



Experience the Heritage Flight at the Salute the Troops Airshow
See Page 15A

Happy Birthday, Army turns 233
See Page 4A

Volunteers recognized as pillars of support
See Page 1B



THE FRONTLINE

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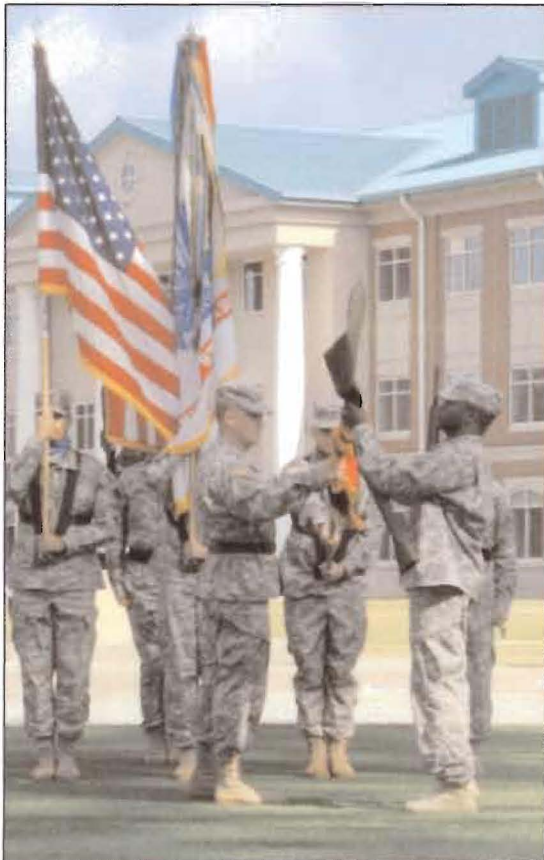


MWR helps young anglers catch fun
See Page 2C

Vol. 43, Issue 23

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

June 12, 2008



Sgt. Tanya Polk

Third Infantry Division Commander, Maj. Gen. Rick Lynch and Command Sgt. Maj. Jesse Andrews uncash the Division's Colors, officially ending the Division Headquarters' 15-month tour to Iraq, at a ceremony held at Fort Stewart's Marne Garden, June 6. [See story on Page 2A.](#)

\$430M slated for installation

Special to the Frontline

On May 22, U.S. House of Representatives approved the National Defense Authorization Act, a bill that includes more than \$430 million in federal funding to help Fort Stewart prepare for the new infantry brigade combat team headed its way.

As part of the Army's initiative to become a lighter, more modular fighting force, the Installation was chosen by the Pentagon in December to be the beneficiary of a new infantry brigade combat team, which is due to arrive on the base in 2011.

With officials expecting the new brigade to bring about 3,900 additional Soldiers to the base, the funds will be used to help with the costs of building the facilities necessary to house and train the new troops.

See GROWTH

Page 6A

Stewart-Hunter Soldier, NCO of the Year named

Sgt. Tanya Polk
Editor

Making history, Fort Stewart is soon to host the Installation Management Command-Southeast Region Soldier-Noncommissioned Officer of the Year competition and representing Fort Stewart-Hunter Army Airfield is Sgt. Darcella Marshall and Spc. Hilda Volzger.

Both Soldiers are members of U.S. Army Garrison's Headquarters and Headquarters Company and will compete against three other IMCOM-SE region hopefuls June 23-26.

Marshall secured her slot in the competition back in March when she placed higher than her peers at her unit's NCO of the Month board with a score of 148 out of 150.

And though her score proves otherwise, she said preparing for that board was no easy task.

See SOY

Page 6A

Mike Biering named Deputy Garrison Cdr

Pat Young
Managing Editor

Fort Stewart-Hunter Army Airfield announced Michael Biering, former Directorate of Public Works director, will officially assume the role of interim deputy garrison commander, June 23.

Biering, extremely familiar with the installation community, employees and mission, hopes to continue to assist the garrison commander and senior commander in making Stewart-Hunter the best place for to live, train and raise a Family.

"If you look at the operation tempo of the division and installation, you'll see why taking care of Soldiers and Families is so important," Biering said.

See BIERING

Page 7A

Chairman, Joint Chiefs of Staff visits Soldiers, holds 'all-hands'

Frontline Staff

The Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, Adm. Michael C. Mullen, visited Fort Stewart-Hunter Army Airfield and the 3rd Infantry Division June 11.

Mullen, and his wife Deborah Mullen toured the installation meeting with Soldiers throughout the day. His stops included installation's education center, the new Main Post Chapel, barracks, the installation's new motorcycle safety simulator, Warriors in Transition facilities, and Warrior's Walk.

Mullins also took an opportunity to address Soldiers and media, at the Main Post Chapel, at an "all hands" call, a U.S. Navy term for a gathering where leaders talk with servicemembers. At the all-hands, Mullins congratulated the Soldiers on a successful tour, and opened the floor to questions and answers. The all-hands was broadcast live on the Pentagon Channel and Marne Television. For individuals who missed the event, it will be shown on Marne Television. [See more on 7A.](#)

Editor's note: The event did not complete prior to the paper deadline, see next week's edition of *The Frontline* for more.

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Covenant helps sponsor high adventure summer activities

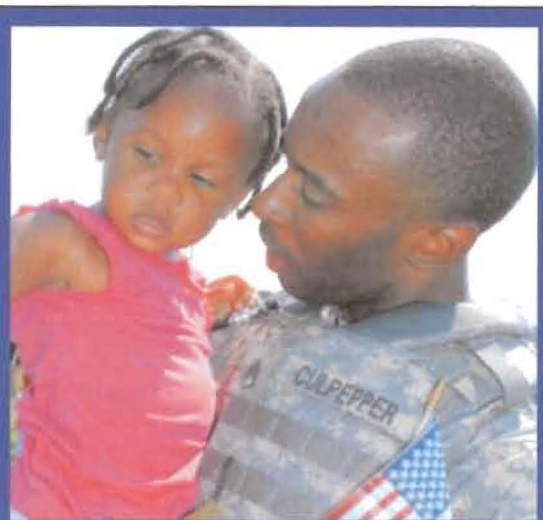
Randy Murray
Public Affairs Specialist

The Directorate of Morale, Welfare and Recreation promises a summer of high adventure, outdoor activities for returning Soldiers, their Families and the community, according to DMWR director, Linda Helifferon and recreation chief, Larry Cutchens.

If white water rafting, mountain biking, scuba diving, water aerobics or paint ball aren't enough to give you an adrenaline rush, Helifferon said the DMWR is open to suggestions. The Warrior Adventure Quest was designed for Soldiers returning from Iraq and Afghanistan, who have been living on the edge for the last 15 months.

See ADVENTURE

Page 7A



Lina Sathle

Staff Sgt. Renaldo Culpepper, 3rd Infantry Division Special Troops Battalion, hugs his daughter Samara, 2, during the welcome home ceremony, June 4. Culpepper and approximately 340 STB Soldiers returned home from a 15-month deployment to Iraq. [See story on Page 3B.](#)

MWR offers opportunities for Warriors in Transition

Lina Satele
Public Affairs Specialist

The Directorate of Morale, Welfare and Recreation has many opportunities for Soldiers and their Family members to enjoy themselves on the installation. There are also many events for single Soldiers to enjoy while recuperating from a long day at work.

"If a Warrior in Transition wants to participate in any recreation activity what they need to do is call ahead first and speak to that department and see if they can accommo-

date them," said Lind Heifferon, director of Morale, Welfare and Recreation. "Their doctor has to approve them to participate in these events.

"Maybe we don't have the special equipment at that time but we will certainly include it in our programming of recreational programs," Heifferon said.

MWR has made many improvements to their facilities to accommodate wounded warriors to include Newman and Tominac Fitness centers. They have various additions to assist disabled participants especially

when it comes to hard-to-access places like the pools.

"We've installed chair lifts and made shallow openings for any special needs person," Heifferon said. "They can participate in many activities to include water aerobics and lap swimming."

MWR has a recreation delivery system team who plans out programs for the entire installation population. Heifferon explains that these individuals are not only dedicated to planning these events but makes sure the overall needs of the installation are met.

"It's not just the recreation delivery staffers that participate in the planning process," Heifferon said. "Other agencies such as Army Community Services, Child and Youth Services and our business activities department also work with us to make sure that the needs of our Soldiers and their Families are taken care of. Everyone is involved that way we can look at each aspect of what our population is looking for and plan an event completely."

Editor's note: Contributing information provided by Telll Cronin.

GROWTH

from Page 1A

The construction projects include a \$30 million brigade complex, a \$36 million brigade/battalion headquarters, a \$22 million physical fitness facility and a \$2.3 million shoot house.

Another \$20 million in the bill will go toward building a new child development center to ensure that Soldiers' children are cared for.

The bill also includes \$3.5 million to replace a fuel-storage tank at Hunter Army Airfield in order to improve efficiency and prevent leakage.

U.S. Rep. Jack Kingston, R-Savannah, whose congressional district includes both Fort

Stewart and Hunter Army Airfield, said the 3rd Infantry Division sites "are transforming to become first-class international training centers" and the new funds guarantee the division and its surrounding communities will only continue to grow.

"This investment in their future is part of the preparation for the new brigade, but it's also another sign that Fort Stewart is on track to be the next Fort Bragg," Kingston said.

"Our prime location and the great community support for these installations are vital to the continued growth."

Funds allocation

Projects included in the National Defense Authorization Act for Fort Stewart:

- \$121 million for barracks and dining facility
- \$30 million for a brigade complex
- \$36 million for brigade/battalion headquarters
- \$20 million child development center
- \$75 million for company operations facility
- \$59 million for infrastructure
- \$22 million for physical fitness facility
- \$2.3 million for a shoot house
- \$67 million for vehicle maintenance shops
- \$3.5 million to replace a fuel-storage tank at Hunter

Justice Served

Pfc. Lance M. Reis, Headquarters Company, 4th Brigade Combat Team, convicted by Special Court-Martial; Desertion; reduced to E1, confined for 10 months, and a Bad Conduct Discharge.

SOY

from Page 1A

She said it was her confidence, military bearing, and dedication to study that helped her to walk away with the title.

"Right now I'm playing single parent-my husband is on his third deployment, and I'm also in school," said the 24-year-old Brooklyn, N.Y. native. "So (preparing for the Soldier of the Month board) took a lot of scheduling and planning to make sure I took the time out to study."

Currently Marshall is preparing for the IMCOM-SE NCO of the Year competition by fine-tuning her board presentation skills, common task skills, warrior tasks and drills, land navigation and ruck marches.

"They've definitely raised the bar for this competition so, we know that nothing's just going to be (handed) to us," Marshall said, adding that this year's competition includes a surprise event she hopes she is prepared for. "You don't want to go in there like a deer in the headlights."

"The main challenge is trying to find the time," Marshall added. "It's about planning and prioritizing everything."

Marshall said she is studying every chance she gets- including during her lunch hours and late at night.

"I'm happy (to compete), but a bit nervous because I know this is a huge title to take on, but that's also saying something about me."

Marshall said her unit is supporting her and helping her prepare for the competition.

"They believe in me, and I believe in

myself too," she said. "I know I can take on this as long as I remain dedicated and take the time out to study and prepare. When I get there, I'll give it 120 percent."

"One of my biggest motivations is my family - my husband and my son," Marshall continued. "I hope I can take this, win this, and move on to the next level."

If Marshall wins the IMCOM-SE NCO of the Year she will advance to the All-IMCOM competition later this summer. Stay tuned to next week's Frontline to read Volzgen's story.



Kaytrina Curtis

Representing Fort Stewart-Hunter Army Airfield, Sgt. Darcella Marshall, HHC, USAG; will compete in the IMCOM-SE NCO of the Year competition, June 23-26.