



TEAM GREELY

# INTERCEPTOR

ALWAYS ON GUARD DEFENDING FREEDOM

July 2009



Photo by Sgt. Jack W. Carlson III

## SMA Visit

Sgt. Maj. of the Army Kenneth Preston speaks with Sgt. Murray Harrison, Communications Operator Echo Crew, 49th Missile Defense Battalion, about his responsibilities in the defense of the nation from limited intercontinental ballistic missile threats. SMA Preston made his first visit to the Missile Defense Complex July 7 during his tour of the Army installations in Alaska.

# Command of CRTC changes hands

by Kent Cummins  
Public Affairs Officer

Lt. Col. John R. Cavedo Jr. accepted command of the Cold Regions Test Center from Lt. Col. Vincent F. Malone during a ceremony at CRTC's Bolio Lake Test Facility, Fort Greely, Alaska, July 14.

"Humbled, inspired, and excited are three feelings equally intertwined and best describe my feeling after having assumed command of this incredible organization," said Cavedo.

Cavedo said "the sense of family, team and mission accomplishment is omnipresent at CRTC."

"I can't imagine a better place to have moved my family or a better organization with its long history and enduring mission to have been given the privilege of lead-

ing," said the new commander.

Col. John R. Bullington, commander, Yuma Proving Ground, was the host commander and presided over the ceremony.

The Cold Regions Test Center is a subordinate command of Yuma Proving Ground and the winter test element of the Army Test and Evaluation Command. With 670,000 acres of range available for testing, CRTC provides world-class facilities to all of their customers.

Cavedo comes to CRTC from the Army Test and Evaluation Command, Alexandria, Va., where he served as the Division Chief for Infantry & Soldier Systems,



Lt. Col. John R. Cavedo Jr.

Close Combat Evaluation Directorate.

Malone is heading to Washington D.C. where he will serve as the Executive Officer to the Deputy for Acquisition and Systems Management in the Office of the Assistant Secretary of the Army for Acquisition, Logistics, and Technology.

Cavedo enlisted in the Army in 1985 as a Military Policeman with duty in the Republic of Panama.

After a three-year enlistment, he Cavedo entered the Reserve Officer Training Corps and was commissioned a second lieutenant of Infantry in 1991 from the University of New Mexico. After initial Infantry schooling at Fort Benning, Ga., he served as a Rifle Platoon leader and Company Executive Officer in the Allied Command Europe Mobile Force, Mannheim,

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# Command Corner

## *Interior Alaska Summer in Full Swing*

Summer is in full swing in Interior Alaska. Lots of sun, a little smoke, and lots of activities!

Our mission here at Fort Greely is vital. If you need some validation, just take a look at the many high-level visitors we receive. In just the last few weeks, the Sergeant Major of the Army, the Air Force Chief of Staff, the Alaska Joint Armed Services Committee, and Congressman Don Young's Staff all have visited.

So remember what you do day in and day out is important to these leaders and others from around the globe. You should be excited and proud to work at Fort Greely, Alaska, and to know you are a critical part of the United States Army's mission of protecting this nation and our people.

Fort Greely is on the right track in all areas...quality of life, planning, mission readiness and teamwork!

The Garrison is in the midst of preparing a submission for the Army Community of Excellence program. ACOE recipients demonstrate outstanding leadership and overall high levels of performance. I'm confident we can win because of the outstanding and dedicated employees at Fort Greely. If the Garrison earns one of the categories of the award, we would receive a cash award that could be used for any initiative that would benefit the entire installation.

I know Team Greely is working hard, but please take the time to enjoy all that Alaska has to offer. You need



Lt. Col. Chris Chronis  
Garrison Commander

to re-charge your batteries. An excellent way to do that is by taking advantage of the Valdez Glacier Campground managed by our Family Morale Welfare and Recreation Directorate. Check out some of the photos in this edition of the Interceptor. Go enjoy!

FMWR also has plenty of things for the kids to do this summer: summer field trips, clubs, councils, arts and crafts, cooking, fitness activities and more. Call Youth Services at 873-3406

It's obvious Alaska wildfires have caused some air quality issues around Delta and Fairbanks. "Health Threat from Wildfire Smoke" information is included in this issue and you can track air quality information at <http://www.dec.state.ak.us/air/smokemain.htm>

While you are enjoying the Alaskan summer with friends and family, please don't forget to practice sound risk management ... be safe!

To help in the safety arena, ATV Safety Courses are scheduled for

**“You should be excited and proud to work at Fort Greely, Alaska, and to know you are a critical part of the United States Army’s mission of protecting this nation and our people.”**

Thursdays at 4 p.m. and Saturdays at 9 a.m. For details, call Outdoor Recreation at 873-4058. Drown Proofing and Boater Safety Classes are also being offered at the Fitness Center swimming pool every Tuesday from 6 to 7 p.m. For more information, call 873-5665.

Finally, I want to squash a rumor concerning tanks in the housing area. The Fire Department, Public Works and Safety Office have temporarily relocated two 30,000-gallon water storage tanks to the housing area to assist in fire suppression if necessary this summer – at North Haven's request. These non-potable water tanks are not being used to supply drinking water to any housing units. This is just a preventive fire protection measure only in case firefighters need to draft water for their fire engines in the event of a structural fire or forest fire in that area of post.

Thanks again for all the hard work! Keep it up and have a great summer.

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](mailto: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

# Greely seeks 'Community of Excellence'

Courtesy of the  
Plans, Analysis and Integration Office

In May 2009, U.S. Army Garrison Greely participated in an Organizational Self Assessment, or OSA, as requested by Headquarters Installation Management Command.

This constituted participation by a subset of Garrison personnel.

The Survey was designed to assess the performance of the Garrison in three critical areas – leadership, strategic planning, and customer focus.

The overall Survey required anywhere from two to four hours to complete. Because of the commitment by our senior leadership, we had a 100 percent completion rate.

This achievement was not matched by any other Garrison within IMCOM-

Pacific!

Why was this information needed and why would we invest all that time in this Survey?

The OSA tool, which is based on the Malcolm Baldrige Criteria for Performance Excellence, reflects the integrated management systems used to identify premier garrisons in the Army Community of Excellence program.

ACOE recipients demonstrate outstanding leadership and overall high levels of performance.

This Survey provides us the baseline for identifying areas in which Fort Greely Garrison is doing exceptionally well but also allows the senior leadership to identify areas requiring focused improvement.

If the Garrison could win one of the categories of award, we would receive

monies that could be used for any initiative that would benefit the entire installation.

Although this Garrison is, in effect, only about three-years mature, we do a number of things very well.

Because we are in one of the most remote and difficult areas, we have learned to maximize the effectiveness of aging infrastructure, population diversity, and economic down-turns.

In other words, we are doing an outstanding job with what we have and we want people to know it!

The senior leadership and the directorates are enlisted in an intensive compilation of materials to present in our ACOE packet.

Please stay tuned for developments as we move through this process!

## Water safety tips for children

by Colleen Pugh  
Fort Greely Safety Office

You should never leave children alone when you're near the water, not even for a minute.

Make sure your children know how to swim. Children should only swim when there is a life guard on duty or an experienced swimmer is watching.

Children ages 5 to 14 most often drown at open-water sites (rivers, lakes and oceans). In fact, 29 percent of drownings involving children ages 5 to 14 occur in open bodies of water.

Use life vests when you are boating, and swimming in lakes, rivers or oceans. Make sure that the life vest fit and are comfortable. And young children need to wear life vests when playing near deep or moving water, on docks and on boats. Teens and adults need to wear life vests on boats and if swimming across a lake or river. Toys and mattresses that inflate will not keep you safe. The

only flotation aids that you can rely on are Life Vests.

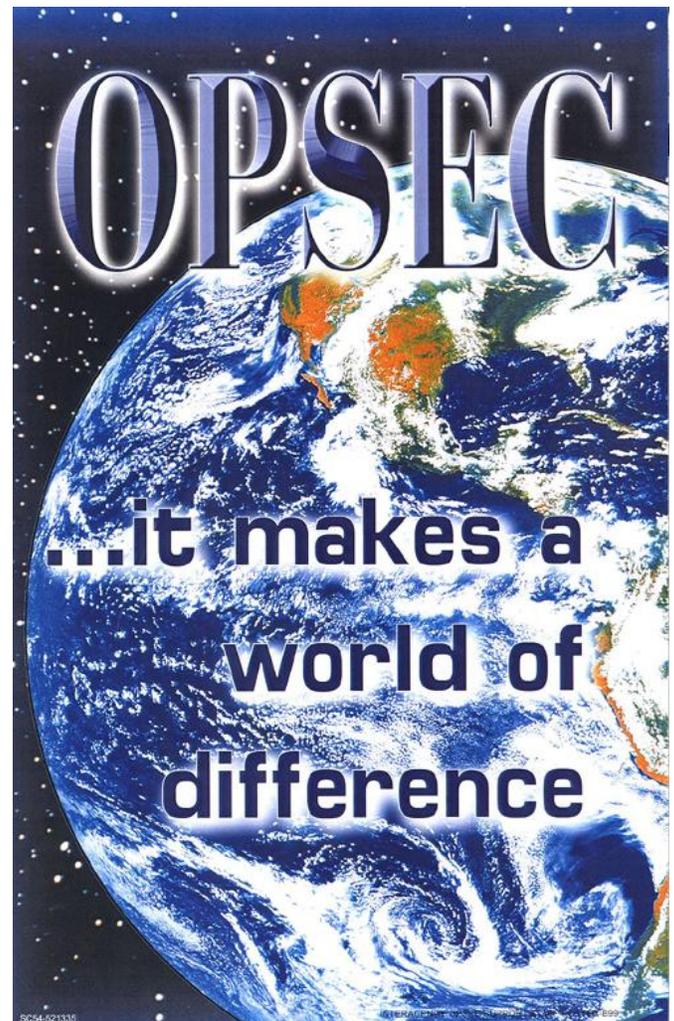
It is estimated that 85 percent of boating-related drownings could have been prevented if the victim had been wearing a life jacket.

Five gallon buckets, ponds and wading pools are a drowning hazard for very small children. Always make sure you drain any water bucket you have around your house.

More than half of the drownings among infants under 1 occur in bathtubs. Many of these occur in the absence of adult supervision.

Since 1983, there have been at least 104 deaths and 162 nonfatal incidents involving baby bath seats. Since 1984, more than 327 children, most between the ages of 7 months and 15 months, have drowned in buckets containing water or other liquids used for mopping floors and other household chores. It is estimated that 30 children each year drown in buckets.

For more information go to [www.usa.safekids.org/water/](http://www.usa.safekids.org/water/)



# In the News: *Health Threat—Wildfire Smoke*

There are more than 70 fires burning in Alaska. There are no major fires in the Delta area. The fire most likely impacting Fort Greely with smoke and haze is the 173,000-acre Minto Flats Fire located southwest of Fairbanks. The following information describes the health threat from wildfire smoke. Smoke from wildfires is a mixture of gases and fine particles from burning trees and other plant materials. Smoke can hurt your eyes, irritate your respiratory system, and worsen chronic heart and lung diseases.

## Smoke is affecting you?

Smoke can cause coughing, a scratchy throat, irritated sinuses, shortness of breath, chest pain, headaches, stinging eyes and a runny nose.

If you have heart or lung disease, smoke might make your symptoms worse. People who have heart disease might experience chest pain, rapid heartbeat, shortness of breath and fatigue.

Smoke may worsen symptoms for people who have pre-existing respiratory conditions, such as respiratory allergies, asthma, and chronic obstructive pulmonary disease, or COPD, in the following ways: inability to breathe normally, cough with or without mucus, chest discomfort or wheezing and shortness of breath.

When smoke levels are high enough, even healthy people may experience some

of these symptoms.

## Know whether you are at risk

If you have heart or lung disease, such as congestive heart failure, angina, COPD, emphysema, or asthma, you are at higher risk of having health problems than healthy people.

Older adults are more likely to be affected by smoke, possibly because they are more likely to have heart or lung diseases than younger people.

Children are more likely to be affected by health threats from smoke because their airways are still developing and because they breathe more air per pound of body weight than adults. Children also are more likely to be active outdoors.

## Limit your exposure to smoke

♦Pay attention to local air quality reports. Listen and watch for news or health warnings about smoke. Find out if your community provides reports about the Environmental Protection Agency's Air Quality Index. Pay attention to public health messages about taking additional safety measures.

♦Refer to visibility guides if they are available. Not every community has a monitor that measures the amount of particles that are in the air. In the western part of the United States, some communities have guidelines to help people estimate AQI based on how far they can see.

♦If you are advised to stay indoors, keep indoor air as clean as possible. Keep windows and doors closed unless it is extremely hot outside. Run an air conditioner if you have one, but keep the fresh-air intake closed and the filter clean to prevent outdoor smoke from getting inside. If you do not have an air conditioner and if it is too warm to stay inside with the windows closed, seek shelter elsewhere.

♦Use a high-efficiency particulate air filter to reduce breathing problems. A HEPA filter may reduce the number of irritating fine particles in indoor air.

♦Do not add to indoor pollution. When smoke levels are high, do not use anything that burns, such as candles, fireplaces, or gas stoves. Do not vacuum, because vacuuming stirs up particles already inside your home. Do not smoke, because smoking puts even more pollution into the air.

♦If you have asthma or another lung disease, follow your doctor's advice about medicines and about your respiratory management plan. Call your doctor if your symptoms worsen.

♦Dust masks are not enough. These masks won't protect lungs from smoke.

♦If you do have physical problems due to the smoke, see your primary care doctor or go to the emergency room.

Track air quality information at <http://www.dec.state.ak.us/air/smokemain.htm>

## CRTC, from Page 1

Germany from 1992-1994.

Cavedo then joined C Company 4-8th Infantry as the Executive Officer from June 1994 to March 1995 overseeing the transition from 1st Armor Division Germany to 2nd Infantry Division Fort Lewis, Wash.

Cavedo was then assessed into the Special Forces where he served as the Executive Officer to C Company 3/1 SFG (A), Fort Lewis, Wash., from March 1995 through March 1996 which included an operational deployment to Haiti.

After completion of the Special Forces Qualification Course, he commanded Operational Detachment Alpha-762 and HSC Company 2/7 SFG (A) with numerous deploy-

ments throughout Central and South America between April 1997 and June 2001.

In 2001, Cavedo was assessed into the Army's Acquisition Corps and he attended the Army Command and General Staff College at Fort Leavenworth, Kansas.

Cavedo's first acquisition assignment was as the Ground Based HUMINT Project Officer for PM Communications and Intelligence Support Systems from October 2002 to June 2005 and then as the Assistant Program Manager C4I with the Ground Applications Program Office from June 2005 to June 2006.

Cavedo then joined the Army Test and Evaluation Command

as a senior evaluation officer for the Land Warrior program.

In April 2007 he was assigned as the Division Chief for Infantry and Soldier Systems, Close Combat Evaluation Directorate, which included a tour to Afghanistan as the ATEC Forward Operational Assessment Team Chief from September 2007 through April 2008.

Cavedo holds a Bachelor's degree from the University of New Mexico in Political Science and a Master's Degree in Acquisition and Project Management from Webster University.

His military schooling includes the Infantry Officer Basic and Advance courses, Ranger, Airborne, Jump Mas-

ter, Air Assault, Military Free Fall, Mortar Platoon Leaders Course, Command and General Staff College, Defense Language Institute - Spanish, Special Forces Qualification Course, SERE, and the Program Managers Course.

His awards include the Meritorious Service Medal with three oak leaf clusters, Army Commendation Medal with four oak leaf clusters, Army Achievement Medal with three oak leaf clusters, Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal, United Nations Medal with one oak leaf cluster, Army Good Conduct Medal, Afghanistan Campaign Medal, and the Expert Infantryman's Badge.

# SOLDIER FOR A DAY



1st Lt. Nicole Vandall, 49th Missile Defense Battalion, helps her sister, Kayla Colyer-Platzer, with the communications equipment as their mother, Deborah Platzer looks on, prior to a flight on a CH-47 Chinook helicopter as a part of "Soldier for a day" activities at Fort Greely.



**K**ayla Colyer-Platzer was recently treated to a day in the life of a soldier at Fort Greely. The "Soldier for a Day" event was sponsored by the Fort Greely B.O.S.S. program. Colyer-Platzer, 15, was recently diagnosed with Hodgkin's lymphoma. Her sister, 1st Lt. Nicole Vandall, is assigned to the 49th Missile Defense Battalion.



Kayla Colyer-Platzer enjoys the special day.

Photo above, Reporters interview Kayla Colyer-Platzer and her mother, Deborah Platzer, at Allen Army Airfield. Photo right, Spc. Jeffrey Slaughter, B Company, 152nd Aviation Regiment, Task Force 49, observes Army training lands with 15-year-old Kayla Colyer-Platzer, while sitting in the rear of a CH-47 Chinook.



Photos by Mike Kingston/CRTC

Come enjoy Family Morale Welfare and Recreation's  
**VALDEZ GLACIER CAMPGROUND**

Located at the base of the Chugach Mountains beneath the famous Valdez Glacier ... Call 873-4058

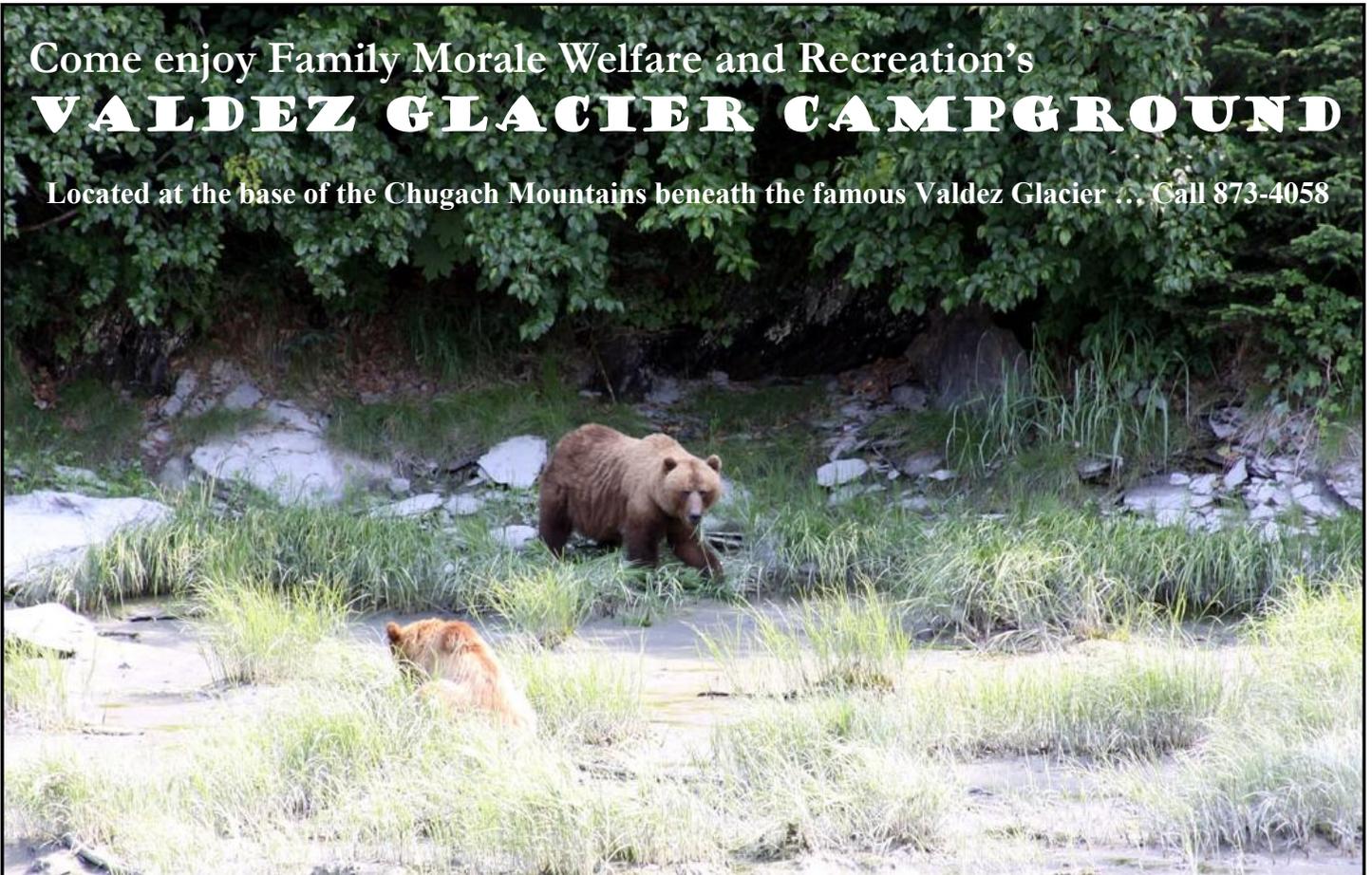


Photo by Rob Warren

Brown bears roam the beach at Allison Point near Fort Greely's Valdez Glacier Campground. Enjoy a stay at the Campground. Call 873-4058.



Photo by Elias Barnes

From left, Kim Bernal Zeiger, Military Family Life Consultant; Tyler Coble, Valdez Glacier Campground manager; and Command Sgt. Maj. Carolyn Reynolds, Fort Greely Garrison Command Sergeant Major spend time at the campground which is managed by Fort Greely's Family Morale Welfare and Recreation.



Photo by Rob Warren

Sea Lions near Fort Greely's Valdez Glacier Campground.



Photo by Elias Barnes

9th Army "Arctic Warrior" Band performs at Valdez on the Fourth of July.

## Delta-Greely Triathlon

Photo right, Tammy Powers, Fort Greely Human Resource Specialist, rides her bike to Delta Junction after a 500-meter swim at the Fitness Center Pool. Photo below, Rob Olsen, Director, Operations Support Group — Alaska, swims 10 laps at the Fitness Center Swimming Pool during the first leg of the recent Delta-Greely Summer Blast Off Triathlon. The race started with the 500-meter swim and proceeded with an 8-mile bike ride to town and ended with a 3.1 mile run/walk.



Photos by Kent Cummins

### NEW SCHOOL YEAR PROGRAMS

**4 H Club**

**Boys and Girls Clubs**

**Pacific Teen Volunteer Program**

**Life Skills, Citizenship & Leadership Opportunities**

youth council, youth sponsorship, volunteer community service, workforce preparation, youth computer labs and character education

**Academic Support, Mentoring & Intervention Services**

Homework center and power hour in the Computer Lab.

### Fort Greely Youth are invited to participate in YS programs!



The Youth Services Program offers a variety of activities to registered youth. Programs are available for youth that have started 5<sup>th</sup> grade through the 12<sup>th</sup> grade.

**Registration and Participation are FREE!**

Please Pick up a Registration Packet at the CDC (building 847), Today!



### SUMMER FIELD TRIPS

**July 17<sup>th</sup>**

Harry Potter Movie and Glo Putt Mini Golf in Fairbanks (1-9pm)

**July 29<sup>th</sup>-July 31<sup>st</sup>**

Valdez Camping Trip (3 days/2 nights)

**Aug 1<sup>st</sup>**

Delta Junction Fair (1-7pm)

**Aug 4<sup>th</sup>**

Clearwater Campground Picnic (12-3:30pm)

**Aug 5<sup>th</sup>**

UAF Virtual Reality (9:30am-5pm)

**Aug 8<sup>th</sup>**

Tanana Valley State Fair in Fairbanks (8:30am-6pm)

**Aug 12<sup>th</sup>**

Quartz Lake Picnic (12-4pm)

**Aug 13<sup>th</sup>**

Higher Knead Spa Field trip (4-7pm)

### WEEKLY RECURRING EVENTS

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
-Fitness Activity -Tech Club	-Youth Competition -YTL Activities in the Computer Lab	-Arts and Crafts -Fitness Activity -Cooking Activities	-Card and Board Games -YTL Activities in the Computer Lab	-YTL Photo Club in the Computer Lab -Movie Night with Snacks	-Fitness Activity -Delta Outing (local field trips to parks and restaurants) -Dinner Out at the Lunch Room

# FMWR Caribou Corner



Photo by Merri Darland

## ATV Safety

ATV Safety Course, practical section, set near the skeet range, May 19, 2009.

### ATV Safety Training

ATV Safety Courses are scheduled for Thursdays at 4 p.m. and Saturdays at 9 a.m. Classes begin at Outdoor Recreation for lessons 1-4, then progress to the Skeet Range ATV Riders Training Courses for lessons 5-15. We return to Outdoor Recreation for lesson 16, a summary and discussion, and to distribute certification cards. Course completion takes three-and-a-half to six hours, depending on the number of riders and rider capabilities. Please bring water, full-fingered gloves, over-the-ankle boots, long sleeves, and long pants. FMWR has helmets with faceshields. Goggles are also acceptable, safety glasses or safety sunglasses are not. ATV Safety Institute Class sizes are limited to eight students and are free. This certification is required to rent one of FMWR ATV's. Please call Outdoor Rec at 873-4058 to enroll.

### Army Community Service

On July 23 at 10 a.m. ACS Employment Readiness Program will conduct a "Job Search Tools Workshop." The Program Manager has just returned from training in Texas covering Federal Resumes, WOW interview techniques and Knowledge, Skills and Abilities (KSA) writing, all of which will be presented. This workshop will be between one and two hours long depending upon the number of attendees. Please phone 873-2479 to sign up.

### Sleeping Beauty Play

The School Age Services (SAS) program and Full Day Preschool Program plan to present their rendition of Sleeping Beauty on Aug. 8. The performance will be held in Gabriel Auditorium from 5 to 5:30 p.m. The Fort Greely community is invited to attend.

### Drown Proofing & Boater Safety Classes

These classes are held at the pool every Tuesday from 6 to 7 p.m. Wear a swimsuit under a set of clothing (pants and button down shirt are preferred) to inflate in the pool. Also bring dry clothing to wear home. Bring a partner, it's easier and more fun! These classes are free and are required to rent an FMWR boat. For more information, or to sign-up call 873-5665.

### Youth Valdez Adventure

Youth Services is offering a Valdez Camping Trip July 29, 30 and 31. All registered youth, 6th-12th grade, can attend this trip. Total cost will be \$75, which includes meals, lodging and activities. Check in time at YS is 7 a.m. on the July 29. Youth must be registered by July 24 at 3 p.m.. A meeting for parents will be held on July 27 at 5:30 p.m. Youth will be camping at Valdez Glacier Campground, hiking and fishing. All youth age 16 and older will need a fishing license. For more information, call 873-3406.

### Tanana Valley State Fair

FMWR is offering a trip to the Tanana Valley State Fair in Fairbanks on Aug. 8. This trip departs Gabriel Auditorium at 8:30 a.m. and will depart the Fairbanks Fair at 6 p.m. Trip cost is \$10 per adult, \$15 per couple, and \$3 per youth (17 and under). All persons under the age of 17 must be accompanied by a legal guardian. Daily fair admission cost: Adult (ages 18-59) \$10, Youth (ages 6-17) \$5, Senior (ages 60 and over) \$5, Children 5 and under free. To sign up or for more information call 873-4336.

*Courtesy of FMWR Advertising*