



TEAM GREELY

INTERCEPTOR

ALWAYS ON GUARD DEFENDING FREEDOM

April 2009

Excellence in Federal Government

Team Greely member earns recognition

Kent Cummins
Fort Greely Public Affairs Officer

A member of Team Greely has been recognized for “excellence.”

Melissa Brown, communications clerk, was recently selected as the 2009 Excellence in Federal Government Award Federal Employee of the Year. She earned the award in the Clerical and Assistant category.

Brown, a member of the Fort Greely Directorate of Information Management team, championed Crystal Reports certification, facilitating the streamlined consolidation of automation and telephone trouble tickets and work orders.

She also built customized reports which provide current documentable history of all requests and reports consistent with Common Levels of Service and Army Command, Control, Communications, and Information Management services.

Her efforts resulted in more than 300 man hours saved within the Fort Greely DOIM and the fielding of the same process and application at Forts Richardson and Wainwright.

“Melissa is truly deserving of this recognition,” said Rich Garrett, Director of Information Management at Fort Greely. “She is dedicated, a hard worker

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Photo by Kent Cummins

Melissa Brown

Automotive testing in extreme cold presents unique challenges



Photo Courtesy CRTC

Chuck Wullenjohn
U.S. Army Yuma Proving Ground
Public Affairs Officer

No matter what the weather, automotive testing is critical to assuring Soldiers that vehicles used in the field perform properly, are safe and, above all, operate dependably. Located in the midst of America’s coldest climate, automotive testing specialists at Alaska’s Cold Regions Test Center, or CRTC, make sure America’s military vehicles have the “right stuff” to achieve military success when temperatures plunge to well below freezing.

One of the potentially most deadly environmental extremes for the unprepared, freezing cold weather can bring military operations to a halt within minutes. Starting a vehicle is more difficult, since engine oil thickens in the cold. Parts, such as those made of rubber,

Alaska state troopers make good use of the facility for training purposes each year.

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Command Corner

Fort Greely - Spring has arrived!

Warmer weather has arrived! The transition from Alaska Spring to Summer is a great time of year ... a time of renewal and growth. It's a time to enjoy the outdoors with friends and family.

Soon the snow will give way to green grass, showy flowers and colorful berries. But, as the white stuff melts away, it is also a time of another type of "unveiling." Those many things that have been hiding under the clean white cover for seven months begin to reveal themselves ... such as trash!

Spring Clean Up

We are planning our annual post spring clean up on May 15 to address this, but this doesn't mean you have to wait until then to start sprucing up the area outside your workplace and around the installation.

Post beautification is an "everyday" responsibility. If you are walking around the installation and see a piece of trash please pick it up and throw it away. A clean installation is good for attitudes and morale.

I also want to touch on a few current issues important to Team Greely:

Housing

Privatized housing is fast becoming a reality at Fort Greely. On April 1, North Haven Communities took over the administration and maintenance of our current housing. A reminder to tenants: if you had a service order in prior to North Haven taking over, you need to re-submit that work order. For more information, call North Haven at (907) 869-

3032 or stop by their office at Bldg. 707B on First Street. Construction of new housing is set to begin this summer with the entire project of 126 new homes taking about six years. Privatized housing will improve the Quality of Life for Soldiers and Family Members at Fort Greely by providing safe, quality, affordable and well-maintained housing.

Mt. Redoubt

Over the last several weeks, Mount Redoubt Volcano near Anchorage has erupted several times. There were only minimal traces of ash fall on Fort Greely, and no hazards posed to personnel or equipment. However, ash has caused severe disruptions to civilian air transport - particularly in Anchorage. Personnel traveling to and from Fort Greely have been delayed up to four days in some cases and delays could continue with volcanic activity. We will continue monitoring the volcano and keeping the Fort Greely community informed.

I would like to address some upcoming events of note:

Easter egg hunt

An Easter egg hunt and potluck lunch is set for 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. April 11 in the Gabriel Auditorium. Please bring out the family for this great community event sponsored by the 49th Family Readiness Group and Family Morale Welfare and Recreation. Organizers ask that you please bring a dish to share and your own egg basket. All Fort Greely residents, contractors, and support staff are welcome to participate in this post event.

The Troop Store is also hosting an Easter Egg Hunt at 8:30 a.m. April 11.

Kids don't be surprised if you see "The Easter Bunny" around the housing area on Easter weekend!



CSM Carolyn Reynolds
Garrison
Command Sgt. Major

Special Observance

A Holocaust Days of Remembrance observance is slated for 11:30 a.m. April 21 in Gabriel Auditorium. The special guest speaker will be Alexandra Dunlap, an accomplished Alaskan writer.

Energy Conservation

Fort Greely will have a "No Power Hour," event as part of our Earth Day energy conservation efforts on April 22. On that day, from 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. all members of Fort Greely are encouraged to shut off lights and power down computers.

Concert

The Fort Greely Chapel will host the Borealis Brass Concert - America's Arctic Brass Ensemble at 7:30 p.m. April 25 in the Fort Greely Chapel. The concert is open to the public with proper identification.

I encourage everyone to come out and support these activities. Finally, I would like to say "Thanks for all you do." Your dedication and hard work are making Fort Greely a better place to live and work!

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

President announces virtual electronic record

Major step toward improving delivery of care and services to servicemembers transitioning from military to civilian life

Donna Miles

American Forces Press Service

President Barack Obama announced plans April 9 to create a joint virtual lifetime electronic record that will improve care and services to transitioning veterans by smoothing the flow of medical records between the Defense and Veterans Affairs departments.

The concept, long advocated by officials in both departments, is considered a major step toward improving the delivery of care and services to servicemembers transitioning from military to civilian life.

Defense Secretary Robert M. Gates and Veterans Affairs Secretary Eric K. Shinseki flanked the president as described the initiative to an audience of wounded warriors, veterans and veterans service organization leaders.

The goal, he said, is simple and straightforward.

"When a member of the armed forces separates from the military, he or she will no longer have to walk paperwork from a [Defense Department]

duty station to a local VA health center," Obama explained. "Their electronic records will transition along with them and remain with them forever."

No comprehensive system is currently in place to streamline the transition of health records between the two departments, the president noted. "And that results in extraordinary hardship for an awful lot of veterans who end up finding their records lost [or] unable to get their benefits processed in a timely fashion," he said.

Obama said he's heard countless stories over the years about veterans who found it almost impossible to get the benefits they had earned - even when their disabilities and needs were clearly evident.

"That's why I'm asking both departments to work together to define and build a seamless system of integration," he said.

Ultimately, the new system will include both administrative and medical information from the day recruits enter military service, throughout their military careers, and after

they retire or leave the military.

"This would represent a huge step toward modernizing the way health care is delivered and benefits are administered for our nation's veterans," Obama said. "It would cut through red tape and reduce the number of administrative mistakes."

In addition, it would enable VA sites to access veterans' complete military medical records, within rigorous privacy and security protections, so VA staffs have the information they need to deliver high-quality care, Obama said.

The president recognized the debt the country owes its servicemembers and veterans.

"We have a sacred trust with those who wear the uniform of the United States of America," he said. "It's a commitment that begins in enlistment, and it must never end." But for too long, the United States has fallen short of that commitment, he added.

"Too many wounded warriors go without the care that they need," he said. "Too many veterans don't receive the

support that they've earned. Too many who once wore our nation's uniform now sleep in our nation's streets.

"It's time to change all that," he continued. "It's time to give our veterans a 21st-century VA."

Officials call access to electronic records essential to modern health-care delivery and the paperless administration of benefits. It provides a framework to ensure all health-care providers have all the information they need to deliver high-quality health care, while reducing medical errors, they said.

The joint virtual lifetime record will take the next leap to delivering seamless, high-quality care while serving as a national model, officials said.

Obama said America's troops and veterans deserve nothing less.

"As I look out in the audience, especially seeing these folks in their uniforms, I am reminded of the fact that we have the best fighting force in world history. And the reason we do is because of all of you. And so I'm very grateful for what you've done to protect and serve this country."

Tips for Easter egg hunting the 'safe way' ...

Colleen Pugh

Fort Greely Safety Office

Easter is this weekend and to keep you and your family safe here are a few tips:

■ Make sure your eggs are from a refrigerated case and keep them in the refrigerator before you boil them for decorating. Be sure to check the "sale by" dates.

■ When you boil your eggs, make sure the water is hot (185-190 degrees F). Cool your eggs in cold water or cool slowly at room temperature. Be sure to refrigerate eggs within two hours of cooking and use

them within a week.

■ Don't eat or cook with cracked eggs or eggs that have been un-refrigerated for more than two hours.

■ If you plan to eat the Easter eggs you decorate, be sure to use only food-grade dye. (Some people make two sets of eggs - one for decorating and hiding, another for eating.)

■ Make sure to wash (and re-wash) your hands, utensils and work surfaces to keep bacteria from spreading.

■ Hide eggs in places that are protected from dirt, pets and other bacteria sources.

■ Limit the hiding and hunting time for

real eggs to two hours.

■ Refrigerate them immediately if they are to be eaten.

■ Eggs found hours later or the next day should be thrown out - not eaten!

■ Consider using plastic eggs instead of real eggs for Easter egg hunts.

■ Besides going with plastic eggs, it's also recommended to do the following when it comes to hiding eggs: remember to avoid hiding places near tempting electrical outlets or plugs; keep eggs at or below eye level of younger children; and do not hide eggs in cupboard or drawers with dangerous products.

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become brittle and frequently break. Lubricants and tires harden. Slick, icy roads can make driving a serious problem.

CRTC, established in the days after World War II when the importance of environmental testing was fresh on everyone's mind, is the only test site on U.S. soil that realistically combines the elements of a winter battlefield with a test season long and cold enough to guarantee suitable test conditions.

Dan Coakley, CRTC project manager, has worked at the test center for over 25 years and has become an expert automotive tester. Stationed at CRTC's mobility test complex, on which construction began in 2004, he works with a wide variety of vehicles each year. Although the majority of the vehicles come from the various military services, about 30 percent derive from private firms that travel to the complex to take advantage of the modern facility.

CRTC's mobility test complex concentrates a variety of automotive test functions in a single area. These include a 3.2 mile two lane paved oval track that allows high speeds. Test slopes offer grades from five to 60 percent.

Huge lateral acceleration and skid pads provide an ideal venue for dynamic vehicle control testing. Miles of rugged trails and secondary roads provide real-world test conditions in a private, secure environment. Maintenance and administrative buildings with voice and data connectivity make up part of the complex.

Ford brought almost two dozen vehicles to the test complex early this winter, an assortment of sedans, vans and pick-up trucks. Several types of test surfaces were arranged for them, including an ice circle and a broad snow field. Since natural

CRTC ... is the only test site on U.S. soil that realistically combines the elements of a winter battlefield with a test season long and cold enough to guarantee suitable test conditions.

snow coverage was not sufficient at the time, additional snow was manufactured right at the complex. Though Alaska's interior is extremely cold, with temperatures dipping beyond 50 degrees below zero, it is relatively dry.

"Ford tested here in the early winter," said Coakley, "for we have cold temperatures not available else in the United States. Later, Ford moved its testing back down to the lower 48." This allowed the firm to "extend" its annual test season, he explained.

Ford is one of several companies that have recognized the value of CRTC extreme weather testing. Others include General Motors, Chrysler, Toyota, and Cummings. When the Ford test took place late last year, TRW came along to examine braking systems and suspension components, and tire manufacturers brought along two truckloads of spanking new tires.

"This is a world-class facility and customers seem to like it," said Ben Feilner, test officer. "There is a learning curve involved in operating this facility and every year we get better at it."

One of the recurring challenges they face, said Coakley, is the frost that builds over the surface of ice on the test tracks when the temperature falls below 15 degrees. Any change in the surface is important for testers, who must have valid, repeatable conditions over several days or

weeks. If not, test data becomes unreliable.

When the ice surface develops frost or rough peaks, a condition automotive testers call "peaky," a new surface must be laid over it. During the test conducted for Ford, the ice field used was quite large, measuring

160 by 950 feet. When the surface had to be recoated with water, it took several hours to freeze.

Challenges like this are a daily occurrence. Both Feilner and Coakley say they enjoy the challenges and find the most enjoyment in the satisfaction they help bring to customers.

"It's good to see them depart with a smile on their faces," says Coakley, "and the quality of our testing brings them back." Numerous customers, both civilian and military, have returned over the years.

But, to Coakley, the return customers that mean the most are the civilian firms. "A private firm can test anywhere it wants and has to make a conscious business decision to return to CRTC," he said with a satisfied smile. "They must accept additional expenses to test here, such as increased transportation costs. But they get great results and excellent customer service, which is what it's all about."

CRTC falls under the management authority of Arizona's U.S. Army Yuma Proving Ground, which functions as the Army's extreme weather testing expert.

The proving ground manages testing at Yuma Test Center in southwest Arizona, the Tropic Regions Test Center which operates in Panama, Honduras, and a number of other tropic locations, and Alaska's Cold Regions Test Center. The proving ground is a component of the Army Test and Evaluation Command.

EXCELLENCE, from Page 1

and always has a great attitude."

The Honolulu-Pacific Federal Executive Board, or FEB, Excellence in Federal Government Awards program recognizes outstanding federal employees for their efforts, lead-

ership, and initiative. The program encourages innovation and excellence in government, reinforces pride in federal service, and helps call public attention to the broad range of services provided by federal employees.

The program is recognized as an important form of recognition for federal employees in the Honolulu-Pacific area.

The Honolulu-Pacific FEB represents 96 federal agencies, 70,000 civilian and military personnel in the Pacific Re-

gion. The annual awards honor employees and organizations whose achievements are documented as 'best practices' within their commands.

Brown will travel to Honolulu, Hawaii, in May to receive her award.

Army's 'backbone' provides its life blood

COMMENTARY

Maj. John W. Lubas
Fort Leavenworth Lamp

The noncommissioned officer is often referred to as the "backbone" of the U.S. Army, and this description and honor of 2009 being designated the Year of the NCO are well-deserved. NCOs are critically important to the Army and their impact cannot be overstated.

The duties and responsibilities of the NCO are broad and complex. NCOs serve as primary trainers, caretakers, advisers and executors of the most critical missions.

NCOs train and care for their Soldiers, instill values and discipline, and develop our Army's future leaders. NCOs are the experts in their craft and train their subordinates to exacting standards.

Through constant interaction, mentoring and teaching, NCOs instill the Army Values and mold young men and women into proficient, disciplined and reliable Soldiers. NCOs serve as the caretakers of the lower enlisted ranks. They help solve their Soldiers' problems and help them care for their families.

Most importantly, NCOs develop future leaders. A single NCO influences and develops scores of Soldiers during his or her career and passes knowledge to the next generation of leaders.

In addition to training and developing enlisted personnel, NCOs also train, mentor, and advise their officer counterparts. Although a second lieutenant studies small unit tactics and leadership at the Infantry Officer Basic Course and Ranger School, he often learns true leadership and how to serve as an effective rifle platoon leader from his platoon sergeant.

Similarly, commanders at all levels rely on the experience and insight of their first sergeants and command sergeants major for decisions ranging from care of the men, to tactical planning, to developing their personnel and organizations for future requirements and challenges.

For this reason most officers routinely acknowledge that any personnel or organizational successes are a result of the hard work and leadership of their NCOs.

NCOs provide stability and continuity in ever-changing organizations. Although officers may make significant impacts on their organizations, their influence is often of short duration because of their rapid turnover.

In contrast, NCOs often remain in the same organizations for extended periods of time, allowing units to build upon success and retain lessons learned. In certain units, including the 75th Ranger Regiment, it is not uncommon for a first sergeant to spend his entire career in the same Ranger Battalion.

These leaders have experienced years of innovation and change in their unit's missions, tactics, techniques and procedures, and witnessed the evolution of the operating environment and enemy. The benefits of this long-term experience cannot be overemphasized and have proven instrumental in the continuous evolution and success of the 75th Ranger Regiment.

In addition to training and developing Soldiers and officers and providing stability within units, NCOs execute plans. This responsibility has become increasingly complex since the start of the Global War on Terror. In the current operating environment, NCOs commonly execute missions outside of their traditional skill sets and have proven remarkably flexible and adaptable.

For example, in Iraq and Afghanistan many field artillery units conduct tasks and missions historically executed by infantrymen. Field artillery NCOs trained in indirect fire planning and execution are currently executing raids, executing convoy operations, working with the local leaders to improve security and address the needs of the population and mediating disputes between rival groups.

Despite their inexperience, they have not only mastered these complex tasks but have also trained their artillerymen to perform to the highest standard.

Additionally, because decentralized op-



erations at the small unit level are inherent to counterinsurgency operations, NCOs have assumed increased responsibility on the battlefield and make difficult decisions traditionally made by superior officers.

Regardless of the challenges posed by the complex operating environment and requirement to execute non-traditional tasks, the adaptability, competence and exceptional leadership of the NCO Corps has enabled success in combat.

Despite the flexibility and competence of the NCO Corps, the Army's leadership must focus on the continued academic and professional development of the NCO Corps to ensure continued success.

The Army must better prepare its NCOs to execute their combat tasks and reward them for their continued service and sacrifice. With ongoing combat deployments in support of the GWOT, the contributions and achievements of the NCO Corps will remain vital to our Army's success.

Although NCOs are commonly referred to as the "backbone" of the Army, one may also argue they serve as the heart pumping life blood in the form of innovative ideas, advice, proficient Soldiers, and a no-fail attitude through the body of the Army.

(Editor's note: Maj. John W. Lubas is a student in the Intermediate Level Education course at the Command and General Staff College.)

Fort Greely Celebrates Earth Day

Sandi Delong
DPW Environmental

Earth Day is an international event that takes place on April 22.

Here at Fort Greely we like to encourage recycling and energy awareness all year long as well as special occasions such as Earth Day.

This year the Environmental & Energy office will have display tables set up in Gabriel Auditorium April 22, from 8 to 11 a.m., with various informational items related to recycling, composting and energy awareness.

There will be Earth Day flower pots and seeds to give away so you can have your own start of Forget-Me-Not flowers.

Also on hand are composting instructions and information on the types of containers you can either put together yourself or

purchase to begin composting in your home.

The rich soil that is produced from compost is great for your flower beds and garden. We will have some recycling containers on hand if you would like an extra in your housing unit or need one for your office area.

A drawing will be held for gift certificates donated by FMWR, so stop by, enter the drawing and see if we have something you would be interested in taking with you.

To help with Earth Day awareness this year, students from the middle school and children from the child development center are decorating paper grocery bags with an Earth Day theme.

The bags were donated by the commissary and will be returned there once decorated and used for bagging groceries.

No Power Hour

Fort Greely will have a "No Power Hour," event as part of our Earth Day energy conservation efforts on April 22. On that day, from 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. all members of Fort Greely are encouraged to shut off lights and power down computers ... Save Energy, Save Money!

The folks at the PX generously provided some of the prizes that will be awarded for decoration. The winning bags will be on display during our set up time at Gabriel from 8 to 11 a.m.

Please make it a point to find some time in your schedule to stop by and see what we have to offer.

Days of Remembrance

“A philosopher has written that language breaks down when one tries to speak about the Holocaust. Our words pale before the frightening spectacle of human evil unleashed upon the world, and before the awesomeness of the suffering involved, the sheer weight of its numbers—eleven million innocent victims exterminated—six million of them Jews. But we must strive to understand, we must teach the lessons of the Holocaust, and most of all we ourselves must remember.”

-President Jimmy Carter

“In Germany, they first came for the communists, and I didn't speak up because I wasn't a communist. Then they came for the Jews, and I didn't speak up because I wasn't a Jew. Then they came for the trade unionists, and I didn't speak up because I wasn't a trade unionist. Then they came for the Catholics and I didn't speak up because I wasn't a Catholic. Then they came for me -- and by that time there was nobody left to speak up.”

-Martin Niemoller

THERE
MAY BE
TIMES WHEN
WE ARE
POWERLESS
TO PREVENT
INJUSTICE
BUT THERE
MUST NEVER
BE A TIME
WHEN WE
FAIL TO
PROTEST

ELIE WIESEL

NEVER
AGAIN:
WHAT
YOU
DO
MATTERS

Holocaust Days of Remembrance

Fort Greely Observance
11:30 a.m. April 21
Gabriel Auditorium

Fire safety campaign focuses on ...

Awareness, Inspections

IMCOM News Service

Increased fire prevention awareness is the goal of a campaign launched March 31 throughout the Installation Management Command. Campaign actions include promoting fire safety and increased inspections. The campaign extends through national Fire Prevention Week, Oct. 4-10, and concludes Oct. 31.

"We've seen a disturbing increase in the number of fires," said John B. Nerger, executive director of the Installation Management Command. "During the first six months of fiscal year 2009, IMCOM garrisons experienced more than 130 fire-related incidents that resulted in one death, 14 injuries and more than \$13.6 million in property damage. All fires were preventable. We must take aggressive action."

Garrison Safety and Fire and Emergency Services personnel will team up on the commandwide fire safety campaign to raise awareness and provide guidance to Soldiers and Families on how to recognize, improve and practice fire safety.

"We want to increase awareness of fire dangers and encourage all Soldiers, Family members, and civilian employees to practice fire safety," said Mario Owens, IMCOM Safety Office director. "Fires and burns are the third leading cause of unin-

tentional home injuries and deaths according to the Home Safety Council. During this fire safety campaign, Safety will team with Fire and Emergency Services in conducting joint inspections to identify possible fire sources."

Major causes of fires were malfunctioning electrical devices, misuse of space heaters and unattended cooking. Mishandling of flammables, candles and smoking materials also caused many fires, said Rocky Cook, chief of Fire and Emergency Services for IMCOM.

"These fires could have been prevented," Cook said. "Unattended cooking and burning candles caused half of the fires on Army installations in 2008. Fires have displaced Families, disrupted the mission and, tragically, taken several Family members' lives and one active-duty Soldier's life."

Education is essential to reducing fires on Army installations, Owens said. Safety officials will target where people work and live with awareness programs on hazard identification and elimination, safety demonstrations, and reporting and evacuation procedures. Fire safety information is available on the IMCOM Web page (www.imcom.army.mil) under the fire prevention heading.

"Safety personnel will aggressively communicate fire prevention information, tips

and lessons learned. Soldiers, civilians and Family members need to know how to practice fire safety and what to do when there is a fire," Owens said.

Everyone should be trained to perform a fire safety inspection and recognize faulty fire safety equipment, such as fire extinguishers, Cook said. Fire and Emergency Services personnel will inspect and test smoke and fire detection equipment in all facilities on IMCOM installations as part of the fire safety campaign. There is strong emphasis on testing, preventive maintenance inspections and ensuring installed fire detection and suppression systems are adequate, he said.

"We also want people to know what to do when there is a fire. Fire and Emergency Services will introduce fire drills and ensure you know how to report a fire. Many people don't know what to do when there is a fire. The sooner a fire is reported, the sooner the fire fighters can douse the blaze," Cook said.

Fire Prevention Week is Oct. 4-10, but Owens said fire safety must be practiced every day.

"Soldiers, civilians and Family members are all valuable to the Army, which compels us to continue to promote fire prevention even beyond the end of the campaign," he said.

Make your home fire-safe

- ◆Smoke alarms save lives. Install a smoke alarm outside each sleeping area and on each additional level of your home.
- ◆If people sleep with doors closed, install smoke alarms inside sleeping areas, too.
- ◆Use the test button to check each smoke alarm once a month. When necessary, replace batteries immediately. Replace all batteries at least twice a year.
- ◆Vacuum away cobwebs and dust from your smoke alarms monthly.
- ◆Smoke alarms become less sensitive over time. Replace your smoke alarms every ten years.

◆Consider having one or more working fire extinguishers in your home. Get training from the fire department in how to use them. Consider installing an automatic fire sprinkler system in your home.

Plan your escape routes

- ◆Determine at least two ways to escape from every room of your home.
- ◆Consider escape ladders for sleeping areas on the second or third floor. Learn how to use them and store them near the window.
- ◆Select a location outside your home where everyone would meet after escaping.
- ◆Practice your escape plan twice a year.

Escape safely

- ◆Once you are out, stay out! Call the fire department from a neighbor's home or a cell phone.
- ◆If you see smoke or fire in your first escape route, use your second way out. If you must exit through smoke, crawl low under the smoke to your exit.
- ◆If you are escaping through a closed door, feel the door before opening it. If it is warm, use your second way out.
- ◆If smoke, heat, or flames block your exit routes, stay in the room with the door closed. Signal for help using a bright-colored cloth at the window. If there is a telephone on the room, call the fire department and tell them where you are.

DPW Environmental Office to relocate Ground Squirrels

Now that Spring is here the Arctic Ground Squirrels will soon be coming out of hibernation. The Directorate of Public Works Environmental Office has been tasked to re-locate the ground squirrels out of the area adjacent to Bldg. 663.

The squirrels are doing extensive damage to Army facilities as well as posing health risks (biting children). In the next few weeks you will see humane traps placed around the current Arctic Ground Squirrel habitat at Bldg. 663. The traps are designed for "live" capture and will not harm the squirrels. We are asking the community to please not tamper with the traps. Consultation with the Alaska Department of Fish and Game and the Fort Wainwright Natural Resources Office has yielded an ideal habitat as the release point for the squirrels. For more information call the Environmental Office at 873-4664.



Courtesy photo

D.A.R.E.

Darren the Lion poses with Michelle Beito, principal of Delta Elementary, during Darren's recent visit to the school to check on progress of the D.A.R.E. Program. D.A.R.E. stands for Drug Abuse Resistance Education. Fort Greely D.A.R.E. officers visit the Delta Elementary School and instruct the D.A.R.E. program to the 5th graders on Wednesdays and Fridays. They also visit Fort Greely Middle School 7th graders on Fridays. National D.A.R.E. Day was April 8.

News Notes

Privatized Housing Office

North Haven Communities new office is located in the housing area in Bldg. 707B on First Street.

For more information, please call (907) 869-3032. North Haven Communities website is at www.nhcalaska.com.

Easter Egg Hunt, Potluck

An Easter Egg Hunt and Potluck is from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. April 11 at the Gabriel Auditorium.

Please bring a dish to share and your own egg basket.

All Fort Greely residents, contractors, and support staff are welcome to participate in this post event.

For more information please call Kristina Chaput 869-3180 or Jennifer Kelderman 907-830-0057.

Troop Store Easter Egg Hunt

The AAFES Troop Store is hosting an Easter Egg Hunt for children ages 2 to 10 at 8:30 a.m. April 11.

Good Friday Worship

A Good Friday Worship Service is set for 6 p.m. Apr. 10 in the Chapel Sanctuary.

Easter Worship

The Easter Worship Service is slated for 11 a.m. April 12 in the Chapel Sanctuary. Don Marsh will play the pipe organ for the service.

Brass Concert

The Borealis Brass Concert - America's Arctic Brass Ensemble will perform at 7:30 p.m. April 25 in the Fort Greely Chapel.

Check out www.borealisbrass.com for more information. Open to the public with proper identification.

Month of the Military Child

April is Month of the Military Child. To celebrate this event a Children's Carnival is scheduled for 3 p.m. April 22 at the Gabriel Auditorium.

There will be games, face painting, food and more. Free admission.

Basic Hunter Education

A Basic Hunter Education Course is scheduled for May 2.

Course sign-ups and student packets are available for student pick up at Granite View Sports in Delta Junction. The cost for the course materials is \$20.

This class is open to all Delta/Greely residents and is limited to the first 20 people

who sign up. This course is for people ages 12 and up. Hunter Education is required for hunters born after Jan. 1, 1986, who intend to hunt in Units 7, 13-15, and 20; and for adult hunters in certain state/federal hunt areas.

For more information call Jeff Lipscomb at 388-4585 or Merri Darland at 347-0945.

Youth Karate Classes

Introductory Shaolin/Kempo Karate Classes for youth ages 6 to 18 are held at the Fitness Center, Mondays and Wednesdays from 6 to 7 p.m. The fee is \$50 a month (uniform not included).

Call CYSS at 873-4599 or Youth Services 873-3406 to register.

ACS Interview Class

An Interviewing Techniques Class is slated for 1 p.m. April 13 in the Gabriel Auditorium. Classes are also set for 1 and 4 p.m. April 14 in the Gabriel.

Call 873-2479 to sign-up.

ACS Sponsor Training

Supervisory and Basic Sponsorship Training is scheduled for 10 a.m. April 16 at Gabriel Auditorium.

Call 873-3542 to sign up or for more information.