

Stewart/Hunter Lifestyle



Hunter celebrates military children

Nancy Gould
Hunter Army Airfield Public Affairs

The moist air did not dampen the enthusiasm of 350 participants at the Month of the Military Child kickoff parade around the parking area of Hunter Army Airfield's Child Development Center, April 1.

The rain held off as children - ages six weeks to six years - parents, volunteers and staff



Army Families celebrated Month of the Military Child with a kick-off parade at Hunter Army Airfield's Child Development Center, April 1.

members followed hand-in-hand behind the Beach High School band, Royal Jewels dancers and Junior ROTC cadets who led the event.

After the parade, the group gathered for a ceremony and refreshments at the Child and Youth School Services building next door.

"I got emotional when I drove up and saw the children lined up to march," said Lawanda Cooper, Hunter's Child and Youth School Services coordinator, who has a husband deployed to Iraq and two children of her own. "It felt very personal."

The parade was the first April event to celebrate, honor and encourage children of Soldiers. The month is a time of recognizing the courage and strength required of military children when their parents deploy, Cooper said.

More than 1.7 million American children under the age of 18 have at least one parent serving in the military, according to the Department of Defense. It is estimated that the U.S. Army has more than 900,000 military children with one or both parents having deployed multiple times.

Since "Month of the Military Child" began in 1986, children have been recognized by staff and leaders through a variety of fun and exciting events.

"The parade was the largest and the most



Photos by Nancy Gould

Children walked in celebration of Month of the Military Child in a kick-off parade at Hunter Army Airfield's Child Development Center, April 1. More than 300 people participated despite an early torrent of showers.

colorful one we've had," said Amarys Martinez, CDC director. She said children colored their class banners, which were designed with a "character counts" theme. "They've been very excited and involved. For days, they've been practicing a song for the ceremony."

Musicians from the Savannah Arts Academy also performed at the event.

"We wanted the community to come together for the kickoff," Martinez said, adding that the final event will be equally grand.

"We'll have a carnival with inflatables and other neat things on the CDC grounds, along with a picnic. Hopefully, we'll escape the rain, just like we did today."

Military children parade through Stewart

Spc. Gaelen Lowers
3rd Sustainment Bde. Public Affairs

Parents and Families gathered at the Fort Stewart Child Development Center, April 1, to kick off "Month of the Military Child" with a parade and other festivities.

Due to bad weather, the parade and celebration was moved inside, but that didn't hinder the fun.



Darrell Gray, 3, hugs Scruff McGruff, the Crime Dog, during a parade at the Child Development Center at Fort Stewart to launch Month of the Military Child, April 1.

Children, friends and Families lined the halls cheering words of encouragement to the youngsters, while the children marched up and down the halls listening to music, singing along and waving to the crowds.

One preschool class stopped to perform "The Bubble Gum Song," during which they wiggled and writhed along with the lyrics.

The parade was the opening salvo for a month-long celebration of military children and what makes them so special.

"We kick this thing off on the first of April and take it all the way through to the 30th," said Leah Cabey, the CDC facility director at Stewart. "We really want to put the focus on our military children. We know we are all special, and we celebrate our children everyday of the week, but we have this one time where we can all come out and say, 'Hey, these are our military children. Let's get together and really appreciate and celebrate them.'"

The theme for the celebration focused on what Stewart does for military children, and what children do for their Families in return: "Bring Communities Together for Children—Children Bring Communities Together."

"Indeed, the early childhood years are critical to the forming of productive and successful citizens," said Dagmar Peguero-Olinger, chief of Child and



Photos by Spc. Gaelen Lowers

Preschoolers sing "The Bubble Gum Song" during a parade at the Child Development Center at Fort Stewart to kick off Month of the Military Child, April 1. The theme for the event was "Bring Communities Together for Children — Children Bring Communities Together."

Youth Services.

After the parade, the children were visited by Scruff McGruff, the Crime Dog, Dora the Explorer and Elmo for hugs and handshakes. The children danced, sang and enjoyed the military-wide event.

The Month of the Military Child continues throughout the month of April with Easter egg hunts, a spring dance and Wheels Day, which includes a static display of all types of wheeled vehicles.

The celebration is scheduled to end with a carnival and picnic, April 29, at the CDC.

For more information, contact the Child Development Center at 767-3203.

Month of the Military Child has more in store

Bob Mathews
FMWR Marketing Publicity Specialist

April 11: The installation Easter Egg Hunt at Fort Stewart will be from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. behind School Age

Services, building 6571, and at Hunter Army Airfield from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. at SAS, building 1289.

The egg hunt will start promptly at 10 a.m. There will be games, food and prizes. This event is open to all military

children.

April 13-15: "Future Leaders Conference" and Spring Break at Fort Stewart. Open to Military children ages 11-18 years, Youth Center, building 7338. For more information, call 767-4491.

For more information about the Month of the Military Child observance or to find out about other events throughout the month, call the registration office at 767-2312 or CYSS' main office at 767-6071.

Army recognizes military children with Prepared Kids competition

Kids
You too can
PREPARE STRONG!

Enter the
Prepared Kids
Competition

Celebrating
Month of the Military Child
Ready Army invites you to join the Prepared Kids competition and inspire Army Families all over the world to get ready for emergencies. Prepare strong!

READY ARMY
GET READY. MAKE A PLAN. BE INFORMED.

www.ready.army.mil

Frontline Staff

To celebrate the Month of the Military Child, Ready Army is launching the Prepared Kids competition. Prepared Kids recognizes the creativity, strength and spirit of Army children by inviting everyone, 18 years of age and under, to share their unique perspectives on the theme, "Prepare Strong!"

The competition provides an Armywide forum for our children to express their thoughts on preparing for natural and man-made emergencies, and an opportunity for Families to come together to discuss this important issue. According to Gary Williams, Fort Stewart's Youth Center Director, Prepared Kids activities will be implemented here in the coming weeks.

Last September, the Army launched a proactive community awareness campaign called Ready Army to encourage individual and Family preparedness. As hurricane season approaches, Ready Army's Prepared Kids competition reminds Soldiers and Families of the resources available to protect Army Families from all hazards, and provides a creative forum for Family preparedness activities.

Prepared Kids empowers children to use their unique talents to tell their personal stories of preparedness. Entries may be a drawing, song, video, public service announce-

ment or any other creative medium related to the theme, "Prepare Strong!" Suggested focus areas include getting an emergency supply kit, making a Family emergency plan, preparing to take care of pets, being informed about the range of hazards and getting involved in community activities to build preparedness. Children may enter as individuals or in groups. Entire classrooms are welcome.

Prepared Kids will run until Aug. 12, when finalists will be posted on www.ready.army.mil for a one-week open voting session. Winners in each category will be announced during September, National Preparedness Month, and incorporated into the 2010 Ready Army campaign, showing that everyone in the Army Family has a voice to inspire others to prepare.

Emergency preparedness saves lives and mitigates the effects of a disaster; however, research shows that most Americans, including military Families, consider themselves to be more prepared than they actually are. The Army is committed to preparing for all hazards and caring for Soldiers and Families. Through Prepared Kids, our children and teens are encouraged to participate in age appropriate, educational and fun activities that will enhance their physical, emotional and mental strength. Our children are the future of our Nation and an important part of the Army Family. Prepare Strong! For more information, go to www.ready.army.mil.

Easter Bunny brings Egg Hunt back to Stewart, Hunter

Bob Mathews
FMWR Marketing Publicity Specialist

The Easter Bunny and all of his helpers are staying very busy getting ready for a special event April 11 at Fort Stewart and Hunter Army Airfield: the installations' annual Easter Egg Hunt and Family Fun Day. He's preparing 50,000 brightly colored eggs for Fort Stewart and another 6,000 for Hunter Army Airfield. Youngsters up to 10 years old will be allowed to hunt for them.

The egg hunt will be the main attraction, but there will be other free and fun things to do as well. There will be a play area with inflatables, face-painting and other activities. Want a memento? Stop by the bunny photo station. Last year's event attracted a crowd of more than 3,000. Four hundred volunteers pitched in to make last year's event a success. The festivities are hosted by Family, Morale, Welfare & Recreation, Child, Youth and School Services. Planners are anticipating an even bigger crowd this year.

Below is information to help parents plan for the day.

- At Stewart, the event will be from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Youth Sports Fields across the street from Diamond Elementary School on Davis Ave., behind School Age Services, building 6571.

- On Hunter, the event will be from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the Child Development Center, building 1284 and at the Youth Center Grounds, building 1289.

- Families are encouraged to arrive 15 minutes early so that children can get in line for the egg hunt, which will include the following age groups: 1-2, 3-4, 5-7 and 8-10.

- Parents will only be allowed in the egg hunt area for children 2 and under.

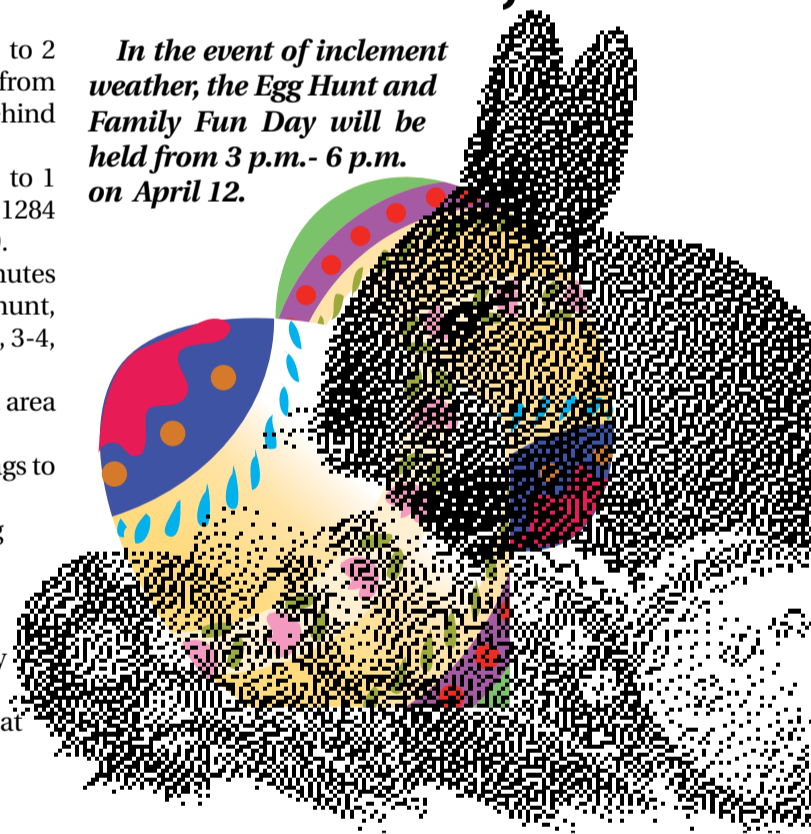
- Children may use baskets or small plastic bags to gather the eggs.

- Parents are urged to be on time, as the egg hunt for all ages will start at 10 a.m. sharp.

- If children get separated from their parents, they can look for colorful balloons that will mark a safe "lost and found" spot where they can be reunited.

For additional information, call 767-4491 at Fort Stewart, or 315-5708 at Hunter.

In the event of inclement weather, the Egg Hunt and Family Fun Day will be held from 3 p.m. - 6 p.m. on April 12.



YOU'RE INVITED!

Vidalia Onion Festival, Air Show

Don't miss the festival, Saturday, Apr. 25 - Sunday, Apr. 26.

Celebrate the annual harvest of Georgia's official state vegetable, the sweet vidalia onion. Activities include an onion-eating contest, onion cooking demos, street dance, rodeo, children's parade, air show, fireworks, carnival rides, train rides, arts and crafts and more.

For directions call 912-537-1918 or go to: www.vidaliaga.com

Ingredients for a strong Family



CHAPLAIN'S CORNER

Chap. (Capt.) Tom Allen
Winn Army Community Hospital

Living a life with constant deployments and training makes Family life a challenge.

We all want strong healthy Families - none of us set out on the journey of marriage to have unhappy marriages or undisciplined children. We want healthy Families and productive, mature children who can handle the difficulties of life, but things don't magically turn out that way. There are some things we must do as a Family to make sure our children have the best possible environment to be strong and healthy as they mature.

I found four essential ingredients to a strong and healthy Family. A study done several years ago by Harvard University, *Unraveling Juvenile Delinquency*, listed four pri-

mary factors necessary to prevent your child from becoming a juvenile delinquent.

First, there must be a father's discipline. Dad must set the standards and make sure they are maintained. The key to this discipline is firmness, fairness and consistency. We must be firm in our standards and convictions. We must execute discipline fairly and with love, and we must be consistent. If it is wrong to draw on the wall today, it is wrong to draw on the wall tomorrow.

Second, a Family needs a mother's supervision. Moms should know where their children are at all times. They should know what their kids are doing and should try to be with them as much as possible. Kids are not adults yet; we must provide the correct amount of supervision and guidance so they do not get into trouble.

Third, a child must see the father

and mother's affection for each other. When mom and dad show love for each other and exhibit actions that show love, such as holding hands, speaking lovingly to each other and, yes, hugging in front of our children, it shows the child the marriage is strong and healthy, and provides security and safety for the child. Open, abundant affection is a must.

Finally, we must have Family cohesiveness. We must spend time and do things together. No, not watch a movie. I am talking about taking a bike ride, a long walk, spending the day at the pool, playing a board game. Nothing builds strong Family cohesiveness like doing things together. You cannot build love for each other if you never spend time together.

I know we are busy, and there are many things on our plate to accomplish, but nothing is more important than our Family.

Chapel Schedule

Fort Stewart

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

Protestant	Location	Time
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	Location	Time
Friday Jum'ah	Marne	1:30 p.m.

Contact Yahya Hassan at 876-5546.

Jewish	Location	Time
Friday	Marne	11:30 a.m.

Contact Sgt. 1st Class. Crowther at 980-9295.

Latter-Day Saints	Location	Time
Sunday	220 Sandy Run Drive, Hinesville	9 a.m.

Hunter Army Airfield

Catholic	Location	Time
Sunday Mass	Chapel	11 a.m.
Protestant	Location	Time
Sunday Service	Chapel	9 a.m.

Kids Church Where God rocks

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

For all kids Grade 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, email
fortstewartkidschurch@yahoo.com

Fort Stewart Chapel Youth Ministry

Junior and Senior
High School Students!

Join us for
free games and pizza

Sunday • 6-8 p.m.

at the Stewart Youth Activity
Center, building 7338.

For more information,
contact jerry.e.thompson@comcast.net

or call 877-7207

Lent & Easter 2009 Services

Fort Stewart

- Catholic Stations of the Cross will be performed at 5:30 p.m. at the Main Post Chapel Friday.
- A special Protestant Maundy Thursday service will be held at Marne Chapel at 5:45 p.m., today.
- Catholic Holy Thursday Liturgy of the Lord's Supper will be held at the Main Post Chapel at 7:30 p.m., today.
- The Good Friday Liturgy of the Cross will be held at the Main Post Chapel at 5:30 p.m., tomorrow.

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- A multi-cultural gospel Good Friday service will be held at the Main Post Chapel at 7 p.m., tomorrow.
- Easter Sunrise Service will be held in the Marne Garden in front of bldg. 1 at 6:30 a.m., Sunday. The guest speaker will be Dave Roever. Easter Mass will be at 9 a.m. in the Main Post Chapel.
- For information on Jewish Passover, contact Harold Crowther at 332-2084 or Harold.crowther@amedd.army.mil.

Hunter Army Airfield

- Catholic Stations of the Cross will be performed at 6 p.m. Friday.
- "Peter & You on the Journey with Jesus" sermons are given each Sunday at 9 a.m.
- Catholic Holy Thursday "The Lord's Supper" will be held at 6 p.m., today.
- The Veneration of the Cross will be performed at 6 p.m., tomorrow, before Good Friday service at 11:45 p.m.
- An Easter Sunrise service is planned for 7 a.m., Sunday, to be followed by Protestant services at 9 a.m., and Catholic Mass at 11 a.m.

Easter Sunrise Service slated

Fort Stewart-Hunter Army Airfield will observe Easter with Sunrise Services at 6:30 a.m., April 12 at Marne Garden and outside Hunter Chapel. The service is open to all Soldiers, Family Members, Department of Defense Civilians, retirees and surrounding communities. The uniform for military officers is dress blues with four-in-hand tie; senior-enlisted Soldiers may wear either their dress blues or Class A uniform. The uniform for all other enlisted personnel is Class A.

MWR Briefs

Toddler Egg Hunt coming to Corkan

Cypress Creek Adventure Golf, building 448, will have its annual Toddler Easter Egg hunt (ages up to 5 years old) from 9-11:30 a.m., Saturday. Meet the Easter Bunny and find the eggs he has hidden especially for you. For more information, call 767-9884.

Dive-In Movie to play at Hunter

Bring your floats, lie back and enjoy the movie "Free Willy" at Tominac Fitness Center Indoor Pool, building 919, at 6 p.m., Friday. Defense Department ID cardholders and their guests are invited to float around the pool. Children (ages 15 and younger) must be accompanied by an adult. There is no charge. For details, call 315-2019.

Easter Brunch served at Stewart, Hunter

Join us for Easter brunch at Club Stewart, building 405, and Hunter Club, building 6015, from 10:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. on Easter Sunday. The menu features breakfast items, a roast beef carving station, ham, grilled lemon chicken breast, rice pilaf, candied yams, Prince Edward Island vegetable blend, roasted potatoes, corn soufflé, peach crepes, salad bar, assorted desserts and a chocolate fountain.

The cost is \$14.95 per person. Children ages 5 to 10 are half-price and ages 4 and under are free. Call 368-2212 (Stewart) or 459-7923 (Hunter).

Kids Cooking Class cancelled

The kids cooking class scheduled from 3-5 p.m. on Sunday has been cancelled.

Self-defense class offered to females

Self-defense classes will be offered during April as part of Army Community Service's observance of Sexual Assault Awareness Month. The schedule is:

Fort Stewart:

6 p.m., Tuesday: Self-Defense for Teen Girls, Corkan Teen Recreation Center, building 438.

6 p.m., Tuesday: Self-Defense for Women, Newman Fitness Center, building 439.

6 p.m., April 27: Self-Defense for Teen Girls, Corkan Teen Recreation Center.

6 p.m., April 27: Self-Defense for Women, Newman Fitness Center.

Hunter Army Airfield: (separate classes)

6 p.m., April 16: Self-Defense for Teen Girls, Tominac Fitness Center, building 919.

6 p.m., April 16: Self-Defense for Women, Tominac Fitness Center.

6 p.m., April 29: Self-Defense for Teen Girls, Tominac Fitness Center.

6 p.m., April 29: Self-Defense for Women, Tominac Fitness Center.

CYSS/SLO announces informational series

Child, Youth and School Services and the School Liaison Office at Hunter Army Airfield is sponsoring a

monthly information series, which will be held from 6 to 7 p.m., Wednesday, at the School Age Services Center, building 1289.

The topic for April is how to advocate for your children in school (waivers and variances). Register through CYSS registration office Friday before each class at 315-5425. For details, call the School Liaison Office at 315-6586.

"Destination unknown" departs from Stewart

Put your trust in your guide and feel adventurous on this "destination unknown" trip with a "Clue" theme, but hurry, the reservation deadline is Wednesday, and space is limited. The trip will be from 8 p.m. to midnight, April 16, departing from the Fort Stewart Leisure Travel Office, building 443. The \$35 cost includes transportation and event admission. Children ages 12 and older are welcome. For more information, call 767-2841.

CYSS Jon's Sport Park Trip

Child, Youth and School Services is planning an afternoon of fun for youth. Depart the Fort Stewart Youth Center, building 7338, at 1 p.m., April 17 for a trip to Jon's Sport Park in Douglas, Ga.

The \$10 per person cost includes unlimited skating, go-karts, batting cages, putt-putt, driving range, tube town, and one piece of pizza or hot dog and a drink.

For details, call 767-4491.

Bargain-hunters get ready for MWR yard, NAF excess sale

Bob Mathews

FMWR Marketing Publicity Specialist

Sellers and bargain-hunters alike are getting ready for the Great MWR Yard Sale, scheduled from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m., April 18 at Fort Stewart and Hunter Army Airfield.

There will be an added attraction for bargain-hunters at Stewart that day: a sale of excess non-appropriated funds property at a separate site during the same hours as the yard sale.

The yard sale will be held at the parking lots of Club Stewart, building 405, and the Hunter Army Airfield Credit Union, building 1282. Department of Defense ID cardholders may sell items in parking lots. The cost is \$5 per space. There is no fee for on-post residents who wish to sell at their homes.

"We've had 105 (people) sign up to

sell at Stewart and more than 20 sign up to sell at Hunter so far," Outdoor Recreation Division Chief Larry Cutchens said Tuesday. "We're still getting sign-ups from the housing areas, and we need for those in the housing areas who want to sell to sign up before the cut-off, April 16."

Sellers can sign up at the Sports Office, building 471, on Stewart or Tominac Fitness Center, building 919, at Hunter. If you need more sign-up information, call 767-8238 at Stewart, or 315-2019 at Hunter.

"Be there early and be set up and ready to sell," Cutchens recommended that the sellers. "The bargain-hunters love to come out early, and they want a good bargain - so give them one."

He said the public is invited to "browse and buy" at the yard sale. The public also may make purchases at the excess

property sale.

"They will have access from every gate. They will need to have their driver's license, registration and proof of insurance to come on post."

Cutchens said strip maps showing the location of yard sales at on-post housing will be handed out at the gates.

Goodwill Industries will be on hand for donations from 2-5 p.m. at both parking lots.

The sale of excess NAF property will be held at building 1501 (912 Sigma St. off of William H. Wilson Avenue) at Stewart during the same hours as the Great MWR Yard Sale, 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. on April 18.

Preparations are being made for Soldiers, Family Members and Army Civilians to see the items that will be for sale one day before the sale begins. Details will be announced.

The titems for sale will vary to include: assorted commercial cooking equipment; 19-inch and larger television sets; weight-lifting equipment; fitness equipment; a piano; TV armoires; headboards; recliners; sleeper sofas; room chairs; writing desks; a freezer; ceiling fans; refrigerators; and vacuum cleaners.

Family Morale, Welfare and Recreation Budget Analyst Liz Moore said payment can be made with cash or by check.

"We will accept checks if full identification (including social security number) is provided," she said.

Bobby W. Mize of Property & Supply said parking will be at the Directorate of Logistics, directly across the street from building 1501. He said all sales will be final.

Purchasers are asked to be prepared to immediately remove the items they buy.

'Reach Out and Read' helps military Families, children

Rob McIlvaine
FMWRC Public Affairs

Through Reach Out and Read's military initiative, doctors and nurses at 20 military hospitals, including one in Germany, will soon receive training on how to promote early literacy for children and free books to be handed out to parents with young children – ages six months through five years – when visiting well-baby or well-child clinics. U.S. Air Force 1st Lt. Alice L. Shepard, a nurse in the Clinical Nurse Pediatric Subspecialty at Travis Air Force Base in California and mother of an eight-month-old, couldn't be happier.

"This is great," said Shepard. "I love to read and hope to instill a love of reading. Even before he was born, we read to him and some of the first things I bought when making his nursery were books."

According to Barbara Christine, Program Manager for Library Programs at the Army Family and MWR Command, the Reach Out and Read program is a national, nonprofit organization that promotes early literacy by making books a routine part of pediatric care. The military initiative is an effort to promote early literacy among children of members of the Armed Forces.

State coalition groups will visit these hospitals to instruct doctors on how to counsel parents about the benefits of reading to their children. The books provided in the Reach Out and Read program were selected by the Library Program at FMWRC, and Congress provided initial funding to the Office of the Secretary of Defense to start the pilot.

"Literacy is promoted by incorporating reading aloud, advice to parents, and books into the well-child visits at military hospitals and health clinics," said Christine. "The contract for the project was awarded to (Strategic Resources, Inc.) by the Pentagon's Contracting Center for Excellence."

SRI is the lead contractor who subcontracted the project to Reach Out and Read, founded at Boston City Hospital, now Boston Medical Center, through a collaboration between pediatricians, family physicians, nurses and early childhood educators.

"Nurtured by the passionate and

inspired efforts of many educators, doctors, volunteers, parents, corporations, foundations and politicians, ROR has grown significantly from merely providing books in pediatric waiting rooms," said ROR co-founder Robert Needlman, M.D.

This growth includes the training of doctors and nurses at military treatment facilities in which they learn how to select an age-appropriate book for each child to take home from every checkup, starting with board books for babies followed by more complex picture books for preschoolers. Air Force Capt. Minh-Thu Le, a medical doctor at Travis, not only went through the training during her civilian residency, she also was trained by a pediatrician through the ROR office.

"Our trainer, who lives in the area, shared many experiences of the program from the real world," Le said. "This was a great time for discussion with those of us who were familiar with the program from other civilian clinics where we previously worked. Because ROR already researched the age-appropriateness of each book, our training was more about what interaction with a book is developmentally appropriate for each age group."

Along with a free book for every child, military healthcare providers will also offer advice and tips to the parents about reading aloud with their children. Each child who participates in ROR will start kindergarten with a home library of up to seven books, and support of parents who understand the importance of reading.

"Also important would be the chance to have the doctor sign and date the book. That way, we could look back and remember the different milestones of our son's development and who was there to share in those times," Shepard said.

Military bases participating in Reach Out and Read will also create literacy-rich waiting rooms, complete with child-size furniture and bookcases, where ROR-trained volunteers will model reading with the children while their Families wait for appointments.

"The Reach Out and Read model is a proven success," said U.S. Senator Jack Reed (D-RI).

Reed, a member of the Health, Education, Labor and Pensions



Photo by James Spellman, Jr.

U.S. Air Force Dr. (Capt.) Minh-Thu Le interacts with her patient, eight-month-old Alexander, as he performs the common newborn ritual of "mouthing the book." Alexander's parents, Air Force 1st Lt. Alice L. Shepard and her husband, Steven, happily watch at Travis Air Force Base in California.

Committee, authored and introduced the Prescribe a Book Act last year, which created a federal pediatric early literacy grant initiative.

"Reading aloud to a young child every day is a wonderful way to stimulate language," said Perri Klass, M.D., medical director of Reach Out and Read. "It helps children love books and reading, because they associate books with the parent's voice and with the pleasures of listening. That's the advice military doctors and nurses will be giving young patients at every checkup – important advice for all parents to help their children learn language and enjoy books."

Reading aloud can help children feel secure and loved, and help Families cope with stressful times, especially military Families who face separation and deployment, Klass said.

"I also encourage parents to try and not dictate how a child interacts with a book," Le said. "Not every child will sit still for you to be able to read a book cover to cover. A six-month old will be more interested in mouthing the book, which is appropriate. A 12-month old may flip each page quickly before you can even tell them what is on the page. Let the child dictate how you read to them."

This is also a good time to foster a life-

long relationship with doctors and hospitals.

"Kids love books and usually hate going to the doctor's office," Le said. "Hopefully, this program will enable them to associate coming here as a fun outing, as well as having the book remind them and their parents the importance of getting their well visits done."

In addition to Reach Out and Read's wide selection of "doctor-recommended" children's books, military children served by Reach Out and Read will also receive books designed specifically to calm anxieties about deployment and military service, such as "While You Were Away," by Eileen Spinelli.

"I am scheduled to deploy next year. I read Spinelli's book and found it very touching and brought tears to my eyes, because it was so accurate," said Shepard. "As a mother of a very young child, I worry that he will not remember who I am when I return. I think this book could give him a sense of what I am doing over there."

Reach Out and Read in the Military will serve more than 90,000 children, ages six months through five years, worldwide.

Editor's Note: See next week's Frontline about local participation in this program.



Jesup arts and crafts nights are ongoing

The South Georgia Gourd Patch, in affiliation with the Wayne County Arts Council, the Georgia Gourd Society and the American Gourd Society, invite community members for an evening of arts and crafts at Cracker Williams Recreation Park in Jesup every third Monday of the month at 7 p.m.

For more information, call 294-7394 or e-mail catsewg@bellsouth.net.

Low Country Paintball waives fees

Low Country Paintball invites community members to enjoy paintball by waiving all-day greens fees and gun rental fees for active-duty military during the first weekend of each month. Players can enjoy more than 150 guns across 63 acres. Group rates are available. For more information, call 663-2314.

3rd ID Society reunion slated

The 3rd Infantry Division Society and attached units in wars and in peacetime will hold their 90th reunion, Sept. 16-20. The reunion will be held at the Clarion Hotel Springfield, 3333 S. Glenstone Ave. Springfield, Mo. 65804; (417) 883-6500. Room rates are \$84 per night plus tax and includes breakfast and

free airport transportation.

For additional reunion information, contact Linda Irvine at (360) 663-2521, info@thereunionbrat.com.

StoryCorps comes to Savannah

The Georgia Historical Society and the Telfair Museum of Art are partnering with Georgia Public Broadcasting and local GPB station WSVH to bring StoryCorps, the nation's largest oral history project to Savannah. StoryCorps travels the country collecting the oral histories of friends and loved ones, one conversation at a time. For more information, go to www.storycorps.net.

Geechee Gathering informs, gratifies

Come to the Geechee Kunda, America's Gullah/Geechee Arts Center and Museum located near Riceboro, Ga., 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., April 18.

The whole Family can enjoy food, crafts, music, dance, exhibits and demonstrations, and everyone can learn about Geechee, an African-based culture deeply rooted in Coastal Georgia. From Hinesville, take U.S. 84 south to Walthourville. At Airport Rd./GA 119, turn left and follow GA 119 to Riceboro. At Riceboro, turn right on U.S. 17 then left on Ways

Temple Rd. Watch for signs about the Gathering.

Savannah Winds concerts scheduled

The Savannah Winds will perform "Pops the River" at dusk in the Rousakis Plaza on River Street, April 24. Admission is free.

The Winds' annual "Pops" Concert will be held at 3 p.m. at the Armstrong Atlantic State University Fine Arts Hall, April 26. Tickets are \$14. Senior and military discounts are available.

For tickets, visit www.finearts.armstrong.edu/tickets, or call 344-2801 for other ticketing options.

GHS Annual Book Sale begins soon

Thousands of used books at discounted prices will be offered for sale at the Georgia Historical Society's Annual Book Sale to be held at Hodgson Hall, 501 Whitaker St., in Savannah from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., April 24-25. Join us for this popular annual event that raises funds for the Georgia Historical Society's library and archives. Proceeds from the book sales are used to purchase new library materials and to care for the oldest collection of material related to Georgia history.

AE Movie Reviewed: 'Fast & Furious' ever since 2001

Sasha McBrayer
Frontline Contributor

The year was 2002. I was a junior in college. To make some extra cash, I decided to try my hand at writing for the campus newspaper. They say, "Write what you know." Arts, entertainment and especially film were my passions, so my very first article was about the actor Vin Diesel.

In that story, I revealed Diesel's secret identity. He was born Mark Vincent and was nicknamed Vin Diesel during his time in New York City as a bouncer. He was already a household name, thanks to "The Fast and the Furious" (2001), and that year cemented his movie star status with the release of "XXX".

In truth, Diesel fans will agree that the man doesn't appear on the big screen nearly enough. Since 2002, he has starred in a handful of somewhat mediocre action films, including "Knockaround Guys" and "The

Chronicles of Riddick." 2008's "Babylon A.D." was a frightful waste of time. What is an actor to do? How about reviving a proven formula? Fast cars and scantily clad women are, my friends, a proven formula. In theaters now is "Fast and Furious", the fourth installment in the crashing, speeding saga about the illegal street racing underworld.

It has been about eight years since the first installment. Here are some facts you may be foggy about.

The first movie, "The Fast and the Furious" (2001) stars Diesel as Dominic Toretto, an illegal street racer, and Paul Walker as undercover FBI agent Brian O'Connor. It is a little like "Point Break." The good guy develops a healthy respect for the bad guy. It helps that the good guy has the hots for the



bad guy's sister.

The second movie, "2 Fast 2 Furious" (2003), also stars Paul Walker, but Vin was smart enough to stay away. Walker's "O'Connor" is now trying to redeem himself to the FBI after having let Toretto escape in the first film. He recruits his childhood friend Roman, portrayed by Tyrese Gibson, to take down a Miami cartel. Ludacris and Eva Mendes make appearances.

In the third movie, "The Fast and the Furious: Tokyo Drift" (2006), speed fans are introduced to a new cast and spirited to Japan for a very dangerous race. Fans will tell you that this sequel was surprisingly entertaining.

Diesel actually makes an appearance near the end.

In "Fast and Furious," viewers will notice immediately that the episode is

not intended to be part four. It comes in sequence between "2 Fast" and "Tokyo Drift," essentially part two and a half. It reunites Dom and Brian with their love interests Mia and Letty. Han from "Drift" also appears.

This time, the gang has a common enemy, which allows for the resolution of the unfinished business between them. It is a return to the basics that made the first film so successful.

It isn't "Transformers," but it is an entertaining, mildly suspenseful, good old fashioned action movie that did not disappoint, especially because fans know just what to expect.

"Furious" is also a great date movie. Ladies are as eager to gawk at Walker and Diesel as the guys are to watch Jordana Brewster, Michelle Rodriguez and Israeli model Gal Gadot.

Welcome back Vin. We have our fingers crossed that you'll keep the action flicks coming, whether they be in the form of "Furious" two and three quarters or something else.

Army Community Service



Welcome to the Army Community Service Family Page. Our mission is to provide services to support readiness of Soldiers, their Families and the community to promote self-reliance, resiliency and stability. We offer training classes, support groups and Family advocacy programs. Services are offered to active-duty, retired, Reserve and National Guard Soldiers and their Family Members, regardless of branch of service. Department of Defense Civilian employees are also eligible for most services, as are their Family Members. ACS is a member of the Morale, Welfare and Recreation Family, proudly serving America's military.

For information or to register for programs at Fort Stewart, please call 767-5058/5059. For information and registration at Hunter Army Airfield, please call 315-6816.

SAAM events offered free this month

Several free events are scheduled on the installation during Sexual Assault Prevention Month. Adults are invited to attend a free showing of the movie, "Open Window," starring Robin Tunney and Joel Edgerton as a newly-engaged couple who find their world shattered by a random act of violence. The haunting drama also stars Cybill Shepherd, Elliott Gould and Scott Wilson as the parents who struggle in their individual ways to help their children. Rated R, the movie will run at the Hunter Theater on April 20 and at Stewart's Woodruff Theater on April 15 and 29. All showings begin at 6 p.m.

Other SAAM events include self-defense classes for female teens and women. Classes are 6 to 9 p.m., Tuesday and April 27 at Stewart. Teen classes meet at the Corkan Teen Center; women meet at Newman Gym. Classes will be held at Hunter's Tominac Fitness Center, April 16 and 29. No pre-registration is needed.

Everyone is asked to wear jeans on "Denim Day" as a visible sign of protest against the myths that still surround sexual assault, April 22 at Stewart and April 23 at Hunter. Then, join in "Take Back the Night," a walk against violence scheduled in conjunction with Denim Day, April 22 at Stewart's Southern Oaks Community Center, and April 23 at New Gannem Community Center, both beginning at 6 p.m.

Emotional control workshops available

Come to a full-day workshop and learn healthy techniques for coping with life's many stressors, positive ways to react to an angry person, healthy outlets for releasing angry emotions, and information on the many community resources available to help when stress, anger, or conflict disrupt your home or work life. To register, call 315-6816 for tomorrow's workshop at Hunter from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

FRG training sessions open all month long

A full schedule of Family Readiness Group training sessions are slated during April. Space is limited, so be sure to reserve your seat in advance.

Hunter training events include FRG Leader Training, 10:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m., April 18; a special FRG Leader Live Wire Exchange offering FRG Leaders an opportunity to share ideas, information and resources from 10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., April 22; and an evening Key Caller Training from 6:30-8:30 p.m., April 23. To register for FRG training at Hunter, please call 315-6816.

Stewart training includes Family Care Team Training from 6-8 p.m. tonight offering training for all individuals invited or interested in being a Care Team Volunteer to assist Families of fallen and injured Soldiers; FRG Treasurer Training covering the rules and regulations that govern the FRG to include financial resources available, fundraising rules, and more from 9:30 a.m. to noon, April 16; and Basic FRG Training from 9 a.m. to 3:30 p.m., April 28. To register for FRG training at Stewart, please call 767-5058/5059.

Stewart ACS to host Family movie days

Children aged 13 and under of Soldiers who are deployed are invited to a free screening of "Wall-E" at the ACS-Stewart Family Readiness Center beginning at 11 a.m., April 18. Parents can watch TV or use our computer lab while the children enjoy the movie and free popcorn. The movie is rated G. For more information, please call 767-5058/5059.

Infant massage training now open

Parents with children ages 6 weeks to 9 months are invited to learn the delicate art of infant massage, a very powerful element in human bonding. Infant massage promotes better sleep, boosts immune system, relieves teething pains, and makes baby feel loved and secure. Open to parents and/or caregivers, classes are offered on April 21, 22 and 23 from 4:30-6:30 p.m. at ACS-Stewart. To register, please call 767-5055/5059.

Credit report workshops available

Discover how credit bureaus collect and organize information about you and your credit history, along with the true facts of what is and is not included in your credit report and FICO score. You'll also learn what items on your credit report are considered negative and your rights as a consumer to dispute them. Offered at ACS-Hunter from 10-11:30 a.m., April 22. Please call 315-6816 to register.

Newcomers invited to orientation tours

Fort Stewart offers a comprehensive newcomers' orientation every Tuesday and Thursday with an overview of the many agencies, events and programs available to help with your transition to the area. A bus tour of Stewart and Hinesville departs from the Soldier Service Center at 1 p.m., every Tuesday and Thursday.

To register for the newcomer orientation, please call ACS Outreach at 767-9176. To register for the bus tour, please call 767-5058/5059 and ask for Relocation Readiness. Also ask about child care.

Newcomers at Hunter are invited to a bus tour of the installatio, April 16. The bus departs from ACS-Hunter at 9:30 a.m.. To register for the bus tour, please call 315-6816.

PCS classes offered every Thursday

Avoid pitfalls and alleviate stress on your finances during a permanent change of station by planning ahead.

Learn how to plan monthly expenses during a PCS by signing up now for a Financial Planning for PCS class, offered every Thursday at Stewart and Hunter, April 14 or 28.

Spousal support groups bring comfort

Our Foreign-Born Spouse Network provides an opportunity for members from various cultures to share resources, discuss the American way of life and develop friendships. At Stewart, meet at the relocation office at 11:30 a.m., April 15. At Hunter, meet at ACS-Hunter at 11 a.m., April 20. Bring a dish to share, if you can.

Other spousal support groups include Hearts Apart, open to any spouse whose loved one is away, whether in training for more than two weeks, on assignment far from home or deployed. Come chat with others who are also experiencing their Soldier's absence. Hearts Apart meets at 1 p.m. at ACS-Hunter on Tuesday, and at 11 a.m. on Wednesday at Stewart's relocation office, located in building 443.

Money management training open now

Sign up now for money management classes, where you'll learn banking basics, how to properly balance your checking account, and participate in discussions on debt management, credit and credit reports. These personal banking skills help you take control of your money. Call 315-6816 for the 9 a.m. session at Hunter on Wednesday, or 767-5058/5059 for the 1 p.m. session at Stewart on April 22.

HEALTH MATTERS

Winn Army Community Hospital

BIRTH ANNOUNCEMENTS

Provided by Winn Army Community Hospital

March 1

• **Luke Riley Hamel**, a boy, 8 pounds, 8 ounces born to Spc. Christopher Hamel and Kristin Hamel.

March 2

• **Ashantii Emarii Lynn**, a girl, 7 pounds, 3 ounces, born to Major Lynn Jr. and Pvt. Ysherri Gifford.

March 23

• **Mattheo Alexander Nelson**, a boy, 6 pounds, 6 ounces, born to Staff Sgt. Burnell Nelson and Juliana Nelson.

• **Edwin Joniel Reyes-Ortiz**, a boy, 7 pounds, 14 ounces, born to Warrant Officer Edwin Reyes and Limary Ortiz.

March 24

• **Tate Alexander Kitchen**, a boy, 8 pounds, 2 ounces, born to Pfc. Amanda Katherine Kitchen and Michael Shane Kitchen.

• **Nathaniel Marcel Mason**, a boy, 6 pounds, 9 ounces, born to Staff Sgt. Antonio L. Mason and Staff Sgt. Jessica M. Castilleja.

March 25

• **Temperance Love Cutter**, a girl, 7 pounds, 10 ounces, born to Staff Sgt. Jerrid T. Cutter and Leana M. Cutter.

• **Keeton Bradlee Dykes**, a boy, 6 pounds, 14 ounces, born to Staff Sgt. Jonathan Dykes and Sandra Dykes.

March 26

• **Daniel Westley Calvert**, a boy, 8 pounds, 4 ounces, born to Pfc. Cedric Curtis Calvert and Ashley Nicole Calvert.

• **Maritza J'Nae Clotter**, a girl, 6 pounds, 5 ounces,

born to Sgt. Carlos Clotter and Spc. Beonca Clotter.

• **Kynlee James Kuberski**, a girl, 8 pounds, 2 ounces, born to Spc. Dustin Kuberski and Jessi Kuberski.

March 27

• **Lauryn Maliah Luna**, a girl, 6 pounds, 10 ounces, born to 1st Sgt. Raymond G. Luna and Dorothy L. Luna.

• **Abigail Grace Shreve**, a girl, 5 pounds, 11 ounces, born to Spc. Robert Shreve and Kristin Shreve.

• **Emelia Lorraine Strauf**, a girl, 6 pounds, 15 ounces, born to Staff Sgt. Joseph J. Strauf and Kimberly Strauf.

March 28

• **Jaden Anthony Marquez**, a boy, 7 pounds, 9 ounces, born to Jonathan Marquez and Pfc. Lisa Marquez.

March 29

• **Journey Irelyn Crowley**, a girl, 6 pounds, 14 ounces, born to Sgt. Michael A. Crowley and Crystal L. Crowley.

• **Liliana Grace Poss**, a girl, 7 pounds, 2 ounces, born to Sgt. Matthew W. Poss and Jeannette E. Poss.

• **Brooke Louise Powers**, a girl, 7 pounds, 6 ounces, born to Sgt. Christopher Powers and Patricia Powers.

March 30

• **Alexxis Lynn Bennett**, a girl, 6 pounds, 15 ounces, born to Spc. Chad Bennett and Samantha Bennett.

• **Shelby Fay Parsons**, a girl, 7 pounds, 6 ounces, born to Spc. Harold Parsons and Spc. Jamie Lee Parsons.

• **Ashlee Elizabeth Whippo**, a girl, 9 pounds, 3

ounces, born to Sgt. 1st Class William Whippo and Sheila Whippo.

March 31

• **Lula Hill**, a girl, 8 pounds, 1 ounce, born to Sgt. Steven Joseph Hill and Samantha Lyn Hill.

• **Troy Michael Moore**, a boy, 8 pounds, born to Sgt. Michael Moore and Maria Moore.

• **Jacob Lewis Robins Jr.**, a boy, 8 pounds, 10 ounces, born to Pvt. Jacob Robins and Avenicia Regino-Robins.

April 1

• **Liam Patrick Rogers**, a boy, 5 pounds, 14 ounces, born to Sgt. Wayne Rogers and Michelle Rogers.

• **Lillyann Jenay Quinn**, a girl, 5 pounds, 8 ounces, born to Pfc. Paul Vincent Quinn Jr. and Brittany Ann Quinn.

April 2

• **Zavier William-James Anderson**, a boy, 9 pounds, 6 ounces, born to Spc. Tanner Anderson and Lauren Anderson.

• **Daniela Andrea Maria Lazalde**, a girl, 7 pounds, 9 ounces, born to Sgt. Tomas Lazalde and Veronica Lazalde.

• **Faeren Suthard Mattus**, a girl, 9 pounds, 8 ounces, born to Maj. Jet Mattus and Jennifer Mattus.

• **D'Mya La'Keria Stringer**, a girl, 9 pounds, 5 ounces, born to Demetris L. Stringer and Spc. Kristy D. Stringer.

April 4

• **Sophia Makenzie Morningstar**, a girl, 7 pounds, 9 ounces, born to Dale Eugene Morningstar, Jr. and Sgt. Kelli Lyn Morningstar.



Diamond Elementary Teacher of the Year

Randy Murray

Linda J. Kidd, principal at Fort Stewart's Diamond Elementary School, gives a special gift to the Teacher of the Year (2008-2009), Joanne Backman, during an after-school gathering of teachers and administrators, April 7. Kidd said the Teacher of the Year award recognized the teacher with the best teaching practices. Backman has taught 3rd grade at Diamond for 17 years. She began teaching when her husband retired from the Army at Fort Stewart.

Pets of the Week



Eliese the cat and Baxter the dog are some of the many homeless pets at the Fort Stewart animal shelter. The shelter 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.



The International

Today — 7 p.m.
(Clive Owen, Naomi Watts)

Interpol Agent Louis Salinger and Manhattan Assistant District Attorney Eleanor Whitman are determined to bring to justice one of the world's most powerful banks. Uncorrupt and reprehensible illegal activities, Salinger and Whitman follow the money from Berlin to Milan to New York to Istanbul.

Finding themselves in a high-stakes chase across the globe, their relentless tenacity puts their own lives at risk as their targets will stop at nothing -- even murder -- to continue financing terror and war.

Rated R (violence, language) 118 min

Madea Goes to Jail

Friday, Saturday — 7 p.m.
(Tyler Perry, Derek Luke)

After a high-speed chase puts Madea in front of the judge, her reprieve is short-lived as anger management issues get the best of her and lands her in jail.

A gleeful Joe couldn't be happier at Madea's misfortune. But Madea's eccentric family members rally behind her, lending their special "country" brand of support. Meanwhile, Assistant DA Joshua is on the fast track to career success, but he lands a case too personal to handle - defending young prostitute and former drug addict Candace and asks his fiancée, and fellow ADA, Linda, to fill in on his behalf.

When Candace ends up in jail, Madea befriends the young woman, protecting her in a "motherly" way as only Madea can. *Rated PG-13 (mature thematic material, drug content, violence, sexual situations) 103 min*

PRESENTS
TODAY THROUGH APRIL 12

Steet Fighter: The Legend of Chun-Li

Sunday — 7 p.m.
(Brahim Achabbakhe, Russell Banks)

Based on the popular video game franchise, female fighter Chun Li embarks on a quest for justice. Warriors converge on the streets of Bangkok, preparing for the ultimate battle of terror versus beauty, light versus darkness, and good versus evil.

Rated PG-13 (violence, martial arts action, sensuality) 96 min

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.

