



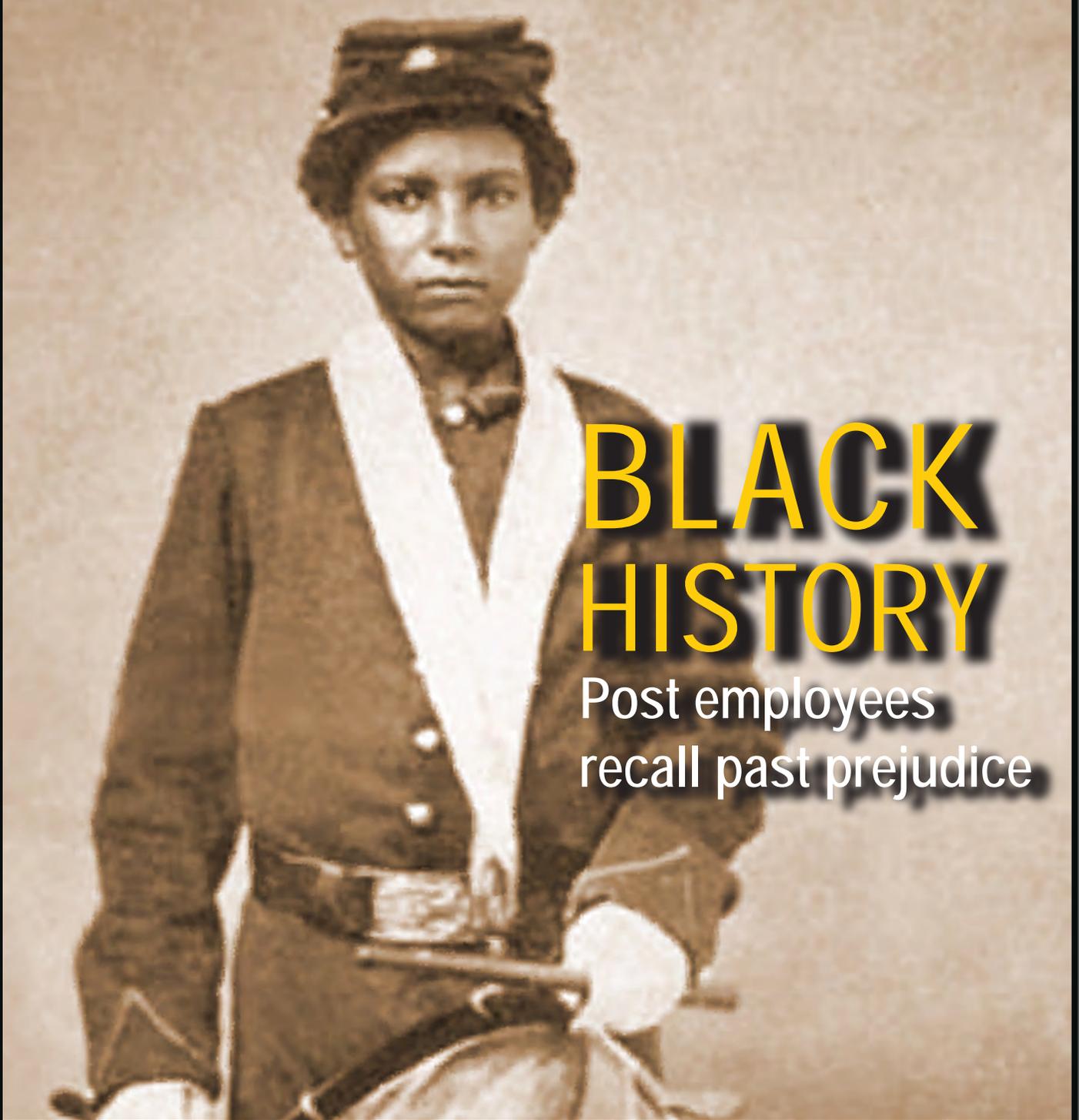
Fort A.P. Hill

Down Range

Vol.46, No.3

"The Best Training and Support -- Anywhere!"

February 25, 2011



BLACK HISTORY

Post employees recall past prejudice

FAPH employees reflect on Black History

By David San Miguel
Editor

During the 1950s, Lake Lynn was just a road stop between two towns in rural Pennsylvania – a farm and coal mining community with a population of no more than 3,000 residents.

But for Abraham “Abe” Snyder, that was home.

And growing up and working in the coal mines, the 5-foot-2-inch, 122-pound African-American youth learned to work as a team and to accept others for who they were.

“When you came out of the coal mine after a day of work,” he said, “we used to say you couldn’t tell who was white or black. We all looked black.”

Coal mining is tough and you learn to work together, Snyder said. And like most youths his age, he sought adventure and independence.

But life outside his world was far different than the one he would embark on when he joined the U.S. Navy just a year after graduating from Point Marion High School in May of 1953.

After boot camp and his initial training as a Sound Navigation and Ranging Technician, Snyder was assigned to port duty at Key West, Fla.

Though he received equal treatment on base, it was a far different situation outside the gates.

“We rode at the back of the bus or the black section of the train,” he said. “There was a USO for black sailors and restaurants that were just holes in the wall ... that was still going on in 1954.”

Later, when Snyder was stationed at Norfolk, Va., he encountered more prejudice, this time when he pulled shore patrol.

“We could only work the black sections of town. If an individual was black we could detain and carry him off to the brig,” he said. “But if he were white, we had to call in the white shore patrol.”

Snyder recalled that duty in Florida was quite an adjustment. He cited that even in Pennsylvania his father had attended an integrated school as far back as 1916. He just couldn’t believe that he still had to “go to the back of the restaurant to get his

dinner in a brown bag – blacks couldn’t eat in the diner!”

After a short four-year stint, Snyder had had enough and he returned home to work in the coal mines.

He quickly realized that coal mining was not a way to earn a living and it certainly wasn’t an environment he sought to share with his young bride-to-be.

“I chose the Air Force because the Navy moved around too much and I was getting married,” he said. “The Air Force was more open and I became a cryptographer.”

Still Snyder noticed something different.

“There were a lot of blacks except they weren’t in supervisory positions,” he said. “The leadership was almost always white.”

Gradually over the years, Snyder saw a transition and “more and more blacks in senior leadership positions.”

He finally retired from the Air Force as a tech sergeant in 1974. Today, Snyder works as a training technician with the Directorate of Plans, Training, Mobilization and Security.

Retired Marine Master Sgt. Warren Hills, Jr., installation property book supervisor with the Directorate of Logistics, recalled some similar experiences.

Hills said that by the time he had joined the Marine Corps in June of 1966, it had already been integrated and black and white recruits trained together at Parris Island, S.C.

“And it wasn’t six months before I got orders to ship to Vietnam,” he said. “There, the hooches (huts) were nothing more than plywood and screen windows. You had to keep the floors cleaned with bleach and diesel fuel to keep the bugs away. You ran patrols, stood guard and watched for rocket attacks. There was no color in combat. Everyone got along.”

After his tour in Vietnam, Hills returned to America and got off at a bus station diner in Richmond, Va.

“I stopped at the counter and the woman wouldn’t wait on me,” he recalled. “Then, this sergeant major came up – he was white – and she waited on him. She told him that I could wait.”

“The sergeant major went off – that’s not going to happen,” Hills said. “He told her that there is only one color in the Marine

Corps and that was green and that if things didn’t change his Marines were going to tear up the place.”

While stationed at Camp LeJeune, N.C., the Marine sergeant experienced some challenges off the base.

“There were still areas you couldn’t go, certain food places you could eat,” Hills said.

See REFLECTIONS, page 3

Garrison Commander

Lt. Col. John W. Haefner

Garrison Command Sergeant Major

Command Sgt. Maj. Miguel E. Reyna

Public Affairs Officer

Jennifer Erickson

Editor / Photojournalist

David San Miguel

2009

Department of Defense
Thomas Jefferson Award

2009, 2004

Department of the Army
Maj. Gen. Keith L. Ware Award

2010, 2009

U.S. Army Installation Management Command
Maj. Gen. Keith L. Ware Award

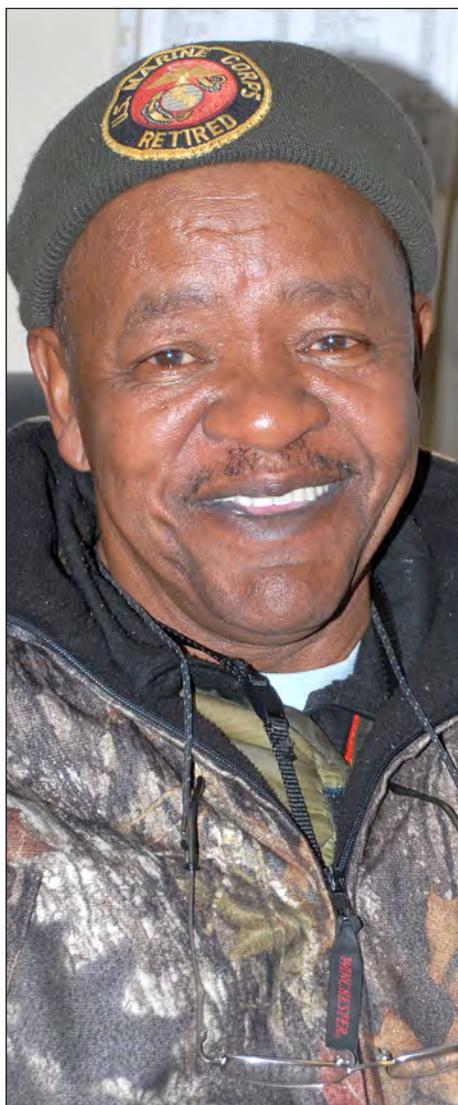
2008

U.S. Army Installation Management
Command - Northeast Region
Liberty Bell Award

The Down Range - Fort A.P. Hill newsletter is an award-winning bi-monthly publication authorized and produced by the PAO editorial staff in accordance with AR 360-1 to inform and entertain the installation community on people, policies, operations, technical developments, trends and ideas of and about the Department of Defense, the Department of the Army and Fort A.P. Hill.

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

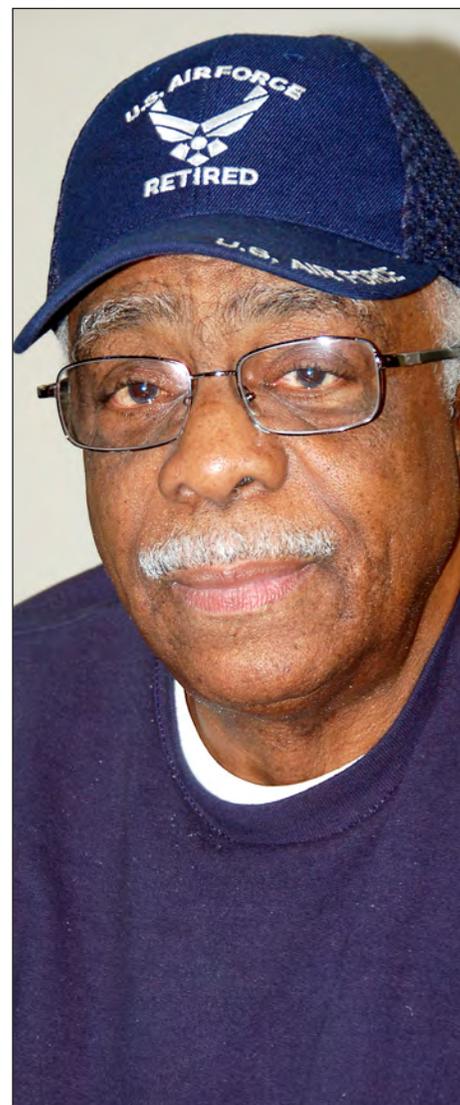
Send submissions and correspondence to Public Affairs Office, Attn: Editor, Down Range - Fort A.P. Hill, 18436 4th St., Bldg. 112, Fort A.P. Hill, VA 22427-3114. Telephone: (804) 633-8120, DSN 578-8120.



Retired Marine Master Sgt.
Warren Hills, Jr.



Retired Army Master Sgt.
Louis Scott



Retired Air Force Tech. Sgt.
Abe Snyder

REFLECTIONS

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He explained an encounter with a store clerk at a downtown grocer.

I handed the lady money for a purchase and she threw the change back at me, he said.

This infuriated the young Marine and he returned minutes later to make another purchase. He sought to drive home a point.

"I came back to buy something else," Hills smiled, "and I threw my money at her."

Stunned, she shot back, "you don't throw money at me!"

"Now you know how I feel," he said. "After that, I didn't have any more problems."

Hills retired from the Marine Corps on January 1988 after 22 years of service.

Retired Army Master Sgt. Louis Scott, director of information management, shared his military experience.

"I came into the Army in 1980," he said. "A lot of my leaders had served in Vietnam and had serious issues."

They were from the old school and there were some adjustment issues, he said.

"Today, the Army has gotten smarter about Equal Opportunity training – the whole culture has changed."

But back then at Fort Polk, La., it was a different story.

"At 17, this was a very hostile environment," Scott recalled. "Sixteen miles outside the gate, they still had 'NO N- - - - - ALLOWED!' signs posted on establishments. There were Klan activities

on post!"

Those activities included waking up to find KKK literature littered all over his bed and in his barracks room.

"Fortunately, I had a good talk with the first sergeant who advised me to work past these cultural differences," Scott said. "He told me that the only way to affect change is to assume a leadership role."

And that's all it took for the young Soldier.

"Looking back – I'm happy I was stationed in Louisiana because I wouldn't have had to face that diversity," he said. "What I experienced in the first five years in the Army, I would not let happen to the newer troops."

Chaplain highlights Soldiers' Civil War sacrifices

By Shawn Morris

99th Regional Support Command Public Affairs

Chaplain (Maj.) Charles Causey, deputy command chaplain of the 99th Regional Support Command, recently published, "In Danger Every Hour: A Civil War Novel," an endeavor he calls "a dream come true."

"I was deployed to Baghdad with 1st Air Cavalry Brigade, 1st Cavalry Division as the brigade chaplain from summer 2006 to fall 2007," said Causey, who was born at Fort Leavenworth, Kan. "I had been studying the Civil War for about 10 years, and it went from reading for pleasure to studying biographies and reading journals of key figures in that conflict. I decided during the deployment that I wanted to write a Civil War novel."

Causey said his reading and research sparked more than just an academic interest in the Civil War period.

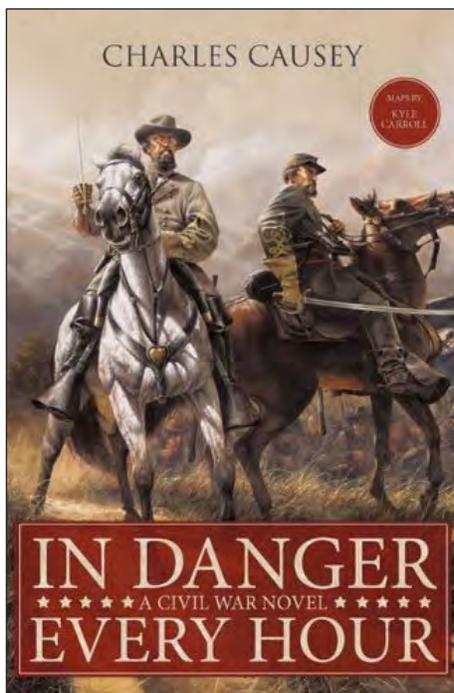
"I developed a real love for the people and the hardships they had to go through," said Causey, who earned a Master of Divinity degree from Trinity Evangelical Divinity School in Chicago in 2003. "I teach resiliency to Soldiers at Yellow Ribbon events, and it made me think of how people had to have that quality back then. They were marching in snow with strips of leather wrapped around their feet instead of actual shoes. Quartermasters couldn't keep up with the needs of the Soldiers, which also meant they sometimes would go two or three days without eating."

Causey, who has served in the U.S. Army for more than 20 years as a logistics officer and chaplain, said he sees an obvious connection between his role as a chaplain and his heart for the needs of Soldiers serving in combat in the 19th century.

"I have counseled with Soldiers through not just physical-needs issues, but also issues of comfort, loneliness, fatigue, depression, personal relationship conflicts and conflicts with superiors in their command," he said. "One of the most important things Soldiers deal with in war is missing their families and not being there to directly care for them."

Soldiers were just as concerned for their families during the Civil War as they are today, and that shapes his mission as a chaplain, Causey said.

"It has always been true that the family



has the heart and mind of the Soldier," said Causey, who also holds bachelor's degrees in molecular biology from the University of Colorado in Boulder and biochemistry from the University of Nebraska in Lincoln. "You can't heal the Soldier without healing the family."

Causey, who also serves as director

of the Strong Bonds program for 99th RSC, works daily to bring healing to both Soldiers and their families.

"We do over 40 Strong Bonds events a year all over our region, and this is because we want to reach as many Soldiers and family members as we can to bring that healing," said Causey. "The skills we teach and coach at these retreats is part of that resiliency picture. Soldiers have to be strong and stay focused in combat. Spouses and children have to have those same qualities while their Soldier is deployed, and also after they return."

Strong Bonds is a commander's program, and the 99th RSC serviced a total of 2,100 Soldiers, spouses and children in fiscal year 2010. There was no such program in place during the Civil War to help with the issues families have during combat deployment.

Causey, whose father Calvin was also a U.S. Army chaplain and served in the Vietnam War, brought these issues into focus in his novel.

"The story of "In Danger Every Hour" is set in Winchester, Va., a town that changed hands between the Union and Confederacy over 20 times during the war," he said.

"Women and children bore the brunt of

See NOVEL, page 5

FORT A.P. HILL MWR

YOUTH TROUT TOURNAMENT 2011

Location: Beaverdam Pond
Saturday, 12 March 2011
0800-1300
Cost is \$10.00 a person 15 yrs and under

1st Place: Lifetime Fishing Permit

2nd Place: \$50.00 Gift Card to Gander Mountain

3rd Place: Tackle Gear

Prizes will be awarded for total weight of trout caught.

Tournament registration starts at Outdoor Recreation at 0700

The MWR Concession Truck will be available for food sales at Beaverdam Pond during the Tournament.

Please call and Pre-register at (804)633-8244 by 8 March.

For more information please call (804)633-8244

NOVEL continued from page 2

the war in this town and small Virginia towns like this one while their men fought,” the chaplain added.

According to Causey’s website, www.indangereveryhour.com, the novel is “an unforgettable story” ... where several school friends once played along a creek and a stone wall.

When war breaks out they are forced to choose which side they will fight for and who their friends and enemies will be.

Riley, Ned and Molly go one way while Bruce, Moss, Jonesy and the newly married Henry go the other.

While this novel is a dream come true for Causey, his efforts as a chaplain represent something more: a mission and a calling.

Army to change online hiring tool

Over the next two years the Army will transition from one automated recruitment tool to another for advertising vacant civil service positions, accepting applications from job seekers, and evaluating the job seeker’s eligibility and qualifications.

During the transition period, each job announcement will have instructions to guide job seekers through the application process for the specified recruitment tool.

Major changes include: assessment questionnaires to help identify the best qualified candidate for the vacancy and resources to upload any supporting documentation, i.e. DD-214 or SF-50.

Announcements will be available on www.USAJobs.gov and www.ArmyCivilianService.com.

ArmyCivilianService.com.

Hiring agencies will receive a referral list from USA Jobs-Application Manager by logging in to an automated system called Selection Manager instead of receiving a PDF referral list via email.

Army officials recommend creating a resume in both Resumix and USA Jobs-Application Manager. Once on file, you can easily apply from the job announcement. Each announcement will provide guidance on which system to use.

For more information go to www.armycivilianservice.com and link to [https://cpolrhp.cpol.army.mil/eur/employment/Application_Process\[1\].pdf](https://cpolrhp.cpol.army.mil/eur/employment/Application_Process[1].pdf).

--ARNEWS

Viewpoints ...

What does Black History Month mean to you?



Edmond Gouraige
Manager
Emergency Operations Center
Directorate of Plans, Training,
Mobilization and Security

“It means alot to me. My father came to the USA from Haiti during the civil rights movement ... it was terrible, but over the years life got better because of what came out of that struggle.”



Robert Warden
Information Technology
Plans & Operations Div. Chief
Network Enterprise Center

“Black History Month gives us a time to reflect on and to learn about Black culture.”



Armando Flores
Motor Vehicle Leaderman
Transportation Motor Pool
Directorate of Logistics

“We all can learn from our history ... to treat everyone as an equal. We have to get along.”



Matt Johnson
Range Inspector
Directorate of Plans, Training,
Mobilization and Security

“Black History is an integral part of America’s history. The two can’t be separated. It’s important to know our collective history. If we don’t learn from it, we’re doomed to repeat it.”

High winds, dry brush feed wildfire flare-ups

While much of the installation workforce was relaxing in the comfort of their homes, Fort A.P. Hill emergency response teams were trying to contain a late afternoon wildfire which flared out of control, Feb. 19.

The intensity of the fires were fed by a combination of high winds and dry brush.

"I am still awed by the sheer strength of character displayed by both the Fort A.P. Hill team and local firefighters this past weekend," commented Lt. Col. Jack Haefner, garrison commander.

"Post range controllers, law enforcement officers, engineer equipment operators, fuelers and, of course, firefighters all locked arms to get the job done," he said.

"When other firefighters showed from Upper Caroline, Sparta, Bowling Green, Port Royal, Upper King and Queen, King George and Tappahannock/Essex, we knew we were in good company," the commander added.

Vigilance was the word of the day (and night) as Fire Chief Danny Glembot and his assistant fire chiefs worked up and down Passing, Perimeter and Beverly Run Roads to adjust assets up and down a "front" which extended several miles.

Chief David Layman and Mark Garnett from Caroline County were also instrumental in keeping "eyes on" the foe.

"For someone who has never experienced a forest fire up close, I can personally attest

that it is a force to be reckoned with," Haefner said. "Flare-ups occur where you least expect and embers and flying brands pose a very significant risk ESPECIALLY during the 50-knot winds we endured most of the day Saturday, Saturday night and into Sunday."

By Sunday's end, more than 4,500 acres were attributed to the brush fires.

There are still some small smoldering areas which keep many of our firefighters deployed to the effected areas of the installation.



Photo by David San Miguel

Installation Fire Chief Danny Glembot receives an update on the fire.



Photo by David San Miguel

Wildfire flare-ups were the result of high winds and dry brush.

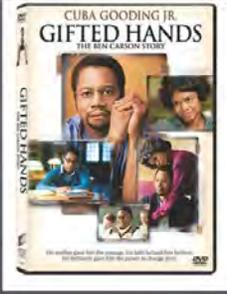
In honor and celebration of Black History Month --- please join us at Romenick Hall Monday, 28 February at 1130 - 1300 for the movie presentation of

"Gifted Hands: The Ben Carson Story"

This incredible story is based on the true story of Dr. Benjamin S. Carson, whose lifelong journey led him to become director of pediatric neurosurgery at Johns Hopkins Children's Center, a best-selling author and a recipient of the Presidential Medal of Freedom.

Supernotes are encouraged to allow employees to attend this event. No leave will be charged during employee participation in this event and Romenick Hall will be considered the employee's place of duty.

Don't forget to leave your lunch on a sticky!



Motorists warned to drive slower

Due to heavy construction at the EP4 Compound, installation motorists are warned to heed the 15 mph postings on North Range Road. Violators will be ticketed.

Emergency preparedness is key

Hurricane and tornado season is fast approaching and installation personnel are advised to prepare for such an emergency. Keep ready a stock of emergency supplies and monitor area radio and television channels for weather updates.

A list of those channels can be found at the following site: <https://aphiva0160dm006/TrafficandWeather/default.aspx>.

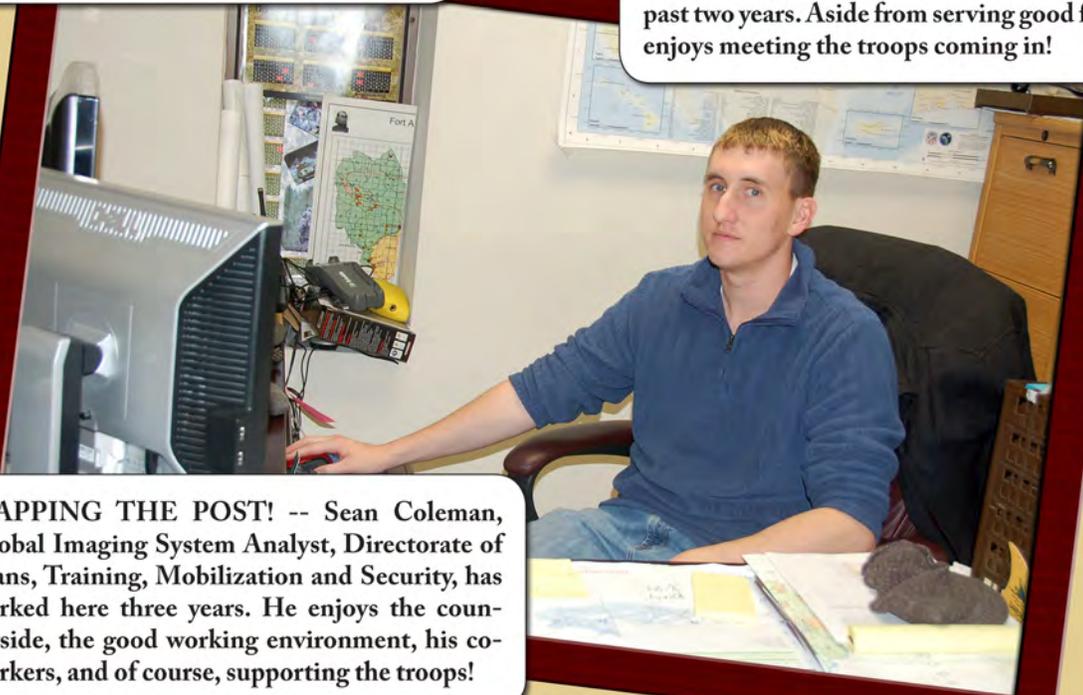
OUR FORT A.P. HILL *Family*



ALWAYS HERE! -- Beth M. Hayes, traffic management specialist, Directorate of Logistics, will mark 38 years on Fort A.P. Hill this March. She started working here while still a teenager and decided to stay. I made some good friends here and I'm close to home. You can't beat that!



MEETING AND GREETING! -- Sarah Beverly, snack shop attendant at Wilcox Camp, Directorate of Family and Morale, Welfare & Recreation, has worked on Fort A.P. Hill for the past two years. Aside from serving good food, she enjoys meeting the troops coming in!



MAPPING THE POST! -- Sean Coleman, Global Imaging System Analyst, Directorate of Plans, Training, Mobilization and Security, has worked here three years. He enjoys the countryside, the good working environment, his co-workers, and of course, supporting the troops!