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THE FORT JACKSON LEADER

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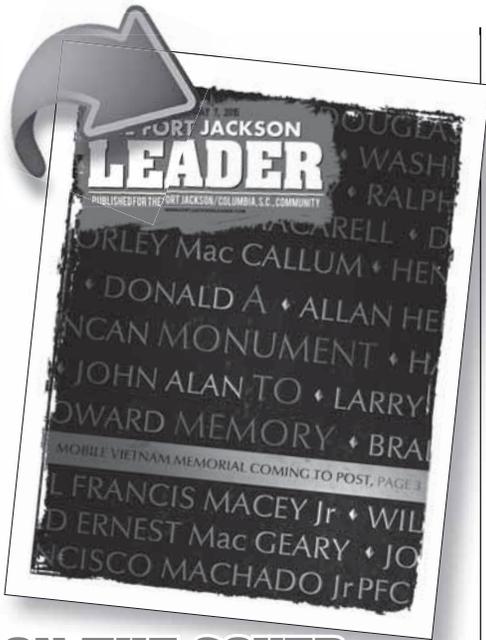
MOBILE VIETNAM MEMORIAL COMING TO POST, PAGE 3

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NEWS



ON THE COVER

Illustration by WALLACE McBRIDE

Fort Jackson will unveil a half-size replica of the Vietnam Veterans Memorial wall next week, as part of the Defense Department's commemoration of the anniversary of the Vietnam War.

SEE PAGE 3.



Fort Jackson, South Carolina 29207

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Photo by LISA FERDINANDO/Army News Service

Maj. Gen. Rex A. Spittler, deputy chief of staff, U.S. Army TRADOC, says Soldiers should be ready to face the "unknown and unknowable," so getting them credentialed in skills would help them find jobs in the civilian workforce.

The Army's looming task: credentialing

By LISA FERDINANDO
 Army News Service

WASHINGTON — The Army does a great job of training Soldiers for the battlefield, but it must do better getting them credentialed for the civilian marketplace, says Maj. Gen. Rex A. Spittler, deputy chief of staff, Army TRADOC.

The Army trains Soldiers to engage in the complex world, where the next battle is "unknown and unknowable," Spittler told the American Legion National Credentialing Summit recently. Every year, he said, 500,000 move through TRADOC schools, and "we're not quite sure what we're going to see when we go into that next battle."

The Army requires a highly trained force and depends on Soldiers to be able to think innovatively and to survive and thrive in chaos, Spittler said.

"That means in all of the training that the young Soldier receives when he comes in at the beginning of that pipeline, until he gets pushed out at retirement or anytime in between there, he is learning how to operate in chaos," he said.

Such experiences benefit Soldiers far beyond the battle-

field, he said.

"We're training them how to survive and win in any environment that they're engaged in, which also includes the civilian marketplace," he said.

The Army must train Soldiers for battle, but it also is important that they become credentialed in order to transfer their skills to the civilian marketplace once they leave the force, he said.

"Even after 35 years of being in the military, if this is my last year -- which I hope it's not -- I have to get another job," Spittler said. People are living and working a longer, he said.

Credentialing and readiness go hand in hand, said Col. Reed Hudgins, TRADOC director of credentialing, certification and licensing.

That hand-in-hand walk begins when Soldiers enter the Army and continues their entire career, Hudgins said.

"It's a lifelong process — a lifelong process that speaks to readiness

for us inside the military," he said.

Credentialing is not just for the active Army, he said.

"It's applicable to the total force," he said. "Without the National Guard, without the Reserve, we can't do what it is we do."

We're training them how to survive and win in any environment that they're engaged in.

— Maj. Gen. Rex A. Spittler
 deputy chief of staff, Army TRADOC

The Wall that Heals

Mobile Vietnam memorial will visit post next week

By **ROBERT TIMMONS**
Fort Jackson Leader

Fort Jackson will unveil a half-size replica of the Vietnam Veterans Memorial wall next week, as part of the Defense Department's commemoration of the 50th anniversary of the Vietnam War.

The Moving Wall is one of several smaller models of the monument that travel around the country, allowing viewers to see and to make rubbings of their lost Soldiers' names without visiting the nation's capital.

"This allows Vietnam veterans the chance to see the wall if they can't get to Washington, D.C.," said Lt. Col. James Karcanes of Fort Jackson G7, who helped plan the wall's appearance. "It helps them reconnect with their battle buddies and pay respect to their comrades."

The unveiling on May 14 will be one of the first events of Victory Week, a sort of open house that allows the public to see Fort Jackson. May 16 has been set aside for a Vietnam veterans' welcome-home celebration.

During the unveiling ceremony, volunteers from local veterans' groups and the Fort Jackson community will read all 58,228 names engraved on the wall. Visitors will be able to view the wall and to make rubbings day and night through the closing ceremony on May 17.

Lumber crayons will be available for those wishing to make rubbings. Pointed pencils and pens will not be allowed.

The wall comprises two 127-foot legs set at an



U.S. Air Force photo by STAFF SGT. ANGELA B. MALEK

Retired U.S. Army Sgt. Maj. Brian Waters, of the 101st Airborne Division, is overcome with emotion as he visits The Moving Wall at Historic Fort Concho in San Angelo, Texas. The replica of the Vietnam Veterans Memorial in Washington, D.C., travels to multiple cities throughout the year and has toured the country over the past 30 years.

angle and is expected to take roughly four hours and at least 10 volunteers to erect when Hilton Field has emptied after graduation ceremonies on Wednesday. Workers will have to pound into the ground a wooden foundation of 2-by-4s to level the wall and keep it stable during windy conditions.

Planning for Fort Jackson's Vietnam Veterans Welcome Home Ceremony began in October 2014. For one of its planners, Lt. Col. John Gagan, the ceremony wouldn't be complete without the wall.

"You can't have a celebration without paying tribute to the veterans," said Gagan, Fort Jackson's one-time long-range outreach project manager.

Initially, the odds of the Moving Wall's being erect-

ed on Fort Jackson appeared slim, he said. Most appearances are scheduled a year ahead of time. By chance, the display was going to Atlanta right before Victory Week – a lucky break for Fort Jackson.

An additional sponsor of the wall's appearance is Honor Flight of South Carolina, a veteran-service organization founded to help World War II and Korean War veterans travel to Washington to see war memorials.

Bill Dukes, co-founder of Honor Flight and South Carolina's civilian aide to the secretary of the Army, said the appearance of the Moving Wall, "shows our appreciation to Vietnam Veterans by bringing the wall to them."

Victory Week

When you attend the celebrations and commemorations during Victory Week on May 13-16, remember to leave the following at home:



Leader file photo

A Soldier runs toward first base during last year's Victory Week activities at Fort Jackson.

- | | |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Alcohol in any form | <input type="checkbox"/> Illegal drugs |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Animals (Service animals are OK.) | <input type="checkbox"/> Laser pens and pointers |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Cameras with lenses longer than 6 inches when fully extended | <input type="checkbox"/> Large backpacks |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Clothing or signs with offensive or vulgar language | <input type="checkbox"/> Noisemaking devices such as horns and whistles |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Coolers | <input type="checkbox"/> Seat cushions with zippered covers, pockets and/or flaps |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Confetti | <input type="checkbox"/> Tailgate tents |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Explosives | <input type="checkbox"/> Umbrellas |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Firearms | <input type="checkbox"/> Video or movie cameras |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Fireworks and/or smoke bombs | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Grills | |

Source: Directorate of Plans, Training, Mobilization and Security

Airman brings home uncle

Korean War officer's remains returning to U.S. 65 years later

By **CHRISTINE SCHWEICKERT**
Fort Jackson Leader

Tech. Sgt. Earl Norwood has bought a new set of dress blues to escort home the remains of a great-uncle who died during the Korean War. Officials only recently identified the remains of Marine 1st Lt. Raymond Ball, killed in battle in November 1950.

Norwood never knew his great-uncle — he wasn't even a gleam in his parents' eyes in 1950 — but eight years ago, he began the odyssey that would lead him to pick up Ball's remains in Hawaii this May.

"I'm proud. I'm honored," to be escorting Ball to Arlington National Cemetery in Virginia, said Norwood, chief of the Air Force 336th Training Squadron Detachment and an instructor at the Interservice Postal Training Activity at Fort Jackson. "I'm acting as a representative of the American people, bringing him home.

"I've always hoped we could bring him home prior to my retirement," said Norwood, who has logged 18 years with the Air Force and spent countless hours researching his uncle. "We're cutting it close."

Norwood says he's the one to bring home the remains because his mother asked him to. The story, however, is a little more complicated than that.

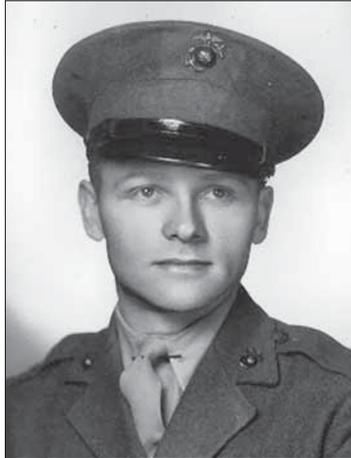
Ball, fighting with the 2nd Battalion, 7th Marine Regiment on Hill 1282 in the frozen Chosin Reservoir, was shot to death when Chinese troops poured into North Korea, taking American and South Korean forces by storm and forcing them to bury their dead in shallow, shared graves as they retreated.

In 1954, the Chinese shipped back a collection of unidentified bones believed to belong to American servicemen. The remains had been stored in formaldehyde, preventing DNA identification, and bore no dog tags or other identifying marks.

But Norwood's family didn't know of the mystery surrounding their lost relative. They knew he had been a hero and assumed he had been buried with honors at Arlington.

Only when Vivian Norwood asked her son — then posted in Virginia — to visit her Uncle Raymond's grave did the Norwoods discover that Ball's remains were MIA.

"I was under the impression he was buried at Arlington because I remember my dad saying, 'He deserves to be buried at Arlington,'" said Vivian Norwood, who was 12 when her uncle Raymond



Raymond Ball

died and who lives in Wenatchee, Washington.

So when her son Earl was stationed at Langley Air Force Base in Virginia in 2007, she asked that he visit her uncle, perhaps to read to him at his gravesite.

But Earl Norwood couldn't find the grave. It didn't exist.

Curious, he Googled everything he could find on his great-uncle, who was mentioned in a handful of books about the Korean War and listed on several websites as being in need of identification. He recruited his mother's help, learning all he could when she attended conferences for the families of POW-MIAs.

The family began exchanging information with the Joint POW/MIA Accounting Command in Hawaii, the same agency that recently announced it would attempt to identify the remains of servicemen killed on the USS Oklahoma during the attack on Pearl Harbor in 1941.

Ultimately, officials used X-rays, and Ball's teeth and a collarbone to ID him. Missing from his Unknown Remains X-13410 — the number assigned him by the accounting agency — are nine toes, his left arm and hand, and his jawbone.

"We've got to bring him home," Norwood told his mother, now Ball's oldest surviving relative at 77.

Although Marines usually escort home the remains of fellow Marines, the Norwoods won permission for Tech. Sgt. Norwood to make the flight. He's having difficulty pinning down exactly when he will fly out. He does know, though, that he and Ball's remains must be at Arlington by 11:30 a.m. May 19.

That's when 23 members of the Norwood family and two Marines who served



Photo by **CHRISTINE SCHWEICKERT**

Later this month, Tech. Sgt. Earl Norwood will escort home the remains of his great-uncle, a Marine who died during the Korean Conflict.

with Ball will gather for the belated funeral and interment with full military honors.

"I'm actually looking forward to sitting down and listening" to stories about Ball, Norwood said.

Vivian Norwood cannot help but weep, both when she thinks about the loss of her

uncle and the lengths to which she and her son have gone to bring him home.

"He never swore, and he never drank," she remembers of her Uncle Raymond. "He had that kindness about him, and yet a kind of firmness.

"He was a hero to the whole family."



Photos by CHRISTINE SCHWEICKERT

Master Sgt. Lelanya Watson of the Army National Guard Hawaii looks for clarification on the new NCOER from student presenter Sgt. Maj. Bryan Novak of U.S. Army Africa, posted in Vicenza, Italy. This week, NCOER trainers had to demonstrate their presentation skills to fellow students.

Repetition is key for NCOER trainers



Sgt. 1st Class Fetenei Valai, top, of Fort Campbell, Ky., breaks away from her highlighted manual to ask a question of a student presenter during Train the Trainer sessions on the new NCOER. In the foreground are Staff Sgt. Carolyn Smith of Fort Sill, Okla., and Master Sgt. Edward Vega of Fort Dix, N.J.

By CHRISTINE SCHWEICKERT
Fort Jackson Leader

It took two tries for some of them, but all 408 Soldiers training to become experts on the new NCO evaluation system have passed a rigorous test on the document.

This week, they're running another gantlet — demonstrating their ability to train their fellow trainers in 45-minute sessions, so all become eminently familiar with the new NCOER through constant repetition.

"They've heard those presentations several times — or, perhaps, they've actually memorized it themselves," said Sgt. Major Stephen McDermid of the Army's Human Resources Command at Fort Knox, Ky. The HRC coordinated with Fort Jackson's G1 to offer two weeks of classes to "train the trainers" across the Army.

"Hopefully, when they train (others), it'll come across as natural and conversational," McDermid said.

The trainers — who hold ranks from sergeant to lieutenant colonel — will return to their postings as emissaries for the

“
They've heard those presentations several times — or, perhaps, they've actually memorized it themselves.

— Sgt. Maj. Stephen McDermid
Human Resources Command

new NCOER, which brings evaluations of NCOs in line with those for commissioned officers and attempts to ensure that NCOs receive feedback in a timely fashion. Some of the trainers will have to train their superiors, so instructors want to be sure they're well prepared.

The Army will implement the new system in September.

Because those rating Soldiers on their chances for promotion no longer will be able just to tick off a number of checkmarks, trainers also must be adept at giving writing tips.

“We have short bullet comments”

to check off, McDermid said of the old NCOER. “Those bullet comments have been shared, pasted, (so) all the reports said essentially the same thing.”

With the new evaluation, “writing style is very critical.” So, senior raters will be rated on the effectiveness of their own communication as they evaluate their NCOs.

Sgt. 1st Class David Talamantes found the training “challenging for a person who really hasn't worked with NCOER for a while, except on (my) own.” Talamantes, posted at Fort Huachuca, Arizona, said he had to pace himself so he wouldn't “rush through” the training and miss something crucial.

He feels excited to begin training others, although he wonders whether the more detailed written evaluations will lead to “hurt feelings” on the part of those who will be evaluated more thoroughly.

Sgt. Maj. Tiffany Basley of G1 at Fort Shafter, Hawaii, echoed Talamantes's excitement.

“The instruction that I received was phenomenal,” she said. “I think we're moving in the right direction” — ensuring that those deserving to be promoted will be.

NCOs claim Army has flabby PT standards

By C. TODD LOPEZ
Army News Service

WASHINGTON — Soldiers at the first-ever NCO Solarium think the Army has gone soft on those who fail their Army Physical Fitness Tests too many times and have called for more discipline in enforcing standards.

Sgt. 1st Class Jason Ruiz, Headquarters Services Company, U.S. Army North, said this week that allowing Soldiers who repeatedly fail their APFT to stay in the Army doesn't support the idea that physical fitness is important.

"When Soldiers end up being retained, we feel it is a detriment to the unit and other units who see that Soldier being retained," Ruiz said. "One of our recommendations is to remove the commander's ability to decline a separation packet for APFT failures."

Ruiz was spokesman for the physical fitness group during the 2015 NCO Solarium on Fort Leavenworth, Kansas. During the Solarium, about 80 NCOs from throughout the Army were asked to come up with solutions to problems involving education, Army culture, training, mission command, physical fitness, and Army vision and branding. The Soldiers then were asked to brief the sergeant major of the Army on their findings.

1st Sgt. Robert V. Craft Jr., 1-16 In-

fantry, Fort Bragg, North Carolina, also was part of the physical fitness group. He speculated that the Army accepted poor performers on the physical fitness test in order to retain manpower numbers -- something he said was a bad idea.

"Over the last decade or so ... we have begun to accept substandard performance in order to make numbers for missions," Craft said. "By retaining those Soldiers, it basically leads to a consensus ... that PT isn't important, that being in shape isn't important."

The same rigorous accountability applied to those within the Army Body Composition Program ought to also be applied to those who fail the Army APFT, Craft said. APFT failures could force a separation after a second time, or after a Soldier had failed within a certain number of years, for instance.

The Army also should have stricter physical fitness standards for those in leadership positions, Craft said -- as well as stricter standards for those going off to any of the Army's professional military education schools.

Sgt. Maj. of the Army Daniel A. Dailey told the NCOs at the Solarium to keep sending less-than-stellar PT performers to Army PME schools. There, he said, a Soldier cannot hide from the repercussions of failing to meet standards.

"Send them to school," he said. "We'll take care of them."

May Promotions

The Department of the Army Directorate of Human Resources has listed the following promotions for May:

Officers

Col. Shannon M. Jones
Lt. Col. Steve W. Prost
Maj. Kedrick A. Drakes
Maj. Erin M. Jackson
Capt. Charles C. Chellman
Capt. Caeson L. Daniell
Capt. Ryan S. Langley
Capt. Medrick Poindexter
Capt. Christopher J. Porter
Capt. Kate E. Priebe
Capt. Mitchell L. Stewart
Capt. Matthew J. Tetreau
Capt. Rio W. Wesson

Enlisted Soldiers

Master Sgt. Adam W. McMurray
Master Sgt. Jerome D. Rogers
Master Sgt. Tasha Veit
Sgt. 1st Class Eric J. Barkman
Sgt. 1st Class Ryan W. Chancellor
Sgt. 1st Class Javier F. Colon

Sgt. 1st Class Jerrell G. Cronan
Sgt. 1st Class Agaria Fedrick Jr.
Sgt. 1st Class Isha N. Guerrero
Sgt. 1st Class Karega O. Heard
Sgt. 1st Class Jason T. Irwin
Sgt. 1st Class David W. Johnson
Sgt. 1st Class Douglas W. Johnson
Sgt. 1st Class Keith D. Johnson
Sgt. 1st Class Matthew J. Mayle
Sgt. 1st Class Brandon M. Parham
Sgt. 1st Class Winston J. Rhym
Sgt. 1st Class Khadjia D. Stann
Sgt. 1st Class Robert J. Still
Sgt. 1st Class Christian D. Stokes
Sgt. 1st Class Corey R. Tanner
Sgt. 1st Class Michael J. Thompson
Sgt. 1st Class Caleb P. Vanvoorhis
Sgt. 1st Class Heidi A. Warren
Sgt. 1st Class Robert J. Wasielewski
Staff Sgt. Angelica D. Brown
Staff Sgt. Kasha K. Davis
Staff Sgt. Johnny L. Stone
Sgt. Brooke L. Hernandez
Sgt. Anthony C. Michel
Sgt. Mark M. Ponce

Military spouse's prereq: Carpools 101

Colonel's wife earns accounting degree with others' aid

By **CHRISTINE SCHWEICKERT**
Fort Jackson Leader

When Cris Hernandez shakes the president's hand and grasps her accounting diploma during commencement at the University of South Carolina on Friday, a number of people will share in her success.

First in line will be her husband, Col. Bryan Hernandez, commander of the 165th Infantry Brigade.

"For two years, she's been hammering away" at earning her degree, he said. She has balanced the requirements of being the spouse of a senior officer — "trying to help me with the families of the cadre" — and meeting the needs of the couple's sons, Brooks, 13, and Carson, 10.

Then will come the military spouses with whom Cris Hernandez carpooled kids and commiserated about bearing up under so many demands — Jennifer Pipes and Stephanie Haydt. Pipes is the wife of Sgt. 1st Class Franklin Pipes of the 1st Battalion, 34th Infantry Regiment and Haydt, the wife of Command Sgt. Maj. Brian Haydt of the 1st Battalion, 61st Infantry Regiment.

Both women are just hours away from completing degrees themselves — Pipes, an associate's degree in early-childhood education through online courses from Ashworth College in Georgia and Haydt, a master's degree in clinical mental-health counseling from South University.

All three women have stellar grade-point averages — a 3.9, 3.88 and 4.0, respectively. That can be tough for any student, but it's harder for those who must follow their spouses, sometimes stopping and starting classes with little notice.

"Sometimes it can be difficult," said Haydt, who also works for Child and Youth School Services on post. "For me, it's just trying to fit that time in to study ... juggling a schedule between my husband's commitments and what my two boys have."

In Hernandez's case, it means not graduating summa cum laude, even though she earned a 3.9 GPA and is a member of Beta Sigma Gamma, the honor society at USC's Darla Moore School of Business. Hernandez completed enough courses to earn her



Photo by **CHRISTINE SCHWEICKERT**

Cris Hernandez, standing, has formed a bond with senior Army spouses Jennifer Pipes and Stephanie Haydt. While all three attended school, they helped one another balance the demands of classes with those of their children and husbands.

diploma but not the 60 hours required to graduate summa.

That kind of thing wouldn't happen to a student who had both started and finished studies at USC. But someone who starts one place, picks up another, possibly switching majors as the result of moving? It's the risk a military spouse takes when she or he attends college.

Haydt, for example, chose a more intense eight-quarter program over a 10-quarter program because "I was worried about PCS'ing and just wanted to get it done."

Bryan and Cris Hernandez have been many places in their 14 years of marriage.

They were posted at Fort Jackson from 2009 to 2011. Then Bryan deployed from Fort Bragg, North Carolina, to Afghanistan for a year.

When the couple returned to Fort Jackson afterward, Bryan made a bargain with his wife: It was time for her to stop working as a bookkeeper and complete her interrupted studies.

"She's been sacrificing a lot for me," Bryan said, "so it was nice she could do something for herself.

"You see it sometimes — military spouses aren't allowed to chase their own goals."

Cris Hernandez began with six hours

in the summer of 2013, a light schedule to ease her into the demands of classes.

Soon, she increased her load. She woke up at 6 in the morning to study before her kids went to school. When she ferried kids to soccer games, she watched as long as they were on field. When they weren't, she pointed her headlamp — the kind you get in the hardware store — at a textbook for whatever class she was taking. Her husband stayed up late to edit her papers.

She still cooked dinner every night — he was barred from the kitchen — and split house-cleaning chores with her husband.

Except for the laundry. He could do his own, but he had the frightening tendency to wash blue jeans with white shirts.

"Here's the order that I decided to put (priorities) in," said Cris Hernandez. "I put my school, my family, then everything else."

Cris Hernandez is excited that she's closer to becoming an accountant, although she couldn't attend job fairs because her husband's command at Fort Jackson has come to an end. She hopes she can find something near the Army War College in Carlisle, Pa., but she isn't sure she will. Anyway, first, there are boxes to pack for the move in a few weeks.

"What is hard for me, graduating in the top 10 percent of my class, is not to have a job," Cris Hernandez said. She also couldn't sign up for post-graduate internships — that uncertainty is "part of being a military spouse."

She won't stop working on her education.

"I love numbers," she says of accounting. "I have a passion for numbers." She intends to complete a master's and study for her CPA.

But more important, she said, was setting an example for her sons — showing them that "if you want something, you can do it."

When she attended a recent ceremony for Beta Sigma Gamma, her son Brooks told her afterward, "I'm so proud of you, Mom."

Coming from a 13-year-old, that statement might even top the president's handshake on Friday.





Special Olympics volunteers

Courtesy photo

Twenty-one Red Cross VolunTEENs supported the S.C. Special Olympics by helping run events at the Olympic Village. The TEENs set up a 'Surprise' fishing booth, bowling alleys, temporary tattoo station, Frisbee toss and craft tables.



Courtesy photo

Car washing for life

Cadets Phil Blaisdell and Shakura Wesley apply a little elbow grease during a car wash to raise money for Relay for Life. Blythewood High School cadets spent their Junior ROTC class time to raise \$310.



Pinewood Derby champ

Courtesy photo

Nathaniel Batten of Fort Jackson Cub Scout Pack 89 holds the trophy he won for placing first in the Tiger Division of the recent Indian Waters Council Pinewood Derby.



Running around the world

Cadet Thomas Nicholson runs a 5K at Blythewood High School to mark the 99th anniversary of Junior ROTC. Cadets worldwide participated in the race, which started at the exact moment in each time zone.

Courtesy photo



Beer goggles

Photo by SGT. 1ST CLASS RICARDO GUTIERREZ

Col. Traci Crawford, Moncrief Army Community Hospital commander, takes the "beer google" challenge with MACH Command Sgt. Maj. Timothy Sloan during a command Safety Day on April 17. The 'beer goggles' impair vision and cause a disorienting effect, simulating the experience of driving while intoxicated.



Saving American kestrels

Photo by STANLEY RIKARD

Wildlife Branch technician Shawn Woodard watches civilian volunteer Dr. Sam DeMent band an adult American kestrel at landing zone 19. 2015 marks the third year of a five-year study to learn more about kestrels and their use of 60 nest boxes across Fort Jackson.



PT competition

Capt. Thomas Presley bench presses during the quarterly Honors PT competition of the 193rd Infantry Brigade. The event brought brigade officers together in physical competition to highlight the heroic actions of past brigade Medal of Honor recipients. Supporting Presley are Capt. Ryan Hodgson, Sgt. 1st Class Richard McClain and Sgt. 1st Class Petanki Outtara.

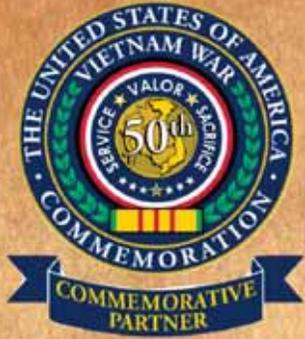
Courtesy photo



Welcome wagon

Fort Jackson Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts and Cub Scouts welcome the athletes at the end of the Special Olympics torch run at the Solomon Center on May 1.

Courtesy photo



Fort Jackson's Vietnam Veterans Welcome Home Celebration Saturday, May 16, 2015 Hilton Field, Fort Jackson, S.C.

Please join us in commemorating the 50th Anniversary of the Vietnam War by honoring our Vietnam Veterans and giving them a welcome home they deserve.

Events include:

- ◆ 5K run (8 a.m., Semmes Lake)
- ◆ Health Benefits Expo (9 a.m., Solomon Center)
- ◆ Parade (4 p.m.)
- ◆ Car Show
- ◆ The Moving Vietnam Wall
- ◆ Period Vehicles and Aircraft
- ◆ Vietnam Firebase
- ◆ Billy Currington Concert (7 p.m.)
- ◆ Fireworks

For more information:

(803) 319-6520

FJVietnamVeteran2015@gmail.com

Facebook: <http://tinyurl.com/nsa2cbx>



VIETNAM



Courtesy photo

Segal greets his handler, Spc. Brandon Meyer, after Warrior Leadership Course graduation. The two had been separated while Meyer was in class.

Affectionate wags greet leadership course graduate

By **LT. COL. CINDI KING**
S.C. National Guard

Among the most recent graduates of the NCO Academy's Warrior Leadership Course at Fort Jackson was Spc. Brandon Meyer, a military dog handler.

And in the crowd eagerly awaiting Meyer's graduation ceremony was his partner in the 17th Military Police Detachment at Fort Jackson — Segal, a four-footed black military dog who had been separated from his handler for three weeks.

Members of Meyer's unit took Segal to the ceremony April 24 to see his handler graduate.

"A military dog handler and his working dog have a bond," said Capt. Jeremiah Hunt, commander of the 17th Military Police Detachment. "Our team played with Segal and kept him busy while Meyer was

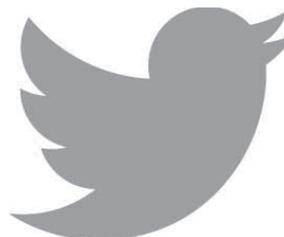
at training, but Segal has been with Meyer for years, and he missed him."

When the graduates were dismissed, clusters of friends broke out their cell phones for pictures. Family and supporters — including Segal — looked about the crowd, hoping to spot their Soldiers. Meyer's wife, Ashley, and young son Aiden stood with Segal.

"We are happy to be together again as a family," said Ashley Meyer. "We know how much Segal missed Brandon, too."

As Meyer hugged his wife and held his son, Segal let out a few whimpers of excitement as his tail wagged, making loud thumps on the ground. When Meyer bent to pet him, Segal jumped up to get as close to his handler as possible.

"Segal is acting like a puppy now, and he is 7 years old," Hunt said. "I know they will be happy to get back to their routine of training and work."



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240th

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JUNE 13, 2015
ARMY BIRTHDAY BALL

**240th
ARMY**

BIRTHDAY

240 YEARS OF SELFLESS SERVICE TO THE NATION

Columbia Metropolitan Convention Center

Cocktails at 5:00pm followed by dinner, guest speaker and entertainment by the 282nd Army Band

Theme: **Remembering VIETNAM**

Attire: Military - Mess Dress/Dress Blues

Civilian – Black Tie

Child Care available through CYS

Tickets available thru unit ticket representatives

Prices: 06+/Civilians - \$50, 04-05/E9 - \$45, WO1-CPT/E7-E8 - \$40, E6 and below - \$35

GS15 - \$50, GS13-14 - \$45, GS9-12 - \$40, GS8 and below - \$35

For more information: see your unit representative or email james.a.karcanes.mil@mail.mil

Survey shows decline in sexual assaults

By **JIM GARAMONE**
DOD News, Defense Media Activity

WASHINGTON — An independent survey confirms that the prevalence of sexual assault in the military has dropped, Defense Department officials said this week.

Statistics in the 2014 RAND Military Workplace Study show the percentage of active-duty women who experienced unwanted sexual contact declined from 6.1 percent in 2012 to an estimated 4.3 percent in 2014.

For active-duty men, the estimated prevalence rate dropped from 1.2 percent in 2012 to 0.9 percent in 2014.

Based on these rates, an estimated 18,900 Service members experienced unwanted sexual contact in 2014, down from around 26,000 in 2012.

Army Maj. Gen. Jeffrey J. Snow, director of the DOD Sexual Assault Prevention and Response Office, said the statistics also showed a correlation between sexual harassment and sexual assault, and gave more information about the difference between men and women with regard to sexual assault.

“We have suspected this, but this gives us a level of granularity that will be helpful in addressing this as we move forward,” he said.

Trends show the department is making progress, Snow said. He acknowledged that sexual assault was an under-reported crime but noted that since 2012, DOD had seen a 70 percent increase in reporting.

“While that’s progress, ... by no means do we think this constitutes success,” he said, “because we know that we still have 3-of-4 victims not coming forward.”

That is an overall message Snow said he wanted to get across: there is no silver bullet for sexual-assault prevention and response. Overcoming the crime will take time, effort, knowledge and persistence.

The statistics show that nearly 40 percent of female victims come forward, but only about 10 percent of men report -- so because the military is 85 percent men, the military has more male victims of sexual assault than female victims in terms of sheer numbers.

Snow said the survey statistics would let his office target programs toward male



Photo by JENNIFER STRIDE

Soldiers of the 120th Adjutant General Battalion call cadence during an early-morning run April 30. The run — a first for the battalion — was designed to bring awareness to the Sexual Harassment/Assault Response and Prevention program, or SHARP. Sgt. Shavonda Carroll said the run ‘brought out the esprit de corps within our formation. It also showed that the Army is behind the goal of eliminating sexual harassment and sexual assault.’

RAND MILITARY WORKPLACE STUDY	BY THE NUMBERS	REPORTING	CHOICES
	 <p>In 2014, victims made 4,660 unrestricted reports and 1,840 initial restricted reports of sexual assault, according to the independent RAND Military Workplace Study.</p>	 <p>A restricted report does not trigger an investigation. Victims can convert their restricted reports to unrestricted, allowing investigators to check out the claims. Last year, 20 percent filed unrestricted reports, up from 15 percent in years past.</p>	 <p>About 72 percent who responded to the survey indicated that they had reported their sexual assault and would make the same decision again. Seventy-three percent of respondents also would recommend that others report the crime.</p>

victims and improve the care victims received.

On sexual harassment, the survey shows a clear correlation between harassment and assault, the general said.

“In an environment that is perhaps permissive of sexual harassment or gender discrimination, women and men ... are

at greater risk of sexual assault,” he said. The figures suggest that the military try harder to address sexual harassment, he said.

The RAND Military Workplace Study confirmed previous military studies of sexual assault, Snow said.

“We really have two independent mea-

sures ... that show there is a significant decrease in prevalence,” he said. “The fact that between 2012 and 2014, we’ve had a 25 percent decrease in the prevalence of this crime is an indication of progress.”

But Snow cautioned that “no one here is declaring success. We have much more work to do.”



Change happens when Soldiers and Civilians at every level take the lead to Intervene, Act, and Motivate their peers to prevent Sexual Assault and Sexual Harassment in our Army. That change is happening now.

ACHIEVING CULTURAL CHANGE TO STOP SEXUAL ASSAULT.

DoD Safe Helpline: 1-877-995-5247 | www.PreventSexualAssault.army.mil

NEWS BRIEFS

There's still time to complete a community health survey

The online link to Fort Jackson's Community Strengths and Themes Assessment Survey will be open until June 16, so there's still time to throw in your two cents' worth. The survey will allow the Community Health Promotion Council set priorities for the coming years.

Visit usaphcapps.amedd.army.mil/Survey/se.aspx?s=2511374517BB71CD or fill out a paper survey at any of the following events:

- 9-11 a.m. Wednesday, graduation ceremony
- 9-11 a.m. May 14, sporting event championship games
- 9 a.m. to noon May 16, Retirement Appreciation Day

Military Assistance Co. must repay hidden fees

The federal Consumer Financial Protection Bureau has ordered Fort Knox National Co. and its subsidiary, Military Assistance Co., pay about \$1.3 million in relief to Service members who inadvertently paid hidden fees. Such fees could total \$100 or more per person.

Through Military Assistance Co., or MAC, Fort Knox National was one of the nation's largest third-party processors of military allotments. The allotment system allowed deployed Service members to de-



Photo by WALLACE McBRIDE

Sergeant Audie Murphy Club inductees

Fort Jackson Commanding General Maj. Gen. Bradley Becker and post Command Sgt. Maj. William Hain induct four Soldiers into the Sergeant Audie Murphy Club during a special ceremony May 1 at the NCO Club. Inducted were: Staff Sgt. Jared Leach, of 2nd Battalion, 60th Infantry Regiment; Sgt. 1st Class Michael Reid, of 2nd Battalion, 60th Infantry Regiment; Staff Sgt. Lauren Vick, of 1st Battalion, 61st Infantry Regiment; and Staff Sgt. Robert Young, of 3rd Battalion, 34th Infantry Regiment. The Sergeant Audie Murphy Club is a private U.S. Army organization for enlisted non-commissioned officers.

duct payments from their earnings, to send money home to their families or to pay creditors when automatic bank payments

and electronic transfers were not yet common. The protection bureau alleges that from 2010 to 2014, the company routinely

used hidden charges to drain Service members' accounts. The bureau will notify those who can expect reimbursements.



**Dance, song
celebrate heritage**

The U.S. Army Chaplain Center and School recognized Asian American and Pacific Islander Heritage Month on Tuesday with a luncheon and entertainment at the post's NCO Club. Above, Capt. Faamai Taupau and daughter Oriana watch the afternoon's entertainment.



Photos by JULIA SIMPKINS, U.S. Army Chaplain Center and School

FORT JACKSON GATE HOURS

- Gate 1:** 5 a.m to 1 p.m. Monday through Friday
3:30 - 6 p.m. Monday through Friday (outbound only)
Closed on weekends and federal holidays.
- Gate 2:** Open around the clock.
- Gate 4:** 5 a.m. - 8 p.m. Monday through Friday
Closed on weekends and federal holidays.
- Gate 5:** 5 a.m. to 1 p.m. Monday through Friday
3:30 - 6 p.m. Monday through Friday (outbound only)
5 a.m. to 8 p.m. Saturday and Sunday.



Curriculum aims to curb child obesity, boost nutrition

By AMAANI LYLE

DOD News, Defense Media Activity

WASHINGTON — As American children grow ever fatter, the Defense Department will bolster its Healthy Children programs to weave fitness, nutrition and tobacco-free living into the lives of military children.

Obesity rates in the United States have tripled since 1980, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention in Atlanta. Such statistics don't bode well for the future of recruiting efforts, said Barbara Thompson, director of DOD's Office of Family Readiness Policy.

"We have a moral imperative ... and a national-security imperative to make sure our children are healthy and active," Thompson said. "We know that many children (of military families) — in fact, over 50 percent — either enter the military or seriously consider entering the military when they grow up, so we want them to be as healthy and as physically fit as possible."

Building awareness is the first step toward mitigating health risks such as obe-



Army News Services photo

Students sing to celebrate the Month of the Military Child at Fort Bragg. The Department of Defense has launched a curriculum aimed at keeping children such as these healthy, with hopes that some may enlist one day.

sity and poor nutrition, Thompson said.

"We normally see children as being active and eating healthy, but ... through marketing and busy lifestyles, children

are not getting the healthy nutrition and opportunities for physical play that they need," she said. "Children are bombarded with messages on foods that are high

in fat, high in sugar and (generally) not good for them."

So whether students are in child-development or after-school programs, DOD initiatives will emphasize healthy eating, cooking and daily physical activity tips into the lesson plans in hopes such behavior will carry over into the home environment, Thompson said.

"Children's parents are their most important teachers and models," Thompson said, "so we don't want to have a different set of rules at home."

Also embedded into the department's military-child curriculum is DOD's Operation Live Well, which examines holistically healthy living through tobacco cessation, nutrition and physical activities.

Defense Department officials want to keep military children fit and healthy, Thompson said, both in their own interest and as a concern about potential future Service members who may fail to meet required physical-fitness standards.

"Less than 25 percent of our youth age 17 to 24 can enter the military, primarily due to physical requirements," Thompson said.

MAJ. GEN BRADLEY BECKER AND SPECIAL OLYMPIAN KENNY MANIGO OF COLUMBIA CARRY THE TORCH THE LAST 100 YARDS BEFORE OPENING CEREMONIES.



SPECIAL OLYMPICS 2015

SOUTH CAROLINA'S MIGHTIEST HEROES CONVERGE ON FORT JACKSON

SPECIAL OLYMPIANS AWAIT THE ARRIVAL OF THE CAPITOL-TO-CALUDRON RUNNERS, LEFT. WHEN ATHLETE KENNY MANIGO AND MAJ. GEN. BRADLEY BECKER ARRIVE AT THE SOLOMON CENTER, THEY LIGHT THE SPECIAL OLYMPICS CAULDRON TOGETHER TO BEGIN THE 2015 GAMES.



SWIMMER JACKSON DOLPOKIOIAN RECEIVES CONGRATULATIONS FROM A VOLUNTEER AFTER WINNING HIS BACKSTROKE HEAT AT KNIGHT POOL DURING THE AQUALTICS EVENT.



ABOVE LEFT, RASHA GRAVES OF THE MARION DILLON SLUGGERS SWINGS FOR A HOME RUN DURING THE SOFTBALL EVENT AT HILTON FIELD. LEFT, ATHLETE RACHEL CRAIN LETS LOOSE HER BALL DURING THE BOWLING EVENT AT IVY LANES. ABOVE, SPECIAL OLYMPIAN MIKE JOHNSON COM-PETES IN THE BENCH-PRESS PORTION OF THE POWER-LIFTING EVENT.



PHOTOS BY JENNIFER STRIDE

Recognizing the sacrifice of unsung heroes

By **MICHAEL MASCARI**
81st Regional Support Command

Honoring the sacrifices of our troops is nothing new for members of the military. The sacrifices made by the children of Service members do not often receive the same attention.

The staff of the 81st Regional Support Command Family Programs and two 81st Soldiers recently visited Round Top Elementary School in Blythewood to show appreciation to the children of deployed service members.

School counselor Anna Claire Freeman joined the group to present children of deployed Service members with special backpacks known as Hero Packs.

The event took place during the student-run televised morning announcements.

Operation Military Kids, or OMK, provided backpacks containing several items, including wellness kits, pens and a journal, and a letter of encouragement from another child whose parent has been deployed. The OMK program ended in March, but several Hero Packs are still available.

"I'm really surprised," said Krista Edwards, who received a Hero Pack. "It feels good. My dad's brave and kind. It really feels good to know that people care."

Krista's father, Christopher, is deployed to the Middle East.

On-post schools offer many programs



Courtesy photo

The staff of the 81st Regional Support Command Family Programs and two 81st Soldiers recently visited Round Top Elementary School in Blythewood to show appreciation to the children of deployed Service members.

for military children, but children who attend school off post have very different experiences. They don't always have the same support. Such military children — especially the children of reservists and National Guardsmen — can feel isolated.

Because Fort Jackson and Shaw Air Force Base are both in the Midlands of South Carolina, several area schools work to sup-

port military children.

Sharri Edwards, Krista's mother and an Army veteran, said the Family Programs had been supportive. Her husband is assigned to a unit based outside South Carolina, but living in the Columbia area provides some opportunities.

"It was really neat," she said of the backpack program. "We are really fortunate that

there is a military base right here in the community."

After a ceremony in which 10 students received Hero Packs and dog tags, Krista received a call from her dad.

"I was very pleased to find out about this presentation," he said. "It helps my daughter just to see that people appreciate the sacrifices that she has made."

What's the state of your air?

BY J.D. LEIPOLD
Army News Service

The American Lung Association has put together a State of the Air Report, using data from air-quality monitors throughout the United States. The report shows that more than 131.8 million people — 42 percent of us — live in areas where air pollution levels can make it too dangerous to breathe.

Air pollutants are gases and tiny particles released into the air that harm our environment and can cause serious health effects such as cancer. Ozone (smog) and greenhouse gases (carbon dioxide, methane, nitrous oxide and fluorinated gases) are the better-known air pollutants. Other toxic pollutants include lead, nitrogen dioxide and sulfur dioxide. Then there are the allergens, pollen and mold that also contribute to so-called bad air.

Air pollution can cause respiratory symptoms: cough, wheezing, shortness of breath and chest tightness. Some people experience chest pain, heart palpitations and unusual fatigue. Those with pre-existing lung conditions such as asthma, bronchitis and emphysema or with heart conditions such as coronary artery disease and conges-



May is Clean Air Awareness Month.

tive heart failure, are more susceptible to the effects of air pollution. Those who have weakened immune systems or chronic illnesses such as diabetes — or others who are generally unhealthy — also are at risk. People who exercise and work outdoors — and children who play outside — are at higher risk, too.

The more you learn about the air you breathe, the more you can protect your

health. Consult the Air Quality Index before planning outdoor activities. Your local news station or newspaper usually reports the forecast for the air quality for your region.

There are six AQI categories — good, moderate, unhealthy for sensitive groups, unhealthy and very unhealthy — and six corresponding colors: green, yellow, orange, red, purple and maroon. Each category

correlates to an increasingly less healthy level of air pollution.

Imagine the AQI as a yardstick that runs from zero to 500. As the AQI value increases, the level of air pollution increases, and the more concerned you should be about your health. For example, an AQI value of 50 represents a day of good air quality with little potential to affect public health, while an AQI value higher than 300 represents hazardous air quality that should force you to take precautions to protect your health.

You can reduce your risk when air pollution reaches unhealthy levels:

- Stay indoors on days that pollution levels are high.
- Run the air conditioner to help stay cool and to filter the air.
- Take your medicine, whether it's for allergies, asthma or any other chronic illness that may be triggered by the poor air quality.
- Delay using gasoline-powered lawn and garden equipment until air quality is healthy again.

■ Refuel vehicles after dusk, when emissions are less likely to produce ozone.

Visit the AirNow website www.airnow.gov, put in your ZIP code or state, and find a grade for the air quality in the area you live.

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A good plan can save you from money headaches

By **ROB MEREDITH**
Army Community Service

How many times have you sat next to a trash can full of wrinkled papers, trying to come up with a budget only to end up with something completely unrealistic?

Is the budget unrealistic because we are in complete denial of our financial situation?

Or are we just trying to psych ourselves into thinking that we aren't as financially irresponsible as it appears?

Regardless of the reason, financial stress can have a negative impact on your financial future as well as on your physical health.

If you find that you do not have money for groceries, gasoline and other necessities, you may have an issue with over-spending or planning.

Many people spend more time and attention fine-tuning their social-media pages than they do addressing their personal finance needs.

You may have more than enough income to meet financial obligations, but you may be putting your wants ahead of your needs. Over time, such behavior can lead to financial stress and even panic.

If you find this to be the case, it's time

Your Financial Health

Call Army Community Service at 751-5256 to set up an appointment with a financial counselor. All financial counseling is free and confidential, and available to active and retired Service members, their dependents and DOD civilians.

to get real. Hold yourself accountable for your financial health.

Begin by assessing your situation. Then, look to the future – to where you'd like to see yourself.

Get professional help to reach your goals. It often takes a trained eye to truly assess your financial wellness.

You don't have to be a math genius or follow the same financial path as some person on a late-night infomercial. Your first step is just to realize that you need help.

Your second step is to use the resources you have. Just as you would seek medical attention for your physical well-being, you should get a financial checkup for your financial well-being. Many times, the answer to your problems is not so clear, and a professional can steer you to a solution.

A financial counselor can help you devise a monthly budget and come up with a realistic plan of action.

Worship Schedule

ANGLICAN/LITURGICAL

Sunday
8:30 a.m., Bayonet Chapel (Communion observed every Sunday.)

CHURCH OF CHRIST

Sunday
11:30 a.m., Anderson Street Chapel

ISLAMIC

Sunday
8-10 a.m., Islamic studies, Main Post Chapel

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

JEWISH

Sunday
■ 9:30-10:30 a.m., worship, Memorial Chapel
10:30-11:30 a.m., book study, Post Conference Room

LATTER-DAY SAINTS

Sunday
9:30-11 a.m., Anderson Street Chapel

Wednesday
■ 3-5 p.m., LDS family social, Anderson Street Chapel
■ 7-8 p.m., LDS scripture study, Anderson Street Chapel

PROTESTANT

Sunday
■ 9 a.m. service, McCrady Chapel (SCARNG), McCrady Training Center
■ 9:30 a.m., Hispanic service, Magruder Chapel
■ 9:30 a.m. service, Main Post Chapel
■ 9:30 a.m., Chapel Next Bible study, Bayonet Chapel
■ 10:30 a.m., gospel worship service, Daniel Circle Chapel
■ 10:45 a.m., Sunday School, Main Post Chapel
■ 11 a.m. service, Memorial Chapel
■ 11 a.m., Chapel Next, Bayonet Chapel
■ 5-6:30 p.m., youth group, Chaplain Family Life Center

Monday
■ 7 p.m., women's Bible study (PWOC), Main Post Chapel
■ 7 p.m., men's Bible study (PMOC), Chaplain Family Life Center

Tuesday
■ 9-11:30 a.m., women's Bible study (PWOC), Main Post Chapel

Wednesday
■ 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

ROMAN CATHOLIC

Sunday
■ 7:30 a.m., Sacrament of Reconciliation, Solomon Center
■ 8 a.m., Mass, Solomon Center
■ 10:30 a.m., Reconciliation (after Mass or by appointment), Main Post Chapel
■ 11 a.m., Mass, Main Post Chapel

Monday through Thursday, first Friday
11:30 a.m., Mass, Main Post Chapel

Wednesday
7 p.m., recitation of the Rosary, Main Post Chapel

ADDRESSES, PHONE NUMBERS

Anderson Street Chapel, 2335 Anderson St., 751-7032
Bayonet Chapel, 9476 Kemper St., 751-6322/4542
Chaplain Family Life Center 5460 Marion Ave. (to the side of the POV lot), 751-4961
Daniel Circle Chapel, 3359 Daniel Circle (corner of Jackson Boulevard), 751-1297/4478
Education Center, 4581 Scales Ave.
Installation Chaplain's Office, 4475 Gregg St., 751-3121/6318
McCrady Chapel (SCARNG), 3820 McCrady Road (at McCrady Training Center)
Magruder Chapel, 4360 Magruder Ave., 751-3883
Main Post Chapel, 4580 Scales Ave. (corner of Strom Thurmond Boulevard), 751-6469/6681
Memorial Chapel, 4470 Jackson Blvd., 751-7324
U.S. Army Chaplain Center and School, 10100 Lee Road
Warrior Chapel (120th AG Bn.), 1895 Washington St., 751-5086/7427

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Fort Jackson Sustainability

EXPO

Tuesday, 16 June 2015
0930-1330
@ The NCO Club

About the Expo

A Green Procurement Program Event

Learn more about the DoD Green Procurement Program and how your team can comply with DoD & Federal regulations & directives. The Fort Jackson Sustainability Expo will feature vendors and organizations that supply bio-preferred, recycled content, energy efficient, & water efficient products as well as "green" services. Don't miss this opportunity!

Workshops

Ms. Beth Martin, US Army Public Health

Command will be leading three 20 minute presentations with question & answer to help Fort Jackson groups and organizations understand their responsibilities under the DoD Green Procurement Program (GPP).

Times: 0945, 1030, 1115

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Saluting this Basic Combat Training cycle's honorees

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



**Sgt. 1st Class
Natonya Osborne**
Alpha Company
3rd Battalion,
13th Infantry Regiment

**SOLDIER LEADER
OF THE CYCLE**

Spc. James Rolin

**SOLDIER
OF THE CYCLE**

Pfc. Ashley Braddock



**Staff Sgt.
Scott Denney**
Delta Company
3rd Battalion,
13th Infantry Regiment

**SOLDIER LEADER
OF THE CYCLE**

Pvt. Michael McBurney

**SOLDIER
OF THE CYCLE**

Pvt. Jared Tanner



**Staff Sgt.
Wesley Buhr**
Echo Company
3rd Battalion,
13th Infantry Regiment

**SOLDIER LEADER
OF THE CYCLE**

Pfc. Derek Richardson

**SOLDIER
OF THE CYCLE**

Pfc. Laurencio Gonzalez III

Weekly honors



**Staff Sgt.
Vanessa Gee**
Cadre of the Cycle
187th Ordnance Battalion



**Sgt. 1st Class
Michael Mitchell**
Instructor of the Cycle
187th Ordnance Battalion



Calendar

Today

Fort Jackson newcomer orientation

8 a.m., NCO Club, 5700 Lee Road. Family members of Soldiers new to Fort Jackson learn what services and activities are available on post and attend a Basic Training graduation. Those desiring free child care must call 751-4865 to make a reservation.

Friday, May 8

Steps to Federal Employment for Military Spouses

9 a.m. to 11:30 a.m., Room 222, Strom Thurmond Building. For information, call 751-5256 or email Barbara.L.Martin10.civ@mail.mil.

Saturday, May 9

Thanking the Troops Tennis Clinic

Clinics throughout the day at the Semmes Road tennis courts for those aged 4 to adult. Free to all DOD ID cardholders. For information, call Cindy Keene at 751-3096.

Sunday, May 10

Mother's Day brunch

11 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Officers' Club. Cost \$17.95 for members, \$21.95 for nonmembers, \$6.95 for children 4 to 11. For reservations, call 782-8761.

Mother's Day buffet

10:30 a.m. to 2 p.m., at the NCO Club. Cost \$15.95 for adults, \$8 for children 4 to 11. For reservations, call 782-2218.

Tuesday, May 13

Officers' wives luncheon

11:30 a.m. social, noon lunch, at the Fort Jackson Officers Club. To make or break reservations, call 788-1094 or 783-1220 by 3 p.m. May 8.

Saturday, May 16

Vietnam Veterans Welcome Home Celebration

Fort Jackson will honor veterans on the 50th anniversary of the Vietnam War. The day's events will include a 5K run beginning at 8 a.m., a health-benefits expo and a parade at 4 p.m. For information, call 319-6520 or email FJVietnamVeteran2015@gmail.com.

Thursday, May 14

Creative Journey

5-6 p.m., Joe E. Mann Center ballroom, 3392 Magruder Ave. Open to those enrolled in Exceptional Family Member Program. For information, call 751-5256.

Monday, May 18

Child-safety awareness training refresher

5-6 p.m., Classroom 10, 5614 Hood St. Seminar on how to recognize, report child abuse. For information, call 751-6325.

Wednesday, May 20

Job-Searching Strategies for Military Spouses

8:30 a.m. to noon, Room 222, Strom Thurmond Building. For information, call 751-5256 or email Barbara.L.Martin10.civ@mail.mil.

Thursday, May 21

Anger management

11 a.m. to noon, classroom 10, 5614 Hood St. For information, call 751-6325.

Meet author Antonio Elmaleh

11:45 a.m., at the Thomas Lee Hall Library. Antonio

Elmaleh, author of the Civil War novel "The Ones They Left Behind," will outline the parallels between Soldiers' experiences during the Civil War and today.

Saturday, May 23

Scavenger hunt bike ride

8 a.m., Marion Street Station. Bikes and helmets will be provided. For information, call 751-3700.

Carolina Maude Foundation golf tournament

1:30 p.m., Fort Jackson Golf Club. For information, visit www.agregimentalweek.com.

Friday, May 29

Bowling outing

4:30-6 p.m., Century Lanes Bowling Center, 4464 Gregg St. Open to those enrolled in Exceptional Family Member Program. For information, call 751-5256.

Announcements

QUARTERLY SHRED DAY

The Fort Jackson Recycling Center will offer a Shred Day from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Wednesday, May 20. The center is at 5671 Lee Road, between Popeye's and the Auto Craft Shop. All types of paper with sensitive information will be accepted. For information, call 751-4208.

CIF CLOSURE

The Central Issue Facility will be closed for its semi-annual inventory June 15-19. Personnel scheduled to depart during that period must call CIF at 751-6524/2870/2739 to schedule an out-processing appointment as soon as possible. CIF will handle emergencies during that time. Emergencies do not include direct exchange, in-processing, routine transactions or out-processing. CIF will resume normal operations June 22.

STAFF JUDGE ADVOCATE OFFICE CLOSED

The Office of the Staff Judge Advocate will be closed May 13-15, during Victory Week. It will resume normal business hours on May 18.

WORKSHOP FOR HR PROFESSIONALS

A "Combat to Corporate" military workshop for human-resource professionals will be from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. May 28, at the NCO Club. Registration is required. For information, visit <https://www.milsuite.mil/book/message/568941>. To register, email kymila.k.cheese.mil@mail.mil or peggy.m.henderson.mil@mail.mil.

SUMMER READING BOOK DRIVE

The Fort Jackson Housing Mayoral Council is holding a book drive to promote summer reading. Drop off new or gently used books at the Thomas Lee Hall Library, the Fort Jackson Housing Office or C.C. Pinckney Elementary School until May 22. Book giveaways will be 1-5 p.m. June 5 and from 10:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. June 6 at the Solomon Center.

OBSTETRICS BRIEFING

Pregnant Soldiers and their Family members may attend an hourlong overview of the new Parent Support Program, from 9-10 a.m. Wednesdays, May 13, 20 and 27, in Room 8-85 of Moncrief Army Community Hospital. For information, call 751-6325/9035/6724/2731.

BRIGHT HONEYBEE EXPLORER PLAY GROUP

Parents may learn age-appropriate play to help newborns to 3-year-olds improve social, cognitive and motor skills. Classes will be 10-11:30 a.m. Wednesdays, May 6, 13, 20 and 27, in Classroom 8, 5614 Hood St. For information,

call 751-6325/9035/6724/2731.

SCHOOL NEWS

South Carolina requires all rising seventh-graders to receive booster shots against tetanus, diphtheria and whooping cough by the start of the 2015-16 school year. For information, call 785-2698.

THRIFT SHOP NEWS

■ The Thrift Shop is looking for employees ages 16-21 who would like to earn \$1,000 for a summer's worth of work. For information, call 787-2153.

■ Consignors are eligible for the Thrift Shop's layaway and credit program.

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

SCHOLARSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

■ Applications for ThanksUSA scholarships will be accepted through May 15. The scholarships are available to children and spouses of Service members. For information, visit www.thanksusa.org/scholarship-program.

COMMISSARY NEWS

■ Visit www.commissaries.com for the latest news, to see what is on sale, to create a shopping list and more. To access the latest sales flyer, click on "Sales and Events" in the "Shopping" tab. The "Savings Aisle" allows visitors to see every product on sale after selecting a specific store. Shoppers also may find advice and recipes under the "Healthy Living" tab.

■ The Commissary rewards card allows shoppers to use digital coupons at any commissary. For information, visit www.commissaries.com/rewards/index.cfm.

AAFES

■ The Exchange is rewarding military students who excel in the classroom with its "Make the Grade" program. Eligible students may receive free food coupons and discounts on select items. For information, see the Exchange store manager.

■ The Exchange is "throwing a bone" to military pets and their owners in the Patriot Pet contest through May 29.

Each authorized Exchange shopper can submit a photo and description of a pet, along with a short description. Submissions will be judged on creativity, uniqueness, quality and effectiveness in conveying the loyalty and companionship of pets belonging to military members. The grand prize winner will "fetch" a \$500 Exchange gift card.

Additional prizes will include a \$100 gift card for two runners-up and \$50 gift cards for four third-place winners.

To participate, visit www.shopmyexchange.com/patriot-family and submit a photo of their pet or pets along with a description of 50 or fewer words. Entries must include the owner's name, address, phone number, date of birth and pet's information (name, breed or type of pet).

YOUTH SPORTS

■ Summer swimming registration through May 15. Age 5, \$20; ages 6 to 18, \$65.

■ Summer basketball registration through May 15. Ages 4 and 5, \$20; ages 6 to 15, \$40.

SUBMISSION GUIDELINES

Send all submissions to FJLeader@gmail.com. Articles are due two weeks before publication; announcements and photos are due one week before publication. For information, call 751-7045.