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THE FORT JACKSON LEADER

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★ SPECIAL TROOPS
BATTALION
REPLACES 4-10TH

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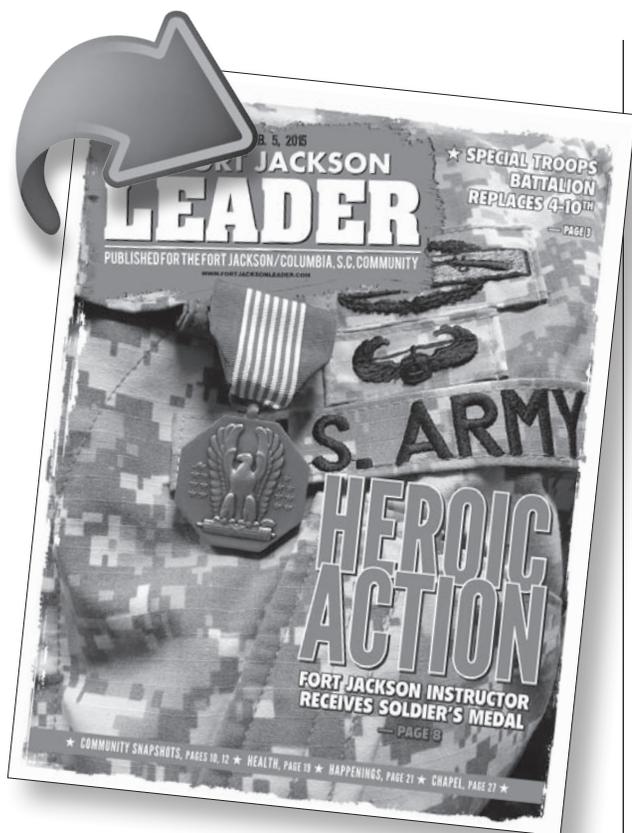


HEROIC ACTION

FORT JACKSON INSTRUCTOR
RECEIVES SOLDIER'S MEDAL

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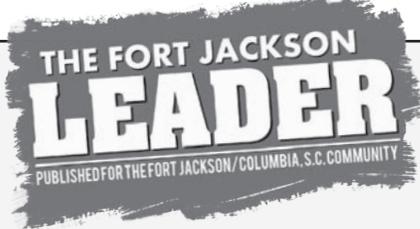
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ON THE COVER

Photo by WALLACE McBRIDE

Sgt. 1st Class Adam Lane received the Soldier's Medal in a ceremony Friday at the NCO Club. **SEE PAGE 8.**



Fort Jackson, South Carolina 29207

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NEWS



Courtesy photo

Off the trail

From left, Staff Sgt. Ashley Brown, Staff Sgt. Daniel Mollet and Sgt. 1st Class Matthew Staff, all with 3rd Battalion, 34th Infantry Regiment, wear their campaign hats for the last time during a ceremony marking the end of their tours as a drill sergeant Saturday at the battalion.

PUBLIC HEARING SCHEDULED

The Department of the Army will hold a community listening session at 3 p.m., Feb. 26 at the Shandon Baptist Church to gather community opinions regarding results of the Supplemental Programmatic Environmental Assessment, or SPEA.

The public is invited to attend. The church, located at 5250 Forest Drive, will open its doors at 2 p.m., and the event will continue until complete.



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LETTERS Editor

The Leader welcomes letters to the editor. All letters should include the name, hometown and phone number of the writer. The Leader reserves the right to edit letters for grammar, style, spelling and brevity. Send your letter to FJLeader@gmail.com. For more information, call 751-7045.

New name, same mission

Special Troops Battalion replaces 4-10th

By WALLACE McBRIDE
Fort Jackson Leader

Last week represented a new beginning for the former 4th Battalion, 10th Infantry Regiment. Now designated as the Special Troops Battalion, the unit unfurled its new colors for the first time Friday during a reflagging ceremony at Darby Field.

Change is nothing new for the battalion, though. Last week's ceremony marks its fourth name change since it was formed in 1998, said Lt. Col. Keith Purvis, commander of the Special Troops Battalion.

"We have been — and will remain — a multi-purpose battalion capable of almost anything the Army provides," Purvis said. "We can train anyone for almost anything."

The battalion began its life at Fort Jackson as Victory Task Force, which was composed of Soldiers from Headquarters and Headquarters Company, U.S. Army Training Center and Fort Jackson, the 282nd Army Band, the U.S. Army Student Detachment and other units.

It was reorganized in 2005 as Victory Support Battalion, activated as the 4th Battalion, 10th Infantry Regiment in 2009 and, last October, became the Fort Jackson Special Troops Battalion.

"As training evolved, so did the battalion," Purvis told the gathering at Darby Field last week. "We've done this again and again, always finding ways to improve the training that needs to be done, improve ourselves, and the others that we supported."

The battalion provides training and administrative support to assigned, attached and administratively controlled units as part of the U.S. Army Training Center mission, as well as conducting Initial Military Training and supporting Fort Jackson partners in excellence.

The new Special Troops Battalion designation means that the unit is no longer rooted in Fort Jackson and Army history, said Col. Clint Kirk, 171st Infantry Brigade Commander. The change will not impact its mission, he said.

"Changing the name of this battalion de-links these Soldiers with the proud history of 4-10 Infantry, but it does not change the mission of the battalion, or the culture of excellence that continues under a new set of colors," Kirk said.

During its tenure, the 4-10th processed more than 24,000 leaves, 5,000 awards and 35,000 other administrative actions, Purvis said. It also trained more than 3.6 million Soldiers as part of Initial Military Training.

The battalion was involved with almost every aspect of training on Fort Jackson.

"On the hand grenade range in the last five years, 235,000 hand grenades were thrown with a member of this battalion standing in the pit, ensuring safe and accurate throwing, ready to react in case of an errant throw," he said.

Very little changes for the Soldiers making the transition into the new battalion, Kirk said.

"They will continue to train basic trainees on critical combat skills," he said. "They will continue to represent this post and the Army as the Fort Jackson Honor Platoon. They will continue to care for 2,000 Soldiers serv-



Photo by WALLACE McBRIDE

The colors of the newly designated Special Troops Battalion are displayed during a reflagging ceremony Friday at Darby Field. The new name replaces the battalion's former designation as the 4th Battalion, 10th Infantry Regiment. The unit's mission remains the same.

ing around the world as students. They will continue to provide law enforcement and security for Fort Jackson. They will continue to support Post Headquarters and the

staff. And they will continue to provide music for the post and the Columbia-Midlands region."

Milton.W.McBride3.ctr@mail.mil

Facebook town hall set for Tuesday

By **WALLACE McBRIDE**
Fort Jackson Leader

Fort Jackson is conducting the first of its semiannual Facebook town hall meetings next week.

Post leadership will be manning computers for an hour beginning at noon Tuesday, and will be prepared to answer questions from Soldiers, family members, retirees, veterans and anyone else in search of information.

People interested in participating in the Facebook town hall event should log into their account and search for "U.S. Army Garrison Fort Jackson, SC."

In addition to the Facebook component of the virtual town hall meeting, people may also submit questions via email, said Lewis Kellam, supervisory operations officer with the Directorate of Plans, Training, Mobilization and Security. Kellam said online town hall meetings allow leaders to reach a wider audience than physical events.

"Social media is what people turn to these days," he said. "They don't have to be present. And they can go online later, read the post and still reply."

Questions will be accepted

via email prior to the Facebook event on Monday, Feb. 9, at usarmy.jackson.93-sig-bde.list.jackson-dptms-townhall@mail.mil.

Representatives from Family and Morale, Welfare and Recreation; Army Community Service; the Housing Division; the Installation Chaplain Office; the Office of the Staff Judge Advocate; and the Directorate of Emergency Services will be among those available to answer questions.

The next Facebook town hall is scheduled for August.

Milton.W.McBride3.ctr@mail.mil



Prayer breakfast

Navy Chaplain (Capt.) Mark Smith, commanding officer of the Navy Chaplaincy School and Center, speaks on the question 'Can we pray? Together?' during Fort Jackson's National Prayer Breakfast observance Tuesday at the NCO Club. The event also included music and a litany of prayers from various religions and denominations.

Photo by ANDREW McINTYRE



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Upcoming Family & MWR Events

- » *NCO Club Morning Breakfasts*
Every Thursday (6:30 - 9:30 a.m.)
For info, call 782-2218.
- » *Beginners Mixed Bowling League*
Now - Apr. 24 at Century Lanes.
For info, call 751-6138.
- » *Predator Challenge*
Feb 7 (5:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.)
at Alpine Lodge in Heise Pond.
For info, call 751-3484.
- » *CYSS Sweetheart Ball*
Feb 7: (7:00 - 9:00 p.m.)
at the Solomon Center.
For info, call 751-4869.
- » *A Mystery Afternoon*
Feb 7 (1:30 - 3:30 p.m.)
at Thomas Lee Hall Library.
For info, call 751-5589.
- » *Cherokee NC Day Trip*
Feb 7 (7 a.m.-10 p.m.)
at Marion Street Station.
For info, call 751-3484.
- » *Buddy Bingo*
Feb 14 at Victory Bingo.
For info, call 751-3411.
- » *Children's Story Time*
Feb 12 (6:30 - 7 p.m.)
at Thomas Lee Hall Library.
For info, call 751-5589.
- » *Valentine's Celebration*
Feb 14 (11 a.m. - 1 p.m.)
at Thomas Lee Hall Library.
For info, call 751-5589.
- » *Black History Month Trail Walk*
Feb 16 (8:00 a.m.) at Marion Street.
For info, call 751-3700.
- » *Fort Jackson Boxing Smoker*
Feb 21 (6:00 p.m.)
at the Solomon Center.
For info, call 751-7146.
- » *Myrtle Beach Day Trip*
Feb 28 (8:00 a.m. - 8:00 p.m.)
meet at Marion Street Station.
For info, call 751-7146.

BUDDY NIGHT IS BACK at Victory Bingo on Feb 14



Bldg -12500 Huger St. - (803)751- 3411 ext. 102
Fireball, double wins and paper sales do not apply.



Buy one regular Game Pack and your guest gets one free!

DISCOUNTED TICKETS

available now at Victory Travel

Walt Disney World Military Salute:

\$177 for a 4-Day Park Hopper Ticket available through Oct 30.



Universal Orlando:

2 Days free with 1-Day Park ticket Purchase
Adult: \$137
Child: \$131
Available through June 7.

Call Victory Travel at 751-5812 for details.



SPECIAL OFFER
LUNCH AND BOWL
Special

Enjoy discounted bowling (up to 3 games for only \$1.50 each) and receive discounted shoe rental pricing (only \$1.50) when you spend \$5 or more on any menu item(s).

Offer available Tue, Thur & Fri from 11 a.m. - 2 p.m. at the Strike Zone Snack Bar located inside Century Lanes.



4464 Gregg St. Fort Jackson, SC 29207
(803)751-6138

FORT JACKSON BOXING SMOKER



FREE EVENT

SATURDAY, FEB 21
6 P.M. AT THE SOLOMON CENTER

FOR MORE INFO,
CONTACT
MIKE GARCIA
AT 751-7146



Limited time offer!



Through Wednesday, Feb 11
GET A CHICKEN BLT SANDWICH COMBO FOR ONLY \$6.95
at The Strike Zone Snack Bar located inside Century Lanes Bowling Center.

Strike Zone Snack Bar
4464 Gregg St. Fort Jackson, SC 29207
(803) 751-4656



Photo by ANDREW McINTYRE,

Col. Michael Graese, garrison commander, cuts the ribbon to mark the official opening of the Fort Jackson Income Tax Assistance Center Jan. 28.

Tax center opens its doors

By ANDREW McINTYRE
Fort Jackson Leader

The Fort Jackson Income Tax Assistance Center opened with a ribbon-cutting ceremony Jan. 28.

The center is offering free tax help to active-duty Service members, eligible dependents and retirees through April 15. Services are offered from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., Monday through Friday at 4330 Magruder Ave.

“We are happy to begin serving the Fort Jackson community,” said Capt. Collin Smith, a legal assistance attorney and commander of the Fort Jackson Tax Center.

Smith said the free tax preparation is the center’s most significant benefit to its

customers.

“Filing a 1040 in the state of South Carolina is \$135, and filing a state tax return is \$85, so you’re looking at about \$230 (in savings),” Smith said.

In addition to free tax preparation, Smith said customers can also file taxes electronically along with direct deposit for tax returns.

“However, there are some limitations to filing taxes here on post,” Smith said. “We can only file taxes for those who have one home. We are unable to file taxes for those who have multiple homes.”

He emphasized that married couples who want to file jointly must present a power of attorney in case one of the spouses cannot be present.

The Soldiers preparing taxes are trained and ready to serve the Fort Jack-

son community this tax season.

“All of our volunteer income tax assistants, who are Soldiers, are certified by the Internal Revenue Service, so we can provide the best services to the community,” said Staff Sgt. Brandy Barnes, non-commissioned officer in charge at the tax center.

Barnes said the Soldiers are looking forward to serving the retirees and Service members.

“We are excited to give back to the personnel of Fort Jackson,” Barnes said. “We know that we may see retirees from all over the state during this season, and so we are really excited and looking forward to the next three months.”

Col. Michael Graese, Fort Jackson’s garrison commander, spoke of his personal experiences with filing taxes at the

center during the opening ceremony.

“I get my taxes done here every year,” Graese said. “For a couple of years, I tried using an online self-prepared tax service, and I personally just didn’t feel comfortable with it. ... Every time I leave the Army tax center I feel great. The Soldiers here always explain to me the details of my taxes before I walk out the door.”

Graese said last year’s numbers for the tax center spoke volumes about the staff’s professionalism.

“Last year, we filed 2,392 total tax returns; more than \$3 million in refunds were issued; and we helped save \$295,000 in tax fees,” Graese said.

For more information and appointments, please call (803) 751-JTAX (5829).

Andrew.R.McIntyre.civ@mail.mil



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New SMA discusses his objectives

By **C. TODD LOPEZ**
Army News Service

WASHINGTON — “You’ve always been just a Soldier. And you need to say that,” said Sgt. Maj. of the Army Daniel Dailey, relaying the advice given to him by retired Sgt. Maj. of the Army Robert Hall.

Dailey, who most recently served as the command sergeant major at TRADOC, was sworn in as the 15th sergeant major of the Army during a ceremony at the Pentagon, Friday. Chief of Staff of the Army Gen. Ray Odierno administered the oath to the new senior enlisted adviser.

The role of the sergeant major of the Army is primarily to advise the chief of staff of the Army, or CSA, on issues related to the enlisted force, and to pursue objectives laid out by the CSA.

During an interview Friday, before having been sworn into office, Dailey said Odierno had already discussed objectives with him, and that after he settles into his new job, he is expected to start off in his new position by visiting with Soldiers around the Army.

“The chief wants me to get out and see the force,” Dailey said. “It’s critical I hear their voice and carry that back to the chief and the secretary of the Army.”

Dailey said he expects to visit areas with large Soldier populations. Included among those might be the 1st Armored Division at Fort Bliss, Texas; the 1st Cavalry Division at Fort Hood, Texas; the 1st Infantry Division at Fort Riley, Kansas; and the 3rd Infantry Division at Fort Stewart, Georgia.

Dailey also has his own ideas he brings with him to the job — ideas about Soldier development, physical fitness, and women in combat, for instance — topics he became familiar with while serving as the senior enlisted adviser at TRADOC.

WOMEN IN COMBAT ARMS

Most recently, the Army announced that female Soldiers will be allowed, for the first time, to attend Ranger school on a trial basis. This April, 60 slots will be made available to female Soldiers during a Ranger course assessment at Fort Benning, Georgia. The change is something Dailey said he welcomes.

“Is the Army ready for women in combat arms? I think we are past due,” Dailey said. “I think we should give every Soldier, regardless of gender, the opportunity to serve in any military occupational specialty. What I am excited about is that we are using a standards-based approach, just like we should for everything we do in the Army. Regardless of gender, those Soldiers who are physically capable and want to compete and try out for these schools and military occupational specialties will be eligible to do so. I think it will make our Army better.”

DEVELOPMENT OF THE NCO CORPS

A key area of focus for TRADOC, and now the newest sergeant major of the Army, is continued maintenance and development of the non-commissioned officer, or NCO, corps.

“I am carrying on some of the initiatives that we started when I was the TRADOC sergeant major,” Dailey said. “I truly believe that we have a lot of work we have already done, and there also is a lot that still needs to be accomplished to further professionalize our professional military education system for our NCOs and Soldiers.”

One area of development, Dailey said, is placed firmly on the shoulders of Soldiers themselves: structured self-development and civilian education.

“Our non-commissioned officers and Soldiers need to



U.S. Army photo by Staff Sgt. Chuck Burden

New Sgt. Maj. of the Army Daniel Dailey addresses the crowd at his swearing-in ceremony Friday at the Pentagon. Dailey will serve as the Army chief of staff’s personal adviser on matters affecting the Army’s enlisted force. He most recently served as TRADOC’s command sergeant major.

understand that a critical part of the development phase for a Soldier is the development they do on their own — utilization of the structured self-development platforms that we initiated and utilization of tuition assistance for them to take college credit and certifications,” Dailey said.

Equally important, he said, is maintenance of the operational skills Soldiers have learned from 12 years of combat. Soldiers who have participated in combat operations in Iraq and Afghanistan will eventually leave the Army, and their experience will leave with them — unless they pass it on to the Soldiers who follow in their footsteps. The Army wants them to pass on that information, Dailey said.

He also said that with combat operations having been drawn down, there will be more time for Soldiers to develop those professional skills and to also transfer what they have learned from 12 years of conflict to the new Soldiers arriving in the force fresh from Basic Combat Training.

“We have to make sure our NCOs are using those skills they learned over the 12 years of war and translate those skills to our young Soldiers, and ensure they are maximizing the time,” Dailey said.

He said there’s more time now for NCOs to spend with younger Soldiers to do critical unit-level training.

Dailey said the Army is becoming an “Army of preparation,” and must be ready for whatever the nation asks it to do, and that means continued training.

“I’ve always said the harder you train in garrison, the easier your combat experience should be,” Dailey said. “It’s critically important for our NCOs and our leaders and officers who have served overseas for the last 12 years, to maintain those skills. And they also have to educate and train the future Soldiers.”

The world is still dangerous, Dailey said. There is a significant amount of uncertainty that the Army, and Soldiers, must be prepared to face. One way to prevent war — which is the most desirable course of action, he said

— is to show potential adversaries that the Army is still very capable of combat.

“It is a critical time in our Army now. We live in a world of uncertainty. We have to maintain readiness. Our ultimate goal is to not fight,” Dailey said. “Our adversaries need to see we are an Army of preparation and that we are trained and ready to fight in response to our nation’s call. That call can happen anywhere, for any type of operation — whether it’s another war or a contingency operation in one of our partnering nations to help them. This time is just as critical as the last 12 years of war.”

PHYSICAL FITNESS

One aspect of war readiness, Dailey said, is Soldier physical fitness. The Army Physical Fitness Test measures how well Soldiers meet standards. Dailey said the Army is looking at possible new standards for physical fitness.

“There is a very extensive, ongoing initiative, to take an extremely comprehensive look at Army physical fitness,” Dailey said. “TRADOC has been doing a lot of research, really from the last two years, and in connection with the Soldier 2020 effort. I think there will be a change to the Army Physical Fitness Test. But the Army Physical Fitness Test is just an indicator of a level of fitness. I would also encourage Soldiers to do things that make (them) physically fit. Regardless of what the Army Physical Fitness Test becomes, if you maintain a level of physical fitness, you will do well.”

Another key component to physical fitness, Dailey said, involves NCOs and commanders leading from the front.

“I remind leaders all the time that if you are not going to your place of duty every morning at 6 a.m. for physical training and saluting the flag with your Soldiers, well then they are probably not doing it either,” he said. “And the way you get them to do it is you lead from the front.”

NCO receives Soldier's Medal

By WALLACE McBRIDE
Fort Jackson Leader

There's no room for error on Remagen range.

With thousands of live grenades thrown at the range each year, though, the opportunity for error is always present. As a requirement for graduation, new Soldiers must properly deploy two M67 hand grenades, an event that happens during the last two weeks of Basic Combat Training.

At the start of 2014, a Soldier's error almost proved fatal. A private dropped a live hand grenade in the bay, forcing quick action by her instructor, Sgt. 1st Class Adam Lane, who received the Soldier's Medal for his role in the incident in a ceremony Friday at the NCO Club.

"I know many of you have stood in those bays where those live hand grenades are being thrown," Maj. General Bradley Becker, Fort Jackson commanding general, told a gathering of Soldiers and their families during the ceremony. "You only have a couple of seconds to react or there's catastrophe. One — if not two people — could be seriously wounded or killed."

In January, Lane, assigned to the unit now known as the Special Troops Battalion, was able to get a Soldier out of the training bay before a grenade she had dropped inside the bay exploded, covering her with his own body. After a formal review of the event, the Army recognized Lane's actions by awarding him the Soldier's Medal.

Introduced in 1926, the Soldier's Medal is awarded to members of the armed forces, or of a friendly foreign nation, who distinguish themselves by heroism not involving actual conflict with an enemy. It is the highest honor a Soldier can receive for an act of valor in a non-combat situation.

"Luckily, we didn't have any of the shrapnel hit us," Lane said. "It was just the concussion, a large amount of pressure hitting your body."

"These NCOs are true professionals and practice that drill constantly," Becker said. "This non-commissioned officer reacted exactly right. Because of that, two people are alive. This is truly a big deal."

To help keep Soldiers safe on the range, a strict protocol is observed whenever anyone enters the training bays, Lane said. Soldiers also receive 45 minutes of instruction on proper safety procedures and throwing techniques. They then have to be certified before being allowed to train at Remagen range as a means to prove they under-



Photo by WALLACE McBRIDE

Maj. Gen. Bradley Becker, left, Fort Jackson's commanding general, congratulates Sgt. 1st Class Adam Lane after presenting him with the Soldier's Medal Friday at the NCO Club. Lane received the medal for saving a Soldier's life at the Remagen hand grenade range in January 2014.

stood their instructions.

This certification also involves how to conduct a "dropped hand grenade drill."

"We go over the dropped hand grenade drill before Soldiers even go into the bays," Lane said. "If we yell 'grenade,' they have to exit the bay one way, and (trainers) have to exit the bay another way. Once we get on the ground, we protect the Soldier."

Throwing two live hand grenades is a graduation requirement for new Soldiers, but there's often a great deal of anxiety attached to the event.

"If they want to graduate, they have to do it," Lane said. "You can tell which ones are really scared. They'll be shaking. You've just got to talk to them, get them calmed down and start the process again."

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'A very military-friendly place'

Retired chief of staff makes Columbia his home of choice

By **SUSANNE KAPPLER**
Fort Jackson Leader

More than 48,000 military retirees are making their home in the greater Columbia area after completing their service. One of them is J.R. Sanderson, who retired in 2011 as the chief of staff for the Army Training Center and Fort Jackson.

"I loved the Army. I love Fort Jackson. But nothing in this world beats being retired," Sanderson said. "The skill sets that I learned at Fort Jackson — being the chief of staff there for three years — really helped me to understand more about a business operation, more about how large, complex organizations work."

Sanderson, a retired colonel, is putting those skills to work in his civilian job as the director of operations and chief of staff for the South Carolina Department of Motor Vehicles, where he runs the day-to-day operations and oversees the organization's 66 field offices.

He is a native of Waynesville, North Carolina, but said he decided to stay in the Midlands for a variety of reasons. For one, he wanted to provide his son, Jake, a rising junior at the time, the opportunity to finish high school without having to move once again after a lifetime of military-related moves. He said that besides personal reasons, other aspects of living in the area make Columbia an attractive choice for retirees as well. Sanderson said he loves the Columbia community and the South Carolina climate, but mostly he appreciates the openness with which the civilian community embraces the military and its veterans.

"One of the things about South Carolina is it's a very, very military-friendly place," he said. "That means something. It means something to a veteran. It means something to me to be able to hug a young Soldier who is going through the airport, who's standing there waiting for a bus. ... A military retiree, in my opinion, would really have to do a strong analysis to leave South Carolina because it's that much of a draw, and it's just a great place to live."

Despite the positive relationship between the state and the military, Sanderson said he wished civilians better understood the importance of Fort Jackson, its training mission and its impact on the Army, the local community and the country.

"The fort's mission is absolutely critical," he said. "But I don't think people realize what a value added Fort Jackson is for both the nation and specifically here for South Carolina."

Besides training approximately 70,000 Soldiers each year in Basic Combat Training, Advanced Individual Training and leadership development courses, the post also has a significant economic impact on the area. Fort Jackson's economic contributions to the local community are estimated to be \$2.2 billion annually.

Sanderson left the Army as a decorated veteran. He enlisted as a private in 1979 and became an officer after completing college in 1984. He was deployed to Iraq during operations Desert Spring and Iraqi Freedom, and his decorations include the Silver Star, two Legions of Merit and the Bronze Star.

"I'm extraordinarily proud of my military service and my military record ..., but when it's time to walk away from that, it is a major demand to walk away from that and embrace everything that's coming before you."

Sanderson has faced that challenge not only by embarking on a new career, but also by crossing off one of the items on his bucket list — publishing a novel. "The Sweetwater Peace" was released in 2014 and is purely fictional, Sanderson emphasized.

"I was trying to combine four or five major elements of the military and faith and of all the things Soldiers go through when they go on a deployment and specifically (post-traumatic stress disorder) when they come back. Because the harder part here is never the combat. The harder part is always the reintegration," he said.

Susanne.Kappler1.ctr@mail.mil

Editor's note: Andrew McIntyre contributed to this report.



Leader file photo

Col. J.R. Sanderson retired as Fort Jackson's chief of staff in 2011. He now works as the director of operations and chief of staff at the South Carolina Department of Motor Vehicles.



Fun at the carnival

The Solomon Center transformed into an Old West town as Child, Youth & School Services hosted its annual Penny Carnival Friday. Above, Andrew Reid, 2, throws rubber snakes in a cowboy boot as his mother, Lt. Col. Monica Reid, looks on. Left, Col. Michael Graese, Fort Jackson's garrison commander, spends time in the 'town's' county jail. The charges against him were not known as of press time. The carnival offered a variety of games for children of all ages.

Photos by SUSANNE KAPPLER

How do federal, private student loans differ?

With the cost of education on the rise, the average student has no choice but to obtain a student loan in order to achieve his or her educational goals.

Students have two choices of loans: federal loans and private loans. Typical borrowers may find federal student loans the best and most affordable option because the interest rate will be fixed, which makes it easier to forecast your payments after graduation. Private loans are typically more expensive with variable rates, meaning your payments could increase over time.

Another distinct difference is the variety of repayment options offered by federal student loan borrowers compared to the limited options offered to private loan borrowers. The following list shows the differences between federal and private loans.

WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW

Take advantage of federal loan options before seeking private loans. Federal student loans almost always cost less and are easier to repay. Private loans are generally more costly than federal loans and offer little flexibility if you are having trouble making your payments.

BENEFITS

Many federal student loans are subsidized and have fixed interest rates. Most students are eligible, and repayment terms are flexible. With private loans, you can borrow larger amounts. If you shop around and can show ability to repay, you may be able to find low interest rates.

RISKS

The amount of money you can borrow is limited with federal loans, and a portion of your wages and tax

FINANCIAL ADVICE

By SHAWN SMITH
Army Community Services
Financial Readiness

refunds could be taken by the government if you neglect repayment responsibilities. With private loans, your interest rate and monthly payment could change with little warning, and you have fewer options for when and how much you repay.

HOW TO REPAY

Federal loans offer a six-month grace period for undergraduates. Federal loans offer flexible monthly payments based on income or financial hardship and possible debt forgiveness for teaching, military service and other public service work.

Private loans offer a six-month grace period for most loans. However, there is very limited flexibility for those with financial need or hardship.

INTEREST RATES

Rates for federal loans are fixed. The Subsidized Direct and Perkins Loans have no interest while you are

in school. Interest rates range from 3.86 percent to 6.41 percent, depending on the loan program. There is a 4 percent loan fee on PLUS loans and a 1 percent fee for other Direct Loans.

Rates for private loans are often variable, which means they may change over time. Borrowers are charged interest while they are in school. Interest rates range, depending on your credit and other factors. Lenders may charge various fees, like an origination fee.

WHO IS ELIGIBLE

Almost everyone is eligible for federal loans. Those with financial need will qualify for lower rates.

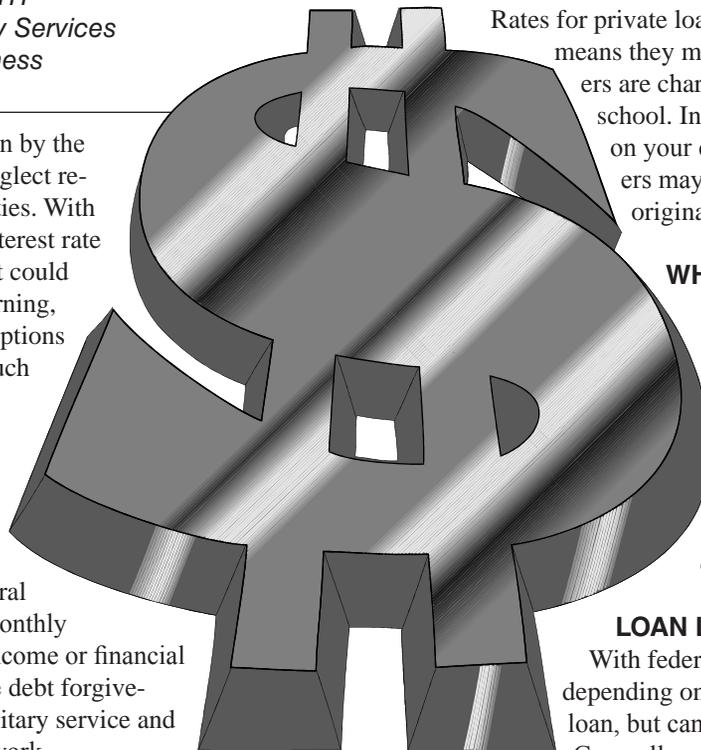
Private lenders decide eligibility based on your credit and other factors, and you will likely need a co-signer.

LOAN LIMITS

With federal loans, the loan limit varies, depending on who you are and the type of loan, but cannot exceed your college costs. Generally, undergraduates can max out at \$5,500 to \$12,000 per year, and graduate students at \$8,000 to \$20,500 per year.

With private loans, the loan limit varies, depending on your credit and other factors. Generally, you should not borrow more than your college costs.

For more information, call 751-5256 and ask to speak to a financial counselor.



News and Notes

FACEBOOK TOWN HALL MEETING

Fort Jackson will host a Facebook town hall meeting from noon to 1 p.m., Tuesday. Questions may be submitted to garrison staff via Facebook or via email. Log on to Facebook and search for "U.S. Army Garrison Fort Jackson." Email questions will be accepted starting Monday. Email your questions to usarmy.jackson.93-sig-bde.list.jackson-dptms-townhall@mail.mil.

SAMC INDUCTION

Sgt. 1st Class Rebecca Belanger, 1st Battalion, 61st Infantry Regiment, and Sgt. 1st Class Manuel Gonzalez, 187th Ordnance Battalion, will be inducted into the Sergeant Audie Murphy Club during a ceremony at 1:30 p.m., Friday at the NCO Club.

BLACK HISTORY MONTH

Fort Jackson will observe African-American/Black History Month with a luncheon from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m., Feb. 20 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.

CHILD CARE AVAILABLE

With the reopening of Scales Avenue Child Development Center, the availability of child and school age care has returned to normal and there is no longer a waiting list for most cases. Parents whose name was on a waiting list and who have not been contacted about vacancies should call 751-4865.

Spaces are available for children younger than Kindergarten age and for children whose parents' mission requires extended-hour service. Services for students with transportation to and from off-post schools are also available.

Information subject to change.

To submit an announcement, email fjleader@gmail.com.

Reel Time Theaters

We're saving a seat for you.

Ft. Jackson Movie Schedule

PH (803)751-7488

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

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

3319 Jackson BLVD

Ticket sales open 30 minutes prior to each movie

Movie times and schedule are subject to change without notice

Thursday February 5
Big Eyes (PG-13) 3 p.m. 1h 46m

Friday February 6
Annie (PG) 7 p.m. 1h 58m

Saturday February 7
Free Military Appreciation Showing
McFarland, USA (PG) 2 p.m. 2h 8m

Sunday February 8
American Sniper (R) 2 p.m. 2h 12m
Exodus: Gods And Kings (PG-13) 4:30 p.m. 2h 30m

Wednesday February 11
American Sniper (R) 2 p.m. 2h 12m
Exodus: Gods And Kings (PG-13) 4:30 p.m. 2h 30m

Friday February 13
Into The Woods (PG) 7 p.m. 2h 5m

Saturday February 14
Taken 3 (PG-13) 2 p.m. 1h 49m
Exodus: Gods And Kings (PG-13) 4 p.m. 2h 30m

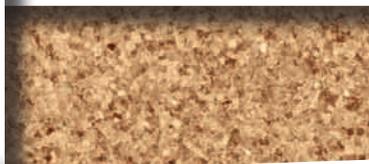
Sunday February 15
The Woman In Black 2 (PG-13) 2 p.m. 1h 38m
Unbroken (PG) 4:30 p.m. 2h 17m

Monday February 16
Taken 3 (PG-13) 2 p.m. 1h 49m
American Sniper (R) 4 p.m. 2h 12m

Wednesday February 18
Taken 3 (PG-13) 2 p.m. 1h 49m
American Sniper (R) 4:30 p.m. 2h 12m

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

COMMUNITY SNAPSHOTS



Unusual math lesson

The Fort Jackson Commissary welcomed 117 students from C.C. Pinckney Elementary School for Math Night at the Commissary Jan. 29. The C.C. Pinckney teachers developed standards-based math packets for the students. Students and their parents worked together to complete the packets by searching for items and prices throughout the store. All participants received a prize provided by the parent-teacher organization.

Courtesy photos

Center offers support group for spouses

By **ANDREW McINTYRE**
Fort Jackson Leader

Gen. Raymond Odierno, Army chief of staff, coined the phrase, "the strength of our nation is our Army. The strength of our Army is our Soldiers. The strength of our Soldiers is our families."

The Fort Jackson Chaplain Family Life Center offers a new program aimed at strengthening Army families.

"Our Circle" is a confidential support group for Army spouses who tackle the everyday job of supporting their Soldiers.

Holly Mayfield, a counselor with the Chaplain Family Life Center and an Army spouse herself, said the program's intent is to build Army spouses' mental health and wellness.

"We want to provide a safe, therapeutic and confiden-

tial environment where spouses can focus on and communicate about their struggles because our spouses definitely make a lot of sacrifices."

The program is scheduled to begin Saturday. The group will meet from 10 a.m. to noon every first Saturday of the month at the Chaplain Family Life Center.

"The spouses on post have husbands and wives who are deployed (and) drill sergeants on the trail dealing with the work tempo, and so life gets busy," Mayfield said.

Mayfield planned group sessions to work on building resilience.

"We are going to (focus) on building relationships, communications, art therapy, journal writing, stress management and self-care, just to name a few."

Chaplain (Maj.) Matthew Hall, installation family life chaplain, said this is not a program to tell spouses what to do, but to empathize with them.

"We have military spouses here who are counselors, and they can say, 'Yes, I feel what you feel, and I've gone through what you're going through,'" Hall said. "Their education and experience at the Family Life Center places them in a unique position to guide and provide perspectives and the tools to help (spouses) cope.

"If nothing else, spouses — our spouses — will know they have a place, where people know what they are going through and they care," Hall said.

Mayfield said spouses who are interested in attending are not required to register in advance.

"This is going to be a safe and confidential environment where our spouses have privacy," she said. "They can be confident in knowing that everything that is going to be discussed here stays here."

For more information, call the Chaplain Family Life Center at 751-4949.

Andrew.R.McIntyre.civ@mail.mil

VSC meeting

Amiee Butler, left, and Britta Douglas pose during the January luncheon of the Victory Spouses Club Jan. 20 at the NCO Club. For more information about the Victory Spouses Club, visit <http://vscwebmaster.wix.com/victory>.

Courtesy photo



Want more Fort Jackson news?

Watch Fort Jackson video news stories and Victory Updates

You Tube

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

LEADER DEADLINES

Article, announcement and photo submissions are due one week before publication. For example, an article for the Feb. 19 Leader must be submitted by Feb. 12.

Photos smaller than 1MB cannot be accepted.

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



Dailey

Continued from Page 7

KEEPING THE BEST SOLDIERS

Today, the Army is in the middle of a drawdown in troop levels. Although many Soldiers will leave the Army voluntarily, at some point the Army might be forced to ask some Soldiers to leave.

“My advice is to make sure you are doing your best, that you are representing Army values, and that you are truly an Army professional,” Dailey said. “Stewardship of the profession is critical. As we draw down, it has been made clear that we will use a standards-based approach to make sure we keep the best Soldiers. We owe that to our Soldiers. We owe that to our leaders. We owe that to the gracious taxpayers of America.

“Continue to do your best, work hard, and when you get those opportunities to excel, you need to do that. Study hard when you go to the various levels of NCO education, work hard at physical fitness training. There is plenty of room in the Army, for the future, for those Soldiers who want to stay,” he said.

For those Soldiers who do leave the Army, Dailey said preparation for civilian life is along the same lines as what Soldiers ought to be doing anyway — something Dailey said he has been doing now for 10 years.

“Take advantage of the education and self-development opportunities that currently exist,” he said. “Every Soldier is entitled to tuition assistance, so utilize that. That’s a gift from the American taxpayer, to give Soldiers the edge they need when they get out of the service.”

SOCIAL MEDIA INITIATIVE

One unique endeavor the new sergeant major of the Army plans to undertake is to officially engage Soldiers on social media. He said he plans to start an advisory group to make that happen.

“I’m not the expert on social media,” he said. “I come from a generation where I didn’t live my entire life with access to computers. That came on very late in life. I do take pride in the fact I am smart enough to consult the individuals who do have the knowledge, skills and attributes associated with the task.”

Dailey said he will form an SMA, or sergeant major of the Army, advisory group on social media, made up of Soldiers from across the Army, who will advise him on how Soldiers want to be communicated with.

“The audience is our Soldiers and the American people,” he said. “So who better to ask how they want to be contacted? When Soldiers give you advice, you’ve got to take it.”

Dailey joined the Army in 1989 and attended basic training and advanced individual training at Fort Benning, Georgia. He earned the 11B Infantry Military Occupation Specialty, or MOS. Dailey’s first assignment was with 3rd Infantry Division at Schweinfurt, Germany. He was promoted to the rank of command sergeant major in 2004. Dailey has served in both Korea and Germany, and has done five combat deployments to Iraq. His first such deployment was as a rifleman and radio telephone operator during Operations Desert Shield and Desert Storm.

Dailey’s awards include the Legion of Merit, Bronze Star Medal with Valor, three Bronze Star Medals, three Meritorious Service Medals, seven Army Commendation Medals, and 10 Army Achievement Medals. Dailey is also a member of the Sergeant Audie Murphy Club.

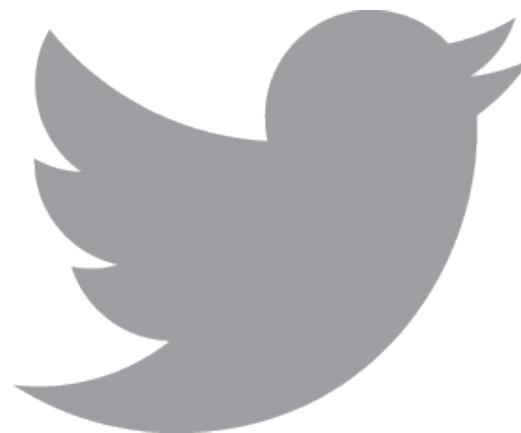


Photo by LISA FERDINANDO, Army News Service

Odierno honors outgoing SMA

Chief of Staff of the Army Gen. Ray Odierno honors outgoing Sgt. Maj. of the Army Raymond Chandler III for nearly 34 years of distinguished service to the nation during a retirement ceremony at Joint Base Myer-Henderson Hall, Va., Friday.

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Fort Jackson Leader

4 min. · Fort Jackson, SC

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Like · Comment · Share

Protect your heart by quitting smoking

Health.mil

The link between smoking and cancer is well known, but there is another major killer associated with smoking that often goes unnoticed — heart disease.

“Smoking not only causes cancer. Smoking is also a significant contributor to heart disease, the top cause of death for men and women in the U.S.,” said Paul Fitzpatrick, manager of “Quit Tobacco” program for the Defense Health Agency, or DHA.

During National Heart Month in February, the DHA wants to spread awareness about how smoking and tobacco use contributes to heart disease. The DHA is also promoting heart-healthy lifestyles and tobacco cessation through TRICARE, the health plan for Service members and their families, and through the Quit Tobacco website.

Approximately 600,000 people die of heart disease each year in the U.S. — about one in every four deaths, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Of these, 107,000 men and women die of heart disease related to smoking and smokeless tobacco products. On average, smokers die 13-14 years earlier than non-smokers.

Here’s how smoking causes heart disease, according to the American Heart Association, or AHA:

- Smoking reduces the amount of oxygen your heart gets.
- Smoking raises your blood pressure.
- Smoking speeds up your heart rate.
- Smoking makes clots more likely, which can lead to heart attack or stroke.
- Smoking decreases exercise tolerance.
- Smoking causes inflammation of blood vessels, including those in your heart.

Heart disease has become the No. 1 cause of smoking-related deaths in women.

“This finding is important to men, too, because most of us have women in our lives as wives, mothers, daughters and sisters. Everyone wants their loved ones to live longer,” Fitzpatrick said.

Women who smoke and use oral contraceptives are even more vulnerable. Smoking greatly increases their risk of coronary artery disease and stroke, compared to non-smoking women who use oral contraceptives, according to the AHA.

Quitting smoking before the age of 40 reduces the risk of dying from smoking-related disease by about 90



percent, according to CDC research. However, it’s never too late to quit. People who quit tobacco successfully can feel benefits almost immediately and are on their way to a longer, healthier life.

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



phc.amedd.army.mil



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/pdf/freeresources/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.

Visit 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.

Health News

TRICARE PHARMACY COPAYS

New copayments for prescription drugs covered by TRICARE went into effect Sunday. 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 opening 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 United States, 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 handwritten prescription for these medications.

TRICARE CHANGE

TRICARE will no longer send beneficiaries certificates of creditable coverage when they lose TRICARE eligibility. These certificates are no longer needed when beneficiaries transition off TRICARE. Beneficiaries will instead receive notice that their TRICARE coverage is ending.



FAMILY AND MORALE, WELFARE AND RECREATION PROGRAMS

WWW.FORTJACKSONMWR.COM



SWEET-HEART'S BRUNCH



AT THE NCO CLUB

Sunday, Feb 15 from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Featuring a full Sunday Brunch in the main ballroom. A variety of delicious foods including full breakfast and lunch buffet with omelet station, waffle station and carving meat station. Make your reservations now, seats will fill fast.

You may purchase tickets in advance, beginning on Feb 1 for \$14.95 for adults and \$7.50 for children, ages 4 to 11.

Please call (803)782-2218 to reserve your table.

5700 Lee Rd. Fort Jackson, SC 29207
(803)782-2218



Family & MWR Fitness Department COUPLE'S MASSAGES FOR VALENTINE'S DAY

Will be available Feb 11 - 14
at the Solomon Center for
\$80 per couple. Appointments
and walk-ins welcome all day.



For more information, contact
Pam Long at 803-751-3700.



FAMILY & MWR
OFFERS **TWO** GREAT
WAYS TO CELEBRATE
MARDI GRAS!
Tuesday, Feb 17



FAT TUESDAY BUFFET

AT THE NCO CLUB (11a.m. - 1:30 p.m.)
5700 Lee Road (803)782-2218

Enjoy Fat Tuesday with an all-you-care-to-eat New Orleans Buffet featuring Jambayla, Coconut Beer Shrimp, Chicken Gumbo, & Mardi Gras King Cake.

Just \$8.75 per person!

Enter to win a fabulous door prize with purchase of your lunch meal.

MARDI GRAS CELEBRATION

AT MAGRUDERS CLUB & PUB
Bldg-3305 Daniel Dr. (803) 790-0381

Featuring drink specials, door prizes and New Orleans wings. Doors open at 4:30 p.m. **FREE ADMISSION!**

Calendar

Saturday

CYSS Sweetheart Ball

7 to 9 p.m., Solomon Center
Free tickets are available at any Child, Youth and School Services location. For more information, call 751-4869.

Tuesday

SkYROCKETING into a healthy lifestyle

5:30 to 7 p.m., C.C. Pinckney Elementary School
A night of education, fun and health/fitness activities for students in grades two to six and their parents. Students who attend will get a 10-minute extra recess pass.

Wednesday

ScreamFree parenting your teenager

5:30 to 7:30 p.m., Joe E. Mann Center
For more information and to register, call 751-6325. Child care will be provided.

Wednesday, Feb. 18

Quarterly shred day

9 a.m. to 2 p.m., Recycling Center
For more information, call 751-4208.

Friday, Feb. 20

African-American History Month luncheon

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

Monday, Feb. 23

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, Feb. 25

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.

Wednesday, March 18

Racquetball tournament

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

Announcements

GARDEN PLOTS RENEWAL

Community members who want to lease or renew a garden plot need to sign a new permit. Permits are valid for 12 months, beginning Sunday. Plots are issued first to permanent party Soldiers, then to retired military. Remaining plots will be available to civilian personnel. For more information, call Valerie Kinsley at 751-7126.

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)

COUNSELING GROUP FOR SPOUSES

Our Circle, a new counseling group for military spouses, will begin Saturday at the Chaplain Family Life Center. Group sessions will be offered the first Saturday of each month from 10 a.m. to noon. 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.

CLAIMS OFFICE HOURS

The Fort Jackson Claims Office has new hours.

■ Monday: walk-in claims assistance from 9 to 11 a.m. and 1 to 4 p.m.

■ Tuesday: appointments only from 9 to 11 a.m. and 1 to 3 p.m.

■ Wednesday: closed for claims adjudication.

■ Thursday: appointments only from 9 to 11 a.m. and 1 to 3 p.m.

■ Friday: walk-in claims assistance from 9 to 11 a.m. Closed in the afternoon for claims adjudication.

SJA HOURS

The Office of the Staff Judge Advocate, including the Legal Assistance Office, will be closed from 11:15 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. daily through Feb. 12 because of staffing

shortages. Business hours are 9 to 11:15 a.m. and 12:30 to 4 p.m.

SPORTS SHORTS

■ Letters of intent for intramural soccer are due today. League play will start Feb. 21.

■ Dart league play starts at 5:30 p.m., today at Magruder's Pub.

■ Boxing smoker, 5:30 p.m., Feb. 21, Solomon Center.

■ Tooth Fairy Run, 8 a.m., Feb. 28, Twin Lakes. Register online at <http://bit.ly/IwxzE9o> 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 Feb. 25.

■ 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 Feb. 13. For more information, visit 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.

■ 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 or email scholarships@armyengineerspouses.com.

■ 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.

AAFES NEWS

AAFES has launched its Exchange Ex-

tra app for Apple and Android devices. The app gives shoppers information on the latest promotions, contests, coupons and more.

COMMISSARY NEWS

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

Off-post

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.

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.

Housing happenings

RV LOT

Recreational vehicles are not allowed to remain in the housing area except for loading and unloading. The Housing RV Storage Lot is authorized only for on-post residents who have registered their RV with the Housing Office at 4514 Stuart Ave. Registration of your RV is required before using the facility. Proof of residency, insurance and registration is required. Unauthorized RVs found in the storage lot will be towed at the owner's expense. For more information or to register your vehicle, call 751-9339.

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.

Announcements are due one week before the publication date.

For more information, call 751-7045.

Community announcements may be edited to comply with Leader style and Public Affairs regulations.

DOD launches child care website

By **TERRI MOON CRONK**
DOD News

WASHINGTON — As military families move frequently and face a host of concerns, finding child care can be one of the greatest challenges, said Barbara Thompson, director of military community and policy's office of family policy/children and youth/special needs.

To streamline and standardize what can be a daunting search, the Defense Department unveiled *MilitaryChildCare.com*, an online resource to help military, DOD civilian and contractor families find an array of military-operated and military-subsidized child care options for children between the ages of 4 weeks and 12 years, Thompson said.

CHILD CARE AFFECTS THE FORCE

"Child care is a workforce issue that impacts the readiness and retention of the force," Thompson said. "As families relocate to other areas, it's really challenging to make sure (their) child care needs are being met, and this tool gives parents an opportunity in advance to find those child care spots that will work for the family."

MilitaryChildCare.com is a "single gateway" for families to enter as they request child care, she noted.

Of the 200,000 children DOD serves in child care, more than 50 percent are younger than 3, Thompson said.

"It's very difficult to find infant and toddler care in the civilian community," she said. "(DOD has) young families with young children, and we really feel that we're providing a high-quality environment for those babies and toddlers (with the website)."

Families can customize their search, put their children on waiting lists and monitor requests for placement, Thompson said.

"The idea is that you have choices, and you see the array pictorially of what's available at those locations," she said.

The screenshot shows the MilitaryChildCare.com website interface. At the top, there are navigation links: 'Contact Us', 'FAQs', 'Create Account', and 'Hello! LOGIN'. The main header reads 'MILITARY CHILDCARE dot com'. Below this is a search section with a 'SEARCH' button and a 'CREATE ACCOUNT' button. A login prompt says 'Login to search & request care' with 'LOGIN' and 'GO' buttons. An alternative search path is 'Or search as a guest' with a 'Location' input field, 'Age: Year' and 'Age: Month' dropdowns, and a 'FIND CARE' button with a 'GO' button. There are also links for 'Advanced Search' and 'Search Tips'. A sidebar on the left contains four menu items: 'About MCC', 'About Our Programs', 'Types of Care', and 'Where Are We Now?'. The main content area features a large image of a young girl on a swing with the text 'See where child care is available anywhere in the world'. At the bottom, there are links for 'FOIA', 'Privacy Policy & Security', and 'Program Login'.

Screenshot

The Department of Defense recently launched a website that helps military families find child care.

A help desk online and at 1-855-696-2934, toll-free, is also available to help personalize families' searches, she added.

PILOT PROGRAM EXPANDING

The website initiative used focus groups comprising child care staff and parents with a goal of making the website functional and intuitive to make sure families can easily navigate the system, Thompson said.

A pilot program was also conducted at numerous installations over the past 18 months. The pilot included Nellis Air

Force Base, Nevada, for the Air Force; Hawaii for the Army; Hawaii and San Diego for the Marine Corps; and Hawaii, San Diego, Key West, Florida, Bahrain, Meridian and Singapore for the Navy, she said.

Recently, 13 more installations were added to the website in addition to the pilots.

They are Naval Air Facility El Centro, California; Naval Air Station Fallon, Nevada; Naval Air Station Joint Readiness Base Fort Worth, Texas; Naval Air Station Kingsville, Texas; Naval Air Station Joint Readiness Base, New Orleans; Naval Air

Weapons Station China Lake, California; Naval Air Station Lemoore, California; Naval Support Activity Monterey, California; Naval Base Ventura County, California; Naval Air Station Corpus Christi, Texas; Naval Station Everett, Washington; Naval Base Kitsap, Washington; and Naval Air Station Whidbey Island, Washington.

The child care website is expected to be fully functional worldwide by September 2016, Thompson said, adding that it will remain a work in progress as it receives feedback from parents for improvements.

Saluting this Basic Combat Training cycle's honorees

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



**Sgt. 1st Class
Quinton McNair**
Company C
2nd Battalion,
13th Infantry Regiment

**SOLDIER LEADER
OF THE CYCLE**
Spc. Franklin Campbell

SOLDIER OF THE CYCLE
Pvt. Jerrell Banks

HIGH APFT SCORE
Pvt. Kaitlyn Shute

HIGH BRM
Pfc. Nicholas Brown



**Staff Sgt.
William Feldhahn**
Company D
2nd Battalion,
13th Infantry Regiment

**SOLDIER LEADER
OF THE CYCLE**
Pvt. Alexander Schmitt

SOLDIER OF THE CYCLE
Pvt. Kenyatta Brown

HIGH APFT SCORE
Pvt. Alexander Schmitt

HIGH BRM
Pvt. Augerius Wade



**Staff Sgt.
Melissa French**
Company E
2nd Battalion,
13th Infantry Regiment

**SOLDIER LEADER
OF THE CYCLE**
Pvt. Gerardo Estevez

SOLDIER OF THE CYCLE
Spc. Juan Serrano

HIGH APFT SCORE
Pvt. Antony Padilla

HIGH BRM
Pvt. Anthony McKinney

February Promotions

Name	Rank	Name	Rank
LOVELL, William A.	LTC	ORDERS, Joseph A.	SFC
FITZGERALD, Shawn P.	MAJ	PAYNE, Christopher M.	SFC
PRIGMORE, Robert J.	MAJ	PORTER, Ryan A.	SFC
DEMBOWSKI, Scott C.	MAJ	PRICE, Edward H.	SFC
ROBBINS, Travis	MAJ	SOTO, Orlando Jr.	SFC
WRIGHT, Ernesia D.	CPT	JOHNSON, Krystle	SSG
HERZFELD, Katrina M.	SGM	MARTIN, Enjoyli E.	SSG
MOHEAD, Arthur L.	SGM	MIRANDA-BERNARD, Eva	SSG
NEGRETE, Ralph J.	MSG	SEVILLA, Jose L.	SSG
RADEBAUGH, Joseph E.	MSG	WILLIAMS, Rafael	SSG
ALFARO, Abraham M.	SFC	HARRIS, Thristian P.	SGT
BLACKMAN, Michael Q.	SFC	HARBAY, Deshena R.	SGT
CALDERA, Matthew S.	SFC	HOLMES, Kayla S.	SGT
HODGE, Jason E.	SFC	KING, Bliss M.	SGT
LEWIS, Terry A.	SFC	LEFEAVERS, Kristin D.	SGT
LEWIS JONES, Juanita Y.	SFC	WASHINGTON, Shenetra M.	SGT
LILE, Matthew T.	SFC		

SUBMISSION GUIDELINES

Announcements should be typed and no more than 45 words. All submissions may be edited to comply with *Leader* style and Public Affairs regulations. Send all submissions to FJLeader@gmail.com. For more information, call 751-7045.

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For information about display advertising, call Betsy Greenway at 432-6157 or email bgreenway@chronicle-independent.com.

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>

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

Who to Report to

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

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