

THURSDAY, OCT. 11, 2012

THE FORT JACKSON LEADER

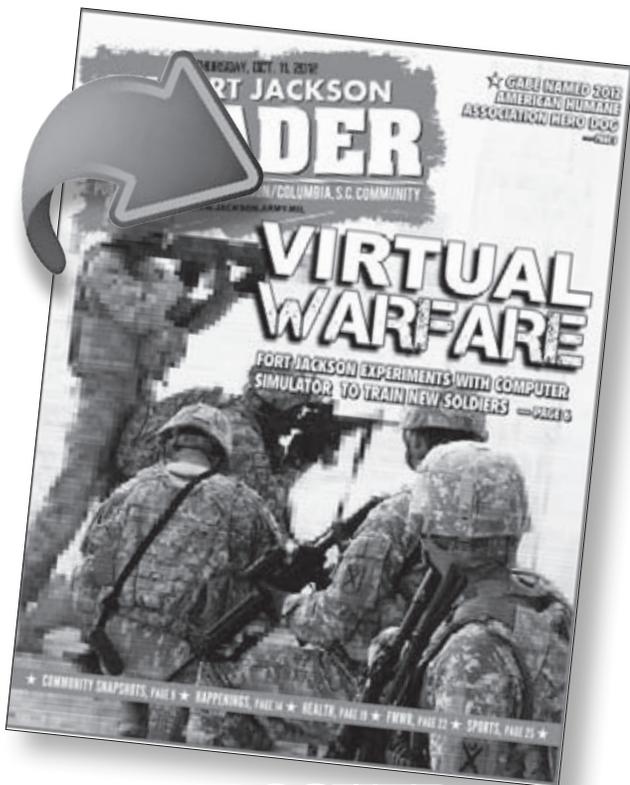
PUBLISHED FOR THE FORT JACKSON/COLUMBIA, S.C. COMMUNITY
WWW.JACKSON.ARMY.MIL

★ GABE NAMED 2012
AMERICAN HUMANE
ASSOCIATION HERO DOG
—PAGE 3

VIRTUAL WARFARE

FORT JACKSON EXPERIMENTS WITH COMPUTER
SIMULATOR TO TRAIN NEW SOLDIERS —PAGE 6

★ COMMUNITY SNAPSHOTS, PAGE 9 ★ HAPPENINGS, PAGE 14 ★ HEALTH, PAGE 19 ★ FMWR, PAGE 22 ★ SPORTS, PAGE 25 ★



ON THE COVER

Photo by SGT. 1ST CLASS RAYMOND DRUMSTA,
ARMY NATIONAL GUARD

Soldiers engage targets during a platoon live-fire exercise in northern Kuwait, July 31. A Fort Jackson battalion uses virtual training during a pilot program for Soldiers in Basic Combat Training. SEE PAGE 6.



Fort Jackson, South Carolina 29207

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Commanding General.....Brig. Gen. Bryan T. Roberts
Garrison Commander.....Col. Michael S. Graese
Public Affairs Officer.....Michael B. Pond
Command Information Officer.....Joseph Monchecourt
Editor/Staff writer.....Susanne Kappler
Staff writer.....Wallace McBride
Staff writer.....Andrew McIntyre

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COMMANDER'S CALL

Environmental stewardship an integral part of mission

Saving energy part of being responsible stewards

At Fort Jackson, we work hard at being responsible stewards. Energy conservation is a great way in which Team Jackson can practice responsible stewardship. Fort Jackson spends roughly \$13 million per year on its energy bills. That breaks down to about \$1.08 million per month, or \$35,000 per day. We must always be looking for ways to reduce our energy costs by using electricity, gas and oil wisely.

Because of the volume of energy we use, we can all do a lot of things that add up to huge savings.

Our Directorate of Public Works professionals will quickly point to the post's thermal energy storage tank as a prime example of something we use to produce significant savings.

We have a 2.26 million gallon thermal energy storage tank that is pumped with cooling water at an electric rate of 4 cents per kilowatt hour during non-peak times. During peak times, the electric rate is 7 cents per kilowatt hour. The cooling tank water is used to cool buildings during peak billing rate times, resulting in savings of about \$230,000 per year.

I know some of you are aware we are in a seasonal period of no heating/no cooling, when air conditioning to most facilities is turned off to conserve energy and allow the DPW team to conduct much needed maintenance on equipment. This measure saves us about \$10,000 per day in electricity costs.

Upgrades in buildings on post also spell savings. For example, by installing occupancy sensors for lighting in buildings, we are lighting facilities only when it's necessary.

Another example is the electric bill program for on-post residents, which was implemented to raise awareness for energy conservation. These types of programs are crucial to our success of energy conservation.

For some time now, residents have received a monthly bill that shows the average baseline amount of energy for the month. Only when residents use more than the baseline average will they receive an actual bill. If residents' usage stays under the average baseline for the month, the residents are refunded the difference. We can all benefit from the energy conservation initiative regardless of our role in the community.

A good percentage of Team Jackson supports our mission from an office.

Did you know the sleep timers on our computers help us save energy - up to about \$200,000 a year.

The money saved can be used instead for infrastructure, mission readiness and quality of life program for Soldiers, Families and civilians.

There are, of course, other areas in addition to practicing good energy conservation that help us be excellent stewards. Our environmental policy requires that we

implement programs that ensure compliance, prevent pollution, sustain natural and cultural resources and promote continual improvement. An integral part of the mission is to be a leader in environmental and natural resource stewardship.

Yet all of us can do our part in helping conserve energy. Remember that small efforts — such as turning off

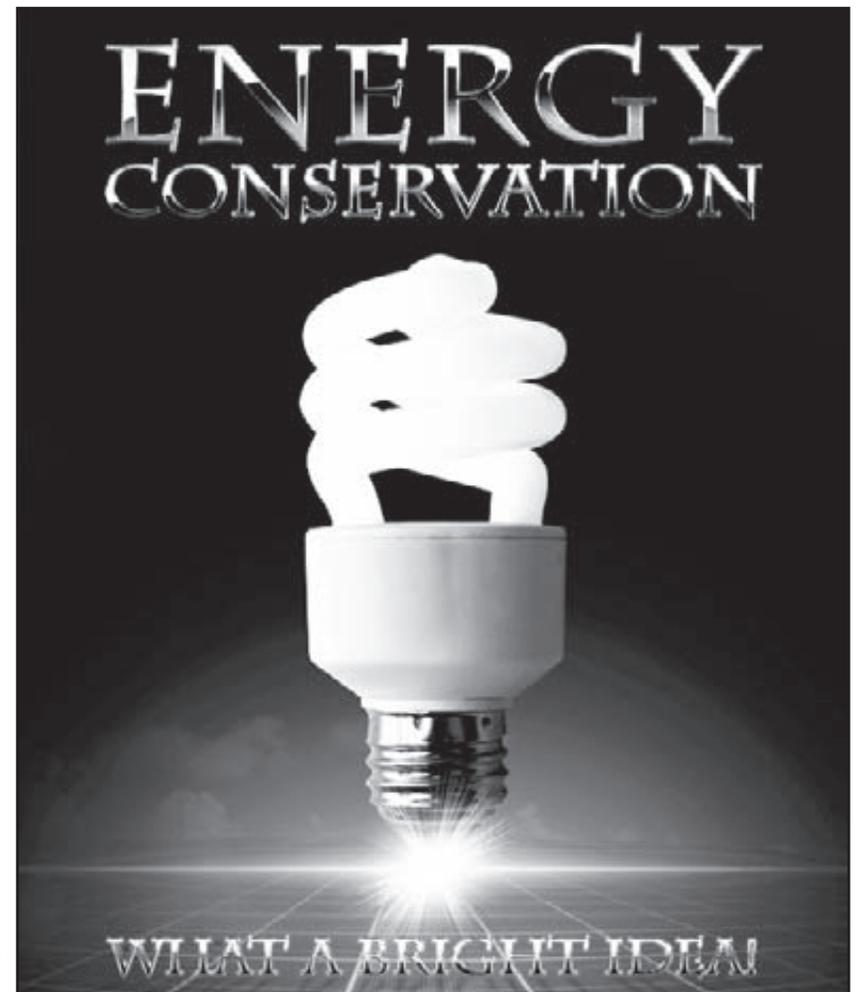
lights not in use and keeping doors and windows closed while air conditioners are running — can go a long way in helping us get rid of unnecessary costs. Eliminating unnecessary costs helps us sustain fiscal responsibility, as well, and all of us play a vital part of that effort.

Together we can make a difference. Army Strong and Victory Starts Here!

Victory 6

By BRIG. GEN. BRYAN T. ROBERTS

Fort Jackson
Commanding General



Follow Brig. Gen. Bryan T. Roberts at www.facebook.com/FortJacksonCommandingGeneral



Courtesy photos

Gabe, a retired Army dog and pet of Fort Jackson's Sgt. 1st Class Chuck Shuck, meets American Humane Association Hero Dog Awards judge Betty White following last weekend's ceremony. The event, hosted by Kristen Chenoweth, will be broadcast Nov. 8 on Hallmark Channel.

Gabe named 2012 Hero Dog

Retired military dog with ties to Fort Jackson wins American Humane Association award

By WALLACE McBRIDE
Fort Jackson Leader

Gabe, a retired military dog who completed more than 200 combat missions in Iraq, was named American Hero Dog of 2012 last weekend at the American Humane Association Hero Dog Awards in Los Angeles, Calif.

The retired military dog spent several years sniffing out insurgent bombs, guns and ammunition in Iraq with his handler, Sgt. 1st Class Chuck Shuck, a drill sergeant leader at Fort Jackson's Drill Sergeant School.

"Winning the award was an amazing feeling because I knew that many Soldiers were going to benefit from the \$15,000 we just won," Shuck said. "Looking out at the crowd, who gave Gabe a standing ovation, was also amazing. Seeing Betty White and many other celebrities honor Gabe was a moment I will never forget. Having the support of Fort Jackson and Gabe fans in all 50 states and 22 countries was the key to victory. Every vote counted and we surely appreciate it."

Gabe won \$5,000 for his charity in the previous round of competition, and another \$10,000 from last weekend's win. When the contest began earlier in the year, there

were 359 dogs competing in eight categories, including therapy dogs, law enforcement dogs, emerging hero dogs, service dogs, guide dogs, hearing dogs, military dogs and search and rescue dogs.

The pool of contestants was eventually whittled down to eight finalists, who appeared at last weekend's awards ceremony at The Beverly Hilton in Los Angeles.

Gabe's charity is the United States War Dogs Association, which provides care packages for deployed Soldiers, Marines, Airmen and their K-9 partners. These packages include ear muffs and dog booties for the paws of the dogs. They also help with the expenses of military working dog adoptions.

The winner was selected by a panel that included Whoopi Goldberg, Kristen Chenoweth and the handlers and owners of last year's eight finalists. The seven runners-up each won \$5,000 for a designated charity.

The ceremony, hosted by Chenoweth, will be broadcast Nov. 8 on Hallmark Channel.

"We will be visiting all the Fort Jackson schools in November and December with Gabe's medals and trophy so the kids can get some pictures with him," Shuck said.

Milton.W.McBride3.ctr@mail.mil



Gabe poses for photographs following last weekend's win in Los Angeles.

News and Notes

COUNTERINTELLIGENCE UNIT ON POST

The Fort Jackson Field Office of the 902nd Military Intelligence Group conducts counterintelligence and counterterrorism operations and investigations throughout South Carolina to detect, identify, neutralize and defeat foreign intelligence and terrorism threats to the Army. To report any known, suspected or perceived acts of espionage or terrorism, call (910) 263-0209 or 1-800-CALL-SPY.

NEW GATE HOURS IN EFFECT

Fort Jackson gates are now open as follows:

- ❑ Gate 2 — open around the clock.
- ❑ Gate 4 — 5 a.m. to 9 p.m., Monday through Friday; closed on weekends.
- ❑ Gate 5 — 5 a.m. to 9 p.m., Monday through Sunday.
- ❑ Gate 1 — 5 a.m. to 1:30 p.m., Monday through Friday; closed on weekends. The gate will be open to outbound traffic until 9 p.m., Monday through Friday.

The new gate hours are temporary and a result of the transition of security guards from contractors to federal employees, which was mandated by Congress.

LEGAL NOTICES

❑ Anyone with debts owed to or by the estate of Sgt. 1st Class Roderick Keith Harris must contact Capt. Tamiko M. Campbell, the summary court martial officer for the Soldier. Harris passed away Sept. 22 in Columbia. To contact Campbell, call 751-3413 or email Tamiko.M.Campbell@us.army.mil.

❑ Anyone with debts owed to or by the estate of Pvt. Levi A. Johnson must contact 1st Lt. Maurice Kenner, the summary court martial officer for the Soldier. Johnson passed away Sept. 29 on Fort Jackson. To contact Kenner, call 751-9492 or email Maurice.Kenner@us.army.mil.

Hispanic Heritage Month celebration set for Saturday

Leader Staff Report

The Fort Jackson community is invited to celebrate Hispanic Heritage Month with a party that includes music, dance, children's activities and food. "La Fiesta" is scheduled from 11:30 a.m. to 6 p.m., Saturday at Patriot Park outside of the Solomon Center.

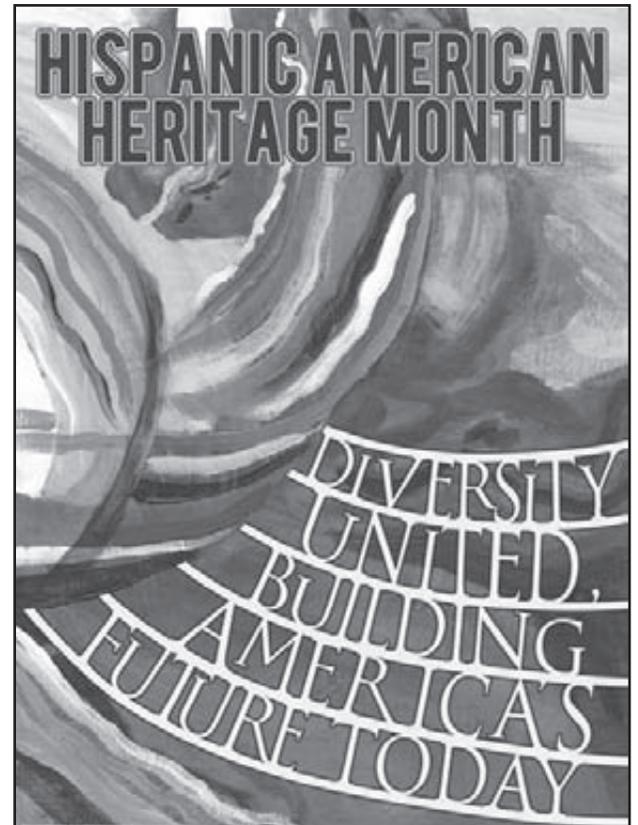


FLORES VIZCARRA

is the first Mexican consul general appointed to serve the Carolinas.

The celebration, which is hosted by the Soldier Support Institute, will continue with a number of performances, ranging from musical acts to fitness groups. Amy C. will offer a zumba fitness demonstration. Dance performers include salsa-dancing Rodrigo and Wendy Jimenez of Charlotte and a group showcasing Colombian folklore dances. Musical acts include meringue singer JCO-Barbosa, reggaeton and bachata group Tal-

The celebration will begin with an official ceremony, which is scheduled for 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. The guest speaker will be Carlos Flores Vizcarra, who serves as consul general of Mexico in Raleigh, N.C. Flores Vizcarra is a native of Mazatlan, Mexico, and has served in numerous positions with the Mexican government, including secretary of treasury and secretary of communications and transportation. He



ento Oculito and Caribe Vibe Tropical Orchestra. Also in attendance will be Miss Columbia Latina 2012 contestants.

Throughout the festival, vendors will offer Latin American food to add to the flavor of the celebration. The event is free and open to the general public.

All-Army golf plays for title

Col. Kenneth Royalty, Fort Jackson chief of staff, congratulates Capt. Joe Cave of Fort Sill, Okla. for being the leading scorer in the All-Army golf trials last week at Fort Jackson. Cave was one of nine Soldiers to make the team and represent the Army in the Armed Forces Golf Championship, which was played through Wednesday in Jacksonville, Fla.

Photo by ANDREW McINTYRE





The computer program Virtual Battlespace 2, screenshot above, is the focus of a 10-week pilot program for Soldiers in Basic Combat Training.

Blood, sweat and pixels

Fort Jackson training new Soldiers with Virtual Battlespace 2 simulator

By **WALLACE McBRIDE**
Fort Jackson Leader

A Fort Jackson battalion is piloting a new training tool that will look familiar to many new Soldiers.

Virtual Battlespace 2, or VBS2, offers battlefield simulations that allow instructors to create new scenarios and engage the simulation from multiple viewpoints. The squad-management system enables participants to issue orders to squad members.

In other words, it works like a video game.

VBS2 is descended from a game called Operation Flashpoint, which was launched about 10 years ago, said Capt. J.R. Wagner, of the 2nd Battalion, 39th Infantry Regiment.

"It was a simulation used by groups of people who could network computers together," Wagner said. "You could move as a member of a team or a squad, and VBS2 is the third iteration. Currently, we're fielding it for Basic Combat Training Soldiers. This is the first fielding I know of for any Basic Combat Training Unit."

VBS2 is essentially a video game, but one structured to teach skills new Soldiers learn in BCT. The program includes realistic, customizable settings that walk Soldiers through land navigation exercises, combat scenarios and group strategies.

"It's a great tool and I think it's going to do wonders for our training," said Maj. Damasio Davila, executive officer of the 2-39th.

Drill sergeants can set up different scenarios within the virtual training area and can function in administrative roles as Soldiers learn the fundamentals of combat.

"The idea is not to replace the drill sergeant with a computer," said Lt. Col. J.C. Glick, battalion commander. "The idea is not to replace going out and doing land navigation with a computer. The idea is that drill sergeants will be able to focus on refining their learning objectives. When new Soldiers go out to the woods, the time they spend there is more productive because they've done the homework and other requirements in a controlled environment."

See **VIRTUAL:** Page 16-17

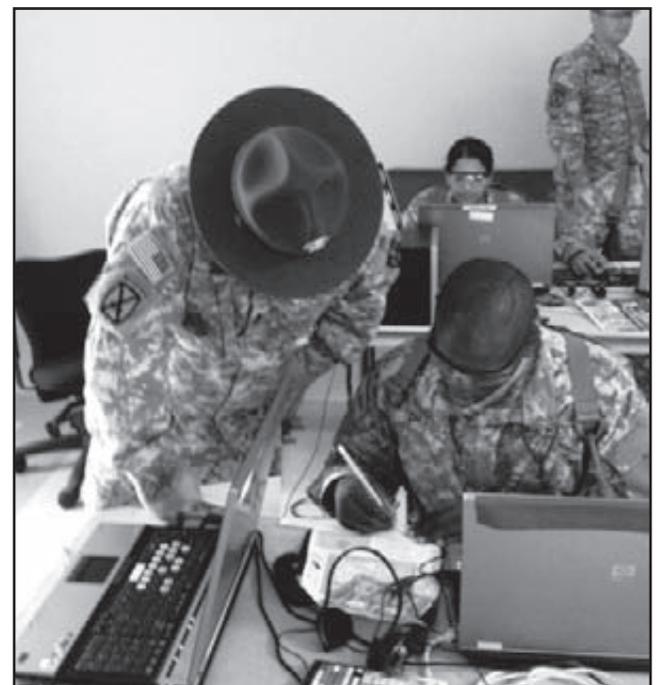


Photo by MIKE JOHNSON, USACHCS

New Soldiers in Basic Combat Training got their first taste of Virtual Battlespace 2 last week, which teaches them the fundamentals of land navigation, group tactics and combat before testing their skills in field training.

FMWRC announces art contest winners

Spouse, Soldier
among winners
in All-Army

By WALLACE McBRIDE
Fort Jackson Leader

The winners of the 2012 All-Army Arts and Crafts Contest were announced last week, with two awards given to artists representing Fort Jackson.

Staff Sgt. Karl Kirven, an instructor at the Drill Sergeant School, won first place in the Novice — Digital Art category for a piece titled “Transforming America’s Finest!” Marie Powell, a family member, won third place in the Novice — Mixed Media category for a mosaic called “Cafe Terrace at Night.”

The contest ended in July, with almost 500 entries submitted to the All-Army event. In the end, 380 of those entries made it to finals, with IMCOM Atlantic Region competitors winning 60 award certificates.

“This recognition for individual skill, development and achievement reflects on the professionalism, talent and dedication of the participants,” Richard Combs, IMCOM Atlantic Region chief of Family and Morale, Welfare and Recreation, said in a written statement. “Their success can be used as a springboard to expand and encourage continued patronage of the garrison arts and crafts programs.”

“Transforming America’s Finest!” is a digital painting that Kirven created using an iPad and an inexpensive app called Sketchbook.

“It represents how we transform civilians into Soldiers,” Kirven said, “and how drill sergeants have that impact on Soldiers.”

The painting took 10 hours to complete, he said.

“I did it on my off time, and was always working at it,” he said. “It was definitely fun. I even had a few of my battle buddies pose as models for the picture.”

“My love is based in comic art,” he said. “I’m a big Jim Lee fan, Chris Stevens and Frank Miller. I also love Mark Deitz, who does a lot of military inspired oil paintings.”

Kirven said he’s been drawing for most of his life, and doesn’t have a favorite medium.

“I’ll use anything from pencils to inks to digital,” he said.

Powell’s creation was more time consuming. “Cafe Terrace at Night” is a recreation of a Vincent van Gogh painting and took two months to complete.

“It took more than 4,000 individual pieces of hand-cut vitreous glass to make this picture,” she said. “I wasn’t sure how it was going to come out, but the colors are amazing. I did try to stay true to the van Gogh picture as much as I could. But, because it’s a mosaic, there’s only so much detail I can get in there.”

By the time the awards were announced, the item was already sold, she said.

Milton.W.McBride3.ctr@mail.mil



Staff Sgt. Karl Kirven, an instructor at the Drill Sergeant School, won first place in the Novice — Digital Art category of the 2012 All-Army Arts and Crafts Contest for a piece titled ‘Transforming America’s Finest!’ The image was created using an iPad app and took about ten hours to complete.



Photo by WALLACE McBRIDE



Courtesy photo

Left, Staff Sgt. Karl Kirven stands with his completed artwork and fellow instructors at the Drill Sergeant School. Right, Marie Powell, a family member, shows off her creation, which won third place in the Novice — Mixed Media category. The mosaic ‘Cafe Terrace at Night’ incorporated 4,000 individual pieces and took two months to complete.



Photos by VERAN HILL, Public Affairs Office

Welcome home, Daddy

Maj. Danny Banks, Third Army/ARCENT, surprises his daughter Danielle, a fifth-grader at Rice Creek Elementary School, Tuesday. Banks returned home from an eight-month deployment to Kuwait. Local media came out to witness the father-daughter reunion.





Photos by SUSANNE KAPPLER

Fire safety reigns event

The Directorate of Emergency Services launched its Fire Prevention Week activities with an open house at the fire station Saturday. Top photo, Andy Wright, a Fort Jackson firefighter, fits Nathaniel Batten, 4, with a children's fire helmet. Left photo, Nalan Miles, a civilian working for the Red Cross, learns how to operate a fire hose from firefighter Kenny Morgan. Below, paintings made by children from Fort Jackson's elementary schools are on display at the fire station. The paintings depict rules for safely exiting a house in case of a fire.



Calendar

Today

Car seat safety inspections

1 to 5 p.m., Fort Jackson Fire Station

Friday

AUSA Palmetto Chapter golf tournament

1 p.m., Fort Jackson Golf Club

For more information, email sbbutler@bellsouth.net.

Friday

Garden plots volunteers and committee members meeting

1:30 to 2:30 p.m., Moncrief Army Community Hospital, Room D-1, Building 106
For more information, call 629-5589.

Saturday

Breast cancer awareness 5K run/walk

9 a.m., Hilton Field Softball Complex
Registration is open 7:30 to 8:30 a.m. Participants are encouraged to wear pink.

Saturday

Hispanic Heritage Month celebration

11:30 a.m. to 6 p.m., Patriot Park

Friday, Oct. 26

Domestic Abuse Awareness Month event

11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m., Officers' Club
The guest speaker will be Mildred Muhammad. Tickets cost \$9.50. For more information and to register, call 751-6325.

Friday, Oct. 26

Fall festival

7 to 9 p.m., Solomon Center
No scary costumes. Transportation will be provided from the Solomon Center to the Haunted Room at the Youth Services Center. For more information, call 751-4865.

Announcements

DISPOSITION SERVICES CLOSURE

The Defense Logistics Agency Disposition Services (formerly DRMO) will be closed Nov. 5-16 for training to transition to the new Reutilization Business Integration system.

HOMESCHOOLING WORKSHOP

A free two-hour workshop on homeschooling is scheduled for 10 a.m., Oct. 23 at the Joe E. Mann Center conference room. For more information and to register, call 751-6150 and select "option 1."

COMMISSARY REWARDS CARD

The Commissary Reward Card is now available at the store. The card lets customers access digital coupons and redeem them in any commissary. To register the card, visit www.commissaries.com/rewards/index.cfm.

RECLAMATION SALE

A military clothing reclamation sale is scheduled for 8 a.m. to 3 p.m., Nov. 1 and 2, at 2570 Warehouse Row. The cash-only sale is open to military personnel of all ranks and to

military retirees. For more information, call 751-7213.

MORNING FITNESS CLASSES

Andy's Fitness Center now offers three new morning classes.

- ☐ 9 a.m., Mondays, kettlebell
- ☐ 10 a.m., Wednesdays, cardiobox
- ☐ 10 a.m., Thursdays, strength and conditioning

For more information, call 751-5768.

DHR CLOSURE

All Directorate of Human Resources offices, including the Administrative Services Division and ID card offices, will close at 10:30 a.m., Oct. 19 for organizational day activities.

For ID card emergencies, three alternate locations are available: The Soldier Family Assistance Center, 751-1198; Shaw Air Force Base, 895-1596; and the South Carolina National Guard Center, 806-2078. Normal hours will resume Oct. 22.

BLACKHAWK BALL

The 171st Infantry Brigade will host its annual Blackhawk Ball at 6 p.m., Nov. 2 at the DoubleTree hotel in Columbia. The guest speaker will be TRADOC Command Sgt. Maj. Daniel Dailey. Tickets cost \$40. To RSVP, call 751-3319 or 751-3301.

ABSENTEE BALLOT INFORMATION

Soldiers can access the federal write-in absentee ballot at <http://fvap.gov/reference/forms.html>. Unit voting assistance officers can answer questions about voting deadlines.

AAFES CONTEST

The Army and Air Force Exchange Service is looking for the most adorable child in its third annual "Cutest Kiddo Contest." Participants should upload a photo to the Exchange's Facebook page by Nov. 8. Prizes include a cruise and Exchange gift cards.

AG CORPS SEVENTIES PARTY

The Adjutant General's Corps Regimental Association, Carolina Chapter will host a 70s party from 8 p.m. to 1 a.m., Oct. 19 at the Joe E. Mann Center.

Tickets cost \$15 and must be purchased in advance. For ticket information, email denise.grantbradley@us.army.mil.

RECYCLE DAY CONTEST

Help celebrate Recycle Day Nov. 15 by submitting items made from recycled materials to the Environmental Management Branch. Prizes will be awarded to the best items submitted. For more information, call 751-5971 or email lisa.a.mcknight11.ctr@mail.mil.

MACH WEIGHT MANAGEMENT

The Pathway is a free weight management program provided by Moncrief Army Community Hospital's Nutrition Clinic. Introductory classes are offered 10 to 11 a.m. and 5:30 to 6:30 p.m., the first Wednesday of the month at MACH, Room 8-85. Support group meetings take place 6:15 to 7:15 p.m., the second and fourth Wednesday of the month at MACH, fourth floor dining facility. For more information, call 751-2489.

THRIFT SHOP NEWS

☐ Donations can be dropped off any time. To get a receipt, drop off your donations during business hours.

☐ The Thrift Shop will hold a weekly football drawing throughout football season.

☐ The Thrift Shop is accepting Halloween items through Oct. 18.

☐ The Thrift Shop is accepting Thanksgiving items through Nov. 8.

Visit the community calendar at www.jackson.army.mil for a full listing of calendar events. Send your announcements to fjleader@gmail.com.

Housing happenings

All events are held in the Community Center, 520 Brown Ave., unless otherwise specified. Call 738-8275 for information.

OFFICE CLOSURE

The housing services, furnishing and administrative offices of the Single Soldier Complex will close at 11:30 a.m., Oct. 26 for an organizational day. Normal hours will resume at 7:30 a.m., Oct. 29.

HALLOWEEN DECORATIONS

Judging for the best Halloween decorations will take place Oct. 26 after sundown. The winner will be announced Oct. 29.

PLASTIC BAG RECYCLING

Bring your plastic bags to the Community Center for recycling. Residents will be entered into a drawing for a gift card once per every 20 bags turned in.

SELF HELP

The Self Help Center offers lawn mowers for check-out. The center is located on Ivy Road and is open from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m., Monday through Friday. For more information, call 787-6416.

MINOL UTILITY BILLS

Residents are required to pay their Minol utility bills each month. If the bill becomes delinquent after 30 days, the resident's chain of command will be notified.

HSO ASSISTANCE

The Housing Services Office can help resolve disputes between landlords and tenants. For more information, call 751-5788/7566.

Off-post events

The Fort Jackson Leader accepts only off-post announcements for those organizations or events that directly relate to service members and their families.

MILITARY KIDS APPRECIATION

The Cayce Tennis and Fitness Center will host a free tennis clinic for military children 8-14 years old 5 to 6 p.m., Oct. 18 and 25.

For more information and to register, call 227-3030.

WALK TO END ALZHEIMER'S

The Columbia Walk to End Alzheimer's is scheduled for 10 a.m., Oct. 20 at Finlay Park. For more information, visit www.alz.org/walk.

345TH BOMB GROUP REUNION

A reunion commemorating the 70th anniversary of the activation of the 345th Bomb Group is scheduled for Nov. 9-12 at L.B. Owens Airport in Columbia. World War II airplanes will be on display for the public on the afternoon of Nov. 9. For more information, call (785) 647-7541.

FLU SHOTS

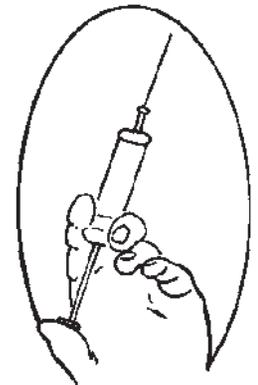
Moncrief Army Community Hospital is offering free influenza vaccines to military ID card holders. Flu shots will be offered at the following locations:

☐ **Solomon Center:** Oct. 15, 22 and 29; 8 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.; Nov. 5, 19 and 26, 8 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.

☐ **Commissary:** Nov. 13, 15, 20, 27 and 29, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

☐ **Exchange:** Nov. 16 and 30, 10 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.

Vaccines for children younger than 4 will be available at MACH, Room 6-39.



Friday, Oct. 12 — 6:45 p.m.
The Expendables 2 R

Saturday, Oct. 13 — 4 p.m.
Free screening. Tickets are available at the food court.

Sunday, Oct. 14 — 2 p.m.
The Expendables 2 R

Wednesday, Oct. 17 — 1 p.m.
The Expendables 2 R

Wednesday, Oct. 17 — 4 p.m.
The Campaign R

For more listings, visit www.aafes.com or call 751-7488.

Saluting this Basic Combat Training cycle's honorees

DRILL SERGEANTS OF THE CYCLE



**Sgt. 1st Class
Damon Davis**
Company A
3rd Battalion,
34th Infantry Regiment
**HONOR GRADUATE
OF THE CYCLE**
Pfc. Jerry Vanschuyver

**Staff Sgt.
Jason Duke**
Company B
3rd Battalion,
34th Infantry Regiment
**HONOR GRADUATE
OF THE CYCLE**
Pfc. Conner Willcut

**Staff Sgt.
Erik Wilcox**
Company C
3rd Battalion,
34th Infantry Regiment
**HONOR GRADUATE
OF THE CYCLE**
Spc. Dustin Benenr

**Staff Sgt.
Scott O'Connor**
Company D
3rd Battalion,
34th Infantry Regiment
**HONOR GRADUATE
OF THE CYCLE**
Pvt. Armando Martinez

**Staff Sgt.
Angela Hebert**
Company E
3rd Battalion,
34th Infantry Regiment
**HONOR GRADUATE
OF THE CYCLE**
Pvt. Darren Evans

**Staff Sgt.
Juan Villalobos**
Company F
3rd Battalion,
34th Infantry Regiment
**HONOR GRADUATE
OF THE CYCLE**
Pvt. Zannie Carabo

HIGH BRM
Pvt. Trevor Searle

HIGH BRM
Pvt. Jonah Able

HIGH BRM
Pfc. Cody Forsyth

HIGH BRM
Spc. Michael Murray

HIGH BRM
Pfc. Michael Lutman

HIGH BRM
Pvt. Luke Hallowell

HIGH APFT SCORE
Pvt. Lidia Mejia

HIGH APFT SCORE
Pvt. Zarah-Ushin Lacsamand

HIGH APFT SCORE
Pvt. Gannon Oppenborn

HIGH APFT SCORE
Pvt. Armando Martinez

HIGH APFT SCORE
Pvt. Joshua Magallanes

HIGH APFT SCORE
Spc. Rayneiqua Edwards

DISTINGUISHED HONOR GRADUATE

Pfc. Larry Cooper

SUPPORT AWARDS OF THE CYCLE

STAFF SUPPORT
Gerald Blackwell
Spc. Gabriela Jimenez

SERVICE SUPPORT
Mary Moutry

TRAINING SUPPORT
Chief Warrant Officer 5
Richard Alston
Natasha Hall

DFAC SUPPORT
Kenneth Rice

FAMILY SUPPORT
Darlene Moore

Virtual

Continued from Page 6

The program has been available at Fort Jackson for almost a decade, Wagner said, but has not been used by BCT instructors until recently. The U.S. Army Chaplain Center and School has used VBS2 for preliminary land navigation training, which uses a virtual recreation of another Army post for its primary environment.

The school is providing 52 computers and personnel support to the 2-39th for the 10-week pilot program.

"We're giving them 10 weeks of equipment and limited manpower support," said Mike Johnson, simulations officer for USACHCS. "This is the first class they've done, and I think it's going to be a success."

Johnson said he spoke to one Soldier using the program this week, who told him the VBS2 made it easier to learn from mistakes.

"She said it's easier to get lost in the computer than in the woods," he said, "but she knew she wouldn't be hurt, afraid or scared. And, when she gets to the woods, it would help her navigate better."

"A large part of Fort Lewis, Wash., is already programmed into the system," Wagner said. "When you see trees, rocks and other terrain, they're how they appear at Fort Lewis."

"The land navigation training allows Soldiers to bring up a compass on the computer in front of them," he said. "You can navigate from point to point digitally, just the way you would if you were out in the woods. But it allows you to do it at any time, in the dark, rain and bad weather, without having to reserve a piece of land, or transport anyone out there to do it."

"We know they learn the way we're teaching them now," Glick said. "The question is 'Can they learn better?' The vision as a commander, in accordance with the commanding general's guidance, is to make sure we're getting better and moving forward. Good enough isn't just good enough. We have to do better to train these Soldiers."

The principle of the VBS2 is the same as that of the established Engagement Skills Trainer 2000, which allows new Soldiers to get acquainted with weapons on a simulated firing range.

"You can have your guys on a range in a climate controlled area," Wagner said. "You can zero your weapons system and learn their fundamentals, and even put a squad into different scenarios."

"EST-2000 was a step in the right direction," Glick said. "It didn't replace being on the range, but it made the time you spent on the range more productive because you could accomplish more, thanks to training on the EST."

"Our basic trainees are part of the millennial generation and have grown up with computers," Wagner said. "It's a new and exciting way to learn, instead of just having somebody talk to you until you're tired of listening. They get to check out a video on it, play a game, so to speak, and explain it to their buddies. I'm not using it to get away from teaching classes, but to make the classroom less necessary than it used to be."

Glick said it's time to evaluate how new Soldiers are instructed.

"Why is it that a sergeant major who's been in the Army for 30 years, and a private who's just joined, are taught the same things in exactly the same way?" he asked. "We should all learn land navigation, but why is the way I learned it the same as they're teaching it to privates?"

The first group of Soldiers in BCT started using VBS2 last week.

Milton.W.McBride3.ctr@mail.mil



The concept behind VBS2 is the same as the Engagement Skills Trainer 2000, above, which allows new Soldiers to get acquainted with weapons on a simulated firing range. The goal for each activity is to give Soldiers experience with tools and weapons before taking them into the field for physical training.



A screenshot of VBS2 shows the portion of the simulator devoted to weapons training.

Capt. J.R. Wagner of the 2nd Battalion, 39th Infantry Regiment demonstrates the VBS2 combat simulator last week as the system is prepared for the first round of new Soldiers to train using it.

Photos, screenshots by WALLACE McBRIDE



VBS2 has been used for several years for land navigation training by the U.S. Army Chaplain Center and School, and will be implemented into Basic Combat Training for the next 10 weeks by the 2nd Battalion, 39th Infantry Regiment. Above, Soldiers practice their land navigation skills in the field. Right, a screenshot of VBS2's land navigation training simulator.



CMYK

CMYK

27" WEB-100

Recurring meetings

WEEKLY

Fort Jackson Boy Scouts

Tuesdays, 6:30 to 8 p.m., 11559 Jenkins Road (next to Victory Tower), 917-1869.

Walking away stress

Mondays and Fridays, 9 a.m., at the pecan orchard near the post office on Early Street, 751-6325.

Play group

Mondays, 10 to 11:45 a.m., Room 8, 5615 Hood St., for children 4 and younger, 751-1071/6304.

Range control briefing

Mondays and Fridays, 1 p.m., Education Center, Room 302, 751-7171.

Columbia Composite Squadron (Civil Air Patrol)

Mondays, 6:30 p.m., Owens Field, main conference room. E-mail Tom.Alsup@gmail.com or visit www.scwg.cap.gov.

Helping Everyone Reach Optimum Strength

Tuesdays, 5 to 6 p.m., Moncrief Army Community Hospital, seventh floor. Open to combat veterans and their family members.

Protestant Women of the Chapel

Tuesdays, 9 a.m. to noon, Main Post Chapel, Bible study and fellowship. Home schoolers are welcome. Free child care is available. E-mail jackson.pwoc.org.

Toastmasters International

Wednesdays, 11:40 a.m. to 12:45 p.m., Main Post Chapel, 629-7696 or (910) 224-8307

Alcoholics Anonymous open meeting

Wednesdays and Fridays, 9 to 10 a.m., 9810 Lee Road. For more information, call 751-6597.

American Red Cross volunteer orientation

Wednesdays, 1 to 4 p.m., and Thursdays, 9 a.m. to noon. Only one session is required. Additional training is necessary for those volunteering in a clinical setting. Call 751-4329.

MONTHLY

Fort Jackson Bass Club

First Monday of the month, 7 p.m., Joe E. Mann Center. Open to active duty, retirees, DoD civilians, reservists, veterans and family members. Visit www.jacksonanglers.com.

Disabled American Veterans Chapter and Auxiliary, Woodrow Wilson Chapter #4

Second Monday of the month (September through June), 6 p.m., 511 Violet St., West Columbia, 467-8355 or gblake12@sc.rr.com.

Weight Loss Surgery Support Group

□ Second and fourth Monday of the month, noon, Weight Management Center, 180 Laurel St.

□ Second Monday of the month, 6:30 p.m., Palmetto Health Baptist Breast Health Center, 1501 Sumter St.,

ground level, Meeting Room 2.

Seabees

Second Monday of the month, 7 p.m., West Metro Chamber of Commerce and Visitors Center, 755-7792 or 755-0300.

Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 641

Second Monday of the month, 7:30 p.m., 534 S. Beltline Blvd., 782-5943 or 782-0148.

Sergeant Audie Murphy Club

First Tuesday of the month, 11:30 a.m., Post Conference Room, www.jackson.army.mil/360/SAMC/home.htm.

American Legion Post 182

First Tuesday of the month, 6 p.m., Officers' Club, 351-2333.

Fort Jackson Homeschoolers

Second and fourth Tuesday of the month
For time and location, call 419-0760 or email johnlazzi@yahoo.com.

National Federation of Federal Employees

Second Tuesday of the month, 11:30 a.m., 4405 Forney St., first floor, 751-2622 or NFFE@conus.army.mil.

Fleet Reserve Association Branch and Unit 202

Third Tuesday of the month, 12:30 p.m., 2620 Lee Road, 647-0040 or turner6516@gmail.com.

Veterans of Foreign Wars Gandy-Griffin Post 4262

Third Tuesday of the month, 7 p.m., 5821 North Main St., 754-1614 or 447-2320.

Vietnam Veterans of America Chapter 303

Third Tuesday of the month, 7 p.m., American Legion Post 6, 200 Pickens St., 312-4895.

Purple Heart #402

Fourth Tuesday of the month, 7 p.m., American Legion Post 6, 200 Pickens St., 351-2333.

Adjutant General's Corps Regimental Association, Carolina Chapter

Second Wednesday of the month, 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m., Magruder's Pub and Club, 885-7114

Better Opportunities for Single Soldiers

Adopt-A-School program

Second Wednesday of the month during the school year, 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m., meeting at the Single Soldier Complex, Building 2447, for transportation to Forrest Heights Elementary School, 751-1148

Better Opportunities for Single Soldiers

First and third Wednesday of the month, 11:45 a.m. to 12:45 p.m., Single Soldier Complex, Building 2447, 751-1148

Victory Riders Motorcycle Club

First and third Thursday of the month, 5 p.m., Magrud-

er's Club. E-mail sec@ffvictoryriders.com.

The Rocks Inc., James Webster Smith Chapter

Third Thursday of the month, 5:30 p.m., Post Conference Room.

American Legion Riders Motorcycle Group

Third Thursday of the month, 7 p.m., American Legion Post 6, 200 Pickens St., 360-3830.

Society of American Military Engineers

Fourth Thursday of the month, 11:30 a.m., 254-0518 or 765-0320.

Sergeants Major Association

Last working Thursday of the month, 4:30 p.m., Magruder's Pub, 338-1904. Open to active-duty and retired E-9s and E-8s. E-mail William.huffin@us.army.mil.

MEDPROS training

Third Friday of the month, 1-4 p.m., Moncrief Army Community Hospital, Room 9-83. E-mail Erica.Aikens@amedd.army.mil.

Retired Enlisted Association

Third Friday of the month, 5:30 p.m., Moncrief Army Community Hospital, third floor, 740-2319 or e-mail jrodgers11@sc.rr.com.

92nd Buffalo Chapter 20 DAV

Third Saturday of the month, except July and August, 11 a.m., DAV Headquarters 511 Violet St., West Columbia, 260-1067.

Fort Jackson Cub Scouts

First Sunday of the month, 5:30 to 7 p.m., 11559 Jenkins Road (next to Victory Tower), 917-1869

Ladies Auxiliary VFW Post 641

Second Sunday of the month, 3 p.m., 534 S. Beltline Blvd., 782-5943 or 782-0148.

Ladies Auxiliary VFW Post 4262

Second Sunday of the month, 5 p.m., 5821 North Main St., 754-1614.

Gold Star Wives, Palmetto Chapter

Second Sunday of the month, 3 p.m., Moncrief Army Community Hospital, Third Floor conference room, 695-5345.

Combat Vets Motorcycle Association

Third Sunday of the month at noon, (774) 451-7504, e-mail armyaguiar@yahoo.com or visit www.combatvet.org.

Ladies Auxiliary Louis D. Simmons Post 215

Fourth Sunday of the month, 3 p.m., 2432 Chappelle St., 765-0175.

To submit a recurring meeting, email the name of the group, when and where the meeting takes place and contact information to fjleader@gmail.com.

Shots important step in flu prevention

From Moncrief Army Community Hospital

The time has come for annual flu vaccinations. It is the first and most important step in protecting yourself against the flu virus.

Vaccination is especially important for people who are at high risk to develop serious illness from the flu. People at high risk of serious flu complications include young children; pregnant women; people with chronic health conditions like asthma, diabetes or heart and lung disease; and people 65 and older.

Vaccination is also important for health care workers and other people who live with or care for high-risk people. Children younger than 6 months are at high risk of serious flu illness, but are too young for the vaccination. Therefore, their parents, family members, health care providers and child care providers should be vaccinated.

The best ways to prevent the spread of germs are:

❑ Cover your nose and mouth with a tissue when you cough or sneeze. Throw the tissue in the trash after you use it.

❑ Wash your hands often with soap and water. If soap and water are not available, use an alcohol-based hand rub. Hand sanitizers are not cleaners — they will kill germs, but will not remove dirt, grease or grime off your hands. Wash your hands for at least 20 seconds and remember to scrub the backs of your hands, wrists, between your fingers, and under your fingernails. Rinse well and dry your hands with a clean or disposable towel or air dryer and, if possible, use your towel to turn off the faucet.

❑ Avoid touching your eyes, nose and mouth. Germs can spread this way.

❑ Try to avoid close contact with sick people.

❑ The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention recommend that people who are sick with flu-like illness should stay home for at least 24 hours after the fever is gone except to seek medical care or to take care of other necessities. The fever should be gone without the use of a fever-reducing medicine.

❑ While sick, limit contact with others as much as possible to keep from infecting them.

There are two types of flu vaccines, the flu shot and the nasal spray. The flu shot is recommended for healthy people older than 6 months or those with chronic medical conditions. The nasal spray is recommended for use in healthy people between the ages of 2 and 49 who are not pregnant.

Consult your physician before being vaccinated if you have ever had a severe allergic reaction to chicken eggs, the influenza vaccine, or have developed Guillain-Barre syndrome within six weeks after getting an influenza vaccine. People who have moderate to severe illness with a fever should wait until they recover to get vaccinated.

CAN THE FLU SHOT GIVE ME THE FLU?

A flu shot cannot cause flu illness. The viruses contained in flu shots are inactivated, which means they cannot cause infection. Flu vaccine manufacturers kill the viruses used in the flu shot during the process of making the vaccine; and batches of flu vaccine are tested to make sure they are safe.

In randomized, blind studies, during which some people received flu shots and others received saltwater shots, the only difference in symptoms was increased soreness in the arm and redness at the injection site. There were no differences in terms of body aches, fever, cough, runny nose or sore throat.

There are several reasons, though, why some people might get flu-like symptoms even after they have been



vaccinated against the flu. Consider the following:

❑ People may be exposed to an influenza virus shortly before getting vaccinated or during the two-week period that it takes the body to gain protection after getting vaccinated. This exposure may result in a person becoming ill with the flu before the vaccine begins to protect them.

❑ People may become ill from other (non-flu) viruses that circulate during the flu season, such as rhinovirus, which can also cause flu-like symptoms.

❑ A person may be exposed to an influenza virus that is not included in the seasonal flu vaccine. There are many different influenza viruses that circulate

every year. The flu shot protects against the three viruses that research suggests will be most common.

❑ Unfortunately, some people can remain unprotected from flu despite getting the vaccine. This is more likely to occur among people that have weakened immune systems. However, even among people with weakened immune systems the flu vaccine can still help prevent influenza complications. For more information about the effectiveness of the flu vaccine, visit www.cdc.gov/flu/.

Seasonal influenza vaccine provides the best protection available from seasonal flu — even when the vaccine does not closely match circulating flu strains and when the person getting the vaccine has a weakened immune system. Vaccination can lessen illness severity and is particularly important for people at high risk for serious flu-related complications and for those who work closely high-risk people.

FIRST RESPONDER

Lt. Col. Raymond Simons
Director, Emergency Services

Maj. Bradford Fisher
Provost Marshal

Sgt. Maj. Bruce Sirois
Provost Sergeant Major

The following are incidents compiled from reports, complaints or information received from the Fort Jackson Provost Marshal Office.

The incidents reflected are not an adjudication attesting to the guilt or innocence of any person and are provided for informational and reflective purposes only.

CASES OF THE WEEK

❑ A driver received a citation for driving 37 mph in a 10 mph zone near Gate 2, Military Police said.

❑ Officials said a Soldier reported that an unknown per-

son gained access to his debit account and made purchases worth \$1,000. Military Police is investigating.

❑ A driver was issued a citation and a six-month post driving suspension letter after being detained for trying to access the installation without proper vehicle registration, MPs said. According to reports, the driver's registration was suspended because the insurance on the vehicle was cancelled.



Follow the Leader on
Twitter at
www.twitter.com/fortjacksonpao.

Upcoming events offer fun times for all

From Family and Morale, Welfare and Recreation

SESAME STREET/USO EXPERIENCE FOR MILITARY FAMILIES

The Sesame Street/USO Experience for Military Families is headed to Fort Jackson's Solomon Center Oct. 29 and 30. Shows are scheduled for 4 and 7 p.m. Doors open 30 minutes before show time. Tickets are free and available at all Child, Youth and School Services facilities. Seating is limited.

The Sesame Street/USO Experience for Military Families began its eight-month tour across the United States at Scott Air Force Base, Ill. on April 7. The tour features Elmo and friends' new tricked out ride, "The Sesame Street/USO Tour Bus." The show centers around military relocations, a common challenge facing today's military community. The Sesame Street/USO Experience is the USO's longest running, free traveling tour and is based on Sesame Street's award-winning Military Families Initiative.

Wrapped in hundreds of yards of vinyl, "The Sesame Street/USO Tour Bus" took two days to be transformed from an everyday tour bus to a new set of wheels. Splashed with vibrant colors, smiling Muppets, and a powerful message of supporting America's military families, a time lapse video of the bus wrapping process was created using more than 3,000 still photos layered on top of each other.

Along for the roadside adventure is Elmo's new friend, Katie — a military child who is experiencing the stresses of moving as her parents are being transferred to a new duty station.

For more information, call Cindy Andre-Noel at 751-4869.

OPERATION RISING STAR SET FOR OCT. 19

Family and Morale, Welfare and Recreation Command is looking for the military's next rising star. Contestants must submit an application to FMWR's Chuck Stoudemire no later than Friday. Applications and more information can be found at www.OpRisingStar.com.

Contestants must be active duty, National Guard or Reserve from any branch of service or a family member of the aforementioned; 18 years or older by Nov. 13; and in possession of a valid military ID card.

All travel to and from local hosting installations for the competition will be the responsibility, and at the expense of the contestants, regardless of distance traveled. Military contestants may not have any adverse actions pending. Service members whose records are flagged or with Uniform Code of Military Justice actions may not compete. Contestants must compete as a vocalist. Other talents (musician, comedian, dancer, etc.) do not qualify for this competition. There must be a minimum of four contestants at each participating installation in order for the installation winner to be eligible to move on to the Armywide finals. Failure to have four eligible contestants will result in the



Photo by MATT BOOKWALTER, Fort Belvoir Public Affairs Office

Sesame Street characters visit Fort Belvoir, Va. in May. The Sesame Street/USO Experience for Military Families will stop for four free shows at Fort Jackson Oct. 29 and 30.

disqualification of the local host site.

Contestants must be amateurs, i.e. not have a currently or previously managed recording career. Soldiers currently assigned as a vocalist to a military performance band are ineligible to participate. Contestants that have placed in the top 12 of prior Operation Rising Star Armywide finals are not eligible to compete.

The Fort Jackson competition is scheduled for 5 p.m., Oct. 19, at the Solomon Center. Prizes of \$500, \$250 and \$100 will be awarded to the first, second and third place winners, respectively.

The judges will award a "Spirit Award" for the best supportive unit or family readiness group. The prize is \$300 towards the winner's unit or FRG fund. Any unit or FRG may compete for the Spirit Award regardless of contestant participation. Support will be determined by the level of applause. All local decisions are final. The first-place winner at each participating location will qualify for the 2012 Rising Star Finals.

For more information or details on the competition visit www.OpRisingStar.com or call Chuck Stoudemire at 751-0891.

BOWLING IN THE NEIGHBORHOOD

Join Century Lanes at Balfour Beatty for fun games of bowling on the lawn at the Fort Jackson Family Housing

Community Center at 6 p.m., Friday. Balfour Beatty will be cooking hot dogs, and the Solomon Center will be offering bowling pin crafts. Enjoy a free night of family fun in the neighborhood. In case of rain, the event will be rescheduled for Oct. 19. To RSVP, call Alana Youngblood at 738-8275.

OFFICERS' CLUB READY TO SERVE POST

The Officers' Club is ready to serve you. Lunch is offered 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m., Tuesday-Friday, featuring Mongolian Barbecue on Wednesdays and a seafood buffet on Fridays. Upcoming events are as follows:

Sunday — Member appreciation Sunday buffet, \$5.00 for members, 11 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.

Oct. 21 — Brunch buffet, 11 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.

Oct. 28 — Sunday bistro, no buffet, 11 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.

Nov. 4 — Military Family Appreciation Month brunch, 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Free to the first 600 customers.

Nov. 18 — Member appreciation Sunday buffet, \$5.00 for members, 11 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.

Nov. 22 — Thanksgiving Day buffet, 11 a.m. to 2 p.m., \$18.95 for members and guests; \$21.95 for non-members

Dec. 2 — Sunday brunch buffet, 11 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.

Dec. 9 — Sunday brunch buffet, 11 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.

Dec. 16 — Holiday Sunday buffet, 11 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.

Get Golf Ready at Fort Jackson Golf Club



By **SUSANNE KAPPLER**
Fort Jackson Leader

For potential golfers who may wonder how to get started with the game, the Fort Jackson Golf Club may have a solution.

The club partners with Play Golf America to offer Get Golf Ready classes for beginners. The class consists of five lessons, which introduce the new players to fundamentals as varied as the rules of the game, etiquette, how to dress for the game, and, of course, how to play.

One of the recent class participants is Paul Holbert, who works with the Network Enterprise Center. Holbert had never played golf before participating in the class, but has been interested in the game since the emergence of Tiger Woods as a top player. However, stepping out onto the golf course took a while.

“Before, there was always an excuse like, ‘It’s too expensive,’” Holbert said. “It’s almost an intimidation factor.”

He said he learned about the classes from an email message and decided to sign up.

“I think the class was pretty good. They catered to those of us who had never touched a golf club before,” Holbert said. “I think the instructors were really good, and it was a good pace.”

Paul Tabor, a golf professional at the course and one of the teachers of the Get Golf Ready class, said people like Holbert are exactly the audience the class is trying to reach.

“The main thing, the biggest thing is

trying to get folks to realize that golf is not as intimidating as everybody thinks it is,” Tabor said.

Tabor said working with newcomers is rewarding for instructors as well.

“Most folks with Get Golf Ready and Play Golf America have barely even touched a golf club,” Tabor said. “With them being brand new, it’s actually more fun for us as teachers to teach the beginners. They don’t have any bad habits, and their expectations are kind of low, so we can start from scratch and build them up from there.”

Linda Sterne, whose husband is an Army retiree, said she decided to learn the game when she realized that almost everyone around her is a golfer.

“My husband has been playing golf since he was a teenager. He’s very dedicated. All of a sudden, I looked around, and I have all kinds of friends — women friends — who play golf. So I thought, ‘Well, I need another sport in my retirement.’” Sterne said. “I like the way they taught the basics without any pressure on us. It was basic. They were patient. They explained basics over again. They showed us how to do it. I thought that made it easier to understand.”

Sterne and Holbert both said they are planning to continue playing.

“This has been a lot of fun,” Sterne said. “I’m glad I did it. I might come back to do some more classes.”

The next Get Golf Ready class starts today. For more information, call 787-4344.

Susanne.Kappler1.ctr@mail.mil

Above photo, Linda Sterne gets in position to practice her tee shot during a recent Get Golf Ready class at the Fort Jackson Golf Club. The series of five lessons is designed to introduce beginners to golf. Right photo, Paul Tabor, a golf professional at the club, watches as Paul Holbert prepares to tee off. For Holbert and Sterne, the Golf Ready Class marked their first time playing golf.

Photos by ANDREW McINTYRE

