THURSDAY, FEB. 25, 2016

THE FORT JACKSON LEADER

PUBLISHED FOR THE FORT JACKSON/COLUMBIA, S.C., COMMUNITY

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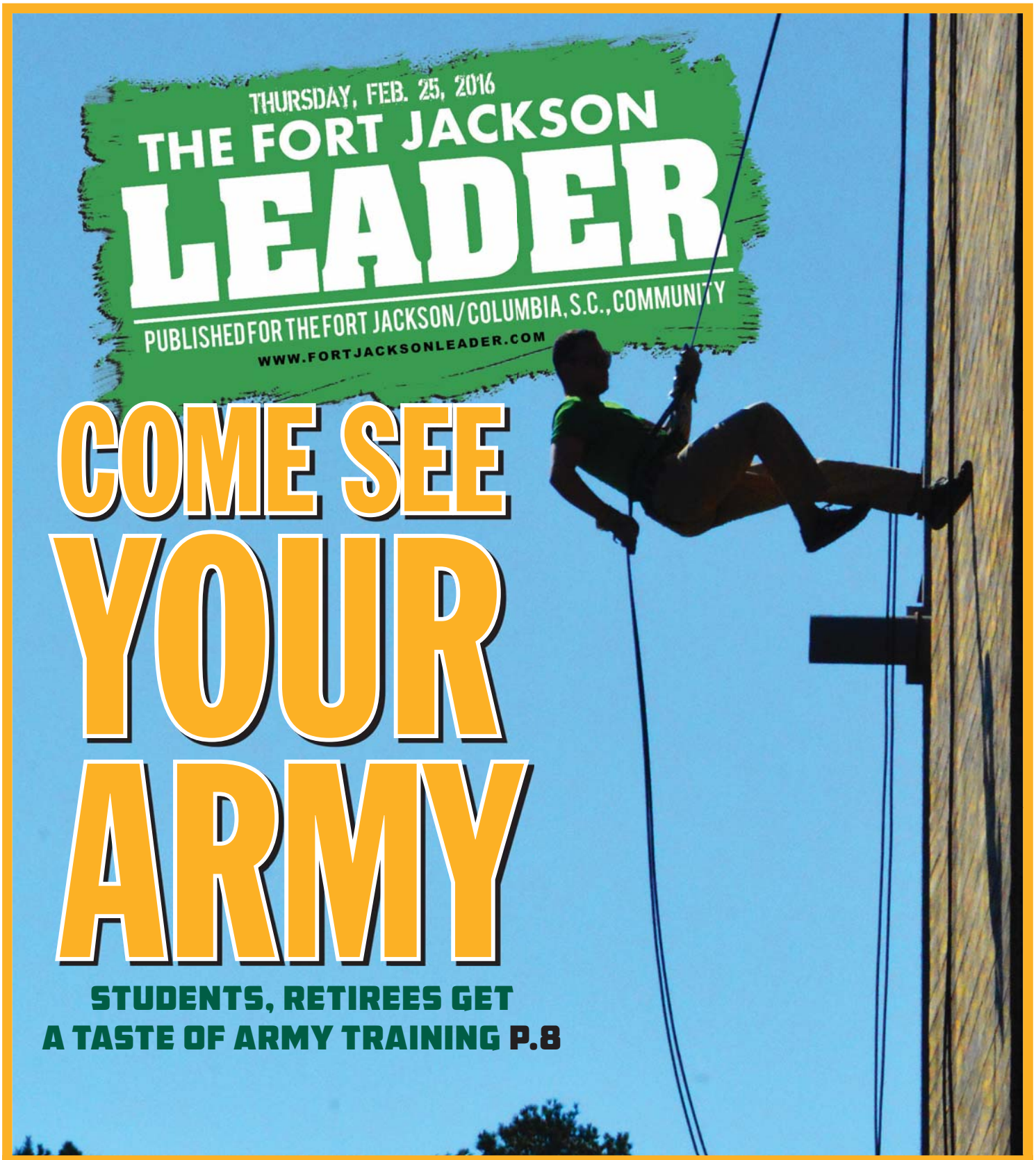

COME SEE YOUR ARMY

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ON THE COVER

Photo by WALLACE McBRIDE

Bryan Abbott rappels Victory Tower during last Friday's Come See Your Army Tour.

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THE FORT JACKSON LEADER
PUBLISHED FOR THE FORT JACKSON/COLUMBIA, S.C., COMMUNITY

Fort Jackson, South Carolina 29207

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Commanding General ..... Maj. Gen. Roger L. Cloutier Jr.
Garrison Commander ..... Col. James W. Ellerson Jr.
Public Affairs Officer ..... Michael B. Pond
Garrison Public Affairs Officer ..... Patrick Jones
Command Information Officer ..... Christopher Fletcher
Editor ..... Wallace McBride
Staff Writer ..... Jennifer Stride
Staff Writer ..... Robert Timmons

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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 we 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.

NOTICE

The Visitor Center, Building 4297, will begin operating under new hours March 7. The center will be open from 5 a.m. to 11 p.m. Monday through Sunday.

FRIDAY

African American History Month celebration
11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m., at the Fort Jackson NCO Club. The guest speaker for the post's annual African American/Black History Month Observance is Bobby Donaldson, faculty principal of Preston Residential College and director of Columbia SC 63: Our Story Matters.

SATURDAY

Scholarship seminar for military Families
9-10 a.m. or 1-2:30 p.m., Room 222, Strom Thurmond Building. Only one session required. For information, call 751-9460, or email *Barbara.L.Martin10.civ@mail.mil.*

TUESDAY

Resume Writing and Interview Skills Workshop
9 a.m. to noon, Room 222, Strom Thurmond Building. Workshop conducted by BlueCross BlueShield Human Resources Department. Excellent opportunity to network with BCBS personnel. Targeted to military spouses, but open to DOD ID card holders. To register call 80-751-9460/5256 or email *Barbara.L.Martin10.civ@mail.mil.*

Healthy Relationships
11 a.m. to noon, Classroom 10, 5614 Hood St. Discussion-based class designed to foster emotionally healthy relationships. Open to all active duty, retirees, DOD civilians and qualified Family members. Call 751-6325 for information or to register.

AER Kickoff Luncheon
The Army Emergency Relief kickoff luncheon will take place 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the NCO Club. The cost is $10.50 at the door.

Lunch and Learn – Managing Credit and Debt
2:30–3:30 p.m. Ed. Center
For more information call ACS - 751-5256

WEDNESDAY

Steps to Federal Employment for Military Spouses
9-11:30 a.m. Room 222, Strom Thurmond Building. For information call 751-9460/5452, or email *Barbara.L.Martin10.civ@mail.mil*

MARCH 3

Stress Management Class
11 a.m. to noon, Classroom 10, 5614 Hood St. Workshop designed to help participants manage the effects of stress. Call 751-6325 for information or to register.

Lunch and Learn – Thrift Saving Plan
11:45 a.m. to 12:45 p.m. Ed. Center
For more information call ACS - 751-5256

MARCH 4

Foreign Born Spouses Multi-Cultural Luncheon
11:30 a.m.—1:30 p.m., 5450 Strom Thurmond Blvd, Room 222. All Foreign born Spouses are invited to attend. You don't want to miss this opportunity to meet/greet other spouses, taste a variety of cultural food, play games, share cultural information and have a great time. Bring a homemade cultural dish and recipe to share with the group and to add to our multi-cultural cookbook. For more information contact Relocation Readiness Program staff Patricia Guillory at (803) 751-9770, *patricia.a.guillory.civ@mail.mil* or Miranda Broadus at (803) 751-1124, *miranda.broadus.civ@mail.mil.*

MARCH 5

Dr. Seuss's Birthday Celebration
10 a.m.–1 p.m. at the Solomon Center. Storytelling, original poetry and story contest. A call for children and youth to submit original poems and stories on a topic of their choice. For more information, call 751-6150.

MARCH 7

Child Safety Awareness Initial Training
5-7 p.m. Classroom 10, 5614 Hood St. Two-hour initial training workshop helps participants recognize, identify and report child abuse. This class is a requirement for all law enforcement, legal, chaplains and CYSS volunteers/employees, teachers and other installation personnel whose employment requires contact with children. Certificates of completion will be provided upon completion. Call 751-6325 to register. Open to active duty, retirees, DOD civilians and qualified Family members.

MARCH 9

S.C. Midlands Job Fair
9-11:30 a.m. Columbia Metropolitan Convention Center, 1101 Lincoln Street, Columbia, S.C. More than 75 employers will be participating in the job fair. Jobseekers are not required to register for the event.

Retired Officers Wives Club Luncheon
11:30 a.m. at the Fort Jackson Officers Club. Set reservation by 3 p.m. March 9, 788-1094 or 783-1220.

MARCH 10

Soldier for Life: Transition Assistance Program
9 a.m.-2 p.m., Fort Jackson Main Post Chapel (Omega Activities Room), 4580 Scales Road. The Transition Assistance Program Center will host an informative and interactive event featuring local and national federal agencies. The event focuses on improving competitive employment for transitioning Service Members and their Spouses in addition to a networking reception for job seekers.

MARCH 12

Shamrock Shuffle 5K Fun Run/Walk
8-10 a.m., Semmes Lake Recreation Area, free event. Late Registration from 6:30 - 7:30 a.m. Race starts promptly at 8 a.m.

MARCH 26

BOSS Team Adventure Race
Join BOSS on a trip that involves whitewater rafting, zip lining, and more team activities. Meet at Marion Street Station at 8 a.m. to depart for the National Whitewater Rafting Center in Charlotte, North Carolina. The cost is $25 per Soldier, which includes transportation, entry and lunch. The event is open to BOSS single Soldiers. Call Sgt. Eric Choquette at 803-629-1096.

Courtesy photo

Jaxon Ingram, 6, has been battling leukemia since October.

FORT JAXON

Jaxon Ingram asked for prayers and postcards to help him in his battle against cancer. Thanks to the efforts of one Soldier, the 6-year-old boy soon started receiving cards and letters from all over the world.

By ROBERT TIMMONS
Fort Jackson Leader

Being sick can be difficult for anyone, but for one Lancaster, South Carolina, boy having a serious illness hasn't dampened his enthusiasm for life.

Jaxon Ingram, 6, was diagnosed with acute lymphoblastic leukemia in October and has been in and out treatment since. He has lost his hair but not his playfulness – thanks to thousands of well-wishers sending him letters and cards.

The cards come from the four corners of the Earth – including Army installations – thanks to a Fort Jackson Soldier.

Sgt. Erik Choquette, Fort Jackson's Better Opportunities for Single Soldiers president, learned about the writing campaign from his girlfriend Taylor (who is from Jaxon's hometown) and passed it on to other BOSS reps who fervently responded flooding Jaxson with correspondence

As a parent Choquette couldn't sit by and not do anything, he said.

It hurts "when you see something happening to kids, but once you become a parent it affects you on a whole other level," said the Panama City Beach, Florida, native.

"He has received cards, letters, and packages from Korea, Germany, Alaska, and so many other places across the globe," Choquette said. "When the BOSS letters and packages started coming in Jaxon was so elated he exclaimed that 'the Army, the real Army is sending me their powers to get better.'"

"I'm amazed at the response," his father Jason said. "He's already had mail from all 50 states and multiple international cards. Some are from places I haven't heard of and I had to try hard to find them on a map."

Choquette praised the efforts of BOSS reps worldwide to help Jaxon, and called for more people to get involved.

"If you see an opportunity to do something like this, get a team together because it will make a larger impact," he said.

What started out as a Facebook page for relatives to see how Jaxon was doing, soon mushroomed into something far larger with television stations and newspapers blasting the story across the country.

It has generated so much mail it fills their post office box.

"Every day we check the post office box – he loves getting mail," Jason Ingram said. "Some days the box is filled and we have to go to the desk to get the remainder. We've had to go to the desk a good bit of the time."

See **MAIL:** Page 20

'Never Leave a Soldier in Need'

Army Emergency Relief campaign kicks off

Army Community Service

Fort Jackson will launch its 2016 Army Emergency Relief Annual Campaign during a luncheon ceremony at 11:30 a.m., Tuesday at the NCO Club. The main purpose of the annual campaign, this year themed, "Never Leave a Soldier in Need," is to bring AER mission awareness to Soldiers and to raise funds to provide emergency assistance to Soldiers and their families, said Sgt. 1st Class Cheryse Gordon, campaign staff member.

"AER is solely dedicated to Soldiers helping Soldiers," said Capt. Thomas Dean, campaign coordinator. "In the Army, we take pride in our ability to help our fellow Soldiers. After all, the Warrior Ethos states, 'I will never leave a fallen comrade.'"

Last year, Fort Jackson Soldiers donated $175,762 to the Fort Jackson campaign and provided over $901,000 in zero interest loans and grants.

The goal is "100 percent Soldier contact," Gordon said, "We want to ensure that every Soldier is aware of the AER program and has an opportunity to help a fellow Soldier by making a contribution."

"There is no limit on how much a Soldier can ask for," she said. "AER assistance will meet your emergency need."

If the emergency is valid and the requester is deemed eligible, AER financial assistance may be provided in the form of a no-interest loan, a grant, or a combination of both.

"There are many finance companies, title loan and cash-advance establishments that take advantage of Service members who need financial help," Dean said. "AER can help … the situation without Soldiers resorting to options that have exorbitant fees or interest rates."

Both active and retired Soldiers can apply for AER assistance. Applications may be submitted through unit commanders and/or first sergeants or directly to the local AER staff at the Strom Thurmond Building, Gordon said.

Soldiers or Family members who live more than 50 miles from an Army installation can apply at the nearest Aid Society (Air Force Aid Society, Navy-Marine Corps Relief Society and the Coast Guard Mutual Assistance). Gordon said to contact the American Red Cross at 877-272-7337 if there is no military installation or aid society within 50 miles, or if emergency relief is needed after business hours, during weekends or on federal holidays.

Photo by JENNIFER STRIDE

Maj. Gen. Roger Cloutier, Fort Jackson commanding general, fills out and signs his 2016 Army Emergency Relief pledge Feb. 18 at post headquarters. The 2016 AER Campaign kicks off March 1 with a luncheon at the NCO Club. Donations to AER assist Soldiers in a variety of ways.

For additional information on the AER Campaign, contact Gordon or Dean at 751-5256.

Jackson pledges to help community save

By ROBERT TIMMONS
Fort Jackson Leader

Post officials are urging Fort Jackson community members to save money and prepare for the future during Military Saves Week which began Monday with a financial forum at the NCO Club.

The weeklong Department of Defense campaign supports the America Saves program where people pledge to get out of debt.

It is extremely important to save, said Kimberly Bottema, an accredited financial counselor with ACS.

"I've been working for civil service for 25 years," added Bottema, who helped set up the event. "I started a Thrift Saving Plan account when I first came in and I'm glad I did because we don't know if social security is going to be there for us (when we retire)."

The event that started at 8 a.m. was broken into six hour-long sessions which covered money management, TSP, social security, investment scams, VA benefits, and things to know when investing.

Speakers briefly touched on the military's new retirement system during the TSP segment.

That system is "not be going to hit until 2017," Bottema said. "It's going to phase in depending upon when you came in."

"Start saving now," she said. "Some people think I'm young, and YOLO, 'you only live once' and they spend all their money. But you need to realize we are going to live a long time and hopefully we will be able to benefit from our savings."

Young Soldiers should "start saving now" she added. "The earlier you start investing the more time for your money to grow" as discussed by guest speaker Jamie Houston during a session about investment tips.

Houston discussed how to double money by using the rule 72. The rule states an investor should divide 72 by the interest rate to see how many years it will take to double your money.

For instance, if you find an interest rate earning 10 percent your money will double in 7.2 years, while putting money in the bank will take 72 years because most bank's interest rates are less than 1 percent.

Higher interest rates come with higher risk, Bottema said.

Saving money benefits not only the individual but also their Families because loved ones can inherit funds when a person passes.

Shawn Smith a personal financial readiness specialist with ACS, said TSP is a good way to start saving money now for retirement.

See **FINANCE:** Page 17

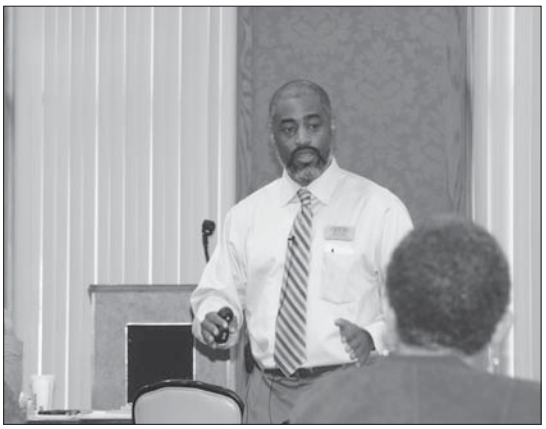


Photo by ROBERT TIMMONS

Shawn Smith, a personal financial readiness specialist, with Fort Jackson's Army Community Service, speaks about the Thrift Savings Plan during Monday's Financial Forum at the NCO Club.

Post plans full-scale exercise this spring

Fort Jackson will conduct a full scale exercise this Spring. The exercise will test Fort Jackson's full spectrum of emergency response capabilities with community partnerships in the event of a real emergency.

During the exercise individuals can expect delays at various gates and throughout the installation. Again this is only an exercise. If you notice anything suspicious report it to the Military Police Desk at 803-751-3115.

Business workshops set to begin in April

The Army Community Services Employment Readiness Program has partnered with SCORE to bring an interactive program called "Simple Steps for Starting Your Business" to Fort Jackson. This 5-part series of 2-hour workshops is designed to give you the tools, information and advice you need to succeed. You'll learn the essentials of business startup, get action steps, and receive one-on-one mentoring. Workshops will be held 9. a.m. – 12 p.m. in Room 222 of the Strom Thurmond Building every Friday in April.

Contact the ACS Employment Readiness Office at (803) 751-9460/5452 or email *Barbara.L.Martin10.civ@mail.mil* to register. Registration deadline is March 28.

FAMILY AND MORALE, WELFARE AND RECREATION PROGRAMS

WWW.FORTJACKSONMWR.COM

Thursday, Feb 25 - Monday, Mar 1

BUY ONE HOTDOG & GET ONE FREE!

at The Strike Zone Snack Bar located inside Century Lanes Bowling Center.

May not be combined with any other offer.

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

FOR SOLDIERS FOR FAMILIES FOR RETIREES FOR CIVILIANS

Community Flea Market

Feb 27 (7 a.m. - 1 p.m.)

In front of the Solomon Center

Registration required and can be placed at the Solomon Center front desk or by calling 751-4056.

Free Event!

Tables can be requested at the time of registration. No Food Vendors allowed.

FOR SOLDIERS FOR FAMILIES FOR RETIREES FOR CIVILIANS

March Madness Bingo AT VICTORY BINGO

(Bldg -12500 Huger St. Fort Jackson, SC 29207)

Sunday, Mar 6

- » Doors open at 9:30 am
- » Fun Games start at 11 a.m.
- » Jackpots $5,000 and $2,000
- » 8 Regular Games $1,000
- » Fun Games are Table Games

For more info, call (803)751-6990.

FOR SOLDIERS FOR FAMILIES FOR RETIREES FOR CIVILIANS

MARCH MADNESS

WATCH IT ALL AT MAGRUDERS CLUB & PUB

Magruders Club & Pub March Madness Specials

(March 15 - April 4, 2016)

- » Happy Hour: Mon - Fri (4:30 - 6:30 p.m.) Half off all beer & house liquor!
- » Food & drink specials every game night!
- » Bracket Challenge: complete an entire bracket correctly and win a prize!

3305 Daniel Dr. Fort Jackson, SC 29207
(803) 790-0381

FOR SOLDIERS FOR FAMILIES FOR RETIREES FOR CIVILIANS

Family & MWR Fitness & Perez Gym Present:

Whack that ball FITNESS

2016 Racquetball Tournament

Friday, Mar 25 & Saturday, Mar 26

At Perez Gym
4149 Sumter Street
Fort Jackson, SC

Open to the first 20 registrants!

Sign up today and get your game on!

For info, call Pam Long at 751-3700 or Perez Gym at 751-6258.

FOR SOLDIERS FOR FAMILIES FOR RETIREES FOR CIVILIANS

EASTER BUFFET

Sunday, Mar 27 (10:30 a.m. - 2:30 p.m.)

At the Fort Jackson NCO Club

(5700 Lee Road • 782-2218)

Featuring:

- » Delicious array of food
- » Omelet, waffle & carving stations
- » Face painting by Sarah Dippity
- » A very special visit from the Easter Bunny

Tickets go on sale Tuesday, Mar 1

» Adults - $14.95 » Kids - $7

FOR SOLDIERS FOR FAMILIES FOR RETIREES FOR CIVILIANS

SEAFOOD BUFFET

At the Fort Jackson Officers' Club

All you care to eat, every Friday from 11 a.m. - 1:30 p.m. for only $8.50.
Visit us at 3630 Semmes Road, Fort Jackson, SC. For more, call 782-8761.

Photo by ROBERT TIMMONS

Samuel "Mike" Good Jr., Fort Jackson's Equal Employment Opportunity officer, briefs the post's senior leadership during the 2016 Annual EEO committee meeting Feb. 17.

'Zero tolerance'

Post takes tough stance against harassment

By ROBERT TIMMONS
Fort Jackson Leader

Fort Jackson commander Maj. Gen. Roger Cloutier reiterated there was "zero tolerance" for harassment and other equal opportunity problems during the annual Equal Employment Opportunity Committee meeting Feb. 17.

"We take this very seriously," Cloutier said. "The command will take action. We will always err on the side of caution. In today's environment you can never be sure, but we look for indicators, warnings and anything that leads us to believe (harassment) is happening."

Fort Jackson will ensure its employees have a safe place to work, he added.

The annual EEO meeting is attended by all brigade commanders, command sergeants major and senior leadership on post. The annual meeting informs senior leadership of the status of EEO programs on post.

Fort Jackson trained 13 new EEO counselors in 2015, and is looking at "increasing awareness of EEO matters by ensuring all civilian employees complete mandatory" training in 2016, said Samuel "Mike" Good Jr., Fort Jackson's EEO officer.

In 2015 there were 58 EEO contacts with 13 of 17 informal contacts becoming formal complaints. The predominant amount of complaints were based on reprisal, race, and disability, with a majority of claims being non-sexual harassment.

Good also spoke about the new Army Directive 2015-40 signed by the Secretary of the Army on Oct. 30, 2015 which obligates management to investigate an allegation regardless of whether the harassment rises to the level of being severe or pervasive.

During the meeting, James McLawhorn, President of the Columbia Urban League was recognized for serving on the committee since 1979. Cloutier also thanked Good, who is retiring, for his efforts.

See **ZERO:** Page 17

Photo by JULIA SIMPKINS/U.S. ARMY CHAPLAIN CENTER AND SCHOOL

Chaplain (Capt.) Brian Hargis chats with Dr. Rita Nakashima Brock, a research professor and the director of the Soul Repair Center at Brite Divinity School in Fort Worth, Texas, following her presentation Tuesday at the U.S. Army Chaplain Center and School.

Afflictions of the soul

Chaplains get new perspective on Moral Injury

By JULIA SIMPKINS
U.S. Army Chaplain Center and School

More than 50 chaplains and 80 Columbia-area civilian clergy gathered at the Armed Forces Chaplaincy Center Tuesday to learn and review ways to deal with Soldiers and veterans who have moral injuries.

A moral injury is a form of extreme emotional stress that a person experiences after he or she has been forced to participate in a situation they are morally opposed to. Soldiers and veterans most commonly incur moral injuries from their time at war.

The symposium's keynote speaker was Dr. Rita Nakashima Brock, a research professor and the director of the Soul Repair Center at Brite Divinity School in Fort Worth, Texas. The author of two books on the subject, she's considered an expert in the fairly new field.

"I started as an anti-war activist in college," she said. "The Vietnam War was ongoing and I was very opposed to it. I remained interested in war and peace issues over the years, focusing on feminist issues – on anti-domestic violence work. I became a theologian and remained an activist but then 9/11 happened – and Iraq – and Afghanistan. I thought, 'Protests are expensive and time consuming and nothing really gets done. Something else needs to happen.'"

Brock said she found her answer in a group of veterans who starred in a film about the effects of war. Moved to try to help, she co-founded the Truth Commission on Conscience in War, in 2008.

"We were looking for donors, but President Obama had just been elected and everybody thought he was going to end the wars and fix everything," said Brock. "In November 2009, after he made a speech at West Point (military academy) about the Afghan war surge, the anti-war community went wild. We were getting $500 donations every day."

Fully funded, on March 20, 2010 the commission had its first meeting. Herman Kaiser, a retired Army Chaplain with much combat experience, was the keynote speaker. Kaiser coined the phrase "Moral Injury." Before the audience of more than 500, veterans of different backgrounds and belief systems testified about their experiences and difficulties. The point was to share the feelings associated with moral injuries and find the root of the guilt and misery associated with it and eliminate it through a series of healing techniques. Brock said very few of the attendees were pacifists. "Most people there were of the *just war* philosophy," said Brock.

Since 2010, Brock's group of theologians and veteran speakers have traveled the country to help service members find help for their moral injuries.

"To date we've done 12 regional conferences in the U.S., with veterans, Soldiers, clergy and Families," Brock said. "We had a think tank of senior theologians with (Deputy Chief of Chaplains of the United States Navy, Margaret Kibben) as the keynote speaker in 2015. We'd like to develop a way to train Soul Repair mentors for people who are transitioning out of the military."

Female trainees to receive iron supplements

By ROBERT TIMMONS
Fort Jackson Leader

Female Soldiers in Training will begin receiving iron-rich multivitamin supplements April 1 as part of an Army initiative to decrease attrition rates during Basic Combat Training.

Col. Jean Anderson, the Army Medical Department lead for the Soldier 2020 initiative and Lt. Col. Dawn Orta with the Office of the Surgeon General Healthcare Delivery spent the week here discussing how the multivitamins with iron program will increase training effectiveness.

Some women arrive at basic training iron deficient or anemic, Anderson said. Iron helps transport oxygen in the blood.

"If they are coming in with (iron deficiency) they are actually coming in with decreased oxygen to their tissues which affects their physical performance, their cognitive performance, and energy levels – they just feel tired all the time and fatigued," she said.

It is estimated that 25 percent of females entering the service are iron deficient and because of the physical demand on their bodies the iron shortage increases significantly. When they reach advanced individual training a little over 50 percent of them are iron deficient.

The Army's MVI program began last year during the Soldier 2020 Senior Leader Forum when TRADOC's deputy commanding general and chief of staff endorsed the Injury Rates/Attrition Rates Working Group's recommendation to mitigate iron deficiencies.

The MVI program is modeled after a similar Air Force program which found female Service members using multivitamins shaved one to two minutes off their two-mile run times.

"If the analysis that the doctors have conducted is correct, and if we see the same significant, positive changes that the Air Force observed at their basic combat training, then yes - I think we will see a decrease in the attrition rates among our female Soldier population," said Lt. Col. James Allen, Fort Jackson's G3. "I hope a year from now we will be able to point to a higher graduation rate and trace this increase back to the decision to issue Soldiers this multivitamin - iron supplement."

Eating healthy foods during basic training is not enough, so the MVI program calls for female Soldiers to receive multivitamins while at reception. While the program is voluntary, all females will be issued the supplements, Anderson said.

See **IRON:** Page 21

Leader staff recognized for excellence

From Staff Reports

The Fort Jackson Public Affairs Office received six awards for expertise in journalism, photography, and social media prowess in the 2015 U.S. Army Installation Management Command Keith L. Ware Public Affairs Competition.

The public affairs staff competed against more than 100 entries in print, web, and social media categories from Army installations around the world.

Robert Timmons, a staff writer for the Fort Jackson Leader, took first place for his commentary, "It's not always a straight shot from the military to a civilian job."

Timmons also took first place honors in the News Photo category for his photo of the post commander's change of command ceremony. The photo focused on the cannon firing as the formations rendered honors. Timmons garnered third place in the Sports Photo category for his photograph of a Benedict College football player making a touchdown grab.

Jennifer Stride, a staff writer for the Fort Jackson Leader, scored first place for the Feature Photo category with a picture of Gary Sinise and his band performing for Fort Jackson Soldiers. Stride also captured first place in the Environmental photo category for her photo of Directorate of Public Works employees relocating red cockaded woodpeckers to the installation.

Finally, Fort Jackson received first place for Outstanding Digital Presence. IMCOM judged Army installations on all digital platforms used to achieve unit-level communication objectives. Fort Jackson's digital platforms included Facebook, Twitter, Instagram and the official website.

The annual awards program recognizes military and civilian employees for journalistic excellence and furthering the objectives of the Department of the Army public affairs program.

Photos by EARL JONES/FMWR

Healing Hearts

Runners of all ages came out Saturday morning to help raise awareness of heart disease and promote healthy lifestyles as part of the Healing Hearts 5K Fun Run/Walk. The event was a joint effort of FMWR Outdoor Recreation/Sports Division and Army Community Service. Among Saturday's runners were, below from left: Josie Gutierrez; Charity Rhodehouse; and Peter Hoffman.

Susan Scouten lines up her sites at the EST 2000, a firearms simulator used to develop marksmanship skills in new Soldiers.

Come see your ARMY

Students, retirees spend the day in basic training

By WALLACE MCBRIDE
Fort Jackson Leader

The lasers didn't impress William Sanders.

The 67-year-old Army veteran spent last Friday on a rolling tour of Fort Jackson, one designed to give visitors a close — and occasionally uncomfortable — look at the Basic Combat Training experience.

Sanders enlisted in 1968, but most of what he remembers from his days as a new Soldier no longer exists, he said. Minutes after getting a look at the EST 2000 — a laser-equipped gadget used to measure a Soldier's physical interaction with the M16 rifle — Sanders remained more impressed by the barracks used by today's Soldiers.

"We had wooden barracks," he said while standing on one of the upper floors of a modern, multi-story barracks used today on Fort Jackson. Sanders didn't begrudge the new generation their amenities, saying only, "There's quite a difference."

"There wasn't any air conditioning in my day," he said. "In the winter time, people wanted to get closer to the heating unit, and during the summer they wanted to get closer to the fan. In between, we just suffered."

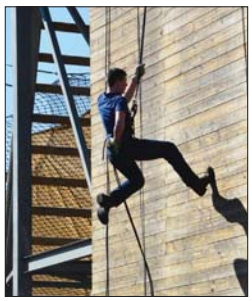
Suffering was also an option as part of last week's tour, for those that were interested. At the start of the day, the group was taken by bus to the 120th Reception Battalion where they were subjected to a "shark attack" — the hostile commands of drill sergeants — upon arrival. The intention was to show visitors what a new Soldier experiences on their first day on post … within reason.

"I'm not going to use profanity, but it's going to be loud," promised Sgt. 1st Class Divon Smith, 1st Battalion, 61st Infantry Regiment. As they stepped off the bus, a tour group comprised mostly of teenagers and grandparents were greeted by politely hostile drill sergeants. There were a few nervous smiles among the older visitors; the teens appeared less amused.

"I like a lot of excitement," said Christina Harrison, 16, who admitted later that the "shark attack" was among her favorite parts of the day.

See **TOUR:** Page 12

Visitors begin their tour of Fort Jackson Friday morning at the 120th Reception Battalion.



Photos by WALLACE McBRIDE

Above, 14-year-old Dalton Bygate rappels down Victory Tower. Right, Elsa Spennie opens an MRE during lunch.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

AER SCHOLARSHIPS

The application period for the Army Emergency Relief scholarship is open until May 1. AER supports the Spouse Scholarship Program – for full- or part-time students – and the Maj. Gen. James Ursano Scholarship Program for dependent children who are full-time students. Applicants must provide grade transcripts, the Student Aid Report from the Free Application for Federal Student Aid and a Soldier's Leave and Earnings Statement. AER awards needs-based scholarships of varying amounts. Information on both scholarships is available at *www.aerhq.org* or by contacting Angela Crosland at 751-5256.

SPIRITUAL FITNESS WORKING GROUP

The Spiritual Fitness Working Group is looking for volunteers to advise and shape spiritual readiness programs for the Fort Jackson community. Family members, retirees and on-post congregational representatives are encouraged to apply. The group holds a 90-minute meeting monthly. For more information, or to volunteer, call Chap. (Col.) Mark. Penfold, Fort Jackson Garrison chaplain at 803-751-3121 or email atmark.a.penfold.mil@mail.mil by March 25.

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.

24/7 TRICARE NURSE HELPLINE

TRICARE's Nurse Advice Line provides instant access to a team of registered nurses who can answer urgent and acute health-care questions, giving TRICARE beneficiaries assessments of their symptoms and suggesting what next steps to take. For toll-free assistance with urgent medical needs 24/7, call 1-800-TRICARE (874-2273) and press option 1.

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 *vinrcl.safercar.gov/vin/.*

FOR FAMILIES

■ Army Community Service will offer citizenship classes from 6-7:30 p.m. Monday evenings, at the Sandhills Branch of the Richland County Library and 8:30-10 a.m. Fridays in Room 222 of the Strom Thurmond Building on post. Classes will prepare permanent legal residents for citizenship. For information, call 751-5518.

■ The Foreign-Born Spouse Group is an opportunity for those from different cultures to meet and get to know one another, and to become more familiar with life in America. For information, call 751-1124/9770.

■ Those needing to brush up on their English may attend classes on English as a Second Language. Classes and materials are free to ID cardholders and DOD employees. For information, call 751-1124, or email *Miranda.O.Broadus.civ@mail.mil.*

■ The Hearts Apart support group aims to help Families who are separated from their Soldiers. For information, call 751-9770/1124.

■ 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.

THRIFT SHOP NEWS

The Thrift Shop is no longer accepting winter clothing. Summer clothes will be accepted beginning March 8. The Thrift Shop is at 4713 Lee Road, in the Mini Mall. Call 803-787-2153 for information, or visit 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Tuesday and Thursday or 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Wednesday. 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.

SPORTS NEWS

■ The recreation division of Family and Morale, Welfare and Recreation has several events on tap for the coming weeks:

Friday – Spring sports registration. Soccer, $25 for those ages 2 to 5, $40 for those 6 to 16. Track and field $40 for those 6 to 14. Travel baseball $45 for those 9 to 14.

■ Fort Jackson's youth soccer, track and field, and baseball teams need knowledgeable coaches willing to give up evenings and Saturdays this spring. Those interested in coaching – and having their own children play for free – may contact Darius Lane, youth sports and fitness director, at 751-7451.

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.*

Fort Jackson Movie Schedule

3319 Jackson Blvd. ***PHONE: 751-7488***

Friday
"The Revenant" (R) 7 p.m.

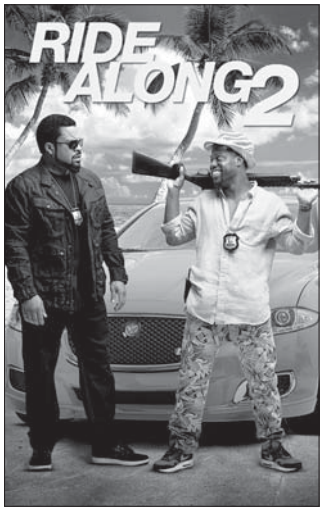
Saturday
"Ride Along 2" (PG-13) 2 p.m.
"Dirty Grandpa" (R) 4 p.m.

Sunday
"The 5th Wave" (PG-13) 2 p.m.
"The Boy" (PG-13) 4 p.m.

Wednesday
"Ride Along 2" (PG-13) 2 p.m.
"Dirty Grandpa" (R) 4 p.m.

March 4
"Norm of the North" (PG) 7 p.m.

March 5
The 5th Wave (PG-13) 1400



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.*

WWW.SHOPMYEXCHANGE.COM

BOSS president leads from the front

By JESSICA RYAN
U.S. Army Installation
Management Command

Significant developments in one's career can come from unlikely places. For one Soldier, a community recreation program gave him growth opportunities far beyond what he had imagined.

Staff Sgt. Eric Jimenez, a laboratory sciences non-commissioned officer in charge at Aberdeen Proving Ground, Maryland, is one of the Soldiers behind the creation of the new Army Performance Triad's "Cooking Guide for Soldiers" and an assessment instructor for the Office of the Surgeon General.

In addition to his already demanding schedule, he serves as his garrison's president for Better Opportunities for Single Soldiers, a program run by the G9 Family and Morale, Welfare and Recreation Directorate of the U.S. Army Installation Management Command.

Jimenez credits his career accomplishments to the BOSS program. Within a few short years, Jimenez went from a specialist adjusting to his new duty station to becoming a leader in his community.

In March 2012, Jimenez arrived to Aberdeen Proving Ground after finishing an overseas assignment.

"I was having a hard time transitioning and finding my battle rhythm when I first moved to APG from South Korea," he said.

His roommate, the BOSS program's vice president at the time, invited him to attend a few meetings. Jimenez immediately became actively involved in the program and was soon selected to be the treasurer in the executive committee.

A turning point in Jimenez's career, he worked one-on-one with senior leaders. Garrison command sergeants major are the senior enlisted advisors to the BOSS program and work alongside Soldier representatives to get their "boots on the ground" and better understand the issues and challenges single Soldiers face.

"The BOSS program afforded me an opportunity to develop leadership skills while I was a specialist," he said. "I began to learn more about caring for Soldiers and leading from the front. I was always a hard worker, but the knowledge and wisdom my leaders provided made me efficient."

His confidence grew as his seniors encouraged him to try new ideas.

"Command Sgt. Maj. James Ervin's [the previous APG senior enlisted advisor] support and excitement made it easier for us to grow and develop," he said. "He would sit me down in his office every week and tell me that we [the BOSS Soldiers] are going to make these events happen. Together, we built the program beyond expectations for a small installation."

Jimenez now serves as the program's president. Under his leadership, he plans activities and events encompassing the program's three pillars: quality of life, recreation and community service.

His passion particularly lies in one pillar, quality of life, since he is assigned to the Army Public Health Center. Last year, BOSS representatives and he came together to create the center's "Cooking Guide for Soldiers."

Jimenez naturally took the lead on the project. He aimed to educate Soldiers on the basics of healthy cooking such as understanding serving sizes, buying essential cooking supplies and knowing how to read nutrition labels.

This is a major topic in the BOSS program. Last September, BOSS representatives worldwide attended the program's Future Leader Training forum. Life skills, a layer of the quality of life pillar, was in the forefront as representatives learned ways to develop more life-skills-based programming.

"If you look at the Chief of Staff of the Army Gen. Mark A. Milley's message, it is all about readiness," said Sgt. Maj. Michael Hatfield, from the G9 Family and MWR, during the forum.

"So we added what we call 'life skills' to the training," Hatfield said. "If a Soldier has a lot of life skills, then the acts of discipline tend to be lower. We are showing how to perform certain skills like cooking a nutritious meal."

According to Jimenez, the guide has already received good feedback from other Soldiers.

"Every Soldier that has reviewed the book has found something they did not know and said, "Wow, I need to try that!'" he remarked.

"Healthy eating is going to be fun," he added. "BOSS programs are teaming up with installation registered dietitians to host cooking demonstrations for Soldiers. Some installation programs are taking Soldiers to the commissary and going over nutrition labels and how to pick the right produce."

In the way ahead, Jimenez will continue to think of innovative ways to educate fellow Soldiers.

'I BECAME A SOLDIER ...'

1ST BATTALION, 61ST INFANTRY REGIMENT

PVT. JESSICA NOYES, 22

Idaho Falls, Idaho

"I joined the Army to provide a better life for my Family.

"Basic Combat Training has taught me that I am so much stronger than I ever thought I could be, both mentally and physically. My military occupational specialty is 15U – or Chinook helicopter repair – I hope to use this to help me get to my dream job, which is flying helicopters.

"My husband fully supports my decision to enlist and has been a huge motivator to help me finish what I have started."

PVT. FRANCISCO DELGADO, 20

San Antonio

"I joined (the Army) to travel to different places and learn different cultures – also to mature.

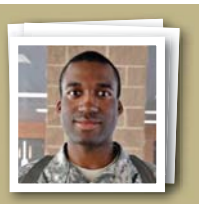
"I liked everything about Basic Combat Training – I learned about teamwork and how to be independent and self-sufficient.

"My (military occupational specialty) is 91D – power generator repair.

"My Family is very supportive. They were so happy I joined and that I will have the GI Bill to help with education."

PVT. QUINTON HOUSTON, 22

Newport News, Virginia



"I joined the Army so I could take care of myself and set a good example for my little brothers.

"(Basic Combat Training) has been really fun – especially getting in better shape and meeting new people. I'm a 92F – petroleum supply specialist.

"My mom and dad are very proud that I joined the Army. I look forward to seeing the world, and no matter how crazy things got I enjoyed Basic Combat Training and my interactions with my chain of command."

PVT. TYLER KUBICKI, 20

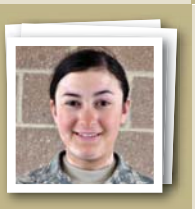
Richmond, Virginia

"My father and grandfather influenced me to join the Army – they joined when they were my age and the skills they gained in the Army provided an edge in life. I hope to achieve the same by building valuable skills and learning from my experiences.

"Basic Combat Training has been a huge help for me already. I have learned to carry myself in a more professional manner, communicate more clearly to others, and be a better friend and teammate."

SGT. HARMONY SHERMAN, 22

Missoula, Montana



"One of those 'Go Army' commercials inspired me to join – it touched me. I also wanted to be a good role model for my son to look up to. I wanted to have a sense of purpose in what I chose to do with my life.

"My Family thinks I'm crazy – I don't have any close Family in the military so they don't fully understand the motive behind my decision – though they are proud of me regardless."

SPC. MITA BISWAS, 30

Astoria, New York

"I like this profession. I think I can achieve honor by joining the Army. My husband is U.S. Army too. He influenced me to join.

"I have learned a lot of important things from Basic Combat Training, including discipline and how to show respect to each other.

"I'm a 92Y – unit supply specialist. My family always inspires me and are happy I joined the Army.

"The experience that I gained in Basic Combat Training will help me succeed in life."

Tour

Continued from Page 8

"I've learned a lot of things," she said. "This is definitely a place I want to be."

The rest of the tour was significantly quieter than the beginning, though it was no less intimidating. Prior to visiting the gory Medical Simulation Training Facility, which put the visitors in the middle of an exercise that had new Soldiers treating and escorting wounded Soldiers, the group paused for a lunch of MREs.

Also on the day's agenda was a visit to the EST 2000 course, an "engagement skills trainer" that allowed them to test their marksmanship against virtual combatants.

"The objective of this system is to save the Army money, and allow Soldiers to make whatever mistakes their going to make in here before we take them out and let them use live bullets," trainer William Craft explained to the tour group. The system uses a laser housed inside a casing that has the same look, feel and weight of an M16.

"We can see everything the Soldiers are doing wrong and correct it here before they go out on the range," Craft said.

The tour group took turns firing at the enemy targets projected on the screens at the end of the range. Afterward, that data was used to determine which volunteer had the most successful experience. Dalton Bygate, a 14-year-old cadet in Air Force junior RTOC, won the first round with four "kills." He was beat in the second round by a retired Army NCO, who bested his score by two.

The daylong tour wrapped at Victory Tower, a 40-foot rappelling wall that marks the first graduation requirement for Soldiers in Basic Combat Training. There's a reason the final leg of the tour was quieter than the beginning, said Staff Sgt. Dam Douangdara, Special Troops Battalion. Victory Tower is not the place to be shouting at people.

"You've got to be calm," Douangdara said. "Once you start yelling it's going to go in one ear and out the other, so you have to be calm. You have to make sure they understand your instructions, step by step."

Visitors got a chance to see this philosophy in action last week. Two of the guests that climbed the "mini wall" tried to change their minds once they got to the top. After some gentle coaching by Douangdara, both of them decided to rappel the wall.

These visitors later moved along to the 40-foot tower, successfully completing multiple rappels before going home.

For some of the older visitors, climbing Victory Tower was never an option. It was curiosity — not adventure — that brought Earle Tyler to Fort Jackson. The veteran spent 22 months in the South Pacific during World War II and had seen all the adventure he'd ever need.

"I just wanted to see what goes on today," he said. "It's changed so much since I was in the military. And it's wonderful, we feel so welcome. I hope more people get to do this."

"I missed the military for physical reasons," said Ralph Baker, a retiree from Sumter. "I've got a bad hand and couldn't get in, but I appreciate what they do very much."

The day before the tour, Baker said he and his wife took part in a coyote trapping seminar.

"We've got a wide range of interests," he said.

Bygate said he used the tour to conduct career research.

"When I was four years old I decided I was going to be in the military," he said. Bygate has his heart set on special forces, but said he's yet to settle on a branch of service. Sky diving is next on his list of "things to do."

"What I'd love for you to do is spread the word and tell the story," Maj. Gen. Roger Cloutier, Fort Jackson's commanding general, told the tour group at the close of the day's events. "This is your installation. Fort Jackson belongs to the American people. We're just the caretakers."

Left, Christina Harrison, 16, tries her hand at marksmanship at the EST 2000 course. Right, Edith Whatley speaks with Spc. Yahamma White about modern Army equipment.

One of the stops on Friday's tour was the Medical Simulation Training Facility, where they saw trainees treat and escort wounded Soldiers in a simulated combat situation.

Dalton Bygate performs pushups for drill sergeants after arriving at the 120th Reception Battalion.

27" WEB-100

ROAD RULES: Don't pay more than necessary for taxi rides

The U.S. Army Training Center and Fort Jackson have a five-year Vehicle for Hire Transportation Agreement with three local taxi companies:

- Checker Yellow Taxi
- Blue Ribbon Taxi
- Capitol City Taxi Co.

These three are the only companies authorized to operate on Fort Jackson.

Their drivers must have automated installation entry cards to operate on post. They also must post – inside each taxi – two sets of Fort Jackson rate sheets printed on security paper with a "Victory Starts Here" watermark.

Fort Jackson has eight taxi stands and eight taxi stops.

Taxis are not permitted to operate in the 171st Infantry Brigade area or any basic training area. They also are not permitted in the Family housing area except to pick up or drop off fares.

Taxis may charge only a fixed fare rate – $3 for one person and $2 for each additional person, per stop with one free stop at any on-post ATM.

The agreement also includes fixed rates to many local destinations, representing a 10 percent saving over meter rates. The rates are available to military ID cardholders or visitors picked up on and off post. Rates are charged to and from each destination and include as many as four riders.

Anywhere on post proper (includes one stop at an ATM). Each additional stop will cost $2 per person, per stop. Wait time is not to exceed 15 minutes.

Rates include all riders in a party as large as six passengers. Drivers are not authorized to collect an additional $2 from all passengers if only one person must stop at a given location.

Call 751-0911 for emergencies on post and 911 when you are off post. Contact the Military Police desk at 751-3115 to request assistance if you are involved in an incident involving a taxi. When the MPs arrive, complete an information worksheet and sworn statement to report incidents that occur with taxis. You may call Ms. Nelson at 751-5300 or Ms. Collins at 751-3981 from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday through Friday to request or report further information involving vehicles for hire.

Report other taxi issues to 751-5400 or 751-3115.

RATES TO AND FROM FORT JACKSON

■ Weston Lakes	(1-6 Passengers)	$15
■ Columbia Airport area	(1-6 Passengers)	$32
■ Riverbanks Zoo area	(1-6 Passengers)	$20
■ Columbia Place Mall area	(1-6 Passengers)	$20
■ Mid-town at Forest Acres	(1-6 Passengers)	$8
■ Downtown Columbia to include 5 Points and the Vista	(1-6 Passengers	$15
**Devine St and Jackson Blvd area, Mon.–Fri. 5 a.m. – 5:59 p.m.*	(1-6 Passengers)	$8
**Devine St and Jackson Blvd area, Mon.–Fri. 6 p.m. – 4:49 a.m.*	(1-6 Passengers)	$10
WEEKENDS AND HOLIDAYS		
■ I-77 & Sumter Hwy. Area	(1-6 Passengers)	$11
■ Trenholm Plaza	(1-6 Passengers)	$7
■ USC Football Stadium & Fairgrounds	(1-6 Passengers)	$16
■ Columbiana Mall Area (Harbison)	(1-6 Passengers)	$40
■ Wal-Mart Gate #2	(1-6 Passengers)	$7
■ Villages at Sandhills	(1-6 Passengers)	$26
■ Broad River Rd (Dutch Square Area)	(1-6 Passengers)	$27
■ Charlotte Douglas Airport	(1-6 Passengers)	$168

TO AND FROM McCRADY TRAINING CENTER

■ Fort Jackson Property	(1-6 Passengers)	$30
■ Columbia Airport Area	(1-6 Passengers)	$49
■ Downtown Columbia to include 5 Points and the Vista Area	(1-6 Passengers)	$45
■ Devine St. and Jackson Blvd area	(1-6 Passengers)	$32
■ Columbiana Center Area (Harbison)	(1-6 Passengers)	$63
■ Columbia Place Mall Area	(1-6 Passengers)	$40
■ Sandhill Mall Area	(1-6 Passengers)	$40
■ Wal-Mart on Garners Ferry Rd	(1-6 Passengers)	$32
■ Wal-Mart Gate #2	(1-6 Passengers)	$37

NATIONAL AFRICAN AMERICAN HISTORY MONTH

A CENTURY OF BLACK LIFE, HISTORY AND CULTURE

Throughout America's history, from the Battle of Lexington to the Battle for Fallujah, black Soldiers have honorably answered the call to duty, serving with great valor and distinction in America's armed forces.

Each February, the U.S. Army celebrates and pays tribute to African American Soldiers and recognizes the important contributions they have made in past wars and are continuing to make today in overseas contingency operations.

Throughout the month, The Leader will highlight their accomplishments during different times in the Army.

Fort Jackson's African American History Month celebration

The post's annual African American/Black History Month Observance takes place 11:30 a.m., Feb. 26, at the Fort Jackson NCO Club. The guest speaker for the event is Bobby Donaldson, faculty principal of Preston Residential College and director of **Columbia SC 63: Our Story Matters**, a documentary history initiative that chronicles the struggle for civil rights and social justice in South Carolina.

1941-1945: WORLD WAR II

In World War II, the U.S. war effort was determined to defeat fascism and to defend freedom. For black Americans, freedom in its fullest form was an ideal that was desired not only abroad, but on the homefront as well. Even though in the U.S., many blacks were treated as second-class citizens, black Soldiers still served for their country.

1941: 78TH TANK BATTALION

On Jan. 13, 1941, the U.S. Army established the 78th Tank Battalion, the first black armor unit. The tankers reported to Fort Knox, Kentucky, to begin armored warfare training in March 1941. The 78th was redesignated on May 8, 1941, as the 758th Tank Battalion (Light).

It was the first of three tank battalions comprising the 5th Tank Group, which was made up of black enlisted men and white officers. The other two tank battalions were the 761st and 784th. Initially inactivated at Viareggio, Italy, Sept. 22, 1945, the 758th was reactivated in 1946 and later fought in the Korean War as the 64th Tank Battalion.

1941: TUSKEGEE AIRMEN

On July 19, 1941, the U.S. Army Air Corps began training black pilots. The 926 members of the famed Tuskegee Airmen (comprised initially of the 99th Pursuit Squadron and later the 332nd Fighter Group) were trained for combat in World War II at the Tuskegee Institute in Alabama.

Known for their red-tailed P-51 Mustang fighters, the Tuskegee Airmen never lost an escorted plane to the enemy during the course of World War II, during which they carried out hundreds of escort missions.

1945: 6888TH CENTRAL POSTAL DIRECTORY BATTALION

The 6888th Central Postal Directory Battalion was the only all-black Women's Army Corps unit to serve overseas in World War II. The unit kept mail flowing to the nearly seven million Soldiers in the European Theater of Operations.

The women of the 6888th survived two brushes with the German military. First, German U-boats forced the unit's convoy to reroute during its voyage across the Atlantic. Then, after arriving in England, a V1 rocket, or Buzz Bomb, came roaring into the area. No one was hurt during the attacks.

When the women arrived in Birmingham, England, they found warehouses crammed from floor to ceiling with mail that hadn't moved in about a year or two. To deal with the volume of the mail, they worked seven days a week in eight-hour rotating shifts.

They were given six months to break the logjam; the 6888th did it in three.

1950-1953: KOREAN WAR

New opportunities began to emerge for black Soldiers while serving in the Korean War. In October 1951, the all-black 24th Infantry Regiment, which had served during the Spanish-American War, World War I, World War II and the beginning of the Korean War, was disbanded. This eliminated the last lingering formal practice of segregation in the Army.

See **HISTORY:** Page 20

Saluting this BCT cycle's honorees

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

Staff Sgt.
Spencer Palmer
Alpha Company
1st Battalion,
61st Infantry Regiment

HONOR GRADUATE OF THE CYCLE
Spc. Jeb Little

STUDENT LEADER OF THE CYCLE
Spc. Samantha Cook

HIGH BRM
Pvt. Seth Birchmeier

HIGH APFT
Pvt. Nana Abyemand

Sgt. 1st Class
Kelvin Reynoso
Bravo Company
1st Battalion,
61st Infantry Regiment

HONOR GRADUATE OF THE CYCLE
Spc. Leah Thiessen

STUDENT LEADER OF THE CYCLE
Pvt. Jack Fingar

HIGH BRM
Pvt. Wesley Fournier

HIGH APFT
Pvt. Kylie Cochran

Sgt.
Rebecca Chasen
Charlie Company
1st Battalion,
61st Infantry Regiment

HONOR GRADUATE OF THE CYCLE
Pvt. Eric Byers

STUDENT LEADER OF THE CYCLE
Pvt. Kira Johnson

HIGH BRM
Pfc. Darryl Doyle

HIGH APFT
Pvt. Misty Penny

Sgt. 1st Class
Karl Pesak
Delta Company
1st Battalion,
61st Infantry Regiment

HONOR GRADUATE OF THE CYCLE
Pfc. Eugene Chung

STUDENT LEADER OF THE CYCLE
Spc. Meghan Knight

HIGH BRM
Pvt. Thomas Kauth

HIGH APFT
Pvt. Shelby McCaw

Sgt. 1st Class
Joseph Orders
Echo Company
1st Battalion,
61st Infantry Regiment

HONOR GRADUATE OF THE CYCLE
Spc. Bradley Sorrell

STUDENT LEADER OF THE CYCLE
Pvt. Michael Lichlyter

HIGH BRM
Pvt. Kody Provencher

HIGH APFT
Pfc. Matthew Walker

Find us on Instagram @FORTJACKSONPAO

Mail

Continued from Page 3

Jaxon tries to reply to every letter he gets, but it has been impossible because most of his pen pals keep their identities secret.

"Honestly, the majority (of the letters) had no return address," his father said. "But we do try to reply back to them. A couple have even asked us to keep in touch."

Jaxon and his family are grateful for the outpouring of support.

"Thank you would not be good enough," Jason Ingram said. "We are thankful for everyone's prayers and the support we are getting – it's helping us get through. I wish I could meet everyone face-to-face to say thank you."

If you would like to send Jaxon a postcard of support, send it to:
Jaxon Ingram
PO Box 3043
Lancaster, SC 29721

Courtesy photo

Jason Ingram and his son, Jaxon, in the hospital.

History

Continued from Page 15

1959-1973: VIETNAM WAR

From a legal standpoint, the 1960s marked a transformation of the realities of discrimination and political equality for blacks with the passing of the Civil Rights and Voting Rights Act (1964 and 1965, respectively). The 1960s also marked the full engagement of the United States in the war in Vietnam. In support of this campaign to uphold democracy, black Soldiers continued the tradition of serving the Army with distinction.

1990-1991: PERSIAN GULF WAR

The Persian Gulf War developed out of the Iraqi invasion of Kuwait, Aug. 2, 1990. The international armed intervention followed in January 1991. Black Soldiers – making up about 22 percent of the total Army – followed a rich tradition of honorably serving in the U.S. forces.

2001-PRESENT: GLOBAL WAR ON TERROR

Since the Armed Forces were integrated in 1948, the Army has been committed to racial diversity and equal opportunity to all Soldiers. In the past several years, the Army has become even more proactive to recruit and train a diverse force since the terrorist attacks of Sept. 11, 2001.

Senior leadership established the Diversity Task Force in 2007 to review diversity programs. The equal opportunity program, under deputy chief of staff, G-1, human resources, creates opportunities and programs to ensure fair treatment for all.

As of fiscal year 2014, black Soldiers made up 21 percent of the active-duty Army, 15 percent of the National Guard and 22 percent of the Army Reserve.

ANGLICAN/LITURGICAL

Sunday
8:30 a.m., worship, Bayonet Chapel

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., Rosary, Main Post Chapel

CHURCH OF CHRIST

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

JEWISH

Sunday
■ 9:15 a.m., worship, Memorial Chapel
■ 10:15 a.m., fellowship, Post Conference Room

LATTER-DAY SAINTS

Sunday
9:30 a.m., worship, Anderson Street Chapel
Wednesday
■ 3 p.m., Family social, Anderson Street Chapel
■ 7 p.m., scripture study, Anderson Street Chapel

MUSLIM

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

Friday
12:45 a.m., Jumah services, Main Post Chapel

PAGAN

Sunday
11 a.m., Pagan Circle Sacred Well Congregation meeting, Magruder 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., worship, 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 p.m., youth group, Chaplain Family Life Center

Monday
7 p.m., Protestant Men of the Chapel Bible study, 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., 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, 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, 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

Iron

Continued from Page 7

Males will not be issued the multivitamins because most males don't lose iron as often as women whose iron supply can be depleted through exercise and menstruation.

"It's not mandatory," she said during a meeting with training brigade commanders Monday, "but we will just give them the vitamins."

The Soldiers will be given a 27mg dosage that is not the same as treatment for anemia. MVI will also not change the Soldier's fertility, Anderson said.

Female Soldiers will be reminded to take the multivitamins by their drill sergeants because the non-commissioned officers have the most influence on the Soldiers during training.

"I think the overall effect on basic training will be very small," Allen said. "There will be a momentary change in how we routinely conduct business, and I think units will have to determine the best way to allow female Soldiers to take a nightly vitamin. But units already have procedures in place to issue medications to Soldiers, and I am sure they can figure this out in very short order."

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