



### TRAILBLAZING

Fort Drum first Army installation to ensure secure, renewable, on-post electricity

A3



### PRESERVING HISTORY

Archeologist unearths mysteries on property of LeRay Mansion

B3

# The MOUNTAINEER

Fort Drum, N.Y. • Nov. 6, 2014 • Vol. 7 • Issue 43

## 10th Mountain completes OEF mission

**Master Sgt. Kap Kim**  
Combined Joint Task Force-10

BAGRAM AIRFIELD, Afghanistan – In its last deployment to Afghanistan in support of Operation Enduring Freedom, the 10th Mountain Division (LI), as Combined Joint Task Force-10, completed its mission in Regional Command-East here Tuesday, as Maj. Gen. Stephen J. Townsend and Command Sgt. Maj. Ray Lewis cased its colors in preparation to depart for Fort Drum, N.Y., in front of what used to be a 9-11 Memorial: an I beam donated by the people of Breezy Point, N.Y.

Many of CJTF-10's coalition partners, Afghan National Security Forces counterparts and civilians came to see the last regional command in Afghanistan finish the last chapter of OEF.

"Until a few days ago, amidst the flags of the coalition partners behind me, stood a column from the World Trade Center in New York, a reminder both of the day this conflict began in the United States, and the reason why dedicated warriors and civilians from so

many nations have come to the fight in Afghanistan," said U.S. Ambassador to Afghanistan James Cunningham.

Although Townsend, who was the last regional command commander in Afghanistan, is on his way back to Fort Drum after a 10-month deployment, he admitted to having mixed feelings about leaving the country.

"This is definitely a bittersweet day for me," Townsend said to the attendees. "I've deployed to Afghanistan four times, every time to RC-East."

Townsend, who while commanding 4th Battalion, 31st Infantry Regiment, 10th Mountain Division (LI), watched the 9/11 attacks on TV with his Soldiers, said he knew exactly what the events of that day meant for him and his troops. Within a few months after 9/11, he deployed his battalion to Afghanistan as a part of Operation Anaconda.

"I found myself in Afghanistan with a rifle in my hand," he told attendees at RC-East's 9/11 Memo-

See AFGHANISTAN, Page A4



MASTER SGT. KAP KIM

**Combined Joint Task Force-10 completed its mission in Regional Command-East on Tuesday as Maj. Gen. Stephen J. Townsend, left, and Command Sgt. Maj. Ray Lewis case unit colors. The International Security Assistance Force transitioned to the Resolute Support mission as hundreds of coalition partners, Afghan National Security Forces counterparts and civilians attended the ceremony at Bagram Airfield, Afghanistan.**



GLENN WAGNER

**Gen. Martin E. Dempsey, chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, congratulates Pfc. Matthew M. Phillips who, along with Spc. Christopher L. Grant and Spc. Trenton M. Brown to his right, helped rescue a woman from the Black River in April. Dempsey presented the three with the Soldier's Medal on Friday, with Brig. Gen. Michael L. Howard, 10th Mountain Division (LI) acting senior commander, looking on.**

## Division warriors earn Soldier's Medal for heroism

**Capt. Peter Smedberg**  
10th Combat Aviation Brigade PAO

The chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff awarded the Soldier's Medal to three Soldiers at Fort Drum for their actions in helping to save a distressed boater on the Black River earlier this year.

Gen. Martin E. Dempsey presented the awards to Spc. Christopher L. Grant, a paralegal specialist assigned to Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 10th Combat Aviation Brigade; Pfc. Matthew M. Phillips, a cavalry scout formerly assigned to 3rd Squadron, 71st Cavalry Regiment, 3rd Brigade Combat Team; and Spc. Trenton M. Brown, a hydraulic repair specialist assigned to B Company, 277th Aviation Support Battalion, 10th Combat Aviation Brigade, after a town hall meeting Friday.

Phillips is now assigned to 5th Squadron, 4th Cavalry Regiment, 2nd Brigade Combat Team, 1st Infantry Division, Fort Riley, Kan.

"I've always felt that the Soldier's Medal is one of those awards that doesn't get enough credit for being as important as it is," Dempsey said. "When you're in combat and you execute an act of heroism, it's almost expected. When something happens when you're at home or in a garrison environment, or in this instance, in a recreational environment, you're not expected to have to demonstrate courage or heroism, and so it seems to me to reflect not just heroism but also incredible agility. You know, you can go from it being a recreational afternoon on the Black River to 'Oh my God, there's a couple that I have to save!'"

See HEROISM, Page A4

## Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff holds town hall meeting on post

**Steve Ghiringhelli**  
Staff Writer

The nation's highest-ranking military officer spent Friday afternoon at Fort Drum where he met with senior leaders and conducted a private town hall meeting with members of the 10th Mountain Division (LI).

Gen. Martin E. Dempsey, in his first visit to Fort Drum as chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, greeted some 300 Soldiers and Family Members at the Commons by thanking them for their service and sacrifices.

He told Soldiers no question was off limits before spending about an hour answering their queries, which ranged from budgetary issues to Army leader development to how the U.S. military plans to deal with threats posed by the Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant (ISIL) and the Ebola outbreak in West Africa.

"If we were having this conversation just a few months ago – literally just a few months ago – we wouldn't be talking about Ebola, we wouldn't be talking about this thing called ISIL, we wouldn't be talking about the fact that Russia had annexed Crimea and is active in eastern Ukraine," Dempsey said before opening the floor for questions.

The topic of ISIL came right up. Dempsey even teased the Soldier who asked him about America's plan for ISIL by joking, "Thank you for your question, senator."

The chairman said the answer to the ISIL problem is connected to the complex troubles confronting several portions of the Middle East, which is the disenfranchisement of enormous parts of the population.

"When governments are not taking care of their entire population, they are being exclusive and not



STEVE GHIRINGHELLI

**Gen. Martin E. Dempsey, chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, takes questions Friday afternoon from some 300 Soldiers and Family Members during a town hall meeting at the Commons.**

inclusive," Dempsey said. "In that environment, the military instrument of power has utility, but it should never be out there by itself, and it should actually not be the main effort, it should be the supporting effort."

"What will eventually lead to the defeat of this group called ISIL?" he asked. "The answer to that question is it has to be rejected, the ideology has to be rejected by the part of the population that it is trying to coerce."

Dempsey went on to explain that the U.S. role includes letting the population know there is a better future by bringing some stability to the situation.

"But we can't own it," he said. "They have to own this issue, because it is actually tearing at the fabric of their nation."

"If we own this, or if they cause us to own it without them owning

it, we're not going to be able to solve their problem," he emphasized. "They have to contribute."

Dempsey added that he does not believe large numbers of U.S. troops will be sent over to confront ISIL.

"But we will be involved," he said, "and I am sure some of you in this room will be involved."

Ebola was another topic on Soldiers' minds. Dempsey thanked one Soldier for asking him about the Ebola situation by bringing up "Operation United Assistance" instead of using the disease's dreaded name.

He said OUA, a new U.S.-led military mission in West Africa, was created to provide logistics expertise, training, engineering support, and command and control in the broad international effort that

See CHAIRMAN, Page A5

# TidBits



**Commanding General**  
Maj. Gen. Stephen J. Townsend

**Garrison Commander**  
Col. Gary A. Rosenberg

**Public Affairs Officer**  
Lt. Col. Tage J. Rainsford

**Garrison Public Affairs Officer**  
Julie Halpin

**Managing Editor**  
Lisa Reape Albrecht

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Michelle Kennedy  
Melody Everly

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**CG's Hotline:** 772-6666

## Family and MWR offers easy holiday party planning

Military units on Fort Drum searching for a location for their holiday events need look no further.

Monti Physical Fitness Facility offers a large space with sporting or swimming options. It is available for use by brigades / battalions for holiday parties. For more information, call 772-4806 before 1 p.m. weekdays.

The Commons offers a variety of facility spaces that can accommodate up to 550 people. It also offers two lodge-style facilities on the shores of Remington Pond. The Commons has catering options for fit any budget and can deliver refreshment to any of the Family and Morale, Welfare and Recreation event facilities. To learn about the many options the Commons offers, call 772-6222.

Located near Outdoor Recreation, Dirty Harry's Sportsman Lodge is available for special occasions and unit parties. Dirty Harry's includes tables, chairs, grills and a full kitchen. For more information, call Outdoor Recreation at 772-5169.

Better Opportunities for Single Soldiers offers its Nash Boulevard BOSS Center, which features a large Adirondack-lodge-style party room, game room and full kitchen, and the Jack T. Sweet BOSS Center, which offers space at a location central to most unit headquarters. To learn what dates and times are available, call 772-7807.

Tables, chairs, elf and Santa costumes, Santa's special chair, bounce houses and popcorn machine are available for rent through Outdoor Recreation to make your party special. For details, call 772-8222.

Holiday reservations for are filling quickly. Your unit party can be a success with just a bit of planning; Family and MWR can help.

### Perimeter security



STAFF SGT. MARK A. MOORE II

**Spc. Evander Gaskin, a health care specialist with Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 2nd Battalion, 14th Infantry Regiment, 2nd Brigade Combat Team, pulls perimeter security at Logistical Support Area Dragon during 2nd BCT's Mountain Peak exercise Monday.**

### Fire, police, medical service telephone numbers

During an emergency, seconds count. In the event of a fire, police or medical emergency on post, dial 911.

During nonemergency situations, follow these guidelines:

- For nonemergency police service, call 772-5156 / 5157.
- For nonemergency fire services, call 772-4420 / 3180. For information on fire prevention, call 772-4702.
- For nonemergency medical care, patients may schedule appointments with their primary care provider, primary care management team or the Acute Care Clinic by calling 772-2778.



### 1st BCT, Bldg. 10305

**Brunch:**  
10 a.m. to 1 p.m.  
**Supper:**  
4:30 to 6 p.m.

## Quote of the Week

**"It was the 10th Mountain Division here at the beginning, and it is fitting that it is the 10th Mountain Division here at the end. I'm proud of our Soldiers and our division for all that has been accomplished here."**

**Maj. Gen. Stephen J. Townsend, Combined Joint Task Force-10 commander, about concluding the Operation Enduring Freedom mission in Afghanistan**

### 10th Mountain Weather

#### Fort Drum



#### Around the Globe



18TH WEATHER SQUADRON DETACHMENT 1

# MILITARY SPOUSE EMPLOYMENT GUIDE



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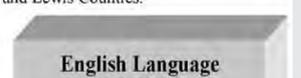
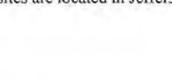
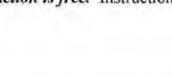
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### Literacy Education

Adult students can pursue literacy instruction in all levels of English and Mathematics to obtain the equivalent of a high school diploma. There is also instruction for English Language Learners. This program integrates a civics curriculum for individuals for whom English is not their first language. **All instruction is free.** Instructional sites are located in Jefferson and Lewis Counties.



ADULT & CONTINUING EDUCATION

### Personal Enrichment Education

Courses are offered during the fall and spring sessions at the Bohlen Technical Center and Howard G. Sackett Technical Center. These courses include Computer Studies, Creative Arts & Leisure Activities and Health & Wellness.

### Center of Business and Industry

Our goal is to provide training programs for clerical staff, middle management, entrepreneurs, educators, and those adults who are seeking new career skills. The Bohlen Technical Center houses the Jefferson-Lewis BOCES Testing Center. The Testing Center serves as a national testing site for certification and licensure examinations. Comira®, Kryterion® and Pearson Vue® provide computer-based testing services for a variety of examination sponsors.

### Online Education

There are over 300 courses being offered on a monthly basis. Online courses are instructor-facilitated for training or personal enjoyment.

For further information on Adult & Continuing Education please contact 315-779-7220.

www.bocesadulthood.com

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- |                                     |                                   |
|-------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Applied Business                    | Heavy Equipment                   |
| Auto Body Repair                    | Certified Nursing Assistant       |
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| Carpentry                           | Plumbing/Heating/Air Conditioning |
| 3D Modeling & Design                | Practical Nursing                 |
| Culinary Arts                       | Veterinary Practices              |
| Environmental Conservation/Forestry | Visual Communications             |
| Electrical Wiring Technology        | Welding                           |
| Electronic & Computer Technology    |                                   |
| Gas & Diesel Mechanics              |                                   |

For further information on Career and Technical Education please contact 315-779-7200.

CAREER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION

# ReEnergy to power Fort Drum for 20 years

Michelle Kennedy

Staff Writer

As the Army moves to more sustainable forms of energy, Fort Drum remains ahead of the curve. Department of the Army, Fort Drum, New York state and local leaders gathered Thursday at the Commons on post to officially mark the beginning of a new era in renewable energy.

The event signified Fort Drum's new contract with ReEnergy Black River LLC, a subsidiary of ReEnergy Holdings LLC, to provide power to the installation.

"Today, we will ceremonially begin the contract with ReEnergy for the purchase and provision of 100 percent of Fort Drum's electricity requirements over the next 20 years," said Brig. Gen. Michael L. Howard, Fort Drum and 10th Mountain Division (LI) acting senior commander. "Beyond the obvious advantage of generating our energy on post at a secure location, this brings us in line with the Army's commitment of sustainability, and I'm proud that Fort Drum is leading the way."

"This is a small city where 33,000 (people) work, train and live," he added. "There's no question that our transition to renewable energy represents a big step for the installation, for the Army and for the North Country. Fort Drum is leading the Army into the future with this sustainable energy project. I am very pleased with our place at the front of the pack."

As of Nov. 1, Fort Drum is the Army's only installation that consumes 100 percent of its electricity from a renewable source that is generated on post. In addition, it is the only installation that is totally eliminating greenhouse gas emissions associated with creating electricity, Howard explained.

"While it may be my name that is put on this ceremonial contract, it is representing the tens of thousands who will consume this renewable energy over the next 20 years, perhaps not knowing their part in helping our Army go green, but benefitting from it nonetheless," he said.

After Howard's remarks, Katherine Hammack, assistant secretary of the Army for installations, energy and environment, provided a few comments and thanked those whose hard work led up to the contract signing.

"It really takes a team working on the ground at the installation to recognize the benefits that this offers," she said.

The date of the contract signing was timely because Oct. 29 marked the second anniversary of Super Storm Sandy that slammed the eastern seaboard two years



STEVE FRITH

**Army and DOD officials sign a contract symbolizing Fort Drum's new contract with ReEnergy Black River LLC on Thursday at the Commons, making Fort Drum the only Army installation receiving 100 percent of its power from a secure, renewable, on-post location. From left are Katherine Hammack, assistant secretary of the Army for installations, energy and environment; Brig. Gen. Michael L. Howard, Fort Drum and 10th Mountain Division (LI) acting senior commander; Air Force Brig. Gen. Mark M. McLeod, commander of Defense Logistics Agency Energy; Larry Richardson, CEO of ReEnergy Holdings LLC; Richard Kidd, deputy assistant secretary of the Army for energy and sustainability; Davis Tindoll, director of Installation Management Command Atlantic Region; Col. Gary A. Rosenberg, Fort Drum garrison commander; and Amanda Simpson, executive director of the Army Office of Energy Initiatives. U.S. Senators Kirsten Gillibrand and Chuck Schumer look on.**



STEVE FRITH

**Katherine Hammack, assistant secretary of the Army for installations, energy and environment, signs a document during ReEnergy's contract signing ceremony.**

ago, Hammack added.

"We all heard about the challenges to communities when they did not have power," she said. "Those kinds of storms are increasing in frequency and intensity. Being able to generate power on site from a renewable resource is critical to the Army so we may continue to serve this great nation and serve the communities that surround us."

October is Energy Awareness Month, and the Army's theme is "Energy Action Equals Mission Success."

"That's what we've got here – action to improve our energy secu-

urity so that the mission will be successful," Hammack said. "There are residual benefits that come from 'going green.' This is about ensuring that the mission at Fort Drum will continue, but it also helps the community."

The ReEnergy plant generates almost twice the amount of power than Fort Drum requires, she explained. The plant is not only located in a secure location on post, but the residual power will support the surrounding communities, too.

While Fort Drum will rely on ReEnergy for all of its energy requirements, it will still be connected to the power grid. In the event that the plant needs to go down for repairs or maintenance, the post will still receive seamless service with National Grid to help ensure that Fort Drum Soldiers, Civilians and Family Members continue to receive the power they need.

"Resilience is really a major priority for the Army," Hammack said. "That's what this is about – making this installation more resilient."

"We work hard to be more responsive to the physical, social and economic challenges that are a growing part of the 21st century," she added.

"Building resilience is about resilience of the people, resilience of the community and helping our Army prepare for, withstand and emerge stronger from acute shocks and chronic stressors," she

continued. "Ensuring our forces have energy and the water to meet the mission requirements is really a fundamental enabler of national security. That's really what we're here about today."

Hammack explained that the Army committed to President Barack Obama that it will produce one gigawatt of renewable energy by 2025.

"That really is to ensure that our country is less dependent on foreign sources of oil and we're making the best use of resources that are available," she said. "This is the best example I can think of – an old coal plant that is being repurposed, that is burning waste residue from forests, spawning a new industry to sell what was once a waste product, and then increase resilience in the Army. You couldn't ask for a better scenario."

The Department of Defense consumes 50 percent of the U.S. government's energy, Hammack said. Last year, the Army spent \$1.3 billion on energy.

"We are the largest facility consumer of energy in the federal government," she noted. "That's not necessarily something to be proud of, but it really reflects the many land-based missions that the Army has."

"We are fortunate to be able to partner with the private sector to expand renewable energy initiatives on our bases," Hammack added. "We know that we're all facing budget challenges, and one thing about this is we are not going

to Congress to ask for taxpayer money to build this plant."

By partnering with private businesses, the Army and ReEnergy can leverage each other's core competencies, which is a good practice for both agencies, as well as the nation as a whole, she added.

"The Army will continue to partner with the private sector," Hammack said. "That is our strategy to bring more renewable energy on Army installations and increase resiliency. We expect our installations to be models of sustainability and resilience, and Fort Drum is really exemplifying those high standards. We really want to thank you for everything you have done to make this project a success."

In addition to providing power to Fort Drum and the surrounding communities, ReEnergy also has created more than 100 jobs for the North Country.

Also in attendance were Richard Kidd, deputy assistant secretary of the Army for energy and sustainability; Amanda Simpson, executive director of the Army Office of Energy Initiatives; Air Force Brig. Gen. Mark M. McLeod, commander of Defense Logistics Agency Energy; Davis Tindoll, director of Installation Management Command Atlantic Region; Col. Gary A. Rosenberg, Fort Drum garrison commander; U.S. Sen. Charles E. Schumer; U.S. Sen. Kirsten Gillibrand; and Larry Richardson, chief executive officer of ReEnergy Holdings LLC. □

## DOD authorizes war on terrorism award for new Middle East mission

Jim Garamone

DOD News, Defense Media Activity

WASHINGTON – U.S. service members overseas serving in support of Operation Inherent Resolve are eligible for the Global War on Terrorism Expeditionary Medal, Pentagon officials announced on Friday.

The award is retroactive to June 15, when President Barack Obama ordered U.S. forces to the region in response to offensives by the Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant in Iraq.

At the invitation of the Iraqi government, American troops went to the country to assess Iraqi forces and the ISIL threat.

Jessica Wright, undersecretary of defense for personnel and readiness, signed a memorandum authorizing the award Oct. 31.

### Immediate recognition

The award provides immediate recognition to U.S. service members supporting efforts to eliminate the terrorist group ISIL and the threat it poses to Iraq, the region and the wider international community, Pentagon officials said.

In addition to Iraq, service members who are deployed to



Bahrain, Cyprus, Egypt, Israel, Iran, Jordan, Kuwait, Lebanon, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Syria, Turkey and the United Arab Emirates are eligible. Those serving in the Red Sea, the Mediterranean Sea east of the 25th meridian and in the Persian Gulf also can receive the award.

Service members who already have received the award for prior service do not receive another award or a battle star, officials said.

About 8,400 service members are in the qualifying Operation Inherent Resolve area today. □

## Final Muleskinner brigade headquarters Soldiers return

Sgt. 1st Class Luis Saavedra

10th Sustainment Brigade PAO

The 10th Sustainment Brigade hosted a welcome home ceremony Tuesday at Magrath Sports Complex to greet the last group of Soldiers assigned to the brigade headquarters who were deployed in support of Operation Enduring Freedom.

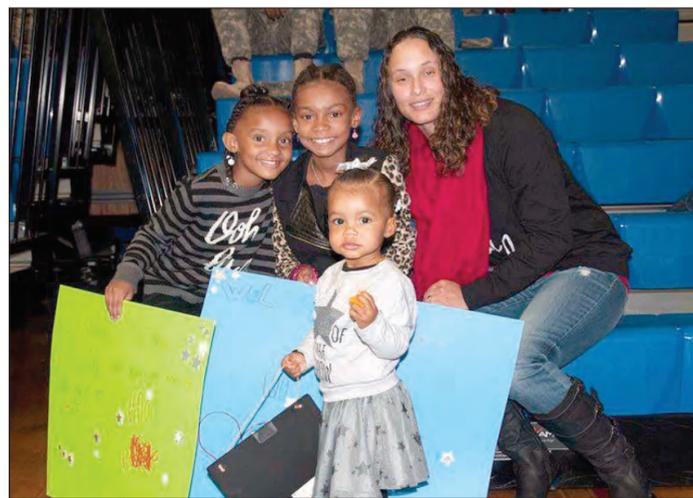
Col. Willie Rios III, 10th Sustainment Brigade commander, was among the 78 Soldiers who returned, as well as a few Soldiers from 91st Military Police Battalion and 548th Combat Sustainment Support Battalion.

Due to the nine-month deployment, the brigade was not authorized to allow its Soldiers to go on rest and recuperation leave, which meant that most Soldiers did not see their Family or friends until the mission was complete.

The Muleskinner Brigade had served as the single sustainment brigade in Afghanistan and closed out the sustainment mission as it transitioned to Resolute Support.

The gym was crowded with people who live on Fort Drum and others who traveled from across the U.S. to see their loved one. Some seemed anxious, as they were constantly moving around and checking the time. They knew they would soon be reunited with their significant other.

"It's a relief to have the Family back together again," said Chief Warrant Officer 4 Ernie Ixtlahuac, 10th Sustainment Brigade prop-



COURTESY PHOTO

**Family Members of a 10th Sustainment Brigade Soldier await the arrival of their loved one Tuesday at the Magrath Sports Complex on Fort Drum.**

erty book officer.

Soldiers waited about three hours from the time they landed before the ceremony began, which allowed them time to freshen up. Soldiers had smiles on their faces as the time approached. They lined up and marched in to the gym. The crowd stood on their feet, clapped and screamed, and some people took photos.

Col. Robert A. Culp II, 10th Sustainment Brigade home station commander, gave a brief speech thanking everyone for attending and asking people to keep those in harm's way in their prayers. After the speech and the singing of the

10th Mountain Division Song and the Army Song, Soldiers were dismissed.

Several Family Members ran toward the formation of troops, others walked, but the outcome was the same. It was long enough, and they were finally reunited.

"It feels awesome," said Capt. Juan Cepeda, brigade adjutant. "I look forward to spending time with the Family and catching up with my kids."

There are approximately 130 Soldiers assigned to subordinate battalions still deployed. Most are scheduled to return before Christmas. □

# Electronic warfare technician receives recognition

**Staff Sgt. Mark A. Moore II**  
2nd Brigade Combat Team Journalist

For more than 50 years, the Association of Old Crows has recognized service members from across the military and civilian personnel for their outstanding contributions to the electronic warfare community.

During this year's 51st Annual AOC International Symposium and Convention held Oct. 6-9 in Washington, D.C., Chief Warrant Officer 2 Eric Bermudez, electronic warfare technician, 2nd Brigade Combat Team, was presented the EW Mission Support award for his contributions during the brigade's most recent deployment to Afghanistan in 2013.

"It's a great feeling that it's coming to a time when electronic warfare is being recognized for what we do down range," Bermudez said. "I try to tell commanders that if you go out on a mission and you don't hear anything go boom, that means we're doing our jobs."

Bermudez was among 200 applicants competing for recognition in one of seven categories.



COURTESY OF ASSOCIATION OF OLD CROWS  
**Chief Warrant Officer 2 Eric Bermudez, right, electronic warfare technician with 2nd Brigade Combat Team, 10th Mountain Division (LI), accepts the EW Mission Support award from Kenneth Israel, president of the Association of Old Crows, during the 51st Annual AOC International Symposium and Convention in Washington, D.C.**

Presenting the awards was Kenneth Israel, president of AOC, who also spoke of the importance of

electronic warfare. "Electronic warfare increases the combat capability of every platform, every sensor, every

weapon and every decision maker who uses it," he said. "Just as our adversaries are increasing their understanding and emphasis on EW, the United States must increase its emphasis on speed and rapid adaptation. EW will ensure that our Soldiers not only get to the target, but also get safely home from the target."

Bermudez adapted to an evolving advisory and base closure mission and quickly combated a shrinking supply of repair parts and a lack of qualified maintenance technicians to ensure continual coverage against electronic threats.

"The field service representatives were leaving; we had no support and no parts," he said. "If a CREW (Counter Radio-Controlled-Improvised-Explosive-Device Electronic Warfare) system went down or even a piece of it was disabled, that vehicle would become dead lined (non-operational). We can't leave the wire (base) unless the CREW systems were fully operational. That was the fight I took on."

Despite these difficulties, Bermudez found ways to train operators and system maintainers and coordinate electronic warfare coverage for Soldiers conducting advisory, route clearance and base closure missions, while scheduling repairs to ensure EW equipment remained operational.

Bermudez's actions resulted in mission success and have earned him a spot in EW history.

His citation reads: "For exceptional meritorious service, (Chief Warrant Officer 2) Bermudez's efforts resulted in an effective electronic warfare cell instrumental in the command's success. This reflects great credit upon the 10th Mountain Division and the United States Army."

Other Army personnel recognized were Maj. Ian Campbell, formerly an electronic warfare technician with 2nd BCT, who was recognized in EW Mission Operations category, and Warrant Officer Bryan Burton, EW cell chief, 4th BCT, Fort Polk, La., who accepted the Army Outstanding Unit award on behalf of his section. □

## News Briefs

### Civilian employees seek leave donations

The following Appropriated Fund employees have been accepted in the Leave Recipient Program: Janel Donnelly, Directorate of Resource Management; and Tamara Morin, Karen Sheehan, Christine Robinson and Robert Pickeral, all of MEDDAC.

Appropriated Fund employees who wish to donate annual leave should complete an OPM 630A, Request to Donate Annual Leave to Leave Recipient Under the Voluntary Leave Transfer Program, and forward it to the Civilian Personnel Advisory Center, Bldg. 10720, for processing.

### Officials emphasize changes to access control points, PT road usage

Due to ongoing construction projects on Fort Drum, motorists are asked to note the following:

- The 45th Infantry Division Drive access control point is open from 5:30 a.m. to 7 p.m. daily for personnel with a DOD ID card in their possession. Anyone without their DOD ID card with them will be turned away.
- No physical training will be authorized in the area of 45th Infantry Division Drive from Iraqi Freedom Drive and Enduring Freedom Drive to the ACP.
- On South Post, Restore Hope Avenue, normally a co-use PT route, will not be used for PT between Conway Road and 5th Street East. Restore Hope is a detour route for the current phase of the construction project.

The changes will remain in effect until the completion of the Gas Alley construction project for the safety of Soldiers and motorists.

### Officials seek estate claims

Anyone having claims against or

debts owed to the estate of Sgt. Cody Samuels, Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 10th Combat Aviation Brigade, may contact his summary court-martial officer, Maj. Joshua Sherer, at 774-1128.

All correspondence will be forwarded to the appropriate legal representative of the estate.

### Newspaper staff plans early deadline

The Mountaineer staff will observe an early deadline because of Veterans Day. All news submissions for the Nov. 13 issue will be due at noon today.

The Public Affairs Office, Bldg. 10012, will be closed Tuesday in observance of the holiday.

### Traffic delays expected on State Route 26 during field training exercise

Fort Drum officials caution motorists of anticipated traffic delays on State Route 26 during the second part of the 10th Mountain Division's large-scale training exercise, Operation Mountain Peak, which will run through Friday.

Motorists should expect heavy military traffic between State Route 3 and U.S. Route 11 at various times during the training period.

There could be longer than usual delays at stop signs and traffic lights.

### AA group meets on post

Alcoholics Anonymous meets from 11:45 a.m. to 12:45 p.m. Tuesdays and Thursdays in Guthrie Clinic, Patient Care Wing, Patient Service Center conference room. For more information, call 772-0035.

### AFGHANISTAN, from Page A1

rial Ceremony. "Now, 13 years later, here we all are ... working together to bring this combat phase of our international effort to a close and begin a new phase of resolute support."

Townsend led a battalion task force in 2002 as part of Operation Anaconda, returned as a G3 with the division, served as a deputy commanding general with 101st Airborne Division (AA), and now, has ended as the last commanding general of RC-East.

"I've seen a lot of change here over the last 13 years," he said. "The Afghan Security Forces have gone from a rag-tag militia in 2002 to an organized army and air force of over 350,000, which is leading and bearing the brunt of the fight to protect the Afghan people today. I know that they are strong and ready for the future. They have proven their mettle throughout this past year - a year that saw the ANSF secure elections, run-off elections and the first-ever peaceful transfer of power in Afghan history."

During the last 13 years of combat, many different Army divisions headquartered RC-East, such as the 82nd Airborne Division, 25th Infantry Division, 101st Airborne Division, 1st Cavalry Division, 1st Infantry Division and the Southern European Task Force - 15 different commands. Yet, the 10th Mountain Division headquartered RC-East four times.

The division's other deployment was in RC-South at Kandahar Airfield.

"It was the 10th Mountain Division here at the beginning, and it is fitting that it is the 10th Mountain Division here at the end,"



MASTER SGT. KAP KIM

**Maj. Gen. Stephen J. Townsend, Combined Joint Task Force-10 commander, speaks Tuesday about the history of Regional Command-East during the Combined Joint Task Force-10 inactivation and Regional Command-East completion of mission ceremony.**

Townsend said. "I'm proud of our Soldiers and our division for all that has been accomplished here."

During the final year of OEF, CJTF-10's troops have fought the enemy and provided security force assistance to the ANSF in order to secure the Afghan people and deny provinces of eastern Afghanistan as a safe haven for international terrorists.

Since Feb. 6, CJTF-10 provided mission command for service members of more than 30 different countries, along with 3rd and 4th Brigade Combat Teams of the 10th Mountain Division; 2nd Brigade Combat Team and 159th Combat Aviation Brigade, 101st Airborne Division; the 3rd U.S. Cavalry Regiment; 82nd Combat Aviation Brigade, 82nd Airborne Division; Task Force White Eagle from the Republic of Poland as

well as other U.S. and coalition elements with U.S. and coalition Special Operation Forces. The CJTF-10 also assisted its ANSF partners in more than 2,000 operations and contingency operations to enhance security and stability in the 14 provinces of eastern Afghanistan.

"As our division gets ready to leave Afghanistan, we leave with fond memories of the time we spent with our Afghan friends and brothers in arms securing Regional Command East," Townsend said, addressing the many ANSF members in the crowd. "We leave knowing that the Afghan National Security Forces are in the lead, stronger than ever, and ready to secure their country ... and we leave knowing that the children of Afghanistan have a much better opportunity for a bright future." □

### HEROISM, from Page A1

"I think it's an incredible award for these three young men and I'm really proud of them," he added.

The Soldier's Medal is awarded to any member of the United States Army who, while serving in any capacity, distinguishes himself or herself by heroism not involving actual conflict with an enemy. The performance must have involved personal hazard or danger and the voluntary risk of life under conditions not involving conflict with an armed enemy.

### The incident

North Country temperatures were still dropping into the 30s last spring, after one of the area's coldest and harshest winters on record. On April 21, Grant and Brown were with their Families fishing on the banks of the frigid Black River. The fast-moving water, frozen along large swaths just months earlier, was not many degrees above freezing.

Shortly after dropping their lines into water, the two Soldiers noticed a couple on the opposite bank, launching a canoe into the swift current. Minutes later, the canoe had overturned and the boaters' cries for help could be heard echoing over the fierce river currents.

"Once they saw us, they both pushed off of the boat and started trying to swim to us," Grant said. "I noticed right off that the male appeared to be a strong swimmer by the way he started swimming from



GLENN WAGNER

**Brig. Gen. Michael L. Howard, left, 10th Mountain Division (LI) acting senior commander, and Gen. Martin E. Dempsey, right, chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, congratulate Spc. Christopher L. Grant, Spc. Trenton M. Brown and Pfc. Matthew M. Phillips after they were presented with the Soldier's Medal on Friday afternoon by Dempsey. The Soldiers are credited with rescuing a local woman who was drowning in the Black River in April.**

the boat. The current was fighting him hard, and I think when he noticed the female was having trouble swimming, he chose to stay with her."

Realizing the distressed boaters needed immediate assistance, Grant ran to his truck to retrieve a 100-foot rope and immediately sprang into action.

The two Soldiers unraveled the rope, tied a heavy stick to the end for weight and made several attempts to throw it out to the couple, but came up short each time,

the last attempt coming about 15 feet from them. By this time, Grant estimated the couple had been in the river nearly 15 minutes.

"As I attempted to throw the rope again, the back current caught them and started dragging them back towards the (boat) launch," Grant said. "It was at this point that the male began trying to hold the female up, causing him to go under and take on water. We ran back from the dock to the launch, and I noticed the male go under."

It was around this time when Phillips, a former lifeguard, arrived at the Black River and immediately realized something wasn't right.

"Right when I pulled up, I saw everybody running, screaming 'they're drowning!'" Phillips said. "Of all who were there, I was the best equipped to get into the water, but (the couple) was not close enough (for me) to swim out and back."

Phillips immediately grabbed the stick end of the rope and rushed into the fast moving waters

as Brown and Grant tied a second rope to the line Phillips was swimming to the boater. At this point, all three 10th Mountain Division (LI) Soldiers were in the 36-degree water as emergency first responders drew near.

"I ran from the launch up to the road and saw them stop on the bridge," said Brown, of the emergency response vehicles. "I flagged them down and guided them to the scene."

Meanwhile, as Phillips swam with the stick-end of the rope toward the woman, Grant waded out into the water up to his chest while holding the other end of the rope. Phillips took hold of the woman, securing her under the armpits and yelled "pull!" Grant pulled them in as quickly as he could. As Phillips brought her to shore, Grant ran to them and carried the woman onto the beach. Brown brought sweatshirts, blankets and what he could find to warm her.

For their actions, Brown, Grant and Phillips are credited with saving the woman's life. Unfortunately, the Soldiers were not able to save the second victim, whose body was recovered days later.

"If I could have gotten to the man, I would have, but I just couldn't get to him," Phillips said.

Brown said it appeared the couple was holding each other as they went down the river and that the man was pushing the woman up until he ultimately disappeared below the water.

"He gave his life to save her," he said. "That's the hardest part." □

# Fort Drum retiree receives special sendoff

Steve Ghiringhelli

Staff Writer

The woman who for many years helped align the stars at 10th Mountain Division (LI) headquarters received fond farewells Friday from one-, two-, three- and four-star generals who knew her well.

Carolyn R. Ferguson, executive assistant to the commanding general of Fort Drum and 10th Mountain Division (LI), retired with more than 34 years of federal service. She said she was humbled by the privilege of working for such a great organization.

"It is impossible for me to individually thank everybody who has touched my life over (these years)," she said during an emotional ceremony Friday morning. "It has been a true honor and privilege to serve the command team, all the commanding generals, deputy commanding generals and chiefs of staff.

"I look across the room, and you have all touched my life, just as so many other people have," she added. "I thank you all very, very much."

Ferguson later received the Department of the Army Meritorious Civilian Service Award from Gen. Martin E. Dempsey, chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, who was at Fort Drum conducting a town hall meeting with Soldiers and Family Members.

She was a high school senior when her parents signed paperwork allowing her to enlist in the Women's Army Corps under the delayed entry program in 1976. After her honorable military service, she entered the federal workforce at Yuma Proving Ground in Arizona before spending three years working at Spangdahlem Air Base in Germany.

After arriving at Fort Drum in 1990, she worked in various roles



**Gen. Martin E. Dempsey, chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, presents the Department of the Army Meritorious Civilian Service Award to Carolyn R. Ferguson, executive assistant to the commanding general of Fort Drum and 10th Mountain Division (LI), on Friday afternoon following a town hall meeting on Fort Drum.**

for 10 years before becoming executive assistant to the division commander.

Ferguson deployed to Afghanistan with division headquarters three times and served directly under eight commanding generals here. The distinguished list includes Gen. Lloyd Austin III, commander of U.S. Central Command; Gen. Mark A. Milley, commander of U.S. Army Forces Command; Lt. Gen. James Terry, Third Army / U.S. Army Central commander; and four retired lieutenant generals – James Campbell, Franklin "Buster" Hagenbeck, Benjamin Freakley and Michael Oates.

In a gesture of the kind of fond-

ness many of the generals held for Ferguson, Campbell mailed her the stars he last wore on his uniform at Fort Drum.

During the retirement ceremony Friday morning, Brig. Gen. Michael L. Howard, 10th Mountain Division (LI) acting senior commander, read a note from the division's commander currently deployed to Afghanistan.

"On behalf of the Soldiers of the 10th Mountain Division (LI) and the entire Fort Drum community, please accept my personal gratitude for your many years of dedicated service to the U.S. Army and Fort Drum," Maj. Gen. Stephen J. Townsend wrote. "Your dedica-

tion, sacrifice and personal zeal in caring for Soldiers contributed immeasurably to the 10th Mountain Division and America's Army during a critical period in our history. Thank you for dutifully working to improve the lives of our Soldiers, Civilians and our way of life."

Each of the other seven generals also wrote notes praising Ferguson for running a smooth and highly professional day-to-day operation at division headquarters. They said whether in war or peace, Ferguson was a wise and trusted confidant who always had their backs.

"This is the kind of loyalty this woman brings out of people," Howard said. "(It's) because of the



**Ferguson thanks peers, friends and Family Members during her retirement ceremony Friday morning at the Commons on post.**

way she serves."

Howard, for whom Ferguson worked over the past year, said division headquarters has looked like a florist shop during the last days of her tenure.

"My final word," Howard told her, "I'm not one of your CGs, but I will miss you as much as every one of those CGs."

Ferguson plans to stay in New York state with her husband, Greg Ferguson, who retired as the head of Fort Drum's Directorate of Emergency Services in May.

After the town hall meeting Friday, alluding to the later success of so many of the generals Ferguson worked alongside, Dempsey said she should have been nicknamed the "kingmaker."

Reflecting on two and a half decades with the 10th Mountain Division (LI), Ferguson said Fort Drum and the community here will always hold a special place in her heart.

"This is my family," she said. "It has been like that since I started working here. I'm really going to miss them." □

## Soldiers face reclass, separation if clearance denied, revoked

Lisa Ferdinando

Army News Service

WASHINGTON – Soldiers who have had their security clearance revoked or denied face reclassification or separation from the force, according to Army Human Resources Command.

HRC issued a military personnel message, MILPER Message 14-306, last month to assist commanders in identifying enlisted Soldiers who are not qualified in their primary military occupational specialty, or MOS.

Two of the major deficiencies HRC has identified are security clearances and language proficiencies, according to James Bragg, chief of the HRC Retention

and Reclassification Branch.

"Commanders can't utilize their Soldiers properly if they're not qualified in their MOS," he said. "If they need access to a certain facility based on security clearance and they can't get in there, they can't perform their duties."

HRC has identified several hundred Soldiers in the active Army whose records indicate they do not have the clearance required in their MOS, Bragg said.

He said the commands have been notified and need to take action.

The first order of business, he said, is for commanders to correct any errors and report back if a Soldier does in fact have the proper clearance. If a clearance has

lapsed, a Soldier will have to take the necessary steps to get current again. If the clearance has been revoked or denied, commanders need to recommend whether the Soldier should remain.

"In about 60 days from now, we're going to run those same Soldiers through our query," he said.

The issue affects readiness, he said, noting that the Army must ensure it is retaining only the most qualified people.

In addition, HRC has identified Army linguists who have not maintained their language proficiencies, Bragg said.

"These are our cryptological linguists who are required to interpret a foreign language," he said.

Linguists have to take a profi-

ciency test every year, he explained. They may be late in taking the test or have failed the exam. Either way, they need to be up to standard, he said.

"We're in the middle of a draw-down, and we can't afford to keep people in the Army who are not qualified in their MOS," he said. "We want to be a little more proactive than reactive, which is why we published MILPER Message 14-306."

HRC will look into other MOS options for Soldiers recommended for reclassification. Bragg said HRC will place Soldiers in short or balanced MOSs, not in ones over strengthened.

In the event a Soldier does not meet the qualifications for a short-

age or balanced MOS, then that Soldier may be reclassified to Special Reporting Code "09U."

This identifies the Soldier as not being qualified in any Army MOS, and he or she will be separated from the Army in nine months.

In these times of tight budget and a shrinking force, the Army must look for ways to maintain readiness, Bragg said.

Separation from the force is a last resort, he said.

"Our first option is to reclassify Soldiers and continue to have them serve in the Army for a career," he said.

Soldiers and leaders with questions concerning MOS qualifications should contact their unit career counselor. □

CHAIRMAN, from Page A1

is aimed at containing the Ebola outbreak.

Dempsey said some 1,300 troops, most of them Soldiers, are currently deployed to West Africa.

He said at this point, the mission, which may last about 18 months, is absolutely the right thing to do.

"This isn't about me being a humanitarian," he stated. "I mean, we all have instincts to reject human suffering and so forth. But this is about making sure that that disease is contained in West Africa. We got to keep it over there – or try."

After taking questions ranging from the Army's shrinking technological edge in the world to how the Black Knights can beat Navy on the gridiron, Dempsey gave some thoughts regarding the Army's potential reduction to 420,000 Soldiers.

"Too small," the chairman said flatly. "The lowest that I think the Army can possibly go and still meet the needs of the nation as we know them today is about 450,000 active Army."

"If we go to sequestration, we will be able to start a fight, but not finish it," he added.

Outside of the question-and-answer period, Dempsey told the crowd that the nation will continue to rely on its Army, even if some think the Army is a "tool of last resort."

"You can count on the fact that the Army will keep rolling along," he said. "There are 10 active Army divisions in the inventory and, right now, as I am speaking with you, eight of the division head-



GLENN WAGNER

**Gen. Martin E. Dempsey, chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, listens to a question posed by a Soldier regarding Army Leader Development during a town hall meeting at Fort Drum. The general also answered questions regarding sequestration, maintaining the Army's technological edge, and threats posed by ISIL, Russia and Ebola.**

quarters are deployed."

Despite the demand, however, Dempsey noted that a heavy workload for the U.S. military means the Army must remain adaptable, since static responses to the threats the nation faces won't always work.

"There's no template," he said. "There's no one-size-fits-all. If you stay for as long as I have, you will probably serve in three or four different 'Armies,' because they change. They change dramatically."

Dempsey, who said he was well aware of the 10th Mountain Division's illustrious history, asked Soldiers to be ready when history comes "looking for you." He also

encouraged Soldiers to be resilient and optimistic about their future careers in the profession of arms despite current fiscal constraints.

"We'll bludgeon our way through the budget mess that we face," he said. "We're not the first group of cowboys to face a budget mess in our country."

The town hall concluded with a small ceremony in which Dempsey bestowed the Soldier's Medal on three Soldiers (see "Division warriors earn Soldier's Medal for Heroism" on page A1) and presented the Meritorious Civilian Service Award to a retiring civilian at Fort Drum (see "Fort Drum retiree receives special sendoff" on page A5). □

## Syracuse Law's 'Valor Day' provides free resources for local veterans, service members, Families

SYRACUSE – As a way of giving back to those who have served their country, Syracuse University law students, alumni and local volunteers will partner – for the fourth time – to provide free legal and advocacy services for veterans, service members and their Families.

Hosted by the law student group Veterans' Issues, Support Initiative and Outreach Network (VISION), the "Valor Day" event will be held from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Nov. 15 at the new home of Syracuse University College of Law, Dineen Hall, 950 Irving Ave.

Free parking is available in the Irving Garage at 141 Stadium Place.

Services include legal advice, readjustment and vocational counseling, resumé reviews, and credit counseling services.

The College of Law looks to build on the success of its first three Valor Day events, which served more than 280 veterans, service members and their Families.

"Valor Day is a great way for the College of Law and its student population to show our support

for veterans from many eras," said Tim Stalnaker, VISION executive director as well as a U.S. Army veteran.

"At the previous Valor Day events, we have had the privilege to assist veterans ranging from World War II all the way through ongoing conflicts."

Valor Day also will include a veterans' information fair. Representatives from more than 25 veteran and government organizations will be on site to discuss their services and provide information.

"The legal services allow transitioning veterans to focus on other aspects of their lives, and the information fair provides them with the contacts they need to help them cope with the transition process," said Joel Deland, a VISION member and U.S. Army veteran.

All veterans, service members and their immediate Family are welcome to attend.

Appointments are encouraged for financial, legal and counseling services.

For more information, contact VISION@law.syr.edu or call (413) 728-2567. □

## C-130 afterlife



MICHELLE KENNEDY

A C-130 fuselage arrives Oct. 29 at Fort Drum's Wheeler-Sack Army Airfield from Arkansas. The 120-foot-long aircraft will be used by aviation Soldiers from B Company, 277th Aviation Support Battalion, 10th Combat Aviation Brigade, to practice loading and unloading equipment, gear and other items. Having the fuselage available as a training aid allows Soldiers to keep their skills sharp while not tying up a working aircraft that could be used for other missions.

## Change in regulation affects PCS moves, travelers

**Claudette Roulo**

*DOD News, Defense Media Activity*

WASHINGTON – Big changes are happening with the Joint Travel Regulations, and they could affect your next permanent-change-of-station move or how you are reimbursed for temporary duty assignments.

As of July 25, Army uniformed and civilian travelers are directed to use their government travel credit cards for PCS moves, Harvey Johnson, the director of the Defense Travel Management Office, said Oct. 21.

The Air Force has a similar policy already in place, Johnson said, and the Marine Corps is preparing to implement its own administrative message regarding use of the government travel card for permanent changes of station.

"The Navy is conducting a pilot program) to use the card for PCS, so I believe it's imminent for all the services," he noted.

The change applies to both uniformed and civilian personnel in each of the services, Johnson said. "Ultimately, we want to extend

this initiative to all federal Civilians and uniformed members, because at the end of the day, we believe it's the right thing for our cardholders," he said.

### Reducing the fiscal burden for movers

By using the government travel card, movers no longer are forced to pay out of pocket for moving expenses, Johnson said.

The new policy also generates a number of other benefits, including eliminating the need to apply for advance travel pay and reducing the chance of becoming delinquent on a personal credit card.

"We want to make sure that people still have it within their budget to continue to travel," he said, "but we've got to travel smarter, more efficiently and try to return money back to the Department of Defense."

Every time travelers use their government travel card, their service receives a rebate, Johnson said. A 5-percent increase in usage across the department generates an 11-percent rebate, he said, adding that "services get that

money back in their budgets, ... a return on investment that we need during sequestration."

Additionally, using a government travel card allows the department to understand how travelers are spending, Johnson said.

"And that allows us to negotiate better rates, whether it's with the rental car companies or amenities with hotels," he added.

### Authorized moving expenses

Just about any moving-related expense is authorized, Johnson said. The Joint Travel Regulations and the Joint Federal Travel Regulations were consolidated into one regulation on Oct. 1, so all travelers now have one volume to refer to for questions about official travel, Johnson said.

An extensive list of authorized expenses can be found at Appendix G of the Joint Travel Regulations, he said, which is available at <http://www.defensetravel.dod.mil/site/travelreg.cfm>. Travelers also can call the Travel Assistance Center at 1-888-HELP1GO, which is open 24/7, Johnson added.

### Incidental expense definition changing

An expanded definition of what constitutes incidental expenses during official travel went into effect Oct. 1, he said. The change will save the department about \$18 million annually, Johnson said.

Per diem payments are made up of lodging, meals and, for travelers in the continental United States, a \$5 daily incidental payment. The definition of what qualifies as an incidental expense – which travelers are expected to pay for from that \$5 daily payment – now includes ATM fees, baggage tips for uniformed personnel and, within the continental United States, laundry expenses, Johnson said.

The expanded definition will affect only a few travelers, Johnson said, and no one should end up paying out of pocket. For example, only about 13 percent of travelers were claiming ATM fees, he said, and they averaged out to about 76 cents per day, well under the flat \$5 daily incidentals payment.

If travelers find their average incidental expenses are in excess of the incidentals payment, they

should contact their approving authority to ensure actual expenses are authorized on their travel orders.

Mission-related expenses continue to be reimbursable, and those should not be confused with incidental expenses, he noted.

"So, if my mission calls for ... (me) to do certain things – make an extraordinary amount of phone calls using the hotel phone, or other mission-type expenses – they are still reimbursable," Johnson said.

### Behind the policy decision

The travel management office used three guiding principles when considering these policy changes, Johnson said.

First, do no harm – reducing costs to the government shouldn't come at the expense of travelers, he explained.

Second, Johnson said, "We're looking to fairly compensate travelers for expenses occurred."

And third, use data to test and back up recommendations.

"I truly believe the data tells the narrative," he said. □

# THANK YOU.

To the men and women who have served our great nation and to those who have given their lives in service to our country, we thank you for your commitment, dedication and sacrifice—today and every day.

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at [military.umuc.edu/thankvets](http://military.umuc.edu/thankvets) or using #UMUCThanksVets.

# Mountaineer OPINION-EDITORIAL

The Mountaineer, Fort Drum, N.Y. • Nov. 6, 2014 • A9

## Department of Defense celebrates Military Family Month in November

**Karen Parrish**

*DOD News, Defense Media Activity*

WASHINGTON – November in America traditionally is a month of thankfulness, and the Defense Department chose this month to recognize those who support the nation's armed forces but who don't wear the uniform: military Families.

Barbara Thompson directs the department's Office of Family Policy, Children and Youth, and Special Needs.

She recently spoke with DOD News about Military Family Month and why it matters.

"In November, we take the time to draw attention to and highlight the great sacrifices and support that military Families offer our men and women in the armed forces," she said.

Thompson's office oversees programs and policies that promote military Families' well-being and quality of life. Thompson's portfolio covers a range of military Family concerns, from child development programs to spouse career development, personal financial readiness and nonmedical counseling.

### DOD honors military Families

Senior Pentagon officials will participate throughout the month in events designed to honor military Families, Thompson said.

The military services, installations and family support centers also will recognize military Families.

"There will be a lot of events and special recognitions," she added.

Thompson noted that the modern military Family mirrors the modern American family – some families are blended, some have single parents, others consist of unmarried or same-sex couples, and still others have special needs.

"Just like the American family, we have all different shapes and sizes. ... They all comprise this fabric of military Families," she said.

Families contribute to the U.S. military's strong, resilient and ready force and to their communities as well, Thompson said.

"When we think of our military

members and the values that they embody, such as courage and duty and ethics and loyalty, those same attributes are key to our military Family Members," she noted.

Thompson said the department considers military Families an integral part of the force.

"We like to say that military Families serve, too," she said. "Because without the support ... that they provide the active-duty force and the reserve component force, it would be very difficult for service members to do their mission."

"I like to think that military Families are right there, throughout the greatest challenges as well as right there during the greatest triumphs of the service member," she continued.

### Military Families are your neighbors

The department can't be everything to everyone, she noted, "So we rely on the community assets where our service members and their Families live – whether the faith-based community or the school community."

Military Families in communities across America typically live, shop, go to school and worship with their neighbors. According to recent statistics from the Defense Manpower Data Center, 61 percent of all service members live in off-base housing, and 70 percent of married troops live off base.

"So that community needs to recognize the sacrifices that military Families make," Thompson said.

She noted that November is "the perfect month for them to reach out and thank our military Families for their sacrifice and what they do to support our nation."

"They have challenges such as caring for aging parents, they may have children with special needs, they relocate on a much more stringent schedule than their civilian counterparts, so children are changing schools and adapting to new environments," Thompson said. "And I think America at large needs to recognize that, and to reach out, and step up, and thank them for their service."



### WARRIOR CARE MONTH 2014 – Show of Strength

Each November, the military Services commemorate our sacred obligation and enduring commitment to wounded, ill and injured Service members and their Families and caregivers. These men and women have personally contributed to the strength of the force and the strength of our Nation. Their determination and resilience in recovery inspires us all.

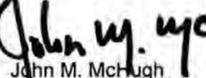
The theme for this year's Warrior Care Month observance is *Show of Strength*. Across the Army, there will be weekly subthemes observed to celebrate our commitment to the wounded, ill and injured Soldiers and their Families and caregivers. Subthemes include *Recovery, Reconditioning, Reintegration and Remaining Strong*.

The Army's Warrior Care and Transition Program (WCTP) supports wounded, ill and injured Soldiers and their Families throughout each phase of the recovery and transition process. At 25 Warrior Transition Units, Soldiers heal, hone vital skills and set and achieve goals across the career, emotional, spiritual, physical, social and Family spectrums. Demonstrating the resilient spirit of the Army, Soldiers emerge prepared to return to duty or to enter the workforce as Veterans. Since 2007, the WCTP has supported more than 62,000 Soldiers, with more than 28,000 of them returning to the force. Together, our Soldiers and our support teams continue to demonstrate the strength and teamwork of America's Army.

Warrior Care Month is an opportunity to honor the strength and resilience of these incredible Soldiers, Families and caregivers. As we support them throughout each phase of their recovery and transition, we also celebrate their accomplishments. Army Strong!

  
Raymond F. Chandler III  
Sergeant Major of the Army

  
Raymond T. Odierno  
General, United States Army  
Chief of Staff

  
John M. McHugh  
Secretary of the Army

## Fort Drum medical staff promotes National Lung Cancer Awareness Month

**Susan Mizgala, RN**

*Fort Drum MEDDAC*

Lung cancer claims more lives per year than any other cancer. Smoking is the leading risk factor in developing lung cancer. The risk of developing lung cancer increases with the number of years smoked and the number of cigarettes smoked.

Quitting smoking is the most important step a smoker can take to reduce the risk of developing lung cancer.

It is never too late to quit smoking. The body starts repairing itself immediately after a person quits smoking, and the risk of getting lung cancer declines over time.

Additional causes of lung cancer include exposure to radon, asbestos and other chemicals and/or a family history of lung cancer.

Radon is an invisible gas in the environment. Every home should be tested for radon. Asbestos is a type of mineral with microscopic fibers.

Additional information on radon and asbestos can be found by visiting [www.epa.gov](http://www.epa.gov).

Initially, lung cancer does not have symptoms. It can take years for symptoms to develop, and they usually appear when the cancer is advanced.

Signs and symptoms of lung

cancer may include a persistent cough, changes in a chronic cough, coughing up blood, shortness of breath, wheezing, chest pain, unexplained headaches or weight loss. If these symptoms are present, it is important to see a doctor right away so a full evaluation can be done to determine the cause of the symptoms.

It is believed that smoking causes lung cancer by damaging the cells that line the tissues of the lung. The cells repair the damage, but over time with repeated exposure to the carcinogens in cigarettes and cigars, it becomes too difficult to repair the cells.

More than 4,000 chemicals have been found in cigarettes. Many of the chemicals are carcinogenic, or cancer causing. Experts stress that despite not having symptoms, it is imperative to stop the habits that can lead to lung cancer.

There are different stages of lung cancer: Stages I, II, III and IV.

In Stage I, the cancer is limited to the lungs and has not affected the lymph nodes. The tumor is less than two inches. Stage II is considered if the tumor is larger than two inches and has affected nearby organs or tissue. It also may spread to the lymph nodes. In Stage III, it has invaded organs near the lungs and has spread to lymph nodes farther away from the lungs. In Stage IV, it has spread to the other

lung and other areas of the body distant from the lung.

Treatment ranges from removing small portions of the lung to removing the entire lung.

Other treatment options include chemotherapy, radiation therapy or targeted drug treatment. Clinical trials are ongoing and may be presented as an option if other treatment plans are not working.

Nov. 20 is the Great American Smokeout. The American Cancer Society encourages all smokers to make a quit plan on that date or to use that date for their quit date.

Picking a day to quit is one of the most important first steps to successful smoking cessation. Developing a plan to deal with known triggers is another important step. The plan should include finding a support system, which can include professional resources.

Fort Drum Army Public Health Nursing offers a tobacco cessation class on Thursdays at the Army Wellness Center. To schedule the next available class, contact us at 772-6404. After the class, participants can schedule an appointment with a provider to discuss tobacco cessation medication options.

Additional information is available by visiting the National Cancer Institute at [www.cancer.gov](http://www.cancer.gov) or the American Cancer Society at [www.cancer.org](http://www.cancer.org).

## Officials announce early-release, delayed-reporting procedures

Weather can be harsh in the North Country. Soldiers, Families and Civilian Employees should become familiar with the announcement procedures Fort Drum officials use in the event inclement weather forces delayed reporting or early dismissal for "nonemergency essential" personnel.

To determine whether they are "emergency essential" or "non-emergency essential," Soldiers and Civilian Employees should consult their supervisors.

The Public Affairs Office will make a delayed-start announce-

ment no later than 5 a.m.

The Fort Drum website ([www.drum.army.mil](http://www.drum.army.mil)) and 772-DRUM (3786) will be updated immediately. They offer the best sources for current information.

Except for emergency essential personnel, the following applies:

In the event of an announced post delay, employees will report the specific number of hours after their normal reporting time, but all employees must report to work no later than 10 a.m. Employees should report no sooner than the time specified above unless a specific reporting time is

announced or directed by their supervisor.

Following are sources where individuals can find delayed-start or early-release information.

**Telephone:**  
• 772-DRUM (3786)

**Websites:**  
• Fort Drum website ([www.drum.army.mil](http://www.drum.army.mil))  
• Facebook ([www.facebook.com/drum.10thmountain](http://www.facebook.com/drum.10thmountain))

FORT DRUM PUBLIC AFFAIRS OFFICE

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

# MILITARY FAMILY SUPPORT

NOVEMBER: MONTH OF THE MILITARY FAMILY



**We want to hear from you!**

**E-Mail**  
[Lisa.R.Albrecht.civ@mail.mil](mailto:Lisa.R.Albrecht.civ@mail.mil)  
**Phone**  
772-5469

**Fax**  
772-8295

**Submissions are due by noon Friday.**

# Mountaineer LEISURE

The Mountaineer, Fort Drum, N.Y. • Nov. 6, 2014

## Adventurous runners compete in Zombie 5K

Melody Everly  
Staff Writer

Hundreds of Soldiers, Family Members and Department of Army Civilians came out to participate in Better Opportunities for Single Soldiers' third annual Zombie 5K Run on Friday.

Navigating a winding course that led through the athletic fields and woods behind Magrath Gym, runners had the added challenge of having to dodge the undead that pursued them along the way.

Many of the runners dressed in costume for the event.

From superheroes to friends dressed as a hotdog and a banana, the runners were ready for a fun twist to their morning exercise routine.

More than 100 zombies lurked behind trees, fences and hay bales, waiting to try and grab the competitors' red flags as they ran by. Runners who made it through the course with at least one flag remaining were congratulated on "living" to tell their tale.

BOS program adviser Michelle Roden said that she and the staff were excited to host the event again, as it has been very well received by past competitors.

"It was originally a Soldier's idea, and one that a lot of people seemed to enjoy," she said. "We've made some changes to the course each year, to make it more challenging."

Roden said that the Zombie 5K offers an opportunity for Soldiers to celebrate Halloween while changing up their normal physical



Left, Runners evade a zombie as they navigate a course through the woods during Better Opportunities for Single Soldiers' third annual Zombie 5K Run held Friday at Fort Drum. Right, a group of ladies from Fort Drum's U.S. Army Medical Command teamed up to complete the run. From left are Janet Horton, Evalyne Hess and Laura Smith.



PHOTOS BY MELODY EVERLY

fitness routine.

Thanks to support from Family and Morale, Welfare and Recreation, the Directorate of Emergency Services and Public Works utilities staff, Roden said that this year's event was another huge success.

Sgt. Ruben Fernandez, of 710th Brigade Support Battalion, ran the course with his wife, Adriana. She said that the two have completed multiple obstacle courses and fun runs offered on Fort Drum, including the Color Run, which their 6-year-old son also participated in.

"We like to run races together," she said. "It's our way of bonding as a Family and also getting some exercise." □



Left, Spc. Jeremy Rumley and Spc. Bennet Frey, both of 1st Battalion, 87th Infantry Regiment, 1st Brigade Combat Team, strike a pose before the start of the Zombie 5K Run. Right, runners leap over a mountain of hay bales, one of many obstacles that they encountered during the event.



## North Country Spouses' Club announces upcoming events

Melody Everly  
Staff Writer

Members of the North Country Spouses' Club invite the public to get into the holiday spirit as they host two special events during the month of November. Each of these events will raise funds for local students and community outreach projects.

The club will host its 24rd Annual Craft and Antique Fair from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Nov. 16 at the Bruce M. Wright Memorial Conference Center, 1291 Faichney Drive, located between Arsenal and Coffee streets in Watertown, and easily accessible from Interstate 81.

"The Craft and Antique Fair is our largest annual fundraiser," said Mary Gauvin, publicity co-chair for the North Country

Spouses' Club. "As the weather grows colder, North Country residents are preparing for the holiday season. Mid-November is a great time to (get) into the holiday spirit."

Featuring more than 40 vendors, the event provides an opportunity for attendees to peruse a variety of unique goods, from handmade crafts, clothing and soaps, to spices and gourmet food items, housewares and much more.

Admission is \$3 per person, with children 12 and younger admitted

for free.

The NCSC 4th Annual Tree and Wreath Auction will be held at 6 p.m. Nov. 22 at the Commons. This event is intended for adults, and it will begin with a buffet dinner at 6:30 p.m. Menu items include chicken breast with rosemary butter sauce, stuffed steak pinwheels, browned butter maple-glazed green beans, and cinnamon apple-berry crisp for dessert. Vegetarian and vegan options are available upon request.

Following dinner, the live auction will begin. Proceeds from this service event will support Opera-

tion Homefront.

"Around 20 community businesses and units have made donations so far, and the window for contributing is still open," Gauvin said. "Trees and wreaths are pre-decorated (in) a large variety of themes."

The cost to attend is \$20 per person in advance or \$25 per person at the door. The deadline to RSVP for the event is Nov. 14, and reservations may be sent to NCSCReservations@gmail.com.

Attendees also are invited to bring unwrapped toys for children up to age 14, which will be distributed to children by the Operation Homefront staff.

Last year, the NCSC provided Fort Drum Family Members with more than \$19,000 in scholarships. Approximately \$1,600 in grant

money was distributed to local organizations such as 4H Camp Wabasso, Fort Drum Parent-to-Parent and the Carthage Free Library.

"At its heart, NCSC is an organization devoted to the community, and we love being able to provide grants and scholarships," Gauvin said. "These events allow us to showcase the talents of on-post and off-post organizations and at the same time support the North Country Spouses Club in their efforts ... to provide scholarships to (Soldiers and Family Members) currently serving at Fort Drum."

For more information about either of these events, email NCSC-craftfair@gmail.com, or visit the club's Facebook page at [www.facebook.com/northcountyspousesclub.com](http://www.facebook.com/northcountyspousesclub.com). □



### Celebrating fall



PHOTOS BY MELODY EVERLY

Students celebrated fall with a Harvest Parade at South Riva Ridge Child Development Center on Friday. Left, Natalie Winkler, Yazmin Serra and Jaylen Bishop wait for the parade to start. Middle, David Branscum shows off his costume. Right, Marissa Hunsaker, Child and Youth Services staff member Christina Scordo, Jayson Stewart, Urijah Basilio and Emma Langford enjoy the parade. After the parade, each child received a copy of "Hallowilloween," a collection of funny Halloween poems and stories, written by Calef Brown.

## Cultural Resources archeologist preserves pieces of North Country history

Michelle Kennedy

Staff Writer

Turning on a faucet for instant access to running water is an everyday convenience in the United States. Nearly 200 years ago – when James LeRay de Chaumont built his estate on what is now Fort Drum's South Post – it was a luxury amenity.

Duane Quates, an archeologist with Fort Drum's Directorate of Public Works Cultural Resources Program, and other Cultural Resources staff members have been working to preserve and document the items found on the property surrounding LeRay Mansion.

A native of Brewton, Ala., Quates earned a bachelor's degree from the University of West Florida and a master's degree and doctorate in anthropology from Michigan State University. He became interested in anthropology and history during his service and travel in the U.S. Navy.

Quates had been observing a construction project to fix some of the drainage issues on the historic site when workers recently unearthed several wooden water pipes. The pipes, which were about 10 to 12 feet long, were connected by wooden or copper plugs that fit inside the opening, according to Quates.

Making the wooden pipes in the early 1800s was a long and tedious process, Quates said.

"They burned out the center (of the log) and scooped out the center with a spoon auger," he explained. "They would sit there and turn it around in the burnt-out center of the log ... alternating burning and auguring until they got all the way through. It was a (time-consuming) process."

Workers have been finding wooden pipes on the LeRay property periodically throughout the last 10 to 20 years, according to Quates.

Some of the wooden pipes found on the property were original to the mansion, like the ones found in September. However, the ones found in October were installed later and were connected with copper fittings, Quates explained.

"There are round and square ones; the square ones were most likely produced in a mill in the later 19th century," he said. "The early ones are round and are basically hollowed-out logs – some of them still have bark on them."

The location of the pipes helps Cultural Resources staff understand the layout and drainage of the water system, and how the landscape was planned. In addition, it provides clues to how the LeRays planned the construction of infrastructure they put in place back in the 19th century, Quates explained.

"We think that originally, there was a pump house near the stream that's ... approximately 100 yards southeast of the mansion," he said. "We think that fed water into the basement. The house would've had a very rudimentary form of



PHOTOS BY MICHELLE KENNEDY

Duane Quates, an archeologist with Fort Drum's Directorate of Public Works Cultural Resources Program, kneels by one of the wooden water pipes found on the LeRay Mansion property. Quates and his team work to preserve historical items and uncover the mysteries of Fort Drum's past.

running water. It probably flowed into a basin or cistern."

The high water table around the property could be due to the old water system, which is why workers have been installing new water pipes recently. The high water table is most likely the reason why the untreated wooden pipes have stayed preserved over the years, Quates said.

"As long as it's submerged in water – and we have a high water table here – they preserve fairly well because they're in an anaerobic environment," he said. "The minute we pull them out of the ground, they'll start to decay slowly and start dry rotting."

The Cultural Resources staff decided to store some of the wooden pipes in the nearby LeRay Pond to try to preserve them, below a layer of silt and away from oxygenated water. Others have been stored in an old foundation west of the mansion. Although the ones that have been left outside in the elements have begun to decay over the years, they are still in pretty good shape, Quates noted.

While wooden water pipes were considered a luxury, they have been used for hundreds of years, he said. Wooden water pipes date back to 13th century London and were used a lot during the 18th and 19th centuries in the U.S.

### Solving mysteries

Water pipes are not the only things Cultural Resources staff members have found around the property. The organization has a collection of hand-blown glass

wine bottles near where the wine cellar used to be, as well as buttons, belt buckles, nails, ceramics and china, a barn and building foundations.

"We've found so much on the property," Quates said. "This place is a historic district and is located on the National Register of Historic Places."

"Back when I first started here, because my background is in historic archeology, I became immediately interested in the LeRay district ... and I wanted to try to find the original house," he continued.

The original LeRay Mansion, which was built in the early 1800s, burned down in 1822. Researchers are still unsure of where the original home was located; however, Quates and other staff members located an area in the wooded area on the property that could possibly be the location of the original mansion.

LeRay owned roughly 2,000 acres of land, 200 of which were designated for his personal use, Quates added. The property changed hands a few times before the Army acquired the land in 1941.

"I've been conducting some digs just north of here on the edge of the lawn, looking for the original house," he said. "We don't know if it was on the same location. We excavated all around here."

In 2009, workers dug along the side of the foundation to reinforce the basement wall.

"(During that time), we were able to monitor that and screen the dirt," Quates said. "There was no evidence of burning at the location."

Quates and his team located early 19th



Pieces of hand-blown glass wine bottles found on the LeRay Mansion property are stored at Cultural Resources.



Artifacts such as nails, china, buttons and glass that are found on the LeRay Mansion property are labeled and stored.

century artifacts in a site a short walk north of the home. In addition to the items, the team found six to eight inches of white ash, indicating that an extremely hot fire had taken place on that site.

"The unfortunate thing is we haven't found any foundation walls to indicate what it is," he said. "We have interesting techniques to determine clues as to what was there. In that area, the most telling part are the nails we found."

The team uses an imaging technique called LIDAR, which uses light radar, to scan the topography of the ground. During the review of the land, Quates noticed a depression in the wooded area. While it could have been a dumping area or a building that decayed and collapsed, he saw that it resembled a cellar.

"We knew we had an ash layer, but we can tell whether it was a dumping area by the nails," Quates explained. "If we have a majority of nails that are crimped – bent at a 90-degree angle – that indicates that the lumber was dumped."

However, most of the nails found on site are straight or curved.

"We found a few nails that were crimped, but not a lot," Quates said. "That indicates to me that there was a structure here."

Quates and his team have spent the last two years marking dig sites, where the team slowly removes dirt 10 centimeters at a time. He said he is hopeful that more mysteries will be solved regarding the historic LeRay property with the use of geophysical surveys and additional research. □



Historic LeRay Mansion, built by Frenchman James LeRay de Chaumont in the mid-1820s, is located on Fort Drum's South Post. The LeRay family property, which originally spanned 2,000 acres, eventually became the property of the U.S. Army in 1941. Researchers and archeologists from Fort Drum's Cultural Resources Program work to preserve history and collect artifacts found on the site.

# Mountaineer HAPPENINGS

The Mountaineer, Fort Drum, N.Y. • Nov. 6, 2014 • B5

## Calendar

### Friday

#### Veterans' Information Day:

9 a.m. to 3 p.m., WPBS building, 1056 Arsenal St., Watertown, hosted by Fort Drum Soldier and Family Assistance Center. This event will bring together representatives of federal, state and nonprofit organizations in one location to provide an opportunity for service members, veterans and their families to learn about benefits, entitlements and services available to them. Representatives from the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs and New York State Division of Veterans' Affairs will be present to help explain benefits and entitlements. Information will be available on traumatic brain injury and post-traumatic stress disorder, the program for Homeless Prevention and Rapid Re-Housing for Veterans. The VETS Peer to Peer Outreach Center will be represented. Anyone who has served in any branch of the U.S. armed forces on active duty for more than 180 days is considered a veteran and is eligible to receive benefits. Information: 772-0805.

### Wednesday

#### College tour:

9 to 11:30 a.m., hosted by Army Community Service. Looking to complete a degree or earn a certification? Take a tour of Jefferson Community College in Watertown. Those in attendance will take a tour of the campus with a student ambassador, learn about degree programs and obtain information on financial aid for military spouses. Information / registration: 772-5475.

#### Career Fair:

10 a.m. to 2 p.m., Commons, hosted by Soldier for Life: Transition Assistance Program. National and local corporate, agency and education / training representatives will be on hand to answer questions and discuss future professional opportunities with Soldiers and their spouses. The public is welcome, and no pre-registration is required. Information: 772-3434 / 3286.

### Nov. 13

#### Career Fair:

10 a.m. to 2 p.m., Commons, hosted by Soldier for Life: Transition Assistance Program. This event will focus exclusively on the health care profession. National and local corporate, agency and education / training representatives will be on hand to answer questions and discuss future professional opportunities with Soldiers and their spouses. Open to the public. Preregistration is not required. Information: 772-3434 / 3286.

#### BOSS Invades Atkins:

10 a.m., Atkins Functional Fitness Facility. Test your endurance and earn bragging rights at the monthly fitness challenge. The event is open to all DOD ID card holders 17 and older. There will be male and female categories. Information: 772-3377.

### Nov. 14

#### College open house:

10 a.m. to 3 p.m., Jefferson Community College, Watertown. Prospective students, parents and family members are invited to attend. Open house will convene in the Walker Instructional Dining Room, Jules Center (Bldg. 6). Participants may tour the campus, including a suite in the new residence hall, talk with faculty and academic program coordinators,

learn about financial services and attend a student panel presenting "A Day in the Life of a College Student." Representatives of the college admissions office, financial services office, athletics, student activities and student employment will be available to answer questions. A complimentary lunch will be provided. Lunch reservations are required; register online at [www.sunyjefferson.edu/openhouse](http://www.sunyjefferson.edu/openhouse). Information: 786-6567.

#### Ron White comedy show:

departs at 5 p.m. from Outdoor Recreation. Enjoy an adults-only trip to Turning Stone Resort and Casino to see comedian Ron White perform. Cost is \$100, which includes transportation and one-night hotel accommodations. Bus will leave Turning Stone at 1 p.m. Nov. 15. Information: 772-6169 / 8222.

### Nov. 15

#### 24th Annual Craft and Antique Fair:

10 a.m. to 4 p.m., Bruce M. Wright Conference Center, Watertown, hosted by the North Country Spouses Club, Fort Drum. Proceeds from the event will benefit the NCSA Scholarship Fund and provide community outreach grants to regional organizations. The event is open to the public. Admission will be \$3; those 12 and younger will be admitted free of charge.

### Nov. 17

#### Holiday stress management:

9 to 11 a.m., Army Community Service, hosted by the Family Advocacy Program. Don't let the holidays get the best of you! Learn tips and tricks to help avoid seasonal stress so you can enjoy the holidays. Information / registration: 772-5914.

### Nov. 19

#### Cooking demonstration:

1 to 3 p.m., Monument Ridge Community Center. Meet your neighbors and learn how to make money- and time-saving meals. Information / registration: 772-6553 / 6902.

### Nov. 20

#### Open house:

11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m., McEwen Library and Education Center, in celebration of American Education Week. Participants may speak with college representatives and vote for their favorite recipe in the chili challenge. Hot dogs and other refreshments will be served. This free event is open to all Soldiers, Family Members, veterans and DOD Civilians.

### Nov. 22

#### Tree and wreath auction:

6 p.m., Commons. Celebrate the season at the North Country Spouses Club's 4th annual Tree and Wreath Auction. The organization is currently accepting donated wreaths, trees and decorations. Information: email [NCSCFundraising@gmail.com](mailto:NCSCFundraising@gmail.com).

### Nov. 24

#### Holiday stress management:

9 to 11 a.m., Army Community Service, hosted by the Family Advocacy Program. Don't let the holidays get the best of you! Learn tips and tricks to help avoid seasonal stress so you can enjoy the holidays. Information / registration: 772-5914.

The Fort Drum Youth Center offers indoor reball / paintball at 5:15 p.m. Tuesday. This open play event is open to youths 10-18. Equipment will be provided. Players must attend the safety briefing at 5:15 p.m. in order to participate. Cost to play is \$10. Parent permission slip is required.

Prove your mettle and test your strength at the free BOSS Invades Atkins functional fitness competition from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Nov. 13 at Atkins Functional Fitness Facility. Participants will be judged in male or female categories. Those interested may register at AFFF or the Jack T. Sweet or Nash Boulevard BOSS Centers. The event is open to all DOD ID card holders 17 and older. For more information, call BOSS at 772-7807 or AFFF at 772-3377.

Fort Drum's Directorate of Family and Morale, Welfare and Recreation has an easy-to-use calendar of events on its webpage. For more resources to stay informed about what is happening on post with FMWR, visit [www.drummwr.com](http://www.drummwr.com).

#### Army Community Service

The Relocation Readiness Program now offers craft classes every Monday and Thursday. Join the program on Mondays for one of two sewing classes. The first class meets from 9 to 11 a.m. for beginners, and from 1 to 3 p.m. for those with more sewing experience. Join the quilting group from 1 to 3 p.m. Thursdays at Monument Ridge Community Center. For more information, call 772-6566.

New members of the post community can learn about Fort Drum and the surrounding area in two ways:

•The Newcomer's Get Together provides each attendee with a welcome packet and a briefing about available resources both on and off the installation. Orientations are offered from 9:30 a.m. to noon on the first Monday of each month at Army Community Service. No registration is necessary.

•The Welcome Tour offers a narrated van tour from 9:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. most Tuesdays. Participants will be taken on a windshield tour of Fort Drum and the surrounding community where they will be shown all they need to know to help them make Fort Drum and the North Country home. Sites include medical and educational facilities, recreation, entertainment and shopping opportunities, and much more. For more information, call 772-6566.

The First Term Financial Briefing is held from 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. every Wednesday. This class is mandatory for Soldiers in the rank of private to sergeant who are new to the military. The class offers the basics of financial planning and offers education on Thrift Savings Plan, car buying and maintaining basic financial stability. Spouses are welcome to attend. For more information, call 772-5196.

Officers, warrant officers and non-commissioned officers are authorized to submit Army Emergency Relief financial assistance requests directly to Fort Drum AER. Soldiers in the rank of specialist and below are required to complete the AER application through their company commander or first sergeant. AER provides no-interest loans and grants for emergency travel, initial rent deposits and vehicle repairs. It also can assist Soldiers with financial needs for household and appliance repair, dependent dental care and initial home furnishings. For information, call AER at 772-6560.

The Exceptional Family Member Program offers a free playgroup from 10 to 11:30 a.m. every Wednesday for children 6 months to 5 years at the Soldier and Family Assistance Center, 11042 Mount Belvedere Blvd. For more information, call 772-5475.

English for Speakers of Other Languages class meets from 9 a.m. to noon every Tuesday and Thursday from September to December and January to June at Army Community Service. DOD ID card holders who wish to enhance their English language skills are welcome. To sign up, contact BOCES at 779-7220.

If you plan to leave Fort Drum soon, the stateside permanent-change-of-station briefing takes place from 3:30 to 4 p.m. every Tuesday and Thursday at Clark Hall. An Overseas PCS briefing takes place monthly; call the Relocation Program at ACS at 772-6902.

Family Advocacy Program offers parenting and relationship classes throughout the month. Classes in-

## Activities

clude Infant Massage, Scream Free Parenting, Blended Families, Internet Safety for Teens, Building Healthy Relationships, Scream Free Marriage and much more. For information, call 772-5914.

Cope with Hope, a support group for Families of fallen Soldiers, meets from 10:30 a.m. to noon every Wednesday. For details, call 772-6357.

To report sexual assault, call 772-5914. Confidentiality is guaranteed. A 24-hour helpline is available at 767-6128.

#### Child, Youth and School Services

Access your child care account online at [www.drummwr.com](http://www.drummwr.com).

CYSS SKIES Unlimited offers classes in tae kwon do, tumbling, babysitting and sewing. Hours of operation are 11:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. For information, call 772-0629.

Free child care may be provided for Families of a Soldier who is deployed, a member of a rear detachment, a wounded warrior, a fallen warrior, or on temporary duty, temporary change of station, permanent change of station (unaccompanied tour) that qualify for special child care options under the Army Family Covenant. For more information, contact CYSS Outreach Program at 772-3677 / 8672.

Family Child Care Homes is accepting applications for child care providers. Earn money while working from home. No experience is required. Free training will be provided. For more information, call 772-6716.

#### Youth Center:

Visit [www.drummwr.com](http://www.drummwr.com) and click on Child, Youth and School Services for a list of Fort Drum Youth Center trips and events.

Parent and youth orientations are required of all members within 30 days of member registration. For more information and to schedule an orientation session, call the Youth Center at 772-6719.

The Youth Center is open to youths in grades 6-12 on weekdays after school, at noon Saturdays and when school is not in session. Free snacks are offered. Membership is free.

#### Youth Sports and Fitness:

Call or visit the CYSS Youth Sports Office to sign your child up for a team. For registration requirements, fees or more information, call 772-6718.

Volunteer coaches and referees are needed. Coaches receive their first child's sports enrollment free and get 50 percent off for second and third children. For details, call 772-6718.

The staff is looking for teens who are interested in volunteering to assist with coaching, scorekeeping and officiating.

#### Community Operations

##### Division

##### Pine Plains Bowling Center:

Hours at Pine Plains Bowling Center are as follows: 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Wednesday, 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. and 5 to 8 p.m. Thursday, 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. and 5 to 10 p.m. Friday, and 4 to 10 p.m. Saturday. The facility will be closed Sunday, Monday and Tuesday.

The Snack Bar is closed until further notice.

##### The Commons:

Family Nights have returned to the Commons. Each Wednesday from 5 to 7 p.m., Families can participate in a different themed activity followed by a buffet dinner. The cost is \$7 for adults and \$4 for children 8 and younger. For more information, call 772-6222.

Buster's Brew Pub invites you to enjoy lunch from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Monday through Friday. Dinner specials at Buster's Brew Pub include Wednesday's rack of ribs special, Thursday's prime rib and Friday's steak specials. A pasta special also is available. Dinner is served from 5 to 9 p.m. Wednesday through Friday, with bar service offered from 4 to 10 p.m.

#### Community Recreation

##### Division

##### Automotive Skills Center:

The Automotive Skills Center has a Self Help Center for ID card holders who wish to work on vehicles. The Self Help Center is open from noon to 5:30 p.m. Tuesday through Friday and from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday. An orientation class is required to use this facility. Classes meet at noon and 5 p.m. Tuesday through Friday.

Automotive Skills Center offers towing, jump starts, lockout and propane services.

#### BOSS:

Better Opportunities for Single Soldiers Facility on Nash Boulevard is open from 11 a.m. to 7 p.m. Wednesday through Sunday. The BOSS Facility in the Jack T. Sweet Complex is open from 11 a.m. to 7 p.m. Wednesday through Sunday.

BOSS has gaming stations connected to big-screen TVs and the latest video games. BOSS accepts requests for games; ask at the front desk. In the game room, BOSS offers pool and air hockey, along with arcade games.

BOSS offers wireless Internet for laptop owners, or patrons may use one of the many computer stations available.

#### Fitness Facilities:

Fort Drum's fitness centers offer state-of-the-art facilities to support mission readiness and health of the community's mind and body. For more information, call Atkins Functional Fitness Facility at 772-3377, Magrath Sports Complex at 772-9670 or Monti Physical Fitness Center at 772-4936.

The Atkins Functional Fitness Facility offers Gracie Defense System self-defense classes on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 7 to 8 a.m. for active-duty Soldiers and from 9 to 10 a.m. for Family Members. Classes are open to both men and women. For more information, call 772-3377.

Units may sign up for special aquatics training for PT, held at Monti Physical Fitness Center. For more information, call 772-4807.

#### Intramural Sports:

Sign up for fitness, athletic and aquatics sporting events through the Intramural Sports Division Office at Magrath Sports Complex. Tournaments are open to active-duty military members assigned or attached to Fort Drum, Family Members 19 and older with valid military ID, and DOD Civilians employed on Fort Drum. Rosters are due in advance; for deadlines, call 772-6663. For information, visit [www.drummwr.com](http://www.drummwr.com).

#### McEwen Library:

Digital and eBooks can now be "borrowed" from the McEwen Library! Patrons can access the Army / Digital Media Library through their AKO accounts. Click "Self Service" then "My Library." There, patrons may select "Read" or "Listen to a Book." The eBook and audio book resource page will allow patrons to load books onto their eReader or tablets.

McEwen Library offers online research tools. The eResources / Research Tools can be accessed at [http://mylibraryus.fmwr.net/screens~\\$24/resources2.html](http://mylibraryus.fmwr.net/screens~$24/resources2.html) on the library's card catalog. All patrons have to do to access the resources is sign up for a McEwen Library account.

Fax and copy services are available. Prices are based on a per-page rate: faxes, \$1; international faxes, \$2; photocopies, 10 cents; computer copies, 5 cents.

Story time for toddlers takes place at 10 a.m. every Tuesday and Friday at McEwen Library. Parents are asked to stay with children. Anyone interested in volunteering to read to children may call 772-6005.

#### Outdoor Recreation:

Hours at Outdoor Recreation are as follows: from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Tuesday through Thursday, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Friday, and 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday. Outdoor Recreation is closed on Sundays and holidays.

Remington Park is now closed for the season. The park will reopen May 1.

Recreational shooting is available from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. at Range 21 on Saturday, Sunday, holidays and "days of no scheduled activity." To sign in, call 772-5169.

Outdoor Recreation has rental equipment - everything from campers to boats to popcorn makers - to make parties and special events more fun. For details, call 772-5169.

#### Warrior Adventure Quest:

Warrior Adventure Quest offers a skeet and archery range, paintball range, GPS units and maps for geocaching or orienteering, and guided hunting and fishing trips. Equipment is available for rent. For more information or to plan a trip, call 772-4010.

# At the Movies



Playing at 6 Reel Time, Bldg. 10725, North Riva Ridge

#### Friday

The Judge (R) - 7 p.m.

#### Saturday

The Good Lie (PG-13) - 2 p.m.

The Judge (R) - 7 p.m.

#### Sunday

The Good Lie (PG-13) - 2 p.m.

Admission is \$5.50 for adults; \$3 for children 6-11; free for children 5 and younger. Add \$2 for 3D movies. For complete movie information, call 772-5571.