



Natick Soldier Systems Center NSSC This Week

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Natick News and Notes

Highlights of events around the Natick Community

<http://www.army.mil/news/2009/11/24/30964-natick-news-and-notes/index.html>

Natick FMWR events

A link to keep you informed of the events sponsored by the Natick Family Morale Welfare and Recreation directorate.

<http://www.army.mil/news/2010/01/12/32805-mwr-events-calendar/index.html>

About this Newsletter

NSSC This Week is a bi-weekly newsletter covering NSSC news within the Army and commercial media.

NSSC This Week is maintained by the USAG Natick Public Affairs Office.

To subscribe to **NSSC This Week**, please contact john.d.harlow@us.army.mil

Natick not the only Garrison tightening its belt

More than three months into fiscal year 2010, and the U.S. Army Garrison still doesn't have a completely clear picture of its annual budget, but the leadership knows money is tight and to expect a decrease from the 2009 figures.

<http://www.army.mil/news/2010/01/29/33718-usag-natick-not-the-only-garrison-tightening-its-belt/index.html>

Delivering Army Family Covenant

We are delivering the Army Family Covenant with a focus on five specific areas: standardization and funding of existing programs and services; increasing accessibility and quality of health care; improving Soldier and family housing; ensuring excellence in schools, youth services and child care; and expanding education and employment opportunities for family members.

<http://www.army.mil/news/2010/01/13/32872-imcom-delivering-army-family-covenant/>

A preview of the 2011 DoD budget

Recognizing the nation's responsibility to support its men and women in uniform and their families, President Barack Obama will request increased funding for military pay, housing allowances, family support programs and care for wounded warriors, White House officials said today.

The budget request, expected to be released Feb. 1, will include a 1.4 percent basic pay raise officials say is designed to keep military pay increases in line with those in the private sector. The request also will include an average housing allowance increase of 4.2 percent, as well as a variety of enlistment and re-enlistment bonuses and monthly payments for specialty skills.

<http://bit.ly/cavE8S>

Covenant continues to provide 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.

<http://www.army.mil/news/2010/01/25/33458-covenant-continues-to-provide-for-army-children/>

Reducing Suicide in the Military

The U.S. Army recently released new suicide data for December 2009. Last month, there were 10 potential suicides among active duty soldiers, nine of which are pending confirmation. When added to the data for the rest of the year, the total number of reported suicides for 2009 among active duty soldiers is 160, 114 of which have been confirmed. By comparison, in 2008 there were 140 suicides among active duty soldiers.

<http://armylive.dodlive.mil/index.php/2010/01/reducing-suicide-in-the-military/>

Soldier Systems Center Natick on Social Media

The Soldier Systems Center Natick has entered the Social Media domain to share information about what happens here with the American public. News and information about Natick will be posted on these three sites,

Twitter: www.twitter.com/USAGNatick

Facebook: <http://bit.ly/5tmSRd>

Flickr: http://www.flickr.com/photos/natick_soldier_systems_center/