

THURSDAY, OCT. 15, 2015

THE FORT JACKSON LEADER

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CLEAR RELIEF

UNITS PROVIDE PURIFIED WATER

— PAGE 3

★ I BECAME A SOLDIER, PAGE 6 ★ HAPPENINGS, PAGE 9 ★ HONORS, PAGE 10 ★ WORSHIP, PAGE 15 ★



ON THE COVER

Photo by JENNIFER STRIDE

Lt. Michael Owens of the 127 Quartermaster Company at Fort Bragg, N.C., demonstrates how purification removes the sediment from the yellowish water of Old Heise Pond, making it crystal clear. **SEE PAGE 3.**



Fort Jackson, South Carolina 29207

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Community Calendar

SEND ALL SUBMISSIONS TO
FJLeader@gmail.com

Deadline for events to be included in the calendar or Happenings is one week before publication. Include the time, date and place the event will occur, as well as other necessary information.

If you submit an article on an event that already has taken place, please send it as soon as possible. Tuesday is the last day we will be able to accept an article for publication the following Thursday. Include the date and place of the event, as well as a description of what took place. Please include quotations, if possible.

With any photo you submit, include IDs — including rank, unit, and first and last names.

Questions? Call 751-7045.

TODAY

Financial Planning for Initial Permanent Change of Station

9-10:30 a.m., Room B-206, Education Center. Mandatory for junior enlisted Soldiers preparing to PCS for the first time. Covers costs, allowances and entitlements associated with a move. Spouses encouraged to attend. Call 751-5256 for information or to register.

Anger Management

11 a.m. to noon, Classroom 10, 5614 Hood St. Class focuses on identifying, managing anger triggers. Call 751-6325 for information or to register.

Evening story time

6:30 p.m., Thomas Lee Hall Library

1 p.m., Victory Field. RSVP by today to Staff Sgt. Lakeshia Ross, 751-8128.

OCT. 22

Resume writing and interviewing skills

9 a.m. to noon, Room 222, Strom Thurmond Building. Targeted to military spouses but open to military, DOD cardholders. Call 751-5256 for information or to register.

Budgeting, banking and checkbook management

11 a.m. to 1 p.m., Room B-206, Education Center. How to develop a budget, keep personal financial records. Call 751-5256 for information or to register. (Please provide your lunch.)

FRIDAY

Family day at the State Fair

10 a.m. to 2 p.m., 1200 Rosewood Drive. Hearts Apart Families (those living separately from deployed Soldiers) and foreign-born spouses are invited to a day at the S.C. State Fair. Those who arrive at the main entrance on Rosewood Drive at 10 a.m. will receive free admission with their military IDs. For information and to reserve a spot, email patricia.a.guillory.civ@mail.mil, call 751-9770; or email miranda.o.broadus.civ@mail.mil by today.

MONDAY

Child-safety awareness refresher training

5-6 p.m., Classroom 10, 5614 Hood St. One-hour refresher course on how to identify, report child abuse. Required annually for law enforcement, chaplains and others who work with children. Open to active-duty and retired military, DOD civilians, members. Call 751-6325, to register.

TUESDAY

Comprehensive Soldier and Family Fitness Spouse Course

Building 2289, corner of Beauregard Street, Madgruder Avenue. Free three-day resiliency course for military spouses. Call 751-5913 for information.

Victory Spouses Club

11 a.m. to 1 p.m., NCO Club. Howl at the Moon October luncheon. Cost: \$15. Contact Heather Stout for reservations by noon today at vsreservations@gmail.com.

WEDNESDAY

Activation, 3rd Battalion, 39th Infantry Regiment

OCT. 23

No school for students at C.C.Pinckney, Pierce Terrace

Helping Hand Award ceremony

9 a.m., Solomon Center. The Fort Jackson command will recognize top community volunteers.

OCT. 24

Stop the Violence aerobathon

10 a.m. to noon, Solomon Center. Participants should wear purple to show support for an end to domestic violence. For information, call 751-3700.

OCT. 27

Story Time at the Library

11 a.m., Thomas Lee Hall Library

OCT. 28

Job-Searching Strategies for Military Spouses

8:30 a.m. to noon, Room 222, Strom Thurmond Building. Covers resume-writing, interviewing skills. Open to military, DOD cardholders. For information, call 751-5256, or email Barbara.L.Martin.civ@mail.mil.

Is Business Ownership Right for You?

9 a.m. to 3 p.m., Room B-205, Education Center. Information on starting a small business. For information or to register, call 888-896-9444.

OCT. 30

Fall festival

6-10 p.m., Solomon Center. Snacks, hay ride, mini golf. For information, call 751-0891.

OCT. 31

Halloween Howl 5K fun run/walk

8 a.m., Twin Lakes Recreation Area.

Late registration, 6:30-7 a.m. To register, call 751-3096/3486. T-shirts \$10 until Saturday at webtrac.mwr.army.mil/webtrac/103/wbws/Jacksonretract.wsc/wbsplash.html?wbp=1.

NOV. 3

Time Warner job fair

9 a.m. to noon, Room 222, Strom Thurmond Building. Information on customer-service positions for military spouses, others. Call 751-5256 for information.

Healthy Relationships

11 a.m. to noon, Classroom 10, 5614 Hood St. Discussion-based class designed to foster emotionally healthy relationships. Open to Soldiers, retirees, DOD civilians and Families. Call 751-6325 for information or to register.

NOV. 4

Retired Officers' Wives Luncheon

11:30 a.m. social, 12:30 p.m. luncheon, Officers' Club. Make or cancel reservations by 3 p.m. Oct. 30. Call 803-788-1094 or 803-783-1220.

NOV. 17

Sixth Annual Caregiver Conference

9 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., Solomon Center. Free event honors, educates those who care for veterans. Co-sponsored by the Warrior Transition Unit at Fort Jackson and the William Jennings Bryan Dorn Veterans Administration Hospital. Registration 8:30 a.m. day of conference. For information or to reserve a seat, call 803-776-4000, ext. 7180 or contact cherylgeddings@va.gov by Nov. 10.

NOV. 18

Personal financial management for first-term Soldiers

8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Room B-206, Education Center. A mandatory class for first-term junior enlisted Soldiers. Call 751-5256 for information or to register.



Photos by JENNIFER STRIDE

A new sign stands alongside Semmes Road between Gate 5 and the golf course, where water still encroaches on the roadway more than a week after torrential rains caused flooding across Fort Jackson.

Relief by the gallon

BY CHRISTINE SCHWEICKERT
Fort Jackson Leader

Sgt. Chad Luttrell was standing on the front porch, chatting with his wife, Justina, when an LMTV drove into his cul-de-sac and a swarm of basic training Soldiers fanned out through the neighborhood.

“They were going door to door, knocking on every door” to offer residents 5-gallon jugs of drinking water, Luttrell said. “They were making pretty quick work of it.”

Water has been a precious commodity on Fort Jackson since Columbia declared its product undrinkable without boiling last week – a recommendation that remains in effect. The lack of potable water closed offices and child-care facilities until Tuesday.

“If (neighbors) took the 5-gallon jug, it was theirs to keep,” use and refill at any of the water points on post served by water-purification units from Fort Bragg, North Carolina.

“We had gotten ... some from the commissary” and other sources, Luttrell said, but the bigger jugs were welcome. It’s a

INSIDE

■ **Fort Jackson sets new gate hours in wake of storms,**
Page 15

■ **N.C. Guardsmen rumble in to aid South Carolinians,**
Page 17

lot easier to fill a cooking pot from a jug than to twist or pop open a succession of smaller bottles or cans, he said.

Guiding the operation – and standing out in the drizzle without rain gear, Luttrell said – was garrison Command Sgt. Maj. Rod Celestaine. He had gathered the Soldiers and planned the distribution route.

Two drill sergeants also shepherded their charges from companies B and E of the 2nd Battalion, 13th Infantry Regiment and companies D and E from the 2nd Battalion, 60th Infantry Regiment.



Spc. Jamie Black of the 226th Composite Supply Company, 87th Combat Support Sustainment Battalion, 3rd Infantry Division at Fort Stewart prepares to test purified water for its chlorine content. Units from Fort Bragg also were helping provide clean water on Fort Jackson.

See **FLOODS:** Page 4

Drill sergeant candidates muster flood relief

BY ROBERT TIMMONS
Fort Jackson Leader

Soldiers from Fort Jackson took quick action during recent floods, moving residents' furniture from the waters' path and sparing some Columbia residents the full measure of nature's wrath.

Students at the U.S. Army Drill Sergeant Academy were off post during the downpour Oct. 3, looking for something to eat when they saw an obviously distressed man sitting outside his home.

When the Soldiers asked the man what was wrong, he told them he had lost everything.

The Soldiers sprang into action, helping the man and his neighbors.

The next morning, they took along reinforcements – more than 50 drill sergeant candidates who had Oct. 5-7 off.

One of those reinforcements was drill sergeant candidate Staff Sgt. Gene Royer. When Staff Sgt. Ralph Perkins stopped Royer in the barracks hallway to ask whether he wanted to help, Royer didn't hesitate.

"I believe helping anyone in need is important, not just the flood victims," Royer said.

"I think that Soldiers should do their part to assist the community in their time of need. The military has been deploying for years now, and the community has supported us so, it only seems right to return the favor."

The Soldiers ripped out carpets, moved furniture and generally tried to save as many of the homeowners' valuables as possible.

Command Sgt. Maj. Lamont Christian, Academy commandant, lauded the Soldiers' actions.

"I couldn't be prouder," he said. "It is in our culture that we give back to the community."

N.C., Ga. Soldiers provide water relief

THE 127th Quartermaster Company of Fort Bragg, North Carolina, and 87th Combat Support Sustainment Battalion from Fort Stewart, Georgia, have provided relief to a thirsty Fort Jackson for the past week.

Soldiers from those posts have set up

12 distribution points providing purified water across post, and aided seven dining facilities that provide three hot meals daily during the past three days, according to the Task Force Water officer in charge, Maj. Karl Sondermann of Fort Stewart's 3rd Infantry Division Sustainment Brigade.

They also have made it possible for the food court at the Main Exchange to open, and for Moncrief Army Community Hospital to resume operations postponed by the lack of clean water. Last week, Moncrief canceled surgeries because it was unable to sterilize surgical instruments.

The units have begun setting up laundry facilities that will serve two companies daily, to combat the pile-up of dirty ACUs needing attention. The break in the earthen dam – and resulting runoff – destroyed the post's laundry facility.

So far, the units have provided 40,000 gallons of water. They have 90,000 more on hand for dispersal.

"We're out here purifying the water for all the Soldiers on Fort Jackson (and) doing what we love to do," said Lt. Devin Meadows, 226th Composite Supply Company, 87th CSSB, 3rd Infantry Division.

"We are able to help the community, (and) we're getting things up and running to help everybody get back to normal."

Boil-water advisory remains in effect

RESIDENTS and workers at Fort Jackson still must boil their water for cooking and drinking, even though other areas served by Columbia water do not.

Palmetto State Utility Services distributes water to Fort Jackson. The utility will flush and disinfect its main water tank and distribution lines, and chlorinate and test the water before deeming it safe to drink. That process is expected to take 72 hours from the City of Columbia ends the boil-water advisory for this area.

Fort Jackson – not the city – will notify those on post when the water is safe to drink.

"Fort Jackson will not be a burden to Columbia," post commander Roger Cloutier said at last Thursday's town hall meeting. "We're going to have to take care of ourselves."

The post has asked for – and received –



Photo by ROBERT TIMMONS

A Soldier fills up his water bottle with potable water at a distribution point on the corner of Imboden Street and Burt Street in the Pierce Terrace Housing Community.

assistance from Fort Bragg and Fort Stewart in setting up points around post where residents and workers can collect purified water.

Anheuser-Busch also delivered 52,000 cases of canned water to the post last week.

\$500 grants available to retired employees

MEMBERS of the National Active and Retired Federal Employees living in areas that have been declared natural disaster areas may be eligible for as much as \$500 NARFE-FEEA grants.

NARFE members in good standing who have been injured or incurred property damage at their primary places of residence may:

- Call Federal Employee Education and Assistance at 800-338-0755 (800-323-4140 after hours),
- Email rmartillaro@feea.org or
- Request written applications from:

NARFE-FEEA Disaster Fund
c/o FEEA
3333 S. Wadsworth Blvd.
Suite 300,

Lakewood, CO 80227

Those wanting more information may call Clara Gillentine at 803-796-3106.

Keep an eye out for eroding areas

DURING Thursday's town hall meeting, garrison commander Col. James Ellerson asked residents to keep an eye on the sidewalks and driveways in their neighborhoods. Everybody can see what the rains and resulting floods did to Semmes Lake, he said. What they might not see is growing erosion in their yards.

Residents should not park their vehicles on driveways that appear to sit atop eroding foundations, he said. They also should call the garrison to report the difficulties.

"The key to this is (that) we've got a lot of people out there doing a lot of work," he said, "but they won't catch everything. So we need a lot of help."

Jennifer Stride and Christine Schweickert of the Fort Jackson Leader contributed to this report.

Floods

Continued from Page 3

Many of those who accepted the water had been watching football and barbecuing, said Staff Sgt. Miguel Miranda of the 2-60th. When they offered a plate to the Soldiers, basic training protocol made the

trainees refuse – even though the food no doubt would have been tastier than the MREs they've been forced to consume lately because of the lack of water to cook with.

Still ...

"They were pretty happy," Miranda said of the nouveau Soldiers. "They were excited."

"They actually saw a part of the military (experience) that most people don't get to see. They felt like they made a difference."

The units distributed more than 500 5-gallon cans on Saturday.

Elsewhere on post, chapel services ran on their regular schedules Sunday. Child-development centers, schools, post fitness centers, the Solomon Center, outdoor recreation sites and the library all opened on schedule Tuesday, as did Army Community Service offices.

Gate 1 was opened from 5 a.m. to 9 p.m. Even so, traffic at Gate 2 remained unusu-

ally heavy.

Graduations for basic training units have been canceled though Oct. 22.

"It could have been worse," post commander Maj. Gen. Roger Cloutier said at Thursday's town hall meeting at Joe E. Mann Center. "Everybody is alive."

"We can replace couches and carpet. Our family is OK."

"We collectively have a lot to be grateful for."



"I BECAME A SOLDIER..."

Post commander Maj. Gen. Roger Cloutier has an affection for talking to new Soldiers and hearing their stories. He says it reminds him that everyone on Fort Jackson is charged with building the best Soldiers in the world.

3RD BATTALION, 13TH INFANTRY REGIMENT

CHARLIE COMPANY



PVT. MADELINE MAE MCGRAW, 22

"I was going to join the Navy, but I switched to Army because I wanted to be a combat medic.

"I thought about (joining the Army) growing up. . . . It took me five years to walk in to a recruiting office.

"There are more opportunities in the Army, and schooling is faster in the Army.

"I'm glad to be graduating. (Eventually), I'd like to (get orders to) Italy to be with my family.

"Right now, I'm a parachute rigger, but I will eventually get into the medical corps."

CHARLIE COMPANY



PVT. ENRIQUE MEDRANO JR., 18

"The recruiters came to my high school, and my best friend was in the Army – he got me to join.

"I started going to the Future Soldier training – it really got to me.

"I like being able to choose my job in the Army, doing what I wanted and being comfortable with whatever I chose.

"At home, I liked working on cars, and I came here to be a mechanic and better improve my skills.

"To better improve your skills and discipline, the best choice you can make is the Army."

BRAVO COMPANY



PVT. CAITLYN RENEAU, 18

"I wanted to go to college but didn't really have a way to pay for it, and I wanted to join the military to make my parents proud.

"I looked into the Army because I had planned to go to college for cheerleading (competition), but I couldn't afford it.

"After (Advanced Individual Training,) I'm going to Airborne and, hopefully, I'll be going Ranger, too.

"My favorite part of Basic was (physical training). I've always been athletic and did weightlifting my last two years of high school.

"I liked how they tested us in PT – I could see myself improving. I got the highest PT score.

"Throughout my life, I've been very independent – my way or the high-way. I learned (in basic training) how to work as a team, and it improved my discipline."

BRAVO COMPANY



PVT. XUMA MOKAYA OGARO, 19

"The gas chamber was my favorite part (of basic training). Most of us don't know our fears – I've never been through the challenge of getting gassed and crying – it made us cry a little bit.

"Life is about whatever you want to do. The Army's a good place. It makes you have good discipline and helps you set up your goals.

"Once you put on this uniform, you feel like you're representing a country, like you're part of something big.

"Once you go through training, you understand there's more behind just a uniform."

LIGHTNING BATTALION

ECHO COMPANY



PVT. KRISTYN HOWELL, 18

"My family is military, so I figured I'd continue the tradition. Plus, the benefits are good, and it pays for my schooling."

"I plan to go to college – Pittsburgh University. My (military occupational specialty of information technology) ties in with my college. I'll be studying national security and foreign intelligence.

"The most fun I had in basic was shooting the M-240B at the U.S. Weapons Range.

"Joining the Army was a last-minute decision. I was always against joining the military.

"Then I decided to give it a shot, and I ended up loving it."

ECHO COMPANY



PVT. BRYMARIE FACARAEG, 19

"I made a promise to my father before he passed that I'd join the Service. Both my parents were in the (the Marines), and I wanted to prove to my brother that I am a strong person.

"My favorite part of basic was pushing my limits and proving to myself I could go past the ones I'm used to.

"I'm going to (Advanced Individual Training) next. I'm an Apache helicopter mechanic.

"I'd tell kids in high school: If they're going down the wrong path, join the Army. It put me on track, and I have more respect for people."



Photo by JENNIFER STRIDE

Going undercover as 'Pvt. Flores,' Staff Sgt. Caroline Burga-Bagwell relearns how to shoot an M16.

Hush visit sends drill sergeant BACK TO BASIC

BY CHRISTINE SCHWEICKERT
Fort Jackson Leader

When she went undercover as a basic combat trainee last month, Staff Sgt. Caroline Burga-Bagwell pulled her hair into a messy bun sure to irritate a persnickety drill sergeant.

She wore eye pros to hide her face and donned a set of ACUs much too large for her small frame, the better to look as if she were just ending training and had shed a few pounds.

"I felt very awkward," she said in an interview after her mission ended.

"I had to separate myself from the Soldiers (to become a drill sergeant. And then), I had to blend in with them."

Normally, Burga-Bagwell works in reception integration training for the Drill Sergeant Academy. That is, she trains drill sergeants. The leadership of the 165th Infantry Brigade chose her for that position and, ultimately, as the super-secret battle buddy because she always has been "an exceptional Soldier."

Burga-Bagwell, said Command Sgt. Maj. Mark Barnes of the 165th, exhibits "maturity, judgment, professionalism, communication skills and character. She was just the total package, (and) she was a heckuva guide" to partner with a

distinguished visitor.

Also, Burga-Bagwell is a neat 5 feet tall. Her buddy was 5-1.

Apparently, the drill sergeant's preparations – and the week of advance physical training with her distinguished protégé – worked.

The bun won her a scolding, as did the religious medals she habitually wears. (Sloppy. Unsafe.)

And only one other Soldier saw through her disguise ("Is that you, Staff Sgt. B.B.?"), although it's unclear whether he believed it when she told him her surname name was "Flores."

But, most of all, the distinguished visitor she had been chosen to accompany completed her mission of learning firsthand how Basic Combat Training works. The visitor – the civilian equivalent of a four-star general – since has returned to her post in Washington and has asked not to be named publicly.

For her efforts, Burga-Bagwell received an Army Commendation Medal.

For 10 days, Burga-Bagwell and the faux Pvt. Underwood acted as if they were fresh-off-the-bus recruits.

A learning experience

The distinguished visitor wasn't the only one who learned something during her 10 days of stealth. **Staff Sgt. Caroline Burga-Bagwell** came away with a few lessons for herself and those she teaches at the Drill Sergeant Academy:

1. Recruits work better as a team when the drill sergeant's not around: "Away from drill sergeants, (recruits are) more helpful to one another. I never knew that."

2. Yelling isn't always the way to motivate. Explanation sometimes works better: "I understand where they're coming from (when recruits don't seem to respond to a raised voice). The Soldiers listen to you more and respond to you more if you talk to them."

3. "The more females you put in a (sleeping) bay," the more bickering breaks out. Burga-Bagwell and the visitor were assigned to more than one bay during the visit.

See **SECRET:** Pages 12, 13

Even constant change can't stop a military spouse

By CORIE WEATHERS
Licensed Professional Counselor

Tears streamed down my face. How was I going to do this again? I tried to remind myself that life would settle after this move, as it had done so many times before, but I was tired of re-inventing myself.

I hid my tears from my husband – it wasn't his fault. I left another job just when I was making a name for myself. Working hard to secure a job only to leave it had begun to feel pointless.

Could I do it again? Sure, I had references, but the fear of whether employers would consider a military spouse was taking over again.

A seed of bitterness was quickly sprouting into resentment. Maybe it is impossible to have a career as a military spouse. I have been through this process five times now. I now know the pattern of thoughts that tempt me to grow resentful of this military life. However, as one of my military spouse friends says, "I choose marriage over a job every time."

I know I'm not alone in this struggle. Nationally, military spouses have reported that their vocations and careers are their No. 1 concerns. The struggle is a leading cause of anxiety, depression, discouragement and – possibly – the breakdown of military families.

Some say that we persevere because we are resilient, but lately I've been mov-

ing away from this word. Although that is what I would love to live up to, in reality, I have found that developing a career in the military lifestyle takes more of a combination of grit, creativity and community. These traits are what we must develop if we want to pave a path to success.

Grit. Defined as courage or resolve, a strength of character. I would add to that "fortitude, courage in pain and adversity." "Pain" and "adversity" are great words for what I was feeling that day and, likely, the way you have felt at times. "Grit and fortitude" is the part of you that – despite what life hands you – stands up, brushes oneself off and pushes forward.

This doesn't imply that we push down our feelings. On the contrary, fortitude was the part of me that came after I wiped my tears and started looking for jobs. It gave me the perseverance to move forward in order to find the other side, that glimmer of hope, knowing that I would look back and be glad I had.

Creativity. When I look back, it was my creativity during each assignment that got me to the opportunities I have today – many of them leading to becoming the 2015 Armed Forces Insurance Military Spouse of the Year. I look at some of the thriving military spouses I have met, and I see that having creativity played a large role for them, as well.

You may not realize it in the moment, but being open to new ideas for each new assignment will matter later.

To keep working toward a goal, I was



MILITARY SPOUSE CORIE WEATHERS will share her story and tips on how to reach your goals at 10 a.m. Nov. 4, Room 222, the Strom Thurmond Building. The Army Community Service Employment Readiness Program sponsors the free event. Call 751-5452 or email Barbara.L.Martin10.civ@mail.mil to reserve a seat.

willing to do anything as long as it used my gifts and matched what I was passionate about.

What I now see in hindsight is a beautiful, well-rounded picture. Some opportunities were for income and others weren't, but everything worked together.

Be open minded as you brave your next adventure. What happens today may open doors for you later.

Community. As much as I wanted to close up and isolate myself that day, it wasn't going to get me anywhere but further depressed. Being honest with friends and new spouses you meet makes you vulnerable, especially if you are struggling. Yet vulnerability is the birthplace

of creativity. Did you know that hundreds if not thousands of military spouses are paving the same path as you?

Their creativity and grit is for you as well – you just have to reach out. Someday, you may be able to pay it forward.

Try not only to discover your purpose but to reach personal goals despite the constant change inherent in this lifestyle. Reach out to those around you. Ask questions and find out why the military-spouse community is known for its loyalty and support.

That day, I chose grit, creativity and community – and out of that adversity, I came to you.

ACS Event for Military Spouses
Strom Thurmond Building, Room 222
November 4th 10am-12pm



Maintaining and developing a career is the #1 issue for military spouses. Military spouse Corie Weathers will share her story and tips on how you can reach your own goals. Join us November 4th for a **FREE** event that will encourage you and help you rediscover your purpose.

(803) 751-5452 BARBARA.L.MARTIN10.CIV@MAIL.MIL

ANNOUNCEMENTS

FREE LEGAL EDUCATION

Officers interested in receiving a free legal education may apply for the Army's Funded Legal Education Program through Nov. 1. Commissioned officers between the ranks of second lieutenant and captain who will have two to six years of active federal service as of Sept. 1, 2016, are encouraged to apply. FLEP eligibility criteria are published in Army MILPER Message 15-013 and in AR 27-1, Chapter 14. Applicants should contact Maj. Danisha McClary in the Office of the Staff Judge Advocate at 751-7657/5349.

HOW TO START A BUSINESS

Those interested in starting their own businesses may attend Simple Steps for Starting Your Business, a five-part series that will provide the tools, information and advice on business startup, action steps and mentoring. Participants must attend all five sessions: 9 a.m. to noon Friday and Oct. 23 and 30, in Room 222 of the Strom Thurmond Building. Registration deadline Friday. For information, call 751-5256/5452, or email Barbara.L.Martin10.civ@mail.mil.

EMPLOYMENT READINESS

Army Community Service offers classes in the Microsoft Office Suite for military spouses looking for employment. Classes through the LearnKeys self-paced online program include instruction in Microsoft Word, Excel, PowerPoint, Outlook and Access. Available for military, surviving spouses. Call 751-5256 for information.

FOR FAMILIES

■ Hearts Apart Families (those living separately from deployed Soldiers) and foreign-born spouses are invited to a day at the S.C. State Fair., from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Friday. Those who arrive at the main entrance at 1200 Rosewood Drive by 10 a.m. will receive free admission with military IDs. Open to active-duty and retired Soldiers, and Families. For information and to reserve a spot, email patricia.a.guillory.civ@mail.mil, call 751-9770; or email miranda.o.broadus.civ@mail.mil by today.

■ Military Family members who have ideas on how the Army might improve their lives may participate in drawing up the Army Family Action Plan, an Army-wide initiative aimed at enhancing the quality of life for Soldiers, retirees, survivors, Department of the Army civilians and Families. Issues that Families identify as important are forwarded to the Department of the Army for action. Interested parties may visit the AFAP Issue Management system on the My Army One Source web page: www.myarmyonesource.com. For issue forms, visit the Family Readiness Center (Building 4512) of Army Community Service or contact marlynn.s.bailey.civ@mail.mil.

■ Spouses of differing cultures and countries who wish to receive support or make friends should call 751-1124/9770 for information on the foreign-born spouse support group offered by Army Community Services.

■ The Hearts Apart program provides activities for military Family members separated from their Soldiers. For information, call 751-9770/1124.

■ Parents may receive information on discipline for children 2 to 12 through the 1-2-3 Magic Program developed by Thomas W. Phelan. For information, call 751-9035/6724/2731.

■ The Exceptional Family Member Program works with civilian and other military agencies to provide activities, Family support and respite care. For information, call at 751-5256.

■ Survivor Outreach Services gives support to survivors of deceased Soldiers. For information, call 751-4867.

■ Army Family Team Building offers classes in the basics of Army life, as well as personal and professional development. For information, call 751-5256 or visit www.MyArmyOneSource.com, click on "online training" and select the level you want.

■ The Fort Jackson Soldier Family Assistance center serves Warriors in Transition and their Families by encouraging self-development and wellness, and by meeting individual needs. For information, call 751-2508, or email JacksonWTUFamilies@conus.army.mil.

■ Those needing basic language instruction may take part in classes offered by Army Community Services. Open to ID cardholders, DOD employees. For information, call 751-1124, or email miranda.o.broadus.civ@mail.mil.

HEALTH

■ TRICARE beneficiaries with questions about their health care may call the TRICARE Nurse Advice Line at 1-800-TRICARE (874-2273) toll free, all day, every day.

■ DENTAC offers free panoramic X-rays for orthodontics (braces) and widow teeth consultations to Family members of active-duty Soldiers and retirees. For information, call 751-1624.

THRIFT SHOP NEWS

The Fort Jackson Thrift Shop is accepting winter clothing. Through Nov. 12, the shop will accept Thanksgiving items. It will accept Christmas items Nov. 17 through Dec. 3. The Thrift Shop is at 4713 Lee Road in the Mini Mall. Call 803-787-2153 for information, or visit 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Tuesdays and Wednesdays, or 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Thursdays. Consignment hours are 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Tuesdays through Thursdays, and bookkeeping hours, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Tuesdays and Thursdays.

HOUSING NEWS

The Mayoral Council is seeking volunteers to serve as mayors for Fort Jackson housing communities. Being part of the council gives volunteers a voice for the community by providing ideas and suggestions to housing management. Those performing their duties receive free child care. Positions are available in Pierce Terrace 1, 2 and 3, and Howie Village. Contact usarmy.jackson.imcom-atlantic.mbx.fort-jackson-dpw-housing@mail.mil for information.

housing@mail.mil for information.

COMMISSARY NEWS

Commissary users may help junior Soldiers and Families in need through the Commissary Gift Card program. For information, visit www.commissaries.com/giftcardindex.cfm.

EXCHANGE NEWS

■ AAFES has teamed with Unilever to give military shoppers a chance to win \$500 in the Unilever NCAA Sweeps. Enter at www.shopmyexchange.com/sweepstakes. No purchase is necessary. Entrants must be 18 or older and enter by Oct. 29.

■ AAFES will waive the \$3 service fee for items placed on layaway and paid for by Dec. 24. Purchases of \$25 or more are eligible for layaway. Customers must deposit 15 percent of the purchase price to hold items on layaway.

■ AAFES has begun the Apply Today sweepstakes to coincide with the launch of the reinvented MILITARY STAR rewards program. Shoppers who apply and are approved for new accounts automatically will be entered to win \$1,000 in credit. Twenty-five winners will be selected in October. Apply at the Exchange or at myecp.com.

EVENTS OFF POST

OFFICER CANDIDATE REUNION

Alumni are invited to celebrate the 75th anniversary of the Army Officer Candidate School during a reunion April 24-28, 2016, at the Double Tree Hotel, 5321 Sidney Simmons Blvd., Columbus, Georgia. The event will include demonstrations and briefings, tours, a memorial/monument walk, a Hall of Fame induction ceremony and an award dinner. Cost is \$111 per night. To request a reservation, call 706-327-6868. Members and those who wish to become members may attend. For further information, call Nancy Ionoff at 813-917-4309 or visit www.ocsalumni.com.



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HONORS

Saluting this BCT cycle's honorees

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



**Sgt. 1st Class
Johann Herzog**
B Company
3rd Battalion,
13th Infantry Regiment

**HONOR GRADUATE
OF THE CYCLE**
Pvt. Anthony Jones

**STUDENT LEADER OF
THE CYCLE**
Pvt. Tyler Doak

HIGH BRM
Pvt. Anthony Jones

HIGH APFT
Pvt. Caitlyn Reneau



**Staff Sgt.
Timothy Baxter**
C Company
3rd Battalion,
13th Infantry Regiment

**HONOR GRADUATE
OF THE CYCLE**
Pfc. Katelyn Shurts

**STUDENT LEADER OF
THE CYCLE**
Pvt. Donte Smith

HIGH BRM
Pvt. Matthew Parker

HIGH APFT
Pvt. Riley Noeldner



**Staff Sgt.
Lia Wright**
E Company
Lightning Battalion

**HONOR GRADUATE
OF THE CYCLE**
Pvt. Shane A. Ivy

**STUDENT LEADER OF
THE CYCLE**
Pfc. Grace I. Johnston

HIGH BRM
Pvt. Shane A. Ivy

HIGH APFT
Pfc. Owaifo Ilaboya

Threatened cuts could harm Families, Army leaders fret

By **ELIZABETH M. COLLINS**
Army News Service

Caring for the health, happiness and well-being of Army Families is not only a moral obligation, it's a readiness issue. And it's one being threatened by budget cuts, senior Army leaders told Family members at the Association of the United States Army annual meeting in Washington, D.C., on Monday.

The Army can't expect Soldiers to undertake dangerous and vitally important missions if they have to worry about their Families, said outgoing Army Secretary John M. McHugh.

"Army Family programs do just that: They provide something else for Soldiers to focus on – namely, the mission, being safe," he said. "They can rest assured that back home, the Army is doing its part to keep their Family members safe and secure."

New Army Chief of Staff Gen. Mark A. Milley told the crowd: "If you take care of your people, your people will take care of the mission."

"It's all about readiness because our

Soldiers – when we go overseas and we are in harm's way – ... we want to focus on our jobs and destroy our enemies. For us to do that, we have got to know that our children are in good schools and our Families are in good houses, that we've got good medical care."

McHugh noted that even as the Army budget has declined, financing for Family programs has remained consistent at \$1.2 billion during the past four years – up from about \$700 million six years ago.

The Army already does more with less. McHugh said, referring to looming potential budget cuts. If they go through, he said, the Army will be forced to make painful choices when it comes to Family programs.

Family members can help, the Army leaders said. They can let leaders know what programs are most beneficial. That way, budget cuts won't happen in a vacuum.

Milley encouraged Family members to contact their congressmen and other representatives and make sure they understood how sequestration would affect Soldiers and Families.

“Everything she did – and the Soldiers do – is to make them all better and to face their fears.” — Staff Sgt. Caroline Burga-Bagwell

Secret

Continued from Page 7

They practiced night maneuvers, wearing full body armor and Kevlar helmets as they ebbed over the sandy ground, tracers soaring overhead.

They won – with their platoon – a marching contest, and then had to perform pushups after observing themselves for the victory. Tower and surviving a gas attack.

“My biggest fear was of her getting hurt,” Burga-Bagwell said. “That whole week and a half, I didn’t sleep. (But drill sergeants) take care of our own, we take care of whoever we’re put up easy; she pushed herself even when a knee began to swell.

For her part, the visitor tried everything, and “she didn’t give up easy; she pushed herself” even when a knee began to swell. “She never once told me, ‘OK, I’m done,’” Burga-Bagwell said. “I have a lot of respect for her.”

Instead, “she was like, ‘Man!’” She was amazed at the staff Soldiers go through on a daily basis.

“Everything she did – and the Soldiers do – is to make them

all better and to face their fears.” Burga-Bagwell, 24, encountered basic for the first time six years ago.

“The Soldiers, they thought I was 18 years old,” she said of her undercover stint. “They were too afraid to ask (about her companion). They didn’t want to be disrespectful.” They could tell that she was a little bit old (to be a typical recruit). Some of them thought we were moon and daughter.”

Burga-Bagwell emerged from the experience with a new contact. She and the distinguished visitor still email each other. “Ma’am, are you still doing your PRT?” (She’ll have to if she wants to make a return trip. She wants to tackle Fit to Win.)

“She is a very down-to-earth individual,” Burga-Bagwell said. “She listens to you, (and) she’s not a very hard person to work with. She was not uptight at all.”

Visiting a TRADOC post without letting people know who she was a different experience for her.

“She’s always been surrounded by officers (at work),” Burga-Bagwell said.

Before the visitor came to Fort Jackson, “she never knew how non-commissioned officers were.

“She never knew how much passion we had for the job.”



Left, Burga-Bagwell rappels down Victory Tower on Sept. 21, right above her undercover battle buddy.

Above, Burga-Bagwell fires an M16 during a qualification shoot Sept. 17.

Below, Burga-Bagwell exits the gas chamber Sept. 22, waving the air about to dispel the effects of the tear gas to which she was exposed.



Secret plans

Staff Sgt. Brian Smilowska started planning the super-secret visit three months ago, as one of his first duties after being posted to G3 on Fort Jackson.

“It was a good opportunity” even though it was “a bit challenging at times,” Smilowska said.

“Our intention was to fill 10 days of training,” including three days in each of the red, white and blue phases of Basic Combat Training. To do that, the schedule “kind of jumped around from one company to the other.”

The challenge wasn’t the schedule but to keep the visit quiet – although some might argue seeing the number of officers watching the visitor train, that the visit was the worst-kept secret on post. Still, non-commissioned officers did not know about the visit.

“In the end, we met the intent” of keeping it all on the QT, Smilowska said.

“She was very pleased with the way training turned out,” he said. Smilowska was awarded an Army Achievement Medal for his efforts.

“It was good to be recognized for planning,” he said.



Staff Sgt. Caroline Burga-Bagwell and her battle buddy work with a team of basic training Soldiers plotting coordinates for a nighttime land-navigation exercise Sept. 19.

Jackson Boulevard to get makeover

BY ROBERT TIMMONS
Fort Jackson Leader

A main Fort Jackson thoroughfare will receive a face-lift during the next few months as construction workers aim to make the road easy on the eyes and on vehicles.

Jackson Boulevard will be milled and repaved starting Sunday, said Bryan Tempio, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers resident engineer on post.

Drivers using the road should “be aware of the heavy construction equipment on the road,” he said. Drivers also must follow the directions of the flagmen to maintain safety.

“The road will not close,” he said, and drivers will be able to reach side roads.

The timing might seem off because of recent flooding, but paving the road has been planned for some time.

“We finally got confirmation of the dates from our contractor,” Tempio said. “We should already be paving, but we were pushed back a week by the weather.”



Photo by ROBERT TIMMONS

A car drives past broken and cracked pavement on Jackson Boulevard Wednesday near the intersection Strom Thurmond Boulevard on Fort Jackson. Jackson Boulevard will be milled and repaved starting Sunday. The road work will begin on the north side of Strom Thurmond Boulevard with milling taking place at night and paving during daylight hours.

The Army Corps of Engineers will mill and repave Jackson Boulevard during the next two months. The work schedule follows.

North of Strom Thurmond Boulevard (Building 13000 toward Strom Thurmond Boulevard):

- Milling at night Sunday through Tuesday.

- Paving during the day Oct. 23-27.

South of Strom Thurmond Boulevard toward Gate 1:

- Milling at night, Nov. 18-20

- Paving during the day, Nov. 23-25, Nov. 30 and Dec. 1. (No paving during Thanksgiving weekend.)

Gate 1 is tentatively scheduled to close Dec. 11-14. The traffic circle at Gate 1 will not close.

- Milling hours 6 p.m. to 5 a.m.

- Paving hours 7 a.m. until dark.

Flagmen will control traffic in the area, so roads will not be closed long term and drivers will be able to reach side streets.

WORSHIP SCHEDULE

ANGLICAN/LITURGICAL

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

CATHOLIC

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

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

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

CHURCH OF CHRIST

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

ISLAMIC

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

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

JEWISH

Sunday
■ 9:30-10:30 a.m., worship, Memorial

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

LATTER-DAY SAINTS

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

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

PROTESTANT

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

Monday
7 p.m., men's Bible study (PMOC), Chaplain Family Life Center

Tuesday
9 a.m., Protestant Women of the Chapel Bible study, Main Post Chapel

Wednesday
7 p.m., gospel Bible study, Daniel Circle Chapel

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

ADDRESSES, PHONE NUMBERS

Anderson Street Chapel, 2335 Anderson St., 751-7032
Bayonet Chapel, 9476 Kemper St., 751-6322/4542
Chaplain Family Life Center, 5460 Marion Ave. (parking lot side), 751-4961
Daniel Circle Chapel, 3359 Daniel Circle, 751-1297/4478
Education Center, 4581 Scales Ave.
Installation Chaplain's Office, 4475 Gregg St., 751-3121/6318
McCrady Chapel (SCARNG), 3820 McCrady Road (at McCrady Training Center)
Magruder Chapel, 4360 Magruder Ave., 751-3883
Main Post Chapel, 4580 Scales Ave., 751-6469/6681
Memorial Chapel, 4470 Jackson Blvd., 751-7324
U.S. Army Chaplain Center and School, 10100 Lee Road, 751-8887
Warrior Chapel (120th Adjutant General Battalion), 1895 Washington St., 751-5086/7427

Fort Jackson Gate Operation Hours

GATE 1

5 a.m. to 9 p.m. daily for both inbound and outbound traffic

GATE 2

Open around the clock daily.

GATE 4

CLOSED as the result of flooding.

GATE 5

CLOSED as the result of flooding.



N.C. Guardsmen rumble in to aid South Carolinians

By **SGT. 1ST CLASS ROBERT JORDAN**
South Carolina National Guard

Capt. Sean Easley was part of the South Carolina team that prepared food, lodging, thousands of gallons of diesel fuel and parking for hundreds of military vehicles as N.C. National Guard Soldiers reported for the S.C. Emergency Management Division flood response last weekend.

In less than a week after historic statewide flooding, Camp McCrady became a small city, with Soldiers conducting 24-hour operations.

"We are very experienced at this," said Easley, a leader with the 710th Explosive Hazard Coordination Cell stationed at the center.

S.C. National Guard experts carefully guided the new arrivals to refueling points, so their vehicles could top off their fuel and be inspected for safety and mission capability.

The camp's roads filled as Humvees, tractor trailers loaded with bulldozers, skid steer loaders, backhoes and other heavy engineering equipment, medium and light tactical vehicles stuffed with supplies, eight-wheeled palletized load system trucks, 10- and 20-ton dump trucks made their way past the modern training sites, forests and fields.

"I am a little jealous of the base," said Army Pvt. Brandon Estridge of Rockingham, North Carolina, a heavy-equipment operator with the N.C. Guard's 881st Engineer Company.

A constant rumble of engines roared as buses, trucks and Humvees took the North Carolina Soldiers to the battle-simulation center. Inside, South Carolina Guard

medical technicians and doctors checked extensive medical records and administered inoculations to the hundreds of in-processing North Carolina Guardsmen.

Let us take it from here," said Army Sgt. Tommy Alston of Columbia, a S.C. Guard medical-readiness non-commissioned officer.

The assembly area filled with constant motion. South Carolina officers briefed incoming Soldiers with the installation. United Services Organization volunteers and staff handed each arrival snacks, water and comfort items.

"It is awesome how they accommodated us" said Spc. Donna Hyson of Hope Mills, North Carolina, a heavy-equipment operator with the N.C. Guard's 881st Engineer Company in Rockingham, North Carolina.

After the Soldiers checked in, the dining facility served 700 hot meals for North and South Carolina Soldiers. Several cooks darted back and forth in the cramped kitchen, prepping, cooking and serving.

"Gotta make it work," said Sgt. 1st Class Deanna Geerhols, a cook with the S.C. Guard's 742nd Maintenance Company in Florence.

Convoy after convoy rolled into McCrady as the nearly 500 N.C. Guardsmen called up from civilian jobs deployed across South Carolina.

"I am pretty excited. It's what I signed up for," said Army Pvt. Brandon Estridge of Rockingham, a heavy-equipment operator with the 881st.

The N.C. Guardsmen deployed under the Emergency Management Assistance Compact on order from the governor of North Carolina. They joined thousands of previously deployed S.C. Guardsmen for around-the-clock response efforts statewide.



Photo by *SGT. 1ST CLASS ROBERT JORDAN*
S.C. Army National Guard Soldiers prepare a building for hundreds of North Carolina Guardsmen traveling south to aid in flood recovery. Nearly 500 North Carolinians arrived in a series of convoys.