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THE FRONTLINE

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Serving the Fort Stewart and Hunter Army Airfield communities (www.stewart.army.mil)

June 26, 2008



Pvt. Jared Eastman

Col. John Charlton, who led the 1st BCT, Raider Brigade, through a 15-month deployment to Al Anbar Province, Iraq as part of Operation Iraqi Freedom V relinquished command to his former deputy commander, Lt. Col. Thaddeus McWhorter with the passing of the Colors during the ceremony.

Col Charlton relinquishes command

Pvt. Jared Eastman
1st BCT Public Affairs

Soldiers from the 1st Brigade Combat Team welcomed a new commander at a Relinquishment of Command Ceremony held at Cottrell Field, June 23.

Col. John Charlton, who led the 1st BCT, Raider Brigade, through a 15-month deployment to Al Anbar Province, Iraq as part of Operation Iraqi Freedom V relinquished command to his former deputy commander, Lt. Col. Thaddeus McWhorter with the passing of the Colors during the ceremony.

"Today we gather to honor and bid farewell to the leader of the Raider Brigade Combat Team a very special leader, Col.

Charlton," said 3rd Infantry Division Commander, Maj. Gen. Rick Lynch. "He has kept this brigade on track and still accomplished every mission above and beyond the highest standards. Most recently, you led the Raider Brigade Combat Team through a 15-month deployment to the Al Anbar Province, Iraq is part of the 3rd Infantry Division's support of Operation Iraqi Freedom V. We're really going to miss you."

"I feel comfortable and confident that Lt. Col. McWhorter will do a good job as commander and interim commander until Col. Roger Cloutier takes over," Charlton said, noting McWhorter was his right hand man for the last couple years and did a magnificent job.

"I would like to thank the city of Hinesville, Ga. for the great

support they continually provide for our Soldiers and their Families," Charlton said. "Also for Savannah and all the communities within the coastal Georgia region. It gives our deployed Soldiers great comfort to know that these communities care about us and are there for our Families. In my 24 years of service, I have never seen such great community support so I thank you all."

McWhorter will hold the position until July 2, when Col. Roger Cloutier is scheduled to assume command.

Col. Roger Cloutier was previously the 3rd Infantry Division's Operations Officer.

Charlton's next assignment will be in the Pentagon on the Joint Staff (J5) as the Chief of the Iraq Division.

Hero saves local civilian

Randy Berube
Public Affairs Specialist

A military police Soldier from the 139th Military Police Company performed a heroic act, June 11 when he administered first aid to an injured

accident victim at Highway 196 and Harmon Ave, in Hinesville, Ga.

Staff Sgt. Franklin Wade, on his way home from work, witnessed a collision between a F-150 truck and a motorcycle. The motorcycle was thrown in the air, and the rider was seriously injured.

See HERO ————— see Page 7A

Covenant goals exceeded by DHR

Randy Murray
Public Affairs Specialist

Two of the Army Family Covenant's most important goals are to improve Family programs and services and expand employment opportunities. Even before there was a Covenant, these goals were already being met or exceeded by Fort

Stewart and Hunter Army Airfield's Directorate of Human Resources, according to DHR's executive officer, Judy Waynick.

"It's our job to take care of Soldiers and their Families," Waynick said. "If the Covenant did anything, it allowed us to focus more on Families and give priority to surviving spouses and next of kin."

COVENANT ————— see Page 10A

Red Cross assists Warriors

Lina Satele
Public Affairs Specialist

The American Red Cross has a new outreach program that helps provide Soldiers in the Warriors in Transition Unit and their Families the support they need.

The outreach program is a funded initiative as part of the fiscal year 2008 Defense Appropriations Bill that allocated \$20 million for the American Red Cross, Service to the Armed Forces to expand its

support for service members and their Families worldwide.

"It's exciting for me because in the recent past, everyone has known about our emergency communications messages, and that's why we're primarily on an installation," said Bob Lowery, American Red Cross Senior Station Manager for Fort Stewart and Eisenhower Army Community Hospital. "The new program is to support Soldiers in the WTU."

WTU ————— see Page 8A

CAB reaches 800th reenlistment



Sgt. 1st Class Thomas Mills

Staff Sergeant John Sosebee, 3rd CAB legal team noncommissioned officer-in-charge, takes his oath of reenlistment from Capt. Brendan Cronin, 3rd CAB trial counsel, June 20. Sosebee was the 800th Soldier to reenlist in the 3rd CAB since the unit deployed in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom in May 2007. See story on Page 6A.

Motorcycle accident claims Soldier's life

Kevin Larson
Chief Public information

A Fort Stewart-Hunter Army Airfield Soldier was killed in a motorcycle accident, June 22 on Savannah's Harry Truman Parkway.

Pvt. Michael Krick, 19, of Eagle River, Wis. died as a result of the accident. Krick was a wheeled vehicle mechanic who joined the

Army in September 2007 and arrived at the installation in March. He was assigned to 3rd Battalion, 3rd Aviation Regiment, Combat Aviation Brigade, 3rd Infantry Division.

The accident is under investigation by the Savannah-Chatham Metropolitan Police Department. Media queries related to the accident should be directed to the Savannah, Chatham County Police Department public information office at 651-6675.

Marne 6 Sends

CG: I'm proud of you all, honored to serve with you

Maj. Gen. Rick Lynch
3rd Inf. Div. commanding general

During this Division's deployment, significant progress has been made in its area of operations that could not have been done except through the sacrifice, dedication, and exemplary performance of our Dog Face Soldiers.

I share the words of Gen. David Petraeus and Lt. Gen. Martin Dempsey, as shown in the letters below, when I say thank you for all you have done in the service of our country during the past 15 months.

Not only do we thank you, but the people of Iraq thank you for what you have done. You have given them a chance to experi-

ence personal freedom in ways they were unable to under the former regime. You have given them an opportunity to enjoy a better life.

The improvements we made reveal an unmistakable truth; whenever men and women are given a real choice, they choose to live in freedom.

We understand that freedom helps replace conditions of hopelessness that extremists exploit to recruit terrorists and suicide bombers. We under-



stand that free people are peaceful, and that those who live in liberty and hope do not turn to ideologies of hatred and fear. The mission of our generation is to make history by leading the cause of freedom.

You can be proud that you had a part in making history -- not only for the Iraqi people but for our generation as well.

Years from now, with your grandchildren sitting on your lap, you can point to words in a history book and tell them that you had a part in

shaping history. You fought so they could enjoy the freedoms they enjoy today.

You are the very best Soldiers in our nation's history. You are properly equipped, well trained, and most importantly, well led. The Soldiers of this Division contributed immensely to defeating Al Qaeda and stabilizing its area of operations in Iraq.

We continue to honor our fallen heroes and the sacrifices they made to preserve our way of life. We will not forget them.

I am proud of all you have done. I am honored to have served with you. Together we made history.

Rock of the Marne!



May 23, 2008

To Marne 6 and the Rock of the Marne Headquarters:

Congratulations on a job well done! During the last 15 months, you have effected extraordinary progress in Multi-National Division-Center's area of operations. Please accept my heartfelt thanks for your dedicated service and outstanding performance.

Your efforts have brought about a remarkable increase in security in the area south of Baghdad. Your guidance, analysis, and support of MND-C units enabled them to successfully conduct 12 Division-level, full-spectrum operations, which led to the capture of over 5,200 extremists and the clearing of over 1,800 IEDs and over 1,300 caches. Since June 2007, attacks have fallen by 89 percent and civilian casualties have decreased by 95 percent. The streets of the southern Baghdad belts are a far safer place for Iraqis thanks to your skill and hard work and that of the Iraqi partners with whom you worked so impressively.

It is no easy task to provide command and control for over 17,000 troopers at 59 bases as they conduct operations across a vast swathe of terrain. You have performed this task with exceptional professionalism and competence. On top of security gains, your efforts have resulted in improvements in the infrastructure, reinvigorated local economies, and improved healthcare facilities. Even as you oversaw these projects, you ensured that Iraqi Security Forces would be capable of furthering your progress, expertly guiding over 60 transition teams and training over 700 Iraqi NCOs at the Marne NCO Academy.

As you prepare to return home to your Families, you should be proud of all that you have accomplished. You have helped advance the strategic interests of the United States and have provided hope and opportunity to millions of Iraqis. Thank you, and well done!

With gratitude,
David H. Petraeus General,
United States Army, Commanding



6 June 2008

Soldiers of the 3RD Infantry Division, the Rock of the Marne - on behalf of the men and women of U.S. Central Command, please accept my most heartfelt congratulations on the successful completion of your deployment to Iraq.

The professionalism and operational excellence you displayed during combat operations in Iraq was impressive. Your contributions were instrumental in building governance, security, and stability to the Multi-National Division Center Area of Responsibility. The Division's accomplishments included destroying and interdicting the enemy throughout your area of operations, reducing violence, rebuilding key Iraqi markets and infrastructure and setting the stage for a stable and secure Iraq.

I am deeply humbled, as is every American, by the level of selfless sacrifice, courage and dedication you demonstrated in the face of the enemy - in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom and in fighting the War on Terror.

All of U.S. Central Command is extremely honored to have served alongside each and every one of you. I am proud of you - and your country is proud of you - well done!

Warm regards,
Martin E. Dempsey
Lieutenant General, U.S. Army
Acting Commander
U.S. Central Command

2BCT Torch Party comes home

Special to the Frontline

The first flight for the 2nd Brigade Combat Team, 3rd Infantry Division, will be welcomed home at a 2 p.m. ceremony, Thursday at Cottrell Field here.

About 240 Soldiers of the brigade are expected on this flight. The brigade is coming home after a 13-month deployment to the Arab Jabour area of southeastern

Baghdad. The brigade detained more than 800 terrorist suspects and helped foster Iraqi self-governance. When the brigade arrived in the area in May 2007, about 30 attacks a week occurred; attacks are now down to about one a week.

Second Brigade Soldiers blocked weapons from entering the Iraqi capital, protected the local population, and trained Iraqi security forces.



Sgt. Kevin Stabinsky

1st Lt. Bryan Diminico, platoon leader, 1st Platoon, Company D, 1st Battalion, 30th Infantry Regiment, takes notes on training conducted at a Sons of Iraq checkpoint in March 2007 along the main road through al Buaytha.

A moment in Marne history: Alton W. Knappenberger

Special to the Frontline

On June 9, 2008 3rd Infantry Division Medal of Honor recipient Private First Class Alton W. Knappenberger passed away at Pottstown Memorial Hospital.

His obituary said Knappenberger, beloved husband of Hazel (Hamlin) Knappenberger to whom he was married for more than 32 years. Born December 31, 1923 in Coopersburg, PA. He was one of six children born to the late Frank and Lottie (Greenwalt) Knappenberger.

Pfc. Knappenberger earned the MOH for conspicuous gallantry near Cisterna di Littoria, Italy on Feb. 1, 1944.

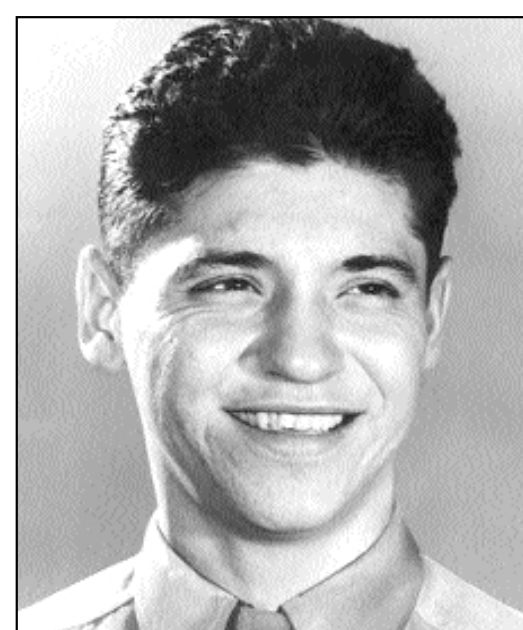
Knappenberger, Company C, 1st Battalion, 30th Infantry, distinguished himself near the town of Cisterna di Littoria, Italy. His citations said the medal was awarded for conspicuous gallantry and intrepidity at the risk of his life above

and beyond the call of duty in action involving actual conflict with the enemy. The citation said when a heavy German counterattack was launched against his battalion, Knappenberger crawled to an exposed knoll and went into position with his automatic rifle. An enemy machinegun 85 yards away opened fire, and bullets struck within six inches of him. Rising to a kneeling position, Knappenberger opened fire on the hostile crew, knocked out the gun, and killed two members of the crew, wounding the third crewman.

While he fired at this hostile position, two Germans crawled to a point within 20 yards of the knoll and threw potato-masher grenades at him, but Knappenberger killed them both with one burst from his automatic rifle.

Later, a second machinegun opened fire upon his exposed position from a distance of 100 yards, and this weapon also was

silenced by his well-aimed shots. Shortly thereafter, an enemy 20mm. anti-aircraft gun directed fire at him, and again Knappenberger returned fire to wound one member of the hostile crew. Under tank and artillery shellfire, with shells bursting within 15 yards of him, he held his precarious position and fired at all enemy infantrymen armed with machine pistols and machineguns that he could locate. When his ammunition supply became exhausted, he crawled 15 yards forward through steady machinegun fire, removed rifle clips from the belt of a casualty, returned to his position and resumed firing to repel an assaulting German platoon armed with automatic weapons. Finally, his ammunition supply being completely exhausted, he rejoined his company. Knappenberger's intrepid action disrupted the enemy attack for over two hours.



Pfc. Alton Knappenberger

188th holds Family-Safety Day

Pat Young
Frontline Staff

The 188th Infantry Brigade, a tenant unit to 1st Army, located at Fort Stewart, held a Soldier-Family Safety Day June 19 at Holbrook Pond that will not soon be forgotten by participants as the event successfully combined work with pleasure.

The unit commander, Col. George Geczy, who attended with his wife Mindy and children Andrew, 9, and Eva-Mae, 9, joined in the day's activities.

"The purpose of today's event is to spend time with our families," Geczy said. "We're going to recognize the spirit of

the Army Family and what it means to us to live in these tough times. We're going to do a lot of fun things, but we are starting with safety."

Mindy Geczy said the event was great because it allowed Soldiers to spend time with their Families, as well as their Army Family (co-workers and friends).

Four safety stations were set up for Soldiers and Families, which included information briefs, safety tips and a question and answer session provided by knowledgeable briefers.

The stations included camping, boating, swimming, barbecuing, and an overall safety brief by Brigade Safety Officer Lt. Col. Alvin Hodges.

The tips were focused on common sense practices designed to mitigate risk such as traveling.

Master Sgt. Jim Bausum was assisted by Sgt. 1st Class Heath Thayer at the boat safety station.

"Tell someone where you're going before you leave," advised Bausum. "Check your equipment out prior to leaving."

Bausum's brief included everything from checking the trailer hitch on your vehicle, to monitoring fuel consumption for motorboats.

Bausum advised boaters should use only one-third of the fuel needed to get some place, allotting at least two-thirds to get back in case of tides, currents, or mishaps.

Similar briefings were conducted at the other stations, all using the

common sense approach to safety.

The necessity for water craft safety was aptly demonstrated when Sgt. 1st Class Shawn Brinson and Spc. Allen 'High-Risk' Payne capsized their boat during one of the canoe races that followed - showing the effectiveness of floatation devices.

The races were one of the many Family oriented activities which also included water balloon catching, fishing, barbecuing, and more.

Geczy praised the installation for helping make the event a success, and in the overall assistance provided by the 3rd Infantry Division, the installation and garrison.

"They're amazing," Geczy said regarding the installation's ability to focus on the Family, while maintaining the ability to train units and Soldiers for war. "I've never seen a place like this. They just get it. We think this is the best security force training that the Army has to offer."

The 188th, which recently helped train up the 76th Infantry Brigade in their preparations to deploy to Iraq are gearing up for the upcoming mission to train the 56th Infantry Brigade.

They're a great group of people (56th), who are coming from Texas in the August-September time frame.

He said the 56th and 76th were great examples of the National Guard's capability as a force multiplier for the Army.

He said the 188th was following the progress of the 76th and seeing the outstanding contributions they were making in Iraq, helping the Army take it to the enemy, while assisting the development of that country.

Geczy noted that much like the Families of the 188th and 3rd Infantry Division, the Families of the 76th, who remained in Indiana were doing a wonderful job of maintaining, especially in light of the recent bad weather in their region of the country.



Photos by Pat Young

Above: Master Sgt. Jim Bausum assisted by Staff Sgt. Heath Thayer, discuss boating safety, June 19 at the 188th Family-Safety Day at Holbrook pond.

Left: Deeyanna Duffie holds a water balloon June 19 in anticipation of the balloon toss that followed.

Below: Staff Sgt. Michael McLaughlin paddles his canoe with his son Moltrie, 15, at Holbrook pond during the day's boating activities.



Families take part in canoe races following boating safety class as part of the safety day activities.



Sgt. 1st Class Shawn Brinson discusses 'why boats capsize' with his boating partner Spc. Allen 'High-Risk' Payne, during the day's canoe races.



Maj. Scott Davis, 1/306th Infantry Regiment, and his daughter Saif, 17, finish first in the first of the unit's canoe races at Holbrook pond June 19.

Reduce risks in remaining 101 Days of Summer Safety

Randy Berube
Public Affairs Specialist

Motorcycles and all-terrain vehicles are often part of many people's summer time fun. They are fuel efficient and a joy to ride for most; however without proper caution, they are accidents waiting to happen.

During summer, an increase in the recreation vehicle usage compounded by other people's excitement to enjoy their own summertime activities increase risk factors.

Those increased risk factors have contributed to the death of several service members, including one from the Combat Aviation Brigade at Hunter, June 22. Across the Army, during the week of May 23-29, four other Soldiers died in accidents, including two

more motorcycle-related deaths, according to the U.S. Combat Readiness / Safety Center.

In Columbus, Ohio, a Soldier was killed operating his 2001 Ducati 748R motorcycle when he collided with a minivan that pulled out in front of him.

In Washington, D.C. a Soldier borrowed a friend's 2002 Yamaha 600cc motorcycle, lost control of it, veered into a wooded area, down a steep embankment and was killed.

A Soldier died from injuries sustained in an all-terrain vehicle accident in Wenden, Ariz., while he was trail riding with another Soldier when he reportedly fell from his ATV. Alcohol is reported to have been a contributing factor.

But recreation vehicles aren't the only summertime risk multiplier contributing to Soldier's deaths across the nation. Another

Soldier died in Panama City Beach, Fla., trying to rescue two minors on a floatation device caught in a rip tide. The beach's warning flags were double red.

A good acronym to use to help mitigate risk is S.T.O.P.P.

S- Stop before you act; don't rush into a situation or mission without considering the risks against the benefits.

T- Think about what you are about to do; what is the right way to safely accomplish the task?

O- Observe the situation and surrounding environment. What are the risks? How can I reduce them?

P- Plan. Develop your plan to reduce the risks, and decide how to best implement the plan.

P- Proceed with safety. Supervise continuously and constantly look for ways to improve.

Although this acronym is intended for Soldiers, it is good advice for anyone faced with an unfamiliar situation.

Recently, a motorcyclist was seriously injured in a traffic accident just off base. As in many of these cases, the motorcyclist was not at fault. A Fort Stewart military policeman was the first responder on the scene, and administered first aid. The City of Hinesville is considering recognizing Staff Sgt. Franklin Wade with the 139th MP Co. for his actions that evening, which possibly saved the motorcyclist from bleeding to death.

Use common sense and have a safe summer!

New laser eye surgery center opens at Winn

Ann Erickson
MEDDAC Public Affairs

Cutting-edge laser eye surgery procedures for active-duty Soldiers are now available as Winn Army Community Hospital officials opened the Warfighter Refractive Eye Surgery Program (WRESP) Center, June 23 at Fort Stewart.

Readiness is the primary reason for offering laser surgery to Soldiers. Dirt, grime and lack of convenient hygiene facilities make contact lenses impractical in combat zones. On the other hand, eyeglasses break and fog up when subjected to the rigors of combat. Col. John P. Collins, Fort Stewart's Army Medical Department Activity commander, also wants to make sure Fort Stewart is taking advantage of technologies to enhance the vision of the 3rd Infantry Division Soldiers.

"The WRESP is a resource to enhance Soldier readiness and reduce the dependence on optical corrections such as glasses and contact lenses," said Collins. "Soldiers perform better if they don't have to worry about breaking eyeglasses, losing contact lenses, or fogging of glasses and lenses at crucial moments."

Currently, Fort Stewart is one of 10 operational refractive laser centers throughout the entire Army. The \$2.5 million renovated Fort Stewart facility houses the most advanced technology available for refractive surgery.

Collins commended Maj. Gen. Rick Lynch, 3rd Infantry Division Commander, for his efforts with starting this project two years ago. Collins said it was teamwork along with vision, planning and coordination that led to the successful building of the WRESP.

"It's the passion of the people that make it happen," Lynch said of the new center. "This is a great big deal for Fort Stewart-for this great place and great Soldiers."

The Fort Stewart program offers laser-assisted in situ keratomileusis, or LASIK, Photorefractive Keratectomy or PRK and laser epithelial keratomileusis or LASEK. LASIK procedures are performed using the Intralase laser (bladeless LASIK), which is state-of-the-art. The laser eye surgery is currently open to Active duty Soldiers only and will treat about 2,000 Soldiers per year.

Maj. Michael Richards, MEDDAC Soldier, was one of the first individuals to benefit from the capabilities of the new refractive surgery center.

"It feels great and it's exciting that I now don't have to wear glasses," said Richards. "Glasses were always cumbersome while running because they fogged up. Now I can go to the pool or swimming and not have to worry about something hanging on my face or falling off."

Also during the ceremony Lynch was inducted into the Order of Military Medical Merit for his outstanding contributions to the Army Medical Department and conserving the health of our Soldiers. The Order of Military Medical Merit recognizes those individuals who have clearly demon-

strated the highest standards of integrity and moral character, displayed an outstanding degree of professional competence and made sustained contributions to the betterment of Army Medicine.

For more information or to see if you are a candidate for laser eye surgery at Fort Stewart visit www.winn.amedd.army.mil and click on Warfighter Refractive Eye Surgery.



Ann Erickson

Col. John Collins, Fort Stewart's Army Medical Department Activity Commander; Brig. Gen. Donald Bradshaw, Southeast Regional Medical Command Commanding General; Capt. Kelly Yard, 385th Military Police Battalion and Fort Stewart's first refractive surgery patient; Maj. Gen. Rick Lynch, 3rd Infantry Division Commanding General; Sarah Lynch and Lt. Col. Ava Huchun, chief of ophthalmology at Winn Army Community Hospital cut the ribbon at the new Warfighter Refractive Eye Surgery Program Center at Fort Stewart, June 23.

Stewart-Hunter opens pet boarding facility at Holbrook

Molly Cooke
MWR Public Relations

Fort Stewart is excited to announce the opening of their brand new pet boarding facility. All are invited to attend the grand opening, June 27 at 4 p.m. for a ribbon cutting ceremony followed by refreshments and a tour of the facility.

Located next to the Outdoor Recreation Equipment Checkout facility at Holbrook Pond, this state-of-the-art, air conditioned facility can hold up to 24 dogs and 12 cats.

Created with the pet's comfort in mind, dogs will be let out twice a day to play and there is a separate play area equipped with a special climbing structure for cats. Dogs will be given a complimentary bath during their stay and additional baths are offered for \$2.50 per pet. A groomer will be on site 2 days a week and will offer a wide variety of services.

Valid DoD ID Cardholders are permitted to use the pet boarding facility and appointments are currently being taken on a first come-first serve basis. The cost is \$15 per day for dogs and \$12.50 per day for cats. Advanced

reservations are required. Pets must be older than 16 weeks in order to be admitted to the boarding facility, provided they have received all of their vaccinations at least 10-14 days prior to admission.

After one year of planning and construction, the dream of a pet boarding facility on Fort Stewart has finally become a reality. The facility, funded by MWR, was a community initiative and was constructed in response to the needs expressed by the Soldiers and Families.

"The Pet Boarding Facility will greatly

enhance the quality of life for the Soldiers and Families stationed at Fort Stewart by providing them with a quality facility to temporarily house their pets during vacations and TDY travel," said Susan Chipple, MWR Outdoor Recreation & Leisure Activities Director. "This facility will also provide educational opportunities for Soldiers and Families in pet care, pet obedience classes, and grooming services."

The pet boarding facility hours of operation are as follows, Mon: 0900-1800, Tue-Thu: 0900-1500, Fri: 0900-1800, and Sat: 0900-1200. For more information, call 435-8205.

Marne Voices Speak Out

What are some Independence Day safety tips?

"Stay away from fireworks while in use."

Amber Reynolds, 10, with Tabetha 7, and Jacob, 5
Family members



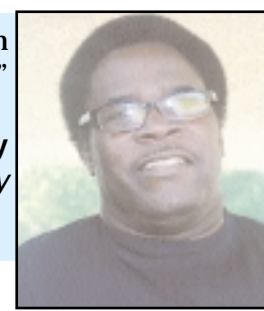
"Don't drink and drive."

Brittney Brown
Family member



"Supervise your children (around) fireworks."

Gregory Ridley
Retired Army



"Be supervised by responsible party before engaging in activities such as fireworks and outdoor recreation."

Rick Richmond
Retired Army



"Make sure you have a buddy if you're doing any kind of water activity or fireworks."

Spc. Pamela Rogillio
Co. A, WTU



"Ensure there is adult supervision for children using fireworks."

Staff Sgt. Jerry Cope
3rd Brigade Sustainment Bde



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Write a letter to the editor!

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Water resources healthy again in south Baghdad

Sgt. David Turner
2nd BCT 3rd Inf. Div. PAO

FORWARD OPERATING BASE KALSU, Iraq – At a water purification station in Sekreechet, two Iraqi Army Soldiers keep an around-the-clock vigil. One of the rooms in the small structure nearby serves as a bedroom. A few meters away, another Soldier stands near a sandbag bunker, guarding a concrete-lined canal. Highway 8, one of the most heavily guarded roads in Iraq, runs nearby. The guards watch this location because the canal and pump station are part of the most important infrastructure system in Iraq.

Channeling Resources

“(Water) is the basic foundation of a civilized society. It’s a basic need. Once those needs are met, people can work on more complex things,” said Maj. Douglas Betts, commander of Company A, 415th Civil Affairs Battalion, which works with the 2nd Brigade Combat Team, 3rd Infantry Division, to ensure the area’s drinking water is safe.

The East Sekreechet Water Purification system filters and treats about 1,000 liters of water per hour for local citizens. It is similar to 24 other facilities in the south Baghdad area, which the 2nd BCT took control of in June

2007.

“There were existing water purification sites out there, but the majority were not working due to negligence,” said Betts. “In a couple of cases I can remember, the local citizens banded together and bought supplies themselves to keep the site up and running.”

“Without irrigation, everything dies – the crops, economics (and) the people. It’s a function of life,” 1st Lt. Sam E. Clegg III, advisor to the Baghdad-7 embedded Provincial Reconstruction Team, which works with the 2nd BCT to rebuild Iraq’s infrastructure and economy.

Following the 2003 invasion, irrigation canals went largely unmaintained. The canals require cleaning annually, as vegetation and debris collect in them. Prior to the war, the Ministry of Water Resources maintained the canals regularly.

“[The MoWR] did everything. Irrigation is one of the prime resources. It has to flow, because the further south you go, the economy is focused on agriculture,” Clegg said.

“With the collapse of the government, certain services were non-existent. One of them was maintenance and operation of pump stations,” said Clegg, a native of Churchville, Va.

Betts said that citizens often had to travel to

other towns to get clean water, or do their best to purify water from the rivers or canals. Besides the inconvenience, there are public health issues at stake. Waterborne diseases such as typhoid and cholera are still ongoing concerns in Iraq.

Though some water purification units are fed by wells, systems like East Sekreechet get their water from the Tigris River, via the canal. The people of ancient Iraq learned to control the annual flooding and harvest the rivers’ resources through a vast network of irrigation canals over 5,000 years ago. Today, the 27,000 km of irrigation canals still play a critical role in the lives of Iraqis.

Creating new from old

In the past year, Soldiers of the 2nd BCT built six new water purification systems, while repairing and refurbishing all but one of the existing facilities. Betts said that despite the obvious improvements to Iraq’s infrastructure, Soldiers didn’t always have assurances the facilities would be taken care of when they left.

“The Ministry [of Municipalities and Public Works] put out a letter dated 2006 saying that if the Coalition forces didn’t cooperate with the proper ministry, the ministry would have nothing to do with that site,” Betts said.

Securing and administering funds to main-

tain their facilities has been a problem for officials in the Government of Iraq, Betts said. He’s hopeful, though, that now officials at the MoMPW will take ownership of the water purification units.

“This is for the benefit of the people of Iraq. It’s not for our benefit or for a few individuals. We’re talking about the population of our operational environment having fresh water. It’s a staple of life,” Betts said.

In order to help the GoI monitor and maintain the canals, 2nd BCT Soldiers came up with a high-tech solution. In addition to Soldiers performing foot patrols and SOI guarding key points, 2nd BCT Soldiers regularly keep a watch on the canals with unmanned aerial vehicles.

“We’ve done this with every single canal,” Clegg said. “We had [the MoWR] supply us a map, showing the direction of flow. Then we stepped it up with UAV coverage. This actually allowed us to see where the water is flowing.”

Clegg says the images are declassified and shown to MoRW officials every week to give them the information they need.

“That opens up a whole new visibility for them. It’s building up situational awareness. We’re trying to show them this area’s safe,” Clegg said.

Abu al Jasim Clinic undergoing 30-day renovation

Sgt. 1st Class Christopher Williams
3-7th Inf. Regt., 4th BCT, 3rd Inf. Div. PAO

FORWARD OPERATING BASE ISKAN, Iraq – The Abu al Jasim Health Clinic is getting a \$28,600 facelift. Work on the facility began June 7 and is expected to take approximately 30 days.

The project was approved for renovation and funded through the Government of Iraq Commanders Emergency Response Program. I-CERP specifically contributes to reconstruction projects that promote self-sufficiency, such as schools, water purification plants, health clinics, city planning

facilities, roads, sewers, irrigation and construction.

Renovating the clinic will provide an up-to-date, damage-free structure in which medical personnel can give care to the residents of Abu al Jasim. The contractor who was hired is using local workers to complete the project.

The renovations will consist of extensive exterior and minor interior renovations to the building, which was built in 1940 and has four rooms and two small closets.

An assessment on the clinic was done by Cpl. Edwin Guzman, who is a medic for 2nd Platoon, Company C, 3rd Battalion, 7th Infantry Regiment. Guzman noted during the assessment that the building did not meet sanitary standards

due to its condition.

Guzman also discovered the clinic stored medicine in only a small cooler. The medicine would run out after seeing 15-20 patients, forcing the medical personnel to refer patients to the Musayyib Hospital. Most didn’t go to the hospital because of the distance and also because the cost was too high, said Guzman, an Orlando, Fla., native.

Soldiers with 2nd platoon were able to get two large refrigerators sent to the clinic. Then, a request was sent to the civil affairs team at FOB Iskan to begin the renovation process.

The clinic provides basic aid to patients from the surrounding areas and charges 500 dinar for treatment.



Spotlight

Use care with Fireworks July 4th

Special to the Frontline

With the recent changes to the fireworks laws in Georgia, people may want to be careful what they buy to celebrate the upcoming Fourth of July holiday.

Specifically permitted in the law are wire or wood sparklers of up to 100 grams or less each; sparkling fountains that are non-explosive and non-aerial, up to 200 grams total or 75 grams for each individual tube; snakes; glow worms; snappers and party poppers.

Specifically prohibited are firecrackers, torpedoes, sky rockets, roman candles, heavy sparklers and bombs.

Any sale and use of the prohibited fireworks is punishable by a fine of up to \$1,000 and up to one year in jail.

Caution is also advised in the use of legal fireworks. Two-thirds to three-fourths of the approximately 7,000 yearly fireworks injuries occur around July 4.

On Independence Day, more fires are started by fireworks nationwide than all other causes combined.

• *Children should not handle fireworks.*

Never let children handle, play with, or light any fireworks. Only adults should handle and light the fireworks. The fireworks are great family fun, but they are very hot and are intended to be handled only by adults.

• *Do not use alcohol with fireworks.*

Please do not consume any alcohol while lighting or handling fireworks. Fireworks must be used only by individuals who act in a responsible manner and who are not under the influence of alcohol or drugs. If you are impaired in any way when you use fireworks, you increase the possibilities of misuse and injury to yourself and others.

• *Follow the laws; use common sense.* Follow your local and state laws regarding the possession and use of fireworks, and use good common sense when using fireworks. Read all directions,

cautions, labels, and warnings on each individual firework item to understand the product performance and hazards associated with it. If your state has shooters' sites, use them. Use only those fireworks permitted under the laws of the state and local jurisdiction in which you are using the fireworks.

• *Use fireworks on a hard surface.* Always light fireworks on a hard, flat, and level surface to insure the stability of the items. Grass is generally not suitable for any item intended to be used in an upright position. (If lighting fireworks on grass, lay down a flat wooden board for a shooting surface.)

• *Use fireworks in a clear, open area.* Always keep the audience (and particularly children) a safe distance away from the shooting site. Always light your fireworks in a clear open area away from buildings, vehicles, and shrubbery. A minimum clear radius of 30 feet for fountains and other ground based items and 100 yards for any aerial product is recommended. You should avoid lighting the fireworks in any area where there is dry grass or brush that could catch fire or near any flammable items. Never use fireworks indoors. Never shoot fireworks in metal or glass containers.

• *Keep clear of the fireworks.* Never put your head or any part of your body over the top of any fireworks product. Never look into a tube to check on the firework item. Never hold a lighted firework item in your hand. Keep as far from the firework item as possible when lighting.

• *Use care in lighting the fireworks.* If needed, use a flashlight at night so the fuse can be easily seen; never use a lantern or other flame producing device near fireworks for illumination. Light the fireworks product and get away quickly. Respect the fireworks, because if used improperly, they can be dangerous. Light only one firework item at a time.

• *Don't use malfunctioning or "dud" items.* Never attempt to re light, alter, or fix any "dud" firework item. If a firework item fails to ignite, let it stand for at least five minutes, then immerse it in water. Dispose of the item properly. You can always return the item to your Phantom dealer for replacement.

• *Have water close by.* Have an accessible fire extinguisher, water supply, hose, or bucket of water nearby for emergencies. During any fireworks shoot, there should always be one individual assigned as the fireman, whose sole job is to be alert and at the ready with a water source.

• *Use caution in windy conditions.* Be cautious of lighting any fireworks during strong wind conditions. Fireworks should be lit with the prevailing wind blowing away from the spectators. If there is a significant wind shift during the time you are lighting the fireworks, rearrange the shooting site to accommodate the wind shift or stop shooting until the windy conditions subside.

• *Never use the fireworks as weapons.* Never aim, point, or throw any fireworks at another person or at any property.

• *Storage of fireworks.* Always store fireworks in a cool, dry place and dispose of fireworks properly.

• *Use fireworks outdoors.* Never use fireworks indoors; only use them outdoors under safe conditions.

• *Purchase fireworks from reliable dealers.* Buy fireworks only from reliable, licensed fireworks dealers. Licensed and reliable dealers will only carry those products that meet standards set and enforced by the U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission. Do not use illegal explosives; do not alter any firework device; do not make your own fireworks.

• *Safety glasses.* Safety glasses are recommended for those individuals lighting the fireworks and those individuals in close proximity to the fireworks.

HERO ————— from Page 1A

Having been trained in emergency response procedures and first aid, he assumed duties as a first responder, leaping to assist the injured motorist. Wade saw the victim's leg had a compound fracture with heavy bleeding profusely. Wade applied immediate first aid to stop the blood flow and controlled the situation until official emergency responders arrived.

Hinesville Police Lieutenant Max McLendon, Traffic Accident Investigator said Wade's quick reflexes might have helped save the victim's life, and the police appreciate his actions.

The victim is now recovering at a Savannah hospital, but Wade keeps in touch with the Family.

Wade said his response was virtually automatic, noting first aid training like CPR are just drilled into your head.

"When you need the training, it just comes natural," Wade said, adding he hopes that someone would do the same for him in a similar situation.

Watch out for anhydrous ammonia containers

Special to the Frontline

People planning cook-outs need to be aware of a dangerous and potentially explosive threat to public safety.

According to information from the National Propane Gas Association, propane cylinders commonly used on gas barbecue grills are being used by persons in the manufacture of methamphetamines. These individuals are using the cylinders for the transport and storage of stolen anhydrous ammonia, a key element in the making of the drug.

A blue-green stain on any brass portion of a

service valve is evidence that it may have been in contact with anhydrous ammonia, which is a corrosive. The ammonia will deteriorate the brass valves and fittings located inside the cylinders, turning them into a potentially explosive hazard.

The pungent odor of ammonia on or near a cylinder is also an indication. If you suspect that a propane cylinder contains or has contained anhydrous ammonia, exercise extreme caution and restrict access to the area. Anhydrous ammonia can be extremely dangerous to human health.

Third Generation Ranger joins the Regiment

Tracy A. Bailey
75th Ranger Regiment Public Affairs

For more than 30 years, three generations of the Watson Family have raised their right hand and volunteered for service to their country, and it started with retired Sgt. 1st Class Jimmie Watson.

After spending six years in the Air Force, the senior Watson, also known as Grandpa saw the light and joined the Army in 1975. After a long and distinguished career, he retired in 1995. Watson spent three years with 2nd Battalion (Ranger), 75th Infantry from 1980 to 1983.

Three of Watson's five sons have served in the 75th Ranger Regiment. Chief Warrant Officer 3 Jason Watson, who is now a Black Hawk Pilot with the 1st Infantry Division, Travis Watson (former Sgt. Travis Watson) who was injured while serving in Iraq, and Command Sgt. Maj. Sean (Tim) Watson, who spent 10 years in the Regiment and is currently Command Sgt. Maj. of 165th Infantry Brigade, Fort Jackson, S.C.

A new generation of Watsons has joined the Ranger ranks, Command Sgt. Maj. Watson's son, Pfc. Donald J. Watson graduated from the Ranger Indoctrination Program, Dec. 20 as the honor graduate.

"I am very proud and very happy, but as a parent very concerned with one of our sons in the Army during a time of war," Tim said.

After graduating from Basic and Infantry training, Tim went to Fort Bragg for almost eight months when he made the decision to join what was then the 3rd Battalion (Ranger), 75th Infantry in 1984. His dad was assigned to 2nd Bn. and Tim wanted to be a part of the regiment.

At this point in the Regiment's history, 3rd Battalion and the Regimental Headquarters were starting to form. Tim arrived at 3rd Battalion, 75th Infantry (Ranger) three months before the battalion's activation October 1984.

The youngest Ranger Watson, Donny was born at Martin Army Community Hospital in 1989 while his dad was stationed with the 75th. Although Fort Benning is not home for Donny, he did spend the first six years of his life there.

Graduation for Donny was a special day, not only because his Family was here to share it with him, but also because his dad was the guest speaker.

In his speech to the graduating RIP class, Tim said, "You are entering into a brotherhood that few have ever known or have had the honor to experience."

"Living as a member of the Ranger Regiment is a way of life. Don't forget this," Tim said. "Life in the Regiment and living the Ranger Creed can be quite hard. The rigors, stress

and pressures placed on you will be extreme. It has to be this way. It is designed to forge a Warrior to become an integral part of a fighting team that is asked to conduct some of the most difficult missions around the world."

Being a part of the Regiment has helped Tim grow into the leader he is today.

"The NCOs and the officers that I was raised under, they are the ones who built me into what I am today and why I've survived because of the very basics that they taught and how well they taught me," Tim said.

These are the same leadership skills both Jimmie and Tim know Donny will gain from today's leaders.

"I am more comfortable knowing that my children and my grandchildren are in the Army today, because they are better trained Soldiers. They are very professional," said Jimmie.

Make no mistake, Tim knows what his son faces.

"These young men are in store for a hard time, and I don't mean just because of the war but the Ranger Regiment is a hard life. The big thing is for them to keep their head up, keep working and training and keep building their skills," he said.

Donny joined the Army and the Regiment because he wanted to do something meaningful with his life.

"I figured regiment was the best way for him to do this," Tim said.

Donny received acceptance letters from all of the universities he applied to, and he turned down two separate scholarships to the University of South Carolina.

"I think the biggest reason Donny joined the Rangers is for the challenge and the adventure," Tim said. "He is certainly intelligent enough to go to college and graduate."

Donny is happy with the path that he has chosen, say-

ing, "RIP was rough but it was worth it, and I am happy to be a part of the Regiment."

For those Soldiers coming to RIP, he offers this advice, "Don't quit! It's worth it."

Donny has a lot to live up to being a third generation Ranger.

"I think it makes it easier though, whenever I want to relax or slack off, I won't because I don't want to let anyone down," he said.

Donny is assigned to 1st Bn. at Hunter Army Airfield, Savannah, Ga. "1st Bn. is close to home and no one in my Family has been stationed there. I will be the first," he said.

"There are very few things that are more honorable than service to your nation," Tim said.

The Watson Family proves Rangers really do lead the way.



Courtesy Photo

Pfc. Donald Watson, retired Sgt. 1st Class Jimmie Watson and Command Sgt. Maj. Tim Watson at Ranger Watson's graduation Dec. 20 at Hunter Army Airfield, Ga.

WTU

from Page 1

Eligibility for the Program is described as all service members assigned to military transitional units, which includes but is not limited to Army WTU, the Navy's Safe Harbor Program, the Marine Corps' Marine for life and Wounded Warrior Regiment program, Air Force's Helping Airmen Recover Together-Palace HART, The VA's Seamless Transition Program, the Defense and Veterans Brain Injury Centers and their immediate Family members.

"It doesn't matter if they are physically here at Fort Stewart, whether they are in a Veterans Affairs hospital in Tampa, Fla. or

in their home community receiving care from a civilian facility, as long as they are assigned to a WTU we can provide them with support," Lowery said.

He also stated, "The intent is to not leave anyone behind. We provide the same services here at Fort Stewart or wherever they are receiving treatment."

Services provided for Soldiers are also extended to their Family members. The ARC helps service members through other services they provide like the Casualty Travel Assistance program. This program helps Families travel bedside with or to their ill or injured Soldier or to a

memorial service like the tree dedication ceremonies on Fort Stewart. Lowery said that in one incident, they helped a mother from Peru travel to her son's memorial service.

"It's not just about the American Red Cross on Fort Stewart. We try to connect to other Red Cross stations in the community to provide that additional support to service members living in those communities," Lowery said.

The Red Cross on Fort Stewart has been providing Soldiers with comfort kits while they're housed in the WTU. They first do an assessment to see what each Soldier needs then they provide these items.

"When a Soldier is just arriving

to Fort Stewart, sometimes they'll arrive and just don't have those immediate necessities that they'd like, so we'll provide those. We've provided everything from water coolers to simple snacks. But the most exciting thing we've done to date is to provide electronic games like the Nintendo Wii and a couple of Sony play stations," Lowery said. "The intent is for the physical therapy folks to use those for manual dexterity purposes or anything that can promote the treatment process. It can go from spending \$1 on snacks to hundreds of dollars to support these Soldiers that are in treatment. That's where we start; let's identify how we can assist. That's very much an effort on everyone's

part."

The Fort Stewart Red Cross office is located in the Soldier Service Center, building 253, on the Second Floor. The office needs volunteers to assist them with not just the new program but with other programs the Red Cross provides to Soldiers and Families. For more information on how you can volunteer, call 767-2197.

"The beauty of the Red cross is that it's never about paid staff. It's got to be about volunteers. That's the one missing piece to the puzzle and hopefully we'll be getting the word out that we really do need volunteers. As for the new program, Lowery said, "It's all about making sure we touch every Soldier."

Fort Stewart /Hunter Army Airfield Briefs

Military Family Life Consultants available

Free and confidential counseling is now available in your community. The assistance is every Friday, 10 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. in Ludowici at the Long County Senior Center, 15 Thornton Drive; 1:30 to 2:30 p.m. each Friday in Pembroke at the Pembroke Senior Center, 24 W. Bacon Street; 1 to 3 p.m. each Thursday in Glennville at the Glennville Welcome Center, 136 S. Main Street; 1 to 2 p.m. and 5 to 7 p.m. each Monday in Richmond Hill at the Richmond Hill Public Library, Highway 144; and in Hinesville by appointment. For appointment information, call Military and Family Life Consultants at 230-8425.

Stewart

Red Cross summer program kicks off

The American Red Cross Summer Youth Program will begin today and end July 21. The program is open to youth 14 to 17 years old who are interested in providing volunteer service to the community through the hospital and other Fort Stewart agencies. Applications can be picked up at the Red Cross Office in the Audie Murphy Soldier Support Center, 8 a.m. to 4 p.m., weekdays. Call 767-5086, for more information.

Special Forces briefings held

Briefings are held noon, 2 and 5 p.m., every Wednesday at Special Forces recruiting office, building 160, Garry Owen St. or at Hunter Army Airfield every Tuesday, noon and 1 p.m. at the Hunter Education center, room 25. Physical Training tests are given 7 a.m. every Friday at Donovan Parade Field. Uniform is Army Combat Uniform and running shoes. For more information, call 767-1400.

PWOC hosts summer Bible study

Protestant Women of the Chapel invites all ladies to a summer session of Bible study, 10 a.m. to noon, each Wednesday, now through July 30 at Marne Chapel. For more information, please call 317-460-7096.

Behavioral Health hours change

The Fort Stewart Behavioral Health Clinic for active duty Soldiers new walk-in hours are 8 to 10:30 a.m., Monday thru Friday. The clinic is located at 1083 Worcester Ave., building 9242. For more information, call 767-1647 or 767-1654. Behavioral Health services for Family Members are available at either Value-Options TRICARE at 1-877-298-3514 or Military OneSource at 1-800-342-9647. Retirees requesting service may call Value-Options TRICARE at 1-800-700-8646.

Mass school health screenings available

Children ages four and older entering Georgia's School system for the first time must have the Georgia Certificate of Eye, Ear and Dental Screening form and the Georgia Certificate of Immunization completed. Winn Army Community Hospital

and Tuttle Army Health Clinic want to help you get a head start on preparing for the next school year. Winn's mass school health screening will be by appointment only July 19, from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. and will include hearing tests, vision tests, dental exams, immunizations administration and sports physicals.

Tuttle's mass school health screening will be by appointment only July 19, from 8 a.m. to noon and will include hearing tests, vision tests, dental exams and immunizations administration. The screenings are by appointment only. To schedule an appointment at Winn or Tuttle call, 435-6633 or 1-800-652-9221. Please bring ID card and child's shot records.

Take advantage of Health Screening week

If you can't make it to the Mass School Health Screening in July: Children ages four and older entering Georgia's School system for the first time must have the Georgia Certificate of Eye, Ear and Dental Screening form and the Georgia Certificate of Immunization completed. Winn Army Community Hospital wants to help you get a head start on preparing for the next school year. Dental screenings are available Monday to Thursday from 3 to 4 p.m. and Friday from 2 to 3 p.m. on a walk-in basis at Dental Clinic 1, Fort Stewart. For more information, call 767-8513. Immunization screenings are available on a walk-in basis Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday from 8 to 11 a.m. and 1 to 3 p.m., Thursday from 1 to 3 p.m. For more information, call Winn's Allergy and Immunization Clinic at 435-6633. Please bring child's shot records. Eye and ear services are available by appointment only. To schedule an eye and ear screening, call the appointment line, 435-6633. Sport physicals are by appointment only in the Family Practice and Pediatrics Clinics. To schedule a sports physical, call 435-6633.

Heat Index information

As the hot days approach, The Department of Preventive Medicine (DPM) monitors current WBGT/Heat Index to keep our Soldiers, Family members and civilian employees safe from heat injuries. For the current heat index please visit www.winn.amedd.army.mil/wetbulb.html. The WBGT/Heat Index number, 767-HEAT (767-4328) can also be used.

Seamless Summer Nutrition Program

Dependent youth ages 18 & under are eligible to eat a free lunch from now until July 25 at on-post schools at the following locations: Bryan Village Youth Center, Southern Oaks Community Center, Diamond Elementary School, Corkan Family Recreation Center & Jordan Youth Gym. Lunch time is 11:30am-1:00pm. For more information, call 408-3088.

Hunter

PWOC classes, meetings slated

Classes are available for children, ages three and older, including adult Bible study and RCIA classes, 9:45 to 10:30 a.m.

class that will whip them into shape. The event is 10:30 to 11:30 a.m., July 9 at Southern Oaks Community Center.

Have Coke float fun

Join us at the Southern Oaks Spray Park for a cool summer treat! We'll be making good old fashioned coke floats 2 to 3:30 p.m., July 16 at Southern Oaks Community Center.

Enjoy the Reading Tent

Come crawl into our indoor tent with your favorite story, and we'll read it aloud 2 to 3 p.m., July 28 at Southern Oaks Community Center.

Hunter

Neighborhood Huddles held in July

Be an active part of your community by attending your huddle and sharing ideas, issues or concerns with Balfour Beatty Communities. Help make your neighborhood a great place to live. The events are July 8 for Wilson Acres; July 18 for New Gannam; July 22 for New Callaway; and July 25 for New

every Sunday in the Religious Education building. Call Pam Perez at 315-5440 for more information. Protestant Women of the Chapel meets every Thursday, 9:30 to 11:30 a.m. in Fellowship Hall. For more information, call Valarie Moore at 920-8519.

Hunter road closure announced

South Lightning Road will be closed from South Perimeter Road to Emmit Rifles Road 5 p.m. June 30 through 5 p.m. Aug 30. Also, Emmit Rifles Rd. will be closed from South Lightning Rd to the entrance of the parking lot behind building 1324. Subject road closure is necessary for the realignment of the South Lightning Road and Emmit Rifles Road intersection. Detour signs and traffic control devices will be displayed and posted for the closure duration. Motorists are encouraged to avoid this area to minimize traffic congestion and to be alert to changes in traffic patterns around this area. For more information, call Lewis Hazel at 315-5616.

Hunter changes gate hours

The Directorate of Emergency Services announced Hunter gate hours change, to include Rio Gate going to 24-hour operations, Wilson Gate from 5 a.m. to 9 p.m. Montgomery Gate remains open 24-hours.

Take a stress break

Fort Stewart-Hunter Army Airfield Employee Assistance Program will host a Stress Management Workshop 10 a.m. to noon, Friday in the Sgt.1st Class Paul R. Smith Education Center, building 100 on Fort Stewart, room 242 featuring Doctor Gail Thomas. For more information, call 767-5672.

Storage space available

Outdoor Recreation has storage space available for boats, RVs and trailers. For more information, call 315-9554.

Coastal Amputee Network Meeting slated

The Coastal Amputee Network meets 6 to 8 p.m. at the Armstrong Center, room 124, located at 11935 Abercorn St., across from the Savannah Mall.

This newly formed support and advocacy group. For more information call Ron Webber, 351-9342, or email at coastalamputeenetwork@comcast.net.

Sign up for Vacation Bible School

Sign ups for Vacation Bible School end Friday, 9 a.m. to 12:15 p.m. Call Pam Perez, 315-5440, for information.

Tag Office extends hours for troops

The Chatham County Tag Office on Eisenhower Drive in Savannah is now open, 8 a.m. to noon, Saturday thru July 26 for redeploying Soldiers only.

Savannah.

The events are all 10:30-11 a.m. The locations are the Leasing Office at Wilson Acres and New Gannam and New Savannah/New Callaway Community Center for their respective communities.

Enjoy Coke float fun

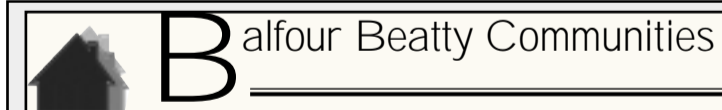
Join us at the Leasing Office Spray Park for a cool summer treat! We'll be making good old fashioned coke floats 1 to 3 p.m. July 11 at the Balfour Beatty Communities Leasing Office.

Take your pet to Doggie Boot Camp

Bring your four-legged friend out for an obedience training class that will whip them into shape, 10:30 to 11:30 a.m., July 15 at Balfour Beatty Communities Leasing Office.

Enjoy the Reading Tent

Come crawl into our indoor tent with your favorite story, and we'll read it aloud, 2 to 3 p.m., July 22 at the Balfour Beatty Communities Leasing Office.



Stewart

Neighborhood Huddles held

Be an active part of your community by attending your huddle and sharing ideas, issues or concerns with GMH. Help make your neighborhood a great place to live. The dates are July 3 at Isenhower Terrace; July 10 at Isenhower Village; July 17 at Liberty Woods; July 24 at Southern Oaks; and July 31 at Coastal Ridge. All huddles are 10:30-11 a.m. The locations at the ball field between Subic and Ramblon for Isenhower Terrace; the playground at corner of Hero and Liberty for Isenhower Village; the playground behind 161 Amberwood at Liberty Woods; Southern Oaks Community Center for Southern Oaks; and the playground on Forest and West 8th Street for Coastal Ridge.

Take your pet to Doggie Boot Camp

Bring your four legged friend out for an obedience training

Aviation leader awarded the Order of St. Michael



Sgt. 1st Class Thomas Mills

Col. Dan Ball, commander of 3rd Combat Aviation Brigade, places the Silver Order of St. Michael around the neck of Command Sgt. Maj. Richard Stidley, 3rd CAB, June 18 at Baghdad International Airport.

Sgt. 1st Class Thomas Mills
3rd Combat Aviation
Brigade

CAMP STRIKER, Iraq – An aviation leader was recognized for his outstanding contribution to Army aviation at Baghdad International Airport, June 18.

Command Sergeant Major Richard Stidley, Combat Aviation Brigade, 3rd Infantry Division received the Silver Order of St. Michael from Col. Dan Ball, commander, 3rd CAB, while standing next to an Apache helicopter.

Stidley accepted the award on the 29th anniversary of his enlistment in the Army. During his years of service, Stidley has completed numerous deploy-

ments and assignments around the world, including more than 43 months overseas in support of Operation Enduring Freedom and Operation Iraqi Freedom.

Stidley addressed Soldiers gathered at the ceremony saying, "On, June 9, I graduated high school, and nine days later, June 18, I enlisted in the Army." He added, "I haven't looked back since."

The Army Aviation Association of America and the U.S. Army Aviation Center established the Order of St. Michael award in 1990 to recognize individuals whose contributions to Army Aviation stand out in the eyes of the recipient's seniors, subordinates and peers.

Feeding thousands - all in a day's work in Iraq

Pfc. Monica K. Smith
CAB, 3rd Inf. Div. PAO

BAGHDAD - Imagine feeding a brigade of hard-working, hungry Soldiers. Add to those 3,000 Soldiers, service members from other brigades, transient Soldiers, Coalition forces, civilian contractors and Army and Air Force Exchange System workers. The task seems overwhelming.

For the 24 Combat Aviation Brigade Soldiers who manage the Falcon CafÉ dining facility on Camp Striker, it's all in a day's work.

"We serve 25,000 people daily," said Sgt. 1st

Class Lisa Howard, dining facility manager. "The dining facility also supports three satellite facilities."

The number of diners visiting the Falcon CafÉ necessitates around the clock operations. Soldiers work 12-hour shifts to support the four meals served daily at the facility.

"The workers get 30 minutes before they get started preparing the next meal, but meal preparation begins before we even start breaking down for the last meal," said Staff Sgt. Misty Bowman, shift leader from Lancaster County, Pa. In order to maintain operations, 427 people, which includes workers from

Kellogg Brown & Root, the Gulf Catering Company and Soldiers, work in the dining facility.

"(The Soldiers who work at the dining facility) provide oversight of the whole facility, watching food preparation, ensuring sanitation, performing inventory and general maintenance of the facility," said Howard, a native of Robstown, Texas. "They help with loading and getting food from the ration truck. The Soldiers are also responsible for all reservations of the VIP room, assisting with decorating the dining facility for each holiday or special event and taking special meal requests.

"We try to appease the customer," Howard said. "We want to provide the quality of food they require to make mission. All of that is a part of morale." Soldiers have the opportunity to give feedback in the form of comment sheets. Howard says the majority of the feedback she receives is positive.

Bowman says hearing others positively comment on the quality of the Falcon CafÉ gives her a bit of pride.

"I hear people who say they come to our DFAC on their day off," said Bowman. "It makes us feel good."

COVENANT

from Page 1A

The list of services provided by DHR is a long one, but if it's an administrative service, it's safe to say it probably starts with DHR – in-processing, out-processing, finance, retirement, reassignment processing, records, identification cards, civilian employment, reserve component transition, separation transition, household goods transportation and casualty assistance. All these services are provided at Stewart's 2nd Lt. Audie Murphy Soldier Center, building 253, or at Hunter, buildings 1209 and 1211.

Casualty assistance is one area Waynick is particularly interested in helping the public understand better. She admits being annoyed by news reports that mention casualty notification telegrams to Family members, which she said is just plain wrong. The Army has not used telegrams to notify Family members of a Soldier killed in action since the 1960's, she said. The Army is much more sensitive to the emotional

needs of spouses and Family members today. Her office supports and assists surviving spouses and next of kin in every way they can.

Waynick said that before the Covenant was implemented, Stewart's ID card section had already gone to an appointment system and extended its hours, so it could end long waiting lines and better serve Soldiers and Families. Hours of operation for Stewart's ID card section are 8 a.m. to 4 p.m., Monday through Friday. To make an appointment for a new ID card, call 767-4909. Hunter's ID card section, located in building 1209, still operates on a walk-in basis.

According to human resource specialist Carolyn Colon, civilian employment at Stewart or Hunter is handled by their office through separate agencies, depending on whether the position is an appropriated or non-appropriated funds position. Appropriated funds (civil service) positions are listed and

can be applied for online through www.cpol.army.mil/ or www.usajobs.opm.gov. Colon advises job seekers of non-appropriated funds positions come by her office for job listings and application forms.

Kathy Manoke, transportation assistant for DHR is an important person to know for transportation of household goods. She assists Soldiers with transportation of inbound or outbound household goods, do-it-yourself moves and deployment storage. For those who incur personal expense for damaged property, Manoke said Congress has now mandated that Soldiers will be reimbursed for the full value of household goods damaged by the carrier during a permanent change of station move. The days of out-of-pocket expenses for PCS moves are gone.

For information about DHR or a specific service provided by their office, call 767-5630.

\$2,500 Reward

A reward of \$2,500 is being offered for information leading to the arrest and conviction of the person(s) responsible for vandalizing and setting fire to construction equipment and a wood pile at the construction site located adjacent to New Guinea Road, Fort Stewart, Ga. 31314. This incident occurred between 5 p.m., May 8 and midnight, May 9.

Anyone having knowledge of the incident, but not wishing to be identified, will be briefed on available options in maintaining their confidentiality. The payout of cash rewards to military and federal employees for information leading to a conviction is contingent upon their exceptional actions regarding the information provided. Those with information are encouraged to call the CID office at 767-5030, Special Agent Nicole Noble, or the military police desk, at 767-4895.

The reward offer expires June 9, 2009. (0142-08-CID093-40471)

Reward \$1,500

A reward of \$1,500 is being offered for information leading to the identification, arrest and conviction of the person(s) responsible for the larceny of six Dell Latitude, D830, government laptop computers and a first generation XBOX gaming console. The larceny occurred between March 4 and April 15 at (Company F, 26th Brigade Support Battalion) building 508, on Fort Stewart near the Victory Shoppette (24-hour gas station).

Anyone with information concerning this matter are encouraged to call the CID office at 767-5030, stewartCID@stewart.army.mil, or the Military Police Desk at 767-4895. Anyone having knowledge of the incident but not wishing to be identified will be briefed on available options in maintaining their confidentiality. The payout of cash rewards to military and federal employees for information leading to a conviction is contingent upon exceptional actions regarding the information provided. (0119-08-CID093-40459) The reward offer expires June 6, 2009.

Sign-up for OCS

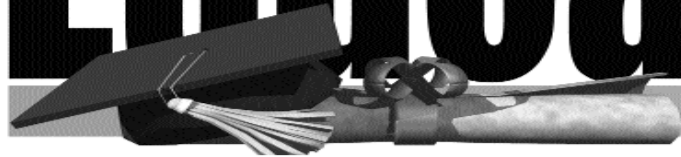
The next HQDA Officer Candidate School selection board will be conducted at AHRC, August 2008.

The Fort Stewart local OCS Board will be conducted, July 14, building 253, room 2065.

Packets must be turned in to the Mower Personnel Processing Center, building 208 by July 9.

For more information, call 767-8894.

Education Matters



New e-mail address provided for counselors

Need to reach your Fort Stewart-Hunter Army education counselors? Just e-mail: stewcounselor@conus.army.mil.

Take GED enrichment courses

General Educational Development diploma and adult education classes are offered in partnership with the Savannah Technical College Adult Education Program-Liberty County and the Sgt. 1st Class Paul R. Smith Army Education Center. The courses prepare you to take the GED exam or refresh your skills. The courses are free of charge. Courses are on a space available basis and the class schedule is subject to change quarterly. The choices for this quarter are 9 a.m. to noon Monday through Thursday; 1 to 4 p.m. Monday through Thursday; or 6 to 9 p.m. each Tuesday and Wednesday. For detailed instructions, call 368-7322 or e-mail ccoleman@savannahtech.edu.

Free and discounted courses for spouses

Columbia College Spouse's opportunity Scholarship provides spouse of military personnel a tuition waiver for the initial classroom ("in seat") course at both the Stewart and Hunter education center sites. The active duty spouse does not have to be taking classes with Columbia College. In addition, Columbia offers a 20 percent tuition discount for "in-seat" classes only, to spouses of active duty, guard and reserve military personnel. For more information on this and other spouse opportunities Columbia College provides visit www.ccis.edu/military/spouses.asp. Then arrange to meet with an academic advisor by calling 877-3406 at Stewart or 352-8635 at Hunter.

Savannah Tech information sessions offered

Savannah Technical College is offering weekly information sessions to explain their college/certificate/diploma programs and the HOPE/PELL grants. The next session will cover Licensed Practical Nursing, July 1. Of special interest to Family Members may be the recently introduced Technical Communication Specialist certificate, which enables much of the curriculum to transfer to area colleges. Many required courses for Savannah Tech's programs are taught at the Sgt. 1st Class Paul R. Smith Army Education Center. For more information go to www.savannahtech.edu and www.gsfc.org or call 408-2430 at Stewart. You may also contact the Savannah Tech Campus at 408-3024 or Savannah, 443-5700.

College classes for Warriors offered

The Sgt. 1st Class Paul R. Smith and Hunter Army Airfield education centers are supporting our Warriors in Transition by offering accelerated daytime college courses. The classes are being presented by Central Texas College and Embry Riddle Aeronautical University. Additional types of courses may be added in future terms as long as interest prevails. To enroll, Warriors must sign up through the GoArmyEd portal online. Additional enrollment steps are required for ERAU. See your Soldier and Family Assistance Center education counselor, Bruce White, 767-3328 in building 12719, 777 East 10th Street-north, Fort Stewart or Fay Ward, education center counselor located in building 1290 at Hunter. Their hours are from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday. You may also contact the counselors in building 100 at Stewart, 767-8331 for assistance.

Green-to-Gold briefing slated

The Green-to-Gold briefings are held at the installation education centers every month. On Stewart the briefings are 2 p.m., the first and third Thursday of each month. The Hunter briefings are 2 p.m., the second and fourth Thursday.

\$4,500 tuition available for Soldiers

All active duty members have \$4,500 per fiscal year for education. This entitlement is separate from the Montgomery GI Bill benefits available from the Veteran's Administration. Details are available at 1:30 p.m., Monday - Friday, during a one-hour briefing at the Sgt. 1st Class Paul R. Smith Education Center, room 223.

Troops-, Spouse-to-Teachers briefings slated

The Georgia Troops-to-Teachers Program provides federal funding to qualified servicemembers of up to \$10,000 for becoming public school teachers. Under the Spouse-to-

Teachers Program, eligible military spouses may be reimbursed for the cost of state required certification tests up to a total of \$600. Future meetings are scheduled for 11 a.m., July 23 and Aug. 20 at the Sgt. 1st Class Paul R. Smith Education Center. For more information, visit online at www.tttga.net and www.sttga.net or call 1-800-745-0709.

New College Degree Programs Announced

Both Central Texas College and Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University (ERAU) have introduced new degree opportunities. CTC's Associate of Applied Science degree in Social Work Specialization prepares students for social and mental health services careers. Learn more at www.ctcd.edu/catalogs/2008_2009_CI/progs_of_study.pdf - page 87. The Associate of Arts degree in Teaching includes the education courses typically offered in the first two years of an education degree. Choices are available for early childhood up to high school concentrations. The big bonus is that science lab classes will be held right in the education center at Stewart. www.ctcd.edu/catalogs/2008_2009_CI/aa_as_degrees.pdf; www.ctcd.edu/catalogs/2008_2009_CI/deg_cert_req.pdf. CTC's Associate of Applied Science degree in Homeland Security and Emergency Management will prepare students for decision making and to implement and coordinate resources necessary for preparedness, response and recovery from disasters. Career positions in the field are excellent and offer above average starting salaries, or www.ctcd.edu/catalogs/2008_2009_CI/progs_of_study.pdf -page 99. For more information call Ft. Stewart's CTC office at 876-4045 or 315-4090 at Hunter.

ERAU's Associate of Arts degree in Aircraft Maintenance lets aircraft mechanics build on the skills and background they possess. This curriculum assists in preparing for the FAA's Airframe and Powerplant Maintenance Certificate exam. www.erau.edu/ec/academicorgs/eccoce/aircraft.html.

The Master of Science in Management candidates can choose from one of five areas of specializations to include aviation, logistics or general management. All MSM students gain practical business skills such as: quality management concepts; knowledge of ethical and regulatory requirements; and familiarity with formulating and managing budgets. www.erau.edu/ec/academicorgs/eccoce/msm.html. If interested, call 350-0644 at Hunter or 767-0339 at Stewart.

Take CLEP and DANTES exams

College Level Examination Program and DANTES Subject Standardized Tests are available on post. Call Columbia College at 877-3406 for more information and testing dates. The exams are free for military personnel. CLEP tests are \$85 and DSSTs are \$90 for non-military examinees.

ESL times have changed

Free English as a Second Language courses are offered in



Looking for employment?

Opportunities for permanent employment are available in non-appropriated funds - Morale, Welfare, and Recreation jobs at Fort Stewart and Hunter Army Airfield. The following are positions with frequent vacancies. Applications are accepted on a continuous basis.

Child and Youth Program Assistant (entry skill, and target levels), \$10.39 to \$12.73 per hour
Recreation Aid - \$5.85 - \$7 per hour
Operations Assistant - \$5.85 to \$8 per hour
Cook - \$8.70 per hour
Hotel Desk Clerk - \$7 to \$7.50 per hour
Cashier - \$8 per hour
Custodial Worker - \$7.72 per hour
Waiter/Waitress (Trainee) - \$7.17 to \$8.17 per hour
Food Service Worker - \$7.17 per hour
Bartender - \$8.70 per hour
Laborer - \$7.72 per hour

conjunction with Savannah Technical College Adult Education Program-Liberty County and the Sgt. 1st Class Paul R. Smith Army Education Center. Classes are for those wanting to improve their English skills.

Registration and placement testing is conducted Monday through Thursday at noon. The class schedule is subject to change quarterly. This quarter, beginning courses are offered 9 a.m. to noon each Tuesday through Thursday.

Intermediate courses are offered 8 a.m. to noon, Monday and Wednesday, building 100, room 227.

Free college course offered

Columbia College Spouse's Opportunity Scholarship provides spouses of military personnel a tuition waiver for an initial classroom course with Columbia College at both the Stewart and Hunter education center sites. The active duty spouse does not have to take classes with Columbia College. This is a value of \$450, which is the cost of Columbia's three-credit hour classroom course.

For more information, call 877-3406 at Stewart or 352-8635 at Hunter for more information.

Savannah Tech registration location announced

For all Savannah Tech students in Liberty County and Fort Stewart: New student orientation is 8 a.m. and 4 p.m., July 7. Open registration for Savannah Tech College summer quarter is July 7 - 8 from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. and 4 to 7 p.m.

Both sessions will be held at the Liberty Campus only, 100 Technology Drive in Hinesville (near Airport Road). The Fort Stewart Savannah Tech office in the education center, Building 100, will be closed both days.

For more information, call Savannah Tech in Liberty County at 408-3024.

College representatives visit Stewart-Hunter

The new Saint Leo College representative will meet with current or prospective students from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m., July 8 at the Sgt. 1st Class Paul R. Smith Army Education Center. She will be at the Hunter Education Center on July 2 from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

You may reach the SLU Staff Coordinator by e-mailing stephanie.stanfield@saintleo.edu or by calling 352-7794.

A representative from American Military University will be available from 1:30 to 4 p.m., July 15 at the Hunter Army Airfield Education Center. He also will have a table at the Fort Stewart Education and Community Information Fair the next day on Wednesday, 11 a.m. to 2 p.m., July 16 at Club Stewart. For information, please contact Buddy Maertens at fmaertens@apus.edu or 803-865-9786.

A representative from the Grand Canyon University will visit Stewart from noon to 4 p.m. July 1, at Stewart, building 100. For more information, call Steve Santora 1-866-902-9532.

Recreation Assistant (Lifeguard) \$9.75 - \$10.25 per hour (Must possess nationally recognized Lifeguard, CPR, and First Aid Certifications), Fort Stewart and Hunter Army Airfield, closing date: Aug. 29.

To search for these positions go to cpol.army.mil, click on Employment, click on Search for Jobs at the bottom of the page under Search-Announcement type in SCNAFDW% then click on "Get Announcement" or hit the enter key.

This will narrow your search to the Fort Stewart/Hunter NAF vacancies.

Instructions on how to apply are on each announcement. For federal employment opportunities, go to www.usajobs.opm.gov.

For further information on employment opportunities, contact the Civilian Personnel Advisory Center, Job Information Center at 767-5051.

Our office is located on the 2nd floor (room 2013A) of building 253, Soldier Support Center, 55 Pony Soldier Avenue. The hours of operations are 8 a.m. to 4 p.m., Monday through Friday.

Did you know?

- You don't have to be a U.S. Citizen to be employed by NAF.
- Hiring preference for eligible military spouses can be used multiple times for "flexible" status positions.



Lt. Col. John Chadbourne

Soldiers in 703rd BSB complete their 1,000th combat logistics patrol June 12, which was to Victory Base Complex.

703rd completes 1,000th mission

Capt. Constance Quinlan
703rd BSB, 4th BCT, 3rd Inf. Div. PAO

FORWARD OPERATING BASE KALSU, Iraq – In the words of author Ben Sweetland, “Success is a journey, not a destination.”

Soldiers from 703rd Brigade Support Battalion, 4th Brigade Combat Team, 3rd Infantry Division, have been experiencing this journey of success, completing their 1,000th combat logistics patrol, June 12.

This milestone was accomplished after being in country approximately seven months and averaging 150 missions a month.

The battalion is responsible for providing all logistical support in Vanguard’s area of operation, supporting teams and units throughout five provinces in southern Iraq in an area that spans from Baghdad to the Saudi border.

Whether its fuel, ice, barriers, fresh produce or medical supplies, if a Vanguard Soldier needs it, it will most likely be 703rd BSB picking it up, storing it and transporting it.

“(The unit) has been incredibly helpful and supportive ... what truly impresses me is the unit’s flexibility and willingness to take on tough missions, said Capt. Joe Davidson, supply officer for 3rd Battalion, 7th Infantry Regiment, 4th BCT, which is based out of Forward Operating Base Iskan and mans several patrol bases in the area.

“I’ve made quite a few phone calls the night before a CLP ... asking for additional resources, and support operations was always ready to make last minute changes to help us out.”

That support is the result of several moving pieces within the unit working in tandem. Support operations must meticulously calculate and predict the needs of the brigade’s units, Soldiers and bases and then schedule the transportation of assets to its customers operating throughout more than 40,000 square miles of potentially hostile territory.

Navigating through that territory are the Ironhorse Soldiers of Company A, who are accompanied by Gun Truck security squads from Headquarters and Headquarters Company.

“The op-tempo is very high,” said Staff Sgt. Phillip Slaughter, a driver in the Transportation Platoon. “It can be a good thing though; it makes time fly by.”

This is the second deployment for the Lynchburg, Va., native, who served in the same capacity with 703rd when he was deployed in 2005.

“It’s more secure this time, especially with all the checkpoints and Sons of Iraq,” Slaughter said. “The condition of the roads is a lot better too. We feel safer.”

With increased missions during this rotation, Slaughter said that keeping troop morale high is probably the hardest part of the job.

“A lot of these guys are on their first deployment; it’s the first time they’ve experienced anything like this,” said Slaughter.

“Knowing it’s for a good reason makes it easier. When we bring food and equipment out to the guys at the patrol bases, we know we’re doing something good.”

The battalion not only can boast quantity with its 1,000th CLP milestone, but quality as well. Maintainers have traveled an upward of 108 miles away at times to complete a mission, with some routinely taking up entire days, said Lt. Col. John Chadbourne, 703rd BSB commander.

On a recent CLP that involved multiple destinations, the convoy was hit with an improvised explosive device along the route, which contributed to 703rd Soldiers spending a record 28 hours on the road.

“I could not be prouder of the Maintainers and how they handled themselves on the road,” said Chadbourne. “After spending all day on the road in 120 degree heat, they reacted perfectly to the IED detonation, meticulously and expeditiously executing our (Tactics, Techniques and Procedures).”

The 1,000th CLP was a mission to Victory Base Complex and one that included some unique cargo. In addition to dropping off and picking up supplies and equipment, this CLP transported 14 Soldiers trying to go home on leave after their flights had been canceled. Similar Soldiers coming home from leave were then transported back to their units, thus avoiding some long days waiting for clearer skies at Baghdad International Airport.

Lieutenant mentors, takes care of Soldiers

Spc. Amanda McBride
4th BCT, 3rd Inf. Div. PAO

FORWARD OPERATING BASE KALSU, Iraq – “A leader takes people where they want to go. A great leader takes people where they don’t necessarily want to go, but ought to be,” said Rosalynn Carter, wife of former President Jimmy Carter.

For one first lieutenant, this quote has more than one meaning to her in her job.

As a patrol and platoon leader, 1st Lt. Carolyn Frazier, assigned to Co. A, 703rd Brigade Support Battalion, 4th Brigade Combat Team, 3rd Infantry Division, works along with her Soldiers to ensure Soldiers on and off the FOB get the supplies they need.

During most of the week, Frazier, a Gibsonia, Pa., native, works at the Supply Support Activity as the platoon leader.

Frazier, a trained transportation officer, transferred over

to 703rd BSB after being a distribution platoon leader for 6th Squadron, 8th Cavalry Regiment, since the start of the Vanguard Brigade’s deployment.

Unsure of what the SSA was, Frazier took the new job on as a challenge. With help from her Soldiers, she learned how to work in the SSA.

“It has actually been a neat transition because I have actually learned through my Soldiers,” Frazier said.

Though only 23-years-old, Frazier has the responsibility to take care of more than 25 Soldiers.

“A lot of people could possibly look at me and think I don’t understand,” Frazier said. “I am their leader and I know that it’s my responsibility to go out and look out for them.”

Being the platoon and patrol leader, Frazier said she works not for herself, but for the enlisted Soldiers who she is charged to lead.

“It has always been very important in my Family that we watch out for each other and I feel the same here,” Frazier

said.

Frazier said that she doesn’t feel like their sister or their daughter but their leader.

“My job as the (officer in charge), with the assistance of my platoon sergeant is to take care of the Soldiers—their Family, health and wellbeing,” Frazier said. “And to make sure that they are doing well on a day-to-day basis, especially during this deployment.”

Though she has had difficult times trying to be a leader to people her own age, Frazier said that over time she understood the importance of keeping things professional.

“Your first instinct is for everyone to like you but eventually you learn that you can be that person they come to, while being able to show authority,” Frazier said.

A Soldier has to realize where he sits in the Army’s chain of command and how important all of it is, Frazier said.

“They always say, ‘When in charge be in charge,’ Frazier said. “And it’s an important thing out here.”

Iraqi medics participate in CF training program

Sgt. 1st Class Tami Hillis
4th BCT, 3rd Inf. Div. PAO

FORWARD OPERATING BASE KALSU, Iraq – Nine Iraqi Army Soldiers participated in a five-day medical train-the-trainer course, June 15-19 that was taught by Soldiers in 703rd Brigade Support Battalion, 4th Brigade Combat Team, 3rd Infantry Division.

The nine Soldiers were from 31st Brigade, 8th Iraqi Army Division, which is located in the Vanguard Brigade area of operation.

The train-the-trainer program was developed so Coalition forces can train IA Soldiers who will then turn around and train the Soldiers back in their units.

“Today we move forward on the journey to build the future for Iraqi Army medical care,” said Lt. Col. John Chadbourne, com-

mander of 703rd Brigade Support Battalion, 4th Brigade Combat Team, 3rd Infantry Division. “We all know that medics are the lifeblood of any army, and are the key to sustaining the force for all armies.”

This advanced medical training course is designed to improve the skills of the students, teach them how to train other Soldiers in combat lifesaving skills and

strengthen the bond of friendship between the medical personnel of the American and Iraqi Army, said Lt. Col. John Chadbourne, commander of 703rd Brigade Support Battalion, 4th Brigade Combat Team, 3rd Infantry Division.

The training focus consisted of airway management, physical injury treatment, evacuation, shock, preventive medicine, burn treatment, choking and heat injury.

Ask the Judge: *Joint Checking Accounts*

Sherod L. Davis, Sr.,
Legal Assistance Attorney

Question: My spouse just opened our first checking account. May I also sign the checks?

Answer: Normally, if your name is not on the account, you will not be able to sign the checks. If you want to be able to sign checks, the two of you should go to the bank and speak to a bank officer about having your name added to the account.

Q Our bank is not in the local area and my spouse will be going to NTC for Marne Focus. The account is in my spouse's name. Does my power of attorney, which authorizes me to write checks, allow me to pay the bills and get money while my spouse is gone?

A: While your power of attorney does legally authorize you to write and cash checks, you may have a problem because a bank is not required to accept your spouse's power of attorney. To prevent a problem, you should immediately contact the bank to see if they will honor the power of attorney.

Many banks will only honor their own special power of attorney and, if this is the case, you should ask them to send you one. The legal assistance office can assist you in completing a power of attorney form sent to you by your bank.

Q: Because my spouse will be away and I have never had a checking account, where can I go to get help in managing this account?

A: Army Community Services offers free classes in how to manage checking accounts properly. ACS also offers financial counseling classes at no cost to soldiers and dependents. The ACS phone numbers are 767-5058 or 767-5059. Classes are by appointment.

Q: If we cannot get an acceptable power of attorney before my spouse leaves, can he or she give post-dated checks to our landlord and the furniture store to cover our bills?

A: Legally, your spouse can write post-dated checks for the upcoming bills, but you should hold onto them until the dates that the payments are due. If he gives the checks to the creditor, that creditor may, if he chooses, present them before the date on the check. This could result in the check being dishonored and you being penalized with a bad check charge.

If you have a checking problem, make an appointment to see a legal assistance attorney. at Fort Stewart, building 621, call 767-8809 or 767-8819; or Hunter at building 1211, call 315-5115.



Legal Notice

Anyone having claims against or who is indebted to the estate of **Sgt. 1st Class Edeze Louis**, 24th Financial Management Company, Fort Stewart, Ga. 31314, contact 1st Lt. Bryan French, 24th Financial Management Company, Fort Stewart, Ga. 31314, at 912-767-5527.

Anyone having claims against or who is indebted to the estate of **Sgt. 1st Class Jason F. Dene**, Headquarters Company, 1/64 Armor Battalion, Fort Stewart, Ga. 31314, contact Capt. John Meixell, Rear-Detachment, 1/64 Armor Battalion, Fort Stewart, Ga. 31314, at 912-767-7728.

Anyone having claims against or who is indebted to the estate of **Spc. Kyle P. Norris**, Company A, 3/7 Infantry, 4th BCT, Fort Stewart, Ga. 31314, contact 1st Lt. Kimberly Landry, HHC, 4/3 BTB, 4th BCT, Fort Stewart, Ga. 31314, at 912-767-7365.

Anyone having claims against or who is indebted to the estate of **Sgt. Steve Aaron McCoy**, Company A, 4th Battalion, 64th Armor, 4th Brigade Combat Team, Fort Stewart, Ga. 31315, contact 2nd Lt. Gregory Hall, 4/64 Armor Battalion, Fort Stewart, GA. (330) 692-7867

2007 Fort Stewart and Hunter Army Airfield's Annual Water Quality Report

The Directorate of Public Works is pleased to present Fort Stewart (Water System Identification CG1790024) and Hunter Army Airfield's (Water System Identification CG0510107) annual Water Quality Report. This report provides you with a detailed account of all the water monitoring and testing results gathered during 2007. As always, our constant goal is to provide our patrons with safe and dependable drinking water. Additional copies of this report will be available at the Installation's Environmental Offices at Fort Stewart in building 1137 and at Hunter in building 615.

Where Does My Water Come From?

Fort Stewart's main water supply comes from five municipal groundwater wells that are approximately 500-feet deep, while HAAF residents are serviced by four 500-feet deep wells. Groundwater is stored in permeable rock layers called aquifers, which are like underground lakes. Our groundwater is supplied by the Upper Floridan Aquifer. Before the water is distributed, the water is chlorinated to kill disease-causing organisms and fluoridated to promote dental health.

Protecting Your Water Source

The sources of drinking water (both tap and bottled) include rivers, lakes, streams, ponds, reservoirs, springs, and wells. As water travels over the land or through the ground, water dissolves naturally-occurring minerals and, in some cases, radioactive material. Therefore, water can pick up substances as by-products from both the presence of animals and human activities. Contaminants that may be present in source water include:

- Microbial contaminants, such as viruses and bacteria that may come from sewage treatment plants, septic systems, agricultural livestock operations, and wildlife.
- Inorganic contaminants, such as salts and metals, which can be naturally-occurring or result from urban stormwater runoff, industrial and domestic wastewater discharges, oil and gas production, or mining and farming activities.
- Pesticides or herbicides, which may come from a variety of sources such as agriculture, urban runoff, and residential uses.
- Organic chemical contaminants, including synthetic and volatile organic chemicals (VOCs), which are by-products of industrial processes and petroleum production, and they can also come from gas stations, urban stormwater runoff, and septic systems.
- Radioactive contaminants, which can be either naturally-occurring or the result of oil and gas production and mining activities.

In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) prescribes regulations that limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. FDA regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water, which provide the same public health protection. Drinking water, including bottled water, may reasonably be expected to contain at least small amounts of some contaminants. The presence of contaminants does not necessarily indicate that the water poses a health risk. More information about contaminants and potential health effects can be obtained by calling EPA's Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800-426-4791).

Source Water Assessment

A source water assessment has been performed on the source of your drinking water (the Upper Floridan Aquifer). The Wellhead Protection Plans at FS and HAAF were developed to determine the susceptibility of contaminants entering our drinking water supply and to better identify ways for protecting our water source. For further information, a copy of these Wellhead Protection Plans may be reviewed at the FS Environmental Office, 1550 Frank Cochran Dr. (building 1137), Fort Stewart, Ga. 31314-4927. Point of contact is Stanley Thomas, 767-2010.

Vulnerability

Both MEDDAC'S Preventive Medicine and the DPW con-

tinually monitor the drinking water for contaminants. Our water is SAFE to drink; however, some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Immuno-compromised persons such as those with cancer undergoing chemotherapy, persons who have undergone organ transplants, people with HIV/AIDS or other immune system disorders, some elderly, and infants can be particularly at risk from infections. These people should seek advice about drinking water from their health care providers. EPA/CDC (Center for Disease Control) guidelines on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by Cryptosporidium and other microbial contaminants are available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800-426-4791).

Water Quality Data

Below is a table that indicates the constituents that have been detected during sampling of FS and HAAF's water supply system. See *Table below: Water Quality Data*

As mentioned, Stewart-Hunter monitor constantly for various contaminants in the water supply to meet all regulatory requirements. The table lists only those contaminants that had some level of detection. The presence of contaminants does not necessarily indicate that the water poses a health risk. Many other contaminants have been analyzed also, but were either not present or were below the detection of the laboratory equipment.

Terms and Abbreviations

Maximum Contaminant Level Goal (MCLG): Level of a contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MCLGs allow for a margin of safety.

Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL): Highest level of a contaminant that is allowed in drinking water. MCLs are set as close to the MCLGs as feasible using the best available treatment technology.

Action Level (AL): The concentration of a contaminant which, when exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements which a water system must follow.

ppm: Parts per million; a unit of measure equivalent to a single penny in \$10,000.

ppb: Parts per billion; a unit of measure equivalent to a single penny in \$10,000,000.

TTHM: Total Trihalomethanes; by-products of drinking water disinfection.

Range: The range of the highest and lowest analytical values of a reported contaminant. For example, the range of an unregulated contaminant may be 10.1 (lowest value) to 13.4 (highest value). EPA requires the range to be

reported for certain analytes.

n/d- not detected.

n/a- not applicable

Conserving Our Water Supply

Every day throughout the world, nations are facing water problems in terms of both quantity and quality. Between 1950 and 1970, global water demand tripled and is expected to double within 35 years. Although 75 percent of the earth is covered by water, only 1 percent is available as renewable fresh water, and only about one-third of all precipitation that falls on the land goes back to the oceans by rivers and runoff. We are a nation whose water needs are rapidly rising while available supplies are shrinking; regional water crises are becoming increasingly frequent as water tables are falling and stream flow is decreasing. We can no longer take our drinking water for granted. This means that individuals, municipalities, industries, and governments must be proactive in conserving and protecting our water supplies. As Georgia continues to experience the after effects of the previous years conditions, we must realize that the consequences of such little rainfall are far-reaching, affecting humans, wildlife, and vegetation.

Consumers can cut water use by 15 percent through conservation practices

Additionally, the severity of its impact on society is often exacerbated by the demand that people place on the water supply.

Water is the most precious commodity we have on this planet; we ought not to treat it as if it were an unlimited resource. By shifting our priorities for water usage, we can prevent water scarcity. The well has run dry in many places—let's not make our community next!

Monitoring Frequencies

Our water systems use only EPA approved laboratory methods to analyze your drinking water. Our personnel take water samples from numerous locations throughout the distribution system and residents' taps; samples are then delivered to an accredited laboratory where water quality analyses are performed. See *Monitoring Frequencies Table* below.

Questions

Any concerns can be addressed at our quarterly Town Hall or Environmental Quality Control Committee meetings. You may contact the Environmental Division at t767-2010.

Health Effects of Lead in Drinking Water

If present, elevated levels of lead can cause serious health problems, especially for pregnant women and young children.

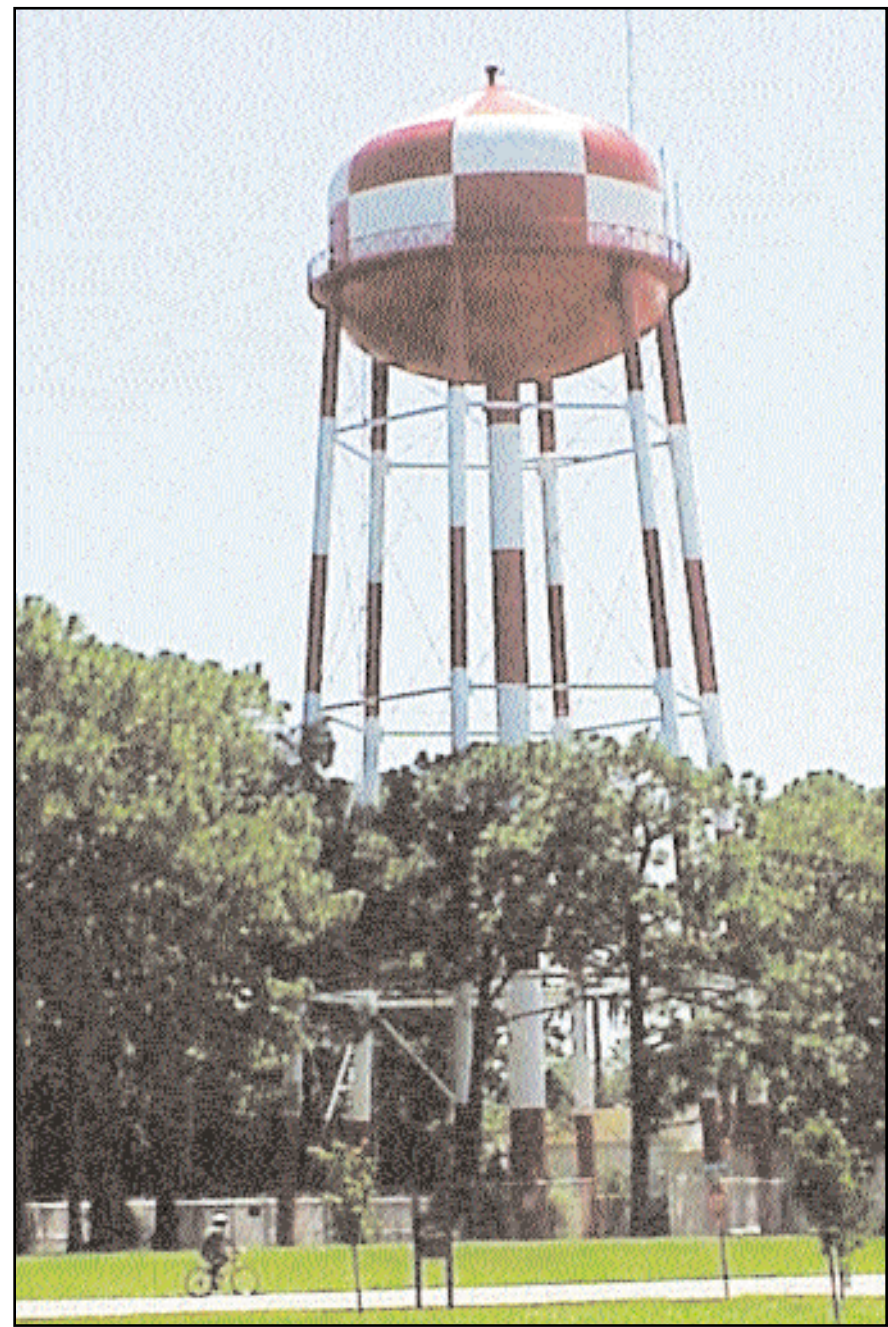
Lead in drinking water is primarily from materials and components associated with service lines and home plumbing. [Water System] is responsible for providing high quality drinking water, but cannot control the variety of materials used in plumbing components.

When your water has been sitting for several hours, you can minimize the potential for lead exposure by flushing your tap for 30 seconds to 2 minutes before using water for drinking or cooking.

If you are concerned about lead in your water, you may wish to have your water tested. Information on lead in drinking water, testing methods, and steps you can take to minimize exposure is available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline or at www.epa.gov/safewater/lead.

Georgia Water Restrictions

The Georgia Environmental Protection Division has declared a Level Two drought statewide, which currently allows homes and businesses with odd-numbered addresses to water on each Sunday, Tuesday, and Thursday and even-numbered or unnumbered addresses, to water on each Monday, Wednesday, and Saturday from Midnight to 10 a.m. All outdoor water use is prohibited on Friday.



courtesy photo

The Fort Stewart-Hunter Army Airfield water report is published annually and includes water quality data and monitoring frequencies.

Monitoring Frequencies

| Parameter | Fort Stewart Frequency | HAAF Frequency |
|---------------------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| Biological Contaminants | Once a month | Once a month |
| Volatile Organic Contaminants (VOCs) | Once every 3 years | Once every 3 years |
| Synthetic Organic Contaminants (SOCs) | Waived* | Waived* |
| Inorganic Contaminants (IOCs) | Once every 3 years | Once every 3 years |
| Lead and Copper | Once every 3 years | Once every 3 years |
| Nitrates/Nitrites | Once every year | Once every year |
| Total Trihalomethanes (TTHM) | Once a quarter | Once every 3 years |
| Unregulated Contaminants | Approx. once every 3 yrs | Approx. once every 3 yrs |

*The Georgia Environmental Protection Division issued Fort Stewart and Hunter Army Airfield a SOC monitoring waiver for 2004-2007 because EPD studies have shown that the drinking water is not vulnerable to contamination from SOCs at either Installation.

Water Quality Data

| Parameter | MCL | MCLG | Fort Stewart | | | HAAF | | | Violations | Source of Contaminant |
|-------------------------------------|----------|------|--------------|--------------------|--------------|---------|--------------------|--------------|------------|--|
| | | | Detectd | Range of Detection | Sample Date* | Detectd | Range of Detection | Sample Date* | | |
| Regulated Contaminants | | | | | | | | | | |
| Fluoride (ppm) | 4 | 4 | 1.24** | 0.57-2.03 | Jan-Dec 2007 | 1.14** | 0.90-1.77 | Jan-Dec 2007 | NO | Erosion of natural deposits; Water additive which promotes strong teeth; Discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories. |
| Lead (ppb) | AL= 15 | 0 | 5.8** | 0-7 | Sep 2007 | 3.40** | 0-7.3 | Sep 2007 | NO | Corrosion on household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits. |
| Copper (ppb) | AL= 1300 | 0 | 280** | 0.440 | Sep 2007 | 130** | 0-260 | Sep 2007 | NO | Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits; Leaching from wood preservatives. |
| TTHMs [Total trihalomethanes] (ppb) | 80 | 0 | 2.35** | 1.2-5.3 | Feb-Nov 2007 | 2.1 | 2.1 | Sep 2006 | NO | By-product of drinking water chlorination. |
| Ethylbenzene (ppb) | 700 | 700 | n/d | n/d | Dec 06 | 0.79** | n/d-0.79 | Mar-Dec 2007 | NO | Discharge from petroleum refineries. |
| Total Xylenes (ppm) | 10 | 10 | n/d | n/d | Dec 06 | 1.22** | n/d-1.0 | Mar-Dec 2007 | NO | Discharge from petroleum factories; discharge from chemical factories. |
| Unregulated Contaminants | | | | | | | | | | |
| Chloroform (ppb) | n/a | n/a | 0.86 | n/d-0.86 | Dec 2006 | 2.6** | n/d-3.6 | Mar-Dec 2007 | NO | By-product of drinking water chlorination. |
| Bromo-dichloromethane (ppb) | n/a | n/a | 0.84 | n/d-0.84 | Dec 2006 | 3.34** | n/d-4.7 | Mar-Dec 2007 | NO | By-product of drinking water chlorination. |
| Chloro-dichloromethane (ppb) | n/a | n/a | 0.63 | n/d-0.63 | Dec 2006 | 2.64** | n/d-3.7 | Mar-Dec 2007 | NO | By-product of drinking water chlorination. |

1The presence of contaminants does not necessarily indicate that the water poses a health risk as some contaminants naturally occur in drinking water systems.

2Based on most recent sampling requirement.

*Average of all detections

**Value represents 90th percentile value of most recent sampling, see frequency below.