

THURSDAY, FEB. 19, 2015

# THE FORT JACKSON LEADER

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★ FORT JACKSON  
UNITS LEAVE MARK  
IN COMMUNITY

— PAGE 8



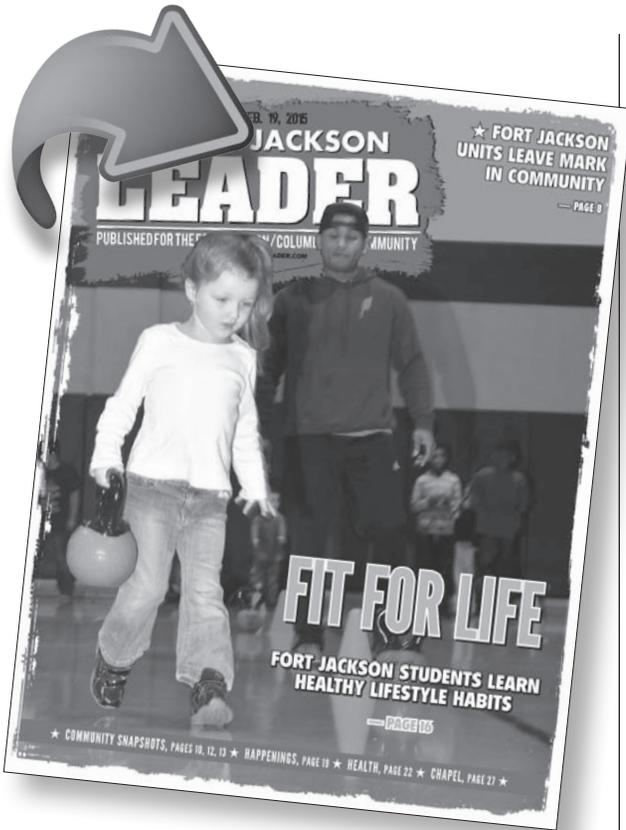
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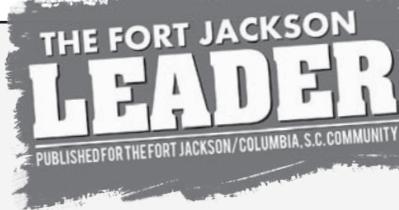
# NEWS



## ON THE COVER

Photo by JENNIFER STRIDE

Trinity Jenkins, 4, carries a kettle bell during C.C. Pinckney Elementary School's 'Skyrocketing into a Healthy Lifestyle' event. **SEE PAGE 16.**



### Fort Jackson, South Carolina 29207

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Photo by WALLACE McBRIDE

## Pledging to help

Maj. Gen. Bradley Becker, Fort Jackson's commanding general, fills out his Army Emergency Relief campaign pledge card Feb. 12. The AER campaign will officially launch with a luncheon at 11:30 a.m., March 2 at the NCO Club. The campaign will run through May 15. AER provides emergency financial assistance to Soldiers, retirees and their families.

## NEW FORT JACKSON COMMANDER SELECTED

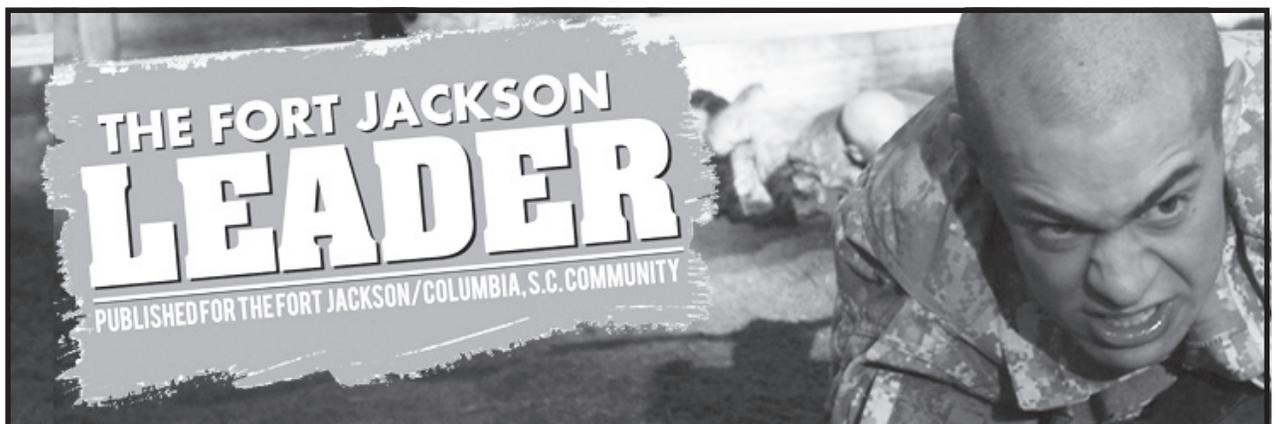
The Department of Defense announced Friday that Brig. Gen. Roger Cloutier Jr. was selected as the next commanding general of the U.S. Army Training Center and Fort Jackson. He is scheduled to take command May 29.

Cloutier will replace Maj. Gen. Bradley Becker, who was selected to become commanding general of the U.S. Army Military District of Washington and commander of the Joint Force Headquarters-National Capital Region, Washington.

Cloutier currently serves as the Army's director of force management, Office of the Deputy Chief of Staff, G-3/5/7.



CLOUTIER



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# New secretary addresses DOD personnel

DOD News

WASHINGTON — Ash Carter, who was sworn in Tuesday as the 25th secretary of defense, laid out his top priorities in a message to the DOD workforce.

Carter's message reads as follows:

*To all Department of Defense personnel:*

*I am honored to become your secretary of defense. I am proud to lead men and women who devote their lives to the highest calling — the defense of our nation. And I am grateful to follow in the footsteps of Secretary Hagel, one of our nation's most honorable and conscientious public servants.*

*We live in challenging times — times that demand leadership and focus. And starting today, I will be calling on each and every one of you to help carry out three top priorities.*

*Our first priority is helping the president make the best possible national security decisions for protecting our country — and then implementing those decisions with our department's long-admired excellence.*

*We confront a turbulent and dangerous world: continuing turmoil in the Middle East and North Africa, and the malignant and savage terrorism emanating from it; an ongoing conflict in Afghanistan; a reversion to archaic security thinking in parts of Europe; tensions in the Asia-Pacific; the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction; and intensifying threats in cyberspace.*

*In addressing these challenges, I have pledged to provide the president my most candid strategic advice. I will count on your experience and expertise as I formulate that advice. I will also ensure the president receives candid professional military advice.*

*But as we tackle the many threats to our national security, we must never lose sight of our nation's enduring strengths — or of the opportunities to make a brighter future and better world for our children. The United States remains the strongest and most resilient nation on earth. Because of you, we have the finest fighting force the world has ever known. We have friends and allies in every corner of the world, while our adversaries have few. We have long possessed the world's most dynamic and innovative economy. And our values, principles and leadership continue to inspire hope and progress around the world.*

*Safeguarding America's security and global leadership will depend on another of my main priorities: ensuring the strength and health of you who make up the greatest fighting force the world has ever known — our Soldiers, Sailors, Airmen, Marines, civilians and contractors all*



DOD photo

**Vice President Joe Biden, left, swears in Ash Carter as the 25th defense secretary as Carter's wife, Stephanie, looks on during a private ceremony at the White House Tuesday.**

around the world.

*I will do that by focusing on the well-being, safety, and dignity of each of you and your families. I will ensure your training and equipment are as superb as you are. And I pledge to make decisions about sending you into harm's way with the greatest reflection and utmost care — because this is my highest responsibility as secretary of defense.*

*Honoring all these commitments also requires us to focus on building the force of the future, which is my third priority.*

*We must steer through the turmoil of sequestration, which imposes wasteful uncertainty and risk to our nation's defense. We must balance all parts of our defense budget so that we continue to attract the best people — people like you; so that there are enough of you to defend our interests around the world; and so that you are always well-equipped and well-trained to execute your critical mission.*

*To win support from our fellow citizens for the resources we need, we must show that we can make*

*better use of every taxpayer dollar. That means a leaner organization, less overhead, and reforming our business and acquisition practices.*

*It also means embracing the future — and embracing change.*

*We must be open to change in order to operate effectively in an increasingly dynamic world; to keep pace with advances in technology; and to attract new generations of talented and dedicated Americans to our calling.*

*I first arrived at the Pentagon more than three decades ago, and have had the privilege of serving 11 secretaries of defense in Democratic and Republican administrations. I took the oath of office (Tuesday) because I love our country and am devoted to you who defend it. And I am committed to our fundamental mission: the defense of our nation.*

*I look forward to leading and serving alongside you at this extraordinary moment in our nation's history.*

*May God bless you and your families, and may God bless America.*

## Army seeks feedback on possible reductions

Leader staff report

The Department of the Army will hold a community listening session at 3 p.m., Feb. 26 at Shandon Baptist Church to gather community opinions regarding the potential impact of personnel cuts on Fort Jackson.

Local political and economic leaders as well as senior Army representatives are expected to attend.

Doors will open at 2 p.m., and musical entertainment will be provided until the start of the program. Military and civilian leaders will address the Army's reorganization efforts, which could lead to possible cuts on Fort Jackson, before members of the community are invited to share their opinion.

The Army is currently on track to reduce the strength of its active duty force from 562,000 to 490,000, but sequestration-level budget cuts could necessitate a reduction

to 420,000 active troops by 2019.

Those cuts could force the elimination of 2,400 military and 700 civilian positions on Fort Jackson, according to the Army's most recent Programmatic Environmental Assessment, or PEA, which was conducted for more than 30 military installations. Fort Jackson was not part of the Army's original PEA in 2013, but was added this year in the Army's supplemental PEA, or SPEA, in light of the possibility of automatic spending cuts, commonly known as sequestra-

tion, in 2016.

According to a recent study developed by the University of South Carolina's Darla Moore School of Business, the economic impact of Fort Jackson on the surrounding area is estimated at \$2.2 billion annually.

The listening session is free and open to the public.

Soldiers who wish to attend and comment must wear civilian attire.

Shandon Baptist Church is located at 5250 Forest Drive in Columbia.

# ATC town hall addresses RIF cuts

By **WALLACE McBRIDE**  
Fort Jackson Leader

Fort Jackson's command group addressed a pending Reduction in Force for the Army Training Center during a town hall meeting last week.

Although a portion of the meeting was reserved for taking questions from the audience, the goal of the event was to share workforce restructuring initiatives on the table for 2015.

More specifically, the meeting was designed to discuss the mechanics of the RIF, which is a result of legislation adopted almost four years ago, said Maj. Gen. Bradley Becker, Fort Jackson commanding general. The Budget Control Act of 2011, signed into law by President Barack Obama in August of that year, enacted across-the-board government spending cuts. Becker said 40 percent of these budget cuts were made to the Department of Defense, leaving the Army to go from a personnel force of 570,000 people to 490,000 by October.

That number will be reduced even further to 450,000 by 2017, Becker said.

"It was not just on the military side, but also on the civilian side," he said. "As a result, the chief of staff of the Army was forced to make some tough decisions. It's not just civilians we're talking to today."

Army leadership initially planned for a gradual drawdown, Becker said, one that would have taken advantage of a reduction of force through attrition over a seven-year period.

Because of the Budget Control Act of 2011, those reductions have to happen sooner and faster, he said. Cuts are being made to both the civilian and Soldier workforce, and the Army is losing outstanding officers and non-commissioned officers because of the RIF, he said.

"We are having to say, 'Thank you very much for your service, both in peace time and in combat,'" Becker said. "'You've done a great job, but we're going to have to let you go.'"

The process outlined during last week's meeting at the Post Theater established that the first step will be



Photo by WALLACE McBRIDE

**Maj. Gen. Bradley Becker, Fort Jackson's commanding general, speaks to Soldiers and civilian employees during a town hall meeting Feb. 11 at the Post Theater about Reduction in Force cuts.**

identifying which ATC positions will be abolished. Employees will then be ranked in order of tenure, veterans' preference and length of service.

Based on these criteria, the lowest ranking employees will be released first, with those decisions scheduled to be announced in July.

As part of the RIF, Fort Jackson is conducting workshops to help employees get career counseling, and working toward identifying job opportunities at other federal installations. Although many installations are facing budget reductions this year, Fort Jackson Deputy Chief of Staff Gerald Henderson said there are still fed-

eral jobs to be found.

"While there are some installations going through a downsizing, there are other installations going through an upsizing," he said. "Just down the road, Fort Gordon, (Georgia), is hiring people."

"You're all part of the Army profession," Becker told last week's audience. "You're all valued members of the team, not just here at Fort Jackson. While they don't know you personally, the senior Army leadership appreciates your service, and this is not what they wanted. But this is where we're at."

*Milton.W.McBride3.ctr@mail.mil*

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# ACS to host Military Saves Week

## Army Community Service

Fort Jackson Army Community Service will host a number of events next week to mark Military Saves Week.

Military Saves Week, which is scheduled Feb. 23-28, is part of the DOD's Financial Readiness Campaign. It is a social marketing campaign to persuade, motivate and encourage military families to save money every month and to convince leaders and organizations to be aggressive in promoting automatic savings.

The following financial education initiatives are scheduled:

■ **Today:** Saving and Investing — Simple Tips to Secure a Strong Future. The seminar will explain the difference between saving and investing and provide saving and investing options. It will also explain how to find assistance when making saving and investing decisions.

■ **Monday, 8:30 a.m. to 3 p.m.:** Financial Forum. Army Community Service, in partnership with All South Credit Union and Wells Fargo, will host a financial forum at the NCO Club. The forum is Fort Jackson's main financial education initiative for Military Saves Week. This all-day educational event will offer six seminars that will cover topics like credit, debt collection, Thrift Savings Plan, investing, home buying and Social Security.

■ **Tuesday, 10:30 a.m. to 1 p.m.:** Military Saves Week information booth at the Main Exchange.

■ **Wednesday, 10:30 a.m. to 1 p.m.:** Military Saves Week information booth at the Main Exchange.

■ **Feb. 26:** Take Control of Your Finances — Avoid Drowning in Debt and Borrow Wisely. The seminar will provide tips on smart borrowing, credit management and debt relief. It will discuss debt-to-income



ratio and credit reports and scores.

■ **Feb. 26, 8 a.m. and 10 a.m.:** ACS will talk to pre-schoolers and Strong Beginnings students at the Fort Jackson Child Development Centers about saving money and provide students with piggy banks.

■ **Feb. 27, 10:30 a.m. to 1 p.m.:** Military Saves Week Information Booth at the Fort Jackson Commissary.

■ **March 5:** Thrift Savings Plan. The seminar will provide an overview of the Thrift Savings Plan, enrollment and participation, contributions, investments funds and options, and withdrawal options.

Military Saves Week events are open

to the Fort Jackson community.

Military Saves is a part of America Saves, a nationwide campaign. Military Saves encourages all Service members, their families and civilian employees to take the Military Saves pledge at [www.militarysaves.org](http://www.militarysaves.org).

Savers who take the pledge may opt to receive a monthly e-newsletter from Military Saves, as well as a quarterly e-newsletter from America Saves. Military Saves also works with credit unions, military banks and nonprofit organizations to promote savings and debt reduction.

Saving money, reducing debt and

building wealth are all part of improving your financial life. It all starts when you set a goal and make a plan to reach that goal. So what is your goal? Set up an emergency cash fund? Get out of debt? Make a down payment on a car or home? Save money for college or retirement?

Military Saves can help you develop your goals and take action. It provides savings guidance, tools, resources and motivation.

For more information on Military Saves Week or to register for a seminar, call Army Community Service at 751-5256.

## Environmental News

### TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES

■ Environmental Compliance Officer Course; March 17-18; 3240 Sumter Street. For more information and to register, call 751-5011 or email [pearline.jackson@us.army.mil](mailto:pearline.jackson@us.army.mil). Include the attendee's full name, rank, job title, name of unit/activity, telephone number and email address. A shorter, electronic ECOC is available online for administrative organizations/personnel. It is available at <http://jackson.armylive.dodlive.mil/files/2014/08/Electronic-Admin->

[Training-Jan-2015.pdf](#). For more information, call 751-5971 or email [lisa.a.mcknight11.ctr@mail.mil](mailto:lisa.a.mcknight11.ctr@mail.mil).

■ Hazardous Substance Management Class; April 9; 2563 Essayons Way. This class is required annually for all personnel who manage hazardous waste or controlled waste or who have a high potential for hazardous waste generation or hazardous substance violations. For more information, call 751-4231 or email [heather.s.thomas8.civ@mail.mil](mailto:heather.s.thomas8.civ@mail.mil).

■ Spill Prevention Control and Countermeasures Training:

This training is required annually for all personnel involved in oil handling, transfer, storage or maintenance of oil equipment. For more information and to schedule training, call 751-9511 or email [mark.d.merritt6.civ@mail.mil](mailto:mark.d.merritt6.civ@mail.mil).

### SAVE THE DATE

■ April 18: Green Initiative Day. Fort Jackson's Earth Day celebration includes the annual Recycling Regatta. For more information, call 751-5971.



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# Prepare for rainy day forecast

Most of us appreciate a sturdy umbrella on a stormy day. We do not always know when we will encounter rain, but unless we live in the desert, we know that eventually rain will fall. So we buy umbrellas, raincoats and boots to protect ourselves against the inevitable downpour.

Rainy day funds, or emergency savings, protect us too. We cannot always predict when we will have a money emergency, but we know that eventually a financial crisis will arrive. Setting aside money in a rainy day fund shelters you from a financial storm.

Chances are, you have already experienced a financial squall or two; it's tough to go through life without them. An unexpected automobile or home repair, a surprise tax bill, or an unplanned trip home for a funeral or wedding all qualify.

Sometimes, financial rainfall lands not in the form of a bill to pay, but as a sudden loss of income. This could be due to a spouse's layoff, a divorce or your unplanned separation from the service.

It's a good idea to make a rainy day fund one of your highest savings priorities. Put \$20 a week in an emergency fund, and your account will grow to more than \$1,000 in just one year. That's often enough to cover a repair bill or emergency travel. A rainy day fund can also shield you from the high cost of borrowing and keep you from hydroplaning into debt.

A good way to set up a rainy day fund is to save automatically. Arrange to put money into an emergency fund account through an allotment from your pay. You can accomplish the same thing through a systematic transfer from your regular checking or savings account at your

## FINANCIAL ADVICE

Financial Industry  
Regulatory Authority

bank or credit union. Keep your rainy day funds separate from your checking account, and label it "for emergency use only." Just writing down an account's purpose can keep you from spending the money for any other reason. Visit "Start an Emergency Fund" on [www.SaveAndInvest.org](http://www.SaveAndInvest.org) for more tips.

Even if you start out small, keep saving. You should put aside enough in your rainy day fund to cover living expenses for three to six months. If you anticipate a job loss or separation from the service, try to save even more.

An easy way to save for your rainy day fund is by taking the Military Saves Savers' Pledge. It's a commitment you make to yourself to take shelter from financial storms.

We know that rainfall is inevitable, and we prepare for it. Like an umbrella sheds rain, a rainy day fund sheds financial rainfall. Storms arise unexpectedly. Protect yourself with a rainy day fund.

If you would like to meet with a professional to discuss your financial situation, contact Army Community Service at 751-6256.



## News and Notes

### BLACK HISTORY MONTH

Fort Jackson will observe African-American/Black History Month with a luncheon from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m., Friday at the NCO Club. The theme is, "A Century of Black Life, History and Culture." The guest speaker will be James Felder, a former member of the South Carolina House of Representatives. Felder also was one of the Soldiers who carried President John F. Kennedy's body to Arlington National Cemetery. Tickets cost \$10.50 and are available through the Equal Opportunity staff office, brigade equal opportunity advisers and unit equal opportunity leaders. For more information, call 751-7873/2990.

### FINANCIAL FORUM SET

As part of Military Saves Week, Army Community Service will host a financial forum from 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m., Monday at the NCO Club. The forum will include six seminars that will cover topics like credit, debt collection, Thrift Savings Plan,

investing, home buying and Social Security. For more information and to register, call 751-5256.

### AER CAMPAIGN LAUNCH

The Army Emergency Relief campaign will launch at 11:30 a.m., March 2 with a luncheon at the NCO Club. The guest speaker will be Retired Lt. Gen. Robert Foley, the director of Army Emergency Relief. The fundraising campaign runs through May 15. For more information, call 751-5256.

### MAUDE LECTURE SCHEDULED

The Adjutant General School will host the LTG Maude Lecture at 3 p.m., March 3 at the Solomon Center. The guest speaker will be retired Lt. Gen. Robert Foley. Foley currently serves as the director for Army Emergency Relief. The lecture series honors the memory of the late Lt. Gen. Timothy Maude who was killed at the Pentagon during 9/11.

*Information subject to change.*

*To submit an announcement, email [fjleader@gmail.com](mailto:fjleader@gmail.com).*

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Adult \$5.50/Child (6-11): \$3.00

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

3319 Jackson BLVD

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

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

Thursday February 19  
**Unbroken** (PG) 3 p.m. 2h 17m

Friday February 20  
**Selma** (PG-13) 7 p.m. 2h 8m

Saturday February 21  
**The Gambler** (R) 2 p.m. 1h 51m  
**The Wedding Ringer** (R) 4:30 p.m. 1h 41m

Sunday February 22  
**The Wedding Ringer** (R) 2 p.m. 1h 41m  
**Paddington** (PG) 4 p.m. 1 35m

Friday February 27  
**Paddington** (PG) 7 p.m. 1h 35m

Saturday February 28  
**The Woman In Black 2** (PG-13) 2 p.m. 1h 38m  
**The Boy Next Door** (R) 4 p.m. 1h 31m

Sunday March 1  
**The Boy Next Door** (R) 2 p.m. 1h 31m  
**Strange Magic** (PG) 4 p.m. 1h 39m

Friday March 6  
**Strange Magic** (PG) 7 p.m. 1h 39m

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Photo by ANDREW McINTYRE

**Khalil Hopkins, 17, a student at Ridge View High School, navigates the rope bridge at Victory Tower during a visit Jan. 21. The school's basketball team was invited by the 193rd Infantry Brigade, which partners with the school. Many units on post have partnerships with schools in the local community.**

# 'We are part of the community'

## Units partner with schools as part of their command outreach efforts

By **ANDREW McINTYRE**  
Fort Jackson Leader

It is commonly known that Soldiers serve their country in times of war. For many Fort Jackson troops that is only one aspect of service, though. Soldiers serve as volunteers throughout the Midlands as part of their units' command outreach programs.

"When we sign up as Service members we don't just sign up to go to war. We sign up to serve our nation, but we also sign up to serve our community," said Capt. Thomas Kim, assistant operations officer with the 193rd Infantry Brigade.

Each year, Fort Jackson's three Army Training Center brigades and partners in excellence units take the time to give back to the local community through partnerships with local organizations and schools.

One example is the 193rd Infantry Brigade hosting the Ridge View High School basketball team Jan. 21.

"We gave them the full Army experience. This morning we started with (physical training), (the students) ate at the (dining facility), and now we are at Victory Tower and later on they get to eat meals-ready-to-eat," Thomas said.

Ridge View High School Head Basketball Coach John Combs said many of the players have a personal connection to Fort Jackson.

"We have a number of students that are impacted by Fort

Jackson. Many of them have family members that are stationed here at Fort Jackson or in the Army," Combs said.

Thomas said both the Soldiers and students benefited from the experience.

"(The students are) getting a positive experience out of it, and our cadre members are loving this interaction of mentoring young kids," Thomas said.

Maj. Chunka Smith, executive officer for the 165th Infantry Brigade, said giving back is a natural part of being a Soldier.

"It is important for us to build and maintain a strong bond with the community because we are a part of the community," Smith said. "We are also ambassadors for the United States Army and Fort Jackson."

Smith said most Soldiers seek out community outreach activities on their own and shy away from recognition.

"For example, six NCOs and one officer from 1st Battalion, 61st Infantry Regiment, 165th Infantry Brigade spoke to 160 students at the Carolina School of Inquiry in Columbia, South Carolina for their career day," Smith said. "The NCOs spoke about why they enjoyed serving in the Army, what their daily activities consisted of, and answered student's questions. The team led Physical Readiness Training demonstrations with exercises like the half-jack, the rower and the pushup, which was a huge hit for the children."

Smith said units with the 165th support two to three community events per month, on average. He said the brigade

supports events throughout the Midlands and the state.

Capt. Robbie Wilson, 120th Adjutant General Battalion, said local schools benefit from the partnerships with Fort Jackson units. The 120th partners with Sandlapper Elementary School and Pontiac Elementary School.

"The partnership allows us to go into those local schools and read to the children and participate in their school activities," Wilson said. "Because of the partnership, a few of our companies work on a weekly basis with the kids."

Master Sgt. Nakya McDaniels, 187th Ordnance Battalion, said community outreach also helps bridge the Columbia and Fort Jackson communities. For example, Soldiers with the 187th built a playground for children at Midway Elementary School in Cassatt.

"Besides the personal satisfaction you get when you help others, this is an opportunity to enhance the understanding of what we do as an Army and also as a post here at Fort Jackson," said Capt. Eduardo Colon, commander of Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 187th.

Colon said school administration has always enjoyed the help of the Soldiers.

"Each school we go to — and especially at Midway Elementary School — really appreciated our help and all that we do for the children," Colon said. "Many of our Soldiers are helping out not because it's required of them, but because they enjoy giving back to their local community."

*Andrew.R.McIntyre.civ@mail.mil*

# Student speaks up to help others

By WALLACE McBRIDE  
Fort Jackson Leader

Kinley Johnston has speech issues that she grapples with daily. A third-grade student at C.C. Pinckney Elementary School, Johnston was born with a chromosomal disorder that doctors expected would leave her permanently disabled. Her parents were warned that they'd be able to take very little for granted in their daughter's development.

But her parents said the child has defied many of these predictions.

"(Doctors) told me she'd never walk when she was born," said her mother, Jennifer. "She started to walk when she was 2 1/2, and now I watch her play soccer."

Kinley didn't begin to speak until she was 4 years old, and her vocabulary was limited to only a few words. When she began to use complete sentences, her speech was further impaired by stuttering, a problem that continues today.

"With all of the techniques and work she does, she continues to improve," said her father, Capt. Jared Johnston, an operations officer with 3rd Battalion, 34th Infantry Regiment. "I don't know if it's something that will ever go away, but she'll always struggle with it."

"She has a chromosome disorder, so everything that she does is delayed," Jennifer said. "She also does occupational therapy, speech therapy and physical therapy. She's a very hard worker."

Later this year, Kinley will have a letter published in the newsletter for The Stuttering Foundation, a nonprofit organization that provides free resources, services and support to those who stutter and their families.

"Kinley, to me, is a wonderful example of bravery," said Kerrie Ammons, a speech and language pathologist for C.C. Pinckney Elementary School. "Each time I get The Stuttering Foundation newsletter, I share the writing with my students in speech therapy. Kinley said — out of the blue — 'Dr. Ammons, I want to write a letter.'"

Ammons told Kinley she was welcome to write a letter to The Stuttering Foundation, but that she shouldn't expect it to be published.



Photo by WALLACE McBRIDE

**Kinley Johnston, 9, is a third-grade student at C.C. Pinckney Elementary School. Kinley, who was born with a chromosomal disorder that caused developmental issues, will have a letter published in an upcoming issue of The Stuttering Foundation's newsletter. In the letter, she shares her strategy to overcome a speech impediment.**

"Her response to me was, 'You never know if you don't try,'" she said. Ammons has been a speech and language pathologist for 15 years, a third of which has been spent at C.C. Pinckney. This is the first time she's seen a student's letter published in the newsletter, she said.

Kinley's letter addresses Easy Onset strategies that she's been using in her speech therapy lessons:

*Hi! My name is Kinley and I am 9 years old! I am in the third grade and I attend elementary school on the Army installation of Fort Jackson, located in South Carolina. Sometimes, I stutter and people do not always understand me! My speech therapist, Dr. Ammons, helps me! She taught me a strategy known as 'Easy Onset'. We made an "Easy Onset" checklist that I keep on my desk to help me remember to:*

1. stop/cancel a stuttering moment;
  2. think about the word I want to say;
  3. breathe;
  4. say the word on the air coming out - air first then word.
- I like my visual checklist and I like me!*

"She thought those (tips) were helpful, and wanted to share those with the nation," Ammons said. "She also drew a visual checklist she uses to help her remember some of the steps for Easy Onset."

Kinley said she had other goals for writing the letter that were a little more self-serving.

"I wanted to be famous," she said, adding that she wants to be a singer when she grows up.

"And I want to take care of children," she said.

The letter will appear in the fall edition

of The Stuttering Foundation newsletter.

"Kinley has made phenomenal gains," said her homeroom teacher, Evetta Johnson. "She's gained so much confidence. That's a testimony to (Capt.) and Mrs. Johnston, too, because they've been so supportive. Kinley is a testimony of what can happen when the home and school work together."

The school's speech program is embedded with comprehension and reading skills taught in a regular classroom, Johnson said. The idea is to have one curriculum for her, and not divide her time learning conflicting — or contradictory — strategies.

"We expect our children to succeed," said C.C. Pinckney Principal Annie Crandle. "(Ammons and Johnson) have shown they've got compassion and care to see our children succeed and go that extra mile."

*Milton.W.McBride3.ctr@mail.mil*

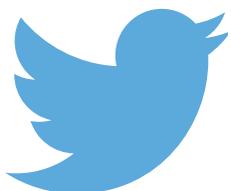


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Photo by WALLACE McBRIDE

### **Tooth or consequences**

From left, Dr. Hannah Kirschenfeld, a dentist on post, Cpl. Thaddeus Bach, dental assistant, and 'Tooth Fairy' Spc. Shaelynn Curtis visit Pre-K students at Pierce Terrace Elementary School Tuesday to speak with them about the benefits of good dental hygiene.



### **Re-enlisting on court**

Staff Sgt. Janea Lowe re-enlists during the University of South Carolina's women's basketball game against Louisiana State University Feb. 12 at Colonial Life Arena. Lowe is a drill sergeant with Company C, Lightning Battalion (Provisional). Administering the oath of enlistment is Lt. Col. James Moyes, Lightning Battalion commander.

U.S. Army photo

# 81st RSC celebrates black history

By SGT. KANDI HUGGINS  
81st Regional Support Command

The 81st Regional Support Command hosted its annual celebration of African American history Feb. 6 at the Wildcat Auditorium.

The guest speaker, Joseph Johnson, an archaeologist with Historic Columbia, gave Soldiers and civilians an oral and visual guided tour into the lives of African Americans during the civil rights era in Columbia.

“I heard him speak at the annual NAACP conference (last year) and was impressed with the information, delivery, presence and knowledge he had,” said Master Sgt. Rosalind Chamberlain, equal opportunity adviser for the 81st. “I wanted the Soldiers to have the same experience.”

She said often we learn about black history on a large scale, but what Johnson brought was how Columbia played a role in the civil rights movement.

Johnson spoke about black life, history and culture.

“Life being, African Americans participating in different aspects of the civil rights movement in Columbia,” Johnson said. “That ties into what is black culture, which builds its history. This was a great opportunity to present the project I’m working on and the realism of living history, which is the real history of black history.”

Johnson is currently working on the Columbia S.C. 63 initiative. Project 63 was initially created in 2012 to mark the 50th anniversary of 1963, the height of the civil rights movement.

Now, the initiative aims to acquire and manage different aspects of Columbia civil rights history.

Oral interpretations, photographs, and documents are used to highlight and illus-



Photo by Sgt. KANDI HUGGINS, 81st Regional Support Command

**Soldiers and civilians dance with the Wona Womalan West African Ensemble during the 81st Regional Support Command’s annual celebration of African American history Feb. 6.**

trate what civil rights looked like in South Carolina and to present that to the public in different ways.

“A lot of monumental events took place (in 1963) that set the stage for the (Civil Rights) Act of 1964,” Johnson said. “A lot of demonstrations, debates and core cases were in 63, not only for South Carolina but for the entire nation.”

A nation that Chamberlain swore to protect and serve.

“These observances help break down stereotypes,” Chamberlain said. “Studies show when you teach someone about a culture they become an advocate for that culture.”

Because the Armed Forces are made up of so many cultures, she said we have to

learn a person’s history to sometimes learn who they are today.

“A person’s history — such as slavery or the Holocaust — can have an impact on individuals that didn’t specifically live during that era,” Chamberlain said. “Understanding others’ cultures helps break down the stereotypes that can turn into discrimination, which can turn into hate.”

### Youth of the Month

Taylor Cunningham, 16, is the Boys & Girls Club of Fort Jackson Youth of the Month for February. Cunningham is a sophomore at A.C. Flora High School.

*Courtesy photo*



### Cupid bowling

The 187th Ordnance Battalion conducts its annual Cupid Bowling Strike team-building event Feb. 10 at Ivy Lanes Bowling Center. Soldiers, civilians and family members enjoyed an evening of bowling and video games in a Mardi Gras-themed environment. The unit also held a bowling tournament with trophies presented to the top scorers.

*Courtesy photo*



# School trains better prepared leaders

By **DAVID VERGUN**  
Army News Service

WASHINGTON — Feedback from the field regarding the Army Drill Sergeant Academy's change in August to Army Learning Model training is positive, said Sgt. Maj. Ed Roderiques, the academy's deputy commandant.

Army Learning Model is the informal name given to "The Army Learning Concept for 2015," Pamphlet 525-8-2, published by TRADOC and intended for implementation Armywide.

The academy, located at Fort Jackson, uses drill sergeant leaders to train drill sergeant candidates who, in turn, train recruits at one of the Army's four training centers, located at Fort Sill, Oklahoma; Fort Benning, Georgia; Fort Jackson; and Fort Leonard Wood, Missouri.

The academy also uses the new training model to train platoon sergeant candidates, tasked with Advanced Individual Training, following Basic Combat Training.

Since 1964, when the Drill Sergeant Program was established, legions of drill sergeants have received their training at Fort Jackson.

"Anyone who has been through the (program) can tell you war stories about snapping to and being reminded what it's like to be a private again," Roderiques said. "And, it was pretty much like that the whole way through. We were graduating really, really good privates."

Last summer, "we flipped the switch to that approach," Roderiques said, meaning that the academy's commandant, Command Sgt. Maj. Lamont Christian, implemented the new training approach.

Roderiques referred to the guts of the training model's doctrine as learner-centric, outcomes-focused and peer-to-peer instruction.

Drill sergeant candidates are put more in charge of their own training. Previously, drill sergeant leaders took on the role of drill sergeants, and the candidates took on the role of privates, Roderiques said.

Candidates are now given more responsibilities for planning, coordination, resourcing and execution of their own training. The role of leaders emphasizes facilitating and mentoring, Roderiques said, providing an example using physical readiness training.

Previously, one candidate at a time led training from the platform, while the candidates executed the exercises, he said.

Now, the candidates take turns on the platform. Each takes a turn leading the exercises on the platform, while other candidates on the ground take turns evaluating each other and offering spot corrections as needed, Roderiques said.

After candidates receive relevant training instructions, they are expected to lead and assess, doing the tasks once done only by the drill sergeant leaders.

"The difference is the candidates acting as assistant instructors in making on-the-spot correction in the ranks of the other candidates," Roderiques said.

Another example involves training at the rifle range, he said. Besides running the candidates through the marksmanship training and re-teaching them basic concepts such as trigger control and sight pictures, they are also given higher-order training processes as well.

For a drill sergeant, teaching new Soldiers to shoot involves more than just hands-on training with a rifle. Drill sergeants must understand the details of such things as safely opening and executing a range training operation, range logistics and resourcing, risk management, first aid requirements, and concurrent training.

"By the time they graduate and get down to the trail, not everything is brand new to them," Roderiques said. Trail is jargon for the time drill sergeants spend training recruits.



U.S. Army photo by SGT. 1ST CLASS BRIAN HAMILTON

**Drill sergeant candidates receive on-the-spot corrections from Staff Sgt. Logan Robbins, a drill sergeant leader, on 'zero day' at the U.S. Army Drill Sergeant Academy.**

The candidates "didn't just observe training from a slide, or from part of a larger group, they've actually put their hands on it," he said. "They've developed muscle memory and they have a better handle on things."

The new training approach is especially helpful to non-commissioned officers who come from lower-density military occupational specialties who may not have ever had the opportunity to stand in front of large formations during their time as leaders prior to coming to the academy, Roderiques said.

For example, electronic repair technicians may work in shops with two or three other Soldiers.

"They may have been masters of systems, but they might not be comfortable standing in front of a formation," Roderiques said. "We get them there. We get them to the comfort level where they can project some presence in front of those Soldiers."

While the Army Learning Model may have changed the approach to training, the program of instruction, or POI, remains essentially the same, he said. Even so, the POI is up-

dated on a continuing basis as relevant Soldier competencies are validated by the Proponent Development and Integration Division, a TRADOC entity.

Roderiques said he has an appreciation for the role doctrine plays in training requirements, especially since he's had a recent tour of duty at TRADOC headquarters on Fort Eustis, Virginia. He said he also has seen the positive changes brought about since he was a drill sergeant at Fort Leonard Wood from 1994 to 1996.

Among the positive changes he said he's seen is creation of a safer and more secure environment for all recruits, especially females. Roderiques became a drill sergeant in year-two of gender-integrated training.

Lastly, Roderiques said there are openings for drill sergeants if anyone is interested. Besides special-duty pay and increased chance for promotion, he said the experience itself is priceless.

Drill sergeants train America's finest fighting men and women, he said. Soldiers remember their drill sergeants, "I certainly do mine. And, I'm sure Soldiers remember me."

# Soldiers begin closure of Ebola testing labs

By **STAFF SGT. TERRANCE RHODES**  
101st Airborne Division

MONROVIA — As the mission of Joint Forces Command — United Assistance, or JFC, comes to an end, there are a few more tasks that Service members, deployed in support of Operation United Assistance, or OUA, have to complete.

The 1st Area Medical Laboratory, or 1st AML, based out of Aberdeen Proving Ground, Maryland, deployed as Task Force Scientist in support of OUA, is closing all four of its Ebola testing laboratories in Liberia.

The 1st AML is designed as a deployable analytical laboratory with a diagnostic capability to detect and identify environment contaminations that could harm Service members on the battlefield.

The professionals provide combatant commanders with health hazard assessments of environmental, occupational, endemic and chemical, biological, radiological, nuclear or high-yield explosive threats, or CBRNE, in support of force protection and weapons of mass destruction missions.

Made up of microbiologists, biochemist, and laboratory technicians from the 1st AML, Task Force Scientist also includes Sailors from the Naval Medicine Research Center,

and civil affairs and military police Soldiers.

With the motto of “Soldier-scientists,” the command tests air, water, soil, food, waste and vectors including insects, animals and blood, for various kinds of contaminants. To do this, the unit was structured into three specific areas: biological, chemical, and occupational and environmental health, said Col. Patrick Garman, commander of 1st AML.

“The 1st AML has brought state-of-the-art analyzers and experienced personnel who have been able to analyze and identify Ebola in human samples as well as other endemic diseases in a very professional manner,” Garman said.

The laboratory’s main mission was to establish four Ebola testing laboratories in austere environments at Tap-pita, Sanniquellie, Greenville and Zwedru since arriving in mid-October. The Soldier-scientists have tested more than 4,500 Ebola suspected samples, said Garman, a native of Troy, Ohio.

Zwedru was the first Ebola testing lab to close, shutting down operations Feb. 9, while the other three labs are scheduled to shut down over the next few weeks.

“It has been more than 90 days since the last confirmed Ebola case (in Grand Gedeh County),” said Capt. Shawn Palmer, a biochemist for the Zwedru lab, with the 1st AML, and a native of Loma, Colorado.

On an average day, the Zwedru lab would receive samples in the morning and began the testing process with paperwork and safety preparations, Palmer said.

After all the paperwork is filed, the technicians decontaminate the samples by extracting the Ribonucleic acid from each sample, a process that takes about three hours, Palmer said.

“Here at the Zwedru lab, we haven’t received any positive samples for Ebola, which is great for the people of this community,” Palmer said.

For Palmer, being a part of this mission was a chance to experience something new and different.

“This was an great opportunity to come to Liberia and help the community and the locals try to eradicate Ebola,” Palmer said.

Proud of what has been accomplished, it’s the Soldiers and the support received that has made this mission success.

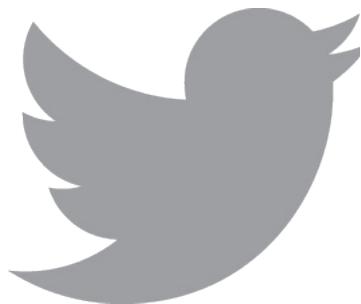
“We have received nothing but the utmost support from the JFC, 101st (Airborne) Division, and our Soldiers have benefited from that,” Garman said.

“We have Soldiers out in austere locations and hours away from the headquarters; they have been part Peace Corps, part diplomats, part scientist, but always professional Soldiers,” Garman said.

## Back to the basics

Moncrief Army Community Hospital Soldiers go ‘Back to Basics’ by taking a refresher course in getting tear gassed. ‘The (Nuclear, Biological, Chemical) Gas Chamber provides realistic training,’ said 1st Sgt. Ricardo Gutierrez, MACH Medical Company first sergeant. ‘It builds confidence in yourself and your equipment, but most importantly it builds trust and confidence in each other.’ The Back to Basics campaign began last year as an initiative designed to refresh the essential training Soldiers receive in Basic Combat Training.

Photo by SGT. 1ST CLASS  
JASON VANZANT,  
Special Troops Battalion



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Trenton Jenkins, 9, stretches his muscles during the C.C. Pinckney Elementary School health fair Feb. 10.



Abigail Voorhees, 7, chooses a snack from the table during the health fair at C.C. Pinckney Elementary School, Feb. 10.



Brook Hernandez, Dental Activity, teaches C.C. Pinckney Elementary School students and family members about the importance of dental hygiene.



First Lt. Amanda Young, a master resilience trainer, teaches Gabe Luzunaris, 4, how to properly stretch his hamstring during the Skyrocketing Into a Healthy Lifestyle event at C.C. Pinckney Elementary School, Feb 10.

# Emphasizing health

## Lifestyle resources go on display at fair

By ANDREW McINTYRE  
Fort Jackson Leader

Developing a healthy lifestyle is important for both children and parents, and C.C. Pinckney Elementary School hosted a Health and Nutrition Fair at C.C. Pinckney Elementary School to help do just that Feb. 10.

"We decided that we would have a health fair so that families of our children and the parents of our children would know the resources here on post that Fort Jackson has to offer for living a healthier lifestyle," said Kerrie Ammons, speech and language pathologist, C.C. Pinckney Elementary School.

C.C. Pinckney faculty, staff and teachers established a stakeholder committee that helps develop activities that allow both on- and

off-post communities to see what programs Fort Jackson has to offer for children, Ammons said.

Sierra Fisher, the mother of a C.C. Pinckney student, said her daughter was interested in attending the event.

"My daughter really wanted to come because she wanted another opportunity to do extracurricular activities and learn more about health."

— Sierra Fisher  
C.C. Pinckney mother

Staff Sgt. Byron Thomas, 369th Adjutant General Battalion, said he attended with his son, Christopher, 8, for more information about healthy eating habits.

"I wanted to make sure that he is healthy and that he knows more about better eating habits, rather than just sitting at home playing video games," Thomas said. "Right now at this event, I have him doing Crossfit, so he has to get his blood pressure checked, run the course and then have his blood pressure checked again."

Thomas said learning healthy eating habits will make for a healthier future.

"It's better to know about healthy eating habits at a young age because when (the children) read the labels they'll know whether or not the food is good for them," Thomas said.

Ammons said research shows that healthy children also learn better.

"There is more than cognitive learning or academic learning going on here," she said. "We want to teach to the whole child, so we need to make sure the whole child is healthy. That means (children) need to have a good breakfast in the morning, they need exercise and they need to know personal hygiene so that they can be good learners."

Ammons said the intent is to tie back the school's goals — math problem solving and reading comprehension — with healthy living.

"The students will learn about diabetes. We will have the students measuring sugar so they know how much sugar is in some of their snacks. The kids will also be graphing their heart rates," Ammons said. "As for reading and comprehension, research also



Christopher Thomas, 8, participates in a Crossfit exercise while Ty Fisher, 4, encourages him.

Photos by JENNIFER STRIDE

## School committee looks to boost student math and reading scores

By ANDREW McINTYRE  
Fort Jackson Leader

C.C. Pinckney Elementary School has established a committee aimed at increasing reading and math skills for students and building relationships within the Fort Jackson community.

Faculty, staff and teachers established a stakeholder committee that helps develop activities focused on increasing reading and math skills for students, but also allows both on- and off-post communities to see what programs Fort Jackson has to offer to children, said Kerrie Ammons, a speech and language pathologist with the school.

The committee hosted its first event Feb. 10.

"This month we are having our Skyrocketing into a Healthy Lifestyle program to raise awareness about living a healthy life," said Laurel Raymond, a teacher at C.C. Pinck-

ney. "Tonight, we have a number of Fort Jackson organizations on post represented here to help our children learn more about healthy living through reading and math skills. We have the Master Fitness Resilience School, Moncrief Army Community Hospital, the dental clinic (and the) Army Physical Fitness School."

Raymond said the committee is dedicated to hosting one program per month.

"This month is heart health month, and later this month we'll be having our Jump Rope for Heart event, so our stakeholders got together and decided that we want to take that theme and see how we can incorporate that into our math and reading goals of problem solving and reading comprehension," Raymond said.

Next month, the school will hold its Reading Prize Patrol event.

"We are really excited about the upcoming programs that we have to offer the Fort Jackson community," Raymond said.

Ammons said that the committee is looking forward to hosting more events to increase reading and math skills for students and inform parents of Fort Jackson programs.

"We are looking to host one event per month for the Fort Jackson community that focuses on our school goals of reading and math skills," Ammons said.

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# IMCOM plan shapes 2025 workforce



Photo by AMANDA KRAUS RODRIGUEZ, IMCOM

**Dana Davis, a member of the Strategic Human Capital Plan working group, prepares draft copies of the SHCP for IMCOM headquarters staffing.**

By AMANDA KRAUS RODRIGUEZ  
IMCOM

SAN ANTONIO — The newly developed IMCOM Strategic Human Capital Plan, or SHCP, lays groundwork for re-shaping its workforce and culture to answer the future needs of the Army, provide premier installation management and become one of the premier federal workplaces by the year 2025.

Lt. Gen. David Halverson, IMCOM commander, approved the SHCP, the first plan of its kind, Jan. 29 with eyes on both today's challenges and tomorrow's installation workforce needs.

"We have to adapt ourselves," Halverson said. "The old ways of doing business no longer apply."

The plan is a critical first step in the "IMCOM 2025 and Beyond" strategic design and its development was complex. IMCOM's workforce includes more than 54,900 civilian employees in 329 occupational series, spanning 31 Army career programs globally. A new approach was required to include everyone — appropriated fund, local national, and non-appropriated fund employees, said Brian Gormley, SHCP project lead.

"We formed a tiger team of your peers — a multi-disciplined team that represented all of IMCOM's functional responsibilities, from all regions and garrisons, to develop and publish IMCOM's first ever Strategic Human Capital Plan," Gormley said.

The team started with an assessment of the command, identifying opportunities for improvement using standards published by the Office of Personnel Management and the Government Accountability Office, along with

employee feedback.

"We want employees to know that meaningful cultural change is coming," said Lois Keith, Civilian Personnel Chief of IMCOM. "It's important that the workforce knows that this is a group effort — a transparent data-driven, fact-based process. Through the Federal Employee View Point Survey, employees have a voice. They spoke and we listened."

Included in the assessment are annual Federal Employee Viewpoint Survey results, the Partnership for Public Service "Best Places to Work" rankings, historical data and demographics, as well as employee and supervisor interviews (from headquarters, region and garrison levels) that guided development of the SHCP.

"You're making history, and it's a good history," said Brig. Gen. Jason Evans, IMCOM deputy commanding general for support.

Dana Davis, a financial management specialist at IMCOM Europe region headquarters and a member of the SHCP working group, cited communication as the key to successful implementation.

"I'm very hopeful that this effort will be sustained," Davis said. "With General Halverson getting out there and telling everyone that this is important, other leaders and the regional directors repeating it, the message — people are our focus — is going to filter out to the entire workforce."

The plan is scheduled for publication this month and includes specific action items to improve IMCOM practices and develop a people-centric focus. Employees can expect to see transparent, leader-led actions to achieve premiere workplace status and published results of progress.

## Army Reserve has training vacancies to fill

By DAVID VERGUN  
Army News Service

WASHINGTON — The Army Reserve is short on trainers, including drill sergeants.

"We're trying to grow them every day, especially female drill sergeants," said Maj. Gen. Leslie Purser, commanding general of the 108th Training Command (Initial Entry Training) in Charlotte, North Carolina.

"My goal is to take advantage of the downsizing of the active-duty Army and bring some of those combat arms Soldiers or even former drill sergeants trained on the active duty who are leaving the Army," Purser said.

Although the 108th Training Command is headquartered in North Carolina, its reach includes 44 states and Puerto Rico, so Soldiers aspiring to join have a range of locations where they could drill as trainers.

Two of the command's three divisions support the four Army training centers at Fort Sill, Oklahoma; Fort Benning, Georgia, Fort Jackson and Fort Leonard Wood, Missouri. The other division primarily supports ROTC units, adjunct faculty at universities, cadet summer training and military academy training.

Since the command has so many units, Purser said it's also experiencing a shortage of officers to lead them.

A lot of officers leaving active duty are not even aware of these opportunities, she said. Leadership vacancies exist from company to brigade-level.

"Absolutely, we're hiring. I've got companies without commanders," she said. "I would love to bring some of those guys in and give them a command or staff position that would lead to a command position."

Whether officer or enlisted, the benefits of joining the Reserve are enormous, Purser said.

Surprisingly, a lot of Soldiers being separated, including officers, are not even aware of the benefits, she said, citing the point system as an example. When Reservist Soldiers reach age 60, they get paid based on the total number of points they have accumulated, one point for each day of service.

So drill weekends, plus the 15-day block of training per year, means most Reservists accumulate 50 to 100 points annually, she said.

Those with active service coming into the Reserves have an enormous advantage, she said. For a Soldier with 10 years of active duty, that's 10 times 365 days for a total of 3,650 points. It means more money when they start drawing retirement at age 60, and they get the opportunity to continue to serve.

And, Purser said, in the course of their Reserve service they have deployed or mo-

bilized after 2008, Soldiers can count 90 days of that tour toward 90 days for retiring early — the only stipulation being that a Soldier can't retire before age 50.

Some Soldiers who go Reserve may even end up getting a full-time Reserve instructor position at one of the training centers or elsewhere, she said.

Soldiers are also eligible to enroll in the TRICARE Reserve Select medical insurance plan.

Soldiers should look into these opportunities early, Purser said by visiting their career counselors. Also Reserve Component Career Counselors, or RCCCs, are located at every post and are there to explain Reserve benefits during out processing.

Soldiers who want to try for drill sergeant positions should be prepared for a challenging but rewarding experience, Purser said.

"It's a little more difficult to be a drill sergeant than it is for most other duties because our drill sergeants are truly at the front door of the Army," she said.

For example, the Army Physical Fitness Test requires 60 points in each event. A drill sergeant must score 70 points in each event.

Only 19 percent of Soldiers are eligible to be drill sergeants because in addition to the tougher standards, they have to go through a screening process to check for "past violations," she said. Because drill

sergeants, like recruiters, are very influential, the screening process is intense.

Expecting a nine-to-five job? Don't apply, she said. Drill sergeants are sometimes with their platoons 24 hours a day.

The U.S. Army Drill Sergeant Academy at Fort Jackson is also rigorous, physically, academically and mentally, she said.

Sgt. Maj. Ed Roderiques, deputy commandant, said the academy operates as a One Army School System. Reserve and active drill sergeant leaders train both Reserve and active Soldiers on how to become drill sergeants.

"That ensures they're all getting the same training," he said, adding that Reserve and active used to have separate training.

Not all jobs, though, require graduating from the academy. The 108th Training Command also has openings in logistics, administration, training, operations, budget, and other fields Purser said.

Also, not all drill sergeant-type jobs are at the four training centers. There are also T3 or train-the-trainer jobs, used to improve combat skills of Soldiers Reserve-wide.

For instance, the 377th Theater Sustainment Command has 30,000 Soldiers. During a recent exercise, Operation Sustainment Warrior, the 377th brought in drill sergeants to help other Soldiers brush up on skills like physical training, land navigation, marksmanship and so on, she said.

## Calendar

**Friday**

### African-American History Month luncheon

11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m., NCO Club

**Monday**

### Financial forum

8:30 a.m. to 3 p.m., NCO Club  
Army Community Service offers financial classes as part of Military Saves Week.

**Wednesday**

**African-American History Month event**  
10 to 11 a.m., Soldier Support Institute auditorium

**Friday, Feb. 27**

### Victory Spouses' Club Denim & Diamonds dinner

6 p.m., NCO Club  
The event is open to all members and their guests. For more information, email [vscreervations@gmail.com](mailto:vscreervations@gmail.com).

**Friday, Feb. 27**

### BOSS kickback event

10 p.m., Single Soldier Complex Community Center  
Enjoy music, games, refreshments and relaxation. For more information, call 629-1096.

**Saturday, March 7**

### Dr. Seuss' birthday celebration

10 a.m. to 1 p.m., Solomon Center  
Children 7-18 may participate in a writing contest. The submissions deadline is Feb. 26. For more information, call 751-6150 Ext. 1.

**Wednesday, March 11**

### Retired Officers Wives Club luncheon

11:30 a.m., Officers' Club  
RSVP is required by March 5. For more information and to RSVP, call 788-1094 or 783-1220.

**Wednesday, March 18**

### Racquetball tournament

Noon, Perez Gym  
For more information, call 751-3700.

## Announcements

### PWOC SPRING RETREAT

The Protestant Women of the Chapel will host a spring retreat from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., March 21 at the NCO Club. Registration is due by March 5. For more information and to register, email [vivianps46.10@att.net](mailto:vivianps46.10@att.net).

## TAX CENTER OPEN

The Fort Jackson Income Tax Assistance Center is open from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday through Friday.

Services are available to active-duty Service members, eligible family members and eligible retirees. Assistance is provided by appointment only.

Taxpayers must:

- Arrive 10 minutes before their scheduled appointment time.
- Bring their W-2 forms, which can be downloaded from <https://mypay.dfas.mil>.

- Bring all Form 1098s or 1099s.
- Bring a valid military ID card.
- Bring a power of attorney if filing for another person or filing "married filing jointly" without the spouse present.

- Taxpayers who wish to receive an expedited refund via direct deposit must bring a canceled check.

Tax preparation will be limited to basic tax returns and customers who own no more than one home.

The tax center is located at 4330 Magruder Ave.

For more information and to schedule and appointment, call 751-JTAX (5829)

## YOUTH SPORTS REGISTRATION

Registration for the following youth sports programs is open through Feb. 27:

- Spring soccer (ages 3-16);
- Track and field (ages 6-14);
- Travel baseball (ages 9-14).

For more information, call 751-7451.

## COUNSELING GROUP FOR SPOUSES

Our Circle, a new counseling group for military spouses, will be offered the first Saturday of each month from 10 a.m. to noon at the Chaplain Family Life Center. Brunch will be provided. For more information, call 751-4949.

## OFFICERS' CLUB CLOSURE

The Officers' Club is closed for roof repairs. It is tentatively scheduled to reopen in March.

## SPORTS SHORTS

- Soccer league play will start Saturday. Matches will be played at 10 a.m., 11 a.m. and noon at Hilton Field Softball Complex.
- Boxing smoker, 6 p.m., Saturday, Solomon Center.
- Tooth Fairy Run, 8 a.m., Feb. 28,

Twin Lakes. Register online at <http://bit.ly/1wxzE9o> or on the day of the race from 6:30 to 7:30 a.m.

- Amateur Softball Association of America umpires and scorekeepers clinic, March 21-22.

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

## BIGGEST LOSER CHALLENGE

Family and Morale, Welfare and Recreation is hosting the 2015 Biggest Loser Challenge until March 6. The categories are fitness, weight loss and total lifestyle change. For more information, call 751-3700.

## THRIFT SHOP NEWS

- Winter clothes will be accepted through Wednesday.

- Summer clothes will be accepted starting March 10.

- A fashion show is scheduled from noon to 3 p.m., March 18 at the Mini Mall. Each hour will focus on a different type of fashion (children's, formal wear and vintage wear). Refreshments will be provided.

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

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

## SCHOLARSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

- Applications for the 2015 Scholarships for Military Children Program will be accepted through Friday. For more information, visit [www.militaryscholar.org](http://www.militaryscholar.org).

- Applications for Victory Spouses' Club scholarships will be accepted through March 1. Applicants must have a sponsor who was a member of the Victory Spouses' Club as of Dec. 16. For more information, visit <http://vscwebmaster.wix.com/victory> or email [VSCscholarship@gmail.com](mailto:VSCscholarship@gmail.com).

- Applications for the Army Engineer Spouses Club Army Engineer Memorial Awards and the Geraldine K. Morris Award scholarships are accepted through March 15. Scholarships are available to graduating high school seniors whose parent, sponsor or legal guardian is a member of the Army Engineer Spouses Club. For more information, visit [www.armyengineerspouses.com](http://www.armyengineerspouses.com) or email [scholarships@armyengineerspouses.com](mailto:scholarships@armyengineerspouses.com).

- Applications for Folds of Honor scholarships are accepted through March 31. The scholarships are open to children and spouses of fallen or disabled Service members. For more information, visit [www.foldsofhonor.org/scholarships](http://www.foldsofhonor.org/scholarships).

- Applications for the Army Emergency Relief Spouse Scholarship program and the Maj. Gen. James Ursano Scholarship Program will be accepted through May 1. For more information, visit [www.aerhq.org](http://www.aerhq.org).

## AAFES NEWS

AAFES has launched its Exchange Extra app for Apple and Android devices. The app gives shoppers information on the

latest promotions, contests, coupons and more.

## COMMISSARY NEWS

- The Defense Commissary Agency is re-introducing its Commissary Value Brand. About 300 products are available in 33 categories. For more information, visit [www.commissaries.com/shopping/value-brand.cfm](http://www.commissaries.com/shopping/value-brand.cfm).

- The Commissary rewards card allows shoppers to use digital coupons at any commissary. For more information, visit [www.commissaries.com/rewards/index.cfm](http://www.commissaries.com/rewards/index.cfm)

## Off-post

*The Fort Jackson Leader accepts only off-post announcements for those organizations or events that directly relate to Service members and their families.*

## NAVY BAND CONCERTS

The U.S. Navy Band, which includes the Concert Band and the Sea Chanters Chorus, will perform at 7 p.m., March 10 at the Koger Center. The Concert Band will also perform at 2 p.m., Feb. 20, at the Lexington Performing Arts Center. The concerts are free and open to the public.

## 'WELCOME HOME' TRAINING

The Military Child Education Coalition offers a free course for professionals who support military-connected children and youth. The theme of the course is "The Journey from 'Welcome Home' to Now: Reunion, Reconnection, Routine." The course is scheduled from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m., March 27 at the Marriott Hotel Columbia. For more information, call 254-953-1923 Ext. 1110 or visit [www.militarychild.org/training](http://www.militarychild.org/training).

## SALUTE TO VETERANS

A free bike event to honor veterans and active-duty military is scheduled for 1 p.m., March 28 at 18929 Main Highway, Olar, S.C. The event includes an honor ceremony, free food, live music and a bike show. Veterans and Service members are asked to be there at 12:45 p.m. For more information, call 507-7767.

## WWII COMMEMORATION

A ceremony to commemorate the 72nd anniversary of the first U.S. Army mass parachute drop during World War II is scheduled for 2 p.m., March 29 at the 82nd Airborne Division monument on U.S. Highway 1 between Elgin and Camden. Attendees are encouraged to bring seating.

*Information is subject to change.*

*Visit the community calendar at <http://jackson.armylive.dodlive.mil/> for a full listing of calendar events.*

*Send your announcements to [fjleader@gmail.com](mailto:fjleader@gmail.com).*

*Announcements are due one week before the publication date.*

*For more information, call 751-7045.*

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

[www.facebook.com/FortJacksonLeader](http://www.facebook.com/FortJacksonLeader)

[www.twitter.com/FortJacksonPAO](http://www.twitter.com/FortJacksonPAO)

[www.youtube.com/user/FortJacksonSC](http://www.youtube.com/user/FortJacksonSC)

# Day promotes quitting smokeless tobacco

By **WENDY LaROCHE**

U.S. Army Public Health Command

Today, join others across the nation in recognition of the Great American Spit Out, a time to quit the use of smokeless tobacco products such as chewing tobacco, snuff, snus and dissolvable products (i.e., lozenges, strips, sticks) for a period of 24 hours or more.

Despite media advertisements promoting smokeless tobacco products as less harmful than smoking tobacco products (i.e., cigarettes), any form of tobacco use is dangerous and increases the users' susceptibility to oral cancer.

Smokeless tobacco users absorb nicotine in the mouth, causing a variety of dental health concerns, including bad breath, tooth decay and gum disease. It's important to visit your dentist for regular checkups when using any form of tobacco products.

Addiction associated with smokeless tobacco use is also alarming. Nicotine is the addictive substance that causes the physical dependence and emotional addiction to a tobacco product. Smokeless tobacco products are known to have two to three times the amount of nicotine than cigarettes.

For Soldiers, nicotine addiction impacts mission readiness by reducing stamina, reducing concentration, reducing night vision and increasing recovery time for the healing of wounds. Additionally, a strong association exists between tobacco addiction and mental health diagnoses, mood disorders and substance abuse.

Smokeless tobacco may also cause financial hardship to those who are addicted, with potential costs of more than \$1,000 a year. All tobacco use significantly increases overall military health care costs.

As a result of the significant negative impacts of tobacco use, military installations are helping to combat tobacco use by enforcing existing tobacco restriction



U.S. Marine Corps photo

## Today's Great American Spit Out promotes quitting smokeless tobacco products.

policies and promoting tobacco-free facilities and campuses.

The Great American Spit Out is a great time to get support or to support others and say "no" to addiction and unnecessary financial hardships, and gain back your healthier life. Quitting tobacco takes a plan, a commitment and action. There are a plethora of services that can help. A few steps you can follow are:

- Contact a friend or your health care provider to let them know of your plan to quit. A health care provider can offer alternative options and provide personal advice

on how to proceed.

- Prepare a plan for what you'll do to keep busy when the urge from the addiction is present during the Great American Spit Out. Will you take a walk, call a friend, drink water or chew on sugarless gum?

- Identify the resources that best fit your needs. Do you prefer face-to-face counseling, online chatting, large support groups or social texting? Whatever you choose, there are many resources ready to help.

- Be realistic and be determined. You can become tobacco free.

**The flu vaccine will still help protect you from the flu this year.**



**While some of the flu viruses spreading this season are different from what is in the vaccine, vaccination can still provide protection and might prevent severe illness.**

**Get your flu vaccine now.**

You can help slow the spread of germs that can cause many different illnesses.

1. Avoid close contact with people who are sick.
2. Stay home when you are sick.
3. Cover your mouth and nose with a tissue when coughing or sneezing.
4. Wash your hands often. If soap and water are not available, use an alcohol-based hand rub.
5. Avoid touching your eyes, nose, or mouth.
6. Clean and disinfect frequently touched surfaces at home, work, or school, especially when someone is ill.

More information: [http://www.cdc.gov/flu/pdftreesources/updated/everyday\\_preventive.pdf](http://www.cdc.gov/flu/pdftreesources/updated/everyday_preventive.pdf)



## FLU VACCINATIONS AT MACH

Patients who are enrolled at Moncrief Medical Home may receive influenza vaccines from 8 to 11:30 a.m. and 1 to 4:15 p.m., Mondays, Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Fridays; and from 9 a.m. to 4:15 p.m., Thursdays.

Influenza vaccines are also available at the Immunization Clinic on the sixth floor at MACH for beneficiaries 4 and older from 7:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m., weekdays.

Children younger than 4 may receive their flu immunization at the Integrated Health Medical Home on the sixth floor at MACH.

## Health News

### TRICARE PHARMACY COPAYS

New copayments for prescription drugs covered by TRICARE went into effect Feb. 1. The Fiscal Year 2015 National Defense Authorization Act requires TRICARE to increase most pharmacy copays by \$3. Drugs from military pharmacies and from TRICARE Pharmacy Home Delivery are still free.

### OUTPATIENT PHARMACY HOURS

Effective immediately, Moncrief Army Community Hospital's Outpatient Pharmacy will open at 9 a.m., every third Thursday of the month. Regular hours are from 7:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m., Monday through Friday and from 7:30 a.m. to noon, Saturday.

### E-PRESCRIBING COMING SOON

The Military Health System has deployed electronic prescribing in military pharmacies across its system of clinics and hospitals in the U.S., Guam and Puerto Rico.

This capability will allow civilian providers to send prescriptions electronically to military pharmacies, reducing the need for handwritten prescriptions. Beneficiaries can ask their doctor to look for their local military pharmacies in the e-prescribing database/networks. Military hospitals and clinics will not be able to accept electronic prescriptions for controlled substances. Beneficiaries will still need a hand-written prescription for these medications.

Visit [www.facebook.com/MoncriefACH](http://www.facebook.com/MoncriefACH) to get the latest news regarding Moncrief Army Community Hospital, health tips, TRICARE updates and information from the Army Medical Command.

# Saluting this Basic Combat Training cycle's honorees

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



**Staff Sgt. Ronald Harding**  
Company A  
1st Battalion,  
61st Infantry Regiment

**SOLDIER LEADER OF THE CYCLE**  
Pvt. Zachary Whittaker

**SOLDIER OF THE CYCLE**  
Pfc. Truptiba Khuman

**HIGH APFT SCORE**  
Pvt. Katie James

**HIGH BRM**  
Pvt. Alexander McGuire



**Staff Sgt. Serina Glass**  
Company B  
1st Battalion,  
61st Infantry Regiment

**SOLDIER LEADER OF THE CYCLE**  
Spc. Jason Caylor

**SOLDIER OF THE CYCLE**  
Pvt. Lily Borja

**HIGH APFT SCORE**  
Pvt. Sean Matarazzo

**HIGH BRM**  
Pvt. Nikolas Colon



**Sgt. 1st Class Arelus Riley**  
Company C  
1st Battalion,  
61st Infantry Regiment

**SOLDIER LEADER OF THE CYCLE**  
Spc. Stephanie Hurdis

**SOLDIER OF THE CYCLE**  
Pvt. Jessie Smith

**HIGH APFT SCORE**  
Pvt. Donald Parkhurst

**HIGH BRM**  
Pvt. Andrew Kramer



**Staff Sgt. Dustin Reider**  
Company D  
1st Battalion,  
61st Infantry Regiment

**SOLDIER LEADER OF THE CYCLE**  
Spc. Stephen Quick

**SOLDIER OF THE CYCLE**  
Spc. Jacob Nix

**HIGH APFT SCORE**  
Pvt. Sasha Gonzales

**HIGH BRM**  
Pvt. Nicholas Smith



**Staff Sgt. Minyvonne Wilson**  
Company E  
1st Battalion,  
61st Infantry Regiment

**SOLDIER LEADER OF THE CYCLE**  
Pvt. Norman Frasier Jr.

**SOLDIER OF THE CYCLE**  
Spc. Jillian Jones

**HIGH APFT SCORE**  
Pvt. Tristan Flores

**HIGH BRM**  
Pvt. Beach Tanner



**Sgt. 1st Class Ryan Love**  
Company A  
Lightning Battalion  
(Provisional)

**SOLDIER LEADER OF THE CYCLE**  
Pvt. Eric Garcia

**SOLDIER OF THE CYCLE**  
Pfc. Tyler Scott

**HIGH APFT SCORE**  
Pvt. Shelby Lebron

**HIGH BRM**  
Pvt. Mason Mendoza

## Weekly honors



**Staff Sgt. Robert Perrin**  
Drill sergeant of the cycle  
Task Force Marshall



**Kevin Olson**  
Civilian of the cycle  
Task Force Marshall

### SUBMISSION GUIDELINES

Send all submissions to [FJLeader@gmail.com](mailto:FJLeader@gmail.com). For more information, call 751-7045. Announcements should be typed and no more than 45 words.

### Threat Information Resources

#### iSALUTE Website

<https://www.us.army.mil/suite/page/633775>

#### Army Threat Integration Center (ARTIC) Website

<https://army.deps.mil/army/sites/APP/OPMG/OPS/antiterror/artic/default.aspx>

### Antiterrorism Awareness Resources

#### Antiterrorism Enterprise Portal (ATEP) Website

<https://army.deps.mil/army/sites/APP/OPMG/OPS/antiterror/ATEP/default.aspx>

#### Army OneSource (AOS) Website

(select iWATCH Army / Antiterrorism logo on website)  
<http://www.myarmyonesource.com>



Always Ready, Always Alert  
Because someone is depending on you



A Simple Observation, or a Single Report, can lead to actions that may STOP a terrorist attack



### SEE SOMETHING – SAY SOMETHING

#### What to Report

- Date and time activity occurred
- Where activity occurred
- Physical descriptions of the people involved
- Description of the vehicle(s) involved
- What type of activity
- Describe what you saw or heard
- Provide pictures if you took any

#### Who to Report to

- Military Police
- Local law enforcement
- Security forces
- Chain of Command
- Army Counterintelligence



[www.fortjacksonleader.com](http://www.fortjacksonleader.com)  
[www.facebook.com/FortJacksonLeader](https://www.facebook.com/FortJacksonLeader)  
[www.twitter.com/FortJacksonPAO](https://www.twitter.com/FortJacksonPAO)  
[www.youtube.com/user/FortJacksonSC](https://www.youtube.com/user/FortJacksonSC)

# Worship Schedule

## PROTESTANT

- Sunday
  - 9 a.m. McCrady Chapel (SCARNG), McCrady Training Center
  - 9:30 a.m. Hispanic, Magruder Chapel
  - 9:30 a.m. Main Post Chapel
  - 10:30 a.m. Daniel Circle Chapel Gospel service, Daniel Circle Chapel
  - 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

### Protestant Bible Study

- 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 to 11:30 a.m. Women's Bible study (PWOC), Main Post Chapel
- Wednesday
  - 6 p.m. Gospel prayer service, Daniel Circle Chapel
  - 7 p.m. Gospel Bible study, Daniel Circle Chapel
- Thursday
  - 11:45 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Fresh encounter Bible study, Chaplain Family Life Center

### Protestant Youth of the Chapel

- Saturday
  - 11 a.m. Daniel Circle Chapel youth group, Dorn VA Hospital (first Saturday of each month)
- Sunday
  - 5 to 6:30 p.m. Club Beyond youth group, Chaplain Family Life Center

## CATHOLIC

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

- Sunday
  - 7:30 a.m. Confessions, Solomon Center
  - 8 a.m. IET Mass, Solomon Center
  - 9:30 a.m. CCD (September through May), Education Center
  - 9:30 a.m. Religious ed class for adults (September through May), Main Post Chapel
  - 9:30 a.m. Religious ed class for children (September through May), Main Post Chapel
  - 10:30 a.m. Reconciliation (after Mass or by appointment), Main Post Chapel
  - 11 a.m. Mass (Main Post Chapel)
  - 12:30 p.m. Catholic youth ministry, Main Post Chapel
- Wednesday
  - 7 p.m. Rosary, Main Post Chapel
  - 7:30 p.m. RCIA/Adult inquiry (September through May), Main Post Chapel

## ANGLICAN/LITURGICAL/EPISCOPAL

- Sunday
  - 8 a.m. Anderson Street Chapel

## ISLAMIC

- Sunday
  - 8 to 10 a.m. Islamic studies, Main Post Chapel
- Friday
  - 12:45 to 1:30 p.m. Jumah services, Main Post Chapel

## JEWISH

- Sunday
  - 9:30 to 10:30 a.m. Worship service, Memorial Chapel
  - 10:30 to 11:30 a.m. Jewish book study, Post Conference Room

## CHURCH OF CHRIST

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

## LATTER DAY SAINTS

- Sunday
  - 9:30 to 11 a.m. Anderson Street Chapel
- Wednesday
  - 3 to 5 p.m. LDS family social, Anderson Street Chapel
- Wednesday
  - 7 to 8 p.m. LDS scripture study, Anderson Street Chapel

## ADDRESSES, PHONE NUMBERS

- Anderson Street Chapel**  
2335 Anderson St., 751-7032
- Bayonet Chapel**  
9476 Kemper St., 751-6322/4542
- Daniel Circle Chapel**  
3359 Daniel Circle, corner of Jackson Boulevard, 751-1297/4478
- Education Center**  
4581 Scales Ave.
- Chaplain Family Life Center**  
5460 Marion Ave. (to the side of the POV lot), 751-4961
- Magruder Chapel**  
4360 Magruder Ave., 751-3883
- Main Post Chapel**  
4580 Scales Ave., corner of Strom Thurmond Boulevard, 751-6469/6681
- McCrady Chapel (SCARNG)**  
3820 McCrady Road (located at McCrady Training Center)
- Memorial Chapel**  
4470 Jackson Blvd., 751-7324
- 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