

Spectrum

Scary good esprit de corps

Staff Sgt. Christopher Fincham
116th Military Intelligence Group Public Affairs

Ghosts, goblins, ghouls, and vampires played alongside superheroes, clowns, and a Cat in the Hat Oct. 25 at the 206th Military Intelligence Battalion's Halloween Festival.

The festival was put together through the combined efforts of the battalion's Family Readiness Groups along with the Soldiers of the unit's Better Opportunities for Single Soldiers program.

"The 206th Halloween Festival was a terrific event for the whole family," said Lt. Col. David May, the 206th MI Bn. commander. "The large number of volunteers, both Soldiers and Family Members, was key to our success."

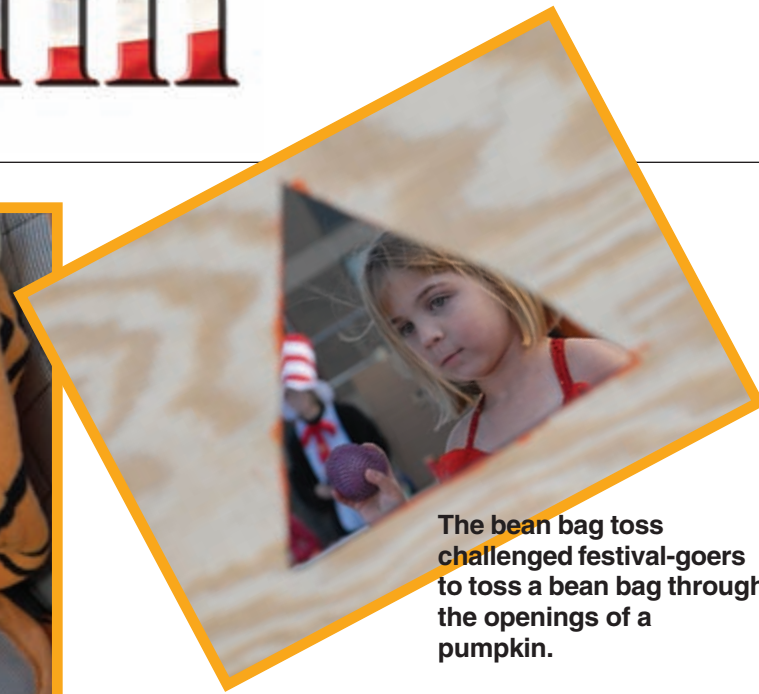
Kids of all ages played everything from "Eyeball Toss" to the popular balloon smash outside of the unit headquarters. A face-painting station was also on hand along with a coloring area for the younger crowd.

Inside the headquarters was another scene altogether. The entire headquarters building was transformed into a full-scale haunted house complete with butcher, witch, werewolf and living dead, all of which led to screams of fear throughout of the building.

"The haunted house was really a first-class show, and the children's games were both fun and entertaining," said May. "There was something for everyone."



Photos by Staff Sgt. Christopher Fincham
A baby Tigger takes a break from all of the excitement.



The bean bag toss challenged festival-goers to toss a bean bag through the openings of a pumpkin.



Surrounded by Spiderman, the Incredible Hulk and Fifi the poodle, Batwoman hands out balloons at the balloon stomp.



A little clown has his face painted at one of the stations set up at the festival.



A princess chases after her balloon in an attempt to stomp it to receive the prize inside.



The butcher stays focused on his craft inside the haunted house.

Halloween festivities for everyone

Bonnie Heater
Staff writer

Halloween this year falls on a Friday. The great news in 2009 it will fall on Saturday and in 2010 it will be celebrated on Sunday.

It is the one night of the year in which ghouls, ghosts, vampires, warlocks and witches can walk among us and yet not be detected quite so easily since many of us will be dressed to look like them. As you are venturing out tonight keep a watchful eye out. The true dark spirits, magical and mythical creatures are very unlikely to carry plastic pumpkins and Halloween bags. If you should see some just let them pass by and enjoy tonight's festivities on post.

At Fort Gordon many of the activities begin at 6 p.m. If you are looking for a Halloween alternative, there's Hallelujah Night. It kicks off at 6 p.m. and runs to 8 p.m. at Gym 5 on 26th Street between Barnes Avenue and Chamberlain Avenue. Parking will be available at Barnes Avenue Friendship Chapel and in the lot at B Street. There will be games, crafts, singing and lots of candy for children age 4 to 11. Parents and guardians are being asked to remain with the children throughout the festivities. For more information about this event, call the Religious Education Center at (706) 791-4703.

On post, Balfour Beatty Communities is hosting a costume contest from 10 a.m. to noon and again from 3:15 to 4:15 p.m. at their community building located at 155 Third Avenue. In-

fants to age 18 are welcome. Prizes will be awarded for the best costume.

Trick or Treating in the housing area on post is from 6 to 8 p.m. The website: <http://www.sosnet.com/safety/halloween.tip.html> offers Halloween safety tips for trick-or-treaters, parents and homeowners.

Single Service members can attend a Halloween party being hosted by Better Opportunities for Single Service Members at 8 p.m. tonight at the BOSS Headquarters, Building 28320, located on Lane Avenue near the post car wash. This is a costume party. Admission is free for single service members and unaccompanied service members assigned to Fort Gordon.