

Stewart/Hunter Lifestyle



Photos by Pat Young

Alex, 11, and Karleigh, 9, daughter and son of Staff Sgt. Antonio Arellano, HHC 2/7 Inf. enjoy jousting at the Liberty Fall Fest, Nov. 8.

Liberty Fall Fest proves fun for all

Pat Young
Managing Editor

More than 1,000 Soldiers, Families and local community members participated at the highly successful Liberty County Fall Fest Nov. 8 at the YMCA in Hinesville.

Community partners from Fort Stewart, Liberty County, Hinesville and beyond came together to put on a celebration to remember that included sports, games, food and fun.

Ashley Carpenter, YMCA Family Program Supervisor and event coordinator said she was really pleased with the community support.

Food eating contests included hotdog's, hamburgers, pies, pizzas and Jalapeño peppers, were among

the scheduled events. Other activities were scarecrow making contest, moon walks, boffer-jousting, a dunking booth, children rides, and much more.

Dance demonstrations were performed by several teams, including the Panama Dancers, Dance Unlimited, and the Sunshine Generation Children Dance Group.

One of the featured attractions was a car show put on by the Heavy Chevy Riders car club, who also provided the disc jockey, L. Boogey. Although many of the members of the club had received recognition for their individual efforts, Carpenter said the YMCA was proud to present the club its first trophy as a club for their support.

There were also educational booths provided by the Fort Stewart and Hinesville Fire Departments and the installation Family Advocacy Center. The Hinesville Police and Liberty County Sheriff's Department providing the child fingerprinting service and handed out helpful crime prevention information.

The Liberty County library system was on-hand to help read stories to children, Lowes brought out excess material from their "Build to Grow" program to share with children in making arts and crafts.

And through it all, volunteers from the military lent a helping hand to help "Make a Difference" in the community, including Soldiers from 5th Squadron,

7th Cavalry Regiment and volunteers from the Battle Kings, 1st Battalion, 9th Field Artillery Regiment – who also brought out fellow Soldiers and Families to have fun too.

Carpenter thanked the military for its support and the sponsor for helping make the event a success, including the Directorate of Morale, Welfare and Recreation, Fort Stewart Family Advocacy Center, the installation and city fire departments, Keeping Liberty County Clean, Hinesville Arts Council, the United States District Attorney's Office, Saint Stephen's Choir, GeoVista and Arnold Stafford and Randolph, Krogers, McDonalds, and others.

The winners for the hotdog contest included Shamar Hunt, 7; Frederick Hunt, 10; and Spc. Jason Bartlick, A Battery, 1/9 Field Artillery. The Hamburger contest winners were Staff Sgt. Blandon Green, 1/9 FA, and Dominique Pontiflet, 13, although Alex Hinton, 13, gave them a run for their money when it came to enthusiasm.

The next major event sponsored by the YMCA is the Dec. 6 Community Christmas Party. Registering for the free party provides a stocking full of candy for each child and a ticket to Santa's Workshop – where the children can pick out a present for mom or dad. The presents were donated by Operation Home Front.

The workshop expects to help 400 children an hour, for four hours, according to Christina Anthony, Operation Home Front Family Services Director for the State of Georgia.

For more information or to register for the workshop, call 368-5395.



Above: Tiffany Hallman, 10; Christi Barnes, 10; Marcus Gary, 6; and Paris Gary, 9; draw on Hinesville Arts Council puzzle pieces at the Liberty County Fall Fest, Nov. 8.

Right: Members of Dance Unlimited perform to the song, 'Step in Time' at the Liberty County Fall Fest Nov. 8 at the YMCA in Hinesville.



1st Lt. Joanna Wood

Soldiers earn foreign badge - On day two of the three-day German Proficiency Badge certification at Hunter Army Airfield, Spc. Sean Turner, Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 260th Quartermaster Battalion, concentrates as he attempts the long-jump event. Turner completed all of events to the standard, and earned a gold badge certified by German Military Liaison Sgt. Major Georg Hof, who traveled from Fort Benning to oversee this certification. Hof said the event helps encourage friendship, understanding and culture.

Of the 25 Soldiers who tried out for the Badge, five earned silver and 11 earned gold certifications.

1-3 BSTB Boss, FRG join forces

Pfc. Jared S. Eastman
1BCT Public Affairs

The 1-3 Brigade Special Troops Battalion invited both single and married Soldiers and their Families in to a halloween bash, Oct. 30.

"We have single Soldiers coming to an event that's also Family Readiness Group event," said Lt. Col. Hansen, 1-3 BSTB Commander. "Our objective is to combine those two groups as much as possible. This way we don't strictly have Better Opportunities for Single Soldiers events and FRG events, and I think that is really what we have achieved here."

The party had multiple events to keep both Soldiers and Families busy.

"We're having a lot of fun at the Halloween party," said Hansen, "We have a wide range of activities for our single Soldiers and Families. Everything from karaoke, dancing, kid's games to a costume contest. I think we hit it off."

However, even with all the candy,

singing and other events, the haunted house reigned supreme.

The line outside the haunted house remained constant throughout the entire evening, even when most Families had left.

"We prepared for about a month," said Spc. Ashley Mendez, 1-3 BSTB chaplain's assistant, "Some last minute volunteers helped out with the haunted house, which was a major success. It took all day to set up the haunted house."

The event differed from most Halloween parties by being almost entirely outdoors.

"I think we have to combine single Soldiers and Families as often as we can," said Command Sgt. Major Sheryl Lyon, 1-3 BSTB command sergeant major. "And I'm glad we were able to do it this time and so many people participated. We had a lot more Soldiers than what I expected to come out. I'd recommend that everybody do this if they get a chance."

MWR Briefs

Preteen dance slated

Come out and dance to beat of the DJ and meet your fellow classmates at the Preteen Dance from 7-10 p.m. Friday, at the Fort Stewart Youth Center, building 7338. The dance is open to youths in grades 6-8. They are asked to bring a canned food item for the Youth Center Canned Food Drive, which is ongoing.

For more information, call 767-4491.

Come to block party, Open House

Join us for a block party with music, dancing, food, games and prizes – and at the same time learn about the before and after school, middle school and teen programs of Child, Youth and School Services. You can enroll your children in these exceptional programs at this event.

The Community Block Party for Families with children grades 1-12 will be from 2-4 p.m., Saturday at the Hunter Youth Center, building 1289. There is no charge. For more information, call 315-6075.

Watch UFC 91 at Rocky's

See Couture vs. Lesar in a World Heavyweight Championship battle at 10 p.m., Saturday at Rocky's, building 703. The fight is live on Pay-Per-View and is open to military ID cardholders at no charge. For more information, call 767-8715.

Eat breakfast with Disney

Youngsters are invited to have breakfast with some of their favorite characters – Cinderella, Prince Charming, Snow White, Winnie the Pooh or Woody from the Disney film "Toy Story" from 9-11 a.m., Sunday at Hunter Club, building 6015.

The cost is \$10 per child (ages 1-10) and \$12 each for others. There will be an opportunity for mom and dad, or others accompanying the children, to take photos of the kids with the characters. For more information, call Leisure Activities at 315-3674.

Disney/Busch Gardens trip scheduled

The deadline is Nov. 21 to register for a Disney World/Busch Gardens trip scheduled Nov. 28-30.

The bus will depart Fort Stewart and Hunter Army Airfield Leisure Activities Centers for Orlando, Fla. on Nov. 28. There will be an Arabian Nights Dinner Show and on Nov. 29, travelers have a choice of visiting Disney World or Busch Gardens in Tampa. (Note: Busch

Gardens admission is free for one active-duty service-member and three immediate Family Members that have not received a free visit to either the gardens or Sea World this year). And Nov. 30, there will be a visit to Disney World.

The cost is \$275 for 1-4 persons per hotel room and includes bus transportation. Attraction admission tickets, food and souvenirs will be at individuals' cost.

For details, call Leisure Travel at 767-2841 for Stewart or 315-3674 for Hunter.

Begin weight training classes

Here's an opportunity to learn about weight training as part of a healthy lifestyle. The Tominac Fitness Center (building 919) orientation class, scheduled for 5:30 p.m., Nov. 19, will focus on basic principles of weight training and equipment familiarization.

The class is open to active-duty military, Family Members (age 18 and older), retirees and Department of Defense Civilians.

For more information and to register, call 315-2019.

Have a party with your bear

Sunday is celebrated as "Have a Party with Your Bear Day," and Stewart Lanes Bowling Center (building 450) is joining in the fun.

From 11:30 a.m. to 9 p.m., get a free shoe rental when you bring your bear to party with you. For more information, call 767-4273.

Enjoy Thanksgiving storytime

Come and hear Thanksgiving stories and make table decorations during Storytime from 3:30-4:30 p.m., Nov. 19 at George P. Hays Library, building 411.

For more information, call 767-2828.

Celebrate Universal Children's Day

Corkan Family Recreation Area invites you to celebrate Universal Children's Day Nov. 20 with your child. From 11:30 a.m. to 9 p.m., children under 18 receive half off the price of admission/games all day long.

For more information, call 767-6708.

Child care available for Division Ball

Child care will be available for the Division Ball, Nov. 22. The care will be provided at the Child Development Center in building 403 from 5 p.m. to midnight, Nov. 22 at a cost of \$3.50 per child per hour.

Children must be registered through Child, Youth and School Services.

To register your child, call 767-2312 or pick up a registration packet at building 443. To make reservations for care, call 767-3202.

Bowl for turkeys

Why buy a Thanksgiving turkey when you can win one from now through Nov. 23 at Hunter Lanes Bowling Center, building 1280. Men must knock down nine pins or more across 10 lanes and women must knock down eight pins or more across 10 lanes. There is a limit of two turkeys per person/day. The cost is \$3 per person. Bowl Monday-Sunday when lanes are available. For more information, call 315-6279.

Golf courses honor heroes

The Taylors Creek Golf Course at Fort Stewart and Hunter Golf Club at Hunter Army Airfield are honoring our heroes with an "all you can play" \$22 greens fee rate, starting after 11 a.m., Nov. 20, 24 and 25. The price includes the golf car. Veterans, retirees and active-duty military are eligible for the special rate. For more information, call 767-2370 for Stewart or 315-9115 for Hunter.

Register for Big Apple Christmas Trip

The registration deadline is Nov. 28 for the trip to New York City. Travelers will leave late at night Dec. 11 from Fort Stewart and Hunter Army Airfield Leisure Activities Centers for Lyndhurst, N.J., for a two-night stay just a few miles from New York City. Shop, visit the museums or just see the sights.

The cost, including hotel and luxury motor coach transportation, is: one person/room \$400, two-persons/room \$300 each, three-persons/room \$270 each and four-persons/room \$250 each. For details, call Leisure Travel at 767-2841/8609 for Stewart or 315-3674 for Hunter.

Support Youth Center's canned food drive

Youth from the Fort Stewart Youth Center, building 7338 are doing their part to help needy Families. They are encouraged to donate a canned food item during the hours of 2-8 p.m., now through Nov. 20. For more information, call 767-4491.

Winn

Chiropractic Care available

Active-duty Soldiers can now receive chiropractic care at Tuttle Army Health Clinic, Hunter Army Airfield. Contact your primary care manager to see if chiropractic care is right for you. For additional information, call 435-6633.

Healthcare meeting slated

We are looking for all ranks of active-duty Soldiers to attend this meeting on maintaining the health of the 3rd Infantry Division Soldiers - Active Duty Soldier Care. The meeting will be held from 9 - 11 a.m., Nov. 20 at Winn's Patriot Auditorium. Tell us how we have met your expectation and suggestions for improvement. For more information, call 435-6225 or 435-6143.

Get your flu vaccine

With the upcoming influenza season, here are the times and locations to receive your flu vaccine.

Winn's Immunization Clinic: starting Oct. 27, Monday- Friday, 7:30 a.m.- 4 p.m.

Tuttle's Immunization Clinic: every Thursday starting Nov. 13 from 1 - 5 p.m.

Make sure to bring your valid military ID card. For more information, call Army Public Health Nursing at 435-5071.

Main entrance closes

The main entrance and lobby at Winn Army Community Hospital will be closed through Nov. 25 for construction. Please use other entrances during this time. The main entrance will re-open Nov. 26.

Holiday observed

Nov. 27 is Thanksgiving Day, a federal holiday and Nov. 28 is a Medical Activity Command training holiday. On those days, services at Winn will be limited to inpatient care and emergencies. Full operations resume Dec. 1.

All services at Tuttle Army Health Clinic and the Hawks Troop Medical Clinic will also be closed Nov. 27 and Nov. 28 and full opera-

tions resume Dec. 1. For more information, call 435-6965.

Book appointments online

Want an alternative to calling the appointment line? TRICARE online could be your answer. You can book your appointments online at the TRICARE online Web site, www.tricareonline.com.

This link is also available through the Winn Web site www.winn.amedd.army.mil.

Help Third Party Collection

Do you have health insurance other than TRICARE? Third Party Collection Program recovers funds from health insurance companies, other than TRICARE, for the cost of medical care delivered at Winn Army Community Hospital or Tuttle Army Health Clinic to insured patients.

The program provides much needed funds to Winn and Tuttle and can save you money. The funds are used to enhance patient care, upgrade equipment and maintain services. For more information, contact the TPCP office today at 435-6037/5407.

Show patience, be strong, help others



CHAPLAIN'S CORNER

Chap. (Capt) W. Michael Oliver
2-3 BTB Chaplain

Unfortunately, we live in a microwavable culture where everything has to be instant. We want our food quickly; we want to pay bills quickly; we want to have all of our work done quickly, etc. Also, and we all know this too well, the Army has been a rapidly deploying force for the past eight years, and, especially at the 3rd Infantry Division, things move very fast. We go and go and go, and if we're not careful, we can overlook the things that are truly most important to us.

It's interesting being a chaplain. During Operation Iraqi Freedom V, I was one of the redeployment briefers. During the briefs, I covered all the

things that Soldiers would experience when they returned back to the United States. Frankly, when I briefed all these different topics, I thought to myself, "Good information, I guess, but I really don't see any of this stuff applying to me." Well, I was wrong! Everything I briefed, my Family and I have experienced. From me being withdrawn to missing seeing my Battalion all the time to having a difficult time reintegrating with my wife, and the list goes on and on. I'm sure that if you are honest with yourself, you and your Family have had difficulties adjusting too. So what's the answer? Patience.

There are certain things we can't rush, and relationships with our spouses and kids are among those things. When someone returns from a long

deployment, it can minimally take up to six months before things on the home front feel "normal" again, and sometimes it can take longer. I've been home since July 7, and I feel like things are just now beginning to feel normal to me.

My bottom line point is this: if you have had difficulties reintegrating after a long deployment then be patient, and give it time. Things will come around, and if they don't, then seek help from your unit chaplain, from Military OneSource, etc. Also, if you have already reintegrated, and feel pretty good about your situation then encourage someone who is having difficulties. All of us need encouragement from those who have achieved what we want to achieve. God bless!

Chapel Schedule

Fort Stewart

Catholic	Location	Time
Saturday Vigil Mass	Main Post Chapel	5 p.m.
Sunday Mass	Main Post Chapel	9 a.m.
Protestant		
Contemporary Worship	Marne	11 a.m.
Gospel Worship	Main Post	11 a.m.
Traditional Worship	Marne	9 a.m.
Liturgical Worship	Heritage	11 a.m.
Kids' Church	Diamond Elementary	11 a.m.
PWOC (Wednesday)	Marne	9:30 a.m.

Islamic		
Friday Jum'ah	Marne	1:30 p.m.
Contact Yahya Hassan at 876-5546.		

Jewish		
Contact Sgt. 1st Class. Crowther at 980-9295.		
Friday	Marne	11:30 a.m.

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

Hunter Army Airfield

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

Kids Church

Where God rocks

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

For all kids Grade K-5

Fort Stewart bus pick-up

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

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

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

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

10:50 a.m. - Marne Chapel

10:55 a.m. - Main Post Chapel

For more information, email
fortstewartkidschurch@yahoo.com

Fort Stewart Chapel Youth Ministry

Junior and Senior High School Students!

Join us for
free games and pizza

Sunday • 6 to 8 p.m.

at the Stewart Youth Activity
Center, building 7338.

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

OR
call 877-7207

Mass Choir rehearsals announced

The Liberty County Community Mass Choir is looking for interested participants. If you would like to sing with this choir, please contact Judy Forshee at 977-5918 or email judith.forshee@us.army.mil or Ronald Calhoun at 786-5787, extension 209 or email rcalhoun@schoolofchurchmusic.org.

Opportunities are also available for the Community Chorus, soloist, ensemble and quartet. Come and join this great community fellowship. The 2009 Concert Season begins Oct. 1 through Sept. 30, 2009.

Spartans support local chili cook off

Sgt. Jason Stadel
2nd BCT Public Affairs

Soldiers from Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 2nd Brigade Combat Team, 3rd Infantry Division provided tents, tables and labor to the First Presbyterian Christian Academy in Hinesville, Nov. 8 during their annual chili cook off.

The Soldiers, from the brigade's fire support section helped to set up the site and then helped throughout the competition with anything that was needed during the cook off. More than 150 people were present at the event and Maj. Gen. Tony Cucolo, 3rd ID commander, and Col. Todd Buchs, Fort Stewart-Hunter Army Airfield garrison commander were two of the six chili cook off judges.

The Spartan Soldiers working at the cook off said it's good to give back to the community since they supported the Soldiers during Operation Iraqi Freedom.

"It's always good to familiarize ourselves with the

community," Sgt. Blain Turner, 2nd BCT, 3rd ID fire support noncommissioned officer.

Carolyn Crissman, FPCA Chili Cook off organizer, said 2nd BCT and FPCA have been community partners for a few years and the Soldiers providing man power at the event solidifies a strong community relationship between the two organizations.

"It's a vital relationship," Crissman said. "There was a lot a communication between us and the Soldiers and an event like this would be hard to organize if we didn't foster the relationship between us."

During down time at the cook off, the Soldiers took time to sample the various types of chili and would interact with the people in attendance and the students.

"This gives the people that aren't familiar with the military a chance to meet us and see that we're just average citizens too," Spc. Logan Forbing said.

Fort Stewart Morale, Welfare and Recreation also supported the event. The MWR provided a stage for the live band that performed at the contest.



Debi Meadows

Third Infantry Division Soldiers participate in the Jail and Bail fundraiser at the First Presbyterian Chili Cookoff, Nov. 8 in Hinesville. .

Pets of the Week



Misty the kitten and Ashford the dog are some of the many homeless pets at the Fort Stewart animal shelter. The shelter has pets of all kinds, sizes, and breeds in their care. If you are interested in adopting, call the Fort Stewart Veterinary Clinic at 767-2842.



Ghost Town

Today — 7 p.m.

(Ricky Gervais, Greg Kinnear)

Bertram Pincus is a man whose people skills leave much to be desired. When Pincus dies unexpectedly but is miraculously revived after seven minutes, he wakes up to discover that he now has the annoying ability to see ghost. Even worse, they all want something from him, particularly Frank Herlihy, who pesters him into breaking up the impending marriage of his widow Gwen. *Rated PG-13 (strong language, sexual humor, drug references) 102 min*

Eagle Eye

Friday — 7 p.m.

(Shia LaBeouf, Michelle Monaghan)

In the fast-paced race-against-time-thriller, "Eagle Eye," Shia LaBeouf and Michelle Monaghan are two strangers who become the pawns of a mysterious woman they have never met but who seems to know their every move. Realizing they are being used to further her diabolical plot, they must work together to outwit the woman before she has them killed. *Rated PG-13 (intense sequences of action & violence/ language) 110 min*

Beverly Hills Chihuahua

Saturday, Sunday — 7 p.m.

(George Lopez, Drew Barrymore)

Chloe, a diamond-clad, bootie wearing Beverly Hills Chihuahua enjoys her luxurious lifestyle so much, she hardly notices Papi, a tough looking Chihuahua who happens to be head-over-paws for the pampered pooch. But when Chloe gets lost in the rough streets of Mexico with only a street-wise German Shepherd to

PRESENTS
TODAY THROUGH NOV 19

help her find her way home, Papi heads south of the border -- joining forces with a motley crew: two humans, a sly rat and a nervous iguana to rescue his true love. *Rated PG (mild thematic elements) 90 min*



Films are subject to availability. AAFES strives to show films according to the published schedule but reserves the right to reschedule, cancel, or substitute showings as needed. For more information, call 767-3069.

Coastal Happenings

Courtesy of the Coastal Courier

Savannah Winds concert scheduled

The Savannah Winds will give its Fall Concert, 7:30 p.m., Dec. 2 at the Armstrong Center.

Tickets are \$12 and may be obtained online at www.finearts.armstrong.edu/tickets by calling the AASU box office between 11 a.m. and 3 p.m., weekdays at 344-2801, or get tickets at the door. The program will include traditional and contemporary concert band music and light classics.

Live Oak Public Libraries' programs

Preschool Story Time offered

Join us every Monday at the Liberty Branch Library in November at 10:30 a.m. Children, ages: 3 to 4 years-old are invited to come for stories, songs and crafts. For more information, call 368-4003.

Tea and Tales Book Group held

Sit down for tea and a story at Midway-Riceboro Branch Library, today. The Tea & Tales Book Group will be discussing "Atonement" by Ewan McGregor, at 5:30 p.m. Call 884-5742.

Introduction to Excel slated

Learn how to create a simple spreadsheet and add graphs 7 p.m., today at the Liberty Branch Library. Registration required. Introduction to Word or equivalent knowledge is a prerequisite. For more information, call 368-4003.

Introduction to the Internet

Take an introduction to the Internet 10:30 a.m., Nov. 20 at the Liberty Branch Library. Registration is required.

This is a beginner's course on how to use the Internet. The class will cover using the Internet Explorer browser to navigate through the Internet and print Web pages. Prerequisite: Introduction to Windows or equivalent knowledge. For more information, call 368-4003.

Enhance your leadership skills

First Battle Command Training Group Army Reserve in Birmingham, Ala., offers the opportunity for promotion while simultaneously enhancing your professional management, training and leadership skills.

For more information, contact 1st Sgt. Larry King,

larry.kingsr@usar.army.mil, (205) 987-8443, ext. 4410; or Capt. John Walker, (205) 444-5208.

Human Resource meeting held

Coastal Society of Human Resource Management meets on the fourth Thursday of every month. If you are a human resource professional and would like to attend a meeting or receive more information, contact Holly Stevens-Brown, chapter president at 876-3564.

Christmas in Tattall County

Reidsville Christmas Festival and Parade

The Parade is held at 10 a.m., Nov. 29. Festivities start Nov. 28 with entertainers and food and arts and crafts vendors on the ground of the School Board Building and continue through Saturday. For information, call Eddie Anderson at 237-0896 or Phyllis Anderson at 237-2403.

Enjoy Christmas Cobbtown Style

The parade and festival is held the first Saturday in December. You can enjoy the beautiful Christmas decorations Cobbtown is famous for while enjoying the area's largest parade as well as lots of good food including the world's best chicken and dumplings! For information, call Mayor Buddy Collins at 684-2775.

Reidsville Manger to Majesty slated

This is held the second week of December on Monday and Tuesday evening. Drive through the Reidsville Recreation Department and enjoy a live portrayal of the life of Jesus complete with audio. For information, call Delores James at 557-3422.

Glennville Christmas play slated

All I Want for Christmas Crown Productions presents the live musical at 7 p.m., Dec. 12 and 13, and 2 p.m., Dec. 14 at the Glennville City Auditorium.

This musical is about a little girl who wants everything for Christmas but soon realized that Christmas is for giving and not receiving. For more information, call 654-3760. All proceeds go to the Glennville Recreation Department.

Enjoy the holidays at Davenport House

The Isaiah Davenport House Museum hosts holi-

day evening tours by Candlelight 6-8:30 p.m., Dec. 26-30. The Davenport House is located at 324 East State Street, Savannah -- on the corner of Habersham and State Streets at Columbia Square.

The house museum explores the December celebrations of the early 19th century inhabitants.

The cost for adults is \$8 for advance registration, \$10 at the door. For children ages 6 - 18-years-old, the cost is \$5 in advance or \$7 at door.

For more information, call 236-8097 or e-mail jrcr-dle@savbusiness.net.

Golden Corral restaurants salute heroes

Golden Corral restaurants, across America from 5 to 9 p.m., Nov. 17, will offer any person who has served in the United States military, including National Guard and Reserves, a free "thank you" dinner buffet and beverage - no identification required.

Also, guests and restaurant teams may send personal greetings to America's military personnel on active duty overseas until Nov. 17 special postcards will be available at all Golden Corral restaurants for sending messages of thanks and encouragement to the troops overseas to be delivered prior to the holidays.

Visit Melon Bluff Nature Center

An exhibition of new coastal photographs by former Georgia state photographer and current Department of Natural Resources Artist-in-Residence, Diane Kirkland, opened Nov. 8 at the Melon Bluff Nature Center, 2999 Islands Highway in Midway. The exhibition continues each Saturday through Feb. 6, 2009.

Seven years ago, Kirkland took the photo at Melon Bluff that has since become the icon for coastal kayaking from Florida to North Carolina. It is also one that is definitive of Melon Bluff and the Sunbury area.

Kirkland's newest collection continues her passion for Georgia's natural coastal landscapes, this time, focusing on Ossabaw Island, just off the shore from Melon Bluff. Once again, her artistic appreciation and sensitivity to fragile coastal beauty is evident throughout.

Directions to Melon Bluff: Take I-95 to exit 76. Go three miles east on Islands Highway (30 minutes south of Savannah).



Army Community Service

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

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

Donate a toy for the holiday

Stewart-Hunter is working in collaboration with the United States Marine Corps and the United Way of the Coastal Empire to solicit toys for the Toys for Tots program. The primary goal of Toys for Tots is to deliver, through a shiny new toy for the holiday, a message of hope to youngsters that will motivate them to grow into responsible, productive, patriotic citizens and community leaders. To donate toys, please deliver a new, unwrapped toy in its original packaging. At Hunter, toy donation boxes are at the post exchange, Hunter Lanes, and the Marine Reserve Training Center. At Stewart, donation boxes are at the post exchange and Army Community Service. To apply for toys, please obtain an application from your chaplain's office, unit leadership or ACS. To qualify, the total household monthly income must be less than \$2,000. The deadline to apply is Nov. 28. For information on the Toys for Tots program, please call 767-5058/5089 at Stewart or 315-6816 at Hunter.

Survive the holidays, financially

Sign up now for tomorrow's How to

Survive the Holidays Financially, scheduled at 5 p.m. at ACS-Stewart. Create a financial plan that can help you control your money and reach your goals - all year! Tips and techniques will include alternatives to expensive gift giving, preparing a check list, how to pay for the holidays, and post-holiday financial planning.

Also sign up for Life without Debt, Nov. 18 at Stewart. It is possible to live without debt when you learn to manage your personal finances, understand credit terms, and develop efficient plans to pay off debt. Call 767-5058/5059 to register for these classes that will help you get through the holidays without going broke.

Enjoy a stress-free holiday

Does the holiday season stress you out? Do you have difficulty maintaining your cool when you have gifts to buy, menus to plan, travel to schedule? How does holiday stress affect you?

Take control of your emotions this holiday season and learn coping techniques and healthy outlets, along with community resources at the upcoming Stress and Anger Management workshop. Call 767-5058/5059 to register for the Nov. 19 workshop at Stewart, and gear up for a smooth holiday season.

Learn money management

Come to a class at Stewart entitled Checkbook Management from 1 to 4 p.m., Nov. 26. Learn how to manage your checking account, avoid excess fees, and get control of your money.

If you need a more in-depth financial workshop, sign up for First-Term Financial Training (mandatory for E-4 and below). Open to everyone who wants to improve their financial future, this full-day workshop teaches about credit use, managing a bank account, insurance, investments, financial planning for your future, basic car and home buying, bankruptcy and consumer fraud. First-Term Workshop is now offered at Stewart every weekday (except

Wednesday) and at Hunter, Dec. 2.

Please call 767-5058/5059 at Stewart or 315-6816 at Hunter to register for finance classes or to schedule an appointment for a personal counseling session. We are here to help!

Your kids driving you crazy?

Join the Military Family Life Consultants for an informative discussion on how to better understand each child's abilities and how to best provide the rules, expectations, and discipline that will help your children become outstanding community members. Come to this presentation at ACS-Hunter beginning at 12:30 p.m., Nov. 17.

The session repeats at ACS-Stewart beginning at 10:30 a.m., Nov. 19. For directions or information, please call 315-6816 at Hunter or 767-5058/5059 at Stewart. Also ask about child care.

Challenge the stereotype

Baby Bootcamp for Dads, a special class just for men, teaches skills to build confidence in parenting your newborn baby. Network with other fathers and learn to enhance your nurturing side. Call 767-5058/5059 to sign up for the session at Stewart from 11:30 a.m. to 2 p.m., Nov. 20.

Attend FRG training

Stewart offers the FRG Basic Course, Nov. 18. New FRG Leaders are encouraged to attend the full-day workshop to learn an overview of the FRG, tasks during the deployment cycle, expectations and roles for FRG volunteers, communicating with Families, dealing with the media, resources and funding, and more. Please call 767-5058/5059 to register. Hunter takes FRG training "on the road" during the month of November. Please call 315-6816 to schedule FRG training at your location.

Meet other spouses

Foreign-Born Spouse Group offers the opportunity to network with members from various cultures, share resources,

discuss the American way of life, and develop friendships. The group meets at ACS-Hunter in building 1279 beginning at 11 a.m., Nov. 17. At Stewart, the group meets at 11:30 a.m., Nov. 19.

Hearts Apart is open to any spouse whose loved one is away. Come chat with others who are also experiencing their Soldier's absence. At Stewart, join the group at 11 a.m., Nov. 19 at the Relocation Office located in building 443. The Hunter Heart's Apart group will meet again Dec. 9.

For information on spouse groups, call 315-6816 at Hunter or 767-5058/5059 at Stewart.

Learn and grow with AFTB

Living within an Army Family culture can be challenging, and Army Family Team Building offers three levels of classes to help Families thrive in the military lifestyle. AFTB Level I: "Meet The Army" is offered at Hunter from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m., Nov. 18-19.

Level I teaches Family Members basic skills and knowledge to succeed in the military environment. Discussions include how the mission impacts Family life, the importance of financial readiness, an introduction to Family Readiness Groups, basic military benefits and entitlements, and military customs and courtesies.

Family Members are invited to register for AFTB classes by calling 767-5058/5059 at Stewart or 315-6816 at Hunter. Also ask about child care.

Learn about Dogface Soldiers

Wondering what "Rock of the Marne" means? Curious about the smiling bulldog, Rocky? Learn the history of the 3rd Infantry Division, the Dogface Soldier song, and much more at the Dogface Soldier for Families class, Nov. 19.

This free class is offered through the Army Family Team Building Program and is a popular one, so reserve your seat by calling 767-5058/5059. Call ACS at 767-5058 to register. Also ask about child care information.

HEALTH MATTERS

Winn Army Community Hospital

Access to care improving at Winn

Ann Erickson

MEDDAC Public Affairs

The leadership at Winn Army Community Hospital continues to focus sharply on the improvement of access to care for the beneficiaries that seek healthcare at the hospital and outpatient clinics. Two of the most significant and impacting efforts to improve access are the improvement of the telephone appointing system and the expansion of the appointments available to beneficiaries online via the TRICARE Online Web site.

One of the first actions taken to improve the telephone appointing service was to hire an additional four agents working in the Patient Appointment Center. The addition of these agents doubles the center's appointing capacity. These additional agents also resulted in a reduction of the time beneficiaries spend waiting on hold. In August, the average time on hold (from when you actually got in queue for an appointment) was 2:28 minutes. For the month of October the

average wait time was 1:39 minutes - a 37 percent reduction.

The appointment center also has accepted more calls with the additional agents. In August the center took approximately 4,400 calls and in October it took 10,300 - an increase of 58 percent. The center booked more appointments in October when compared with August - an increase from 3,950 to more than 4,700 - a nine percent increase. The number of available appointments will continue to rise because Winn is actively recruiting and hiring more providers.

A second on-going initiative is the expansion of the number appointments available to beneficiaries who want to make their own primary care appointments through the Web based TRICARE Online program.

Those who prefer the ease of making their own appointments from the comfort of their home or office must first register for the program at www.tricareonline.com. Once registered, beneficiaries can view and select their own primary care appointments online.

The big difference today is that the staff at Winn is working aggressively to make more appointments available to beneficiaries who want to use this online system at Winn, Tuttle Army Health Clinic and/or the Hawks Troop Medical Clinic. The goal is to "Web enable" 80 percent of all primary care appointments in the near future. This action alone will hopefully make it much easier for beneficiaries to find and make their own appointments through this service. Everyone is encouraged to register at TRICARE Online, www.tricareonline.com today.

The center also asks beneficiaries to bear with them as they continue to improve the overall appointing process.

During November and December the center staff will begin booking "initial" specialty appointments for beneficiaries in addition to the current practice of booking primary care appointments. Like any new business practice, it may take some time to perfect as employees learn and implement the improved way of taking care of patients.