

Add to your Family:
adopt a pet in need
See Page 2B

THE FRONTLINE



What is Christmas?
See Page 4B

COMMUNITY & LEISURE

DECEMBER 10, 2009

Stewart-Hunter tree lightings brighten young hearts, welcome holiday season

Randy Murray
Fort Stewart Public Affairs

Hundreds of children, young and old, could not be dissuaded by the cool evening air as they gathered outside Club Stewart for the annual Christmas Tree Lighting, Dec. 3.

As the growing crowd anxiously counted down the minutes to the 5:30 p.m. lighting, Pam Rayman, senior budget analyst, led them in singing a number of Christmas favorites with help from Brig. Gen. Jeffrey Phillips, deputy commanding general-rear, who offered a few remarks before allowing scores of chil-

dren to assist him in lighting the tree.

Brigadier General Phillips and Rayman's musical talents were supported by other senior leaders and their wives, including Ginger Cucolo, wife of 3rd Infantry Division Commanding General Maj. Gen. Tony Cucolo; Frankie Andrews, wife of 3rd ID Command Sgt. Maj. Jesse Andrews; Col. Kevin Milton, Fort Stewart-Hunter Army Airfield garrison commander; Command Sgt. Maj. Jeffrey Ashmen, command sergeant major-rear; Command Sgt. Maj. James Ervin, Stewart-Hunter garrison command sergeant major; and Linda Heifferon, director of Family and Morale, Welfare and

Recreation.

While wearing his "Santa" hat, Command Sgt. Maj. Ervin joined the two-dozen Family and Morale, Welfare and Recreation "elves," who marched around the big tree clapping and singing with the children and their parents. The Liberty County High School chorus was also on-hand to provide special, more rehearsed vocal arrangements of the season. Caleb Deitz, age 23 months, son of Pfc. Dieter Deitz, 5th Battalion, 7th Cavalry Regiment, and his wife, Heather, didn't understand what all the singing and excitement was about, but his happy little smile said he was having a good time.

When the appointed moment arrived, Brig. Gen. Phillips invited any child who wanted to help him light the tree, which caused a stampede of little feet racing toward the large green lever used to turn on the Christmas tree lights.

With the tree lit and the crowd cheering, news about the arrival of Santa Claus soon had the children excited all over again. When Santa arrived by a horse-drawn, not reindeer-drawn sleigh, he was quickly whisked through the crowd and inside Club Stewart, where a serpentine line of parents with children wanting to speak to the jolly fat elf formed. Those not waiting in line to meet Santa in the main ballroom now called "North Pole," could choose from six other rooms, each colorfully decorated for the season, including "Sleigh Bells Ring - Are You Listening," "In The Lane, Snow is Glistening," "We'll Frolic & Play," "As We Dream By the Fire," "Here to Stay is a New Bird," and "We'll Build a Snowman."

"Snow fairy" Dawn Fegel, FMWR, played with several little ones in the "We'll Frolic & Play" room, including 17-month-old Gavin Williams, who looked to his mom, Jillian Williams, as if he was unsure whether to run to her or play in the make-believe snow.

See HOLIDAYS

Page 5B



Randy Murray

"Snow fairy" Dawn Fegel, FMWR, plays with children in the "We'll Frolic & Play" room, one of many Club Stewart ballrooms specially-decorated with a Christmas theme following the annual Christmas Tree Lighting, Dec. 3. In addition to rooms filled with make-believe snow, there were rooms where children learned to make a snowman and other crafts. The favorite room of all was the main ballroom - the North Pole - where kids waited in line to talk with Santa Claus.



Kaytrina Curtis

Linda Lesueur, FMWR, talks to her 16-month old grandson, Ethan Mason, about the Winter Wonderland display inside Hunter Club following the Hunter Christmas Tree lighting, Dec. 7.

Fort Stewart home to endangered woodpeckers

Angi Eason
Directorate of Public Works

Fort Stewart plays a critical role in the recovery of a federally-endangered species known as the Red-Cockaded Woodpecker. It is the responsibility of Fort Stewart's Fish and Wildlife Branch to closely monitor and protect these birds. They accomplish this by installing artificial cavities in existing, unoccupied nesting sites. Once a site is located, biologists support timber thinning, remove the hardwood mid-story, and band individual RCWs with numbered aluminum bands and unique combinations of colored leg bands. Some RCW sites on Fort Stewart are flagged with reflective white bands that are wrapped around cavity trees. The RCW is the only woodpecker in

the world that excavates a cavity for nesting and roosting in living pine trees. In order to provide a suitable home, the tree must be a large, old pine, with large heartwood. The birds prefer longleaf pines because they produce more resin than other southern pines. As RCW excavate a cavity, they also peck small wounds called resin wells into the pine trees that react by exuding resin from the living sapwood. Because pine trees produce so much sap, RCW must drill past the sapwood and into the inactive heartwood to create a suitable roost cavity, or else the sticky resin will fill the cavity and entrap the birds. The resin that oozes from resin wells and flows down the tree trunk serves as a barrier to potential nest predators such as snakes.

See WOODPECKER

Page 5B

Kids have fun with recycling

Amanda Hinesly
Directorate of Public Works

In celebration of America Recycles Day, recycling awareness events were held at the Fort Stewart and Hunter Army Airfield Housing Community Centers. The events, entitled "Haystack Havoc," were held Nov. 13 and 16, and were a collaborative effort between the Directorate of Public Works Environmental Recycling Program and Balfour Beatty Communities. Both events were open to everyone within the Stewart-Hunter housing areas.

Each event began with a brief demonstration on the difference between trash items and recyclable items, presented by representatives from DPW Environmental's Recycling Program Yvonne Smith and Michelle Price. During the demonstration, parents and children were reminded that putting trash in a recycling bin can cause the recyclables to become contaminated and as a result are no longer able to be recycled. Smith and Price also stressed that reducing the number of contaminated items is vital to the success of the Installation's Recycling Program.

See RECYCLE

Page 7B

3ID Soldiers get glimpse of the past in Dublin, Ga

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

"Go out and put a smile on some veterans' faces," charged Mark Anderson, the acting Carl Vinson Veterans Administration Medical Center Director and Deputy Director of the Network Office Vision 7. "Hooah!"

Soldiers representing Fort Stewart's 3rd Sustainment Brigade, the 3rd Infantry Division Band and Winn Army Medical Center took that charge and ran with it, Dec. 1, when they paid a visit to the center, located in Dublin, Ga., armed with hand-made fruit baskets donated by the Liberty County Veterans Council. Joining them on the visit was 3rd ID deputy commanding general-rear, Brig. Gen. Jeffrey Phillips, and

Command Sgt. Maj Jeffrey Ashmen. During their visit, the Soldiers delivered the baskets, then sat and talked with many of the patients. Some even walked through the halls singing Christmas carols while dressed as Santa's helpers.

"This is an example of how we are one big family," said Brig. Gen Phillips. "These guys are the alumni club of the military. They're giving back to us with support, and we're giving back to them with our appreciation."

The visit, an annual event for the past 20 years, according to Anderson, didn't go unappreciated on either side. For many of the patients, who had little or no family, it would be one of the few visits they would receive all year. For the Soldiers, the visit gave them a chance to get a glimpse of the past.

See DUBLIN

Page 5B



Sgt. 1st Class Rhonda Lawson

Soldiers from Winn Army Medical Center cheer after singing Feliz Navidad to veteran and VA patient Morris Flanders while visiting the Carl Vinson VA Medical Center in Dublin, Ga., Dec. 1.



PRESENTS TODAY THROUGH DEC. 13

Saw VI

Today — 7 p.m.

(Tobin Bell, Costas Mandylor)

With the now-deceased Jigsaw still directing events from beyond the grave, Hoffman emerges as the next heir to the killer's twisted legacy. But as the FBI closes in, Hoffman sets in motion a game that is designed to reveal Jigsaw's grand scheme.

Rated R (sequences of grisly bloody violence and torture, and language) 93 min.

The Box

Friday — 7 p.m.

(Cameron Diaz, Frank Langella)

Norma and Arthur Lewis, a suburban couple with a young child, receive a simple wooden box as a gift, which bears fatal and irrevocable consequences. A mysterious stranger, delivers the message that the box promises to bestow upon its owner \$1 million with the press of a button. But, pressing this button will simultaneously cause the death of another human being somewhere in the world; someone they don't know. With just 24 hours to have the box in their possession, Norma and Arthur find themselves in the cross-hairs of a startling moral dilemma and must face the true nature

of their humanity.

PG-13 (thematic elements, some violence and disturbing images) 113 min,

A Christmas Carol

Saturday — 4:30 p.m. and 7 p.m.

(Jim Carrey, Gary Oldman)

Ebenezer Scrooge begins the Christmas holiday with his usual miserly contempt, barking at his faithful clerk and his cheery nephew. But when the ghosts of Christmas Past, Present and Yet to Come take him on an eye-opening journey revealing truths Old Scrooge is reluctant to face, he must open his heart to undo years of ill will before it's too late.

Rated PG (scary sequences and images) 98 min.

Michael Jackson's This is it

Sunday — 4:00 p.m.

(Michael Jackson)

Michael Jackson's final film is a compilation of rehearsal, behind-the-scenes and other footage of the pop legend preparing for the This Is It concert series, which was to be held for 100 shows in London. High School Musical's Kenny Ortega directs and handles all of the choreography.

Rated PG (suggestive choreography and scary images) 151 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 or go to www.aafes.com/ems/conus/stewart.htm.



Pets of the Week

Looking for a good home...

*GiGi the dog &
Henry the cat*

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.





DFMWR Briefs

Holiday Hayrides at Stewart, Hunter

The annual Holiday Hayrides, a popular event for Soldiers and Families at Fort Stewart and Hunter Army Airfield, are upon us.

Stewart: Santa will be at Corkan Family Recreation Area from 6-10 p.m., tomorrow. There will be caroling, and a hayride giving you a look at the season's lights, cookies and more. The hayride ticket price is \$5 per Family. All Corkan facilities will be open and operating at discount prices for the occasion. Get your tickets at the ticket counter. For more information, call 767-9884.

Hunter: Hallstrom Lake Recreation Area (off Perimeter Road) will be the site for the event from 5-8 p.m. Saturday. See the season's lights as you enjoy the hayride. We'll also have caroling, outdoor movies, marshmallow roast, hot chocolate, popcorn, a warm fire and more. Hayride price is \$5 per Family. Sign up in advance at Equipment Checkout Center, building 8454 or Pass & Permit Office, building 1286. For more information, call 315-9554 or 315-5163.

Trees for Troops at Stewart and Hunter

Christmas trees, donated by Christmas Spirit Foundation (representing Christmas tree growers and distributors) and FedEx, will be distributed on a first-come, first-served basis to Soldiers from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., Friday, at Stewart Leisure Activities Center, building 443, and Hunter Auto Crafts, building 1288.

There is no charge. There is a limit of one tree per military Family or single Soldier.

If there are any trees left over, they will be distributed on Saturday.

For more information and availability of trees, call (912) 977-5671 (Stewart) or 315-6244 (Hunter).

Traditional Holiday Turkey Shoot, Hunter

Come on out and join us for a traditional holiday turkey shoot at the Hunter Skeet Range, building

8250, from noon to 3 p.m., Saturday. You might win a \$10 gift certificate or \$20 certificate good at Hunter Outdoor Recreation. Fees: \$3 per round, minimum of 10 shooters per round.

For details, call 315-9554.

Corkan Family Bouldering Class

Join us for a Family Bouldering Class at Corkan Family Fun Center, building 449, from 5-7 p.m., Sunday.

This is open to Families who want the challenge and are interested in "Bouldering," climbing no higher than eight feet and moving from side to side. We want to see who can make it across the room, not just to the top.

The cost is \$5 per person/session. For more information, call 767-9884.

Atlanta Hawks vs Boston Celtics

Watch the Atlanta Hawks take on the Boston Celtics in a game at Phillips Arena in Atlanta on Jan. 29. Tipoff is at 7:30 p.m. The cost is \$50 per person, which includes admission and transportation to the game. Seating is in the 300 level at the arena.

Sign up with the Leisure Travel Office by Dec. 15. For more information, call 767-2841 at Fort Stewart or 315-3674 at Hunter Army Airfield.

Holiday Turkey Shoot at Fort Stewart

Test your marksmanship skills in the turkey shoot at the Fort Stewart Skeet Range, building 8332, from 4-8 p.m., Dec. 17.

The event consists of three types of shoots: traditional, poker and trap.

Fees: traditional, \$3 per shot; poker, five shots (\$3 per person) all night long; and trap, one shot (\$5 per person), one time only per individual/shoot till you miss each night.

Prizes will be awarded per category and door prizes given out. Turkey awarded for trap shoot only. For details, call 767-2515.

Holiday Brunches



As the pace of the holiday season begins to pick up in December, what better way to spend a leisurely Sunday than letting the chefs at Club Stewart and Hunter Club do all the cooking? The Holiday Sunday Brunches will be offered Dec. 13 at Club Stewart and Hunter Club.

At each, the menu will feature breakfast items and traditional holiday favorites. The hours at each are 10:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.

The cost is \$14.95 per person. Children ages 5-10 may dine at half price and children ages 4 and under are free. Call 368-2212 for more Club Stewart information and 459-7923 for more Hunter Club information.

Call 368-2212 for more Club Stewart information and 459-7923 for more Hunter Club information.

Newly-renovated Hunter Lanes grand opening

FMWR

The Fort Stewart-Hunter Army Airfield Family and Morale, Welfare and Recreation is pleased to announce that the \$1.34 million renovation that has transformed Hunter Lanes Bowling Center into a state-of-the-art facility to serve Soldiers, their Families and others in the military community, is complete.

The work that began in February will be officially complete with a

grand re-opening ceremony at Hunter Lanes, building 1280, at 2 p.m., Dec. 17. Christmas music will fill the air and the opening will feature a Winter Wonderland theme.

On the day of the grand opening, amusement/arcade games will be free after the ceremony until 6 p.m.

As thanks to the community for their patience during the renovations, free bowling will be offered through the close of business, Dec. 18.

The renovated Hunter Lanes features an upgraded color scheme, AMF state-of-the-art gaming equipment, flat-screen monitors and automatic scoring. The concourse was improved to make it more accommodating to parents or grandparents pushing strollers, as well as to those with physical challenges.

"We hope that we've made the Lanes attractive for kids and adults in order to better serve the Soldiers and their Families," said Idalene Elbert,

manager of Hunter Lanes.

The kitchen has been modernized and Hunter Lanes now offers a more diverse snack bar menu.

"The centerpiece of the renovated facility is the new party room that will serve not only Families, but units who want to hold hails and farewells and other events," said Alan Smith, FMWR Business Operations Chief. "We urge everyone to come out and make full use of this modernized bowling facility."

What is Christmas?

Chap. (Capt.) Richard Williams
6/8 Cav.

For many, the holiday season brings stress. A walk through a common shopping mall can reveal frantic shoppers trying to find that one special gift. On one particular occasion, things got so bad that one frustrated Christmas shopper yelled, "Whoever is responsible for this Christmas thing ought to be arrested, strung up, and shot!" With all the pressure of making Christmas perfect, we might be inclined to ask, "What is the meaning of Christmas?"

Lee Strobel, a journalist for the Chicago Tribune, wrote a story about the Delgados. The Delgados were a poor Family of three living in a two bedroom apartment on the south side of Chicago.

Strobel writes, "As I walked in, I couldn't believe how empty it was. There was no furniture, no rugs, nothing on the walls – only a small kitchen table and one handful of rice. That's it. They were virtually devoid of possessions... Yet despite their poverty and the painful arthritis that kept Perfecta from working, she still talked about her faith. I never sensed despair or self-pity in their home; instead, there was a gentle feeling of hope and peace."

Despite having nothing, the Delgados had hope and peace, which certainly describes the Christmas season.

Today's Christian magazine wrote a story about a prisoner named Roy who found himself in confinement in a Florida prison through the Christmas season. Undeterred by his loneliness, he sang Christmas

carols with another prisoner through the air vent.

Roy described his experience, "It was a moment I will never forget. It not only reminded me of Paul and Silas, but it made me realize that every day is Christmas when God is around."

As Roy described his experience in confinement as, "a moment I will never forget," this too describes Christmas in the hearts and minds of many.

For the Delgados in poverty and Roy in prison, Christmas meant something more than shopping and making that "perfect" Christmas. To them, Christmas was a reminder of their faith. With this in mind, we could perhaps recall the words of Charles Dickens. "I will honor Christmas in my heart and try to keep it all the year."



Chapel Schedule

Fort Stewart

Location Time

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

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

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

Jewish
Friday Heritage 11:30 a.m.
Contact Sgt. 1st Class Crowther at 767-6717.

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

Hunter Army Airfield

Catholic
Sunday Mass Chapel 11 a.m.

Protestant
Sunday Service Chapel 9 a.m.

Kids Church

Where God rocks

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

For children grades K-5
Fort Stewart bus pick-up:

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

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

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

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

10:50 a.m. - Marne Chapel

10:55 a.m. - Main Post Chapel

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

Fort Stewart Chapel Youth Ministry

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

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

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

TEAM STEWART WEB SITE
www.stewart.army.mil

Coastal Happenings

Courtesy of the Coastal Courier

Growth management meetings held

Fort Stewart Growth Management Partnership Director Jeff Ricketson announced meeting dates for the advisory committees working on detailed elements of the regional plan.

To attend or learn more about the meetings, contact the partnership through the Web site at www.growfortstewart.com or by call (912) 408-2069.

American Legion host Christmas Dance

The Ladies Auxiliary of the American Legion Post 135 presents their annual Christmas Dance, 8 p.m. to midnight, Sunday at 1108 Bull St. in Savannah. Advance tickets are \$12; at the door \$15. Tickets can be purchased by calling 354-0732/233-9277 or 898-4809. Music is provided by "Band of Gold." Dress is coat and tie, and the dance is open to the public. A cash bar will be available and door prizes awarded.

Holiday open houses, scavenger hunt

Shopping local not only contributes to the vitality of the community, it may pay for your holiday shopping as well. Thirteen downtown Hinesville businesses are participating in the "Downtown Scavenger Hunt," offering in-store prizes totaling over \$1,200 in value and a \$500 Shopping Spree - Grand Prize. Winning entries will be drawn at each participating location at the close of business, Dec. 17.

Customers simply visit the participating businesses through Dec. 17, "hunt" for the hidden ornament, and fill-out the entry form provided next to the ornament.

There is no purchase necessary and entries can be submitted once per visit, per person. Call (912) 877-4332 for more information.

See Jim Brickman in concert

Jim Brickman and 98.7 The River radio are donating 200 tickets to Friday evening's (Dec. 11) concert by Jim Brickman at 8 p.m. in the Savannah Civic Center to members of the Fort Stewart/Hunter Army Airfield military community.

Jim Brickman is one of contemporary music's most successful pianists. The romantic, pop-oriented compositions and high-profile collaborations that are his trademarks have boasted achievement in adult contemporary radio formats. He has been named the most charted male Adult Contemporary artist to date, with six of his albums receiving Gold and Platinum status.

He is known for his solo piano compositions, pop-style instrumentals, and vocal collaborations with artists such as Michael W. Smith, Martina McBride, Donny Osmond, Olivia Newton-John, Lady Antebellum and others. He earned a Grammy nomination in 2003, SESAC "Songwriter of the Year" award, Canadian Country Music Award for "Best Vocal/ Instrumental Collaboration," and a Dove Award presented by the Gospel Music Association.

BC offers scholarships

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

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

community service.

AASU offers hosts military appreciation nights

Active duty servicemembers, their Families, and military retirees get free admittance to two Military Appreciation Nights at Armstrong ASU- Friday, Dec. 18 at 6 p.m. AASU women play Edward Waters and at 8 p.m. AASU men play Mt. Olive at 8 p.m.; on Sat., Dec. 19, AASU women play Tampa at 6 p.m. and AASU men play Lenoir-Rhyne at 8 p.m. Come and watch basketball at its best. For information, call (912) 257-8786.

Luminary Night with Santa



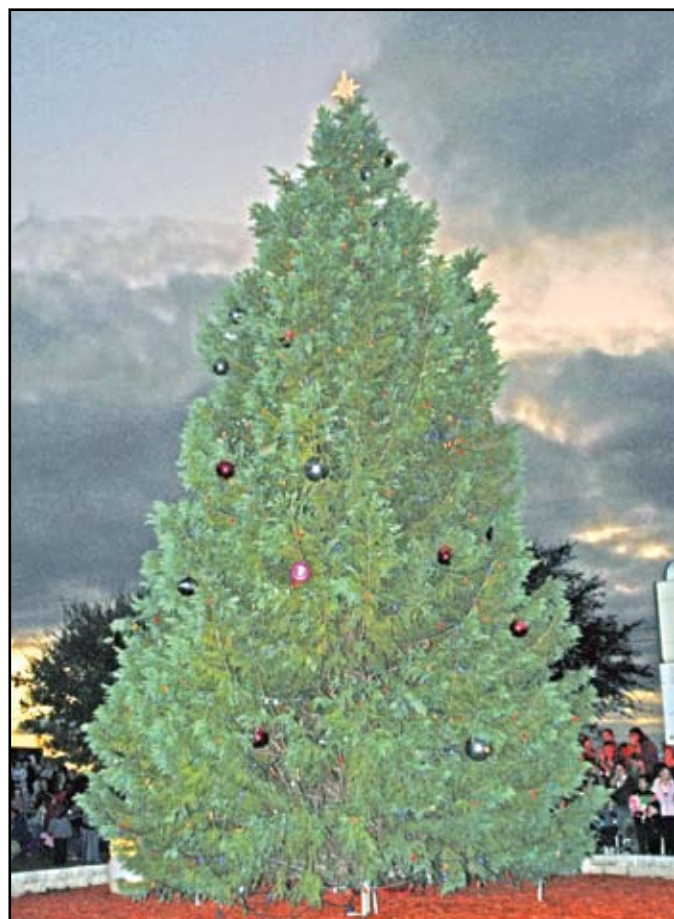
Dec. 19 • Skidaway State Park

Bring your kids and pets to Skidaway State Park for pictures with Santa, then walk our enchanted luminary trail, do holiday arts and crafts and enjoy caroling on hayrides. There will be holiday treats, hot chocolate and warm cider while you explore our nature museum with its wildlife and fossil exhibits and live animals. Parking is \$5 per vehicle; picture with Santa is \$3.

Call (912) 598-2300 for more information.

HOLIDAYS

from Page 1B



Meanwhile, Stevie Grace Barber, 3, seemed unsure about sitting in Santa's lap and had to be persuaded by her older brother Grant, 4, who sat on Santa's other knee while parents Shannon and Pfc. Kevin Barber, 3rd Battalion, 69th Armor, looked on.

By this point, the line to see Santa wound around a series of turns inside the main ballroom before leading outside and into the parking lot.

More than 2,700 people attended the Hunter Christmas Tree Lighting at Hunter Club, Dec. 7. According to Larry Cutchens, FMWR event coordinator, it was the largest turnout at Hunter in the FMWR

Randy Murray

Fort Stewart's Christmas tree comes alive with bright-colored lights, thanks to scores of children who helped Brig. Gen. Jeffrey Phillips, deputy commanding general - rear, as he pulled the giant lever as part of the annual lighting ceremony at Club Stewart, Dec. 3. Following the lighting ceremony and the arrival of Santa Claus, children and parents went inside the club where each room was specially decorated for the holidays. Hunter held its own Christmas Tree Lighting, Dec. 7.

history. Brigadier General Phillips presented awards to five groups that are sponsoring military Families this year, including the Savannah Board of Realtors, Habersham YMCA, Savannah Regional Central Labor Council, Red Hat Ladies Society and Georgia Power Company.

Also, representatives from the Sun City Veterans retirement community were on hand to present a check to the Fort Stewart-Hunter Army Airfield Chaplains' Tithes and Offerings Fund. Chaplain (Lt. Col.) Robert J. Hearn presented them with a letter of appreciation for their generous donations and support throughout

the year.

Yolanda Hingel, Army Community Services, and FMWR elves led children in Christmas songs before the tree lighting. The Hunter Club was decorated in its finest Christmas attire, and children and their parents enjoyed cookies, punch, photos with Santa, crafts while they listened to Christmas music.

The next FMWR event, the Holiday Hayride, will begin at 6 p.m., Friday at Stewart and 6 p.m. Saturday at Hunter. The hayride, which will take riders on a tour of the community's Christmas lights, cost \$5 per Family. For more information, call 767-9884 or 315-9554.

WOODPECKER

from Page 1B

It may take several years for an RCW to complete a natural cavity, and availability of cavities is a limiting factor in the growth of RCW populations. In the late 80's and early 90's, the U.S. Forest Service developed a method to install artificial cavities in living pine trees. This involves cutting a hole in the tree, and inserting a wooden birdhouse in the hole. This technique requires less than an hour to provide a young RCW a new home, and has vastly improved the outlook for the survival of the species.

Artificial cavities have played a critical role in the great success of the RCW population at Fort Stewart. Since 1994, the Fort Stewart Fish and Wildlife Branch has installed approximately 1,460 artificial cavities and continues to install new cavities and replace those that are no longer suitable. Yearly, Fort Stewart, along with other installations, state agencies, private landowners, and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service meet to discuss nesting success, population growth, and fate of fledglings. At the last translocation meeting it was decided that Fort Stewart's birds have increased enough that we are able to donate 32 fledglings to small RCW populations that have suitable and prepared habitat. Translocation develops better spatial arrangements of groups to reduce isolation, introduces new groups to suitable habitats and increases genetic diversity in smaller groups.

On Oct. 29, biologists from south-central Florida

boarded a special flight and flew up from Avon Park Air Force Range to Fort Stewart to retrieve 10 juvenile RCW. Five females and five males were captured at dusk, and placed in prepared boxes and flown back to Avon Park the same night. Much study and preparation was involved for this translocation and match-making event. Prior to translocation, selection of which birds to be moved was studied and target cavity trees determined. The history of the birds was carefully studied to ensure those chosen were not closely related.

The target cavity trees are the cavity trees that the selected birds roost in. Before dark, biologists went to the sites and walked a few hundred yards from the road to the predetermined target tree. The biologists sat and waited for the birds to come in. The biologists could hear the cricket like call of the birds and rapping sounds as they pecked away at the bark, foraging in the last moments before nightfall. While waiting, the birds were observed with binoculars and the target birds followed to determine what cavity they went to roost in. The silhouettes of the birds were briefly visible on tree trunks near the targeted cavity. Seconds later, they disappeared and the singing stopped. The birds had arrived home and gone in to roost for the night. Once in the hole the biologists retrieved a large net on a telescopic pole and slowly slipped it over the hole.

The bird was then coaxed to come out by rubbing or

beating a stick against the trunk and shining a light into the hole. On this particular night, the attempt failed and aluminum ladders were assembled and chained to the trees and the trees were climbed. You would think with all this commotion this would encourage the bird to come out, however, sometimes it doesn't. This night an apparatus with a tiny light was attached and lowered into the cavity to flush the bird out. Eventually, the bird followed the light, came out of the hole and into the net. The biologist then carried the bird down the ladder and placed him in the box made for his ride to his new home.

Once all 10 juveniles were captured, the birds were ready for the two and a half hour flight to their new homes in Florida. Upon arriving at their new homes, each bird was placed in the cavity of the tree that had been carefully prepared for them. Each cavity was covered with a screen to prevent the bird from flushing in an unfamiliar area in darkness and facing danger. After daylight, the screens were removed, allowing the birds to fly out to meet their new friends.

We are confident that our matchmaking will be a success for Avon Park and that the birds will be happy with their new surroundings. By next spring, the birds will be old enough to breed and will form new breeding pairs. If everything goes as planned, they will start a new breeding group and replenish the RCW population in south-central Florida.

DUBLIN

from Page 1B

"It's a great history lesson," said Pfc. Demetrius Hopkins, a 3rd Sustainment Bde. Soldier, after his visit with Army veteran Jack Hicks, who served with the famed 5th Infantry Division. "A lot of people forget about these people. This is a way to let them know that we haven't forgotten about them and the sacrifices they made for us."

For Spc. Daniel Leslie, 92nd Chemical Company, Special Troops Battalion, 3rd Sustainment Bde., it was a chance to learn from a former Army military police-

man who served his country for 25 years.

"It was a big morale booster for me," he said. "Talking with people was my favorite part of the visit."

The former MP, Nollie Dykes Jr., took advantage of his time with the younger Soldiers to advise as many as he could, encouraging some to pursue dual master's degrees.

"I try to help in any way that I can," he said. "I want to see them be successful."

Cynthia Percy, a former Airman and

breast cancer survivor who has been in the VA since March, said she also enjoyed the visit.

"It gives them an idea of what to expect when they are no longer military," she said. "It helps me to give something back to the military. I can tell them what they can expect and it gives them an edge."

By the end of the visit, it looked like Anderson's charge had been fulfilled.

"I saw a lot of smiles on the veterans' faces," said Cecilia James, the recreational therapy supervisor. "I think they really

liked the fact that (the Soldiers) were in uniform. The uniforms brought back a lot of memories."

"It was very positive," said Sgt. 1st Class Rose Artis, the Patient Administration Department NCOIC. They were truly appreciative of us coming here, and we appreciate them so much."

James added that anyone is welcome to visit the VA Hospital at any time.

"They don't have to bring gifts; the visits are gift enough," she said.

Army Community Service



ACS classes are free and open to active duty, Army Reserve, National Guard, Family Members, retirees and Department of Army Civilians. ACS is a member of the Directorate of Family and Morale, Welfare and Recreation, proudly serving America's military.

Join the foreign-born spouse network

Foreign-born spouses are invited to meet members from various countries to discuss the American way of life, develop friendships, and learn about the many resources available to make your new life experience positive, at ACS-Stewart beginning at 11:30 a.m., Dec. 16, or at ACS-Hunter beginning at 11 a.m., Dec. 21. Children are always welcome at spouse groups, and feel free to invite a friend. For information on spouse groups, call 767-5058/5059 at Stewart or 315-6816 at Hunter.

Join 'baby bootcamp'

Men who are expecting a baby or have children up to age two are invited to an interactive class where you'll learn the correct way to hold, diaper, dress, and bathe your little one. Challenge the stereotype and take the initiative to be a hands-on Dad. Mom will be thrilled, and you will reap the reward of building a special bond with your child that will last a lifetime. Please call 767-5058/5059 for the 4 p.m. class at Stewart, Dec. 17.

Get help with your job search

Your Employment Readiness team offers a variety of free workshops to help you succeed in your job search.

Job Hunting 101 offers instruction on various topics in the job search process to include resume writing, networking, interviewing, and dressing for success, at ACS-Hunter at 1 p.m., Dec. 17.

Resumix: Insider's Tips teaches you the insider's tips for seeking a job with the federal government, such as entering your resume in the system, searching jobs, and maximizing your skills for the most impact, at ACS-Stewart at 1 p.m., Dec. 17.

Interviewing: How to Work a Job Fair gives valuable instruction on how to prepare yourself for a job interview and what to do at a job fair, at ACS-Stewart at 1 p.m., Dec. 18.

For information and to reserve a seat, call 767-5058/5059 at Stewart.

For a current schedule of employment classes and to register, call 767-5058/5059 at Stewart or 315-6816 at Hunter. Also request a personal employment counseling session and let us help you prepare to find the job you want.

Attend EFMP support group

Everyone who has a Family Member enrolled in the Exceptional Family Member Program is invited to "It's An Exceptional Life," a support group where you can meet, share experiences and participate in educational seminars.

The group meets at the Fort Stewart ACS, building 86, beginning at 6:30 p.m., Dec. 30. Bring your children to Parents' Night Out, offered at both Fort Stewart and Hunter locations on the same night. Children will enjoy supervised activities at the CYS Child Development Center from 6 to 9 p.m. while

you attend the support group meeting.

Children must be registered with CYS and also enrolled in EFMP to participate, and advance sign-up is required. Please call 767-5058/5059 at Stewart or 315-6816 at Hunter for more information.

Get more from your paycheck

Your Financial Readiness team introduces a fast-track approach to getting more out of your paycheck, a new class that is a pre-requisite to most financial counseling appointments. We'll work with you individually in a group setting and teach you exactly how to create and maintain an accurate and effective personal budget. You will also learn how to evaluate your financial situation, establish personal goals, develop a personal cash flow, and the importance of involving the entire Family in the recordkeeping and budgeting process.

If you need more, individual financial counseling appointments can be made at the completion of class. Call 767-5058/5059 to register for the class at Stewart, now offered each Tuesday from 1-3 p.m.

Welcome packet available

Now available on the Team Stewart Web site, a newcomer's welcome packet provides a wealth of information about the Stewart-Hunter installation, including cost of living, population, child care, schools, youth services, housing, employment, post services, medical services, and more. To access the welcome packet, visit www.stewart.army.mil (click on the NEWCOMER tab at the top of the page, then select WELCOME PACKET).

Local maps, telephone directories, and current event calendars are available from your Relocation Readiness specialists located at your local Army Community Service Office. For more information, call 767-5058/5059 at Stewart or 315-6816 at Hunter.

Newcomer's briefings available

A Newcomer's Welcome/Family Orientation is offered at Fort Stewart each Tuesday and Thursday. Presented by the Army Community Service Outreach Program, the orientation provides an overview of the many agencies, events, and programs available to help with your transition to the area – and offers an opportunity to meet other new Families and Service Members. The Outreach staff can also assist with any issue or concern you may have as a newcomer. Please call 767-2467 to register. Also ask about child care.

View ACS calendar of classes online

Visit the Team Stewart Web site to view the current ACS calendar of classes. Visit www.stewart.army.mil (from the FAMILY menu, select Army Community Service, and click on the link to view our current calendar). With more than 40 classes and workshops available, the online calendar is your one-stop source for complete class listings.

Need to talk?

Military and Family Life Consultants are available to provide free and confidential support when you are having difficulty coping with issues related to

daily life. At Hunter, appointments can be made by calling 655-8327. Appointments at Stewart can be made by calling 432-1033, 492-6428, 432-0013, 536-7854, 432-1798, or 492-6367.

If you prefer to meet with a counselor off-post, please call 492-6367 at Stewart or 704-9505 at Hunter to schedule an appointment.

Off-post sessions are available at these local community locations: Richmond Hill Library, Glennville Welcome Center, Pembroke Senior Center, and Hinesville National Guard.

Bring the kids to Play Mornings

Parents are invited with their children (ages 0 to 36 mos.) to spend time playing together. Led by an energetic and playful adult from our New Parent Support Program, the play mornings are designed for meeting, sharing, and playing with other military Families in a fun, upbeat atmosphere. At Stewart, Play Mornings are held each Thursday at the Bryan Village Youth Center.

At Hunter, Play Mornings are held each Tuesday at the New Gannam Community Center. The fun begins at 10 a.m. at both locations. No pre-registration is required; simply bring your child's immunizations record and register at the door.

Coping with a deployed parent

Child, Youth & School Services, with support from Military Family Life Consultants, will begin weekly activities to help children and teens with anxieties or concerns associated with having a deployed parent. Support sessions are informal, with information on how children and teens can manage their behaviors during difficult times. Each Wednesday from 5-6 p.m., for children grades 1-5 at the Soldier Family Center, building 1286. Every Thursday from 5-6 p.m., for children grades 6-12 at the Soldier Family Center. Spaces are limited.

There is no cost. Parents should notify the central registration office at 315-5425 to sign up their children. For more information, contact the Hunter School Liaison Office at 315 - 6586.



Special Deliveries

Provided by Winn Army Hospital

September 29

Lucas Danger Tarrants, a boy, 8 pounds, born to Pfc. Mark Tarrants and Rheana Tarrants.

November 22

Trenton Joseph Bates, a boy, 7 pounds, 11 ounces, born to Spc. Joseph Bradley Bates and Danielle Bates.

November 30

Trevor Neff Brown, a boy, 8 pounds, 11 ounces, born to Pfc. Jonathan Neff Brown and Jade Ashley Brown.

Jeremy Lee Cooper, a boy, 9 pounds, 8 ounces, born to Spc. Eric Cooper and MunYoung Lee Cooper.

Ayana Shirley Mae Correa, a girl, 8 pounds, 5 ounces, born to Pvt. Andrew Correa and Ashley Correa.

Kenneth John Piere, a boy, 7 pounds, 7 ounces, born to Spc. Nicholas Andrew Piere and Danielle Marie Piere.

December 1

Adalie Marie Doherty, a girl, 7 pounds, 4 ounces, born to Sgt. Richard M. Doherty and Erin Marie Doherty.

Tyler Ryan Laforge, a boy, 6 pounds, 15 ounces, born to Spc. Zachary Allan Laforge and Amanda Nichole Laforge.

Gabriel Matthew Peterson, a boy, 7 pounds, 9

ounces, born to 2nd Lt. Amanda Jane Peterson and Leif Eric Peterson.

December 2

Zachery James Plank, a boy, 8 pounds, born to Spc. Jeffrey Plank and Rebecca Maria Elizabeth Plank.

Kiera Rose Taylor, a girl, 7 pounds, 9 ounces, born to Pfc. Frank Taylor II and Alicia Marie Taylor.

December 3

Charles Van Spurlock, a boy, 7 pounds, 9 ounces, born to Spc. Michael Van Spurlock and Sara Ashley Spurlock.

Mason Michael Childers, a boy, 8 pounds, 10 ounces, born to Pfc. Tyler Michael Childers and Dara Escobedo Childers.

December 4

Samari Malaysia Benson, a girl, 8 pounds, 1 ounce, born to Spc. Art Tory and DeAndrea Benson.

Kaleb Kyle Hartline, a boy, 8 pounds, 2 ounces, born to Spc. Beau Thomas Hartline and Tiffany Raquel Hartline.

December 5

Yazmien Aniyah Howze, a girl, 9 pounds, 2 ounces, born to Pfc. Ashley Howze.

Ian David Rathburn, a boy, 9 pounds, 1 ounce, born to Pfc. David Rathburn and Ariana Rathburn.



RECYCLE

from Page 1B




Courtesy Photo

Relay participants search for recyclable items during Haystack Havoc, Nov. 13 and 16.

After the demonstration, Amber Humphries, LifeWorks Coordinator from Balfour Beatty Communities, divided participants into two teams and explained the rules for the recycling relay race. A bucket of ping pong balls was placed between the teams, each of which had the name of a recyclable or trash item written on it. Each team member selected a ball then raced to the "haystack" made from shredded paper to find the item. Once they located the item, they raced back and placed it in either the "trash" or "recyclable" container. If they placed the item in the wrong container, they had to go again. The first team to get all of its members through was declared the winner. The winners were then given a reusable shopping bag filled with envi-

ronmental information and toys.

The winners were presented with their prizes then participants made scarecrows using the shredded paper from the haystack and clothing items donated by Goodwill. As the event came to an end, all participants were provided pizza as well as an environmental goody bag.



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Now Available At

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 Piggly Wiggly
 312 South Main

Midway
 Clyde's Market
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Midway Station
 27 S. Coastal Hwy

Richmond Hill
 Clyde's Market
 Hwy 17 & Ford Ave., (Hwy 144)

Harvey's Ford Plaza
 2451 US Highway 17