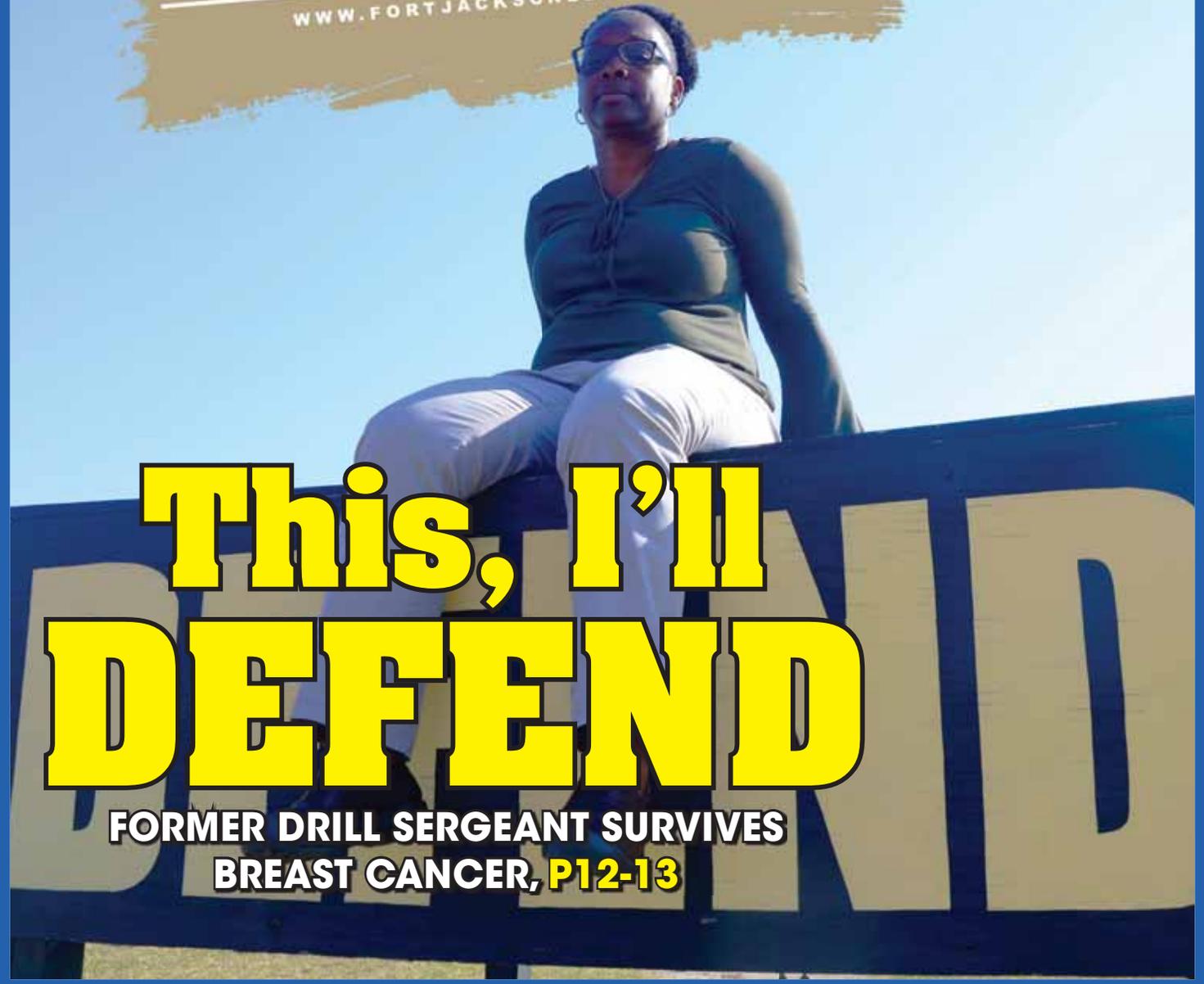


THURSDAY, NOV. 3, 2016

# THE FORT JACKSON LEADER

WWW.FORTJACKSONLEADER.COM



## This, I'll DEFEND

FORMER DRILL SERGEANT SURVIVES  
BREAST CANCER, **P12-13**

**AN 'ORDINARY SOLDIER'**

**NCO CHANGES  
ASSISTANT**

**COURSE OF CHAPLAIN  
EDUCATION** **P3**

**FORT JACKSON FAMILIES**

**CELEBRATE**

**HALLOWEEN** **P14**

# Community Calendar

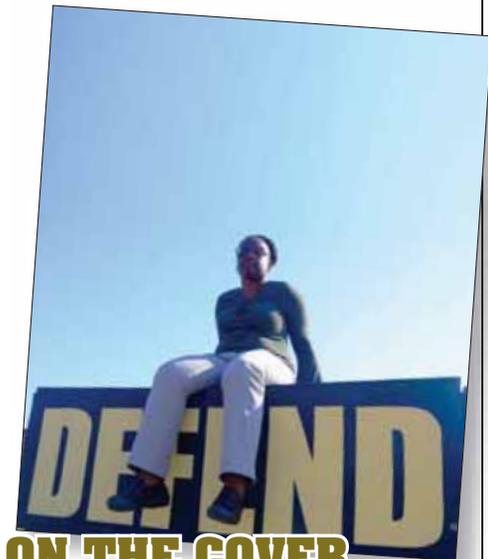
**SEND ALL SUBMISSIONS TO**  
**FJLeader@gmail.com**

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

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

Questions? Call 751-7045.

[midlandstech.edu/veterans](http://midlandstech.edu/veterans)



## ON THE COVER

**Breast cancer survivor and former drill sergeant retired Sgt. 1st Class Veran Hill says what helped defend her body against cancer was looking at getting healthy as though she was preparing for war. SEE PAGES 12-13.**

Photo by DEMETRIA MOSLEY



### Fort Jackson, South Carolina 29207

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## TODAY

### Post Newcomer Orientation

8 a.m., NCO Club. Mandatory for all Soldiers arriving to Fort Jackson and will include attendance at BCT graduation. All newly arriving civilian employees are invited to attend. Soldiers who bring their spouses will receive a 3 day pass through their chain of command. A 50 percent discount coupon for the NCO Club lunch buffet will be provided to all attendees.

## SATURDAY

### Family History

10 a.m. - 1 p.m., 4440 Jackson Blvd. The Columbia Family History Center will host a family history activity centered on preserving stories and photos onto your family tree using [familySearch.org](http://familySearch.org). There is no charge for this activity. Bring your own laptops and any photos you may wish to add to your family tree. For more information, contact Charles Walton at 803-782-7141 or 803-319-4072

## MONDAY

### Veterans Day Service

10 a.m., Daniel Circle Chapel. All veterans will be honored during the worship service. The guest speaker will be retired Maj. Gen. (Dr.) Clifford L. Stanley. A Buffalo Soldier presentation and display is part of the program. The Fort Jackson

community is invited. POC: Lt. Col. Sid Taylor, 803-727-3910.

## TUESDAY

### Investment Seminar

11:30 a.m. - 1 p.m., Education Center, Rm B303. Army Community Service will host an investment seminar with guest instructor retired Col. Jamie Houston. The seminar will discuss various investment options, investment pyramids, individual retirement accounts and more. Feel free to bring your lunch. Please call 751-5256 for more information or to RSVP.

## NOV. 15

### America Recycles Day

9 a.m. - 2 p.m., Recycling Center. Come celebrate America Recycles Day. We will be collecting electronic waste, tires, fire extinguishers, and steel-toed boots/shoes as well as the normally accepted items. We will also be conducting the quarterly paper shred. For more information, call 751-4208.

### Scholarship Information Session

8 a.m. - 10 a.m., Midlands Technical College Northeast Campus. For veterans and active duty military. To apply for the South Carolina Manufacturing Certification Scholarship you must attend an information session. RSVP at

## NOV. 17

### Victory Spouses Club

11 a.m., NCO Club. Victory Spouses' Club is open to spouses of all ranks, retirees, DOD civilians, all services, male and female. For more information, e-mail [vcsmemberships@gmail.com](mailto:vcsmemberships@gmail.com) or visit [www.victoryspousesclub.org](http://www.victoryspousesclub.org).

## NOV. 18

### American Indian Heritage Luncheon

11:30 a.m. - 1:00 p.m., Officer's Club. Guest Speaker is Dr. Wenonah Haire. Cost is \$10.50. Contact an EO Advisor, the EEO office, or Unit EO leader for tickers.



the underbrush was so thick that a man on horseback could not go through

By Demetria Mosley



Photos by JULIA SIMPKINS

Sgt. 1st Class Dustin Hall, center, Sgt. Maj. Elbert Jackson, right, and Sgt. Maj. Alvin Chaplin, far right, greet faculty from the University of South Carolina.

# An 'Ordinary Soldier'



Chaplain Corps Regimental Sergeant Major, Sgt. Maj. Alvin Chaplin, shares a moment of levity with USC staff Oct. 21, as he discusses the scope of new religious education courses designed for chaplain assistants.

## NCO changes the course of Chaplain Assistant education

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

Staff Sgt. Dustin Hall turned himself from an “ordinary NCO” into a “mover and shaker.” The process began because his name was included in a group email from the Chaplain Corps’ Regimental Sergeant Major, Alvin Chaplin.

“I still don’t know why he included me in that email,” said Hall, now a sergeant first class. “It was August 2015 and the question he posed was, ‘With the name change for our MOS (military occupational specialty), what is the identity of a future Religious Affairs Specialist?’”

The question came after the decision was made in 2015 to change the name of the MOS from Chaplain Assistant to Religious Affairs Specialist. The name

change goes into effect October 2017.

“They decided to change the name to indicate the depth of the NCO’s role in the Unit Ministry Team,” Hall said. “We do more than just help chaplains set up for services. We need to know more about the world’s religions so we can do our jobs more thoroughly, with a deeper understanding. I began to develop the idea of basic religious education built into a course that could be taught to all 56Ms (chaplain assistants),” Hall said. “It would give them a basic knowledge and understanding of world religions. Taking it a step further, it would also provide them tools and techniques to use that education in military planning and advisement—ultimately awarding college credit.”

See **TRAINING:** Page 20



Courtesy photo

Military spouse Cheryl Peltier, right, said the key to her landing a position at Fort Jackson was preparation. The Employment Readiness Program staff helped her prepare for her interview by conducting a mock panel interview session.

# Success starts here

## Interview tips to help you land a job

By **BARBARA MARTIN**  
Employment Readiness

You finally get the call you have been waiting for – yes, a job interview. Are you ready to meet face-to-face and sell yourself to an employer?

Can you answer the question, “Why Should I Hire You?”

Most job seekers spend a great amount of time focusing on polishing up their resume, but spend little time on preparing for the big moment, the interview.

The resume landed you an interview, but the interview will be the deciding factor on you getting a job offer or not. The interview is a formal meeting designed for employers to determine your suitability for the job.

They are looking to see if you have the skills needed for the position, your motivation and will you fit into their company culture.

Here are seven quick tips to help you prepare for your next interview.

**Step 1:** Research the company.

**Step 2:** Research what kind of interview you will be encountering.

**Step 3:** Practice mock interviewing.

**Step 4:** Dress the part.

**Step 5:** Know where you are going and arrive early.

**Step 6:** Come prepared to sell your skills with examples, questions to ask the employer, career portfolio and plenty of copies of your resume.

**Step 7:** Follow-up. Always send a thank-you immediately after the interview.

Jobseekers can practice their interviewing skills by using the My Interview Simulator a free-online program designed to simulate a mock interview. This is a great opportunity to practice and rehearse potential employment interview questions. Remember the more you practice you have, the more confident you will feel about yourself. You can access this resource tool by going to [www.myinterviewsimulator.com/](http://www.myinterviewsimulator.com/).

The Fort Jackson Employment Readiness Program offers a Job Searching Strategies Workshop each month to

### THE EMPLOYMENT READINESS PROGRAM

offers resources to help with your career plan and job search. Whether you're a military spouse or Family member who just moved to a new installation, Retiree, or DoD civilian looking for new opportunities, or active duty Military, active Reserve, National Guard member, or Wounded Warrior, we're here to help.

help develop a job searching strategy, resume development and prepare you for the interview process. This workshop is open to all military personnel, Family members, surviving spouses and DOD civilian employees. Contact the ACS Employment Readiness Office at 803-751-5452/9460 for up-coming dates.

### SOCIAL MEDIA DECEPTION

15% of social media users publically share their birthday.  
17% post what high school they attended.  
29% don't use strong passwords.\*

Others can use YOUR PERSONAL INFORMATION to deceive you and seem trustworthy.

What are you sharing?  
Where are you sharing it?  
Who are you sharing it with?

### YOUR PERSONAL INFORMATION: PROTECT IT FROM EXPLOITATION

Know the Risk  
Raise your Shield

Maximize your social media privacy settings.  
“Friend” only those you know and trust.

\*Source: NextAdvisor

FOR MORE INFORMATION, VISIT [NCSC.GOV](http://NCSC.GOV)

## 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.



## LIMITED TIME OFFER!

### Jalapeño Poppers are back for a limited time!

These spicy jalapeños are stuffed with cool cream cheese, battered and deep fried to a golden crisp and they're only available at **The Strike Zone Snack Bar** inside Century Lanes Bowling Center.

Can't handle the heat? We've got you covered with our sweet and delicious Apple Poppers! Try one today!

Century Lanes Bowling Center  
4464 Gregg Street • (803) 751-4656

FOR SOLDIERS FOR FAMILIES FOR RETIRES FOR CIVILIANS

## Thanks & Giving Special AT VICTORY BINGO

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



### Sunday, Nov 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)751-3411.

FOR SOLDIERS FOR FAMILIES FOR RETIRES FOR CIVILIANS

## BLACKLIGHT BOWLING



### AT CENTURY LANES

4464 Gregg Street • (803)751-6138

**NOV 12 (8:30 - 11 P.M.)**

**COST: \$10 PER PERSON.**

Includes unlimited bowling, shoe rental, and entry for prize drawing.

**\$1.50 NACHOS**

during Blacklight Bowling at the Snack Bar!



100

FOR SOLDIERS FOR FAMILIES FOR RETIRES FOR CIVILIANS



## MAGRUDERS CLUB & PUB

Your home for games, sports, dancing, karaoke, the best wings in town, and more!

### WEEKLY LINE UP

- » Mondays : \$3.75 Margaritas all night long!
- » Tuesdays: Movie Night plus 8 wings and fries for only \$ 7.00.
- » Wednesdays : DJ Tom Dance Party and Karaoke
- » Thursdays: 1/2 price appetizers from 4:30 - 5:30 p.m.
- » Friday: End of the week social with House Liquor for only \$1.50!
- » Saturday : Sports network Saturday

### HAPPY HOUR

Monday - Friday from 4:30 - 5:30 p.m.

### PRIVATE PARTIES

Spacious back room available for catered events. Please call 803-782-2218 for info.

### CONTACT INFO & HOURS

3305 Daniel Circle - (803)790-0381

Monday - Friday doors open at 4:30 p.m.

Saturday doors open at 5 p.m.

FOR SOLDIERS FOR FAMILIES FOR RETIRES FOR CIVILIANS

## Soul Food Buffet



Available every Thursday

from 11 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.

at the Fort Jackson NCO Club

5700 Lee Road • 782-2218

All-you-care-to-eat Soul food buffet menu includes fried chicken, ox tails, pigs feet, macaroni & cheese, collard greens and more!

**ONLY \$9.00**



100

FOR SOLDIERS FOR FAMILIES FOR RETIRES FOR CIVILIANS



## Fish & Chips only

**\$8.95**

- Beer-battered Cod
- House-made Chips
- Cole Slaw
- Hushpuppies
- Served with Tartar Sauce and Malt Vinegar.

Every Friday at the Officers' Club

3630 Semmes Road • 782-8761

(Lunch is served 11:00 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.)

FOR SOLDIERS FOR FAMILIES FOR RETIRES FOR CIVILIANS

## STORY TIME AT THE LIBRARY

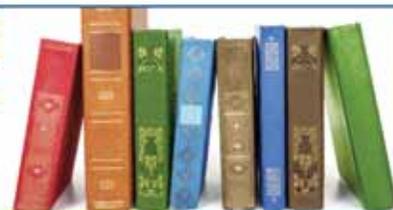
At the Thomas Lee Hall Library

4679 Lee Road • 751-5589

Every Tuesday from 11:30 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

Every Thursday from 5:30 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.

For more info, call Kristen at 803-751-5589.



FOR SOLDIERS FOR FAMILIES FOR RETIRES FOR CIVILIANS

# Scales CDC garners accreditation

By **ROBERT TIMMONS**  
Fort Jackson Leader

A Family's search for quality healthcare on post just became easier.

The National Association for the Education of Young Children recently accredited the Scales Avenue Child Development Center resulting in Fort Jackson meeting Army requirements for accreditation.

"We are required by the Department of the Army for each of our eligible centers to be accredited," said Beverly Metcalfe, Fort Jackson Child Youth Services administrator.

The NAEYC is a non-profit professional organization the Army recognizes as the gold standard for quality child care programs.

"NAEYC strives to raise the quality of education for all children from birth through age eight," Metcalfe added. "Accreditation systems are a major part of NAEYC's efforts to improve early childhood education; they allow programs to provide the best learning experiences for young children and their educators by meeting national standards of quality."

The accreditation also eases the burden on Families looking for the best care for their children.

"Having quality, accredited childcare programs readily available on Fort Jackson helps make the sometimes difficult job of finding good childcare much easier for our military Families," Metcalfe said. "Having accredited childcare centers near the workplace is important for Soldiers, not only for the convenience, but also because it gives parents the peace of mind knowing they can go to work and their children are in a safe, quality educational environment with well-trained staff."

Rose Edmond, head of the Child, Youth & School Services, lauded the employees who made the accreditation possible.

"The Scales Avenue Child Development Center staff are to be commended for once again achieving accreditation," she said. "Of significance are the great scores in the summary report for the criteria in the following areas: teachers,



File photo

**Children at Scales Avenue Child Development Center get ready to take part in a breast cancer awareness walk Oct. 14. The National Association for the Education of Young Children recently accredited the center, which lasts for five years.**

Families, community relationships and leadership/management. The accreditation report will be used to identify areas for improvement on the road to excellence. With the Scales Avenue CDC accreditation, all eligible Child, Youth & School Services programs on Fort Jackson are now accredited."

In the report announcing the accreditation, NAEYC commended the Scales Avenue CDC for "promoting posi-

tive relationships among all children and adults to encourage a child's sense of individual worth," through a program that uses "ongoing, systematic, formal and informal assessment approaches" to providing information on a child's development and learning. The reciprocal communications between staff and parents was also lauded.

The accreditation lasts for five years and will end Oct. 1, 2021.

## BRIEFS

### Post looking for choir music director

A Non-Appropriated Fund contract is open through Nov. 13 for the position of choir music director. Submit bids to Chaplain (Maj.) Joseph F. Vieira at the Religious Support Office, 4356 Hardee Street, Fort Jackson, S.C., 29207. Vieira can be reached by phone at (803) 751-9871 and email at [joseph.f.vieira4.mil@mail.mil](mailto:joseph.f.vieira4.mil@mail.mil).

### Lego League team heads to qualifiers

Fort Jackson's Lego League Team, the Patriots, will compete in the Columbia Regional Qualifier on Saturday, Dec. 17.

The team is currently in the learning, planning and scheduling phase of having fun while exploring robotics, in preparation for the 2016-2017 season, titled "Animal Allies."

The December event offers students

new opportunities to showcase creative solutions using 21st century skills. The Fort Jackson team will represent C.C. Pinckney Elementary School and the Fort Jackson Community as ambassadors learning science, technology engineering and math topics.

The event takes place noon, Dec. 17 at Doby Mill's Elementary School, located at 1964 Fort Jackson Blvd., Lugoff, S.C.

### Use your STAR Card for extra savings

Military shoppers at the Fort Jackson Exchange can get a jump on their holiday shopping with an extra discount on first-day purchases with a new MILITARY STAR card through the Army & Air Force Exchange Service.

Shoppers who use a new card for the first time from Oct. 28 to Nov. 10 will receive a 15 percent discount on all purchases instead of the standard 10 percent discount that is

regularly offered. The discount is valid in-store at Fort Jackson Exchange facilities and online at [shopmyexchange.com](http://shopmyexchange.com) and can be combined with other promotions. The discount will appear as a credit on shoppers' first billing statements.

Each time cardholders make a purchase with their MILITARY STAR card, they earn points as part of a rewards program. Cardholders earn two points for every \$1 spent in Exchange stores, food courts, mall vendors and on [shopmyexchange.com](http://shopmyexchange.com). Shoppers automatically receive a \$20 MILITARY STAR Rewards Card for every 2,000 points earned.

- Other benefits of the card include:
- Competitive interest rate of 10.49 percent an industry-leading interest rate.
  - No annual, late or over-limit fees.
  - 10 percent off Exchange food court purchases.
  - 5-cents-per-gallon savings at Exchange gas stations.
  - Free standard shipping at [shopmyexchange.com](http://shopmyexchange.com).

To apply for a MILITARY STAR card, authorized shoppers can visit the Fort Jackson Exchange or log on to [www.MyECP.com](http://www.MyECP.com).

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## VETERANS DAY EVENTS

The following is a list of Veterans Day events happening throughout the Midlands.

### SUNDAY

**Lexington Veterans Day Parade** – Lexington County will be conducting a Veteran's Parade down Main Street Lexington starting at 2:30 p.m.

### MONDAY

**New Vista Veteran's Appreciation Luncheon** – Veteran's Day/Military Appreciation event for the assisted living community residents of Atria Forest Lake. The event is scheduled to take place between 1 – 5 p.m.

### NOV. 9

**Lake Murray Elementary School**, 205 Wise Ferry Road, Lexington, S.C. 29072, hosts a Synergizing for Soldiers Day Event. The event is free to the public.

### NOV. 10

**C.C. Pinckney Elementary School** holds a Veterans Day Parade from 1 – 1:30 p.m. at the school.

### NOV. 11

**Marlboro County Veterans Day Parade** – The parade held in Bennettsville, South Carolina will honor Vietnam veterans.

**USC Veterans Day Breakfast** – The University of South Carolina will hold a Vet Day breakfast from 7:30 – 9 a.m. at the Russell House (1305 Greene Street).

**City of Columbia Veterans Day Parade** – Fort Jackson Soldiers will participate in the annual City of Columbia Veteran's Day Parade in downtown Columbia, beginning at 11 a.m.



Courtesy photo

## Strong beginnings

**Fire Inspector William Sexton, right, and Sparky the Fire Dog welcome visitors from the Strong Beginnings after school program. The children were scheduled to visit the Fort Jackson Fire Department in October as part of the annual Fire Prevention Carnival, but the event was canceled because Hurricane Matthew made landfall that same weekend.**



## Exchange offers Veterans Day Deals

The Army & Air Force Exchange Service is extending a special thanks to military families this Veterans Day by slashing prices on the holiday season's hottest gift items.

Starting Nov. 11, the Exchange will offer exclusive savings on select TVs, apparel, handbags, appliances and computers. Prices are effective through Nov. 17 while supplies last—shoppers seeking high-demand, deep-discount products are encouraged to arrive early on Nov. 11 to ensure their place in line for the hottest holiday items.

Veterans Day shoppers will also receive bounce back coupons on Nov. 11 and 12 offering discounts on in-store purchases made Nov. 15 through 19. Military Star card holders will earn double points Nov. 11 through 13.

Veterans Day sale items will also be available at [shopmyexchange.com](http://shopmyexchange.com) starting Nov. 11. Shoppers can find items and pricing starting Nov. 4 by logging on to [shopmyexchange.com](http://shopmyexchange.com), downloading the Exchange EXTRA mobile app or picking up the Veterans Day Sale flyer at their local Exchange.

## Give blood and help save lives

The American Red Cross encourages eligible donors to give blood to help stock the shelves before the busy holiday season.

Many regular donors delay giving between Thanksgiving and New Year's Day because of holiday activities. This often causes a drop in donated blood available for patients. Therefore, more donations are needed in the weeks leading up to the holidays to help ensure the blood supply is sufficient through the winter months.

For blood donor Katie Osorio, giving a little bit of time is worth it because she's giving someone a chance at life. "Someone's mother, brother, sister, father or the love of someone's life has been given back to their loved ones all because I gave something that I could. It takes so little from me and gives a world back to another."

To make an appointment to give blood, download the Red Cross Blood Donor App, visit [redcrossblood.org](http://redcrossblood.org) or call 1-800-RED CROSS (1-800-733-2767). Donors are encouraged to make appointments and complete the RapidPass online health history questionnaire at [redcrossblood.org/rapid-pass](http://redcrossblood.org/rapid-pass) to save time when donating.

All blood types are needed to ensure a reliable supply for patients. A blood donor card or driver's license or two other forms of identification are required at check-in. Individuals who are 17 years of age (16 with parental consent in some states), weigh at least 110 pounds and are in generally good health may be eligible to donate blood. High school students and other donors 18 years of age and younger also have to meet certain height and weight requirements.



# FALL festival features FUN, frights

## Annual celebration draws huge crowd

By ROBERT TIMMONS  
Fort Jackson Leader

While the obligatory ghouls and goblins were haunting the Fort Jackson Fall Festival Oct. 28, there were even more super heroes and even a family of Minions to tip the scales in favor of the good guys.

Lines to enter the Solomon Center for the festival wrapped around the inside of the building while inside children and their Families played in bouncy houses, and participated in many games in order to win candy and prizes. For older folks there was even a haunted house and hay rides.

“This is the largest crowd I have seen here,” said Capt. Ryan Knott, who waited in line with his two boys only to find the festival packed virtually wall-to-wall with visitors.

“There were 690 children at the events and 391 adults for a total number of 1,081 people,” said Cindy Andre-Noel, the Fort Jackson Child Youth & School Services’ outreach director, and one of the forces behind the event.

Families attended the event for many reasons, but Andre-Noel surmised that celebrating Halloween safely was the main driver.

“I think it is because a lot of people like to go out for Halloween” and this is a safe event for Families, she said.

Staff Sgt. Ryan Cooke, with the U.S. Army Chaplain School, said the festival was a great way for children to have fun.

“It’s fantastic and great for the kids,” he said while watching his daughter, Josslyn, playing in a bouncy house. “It’s a great thing and you can see they are enjoying it.”

For Sgt. Kanitra Blount having a safe place for her son, Carter Alan, to go to have fun was paramount.

“I love it,” said the human resources Soldier with Special Troops Battalion. “It is very suitable for parents especially like myself – my husband is away at school. It is safer for us to come out here and enjoy an environment with other kids he’s gone to school with.”

Carter was having fun she said after he tried his hand at candy corn bowling and a dinosaur station.

“He’s loving it,” she said as Carter smiled brightly wearing a frog costume, but he wasn’t ready for the hula hoop station just yet. “We are just now getting walking down,” she said laughing.

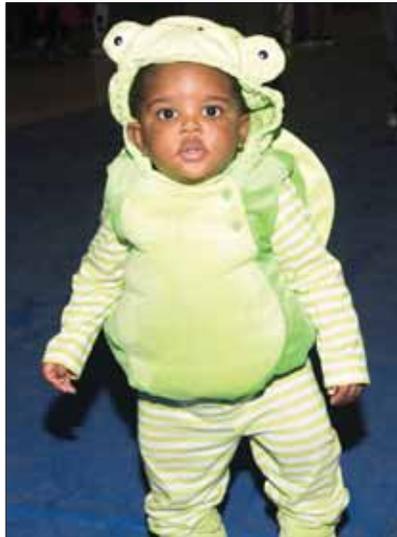
“  
This is the largest crowd I have seen here.

— Capt. Ryan Knott



Photos by ROBERT TIMMONS

Jasmine Brown smiles as she helps children during Fort -Jackson’s Fall Festival Oct. 28 at the Solomon Center on post. The event allowed children to dress up in their Halloween costumes and earn candy and prizes.



Above left, Carter Alan Blount, son of Sgt. Kanitra Blount from the Special Troops Battalion, poses in his frog costume during Fort Jackson’s Fall Festival, Oct. 28 at the Solomon Center on post. Above right, the Blounts take aim in Candy Corn Bowling.



Josslyn Cooke, daughter of Staff Sgt. Ryan Cooke with the U.S. Army Chaplain School, slides down a slide after exiting a bouncy house.

# MEDDAC Soldiers earn EFMB badges

U.S. Army Medical Activity

Two Soldiers from the Fort Jackson Medical Department Activity earned the coveted Expert Field Medical Badge at Joint Base McGuire-Dix-Lakehurst, Oct. 28. More than 214 candidates from various units across the Atlantic coast participated in the grueling two-week competition, with only 41 (19 percent) earning their badges. Capt. Garry Dredge and Sgt. Byungguan Jung represented Fort Jackson well, as a true “community of excellence.”

“With a pass rate hovering around 19 percent including second, third, and fourth time competitors, achieving this badge on the first try is truly an achievement to be proud of,” Capt. Zachary Leftwich, MEDDAC’s EFMB training coordinator said.

The EFMB was created in June 1965 to recognize medical Soldiers who displayed a high level of professional skills and proficiency as a combat medic. The test is a rigorous evaluation of mental and physical skills, and earning the badge requires a high degree of ability and focus. Passing rates range from 5-25 percent making the EFMB a qualification that stands out in a Soldier’s records. The EFMB also provides the other U.S.

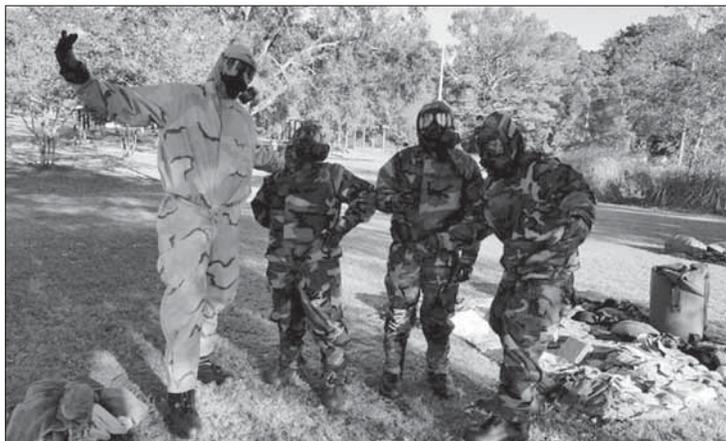


Photo by CAPT. ZACHARY LEFTWICH

**Two Soldiers from the Fort Jackson Medical Department Activity earned the coveted Expert Field Medical Badge at Joint Base McGuire-Dix-Lakehurst. Dozens of hours practicing medical tasks, land navigation, ruck marching, and warrior tasks all before the competition began.**

Armed Forces and multinational forces an opportunity to train together and to gain a greater understanding of their abilities while building more competent and confident Soldiers. The EFMB candidates had to complete a 60-question written

examination, complete 40 warrior tasks and drills, day and night land navigation, negotiate three combat trauma lanes encompassing 26 medical tasks, and then complete a 12-mile forced road march in less than three hours.

“The competition is a true test of grit and character,” said Col. Eric Edwards, MEDDAC commander. “These candidates will be challenged physically and mentally under added duress in austere conditions in a simulated combat environment, having to learn and retain a vast amount of knowledge in a short amount of time. This significant accomplishment is still settling in for Capt. Dredge and Sgt. Jung, who should be very proud joining the few to ever obtain the prestigious badge.”

The Fort Jackson MEDDAC will be gearing up again in January 2017 to lead another training plan to prepare all eligible personnel on Fort Jackson for the next large competition at Fort Bragg, North Carolina. The training will include candidates from the MEDDAC, DENTAC and USAG STB that will convene on lane training over the span of 10-weeks to bring back another group donning the badge.

“Any soldiers interested in competing in the next competition should coordinate with their supervisors for availability in the second and third week in March (Dates currently subject to shift), and send me an email,” Leftwich said. “Practice will start soon.”

# 'I BECAME A SOLDIER ...' 2ND BATTALION, 13TH INFANTRY REGIMENT

**SPC. FIORELA LUNA, 30**

*Virginia Beach, Virginia*

"I joined the Army to prove to myself that I can be self-sufficient and I always liked the military life."

"The physical and mental training we receive have been good for me to become a Soldier of the United States, it has been a tough transition."

"My MOS is 92L –Petroleum Laboratory Specialist. I picked the job because I found it interesting to work in a laboratory. Currently, I am a high school Spanish teacher and wanted to try something different."



**PVT. BRODY CHRISTENSEN, 18**

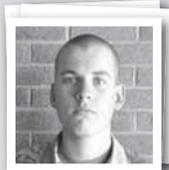
*Colorado Springs, Colorado*

"My father was in the Army for 24 years. The military lifestyle is all I know. It has been my dream to serve this country all my life."

"The short time here at basic has been great. I have learned so many life lessons here. Basic training is the perfect place to get discipline."

"My MOS is 15G, which is aircraft structural repair. I chose this MOS because I feel it can translate to the civilian world very significantly."

"When my father found out I was enlisting, I could tell he was filled with happiness."



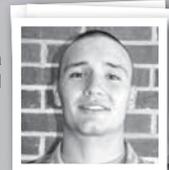
**PVT. COLTON GEORGE, 19**

*Columbus, Texas*

"Most of my life I have felt a strong calling to the Army, and all the signs pointed towards the military."

"The structure, discipline, diverse Soldiers, and knowledgeable, experienced drill sergeants" made basic training memorable.

"I am a 74D – Chemical, Biological, Radiological, Nuclear (CBRN) Specialist. I have always been very good and interested with that style of battle. Also, the MOS came with a 40 option, which means I get a shot at being a Ranger."



**PVT. MYUNIQUE LACY, 19**

*Houston*

"I joined the Army because I like working and being active. I don't like school and I want to serve my country."

"I like basic training because it has made me open my eyes and appreciate life more. It has also changed my attitude and I love the person I've become."

"I'm a 92A – Automated Logistics Specialist. I just picked a job."

My Family was "happy and supportive. They support the military 100 percent."



**SPC. BRIAN HACKWORTH, 29**

*St. Louis*

"I joined the Army to get out of debt and serve my country."

"The quality and instruction of the drill sergeants" is what's best about basic training.

"I am a 42A – Human Resources Specialist. I am already familiar with paperwork from my civilian career as a healthcare administrator."

My Family "is proud of the fact that I have joined the armed forces especially considering the nature of America's primary enemy."



**PVT. JOCELYN MASHBURN, 18**

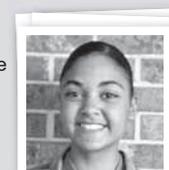
*Tucson*

"I joined the Army to become the best person I can be, to serve my country and to be a member of a team."

"I've learn so much about myself at Basic Combat Training and I've been able to accomplish things I didn't think were possible."

"My MOS is 27D – Paralegal Specialist and I chose it because I love to help people and after my 20 years it will help me in the civilian world as well."

"My Family is very proud of me and my decision to join the Army. My mom thinks it's the best thing."



# Pinckney 'forces' fitness to forefront

By **ROBERT TIMMONS**  
Fort Jackson Leader

Some of Fort Jackson's school aged children were taught the benefits of physical fitness during C.C. Pinckney Elementary School's Forces in Motion event Nov. 1.

One of the reasons the Forces in Motion event was put on was to "show them how to problem solve and how to use the equipment," said Dr. Kerrie Ammons, the school's speech pathologist.

Dan Ferreira, physical therapist at Pinckney, said the program helps incorporate the principles of Science, Technology, Engineering and Math "and apply them to fitness activities.

Forces in Motion was laid out at different stations to help children and Families learn various ways to strengthen their bodies without going to a gymnasium.

Darren Seamster, a physical education teacher at Pinckney who created the event, said Forces in Motion grew from his desire to show Families how they can work out together without going to the gym.

"I'm passionate about fitness and I'm passionate about kids. I wanted to show Families you don't have to go the gym (to stay in shape)," he said. "I know my wife struggles with the idea of, 'I can't get to the gym because my daughter is too little right now.' So you have a playground, you have a gym and I wanted to show Families how they can stay fit as a Family together even with young children."

"There are different stations with each one having a different element of (not only) primarily core strengthening, but strengthening in general," Ferreira said.

See **FORCES**: Page 16



Photo by **ROBERT TIMMONS**

**Sp. Jimmy Tiberi, a volunteer at the Forces in Motion event, helps C.C. Pinckney student Tyler Lewis do pull-ups during the event.**



Veran Hill, right, a former Army drill sergeant, learned she had breast cancer in 2013. She had already gotten her yearly mammogram a few months earlier before finding a lump under her right side. Above, Hill's hair begins to grow back after losing it from chemotherapy treatment.

# THIS, I'LL DEFEND

## Retiree survives breast cancer

By **DEMETRIA MOSLEY**  
Fort Jackson Leader

SHE WAS AT HOME by herself when she got the news. Usually the house would be a buzz with the movement of her husband and daughter in and out of rooms, but with just her there alone, it was quiet.

That uneasy quietness hung in the air when she answered the phone.

"Mrs. Hill," the doctor said. "your tests came back and it's cancerous."

Last month was Breast Cancer Awareness month. One in eight women will be diagnosed with breast cancer in their lifetime, according to [breastcancer.org](http://breastcancer.org). Retired Sgt. 1st Class Veran Hill became one of those women in the summer of 2013.

"I thought at first to myself that the doctors completely made it up," she said. "This could not be so because I've been doing the right things."

And doing the right things for Veran meant eating right, exercising often and participating in a yearly mammogram.

The American Cancer Society said in a study that from 2005 to 2010, about 67 percent of women received a yearly breast cancer screening. Breast cancer is the second leading cause of cancer death in women.

Veran said she thought of beating her cancer as if she was

getting in shape for a physical training test. As a former drill sergeant, whipping her body back into being healthy was like whipping civilians into Soldiers.

"I made my mind up that I am a Soldier. I really am a Soldier! I had challenges before and I overcame them. I could overcome this," she said.

Veran discovered a lump under her arm while on vacation with her daughter. She was a bit alarmed although she had already gotten a mammogram for the year. She immediately made a doctor's appointment at Fort Jackson Moncrief Army Health Clinic.

Her concern was valid. The doctors informed her that the cancer they had found in her right side was spreading fast.

Veran went through 33 sessions of chemotherapy, a Lumpectomy and axillary dissection surgery and did radiation once a day, five days a week for seven weeks before being able to beat cancer.

Her husband, retired Sgt. 1st Class Artemus Hill, gave Veran the nickname Warrior Princess during her progress.

"When I found out she had it I just sat there and cried," said Artemus. "Then something told me to stop worrying and I did. We are both Soldiers, we are going to get together and fight this thing together."

Each year in the United States, more than 200,000 women get breast cancer and more than 40,000 women die from the disease. Most breast cancers are found in women who are 50 years old or older, but breast cancer also affects younger women. About 10 percent of all new cases of breast cancer in the United States are found in women younger than 45 years of age.

# TRICK -OR- TREAT

## AT FORT JACKSON



Above, A group of zombies patrol the streets of Fort Jackson during trick or treating Monday. Left, heads of clowns lined one house in the Fort Jackson residential area, while Captain America (Isaiah Jolly) sorts through a bowl of candy.



Photos by DEMETRIA MOSLEY

Above, Firemen pass out candy during Fort Jackson's trick or treating Monday. Left, from sweet to scary, children of Fort Jackson dressed in different costumes, such as this spooky grim reaper.



Photos by ROBERT TIMMONS

Darren Seamster, physical education instructor at C.C. Pinckney Elementary school leads students and Families in stretching exercises during the Forces in Motion event at the school Nov. 1.



Darren Seamster watches the form of C.C. Pinckney Elementary School principal Audrey Griffin during the Forces in Motion event at C.C. Pinckney Elementary School on Fort Jackson Nov. 1. The event was put on to show students and their Families how to work out without having to go to the gym.

## Forces

Continued from Page 11

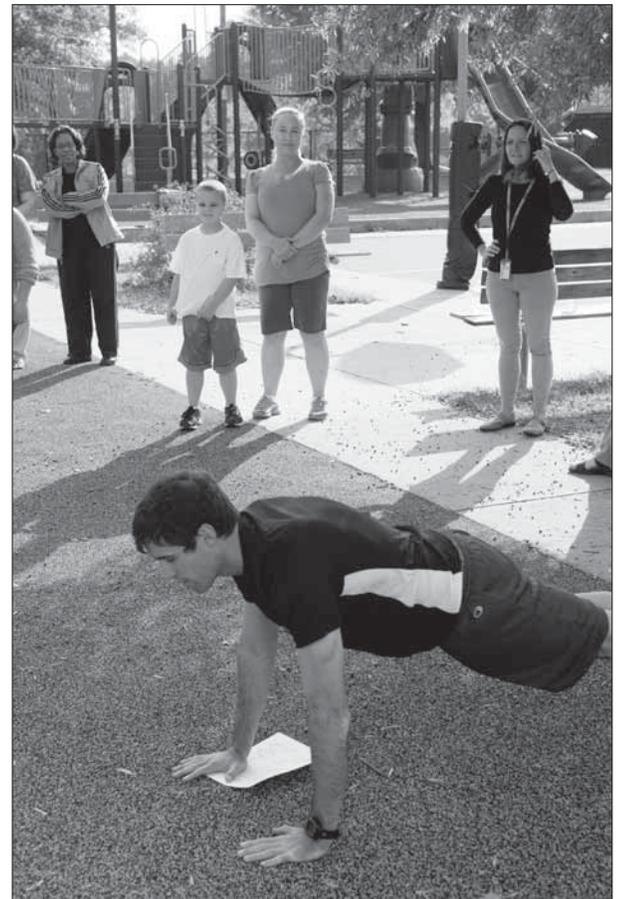
Seamster began the event warming up participants by putting them through stretching exercises including knee hugs, toe touches and side lunges. Once completed, Seamster went through each of the 10 stations explaining how to do each exercise safely while using volunteers as his demonstrators. The stations included fitness staples such as

the push-up, pull-ups, planks, squats, dips, and the dreaded burpees.

Teaching physical fitness is paramount to helping children to be healthier as they grow.

“Physical fitness is something you fall in love with when you’re young,” Ferreira said. “It then carries over as you stay active as you grow older.” It helps lower obesity rates as well as improves cognitive functions as well.

*(This article is the first in a series highlighting C.C. Pinckney’s celebration of American Education Week.)*



Dan Ferreira, C.C. Pinckney Elementary School physical therapist, demonstrates how to properly perform the plank exercise during the Forces in Motion event.

# In search of quiet professionals

By **CAPT. JESSICA DONNELLY**  
108th Public Affairs Detachment

The South Carolina Army National Guard is continuously looking for qualified Soldiers interested in becoming subject matter experts within their career field by commissioning and serving as warrant officers.

Warrant officers make up about two percent of the total Army, but with their technical expertise and confidence in the field, they are an essential tool to the overall mission, explained Chief Warrant Officer 4 Kevin Bonderer, South Carolina Army National Guard warrant officer strength manager.

“Commands don’t always grasp the value of warrants until they’re gone,” said Bonderer. “Remove one of them and your mission will be affected.”

Currently, the South Carolina Army National Guard has approximately 40 warrant officer vacancies within the state. Overall, in the South Carolina National Guard, there are 245 total jobs available in 13 branches and 25 military occupational specialties. Positions include engineers, paralegals, firefighters, human resources, property accounting, food advisors, field artillery, air defense

artillery, aviation, cyber, signal, and more. Enlisted Soldiers currently serving in these career fields may already possess the qualifications needed to transition to the warrant officer corps due to their experience and skill sets.

Chief Warrant Officer 5 Kent Puffenbarger, South Carolina National Guard command chief warrant officer, said there are subject matter experts within the current force of the South Carolina Army National Guard that need to be recruited to warrant officers; however, they might not know that opportunities are available. Supervisors are encouraged to identify Soldiers who excel in their career field and have the potential to provide value to the South Carolina Army National Guard as a commissioned warrant officer.

“In order to complete our missions, we need warrant officers,” Puffenbarger said “If you know someone uniquely qualified to be a warrant officer, let us know.”

Bonderer explained there are basic requirements that all applicants must meet such as be a U.S. citizen, have a secret security clearance, pass a commissioning physical and be 46 years old or younger.

See **QUIET:** Page 18



*Photo by SGT.TASHERA PRAVATO*

**Chief Warrant Officer 4 Kevin Bonderer, warrant officer recruiter for the South Carolina National Guard, who attended an OCS and WOCS informational weekend at McCrady Training Center in Eastover, S.C. The event provided interested Soldiers with group sessions and one-on-one time with recruiters and school instructors.**

# Quiet

Continued from Page 17

Additionally, some positions might require Soldiers to meet specific MOS requirements, military education, a certain number of years of experience, and some college education, but the biggest qualification is leadership potential.

“If they have leadership skills, we can build the technical side,” said Bonderer. “If a Soldier wants to do more and make a difference in [non-commissioned officers’] lives, talk to a recruiter, put in a packet.”

Bonderer explained in addition to the rewarding opportunities and personal satisfaction that taking on more responsibility can provide to the Soldier after becoming a warrant officer, there are also other incentives that benefit the service member. These include increased drill and retirement pay, as well as structured and timely promotions.

However, the process of becoming a warrant officer is not immediate.

“Making a warrant officer is about a two year procedure,” said Puffenbarger. “It takes some time for

the accession process and then there is the training.”

After a Soldier’s packet has been accepted, there are two options for commissioning as a warrant officer in the South Carolina Army National Guard. One option is attending the traditional program through the Regional Training Institute (RTI) at the McCrady Training Center in Eastover, South Carolina.

This route is made up of three phases – distance learning, five monthly drill weekends of training at the RTI that begin in November each year, and two weeks of consecutive annual training at Fort McClellan, Alabama in April. The second option is attending the federal program at Fort Rucker, Alabama, which consists of two phases – distance learning and either five weeks of consecutive training, if the Soldier has attended Basic Leadership Course, or seven weeks, without BLC. Which program the Soldier attends is determined by circumstances and availability, added Bonderer.

South Carolina Army National Guard Soldiers interested in becoming a warrant officer can contact Bonderer at 803-299-2740 for more information.

“Long story short, call me,” said Bonderer. “We want leaders.”

## Protect yourself from fraud during the holidays

By ANGELA CROSLAND  
Army Community Service

Believe it or not, but the holiday season is upon us. Many people are making plans to visit family or simply get out of town for the holidays. If you plan to take a trip during the upcoming holiday (or at anytime, for that matter) you may want to take a few precautions if you plan to use your credit or debit card. Most credit card issuers have safeguards in place to protect your (and their) money. With so many clever thieves on the loose, you can never have too many safeguards. Without planning, these safeguards could leave you at the register with your card being declined. Card companies have grown to know your pattern of spending and what areas you mostly shop in. If you typically make card purchases in South Carolina and there are suddenly charges in Iowa, Texas or North Dakota it could alert the card company that there has been unusual activity on your account. Unusual activity could mean your account has been com-

promised.

As a security measure, card companies may block transactions flagged as “unusual” to prevent fraud. This is a feature that can save both you and the card company a lot of headaches down the road. This feature could also leave you embarrassed and without a way to pay any incurred charges.

To avoid this, contact your card issuer ahead of time. Inform them that you will be traveling and the area where you plan to travel. This would also be a good time to find out if fraudulent charges will be covered in full if your card is lost or stolen. Find out if your card company can deliver a replacement card quickly, especially if you’re traveling abroad.

Keeping your cards and cash in separate places is also a good idea. That way, if a thief gains access to your belongings, there is a better chance that he or she would not find all of your funds. Unfortunately, you can’t plan for every situation. Having some sort of back-up plan in place will put you at ease and make your trip more enjoyable.

## Post closes out 2016 with TARP training

From staff reports

The Fort Jackson Counterintelligence Field Office will be conducting annual Threat Awareness Reporting Program training Nov. 15 at the Post Theater for all Soldiers, Department of the Army Civilians in the Fort Jackson area. TARP training is designed to ensure that DA employees recognize and report incidents and indicators of attempted or actual espionage, subversion, sabotage, terrorism or extremist activities directed against the Army and its personnel, facilities, resources, and activities; indicators of potential terrorist associated insider threats; illegal diversion of military technology; unauthorized intrusions into automated information systems; unauthorized disclosure of classified information; and indicators of other incidents that may indicate foreign intelligence or international terrorism targeting of the Army.

The online TARP training module is designed for individuals deploying without CI support, while individuals who attend scheduled live training will fulfill the proper intent of Army Regulation 381-12. Monthly make-up training will be available for Soldiers and civilians whose annual

training expires after Jan. 30, 2017.

Upcoming dates for training are:

- Nov. 15
- Jan. 10, 12, 19, 24, 26
- March 21
- May 16
- July 18
- Sept. 19
- Nov. 21

All classes are held in two sessions (10 – 11 a.m., and 2 – 3 p.m.) at the Post Theater.

Espionage cases and acts of international terrorism that have targeted Army personnel. Overlooked indicators of potential threats to the Army, had they been reported, might have minimized damage to national security or saved the lives of DA personnel.

The knowledge, awareness, and participation of all DA employees in threat awareness and reporting is essential to the success of the Army's warfighting mission and in protecting the lives of Soldiers.

For more information, or should your unit need to schedule additional training, contact Janice Williams at (803) 751-7852 or via email at [janice.p.williams6.civ@mail.mil](mailto:janice.p.williams6.civ@mail.mil), or Ryan Tijerina at (803) 751-3802 via email at [ryan.j.tijerina@mail.mil](mailto:ryan.j.tijerina@mail.mil).

## Saluting this BCT cycle's honorees

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



**Staff Sgt.  
Sean Emblar**  
Echo Company  
2nd Battalion,  
13th Infantry Regiment

**HONOR GRADUATE  
OF THE CYCLE**  
Pfc. Nolan Muganda

**SOLDIER LEADER  
OF THE CYCLE**  
Spc. Christian Dunham

**HIGH BRM**  
Pvt. Jacob Mullins

**HIGH APFT**  
Spc. Anthony Jeong



**Staff Sgt.  
Christopher Sanchez**  
Foxtrot Company  
2nd Battalion,  
13th Infantry Regiment

**HONOR GRADUATE  
OF THE CYCLE**  
Pvt. Brandon Garza

**SOLDIER LEADER  
OF THE CYCLE**  
Pfc. Logan Torres

**HIGH BRM**  
Pvt. Edward Gravley

**HIGH APFT**  
Pvt. Zachary Galley



**Sgt. 1st  
Class Kendrick Owyhee**  
Bravo Company  
3rd Battalion,  
13th Infantry Regiment

**HONOR GRADUATE  
OF THE CYCLE**  
Pfc. Jacob Peters

**HIGH BRM**  
Pvt. Taylor Baird

**HIGH APFT**  
Pvt. Rivera Romero

## Training

Continued from Page 3

Hall said he realized in that moment that in order for them to live up to their new name, chaplain assistants needed much more education.

On Oct. 20, Hall found himself accompanying the three most influential sergeants major in the chaplain corps to a meeting with academicians at the University of South Carolina to discuss, “the idea of basic religious education built into a course that could be taught to all chaplain assistants.” Chaplin, Hall and Chaplain School Command Sergeant Major Timothy Lowe and the Proponent Sergeant Major, Sgt. Maj. Elbert Jackson met University of South Carolina faculty members to develop the Religious Affairs Course for all chaplain assistants.

They met Dr. Susan Elkins, chancellor, University of South Carolina, Palmetto College; Dr. Elliot Vittes, executive vice chancellor; Dr. Chris Nesmith, dean; Dr. James Cutsinger, religious department chair; and Connie Vise, Fort Jackson USC-PC liaison (at the Education Center) to discuss the scope of the course and specify details for the course requirements.

“For years the Chaplain Assistant,

“  
We want all the  
enlisted members of  
the corps to know  
religions, and that’s  
what we’re after here.

— Alvin Chaplin  
Regimental Sergeant Major

soon to be the Religious Affairs Specialist, acquired the training and experience only. Pending the approval of this college-accredited religious affairs course, the chaplain corps’ enlisted members will obtain the essential education specifically designed for our MOS,” said Chaplin.

At the university he said, “We want all the enlisted members of the corps to know religions, and that’s what we’re after here. We need them to know all religions – as much as they can do a deep dive of what you offer

here. And the other has to be self-studied if they want to narrow down into some other specific religions. Whatever course we give has to be that world view of religions.”

Echoing the “deep dive” sentiment, Hall re-emphasized the importance of specific religious education.

“With formal education, chaplain assistants can know why they’re doing what they do and offer more help to the team. On top of that, it adds to their personal education, which is value added to any organization and individual,” Hall said. “Most importantly, I think this will provide commanders with an additional staff-advisor on the Unit Ministry Team to help make tough decisions, easier.”

Jackson said this change is part of the Army’s continuing push to ensure Soldier readiness in all environments.

“Education is the cornerstone of readiness,” Jackson said. “Here we have an opportunity to partner with an excellent institution to ensure comprehensive training for our NCOs that will deepen their understanding of their core mission — providing religious support to all Soldiers.”

The program should begin pilot online courses in the spring or summer of next year, with full implementation of the online courses scheduled for Oct. 1, 2017, to coincide with the MOS name change. Resident courses should begin about a year later, Hall said.



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