



Family Fun Fest rolls out good times at Fort Dix Youth Center. Story, more photos, page 4.

NEWSNOTES

Military Pre-Retirement set for Timmermann

The third Quarter Military Pre-Retirement Orientation (PRO) is scheduled for Tuesday, August 26 through Friday, August 29 in the Timmermann Conference Center, located on 8th Street and Pennsylvania Avenue. The PRO will begin each day at 8 a.m. and end at 4:30 p.m. Registration is required. To register, please call Retirement Services at (609) 562-2666.

Fort Dix opens doors to retirees Sept. 20

The Annual Fort Dix Retiree Appreciation Day (RAD) is scheduled for Saturday, Sept. 20. The 2008 RAD will be held in the Timmermann Conference Center, located on Eighth Street at Pennsylvania Avenue, Fort Dix, from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m., and all military retirees from all services are invited to attend this information filled morning.

The RAD luncheon will be held at Club Dix, on Alabama Avenue at 6th Street.

The entrée choices are Salmon Fillet, Roast Top Round of Beef and Roast Turkey. The cost per entrée is \$25. If you would like to attend the luncheon, send a check or money order, made payable to the Fort Dix Retiree Council, to SGM(Res) Norman Pallotta, 15 East Central Ave., Moorestown, NJ 08057. Payment must be received by Aug. 30.

Commissary posts Labor Day hours

The Fort Dix/McGuire AFB Commissary will be open Labor Day, Sept. 1, from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.

WEATHER

FRIDAY -- Clear and warm with sunny skies, a high of 84 and overnight low of 60 degrees.

SATURDAY -- Fair with daytime high of 83, breezy into late evening with overnight low of 64.

SUNDAY -- Cloudy, 15 percent chance of rain with a high of 86 and low of 64 degrees.

MONDAY -- Chance of thunderstorms and light rain, high of 82 and overnight low of 61 degrees.

TUESDAY -- Showers and a 30 percent chance of thunderstorms in morning, daytime high of 86 degrees and overnight low of 64.

WEDNESDAY -- Clear in morning with a high of 79 degrees, afternoon showers and overnight low of 63.

THURSDAY -- Partly cloudy, high of 82 degrees and low of 69.

Joint Base workload grows

Carolee Nisbet
Editor

The net result of the three-day Joint Base Workshop at Fort Dix Aug. 12 through 15 was – more work.

While the trio of installations and a team of moderators from the Office of the Secretary of Defense did hammer out the majority of the Memorandum of Agreement that will be the basis of the Joint Base, masses of accompanying documents are work in progress.

When completed, the documents

will present a broad overview of the three installations that will become the Joint Base, and a detailed accounting for every personnel slot, structure and piece of equipment for each service. This “as is” look at the installations is instrumental in formulating the plan for combined activity.

The MOA is the binding document for each Joint Base that describes the organization structure, resourcing, output levels, dispute resolution and other agreements developed between the components. The completed MOA is scheduled to be signed by the Component Vice Chiefs of Staff in mid-September.

“We had some definitive decisions from the Office of the Secretary of Defense,” said Steve Melly, Fort Dix deputy to the commander. “That helped us arrive at what’s moving, what’s staying. There were a few surprises, but we are a lot closer to a final product than we were at the start.”

Melly said crews from the installations worked all weekend and continue to work on final clean up of one of the massive documents that accompanies the MOA, the PB14, that tracks numbers, costs and funding streams for all operations.

The installation commanders expect the MOA and supporting documents to undergo great scrutiny through the Service chains on its way to final approval, and expect to stand by to explain or clarify positions as well as mold the next steps based on recommendations from those coordinating.

Decisions on personnel moves to the Joint Base will also allow Fort Dix to move ahead with personnel planning for the U.S. Army Support Activity Fort Dix, the organization that will handle mobilization and training missions.

1079th GSU ceremony set to case unit colors

Staff Sgt. Pascual Flores
Fort Dix PAO Staff / 1079th GSU

Soldiers of the 1079th Garrison Support Unit will gather at Fort Indiantown Gap Aug. 23 for their final formation as a unit. Lt. Col. Andrew A.R. Burns, commander, will address current and past members of the unit.

The unit’s colors will be cased during the traditional discontinuation ceremony.

Since Sept. 11, 2001, the 1079th has been a major asset to Fort Dix, providing administrative and logistical support for the mobilization of Soldiers for the War on Terrorism.

Approximately 30 Soldiers from the 1079th are serving with the Mobilization Readiness Battalion, some from the original mobilization of October 2001.

The discontinuation and casing of the colors is scheduled to begin at 11 a.m. and is expected to last one hour.

Guest speakers will be Maj. Gen. William Terpluk, commanding general, 77th Regional Readiness Command and former commander of the 1079th and retired Col. Philip Petter, who officially activated the unit at Fort Indiantown Gap in 1986.

Williams sees flipside of training

Sgt. Nicole Dykstra
72nd Field Artillery Brigade Public Affairs

On July 21, Col. Timothy R. Williams assumed command of the 72nd Field Artillery Training Support Brigade from Col. Michael Miklos in a ceremony at Fort George G. Meade, Md.

Williams, husband and father of four, is excited to be here. “There’s a lot of activity in the Fort Dix area,” he said. “There’s so much history here. My family and I are definitely looking forward to taking advantage of things to do and see.”

Initially, Williams, who was commissioned in 1984 as an infantry officer, wasn’t sure what to expect when he found where his new position would be. Then serving at Special Operations Command Central at MacDill Air Force Base, Fla. as the Director of Operations, he knew the prospect of assuming command of a brigade on a training post would be a significantly different challenge.

At SOCCENT, he helped oversee the planning of special operations

within the US Central Command’s area of responsibility, which is comprised of 27 countries, including Iraq, Iran, Afghanistan, Kuwait, and Saudi Arabia.

“It’s the total opposite end of the spectrum. There we were executing operations in theatre, and here we are preparing people to go into theatre to execute operations.”

The mission of the 72nd is to assess and provide pre-mobilization training assistance for Army Reserve and Army National Guard units within the area of responsibility and to conduct operations to enhance and improve individual and unit readiness for employment throughout the operational spectrum. This mission, and the mission of other training units, is one often underappreciated, said Williams. He admitted that before he arrived to take command, he wasn’t aware of all the work that goes into preparing units to deploy.

“It’s maybe not as glamorous. I guess, not as visible a contribution to national security as deploying, but it’s every bit as important.”



Col. Timothy Williams

capacity before, supervising the training of deploying Army Reserve and National Guard units will be a unique challenge, but he’s ready to learn, he said. Previously, he served as the Plans Officer at the Joint Readiness Training Center at Fort Polk, La.

Williams is pleased that the 72nd will soon be permanently a part of Fort Dix, rather than in a temporary Change of Station status, he said. The move will be official on Sept. 1.

“I don’t think the brigade has really been settled for quite some time, so it will be good to set down some roots and become a fixed part of the community here instead of just visiting,” he said.

He also looks forward to the upcoming Joint Mobilization Site that will encompass McGuire Air Force Base, Fort Dix and Naval Air Engineering Station Lakehurst. Eventually, the three facilities will evolve into a tri-service Joint Base.

“I don’t think we have enough joint interaction outside of combat,” said Williams, who commanded 3rd Battalion, 5th Special Forces Group (Airborne) as part of Operation Iraqi Freedom from 2003 to 2004. “And when it happens, it’s rarely at the lower levels. The challenges associated with this integration are going to pay off in the long run, because no service can do it by themselves.”

Williams looks forward to raising the high standard set before he arrived. “The 72nd is very highly thought of within the division,” he said with a smile. “Success for me would be leaving the brigade even better than I found it.”



Police drive home campaign: No parking on grass, fire lanes

Fort Dix DoD Police are charged with diverse duties as part of their mission.

Recently, DoD police have seen an increase in observational and telephone reports of violations of specific parking regulations. Grassy areas and fire lanes on the post are clearly marked as no parking zones. Lately, DoD Police have seen an upsurge of illegal parking in these areas.

Grassy areas are part of the ambiance and beautification of Fort Dix and maintenance is an ongoing and costly effort. Vehicle parking in these areas tends to degrade the environment and can, in fact, destroy the grass resulting in increased maintenance costs.

Fort Dix Police are responsible for ensuring that grass is not damaged by parking violators. Fort Dix regulation 190-5 Para. 2-12 (11) states that parking on lawns, seeded or grassy areas is a clear violation of

installation parking regulations.

Fire lanes are designed to allow emergency vehicles access to buildings in the event of an emergency. Fire and rescue, ambulance and other emergency vehicles are oversized, and if the fire lane is used as a parking area, emergency vehicles may not be able to reach a fire or medical emergency, potentially resulting in loss of life or property.

Fort Dix Police have been instructed to strictly monitor and enforce these parking restrictions and violators will be cited and subject to having their vehicle towed or impounded at the owner’s expense. This enforcement initiative includes military, POV and commercial vehicles. Please be aware of these restrictions and do not park in these areas.

(Information courtesy of DoD Police Sgt. Gregory Rodriguez)

Soldiers making the best of mess

Bill Kent
Eddie Hitzel's Restaurant
Magazine

There's a war on at Fort Dix, but it doesn't involve guns and ammo.

No, it's about burgers, hot dogs and saucy foods.

"We're within two miles of a Wawa and half a dozen fast food restaurants, pizzerias and diners," says Keith McRae, a former US Army sergeant first class who is now in charge of food operations at the largest military base in the Philadelphia region. "Our trainees are allowed to go off post to get whatever food they want, but we want our food to be as good, if not better, than whatever they can get outside, so they'll remain on post."

If, as Napoleon famously said, an army travels on its stomach, McRae is using food to get the reserve trainees at Fort Dix to stay put.

But not eat so much that they add pounds. To help reservists maintain their mandated body weight, every food item is augmented with its calorie, sodium and fat content.

On the menu posted inside the entrance to Dining Hall 5610, one can learn that a 2/3 cup breakfast serving of creamed ground beef contains 214 calories, 10 grams of fat, and 283 milligrams of sodium.

Put it on two slices of toast (146 calories, 5 grams of fat and 25 milligrams of sodium) and you get the infamous "s.o.s.," that helped the American general infantrymen win World War Two in Europe and the Pacific.

What you don't learn, unless you go into the kitchen, is that creamed beef at Fort Dix doesn't come from a can: it was made from scratch with butter, flour, cream and 85 percent lean USDA Choice ground beef supplied by Pocomo Foods of Stroudsburg, Pa.

"I can't speak for other military installations," McRae

says with pride, "but at Fort Dix, we're making and serving the best quality military food possible, and it's getting better."

Named for Major General John Adams Dix, a veteran of the war of 1812, Fort Dix occupies 11 square miles of New Jersey Pine Barrens along the northern edge of Burlington County. Begun 91 years ago as a basic training facility for the Army, it is now a training and staging area for numerous divisions of the armed forces reserves, some of whom do travel foreign destinations from neighboring McGuire Air Force Base.

Last year, Fort Dix fed 1,820,650 members of eleven reserve divisions at a cost of \$3.9 million. Most of these reservists remained on post for two full weeks, during which they were permitted to eat three full meals a day. Some of those meals were prepackaged rations consumed on field exercises but the majority were officers with enlisted men who dined in any of eight cafeteria style dining facilities, the largest of which can feed up to 1,300 in a single shift.

Exactly how many reservists grabbed their chow at Burger King or the Wisdom Diner on Route 206 remains unknown.

One thing is certain: it's been nearly 25 years since any military personnel were forced to peel potatoes or suffer through KP duty.

"That went out in the mid 1980s, when we shifted to a civilian operation," remembers Master Sergeant (ret.) General Greg, Fort Dix's previous food and supervisor who was subject to an unusual degree of ribbing because his first name really is "General."

Nowadays, only those reservists who were being specifically trained as field cooks will handle food, and only as part of training exercises. The rest of the meals are prepared and served by military installations," McRae

that have changed radically over the years.

"It used to be, we'd have one entree for each meal, like steak and boiled potatoes," Greg recalls. "For the soldiers coming in, what you saw was what you got."

Fruits and other vegetables, as well as desserts, came from cans. Coffee was so bad that the taste woke you faster than the caffeine content.

Now the Army requires food including at each meal, with at least two entrees, sometimes as many as four, including a meatless alternative (such as a vegetable and cheese lasagna or veggie burgers). This changing menu that does not repeat for 21 days has allowances for special holiday and ethnic meals: turkey Thanksgiving burritos for Cinco de Mayo, collard greens and black eyed peas for Martin Luther King's birthday, etc.

The menu, with specific recipes for every prepared food item, is devised at the Combined Arms Support Command at Fort Lee, Virginia, where, during the month of March, the Army also holds a yearly culinary arts competition.

The result is that powdered eggs are no longer part of military cuisine. Whole eggs are fried, flipped, boiled or turned into omelets at a short-order station, with egg-white-only omelets available on request. You can also get a Philadelphia cheese steak, with or without sautéed onions, for lunch. Or you can load up at the salad bar with 16 to 20 different vegetable items, and Ken's salad dressing in packets.

Reservists get a choice of coffee from the urn, decaf or regular, machine-made cappuccino and lattes, whole milk, hot chocolate, various bagged teas (flavored and herbal), numerous soft drink permutations from the Pepsi Cola company, "slushy" iced drinks and at least two 100-



historical photo

CARRY IN - Forget 'carry out', this postcard shows that World War I Doughboys had to carry in their own metal mess kits if they wanted to eat lunch.

percent fruit juices. Frozen and baked desserts are supplemented with fresh fruit, trail mix and chocolate or vanilla soft ice cream.

Some concessions to institutional cuisine remain: liquid eggs are used in the morning scramble and, instead of stretching and dressing pizza dough, frozen pizza is reheated for lunch and dinner. And, though some field rations are prepared in accordance with Jewish kosher and Islamic halal dietary laws, no official provision for religious or special medical diets is made at Fort Dix beyond what can be requested at the short order stations.

"Health and morale," General Greg says. "When you eat better, you're better at everything you do. And if you like what you're eating, it's easier to feel good about where you are and what you're doing."

Harry Eberle, whose Smithville, Tennessee based company, Eberle Services, hires and manages 370 kitchen and dining room staff at Fort Dix, likes to listen to "horror stories from the old timers who visit. They tell me what it used to be like when they had these metal trays and they'd slap the meat down and the meat would be so tough it would bounce off the tray."

"We're very particular about what we serve nowadays and my cooks can add to the army recipes if they want. You go to a dining hall nowadays and, if it wasn't for all the people in uniform, you'd think you were somewhere else."

Indeed, the dining area of Building 5610 looks more like the inside of a college dining hall, or an Old Country Buffet, with wood grain paneling, wall-mounted flat screen TVs, colorful banners hanging from the ceiling and dividers of etched glass and polished brass.

And, while the kitchens are solidly institutional "we're adding to the recipes to make them taste home-cooked," says Dining Hall 5610's Facility Manager Darlene Ross. "I put a dash of garlic into the bread for fried chicken because of my family. My wife, my family makes it. Gives the chicken a little zing."

Starting 22 years ago as a cashier (guests, visitors and non-military personnel are charged \$2.52 for breakfasts, \$3.85 for lunch or dinner), Ross has worked every food service job at Fort Dix. "If I wouldn't eat it or serve it to my family, it's not going out on to the line. My rib chef, Gavin Anderson, uses his mom's recipe and slow cooks his baby backs so you are not going to find better ribs anywhere."

Still, the most popular menu items at Building 5610 and elsewhere remain hamburgers, hot dogs and what Ross calls "saucy foods, veal parm, chicken parm, anything with a red sauce or a lot of melted cheese."

So popular, and numerous have these saucy foods become that some reservists take a little bit more time choosing, lingering and sometimes scurrying back for second and third helpings. That can slow down the buffet line in a 325-seat facility that must feed 1,000 and more in an hour and a half.

And so, Keith McRae has his quality assurance inspectors, who make unannounced visits to check cleanliness, food handling and the taste and appearance of menu items, also timing how long it takes a reservist to proceed from the entrance of a dining hall to a table. "Our biggest difficulty is moving the line along. Everybody tends to arrive at once

and nobody likes to wait. If it takes a trainee any longer than eight minutes to go through the line, the facility manager is going to hear about it."

Plans have been made for a new, improved, larger and more efficient dining hall, but until that hall is built, reservists are learning that, like New Jersey motorists approaching a highway construction site, they must "expect delays." Such delays, McRae feels, might also be inspiring some reservists to venture elsewhere for their meals.

Of course, if McRae reduced the menu, cut back on the quality and made the food more like it was in old days,

the line would move MUCH faster.

"We have very specific procedures that we must follow at all times," he says. "But even if we didn't, and I could make that kind of choice, I'd never want to go back to the way it was. Some things you just don't even want to think about."

Bill Kent is the author of seven books, most recently, Street Hungry, a mystery set in Philadelphia. His book reviews have appeared in the New York Times, the Washington Post and the Philadelphia Inquirer.

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historical photo

FRONT LINES - Soldiers in 1941 lacked the culinary choices of today's Ultimate Weapons, but the choices they had were served with flare.



Wayne Cook

CHOICES - The fresh salad bar is just one of the many options at the Fort Dix Dining Facilities. A variety of hot entrees, as well as burgers, pizza and fries are available to hungry Soldiers.



historical photo

CHEW -N- CHAT - The scenery may change a bit, but over the years, Soldiers have always enjoyed a warm meal and the company of their fellow Soldiers. Wooden tables and metal mess kits were de rigueur when these World War I Doughboys, above, sat down to chow. Not much had changed by 1941, below, except the uniforms. Sixty-seven years later, the uniforms and tables are different but conversation still dominates the tables. But for those not inclined to chatter, Dining Facilities now offer televisions for dining distractions.



historical photo



Wayne Cook

the Post

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Pvt. Rachel L. Sanzo

Cpl. Nicholas Shano, a New York Pre-Mobilization Assistance Element Observer Controller/Trainer, discusses proper procedures before moving deploying Soldiers through a barbed wire obstacle course at Fort Drum in August.

Combat veterans prepare Guardsmen for war zone

Pvt. Rachel L. Sanzo
42nd Infantry Division Public Affairs

FORT DRUM, NY -- When Maj. Donald McArdle deployed to Iraq with the 42nd Infantry Division in October 2004, he was afraid that he wasn't really ready for war.

The training he'd gone through at Fort Drum left something to be desired, McArdle said.

"It was some three-week long affair that you could tell had very little planning and enthusiasm to back it up," recalled McArdle, a 28-year Army veteran.

He returned unscathed 13 months later, but the stress and uncertainty resulting from a lack of preparation before going downrange was something that could have been easily prevented, he said.

Today McArdle is working to prevent his experience from happening again, and to increase Soldier confidence and morale, as Officer-In-Charge of the New York Pre-Mobilization Training Assistance Element, or PTAE.

PTAEs were conceived by the National Guard Bureau in early 2007 after Secretary of Defense Thomas Gates issued a new directive limiting Reserve and National Guard Soldier mobilization periods to 12 months. Previously soldiers were being mobilized up to six months prior to deployment to allow for training prior to deployment.

To ensure that pre-mobilization training was up to standard, Guard Bureau authorized states to create PTAEs. Guard Bureau and control positions—a command sergeant major, a lieutenant colonel, and a major—and funds trainers at a ratio of one to each 60 deploying soldiers during a mobilization cycle.

"New York PTAE was established last April, and we were one of the first states to get

started," said Sgt. Maj. Thomas Rentz, the PTAE's Non-Commissioned Officer-In-Charge. Major General Joseph Taluto, the Adjutant General, believed it was vital to provide top notch instruction for the deploying soldiers of the 27th Brigade Combat Team, Rentz added.

Currently all 54 states and territories have at least one individual dedicated to a PTAE mission. Certifying with the PTAE results in an end state of effective training and a feeling of readiness, McArdle said. McArdle has served as a TAC officer with the 106th Regional Training Institute and was OIC of "Iraqi Army Island", the 42nd

Infantry Division's Iraqi recruit training facility during the division's 2005 deployment.

The PTAE is staffed with dedicated instructors, also known as Observer Commanders/Trainers, who must meet rigorous standards and myriad qualifications to train deploying Soldiers. The current PTAE consists of 10 officers and 32 enlisted OC/Ts.

"Each and every one of our OC/Ts is a combat veteran,"

said Rentz. "We've all attended the First Army Academy and have been through the Total Army Instruction Training Course, as well as many others, in order to be qualified as instructors. Our people are subject matter experts for the training in New York State."

"We certify, we validate, and we make sure it's done correctly," said Cpl. Nicholas Shano, a PTAE OC/T. "We also work as mentors if the Soldiers have questions. We're right there to help them out and work through any problems they may have," said Shano, a member of 1st Battalion, 69th Infantry Division.

The PTAE has certified approximately 2,200 Soldiers

from six different units in New York State.

The reaction from Soldiers who have completed the training is positive.

"I've really enjoyed the training," said Spc. Leslie Thomas, a Soldier from the 14th Finance unit based in Whitestone. "I really feel like it's making a difference."

"We've had nothing but encouraging results and comments from the Soldiers we've trained," said McArdle.

Training with the PTAE also grants Soldiers a chance to spend less time away from home, while still getting quality training.

"The PTAE reduces the time spent at a post-mobilization site, so that Soldiers are in country, boots on the ground, for a longer period of time," said McArdle.

Deploying Soldiers receive thorough training from the PTAE in land navigation, combat, urban operations, moving in and around obstacles, and reacting to IEDs and ambushes. PTAE "validators" are on standby to ensure Soldiers complete necessary training and are competent in their tasks.

The PTAE's dedication to turning out confident, capable Soldiers is vital to the success and well-being of those who will deploy in the future.

"It's the most important job I've ever had in the military, period," said Staff Sgt. David Fields, a PTAE OC/T. "I feel I'm directly responsible for a Soldier coming home alive."

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 11 through 17.

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.

● While on routine patrol, police observed two ATVs on Fort Dix property near Cooks Corner Road. The ATVs were stopped and investigation revealed the operators, both civilians NAFD, had been riding on private property when they ventured onto Fort Dix. Both riders were cited for operation of an ATV without a helmet. They were advised of government property boundaries and escorted off post.

● Police and Fire Department personnel responded to a fire alarm at Bldg. 5912. Investigation revealed dust activated a smoke alarm.

● Police and Fire Department personnel responded to an incident in the Garden Terrace housing area. Investigation revealed an electrical wall outlet was malfunctioning. A work order was placed with United Communities.

● Police operated a Sobriety Safety Checkpoint as directed by the Installation Commander. A total of three vehicles were checked with negative findings.

● Police, Fire Department, and emergency medical personnel responded to an incident at Bldg. 5509. Investigation revealed a Soldier, assigned to Fort Dix, severely lacerated his hand when he punched a wire mesh window. Further investigation revealed the incident to be alcohol related. The subject was treated at the scene and transported to VMHBC for further treatment. The incident was referred to the chain-of-command for disposition.

● During a routine 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 Chesterfield Township. The subject was transported to the police station for processing. Chesterfield Township was contacted and issued a new court date.

● Police responded to a request for assistance from Pemberton Township Police. Investigation revealed Pemberton Police had made a traffic stop on a vehicle occupied by two persons known to have outstanding warrants and a history of violence. Both subjects were taken into custody without incident.

● Police and Fire Department personnel responded to a fire alarm at Bldg. 5276. Investigation revealed a contract employee had shut off water to the building, causing the alarm to activate.

● Police responded to an incident at Range Control. Investigation revealed a Fort Dix contract employee was spray painting a water tower, and a fine mist of paint landed on numerous parked vehicles. Statements were taken from the victims.

● Police responded to a traffic accident at the Main Gate. Investigation revealed a vehicle, operated by a civilian NAFD, struck the curb, resulting in a flat tire. The tire was changed and the vehicle released to the operator at the scene.

● Police responded to a report of larceny of government property at the Doughboy Loop parking lot. Investigation revealed that person(s) unknown removed unsecured equipment from a tactical vehicle. Investigation continues.

● Police responded to a motor vehicle crash at CP #9. Investigation revealed a truck, operated by a civilian NAFD, rolled backwards and struck a vehicle stopped in the inspection lane. There were no reported injuries and the vehicles were released to the operators at the scene.

● During a routine credential check of a vehicle attempting to enter the installation via the Main Gate, police discovered the operator, a Fort Dix contract employee, had a suspended driver's license and two warrants out of Trenton. The subject was transported to the police station for processing, cited, and transferred to the custody of Trenton police. The vehicle was released to a licensed driver.

● During a routine traffic stop on New Jersey Avenue, police detected an odor of alcohol emitting from the vehicle. Investigation revealed a passenger in the vehicle, an underage Airman assigned to McGuire AFB, had been consuming alcohol. The subject was released to his unit.

● During a routine credential check of a vehicle attempting to enter the installation via the Main Gate, police discovered the operator, a civilian NAFD, had a suspended driver's license and a warrant out of Trenton. Trenton was contacted and issued a new court date. The subject was cited and the vehicle released to a licensed driver.

● During a routine credential check of a vehicle attempting to enter the installation via the Wrightstown Gate, police discovered the operator, a civilian NAFD, had a suspended driver's license and an outstanding warrant from Westhampton Police. Westhampton PD was contacted and issued a new court date. The subject was cited and the vehicle released to a licensed driver.

● There were 5 expired identification cards confiscated during the period.

● There were 34 Magistrate Court Citations issued for moving violations. DWI incidents remain at nine for the year.

What's happening on Fort Dix?

Tune in to
WDIX
Channel 2 TV
for the latest on recreation,
events and public information

Friends, fun found at family festival

Jennifer Chupko
Public Affairs Staff

From massages to camels, Family Fun Fest 2008, held August 20 at the Youth Center, was a success. Military families were able to share laughter and excitement both indoors and out, in more ways than one.

At the Family Fun Fest, families had fun doing a variety of activities together. Some of the outdoor attractions included riding in a horse drawn wagon, extreme wall climbing and taking pictures with live animals, like the Peruvian Llana.

"A lot of people have been here before so it's really excit-

ing for them and expectations are high," said Joan Cole, Army Community Service Director.

Military family members had a chance to see a simulated desert environment complete with humvees and a camel. Soldiers shared Meals-Ready-to-Eat (MRE's) to give fest-goers a chance to see what their family members are experiencing overseas.

Next to the desert simulation was a petting zoo.

"The petting zoo gives kids the chance to bring out their caring side, how to relate to taking care of their own pets," said Al Stanbury, Director of the Youth Center. "It gives them a different perspective of responsibilities."

There were also special appearances beginning with a welcome from Batman and his Bat-mobile, Chum - the Adventure Aquarium Mascot, Elmo and McGruff the crime watch dog.

"We wanted to give the families a chance to spend a day that all ages can enjoy," said Cole.

Watching his son Andrew, 10, at the top of the rock wall, Tom Hopkins stood watching and rooting him on.

Hopkins said, "This really is a good experience for him. It's good for all the kids, even the ones with the fear of heights!"

The younger children had a chance to build roller coaster carts donated from the Home Depot.

"I really think this is cool. I like building things," said Daniel May, 6, one of the constructors.

"This event helped me a lot, because it made me come out of my house, where I am constantly watching the news. Coming here has relieved me in a small way, because I don't sleep well at night" said Trish King with her 4 year old daughter Megan. Her husband has been on active duty in Iraq since January of this year.

The activities did not stop outside but continued indoors with even more entertainment. A cotton candy machine was visible when one first stepped through the doors of the Youth Center.

The younger kids also had the opportunity to have their faces painted by a volunteer painter.

Dawn Ferris of Families and Morale, Welfare and Recreation said "They get to choose what they want painted. It brings out my creative side too."

Tables were set up in rows for people to find different interests. Disney even donated DVD's to give out to the people who wanted some entertainment outside of the festival.

"All of these movies are family oriented," said Bette Barr, USO. "They are good to bring the kids and parents together and watch something wholesome."

The live entertainment on stage included Crystal Ortiz, 17, who sang and played the keyboard for one-half hour.

"I am so proud of her. She is self taught - has so many talents," said her mother.

On-stage entertainment continued with a magic show, the Philly Phanatic, Darth Vader and a Hanna Montana "look-a-like". Just Massages

gave free therapeutic massages to anyone who wanted to relax.

"It gives the adults a little fun too," said Judy Santana, massage therapist.

In the same room, Joe White was drawing caricatures of children and their parents.

"They get a kick out of these drawings. It is something they can remember, too," said White.

One of the tables had a group of children running around with fire hats on their heads. Fire inspector, Terry Enterkine was enthusiastic about telling all of the kids running around about fire prevention.

"It is better to be informed of all the services available to the community and never need them, than to actually need them and not know where to find them," explained Cole, coordinator of the Family Fun Fest.

"We need to do this more than just once a year, especially when you consider we have a lot of Soldiers who are deployed and all you have left here is the mom or the dad with the kids," Cole said.

Besides all of the fun, the Family Fun Fest served free refreshments, gave away door prizes and written information about all the services offered by the post's agencies.

Some of the participating

agencies that helped with the informational part of the event with pamphlets and oral presentations included Adventure Aquarium, AAFES, the American Red Cross, Army Substance Abuse program, Child & Youth Services, 4-H, Family Support Center of New Jersey, Home Depot of Mount Laurel, Lourdes Medical Center of Burlington, the Main Post Chapel, McGuire Air Force Base, Naval Air Station Lakehurst, New Jersey Cancer Education and Early Detection, New Jersey National Guard, Office of the Attorney General, Vietnam Veterans of America - New Jersey Chapter 899, Operation Military Kids, Pemberton Community Library and US Family Health Plan, representative from the Woman, Infant and Children (WIC) program, the Active Duty Assistance program (ADAP), Army Child and Youth Services, and the Family Service Association were also in attendance.

The Family Fun Fest was an overall success. People left the Fest with smiles on their faces and some stars painted on them too.

"I think the kids are learning a lot today. That is the purpose of the Family Fun Fest. It makes for a good time and educational time, too. We should do this more than once a year," said Cole.



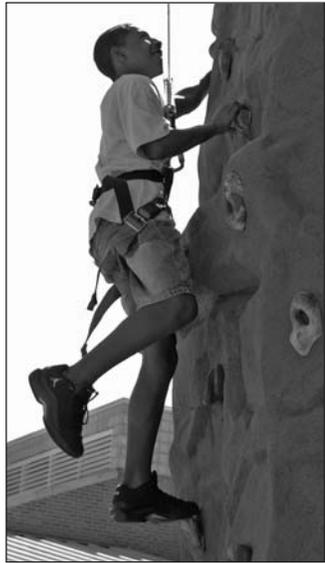
Lisa Evans

TICKLED- Matthew May, 5, gets cozy with Elmo during the Family Fun Fest held Aug. 20 at the Fort Dix Youth Center. New friends were plentiful at the fest.



Jennifer Chupko

KNIGHT RIDER - Robin keeps an eye on the Bat-mobile while Batman visits with fans at the Fun Fest Aug. 20.



Lisa Evans

ROCK ON- Malik Thompson, above, tackles the rock wall during the festival while Jennifer Armento, Environmental and Natural Resources Division, above right, explains how polluted water effects the water tables on Fort Dix and the surrounding areas to children.



Wayne Cook



Wayne Cook

HOT TIMES, COOL SHADE - Taking a break from the excitement, a petting zoo camel seeks shade under a tree. Tiffany Dozier, 5, and her brother Thomas, 9, left, exit the Fort Dix Fire Safety House followed by Firefighter Karl Ramm, Fort Dix Fire Department, during the Fun Fest Aug. 20. The firefighters took time to explain some fire safety tips to those who stopped by their location.



Wayne Cook

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HIGHBORHOOD

THE CORNER

ACS offers teen school orientation

Army Community Service (ACS) Relocation Readiness Program is holding the annual Fort Dix Teen Orientation Aug. 27 at the Youth Center from 10 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

All Military teens attending Helen Fort Middle School or the Pemberton Township High School for the first time are invited to attend.

The orientation begins at the Fort Dix Youth Center, 1279 Locust St., and ends with a pizza party at the John F. Mann Recreation Park.

The orientation includes planned activities and lunch followed by a tour of the Helen Fort Middle School and to the Pemberton Township High School.

Registration and parental permission is required in advance. Registration forms are available at ACS and the Youth Center. For more information call Amada Espinoza or Patricia Toler at 562-2767.

Thrift Shop accepting Fall clothing consignments

The Fort Dix Thrift shop is now accepting Fall clothing consignments. Consignments are accepted Tuesdays and Thursdays from 10 a.m. to noon. Appointments are also available by calling 723-2683.

The Summer Clearance Bag Sale is also underway. For only \$2, shoppers can fill a bag with all the TSP and PO6501 clothing that will fit.

The Thrift shop is open Tuesday and Thursday from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., the first and third Saturday from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. and the first Wednesday of the month from 3 p.m. to 7 p.m.

For more information call 723-2683.

Job Fair scheduled for Club Dix

Fort Dix Employment Readiness and the Job Fair Company will present a job fair Sept. 17, at Club Dix. The event starts at 10 a.m. and will continue until 2 p.m.

For more information, call Donna Brady at (800) 632-5532, or e-mail bradyd@jobfairco.com.

Help available for voter registration

Human Resources-Military (HR-M) will be offering voting registration assistance to Soldiers. Absentee Ballot request forms, absentee ballots, and voter registration guides are available for all states, as well as U.S. territories.

Guides and absentee ballot request forms can be picked up Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the MPD/Customer Service office located at 5418 Delaware Ave., central wing, first floor.

For more information contact voting assistance officers Maj. Marisol V. Lanza at 562-2598, or Master Sgt. Barbara Bookard at 562-2746.

Medication disposal can pose 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 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.

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. Please call Gerry Zanzalari at 562-4034 for more information.

Equality stressed at lecture

Lisa Evans
Public Affairs Staff

To celebrate Women's Equality Day, Fort Dix is hosting a talk by Prof. Patricia Yantz from the Women's Studies Department of Burlington County Community College. Yantz will give a lecture on Frida Kahlo, a Mexican artist and activist, and her 'Influence on Women's Equality,' Aug. 28 at Revolution Lounge Club Dix, from 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

Equality for women in America is as old as our country beginning with our founding fathers and their wives. Abigail Adams was among the first women who advocated for equal rights.

From the New York Times, August, 19 1920,

"The long struggle to legalize votes for women in this country began in pre-revolutionary days, when Mistress Mary Brent of Maryland demanded a place and a vote in the lawmaking body of that colony. The wife of John Adams, in the days of '76, was an ardent suffragist." Abigail Adams admonished her husband and the other Revolutionary leaders to "remember the ladies" in the formation of the new government.

By 1784 Judith Sargent Murray, agreeing with Brent and Adams, wrote essays on women's rights endorsing equality of the sexes for education, not even going so far as to advocate voting rights. When the US Constitution was ratified in 1788, voting decisions were left up to the states. New Jersey women property owners were given the right to vote only to lose that right in 1807.

But Wyoming allowed women to vote from their first constitution in 1838, and other western states soon followed, allowing women first to vote on school issues and finally on all state issues. It was only at the federal level that women were considered of feeble intellect not able to decide weighty issues outside of the home and children.

By the early 1800s, the idea that women were intellectually inferior to men was intrinsic to society in the United States, popular literature promulgating the idea that women dominate the sphere of the home, and men were natural leaders in business and politics.

It was with the rise of anti-slavery, the American Anti-Slavery Society being founded in the 1830s, that women's issues began rising to the consciousness of all women. By 1840, Elizabeth Cady Stanton attended the World Anti-slavery Convention in London only to find that women weren't allowed to be seated. From that event, Stanton and Lucretia Mott resolved to hold a convention for women's rights in the United States.

In 1869, nearly thirty years later, the 14th Amendment codified law saying only males could vote even though women could now own property, keep earnings and inheritances, make contracts, sue in court, and share child custody according to the Women's Property Act of New York enacted in 1848.

The real blow came in 1875 when the Supreme Court ruled that states could deny the right for women to vote. It took another 45 years for the United States to give women the right

to vote under federal law.

And yet in 1920 when women were given the right to vote, equality was a long way in the future, not only for women, but for disenfranchised blacks who still didn't have the right to vote.

Skipping over fifty years of a long, and at times bloody, fight for equality we come to 1970 and to the House of Representatives where Bella Abzug decided she wanted to set up house. Posters from Abzug's campaign stated "The woman's place is in the house... The House of Representatives!"

Women were still discriminated against in jobs, politics and business. Early television portrayed the same ideal woman that literature had in the early 1800s. A woman's place was in the home, at the stove, tending children. Father Knows Best. The Brady Bunch; women stayed home while the man went out to work.

In reality, women were working, had been forced to work since the First World War, but they were paid much less than what men were paid. Inequalities in pay for women, fewer women in power in politics or business, a problem we still see today. Abzug would finally bring this fight to national conscience with her win for Congress.

Gaining a seat in the House, Abzug was instrumental in helping the Equal Rights Amendment to finally reach the president's desk. Fifty years after it was first introduced, in 1972 President Richard Nixon signed the ERA after it passed both houses of Congress. But it still hadn't been enacted into law. That would take a constitutional amendment with two thirds the states voting to change

(continued on page 8)



www.aaa.si.edu

ART FROM THE HEART - To celebrate Women's Equality Day, Patricia Yantz of Burlington County College will present a lecture on the influences Mexican artist Frida Kahlo, shown above in a photo with her husband Diego Rivera. The lecture will be held at Revolutions Lounge in Club Dix on Aug. 28 from 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

Women of the Chapel start season with tea

Wayne Cook
Public Affairs Staff

The Christian Women of the Chapel (CWOC) will open their new year with a free Welcome Tea at the Main Chapel Fellowship Hall Sept. 9 at 7 p.m.

The CWOC began more than 40 years ago as the Protestant Women of the Chapel and over the years expanded to include women from the Catholic and Gospel congregations. The group's diversity spans a wide range of ages, ethnic backgrounds, and religious experiences.

"Our common goal is to lead women to accept Jesus Christ as their Lord and Savior. We study the scriptures, pray, and develop our skills for teaching, learning, sharing, serving, and growing together in the love of our Lord Jesus Christ," said Eloise Deas, president of the CWOC.

Besides Bible studies, the group also participates in clothing and supply drives for a homeless shelter and minister at the Keswick Community in Whiting with drug addicts and alcoholics. Every fourth Tuesday the group goes to Buttonwood Hospital and Nursing Home to worship and visit with the patients.

"We get to see the great changes in the people at Keswick and we bring joy, hope, and love to the hospital patients," said Deas.

Another major event the CWOC takes part in during the year is the Annual Conference of the Women of Faith which is held in Philadelphia at the Wachovia Center where thousands of women gather to worship, share testimonies and attend seminars together.

"We are embarking on a new year of Bible studies, fellowship and service. The CWOC offer a warm, caring and inviting atmosphere, where we can share, learn and grow together as we travel on this Christian journey," Deas said.

Starting September 16, the group will start a new study entitled The Comforted Woman by Joyce Meyers.

"The study will show us how we can be the women God intends us to be," said Deas.

According to Deas, the Tea on September 9 will include munching, mingling and music. All are invited to the Welcome Tea and to the study.

The CWOC meets regularly every Tuesday, 9:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. in the fellowship hall of the Main Chapel.

For more information or to answer any questions about the CWOC call 562-2020.

<http://public.carson.army.mil>

Conference seeks participants

Jennifer M. McCarthy
Public Affairs Staff

Members of the Fort Dix community are invited to attend the annual Army Family Action Plan Conference to be held Oct. 23 from 7:45 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. at Timmermann Center.

Lunch will be provided and child care is available for those attending if notice of need is given two weeks in advance.

For 25 years, Active Duty, Reserve, National Guard, and retired service members, Army Civilians and family members have used the Army Family Action Plan (AFAP) conference to call attention to issues involving all aspects of living and working on Fort Dix and providing suggestions on how to resolve those issues. "If you have an issue affecting your well-being and you want your voice heard, if you want leadership to hear you, come to the AFAP Conference," said Fran Booth, AFAP coordinator.

Issues raised at the AFAP conference cover a gamut of experiences. Topics brought up in the past include: smoking at the gas pumps at AFEEs gas station, poor lighting on the handicap ramps at the Warrior Transition



Jennifer McCarthy

THINKING INSIDE THE BOX - The Army Family Action Plan (AFAP) Conference is seeking topics and volunteers. Anyone with issues related to living or doing business on Fort Dix are invited to submit their concerns. AFAP boxes are located in various spots across the installation.

Unit building, the need for younger children to have play time at the Youth Center, traffic safety for Soldiers doing PT, and the lack of a Shoppette in the housing area.

"Real-life well-being issues are

Army-wide impact. Two such issues that arose out of last year's AFAP conference that have moved on the higher headquarters are the need for Reserve and Guard Soldiers doing annual or week-end training at Fort Dix to have access to Army-provided substance abuse treatment and the lack of Exceptional Family Member respite care funds for National Guard and Reserve families.

For individuals who cannot attend the conference but want their concerns addressed, there are AFAP issue boxes located across the installation. Boxes can be found at the Command Dining Facility, the Joint Readiness Center, Family, Morale, Welfare and Recreation Headquarters, the 77th Sustainment Bde., and at Army Community Services.

Booth also invites people with concerns to stop by Army Community Services located at 5201 Maryland Ave. or to email her at frances.booth@us.army.mil.

"We can complain about things to our co-workers at lunchtime, but if you are serious about wanting to make a change, come to the conference, said Booth.

"Leadership wants to know what is going on at the local level and how can we fix that."

MILITARY MATTERS

Garrison welcomes new Inspector General

Lisa Evans
Public Affairs Staff

Maj. Douglas Ortiz became the "eyes, ears, voice and conscience" for the post commander as the new Fort Dix Inspector General (IG) Aug. 15.

"I like being able to help the Soldiers and civilians. I think this will be a great job because now I get to do it on a full-time basis," Ortiz said his first day on the job.

In his new position, Ortiz will work closely with and report to the commander about performance of assigned missions, discipline, efficiency, economy, and command morale for Fort Dix, the DeWens Reserve Forces Training Area and the CE Kelly Support Facility.

"The colonel and I will be in sync with looking out for Soldiers and the units as a whole because that's the commander looking out and focusing on the mission, the job on hand. I'm pleased that we (the IG staff) can be a part of that process and a tool that the commander can use," Ortiz declared.

Ortiz attended special training at Fort Belvoir, Va. this past June to help him prepare for his new command. He is cur-

rently working on a combined Master's/Doctoral program for a Master's in Business Administration and a Doctorate in Logistics. Ortiz also has a Bachelor of Arts in Film from Jersey City State University.

Along with his excellent education, Ortiz brings nearly 22 years military experience to the IG position. Ortiz joined the Army Reserves in Dec. 1986 as part of the 39th Ordnance Group. After five years enlistment, he attended Officer Candidate School in 1991, received his commission, and moved forward from there, he said, to a variety of experience.

Beginning with the 3/78th Regiment, 78th Div., Edison, NJ, in 1991, Ortiz said he bounced around as a reservist in the 78th and 76th Divisions becoming a company commander in 1994. In 1995 he moved to the 1291st Landing Support Battalion (LSB), 2 Bde, 91st Div. as the logistics officer and commander until 2001.

After attending the Army Logistics Management College (ALMC) in Fort Lee, Va., Ortiz came to Fort Dix with the 455th Chemical Bde. as company commander where he was instrumental in helping the unit deploy to Iraq in 2001. Ortiz then became company commander of the 611th Quarter-

master Co. Fire Support (FS) in Baltimore, Md. and deployed to Iraq with the 611th from Dec. 2003 until Feb. 2005. He was awarded a Bronze Star in Iraq.

While in Iraq, Ortiz said he was able to work with Soldiers to help them cope with difficulties, a skill he will use as IG.

"I helped with family issues while deployed. They had families back home and I offered financial or legal support in general. Commanders look out for Soldiers' well-being," Ortiz said.

Since returning from Iraq, Ortiz has been with the 3rd Battle Command Training Group (BCTG), 2nd Bde, 75th Div. until his promotion to IG.

"I've had pretty diverse assignments in the past. Situations that have given me good experience, a good understanding of soldiers at the lowest levels which helps me understand and meet their needs," Ortiz said.

Ortiz said that he was sure that there would be challenges, but that the challenges could be met.

"I'm not an expert. This is not a zero defect Army. I think for whatever my shortcomings may be, I have a good staff who will be able to address anything that comes our way in



Lisa Evans

MAJOR INSPECTOR GENERAL -- Maj. Douglas Ortiz is sworn in as the Installation Inspector General by Col. Ronald Thaxton, commander, during a ceremony at Wurman Hall on Aug. 15, 2008. Ortiz becomes the 'eyes, ears, voice and conscience' for the post commander.

the most proper manner," he said with complete conviction.

A native son of the northeast, Ortiz is originally from the Bronx, but grew up in New Jersey. He is a widower with

one daughter, Asia Devalle, 17, who lives on post with him along with his two, as he calls

them, small, cute dogs - a cock-a-poo and a Havanese.

His wife, Jeanette Ortiz, was employed by Fort Dix until her unexpected death Dec. 23, 2007.

Ortiz said he is a quiet person, except around his family and close friends. He likes

music, cooking and socializing with his family.

"I give thanks to my family for their support, thanks to friends and previous co-workers who have given me the

experience and knowledge so I can be where I am today," Ortiz acknowledged.

Airmen train to stand-up Iraqi police force

Ryan Morton
Public Affairs Staff

Airmen from the 732nd Expeditionary Security Forces Squadron (ESFS), Detachment 3, have migrated to the lush training grounds of Fort Dix to train as mentors for the Iraqi Police Forces. In recent years, the installation has hosted this training, known as Police Tran-

sition Team (PTT), for Army units that are preparing to go downrange, but this is the first time the Air Force has participated in this particular mission at Dix.

With the ultimate goal of helping Iraq function as an autonomous nation, Iraqi military and police force mentor training is one of the primary U.S. and allied forces missions. The 160 Airmen who

comprise the 732nd ESFS, Det. 3 will meet that challenge in three steps: training, mentoring, and coaching the Iraqi Police forces in their home precincts and stations in and around Baghdad.

"This is a huge mission. The strengthening of the Iraqi government is critical and what we will do has a large impact on its possible success," said 732nd ESFS Operations Offi-

cer Capt. Matt Ballanco.

The unit is comprised of active duty Security Forces Airmen stationed at 52 different Air Force Bases around the world including Japan, Guam, Turkey, Germany, Italy, England, and the U.S. They are also a voluntary force with a diverse combat experience as more than half the Airmen have previously been deployed to Iraq and Afghanistan as part

of missions such as Air Base defense security, detainee operations, and convoy security operations. A small handful has even conducted PTT missions in country.

To prepare for this tour of duty, the Airmen have been preparing at Dix performing combat training such as weapons qualifications, urban and convoy operations, Improvised Explosive Device (IED)

detection, combat lifesaver training, and intensive PTT exercises.

"These Airmen seem to be meshing well, appear to be highly motivated and seem to look forward to the challenge at hand," Ballanco said.

The 732nd ESFS, Det. 3 will complete their preparations in the next couple of weeks and expect to ship out in early September.



photos by Ryan Morton

TRAINING THE TRAINERS -- Above - right, 732nd Expeditionary Security Forces Squadron, Detachment 3 Airmen conduct a patrol with Iraqi Police officers played by civilians on the battlefield (COBs), during Police Transition Team (PTT) training at Fort Dix, August 14. These Airmen are currently at the installation preparing for a deployment in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom. Above, Airmen from the 732nd Expeditionary Security Forces Squadron, Detachment 3, prepare to move out during Police Transition Team (PTT) training at Fort Dix's Mikasa training range, August 14.



Read the Post!

Military strives to maintain readiness

Donna Miles
American Forces Press Service

WASHINGTON, Aug. 15, 2008 — The economic downturn that has hit many Americans appears to have had less impact on U.S. servicemembers, partly because of the nature of military service and partly due to the vast network of programs and services available to help them, defense officials said.

The latest annual Defense Department status of forces survey conducted in April by the Defense Manpower Data Center supports that assessment, said Navy Cmdr. Dave Julian from the Pentagon's new Office of Personal Finance and Transition.

When junior enlisted members in grades E-1 through E-4 were asked to describe their personal financial situation in the anonymous survey, 3 percent said they are "in over my head" or "having difficulty making ends meet," he reported, citing the yet-to-be-published results.

Another survey question asked servicemembers if they or their spouse had missed a rent or mortgage payment during the past 12 months.

Again, the number responding yes was 3 percent, down from 4 percent in 2007.

"I was very surprised," said

Army Col. Shawn Shumake, a legal advisor in the Pentagon's personnel and readiness office. "If they'd been like anyone else [in the general public], you would have expected it to go up 50 percent."

He cited record-high foreclosure rates nationwide, with reports that the number of households receiving foreclosure notices is up 50 percent or more over past year.

Julian said there's no question that soldiers, sailors, airmen and Marines feel the pinch of spiraling gas, grocery and other prices. "The things that affect the general public are the things that affect our military, as well," he said. "But they do have some stopgaps in place to help them, more so than the average citizen."

Because servicemembers have secure full-time jobs, commissary and post exchange privileges, free medical care and cash for housing if the military doesn't provide it, they're less likely to be as financially stressed as some of their civilian counterparts, he said. In addition, troops on deployments benefit financially from tax-free earnings in combat zones, hazardous duty pay, and family separation pay.

Another big factor is the fact that three-quarters of troops who live off base rent their homes, so they're not as

hard-hit by the depressed housing market, Julian said.

They have been affected, however, when they've had to scurry to find local housing when their landlord's lender repossessed the property they were renting, officials said.

Until recently, servicemembers stuck in these situations

bought high in 2005 and have to move now, they may be caught with negative equity in their house because the value has started to fall," he said. "Individuals are unable to sell their houses for what they owe and can't get enough in rent to cover the mortgage, they're likely to feel the pinch."

"We have resources available, and encourage members to take advantage of the financial services and counseling available through their installation."

-Navy Cmdr. Dave Julian

had to pay for the move themselves.

No more. A new change to the Joint Federal Travel Regulation authorizes the military to pay for local moves when a landlord defaults. Bill Carr, deputy undersecretary of defense for military personnel policy and chairman of the Per Diem, Travel and Transportation Allowance Committee, approved the change Aug. 8. Eileen Lainez, a Defense Department spokeswoman, said. The change is retroactive to July 30.

One segment of the military population likely to be hardest hit by the housing downturn is the 25 percent of servicemembers who own their homes, Shumake said. "If people

conceded. That's especially true if they're reassigned from a high-cost housing area to a lower-cost one where their housing allowance is reduced, sometimes by more than half.

A provision in the Joint Federal Travel Regulation offers a protection Shumake said many servicemembers don't know about: They can elect to leave their family at their old duty stations as they move to a lower-cost area and continue to draw their housing allowance at the higher rate where their family lives.

It's not an ideal circumstance, Shumake conceded, but could be a lifesaver to some families facing a financial crisis.

Julian and Shumake pointed to the broad array of services available to help servicemembers and their families avoid financial crisis and get help when they encounter one.

Personal financial counselors and legal assistance staffs provide free services and can steer troops in financial difficulty to the help they need, they said.

"We have resources available, and encourage members to take advantage of the financial services and counseling available through their installation," Julian said.

Julian's office is putting together a financial road show -- technically "financial readiness challenge events" -- to take that message directly to the troops.

The program, expected to kick off by October, will bring financial experts to military bases, where they will present a full day of seminars and one-on-one sessions to help servicemembers better manage their personal finances.

Each session will be tailored to specific installation's needs, based on input from commanders and senior enlisted leaders, Julian said.

Meanwhile, troops not comfortable with the idea of a personal meeting can take advantage of financial counseling and allowing the spouse and over the telephone through Military One Source, he said. The program, in place about

six months, enables callers to talk about their personal financial situation with a trained counselor who can offer advice and help.

That service is provided by calling toll-free 800-342-9647.

Ultimately, servicemembers' financial readiness boils down to a military readiness issue, Julian said. Worrying about whether they are going to be able to pay their bills or are about to lose their homes distracts troops from concentrating on the mission and can put them and their buddies at risk, he said.

"We want to keep our men and women overseas, especially the ones in harm's way, concentrating on the mission at hand and the important tasks they have to accomplish, rather than their financial situation at home," he said.

"They're not going to be keeping their eye on the target if they're worried about stuff back home," Shumake agreed.

Helping servicemembers get a handle on their finances reduces stress on the entire family, and that, in turn also helps readiness, Julian said.

"We look at the family and the servicemember as a team," he said. "So this is really a matter of allowing the servicemember to focus on his job, and allowing the spouse and the family to focus on their job so together, we can accomplish the mission."

RTC-East earns movie magic, promotions



Maj. Theresa Bunn, RTC-East PAO and Asst. BDE S4, receives her field grade promotion to Major from her supervisors, Maj. Stacey O'Keefe and Lt. Col. Don Easter this past week during a ceremony at RTC-East, above left photo. Bunn was also given a certificate of



appreciation for her support, and that of her unit, for assistance in the movie *The Messenger*, which was filmed at Fort Dix this summer, and is joined by Staff Sgt. Pascual Flores (left), and Lt. Col. Don Easter, RTC-East Brigade Deputy Commander looks on.

Volunteers are needed
for
Fort Dix Special Observances Committees

For more information call
Denise Horton at 562-4011



Photos by Allan Owen

It was a busy week for promotions at the RTC-East. Lt. Col. Don Easter, acting commander, and Sgt. Maj. Jon Lycett present Staff Sgt. Nathaniel Beyer his new rank during a ceremony this week, above left photo. Staff Sgt. Tenisha Nolan, above, receives her new rank from Sgt. Maj. Jon Lycett.

Have a story idea for
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Ships deploy to support humanitarian effort



Petty Officer 3rd Class Eddie Harrison

ON THE WAY -- Navy Petty Officer 1st Class Jeff Weaver and Petty Officer 2nd Class Gary Smith prepare humanitarian aid supplies for loading aboard USS McFaul at Souda Bay, Crete, Aug. 20, 2008. Nearly 55 tons of supplies were loaded as part of the humanitarian assistance for the Georgia following the conflict between Russian and Georgian forces in the former Soviet republic.

U.S. military continues aid mission to Georgia

Petty Officer 2nd Class Dana M. Clark
Special to American Forces Press Service

STUTTGART, Germany, Aug. 19, 2008 -- U.S. European Command is coordinating sustained airlift support as the United States continues to send humanitarian supplies and medical supplies to the former Soviet republic of Georgia.

So far, the U.S. military has delivered more than 270,000 pounds of aid on 12 missions to the Georgian capital of Tbilisi, with more relief on the way in the coming days, officials said.

Flying out of Ramstein Air Base, Germany, the missions are delivering bandages, surgical supplies and medicine, as well as emergency shelters and bedding.

The joint effort, with the Army, Navy, Air Force and Marines all involved -- has delivered more than 6,000 blankets, nearly 12,000 sheets, 580 cots, and more than 17,000 sleeping bags to Georgia.

EUCOM also is coordinating the transportation of 300,000 humanitarian daily food

rations, 7,000 military field-ration meals, and more than 2,000 personal hygiene kits.

In addition to the military's role, the State Department and the U.S. Agency for International Development are involved in the humanitarian relief effort. The supplies are being distributed and coordinated by five nongovernmental organizations: Counterpart International, A Call to Serve -- Georgia, International Relief and Development, Hellenicare, and the United Methodist Committee on Relief. All humanitarian assistance efforts have been closely coordinated with the Georgian government and international organizations, officials said.

The EUCOM joint assessment team, led by Army Brig. Gen. Jon Miller, deputy commander of 21st Theater Sustainment Command and commander of 7th Army Reserve Command, arrived in Tbilisi yesterday at the request of the Georgian government. The team will conduct a deliberate and focused assessment, encompassing variables such as transportation, infrastructure, manpower and many other life-support considerations, EUCOM officials said.

NAPLES, Italy, (American Forces Press Service Aug. 21, 2008) -- Two Navy ships and a Coast Guard cutter are transporting humanitarian relief supplies to Georgia.

These deployments are part of the larger United States response to the government of Georgia request for humanitarian assistance, U.S. 6th Fleet officials said.

USS McFaul departed from Souda Bay, Crete, yesterday,

and the U.S. Coast Guard Cutter Dallas will leave later this week. McFaul and Dallas are scheduled to transit into the Black Sea and arrive in Georgia within a week.

The crew of the USS Mount Whitney is loading humanitarian relief materials in the ship's homeport of Gaeta, Italy, and will proceed to Georgia later this month, officials said.

The ships will deliver thousands of blankets, hygiene kits,

baby food and infant-care supplies to save lives and alleviate human suffering, officials said.

These surface ships represent the first from the United States to participate in the delivery of humanitarian assistance to Georgia.

Both McFaul, based in Norfolk, Va., and Dallas, based in Charleston, S.C., are on regularly scheduled deployments in the 6th Fleet area of responsibility.

Afghanistan gets help to 'bank' on its future

Tech. Sgt. Kevin Wallace
American Forces Press Service

BAGRAM AIRFIELD, Afghanistan, Aug. 19, 2008 --

U.S. forces here are using commercial banking services to bolster Afghanistan's economy by putting about \$100 million worth of monthly business transactions into private banks.

Abdul Qadeer Fitrat, the Central Bank of Afghanistan's governor, and officers from 101st Joint Logistics Command met at Camp Eggers on Aug. 7 to sign a memorandum that changed the banking relationship between U.S. forces and the Central Bank.

Monetary procedures between the Central Bank and U.S. forces will remain intact to help reduce volatility in the exchange rate of the afghani, Afghanistan's unit of currency, Fitrat said. In the end, he added, business will still flow to the smaller private banks. Central Bank is eager to support transition efforts, Fitrat said.

The Central Bank will convert the U.S. dollars to afghani and then transfer the currency to commercial banking services, explained Army Maj. Noah Cloud, 101st JLC finance officer. The Central Bank will have to remain engaged in the transactions.

"The Central Bank uses U.S. dollars to purchase [Afghan currency] on the open market," Cloud said. "[This] allows the Central Bank access to foreign currency reserves, which are necessary to the legitimacy of the Central Bank in the eyes of the International



1st Lt. Meagan Newsom

ON THE DOTTED LINE -- Abdul Qadeer Fitrat, the Central Bank of Afghanistan's governor, and Army Maj. Noah Cloud, 101st Joint Logistics Command finance officer, meet at Camp Eggers, Afghanistan, Aug. 7, to sign a memorandum that changes the banking relationship between U.S. forces and the Central Bank of Afghanistan.

Monetary Fund and the World Bank Organization."

Private banking is critical to economic development in Afghanistan, Fitrat said. The ultimate goal is to build confidence in Afghan banks, agreed Cloud.

"The more confidence we can build in Afghan banks, the more vendors will utilize them for payment via electronic funds transfers," Cloud explained. "This new [process] paves the way for U.S. forces to utilize private banks in Afghanistan for commercial services. This is vital, because previously the Central Bank

provided commercial services to our forces."

In years gone by, Afghanistan did not have a substantial private banking infrastructure or an economy to support it, Cloud said. As the nation continues to develop, both the Afghan government and coalition forces must continue to find ways to help bolster Afghanistan's development.

Fitrat agreed cooperation and progress must come from both sides, and he said he shares the vision of a strong relationship between the Central Bank and U.S. forces.

Equality stressed at lecture

(continued from page 5)

the constitution. But that year saw a seismic shift in the way women saw themselves; Shirley Chisholm was the first woman and first African American to run for president. America wouldn't see either for another 35 years.

Two years later, 1974, the first American woman to become governor was elected in Connecticut. And in 1981 Sandra Day O'Connor was appointed to the Supreme Court becoming the first woman Supreme Court Justice.

But even after these suc-

cesses, in 1982 the ERA died in Congress and has never been enacted into law. It fell three states short of ratification and disappeared into history.

Geraldine Ferraro led women into national politics by becoming the first woman to be nominated for Vice-President in 1984. She was reviled and lambasted by political rivals throughout the election campaign. Equal rights still had a long way to go.

With Hillary Clinton rising to national office as a Senator, then running for President in the 2007 election year, equal

rights for women made a giant leap forward.

She faced far fewer attacks because she was a woman than Geraldine Ferraro did 23 years earlier, but still faced attacks because of her gender, and faced questions no man has ever been asked: about her clothes, her tears, and her 'feelings'.

In 2008, women's equality is still at issue. The 1964 Civil Rights Act prohibits discrimination on the basis of race or sex and established the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission (EEOC). Until

2007, the EEOC successfully fought several cases for equal pay for equal work. But in May 2007, the Supreme Court handed down a 5-4 decision, Ledbetter v. Goodyear, which tossed aside longstanding prior law and handed down a 5-4 ruling made it significantly harder for women and other workers to pursue pay discrimination claims.

The Court ruled that since

Lilly Ledbetter, a long-time employee of Goodyear, had not filed her charge of pay discrimination within 180 days of her employer's initial decision to pay her less, she could not receive any relief. A vote in May 2007 in Congress failed to reinstate the protections of the 1964 Civil Rights Act because members of Congress said it would open the door to too many lawsuits.

On July 31, 2007, the House passed H.R. 2831, the Lilly Ledbetter Fair Pay Act. This critical bill for women, rectifying the Supreme Court decision in Ledbetter v. Goodyear narrowly failed to pass in the Senate.

As long as equality is seen as a women's issue and not an American issue, women will face lower pay, discrimination, and glass ceilings.

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

Announcements

Cinema Schedule

754-5139

McGuire Air Force Base

Friday, August 22 @ 7:30 p.m.

Hellboy II: The Golden Army- Ron Perlman, Selma Blair, Doug Jones, Luke Goss, John Alexander - After an ancient truce existing between humankind and the invisible realm of the fantastic is broken, hell on Earth is ready to erupt. A ruthless leader who treads the world above and the one below defies his bloodline and awakens an unstoppable army of creatures. Now, it's up to the planet's toughest, roughest superhero to battle the merciless dictator and his marauders. He may be red. He may be horned. He may be misunderstood. But when you need the job done right, it's time to call in Hellboy (Ron Perlman). Along with his expanding team in the Bureau for Paranormal Research and Defense—pyrokinetic girlfriend Liz (Selma Blair), aquatic empath Abe (Doug Jones) and protoplasmic mystic Johann—the BPRD will travel between the surface strata and the unseen magical one, where creatures of fantasy become corporeal. And Hellboy, a creature of two worlds who's accepted by neither, must choose between the life he knows and an unknown destiny that beckons him.

MPAA Rating: PG-13 - sequences of sci-fi action and violence, and some language

Run time: 120 minutes

Saturday, August 23 @ 7:30 p.m.

Journey to the Center of the Earth - Brendan Fraser, Anita Briem, Josh Hutcherson - During a scientific expedition in Iceland, visionary scientist Trevor Anderson (Brendan Fraser), his nephew Sean (Josh Hutcherson) and their beautiful local guide, Hannah (Anita Briem), are unexpectedly trapped in a cave from which their only escape is to go deeper and deeper into the depths of the Earth. Traveling through never-before-seen worlds, the trio comes face-to-face with surreal and unimaginable creatures—including man-eating plants, giant flying piranha, glow birds and terrifying dinosaurs from days past. The adventurers soon realize that as volcanic activity increases around them, they must find a way back to the Earth's surface before it is too late.

MPAA Rating: PG - intense adventure action and some scary moments

Runtime: 93 Minutes

Future Features...

Mamma Mia

Friday, August 29 @ 7:30 p.m.
PG-13, 108 minutes

Space Chimps

Saturday Matinee, August 30 @ 3 p.m.
G, 81 minutes

The Dark Knight

Saturday, August 30 @ 7:30 p.m.
PG-13, 152 minutes

Residential Refuse Collection

Monday: McGuire AFB 3800s and 3900s

Tuesday: All of Fort Dix

Thursday: McGuire AFB 4000s; 4400s; and 4500s

Recyclables are picked up every Thursday

Yard and Flower Garden waste is picked up every Monday and Tuesday.

Chapel Services

562-2020

Sunday Services

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

Sunday School.....10 to 11:15 a.m.
CCD.....9:15 to 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.
September 7 and 14

Camp Victory - Chaplain's tent
Hour of Power

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

Combined Protestant/Gospel Service will be held on Sunday, September 14 at Willow Pond Park, corner of 8th Street and Texas Avenue at 10 a.m. Following the combined service a picnic will be held. All are invited and welcome to attend.

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 - Invite all women to a Welcome Tea at the Main Chapel on Sept. 9, 7 p.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.

FMWR presents

CLUB DIX - 723-3272

Club Dix Hours of Operation

Java Café -	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

*Wine and Jazz Festival - Thursday, August 21 at 5 p.m. - Featuring renowned saxophonist Gerald Albright. Jazz performance is free of charge. Taste wines from local wineries and cheeses from around the world. \$15 fee includes a commemorative wine glass. Seating is limited. Tickets available at Club Dix and FMWR Headquarters, Bldg. 6043, Doughboy Loop.

*Ballroom Dancing is coming to Griffith Field House. Every Thursday starting September 4 learn basic routines for the waltz, swing/jitterbug, foxtrot, and an introduction to Latin Dance. Partners not required. Call 562-4888 for details.

*Operation Rising Star - September 12, 19 and 26, 7 to 10 p.m. - The Army version of American Idol. Win the ultimate recording music experience. Open to Active Duty, National Guard or Reserve from any branch of the services and Family members at least 18 years of age. Registration deadline is September 12. All auditions are open to the post community. Call Bob at 562-6772 for more details.

*Texas Hold'em Tournament at Club Dix - September 19 - Pre-registration is \$19, at the door is \$24. Call 723-3272 or 723-3273 for details.

*Latin Arts Festival at Doughboy Field - September 27, 1 to 6 p.m. - Featuring comedian George Diaz and performing artists Frankie Negron & Oro Solido. Admission free.

*BUNCO at Club Dix - October 10 at 6 p.m. - \$7 to play. Games begin at 7 p.m. Call 723-3272 or 723-3273 for details.

*Soldier Show at Timmerman Theatre - October 12, two performances - noon and 6 p.m. Admission free.

*Sesame Street Experience - USO Sesame Street Live at Timmerman Theatre - October 18 - Time to be determined. Admission free.

Arts & Crafts

Bldg. 6039 562-5691

Arts & Crafts will be closed August 30 for Labor Day

Registration Hours: Tues. 9 a.m. to 4:45 p.m.; Wed. & Thurs. 12-5 p.m. and 6-8:45 p.m.; Frid. 11 a.m. to 4:45 p.m. and Sat. 9 a.m. to 4:45 p.m.

*Krafty Birthdays - Arts and 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.

*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.

*Quilts for Kids - Sept. 13. You must Register by August 25. Bus leaves Arts and Crafts at 9 a.m. and travels across the river to Yardley. This is a special day to meet and sew with other Quilts for Kids Quilters.

*Framing Qualification Classes - Saturday, Sept. 6; 9-11:30 a.m. or Wednesdays, Sept. 3 or 17; 6 to 8:30 p.m. Cost \$10 prior to class, plus cost of materials - Get qualified to use our great facility. You will complete one piece as you learn to operate the equipment. You are required to bring something to frame such as a 8X10 photo or certificate. All materials are available at the Frame Shop for purchase.

*Kids Pottery Course (Ages 6-9) - Sept. 6-27; 4 Saturdays, 1 to 2:30 p.m. Cost \$30
Classes cover both hand building and wheel throwing techniques. Pre-registration is required.

*Tween Pottery Course (Ages 10-13) - Sept. 6-27; 4 Saturdays, 1 to 2:30 p.m. Cost \$30
Classes cover both hand building and wheel throwing techniques. Pre-registration is required.

*Adult Pottery Course - Sept. 10 to Oct. 15; 6 Wednesdays 6:30 to 9 p.m. Cost \$60 plus materials: Classes cover both hand building and wheel throwing techniques. Pre-registration is required.

*Adult Introductory Drawing and Painting Course - Sept. 11 to Oct. 16; Thursdays 6:30 to 9 p.m. Cost \$30 plus materials - Explore landscape, still-life, and portraiture drawing. Work with drawing and paint media including pencil, charcoal, chalk/oil pastels, acrylic and watercolor paints. Develop previous art skills or new ones!

*Beginning Sewing - Sept. 11, 18, 25; 6:15 p.m. to 9 p.m. Cost \$55 including materials - Our sewing studio has modern equipment and tools to make it fun and easy. Join us for the ageless art of sewing and become the next great fashion or home designer!

ACS

562-2767

Bldg. 5201 Maryland Avenue

Pre-retirement Workshop - August 26-29, 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. - Timmerman, Rm. 104

Hearts Apart - August 26 - 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. - Memories from the heart. ACS

Coping With Uncertain Financial Times - August 27 - 1:30 p.m. to 2:30 p.m. ACS

Teen Orientation - August 27 - 10 a.m. to 4:40 p.m.

Learning About Consumer Scams and Getting Help - August 27 - 10 a.m. to 11 a.m. or 1.30 p.m. to 2:30 p.m. ACS

EFMP Kidz Plus Swimming - August 28 t- 6:30 to 7:45 - Indoor Pool

International Spouse Group - August 29 - 11:45 a.m. to 1 p.m. ACS

Banking/Credit Union Services
Bldg. 5201, ACS 1:30 to 2:30 p.m.

Aquatic Center

Indoor Pool 562-2808

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. Noon to 4 p.m. Closed Labor Day weekend.

The indoor pool will be closed for maintenance September 2 to 9.

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.

Griffith Field House

Bldg. 6053 562-4888

*2008 American National Rugby League Championship Final - Saturday, August 23 - Prepare for a full day of matches featuring the AMNRL All-Star Squad versus the Auckland Metropolitan Police Team from New Zealand. The post match celebration includes a large party with live entertainment. For more information contact Bob Vogt at 562-6772.

*East Coast Wrestling is coming to the Griffith Field House September 11 at 6 p.m. Admission is \$5.

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, August 22

Open Rec.

Hip Hop Aerobics

5 to 6 p.m.

Saturday, August 23

Open Rec.

Teen Talent

6 p.m. to 9 p.m.

Monday, August 25

MS Summer Camp

Tuesday, August 26

Open Rec. Closed

Wednesday, August 27

Open Rec. Closed

Thursday, August 28

Open Rec.

3 on 3 Basketball playoffs

4:00 - 6 p.m.

Recreation Center

Bldg. 5905 (Military Only)

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

Bowling Center

Bldg. 6054 562-6895

*Monday Night Madness lives on at the Bowling Center: 5 to 10 p.m. \$2 Bowling, \$1 Shoe Rental

Outdoor Recreation

Bldg. 6045 562-2727/6667

John Mann Park Summer Hours

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

For more information call 562-6667
Fluke Fishing Trip to Point Pleasant, NJ - August 23

Fountain Green Golf Course

Bldg. 3152 562-5443

*2008 Military Long Drive Championship - August 16 - Win a \$300 Pro-shop gift certificate and a chance to compete in the Re/Maz World Long Drive Championship. Contact the Fountain Green Pro-shop at 562-5443 or visit www.armymwr.com for more information.

Rod & Gun Club at Range 14

Bldg. 9060, Range Road 562-4676

Hours of Operation:

Wednesday 1 to 8 p.m.

Friday 1 to 8 p.m.

Saturday/Sunday 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.

*Upcoming Hunter Education Course Dates -
Sunday, August 24

McGuire Family

Advocacy Program

305-MDG -2B31 754-9680

Open Monday-Friday 7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Closed September First -Labor Day

Tuesday - Sept. 2 - Stepping Stones Parenting, 9 to 10:30 a.m. at the FP; How to Avoid Marrying a Jerk, 3:30 to 5:30 p.m. at the FP.

Wednesday - Sept. 3 - Play Group (Infants) at the CDC 2, 11 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.; Baby Basics at the FAP, 2 p.m. to 7 p.m.

Thursday - Sept. 4 - Parent Support Group, 9 to 10:30 a.m. at the FP; Caring for Moms, 1 to 2:30 p.m. at the FP

Friday - Sept. 5 - Anger Management, 1 to 3 p.m., HAWC

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Soldier re-ups for shirt

Spec. Creighton Holub
American Forces Press Service

AMARAH, Iraq, Aug. 19, 2008 – Forget money. Forget choice of duty station. Forget everything but the T-shirt. Believe it or not, the T-shirt for re-enlisting on the front lines was the only incentive Pfc. Jacob McHenry wanted prior to signing up for an additional three years in the Army. "The Army is too easy for me, and I have no reason to get out," said the 18-year-old forward observer from Monroe, La., assigned to the 1st Cavalry Division's Company A, 2nd Battalion, 7th Cavalry Regiment, 4th Brigade Combat Team. "But it's really hard to change my [military occupational specialty], because there's not a lot of people in

my MOS." The artilleryman expressed no desire to find a new job; right now, he's the "go-to" guy when attack aviation assets are around. "This is completely different than doing anything in 'normal' artillery," he explained. "Talking to Longbow Apache helicopter pilots is different than anything else in the artillery branch. I have to take into consideration air-ground integration, and put myself into the pilot's position. I have to create a clear picture in their minds before they can attack the enemy." "It's great having him, because he has training related to artillery rounds," said 1st Lt. Trevor Jones, a Houston native and Company A's 3rd Platoon leader. "It helps to have someone who has more knowledge, and he can pass it down to my

other soldiers as well." The leaders in his unit are happy to have McHenry in their ranks assisting as the Iraqi security forces take the lead in combat operations on the streets of Amarah. "He's extended his time in the Army, so we know he's committed to doing what he's here for," Jones said. In addition to the re-enlistment T-shirt, McHenry received a \$7,500 cash bonus for re-enlisting through July 2013. He also reaped brigade-specific re-enlistment incentives, such as picking his own guaranteed vacation time, a pair of four-day trips to Qatar, and getting the first flight home at the end of the deployment. He also has the opportunity to complete more civilian education upon returning to Fort Hood.



Spec. Creighton Holub, 4th Brigade Combat Team, 1st Cavalry Division

TAKING THE OATH – Army Lt. Gen. Lloyd J. Austin III, commander of Multinational Corps Iraq, re-enlists Army Pfc. Jacob McHenry and other soldiers at Forward Operating Base Garry Owen, near Amarah, Iraq, July 30. McHenry's biggest incentive for re-enlisting was a T-shirt.

Overseas troops, civilians can vote by absentee ballot

Gerry J. Gilmore
American Forces Press Service

WASHINGTON, Aug. 15, 2008 – With fall general elections approaching, U.S. servicemembers and civilians living overseas should now be thinking about obtaining absentee ballots to vote, the Defense Department's senior voting official urged. "What we want to do is make sure that all of our military members, their family members and all of our U.S. citizens residing outside the United States have an opportunity to vote," Polli K. Brunelli, director of DoD's Federal Voting Assistance Program, told

Pentagon reporters. Based at Arlington, Va., the FVAP carries out voting assistance throughout the Defense Department on behalf of the secretary of defense, who is delegated by the president to administer the Uniformed and Overseas Citizens Absentee Voting Act of 1986. Brunelli said the law affects more than 6 million potential voters. Servicemembers and overseas civilians can access information about absentee voting requirements by accessing www.fvap.gov, the newly designed FVAP Web site, Brunelli said. "Absentee voting can be done by mail. There are also some alternatives that we've been working with the states

for electronic alternatives for our voters," she said. "So many states have passed legislation that allows a voter to submit voting materials by fax or e-mail." Many states also allow delivery of blank absentee ballots. As part of Armed Forces Voters Week, slated Aug. 31 through Sept. 7, military commanders and voting assistance officers worldwide will contact servicemembers and families

to inform them that it is a good time to register for an absentee ballot in the state where they are legal voting residents, Brunelli said. The mail, as well as fax and e-mail, are potential conduits where voters may cast absentee ballots, said Scott Wiedmann, the FVAP's deputy director. "We want to give the citizens as many opportunities, as many alternatives as possible, that are allowed by their state law, to communicate with that local election office," Wiedmann said. "We want everyone to participate in the voting process: our servicemembers, their family members and all of our overseas citizens," Brunelli said.

"It is voting outreach, to let them know that they are eligible to participate in this democratic process." However, the actual act of casting a ballot ultimately is up to the individual, she said. "So, it is up to the voter to decide what they want to do," Brunelli said. "We want to make sure they have the information and the means to do so, if they choose to vote." Servicemembers and family members with questions on absentee voting requirements should see their unit voting assistance officer or read their state registration and voting procedures in the Voting Assistance Guide on the Federal Voting Assistance Program's Web site.

"What we want to do is make sure that all of our military members, their family members and all of our U.S. citizens residing outside the United States have an opportunity to vote."
-Polli K. Brunelli

ABBOTT Preschool Orientation

Fort Dix Child Development Center
Tuesday, September 2, 2008
9:00 am - 12:00 pm

The Fort Dix Child Development Center is hosting our annual Abbott Preschool Orientation for children and Family members participating in our preschool program for 3 year olds for the 2008-2009 school year.

The event will include a Program overview and opportunity to meet and greet CDC and Pemberton Township Early Childhood Education staff from 9:00-9:45am. From 9:45-12:00pm children and family members may then visit the rooms and experience a "Day in Preschool" to spend more time with the teaching staff, engage in the learning centers, sample a snack and MORE!

The first day of the 2008-2009 school year is Monday, 8 September 2008.

For additional information, please contact:
Darleen M. White, Center Director
Marcella Atwood, Assistant Director
Jacqueline Doyle, Assistant Director
(609) 562-2371/3878/3263



Jennifer Chupka

Living memorial
Sgt. 1st Class Anthony Ruiz, and his son, Anthony Jr., plant a tree at John Mann Park Aug. 8, in memory of wife and mother Wanda Iris Ruiz, who died last year.

FORT DIX WANTS YOU TO BE A VOLUNTEER

MAKE A DIFFERENCE
Fort Dix is looking for interested residents who would like to volunteer

"Fort Dix volunteers improve the quality of life for all residents"
Call Army Community Service at 562-2767

NCO Call at Club Dix
Wednesday evenings at 6 p.m.

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

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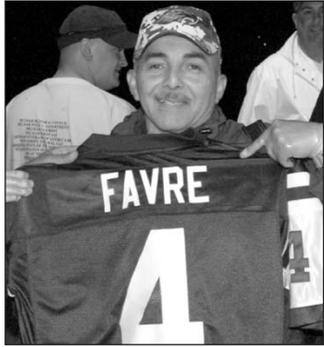
Soldier support shown with blues cruise

Gerry Zanzalari
Public Affairs Staff

It's summertime in New Jersey and that usually means great fishing. For the men and women of the Fort Dix Warrior Transition Unit (WTU), it meant outstanding fishing. It was warm and sunny on the afternoon of Aug. 15, as quite a few members of the WTU headed to Belmar for a bluefish fishing trip aboard the vessel Ocean Explorer. Numerous well-wishers from the community of Belmar and the Friendly Son's of the Shillegh Pipe and Drums of the Jersey Shore were on hand to

offer their appreciation to the troops and to wish good luck to those heading out for what turned out to be an extraordinary evening of fishing and unexpected weather. Food and drink was provided at no cost and included Kobe beef burgers, pizza by the ton, sandwiches, wraps, sushi and every soft drink imaginable. Organized by the borough of Belmar and the Belmar Police Dept., with support from Mike Engi, Roman Niedzwiedz and the Vietnam Veterans of America (VVA) West Central District, N.J., Chapter 899, about 45 Soldiers from the WTU, along with

members of the VVA, climbed aboard the boat and headed east about 5 p.m. Under the expert command of Captain Bobby Quinn, who donated the vessel and its services, the Ocean Explorer turned north and steamed, well, actually diesel, to the fishing grounds. After about forty minutes of glorious cruising north along the Jersey shore, the Ocean Explorer stopped and started looking for bluefish. And find them it did. The bite started out a bit slow with a few nice-sized blues being boated, but in no time, there were calls of "Fish On!" resounding from everywhere on the boat.



Gerry Zanzalari

BIG FISH -- Staff Sgt. Hector Lugo shows off a Jets' Brett Favre jersey he won by catching the biggest fish during the WTU fishing trip Aug. 15.

It seemed to be the mother lode. Mates were doing their best to provide bait, gaff the fish and help untangle lines, but were soon overwhelmed by the sheer number of fish, and the frenzy became an all-hands festival. If you've ever gone blue fishing, you're well aware of the fight in a big bluefish. Mother Nature, however, decided a break in the action was needed, and the winds and clouds blew in hard. Rain came down in buckets, wind was blowing the boat all over the place, the ocean roiled, and there was lightning everywhere. For safety's sake, Captain Quinn ordered everyone inside the cabin to wait out the storm and avail themselves of the incredible smorgasbord at hand. Nobody went hungry. After about thirty minutes, the tempest relented somewhat and everyone went back to the task of blue fishing. Not only did the storm let



Gerry Zanzalari

BON VOYAGE -- Residents of the Belmar community wish Soldiers from Fort Dix's Warrior Transition Unit good luck as they head off for an evening of fishing. The fishing trip was provided as a way to say thank you to the troops.

up, but the fishing came back better than it was before. There were bluefish everywhere. Soldiers were soaking wet, laughing, yelling, pulling in fish, and at the same time, they were winning prizes. Giveaways included Oakley sunglasses, Orange County Chopper hats, t-shirts, digital cameras, iPods, wristwatches, neck massagers, team hats, portable DVD players, iTunes cards and more. Prizes for the biggest fish included a NY Jets' Brett Favre jersey and a new fishing rod and reel. Contributions in cash, prizes and food were received from RKE and Belmar Tourism, Orange County Choppers, VFW post 260, The Military Order of the Purple Heart, Conair Klein's Fish Market, Federico's, Freedman's Bakery, Jack's Tavern, Jake's Crab Shack, D

Jai's, Bar Anticipation, Connelly Station, Boat House, 507, The Inn at the Shore, New Jersey Natural Gas, and Wilson Walton. Representatives from the Belmar Police department were on board as mates and Belmar First Aid made sure trained medical personnel were along for the trip. This was an outstanding trip and very appropriate thank you for the Soldiers of the WTU.

Rugby final set for Dix

The 2008 American National Rugby League Grand Final will be held at Fort Dix Aug. 23. The American National Rugby League and American Rugby News announced they are partnering to provide a free broadcast of the game on amnrl.com and american-rugbynews.com. "This is an exciting time for both ARN and the AMNRL," said ARN editor Brian Lowe. "We are the only rugby media outlet in the United States that covers the great game of rugby and we're absolutely thrilled to be able to bring our listeners live coverage of this year's Grand Final. "It will mark the first time that an American rugby league game has been broadcast live in America, and ARN is truly honored to be part of this ground breaking event." "The American National Rugby League Cup Final XI promises to be the most exciting Grand Final event we have ever hosted, and the support of American Rugby News in sharing our information all season, along with a 'live' call of the Grand Final is fantastic. American Rugby News has been a tremendous source of rugby league information in America and it is exciting to know that our Cup Final will be available to rugby league fans across the USA and all around the world!" said David Niu, president of the American National Rugby League. The league's perennial powerhouse club Aston DSC Bulls will be making an unprecedented eleventh straight appearance in a Grand Final and will face a tough challenge in the New Haven Warriors. This will be the Warriors' first ever appearance in an AMNRL Grand Final. Both teams have been the form sides of the 2008 season after running the table during the regular season and winning their respective playoff games. The Grand Final is scheduled to kick off at 4 p.m. at Doughboy Field. The pre-game show will start at 3:45 p.m.

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SPORTS

Soldier sets records en route to win

Tim Hipps
Army News Service

BELLING (Aug. 13, 2008) - U.S. Army Marksmanship Unit's Spc. Walton Glenn Eller III set two Olympic records en route to winning a Gold Medal in double trap at the Beijing Shooting Range Aug. 12.

USAMU teammate Spc. Jeffrey Holguin finished fourth in the event. Eller's score of 145 in the qualification rounds eclipsed the previous Olympic record of 144 set in the 2004 Athens Games by United Arab Emirates' shooter Ahmed Almatkum, who finished seventh in Beijing.

In double trap, competitors fire their 12-gauge shotguns from five adjacent shooting stations. At each station, two targets are thrown simultaneously from an underground bunker at speeds up to 50 miles per hour at set angles and height.

The targets are thrown with a variable delay of up to one second and competitors get one shot per target.

"I realized with my last pair to go, 'Oh, the Olympic record is only 144. If I hit my last pair, I'm going to get the Olympic record.'"

When Eller did that, he sensed he was on his way to a spectacular day. He missed his first two targets in the final, but settled down and missed only

three shots the rest of the way. "If you shoot the Olympic record (in qualification rounds) and you've got a little bit of a lead, you expect to come out with Gold," Eller said. "But after I went out there (in the final) and missed that first pair, it was a little dicey there for a second, but I brought it all back together."

Eller's final score of 190 topped Almatkum's world record of 189, also set in Athens. Italy's Francesco D'Aniello won the silver medal in Beijing with a score of 187, and China's Binyuan Hu took the bronze with a 184 total. "It's incredible," said Eller,

"I realized with my last pair to go, 'Oh, the Olympic record is only 144. If I hit my last pair, I'm going to get the Olympic record.'"

-Spc. Walton Glenn Eller III

26, a native of Katy, Texas, who is stationed at Fort Benning, Ga. "I finally made a final in the Olympics. I came in like twelfth (in Sydney) and seventeenth (in Athens), and finally came out and put a good day together. This was the only thing I was worried about for the last two years."

Explaining his key to success, Eller reached into his vest and revealed a handful of baseball cards.

"Hard work," the three-time Olympian said as he shuffled

cards featuring Soldiers of the U.S. Army Marksmanship Unit. "That, and I had my teammates with me. The military has been great to me. They've helped me fulfill a dream that, without them, I don't think would've ever happened. I owe everything to them."

"Joining the Army was an incredible gain for me. It gave me a lot of discipline. I was fortunate enough to go into the Army Marksmanship Unit. It's great having those guys to train with every day. They really pushed me along. Just working with them all day, every day, it keeps you in it."

watching me. To have them here and to finally win a Gold Medal for them is incredible. The crowd was amazing. The facilities were incredible."

Holguin, 29, of Yorba Linda, Calif., finished fourth with a 182 total. "I shot really well today, until the final," Holguin said. "This game is all about putting four good rounds together, and honestly, I could only manage two. I had a mediocre round and a bad round. So when you've got two good rounds, they don't offset the mediocre and bad rounds."

"Finishing fourth, that's where you finish when you shoot like I did in the final," Holguin said.

On this day, Holguin tipped his cap to Eller.

"It's all about him now," Holguin said. "Glenn Eller and I started shooting against each other a long, long time ago, and we actually enlisted in the Army together in the fall of 2006. This was half of our goal. We wanted Gold and Silver at the Olympics. We came really close, but I'm happy for him."

During the competition, Holguin did not pull any punches for his Army teammate.

"When we're out on the shooting line, we take the gloves off and go at it as hard as anybody else," Holguin said. "I don't feel bad when he misses a target. If he would



Tim Hipps

SHARP SHOOTER -- Spc. Walton Glenn Eller III of the U.S. Army Marksmanship Unit at Fort Benning, Ga., bites his Olympic gold medal after winning the double trap event Aug. 12 at the Beijing Shooting Range.

have lost the Gold Medal, year, I would have felt badly for him, but not if I was in the Silver Medal position. I'd be chasing him the whole way."

Holguin agreed with Eller that joining USAMU was their best move.

"Joining the Army was probably the best thing I could've done for my shooting career, just because of the discipline and structure that comes along with the Army," Holguin said.

"The Army Marksmanship Unit at Fort Benning has world-class shooting facilities. We shoot with and against some of the best in the world," he said. "I've been training with the 2008 Olympic Gold medalist for the last two years straight since I joined the Army, so the Army has definitely taken my shooting to the next level."

"My heartfelt thanks go out to everybody who has been behind me this whole time, but it's Glenn's day. He earned it. He deserves it."

Fort Dix athletes still fighting for Olympic gold

Fierce competition continued this week for athletes participating in the Fort Dix Olympics.

Alex Ushomirsky set the pace early during the Aug. 19 kayak event, but Matt Miksit managed a better time to win the gold. Ushomirsky held on for the silver, and was followed by Rafael DeJesus for bronze.

The archery competition went to the wire, with

Ushomirsky and Jeff Whalen tied, and went into a shoot-off to determine a winner. Ushomirsky ended up with the top prize, followed by Whalen for silver and Jason Harayda for bronze.

The final event for the Fort Dix Olympics will be a 50-meter race at the pool, starting at 10 a.m.

Look in next week's post for more results and photos.



photos by Ed Mingin

GOLDEN -- Matt Miksit, above, won the gold medal in the kayak race Aug. 19, during the Fort Dix Olympics. Miksit edged out Alex Ushomirsky, who took the silver, above inset, and Rafael DeJesus, who won bronze, lower inset. Ushomirsky had another strong effort in the archery competition, which took place immediately following the kayak race, this time winning a gold medal, left photo. The Fort Dix Olympics will conclude Aug. 23, with the 50-meter swim, starting at 10 a.m. at the pool.

Sports Shorts

Griffith Field House

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

Bowling League

The Tuesday Nite Keglers (Mixed-HCP) league is forming for the 2008/2009 winter season. Sign up at the Fort Dix Bowling Center. Teams and individual bowlers are needed.

League will begin 6:30 p.m., September 9. Call Willie Williams at (609) 893-8430 for more information.

Flag Football

Flag football season begins in October and interested parties can sign up at the Griffith Field House.

Call Chris O'Donnell at (609) 562-4888 for more information.

Combat Fitness Training Challenge

Maximize the benefits of standard physical fitness training at the Griffith Field House. The Combat Fitness Training Challenge, every Monday and Wednesday from 6:30 a.m. - 7:30 a.m. is an intense military-style group workout given by certified Griffith Field House personal trainers and Army master fitness trainers.

The class includes running, military-style calisthenics and drill exercises, cardio kickboxing and more. Call (609) 562-4888 for more.

NFL Youth Football

The National Football League is coming to Fort Dix. Sept. 4. Members of the NFL will conduct a youth football clinic to teach football skills and exercise tips to youth aged 7 - 13. The clinic will be held at Doughboy Field. This clinic is for uni-

formed military member's family members only.

Registration is by e-mail only and is limited to 100 children.

Registration opened Aug. 18 and closes Aug. 25. You must register by e-mail, regcruisoo@libertyusg.org, and print the confirmation. That confirmation is the ticket to the clinic and will be ineligible.

Your e-mail must contain the name and ages of children, sponsors name, rank and duty assignment. Indicate NFL Clinic in subject line.

Military volunteers are needed to assist the NFL with the skill stations. Clinic organizers are looking for 16 military volunteers. Volunteers must be in service PT uniform when they come to the clinic.

If volunteering and not registering a child for the clinic, indicate NFL Clinic volunteer in the subject line.



Ryan Morton

Luau long-drive

The Hawaiian luau themed Commander's Cup, held Aug. 13, at the Fountain Green Golf Course, was won by the team of Dave Clee, Jim Ellis, Jack Myers, and Mike Kondyra.