

Up and Down
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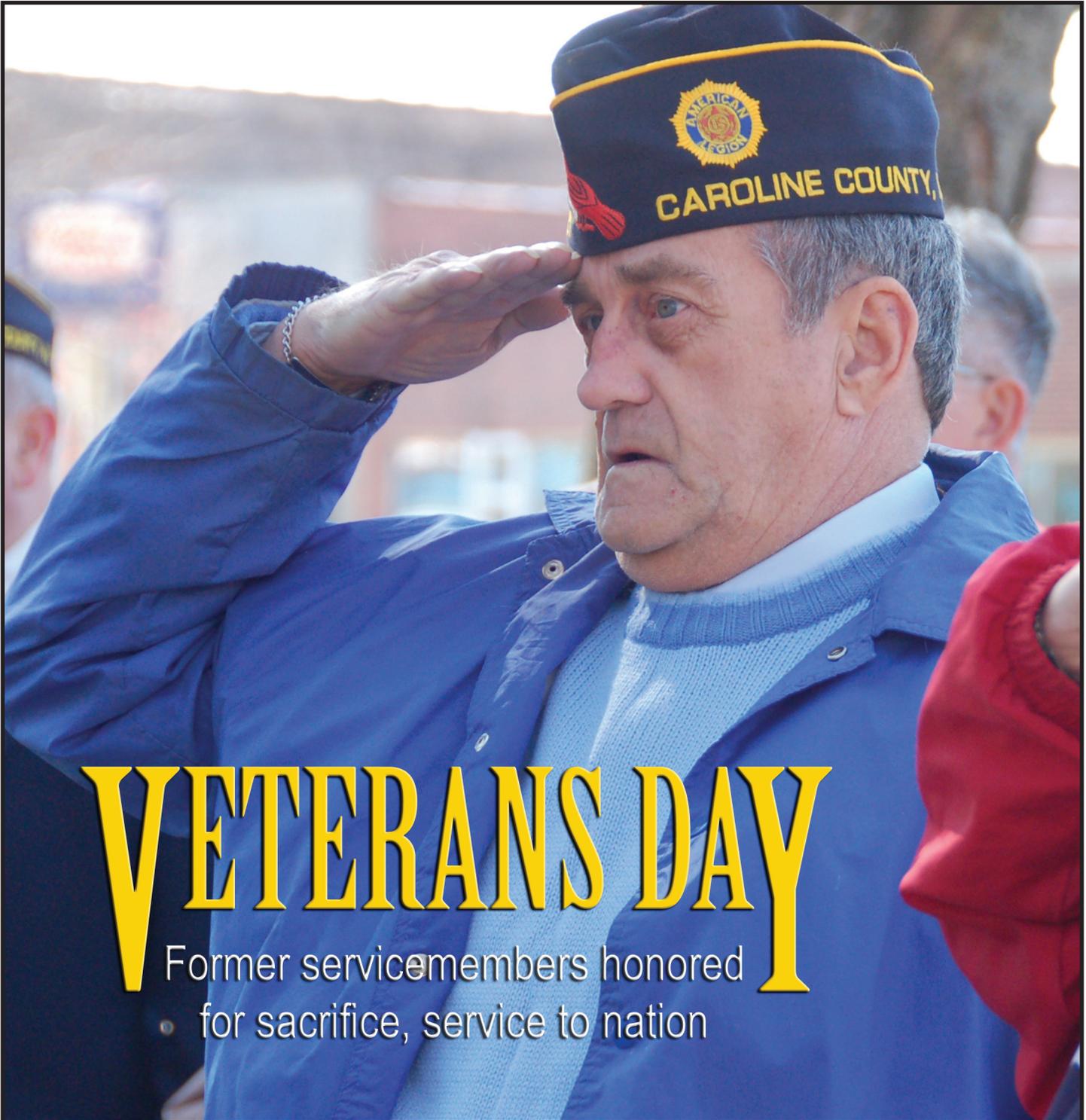
Hill



Vol. 43, No. 4

Serving the Fort A.P. Hill Community

Dec. 1, 2008



VETERANS DAY

Former servicemembers honored
• for sacrifice, service to nation



Lt. Col. Michael S. Graese, garrison commander, reflects on the many activities conducted here in recent weeks.

Events prove there's more to post

Team,

I hope this latest edition of "Up and Down the Hill" finds each of you in great spirits and excellent health and ready to enjoy the Christmas and holiday season.

As I thumbed through the draft copy of this edition, it made me pause and realize how much has occurred at the installation over the past few weeks. It just proves the point that Fort A.P. Hill is definitely more than hunting, fishing and the Boy Scout Jamboree! ☺

It is such a pleasure to have participated in these and other events representing the installation. As I've mentioned to Maj. Gen. (Richard J.) Rowe and Mr. (Russell B.) Hall, the workforce at Fort A.P. Hill certainly has panache for doing everything professionally. This was witnessed in every event detailed in the paper. I thank each of you who had a part in making all of these events so successful!

Although we didn't have any specific features on training in this edition, it is worth

"Warriors are familiar with our ... facilities and desire to take advantage of them to ensure their success on future battlefields."

-- Lt. Col. Michael S. Graese

noting that over 17,000 Warriors trained at Fort A.P. Hill since Oct. 1. This is the second highest start to the beginning of a fiscal year in 11 years. While we will experience an expected slowdown through-

out the holiday season, the remainder of the FY will likely be filled with as many or more Warriors than in the past. Of course, this is great news; it means Warriors are familiar with our unsurpassed facilities and desire to take advantage of them to ensure their success on future battlefields.

I just want to encourage you to keep contributing to making Fort A.P. Hill the home of the "Best Training and Support ... Anywhere!"

I'll see you all around post and at the Town Hall meeting on Dec. 17. Until then, thank you for all of your great work and dedication. **HOOAH!**

Yard of the Month

Stanley Pauley, Directorate of Emergency Services, tends to some shrubbery on his front lawn. His residence was recently selected as the installation's Yard of the Month.

Pauley's win earns him AAFES and Morale, Welfare and Recreation gift certificates to use as he pleases.



Photo by David San Miguel

Barber Shop now open

The Morale, Welfare and Recreation staff announce the opening of a barber shop at the Wilcox Camp area.

The shop will be open, Tuesday and Wednesday from 9 a.m. until 5 p.m.; and every second Saturday. Haircuts will cost \$8.65 and walk-ins are welcome. For an appointment, call 633-8820.



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The views and opinions expressed in this publication are not necessarily the official views of, or endorsed by, the U.S. Government, the Department of the Army or this command.

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Lt. Col. Michael S. Graese, garrison commander, chats with U.S. Air Force Veteran (Tech. Sgt.) Doug Fortune and U.S. Army Col. (Ret.) Garrison J. Boyle III following a Veterans' Day speech on the courthouse lawn in Bowling Green.



Photos by David San Miguel

Graese addresses a crowd gathered at the Caroline County Courthouse lawn during a Veterans' Day ceremony held Nov. 11.

Honoring those who served



U.S. Army Lt. Gen. (Ret.) Julius W. Becton Jr., was the guest speaker.

While the nation continues to deploy U.S. forces abroad, families, friends and neighbors joined hands to honor those Veterans here who sacrificed and served for "society and the preservation of liberty."

Ceremonies were held on the courthouse lawn in downtown Bowling Green "on the 11th hour ..." to commemorate the 90th anniversary of Armistice Day. This later became known as Veterans Day.

Later at the Caroline Middle School auditorium, 60 World War II Veterans gathered to

be recognized.

Guest speaker, U.S. Army Lt. Gen. (Ret.) Julius W. Becton Jr., author and WWII, Korean War and Vietnam Veteran, shared his memories of a segregated Army and thanked the Veterans for their contribution to the ideal of one America.

Becton and Virginia Vice-Commander Bill Gooden presented the Veterans with citations from the American Legion for their sacrifice and service to the nation.



Dr. David Russell, department chaplain, American Legion Post 221, and Command Sgt. Maj. Roger Chase, garrison command sergeant major, Fort A.P. Hill, render salutes during the playing of the National Anthem.

Fort A.P. Hill employees gathered to recognize and honor the many who served in the military during a Veteran's Appreciation Luncheon held at Romenick Hall, Nov. 7.



More than 60 World War II Veterans were honored by the American Legion Post 221 for their contribution to "society and the preservation of liberty." The ceremony was held at the Caroline Middle School auditorium in Bowling Green, Nov. 11.

Urban operations training center dedicated

Fort A.P. Hill remembers Command Sgt. Maj. Steven W. Faulkenburg

By Christopher B. Joyner
Public Affairs Officer

Fort A.P. Hill dedicated a state-of-the-art urban operations training center, Nov. 9, in memory of a former leader who served here and was later killed in Iraq.

Two days before the 90th anniversary of Armistice Day and five years to the day after his death, the Fort A.P. Hill staff dedicated the Faulkenburg Urban Operations Training Center in memory of Command Sgt. Maj. Steven W. Faulkenburg who served here in the nineties as the garrison command sergeant major.



Command Sgt. Maj. Steven W. Faulkenburg served here during the late nineties.

“Sgt. Maj. Faulkenburg’s determined effort here ensured Soldiers rotating through the installation’s training facilities were adequately taught and equipped to handle the rigors of combat,” said Lt. Col. Michael S. Graese, Garrison Commander.

In the early morning hours of Nov. 9, 2004 while serving with the 2nd Battalion, 2nd Regiment of the 1st Infantry Division, Faulkenburg led his troops into Fallujah as part of an initial coalition forces assault. After dismounting and organizing the Soldiers around him, he was killed by a sniper’s bullet.

Notably, Faulkenburg has been the subject of numerous leadership studies and books and was regarded as a Soldier’s Soldier, according to many he served with.

“After 42 years’ association with the Army, I can say that Faulkenburg is one of a very limited group of noncommissioned officers that if I were to ever go into combat again, I would want on my left or right flank,” said Hank Hanrahan, Director of Plans, Training, Mobilizations and Security.

Construction of the new facility began in 2005 and cost approximately \$10.6 million. The new training complex consists of a breach facility, a live-fire shoothouse, an urban assault course and a combined arms collective training facility. These facilities will provide military and select government agencies an opportunity to train and perfect combat tactics in an urban terrain environment.

The Breach Facility is a three-station training area designed to train soldiers in

the dynamic methods of gaining entry into a building. Each station is designed with changeable building construction material, like steel vs. wood doors. Station one is for doorway breach techniques. Station two is for window breach techniques and the third station is for wall-breaching techniques.

The shoothouse facility is designed to train soldiers on live-fire room and building clearing techniques. It has an open roof design with rubber composite block construction for close supervision and evaluation of training.

The Urban Assault Course is a five-station facility designed to train soldiers, organized into squads and platoon-sized elements, to train using urban fighting techniques at the intermediate level. Station 1 is an individual and team task trainer where the basics of room clearing are refined. Station 2 is a squad and platoon task trainer, which replicates a segment of five buildings. Station 3 is the Grenadier Gunnery Trainer designed to instruct Soldiers how to engage urban targets with standard grenade launcher weapons. Station 4 is an Urban Offense/Defense Building. It is used to train soldiers to clear or defend a multiple story building with variable access and entry points. Station 5 is the Underground Trainer with subterranean urban features, such as drainage and utility systems, to help build on the Soldiers’ proficiency to clear and secure these areas.

The CACTF is a generic representation of an urban environment with varying composition and characteristics. It is designed to have an urban core (downtown), residential section, public administration and utility features, a warehouse area, urban sprawl replication and farm features. The CACTF is equipped with camera, targeting and utility features in 80 percent of the facility to present realism and to further evaluate unit effectiveness in the urban environment. It is designed with an eye for expandability and employs direct feedback to unit commanders with instant replay access. This facility is designed to train soldiers in unit-level urban operations employing combined arms assets including engineer, artillery, aviation and military police support.



Photo by Sgt. Andrew Owen

Graese assists the brothers of the fallen, Jerry, Terry and Walter Faulkenburg, in unveiling the memorial plaque.



Lt. Col. Michael S. Graese, garrison commander, Fort A.P. Hill, joined local leaders in signing the Community Covenant, Nov. 6.

Covenant signing seals partnership, friendships with local communities

Hundreds were on hand to witness the senior military leadership of Fort A.P. Hill along with several key elected officials sign the Army Community Covenant at the Caroline Middle School auditorium in Bowling Green, Nov. 6.

The Covenant is a joint document outlining the long-standing relationship between the military installation and the local community.

Lt. Col. Michael S. Graese, garrison commander, Fort A.P. Hill; Maj. Gen. Richard J. Rowe Jr., commanding general, Military District of Washington; Mayors David Storke of Bowling Green and Nancy Long of Port Royal joined other local officials in signing the document just prior to the 2008 U.S. Army Soldier Show presentation.

Copies of the Community Covenant have been distributed for public view to the towns of Bowling Green and Port Royal as well as with the administrative offices of Caroline County.



Photos by David San Miguel

Mayors David Storke and Nancy Long sign the Army Community Covenant.

Login changes to bolster AKO security

By C. Todd Lopez
Army News Service

WASHINGTON -- Operators of the Army's Web-based information portal "Army Knowledge Online" plan to implement new security procedures on the system as early as January.

When logging into the security-improved AKO, users will be presented with three questions they must correctly answer before being allowed to continue. The questions are designed to be difficult for anyone but the users themselves to answer, said Lt. Col. Ken Fritzsche, chief of operations for AKO.

"What AKO tries to do is provide a layer of protection, so in addition to just using a password, you can supply answers to questions about yourself," he said. "It'll be answers known only by you."

In preparation of the new security protocol, the AKO system will present each user with a list of 20 questions. The user then chooses to provide answers to 15 of those questions. In subsequent logins, AKO will present three of those questions with multiple-choice answers. Users will

need to choose the correct answer in order to log in, said Fritzsche.

"The questions are one more layer of security that defeat keystroke loggers," Fritzsche said.

"Keystroke loggers" are pieces of software installed on computers -- possibly by those wishing to gain illegal access to DOD networks -- that record the keys pressed on a computer's keyboard.

It's easy for someone who has installed a keystroke logger to use captured information to access a person's account. The addition of random information -- such as the keystrokes needed to answer randomly chosen multiple-choice questions -- makes it more difficult to record and reproduce a valid login sequence, Fritzsche said.

In addition to providing e-mail, chat and directory services to more than 2 million users, AKO also provides pass-through user authentication to hundreds of other Army computer systems.

While directly logging into AKO will require users to answer three questions, Fritzsche said it will be at the discretion of other system owners to take advantage of this new security measure.



Photo by David San Miguel

Soldier Show wows crowd

Spc. Joann Usyk, a parachute rigger from Fort Bragg, N.C., and a member of the 2008 Army Soldier Show meets a fan after a concert held at the Caroline Middle School auditorium in Bowling Green. The show followed the Community Covenant signing signifying the partnerships between the local communities and Fort A.P. Hill.

Nation's symbol of pride, strength soars free!

By Mark W. Indseth

Environmental & Natural Resources Department

The bald eagle is a symbol of what our nation represents and its mere sighting often leaves one feeling as if you've just witnessed something majestic, proud, strong and free.

Fort A.P. Hill's Environmental and Natural Resources Department manages the installation's natural resources to ensure that the wildlife, especially the bald eagle, remain unaffected by the training conducted here.

The success of this effort can be measured by the increased number of sightings and the eagles removal from the threatened and endangered species list. To date, 14 eagle nests have been reported at or near Fish Hook Lake.

Individuals are forewarned, however, that even though the eagle has been removed from the endangered list, it is still protected under at least two other acts, the Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act and the Migratory Bird Treaty Act.

Known for its distinct markings, the eagle in Latin is called *Haliaetus leucocephalus*, which translated means "Sea Eagle – White Head."

It is one of the largest bird species in North America with wingspans extending six-to-eight feet wide depending on its gender. Males are the smaller of the species weighing in at 7-10 pounds while their counterparts tip the scales at up to 14 pounds. This reverse sexual dimorphism ensures the survival of the species.

Other interesting facts is that the eagle is monogamous, taking a new mate only after its partner dies, and that it doesn't reach sexual maturity until its fifth birthday. It's also reported that the eagle can live up to 28 years in the wild and up to 36 years in captivity.

In the Chesapeake area, bald eagles breed from November until July with eggs being laid from January through February.

The female lays an average of two eggs but it's not uncommon for the clutch to be larger. The eggs usually hatch after 35 days but it takes another three months before the fledglings acquire the feathers

not limited to snakes, birds (often stolen out of nests), small mammals, turtles, road kill and fish (caught or stolen).

Bald eagles are migratory birds and fly north, south and eastward depending on their origin, normally returning to their breeding grounds in late winter or early spring. Some don't migrate at all due to climate and food availability.

Bald eagle mortality is largely tied to human activity and presence.

Studies conducted by the National Wildlife Health Center from 1963 until 1984 concluded that the eagles' mortality was due to impact trauma with vehicles and utility wires followed by gunshot trauma. Habitat destruction was also attributed to having adversely effected the eagle population.

Poisoning was the major cause of the species' decline from 1947 until 1972 when the pesticide DDT was widely used. DDT caused the thinning of the egg shells resulting in fewer eggs hatched since the eggs broke before they reached maturity. Now that the pesticide is banned, the number of breeding eagles is up to near pre-DDT use levels.

To ensure the continued survival of the species here, the environmental staff participates in annual Bald Eagle Productivity Flights conducted by the William and Mary Center for Conservation Biology. This entails educating the public about the eagle, corresponding with the many entities that train on post, as well as constantly monitoring all the known nest sites. Work also includes curtailing certain activities on post when the eagles are nesting, breeding or raising young from November through July.

The staff also works alongside the Virginia Department of Game and Inland Fisheries and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service to both protect the eagles and support the military mission here.

Not long ago it was nearly impossible to see a bald eagle, but now through continued education, protection and management, one can see the eagle almost any time ... and witness something majestic, proud, strong and free.



Photo by Christopher Joyner

The bald eagle can often be seen soaring the post's airspace in search of a meal.

necessary to fly and leave the nest.

Young eagles are dark brown and go through a progression of plumage changes until finally obtaining the familiar white head and tail at five years of age.

Nest building is done by both sexes and is used year-after-year. Some nests have reportedly reached eight feet in diameter and over 12 feet tall, weighing in at more than 2,000 pounds. Nests are usually built on the tallest live evergreen tree in the area.

Bald eagles are looked upon as being mighty and majestic, but when it comes to their feeding habits, nothing can be more farther from the truth.

Though they're great hunters and fishers, the eagle will steal a meal before attempting to fish or hunt their prey, often resorting to eating carrion. They'll eat just about anything they can catch and dispatch just to conserve energy. A short list of food items includes but is

Installation hosts Fire Prevention Week to educate, encourage fire safety

In what may very well have been the most successful fire safety event to date, an estimated 300 people attended the 8th annual Fire Prevention Week program held here recently at the Virginia National Guard Armory.

Cindy G. Tate, fire inspector at Fort A.P. Hill, stated that this event is held each year to coincide with fire prevention week to raise awareness of those safety resources available to the community.

Representatives from the Ladysmith and Bowling Green fire departments, the Rappahannock Electric Company, the Caroline Department of Fire and Rescue, the Caroline County Sheriff's Department, the Air Care Helicopter Ambulance Services, as well as the installation's Safety Office were available to answer questions from attendees.

The event offered attendees an opportunity to get a "first hand" look through various vehicles on display to include fire trucks and a U.S. Army HUMMV.

Tate added that the individuals were given instructions on how to operate a fire extinguisher, how to avoid electrical injury and what to do in the event of a grease fire in the kitchen.

The activity also included a vehicle extrication demonstration by the local fire departments.



Randy Southworth, customer service representative with Rappahannock Electric, demonstrates electrical safety hazards.



Pfc. Steven Fletcher, Virginia National Guardsman, 29th Inf. Div., gives Chase Richards, son of Elizabeth and Mark Richards of Fort A.P. Hill, a quick lesson on radio operations.



Air crewmen with Air Care helicopter services offer attendees a look through their air ambulance.



Photos by David San Miguel

Rachel Slapshak, daughter of Shelly and Bryan Slapshak of Ruther Glen, poses as a fire chief during the Fire Prevention Week activity held here recently.



Members of the Fort A.P. Hill fire department prepare to demonstrate a vehicle extrication.



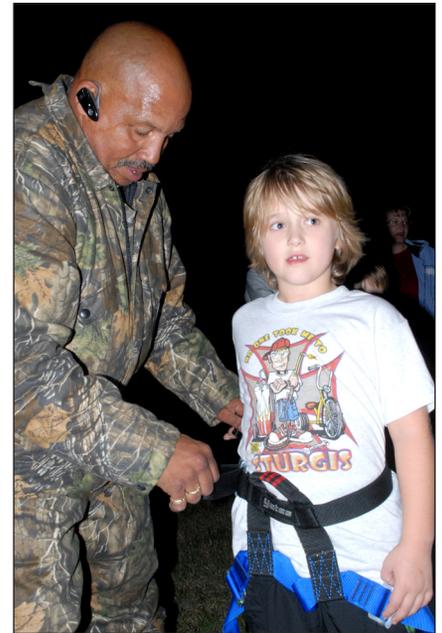
Photos by David San Miguel

This werewolf was one of several creatures that terrorized trick-or-treaters at the 8th annual Halloween Hayride held at the Beaverdam picnic area on Fort A.P. Hill.

Trick-or-Treaters enjoy fun, festivities HALLOWEEN HAUNTED HAYRIDE 2008



Children of all ages enjoyed a run through the hay maze.



Tony Baker, Morale, Welfare and Recreation specialist, helps Cody Pilkinton, son of Jennifer and Greg Pilkinton of Fort A.P. Hill, secure his rappel harness.



Karin Mason, MWR recreation specialist, engages some youngsters with an arts and craft project.



Virginia National Guard recruiters pass out goodies to the many trick-or-treaters.



Ghosts and goblins stand ready to scare unsuspecting trick-or-treaters.