

## LIFE &amp; TIMES

C SECTION

## On Post

## Volunteers needed

The ACS volunteer coordinator and the installation volunteer coordinator have information about a wide variety of volunteer opportunities in the ACS center and at other agencies at Fort Stewart and Hunter Army Airfield.

Volunteer orientation at Hunter ACS is the first Thursday of every month, 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. Volunteers are always welcome and needed at ACS.

For more information, call 352-6816.

## EXPRESS lunch

Express lunch is now served at the Hunter Club and Club Stewart Monday through Friday from 11 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Prices range from \$4.75 to \$6.50.

## Join Toastmasters!

Whether you're a professional, student, stay-at-home-parent, or retiree, Toastmasters is the best way to improve your leadership and communication skills. The dogfaced Soldiers Toastmasters International Club meets at noon every second and fourth Friday of the month at Club Stewart. Open to everyone.

For more information, contact Chief Warrant Officer Jay Bowen at 767-0383, or email [bowenja@stewart.army.mil](mailto:bowenja@stewart.army.mil), or call Brigitte Roberts at 370-6903.

## Active parenting

Each Wednesday from 9:30 to 11:30 a.m., now through Wednesday, parents of children ages 5 to 12 can learn styles of parenting, winning cooperation, responsibility and effective discipline techniques, communication skills and building courage, character and self-esteem in their children.

Childcare may be provided, but parents must sign up in advance.

For more information contact Becky Sellers at 767-5058 (Stewart), or Regina Mims at 352-6816 (Hunter).

## Red Cross Cafe

The Red Cross Cafe will open at the Hunter ACS Building at 9 a.m. March 11.

## Outdoors events

Women in the Outdoors: Register now for classes such as camping basics, turkey hunting, handgun, archery, outdoor cooking, s h o t g u n n i n g , canoeing/kayaking or outdoor photography.

The event will place March 6 at Holbrook pond. Cost is \$35 for military and civilians.

## Off Post

## MILES Program

Don't buy a vehicle until you are armed with knowledge. This program is designed exclusively for active duty servicemembers who cannot obtain bank or credit financing when purchasing a vehicle.

For information visit or qualify online at [usmiles.com](http://usmiles.com) or call the Military Installment Loan and Education Services Assistance Center toll free at (866)-466-4537

To publish a brief in The Frontline, call 767-3440 or fax us at 767-5979. Deadline for briefs is Friday at noon.

## Stewart celebrates Black History

Sp. Jimmy D. Lane

Staff Writer

Division Support Command sponsored a program at Woodruff Theatre to celebrate Black History Month and the 50th Anniversary of the Brown vs. Board of Education landmark court case.

"American Soldiers have answered the call to arms for their nation since Crispus Attucks fought in the American Revolution and sacrificed his life during the Boston Massacre," said Lt. Col. John F. Haley, 703rd Main Support Battalion com-

mander. "Attucks is but the first of a long and distinguished roll call of African Americans in the history of our United States military."

The program consisted of four acts, including singing and dance routines. The keynote speaker was Command Sgt. Maj. Mittie A. Smith, Hunter Army Airfield command sergeant major.

The first act was a singing group called Soldiers Voices. They began with a harmony in the first part of their act and ended with a solo singer, Spc. Tremaine Morgan, a medic from 1st Battalion, 64th Armor Regiment

leading the other singers.

Act two was a dance act called the Midway Middle School African Dancers. The dancers performed a traditional dance. The audience cheered when 11-year-old Brandon Scott performed a series of flips to end the routine.

The third act was a step dance team from Midway Middle School. The team performed a series of complex rhythmic moves that included stomping and clapping. The act garnered a standing ovation from the audience.

The Victory Chapel Choir per-

formed last with a selection of hymns and gospel music that had the audience on their feet, swaying and clapping to the music.

"Leaders, statesmen and Soldiers all paved a way toward a military founded in inclusion," Haley said. "A military that fully embraces the idea of teamwork and equal opportunity for all Americans who are committed to serve their country as members of its armed forces. This is clearly the kind of military that we want to be a part of today."

"Although blacks have been in

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Photos by Pfc. Benjamin T. Brody

The terra-torch patrols the fire's perimeter Friday, touching up areas that the helicopter may have missed.

## Endangered species, training sustained by fire

Pfc. Benjamin T. Brody

Staff Writer

On other military installations, most recently Fort Bragg, N.C., endangered species and Soldiers have struggled to get along. But at Fort Stewart, biologists and military leaders have found an unlikely ally to preserve both the training areas and the wilderness — fire.

The result of Stewart's fire management is an open forest full of longleaf pine and very little mid-story vegetation — it's perfect habitat for many endangered species, as well as a mechanized infantry, according to Directorate of Public Works wildlife biologist Larry Carlisle.

"For training, the forest now is much easier to move in than it was before we started burning," Carlisle said. "But it's also made our endangered species recovery programs some of the best in the country."

One of the post's biggest success stories is that of the endangered red-cockaded woodpecker, which has thrived in Stewart's longleaf pine forests, as have other species,

such as the indigo snake, the gopher tortoise and many threatened plants. All of these species thrive in areas where longleaf grows.

"In the longleaf pine ecosystem, fire is the predator that thins out the herd and keeps the forest healthy," said installation endangered species manager Tim Beaty. "Our forests evolved with periodic lightning fires and many species that depend on the longleaf consequently depend on fire to survive."

The longleaf pine, a native species that now occupies only three percent of its former range, declined due to agriculture and residential development, but is making a comeback at Stewart because of its vast wilderness and intensive fire management program.

"After clear-cutting much of the Southern forests, loggers planted slash pine and loblolly, because it appears to grow faster than longleaf," said Alison McGee, Southeastern conservation manager of the Nature Conservancy. "But the longleaf looks

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The fire burns near a sign displaying information about the red-cockaded woodpecker.

## Cub Scouts celebrate 50 years at Stewart

Sp. Robert Adams

Staff Writer

Cub Scouts with Pack 566 celebrated their 50th Anniversary on Fort Stewart with a Blue and Gold banquet dinner and presentation of awards at Diamond Elementary School Friday.

Families gathered to eat food, cake and recognize the 94th birthday of the Boy Scouts of America.

"After the dinner, some of the boys that have earned rank and are progressing to the next level are going to be pinned and others are going to be recognized," said Staff Sgt. Richard A. Smith, comco chief, 3rd Battalion, 7th Cavalry Regiment and committee chairman for Pack 566.

"We have 24 boys which are going to be receiving rank

**"Cub scouting helps them become better citizens and better adults."**

Staff Sgt. Richard A. Smith  
Committee Chairman, Pack 566

tonight," said Whitney Householder, Pack 566 cubmaster.

These boys are in grades 1st through 5th and progressing through Tiger Cubs, Wolves, Bears, Junior and Senior Webelos before becoming boy scouts, Householder said.

"We have 48 active scouts who perform all types of services for the Fort Stewart community, including food and clothing drives and Make a Difference Day, which involved

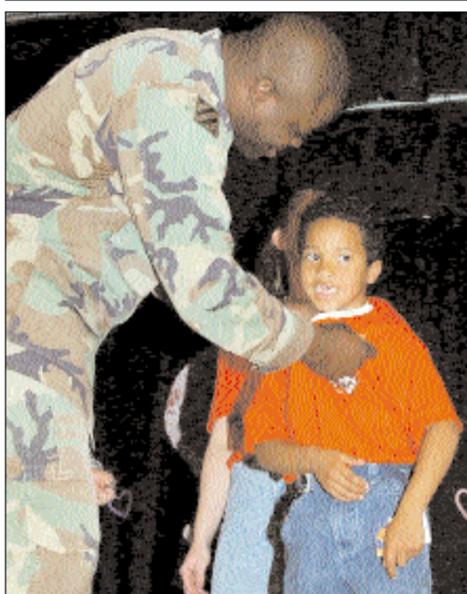
them cleaning up playgrounds around post," Smith said.

"We did lots of safety projects," said Cody A. Smith, who received his Webelos badge Friday.

The ten purposes of Cub Scouting are to build character development, spiritual growth, good citizenship, sportsmanship and fitness, family understanding, respectful relationships, personal achievement and friendly service, according to the Boy Scouts of America Web site.

"There are scout recruiting nights that are held at the local schools in which the scouts will show up in uniform and show the kids the projects they have been working on," Smith said.

Smith added, "Cub Scouting helps them become better citizens and better adults."



Sp. Robert Adams

Corey Samples Jr. gets pinned by his father Sgt. Corey Samples, B Btry., 1/41 FA at pack 566's 50th Anniversary Banquet held at Diamond Elementary Friday.



Photos by Pfc. Benjamin T. Brody

Brandon Taylor, a wildlife technician with DPW, controls a burn around the woodpeckers' nests in a Fort Stewart forest with a drip torch.

## FIRE

from page 1C

like a clump of grass while it grows a deep taproot, which enables it to survive fires much better. After 15 years, longleaf is just as big as slash."

Fire is the main tool to open up the pine forests at Stewart, but when the undergrowth is too dense to safely burn, or when larger trees must be removed, crews use an enormous tractor-pushed mowing machine that shreds anything in its path.

"With the mowing machine we can open up about seven acres a day," Carlisle said. "The woodpecker doesn't tolerate any mid-story in its habitat."

Red-cockaded woodpeckers drill cavities into old longleaf pines that have soft wood and make their nests. Since there are not enough trees this old on post, biologists at Stewart will often insert cedar boxes into younger pines that the birds readily inhabit.

These younger trees, however, exude a highly flammable sap, and must be protected when the areas they are in are burned.

As a bright yellow DPW helicopter shrieked overhead, dropping incendiaries on the day's burn area Friday, crews moved in to protect the RCW nesting sites.

Workers from the DPW and interns from the Oak Ridge Institute for Science and Education spray flame retardant foam in a ring around the inhabited trees, then burn the pine straw and other debris inside the circle.

"The foam is just soap, air and water, but it'll stand up to about an hour of burning," said ORISE wildlife technician Ryan Adamson. "That's more than enough to protect the nesting sites."

Before setting a controlled burn, the DPW writes up a "prescription" for the area, which takes into account all of the factors that will affect the fire, such as weather forecast, wind speed and direction, temperature, the amount and type of material that will be burned and countless others, according to post fire management supervisor Jeff Mangun.

"Since we burn so often, a severe fire is very unlikely, but the smoke is our main concern," Mangun said. "We do get complaints occasionally when the weather does something we didn't expect, but with four major towns, interstates and airfields around the burn areas, we're extremely careful with where the smoke goes."

Concern for wildfires is considerable, given the amount of pyrotechnics hurled into Stewart's forests on a regular basis, but the fire management program greatly reduces the risk of an out-of-control blaze, said post Director of Public Works Col. Mike Biering.

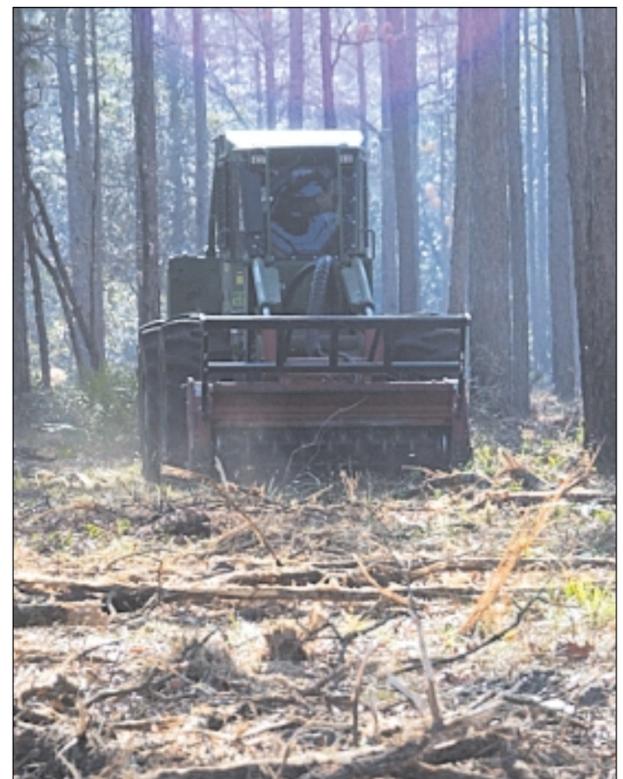
"Fort Stewart has the largest prescribed burn area in North America, and it keeps our ranges open," Biering said. "I'm proud to say we haven't lost a single day of training here due to a wildfire."



Ryan Adamson sprays foam in a circle around trees, where the endangered red-cockaded woodpecker nests, to avoid damaging them during burning.



A helicopter piloted by Jonathan Hight starts fires by dropping ping-pong ball sized incendiaries into the woods. Hight then monitors the fire from the air until it burns out.



A mowing machine piloted by DPW's Revis Baxter clears undergrowth from Stewart's pine forests.

# EFMP seminar educates parents

**Pfc. Benjamin T. Brody**  
Staff Writer

Representatives from Fort Stewart's Exceptional Family Member Program and community activists gave a seminar designed to inform post families of the resources available for family members with physical or mental disabilities.

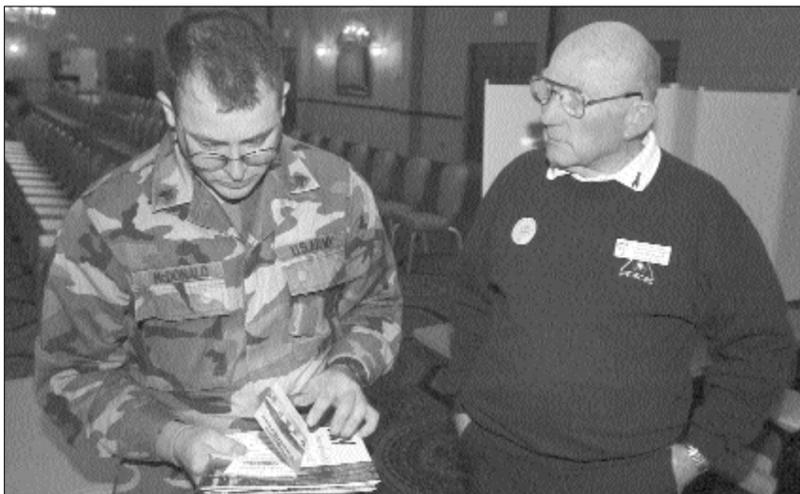
"Our programs here have two major components: medical and community," said post EFMP coordinator Johnny Cusimano. "From the medical side, we can find treatment for conditions from asthma to cerebral palsy. The community side provides critical emotional support and group interaction for our exceptional families. The best thing we can do is provide an atmosphere where we can openly discuss these issues and advocate for our special needs kids."

A panel of on and off post foundations for EFM support listed off a wide array of services available in the community.

Retired Master Sgt. John Richard of the National Association for the Mentally Ill — Savannah said that his group's mission is to eradicate mental illness. NAMI sponsors classes that train parents on how to deal with their children's mental illness, such as autism, and hosts family support groups in the Savannah area.

"We'll be starting free classes in March at Fort Stewart through Army Community Services," Richard said. "It's always been hard to find good mental health services in the military, and we're working to change that."

Martha Wheeler of Gateway Mental Health helps disabled people find jobs, whether they are physically or mentally disabled, or recovering from substance abuse. The organization helps train individuals in both finding and keeping a job, from resumé writing to purchasing adap-



*Pfc. Benjamin T. Brody*

**John Richards of NAMI - Savannah shows Sgt. Patrick McDonald of 3/7 Inf. some of his group's literature at Fort Stewart's EFMP seminar.**

tive technology like hearing aids for people.

"We try to find long term employment that people will enjoy," Wheeler said. "We usually help juniors in high school decide whether they want to go to vocational school, college or go right into a job, but we can help anyone who wants to work. We trained one woman who was 76."

Child and Youth Services offers child care for after school and for pre-kindergarteners as well. They also can get kids involved in 4-H, or the Boys and Girls Club.

Laura Erickson from ACS said her group provides many support groups to help exceptional families. One new support group is called "What about me?" It is designed to help children who feel they don't get enough attention because of a sibling with special needs.

"We help partner families in the community who deal with the same afflictions a lot," Erickson said. "We can also just listen — everybody

needs to just vent sometimes.

Bonita Porter of Educational and Developmental Intervention and Services and Winn Army Medical Center helps make sure disabled children are ready for school when the time comes. A speech pathologist, a physical therapist and others are on staff to make sure the children are ready to learn, she said.

Cusimano estimates there are about 2,000 exceptional family members on post, most suffering from relatively minor disabilities, such as asthma or attention deficit hyperactivity disorder.

"My goal is to make these seminars a one stop shop for all the resources and advocacy programs around," Cusimano said. "It's really rewarding to have this opportunity to provide our folks with these shortcuts."

"These seminars are really helpful," said Sgt. Patrick McDonald, who has children in EFMP. "I go to every one and find out something new every time."

## HISTORY

from page 1C

America at least as far back as colonial times, it was not until the 20th century that they gained a respectable presence in history books," Smith said. "We owe the celebration of Black History Month, and more importantly the study of black history, to Dr. Carter G. Woodson. The scholar was saddened and disturbed to find out that no schools taught the history of black Americans. Dr. Woodson decided to take the challenge of writing black Americans into our nations' history.

"In 1926, Dr. Woodson led the struggle and search for the truth," She continued. "He launched Negro History Week as an initiative to neutralize the apparent ignorance and deliberate distortion of black history, and to bring national attention to the contributions of black people throughout American history."

Americans have recognized black history annually since then, first as Negro History Week and later as Black History Month, Smith explained. "The goal of Black History Month is to have a better informed society with respect to this historic milestone. Awareness is crucial to the success of our nation. We must continue to shape our attitudes to fly where eagles fly. We have a choice every day regarding the attitude we will embrace for our future, for we cannot change our past."

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CHAPLAIN'S CORNER

# Extreme promises

**Chaplain (Maj.) Mitchell I. Lewis**

Special to The Frontline

In the 1978 film "The End", Burt Reynolds played a character who decides to commit suicide by swimming out to sea, but later changes his mind as he starts to sink into the deep. Far from shore, he calls out to God. "Get me out of this and I... I'll keep the Ten Commandments. I won't steal. I won't lie. I won't ... I won't ... I ... I'll learn the Ten Commandments!" In his struggle he promises God, "If you let me live, I'll give you 50 percent of all my money" but as he nears the beach, his commitment waivers. "That's right, Lord, if you let me live, I'll give you 20 percent of all my money."

A year ago, I sat with a few thousand of my closest friends in Kuwait, preparing for the possibility of war in Iraq. Many of us experienced a vastly improved prayer life during the months of training and combat. Like Reynolds' character, I, too, made promises to God as I called out for his help. Now that I'm home, what do I make of those promises?

I think I need to take them seriously. The Bible reminds us repeatedly, "When one of you men makes a promise to the Lord, you must keep your word." (*Numbers 30:2*) "Make your promises to the Lord your God and do what you promise." (*Psalms 76:11*) Jesus said, "Let your 'Yes' mean 'Yes,' and your 'No' mean 'No'" (*Matthew 5:37*).

I think I need to take promises seriously, but not necessarily literally. Sometimes I promise something to God that God doesn't really want from me. Something else may be even more important to God.

In 1505 lightning struck near Martin Luther, a law student on the road to school in Erfurt, Germany. The storm frightened Luther so badly that he called out, "Help me Saint Anne. I will become a monk." Luther quickly kept his promise and entered a

monastery. Through the next several years, as Luther studied the Bible, he discovered that God wanted something from him even more important than a change in occupation. God wanted a living faith.

Our promises often spring from ignorance or pride. God knows that we promise things we can't deliver. A child that vows, "If you take me to Disney World, I'll clean my room every day for the rest of my life" is promising more than he is able to give.

I take my promises seriously because they reveal something significant about my life. In the busy, carefree life that I normally live, I think about little but the moment, myself, my desires and the trivial matters that occupy our thoughts and energies. During those hours of anxiety, homesickness and boredom in Kuwait and Iraq, I thought about my relationship to my God and my family, what I wanted from life, who I was and what I valued. I told myself that things would be different when I returned home — that I would treasure the things that were truly important, make life-choices based on things that were of value and look at life through the perspective I had gained by living through one of life's extreme situations. Those are things I still want for myself.

What do your promises to God really mean? Some people call the promises that we make in extreme situations "Bargaining with God". God doesn't bargain; God gives freely. We can't perfectly fulfill our promises to God any more than we can perfectly keep the law of God. Thank God for the grace that forgives our sin. Still, I think there is great reward in following through on the spirit of the promises you made. Perhaps your promise was misguided or foolish, but in your heart-of-hearts you knew there was something in your life that needed to change. Don't let the return of everyday life drown out the voice of God. God doesn't need whatever it is you promised; you do.



## Pet of the Week

**B**ob is a 2-year-old long-hair domestic house-cat, looking for a loving family. He is affectionate and great with children.

If you are interested in adopting a pet like Bob who needs a good home, call the Fort Stewart Veterinary Clinic at 767-2842.

The clinic is located on W. Bultman Avenue.

# Worship Opportunities

## Fort Stewart

<u>Catholic</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Time</u>
Sunday Mass	Victory	9 a.m.
Saturday Mass	Victory	5 p.m.
Weekday Mass	Victory	11:45 a.m.
<u>Protestant</u>		
Sunday Protestant Worship	Marne	11 a.m.
Sunday Gospel Service	Victory	11 a.m.
Sunday Family Friendly	Vale	11 a.m.
Tuesday Healing Service	WACH	11:30 a.m.
<u>American Samoan</u>		
Sunday Worship	Vale	1 p.m.
<u>Muslim</u>		
Friday Jum'ah	Building 9182	1:15 p.m.
Masjid (Daily)	Building 9182	5:30 a.m.
<u>Lutheran</u>		
Sunday Worship	Marne	9 a.m.
<u>Contemporary Worship Service</u>		
Sunday Worship	Marne	6 p.m.
<u>Jewish</u>		
Friday Services	Marne	6 p.m.

## Hunter Army Airfield

<u>Protestant</u>		
Protestant Sunday School	Religious Education center	9:30 a.m.
Sunday Service	ACS Building, 1286	11 a.m.
<u>Catholic</u>		
Sunday Mass	ACS Building, 1286	9:30 a.m.
CCD	Religious Education center	11 a.m.

# Volunteer Spotlight



**Anne Nadig**



Anne Nadig, a native of Charlottesville, Va., volunteers for the 3rd Battalion, 7th Infantry Regiment Family Readiness Group.

"I feel fortunate to be married to a Soldier," nadig said. "Insuring that family members are well while Soldiers are deployed is the least we can do for our husbands."

Nadig's favorite part of volunteering is the opportunity to serve others in the military community.

If you would like more information about becoming an ACS volunteer, visit ACS at Building 470 on Fort Stewart, Building 1286 on Hunter Army Airfield, or for more information, call Vickie Wiginton at 767-5058.



# WOODRUFF THEATER

Feb 26 - March 3

Friday, Saturday and Sunday

General admission is \$3 for adults, \$1.50 for children.

\$1 Showings Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday



## Chasing Liberty (PG-13)

Starring: Mandy Moore, Matthew Goode  
Tonight at 7 p.m.

Eighteen-year-old Anna Foster just wants the American dream ... life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness. Tired of being followed around every moment of every day, the 18-year-old daughter of the President of the United States ditches her secret service handlers and sets out on a road trip through Europe where she meets charming Brit Ben Calder who aids her in her getaway. As her impromptu European adventure draws her closer to Ben, she dreads the day she will have to tell him who she is.  
Run time: 111 minutes

## Along Came Polly (PG-13)

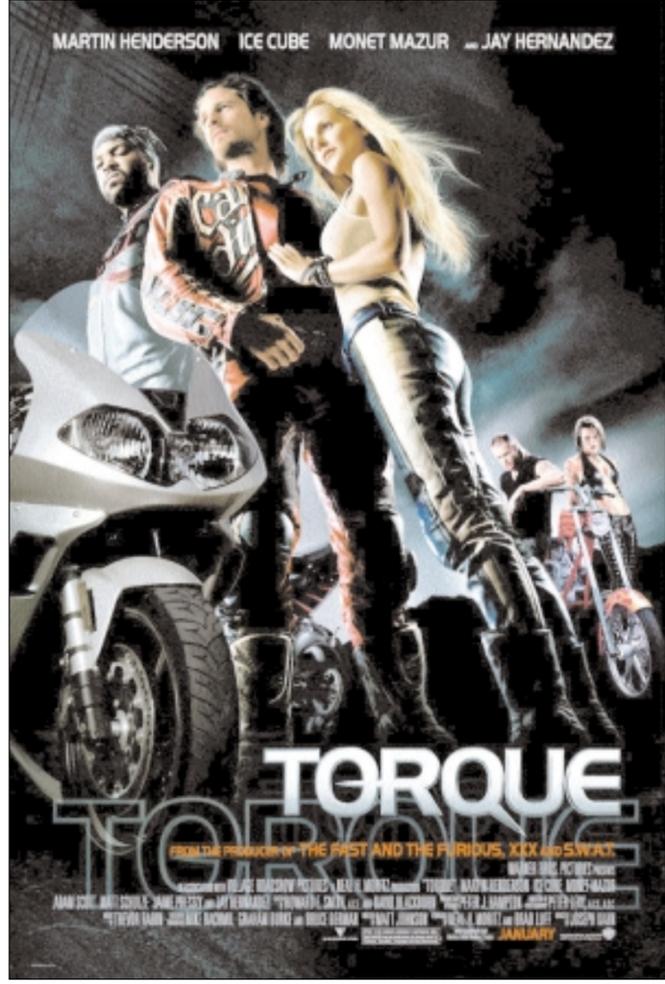
Starring: Ben Stiller, Jennifer Aniston  
Friday, Saturday and Sunday at 7 p.m.

Reuben's best laid plans for life and love careen wildly off track when his bride dumps him on their honeymoon. Stunned and humiliated, Reuben plans to play it safer than ever. But an encounter with a childhood friend named Polly shoots him into a whirlwind of living in the moment activities.  
Run time: 90 minutes

## Torque (PG-13)

Starring: Ice Cube, Jay Hernandez  
Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday at 7 p.m.

A motorcycle racer is framed for murder by his long-time nemesis and a gang member, bringing the most notorious biker gang and its leader Trey after him for revenge, and the FBI is not far behind in pursuit of all of them.  
Run time: 90 minutes

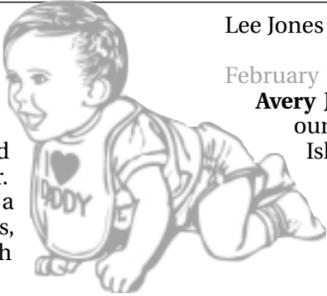


## Birth announcements

January 22  
**Zhimiya De'shea Mitchell**, a girl, 7 pounds, 5 ounces, born to Jasper Devon Mitchell Jr. and Ashley Danyill Washington.

February 12  
**Alexis Carmen Copeny**, a girl, 8 pounds, 10 ounces, born to Spc. Jared Copeny and Mandy Copeny.

February 14  
**Emily Renee Locklear**, a girl, 6 pounds, 2 ounces, born to Sgt. Kray Allen Locklear and Christina Ann Locklear.  
**Anthony Lee Jones**, a boy, 8 pounds, 4 ounces, born to Pfc. Kenneth



Lee Jones II and Brianna Lee Jones.

February 16  
**Avery Jarriel Isler**, a boy, 7 pounds, 2 ounces, born to Sgt. Byron Jarriel Isler and Sgt. Thomasine Isler.  
**Lucas Ka'oleioku Musico**, a boy, 7 pounds, 11 ounces, born to Capt. Darren Musico and Laura Musico.

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