



These ladies rock and roll

See page 14



Halloween

See page 18

INDEX	
Events	• Page 3
Viewpoint	• Page 5
Chaplain	• Page 6
Sports	• Page 13

# The Signal



Friday, October 31, 2008

Published for the Department of Defense and the Fort Gordon community

Vol. 29, No. 44

## News UPDATE

### Beneficiary flu shots correction

An incorrect date for beneficiary shots was published Oct. 17.

The correct date and times for beneficiaries to receive flu shots is 8 a.m. until 2 p.m. **Nov. 15** in the Family Medicine Clinic on the Dwight D. Eisenhower Army Medical Center second floor. No appointments are required to take advantage of the flu shots.

### Roaring Thunder 2008

The Dwight D. Eisenhower Army Medical Center invites everyone to participate in the Roaring Thunder 2008 motorcycle ride beginning 11 a.m. **Nov. 1.**

Rain or shine the event will proceed from the staging area in the Food Lion parking lot on Lewiston Road near the intersection of I-20 and exit 190 in Grovetown, Ga.

Free T-shirts will be given to the first 100 riders.

For more information visit the event's website: [www.roaringthunder2008.com](http://www.roaringthunder2008.com) or call (706) 627-3085.

### Freedom Park Book Fair

Buy children's books (Kindergarten-8th grade) from 99 cents and up, **Nov. 10 to 14** from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Monday through Thursday and 9 a.m. to noon Friday at the school. Join in for some early holiday shopping.

For information call (706) 796-8428.

### Federal employees health fair

The annual federal employees health fair will be held in two locations on post Nov. 6. The fair will be held from 9 to 11:30 a.m. in the fourth floor entry at Dwight D. Eisenhower Army Medical Center and 1 to 3 p.m. in Room 229A of the Darling Hall/Soldier Service Center.

The next Federal Employees Health Benefits, Flexible Spending Accounts and Federal employees Dental and Vision Insurance Program open season will be Nov. 10 to Dec. 8, 2008.

For information call (706) 791-3044.

# New Signal command moves in

Charmain Z. Brackett

Correspondent

When she was told her building would be available for occupancy in 135 days, Brig. Gen. Jennifer Napper was a little skeptical at first.

"I didn't believe it was going to happen," said Napper, commander of the 7th Signal Command (Theater), who cut the ribbon on the former barracks building near Barnes Avenue and 22nd Street.

Renovations have been completed on the building's bottom floor and were done within the estimated time. The second and third floors should be completed within 90 to 100 days.

That will give time for additional members of the staff to come on board.

About 230 people, a mix of civilian and military personnel, will be part of the command's team. Hiring is currently underway for some of the staff including those who work in intelligence and logistics.

The 7th Signal Command (Theater) is a continental U.S. Command with a mission to protect, defend

and unify the Army's communications network in the United States.

"We're getting the network into one network. There are now literally hundreds of networks," she said.

The command was approved about 16 months ago. "This is a test of what the Army can achieve," she said.

The command will have an eastern and western brigade. The 93rd Signal Brigade, which was de-activated at Fort Gordon in October 2007, will be re-activated at Fort Eustis, Va., and the 106th Signal Brigade will be activated at Fort Sam Houston, Texas.

Napper said she's looking forward to the work of the new command and is pleased to have been selected as its first commander. She is focused on making it a success.

"It's a bit daunting," she said.

Napper said she's received a warm reception at Fort Gordon since arriving.

"Everyone has been so gracious and welcoming. We feel like we've been here forever."



Photo by Charmain Z. Brackett

Joe Capps, Fort Gordon deputy commander, Brig. Gen. Jennifer Napper, 7th Signal Command (Theater) commander and Col. John Holwick, Fort Gordon garrison commander cut the ribbon Oct. 23 on the former barracks building that will serve as the 7th Signal Command headquarters.

# Clean Air Campaign encourages carpooling

## Clean Air Campaign

ATLANTA, Ga. — Today the afternoon rush hour in metro Atlanta will be one of the worst of the year.

It's Halloween — the day of haunted houses, ghoulish goblins and one creepy homebound commute.

As parents leave work to take their kids trick-or-treating and commuters race home to get into party costumes, Halloween traffic typically becomes more congested than usual as thousands of cars hit the road all at once.

While some commuters may opt to use a vacation day or duck out early to avoid the crunch, The Clean Air Campaign encourages commute alternatives that allow workers to put in a full day and be home in time for the Halloween festivities. "Atlanta was named the second best city for teleworking this year, and over half a million people in our region already work from home occasionally," said Kevin Green, executive director of The Clean Air Campaign. "Halloween is probably the best day of the year to telework and avoid the commute entirely."

Employers working with The Clean Air Campaign report that their teleworkers save an average of 91 minutes per day by not commuting, time that can be dedicated to getting the kids into costume and out collecting treats before the sun goes down.

For employees who cannot telework, riding transit or taking advantage of High Occupancy Vehicle lanes by vanpooling or carpooling are other ways to make it home in time to pass out candy to the pirates, princesses and astronauts from around the neighborhood. Some employ-



Photo by Larry Edmond

ers also allow for compressed work weeks, where employees work a full week in just four days.

"Even if I leave early on Friday, I would still have to fight heavy traffic," said Connie Hudgins, an inside sales specialist at WIKA Instrument Corporation. "By working 40 hours Monday through Thursday, I have the flexibility to be home with my children to relax and get the kids ready for their trick-or-treating and enjoy other Halloween fun with the neighbors."

By choosing an alternative to driving alone, clean commuters also keep cars off the road and pollution out of the air. On a day when thousands of children will be outside in the streets, it is important that air quality be as good as possible, as ozone and particle pollution are risk factors for respiratory symptoms in children. Cars release approximately one pound of pollution for every mile driven, so keeping even one vehicle off the road can help improve air quality on such a critical day.

Drivers needing a treat of their own can use Halloween

to kick off participation in Cash for Commuters, the program that pays commuters \$3 a day, up to \$180, to make the switch from driving alone. And those who already clean commute can sign up with The Clean Air Campaign or one of the area's nine transportation management associations to qualify to win prizes for helping improve traffic and air quality.

For those who need help finding someone to share the ride, RideSmart, the region's ridesharing database, provides an instant online list of potential matches.

For more information on commute alternatives, call 1-877-CLEANAIR (1-877-253-2624) or visit the website: [CleanAirCampaign.com](http://CleanAirCampaign.com).

### HALLOWEEN COMMUTE TIPS

• **Telework.** Avoid the terrifying traffic by working from home

• **Take transit.** A devilish commute goes from evil to easy when someone else does the driving.

• **Carpool or vanpool.** Don't be afraid of sharing the ride! As long as your 'pool partners aren't vampires, they won't bite.

• **Compressed work weeks.** You won't be a traffic zombie at the Halloween party if you have the day off.

• **Bike.** Don't have a broomstick? Fly by traffic on a bike instead.

• **Flextime.** Come into work early and escape before the nightmare begins.

Early morning work day traffic backed up to the Gordon Highway as drivers merge into Fort Gordon's Gate 1 where three lanes merge down to two lanes and expands to four lanes at the gate to accommodate the flow of vehicles through the main gate. Solution to long lines at the gates during peak drive times is one challenge the Clean Air Campaign is seeking to remedy by encouraging drivers to carpool and receive payments for sharing a ride.

## Over the top

### Combined Federal Campaign



## Fall back



Set your clock back Sunday morning