



February 2010

Fort Greely

INTERCEPTOR





Photo credit Staff Sgt. Christina O'Connell

The Army Family Covenant provides 16 hours of respite childcare, per child per month, at no cost for Families of deployed or wounded/fallen Soldiers.

Covenant provides for Army children

The goal of the Army Family Covenant is clear-cut - take care of not only Soldiers, but also Families who have endured eight years of hardships as troops deployed downrange numerous times.

That promise also includes supporting the service's youngest members: sons and daughters of Soldiers.

"Since the Army Family Covenant signing two years ago, our Child, Youth and School Services directorate has focused on improving and standardizing existing programs, as well as ensuring we can support Families ... when our Army is at war," said M. A. Lucas, Director of

the Family and Morale, Welfare and Recreation Command's CYS Services.

Moreover, Lucas noted, "We are committed to ensuring excellence in these services, no matter how large or small the Army installation may be."

A notable deployment-cycle-support initiative the Army implemented after the Covenant signing in late 2008: providing increased assistance to Families during a Soldier's deployment as well as to Warriors in Transition Families. Currently, the Army provides 16 hours of respite childcare, per child per month, at no cost for Families of deployed or wounded/fallen Soldiers.

The Covenant also

provides these Families free childcare during medical appointments, reduced child care fees during other times, and has eliminated fees for children to participate in four CYS instructional classes and two individual sports during a unit's deployment cycle.

Overall, the Army ensures all installation CYS Services are Department of Defense certified, which is the military equivalent to meeting state licensing requirements, and that all Child Development Centers and School Age programs are accredited by national professional accrediting agencies.

According to a 2009 National Association of Child Care Resource and

Referral Agencies report, DoD ranks at the top of two lists tied to state standards and oversight criteria - with no single state appearing on both lists. "DoD stands alone as a model," the report stated.

And while the Army is certainly concerned with providing quality programs, it also strives to ensure quality facilities exist as well.

"The Army provided funds for construction of 72 child development centers and 18 youth centers in fiscal year 2008 alone," said Lucas. "Between now and fiscal year 2014, the Army has programmed for 59 additional child development centers and seven additional youth

centers."

Such centers certainly help in stretching a Soldier's paycheck.

A prime example of how CYS Services helps Army Families financially is the elimination of initial registration fees and reduction of program charges.

"It is critical to the financial wellness of many Families to have affordable and readily available CYS Services," Lucas said. "There are many dual-working parents or single-parent households who rely upon us to provide quality childcare and youth services when (an adult) isn't home."

Additionally, CYS
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Services programs operate beyond an installation's gate to serve activated Guardsmen and Reservists, as well as geographically dispersed active-duty Soldiers.

"Regardless of the location or the component, we must be able to reach all children and youth of Army Families," Lucas said.

For example, Operation Military Child Care and Military Child Care in Your Neighborhood are childcare fee assistance programs for geographically dispersed active-duty and activated Reserve Component Families. These programs serve children 6 weeks to 12 years of age and are available in all 50 states and Puerto Rico.

Operation Military Child Care services are available during the Army Force Generation cycle in licensed care settings. Military Child Care in Your Neighborhood is available during continental U.S. duty assignments in nationally accredited community care settings.

The Army Family Covenant has also delivered community-based outreach services in 49 states and the District of Columbia to children and youth of all deployed Soldiers (active, Guard or Reserves) through Operation: Military Kids, which provides youth program opportunities for school age, middle school and teenaged youth by connecting them to

support resources near where they live.

Operation: Military Kids has its own Web site, www.operationmilitarykids.org, to provide extensive information on various child and youth programs and services.

A popular initiative offered through Military Kids is Hero Pack, a knapsack filled with donated items from partner agencies and given to military youth in gratitude for sacrifices they make while parents are deployed.

Another enterprise is Speak Out for Military Kids, a youth speakers bureau that advocates for military children affected by deployment. Plus it raises community awareness of issues faced by geographically dispersed military children, and allows for military youth to gain leadership, research, organization and public-speaking skills.

The Army Family Covenant has also re-emphasized school support. The service placed 40 additional school liaison officers at highly impacted installations, ensuring students receive the benefits of the Secondary Education Transition Study Memorandum of Agreement, which is meant to assist military children who move frequently. Today, more than 400 school districts are signatories to the agreement.



Army Family Covenant

We recognize the commitment and increasing sacrifices that our families are making every day.

We recognize the strength of our Soldiers comes from the strength of their Families.

We are committed to providing Soldiers and Families a Quality of Life that is commensurate with their service.

We are committed to providing our Families a strong, supportive environment where they can thrive.

We are committed to building a partnership with Army families that enhances their strength and resilience.

We are committed to improving Family readiness by:

- Standardizing and funding existing Family programs and services
- Increasing accessibility and quality of healthcare
- Improving Soldier and Family housing
- Ensuring excellence in schools, youth services, and child care
- Expanding education and employment opportunities for Family members



Furthermore, in 2008 the Interstate Compact on Education Opportunity for Military Children was signed and has now been adopted by 26 states. The program seeks to remove barriers to educational success that military children might experience because of frequent moves and deployments.

Both the Secondary

Education Transition Study Memorandum of Agreement and the Interstate Compact address four categories of educational concerns to military Families: eligibility, enrollment, placement and graduation.

Plus Army children now have access to 24/7 online interactive tutoring through a CYS Services

program, Study Strong, that ensures CYS Services homework centers and technology labs are equipped with curriculum materials and educational software to support academic success.

"We intend to sustain our commitment to the principle established in the Army Family Covenant," stressed Lucas. "We will ensure that excellence in programs and services for military children and youth is our top priority."

“Regardless of the location or the component, we must be able to reach all children and youth of Army Families.”

- M.A. Lucas

Command Corner

February is here ... the shortest month of the year. The days are getting longer and the official start of Spring is just 45 days away!

February is Black History Month. It is a time to honor the contributions of African Americans. The history of African Americans is unique and rich, and one that has helped to define what it means to be an American.

This year we are teaming up with the Fort Greely Middle School to celebrate Black History Month on February 25, 1 p.m. in the FGMS gym. I encourage everyone to attend. There will be entertainment and food samplings.

As we observe Black History Month in February I would like to offer you a quote from Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. to reflect on as you go about your busy day: "Darkness cannot drive out darkness; only light can do that. Hate cannot drive out hate; only love can do that."

If you are looking for something to do this month you don't have to look far. February is chocked full of events and activities both on and off-post ... so get out and enjoy.

Fort Greely Family and Morale, Welfare and Recreation is offering numerous things to do ... sledding at Firetower Hill, ice skating, ice fishing, snow machine adventures, a dodgeball tournament and much, much more. For more information on the many recreational activities go online to www.fortgreelymwr.com.

Also, don't forget to support the local off-post community as well. Delta Junction will celebrate the "Festival of Lights" from Feb. 12-14. Events include a spaghetti dinner, Galleria & Trade Show, Kid's Greeting Card Workshop, Relay for Life Kick-Off Event, Polar Bear Plunge, Fishing Derby at Quartz Lake, fireworks, and more. Please see this INTERCEPTOR for details or call the Delta Junction Chamber of Commerce at 895-5068 for more information.

I'm amazed at all there is to do here year round at this remote location in Interior Alaska; but remember, when you are out and about enjoying all that Alaska has to offer please "be safe." The cold weather is still here and it's important to practice cold weather safety. Dress appropriately to avoid cold weather-related injuries. Take care of your vehicle and carry emergency supplies. Let people know where you are going, when you will get there, and call them once you arrive.

Let's keep Fort Greely clean. As I walk around Post I often see cigarette butts and trash lying around. We need to take pride in our areas. Pick up the trash and throw it away and close the doors on the dumpsters. Ravens love trash. Keeping Fort Greely clean is everyone's responsibility. I appreciate each of you serving this great Nation of ours. We are protecting America and freedom. I'm proud and honored to be part of Team Greely!

- CSM Carolyn Reynolds
Garrison Command Sgt. Maj.



Directorate of the month: DES

Q: What is the Directorate of Emergency Services, its mission, and how is the directorate organized to accomplish its mission?

A: The Directorate of Emergency Services is the installation's security and emergency first responder organization. The mission statement, simply put is "Protect Resources." To accomplish its mission, the directorate is task organized into three operational elements and one support element: law enforcement division; fire protection and prevention division; physical security branch; and support services branch.

Q: What services does the Fort Greely police department provide the community?

A: The police department provides law enforcement services to the community in three major areas: mitigating the threat to installation by implementing counterterrorism measures and developing, implementing and exercising combating terrorism plans; enforcement of installation, Army, State and Federal criminal and traffic policies, regulations, and codes and criminal and traffic investigations; and developing and implementing special law enforcement programs such as, Drug Awareness and Resistance Education or DARE, child identification, and bicycle registration.

Q: What services does the Fort Greely Fire Department provide the community?

A: The Fire & Emergency Services (FES), provides support to the Fort Greely community in five major areas: fire protection; airfield crash rescue; emergency medical response and transport; hazardous materials response; and fire prevention. Fire protection includes response to both structural and wildland fires. Airfield crash rescue is a specialized crash response capability required to conduct airfield flight operations. The most utilized of our FES services, emergency medical response and transport, are the basic and advanced life saving emergency medical technician and ambulance services. Hazardous material response are those actions conducted to respond to and contain hazardous material spills and releases. Fire prevention are those proactive actions, such as conducting facility inspections, fire extinguisher training and personal awareness

training, implemented to prevent or minimize the occurrence of fires or injuries as the result of fires. Integral to the fire prevention training and awareness program is the Stop, Drop and Roll, and household fire evacuation training provided to the Delta Junction school system. In addition to their traditional training, firefighter receive specialized training in vehicle extraction procedures, swift water rescue, snow machine and ATV rescue, and high-angle and confined space rescue.

Q: You mentioned two other elements within the directorate, Physical Security and Support Services. What services they do provide?

A: The primary responsibility of physical security is to provide for the security of government equipment, property, and facilities from the threat of sabotage, theft and pilferage, and the protection of soldiers, civilians, contractors, and family members who live, work, and train at Fort Greely from the threat of terrorism. The physical security branch has responsibility for developing, coordinating and conducting security planning, lighting, fencing, barriers, intrusion detection systems and closed circuit television, and installation access control. In addition, physical security has responsibility for developing, implementing and managing the installation's crime prevention program.

Q: How often do first responders train?

A: In addition to the initial training and certifications required of our installation firefighter, emergency medical technicians, police, and central dispatch personnel before they are authorized to perform their job, there are recurring training and annual recertification that must be accomplished by each of our first responder employees. To meet recurring requirements, training is generally conducted on a daily basis in one form or another; Fort Greely has a state-of-the-art live-fire and confined space training facility that can be used year-round to maintain firefighter proficiency.

If you would like further information or have additional questions please feel free to contact DES at (907) 873-3408.

Know what to do when calling 911

by Brad Reed
Physical Security Specialist

911 is an emergency response service provided by the Fort Greely Directorate of Emergency Services to assist the citizens of Fort Greely with receiving law enforcement, fire, and ambulance assistance during crisis times. Fort Greely dispatchers man special emergency phone lines 24 hours a day so that the citizens of Fort Greely may receive help as expeditiously as possible. At the same time as they answer 911 calls, dispatchers also answer non-emergency calls on regular phone lines. A person in a crisis situation will receive priority over someone calling with a non-emergency situation.

Land line vs. Cell, know the difference

Knowing the difference between calling 911 from a land line phone and calling 911 on a cell phone will allow for your emergency to be handled in a timely manner. When calling 911 from a Fort Greely land line (prefix 873 or 869) you will be connected with the Fort Greely Dispatch Center; however when calling 911 from a cell phone your call will be directed to North Pole or Fairbanks at which time you will need to inform the dispatcher that your emergency is at Fort Greely. Never program 911 into your speed dial. You're not going to forget the number and accidental 911 calls are more likely with auto-dialers. If someone calls 911 and doesn't speak, emergency services must still be dispatched.

When should you call 911?

911 Emergency calls should be made only in cases such as a crime in progress, a fire, a medical emergency, or a similar immediately threatening case. A possible 911 situation can involve something you see - a burglar breaking in to a neighbor's house, a neighbor's house on fire or someone having a heart attack. It can also involve what you hear - a woman screaming or yelling "Don't hit me again," an explosion or glass breaking. **A suspected drunk driver is always a 911 call.**

Before you call, gather as many facts as you can under the circumstances. Take a second look and gather complete information. This will ensure a timely response. If you are describing a person, important points include the race of the person, whether it is a male or a female, what the person is wearing, the color of his or her hair and any other outstanding characteristics. With a car description, a tag number is great if you can get it, and a report that the vehicle had a ladder on top or a dented left front fender is more useful than simply describing the vehicle as a "white van". Bottom line, remember the acronym **N.A.I.L.**

- Name: give your name
- Address: give your address
- Information: give specific information about the emergency. The WHO, WHAT, WHEN and HOW
- Location: give specifics about the location of the emergency and the phone number you are calling from

What to expect when you call 911

Although hard to do - **STAY CALM!** When you call 911 emergency lines, one of the first things you will be asked is, "Is this an emergency?" This question is a necessary one because unfortunately some people do call 911 for non-emergencies. Once it is established that you do have an emergency situation, the dispatcher will ask you a series of questions in an effort to get enough information so he/she can send the proper assistance to you as soon as possible. Remember, the job of the dispatchers is to gather as much pertinent information relative to the situation as possible and to keep you on the phone if at all possible. This action better prepares emergency responders coming to your aid. Let the dispatcher guide the conversation and try to answer the questions as calmly and clearly as possible. Help will be sent to you right away, and the more cooperative you are over the phone, the faster help will arrive. The dispatcher will continue to talk with you after help has been dispatched to you. Follow all directions and do not hang up until directed to do so by the dispatcher. The longer he/she can keep you on the phone and the more information that can be relayed to the responding officer, ambulance or fire truck, the better and safer the situation is.

Misuse of the 911 Emergency System

Unfortunately, a number of 911 calls received by the Fort Greely Dispatch Center are not of an emergency nature. If you are reporting a non-emergency situation such as a suspicious person, a previously stolen bike or a dog continually barking; 911 is not the proper number to call. The Directorate of Emergency Services offers non-emergency phone numbers for the reporting of such calls. Your call will still be handled appropriately, but this will allow true emergencies to be handled first.

Let me re-emphasize: 911 is for emergency calls only and is not equipped to answer questions, give directions, weather forecasts or road conditions. To report a non-emergency, the following phone numbers may be called 24 hours a day:

- 873- COPS
- 873-FIRE
- 873-CRME (CRIME TIP LINE)

Missile Test Leads to Unique Training for Alaskan Soldiers

by Clara Zachgo
U.S. Army Cold Regions
Test Center



A bulldozer rests easy on the ice bridge/road that crosses the Delta River.

The U.S. Army Cold Regions Test Center has 50 employees on a permanent, full-time basis. Managing the resources in an organization that size becomes a challenge at times, especially when the cold test season is predominately only from October through March. With over 15 tests this winter, resources are spread thin and test officers must plan to make sure the resources they need are available when they need them. Last winter, Dave Hoffman, a test officer at CRTC was in charge of building a combination ice bridge and ice road over the Delta River. The Delta River is a braided river, consisting of a few main channels, several smaller channels, and temporary islands in between. The channels split off and rejoin each other, giving it a braided appearance. Hoffman had a three-person team working around the clock building and maintaining an ice bridge/road, but this year, with a busier test season, those individuals, including Hoffman, were not going to be available on a full-time basis. John Viggato, the test officer for the Non-Line of Sight-Launch System, needed to find another way to get the

job done.

An ice bridge/road would be essential for his test, allowing access to remote test sites. Viggato began talking with the 6th Engineers out of Fort Richardson, Alaska, during the summer to see if they were interested in a unique support and training opportunity. Building an ice bridge/road would offer them hands-on training they would otherwise not receive. The engineers jumped at the opportunity and on November 9, 2009, members of the 84th Engineering Support Company Airborne and the 56th Vertical Engineers arrived at CRTC. 2nd Lt. William Byrd, with the 84th Engineering Support Company Airborne, saw this opportunity as “something most Soldiers at Fort Richardson and in the Army will not get to

see or do.”

Hoffman, who became very knowledgeable on ice bridge/road building last winter, was tasked with being an advisor to the engineers. He would be able to offer invaluable guidance to the Soldiers, who had no real experience building an ice bridge/road. According to Hoffman, “Working with the Soldiers was a pleasure. I enjoyed being able to teach them something that makes them more mission capable and better Soldiers.” Byrd’s first thoughts when Hoffman took him to location on the Delta River where the ice bridge/road would be built was the “unknowingness of the ice—I felt like I was fixing to fall through any minute”. Corp. Gordon, a member of the 56th Vertical Engineers, felt the same way, but actually

experienced this during his first trip to the ice bridge/road. He was getting a tour of the ice bridge/road from Hoffman in a Small Unit Support Vehicle when “the SUSV suddenly fell through the ice and there was water covering the tracks.” Hoffman knew from experience and reconnaissance work that the ice was not frozen all the way down and at some point the SUSV would likely break through the ice, but Gordon did not and immediately knew this was going to be an exciting “opportunity and experience.”

Throughout the next few months, the Engineers worked on the mile-long ice bridge/road. Two crews of 11 Soldiers rotated through every 10 days, allowing for continuous work. Byrd felt “the biggest obstacle we ran into was nature;

it became a big factor, both helping and hurting.” When the temperatures were extreme in either direction, there would be water running over the ice bridge/road and the Soldiers would have to wait for the overflow to refreeze. One thing Hoffman had a hard time making the engineers realize was “there are times when you have to sit back and let Mother Nature do her thing, and then you go in afterwards and clean up the mess.” The engineers experienced this with the fluctuating temperatures and overflow.

Building an ice bridge/road takes a lot of time, hard work, and favorable weather conditions. The water must be frozen down to the riverbed, which requires breaking the ice down to the bottom and allowing it to freeze from the bottom up. The engineers had to pump thousands of gallons of water onto the bridge/road to get the ice thick enough to support heavy equipment, while at the same time smoothing it out so vehicles could drive across it easily. After a lot of hard work, patience, and cooperation from Mother Nature the engineers established an ice bridge/road that was 28 inches thick in the beginning of January. With work scheduled to continue through the end of February, the Engineers will add another 2 ½ inches of ice every day.

The thickness of the ice was crucial; in the middle of January, CRTC drove one tank, two personnel carriers, a D-9 bulldozer, and an M88 across the ice bridge/road. The M88, an armored recovery vehicle,

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weighs 56 tons. In addition to the large vehicles driven across the bridge/road, personnel and equipment were transported to remote test sites daily via the ice bridge/road. Viggato knew the importance, "The ice bridge/road was a key element in test execution. Every piece of equipment used in the NLOS-LS firing at CRTC, from pens and pencils to tanks and bulldozers, was crossed over the bridge/road. The 6th Engineers provided CRTC with essential support during a critical test mission. Their capability and dedication allowed CRTC to complete the NLOS-LS mission successfully and without the additional burden of ice bridge/road construction and maintenance on top of an already overloaded support division."



Photos by Mike Kingston

A water truck makes frequent passes over the ice bridge to spray water and "thicken" the ice. Individuals pictured are Soldiers from 6th Engineer Battalion.



Courtesy Photo

Audrey Cepeda (Fort Greely, Alaska), Julie Maldonado (1st Space Brigade), KC Bertling (program manager), and Spec. Cheryl Bell (1st Space Brigade) stand with the Secretary of the Army, the Honorable John McHugh. The women were USASMDC/ARSTRAT representatives at the HQDA annual worldwide AFAP conference in Arlington, Va. from Jan. 11-15.

The Army Family Action Plan Conference, held January 11-15, brought a total of 82 issues originating from AFAP installation conferences over the past year.

With these issues came nearly 100 delegates to whittle the 82 issues down to 16 considered to be of the highest priority to elevate the standard of living for Soldiers, family members, survivors and Army civilians.

This on-going process is considered extremely important by Army leaders, especially Secretary of the Army John McHugh.

"Our challenge is to provide for Soldiers and families as best we can," McHugh told the assembled delegates, leaders, family members and friends.

"Your role is essential to help us focus on implementation of these programs and to ensure they're the best to provide what's needed," he said.

Families, though, are made up of children who also want a say in many other issues and they want it seen from their point of view. Accompanying the adult delegates were the 13 Army Teen Panel members who represented the younger Army Family.

The group, led by

Worldwide AFAP Conference a unique opportunity for USASMDC/ARSTRAT representatives

Anthony Merriweather, presented their two posters designed for teens that need a boost in their self-esteem and encouragement. The posters are a method to get teens involved in the many activities developed at each garrison.

"We used a different kind of English than most of you are used to," Merriweather said while smiling to the mostly adult audience. "We spoke to teens in the language of texting, a shortened form of communicating," he said.

The teens also presented a 30 second commercial, another method to get teens involved in youth centers Army-wide. The applause and cheers from senior leaders, including Gen. Peter W. Chiarelli, Army vice chief of staff, and Gen. George W. Casey Jr., Army chief of staff, meant they also reached the audience who can affect the changes they

want.

Before the top issues could be voted upon, Casey brought the conference members up to date on Army plans for the coming year.

"The secretary of the Army, John McHugh, and I have six major objectives for 2011. We will continue our efforts to restore balance to the Army by 2011; execute Afghanistan plus-up and responsible drawdown in Iraq; sustain Soldiers, families and civilians; establish an integrated Army management system; implement an Army leader development strategy; and establish the Army of the 21st century."

"But the most important thing we will do is to increase the time Soldiers stay home," Casey said to an enthusiastic applause.

Other programs, Casey said, have been introduced and running for more than a year, but need to be revisited to ensure they

continue to grow and gain acceptance.

"The Army Family Covenant is one of the programs that we will continue to put the right amount of funding into so that family programs provide for all Soldiers and their families. Lt. Gen. Rick Lynch, IMCOM commanding general, is just the man to get this job done right," Casey said.

With \$225 billion budgeted for the Army this year, Casey said the funds are enough to ensure the six objectives he and Secretary McHugh developed will be met, while ensuring the Soldiers are well-trained and supported.

When Casey was Army vice chief of staff, he wanted to find out what was working and what wasn't in the Army. On the first day of the AFAP conference, delegates were given the task of compiling this list and

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then voting on what challenges the Army needed to address and what strengths they've accomplished.

The Mobilization, Deployment and Family Readiness Strengths, determined by the AFAP delegates are:

- Army Community Service
- Army Family Action Plan
- Army Family Team Building
- Financial Counseling
- Survivor Outreach Services
- Family Advocacy
- Volunteer Program
- New Parent Support
- Army Wounded Warrior Program
- Chaplains' Programs including Strong Bonds and Unit Ministry Team
- Army Family Covenant and Community Covenant
- Morale, Welfare and Recreation Programs, including Fitness, Better Opportunity for Single Soldiers, Leisure Travel, and other recreation Programs
- The Mobilization, Deployment and Family Readiness Challenges are:
 - High suicide rate

- Length of deployments
- Impact of deployment on children and youth
- Duplicate programs (e.g., ACS and Family Assistance Centers)
- Support for wounded warriors
- Funding for family and deployment support programs

Of the top 16 issues brought to AFAP, after the voting of the top five, the remaining 11 issues were:

- Standard level of security measures in barracks

- Availability of 24/7 child care with CYSS delivery systems
- RC inactive duty for training, travel and transportation Allowances
- Reduced eligibility age for retirement of RC Soldiers mobilized in support of OCO
- Extended transitional survivor spouses' TRICARE medical coverage
- Active-duty family members prescription cost

- share inequity
- Supplemental mission funds for RC Family Readiness Groups
- Compensatory time for DA civilians
- RC government employees' and their family members' access to TRICARE Reserve Select
- TRICARE allowable charge reimbursement of upgraded/deluxe durable medical equipment
- Standardization of privatized housing application process.
- The 'Critical Six'

- unemployment compensation
- Reserve component post-mobilization counseling
- Convicted sex offender registry
- Retroactive Traumatic Service Member Group Life Insurance
- Bereavement permissive TDY
- Medical entitlements for college-age family members

Summing up the meaning of the conference for the delegates, Army senior leaders, Soldiers and their families, Secretary McHugh used a quote from the founder of the AFAP, some 25 years ago: "As retired General John A. Wickam Jr. (former Army Chief of Staff) said, 'The stronger the Army, the stronger the family.'"

(Rob McIlvaine writes for FMWRC Public Affairs)

"Our challenge is to provide for Soldiers and families as best we can." - John McHugh

- active-AFAP issues were voted out of the remaining 70 issues being worked at the week's GOSC meeting during the conference. While these six might not make it into the June GOSC, they have been determined to be most important, and as a result, Army senior leaders will continue to keep them foremost throughout the year.
- The six are:
 - Military spouse



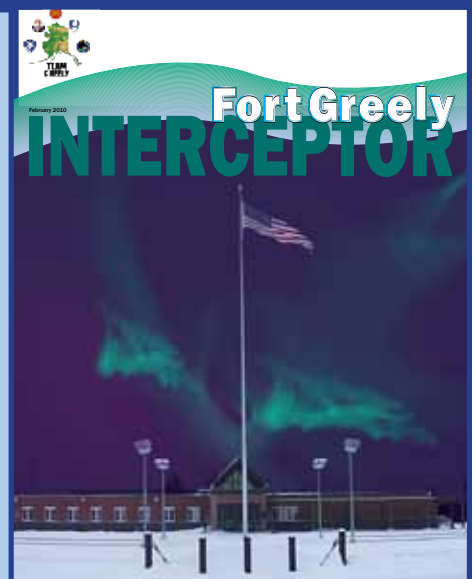
Julie Maldonado, Audrey Cepeda, KC Bertling and Spec. Cheryl Bell stand with the commanding general of USASMDC/ARSTRAT, Lt. Gen. Kevin T. Campbell. The women were USASMDC/ARSTRAT representatives at the HQDA annual worldwide AFAP conference in Arlington, Va. from Jan. 11-15.

Courtesy Photo

On the cover: Photo illustration by Deborah Ward.

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OPSEC • OPSSEC • OPS



Life

means nothing to the enemy



Army
StrongSM



Protect Your Family. Report Suspicious Activity.

The Army community is a target for terrorism. Specific targets have included Army installations and facilities. Restaurants, retail stores, schools, and playgrounds are also at risk. We don't know where or when terrorists might strike. Therefore we must *make vigilance our focus*. Make it your focus. Be aware of your surroundings both on and off post and report suspicious activity whenever you see it. Do that and you help make the Army community *a formidable obstacle* to terrorism.

Always Ready, Always Alert
Because someone is depending on you



CHEESECAKE

throw-down

by Deborah Ward
Public Affairs Specialist

What is it about being on a diet and consistently doing 80 minutes of cardiovascular training five days a week that makes the melodious cries of refined sugar seek me out? I have yet to find an answer to that question; however I am convinced that the fantastically devious staff of Resource Management has something to do with it.

For the third year in a row RM has hosted the Cheesecake Throw-down. Cheesecake chefs extraordinaire have rolled up their sleeves, pulled down the mixing bowls and plopped in brick after brick of cream cheese in order to participate in the annual contest.

The rule for all contestants is simple: the cheesecake can be flavored, but must have no toppings. With each perfected (and might I add guarded) recipe the results are phenomenal.

This year I was overwhelmed with pride when I received a call from Leticia Donaldson who immediately said, "...you are on speaker phone with Nadine (Hoague) and Cathy (Green) and we'd like to know if you would be one of the judges for our Cheesecake Throw-down."

Simultaneous visions of empowerment and a need for larger-sized clothing hit me with full force, "I'd love to," I said.

When the tasty day arrived, Jan. 29, 2010, I walked down to the Fort Greely Chapel Annex somehow thinking I would burn off enough calories to limit the damage to my midriff. The Chapel Annex was on the cool side, but well lit and RM had just finished setting up the judging tables.

There were two long tables connected together and chairs for the judges: Robert Olsen, Division Chief, Ground-based Midcourse Defense, Chaplain (Maj.) Earl Vanderhoff, Lt. Col. Steve Carroll, Command Sgt. Maj. Carolyn Reynolds and myself. We were given stacks of napkins, a cup full of plastic forks, six scoring sheets, a pen and fresh iced water to help keep our valued palates clean and free from biased opinions.

Donaldson was responsible for announcing and parading each of the six cheesecakes.

Each cake was labeled with a letter A through F. As judges we were to score each of the six cheesecakes zero through 10 with 10 being the highest based on the following RM criteria:

Appearance – is it beautiful to the eye, is it dripping something, is it too wobbly, is it too stiff, and is it too wet?

Taste – is the cream cheese flavor and texture present or is it too wet, too dry?

Main ingredient use – is it made with cream cheese or is it vanilla pudding?

Each cake was brought out on its platter and passed before our eyes for us to view; it was then rigorously shaken to attest to the firmness of the cake.

Donaldson would then take the beautiful white gold back to the kitchen area where the cake executioner, Eric Anderson, waited with razor sharp dental floss.

Gasps of shock escaped from the crowd when the first of the generously sliced pieces arrived on the judges' tables.

"Save some for us!" a lone desperate cry rang out.

The plates were set before us and we dug into the cakes one by one. As the procedure repeated itself five more times odd groaning noises from Command Sgt. Maj., words of praise from the Chaplain and encouragement to carry on until the end from the 49th Bn. Commander came as consistently as plate after plate of cheesecake arrived.

Each cake was delicate in texture, beautiful in appearance and delightful in taste; however it was up to the five of us to pick a winner and at long last we did.

Each contestant stood by their cheesecake creations so the audience and judges could gratefully thank Dona Brooks, Tammy Powers, Penny Casserberg, Dave Smith, Eric Anderson, and Rhonda Greer for their submissions.

For those who attended the Holiday Celebration it will come as no surprise that Greer snagged first place. Greer won first

place in the Holiday Bake-off and second place in the Chili Cook-off this past December.

After the winner was declared the crowd was set loose upon the unsuspecting cheesecakes. The rush for a slice, or in Deputy Commander Will Wiley's case, several slices, of such rare refinement reminded me of the mad shopping frenzy for the Cabbage Patch Kids back in the early 80's.

All in all, our deal was better.

For two years in a row Dave Smith, from RM, has held the Cheesecake Throw-down title. This year, he passes the title to Rhonda Greer from North Haven.

Photo by Deborah Ward



Photos by Penny Casserberg

2010 Festival of Lights

Friday Feb. 12

4:30 - 7:30 p.m.

Spaghetti Dinner at the Delta Presbyterian Church. Contact Pastor Bear at 895-4322 for more information.

Saturday Feb. 13

10 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

Galleria/Trade Show at the small gym of the High School. Contact Dani at 895-5068 for more information.

10 a.m. - 2 p.m.

Kids' Greeting Card Workshop at the Delta Library. Contact the library at 895-4102 for more information.

10 a.m. - 2 p.m.

Fishing Derby at Quartz Lake. Contact Pam at 895-4919 for further information.

10:30 a.m. - 4 p.m.

Relay for Life Kick-Off

Event at the Community Center. Contact Karen Sutherland at 895-4266 for more information.

2 - 10 p.m.

DHS Boosters 1st Annual Old Fashioned Ice Cream Parlor at the Delta High School art room. No contact information given.

4 - 9 p.m.

Valentine's Dinner at the Clearwater Lodge. Contact Patsy at 895-5152.

4 p.m.

Polar Bear Plunge at the Delta High School parking lot. Contact Dani at 895-5068 for further information.

5 - 8 p.m.

Mardi Gras Party at the Alaskan Steakhouse. Contact number for this event is 895-5175.

7:30 p.m.

Light-Up the Night Fireworks Display at the City Park located on Kimball Street. Contact Dani at 895-5152 for more information.

10 p.m.

Wet Land Will Band at the Clearwater Lodge. Contact Patsy at 895-5152 for further information on this event.

Sunday Feb. 14

Noon - ?

Dart Tournament at the Delta-Clearwater Moose Lodge 911. Contact Dale Diviney at 895-4300 for more information

5 p.m. - ?

Bonfire at the Delta River across from the Delta Airfield. Contact Pam Dunkleberger at 895-4919 for more information.

**The 2010 Festival of Lights is Proudly Hosted by :
The Delta Chamber of Commerce!**

2010 Ice Carving Contest

The Friends of Delta Agriculture are hosting this years Ice Carving Contest! Feb. 6 from 10 a.m. - 5 p.m.m. Everyone is invited to participate. This is a great event for families to take part in. Each participant (s) must provide their own tools. Due to insurance reasons no one under the age of 18 is allowed to run a chainsaw. For more information or to sign up ahead of time please contact Carol McNabb at 895-1936.

2010 Polar Bear Plunge Standings

(as of Jan. 29)

Marshall Brown - CRTC	81 votes
Teresa Knopp - Alaskan Steakhouse	76 votes
Adam Schneider - Buffalo Center Service	41 votes
Robert Grimes - DHS Prinicipal	7 votes
Billy Miller - Alaskan Steakhouse	6 votes
Shannon Nichols - Hockey Coach	5 votes
Jennifer Anderson - Buffalo Center Service	5 votes
Matthew Andreasen - Mat's Auto	5 votes
Greg Wojcik - Football Coach	5 votes
Mark Adams - Baksetball Coach	2 votes
Jason Howell.....	0 votes
Patsy Ewing - Clearwater Lodge	0 votes
Micke Crouch Jr. Delta Industrial	0 votes

Military Families Gain Access to Free, Online Tutoring

By Elaine Wilson
American Forces Press Service

The Defense Department has launched a free, online tutoring service for servicemembers and their families.

The site – <http://www.tutor.com/military> -- offers round-the-clock professional tutors who can assist with homework, studying, test preparation, resume writing and more.

Marine Corps and Army families have had access to the program for more than a year. Seeing the value, Defense Department officials decided to expand the service to encompass all servicemembers and their families, officials said.

“Providing 24/7 academic and career support for military families during a time when so many parents have a deployed spouse has been an important and well-received benefit for Marine Corps and Army families,” said Tommy T. Thomas, deputy undersecretary of defense for military community and family policy.

“We are pleased to expand this program to all U.S. military families and provide peace of mind that their children are never alone when it comes to learning – there is always a certified, professional tutor available to help,” he said.

Active-duty servicemembers, National Guard and reserve personnel on active duty in a deployed status, Defense Department civilians in a deployed status and their dependents are eligible to participate, officials said. Along with test preparation, the site is open to students of any age – from kindergartners to high school seniors – for one-on-one help in math, science, social studies and English.

Many of these students, officials said, are making the most of the live, one-on-one help. “Thanks for having this service when our family is separated at this time due to deployments and training,” a 6th grader of a

Marine commented. “My father is unable to help one-on-one.”

“I really appreciate this,” another program participant, a 9th grader, said.

“It really helps me understand my schoolwork. It’s going to really help me ace my exams coming up! I am definitely going to use this very often.”

Tutor.com’s network includes more than 1,800 professional tutors and career specialists who have delivered more than 5 million one-on-one tutoring sessions since 2001, officials said. Each tutor is certified through the site, and all sessions are recorded for quality control.

Photo by Deborah Ward



**No more ...
“The DOG
ate my
homework!”**

**“It really
helps me
understand my
schoolwork.
It’s going to
really help me
ace my exams
coming up! I
am definitely
going to use
this very
often.”**

- 9th grade student

**“We are
pleased to
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U.S. military
families and
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certified,
professional
tutor available
to help,”**

-Tommy T. Thomas

Candle Safety

1. Keep them away from anything that can easily catch fire like furniture or curtains.
2. Don’t let candles fall over! You need to keep candles firmly upright in a proper holder.
3. Don’t let anything fall into the hot wax, like matchsticks.
4. Use a ‘snuffer’ or a spoon to put candles out. It’s safer than blowing them, which can send sparks and hot wax flying.
5. Keep candles out of reach of children and pets.
6. Always place candles on a heat-resistant surface. Night lights and tea lights can melt plastic surfaces like TV tops and bathtubs.
7. Don’t lean across candles! You could set fire to your clothes or hair.
8. Always leave at least four inches between two burning candles.



February 2010

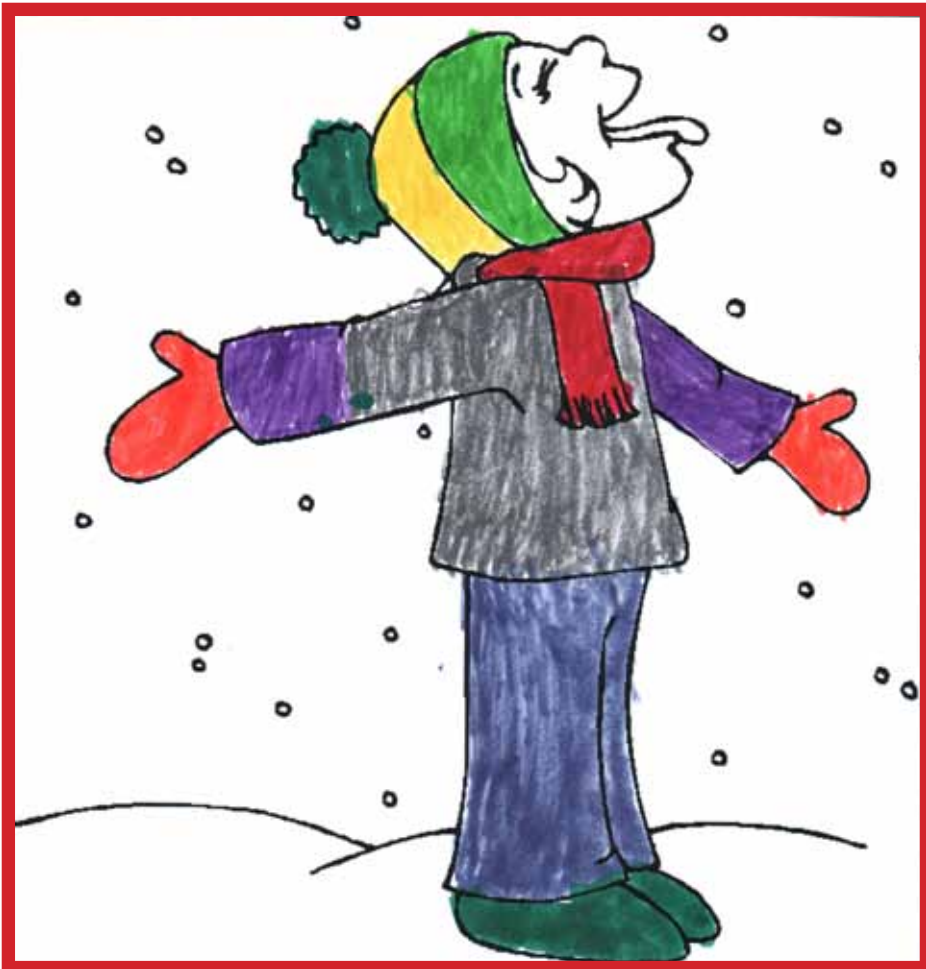


Painted Sky by Eric Haberin took second place for dramatic use of color and strong contrasting shapes.

Northern Lights Cabin for Rent by Michael Martinez took first place for dominant focal point, strong contrasts between light and dark shapes and the analogous color scheme.



Caribou by Merri Darland took third place for the monochromatic color scheme and playful use of linear qualities.



Thank you to Gavin Smith, age 8, son of Kevin and Kirsten Anderson (top) and Victoria Bush, age 8, daughter of Jung Sun (Sunny) and Ransome Bush (bottom) for your submissions, we look forward to seeing your name in lights on the Fort Greely Marquee! Don't forget to check out the Command Channel (channel 6) to see your art work on display there as well.

If you would like your name displayed on the Fort Greely Marquee and your colored picture on the Command Channel please submit your artwork by the first of each month to deborah.ward3@us.army.mil. The next deadline is March 1, 2010. Hurry and get those colors out!

For the older crowd, perhaps you have artwork that you have created on your own time. Quilting, needlepoint, bead work, woodworking, auto detailing ... anything that has your creative flair to it, we'd love to see it here in the *INTERCEPTOR*.

Submit a photo of your work or a scanned image and we'll find a spot to highlight it for you. Don't let your creativity go unnoticed.

If you used one of our FMWR facilities be sure to list the location so we can give them credit too.

The year long photo contest continues so if you missed the first two months don't miss out on March's deadline. Each month three photos will be chosen to represent the best shots of Alaska. At the end of the year the judging panel will meet and choose the best of the best and the winner will receive a matted and framed picture of their photo to have displayed on the Garrison. You may submit as many photos as you like. The photos do not have to be from this year, but they do need to be from Alaska. Please list your name, contact number, title of photo and the location of where the image was taken. The top three images will be displayed in the next running issue of the *INTERCEPTOR* and the Command Channel. The deadline for submissions is the first of each month. Please send all submissions to:

deborah.ward3@us.army.mil

We had a great number of submissions this month for the photo contest and I would like to thank everyone who contributed. I am proud to be part of a community with such fantastic talent. Kudos to you Team Greely!





Free H1N1 Flu Vaccine Clinic

H1N1 vaccinations are still available!



February 17, 2010

3 – 6 pm

Delta Junction

Community Center

Vaccine is available for all age groups while supplies last. Anyone under age 18 must be accompanied by a parent or guardian. Please bring children's shot records. For more information contact the Delta Public Health Center at 895-4292.



For more information about H1N1 visit
www.pandemicflu.alaska.gov .



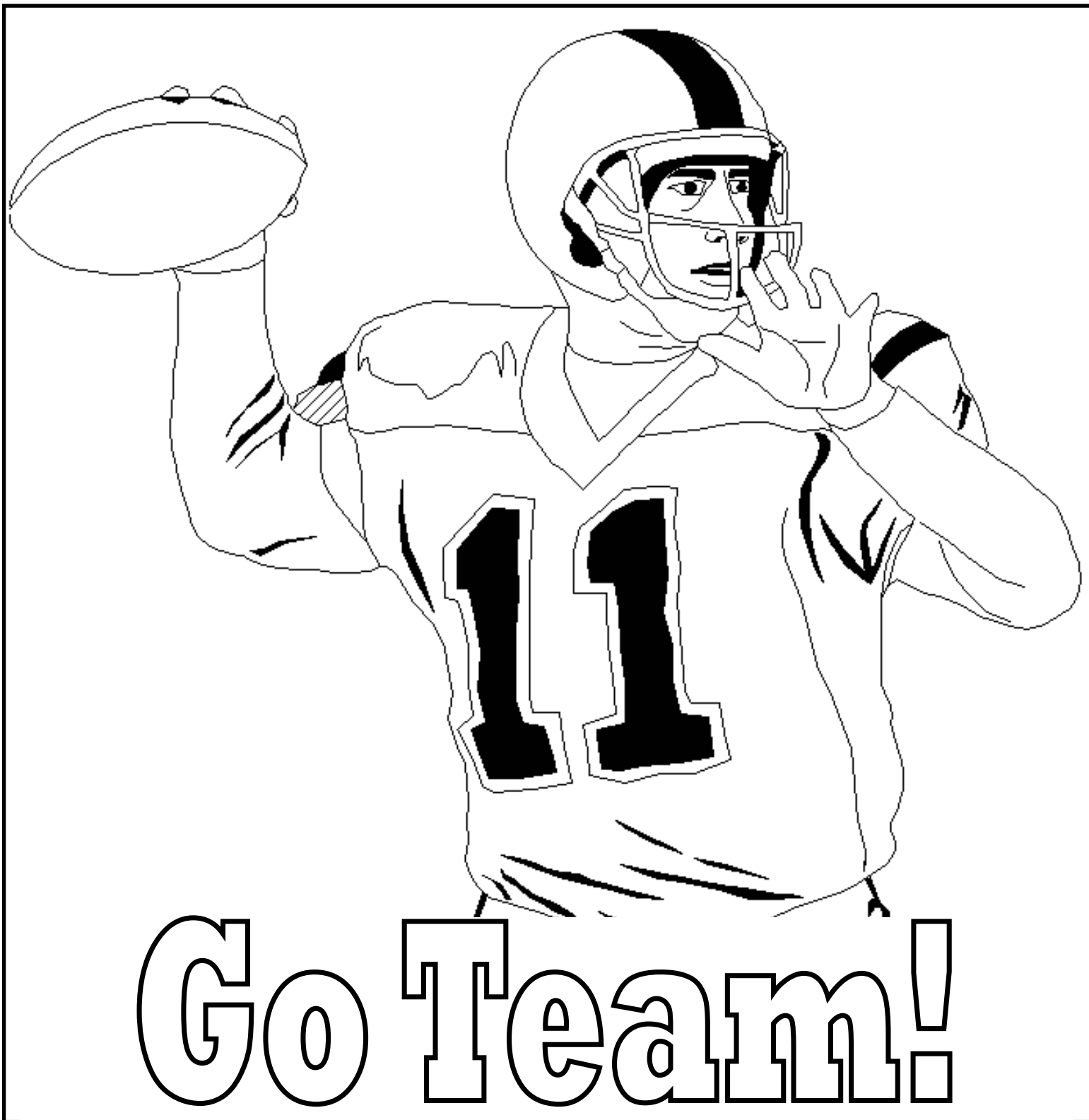
Kids' Corner

Color the image below then scan your work of art and send it to: deborah.ward3@us.army.mil

Four winners will be chosen each month and will get the chance to have their name in lights on the Fort Greely Marquee for a week!

Be sure to include your first name, age and telephone number in the space provided below so we may contact you if selected.

ALL ENTRIES MUST BE SUBMITTED BY THE 1st OF EACH MONTH.



NAME: _____ AGE: _____ PHONE: _____