

# CaseMate

**Spotlight**  
Event

## Fall Cleanup

Have you started planning your office or home project yet? The Casemate offers helpful tips.

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Vol. 26, No. 20

Published for the community of Fort Monroe, Va.

October 8, 2004

## What's Inside



### Speak up ... it's easy

Fort Monroe is now wired into the Defense Department's newest customer comment system.

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### 'Warrior' dogtags

Soldiers have begun carrying — and wearing — new emblems that symbolize the warrior spirit.

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### A spiritual mission

A Newport News office is showing its support of Soldiers fighting the Global War on Terrorism one Bible at a time.

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## Community Notice

### Post seeks command channel comments

With the recent addition of music and an all new look, Fort Monroe Command Channel 47 now offers entertainment as well as a wealth of information. Hours of operation for many post activities, upcoming MWR events, and safety tips from your Provost Marshal are just some of the items you will see during its 24-7 programming. But there's always room for improvement and input from Team Monroe is always welcome. Send your comments to [buffettp@monroe.army.mil](mailto:buffettp@monroe.army.mil)



Photo by Matt Thomas

Large crowds of excited fans are expected for tomorrow's concert at Walker Airfield featuring Vertical Horizon and Stroke 9. The gates open at 5 p.m. For further information, see Page 4.

# New law foils 'floating checks'

BY BELINDA BAKER  
CASEMATE STAFF WRITER

"Say goodbye to the 'float' forever," is the advice Fort Monroe Staff Judge Advocate officials offered in response to a new law that gives banks and retailers the power to process checks almost as fast as you can sign your name.

Dubbed "Check 21," the new legislation takes effect Oct. 28. Among its new rules is an okay for banks nationwide to clear checks electronically — using valid digital copies — thereby increasing the speed at which money is drafted from accounts.

"In other words, you're looking at some very bad news for any member of the Fort Monroe community who has made floating checks a habit," said Maj. Thomas Barrett, the Post Judge Advocate. "It's a bad habit, but this new rule could also make it far more costly. You're not going to have that processing period you always counted on, and the bank can add insufficient fund charges and over-

*"You're looking at some very bad news for any member of the Fort Monroe community who has made floating checks a habit."*

**Maj. Thomas Barrett**  
Post Judge Advocate

draft fees if you're caught.

"You also need to consider the effect it could have on your credit rating or career," Barrett cautioned. "Make sure funds are available before you write a check."

Another option to avoid penalties for bad checks is to contact your financial institution and ask for a line of credit or overdraft protection on your checking account, the major added.

Officials with both the SJA Office and Army Community Services frown upon the practice of knowingly writing checks when funds are not avail-

able and regard the act as potentially illegal. They advise Soldiers and family members who are challenged by financial issues to take other measures such as budgeting and/or financial counseling from ACS or other reputable agencies.

Beverly Nicholson, who manages consumer affairs and financial assistance at Fort Monroe's ACS, said she is also concerned that the impact of Check 21 could be devastating to the ill informed.

"My biggest concern is that it's going to hurt the consumer who is not well versed about personal finances," she said. "The 'substitute check,' for instance, means a lot of bank account holders will no longer receive their original checks back from the bank to verify the transaction and balance their account."

It is imperative that customers request to have substitute checks included with monthly bank statements, Nicholson stressed. "Check

See CHECK 21, Page 3

# Columns & Commentary

Visit the Casemate online at  
www.monroe.army.mil/casemate

**"God just wants you to come to Him no matter what the problem."**

## Prayer becomes as natural as breathing

**T**he other morning, during my devotion time, I was reading in Daniel 6:13 where it says Daniel prayed three times a day.

This reminded me of the time when I was in my freshman year of college. The bottom line ... I was short of money and, even though I worked after school to support myself, it was not enough to pay for last semester's bill.

The school had put out a decree that all returning students would have to have had last semester's bill paid in full before registering for the coming semester. I knew from the very onset that I was in trouble. My parents couldn't afford to help me financially and when it came to friends they did not exist, especially when it came time to ask for money.

I do remember thinking of God's faithfulness, and I knew He wanted me in school. But the grim reality of not having funds to continue my education was staring me in the face. I

### Chaplain's Corner



**Lt. Col. Wilbert Harrison**  
Post Chaplain

remember reading somewhere in the Bible where it states Daniel prayed three times a day. I thought to myself perhaps if I would pray three times in a single day maybe God would listen to me and answer my prayer for money to attend school.

Now this is what happened. It was on a Friday, the last day to settle remaining debts owed from the last semester. I decided to give the three times a day prayer a try. When I

decided to pray it was as if someone else was directing me to how to pray.

My normal prayer would be to ask God to bless me and meet my need. But as I began to pray, my prayers were directed to the needs of others and not myself. I found it strange that as each time I would close my door to pray, my prayers were lead in the direction of praying for others or something else.

Never once did I have the notion to pray for my own needs. It was the third prayer of that day when my prayers were solely about me. It was here I recalled reading in Jeremiah 33: 3 "God said, "Call unto me and I will answer you and tell you great and mighty things you do not know."

The amazing thing happened after I prayed that prayer. A classmate of mine walked up to me about an hour later and said he had heard of my financial situation and he had a friend who was willing to pay the remaining college debt in addition to taking

care of the down payment for the coming semester.

You can't imagine how this changed my whole concept about prayer. I have become an advocate of prayer and there are times that is all one can do. But prayer is a good thing.

I learned that God delights in hearing us pray. In Philippians 4: 6 "Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God." The problem with most of us is that we only take what we consider crisis prayers to God, but I've learned that God is interested in the very minute things in your life.

God is not only interested in the big things, but also the small things. The word, "everything" means just that everything.

How often should we pray? In I Thessalonians 5: 16, 17 "Be joyful always; pray continually." In other words, have an attitude of prayer about you. You cultivate an attitude of prayer when you learn the disci-

pline of praying all the time. Prayer becomes as natural as breathing.

Can you imagine every breath you inhale and exhale could be a prayer offered to God? This is why we should pray. We are not to pray for things, but rather we pray to God to maintain fellowship with Him.

The last thing I want to write concerning prayer is my favorite Bible passage found in Hebrews 4: 16 "Let us then approach the throne of grace with confidence, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help us in our time of need." The word "confidence" is what stands out. The confidence to know that no matter what you are faced with, God is compassionate and He will not judge you.

God just wants you to come to Him no matter what the problem.

To pray daily does not mean that the problem will go away, but to pray daily will help you see the problem differently so that you can deal with it differently.

**"The theme this year is 'It's Fire Prevention Week: Test Your Smoke Alarms.'"**

## Will you be able to wake up and escape safely?

**I**t's 3 o'clock in the morning and you're in a sound sleep. Someone has forgotten and left food cooking on the stove and a fire breaks out. As the flames spread and smoke begins to fill your home, will you wake up and escape safely?

If you have a smoke alarm, the warning signal can rouse you from your sleep and alert you to the danger so you can escape.

That's just one of the life-saving measures the Fort Monroe Fire Department stressed over the past week as they teamed up with the nonprofit National Fire Pro-

### Community Spotlight

**By Shirley McCollough**  
Fort Monroe Safety Office

tection Association and other fire departments across the country in promoting Fire Prevention Week, Oct. 3-9.

Here at Monroe, we continue the campaign throughout the month of October. The theme this year is "It's Fire Prevention Week: Test Your Smoke Alarms."

People have been using smoke alarms since the

1970's. They've helped to cut the risk of dying in a fire by nearly half.

Roughly 70 percent of the reported fatalities from house fires were found to be the result of no smoke alarms, or malfunctioning smoke detectors. Many of these incidents could have been prevented with the simple installation of a detector, or by replacing batteries.

A fire can spread throughout a home in as little as two minutes, which doesn't leave you much time to get out safely once the alarm sounds. With close to 80 percent of fire deaths

occurring in the home, it's easy to see why smoke alarms are essential for every household.

NFPA recommends at least one smoke alarm be installed on each level, including the basement, and outside every separate sleeping area. Smoke alarms should be tested once a month using the test button. The batteries should be replaced once a year or sooner if the detector begins to "chirp," which is usually a signal for a low battery.

Smoke alarms should be replaced after 10 years or according to manufacture's instructions.

We will be hosting school children and day care centers from the local community for puppet shows, tours, and truck demonstrations throughout the month. The Post Fire Department will also host an open house on Oct. 14 at noon.

A banner has been placed at the front gate to remind everyone of fire prevention month and encourage everyone to change their smoke detector batteries by daylight savings time on Oct. 30. Just remember, the life you save may be your own.

For further information contact the Fire Prevention Section at 788-4011.

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## Casemate

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# Smooth as Ice

## Monroe launches innovative customer comment program

BY PATRICK BUFFETT  
CASEMATE STAFF WRITER

Fort Monroe has become the Northeast Region's test site for an innovative, DoD-driven customer comment system that promises easy access via the web and simple navigation for its users.

Known simply as ICE – the acronym for Interactive Customer Evaluation (system) – the user-friendly program was activated here Oct. 1. "It replaced the yellow comment card we've used locally for several years," said Joel Carnahan, project manager with the Office of Plans, Analysis and Integration.

The link to ICE can be found on the Fort Monroe homepage ... just look for the logo created by our own Shae Inglin, a marketing specialist with the Directorate of Community and Family Activities. "ICEboxes," for handwritten comment cards, have also been placed at seven locations on post where immediate internet access is not available, such as the Marina, Craven Clinic and the Outdoor Recreation building.

"I think the community will truly appreciate this new system," Carnahan said. "One of the most exciting aspects is how easy it is to use, followed by the continued convenience of being able to access it from any location with an internet connection. And the response time, in comparison to our previous comment card, will be much faster."

While the earlier version of Monroe's comment card system was partially automated, it relied more heavily on handwritten evaluations placed in drop boxes throughout post. Depending on workload, off-duty days, and a number of other factors, it could take as long as a

week to 10 days for the old cards to be picked up and processed manually, Carnahan explained.

"We anticipate a lot more online comments once our customers are educated about the new system," he said. "That will cut our response time way down. The appropriate facility director and command staff members will see the comment, compliment or complaint in minutes versus days in some cases. If the customer has requested a reply, then they should see some sort of response in no more than seven calendar days."

Offering a quick tour of ICE, Carnahan pointed out key features like the interactive map on the opening page, which helps the user zero in on the correct installation. A subsequent page lists community life areas like recreation, family support, finance and housing.

"Say you had a comment about the pool, which obviously falls under recreation," Carnahan said while simultaneously clicking two links that took him to the actual customer comment form before he even finished his sentence. "Each

form allows you to rate the facility in six different areas like appearance and employee attitude. And it provides space for written comments, just like the old comment card."

As always, customers are given the option of remaining anonymous when submitting their comment, Carnahan noted. Customers

can request feedback by checking the 'response requested' block on their comment submission. If no name or address is provided, however, it stands to reason that direct feedback to the customer is impossible.

In the long run, ICE will also



Interactive Customer Evaluation

[www.monroe.army.mil/monroe](http://www.monroe.army.mil/monroe)

provide important trend data to facility directors and strategic planners at Fort Monroe. "The old customer comment system didn't really have a good tracking mechanism," said Cliff Whitehouse, chief of the analysis and integration office. "We've never had a completely clear picture of how our customer service organizations were performing over the long run or if a particular problem was a one-time concern or a continuing trend. ICE has a mechanism for providing that data."

"It's going to help us make better educated decisions about community life programs and issues," Whitehouse added. "It's an empowerment tool, and the Fort Monroe Soldier, civilian and family member will be the beneficiary."

Frequent military travelers will also discover another important benefit of ICE, which is currently in use at 261 other Army installations. Users can comment on any facility at any U.S. installation in the world that uses the system.

"You may come back from TDY and remember something about the food service or billeting that wasn't

quite right," Carnahan said. "This system will allow you to offer that feedback. That in itself is an extremely powerful tool."

While designed specifically for the military community, to include reservists and retirees, ICE can also be accessed by the general public. The goal, Carnahan noted, is input.

"We've entered a new era. Fort Monroe — like every other DoD installation I'm guessing — is seriously interested in the views of its customers, be they Soldiers, civilians, family members ... whomever. We're counting on you to help us make our services and programs even better."

DoD has not made ICE a mandatory program but the Installation Management Agency is considering it. "ICE is also being used by the Air Force, Navy, and Marine Corps, as well as the Pentagon and OSD agencies," Carnahan said. "I'm encouraged by the amount of discussion that's going on about the program, and I think it's exciting that our community members will be among the first to use it."

## CHECK 21 Continued from Page 1

*The new legislation is not meant to bring financial harm to consumers.*

writers must remember that only substitute checks will be used to re-credit funds if something goes wrong with the process."

Consumers also need to be wary of "tagged-on" account fees that tend to pop up whenever banks begin offering new services, Nicholson noted. Some banks might also begin charging exorbitant fees to obtain copies of the substitute checks.

As check processing reaches light speed under the new law, it will also make the old "stop payment" trick a thing of the past, according to an informative Cincinnati Post article found on the Internet. "You will no longer have the luxury of time to change your mind," the article read.

"Watch your account," the Post story continued. "The possibility exists that a check can be turned into an electronic transaction with a sub-

stitute check and the paper copy is not destroyed, allowing it to make the rounds and be credited against your account a second time."

Your bank may also ask you to agree to a "voluntary check truncation," the post article also cautioned. It means you are giving up your rights to have copies of your substitute checks returned to you, which could cause serious problems later on if you have a dispute about your account.

Like her fellow financial experts, Nicholson is also concerned that community members who are strapped for cash will turn to credit cards as a replacement for the floating check. "The best suggestion I can offer is 'focus on needs, not wants,'" she said. "You don't want high interest credit card debt any more than costly penalties for insufficient funds."

Smart budgeting and financial education are

the best ways to avoid the pitfalls of Check 21, Nicholson noted. Fort Monroe offers free counseling for those who need help understanding the new rules, or establishing a better budget.

Several well-written articles about the new law can also be found on the Web. The Post Judge Advocate's Office also offers its services to community members who have questions about the legalities associated with Check 21.

Barrett noted that the new legislation is not meant to bring financial harm to consumers. Its purpose is to increase the speed of check clearing across the nation, lower clearing system costs for banks and reduce the system's vulnerability to problems with air and ground travel as experienced three years ago on 9/11.

To contact Nicholson, call 788- 4132. Or to set up an appointment with an advisor at the SJA Office, call 788-3616.

## Post expects big crowd for Saturday concert

Considering the massive advertising campaign and the popularity of pop-rock groups Vertical Horizon and Stroke 9, Fort Monroe officials expect huge crowds of exuberant fans will pack Walker Airfield for the free concert Saturday evening.

All those people will mean lots of traffic, and the installation's Provost Marshal Office has established a well-thought-out plan for getting motorists on and off post safely.

All three access gates to the installation will be open to event traffic as of 5 p.m. Motorists with a Department of Defense decal are asked to use Mercury Boulevard to enter the installation via the Ingalls Road entrance.

The Stillwell Gate and McNair Road entrances are for non-DoD visitors. That traffic, as well as vehicles entering through Ingalls Gate, will be directed along controlled routes to designated parking areas, primarily between North Gate and Fenwick Roads.

Access to the post requires a military or state-issued picture ID (driver's license) for anyone 18 years and older.

Base residents and employees are also reminded that the East Gate entrance to the moat (along

Patch Road) will be closed as of 5 p.m.

Local band Lucky Town will open the Columbus weekend concert with its performance beginning at 6 p.m. Stroke 9 takes the stage at 7:30 p.m. And Vertical Horizon wraps up the evening with its performance at 9 p.m.

Best known among the late-teen and college-age crowd for their gold-selling album "Nasty Little Thoughts," and its hit single "Little Black Backpack," Stroke 9 has been touring with Vertical Horizon for most of the 2004 season. The group is promoting its sixth album "All In," which will be released Nov. 9.

Vertical Horizon is also promoting a new release, "Go," which debuted in September 2003. Its hit single "I'm Still Here" shows promise of following the same footsteps of the group's better-known hit, "Everything You Want," released in 2000.

No coolers or backpacks will be allowed into the concert area. Food and beverages will be available on site. In case of severe weather, the concert will be cancelled.

Go online to learn more about the visiting groups and hear clips of their music. For more information about the concert, call 788-3151.

**3X7  
AD**

**6X7  
AD**

# New Soldier 'tags' reflect Army's warrior focus

**BY SGT. 1ST CLASS REGINALD P. ROGERS**  
TRADOC NEWS SERVICE

FORT MONROE, Va. – Soldiers around the world will soon have new items to add to their current military neckwear, affectionately known as “dogtags,” and to keep in their pocket.

As part of the Army's evolution to a force of warriors, the service will begin issuing a Warrior Ethos dogtag and an all-new Army Values card that includes the Soldier's Creed on the back.

“The idea behind the dogtags is that the Chief of Staff (Gen. Peter J. Schoomaker) said one thing about the way we train Soldiers: that the Army Values were non-negotiable,” explained Col. Kevin Shwedo, G-3 of the U.S. Army Accessions Command, headquartered here. “That said, we've decided, as an Army, to take the lesson from the contemporary operating environment and make the initial-entry training experience reflect the lessons learned in the combat theaters of operations.”



The new dogtag features the Army Values on one side and Warrior Ethos on the other. According to Shwedo, the inclusion of Warrior Ethos was a necessity.

“It takes a warrior mindset to excel on the battlefield,” he explained.

Shwedo said the card and dogtags are being distributed at all Army training centers, and initial-entry Soldiers must undergo a “right of passage” to receive both items.

“When you come in and you've gone through your initial values class, we will go ahead and present you your Army Values card that has the Soldiers Creed on the back,” he explained. “You don't earn your dogtag until you have completed your final field-training exercise. When you come back (from the FTX), you come back to a Victory Forge ceremony, and the tags are presented by a member of your chain of command as recognition for your accomplishment.”

“This is really the chain of command's opportunity to recognize (Soldiers') hard work and effort by presenting them these dogtags at graduation time,” Shwedo added.

The importance of the warrior dogtags and Army Values cards can be summed up in an earlier statement made by Schoomaker.

“No longer is a Soldier's value measured by how close he or she is to the front line – there are no front lines on today's battlefield,” the Army's top officer said in a speech at the Association of the United States Army convention in October 2003. “Every Soldier is a warrior. Every  
**See TAGS, Page 8**

**4 X 12  
AD**

**2 X 4  
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# NewsClips



**Project Pride Clean Sweep Walk**  
Oct. 19, 11 a.m. to 1 p.m., Fitness Center  
Free beverages and MWR gift certificate raffle

## **CCC 'Fright-day'**

Spooky and informative stories about Fort Monroe will be the featured entertainment at the Casemate Community Connection's upcoming monthly luncheon, Oct. 14 at the Bay Breeze Community Center.

Social hour starts at 10:30 a.m., followed by the buffet lunch at 11:30. Call Christy Draper at 224-6447 for reservations.

The CCC also has cookbooks for sale. For more information visit [www.monoreccc.com](http://www.monoreccc.com).

## **GovTech exhibit**

The 3rd Annual Government Technologies Army Exhibit will be held on Oct. 15, at the Fort Eustis Officers Club, Newport News, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Over 30 high-tech companies will demonstrate their newest product advancements for all personnel of forts Eustis, Monroe and Lee. Representatives from several colleges and universities will also be on site.

ICC will sponsor a complimentary luncheon for the first 300 military and civilian personnel who arrive. For additional information, call 565-5810.

## **Toastmasters meet**

The Future Leaders and Thinkers Toastmaster Club will meet on Oct. 18 in Building 10, 2nd Floor ACA Conference Room, at 11:40 a.m. Guests are invited to attend. For more information, call Janet Geisler at 788-2407 or Donna Satisfield at 788-3864.

## **Mandatory ethics training**

Ethics training is now mandatory for all DA federal employees - military and civilian.

Sessions will be offered on the 1st and 3rd Tuesday of every month in the Post Theater at 1 p.m. The next session is scheduled for Oct. 19. Mandatory sign-in sheets will be available for the one-hour briefings.

OSJA is available to conduct training for individual offices and/or organizations at other times if desired. For more information, contact Capt. Melinda Ecenrode at 788-3788 or [melinda.ecenrode@monroe.army.mil](mailto:melinda.ecenrode@monroe.army.mil).

## **Emergency preparedness**

The City of Hampton Division of Fire and Rescue is offering Community Emergency Response Training (CERT). The next session is Oct. 19.

For more information, or to register, call 727-1094 or e-mail [cert@hamptonfire.tni.net](mailto:cert@hamptonfire.tni.net).

## **EEO relocated**

The Fort Monroe EEO Office is temporarily relocating to Rooms 251 and 253, Building 82, Craven Medical Clinic, for approximately 60 days. For more information, call 788-2979.

## **Gift shop opens at PX**

Tom's Thumb Garden and Gift Center is now open in the PX. The hours of operation are 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Tuesday-Friday and 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Saturdays. For more information call, 722-0794.

## **Halloween rules**

Trick-or-treating on post will be allowed from 6 to 8 p.m. on Oct. 31.

The Provost Marshal Office will give out chem lights that day. Trick-or-treaters can also stop by the MP desk and pick up reflective trick-or-treat bags while supplies last.

As part of the Halloween festivities, McGruff and Officer Friendly will walk through the neighborhood to meet and greet trick-or-treaters. For more information, contact the Provost Marshal Office at 788-2220.

## **CPAC retirement seminar**

Counselors from the Army Benefits Center will conduct retirement briefings on Nov. 3 at the Post Theater for civilian employees.

The CSRS/CSRS-Offset Retirement session will be from 8 a.m. to noon followed by the FERS Retirement Session from 1 to 5 p.m.

Those who cannot attend on post are encouraged to visit Fort Eustis on Nov. 2 at Jacobs Theater. Sessions there will start 30 minutes earlier than those held at Fort Monore.

The CSRS and FERS seminars provide a thorough understanding of all aspects of retirement. Topics include eligibility requirements, computation of benefits, potential annuity reductions, health and life insurance, and social security benefits. The seminars will also review how to complete the process through the Army Benefits Center.

This seminar is not to be confused with the quarterly full-day retirement seminars. There is no sign-up necessary.

Contact CPAC at 788-2759 for more information, including directions, or visit the CPAC web page: <http://tradoc.monroe.army.mil/CPAC>.

**4X10  
AD**

# TAGS Continued from Page 5

Soldier has to embody not only the Army Values every day but take to heart the Soldier's Creed and, most specifically right now, the Warrior Ethos that will be around that Soldier's neck and lived by Soldiers every day.

"The idea that every Soldier is a warrior is a significant leap for the Army," Shwedo said. "Every Soldier has to be able to be an expert with his weapon. Every Soldier has to be physically fit. Every Soldier needs to know the warrior tasks and drills that are now being taught throughout basic training."

Shwedo added that each commandant at each Army school is actively pursuing training that will allow each site to reinforce the warrior tasks and drills Soldiers learned in basic training.

He said all Army units can now purchase the dogtags and ID cards by going through their individual Training and Audiovisual Support Center offices.

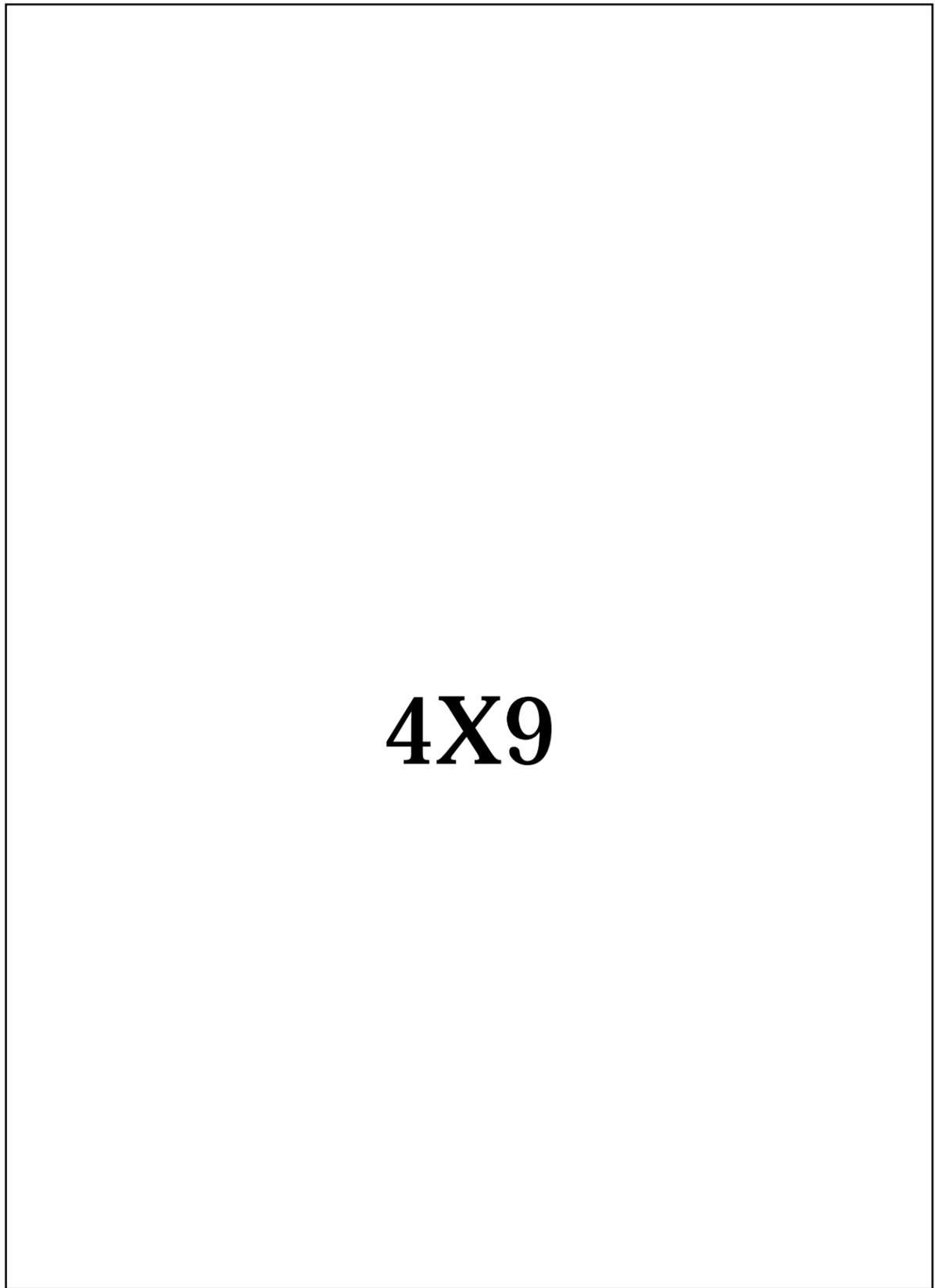
"This is not something you have to wait on," Shwedo pointed out. "It's something we can go ahead and get to units and organizations because it is a great card, and it is something every Soldier should know."

"That Soldier's Creed is something we have to live day in and day out," he added. "It really defines a change or transition from how we trained Soldiers during the Cold War period to how we are sustaining operations as an Army at war."

He said it is important to remember that the warrior tasks and drills, which were defined by the Soldier Task Force, are now being trained in basic training, and the Army will train more and more of them as equipment becomes available to go into full implementation.

"We are going to have a significantly improved advanced individual training over the next year or so," he said. "As commandants start to reinforce the warrior tasks and drills, when Soldiers report to their initial units, not only have they acquired these skills, but they've had a chance to reinforce them."

"Because we're going from basic to AIT, in many cases, these tasks will be taught sequentially and progressively become more difficult," Shwedo continued. "They'll have a much better Soldier by the time they arrive at their initial unit."



## MP Roll Call

*MP Roll Call provides a link between the Provost Marshal's office and the Fort Monroe community regarding law enforcement operations, services and crime statistics, and how operations and services combine with other initiatives to keep the community safe daily. Call 788-2220 with any comments or concerns that need to be addressed. Detailed information concerning the fort's security posture will not be published.*

### PMO urges slower speeds through 'Nasatka' barriers

The Nasatka barriers found on outbound McNair and Stilwell Gates have been somewhat troublesome for some drivers.

These barriers are only a temporary force protection measure and should be replaced within two years by a permanent active-barrier system in conjunction with the new gate construction.

The barriers were emplaced to prevent illegal entry to the installation and to give personnel on the gate positive control over access to the installation.

There have been several incidents where vehicles have been damaged as motorists exit the post. In every case to date it has been operator error that has caused the damage, such as driving through at an angle, driving too fast, or the vehicle has been lowered by the operator.

Vehicles with low-hanging parts, such as mufflers or tail pipes, are especially susceptible to damage because of the barrier's low clearance. Drivers are urged to use caution when crossing the barrier — slow to 5 mph or under, and be sure their vehicle has at least six inches of clearance underneath.

Aside from speed, the key to crossing the barrier is to ensure that the vehicle is centered on the barrier while driving through.

### Monroe veterinary clinic continues shot program

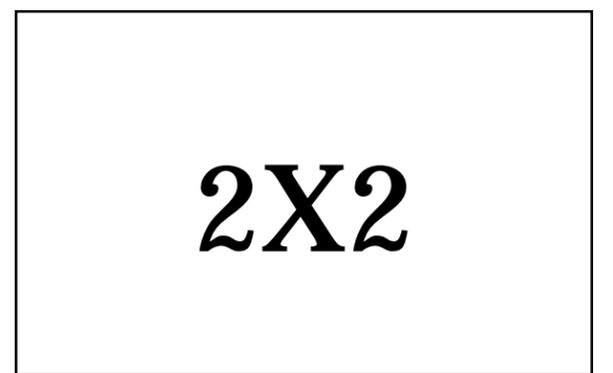
The Fort Monroe Veterinary Treatment Facility, Building 191, will continue its microchipping and vaccination clinics throughout October.

Clinic dates are Oct. 8, 15, 18, 22, 25 and 28. To schedule an appointment for any of these clinics, call 788-2623.

The treatment facility is also open Monday through Friday for animal registration, over-the-counter sales and medical care questions about pets. The hours are 8 a.m. to noon and 1 to 4 p.m.

Pet owners are also reminded that, as fall approaches, flea treatments should continue until the first "hard frost," which is usually around the end of November. Heartworm prevention is needed year-round.

If your dog has been using "Proheart," the clinic asks that you give them a call to discuss future heartworm treatment.



# Fall cleanup is a perfect time for home, office projects

Now is the time to begin planning projects for the post-wide fall cleanup, scheduled for Nov. 1-6 at Fort Monroe.

The effort is part of the installation's ongoing Project Pride program, which gives "personal ownership" of post beautification to the residents and employees – both military and civilian – at Monroe.

Participation in fall cleanup could be something as simple as picking up trash around your quarters or office building – or an all-out team effort to clean windows, sweep sidewalks or clear debris from vacant lots. Projects are only limited by your imagination.

The Self-Help Store and Directorate of Public Works are available with advice and the supplies necessary to make your project work.

Here are a few ideas that may help you develop projects within your office area or around the community:

## For the exterior

- Wash exterior windows.
- Turn or replace mulch, trim shrubbery, remove weeds and plant fall foliage. Use decorative pots for flowers and plants.
- Touch up paint where allowed by post regulations.
- Clean and store patio furniture, umbrellas and children's summer toys.
- Drain and store garden hoses.
- Check gutters and downspouts where allowed by post regulations. Clear debris as necessary.
- Add fall-themed decorative touches such as wreaths and flags to outside areas where allowed.

## For the interior

- Clean from top to bottom. Clean windowsills and window wells. Vacuum baseboards and corners.

- Vacuum upholstered furniture, or have it professionally cleaned. Move furniture and vacuum beneath and behind it.
- Wash interior windows.

- Clear kitchen counters of all appliances not used within the last week.

- Pull the refrigerator away from the wall and vacuum the coils.

Armed with these

suggestions head over to the Self Help Store soon to get started on your beautification project. From its location at Building T-101, the store serves both offices and on-post

housing. It has nearly all of the tools and materials necessary for beautification projects – from lawn mowers and weed-eaters to ladders and paint-brushes or rollers.

Through November Self Help is open from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Wednesday, Thursday and Friday; 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. on Tuesday and Saturday from 8 a.m. to noon.

# 5X12

## 'On a mission from God'

# Local group serves deployed troops one Bible at a time

**A**t first glance, Suite 6012 in a Newport News office tower seems like any other business.

Administrative assistants fuss over computer keyboards and issue the occasional "may I help you?" in response to the chatter of incoming phone calls. Doorplates mark the presence of higher-level personnel assistants and financial managers.

A closer look, however, reveals an aspect of this office that sets it apart from any other in the world. Throughout each business day, teams of volunteers huddle in its workroom assembling "rapid deployment kits" for service members fighting the war on terrorism.

Military Ministry is on a mission from God.

Day after day ... week after week ... since 9/11, they've catered to the spiritual needs of U.S. military members and allies by delivering 732,345 pocket-sized packets containing a camouflage-covered Bible, a daily devotional booklet and an evangelistic pamphlet called "Would You Like to Know God Personally?"

"The troops can't get enough of them," retired Air Force Brig. Gen. Dick Abel, executive director of the organization, said. "Right now we have a backlog of 30,000 orders.

"There's a lot of truth to the old saying, 'there are no atheists in foxholes,'" he added. "I think it's a source of comfort ... a shoulder to lean on in an environment where people are being shot at and kids are dying. You truly feel a sense of peace knowing you're right with God."

The ministry makes kits for military chaplains as well. These are a bit more elaborate – Abel recited several book titles like "Heroes at Home" and "The Silent War on Pornography" – but just as popular. An average of 50 are sent out each month.

"All of the kits are assembled by volunteers from the local community and as far away as Richmond," Abel said. "A lot of them don't even know the Soldiers they're helping ... they don't have a friend or loved one over there ... but they come anyway because they want to show their love and support. And they realize the sense of comfort they're providing by spreading the word of Christ."

And just when you think the ges-

Story and photo by Patrick Buffett, Casemate Staff Writer



**Local retiree and volunteer Barney Butler assembles "rapid deployment kits" at Military Ministry in Newport News.**

ture of volunteering is noble in itself, Abel makes mention of the 7-year-old girl who recently asked to celebrate her birthday by helping out the ministry. "When you hear of something like that it gives you hope," the service veteran of 30 years said. "The sense of patriotism ... the values ... are as strong as ever."

Joan Momany of Hampton is a "regular" at Military Ministries. What started as just an hour or two of volunteer service here and there five years ago has turned into 40 hours per week.

"I have a book full of comments from Soldiers who have received our kits," Momany said. "Some of them say it's the first Bible they've ever had. And they're so grateful

because it helps fill the down time when they're just waiting for their (deployment) to be over. That's what keeps me coming back."

Momany also excels at motivating other volunteers. "I ask them to remember that their hand will be the last to touch that packet before the Soldier does. That's a special feeling. You just can't describe it," she said.

Tanya Brevard knows that feeling. Each month she donates her time to the ministry along with other members of Fort Monroe's Protestant Women of the Chapel. Her husband has also been deployed to Baghdad since July.

"All of this is awesome," Brevard said. "You never realize fully how much people care, and how much

they're doing to support our Soldiers. It's a really great feeling."

She said the feedback from her husband is positive as well. To the Soldiers in Iraq, the Military Ministry shipments are more than just a "box of Bibles" ... they're a source of comfort. "I think it makes the job over there a little bit easier," Brevard said. "To be in a place like that where your safety is in question, you have to stay strong in your faith and take comfort in the knowledge that God is in control."

Military Ministry has been spreading pretty much that same message since the mid-60s. The organization is a ministry of the Campus Crusade for Christ – a program that was started at UCLA in 1951 to encourage faith among college students. An athletic ministry also grew from the program, spreading the word among players of amateur and professional sports.

A third "leg" of the Military Ministry program is its marriage seminars that help couples cope with the stresses of military life and frequent deployment. Last year, 20 were scheduled across the nation. That grew to 35 this year.

"A lot of couples need help," Abel said. "The dynamics of the military family have changed completely, and, unfortunately, frequent deployments are beginning to translate into more separations and divorce.

"All in all, you're looking at a total package to support the war on terrorism," said Abel, whose military career included escorting five POW flights from Hanoi, stints as a jet pilot, a trip through jump school at Fort Benning, Ga., and a tour as special assistant to the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff and Air Force Director of Public Affairs in the Pentagon.

"We started this because we knew it was the right thing to do," he continued. "These men and women are protecting the freedoms of our nation. And I know in my heart that I am blessed to bring them the peace of knowing Christ personally."

Those who would like to volunteer for Military Ministries, or offer donations in support of their programs, can contact them at 1-800-444-6006, ext. 277. They can also be designated for financial contributions through the Combined Federal Campaign (#2004).



Of the Virginia Peninsula

### Combined Federal Campaign — NOW through Nov. 19

*Did you know that you can designate your CFC contribution to specific non-profit organizations in the local area? The designation number for Fort Monroe Child and Youth Services is 6261. Ask your office or directorate CFC keyperson for more information.*

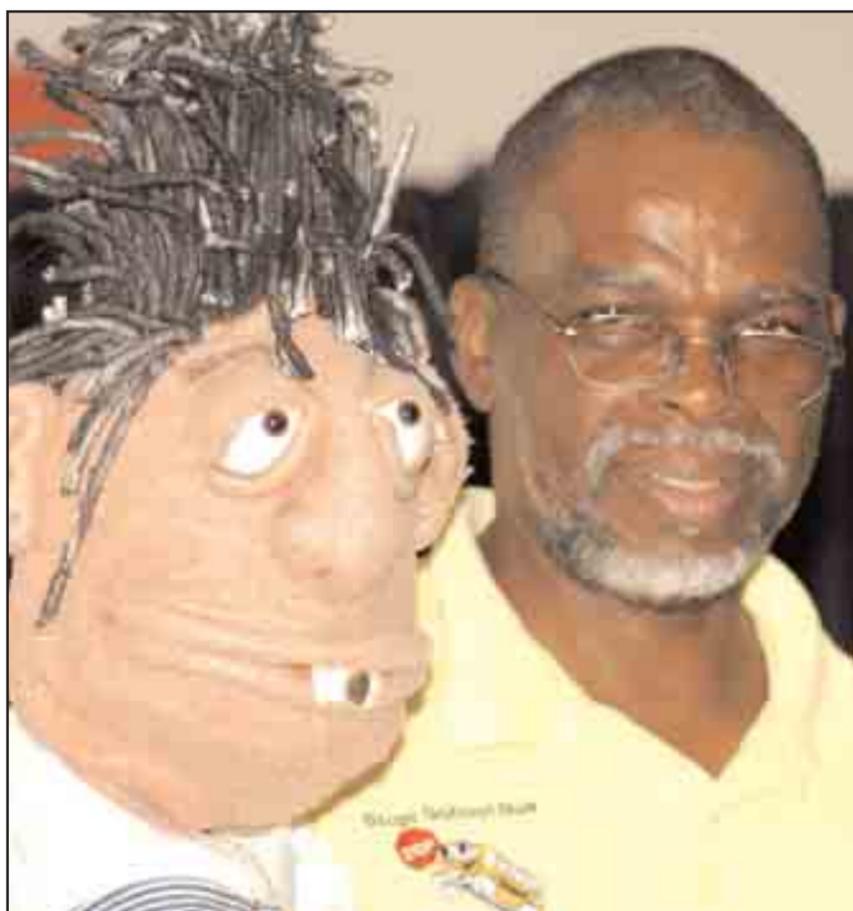
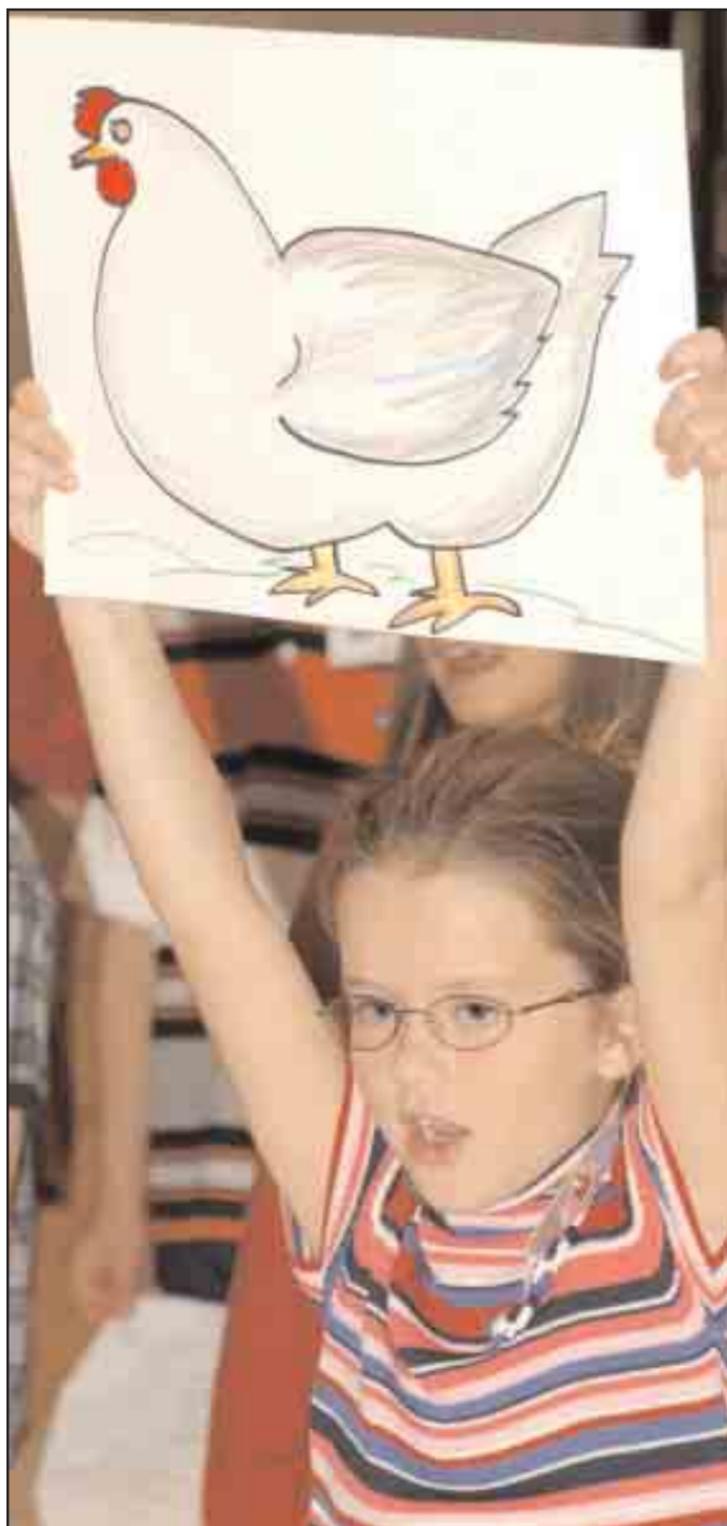


## Monroe honors Hispanic heritage

*Photo above: Students of Poquoson Elementary School perform during Fort Monroe's Hispanic Bazaar, Oct. 5, at the Community Activities Center. Using the Spanish skills they've learned in class, the students read narratives about themselves and sang songs in celebration of the Hispanic Heritage. Photo far right: A Poquoson student helps with visuals during the performance. The students use songs to learn the Spanish words for basic objects and elements of grammar. Photo right: Sgt. 1st Class Bobby Worst, of the singing trio Transportation Express, belts out a tune during the observance. Specialists Ashekka Mitchell and Brandon Donerson also performed. The Hispanic Bazaar was part of Monroe's Hispanic Heritage Month Observance, which concludes Oct. 15.*



Photos by Patrick Buffett



Photos by Patrick Buffett

## Open house highlights YA programs, new digs

*Photo left: Lawrence Atkins and his puppet "Crackhead" talk about their 4-H program that helps kids learn about issues like drug abuse, second-hand smoke and bullying. The presentation was part of the Youth Annex Open House program here Oct. 5. Atkins said he would like to start a program at Monroe. Photo above: Carlos Garcia, left, Malcom Glover, center, and Marcus Tatum have some fun at the new Youth Annex, which was built as an addition to the Community Activities Center. The annex provides space for middle and high school programs. The new facility includes computer workstations, a small television lounge and a full kitchen.*

# Sports & Health

Got any sports results?  
Need to advertise an upcoming event?  
Give us a call at 788-3208 or e-mail [casemate@monroe.army.mil](mailto:casemate@monroe.army.mil).



## Tee Time

**Don Houchins, manager of the Bay Breeze Community Center, demonstrates the features of the "Dead-Solid Golf" simulator installed earlier this year at the Fort Monroe Fitness Center. The simulator provides an excellent opportunity to keep your long and short game up to snuff as less hospitable outdoor weather nears. For beginners, the simulator can analyze everything from the golf swing to the track of the ball in flight. For regulars, the system offers several different competition modes — skins, match and stroke play — and 27 different courses. The simulator is available to authorized Fitness Center customers for a flat rate of \$15 per hour. For more information, call 788-3090.**



Photo by Patrick Buffett

**Marby Bernaola knows there's nothing more satisfying on a cool fall morning than a fresh and hot cup of Starbucks coffee, cream-covered cocoa or flavored tea from Fitside Perk. Located in the Fitness Center lobby, the service is open Monday through Friday from 6 a.m. to 7 p.m., and Saturday from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m.**

## Witness 'The Sport of Kings' at weekend fundraiser

Area equestrians and anyone wanting to enjoy a good time for a great cause are invited to the Colonial Polo Cup, Sunday at Shirley Plantation in Charles City, Va.

This daylong fundraiser — featuring a match between Team Michelob Ultra and Team Mercedes-Benz — will benefit area youth and art programs. Food and beverages will be for sale or spectators may bring

their own picnics. The event will also feature a classic car display and a performance by the Williamsburg Fife and Drums.

The opening ceremony and parade is scheduled for 12:15 p.m. General admission tickets are \$25. Spectators should bring their own chairs. For more information, call 873-7333.

## Sports Roundup

### Halloween golf classic

The Fort Monroe Sports Office reminds golfers that they still have plenty of time to sign up for the Halloween Golf Classic scheduled for Oct. 26 at Pines Golf Course, Fort Eustis.

Four-person teams can sign up through Oct. 21. The entry fee is \$45 per person, or \$30 for Pines Golf Course members.

The tournament will be played in captain's choice format. In addition to team awards, participants can compete for longest drive and closest to pin prizes. A complimentary beverage cart and dinner service will be provided following the tournament. Goodie bags and door prizes will also be handed out during the event.

For more information, or to register, call the sports office at 788-2783.

### Basketball meeting

A post intramural basketball coaches meeting will be held Nov. 3 at the Fitness Center PAR-TEE

room. Topics to be discussed include scheduling and team format. For more information, call 788-2783.

### Bowling bucks

Fort Monroe Bowl patrons only have a few more days to rack up the "Bowling Bucks" needed to purchase some great prizes.

Bucks will be awarded for every purchase of \$5 or more through Sunday. Patrons who have saved up their bucks can use them at the end-of-promotion auction party, which includes food and beverage specials, music, and discount bowling. The event will also include an auction for a 36-inch Striker Doll, a seven-day vacation package from

www.GovArm.com and Trading Places, Harley Davidson shirts and coolers.

The Bowl also reminds active-duty military members and their families that they can enjoy free bowling every Friday from 3 to 6 p.m.

For more information, call 788-2939.

### Moat fishing

With the opening of striper season this week, Fort Monroe has once again okayed open fishing in the area of the historic moat along Patch Road and between North Gate (along Fenwick) and the AAFES parking lot.

Fishing is allowed during daylight hours only. Participants are not allowed to fish from North Gate bridge, or cross the safety rail along the edge of the moat. A fishing license is required for anyone between the ages of 16 and 65.

For more information, contact the Fort Monroe Sports Office at 788-2783.

### Memory walk

A three-mile walk to benefit victims of Alzheimer's is scheduled for Saturday beginning at 10 a.m., at Newport News Park.

Registration begins an hour before the event. Each participant will be asked to donate a "commitment fee" of \$20. Additional donations are welcome.

Walkers will receive a T-shirt commemorating the 2004 event at the time of registration. After the walk, participants can enjoy clowns, cheerleaders, food and fun.

Walkers can also commemorate a loved one by registering them for the "Wall of Hope."

### Attention walkers, runners:

The dog beach area will be closed to pedestrian and vehicle traffic from Oct. 11 through March 2005. A contract has been awarded to repair jetties damaged by Hurricane Isabel. The closure affects the entire area, from the gated entrance on Fenwick to Buckroe.

## NEWS CLIPS

Continued from Page 6

### ***New feature on myPay***

Members of myPay can now provide a spouse or trusted individual with a Restricted Access Personal Identification Number (RAPIN) to view and print LES(s) and W2 forms but not make pay changes.

Members can set the RAPIN by signing into myPay and from the main menu clicking on the "Personal Settings" page. Next go to the "Restricted Access PIN" and input the RAPIN.

For the spouse/family member to use the RAPIN, they simply sign into myPay with the member's SSN under "Login ID" and then enter the provided RAPIN.

To establish your own myPay account, visit <https://mypay.dfas.mil>.

### ***Volunteers needed***

The Hampton Clean City Commission is seeking volunteers to help purchase trees for Hampton public areas. On Nov. 23, groups or individuals can raise money by walking, running, biking or skating in "The Human Race" during the Celebration in Lights in Newport News Park.

Sponsored by the Volunteer Center of the Peninsula on behalf of the Keep Hampton Green Fund, the event will include prizes such as T-shirts, mugs, and other premiums to the teams that bring in the most Keep Hampton Green Funds.

For more information, or to request pledge envelopes, call the Volunteer Center at 262-0190 or log on to [volunteer@volunteerpeninsula.org](mailto:volunteer@volunteerpeninsula.org).

### ***New eX Online Store***

The Exchange Online Store has expanded its gaming and software offerings through [aafes.com](http://aafes.com), [usmc-mccs.org](http://usmc-mccs.org), [navy-nex.com](http://navy-nex.com) and [cg-exchange.com](http://cg-exchange.com).

Shoppers who access this new eX Online Store feature can choose from over 2,000 video game titles and more than 250 video game accessories. The new video game and PC software site also boasts more than 500 active and in-stock PC entertainment software titles.

Active duty military members as well as military retirees, reservists, National Guardsmen, Department of Defense civilians stationed overseas, Exchange employees and their family members can shop the Video Game and PC Software Storefront through the icon at their eX Online Store.

### ***USMC 229th birthday bash***

Gen. Peter Pace, will be the guest of honor at the U.S. Marine Corps Forces, Atlantic, Birthday Ball on Nov. 10 at the Chesapeake Conference Center in Chesapeake.

Gen. Pace is the nation's second highest-ranking military officer as vice-chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff. He is also the first Marine to hold the position. He received his commission in June 1967, following graduation from the United States Naval Academy.

The celebration marks the Marine Corps' 229th birthday and kicks off at 6 p.m. with a VIP reception. A military band concert, a performance by Tattoo (Tidewater Pipe and Drum), and dinner and dance music performed live through 1 a.m. will round out the festivities.

The ball is open to all ranks and services, federal employees, military retirees and civilians. Reservations are on a first come, first served basis due to limited seating. Seating prices vary. For more information, or to make reservations, call 836-2911 or 1548.



Photo by Matt Thomas

### ***A Fort Monroe greeting***

***Lt. Gen. JBS Yadava — Deputy Chief of Army Information Systems and Training, Indian Army — is accompanied by HHC 1st Sgt. Mitchell Brown, left, as he reviews salute personnel during an Oct. 1 visit to Fort Monroe. During his visit, Yadava received briefings on TRADOC's use of information systems during training. Also pictured are Staff Sgt. Linwood Baker, center, NCOIC of the HHC Salute Battery, and Sgt. Derik Noakes, right.***

**4 X 8  
AD**

# Moat Notes

## UPCOMING SPOTLIGHT EVENTS

Vertical Horizon Concert . . . . . Oct. 9 | Post Yard Sale . . . . . Oct. 23  
 Newcomers Orientation . . . . . Oct. 14 | Post Run . . . . . Oct. 26  
 Clean Sweep Walk . . . . . Oct. 19 | Halloween Golf Tournament . . Oct. 26  
 For more on these and other upcoming events, see calendar below or other stories and briefs in this issue.



### Oct. 8

#### Monroe Oktoberfest

If you're missing your "brotchen" or have a longing for those hot "pommes frites" you found during your travels through Europe, Fort Monroe MWR Special Events has just the gathering for you.

An Oktoberfest celebration is planned from 5 to 9 this evening in front of the Bay Breeze Community Center. Admission to the event is free and open to the public.

Guests can purchase a variety of popular German foods like bratwurst, sauerkraut and brotchen, and wash it all down with imported beer and wine. Entertainment for the event will be provided by Mark "All Around DJ" Schilling.

For more information, call Maria Jackson at 788-3151.

#### Boston Pops Concert

Tickets are on sale now for the upcoming Boston Pops Esplanade Orchestra Holiday Concert scheduled for Dec. 3 at the Constant Center, located on the grounds of Old Dominion University.

The group's holiday concerts are renowned for rousing sing-alongs, touching renditions of great Christmas classics, and narrative family holiday stories by local celebrities. Each year, the shows typically sell out well in advance, so those who wish to attend might want to make reservations now.

Tickets start at \$27. Special discounts are available for military members, seniors and group purchases. Reservations can be made through Ticketmaster outlets, online at ticketmaster.com, or by calling 671-8100.

### Oct. 9

#### Poe stories

Master of mystery and horror Edgar Allan Poe, as portrayed by actor Ron Ferguson, will present some of his most notable and spell-binding works during a Lee Hall performance Saturday, beginning at 7 p.m.

Poe was among the greatest American poets, a master of the horror tale and the patron saint to writers of the detective story. He perfected the psychological thriller and produced some of the most powerful poetry and influential literary criticism of his time.

The cost of admission to this event is \$15 per person. Lee Hall is located off I-64 Exit 247 (close to the Naval Weapons Station).

For more information or to make reservations, call 888-3371.

## Showing off ...



Photo by Tim Hipps, U.S. Army Community and Family Support Center

**Sgt. Abimael Leon, a Texas National Guardsman from Chandler, Ariz., holds Spc. Emily Plasterer, an Indiana National Guard member from Churubusco, Ind., during a recent performance of the 2004 U.S. Army Soldier Show, which is coming to Fort Monroe Nov. 9. With the theme "The Heart of a Soldier," this year's show is a song and dance display of how troops touch base with home while fighting the war on terrorism.**

#### Pig out for charity

The Oceanfront Jaycees of Virginia Beach will host their 10th annual PIG OUT charity fundraiser Saturday from 1 to 6 p.m., at Holiday Trav-L Park along General Booth Boulevard.

The fundraiser is an all-you-can-eat and drink barbeque that raises money for local charities. Tickets are a donation of \$20 in advance and \$25 at the door. Admission includes catering by Mobile Pig-Nic and music by local band, 2 Faces, and special guest, Pedestal.

For more information, call 437-8500.

#### Wilderness survival

Learn some of the basics of wilderness survival – like building shelters and using a compass – during a special program being offered by Sandy Bottom Nature Park Oct. 9 from 1:30 to 3 p.m.

The "Wilderness Survival Tips" program is a good precursor to the overnight survival event the nature park will sponsor in November. The participation fee is \$2 per person. All children under the age of 14 must be accompanied by an adult.

For more information, call 825-4657.

### Oct. 12

#### Ghost stories

Civil War ghost stories, presented by local author L.B. Taylor, will be the featured entertainment at the Main Street Library in Newport News, beginning at 7 p.m., Tuesday.

Taylor has written at least a dozen books on spectral encounters during Virginia's history. His tales range from cradles that rock themselves and the spirit of a poisoned bride at Brandon plantation to the chilling monster of Mount Vernon and the ghost of Edgar Allan Poe.

Taylor will offer another presentation on ghostly humor at the West Street Library Oct. 27 beginning at 6 p.m. Each event is free and open to the public. For more information, to include directions, call 247-8875.

### Oct. 13

#### Birthday concert

The U.S. Fleet Forces Band invites all Hampton Roads area military members and their families to the Navy's 229th Birthday Celebration concert, Wednesday

beginning at 8 p.m., at the Virginia Beach Pavilion.

The guest moderator for the evening will be Regina Mobley, news anchor for WVEC-TV Channel 13. The concert is free and open to the public.

To guarantee a seat, tickets may be picked up at any ITT office or requested by calling 444-6777.

#### 'Ghost Breakers'

Williamsburg Library continues its haunting October lineup of spooky movie classics with a special Wednesday night showing of "Ghost Breakers," starring Bob Hope and Paulette Goddard.

Romance, comedy and chills are all packed into this 1940 film in which Hope plays a radio commentator on the lamb who comes Goddard's aid after she inherits a haunted castle in Cuba.

The shows begin at 2 p.m. in the Williamsburg Library Theatre. All shows are free and no reservations are required. The afternoon film series continues Oct. 21 with "The Uninvited," and concludes Oct. 28 with "The Ghost and Mrs. Muir." For more information, call 259-4050.

### Oct. 15

#### Theatre of Light

Fireflies will dance and shooting stars will flash across the darkened stage as the Luma Theatre of Light returns to the American Theatre, Phoebus, from Oct. 15 through 17.

Those who have viewed the show in the past describe it as "a surreal world of light, color and motion."

Tickets went on sale in early October for the four-show lineup. All seats are \$20. Half-price children's tickets are also available. For information, or to reserve seats, call 722-2787.

#### AT THE MOVIES

Showing at the Langley Air Force Base and Fort Eustis Theaters

Friday, Oct. 8

7 p.m. — Suspect Zero (R, Eustis)

7 p.m. — Family and Teen Talent Show at Langley, AFB

Saturday, Oct. 9

2 p.m. — SuperBabies (PG)

7 p.m. — Exorcist: The Beginning (R)

Friday, Oct. 15

7 p.m. — Vanity Fair (PG-13)

Saturday, Oct. 16

2 p.m. — The Cookout (PG-13)

7 p.m. — Anacondas (PG-13)

Adults \$2, children 6-12 years old \$1.50 and children under 6 are free. If a child under 6 occupies a seat at a G-rated movie, admission is \$1.50. Special movie showings are available. Contact John Low at LowJ@aafes.com or 766-1237 for details.

**Oct. 16****Oyster roast**

Enjoy some delicious seafood while helping out a great cause during the Watermen's Museum Oyster Roast, from 1 to 4 p.m., Oct. 16, in Yorktown.

The charity event will benefit the museum as it continues its struggle with storm damage from Hurricane Isabel in September 2003. The museum and its grounds suffered significant flood and wind damage during the storm.

Admission for adults is \$20 in advance and \$25 on the day of the event. Children's tickets are \$10. For more information, or to reserve tickets, call 887-2641.

**Ornament workshop**

The Newsome House Museum and Cultural Center, Newport News, will host an ornament workshop for all ages from 10 a.m. to noon, Oct. 16.

Attendees will create decorative and festive ornaments from African and African-American designs. The cost is \$5 per person and reservations are required.

For more information, call 247-2360 or 2380.

**Book signing**

Surviving members of the original 'Band of Brothers' — Easy Company, 506th Regiment, 101st Airborne Division — will participate in a book signing session Oct. 16 from 2 to 4 p.m. at the MacArthur Memorial in downtown Norfolk.

The subjects of a ground-breaking HBO mini-series, which was also recently featured on the History Channel, the boys of Easy Company are best known for parachuting into France D-Day morning, fighting in the Battle of the Bulge and capturing Hitler's Eagles Nest at Berchtesgarden.

Copies of the Stephen Ambrose book "Band of Brothers" will be available for purchase at the site. Participants may also bring a previously purchased copy. For more information, call the Norfolk Visitor's Bureau at 664-6620.

**Musical 'Duo'**

With musical styles ranging from bluegrass to jazz and Irish classical to Latin traditional, the instrumental group "Duo" will perform at the Williamsburg Library Theatre Oct. 16 at 7:30 p.m.

Tickets for the show are \$14 for adults, \$10 for students with ID, and \$7 for participants under age 16. For more information, or to reserve tickets, call 259-4070.

**Oct. 22****Lantern tour**

What sorts of spirits haunt the homes and historical structures within the oldest parts of Fort Monroe? Guests can find out during the Casemate Museum's Halloween Lantern Tour, Oct. 22 beginning at 7 p.m.

Participants will gather at the museum for the hour-long event, which will include a tour of alleged haunted sites within the historic moat. The presentation will be moved indoors in the event of inclement weather.

The tour is free and open to the public; however, reservations are required. For more information, call 788-3391.

**Movie madness**

"Something Wicked This Way Comes," the eerie tale written by Ray Bradbury, will be the featured entertainment during an After Hours Movie Madness evening at Main Street Library, Newport News, Oct. 22 from 7 to 10 p.m.

The movie showing will be followed by a discussion session with refreshments. The special event is part of the library system's celebration of "Teen Read Week."

This event is free and open to the public. For more information, to include directions, call 247-8875 or visit [www.nngov.com/library](http://www.nngov.com/library).

**Wildlife festival**

Free pony rides, wild animal exhibits and live music will be among the offerings of the Hampton Wildlife Festival, Oct. 22 and 23 at Sandy Bottom Nature Park.

The festival is intended to bring new attention to the nature park's overall mission of promoting environmental education and interpretation. Throughout the year, the park offers numerous nature programs, ranking from hikes and canoe trips, to fishing seminars and wildlife survival classes.

The festival hours are 4 to 9 p.m., Oct. 22, and 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., Oct. 23. Parking is available at Thomas Nelson Community College. A shuttle service will provide transportation to and from the nature park. For more information, call 825-4657.

**Oct. 23****Military vehicle show**

The Hampton Roads Militaria Society will host a fun and educational, hands-on event at Huntington Park (near the Virginia War Museum, Newport News) Oct. 23 and 24 from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

The 4th Annual Military Vehicle and Militaria Show will feature live reenactments, military music and two large auctions. The event is being advertised as "a good venue to teach children about military history while satisfying the most serious collector's appetite for rare and historic military collectibles and vehicles."

Admission is free. For more information, call 425-2827.

**Oct. 28****Roanoke 'spook-tacular'**

The N.C. Aquarium on Roanoke Island invites you to the 2nd Annual Trick or Treat Under the Sea celebration, from 6 to 9 p.m., Oct. 28.

Haunting the halls of the aquarium will be many local businesses and organizations with treats and activities for little goblins to enjoy. Admission is \$5 per person, and free for children 2 and under. All children must be chaperoned. For more info, call (252) 473-3494.

**In black & white**

Movie buffs and armchair film critics can join Pearl Bailey Library, Newport News, for a special viewing of the classic 1960's black and white film "To Kill a Mockingbird," beginning at 6:30 p.m., Oct. 28.

The movie will be followed by refreshments and a discussion led by local university scholars. The event is part of the library's year-long special series titled "The 60s: A Decade of Change." Additional films to be shown and discussed during November are "A Raisin in the Sun," Nov. 4, and "Guess Who's Coming to Dinner?" Nov. 18. Both programs will also begin at 6:30 p.m.

Each event is free and open to the public. For more information, to include directions, call 247-8875.

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3 X 7  
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# ACS Corner



Fort Monroe Army Community Services  
is an MWR-sponsored program

## AFTB classes begin

Army Family Team Building classes are beginning here this month. Classes are scheduled for Wednesdays and take place in the Soldier and Family Support Center, Quarters 1, from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Classes are free and open to everyone. Class supplies are provided so bring your sack lunch and join us! Call 788-3878 to register.

The class schedule is as follows:

**Oct. 13, Lead On!** - 2.01.2 Introduction to Effective Leadership and 3.02.2 Leadership Skills. Learn the principles of leadership while identifying the skills needed to be an effective leader.

**Oct. 20, Sharing and Caring** - 3.01.2 Building Self-Esteem and 3.02.4 Leader Roles. Learn about the different "roles" leaders play as they lead others in building and maintaining personal self-esteem.

**Oct. 27, Lasting Impressions** - 3.03.1 How to Develop a Presentation and 3.03.2 How to Plan a Workshop. Learn the skills needed to plan, organize, and conduct both a presentation and a workshop.

## AER scholarships

The Maj. Gen. James Ursano Scholarship Fund was established in 1976 to help Army families with the costs of post secondary undergraduate level education, vocational training, and preparation for acceptance by service academies for their dependent children.

Army Emergency Relief administers this program as a secondary mission. Applicants must be:

1) Dependent children, stepchildren or legally-adopted children of Soldiers who are active duty, retired or deceased (while on active duty or after reinstatement).

2) Unmarried for the entire academic year.

3) Under the age of 22 on May 1, 2005 based on 2005-2006 academic year.

Visit [www.aerhq.org](http://www.aerhq.org) for an application or to apply online for the 2005-2006 academic year from Nov. 1, 2004 through March 1, 2005. For more information, contact Beverly Nicholson, Army Emergency Relief Officer, at 788-4132 or via e-mail [nicholsb@monroe.army.mil](mailto:nicholsb@monroe.army.mil).

## Toddler Time

The Soldier and Family Support Center sponsors a weekly "Toddler Time" playgroup each Monday (except holidays) from 9:30 - 10:30 a.m., in the gymnasium of the Community Activities Center. All children under age 6 are welcome.

Tents, tunnels, pull toys and other fun things are available for the children. On the first Monday of each month, the playgroup will meet at the indoor pool. Bring your bathing suits (and swim diapers for those who are not completely potty trained). A lifeguard will be on duty; however, parents are still responsible for children.

Toddler Time is designed to help children develop social skills and can lead to new friendships for kids and parents alike. The program gives moms and dads the chance to share experiences and ask for advice about parenting issues.

Toddler Time is open to families of active duty military, DA Civilians and retirees. To register or obtain additional information, contact Kathleen Miller at 788-3878.



Fort Monroe family member Tracy Johnston plays with her son Ainsley during a recent Toddler Time play session at the CAC.

Photo by Patricia Radcliffe

## Anger Management

ACS sponsors weekly Anger Management Classes at Quarters 1, inside the moat. Sessions are held each Monday from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. Call Allen Reed at 314-7910 or Kathleen Miller at 788-3878 to register. All persons are required to attend eight sessions to receive a letter of completion.

## Newcomers briefing

ACS offers a newcomers briefing the second Thursday of every month. A short overview of the services available on post and in the surrounding community are discussed. Briefings are also given by the Post Commander, Post CSM, School Liaison Officer, Post Chaplain, and EEO representative. Call Marie Hinton at 788-4344 or Kathleen Miller at 788-3878 to register.

## Free OneSource service helps with 'life issues'

Facing longer and more frequent deployments, today's military family depends upon a solid support network of community services, friends and family to accomplish many daily tasks.

But what if the community support agency can't recommend a good plumber, or a financial problem exists that's beyond the expertise of a friend or relative?

Now there's a new resource that can help.

Military OneSource is a free and completely confidential help-line to assist families and service men and women with a range of life issues including educational transition, child care, job transition, financial planning, and finding reputable plumbers, mechanics and the like.

Military personnel or their families can simply call a 1-800 number and be connected to a counselor with a masters-level education and military background to assist them with any issue. Additionally, there is a website with information customized for each branch (i.e. [www.armyonesource.com](http://www.armyonesource.com)).

This DOD-wide program is an excellent example of the military's commitment to providing family support and the quality of life deserving of the military family that serves our country on the home front.

OneSource is available 24-7, and is there is no cost to use the service. Assistance is available in 140 different languages. The resource also accommodates the hearing impaired.

The information number is 1-800-342-9647, or service members and families can visit the Web site at [www.militaryonesource.com](http://www.militaryonesource.com). Further information is also available at: [www.usa4militaryfamilies.org](http://www.usa4militaryfamilies.org).

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