

# Fort Carson Mountaineer



Word of the month: **Acceptance**

Published in the interest of the Fort Carson Community. Visit the Fort Carson Web Site at [www.fortcarson.army.mil](http://www.fortcarson.army.mil).



The new Ivy Division Band facility offers training rooms and a main practice hall that seats all 4th Inv. Div. band members.

## Ivy Division opens band facility



Cathy Grasmick, operating manager, Mass Service & Supply, LLC, describes energy saving features of the new Ivy Division Band Training Facility during the grand opening ceremony Friday.

Story and photos by  
**Pfc. Andrew Ingram**  
*4th Infantry Division Public Affairs Office*

The Ivy Division Band celebrated the grand opening of the new Band Training Facility Friday.

Ivy Division Band Commander Chief Warrant Officer 2 Marvin Cardo hosted the event in the facility's main practice hall, which is designed to seat the entire 40-Soldier band.

Cardo said the \$5.5 million project designed by DLR Group and built by Mass Service & Supply, LLC, embodies the high quality of workmanship which is the Army standard.

The Ivy Band Training Facility's energy-efficient design is a prominent feature of new buildings on the Mountain Post, he said.

"Having this top-notch facility allows our Soldiers to properly rehearse at least four different music performance teams at the same time, which lets us commit to more events," said Cardo.

Cathy Grasmick, operating manager, Mass Service & Supply,

LLC, said the construction itself was like a symphony, with all of the technical, functional and aesthetic qualities coming together to make something beautiful.

"As we celebrate today, I hope we will all remember that the Band Training Facility is not simply functional, it is also inspirational," said Grasmick. "In war and peace, bands have played a critical role in keeping our military men and women in step and moving forward."

Lt. Col. Quay Jones, deputy district commander, Omaha District, U.S. Army Corp of Engineers, applauded the designers and contractors for completing the building both under budget and two months ahead of schedule.

Jones awarded Grasmick with an Outstanding Contractor Award for the accomplishment and presented the ceremonial key to the building to Cardo.

Fort Carson Garrison Commander Col. Robert F. McLaughlin said he was proud to have both the Ivy Division Band and its state-of-the-art, environmentally-friendly facility as part

of the Fort Carson Team.

The building's environmentally-conscious design earned a Silver Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design Certification for energy efficiency, said McLaughlin.

Col. James Pasquarette, deputy commanding general for support, 4th Inf. Div. and Fort Carson, closed the ceremony addressing the history and tradition of the Army band.

Pasquarette said military bands have remained an important part of American patriotism since the first shots were fired at Lexington, Mass., in 1775, where a man named William Diamond rallied the minutemen by drumming the call to arms.

Following the ceremony guests toured the facility, visiting the rooms where the band's jazz ensemble and popular music performance team demonstrated the building's perfect acoustics.

Visitors also toured the cutting edge recording studio and the nine soundproof individual practice modules.

*(Editor's note: See related story on Page 20.)*

I  
N  
S  
I  
D  
E

### Community



Page 11

### Feature



Page 22-23

### Happenings



Page 33

# Ivy Div. Band gets green home

Story and photo by  
Susan C. Galentine

Directorate of Public Works  
Public Relations

Soldiers of the Ivy Division Band moved their flutes, trumpets and drums into an energy-efficient, sustainably-constructed training facility in mid-September. The new home of 4th Infantry Division's band features Fort Carson's first application of a geothermal heating and cooling system.

The 12,620-square foot band training facility, built by the service disabled, veteran-owned, small business, joint venture of Mass Services and Supply, LLC and Main Electric, houses rehearsal spaces, locker rooms, offices, administrative space, a library, instrument storage and a break room/day room area.

Main/Mass exceeded the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers standard requirement for the Ivy Division Band's facility to attain a U.S. Green Building Council Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design

Silver rating certification. The construction contractor achieved enough project points to pursue a Gold rating certification.

"Creating sustainable facilities matches the Corps of Engineers' goals of providing high-quality products that have minimal impact on the environment, greatly reduced energy needs and feature numerous user-friendly features," said Greg Sipes, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers project engineer for the band training facility.

DLR Group, the architects of the band training facility, included a number of sustainable features in the design, including daylighting, use of materials that include a large amount of recycled content, low-flow water fixtures, water efficient landscaping and a high-efficiency ground-loop geothermal system.

"Acoustics, daylighting and sustainability were the overriding themes influencing the design of the facility," said Tom Kapels, DLR Group project manager for the design of the facility. "Each of the main rehearsal

spaces has acoustical wall panels, ceiling diffusers, variable acoustic curtains and cork flooring. Most of the materials have recycled content, and the cork flooring is a material that is from a rapidly renewable resource."

"One new feature to Fort Carson is the use of geothermal heat pumps," said Sipes. "This type of heating and cooling system has been used successfully around the world for many years. Various other Army posts have been using geothermal heating and cooling in both residential and commercial applications with great success."

This ground source heating and cooling technology entailed drilling 40 wells, 400 feet to capture the relatively constant temperature of the earth. Water circulates through the wells and simply transfers heat to and from the earth to provide heating and cooling. In the summer the ground temperature is cooler than the outside air and in the winter the ground temperature is warmer than the outside air.

The Fort Carson Soldier and Family Assistance Center under construction adjacent to Evans Army Community Hospital will also have ground source geothermal system.

Building sustainable facilities costs more at the outset, but costs are coming down.

"Historically, the increased costs associated with a LEED Silver certified building has been between 3 percent and 5 percent," said Kapels. "That percentage has been decreasing rapidly due to the influx of sustainable technologies and products into the marketplace, and the increasing acceptance by

the industry of sustainable practices."

Kapels estimates the payback on the cost of the geothermal heat pump system alone to be two-three years from the energy savings yielded from the system.

The Ivy Division Band, the first Army band assigned to Fort Carson in 14 years, is enjoying the new "green" training facility.

"These musicians are extremely pleased with the facility," said Chief Warrant Officer 2 Marvin Cardo, officer in charge of the band. "With all its unique features and space, it makes this band facility the Cadillac of band buildings. Musicians that join the Army bands are highly trained musicians. Most are graduates of our top universities and conservatories and have performed with some of the leading orchestras in the world. Having performed in some of the greatest concert halls and theaters, it is crucial for musicians in our military bands to be able to continue training and performing in such great concert halls."

"I am very excited to be the first commander in such a great facility and set the example of what this band should look and sound like," said Cardo. "This facility represents the professionalism that this band displays with every performance."

*(Editor's note: The Ivy Band requires requests for performances six months in advance, but no later than six weeks before the event. In order to request the band contact the 4th Infantry Division G3 at 503-0044 or the Ivy Division Band operations noncommissioned officer in charge at 526-9309. The Ivy Division Band will hold their premier debut performance "A Tribute to Veterans" Nov. 12 at 7:30 p.m. at the Pikes Peak Center.)*



The Ivy Division Band practices in its new, sustainable training facility.

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