

THURSDAY, SEPT. 15, 2016

# THE FORT JACKSON LEADER



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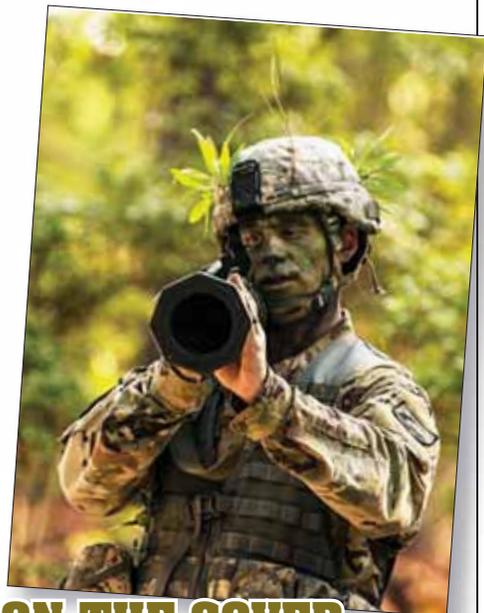
# BEST OF THE BEST

DRILL SERGEANT, AIT PLATOON SERGEANT  
OF YEAR WINNERS ANNOUNCED, **P3**

**MEET THE CLASS OF 2016**

**3 INDUCTED INTO DRILL  
SERGEANT HALL OF FAME **P8****

**MIDLANDS PARTNERS REMEMBER 9/11 TERROR ATTACKS **P6****



## ON THE COVER

Staff Sgt. Jacob Meyers, Fort Huachuca, Ariz., walks through misfire procedures on the AT-4 at the TRADOC AIT Platoon Sergeant of the Year competition. **SEE PAGE 3.**

Photo by SGT. 1ST CLASS BRIAN HAMILTON



### Fort Jackson, South Carolina 29207

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# Community Calendar

**SEND ALL  
 SUBMISSIONS TO  
[FJLeader@gmail.com](mailto: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.

To register, call 751-9460/5256 or email [sherry.r.major.civ@mail.mil](mailto:sherry.r.major.civ@mail.mil)

## TUESDAY

### Storytime at the Library

11:30 a.m.-noon, Thomas Lee Hall Library. Visit the library for stories, songs and crafts. Suggested age is six and younger. For more information, call 751-5589.

## THURSDAY

### Evening Storytime at the Library

6:30 - 7 p.m., Thomas Lee Hall Library. Visit the library for an evening of stories, songs and crafts. Suggested age is six and younger. For more information, call 751-5589.

## SEPT. 22-24

### Case Lot Sale

9 a.m.-6 p.m. at the warehouse located inside the Commissary. Fort Jackson customer appreciation case lot sale.

## SEPT. 23

### Steps to Federal Employment for Military Spouses

9 a.m.-noon, Strom Thurmond Bldg., Room 222. Information on civil service and NAF employment. Targeted to military spouses, but open to all military and DOD ID card holders. To register, call 751-9460/5452 or email [Barbara.l.martin10.civ@mail.mil](mailto:Barbara.l.martin10.civ@mail.mil)

## SEPT. 27

### Job Searching Strategies for Military Spouses

8:30-12:00 Strom Thurmond Bldg., Room 222. Topics: Military spouse job searching skills, resume writing and interviewing. Targeted to military spouses, but open to all military and DOD ID Card holders. To register, call 751-9460/5452 or [sherry.r.major.civ@mail.mil](mailto:sherry.r.major.civ@mail.mil)

## SEPT. 29

### Evening Storytime at the Library

6:30 - 7 p.m., Thomas Lee Hall Library. Visit the library for an evening of stories, songs and crafts. Suggested age is six and younger. For more information, call 751-5589.

## SEPT. 30

### Are you Job Ready??

9 a.m.-noon, resume writing and interviewing skills workshop, Strom Thurmond Bldg., Room 222. This workshop is designed to provide you with tools and knowledge useful in building your resume and improving your interviewing skills. Workshop is conducted by BlueCross BlueShield Human Resources Department. Many of our clients who attend this class have had success in being employed with SC BlueCross BlueShield. Targeted to military spouses, but open to all military and DOD ID Card Hold-

## OCT. 4

### Facebook Town Hall Meeting

Noon-1 p.m. The community will have the opportunity to ask questions and receive feedback from U.S. Army Garrison directors and staff. Questions may be submitted to garrison directors and staff via Facebook or via email. Log on to Facebook, search for Fort Jackson, or type <http://www.fb.com/fortjackson>. Email questions to [usarmy.jackson.93-sig-bde.mbx.atzj-pao@mail.mil](mailto:usarmy.jackson.93-sig-bde.mbx.atzj-pao@mail.mil). Emailed questions will be accepted starting Sept. 27. For more information, call Chris Fletcher, 751-3615.



Photo by ROBERT TIMMONS

## Show some love

Maj. Gen. John 'Pete' Johnson, Fort Jackson commander, and Command Sgt. Maj. Lamont Christian, the post's senior enlisted leader, sign their Combined Federal Campaign pledge forms Sept. 7. The CFC is the only time each year charitable organizations can receive donations from federal employees at the workplace.



Photos by SGT. 1ST CLASS BRIAN HAMILTON

Army Reserve Drill Sergeant of the Year competitor Sgt. Ryan Moldovan, 98th Training Division, dons his protective mask Sept. 7. At the end of the competition, Moldovan was named 2016 Army Reserve Drill Sergeant of the Year.

# 'Top notch'

## Drill Sergeant, AIT Platoon Sergeant of Year winners announced

By **JONATHAN "JAY" KOESTER**  
NCO Journal

After four days of difficult competition, the 15 non-commissioned officers vying to become the 2016 Drill Sergeant and AIT Platoon Sergeant of the Year were called into the Bowen Room of the U.S. Army Drill Sergeant Academy for the announcement of the winners.

The toll the competition had taken was obvious, as many limped in to take their spots, walking delicately to avoid blisters and burns on their sore feet. They were pained and tired, but still standing proud.

Then the announcement came. Sgt. 1st Class Martin Delaney, Fort Leonard Wood, Missouri, was named the 2016 Drill Sergeant of the Year. Sgt. Ryan Moldovan, 98th Training Division, was named 2016 Army Reserve Drill Sergeant of the Year. Staff Sgt. Brandon Laspe, Panama City, Florida, was named Advanced Individual Training Platoon Sergeant of the Year.

The 1st Sgt. Tobias Meister Award, which goes to the competitor who scored highest on his Army Physical Fitness Test, was awarded to Staff Sgt. Dustin Randall, Fort Sill, Oklahoma.

Before the winners were announced, the NCOs heard from Maj. Gen. Anthony Funkhouser, commanding general of the Center for Initial Military Training, who told them he was impressed by what he saw during the week. He also told a story about a Family he met.

"There are a lot of Families at my hotel because of the graduation," Funkhouser said. "One Family had a little boy, he was probably 10 years old. He sees me in uniform and he comes to start talking to me, making small talk, chatting away. He says, 'Hey, my older brother is graduating tomorrow from basic training. He wants to be a drill sergeant one day.' I say, 'That's pretty neat. Our drill sergeants are impressive individuals.'



Army Reserve Drill Sergeant of the Year competitor, Sgt. 1st Class Jason Scott, 95th Training Division, high crawls under the wire obstacle on the fit to win obstacle course during the 2016 TRADOC Drill Sergeant of the Year competition.

See **TOP:** Page 12-13



Photo by DEMETRIA MOSLEY

Fritz Hamer, of the South Carolina Confederate Relic Room and Military Museum, answers questions after speaking about the origins of Fort Jackson during the first installment of the post's centennial lecture series.

# Fort Jackson kicks off centennial lecture series

By DEMETRIA MOSLEY  
Fort Jackson Leader

Before Fort Jackson became the largest initial entry training center for the U.S. Army, it started out as just a thickly overgrown wild piece of land with potential to become something better.

To celebrate its upcoming 100th birthday, Fort Jackson kicked off a series of centennial lectures Sept. 9 by discussing the beginnings of the military installation. Fort Jackson, back then known as Camp Jackson, started in 1917.

Guest speakers, former Columbia mayor Robert Coble and Fritz Hamer, of the South Carolina Confederate Relic Room and Military Museum, spoke about how Columbia played a big part in the development of the Fort and some of the things that occurred during its creation.

Coble said that cities all over the country wanted to have the military site. However, in South Carolina there were five cities that were competing: Charleston, Columbia, Greenville, Spartanburg and Aiken.

"The location near Columbia was great from every standpoint. Soil, climate, water, transportation facilities were all ideal," Coble said, quoting what the Gov. Richard Manning said during the development of the camp.

The person chosen to oversee the development was quartermaster Maj. William Couper. Hamer talked about some of the

challenges faced by Couper.

"There was little more than wilderness before him," he said. "To reach the site he had to drive five miles along a dirt road to the outskirts of the city then he had to follow a much smaller path, little more than a trail to reach the camp's planned location."

Couper also faced other issues once he reached the land.

"The land that would become Camp Jackson was disbursed with swamps and creeks and small farms. The owners of these had to be compensated in a short amount of time," said Hamer.

There are three more lectures in the centennial series scheduled during the next year. Topics will center on training at Fort Jackson, integration and the future.

Coble said Fort Jackson still runs as a "critical economic engine" to the success of Columbia. Edwin Robertson, one of the Columbia-area entrepreneurs to spearhead the establishment of Camp Jackson, predicted this would happen.

"Robertson said that millions of dollars will be added to the department of wealth in Columbia in a very few years," said Coble. "A USC study in 2004 found that the total impacted that Fort Jackson gives to the area is \$2.8 billion each year and the economic activity helps support over 55,000 jobs and 1.9 billion in personal income."

Fort Jackson is responsible for turning about 45,000 civilians into Soldiers every year.



**UPCOMING LECTURES**

**#2 TRAINING**  
Nov. 4, 2016, 3 p.m.  
US Army Drill Sergeant Academy, Fort Jackson

**#3 MIXING IT UP**  
Feb 10, 2017, 3 p.m.  
Spears Center Concert Hall, Columbia College

**#4 LOOKING TO THE FUTURE**  
June 1, 2017 3 p.m.  
Columbia City hall, 1737 Main St.

## Fort Jackson Movie Schedule

3319 Jackson Blvd. Phone: 751-7488

**FRIDAY**

Operation Chromite (R) 7 p.m.

**SATURDAY**

Pete's Dragon (PG) 1 p.m.  
War Dogs (R) 5 p.m.

**SUNDAY**

Pete's Dragon (PG) 1 p.m.  
War Dogs (PG-13) 5 p.m.

**WEDNESDAY**

Pete's Dragon (PG) 1 p.m.  
War Dogs (PG-13) 5 p.m.

**TICKETS**

Adult: \$6  
Child (6 to 11): \$4

**3-D TICKETS**

Adult: \$8 Child (6 to 11): \$6

● Ticket sales open 30 minutes before each movie.

● Movie times and schedule are subject to change without notice.

WWW.SHOPMYEXCHANGE.COM

## Fort Jackson Gate Operation Hours

**GATE 1**

■ Open 5 a.m. to 6 p.m. Monday through Friday for inbound and outbound traffic.

**GATE 2**

■ Open around the clock daily.

**GATE 4**

■ Open 5 a.m. to 6 p.m. Monday through Friday for inbound and outbound traffic.

**GATE 5**

■ Open 5-10 a.m. Monday through Friday for inbound and outbound traffic.

■ Closed 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.  
■ Reopened 4-6 p.m. for outbound traffic only.

■ Open 5 a.m. to 6 p.m. Saturday and Sunday.




## FIRE SALE

**TWO DAYS ONLY!** **EVERYTHING MUST GO!**

AT THE SOLOMON CENTER  
Wednesday, Sep 21 &  
Saturday, Sep 24 (9 a.m. - 3 p.m.)

Items for sale include:

- » Army memorabilia
- » Hats
- » Sculptures
- » Drinkware
- » T-shirts, polos, hoodies and more!





For more information, call Firehouse Productions at 751-4835.

FOR SOLDIERS FOR FAMILIES FOR RETIRES FOR CIVILIANS

## SOUTHERN FRIED CHICKEN!

Available Monday - Friday at the NCO Club  
5700 Lee Road, Fort Jackson, SC • 782-2218

Fried Chicken is served as part of the all-you-can-eat buffet every Monday - Friday from 11 a.m. - 1:30 p.m. for only \$8.75.






## Home School Workshop

At the Teen Center  
**Tuesday, Oct 18 (10 - 11:30 a.m.)**

Have you ever thought about Home Schooling your child? On October 18, the School Liaison Office will host a FREE Home School Workshop.

For more information, please contact Ann Gordon at 803-751-6150 x 1.




CYSS Presents  
**KIT Training: Behavior Support Techniques**  
*Strategies for addressing challenging behavior + Guides for responding to the behavior*

**Two Sessions Available:**

September 15, 2016 11:30 a.m. Officers' Club	September 15, 2016 5 p.m. Youth Center
--	--

Participants will discuss how to identify influences on behavior, define behavior problems, and develop plans to teach skills.

Free and open to professionals and parents.

Please RSVP by Sep. 12 to Keisha McCoy-Wilson, School Liaison, at 803-751-6150 ext. 2.

FOR SOLDIERS FOR FAMILIES FOR RETIRES FOR CIVILIANS

## MAGRUDERS CLUB & PUB

Friday Night

# KARAOKE PARTY



Friday, Sep 23 (7 - 11 p.m.)  
Come early for Happy Hour from 4:30 - 6:30 p.m. Have some of our excellent wings and stay for Karaoke!

Magruders has more than 18 TV's to catch all the sports action! Also come challenge your friends to a game of darts or pool.





FOR SOLDIERS FOR FAMILIES FOR RETIRES FOR CIVILIANS



## TACO TUESDAY!

(lunch is served 11:00 a.m. - 1:30 pm)

Every Tuesday at the Officers' Club  
3630 Semmes Road • 782-8761

Three Tacos (your choice of Beef, Chicken or Fish) homemade Black Bean & Corn Salad, fresh Guacamole & Chips, served with four Homemade Salsas all for only \$6.95 per plate!




FOR SOLDIERS FOR FAMILIES FOR RETIRES FOR CIVILIANS

## 7TH ANNUAL "DO IT IN PINK" WORKOUT AEROBATHON

At the Solomon Center  
6510 Strom Thurmond Blvd

Saturday, Sept 24  
10 a.m. - 1 p.m.  
Admission is FREE!  
Must workout in Pink!

 (in support of breast cancer awareness)

Featuring:

- Cardio Boxing
- Fitness Hip Hop
- Old School Aerobics
- Zumba!
- and more!



For more info, call Pam Long at 751-3700.

FOR SOLDIERS FOR FAMILIES FOR RETIRES FOR CIVILIANS



Photos by ROBERT TIMMONS

Drill sergeant leaders Staff Sgt. Trey Harvey, right, and Staff Sgt. Brandon Mackinnon, of the U.S. Army Drill Sergeant Academy, march Sunday as part of a formation of Service members, police officers and firefighters to perform a roll call of those South Carolinians who died while serving during a Sept. 11 remembrance ceremony in Columbia.

# NEVER FORGET

## Midlands partners remember 9/11 terror attacks

By ROBERT TIMMONS  
Fort Jackson Leader

September 11 is a tough day for many Americans. The terrorist attacks profoundly affected America touching first responders, the military and civilians alike.

Maj. Gen. John "Pete" Johnson, Fort Jackson commander, and first responder chiefs honored the men and women of the Midlands who lost their lives in service to their country during a solemn ceremony in front of South Carolina's 9/11 memorial Sunday.

The memorial comprising of two stone towers cut off at the top and two steel beams from the World Trade Center is located just outside the Columbia Convention Center.

"What we commonly refer to as the 9/11 attacks caused horrific destruction and the death of over 3,000 people including hundreds of brave first responders rushing to help in the aftermath of the attacks," said Chief W.H. "Skip" Holbrook of the Columbia Police Department.

"These twists of steel behind me are a reminder and a memorial of the fallen heroes. Immediately after the attacks we learned Americans have the ability to handle unspeakable tragedy and work together to help one another. That spirit, that fight, is what defines us as Americans."



Left, a member of the Patriot Guard Riders motorcycle club watches as members of the Hammond School Combined Youth Choirs sings 'America the Beautiful.' Right, Maj. Gen. John 'Pete' Johnson, Fort Jackson's 49th Commanding General, salutes a wreath laid at the the South Carolina Memorial Historic 9/11 First Responders and Military Service Members Remembrance Memorial.

# 9/11

Continued from Page 6

“9/11 was tragic for us,” said Aubry D. Jenkins, chief of the Columbia Fire Department. “It was probably one of the worst days of this country, but because we are so strong – we are the United States – we are so strong we are going to push on. We may never forget, but we will push on.”

The senior military leader at the ceremony shared how America’s fighting force cares about the loved ones who have lost family members.

“We care passionately about those who carry the scars and the emotional burdens of loss,” said Johnson during the ceremony.

On Sept. 11, 2001, first responders, military members and everyday people like Dawn Yamashiro’s brother who was in the World Trade Center were killed.

Yamashiro said after 15 years it didn’t seem that long because “so much has passed since that awful tragic day.”

Her brother was an ordinary man, she said, “who simply went to work that day and did not come home.”

The beams at the memorial are from the tower her brother worked in, so she goes to the memorial to remember him.

“Nothing was recovered from him,” she added. “We didn’t have a ring, a credit card or any of his affects.”

Some of those in attendance who lost loved ones were grateful for the support of those attending the ceremony.

We as Family members “remember them every day; every hour of every day,” said Gold Star mother Diane Rawl, mother of 1st Lt. Ryan D. Rawl of the South Carolina National Guard who was killed supporting Operation Enduring Freedom June 20, 2012.

“Time continues to march on but we will never forget,” Rawl said.

For firefighters the attack fundamentally altered the way they conducted business.

“It changed the course of how we respond, because it made us realize we can’t take anything for granted,” said Jenkins. “It’s not a matter of if, but when.”

Jenkins spoke about his good friend Firefighter Tyrone Weston, of the Columbia Fire Department who died July 26, 2015 while on duty – only a few shifts short of retirement – calling on people to never forget those who fell on duty and the attacks of Sept. 11.

The ceremony also honored the lives of the first responders lost in the line of duty including Weston, Forest Acres police officer Gregory Alia, who was killed during a struggle at the Richland Mall Sept. 30, 2015, and Columbia police officer Stacey Case killed in an automobile accident Nov. 7, 2015.

“We cannot ever forget,” Jenkins said. “We can forget, but why should we forget? We shouldn’t forget. Forget is not in our



**Above, the two towers of the South Carolina 9/11 memorial are reflected in the glasses of Sgt. Shane Nelson, with the 208th Army Band out of Concord, N.C., as he plays taps during ‘An Evening of Remembrance’ ceremony Sunday. Right, a Boy Scout presents a gift to Kassy Alia, wife of slain officer Gregory Alia during Sunday’s ceremony.**

vocabulary when it comes down to what happened 15 years ago today.”

Johnson told those gathered that he was “honored to represent those in uniform of the Armed Forces who either answered the call of duty or recommitted ourselves to a greater purpose in defense of our nation and all that we hold dear.”

“We were inspired and we continue to be in awe of the actions of our first responders that day in September 2001 and many days after it,” said Johnson, who 15 years ago was deployed almost immediately to fight terrorism. “They answered the call and rushed to the aid of fellow Americans and stood as guardians in our neighborhoods across this great nation. They will stand tall in our nation’s lineage of heroes.”

Sixty-three South Carolinians were killed during the war on terror including Capt. Kimberly Hampton, a helicopter pilot shot down supporting Johnson’s infantry unit in the fight for Fallujah, Iraq on Jan. 22, 2004. Hampton was the first female pilot to be shot down and killed in U.S. history.

A formation of Service members, policemen and firemen held a roll call of the fallen comrades during the ceremony.

“While today’s event is appropriately somber as we reflect on painful memories,



we as a nation, and certainly this great Midlands community must celebrate, and be proud of how we came together,” Johnson said. “To first take care of those on the home front, and then how you supported your Soldiers, your sailors, your airmen, and you Marines who dutifully deployed and continue to deploy to Afghanistan, Iraq and other combat zones.”

As the leader of a training post that pours millions of dollars into the Midlands each year, Johnson was thankful for the post’s partnership with the local

community.

“As commanding general of the Army’s premier training post, your Fort Jackson, I am most appreciative and thankful of the efforts of this incredible community of Columbia and the greater Midlands. Your embrace and care for families since 9/11 represents the same great distinction and response to crisis that has made our partnership famous” since World War One.

The ceremony concluded with a wreath laying at the memorial by Johnson, Holbrook, Jenkins and other Midlands leaders.

# Meet the class of 2016

## 3 inducted into Drill Sergeant Hall of Fame

By **DEMETRIA MOSLEY**  
Fort Jackson Leader

After asking the crowd of people attending the Drill Sergeant Hall of Fame ceremony to stand up if they've went through U.S. Army Basic Combat Training, retired 1st Sgt. Leonard M. Hutton pauses for a second before asking his next question.

"Now, if you do not remember your drill sergeant, sit down," he said.

No one moved an inch.

"When I was a Drill Sergeant leader I did this with all my students," he said. "The point in the demonstration is to show how important the Drill Sergeant is."

Hutton, along with Command Sgt. Maj. Blaine Huston and retired 1st Sgt. Thriso Hamilton Jr. were inducted into the U.S. Army Drill Sergeant Association's Drill Sergeant Hall of Fame Sept. 9 at Fort Jackson, joining eight other members.

The drill sergeant hall of fame was created to honor current and former drill sergeants as well as other individuals who have made significant contributions that have impacted the drill sergeant program. The hall of fame was created in 2014.

"I'm sure a lot of us can remember that one drill sergeant that did nothing but cuss and scream at you, but somewhere in the group was the one who taught you how to be a Soldier, that taught you the skills you needed to have," Hutton said.

The one in the group for Huston helped him escape being "recycled."

In his speech, Huston mentioned how his drill sergeant took some time to help him with shooting his rifle.

"I couldn't shoot that rifle. I had put so much pressure on myself and one day he came up to me and asked do I chew gum," Huston said. "I said 'I used to drill sergeant because you know it's not authorized in basic training.' He said 'Do you like big red? Would you like a piece?' And he gave me one then said 'Now let's relax and shoot some targets.'"

Huston said he believes if his drill sergeant didn't take that moment to talk to him about the targets, he would have not been able to start a career in the army. Huston said his drill sergeant was "like a father."

Hamilton proposed during the ceremony that the way to give drill sergeant candidates a better understanding of what a drill sergeant really is to use the winner of Drill Sergeant of the Year competition.

"We should give the drill sergeants a prepackaged briefing to go out into the force a couple times of year and provide the facts of being a drill sergeant to non-commissioned officers to help them make the decision," he said.



Photo by **DEMETRIA MOSLEY**

**First Sgt. retired Thriso Hamilton Jr reveals his picture with Mittie Smith during the United States Army Drill Sergeant Association's Drill Sergeant Hall of Fame Induction Ceremony Sept. 9 at Fort Jackson.**

## This year's inductees



**1ST SGT. (RET.) THRISO HAMILTON JR.**

Thriso Hamilton was born in Anderson South Carolina. He enlisted in the United States Army in 1978 and attended Basic Combat Training at Fort Jackson and Advanced Individual Training at Fort Benning Ga. His military assignments include: 25th Infantry Division, Schofield Barracks Hawaii (2 tours); 7th Infantry Division, Fort Ord California; Fort Dix, New Jersey; Fort Jackson SC (2 tours); 2nd Infantry Division, Camp Red Cloud, Korea.

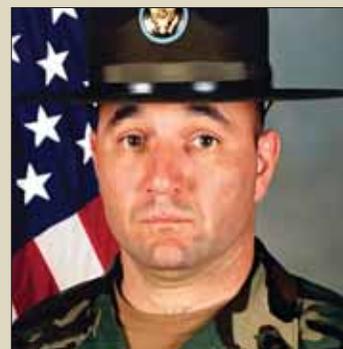
His leadership Positions include: Assistant Squad Leader, Squad Leader, Platoon Sergeant, Operations Sergeant, Deputy Commandant (DSS Fort Jackson) and First Sergeant.



**COMMAND SGT. MAJ. BLAINE J. HUSTON**

Blaine J. Huston, a native of Savanna, Illinois, joined the United States Army in 1991. He is currently serving as the U.S. Army Garrison Command Sergeant Major at the Camp Parks, Reserve Forces Training Area located in Dublin, California.

He has served as a Bridge Crewmember, Administrative Specialist, Rifleman, Team Leader, Squad Leader, Drill Sergeant, Senior Drill Sergeant, Platoon Sergeant, Training NCO, Operations Sergeant, First Sergeant, Operations Sergeant Major, Deputy Commandant and G-3/5/7 Sergeant Major. His most recent duty assignments include: Headquarters, XVIII Airborne Corps, Fort Bragg, NC; Headquarters, U.S. Forces-Iraq (USF-I), Baghdad, Iraq, the U.S. Army Drill Sergeant School, Fort Jackson, and the U.S. Army Reserve Command, Fort Bragg, N.C.



**1ST SGT. (RET.) LEONARD M. HUTTON**

Leonard M. Hutton, a native of Bedford Virginia, joined the United States Army Reserve in 1990 and transitioned into the Active Army in 1992. He has served in a variety of positions throughout his career culminating his career as the first sergeant of the NCO Academy at Camp Parks in Dublin, Calif.

He served in every enlisted infantry platoon position from rifleman to Squad Leader, with deployments to the U.S. Naval Station Guantanamo Bay, Cuba as a member of Joint Task Force 160th; Sinai Peninsula, Egypt with the Multi-National Force of Observers, and Camp Buehring, Kuwait as the ARCENT NCOA Deputy Commandant. He has also served as a Drill Sergeant, Drill Sergeant Leader, Senior Drill Sergeant Leader, Training Developer, Operations Sergeant, Operations NCOIC and Operations Command Sergeant Major.



Photo by ROBERT TIMMONS

## Building better leaders

Maj. Gen. Jason T. Evans, the Army's Director, Military Personnel Management, Deputy Chief of Staff, G-1, speaks to a group of Adjutant General officers and post leaders during the Lt. Gen. Timothy J. Maude Leadership Lecture Series held Sept. 13 at the Solomon Center. Evans spoke about the state of the Army calling on leaders to help retain the best Soldiers. The lecture series was named after Maude, who was killed during the 9/11 attacks at the Pentagon.

## Instagram



97 posts 1769 followers 27 following

FULL NAME

**Fort Jackson**  
Welcome to #FortJackson's official Instagram. Follow for photos of #Soldiers at the largest & most active Initial Entry Training Center in #USArmy!  
[www.facebook.com/fortjackson/](http://www.facebook.com/fortjackson/)

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43 likes

fortjacksonpao #TransformationTuesday "I grew up on a farm and can't afford college. I joined the @usarmy for school and to serve my country... more

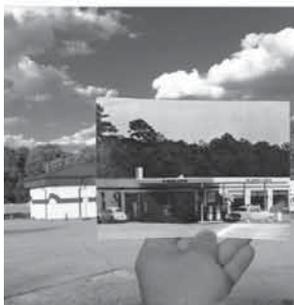
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fortjacksonpao #MotivationMonday Everything is graded... Competitors in the 2016 @usarmy TRADOC Drill Sergeant and AIT Platoon Sergeant of the... more

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66 likes

fortjacksonpao #LivingHistory - Did you know? The Post Service Station from 1966 is still standing 50 years later. Now, it's known as the Fort... more

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## 'I BECAME A SOLDIER ...'

### SPC. EMILY CULLEN, 23

Pittsburgh

"I joined the Army to help my future in a way civilian education couldn't."

Basic Combat Training had me "pushing myself and realizing I can do more than I thought I could."

I am a "42A – Human Resource Specialist. I wanted to learn more about the non-combat side of the Army."

"My Family is excited to see how the Army influences my future."



### PVT. KENNETH FIELDS, 18

Griffin, Georgia

"I joined the Army to protect rights and freedoms as well as to challenge myself and learn new skills."

"I've gotten in the best physical shape of my life."

"I am a 42A – Human Resource Specialist, so I could learn a transferable skill from the military that could help me in the civilian world."

"My Family is proud because I did something I've wanted to do since I was a kid. I've had a goal and I'm working towards it."



### PVT. MAI N. HER, 19

St. Paul, Minnesota

"I joined the Army to get the college benefits and do something for myself."

"I learned many new things that I have never done before. I overcame many challenges that I thought I could never overcome."

"My MOS is 42A (Human Resource Specialist). I picked it because I like helping people and I feel like being in human resources is a perfect job for that."

"My parents and a few relatives were not happy when I told them I joined. Despite that, many others were happy and proud of me."



### PFC. CESAR E. GUERRERO, 24

Van Nuys, California

"I wanted to join the Army after I saw the movie Rambo when I was 7 years old."

"I learned that if I managed my time properly I could get an enormous amount of things done in just one day."

"I am a 68W (Combat Medic). Mom didn't want me to be a killer, she wanted a doctor. So I'm working on it."

"They are extremely proud of me. They drove from California to South Carolina to see me graduated from basic training."



### PFC. VANESSA ITURRI, 19

Clearwater, Florida

"I joined the Army to further my education. Prior to the Army I wanted to go to medical school. A recruiter knocked on my door and ask about my plans for college and how I was going to pay for it. I couldn't answer him and he told me how the Army will pay for my college."

"I loved Basic Combat Training. I loved going to the field and having the chance to hold a leadership position."

"My MOS is a 68K (Medial Laboratory Specialist) and I picked this MOS because I wanted to work in a hospital."



### CPL. JACQUELYNN BROWN, 29

Akron, Ohio

"I joined the Army to follow my older siblings' footsteps and to make my Family proud."

"I love the daily extensive training I get to endure."

"I am a 42A – Human Resource Specialist. I chose it because I love helping customers and having constant one-on-one interactions with Soldiers."

"My Family is very proud of my decision."

"Overall, my experience has been wonderful. I am very happy with my decision to join and I wouldn't change a thing."





*Courtesy photo*

## Road warriors

Members of the Fort Jackson Army 10-Miler team crushed the competition at the Strictly Running Labor Day 5-Miler near Five Points in Columbia. Capt. Billy Grimes and 2nd Lt. Hunter Mcgahee captured second and third place overall, with several other team members placing in their respective age groups. This race was a tune up in preparation for the Army 10-Miler in Washington D.C. on Oct. 9.

## Hall of Fame nominations are due Dec. 21

Nominations for the Adjutant General Corps Hall of Fame and Distinguished Member of the Regiment Class of 2017 are now being accepted. To find get more details on how to submit a nomination or get a nomination template visit <https://www.milsuite.mil/book/docs/DOC-308376>.

HOF and DMOR selectees will be recognized at the AG Corps HOF and DMOR induction ceremony and National AG Ball, June 2, 2017. All HOF and DMOR inductees will also be recognized within the AG School's Hall of Honor. Nominations are due Dec. 21.

For more information contact Bob Ortiz at (803) 751-8305 or via email at [robert.ortiz-abreu.ctr@mail.mil](mailto:robert.ortiz-abreu.ctr@mail.mil) or Bill Villnow at (803) 751-8368, or via email [william.c.villnow.civ@mail.mil](mailto:william.c.villnow.civ@mail.mil).

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“So, he says, ‘Are you a drill sergeant?’ I look down at my rank, stand up straight so he can see it, and say, ‘No, I’m a General.’ He said, ‘Oh ... so will you ever get promoted to drill sergeant?’”

After being named Drill Sergeant of the Year, Delaney said the feeling he got when he heard his name called could be summed up in one word: “Incredible.”

“Everything is so secretive that you have no idea where you stand,” Delaney said. “Everybody is on pins and needles, and you hope you did well enough in all the events so that they can call your name. It was a great feeling. These guys are the best from every installation, so of course, they are going to be very good at everything, and it was kind of nerve-wracking watching them do things so well.”

As AIT Platoon Sergeant of the Year, Laspe said he was looking forward to his chance to work at the strategic level with the Training and Doctrine Command. As part of their victories, the winners of the drill sergeant and AIT platoon sergeant competitions spend the next year working at Fort Jackson, assisting TRADOC with policy.

“The competition was grueling, physically and mentally, but that’s what we train for and that’s what we prepare for,” Laspe said. “I’m excited to affect things at a more strategic level because now, instead of impacting my field and my group of Soldiers, I’ll have an impact on the entire Army. That’s pretty exciting.”

To be named Army Reserve Drill Sergeant of the Year, Moldovan had to survive a difficult challenge from Sgt. 1st Class Jason Scott, 95th Training Division. As the competition wore on, their respect for each other grew through the tests.

“These NCOs are top notch,” Moldovan said. “I had to keep up with them 100 percent of the way.”

“I could talk to you all day about Drill Sgt. Scott,” Moldovan continued. “His ethics, his principles, his integrity. I’ll tell you a story about Drill Sgt. Scott. We were head-to-head, right? It’s me against him for all the glory. We had a surprise ruck march. They brought us into a line, we had our ruck sacks on, and they said, ‘Alright drill sergeants: Ruck march. Unknown distance, unknown time.’ I started tightening my straps. I went to tighten a strap, and it un-snapped. There was nothing I could do to get it to snap, and everybody was already halfway down the road. Drill Sgt. Scott — knowing that I’m his direct competition — stopped to help me. He said, ‘I got you, Battle,’ and he snapped me up and then we ran together on the ruck march. I have so much respect for Drill Sgt. Scott. He is a great competitor.”

There could only be the three winners, but as Funkhouser said earlier in the week, the 15 competitors were already “the best of the best.” The 15 walked and limped away from the week with memories they won’t soon forget. And Delaney, Moldovan and Laspe walked away with shiny new titles: Drill Sergeant, Army Reserve Drill Sergeant and AIT Platoon Sergeant of the Year.

**Main photo: Army Reserve Drill Sergeant of the Year competitor, Sgt. 1st Class Jason Scott, 95th Training Division, hurdles the low wall on the fit to win obstacle course Sept. 8, during the 2016 TRADOC Drill Sergeant of the Year competition.**



Photos by SGT. 1ST CLASS BRIAN HAMILTON

From the top, Staff Sgt. Daniel Barsi, Fort Jackson, Sgt. Ryan Moldovan, 98th Training Division, and Sgt. 1st Class Jason Scott, 95th Training Division, take part in this year’s TRADOC Drill Sergeant of the Year competition.

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Photo by WALLACE McBRIDE

## Hitting the road

More than 350 people turned out Saturday morning for a 5K/10K event at Semmes Lake. The event, in recognition of suicide prevention month, took Soldiers, Family members and DA Civilians along a course near Gate 1. For more information about suicide prevention, contact the Suicide Prevention Office at 751-7294.

## DES job openings

U.S. Army Installation Management Command, Directorate of Emergency Services has vacancies in the Police/Provost Marshal Division in posts around the country. Positions for GS-0085-05 Security Guard, GS-0085-06 Lead Security Guard, GS-0085-07 Supervisory Security Guard and GS-0085-09 Supervisory Security Guard are now available at Fort Jackson, Fort Irwin, California, Fort Leavenworth, Kansas, Fort Knox, Kentucky, Fort Sill, Oklahoma and Fort Lee, Virginia. Apply online at [www.usa-jobs.gov](http://www.usa-jobs.gov).

## Turn in excess, damaged fire extinguishers

The Fort Jackson Fire Department is accepting excess, damaged or unserviceable fire extinguishers that customers wish to turn in. Bring them to the Fort Jackson Fire Department, located at 5499 Jackson Blvd. This accommodation is for turn-in only, and not for exchanges. Fire extinguishers can also be turned in during the "America Recycles" event, which takes place from 9 a.m. until 2 p.m. Nov. 15 at the Fort Jackson Recycling Center. Additionally, you may continue to get service for your facility fire extinguishers by contacting the fire prevention office at 751-5239/1787/9749. Any questions contact a fire prevention team member.



Photo by DEMETRIA MOSLEY

## Sign of the times

The installation unveiled a new billboard on I-77 Sept. 7 to commemorate its centennial. Over the past 100 years, Fort Jackson has grown into the largest initial entry training installation in the Army, training over 70,000 Soldiers annually. Fort Jackson trains 54 percent of the Army Basic Combat Training load and 64 percent of Army female Soldiers. Fort Jackson trains over 40,000 Basic Combat Training Soldiers annually. The installation trains an additional 25,000 in Adjutant Generals Corps, Finance and Chaplain Schools. The commemoration provides an opportunity for Soldiers and veterans to honor those who have paved the way as well as share Fort Jackson's rich heritage with the American public.

## AG Corps is accepting award nominations

Nominations are now being accepted for the Adjutant General Corps Regimental Officer, Warrant Officer, non-commissioned officer, Soldier, Civilian / Senior Civilian and Spouse of the Year Awards Program for 2017. An MOI is attached which contains eligibility requirements and nomination procedures for our Corps' Regimental Awards Program.

Since 2014, the AG Corps recognizes two civilian employee categories: the Civilian Employee of the Year (GS-01 through GS-09, or NF-1 through NF-3), and Senior Civilian Employee of the Year (GS-10 through GS-15, or NF-4 through NF-6). The corps began recognizing the AG Corps Regimental Spouse of the Year in 2015. The awards program began in 2003, to honor of Lt. Gen. Timothy J. Maude, former Army G-1, and Sgt. Maj. Larry L. Strickland, Army G-1 senior enlisted leader, both killed in the 9/11 terrorist attacks at the Pentagon. The Civilian Employee

of the Year was implemented in 2001 to honor Mr. John Din-nien.

For more information visit <https://www.milsuite.mil/book/docs/DOC-308380>, or contact Marcus Campbell at [marcus.a.campbell3.civ@mail.mil](mailto:marcus.a.campbell3.civ@mail.mil), or via phone at (803) 751-8300; or Bill Villnow at [william.c.villnow.civ@mail.mil](mailto:william.c.villnow.civ@mail.mil) or via phone at (803) 751-8368.

## Become a 911 dispatch operator

Troops to Firefighters is offering a free education opportunity to Soldiers and veterans.

Troops to Firefighters exists to provide transitioning Soldiers and veterans the training and mentoring they need to become certified Firefighters or 9-1-1 emergency telecommunicators. A free course is being offered Oct. 3-20 to anyone interested in becoming a 911 emergency dispatch operator. The class takes place at 2611 Grant St., Columbia, SC, 29203.

For more information, contact [dave@troopstofirefighters.org](mailto:dave@troopstofirefighters.org).

# Healing retreats might reduce PTSD symptoms

By **DAVID VERGUN**  
Army News Service

Preliminary results indicate that therapeutic retreats can reduce post-traumatic stress symptoms in veterans and improve relationships for both veterans and their caregivers.

The results come from four-day healing retreats studied by the Institute for the Health and Security of Military Families. During the retreats, participants were presented with a variety of activities, including PTSD education, acupuncture, yoga and art therapy, according to Dr. Briana S. Nelson Goff, director of the institute.

For her work in PTSD therapy and research, Goff will be presented with the Outstanding Civilian Service Award at the Chief of Staff of the Army Salute during a Twilight Tattoo ceremony at Joint Base Myer-Henderson Hall, Virginia today.

## A varied approach

What works for one person might not work for another, Goff said. So the participants – veterans and their spouses, parents and battle buddies – were exposed to a variety of different experiences. In addition to traditional therapeutic activities, participants engaged in group recreational activities like kayaking, hiking, and dance lessons.

The beneficial effects of the activities can be cumulative, Goff said, rather than relying on one intervention alone to reduce PTSD symptoms.

“We are here to supplement or assist with their treatment, not replace their treatment,” Goff said, adding that not all of veterans who attended the retreats were receiving formal treatment.

The retreat model, known as “Bridging the Gap,” first began in 2011 with Soldiers from Fort Riley, Kansas, and veterans from Kansas City and Wichita. Over time, the model has expanded to Chicago, Florida, Georgia, and Washington, D.C., according to Goff. To date, 12 retreats have taken place and more than 200 veterans and their caregivers have attended.

The group at each retreat is quite small, and each service member or veteran who participates must attend with a caregiver – a spouse, parent, sibling – anyone who will be there to support the person. The only financial cost to the attendees, Goff said, is transportation to the retreat. Bridging the Gap is branching farther out so veterans won’t need to travel as far.

Since 2015, funding for the retreats has been provided through a grant from the Walter Reed Society, a

“If we as a society and we as a profession change our perception, it would completely change the field.”

— **Dr. Briana S. Nelson Goff,**

director of the Institute for the Health and Security of Military Families



Photo by **DAVID VERGUN**

**Preliminary results indicate that therapeutic retreats can reduce post-traumatic stress symptoms in veterans and improve relationships for both veterans and their caregivers.**

nonprofit group that aims to benefit Walter Reed Army Medical Center and its educational, patient, treatment, and research activities.

## PTSD research

At the retreats studied by Goff, data were collected using standardized questionnaires and each day participants were administered non-invasive salivary cortisol testing. Cortisol is the stress hormone in the body. Higher levels of the hormone in the saliva indicate higher levels of stress, she explained.

Goff said data from the salivary cortisol testing is currently being analyzed and results could be available as early as this month. This additional data will provide unique information about whether the retreats are having a positive impact on the participants’ physical health.

“Our data indicates that they are experiencing lower PTSD symptoms by the end of the retreat,” she said. “This (cortisol testing) will allow us to learn whether there are any biological and physiological changes over the four days.”

## About PTSD

PTSD isn’t always combat-related, said Goff. Domestic violence, sexual assault or child abuse can also trigger

the condition.

Having worked in PTSD treatment and research for 25 years, Goff is convinced that the condition is a chronic illness, rather than an acute one. Just like diabetes, the condition can be managed with treatments like therapy and medication, she believes.

“It doesn’t mean you can’t have a full and productive life,” she said. “But you have to manage the symptoms for the rest of your life. If we as a society and we as a profession change our perception, it would completely change the field.”

Goff has been studying the effects of combat trauma and other traumatic experiences since the early 1990s when she was a graduate student intern with the Department of Veterans Affairs. There, she gained experience working on a PTSD unit, providing family therapy to veterans and their caregivers.

Since 2009, she has served as the director of the Institute for the Health and Security of Military Families at Kansas State University, where she is in charge of developing collaborative educational, outreach and clinical services programs for military families in the state.

She has led a number of research projects focused on combat trauma, including leading the research on the Bridging the Gap retreats.

# Old and New

## Vietnam veterans visit Fort Jackson

By **CAPT. MITCH BLILEY**

Commander, Charlie Co.  
3rd Battalion, 60th Infantry Regiment

Nothing binds people together quite like combat.

Typically, the rougher the deployment, the closer the bonds. Members of “Charging” Charlie company, 3rd Battalion, 60th Infantry Regiment, have been getting together regularly for decades. This past reunion, they were hosted by the current Charlie Company, 3rd Battalion, 60th Infantry Regiment, 193rd Infantry Brigade on Fort Jackson.

Beginning with a social on Sept. 9, current 3-60th battalion commander, Lt. Col. Adam Lewis, gave the Vietnam veterans a thorough run-down of current operations in Basic Combat Training. The next day consisted of a tour of Fort Jackson, with a special stop at Range 8 which is named after a fallen comrade of theirs, Silver Star Recipient SP-5 Howard E. Beagle.

The veterans also had the opportunity to get their hands on the M-249 Squad Automatic weapon at Bastogne Range, along with firing a few virtual rounds at the En-



**Ed Garrison, a former ‘Charging Charlie’ company executive officer, lights up at the Engagement Skills Trainer.**

gagement Skills Trainer. The tour came to an apex with two ceremonies at 3-60th: an informal ceremony to change the name of the current company from “Charlie Rock” to “Charging Charlie,” and a formal awarding of the Official Commemorative Vietnam Veterans Pin by the post commanding general, Maj. Gen. John “Pete” Johnson.



*Courtesy photo*

**Joe Nichols, former ‘Charging Charlie’ company commander, handles the M203 grenade launcher during a recent tour of Fort Jackson.**

## Mind your manners in school zones

Directorate of Emergency Services

As we continue to progress into the school year it has been brought to the attention of the Garrison Commander that there have been some parents/service members whose behavior has negatively impacted our school system. Fort Jackson police, in a collaborative effort with the Fort Jackson community, would like to eliminate these behaviors, which include:

- Violating school drop-off and pick-up procedures, which creates traffic issues at both schools.

- Rude behavior by motorists toward school staff while they are assisting school crossing guards in the drop-off and pick-up of students.

- Parents who are routinely discourteous and or verbally abusive toward school administrators and staff in the execution of their daily duties in the schools.

Parents are encouraged to pay close attention to recommended drop-off and pick-up times. Dropping off students too early leaves them in an unsafe and unsupervised environ-

ment. Arriving too early to pick up students causes traffic jams on the streets, which impedes the necessary response of emergency vehicles.

Motorists are encouraged to be courteous to school staff members assisting school crossing guards. School crossing guards, with the assistance of school staff, play an integral role in the lives of our students who walk or bike to school. Their primary responsibility is to help our students safely cross the street at key locations and control the movement of traffic in and around school campuses.

Conflict between parents and school staff members may occur at times, but it is imperative for parents to discuss their concerns in an appropriate manner with school staff members to resolve the issues. Parents should understand that school administrators and their staff have strict policies and guidelines that must be adhered to as they are responsible for the education, safety and care of our students in and out of the classroom. We would like for all of our students and their families to have a safe and enjoyable school year.

