

THURSDAY, DEC. 17, 2015

# THE FORT JACKSON LEADER

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## SHE WALKS BY FAITH

FORSAKING THE FAST TRACK - PAGE 3

★ CALENDAR, PAGE 2 ★ HAPPENINGS, PAGE 6 ★ I BECAME A SOLDIER, PAGE 7 ★ WORSHIP, PAGE 24 ★



## ON THE COVER

Photo by JENNIFER STRIDE

Main Exchange employee Hope Motley finds the good in life – even when life includes walking eight miles to work. **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 — rank, unit, and first and last names.

Questions? Call 751-7045.

## TODAY

**Evening story time at the library**  
6:30-7 p.m., Thomas Lee Hall Library. For children 2 to 5.

## DEC. 18

**Winter holidays for Pierce Terrace, C.C. Pinckney Elementary schools**

## DEC. 20

**Sunday champagne brunch**  
11 a.m. to 2:30 p.m., Officers' Club. \$14.95, members; \$19.95, nonmembers and guests; \$6.95, children 4 to 11. For information, call 803-782-8761; for reservations, 751-4906.

## DEC. 25

**Christmas Day**

## DEC. 26

**Kwanzaa begins.**

## JAN. 1

**New Year's Day, last day of Kwanzaa**

### First Day Hikes

1 and 3 p.m., Sesquicentennial State Park. Ranger-guided 2-mile fitness hike on Sandhills Hiking Trail. Less strenuous half-mile nature walk also available at 3:30 p.m. Sponsored by America's State Parks to encourage active, healthier lives. Free with park admission of \$2 per adult, free to those 15 and younger. Discounted admission of \$1.25 per person to South Carolina residents 65 or older or disabled, and to members of the S.C. National Guard. Registration two days before walk. Call (803) 788-2706 or e-mail [sesqui@scprtc.com](mailto:sesqui@scprtc.com).

## JAN. 3

**Child-safety awareness initial training**

5-7 p.m., Classroom 10, 5614 Hood St. Two-hour training workshop on how to recognize, respond to child abuse. Open to active-duty and retired Soldiers, DOD civilians and some Family members. Call 751-6325 to register.

## JAN. 5

**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.

## 2-39th Change of Responsibility

1:30 p.m., Officers' Club. Command Sgt. Maj. Kenneth J. Henrix III will relinquish responsibility for the 2nd Battalion, 39th Infantry Regiment to Command Sgt. Maj. Michael K. Belcher.

## JAN. 6

**Maternity briefing**

9-10 a.m., Room 8-85, Moncrief Army Community Hospital. For pregnant Soldiers, their Families. For information, call 751-6325/9035/6724/2731.

### Bright Honeybee play Group

10-11:30 a.m., Classroom 8, 5614 Hood St. Designed to help parents learn developmentally appropriate play. Open to active-duty, retired personnel; Family. For information, call 751-6325/9035/6724/2731.

## JAN. 7

**Post newcomer orientation**

9 a.m., NCO Club. Mandatory for Soldiers new to Fort Jackson.

### Stress Management

11 a.m. to noon, Classroom 10, 5614 Hood St. Call 751-6325 for information or to register.

### School Board meeting

4 p.m., C.C. Pinckney Elementary School. Representatives of the Richland School District 2 magnet program will present parents of fifth- and sixth-grade students with school and program options. For more information, visit [www.richland2.org/Departments/administration/EnrollmentandRegistration/Pages/ChoiceProgram.aspx](http://www.richland2.org/Departments/administration/EnrollmentandRegistration/Pages/ChoiceProgram.aspx).

## JAN. 10

**First meeting of Pagan Circle Sacred Well Congregation**

11 a.m., Magruder Chapel, 4360 Magruder Ave. All pagan, earth-centric and nature-based worshippers invited. For information, call Rachel Lichtenberger at 270-484-2738, or email [ralich41274@gmail.com](mailto:ralich41274@gmail.com).

## JAN. 11

**Combined Federal Campaign victory luncheon**

11:30 a.m., Officers' Club.

## JAN. 12

**Job-Searching Strategies for Military Spouses**

8:30 a.m. to noon, Room 222, Strom Thurmond Building. Covers resumes, job searching, interviewing. Open

to all military ID cardholders. For information, call 751-9460/5452, or contact [Barbara.L.Martin10.civ@mail.mil](mailto:Barbara.L.Martin10.civ@mail.mil).

## JAN. 13

**Steps to Federal Employment for Military Spouses**

9-11:30 a.m., Room 222, Strom Thurmond Building. Open to all military ID cardholders. For information, call 751-9460/5452, or contact [Barbara.L.Martin10.civ@mail.mil](mailto:Barbara.L.Martin10.civ@mail.mil).

### Retired Officers' Wives luncheon

11:30 a.m. social, noon lunch, Officers' Club. Please make or cancel reservations by 3 p.m. Jan. 8 by calling 803-788-1094 or 803-783-1220.

## JAN. 14

**Hazardous Substance Management**

8:30 a.m., Environmental Division conference room, 2563 Essayons Way. Mandatory course for those managing hazardous or controlled waste, or those handling hazardous-waste/substance violations. For information, call 751-4231.

**Exceptional Family Member Program Creative Journey**

5-6 p.m., Joe E. Mann ballroom. Call 751-5256 to reserve a spot.

## JAN. 15

**No school for C.C. Pinckney, Pierce Terrace Elementary**

**Exceptional Family Member Program bowling outing**

4:30-6 p.m., Century Lanes. Call 751-5256 to reserve a spot.

## JAN. 18

**Martin Luther King Jr. holiday**

## JAN. 19

**Helping Hand awards**  
9 a.m., Solomon Center.



Photo by JENNIFER STRIDE

Hope Motley found herself without transportation to the Post Exchange for two weeks, so she just got up early and walked the eight miles. She observed a lot on her walks, and enjoying the peace and quiet.

# Walking by faith ... and Hope

By JENNIFER STRIDE  
Fort Jackson Leader

The name she received 46 years ago could not have been more fitting: Hope.

Hope Motley, a small but tenacious woman of faith and compassion, recently found herself facing the challenge of getting to and from work at the warehouse of Fort Jackson's Main Exchange. She had no transportation other than her own two feet.

Knowing that her 24-year old-son, William, had to go out of town for a couple of weeks – and hating to impose on others – she decided to walk to work, a daunting 8- to 13-mile journey one way, depending on which post gates were open.

"I wasn't going to ask anybody for a ride," she recalls. "I was like, 'I can do this, Lord.'"

On the first day of the two weeks, she left her house at 4 a.m., walked for half an hour, rested for five minutes, then walked again, repeating the pattern until she arrived at work at 8:30 – half an hour before she needed to clock in for her shift.

## 'A down-to-earth, nice person'

Motley has known no life but the Army.

A native of Mexico, Pennsylvania, Motley graduated in 1987 from the Department of Defense Dependents School in Kaiserslautern, Germany, where her father, Sgt. Maj. Leroy Leach, was stationed.

She returned to the States with her dad the next year – to Fort Jackson, where he retired and she began her career with the Army and Air Force Exchange Service.

Motley has worked part time for AAFES for 26 years and looks forward to every day in the stock room.

"I like my job," she says. "I like what I do."

There isn't a box she won't move or a truck she won't help unload, despite her small stature.

"She's a good worker," says supervisor Josh Dasher.

"She can get it done

"She's a down-to-earth, nice person."

In the past, Motley has left anonymous sticky notes bearing supportive messages on co-workers' push carts – such things as "You're doing a great job" or "You are appreciated."

"She's (like) my baby sister," says Wanda Harrison, a co-worker and Motley's best friend of more than 14 years. When Harrison learned that Motley was walking to work, "that just hurt my heart."

Harrison and her husband, Billy, were "mad as a hornet," but soon their worry and anger turned in to a new-

found respect for Motley.

## Walk, rest, walk, refresh

On the road, Motley spent her morning walk mostly in the dark, wearing a backpack and reflective vest, and carrying a small lantern to brighten her way.

After walking along the edge of the road facing traffic for several miles, she would stop at a small church for a few minutes of rest, then move on to her next stop at a general store, where she asked for a cup of ice for the bottled water she carried.

She observed a great deal on her walks, ranging from a small herd of deer by the road to a driver speeding past a stopped school bus.

"Mostly, it was quiet and peaceful," she says.

When she began walking, Motley says, she was worried because she had suffered from heel spurs. But "after walking the first couple of days, they got better and haven't bothered me since."

Though Motley spends her work hours on her feet receiving merchandise, people are her real passion.

She sees everyone as the same, no matter their station in life – or their rank, wealth or lack thereof.

Staff Sgt. Andrew Centella, standing, and Sgt. Josh Johnson show fellow Soldiers how to move around corners during urban combat. Photo by ROBERT TIMMONS



# SOLDIERS HAVE A BLAST IN URBAN WAR CLASS

By ROBERT TIMMONS  
Fort Jackson Leader

Army Reservists and Guardsmen came to the Camp McCrady training area from across the United States this week to learn how to blow stuff up.

The 218th Engineer Battalion is in the middle of conducting Class 001-16, a two-week skill-level 10 course to reclassify Soldiers in the combat engineer military occupational specialty.

On Monday, the class of 30 Soldiers attended the training center's urban-terrain complex to learn how to fight in a city. The students learned how to enter buildings, search personnel and vehicles, and neutralize booby traps, said instructor Sgt. 1st Class James Huffman.

"Other classes we teach are self-extraction from minefields – the old hand-probe method," he said. In that method, a Soldier would use a stick to slowly probe the ground ahead of him, searching for landmines. Once found, the mines would be marked and the process would continue until Soldiers found a safe way out of the minefield.

During the Vietnam War, then-Lt. Col. H. Norman Schwarzkopf used this method to find mines, marking them using shaving cream.

Excited about learning a new trade, class members cited reasons to reclassify that were as varied as the locations they had come from – as near as the South Carolina Army National Guard to as far away as the 979th Engineer Battalion in Lexington, Kentucky.

They also boasted myriad MOSes, from human resource specialist to special operator.

Some took the course because they were re-entering the Service; others found their units had been re-designated as engineer units.

For Spc. Jason Hodge of the SCARNG, the motivation was simple: He didn't want to be infantry anymore.

Hodge, who served with the 2nd Marine Division at Camp Lejeune, North Carolina, joined a unit "right next to my house."

"I missed the military, I guess. Plus, all my friends are in the Guard."

Staff Sgt. Andrew Centella, a seven-year veteran of the SCARNG, found his unit had reorganized from firefighters into combat engineers.

"My unit recommended I come to this course," said Centella, an ex-infantryman with the double "A" of the 82nd Airborne Division combat patch on his sleeve.

Rejoining the Army after a "pretty good break in service" brought Sgt. Josh Johnson into the SCARNG. The one-time special operator joined because his wife serves on active duty at Fort Gordon, Georgia, and wanted him to "stay in but be a little slower."



**Gear up to fitness in the new year!**

## 2016 BIGGEST LOSER CHALLENGE

**Monday, Jan 11 - Monday, Mar 14.**  
Choose one of these categories: Fitness, Weight Loss or Total Lifestyle Change. Our staff will help you reach your goals with personal training, healthy eating consultations, and group exercise. And remember, all classes are free!

### MLK BIKE RIDE

**Monday, Jan 18 (8 a.m.)**

Free event at Marion Street Station! Bike and helmet will be provided, but supplies are limited.

## 8<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL COOPER RIVER ADVENTURE

**Saturday, Apr 2 (Charleston, SC)**

Transportation to Charleston and a victory meal after the run is provided. For information on this annual event visit [www.bridgerun.com](http://www.bridgerun.com).

**For fitness info, call Pam Long at 751-3700.**

FOR SOLDIERS FOR FAMILIES FOR RETIREES FOR CIVILIANS

## CUSTOMER APPRECIATION

During the month of December, register at Century Lanes Bowling Center for a **chance to win a SPECIAL HOLIDAY CAN FULL OF SURPRISES!**

Limit one entry per person, per day throughout the month. Prize drawing to be held Thursday, Dec 31, during the Century Lanes NO TAP Tournament (starting at 6:30 p.m.)

Must be 18 years of age to enter. Do not have to be present to win.

For more info, visit Century Lanes at 4464 Gregg Street or call 751-6138.

FOR SOLDIERS FOR FAMILIES FOR RETIREES FOR CIVILIANS

## ANNUAL GIFT GIVE AWAY!

**Saturday, Dec 19 at Victory Bingo**  
(12500 Huger St. • 751-3411)  
Doors open at 1 p.m.

Prizes will include 40 inch television, gift cards and bingo bucks.

Thank you for your continued support of Victory Bingo.



**Join us in the new year!**

Let's welcome in 2016 with a special day at Victory Bingo on Sunday, Jan 3. Doors open at 9:30 a.m.

We will have 8 games with \$1,000 prizes and one big game with a \$5,000 prize. Fun games are table games. We look forward to welcoming 2016 in with a BANG!

FOR SOLDIERS FOR FAMILIES FOR RETIREES FOR CIVILIANS



## 2015 Family and MWR

### Holiday Hours of Operation

**512 Trolley Café**  
19 Dec 15 - 3 Jan 16.....Closed  
4 Jan 16.....Normal Hours

**Auto Craft Shop**  
21 - 23 Dec 15.....1100-1700  
22 - 25 Dec 15.....Closed  
26 - 28 Dec 15.....0900-1700  
31 Dec 15.....0900-1700  
1 Jan 16.....Closed  
2-3 Jan 16.....0900-1700  
4 Jan 16.....Normal Hours

**Century Lanes**  
19 Dec 15.....1000-2100  
20 Dec 15.....1400-2000  
21 Dec 15.....Closed  
22 Dec 15.....1400-2000  
23 - 25 Dec 15.....Closed  
26-27 Dec 15.....1400-2000  
28 Dec 15.....Closed  
29 - 30 Dec 15.....1400-2000  
31 Dec 15.....1400-2100  
(No Tap Tournament Check In 1800 Bowl at 1900 Hours)  
1 Jan 16.....Closed  
2 Jan 16.....1400-2000

**Child Youth & School Services**  
Administrative Offices (CYS Services, Family Child Care/child Development Homes, Parent & Outreach Services Including Skies and School Support Services)  
28 Nov - 18 Dec 15.....Normal Hours  
21 - 24 Dec 15.....0730-1630  
25 - 27 Dec.....Closed  
28 - 31 Dec 15.....0730-1630  
1 - 3 Jan 16.....Closed  
4 Jan 16.....Normal Hours

**Child Development Homes**  
**Scales Avenue CDC**  
**Imboden Street CDC**  
**Imboden Street School Age Center**  
27 Nov - 18 Dec 15.....Normal Hours  
19 - 20 Dec 15.....Closed  
21 - 24 Dec 15.....0600-1800  
25 - 27 Dec 15.....Closed  
28 - 31 Dec 15.....0600-1800  
1 - 3 Jan 16.....Closed  
4 Jan 16.....Normal Hours

**Hood Street Child Development Center and Hood Street School Age Center**  
28 Nov - 18 Dec 15.....Normal Hours  
19 Dec 15 - 3 Jan 16.....Closed  
4 Jan 16.....Normal Hours

**Lee Road Child Development Center**  
Will operate as needed throughout the Holiday Period based on reservations.  
27 Nov - 18 Dec 15.....Normal Hours  
19 - 20 Dec 15.....Closed  
21 - 24 Dec 15.....0600-1800  
25 - 27 Dec 15.....Closed  
28 - 31 Dec 15.....0600-1800

**Parent Central Services**  
28 Nov - 18 Dec 15.....Normal Hours  
21 - 24 Dec 15.....0730-1630  
25 - 27 Dec 15.....Closed  
28 - 31 Dec 15.....0730-1630  
1 - 3 Jan 16.....Closed  
4 Jan 16.....Normal Hours

**Youth Center - Middle School & Teen Program**  
27 Nov - 18 Dec 15.....Normal Hours  
19 Dec 15.....1300-1900  
20 Dec 15.....1400-1800  
21 - 24 Dec 15.....0600-1900  
25 Dec 15.....Closed  
26 Dec 15.....1300-1900  
27 Dec 15.....1400-1800  
28 - 31 Dec 15.....0600-1900  
1 Jan 16.....Closed  
2 Jan 16.....1300-1900  
3 Jan 16.....1400-1800  
4 Jan 16.....Normal Hours

**Youth Sports/Fitness Program**  
28 Nov - 18 Dec 15.....Normal Hours  
21 Dec - 3 Jan 16.....Closed  
4 Jan 16.....Normal Hours

**Firehouse Production, 751-4835**  
21 Dec 15 - 5 Jan 16.....Closed

**Fitness- Aerobics**  
19 - 23 Dec 15.....0800-1730  
24 Dec 15.....Closed  
25 Dec 15.....Closed  
26 - 31 Dec 15.....0800-1730  
1 Jan 16.....Closed  
2 Jan 16.....Normal Hours

**Golf Club, 787-4437**  
17-24 Dec 15.....Normal Hours  
25 Dec 15.....Closed  
26 - Dec 15 - 4 Jan 16.....Normal Hours

**Gyms**  
**Andy's Fitness Center**  
19 - 20 Dec 15.....1000-1600  
21 - 23 Dec 15.....0500-1600  
24 Dec 15.....1000-1600  
25 Dec 15.....Closed  
26 - 27 Dec 15.....1000-1600  
28 - 30 Dec 15.....0500-1600  
31 Dec 15.....1000-1600  
1 Jan 16.....Closed  
2 - 3 Jan 16.....0500-1800  
4 Jan 16.....Normal Hours

**Coleman Gymnasium**  
21 - 24 Dec 15.....0600-1900  
25 Dec 15.....Closed  
26 - 31 Dec 15.....0600-1400  
1 Jan 15.....Closed  
2 - 3 Jan 2015.....0600-1400  
4 Jan 16.....Normal Hours

**Perez Fitness Center**  
21 - 22 Dec 15.....1000-1600  
23 - 24 Dec 15.....0600-1500  
25 Dec 15.....Closed  
26 - 27 Dec 15.....0600-1500  
28 - 29 Dec 15.....1000-1600  
30 - 31 Dec 15.....0600-1500  
1 Jan 16.....Closed  
2 Jan 16.....Normal Hours

**Vanguard Gymnasium**  
19 - 20 Dec 15.....1100-1900  
21 - 25 Dec 15.....Closed  
26 - 30 Dec 15.....1100-1900  
31 Dec 15.....1100-1700  
1 Jan 16.....Closed  
2 - 3 Jan 16.....0900-1800  
4 Jan 16.....Normal Hours

**Jack's Inn**  
25 Dec 15.....Closed  
1 Jan 16.....Closed

**Knight Indoor Swimming Pool**  
22 - 24 Dec 15.....1100-1700  
25 Dec 15.....Closed  
26 Dec 15.....1100-1700  
29 - 31 Dec.....1100-1700  
1 Jan 16.....Closed

**Magruder's Club & Pub, 790-0381**  
Closed 17 December to 5 January 2016  
Re-opening 6 January.

**Marion Street Station**  
24 Dec 15.....Closed  
25 Dec 15.....Closed  
26 - 29 Dec 15.....1000-1800  
30 Dec 15.....0700-1300  
31 Dec 15.....Closed  
1 - 3 Jan 16.....Closed  
4 Jan 16.....Normal Hours

**NCO Club, 782-2218**  
21 Dec 15 - 3 Jan 16.....Closed  
Reopening for full lunch program and catering 4 Jan 16

**Officers' Club, 782-8761**  
21 Dec 15 - 4 Jan 16.....Closed

**Palmetto Greens Miniature Golf**  
19 Dec 15 - 12 Jan 16.....Closed  
13 Jan 16.....Normal Hours

**MAJ GEN Robert B. Solomon Center 751-4056/4058**  
21 Dec - 24 Dec 15.....0800-1600  
25 Dec 15.....Closed  
26 Dec - 31 Dec 15.....0800-1600  
1 Jan 16.....Closed  
2 Jan - 3 Jan 16.....0800-1600  
4 Jan 16.....Normal Hours

**Jack's Frame Shop, 751-4018**  
22 Dec 15 - 1 Jan 16.....Closed  
5 Jan 16.....Normal Hours

**Thomas Lee Hall Library**  
21 - 23 Dec 15.....1100-1700  
24 - 25 Dec 15.....Closed  
26 - 31 Dec 15.....1100-1700  
1 Jan 16.....Closed  
2 - 3 Jan 16.....1100-1700  
4 Jan 16.....Normal Hours

**Victory Bingo, 751-3401/3411**  
24 - 25, 31 Dec 15 & 1 Jan 16.....Closed  
26-27 Dec 15 & 2-3 Jan 16.....Normal Hours

**Victory Travel Office**  
20 - 21 Dec 15.....Closed  
23 - 24 Dec 15.....1000-1600  
25 Dec 15.....Closed  
26 - 27 Dec 15.....1000-1600  
28 Dec 15.....Closed  
29 Dec 15.....1000-1600  
30 - 31 Dec 15.....1000-1600  
01 Jan 16.....Closed  
02 Jan 16.....Normal Hours

**Videorama**  
18 Dec 15 - 3 Jan 16.....Closed  
4 Jan 16.....Normal Hours

**Weston Lake**  
21 - 23 Dec 15.....0900-1700  
24 - 25 Dec 15.....Closed  
26 - 30 Dec 15.....0900-1700  
31 Dec 15 - 1 Jan 16.....Closed  
2 Jan 16.....Normal Hours

CMYK

# HAPPENINGS

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### HOLIDAY CLOSURES

■ Vanguard Gym will be closed Monday through Dec. 25 to accommodate carpet installation and asbestos abatement. Coleman Gym will remain open until 7 p.m. during those days.

■ The Urgent Care Clinic at Moncrief Army Community Hospital will be closed both Christmas and New Year's Day.

■ The Directorate of Emergency Services administrative office will be closed next Thursday and Dec. 31.

### MLK DAY CELEBRATION

Fort Jackson will celebrate the legacy of Martin Luther King Jr. at 11:30 a.m. Jan. 22, at the NCO Club. The theme for this year's event is "Remember! Celebrate! Act! A Day On, not a Day Off!" Guest speaker will be state Rep. Bakari Sellers of Bamberg County, the son of Cleveland Sellers, a former student activist jailed without cause during the 1968 Orangeburg Massacre and current president of Voorhees College in Denmark, South Carolina. Tickets cost \$10.50 and are available at the post's Equal Opportunity Staff Office, brigade equal-opportunity advisers and unit equal-opportunity officers. For information, contact Sgt. 1st Class Rachele Walker-Woods, equal-opportunity officer for the 193rd Infantry Brigade, at 751-4117, or the Equal Opportunity Staff Office at 751-2990.

### CID SEEKS APPLICANTS

The Army Criminal Investigation Command has broadened its pool of eligible candidates for special agent warrant officer to select commissioned officers, warrant officers from other technical fields and Military Police investigators. CID special agent warrant officers plan, organize, conduct and supervise criminal-intelligence operations, investigative support programs and high-risk protective-services operations. They are crucial to CID's overt and covert investigations

and represent the Army's interest in investigations conducted with the Department of Defense, Department of Justice, and other federal, state, local and foreign investigative agencies. The application-submission window is open through Feb. 1. Applicants should contact their local CID offices for information.

### MACH SICK CALL

The Moncrief Army Community Hospital sick call – in the Urgent Care Clinic/Integrated Medical Health Home waiting room – is for only permanent-party members on active duty whose primary-care managers are at the hospital or Moncrief Medical Home. Soldiers in training will be seen at McWethy Troop Medical Clinic. Sick call is for acute care only. Appointments for routine care will not be made during sick call hours. Patients may sign in from 5-7 a.m. Monday through Friday (excluding training/federal holidays), or call in for appointment at 751-4464. The sick call appointment line will not schedule appointments after 7 a.m. Prospective patients must be signed in or call before 7 a.m. to schedule a same-day appointment. For other appointments, call 751-CARE (2273) between 7:30 a.m. and 4 p.m.

### PERSONAL VEHICLE SAFETY

Soldiers and Department of Defense civilians should be aware that some of their personal vehicles are subject to manufacturers' safety recalls. Vehicle owners may see whether their vehicles are subject to recall by visiting [vinrl.safercar.gov/vin/](http://vinrl.safercar.gov/vin/). Service members also may contact their servicing Vehicle Processing Center to determine whether their vehicles will be accepted for shipment or storage when the Soldiers transfer or are deployed. If he wishes his vehicle to be stored, an owner must provide documented proof from a certified mechanic/dealership authorized by the manufacturer to perform recall-notice repairs or a printout from the SAFERCAR website showing his vehicle has no unresolved recalls.

### FOR FAMILIES

■ The Georgia Aquarium in Atlanta is offering discounted admission for Military Families on Mondays through December. The friends and Families of current and former military, and veterans are eligible for a 30 percent discount, while the member of the military gets in free. Those wishing to take advantage of the discount must present their military IDs at the aquarium ticket counter. Online tickets are not available. For more information, visit [GeorgiaAquarium.org](http://GeorgiaAquarium.org).

■ On-post mothers are invited to "No Excuses, Mom" weekly exercise sessions. Those living in the Balfour Beatty communities meet at 8:30 a.m. Tuesdays at 520 Brown Ave. Residents of other communities meet at the SKIES building at 6100 Chesnut Road. Participants should provide their own water, towels and mats.

### HOUSING NEWS

■ Hours for Balfour Beatty Community Center are 8:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Monday through Friday, and 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturday.

■ If you will be on leave for an extended period, call the work-order desk at 803-787-6416 to ask housing personnel to check on your house while you are away.

### 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](http://www.commissaries.com/giftcardindex.cfm).

### EXCHANGE NEWS

■ Through next Thursday, Exchange shoppers have the chance to win a trip for two to San Francisco as part of the Ghirardelli Chocolate San Francisco Getaway Sweepstakes. Shoppers 18 and older may enter the sweepstakes at [www.shopmyexchange.com/sweepstakes](http://www.shopmyexchange.com/sweepstakes).

■ Until next Thursday, Exchange shoppers who buy an item at the

Exchange and then see it advertised for less will receive a gift card loaded with the difference in price. To receive a gift card, shopper must simply provide his original Exchange receipt and a current advertisement from a competitor. The Holiday Extended Price Guarantee includes [shopmyexchange.com](http://shopmyexchange.com) but not other website priced.

■ AAFES has double the discount MILITARY STAR® cardholders receive on fuel. Friday through Sunday, drivers fueling up with a MILITARY STAR card will receive 10 cents off per gallon instead of the everyday 5 cents per gallon. For information about the features and benefits of the MILITARY STAR card, visit [www.myecp.com](http://www.myecp.com).

### THRIFT SHOP NEWS

The Fort Jackson Thrift Shop will be closed Tuesday through Jan. 4. After the holidays, no consignments will be accepted until Jan. 12. 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.

## EVENTS OFF POST

### OFFICER CANDIDATE REUNION

Alumni are invited to celebrate the 75th anniversary of the Army Officer Candidate School on April 24-28, 2016, at the Double Tree Hotel, 5321 Sidney Simmons Blvd., Columbus, Georgia. The event will include tours, a memorial/monument walk, a Hall of Fame induction ceremony and an award dinner. Cost is \$111 per night. For reservations, 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](http://www.ocsalumni.com).

## Fort Jackson Movie Schedule

3319 Jackson Blvd. PHONE: 751-7488

facebook

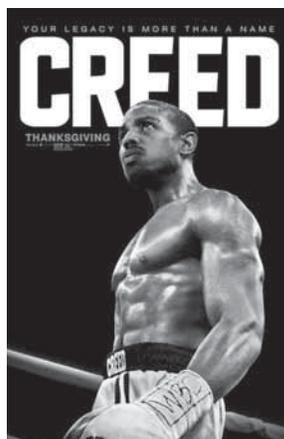


Fort Jackson

Join us on Facebook. Visit [facebook.com/fortjackson](http://facebook.com/fortjackson) and click "like."

@FortJacksonPAO

'Creed' will be at the post theater later this month.



### Friday

"The Peanuts Movie" (G), 7 p.m.

### Sunday

"The 33" (R), 2 p.m.

"Burnt" (R), 4:30 p.m.

### Dec. 26

"The 33" (R), 2 p.m.

"Creed" (R), 4:30 p.m.

### Dec. 27

"The Night Before" (R), 2 p.m.

"Jem and the Holograms" (PG), 4 p.m.

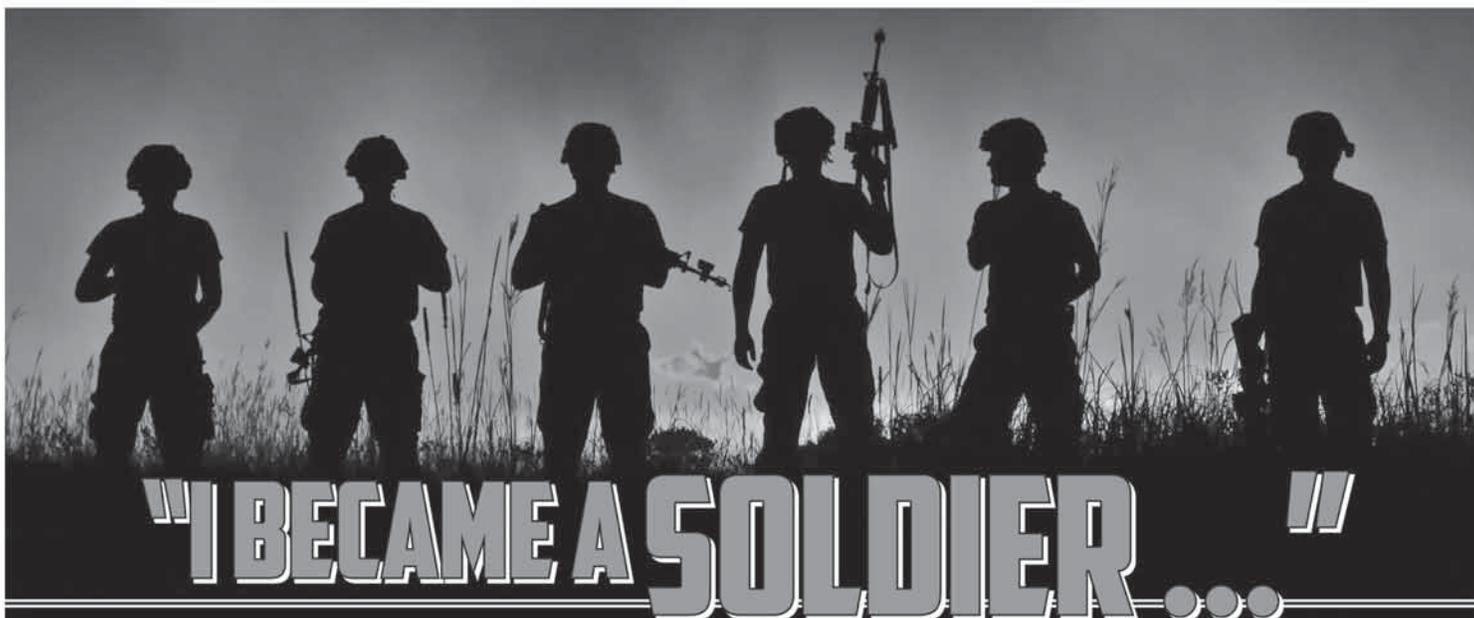
### TICKETS

Adult: \$5.50  
Child (6 to 11): \$3

### 3-D TICKETS

Adult: \$7.50  
Child (6 to 11): \$5

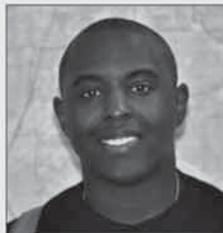
● Ticket sales open 30 minutes before each movie.  
● Movie times and schedule subject to change without notice.



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.

## 1ST BATTALION, 13TH INFANTRY REGIMENT

### ALPHA COMPANY



PVT. MICHAEL BELMER

"I joined the Army for two different reasons. Reason No. 1: I have a daughter that I want to give a better life to. Reason No. 2: I wanted to get out of Boston, Massachusetts, and explore a new career that will better my own life.

"(Basic Combat Training) has been very good. Working with others has taught me how to become a better leader (and) show me that there is no such thing as giving up. I learned that (after) finishing BCT for the Army, I can do anything in this world.

"My (military occupational specialty) is 42 Alpha (human resource specialist). I chose this MOS because it interested me the most. ... This (MOS) is an easy transition back into civilian life with great job offers.

"My Family has been very happy and very proud of this life-changing decision (to join)."

### ALPHA COMPANY



PVT. GEORGIA VAROUCHA

"Joining the Army has always been a dream of mine. I was born in Greece – where women can't join the Army – so I want to be a role model for them. I knew the Army would make me disciplined and mentally prepared for everything.

"BCT teaches you teamwork as well as patience skills that you need even outside of the military. I loved the diversity of the people I met, and I made bonds that I'll keep for a long time.

"My MOS is 36 Bravo – finance. I plan to major in math in college, so I think finance is a good background to have. Plus, I know my parents will love me more now that I'll do their paperwork.

"My Family was skeptical at first just because we're from Greece, ... but once they talked with my recruiter, they fully embraced the idea of having a Soldier as a daughter."

### BRAVO COMPANY



PVT. BRADEN ALLEN

"(I joined the Army because) I want to be part of something bigger and serve the country. I want to feel like whatever I do is going to have an impact on our country and the world.

"(During BCT), I have adapted many leadership skills to use in life, and I have learned a lot about personal fitness and discipline. I have learned how to work with others, even if I may not like them or they may be hard to get along with.

"(My Family is) aware of the sacrifices I am making and I'm going to be making. They are scared. They understand the possibilities of anything happening, but they are proud of me and support me in my decision."

### BRAVO COMPANY



PVT. RALPH FANG

"I joined the Army because I always wanted to be a Soldier. I was really inspired because my stepfather was in the Army before. I think I could achieve a lot of things by joining, especially coming from a different country. I always wanted to have a better future and life.

"I learned a lot about teamwork (in BCT) – helping and working with my fellow Soldiers; also, being a disciplined Soldier and living up to the Army values.

"My MOS is artillery mechanic, 91P. I chose it because I want to learn and (have) experience about being a mechanic.

"My Family was really proud and supportive when I joined.

"I see myself serving in the Army for a long time."

### BRAVO COMPANY



SPC. MEAGAN MAHON

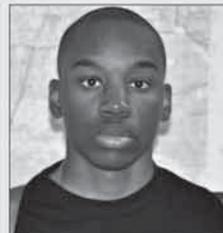
"I joined the Army to gain career experience and contacts for the future. I also had a strong desire to serve and travel while I was young."

In BCT, "I have learned that I am much tougher than I thought, and I have become confident as a person and a Soldier.

"(My MOS is) 09S (commissioned officer candidate). (Officer Candidate School) and my career afterwards will challenge me to keep pushing myself mentally and physically. I hope it will provide me with many opportunities to grow and advance my career.

"My Family is 100 percent supportive of my choice to join the Army. They are, of course, worried about my safety and don't like how I will be gone; but they know that I made the best decision for me."

### DELTA COMPANY



PVT. CHRISTOPHER PETIT

"Honestly, I joined the Army to better my life and to put my mother in a better position – basically, to help her like she has done for me. Also, (I joined) for educational purposes."

In the Army, "I have learned that I am an outspoken person when I am with other positive people trying to make it just like I am.

"My MOS is 92S, which is a shower technician/clothing-repair specialist. It will help me learn a life skill and allow me to go to school while I do it.

"My mother told me she is proud of me and accepted my decision to be different than my siblings.

"All I can say is that basic training is a learning experience that I will remember for the rest of my life."



Photo by WALLACE McBRIDE

C.C. Pinckney Elementary students build a robot in anticipation of next month's First Lego League competition in Lugoff. Students from 17 area schools are scheduled to take part in the qualifying event, which will see Lego robots compete in a series of recycling-themed challenges.

# Talking trash with Legos

By WALLACE McBRIDE  
Fort Jackson Leader

There are few pains that compare to stepping barefoot on a Lego.

For a handful of students at C.C. Pinckney Elementary School, wearing shoes and boots only defers the problem of leaving unattended plastic blocks on the floor. The issue is one that members of the school's robotics club must keep in mind of during weekly meetings: Crushed Lego pieces eventually lead to the creation of incomplete – and less effective – robots.

"It takes a few days to assemble them," club member Achilles Sauvao, 9, said during a recent club meeting. "The hardest part is stepping on them. When you drop a piece and step on it, it's broken."

Team members may use replacement parts, she said, but that solution drains the finite resources needed to complete the robot. And, because the club will compete in statewide qualifications in January, it's important that their creations work at peak levels. A missing Lego part might be all that stands between winning a slot in the

next leg of competition and losing.

"Everything the robot does is a direct result of what you program it to do," said robotics club coach Gregg Taylor, an educational aide and media specialist for Fort Jackson schools. In January, the club's robot will be tasked with a series of missions involving trash recycling, and Gregg said it was important to him that children walked away with a broader understanding of issues involved.

"The robot will retrieve, recycle and remove trash," he said. "I've had people come in to speak with (students) about what happens at a recycling point, so they have a clearer understanding of what simulates a dumpster, forklift and compactor."

Club members have been creative in their use of the Legos. And naturally, their ages play a role in their level of engagement.

"My favorite part is watching the robot take the trash," said 7-year-old Nicholas Lee.

"My favorite part is actually building the robot," said Nikolas Epstein, 9. "I have tons of Lego sets at home, but they're not EV3s (robots.) I usually have Legos for Star

Wars and stuff."

Getting to see their creations in action is "the fun part of making the robots," said Noah Best, 10.

When the First Lego League team grant became available from the makers of the primary-colored blocks earlier this year, Taylor said he said he actively sought a program that would appeal to students in grades three to six. Lego created a junior level for younger students, but the higher level Taylor chose hasn't prevented children from a wide array of ages' becoming involved.

"(The younger children) are enthusiastic about First Lego League because it's about robots, and the robots move," Taylor said.

C.C. Pinckney's team will put their robot to the test on Jan. 16 at Doby's Mill Elementary in Lugoff. Seventeen teams will compete, with only a fraction of them moving forward to state competition.

First Lego League created its 2015 competition to challenge students to think like scientists and engineers. Teams build, test and program autonomous robots to solve a set of missions and answer real-world problems concerning disposal of trash.

# COMMUNITY SNAPSHOTS



## Lights and wishes

Above left, blazing lights highlight the nativity scene at old post headquarters Dec. 9, during the lighting of the Christmas tree, manger and menorah.

Above right, Fort Jackson's family of the year – Sgt. 1st Class Robert and Christina Holder, and their daughters – accompany post commander Maj. Gen. Roger Cloutier in lighting the post Christmas tree.

Above, Santa welcomes children who want to recite their wish lists as others await their turns, right.

*Photos by JENNIFER STRIDE*





Photo by CHRISTINE SCHWEICKERT

Chaplain's assistants from across Fort Jackson meet for a team picture before joining post chaplains for a celebratory birthday/holiday luncheon on Monday. Assistants corral paperwork in peacetime and protect their chaplains in combat.

# Helping to keep faith alive

By CHRISTINE SCHWEICKERT  
Fort Jackson Leader

In wartime, they carry guns and holy books. At garrison, these Soldiers are the ones setting up the weddings and the baptisms – and handling the myriad attendant paperwork.

For 106 years, U.S. Army's chaplains' assistants have supported both chaplains and Soldiers in spreading faith in God and country. They teach religious studies and coordinate religious rites but cannot counsel or conduct services.

Paired with a chaplain, they provide the spiritual support for a battalion. More than 300 chaplains' assistants now serve the Army around the globe.

"We're the only team that only consists of two," said Chaplain (Capt.) Daniel Claypoole of the 3rd Battalion, 60th Infantry Regiment. All other battalion support staff come in larger groupings.

On Monday, Fort Jackson's assistants and their chaplain partners gathered at the NCO Club to celebrate the holiday season, as well as the birth of the 56M military occupational specialty more than a century ago.

Chaplains' assistants come into the Army as enlisted Soldiers. They complete Basic Training, as well as training in their particular MOS. Many remain non-coms – Staff Sgt. Angela Curry has been a chaplain's assistant for 15 years – and a few go on to become chaplains themselves.

Chaplain (Capt.) Darrell Harlow-Curtis of the 1st Battalion, 61st Infantry Regiment is one of the latter. The recipient of a master's in theology, he was commissioned as an of-



Foltz



Curry

ficer and summoned into the chaplaincy after less than two years as a chaplain's assistant but wasn't named a permanent chaplain until he finished coursework at the U.S. Army Chaplain Center and School on Fort Jackson.

Curry, 35, became a chaplain's assistant because "my auntie (in Alabama) wanted to keep me in the church."

"She told me I could become a choir director, and I could own the church."

For 10 years, Curry directed Army church choirs. For the past five, she has traveled among other churches to sing religious songs. She is assigned to the U.S. Army Garrison.

"Being a Southern country girl, it was so amazing (to see) all the religions that coexisted in the Army," Curry said. A girl who once had thought it a sin to wear pants to church, Curry now attends in her ACUs and has learned in her years of service to exorcise her own personal demons and to help others with theirs.

"Here, it doesn't matter where you came from," she said. "We're able to talk to each other openly." Through the process, Curry

said, she has discovered that traditions she once thought were part of doctrine really belong to the practice of certain groups – the way she views worship has become more universal.

She witnessed even more commonalities when she was deployed to Iraq some years ago, a situation that strengthened her own faith and that she said brought others to belief.

"You were able to open up the Bible (and see that) the things that (we) read about, (we) were also able to see."

When he was deployed to Afghanistan not long ago, chaplain's assistant Cpl. Brett Foltz, 22, of the 2nd Battalion, 60th Infantry Regiment carried in his left breast pocket a small Bible that had been through five wars and five generations of Soldiers in his family.

"I knew joining (the Army) in a time of war increased my chances" of being deployed, he said – but "I feel like God had called me" to serve others.

Always one to respect the faiths of others, Foltz feels as if the Army strengthened that habit – although he admits that learning the dates of holidays for the world's different religions was a little daunting.

It's possible Army chaplains and their assistants have something to teach the world outside post walls.

"One of the things I have learned," said Harlow-Curtis, is that "everyone has a faith," where it be in a deity or something else.

"We ... have to honor our Soldiers, regardless of their faith. (That's) a high standard for a chaplain."

And an assistant.

## Vouchers finance holiday cheer

Fort Jackson churchgoers have financed \$12,000 in commissary holiday food vouchers since Thanksgiving.

Each year, congregations on post take two special collections to finance holiday-season meals for Soldiers in pay grades E-1 to E-6. Brigades choose the Soldiers, who then receive vouchers from the Holiday Food Assistance Program.

"We've got very generous congregations on post," said Sgt. 1st Class David Townsend, assistant to garrison Chaplain (Col.) Mark Penfold. Townsend said donations at Fort Jackson exceeded those he had seen at previous postings – Fort Bliss in Texas, and Fort Campbell in Kentucky.

Installation chaplains delivered \$6,000 in vouchers before Thanksgiving and \$6,000 during the past few days. Two hundred forty Soldiers received the \$50 vouchers.

– Christine Schweickert,  
Fort Jackson Leader



# DREAMING OF A GREEN CHRISTMAS



It's only a week till Christmas, but you still can add a little green. The following tips will help you shop, decorate and celebrate with the earth's future in mind.



Millions of paper and plastic bags end up in landfills every year. Recycle your paper and plastic bags, or, take along reusable bags when you shop. They also make great gift bags.

Use magazine pages, sheet music, fabric or newspapers as gift wrap.

Use LED lights. They lower your energy bill because they use almost 90 percent less power and last twice as long as conventional bulbs. Go an extra step and use a timer.

Lower your thermostat at night and when you are away.



## Consider buying rechargeable batteries for those new gadgets.

Put away this year's Christmas cards, then cut them up to use as gift tags next year.

Instead of buying wreaths and garland, collect the materials to make your own.

Use less paper and plastic when entertaining. Use holiday china, if you have it. Add cloth napkins for elegance.

Buy products with recycled content, recycle as

many items as possible and compost your food for next year's spring garden. (The Fort Jackson Recycling Center accepts cardboard, paper, magazines, newspaper, metal, plastic, glass, cooking oil and wooden pallets.)

If you receive new furniture, appliances, toys, games or clothing, consider giving your gently used items to a local charity or the Fort Jackson Thrift Shop (803-787-2153). Save your unusable electronic items for the next collection, in April 2016.



Instead of buying ornaments, make your own out of pine cones, family photos and old jewelry. (Visit [www.pinterest.com](http://www.pinterest.com) for more great holiday ideas that use what you already have.)

Source: Directorate of Public Works/Environmental Division

# FDNY, Army pledge to share training

The Army has formalized an agreement with the New York Fire Department that will help each ensure more rigorous introductory training. Eleven drill instructors from FDNY visited Fort Jackson as recently as November, to compare best practices and see how the Army integrates gender into its training.

New York Fire Commissioner Daniel A. Nigro and Maj. Gen. Anthony C. Funkhouser signed a Memorandum of Understanding on Dec. 8. The document resulted from a yearlong series of meetings and initiatives.

“Everything we do begins with training,” Nigro said. “By partnering with the Center for Initial Military Training, our instructors will learn from decades of battle-tested techniques and further enhance the training our probationary firefighters receive.”

Under the new arrangement, all firefighters assigned as drill instructors at the FDNY Training Academy will attend Army training.

The FDNY drill instructors “will be fully embedded in the current Drill Sergeant Course training and leader-development process in order to be properly assessed on their ability to teach, coach and train a subject,” said Command Sgt. Maj. Lamont Christian, commandant of the U.S. Army Drill Sergeant Academy.

Christian said he thought other organizations also would want to join the partnership.



*File photo*

**Firefighter Felix Manjarrez, of FDNY’s health and fitness team, participates in the Master Fitness Training Course during a recent visit to Fort Jackson.**

“The revolutionary value-added changes to training will significantly enrich any organiza-

tion choosing to participate in this collaborative effort later,” he said.

## Christmas Eve 50 percent off

Federal executive branch employees need work only half a day Dec. 24, under an order signed by President Barack Obama. Employees will be paid for a full day and not charged leave time.

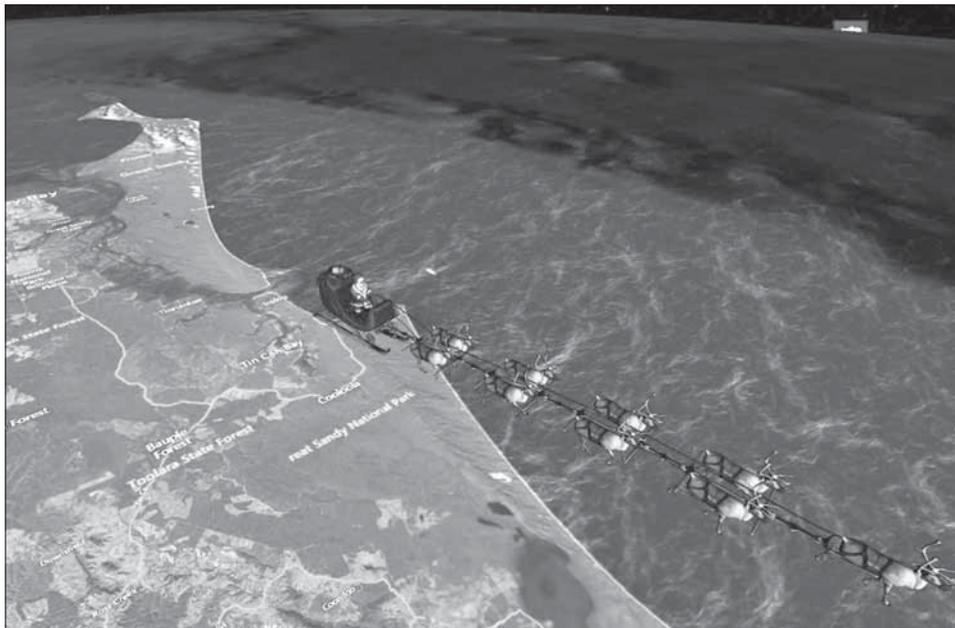
That is, all but mail carriers. Neither snow nor rain nor, apparently, Christmas Eve can stay them from their appointed rounds.

And people deemed necessary for national security. They have to work the whole day, too.

Employees already on leave that day will not be charged for the time off – but they’ll lose the half-day if they don’t take it by Jan. 9. And those scheduled for overtime during the second half of the day will be paid at the holiday rate.

For additional information, visit [www.opm.gov/policy-data-oversight/pay-leave](http://www.opm.gov/policy-data-oversight/pay-leave).

# Radar set to pick up Santa's trail



*Courtesy photo*

North American Aerospace Defense Command tracks Santa Claus last Christmas as he delivers gifts around the world. NORAD's 'Santa Cams' will begin streaming videos of this year's trip at 2:01 a.m. Eastern Standard Time on Dec. 24 at [www.noradsanta.org](http://www.noradsanta.org).

Department of Defense News

PETERSON AIR FORCE BASE, Colo. — The North American Aerospace Defense Command will celebrate this year the 60th anniversary of tracking Santa's Christmas journey.

The "NORAD Tracks Santa" website features Santa's North Pole Village and includes a holiday countdown, games and activities. The website is available in eight languages: English, French, Spanish, German, Italian, Japanese, Portuguese and Chinese.

Official NORAD Tracks Santa apps also are available in the Windows, Apple and Google Play stores, so parents and children can count down the days until Santa's launch on their smartphones and tablets. Tracking opportunities also are available on Facebook, Twitter, YouTube and Google Plus. Santa followers simply need to type "@noradsanta" into each search engine to get started.

Starting at 2:01 a.m. Eastern Standard Time on Dec. 24, website visitors can watch Santa prepare for his flight. NORAD's "Santa Cams" will stream videos on the website as Santa makes his way over various locations.

Then, at 6 a.m. EST, trackers worldwide will be able to speak with a live phone operator to inquire about Santa's whereabouts by dialing the toll-free number 1-877-HI-NORAD (1-877-446-6723) or by sending an email to [noradtrackssanta@outlook.com](mailto:noradtrackssanta@outlook.com).

Any time on Dec. 24, Windows Phone users will be able to ask Cortana for Santa's location. OnStar subscribers may press the OnStar button in their vehicles.

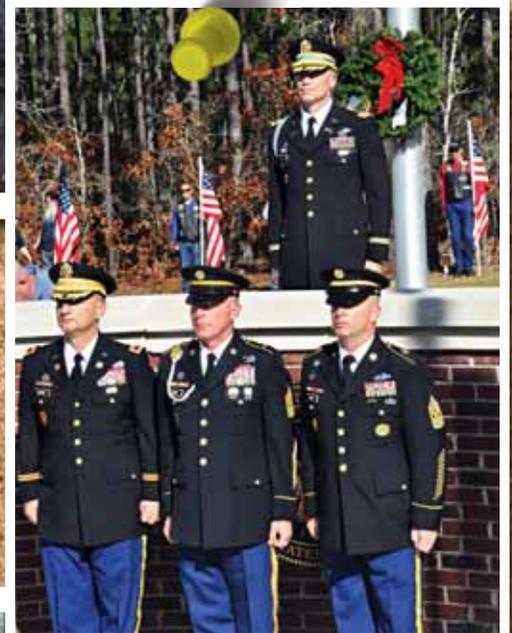
# COMMUNITY SNAPSHOTS



## Wreaths across the holidays

Nearly 4,000 people attended the seventh annual Wreaths Across America ceremony Saturday at Fort Jackson National Cemetery. Volunteers and others placed more than 3,700 wreaths on graves during the event. Above, Pvt. Cristel Rosado and Pvt. Rose Chymkhalov of 1st Battalion, 13th Infantry Regiment adjust ribbons on wreaths before the ceremony. At right, Col. Clint Kirk, commander of the 171st Infantry Brigade; post deputy commander Col. Mark Shade; retired 171st Command Sgt. Maj. Charles Cook; and post Command Sgt. Maj. Dan Hain stand at attention. Below, Fort Jackson Boy and Girl Scouts also helped lay wreaths.

*Photos by KARA MOTISICKY, courtesy photo*





## Dropping in for a good time

Maria Glenn of the business-operations division of Family and Morale, Welfare and Recreation, helps Marilyn Bailey put the finishing touches on a gooey s'more during the FMWR holiday drop-in near the Solomon Center on Friday. At right, Rose Ann K. Turner, chief of the business-operations division, surveys the sweets table.

*Photos by ROBERT TIMMONS*



## Youth of the Month

Taylor Waktlatsi was named Fort Jackson Boys and Girls Club Youth of the Month for November. A sophomore at Blythewood High School, Taylor is secretary of the Boys and Girls Club's Keystone Club and is known for her dependability.

*Courtesy photo*

# Guard extends cyber protection across U.S.

By SGT. 1ST CLASS JON SOUCY  
National Guard Bureau

As part of the growth of cyber forces throughout the Department of Defense, the National Guard will activate 13 additional cyber units throughout 23 states by the end of fiscal 2019.

“Our goal for cyber defense is to train, equip and provide highly skilled forces responsive to the needs of the nation,” said Army Gen. Frank Grass, chief of the National Guard Bureau. “Working with the Army and Air Force, our cyber squadrons and teams will provide trained and ready Soldiers and airmen to support requirements established by the services and U.S. Cyber Command.”

Seven Army Guard cyber protection teams will be activated across Alabama, Arkansas, Colorado, Illinois, Kentucky, Louisiana, Minnesota, Mississippi, Missouri, Nebraska, New Jersey, New York, North Dakota, South Dakota, Tennessee, Texas, Utah and Wisconsin. They will join four previously announced Army Guard CPTs spread across California, Georgia, Indiana, Maryland, Michigan and Ohio.

In partnership with the Air Force, the Air Guard will activate four cyber operations squadrons in Idaho, Michigan, Texas and Virginia. A cyber Information Surveillance Reconnaissance squadron will stand up in California, and a cyber intelligence, surveillance and reconnaissance group in Massachusetts.

The rollout of Guard cyber units is part of laying out a larger foundation for future cyber forces scheduled for

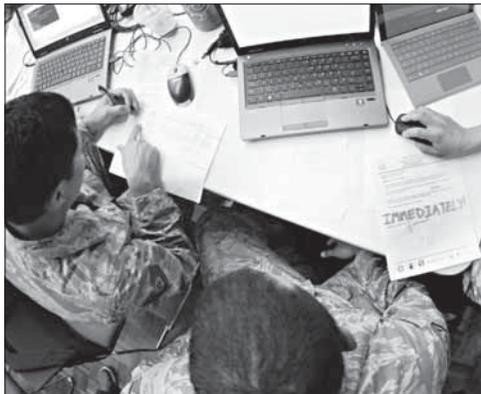


Photo by AIRMAN 1ST CLASS ROBERT CABUCO

**Members of a cyber protection unit with the Hawaii Air National Guard conduct cyber defense operations during a training in June. The National Guard plans to activate additional cyber protection units spread throughout 23 states by the end of fiscal 2019.**

activation.

“This is the beginning,” said Air Force Col. Kelly Hughes, chief of the Space and Cyber Warfare Operations Division at the Air National Guard Readiness Center. “This is a massive amount of force structure the Guard has laid into this mission, but this is just the first

layer.”

Activating cyber units will allow the Guard to fulfill Army and Air Force cyber missions while positioning cyber protection units in each of the 10 Federal Emergency Management Agency response regions.

“The focus is to get that presence in as many states as possible and especially making sure we have all the FEMA regions covered,” Hughes said.

Ensuring each FEMA region has coverage ties into the Guard’s mission to respond to large-scale emergencies and disasters at home, said Air Force Col. Timothy T. Lunderman, director of joint cyber operations at the National Guard Bureau. Governors already use cyber teams and squadrons at the state level when necessary.

“If we have never met before, and I come knocking on your door and say, ‘I’m here to help you with a cyber incident,’ you’d close the door,” Lunderman said. “The Guard is in all 50 states, three territories and the District of Columbia. We have the capability and relationships already established.

“If state and local officials need help, they’re more likely to turn to the folks they know. The people they know are the Guard.”

Each state may not yet be home to a CPT, but Guard elements in each state, territory and the District of Columbia have computer network defense teams or other cyber protection assets, Hughes said.

“The Army National Guard has laid computer network defensive teams into every state,” he said. “Between the Army Guard and the Air Guard, there is a level of cyber protection capability in each state.”



Photos by MICHAEL MASCARI, 81st Regional Support Command

Sgt. 1st Class Lloyd Robertson, Retirement Services non-commissioned officer in charge for the 81st Regional Support Command, helps Master Sgt. Loretta Cotham of the 5th Medical Brigade in Birmingham, Ala., with benefits registration.

## Teamwork improves retirement planning

By MICHAEL P. MASCARI  
81st Regional Support Command Public Affairs

Soldiers preparing for retirement often have lots to think about and little time to prepare by the time they attend a Retirement Services Brief – if they attend one at all.

The 81st Regional Support Command is working to make preparation time a little smoother by partnering with the Veterans Administration.

A Dec. 5 retirement services event in Lexington, Kentucky was the first time the RSC conducted an event at a VA center. Many attendees said they found the briefing and the partnership valuable.

“I am comfortable at the VA as a veteran, and the people that you need to talk to for many things are here at the VA,” said Master Sgt. Loretta Cotham. “Not everyone lives close to a VA, so this is very convenient and helpful to connect with people to assist me through the process. I am grateful.”

The RSC conducts regular retirement briefings, seeing more than 1,300 soon-to-be and recently retired troops yearly. It doesn’t serve only Reserve Soldiers but also National Guardsmen and Reservists from the Navy, Marines and Air Force. Spouses are encouraged to attend, as well.

The RSC team has determined that teaming with the VA benefits both Service members and both organizations. Members of the VA and select vendors who serve Reservists and Guardsmen can provide onsite assistance, and Service members can contact people and organizations that can assist them with retirement.

The partnership helps the 81st and the VA share valu-

able information, and to provide the most current information to customers. The 81st RSC is seeking to partner with the VA for all of its retirement events.

James Belmont Jr., associate director for the Lexington VA Medical Center, said the VA also was happy with the partnership and that he would like to see such teamwork become the model.

“There’s a dual benefit,” Belmont said. “One for the Army, where they can have a central facility where they can bring Service members in to one place, and – from the VA’s perspective – we can reach the veterans and let them know about their health benefits.

“We can sign them up and advise them of their eligibility. Many veterans don’t know there is dual eligibility.”

Service members can receive both military retirement health care through TRICARE and VA benefits.

Belmont wishes to sign up more people earlier, to see what they may be entitled to and how much they qualify for.

“The dual eligibility is always a surprise for retiring military members,” he said. “We want to let them know about these benefits. These aren’t given. They’re earned.”

Cotham, the non-commissioned officer in charge of radiology for the 5th Medical Brigade in Birmingham, Alabama, found out what she’s entitled to, how much her retirement benefits will be, and even that she is entitled to veterans’ hiring preference and medical benefits.

“If you don’t think you need to attend these briefings, you are wrong,” she said. “You need to make the time.

“This is yours. You’ve done these years, and when you retire, it’s not a given you will get everything.

“If you don’t work to get it, you will lose it. It’s up to you.”



Capt. LaToya Kearns, 81st RSC retirement services officer, shares a laugh with Col. Julia Christian, who attended a recent retirement-planning workshop in Lexington, Ky.

Cotham has advice for Soldiers to consider earlier in their careers.

“Be mindful of all of your paperwork,” she said. “Check into the system to ensure they have all of your paperwork and things are being updated on a regular basis.

“You have to be proactive in your own retirement to make everything work.”

For more information and resources, call the 81st RSC Retirement Service Officers at 751-9864/9698 or contact the Human Resources Service Center at 1-888-276-9472 or [askhrc.army@us.army.mil](mailto:askhrc.army@us.army.mil). To speak with someone at the Veterans Administration, call 1-800-827-1000 or visit [www.va.gov](http://www.va.gov).

# Army will discharge weak NCOs

By **DAVID VERGUN**  
Army News Service

Senior non-commissioned officer selection boards and the Qualitative Management Program meeting next year will begin considering Soldiers for possible involuntary separation.

Notification memos recently went out for the March 2016 QMP board, said Ronald Simons, chief of enlisted retirements and separations in the Enlisted Transitions Branch of the in U.S. Army Human Resources Command, which manages enlisted Soldier QMP status.

"It is imperative that the Soldier review their (Army Military Human Resources Record) because that is the record the selection board is going to be reviewing," Simons said. "If it is not up to date and correct, it is on the Soldier to make sure it is up to date and correct."

Per Military Personnel Message 15-394, "Procedures for the FY16 QMP" consideration for denial of continued service will occur when an NCO receives one or more occurrences related to poor conduct or performance based on:

- A general officer's memorandum of reprimand.

- A conviction by court martial or Uniform Code of Military Justice Article 15 punishment.

- Department of the Army Form 2166-8, NCO Evaluation Report with any of the following three things: relief for cause; an annotation of "no" in Part IV, for (Army values); or a senior rating of 4 (fair) or 5 (poor) in the "overall performance" or "potential" blocks.

- DA Form 2166-9-2, NCOER for E-6 through E-8 with any of the three following items: relief for cause; an annotation of "did not meet standards" in Part IV, blocks C, D, E, F, G, H or I; an annotation of "not qualified" in Part V, Block A.

- DA Form 2166-9-3, NCOER for E-9, with any of the following: relief for cause; an annotation of "did not meet standards" in Part IV, blocks A or E; an annotation of "not qualified" in Part V, Block A.

- An Academic Evaluation Report, DA Form 1059, indicating NCO Education System course failure.

Failure to qualify for promotion consideration to the next pay grade because of non-completion of NCOES for two categories: an E-6 who, on attainment of 48 months' time in grade, has not graduated from the Advanced Leaders Course; an E-7 who, on attainment



*Army News Service photo*

**Some non-commissioned officers may be looking through the rear-view mirror at their military service after Qualitative Management Program Boards convene next year to consider Soldiers in all components, E-6 through E-9, for possible involuntary separation.**

of 48 months' time in grade, has not graduated from the Senior Leaders Course.

Simons said that on occasion, people make mistakes in reviewing a Soldier's file.

"We review thousands and thousands of records, and then it is not uncommon for somebody to just overlook something," he

said. "We can take care of that up front rather than after the fact. After the fact, it becomes much more difficult for the Soldier and for the Army."

Contact information is in MILPER 15-394, available on the HRC website, [www.hrc.army.mil/](http://www.hrc.army.mil/)

# Utility teams work to root out, repair sewer problems

## From the DIRECTORATE OF PUBLIC WORKS

Fort Jackson's water and wastewater partners have begun repairing 2,900 feet of sewer line and eight manholes underneath Marion Street.

The work by Palmetto State Utility Services is part of the post's annual renewal and replacement program, designed to repair water and wastewater lines.

PSUS and their subcontractors are cleaning the 12- and 15-inch pipelines with a jetter, removing roots and other obstacles, and then running a camera through the lines to determine their condition.

To minimize disruption, PSUS will use a cured in-place pipe for most of the renewal work, putting a liner inside the existing pipe after repairing pipe that cannot be lined. The method will provide a new wastewater line without necessitating extensive digging and long-term traffic disruptions.

Point repairs should be completed at the intersection of Marion and Stuart streets, near the Marion Street Station.

The project is expected to be completed by the end of January. Most disruptions will occur during the holidays, when traffic should be lighter than usual.



*Courtesy photo*

**Utility employees check a camera to make sure sewer lines running under Marion Street are clear and free of obstructions.**

# 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**  
■ 9:15 a.m., worship, Memorial

Chapel  
■ 10:45 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 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  
■ 11:15 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 Holiday Gate Hours

## GATE 1:

Closed Dec. 19 to Jan. 3.  
Returning to normal hours  
Jan. 4.

## GATE 2:

Open around the clock.

## GATE 3:

5 a.m. to noon Dec. 21-24 and  
Dec. 28-31. Gate 4 will resume  
normal hours Jan. 4.

## GATE 4:

5 a.m. to 10 p.m. Monday  
through Friday  
4-6 p.m. Monday through Friday  
(outbound only)  
5 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturday and  
Sunday  
Closed Christmas Day.

# Dog tags become a little less personal

By **DANIELA VESTAL**  
Public Affairs, U.S. Army  
Human Resources Command

Dog tags are receiving their first update in more than 40 years.

In accordance with Department of Defense guidance aimed at reducing the use of Social Security numbers, the Army has published a new Department of the Army Pamphlet 600-8-14. The pamphlet documents procedures to replace Soldiers' Social Security numbers with their DOD ID numbers.

The change to using the 10-digit, randomly generated number will occur as need, said Michael Klemowski, Soldiers Programs Branch chief, U.S. Army Human Resources Command.

"This change is not something where Soldiers need to run out and get new tags made," Klemowski said. "We are focusing first on the personnel who are going to deploy. If a Soldier is going to deploy, they are the first ones that need to have the new ID tags."

Removing the Social Security number from ID tags is one way the Army will safeguard the personally identifiable information of its Soldiers, Klemowski said.

"I think removing the social will help," he said. "If you find a pair of lost ID tags, you can pretty much do anything with that person's identity because you now have their blood type, their religion, you have their Social (Security number), and you have their name. The only thing

missing is their birth date, and you can usually get that by Googling a person."

Staff Sgt. Kristen Duus, a Soldier with the Defense POW/MIA Accounting Agency, said she thought the update was a good idea.

"Identity theft is a very real threat for us right now, and so many people are not aware that our information is easily accessed," Duus said. "By removing Socials from ID tags, one more step is being taken to protect ourselves and our identities."

A presidential task force released the DOD Social Security Number Reduction Plan in 2007.

Since then, the Army has been searching for a way to replace the Social Security number on the ID tags Soldiers wear. What might seem like a simple task turned out not to be, Klemowski said.

The Army used several systems tied to a Soldier's Social Security number, all for different purposes. Each system had to be retooled to work with one others, using the DOD ID number, Klemowski said.

"The DOD ID number is currently used on ID cards, and TRICARE will be using it in the future," he said. "More and more systems are going go to the DOD ID number as technology catches up with us and we are able to phase out the Social Security number."

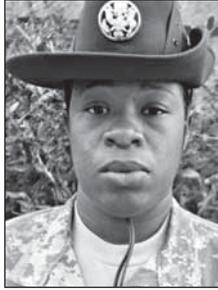


## Saluting this BCT cycle's honorees

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



**Staff Sgt. Eugene Wright**  
Alpha Company  
1st Battalion,  
13th Infantry Regiment



**Staff Sgt. Exie Britton**  
Bravo Company  
1st Battalion,  
13th Infantry Regiment



**Sgt. 1st Class Joseph Lamb**  
Charlie Company  
1st Battalion,  
13th Infantry Regiment



**Staff Sgt. Justin Strohmman**  
Delta Company  
1st Battalion,  
13th Infantry Regiment



**Staff Sgt. Joshua Samples**  
Foxtrot Company  
1st Battalion,  
13th Infantry Regiment

**HONOR GRADUATE OF THE CYCLE**  
Pfc. Daniel Ricketts

**HONOR GRADUATE OF THE CYCLE**  
Pvt. Morgan Edginton

**HONOR GRADUATE OF THE CYCLE**  
Spc. Cameron Hauri

**HONOR GRADUATE OF THE CYCLE**  
Spc. Courtney Grambley

**HONOR GRADUATE OF THE CYCLE**  
Pvt. Sean Linenkugel

**STUDENT LEADER OF THE CYCLE**  
Pvt. Elliott Timmons

**STUDENT LEADER OF THE CYCLE**  
Pvt. Christopher Feigenbaum

**STUDENT LEADER OF THE CYCLE**  
Pvt. Christin Contreras

**STUDENT LEADER OF THE CYCLE**  
Pfc. Jessica Parks

**STUDENT LEADER OF THE CYCLE**  
Pvt. Joseph Anderson

**HIGH APFT**  
Pvt. Anthony Pamos-Villafane

**HIGH APFT**  
Pvt. Morgan Edginton

**HIGH APFT**  
Pvt. Christin Contreras

**HIGH APFT**  
Pvt. Bailey Connor

**HIGH APFT**  
Pvt. Chandra Shrestha

**HIGH BRM**  
Pvt. Brandon Cory

**HIGH BRM**  
Pvt. Maxwell Murphy

**HIGH BRM**  
Spc. Mitchell Alvarez

**HIGH BRM**  
Pvt. Bailey Connor

**HIGH BRM**  
Pvt. Xinfu Su



**Fort Jackson**  
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@FortJacksonPAO

# Hope

Continued from Page 3

"When I met her, I had gave up on humanity," Harrison remembers. "Humanity was a thing of the past. Everybody I was coming in to contact with, was out for themselves.

"So, to uplift me she would come to me with spiritual things to let me know there is a chance – humanity is still alive out there."

Harrison says Motley always has kind words for everybody and picks up the slack at work without complaining.

"We forget," she says. "We get on that fast track, trying to make a dollar and get what we can get; and Hope reminded me that it's not always about me.

"She never thinks about herself."

### 'He showed me sunshine'

For her part, Motley says, "We're all God's children; none of us are any better than any other."

"Basically, most of the time while I was walking, I talked to God, and sometimes I would talk out loud.

"I would get answers, too.

"He showed me sunshine throughout the time I was walking, and I can trust and rely on Him,"

One wet and dreary morning during



Photo by JENNIFER STRIDE  
During her walks, Hope Motley carried a small lantern to light her way and bottled water for her second rest stop. 'Don't quit,' she advises others. 'Don't ever quit.'

the week of the flooding on Fort Jackson, Motley says, "I had just left my trailer park on Leesburg Road, and I got about halfway and was about ready to give up, and I said, 'Lord, please show me a ray of sunshine.'

"Then the colonel (Col. Morris Goins, Fort Jackson's chief of staff) picked me

up and brought me to work.

"I had no clue who he was, but he was just as sweet as could be – like he knew me forever."

Goins remembers the trip well.

"It was about 7:15 in the morning," he says. "I thought, 'Oh, man, I wonder where she's going?'" and I rolled the window down and said, 'Ma'am, do you need a ride?'"

The two talked about how far Motley had walked and the early hour at which she had arisen.

"And then I thought, ... 'Would I walk that far to work that early in the morning?'" Goins said Wednesday. "And I'm thinking, would I really do that?"

"She said, 'It's not that bad; when this gate was closed, I had to come all the way around, and I'd start walking at midnight,' and again my thought was, 'Would I really walk that far to come to work?'"

"And then I thought, 'You know? I have absolutely no reason to complain about anything!'"

### Ready to take on the world

Motley is philosophical about what others see as an ordeal.

Prayers receive answers, she says – "not necessarily when you want, or maybe not what you want to hear, but it is God's way, and He has a plan."

Motley says that sometimes the walking was hard, but her tenacity kept her on her feet for the two weeks until her son

returned to Columbia.

"If I can walk it, (Soldiers) can get through basic training, and they can get through anything that comes their way in their life – no matter what it is. If you cry out to God, He will help you."

Walking has given Motley more self-confidence, too – she feels ready to take on the world.

It turned out walking "gave my friend inner strength and spiritual guidance," Harrison says.

Motley says that looking back now, walking gave her renewed hope and a new outlook on handling life's challenges.

"Don't give up hope; don't quit – don't ever quit," she says. "Just keep on truckin' no matter how hard it gets.

"Get a close friend – someone you can confide in – and y'all just help one another, inspire each other. Don't give up. Persevere!"

Having experienced a hardship herself, she is even more eager to help others.

"You can help people without having money," she says. "Just give them a smile or a word of encouragement. Just care for people. Have compassion on everybody; don't just pick and choose who – care about them all."

Or, as Goins put it when describing his encounter with Motley:

"She's an amazing lady," he said. "She truly is hope."

# General applauds staying in Afghanistan

By **JIM GARAMONE**  
Department of Defense News

President Barack Obama's decision to keep 9,800 American forces in Afghanistan into 2016 has resonated through the region, the commander of NATO's Resolute Support Mission says.

At this time last year, said Gen. John F. Campbell, the United States was headed toward having only 1,000 Soldiers in Afghanistan by the end of 2016.

"We were closing all our bases, and we were going to be Kabul-centric," Campbell said last week.

But in October, Obama announced that the United States would maintain 9,800 troops in Afghanistan through most of 2016, ultimately heading toward an end strength of 5,500 by Jan. 1, 2017.

"That's a huge change from where we were," Campbell said.

Forty troop-contributing nations signed on last week at the NATO foreign ministerial meeting to continue contributing forces and money to the Afghan mission.

"We'll continue to ... train, advise and assist ... the aviation wing and Afghan special forces," Campbell said.

Obama's announcement was aimed at six different audiences, Campbell said.

■ It made a huge difference to Afghan President Ashraf Ghani, who applauds American efforts in his country and who has told his countrymen of American sacrifices for Afghanistan. Ghani sees the United States as a "foundational partner," Campbell said, and wants to continue to build Afghan capabilities.

■ The decision gives the Afghan people more confidence, Campbell said, "that the international community would stay with them."

■ "There was some unpredictability there," he said. "If the U.S. stays, everybody stays. If the U.S. had left, probably everybody would have left."

■ Afghan security forces gained the confidence their partners would remain and help build capabilities.

■ The decision was a warning to the Taliban that the United States was committed to the future of Afghanistan and that the group could not simply wait out the Americans.

■ For Pakistan, the decision said that the United States and NATO were in the fight for the long term.



U.S. Air Force photo by STAFF SGT. TONY CORONADO

**U.S. Army Gen. John Campbell, left, commander of Resolute Support Mission and United States Forces-Afghanistan, welcomes U.S. Marine Corps Gen. Joseph F. Dunford Jr., chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, on Dec. 8 on Bagram Air Field, Afghanistan.**

■ Finally, the decision contained a message for NATO, Campbell said.

"This has been (NATO's) largest ongoing operation, and we have an opportunity to build upon what we've done these

last 14 years and come out with a strategic win here," he said.

Problems remain, Campbell said, but the Afghan government is willing to confront them, learn and move on.



Photo by ROBERT TIMMONS

**Soldiers in Class 001-16 watch as classmate Sgt. Josh Johnson demonstrates the proper way to exit a building during urban combat. Because of his experience as a special operator, Johnson showed the other Soldiers how to conduct room clearing.**

## Blast

Continued from Page 4

Johnson was a Special Forces staff sergeant whom budget cutbacks forced to take a reduction in rank to re-enter the service.

"This class is doing really well," Huffman said. "They've clicked."

"(With) the amount of experience and the wide variety of experience, they are an easy class to teach."

Centella and Johnson – accompanied by other non-commissioned officers – took over room-clearing drills from the 218th cadre and ran with it, demonstrating tactics necessary to operate in urban environments: keeping vest plates toward the enemy and using a buddy as a shield while moving.

The veteran NCOs warned less experienced Soldiers about the dangers of urban combat.

In the open, a Soldier must be careful to be engaged horizontally, Johnson warned.

"But in a city, you can be shot at from anywhere," he cautioned.

It was important for those with combat experience to train some greener Soldiers.

"We have a lot of E-4s out here that have seen combat who are pretty solid," Johnson said. "We also have a few slick

sleeves here, too – but even most of them are pretty solid."

"Slick sleeves" denotes Soldiers who never have never seen combat.

One of those was soft-spoken Spc. Cameron Roseberry of the 848th Engineer Battalion in Douglasville, Georgia, who said bluntly that he liked the adrenaline "rush" that blowing up things and clearing rooms gave him.

Roseberry and his squad practiced room clearing for later in the day, when they would have to move through a simulated town inhabited by potential enemies. The enemy combatants would open fire with simulated rifle munitions that Centella and Johnson warned could veer off unexpectedly in different directions after firing.

Whatever their reasons for joining, the Soldiers got their hands dirty creating explosive devices and setting them off before performing clearance drills as the sunny South Carolina weather suddenly turned sour and cold rain began to fall.

"It's not like 'Call of Duty,'" Huffman said of fighting in a city.

A Soldier can't just run around and shoot everything, hopping along to avoid being shot.