



TEAM GREELY

INTERCEPTOR

ALWAYS ON GUARD DEFENDING FREEDOM

October 2009

Fort Greely assists flood victims

Garrison donates furniture, appliances to Alaska villages

by Kent Cummins
Public Affairs Officer

In a matter of hours Eagle, Alaska, was changed forever.

In early May 2009 it took the mighty ice-packed Yukon River just 48 hours to engulf the historic riverside village of Eagle. It devoured trees, homes and businesses, dramatically changing the landscape.

It also changed lives.

"I grew up on the river and it is hard when something takes that away from you," said Ruth Ridley, an Athabascan who was born and raised in Eagle.

"I cried when I saw the old village was gone," Ridley said.

"I cried and cried, but I'm stronger now."

Ridley's family, like many of the 180 residents of Eagle, has called the Alaska village home for generations.

Although it took only hours for the worst-ever recorded ice flooding to consume Eagle, help came just as fast.

The first person to arrive on scene to help with the disaster and begin the recovery effort was Jerry Isaac, president and chairman of the Tanana Chiefs Conference, a traditional tribal consortium of the 42 villages of Interior Alaska.

Help also came pouring in from all over the country including members of Fort Greely.

When Craig Odom, contract performance evaluator, heard the installation was planning a reutilization sale of excess items he mentioned the flooding victims to a member of the Directorate of Logistics.

"I was checking into the opportunity to bid on some of the excess furniture," said Odom. "Most of it was in near new condition. However, I thought there may be a chance to help others who were less fortunate ... it simply was the



Photo by Kent Cummins

Members of the Tanana Chiefs Conference load Fort Greely-donated furniture and appliances bound for the flooded Alaska villages of Eagle, Stevens Village, Circle, Fort Yukon and Tanana.

right thing to do considering the disaster situation."

Odom's inspiration soon turned to action.

"This provided the Fort Greely Garrison an opportunity to distribute excess property, through the Army's Reutilization and Marketing Office, and

furnish assistance to residents of the flooded villages," said Ann Rasmussen, property book officer for the Logistics Directorate. "Any time you can help people in a time of need it is a good thing."



Photo by Kent Cummins

Eagle, Alaska residents hug each other after picking up furniture donated by the Fort Greely Garrison.

See *FLOOD*, Pages 4-5

Command Corner

GC addresses winter, flu, Quality of Life

Winter Prep

Although winter does not “officially” arrive until December, we do live in Interior Alaska so now is the time to gear up for the cold temperatures to come.

Make sure your vehicles and home are prepared. If you are new to the area and have not “winterized” your vehicle, you need to do so as soon as possible.

Our brand new Auto Skills Center, 873-3139, can provide advice and assistance on preparing your vehicle for an Alaska winter.

Please remember to carry an emergency kit in your car. Include items such as a first aid kit, sleeping bags or blankets, chemical hand warmers and spare warm clothes.

Also, if you travel to Fairbanks or Anchorage during the winter let someone know when you are leaving and when you arrive at your destination.

Take care of your home ... furnace, wood stove, pellet stove, baseboard heat ... whatever you use to heat your home, make sure it's in good operating condition and have emergency supplies on hand. Also, make sure to put new batteries in your fire alarms and CO2 monitors. For those living on post, call the Housing Office at 873-4658, for resident responsibilities.

A reminder, Alaska has one of the highest incidents of house fires during its long winter season. Don't use kitchen stoves as heaters. Always have a fire extinguisher accessible. Prepare a home fire plan. Prepare an emergency kit with tools, flashlight, candles, matches and a radio with batteries.



Lt. Col. Chris Chronis
Garrison Commander

“ Winter is not the time to stay indoors ... get out and enjoy the numerous activities available from snowmachining to ice fishing!”

For a detailed list of suggested winter safety items for your home and vehicles stop, by or give the Safety Office a call at 873-5031.

Flu Season

As winter approaches, so does the flu season. There have been a few confirmed cases of the H1N1 influenza virus in the local area so please continue taking the appropriate preventive measures:

❑ Get vaccinated for both seasonal flu and the H1N1 strain.

❑ Cover your nose and mouth with a tissue when coughing or sneezing, then throw the tissue in the trash.

❑ Wash your hands often with soap and water, especially after coughing or sneezing. Alcohol-based hand cleaners also are effective.

❑ Avoid touching your eyes, nose or mouth. Germs spread this way.

❑ Avoid close contact with people who have flu-like symptoms.

❑ Stay home if you become sick, until 24 hours after the fever is gone. This will avoid infecting others.

QOL Updates

Quality of Life keeps getting better and better at Fort Greely. A state-of-the-art Auto Craft Shop is now open, the Sidelines Sports Bar has re-opened with Th-M evening hours and new big-screen TVs, computer access, and free WI-FI. The BOSS Warrior Zone is open weekly with hours and events scheduled by the BOSS Council. *(See Page 8 for more on SFMWR facilities)*

The Quality of Life Council recently met to discuss projects and goals to enhance the quality of life, morale, and esprit de corps of Fort Greely members. Some new projects on the horizon include the potential relocation and conversion of the existing ice rink to a multi-use outdoor sports facility and a community greenhouse for year-round production.

Progress continues on a Community Activities Center for Fort Greely. The groundbreaking is planned for the spring of 2010 and construction of the proposed 36,000 square-foot facility should be completed in the summer of 2011. The facility will include a snack bar, a bar, a bowling center, a video game room, meeting space, and much more.

Work on the Valdez Campground is complete. A bath house with four separate private latrine/shower rooms is in place for spring 2010, electrical service posts at 21 recreational vehicle pads have been installed as well as a septic system and RV dumping station. If you didn't get a chance to visit the campground this summer, don't miss it next summer! The SFMWR charter fishing boat is also available to take people out for a great Alaskan experience.

Our Soldier, Family, Morale, Welfare and Recreation staff continues to offer the Fort Greely populace a variety of events and activities. Winter is not the time to stay indoors ... get out and enjoy the numerous activities from snowmachining to ice fishing. Keep up the great work and stay safe!

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 Will Wiley
Public Affairs Officer Kent Cummins

Don't forget the 'Interactive' in ICE

by Kris Bailey

Chief, Plans, Analysis and Integration Office

When you were first assigned to Fort Greely and you attended a Newcomer's Briefing, you were familiarized with the Interactive Customer Evaluation Program, or ICE. This system is designed to allow Department of Defense customers to rate services provided. The system is web-based and gives our customers a way to interact with the service providers to ensure we "hear" their voices.

To access the system, just go to the nearest computer and type in: <http://ice.disa.mil>. Just follow the prompts from there and select the appropriate branch, community, service category, and, finally, service provider. Input your information and then submit it. You should receive a response in no more than 72 hours. The response can only be received if you become "Interactive" and provide your follow-up information which is currently optional.

Special emphasis must be on the word "Interactive." According to dictionary.com, "Interactive" is defined as,

"interacting with a human user, often in a conversational way, to obtain... immediate results or updated information." ICE is based on an ability to respond to our customers. Even if you provide a less-than-complimentary Comment Card, the service provider would like to respond to you. There could be reasons that the service was less than you desire. If you allow an "Interactive" response, you may understand how the situation could be fixed and possibly how you could assist or could have assisted in making the service better.

Remember, ICE is to allow customers to rate services. The system should not be used for personal attacks or to address issues that are not appropriate to the service provider. And ... not everything can be fixed immediately; change often takes time. However, nothing can be "fixed" if the service provider doesn't know about it. Let them hear honest and appropriate feedback about their services.

So you might ask -- if it is so important to remain "Interactive," then why am I even being given that option. The following is from the Frequently Asked Questions on the ICE website:

"Why does ICE allow anonymous comment card submissions?"

The designers of ICE decided to accept anonymous submissions primarily to protect customers from retribution or fear of retribution. A customer who is afraid he/she will receive backlash for negative feedback may hesitate to submit a comment. In this way, ICE is no different from paper comment cards or suggestion boxes. Customers utilizing those methods of giving feedback may do so anonymously as well. Also, even if ICE stated that contact information was required to submit a comment; customers could work around that restriction by entering false contact information in order to provide feedback."

This is an appropriate method to allow people to submit information; however, we at Fort Greely are committed to making sure we "hear" our customers and respond to their concerns. Please assist us by adding your contact information to the Comment Cards so we can provide a proper follow-up. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact the Plans, Analysis and Integration Office at 873-7346.

Safety Office offers winter walking tips

by Colleen Pugh

Fort Greely Safety Office

Winter is just around the corner. That means snow and ice.

Most people are aware to be cautious when driving but sometimes forget the same caution should be applied to "walking."

Tips

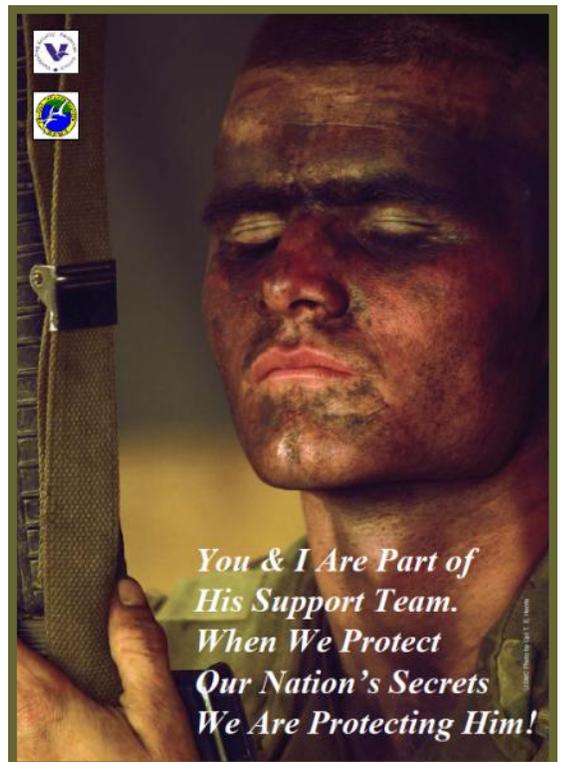
- ♦ Avoid walking in shoes that have smooth surfaces, which increase the risk of slipping.
- ♦ Walk consciously. Be alert that you could quickly slip on an unseen patch of ice.
- ♦ Your arms help keep you balanced, so keep your hands out of your pockets.

- ♦ Take small steps. Look to see ahead of where you step. When you step on icy areas, take short, shuffling steps.

- ♦ Wear footwear designed for winter weather and consider purchasing ice/snow traction cleats. The ice cleats fit over shoes or boots and come in all sizes.

- ♦ Remove snow immediately before it becomes packed or turns to ice. Keep your porch stoops, steps, walks and driveways free of ice.

- ♦ When you enter a building, there may be snow stuck on your boots which may become slippery. Stomp off all of the snow from your shoes on the carpet or mat when you first enter the building. There should be rubber mats or carpets in every building as you enter.



FLOOD, from Page 1

The leader of the Fort Greely Garrison agreed.

"Alaska is the largest state in the nation but in terms of helping out your neighbor it is just like a small town," said Lt. Col. Chris Chronis, Fort Greely Garrison Commander. "We wanted to be good neighbors and do the right thing."

Members of the Fort Greely Logistics Directorate worked closely with the Tanana Chiefs Conference to ensure the donated items would reach villages affected by the flooding.

"Fort Greely employees really stepped up to the plate to help the flooded villages," said Chronis. "Our Director of Logistics figured out a way to donate approximately 50 sets of furniture and appliances slated for re-sale, to the flood victims."

"The Tanana Chiefs Conference could not be more pleased with the furniture donated by Fort Greely," said Ted Charles, Chief Administrative Officer for the Tanana Chiefs Conference. "Many families were devastated by the 2009 spring flood. This furniture is a great comfort to those trying to get back home before winter."

In September with the re-building process in full swing in Eagle, a 40-foot trailer filled with the furniture from Fort Greely arrived.

"It was very exciting for residents who had lost everything to the Yukon flood to come and pick up their new items ... dining tables, chairs, couches, dressers, nightstands and beds," said Stacey Pare, Information, Donations and Fund Raising Coordinator in Eagle.

"We witnessed many smiles, thanks and even a few tears," said Pare, who serves on the city council and also lost her home to the flood. "We would like to thank Fort Greely, Tanana Chiefs Conference, Interior Regional Housing Authority, Brice, Inc., and the Northern Alaska Disaster Recovery Services for making the donations possible."

Joanne MacDonald, an Athabascan from Eagle, was one of the first residents to arrive to pick out furniture for her home that was being rebuilt.

MacDonald said she and her three children had just moved into a log cabin in the old village last fall.

"The river ice came up so fast we left everything behind and we lost everything,"

“The furniture is a Godsend.”

-Joanne MacDonald-Eagle, Alaska



Photo by Kent Cummins

Alaska Natives Ben Juneby and Bertha Ulvi, Han Athabascans, load furniture donated by the Fort Greely Garrison in a pickup to take to their re-built homes in Eagle, Alaska.

MacDonald said. "The furniture is a Godsend."

The flood affected more than just structures.

"I was supposed to get married in Eagle's St. John's Episcopal Church," said MacDonald. "But, it was destroyed in the ice flood ... the only items that survived were the church bell and baptismal."

Although Eagle was the hardest hit, Fort Greely furniture and appliances were also sent to Stevens Village, Circle, Fort Yukon and Tanana, according to Charlisa Atkla, Director of Special Projects for the Tanana Chiefs Conference.

Hundreds of volunteers and donations like the items from Fort Greely have poured into Interior Alaska villages from businesses across the country.

Rob Paire, Volunteer Coordinator for Light Shine Ministries in Lancaster, Pa., was one of the first to arrive in Eagle to help with volunteers, donations and the recovery effort.

"We have had so many volunteers come in groups and as individuals," said Paire. "In addition to volunteers from Mennonite Disaster Service and Samaritan's Purse, 230 volunteers from all over the United

States and abroad came to help Eagle rebuild."

The Federal Emergency Management Agency approved the funding of 13 new homes in Eagle. Volunteers recently completed the homes. Many are furnished with donated items from Fort Greely.

"While Mennonite Disaster Services and Samaritan's Purse volunteers focused on building the new homes to replace those completely destroyed by the flood, other volunteers have taken on the monumental task of debris removal and salvage operations and making critical repairs to the many homes damaged by the flood," Pare explained.

"We are so thankful to all the many folks who have put their own lives on hold to come to assist our community," said Pare. "We are truly blessed by their presence. This has been a great experience for all of us, the residents of Eagle and the volunteers."

Joanne MacDonald did get married, and although vows had to be exchanged in Fairbanks; it is a sign that life in Eagle will return to normal ... trees will grow, businesses will re-build and houses will become "homes" again.

Fort Greely helps Alaska villages



Photo by Kent Cummins

John Felix (left) and Timmy Maska of the Tanana Chiefs Conference load Fort Greely-donated furniture bound for flooded Alaska villages.



Photo by Kent Cummins

Eagle, Alaska residents react with joy to receiving furniture donated by the Fort Greely Garrison to help furnish their new homes. An ice flood destroyed numerous houses in the village.



Photo by Kent Cummins

The Yukon River ice flood swept this cabin in Eagle, Alaska, off its foundation and moved it hundreds of yards inland.

Fort Greely Garrison recently donated approximately 50 sets of furniture and appliances to Alaska villages flooded during spring breakup. The Tanana Chiefs Conference ensured the items were sent to Eagle, Stevens Village, Circle, Fort Yukon and Tanana.



Photo by Kent Cummins

Photo above, the ice flood that hit Eagle, Alaska, crushed everything in its path including this car. Photo right, the worst-ever recorded ice flooding consumed Eagle in early May 2009.

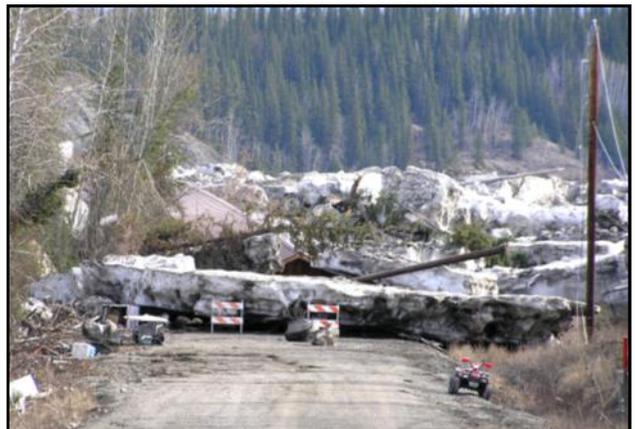


Photo courtesy of www.eaglecity.org

Holiday Greetings Team coming to Greely

*Ensure family, friends
back home see your
personal greeting
on local television*

The Hometown News Holiday Greetings program is coming to Fort Greely Oct. 11. The team will tape greetings from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the North Haven Communities Office, Unit 707B, 1st Street.

The program gives Soldiers and Family members an opportunity to wish a happy holiday season to their loved ones back home. Holiday greetings can be sent to all 50 states as well as Puerto Rico, Guam and the Virgin Islands. The program is open to active duty, National Guard and Reserves and their families, and to Department of Defense civilians.

When the team sets up at Fort Greely, there are just a few guidelines to follow to ensure family and friends back home see your personal greeting on local television.

◆Make sure to bring your address book. You'll need family members' names, city, state and phone number. No street address is needed this year, but station managers need phone contact info to let families know when your greeting will air.

◆Service members need to be in uniform. Duty uniform is fine. Family members should accompany their sponsor. And, of course, don't forget the props: Santa's hats, banners and Christmas attire.

◆In front of the camera: There aren't a lot of rules, but here are some tips to make the experience go smoothly. The top three



Courtesy photo

Erich Schwab (right), holiday greetings coordinator, goes over slating information with Air Force broadcaster Tech. Sgt. Dwight Hawkins, while Air Force Staff Sergeant James Zannetti gets shooting tips from Army broadcaster Staff Sgt. Kim Williams.

- relax, relax and relax. So what if you'll be seen by a million TV viewers? When you're taping it's just you and the camera.

◆Try to be cheerful and in the holiday spirit. It doesn't show well on camera if your teenage daughter looks like she'd rather be at the mall than wishing grandma happy holidays.

◆Try to keep hand gestures to a minimum. When you're giving your greetings, don't say "Happy Thanksgiving." Most greetings will begin to air on Thanksgiving Day and will quickly become obsolete if that day has come and gone when your greeting airs.

◆You don't need a teleprompter or a script, but try writing down your main points on a 3 x 5 card. Sometimes nerves can cause a bout of forgetfulness, so jot down your family members' names and the points you want to get across. If you

have family in more than one area, you can do several greetings. You've got 15 to 20 seconds per greeting, more than enough time to get in your holiday wishes to those closest to you.

When the teams return to San Antonio in late October, production will run 24-hours-a-day, seven days a week. Video and audio greetings are separated by state, and in some of the more populated states such as California, Texas, Florida and New York, stations will receive the tapes or DVDs based upon region. Stations will normally begin running greetings on Thanksgiving, and continue through New Year's Day. Many greetings air multiple times during the holidays and usually on more than one station. For more information, call Fort Greely Public Affairs at 873-5023. *(Information courtesy of the Joint Hometown News Service)*

Fort Greely recycling effort diverting tons of material from landfill

by **Sandi DeLong**
Environmental Protection Specialist

When it comes to recycling, the good news is Fort Greely is doing more of it now than ever and diverting tons of materials from our landfill.

What seems to be the downside to the program is that a lot of unwanted trash also gets deposited into the recycling

dumpsters. One of the biggest problem areas we have, are packing materials like styrofoam and plastic that get placed back in the cardboard box and in turn, placed in the dumpster. While we want and encourage the dumping of moving and shipping boxes, please take the time to remove all miscellaneous packing materials that should be placed in the mixed trash dumpster. Please keep all house-

hold garbage out of the recycling bins and place in the correct receptacle. If we all take the time to sort properly, this greatly reduces the time spent removing the extra trash once the materials make it to our baling facility. Thanks to all who make the effort to reduce, reuse and recycle.

For more information about recycling call 873-4664.

Super Bowl Champ visits local youth

Story, photos by
Sgt. 1st Class Richard DeBilzan
49th Missile Defense Battalion

Delta Junction High School Huskies recent football team practice turned out to be far from ordinary when former NFL linebacker, and three-time Super Bowl Champion Riki Ellison paid an unexpected visit.

Now founder and chairman of the Missile Defense Advocacy Alliance, Ellison was in town to visit Fort Greely's 49th Missile Defense Battalion and tour the Missile Defense Complex.

After learning that the 49th has Soldiers with sons playing on the Huskies football

team, Ellison made time in his schedule to visit the young athletes.

"Stay focused, work hard, and believe" Ellison stressed to the Huskies.

"Work very hard and you too, can earn one of these," he said as he passed around his three Super Bowl



Nicholas J. DeBilzan holds three-time Super Bowl Champion Riki Ellison's 1988 Super Bowl XXIII ring.



Ellison address Huskies football players.

rings and one University of Southern California National Championship Ring to the awed Huskies.

Fresh off a Sept. 1 victory over the Valdez Buccaneers, the team was given the visit of an athletic lifetime.

"I started just like you guys," said the former champ and current advocate for missile defense. "I'm not the biggest, strongest or fastest," he continued. "Nothing is out of reach if you work hard enough."

Team Greely soccer: Helping the local community

by Vince Cepeda
Chaplain

On a beautiful Alaska afternoon in September, cheers could be heard as a soccer match took place at Delta High School between the High School Co-Ed Soccer Team and the Fort Greely Soccer Team.

One could not ask for more gorgeous weather to play soccer on a late September day!

The Fort Greely Soccer Team called themselves "Team Greely Internationals," for the players represented countries around the globe such as Jamaica, Mexico, Panama, the Philippines, the U.S. Territories of Guam and Puerto Rico, and the United States.

Team Greely International consisted of 19 players. Seven-

teen from the combined forces of the 49th Missile Defense Battalion's Alpha Company and HHB Company, and two employees from Soldier Family Morale Welfare and Recreation.

Despite losing 4-3 to a younger, better-conditioned high school soccer squad, the Team Greely Internationals gave a tremendous and valiant effort; and were worthy opponents to the end! 1st Lt. Michael Long, Private 1st Class Ernesto Ventura, and Sgt. Corey Nydam each scored one goal for the Team Greely Internationals.

This event was planned and coordinated to assist and support the Delta High School Co-Ed Soccer team. The effort will help with soccer equipment and

travel expenses during the final two weekends of their soccer season. An added benefit was the opportunity to bring our two Communities together by playing the greatest sport in the world: soccer!

Many individuals came together in support of this event. Moms and dads of the high school team members provided baked goods, barbequed, and donated their time and resources to provide an outstanding concession stand. Special thanks to Fort Greely Commissary Store Director Rick Stillie for the Commissary's donation of food, beverages, and other items as its contribution to the event. I would also like to express my gratitude for the outstanding officiating conducted by our referee,

Kris Bailey; and her assistants, Lynn Carroll and Larry Bailey.

I appreciated the presence and performance of 49th Missile Defense Battalion Commander, Lt. Col. Steven Carroll.

Our soccer event was a success. It brought our Communities together in a spirit of sportsmanship, cooperation, friendly competition, entertainment and camaraderie.

Though the Team Greely Internationals were not victorious on the scoreboard, we walked off the field at the end of the game with mutual respect and appreciation for each other. We represented our Army's organization very well in the spirit of competition, made new friends, and had loads of fun in the process. In the end, the score simply did not matter.

SFMWR Caribou Corner



Photo by Sgt. Jack Carlson

Fishing on the Interceptor

Captain Warren Corbett (left), boat captain Fort Greely SFMWR Interceptor, recently took out the last fishing charter of the season in Valdez. Newly relocated to Fort Greely, Corbett and crew totaled more than 200 fish in the last 60 days of the fishing season. Shown here with some satisfied service members who returned from a full-day charter with the limit. Join Corbett on the Interceptor next year for fishing or stop by the Fort Greely woodshop and introduce yourself.

New Automotive Skills Center



Photo by Jessica Smith

The new Automotive Skills Center opened Sept. 22.

It is located in Bldg. 626.

When Soldier, Family, Morale, Welfare and Recreation was stood up in 2004 the Auto Craft Shop consisted of the two wash bays located

at the end of the building.

For the past year Auto Skills mechanics have been utilizing a single lift in the Outdoor Recreation facility. SFMWR is pleased to offer the Soldiers and Families a first-class facility to keep their vehicles running.

Services offered range from do-it-yourself maintenance to tire services, oil changes, winterization and more. The hours of operation are Wednesdays-Saturdays from 8:30 a.m. to 7 p.m.

Courtesy of SFMWR Advertising

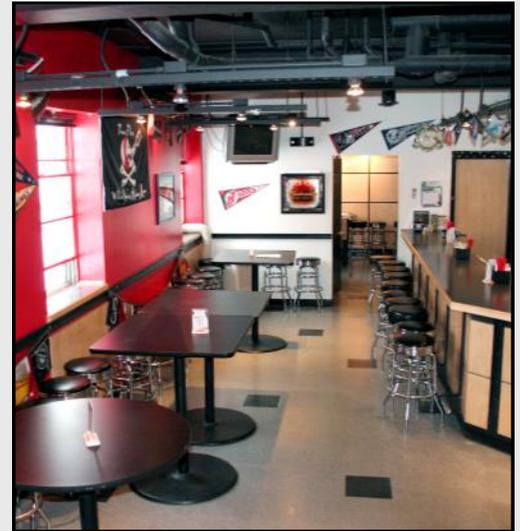


Photo by Kent Cummins

Sidelines Re-opens

The Sidelines Sports Bar re-opens for regular business Oct. 2. Hours will be: Thursday 5-11 p.m., Friday-Saturday 5-12 p.m., Sunday noon-6 p.m. and Monday 5-11 p.m. Join us every Sunday and Monday night for NFL football. College games will also be shown throughout the week. Don't forget the Sideline is also available for private parties, ask the bartender for more details.

Karate Classes

Annette Hannan, a second-degree black belt and certified member of the International Shaolin Kempo Association, teaches karate for the SKIE-SUlimited program and for the Delta Community at the Elementary School. Karate classes consist of body strengthening, conditioning, stretches, Tai Chi exercises, Kung Fu and Ju Jitsu techniques. There will be eight adult classes a month at the Gabriel Auditorium from 6:15-7:15 p.m. Mondays and Wednesdays (class will be held on Fridays occasionally if the location is not available for class on Monday or Wednesday. Cost is \$50 per month per person for Soldiers and their Families and \$60 for all other authorized users.