

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.

Webinar set for H1N1

Military Health System experts will host a Web-based town hall-style meeting Nov. 10 from 3 to 4 p.m. EST to respond to questions about H1N1 influenza.

Military members, their families, health-care providers and Defense Department civilians may submit questions starting Nov. 2, using the comments box at <http://www.health.mil/flu>. As many as possible of the questions submitted in advance, as well as questions asked throughout the live event, will be answered during the Web hall. A transcript of all questions and answers will be posted to the site after the event.

Airmen can volunteer for NYC Vets Day Parade

Joint Base McGuire-Dix-Lakehurst Air Force members can "Honor Those Who Have Defended the Blessings of Liberty" by volunteering to march Nov. 11 in New York City's annual Veterans Day Parade. Participants will march 1.5 miles down 5th Avenue. A concert will follow with food, beverages and entertainment at no cost.

The parade begins at 11 a.m. Marchers will form up at 10 a.m. Uniform of the day is Service Dress with flight cap/black gloves. Bus transportation leaving from JB MDL will be available for military members only.

Buses will depart from the Chapel 1 parking lot no later than 7 a.m. and leave from the parade site at 7 p.m.

Those interested in volunteering can contact their unit first sergeant or Master Sgt. Donna Jeffries at 754-3487, send e-mail with name, unit, phone number, and "riding military bus" or "no bus" to trina.pharr@mcguire.af.mil, or call 754-9553.

McGuire AFB is part of a contingent representing the Air Force. All services will be represented in the parade.

Cake Boss set to air Nov. 9

Viewers of the hit television show "Cake Boss" will get a little taste of the Air Force mission when an episode filmed at Joint Base McGuire-Dix-Lakehurst in September airs on TLC, Nov. 9, at 10 p.m.

Filmed on-base and aboard the Battleship New Jersey in Camden, the episode will feature an Air Force themed-cake created for the 621st Contingency Response Wing's first-ever Dining Out.

Dix ID card facility offers Saturday hours

The Dix ID card facility located in Room 125 on the first floor of Bldg. 5418, South Scott Plaza, will offer Saturday hours tomorrow and Dec. 5 from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Call 562-2177 for details.

Weather

FRIDAY -- Sunny with highs in the low 50s, lows in the low 30s.

SATURDAY -- Mostly sunny with highs in the mid 50s, lows in the upper 30s.

SUNDAY -- Sunny with highs in the low 60s, lows in the low 40s.

MONDAY -- Mostly sunny with highs in the low 60s, lows in the upper 40s.



Carlos Cintron, U.S. Air Force

Joint Base takes action for military families

FAMILY AFFAIR -- Army Col. Joseph Poth, deputy commander of Joint Base McGuire-Dix-Lakehurst, gives the opening remarks at the Military Family Action Plan (MFAP) Conference Oct. 29. Leadership was looking for ideas and suggestions about how to improve the lives of families and servicemembers. The MFAP was created 26 years ago as the Army Family Action Plan, with a mission to prioritize issues designed to improve standards of living for all military branches, family members, retirees and civilians. See page 9 for full coverage.

Defense Authorization Act signed

Gerry J. Gilmore
American Forces Press Service

WASHINGTON (AFNS) -- President Barack Obama signed the fiscal 2010 National Defense Authorization Act during a ceremony at the White House Oct. 28. Obama hailed the act, which contains \$680.2 billion in military budget authority, as transformational legislation that targets wasteful defense spending.

The president was accompanied by Vice President Joe Biden, congressional leaders and other senior officials, including Defense Secretary Robert M. Gates and Navy Adm. Mike Mullen, chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff.

"There's still more waste we need to cut; there's still more fights that we need to win," Obama said, noting he and Secretary Gates will continue to seek out unnecessary defense spending. Obama said he has announced unnecessary no-bid defense con-

tracts and signed bipartisan legislation to reform defense procurement practices so weapons systems' costs do not spin out of control.

"Even as we have made critical investments in equipment and weapons our troops do need, we're eliminating tens of billions of dollars in waste we don't need," Obama said.

The legislation, the president said, saves billions by capping production of the Air Force's costly F-22 Raptor and terminating troubled, over-budget programs such as the Army's Future Combat System and a new presidential helicopter.

"As commander in chief, I will always do whatever it takes to keep the American people safe to defend this nation," Obama explained. "That's why this bill provides for the best military in the history of the world."

The authorization act provides for a 3.4 percent pay raise for military members, improves care for wounded warriors and expands family leave rights.

Money also is budgeted to fund pro-

Law ends NSPS

Jim Garamone
American Forces Press Service

WASHINGTON (AFNS) -- With President Barack Obama's signature Oct. 29 on the 2010 National Defense Authorization Act, a controversial pay-for-performance personnel system is abolished.

About 220,000 Defense Department employees who had come under the National Security Personnel System will transition back to the long-standing General Schedule system, but that will take time, a senior official said.

Tim Curry, acting program executive officer for NSPS, said department

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Soldiers host joint training

Wayne Cook
ASA Public Affairs

Airmen, Sailors and Coast Guardsmen from across the country got a taste of Army life while training at Military Operations in Urban Terrain site Balad at Army Support Activity, Joint Base McGuire-Dix-Lakehurst (ASA JB MDL) Oct. 29.

Soldiers from the 2nd Training Support Battalion, 309th Regiment, 72nd Field Artillery Brigade, pulled out all the stops as they ran their military counterparts through the paces of urban warfare and counter-insurgency training.

With the use of civilian on the battlefield (COB) role players, scenarios were run that challenged the diplomacy and strategy of the trainees, who had to communicate with the Iraqi villagers, played by the COBs, locate possible insurgents and weapon caches, and clear the village of hostiles while utilizing tactics and strategy skills to move safely throughout the area.

Although the tasks were unfamiliar to those involved in the training, they received expert instruction from Soldiers on how to perform the tasks in a successful manner.

"This is my first time going through the pre-mob training," said Tech. Sgt. Patrick Sciler of the Air Force Financial Services Center at Ellsworth Air Force Base, Rapid City, S.D. "The live training is very beneficial in that we engage role players in real life situations. We get to put weapons on the target. All of the instructors have combat experience and are willing to share their knowledge with us. To make the reality of this training and our mission hit home I actually had my troops write their own eulogies so they would have to face the feelings of possible impending death. I want them to be aware of the reality of the situations they will be engaged in.

"Those in the unit with experience downrange are embracing the training and mentoring the younger, less experienced troops. I will take the training I have received here back to my home unit and help train our people up to standard. The Air Force trains our Airmen

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Ryan Morton

ONE STEP AT A TIME -- Air Force Tech Sgt. Traveller Hill, Staff Sgt. Drew Heidt and Maj. Derrick Hamaoka, from left, move tactically during Military Operations in Urban Terrain training at Army Support Activity, Joint Base McGuire-Dix-Lakehurst Oct. 29. These Airmen are currently training with Sailors and Coast Guardsmen for contingency operations abroad.

RATPAC hits range

Wayne Cook
ASA Public Affairs

Personnel from the military and law-enforcement communities were introduced to a new type of training facility across from Range 6A at Army Support Activity, Joint Base McGuire-Dix-Lakehurst Oct. 30.

The unique and versatile shape-shifting training facility called the RATPAC (Reconfigurable Armored Tactical Personnel And Collective Training System) was developed by UXB International Inc., of Flemington, due to the need for innovative and reconfigurable tactical training facilities to support military and law-enforcement training.

According to Greg Pitul, program manager with UXB International Inc., the primary asset of the facility is that it is completely reconfigurable including the doors, windows, walls and stairs. There are multiple cameras, lights, microphones, speakers and pop-up silhouettes of good guys and bad guys throughout the facility. Smoke, gas and odors can also be pumped into the building through controlled inlets and are expelled through built-in exhaust fans.

Reconfiguration is accomplished with the use of only one simple tool. Pitul said that two men could reconfigure the entire facility in less than an hour, which allows for fluidity and realistic training in an ever-changing environment. The RATPAC can be set up in a six-story format with a rappelling tower and has an adjoining unit that is utilized as the control shelter.

The number of floor plans is unlimited, according to Mike Warminsky, vice president and director of project development with UXB International Inc.

"The focus in the military today is on urban-scenario training. With

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Pledge to the CFC, make a difference

Commentary
Maj. Karen Cosgrove
Joint Base MDL CFC Lead

Some givers may never see the impact their donations to the Combined Federal Campaign make in the lives of others.

I have. Armed with the generosity of CFC donors, my fellow deployed Airmen and I had the ability to make a real difference in the lives of Iraqi children from the rural farms surrounding Balad Air Base.

One of over 2,500 organizations associated with the CFC provided us with the many gifts we delivered to those children.

I will never forget the look on the children's faces when we handed them a soccer ball or a backpack or a pair of shoes...items we take for granted.

This is a prime example of the true worth of donations to CFC organizations.

Many do not realize how many options are available when pledging to the campaign. The CFC supports a wide variety of charitable

organizations and worthy causes.

Does someone in your family suffer from an illness? Consider donating to an organization dedicated to medical research and development. Are you a pet lover? Check the box for an animal rescue association. House the homeless by funding a charity that builds new homes. Aid abused women with a donation to a group that shelters and protects victims of violence.

Donations may be divided amongst as many charities as desired.

A small portion of a donation subtracted from each month's paycheck is barely noticeable with the payroll-deduction option available to military members and government employees.

Those on the receiving end of your generosity, however, will certainly notice the large impact it will make on their lives.

I encourage everyone on Joint Base McGuire-Dix-Lakehurst to pick up a copy of the 2009 CFC directory and make a difference in someone's life today. The impact of even a small donation can go a long way.

The 2009 South Jersey CFC ends Nov. 30. Contact the JB MDL key worker in your office for copies of the directory and pledge cards. Visit www.cfcnsj.org for more information.



Air Force updates guidance for wear of PT uniform

Brad Jessmer
Air Force News Service

WRIGHT-PATERSON AFB, Ohio (AFNS) -- Air Force officials have updated guidance for wear of the physical training uniform, replacing previous guidance published in Air Force Instruction 36-2903, Dress and Personal Appearance of Air Force Personnel.

According to a message released from Air Force A1 and signed by Lt. Gen. Richard Y. Newton III, deputy chief of staff for Manpower and Personnel, effective immediately, individual items making up the PTU and im-

proved PTU are considered uniform items.

Air Force officials said this means strict attention must be given to every item of the PTU, just as with items on the Airman Battle Uniform or service dress uniform. However, individual items of the PTU may still be worn with conservative civilian attire during personal PT or when off-duty.

Wear of the PTU is mandatory during physical fitness assessments and while participating in organized PT events, as designated by the commander. Unit commanders will determine the PTU configuration.

If PTU/IPTU items are worn

during personal PT, the following is required:

- During periods of low light, reflective belts and armbands are required when wearing the optional running shorts. Reflective accessories are optional when wearing the standard PTU, which already includes reflective material.
- Footwear is to remain conservative. No bright colors or excessive ornamentation is to be worn.
- Socks must be white, but small trademark logos are acceptable.
- The PTU jacket must be zipped at least halfway between the waistband and collar. Sleeves

will end within 1 inch off wrist.

- The PTU running pants waistband will rest at or within 2 inches of the natural waistline. Both pant legs will extend below the ankles and will be zipped to within 1 inch of the bottom.
- PTU shorts and running shorts will rest at or within 2 inches of the natural waistline.
- The short sleeve PTU shirt will be tucked into shorts or running pants at all times. Do not remove or cut sleeves.
- The long sleeve PTU shirt will be tucked into the PTU shorts or running pants at all times. Do not push up, remove or cut sleeves.

• The optional IPTU sweatshirt will extend no lower than 6 inches below the natural waistline. Do not push up, remove or cut sleeves.

- Undergarments must be appropriate and worn with all uniform combinations.
- Short or full-length spandex may be worn under both the PTU and IPTU, but colors must only consist of black or dark blue.
- Headgear may be authorized by commanders, but may only consist of either a solid black or dark blue baseball cap with the Air Force symbol or "U.S. Air Force" logos. Headgear is to be worn outdoors only.
- Bandanas are not authorized unless due to a medical waiver condition.
- Cold weather accessories may be worn outdoors only.
- The knit watch cap will be plain solid black, dark blue or sage green without any logos.
- Gloves will be plain solid black or dark blue without any logos.
- Scarves and earmuffs will be solid black or dark blue, and may

wrap around either the top or rear of the head.

- Green or black fleece is not authorized with the PTU/IPTU.
- The IPTU running suit top or bottom may not be mixed with the current PTU running suit top or bottom.
- The lining of the PTU/IPTU shorts may be removed, but no other uniform alterations are authorized.
- Headphones are authorized inside fitness centers or designated running areas, unless prohibited by the commander.
- Personal grooming and appearance standards apply during physical fitness activities with one exception: Long female hair will be secured but may have loose ends.
- Proper military customs and courtesies to honor the flag during reveille and retreat will apply. Saluting due to rank is not required when wearing the PTU.

The few exceptions to this policy are at the discretion of commanders for accessions, professional military education or academic training.

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

New Army under secretary takes oath

WASHINGTON, Army News Service, Nov. 2, 2009 -- The new under secretary of the Army is above the fray of Washington politics, and is a true civil servant, said the secretary of Army.

true Washington game. Instead, they are public servants... people who are motivated by a deep sense of appreciation for our system of democracy and who principally hold in their hearts and in

Army Joseph W. Westphal. He said he counted the new under secretary amongst those public servants he holds in high regard.

"From everything I know about Dr. Westphal, he is not just

"To be really successful in these jobs -- (with) the people we are partnered with, we have to have trust and confidence in them and we have to have a friendship with them," Westphal said.

"I don't think you can really be successful together and accomplish things if you don't have that relationship," Westphal added.

The under secretary told attendees, which included his family, members of congress, and past Army civilian and military leaders, that he enjoyed the kind of professional working relationship with McHugh that is necessary to accomplish the mission of running the Army.

"There is a great bond between us -- confidence, trust and friendship -- that I think makes our ability to deliver for the secretary of defense and for the president, very, very good work at the end of the day," Westphal said.

Westphal now serves as the 30th under secretary of the Army. He comes from a background of service in both academia and government. He served as the assistant secretary of the Army for civil works from 1998 to 2001, and in 2001, served as acting secretary of the Army.

--Army News Service



TAKING CHARGE -- Secretary of the Army John M. McHugh, left, swears in Dr. Joseph W. Westphal as under secretary of the Army Oct. 30 during a ceremony at the Pentagon. Westphal's wife, Linda, holds the Bible.

"Prestige and power can be very fickle companions," said Secretary of the Army John M. McHugh. "But there are those individuals who don't care about that, that people who don't play that time-tested but perhaps not-so-

their minds their admiration for our men and women in uniform," McHugh said.

McHugh spoke before an audience of Army civilians and Soldiers during a swearing-in ceremony, Oct. 30 at the Pentagon, for Under Secretary of the

one of those individuals, he is a leader amongst them," McHugh said.

After speaking, McHugh administered the oath of office to Westphal, and then turned the podium over to Westphal.

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 service.



Col. Patrick Slowey
ASA Commander

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

Mail deadlines approach for holidays

WASHINGTON — For military service members stationed around the globe, holiday gifts are a big morale boost.

To help the families and friends of U.S. military personnel, the Postal Service offers a discount on its largest Priority Mail Flat Rate box.

The recommended mailing date for the most economical postage to overseas military installations, including Iraq and Afghanistan, is Nov. 13.

Mail sent to overseas military addresses is charged only domestic

mail prices. The domestic mail price for the Priority Mail Large Flat Rate Box is \$13.95, but for packages to APO/FPO addresses overseas the price is reduced to \$11.95. Additional discounts are available for customers printing their Priority Mail postage labels online at Click-N-Ship.

Flat-Rate boxes are free at any Post Office, or can be ordered online at shop.usps.com. Postage, labels and customs forms can be printed online any time using Click-N-Ship.

The Postal Service continues

to show support to those serving in the armed forces by offering free Military Care Kits, designed specifically for military families sending packages overseas. The mailing kits can be ordered by phone by calling 1-800-610-8734 and asking for the Care Kit. Each kit includes two "America Supports You" large Priority Mail Flat-Rate boxes, four medium-sized Priority Mail Flat-Rate boxes, six Priority Mail labels, one roll of Priority Mail tape and six customs forms with envelopes.

To ensure delivery of holiday cards and packages by Dec. 25 to military APO/FPO addresses overseas, the Postal Service recommends that mail for service members be entered no later than the mailing dates listed below. Mail addressing to military post offices overseas is subject to certain conditions or restrictions regarding content, preparation and handling.

APO/FPO addresses generally require customs forms. To see an online table of updated APO and FPO addresses and mailing restrictions by individual APO/FPO ZIP Codes, Click here, select "Pull-Out Information" and click for the link titled "Overseas Military/Diplomatic Mail."

For online ordering of the Large Priority Mail APO/FPO Flat Rate boxes featuring the "America Supports You" logo and APO/FPO addressing block, Click here. More information about mailing letters and packages to military destinations is available online at Supporting Our Troops.

"Mailing holiday gifts to service members early will help insure that a piece of home arrives in plenty of time to make the celebration complete," said Pranab Shah, vice president and managing director, Global Business.

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Addressed To	Express Mail® Military Service (EMMS)1	First Class Letters/Cards	Priority Mail®	Parcel Airlift Mail (PAL)2	Space Available Mail (SAM)3	Parcel Post®
APO/FPO AE ZIPs 090-092	Dec-18	Dec-11	Dec-11	Dec-4	Nov-28	Nov-13
APO/FPO AE ZIP 093	N/A	Dec-4	Dec-4	Dec-1	Nov-21	Nov-13
APO/FPO AE ZIPs 094-098	Dec-18	Dec-11	Dec-11	Dec-4	Nov-28	Nov-13
APO/FPO AA ZIP 340	Dec-18	Dec-11	Dec-11	Dec-4	Nov-28	Nov-13
APO/FPO AP ZIPs 962-966	Dec-18	Dec-11	Dec-11	Dec-4	Nov-28	Nov-13

the Post

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Troop hauler rolls into museum station



photos by Ryan Morton
TRAIN KEPT ROLLIN -- Roger Molnar, above, and Rick Davis put the finishing touches on the troop car before it gets put on display at the Army Reserve Mobilization Museum. The troop car was connected to the Dinky Locomotive, which has been on display at the museum since 2006. The train system was used to transport troops and supplies to the ranges for more than 30 years, starting in the 1920s.



photos by Lisa Evans

Ryan Morton
ASA Public Affairs

A newly constructed replica narrow-gauge troop car joined a replica narrow gauge locomotive on tracks outside the Army Reserve Mobilization Museum on Army Support Activity, Joint Base McGuire-Dix-Lakehurst (ASA, JB MDL), Oct. 29. The construction of the troop car took place throughout the month of October by the workers at IAP Worldwide Services.

In 2006, the locomotive commonly known as Dinky was installed next to the museum, near where a portion of the former track once ran. A dinky train describes a smaller type of train usually run on a narrow-gauge railroad track used to transport short supply runs in closely spaced cities and towns.

A narrow-gauge railway usually measures three and a half feet or less and a standard railway typically measures four feet, eight and a half inches. The railroad system, which was known as the Fort Dix Narrow Gauge Railroad represents a historical time period, where the train operated on Fort Dix and previously Camp Dix, for more than 30 years. It was built in the early 1920s and was used to transport troops, food, ammunition, and equipment to and from the training ranges.

"The whole idea behind it was to preserve the history and heritage of the Narrow Gauge Railroad at Fort Dix," said John Warrick, who works in the ASA, JB MDL Directorate of Public Works Real Property Office and spearheaded the project.

Warrick is also a trainmaster with the Black River Railroad System in Flemington.

The Fort Dix Narrow Gauge Railroad was in operation during World Wars I and II and ran until the mid 1950s. It ran across areas of Dix and McGuire Air Force Base, and went out to where the range headquarters building stands today.

"We eventually want to have every type of car out there to represent what it used to look like. The troop car is downsized slightly at about 90 percent of what the actual size was," said Warrick.

"This is something we really wanted to get done before the end of the year, but also realize there's room to do more. That's for sure," he said.

There is a plaque at the monument which tells a brief history of the railroad and who it's dedicated to.

It reads, "This monument is dedicated to the military and civilian railroaders of the past, present, and future and to the countless personnel who rode the Fort Dix Narrow Gauge Railway."

Soldiers host joint training

(continued from page 1)
things like Self-Aid Buddy Care which is basic first aid skills while the Army teaches the Combat Lifesavers Course, which is much more in-depth and better suited to handle injuries in the combat arena. These are some of the skills we will take away from here," Seiler said.

One trainee, Senior Airman Jared Williams from the 60th

Inpatient Squadron at Travis Air Force Base, Calif., said the training made him feel more like a Soldier than an Airman because the training was so in-depth.

"We are better trained than most Air Force personnel going into theater. While here, we have been through all kinds of training like weapons familiarization, combat lifesavers course, site security, Humvee and vehicle familiarization, military opera-

tions in urban terrain, and the High-Mobility Multipurpose Vehicle Egress Trainer," said Williams.

"The training here gives us a perception of what we will see downrange," he said.

Petty Officer 2nd Class Cory Weiss, who is assigned to Naval Station Norfolk, Va., is preparing for a joint assignment as a member of a Provincial Reconstruction Team. He is very excited to

be working with the Army and having the opportunity to work outside of his normal field and the Navy.

For Coast Guard Lt. Kelly Tongol, who is assigned to the Coast Guard Headquarters in Washington, D.C., her training at ASA, JB MDL, has been very interesting.

"The training has been very intense. The Army instructors are very professional and are

focused on providing the best training possible. I have been on boarding teams before so I am no stranger to stress, but this training exposes me to a totally different kind of stress. I believe the training we are receiving here is very pertinent to my upcoming mission," Tongol said.

"One of the most important aspects of the training has been the fact that the instructors have drilled into us on a daily basis

that we are going into a war zone. I'm impressed that every one of the instructors has combat experience so they know what they are speaking about," Tongol added.

Military personnel from the other service branches will continue to look to Army Soldiers to provide the expertise and training that will bring about successful missions as the wars overseas continue.

New RATPAC facility hits range



Wayne Cook

Officers from the Piscataway Police Department SWAT Team enter the RATPAC during a demonstration at ASA, JB MDL Oct. 30.

(continued from page 1)
the introduction of the RATPAC and the abilities to add stress inducers such as smoke, gas and smell, we are able to better meet the training needs of today's military and law-enforcement communities. The ability to reconfigure the facility in a short order of time allows the trainer to match current mission requirements," said Warminsky.

UXB International Inc. has worked very closely with the

Army Development and Engineering Center Demilitarization and Environmental Technology Division at Picatinny Arsenal to test and improve the viability of the RATPAC for military training purposes.

With input from the Army engineers, the facility has become more suited for military needs.

Retired Col. David McNeil, a defense solutions associate with SMH International and former

commander of Fort Dix, is a strong proponent of the RATPAC.

With his military experience as both Soldier and commander of a training installation, McNeil is well suited to know the needs for training military personnel for the urban environment they will face in both Afghanistan and Iraq.

"This training facility is a great opportunity for the Soldier to get realistic training. One of the great points of this equipment is its portability. It can be reconfigured in a matter of minutes or disassembled, loaded on a truck and moved to a new location with minimum training downtime. The control shelter only needs two individuals to run it; a systems operator and a chief trainer," explained McNeil.

"The cost for each basic unit configuration is \$750,000, which, when translated to the multiple configuration possibilities that there are for the RATPAC, becomes very affordable and an efficient expenditure of the taxpayers' dollars," McNeil said.

ASA Range Control Officer Doug Hasemann shared that the RATPAC came to the ASA through a longstanding partnership with Picatinny Arsenal. "This project has been three or four years in the making. We consulted with members of the FBI SWAT team to assess need-

ed capabilities. We gauged our needs against operations in the field today and the way we train Soldiers here at the ASA," he said.

Col. Patrick Slowey, ASA commander, said the relationship with Picatinny goes back to 1990 and was formalized in 2000. He said that the ASA provides the real-estate footprint for Picatinny to test systems while military personnel benefit from the use of those systems.

"We have the same type of relationship with Fort Monmouth. That type of synergy benefits the Soldiers the most," said Slowey.

To show off some of the capabilities of the RATPAC, officers from the Piscataway Township Police Department Special Weapons and Tactics Team put on a demonstration of urban/close-quarter combat techniques while searching and clearing the facility.

"I think this is an absolutely tremendous capability for training. The possibilities for military and civilian training are endless. When you incorporate the mobility and configurability aspects of the structure, it is phenomenal. The shoot-through walls and break-and-rake windows add reality to the scenarios that can be played out here," said Detective Sgt. David Powell, Piscataway Township Police Dept. SWAT team.

Honors and Awards



Staff Sgt. Nathan Bevier, U.S. Air Force

Staff Sgt. James Chubb, a training instructor with the 421st Combat Training Squadron at the U.S. Air Force Expeditionary Center at Joint Base McGuire-Dix-Lakehurst, offers guidance to students during a Judge Advocate course in October. The Expeditionary Center, which provides advanced combat support training and education for Airmen before they deploy, was recognized with the Air Force Organizational Excellence Award Nov. 3. The award covers the period of June 2008 through June 2009.



Ryan Morton

Maj. Mark Martin, Master Sgt. David Bennett, 367th Mobile Public Affairs Detachment (MPAD), Lt. Col. Curtis Holden and Master Sgt. Quinten Heyward, 452nd Brigade Liaison Detachment (BLD), and Maj. Edward McCray and Master Sgt. Daniel Schiff, 318th Public Affairs Operations Center (PAOC), from left, display their Yellow Banners at Griffith Field House at Army Support Activity, Joint Base McGuire-Dix-Lakehurst Oct. 27. The 367th MPAD is from Columbus, Ohio, the 452nd BLD is from Tallahassee, Fla., and the 318th PAOC is from Chicago, Ill. Each unit mobilized at ASA, JB MDL for Operation Iraqi Freedom missions.



Lisa Evans

First Lt. Tony Hughs and 1st Sgt. Harold Cook, 269th Military Police Company, Tennessee Army National Guard, based in Murphreesboro, Tenn., accept their Yellow Banner and a Welcome Home plaque Nov. 1 thanking them for performing their mission in Iraq.

Civil Engineers win award

Members of the 87th Civil Engineering Squadron, Joint Base McGuire-Dix-Lakehurst, were named Air Mobility Command Civil Engineer Award winners for fiscal year 2009.

The 87th Civil Engineering Squadron was the runner up for the Major General Del R. Eulberg Award (Asset Management Flight).

Christopher Archer was the winner of the Harry P. Rietman Award (Senior Civilian Mgr).

Maj. Karen Cosgrove was awarded the Major General L. Dean Fox Award (Senior Military Manager).

Capt. Michael V. Siebert received the AMC National Society of Professional Engineers Federal Engineer of the Year Award (Military). The winners are invited to attend the Annual AMC Civil Engineer Awards Luncheon at the Scott Club, Scott Air Force Base, Ill., on Dec. 3.



Defense Authorization Act signed

(continued from page 1)

grams that address "real and growing threats," Obama said. Such systems, he said, include the F-35 Lightning II joint strike fighter, the littoral combat ship and more helicopters and reconnaissance support for deployed U.S. forces.

The authorization act contains \$130 billion to fund overseas contingency operations in Iraq and Afghanistan and it also provides \$6.7 billion for thousands of all-terrain, mine-resistant, ambush-protected vehicles now arriving in Afghanistan.

"Secretary Gates and I both know that we can't build the 21st century military we need unless we fundamentally reform the way our defense establishment does business," Obama said. He cited a Government Accountability Office report that found cost overruns totaling \$296 billion across 96 major defense projects over the last year. That amount of money, the president said, would have paid for troop salaries and military family benefits for more than a year.

Obama praised Gates and Mullen for their hard work in developing the 2010 defense budget.

"I want to thank, publicly, Bob Gates for his service to our nation," he said, and he added that Mullen has "provided wise counsel and stood with us in our efforts to initiate reform."

The authorization act, Gates said, is a bipartisan effort that's the result of countless hours and hard work on Capitol Hill.

"This bill is a necessary step toward reshaping the priorities of America's defense establishment and changing the way the Pentagon does business," Gates said at the signing ceremony. Work already is under way, he said, in development of the 2011 defense budget recommendation.

"And, I can ensure you it will focus on institutionalizing and accelerating many of the priorities and reforms embraced by this legislation," Gates said.

The annual defense authorization bill prepared for the president's approval or veto falls under the House and Senate armed services committees and is one of two bills required for the Defense Department to spend money. The other is the appropriations bill, crafted by the House and Senate appropriations committees, which provides

funding to pay for the defense programs specified in the authorization bill.

Although the authorization bill signed today contains funding to develop and produce an alternate engine for the F-35 Lightning II joint strike fighter that Gates had opposed, the legislators were able to provide that funding without taking resources away from the F-35 program itself, Pentagon Press Secretary Geoff Morrell told reporters later in the day.

Some people, Morrell said, believe that funding a second engine for the F-35 would be an unnecessary waste of taxpayers' money.

"The authorizers have been able to do it in a way that does not seriously disrupt the overall F-35 program; we'll see if the appropriators are able to come up with a way to do it that way," Morrell said. "If they don't, if they seriously disrupt it, then the secretary will recommend to the president that he veto the appropriations bill."

The House and Senate appropriations committees are evaluating budget provisions contained within the signed Defense Authorization Act.

Law ends personnel system

(continued from page 1)

officials could start transitioning employees in six months. They have begun a comprehensive planning process, he explained, with the goal of ensuring a smooth and orderly transition of employees and organizations out of NSPS.

"The department is going to proceed deliberately and cautiously without unnecessary delay," Mr. Curry said. The transi-

tion will take place organization by organization, he said to minimize disruption. Meanwhile, employees under NSPS will remain in that system.

"It took three years to bring those 220,000 employees into the system," Mr. Curry said. "Congress recognized that it was going to take time ... to do it right."

The new law gives Defense Department officials six months

to develop and submit a plan to Congress detailing the transition. The whole transition must be finished by Jan. 1, 2012.

"We will work under NSPS for the time being, while we are working on the transition plan," Mr. Curry said. "When we're at the point where employees come out of the system, ... the law ensures that no employee's pay will be reduced when converting out of NSPS."

Employees outside of NSPS are not affected by the change.

Officials in Mr. Curry's office also are studying the new law's other civilian personnel ramifications. He said these include requirements for performance management, hiring flexibilities, training requirements and the department's ability to go back to Congress for added personnel flexibilities.

"We're looking at what that means and how to proceed," Mr. Curry said. "We're just assessing the impact and how to move forward."

The major complaint about NSPS was that it was overly complicated and that no employee understood the pay pool process, Mr. Curry said, pledging that department officials will take the lessons from the NSPS experience as it moves ahead.

"We'll be particularly mindful of issues surrounding complexity and transparency," he said.

"Those are certainly important considerations to ensure employees understand and accept and buy into any rules that

will be put in place."

Civilian employees under NSPS finished a rating cycle at the end of September. These workers will receive performance ratings and payouts effective in January under NSPS, Mr. Curry said.

A provision of the act requires that employees with Level 2 ratings or higher are guaranteed a pay increase in January that's at least equivalent to the pay increase that applies to General Schedule employees.

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NEIGHBORHOOD

The Corner

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 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.

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., and the first Wednesday of the month from 3 to 7 p.m.

Pair of retirement seminars scheduled for December

●The mandatory Quarterly Pre-Retirement Orientation is scheduled for Dec. 8 to 11 from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. in the Timmermann Conference Center located on Pennsylvania Avenue and 8th Street.

This seminar is mandatory for all Soldiers who are within 120 days of retirement and optional for all others. Spouses are encouraged to attend with the Soldier.

●The next National Guard/Reserve retirement briefing will be held Dec. 5 from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. in the Timmermann Conference Center. Representatives will be available to address all aspects of the National Guard/Reserve retirement benefits.

More information may be obtained by contacting the Retirement Services officer at 562-2666.

Thanksgiving food collected at Dix Main Chapel

Thanksgiving Food Basket collections are being accepted until Nov. 15 at the Dix Main Chapel. Please be generous and help military families in need have a great Thanksgiving dinner. Boxes are set up at the chapel to drop off your non-perishable donations.

Deadline for newspaper submissions

Deadlines for submitting articles to the Post newspaper have changed. The ASA Public Affairs Office realigned its newspaper deadlines to match those of JB MDL public affairs.

Articles prepared by writers from military and civilian organizations on the joint base must be submitted by 4:30 p.m. each Monday.

For more information, call David Moore of the ASA Public Affairs Office at 562-4035, or e-mail david.f.moore@us.army.mil.

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.

Volunteers sought for Black History Month

The Army Support Activity Black History Month observance Committee seeks volunteers to help with the Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. program and Black History Month events.

Anyone wishing to help should call Veverly Wakefield at 562-4036 or e-mail her at veverly.wakefield@us.army.mil.

Marriage enrichment weekend to be held

New Jersey National Guard 50th IBCT Soldiers who recently returned from deployment and are looking to "reconnect" with their spouses are invited to attend a Strong Bonds AKA Marriage Enrichment week-end.

Please note that this is NOT a counseling weekend. Upcoming dates are Feb. 12 to 14, April 16 to 18 and May 14 to 16.

For more information contact Marie Durling at 530-6884 or marie.durling@us.army.mil.

Conference focuses on families

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

Joint Base McGuire-Dix-Lakehurst (JB MDL) leadership assembled with military members and their families during the Military Family Action Plan (MFAP) conference at the Timmermann Center on Dix Oct. 29.

"Your task today is to find out what works, what doesn't and how to fix it," said Frances Booth, the program's manager, at the opening ceremony.

The Military Family Action Plan was created 26 years ago as the Army Family Action Plan. This year, McGuire, Dix and Lakehurst will benefit from the program's capabilities as a result of the new joint base.

The program's mission is to prioritize issues designed to improve standards of living for all military branches, family members, retirees and civilians not only at JB MDL, but on military installations across the country.

The conference occurred during a significant time for military families.

JB MDL is currently celebrating the "Year of the Military Family." Its purpose is to highlight, examine and develop existing services. Any services needing improvement will then be altered or expanded to meet the changing needs and expectations of servicemembers and their families.

MFAP provides a means of policy change by helping leadership address the needs and concerns of military members and their families. The program has resulted in 107 legislative changes, 15 DoD policy or regulatory changes and 173 program improvements and services funding.



Carlos Cintron, U.S. Air Force

FAMILIES FIRST -- Participants of the Military Family Action Plan conference talk about issues during a discussion group Oct. 29. The Military Family Action Plan conference gives Joint Base residents and employees a chance to discuss a wide range of subjects that affect the community.

One of MFAP's past achievements is to allow active-duty parents the ability to decline Permanent Change of Station orders when their child is a senior in high school. PCS orders can be deferred or declined to allow the students remain at school and graduate with the same senior class.

"What this is really about is a love of country and a love of family," said Col. Joe Poth, JB MDL deputy commander. "We all have an intrinsic love of our family."

"We need your ideas. We need your passion. We need your commitment. You can truly make a difference in the lives of families, servicemembers and the joint base," he said.

Conference attendees divided into five groups after the opening ceremony to discuss various issues throughout the day.

Ida Gonzalez, a conference attendee, participated in a group discussion that recognized a need for standardized affordable civilian healthcare options

for mobilized National Guard and Reserve members.

She attended the conference in honor of her son, an Army Reservist who was killed in Iraq last year.

"I can't do anything for my son, Michael, but I am here to help the other Soldiers," she said. "I want all Soldiers to be treated the same."

Group representatives briefed Poth and other JB MDL leaders of the issues discussed during a debrief session at the end of the day.

A group consisting solely of teenagers requested a way to get more information about base events. The teens felt disconnected with base support services as they get most news from non-traditional sources, rather than the base paper, in which the events are advertised.

Other ideas presented were: means of better, more efficient communication throughout the joint base; the possibility of reinstating a required decal for all vehicles entering base; and a way to give geographically-remote servicemembers and their families the same support services available to other active-duty members.

November has been proclaimed National Military Family Appreciation Month in the spirit of the Year of the Military Family. Servicemembers and their families will be honored throughout the month through planned activities, programs and events.

Despite the November festivities, JB MDL leadership will be at work addressing all of the issues presented at the conference.

"We promise we will respond to all these issues," Poth said. "We owe you that."

Joint Base celebrates Halloween



Shawn Morris

HAPPY HALLOWEEN -- Workers at the Joint autumnal goddess, Jerry Welch as a Soldier, Readiness Center on the Army Support Activity, Chris Gonzalez as Reno 911's Lt. Jim Dangle, Joint Base McGuire-Dix-Lakehurst, capture the "Soprano" Mammoliti as a gangster, Halloween spirit with costumes ranging from the Brooke Irving-Moyer as an angel, Kathy Hardy as a ghost, Elisa Wingfield as Little Bo Peep, mood are, from left, Saeed Goodman as a pirate, Adolfo Deleon as a nerd and Tanya Gonyaw as Julia Goodman as a feline, Glenda Klein as an Little Red Riding Hood.



Lisa Evans

SWEET STUFF -- Kristen Slowey helps Joint Base Public Safety personnel fill 1,500 bags with candies and treats Oct. 30. Members of the Pumpkin Patrol, below, hand-out the bags to children across the Joint Base on Halloween.



Kim Wright

TRICK OR TREAT -- Lt. Col. Ryan Traver, 87th Medical Group, gives candy to Alexis Wright and her brother, David Wright, children of Master Sgt. Chris Wright, 87th Security Forces Squadron, and Kim Wright, JB MDL Public Affairs on Halloween night.



Staff Sgt. Danielle Johnson

Defense officials receive H1N1 vaccine

John J. Kuzel
American Forces Press Service

Nov. 3, 2009, WASHINGTON (AFNS) — Defense Department officials have started receiving H1N1 vaccines and will begin distributing doses in the coming weeks.

The Health and Human Services Department is distributing the vaccines, manufactured by four producers, to the department. Because rates of production vary among the manufacturers, supplies are expected to be limited initially, but to increase over time, said Ellen P. Embrey, acting assistant secretary of defense for health affairs.

"(The department) is working closely with HHS to receive its full allocation of vaccine as soon as possible," Embrey said. "Vaccinations are mandatory for military members, and as the quantity of doses on hand grows, officials anticipate Defense Department facilities will receive sufficient numbers to make the vaccine available to all of the department's employees and beneficiaries."

Meanwhile, Defense Department officials have implemented a plan to maintain mission readiness while ensuring those at greatest risk get vaccinated as soon as possible. Vaccines first will be made available to deployed personnel, bases that receive new military accessions, such as basic training installations

and the service academies, and all health care workers assigned to military medical treatment facilities.

Department providers should balance mission requirements with guidelines laid out by the Centers for Disease Control in determining who should receive vaccine when supplies are limited, Embrey said.

The arrival of the vaccines comes as CDC officials underscore the importance of remaining vigilant amid the rising incidence of flu nationwide.

"I would reiterate that we have more virus, more vaccine, and we have more treatment," CDC Director Thomas Frieden told reporters at an Oct. 30 news conference in Atlanta. "We encourage

the prompt treatment of people who have underlying conditions."

CDC officials have identified groups they consider at a high risk of developing severe illness if they contract the flu: pregnant women, household contacts and caregivers for children younger than 6 months, health care and emergency medical services personnel, people between 6 months and 24 years of age, then those between 25 and 64.

In determining how to distribute supplies, Embrey said, military commanders, in collaboration with their medical authorities, will determine the best method to allocate the vaccine when demand exceeds supply. As more vaccine is received, it will be made avail-

able to all active-duty servicemembers, civilian employees and members of military reserve components.

Immunization for both seasonal flu and H1N1 is mandatory for all military personnel and is highly recommended for beneficiaries. When the first cases of H1N1 were diagnosed in April, a defense official said, the department bought 2.7 million doses of the vaccine for mission-assurance purposes.

HHS later provided 1 million doses to the Defense Department, raising the number to 3.7 million, according to Dr. Robert Morrow, the preventive medicine programs and policy officer for the Bureau of Navy Medicine and Surgery's force health protection function.

Training regiment gets new leadership

Sgt. 1st Class James Aviles
2-309th TS Bn.

On Oct. 17, the 2nd Training Support Battalion, 309th Regiment, held a relinquishment of responsibility ceremony to pay tribute to their outgoing command sergeant major, Sgt. Maj. Ronald Klug, and to welcome Master Sgt. Richard Beck as the new command sergeant major.

The ceremony was hosted by the battalion commander, Lt. Col. Trevor Austin.

The purpose of the relinquishment of responsibility ceremony is to symbolize the importance upon which a command places the position of the senior non-commissioned officer in the unit. The ceremony can be conducted for a command sergeant major, first sergeant or the detachment sergeant.

In many ways a relinquishment of responsibility ceremony is very similar to a change of command ceremony, which is held to transfer authority from the outgoing commander and welcome incoming commanders of a unit.

While the change of command is symbolized by the passing of the colors from the outgoing commander to the incoming commander, the relinquishment of responsibility is represented through

the passing of the colors from the outgoing NCO to the incoming NCO.

"As the outgoing sergeant major passes the colors to the commander, he is signifying the relinquishing of his duties and gratitude for the opportunity to care for the Soldiers of the command," said Beck. "The commander passes the colors to the incoming sergeant major, delegating authority and entrusting him with the responsibility and care of the Soldiers of the command."

"It has been a privilege to serve as sergeant major for the 2-309th Regiment," said Klug. "This unit has, without a doubt, the best NCOs in the brigade and among the best in the Army as a whole."

Klug will continue his service to the 72nd Field Artillery Brigade by assuming the duties of command sergeant major 2nd Training Support Battalion, 312th Regiment.

"I am greatly honored to have been selected for this position," said Beck. "Having worked as first sergeant for the 2-309th Regiment, I have seen firsthand the amount of knowledge, experience, and dedication of the Soldiers to which I will be working with. My job is basic in nature; train the force, lead the force, take care of the force, a job that I do not take lightly and one that I'm honored to have."

Sgt. 1st Class James Aviles

AWAITING CHANGE — Sgt. Maj. Ronald Klug, command sergeant major of 2nd Battalion, 309th Training Support Regiment, now re-assigned as command sergeant major of 2nd Battalion, 312th Training Support Regiment, along side Lt. Col. Trevor Austin, commander, 2-309th TSBn., and Master Sgt. Richard Beck, acting battalion command sergeant major of 2-309th Training Support Battalion, from left, stand ready to conduct the change-of-responsibility ceremony held Oct. 17 at the Kelley Reserve Center. Both battalions are subordinate to the 72nd Field Artillery Brigade and conduct post-mobilization training.



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 to 8 p.m.
 Thursdays from 9 to 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.

Free clothes swap at Browns Mills church
 A free clothes swap and give-away will be held Nov. 14 at St. Mark Baptist Church, located at 545 Lakehurst Road at Ridge Road in Browns Mills. For more information, call Bernie at 893-7736 or Barb at 267-8885.

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

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).

Dix Thrift Shop
 5105 Pennsylvania Avenue
 723-2683
 See above photo for the latest activities at the Dix Thrift Shop.



Jennifer McCarthy

Bargain hunting

Chief Warrant Officer 3 Ed Rivas, Warrior Transition Unit, looks over items available at the Dix Thrift Shop Nov. 3. Sales hours at 6501 Pennsylvania Avenue are Tuesdays, Thursdays and the first and third Saturdays of the month from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., and the first Wednesday of the month from 3 to 7 p.m. Call 723-2683 for information.

CLUB DIX 723-3272

Smokehouse Restaurant
 Lunch Served
 Tuesday through Friday
 11 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.
 Closed Saturday to Monday

Blue Room
Wednesday
 5 p.m. to 10 p.m.
Thursday through Saturday
 6 p.m. to 10 p.m.

Java Café
 Monday through Friday
 7 a.m. to 1:30 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 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.

Bingo Nights at McGuire Club
 Bingo starts at 7 p.m. every Monday and Wednesday evening at the McGuire Club. Early Bird starts at 6:45 p.m. and features a variety of games including a progressive number jackpot of \$2,000, consolation of \$200. Call 754-2396 for details.

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.

Framing Qualification
 Nov. 7 from 9 to 11:30 a.m.
 Nov. 18 from 6 to 8:30 p.m.

Get qualified to use this great facility and equipment. You will complete one piece as you learn to operate the equipment. You are required to bring something in to frame such as an 8x10 photo or certificate. All materials are available at the frame shop which will be purchased at the end of class.

Pre-registration fee of \$10 is required prior to class. Materials not included.

Kids Pottery (Ages 6-9)
 Nov. 7 to 21 (three-week class)
 from 10:30 a.m. to noon

Classes cover hand-building (pinching, coiling and slab building) as well as basic wheel throwing skills. Students will be shown basic techniques that will lead to their own creative solutions. Clay, glazes and firings are provided. Pre-registration and \$25 fee required.

Tween Pottery (Ages 10-13)
 Nov. 7 to 21 (three-week class)
 from 1 to 2:30 p.m.

Classes cover hand-building (pinching, coiling and slab building) as well as basic wheel throwing skills. Students will be shown basic techniques that will lead to their own creative solutions. Clay, glazes and firings are provided. Pre-registration and \$25 fee required.

Mosaic Plaque (Ages 6-12)
 Nov. 7 to 14 (two-week class)
 from 1 to 2:30 p.m.

Choose your favorite wooden animal plaque and decorate the surface with glistening glass tiles in an array of colors. Let your imagination run wild! Then come back the next week to get messy and grout the spaces between the tiles to finish your project. \$10 plus materials

United Communities

Thanksgiving Craft Night
 Thanksgiving craft night will be held Nov. 18 from 4 to 7 p.m. in the Leasing Office.

Visit
www.jointbasemdl.af.mil
 for more information

Junior NCO Open House

Come see the brand-new JB MDL junior NCO homes during an open house Nov. 7 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. The open house will be held at 3968A Brown Court, Falcon Courts North, McGuire. Call the UC office at 723-4290 for details.

Senior NCO Open House

Come see the brand-new JB MDL senior NCO homes during an open house Nov. 7 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. The open house will be held at 1610A Fir Street, Dix. Call the UC office at 723-4290 for details.

Upcoming Events

Guard/Reserve Retirement Benefit Seminar

Presenters from Military Service Centers, Veterans Affairs, Department of Labor, and various Military Transition Organizations will cover topics from Guard/Reserve perspective such as Survivor Benefit Plan, Tricare/Dental, Veterans Benefits, Disability VA, and much more Dec. 5 at Timmermann Center room 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.

The event is free to all Guard, Reserve, spouses and retirees. Civilian attire is authorized.

Contact Chief Currie at 757-444-7295 x2005 or everett.currie@navy.mil for details.

Youth Basketball coaches needed

Registration for new basketball coaches will be held until Nov. 20. All volunteer coaches must be certified by a Youth Sports clinician through the National Youth Sports Coaches Association. The Youth Sports Program adopts the NYSCA standards of safety and coaching etiquette. The NYSCA teaches fundamentals of physiology and psychology of youth, basic sport skills, sportsmanship and emphasizes participation rather than winning.

In addition, each coach must complete an installation records check that must be completed through the base and be trained in CPR and First Aid. For questions, please contact Joint Base MDL Youth Sports Office at Ken.dickson@mcguire.af.mil, Donald.Russoniello@mcguire.af.mil or 754-5912.

JB MDL 56 Club needs new emblem

Joint Base MDL 56 Club is looking for a talented artist to create the new emblem to incorporate the Joint Base service community. Anyone interested in creating a new emblem is encouraged to send submissions to Staff Sgt. Katrena Holmes at katrena.holmes@mcguire.af.mil no later than Dec. 1.