

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 on 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.

FRG Cookbooks

The HHC, 3rd Inf. Div. FRG is selling homemade cookbooks for \$15 each. Order before Dec. 19 and receive a discounted price of \$13.50. For more information, call Dana Corona at 369-6292 or Danyelle George at 756-6490.

Child and Youth Services

The Central Registration office located at Bldg. 443 has changed operational hours. The new hours will be 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday and 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. Wednesday.

For more information call 767-2312.

Holiday brunch & bazaar

A Holiday brunch and arts and crafts bazaar will be held Sunday at Club Stewart from 10:30 to 1:30 p.m. Children can get photos with Santa for free. For more information call 368-2212.

Dances

A dance for Single Soldiers will be held at Sports USA Saturday. For more information 767-8715.

A Latin Flash Dance contest will be held at Sports USA Dec. 12. Couples Only. The top prize will be \$100.

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 12 p.m. 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 at bowenja@stewart.army.mil, or call Brigitte Roberts at 370-6903.

Human Christmas Tree

Sports USA will host a human christmas tree decorating contest Friday at 7:30 p.m. For more information call 767-8715.

Meet Santa

Santa Claus will make an appearance at the PX Dec. 19 from 2 to 2:45 p.m. He will pass out goodies and greet visitors. Look for him on the fire engine.

Youth Dance

Youth Services will hold a holiday dance Dec. 19 for 6th, 7th and 8th graders. The dance will be held from 7 to 10 p.m. Tickets are \$3. For more information, call 767-4491.

Off Post**Christmas for kids**

An Annual Christmas for Kids Celebration will be held Saturday in Savannah's City Market from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. The event is free and open to the public. For more information, call (912)525-2489 or visit savannahcitymarket.com.

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

Turkey day tunes

Marne band plays for Thanksgiving

Spc. Jimmy D. Lane Jr.

Staff Writer

The 3rd Infantry Division (Mechanized) 'Rhythm of the Marne' band played a Thanksgiving concert at Club Stewart Nov. 24

"The concert was a type of thanks in its own way, especially for the spouses who ran things while we were all deployed," said Staff Sgt. Robert Malone, a clarinet player with the Marne band, "They are the true unsung heroes here tonight."

"This time last year, most of the division was deployed, so we couldn't hold a Thanksgiving concert for everybody," said Chief Warrant Officer Fred J. Catchings, commander of the 3rd Inf. Div. Band "Now that everyone is back, I feel it is important to pause and give

thanks for what we have."

The concert was also the premiere performance of the Marne Chorus, Catchings added.

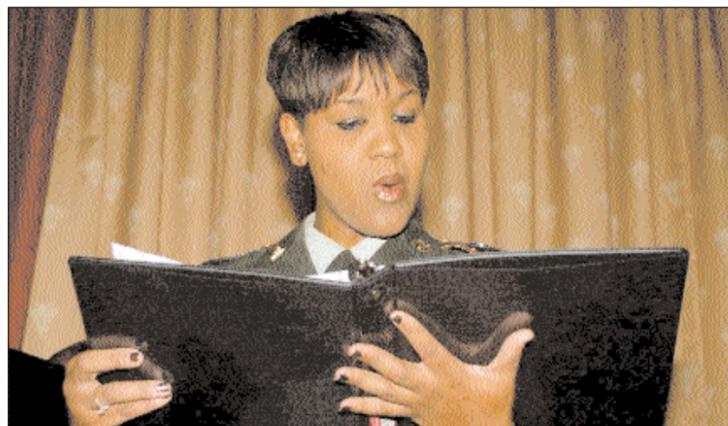
"While the band is our main gig, these guys practice in their off time after duty hours. They put this together on their own time.

"I wouldn't be able to pick a favorite out of all the songs we will perform, each selection is special to me," Catchings continued.

One of the narrators, Chaplain (Maj.) Larry Sharp, deputy division chaplain, was able to pick a favorite.

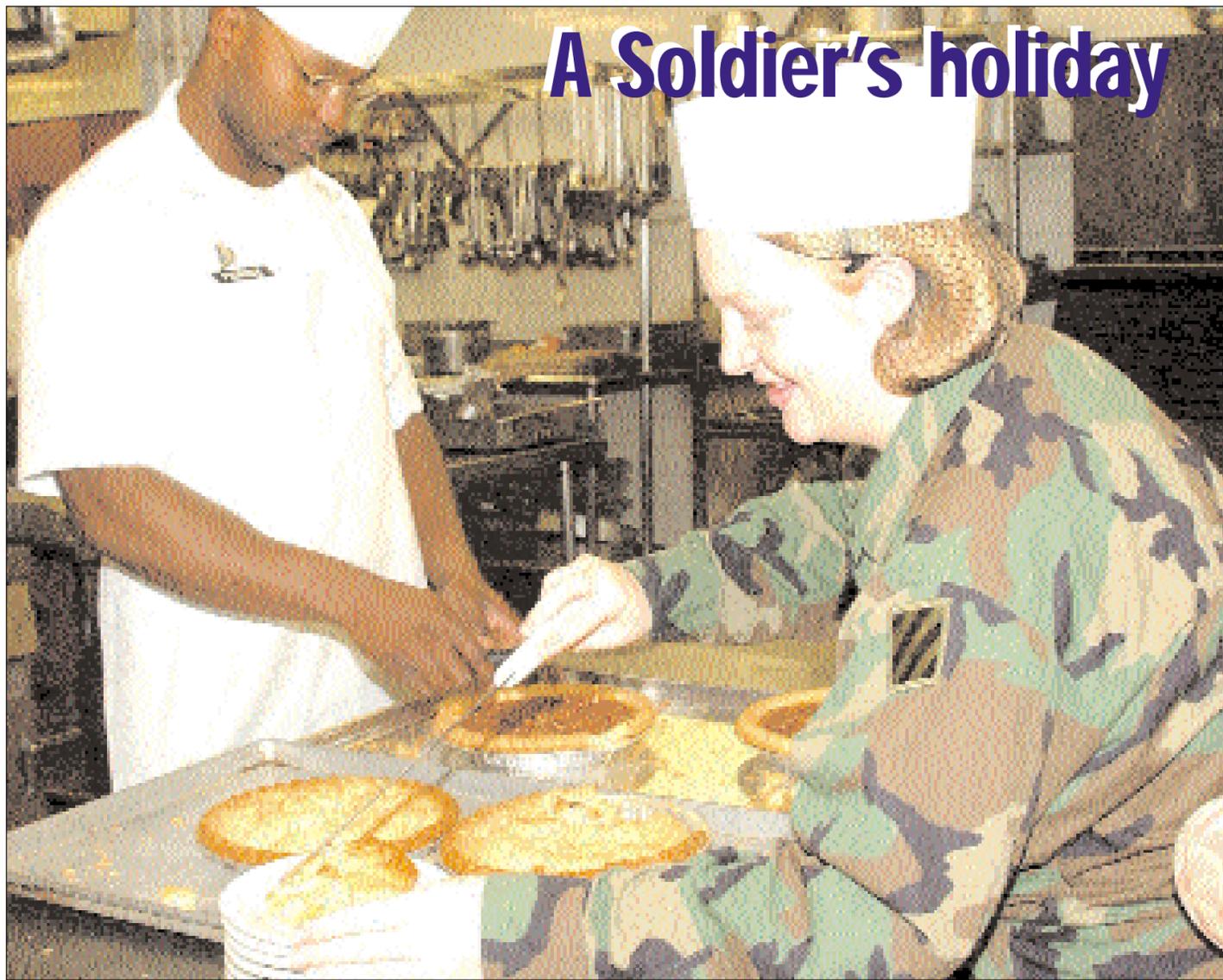
"The most significant song for me is the Light Eternal," Sharp said. "During World War II, four chaplains were aboard a boat that was attacked. After all the life vests were

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Spc. Jimmy D. Lane

Sgt. Shanna Douglas of the Marne Chorus hits a high note during a Thanksgiving concert at Club Stewart Nov. 24. The show was the chorus' premiere performance.



Spc. Jacob Boyer

Pvt. Heavens Pierree, HHD, 559th OM Bn., and Pvt. Angela Schaefer, HHC, 2/3 Avn., prepare slices of pie for the Thanksgiving meal at the Hunter Army Airfield dining facility. For more Thanksgiving coverage, see page 2C.

Guard, Reserve take break, enjoy Thanksgiving

Pfc. Emily J. Danial

Staff Writer, Hunter Public Affairs

A home-cooked meal is one thing that many Soldiers look forward to for Thanksgiving.

Unfortunately, too often a deployment or mobilization throws a wrench in their plans to enjoy that fresh-from-the-oven cuisine.

However, this year approximately 4,200 National Guard and Reserve Soldiers mobilized and at Fort Stewart for pre-deployment training got what some might say is the next best thing — an early Thanksgiving dinner hosted by several National Guard dining facilities the evening of Nov. 25, compliments of the post.

The holiday spread included turkey and all the "fixins," and was surrounded by festive decorations.

"I think it's a nice acknowledgment of what we're doing here, and I appreciate it, and it's appreciated by everybody," said Sgt. James Scott, flight operations sergeant, 1st Battalion, 207th Aviation Regiment,



Pfc. Emily J. Danial

A server heaps stuffing on a tray for the Guard and Reserve early Thanksgiving Dinner hosted by Guard DFACs Nov. 25 at Stewart.

Alaska National Guard.

The units, which represent 19 different states, have come together in Fort Stewart for training prior to deployments — about 2,300 from Minnesota's 34th Infantry Division will soon be boarding planes for

Europe to support Kosovo Force 5B, and another 2,000 from North Carolina's 30th enhanced Heavy Separate Brigade will deploy to the Middle East to support Operation Iraqi Freedom.

Scott said he feels ready to go.

"We've been training in basic Soldiering skills, mission tasks, things like that," he said. "I don't think there is a bad thing about this, except for the separation from our families."

Spc. Eric Brunsvold of the Minnesota National Guard's 1st Battalion, 151st Field Artillery Regiment, said he volunteered for the mission.

"I figured, I'm taking a year off (from school) anyway, so I might as well go," he said. "I'm looking forward to going overseas and serving my country."

"We came to Fort Stewart to train for peace operations and peace enforcement missions, in Kosovo," said Brig. Gen. Rick Erlandson, 34th Infantry Division, commander of Task Force Falcon (Multi-National). "We'll be here through to December, and then we'll deploy to Germany for a Mission Readiness Rehearsal, and from

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A Marné Thanksgiving



Photos by Spc. Jacob Boyer

Col. Robert Caslen, assistant division commander (maneuver), presents Sgt. 1st Class Robbie Motley, manager of the Redlegs and Raiders Cafe, with the trophy for the best decorated dining facility Nov. 27. A non-alcoholic bar, cotton candy machine and table service were among the touches that put the facility on top.

Redlegs, Raiders take DFAC title

Spc. Jacob Boyer

Staff Writer

Thanksgiving can be a lonely time for Soldiers who are not able to get home. Whether it is the demands of their jobs or an inability to travel, many find themselves on post during one of the biggest family holidays of the year. But the dining facilities at Fort Stewart and Hunter Army Airfield do their best to make sure those who cannot travel are still able to get into the spirit of the day and enjoy a home-cooked meal.

The Redlegs and Raiders Café narrowly beat Division Support Command's dining facility for first place in this year's TCommanding General's Best Thanksgiving Dining Facility Competition.

The facility, which serves 1st Brigade and Division Artillery, pulled out all the stops for Thanksgiving Day. In addition to frozen drinks, cotton candy, decorated ceiling tiles and a multitude of treats, diners were greeted by Soldiers dressed as symbols of the holiday. The facility's theme was Past, Present and Future Thanksgivings.

"The Redleg DFAC reconstructed their ceiling with different colors and also had a non-alcoholic bar outside," said Chief Warrant Officer John C. Nelums, division food advisor and judge. "That and the cooks performing personalized waiting service to the patrons put them over the top."

"Our cooks did their best," said Sgt. 1st Class Robbie Motley, dining facility manager. "They projected their spirits, hearts and souls into everything we did. You can tell they enjoy what they're doing."

Motley said getting the dining facility ready for Thanksgiving was "a lot of work."

"We started on Oct. 21 with the displays. It's been a lot of long hours, but it was worth it. It was a good chance for us to show our culinary expertise."

The other three dining facilities also received plaques for different aspects of the competition. The DISCOM facility, which worked together with 2nd Brigade's dining staff, received the Commanding General's Best Cake Display

Award. DISCOM's facility was judged Nov. 26.

"We had people up until five o'clock this morning working on the cakes," said Sgt. 1st Class Timothy J. Marshall, senior food operations sergeant for 703rd Main Support Battalion. "This was a good opportunity for Soldiers to display their hidden talents."

The Commanding General's Best Ice Carving Award went to 24th CSG's facility. Spc. Christopher Harper, a food service specialist from 396th Transportation Company, carved a swan that was deemed the best of all the facilities' sculptures.

The Hunter facility was recognized with the Commanding General's Best Centerpiece Award.

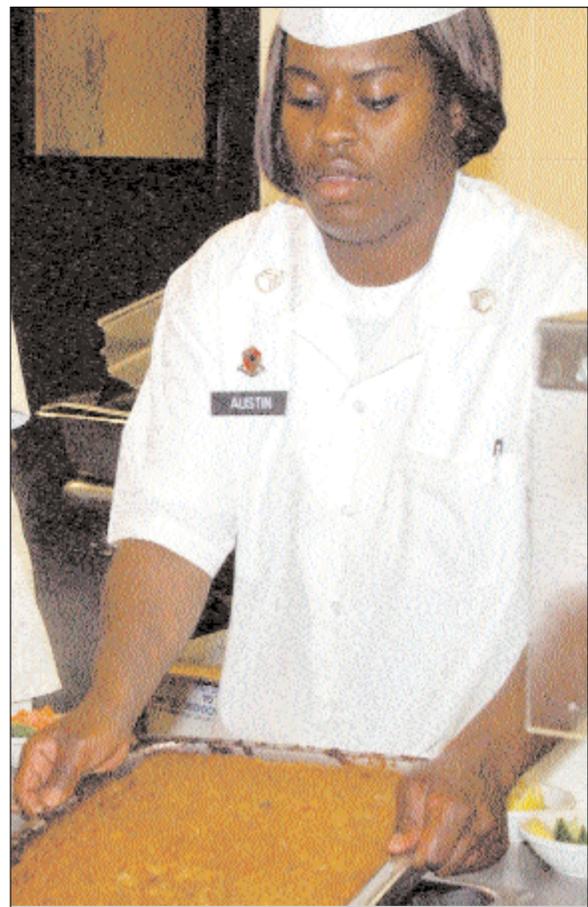
All the hard work put into the dining facilities for the special day was for more than a competition, though. The effort was put forth to ensure Soldiers at Stewart and Hunter had a good holiday.

"It's very important that we do this for the Soldiers," said Sgt. 1st Class Jeffrey Chatman, dining facility manager at Hunter. "A lot of them are away from their families. Here in the military, we're a second family. We just wanted to give them a place to go and get a nice home-cooked meal."

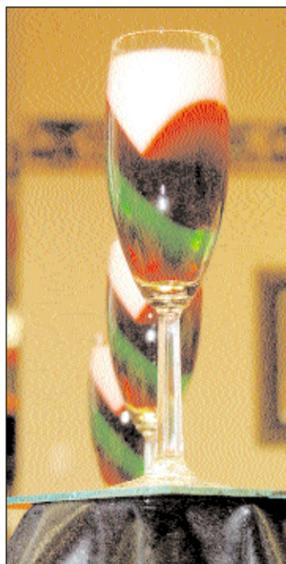
"We just want to provide them a good Thanksgiving," said Pvt. Angela Schaefer, a food service specialist with Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 2nd Battalion, 3rd Aviation Regiment. "When you're away from home this time of year, it's good to come in and see a smiling face."

Although a lot of work went into all of the dining facilities' displays, there were not many complaints from those that did it, even given the short time they had to prepare. Many of the units only recently took over their respective dining facilities after returning from Iraq and worked on a shorter timetable than normal, said Sgt. 1st Class Antwoinette L. Reed manager of 24th CSG's facility.

"It was a lot of hard work and a lot of long hours, but we're proud of putting it out on such short notice," she said. "I've been in the military 17 years, and I've spent one Thanksgiving at home. But with this unit and the cohesion we have, it always goes well."



Staff Sgt. Kawonis Austin, 92nd Eng. Bn., works on getting the serving line ready for Thanksgiving dinner at the 24th CSG Consolidated Dining Facility.



Rows of parfait await visitors to the Redlegs and Raiders Cafe Thanksgiving Day. The dining facility was honored as the best overall in the division competition.



(Left to right)
Lt. Col. Steve Merkel, 1/9 FA commander, Tanya Parks, spouse, Maj. Kenneth Parks, 1/9 FA, executive officer and Sgt. 1st Class Ronald Kester, HHB, 1/9 FA, serve Soldiers Thanksgiving dinner at the Redlegs and Raiders Cafe.

Marne Division honors FRG leaders

Spc. Jacob Boyer

Staff Writer

Soldiers, spouses and volunteers gathered to honor family readiness group volunteers at an appreciation luncheon Nov. 25 at Club Stewart.

The luncheon's purpose was to thank those who kept the home fires lit while the 3rd Infantry Division (Mechanized) was deployed for Operation Iraqi Freedom.

Brigade and battalion commanders, their command sergeants major and other members of their staffs served a Thanksgiving-style dinner to the division's FRG leaders. The meal was prepared by members of the Army Community Service staff and volunteers.

"We're doing this to show our appreciation to the FRGs," said Command Sgt. Maj. Johnnie Moore, 3rd Battalion, 69th Armor Regiment. "They handled a lot of things while we were gone so we didn't have to."

After the 3rd Inf. Div. Band played a few selections, Col. John M. Kidd, Fort Stewart garrison commander, opened the luncheon by thanking the leaders for all they did during the deployment.

"Your hard work this year made it possible for commanders and their Soldiers to do what they had to," he said.

After everyone, including the servers, had been served, a slide show of pictures from the home front was presented. Following that, Jennifer Bland sang "Angels Among Us" for the gathering.

"The war was a really trying time for our

FRG leaders," said Vickie Wiginton, family readiness group program manager. "They work really hard and it's a valuable job to do for the families. Things were uncertain during the war, and they did an outstanding job."

The FRGs' job can be difficult, but good support from the units make things go more smoothly, said Felecia Neal, a 703rd Main Support Battalion spouse.

"A good rear detachment makes it easy," she said. "We were blessed with that while our Soldiers were gone."

The FRGs make sure families who are left behind when soldiers deploy forward are taken care of, Moore said.

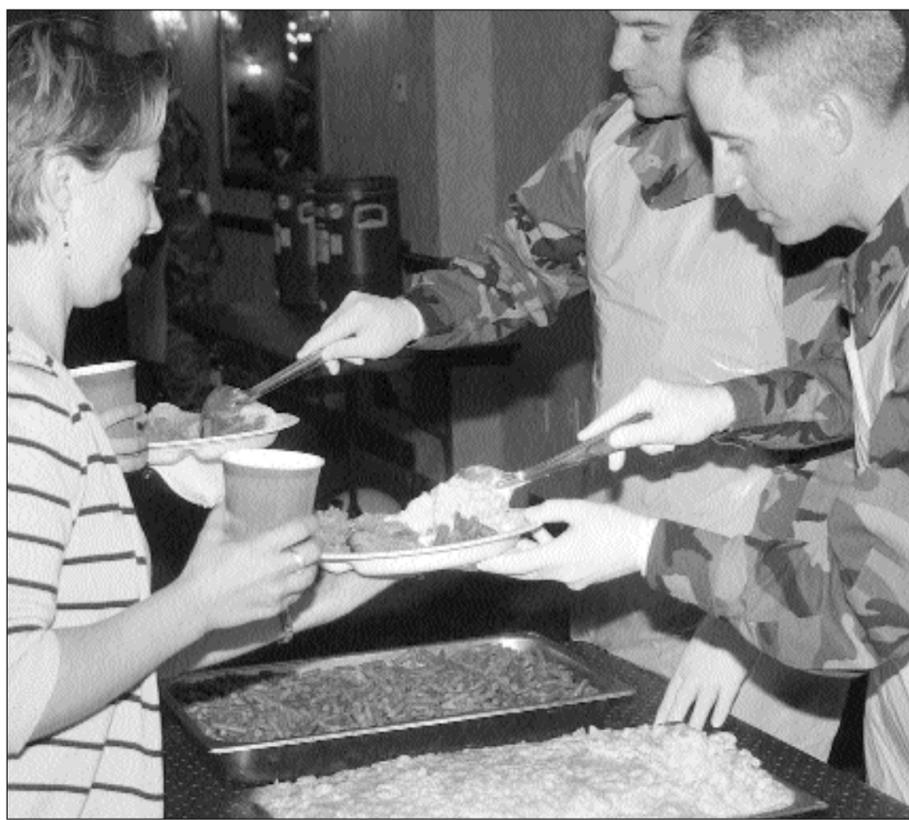
"They make a big difference," he said. "They make sure the families get all the news we send to them and do the little things that keep people going. Some people think its easy to stay back, but the list of what they do is so long."

Neal was appreciative of the command teams' effort.

"Everybody looked so wonderful," she said. "They had their battle dress uniforms and their aprons. It was great to walk in and see beautiful smiles pasted on their faces."

Lt. Col. Eric Schwartz, 1st Battalion, 64th Armor Regiment commander, said the luncheon was "a small token of appreciation to say thank you to the great ladies who take care of our Soldiers."

"I was thinking as I was sitting at the table," he said. "I command the battalion, my officers lead it and my sergeants make sure things get done. But it's these ladies who bring life to our battalion."



Spc. Jacob Boyer

Lt. Col. Eric Schwartz, 1/64 Armor commander, serves mashed potatoes to Tiffany Moranski at the FRG Leaders Appreciation Luncheon Nov. 25. at Club Stewart.

BAND

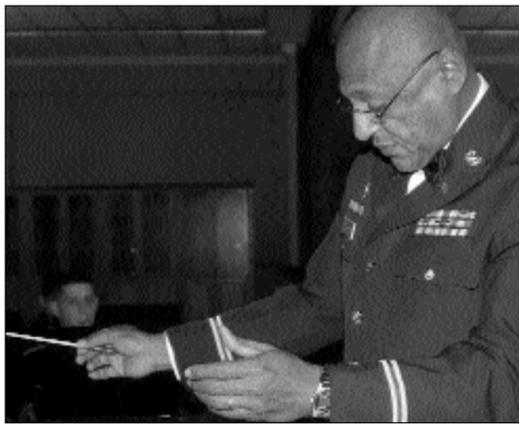
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exhausted, the chaplains gave away their vests to save a few more Soldiers. The chaplains were last seen linked arm in arm as the boat went down. President Kennedy posthumously awarded an award unique to those four chaplains during the 1960's."

The Light Eternal was the last of eight songs performed by the band in front of a packed house.

The performance was at most a test of the band's ability after many hours of training.

"One of the biggest reasons we are here tonight is to practice our skills in front of a live audience," Catchings said. "We spend so much time training on difficult music and now we want to put that training to the test."



Spc. Jimmy D. Lane

Chief Warrant Officer Fred J. Catchings conducts the Band during the concert.

DINNER

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Germany we'll go on to Kosovo for approximately six months."

The Soldiers have been working at Fort Stewart for roughly six or seven weeks, Erlandson said.

"We've been training awfully hard," he said. "We felt it was important at this point in time, with the Thanksgiving holiday coming up, to give our Soldiers a break."

The Soldiers were given the opportunity to take the four-day weekend to return home, or to bring family members and loved ones to them for Thanksgiving. The dinner was offered to everyone, whether they were leaving for the weekend or not.

"The food's excellent," said Spc. Roxanne Davenport, T Troop, 4th Squadron, 278 Armored Cavalry Regiment, of Smyrna, Tenn., right after swallowing a mouthful of turkey.

She and her husband, Staff Sgt. Billy Davenport are both in the same unit, so the couple would be spending the holiday together, whether deployed or at home, but both expressed relief at being stateside. "We're just lucky to be here," Staff Sgt. Davenport said.

Maj. Brian Olson, 34th Inf. Div. secretary general staff, said the mobilization has been "a lot of fun, and a lot of learning."

Olson, from Sparta, Wis., said he spent 13 years in the Active Army before joining the National Guard three years ago. "It's nice to be around Soldiers on a full-time basis again," he said. "To watch everyone gel, and come together as a team, has been a lot of fun."

Of course, after all their hard work, any team would deserve a good meal, and thanks to Fort Stewart's kitchens, now they'll get just that — plus dessert.

CHAPLAIN'S CORNER

Don't let Christmas be a late bloomer

Chaplain (Lt. Col.) Joseph Hannon

Special to The Frontline

In Christian history, the earliest written reference to Christmas occurs in a book published in Rome in 336 A.D. that lists and describes Christian Holy Days. This first and very short reference to Christmas contrasts sharply with many and lengthy descriptions of the celebration of Easter found in books, sermons, and documents from the 200s. These much older sources from various parts of the world tell us about a very elaborate Easter celebration of the Lord's Supper at which Baptisms were also celebrated and adults welcomed into the worshipping community.

It seems clear then that Christmas was a "late bloomer"! Also, from other sources dating to the 400s we find out that Christmas was celebrated under three different names and that there were six different dates for the Feast of Christmas celebrated by different national groups around the Mediterranean. Since Scripture does not give a day or a month but only a very general indication of the year in which Christ was born, different groups of Bishops around the world set the date of Christmas as they thought best. In general, Bishops of the West preferred the twenty-fifth of December. This date for Christmas was probably chosen so that it would compete with a widely observed pagan feast that honored the Sun. Bishops of the East preferred January sixth as the date to celebrate the Birth of Christ.

In 550 A.D., Pope Julius I ended all the confusion by asking all Christian churches worldwide to celebrate the Feast of Christmas on the twenty-fifth of December. The Bishops of the East obliged this request and made the sixth of January the Feast of the Three Kings.

Apparently in the early centuries when Christianity was illegal and deadly persecutions rippled through the Roman Empire, the focus for celebration was on Easter and its assurance of New Life and Hope! In the early 300s,

Christianity became legal under Emperor Constantine. The celebration of the Lord's Supper moved from homes into buildings now called "churches" and the Christian community was now free to grow and develop at a rapid pace. In this time of newfound freedom, the Feast of Christmas was developed and slowly it grew in importance and acceptance around the world.

Thus, history itself tells us clearly that Christmas was a "late bloomer" and that it took a while for Christianity to develop this great Holy Day as a way of appreciating the Gift of Christ coming to be one of us!

Oddly enough, Christmas may again be a "late bloomer" for many folks and families in modern day America. Keeping Christ in Christmas is no small challenge! The immense cultural power of consumerism and our adult need to express our love for spouses, children, and stepchildren through gift giving can remain at center stage from the middle of October until Christmas Eve.

It's clear that in the early centuries of Christianity it took folks some time and effort to be able to appreciate the Nativity — the willingness of the Son of God to become one of us — and then to celebrate that in public worship and at home. Many of us are now in a very similar boat — struggling against a culture that centers on giving bought gifts and that conveniently brackets "God's Gift" to church property.

It's a challenge for individuals and families to spiritually prepare for Christmas. Everything we buy for Christmas, every gift we wrap and every card we write or email we send can be a part of our own spiritual preparation for Christmas. It's a matter of focus and attention ... just as it was in the early centuries of Christianity. Please, don't let Christmas be a "late bloomer" for you and yours this year! In Scripture, in prayer and simple sharing with one another, prepare room in your hearts to receive and to appreciate The Gift!



Pet of the Week

Beau is a 2-year-old Springer Spaniel, who needs a good home. He is very active, but obeys without training. He is good with children as well as other dogs.

If you're interested in adopting Beau or another pet, please contact the Fort Stewart Veterinary Clinic at 767-2842. The clinic is located on W. Bultman Ave.

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



Shannon Ysker



Shannon Ysker, a native of Brookings, S.D., is a Red Cross volunteer at Winn Army Community Hospital.

"Being somewhat new to the area, I find volunteering a great way to get to know people," Ysker said. "I want to help others and gain more experience in my field of work."

Ysker spends her free time bowling or working on arts and crafts. She and her husband Fahian have two children, 6-year-old Dylan and 2-year-old Brandon.

If you would like more information about becoming an American Red Cross volunteer at Winn, call Brigitte Roberts at 370-6903 or send an email to Brigitte.Roberts@se.amedd.army.mil.



WOODRUFF THEATER

Dec 4 — Dec 10

Friday, Saturday and Sunday

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

\$1 Showings Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday



Lost in Translation (R)

Starring: Bill Murray, Scarlett Johansson
Tonight at 7 p.m.

Bob may be a big American star, but in Tokyo, his fame is only as good as the whiskey he sells. While in Japan, he finds a kindred spirit in Charlotte, the equally lonely young wife of a successful fashion photographer. The two strike up an unusual friendship, one that provides a welcome escape from their boredom and loneliness.

Run time: 102 minutes

The Texas Chainsaw Massacre (R)

Starring: Jessica Beil, Jonathan Tucker
Friday, Saturday and Sunday at 7 p.m.

Five 20-something friends find themselves stranded in a small Texas town, where they encounter a chainsaw-wielding maniac known as Leatherface. The killer has spent years sawing people up and constructing masks out of his victims' skin, with everyone in town looking the other way. With no one to help them, the outsiders must find a way to escape before meeting a grisly death.

Run time: 100 minutes

Kill Bill (R)

Starring: Uma Thurman, David Carradine
Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday at 7 p.m.

An assassin named the Bride is shot by her boss at her wedding; the wedding guests are also shot and killed. She survives, though, waking up exceedingly angry after a four-year coma, and ready for revenge. She decides to hunt down and kill every single one of the assassins who were responsible, saving her boss Bill for last.

Run time: 111 minutes



Birth announcements

November 10
Hunter David Slater, a boy, 7 pounds, 15 ounces, born to Pfc. Damen Slater and Jana Slater.

November 11
Ashira Symone Carlton, a girl, 8 pounds, 1 ounce, born to Spc. Christopher Carlton and Pfc. Sophia Browne.

November 14
Asia Renae Overton, a girl, 7 pounds, 8 ounces, born to

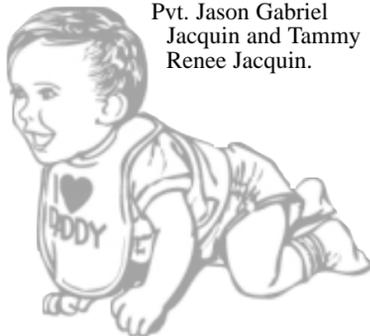
Jacquelynn Miller.

November 17
Timothy James Noel II, a boy, 7 pounds, 3 ounces, born to Pfc. Timothy Noel and Ashley R. Noel.

Kaia Stephanie Omegna, a girl, 10 pounds, 9 ounces, born to Pfc. Laurie Rochelle Omegna.

November 18
Jasmine Renee Jacquin, a girl, 7 pounds, 3 ounces, born to

Pvt. Jason Gabriel Jacquin and Tammy Renee Jacquin.



Hallie Ann Poole, a girl, 9 pounds, 8 ounces, born to Capt. William Henry Poole and Kyong Suk Poole.

November 19
Aidan Joseph Lovelace, a boy, 7 pounds, 2 ounces, born to Pvt. 2 Benjamin Lovelace and Gina Lovelace.

November 20
Natavion Kashon Moffett, a boy, 7 pounds, 9 ounces, born to

Norris Keyon Moffett and Spc. Lasheema Shante Vickers.

November 21
Zachary Pierce Markel, a boy, 6 pounds, born to Sgt. Howard Kenneth Markel and Lisa Marie Markel.

November 22
Aiden Matthews McCoy, a boy, 9 pounds, 1 ounce, born to Pfc. Lester Lloyd McCoy III and Stephanie Renee McCoy.