



IN THE KNOW

JULY/AUGUST 2010

ISSUE 7

UPCOMING EVENTS:

*ACC Family Day
2 July

*Holloman
Independence
Celebration
2 July, 4pm
-Fitness Center-

*Independence Day
4 July

*APS Monthly Board
Meeting (Open)
20 July, 6pm
17 August, 6pm
-APS Board Room-

*APS Registration
27, 28, 29 July, 8am
-APS Schools-

*Operation K.I.D.
12 August
-A&FRC/BEAR Base-

*APS First Day of
School
16 August

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Come Sail Away...

Even though school starts up again on August 16, it's not too late to take a summer vacation! Why not plan your trip around one of the many military-friendly theme parks, such as Sea World, Universal Studios or Disneyland? You can also take advantage of companies who offer military discounts, such as Carnival, Royal Caribbean, and Celebrity Cruise Lines. There are also vacation opportunities in the local area! You can take a day trip to see the Petroglyphs near Three Rivers, explore the underground Caverns in Carlsbad, or spend the day jet-skiing at Elephant Butte Lake, near Truth or Consequences. Better yet,

let your kids explore the NM Space Museum right here in Alamogordo, where they can eat astronaut ice cream and see an IMAX movie. Or hop on over to "The Bouncing Place" for the afternoon. However you decide to "vacation," take time while you can to enjoy all that the beautiful state of New Mexico has to offer. We truly do live in "The Land of Enchantment!"



consultant's corner...

Deployment stirs up many feelings and emotions within all of us, especially when it comes to our children. At the Airman & Family Readiness Center, we provide numerous deployment materials for kids to include "Ready Teddy" Kits, "What's Up with Deployment" and "Until Your Parent Comes Home Again" magazines, books about separation and reunion, and information about Holloman schools' "Deployed Kids Club." We also offer programs designed to assist our families to include: Families Apart Functions, Pictures on Pillowcases, and Morale Calls. Contact Heather Miller, School Liaison Officer, at the A&FRC, 575.572.7754, for more info.

Power Up Alamogordo

The Alamogordo Public School District was recently awarded a grant from the Department of Defense Education Activity (DoDEA), which gives APS \$1.25 million to use over the next 3 years. With this grant, APS plans to use the money for a new initiative called the "Power Up" Project. There has been a need within the district to improve technological opportunities for students, as well as provide more

support for transitioning military students. "Power Up" will provide many resources to the 5 schools that qualified for the grant, based on the percentage of military-affiliated students enrolled, which are: Holloman, Buena Vista, and Yucca Elementary Schools, Holloman Middle School, and Alamogordo High School. In addition to various technological advances, the following tools will be provided:

laptops for all students enrolled in AHS's "9th Grade Academy," SMART boards in each classroom, professional development for the teachers and staff, and a counselor positioned at the high school to assist all military students within the district. For more information about the DoDEA Grant or the "Power Up" Project, please contact Dr. Jann Hunter, Director of Curriculum, at 575.812.6000.

• Students at the Center •



Children of military families face unique challenges that are unparalleled in the general student population. The Department of Defense Education Activity's (DoDEA's) Educational Partnership has launched an educational resource to help all military families, military leaders, and school leaders address these challenges. The online resource, called "Students at the Center," provides information on important policies, procedures, and

best practices that are critical to supporting the needs of military families' education. Available at www.militaryk12partners.dodea.edu, the guide offers information on navigating the U.S. Education System, choosing a school, and being an effective advocate for your child. This program brings many important resources together in one site. The guide can also be ordered in print format and on CD through DoD's resource website: www.militaryonesource.com.

To summarize, Kathy Facon, Chief of Educational Partnership for DoDEA stated, "...Students at the Center offers information for everyone involved in the education of students from military families."

Does your family need a health makeover? Learn how to L.E.A.N. and change your Lifestyle, Exercise, Attitude, and Nutrition with educational and interactive courses. Contact Lori McNeely, certified LEAN coach, at 575.430.7504 or on the web: www.drsearslean.com.

*"Summer Afternoon...
to me those have always
been the two most
beautiful words in the
English language."
-Henry James*

Summer Classes for Kids & Teens

To beat the summer heat and enjoy some air-conditioned activities indoors, NMSU-A has the solution! They are offering summer classes for all kids, grades 1-12, to include: Art Camp, Spanish Camp, Image Editing, Engineering, 3D Math, Extreme Origami, and Drama.

For more information about dates, times, costs, and grade requirements, call NMSU-A at 439.3842 or visit their website at: nmsua.edu/communityed/.

In August 2009, Governor Bill Richardson signed legislation allowing all U.S. Active-Duty Military Members, Honorably-Discharged Veterans, and their dependents the opportunity to qualify for in-state tuition rates at New Mexico colleges, universities, and vocational schools. This law allows these candidates the opportunity to qualify as New Mexico "residents," therefore eliminating the long waiting period that usually applies to

resident hopefuls. A sample of NM schools that accept in-state tuition rates include:

New Mexico State University (to include NMSU-A), Eastern New Mexico University, and the University of New Mexico.

For more information, contact your school of choice, or contact the NM Dept. of Veterans' Services at: 866.443.8387 or www.dvs.state.nm.us/benefits.html.

Family Fun Time

As the summer temperatures soar into triple digits, nothing sounds better than a big bowl of ice cream. Instead of running to the store, why not pull the kids into the kitchen and make it together? All you will need for this "Ice Cream in a Bag" activity is: gallon-size Ziploc bags, sandwich-size Ziploc bags, rock salt, sugar, milk, vanilla extract, and lots of ice. First, fill the gallon-size bag half-full with ice and 6 Tbsp of rock salt. Put 1/2 cup of milk,

1/4 tsp vanilla, and 1 Tbsp of sugar into the small sandwich-size bag and seal it tight! Place the small bag inside the large bag and seal it tight as well! Shake the bags around, ensuring that the small bag is surrounded by the ice and salt, until you feel it harden. After about 5 minutes, you will have a bag of homemade ice cream! Rinse the outside of the small bag in cold water before opening in order to get all the salt off. Open, eat, and enjoy!

APS REGISTRATION

Parents! Mark your calendars for **July 27, 28, & 29 @ 8am**. For schools on Holloman AFB, here is the following registration criteria:
July 27: all returning students
July 28: all new students living on-base
July 29: all new students living off-base that desire to attend Holloman schools
 For schools in downtown Alamogordo, simply register students at their zoned school on any of the three dates.

