

The Hamilton Connection

Serving the Fort Hamilton Community Vol. 7 No. 23 June 22, 2012



New York City celebrates Army's birthday

In recognition of the 237th birthday of the United States Army, Army Chief of Staff Gen. Raymond T. Odierno, Col. Michael Gould, U.S. Army Garrison Fort Hamilton commander, hundreds Soldiers from the New York City Recruiting Battalion, 10th Mountain Division, the 3rd U.S. Infantry Regiment (The Old Guard) and the U.S. Army Band "Pershing's Own" and New York City officials and communities throughout the city and New Jersey celebrated with performances and cake cuttings June 12-16.

"Today, America's Army is engaged in nearly 150 countries around the world, on six of seven continents, with over 93,000 Soldiers deployed today and 95,000 forward stationed," Odierno said.

"Our nation depends on its Army to defend the shores of our homeland to defeat enemy forces abroad and help with recovery efforts in the wake of natural disasters."

During the week, 10th Mountain Division Soldiers who returned from Afghanistan in March 2012 were involved in community outreach events throughout New York City. Dozens of Soldiers visited hospitals, fire departments high schools, fitness centers, senior citizen homes, zoos and topped the celebration off with a visit to Coney Island Amusement Park.

"The Army has stood strong for 237 years; more importantly, America's public has stood strong along side of us," said Lt. Col. Richard Davis, New York

City Recruiting Battalion commander.

This year's celebration was combined with the annual Twilight Tattoo where the 3rd Infantry Divisions Fife and Drum Corps and the U.S. Army Drilled Team performed for hundreds of New Yorkers and tourist at Bryant Park.

"We want to make sure there is no disconnect between the American community and their Army," said Maj. Charles Jaquillard, executive office for the New York City Recruiting Battalion. "It's important to know who their Soldiers are and better relate to them, to hear their stories, hear what the Army experience is like and get to know them a little better."

Staff Sgt. Kenneth A. Foss contributed to this story



At a Chinese-American dinner June 12 in Queens N.Y., Sgt. 1st Class Charles Hough and Pfc. Cody O. Solis, the oldest and youngest Soldiers present from 3rd Squadron, 71st Cavalry Regiment, 3rd Brigade Combat Team, 10th Mountain Division from Fort Drum, N.Y., join an event organizer to cut the ceremonial cake. Photo right, the U.S. Army Drill team performs at Bryant Park in Manhattan. More photos follow on pages 2 and 3.

U.S. Army's 237th birthday in New York City



Fort Hamilton gets master planning advice

By Alison Kohler
Fort Hamilton Public Affairs

Fort Hamilton was fortunate to be the second among all of the Department of Defense installations to receive an Installation Management Command-sponsored Area Development Practicum after the publication of the new DOD unified facilities criteria on Installation Master Planning.

A team from Michael Baker Jr. Corp and The Urban Collaborative, LLC, both master planning and urban design firms visited June 4-7 to consult on master planning and sustainability for Fort Hamilton.

"This is awesome. We thought we were tapped out on space, but you've shown us a way," said Col. Michael Gould, commander of U.S. Army Garrison Fort Hamilton.

A team of master planners and installation stakeholders including representatives from garrison directorates and tenant organizations met for a week to look at Fort Hamilton currently and envision how it could transform in the next 20 years.

"The idea was to identify for Fort Hamilton what was important for a long-range approach for Fort Hamilton and its

buildings," said Peter Heerens, Fort Hamilton's master planner.

The team conducted a SWOT analysis to identify the strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and threats to achieving the vision. In the end a vision was agreed on, "Fort Hamilton, the Armed Services' face in New York City, is a walkable campus with multi-story sustainable buildings defining quads with access to convenient perimeter parking and transportation hubs."

The week's work included interviews with stakeholders to determine how they wanted to see Fort Hamilton in 20 years, field trips to see where streets dead end, how far transportation hubs were and what areas were missing walkways.

The final plan took into account the garrison's integrated priority list and current plans for sustainment, restoration and modernization that are underway. A net gain of between 72,000 to 118,000 square feet could be realized by building a new Military Entrance Processing Station and Interagency Facility.

The plan also makes use of a parking lot under the Verrazano Bridge in current unused space where employees could drive to Fort Hamilton, park for the day and walk the rest of the campus.

White Avenue could be converted to

pedestrian-only with vehicle traffic routed on a ring road from Schum Avenue around to Battery Ave. Most of Fort Hamilton's streets have walkways, but an ideal arrangement is buildings that line the streets with planting strips between the streets and sidewalks.

A bicycle-sharing system could cut down on vehicle traffic and parking issues. Riders would simply pick a bicycle left outside the building and use it to travel to another building and leave it there for the next user.

A completely redesigned MEPS would be more functional, and ideal future buildings are between two and six stories high, about 50 feet wide and arranged as quads with a courtyard in the middle. Narrow buildings allow more windows for natural light and natural ventilation. Quads also provide the ability to phase projects by constructing as funding is available rather than the large price tag to construct an unsustainable "big box" facility.

The team will put together a final plan for Fort Hamilton and send it to the installation within 60 days.

"Your team created it and knows why it was done, and it lives on with them," said Jill Schreifer, chief operating officer and planner for The Urban Collaborative.



Barry Gordon, left, planner and landscape designer for The Urban Collaborative briefs the last phase of the vision for Fort Hamilton as a walkable campus with multi-story sustainable buildings defining quads with access to convenient perimeter parking and transportation hubs. Fort Hamilton stakeholders met for a week to create a vision for what they think Fort Hamilton should look like in 20 years.

Soldiers must prepare as Election Day draws near

Compiled by
Kenneth McMillan
Voting Assistance officer

The presidential election is Nov. 6, 2012 – about 138 days from now. Are you ready?

You may want to prepare for Election Day by finding out who's running for office before you go to the voting booth. Visit the nonpartisan Project Vote Smart website, votesmart.org, and enter your zip code in the left-hand column to get more information about both state

and presidential candidates where you live.

It may not be too late to participate in the July primaries. View the primary election calendar at FVAP.gov for more information.

"The Federal Voting Assistance Program continuously researches how to improve these Uniformed and Overseas Citizens Absentee Voting Act ballot acceptance rates," said Bob Carey, FVAP director. "One way to improve the success rates of voted ballots is to re-search the technology used by the voters.

These grants give the states a chance to test technologies to learn what helps military and overseas voters most."

In 2008, the number-one failure for military and overseas voters was in ballot transmission, according to the Eighteenth Report to the Congress. Local election officials receiving voted ballots reported they did not count numerous uniformed services and overseas citizen ballots because they were received after the deadline. Greater online access and automation of voter registration and absentee ballot systems could make the UOCAVA voting process easier, more intuitive, and more seamless for UOCAVA voters while maintaining the integrity of the process.

Last May, the Department of Defense announced the availability of more \$16 million in federal funding to support research to advance the electronic options for military and overseas citizens when voting absentee. DoD has increased the funding level to more than \$20 million. United States, state, territory and local governments were eligible to apply for the grants.

For additional voting information visit the Federal Voting Assistance Program website at www.fvap.gov, contact your unit voting officer or the Fort Hamilton voting officer at 718-630-4245.

FREE EVENT PUBLIC EVENT
Fort Hamilton Family & MWR Picnic

INDEPENDENCE DAY CELEBRATION

Concert and fireworks in honor of the troops and their families featuring...

ESTELLE

Fort Hamilton Army Base/ Sunday July 1st
Register today via the website!
www.hamiltonmwr.com

ARMY MWR

The poster features a central illustration of a blue monument with a white archway, set against a background of purple and blue fireworks. The text is in white and yellow, with the name 'ESTELLE' in a large, stylized font.

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Fort Hamilton Announcements

CPAC Responsibility

The West Point Civilian Personnel Advisory Center recently assumed responsibility for servicing appropriated fund employees in the following organizations located at Fort Hamilton: the U.S. Army Garrison, the Network Enterprise Center, and the New York City Recruiting Battalion. The West Point CPAC also assumed responsibility for the Fort Hamilton Morale, Welfare and Recreation nonappropriated fund employees.

CPAC Director Carol L. McQuinn said she looks forward to working with supervisors and employees at Fort Hamilton and is excited to learn about the important mission performed by the Fort Hamilton workforce." She recently visited Fort Hamilton with her senior staff and plans on visiting several times during the summer months.

In addition to working with the current Human Resources staff on site, the West Point CPAC is available to provide assistance to employees and managers. The West Point office hours are Monday thru Friday from 7:45 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. and the phone number is 845-938-3943 (DSN 688). The office is located at Building 626, West Point, NY 10996.

Bay Ridge Independence Day

An Independence Day parade at noon June 30 will move along Upper 13th Avenue, from 71st Street to 86th Street in the Dyker Heights section of Brooklyn, followed by award ceremonies at the Knights of Columbus Building at the corner of 86th Street and 13th Avenue.

This patriotic march which is the oldest, continuous Independence Day Parade in New York City, will be commemorating the 236th Birthday of America, and saluting our Nation's Armed Forces.

Theodore General, a community activist and journalist, will be this year's grand marshal.

For over 100 years the Brooklyn Independence Day parade was actually held on July 4th, however in more recent years, to ensure greater spectator turnout and increased participation by marching units, the sponsoring parade committee has opted to hold it on the Saturday before the 4th.

Commissary closed

The commissary will be closed July 4 in celebration of Independence Day.

5K Run

The Sports and Fitness Center is hosting a 5K run June 23 at the center with registration beginning at 8:30 a.m. For more information, call Mike Ingram at 718-630-4830.

Nutrition Workshop

The Sports and Fitness Center is hosting a nutrition workshop at the center on Tuesday nights at 6 p.m. beginning June 26. For more information, call Bilqis Benu at 718-630-4935.

Lunch and Learn

Two Lunch and Learn sessions will be held June 26 from noon —1 p.m. at the education center. The topic will be "10 Things You Should Know About Estate Planning" with Brendan Murphy. For more information, call Rose Tillona at 718-630-4412.

Master Resiliency Training

Army Community Services will have master resiliency training June 26 at 1 p.m. in the ACS conference room. For more information, call John Mapes at 718-630-4498.

St. Joseph's College open house for military and veterans

- Long Island Campus | McGann Conference Center
Tuesday, June 26 from 3-7 p.m.
 - Online Open House (both campuses)
Wednesday, June 27 from 3-5 p.m.
 - Brooklyn Campus | Alumni Room
Thursday, June 28 from 3-7 p.m.
- Log on to www.sjny.edu/military for more details. Reduced tuition options available.

Cost and Analysis Forum

The Directorate of Analysis and Integration will have a cost and analysis forum June 28 at 1 p.m. in building 137C, apartment 2C. For more information, call Larry Blake at 718-630-4835.

Newcomer's Orientation

Army Community Services will have a newcomer's orientation June 28 at 8:30 a.m. at the ACS conference room. For more information, call Madeline Pastorella at 718-630-4462.



Bearers of honor

Soldiers of the 7238th Medical Support Unit assisted the Manahawkin, N.J. Elks Lodge with their Flag Day ceremony for the third year in a row on June 10. The flag bearers for this year's ceremony second from left to right were 1st. Lts. Merle Kapule-Lauriano and Janette Ramos-Acosta, Sgt. Michael Pauciullo, Spcs. Gregory Morris, Rhayross Cadiz, Suketu Amin and Pedro Azua and Sgt. William Mullen. Also in attendance were Lt. Col. Vincent Valinotti, far left, command representative from 7238th MSU, and 1st Sgt. Robert Horan, center, first sergeant of the 7245th MSU in Picatinny, N.J.

10th Mountain Division Soldiers visit cadets

By Alison Kohler
Fort Hamilton Public Affairs

BROOKLYN, NY – Soldiers who recently returned from Afghanistan visited high school students to talk about the Army as part of outreach to celebrate the Army's 237th birthday.

Cadets in Fort Hamilton High School's JROTC unit asked the Soldiers questions including what leadership opportunities would make them desirable to the Army, how long it takes to build up the ribbon rack, what is the Soldiers' favorite country, how to become an officer, and if they ever get scared.

"Being shot at is scary, but we're trained to deal with it," said Spc. Seth Miller, 3rd Squadron, 71st Cavalry Regiment, 3rd Brigade Combat Team, 10th Mountain Division.

"Being brave doesn't mean you're not scared. It means you're scared, but you'll do it," said Capt. Mathew Neyland, 3rd Squadron, 71st Cavalry Regiment, 3rd Brigade Combat Team, 10th Mountain Division.

Part of the Battalion's creed recited at the start of class includes, "I am the future of the United States of America."

Even if the students don't wind up serving in the military, the Soldiers de-

scribed facets in the Army that translate into being a productive citizen.

"(Being in the Army is) a lifestyle; not as much a career as a lifestyle. I get up, work out; I have a routine, meet people and make friends," Miller said.

"We get paid to stay in shape," said 1st Lt. Sarah Hundley. "Most people pay to stay in shape," Miller added.

The visit was coordinated because the 10th Mountain Division Soldiers were in New York City to celebrate the Army's 237th birthday. With studies showing that between 70 and 75 percent of young adults can't qualify for military service because of lack of education, obesity or other physical problems, or criminal history, the visit was not intended to recruit students into the Army.

"I'm not trying to push you to the military. Honestly most of you wouldn't make it," Sgt. 1st Class Mike Poirier, Fort Hamilton High School JROTC.

Many of the Soldiers found the visit as fulfilling for them as it was for the students.

"This was fun. We got to tell them the truth; not just tell them anything to sign up," said Spc. Mauricus Payne, 3rd Squadron, 71st Cavalry Regiment, 3rd Brigade Combat Team, 10th Mountain Division.

Announcements

Headphones Prohibited

Pedestrians who wear headphones while walking, jogging or riding a bike are at greater risk of serious injury or death than people who don't wear them. Using headphones or earphones while walking, jogging, skating and bicycling, including pocket bike, motorcycle or moped on Army installation roads and streets is prohibited. For more information, call William Hansel at 718-630-4550.

Annual First Responders Picnic

Fort Hamilton will host the New York City Police Department and Fire Department of New York City for an annual softball tournament and picnic from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. July 11 at Taylor Field.

Vacation Bible School

The post chapel is having Vacation Bible School for children July 23-27 from 6-8 p.m. at the post chapel. For more information, call the post chapel at 718-630-4969.

Garrison Change of Command

U.S. Army Garrison Fort Hamilton will change commanders in a ceremony at 10 a.m. July 25 on the Bluff with the Post Theater as the inclement weather site.

Col. Michael Gould is moving to a position at the Pentagon in Washington D.C. His replacement Col. Eluyn Ginés is coming from Kuwait after a deployment with Third U.S. Army.



Spc. Mauricus Payne, 3rd Squadron, 71st Cavalry Regiment, 3rd Brigade Combat Team, 10th Mountain Division tells his Army story to cadets from Fort Hamilton High School's JROTC during an outreach engagement June 12 in conjunction with the Army's 237th birthday celebration.

For confidential reporting of domestic abuse or to report sexual assault, contact the Victim Advocacy Hotline 347-452-4302