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Army National Guard celebrates its 378th birthday

The Army National Guard celebrated 378 years of service Tuesday at the Basic Combat Training Museum with a cake-cutting ceremony. Master Sgt. George Taylor, left, and Pvt. Ashley Torres cut the birthday cake as the oldest and youngest Soldier present at the ceremony. Maj. Gen. Bradley Becker, Fort Jackson’s commanding general, and Maj. Gen. Glen Moore, deputy commanding general, Army National Guard, TRADOC, both spoke to Soldiers about the importance of the National Guard and its efforts on Fort Jackson and overseas.
CFC proclaims victory
Campaign draws to a close with banquet on post

By WALLACE McBRIEDE
Fort Jackson Leader

Hard work and careful planning was critical to making this year’s Combined Federal Campaign a success, said Maj. Gen. Bradley Becker, Fort Jackson’s commanding general.

Federal employees and Service members from around the region gathered Monday at the Officers’ Club to hear the results of this year’s campaign collections. Since its August launch, this year’s CFC effort raised more than $577,000 in contributions.

The campaign doesn’t officially close until Monday. Although the campaign officially began in August, work on this year’s event started months earlier, Becker said.

“(Our CFC team) was out getting us our unit points of contact, providing CFC briefings at the unit level, as well as tracking all of the contact numbers,” Becker said. “As a result of everyone’s outstanding efforts, Fort Jackson produced more than 2,200 donors.”

Last year’s campaign raised $320,000.

Myra Cunningham, civilian co-chairman of the Midlands Area CFC, said the campaign’s success is about more than collecting money.

“The dollars we raise show a real commitment to supporting our community, our state, our nation and the world,” she said.

This year’s goal was about asking 100 percent of the local federal workforce to demonstrate their commitment to the community.

“For those of you here at Fort Jackson, it’s about teaching those young Soldiers about giving something back to an organization larger than themselves,” Cunningham said.

The Midlands Area CFC involves 21 counties in South Carolina, and impacts 114 local charities, as well as 24,000 national and international charities in the overall campaign.

Fort Jackson also had 34 Eagle Club members — individuals who contributed $1,000 or more to the campaign, Becker said. The post also had 64 Flag Club members who contributed $500 to $1,000 to the campaign, and 225 Victory Club members that contributed between $240 and $500.

“We have a lot to be thankful for, and we often take that for granted,” said Mac Bennett, president and CEO of United Way of the Midlands. “One of the things we don’t take for granted is the importance of CFC.”

Established by a Presidential Executive Order signed by President John F. Kennedy in 1961, the CFC is the largest workplace charity campaign in the United States and the only campaign authorized to solicit and collect contributions from federal employees in the workplace on behalf of charitable organizations.

Nationally, more than 200 CFC organizations raise nearly $300 million from the federal community each year. The funds are used to support more than 25,000 local, national and international charities.
It’s not every day Soldiers are in a classroom practicing Basic Rifle Marksmanship with Xbox controllers.

Soldiers assigned to the 369th Adjutant General Battalion, Basic Officer Leaders Course had the opportunity to be the first to test a pilot program for Basic Rifle Marksmanship, or BRM, via the Virtual Battle Space 3, or VBS3, program Monday.

“We are trying this program out with these Soldiers to help reinforce the fundamentals of BRM. This is essentially a refresher course. We are not trying to replace live-fire ranges,” said Alex Harris, an instructor for VBS3 with General Dynamics. “This is an opportunity for (the Soldiers) to refresh their memories and just think when to lower their weapon, look for targets with both eyes not one and then reengage with the weapon using one eye.”

Sgt. 1st Class Michael Fletcher, noncommissioned officer in charge with Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 369th Adjutant General Battalion, Combined Arms Department said this is a common problem among BCT Soldiers and Soldiers in the Basic Officer Leader Course who have not had much time on a firing range. The Basic Officer Leader Course is an 18 week-course designed to provide initial military training for active and reserve officers.

“I spent three years as a drill sergeant at Fort Benning, (Georgia), and now being here with the Combined Arms Department for a year and a half, one of the most common problems I see at the ranges for young Soldiers and officers in training is BRM transition fundamentals,” Fletcher said. “They’ll get down and do all (the) checks and look down their front-sight post with one eye and close their non-dominant eye ... well, if they do this long enough their eyes will get tired.”

Fletcher said the VBS3 program will help reinforce the transition methods necessary for firing a weapon.

Dwight Dallman, with General Dynamics, said the program has a lot of realistic features that reinforce BRM fundamentals.

“We have essentially immersed the Soldier in a BRM simulated range to the Army standard, the times in between targets are the same, the pop-up targets are the same,” he said. “We cannot duplicate trigger control, but this program allows the player to see the weapon go up and down as if to simulate the Soldier’s breathing while holding the weapon. They can hold a button to hold the Soldier’s breath, reload and see the weapon’s aperture.

“We decided to go with an Xbox controller for this program because of this next training generation,” Dallman said. “Many of these guys are learning by playing video games like ‘Call of Duty,’ so they have been able to jump into this program the same way with minimal problems.”

Dallman said using fewer rounds means spending less money, and essentially the goal is to get the Soldiers qualified so that they can graduate from their school.

Second Lt. Samantha Hutchinson, who is in the Basic Officer Leader Course, said that as an avid video game player she enjoyed using the program despite some technical difficulties.

“I thought it was good” she said. “As far as the targets go, I liked the fact that it was realistic in the fact that the targets were difficult to see, and I liked that because when you’re on a range you will not always be able to see the targets right in front of your face.”

Hutchinson’s classmate, 2nd Lt. Darryl Napolitano, said he is not a gamer but practices with fire arms regularly.

“The program was good as far as teaching us as Soldiers to scan, and the other part that was really cool was the realistic effect that the game brought to us. You had to actually control the player’s breathing as well,” Napolitano said. “The only thing that could use a little more realistic effect is the terrain features. If you’re on a range you can see down range at 300 meters, very rarely do you have a green silhouette against a green background.”

Fletcher said he thinks the program will be useful for upcoming classes.

“I think this program is good for what I am trying to teach these Soldiers,” he said. “My hope is that we can continue to use this for future classes.”

Second Lt. Darryl Napolitano, a student in the Basic Officer Leader Course, looks for targets on a simulated rifle range using the Virtual Battlespace 3 program Monday. The VBS3 Basic Rifle Marksmanship program's intent is to help reinforce the fundamentals of BRM.
More than 8,500 and Soldiers-in-training and cadre members attended the Victory Block Leave consolidated safety briefings, Friday and Saturday at the Solomon Center. Nine subject matter experts provided information to promote safety, health and communication. The Fort Jackson Safety Office hosted the event, which included five sessions over a two-day period.

Mary Reardon of the Safety Office shared that 80 percent of off-duty military fatalities involve privately owned vehicles, or POVs, and urged all to make sure their POVs were road-ready and drivers well-rested before traveling. Safety Office representatives also encouraged all cadre members to complete the Travel Risk Planning System, or TRiPS, at https://crcapps2.crc.army.mil/ako_auth/TRiPS/default.aspx.

Three South Carolina Highway Patrol officers were present to promote driving under the influence prevention and seatbelt use by using videos and live demonstrations. While donning “beer goggles” — a device that simulates the effects of a 0.18 blood alcohol level — Soldiers demonstrated how motor skills were impaired during a simulated traffic stop. Troopers also promoted the use of seat belts to prevent ejections during roll-over accidents through a demonstration with a roll-over vehicle — a chassis mounted on a trailer with two mannequins as passengers.

Two investigators of the Criminal Investigation Command briefed the consequences of poor decisions that may result in prosecution, fines, prison, dishonorable discharge, and loss of benefits, to include future education grants or loans and disqualification from employment.

Sandra Barnes of the Alcohol and Substance Abuse Program stressed the Army Values by pleading with the Soldiers to do the right thing by refraining from using illegal substances, other people's prescription medication or by partaking in or facilitating underage drinking or alcohol abuse. She reminded all of the urinalysis following the Soldiers' return from block leave.

Maj. Collazon Bracete, of Moncrief Army Community Hospital’s Department Preventive Medicine, delivered information to prevent influenza, Ebola, sexually transmitted diseases and pregnancy. The Soldiers were encouraged to stay healthy, avoid sick people and seek medical care if they become ill.

Wilfredo Solis of the American Red Cross provided information on the role of the organization in providing emergency messages and assistance. Only military commanders can approve or extend leave, however, the Red Cross can facilitate message delivery and verification of emergency situations involving a Service member or a Service member’s immediate family member around the clock. Service members or family members who need to deliver an emergency message should call 1-877-272-7337.

A Soldier uses 'beer goggles' to demonstrate the effect of alcohol during a simulated field sobriety test as part of the Victory Block Leave safety briefings Friday and Saturday at the Solomon Center.

Soldiers watch an officer with the South Carolina Highway Patrol uses a roll-over vehicle to demonstrate the importance of using seat belts.
WASHINGTON — The Black Knights of Army and Midshipmen of Navy will square off for the 115th time for one of the most storied rivalries in college sports Saturday at M&T Bank Stadium in Baltimore, Maryland, for the 2014 Army-Navy Game. Gates open at 11 a.m.

The march on of the Brigade of Midshipmen and Corps of Cadets begins at 12:16 p.m. and 12:46 p.m., respectively. Kickoff is at 3:10 p.m.

On game day, the Army will highlight its state-of-the-art, high-tech opportunities. A variety of Army equipment and technologies, including the latest Mine-Resistant Ambush-Protected All-Terrain Vehicle, or M-ATV; a Paladin self-propelled howitzer cannon system; and Stryker and Bradley armored fighting vehicles, will be on display outside the stadium. These capabilities are representative samples of equipment found within the Army’s brigade combat teams.

Fans will also see how Soldiers and leaders at all echelons share data, imagery and position information. Attendees will have the opportunity to handle Soldiers’ body armor, night vision goggles, thermal sights and individual and crew-served weapon systems.

The game will be broadcast on CBS television and on the radio over the Army Sports Network and SiriusXM Satellite Radio channels 93 and 201. The game will also be aired worldwide on the American Forces Network.

* Movie times and schedule are subject to change without notice.

**Ticket sales open 30 minutes prior to each movie**

Friday December 12
Big Hero 6 (PG) 7 p.m. 1h 42m

Saturday December 13
John Wick (R) 2 p.m. 1h 41m
Interstellar (PG-13) 4 p.m. 2h 49m

Sunday December 14
Interstellar (PG-13) 2 p.m. 2h 49m

Wednesday December 17
John Wick (R) 2 p.m. 1h 41m
Fury (R) 4 p.m. 2h 14m

Environmental News

Training Opportunities

- Environmental Compliance Officer Center: Tuesday and Wednesday, Safety Center classroom, 3240 Sumter St. For more information, call 751-5011 or email Pearline.Jackson@us.army.mil.

- Hazardous substance management class: 8:30 a.m., Jan. 15, 2563 Essayons Way. For more information, call 751-4231 or email Heather.S.Thomas8.civ@mail.mil.

External Environmental Audit

A postwide external environmental performance assessment and assistance system, or EPAAS, is scheduled for Feb. 2-6. The EPAAS team will visit a sampling of all operations on post that may have a potential environmental impact. For more information, call 751-5904 or email Patrick.L.Green1@us.army.mil.

Information subject to change.
Fort Jackson Soldiers who have earned the Ranger tab tried out Dec. 3 for the post’s team to compete in the Best Ranger Competition. The Soldiers went through a series of tests, including a 500-meter swim in Army Combat Uniforms, an 8.2-mile foot march, a 4.79-mile run in ACUs, weapons qualifications and navigating the obstacles at the Confidence Course. The Best Ranger Competition is scheduled for April 10 at Fort Benning, Ga. The Fort Jackson Soldiers selected for the team are 1st Sgt. Ricardo Gutierrez, MEDDAC; Capt. Kevin Raymond, Physical Fitness School; Capt. Trevor Shirk, 193rd Infantry Brigade; Capt. Tim Shively, 2nd Battalion, 60th Infantry Regiment; 1st Sgt. James Mastrodomenico, 1st Battalion, 61st Infantry Regiment; and Staff Sgt. Bror McWhinney, 165th Infantry Brigade.

Photos by DAVID SHANES, command photographer
Sounds of the season

‘Fort Jackson’s Own’ 282nd Army Band performed ‘Holiday Traditions’ Monday night at the Koger Center in Columbia. The concert featured music from several holiday movies as well as a selection of traditional Christmas and Hanukkah songs.

Top photo, the band, under direction of Warrant Officer Thomas Jackson, presents its annual holiday concert to the greater Columbia community. Center photo, University of South Carolina student Katie Brimhall and Spc. Charles Crawford join the band in performing songs from the movie ‘The Polar Express.’ Several local musicians and retired Army musicians joined the band during the concert as guest performers.


Photos by KARA MOTOSICKY, Public Affairs Office
Through Joining Forces, an initiative offering employment, educational and wellness resources to military families, Pentagon officials today inducted 38 organizations into the Military Spouse Employment Partnership.

The ceremony, at the Women in Military Service for America Memorial here, recognized corporate partners who have made substantial efforts to reduce the high unemployment rate and close the wage gap that military spouses face as a result of frequent relocations.

Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense for Military and Community Family Policy Rosemary Freitas Williams and Principal Deputy Secretary of Defense for Personnel and Readiness Laura Junor said their goal is to keep military families healthy, strong and cohabitating whenever possible.

“We do that by working together to provide the comprehensive support and assistance our Service members, spouses and families need to be successful through their mobile military life,” Williams said.

LINKING RESOURCES

Williams also noted the need for public-private partnerships which link the right mix of resources and recognize that military spouses have the education, diversity and skills to enhance workforce productivity and produce national and international business success.

The new inductees, Williams said, join 266 enduring partners representing all business types, from small businesses with regional footprints to international corporations that provide products and services for a global market.

“Our research clearly shows that when our military spouses are able to meet their own career objectives, our military members are more likely to remain on active duty,” Williams said. “We need to retain that top talent for national security purposes.”

When military spouses are able to maintain meaningful employment despite frequent relocations, especially following the return to civilian life as their Service member’s military career ends, Williams said they are able to provide family financial stability which is critical to their short-and long-term health and well-being.

“We used to think that that was a good idea; we now know it’s science — it is absolutely evidence based,” Williams said.

And participating employers, she added, do more than provide mere jobs to spouses.

“You’ll be providing our spouses and military families with work-life satisfaction, strong family financial stability and ultimately, the military personnel readiness that we need for a sustainable military force and a strong national defense,” Williams said.

MILITARY SPOUSE WORKFORCE

According to Junor, more than half of the DOD’s 2,000,000-plus Service members are married. Those spouses, many of whom are well-educated, face perennial challenges — including a 25-percent unemployment rate, while another 25 percent are underemployed.

“(The spouses) are not looking for a favor; they are looking for the opportunity to be the valuable employee that they know they are,” Junor said.

PERSONAL EXPERIENCE

Junor described her personal experience in 1992, as both being a new wife and pursuits of a Ph.D uprooted her from Washington, D.C., to Naval Station Mobile, Alabama, with her husband, who was then a Navy lieutenant junior grade. She recounted scouring organizations and educational institutions for work, finally even seeking an internship, which like previous job prospects, fizzled because employers were reticent to hire someone who would eventually leave once their Service member changed duty station.

“After a period, my husband and I did not live in the same state,” she said, adding that experience sparked the next three to five years of separate residences, so she could develop her career.

Junor said she and her husband decided that he’d depart the Navy in the interest of family togetherness.

“Military life is difficult for a two-career household, but the second career for those who are looking for it, matters,” Junor said. “Having that second career is a very valuable safety net when the inevitable transition time comes.”

HIGH-QUALITY WORKFORCE

Junor emphasized the quality of today’s military spouse workforce.

“You’re not going to find a more resilient, motivated and adaptable group out there,” she said. “If you’re willing to give them a shot, you will get more than that in return.”
WASHINGTON — Army efforts to change command climate and increase training have resulted in a decrease in sexual assaults as well as in reporting of these crimes, a recently released report shows.

“The Army still has the prevention of sexual assault as its Number-One priority,” said Christine Altendorf, director of the Army Sexual Harassment/Accident Response and Prevention program, or SHARP, office.

“We have put a lot of focus and effort on this in the last couple of years, and we do believe we are making progress,” Altendorf said. “Do we still have more things to do? Yes. Will we continue to do more things. Yes. But we are making progress.”

The numbers showing progress come from a report exceeding 1,100 pages given to the president this week by the secretary of defense. The report details the efforts of the military services to curb sexual assault.

According to the Army’s portion of the document, reporting of sexual assault is up, Altendorf said. Additionally, she said, the prevalence of sexual assault is going down. What that means is that now, more Soldiers are willing to report that they have been sexually assaulted, she said. At the same time, anonymous surveys of Soldiers show that fewer sexual assaults have actually occurred.

According to the report — an anonymous prevalence report, administered every two years — the number of sexual assaults against female Soldiers has decreased from 7.1 percent of the force in fiscal year 2012, to 4.6 percent in fiscal year 2014. Sexual assaults against male Soldiers increased slightly, from 0.8 percent in fiscal year 2012, to 1.2 percent in fiscal year 2014.

At the same time, surveys show that reporting of sexual assaults has gone up. Of the total number of estimated sexual assault victims in fiscal year 2012, only about 14 percent made a report. In fiscal year 2014, that number increased to 23 percent.

A sexual assault involves “offenses ranging from abusive sexual contact to rape,” as spelled out in the report.

“The decline in prevalence combined with the increase in reports, suggests the Army’s efforts to prevent sexual assault and reduce the stigma of reporting are having a positive effect,” the report concludes.

Altendorf said the Army must focus equally now on prevention of sexual assault, not just taking care of victims.

“We don’t want this to happen at all,” she said. “This goes back to really focusing on that climate of dignity and respect and that is what we have to really try to institutionalize if at all possible.”

The DOD report to the president details the Army’s efforts across “lines of effort” to increase reporting of sexual assault, to take care of victims of sexual assault, and to decrease sexual assaults across the force. Five lines of effort include prevention, investigation, accountability, advocacy, and assessment.

PREVENTION

For prevention, the Army in 2014 completed a multi-year process to revise all professional military education courses to update and improve their SHARP training. In addition, since 2011, unit-level SHARP training has been required annually and, since 2014, is now complemented by an interactive presentation designed to educate Soldiers about the importance of active bystander intervention.

In 2013, the secretary of the Army also mandated suitability checks for more than 20,000 drill sergeants, recruiters, victim advocates, sexual assault response coordinators, and other “positions of trust” to ensure that only the best-qualified and most suitable Soldiers serve in these important positions.

INVESTIGATION

The U.S. Army Criminal Investigation Command has joined with prosecutors, victim witness liaisons, victim advocates, and other sexual assault responders to form “Special Victim Capability” teams at more than 70 Army installations. These teams are trained in the unique aspects of investigating and prosecuting sexual assault cases, including the need to ensure that victims are referred to the appropriate agencies for comprehensive care.

Since 2011, the U.S. Army Military Police School has also developed a number of innovative investigative techniques, including the Forensic Experiential Trauma Interview, which is designed to increase victim cooperation with the accountability process and thereby enhance prosecutions. Finally, to expedite sexual assault cases, the Army has increased its number of DNA analysts by more than 400 percent since 2011.

ACCOUNTABILITY

The cornerstone of the Army’s accountability effort is the “special victim prosecutor.” Army SVPs are selected for their courtroom expertise and also for their sensitivity to the victims of sexual assault. SVPs complete a specially-designed, intensive training course, and oversee or assist in the prosecution of every sexual assault case in the Army.

In 2011, the Army also began a program of providing victims with “special victims’ counsel.” The SVPs represent the victim throughout the investigation and accountability process, with their primary duty to represent the interests of the victim, even if those interests do not align with those of the government. The Army has now trained nearly 200 SVCs, who together have represented more than 1,200 victims.

Lt. Gen Flora Darpino, the Army’s Judge Advocate General, said surveys show that 89 percent of victims said they had a “great experience” with their special victims’ counsel.

ADVOCACY

In 2014, the chief of staff of the Army directed the development of a centralized SHARP Academy to expand the knowledge and skills of sexual assault response coordinators, victim advocates and program managers. The Army also makes sure that victims of sexual assault receive quality medical care.

Since 2012, the U.S. Army Medical Command has trained more than 100 sexual assault medical forensic examiners annually. Reconstituted and improved in 2014, a Sexual Assault Medical Management Office in every military treatment facility optimizes coordination of sexual assault cases and consists of a medical director, a sexual assault care coordinator, a sexual assault clinical provider, the sexual assault behavioral health provider and all sexual assault medical forensic examiners.

Since 2014, U.S. Army Medical Command also provides at least one sexual assault nurse examiner at every military treatment facility with an emergency room that operates around the clock.

ASSESSMENT

Finally, to assess its efforts, over the last three years the Army has actively collected multiple types of data, ranging from leader-led focus groups to Soldier surveys, about the efficacy of SHARP training. The Army now provides data from the Defense Sexual Assault Incident Database on a monthly basis to commands and installations, enhancing sexual assault response coordinators’ ability to provide comprehensive victim case management, and helping commanders to more thoroughly assess the effectiveness of their response efforts.
What makes chaplain assistants unique

SAN ANTONIO — As the U.S. Army Installation Management Command chaplain assistant sergeant major, I am proud of all the chaplain assistants supporting our Soldiers, families and civilians.

We are celebrating 105 years since the Army officially introduced this unique military occupational specialty, or MOS.

The Army officially created the position of chaplain assistant Dec. 28, 1909, for the first time authorizing an enlisted Soldier to provide full-time religious support. The War Department’s General Order No. 253 simply read, “One enlisted man will be detailed on special duty, by the commanding officer of any organization to which a chaplain is assigned for duty, for the purpose of assisting the chaplain in the performance of his official duties.”

Every day, chaplain assistants are responsible for helping Soldiers exercise their constitutional right to practice their faith, whatever it is, wherever they may be. Chaplain assistants do not have an easy MOS. There are no other military occupational specialties in the military blending so many capabilities.

We are leaders. From the beginning, chaplain assistants learn skills that enable them to step into a battalion or installation and perform leadership tasks. Leadership is developed at the United States Army Chaplain Center and School. After graduation and arrival at the first duty station, chaplain assistants quickly integrate into the battalion staff, where they interact with the command sergeant major and other staff sections to coordinate religious support.

The chaplain assistant’s job becomes much more important in a combat environment. The chaplain is not allowed to bear arms, so the chaplain assistant, as the other half of the unit ministry team, emerges as a leader by providing force protection for the chaplain. This is a core responsibility of the chaplain assistant.

Every day, the chaplain assistant provides religious support to the unit, assesses its overall morale and provides proper referral, counseling sources and spiritual outlets for the troops. Chaplain assistants deliver variety to the unit ministry team because enlisted personnel tend to be more comfortable approaching another enlisted Soldier with a personal issue. The chaplain assistant, therefore, serves as a unit ministry team multiplier. The chaplain assistant allows troubled Soldiers the option of confiding in someone who can offer understanding while also maintaining the strictest confidence — as dictated by the charter of privileged communication that all chaplains and chaplain assistants must adhere to.

We are also logisticians. Property and supply acquisition is a normal task. Chaplain assistants account for religious supplies and equipment, ensuring communion wafers, wine and hymnals are on hand, properly stored and presented in respect for each worshipper.

We are accountants and contract managers. Chaplain assistants assigned to some of our garrisons hold the position of fund managers. They manage an annual operating fund of $24 million Armywide. They receive two weeks of special training for this arduous task. Many of them manage contracts in excess of $500,000.

We are project managers. Chaplain assistants participate in and manage all phases of chapel construction and renovation. I have witnessed chaplain assistants totally remodeling state-of-the-art conference facilities or accounting for property with huge price tags.

We are caregivers. Chaplain assistants serve as master resilience trainers and suicide prevention leaders, and assist in the care of those experiencing trauma in any way. We provide research on world religions, enabling the chaplain to assess military conflicts for the commander.

We are battle staff trained. Brigade chaplain assistants receive specialized training that allows them to work in tactical operations centers at all levels of the command.

On installations, we provide world-class religious support to the senior commander. We integrate and coordinate religious support in cooperation with all units.

We are trainers. We help teach Strong Bonds — a unit-based, chaplain-led program to help commanders build individual resiliency by strengthening the Army Family through relationship education and skills training.

Your chaplain assistants, whether assigned to garrison or another unit, are valued resources and force multipliers for any command. Take the opportunity to thank them for their service to our military and for providing 105 years of religious support to our Army.

Pro Deo et Patria! For God and Country!
Chaplain (Col.) James Palmer, the installation chaplain, offers a prayer before the start of the Christmas Tree and Menorah Lighting Ceremony Dec. 3 in front of Post Headquarters. The ceremony marked the official start of the holiday season on Fort Jackson.

By Andrew McIntyre
Fort Jackson Leader

Fort Jackson officially began the holiday season with the annual Christmas Tree and Menorah Lighting Ceremony Dec. 3 in front of the Post Headquarters.

Maj. Gen. Bradley Becker, Fort Jackson’s commanding general, spoke to community members about the spirit of the holiday season.

“I would ask everyone to remember the spirit of the season and that is the spirit of giving,” Becker said. “All of us are very fortunate to have all that we do, but there are so many people right here in our own community who are less fortunate and many of those folks are veterans.”

After the tree and menorah lighting ceremony children were greeted by Santa Claus, who had a special escort from the Fort Jackson Fire Department.

The Fort Jackson Christmas Tree and Menorah, along with lights decorating Post Headquarters, will remain on display until Jan. 7.

Andrew.R.McIntyre.civ@mail.mil

Post rings in holiday season

Top, Maj. Gen. Bradley Becker, Fort Jackson’s commanding general, addresses the crowd during the ceremony. Center, Carole Coveney, with Family and Morale, Welfare and Recreation, hands out free treats to the Soldiers, family members and civilians in attendance. Bottom, the tree in front of Post Headquarters is decorated with seasonal ornaments and lights. Right, Santa Claus greets children after the ceremony.
Calendar

Tuesday
Victory Spouses’ Club luncheon
11 a.m. to 1 p.m., NCO Club
This month’s theme is “Deck the halls.” RSVP is required by noon, today. To register, email vscreservations@gmail.com.

Wednesday, Jan. 14
Retired Officers’ Wives Club luncheon
11:30 a.m., NCO Club
Reservations are required by 3 p.m., Jan. 9. For more information, call 788-1094 or 783-1220.

Announcements

HOLIDAY HOURS
■ Basic Combat Training Museum: Closed from Dec. 25 until Jan. 4.
■ Commissary: Closed Dec. 25, Dec. 26 and Jan. 1. Open from 9 a.m. to 8 p.m., Dec. 22; from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., Dec. 24; from 10 a.m. to 8 p.m., Dec. 31.
■ Recycling Center: Closed Dec. 25 through Dec. 27. For more information, call 751-4208.

IMMIGRATION HELP
An immigration outreach officer from the Charleston field office of U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services will provide immigration assistance to Soldiers, family members, retirees and DOD civilians from 10 a.m. to noon, Jan. 16 at the Strom Thurmond Building, Room 222. For more information, call 751-1124.

ARMY EMERGENCY RELIEF
Army Emergency Relief was incorporated in 1942 to provide emergency financial assistance to Soldiers and their families. For more information, visit www.aerhq.org.

DANIEL CIRCLE CHAPEL CHANGE
Effective Dec. 21, the Daniel Circle Chapel gospel worship will transition to a single service at 10:15 a.m.

FORT JACKSON ACCESS TOWN HALL MEETING
A town hall meeting is scheduled from 3 to 4 p.m., Wednesday at the Soldier Support Institute auditorium. The town hall meeting will address questions and issues about access to Fort Jackson. The meeting is open to the entire Fort Jackson community.

EFMP FORMS ONLINE
Soldiers and family members can access instructions and form to enroll in the Exceptional Family Member Program online by visiting, www.moncrief.amedd.army.mil. Click on “Medical Services -- Clinics” in the navigation menu. Click on the Exceptional Family Member Program link.

PWOC DECEMBER PROGRAM
The Protestant Women of the Chapel’s December program is “Daughter of the king.” For more information, email jacksonpwoc@gmail.com.

CIF CLOSURE
The Central Issue Facility will be closed Jan. 12-16 for its semi-annual inventory. Personnel scheduled to depart during that time period are requested to call CIF and schedule an out-processing appointment as soon as possible. CIF will accept emergencies only during that time period. CIF will reopen for normal business Jan. 20. For more information or to schedule an appointment, call 751-6524/2870/2739.

SPORTS SHORTS
■ Jingle Bell Run 5K run/walk, 8 a.m., Saturday, Twin Lakes. Registration is available from 6:30 to 7:30 a.m.
■ The coaches meeting for intramural basketball is scheduled for Jan. 7 at Coleman Gym. League play starts 6 p.m., Jan. 20 at Coleman Gym.
■ IAABO clinic for basketball officials and scorers, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., Jan. 11 and 12. Joe E. Mann Center. For more information, call 751-3486.
■ Sports banquet; 11:30 a.m., Jan. 13, Solomon Center. The event is open to anyone who has participated in the sports program throughout the year. Call the Sports Office to RSVP.
■ Power lifting meeting, AAPL and APL sanctioned, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., Jan. 17, Solomon Center. Weigh-ins are scheduled for 6 p.m., Jan. 16. For more information, call 751-3486.
■ Bataan Death March qualifier, 7:30 a.m., Jan. 24, Hilton Field Softball Complex. Open to all active-duty Soldiers.
■ Boxing smoker, 5:30 p.m., Feb. 21, Solomon Center.

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

THRIFT SHOP NEWS
■ The Thrift Shop is hiring a bookkeeper.
■ Apply at the store.
■ The Thrift Shop will be closed from Dec. 22 to Jan. 6.
■ Consignors are eligible for the Thrift Shop’s new layaway and credit program.
■ Christmas items will be accepted through today. They will expire Dec. 18.
■ The Golden Carriage Program provides free ball gowns for spouses of active-duty service members E5 and below.

IMMIGRATION EXAMS
The Department of Preventive Medicine provides a physical exam, tuberculosis screening, laboratory tests and required immunizations for TRICARE beneficiaries who need to complete an immigration exam for U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services. For more information or to schedule an appointment, call 751-5251.

AAFES NEWS
■ AAFES has started its free layaway program for holiday shoppers.
■ AAFES is extending its return policy for items purchased from Nov. 1 to Dec. 24. Items may be returned or exchanged until Jan. 31.
■ AAFES is conducting a “Sweet Holiday Story” contest through Dec. 25. Authorized shoppers may submit an essay of up to 500 words about one of their favorite holiday memories for a chance to win gift cards of up to $1,000. For more information, visit www.shopmyexchange.com/patriot-family.

MILITARY CHILD OF THE YEAR
Operation Homefront is seeking nominations for the 2015 Military Child of the Year. Nominees must be legal dependents of Service members and between 8 and 18 years old. Nominations close Friday. For more information, visit www.militarychildoftheyear.org.

COMMISARY NEWS
■ Applications for the 2015 Scholarships for Military Children Program will be available Monday. For more information, visit www.militaryscholar.org.
■ The Commissary rewards card allows shoppers to use digital coupons at any commissary. For more information, visit www.commissaries.com/.reward_subscriber.cfm.

Rent Concessions
Reduced rent is available for non-renovated Pierce Terrace 5 homes with a December move-in date. Free pro-rated rent is available for December when you sign for a home in PT5. This offer applies to all DOD/retiree/active-duty applicants who schedule a new December move-in. For more information, call 738-8275.

OFFICE CLOSURES
Balfour Beatty Communities offices will be closed from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m., Dec. 18 and all day Dec. 25 and Jan. 1. For emergency maintenance, call 787-6416.

Blood Drive
The Red Cross will host a blood drive from 2 to 7 p.m., Dec. 19 at the Community Center. For more information and to register, call 738-8275 or email emcdaniel@bbcgrp.com.

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Moncrief Army Community Hospital’s McWethy Troop Clinic Laboratory was awarded accreditation by the Commission on Laboratory Accreditation of the College of American Pathologists, or CAP, based on the results of a recent on-site inspection.

McWethy Troop Clinic Laboratory is one of the more than 7,600 CAP-accredited laboratories nationwide.

The federally recognized CAP Laboratory Accreditation Program began in the early 1960s and is equal to or more stringent than the government’s own inspection program. During the CAP accreditation process, inspectors examine the laboratory’s records and quality control of procedures for the preceding two years. CAP inspectors also examine the entire staff’s qualifications, the laboratory’s equipment, facilities, safety program and record, as well as the overall management of the laboratory. This stringent inspection program is designed to ensure the highest standard of care for the laboratory’s patients.

The College of American Pathologists is celebrating 50 years as the gold standard in laboratory accreditation. CAP serves more than 18,000 physician members and the global laboratory community. It is the world’s largest association composed exclusively of board-certified pathologists and is the leader in laboratory quality assurance. CAP advocates accountable, high quality and cost-effective patient care.

Moncrief Army Community Hospital Integrated Health Clinic Medical Home

With online services from Army Medicine Secure Messaging Service you can:

- Book appointments
- Request/review lab and test results
- Request medication refills
- Request a referral
- Email your doctor a question
- Schedule web visits with your doctor

It's health care that clicks.

To register for online services ask your health care team in the Integrated Health Clinic Medical Home or visit: http://www.relayhealth.com.

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MACH holiday hours

- All Moncrief Army Community Hospital outpatient services will be closed Dec. 25, Dec. 26 and Jan. 1, including the Urgent Care Clinic. The Urgent Care Clinic will be open from 11 a.m. to 9 p.m., Dec. 27 through Dec. 31.
- Patients who need emergency care should call 911 for EMS transport or proceed to the nearest emergency room. Patients enrolled in TRICARE Prime who require care for non-life threatening conditions may visit www.tricareonline.com to make an appointment or call 751-CARE (2273) during regular duty hours.
- The Nurse Advice Line is available around the clock by calling 1-800-TRICARE (874-2273). Registered nurses are available to answer questions, give health advice or help beneficiaries find a doctor.

Flu shot schedule

Patients who are enrolled at Moncrief Medical Home may receive influenza vaccines from 8 to 11:30 a.m. and 1 to 4:40 p.m., Mondays, Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Fridays; and from 9 to 11:30 a.m. and 1 to 4:30 p.m., Thursdays.

Influenza vaccines are also available on the 10th floor at MACH for beneficiaries 4 and older during the following times:

- Mondays, Tuesdays 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.
- Wednesdays 8 a.m. to 6 p.m.
- Thursdays 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.
- Fridays 6 a.m. to 4 p.m.

For more information, call 751-4669.

Walk-in flu shots for children 3 and younger are available at MACH, Room 6-39, from 9 to 11 a.m. and 1 to 3 p.m., Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays.

In addition, TRICARE retail network pharmacies will administer free seasonal influenza vaccines during the 2014/2015 flu season. Beneficiaries who receive the influenza vaccination from non-military facilities are asked to provide immunization data to the MACH shot immunization team on the sixth floor of the hospital.

Your health care is a click away

Moncrief Army Community Hospital Integrated Health Clinic Medical Home

Like us on Facebook to get the latest news regarding Moncrief, health tips, TRICARE updates and information from the Army Medical Command. Visit www.facebook.com/MoncriefACH.
BCT honorees

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

Staff Sgt. Joshua Montoya
Company A
2nd Battalion, 39th Infantry Regiment

SOLDIER LEADER OF THE CYCLE
Pvt. Danielle Izykowicz

SOLDIER OF THE CYCLE
Spc. Kelli Hadley

SOLDIER OF THE CYCLE
Pvt. Albert Trevino

HIGH APFT SCORE
Pfc. Jedida Cortes

HIGH BRM
Pvt. Luis Rivera

Staff Sgt. Orlando Soto
Company B
2nd Battalion, 39th Infantry Regiment

SOLDIER LEADER OF THE CYCLE
Pvt. Danielle Izykowicz

SOLDIER OF THE CYCLE
Spc. Kelli Hadley

SOLDIER OF THE CYCLE
Pvt. Albert Trevino

HIGH APFT SCORE
Pfc. Jedida Cortes

HIGH BRM
Pvt. Hayden Wallace

Want more Fort Jackson news?

https://www.youtube.com/user/FortJacksonSC

US ARMY TRAINING AND DOCTRINE COMMAND (TRADOC)

TEN KEY INDICATORS OF POTENTIAL TERRORIST-ASSOCIATED INSIDER THREATS TO THE US ARMY

1. Advocating violence, the threat of violence, or the use of force to achieve goals that are political, religious, or ideological in nature.

2. Advocating support for international terrorist organizations or objectives.

3. Providing financial or other material support to a terrorist organization or to someone suspected of being a terrorist.

4. Association with or connections to known or suspected terrorist.

5. Repeated expression of hatred and intolerance of American society, culture, government, or principles of the U.S. Constitution.

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

7. Expressing an obligation to engage in violence in support of international terrorism or inciting others to do the same.

8. Purchasing bomb making materials or obtaining information about the construction of explosives.

9. Active attempts to encourage others to violate laws, disobey lawful orders or regulations, or disrupt military activities.

10. Family ties to known or suspected international terrorist or terrorist supporters.
Recurring meetings

WEEKLY MEETINGS
- Alcoholics Anonymous open meeting: Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays, 9 a.m., 9810 Lee Road, 751-6597.
- Columbia Composite Squadron (Civil Air Patrol): Mondays, 6:30 p.m., Owens Field, main conference room, Tom.Alspaugh@gmail.com or www.scwcap.gov.
- Family story time: Fridays, 11-11:30 a.m., Post Library, 751-5589.
- 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, 5614 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 to 11:30 a.m., Main Post Chapel, jackson@pwoc.org.
- Range control briefing: Mondays and Fridays, 1 p.m., Education Center, Room 302, 751-7171.
- Sergeant Audio 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: Second Tuesday of the month, 7:30 p.m., American Legion Post 195, 534 Wildwood Lane, Lugoff, 699-2598 or alrpost195@gmail.com.
- Better Opportunities for Single Soldiers: First and third Saturday of the month, except July and August, 11 a.m., DAV Headquarters 511 Violet St., West Columbia, 260-1067.
- Combat Vets Motorcycle Association: Second Sunday of the month, 2 p.m., 534 S. Beltline Blvd., 782-5943 or 782-0148.
- Disabled American Veterans Chapter and Auxiliary: Third Sunday of the month at noon, (774) 451-7504, email armyguy@ri@yahoo.com or visit www.combatvet.org.
- Fleet Reserve Association Branch and Unit 202: Third Tuesday of the month, 7 p.m., 534 S. Beltline Blvd., 647-3060 or dave@202frc.org.
- Gold Star Wives, Palmetto Chapter: Second Sunday of the month, 5 p.m., Moncrief Army Community Hospital, Third floor conference room, 695-5345.
- Ladies Auxiliary Louis D. Simmons Post 215: Fourth Sunday of the month, 5 p.m., 2432 Chappelle St., 765-0175.
- Ladies Auxiliary VFW Post 641: Second Sunday of the month, 2 p.m., 534 S. Beltline Blvd., 782-5943 or 782-0148.
- Ladies Auxiliary VFW Post 426: Second Sunday of the month, 5 p.m., 5821 North Main St., 754-1614.
- MEDPROS training: Third Friday of the month, 6 p.m., Moncrief Army Community Hospital, Room 9-83. Email Erica.Atkins@jadeed.army.mil.
- National Federation of Federal Employees: Second Tuesday of the month, 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m., NCO Club, 751-3014.
- National Active and Retired Federal Employees: Second Friday of the month, 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m., Seawell’s, 1125 Rosewood Dr., kathrynshenley@hotmail.com or gillentinele803@aol.com.
- Purple Heart #402: Fourth Tuesday of the month, 7 p.m., American Legion Post 6, 200 Pickens St., 360-3830.
- Retired Enlisted Association: Third Friday of the month, 5:30 p.m., Moncrief Army Community Hospital, third floor, 740-2319 or email 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 Audio Murphy Club Association: First Tuesday of the month, noon, NCO Club, www.facebook.com/FJSAMCA.
- Sergeant Majors Association: First Tuesday of the month, 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m., NCO Club, 751-8178.
- Society of American Military Engineers: Fourth Thursday of the month, 11:30 a.m. to 12:45 p.m., Officers’ Club, johnny.myers@us.army.mil.
- The Rocks Inc.: Third Tuesday of the month, 6 p.m., Post Conference Room.
- Veterans of Foreign Wars Gandy-Griffin Post 246: Third Tuesday of the month, 7 p.m., 5821 North Main St., 754-6164 or 447-2320.
- Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 641: Second Sunday of the month, 5 p.m., 5821 North Main St., 754-2622.
- Vietnam Veterans of America Chapter 303: 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 fleader@gmail.com.
### 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, Magruder Chapel
  - 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, U.S. Army Chaplain Center and School, Fox/Poling Lab

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

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

### ISLAMIC

- **Sunday**
  - 8 a.m. Anderson Street Chapel

### ANGLICAN/LITURGICAL/EPISCOPAL

- **Sunday**
  - 8 a.m. Anderson Street 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**
  - 4360 Magruder Ave., 751-3883

- **Main Post Chapel**
  - 4580 Scales Ave., corner of Strom Thurmond Boulevard, 751-6468/6681

- **McCrady Chapel (SCARNG)**
  - 3820 McCrady Road (located at McCrady Training Center)

- **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

- **Installation Chaplain’s Office**
  - 4475 Gregg St., 751-3121/6318

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