to tear down the shelving and move it and restock. Our customers usually like the new layout once they get used to it. Sales increases always follow a store reset and that's an indication that the user-friendly product flow is a good change."

To make changes easier for customers to follow, stores have aisle layout maps available as well as generic item locators on their Web pages.

Store Web pages are under the locations link at <http://www.commissaries.com> along with store hours, contact information, store news and special customer service features.

# Training Soldiers give back to locals

**Sgt. 1st Class Patrick J. McDonald**  
448th Civil Affairs BN

Civil Affairs soldiers attending the Non-Commissioned Officers Course gave back to the local community during their three weeks at Fort Dix. Each took advantage of their experience in helping local communities in Iraq and Afghanistan to help the New Jersey Red Cross by assisting with the local blood drive at Deborah Heart and Lung Center in Browns Mills outside Fort Dix on June 23.

"This is something we do during our deployments - so it goes hand in hand with our basic understanding of the Civil Affairs mission," noted Sergeant First Class Mark Dicken, a Civil Affairs Specialist from Lexington, Kentucky. Janice Ogden, Blood Bank Supervisor at the center was pleased and proud of the contributions of over 40 Army Reserve Civil Affairs soldiers who were attending basic and advanced non-commissioned officers training. "We usually have 25-35 people during our

normal quarterly blood drives, but this will be the largest number of people we've had in the six years I've headed up the blood drive for the Center."

The blood gathered from soldiers and other local citizens who took part will be used to assist the communities from as far away as eastern Pennsylvania and Delaware for both routine and emergency purposes. "The blood drawn here is used by a number of hospitals in the region, including Children's Hospital and St. Christopher's Hospital for Children in Philadelphia," noted Ogden.

Although McGuire Air Force Base has their own blood drives, this is the first time the center has had citizen-soldiers training at Fort Dix take part. "I honestly thought the post had closed down so this is a very welcome donation to our community and I hope this is not a one time deal, but the beginning of a new relationship between those training at Fort Dix and the American Red Cross blood donation program."

New Jersey native Staff Sgt. Thomas Perez, a Civil Affairs

Instructor and Iraq Veteran, took part in the blood drive and noted "this is another way for us to give back to the community that has supported us so strongly for the past several years."

Over 100 Civil Affairs citizen-soldiers from throughout the Army Reserve have been attending Advanced, Basic Non-Commissioned Officers course and the 38B Civil Affairs MOS course at Fort Dix. Many will be deploying in support of the Global War on Terrorism to Iraq and Afghanistan.

Civil Affairs is a branch of the Army Reserve that utilizes a soldier's civilian skills to help rebuild civilian infrastructure and services in areas ravaged by war and disaster. Headquartered at Fort Bragg, North Carolina under command of the United States Army Civil Affairs and Psychological Operations (PSYOP) Command,

Civil Affairs and PSYOP soldiers are some of the highest in demand from the reserve components and have reserve units in nearly every state of the union.



courtesy photo

**THE GIFT OF LIFE** - Red Cross volunteer Theresa Andres prepares Sgt. 1st Class William Rheinhardt of Vancouver, Washington for his donation to the blood drive conducted at Deborah Heart and Lung Center June 23.



Wayne Cook

## Donations for good deeds

Members of the Main Chapel's three congregations generously donated \$2,570.57 to the Soldiers Wounded in Action Program, a designated offering to the Chief of Chaplains Fund, June 8. Chapels throughout the Army will all participate in the designated offering and the monies will be combined to help this worthwhile program. Representing the chapel and the three congregations in the photo are - from left, Chap. (Col.) Larry Biederman, installation chaplain, Hilda Dreyer, Catholic congregation, George Waters, Protestant congregation, Stevon Bamberg, Gospel congregation, and Master Sgt. Anthony Pamplin, chapel staff NCOIC and chapel funds manager. The check will be mailed off right away to the Chief of Chaplains office where it can begin to make an immediate impact on behalf of wounded Soldiers.

## Chaplains' Corner

**Master Sgt. Anthony Pamplin**  
Installation Chapel NCOIC

When David and his men came to Ziklag, they found it destroyed by fire and their wives, sons and daughters taken captive. So David and his men wept aloud until they had no strength left to weep. David's two wives had been captured - Abinoam of Jezreel and Abigail, the widow of Nabal of Carmel. David was greatly distressed because the men were talking of stoning him. Each man was bitter in spirit because of his sons and daughters. But David found strength in the Lord his God. 1 Samuel 30:3-6

It's good to have family, friends and co-workers around to cheer you up when you're down and about to give up. What do you do when there is no one around to give you the encouragement you need to get you through today?

Encouragement has to come from the inside. Let's face it, sometimes the walls come tumbling down. What happens next? Your attitude will make

the difference.

You may become discouraged and distracted, but stay focused. When your mind is telling you it's not worth it, and you are about to quit and your circumstances seem too difficult for you to handle, deep down inside, your spirit has to have the resolve that says, "I

**Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding.**  
Proverbs 3:5

refuse to quit".

That is what David had to do. His family was killed, his city was destroyed, and his own people were against him. David found the strength to encourage himself in the Lord. How did David do it? He remembered God's faithfulness and when he remembered the goodness of God, strength began to rise in his heart.

There are so many places you can see the hand of God at work. God woke you up today. Thank him for the miracle of life. Thank him for his goodness. Thank him for his faithfulness.

Focus on the fact that God

did not bring you this far to leave you now. Stir up your inner strength of hope. Stir up your inner strength of faith. Stir up your inner strength of love. Stir up your inner strength of peace.

Don't give up, don't quit, and don't throw in the towel.

Do you believe in your heart that God is with you? When you pray and read God's word, the Bible, you will rise higher and higher and live a victorious life filled with faith, purpose and direction.

Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make your paths straight. Proverbs 3:5-6



1st Lt. Antonia Greene, 72nd FA

## Honors given to troops

Sgt. 1st Class Gregory Alexander, 72nd Field Artillery Brigade, left, Sgt. 1st Class Milton Pate, 1/309 TSBn, and Spec. Zachary Rendin, 2/315TSBn pose with their latest awards, presented to them at the Brigade Town Hall Meeting held June 12 at the Timmermann Center. Alexander was recognized for being named the 72nd Field Artillery Brigade NCO of the Year and Rendin was named the Brigade's Soldier of the Year. In addition to Army Commendation Medals, they received calvary sabers in recognition of excellence. Alexander and Pate were also inducted into the sergeant Audie Murphy Club. This club is a means of recognizing NCOs who have contributed significantly to the development of a professional NCO corps and combat ready Army.

**WDIX Channel 2**  
24/7 information

# MILITARY MATTERS

## Violence in Iraq hits four-year low



Spc. Christa Martin

Iraqi army soldiers prepare to engage targets at a shoot house during a weeklong advanced training course on Nifty Range in Mosul, Iraq, as American trainers offer guidance.

## Attacks in Iraq down 80 percent since June 2007, general reports

John J. Krugel  
American Forces Press Service

WASHINGTON, June 23, 2008 — The number of weekly attacks in Iraq has dropped from about 1,200 a week in June 2007 to about 200 a week now, the commander of the tactical unit responsible for command and control of operations in Iraq said today.

Mirroring this reduction in violence has been a 70 percent decrease in roadside-bomb attacks and an 85 percent spike in the number of weapons caches coalition forces have found over the past year, Army Lt. Gen. Lloyd J. Austin III, commander of Multinational Corps Iraq, told reporters via satellite from Baghdad at a Pentagon news conference.

"I attribute most of these hard-fought gains in security to

a few key factors: our coalition forces aggressively pursuing the enemy, the improving capability of the Iraqi security forces, and the Iraqi people participating in the rebuilding process of Iraq," he said.

But the general tempered his optimism, characterizing security improvements as fragile gains that coalition troops are attempting to solidify as they build the capabilities of their Iraqi counterparts.

"While the improved security is a great achievement, we clearly understand that our progress is fragile, and we continue to work to make this progress irreversible," he said.

The general praised coalition troops for having al-Qaida "on its heels," yet he identified the organization as the "primary threat" remaining in Iraq. The terrorist group yesterday launched an attack in Baqouba that killed at least 15 people, including several police offi-

cers, and wounded dozens of others.

"Even though we assess that they are on the run, they are still capable of launching spectacular attacks," Austin said, noting yesterday's bombing in the Diyala province city.

Austin cited recent operations in Mosul, Iraq's second-largest city, as examples of the increasing capabilities and effectiveness of Iraq's security forces. Combined forces in the Ninevah province city over the past four days detained 16 suspects, including four high-ranking al-Qaida operatives.

"We continue to aggressively pursue al-Qaida and to take away their safe havens and to close off all their escape routes when they try to flee," he said.

Austin, who assumed command of Multinational Corps Iraq in February, said coalition forces will continue helping to develop Iraq's national security operators under his leadership.

"I'm absolutely confident, based on the indicators from the last few months, that they'll continue to make significant improvements, and we will be with them, side by side, as they progress," he said.

Though they have made significant progress, Iraqi security forces in many instances are not yet prepared to take over day-to-day operations, thereby allowing coalition troops to assume an overwatch role, the general said.

Before Iraqi forces become autonomous, he said, they need to develop "combat enablers" with the capability of calling in and integrating fire support into formation. They also be capable of supporting themselves logistically, and begin using their own surveillance and reconnaissance to cull intelligence, then plan their own operations, the general said.

"We are working hand in hand with our coalition partners in all parts of the country," he said. As Iraqi security forces mature in the midst of combating al-Qaida and Iranian-backed "special groups," they meanwhile are gaining the support and confidence of Iraqi citizens, the general said. The majority of Iraqis have rescinded allegiance to extremism, he added, praising the efforts of civilian security groups like the

## Local security groups fight crime, al-Qaida

Fred W. Baker III  
American Forces Press Service

WASHINGTON, June 23, 2008 — Violence in Iraq dropped in May to its lowest level in four years, according to a Defense Department report released to Congress today.

The quarterly report, required by Congress, measured progress in the country in March through May of this year.

The report highlighted that all major violent indicators dropped during the reporting period by as much as 80 percent.

"Coalition and Iraqi forces' operations against al-Qaida in Iraq have degraded its ability to attack and terrorize the population," the report reads.

The report concedes, though, that al-Qaida still remains a major threat, and that the recent progress is still "fragile."

"Civilian deaths in May dropped to a two-year low. The report suggests that even the high-profile bombings that drove up civilian deaths in April are having less of an effect at inciting sectarian violence than other such attacks in the past.

The report hails the emergence of the Sons of Iraq, local security groups made up of citizens, as the most significant development in the past 18 months in Iraq.

More than 100,000 Iraqi citizens now help to provide security for their towns, villages and neighborhoods, and the program has spread from primarily a Sunni initiative to Shia and mixed communities as well.

The report also credits the Iraqi government's success at fighting illegal militias and Iranian-backed groups with contributing to lower levels of violence.

The government's efforts in fighting the illegal militias have reinforced a greater public rejection of the militias, according to the report.

"Overall, the communal struggle for power and resources is becoming less violent," according to the report.

"Many Iraqis are now settling their differences through debate and the political process, rather than open conflict."

Iraqi security forces have continued to improve, although

**Stabilization and the drop in violence have had many side effects in the country -- for instance, the Iraqi economy is expected to grow by 7 percent this year.**

at varying rates. The report cites Iraqi Prime Minister Nouri al-Maliki's military drive in Basra as generating a positive response from all Iraqi communities.

"Despite some initial difficulties and the uneven performance of local police, Iraqi forces won the support of most Basrawis and a greater share of the Iraqi population," the report reads.

The report also notes that in many areas Iraqi forces are operating independently, or side-by-side with coalition forces, and that the Iraqi government is assuming a broader ownership of its security programs.

"These units consistently demonstrate a high level of proficiency in counterinsurgency operations against [al-Qaida in Iraq] and other extremist groups," the report reads.

Iraq's support of extremist groups in Iraq is now the country's biggest security challenge, according to the report.

"Despite promises to the Iraqi government to the contrary, Iraq continues to fund, train, arm, and guide [Jaysh al-Mahdi] specialist groups and other Shia extremist organizations," the report says.

Iraqi forces have uncovered "massive" weapons caches and ammunition of Iranian origin, some manufactured as recently as this year, the report notes.

Other assertions in the report include:

- Expanded oil revenues are sufficient to support development and reconciliation programs;
- The Iraqi economy is expected to grow by 7 percent this year;
- Oil production is expected to increase by 10 percent this year;
- Lower inflation has boosted Iraqi purchasing power and provided a more stable environment for private sector development. Core inflation dropped to 12 percent in 2007, down from 32 percent in 2006.
- Capital budget execution continues to improve, but spending at all levels of government is still hampered by bureaucracy, corruption and sectarian division;
- Iraqis have seen an increase in the delivery of many of the essential services such as electricity, water, sanitation and health care, but overall Iraqi satisfaction with delivery of those services remains low.

# Mentor earns award for recruiting efforts



Lisa Evans

**MEGA MENTOR** - Sharon Gardner, School Liaison, presents a Mentor Recognition Award to Air Force Master Sgt. Michael Blair for his recruitment of mentors for at-risk middle school students. The plaque was presented on June 18 at The Club on McGuire Air Force Base.

**Lisa Evans**  
Public Affairs Staff

Air Force Master Sgt. Michael Blair, was honored with recognition for his efforts in recruiting mentors for Helen A. Fort Middle School, June 18 at the Club on McGuire Air Force Base.

Sharon Gardner, School Liaison with Fort Dix, presented a plaque to Blair for recruit-

ing 23 mentors from the 305th Medical Group and 11 mentors from the Air Mobility Operations Squad.

Blair said his biggest role in being a mentor to an at-risk student is simply being a friend.

Speaking of the student he has been mentoring during the past school year, Blair said, "He definitely trusts me because he talks about his hobbies and his family and things

going on in his life."

Many at-risk students have problems with grades and behavior. Mentors help students in overcoming some of these situations. This can translate into a desire for the students to raise grades and change behaviors.

Blair has been instrumental in recruiting mentors who can meet the goals, and help students do better in school and in their home lives.

## MPs have banner day



Wayne Cook

**HANGING TOUGH** - Capt. Eric Sharyer, commander, 40th Military Police Company, Los Alamitos, California National Guard, and 1st Sgt. Gerardo Salinas prepare to hoist the units Yellow Banner over Infantry Park during a ceremony June 19. The 171 Soldier-strong company completed training at Fort Dix and is going to Iraq in support of the Global War on Terrorism.

## All vol force

*(continued from page 1)*  
only one-eighth of the force re-enlisted, leaving an average of less than 20 percent with more than a few years of service, Carr said.

"Although, the [draft-era] force was valiant, they didn't have the attributes of the all-volunteer force," he said. "Frankly, today's force is a lot more seasoned, experienced

and smarter."

For the first time, the all-volunteer military has been taken to war for a protracted period of time, he said. Considering the current endeavors in Iraq and Afghanistan, Carr reflected on performance and retention concerns senior leaders had expressed.

"There were concerns about how today's fight would affect

retention, and yet, retention has been as strong as any period in our history," he said. "Volunteers want to serve; their performance is strong, and their discipline is high."

Their choice to become members of the armed forces "speaks volumes for the dedication and loyalty of our nation and its volunteers," Carr added.



Wayne Cook

## Giving to a good cause

Roberto Carrera, Grand Knight of the Saint Joseph's Knights of Columbus Council 10994 of Fort Dix presented Joan Cole, director of Army Community Services, a check on June 24. The money will be used to support Soldiers and families in need.

**Volunteers are needed**

for

**Fort Dix  
Special  
Observances  
Committees**

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

For more information call Denise Horton at 562-4011

# Announcements

## Cinema Schedule

754-5139  
**McGuire Air Force Base**

**Friday, June 27 @ 7:30 p.m.**

**The Strangers** - Liv Tyler, Scott Speedman, Gemma Ward, Kip Weeks, Laura Margolis, Glenn Howerton. A terrifying suspense thriller about a couple (Liv Tyler and Scott Speedman) in a remote suburban house who are targeted by three dangerous masked strangers. The resulting clashes force the couple to go well beyond what they thought themselves capable of in order to survive.

**MPAA Rating: R - violence/terror and language**

Run time: 85 minutes

**Saturday, June 28 @ 7:30 p.m.**

**The Chronicles of Narnia: Prince of Caspian** - George Henley, Skandar Keynes, William Moseley, Anna Popplewell, Sergio Castellitto, Ben Barnes. One year later, the kings and queens of Narnia find themselves back in that faraway wondrous realm, only to discover that more than 1,300 years have passed in Narnian time. During their absence, the Golden Age of Narnia has become extinct and Narnia has been conquered by the Telmarines and is now under the control of the evil King Miraz, who rules the land without mercy. The four children will soon meet a curious new character: Narnia's rightful heir to the throne, the young Prince Caspian, who has been forced into hiding, as his uncle Miraz plots to kill him in order to place his own newborn son on the throne. With the help of the kindly dwarf, a courageous talking mouse named Reepicheep, a badger named Trufflehunter and a Black Dwarf, Nikabrik, the Narnians—led by the mighty knights Peter and Caspian—embark on a remarkable journey to find Aslan, rescue Narnia from Miraz's tyrannical hold, and restore magic and glory to the land.

**MPAA Rating: PG - epic battle action and violence**  
Run time: 144 minutes

## Future Features...

**Sex and the City**  
Friday, July 4 @ 7:30 p.m.  
R, 140 minutes

**The Chronicles of Narnia Prince Caspian**  
Saturday, July 5 @ 7:30 p.m.  
PG, 144 minutes

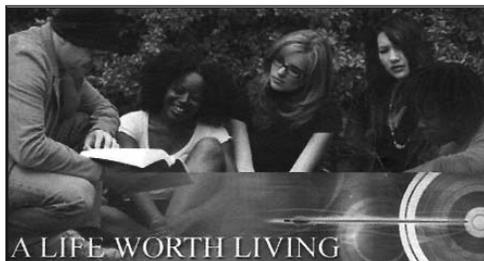
## Chapel Services

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



## A LIFE WORTH LIVING

### An Official Follow-up to the Alpha Course

Fort Dix Main Chapel  
Starting Wednesday, July 2 at 7 p.m.

A Life Worth Living is a nine-week course based on the book of Philippians.

Each talk explains how it is possible to live the Christian life positively, practically and joyfully.

No attendance fees.  
Dinner and dessert provided at 6:30 p.m.

Call Thuan Domski at (609) 893-7627 or Chaplain Raub at (609) 562-2349/2020 or email allen.j.raub@us.army.mil

For more information about Alpha, visit [www.alphausa.org](http://www.alphausa.org)

## 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., on Summer Break. Will resume in September.  
**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 Hours of Operation

Java Cafe - Monday-Friday 7 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.  
Comp. Lab - Monday & Tuesday 7 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.  
Wednesday - Friday 7 a.m. - 10 p.m.  
Saturday noon - 10 p.m.  
Sunday 10 a.m. - 6 p.m.  
Lunch Served Tuesday - Friday 11 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.  
Saturday - Monday Closed  
Bar Hours Wednesday 5 - 10 p.m.  
Thursday - Saturday 6 - 10 p.m.  
Sunday - Tuesday Closed

Still not sure what to do with the children this summer? Fort Dix Child & Youth Services has Summer Fun Camp for children grades 1-8. Camp includes breakfast, lunch, weekly field trips and MUCH MORE! Call 562-4702 to register your child today.

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

### OUTDOOR RECREATION Bldg. 6045

**June 28** - Bring the whole family out and spend the day with Outdoor Recreation on this section of the "lazy" Delaware River. Bring your old sneakers or water shoes, swim suit, sunscreen, waterproof camera for memories and a beach ball to knock around while floating down the river and enjoy a relaxing day in the sun. Featuring the Famous River Hot Dog Man since 1987, you will receive a voucher for BBQ lunch so there's no need to bring cash on the river. Trip leaves ODR at 8 a.m. Must be pre-registered.

**John Mann Park Summer Hours begin Wednesday June 25**

Wednesday thru Thursday 1 to 7 p.m.  
Friday thru Sunday 1 to 8 p.m.  
Mondays and Tuesdays Closed

**July 4 - 1 to 6 p.m.**

**Range 14 is closed July 4.**

For more information call 562-6667

### ARTS & CRAFTS Bldg. 6039

**Adult Introductory Drawing and Painting Course** - Explore landscape, still-life, and portrait

drawing. You will work with various drawing and paint media including pencil, charcoal, chalk/oil pastels, acrylic and watercolor paint. It will be a great way to develop previous art skills or learn new ones! \$30 registration fee plus materials. **July 3 to Aug 7, Thursdays 6:30 to 8:30 p.m.** (6-week course)

**\*Framing Qualification Class** - Get qualified to use this great facility and equipment! You will complete one piece as you learn to operate the equipment. You are required to bring something in to frame such as an 8 x 10 photo or certificate. All materials are available at the frame shop which will be purchased at the end of class. **Wednesday, July 2, 6:45 p.m.** (Pre-registration fee of \$10 is required prior to class. Materials not included.)

**\*Kids Introductory Drawing & Painting Course** Ages 6 & up - As it heats up outside, the young ones can "chill out" at Arts and Crafts while learning how to draw and paint! They will enjoy 6 weeks of creativity while exploring various drawing methods and media which include: scratchboard, pencil, cray-pas, chalk pastels, acrylic and watercolor paint. **July 5 to August 9 Saturdays 2:30-4:00 p.m.** (6-week course) \$40

**\*Project Runway** - Calling all girls ages 11-14. Create your own style and add new dimension to your wardrobe at our own sewing summer fashion class. You will learn how to use a sewing machine, and add trims and "bling" to your clothing, develop a style all your own with the colors you like best. Wait until you see what we do with a pair of shorts or jeans and a new shirt! Bring these to the first class. Friday, invite your friends and family for a fashion show and refreshments in the gallery. Class is limited to the first 6 fashion designers. Sign up now sew you don't miss out! Pick up a supply list when you register. **July 8 to 11, noon to 2:00 p.m.** \$45.

**\*Krafty Birthdays** - Arts & Crafts offers Krafty Birthday Parties! Parties include up to two 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.

**\*Contemporary Ceramics & Mosaic Studio** - The Contemporary Ceramics Studio offers a large selection of bisque pieces to choose from to decorate and paint.

All finished pieces are food, microwave, oven, freezer, and dishwasher safe. We have lots of idea books, traceable designs, tools, and an experienced staff to help you create a finished piece you will love. Mosaics are a great way to express yourself with colorful glass. From mirrors to wall plaques, we have many items to make as gifts or add pizzazz to your home decor. Just come in, pick out your piece, and we will help you with the rest. There is no time limit on completing your project, so you can relax and enjoy our friendly, creative atmosphere for as long as you like!

**\*NEW! Sony Picture Station** - Do it yourself instant, high quality prints are easy to create and affordable too. Sizes are available from wallets to 8" x 10".

Personalize your prints with wording, borders, picture collages, scrapbook pages, cards, calendars, and more. Just slip in the card from your digital camera, or a photo CD, and you're ready to print! Scan some old photos and burn them onto a CD, or just copy onto a CD from your memory card. This machine does it all!

**\*CREATE-A-CRITTER** - Adorable Critters to stuff yourself! It's easy & fun! Choose from an assortment of Critters: Bears, Puppies, Unicorns, Frogs, Tigers and a whole lot more! You can even add an outfit!

Create your own designs for T-shirts & canvas backpacks. Stop in today and have tons of fun stuffing your very own plush animal or you can take one home to stuff or give as a gift. Critter Birthday Parties also available.

### AQUATIC CENTER Indoor Pool

Hydro Aerobics Mondays 5:30 to 8:30 p.m., Wednesdays 9 to 10 a.m. & Sat. 10:30-11:30 a.m. in the indoor pool. The Outdoor Pool is open Sat. & Sun. Noon to 6 p.m.

Longfellow's WHALE Tales for Grades K thru 6 American Red Cross Water Safety Classroom Session  
Longfellow's WHALE Tales provides easy-to-follow information to help children learn safe behavior in, on and around the water.

Classes are \$10 per child and will be held on **June 28 and July 12 at 10 a.m.** in the solarium at the Indoor Pool. Classes are one hour and no swimming required.

Please call and reserve a date. All reservations and inquiries can be made by calling 562-2808 or 562-6396. (Participants must have access to Post)

Book a party any day at the Indoor Pool, sign up for sign lessons, or maybe a safety class at the Indoor Pool. Both classes will fill fast so don't hesitate. Call 562-2808 for prices and availability.

### RECREATION CENTER Bldg. 5905 (Military Only)

Monday thru Friday.....4 to 10 p.m.  
Saturday and Sunday.....12 to 10 p.m.

**Gold Medal Boxing Cup (10 to 12 bouts)** coming to the Griffith Field House Friday, July 18. U.S. Marine Corp Boxing Team vs. Muhammad Ali Boxing Club. Special guest appearance by Smokin' Joe Fraizer, an Olympic Gold Medalist and former undisputed heavy-weight champion of the world. Admission is \$5 and is open to the public. Doors open at 5 p.m. with the matches starting at 6:30 p.m. Any inquiries can be called to 609-562-4888.

## ACS

562-2767

Bldg. 5201 Maryland Avenue

Friday, June 27

**AFTB Level 1**

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

Bldg. 5201, ACS

**International Spouse Group**

11:45 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Bldg. 5201, ACS

Tuesday, July 1

**Family Readiness Group/Rear Detachment Commander Training**

10 a.m.

Room 130, JRC

Wednesday, July 2

**Resume Writing Training for Military and Civilians**

11 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Bldg. 5201, ACS

**Art Therapy**

Ages 4 to 8, 4:30 to 5:30 p.m.

Ages 9 to 13, 5:30 to 6:30 p.m.

Bldg. 5201, ACS

## 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, June 27

**Hip Hop Aerobics**

4 to 5 p.m.

**Cooking 101**

5 to 6 p.m.

Saturday, June 28

**Cooking Project, Making Homemade Cracker Jacks**

2 to 3 p.m.

Monday, June 30

CLOSED

Tuesday, July 1

**Wood Burning Craft**

3:45 to 5 p.m.

Wednesday, July 2

**Triple Play with Mr. Jacob**

4:45 - 5:45 p.m.

Thursday, July 3

**Jewelry Making**

3 to 4 p.m.

**FORT DIX WANTS YOU**

**TO BE A VOLUNTEER**

call 562-2767

**United Communities Housing Information**  
Leasing Office - 723-4290  
Maintenance Office - 724-0500  
Maintenance Scheduling, Progress, and Trash Concerns - 724-0550  
**Fort Dix/McGuire Residential Refuse Collection Schedule**

**MONDAY**  
McGuire AFB  
3800's & 3900's

**TUESDAY**  
All of Fort Dix

**THURSDAY**  
McGuire AFB  
4000'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**  
YARD AND FLOWER GARDEN WASTE IS PICKED UP EVERY MONDAY AND TUESDAY.

# New recruits can aid in enlisting tasks

Elizabeth M. Lorge  
Army News Service

WASHINGTON, June 20, 2008—Active-duty enlisted Soldiers and future Soldiers in the Delayed Entry Program can now serve as assistant recruiters and earn extra money in their off-duty hours. The Army Recruiter Assistance Program, which became effective Monday, will pay these Soldiers \$1,000 when a recruit they refer enlists and another \$1,000 when that recruit ships to basic combat training. That's often months sooner than the bonuses all Soldiers, reserve-component and retired, and Department of the Army Civilians, are eligible to receive under the \$2,000 referral program. Under the S2K program, these bonuses, also in payments of \$1,000, are not available until the recruit starts basic training, and then completes advanced individual training. Soldiers can participate in both recruit-

ing programs, but not by referring the same prospect twice, officials said. "A Soldier is kind of like a walking billboard," said Al Green, the chief of the Recruiting Policy Branch at the Office of the Deputy Chief of Staff for G-1 (Personnel). "He has a big impact because people trust Soldiers...So if this Soldier is telling me how the Army works for him, he's a living testament of how the Army works. He can address and overcome some objections or concerns that a prospect would have, so once he gets to the recruiter, he probably has his mind made up." In addition to actually referring people, Soldiers in the ARAP program are expected to spend time with potential recruits, encourage them and answer any questions they might have about the Army. According to Green, Soldiers need to go with their prospects to see recruiters, and should attend Delayed Entry Program meetings with them after they enlist.

"You are walking this application through this process, from the day he joins until he ships, because if you do that, you probably will get him to ship," said Green. "There is a little bit more work involved (than the S2K program), but I think one of the things that would enhance participation would be the timeliness of pay. Some individuals, depending on their specialty, can't get into basic training for seven or eight months because of space availability and things of that nature...it has an impact. The bottom line is that they will get \$1,000 immediately." To be eligible for the program, Soldiers also must complete training about the basics of screening individuals to determine their eligibility, and need the approval of their unit commander. Soldiers can only participate in A-RAP when they are off-duty, because they are technically working for a private contractor to provide recruiting assistance, and they can't wear a uniform or use government resources. For

legal reasons, commissioned officers and warrant officers cannot participate in A-RAP, although they are still eligible for the S2K program. Average Soldiers, Green said, can make a real difference to the Army and its recruiting goals through programs like A-RAP, because they are telling the Army story in a way that will resonate much deeper than recruiters working on their own. He also added that the participation of future Soldiers in the delayed entry program is key because they can encourage their former classmates and other friends who may still be deciding what to do with their lives. In turn, that future Soldier may have more friends to serve with. For additional information or to apply, visit <http://www.2k.army.mil/ar/myrap.htm>. The Army Reserve has a similar recruiting assistance program called AR-RAP and the National Guard has G-RAP.



Elizabeth M. Lorge

**NEW RECRUITS - Future Soldiers are sworn into the Army by Gen. George W. Casey Jr., chief of staff of the Army, during celebrations on June 13.**

The United States Army, Fort Dix  
INVITES Public Comment  
On the Final Proposed Remediation Plan for the  
Pesticide Control Shop  
Fort Dix, New Jersey

Please Come to Our  
PUBLIC MEETING  
Thursday, July 17, 2008  
an information/poster session at  
6:00PM will be followed by a public meeting at  
7:00 p.m.  
New Hanover Township Meeting Hall

PURPOSE: (1) Identify the Soil Remedial Action as the preferred remedy; (2) serve as a companion document to the Remedial Investigation (RI) and Feasibility Study (FS) Reports; and (3) solicit public involvement in determining the acceptability of Soil Remedial Action as a recommended remedy

THE 30-DAY PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD  
IS FROM  
JUNE 23 UNTIL JULY 23, 2008  
Written Comments May Be Submitted to the  
Following:

Mr. Ken Smith  
Department of the Army  
Environmental/ Natural Resource Division  
Building 5317, Snyder Lane  
Fort Dix, New Jersey 08640-5501  
Phone: (609) 562-2189  
Email: Ken.D.Smith@us.army.mil

FOR MORE INFORMATION: You can review the Final Proposed Plan, as well as other environmental documents at the following Information Repository:

Burlington County Library, Mount Holly Branch  
- 307 High Street, Mt. Holly, N.J.

The United States Army, Fort Dix  
INVITES Public Comment  
On the Final Proposed Plan for the  
Completed Remediation of the  
Fire Tank Training Area  
Fort Dix, New Jersey

Please Come to Our  
PUBLIC MEETING  
Thursday, July 17, 2008  
an information/poster session at  
6:00PM will be followed by a presentation at  
7:00 p.m.  
New Hanover Township Meeting Hall

PURPOSE: (1) Identify the No Further Action as the preferred remedy; (2) serve as a companion document to the Remedial Investigation (RI) and RI Addendum Reports; and (3) solicit public involvement in determining the acceptability of a No Further Action as a recommended remedy

THE 30-DAY PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD  
IS FROM  
JULY 7 UNTIL AUGUST 6, 2008  
Written Comments May Be Submitted to the  
Following:

Mr. Ken Smith  
Department of the Army  
Environmental/ Natural Resource Division  
Building 5317, Snyder Lane  
Fort Dix, New Jersey 08640-5501  
Phone: (609) 562-2189  
Email: Ken.D.Smith@us.army.mil

FOR MORE INFORMATION: You can review the Final Proposed Plan, as well as other environmental documents at the following Information Repository:

Burlington County Library, Mount Holly Branch  
- 307 High Street, Mt. Holly, N.J.

EPIC-8 LANDFILL, FORT DIX,  
NEW JERSEY  
NOTIFICATION OF FIVE-YEAR  
REVIEW

This public notice is to inform the community of the Army's intent to conduct a five-year review of the remedy selected for the EPIC-8 Landfill at Fort Dix in Burlington County, New Jersey. The purpose of the five-year review is to determine whether the selected remedy implemented for the site continues to be protective of human health and the environment. Institutional Controls were the selected remedy for the EPIC-8 Landfill, as wastes were left in place.

The public is invited to examine the five-year review report for a 30-day comment period beginning in September 2008. A copy of the five-year review report will be available at the Pemberton Library, which is located at the following address:

Pemberton Library  
16 Broadway  
Browns Mills, NJ 08015

Further information and/or a copy of the report can be obtained by contacting Mr. Bill Lewendoski at the US Army Fort Dix Environmental Division, ATTN: IMNE-DIX-PWE, Building 5317, Fort Dix, New Jersey 08640-5501. Telephone: (609) 562-2203, Telefax: (609) 562-5345. Email: [william.lewendoski@us.army.mil](mailto:william.lewendoski@us.army.mil). The scheduled completion date for the five-year review is anticipated to be September 30, 2008.

# Olympians take to city streets

Liz Miklya  
Army News Service

NEW YORK, June 19, 2008 — Army athletes hosted a fitness challenge Wednesday at the Times Square Recruiting Station, kicking off the road to the 2008 Summer Olympic Games in Beijing.

The team of 11 Soldiers competed against Americans and tourists from around the world in contests of speed, strength and endurance. The Olympians faced off with the public in race-walking, push-up and jump-rope challenges.

The event featured three-time Olympian Staff Sgt. Libby Callahan, a 23-year U.S. Army Reserve Soldier, who will earn the distinction of the oldest U.S. female Olympian ever to compete at age 36. She stands a chance of becoming the oldest female Olympic medalist ever at the Summer Games.

"It's an honor to represent the country I am proud to serve," said Callahan, who will compete in the women's sports

pistol event at the Summer Games. "The Army has not only provided me with the training and opportunities to succeed, it has given me the encouragement I need to go for the gold at the Olympics," she said.

U.S. Army Marksman Maj. Michael Anti was also recognized at the event. Anti will make his fourth Olympic appearance at the Beijing Games. After earning a silver medal in the prone rifle event at the 2004 Games, Anti purchased a silver Corvette. He said his goal is to upgrade to a new gold model to match the medal he hopes to earn at the 2008 Games.

Other Soldier-athletes representing the U.S. Olympic team at the event included:

- Staff Sgt. Dremiel Byers - Wrestling
- Sgt. 1st Class Christopher Downs - Boxing
- 1st Lt. Nathaniel Garcia - Track and Field
- Sgt. John Nunn - Race Walking
- Sgt. 1st Class Jason Parker - Air Rifle and Three-

Position Rifle

- Sgt. 1st Class Daryl Szarenski - Men's 50-Meter Free Pistol
- Pfc. Vincent Hancock - Skeet
- Spe. Jeffrey Holguin - Double Trap
- Spe. Walton Glenn Eller III - Double Trap

"We coach elite-level athletes who already have a high level of discipline from their Army experience," said Capt. Dominic Black, commander of the Army's World Class Athlete Program.

The Army's WCAP is comprised of Soldier-athletes in a variety of sports who demonstrate the potential to qualify for the U.S. Olympic Team. Soldiers who apply to the program must have recently attained a high national ranking or placed high at a major national or international event. Soldiers in the WCAP have earned 131 Olympic medals since 1948.

To learn more about the U.S. Army athletes and training, visit [www.armyathletesolympians.com](http://www.armyathletesolympians.com).



courtesy photo

**SPEED RACER** - Olympic race-walker Sgt. John Nunn competes here against a young boy in the Times Square Fitness Challenge.



photos by Staff Sgt. Adam Navarro, 72nd FA

## Successful swingers

Renegades batter Staff Sgt. Samuel Gonzalez, of the 1/309TH Training Support Battalion, 72nd Field Artillery Bde., left, smacks a line drive for a base hit, during the Fort Dix Preseason Tournament held June 24. Rob "Polar Bear" Hubbell, below, top row, second from the right, hit a line drive with the bases loaded, propelling FCI to victory during the 2008 Ft Dix, Spring Softball Tournament held at the Fort Dix main soft ball field June 25. FCI defeated Coffee City 21-20 in the extra-innings slug fest.



# Wrestling lauds Army FMWR leader

Tim Hippis  
Army News Service

LAS VEGAS, June 25, 2008 - Van Stokes has been named Man of the Year by USA Wrestling, the national governing body for amateur wrestling in the United States.

Stokes, the director of Recreation and deputy director of Families, Morale, Welfare and Recreation at Fort Campbell, Ky., serves as the second vice president of USA Wrestling and represents the Armed Forces on their Board of Directors.

"I am deeply honored and humbled to receive this recognition," Stokes said. "I am truly grateful for all of the opportunities I have had to work with the dedicated leaders, coaches, athletes and volunteers in this organization. USA Wrestling embodies what is best about the Olympic spirit."

He received the award June 14 at the 2008 U.S. Olympic Team Trials for Wrestling at the University of Nevada Las Vegas' Thomas & Mack Center.

"This award is the highest honor we give within USA Wrestling," said Gary Abbott, USA Wrestling's director of communications. "It covers the entire gamut of the sport - from leadership to any other area

where someone can make a major impact. Van Stokes has consistently been one of our strongest leaders and one of the most committed volunteers we have.

"He makes a difference in wrestling on a daily basis and we're very proud to recognize all he's done for us."

Stokes, of Clarkesville, Tenn., currently is serving his second term as second vice president of USA Wrestling. He has also served two terms as the organization's treasurer. He has been active on numerous USA Wrestling standing committees, including the executive committee, finance committee, coaches' selection committee for all three styles (Greco-Roman, freestyle and women's freestyle).

He most recently chaired the Greco-Roman coaches' selection committee.

Stokes has served in leadership positions on international competitions throughout the world, including tournaments in Iran, Sicily, France, Croatia, Turkey, Russia and Cuba.

He also was the U.S. wrestling team leader at the 1995 Pan American Games in Argentina and the Conseil International du Sport Militaire's 2007 Military World Games in India.

Stokes began working as a

television sports announcer in 1990, covering different Olympic sports for ESPN, FOX, and other networks. He has handled numerous events for USA Wrestling, both for national television broadcasts and Internet webcasts, including

**Stokes began working as a television sports announcer in 1990, covering different Olympic sports for ESPN, FOX, and other networks. He has handled numerous events for USA Wrestling, both for national television broadcasts and Internet webcasts, including the 1995 World Championships and several U.S. National Championships.**

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At the 2008 U.S. Olympic Team Trials for Wrestling, Stokes teamed with TakeDown Wrestling Radio host Scott Sasber to call a live broadcast with audio and visuals for NBCOlympics.com. "I think the Olympic Trials is one of the most exciting events," Stokes said. "I was truly excited for (Staff Sgt.) Dremiel Byers, who has worked long and hard to earn the opportunity to represent the United States in the Olympic Games."

"I've watched Dremiel Byers for many years. I was in

Russia when he won his world championship in 2002 and last year when he won the bronze medal in the World Championships. He has earned this opportunity and I am truly excited for him."

Stokes was tickled to see

two-time Olympic medalist Rulon Gardner - for whom Byers served as a training partner at the 2003 Pan American Games in Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic, and the 2004 Olympic Games in Athens, Greece - hug and then interview Byers as a correspondent for MSNBC in Las Vegas.

"It was a full-blown experience for Dremiel Byers," Stokes said. "Wrestling is like a family. The respect that you saw between Dremiel Byers and (Spe.) Tim Taylor (also a member of the U.S. Army World Class Athlete Program) was even amplified when he had the opportunity to be interviewed by Rulon Gardner. It's

like a family, and these men have utmost respect for each other."

Stokes was an assistant producer for the World Wrestling Championships in 1995 and 2003, as well as the 1996 Olympic Games in Atlanta. He was responsible for assisting with the production of announcements, athlete presentations, medal ceremonies, music, message displays, and the overall presentation of events.

Stokes' first love as a teenager was baseball, but he was a three-year letterman at running back for Marietta College's football team in the NCAA Division III Ohio Athletic Conference from 1996 through 1997.

"But I really, really have a joy for calling Olympic-style wrestling," said Stokes, who never wrestled because his high school did not have a team.

Stokes served in the U.S. Marine Corps from 1970 through '72. He then earned a master's degree in sports administration at Ohio University. In 1976, he became the Army 5th Corps' Western Region Sports Coordinator in Bad Kreuznach, Germany.

His next stop was the USAREUR sports office in Heidelberg, where he spent three years.

"My nine years in Germany was a great experience," he said.

Since 1985, Stokes has been working for MWR at Fort Campbell. Along the way, he has made a lot of friends and won the respect of many coaches and athletes.

"It's an honor and a privilege to work in this arena," Stokes said. "It's great to see our military athletes make the Olympic teams. It's also very gratifying to see our military coaches play such a prominent role at the Olympic level."

Army Staff Sgt. Shon Lewis was a Greco-Roman coach for Team USA at the 2004 Olympics. Navy coach Rob Hermann was an Olympic coach in 1996 and 2000.

Marine Corps Maj. Jay Antonelli will serve as an Olympic coach for the third time in Beijing, where he will be joined by Air Force coach Rich Estrella.

"These athletes and coaches speak volumes about the Armed Forces' role in Greco-Roman wrestling," Stokes said.

"It is a great privilege to be involved in helping shape direction and sharpen focus for this national governing body. But this is not about me. This is about these athletes and this is about these coaches. I firmly, firmly believe that." Stokes added.