

# The WILDCAT



81ST REGIONAL SUPPORT COMMAND, FORT JACKSON, SC

Volume 16, Issue 12

SEPTEMBER 2010



(Courtesy photo)

81st RSC Training & Family Life Chaplain Maj. Ike Eweama (*last row, fourth from left*) poses with the students and staff of a school he adopted during his recent visit to his father's birthplace in Umuofor, Nigeria.

## An American Wildcat in Africa

by CH (Maj.) Ikechukwu Eweama

From July 26th through August 19th, I was in the state of Imo, Nigeria. While there, I spent my time working in the town of Umuofor, which is the city where my father was born. I spent three years of my life there while I lived with my grandmother. In those days I formed many friendships that have lasted a very long time.

In reviewing this journey, I find it hard to put a finger on the thing that affected me most because there was something new every day, but I am proud to say that I adopted a community school while there.

The one thing that stands out in my mind the most is

the welcome that I received everywhere I went. It started with my eldest brother who flew from Abuja, the Federal Capital territory, to meet me on the tarmac in Owerri, some 700 miles away. He scheduled his flight to coincide with mine, which was coming from Lagos. I could not have imagined getting to the village where my paternal relatives live and seeing a large group there just for me. Any time that I went to any place for the first time, I was greeted by a group of people thanking me for what I am doing for their kids.

**see AFRICA on page 3**

## The Wildcat



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The Wildcat is published monthly by the 81st Regional Support Command Public Affairs Office to provide information to Soldier and Civilian "Wildcats".

The views and opinions expressed are not necessarily those of the 81st RSC, the U.S. Army Reserve or the Department of the Army. For more information, contact the 81st RSC Public Affairs Office, 1525 Marion Avenue, Fort Jackson, S.C. 29207 or at (803) 751-9694. Deadline for submission of articles is the second Friday of each month.

## Preparing for a new school year

By Christy Burns

*"Education is the ability to listen to almost anything without losing your temper or your self-confidence."* - Robert Frost

As the seasons begin to change, thoughts turn from the leisure of summer to the promise of a new school year. During September, Military OneSource will promote educational materials and programs designed to support students of all types. Whether you are an adult trying to balance your own educational needs, a parent preparing to home school your children, or a student looking for resources to finish an assignment, Military OneSource will be featuring outreach efforts focusing on resources available.

The outreach will include targeted online content, the Military OneSource Connection newsletter, educational materials, webinars, and features on partner services all in support of students.

Here are some examples of information available to you through Military OneSource:

- \* Webinar: Helping Your Child Achieve in School
- \* Tips for Helping Your Child with Homework moderated chat
- \* Online Library: Peterson's Online Academic Skills Course
- \* Tutor.com
- \* Internet Safety Toolkit

Reach out for assistance by calling 1-800-342-9697 or logging on to the following website for further information:

[www.militaryonesource.com/Portals/0/Content/Documents/September2010.pdf](http://www.militaryonesource.com/Portals/0/Content/Documents/September2010.pdf)



## FORCE PROTECTION THOUGHT OF THE WEEK

### 10 KEY INDICATORS OF POTENTIAL TERRORIST ASSOCIATED INSIDER THREATS



**# 6. Repeated browsing or visiting internet websites that promote or advocate violence directed against the United States or U.S. Force, or that promote international terrorism or terrorist themes without official sanction in the performance of duties.**



## **Did you know?**

### **The Department of Defense will resume its My Career Advancement Account (MyCCA) program?**

Starting at 8 a.m. (EDT) Monday, October 25th, Military OneSource career and education counselors will have a much more active role in supporting military spouses. In addition to understanding resources available via DoD's financial aid support, they will provide support and assistance to identify and gain access to other federal, state and local programs. All military spouses of active duty service members will be eligible for career counseling and support. For more information contact Mrs. Christy Burns at (803) 751-9914.

### **The deadline to claim your Retroactive Stop Loss Special Pay is almost here?**

Do you know someone whose enlistment was involuntarily extended between September 11, 2001-September 30, 2009? If so, do them a favor and tell them that they have until October 21, 2010 to file a claim for Retroactive Stop Loss Special Pay (RSLSP). The \$500 a month payment for each month they were involuntarily extended is part of the 2009 War Supplemental Appropriations Act. Over \$127 million has already been paid to approximately 30,000 Air Force, Army, Marine Corps and Navy members, veterans or beneficiaries but there are thousands of others who have not filed claims. It is estimated that there are approximately 80,000 eligible Soldiers, 12,000 eligible Airmen, and 5,000 eligible Marines who have not filed. While approximately 250 Sailors are eligible only 18 have filed so far.

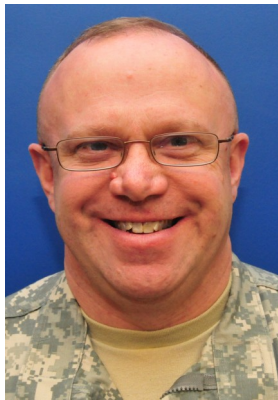
To file a claim tell your friends (or children) to go to [http://www.defense.gov/home/features/2010/0710\\_stoploss/](http://www.defense.gov/home/features/2010/0710_stoploss/). The average payment has been \$3700.

### **Sept. 23 – 30 is Red Ribbon Week?**

The 81st RSC will host a 3K Wildcat Walk on Oct. 29, at Semmes Lake. The walk will begin at noon and end at 2 p.m. Red Ribbon T-shirts will be given out at registration to first come first served. Three fun booths will be set up. Come and play our *Wheel of Misfortune!* It's designed to educate people on the variety of drugs and alcohol and the dangers associated with usage. Come find out how dangerous drinking and driving really is by using "Drunk Goggles" and a remote control car.

For full details, contact Niccole Ducksworth at (803) 751-2680.

## ***Chaplain's Corner***



September 11th has become known as Patriot Day and is remembered for what happened to our nation and to the world on that day. In looking back on that day, I remember how much we were glued to our TV and the news on what was happening and having a hard time comprehending what happened and the changes it brought to our lives. But as time has passed it has become another day and we still take time to remember the lives lost and the innocence we all lost on that day, realizing that we weren't safe from terrorism here in the United States.

September 11th has brought a lot of changes to the lives of those in the military and to our Families also. It is no longer wondering if we will ever go into combat or be mobilized. Now, it is a question of when it will happen or how often it will happen. This has brought changes to us in the military and to our Families as we face these deployments and working with the fears and changes it brings to us.

We all deal with these changes, fears and realizing that life is not something that is guaranteed for a long period of time in different ways. But as we try to deal with them and how to gain a peace about them we need to realize that life itself is not about here and now and there is something beyond our time here on earth. As we commemorate this day of remembrance, take time to look at your relationship with God. We have a different perspective on God and our relationship with him, but we need to look at that relationship and how to strengthen us. It is through this relationship that we will be able to make it through times of uncertainty and through tough times.

### **Strong Bonds**

We held our last Strong Bonds for this fiscal year September 10-12.

We will be starting them back again in January and will get the schedule out in the next newsletter.

CH (Lt. Col.) Richard Savage

## **AFRICA...**

**(continued from page 1)**

Their undying gratitude didn't stop with the welcome that I received. The townspeople did everything that they could to make sure that I was comfortable. My relatives do not have much, but they shared it all with me. My brother made arrangements for a generator which he ran in the middle of the day just so that I could have a fan. Sometimes my body could not tolerate the heat. I was overwhelmed by their kindness, appreciation and selflessness. Everywhere I looked, there was a great need for these people yet it seemed that their only concern was my comfort.

**(continued on next page)**

## AFRICA... (continued from page 3)

This town has a school for middle school and high school age boys. This school needs science lab and computers because many of these students study the theories, and do quite well on their exit exams, but most have never seen a computer.

They have many needs, but highly educated teachers are not

among the list. Their largest need is a well for drinking water.

Their only sources of water are rain water and stream water, and the stream is nowhere nearby. This was okay during rainy season, but it is a serious concern any other time of the year. Their other needs include funds to finish the only medical clinic in town, which I am also helping to build. To help with

their school needs I am also sponsoring 10 used laptop computers, for 682 students, which I will deliver to them in December.

For a school with 682 students, they really need more than 10 working computers to keep up with their mates elsewhere. I feel that I am now forever connected to this school and hope to do more for them in the near future.

***Clockwise from left: Students await the beginning of the day's lessons at the middle school for boys in Umuofor, Nigeria; inside of one of the older classrooms; younger grade students line up for morning roll call.***





# September is Suicide Prevention Month

By Niecole G. Ducksworth, 81st RSC Suicide Prevention Coordinator

Soldiers deal with difficult events that will change their lives, such as the death of a buddy in combat, physical and emotional challenges of combat, separations from loved ones and the breakup of a relationship.

Many Soldiers react to these challenges in different ways. While some react to these events with a flood of emotion and a sense of uncertainty, others adapt well and over time develop what is referred to as resiliency which is the ability to recover and adapt well when faced with adversity.

When Soldiers can't bounce back, they may feel depressed and sad -- they may become trapped in a cycle of negative thoughts and beliefs. They may experience extreme stress that may lead to suicidal thoughts. Once we acknowledge a Soldier is under extreme stress, we should react quickly and get the Soldier to a health care provider.

By learning the warning signs and risk factors below we can save our buddy's life.

## **Suicide prevention warning sign:**

- \* *Talk of suicide or killing someone else*
- \* *Giving away property*
- \* *Withdrawal from family and friends*
- \* *Problems with girlfriend/boyfriend or spouse*
- \* *Soldiers in trouble for misconduct*
- \* *Soldiers experiencing financial problems*
- \* *Soldiers who have lost their job at home (Reserve component)*
- \* *Those Soldiers leaving the service (retirement, ETSS, etc)*

When a Soldier presents with any one of these concerns, the Soldier should be seen immediately by a helping provider:

- \* *Talking or hinting about suicide*
- \* *Formulating a plan to include acquiring the means to kill oneself*
- \* *Having a desire to die*
- \* *Obsession with death (music, poetry, artwork)*
- \* *Themes of death in letters and notes*
- \* *Finalizing personal affairs*
- \* *Giving away personal possessions*

## **Risk Factors:**

- \* *Relationship problems*
- \* *History of previous suicide attempts*
- \* *Substance abuse*
- \* *History of depression or other mental illness*

## **Suicidal risk is highest when:**

- \* *The person sees no way out and fears things may get worse*
- \* *The predominant emotions are hopelessness and helplessness*
- \* *Thinking is constricted with a tendency to perceive his or her situation as all bad*
- \* *Judgment is impaired by use of alcohol or other substances*

Please collaborate with us to reduce the stigma and prevent suicide of our Soldiers. For more information please contact Niecole G. Ducksworth, 81st RSC's Suicide Prevention Coordinator at (803) 751-2680 or email: [nicole.g.ducksworth@usar.army.mil](mailto:nicole.g.ducksworth@usar.army.mil)

## Have the Courage to Help a Buddy

**"One suicide is one too many."**

Kenneth O. Preston  
Sergeant Major of the Army

**Talk to your Chaplain or a  
Behavioral Health Professional or  
call Military OneSource  
1-800-342-9647**

[www.militaryonesource.com](http://www.militaryonesource.com)



# Wildcats

...at work and play!

At right: the 81st RSC World War I Color Guard posts the colors.

From left-to-right: Lt. Col. John A. Boyd, Sergeant 1st Class Mark Bell, Sergeant 1st Class Osvaldo Santiago and CSM (ret.) Marty Wells. These four Wildcats were invited by the U.S. Department of Agriculture to present the colors at this year's annual "Cultural Awareness Conference."

The conference was held on Aug. 26th, in the auditorium of the South Carolina Archives and Historical Center and was attended by 45-50 conference participants.



(Photo by: Gail E. Anderson)

At left: U.S. Senator Kay R. Hagan (D-N.C.) hosted a veterans and military expo at UNC Greensboro, Tuesday, Sept. 7. The 81st RSC was represented by North Carolina's Army Reserve Ambassador Johnny Dwiggins and the 81st RSC's Legislative Liaison, Lt. Col. Tom Bukaweski.



(Courtesy photo)



(Courtesy photo)

Above: Army War College Commandant, Maj. Gen. Greg Martin presents a framed certificate and a cash award to the 81st RSC Inspector General, Col. Kate Leahy, for winning the Army War College Alumni Association's writing award for her thesis "Keeping Up with the Drones: Is Just War Theory Obsolete?"

# New Faces in New Places...



**Name:** Joseph N. Crosswhite **Title:** Staff Judge Advocate **Section:** SJA

**Background Info:** A resident of Troutman, N.C., He and his wife have two children, Carah (15) and Jack (12) who are both very active in sports.

Col. Crosswhite began his military service as a Field Artillery Officer assigned to the 1st Armored Division in Germany. He served as a platoon leader, a battery executive officer, a nuclear weapons officer and as the general's aide-de-camp. Upon receiving his Juris Doctorate degree from the University of South Carolina Law School, he was commissioned as a Judge Advocate General officer and joined the 12th Legal Support Organization at Ft Jackson, S.C. In his civilian practice, he serves as a Superior Court Judge for the state of North Carolina.

**Hobbies:** Spending time with his family.

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**Name:** Pete Quinn **Title:** Director **Section:** DHR

**Background Info:** A native of Baldwin County Alabama, he enjoys spending time with his wife, Laurie, and his four children Kelly, Sean, Forrest and Andrea.

After getting off of active duty in 1994, he was hired as a military technician for the 803rd Quartermaster Corps and later served as the SSA, 5th Medical Group, Military Personnel Officer and Staff Operations Training Officer, 81st RSC and the Civilian Executive Officer for the 87th Division/Army Reserve Support Command. In his TPU assignment he commands the 11th Aviation Command, Fort Knox, Ky.

**Hobbies:** Spending time with his family, hunting, fishing, snow skiing, and camping. He is also a fan of Auburn University athletics. *War Eagle!*

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**Name:** Richard Streett **Title:** Program Analyst **Section:** DPW (Contractor)

**Background Info:** A Columbia resident for 40 years, he enjoys spending time with his four cats and two dogs. Prior to coming to the 81st RSC, he worked at his alma matter, the University of South Carolina for six years before working in private sector management where he has worked for the last 10 years.

**Hobbies:** Gardening, reading, watching college football and supporting his favorite baseball team, the USC Gamecocks!

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**Name:** Joyce Duarte **Title:** Chief Medical NCO **Section:** Surgeon's Office

**Background Info:** A native of Aiken, S.C., she has one daughter (Nicole) and one granddaughter (Indigo). She is a licensed nurse with an Associate's degree in Science from Trident Technical College in Charleston. An Active Guard Reserve Soldier, she has been in the military for the past 24 years. Prior to employment with the 81st RSC, she worked as the Operations and Training NCO for the 1st Medical Training Brigade at Fort Gordon, Ga.

**Hobbies:** Bowling, fishing, camping, reading and traveling.

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**Name:** Alex Mills **Title:** Program Analyst **Section:** DPW (Contractor)

**Background Info:** A resident of West Columbia, S.C., he graduated from the University of South Carolina, in December of 2009, with a degree in Global Security Supply Chain and Operation Management.

Prior to coming to the 81st RSC, he was a part-time supervisor for United Parcel Service, since June of 2008.

**Hobbies:** Golf, books, computers and motorcycles.

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# Welcome to your new home!





## BIRDIES FOR THE BRAVE® PATRIOTS' OUTPOST PRESENTED BY KIPPER TOOL

East Lake Golf Club • 10:30 a.m.-End of Play  
Thursday, September 23 -Sunday, September 26



Birdies for the Brave is the PGA TOUR's primary vehicle for supporting the brave men and women of the U.S. Armed Forces and their families. Since 2005, the TOUR has joined with players, tournaments, corporate partners, TPC club members, volunteers and fans to raise over \$5.2 million for military charities that provide vital services and programs for military men, women and their families. THE TOUR Championship presented by Coca-Cola would like to extend its appreciation and support to the U.S. Armed Services by providing complimentary admission to the tournament for all active, retired and reserve military and their dependents. Our Military Appreciation Ceremony will take place on the first tee at 11 a.m. on Thursday, September 23. In addition, we would like to welcome our military guests to visit the Patriots' Outpost presented by Kipper Tool, a venue offering complimentary hospitality to all military in attendance.

### THE PATRIOTS' OUTPOST PRESENTED BY KIPPER TOOL PROVIDES:

- View of the 16th green, where all the action of the closing holes begins
- Indoor, climate-controlled seating and outdoor patio
- Complimentary food and beverage and live tournament telecast

All active, reserve and retired military and their dependents will receive **FREE ADMISSION** all week to THE TOUR Championship with a valid military or dependent ID.

In order to redeem this ticket offer, please visit <http://www.ticketmaster.com/promo/syt581> and enter promo code: GOLF

To gain access to the tournament all active, reserve and retired military and their dependents will need to present their military/dependent ID and be wristbanded at military check in.



# KIPPERTOOL®