



FOB calls with
Chaplain Priest
See Page 4B

THE FRONTLINE

CHECK OUT
SPORTS
&
RECREATION



PAGE 10-12B

1B

COMMUNITY & LEISURE

FEBRUARY 18, 2010



Sgt. 1st Class Rhonda Lawson

Ryan Newman, driver of the U.S. Army car for NASCAR, greets Soldiers during driver introductions.

3rd ID heroes represent Division at Daytona 500

Sgt. 1st Class Rhonda M. Lawson
3rd Sustainment Brigade PAO

Nine combat veterans assigned to the 3rd Infantry Division spent their Valentine's Day in a different way this year.

The Soldiers, all decorated veterans of Operations Iraqi Freedom and Enduring Freedom, took part in the Daytona 500's Salute to the Military in Daytona Beach, Fla.

Just before the race began, the Soldiers took to the field as race officials enlightened the crowd on the history of the 3rd Infantry Division. The officials then led the attendees in chanting, "U-S-A, U-S-A!"

"It was a great way to honor the Soldiers," said 1st Sgt. Jerald Sandberg, 92nd Engineer Battalion first sergeant. "It showed that people are supportive of the Army, and it's not like it was 10 or 15 years ago."

Following the salute, the Soldiers were given the opportunity to watch the race from U.S. Army racer Ryan Newman's pit. The crew even allowed them to take turns sitting in seats on top of the tool box, where some of the crew members sat and monitored the race. For many of the Soldiers, sit-

ting in pit row, getting to know crew members from various teams and learning more about NASCAR was the highlight of the trip.

"You don't see nearly as much racing," said Sgt. Zachary Pamer, 2nd Heavy Brigade Combat Team. "But the energy is definitely there."

The race was extended due to two red flag delays, but the Soldiers were not daunted. In fact, the delays gave them the chance to meet and shake hands with Ryan Newman himself. Although the pit became crowded due to the pit crew, fans and Soldiers, Newman and his crew took everything in stride.

"I get to learn a different story about the Army," said Newman, who's been driving the Army race car for two years. "It gives me a different respect for the Soldiers."

Unfortunately, Newman was unable to finish the race due to a crash in the last few laps of the race. The Soldiers were disappointed, but the thrill of being there and meeting the crew made the trip worth it.

"Those guys were awesome to us," said Spc. Jared Brown, Division Special Troops Battalion.



Sgt. 1st Class Rhonda Lawson

Soldiers representing the 3rd Infantry Division stand on the field during the Daytona 500 Salute to the Military, Feb. 14. Soldiers were afforded the opportunity to view the race from the pit of ARmy racer Ryan Newman.

Marriage retreat improves marriages, Soldier skills

Sgt. Chad D. Nelson
135th MPAD, 3rd Infantry Division PAO

CONTINGENCY OPERATING BASE SPEICHER, Iraq - Being deployed brings many unique challenges for married Soldiers: paying bills, child care, and communication with family and friends. For dual-military marriages, these responsibilities can be even more confusing and frustrating, because they are both deployed. Sixteen dual-military couples gathered at Freedom Rest North at Contingency Operating Base Speicher, outside Tikrit, Iraq, Feb. 10-12, to learn effective techniques to keep their marriage strong and

healthy while serving on a deployment.

The marriage retreat was more than just making sure couples stay together; it was an effort to ensure Soldiers remain mentally strong throughout a deployment.

"Improving marriages here is improving work performance for Soldiers," said Chaplain (Maj.) Terry Romine, the Family Life Chaplain with 3rd Infantry Division and the counselor for the marriage retreat.

Chaplain Romine worked through a series of exercises and lectures aimed at bringing couples closer together. He used video clips and got the participants involved with his often animated and passionate

instruction.

One exercise involved couples standing apart from one another with their hands not quite touching each other. Then the couples placed their hands on each others' heart and hugged for 10 seconds.

For Chap. Romine, that particular exercise was very important. He said it brought the couples back together and demonstrated to each person in the relationship that the other is there for them.

For some couples, closeness to their spouse was the best gift the Army could provide.

See MARRIAGE

Page 6B



Senior commander takes info to civilian constituents

Brigadier General Jeffrey E. Phillips, Deputy Commanding General, 3rd Infantry Division (Rear) and senior commander of Fort Stewart-Hunter Army Airfield meets with Coastal Georgia Regional Commission members at the commission's monthly luncheon meeting in Richmond Hill, Ga., Feb. 10. Brigadier General Phillips brought the commission members up to date on the current 3rd Infantry Division deployment timelines in Iraq and Afghanistan, and current Army Budget effects at Fort Stewart-Hunter Army Airfield. The general thanked the commission members for their past and continued support to 3rd Inf. Div., and Stewart-Hunter Soldiers and Families and pledged his and his Soldiers' continued support to their communities. The commander praised Coastal Georgia and inland communities for the wonderful hospitality, and "Coastal Georgia Lifestyle" that contributes greatly to Stewart-Hunter being the Army's "Southern Living Station of Choice." The Coastal Regional Commission is made up of elected officials and private sector members from ten counties and communities in Bryan, Bulloch, Camden, Chatham, Effingham, Glynn, Liberty, Long, McIntosh and Screven Counties.

Embrace the tax season with preparation

Adam Smith

Soldier and Family Assistance Center Financial Counselor

The Christmas decorations are finally put away; the cold weather seems like it might never end; perhaps a New Year's resolution is already starting to waver. It must be tax time. The W-2s are available on MyPay, so now is the time to start sorting and collecting documents and preparing to file your tax returns for 2009. For many, the filing process is straightforward and easy. In fact, the Army provides several ways to make it easy for Soldiers and Families to file accurately and at no cost.

First, do not go off post for tax filing services. You will pay a great deal for a service we provide here on post for free, and off post providers could end up costing you money or getting you in trouble with the Internal Revenue Service. A big red flag should be a tax preparer offering to do your taxes with just your Leave and Earnings Statement, not your W2. Avoid these establishments. They are just trying to make a quick profit off of your desire for a quick

return.

Second, use the services already in place such as the on post tax center and the free online services offered through Army OneSource. The tax center on Fort Stewart is located in building 9404, and it is open from 9 a.m. to noon, Mon. – Wed. for document drop off for active duty Soldiers and their qualified Family Members. Pick up is by appointment on Thursday and Friday. Call them at 767-1040.

Again, the Tax Center is currently only providing services to active duty Soldiers and eligible Family Members. If you happen to be the kind of person who prefers filing your taxes on your own, www.militaryonesource.com has a link to a free tax preparation software package. Please note that for a few people with complicated returns, there might be a small charge to upgrade to a more appropriate package, but the majority of Soldiers will be able to file for free.

Avoid any rapid refund or speedy return service like the plague. If you file online or at the Tax Center, you can reasonably expect to have your return

within 10-14 days, especially if you file before the middle of March when things get really busy at the IRS. A "rapid refund" is just a nice way of packaging an extremely high interest rate loan.

For most, filing your taxes is relatively easy. Most people in the military will be expecting a refund, and hopefully, already planning to use it wisely. Take a few minutes to think about how you can best use the money to position yourself for any upcoming economic turmoil you might be facing. Paying down high interest debt is always a good idea, but funding an emergency fund with \$500 to \$1000 is also a great use of funds. If you are concerned that you will end up not using your tax return as efficiently as possible, please call or stop by the Army Community Service Financial Readiness Office, located in building 86 or phone number 767-5058. Or if you are a Warrior in Transition, please fill free to stop by SFAC, building 12718, or call 767-3300. We would be happy to go over your situation and make some recommendations on how to put your money to use.



PRESENTS TODAY THROUGH FEB. 21



Films are subject to availability. AAFES strives to show films according to the published schedule but reserves the right to reschedule, cancel or substitute showings as needed. For more information, call 767-3069 or go to www.aafes.com/ems/conus/stewart.htm.

Leap Year

Today — 7 p.m.

(Amy Adams, Matthew Goode)

When yet another anniversary passes by without a marriage proposal from her boyfriend, Anna decides to take action.

Aware of an Irish tradition that allows women to pop the question on February 29th, Anna plans to follow her lover to Dublin and ask him to marry her.

Fate has other plans, however, and Anna winds up on the other side of the Emerald Isle with a handsome, but surly, Irishman named Declan -- who may just lead Anna down the road to true love.

Rated PG (PG sensuality and language) 97 min

Avatar

Friday, Saturday — 7 p.m.

(Sam Worthington, Zoe Saldana)

A reluctant hero embarks on an epic adventure, ultimately fighting to save the alien world he has learned to call home.

Director James Cameron, first conceived the film 15 years ago, when the means to realize his vision did not exist yet.

Now, after four years of production, AVATAR, a live action film with a new generation of special effects, delivers a fully immersive cinematic experience of a new kind, where the revolutionary technology invented to make the film disappears into the emotion of the characters and the sweep of the story.

Rated PG-13 (intense epic battle sequences/ warfare, sensuality, language, smoking) 150 min

Daybreakers

Sunday — 7 p.m.

(Ethan Hawke, Willem Dafoe)

Edward Dalton is a researcher in the year 2019, in which an unknown plague has transformed the world's population into vampires.

As the human population nears extinction, vampires must capture and farm every remaining human, or find a blood substitute before time runs out.

However, a covert group of vampires makes a remarkable discovery, one which has the power to save the human race.

Rated R (strong horror violence and language) 138 min



DFMWR Briefs

Fitness program extended to Family

Family Members play a significant role in a Soldier's life by supporting their resilience and well-being. That is why they now have the opportunity to participate in the Comprehensive Soldier Fitness program by taking the Global Assessment Tool and self-development modules.

The CSF is a holistic fitness program for Soldiers, Family Members and Army Civilians that is designed to enhance performance and build resilience. Participation in the CSF program begins with the Global Assessment Tool, an online, confidential survey that measures a person's level of strength in four dimensions: social, spiritual, emotional and Family.

The GAT is available to Family Members now by visiting Comprehensive Soldier Fitness Web site at <http://www.army.mil/csfl>. Once the GAT is complete, Family Members will be able to immediately access the tools and training designed to enhance their resilience.

The Army worked in conjunction with national experts along with military psychologists to establish the program and develop self-directed training designed for Family Members.

Soldiers received initial access to the GAT and the online self-development training modules in October 2009.

Register for Casino ship trip

The registration deadline is Feb. 22 for a trip Feb. 27 aboard the Emerald Princess II Casino Cruise Ship. Depart the Stewart Leisure Activities Center, building 443, for Brunswick. The price of \$10 for active duty Soldiers and \$15 for all others includes transportation, boarding fees and light dinner.

For more information, call 767-2841.

Ladies Day at the Skeet, Trap ranges

Feb. 23, the last Tuesday of the month, is Ladies Day at the Skeet and Trap Ranges at Fort Stewart and Hunter Army Airfield. From 10 a.m. until noon, ladies will have the opportunity to learn the basics of shooting skeet and trap. The \$10 per person fee includes instruction, shotgun use and shells.

Then, after the lesson, there is a fun shoot in which each participant can shoot a shotgun to see who hits the target closest to the center of the X. Winner receives a \$15 gift card. A minimum of 5 shooters is needed per round. Cost for the Fun Shoot is \$5 per shot.

For more information, call 435-8219 or 435-8205 at Stewart or 315-9250 at Hunter.

Single Soldiers Day at Skeet, Trap ranges

Instructional classes for Single Soldiers to learn the basics of shooting skeet and trap will be offered from

5-7 p.m. Feb. 23, the last Tuesday of the month, at the Stewart and Hunter Skeet and Trap Ranges. The \$10 per person fee includes instruction, shotgun use and shells. For more information, call 435-8219 or 435-8205 at Stewart or 315-9250 at Hunter.

"Go Bowling Day" at Stewart Lanes

Bowl for matinee rates all day and get your bowling shoes free from 11:30 a.m. to 9 p.m. on Feb. 25 at Stewart Lanes Bowling Center, building 450. The special occasion? It's "Go Bowling Day." For more information, call 767-4273.

"Levi Strauss Day" at Corkan

All Corkan Family Recreation Area Facilities are celebrating "Levi Strauss Day" on Feb. 26. Patrons wearing Levi Strauss jeans will enjoy matinee rates all day. For more information, call 767-4273.

Sign-up for Asheville, N.C. trip

Registration is under way for a four-day, three-night trip to the Biltmore Estate and Asheville, N.C. The deadline to sign up is March 5.

Join us on a spacious motor coach for the trip May 31-June 3 to the Blue Ridge Mountains.

Your cost includes three nights of lodging in an Asheville area hotel, six meals (three breakfast and three dinners), a guided tour of Asheville, a full day's visit to Biltmore Estate, gaming at Harrah's Casino in Cherokee, N.C., visits to famous Folk Art Center and magnificent St. Lawrence Basilica, plus more).

The cost is \$375 per person, based on double occupancy (add \$90 for single occupancy). Pay \$75 upon signing up, with the final payment due March 28.

For details, call Leisure Travel Office at 767-2841.

"Spouse Field Exercise" seminar slated

A seminar for Military Spouses, "Spouse Field Exercise: Priceless Packages," will be held from 5-9 p.m., March 4 and from 10 a.m.-2 p.m., March 5 at Club Stewart, building 405.

The seminar is being presented by Fort Stewart DFMWR along with Tara Crooks and Starlett Henderson, co-founders of Army Wife Network.

The seminar will include themed care package ideas, deployment survival tips and resources, networking, giveaways, gift bags, a complimentary meal, dessert and more.

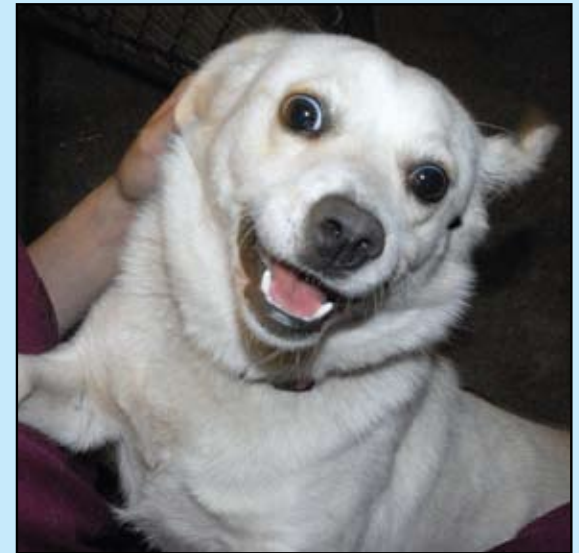
Online registration is required and can be done by going to www.ArmyWifeNetwork.com/user_event.php.

Limited child care is available. Reservations must be made with Stewart CYSS by calling 767-2312. Child care will be either by deployment credit or regular hourly rates. Children must be registered with CYSS.

For more information, e-mail FromTheField@ArmyWifeNetwork.com.

Pets of the Week

Looking for a good home...



"I could have more laughs with you," says Lucky the dog...And then triple your love with a bundle of kittens.

Homeless pets at the Fort Stewart Vet Clinic are waiting for your loving homes. The clinic has pets of all kinds, sizes and breeds in their care. If you are interested in adopting, call the Fort Stewart Veterinary Clinic at 767-2842.



CHAPLAIN'S CORNER

Catholic priest makes FOB calls

Staff Sgt. Christina J. Turnipseed
1st HBCT, 1st Armored Division PAO

FORWARD OPERATING BASE WARRIOR, KIRKUK, Iraq— “Let’s continue praising God!” This was the inspirational instruction given by the Catholic priest, which preceded the mellow sounds of an acoustic guitar and the sound of more than a dozen reverent, joyful voices at Mass at Forward Operating Base Warrior, Feb. 3.

Chaplain (Capt.) Patrick Van Durme of 1st Battalion, 9th Field Artillery, 2nd Brigade Combat Team,

3rd Infantry Division, flew in from FOB Marez near Mosul to FOB Warrior to conduct services.

Chaplain Van Durme, a native of Dansville, N.Y., will also travel to five other FOBs in northern Iraq servicing Sykes, Tal Afar, Doria, Marez/Diamondback and McHenry.

Chaplain Van Durme said he plans to come to FOB Warrior every week.

“We’re gonna be here next week as long as the helicopters fly,” he said.

Many Soldiers, including Sgt. 1st Class James Burkley, 1st HBCT, attended the Mass.

“I feel like it gives me the freedom to

practice my faith,” said Sgt. 1st Class Burley. “This way, I get to practice the traditions I grew up with.”

Major John Tran of 506 Expeditionary Combat Support from Los Angeles, read the scripture. Master Sergeant Mike McCarthy from a boarder transition team visiting from Erbil, assisted Chap. Van Durme with conducting the service.

“We don’t have religious services at all (in Erbil),” Master Sgt. McCarthy said. “To get religious services is essential.”

Parishioners were invited by Chap. Van Durme to come back next week for Mass and to see him after service for

confessions, to join the church, for wedding preparations, confirmations or for any other religious information they need.

Chaplain Van Durme said he joined the Army for the opportunity to help Soldiers.

“I’ve been a priest for a long time, but I’ve only been in the Army for two years,” he said. “My nephew was in the service and went 18 months without service.”

“I saw a need,” he added. “It’s hard work getting moved all around the battlefield, but it’s what I need to do for the Soldiers.”

Chapel Schedule

Fort Stewart

Location

Time

Catholic

Saturday Vigil Mass	Main Post Chapel	5 p.m.
Sunday Mass	Main Post Chapel	9 a.m.

Protestant

Contemporary Worship	Marne	11 a.m.
Gospel Worship	Main Post	11 a.m.
Traditional Worship	Marne	9 a.m.
Liturgical Worship	Heritage	11 a.m.
Kids’ Church	Diamond Elementary	11 a.m.
PWOC (Wednesday)	Main Post Chapel	9:30 a.m.

Islamic

Friday Jum’ah	Marne	1:30 p.m.
---------------	-------	-----------

Contact Yahya Hassan at 876-5546.

Jewish

Friday	Heritage	11:30 a.m.
--------	----------	------------

Contact Sgt. 1st Class Crowther at 767-6717.

Latter-Day Saints

Sunday	220 Sandy Run Drive, Hinesville	9 a.m.
--------	---------------------------------	--------

Hunter Army Airfield

Catholic		
Sunday Mass	Chapel	11 a.m.

Protestant

Sunday Service	Chapel	9 a.m.
----------------	--------	--------

Kids Church

Where God rocks

at Stewart School Age Services, across from Diamond Elementary 10:45 a.m. to noon, Sunday; or at Hunter Chapel Fellowship Hall at 9:15 a.m., Sunday

For children grades K-5

Fort Stewart bus pick-up:

10:15 a.m. - Liberty and Hendrich, Liberty and Sicily, Liberty and Anzio, Liberty and Rome

10:20 a.m. - Jasmine and Skyland Spruce, Jasmine and Liberty Wood, Wild Fern and Golden Birch

10:30 a.m. - Schofield and Sansidro, Schofield and Hollandia, Rogers and Argyle

10:40 a.m. - Naktong and New Guinea, Ormoc and New Guinea

10:50 a.m. - Marne Chapel

10:55 a.m. - Main Post Chapel

For more information, e-mail
fortstewartkidschurch@yahoo.com.

Fort Stewart Chapel

Youth Ministry

Fort Stewart Youth Ministry exists to share “Biblical Truth” with middle and high school age youth, to disciple them in the Christian faith, and to equip them for lives of Christian service.

For weekly meeting information, go to
www.twitter.com/ftstewartyouth
or contact

Jerry Thompson,
Fort Stewart Youth
Ministry Coordinator
at (912) 920-9982.

Weekday Catholic Schedule

Roman Catholic Daily Mass:

Main Post Chapel, 11:45 a.m., on Mon., Wed.-Fri.

Roman Catholic Confession:

Main Post Chapel, 4 – 4:30 p.m., Saturday

Coastal Happenings

Courtesy of the Coastal Courier

MDS offers military scholarship

Memorial Day School is located just outside Hunter's Wilson Street gate on Habersham Street across from the YMCA.

The school is celebrating more than 50 years of educating Savannah's children. It excels in academics and sports, and gives individual attention to each child.

The school's Individualized Educational Program can accommodate all children's needs and help them reach their highest potential.

To show their appreciation to the military community, MDS is offering a \$1,500 military scholarship to active duty and retired servicemembers. In addition, registration fees will be waived for children of all active duty and retired servicemembers.

For more information, contact Melanie Kapla, headmaster, Memorial Day School, at (912) 352-4535. Also, visit the Web site at www.memorial-dayschool.com

BC offers scholarships

Scholarships to attend Benedictine Military School are available for public school students. Call (912) 644-7000 or visit the Web site at www.TheBC400.com for more information.

Benedictine Military School is a Catholic, Benedictine college preparatory school, which forms and educates young men from diverse backgrounds, supports a deeper commitment to their faith, prepares them for life through a quality academic program, instilling leadership skills through a JROTC program, athletics, extra-curricular activities and community service.

Live Oak Public Libraries programs offered Preschool storytime

Preschool Storytime will be held every Monday at 10:30 a.m. This delightful program features a story and simple art activity for children ages three and four.

For more information, call the Hinesville Branch Library, 368-4003.

Tree tots storytime

Tree Tots Storytime will be held Tuesdays at 10:30 a.m. Age-appropriate stories, finger plays, songs and more will be available for infants, one- and two-year-olds.

For more information, call the Hinesville Branch

Library, 368-4003.

Introduction to Internet

Introduction to Internet will be held at the Midway-Riceboro Branch Library at 11 a.m., Feb. 23. This is a beginner's course on using the Internet Explorer to navigate through the Internet. *Prerequisite:* Windows. Registration is limited.

Introduction to E-mail

Introduction to E-mail will be held at the Hinesville Branch Library at 10:30 a.m., Feb. 25. This is a beginner's course on using a free web based email account.

Learn how to sign up, send and receive messages. *Prerequisite:* Introduction to Internet. Registration is limited.

VFW offers disability claims assistance

The national office of the Veterans of Foreign Wars now offers disability claims assistance through a pre-discharge claims representative working in Stewart-Hunter's WTB SFAC, building 12718.

James Graw assists Soldiers in filing disability claims prior to being discharged by performing a complete medical records review to ensure all claimable conditions are listed on the claim for disability compensation.

He is also available to veterans to review claims decisions that have been made by the VA and assist in the development of and filing of new conditions.

Call (912) 767-4452 for more information.

Navy Concert Band presents free show

Golden Isles Arts and Humanities Association and the Brunswick-Golden Isles Chamber of Commerce will present the U.S. Navy Concert Band in a free concert at Glynn Academy Gymnasium on Mansfield St. in Downtown Brunswick at 3 p.m., March 7.

Although this is a free performance, advanced admission passes are required and may be picked up at no charge at the Ritz Theatre downtown Brunswick, the chamber offices in Brunswick, Pat's Hallmark Shop on St. Simons Island, and the Jekyll Island Welcome Center.

Audiences are advised to get their passes early to be sure to get a seat at this great show.

For more info, call GIAHA at (912) 262-6934 or visit www.goldenisesarts.org.

Local CFC Applications Available

The Combined Federal Campaign (CFC) for Coastal Georgia is accepting applications from charitable health and human services [501(c)(3)] Federations, Agencies, and Independent Organizations for inclusion in the 2010 campaign.

These organizations can visit the CFC Web site at www.cfccoastalga.org, "Charity" link or contact Ed Wexler, CFC Director, (912) 651-7717 or Jennifer Beaton, (912) 651-7708 for local application information. CFC must receive applications no earlier than March 1 and no later than April 2, 2010.

Our mailing address is Combined Federal Campaign for Coastal Georgia, 428 Bull St., Savannah, Ga., 31402.

CFC for Coastal Georgia is also hosting a voluntary application workshop for organizations applying for inclusion.

The workshop will be held on Wed, Feb 24, from 8:30 a.m. to 10 a.m. at the United Way of the Coastal Empire Building, 428 Bull Street, Savannah, Ga., 31402. Please RSVP by calling Col. (Ret) Ed Wexler, (912) 651-7717, email, ewexler@uwce.org; or Jennifer Beaton, (912) 651-7708, email jbeaton@uwce.org.

Liberty Board of Education Job Fair

The Liberty County Board of Education will host a Job Fair from 9 a.m. to noon, Feb. 27.

The Job Fair will take place at the Liberty County Board of Education office at 200 Bradwell St., Hinesville, Ga.

Applications will be accepted in all areas, including certified teachers, bus drivers, cafeteria workers, administration, and clerical positions. Feel free to bring your resume.

Women's Health Expo slated

In an effort to support a Healthy Community, the Hinesville Alumnae Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta will sponsor a Community Health Expo and Blood Drive, March 13 at the Liberty County Recreation Dept on Hwy #84, beginning at 9 a.m.

The expo will include bone density screening, blood drive, AIDS Awareness & Education, diabetes awareness and education, heart disease and hypertension display, free information on self breast exams and children's face painting and inflatables.

Florida Scouts cross state line for history lesson

Patrick Young
Fort Stewart Public Affairs

Boy Scouts in Troop 854 from Lake Mary, Fla., visited Fort Stewart-Hunter Army Airfield, Feb. 13 for a weekend venture into military history. The visit to the installation was a brief stop while traveling to camp on the USS Yorktown Aircraft Carrier in Charleston, South Carolina. Scott Daubert, Curator of Collections at the Fort Stewart Museum, helped educate the visitors about the installation and 3rd Infantry Division ongoing contributions to military history.

Assistant Scout Master Jeffrey A. Blanton said the visit was great because it aligned nicely with the troop's goal of learning about service. Their education continued over lunch as the scouts linked up with Sgt. 1st Class Derek Thrash, Sgt. Shane Brooks, Spc. Jason Hodgson, Pvt. Matthew Koenig and Pvt. John Taylor from C Company, 3rd Battalion, 7th Infantry Regiment.

They shared stories over a meal not-

ing the days of war and things of the past, all the while enjoying a variety of food choices ranging from the Vanguard Brigade's Dawg Pound burgers to Persteak Goulash. Several of the scouts correctly noted that some of the wooden-bridge work looked like something the scouts would tackle during an Eagle-Scout project.

Bruce Hamilton, an Eagle Scout said Troop 854 tried to help their own community, including one effort at Evergreen Municipal Cemetery where they helped catalog the veterans there, and help place about 1,000 small US flags to honor them.

Before the scouts left Stewart to continue on their trip to learn about military history in Charleston, the scouts made a final stop at Warriors Walk, to honor the Soldiers who made the ultimate sacrifice in service to the nation.

Individuals wishing to learn about opportunities in Boy Scouting locally can contact the the Coastal Empire Boy Scout Council at 658-3658 or 927-7272.



Patrick Young

Scott Daubert, Curator of Collections at the Fort Stewart Museum explains to Boy Scouts of Troop 854 from Lake Mary, Fla., how the 3rd ID earned the reputation as "Rock of the Marne" during World War I.

Prevent 'Nature Deficit Disorder'

Chris Clark, Commissioner
Georgia Department of Natural Resources
Penelope McPhee, President
The Arthur M. Blank Family Foundation

Georgia is blessed with abundant natural resources, including nearly 60,000 square miles of mountains, forests, lakes, rivers, marshes and beaches. These resources play a vital role in supporting the state's economy and quality of life, and they invite us outdoors to explore the wonders of nature.

Yet studies show that children spend less than four minutes a day in outdoor discovery, compared to four hours a day watching television. This imbalance – described by author Richard Louv as "nature-deficit disorder" – is linked to a variety of ills, including obesity, depression and attention problems.

At the Department of Natural Resources, we recognize how important it is for children to establish a connection with the natural world. That's why we created "Get Outdoors Georgia," a statewide initiative to highlight the link between outdoor recreation and improved health for people of all ages and abilities. Engaging children in the natural environment is a critical public-health strategy that helps seed lifelong physical, mental and community benefits. It also encourages our children to become

stewards of our natural resources and builds a culture of conservation.

Recognizing that nature serves, as Louv explains, as a "healing balm" as powerful as anything from the medicine cabinet, the Arthur M. Blank Family Foundation has invested nearly \$40 million in recent years to increase access to inspiring outdoor spaces and to increase the amount of time children across the state spend in physical activity. Foundation investments have helped create new trails, improve parks and move thousands of kids from sedentary to active lifestyles.

With increased participation by individuals and community groups, we can extend the benefits of outdoor activity to even more children in Georgia. There a number of action steps you can take.

First, visit www.GetOutdoorsGeorgia.org or www.GeorgiaStateParks.org and look for events and activities your children and Families can access. You'll find everything from prowling for owls at Panola Mountain State Park to climbing the staircase inside Tallulah Gorge to Astronomy Night viewings at Providence Canyon.

Across the state, activities at our 63 state parks and historic sites, as well as at wildlife manage-

ment and public fishing areas, offer opportunities for hiking, paddling, camping, fishing, picnicking, biking, hunting, wildlife watching and much more. The public facilities are affordable and Family friendly.

Second, promise your Family to spend more time outside – you can Google "green hour" to see how Families are pledging to a daily dose of outdoor activity – even if it requires some creativity in urban areas. In his book, "Last Child in the Woods," Louv includes a field guide with 100 actions individuals and communities can take to get children engaged with nature. You can build a backyard weather station, tend a personal garden or prepare a nature guide documenting trees, birds, rocks and critters in your neighborhood.

Third, be a leader in the movement. The Children & Nature Network's Web site www.ChildrenandNature.org makes it easy to find and join existing local campaigns, anywhere in the country. The site also enables you to share ideas with others and has tool kits for organizing your neighbors to support the cause. Dozens of initiatives – taking the name "Leave No Child Inside" – have sprung up around the country.

Make the commitment today. Get outdoors. Get active. Get involved.

Army Community Service



Autism Information Workshop offered

An Autism Information Workshop will be held at the Fort Stewart Army Community Service, building 86, from 5:30-6:30 p.m., Feb. 24. The Board-Certified Behavior Analyst and Nurse Practitioner, Crystal Height, will speak about autism, what is Applied Behavior Analysis, and how it works. Height has expertise in conducting behavioral assessments, interpreting data, developing and supervising behavior intervention programs. For more information, call Army Community Service at 767-5058.

Meet with Ginger!

Battalion Level FRG Leaders are invited to come and chat with Ginger Cucolo, spouse of Maj. Gen. Tony Cucolo, at Club Stewart 9:30-11:30 a.m. on Feb. 26. Please register with your FRSA for free childcare. RSVP is required. For more information, call Army Community Service at 767-5058.

Meet, Greet, Roll & Bowl

Exceptional Family Member Program will host a Meet, Greet, Roll & Bowl at Marne Lanes from 6-8 p.m. on March 1. Bowling is free for Family Members that are enrolled in EFMP, and additional participants must pay for their own bowling. The Army defines EFM as any Family Member with any physical, emotional, developmental, or intellectual disability which requires special treatment, therapy, education, training, or counseling. EFMP is a mandatory enrollment program that works with other military and civilian agencies to provide

comprehensive and coordinated medical, educational, housing, community support, and personal services to Families with special needs. For more information, call 767-5058.

"Spouse Field Exercise" Seminar planned

A seminar for military spouses, "Spouse Field Exercise: Priceless Packages," will be held from 5-9 p.m., March 4 and from 10 a.m.-2 p.m., March 5 at Club Stewart, building 405. The seminar is being presented by Fort Stewart DFMWR along with Tara Crooks and Starlett Henderson, co-founders of Army Wife Network. The seminar will include themed care package ideas, deployment survival tips and resources, networking, giveaways, gift bags, a complimentary meal, dessert and more. Online registration is required and can be done by going to www.ArmyWifeNetwork.com/user_event.php. Limited child care is available. Reservations must be made with Stewart CYSS at 767-2312. Child care will be either by deployment credit or regular hourly rates. Children must be registered with CYSS. For more information, e-mail FromTheField@ArmyWifeNetwork.com or call Army Community Service at 767-5058.

Home Buyer Education Workshop offered

Investing in a home is one of the largest purchases in a servicemember's life. Army Community Service (ACS) and Housing Service Office will host a Home Buyer Education Workshop at the ACS building 86 from 9 a.m.-3:30 p.m. on March 5. Learn to compare the benefits of purchasing vs. renting, how much you can really

afford, the ABC's of credit, and the mortgage application process. Hinesville Board of Realtors will discuss how to shop for a home, and a Veterans Affairs representative will be available to discuss VA home loans. Certificates will be issued for the Georgia Dream home buying program which can provide \$5,000 down payment assistance for credit and income eligible bidders purchasing a home anywhere in Georgia. Lunch will also be provided during the workshop. For more information, call 767-5058.

Job vacancies announced

Strategic Resources, Inc. is seeking full-time New Parent Support Program Home Visitors for positions at Fort Stewart. Employees will work with parents of children prenatal to three years of age, who have been assessed to be at risk for child maltreatment and/or domestic violence.

Requirements: *Licensed Clinical Social Worker; Licensed Marriage and Family Therapist; Registered Nurse with a Bachelors Degree; or Licensed Master Social Worker.*

Candidates must have two years experience in child abuse, maternal and/or child health, mental health/marriage or family therapy. Knowledge of military Family lifestyles is preferred. It is not required that you be licensed in the state in which you would work, only that you have a license from a state in the United States. For more information, contact Dr. Lori Worley (703) 749-3040, fax (703) 749-3046, or go to www.SRI-HQ.com.

MARRIAGE

from Page 1B

One married couple, 1st Lt. Walter Long and his wife Staff Sgt. Michel Long, both from 4th Infantry Brigade Combat Team, 1st Infantry Division, moved into their first house on COB Speicher; it was a containerized housing unit. They've been married for a year and a half, but due to training requirements, one of the two has been away for the entire length of their marriage. For them, this marriage retreat was a perfect opportunity to spend more time together.

"The Army gives plenty of opportunity to be apart," said Chap. Romine. "When they have a chance to be together, they should be together."

While some co-located couples have the opportunity to see each other every day on their COBs and Forward Operating Bases, others seized this opportunity to reconnect with their spouse after a being apart.

"We've been here four months and I've seen my wife once-for one day," said Sgt. Maj. John Johnson, the senior enlisted advisor for Command Post South. "This is a great

opportunity for me to see her and also to enhance our marriage."

The benefits stretched beyond these couples deployed throughout U.S. Division North – Iraq. Couples were empowered with information and resources to take back to their home unit to help couples better cope with the deployment.

"We can take some of the stuff we learned in there and share with our fellow Soldiers," said Master Sergeant Cynthia Johnson, with Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 26th Brigade Support Battalion, 2nd Brigade Combat Team, 3rd Infantry Division. "We can recommend some of the books and share the stories and exercises from the retreat."

Chaplain Romine, pleased to have the opportunity to offer a marriage retreat in Iraq, is well aware of the positive effects these 16 couples can have on their fellow Soldiers.

"There's everything right about this retreat," said Chap. Romine.



Sgt. Chad D. Nelson

Sergeant Major John Johnson, the senior enlisted advisor for Command Post South, hugs his wife, Master Sergeant Cynthia Johnson with HHC 26th BSB, 2nd BCT, 3rd Inf. Div., during a marriage retreat at COB Speicher, Feb 10-12.

Shop of the Marne more than gift shop

Shop of the Marne is more than your average gift shop. Run completely by volunteers, it features goods from local consignors, both military and non-military, and commercially purchased goods.

There is something for everyone at the Shop, which just completed renovations, from "Shop of the Marne" candles, in scents such as Clean Linen and Hazelnut, to baby "onezie" outfits with custom embroidery. Have you seen the Army Combat Uniform handbags women are carrying all around the installation? Shop of the Marne has those too! Many consignors take custom orders.

The shop opened in June of 2006 and has been an integral part of Marne life ever since. A portion of profits made at the Shop benefit the Fort Stewart Officers' Spouses' Club's Scholarship and Welfare Fund, with the most recent donation, directly benefiting this year's educational scholarships, totaling \$2,177.00.

Aiming to bridge the gaps between military spouses, Shop of the Marne gives anyone the opportunity to donate their time.

"Anyone can volunteer in the Shop, which creates a feeling of giving back to the community," said Jamie Nicholas, shop manager. "The Shop is a bridge to the community. Anyone can come on post to shop."

Business hours are every Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday from 10 a.m. – 1 p.m.; Friday from 4 – 7 p.m. and the first Saturday of every month from 10 a.m. – 1 p.m. Consignors are always welcome to submit products to the shop management for review. Come in and discuss your business opportunity.

Special Deliveries

Provided by Winn Army Hospital

February 7

Taryn Nicole Slaughter, a girl, 5 pounds, 8 ounces, born to Staff Sgt. Phillip Slaughter Jr. and Letillia Slaughter.

February 8

Armando Tadeo Avelino, a boy, 7 pounds, 9 ounces, born to Pfc. Michael Antonio Avelino and Ana Carolina Avelino.

Rodrika Lisa Whitford, a girl, 7 pounds, 7 ounces, born to Spc. Michael Whitford and Amethyst Whitford.

Conrad Daniel Waggener III, a boy, 8 pounds, 11 ounces, born to Pvt. Conrad Daniel Waggener Jr. and Michelle Renee Waggener.

February 9

Matthew Hunter Juneau, a boy, 9

pounds, 8 ounces, born to Spc. Sean Juneau and Spc. Hillary Juneau.

Shaheen Rene Mahmoudi, a boy, 6 pounds, 12 ounce, born to Pfc. Stephan Shaheen Mahmoudi and Teresa Karen Mahmoudi.

Brayden Randell Lewandowski, a boy, 5 pounds, 12 ounces, born to Spc. Stephen J. Lewandowki II and Cynthia L. Lewandowski.

February 10

Makayla Rose Allen, a girl, 6 pounds, 4 ounces, born to Spc. Mark Dean Allen and Crystal Tia Allen.

Kaylyn Isabella Anderson, a girl, 7 pounds, 3 ounces, born to Sgt. 1st Class Andy Clinton Anderson and Windy Lynn Anderson

Olivia Love Baker, a girl, 8 pounds, 9 ounce, born to Pvt. Steven Mark Baker and Kalishia Wilene Echols.

Kherington Janai Pena, a girl, 6 pounds, 11 ounces, born to Spc. Reynaldo Pena and Chasity Pena.

February 12

Jaelyn Susan Cassels, a girl, 9 pounds, 9 ounces, born to Sgt. Joseph Cassels and Starlite Angel Cassels.

Charles David Kunsch, a boy, 8 pounds, 15 ounces, born to Sgt. Kenneth P. Kunsch and Katie Kunsch.

February 15

Nathaniel Robert Fuller, a boy, 8 pounds, 5 ounces, born to Joseph Anthony Fuller and Pfc. Rebecca Anne Fuller.