

The DANG TRUTH



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Volume 53, No. 11 — November 2013

166th Airlift Wing, Delaware Air National Guard
New Castle ANG Base, Delaware

Affordable, licensed child care for Guard members available drill weekends

By Tech. Sgt. Benjamin Matwey
Wing Public Affairs

Caring for their children remains a necessity for our National Guard members at all times, but this responsibility has historically presented a challenge for parents during military drill weekends.

To help address this need, starting this past June all Delaware Guard members have had the opportunity to take advantage of low-cost, high-quality, and state licensed drill weekend child care

at a facility in Newark, Del., just 10 miles southwest of the New Castle Air National Guard Base.

The facility selected, Tender Loving Kare Child Care & Learning Center (TLK), is located off state routes 896 and 40, at 22 Peoples Plaza Shopping Center, Newark (Glasgow), Del., 19702. It is next to a Wells-Fargo bank and a dental office. There is ample parking and easy access to the center entrance. Families are encouraged to tour the site, in business for 19 years, to make sure

the center meets their child's needs. The facility website, <http://www.tenderlovingkare.com/>, provides many informative details.

TLK is open from 6:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. on Saturday and Sunday of each drill weekend (normally the facility opens at 6:30 a.m. Monday-Friday). TLK averages 200 to 225 children daily in their weekday program, and has the capacity to serve 229 children. The drill weekend child care is available to Guard and reserve members in Delaware and in surrounding states.



(U.S. Air National Guard photo by Staff Sgt. Nathan Bright)

Jill Foster (right), assistant director, Tender Loving Kare Child Care & Learning Center, at the center's main desk, Oct. 21, 2013.

A military family is charged a maximum fee of just \$10 per weekend, which covers all family members, and that single weekend flat fee remains the same whether a parent brings one or more children, from infant to school-age, or whether their child is in the facility for one day, two days, or partial days.

The drill weekend child care is a partnership between the Delaware Department of Education and their Head Start Collaboration Office, and the Delaware National Guard Youth Programs office.

“This partnership was initiated because Delaware was one of 13 states granted a DoD Military Child Care Liaison, said

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The DANG Truth

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Note: Digital issues posted on 166aw.ang.af.mil, and Facebook.com/166thAirliftWing (editions not mailed).

UTA events

Immunizations (flu vaccine is in): 1:30-2:30 p.m. Friday, and 8:00 a.m.-3:30 p.m. Sat.-Sun.

Nov. 1, Friday:

- PT testing, 7:30 a.m., Wm. Penn H.S.
- Maj. Gen. Hastings Funeral, 12:00 p.m. viewing, Hannigan Funeral Home, Laurel, Del.; 2:00 p.m. funeral.

Nov. 2, Saturday:

- PT testing, 7:30 a.m., Wm. Penn H.S.
- 166th Civil Engineer Squadron Change of Command, Fire Station, 3:30 p.m.
- Master Sgt. Stephen Bauer Retirement, 166th FSS, Loeffel Rm., HQ, 3:30 p.m.

Nov. 3, Sunday:

- PT testing, 7:30 a.m., Wm. Penn H.S.
- Delaware Leadership Academy Graduation, Loeffel Rm., HQ, 1:00 p.m.

Operation Full Strength meets weekly to plan, execute and evaluate initiatives to support recruiting. They welcome your ideas to help the cause of recruiting. Email your ideas to: 166aw.fullstrength@ang.af.mil.

UTA schedule 2013-14

| | |
|--|--|
| 19-20 Oct 2013 CANCELLED *Rescheduled Oct. UTA dates | 11-12 Jan 2014 01-02 Feb 2014 01-02 Mar 2014 05-06 Apr 2014 03-04 May 2014 07-08 Jun 2014 12-13 Jul 2014 02-03 Aug 2014 06-07 Sep 2014 |
| *01 Nov 2013 02-03 Nov 2013 *06 Dec 2013 07-08 Dec 2013 | |

Personnel actions Oct. 2013

Enlistments:

Avary, Romar, Staff Sgt., 166th AMXS
Edwards, Dequoia, Staff Sgt., 166th CPFT

Promotions:

To FIRST LIEUTENANT:

Pepe, Christopher, 166th NWS

To CHIEF MASTER SERGEANT:

Moore, Robbin, 166th FSS

To SENIOR MASTER SERGEANT:

Rutt, Thomas, 142nd AS

To TECHNICAL SERGEANT:

Eastburn, David, 166th AMXS
Pernasilice, Anthony, 166th CFT

To SENIOR AIRMAN:

Hastings, Keith, 166th AMXS

Retirements:

None this period.

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distraction.gov, and
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DE ANG Recruiting:

1-800-742-6713, 1-866-NOW-DANG,
or Local (302) 323-3444

DE ANG Retention:

(302) 323-3413

166AW Air Force Public Web site:

www.166aw.ang.af.mil

166AW Facebook page:

www.facebook.com/166thAirliftWing

DE Air Guard Recruiting Facebook page:

www.facebook.com/DEAirGuardRecruiting

Go ANG Delaware Recruiting page:

www.goang.com/de

DE National Guard web site:

www.DelawareNationalGuard.com

DE National Guard Facebook page:

www.facebook.com/DelawareNationalGuard

Medical openings

Hiring for officers in traditional positions; no closeout dates apply unless indicated: www.delawarenationalguard.com/join/air/air_officer/:

142nd Aeromedical Evacuation Squadron:

- Flight Nurse

142nd Airlift Squadron:

- GMO Flight Surgeon

166th Medical Group:

- Aerospace Medical Specialist, Bioenvironmental Engineer, Family Physician, Flight Surgeon, Internist.

Enlisted jobs

Visit: www.delawarenationalguard.com/join/air/air_enlisted/. Career descriptions: www.goang.com.

Coming events

Dec. 7: 5:30-10:30 p.m., Sat. -- Wing Annual Holiday Party, Clarion Hotel, Rt. 13, New Castle, Del. Dinner/Music/Door Prizes. \$20.00/person. RSVP by Nov. 27, 2013. Checks payable to 1st Sergeant Council. Call (DSN) 445-7773.

Dec. 11: 7:00 p.m., Wed. -- Del. National Guard 287th Army Band Holiday Concert, Grand Opera House, 818 N. Market St., Wilm., Del. 19801. Free garage parking, DoubleTree Hotel, 700 King St. Bring parking tickets to concert for validation. The Guard asks guests to bring a nonperishable food item to donate in support of "War on Hunger" effort.

Dec. 14: Sat. -- Annual Children's Party, 198th Readiness Center 1401 Newport Gap Pike, Wilmington, Del. Registration to follow through Operation Homefront. Visit delawarenationalguard.com/press/events/ for latest updates.

Jan. 11: DNG Sr. Leaders Conf., Dover Downs.

Drill child care, cont. from pg. 1

April Hill-Addison, director, Head Start State Collaboration Office, Delaware Department of Education. “Working with Head Start and other partners this pilot project became a way for the community, Head Start and other childcare partners to support our military families. The funding has come from the Delaware Department of Education Early Childhood Initiatives, the Delaware Head Start Collaboration Office, and the Delaware Early Childhood Council, with other stakeholders and partners interested in participation.”

To register, all Delaware Guard members may contact Jill Foster, assistant director, TLK, directly at (302) 836-1411. She will email the necessary forms. A parent may bring the forms and \$10.00 (cash, check, or credit card) to TLK on a drill weekend.

“Families may preregister for any upcoming drill weekend and then call on an as-needed basis. For the most part, the registration deadline is one week prior to drill weekend so that the proper amount of staff can be secured,” said Patricia Crilley, lead child and youth



(U.S. Air National Guard photo by Staff Sgt. Nathan Bright)

One of the activity rooms at Tender Loving Kare Child Care & Learning Center, Peoples Plaza, Newark, Del., Oct. 21, 2013.

coordinator, Delaware National Guard Children and Youth Program.

The weekend fee also covers the cost of all food, an added bonus for busy parents.

“We provide all meals for drill weekend child care – breakfast, morning snack, lunch and an afternoon snack,” said Foster, who has worked at TLK for 16 years

and is one of three assistant directors.

Word of the drill weekend child care offering is slowly spreading to Guard members. Communication was temporarily disrupted by the 16-day federal government shutdown which began Oct. 1, with resulting furloughs of a number of Guard personnel and re-scheduling of the October drill.



(U.S. Air National Guard photo by Staff Sgt. Nathan Bright)

Part of the outdoor play area at Tender Loving Kare Child Care and Learning Center, Peoples Plaza, Newark, Del., Oct. 21, 2013.

About 18 children of Guard members – the largest number of children participating so far – were enrolled in TLK child care during the Guard’s September drill weekend.

Initial reports from Guard members about their children’s experiences at TLK are positive.

Technical Sgt. Olivia Short is a full-time human resource specialist in Delaware National Guard Joint Force Headquarters, who drills on weekends in Delaware Air Guard HQ. She has three girls, a newborn just six months old, a seven- and a nine-year-old, and each is enrolled in the TLK Newark facility on drill weekends.

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“I had a nice tour and met all the individuals who would be interacting with and watching my six-month-old,” said Short. “My infant is all smiles,” after a day spent at the facility. Short said the center staff worked on stimulating all senses when interacting with her child.

“I really like how they are very compassionate with the kids,” said Short. “I was impressed with the curriculum, even for the infants. The staff show interest in the kids and teach them things.”

Her girls get to visit during the day with their siblings, two brothers brought by their father, Staff Sgt. Terence Johnson, a Delaware Army Guard member.

Staff Sgt. John Grieten is a traditional Air Guard member who works in the small air terminal of the 166th Logistics Readiness Squadron. A single father, he has taken his two kids – his nearly nine-year-old daughter and his 13-year-old son – to the center for two drills in a row.

“It has been an overall positive atmosphere” said Grieten. And, it has been



(Courtesy photo)

Staff Sgt. John Grieten, 166th Logistics Readiness Squadron, has two daughters enrolled in drill weekend child care.



(U.S. Air National Guard photo by Staff Sgt. Nathan Bright)

Technical Sgt. Olivia Short, Delaware National Guard Human Resources, has three daughters enrolled in drill weekend child care.

“polar opposite” from the child care he used to take his children to, he said. “It has been absolute day and night.” He said that staff at TLK show, through both facial expressions and words, that they are happy to see his kids when they arrive through the doors.

“My kids went in smiling and came out smiling,” said Grieten. He explained that his kids were “wiped out – and that’s a good thing. There is no greater comfort than to know your kids will be given stimulation for their body and mind. The staffers were very interactive with the kids.”

“Everybody at TLK has been tremendous; they behave as if they want to be there for the kids,” said Grieten. “Take your kid there just once. Your child will be raving about it. I would highly recommend it.”

Staff Sgt. Robin Borja, who works on the commander’s support staff in the 166th Civil Engineer Squadron of the Delaware Air Guard, takes her five-year-old son to TLK. Her child attended full day child care at TLK all summer, and currently attends before and after

school child care as well drill weekend child care.

“I love them [TLK],” said Borja, who said her son begs to go there. “They are great, and very informative. My son likes it, and that is all that matters for me.” She indicated that the staff ensures children have opportunities to play with each other. “He gets to interact with kids, and the teachers are friendly. It is just a really good atmosphere for kids,” said Borja.

She said the center’s additional inclusion of two meals in the drill weekend child care (meals not available on weekdays), and not just snacks, “makes it more convenient for me” when getting herself and her son ready in the morning.

Parents typically focus great attention in knowing who cares for their children when they are not present.

Foster explained some of the procedures, staff training and program features of the facility during a tour she provided to 166th Airlift Wing public affairs staff.

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(U.S. Air National Guard photo by Tech. Sgt. Benjamin Matwey)

Staff Sgt. Robin Borja, 166th Civil Engineer Squadron, enrolled her son in drill weekend child care.

***Drill child care*, cont. from pg. 4**

The building has a secure entrance; parents, staff and visitors must be buzzed

in. The main entrance opens into a lobby with a main desk facing the doors. In fact, one of their full-time staff is a retired Air Force medical technician.

Foster indicated that TLK is licensed by the State of Delaware, “and, we have a ‘Star Level 4’ rating,” said Foster, referring to the state program named ‘Delaware Stars,’ affiliated with the Delaware Institute for Excellence in Early Childhood Education in the University of Delaware College of Education and Human Development.

Delaware Stars for Early Success is a State of Delaware funded initiative. According to their website, Delaware Stars is “a Quality Rating and Improvement System used to assess, improve and communicate the level of quality in early care and education and school-age settings. Delaware Stars is a five-tiered rating system. Programs begin in a ‘Starting with Stars’ phase and then are rated from 2 to 5 Stars.”

The TLK facility in Newark is one of 450 child care facilities listed on the Delaware Stars website. Of that number, 35 facilities have a Star Level 5 rating, 120 facilities have a Star level 4 rating, 46 facilities have a Star Level 3 rating, 205 facilities have a Star level 2 rating, and 44 facilities have a “Starting with Stars” rating.

Foster said that TLK follows all State of Delaware Office of Child Care Licensing health policies. And she noted the convenience of the Glasgow Medical Center, a Christiana Care Health System affiliate, just a few blocks away.

Foster also said that TLK follows ‘Delaware First,’ the state’s professional development system for early childhood education. The Delaware Dept. of Education website indicates that this training is “an integral component of Delaware’s licensing regulations and Delaware Stars, the state’s quality rating system.”

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(U.S. Air National Guard photo by Staff Sgt. Nathan Bright)

Jill Foster, assistant director, Tender Loving Kare Child Care & Learning Center, discusses operations with Tech. Sgt. Benjamin Matwey, 166th Airlift Wing Public Affairs, during a facility tour Oct. 21, 2013.



(U.S. Air National Guard photo by Staff Sgt. Nathan Bright)

Lunch is prepared at the Tender Loving Kare Child Care & Learning Center, Newark, Del., Oct. 21, 2013.

Drill child care, cont. from pg. 5

TLK also follows the standards of the National Association for the Education of Young Children, an organization focused on “promoting excellence in early childhood education,” according to Foster.

Foster said that the drill weekend program, as well as their weekday program, adheres to Delaware teacher-student ratios that require two teachers for the maximum number of children in each age group.

For school-age children (ages 6 and older) the maximum is 30 children, with one teacher per 15 children. For pre-K (ages 4-5) there is a maximum of 24 children; for age 3, a maximum of 20 children; for age 2, a maximum of 16 children; for one year olds, a maximum of 12 children; and for infants, a maximum of eight children.

TLK teachers must meet the qualifications for early childhood education teachers in accordance with the Delaware Department of Education, the Office of Child Care Licensing (part of the Delaware Department of Services for Children, Youth, and Their Families), and Delacare – Rules for Early Care and Education and School-Age Centers.

“We encourage parents to call us, and we can provide a tour and answer any questions,” said Foster.

Unlike many active duty bases, the New Castle Air National Guard Base (like See ***Drill child care***, pg. 7



(U.S. Air National Guard photo by Staff Sgt. Nathan Bright)

The main entrance at the Tender Loving Kare Child Care & Learning Center, Peoples Plaza, Newark, Del., Oct. 21, 2013.



(U.S. Air National Guard photo by Staff Sgt. Nathan Bright)

Infant cribs at the Tender Loving Kare Child Care & Learning Center, Newark, Del., Oct. 21, 2013.



(U.S. Air National Guard photo by Staff Sgt. Nathan Bright)

The TLK Post Office at the Tender Loving Kare Child Care & Learning Center, Peoples Plaza, Newark, Del., Oct. 21, 2013.

Drill child care, cont. from pg. 6

Guard bases nationwide) does not have an on-base child care facility. Members must rely upon a spouse, family member or trusted friend to lend a hand, or go through the juggling act of finding child care or a baby-sitter on drill weekends. For decades this has presented one more challenge for all of our full-time and traditional Guard members with children.

Locally, for example, just one county to our south in Delaware, the Dover Air Force Base Child Development Center reports on their website that they are a child-oriented indoor and outdoor facility that provides developmental care and learning experiences for children ages six weeks through 5 years of age, and is closed on weekends.

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(U.S. Air National Guard photo by Staff Sgt. Nathan Bright)

Nap and play areas at the Tender Loving Kare Child Care & Learning Center, Newark, Del., Oct. 21, 2013.

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Making the Newark/Glasgow child care facility available to Delaware Guard members has been a development in the makings for over a year.

Leadership acted after listening to requests from Guard members with young children.

In Delaware drill weekend typically occurs the first weekend of each month and involves approximately 3,000 service members (including some from units in surrounding states).

“There has always been a need for drill weekend child care, and our active duty counterparts have always been afforded that opportunity,” said Dawn Peet, director of the Delaware National Guard State Family Program.

“Finally, a solid program has been implemented this year.

“It is a wonderful benefit to our Guard members,” said Peet. “I believe the numbers will grow once the word gets out!”



(U.S. Air National Guard photo by Staff Sgt. Nathan Bright)

Tender Loving Kare Child Care & Learning Center, Newark, Del., Oct. 21, 2013. The center has been in operation for 19 years.

Former Delaware National Guard Adjutant General, retired Major General George K. Hastings, dies

Laurel-Major General George Kenneth Hastings, age 77, of Laurel, passed away at his home surrounded by his loving family on October 26, 2013. Born in Laurel on September 28, 1936, he is the son of the late James L. Hastings and Virginia Collins Hastings.

He spent most of his adult life as a soldier. He was commissioned in ROTC at the University of Delaware and began his first tour of active duty shortly after graduation.

Upon his return from his initial tour of active duty, he became a full-time trainer and administrator for the Delaware Army National Guard, where he served until returning to active duty for two more tours mainly in the Pentagon and at the Combined Arms Center at Ft. Leavenworth, Kansas.

He was a member of the American Legion Post #19 in Laurel, VFW in Delmar, Maryland and several other military organizations. He had also served on the Veteran's Commission in Delaware, and as President of the Association of the U.S. Army Chapter in Delaware.

He served six years as Adj. General of the Delaware National Guard as his last service in uniform. After retirement, he worked for several years on projects in support of the deployments to Iraq and Afghanistan. He spent six years in one of the large groups working on Total Army Analysis, which he considered one of the major highlights of his career. In addition to his military school, he had Masters Degrees from the University of Southern California, and from Wilmington University.

Ken is survived by his loving wife of



(Photo courtesy Delaware Army National Guard)

Retired Maj. Gen. George Hastings (second from left), former Del. National Guard adjutant general, during a presentation of the training excellence award named in his honor, Nov. 7, 2004. With him is Brig. Gen. Ron Stewart (left), assistant adjutant general, Army, DNG, and (far right) Maj. Gen. Frank Vavala, adjutant general, DNG.

almost 46 years, Rose Ann Hastings; two daughters: Joanna Sampson and her husband Robert of Burke, Virginia, and Jaime Hastings of Arlington, Virginia. Two grandchildren; Laura and Nicholas Sampson of Burke, Virginia. Sisters; Phyllis Wimbrow of Whaleyville, Maryland, and Jan Conway of Salisbury, Maryland. Sister-in-law, Pat Hastings of Laurel. Several nieces and nephews also survive him.

In addition to his parents, Ken is preceded-

ed in death by his brother, John Hastings.

A Funeral Service will be held on Friday, November 1, 2013 at the Hannigan, Short, Disharoon Funeral Home 700 West Street Laurel, Delaware at 2:00 pm.

A visitation will be held from 12-2 pm at the funeral home. Interment will follow in Odd Fellows Cemetery where full military honors will be performed.

Source: Unedited obituary from Hannigan, Short, Disharoon Funeral Home website.