

THURSDAY, APRIL 10, 2014

THE FORT JACKSON LEADER

PUBLISHER

★ FJ SOLDIERS
TAKE PART
IN BEST RANGER
COMPETITION

— PAGE 13

BEST OF THE BEST

**SOLDIERS TEST THEIR SKILLS IN QUEST
FOR EXPERT INFANTRYMAN BADGE**

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NEWS



ON THE COVER

Photo by WALLACE McBRIDE

Twenty-four Fort Jackson Soldiers are awarded the Expert Infantryman Badge Friday. SEE PAGE 3.



Fort Jackson, South Carolina 29207

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Air Force photo by JOEL MARTINEZ

Lt. Gen. David Halverson, left, accepts the IMCOM colors from Gen. John F. Campbell, center, vice chief of staff of the Army, as he assumes duties as IMCOM commanding and assistant chief of staff for Installation Management. Outgoing IMCOM commander Lt. Gen. Mike Ferriter, right, looks on during the change of command ceremony at Joint Base San Antonio — Fort Sam Houston, Texas, Tuesday.

IMCOM welcomes new CG

By AMANDA KRAUS RODRIGUEZ
IMCOM

SAN ANTONIO — Lt. Gen. David Halverson took command of the U.S. Army Installation Management Command from Lt. Gen. Michael Ferriter during a ceremony at Joint Base San Antonio — Fort Sam Houston Tuesday.

Halverson, who also took over as the Army's Assistant Chief of Staff for Installation Management, came to IMCOM from the U.S. Army Training and Doctrine Command, where he served as deputy commanding general for almost two years.

"When we go to war, it is IMCOM that stays home and takes care of our families," said Army Vice Chief of Staff Gen. John Campbell, who presided over the ceremony. "So, we put our best and brightest to that task. I have full faith in this new team," Campbell said, congratulating Halverson on his accomplishments and ability to carry on, facing the challenges of today's Army.

The ceremony was attended by JBSA senior leaders, civic partners from the City of San Antonio and IMCOM region and garrison command teams, headquarters staff, employees and families.

In his first address as ACSIM and IMCOM commanding general, Halverson expressed gratitude for his family and the opportunity to lead IMCOM. Halverson pledged to continue unwavering in the service of Soldiers and families.

"Karen and I are so pleased and proud to be here today," Halverson said. "We're excited to continue to serve. To Mike and Margie (Lt. Gen. and Mrs. Ferriter), I would like to especially thank you both for your hard work. IMCOM and ACSIM set the conditions of Army success."

Halverson concluded his remarks by saying that both he and his wife, Karen, would put every effort into ensuring the continued success of the command and looked forward most to getting to know the team.

A West Point graduate, Halverson served tours of duty in both Operation Iraqi Freedom and Operation Enduring Freedom. Before joining TRADOC, he served as the commanding general of the U.S. Army Fires Center of Excellence and Fort Sill, Okla.

Campbell said that as a longtime friend and battle buddy of both incoming and outgoing general officers, he was especially glad to preside. He commended Ferriter for his tireless efforts in support of the Army family.

"I've known Mike Ferriter for 30 years. Mike Ferriter's accomplishments reflect his will and his work. Under his leadership, IMCOM has excelled," Campbell said.

Campbell cited Ferriter's many accomplishments in support of Army communities, such as Gold Star recognition and survivor support, instituting a culture of fitness, defining IMCOM's roles in readiness and resilience and, above all, team building.

"Mike is a team player who builds cohesion and, as he so often remarks, always plays with his cards out."

Ferriter served as the ACSIM and IMCOM commander since November 2011. Under his leadership, IMCOM successfully navigated through many challenges, such as sequestration and government shutdown. He worked to raise awareness of critical issues affecting Soldiers, families and civilians. Under his command, IMCOM improved Child Development Center processes, broadened access to services for Gold Star families — survivors of the fallen — and helped define Army readiness and resilience through more than 150 programs and services.

Ferriter intends to retire this year.

'IT'S NEVER BEEN EASY'

After 70 years, trials for Expert Infantryman Badge remain challenging

By **WALLACE MCBRIDE**
Fort Jackson Leader

At the start of the Expert Infantryman Badge qualifications last week, 72 Soldiers had signed up to put their skills to the test. Of those, 24 finished, with five receiving “true blue” designation, meaning they completed all tasks without error.

The Expert Infantryman Badge exists to showcase the commitments of professional infantrymen, said Post Command Sgt. Maj. William Hain. The 3-inch-wide metal badge depicts a 1795 model Springfield Arsenal musket on a

light blue background, and for the Army’s infantrymen it symbolizes becoming the best of the best.

“It’s not a lifelong achievement award,” Hain said of the badge. “It shows, at one point in an infantryman’s career, his ability to move, shoot and communicate with near perfection. It’s not simple by any stretch.”

The Expert Infantryman Badge was established in 1944 as an award to honor the Army infantryman. The first round of tests took place that year at Fort Bragg, N.C., with 100 Soldiers from the 100th Infantry Division taking part.

See **EIB**: Page 10



Photo by **WALLACE MCBRIDE**

Soldiers cheer on an Expert Infantryman Badge competitor as he nears the finish line during last Friday’s 12-mile road march.

Green Initiative Day set for Saturday

Leader Staff Report

Fort Jackson will celebrate Earth Day a few days early with a "Big Day Out" Saturday.

The event, which will take place at Semmes Lake, will begin at 8 a.m. with a 5K fun run in support of autism awareness and an active lifestyle.

Moncrief Army Community Hospital has several events planned from 8 a.m. to 11 a.m. that aim to inform the community about the Army Performance Triad, which encompasses sleep, activity and nutrition. The events include information booths and a jump rope competition.

Recycling and Earth Day activities are scheduled from 9 to 11 a.m. Events include a recycling obstacle course, a planting station, a lake cleanup with cash prizes, a bike safety relay and a water conservation relay. A local beekeeper, Clemson Extension, Palmetto Pride and other organizations will provide exhibits.

The recycling regatta is scheduled from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Participants will race boats made from recyclable and repurposed materials. Prizes totaling \$1,000 will be awarded to teams and units.

A free lunch will be served at noon.



Leader file photo

A recycling regatta featuring boats made from recyclable materials will be one of the events of Green Initiative Day Saturday at Semmes Lake. Activities are planned from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m.

AAFES warns of scams

From AAFES

DALLAS — The Army & Air Force Exchange Service is warning military shoppers about scammers posing as service members offering to broker the sale of used boats, cars and motorcycles through the Exchange.

In one recent case, a scammer, who posed as a Soldier, tried to defraud a man in Tennessee out of \$2,500 for the sale of a used boat, saying that the Exchange would ship the boat once payment was made. Fortunately, the would-be buyer contacted the Fort Campbell Exchange and was advised that any ads related to used-vehicle sales are fraudulent as the Exchange does not have authority to sell vehicles in the continental United States.

"I'm glad this individual contacted us prior to wiring any funds because it has been our experience that once money is sent, no vehicle is received and the 'seller' is nowhere to be found," said Rick

Koloski, the Exchange's Loss Prevention vice president.

"In the past, we've been aware of cases where these scammers have used the Exchange trademarked logo and name to purportedly sell used motorcycles and cars in the United States," Koloski said. "Now, they have branched out into boats. We have received a steady flow of calls from people who have been wrongly informed they are waiting on a motor vehicle from the Exchange."

The Exchange is authorized to sell new cars and motorcycles, but only overseas. Exchange facilities are located solely on military installations. Although the Exchange does have mail order and Internet offerings, the Exchange does not advertise in civilian outlets such as metropolitan newspapers or automobile sales magazines. All advertisements for legitimate Exchange offerings are published in outlets whose audiences mostly comprise military members.



TAX CENTER OPEN THROUGH TUESDAY

The deadline for filing 2013 taxes is Tuesday. The Fort Jackson Tax Center will be open Monday-Friday, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. until Tuesday. In addition, the center will be open Saturday, 9 a.m. to noon.

Active-duty service members, military retirees and their dependents are eligible to use the tax center. Reservists and National Guard Soldiers are eligible if they are currently on Title 10 orders to active duty for at least 30 days.

For more information and to make an appointment, call 751-JTAX (5829).

Like us on Facebook. Log on to your account and search for "Fort Jackson Leader."



Leader file photo

Fort Jackson conducts regular active shooter exercises for law enforcement, above, as well as training for individual offices on post.

Post offers active shooter response training

By WALLACE McBRIDE
Fort Jackson Leader

A Soldier shot and killed three people at Fort Hood on April 2, injuring 16 others before taking his own life.

Here at Fort Jackson, though, casual observers probably did not notice any changes in security in the hours following the incident.

“There was a decision made not to increase security until we found out more about the developing situation,” said Mark Mallach, Fort Jackson anti-terrorism officer. “When we do that, we have to basically take much-needed manpower and resources (from regular operations.) The bottom line is that we increased vigilance at the gates.”

Until the following day, this led to more activity at the gates, as guards conducted additional random vehicle searches.

“All of our law enforcement responders receive active shooter response training,” Mallach said. “This covers what they need to do in case there’s an active shooter in the vicinity, and how they would respond to that threat and neutralize it.”

There was little else to be done, he said, because it appeared there was no direct connection to Fort Jackson.

“Social media took care of the rest, because everybody was on Twitter, Facebook and watching TV,” he said.

In 2009, Fort Hood was the site of a similar shooting when Maj. Nidal Hasan killed 13 people and injured others. Shortly afterward, Mallach said, new safety programs were adopted on post. Those programs remain available to every office on post, by request, as a means of training Fort Jackson’s workforce on how to conduct itself during an active shooter scenario.

HOW TO RESPOND

1: EVACUATE

- Evacuate if shooter is at your location
- Have an escape route and plan in mind
- Do not stop to render aid to victims
- Escape in direction away from shooter
- Leave your belongings

2: HIDE

- Hide in area out of shooter’s view
- Lock exterior and interior doors
- Stay low to ground
- Block entry to hiding place with heavy furniture or equipment

3: TAKE ACTION

- Use as last resort and only when your life is in imminent danger
- Act with physical aggression and throw items at

active shooter

- Attempt to incapacitate active shooter

4: WHEN POLICE ARRIVE

- Immediately raise hands and spread fingers
- Keep hands visible at all times
- Avoid making quick movements toward police
- Remain calm and follow instructions
- Avoid screaming or yelling
- Do not ask police for help and proceed in the direction they are entering if told to leave

5: REPORT TO 911

- Location of active shooter
- Number of shooters
- Physical description of shooter
- Number of potential victims
- Number and type of weapons being used

“That program centers around training folks, plans and exercises or drills,” Mallach said. “We go out to (people’s) facility and access it: What are their procedures for entering and exiting the building, or identifying safe rooms? Are there guards?”

Organizations are encouraged to develop plans for dealing with these kinds of emergency situations, he said. This involves teaching standard tactics, training and procedures, which are then customized for the needs of a specific office.

“Once you’ve done that and have everybody trained,

you run a drill,” he said. “It’s not any more complicated than running a fire drill. In many ways, it’s actually a little easier. Whenever you have an active shooter, unless you have a clear-cut way to leave the facility, the opportune thing is to find a safe area and shelter in place.”

Drills can either be scheduled, or unannounced, he said. “The key is to train, and then execute the drills to verify your plans,” Mallach said. “The bottom line is that we don’t want it to happen on our watch. As long as I’m here at Fort Jackson, I don’t want to lose a single person to any threat.”

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Former CSM promoted to LTC

By WALLACE McBRIDE
Fort Jackson Leader

Task Force Marshall Chaplain James Freitag was promoted to lieutenant colonel last week during a ceremony at McGrady Training Center, which makes him one of very few Soldiers who have served in the ranks of command sergeant major and lieutenant colonel.

Friends, family and colleagues gathered April 2 for the event, which was fraught with an overabundance of information. Freitag's personal and professional background was simply too complex to be addressed in much detail.

"The reason we don't have biographies of Chaplain Freitag printed up today is because his bio is seven pages long," Col. Mark Bieger, commander of the 171st Infantry Brigade, told the gathering last week. "Most bios in the Army are one or two pages. Freitag's bio is literally seven pages long. It's amazing as you dig into the details of his service in the military."

Freitag began his military career as a Marine, a career course that was quickly changed.

"It didn't click for me," Freitag said. "I stayed with it for two and a half years. I finished a little bit of graduate school and was teaching high school in 1983, and computers were coming out. I decided I needed computer training, but I was broke. I was paying student loans, and making 12 grand a year as a school teacher."

He took the Armed Services Vocational Aptitude Battery test again, and was welcomed into the Army Reserve with open arms.

"They told me I could be anything I wanted," he said.

His original Army military occupational specialty allowed him to receive computer training: Fire direction control computer repair. Unfortunately, it was the wrong MOS for the unit to which he was assigned.

"I ended up spending nine months between basic training and AIT to work a mission that I never did," he said. "That's why I had so many reclassifications. The reserve system has its own school system, so if you move to a location and can't find a unit, most will take you on a well-trained status. That's how I was able to pick up some of these military occupational specialties."

He quickly ascended through the enlisted ranks, but despite the considerable success of his career, Freitag's life took yet another turn. There was outside pressure, both personal and professional, to push his spiritual life into the forefront.



Photo by WALLACE McBRIDE

Linda Freitag pins the new rank on her husband's uniform during a promotion ceremony for Task Force Marshall Chaplain (Lt. Col.) James Freitag, April 2 at McGrady Training Center. Freitag is a former command sergeant major who received a direct commission to become a chaplain.

"Since I wasn't ordained, I didn't qualify for the chaplaincy," he said. "I was serving in a church in Portland, Ore., and they told me I ought to be a pastor. So, I went back to seminary in 1998 and got promoted to sergeant major while I was there."

After that, he was given the opportunity to attend the Sergeants Major Academy. He attended the academy as an infantryman and served as a class vice-president. His was the last class taught at the academy before 9/11.

"While I was at the academy, the deputies put the screws to me and said I needed to be a chaplain," he said. "But, we looked into it, and it turned out I was too old."

The events of Sept. 11, 2001, changed everything, though. Almost immediately, the Army found itself with a shortage of chaplains. His reserve status began to open doors that were previously closed.

"They told me, 'We'll keep you in the reserve system. You've got the background and the credentials,'" Freitag said.

Freitag received a direct commission and attended the U.S. Army Chaplain Center and School as a chaplain candidate.

As of May 27, Freitag will be the director of religious education at Fort Irwin, Calif. It's a civilian position, but he said he has no plans yet to retire from the reserves.

"There are only 28 DRE positions in the entire Army," he said. "We don't have one here at Fort Jackson, but you'll find them at bigger installations. What they do in a civilian capacity is support the chapel, the ministries and the chaplains on the installation as a GS employee in the realm of religious education."

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News and Notes

F16 FLYOVER

Several F16 jets are scheduled to fly over Fort Jackson today, which could lead to jet noise on and near the installation.

VOLUNTEER CEREMONY

Fort Jackson's annual volunteer recognition ceremony is scheduled for 10 a.m., Friday at the Solomon Center. The winners of the Volunteer of the Year awards will be announced, and outstanding volunteers will be inducted into the Fort Jackson Volunteer Hall of Fame.

COMPTROLLERS MEET

The American Society of Military Comptrollers will host the Santee

Regional Professional Development Institute from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Friday at the Santee Conference Center. For more information, visit <https://sites.google.com/site/asmcbeaufortlowcountry/south-carolina-asmc-regional-pdi-2014>.

VAO WORKSHOP SET

A voting assistance officer workshop is scheduled from 8:15 to 10:30 a.m., April 24 at the 2nd Battalion, 39th Infantry Regiment, Classroom 1. The workshop will provide information, resources and tools for the successful performance of voting assistance officer duties. For more information and to register, call 751-7535/9900.

Information subject to change.

Reel Time Theaters

We're saving a seat for you.

Ft. Jackson Movie Schedule

PH (803)751-7488

Adult \$5.50/Child (6-11): \$3.00
3D: Adult \$7.50/Child (6-11): 5.00

3319 Jackson BLVD

Ticket sales open 30 minutes prior to each movie

Movie times and schedule are subject to change without notice

<p>Friday April 11 Winter's Tale (PG-13) 1900</p> <p>Saturday April 12 That Awkward Moment (R) 1400</p> <p>Sunday April 13 Endless Love (PG-13) 1400</p> <p>Wednesday April 16 Pompeii (PG-13) 1400 Robocop 4 (PG-13) 1630</p> <p>Friday April 18 12 Years A Slave (R) 1900</p> <p>Saturday April 19 Robocop 4 (PG-13) 1400</p> <p>Sunday April 20 That Awkward Moment (R) 1400</p>	
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Photos by WALLACE McBRIDE

The Star-Spangled Avenger visits post

Left, Chaplain (Capt.) Michael Kim meets Captain America last Friday during a lunchtime 'open house' event conducted by the Fort Jackson Chaplain Family Life Center. Captain America was on post courtesy of the Marvel Characters Appearance Program Company, and was scheduled to speak to youth about Child Abuse Prevention.



Navy photo by LT. CMDR. JENNIFER CRAGG

Happy Birthday, Chiefs!

Chief petty officers attending Fort Jackson Navy Individual Augmentee Center Training in Eastover cut a ceremonial cake to celebrate the 121st birthday of the Chief's Mess. More than 100 Sailors, including chief petty officers, are attending NIACT training at McCrady Training Center to prepare for various individual augmentee assignments worldwide.

EIB

Continued from Page 3

The original tasks required Soldiers to qualify with a variety of weapons, complete a 25-mile foot march with full field equipment in less than eight hours, and complete infiltration, close combat, and combat-in-cities courses.

The criteria for qualifying for the Expert Infantryman Badge have changed since 1944, but have always stressed physical fitness, weapons proficiency and common Soldier skills, such as land navigation and foot marching.

“The EIB is as hard as it ever was,” Hain said during last week’s badge presentation. “It’s changed many, many times over the years, but the bottom line is that it’s never been easy. We started off last week at train-up with about 72 folks, and had 68 take the APFT. (Today) we’ve got 24 EIB recipients here. That’s a big deal.”

Staff Sgt. Ruben Roundtree, of the 1st Battalion, 34th Infantry Regiment, was one of five Soldiers to qualify for “true blue” at the end of last week’s trials.

“I always wanted to be a person who carried both badges, the Combat Infantry Badge and the EIB,” Roundtree said. “I started out as a military policeman. When I was a young Soldier, my platoon sergeant re-classed from the infantry, and all he talked about was, ‘The best of the best wear the EIB.’”

“True blue” recipient Staff Sgt. Christopher Perry, of the 3rd Battalion, 34th Infantry Regiment, said he prepared for last week’s tests simply by practicing for them.

“I just did a lot of physical training and a lot of road marches,” Perry said. “As far as the taskers, as long as you do it to their standards, you won’t have any issues with the tasks.”

He said he had not anticipated earning “true blue” status.

“I just wanted my EIB,” he said.

Roundtree said participating Soldiers from his unit continued to prepare throughout the week’s activities.

“Honestly, when I went through each lane, I took a lot of notes,” he said. “My unit only lost one guy from our entire battalion through lane training. We would go back after training and test each other on the tasks after work. We came in on the weekend and did road marches on our own, and tested each other on PT, as well.”

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Photos by WALLACE McBRIDE

Above, a Soldier carries a wounded comrade to safety during last week’s Expert Infantryman Badge trials, which stress physical fitness, weapons proficiency and common Soldier skills, such as land navigation and foot marching. Established in 1944, 3-inch-wide metal badge depicts a 1795 model Springfield Arsenal musket on a light blue background, left.



Photos by WALLACE McBRIDE

Brig. Gen. Bradley Becker, Fort Jackson commanding general, awards Expert Infantryman Badges to Soldiers completing last week's testing.



Above and left, Soldiers are evaluated on weapons skills and first aid medicine during last week's Expert Infantryman Badge trials at Fort Jackson.



Focus on families

Above, 26 couples and more than 40 children with the 3rd Battalion, 34th Infantry Regiment spent time in Concord, N.C., to conduct a strong bonds retreat. Unit leadership re-named the event, 'Focus on Families,' in an effort to target spouses and family members. The event provided an opportunity for newly married and longtime couples to interact and learn from each other. Standard strong bonds events focus on a number of training modules designed to help couples learn to communicate better. Rock Force took it one step further. Upon arrival, all participating families had their photos taken by a unit photographer. The photos were quickly printed so that the families would have a memento of the event. A number of other events were scheduled that were designed to get family members to work together. For example, a photo scavenger hunt required families to participate in a number of events, including a family dinner, events at the water park and building an action plan for something the family wants to complete in the next 12 months. Additionally, the unit held numerous competitions, including most unique family photo. Middle photo, Capt. Eric Ashmore applies moisturizer to his wife Mandy's hands. Bottom right, family members make a photo collage from magazine clippings that represents their families.

Courtesy photos



Jackson team to vie for Best Ranger honors

By 1ST LT. MATTHEW WALKER
1st Battalion, 34th Infantry Regiment

Fort Jackson will be represented in one of the most respected and elite military and athletic competitions this weekend — the 31st Annual David E. Grange Jr. Best Ranger Competition at Fort Benning, Ga.

Army Rangers Capt. Kevin Raymond, Master Fitness School, and Sgt. 1st Class Jason Diaz, 1st Battalion, 34th Infantry Regiment, will represent Fort Jackson in the Best Ranger Competition, making this only the second year the installation will enter a team.

Training alongside Raymond and Diaz for the competition were 1st Lt. Timothy Shively, 2nd Battalion, 60th Infantry Regiment; Sgt. 1st Class Nicolas Brady; and Staff Sgt. Sidney Graham, both with the 1-34th.

The two Rangers representing the post were chosen after they completed an assessment and tryout hosted by the 1-34th. For the past two months, Raymond and Diaz have conducted training on multiple weapons systems, ranging from 9 mm handguns to the M240B machine gun; studied vehicle and threat identification; did basic airborne refresher training; and took a practice jump. Their training also contained a rigorous daily physical training program that included running, swimming, biking, road marches, climbing walls and weight training.

“It is important for Fort Jackson to stay connected to the Ranger community through this event,” said Lt. Col. Eric Flesch, 1-34th commander. “Our Ranger leaders set the example every day as officers and noncommissioned officers from across the force, joining us for training at the Master Fitness School, the Master Resiliency School, and the Drill Sergeant School. At the Army’s largest Basic Combat Training center, where over half of today’s Soldiers begin their Army careers, every graduating class has Soldiers leaving the USATC for the Ranger and Special Operations communities. It is important that (Fort Jackson) has role models like these Rangers paving the way for the next generation.”



Courtesy photo

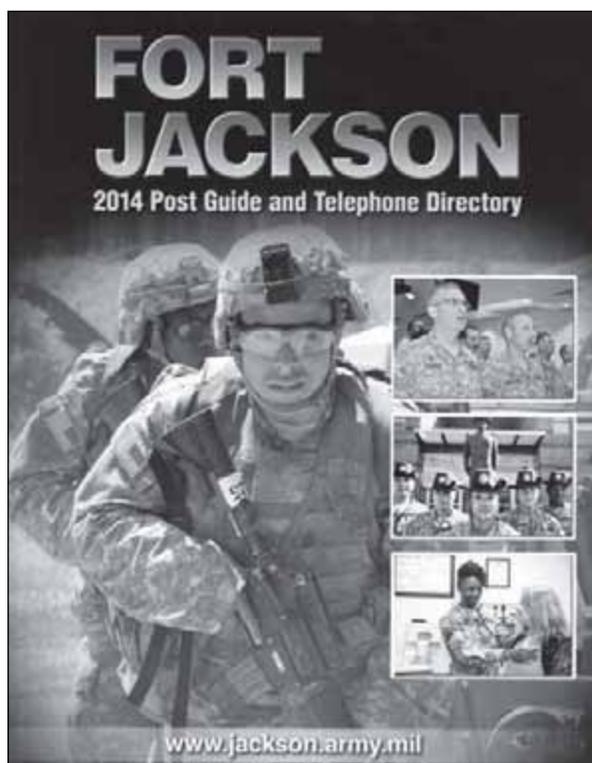
From left, Staff Sgt. Sidney Graham, 1st Lt. Timothy Shively, Sgt. 1st Class Nicolas Brady, Capt. Kevin Raymond and Sgt. 1st Class Jason Diaz train together for the Best Ranger Competition. Raymond and Diaz will represent Fort Jackson during the event, which starts Friday.

Started in 1981, the Best Ranger Competition is a three-day competition comprising physically- and mentally-demanding tasks. Originally open only to Army Rangers, the competition now determines the best two-man team in the armed forces. The competition is considered comparable

to many professional athletic events. It has been featured on ESPN, the History Channel and the Military Channel.

This year’s competition, which starts Friday and ends Sunday, will be covered by Fox Sports with live streaming video available at www.bestrangercompetition.com/live/.

2014 post guides available



The 2014 Fort Jackson Post Guide and Telephone directories have arrived.

If you are *not* part of one of the following organizations — which have already received deliveries — you can make an appointment to pick up your copies at the Public Affairs Office.

- FMWR
- ACS
- Housing
- IHG Army Hotel
- MACH
- 193rd Infantry Brigade
- 171st Infantry Brigade
- 165th Infantry Brigade
- U.S. Army Chaplain Center and School.

Call 751-3615 to arrange a pickup.

LEADER SUBMISSIONS

Article submissions are due two weeks before publication. For example, an article for the April 24 Leader must be submitted by today. Announcement submissions are due one week before publication. For example, an announcement for the April 24 Leader must be submitted by April 17.

Send your submissions to FJLeader@gmail.com. For more information, call 751-7045.





SSI self help

Above, Brig. Gen. Paul Chamberlain, commanding general of the Soldier Support Institute, and Maj. Randy Lefebvre, executive officer of the 369th Adjutant General Battalion, work on a fence in support of a self-help repair project by Company D, 369th. They were joined by SSI Command Sgt. Maj. Annette Weber. Left, Soldiers paint walls in the Advanced Individual Training school building. The repair project also included pressure washing and repairing fences.

Courtesy photos



TSP — are you contributing yet?

By KISHA A. TAYLOR

The Federal Retirement Thrift Investment Board

As a service member, you are eligible to contribute to the Thrift Savings Plan, or TSP, as soon as you begin your military service. Saving for your retirement with the TSP makes sense no matter how many years you plan to serve in the military.

If you leave the service before qualifying for a military retirement, the money in your TSP account can help jump start your wealth building. If you go the full 20, you'll have your TSP income as a supplement to your military retired pay.

How do I start my TSP contributions?

Check with your service's payroll office about its procedures for starting your TSP contributions. You must make your request through your service because your payroll office calculates the contribution and deducts the appropriate amount of money from your pay. You may be asked to use your service's electronic system to begin contributing to a TSP account. If your payroll office

allows you to use the paper version of the contribution election form, Form TSP-U-1, you can find it on the TSP website www.tsp.gov. You can also request it from your service, or you can call the ThriftLine at 1-TSP-YOU-FIRST (1-877-968-3778) and have it sent to you.

How can I change my TSP contributions?

You can use the same method to change your contributions as you did to start your contributions.

What type of pay can I contribute to my TSP account?

As a military member, you have four potential sources of employee contributions: basic pay, special pay, incentive pay, and bonus pay. You must elect a percentage of contributions from your basic pay in order to also make contributions from your special pay, incentive pay, and/or bonus pay. You cannot make contributions to the TSP from your housing or subsistence allowance.

You can make two types of contributions to your TSP account: traditional (tax-deferred) and Roth (after-tax).

Traditional contributions come out of your pay before your income is taxed. The money grows in your account tax-deferred, but when you withdraw it, you pay taxes on

both the contributions and their earnings. With Roth (after-tax) contributions, you pay the taxes up front, which means you will not pay any taxes on them at withdrawal. In addition, you will not have to pay taxes on the earnings as long as they are considered "qualified" by the Internal Revenue Code requirements.1

You can make contributions from tax-exempt pay earned in a combat zone, which can add up if you choose to make Roth contributions.

Are there limits to how much I can contribute?

You can contribute as little as 1 percent of your pay each pay period or as much as the IRC allows each year. The TSP announces the contribution limits on the TSP website at www.tsp.gov, and the ThriftLine, as well as through its various publications when the limits become available.

If you have been putting off contributing to your TSP account, wait no longer. Contact your payroll office to begin making contributions.

For more information about the Plan and its benefits, visit the YouTube channel: [YouTube@TSP4gov](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCp4g0v) and follow TSP on Twitter [@tsp4gov](https://twitter.com/tsp4gov).

Don't let a heat injury take you out of the fight

- ◆ Call 911 at the first sign of heat injury (including mental status change).
- ◆ Use ice sheets.
- ◆ Give the Soldier sips of water.
- ◆ Monitor him or her at all times.

Emergency numbers:

Cell phone users: 803-751-9111.
 Alternate 1: Range control via radio.
 Alternate 2: Range control at 751-7171/4732.
 Alternate 3: MP desk at 751-3113/3114/3115.

Never leave the Soldier unattended!



**911 & ICE:
 AT THE FIRST SIGN — EVERY TIME.**

Follow the Leader on Twitter at www.twitter.com/fortjacksonpao.

Chaplain: What's on your dog tag?

What do you want others to know about you? What if you had to limit that information to only four lines?

Anyone who has served for any length of time in the military is familiar with those metal ovals worn on a chain around the neck. Officially, they are identification tags, but almost everyone calls them dog tags.

COMMENTARY

By **CHAPLAIN (LT. COL.)**

DAVID S. BOWERMAN

U.S. Army Public Health Command

Dog tags have their origin in the Civil War, but only unofficially. Soldiers at that time would often write basic information about themselves on a piece of paper and pin it to their uniform in case they were killed or badly injured. Some units paid for more durable identification. But there was no standardization as to what was included.

Today's identification tags display vital information about the wearer: name, Social Security number, blood type and religious preference.

During World War II, there were only three religious categories that could be put on dog tags: "P" for Protestant, "C" for Catholic and "H" for Hebrew (Jewish). Obviously, that proved to be too limiting. "No Religious Preference" and "None" were eventually added.

Today, many faith groups and broad denominations are available, reflecting the diversity of the armed forces. Service members can generally put whatever religious preference they want on their tags, including "Atheist" or "Agnostic." Some even ask for "Jedi" or "Druid." There is no list of official or approved religions — after all, that would constitute government endorsement of a particular religion. But what to put down as a religious preference is serious business, because spirituality is important.

Spirituality is not just a belief in a higher power, but includes beliefs, ethics and values, even a sense of what



DoD photo

Today's identification tags display vital information about the wearer: name, Social Security number, blood type and religious preference.

is fair. Sometimes people say, "I'm not religious, but I'm a spiritual person." Spirituality is not limited to a Christian who goes to church every Sunday, a Muslim who prays five times a day while facing Mecca, or a Jew who keeps a kosher kitchen. It's not just the practice of prayer or meditation. "Why am I here?" "What is my purpose in life?" Why is there evil and suffering in the world?" Even atheism and agnosticism are beliefs, and belief matters.

The problem is that some people don't understand how important spirituality is to the whole person. Our outlook and world view affect everything we do, including how we treat others. According to Army Regulation 600-63 (Army Health Promotion), "When a person's actions are different from his or her stated values, the

person lives with inner conflict." Claiming "No Religious Preference" is unclear — are you an atheist or agnostic, or a Christian who does not affiliate with any particular denomination?

There are many resources available to explore one's spirituality. One place to begin is the Army Public Health Command Web site, <http://phc.amedd.army.mil/topics/healthyliving/bh/Pages/SpiritualHealth.aspx>, which contains many resources such as the Spiritual Fitness Inventory and the Boosting Resilience through Spirituality brochure.

Other good resources can be found at <http://csf2.army.mil/fivedimensions.html> and <http://www.spiritfit.army.mil>. So, what's on your dog tag?

SPORTS

DARTS STANDINGS

SS	28 points
MPs	25 points
BWB	25 points
1st CivDiv	18 points
3-34th	15 points
165th	14 points
MACH	12 points
187th	11 points
FTC	11 points

Standings as of April 10

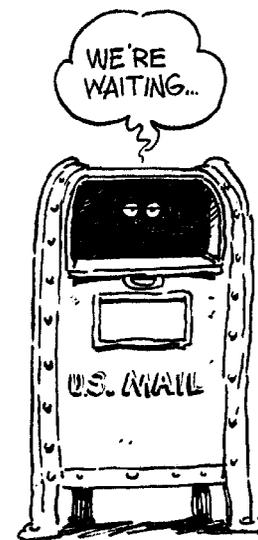
SOCCER STANDINGS

SSI	6-2
3-60th	5-0
2-60th	4-2
MEDDAC	2-3
165th	1-6
USADSS	0-5

Standings as of April 5

LETTERS

The *Leader* welcomes letters to the editor. All letters should include the name and address of the writer. Letters should also include a phone number for verification purposes. The *Leader* reserves the right to edit letters for grammar, style, spelling and brevity. Send your letter to FJLeader@gmail.com. Call 751-7045 for information.



Follow the Leader on Twitter at www.twitter.com/fortjacksonpao. Like us on Facebook. Log on to your account and search for "Fort Jackson Leader."

Saluting this BCT cycle's honorees

DRILL SERGEANTS OF THE CYCLE *Photos by OITHIP PICKERT, Public Affairs Office*



Staff Sgt. Lashonda Lucious
Company A
3rd Battalion,
60th Infantry Regiment

SOLDIER LEADER OF THE CYCLE

Pfc. Alexis McDowell

SOLDIER OF THE CYCLE

Pvt. Kiersten Sigfusson

HIGH APFT SCORE

Pvt. Nickolas Orozco

HIGH BRM

Pvt. Jeremy Trice



Staff Sgt. Christopher Demaria
Company B
3rd Battalion,
60th Infantry Regiment

SOLDIER LEADER OF THE CYCLE

Pvt. Maximo Romero

SOLDIER OF THE CYCLE

Pvt. Caleb McGrady

HIGH APFT SCORE

Pfc. Joseph Dolash

HIGH BRM

Pvt. Brittany Mullarney



Sgt. 1st Class Keith Jenkins
Company C
3rd Battalion,
60th Infantry Regiment

SOLDIER LEADER OF THE CYCLE

Spc. Patrick Wiginton

SOLDIER OF THE CYCLE

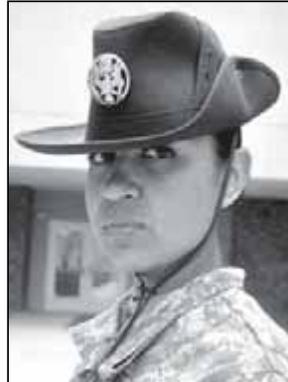
Pvt. Daven Gates

HIGH APFT SCORE

Pvt. Oscar Aguilar

HIGH BRM

Pvt. Christopher Cody



Staff Sgt. Jessica Maya
Company D
3rd Battalion,
60th Infantry Regiment

SOLDIER LEADER OF THE CYCLE

Pvt. Dellaquilla Maverick

SOLDIER OF THE CYCLE

Pvt. Talon Bigley

HIGH APFT SCORE

Pvt. Alexander Lantz

HIGH BRM

Pvt. Unique Markle



Staff Sgt. Jeffrey Poston
Company F
3rd Battalion,
60th Infantry Regiment

SOLDIER LEADER OF THE CYCLE

Spc. Amber Sadoski

SOLDIER OF THE CYCLE

Pvt. Paul Rankin

HIGH APFT SCORE

Pvt. Paul Rankin

HIGH BRM

Pvt. Kevin Thomas
Pvt. Matthew Morrow

Weekly honors



Staff Sgt. Constance Roberts
Soldier of the week
U.S. Army Central

Like us on Facebook. Log on to your account and search for "Fort Jackson Leader."

Leadership Columbia visit

Leadership Columbia participants Stephanie Nye, left, and Kim Williams negotiate an obstacle on the Teamwork Development Course during a visit April 8. The Leadership Columbia program, run by the Greater Columbia Chamber of Commerce, provides existing and emerging leaders with opportunities to enhance their civic knowledge and network.

Photo by KARA MOTOSICKY, Public Affairs Office



Follow the Leader on Twitter at www.twitter.com/fortjacksonpao for breaking news and updates.



Day of the Animals

Pets strut their stuff at April Foolish Dog Show



Photos by WALLACE McBRIDE

Owners and their pets turned out Sunday at the Fort Jackson Youth Sports Complex for the annual April Foolish Dog Show. Categories for this year's events included Best Kisser, Prettiest Eyes, Most Mysterious Heritage and Coolest Trick. Among the weekend's competitors were, clockwise from left are Samantha Walker and 'Pepper,' 'Squishy,' 'Scout,' Aaron Pugh and "Sushi," Ava Munoz and 'Xena,' and 'Rico.'

CMYK

CMYK

27" WEB-100

Calendar

Saturday

South Carolina Boys & Girls Club Games room tournament
9 a.m. to 6 p.m., Youth Center and Imboden Street School Age Center

Thursday, April 17

Civilian employee town hall meeting
2:30 to 4:30 p.m., Post Theater

Friday, April 18

Toast to the Doolittle Tokyo Raiders
4:30 p.m., Officers' Club
Free and open to the Fort Jackson community.

Friday, April 18

Health Rocks
6:30 to 9 p.m., Imboden Street School Age Center

Saturday, April 19

Spring jamboree and egg hunt
10 a.m. to noon, Youth Sports Complex

Saturday, April 19

Flashlight egg hunt
8 p.m., Youth Center

Tuesday, April 22

Earth Day
11 a.m. to 1 p.m., Thomas Lee Hall Library
Plant shrubs in honor of Earth Day. Participants should bring gloves and wear work clothes.

Wednesday, April 23

Denim Day
11:45 a.m., Semmes Lake
Wear denim and walk around Semmes Lake to raise sexual assault awareness.

Saturday, April 26

National Prescription Take Back Day
10 a.m. to 2 p.m., Main Exchange

Saturday, April 26

Family fun fair
10 a.m. to 3 p.m., Patriot's Park

Saturday, April 26

Imagination sparks with Sparky
3 to 4 p.m., Post library
Program for children of all ages to learn fire prevention and to find fun and excitement in reading. For more information, call 751-5589.

Wednesday, April 30

Civilian employee town hall meeting
9 to 11 a.m., Post Theater

Wednesday, April 30

SSI Holocaust remembrance ceremony
1:30 to 2:30 p.m., SSI auditorium

Announcements

GREEN INITIATIVE DAY EVENTS

On Saturday, a number of activities are planned at Semmes Lake. The Green Initiative Day on Fort Jackson will include a 5K fun run, a bike relay, presentations on the Performance Triad and a recycle regatta. For more information and to register, call 751-3096/3486.

SCHOOL FUN RUN

C.C. Pinckney and Pierce Terrace elementary schools will host a Month of the Military Child 1-mile fun run 8 a.m., April 26 at C.C. Pinckney Elementary School. Registration forms can be picked up at the school offices. The cost is \$5 per participant.

SPORTS SHORTS

■ Intramural and recreational basketball tournaments games are played at 6:10, 7:10 and 8:10 p.m. nightly through April 15 at Coleman Gym.

■ Big Day Out 5K walk/run, 8 a.m., Semmes Lake, Saturday.

■ Letters of intent for men's, women's and co-ed summer softball are due Wednesday. The season begins in May.

■ The indoor volleyball season begins Wednesday. A captains' meeting is scheduled for 5 p.m., Monday at Coleman Gym.

■ Army Sports Program meetings, May 1.

■ Strongman competition, 6 p.m., May 17, Hilton Field Softball Complex.

For more information, call the Sports Office at 751-3096.

THANKING TROOPS THROUGH TENNIS

The Thanking our Troops Through Tennis foundation will host a free tennis expo for children and adults May 17 on Fort Jackson. The expo includes instruction from tennis pro Dick Stockton. The event is free and open to all DoD ID card holders. For more information, call 751-3096.

YOUTH SPORTS REGISTRATION

Registration is under way for the following youth sports events/leagues:

■ T-ball; for ages 3-5; \$20; register by April 25.

■ Coach pitch baseball; for ages 6-8; \$45; register by April 25.

■ Free volleyball clinic; for ages 6-10; May 5-9.

■ Summer swimming, for ages 6-18; \$65; for age 5; \$20; register by May 9.

Coaches are needed for all sports. For more information, call 751-5040/7451.

AER SCHOLARSHIPS

Army Emergency Relief is accepting applications for its scholarship programs. AER offers the MG James Ursano Scholarship Program for dependent children and

the Spouse Education Assistance Program. Both scholarships provide assistance for students who are pursuing their first undergraduate degree. The applications close May 1. For more information, visit www.aerhq.org.

DES OFFICE CLOSURE

The Directorate of Emergency Services Police Administration Office will be closed May 23.

COMMISSARY TOURS

Throughout April, the Month of the Military Child, the Commissary is offering tours for Child Development Centers. The tours will focus on the produce department to highlight the benefits of fruits and vegetables. For more information, visit www.fruitsandveggiesmorematters.org.

LIFEGUARD TRAINING

The next lifeguard training class is scheduled to begin Friday. Sessions are scheduled for April 14-17. For more information, visit <https://webtrac.mwr.army.mil/webtrac/jacksonrectrac.html>.

HEARTS APART PROGRAM

The Hearts Apart program supports families who live separated from a loved one because of deployment or an unaccompanied tour of duty. Family members are invited to participate in monthly activities and holiday events. The Hearts Apart Support Group meets quarterly. For upcoming events, visit <http://fortjacksonmwr.com/acs> or www.facebook.com/ftjackson.acs.outreach. For more information, call 751-9970/1124.

SAT/ACT TESTING

The Education Center will administer SAT testing May 29 and Oct. 30. ACT testing will be available July 31. Testing is available to eligible service members only. For more information and to register, call 751-5341.

THRIFT SHOP NEWS

■ Applications for the summer hire program for 17-21-year-old students will be accepted Tuesday through May 15 at the Thrift Shop. Interviews will be scheduled for May 27-29.

■ The store is closed April 15-18 for spring break.

■ An Easter egg hunt in the store is scheduled for today.

■ The Golden Carriage Program provides free ball gowns for spouses of active-duty service members E5 and below.

Information is subject to change.

Visit the community calendar at www.jackson.army.mil for a full listing of calendar events.

Send your announcements to fjleader@gmail.com.

Housing happenings

YARD OF THE MONTH

The annual Yard of the Month program is gearing up to begin with judging April 24. To submit a yard as a contender, to include yours, call Ericka McDaniel at 738-8275, email emcdaniel@bbcgrp.com, or call RCI Housing at 751-7567. One winner from each neighborhood submitted will be chosen. Visit the Self Help Center and check out lawn and garden tools that will assist you in having a beautiful yard that could be a Yard of the Month winner. The Self Help Center is located on Ivy Road and is open Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monthly winners receive recognition in the *Leader*, are featured on the Balfour Beatty Communities website and in the newsletters. The grand prize winner also receives a \$50 gift card courtesy of BBC.

COMMUNITY YARD SALE

A community yard sale is scheduled from 7:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m., May 3. For registration, additional information and to be included on the map of participants, contact Ericka at emcdaniel@bbcgrp.com, or call 738-8275. The deadline to register is April 30.

SPRING CRAFT SURPRISE

A spring craft surprise is scheduled from 3 to 5 p.m., Wednesday at the Community Center. The craft activities are for age 8 and older. For more information, email Ericka at emcdaniel@bbcgrp.com.

FAIR HOUSING ACT

The Civil Rights Act of 1968, or Fair Housing Act, was enacted to protect people from housing discrimination based on seven protected classes (race, color, national origin, religion, sex, familial status, and disability). If you or someone you know have experienced housing discrimination, contact HUD-Atlanta Regional Office by calling (404) 331-1021 or by emailing your complaint to complaints_office_04@hud.gov. HUD's services are free. A Fort Jackson Housing Services Office counselor can assist you with filing your complaint and can be contacted by calling 751-5788/7566/9323.

HOUSING ON FACEBOOK

The Housing Services Office is on Facebook. Look for "Fort Jackson Housing Division."

RENT CONCESSIONS

Contact Balfour Beatty Communities to learn how to earn money through the rent concessions program. For more information, call 738-8275.



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Army testing boots, camouflage patterns

By **DAVID VERGUN**
Army News Service

FORT BELVOIR, Va. — Young Soldiers often want to wear a uniform that looks cool, while lawmakers want cost effectiveness — but the Army's priority is protecting the Soldier from harm.

That's what Col. Robert Mortlock, project manager for Soldier Protection and Individual Equipment, Program Executive Office Soldier, said he aims for, along with other important goals like comfort, fit, price, protection from the environment and durability.

JUNGLE BOOTS

As the Army pivots to the Pacific region, it is looking to develop a new jungle boot. Testing of some vendor-supplied prototypes could begin this summer, Mortlock said.

A good jungle boot, he explained, would shed water, meaning it can dry out fast after submersion. It also would be lightweight and breathable to minimize the effects of high temperatures and humidity. The lugs (tread) on the outsole would be able to trek through mud with minimal slipping. Also, the leather should not dry out and crack from repeated wetting cycles.

The most important factor in the development of the jungle boot — or any new boot for that matter — he said, is Soldier feedback from real-use, rigorous testing.

"We do this rigorous user testing because we want Soldiers to trust and have confidence in their equipment so they can focus on their primary mission. And we've built up that trust over a number of years," he added.

BOOT IMPROVEMENTS

One of the biggest recent improvements in boot design is "direct-attach outsoles," Mortlock explained that soles that are glued, not stitched, to the bottoms of boots, make some pairs of Army Combat Boots up to 1 pound lighter. The direct-attach outsoles are also less apt to separate after long, rough usage.

But equally importantly, he said, direct-attach outsoles have reduced lower leg injuries to Soldiers because they reduce the shock transferred to the foot and leg.

The adoption of "universal sizing" is also important. Until the Army adopted universal sizing, a Soldier wearing size 10.5 boots and who ordered another pair of the same size from another vendor might find the new boots somewhat smaller or bigger than the boots being replaced. This is because commercial vendors use different molds, or "lasts" for building their footwear. The Army now requires that a universal "last" or mold, be used by all of its boot vendors to ensure that Army-issue boots have universal sizing. This will reduce the logistics trail and save time for Soldiers and their units, Mortlock added.

Another criteria, that doesn't really relate to safety and comfort, is that any boot that's produced for Soldiers and issued by the Army has to be made entirely in the U.S. out of U.S.-manufactured textiles and materials, per the Berry Amendment, which was originally passed by Congress in 1941, and codified into law as 10 USC 2533a. Soldiers are authorized to wear boots of their choosing, even if they are not Berry Amendment compliant, as long as these boots conform to Army Regulation 670-1 "Uniform Appearance Regulation." Soldiers are authorized to use their clothing replacement allowance for these.

Master Sgt. Benjamin Owens, a 20-year Army veteran who was interviewed along with Mortlock, said that even though many Soldiers opt to buy their own footwear, in his opinion, the best boots are standard issue.

"As a drill sergeant, I've foot marched hundreds of miles in different terrains in these," he said, pointing to the standard-issue boots he was wearing.

"Younger Soldiers sometimes go for a flashy look in a boot," he said, adding that they often pay a price for doing so.

Adding to Owens' comment, Mortlock said, "Any time you choose a different boot, you're trading off something: durability or breathability, or something else."

When Soldiers first join the Army, they are issued two types of standard Army Combat Boots, the hot weather and temperate weather variants. Soldiers later receive an annual clothing replacement allowance for boots.

Other specialized boots are issued for specific mission requirements. Soldiers deploying to Afghanistan are issued mountain combat boots, tailored for rough, mountainous terrain found in the eastern part of that country. That too comes in a hot-weather and temperate weather variant.

Aviators and vehicle combat crewmen are issued flame-resistant boots that fit their mission.

There are also intermediate cold/wet-weather boots and extreme cold-weather boots.

Specialized boots are not part of the Soldier's annual clothing replacement allowance, so Soldiers are simply issued new ones when their old boots wear out.

CAMOUFLAGE PATTERNS

The Army just completed the most extensive uniform camouflage testing in history, in which thousands of Soldiers participated over multiple lanes of effort, Mortlock said.

He explained the importance of camouflage to a Soldier's mission:

"The bottom line is the enemy can't kill, hurt or injure who they can't see," explained Mortlock. "We have testimonials from Soldiers in theater close enough to the enemy to hear them saying they can't see the American. That's powerful. That's a combat multiplier."

Although much has been done, camouflage testing continues, Mortlock said. The Army evaluates "all the options" and is reviewing the fiscal year 2014 National Defense Authorization Act to ensure any camouflage decision is in full compliance with the NDAA. The NDAA states that the Army can "use existing uniforms and patterns and use the patterns of sister services."

The ongoing tests will continue this month and next at Fort Benning, Ga., and will be followed up at Fort Polk, La., and Yuma Testing Ground, Ariz.

The tests are seeking to determine a family of camouflage patterns that perform better than the present Universal Camouflage Pattern, known as UCP. Separate patterns designed for arid, transitional semi-wooded, or heavily wooded terrain tend to perform better than a single pattern, which seeks to provide concealment in all three environments.

Criteria for testing the patterns, Mortlock said are "detection and blending."

For those criteria the Soldiers wearing the different patterns are put at a variety of distances, lightings, backgrounds and movements from Soldiers who serve as spotters. These Soldiers are timed as they try to pick the camouflaged Soldiers out from the environment.

So far, tests show that at a range between 25 and 50 meters, the pattern matters, meaning it is critical for blending in the environment. At distances greater than 50 meters, the pattern itself is less important than the general colors of the camouflage.

Once the testing is complete, Army leadership will use the test results to reach a decision on whether to keep the present camouflage pattern or adopt one of the new families of patterns. One option would be to adopt a transitional pattern for general Army use, and to keep the more specialized arid and woodland patterns in reserve until they are requested by a combatant commander.

"The other thing about camouflage that sometimes gets lost is, we're not changing the combat uniform," Mortlock added. "It'll still be called the Army Combat Uniform. All that we're doing is updating the camouflage on the Army Combat Uniform."

"Whatever we do, we're going to do in a fiscally-responsible manner," Mortlock said.

A number of organizations collaborate in the science, research, development and testing of combat boots and camouflage uniforms. These include PEO Soldier; the Army Test and Evaluation Command, Aberdeen Proving Ground, Md.; the Maneuver Center of Excellence, Fort Benning, Ga.; U.S. Army Training and Doctrine Command, Fort Eustis, Va.; and the Natick Soldier Research Development and Engineering Center, Natick, Mass. The effort also benefits from interaction with commercial vendors who develop and produce combat boots, uniforms and other gear.

MONTH OF THE MILITARY CHILD EVENTS

- April 12, 9 a.m. to 6 p.m., Youth Center and Imboden Street School Age Center — South Carolina Boys & Girls Club games room tournament
- April 18, 6 to 11 p.m., Hood Street Child Development Center — Parent Night Out
- April 18, 6:30 to 9 p.m., Imboden

- Street School Age Center — Health Rocks
- April 19, 10 a.m. to noon, Youth Sports Complex — Spring Jamboree and Egg Hunt
- April 19, 8 p.m., Youth Center — Flashlight egg hunt
- April 25 and 26, 6 to 7 p.m., Youth Center — Operation Megaphone Lock-In

- April 26, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m., Patriot's Park — Family fun fair
- Throughout April — Young Lives, BIG Stories Contest: Military youth may submit stories, pictures, drawings or videos on what it 'means to be a military child' for a chance to win prizes. For more information, visit www.armymwr.com/momc-big-stories.aspx.

[armymwr.com/momc-big-stories.aspx](http://www.armymwr.com/momc-big-stories.aspx).

For more information on Month of the Military Child events, call 751-4869.

Additional program- and facility-specific events are offered throughout April for enrolled children.

Parents should contact their program director for more information.



Penny power

Students of Amy Henderson's second grade class at Pierce Terrace Elementary School are enjoying a pizza party. The party was a reward for the students' efforts in the 'Pennies for Patients' leukemia fundraiser. Last year, a first-grade student passed away from leukemia, and the school's students decided to collect pennies as part of the fundraiser in his memory. Henderson's class collected 33 pounds of coins, and one of her students, Adam Jordan, received a gift certificate for collecting the most pounds individually.

Courtesy photo



ARNG adviser retires

Sgt. Maj. Regina Willingham, National Guard senior enlisted adviser on Fort Jackson, retired after 33 years of service. A retirement celebration took place March 21 at the NCO Club. Willingham said her career had come full circle from being in Basic Combat Training at Fort Jackson to being promoted to sergeant major here. Sgt. Maj. Thomas Sznura, senior ARNG liaison NCO, treated Willingham to her last military meal at 120th Adjutant General Battalion (Reception), where an old friend of Willingham's from preschool through high school, Billy Jefferson, works as the dining facility manager.

Courtesy photo

HOLY WEEK AND EASTER SERVICES



EASTER SUNRISE SERVICE

Sunday, April 20

■ 7 a.m. Main Post Chapel, breakfast will be served after worship

PROTESTANT

Thursday, April 17

■ 12:30 p.m. Main Post Chapel, Maundy Thursday Communion Service

Friday, April 18

■ 12:30 p.m. Main Post Chapel, Good Friday Service

Sunday, April 20

■ 8 a.m. Anglican; Anderson Street Chapel

■ 8:30 a.m. Gospel service, Daniel Circle Chapel

■ 9:30 a.m. Main Post Chapel

■ 10:15 a.m. Gospel service, Daniel Circle

Chapel

■ 11 a.m. Memorial Chapel

■ 11 a.m. Chapel Next, Bayonet Chapel

CATHOLIC

Thursday, April 17

■ 7 p.m. Main Post Chapel, Holy Thursday Service

Friday, April 18

■ 3 p.m. Darby Field, Stations of the Cross

■ 6 p.m. Main Post Chapel, Good Friday Service

Saturday, April 19

■ 8 p.m. Main Post Chapel, Holy Saturday Vigil

Sunday, April 20

■ 8 a.m. Solomon Center

■ 11 a.m. Main Post Chapel



PROTESTANT

■ Sunday

8:30 a.m. Daniel Circle Chapel Gospel service, Daniel Circle Chapel (first service)

9 a.m. McCrady Chapel (SCARNG), McCrady Training Center

9:30 a.m. Hispanic, Post Theater

9:30 a.m. Main Post Chapel

10:15 a.m. Daniel Circle Chapel Gospel service, Daniel Circle Chapel (second service)

10:45 a.m. Sunday school, Main Post Chapel

11 a.m. Memorial Chapel

11 a.m. Chapel Next, Bayonet Chapel

Protestant Bible Study

■ Monday

7 p.m. Women's Bible study (PWOC), Main Post Chapel

■ Tuesday

9 to 11:30 a.m. Women's Bible study (PWOC), Main Post Chapel

■ Wednesday

6 p.m. Gospel prayer service, Daniel Circle Chapel

7 p.m. Gospel Bible study, Daniel Circle Chapel

■ Thursday

11:45 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Fresh encounter Bible study, Chaplain Family Life Center

Protestant Youth of the Chapel

■ Saturday

11 a.m. Daniel Circle Chapel youth group, Dorn VA Hospital (first Saturday of each month)

■ Sunday

5 to 6:30 p.m. Club Beyond youth group, Chaplain Family Life Center

CATHOLIC

■ Monday through Thursday

11:30 a.m. Mass, Main Post Chapel

■ Sunday

7:30 a.m. Confessions, Solomon Center

8 a.m. IET Mass, Solomon Center

9:30 a.m. CCD (September through May), Education Center

9:30 a.m. Religious ed class for adults (September through May), Main Post Chapel

9:30 a.m. Religious ed class for children (September through May), Main Post Chapel

10:30 a.m. Reconciliation (after Mass or by appointment), Main Post Chapel

11 a.m. Mass (Main Post Chapel)

12:30 p.m. Catholic youth ministry, Main Post Chapel

■ Wednesday

7 p.m. Rosary, Main Post Chapel

7:30 p.m. RCIA/Adult inquiry (September through May), Main Post Chapel

ANGLICAN/LITURGICAL

■ Sunday

8 a.m. Anderson Street Chapel

ISLAMIC

■ Sunday

8 to 10 a.m. Islamic studies, Main Post Chapel

■ Friday

12:45 to 1:30 p.m. Jumah services, Main Post Chapel

JEWISH

■ Sunday

9:30 to 10:30 a.m. Worship service, Memorial Chapel

10:30 to 11:30 a.m. Jewish book study, Post Conference Room

CHURCH OF CHRIST

■ Sunday

11:30 a.m. Anderson Street Chapel

LATTER DAY SAINTS

■ Sunday

9:30 to 11 a.m. Anderson Street Chapel

■ Wednesday

3 to 5 p.m. LDS family social, Anderson Street Chapel

■ Wednesday

7 to 8 p.m. LDS scripture study, Anderson Street Chapel

ADDRESSES, PHONE NUMBERS

Anderson Street Chapel

2335 Anderson St., 751-7032

Bayonet Chapel

9476 Kemper St., 751-6322/4542

Daniel Circle Chapel

3359 Daniel Circle, corner of Jackson Boulevard, 751-1297/4478

Education Center

4581 Scales Ave.

Chaplain Family Life Center

5460 Marion Ave (to the side of the POV lot), 751-4961

Magruder Chapel (closed for renovation)

4360 Magruder Ave., 751-3883

Main Post Chapel

4580 Scales Ave., corner of Strom Thurmond Boulevard, 751-6469/6681

McCrady Chapel (SCARNG)

3820 McCrady Road (located at McCrady Training Center)

Memorial Chapel

4470 Jackson Blvd., 751-7324

Warrior Chapel (120th AG Bn.)

1895 Washington St., 751-5086/7427

Installation Chaplain's Office

4475 Gregg St., 751-3121/6318

Recurring meetings

WEEKLY MEETINGS

- Alcoholics Anonymous open meeting**.....Wednesdays and Fridays, 9 to 10 a.m., 9810 Lee Road., 751-6597.
- Columbia Composite Squadron (Civil Air Patrol)**.....Mondays, 6:30 p.m., Owens Field, main conference room, *Tom.Alsup@gmail.com* or *www.scwg.cap.gov*.
- Helping Everyone Reach Optimum Strength**.....Tuesdays, 5 to 6 p.m., Moncrief Army Community Hospital, seventh floor. Open to combat veterans and their family members.
- Play group**.....Wednesdays, 10 to 11:30 a.m., Room 8, 5615 Hood St., for children 3 and younger, 751-9035/6325.
- Protestant Women of the Chapel**.....Mondays, 7 to 8:30 p.m., and Tuesdays, 9 a.m. to noon, Main Post Chapel, *jackson@pwoc.org*.
- Range control briefing**Mondays and Fridays, 1 p.m., Education Center, Room 302, 751-7171.
- Sergeant Audie Murphy Club Association study hall**.....Thursdays, noon, NCO Academy conference room, *www.facebook.com/FJSAMCA*.
- Toastmasters International**Wednesdays, 11:40 a.m. to 12:45 p.m., Main Post Chapel, 629-7696 or (910) 224-8307.
- Veterans of South Carolina**Tuesdays, 9 a.m., Flying J truck stop at 5901 Fairfield Road, *VOsc@sc.rr.com*.
- Walking away stress**.....Mondays and Fridays, 9 a.m., at the pecan orchard near the post office on Early Street, 751-6325.

MONTHLY MEETINGS

- 92nd Buffalo Chapter 20 DAV**Third Saturday of the month, except July and August, 11 a.m., DAV Headquarters 511 Violet St., West Columbia, 260-1067.
- Adjutant General's Corps Regimental Association, Carolina Chapter**Second Tuesday of the month, 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m., NCO Club, 751-3014.
- American Legion Post 182**.....First Tuesday of the month, 6 p.m., Officers' Club, 351-2333.
- American Legion Post 195**.....Fourth Thursday of the month, 7 p.m., 534 Wildwood Lane, Lugoff.
- American Legion Louis D. Simmons Post 215**Fourth Sunday of the month, 5 p.m., 2432 Chappelle St., 765-0175.
- American Legion Riders Motorcycle Group (ALR Chapter 195)**Second Tuesday of the month, 7:30 p.m., American Legion Post 195, 534 Wildwood Lane, Lugoff, 699-2598 or *alrpost195@gmail.com*.
- American Legion Riders Motorcycle Group**Third Thursday of the month, 7 p.m., American Legion Post 6, 200 Pickens St., 360-3830.
- Better Opportunities for Single Soldiers**.....First and third Wednesday of the month, 11:45 a.m. to 12:45 p.m., Single Soldier Complex, Building 2447, 751-1148.
- Better Opportunities for Single Soldiers Adopt-A-School program**Second Wednesday of the month during the school year, 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m., meeting at the Single Soldier Complex, Building 2447, for transportation to Forrest Heights Elementary School, 751-1148.
- Combat Vets Motorcycle Association**Third Sunday of the month at noon, (774) 451-7504, e-mail *armyaguair@yahoo.com* or visit *www.combatvet.org*.
- Disabled American Veterans Chapter and Auxiliary, Woodrow Wilson Chapter #4**Second Monday of the month (September through June), 6 p.m., 511 Violet St., West Columbia, 467-8355 or *gblake12@sc.rr.com*.
- Fleet Reserve Association Branch and Unit 202**.....Third Tuesday of the month, 12:30 p.m., 2620 Lee Road, 647-0040 or *turner6516@gmail.com*.
- Fort Jackson Bass Club**.....First Monday of the month, 7 p.m., Joe E. Mann Center, *www.jacksonanglers.com*.
- Fort Jackson Homeschoolers**Second and fourth Tuesday of the month. For time and location, call 419-0760 or email *johnlazzi@yahoo.com*.
- Gold Star Wives, Palmetto Chapter**Second Sunday of the month, 3 p.m., Moncrief Army Community Hospital, Third Floor conference room, 695-5345.
- Ladies Auxiliary Louis D. Simmons Post 215**.....Fourth Sunday of the month, 3 p.m., 2432 Chappelle St., 765-0175.
- Ladies Auxiliary VFW Post 641**.....Second Sunday of the month, 3 p.m., 534 S. Beltline Blvd., 782-5943 or 782-0148.
- Ladies Auxiliary VFW Post 4262**.....Second Sunday of the month, 5 p.m., 5821 North Main St., 754-1614.
- MEDPROS training**Third Friday of the month, 1-4 p.m., Moncrief Army Community Hospital, Room 9-83. E-mail *Erica.Aikens@amedd.army.mil*.
- National Federation of Federal Employees**Second Tuesday of the month, 11:30 a.m., 4405 Forney St., first floor, 751-2622.
- National Active and Retired Federal Employees Chapter 87**Second Friday of the month, 11:30 a.m., Seawell's, 1125 Rosewood Dr., *kathrynhensley@hotmail.com* or *gilltinelc803@aol.com*.
- Purple Heart #402**Fourth Tuesday of the month, 7 p.m., American Legion Post 6, 200 Pickens St., 351-2333.
- Retired Enlisted Association**Third Friday of the month, 5:30 p.m., Moncrief Army Community Hospital, third floor, 740-2319 or e-mail *jrodgers11@sc.rr.com*.
- Seabees**Second Monday of the month, 7 p.m., West Metro Chamber of Commerce and Visitors Center, 755-7792 or 755-0300.
- Sergeant Audie Murphy Club Association**First Tuesday of the month, noon, NCO Club, *www.facebook.com/FJSAMCA*.
- Sergeants Major Association**.....Last working Thursday of the month, 4:30 p.m., Magruder's Pub, 338-1904, *William.huffin@us.army.mil*.
- Society of American Military Engineers**.....Fourth Thursday of the month, 11:30 a.m., 254-0518 or 765-0320.
- SWAMPFOX Warrant Officer Association**First Thursday of the month, 11:30 a.m. to 12:45 p.m., Officers' Club, *johnny.myers@us.army.mil*.
- The Rocks Inc., James Webster Smith Chapter**.....Third Tuesday of the month, 6 p.m., Post Conference Room.
- Veterans of Foreign Wars Gandy-Griffin Post 4262**.....Third Tuesday of the month, 7 p.m., 5821 North Main St., 754-1614 or 447-2320.
- Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 641**.....Second Monday of the month, 7:30 p.m., 534 S. Beltline Blvd., 782-5943 or 782-0148.
- Veterans of South Carolina**First Tuesday of the month, 7 p.m., Reflection Club House at 2 Cassia Ct., *VOsc@sc.rr.com*.
- Victory Riders Motorcycle Club**.....First and third Thursday of the month, 5 p.m., Magruder's Pub. E-mail *sec@fvictoryriders.com*.
- Vietnam Veterans of America Chapter 303**Third Tuesday of the month, 7 p.m., American Legion Post 6, 200 Pickens St., 312-4895.
- Weight Loss Surgery Support Group**Second and fourth Monday of the month, noon, Weight Management Center, 180 Laurel St.; Second Monday of the month, 6:30 p.m., Palmetto Health Baptist Breast Health Center, 1501 Sumter St., ground level, Meeting Room 2.

To submit a recurring meeting, email the name of the group, when and where the meeting takes place and contact information to *fjleader@gmail.com*.