

May changes [as of 6/6]	
C FUND	- 0.88 percent
I FUND	- 0.20 percent
S FUND	- 0.77 percent



Keep moving ...

The General Frank S. Besson, Jr., [LSV 1], a Logistics Support Vessel from Fort Eustis, Va., arrived at South Dock Tuesday to deliver 27 military tactical vehicles to support cadet summer training and Beast barracks. Sixty Fort Eustis personnel also will be here for the summer to aid in transporting the cadets to Camp Buckner and the various ranges here.

KATHY EASTWOOD/PV

Army intros new 2-year enlistment bonuses, raises 3-year bonus

By U.S. Army Recruiting Command

FORT KNOX, Ky. [Army News Service] -- The U.S. Army Recruiting Command introduced two new enlistment incentives May 30.

A bonus of up to \$51,864 is available to recruits signing up for a two-year enlistment in more than 45 active-Army military occupational specialties.

A maximum combined bonus

for a three-year enlistment was also raised to \$25,000 for some MOSs.

The previous maximum amount for a three-year enlistment was \$10,000, or \$20,000 for a limited number of priority MOSs.

Qualified recruits who enlist for two years plus training are eligible for an enlistment bonus of up to \$15,000, which can be combined with the Montgomery GI Bill and Army College Fund of \$36,864.

These incentives are available

to qualified recruits who enlist in one of more than 45 job specialties, including fire support specialist [13F], signal support systems specialist [25U], petroleum supply specialist [92F], pharmacy specialist [68Q] and health-care specialist [68W].

Payment of bonuses for which recruits qualify begins after completion of basic combat and advanced individual training.

For more information go to www.goarmy.com.

New scam targets military spouses

WASHINGTON, D.C. [American Forces Press Service] -- The American Red Cross is warning military spouses about a new identity-theft scam that targets family members of deployed troops.

The Red Cross was alerted to the scam in early May, Devorah Goldberg of the Red Cross said.

The scam involves a person with an American accent calling a military spouse, identifying herself as a representative of the Red Cross, and telling the spouse that her husband was hurt in Iraq and was medically evacuated to Germany. The caller then says that doctors can't start treatment until paperwork is completed, and that to start the paperwork they need the spouse to verify her husband's social security number and date of birth.

It is hard to determine how many spouses have been targeted by this scam, Goldberg said, as there are many ways for spouses to report problems like this. However, one confirmed report was enough for the Red Cross to act, she said.

"We know that it happened to one person; it was probably going to happen to others, and we wanted to be prudent and alert people," she said.

American Red Cross representatives typically do not

contact military members or dependents directly and almost always go through a commander or first sergeant, according to a Red Cross news release. Military family members are urged not to give out any personal information over the phone if contacted by unknown individuals, including confirmation that their spouse is deployed.

In addition, Red Cross representatives contact military members or dependents directly only in response to an emergency message initiated by a family member, the news release said. The Red Cross does not report any type of casualty information to family members; the Defense Department will contact families directly about family members' injuries.

It is a federal crime, punishable by up to five years in prison, for a person to fraudulently pretend to be a member of, or an agent for, the American Red Cross for the purpose of soliciting, collecting, or receiving money or material, according to the news release. Any military family member that receives such a call is urged to report it to their local family readiness group or military personnel flight.

INSIDE



SOLDIER APPRECIATION DAY, pages 6-7

Future Events

1/1 Redesignation ceremony
Tues., 3 p.m., Trophy Point

Deb Zedalis departure & appointment ceremony
Wed., 1 p.m., Trophy Point

Army Birthday celebration
Thurs., Noon, West Point Club

'Thank you' to a good Samaritan

**Commentary by
Carol McQuinn
Human Resources
Director, CPAC**

On a day to day basis, I receive a variety of correspondence from employees, supervisors, applicants and other Human Resources staff. This week I had the pleasure of receiving a note from Linda Suarez, of Cornwall, N.Y., regarding one of our civilian employees.

This employee provided tremendous assistance to her when she had an accident May 9 on Route 9W. Linda asked me to try to identify the employee and pass on her sincere gratitude. The employee stayed with her until Suarez was placed in the ambulance.

I don't know who this civilian employee is, but hope that you are reading this article. You set a fine example of selfless service and personal courage by your actions and serve as a model for all of us.

The following is the letter sent to me by Suarez.

Dear Ms. McQuinn,

On Wednesday, May 9, late in the afternoon, I was involved in an auto accident on Route 9W north in Highland Falls, just past the scenic overlook for West Point. My car

ended upside down when it finally came to a stop.

Several people were most helpful. However, there was a woman who works at West Point as a civilian who went over and above. I can not remember her name though I asked her at least 20 times. I do remember that she

resides in Wallkill or could it be Walden? She was on her way home from work.

I was hoping that you might be able to locate this woman and thank her for me. I was upset, hurt and scared. She never left my side until I was placed in the ambulance.

Surprisingly, I did not break

anything. I suffered major sprains in my chest and I am still home healing [as of May 24]. I hope that you can figure out who she is and pass on my sincere gratitude and that of my family.

Sincerely,

Linda Suarez

Delivery problems?

For PV home delivery problems contact Valerie Mullane at the Poughkeepsie Journal at (845) 437-4730 or by e-mail at vmullane@poughkeepsiejournal.com.

SAPR-P

The members of the Sexual Assault Prevention and Response Program are Col. Jeanette McMahon, Shelley Ariosto [Garrison], Maj. Samantha Ross [USCC], Maj. Kim Kawamoto [ODIA] and Lt. Col. Robbie Williams [Dean]. Community members can e-mail McMahon at Jeanette.McMahon@usma.edu for advice or to offer any recommendations on the program here.

Cadets can also call the sexual assault support helpline at [845] 591-7215.

West Point Soldiers and civilians needing assistance can call [845] 938-3369.

Weekly Sudoku by Chris Okasaki, D/EECS

		1	8					7
7				6				9
				3	9		1	
	7				1			
8		6				9		5
			2				8	
	9		5	1				
3				4				8
1					7	4		

Rules: Fill in the empty cells with the digits 1-9 so that no digit appears twice in the same row, column, or 3-by-3 box.

Difficulty: Medium

See Solution on Page 11

POINTER VIEW®

Lt. Gen.
Franklin L. Hagenbeck,
Superintendent

Lt. Col. **Kent P. Cassella,**
Director, Public Affairs

Irene D. Brown
Chief, Command Info.
938-8366

Linda Mastin
Editor, 938-2015
Jim Fox
Asst. Editor, 938-8365
Eric S. Bartelt
Sports Editor, 938-3883
Kathy Eastwood
Staff Writer, 938-3684



This civilian enterprise newspaper is an authorized publication for members of the U.S. Government, the Department of Defense, the U.S. Army, USMA or West Point.

The appearance of advertising in this publication, including inserts and supplements, does not constitute endorsement by the Department of Defense or the United States Military Academy of the firms, products or services advertised.

The Pointer View® is an unofficial publication authorized by AR 360-1. Editorial content is prepared, edited and provided by the Public Affairs Office of USMA.

The Pointer View® is printed by the Poughkeepsie Journal, a private firm in no way connected with the Department of the Army, under exclusive contract with USMA. The views and opinions expressed herein are not necessarily those of the USMA or the Army.

The Pointer View® is published weekly by the USMA Public Affairs Office, Bldg. 600, West Point, N.Y. 10996 (845) 938-2015

Printed weekly by the
Poughkeepsie Journal
85 Civic Center Plaza
PO Box 1231
Poughkeepsie, N.Y. 12602
POUGHKEEPSIEJOURNAL.COM

For information, call
(845) 437-4789

Everything advertised in this publication shall be made available for purchase, use, or patronage without regard to race, color, religion, sex, national origin, age, marital status, physical handicap, political affiliation, or any other nonmerit factor of the purchaser, user, or patron. A confirmed violation or rejection of this policy of equal opportunity by an advertiser will result in the refusal to print advertising from that source.

Local and National News

IMCOM accepts applications for mentoring program

By Mary Tanzer
IMCOM

ARLINGTON, Va. [Army News Service] -- The U.S. Army Installation Management Command is accepting applications through Monday for the fiscal 2008 Centralized Mentoring Program.

Employees who are GS-11 through GS-13, or equivalents, and are covered by the National Security Personnel System, may apply to be matched with senior leaders for a one-year mentoring partnership.

Participants complete a one-week shadow assignment, stretch assignments, eLearning courses and have regular meetings with their mentors.

The Mentoring Program is designed to develop high-potential employees into well-rounded managers at the middle or senior level by preparing them to assume higher levels of responsibility. Headquarters IMCOM centrally funds the program.

Senior leader volunteer mentors also are being solicited and will be matched with selected participants.

Applications require supervisors' approval, and garrison applicants require endorsement from the garrison commander or manager or the deputy garrison commander.

Region applicants require an endorsement from the region director or designee. Applicants at

Headquarters IMCOM must obtain their supervisors' and division chiefs' approval.

Announcements and application forms are available at www.imcom.army.mil/site/hr/wfdhcmp.asp.

Send applications by mail or e-mail to the IMCOM mentoring program manager, Mary Tanzer.

For more info., call Tanzer at [703] 602-5487 or DSN 332-5487 or e-mail Mary.Tanzer@hqda.army.mil.

Applicants selected for the program will attend a two-day orientation in October.

[**Editor's Note:** Tanzer is the program manager for the Installation Management Command's Mentorship Program.]

Cent. Mentoring Program
[703] 602-5487

NCO/Soldier of the Year winners move onward

Story and photo by
Eric S. Bartelt
Sports Editor

Two Soldiers from West Point are taking the boards by storm and are moving onward after taking the Noncommissioned Officer and Soldier of the Year honors at the U.S. Army Garrison and Northeast Region competition May 20-25 at Fort A.P. Hill, Va.

Sergeant Christopher Corbett and Spc. Jacob Alonzo, both assigned to 1st Battalion, 1st Infantry Regiment's Military Police Company 2nd Platoon, took the NCO and Soldier of the Year honors, respectively, at the North East Region competition.

The next stop for these two will be competing at the U.S. Army Installation Management Command's board competition July 15-20, also at Fort A.P. Hill, where they will face winners from the other IMCOM regions. The winner of the overall IMCOM competition will go on to compete at the Department of the Army competition come September in Washington, D.C.

In the meantime, Corbett and Alonzo are both seizing the moment and reflecting positively on their most recent experience at the NE Region competition.

"It means a heck of a lot [to win]," Corbett said. "I thought it took more than what I could give to go do it, but I found out that I could do it as well as anybody."

The Colorado native has been serving the Army for four years and came to West Point from Fort Bragg, N.C., where he served with 1st Battalion, 505th Parachute Infantry Regiment.

During his time at Fort Bragg, Corbett deployed to Afghanistan from September to November 2004 and took part in a special time in that country's history.

"I deployed to Afghanistan for their first democratic elections," Corbett explained. "We delivered the ballots and provided security and patrols to keep things stable. It was a special thing to be a part of. It was great to help them out."

The infantryman, who now serves with the Honor Guard, has made a big impression on his fellow sergeants who knew he would be very successful at the board competitions.

"Sgt. Corbett is always motivated," said Staff Sgt. Jason



Specialist Jacob Alonzo and Sgt. Christopher Corbett.

Kirk, Platoon Sergeant for 2nd Platoon. "He always takes the initiative and will always do the right thing."

Corbett, who only had nine days to prepare for the NE Region competition following his previous board, felt strongly about his ability to succeed despite the turnaround from the preceding board.

"I would have preferred to have a little more time to prepare," Corbett said, "but being in the infantry, I'm used to [fragmentary orders] where to do the mission you have to hit the ground running. Either way, I was going to hit it hard."

Corbett was appreciative of Kirk, Sgt. Luis Salamemora and his wife, Kia's, help to prepare him for the competitions that included a board, the Army Physical Fitness Test, a day/night navigation course and weapons qualification.

He didn't go to his first board until November when he went to the promotion board, but he's been building his confidence up with each proceeding competition.

"I may not be the fastest runner, strongest or smartest guy, but I'll be the guy who won't quit on

you," Corbett stated. "I didn't go in expecting to win, but I expect to do my best and give my all and not quit."

Alonzo, a California native, has spent three years in the Army. He is a tanker, who now serves on the Pallbearer team for the Honor Guard.

He was stationed at Fort Irwin, Calif., prior to West Point and only a short four months after he went to his first unit he was serving in Iraq.

After serving in Iraq, you would think he would have nerves of steel when it comes to the boards. However, he will say that it does make him really nervous.

"I've been nervous every single time I've gone to the board. It's a matter of nerves," Alonzo explained. "I know the questions, but sometimes I'll freeze and everything will go blank. But, as soon as I get relaxed and back into it, everything starts coming back to me."

Alonzo is grateful to Staff Sgt. Michael Norton and Sgt. Daniel Murphy for giving a bit of their time to be a part of his success.

"Sgt. Murphy was there with

me the whole way and kept me going when I felt like I didn't want to do it, especially when I was negative," Alonzo said. "He just kept pushing me."

He talks about getting better at his PT score, which he has with every competition [including the Soldier of the Quarter and Soldier of the Year competitions at West Point]. Also, despite his nerves, he does see himself getting much better with every competition mainly due to the board process here.

"The board here is great training because everyone is very serious," Alonzo said. "At the Northeast Region competition, I met all the sergeant majors and they were really relaxed, and that helped me out a lot."

Kirk has sensed a big, positive difference in Alonzo's demeanor

since he began taking part in the board competitions.

"Alonzo has the potential to do everything that Sgt. Corbett is doing, but I think he needed a little push because he didn't have the confidence to do it," Kirk said. "Sending him to the boards has helped him tremendously. He stands taller and is more proud of himself. You can tell by the way he talks and walks."

Alonzo would also agree with Kirk's assessment, and is happy to represent his company, but most of all, himself at these competitions.

"Every time I win it feels really good and I just want to win more," Alonzo stated. "Two months ago, I would have never thought I could do this, so I [win] for myself. But, doing it for the company is just a bonus. [Now] everyone looks at me and goes 'Wow.' It feels good to win."

Community Features and Photos

Deployments hard on Families -- battle buddies, FRGs help

Story and photo by
Eric S. Bartelt
Sports Editor

Transformation has been a 'buzz' word in the Army in recent years as the scope of its weapons and Soldier staffing structure are trimming down to a more lightning-quick, mobile force.



Major Tom Bryant [top left], and his wife Erin, son Thomas and daughter Sarah Grace.

Transformation can also be a 'buzz' word for Army Families and Soldiers as they deal with the constant pressures of deployments and the strain that comes with the unprecedented movement of the all-volunteer force since 9/11.

Major Tom Bryant, executive officer in the Public Affairs Office here, knows all too well how his life in the military has changed.

The Grand Bay, Ala., native has served for more than 14 years in the Army, the first nine as an Infantry officer and the last five-plus as a Public Affairs officer.

Since 9/11, Bryant has had three deployments -- the first in Dec. 2001 to Afghanistan to support the Coalition Forces Land Component Command [CFLCC].

"I was part of Task Force Bagram and initially supported the special operations element there along with an element of 10th Mountain Division guys who were there for security," Bryant said. "Then 10th Mountain rolled in, in mass, right in front of Operation Anaconda, so we shut down and Division Public Affairs took over at that point."

His first deployment lasted six months and so would his next deployment to Iraq, which involved the invasion

of the country. He deployed to OIF I from January to July 2003, as the media officer for V Corps, which is headquartered in Germany.

"We oversaw an entire media embed program where hundreds of journalists were put into units from all over the world," Bryant said. "As the war went on after the invasion, I continued to work with that aspect of the job."

The third deployment he faced lasted a full year from August 2005 to August 2006, when he served as the Brigade Public Affairs Officer for 3rd Brigade [the Rakassans] of the 101st Airborne Division in Iraq.

His deployment time has added up to two years away from home, but one of the more satisfying aspects of his job is working with Soldiers.

"I love what I do [as a Public Affairs Officer], but being around Soldiers is what keeps you in the Army," Bryant explained. "They are special people and that's my motivation on a daily basis -- to know I'm going in to serve them and be a part of their team."

In a deployed environment, Bryant stated, working with

Soldiers and seeing them rise to the occasion day after day in dire conditions to get the job done is "inspiring." Another aspect that is rewarding is communicating with and aiding the local people in Afghanistan or Iraq, especially the children whose lives are made better by the Soldiers' presence.

"They know we're there to do the right thing to make their lives better," Bryant said. "It's seeing the looks of appreciation on their faces that makes it such a big deal."

Deployments, no matter if it's the first or the third departure away from home, can be draining for many reasons, but two of the most common causes are death and missing the family.

With IEDs and the constant barrage of terrorist-like actions, it's tough to make it through a deployment without losing a number of Soldiers in a division-sized element. And, it doesn't matter if it's someone you know personally or someone from another unit nearby, every loss hits deep within every Soldier's soul.

"When we lose a member of the team," Bryant said, "every time that

happens it's tragic. It's a member of your family that you've lost. That's tough to work through because you've got to keep going."

Keeping going means doing it without the constant support of your Family or at least in a way that Soldiers normally would have when stationed stateside.

"The toughest part of a deployment is being away from your wife and children," Bryant explained, "because no matter how great the day was that you had, and you have some great days, but no matter how great the day was, at the end of it you're still not with your wife and kids.

"There's a bit of a hole there and an emptiness that's always there," he added. "You deal with it and drive on, but it is one of the tougher aspects of deployments."

The toughest people in Bryant's life are his wife, Erin, who he met at the University of Alabama and has been married to for 11 years, and their two children, Sarah Grace [8] and Thomas [7].

"My wife is without a doubt the strongest person I know," Bryant

See FAMILY on page 8



The USMA Military Police Company battle their rivals MEDDAC in a game of tug of war.



Sgt. Jacob Akers uses Pfc. Mark Gonzales, both of MEDDAC, as a wheelbarrow during a race at Soldiers Appreciation Day.



Pfc. Linda Breski of MEDDAC churns out strokes in the swimming portion of the Iron Guardian event. Breski was named the 1/1 female athlete of the year for her efforts during the intramural seasons.

Soldiers Appreciation Day activities

Story and photos by Kathy Eastwood Staff Writer

The primary mission of the U.S. Military Academy is to educate and train young men and women to become leaders of character. In the background are the enlisted men and women who protect the neighborhoods, guide cadets in gaining leadership abilities, provide new officers on-the-job training and in turn, provide a valuable link between the Soldier and the commissioned officer.

The USMA Soldiers and their Families were honored on a perfect day in the sun May 31 at Camp Buckner with the annual Soldiers Appreciation Day, a day set aside to honor our Soldiers and to let them know they are appreciated

-- a day that gave Soldiers a break from work and the chance to have fun, goof off and partake in friendly competitions.

"I think this is wonderful," said Spc. Tanya Davila of Headquarters and Headquarters Company, who recently relocated from Fort Bragg, N.C. "I think this could be done every quarter just to break up the monotony of our day by day activities."

The Military Police, MEDDAC and HHC participated in a tug-o-war event, sack races, a water balloon toss, wheelbarrow races and Iron Guardian competitions. Some attendees decided to enjoy quieter activities such as fishing or getting a group together for row boating. One group who decided to go for a quiet row boat ride were somewhat surprised when their

comrades decided to swim out and tip them over, dunking all six in Lake Popolopen.

"It's great to get out," said Sgt. 1st Class Deon Dabrio, Clinical Services at MEDDAC. "I've been in the Army for 21 years and this kind of event is great. It is always fun to watch the competitiveness of the Soldiers."

Soldiers competed for the Guardian awards given at the end of the event.

MEDDAC took revenge from last year's event by receiving the Guardian Award and the Superintendent's Trophy.

MEDDAC also was victorious in the male and female athlete of the year. Sgt. 1st Class Richard Phillips received the men's award and Pfc. Linda Breski was the female honoree.

The award for athlete of the year is based on how many intramural sporting events the recipients participate in during the year.

Children's activities were also part of the program with a piñata, created by Martha Hinote of the Directorate of Public Works. Children were competing by attempting to break the piñata to gather the 'surprise' of candy inside. Children also offered their services.

One youth, five-year-old Kasen Nevels, helped with the raffle prizes by reaching in a bowl for the winning raffle tickets.

There was plenty of soda, hot dogs, fruit salad and hamburgers cooked on outdoor grills and prizes for raffles thanks to sponsors such as the West Point Club, USAA, DUSA, Coca Cola and the Hudson Valley Renegades.



MEDDAC was awarded the Superintendent's Trophy. Sgt. 1st Class Richard Phillips, [with the hat] was also named the 1/1 male athlete of the year.



MEDDAC beats the MP's in the Tug of War.



MEDDAC's Sgt. 1st Class Deon Dabrio [left] and Sgt. Jacob Ackers hop it out in the sack race. Dabrio said events like SAD are great.



An unlucky balloon-toss participant is about to cool off significantly.



MEDDAC [left] battles it out with a mixed unit of Soldiers during the water-filled balloon toss event.



Five-year-old Kasen Nevels try's to break a piñata filled with candy.

What's Happening

Arvin CPDC hours change

The Arvin Cadet Physical Development Center will close at 4 p.m. Saturday due to a staff function.

ACPDC will be open beginning at 8 a.m. that day.

Boy Scout Yard Sale

Boy Scout Troop 118 of Cornwall, N.Y., will be holding their annual Yard Sale Saturday at the Bethlehem Presbyterian Church on Route 94 and Jackson Avenue.

This event is one of the Troop's main fundraisers. Come find some treasures at reasonable prices or rent your own space.

For more information or to reserve a space, call chairperson Michelle Goldfrank at 534-8054.

The event will be held rain or

shine from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Cannon practice

The USMA Honor Guard will have a live fire cannon practice Thursday from 1 to 2 p.m. at North Athletic Field in preparation for the Independence Day Concert July 7 at Trophy Point.

Commissary expands Sunday hours

The West Point Commissary has expanded its Sunday hours to 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. for a three-month trial period.

Fort Putnam open this summer

Historic Fort Putnam will be open throughout the summer on Fri., Sat. and Sun. from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m.

PWOC

Summer playground fun sponsored by the Protestant Women of the Chapel begins Wed. at the Five-Star playground [on post].

Everyone is welcome. We will meet from 9:30 to 11 a.m.

Look for the balloons and bring water and sunblock for your child.

West Point show on HDNet

The premier show of *Dan Rather Reports* a one-hour primetime special on West Point airs Tues. at 8 p.m. [EST] on HDNet.

The show will feature how West Point continues to prepare the Army's next generation of leaders for the challenges of the current wars in Iraq and Afghanistan as well as emerging threats.

Check the Web site at www.hd.net/danrather.html for more information.

Upcoming Triathlons

The 3rd annual Kid's Triathlon is Aug. 18 and the 18th Annual

West Point Triathlon is Aug. 19 at Camp Buckner. Register for both at active.com.

DPW Notes

Stony Lonesome road reconstruction

Beginning Monday through approximately Aug. 15, a Directorate of Public Works contractor will be repaving Stony Lonesome Road from the Mills Road intersection, in the vicinity of Lusk Reservoir to the intersection with Washington Road.

This project will consist of milling and paving of the existing roadway; replacing catch basins street light bases and conduits; as well as, replacing curbs and sidewalks.

All sidewalks along Stony Lonesome Road in the construction area will be closed to pedestrian traffic for the work period. Sections

of the sidewalk will be opened as soon as possible. The roadway will be open, but will be one-way with a flag person during normal duty hours.

On Reception-Day, [July 2], all lanes will be open for traffic and the sidewalk will be open from the Mills Road intersection to the Cadet Chapel.

Signs at the Cadet Chapel will direct pedestrians down DeRussy Loop through the Arvin Cadet Physical Development Center Parking Lot.

All personnel should expect traffic delays in this area and should use alternate routes if at all possible. DPW recommends that runners who normally use Stony Lonesome Road find alternate routes and be aware of extra tripping hazards in the construction area.

Residents should obey all traffic signs and flag persons in the area. The project manager is Rich Lark, 938-6787.

FAMILY cont. from page 5

said. "The first deployment to Afghanistan, she was left alone in Germany with two infants, didn't know that many folks and couldn't speak German, so it was pretty tough for her.

"The next two deployments, she basically functioned as a single parent and she didn't lessen anything that was on the plate," he continued. "The kids were still playing Little League and were involved in all the things they do. Erin worked twice as hard to make it happen to maintain the house and vehicles, all the things we kind of take for granted and the things I normally do, she did."

While at Fort Campbell during Tom's year-long deployment, Erin was a part of the Family Readiness Group and had a battle buddy to help her through the hard times. It's the function of an FRG and a battle buddy that can help families survive without extreme problems.

"I don't think it would have been as successful [of a deployment] or I would have been as good of a parent if I didn't have a battle buddy or an FRG," Erin said. "When times were rough for me, my battle buddy helped me and I did the same for her. We were inseparable as were our kids."

The biggest function of a successful deployment is how the children deal with a parent being away from home. Erin,

who earned an early childhood education degree, was able to see warning signs in her children and help other families who had problems with their children. One of the most important things, according to Erin, is to try to help kids with the concept of time when they are missing a mom or dad who is away.

"When you say they are going to be gone for a year, the kids may think next Saturday," Erin explained. "Do things like draw a calendar and mark off the days, every day. The kids should talk and e-mail [the deployed parent] all the time and there should be scheduled appointments to talk.

"I'm a firm believer that your kids will adapt to your attitude because if you focus on the positive they will too," Erin stated. "If I had a bad day, they had a bad day, unfortunately, that's just life."

Then for as exciting as it is to have your loved one back in the fold, there are the problems that arise due to the re-acclimation process a family has to go through after a deployment.

"I would say it took about 90 days of acclimating to him being back," Erin said. "It's just as much of an adjustment when he comes back as it is when he leaves."

Bryant agreed that it took about 90 days to get adjusted to home life again, partly because the mission

at home was accomplished in his absence.

"We have a tendency as Soldiers to immediately want to assess the situation, determine the best way to go, then implement a plan and execute it, but they really don't need you to do that," Bryant said. "It's hard to accept that and you take it personally because you know you can do it. As you get re-integrated, it's a remarkable transition to get accustomed to the kids' personalities and behaviors because they aged another year."

In August 2006, his son was still thinking with the notion that his dad was going to deploy at a moment's notice, which is something that made Bryant see things differently about how his kids looked at things in their own way.

"I was getting ready to go to work, and my son asked if I was coming home ... I thought I understood what he was saying at first, but Erin explained to me that he equated my going to work with deploying now," Bryant said. "That was a wake up call to me. I knew it was tough for the kids, but I didn't appreciate how tough it was for them.

"There's a little bit of a guilty feeling there because of what you're doing emotionally to your kids," he added. "Kids are tough and they don't get enough credit for how tough they are, but what

are you doing to them by missing an entire year of their life? With their birthdays and all those special things like losing their first teeth, it's something that's gone forever and you'll never be a part of it ... so you pay a big price too."

Paying a big price is a part of the transforming Army and Army Family, but in the end, a Soldier's duty is still first and foremost a very important part of a Soldier's life.

"We join the Army to fight to win the Nation's wars. We're at war, so go fight," Bryant said. "It's why the Army trained us. They paid good money to send us to schools and the Army has developed us as leaders. It's important to make sure our Soldiers are trained and ready to fight, they're proficient at their jobs and their families are taken care for -- it means everything to me for that to happen."

[**Editor's Note:** According to Galatea Badger, Mobilization and Deployment/AFTB Program Manager for Army Community Service here, because those who deploy from West Point and the immediate area usually deploy as individuals, not as units, West Point has the Waiting Family Support Group rather than FRGs.

The Group functions similar to an FRG, but is open to all Families of deployed Soldiers, sailors, Marines or airmen from all services.]

U. S. Military Academy Band
West Point, New York

Music Under the Stars

Concert Band, *Celebrations!*, June 10, 7:30 p.m.

Jazz Knights, *Hello and Goodbye*, June 17, 7:30 p.m.

Hellcats, Jazz Knights and Concert Band, *Alumni Showcase*, June 24, 6:00 p.m. (Inclement site Eisenhower Hall).

Concert Band, *Great American Classics* with guest soloist Joseph Alessi, principal trombonist of the New York Philharmonic, July 1, 7:30 p.m.

Trophy Point Amphitheatre

Free and Open to the Public

See schedule at
www.usma.edu/band
or call 845-938-2617

Keller Corner

Appointments and Tricare access standards

Routine care -- is medical care for symptoms such as colds and flu or low-back pain for which intervention is required, but is not urgent. The maximum waiting time for routine care is seven days.

Well care -- is medical care to promote health maintenance and prevention, e.g., Pap tests.

The maximum waiting time is 28 days.

Specialty care -- is provided by a specialist in Tricare's provider network after referral by a primary care manager.

The maximum wait time is 28 days.

KACH closures

All outpatient clinics, laboratory, pharmacy and radiology will be closed July 4 in observance of Independence Day.

The emergency room will remain open.

MWR Blurbs

Summer Reading Rodeo

The West Point Post Library will conduct a "Summer Reading Rodeo" from June 18 until July 28.

The program is open to all West Point community children ages 3 to 12. Registration will run from Wed. to June 15.

To sign up, stop by the Post Library, Bldg. 622 or call 938-2974.

Executive Transition Workshop

Register now for the upcoming Executive Transition Workshop being held July 9-11 from 7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. [attendance is required at all three days of the workshop] at Army Community Service [Bldg. 622].

Seating is limited, so reserve your spot today.

Attendance at this workshop will meet the requirement for Pre-separation Counseling [DD2648].

For more information, contact Jan Meert, ACS Employment Readiness Program Manager, at 938-5658 or janeatta.meert@usma.edu.

Financial readiness classes

Army Community Services is now offering a variety of financial readiness classes. Call Joyce Harris at 938-5653 for more information.

Father's Day Brunch

The West Point Club will host a Father's Day Brunch June 17 in the Pierce Dining Room. There will be two seatings -- at 10 a.m. and at Noon.

For reservations and for more info., call 938-5120.

Summer Horse Camps

Morgan Farm will offer three- and five-day summer horse camps this summer in Beginner Western.

Morgan Farm is offering a 10 percent discount to Families of deployed Soldiers.

The three-day mini-camp is from July 30 to Aug. 1.

The five-day camps are from July 9-13, 16-20 and 23-27.

No intermediate or advanced camps are scheduled at this time. Camps will be added according to the level of demand.

Call 938-3926 or 446-5365 or go to www.westpointmwr.com for more info.

BOSS events

Commissary awareness --

Today, 3:30 to 4:30 p.m. at the West Point Commissary. There will be lots of games, food and prizes.

Poker tournament

This free event is June 15 beginning at 6:30 p.m. in the Buffalo Soldier Pavilion.

Aloha Cruise

The cruise is June 30 from 4 to 7 p.m. on the Supe's ferry at South

Dock. Attendees must be at least 18 years old.

There will be food, beverages

and a DJ. Contact Connie Woodley at 938-6127 for more info on any of these BOSS events.

Command Channel 8/23

Friday & Monday through June 15, 8:30 a.m., 1 p.m. and 6 p.m. Army Newswatch

Solution to Weekly Sudoku

9	6	1	8	2	4	5	3	7
7	2	3	1	6	5	8	4	9
5	4	8	7	3	9	6	1	2
2	7	5	9	8	1	3	6	4
8	1	6	4	7	3	9	2	5
4	3	9	2	5	6	7	8	1
6	9	4	5	1	8	2	7	3
3	5	7	6	4	2	1	9	8
1	8	2	3	9	7	4	5	6

NOW SHOWING in the movie theater
at Mahan Hall, Bldg. 752

Friday -- Disturbia, 7:30 p.m., PG-13

Saturday -- The Invisible, 7:30 p.m., PG-13

June 15 -- Next, 7:30 p.m., PG-13

June 16 -- Spider-Man 3, 7:30 p.m., PG-13

June 22 -- Spider-Man 3, 7:30 p.m., PG-13

The theater schedule can also be found at www.aafes.com.