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## NEWSNOTES

### Fort Dix Town Hall Meeting set Feb. 6 at Timmermann

The Fort Dix Town Hall Meeting is scheduled Feb. 6 at 3 p.m. at Timmermann Center. Information briefings will be followed by a question and answer session. Anyone who would like to submit a question in advance for the session should call Andre Nixon, 562-6669, or send the question in an e-mail to andre-nixon@us.army.mil.

### Legal Assistance seeks tax-prep volunteers

Each year, Fort Dix provides free tax assistance and e-filing to military personnel and their families through the Internal Revenue Service (IRS)-sponsored Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) program.

Volunteers are critical to the success of the VITA program as they prepare basic tax returns and assist in the administrative functions of running the program.

For those who are interested in volunteering but were not able to attend the training session, an online training course is still available. Call the Fort Dix Legal Assistance Office at 562-3043 if you would like to volunteer.



### Family matters

Ruth Smith, grandmother of Pvt. Charlie Kicheloe, 116th Brigade Special Troops Battalion, shows her support as she welcomes her grandson and his unit home at Fort Dix Jan. 30. The 116th, a Virginia National Guard unit, served a year-long deployment as part of Operation Iraqi Freedom. For more photos, see page 3.

## WEATHER

**FRIDAY** -- Heavy rain and high winds, high of 49 degrees and overnight low of 33.

**SATURDAY** -- Mostly sunny, breezy, daytime high of 46 and overnight low of 30 degrees.

**SUNDAY** -- Mostly cloudy, high of 49, low of 30 degrees.

**MONDAY** -- Mostly cloudy, 20 percent chance of showers, high of 46 and overnight low of 35 degrees.

**TUESDAY** -- Daytime showers, high of 52, overnight low of 41 degrees.

**WEDNESDAY** -- Strong chance of showers, high of 47 degrees and overnight low of 24.

**THURSDAY** -- Sunny with a high of 38 degrees and low of 29.

# Wounded Warriors get lift

Gerry Zanzalari

Public Affairs Staff

More than 100 people were present at the Airfield Departure/Arrival Control Group (AD/ACG) building Jan. 28 as a 14-passenger, handicapped-accessible bus was donated to the Walston Medical Support Element.

Jim Hall, chairman of the New Jersey Elks Association Army of Hope and honorary Fort Dix commander, turned over the keys to an Col. Judith Robinson, commanding officer of the Walston Medical Support Element.

"The bus will benefit our wounded and injured warriors, but the real

thanks are owed to our Warriors in Transition for their sacrifice and dedication," she said.

Col. Ronald Thaxton, installation commander,

offered his thanks to the Elks organization and to Lt. Col. Cynthia

Palinski, Maj. David Dean and Sgt. Maj.

James Clark for their efforts in making the donation become a reality.

The vehicle, a 2007 Ford E350 Super Duty bus that has been cus-

tomized to accommodate 14 hand-

capped or disabled individuals and offers space for up to three wheelchairs, is the product of a tireless donation campaign started three years ago and spear-

headed by the New Jersey State Elks Army

of Hope. The Elks Army of

Hope, whose motto is "Caring and Sharing,"

was at the forefront of the fundraising effort that began several years ago.

"The Elks organization has been a steadfast supporter of America's War-

riors and it is our privilege to be affil-

iated with them. In each of the 172 VA Medical Centers there is an Elks committee at work. Thousands of Elks and their families give generously of their time, energy and resources so that the lives of our ill and aging veterans will be enhanced."

"This day has been a long time coming," said Hall to the assembled group that included wounded and injured Warriors from Fort Dix, Rep. Jim Saxton (R-NJ), and members of the N.J. State and National Elks Associations.

Others in attendance included Arthur Mayer, Jr., national past president of the Elks Association, and Roy DeRitter, N.J. state president.

**"This vehicle will make life better for our Warriors in transition and we are fortunate here at Fort Dix to have the support of our neighbors."**

Col. Ronald Thaxton  
installation commander

## President addresses Military Families; Army programs focus on family care improvements

**Army News Service** -- President George W. Bush discussed the vital role of military families, including Army Families, during the Jan. 28 State of the Union address to the nation from Washington, D.C. Army leaders appreciated the President's important remarks and echoed many of them, noting Army plans to expand Family assistance efforts under the Army Family Covenant while continuing improvements to many existing services.

"Our military families also sacrifice for America," President Bush said. "They endure sleepless nights and the daily struggle of providing for children while a loved one is serving far from home. We have a responsibility to provide for them. So I ask you to join me in expanding their access to childcare, creating new hiring preferences for military spouses across the federal government and allowing our troops to transfer their unused education benefits to their spouses or children. Our military families serve our nation, they inspire our nation and tonight our nation honors them."

"Military families make extraordinary sacrifices as their loved ones advance the cause of freedom around the world," said Army Secretary Pete Geren. "Military Families hang together. They help each other out -- neighbors helping neighbors. In the military, the bond of Family extends beyond bloodlines. Military Families take care of Military Families."

"We're absolutely committed to ratcheting up what we're doing for our Families," said Army Chief of Staff Gen. George W. Casey Jr. "We're re-expressing our support for Families and our prioritization of Families and putting our money where our mouth is."

The Army recognizes the sacrifices by Families and is working to deliver a quality of life that military Families so often have forfeited by virtue of frequent relocation or isolation. Proposed initiatives requiring legislative changes for Army Families include:

\* Make GI Bill Benefits Transferable. The Montgomery GI Bill generally covers 36 months of education at a value of about \$40,000. Today, 97 percent enroll, but only 70 percent actually use the benefit; and very few use all of it. This initiative would allow transfer to family members of the unused benefit.

(continued on page 3)

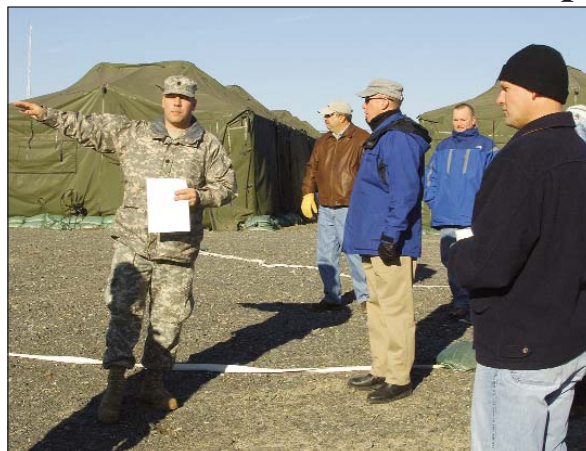


Ryan Morton

## Colorful training

**Spc. Tommy Wilson, 251st Military Police Company, Tennessee National Guard, runs through a purple haze on the Individual Movement Technique (IMT) course Jan. 29. Wilson and his unit are at Fort Dix preparing for a Global War on Terrorism mission. For more photos, see page 4.**

# Installation leaders meet to plan future



Ryan Morton

**PINELANDS PARAGON** -- Lt. Col. John McKee, Forward Operating Base mayor, left, gives a tour of the facility to installation commanders and their resource managers from the Northeast Region Installation Management Command Jan. 31. The visitors to Fort Dix were on post this week to attend the three-day Program Budget Advisory conference.

Installation commanders and their resource managers from the Northeast Region Installation Management Command were at Fort Dix this week for the Program Budget Advisory meeting.

The mission of the command is to provide equitable, efficient, and effective management of Army installations to support the Soldiers and civilians as the Army transforms into an expeditionary force versus a stationed force.

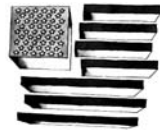
The three-day conference focused on near- and long-term strategies and initiatives for funding operations at installations. Discussions were held on each installation's best business practices, common levels of support, as well as competitive sourcing for various projects at the installations.

Diane M. Devens, NERO region director, presented members of her staff to review common levels of support for installations and future business practice implementation.

"We are doing this for the RMOS and PAOs so we can get together and have time to talk about the right levels of services at the right cost at each installation," Devens said.

Maj. Gen. John A. Macdonald was also on hand to discuss quality of life issues facing Soldiers and families.

An initiative started earlier this year known as the Family Covenant Program where members of installation communities pledged to support military families is expected to be moved off posts with outreach being spread to surrounding communities.



Harvey Retschloff

Steve Snyder  
Public Affairs Staff

"...the '60s are impossible to escape. They will define the 2008 presidential election, just as they have defined American politics, and American culture, for the past 40 years... all of us, young and old, are stuck in the '60s, hostages to a decade we define ourselves as for or against..."

"1968: The Year That Changed Everything," by Jonathan Darman, Newsweek, Nov. 19, 2007

A cultural revolution was fomented during the 1960s and baby boomers who grew up in the tumult and shouting continue to debate merits of questions that arose then. But more than half our country alone today knows the decade only through the mythology of marketing. Today's child, rightly, might ask: "Why can't the narcissistic boomers leave it alone? Their time is past. Get over it."

But events in the '60s ushered in questions that stubbornly persist. Maybe because some queries contain seeds of profound perplexity that can't be avoided by educated men and women. Many boomers, believe it or not, are hung up on philosophy in the Socratic sense of that term (i.e., what is the meaning of life in all its manifestations).

"There are three great questions which in life we have over and over again to answer," thought John Lubbock, aristocratic English scientist who lived early into the 20th century. "Is it right or wrong? Is it true or false? Is it beautiful or ugly?" Our education ought to help us answer these questions.

Things or events were in the saddle in the '60s and rode humanity. The journey sure wasn't a smooth one.

Consider what happened in 1968, for instance. On Jan. 31 in that year the Tet offensive began in Vietnam. The communists lost very many men during their months-long attack but proved they were strong enough to mount an offensive across the entire country, that the Viet Cong and North Vietnamese were far from finished as fighting forces, and that much of the South Vietnamese population was not loyal to their government (how else to explain the "surprise" that thousands of soldiers launched an attack that no one on the American side saw coming because no South Vietnamese reported it).

Tet incited deeper questions. Did our allies share our dedication to winning the war? If not, what were we doing there? What was America's responsibility to South Vietnam and other allies. In the often repeated phrase, where was the light at the end of the tunnel in Vietnam.

Indeed, what was our role in the world? Where were the arsenal of democracy or brutal enforcers of a Pax Americana? Were we too good to get involved with the rest of the world, as right-wing isolationists believed or so nasty we'd contaminate innocents abroad, as left-wingers seemed to fear?

The Tet offensive gave impetus to Senator Eugene McCarthy's challenge to the president. McCarthy shocked the political world by getting 42 percent of the vote in the New Hampshire presidential primary. Shortly thereafter, Lyndon B. Johnson announced that he would not be seeking another term in the White House.

McCarthy's success proved that democracy works, sort of. It led to the entry of Robert Kennedy into the race, not a nice man despite his press clippings but someone who understood power politics. But Kennedy, following Martin Luther King Jr., was assassinated. Political success, it seemed, could not overcome what came out of a barrel of a gun. Even the Democratic political convention at Chicago was marred by riots in the streets (often started by students, contrary to weepy liberal opinion).

But 1968 eventually ended. Civil rights triumphed. The U.S. left Vietnam. Politicians and even students calmed down. America recovered.

And Soldiers, once more, were honored.

# Americans survived wild times in 1968

## Nation's soul torn by strife 40 years ago



Don Hogan Charles/The New York Times

**NEWARK RIOTS** -- New Jersey Army National Guard troops charge down Springfield Avenue in Newark on July 14, 1967. A police shooting sparked the Newark riots lasting from July 13 to July 17. Looting, violence and destruction ultimately left 26 people dead, 725 injured, and nearly 1,500 under arrest. Riots across the country petered out in 1968, with the exception of those occurring after the assassination of the Rev. Martin Luther King Jr. in Memphis on April 4. Following King's death, 100 towns and cities saw arson or looting or both, 21,000 federal troops and 34,000 National Guardsmen were called out and 46 people were killed with heavy damage done in Chicago and D.C.



John F. Kennedy Memorial Library

**CLEAN FOR GENE** -- U.S. Senator from Minnesota Eugene McCarthy pauses in a campaign stop in Wisconsin. McCarthy challenged incumbent President Lyndon Johnson in 1968, his campaign successes forcing the proud Texan out of office. Witty and a good speaker, McCarthy wasn't afraid to take on entrenched political powers; displaying guts, intelligence and patriotism to very high degrees.



AP/SCME

**SWAN SONG** -- Martin Luther King Jr. speaks at the Mason Temple in Memphis on April 3, 1968. King went to Memphis to lend support to 1,300 sanitation workers who were striking to protest abysmal working conditions and low wages. A day after this picture was taken King was gunned down on the balcony of his motel. Assassins robbed Americans of some great leaders in the 1960s, then, including King, the Kennedy brothers and Malcolm X. Bloodshed threatened to turn the American Dream into a nightmare but time passed and wounds finally healed. It was as if the country had suffered a nervous breakdown and woke up, healed.



**TOUGH GUY** -- Chicago Mayor Richard J. Daley shakes his fist at a speaker at the Democratic Convention in the Windy City in 1968 who dared criticize his police force in the tactics they used to put down mainly student demonstrations in Grant Park and other areas near the convention. Mayor Daley brooked no nonsense from critics - especially from the young and holier than thou.



www.legendarysurfers.com

**CROWD CONTROL** -- Mayor Daley's Chicago Police Force wasn't famous for its forbearance in dealing with dissenters. While hearts of media elites bled for the "finest generation of young people we've ever had," who were getting their heads busted at the convention, Chicago cops still did things their way.



AP

**TET OFFENSIVE** -- MPs defend the U.S. embassy in Saigon on Jan. 31, 1968, when anywhere from 60,000 to 100,000 North Vietnamese Army (NVA) and South Vietnamese Communists (Vietcong) launched a large-scale offensive against U.S. forces and our Republic of Vietnam (RV) allies, attacking 36 provincial capitals, 64 district towns, countless villages and a dozen American bases. At least half the attackers were killed, suffering a major military setback. But the Tet offensive demolished any lingering optimistic "feel good" projections about the war for Americans and their Vietnamese allies alike.



Cornell Capa-Magnum

**CROWD PLEASER** -- Hours after he won the California Democratic primary, Robert F. Kennedy was shot to death in a Los Angeles hotel on June 5, 1968.

**HAT IN THE RING** -- Retired Air Force Gen. Curtis LeMay, right, ran as a vice presidential candidate on the third-party ticket with George C. Wallace in the 1968 presidential campaign. "Bombs away with Curt LeMay" became a campaign punch line encouraged by the general's bellicose comments about Vietnam. But few could match LeMay's credentials as a warrior.

US AFMuseum Photo Archive



www.hudsonlibrary.org

**VICTORS** -- Disgruntled by a war abroad and discord at home, voters elected Richard M. Nixon president in 1968. Spiro T. Agnew became VP.

## the Post

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## Virginia Soldiers return

*Staff Sgt. Joshua Beach, 116th Brigade Special Troops Battalion, Virginia National Guard, top, drops to his knees to hug welcoming family members, while Laura Baxter and two-year-old son Cade, left, wait outside Bravo Company to welcome home Spc. Greg Hey. The unit returned from a year-long deployment to Iraq.*

*photos by David Moore*

## President addresses families

(continued from page 1)

\* **Enhance Military Spouse Careers.** Military families move every few years. This initiative would provide richer opportunities to gain or sustain a promising career. This proposal would significantly expand an existing pilot program allowing military spouses to continue education and local universities or technical schools; create merit-based military spouse internships within the federal government to open the door to a possible federal service career; and grant military spouses direct hire status for placement in suitable jobs anywhere in the federal government.

\* **Enact "Dole-Shalala" Commission Recommendations.** The President urged Congress to act promptly on the proposals put forward by the bipartisan Commission on Care for America's Returning Wounded Warriors headed by Bob Dole and Donna Shalala.

\* **Quality Child Care.** Two-thirds of military-families stationed in the United States live off base, sometimes in remote areas. They consistently report difficulty in locating child care, especially for infants, at the price and quality available at on-base facilities. Sometimes the on-base facilities need more capacity. This initiative would establish joint ventures with the private sector to make the same high quality care presently provided on base to all military families, at a comparable price. At the same time, the Army

would accelerate its healthy plan for the construction of additional or expanded on-base child care facilities where that is appropriate.

Beyond these ongoing and planned initiatives, the U.S. Army is committed to the Army Family Covenant of services and facilities for Army Families nationwide and overseas. This covenant formally recognizes the sacrifices made on the home front while the Army is at war and pledges funding for existing Family programs and services, increase the accessibility and quality of health care, improve Soldier and Family housing, ensure excellence in schools, youth services and child care, and expand education and employment opportunities for Family members.

Last year, the Army moved \$100 million into Family Support Programs to jump-start family programs. Examples included hiring additional full-time staff in "Army Community Services" as well as expanding childcare, respite care, and youth services. The Army is reworking future budgets to sustain this increased level of investment in our Families. The Army Family Covenant represents a \$1.4 billion commitment this year to improving the quality of life for Army Families.

The Army has listened to the feedback of families and acted on their behalf. For example, on Army installations across the nation construction is booming. To support our growing force and their families, more than 42 Child Development Centers

have been built, with 133 more programmed in the coming years. 20,000 family housing units have been built or renovated, with 59,000 more scheduled.

To overcome the limitations of geography for those families not living near an Army post, the Army is establishing the Army Integrated Family Support Network. This communications network promotes efforts integrating and synchronizing Family Support Services. These include basic services, such as information, referrals and training for Family Readiness Groups.

It also jump starts funding for 80 community liaisons, the eArmyFamily messaging system, as well as new training for Army Community Service and reserve family-program staff.

In the area of child care and youth services, the Army has eliminated Garrison child care registration fees, eliminated off post child care registration fees in Army off post programs, and eliminated fees for extended duty day child care.

For Wounded Warriors, the Army reduced full and part day child care fees in Army operated or sponsored child care programs, and now provides free hourly care in Army operated programs during medical appointments.

Army leaders across the nation have led in implementing these improvements, in order to provide Soldiers and Families a quality of life that is commensurate with their service.

### Fort Dix STAR Program Suspected Terrorist Activity Reporting (STAR)

Countering terrorism requires the help of everyone in the community. Only you know who or what belongs – or doesn't belong in your building, neighborhood, or work area. The simple act of recognizing suspicious behavior and reporting it to the authorities could prevent terrorist acts and save lives. Become a STAR – please help Fort Dix by being alert and reporting any of the following:

**Surveillance:** Someone recording or monitoring activities using cameras, note taking, drawing diagrams, creating maps, using binoculars or other vision-enhancing devices. An element of this activity could also include mapping out routes and determining the timing of traffic lights and flow.

**Ellicitation:** People attempting to get information. These attempts may be made by mail, fax, telephone, e-mail or in person and may seem like very innocent questions about what you do and where you work.

**Security:** Any attempt to measure reaction times and action by security forces. A test of security can be disguised as a simple mistake such as a vehicle approaching a security barrier and then turning around or an attempt to circumvent access control procedures to assess strengths and weaknesses of the security forces and equipment.

**Acquiring Supplies:** Purchasing or stealing police and military uniforms, emergency responder type vehicles (such as police cars and ambulances), installation access passes and other government identification or the equipment to manufacture them.

**Dry Run or Practice:** People or vehicles appear to have been purposely placed in a particular position or area. This is especially true when planning a kidnapping, but also pertains to bombings.

**Actual Deployment of People and Assets:** People and supplies getting into position to conduct an attack. This is the last chance to alert authorities before an attack occurs.

**Suspicious Persons Out of Place:** People who don't seem to belong or fit in the surrounding environment, especially if involved in any of the above listed activities.

Report any of the above to:  
Fort Dix Police (609)562-6001 / 6002  
Fort Dix Antiterrorism Officer (609) 562-2153 / 2417



# Postal Soldiers deliver more than mail

Ryan Morton  
Public Affairs Staff

"Neither rain, nor snow, nor sleet, nor hail shall keep the postmen from their appointed rounds."

You may have heard this unofficial postal oath before.

The U.S. Army has a postal system that works much the same way. Every installation throughout the U.S. and the world has an Army Post Office, or APO, which runs very much like the U.S. Postal Service. An APO even exists in combat zones, such as Iraq and Afghanistan.

The 444th Adjutant General Company, 3rd Platoon, Postal, is a unit currently training at Fort Dix to run an APO in Iraq, where they will be providing postal service to Soldiers at a Forward Operating Base, in country.

They will be performing duties such as inspecting incoming and outgoing mail, delivering all incoming parcels, and any other postal operations deemed necessary.

This 21-Soldier unit is part of the Army Reserve, hailing from Pittsburgh, Pa., and has been training at the installation since early January.

"The training's been going well. The morale is good, the Soldiers are excited about the upcoming mission, and we just want to get everyone up to speed and ready for when we roll out to perform the postal operations," Sgt. Kevin Johnson, platoon sergeant, said.

The 444th will continue to train throughout February and conclude with the Army Training Evaluation Program, which includes running a mock APO.



**TO THE LETTER** -- Spc. Nicholas Brosky, 444th Adjutant General Company, 3rd Platoon, Postal, far left and bottom left, receives instruction from Hayden Baumgartner, a range safety at Fort Dix, near left, during the zeroing portion of M-16 qualification on the Fort Dix ranges. Pfc. Jerome Hack, below, adjusts the front sight post on his M-16 during qualification as he and the 444th, an Army Reserve unit out of Pittsburgh, Pa., prepare for a deployment in support of the Global War on Terrorism. The unit has been at Dix since early January.

photos by Ryan Morton



## MPs manage Individual Movement as team



Spc. Tommy Wilson, 251st Military Police Company, Tennessee National Guard, above, stays on the lookout as he navigates his way through the Individual Movement Technique (IMT) course on Fort Dix January 29. Sgt. Jesse Bodine, below, throws a grenade during the conclusion of the 215th's training. These Soldiers are preparing for an upcoming deployment in support of the Global War on Terrorism.

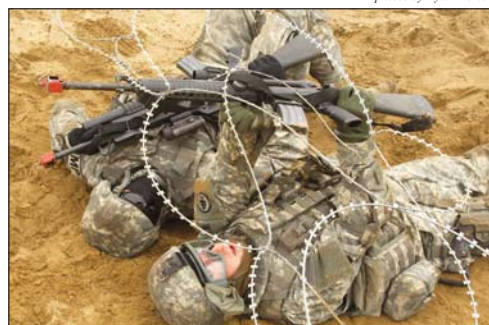


ROAD TO OIF/OEF

Cpl. James Davis, 251st Military Police Company, keeps things moving during training at Fort Dix.



photos by Ryan Morton



Spc. James Russell and Sgt. Jesse Bodine, 251st Military Police Company, make their way beneath concertina wire during their unit's Individual Movement Technique (IMT) training at Fort Dix's Range 86.



# NEIGHBORHOOD

## THE CORNER

### Army Community Service to host Resume Workshop

Army Community Service, in partnership with the Burlington County College Job Placement Office, will host a free Resume Workshop Feb. 15 from 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. in Bldg. 5201 Maryland Avenue.

Register by calling Rod Martell at 562-2186 or e-mailing [rod.rodriguez-martell@us.army.mil](mailto:rod.rodriguez-martell@us.army.mil). Seating is limited to 20 people.

### Thrift Shop holding winter sale now

The Fort Dix Thrift Shop will have a \$2 bag sale for all expired TSP and PO6501 clothing and a \$1 per item sale on selected children's clothing through Feb. 16.

Spring clothing consignments begin Feb. 5. Any items in exceptionally good or new condition will sell quickly in the store.

Hours of operation are Tuesdays and Thursdays from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.; Feb. 6 from 4 to 8 p.m.; Feb. 2 and 16 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Consignments are accepted from 10 a.m. to noon on Tuesdays and Thursdays.

If you'd like to volunteer at the store, come to the informational meeting at the Thrift Shop at 6501 Pennsylvania Avenue Feb. 6 at 6:30 p.m. If you have questions, see Jeanne at the donation desk in the back of the store anytime after 4 p.m. on Wednesday.

### Chapel staff to host pair of community events

The chapel staff will hold the Fort Dix Chapel Annual Valentine Dinner Dance Feb. 13 at Club Dix. The evening event is open to everyone and will consist of dinner, plenty of dancing and lots of romantic music to help accentuate the mood. Previous Valentine Dinner Dances have been huge successes, so don't miss the opportunity to share an evening of passion with your special someone. Tickets are \$10 and are available from the Protestant or Gospel leaders and the Chapel administration office, or call 562-2020.

Another highlight event is the Installation Prayer Breakfast, which will be held March 12 at Club Dix. This year's event showcases keynote speaker Chap. (Col.) Ronald Casteel, command chaplain, U.S. Army Reserve Command, and a musical presentation by Eddy and Patricia Nubine. Tickets are \$3 and can be purchased from Sandy Horner, 562-4252, Marcia Gose, 562-6258, Vera Borum, 562-3255, Anne Lamkin, 562-2064, Ed Vanzo, 562-4355, Leslie Pelegan, 562-2858, Kelly Cezar, 562-3353, Veverly Wakefield, 562-4036, Deborah Wilkinson, 562-4001, or Neen Raspa, 562-5432.

For a list of other chapel events, see page 8 or call 562-2020.

### Black History Month events begin next week

The Fort Dix Black History Observation Committee kicks off Black History Month with an African-American Read In at the Main Chapel Feb. 4 at 11:30 a.m. Author Howie Mack of "Why Am I Black" is the guest. Refreshments will be served.

Other events for the week are: ● Activist, poet, journalist and entrepreneur Kevin Powell will kick-off Burlington County College's African-American Cultural Events Celebration Feb. 6 at 7 p.m. Powell, a native of Jersey City, is a Writing Fellow for the Joint Center for Political and Economic Studies. Tickets are \$10 for the general public and \$5 for BCC students with valid IDs. For more information call 894-9511 or (856) 222-9311, ext. 1338.

● Zeta Phi Beta Sorority and Willingboro Public Library will co-sponsor an afternoon of arts and culture Feb. 9 from 2:30 to 5 p.m. at 220 Willingboro Parkway. Admission is free. For more information call 877-6668 or visit [www.willingboro.org](http://www.willingboro.org).

● Ten local African-American artists will display their paintings and photography at the Center for the Arts in Southern New Jersey, 123 South Elmwood Road, Marlton, Feb. 4-25. Admission is free. For more information and hours of operation call (856) 985-1009 or visit [www.CFASNJ.com](http://www.CFASNJ.com).

David Moore  
Public Affairs Staff

## Polar Bears thunder onto post

While most motorcycle riders have their bikes parked for the winter and opt for the warmth of a couch and channel changer, there is a devout few hundred enthusiasts who thundered into Fort Dix Sunday, Jan. 27.

Nearly 500 riders and passengers of the Polar Bear Grand Tour descended on the post and lined up their bikes at Club Dix for a hot brunch.

The motorcycleists gathering each Sunday at a different locations in New Jersey, New York, Pennsylvania, and Delaware, represent 35-years of winter riding—many who said back then the idea was simply layered up clothing before their was electrically heated clothing and gloves.

Many of the riders that day reported when they started from their homes the mercury was below freezing, but the idea of riding a motorcycle was warmer than the temperature.

For Terry Deeds of Nazareth Pa. and Donald Teator, of Allentown, who would clock more than 200 miles for the adventure, both had a saying "don't tow it, trailer it, just ride."

For Deeds, however, the ride to Fort Dix is always good since he served at the installation in 1954 for basic training.

"Even though I did my basic training in the 69th for 13 weeks, I have plenty of memories of being stationed here," he said.

While the Polar Bear Grand Tour organization is not a club by definition, there were plenty of motorcycle colors being worn on the back of jackets, to include various Harley Davidson, Owner Groups (HOG), Honda Gold Wing Clubs, and McGuire AFB's Green Knights.

One group, considered to be hard-core riders, at least by themselves and some other riders, travel to the various destination from Connecticut. Most of these of Polar Bears are members of the Bridgeport, Ct., HOG.

These riders always shoot for the



perfect attendance pin each year, even if it means pushing to a destination in the snow in a four-wheel drive truck. This band of motorcycle riders has even earned such nicknames as Captain K and Grumpy.

Chris Loynd tracks the group each week with his Connecticut Polar Bear Blog that talks about every part of their adventure from ride challenges, to group discussions, to the menu at each destination. It even includes photos.

Loynd said there was no reason for putting the bike away when he gets so much pleasure out of riding.

"When you ride with the right gear it's sort of like putting a heat bubble around you. Why give up the pleasure of riding if all it takes to keep riding is an electric jacket, gloves, hippo hands, soft lower fairings, snowmobile boots, silk underwear, long johns, performance fabrics and those little air activated heated pouches," he said.

Robert Harpence, Polar Bear Grand Tour chairman, said when the group first formed, there were only about 50 riders, in a few years, simply



photos by David Moore

**MILES TO GO—Nearly 500 motorcycle riders of the Polar Bear Grand Tour and their passengers descended on Fort Dix at Club Dix on Jan. 27. Motorcycles of all makes and models were on hand and many with distinctively designed graphics. Ed Schwartzbach, above left, Polar Bear Grand Tour Flight Leader A, Dave Cushing and Richard Leyh, both Flight B. Leaders, tend to the sign-in sheets for riders trying to gain 30-points and the coveted Polar Bear patch.**

by word of mouth, the group doubled in size and steadily grew to 550 members which is the annual cut off for membership.

"We would make it bigger, but there's simply not enough parking lot space to put the motorcycles," Harpence said.

The Polar Bear Grand Tour group is a member of the American Motorcyclist Association. The goal of the Polar Bear group riders, besides safe motorcycling, is to gain the coveted

Polar Bear patch after achieving 30-points.

Each ride offers a minimum of two points to make the ride starting from the person's home, an additional one point for each additional hundred miles.

Throughout the year the group also holds a toy drive and encourages blood donations for additional points. For more information visit the group's homepage at [www.polarbear-grandtour.com](http://www.polarbear-grandtour.com)

## Creatures provide life lessons for kids

Lisa Evans  
Public Affairs Staff

Fluffy the rabbit died. But that's okay. At the Fort Dix Child Development Center (CDC), animals are born and loved and eventually die; all normal parts of life.

"We use the animals to teach the cycle of life, birth to death, to the children so they won't be scared about death," said Val Buckie.

"We have always had animals in the center. We tell parents it's an important part of the curriculum. The children help clean and feed the pets every day, give them treats and take care of them," Buckie added.

The children start interacting with the animals at six weeks. They never force children to participate, and some of these children are too young to communicate with words, but they can feel.

"These animals are therapy for these kids. Pets are a stress reliever for everybody. The animals make even babies stop crying," Buckie said.

In a world where parents go off to war and may not come home, the animals provide a valuable tool for training children to cope with the stresses of life. By having funerals when the animals die, the CDC helps prepare children for dealing with grief and provides a homelike feel to the center.

"Military families move and it's hard for them to keep pets so we do it for them here. This is treated like a child's home. Some are here from 6:30 am to 5:30 pm. Unfortunately, kids have to be left so long, so we create a homelike environment which includes pets."

The center keeps animals in certain classrooms and the lobby, but takes the pets to every classroom so every child gets an opportunity to meet and connect with the pets. The rabbits, fish and hamsters in the lobby are a meeting place for parents and children.

"It is amazing how much time parents spend with the animals pick up and drop off. It makes them late and they are always in such a hurry. The children drag parents to their favorite animals as a daily routine. The lobby is a little tricky because parents are always in a hurry but animals stop them in their tracks. The parents have to build in extra time," Buckie said.

The CDC encourages children to make the parents stay on purpose: It slows families down. Parents bring supplies for the pets from home, such as the cardboard tubes found in paper towels. The hamsters chew them to pieces and make their own bedding. The parents also bring treats and supplies to support the animals. The Fort Dix veterinarian makes house calls, so the animals have excellent health care and don't have to travel.

One problem with military fami-



Lisa Evans

**ZOEY 101- Child Development Center Teacher, Tracey Mercantini holds Zoey the chinchilla, while, from left, Brandon Cruz, Macie Watkins, Jack Duffett and Abigail Thompson clamber to pet her.**

lies is that they are not able to take pets with them when they are reassigned and they try to give their pets to the CDC.

"We're very picky; we don't just take animals. We raise them from tiny babies. Parents always try to give animals to us when they move, but we have enough," Buckie said.

The CDC has hermit crabs, ger-

bills, guinea pigs and rabbits, a chinchilla, and fish of all kinds. The Army doesn't allow birds or amphibious animals or reptiles because of salmonella, so the CDC cannot use them in the curriculum.

But the animals they do have are a beloved source of comfort and awe to the kids who spend their days at the CDC.

## Scouts prep for big sale

Stephen Melly, Fort Dix DoD Police chief and director of Public Safety, center, joins troop members of the Fort Dix Girl Scouts of America Brownies and Junior Troop numbers 24286 and 22045 as they kick off the annual Girl Scout Cookie Sale. Also pictured is Chyrlé Wohlman, the junior troop leader. Profits from cookies sales support troop activities and outings.

Wayne Cook



# Family leaves three-generation legacy at Dix

Lisa Evans  
Public Affairs Staff

Three generations of sergeants from the same family have served the US Army at Fort Dix. Sgt. 1st Class William Horan trained troops on Ranges named for the battles he participated in during World War II. Sgt. 1st Class John Horan, 2/309th, Observer Controller Trainer (OCT) is Active Guard Reserve (AGR) at Fort Dix training the trainees on the Individual Movement Techniques/Improvised Explosive Device (IMT/IED) course at Range 86. Sgt. 1st Class Robert Horan, 2/309th, NCOIC, dismounted lane (IMT/IED), Range 86, trains troops preparing to go to battle.

Young William Horan, an Irish immigrant, lived in Hell's Kitchen New York after his family came to the United States through Canada. With the depression finally ending, at the age of twenty-four, William joined the service in 1937. Leaving his wife behind with a lovely wedding photo to show her friends, the press of war took him to Africa in 1942.

A highly decorated soldier, Horan invaded North Africa with the first invasion forces, fighting the Desert Fox, Erwin Rommel, and participating in the German defeat at El Alamein. A seasoned Soldier, after Africa, Horan was with forces invading Sicily and Anzio Beach, where he received two Bronze Stars with Valor, and was wounded in battle for which he received a Purple Heart for shrapnel imbedded in his leg at Valmontone, Italy. Suffering from malaria, he lost all of his belongings on the way home from Italy, only an Italian phrase book chronicling his military career survived in his pocket. In the book, he listed every battle he fought.

Following World War II, Horan was stationed in Germany during the Occupation of

Europe, where a daughter was born. After Germany, he returned to Fort Dix. Horan trained some of the first Soldiers going to Viet Nam. John was born, a son who would follow in his father's footsteps. At Horan's retirement in 1959, Fort Dix held a military parade and presented him with an Army Commendation Medal signed and seconded by the South Vietnamese government.

In talking about the medals and recognition William Horan received, John said he understood why his father didn't speak much about the medals.

"It's always good to be recognized for what you do, what your soldiers do. It's the soldiers around you though, not what you do yourself," John said with a shrug. Then he added, "You do step up to get these things, and he did."

A supervisor with the Federal Reserve Bank of New York in Currency Verification and Destruction, John has been employed at the bank since 1978 but took military leave in 1979 and has been with the military since. Now stationed at Fort Dix himself, John feels pride and wonder as he sees the names of the places his father fought in as he drives through the ranges and training areas of Fort Dix, the same places listed in his father's book. A Reservist for 28 years, John enlisted in 1979, and has served non-stop since then.

Because he feels strongly about his country and the Army, he insisted he be sent to Iraq in 2005 so that he could understand what he was training his soldiers to perform. In Iraq for four months, with Task Force Troy, he trained Coalition forces - Koreans, Australians, and others, in Counter IED Training and came back with deep respect for the Soldiers stationed in Iraq.

William's grandson, Robert Horan, lived with his grandparents in New York throughout his childhood. With his parent's divorcing early, he had no



Lisa Evans

**A FAMILY AFFAIR - Sergeants 1st Class John Horan, above left, and nephew Robert Horan are both trainers on the ranges at Fort Dix. The elder Horan's father, William Horan, served at Fort Dix during World War II. At right, William Horan stands next to his new bride in 1937. Robert and John credit William's service in the Army as inspiring their decision to serve their country as well.**



courtesy photo

father figure except his grandfather and his Uncle John, who was like a brother to him. Listening to his grandfather talk, he realized the accomplishments he had attained in the military. Although Horan rarely discussed his military experience, his medals certified his accomplishments. The cousins used to look at the medals and talk together, asking their grandmother about the war.

John agreed, saying his father never discussed events of the war. The two boys got more from John's mother, Robert's grandmother.

"He had his nightmares; jumped up when anyone tried to awaken him," John said. "He was in World War II for two years, you know what that does?"

"Pop, he was the real deal. He always had a very quiet composure as to his military

experience," John said.

"I wanted to follow in the footsteps of Grandfather and Uncle," Robert said. "It would be hard not to succeed with two role models like that. It's good to have role models. With my parents divorce, I never had a father. My grandparent was my father. They (grandfather and Uncle John) were looking out for me and making sure I did the right things, stayed in school and all that," Robert said.

Robert did follow his uncle and his grandfather and has now been in the army 12 years. He was in the 10th Mounted Division in Somalia, Mogadishu when Blackhawk Down occurred. Stationed at Mogadishu University Installation, Robert drove ambulances in Support of the 122nd and 187th Infantry as a medic. In the Reserve one year and active four years with a break from 1995 to 2001, Robert rejoined one week prior to 9/11. John planned on leaving the Reserve, but stayed when Robert rejoined, saying now he will stay 30 years.

When 9/11 occurred, both Robert and John were the first to call their unit. "We volunteer within the unit to do anything, looking for any mission to go on active duty. They actually did give us a mission. They sent us to Wurtzburg, Germany," John said.

Robert and John worked side by side, both medics in the Reserve, and deployed together with the NY Unit 4220th Army Hospital of Long Island to Germany for nine months. In Germany, John was Platoon Sergeant of the 67th Command Support Hospital with 212 Soldiers under his command in 13 departments. Later, the 4220th came to Fort Dix with the 78th Division, where the Horans had two drills and have been mobilized ever since.

Most of John's career has been in medical units, but his experience in training and supervision was needed for the

Transportation Unit, Training Support Battalion (TSB), where he is a Senior OCT (Observer Controller Trainer). John ensures trainees are doing their job properly. He has worked all three lanes of Range 86: Trained Mounted IED Convoys, Trained Unmounted IED, IMT Lanes (Individual Movement Techniques) and thoroughly enjoys his job.

Robert says that when John received his Sgt. 1st Class promotion, he made his Staff Sergeant promotion. There was no spot for him to advance to Sgt. 1st Class in his unit, so he followed John over to the 2/309th. Now Robert is Non-Commissioned Officer in Charge (NCOIC) of Dismounted Lane Range 86, and says he has trained in excess of 20,000 soldiers. John says he has trained in excess of 25,000 soldiers during his time at the 309th.

Sitting together, the two Sergeants say they started out as first aid trainers, their first posting at Fort Dix, but were tasked at night to be medical coverage support for the Forward Operating Base (FOB) before there was a medical corps at FOB. With the Lawson Medical Support Element at the JRC taking over the first aid stations at the FOB, they both moved over to the IMT/IED and still train soldiers in first aid at the IMT/IED.

Both men have sons and a daughter and both say neither will push their children to the military. Both agree that is a choice they will leave to their children, the same choice they were given.

John and Robert wear their father's and grandfather's dog tags, one each of the round disks declaring William Horan a Soldier. Pulling the dog tags out, they proudly display the dented circles of metal that mutely testify to a man who gave not just twenty-two years to the US Army, but a legacy.

# MILITARY MATTERS



Pvt. Angela McKenzie

## Life's no beach for clean-up crew

Pvt. Vincent Zoccolillo, Company E, 1st Battalion, 72nd Armor Regiment, works alongside Korean nationals while cleaning up the oil spill at Mallipo Beach, Taean, South Korea.

## New archbishop pledges to add Army chaplains

Elizabeth M. Lorge  
Army News Service

WASHINGTON, Jan. 29, 2008 — During his installation Friday, the new archbishop of the Military Services pledged to help fix a critical shortage of Catholic chaplains.

Archbishop Timothy P. Broglio was given his staff of office during an afternoon mass at the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception in the nation's capital.

The Archdiocese of the Military Services serves 375,000 military Catholics worldwide. It was created by Pope John Paul II in 1985 from the Military Vicariate, but has no seminary and no power to ordain men into the priesthood or as military chaplains. It relies on local bishops to lend priests to serve with the military, but the shortage of Catholic priests nationwide has resulted in an even-more-critical gap in the military.

In a press conference after the installation mass, Archbishop Timothy P. Broglio said his biggest goal is to get more chaplains, saying they are "desperately needed."

About 300 active-duty Catholic chaplains minister to 1.4 million men and women worldwide and the military needs about 800 priests, according to Julia Roth, director of communications for the archdiocese.

Lt. Col. Gary Studniewski, a priest and the vocations and retention officer at the Army's Office of the Chief of Chaplains, said that the Army currently has 92 active-duty Catholic chaplains, and he expects to have 100 by the end of the summer. This small increase continues the upward trend of the past couple of years, but isn't enough as the Army needs at least a couple hundred.

He added that only 25 priests, both active duty and reserve component, are deployed to Iraq and Afghanistan, so some Soldiers may go weeks or even months without mass or sacraments.

Nor does Arlington Cemetery have a full-time Army priest. Studniewski added that he and other local chaplains are able to cover most of the time and praised Arlington, but called the situation "heart-rending." The situation highlights the importance of recruitment, he said, because with eight new priests, this post should be filled within a year.

"We have a very robust recruiting effort..." Maj. Gen. Douglas L. Carver, the Army's

chief of chaplains, said last year. "We visit the bishops, we visit Catholic seminaries and schools and communities so we can make them aware...of the need to provide for the spiritual needs of the Catholic men and women who maybe don't have the opportunity to find a church nearby or drive somewhere."

"I think the most valuable thing we can do is tell the story of the great need and the opportunities to provide ministry in the military...We have a Consider the Call weekend in October, in which we challenge our military congregations, especially the Catholic congregations, about number one: 'Are there some of you in the ranks who, you obviously know the military and how important it is, maybe God's calling you to be a chaplain?'"

"Then we get them more information and let them see the chaplaincy up close," said Carver. "...Some of our Catholic leadership — senior noncommissioned officers and senior leadership — volunteer to go out to their particular dioceses, bishops or congregations to share the importance of faith and having a priest in the context of the military. So we're working it hard."

Studniewski said the efforts of Recruiting Command, the renewed interest of the chief of chaplains and the commitment of Broglio are bringing him hope, and he believes the Army is turning a corner when it comes to recruiting priests.

"The most positive thing in all this, I think, is Archbishop Broglio," he said. "He can be agent with his fellow bishops to engender their support. I believe there are priests ready, willing and able to serve if they had permission from their bishops."

"Many have asked about past military experience in my background," Broglio said during his homily. "There is none. While I recognize the new and specialized ministry to which I have been called, the Holy Father's task was to provide a pastor. I offer you almost 32 years of ordained ministerial experience."

"I promise to offer the best that I have to the faithful who have been entrusted to my pastoral care," he continued. He offered thanks and prayers for both deployed and wounded servicemembers and veterans, and later sent them a message of courage and patience.

Broglio said that he intends to follow in the footsteps of his predecessor, Archbishop Edwin O'Brien, and spend as much time as possible with servicemembers and their Families.

"A pastor has to be with his flock. It just so happens that my flock is all over the world," he said.

## Government seeks civilian linguists

John J. Krugel  
American Forces Press Service

WASHINGTON, Jan. 30, 2008 — Don't be surprised to see a poster featuring a white-gloved Uncle Sam in a star-spangled top hat, his index finger jutting through the canvas above a row of block letters that read: "X B" — "I Want You."

Starting today, Uncle Sam wants skilled speakers of Russian, Mandarin Chinese, Swahili or any other of 10 "critical languages," to join a Defense Department pilot program designed to build a cadre of trained linguists.

By 2010, the National Language Service Corps hopes to amass a pool of 1,000 civilian language experts, willing to volunteer their foreign tongues on behalf of the United States if an immediate national need arises.

"The concept of the language corps really appeared because there was a recognition that there's simply no way the federal government — or for that matter, state or local governments — can ever plan and program their work force to address all the language issues that might come up,"

said Robert O. Slater, director of the National Security Education Program, which administers NLS.

"We've recognized in the past five to 10 years that language skills are a difficult commodity to find in the United States," he said. "The concept of a corps would be one that identifies this kind of expertise and warehouses it, because we never know when we'll need it; we never know what disaster will strike."

People in the Southeast remember Aug. 25, 2005, as the day Hurricane Katrina battered their homes, flooded cities and altered the course of their lives in a national crisis exacerbated by demolished phone lines, power outages and downed Internet networks. But in addition to a crippled communications infrastructure, a swath of the affected population was made incommunicado for another reason.

"We know from a lot of postmortems that have been done on Katrina that there were 50,000 to 100,000 displaced Vietnamese in families that needed a lot of support," Slater said. "It was difficult to find people — especially professionals — who understood the Vietnamese language and culture enough to guide the displaced populations through the maze of regulations and issues that would be required for them to deal with."

Had a cadre of critical linguists deployed as part of the Federal Emergency Management Agency response, the population left culturally marooned might have recovered with greater fluency.

To shore up foreign language gaps within the U.S. government, the Defense Department will establish an elite community of speakers — known as the "dedicated pool" — and assign linguistic units to specific government agencies. In addition, the current U.S.-wide dearth of organized critical linguists would be filled by the "national pool," consisting of a broader array of talent to be called upon during times of need.

"Long term, the department will need to work with Congress on establishing authorization and appropriation for the permanently established corps. That will be critical to the future of the corps," he added.

The NLS program is a component of the Defense Department's comprehensive language roadmap and the National Security Language

Initiative President Bush proposed a year ago.

Gail H. McGinn, deputy undersecretary of defense for plans, oversees the Defense Department's foreign-area officer program, a linguistics initiative that embeds cultural and linguistic specialists with military members in their region of expertise.

In an interview with American Forces Press Service last month, McGinn said language has a unique ability to connect U.S. operators with their foreign counterparts and local civilians.

"To be able to communicate with the people, to understand what they're saying, to understand what they're thinking, to understand what their habits are and the correct way to interact with people is incredibly important," she noted.

The cooperation among federal agencies, Congress and the White House on linguistic initiatives underscores the increasingly prominent role language skills play in U.S. missions at home and abroad.

"Deficits in foreign language learning and teaching negatively affect our national security, diplomacy, law enforcement, intelligence communities and cultural understanding," a National Security Language Initiative fact sheet on the State Department Web site says. "The NSLI will dramatically increase the number of Americans learning critical need foreign languages ... through new and expanded programs from kindergarten through university and into the work force."

For more information or to volunteer, call (800) 729-6572.

**The Pentagon has begun working with Congress on establishing a budget for language corps recruiting, training and compensation disbursed to volunteers called to serve.**

# PAIO director scampers off to retirement idyll

Steve Snyder  
Public Affairs Staff

Richard Fliss, director of the Plans, Analysis, and Integration Office (PAIO), retires today, ending 34 years of federal service with nearly 20 years spent at Fort Dix.

His dynamic intellect and hard charges through budget processes here will be sorely missed.

"What can I say about Mr. Richard Fliss?" exclaims Pamela Sutton-Browning, lead manager and program analyst at PAIO, who's known Fliss during all his time here.

"I have worked for Rich for many years... (he) has always been an easy person to communicate with, especially when you needed his guidance and/or just wanted to chat. What I admire most about Rich is that he has always given his personnel the 'opportunities' to excel in whatever they were doing."

"Not all employers have that quality!" Sutton-Browning emphasizes.

"As a reward, smile, you'd receive additional tasks from him because Rich valued your work and work ethic. Who could ask for a better compliment from your supervisor," she



Steve Snyder  
**Richard Fliss**  
retiring PAIO Director

*photos courtesy of the Fliss family unless otherwise stated*

observes. "All of us in PAIO have known for quite some time that Rich wanted to retire and to start giving back to society what has been so graciously (given) to him. Volunteer work looks like Rich's employment for the future," Pamela says.

"In retrospect, I believe most of us in the PAIO realize that

Rich never had anything but his employees' best interests in his heart! He has taught me through all the years working for him that when opportunities or challenges come knocking at your door, don't be fearful but accept them and do the best job by exceeding your expectations!"

"Do this and you will come out a winner and you can look yourself in the mirror and smile," Pamela concludes.

Fliss was the director of Resource Management here from September 1988 to February 2004 when he took over at PAIO.

"I loved the people at Fort Dix," Fliss says. "While I was never an admirer of upper management here I did enjoy working with the employees," he notes. By all indications that feeling was mutual.

Team Dix extends a hearty hail and farewell to Richard Fliss.



Wanda James  
**FINAL SALUTE** -- Richard Fliss, left, is fêted at a going-away luncheon held this week at the swanky Lambert's by his wife Connie, who works at DPTM-S, and by workers in the Plans, Analysis, Integration Office (PAIO) (l-r) Andre Nixon, Molly Libby and Pamela Sutton-Browning.

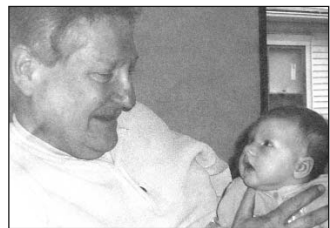


file photo by Sgt. Jackie Cipriano  
**NEWSWORTHY** -- The Oct. 28, 1988 issue of the Post newspaper featured the new DRM director, Richard Fliss, above.



DoD photo by Master Sgt. Ken Hammond, U.S.A.F.

**MILITARY HUB** -- A southwest view of the Pentagon with the Potomac River and Washington Monument in the background. Richard Fliss worked seven years at this nerve center for the America's military. The Pentagon is the headquarters for the Department of Defense (DoD) in Arlington, Va. and is among the world's largest office buildings. The five-sided edifice houses approximately 23,000 military and civilian employees along with about 3,000 non-defense personnel. Corridors inside total 17.5 miles.



**GRANDPA'S DELIGHT** -- Rich holds one of his pride and joys, his (now) 2-year-old granddaughter Alyssa. Seven-month-old Chloe is the other apple of his eye and they both live in the area. Fliss expects to be KO'ed in retirement; K for kids and O for spending time in his boat on the ocean. He can't wait.



**FERAL FELINES** -- Fliss and Bill Howard check the status of a trapped cat snagged in Fort Dix's feral cat program, keeping Fort Dix safe from saber-toothed predators.



**Rich in middle school**



**ALL THAT JAZZ** -- Rich played first trombone for the jazz band at Springdale High School (Pittsburgh area) that won state honors in the late 1960s.



**WEDDING BELLS** -- Candles shimmer in the foreground as Connie becomes Mrs. Fliss in 1990.



**STANDING OUT** -- Richard Fliss piled up both experience and recognition in over 30 years working for DoD agencies. At top left, Fliss stands in the middle amid associates from the Army Auditing Agency in Philadelphia where he worked for the greater part of 1976. On the right, Fliss accepts congratulations from a supervisor at the Piscataway Arsenal in New Jersey where he spent four productive years from March 1976 to December 1980.



**ALL IN THE FAMILY** -- The Fliss' tour a mine in Slovakia, Rich's ancestral home. His grandfather was a miner in Pennsylvania, too.



**POWER PLAYER AT THE PENTAGON** -- Richard Fliss receives kudos from the top brass at the Pentagon, at left, Maj. Gen. Elton J. Delaune Jr. from the Material Command and, at right, Maj. Gen. Hal Davis. Fliss worked as a budget analyst at the Pentagon from December 1980 until June 1987.



**VIP VISIT** -- Director of Resource Management at Fort Dix, Richard Fliss, explains operations from the standpoint of a financial manager to visiting Maj. Gen. Patricia P. Hickerson in June 1997.



# Announcements

## Cinema Schedule

754-5139

McGuire Air Force Base

Friday, Feb. 1 @ 7:30 p.m.

**P.S. I Love You- Hilary Swank, Gerard Butler, Lisa Kudrow, Gina Gershon, James Marsters** - Holly Kennedy is beautiful, smart and married to the love of her life—a passionate, funny and impetuous Irishman named Gerry. So when Gerry's life is taken by an illness, it takes the life out of Holly. The only one who can help her is the person who is no longer there. Nobody knows Holly better than Gerry. So it's a good thing he planned ahead. Before he died, Gerry wrote Holly a series of letters that will guide her, not only through her grief but in rediscovering herself. The first message arrives on Holly's 30th birthday in the form of a cake and, to her utter shock, a tape recording from Gerry, who proceeds to order her to get out and celebrate herself. In the weeks and months that follow, more letters from Gerry are delivered in surprising ways, each sending her on a new adventure and each signing off in the same way: P.S. I Love You.

**MPAA Rating: PG-13** - sexual references and brief nudity  
Run time: 126 minutes

Saturday, Feb. 2 @ 7:30 p.m.

**National Treasure: Book of Secrets - Nicolas Cage, Justin Bartha, Diane Kruger, Jon Voight, Helen Mirren, Ed Harris, Harvey Keitel** - When a missing page from the diary of John Wilkes Booth surfaces, Benjamin Franklin Gates' (Nicolas Cage) great-great grandfather is suddenly implicated as a key conspirator in Abraham Lincoln's death. Determined to prove his ancestor's innocence, Ben follows an international chain of clues that takes him on a chase from Paris to London and ultimately back to America. This journey leads Ben and his crew not only to surprising revelations—but to the trail of the world's most treasured secrets. **MPAA Rating: PG** -some violence and action  
Run time: 130 minutes

## Future Features...

### One Missed Call

Friday, Feb. 8 @ 7:30 p.m.  
PG-13, 87 minutes.

### The Water Horse: Legend of the Deep

Saturday, Feb. 9 @ 7:30 p.m.  
PG, 112 minutes.

## Chapel Services

562-2020

### Sunday Services

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

### Camp Victory - Chaplain's tent

Hour of Power  
Protestant.....8-9 a.m.  
Catholic.....8-9 a.m.  
Mormon.....8-9 a.m.  
Jewish.....8-9 a.m.

### Wednesday Services

#### Main Chapel

Protestant 7:30-8:30 p.m.

### Religious Services

Islamic Prayer room  
open 7 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday - Room 24

Catholic Adult Bible Study  
Sundays, 11:30 a.m.

Christian Women of the Chapel -

Bible Study - Tuesdays, 9:30 a.m. to noon

Christian Men of the Chapel -

Prayer Breakfast - Fourth Saturday of each month, 9 to 11 a.m.

Youth of the Chapel

Every second and fourth Tuesday 7 to 9 p.m.

Jewish services available by request

### \*\*Special Events\*\*

Gospel Youth & Teen Ministry will hold their 11th Annual Black History Month Service Celebration on **Saturday, February 2 at 4 p.m.**

Everyone is invited to attend, dinner will be served.

Black History Month National Read-In, special guest author Howie Mack, author of "Why am I Black?" **Monday, February 4, 12 to 1 p.m.** Admission is free and refreshments will be served. Please call 562-2666 if you would like to attend.

Ash Wednesday Catholic Mass

Wednesday, February 6, 6 p.m.

Stations of the Cross

Every Friday, February 8 - March 14, 6 p.m.

Valentine Dinner Dance

Wednesday, February 13, 6 p.m.

For additional services or Religious Support please call 562-2020

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

## MWR presents

### Tea for Three

A one woman show that reveals intimate portraits about three remarkable First Ladies: Lady Bird Johnson, Pat Nixon, and Betty Ford. We will discover what each of them thought about "the hardest unpaid job in the world." Performed by Emmy

Award-winning, New York actress for 30 years in film, television, Broadway and Off Broadway - Elaine Bromka.

\$10 admission includes your choice of teas, coffees and desserts. Don't miss this thought-provoking perspective on the politics of love, devotion, and duty.

**Feb. 15 at Club Dix**

Tickets go on sale Feb. 1

Little League Baseball registration begins Feb. 18, for 3 to 15 year olds. Call 562-2819 for details.

## ACS Meetings

Tuesday, Feb. 12

Hearts Apart

10 a.m. - 1 p.m.

ACS Bldg. 5201

Wednesday, Feb. 13

Personal Financial Readiness

5 - 6 p.m.

ACS Bldg. 5201

Friday, Feb. 22

Newcomers Orientation

9 a.m. - 2 p.m.

ACS Bldg. 5201

## Youth Center

562-5061

Bldg. 1279 Locust Street

### Hours of Operation:

Tuesday - Friday from 2-7 p.m.

Saturday from 1-7 p.m.

Sunday & Monday CLOSED

### Administrative Hours:

Tuesday - Friday from noon-6 p.m.

## Weekly Schedule

Friday, Feb. 1

Photo Club

3:45 - 4:45 p.m.

Power Hour Store

2:30 - 4 p.m.

Computer Lab

4 - 6 p.m.

Career Mentoring

6 - 7 p.m.

Keystone Club

6 - 8 p.m.

Saturday, Feb. 2

Open Rec.

3:30 - 7 p.m.

Midnight B-Ball

Teens and Guests ONLY

7 p.m. - 12 a.m.

Monday, Feb. 4

EARLY DISMISSAL

Open Rec.

2 - 7 p.m.

Power Hour

2:30 - 4:30 p.m.

Computer Lab

4 - 6 p.m.

Tuesday, Feb. 5

EARLY DISMISSAL

Open Rec.

2 - 7 p.m.

Power Hour

2:30 - 4:30 p.m.

Computer Lab

4 - 6 p.m.

Wednesday, Feb. 6

EARLY DISMISSAL

Open Rec.

2 - 7 p.m.

Sports & Fitness

3:45 - 4:45 p.m.

Power Hour

2:30 - 4:30 p.m.

Computer Lab

4 - 6 p.m.

Thursday, Feb. 7

EARLY DISMISSAL

Open Rec.

2 - 7 p.m.

Technology Club

3:45 - 4:45 p.m.

Power Hour

2:30 - 4:30 p.m.

Computer Lab

4 - 6 p.m.

## Dining Facilities

Bldg. 5610 Open Every Day

Breakfast 6-7:30 a.m.

Lunch 11:30-1 p.m.

Dinner 4:30-6 p.m.

Bldg. 5986 Open Every Day

Breakfast 6-7:30 a.m.

Lunch 11:30-1 p.m.

Dinner 4:30-6 p.m.

Meal Rates: Breakfast - \$2.10

Lunch - \$3.85 Dinner - \$3.85

PT uniforms are not to be worn when eating at Fort Dix dining facilities

## Helpful Hotlines

Family Advocacy

562-5200

Chaplain

562-2020

American Red Cross

562-2258

Army Emergency Relief

562-2767

Sexual Assault

562-3849

Victim Advocacy

694-8724

Child/Spouse Abuse

562-6001

Emergencies

911

Providence House hotline

871-7551

NJ Domestic Violence hotline

800 572-SAFE

Fort Dix Victim Advocate

562-2767

McGuire Victim Advocate

754-9672

## Arts and Crafts

562-5691

Bldg. 6039 Philadelphia Street

### Hours of Operation:

Tuesday from 9 a.m. - 4:45 p.m.

Wednesday to Thursday from noon - 5 p.m. and 6 - 8:45 p.m.

Friday from 11 a.m. - 4:45 p.m.

Saturday from 9 a.m. - 4:45 p.m.

## Programs

Adult Craft Classes

Thursdays, 6-8:30 p.m.

Feb. 7.....Hand-Painting Ceramics for Your Valentine

Feb. 14 & 2.....Hand-Painted Keepsake Boxes (2 session class) - \$10

Kids Craft Classes

Saturdays, 2:30 - 4 p.m.

Feb. 2.....Easy Batik Fabric Resist Dyeing

Feb. 9 & 23.....African Printmaking Class (2 session class) - \$10

\$5 pre-registration fee

for other classes call Arts & Crafts

562-5691

## Krafty Birthdays

Arts & Crafts offers Krafty Birthday Parties! Parties include up to 2 hours of party room use, one craft project with instruction and all materials, with many exciting projects to choose from. When making party reservations, please make sure to stop by in order to select the craft and make payment.

# MOBILIZATION

WDIX  
Commander's  
Channel 2

YOU CAN USE  
NEWS

WDIX  
Commander's  
Channel 2

### Post Shuttle Bus

562-5888

Monday to Sunday -- 7 a.m. to 10 p.m.  
During the day Starr Tour buses are used, in evening the military Bluebird buses are run.

### Dix Shoppette/Class Six/ Gas Station

723-4044

Bldg. 5359, Texas Avenue

Monday to Friday - 6 a.m. to 10 p.m.

Weekends - 7 a.m. to 10 p.m.

### BX/PX & Mail

723-4100

Monday to Thursday - 10 a.m. to 8 p.m.

Friday and Saturday - 8:30 a.m. to 8 p.m.

Sunday - 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.

### Commissary

754-4154

Monday to Friday - 7 a.m. to 8 p.m.

Saturday - 9 a.m. to 8 p.m.

Sunday - 10 a.m. to 7 p.m.

### Military Clothing/Sales Store-Alterations

723-2307

Bldg. 5601, Texas Avenue

Monday to Saturday 10 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.

Sunday - Closed.

### Firestone

723-0464

Bldg. 4201 on Texas Avenue

Monday to Friday - 7 a.m. to 7 p.m.

Saturday - 7 a.m. to 5 p.m.

### Recreation Center

562-4956

Bldg. 5905 on Doughboy Loop

Monday through Friday - 1 to 10 p.m.

Saturday and Sunday - noon to 11 p.m.

AT&T Cyber Zone offers computer access for a fee

### McGuire Shoppette

723-4705

East Arnold Avenue by the 24-hour gate

Monday to Thursday - 6:30 a.m. to 9 p.m.

Friday - 6:30 a.m. to 7 p.m.

Saturday - 9 a.m. to 10 p.m.

Sunday - 9 a.m. to 7 p.m.

## United Communities Housing Information

Leasing Office - 723-4290

Maintenance Office - 724-0500

Maintenance Scheduling, Progress, and Trash Concerns - 724-0550

United Communities is now offering

Self-Help Delivery!

Please check the United Communi-

ties Web site for details:

www.mcguiredixuc.com

## Fort Dix/McGuire Residential Re-use Collection Schedule

### MONDAY

McGuire AFB

3800's & 3900's

### TUESDAY

ALL OF FORT DIX INCLUDING

QUARTERS: 201, 502, 1900

### THURSDAY

McGuire AFB

4000's EXCEPT 4013-4027

4200's EXCEPT 4252-4260



photos by Shawn Morris

## Yellow banners abound

Lt. Col. John Faron, 1st Lt. Matt Goodwin, Command Sgt. Maj. Steve Lyczak and 1st Sgt. Glenn Roach of the 327th Military Police Battalion, from left above, display their unit's yellow banner during a ceremony at Griffith Field House Jan. 29, while Maj. Tim Horton and Sgt. 1st Class David Zerbe of the 215th Mobile Public Affairs Detachment, from left at right, do the same. The yellow banners will be displayed above Infantry Park along with others representing units that have mobilized through Fort Dix in support of the Global War on Terrorism. When the units return, the yellow banners are returned to the unit members to keep as reminders of their service. The yellow banner program is managed by the Mobilization Readiness Battalion.



## Teens help young moms

Wayne Cook  
Public Affairs Staff

Members of the Keystone Club donated baby clothes and items for newborns to teen mothers in the Capable Adolescent Mothers program in Willingboro Jan. 25.

The Keystone Club is a non-profit program attached to the Boys and Girls Clubs of America at the Fort Dix Youth Center for teens 14 to 18 who desire to grow in the areas of leadership and citizenship.

"We collected the newborn baby clothes for young mothers in the Crossroads Program - Capable Adolescent Mothers as part of a national service project for the Boys and Girls Clubs of America," said Javani Al-Amin, Keystone Club president.

"I knew if I were in the same situation I would appreciate others going out of their way to help me when they didn't need to," Al-Amin added.

"It feels good to give to others who are in need and will be very excited to get the gifts for their babies," said Devan Holliday, club vice-president.

The Capable Adolescent Mothers program was established to address the needs of homeless, pregnant and mothering teens and their infants. It is designed to promote healthy mothers and healthy babies by offering a safe, supportive home environment for 10 teen mothers and their babies. In addition to housing, the program provides intensive parenting and life-skills training. The teens must attend school and/or work part-time.



Wayne Cook

**WELL-SPENT YOUTH -- Youth members of the Keystone Club, a program within the Boys and Girls Clubs of America that fosters the growth of leadership and citizenship skills in teens, collected and donated clothes and baby articles for newborns of teenage mothers in the Crossroads Programs Inc., Capable Adolescent Mothers program in Willingboro. The youth's participation was one way they celebrated Martin Luther King Jr. Day.**

The program's goal is to empower pregnant and parenting teen mothers to adequately parent their children and to transition to independent living as productive, contributing members of the community.

"Our club members donated clothes and blankets and other

items for the babies to support the Boys and Girls Club's initiative - 'Celebrating Martin Luther King Jr. Day with a Basket of Love for Babies.' They did a great job and can be proud of their accomplishment," said Cheryl Shervington, adult advisor to the club.

## Service members can now track lost mail via e-mail

ALEXANDRIA, Va., Jan. 25, 2008 -- Are you a military member who has deployed or redeployed overseas, and are still waiting on your footlocker, duffel bag, or parcel to arrive?

There is now an e-mail address to inquire about or claim mail that has yet to arrive and was sent more than 60 days from the date of mailing. Military members and their families can now e-mail the Military Postal Service Agency (MPSA) at mpsa-nrci@heda.mil.

Please include the following details in your e-mail to MPSA: Phone number, e-mail address, rank, first and last name, mailing address, return address, any insured, certified, registered or confirmation number (if applicable), date of mailing, type of container used for mailing, a detailed description of the container contents, and any additional information that could be used to help identify your item such as distinctive marking.

Once the information is received, MPSA

will contact the service member to positively identify the owner and ship the item to the recipient should it be found.

"The best way to ensure your package is delivered, in the event the address label is lost or destroyed, would be to enclose the mailing address information on the inside of each parcel," said Tech. Sgt. Steven L. Bennett, mail recovery coordinator for MPSA.

Address information can be typed or legibly written on a piece of 8 1/2 X 11 bond paper or a 3 x 5 index card, and it must include the complete address information of the mailer and recipient. This will help postal employees determine who the article belongs to and provide them an address to forward your items.

"This is just one example of the Department of Defense doing what we can to better serve those that serve the American people - our Soldiers and families," said Col. David Ernst, Military Postal Service Agency deputy director.

# All-Army soccer team visits Pentagon

Dennis Ryan  
Army News Service

FORT MYER, Va. (Jan. 25, 2008) — The Army forms a soccer team somewhat similar to other organizations. Prospects are identified and notified to show up for a tryout camp.

Only in the Army, though, would a prospective player go directly from the battlefield to the playing field.

Staff Sgt. Michael Artis, a forward, returned from

Afghanistan the day he was supposed to report to tryout camp at Fort Eustis, Va.

"I haven't had a chance to do anything other than play soccer," he said of the two or three times a day workouts. "It's been relaxing. I got to go home for a few hours. It's been a great experience. I've been learning a lot. I'm glad I have an opportunity to take part."

More than 80 percent of the players are combat veterans.

The coach, Sgt. 1st Class Agustin Mendez, a chaplain as-

sistant at Fort Myer, took his club to the Pentagon Tuesday prior to the Armed Forces soccer tournament which begins Feb. 1.

Team members met with Secretary of the Army Pete Geren, Army Chief of Staff Gen. George W. Casey Jr. and Sgt. Maj. of the Army Kenneth Preston.

Mendez has been the coach of the all Army squad for 12 years. He played soccer professionally in Mexico from the age of 15 to 30. "I came to play soccer in the U.S.," he said. "I joined the Army instead."

The coach starts with about 30 players and winnows them down to 18. Army has won the inter-service championship for two consecutive years. They will play the Navy, Air Force and Marines twice each at Cherry Point, N.C. Feb. 1-6.

Old Guard Pfc. Tyler Stratford, 20, a center-midfielder is the youngest player on the team.

"I've been playing soccer since I could walk," Stratford said. "I was surprised I even got invited to the tryouts, having not played junior college or college ball. I feel very fortunate. I didn't think when I joined the



Tim Higgs

**PEP TALK** — Members of the 2008 All-Army soccer team meet with Secretary of the Army Pete Geren in his office Jan. 22 at the Pentagon. The All-Army Team is training for the 2008 Armed Forces Men's Soccer Championship Tournament Jan. 31 through Feb. 6 at Marine Corps Air Station Cherry Point, N.C.

Army a year ago I would be playing soccer."

Staff Sgt. Jose Alfaro, a native of El Salvador, was in Iraq six months ago and has played on three all-Army squads.

"When I first enlisted, I asked if there was an Army soccer team," he said. "I was going to get out but coach talked me back to play."

The fullback reenlisted while serving in Iraq, so he could play for the Army again. "In Iraq, we played in an open field," he said. "The engineers cleared a little area for us in the dirt. Some-times we

played the local nationals. I like this. No complaints. I'd rather run here two times a day, rather than in 140 degrees over there."

Assistant coach David Jones has a prestigious soccer pedigree. He played from the age of 10 to 16 in Manchester United's youth program. He came to the states to play for the New York New Jersey Metro Stars in 2000.

Jones coached the Philadelphia Phantoms in the now defunct Women's Professional Soccer League. He joined the Army in 2006 at the age of 38 and is now an emergency room medic

at Fort Hood.

"I'm very impressed with the standard of players," he said. "If they could be kept together, they could compete with any MLS (Major League Soccer) team. We've got some good players, a mix of veterans and new guys."

Jones loves his job and would love to reenlist and get in the nursing program.

"It's pretty neat," he said after meeting the brass. "Not too many people in the service get to meet Gen. Casey, Sgt. Maj. Preston and the Secretary of the Army."



Adam Slonczylus

**ONE OF THE TEAM** — Army Chief of Staff Gen. George Casey Jr. examines a jersey given to him by the All-Army soccer team.



## Wildcats win championship

The preseason tournament came to an end Jan. 23, with the Wildcats beating FCI to win the championship. The Wildcats, shown above, won't have much time to savor their victory, as the regular season started Jan. 29.

## First loss for Nuggets

The McGuire Spurs handed the Fort Dix Golden Nuggets their first loss of the season 22-19 in the 11- thru 12-year-old division Jan. 25. A game of turnovers and poor shooting left both teams with only two points at the end of the first quarter.

Trey Calloway, the leading scorer for the Nuggets, had five points for the game. Calloway, who averages 10 points per game, could not get a shot to fall but came away with five rebounds and two blocks. It didn't get any better for either team by the half, with the



Coach Robert Williams

Spurs leading 9-8.

Kyle Kerr and Jalen Hooks scored four points each to help the Nuggets, but it wasn't

enough to pull out the win. Anthony Elliott and Hashim Russell added two points each.

Fort Dix managed to outscore the Spurs in the third quarter, but couldn't maintain the momentum in the final quarter. The Nuggets were trailing by two points, but with three turnovers and a running clock, victory proved to be out of reach.

The Golden Nuggets have a bye this week, but will be back in action Feb. 6 when they travel to Pemberton High School to play Pemberton #2. Game time is 8 p.m.

## Sports Shorts

**Griffith Field House**  
Saturday & Sunday  
9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Monday - Friday  
6 a.m. to 9 p.m.

### Bowling

The Fort Dix Bowling Center will remain open while new lanes are being installed.

Monday - Thursday  
5 p.m. - 10 p.m.

Friday  
5 p.m. - midnight

Saturday  
10:30 a.m. - midnight

Sunday  
2 p.m. - 9 p.m.

**Ultimate Bowling**  
Saturday 8 p.m. - midnight  
Sunday 5 p.m. - 9 p.m.

League nights are Tuesday, Thursday and Friday. Limited open lanes Tuesdays and Fridays. No open lanes Thursdays from 5 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.

For more information call 562-6895.

**Griffith Class Schedule**

For more information about activities at the Griffith Field House, or to verify class times, call 562-4888.

### Monday

Cardio Kick Express  
4:30 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.

### Tuesday

Sculpting Express  
9:30 a.m. - 10:00 a.m.

### Wednesday

Spin-It  
noon - 12:45 p.m.

### Thursday

Intro to Fitness  
5:15 p.m. - 6:15 p.m.

### Friday

Spin-It  
noon - 12:45 p.m.

### Saturday

Circuit Training  
5:15 p.m. - 6:15 p.m.

### Sunday

Step & Sculpt  
noon - 12:45 p.m.

### Monday

Pilates Fusion  
5:15 p.m. - 6:15 p.m.

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