THE APPLIANCE OF SCIENCE
PINCKNEY ‘STEMS’ THE TIDE OF UNHEALTHY HABITS – P7

JOSEPH AL-SHAER TRADES ARMY GREENS FOR POLICE BLUES P3
PROSTHETICS KEEP AMPUTEE SOLDIERS ON ACTIVE DUTY P9
TODAY
Bone Marrow Donor Registration Drive
9 a.m.-5 p.m., 3rd Battalion, 13th Infantry Regiment classroom, Bldg. 4420, Jackson Blvd. To join the national registry of bone marrow and stem cell donors, complete a consent form and check swab. It takes about seven minutes to register. Active duty U.S. military, member of the Reserves, National Guard, Coast Guard, an ID-card-holding family member, or DOD civilian employee. You must be between the ages of 18 and 60 and be in general good health. For more information, contact Eric Cain, 803-751-5344 or eric.s.cain@mail.mil.

Victory Spouses’ Club
11 a.m., NCO Club. Lunch will be served. Club is open to spouses of all ranks, retirees, DOD civilians, and all services, male and female. For more information e-mail vcsmemberships@gmail.com or visit victoryspousesclub.org.

FEB. 21
Job Searching Strategies for Military Spouses
8:30-noon Strom Thurmond Bldg., Room 222. Military spouse job searching skills, resume writing and interviewing will be discussed. The event is targeted to military spouses, but open to all military and DOD ID Card holders. To register call 803-751-9460/5452 or sherry.r.major.civ@mail.mil.

FEB. 22
Career Fair Prep Workshop
9 a.m.-noon, Strom Thurmond Bldg., Room 222. This workshop will help you learn to do create a resume to showcase your employment skills & how to make the career fair work for you by developing a strategy plan. To register please call 803-751-9460/5452 or email Barbara.l.martin10.civ@mail.mil.

FEB. 25
Teen Summer Employment Preparation Workshop
9 a.m.-noon, Family Readiness Center/American Red Cross, Bldg. 4512 Stuart Ave. Fort Jackson Nonappropriated Fund Human Resources Office has started advertising Teen Summer Hire jobs announcements! Teens need to be applying now to secure a job for the summer. Join us to learn how to create a resume, search on-line for Fort Jackson summer teen jobs at www.usajobs.gov and interviewing skills. Open to military and DOD Civilian Teens, ages 14-21. RSVP is required at least 2 days before the workshop date. To register please call 803-751-9460/5452 or email Barbara.l.martin10.civ@mail.mil

MARCH 14
Military Community Career Fair

MARCH 16
Performance and Resilience Training for Spouses
9 a.m.-noon, U.S. Army Master Resilience School, Building 3216 Magruder Avenue. Attention Control: Heighten sensory awareness to what is most relevant and keep it there to avoid distraction. Understand how to direct attention and build awareness of personal attentional tendencies. Identify personal indicators of distractors that compromise focus. Develop routines to set and reset the ideal state for focused skill execution. Call 751-9720 to register. Classes are free, but registration is highly recommended at least two days prior to class in order for us to properly plan.

MAY 7-11
Reunion
The Army Officer Candidate School Alumni Association 2017 Reunion is scheduled May 7-11, 2017, in Columbus, Georgia. The association represents all Army officers commissioned through any Officer Candidate School, regardless of previous locations or branch affiliation. There will be demonstrations and briefings highlighting developments related to the OCS program. The itinerary includes the OCS Hall of Fame Induction Ceremony, OCS Alumni Banquet at the National Infantry Museum, Little White House Tour, Reunion Dinner and OCS Memorial dedication. The reunion will be conducted at the Columbus Marriott Hotel, 800 Front Avenue, Columbus Ga. 31901, 1-706-324-1800. Reservations for the “OCS Alumni Reunion” are being accepted at a special rate prior to 15 April 2017. For more information, contact Nancy Ionoff, (813) 917-4309 or https://www.oscalumni.org/events/cart.php?id=1
Officer Joseph Al-Shaer hails from Wichita, Kansas, but has spent much of his adult life on the road. He joined the Kansas Army National Guard when he was 17 years old, spending six years as an infantryman before moving on to finish his college education.

“I was looking for careers in law enforcement or security management,” said Al-Shaer, Fort Jackson’s 2016 Law Enforcement Officer of the Year. “The opportunity presented itself and I took it.”

His law enforcement career began at Fort Riley, in his home state of Kansas. In a way, he said, it felt like both a homecoming and a new experience. After graduating from Basic Combat Training and Advanced Individual Training, it gave him a new perspective on the world.

“Army life is a completely different world than the civilian side,” he said. “I remember feeling out of place when I came back from (BCT) and AIT. I felt different ... everything seemed different.”

He said he felt a similar dissonance when he returned to the Army in the uniform of a police officer. This time, though, experience was on his side.

“I was familiar with the Army,” Al-Shaer said. “But taking on a different role in the military as a civilian was a little bit challenging. Dealing with a Soldier as a Soldier is different than dealing with a Soldier as a civilian.”

In between, he stopped at Fort Leonard Wood, Missouri, where he graduated from the Army Civilian Police Academy. Not surprising, he said, it was “a lot like military training.”

“It’s not as rigorous as military training, but it is demanding,” he said. The end result is producing law enforcement officers whose “ethics have to be beyond reproach.”

He spent three years at Fort Leonard Wood, before taking a promotion that lead him to Fort Greely, Alaska. It was a different world with different demands. Most of the time, he said, police dealt with alcohol-related incidents and mischief created by local wildlife. These incidents – and the people involved – were spread out over great distances.

See COP: Page 16

Originally from Kansas, Officer Joseph Al-Shaer spent six years in the Kansas National Guard before beginning his career in civil service as a police officer. He’s been with Fort Jackson for three years.
Career fair to connect military spouses to area employers

By BARBARA MARTIN
ACS Employment Readiness Program Manager

Fort Jackson Army Community Service Employment Readiness Program is committed to helping military spouses in achieving their career goals by connecting them with more than 50 employers at the Fort Jackson Community Career Fair 9 a.m.-noon, March 14 at the NCO Club.

Today’s military spouses are skilled, motivated, have sound work values and strong work ethics – highly valued by America’s top employers. The ERP’s goal is to bridge the gap between talented military spouses and the business community which is looking for a readily available, diverse and talented pool of candidates.

One of the biggest concerns about job seekers have is that they submit hundreds of on-line resumes, but never receive an email confirmation, much less get called in for an interview.

Career fairs provide individuals face-to-face networking opportunities, giving a job seeker the “biggest bang for their buck”, by being able to meet a large number of employers in a short amount of time and all under one roof.

Joanne B., military spouse, attended a Fort Jackson Career Fair and said that “the employers were so understanding of the military lifestyle and why my resume had several employment gaps. They focused on the skills that I had to offer, not when I was unemployed due to frequent moves. They made me feel like a true professional.”

The ACS Employment Readiness Program understands the need for spouses and how employment not only impacts them as an individual, but how it contributes to the overall readiness of the military family.

Spouses tell us every day that they need to be able to have their own identity, apart from being a spouse and the military lifestyle. They need professional confidence to build their positive self-esteem and to be able to contribute to the family income. Therefore, being employed is very important to them.

Spouses’ happiness and personal fulfillment plays a vital role in our military retention. If the spouse is not able to achieve a successful career path when faced with all the military lifestyle challenges, service members are more apt to get out of the military so their spouse can accomplish their professional goals.

“Career Fairs are a great opportunity to see what companies are in the area, especially as a newly arrived spouse to Fort Jackson like myself”, said Hazel W. “We had just PCSed from overseas and this was a perfect way to transition back to US workforce.”

She also stated that one recruiter still contacts her regularly when there are employment opportunities that meet her skill set.

For more information on how the Army Community Service Employment Readiness Program can help you meet your employment and education goals please call 803-751-9460/5452. The Fort Jackson Military Community Career Fair is open to all military ID card holders, veterans, Family members, surviving spouses and DOD civilian employees. List of participating employers participating in this event can be view at the ACS ERP website at: https://jackson.armymwr.com/us/jackson/programs/employment-readiness-program.
Speakers discuss integration history

By ROBERT TIMMONS  
Fort Jackson Leader

Throughout Fort Jackson’s 100-year history there has been a series of events that have transformed the post into the premier training installation in the Army. Included in these is the desegregation of basic training and the integration of female Soldiers into basic training platoons.

At Fort Jackson’s penultimate lecture in its centennial series Feb. 10, attendees learned how the post “mixed it up” from author and scholar Dr. Andrew Myers, and the installation’s first female drill sergeant of the year, Dr. Galen Grant.

Since 1917, African-Americans and women have served in various capacities on Fort Jackson but it wasn’t until after President Harry Truman ended military racial segregation with Executive Order No. 9981 that all races trained and served together.

Myers, author of the book “Black, White and Olive Drab,” said integrated training didn’t start immediately. It was the massive influx of trainees to Fort Jackson during the Korean War that forced the integration to step up.

He wrote in his book about the racial integration of Fort Jackson that “the inability to provide basic training for these nearly 10,000 black Soldiers was the crucial factor in deciding to mix the races.”

Commanders at all levels helped propel integration in Fort Jackson.

“Leadership from the top helped make integration at Fort Jackson possible, but it would not have been successful without leadership at the lower echelons as well,” he said. The effort to integrate men and women into basic training companies began in 1976, but it wasn’t until 1994 that the total integration of Army training was made permanent.

Grant had a front row seat to the integration of women into the Army. Her first duty station was at the U.S. Military Academy at West Point the year female cadets were first accepted. She also spent two tours as a drill sergeant at Fort Jackson.

She saw how the female cadets were treated with open hostility by faculty, peers and the public but kept soldiering on.

“Although I had other rewarding assignments, I had none that I valued or cherished as much or that I felt more challenged by” than her time as a drill sergeant, Grant said of her time on the trail. In 1983 she was named Fort Jackson’s Drill Sergeant of the Year.

Grant credited some of her success to her mentor, “a man who believed women should serve.”

“He taught me how to be an effective leader, a great leader, without having to be punitive, aggressive or obnoxious,” she said. “He told me, ‘Soldiers would only be as good as you were. And we owe them being great.’”

The final lecture in the series titled, “Looking to the future” will be held at 3 p.m. June 1 at Fort Jackson’s NCO Club.
C.C. Pinckney Elementary School students learn how physical activity can reinforce their learning of health in ways older generations could only dream of.

“I remember when I was growing up I formed some really bad eating habits because I believed in the American way of ‘as long as I’m exercising enough I won’t get fat and I can eat anything I want,’” said Darren Seamster, a physical education teacher. “That type of mentality has been formed in a lot of people. If you want to be the best performer you want to be, you have to put the proper fuel in your body.”

C.C. Pinckney Elementary School’s STEM in the Gym event held Feb. 9 brought together students and volunteers from around post to help educate the children on how to be healthier.

“You pretty much use science, technology, engineering and math in everyday life,” said Dan Ferreira, physical therapist with C.C. Pinckney Elementary, about the STEM in the Gym event.

Students attending the STEM at the Gym were able to test themselves through physical activities while also learning from a myriad of experts including how to properly brush their teeth from active-duty Army dentists.

Chief Warrant Officer 3 Daniel Bleifeld, a parent of a C.C. Pinckney student, said, “I think it’s a great event for the kids to see what’s out there. You know you’ve got various physical activities they can do and it equates to everyday life. They are having fun while learning. That is the biggest positive of this event.”

When Ferreira was growing up he learned about being healthy in school but not the way Pinckney students are being taught.

See STEM: Page 17
Fort Jackson’s African American History Month celebration

The post’s annual African American/Black History Month Observance takes place 11:30 a.m., Feb. 24, at the Fort Jackson NCO Club. The guest speaker for the event is David Swinton, president of Benedict College. Tickets are available for purchase for $10.50. Please contact an EO Advisor, the EEO office, or Unit EO Leader for tickets.

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

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

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

1861-1865: CIVIL WAR

When Union troops invaded Confederate states, thousands of black slaves flocked to Union camps for a chance to fight — and a chance for freedom. Many of these men were unofficially allowed to enlist in the Union Army.

After President Abraham Lincoln’s Emancipation Proclamation, Jan. 1, 1863, black Soldiers were officially allowed to participate in the war.

Black Soldiers distinguished themselves in battle on numerous occasions. On Feb. 1, 1863, Col. T. W. Higginson, commander of the 1st Regiment South Carolina Volunteers (Union), gave this report after the St. Mary’s River expedition in Georgia and Florida: “No officer in this regiment now doubts that the key to the successful prosecution of this war lies in the unlimited employment of black troops ... It would have been madness to attempt (the battle), with the bravest white troops, what I have successfully accomplished with the black ones.”

Approximately 186,000 black Soldiers — including 94,000 former slaves from Southern states — ultimately served in the Union Army and 38,000 were killed in action. The Confederate Army recruited a handful of black Soldiers in March 1865, but they were still being organized when the war ended, and they never saw action.

1863: 54TH MASSACHUSETTS INFANTRY

In early 1863, the 54th Massachusetts Infantry, an all-black regiment of the Union Army, was activated. More than 1,000 blacks — about 25 percent of whom were former slaves — from 24 states and several countries enlisted in the regiment.

Frederick Douglass, best known as a black orator and abolitionist, was also instrumental in the Union victory of the Civil War. He urged Lincoln to free slaves and to arm all blacks willing to fight. Douglass, a former slave, recruited his own two sons to serve in the Union Army.

Douglass also helped to establish the all-black 54th Massachusetts Regiment of the Union Army.

On Aug. 13, 1863, Douglass was directed by the secretary of war to travel from his hometown of Rochester, New York, to Vicksburg, Mississippi, “to assist in recruiting colored troops.”

The 54th proved their bravery during the storming of Fort Wagner on James Island, South Carolina, July 18, 1863. The 54th led several white regiments in the assault, through darkness and across a marsh with water 4-feet deep.

During the battle, Sgt. William H. Carney, a former slave, became the first of many black Soldiers who later earned the Medal of Honor. After the regimental commander, Col. Robert Gould Shaw, was killed, Carney climbed the fort’s parapet and retrieved the Union flag from the slain color bearer.

Despite being wounded in the chest, arm and legs, he planted the flag atop the fort, which greatly inspired his fellow Soldiers.

More than a third of the regiment were killed or wounded during the fighting. The battle was immortalized in the 1989 film, “Glory.”
‘I’m not disabled’

Prosthetics keep amputee Soldiers on active duty

By DEMETRIA MOSLEY
Fort Jackson Leader

It’s day zero and the heat at Fort Jackson in July is sweltering.

A group of new initial entry recruits stand at attention, forming a sea of green in their newly issued OCPs, as they wait with anticipation on their tender faces, for the first glance at their drill sergeant.

As Staff Sgt. Christopher Hudec makes his way over to the newest trainees ready to serve their country, the looks on their faces switches from fear of what’s to come to pure astonishment.

Just two short months ago Hudec had undergone a major surgery.

As he gallops towards the Soldiers on crutches, the place where his left leg is supposed to be is noticeably missing a piece.

When his doctor suggested removing it, there was no hesitation. The only thing Hudec fears as a Soldier is failing the mission and if his leg was going to slow him down, he didn’t need it.

Hudec meets the gazes of the young Soldiers.

“If you keep staring at it,” he yells. “I’m going to be put it on you,”

Head on collision

It’s two years later and Hudec’s left limb now has eight different parts that attach to it. There’s one for everything: swimming, climbing, running, etc.

“There’s all kind of stories about how I lost part of my leg. The drill sergeants will tell the trainees to be careful at a course because that’s how I lost it,” he laughs. “I never lie about what happen. I never pretend I lost it on duty.”

See ACTIVE: Page 16
PFC. DINA M. GARCIA, 21
Puerto Rico
“I joined the Army because I want a better future for me and my Family.”
“The best things about Basic Combat Training (are) shooting and throwing grenades — they were exciting.”
“My MOS is 92Y – Unit Supply Specialist, and I picked it because it is the best place to learn and dominate the language.”
“My Family did not agree (with my enlistment), but they always gave me support in my decision.”

PVT. MICHAEL Z. TAYLOR, 21
Weedsport, New York
“I joined the Army to gain discipline and respect that Soldiers have instilled in them.”
“I think Basic Combat Training has been good because I have met a lot of people from all over the country that have become great friends and battle buddies.”
“I picked 12T (Technical Engineer) because it uses some of the skills that I have learned before I joined the Army.”
“My Family was very supportive but also hesitant at the same time. They stand behind me 100 percent.”

PVT. CHEYENNE A. DAILY, 21
Bangor, Pennsylvania
“I joined to make my Family proud and prove to myself I’m stronger than I think.”
“The whole experience has been good. I got to meet new people, and do things I never imagined.”
“I am a 27D – Paralegal Specialist. I picked it because I wanted to go into the legal field.”
“My Family fully supports my enlistment and believe it has been the best thing for me.”
“I look forward to many more experiences meeting people and becoming a better person.”

PVT. MARTINEZ SHAVER, 22
Lafayette, Alabama
“I joined the Army so I could go to college for free and to show my older brother who is also in the Army that I admire him so much.”
“Bonds that I have made with certain individuals, and learning new things have been great” about Basic Combat Training.
“My Family is proud of me. They all think I should have enlisted sooner.”

PVT. MICHAEL ANGELO TAFOYA, 26
McFarland, California
“I joined the Army to build a better life for my Family and to serve my country.”
“My MOS is 94F – Computer Detection Systems Repairer. I chose this MOS because I wanted a challenge along with wanting to start my own information technology business.”
“My Family is proud of me. I am the first person in my Family to enlist and serve this amazing nation. I want to say that the name ‘Relaxing Jackson’ is a lie! Speaking personally, there was no relaxing in Charlie Company, 1-34.”

PVT. CHEYENNE A. DAILY, 21
Bangor, Pennsylvania
“I joined the Army to gain discipline and respect that Soldiers have instilled in them.”
“I think Basic Combat Training has been good because I have met a lot of people from all over the country that have become great friends and battle buddies.”
“I picked 12T (Technical Engineer) because it uses some of the skills that I have learned before I joined the Army.”
“My Family was very supportive but also hesitant at the same time. They stand behind me 100 percent.”

SPC. DEMPSEY DEE MAXEY, 34
Sutherlin, Oregon
“I joined the Army because I wanted to do something noble, earn respect, and be challenged.”
“Learning how to socialize with others and working well in courses” is what I liked best about Basic Combat Training.
“I am a 14T – Patriot Launching Station Advanced Operator/Maintainer. I picked the MOS simply because of the bonus.”
“My Family is very proud of me and believes in me.”

My Family “fully supports my enlistment and believe it has been the best thing for me.”

“My Family was very supportive but also hesitant at the same time. They stand behind me 100 percent.”
Pierce Terrace Elementary School students are 100 days smarter. Feb. 14 was the 100th day of school and students celebrated in a variety of ways, all involving the number 100. Students made posters, decorated T-shirts, stacked 100 cups and counted to 100 to name a few.

Courtesy photo
National Guard’s best warriors compete for 2017 title

By 2ND LT. TRACCI DORGAN
South Carolina National Guard

South Carolina National Guard units from across the state sent their best Soldiers and Airmen to compete in the annual Best Warrior Competition at McCrady Training Center, Jan. 28-Feb. 1, 2017.

“I’m very proud of you warriors, so let’s get to the point,” said Command Sgt. Maj. Russell Vickery, State Command Sergeant Major for the SCNG, before announcing the winners.

Sgt. Jacob Platts and Spc. Jackson Pride are the 2017 Best Warriors for South Carolina National Guard.

Junior enlisted and non-commissioned officers demonstrated their tactical and technical skills developed while serving in the military. The BWC competition consisted of numerous events that tested the competitors’ knowledge and endurance. Competitors went through urban warfare situations, board interviews, physical fitness tests, written exams and warrior tasks and battle drills relevant to today’s operational environment.

“It’s been a great, long weekend,” said Maj. Gen. Robert E. Livingston Jr., Adjutant General for South Carolina. “Tremendous work. CSM, you have taken this event to the next level.”

To make the competition even more challenging, this year’s competitors were tested to earn the German Armed Forces Badge for Military Proficiency, consisting of a variety of events including a 1000-meter run, a 100-meter swim in uniform, a pistol qualification, and a ruck march. For an added challenge, also included for the first time this year was the Battle Challenge, which is a mobile obstacle course requiring participants to perform nine tasks under pressure of time.

Every event earned the competitor points and the winners would be named at the awards ceremony at the end. Event coordinators were keeping the tallies out of sight from the competitors so no one knew who was in the lead.

Livingston added, “What does it mean to our overall mission? When we look at what we swore to do, to protect against all enemies foreign and domestic, these Soldiers and Airmen performed tasks that displayed that they are physically and mentally ready. Based on seeing these activities from this competition, inviting our state and international first responders to take part in the Battle Challenge, we have worked alongside each other through tough demands.”

Platts is an infantry team leader in the 4th Battalion, 118th Combat Arms Battalion, 218th Infantry Brigade.

“It was a long four and a half days,” said Platts. “The warriors were great and I was honored to compete with the best in the state. Everyone got along and supported each other.”

Pride is a gunner in the 1th Battalion, 118th Combat Arms Battalion, 218th Infantry Brigade.

“I was honored to receive the award,” said Pride. “It was hard and all the competitors were outstanding. I want to thank everyone who helped me prepare.”

The winning Soldier and NCO will move on to compete in the regional Best Warrior Competition representing the SCNG.


“Our services members have a joint interagency, international operation,” said Livingston. “We can take care of the people of South Carolina and the nation. Great job everyone.”

South Carolina Army National Guard Spc. Thurman Trapp, a firefighter with the 59th Troop Command, shoots a M9 Beretta during the 2017 Best Warrior Competition at McCrady Training Center in Eastover, S.C. The five-day event consisted of a road march, physical fitness test, and weapons qualification events, among others.

Photo by STAFF SGT. LOGAN CARLSON


Photo by STAFF SGT. SEAN MARTIN

U.S. Army Maj. Gen. Robert E. Livingston, Jr., Adjutant General for South Carolina, and U.S. Army Command Sgt. Maj. Russell Vickery, State Command Sergeant Major for the South Carolina National Guard, pose with U.S. Army Sgt. Jacob Platts during the awards ceremony for the annual Best Warrior Competition at McCrady Training Center. Platts was the winner of the noncommissioned officer category of the five-day competition, consisting of a road march, physical fitness test and weapons qualification events, among others.

Photo by STAFF SGT. SEAN MARTIN
USARCENT hosts Facebook town hall

By SGT. VICTOR EVERHART JR.
USARCENT Public Affairs

U.S. Army Central hosted a live Facebook Family Town Hall for Soldiers and their families Feb. 2, at Patton Hall, Shaw Air Force Base, South Carolina.

Lt. Gen. Michael Garrett, USARCENT commanding general, and Command Sgt. Maj. Eric Dostie, USARCENT command sergeant major, hosted the event. Garrett said the real purpose of the town hall was to “allow the command access to the command team.”

Garrett opened the family town hall with comments about the uniqueness of a three-star headquarters being located on an Air Force installation and some of the challenges that come with it stating, “It’s not bad, it’s just different and holding these types of events gives us an opportunity to share those thoughts you or your family may be having or those improvements you believe will make a difference.”

Garrett finished his opening remarks with a thank you to all the Soldiers located in the main command post and the Soldiers helping accomplish the USARCENT mission.

In his closing comments Garrett told USARCENT Soldiers that being more proactive on base and attending town hall meetings with the base commander is going to be huge for incoming personnel stating, “if we make our needs and requirements heard, the Air Force will do their best to see that we are accommodated to the best of their ability, but it starts with your involvement.”

To watch the town hall visit https://www.facebook.com/usarmycentral/videos/1482215573142315/

Q: What role does USARCENT have in shaping the local community?
A: The 20th Fighter Wing is mainly responsible for the relationship with the community, but USARCENT supports the base commander and are good team members. Keeping up with the Shaw Air Force Base web page as well as social media is the best way to see opportunities to put your impact on the community.

Q: The main gym here on base is 24 hours what’s the chances we could get the annex to be 24 hours?
A: There are no plans to make the annex 24 hours because of manning at this time, but it is an issue we have heard and are looking into.

Q: The 441 gate closures are confusing, they’re based on holidays and school closures is there any way we can get the gate closures standardized?
A: In the near future the 441 gate should be open from 6 a.m. to 10 p.m.

Q: With the shift to the new medical facility on Shaw Air Force Base does that include any additional services, doctors, and appointments or make any new treatments available here?
A: No there will be no additional services rendered, the move is more for consolidating the surrounding clinics into one building.

Q: Are there any unintended consequences of the changes being made at the hospital at Fort Jackson with the rumored shut down?
A: With regard to the hospital being turned into a clinic yes there are some. There will no longer be any inpatient services because it will be a clinic and not a hospital. That in itself will have a great impact. A lot of the services rendered at the hospital will now be outsourced to the medical network.

Q: Considering the current DA civilian hiring freeze, do you anticipate USARCENT will receive an exception to policy and what risk do you anticipate by not receiving an exception to policy?
A: We’re realistically looking at four or five exceptions to policy but the national debt and issues our leadership have deemed important are the reason these things are being done. The mission will get accomplished with what we have but prioritizing our requirements will be huge for us going forward.

Q: What’s the likelihood of us getting a mini shoppette or a clothing and sales on our side of the base?
A: There’s a plan in place, but we’re probably about three to five years away from that but it is in the works.

Q: South Carolina is a concealed carry state. What is the policy for concealed carry on Shaw Air Force Base?
A: There is no concealed carry allowed on Shaw Air Force Base.

Q: The counselors on Shaw are great but they can’t do anything for Army personnel. Is there a plan in place to bring representation from Fort Jackson here to help Soldiers with their education questions and processes?
A: It is in the works but the hard part with this is coordinating with all the Soldiers and ensuring that the information is put out there for them to utilize it. As it stands Soldiers have to go to Fort Jackson for their education needs.
Saluting this BCT cycle’s honorees

Judging by the military’s standards, they’ll be future leaders and trainers for the Battalion. The names of the five graduates are:

**HONOR GRADUATE OF THE CYCLE**
- Pvt. Jake Beehler (Staff Sgt. Jason Robert, Alpha Company)
- Pvt. Jacob Casella (Staff Sgt. Steven McCoy, Bravo Company)
- Pvt. Cheyenne Dailey (Staff Sgt. Kade Poore, Charlie Company)
- Pvt. Dajour Jamison (Staff Sgt. William Thompson, Delta Company)
- Pvt. Nikeese Williams (Staff Sgt. Kade Poore, Charlie Company)

**SOLDIER LEADER OF THE CYCLE**
- Pvt. Timothy Judge (Staff Sgt. Steven McCoy, Bravo Company)
- Pvt. Ian Salyers (Staff Sgt. Kade Poore, Charlie Company)
- Pvt. Kenneth Rutledge (Staff Sgt. William Thompson, Delta Company)
- Pvt. Blake Pollack (Staff Sgt. Kade Poore, Charlie Company)
- Pvt. Luis Gutierrez (Pfc. Ryan Hill)

**HIGH BRM**
- Pvt. James Brady (Pvt. Madison South)
- Pvt. Robert Perkins (Pvt. Madison South)
- Pvt. Dajour Jamison (Pvt. Madison South)
- Pvt. Blake Pollack (Pvt. Madison South)
- Pvt. Luis Gutierrez (Pvt. Madison South)

**HIGH APFT**
- Pfc. Ryan Hill (Pvt. Madison South)
- Pfc. Ryan Hill (Pvt. Madison South)
- Pfc. Ryan Hill (Pvt. Madison South)
- Pfc. Ryan Hill (Pvt. Madison South)
- Pfc. Ryan Hill (Pvt. Madison South)
**Score free outdoor deals Fridays at the Exchange**

**From staff reports**

There are several weeks left until spring, but that doesn’t mean military families have to wait to start making their yards an outdoor paradise.

Every Friday in 2017, the Army & Air Force Exchange Service will award one lucky winner an outdoor living gift package valued as high as $1,499.99 at facebook.com/shopmyexchange. To enter, authorized shoppers simply like and share each Free Friday post and comment with their name and local Exchange.

Prize packages include a 20-volt MAX Lithium 22-inch cordless hedge trimmer with battery valued at more than $200 (March 3); a four-burner grill with tool set, grill topper set and 2-in-1 brush valued at more than $245 (March 10); and a tractor valued at more than $1,499 (March 17).

“Nothing feels better after a tough workweek than having a few pals over and firing up the grill,” said Fort Jackson Exchange General Manager Thomas Kuttanmperoor. “Make sure to follow facebook.com/shopmyexchange so you never miss out on Free Friday—who knows, it could be you whose outdoor dreams come true.”

Entries made by 11:59 p.m. Central time on the day of the posting will be entered into the drawing. Drawings are held on the Monday after each Free Friday giveaway.

**Briefs**

**AER scholarship offers support for spouses**

The application period for the Army Emergency Relief scholarship will be open until May 1.

The Spouse Education Assistance Program provides educational scholarships to dependent spouses while the Maj. Gen. James Ursano Scholarship is for dependent children. AER awards needs-based scholarships for varying amounts.

Applications and all supporting documentation must be received by HQS, AER by the deadline. For more information or to apply, go to www.aerhq.org.

**Immigration physical exams available on post**

The Department of Preventive Medicine will provide a physical exam, tuberculosis screening, laboratory tests, and required immunizations for TRICARE-eligible beneficiaries needing to complete an immigration exam for U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services.

Call to schedule an appointment, call 803-751-5251, or stop by the tenth floor of the Hospital Preventive Medicine. Remember to bring your immunization records, government issued identification such as a passport or driver’s license to the appointment.

**Active**

Continued from Page 9

In November of 2012, a car pulled out unexpectedly in front of Hudec’s motorcycle. He was unable to avoid the accident.

“I heard a snap in my leg and I knew something was wrong,” he said. “I kept trying to get up and I can hear someone say ‘Wait! He’s moving! How is he alive?’”

The same thing happened to Sgt. 1st Class Kenneth Keith.

“I was on my motorcycle and a truck came at me in a head on collision,” he said. “I have the same exact amputation as Hudec, just on the other side.”

Despite their amputations, Hudec and Keith still live an active lifestyle. Hudec participated in the Spartan Trifecta and Keith in the Army 10-miler.

“It’s a disability, but I’m not disabled.” said Keith. “My goal is to do whatever I can do to stay active duty.”

There are about two million people living with limb loss in the U.S., according to the Amputee Coalition of America.

“Hudec still out PT’s most Soldiers,” said Katie Stauffer, the Athletic trainer for 3rd Battalion, 60th Infantry Regiment.

Watching Hudec sprint past him during a PT test motivated Staff Sgt. Darwin Zapata to push himself further.

“If he can do it with one leg then why can’t I do it with two,” Zapata said. “I definitely pushed myself harder seeing him out there. He’s a big motivation.”

Hudec, who says he still kicks his left leg out when he’s riding his motorcycle, said he’s never let his disability stop him. He likes the fact that he’s someone who motivates others to push harder.

“Hudec’s a walking billboard of the warrior ethos,” said Capt. Richard Bradenley II the commander of Bravo Company, 3rd Battalion, 60th Infantry Regiment.

“Nothing feels better after a tough workweek than having a few pals over and firing up the grill,” said Fort Jackson Exchange General Manager Thomas Kuttanmperoor. “Make sure to follow facebook.com/shopmyexchange so you never miss out on Free Friday—who knows, it could be you whose outdoor dreams come true.”

Entries made by 11:59 p.m. Central time on the day of the posting will be entered into the drawing. Drawings are held on the Monday after each Free Friday giveaway.

**Cop**

Continued from Page 3

When his wife took a permanent change of station to Fort Jackson, he took a job with the post’s Directorate of Emergency Services as a traffic collision investigator.

While Columbus isn’t usually thought of as a sprawling metropolis, Al-Shaer said it was a huge culture shock coming from Alaska.

“Here, the streets are crowded, the highways are busy ... I wasn’t used to being around that many people,” he said.

That was three years ago and, since then, he’s been busy. Military communities offer their own strengths, challenges and opportunities, which can make for a very different experience than civilian law enforcement.

“Our military community is a little more disciplined (than a civilian community) and that helps us out quite a bit,” he said. “In addition to state laws, we’re also responsible for enforcing UCMJ and federal criminal laws. It requires a little more knowledge about the specific laws we enforce. It’s a different type of community.”

Among those varied experiences: He took part in escort duties for a delegation of Iraqi police officers who visited the post. Al-Shaer said it was also exciting to meet then Secretary of the Army Eric Fanning during his recent visit. He was also working the night of the flood that transformed Semmes Lake into the grassy barren it is today.

“I’ve always had a desire to help people, and this is just another career where I’d be in a position to help people.”

— **Joseph Al-Shaer**

Fort Jackson police officer

“We always have a desire to help people, and this is just another career where I’d be in a position to help people.”

— **Al-Shaer**

I think that’s the biggest reason I love service jobs and working with the public.”
“It wouldn’t have been called STEM,” he said. “That’s a fairly new term. I think it would have been easier to understand wellness better when I was child if we didn’t demarcate fitness as “either physical activity or wellness or education. There shouldn’t be that demarcation – that’s a false reality.”

Pinckney students are taught the basics of STEM in their everyday classes while various events are held throughout the school year that reinforces how physical activity is translated into a healthier lifestyle.

“This is kind of one way of showing what they learned in their classes,” Ferreira said. “Everything they are exposed to today they have been exposed to – this is just reinforcing it. What you see as you go around there is not any element of health or wellness that doesn’t involve some sort of science or technology.”

Seamster agreed STEM is an important aspect in a student’s growth especially in the fitness realm.

“It’s extremely vital” to teach STEM to our students, he said. Children “benefit because we are first of all tying principles of STEM in to their health and fitness.”

Many of the adults at the event wished, like Seamster, wished they could have learned STEM principles while they were in school. “I grew up as an Army brat and we didn’t have anything like this,” said Bleifeld, an instructor for the Adjutant General School’s Warrant Officer Basic Course.

“The first I got to do this was when I did PT with my dad.”
1867: BUFFALO SOLDIERS

Black Soldiers fought so bravely and ferociously during a battle with Cheyenne warriors in 1867 that the Cheyenne nicknamed them “Wild Buffalo.”

Over time, the term “Buffalo Soldiers” was used for all black Soldiers who served during the Indian Wars. Buffalo Soldiers had the lowest desertion rate in the Army in spite of their poor living conditions on the frontier.

In 1868, Cathay Williams became the first black female Buffalo Soldier—she disguised herself as a male.

Henry O. Flipper, a Buffalo Soldier, became the first black Soldier to be accepted to the U.S. Military Academy at West Point, N.Y. The Soldiers built roads and telegraph lines, guarded stagecoach and mail routes, escorted supply trains and survey parties and went on scouting patrols.

Source: www.defense.gov

INFOGRAPHIC SOURCES
3 Bureau of Land Management