



TEAM GREELY

INTERCEPTOR

ALWAYS ON GUARD DEFENDING FREEDOM

January 2009

Program enhances medical care

Receives high marks from Army Surgeon General

Kent Cummins
Public Affairs

Fort Greely Soldiers and their Family members have more medical care options now with a "clinic inside a clinic" in Delta Junction.

Three days a week, normally Mondays, Tuesdays and Thursdays, from 1:30 to 4:30 p.m., Maj. David Armitage, physician assistant at Fort Greely's Aid Station, travels to the Family Medical Center in town and offers appointments for Soldiers and Family members.

"The program is working very well," said Armitage. "It expands and increases access to medical care for Soldiers and Family members. Bassett Army Community Hospital worked very hard with the Delta Junction Family Medical Center to implement this program, and they did so to improve the medical care for the Soldiers and Family members living and working on Fort Greely."

Since opening in October, Armitage has

seen nearly 140 patients. He is assisted by Maggie Olsen, a registered nurse, who helps him provide general family medical care for all those who are eligible excluding children under the age of 2.

"The civilian physicians at Delta Family Medical Center can provide family medical care for all age groups, including infants," Armitage explained. "Also, Bassett Army Community Hospital sends two specialty care circuit riders to the Family Medical Center each month who can provide Soldiers and Family members with obstetrics/gynecology and pediatric care."

The OB/GYN rotates to the Family Medical Center on the last Wednesday of every month and the pediatrician rotates on the second Thursday of every month.

Bassett Army Community Hospital also provides a physical therapist who rotates to the Aid Station at Fort Greely once a month.

"There is no set day that he comes down here," said Armitage. "That is set up on a



Photo by Kent Cummins

Maggie Olsen discusses a patient with Maj. David Armitage at the Delta Junction Family Medical Center.

month by month basis and is driven by his schedule at Bassett. "The physical therapist is only for Soldiers and he evaluates

See *MEDICAL*, Page 4

Greely office offers tax help

The Fort Greely Tax Assistance Center can help active duty, National Guard, Reservists, and military retirees with their taxes. The service is free.

The tax assistance center is located in Post Headquarters, Bldg. 501, Room 107.

The service is available from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. weekdays through April 15.

To schedule an appointment and to verify what documentation is needed to prepare taxes, call 873-5034.

A few items to assemble before the appointment include social security card, W-2s and 1099s, Form 1098 for mortgage interest and taxes paid, prior year's tax return, and documentation of charitable contributions.

Troopers issue cold weather reminder

With extreme winter temperatures all across the state, and in some areas dropping to minus forty and fifty degrees below zero, the Division of Alaska State Troopers would like to remind the public of the dangers of exposure.

If you are venturing outside be sure to dress for the weather. On two separate occasions during the past week, AST in Fairbanks received calls to help locate missing persons who had ventured outside while unprepared

for the extreme weather. Both individuals were ultimately located in good condition but both incidents could easily have ended in tragedy.

This is also a good opportunity to remind the public to carry appropriate emergency supplies in their vehicles when traveling. Getting stuck in the ditch in temperatures below zero can become a potentially life or death situation if you are unprepared. Always carry extra winter clothing

See *WEATHER*, Page 5

Command Corner

Happy New Year—2009!

Happy New Year! I have been at Fort Greely for about three months now and this is a new and exciting adventure for me.

I've observed a tremendous amount of teamwork, pride and dedication from the people who work here.

Team Greely is made up of many pieces just like a jigsaw puzzle. Every piece of the puzzle is necessary in order to create the desired image.

This is the same analogy I use when it comes to Fort Greely. Every Soldier, Family member, Retiree, Defense Department employee and Contractor is a critical part of the puzzle and every piece is needed in order to effectively accomplish the mission.

During these long winter months we need to stay the course ... think positive and discard negative thoughts.

Lets look out for one another and ensure everyone who is a part of Team Greely is motivated and dedicated to making Fort Greely a success.

You may not know it, but every day you help mold and develop people by what you offer them. Remember to treat others the way you want to be treated.

Personally, I want to be here and chose Fort Greely as my assignment. I truly appreciate all the support I have received since my arrival.

I have been very impressed by

the numerous morale-boosting events the past few months and thank you for your participation ... from the Holiday Tree Lighting to the New Year's Eve celebration. I encourage you to continue supporting these type events. They are great for enhancing the esprit de corps at Fort Greely!

With the frigid temperatures outside, I know many people want to stay indoors where it is warm, but please try to venture out when you can to attend some of these worthwhile events.

On the topic of cold weather, please keep safety in mind ... drink lots of water to stay hydrated, wear the proper cold-weather gear and keep an emergency kit in your vehicle.

As we enter this New Year let's focus our energy on making Fort Greely a place where people "want to be!"

We are part of a vital mission here and I appreciate you serving this great nation. We are protecting America and freedom. I'm proud and honored to be part of Team Greely!

- CSM Carolyn Reynolds



CSM Carolyn Reynolds
Garrison CSM

ICE Customer Corner

Fort Greely Police Department: This may sound odd but I am thankful for being stopped Friday afternoon (Dec. 5) for a burned out headlight. I was preparing to leave for Valdez about 6 a.m. the next morning and it would have been really tough to see moose, etc... with only one headlight. I had time to go to the NAPA and replace it in time for my trip. Thanks!

Fort Greely Post Office: The post office on Fort Greely has to be the nicest and fastest post office that I have ever been to. Someone had suggested to me to take my holiday packages to Fairbanks so that they would get to the Lower 48 faster but I took them to our Fort Greely post office just because I know the ladies that work here are very polite and help me with anything that I need. Sue is very personable and knows everyone by name. I have witnessed when new Soldiers and Family members come to the post office and Sue treats them like family. When I meet new Soldiers and their Family they all know Sue by name and all speak fondly of her and her staff. Sue is truly an asset to the Fort Greely community.

FMWR Outdoor Recreation: Since the lift was put into Outdoor Rec I have used it five times. The employees are to be commended for going above and beyond the scope of their duties, each time I was in, they provided invaluable help to me. A loss of these employees would be a great loss to the Fort Greely team.

Public Affairs Office: Kent ... Any chance we can have the DOD "hometown greetings" come prior to the holidays next year? We had them come a few years ago and we got a big turn-out. Thanks, Ryan

Response: I have contacted the Fort Wainwright Public Affairs Officer and the USARPAC Public Affairs Officer to ensure Fort Greely is included the Hometown News Team itinerary next year for the Holiday Greetings Program. I have also put this on my calendar for the summer to call and remind the PAOs that Greely needs to be included.

Commissary: Just wanted to let everyone know what hard workers the commissary staff is. They run a tight ship and do a great job. They are quick to help and try to answer questions to the best of their ability. I hope that all the workers at the commissary can get awards or recognition for their hard work and effort they put in day in and day out. People never realize or know just how much work it takes to run the commissary efficiently and effectively. Keep up the good work and know that there are people out there who appreciate all that the commissary does. - Fort Greely patrons

To submit an ICE comment visit <http://www.greely.army.mil> and click on the ICE logo.

The **INTERCEPTOR** is an authorized unofficial publication for military and civilian members of Fort Greely. The **INTERCEPTOR** is published monthly by the Public Affairs Office, Fort Greely Garrison. Contents of this publication are not necessarily the official views of, nor endorsed by the U.S. Government, the Department of Defense, or the Department of the Army. While contributions are welcome, the PAO reserves the right to edit all submitted materials, make corrections, changes, or deletions to conform with the policies of this paper. Articles and photos submitted by the 20th of each month will be considered for publication in the next issue of the **INTERCEPTOR**. Submit via email to fgapao@greely.army.mil, or mail to: Garrison Commander, ATTN: Newsletter, PO Box 31269, Fort Greely, AK 99731.

Commanding Officer Lt. Col. Chris Chronis
Deputy Commander Louis Roach
Public Affairs Officer Kent Cummins

Meaning of Martin Luther King Holiday

Coretta Scott King

The Martin Luther King, Jr. Holiday celebrates the life and legacy of a man who brought hope and healing to America. We commemorate as well the timeless values he taught us through his example - the values of courage, truth, justice, compassion, dignity, humility and service that so radiantly defined Dr. King's character and empowered his leadership. On this holiday, we commemorate the universal, unconditional love, forgiveness and nonviolence that empowered his revolutionary spirit.

We commemorate Dr. King's inspiring words, because his voice and vision filled a great void in our nation, and answered our collective longing to become a country that truly lived by its noblest principles. Yet, Dr. King knew it wasn't enough just to talk the talk, he had to walk the walk for his words to be credible. And so we commemorate on this holiday the man of action, who put his life on the line for freedom and justice every day, the man who braved threats, jail and beatings and who ultimately paid the highest price to make democracy a reality for all Americans.

The holiday honors the life and contributions of America's greatest champion of racial justice and equality, the leader who not only dreamed of a color-blind society, but who also led a movement that achieved historic reforms to help make it a reality.

On this day we commemorate his great dream of a vibrant, multiracial nation united in justice, peace and reconciliation; a nation that has a place at the table for children of every race and room at the inn for every needy child. We're called on this day, not merely to honor, but to celebrate the values of equality, tolerance and interracial sister and brotherhood he so compellingly expressed in his great dream for America.

It's a day of interracial and intercultural cooperation and sharing. No other day of the year brings so many peoples from different cultural backgrounds together in such a vibrant spirit of brother and sisterhood. Whether you are African-American, Hispanic or Native American, whether you are Caucasian or Asian-American, you are part of the great dream Dr. King had for America. This is not a black holiday; it is a

peoples' holiday. And it is the young people of all races and religions who hold the keys to the fulfillment of his dream.

We commemorate on this holiday the ecumenical leader and visionary who embraced the unity of all faiths in love and truth. And though we take patriotic pride that Dr. King was an American, on this holiday we must also commemorate the global leader who inspired nonviolent liberation movements around the world. Indeed, on this day, programs commemorating my husband's birthday are being observed in more than 100 nations.

The holiday celebrates his global vision of the world house, a world whose people and nations had triumphed over poverty, racism, war and violence. The holiday celebrates his vision of ecumenical solidarity, his insistence that all faiths had something meaningful to contribute to building the beloved community.

The holiday commemorates America's pre-eminent advocate of nonviolence - the man who taught by his example that nonviolent action is the most powerful, revolutionary force for social change available to oppressed people in their struggles for liberation.

This holiday honors the courage of a man who endured harassment, threats, beatings, and even bombings. We commemorate the man who went to jail 29 times to achieve freedom for others, and who knew he would pay the ultimate price for his leadership, but kept on marching and protesting and organizing anyway.

Every King holiday has been a national "teach-in" on the values of nonviolence, including unconditional love, tolerance, forgiveness and reconciliation, which are so desperately-needed to unify America. It is a day of intensive education and training in Martin's philosophy and methods of nonviolent social change and conflict-reconciliation. The holiday provides a unique opportunity to teach young people to fight evil, not people, to get in the habit of asking themselves, "what is the most loving way I can resolve this conflict?"

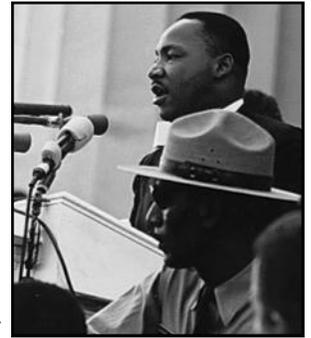
On the holiday, young people learn about the power of unconditional love even for one's adversaries as a way to fight injustice and defuse violent disputes. It is a time to show them the power of forgiveness in the healing process at the interpersonal as well as international levels.

This holiday is not only for celebration and remembrance, education and tribute, but above all a day of service. All across America on the holiday, his followers perform service in hospitals and shelters and prisons and wherever people need some help. It is a day of volunteering to feed the hungry, rehabilitate housing, tutoring those who can't read, mentoring at-risk youngsters, consoling the broken-hearted and a thousand other projects for building the beloved community of his dream.

Dr. King once said that we all have to decide whether we "will walk in the light of creative altruism or the darkness of destructive selfishness. Life's most persistent and nagging question, he said, is 'what are you doing for others?'" he would quote Mark 9:35, the scripture in which Jesus of Nazareth tells James and John "...whosoever will be great among you shall be your servant; and whosoever among you will be the first shall be the servant of all." And when Martin talked about the end of his mortal life in one of his last sermons, on February 4, 1968 in the pulpit of Ebenezer Baptist Church, even then he lifted up the value of service as the hallmark of a full life. "I'd like somebody to mention on that day Martin Luther King, Jr. tried to give his life serving others," he said. "I want you to say on that day, that I did try in my life...to love and serve humanity."

We call you to commemorate this Holiday by making your personal commitment to serve humanity with the vibrant spirit of unconditional love that was his greatest strength, and which empowered all of the great victories of his leadership. And with our hearts open to this spirit of unconditional love, we can indeed achieve the Beloved Community of Martin Luther King, Jr.'s dream.

May we who follow Martin now pledge to serve humanity, promote his teachings and carry forward his legacy into the 21st Century.



National Archives and Records Administration



Photos by Dave Brown

Joint Training

(Photo above) A sergeant and instructor with the Alaska State Troopers SWAT discusses an exercise scenario with members of the Fort Greely Police Department and Troopers. Fort Greely and the State Troopers teamed up last month for emergency response scenario training at the Delta Junction High School. The two organizations conduct joint training to ensure responders are prepared to react to a variety of possible emergency situations. (Photo right) Fort Greely Police Department's Lt. Brad Reed and Watch Commander Jeff Kinsman participate in the recent joint training exercise with the Alaska State Troopers at the high school in Delta Junction.



MEDICAL, from Page 1

and sets up rehab plans that the Soldiers can complete at the gym or at home. I follow those Soldiers in evaluating their progress in-between his visits.

"There are some restrictions on which Soldiers can do their physical therapy on Fort Greely," Armitage explained. "Those who are unable to do their physical therapy on Fort Greely will still have to go to Bassett to have it done, until they are cleared to finish it down here. This has been a very productive service that Bassett has provided the Soldiers here. It has markedly decreased the amount of time Soldiers have to spend on the road traveling back and forth from Fairbanks. It has decreased the amount of time that the Soldiers have to miss work and also decreased the amount of time it takes for a Soldier to recover from an injury."

Armitage said the Family Medical Center provides him with a tremendous amount of support.

"They make and keep track of the appointments, they have given me a nurse who works full time with me while I am there, they have the lab and x-ray services which I have full access to, and the other

providers have been more than helpful with any questions or concerns that I may have had," said Armitage. "FMC has also worked very hard in setting up this program and they have given us a very nice and well appointed area to see our Soldiers and Family members. I couldn't ask for better support."

For being a remote location, the medical care at Fort Greely and Delta Junction was given kudos from the commanding general for the Army Medical Command.

Lt. Gen. Eric B. Schoomaker, the Army Surgeon General and commander, U.S. Army Medical Command, personally visited the Family Medical Center last year and gave the clinic very "high marks" for operational layout, the medical care provided, and the medical capability available for a remote location.

"This is very high praise expressed by the general in his assessment of the Family Medical Center," said Armitage. "The providers at FMC are duly licensed by the State of Alaska and Dr. R.E. Andreasson is

“ I have lived and worked in several very remote locations throughout my career as a physician assistant, and I would put the Family Medical Center at the very top of that list ... ”

-Maj. David Armitage

also credentialed with, and through, Bassett.

"I have lived and worked in several very remote locations throughout my career as a physician assistant, and I would put the Family Medical Center at the very top of that list in the quality of medical care provided to its patients and the accessibility of the clinic for that care."

To make an appointment with Armitage, the OB/GYN or pediatrician, call the Family Medical Center at 895-5100.

The Fort Greely Aid Station number is 873-4977.

'Winter blues' a real condition

Colleen Pugh
Fort Greely Safety Office

Seasonal Affective Disorder is depression, ranging from very mild to extreme. Most often it is mild to moderate.

SAD can be caused by isolation, segregation from family and friends, and a lack of sunlight in the winter.

Researchers have proven bright sun light makes a difference to the brain chemistry, although the exact means by which sufferers are affected is not yet known. It is not a psychosomatic or imaginary illness.

Some symptoms of SAD include sleeping a lot but never feeling refreshed; cannot get out of bed and often needing a nap in the afternoon; craving carbohydrates leading to overeating and weight gain; normal tasks may become frustrating and difficult and a person may feel depression, guilt, anxiety;

avoiding family and friends, being irritable, loss of feeling; and there may be physical symptoms like joint pain or stomach problems, a lowered resistance to infection, or behavioral problems especially in young people.

There are several solutions to help combat SAD.

Try to be in bright full-spectrum light for up to 45 minutes a day. Brighter regular lights can help to brighten up an area and your outlook. A plant "grow light" is equivalent to the SAD lights that are on the market.

Winter Sports and recreation activities may help, as well as social fellowship, community mentors and counseling.

There is a free SAD class scheduled for 10 to 11 a.m. Feb. 10 at the Gabriel Auditorium. For more information about SAD, call Army Community Services at 873-4346 or the Military Family Life Consultant at 803-3563.

WEATHER, from Page 1

in your vehicle including blankets, sleeping bags, extra gloves, hats and boots, non-perishable food items and an emergency medical kit as well as a flashlight and some road flares. When walking, skiing, hunting and snow machining, be sure to dress in layers with adequate insulation. Remember, consuming alcohol in the cold can increase the risk of cold injuries and impair judgment.

If someone you know goes outdoors in these current conditions and you are worried about their well being, or if they do not return when expected, report them missing immediately. If you are stuck outside and worried about your well being, call for assistance immediately — don't wait until you or someone else has developed a cold weather injury. If you are planning on a recreational outing, share your plans with others — let them know where you are going, what supplies you have and what time they should contact law enforcement if you haven't returned. The sooner AST knows there is a problem, the faster we can begin searching for missing individuals. *(Courtesy of Alaska State Troopers)*

Ed Center assists Team Greely

Fort Greely's education counselor assists Soldiers with education support and career counseling. Services are also available to Department of Defense employees, military Family members, retired military, and other authorized employees serving on Fort Greely. The counselor is also available to proctor tests for distance education coursework.

The Center is located near the Launch Room Dining Facility in Bldg 661. Hours of operation are Mon-Fri, 7:30 a.m. - 4 p.m. Bulletin boards and reading material displays are located in the hall for access by prospective students. A classroom is available

for coursework, learning and meetings. Look for a college class to be offered by the University of Alaska on Fort Greely in the spring.

The counselor can help you: clarify your educational and career goals; develop an education plan; review your previous transcripts for transferable credit; select classes to fulfill your degree or certificate program; show you how to transfer to other college or university programs; interpret the results of college placement tools; and explore your career goals with your interests, skills, and personality in mind. For more information, call Bruce Grossmann at 873-2485.

Greely to honor Martin Luther King Jan. 15

Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Holiday



Team Greely will celebrate Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. during a special event from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. Jan. 15 at the Installation Theater.

The highlight of the celebration will be a reenactment of King's "I Have a Dream" speech by Charles Bailey.

Come remember and honor the civil rights leader who brought change through nonviolent protest.

Residential Communities Initiative

Housing Privatization Qs & As

As Fort Greely transitions to privatized housing, here are some frequently asked questions and answers to ease the process.

An "RCI Town Hall" is scheduled for 6 p.m. Jan. 20 at the Installation Theater. RCI experts will be on hand to brief and answer additional questions.

Why has the Army privatized its housing?

The Army recognized that it has a rapidly deteriorating housing inventory that was chronically under funded as it competed for resources in the wake of an increasing deficit.

In 1996, 70 percent of the Army's housing needed replacement or major renovation. The Army determined it would take \$7 billion to correct conditions. Since traditional Military Construction funds were not available to meet this goal in a timely manner, Army officials determined that the best solution was to use privatization to accelerate the process.

The Army's goal with privatization is to provide safe, quality, affordable, well-maintained housing for Soldiers and their families.

In 1996, the Military Housing Privatization Initiative was passed and codified in 10 U.S. Code 2871.

The law allows the military to enter into partnerships with private developers in order to leverage government owned assets and secure private capital in an effort to improve and construct military housing.

Forts Wainwright and Greely are privatizing, with construction and renovations anticipated to begin in April 2009.

How will the Project be structured?

The Project will have approximately 57 employees who will operate and maintain the homes on Forts Wainwright and Greely.

Community-based management operations and dedicated maintenance services

will be established to better serve the residents living in the various communities within the installations.

What will my rent payment be and how will it be collected?

The Project will charge rent that is equivalent to the service members Basic Allowance for Housing with dependent rate. Dual service members pay rent equivalent to the senior service members BAH with dependent rate.

Rent is collected via an allotment by a third party vendor, Military Assistance Company.

When a service member signs a lease with the Project, MAC is notified of the transaction and subsequently submits a BAH transaction start request to the Defense Finance and Accounting Department. Rent is paid in arrears on a monthly basis.

What is my rent used for?

The rent the service members pay each month is used for management of the Project, management of the property, maintenance service, grounds maintenance, capital repair and improvements, insurance, utilities, fire and police services, and construction of new homes.

Why am I paying for the construction of a new home I will never live in?

The Residential Communities Initiative was implemented as a solution to fix all Army Family Housing over the next 10 years, improving the quality of life for Soldiers and their Families.

These homes will be constructed during the Initial Development Period which is the first five years.

Who will be assigned new homes?

Fort Greely is scheduled to receive 126 new homes. All eligible Soldiers will receive new homes.

If I am asked to move because my current home is slated for

demolition or renovation, who will pay for my move and how much notice will be given?

Soldiers and their families will not be displaced. They will move once their new home is constructed and RCI will fund their moving expenses.

Who do I contact for housing issues?

All housing issues should be brought to the attention of your community center staff. Each community will have a dedicated professional property management team that will be available to assist you with your needs.

If an issue can not be addressed by the community center staff then the next level of contact is the Director of Property Management, located at Fort Wainwright.

What are my responsibilities as a resident?

All project residents are responsible for abiding by the Resident Guide and the Lease Agreement.

A copy of the Lease Agreement and Resident Guide will be provided to you upon move-in.

Does the Project Provide Renters Insurance?

The Project will provide limited renters insurance which is included in your lease agreement. It includes the following:

- Personal Property Coverage
\$20,000
- Personal Liability Coverage
\$100,000

The insurance provided does not cover flood damage.

We encourage our residents to seek professional advice from a certified insurance company regarding any additional insurance you may need.

Will Self Help still be available?

A part of Privatization is to provide better services to Soldiers and their Families. We understand the importance of time and will offer full maintenance services. For those who might want to do a small task themselves, limited self help items will be

Residential Communities Initiative

HOUSING, from Page 6

available. Residents will be provided a listing of Self Help items available at time of move-in.

Will I have to pay for my utilities?

Housing consumes about 30 percent of the total energy used on military installations. The Energy Policy Act of 1992 and subsequent Executive Order 12902 require all federal facilities to reduce their energy consumptions 30 percent per square foot. This goal requires a concerted conservation effort by both residents and the Project.

As part of the development period, all homes on Forts Wainwright and Greely will be individually metered for electricity. After completion of the installation of the meters, a base line per home will be developed.

This base line becomes the resident's utility allowance that will be included in the monthly rental rate. If a resident conserves energy, and the monthly electric consumptions falls below the allowance, a credit will be given to the resident. If the utility consumption is above the allowance, the resident will be required to pay the difference.

The Project will provide additional information and education when it begins installation of the meters.

Will loaner furniture still be available to me?

Yes, loaner furniture will still be available for families who live in one of the communities at Forts Wainwright and Greely at time of move-in and move-out. Loaner furniture will not be available for families living off post.

At move out, will we be charged for damages?

Residents will not be charged for normal wear and tear on a home. Residents are responsible for pet damage and any other damage that exceeds normal wear and tear.

If a service member is promoted during the lease term, is any action required?

No. MAC (Military Assistance Company) will adjust your allotment. But, you are encouraged to notify your community staff of any change in family or military status.

Why does an E-6 pay more BAH than an E-5 for the same house?

The partnership's goal is to provide comfortable homes, community atmosphere and superior service on post at an affordable price for all service members. By maintaining rent at everyone's BAH, we

can achieve that goal.

Is BAH taxed?

No. BAH is a non-taxable entitlement.

Will my BAH increase to cover utility costs I may have to pay.

No. Your BAH will cover your baseline utility usage. You would only have to pay for utilities if you are habitually consuming more than your base line average amount.

When we clear housing, what will the inspection be like? How extensive?

Once you have given your notice, you will have the option of scheduling a Pre-Move Out inspection so that a community staff member can go over any expectations with you.

North Haven Communities will require a broom swept condition at move-out. Broom swept is designed to ease the move-out (clearing) process. Broom swept condition implies that a home is left clean throughout including the kitchen, bathroom(s) and garage.

When a home is cleaned regularly, it should only require a wipe down and sweep/vacuum at move-out to deliver a broom swept condition. *(Courtesy of North Haven Communities)*

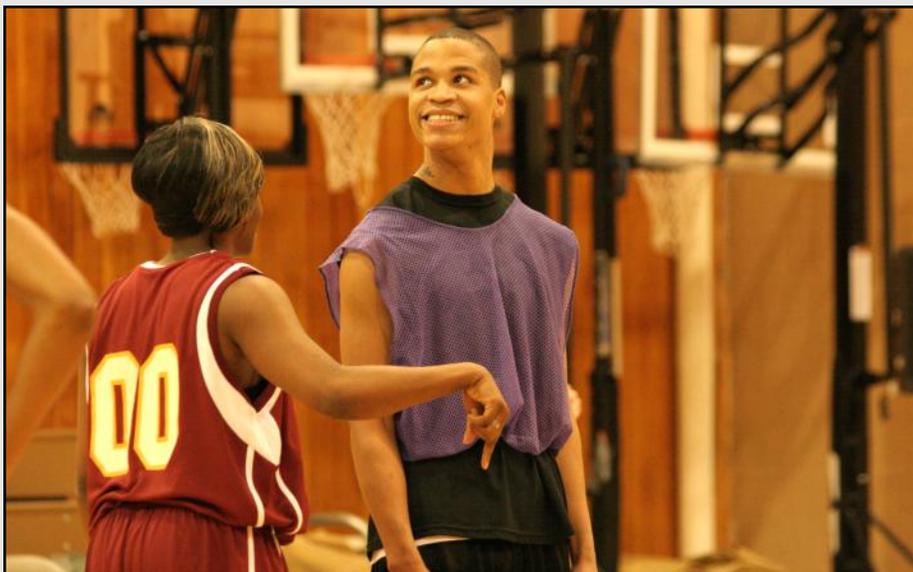


Photo by Kent Cummins

All Smiles!

Private 1st Class Rickey Mason, 49th Missile Defense Battalion, enjoys the recent basketball game against the Harlem Ambassadors. Fort Greely members turned out last month to watch the show. The internationally-acclaimed Harlem Ambassadors offer a unique brand of Harlem-style basketball, featuring high-flying slam dunks, dazzling ball-handling tricks and hilarious comedy routines. The Ambassadors performance featured non-stop laughs and a positive message for Fort Greely children. Their shows have helped raise millions of dollars for organizations such as Habitat for Humanity.

FGMS Lady Grizzlies win championship title

The Fort Greely Middle School Varsity Girls Basketball team closed out their winning season at Nenana recently beating Anderson 18-13.

The Lady Grizzlies brought home the championship title for the first time in the five-year history of the Nenana Ice Cream Classic Tournament.

"What a fantastic group of young ladies", said first year head coach Marsha Renaud, a Fort Greely Garrison employee. "This has been a wonderful basketball season. At the first day of practice I saw a unique talent in each player. I knew if I could transform their attitudes about their own abilities we would win games."

And win games they did, Delta finished the season with a 12-4 record and took 3rd Place in the Valdez Invitational Tournament just the week before making the road trip to Nenana.

After a slow first half in the opening game against Minto, Delta led their opponents by a score of 11-9 as the team found it difficult to adjust to a running clock. That all changed in the fourth period as Delta found

their comfort zone. They scored 23 of their 37 points in the final period behind a strong defense beating Minto 37-9.

"Our defense was spectacular. The ladies were able to turn almost every rebounding opportunity into points on the other end of the court during the fourth period, you can't ask for more than that," said Renaud.

In the second game against Tri-Valley, Delta found themselves in a defensive battle

that went down to the wire. On a last second rebound, Power Forward Makayla Fellman went up strong under the basket and scored the game winning point to send Delta to the Championship game.

"The court truly was a battlefield for the ladies during that game, there was a lot of physi-



Photo by Kent Cummins

(Front row, left to right) Coach Marsha Renaud, Ashlynn Robinson, Jordan Craig, Tanya Ionushku, Katey Palmer, and Brittany Palmer. (Back row, left to right) Savannah Johns, Jessica Helken, Thea Levinson, Jess Reiter, Alex Holtman, and Makayla Fellman. (Not pictured) Taiyler Joe, Jacienda Vent.

cal contact and the referees let the teams battle it out. Winning those types of games are especially rewarding for the team," said Renaud.

The championship game was no different; the Lady Grizzlies faced a tough Anderson team who knew how important good defense was.

"Anderson is a great team and we respected their ability to play sound defense, our team just had a mindset of refusing to accept defeat. This team of young ladies never gave up, not once, they believed in themselves and their teammates. Every player on this team is a Champion," said Renaud.

News Notes

Basketball League

The 2009 Fort Greely Basketball League begins at 6 p.m. Jan 20.

Anyone interested in forming a team needs to submit their roster with the team captains contact information to the Fitness Center by Jan. 13.

There is a six-team limit with military teams getting first priority. All players must be 18 years of age or older. For more information please call Richard Lester at 873-4137.

Town Hall

A Town Hall is scheduled for 6 p.m. Jan. 20 at the Installation Theater.

The topic for this Town Hall is Fort Greely's Residential Communities Initiative (privatized housing).

RCI experts will be on hand to brief and answer questions.

Newcomer's Briefing

On Jan. 21 Army Community Services will conduct a Newcomer's Briefing from 8 a.m. to noon in the Gabriel Auditorium.

There will be a tour of the local community from 1 to 3 p.m. for those wanting to see and know more about Delta Junction and Fort Greely.

The briefing is open to all newcomers to Fort Greely.

For questions or to sign up please call 873-3284.

Greely Gridiron Day

A Greely Gridiron Day and Tailgate Party is slated for 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Fitness Center. Get ready for the Super bowl with pre-game family fun!

Everyone is encouraged to dress up in football gear in support of their favorite football team. There will be a crazy fan competition. Prizes will be awarded for the best crazed fan costume. Don't forget to bring your favorite tailgating dish to share! Prizes for best costumes. Don't forget to bring your running shoes! There will be football games and an obstacle course.

Admission is \$5 for adults (18 and up) and \$3 for children. Volunteers are needed to help. Contact Merri Darland at merri.darland@us.army.mil