

POINTER VIEW

The Gymnastics day camp July 6-10 and 13-17 is also offering cheerleading and tumbling. See page 10.

Vol. 66, No. 23

SERVING THE COMMUNITY OF WEST POINT, THE U.S. MILITARY ACADEMY

JUNE 18, 2009



West Point celebrates 234th Army birthday with cake and song

West Point and the U.S. Military Academy celebrated the Army's 234th birthday Tuesday with a ceremony at the West Point Club. Following a long-standing Army tradition, the cake was cut by the oldest and the youngest officers and noncommissioned officers present. Second Lt. John Laird (left), the youngest officer, and Lt. Gen. Buster Hagenbeck, the superintendent, represented the officer corps, while USMA Command Sgt. Maj. Martin Wells and Sgt. Stephen Hicks served as the oldest and youngest NCOs. Hicks served the first piece of cake to the fallen Soldiers table.

SGT. VINCENT FUSCO/DCOMM

Soldiers, Families now can sign up for Post 9/11 GI Bill

By Emily Tower
Staff Writer

A briefing last week at West Point about one of the military's newest programs left many wondering what was the catch.

"It's pretty amazing," Maj. Brian Novoselich, a U.S. Military Academy mechanical engineering instructor, said. "It almost sounds too good to be true."

But, Master Sgt. Terry Titus, USMA career counselor who provided the briefing, reiterated the Post 9/11 GI Bill is in fact true. And Soldiers already can sign up for it.

The new benefits, which can be used as early as Aug. 1, provide higher education to Soldiers and can be transferred to their spouse and/or children.

The Montgomery GI Bill still can be used. Eventually, it will go away, and the Post 9/11 GI Bill will be the only available option. For now, while both are available, Titus recommends learning the differences between the two to determine which is best for each Soldier's goals. And, it's possible to use benefits from both.

The thing is, Titus said, once a Soldier chooses the Post 9/11 GI Bill, his/her entitlement to the Montgomery GI Bill will end.

"It's really important that you don't switch to Post 9/11 until you know for sure it's the one you want because you can't go back (to the Montgomery GI Bill)," Titus said.

The bill is available to anybody who served the required amount of time on active duty after the Sept. 11, 2001, terrorist attacks. For a servicemember or veteran to receive 100 percent of the bill's benefits, he/she needs to serve honorably at least 36 months—or 30 days if the servicemember becomes disabled because of service—after the attacks. Some levels of benefits are available

to servicemembers and veterans who serve less time.

An active-duty servicemember's eligibility to use the Post 9/11 GI Bill begins 90 days after completing technical school or after 30 days of service if the servicemember becomes disabled because of service.

Officers must serve an extra three years beyond their obligation from their commissioning source to use the benefits.

Benefits vary some between those still on active duty and veterans. Active-duty can receive tuition and fees for college and post-graduate courses excluding trade schools. Veterans can receive tuition and fees up to the amount equal to the highest public tuition rates in the state, an annual \$1,000 stipend for books and supplies and a monthly housing stipend. The housing stipend is based on the rate for an E-5 with dependents and varies depending on where the school is located. The housing stipend does not apply for people enrolled in online courses.

If a veteran wishes to attend a private school that is more expensive than the state's highest public tuition rate, he/she can check for the school's participation in the Department of Veterans Affairs' Yellow Ribbon program. Schools that join the Yellow Ribbon program agree to pay for tuition that is not covered by the Post 9/11 GI Bill.

Veterans and active duty also can receive up to \$1,200 per year for tutors, up to \$2,000 for license exam or certification fees and a \$500 relocation allowance for some rural areas. The relocation allowance only is allowed for people moving to school from an area with six people or fewer per square mile.

These benefits can be transferred to a spouse or children of Soldiers and Army veterans. Transferring benefits is limited only to the Army. While servicemembers in other

branches of the military may use the Post 9/11 GI Bill, they cannot transfer benefits to their spouse or children.

To transfer the benefits to a spouse, a Soldier must serve at least six years (plus the three-year extra obligation for officers). The service obligation is at least 10 years (plus the three-year extra obligation for officers) to transfer the benefits to children. Benefits paid to a Soldier or veteran's spouse depend on whether the Soldier still is in the Army. The spouse will get the benefits to which the Soldier or veteran is entitled. If benefits are transferred to children, they will receive the package available to veterans regardless of whether the parent still is on active duty.

Spouses and children have 15 years from date of retirement or date of the Soldier's or veteran's death—whichever comes first—to use the benefits if they are transferred. But children must be between 18 and 25 years old to use the benefits.

While benefits will survive a servicemember's death, they will not survive divorce. A spouse and children must be enrolled in DEERS to receive the benefits. To make sure a former spouse does not receive the benefits to which he/she is not entitled after divorce, Titus suggested making sure he/she no longer is enrolled in DEERS once the divorce is final.

Transferred benefits are limited to 36 months and can be split between children. Each child does not get 36 months of benefits, though. The 36 months of benefits can be divided among more than one child.

"If you have six kids, they can all go to school and have six months paid," Titus said.

The most important thing for Soldiers to do is understand all of the options available and figure out which GI Bill is best for their goals before using one or the other, Titus

said.

While the Post 9/11 GI Bill pays more (roughly \$48,000 in New York versus \$12,000 under the Montgomery GI Bill), the Montgomery GI Bill has more options. And it is possible for a Soldier to use some of the Montgomery GI Bill and also use the Post 9/11 GI Bill for a maximum of 48 months of benefits, Titus said.

If a Soldier switches to the Post 9/11 GI Bill, the money he/she already paid into the Montgomery GI Bill will be reimbursed.

To help determine which set of benefits to use, visit www.vba.va.gov or call 888-GIBILL1 and ask to speak to a case manager. An appointment with a New York state VA representative can be made by calling 938-4217. Titus can be reached at 938-4751.

INSIDE



See CADET LEADERSHIP, pages 8-9

In the Year 2037

Commentary by
Chaplain (Maj.) Carlos Huerta

It was during Chaplain's Time, 6:45 a.m. Wednesday, April 8 that time looped backward for me. According to most Theories of Relativity, time cannot loop backward without the expenditure of great energy, but for me, it did. I might not have expended great energy, but I felt great emotion, and it was that which propelled me back 28 years to 1981.

We were all ready to celebrate the Passover Seder that evening on April 8, but something was happening that morning that prompted my wife and me to wake our children early to meet the cadets at Chaplain's Time. We were all going to do Birchath Hachama, the Blessing of the Sun.

This is a blessing that we as a Jewish community do once every 28 years and it always falls on a Wednesday. The reason is, according to our tradition, the sun was created by G-d on the fourth day of creation and the blessing marks the place in the sky where the sun first shone on the earth. Whether the calculations are astronomically correct is not as important as



Chaplain (Maj.) Carlos Huerta entertained many throughout West Point, playing Christmas carols at various locations on his saxophone.

KATHY EASTWOOD/PV

our acknowledgement of creation and G-d's daily impact on our lives.

As I stood out on the Plain by the George Washington statue with the cadets and my Family, I was filled with emotions thinking of where I was the last time I did this blessing. It was Wednesday morning, April 8, 1981, and I was with the congregants of Wall Street Synagogue and hundreds of others in the observation tower and the roof of the World Trade Center. Little did I know then where I would be in 2009, and little did I know how dominant the symbol of the World Trade Center would be to my life and the lives of all Americans.

Before we went out to bless the sun, I mentioned to the cadets where I was 28 years ago and challenged them to think where they could be or what they could be doing 28 years from now in the year 2037. I looked at those inspiring young faces and realized that many of them could be finishing one career and starting another. They could be with children and Families and even have some of their children attending the academy. Some of them could even be key leaders in our Army or our nation, guiding us with the principles they learned here at the academy.

I felt the never-ending cycle of life wash over me on that Wednesday morning as I spent time with the cadets. We were all one Family, one humanity, learning and leaning forward in the foxhole of life trying to pave a better way for those who may come after us. I do not know if I will be alive for the next blessing in 2037, but I do know that I'm honored to have served such remarkable and outstanding young people, the cadets of the U.S. Military Academy, for such a long time.

I have been the rabbi here for nine years, minus a couple of visits to Iraq. I have seen high school graduates come in, young people, and I have seen leaders of characters, second lieutenants, leave. In their four years here, the transformation these young people go through, primarily by their own effort, is nothing short of a miracle, a creation of sorts. This path to

becoming a leader is not an easy one; rather, it is filled with twists, turns, disappointments and, sometimes, with great pain and loss. Despite this, all those who finish do so with great distinction and honor.

Many of those plebes who came in when I first reported to the academy in 2000 are now captains and leading America's sons and daughters in battle in Iraq and Afghanistan. Sadly, some of those who have graduated during my tenure here have also come home paying freedom's ultimate price. As I had the opportunity to share in their learning, their coming of age, their weddings, the naming of their children, I have also had the sad duty of returning their souls to our Creat-r.

As I leave the academy, I realize that it is not so much what I have given to it that has affected my life but rather what it has given to me in terms of working with the cadets and others toward giving our nation a chance for a renewed future filled with promise and hope.

I have come through the years to know so many of you personally. We have shared the happiness of births, marriages, confirmations, bar/bat mitsvahs, holidays and Eids together. We also have shared the pain of loss, sickness and the untimely death of loved ones.

My Family and I will miss you as you are, and forever will be, part of our souls.

I don't know where I will be in the year 2037, but I do know that I will be leaving USMA and reporting to Fort Benning in July. I also know that I am forever deeply honored and humbled by being able to work and serve with our nation's best and brightest.

I thank all those who have helped me in my mission of service and who have, however unfounded it may have been, trusted my leadership over these many years as rabbi of the West Point Jewish community.

May G-d grant you all the blessings of your heart and may He watch between us as we are absent one from another.

See you on the high ground. HOOOAAHHH!!!

Plan before you party this summer; have a designated driver

By Pat Deyo
Alcohol and Drug Control Office

The 100 days of summer represent one of the most dangerous and deadliest times of year on the nation's highways.

One big danger comes from the significant jump in alcohol-related traffic crashes and fatalities.

Increased alcohol use throughout the summer and particularly around major holiday weekends, which began with Memorial Day, continues through July 4 and ends with Labor Day, makes the 100 days of summer a grim season for

law enforcement, emergency medical staff, highway safety officials and the friends and Families of impaired driving victims.

Much of the tragedy that comes from alcohol-related crashes could be prevented if everyone would take a few simple precautions before going out to party in the summer.

Be sure to plan before the party—select a designated driver in advance. And remember friends don't let friends drive drunk.

Always follow these tips for a safer summer outing:

- Designate a sober driver before going out;
- If you are drinking alcohol, don't even think about

driving.

Never let friends drive if you think they are impaired;

- Eat plenty of food. Don't drink on an empty stomach, and drink lots of water during your activities to avoid dehydration;

- When impaired, ask a sober friend for a ride home, use mass transit or call a cab;

- Ask a friend or family member to come get you. Or just stay where you are and sleep it off until you are sober;

- And, always remember to wear your safety belt. Wearing a seat belt is still the single best defense against injury or death in a crash.

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Weekly Sudoku by Chris Okasaki, D/EECS

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

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: Hard

See SOLUTION, page 10

SHARP

The members of the Sexual Harrassment/Assault Response and Prevention program are Col. Jeanette McMahon, Shelley Ariosto (Garrison), Dan Toohey (Victim Advocate), Maj. Maria Burger (USCC), Capt. Vanara Nevels (ODIA) and Maj. Elizabeth Scioletti (Dean).

Community members can e-mail McMahon at Jeanette.McMahon@usma.edu for advice or to offer any recommendations on the program here.

Cadets also can call the sexual assault support helpline at (845) 591-7215. West Point Soldiers and civilians needing assistance can call (845) 938-3369.

POINTER VIEW

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Iraq combat vets to Supe: 'We like the product you are sending us'

By Lt. Col John Graham
Executive Officer

Superintendent Lt. Gen. Buster Hagenbeck traveled in the Central Command area of operations in Iraq June 3-7 and met with combat leaders to learn about the challenges they face and what they want from West Point graduates.

"The face of warfare is constantly evolving ... the academy has to have the latest information to confirm we are on the right trajectory," Hagenbeck said.

He met with many commanders and a number of West Point graduates to get their input about what West Point is doing right and wrong and how recent graduates are doing.

"The lieutenants I am getting out of West Point are tactically sound and are constantly thinking. I like what West Point is producing," said Col. Walter Piatt, commander of 3rd Brigade Combat Team, 25th Infantry Division.

At each location, Hagenbeck and his accompanying staff were surrounded by recent graduates with questions about changes at the academy.

"The new MX400 course and the new Cadet Leader Development Training generated some of the most intense questions," Maj. Mike Sapp, assistant operations officer, said.

MX400 is a new course that every cadet takes the semester before graduation. The course covers officership topics with a focus on battlefield decision-making. CLDT is a new part of the last cadet summer at West Point that covers basic platoon leading skills.

"I like these changes to the academy. It sounds like West Point is reacting to what we are learning in the field," a new lieutenant at Forward Operating Base Speicher said.

The USMA team learned that many graduates do not know about the changes or even about the support and products that cadets have contributed to the forward deployed leaders.

"Once deployed, the leaders get most of their information from the SiPRnet," Hagenbeck said.

The SiPRnet is a separate Internet just for classified communications. Because it is difficult to have both a regular Internet and SiPRnet in the same location, many officers spend less than two hours per week on the regular Internet, where much of West Point has Web sites and other information.

"We have to find a way to have a persistent presence on the SiPRNet. Our cadets, faculty and staff do too much important work that is not readily accessible to these junior leaders," he said.

Army Head Football Coach Rich Ellerson accompanied the superintendent on the visit.

"The excellence, resourcefulness, professionalism and generosity of the officers I was privileged to meet is an inspiration I will be sharing with my coaches, players and recruits. I was struck by the complexity of the diverse battlefield these combat leaders face," Ellerson said.

Many officers also had questions about the complexities of Ellerson's new offense.

Graduates also had insights about what they would like to see coming out of West Point in the future. Topics revolved

around issues the recent graduates were experiencing in their units.

Most mentioned were cadet-noncommissioned officer interaction, physical fitness and sports, education for the battlefield and cultural immersion experiences.

"I spend 80 percent of my days working with my noncommissioned officers," one platoon leader at Camp Victory said. "However, at West Point, I probably had 40 hours of total interaction with NCOs."

Physical training is key for all officers, something mentioned by many.

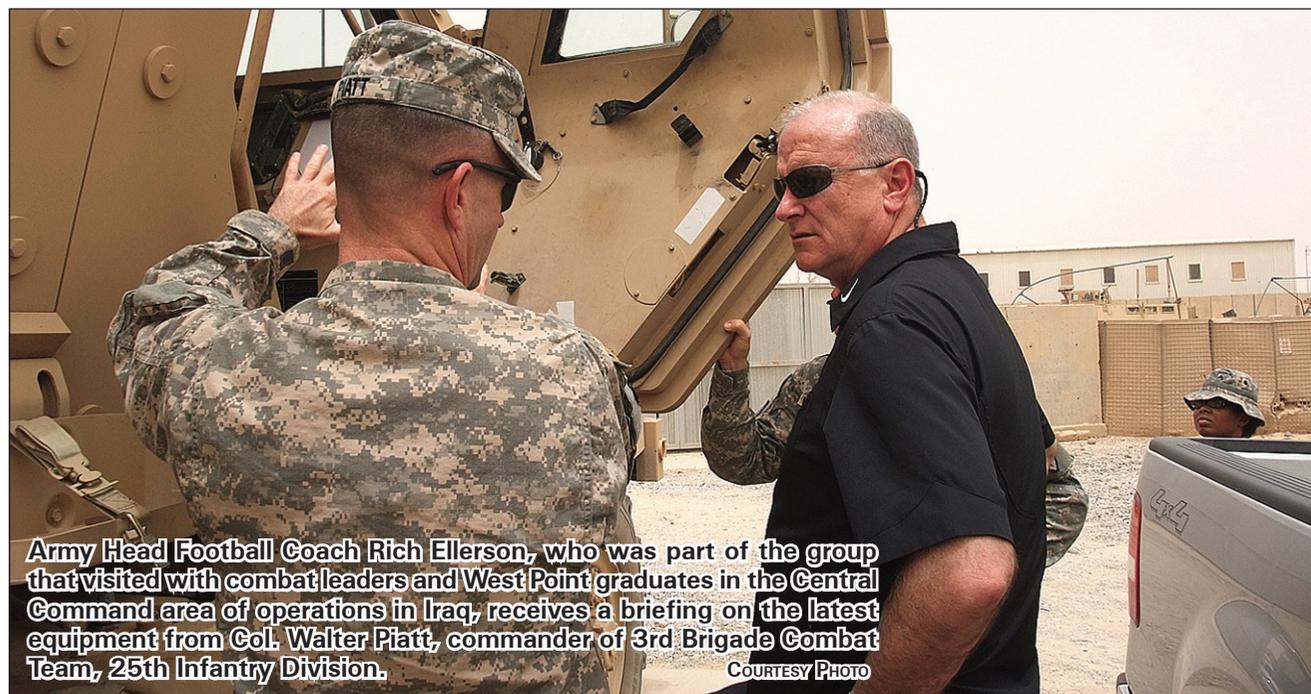
"I cannot stress enough how important physical training is to developing a cohesive combat team," 1st Lt. Samuel Ketcham, USMA class of 2007, said. "I recommend West Point continue to push the intramural, club and corps squad activities as a leadership development activity."

Teaching cadets why things are being taught, not just learning by rote, and how to plan for things is key.

"My best officers know how to think, not just what to think," a major in the 25th Inf. Div. at FOB Speicher said. "The education process has to produce thinking leaders not just rote memorization."

Hagenbeck was expressive about the visit.

"I have to admit that it was a great time interacting with these young combat leaders and listening to their stories," he said. "However, they also presented some challenges that I, as the superintendent, will be addressing in the upcoming year. We owe it to our graduates and the Army."



Army Head Football Coach Rich Ellerson, who was part of the group that visited with combat leaders and West Point graduates in the Central Command area of operations in Iraq, receives a briefing on the latest equipment from Col. Walter Piatt, commander of 3rd Brigade Combat Team, 25th Infantry Division.

COURTESY PHOTO



Building 606 gets new AC

A helicopter lowers an air handling unit onto the roof of Bldg. 606 Sunday morning. The unit, one of eight airlifted, will provide improved climate control for the fourth floor of the building that houses the admissions office and the Staff Judge Advocate. This airlift is part of a \$10 million renovation project that began in December 2008 and is expected to be finished in January. **MASTER SGT. DEAN WELCH/DCOMM**



R-Day Rehearsal Volunteers Needed

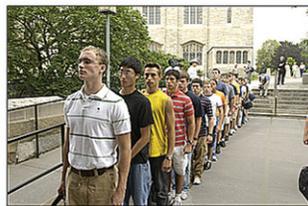
BE A CADET FOR A DAY

June 26, 9:45 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Volunteers should be at Eisenhower Hall's Crest Hall no later than 9:45 a.m. Parking is available at Eisenhower, Gillis Field House and Buffalo Soldier Field. The rehearsal starts promptly at 10 a.m. and is scheduled to continue until approximately 1 p.m. Buses will transport volunteers from Eisenhower Hall to the Cadet Central Area.



All volunteers must be between the ages of 13 and 55 and dressed in proper seasonal attire. They should bring one piece of luggage or a duffel bag. Lunch will not be provided, but volunteers may bring a snack and a bottle of water. After the rehearsal, volunteers will be offered light refreshments and awarded personalized certificates.



TO REGISTER CALL

Ms. Yolene Carey at (845) 938-3772/4405 or register online at <http://www.usma.edu/uscc/>



Keller holds awards and redeployment ceremony June 11

Keller Army Community Hospital held its annual redeployment ceremony June 11 at the 49er Lodge. Staff Sgt. Richard Monaco (above left) received a Purple Heart Medal for wounds sustained in Iraq, along with an Iraq Campaign Medal from KACH Commander Col. Michael Deaton.

During another part of the ceremony, Soldiers coming back from Iraq presented their spouses with a rose in appreciation of all they do in support of their spouses. Below are (from left) Col. Italo Bastianelli and wife, Patricia; Staff Sgt. Edwin Calderon and wife, Hillevi; and Sgt. Anddy Moreno and wife, Rita.

PHOTOS BY KATHY EASTWOOD/PV



Army astronaut to answer questions from space

By NASA/Army

The Army has set up a special Web site for the public to ask Army astronaut Col. Timothy Kopra, USMA class of 1985, a question while he lives aboard the International Space Station.

Colonel Timothy Kopra is slated to launch on Wednesday's shuttle mission to the International Space Station, where he will remain as a flight engineer for Expedition 20—now ongoing—throughout the next six months.

Kopra is one of four active Army astronauts in the detachment belonging to the U.S. Army Space and Missile Defense Command/Army Forces Strategic Command.

To ask Kopra a question, go to www.goarmy.com/space.

To find out more about Army astronauts go to www.facebook.com/usarmyastronauts.

Related links include www.goarmy.com/home/space/ and twitter.com/astro_tim.

As of press time, the STS-127 flight has been postponed until July, so there is time to think about questions.

NCO, Family prepare to move in first renovated on-post house

Story and photos by Emily Tower
Staff Writer



Heather Pickwell was at a loss for words as she stood in her kitchen and wiped away tears.

Her husband, Sgt. Charles Pickwell, could hardly stop smiling. Their three children were upstairs claiming bedrooms.

They finally had a house big enough for everyone and could unpack boxes that had been sealed for nearly a year.

The Pickwell Family became the first to receive keys to a West Point house renovated by Balfour Beatty Communities under the Army's Residential Communities Initiative, which contracts with private companies to upgrade Family housing. A ribbon-cutting was held Tuesday to welcome the renovated house's first residents.

The Pickwells got to see their new house in the Old Brick neighborhood Tuesday while movers packed up their things in Stony Lonesome I. They had been living in a cramped house too small for a Family of five next to ongoing construction since arriving at West Point from Fort Stewart, Ga., nearly a year ago.

"This is really beautiful," Heather Pickwell said. "I didn't know what to expect because I hadn't been in here until today."

Two neighboring units built in 1949 were turned into a four-bedroom, two-story house that features hardwood floors and renovated bathrooms and kitchen. The house also features a living area and an extra upstairs room.

The house encompasses about 2,700 square feet, and the Pickwells are excited about having a house large enough for them.

"We knew when we got here (to West Point) we'd have to wait for a big enough house," Heather Pickwell said. "We just couldn't afford to live off base, and when you are in the military, you know you have to go with the flow. It has been hard to fit, but you endure."

Now the Family can unpack all of their boxes. They didn't have enough room in their Stony Lonesome house to unpack all of their things, Charles Pickwell, noncommissioned officer-in-charge of the Keller Army Community Hospital internal medicine and dermatology clinic, said.

Having the first renovated house go to an NCO was fitting because it is the Army's Year of the NCO, Rich Wagner, West Point Family Housing LLC project director, said.

"This is a very deserving Family," he said. "They have been putting up with a lot of inconveniences and with construction in Stony I. I am very pleased we get to offer this house to this fine Soldier and his Family."

West Point Garrison Commander Col. Dan Bruno promised other Soldiers and their Families can expect to see a similar house in the coming years when they live on post after renovations turn 961 on-post homes into 824 new or refurbished houses.

Command Sgt. Maj. Martin Wells, the post's senior noncommissioned officer, said he was thrilled a Soldier and his Family get to benefit from a program designed to improve the Army's quality of life.

"It is a nice thing to know this renovated house now becomes a home," he said.



Sergeant Charles Pickwell and his Family—son, Zane; daughter Zoe; wife, Heather; and daughter Alexandra—help Command Sgt. Maj. Martin Wells, West Point's senior noncommissioned officer, cut a ribbon to open their new house. Pickwell holds a flag and coin presented to him by Balfour Beatty Communities. The Pickwell Family was the first to receive keys to a house renovated by Balfour Beatty Communities under the Army's Residential Communities Initiative.



Heather Pickwell wipes tears from her face as she looks over her new kitchen Tuesday. The Pickwell Family was the first to receive keys to a house renovated by Balfour Beatty Communities under the Army's Residential Communities Initiative.

Friendship between USMA instructor, interpreter spans continents

Story and photo by Emily Tower
Staff Writer

Major Ed Williams couldn't resist introducing his friend as the prime minister of Iraq. Or a provincial governor. Or any other high-ranking official he could think of that would make his friend chuckle.

The two finished each other's sentences and laughed together at untold parts of adventures together in Iraq. They could have been any pair of battle buddies swapping stories at a veterans' reunion.

Instead, they sat together in Williams' office in West Point's Lincoln Hall. Williams, an instructor in the U.S. Military Academy's Dept. of Social Sciences, was packing up his office to move to his next assignment last week. He smiled and asked his friend, Abdullah, "Hey, remember that time in the market?"

Abdullah laughed and nodded. He and Williams recalled a story about a plan they cooked up to gather some information while minimizing threats to Abdullah's Family.

They chuckle often about those memories now that they have been reunited. They first met as American Soldier and Iraqi interpreter some 6,000 miles away and both now work at USMA. Abdullah works in the Combating Terrorism Center.

In 2004, Williams was commander of Headquarters and Headquarters Troop, 1st Battalion, 2nd Armored Cavalry Regiment. He needed an interpreter, one with whom he could develop a rapport and count on for frequent missions.

Abdullah had an English degree from the University of Basra and had worked for the United Nations. He was hired by a contractor to work with the Army and was looking for a unit willing to protect his identity so insurgents wouldn't harm his Family.

"We hit it off right away," Williams said about meeting Abdullah. "We became friends right off the bat."

Abdullah was able to interpret even confusing provincial council meetings and helped Williams and his Soldiers set up a free press in their area of operations. Williams agreed to several plans to help protect Abdullah's Family, including the market idea the pair laugh about today.

They were working in a town southeast of Baghdad, and Williams needed some

information. To help keep the fact Abdullah worked with the Army a secret so his Family wouldn't be harmed by insurgents, he decided to pretend to be a bystander in a crowd.

Williams asked around in the crowd for someone who could speak English, and Abdullah, who pretended not to know Williams, volunteered to help. After Williams gathered the information he needed and left, two men discouraged Abdullah from helping Allied forces. Abdullah then was able to provide information to Williams about these men who posed a threat to Americans.

While they laugh about that day now, they remember how real the threat to Abdullah's Family was—something he is thankful is no longer such a danger now that he, his wife and four children have moved to the United States.

"It was very tough knowing you could be stopped at a fake checkpoint and be beheaded," Abdullah said. "A lot of my friends (who also were interpreters for U.S. troops) were assassinated. With one, he and his wife and daughter were entering their house when a militia attacked. He lost an eye. His wife was shot in the knee and is now disabled. So, it does happen. It used to happen every day."

Even knowing what a risk it was to help the Army, Abdullah felt it was the right thing to do. He wanted to change the idea some people around the world have about Arabs.

"Some think Arabs are not very developed or educated," Abdullah said. "I felt it was worth the risk to try to teach others and help make a positive image of Iraq."

Because of his efforts, Abdullah's Family was threatened at least once. Someone set off a sonic grenade—a device designed to stun people with noise and a bright light when it explodes—outside his home.

"It sent a clear message to me that we know you are here," he said. "The Iraqi police recorded it as an attack against an interpreter. I was embarrassed and felt very threatened. I was embarrassed to find out someone doesn't like you."

Even in the United States, Abdullah uses an alias to help protect his Family. His mother and brothers live in Iraq, and he does sensitive work at the CTC and with the federal law enforcement agency he helps train.

He and his wife had talked for years about coming to the United States. They thought

American life would provide more opportunities for their children. After working with the Army, Abdullah learned of the Special Immigrant Visa program. If he worked with the Army for at least a year and obtained a letter of recommendation, he could apply for a visa to bring his Family to America.

He turned to Williams for a recommendation, which he was happy to provide. Williams also allowed Abdullah to use his address because Abdullah was required to have a stateside mailing address for some of the visa paperwork.

After persevering through bureaucracy, Abdullah and his Family arrived in Maine on Sept. 22, 2007. They knew several Iraqi Families were moving to Maine, which was rumored to have an inexpensive cost of living, so Abdullah and his Family decided to move there.

But, he needed a job. Williams had a few thoughts for where to look. He considered the U.N. in New York City; the Army's National Training Center at Fort Irwin, Calif.; and the Army's Joint Readiness Training Center at Fort Polk, La. Then he had a more local idea.

"Talk about serendipity," Williams said.

At the time, nobody in the CTC spoke Arabic. Williams stopped by the CTC to see if they happened to need an Arabic speaker. At the same time, a meeting was taking place to solve the problem of not having Arabic speakers in the CTC.

When a job for an Arabic speaker was created, Williams encouraged Abdullah to apply for it. Now he monitors Arabic news sources and Web sites in the CTC.

His Family is adjusting to their new home and enjoy being in the place they dreamed of visiting. They had thought about seeing the New York skyline and visiting California, which they heard has weather similar to Iraq in parts.

Abdullah is making his first trip to California this week, and his Family has visited New York to see the skyline many



Major Ed Williams, right, an outgoing instructor in the Dept. of Social Sciences, was reunited at West Point with the interpreter with whom he worked when deployed to Iraq in 2004. Abdullah, left, now works at the Combating Terrorism Center.

times.

"My kids always look for Spider-man in the buildings," Abdullah said. "They call it Spider-man City. It has been great. We are living a dream. New York is great. It is perfect. I can't ask for more."

Abdullah and his Family will be eligible to apply for citizenship after they have lived in the United States for five years, and they plan to do so. He also hopes his mother and brothers can come live in New York, too, and experience their new home.

The Family is getting used to life in America. A neighbor volunteered to help Abdullah's wife with English for free. Their eldest son attends elementary school and has impressed his teachers with his intelligence and proficiency with English.

"I'm learning from him," Abdullah said about speaking with his son in English.

The other children are picking up English well, too. Abdullah laughed when he explained how much English his children have learned from the cartoon Sponge Bob Squarepants. He has noticed the children often will speak more frequently to each other in English than in Arabic.

"I'm really blessed," he said. "I am thrilled to be here."

He said he will miss Williams when he leaves, though. Williams is headed to the Defense Language Institute in California to learn French. Then, he will be assigned as an African foreign area officer at the Pentagon, U.S. Africa Command or an embassy.



Upperclass cadets motivated to instruct

Cow Tom Musmann prepares to drop into the water from the Slide for Life June 10 at Camp Buckner's Water Confidence Course. Musmann and other cows and firsties completed several courses to prepare them to instruct Cadet Field Training in the coming weeks. The Water Confidence Course, which includes a zip line from a 40-foot tower to about eight feet above a pond, is designed to help cadets conquer fear of water and heights. EMILY TOWER/PV

**By Emily Tower
Staff Writer**

There was something familiar about the field exercises a team of firsties and cows have been completing the last two weeks.

They knew all about the famous Slide for Life—a trip down a zip line and plummet into a pond—at Camp Buckner and remembered some of the tricks required to conquer the obstacle courses from the last time

they encountered them.

The cadets all had completed the ranges and courses at Camp Buckner before their yearling year. But this time around, the U.S. Military Academy cadets had an extra element in the mix. They had to learn how to teach this stuff.

“It has been a considerable leadership challenge, but it is a challenge all of us are loving,” Firstie James McKinney, commander of Cadet Field Training’s 6th Company,

said. “This is the reason we came here (to West Point).”

As rising yearlings get their Camp Buckner training kicked off this week, they’ll have some familiar faces leading them instead of the task force of active-duty Soldiers who have led CFT in years past. The task force has been replaced by upperclassmen.

While some active-duty components still will assist with tasks USMA cadets are not certified



Cows and firsties practice battle drill 1A in preparation to train the rising yearlings during CFT, which starts Monday.

PHOTO BY COW CARISSA HAUCK

to do, such as explosive ordnance disposal, most of the training will be led by cadets.

The decision to have cadets lead CFT was made last year, Col. Casey Haskins, Dept. of Military Instruction director, said.

But, Gen. George Casey, the Army’s chief of staff, hurried the process to a cadet-led training when he decided about six weeks ago that sending active-duty Soldiers to West Point for three months of the 12 they have in the United States between deployments was not in their best interests.

The change makes CFT “truly a leadership experience,” Haskins said.

But, before the cadets can teach their comrades about Soldier skills, they first had to brush up on them.

The cadets have spent the last two weeks refreshing their knowledge of marksmanship, land navigation, small-unit tactics and other skills and have practiced teaching them to each other.

While remembering how to complete ranges and courses simply requires dusting off a few memory cobwebs, the cadets had to learn a few extra details before they could lead others through Camp Buckner.

“The cadets are motivated, but they have to remember safety and being in charge and seeing how everything is flowing,” Maj. Shawn Tenace, a Dept. of Physical Education instructor who was teaching cadets how to run the Slide for Life and Water Confidence Course, said. “They are going to have to be concerned with these things when they are platoon leaders, so why not have them start now?”

Leadership has been pushed to the lowest levels in the current conflicts, and junior leaders are charged with some of the toughest decisions in the history of the Army. This is all the more reason to have the future officers practice their leadership skills as soon as possible, Tenace said. Plus, the skills they are teaching to underclassmen are some of the same they could soon be teaching to the Iraqi and Afghan army and police.

While most deployed units teach Iraqi and Afghan security forces, some of the USMA cadets could be assigned to Military Transition Teams, which focus on one-on-one training with security forces, West Point Superintendent Lt. Gen. Buster Hagenbeck said after observing some of the cadets’ training at Range 5.

“I came back from Iraq a few days ago, and this will all be very useful to them,” he said. “In order to provide this training, you have to learn it before you can teach it. So, the cadets are really learning this in more detail.”

The underclassmen being taught by upperclassmen also will have the opportunity to watch the leadership styles of the other cadets, Hagenbeck said. They will have the benefit of another new approach to training this year—what Hagenbeck

called “outcomes-based training.”

Cadets will learn the answer to the all-important “why” question rather than just complete the training for the sake of “checking the block,” Hagenbeck said. They will understand why specific skills fit into a larger picture of success, which promotes more creativity in leadership.

“We are teaching critical thinking and analysis, not just book doctrine,” CFT Regimental Commander Tom Olmstead said. “We are responsible for knowing (the training) and teaching it, so we are having fun learning and thinking up ways to teach it.”

Many cadets admitted to having a great time getting reacquainted with Soldier skills while polishing their leadership techniques. They said it had been a challenge learning how to lead large groups and how to focus their peers on a common task. That extra element of outcomes-based training adds to the challenge, too.

“We are focusing on proficiency but also understanding the why,” Firstie Hazumu Yano said. “Before, it was not really explained. It was just following the leader. Now it’s explained, and we see how it all fits together.”

But, the cadets said they feel ready to flex their leadership skills. They are used to speaking in front of crowds and leading groups through the academic year.

And they do have a selection of tactical officers and noncommissioned officers upon whom they can rely for the real-world experience that was lost when the active-duty task force was dissolved.

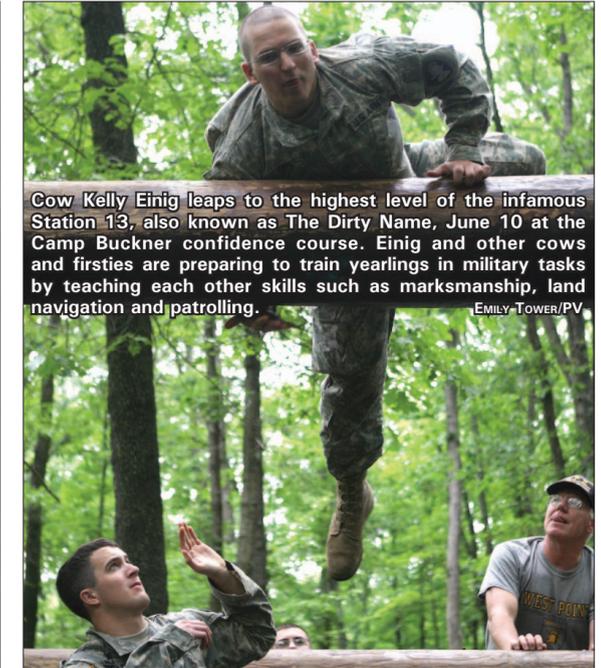
“In year’s past, you have the experience of people with multiple deployments under their belts,” Cow Ryan Schubert said. “We don’t have the experience from being in a unit and real enemies with real ammunition. But this is making us more proficient.”

The CFT lasts for five weeks. Olmstead expects the yearlings to not only learn the Soldier skills being presented but to observe the leadership skills being used by the upperclassmen. Just having the opportunity to lead has been refreshing, he said.

“This is leader empowerment,” Olmstead said. “It is allowing us to explore our leadership skills. The (CFT) leadership is really caring about this and taking a lot of ownership of their companies.”

Master Sgt. Brady Klinger (right, top), Company C-3 tactical noncommissioned officer, helps a cadet with rifle skills June 11 at Range 5 where a team of cows and firsties were preparing to teach yearlings marksmanship during Cadet Field Training in the coming weeks. Upperclass cadets are teaching CFT for the first time this year. A task force of active-duty Soldiers have taught CFT in years past.

EMILY TOWER/PV



Cow Kelly Einig leaps to the highest level of the infamous Station 13, also known as The Dirty Name, June 10 at the Camp Buckner confidence course. Einig and other cows and firsties are preparing to train yearlings in military tasks by teaching each other skills such as marksmanship, land navigation and patrolling. EMILY TOWER/PV

What's Happening

Closure

The West Point ID Card Facility will be closed today and Friday for an equipment upgrade.

No ID cards or common access cards will be issued during the upgrade.

For more information, call 938-4736/3212/8474.

Chapel services

There will be no services Friday at the Jewish Chapel.

Services will resume June 26 and will be conducted by the new USMA Jewish chaplain.

For a list of area off-post Jewish services, call the chaplain's office at 938-3316.

Shakespeare festival

The Hudson Valley Shakespeare Festival begins at 8 p.m. Saturday with a performance of the comedy "The Complete Works of William Shakespeare (Abridged)" at the lawn of Boscobel House and Gardens, 1601 Route 9D, in Garrison.

Opening night festivities begin at 6 p.m. and include a beer garden,

cheese tasting and live music. The production will continue through Sept. 6.

Tickets are available by calling 265-9575 or at www.hvshakespeare.org.

Sales associate needed

A sales associate is needed to work weekends in the DUSA Gift Shop inside the West Point Museum.

Applications are available in the shop.

Sale

The USMA Bookstore is hosting an art supply sale and book clearance sale. The bookstore is located on the fourth floor of Thayer Hall.

For more information, call 938-5193.

Harborcraft reservation lottery

The harborcraft reservation lottery process is underway.

Requests for nonofficial functions for Aug. 1-Oct. 25 will be accepted through the lottery.

Remaining dates following the lottery will be available on a first-come, first-served basis.

Sign-up for the lottery through Sunday.

Sequence numbers will be released Monday, and available dates will be posted Tuesday. Selections and reservations will be taken Wednesday-June 26.

Any remaining dates will be made available July 6.

For more information or to sign-up, e-mail yr9594@usma.edu, call 938-3011/2137, fax 938-6855 or visit the South Dock, Bldg. 682.

Include name, rank/title, department, duty phone and home phone numbers.

Closures

Mine Torne Road and Stilwell Lake will be closed at different times throughout the coming weeks to accommodate Cadet Summer Training. Lake Popolopen will remain open for fishing.

Mine Torne Road is scheduled to be closed from 7 a.m.-7 p.m. Friday-Tuesday and June 26-28;

10 a.m.-2 p.m. July 6 and 16; 5:30-8:30 a.m. July 7 and 18; and 3-7 a.m. July 26.

Stilwell Lake is scheduled to be closed 7 a.m.-7 p.m. Friday-Tuesday and June 26-28.

For more information, call Alec Lazore, Range Control manager, at 938-3007.

Garrison award ceremony

The West Point community is invited to attend the garrison award ceremony at 3:30 p.m. Wednesday at Eisenhower Hall's Crest Hall.

Summer Playground Fun

Protestant Women of the Chapel is hosting Summer Playground Fun at 9:30-11 a.m. Wednesdays throughout the summer.

West Point children are invited to attend.

The group will meet at Stony Lonesome II playground Wednesday, Grey Ghost playground July 1, Biddle Loop playground July 8, New Brick playground July 15, Lee Road playground July 22, West Point Elementary School playground July 29 and Biddle Loop playground Aug. 5.

Parents should bring water and sunblock for their children.

For more information, call Teki Snel at 446-5920 or twc8454465920@earthlink.net.

Bible study

The Protestant Women of the Chapel summer Bible study takes place at 7 p.m. Thursday nights at the Post Chapel on Biddle Loop.

The group will study "Believing God" by Beth Moore.

For more information or to receive a book for the study, contact Robin Meyer at 446-8798 or robinmeyer@hvc.rr.com.

Volunteer facilitators needed

The Professional Military Ethic Education program of the Simon Center for the Professional Military Ethic is looking for volunteer facilitators.

Lesson plans and resources are provided for each class, and preparatory sessions for facilitators are conducted one week before each class.

Classes take place one-three times per month during the Commandant's Hour, 12:50-1:45 p.m.

For more information, contact Maj. Chad DeBos at 938-3028 or

chad.debos@usma.edu.

West Point Boys Basketball Camp

The West Point Boys Basketball Camp takes place July 5-9 for boys ages 8-18. Overnight and day slots are available.

For more information, contact Capt. Sean O'Keefe at 938-2419 or sean.okeefe@usma.edu.

Ask about military, staff and faculty discounts.

Raffle

American Legion Post 28 is raffling a motorcycle made by Orange County Choppers to raise money for Families of Deploying New York and Vermont National Guard Soldiers.

For more information about purchasing tickets, call Jason Brownfield at (802) 673-9712.

Gymnastics day camp

The West Point Gymnastics Club is offering gymnastics day camp for children ages 7 and older July 6-10 and 13-17.

There will be cheerleading and tumbling camps offered as well for those two weeks.

Camp times, fees and paperwork needed to participate can be found at www.westpointgymnasticsclub.com.

Arvin special hours

Arvin Cadet Physical Development Center will be open 8 a.m.-4 p.m. June 27, 5:30 a.m.-6 p.m. July 3 and closed July 4.

Spouse's Column

The Pointer View is still looking for guest columnists for the Spouse's Column for July and August.

Tell us some stories you think others will enjoy. Send your story to pointerviewcontest@usma.edu by Monday for the July issue.

See the June 4 PV issue for more details.

Keller Corner

KACH July closures

All outpatient clinics, laboratory, pharmacy and radiology will be closed July 3 (Independence Day) and July 6 (training holiday).

The emergency room will remain open.

New emergency room patient parking

There is new patient parking at Keller Army Community Hospital for emergency room patients only.

The parking is located in the ambulance round-about, and can be accessed through the ambulance entrance off Washington Road.

Behavioral health provider locator and appointment assistance center

The TRICARE behavioral health program is making it easier for active-duty servicemembers and

Family members to get help finding and making routine and urgent appointments with behavioral health care providers.

Health Net Federal Services operates TRICARE North's Behavioral Health Provider Locator and Appointment Assistance Center.

The call center is open 8 a.m.-6 p.m. Monday through Friday, excluding holidays. All calls to 877-747-9579 are confidential.

Questions about referral and authorization requirements can be answered by the assistance center staff or KACH's health benefits advisors at 938-4838.

Exceptional Family Member Program

EFMP is a Department of the Army program assisting military Family members.

It is designed to identify any special educational and medical needs and facilitates consideration of these needs in the personnel assignment process.

Enrollment of eligible Families is mandatory.

Any Family member with a medical problem that needs care other than what a Family practitioner can provide can enroll in the program.

Any Family member who receives occupational therapy, physical therapy, speech therapy or is in an assisted-learning program is eligible for EFMP. Also, anyone who is seeing a mental health specialist or anyone with asthma, regardless of severity is eligible.

To enroll in EFMP or for more information, call Nola Francois, KACH EFMP Coordinator, Primary Care Clinic, at 938-6881.

Solution to Weekly Sudoku

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

FMWR Blurbs

Army Ten-Miler

FMWR is sending a team of four active-duty Soldiers to Washington for the Army Ten-Miler Oct. 4.

For more information, contact Sheryle Miller by Friday at 938-6497 or sheryle.miller@usma.edu.

Father's Day picnic

A Father's Day picnic is scheduled for noon-4 p.m. Sunday at South Dock.

A disc jockey, games for children and adults and a barbecue menu are planned.

For reservations, call the West Point Club at 446-5504.

Summer reading program

The West Point Post Library Summer Reading Program is scheduled for Monday-July 31 and is open to all West Point community children ages 3-12.

Register through Friday by stopping by the library or by calling 938-2974.

Teen workshop

A free workshop for teens about communication and teamwork skills for the workplace takes place at 3:15-4:15 p.m. Tuesday at the Youth Center Technology Center, Bldg. 500.

Register at Bldg. 500 or call Employment Readiness at 938-5658/5653.

All students must have a current CYSS membership before registering for class.

Sealed bid sale

FMWR Services Division is holding a sealed bid sale for a 1991 Jacobsen 4x4 King of the Hill tractor, 1994 leafblower giant VAC and 1991 Toro Wheel Horse.

These items are sold as-is and may be viewed Wednesday-June 26 at Round Pond. Each item is subject to a minimum bid.

For more information, call 938-2503.

A 2000 vacuum grizzly is being sold as-is and may be viewed 1-3 p.m. Wednesday-June 26 at the Craft Shop.

The item is subject to a minimum bid.

For more information, call 938-4915.

TSP TICKER

JUNE share prices (as of 6/12)

C Fund —	+ 0.03	(11.0818)
S Fund —	+ 0.02	(13.5567)
I Fund —	+ 0.30	(15.6496)

Safety training

Auto safety training will be mandatory for all self-help patrons beginning July 1 at the West Point Auto Shop.

Training sessions will be held through Saturday 30 minutes after opening.

This training is free and will cover lift safety, shop safety, proper disposal of fluids and include a tour of the shop and overview of shop rules.

For more information, call 938-2074.

Discount oil change

An oil change while you wait includes up to five quarts conventional 5W/30 or 10W/30 motor oil and most standard filters at the West Point Auto Shop.

Special oils and filters are available at an additional cost.

For more information and pricing, call the Auto Shop at 938-2074.

Summer swimming

Delafield and Round Pond summer swim passes are on sale at Delafield Pond, Round Pond and ITR.

The ponds are open 11 a.m.-6 p.m. daily.

For more information, call 938-5158.

Craft classes

The FMWR Craft Shop is hosting the children's frog planters and designing a windsock classes 10 a.m.-noon Saturday and a scrapbooking for beginners class 6-8:30 p.m. June 25.

Registration is required for all classes.

For more information, call 938-4812.

English classes

ACS is hosting English Language Learners, an English-as-a-second-language class, from 6:30-7:30 p.m. Tuesdays through July 21.

Classes are held at ACS, Bldg. 622.

For more information, call the Relocation Readiness Program at 938-3487.

Beginner's running group

A beginner's running group meets at 8 a.m. Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays at the South Dock. Strollers are welcome.

Sign-up at the MWR Fitness Center or call Kristine Hays at 859-4965.

PowerPoint classes

PowerPoint classes are being offered by the ACS Employment Readiness Program. PowerPoint parts I and II is scheduled for 10-11:30 a.m. Tuesday and June 25.

Advanced PowerPoint parts I and II is scheduled for 10-11:30 a.m. June 30 and July 2.

Classes will be held at the Army Education Center, Bldg. 683.

Registration is required.

For more information, call 938-5658.

Workshop

ACS Employment Readiness is hosting a workshop about interviewing and dressing for success at 10-11:30 a.m. June 26 at ACS, Bldg. 622.

For more information or to register, call 938-5658.

Newcomer's brief

The West Point Newcomer's Orientation and Welcome Brief is scheduled for 8:30 a.m.-1 p.m. July 1 at ACS, Bldg. 622.

A guided bus tour of West Point will follow at 1-3 p.m.

For more information, call 938-4612.

Crisis line

Soldiers and their Families can be provided up to 12 free, face-to-face, short-term counseling sessions through the Military One Source Crisis Line.

For more information, call 800-342-9647.

A Spanish line is available at 877-888-0727.

For more information, visit www.militaryonesource.com.

militaryonesource.com.

Summer trips

For more information about summer trips and events upcoming at Youth Services, call 938-3727, stop by Bldg. 500 or visit www.westpointmwr.com.

[westpointmwr.com](http://www.westpointmwr.com).

Morgan Farm

Morgan Farm Kennels and Stables is offering kenneling for the summer. Slots still are available for the summer riding program.

Riding lessons are offered on a weekly basis.

Families of deployed Soldiers receive a discount.

For more information, call 938-3926.

Instructor needed

A certified Les Mills body pump instructor is needed to work at the MWR Fitness Center.

If interested, contact Rita Tenuta at 938-6490 or 446-3630.

Triathlon training group

A women's triathlon training group will meet through Aug. 30 to prepare for the Diamond Girl New York All-Women's Sprint Triathlon at Harriman State Park/Lake Sebago.

The group is led by Certified Personal Trainer Dana White.

For more information, including fee to participate, e-mail teamwhitefitness@gmail.com or call the FMWR Fitness Center at 938-6490.

SKIES Instructional Program

CYSS SKIES Instructional Program sessions are ongoing.

For more information, visit www.westpointmwr.com or call 938-3727/8893.

Ready Raccoon helps with emergency preparedness info

Story by Kathy Eastwood
Staff Writer

Fire departments have Sparky the Fire Dog as their national spokesman for fire safety; the national D.A.R.E (Drug Abuse Resistance Education) program has the D.A.R.E. Lion and the National Crime Prevention Council has a Great Dane to take a bite out of crime in the form of McGruff the Crime Dog.

Not to be outdone, the Directorate of Plans, Training, Mobilization and Security has Ready Raccoon as their new mascot. Ready Raccoon represents the emergency preparedness and readiness program at various West Point and community events throughout the year.

Though a bit shy—he's only appeared at the Special Olympics and the Month of the Military Child picnic so far—he's beginning to make a name for himself as the emergency preparedness mascot.

Ready is a charming critter that always has one hand out to greet people while handing out coloring books and activity sheets to children and brochures to adults on how to prepare for emergencies.

"We have an emergency preparedness fair each year, and we are always trying to figure out ways to entice people to understand what it is we are talking about in preparing for emergencies," Joe Colombo, DPTMS plans and operations specialist, said. "Last year, there were about 500 people that attended the fair. This year, we will have 25-30 vendors, active and interactive activities, and emergency responders from Orange County, the Red Cross and the Department of Homeland Security."

The emergency preparedness program personnel have gone to the West Point schools and given out coloring books, but they didn't have any symbol or mascot that children or adults could relate to.

Ready Raccoon is the brainchild of Chris Hennen, plans officer at DPTMS, and is a part of Ready Army emergency management programs, which is a proactive communications campaign to increase the Army community's preparedness by informing the Army community, civilians, contractors and Soldiers of relevant emergencies and encouraging them to get an emergency kit, be informed and make a plan, according to www.acism.army.mil/readyarmy.

DPTMS went to work on a mascot by talking to the



Ready Raccoon, the DPTMS mascot for their emergency preparedness program, is shown at the 25th annual Special Olympics April 25. Ready greets people with one hand and hands out brochures to adults and coloring books to children with the other hand.

SUSAN FOLEY/DPTMS

Red Cross and writing a justification for a grant, which helped DPTMS obtain funding for the mascot costume and educational materials.

"The Red Cross thought it was a great idea and sponsored us by buying the costume through a grant from the Federal Emergency Management Agency," Colombo said.

The DPTMS emergency management program provides community members with information about how to prepare in case of emergencies such as power outages caused by storms and floods.

"Getting information out to people is part of our strategic communication plan to educate individuals on what to do during any kind of emergency," he said. "By knowing what to do in an emergency, individuals are empowered, become self-reliant and responsible, which helps us by allowing us to take care of (those who have difficulty in taking care of themselves)

such as the elderly, children and the infirm."

Colombo feels it is in the American culture that people don't get involved unless it affects them as individuals and it is a challenge to remind people that emergency situations can happen to anyone at anytime.

"Most people have a spare tire in their vehicle," he said. "That is preparation. So why not prepare for emergencies by making a kit, becoming informed and make a plan?"

To keep emergency preparedness at the forefront of people's minds, an emergency preparedness fair is planned from 10 a.m.-3 p.m. Sept. 26 at the Post Exchange and will coincide with the Bike Rodeo.

For information on emergency preparedness, go to <http://www.usma.edu/Garrison/sites/directorates/dptms/cepip/>

To volunteer for the emergency preparedness fair, call DPTMS 938-8862.

NOW SHOWING

in the movie theater at Mahan Hall, Bldg. 752

Friday -- Earth, PG, 7:30 p.m.

Saturday -- Angels and Demons, PG-13, 7:30 p.m.

June 26 -- Star Trek, PG-13, 7:30 p.m.

June 27 -- X-Men Origins: Wolverine, PG-13, 7:30 p.m.

THE THEATER SCHEDULE ALSO CAN BE FOUND AT
WWW.AAFES.COM

Command Channel 8/23

June 18-25

Army Newswatch (broadcast times)
Thursday-Friday, Monday-Wednesday,
June 25

8:30 a.m., 1 p.m. and 7 p.m.

BBC LifeWorks events

Resident satisfaction survey

The final deadline to return the resident satisfaction survey to Balfour Beatty Communities is June 30.

Return the survey in the postage-paid envelope. Then, go to the Balfour Beatty Communities office at 132 Bartlett Loop to fill out an entry form to win one of the following prizes:

Friday—Merchandise from Woodbury Common Premium Outlet worth more than \$200 with an overnight stay and continental breakfast at Woodbury Hampton Inn.

June 26—Final grand prize drawing of a flat-screen television.

Drawings are held weekly and the winners are notified by phone by 5 p.m. Friday.

Army football kicks off billboard campaign

By Tim Volkmann
Athletic Communications

Motorists driving the roads throughout the Tri-State area in the coming months will be reminded that the 2009 Army football season is just around the corner.

The Army Athletic Association will once again amp up its aggressive regional marketing plans for the summer by launching a comprehensive signage campaign aimed at attracting fans that travel some of New York's, New Jersey's and Connecticut's most traveled roadways.

Large graphic billboards with Black Knight photographs and ticket information will be placed on I-95 (New Jersey Turnpike) heading northbound at the Vince Lombardi Service Area, along with several other locations in Greenwich and Stamford, Conn., as well as Putnam, Rockland and Orange counties.

Twenty-five transit shelters in Westchester County will have similar football signage installed.

"As our fan base continues to grow, comprehensive advertising throughout the Tri-State area such as this helps us connect with new fans looking for affordable Family entertainment that is a short ride from home," Army Director of Athletics Kevin Anderson said. "It is also a key ingredient in bringing back our existing fans and getting them excited about everything the coming season has to offer."

Army will kick off the home portion of the 2009 season Sept. 12 as they host Duke at Michie Stadium as part of Hall of Fame weekend.

The first 5,000 fans entering Michie Stadium will receive an 8x10-inch print containing images of the Army Sports Hall of Fame's Class of 2009 which will include Hall of Fame basketball coach Mike Krzyzewski.

Black Knights Alley will host a pregame photograph and autograph session with induction class members, and the class will be honored at halftime with on-field and video board tributes.

Other events planned for the rest of the season include Joe Steffy Day on Sept. 19 against Ball State, Homecoming on Oct. 3 versus Tulane and Felix "Doc" Blanchard Day on Oct. 10 opposite Vanderbilt.

The 25th anniversary of Army's Cherry Bowl winning squad will also be celebrated during the Oct. 23 contest versus Rutgers, while Military Appreciation Day will take place in conjunction with the Nov. 14 game against VMI.

Unique giveaway items are planned for every home game.

Season and individual game tickets are on sale now. Regular season ticket packages can be purchased, which include a parking pass.

Fans can also join "Coach E's Army," located in sections 5 through 8A in the lower tier of Michie Stadium, for a low price.

The discounted ticket package includes a specially branded "Coach E's Army" T-shirt and a full season parking pass.

To view a complete list of all the available ticket packages, log on to www.goARMYsports.com or call the ticket office at 1-877-TIX-ARMY for complete details.



Billboards, such as the one shown at the top, will be displayed in the Tri-State area marketing Army football for the 2009 season. Cow quarterback Chip Bowden (above) will lead Army this season as they have six home games on the upcoming schedule. The first chance to see Army at Michie Stadium will be Sept. 12 versus Duke as a part of Hall of Fame weekend.

ERIC S. BARTELT/PV