



Galva Guard unit on alert

By DAVE CLARKE Of The Star Courier

\GALVA -- The Galva unit of the Illinois National Guard has been placed on alert status with potential of being called to active duty.

Major Tim Franklin, of the Illinois National Guard headquarters in Springfield, verified Thursday that the air defense artillery battery is part of a Guard/Army infantry force package being "looked at" by the Department of Defense (DOD) for possible deployment to Iraq, or another location in the world.

"If your unit is placed on alert, there's s good chance you'll be mobilized," Franklin said. Alert status could last up to two months. "There's also a chance a unit could be taken off alert at any time," the major said.

Battery F of the 202nd Air Defense Artillery, based at the armory in Galva with headquarters at the National Guard armory in Kewanee, has an authorized strength of 120 military personnel.

Franklin said the local unit will still attend local monthly drills, but over the next few weeks will report for soldier readiness processing, which includes a review of physical status, medical and dental records, educational plans, insurance and other areas to prepare military personnel and their families for possible deployment.

A meeting for family members will reportedly be held Saturday at the armory in Galva.

The 202nd ADA is trained in the use of shoulder-mounted stinger anti-aircraft missiles and, although their capability would probably not be needed in a place like Iraq where there is virtually no enemy aircraft, Franklin said a divisional package being put together by Pentagon planners would include several components, including "a slice" of air defense.

Folk musicians featured for library fundraiser

KEWANEE -- They're fast-becoming the hottest string pickers in the midwest, and on Saturday, Sept. 20, Mike and Amy Finders will bring their "folkgrass" music to Kewanee.

School officials look to set record straight

WYOMING -- Stark County School District officials feel they received a bum rap, after neighboring Bradford School Board threatened to take legal actions if reimbursement of a \$106,500 overpayment was not immediately returned.

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Calderone considering another run

Pete Calderone may give it another shot.

Happiest dog in town

The dog was almost a goner. No one seemed to want to give her a home.

Kewanee author visiting hometown

KEWANEE -- A native Kewanee author is returning to his hometown for a brief visit.

Police blotter

Accidents

BHE peer counselors chosen

KEWANEE -- Four new peer counselors were chosen at Black Hawk East through a selective process that includes an interview.

LWV hosting session on property taxes

KEWANEE -- The League of Women Voters of Kewanee will hold an informational meeting, "Understanding Your Property Tax Bill,"

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