

## NEWSNOTES

### Flu-shot hours extended

The 87th Medical Group Immunization Clinic, Bldg. 3458, will operate Monday through Friday from 7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. (Clinic opens 10:30 a.m. last Friday of every month.)

For more information on H1N1 or seasonal flu vaccinations, call the Immunizations Clinic at 754-9209. Updated information can be found at [www.jointbasemdl.af.mil](http://www.jointbasemdl.af.mil) and on page 3 of this edition of the Post.

### 514th deactivation ceremony

There will be a historical deactivation/activation ceremony Oct. 24 at 10:30 a.m. as the 514th Communications Squadron is deactivated and immediately reactivated as the 42nd Combat Communications Squadron. The ceremony will be held at Building 3513. Any questions can be directed to Master Sgt. Nancy Boston at 754-1926.

### Dental coverage available for active-duty families

Is your child or spouse in need of dental care? The Dental TRICARE Program and United Concordia can help. The TRICARE Dental Program is an insurance program and, with United Concordia dental care, is made affordable and accessible.

There are more than 64,000 participating dentists in the program. For an additional cost, you can get a nonparticipating dentist, if preferred. At the program's Web site, [www.tricare dentalprogram.com](http://www.tricare dentalprogram.com), there is information about enrolling, paying online, finding a dentist, finding an overseas host-nation provider, benefits and more.

### Retiree Council to host country luncheon

A luncheon will be sponsored by the Fort Dix Retiree Council for their guests Nov. 7. The social time will begin at noon followed by the luncheon at 1 p.m.

Entertainment at the luncheon will be provided by Pro Sing Entertainment. The cost for the luncheon/gratuity is \$20. Make checks payable to Fort Dix Retiree Council. Retirees and their guests/friends are invited to contact Sgt. Maj. Norman Pallotto, 15 East Central Avenue, Moorestown, N.J. 08057. Call (856) 234-7699 no later than Nov. 1 to make reservations.

### Burger King closed for renovations

The Fort Dix Burger King, Bldg. 5399, is closed. The expected closure will last 50 days as the kitchen is being renovated and upgraded. Once the kitchen is completed, Burger King is expected to open for service in the DRIVE THRU ONLY for another 45 days while the dining room is renovated. The estimated \$1.3 million project is expected to take just over 90 days.

### Help is available

Do you, or someone you know, need help? Call Military OneSource at (800) 342-9647 or the Outreach Center at (866) 966-1020.

## Weather

**FRIDAY** -- Cloudy with highs in the upper 50s, lows in the low 50s.

**SATURDAY** -- Rainy and windy with highs in the low 60s, lows in the mid 40s.

**SUNDAY** -- Mostly sunny with highs in the high 50s, lows in the mid 40s.

**MONDAY** -- Partly cloudy with highs in the upper 50s, lows in the upper 40s.

**TUESDAY** -- Showers with highs in the low 60s, lows in the mid 40s.

# Center under new leader

## BG takes charge of Air Force training center

Chief Master Sgt. Paula A. Paige  
U.S. AF Expeditionary Center PA

In a speech outlining his three priorities as he took charge of the U.S. Air Force Expeditionary Center on Joint Base McGuire-Dix-Lakehurst, Brig. Gen. Richard T. Devereaux told the hundreds gathered at his change-of-command ceremony Oct. 19 that he was "humbled and delighted to be taking command of this fine organization."

The former director of Intelligence Operations and Nuclear Integration for the headquarters Air Education and Training Command at Randolph Air Force Base, Texas, Devereaux replaces Maj. Gen. Kip Self who was selected for reassignment. Self has been tapped to take on responsibilities as director of Operational Planning, Policy and Strategy, deputy chief of staff for Operations, Plans and Requirements at Headquarters U.S. Air Force, Washington, D.C.

Devereaux said his priorities for the Expeditionary Center are to make sure "we provide relevant, realistic, comprehensive training; ensure the institution

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U.S. Air Force Photo/Carlos Cintron

**TAKING THE STICK** -- Brig. Gen. Richard T. Devereaux, U.S. Air Force Expeditionary Center commander, Joint Base McGuire-Dix-Lakehurst, right, takes the guidon from Gen. Arthur J. Lichte, Air Mobility Command commander, during a change-of-command ceremony Oct. 19.

# Navy looks to sea, sun for energy

Bob Freeman  
American Forces Press Service

**WASHINGTON (ANS)** -- The services could more effectively power unmanned vehicles, underwater monitoring sensors, ships and aircraft if Naval Research Laboratory scientists achieve their goals of harnessing solar and sea power to fuel the military for years to come, a top NRL scientist said.

"A worldwide peak of fuel production is expected in five to 15 years, and increased demand will likely create large swings in price and availability," Barry Spargo, head of NRL's chemical dynamics and diagnostics branch, said in an Oct. 14 interview on Pentagon Web Radio's audio webcast "Armed with Science: Research and Applications for the Modern Military."

"The bottom line is that we need to develop alternative power and energy because conservation and efficiency alone will fall short of meeting future needs," he explained.

The quest for alternative fuel technologies is a top priority for the Navy, Spargo said, adding that energy research at NRL is diverse, allowing them to bring together a wide array of disciplines to address unique problems confronting alternate energy research.

"We're conducting research in a number of areas that look really promising; however it's unlikely that a single research area will solve the energy problems that we are facing," Spargo said. "NRL is currently investing in synthetic fuel production at sea, enhancing fuel energy density, exploration of methane hydrates in

**One area of research the Naval Research Laboratory is pursuing is the feasibility of sea-based production of hydrocarbon fuels.**

the ocean, energy harvesting from the sea, fuel cells and batteries, power electronics and superconductors, and inertial fusion.

"Each of these research areas has significant challenges," he added, "but certainly promising potential to help solve some of the Navy and [Defense Department's] future power and energy needs for force mobility."

One area of research that NRL is pursuing is the feasibility of sea-based production of hydrocarbon

fuels. According to Spargo, the goal is to produce fuel in the same location where it is being consumed, specifically to support surface ships and aircraft operations from carriers at sea.

"This would give battle groups independence from fleet oilers which provide refueling needs," Spargo explained. It also would cushion naval forces from future fuel shortfalls, he added, providing energy independence to the Navy.

Fuel synthesis would be accomplished by a catalytic conversion of hydrogen produced directly from sea water by the electrolysis of water and carbon dioxide.

"It's a complex process, but we believe that emerging scientific technology supports the development of synthetic logistic fuels," he noted.

"There are significant research and technological

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# MPs prep for Iraq mission

Wayne Cook  
ASA Public Affairs

Approximately 200 Soldiers from the 855th Military Police Company, Arizona National Guard, Phoenix, Ariz., are tackling the training lanes at Army Support Agency, Joint Base McGuire-Dix-Lakehurst, this month in preparation for a Police Transition Team mission in Iraq.

The Guardsmen from the Grand Canyon State are being put through the paces of firearms refresher and familiarization, convoy operations, cultural awareness, language basics, police tactics and strategies, and other courses to get ready for the upcoming task of training Iraqi police forces.

According to Master Sgt. Johnny Vidrio, the 855th, in the words of the Arizona governor, is the state's emergency unit. The level of competency and

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# Staying alert helps combat terrorism

2nd Lt. Carolyn Z. Glover  
Joint Base MDL Public Affairs

The citizens of Joint Base McGuire-Dix-Lakehurst should never forget the value of situational awareness. "Complacency kills," explained George Diorio, 87th Air Base Wing Antiterrorism advisor.

Situational awareness is a term people tend to throw around freely but do not really understand, said Diorio. It involves being aware of the actions and events of the surrounding environment -- how information, events and actions will impact the safety and security of the workplace and home.

The JB MDL Antiterrorism Office encourages servicemembers to always pay close attention to surroundings both on and off base. Always be alert, whether it's walking to the car at night or looking out the window at work.

"Lacking situational awareness has been identified as one of the primary factors in accidents attributed to human error," he said.

Out-of-place vehicles, lurking pedestrians or tourists taking photographs on base are all potential threats to servicemembers and their families.

Watching out for these situations and reporting them is a proactive way of eliminating the risk of terrorist attacks on military bases and in local communities.

A Joint Staff Integrated Vulnerability Assessment

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Ryan Morton

**DOWN AND DIRTY** -- Soldiers of the 855th Military Police Company deal with unruly townspeople played by civilians-on-the-battlefield (COBs) during a training scenario at the Army Support Agency, Joint Base McGuire-Dix-Lakehurst Balad Training Range Oct. 19. The 855th MP Co., part of the Arizona National Guard from Phoenix, Ariz., is mobilizing for an upcoming Operation Iraqi Freedom mission.

# Forces continue transition from strategic to operational reserve

Fred W. Baker III  
American Forces Press Service

WASHINGTON, Oct. 19, 2009 -- Today's reserve forces have made tremendous progress transforming from a strategic to an operational reserve, even as they continue to support two wars and hundreds of other missions around the world, a senior Defense Department official said last week.

Family programs are strong, employers are supporting the troops, recruiting and retention have hit record highs, and the active and reserve forces are working together better than they ever have in the past, said Dennis M. McCarthy, assistant secretary of defense for reserve affairs.

Barely four months into the post, McCarthy painted a positive picture of where the reserve forces are today, while admitting more work remains to be done.

"It doesn't mean we don't have challenges, but overall I think the force is holding up extremely well," he said in an interview with American Forces Press Service.

About 138,000 reservists are now serving on active duty. Since the terrorist attacks of Sept. 11, 2001, about 725,000 reservists have been activated, and more than 64 percent of the reserve force has seen recent deployments. That's the highest percentage of any time in the past 50 years, officials said.

McCarthy — a retired Marine reservist — has witnessed first-hand many of the changes as the force began its transition in the wake of the start of two wars.

He was activated in the early 1990s at the start of operations Desert Shield and Desert Storm. In 1997, he became the only reserve officer to command an active-duty Marine division, and before his retirement in 2005 as a lieutenant general, McCarthy commanded the Marine Corps Reserve.

McCarthy acknowledged that of the reserve forces, the Army's reserve components faced the largest transition. For decades, they had relied on a deployment model that counted on its units having time after mobilization to train and get the equipment they needed to deploy.

That model has shifted, putting more demands on the unit to report to the mobilization site trained and ready to deploy. The shift requires the active-duty force to work hand in hand with the reserves on funding, equipping, training and readiness requirements.

Admittedly, McCarthy said, those areas got off to a shaky start as the forces were thrust into providing the lion's share of the troops deploying to Iraq and Afghanistan. Now, that relationship has forged into one that has never been better, he noted.

"Best I've ever seen," he said. "The fact is that the quality of relationships has grown since 2001, in part because of need — [it] had to happen. But I think in part because now that you've had leaders [and] formations working together, the confidence that they have in each other goes up."

At the start of the wars, reservists faced lengthy deployments stretched by six months or more at a mobilization site readying for war. Many saw the equipment they would fight with for the first time at the site. Pay issues plagued the units, as National Guard members transitioned from state pay systems to the federal system. Some training was duplicated due to certification requirements.

Now, reserve units are training more at their home stations. That training is certified and is not repeated at mobilization. Also,



Dennis M. McCarthy  
assistant secretary of defense  
for reserve affairs

reserve units now are heading into the first funding year that puts new equipment in their hands in time to have troops train with it before they are mobilized and deployed.

Besides training and equipping the units, some of the greatest strides in progress have come in supporting families, McCarthy said. All seven reserve-component services and the Defense Department have poured money and resources into family programs since the wars started. At one time, family groups were led by a volunteer who used donated office space or supplies from a nearby army. Now, full-time family-support staff has been fielded to the units, and staff and funds have been added all the way to the Defense Department level.

**About 138,000 reservists are now serving on active duty. Since the terrorist attacks of Sept. 11, 2001, about 725,000 reservists have been activated, and more than 64 percent of the reserve force has seen recent deployments. That's the highest percentage of any time in the past 50 years, officials said.**

"We are clearly better than we were in 2001," McCarthy said.

The retired three-star general said he spent his last four years in uniform pushing the importance of family readiness programs. The emphasis has to be at the commander level, he said.

"It's a non-delegable duty for a commander to have a strong family readiness program," McCarthy said.

McCarthy praised the Yellow Ribbon Program, in which representatives in each state can act as a single resource, reaching out to a network of services available for service-members and families. The program started in the Minnesota National Guard in 2007 to help members of the 34th Infantry Division who had been deployed for 23 consecutive months. The 2008 National Defense Authorization Act mandated a national program for all reserve components.

Employer support efforts in the past two decades also have reaped dividends, McCarthy said. Much of that has to do with the work by the National Committee for Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve, a Defense Department agency that works

with employers, reservists, military leaders and volunteers to help employers prepare for the increase in deployments.

"It is so much better and so much stronger than it was 19 years ago. It's almost like night and day," McCarthy said.

Many times, especially in small towns, a unit deployment can mean a serious reduction in force on police and fire departments and education and medical staffs. This has put employers in a pinch, especially small businesses, which are required by law to guarantee a job for the returning reservist.

"When [reservists] leave, it's a big hole," McCarthy said. "And people are finding ways to work things out."

But while McCarthy attributed a portion of progress to ESGR's efforts, much of the support stems from the patriotism of the employers themselves, he noted.

"I could go on from now until next week with one good story after another about what individual employers ... are doing for their employees," McCarthy said. Still, he said, unit commanders today seldom reach out to employers until there is an issue with a troop. McCarthy said he would like to see commanders embrace employer support much the same as family support.

"If there's one area where I think we really need some improvement, it's making commanders more aware of the need to ... proactively reach out to the employers," McCarthy said. "Don't wait until there's a problem. Let's get out in front of it."

Both families and employers are critical to the record high recruiting and retention numbers the reserves enjoyed this year, McCarthy said.

"If we lose either the families or the employers," he said, "retention is going to be in the tank. I don't think there's any question about that."

Even state governors and commanders have all but stopped complaining about the frequent deployments of their troops and equipment, McCarthy said. Early on in the wars, many governors and commanders complained that heavy deployment cycles were leaving the states without adequate resources to respond to internal needs, such as fires, floods and other emergencies. But largely out of necessity, states now have agreements with their neighbors so that if their resources are not available, they can borrow them from nearby.

Also, senior leadership from the active-duty Army and the National Guard put together a list of equipment that will stay in each state for such responses. Those stocks are being built up now, McCarthy said.

McCarthy pointed out that every reservist serving now has either enlisted or re-enlisted since the wars started. At the outset of the wars and the accompanying heavy deployment cycles, some questioned whether the use of the reserve components in an operational manner would put too much strain on the community-based force.

And many who had served for years in the Cold War strategic reserve were forced to decide whether to become part of an operational force or leave.

Reservists serving now deserve credit for the decision they made to serve in the fight now, McCarthy said.

"This is the all-volunteer force," he said. "And as far as I'm concerned, it's another great generation because of this spirit of willing volunteerism, fully understanding what the implications of making that decision are."

that consume carbon dioxide in the ocean and convert it into energy that can be harvested. "As part of their biochemistry, these organisms produce electricity," he explained.

NRL has developed a number of devices that use microorganisms to power small sensors, like bottom-mounted acoustic hydrophones for monitoring ship traffic, Spargo said.

"If we can produce enough energy with these devices, they could also power unmanned underwater vehicles, or at least provide a docking station where they could regenerate their batteries using electricity produced by these microbes," he said.

The lab has expended considerable research and development in developing hydrogen fuel cells as an energy source, Spargo said. "Fuel cells are used to create electricity, and they do this by converting hydrogen and oxygen into water," he explained.

Hydrogen fuel cells can deliver about twice the efficiency of a conventional combustion engine and when used to fuel unmanned aerial vehicles, or UAVs, they can support heavier payloads than the earlier battery-powered models.

Spargo also described efforts to harvest methane hydrates from the sea floor. "They have the potential of being double the amount of recoverable and non-recoverable fossil fuels," he said.

# Navy looks to sea, sun

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challenges, but the potential payoff is really high," he added.

Spargo noted that producing energy from sea water would be carbon dioxide neutral, thus not adding to the world's carbon footprint. "This technology would be a great candidate for dual use in the civilian sector if it actually comes to fruition."

Spargo described another promising avenue of research that is investigating the potential for tapping the thermal energy stored in tropical waters.

"The energy stored in tropical waters is 300 times that of the world energy consumption. This makes the ocean the largest solar collector on Earth," he noted.

Ocean thermal energy conversion is a potentially efficient method to convert the energy stored in tropical oceans into electricity.

"You take the surface water, which is about 80 degrees Fahrenheit, and [use it to] heat a working liquid, something like propylene, which has a vapor point below 80 degrees," Spargo explained. "The propylene liquid goes into a gas which drives a turbine that produces electricity. We then bring cold water up from about 3,000 feet below the surface, cool that vapor back into liquid and essentially create a cyclic process."

Taking a more direct approach to harnessing the energy of the



**FUTURE FUELS -- John Bigus, left, a fuels engineer assigned to Naval Air Warfare Center-Aircraft Division in Patuxent River, Md., explains the greening of Navy Fuels at the first Naval Energy Forum hosted by the Office of Naval Research and Task Force Energy. Bigus stands in front of a display of camelina and algae fuels and processes for the production of renewable fuels to be tested in Navy ship and aircraft.**

U.S. Navy photo/John F. Williams  
typed a photovoltaic coating that can be sprayed on surfaces, like a rock, to create on-the-fly energy sources," he said. "You can imagine a small force spraying a rock and using it to generate electricity to power some device that they are using in the field."

A more unusual approach to energy production is the use of certain marine microorganisms

## COMMANDER'S ACTION LINE

The Action Line is an integral part of the base feedback network. Base personnel are urged to use the chain of command first to address their concerns.

If you are not satisfied with the response from your chain of command, or you are unable to resolve the problem or concern, call 754-3247. Action lines may be made anonymously, however it is recommended you leave your name and number in case more information is needed to address your concern.



Col. Gina Grosso  
Joint Base Commander

## October declared National Energy Awareness Month

WASHINGTON -- October 2009 has been declared National Energy Awareness Month in a proclamation released by the White House Oct. 2. This month is designed to help Americans make clean energy choices that can both rebuild the economy and make it more sustainable.

The month will highlight our nation's energy issues by promoting the importance of energy research and development and protecting the environment. The month will also address how being aware of the energy we use can also address issues of global competitiveness and national security.

In the proclamation, President Obama shares that "innovation in energy technology will decrease our oil use, strengthen our economy, and reduce the dangerous pollution that causes climate change."

The proclamation also shared that the Federal Government is the largest consumer of energy in the country and that the Administration is committed to leading by example in the use of clean energy and increased energy efficiency.

"We face a turning point in our Nation's energy policy. We can either remain the world's leading importer of oil, or we can become the world's leading exporter of clean energy technology. We can allow climate change to wreak unnatural havoc, or we can create jobs deploying low-carbon technologies to prevent its worst effects," the proclamation continued.

Starting this month, the nation can lead in "innovating, adapting to the global marketplace, and investing in the kind of sustainable future we want for the generations to come," by participating in energy awareness. To view the full proclamation, visit [http://www.whitehouse.gov/the\\_press\\_office/Presidential-Proclamation-National-Energy-Awareness-Month/](http://www.whitehouse.gov/the_press_office/Presidential-Proclamation-National-Energy-Awareness-Month/)

## ASA COMMANDER INPUT

We value Customer Feedback and performance improvement.

It is important that we will continue to remain a cornerstone to the operations as the Army Support Activity (ASA). Interactive Customer Evaluation (ICE) is your direct link to Army service providers of the ASA. This is your opportunity to rate products and service providers.

It is a vital piece in evaluating feedback and provides service providers with a tool that allows them to directly and quickly affect the well-being of our customers. You may also offer suggestions for improving the quality of CONUS, then Fort Dix.



Col. Patrick Slowe  
ASA Commander

Log on to ICE and let us know how we are doing at <http://www.ice.disa.mil>. Click Army Service.

## the Post

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# New leader

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remains the center of excellence for the Air Force; and to continue recruiting and retaining world class instructors and staff.

"The way I see it, our Air Force would be unable to 'fly, fight and win in the air, space and cyberspace' without a robust expeditionary capability," Devreaux told the audience in the center's auditorium. "Without a doubt, the (Expeditionary Center) has directly contributed to the Air Force's top priority of partnering with the joint and coalition team to win today's fight.

"Never has the EC's mission been more relevant than today when we have over 40,000 Airmen deployed all around the globe over 96 locations directly contributing to meeting humanitarian support missions," the new commander said. "The importance of that mission is enough to get me pretty pumped about taking command of this organization."

Through its Mobility Operations School, Expeditionary Operations School and Resources Directorate, the Expeditionary Center provides advanced combat support training and education for Airmen before they deploy. The center has more than 380 personnel and offers 77 in-residence courses and 16 web-based courses, graduating over 17,000 students each year.

Born in Lockport, N.Y., Devreaux grew up in Florida and Georgia. His father also has ties to the military, serving five years in the Air Force as a radio operator on B-29s. The general also has an identical twin brother, Bob, who is a civilian physician in Virginia.

Devreaux, who holds three master's degrees, joined the Air Force in 1978, graduating with honors from the Air Force Academy. He served as a T-37 instructor pilot and managed initial development of the flight control and avionics systems for the C-17. He has held staff positions within both the operational and logistics directorates of the joint staff, and has worked on the Sec-

retary of the Air Force's International Affairs staff.

His commands include a C-5 airlift squadron; an air mobility operations group; the 100th Air Refueling Wing at Royal Air Force Mildenhall, England; and the 82nd Training Wing at Sheppard AFB, Texas.

"This is my dream job," Devreaux told his senior leaders later at his first staff meeting. "I'm honored to follow Maj. Gen. Self and I'm looking forward to our adventure here together. You have a tremendous reputation, not just in (Air Mobility Command), but across the Air Force."

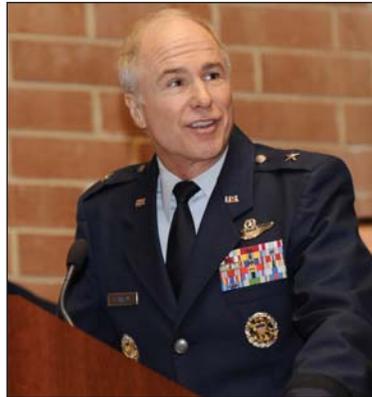
Presiding official at the change of command ceremony, General Arthur J. Lichte, who heads the Air Mobility Command, said, "Every one of (Rick Devreaux's) assignments over his 31-year career have really built to the point where he is the

right man at the right time to take command of this Expeditionary Center. I'm very, very proud and happy that he is the one who's going to take over—along with his wife Elizabeth—to lead this great organization.

"I know he is chomping at the bit and ready to jump in and start bringing this organization to new heights," he added.

The military change of command ceremony dates back to the 18th century during the reign of Frederick the Great of Prussia when organizational flags were developed with color arrangements and symbols unique to each unit.

When a change of command occurred, the flag was passed to the individual assuming command. The ceremony was done in front of the unit so they could see their new leader assume his position. This tradition continues throughout military history.



U.S. Air Force Photo/Carlos Cintron

**RISING STAR -- Brig. Gen. Richard T. Devreaux addresses the crowd after taking command of the U.S. Air Force Expeditionary Center at Joint Base McGuire-Dix-Lakehurst Oct. 19. During the change of command ceremony, Maj. Gen. Kip L. Self relinquished command to General Devreaux.**



U.S. Air Force photo/Staff Sgt. Shawn Weismiller

**MEETING MISSION -- Air Force loadmasters assigned to the 816th Expeditionary Airlift Squadron conduct an airdrop from a C-17 Globemaster III aircraft Sept. 2 over the southern region of Afghanistan. Pallets are being airdropped to provide needed supplies to ground personnel.**

# Airmen answer call

**Tech. Sgt. Scott T. Sturkol**  
Air Mobility Command PA

10/19/2009 - SCOTT AIR FORCE BASE, Ill. (AFNS) -- When President Barack Obama authorized an additional 17,000 troops to surge into Afghanistan for Operation Enduring Freedom in February, mobility Airmen answered the call.

To move that many personnel, a concentrated effort in the mobility airlift and air refueling community was needed.

According to statistics from the U.S. Air Forces Central Combined Air Operations Center in Southwest Asia, cargo and passenger movements for January and February remained fairly steady at the "pre-surge" state for Operation Enduring Freedom. In January, 16,450 tons of cargo and 26,600 passengers were moved by mobility aircraft while in February 16,720 tons of cargo and 24,200 passengers were moved.

By March, however, the Operation Enduring Freedom troop surge pace picked up dramatically. Between February and March, there was nearly a 75 percent increase in cargo and passenger movement for Afghanistan. In March, 22,100 tons of cargo and

32,400 passengers were moved in the Operation Enduring Freedom area of responsibility.

Since March, that pace has continued to grow and AMC officials continue to meet that demand. Between April and September, more than 137,500 tons of cargo was moved by mobility airlifters such as the C-5 Galaxy, C-17 Globemaster III and C-130 Hercules for Operation Enduring Freedom. Additionally in that time, mobility Airmen processed 202,300 passengers with a peak in May with 37,500 passenger movements.

Air refueling planes are also experiencing an increase in business moving the additional troops into Afghanistan. KC-135 Stratotankers and KC-10 Extenders have demonstrated a steady increase in fuel offloaded as the year progressed, statistics show.

In February, tankers offloaded 60.1-million pounds of fuel to receiver aircraft as the surge was announced. By September, that number grew to 80.2-million pounds of fuel off-loaded. From February through September, tankers offloaded more than 563-million pounds of fuel in the stepped up war effort -- an average of 70.45-million pounds of fuel offloaded each month.

Mobility Airmen not only stepped up their efforts for airlift and air refueling for Operation Enduring Freedom, but also they've done it with airdrops. Through the summer months, the Combined Air Operations Center has also tracked the volume of cargo airdropped into Afghanistan at record levels.

In June, a record 3.2-million pounds of cargo was airdropped, only to be beaten in July with 3.3 million, then August with 3.8 million and again in September with 4.1-million pounds. That's more than 14.4-million pounds of cargo floating down from the sky over Afghanistan -- directly delivering much-needed supplies and aid to American and coalition warfighters.

The record number of pounds delivered also means record numbers of airdrop bundles delivered. As an example, in 2007, the Air Force airdropped 5,675 cargo bundles to troops in Afghanistan. In 2009, with an average of about 1,065 bundles a month, the Air Force is on pace to airdrop more than 12,700 bundles -- more than doubling the pace two years ago. The Air Force is doing this with less air drop missions: 538 in 2007 compared to a projected 435 in 2009.

# Medical Group dispels H1N1 misconceptions

87th Medical Group Staff Report

In recent weeks, there have been media reports about parents who are reluctant to vaccinate their children against the H1N1 influenza.

Since H1N1 has been described as similar in severity to seasonal flu, many people believe it is not a significant health threat, which is far from the truth.

Seasonal influenza is a major threat, killing about 36,000 people a year nationwide. H1N1 further complicates by targeting groups who are not considered high risk for flu, in particular, children and young adults.

Much of the reluctance to vaccinate appears to be grounded in

tives, known as adjuvants. Not true. Adjuvants have been used safely to enhance the effectiveness of other vaccines. An adjuvant known as squalene is used in versions of the H1N1 vaccine being distributed in Europe and Canada. Versions of the vaccine being distributed in the United States contain no adjuvant.

The vaccine may cause a serious nerve condition called Guillain-Barre Syndrome. Studies have found most flu vaccines may carry a one-in-8-million risk for GBS. As a precaution, people with a history of GBS should discuss the risks and benefits of influenza vaccinations with a health care provider.

The nasal spray vaccine can cause disease in the vaccinated person - and other people. Not true. Neither the injected vaccine nor the nasal spray vaccine causes the flu. In vaccinations, the live virus has

been weakened. It cannot reproduce in the lower respiratory tract and cause disease.

H1N1 influenza poses serious risks for pregnant women, children, young adults and people with underlying health problems. The key message here is that the vaccine is safe and effective. Furthermore, base health officials encourage all JB MDL citizens to vaccinate their children and themselves as the vaccine becomes available.

Currently, the 87th Medical Group is offering the H1N1 live intranasal mist vaccine to all JB MDL civilians (non-active duty personnel who are federal government employees at JB MDL), enrolled beneficiaries (those signed up to receive primary health care at the 87 MDG), Contract Child Care/Youth and Fire/EMS/Security Personnel. The available H1N1 vaccination will be available to all active-duty, reserve, and guard personnel in November.

Vaccinations are available at the 87 MDG Immunization Clinic located at 3458 Neely Road on McGuire. Hours of operation are Monday through Friday from 7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

For more information, call the Immunizations Clinic at (609) 754-9209. Additionally, updated information on H1N1 and the seasonal flu can be found by visiting the Joint Base MDL Web site at [www.jointbasemdl.af.mil/fluupdates](http://www.jointbasemdl.af.mil/fluupdates).

(Maj. Dana Gilligan and Dr. Niraj Govil, 87th Medical Group, contributed all information to this article.)

# MPs prep for mission

(continued from page 1)

expertise of the assigned Soldiers makes the company the go-to unit for emergencies throughout the state.

"After Sept. 11, it was our company that was mobilized and assigned the tasks of protecting the state's nuclear power facilities," said Vidrio.

Vidrio stated that the training the company was receiving at the Military Operations in Urban Terrain (MOUT) site was probably the best training they had received so far.

The 855th conducted lanes training before leaving Arizona so a lot of the training they have received at the ASA has been redundant, but the Soldiers say it has been beneficial and has helped them sharpen their skills.

Pfc. Santiago Gonzalez, a Soldier straight out of basic training, said, "I love the training we've received. It has kept me moving and focused on the mission ahead."

Vidrio shared that most of the leadership in the company has already served at least one tour of duty overseas in combat areas. This lends credibility and stability to the training that the younger Soldiers are experiencing.

"Our squad leaders are all combat experienced. This helps us because so many of our troops are young and this is their first time out," he said.

The lack of combat experience has not dulled the desire of the younger troops to deploy and complete the mission.

"At first I was very excited. As we get closer to leaving for the mission, I am getting a little nervous and scared, but we are trained and ready so I have confidence and there is still the excitement of taking on the mission. They are making sure that we receive the training to accomplish the mission overseas and bring everyone back. It's great," said Spc. Juliann Main.

Most of the Soldiers of the 855th volunteered for this deployment. A sense of duty and camaraderie drives them to serve together no matter where it takes them.

Cpl. Shepard Vaughan decided to put his college education on hold so that he could deploy with his company.



Wayne Cook

**REALISTIC AND RELEVANT TRAINING -- Sgt. Jaime Lee of the 855th Military Police Company, 1st Platoon, Arizona National Guard, Yuma, Ariz., secures a suspect played by a civilian-on-the-battlefield (COB) role player during a training scenario at Military Operations Urban Terrain site Balad Oct. 19. The MP company is headed to Iraq to perform a Police Transition Team mission.**

"I volunteered and re-enlisted to go on this deployment. I'm looking forward to going to Iraq. I've served one tour already in Afghanistan. It's an honor to go fight for this country. I do it for those who can't go; to make it safer for them. I love this country," Vaughan said.

So as the pyrotechnics and smoke grenades go

off around them and role players yell at them in languages unfamiliar to them and the sound of gunfire erupts around them, the Soldiers of the 855th MP Co. keep their heads down and their minds focused on two things: learning all they can before they deploy and then completing their mission and returning home safely.

# Staying alert helps

(continued from page 1)

team from the Defense Threat Reduction Agency visited JB MDL in September. The JSIVA team sought to find all threats on the base and inform base leadership of installation vulnerabilities.

Because of the recent unification of three separate installations into one joint base, the JSIVA team felt the need to assist JB MDL in establishing security measures specific to the new, larger and more challenging installation. Capt. Joseph Burns (USN), JSIVA team chief, challenged the antiterrorism officers from McGuire, Dix and Lakehurst to join efforts in creating a new joint base antiterrorism plan. This plan involves all base members, from top leadership to servicemembers and their families.

As the plan develops, JB MDL citizens are to remain vigilant, continuing to play their role as the first line of defense against hostile activity.

"Everyone thinks, 'It's not going to happen to me,' but it very well can," Diorio said. Any suspicious activity should immediately be reported to the Joint Base Law Enforcement Desk at 562-6001.

# Soldier earns Bronze Star

## Regional Training Center-East troop honored for saving lives

Ryan Morton  
ASA Public Affairs

"It means a lot when you know somebody else who's been through the most unpleasant experiences and they get the recognition they deserve for doing such a great job," said Lt. Col. Scott Ward, who pinned the Bronze Star for Meritorious Service onto fellow Soldier and colleague Master Sgt. Dale Fair Oct. 9 at Army Support Activity, Joint Base McGuire-Dix-Lakehurst (ASA JB MDL).

Ward served with Fair while deployed to Fallujah, Iraq, from November 2004 to August 2005. Fair, who is now serving with the Regional Training Center-East (RTC-E) as the combatives lead instructor, received his Bronze Star for Meritorious Service for his efforts working on a Military Transition Team (MITT) as an embedded mentor and tactical advisor to an Iraqi army infantry company of more than 100 Soldiers.

Fair was assigned to the 2nd Company, 3rd Battalion, 4th

Brigade, of the First Iraqi Army Division. On June 15, 2005, a mounted patrol from 2nd Co. was struck by an Improvised Explosive Device (IED). Fair quickly responded and helped provide initial medical treatment to two seriously wounded Soldiers and moved them to safety.

Throughout his tour, Fair regularly worked more than 15 hours a day conducting numerous raids and patrols throughout the city. On one patrol, Fair discovered a partially buried wire that appeared suspicious. He retraced the wire, which led to several artillery shells and a weapons cache that included materials used to make IEDs.

"He's an excellent instructor, Soldier, and leader," said Ward in reference to the work Fair did in Iraq and continues to do with RTC-E.

Both Ward and Fair served together from their time in the Army Reserve drilling with the 98th Division in Rochester, N.Y., to when they were mobilized and prepared for their Operation Iraqi Freedom mission at Camp Atterbury, Ind.



Ryan Morton

**TOP TROOP -- Lt. Col. Scott Ward, Fort Jackson deputy director, DPTMS, pins the Bronze Star for Meritorious Service onto the uniform of Master Sgt. Dale Fair, Regional Training Center-East combatives instructor on Army Support Activity, Joint Base McGuire-Dix-Lakehurst, Oct. 9.**

In Iraq, they would come across each other from time to time as they worked in the same battalion, but in different areas of Fallujah, with Ward serving as a senior advisor.

After Ward and Fair returned from combat in the fall of 2005, each went back to his civilian life and continued to drill with his unit in upstate New York. Paperwork was also submitted for Fair's Bronze Star for Meritorious Service at this time. Then, in January 2008, they each were mobilized to ASA JB MDL to serve with RTC-E. Fair became the lead combatives instructor and Ward became the training battalion executive officer. It was at this time, according to each Soldier, they really worked more closely and developed more of a camaraderie.

When the paperwork finally

**JOINT EFFORT -- Master Sgt. Dale Fair served as an embedded mentor and tactical advisor to more than 100 Iraqi soldiers.**



courtesy photo

## Pentagon officials stress increased cybersecurity

Jim Garamone  
American Forces Press Service

10/16/2009 - WASHINGTON (AFNS) -- Pentagon officials stress that no matter what computer you use, you need to take cybersecurity into account.

With growing dependence on information technology and increasing threats against it, President Barack Obama declared October to be National Cybersecurity Month. The Defense Department is one of the largest computer users in the world, and security has to be in the forefront of all users, officials say.

Navy Capt. Sandra Jamshidi, director of the department's information assurance program, said that if everyone did their part for cybersecurity, it would "filter out the low-level hacker type of attacks, so we're better able to go after the professional hackers who do the most harm to us."

Everyone needs to take precautions, the captain said during a recent interview. "If you're locking your car doors, then you help make the parking lot safer," she said. "If everyone is locking their car doors, then you make the parking lot a less attractive target. It's the same for cybersecurity. If we all pay attention to security, then it raises the threshold across the entire Internet."

The frontline of this cyberwar is the keyboard, and it doesn't matter if the keyboard is at the home or at work, Captain Jamshidi said. Computer users often inadvertently carry viruses back and forth between home and work computers.

Users have a better chance of detecting something unusual on their computers, she said. People need to understand what is normal for the computer and the software they use. "If we raise awareness of what could happen, then maybe we're raising the awareness of detection," she said.

Cybersecurity doesn't just happen. Users of home systems need to have firewalls in place. They need to have anti-spamware and anti-virus programs up and running in the computers. And they need to constantly update the defenses, Captain Jamshidi said.

Computer users, the captain said, need to understand that nothing remains static in cyberspace.

"The threats change, the software changes, the sophistication of the threat changes," she said. "We also change the way we defend. It's a persistent threat, and [hackers] will look for other ways to attack. If you had computer defenses that worked two years ago, they won't work today."

The Internet is a lot like a large city, Captain Jamshidi said. Overall, it is a safe area, but it's safest on main street - where all the lights work and there are police and people around.

"But any city has dark streets and back alleys," she said. "Some are so dangerous that the military declares them off-limits, and the same holds true for the Internet. It becomes very difficult to separate out legal and illegal activities on the back streets of the Internet."

Gambling, pornography and music-sharing sites are rampant with malicious code, the captain said. "If you are going to be out in the riskier parts of the Internet, then you have to have better defenses on your computer," she said. Better yet, she added, stay out of those parts of town.

# Employees honored for demob effort

Soldiers and civilians were recognized for their efforts in demobilizing the members of the Pennsylvania Army National Guard's 56th Stryker Brigade during a ceremony held Oct. 15 at Timmermann Center.

Col. Patrick Slowey, Army Support Activity commander, Joint Base McGuire-Dix-Lake-

hurst, presented Army Commendation Medals (ARCOMs) to Joint Readiness Center (JRC) Soldiers Sgt. 1st Class Joseph Thorpe, Sgt. 1st Class Eric Turner, and 1st Lt. Stephen Tolbert for their help in demobilizing the thousands of Stryker Brigade Soldiers that came through Dix in late August and September.

Others in the JRC receiving honors were: Master Sgt. Barbara Bookard, who received an Army Achievement Medal (AAM), and Monika Bunch, who received a civilian ARCOM. Luis Lopez, Luis Milan, Saeed Goodman, and Jimmy Keyes received civilian AAMs and Geneva Sturdivant received a Certificate of Appreciation (COA).

Several other Soldiers and civilians from other sections

were recognized for their efforts in getting the Keystone state Soldiers back home. Lt. Col. Marie Morency, Lt. Col. Victoria Hughes, Maj. Joyce Toriano, Sgt. 1st Class Merlena Edwards, Staff Sgt. Marsha Deer, and Sgt. Raymond Ferry of the Watson Medical Support Element received Commander's Coins of Excellence and Timothy Stanley received a COA.

From the chapel, Sgt. Denise Powers received an AAM.

Lt. Col. Stu Gillard, Directorate of Plans, Training, Mobilization, and Security (DPTMS), received an ARCOM. Also honored from DPTMS were 1st Lt. Ryan Harty received a Commander's Coin of Excellence, John Piper, Alton "Stu" Cranston, and Joe Zonin received Achievement medals for Civilian Service, and Orlando Maldona-

do, Tom Hammerle, and Frank McGlory received COAs.

In the Directorate of Logistics section, Staff Sgt. Glenn Johnston and Staff Sgt. Dennis Lenz received AAMs for their contributions and Thomas Gilchrist, Mark Smith, Vivian McKenzie, Sheila Thompson-Douglas, Patricia Lynch, Hazel Mathis, Collins Sherrod, Barbara Fitzgerald, and Gregory Johnson received Achievement Medals for Civilian Service.

From the Judge Advocate General section, Lt. Col. Jodi Zucco and Maj. Nicholas Mitchell received Commander's Coins of Excellence and Nancy Holman received a COA.

Bravo Company employees, 1st Sgt. Michael Zeeman, 1st Lt. Kenneth Tenebro, Staff Sgt. Amitram Mahadeo, Sgt. 1st Class Walter Gist, Sgt. Ryan

Blackman, Sgt. 1st Class Asmat Allie, Staff Sgt. Jacob Strickland, and Staff Sgt. Joseph Copeland received AAMs. Anthony McCall, Geneva DiTaranto, Calvin Washington, Minerva Johnston, Lynda Noonan, Alonzo Cruite, Alvin Richards, Keyifa George, Rebecca Haines, Kristina Newberry, Raquel Bodie, September Fisher, and Silvia Cox received COAs.

Sgt. Jonathon Crismond, Sgt. Jennifer Perez, Sgt. Ryan Blackman, and Spc. Rasheed Wilson, all of the Headquarters and Headquarters Company, Mobilization Readiness Battalion received COAs for their involvement in the Color Guard Transition Ceremony. Additionally, Melinda Jenkins, Alpha Company, received a COA for her efforts.

## Airmen graduate leadership school

Congratulations to the following Airmen for graduating from Airman Leadership School Class 09-G. ALS is the first phase of an ongoing three-phase PME program designed to gain that leadership. McGuire's ALS is a 24-day, 192-hour course which focuses on preparing senior airmen to accept greater responsibilities as supervisors and rating officials.

- Senior Airman William Slifer, 87th SFS
- Senior Airman Lemuel Velazquez, 305th OSS
- Senior Airman Tamika Edwards, 305th AMW
- Senior Airman Kresten Ericksen, 305th AMXS
- Senior Airman Roxanne Garcia, 817th GMRS
- Senior Airman Joshua Gora, 87th LRS
- Senior Airman Cory Kimmel, 305th OSS
- Senior Airman Joshua Little, 605th AMXS
- Senior Airman James Randolph, 819th GSS
- Senior Airman Jasmine Rosario, 87th MXS
- Senior Airman Brandon Shepherd, 305th MXS
- Senior Airman Michael Brothwell, 87th CS
- Senior Airman Nicole Gittens, 87th ABW
- Senior Airman Barry Knoblach, 87th SFS
- Senior Airman Kimberly Cribbs, 305th OSS
- Senior Airman Amy Cottrell, 87th SFS
- Senior Airman Michael Farran, 818th GMRS
- Senior Airman Antonio Ferguson, 605th AMXS
- Senior Airman Joe Hayes, 305th MXS
- Senior Airman Ryan Lafferty, 305th APS
- Senior Airman Michael McGee, 87th LRS
- Senior Airman Ilyce Mitchell, 819th GSS
- Senior Airman Jeremy Plumb, 305th MXS
- Senior Airman Alexander Samuels, 87th CS
- Senior Airman Morgan Buckland, 305th OSS
- Senior Airman Christopher Consalvo, 305th AMXS
- Senior Airman John Eason, 305th APS
- Senior Airman Christine Condoleon, 6th AS
- Senior Airman Raquel Hall, 87th AMDS
- Senior Airman Brandon Talmadge, 87th CS
- Senior Airman Anthony Chiappone, 87th CES
- Senior Airman Gregory Gagnon, 605th AMXS
- Senior Airman Brooklyn Baskin, 87th LRS
- Senior Airman Gregory Hill, 605th AMXS
- Senior Airman Derek Butler, 21st AMOS
- Senior Airman Eric McCord, 819th GSS
- Senior Airman Daniel Mercurio, 305th OSS
- Senior Airman Clark Miller, 305th APS
- Senior Airman Pierre Pringle, 305th MXS
- Senior Airman Devonte Stewart, 87th SFS

### Award Winners:

John L. Levitow Award:

Senior Airman James D. Randolph , 819th GSS

### Academic Award:

Senior Airman Gregory M. Gagnon, 605th AMXS

### Commandant Award:

Senior Airman Clark T. Miller , 305th APS

Distinguished Graduate Award:

Senior Airman Clark T. Miller, 305th APS

Distinguished Graduate Award:

Senior Airman Kimberly D. Cribbs, 305th OSS

Distinguished Graduate Award:

Senior Airman Christine M. Condoleon, 6th AS



Ryan Morton

TROOP SUPPORT -- Col. Patrick Slowey, Army Support Activity commander, presents Army Commendation Medals to Joint Readiness Center Soldiers, from left, Sgt. 1st Class Joseph Thorpe, Sgt. 1st Class Eric Turner, and 1st Lt. Stephen Tolbert during a ceremony at Timmermann Center Oct. 15. The Soldiers were recognized for their efforts in demobilizing the 56th Stryker Brigade, Pennsylvania Army National Guard.

**READ  
the POST**

## Third quarter winners announced at 87th ABW

The following Joint Base McGuire-Dix-Lakehurst personnel were recognized for their achievements during the third quarter at the 87th Air Base Wing Quarterly Awards ceremony Oct. 16.

- Airman: Senior Airman Jonathan Drew, 87th MDG
- NCO: Staff Sgt. Yarie Velez, 87th LRS
- Senior NCO: Master Sgt. Christopher Wright, 87th SFS
- Company Grade Officer: Capt. Frank Christiana, 87th FSS
- Civilian Category I: Michael Ritter, 87th LRS

- Civilian Category II: Ronald Reese, 87th MDSS
- Civilian Category III: Richard Sample, 87th CES

## '09 fitness challenge champs announced

The 2009 Lakehurst Fitness Challenge took place Oct. 14. Events of the Fitness Challenge included a bench press, pull ups and a time run.

Of the male competitors, Sean Lesniak with Naval Air Systems Command Logistics, took first place. Mike Figura and Eric Hess, both from Joint Base McGuire-Dix-Lakehurst Environmental, took second and third place. Of the female competitors, Shanna Cermak, with NAVAIR Contracts, came in first place. Christine Yezzo, also with NAVAIR contracts, was the runner up.

The Lakehurst 87th Force Support Squadron fitness staff would like to thank everyone who participated in the 2009 Fitness Challenge.

For more information on Joint Base McGuire Dix Lakehurst FSS recreation and leisure programs, visit [www.gomdl.com](http://www.gomdl.com).

# Former POW recounts war experience

Dave Benjamin  
Tri-Town News

*This is the final part of a two-part story. See the Oct. 16, 2009 issue of the Post for part one.*

Even the Germans who were guarding the Americans were afraid to talk, not realizing they might have been talking to a German who was dressed as an American. If a prisoner mentioned Hitler or any politics, the Germans would walk away, he explained.

Di Schiavi said the prisoners did have a band and he credited the YMCA for shipping all of the equipment, even a set of drums. He said the Germans allowed that because there were 600 guards to watch 4,000 prisoners, so if everything was peaceful and the prisoners were in the band, they would not be bothering anybody.

On April 6, 1945, the prisoners were told they would be moving out of Stalag 17.

"I told them I needed a backpack and so [I traded again] and received a beautiful backpack and that is how I carried this," he said, pointing to his book of memories.

On April 7, the prisoners were told they would be leaving the camp the next day. They were told to take what they could carry.

"These are the stories of a lot of the guys who were shot down," Di Schiavi said, as he pointed to his log book again. "I didn't make them sign the stories in case the Gerries [Germans] got a hold of the book. That way they wouldn't know who was who, but after we were all released, I remembered them and just put down their names."

At 2:30 a.m. on April 8 there was a roll call. The 4,000 prisoners were then marched out in groups of 500. They marched for eight hours, with 10-minute rests every 50 minutes, and wherever they stopped at night, that is where they slept. The group marched west for 18 days — 281 miles — to a final destination in Germany.

It was May 1, 1945, when a jeep came into the POWs' new camp and an American colonel told the men they were no longer prisoners of war, Di Schiavi recalled.

After his release, he was sent to a recuperating camp in France.

"With all of the POWs being released, they decided to name the camps after cigarette brands," he said. "I was in Camp Lucky Strike. There was Camp Chesterfield, Camp Pall Mall. You can name them all, they had them."

In June 1945 he returned home on a ship.

"It anchored right off the Belt Parkway in Brooklyn and my

family was there, but I didn't know it," he said. "All the cars were on the parkway that night with their lights shining, and blowing their horns."

Every year since his return from the war, Di Schiavi's son, Mario, sends him a calendar.

"This year he sent me a calendar with B-17s," he told the audience. "So, I'm turning the pages and here is the airplane I was shot down in. How do you like that, 230-320, the tail number. When I looked at it, everything turned back to that day when I was shot down."

Di Schiavi dedicated his book to his brother, Steve, who was killed in Morocco, Africa.

"He was one of the first to be drafted in January 1941 and he was supposed to come out in January 1942. ... He was in the 9th Division, 60th Infantry and when they hit the beach [in North Africa] they were wiped out by the Free French. Only two of his buddies remained, and after a few years my sister-in-law wanted his body back and so those two guys came, but they wouldn't tell me how he got killed. I found out a few years later that my brother was killed by friendly fire."

Di Schiavi said many years have passed since his experiences in World War II, but he told the audience that he treasures the memories in his book.

*(Editor's note: Story reprinted with permission of the author and Tri-Town News.)*



*courtesy photo*

**BOMBS AWAY** — The B-17 Bomber, 230320S, flown by Armand C. Di Schiavi during World War II, sits in the background while Soldiers inspect ammunition prior to a mission. In January 1944, Di Schiavi's plane was shot down and he was captured by German Soldiers. Di Schiavi was taken to Stalag 17, a prisoner-of-war camp in Krens, Austria.

## VA staffs office for vets' survivors

WASHINGTON (AFNS) — To strengthen the Department of Veterans Affairs programs for survivors of the nation's veterans and servicemembers, VA officials have staffed an office to serve as the their advocate, with a charter that includes creating or modifying programs, benefits and services.

"Taking care of survivors is as essential as taking care of our veterans and military personnel," Secretary of Veterans Affairs

Eric K. Shinseki said. "By taking care of survivors, we are honoring a commitment made to our veterans and military members."

The office serves as the primary adviser to the secretary on all issues affecting the survivors and dependents of deceased veterans and servicemembers. It will monitor VA's delivery of benefits to survivors, make appropriate referrals to VA offices for survivors seeking benefits, and explore innovative

ways of reaching survivors who are not receiving the VA benefits for which they are eligible.

VA benefits for eligible survivors include educational assistance, home-loan guaranties, health-care insurance, and dependency and indemnity compensation. Known as DIC, this is a monthly payment to the survivors of some people who die on active duty and some seriously disabled veterans.

More than 554,000 spouses,

dependents and other survivors of veterans are receiving VA benefits. That figure includes nearly 5,000 spouses of World War I veterans, 90 spouses and 94 children of Spanish-American War veterans, and two children of Civil War veterans.

The establishment of this office was authorized in the Veterans Benefits Improvement Act of 2008. For more information, call 800-827-1000 or visit the VA Web site.

# NEIGHBORHOOD

## The Corner

### Walson Alumni Brunch coming to Pemberton

A brunch has been scheduled for alumni and friends of Walson Army Hospital. The buffet brunch will be held **Oct. 25** from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. at Anapa's Country House in Pemberton. The cost for the brunch is \$18, payable at the door. Call Christa Karycinski at 893-7559 or e-mail lolo102@comcast.net, or Mary Filippini at 499-1289 or e-mail maryfilippini@comcast.net to make reservations today. Call your fellow alumni and friends to inform them of this event. The brunch provides an excellent opportunity for fellowship, to reminisce and enjoy good dining.

### Issues sought for Family Action Plan Conference

Speak out and be heard at the Military Family Action Plan Conference, **Oct. 29** from 8 a.m. to 4:20 p.m. at Timmermann Conference Center. For more information, call 562-2767.

### Operation Santa seeks new computer

Operation Santa, a non-profit organization that supplements Christmas for needy families in the community is in desperate need for a new computer to help track contributions and disbursements. For more information call 562-3825 or 283-0262.

### Bingo held at American Legion Post

Bingo is held every Friday night at the American Legion Post 455, 2 Meadowbrook Lane, New Egypt. The hall and kitchen opens at 5 p.m. Bingo card selling starts at 6:30 p.m. and calling starts at 7:30 p.m. Bingo consists of regular games, early bird/late bird, 50/50, specials, jackpot and progressive.

### United Communities offers fun Halloween contests

Stop by the Leasing Office and guess how many pieces of candy corn are in the jar. The winner will receive the candy corn and a \$25 AMEX gift card. "Guess how many" begins Oct. 29. United Communities will also be hosting the second annual Halloween Coloring Contest. Stop by the Leasing Office to pick up coloring books. Winners will be picked in each age category. Each winner will receive a \$25 AMEX gift card. Coloring books are due back Oct. 29. Residents are invited to stop by the Leasing Office on Oct. 30 from 2 p.m. to 6 p.m. in his or her favorite Halloween costume and participate in the Halloween Costume Contest. Photos will be taken and posted on the Web site and candy will be passed out to all who attend. The winner of the Halloween Costume contest will receive a \$50 AMEX gift card.

### Dix Thrift Shop accepting holiday consignments

The Dix Thrift Shop is now accepting consignments of all Thanksgiving and December holiday items, with a limit of five items per visit within the 15 total items permitted for consignment during each visit. Please stop and check us out during your holiday shopping. There are many new and lots of gently used items for your gift giving and decorating needs.

Shortly, the front entrance deck will be renovated. During the construction, the shop will be open normal times, but we ask you to use the rear-loading dock entrance until the work in front is finished. The ramp for handicapped use is at the rear entrance for those who need it at any time. In addition, if anyone has a few hours even once a month or occasionally that you could volunteer, the shop could use additional help. Visit during sales hours at 6501 Pennsylvania Avenue. If you have questions anytime, call 723-2683.

Hours of operation are Tuesdays, Thursdays and first and third Saturdays of the month from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. The shop is open the first Wednesday of the month from 3 p.m. to 7 p.m.

### Knights of Columbus meet

Join the Mary Mother of God Council 13383 every second Thursday of the month, from 7 p.m. to 8 p.m. at VFW Post 6590 in Cookstown. For more information, call Master Sgt. Mike Perreault at 754-1217.

### Master Sgt. David Bennett 367th MPAD

Doris Otero drove 80 miles from her home in Queens, N.Y., Tuesday to hand out ribbons to drivers entering Joint Base McGuire-Dix-Lakehurst.

Regardless of the distance, Otero, an Alcohol/Drug Abuse Program Prevention Coordinator for the Army Substance Abuse Program (ASAP), hopes that the 1,000 magnetic ribbons will go far in raising awareness of substance abuse prevention.

Since 1990, the Department of Defense has participated in Red Ribbon Week to alert military members and their families about the risk of tobacco, alcohol and drug use. For the last 10 years, the ASAP on base has played its own part in the intervention initiative.

The week long event at Joint Base McGuire-Dix-Lakehurst this year runs from Oct. 17-25.

Otero said that the red ribbons are meant as a reminder to individuals that while substance abuse may be prevalent, it is preventable also.

"I don't want them to display it just for the week. I want them to display it permanently," said Otero.

That is because, Otero said, substance abuse is a constant challenge which Soldiers, Sailors and Airmen face every day.

Denise A. Horton, an Alcohol/Drug Control Officer for ASAP said specialists at ASAP encounter six to eight substance abuse cases per day.

The core of ASAP's mission is to focus on prevention strategies.

Horton said that issues servicemembers face today are more complex than she encountered when she began her career as a substance abuse counselor in 1981. Because individuals now experience multiple deployments, relationship problems, financial hardships and medical issues such as mild traumatic brain injury and post-traumatic stress disorder, more are experiencing substance abuse problems.

Prevention isn't just for adult servicemembers, but begins with early intervention, Horton said.

As part of Red Ribbon Week, counselors spoke Monday to base elementary students about the dangers of improper use of prescription medication and alcohol.

"Prescription medicine is the biggest thing going now," Horton said, referring to children who go exploring inside their parents' medicine cabinets. Because children sometimes can't distinguish between pills and candy, it's important to make them aware of the difference.

"We tell them that a drug is anything that isn't food that changes your mood," Horton said.



367th MPAD

**JUST SAY NO -- Doris Otero, Alcohol/Drug Abuse Program Prevention coordinator for the Army Substance Abuse Program (ASAP) at Joint Base McGuire-Dix-Lakehurst, hands out one of 1,000 magnetic ribbons Oct. 20 as part of Red Ribbon Week, a national campaign to raise awareness of substance abuse.**

Ribbon Week commemorates the life of Enrique Camarena, a member of the U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration who was killed by drug traffickers in Mexico in 1985. Local residents after-

ward began wearing red ribbons to honor his memory.

More information about ASAP can be obtained by visiting 5203 Maryland Ave. on Dix or by calling 562-4011.

## Changing seasons bring yard work

Falling autumn leaves means raking and yard clean-up. The lawn mowing and landscaping schedule for parts of Joint Base McGuire-Dix-Lakehurst is as follows:

### Monday

Dix: Mahlenbrock, Aneiros Lane, Froehlich, Karolasz Court, Dixon Way  
McGuire: Section: 4200

### Tuesday

Dix: Fir, Gum, Kalmia Court, Locust (North side), 1400 on Juniper and Hemlock  
McGuire: Sections: 3800 and 3900

### Wednesday

Dix: Redwood, Pointville, Locust (South side), Scott Plaza, 1100 on Juniper and Hemlock  
McGuire: Starlifter, 2700 and 2800

### Thursday

Dix: 1500, 1600 on Ash, Birch, Cedar, Dogwood, Grove Park and Holly Crest

### Friday

Dix: Finish Grove Park and Holly Crest, Farm Houses, Section: 1200

Green waste pick up, including leaves, is Monday for McGuire and Tuesday for Dix. Please remember, put ONLY green waste in your green waste can.

Trash schedule is Wednesday and includes 1200s, older 1500s and 1600s including quarters 201 and 502 on Dix, and the 4000s and 4200s on McGuire.

Recycling materials must be placed at the curb by 6 a.m. biweekly on Thursdays. Do not place any paper or cardboard in your recycling bin, trash can or plastic bag. Paper can be placed in a brown bag, bundled or placed in a low lying box such as a cardboard box, laundry basket or milk crate. Shredded paper must be placed in a paper bag or in a cardboard box. Cardboard boxes must be flattened and bundled. Recycling junk mail is encouraged - window envelopes are ok, product samples and plastic cards must be removed.

Cans, glass bottles and plastics must be rinsed clean and placed in your recycling bin. Please do not flatten or place in plastic bags. Labels can stay on but caps and lids must be thrown away in the garbage. Please remember one truck collects paper and cardboard, the other truck collects cans, glass bottles, and plastic.

If the recycle cans are left out, the following day they will be picked up by our staff and you will need to retrieve them at the Self Help office.



courtesy photo

## Trick or treat?

**Shalaya, 8, checks out the latest Halloween costumes at the BX/PX at Joint Base McGuire-Dix-Lakehurst Oct. 20. The U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission advises to look for the label "Flame Resistant" when purchasing a costume, masks, beads, and wigs. To minimize the risk of contact with candles or other sources of ignition, avoid costumes made with flimsy materials and outfits with big, baggy sleeves or billowing skirts. Also, purchase or make costumes that are light and bright enough to be clearly visible to motorists. For greater visibility during dusk and darkness, decorate or trim costumes with reflective tape that will glow in the beam of a car's headlights. For more information, visit www.cpsc.gov.**

## Commissaries offer gift cards for the holidays

**FORT LEE, Va.** - The Defense Commissary Agency is offering gift vouchers at all of its 255 commissaries. These vouchers are available in \$25 denominations.

Anyone may acquire gift vouchers; however, only commissary authorized patrons may redeem them. Vouchers will be available at commissary customer service areas, cash offices and from cashiers at full-service checkout lanes. No additional fees will be added to the cost of purchasing or redeeming the voucher.

These sequentially serialized paper gift vouchers, which can be redeemed at any commissary, cannot be exchanged for cash. DeCA is not responsible for lost, stolen, destroyed or mutilated vouchers, and its commissaries have the right to refuse any voucher that appears to be altered, copied, or the serial number is unreadable or missing.

The Defense Commissary Agency operates a worldwide chain of commissaries providing groceries to military personnel, retirees and their families in a safe and secure shopping environment.

Authorized patrons purchase items at cost plus a 5-percent surcharge, which covers the costs of building new commissaries and modernizing existing ones.

Shoppers save an average of more than 30 percent on their purchases compared to commercial prices - savings worth about \$3,400 annually for a family of four. A core military family support element, and a valued part of military pay and benefits, commissaries contribute to family readiness, enhance the quality of life for America's military and their families, and help recruit and retain the best and brightest men and women to serve their country.



**A RAKE'S PROGRESS -- Scott Sample, 11, rakes up leaves Sept. 26 at Laurel Pond, Joint Base McGuire-Dix-Lakehurst.**

# Community Events

## Chapel Services

**Dix - 562-2020**  
**Sunday Services**  
**Dix Main Chapel**  
**Traditional Protestant**  
 9 a.m. to 10 a.m.  
**Catholic**  
 10:15 a.m. to 11:15 a.m.  
**Gospel**  
 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m.  
**Sunday School**  
 10 a.m. to 11:15 a.m.  
**Jewish Prayer Room**  
 Room 27  
 7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.  
**Dix Chapel 5**  
**Bldg. 5950 Church Street**  
 If chapel is closed call 562-3311 to schedule a time for prayer  
**Protestant, Catholic, Latter Day Saints**  
 7:30 a.m. to 8:30 a.m.  
**Islamic Prayer Room**  
 Monday through Friday  
 7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.  
**COL - Chaplain's tent**  
 7:30 a.m. to 8:30 a.m.  
**McGuire - 754-4673**  
**McGuire Chapel 1**  
**Daily Catholic Mass**  
 Monday through Thursday  
 11:35 a.m.  
**Catholic Reconciliation**  
 Saturdays 4 p.m.  
**Catholic Mass**  
 Saturdays 5 p.m.  
 Sundays 9 a.m.  
**Protestant Gospel Service**  
 Sundays 11:15 a.m.  
**McGuire Chapel 2**  
**Protestant Contemporary Service**  
 Sundays 9:45 a.m.  
**Jewish Services**  
 Join Chap. (Capt.) Rabbi Berdugo for Lunch and Learn every Monday and Wednesday from 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at Chapel 1. Call 754-5908 for information.  
**Religious Activities**  
**Dix Chapels**  
**Protestant Men of the Chapel Prayer Breakfast**  
 Fourth Saturday of each month  
 9 a.m. to 11 a.m.  
**Protestant Women of the Chapel**  
 Tuesdays, 9:30 to 11:30 a.m. at the Dix Main Chapel and the fourth Tuesday at Buttonwood Hospital.  
**McGuire Chapels**  
**Protestant Women of the Chapel**  
 meeting at Chapel 2  
 Wednesdays from 6:30-8 p.m.  
 Thursdays from 9-11 a.m. (Wee Church Provided)  
**Catholic Women of the Chapel**  
 Fridays 9 a.m.  
**Joint Base Protestant Chapel Night**  
 AWANA Clubs at Chapel 2  
 Wednesdays 6:30 p.m.

## Three-day Joint Base Gospel Revival

Join the service Oct. 23 at 7 p.m. and Oct. 24 at 4 p.m. at Chapel 2 (Falcon Court North), and for Sunday morning worship Oct. 25 at 11:15 a.m. at Chapel 1. For details, call 754-HOPE.

## CLUB DIX 723-3272

**Smokehouse Restaurant**  
 Lunch Served  
 Tuesday through Friday  
 11 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.  
 Closed Saturday to Monday  
**Java Café**  
 Monday through Friday  
 7 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.  
**Blue Room**  
 Wednesday  
 5 p.m. to 10 p.m.  
**Thursday through Saturday**  
 6 p.m. to 10 p.m.  
**Computer Lab**  
**Monday and Tuesday**  
 7 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.  
**Wednesday through Friday**  
 7 a.m. to 10 p.m.  
**Saturday**  
 Noon to 10 p.m.  
**Sunday**  
 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.

**Texas Hold 'Em at the McGuire Club**  
 Sponsored by Brave Spirits and held at the Club every Thursday night at 7 p.m. in the Fireside lounge; free for members.

## McGuire Thrift Shop

Building 3446  
 353-1126  
 The McGuire OSC Thrift Shop is now open and ready for business. After being closed for the past month, the store is open and stocked with a wide variety of clothing, shoes, accessories, uniforms, books, toys, housewares, sporting goods, baby gear, and more! The hours are:  
**Wednesday through Friday**  
 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.  
**First Saturday of the month**  
 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.  
 For more information or to volunteer, call Jennifer Roberts at (609) 353-1126 or visit Bldg. 3446 (between the BX and Vehicle Resale Lot).

## Arts & Crafts Center

562-5691  
 Bldg. 6039  
 Philadelphia Street  
**Registration hours:**  
 Tuesday - 9 a.m. to 4:45 p.m.  
 Wednesday and Thursday  
 Noon to 5 p.m. and  
 6 to 8:45 p.m.  
 Friday - 11 a.m. to 4:45 p.m.  
 Saturday - 9 a.m. to 4:45 p.m.  
 Upcoming classes include:  
**Fall Pumpkin Platter** - Oct. 29  
 from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m.

**The Attic**  
 The Attic needs volunteers. Call the Warfighting and Family Readiness Center at 754-5748.



U.S. Air Force photo/Carlos Cintron

## 'Tis better to give ...'

Airmen from Joint Base McGuire-Dix-Lakehurst pick up pamphlets from a booth hosted by one of the many Combined Federal Campaign (CFC) charitable organizations during the CFC kick-off ceremony Oct. 15. The goal of this year's CFC is to raise a quarter-million dollars across JB MDL.

## Griffith Field House

Building 6053  
 562-4888  
**Combat Fitness Challenge (Military Only)**  
 Monday and Wednesday  
 6:30 a.m. to 7:30 a.m.

## Go Around the World in 90 Days at McGuire Gym

The Fitness Center's "Around the World in 90 Days" program takes you around the world while never leaving McGuire. This program is self paced and based on the honor system while each day will have an event that once performed will lead to the next day of your journey. Call 754-6085 for more information.

## Dix Thrift Shop

5105 Pennsylvania Avenue  
 723-2683

See page 9 for the latest activities at the Dix Thrift Shop.

## Joint Base Library

2603 Tuskegee Airmen Avenue  
 754-2079  
 Hours of operation  
 Monday through Thursday  
 10 a.m. to 8 p.m.  
 Friday and Saturday  
 noon to 5 p.m.  
 Saturday, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

## JB MDL Family Advocacy classes

The Family Advocacy Program is holding the following classes. For registration and information, call 754-9680.

**Anger Management:** Learn how to identify the warning signs of anger, learn how to express anger appropriately and keep anger from taking over. This is a three-part series held on the first three Fridays of the month at the HAWC from 1 to 3 p.m.

**Baby Basics:** This class helps prepare expectant mothers for upcoming labor and delivery experience. The class is offered once a month from 5 to 7 p.m.

**Pregnancy 101:** Learn about a wide variety of topics on what to expect throughout each stage of pregnancy. This class is held on the second Friday of each month.

**Child Birth Preparation:** This class helps prepare expectant mothers for upcoming labor and delivery and is held on Saturdays from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

## Passport photos now available

The 87th Air Base Wing Visual Information office accepts walk-ins for passport photos every Monday from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Call 754-3581 for additional information.

## Upcoming Events

### American Legion meal

The American Legion Post 455 will prepare a made-to-order breakfast of fried eggs, scrambled eggs, biscuits, french toast, SOS, pancakes, omelets, coffee, decaf coffee, tea and juice.

Price is \$6 for adults, \$3 for children under age 12, and free for kids under age 5. The American Legion Hall in New Egypt is on Route 528 West, across from Agway.

The breakfast is held every first Sunday of the month from 7 to 11 a.m. at 2 Meadowbrook Lane, New Egypt, 08533. Call 758-8131 for more information.

## Tuition Assistance Briefs

Mandatory Tuition Assistance Briefings will be held for first-time TA users every Monday, at 8:30 a.m. in Bldg. 3829, Room 206. Call the Education Center at 754-3019.

## Volunteer Opportunities

### Native American Heritage Committee

Volunteers are needed to participate in the inauguration of JB MDL's Native American Heritage Committee. All personnel are welcome to join and participate, and do not need to be of Native American descent. All that is required is to share in the interest and education of others. If you are interested in helping plan activities, call Mimi Cirillo at 754-2079 or Georgia Dupuis at 754-2214.

### Spouse Program

Key Spouse Program volunteers are selected by squadron leadership and are trained volunteers who promote individual, family, and unit readiness; establish continuous contact with spouses and families; encourage peer-to-peer (wingman) support; welcome the unit's newcomers; and more. Phoenix Spouses meet a vital need of spouses to have an informal sounding board through an informal network system and help strengthen the unit leadership's support team. For more information about the Phoenix Spouses and how to volunteer, call the Warfighting and Family Readiness Center at 754-3154.

### Red Cross

The American Red Cross has volunteer opportunities helping out on a "deployment line," handing out coffee and snacks as well as comfort kits for service-members.

Visit  
[www.jointbasemdl.af.mil](http://www.jointbasemdl.af.mil)  
 for more information

# Class offers insight into Army ways



U.S. Air Force photo/Carlos Cintron

## Giving the gift of life

Air Force Staff Sgt. Dhamindra Parakrama, 87th Medical Squadron computer systems technician, donates blood during a blood drive Oct. 19. Jennifer Saculis, a Red Cross donation assistant and registered nurse, holds Parakrama's arm up after removing the needle to make sure no bleeding occurs.

Staff Sgt. Christopher Carney  
367th MPAD

The auditorium in Building 5507 on Dix looks like any other classroom at U.S. Army bases across the world; servicemembers sitting attentively while Power Point slides show tasks, conditions and standards. But on Oct. 20 the normal Army cries of "Hooah" in response to the instructor's questions were coming from Airmen and Sailors instead of Soldiers.

The class is Army 101, an introductory class for Airmen, Sailors and Coast Guardsmen who are attending pre-deployment training here. It is designed to give the other service members a heads-up on some of the acronyms, lingo and other distinctive Army information they will encounter during training and eventual deployment to a joint environment.

"When the units are out on the lanes they'll hear the OCs (Observer/Controllers) use the acronyms and phrases," said Army Capt. Joe Knowlton, South Paris, Maine, the instructor for Army 101. "This helps them keep up."

The class consists of five sections covering rank identifica-

tion, common acronyms, Army formations, troop-leading procedures, and pre-combat checks and pre-combat inspections.

From the differences between a specialist and a corporal to the meaning of "Hooah" and "blue falcon," the class gives an intro to the Army world but also highlights the more important mission-related info of troop-leading procedures.

Senior Airman Daniel Durfee, Deerfield, N.H., an air guardsman from Pease Air National Guard Base, who is preparing for his first deployment said he, "thought it was great."

"Learning the rank structure, how the Army views leadership and the decision-making process is beneficial," said Durfee.

Staff Sgt. Sara Digenarro, Randolph Air Force Base, San Antonio, Texas, who is deploying individually for the first time, is thankful for the training.

"The Air Force deploys from all over and from different units," said Digenarro. She is looking forward to the live-fire training and rollover training she will go through.

"In the end, if they take away anything, it's the troop-leading procedures that I'd like them to understand," said Knowlton, "to speed up their mission training."



Staff Sgt. Christopher Carney

**HOOAH HEADS UP—Army Capt. Joe Knowlton, teaches the Army 101 class to a group of Airmen Oct. 20. The class is designed to give the non-Army service members a heads-up on some of the acronyms, lingo and other distinctively Army info they will encounter during training and deployment to a joint environment.**

# Customer Management Services marks one year

Commentary  
Tiffany L. Colby  
Customer Service Officer

This past fiscal year has been an exciting one for Customer Management Services. Interactive Customer Evaluation (ICE) has proven to be an exceptional program and is providing our customers with issue resolution at the service provider level.

If you did not know, as of Oct. 1, we've had 7,567 customers provide us with feedback and our satisfaction rating is 98 percent. Those are some great numbers to celebrate CMS's birthday with.

The previous fiscal years responses were 607 with an 87-percent satisfaction rating. There are a lot of individuals who have worked really hard to ensure that your voice is heard — staff, managers, directors and the Command.

You are helping us to make the Army Support Activity the best it can be; thank you.

Community FIRST (Feedback Issue Resolution Solutions Today) had a good year, too. You brought to our attention through focus groups and open issue solicitation 12 issues that, as the community, you felt had an impact on morale and mission effectiveness right here.

We worked with the Warrior Transition Unit and addressed their concerns about educational awareness. We've also addressed concerns with smoking receptacles and trash bins at the barracks on McGuire. We were informed through the family member focus group that you wanted to see a Women's Conference and easier access to information on activities and programs.

Our Soldiers and retirees also addressed concerns with AAFES and military clothing sales.

The staff at the store has made changes to make finding and ordering items easier and more con-

venient for the customer. Installation runs have been changed from a monthly occurrence to conducting them during major celebratory events, such as the Army's birthday and allowing the division/brigade levels to conduct monthly runs instead.

The retirees mentioned the need for funding to provide refreshments at the annual Retiree Appreciation Day and at that time, the director of Family, Morale, Welfare and Recreation provided a donation to cover the event, which was very successful.

During open solicitation we had reserved parking spaces at the Post Exchange and the need for wheelchair access at the School Age Services building brought to our attention.

As of today, these issues are actively being addressed.

We gained insight on our mission and are actively working to provide our Soldiers the most effective, efficient and expedient mobilization and demobilizing services in the entire Army.

The Customer Service Assessment had its second go around, we will be receiving information you provided to us on the performance and importance of programs and services that we provide to you as service members, family members, retirees, civilians and veterans who live, work and train here. This information is expected to be available to our customers in early December.

All mentioned above are available to view on the CMS Web page at [www.dix.army.mil/cms](http://www.dix.army.mil/cms).

If you have an issue, concern or suggestion as to how we might be able to do things better for you, let us know.

Focus groups are available for you to attend. If you have the opportunity, I would like to cordially invite you to attend. Please e-mail the CMS at [dixcms@conus.army.mil](mailto:dixcms@conus.army.mil). Your voices do make a difference!