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Ahoy, Army Chaplains!

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Daylight saving time begins Sunday. Don't forget to turn your clock forward by one hour.

The Fort Jackson Leader

Thursday, March 5, 2009

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www.fortjacksonleader.com

Change on the range

Additions, modifications taking shape in training areas

Susanne Kappler
Leader Staff

Fort Jackson's primary mission is to train Soldiers and, in an effort to improve that training, new ranges are being built and existing ranges are being modified.

"We're headed for ranges that are more realistic to the current operating environment — ranges that are very relevant for Soldiers," said Lt. Col. Ransford Reinhard, 171st Infantry Brigade S3.

Construction on Camden Range, a mounted combat patrol live fire range, is scheduled to be completed in May. The range

will feature several event stations to train different warrior tasks and battle drills.

"The 4th Battalion, 10th Infantry Regiment (VSB) is currently working in conjunction with range control and some of the installation personnel to build those scenarios," Reinhard said. "We even have a couple of targets that actually 'run' across the event."

The training at Camden will prepare Soldiers for engaging the enemy during convoy operations.

"It's not just a convoy live fire mounted patrol training range," Reinhard said. "There's some concurrent training there that is

going to be significant. There's going to be a counter-IED piece; there's going to be a HEAT trainer, (which trains Soldiers how to exit a vehicle that has rolled over); and there'll be some Humvee hulls so the Soldiers can practice their in-and-out-of-the-vehicle procedures and their convoy procedures prior to getting on the range."

One thing unique to Camden, is the ammunition that will be used.

"We'll be firing short-range training ammunition," Reinhard

See **Ranges** Page 7

'Col. Pertile' briefs CG



Photo by Crystal Lewis Brown

Evan Pertile, 6, jokes with Brig. Gen. Bradley May, Fort Jackson commanding general, during a visit last week. Evan — who is currently undergoing treatment for a form of brain cancer — has become an honorary Soldier and enjoys his visits with the various Soldiers he has met since his time at St. Jude Children's Research Hospital.

AER campaign gets under way

Mike A. Glasch
Leader Staff

Last year, more than 1,000 Fort Jackson Soldiers and family members received nearly \$1.1 million of financial assistance through the Army Emergency Relief Fund, which began its annual campaign Sunday.

AER refers to itself as "the Army's own emergency financial assistance organization."

With voluntary donations from Soldiers and civilians, along with investments made by AER, Soldiers receive assistance in the form of interest-free loans, grants and tuition money for family members.

"It's really about supporting Soldiers and families. Particularly as the war continues, I think that now, more than ever, we need to take care of our own," said Brig. Gen. Bradley May, Fort Jackson commanding general. "This program does that."

AER is a separate commander's program managed by Army Community Services and is available only to active duty Soldiers, their ID card dependents and survivors of active and retired deceased Soldiers. It is also the only program that requires a Soldier's commander be notified.

"When a Soldier applies for financial assistance (either an interest-free loan or grant) the application has to be reviewed by the unit's first sergeant or commander," said Madelyn Mercado, financial readiness program manager, ACS.

See **AER** Page 7

COMMANDERS' CORNER

From the Commanding General

Education benefits for service members expanding

Forgive me while I use the next couple of paragraphs in this column to put forth in print my best imitation of your parents. It's just my nature to emphasize something that benefits Soldiers — particularly our junior enlisted members — about something I consider very important, regardless of whether you decide to make the Army your career or to pursue a path in the civilian world.



Brig. Gen. May

I am referring to the importance of education and how paramount it is that we arm ourselves with as much of it as we can. In case you haven't noticed, the world is changing. Drastically.

And it's no coincidence that our commander in chief listed education as one of his top three priorities in his recent address to a joint session of Congress and the American people. It is also no happenstance that the 2009's Year of the NCO program has placed a major emphasis on a yearlong

effort to sustain and enhance NCOs through increased opportunities to military and civilian education programs.

In the 21st Century, higher education is not a nicety. It's a necessity. The demands in the Army continue to increase as we transform ourselves for the battlefields of the future. As warfare becomes more sophisticated, Soldiers must continue to keep pace with that technology, or stay ahead of the curve. The educational expectations of Soldiers will not be lowered. That much I can assure you. Our use of the most modern weaponry and systems will only increase.

The good news is that the opportunity to receive a college education has expanded with the addition of benefits in the new G.I. Bill. Soldiers and veterans, as well, now have an opportunity to further their higher-education goals with some increased and enhanced benefits under the new Post-9/11 Veteran's Assistance Act of 2008."

One of the major advantages in the new law in contrast to the Montgomery G.I. Bill program is that qualified Soldiers, Airmen, Marines, Sailors and veterans, can get a

four-year degree at no cost to themselves. Under the new program payments are based on what it actually costs someone to go to college, period. There are no flat-rate payments sent out to registrants in the program, with the expectation that individuals come up with the additional money they need to attend college.

Hold on. It gets better. There are also housing allowances available and a books and supplies stipend. Under certain circumstances, education benefits can be transferred to eligible spouses and children.

For students who attend college more than half time, the VA will authorize a basic housing rate that for an E-5 with dependents for the ZIP code where the college is located — regardless whether the student is married or has a family members.

I am sure that there are some of you who will have questions such as whether active duty members can tap into the Post 9/11 housing benefits and stipends. The answer would be no, but active duty members can apply the benefits to tuition. There are a number of other questions, I am certain. Many of the answers can be found on the

Web site, www.gibill.va.gov.

Although the new G.I. Bill creates the potential for a free college education, it is not the only road. Let's not forget that there is the Montgomery G.I. Bill program (active duty), the MGIB (selective reserve) and the Reserve Educational Assistance Program. Hundreds of thousands of people are taking advantage of these programs.

The concept of America investing in Americans is not a new one. It's been around for quite some time and it is proven to work. Back in the 1950s, America was in a rebuilding process much like it finds itself in right now. And during that period, millions of Americans received college degrees and vocational school certificates via the G.I. Bill.

Furthermore, many Soldiers have joined our Army to take advantage of the educational benefits.

The Army sees this as a win-win situation for the Soldier and the Army. Education is one of the most important — if not the most important — element in helping a Soldier to reach his or her potential.

Army Strong!

Ask the Garrison Commander

Andy's Fitness Center; PCS orders for AIT graduates



Col. Dixon

Is there still a membership fee for Andy's Fitness Center?

There is no membership fee for the use of the fitness center, but there is a membership fee if you have plans to do aerobics. The membership fees are as follows: Daily \$4, monthly \$20, quarterly \$51 and annually \$180. These fees are for individual memberships.

Memberships are paid for at the front desk of the MG Robert B. Solomon Center, and you must present your military ID card. You must have a receipt or red membership card before taking a class.

Why do Advanced Individual Training Soldiers receive their Permanent Change of Station orders two to three weeks before their graduation date?

Human Resources Command, located in Alexandria, Va., places Soldiers on assignment approximately four to five weeks before their graduation date.

This ensures that the vast majority of Soldiers who receive assignments meet all graduation requirements and it reduces the number of assignment deletions to potential gaining units.

Once the assignment is in the Enlisted Distribution Assignment System the Trainee/Student Processing Work Center sends an assignment roster to the Soldier's unit.

The roster includes each Soldier's Military Occupational Specialty, class, assigned unit, and unit identification code. The unit representative provides the required information and returns the roster within three days to the TSPWC

All Soldiers on overseas assignment must attend an overseas assignment briefing at least three weeks before graduation from AIT. During the overseas briefing, addi-

tional required documents are completed.

Once all of the required assignment processing is completed, unit representatives provide a copy of DA Form 31, Leave Request, for each Soldier, at least two weeks before graduation date. The TSPWC then publishes the Soldier's orders.

This process ensures Soldiers and family members are properly prepared and meet all requirements and expectations for their assignment before departing Fort Jackson.

Garrison Fact of the Week

For every 10 years you delay before starting to save for retirement, you will need to save three times as much to catch up. The earlier you start to save, the more likely you are to secure a financially sound retirement.

To submit questions to "Ask the Garrison Commander," call 751-5442, or e-mail Scott.Nahrwold@conus.army.mil.

The Fort Jackson Leader

Fort Jackson, South Carolina 29207

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Brigade deactivates, cases colors

Chris Jacques
5th Brigade

On Feb. 24, 5th Brigade (Legacy) conducted its Deactivation and Closing Ceremony at its Fort Jackson brigade headquarters.

The small ceremony included a review of Army ROTC history and the brigade's accomplishments; awards presentations; and a farewell for its staff.

The current 5th Brigade was established in 2006, and by the end of this summer will have produced more than 600 second lieutenants.

The brigade was responsible for ROTC programs at 17 schools in the Southeast.

One of its schools, Augusta State University, migrated to 6th ROTC Brigade, Hunter Army Airfield, Savannah, Ga. last May. The Tennessee schools migrated to 7th ROTC Brigade, Fort Knox, Ky. in January. With the deactivation of 5th Brigade, the South Carolina schools and Appalachian State University, N.C. migrate to 4th ROTC Brigade, Fort Bragg, N.C.

Throughout their history, these 17 schools have commissioned approximately 20,000 lieutenants, including more than 100 who became general officers.



Photo by Jatón Grant-Coleman, 5th Brigade

Col. Kenneth Bishop, 5th Brigade commander, front, and Sgt. Maj. Robert Maggard case the brigade's colors, held by Master Sgt. Darrin Woodland, during a deactivation and closing ceremony Feb. 24.

DOIM says, 'Goodbye IMCOM, hello NETCOM'

Mike A. Glasch
Leader Staff

A significant, yet undetectable, change will take place on Fort Jackson this month.

Operational control of the Directorate of Information Management will switch from the Installation Management Command to the 93rd Signal Brigade, which is part of the Network Enterprise Technology Command.

"Other than becoming a tenant organization on Fort Jackson, there will be no changes to our customer service level regarding infrastructure and IT (information technology) support," said Jesus RosaVelez, director, DOIM. "The only real change that will come about is tied in with the security controls of the network infrastructure."

According to RosaVelez, currently not everyone follows or implements standard

DoD network security guidance across the board. Putting all the DOIMs under NETCOM will allow tighter control of current network security measures.

"All it takes is one incident to circumvent the network, around our firewalls, to get to a Web site like 'YouTube' and you've given hackers an avenue of backdoor entry into the network," he explained. "That's all that's needed to create havoc on the network."

The change is not unique to Fort Jackson. It is happening at all Army CONUS installations. Currently, there are multiple networks throughout CONUS working under separate rules and procedures.

The move will integrate Army network operations into a seamless network indistinguishable whether at Fort Jackson or Fort Lewis, Wash.

"Here in CONUS, you have about 400 different places that have their own campus network. We will provide unity of command among the signal assets, right now it's very fragmented," said Col. James Garrison, commander, 93rd Signal Brigade. "By merging the tactical network with the strategic network into a single network we will enable future combat systems."

"Everything should be equally functional across the board, it should be seamless," RosaVelez said. "Under IMCOM, or even before IMCOM, if you look at all the DOIMs, they all probably have different network systems. For example, the server structure here is probably different than what you will find at Fort Bragg, (N.C.), which is probably different from the one you'll find at Fort Stewart, (Ga.)."

"Our help desk software needs to be

standardized as well so the customer will be looking at the same interface, and the same tools to provide the service, no matter what installation they are at."

Eventually, RosaVelez foresees a time when DOIM will be charging for some of their services.

"DOIMs are here for operating and maintaining the network infrastructure — taking care of things such as the overarching email and server operations, phone line services and planning of long and short term IT requirements. In the future there may be services, ones which probably don't exist yet, that our customers request that will end up being a fee-for-service," he said.

Full operational control of DOIM by the 93rd Signal Brigade is expected to be completed by Oct. 1.

Michael.A.Glasch@us.army.mil

Around Post

Women's History Month

Moncrief Army Community Hospital is hosting the Women's History Month Luncheon from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m., March 18 at the Officers' Club. The guest speaker will be Judi Gatson from WIS-TV.

To buy tickets or for information, call 751-2773.

Suicide Awareness Stand-down

Mandatory Suicide Awareness Stand-down training is held at the Main Post Chapel as follows:

Friday: 8:30-10:30 a.m.
Monday: 8:30-10:30 a.m.; 1-3 p.m.
March 13: 8:30-10:30 a.m.
March 14: 8:30-10:30 a.m.

Civilians should coordinate attendance with Earnestine Richardson at 751-7597.

Military personnel can coordinate with Sgt. 1st Class Jeffrey Matthews at 751-4778/3121.

For general information, call Chaplain (Lt. Col.) Daniel Wackerhagen at 751-3121/6318.

DA Photos

The Department of the Army Photo Management System will only accept photos for submission for promotion into DAPMIS for active Army commissioned officers, warrant officers above warrant officer 1 and noncommissioned officers of staff sergeant and above.

All Army National Guard, Reserve commissioned and warrant officers including second lieutenant, warrant officer 1 and noncommissioned officers of sergeant and above are authorized to have DA photos done in the Photo Lab.

For active duty Soldiers in the rank of second lieutenant, warrant officer 1 and sergeant who are submitting a special package, the photo will be taken, but not sent to DAPMIS.

For more information, call 751-7593.

Commissaries not honoring CertifiCheck

Kevin Robinson
DeCA Public Affairs

FORT LEE, Va. — CertifiChecks, Inc., the third-party provider that has provided commissary gift certificates for use by authorized customers since 2002, has ceased operations. As a result, all sales of CertifiChecks have halted and customers possessing them cannot use them in commissaries at this time.

The company Web site, www.certifichecks.com, announced effective Feb. 26 that it will "no longer administer gift certificate programs" and further advised customers with CertifiChecks to "submit for potential reimbursement" to the following address: CertifiChecks, Inc., Attn: Redemption Dept., 1435 Shoup Mill Road, Dayton, Ohio, 45414.

"What has happened to CertifiChecks is similar to what is going on today with many businesses being adversely affected by the current economic downturn," said Philip E. Sakowitz Jr., DeCA's director and chief executive officer. "Unfortunately, in this case

the situation directly affects commissary customers.

"I regret the impact this is likely to have on our customers," he added. "However, as an appropriated fund entity, in accordance with federal law we can no longer accept these certificates at this time. We are, however, looking for an alternative solution to fulfill our customers' requests for commissary gift certificates."

DeCA entered into a business agreement with CertifiChecks, Inc., in September 2002 to provide gift certificates redeemable in commissaries in denominations ranging from \$5 to \$100. Anyone could purchase the certificate but only authorized customers could use them. Purchasers could obtain them in commissaries, by phone, or online for a fee of \$4.95 that went to CertifiChecks for the cost of printing, mailing and handling of up to 20 certificates per order. DeCA received no income from its agreement with CertifiChecks, Inc.

From the start, DeCA's use of gift certificates became a popular way for the fam-

ilies and friends of service members to give them "the gift of groceries." Since 2002, more than \$17.5 million in gift certificates have been purchased for authorized customers. Over the past few years, popularity of the gift certificates had increased steadily from combined in-store and online sales that totaled \$3.4 million in fiscal 2006 to more than \$3.9 million in fiscal 2008.

The gift certificate program became a prominent method for military and civilian aid organizations, such as installation chaplains funds, the Air Force Aid Society, the USO, Operation Homefront, Operation Interdependence, and the Fisher House Foundation, to extend donations to military families in need. The certificates also became a major part of commissary vendor giveaways at store grand openings and other customer outreach events.

CertifiChecks, Inc., headquartered in Dayton, Ohio, was established in April 1999, according to its Web site. It processed customized gift certificates for about 450 merchants and associations across the nation.

February Promotions

<u>Name</u>	<u>Rank</u>	<u>Unit</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Rank</u>	<u>Unit</u>
Roosevelt H. Corpening	COL	HHC, TSB	Kerman A. Rodriguez	1LT	Student Detachment
Phillip F. Wright	COL	Chaplain School	Joseph E. Williams	1LT	Co. A, 1st Bn., 13th Inf. Reg.
Judith A. Hamrick	LTC	Chaplain School	Pat C. Luckett II	CW4	Student Detachment
David K. Beavers	MAJ	Chaplain School	Birdel L. Campbell	SGM	HHC 187th Ord. Bn.
David P. David	MAJ	Student Detachment	James O. Gray	MSG	2nd Bn., 307th FA Reg.
Paul B. Lemieux	MAJ	Student Detachment	George E. Person	MSG	Co. D, 3rd Bn., 60th Inf. Reg.
Camille L. Mack	MAJ	Student Detachment	Jesse J. Ramirez	MSG	Co. B, TSB
Chris J. Maestas	MAJ	Student Detachment	Michael F. Sellars	MSG	USA MEDDAC
Jordan H. Mastroianni	MAJ	Student Detachment	John P. Bailey	SFC	Co. E, 1st Bn., 61st Inf. Reg.
Marlon McBride	MAJ	Student Detachment	Elita M. Haupt	SFC	Co. D, 2nd Bn., 60th Inf. Reg.
Tomas I. Moore	MAJ	Student Detachment	Jason E. Insell	SFC	Co. A, 1st Bn., 34th Inf. Reg.
Andy J. Pannier	MAJ	Student Detachment	Alice S. McJimson	SFC	HHC, 2nd Bn., 39th Inf. Reg.
Folden L. Peterson Jr.	MAJ	Student Detachment	Galo A. Naranjo	SFC	Student Detachment
Craig M. Ruzicki	MAJ	Student Detachment	Jeremy J. Pettibone	SFC	Co. F, 1st Bn., 34th Inf. Reg.
Assian Sayyar	MAJ	Student Detachment	Sarrah M. Price	SFC	Co. A, 369th AG Bn.
Rae A. Schultz	MAJ	Student Detachment	Rena M. Roper	SFC	Co. A, 369th AG Bn.
Eugene D. Seiter III	MAJ	Student Detachment	Eric J. Tobin	SFC	Co. D, 3rd Bn., 60th Inf. Reg.
Gordon L. Wilson	MAJ	Student Detachment	Andy J. Wilson Jr.	SFC	Co. A, 369th AG Bn.
Jason W. Allen	CPT	Co.. A TSB	Evola Ahemn	SSG	HHC 165th Inf. Brig.
Tony M. Brannon	CPT	Co.. A, 3rd Bn., 34th Inf. Reg.	Bernard W. Burch	SSG	Co. C, 187th Ord. Bn.
Ariel Correabetanco.urt	CPT	Co. A, TSB	Antonio M. Cotten	SSG	Co. E, 3rd Bn., 34th Inf. Reg.
Steven A. Ditomaso	CPT	Co.. A, TSB	Atiba K. Davis	SSG	Co. A, 120th AG Bn. (Reception)
Alonda A. Grier	CPT	Co. A, 120th AG Bn. (Reception)	Shola H. Harris	SSG	Co. C, 369th AG Bn. (Reception)
Richard W. Hutton	CPT	Co. A, 1st Bn., 61st Inf. Reg.	Jonathan M. Harrison	SSG	Co. D, 2nd Bn., 13th Inf. Reg.
Nina R. Johnson	CPT	Co. C, 2nd Bn., 39th Inf. Reg.	Jada L. Jones	SSG	3rd Bn., 13th Inf. Reg. HQ
Hiep H. Mai	CPT	Co. A, TSB	John E. Scott	SSG	120th AG Bn. (Reception)
Giovanni Nieves	CPT	120th AG Bn. (Reception)	Johnny Soto	SSG	HHC, 187th Ord. Bn.
Nicolas Perezmartinez	CPT	Student Detachment	Geanno Thompson	SSG	Student Detachment
William J. Roberts	CPT	Co. C, 120th AG BN(Reception)	Jason A. Vaughn	SSG	HHC, 171st Inf. Brig.
Roushel T. Cousin	1LT	Student Detachment	Richard A. Benson	SGT	USA MEDDAC
Tawana Jackson	1LT	Student Detachment	Herbert Duranjauregui	SGT	HHC, 2nd Bn., 13th Inf. Reg.

Customer Service Corner

This week's article focuses on Community FIRST issues raised by the community, which recently have been completed. The issues pertain to the Directorate of Emergency Services and the Directorate of Public Works, respectively:

Issue: Traffic patterns at Hagen Dental Clinic.

Scope: On certain days it is almost impossible to get out of Hagen Dental Clinic if you are turning left on Strom Thurmond Boulevard. This creates hazardous driving conditions.

Recommendation:

—Open Hagen Dental Clinic's parking lot on the southeast side, where the fire department used to be. Patients and employees can exit the parking lot directly onto Strom Thurmond Boulevard.

—Have a Military Policeman or other security personnel direct traffic outside the Hagen Dental Clinic parking lot during those times that traffic is jammed.

Response: The roadway has been painted and signs have been posted to instruct drivers not to block the intersection. DES periodically monitors the intersection and has

written traffic violations for vehicles blocking the intersection. DES will continue to monitor the area periodically to ensure people are obeying the traffic control markings.

Issue: Stronger punishment for cell phone use.

Scope: Cell phone use while driving creates a hazardous driving environment for everyone who lives, works and recreates on the installation. There is currently no fine for cell phone use; offenders receive a DD Form 1408 (Commander's action ticket). Receiving this "slap on the hand" instead of a monetary fine could encourage repeat offenders.

Recommendation: Implement a fine for violators of the cell phone ban and advertise the policy throughout the installation.

Response: DES will begin to publish that a fine will be imposed upon anyone ticketed for using a hand-held device while driving a vehicle on Fort Jackson. The recommended fine is between \$15 and \$25.

Issue: Heating of Post Conference Room.

Scope: It is too cold in the Post Conference Room sev-

eral months of the year. Turning on the heat an hour before a meeting is still not long enough for the building to heat up. When the heating system finally does come on, it feels like it is blowing cold air. As a result of poor heating, many of the staff and community members who use the conference room are cold, uncomfortable and could become ill.

Recommendation: Turn on the heat in the conference room the night before a scheduled meeting and inspect the heating system to ensure it is working properly.

Response: A new heating system has been installed in the post conference room.

ICE APPRECIATION

The Garrison congratulates the Directorate of Family and Morale, Welfare and Recreation; specifically Firehouse Productions and the Auto Craft Center. They have achieved a 5.0 and a 4.95 percent rating, respectively, in employee/staff attitude out of a possible 5.0 throughout a 12-week period. This is an outstanding performance in customer satisfaction.

Stop accidents
before they stop you

- How important is a good night's sleep? If you plan on operating a motor vehicle your life may depend on it.
- The effects of fatigue can cause significant impairment – 24 hours without sleep is comparable to a blood alcohol content of 0.10 percent.*

Don't fall asleep at the wheel - fatigue-related crashes are preventable.

*Source: National Sleep Foundation

Red Cross helps close to home

Denise Cuenin
American Red Cross

Imagine turning into your street after running your daily errands and seeing fire trucks and rescue workers battling a blaze from the roof of one of the homes. You look down the street in panic and realize the flames are coming from your home.

This experience, while difficult to image, is not that far fetched. At least two Fort Jackson families have had this experience in the last six months. Before the fire is even out, American Red Cross disaster caseworkers can be counted on to meet the immediate needs of the people who are dealing with such circumstances.

Red Cross disaster workers are trained to help. They can arrange for shelter, food and clothing in the immediate aftermath with ease.

In 2008, the Columbia Red Cross office has responded to 380 disasters in the 10 counties they serve and assisted 517 families.

The help and support provided by the Red Cross to meet the basic needs after these events is free of charge, but invaluable to those who are helped. The caseworkers' goal is to allow things to return to normal as quickly as possible, allowing the affected families to independently resume their daily activities.

Most people know that the American Red Cross responds to major disasters that affect large numbers of people, such as hurricanes or floods. Helping people to prepare for, prevent and respond to disasters is central to the Red Cross's core mission but that is not all it does.

The organization spends much more time and resources on these small-scale disasters like the scenario above, which devastate only one family or possibly a few. When disasters strike, American Red Cross workers provide open arms, advice, toiletries, funding for shelter and food and help to meet short term mental-health needs.

The Red Cross is a humanitarian organization that has been chartered by Congress to provide relief to victims of disaster in addition to its other duties. However, the government does

not fund the American Red Cross. Volunteers and charitable donations are what allow the American Red Cross to accomplish all that they do.

The Columbia area, which includes Fort Jackson, is served by the American Red Cross Chapter of Central South Carolina, which was established in 1917.

It serves more than 900,000 people in 10 counties from its offices in Columbia. The local humanitarian work is accomplished primarily by volunteers. Every 17 hours, the local chapter responds to a disaster, generally a fire, in the region.

Throughout March, events are planned at the State Museum to highlight the history of the American Red Cross in the common American experience. A special exhibit entitled, "Our National Treasure: The American Red Cross" will premier in Columbia and travel to other cities around the country for the next five years. On display will be a collection of never-before-seen Red Cross stories, artwork, photographs and artifacts. The exhibit opens March 14.

On March 13, a black-tie gala at the museum will celebrate the premier of this exhibit. Funds raised at the gala will remain local and be used to meet the chapter's disaster response mission. For more information, contact the local chapter or visit <http://www.centrcscrcross.org/>.

Also in conjunction with this museum exhibit opening, the American Red Cross will host "Family Day" March 14, beginning 11 a.m. Youth VolunTEENS from Fort Jackson will be on hand to help. Outdoor portions of the event are free. Museum admission is \$5.

There will be a variety of special family-friendly activities, such as a fly over from Shaw Air Force Base, health and safety demonstrations, displays from the Columbia Fire Department, Richland County Sheriff's Department and Shaw Air Force Base, face painting, a visit from Clara Barton, balloon artists, disaster preparedness activities and much more. In addition, a blood drive will take place on-site.

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NEWS

Ranges (continued from Page 1)

said. "This is a plastic bullet that travels less than half the distance. It doesn't require the big safety zone that a normal bullet would have. It allows us to fire in a couple of different directions without endangering other ranges and without endangering the red-cockaded woodpecker."

The Urban Assault Course, which opened earlier this year, features five stations. Four stations are blank-fire lanes. Lane 3, the only live-fire lane, is still under construction and scheduled to be operational in May, said Tony Risher, director of plans, training and mobilization, and security.

The site features buildings to train Soldiers in urban warfare. Previously, the only site available for that kind of training was the Military Operations on Urban Terrain site.

"The Urban Assault Course is a much larger facility," said Lt. Col. Gerald Henderson, Fort Jackson G3. "The old MOUT site is a series of connexes that have been modified. This is a much more realistic (setting). There are single-story and multiple-story buildings. There's an underground tunnel system. On the live-fire part, there's a building with windows that Soldiers are firing into."

A timetable has not been established for the opening of a new Joint Improvised Explosive Devices Lane, which is in the planning stages. The lane will be used to provide counter-IED training in a realistic setting.

"Its primary customer is Task Force Marshall, which trains Sailors who deploy right into theater from here," Reinhard said.

The IED Lane will offer training that can be tailored to any unit's needs, though.

"We're going to provide a spectrum in the training anywhere from the basic — 'Here's an IED, that's what it might look like, this is what it might look like on the side of the road.' — to, 'Let's drive down this road. I've planted IEDs on this road. See if you can spot them,'" Reinhard said.

The range will feature its own MOUT site, a computer lab for virtual counter-IED training and 14 Iraqi Light Armored Vehicles. The site will be set up with assistance from the Joint Improvised Explosive Device Defeat Organization, which will provide equipment and funding, Reinhard said.

Camden Range, the Urban Assault Course and the IED Lane are not just isolated training sites, according to Henderson and Reinhard.

"Camden will become a hub that ties in the IED lane



Photo by Dale Austin, Directorate of Logistics

William Cooper, Directorate of Logistics, disassembles a hangar at Shaw Air Force Base in January. Fort Jackson received two hangars from Shaw, which will be used as After Action Review classrooms on Camden Range and the Joint IED Lane.

and the Urban Assault Course," Henderson said.

"There's going to be a lot of synergy between those three ranges," Reinhard added.

Setting up the sites is not without challenges, though. One problem is the power supply.

"A lot of the ranges have what I call 'the old system' — above-ground power. When a tree falls on it, it knocks off a lot of ranges," Risher said. "What we're trying to do is come up with a plan to get a better power system all the way out to the ranges, so that we can add to the current range structure."

Another problem is the lack of sufficient fiber optics to run computer-supported training on the ranges, Henderson said.

"One of the things that we're going to look at short-term is addressing the need to give us that capability and then we grow and expand from that," he said.

Another range that will undergo substantial modification is Aachen Range, off Golden Arrow Road. The range will be converted to accommodate Asymmetric Warfare Group training and is tentatively scheduled to be open this summer. Aachen Range, a former night infiltration range, will be used to train Basic Combat Training Soldiers in the

fundamentals of the AWG Combat Application Training Course.

"We're extending the length of the range ... to 200 meters," Risher said.

In addition, plans are under way to start construction on a new Night Infiltration Course and two Modified Record Fire Ranges. Both projects are scheduled to begin in fiscal year 2010, Risher said. Some ranges will undergo expansions, such as Casablanca Range, so that more Soldiers can train at the same time.

The construction of new basic training barracks also forced the relocation of existing ranges. The Nuclear, Biological, Chemical Gas Chamber was moved to a new location near Hilton Field recently. The same site will also be home to a new Bayonet Assault Course. The current course closed this week to allow construction to begin on a new barracks complex.

Risher said that the plans for new ranges go hand in hand with the plans for new barracks.

"We have to make sure we have a plan that's in sync and on time so that we can have both: A place for the Soldiers to live ... and the ranges for them to train on," he said.

Susanne.Kappler1@us.army.mil

AER (continued from Page 1)

AER emergency financial assistance may be provided in the form of:

- An interest-free loan, normally repaid between 12 and 24 months;
- An outright grant when repayment would cause hardship;
- A combination of the two when repayment of the full amount of assistance would cause hardship.

In all cases the form of assistance is determined by the Soldier's individual circumstances.

Mercado stressed that most commanders want to help a Soldier; they want the Soldier to take care of the issue and move on.

"They (commanders) don't want to know the financial details. They have too many other things to worry about," she said. "What they want to ensure is that Sgt. X took care of his or her problem so that individuals can perform his or her mission as a Soldier."

Not dealing with financial problems can have an adverse affect on a Soldier's career.

"In some cases it affects their job, because their job requires a security clearance. A Soldier's commander may have to require the Soldier to correct the financial issues or the Soldier may face losing the security clearance and as a consequence his or her ability to perform certain military duties," Mercado said. "That may mean having to reclassify or getting kicked out of the Army. It depends on the severity of their issues."

Soldiers and their Family members requiring AER assistance can contact their unit Chain of Command or go to their local installation AER office.

The AER campaign runs through May 15. For more information on donating, contact your unit AER representative, or 2nd Lt. Rachel McQueen at 751-1102/5256.

Michael.A.Glasch@us.army.mil



Photo by Mike A. Glasch

Brig. Gen. Bradley May, Fort Jackson commanding general, signs his Army Emergency Relief pledge form Feb. 26. AER is a private, nonprofit organization dedicated to providing financial assistance to Soldiers and their families. The annual AER fundraising campaign runs through May 15.

Prayer Breakfast



Photo by Susanne Kappler

Chaplain (Col.) Henry Haynes, installation chaplain, speaks during Fort Jackson's celebration of the National Prayer Breakfast Tuesday at the NCO Club. Haynes discussed "the strength of great leaders" in his address. The event also featured prayers, a scripture reading and spiritual music.

CID alerts community to new social network scams

U.S. Army CID

FORT BELVOIR, Va. — The U.S. Army Criminal Investigation Command is warning the Army community of an ongoing Internet scam within popular social networking and dating sites where the criminal poses as a member of the Army.

The Criminal Investigation Division has learned of scammers creating profiles of senior Army officers and non-commissioned officers, including the use of official photographs, in an attempt to lure unsuspecting persons into revealing personal, banking or financial information.

In their latest attempt, scammers are making contact with potential victims through various social networking sites.

After contact, often during instant messaging or e-mail correspondence, the scammers appeal to the recipient's sense of empathy or desire for financial gain.

By doing what is asked of them, often cashing a check, the recipients are told they would be helping the sender or the sender's family out of a terrible situation.

Complying with these requests often places the victim, at risk financially and opens them up to possibly becoming victims of identity theft.

CID strongly recommends that Soldiers, civilians and family members who come across any known suspicious social networking or dating site profile or are so-

licitated in this fashion from a person posing as a Soldier, immediately contact the nearest CID office or e-mail CID at crimetips@conus.army.mil. They can also file a complaint with the Internet Crime Complaint Center. Their Web site is www.IC3.gov.

Those who participate in such a scam can face criminal charges if they actively facilitate an Internet scheme.

Soldiers and civilians who knowingly participate in the negotiation of fraudulent money orders or travel checks in furtherance of fraud schemes are subject to Title 18 of the U.S. Code, Section 1343, Fraud by Wire, Radio or Television.

U.S. citizens and residents who have suffered a financial loss should contact the nearest field office of the U.S. Secret Service by telephone.

Victims are advised to continue reporting these scam e-mails to law enforcement agencies.

CID Lookout is a U.S. initiative to partner with the Army community by providing a conduit for members of the Army family, to help prevent, reduce and report felony-level crime.

The CID, is an independent criminal investigative organization that investigates serious, felonies such as murder, rape, sexual assault, robbery, arson, fraud, and even cyber crime or intrusions into the Army networks.

Investment choices devoid of emotional attachment

LaTonya Boston
Financial Planner

If you have entered the world of investing in recent years, you have probably realized that picking stocks or mutual funds is not only a science but an art.

There is definitely the technical side to investing: understanding asset allocation, diversification, P/E ratios, rates of returns, expense ratios, and more.

What no one may have prepared you for is the emotional side of investing. Making sound investment decisions is not always just a science. For instance, if you purchased two mutual funds recently and one has lost more money than you can stand and the other fund has actually increased in value (albeit only slightly), which one would you probably sell?

Behavioral finance experts used to believe that you would not sell either of the mutual funds regardless of their performance. That is because studies have shown that we value things more when we own them regardless of their actual worth.

COMMENTARY

Based on this concept though, one would be hesitant to sell any stock or mutual fund simply because it is part of their portfolio. What if our attachment to things we own wasn't the only psychological factor at work when it comes to investing?

Some economists believe that the thrill of winning or success plays more of a role in our investment decisions than people may want to admit. When you see your mutual fund balance rise or when you see your stock price going up it generates feelings of success. Have you ever stopped to ask yourself why?

Is it just because you have made money or does it have more to do with validating your decision to invest in that stock or mutual fund in the first place?

Because of the obvious risks involved when investing, you know going in that there is no guarantee that your choice will

make you money or cause you to lose money.

Several studies have shown that when the market is up people trade more than when the market is falling. I think our desire to want to be winners explains why. Locking in gains gives us a sense of accomplishment. The reverse of this concept can kill your portfolio when the market is tanking — like now — because you are reluctant to admit that your decision maybe wasn't a good one. You find yourself hanging on to stocks and mutual funds whose writing is on the wall.

I share this information because I want you to know that I am not immune to the emotions involved with investing. The psychological concept of validating our decisions definitely plays a role especially in down markets because it can cause you to hang on to stocks and mutual funds that don't have a future. The best thing you can do for yourself and your portfolio is to admit when you have made a mistake.

The only reason we continue to hold on

to poor performing stocks and mutual funds is because it delays our admission of making a bad decision. Now do not take this information as a reason to liquidate your entire portfolio or your Thrift Savings Plan. That would not be smart. Open up your account statements and face the results of your decisions. It's the first step you must take in order to move forward and give yourself the confidence to continue making investment decisions.

Love it or hate it, investing is necessary. And when the market bounces back (and it will), before you sell a winner, such as a stock or mutual fund that has made you money, ask yourself whether you are selling because it makes sense or are you selling simply to make yourself feel like a winner.

For more information on investment planning or if you have questions regarding any other financial matters, contact the Army Community Services Financial Readiness Program at 751-5256 or via e-mail at Madelyn.Mercado@us.army.mil.

YEAR OF THE NCO



NCO spotlight on ...

Rank, name

1st Sgt. Anissa Jones

Unit

Company C, 3rd Battalion, 60th Infantry Regiment

Job title / Military Occupational Specialty

First Sergeant/ 25W Telecommunications

Years in service

18 years

Marital status

Single

Highest education

Bachelor's of Arts in Human Resource Management

Hobbies

"Reading, watching movies."

• • •

In the 18 years 1st. Sgt. Jones has served, she has been deployed to Kosovo. She has been stationed in Germany, Italy, Korea, Fort Huachuca, Ariz., Fort Sill, Okla. and here. She said her most memorable experience in the Army was getting promoted to first sergeant.

"I think it's just one of the highest achievements. I didn't think I'd get this far being a single parent," she said.

Jones said Sgt. Maj. Donald Manley, NETCOM



Photo by Daniel Terrill

First Sgt. Anissa Jones has been in the Army for 18 years and says she hopes to retire at the rank of command sergeant major.

sergeant major, and Sgt. Maj. Michael Evans, 3rd Battalion, 60th Infantry Regiment command sergeant major, have been a big influence on her career because of their "professionalism, the way they help Soldiers, their dedication and their mentorship."

She sees herself retiring from the Army after serving as a command sergeant major. Her advice for junior enlisted Soldiers: "Stay motivated, find a mentor and do your best. Take care of Soldiers."

We salute you!

Audie Murphy



Photo by Mike A. Glasch

Sgt. 1st Class Joshua Noble, right, Company C, 1st Battalion, 34th Infantry Regiment, is inducted into the Sergeant Audie Murphy Club Feb. 25 at the 120th Adjutant General (Reception) Battalion chapel. Noble was presented a medallion signifying his induction by Command Sgt. Maj. James Williams, 171st Infantry Brigade. Audie Murphy is the highest decorated Soldier in American history.

The NCO Creed

No one is more professional than I. I am a noncommissioned officer, a leader of Soldiers. As a noncommissioned officer, I realize that I am a member of a time-honored corps, which is known as "the backbone of the Army." I am proud of the Corps of Noncommissioned Officers and will at all times conduct myself so as to bring credit upon the corps, the military service and my country regardless of the situation in which I find my-

self. I will not use my grade or position to attain pleasure, profit, or personal safety.

Competence is my watchword. My two basic responsibilities will always be uppermost in my mind — accomplishment of my mission and the welfare of my Soldiers. I will strive to remain technically and tactically proficient. I am aware of my role as a noncommissioned officer. I will fulfill my responsibilities inherent in that role. All Soldiers are enti-

pled to outstanding leadership; I will provide that leadership. I know my Soldiers and I will always place their needs above my own. I will communicate consistently with my Soldiers and never leave them uninformed. I will be fair and impartial when recommending both rewards and punishment.

Officers of my unit will have maximum time to accomplish their duties; they will not have to accomplish mine. I

will earn their respect and confidence as well as that of my Soldiers. I will be loyal to those with whom I serve; seniors, peers, and subordinates alike. I will exercise initiative by taking appropriate action in the absence of orders. I will not compromise my integrity, nor my moral courage. I will not forget, nor will I allow my comrades to forget that we are professionals, noncommissioned officers, leaders!

FEATURE

New education program offers sweet rewards

Mike A. Glasch
Leader Staff

When Pfc. Angela Baskin joined the Army she was looking forward to a career in the signal field as a multichannel transmission systems operator-maintainer. An injury during Basic Combat Training is putting an end to that career.

"I fell and fractured the right side of my body and suffered some brain injuries as well," said the St. Louis native who is now assigned to the Fort Jackson Warrior Transition Unit as she awaits a medical discharge.

But a new pilot program has opened the door to an entirely new career for Baskin as a cake decorator once she transitions out of the Army. Baskin is the first Soldier to take advantage of the Army's Soldier Vocational Technical Training Program.

The program was established by Congress in the Consolidated Security, Disaster Assistance, and Continuing Appropriations Act of 2009. Funding for the program began Feb. 1. It differs from other education opportunities available to Soldiers by offering vocational training rather than college degrees.

"It's a program that has been designed by the federal government for Soldiers to go to school in any area that they wanted to outside the academic arena," explained Brenda Johnson, education specialist, WTU. "It is open to all Soldiers, including National Guard and Reserve Soldiers on extended active duty. Even if you have a master's degree, you can still take advantage of this program."

When she learned about the program, Baskin immediately enrolled in Midlands Technical College to get her cake decorating certificate. She admits that cake decorating is a far cry from the signal career she was planning on, but it appeals to her personal interests.

"I've always liked art, drawing, doing



Courtesy photo

Private 1st Class Angela Baskin watches as her instructor critiques her work in a cake decorating class at Midlands Technical College. Baskin enrolled in the class through a pilot program (Army's Soldier Vocational Technical Training) designed to provide additional ways to expand vocational training for Soldiers.

arts and crafts with my two daughters. So, this just falls in line with what I like to do," Baskin said. "My MOS has nothing to do with who I am as a person. That's my job in the military, but my likes and dislikes go beyond that."

Soldiers interested in AVOTEC must meet certain criteria:

- Classes must be non-degree based, non-credit-hour based and no longer than 18 months in duration

- All costs for instruction, certification, or license must be paid by Sept. 30.

- Funding comes from AVOTEC's \$19

million budget and is paid directly to each school by the Army.

GI Bill or other existing education benefits cannot be used for AVOTEC programs; however, Soldiers are still restricted to the maximum cost limit of \$4,500 per year in tuition assistance.

Johnson said every Soldier, not just those in the WTU, can benefit from AVOTEC, however the program ends Sept. 30, or when the \$19 million runs out. She said no review authority has yet been established to evaluate the success of the pilot program, meaning it might not be

around next year.

For Baskin, not only has her class tested her cake decorating skills, it has also tested her resolve to overcome limitations brought on by her injuries.

"I have a plate that holds my arm together. Sometimes it's hard to maneuver the decorating tools," she said. "But I find a way to overcome that."

For more information on AVOTEC, contact the education center at 751-5341. WTU Soldiers can contact Johnson at 751-1169.

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FEATURE

Chaplain candidates teach, learn history

Steven Hoover
USACHCS Public Affairs

CHARLESTON, S.C. — “Are we there yet?”

That was pretty much the theme of the day as the students and cadre of the U.S. Army Chaplain Center and School’s Chaplain Basic Office Leadership Course participated in a staff ride to Charleston Air Force Base, Fort Sumter National Monument and Patriot’s Point last week.

The staff ride is a regular part of the CH-BOLC training cycle.

Upon arriving at Charleston AFB, the group was led by security police to a flight line where they received a briefing and viewed a “ramp ceremony,” inside a C-17 Globemaster airplane manned by personnel of the 437th Airlift Wing.

This patriotic ceremony is conducted by a chaplain inside the aircraft for someone who has been killed and is being transported out of the war zone, headed toward their final resting place.

“In many cases, this will be the final time for members of the deceased’s unit to pay their last respects, so it is important for (you) chaplain candidates to be exposed to this in training before having to do it for real,” Chap. (Maj.) Robert H. Hart, a CH-BOLC instructor, told the group. “When these ceremonies are held, there is no telling how many will be participating. It’s best to keep the ceremony brief, so that those who are transporting the deceased can get on their way.”

Following the ramp ceremony training, the group received several briefings. The first was conducted inside one of the maintenance hangars. They then moved on to the Charleston AFB Chapel, where they heard from Navy Chap. (Capt.) James R. Fisher, head of the Religious Ministries Center at Marine Corps Recruit Depot, Parris Island.

Fisher explained to the CH-BOLC students that although “all chaplains, at one time or another, may wind up ministering to members of other services, Navy chaplains regularly have opportunities to serve as members of the Marines and Coast Guard as well.”

He told them about his career and then briefed them on Navy and Coast Guard chaplain operations. Fisher was followed by Chap. (Lt. Cmdr.) Wayne Haddad, a Navy chaplain currently serving with the Marines, who spoke to the students about ministering to military personnel in an up-tempo environment.

In the afternoon, the students visited Fort Sumter and then the vessels at Patriots Point, including the USS Yorktown.

Before exploring Fort Sumter, they broke off into platoon groups and presented approximately three-minute briefs of various Civil War-era figures.

“I thought that the training was an excellent opportunity for CH-BOLC students to integrate history and today’s operating



Photos by Steven Hoover

The USS Yorktown, first commissioned in 1943, fought historic battles during World War II during the capture of the Philippines, Iwo Jima and Okinawa. It is the centerpiece of Patriots’ Point, located in Charleston Harbor.



This is one of many cannons used to help protect Fort Sumter.

environment to minister to tomorrow’s Soldiers,” said Alabama National Guard chaplain candidate Richard Browning. “I enjoyed the fellowship with the other service chaplains and the opportunity to see how they do things. As well, it was great to see (some of) the things that South Carolina has to offer.”

Minnesota National Guard chaplain candidate Capt. Chris Metzger said, “The visit to Fort Sumter reminded me that there are some causes that are well worth fighting for and as a member of the Armed Forces of this country, I pray that we will continue to fight for freedom for all, especially for those who cannot fight for themselves.”



While at a Fort Sumter National Monument, the chaplain candidates presented three-minute briefs of various Civil War-era figures.



All eyes are on CH-BOLC instructor Chap. (Maj.) Robert H. Hart, as he explains to the chaplain candidates how to conduct what is commonly called a “ramp ceremony.”

Ask the DENTAC commander

Regulations dictate how appointments prioritized

Why did the Hagen Dental Clinic staff cancel my routine appointment?

A recent ICE comment voiced an objection by a Soldier that his or her cleaning appointment had been canceled. The Soldier could not believe that we do not have routine care available for Active duty Army Soldiers.

The priority for dental care, like most things in the Department of Defense and Army, is dictated by regulation. Army Regulation 40-35 outlines the management of dental readiness and community oral health protection. Unit commanders, the dental care system, and the Soldier share responsibility for dental readiness. The Dental Readiness Program has a goal of reducing the risk of Soldiers becoming non-combat dental casualties when such an event would jeopardize mission accomplishment.

We prioritize dental care as emergent, urgent or routine and this is reflected in the Dental Fitness Classification system. Emergent care is the case of a Soldier who comes in on sick call with a dental emergency. Urgent care is the case of a Soldier who has been identified as a DFC 3 at his/her annual examination. These DFC 3 Soldier patients have a condition requiring immediate attention for their individual health and unit readiness.

Because of this immediate need, DFC 3 Soldiers must be treated before being available for worldwide deployment.

The reason we do occasionally need to

cancel or reschedule permanent party Soldiers is that we serve several transitional populations at Hagen Dental Clinic as well as permanent party. Soldiers who are mobilizing (or demobilizing) from Fort Jackson as well as those in the Warrior Transition Unit have a short window to receive needed, or urgent care.

The rationale is that the permanent party Soldier is here with enough time to receive his or her routine care while a fellow Soldier is not. The cases are triaged by a dentist and staff to ensure the greatest good for the greatest number.

The Dental Activity staff will not cancel or reschedule anything other than an elective or routine appointment.

This means that we would never reschedule an appointment that would result in the oral health deterioration of any service member under our care.

However, while it is a rare practice, we may cancel or delay routine care if there is absolutely no way to meet the needs of higher priority patients, usually deploying Soldiers, without impacting their deployment schedule.

It is important to DENTAC staff that patients understand that we are accommodating Soldiers who have very limited time and require the care more urgently than you.

This does not mean that the importance of any of our beneficiaries is minimized. Soldier health and dental wellness is the core of our mission.

Taking the stage



Photo by Mike Glasch

Chief Warrant Officer 3 Scott MacDonald accepts the guidon of the 282nd U.S. Army Band during an assumption of command ceremony Monday. MacDonald has been serving as the band's commander and conductor since January. He came to Fort Jackson from Fort Riley, Kan., where he served in a similar position with the 1st Infantry Division Band. MacDonald replaced Chief Warrant Officer 2 James Bettencourt.

New director takes charge of Fort Jackson logistics

Susanne Kappler
Leader Staff

The Directorate of Logistics at the Army's largest Initial Entry Training installation has a new captain at the helm. David Monkowski, a retired Navy officer, became the new director of logistics Feb. 9 after a three-year stint in the same position at Fort Huachuca, Az.

"I feel honored to be here," he said. "I'm certainly looking forward to this location and this job."

Shortly after he arrived, Monkowski had to leave for a week long temporary-duty assignment in Alabama, but not before getting a first impression of the people under his command.

"I'm really happy with the quality of the folks here and their professionalism and dedication," he said. "Sometimes I feel like I'm running to catch up to them. Hopefully, at some point in time, I will catch up. And then, they'll be running to catch up after me."

His biggest challenge will be accomplishing the mission to support the IET Soldiers in terms of food service and clothing issue, he said.

Monkowski described his approach to being a leader as



Photo by Susanne Kappler

David Monkowski, Fort Jackson's new director of logistics, talks shop with Col. Lillian Dixon, garrison commander.

deliberate.

"I don't like to make knee-jerk decisions. I like to involve everybody in the decision-making process — assem-

ble all the facts and information and then make a decision based on all the available information," he said. "I understand that's not always possible. ... But I'd certainly like to make every decision correctly and do what's right for the mission and also for our employees."

This is Monkowski's first stint at Fort Jackson, but he is no stranger to South Carolina.

"My wife and I were married in North Charleston," he said.

Monkowski has also experienced some of the worst weather this region has to offer while he was stationed at the Charleston Navy Supply Center in 1989.

"I was stationed there during Hurricane Hugo," he said. "After the hurricane, we had no water pressure, no power for about seven days, so it was a challenge ... to do anything."

Between getting acquainted with the area and looking for a home, Monkowski does not have a lot of time for activities outside of work. He said he hopes that changes soon, though.

"Once things get settled and I bring all my household goods, one of the things that I'd like to start doing is going out on the rifle and pistol range and doing some shooting," he said.

Susanne.Kappler1@us.army.mil

Ask the MEDDAC commander

Cataract symptoms, detection

What is a cataract?

A cataract is a clouding of the lens in the eye that affects vision. Most cataracts are related to aging and are very common in older people. By age 80, more than half of all Americans either have a cataract or have had cataract surgery.



Col. Nancy Hughes

Warning signs that a person may have cataracts are gradual painless blurring of vision, double vision in one eye, sensitivity to bright lights, frequent changes to eye glasses or contact lens prescriptions or difficult driving at night.

Who is at risk for a cataract?

The risk of a cataract increases as one gets older. Other risk factors for cataract include:

- Certain diseases such as diabetes.
- Personal behavior such as smoking and alcohol use.
- The environment such as prolonged exposure to sunlight.

Does Moncrief Army Community Hospital provide screenings?

The Moncrief Army Community Hospital Ophthalmology Clinic does conduct quick cataract evaluations for all beneficiary categories, including active duty family members, retiree and retiree family members of all ages. Contact the clinic directly at 751-5406 to schedule an appointment. You do not need a referral to call for an appointment.

The next quick cataract evaluations are scheduled for March 23 and April 24.

Remember, cataracts are detected through a comprehensive eye exam. Individuals should schedule periodic comprehensive eye exams as recommended by their local optometrist or ophthalmologist.

If you have a question for the MEDDAC or DENTAC commander, e-mail the hospital Public Affairs Officer Nichole.Riley@us.army.mil or call 751-2291.

How can cataracts affect my vision?

When a cataract is small, the cloudiness affects only a small part of the lens. You may not notice any changes in your vision. Cataracts tend to “grow” slowly, so vision gets worse gradually. Over time, the cloudy area in the lens may get larger, and the cataract may increase in size. Seeing may become more difficult.

New vests



Photos by Nichole Riley, Moncrief Army Community Hospital

Valencia Jones and John Rabon present the new vests, worn by Red Cross volunteers, at Moncrief Army Community Hospital and across the country. The new ‘uniform’ for Red Cross volunteers is designed to make them easily identifiable nationwide.

MACH updates

— The Retiree Health Fair is April 25-26 at the Robert B. Solomon Center. The time for the event has not been finalized. Updated information will appear in *The Leader*.

— Moncrief Army Community Hospital will be hosting the Women’s History Month Luncheon 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m., March 18 at the Officers’ Club. Judi Gatson, WIS-TV anchor, will be the guest speaker. For more information, call 751-2773.

— A phone number has been established for patients to cancel their appointments after duty hours. To cancel an appointment after duty hours, call 751-2904. During duty hours, from 7:30 a.m. to 4 p.m., call 751-CARE (2273) to cancel an appointment.

— MACH is experiencing a manufacturer’s shortage of Shingles vaccine (Zostavax), and will likely not have any for at least 3 to 4 months.

— The new Warrior Transition Unit and the Soldier Family Assistance Center are expected to be completed soon.

— The pharmacy is now located on the ground floor and the TRICARE, Exceptional Family Member Program and EDIS offices are located on the 10th floor.

National Nutrition Month at MACH

March is designated National Nutrition Month. This year’s theme is ‘Eat Right America!’

To celebrate, Moncrief Army Community Hospital will be having weekly activities in the dining facility, such as healthy taste tests, a milk moustache contest, guess the calories in your favorite foods and daily nutrition tips.

It is important to pay attention to the tips, because there will be a quiz at the end of the month.

A grand prize will be awarded to the person who gets the most correct answers. Updates will appear in *The Leader*.

Medical Records

Medical records are the property of the U.S. government and must be turned in at the Medical Records Station upon enrolling at MACH. Call 751-2471 for a copy of records.

Helpful Information

Reach MACH toll-free at (877) 273-5584 or locally at 751-CARE (2273), or visit online at www.moncrief.amedd.army.mil or www.tricare.osd.mil.

TRICARE Prime

Beneficiaries enrolled in TRICARE Prime at MACH can schedule an appointment around the clock at www.tricareonline.com or www.moncrief.amedd.army.mil.

Health Talks

To have a professional staff member from MEDDAC address a group on health care subjects or preventive medicine, call the health promotion coordinator at 751-5035 or the Department of Quality Management at 751-2501.

COMMUNITY HIGHLIGHTS

This Week

Today

The commanders' and first sergeants' referral training is set for 9-10:30 a.m. at the Education Center, Room B302.

Sponsorship training takes place 1-2 p.m. today in the Strom Thurmond Building, Room 213.

An Art of Relaxation class is 1-8 p.m. at Building 5615 Hood St.

Friday

The Exceptional Family Member Program's off-post support group meets 5 p.m. at McDonalds on Forrest Drive.

Tuesday

The next Baby Basics class takes place from 10 a.m. to noon at the Joe E. Mann Center conference room.

Wednesday

An overseas levy briefing is set for 2:30-3:30 p.m. in the Strom Thurmond Building, Room 213.

The Retired Officers' Wives Club will meet at 11:30 a.m. at the Officers' Club. Reservations must be made by Friday. Call 783-1220 to make a reservation.

Upcoming

Vehicle Registration hours

The Vehicle Registration office in the

Strom Thurmond Building will close for lunch, weekdays 1-2 p.m. During that hour, the Directorate of Emergency Services will offer vehicle registration.

For information, call Byron Jones at 751-6834.

Employment Readiness

Army Community Services will host Employment Readiness Program Orientation March 18 from 8:30 a.m. to noon at the Strom Thurmond Building, Room 222.

Participants must register to attend. For more information or to register, call 751-5452.

Federal employment

The Steps to Federal Employment workshop will be held 8:30-11:30 a.m. March 25 at the Strom Thurmond Building, Room 222.

Participants must register to attend. For information or to register, call 751-5452.

Announcements

Fort Jackson Thrift Shop

Two jobs are available at the Fort Jackson Thrift Shop. One is for a donation clerk and the other is a cashier. Both are paid positions. For information e-mail Jan Negus at jadosecma@yahoo.com.

Financial readiness training

Self-paced computer-based financial readiness training is available to all regis-

trants via the Lifelong e-Learning Center. Go to www.myarmylifetoo.com to take the course. To speak to a financial readiness caseworker, call 751-5256.

New safety center Web site

The U.S. Army Combat Readiness/Safety Center has launched a new Web site, which can be found at <https://safety.army.mil>.

Financial planning help

Army Community Service has three certified financial planners available from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday through Friday to help Soldiers, retirees and family members with free and confidential advice.

To make an appointment, call 751-5256.

Early hours for Car Care Center

The Fort Jackson Car Care Center will open at 7 a.m., instead of 8 a.m., for a 120-day trial period to help customers.

FMWR key fobs

Family and Morale, Welfare and Recreation is offering key fobs for patrons of FMWR exercise facilities for easier access.

Soul Line dancing

A new Soul Line dancing session is under way. The cost is \$4 per class or \$20 per month for a membership, which includes access to all aerobic classes.

Dance classes are offered Tuesdays and Fridays. For more information or to register, call 751-4893/5317.

Family Child Care Web site

The Family Child Care Web site, www.armyfcc.com, offers installation program information about FCC for the general public. Interested parents may visit CYSS Central Enrollment or the FCC office to request a password to view FCC provider profiles.

EO Training Web site

The Equal Opportunity Training Proponent has launched EO Net. The site is available for anyone with a valid AKO account. For more information, visit <https://www.us.army.mil/suite/page/463396>. EO Net provides one-stop shopping for EO information and training material.

Motorcycle safety training

To operate a motorcycle on Fort Jackson, Soldiers and civilians are required to take the Basic Rider Course. Soldiers also need to attend the training to ride a motorcycle off post.

The BRC is a two-day course offered weekly. The Safety Office also offers an optional Experienced Rider Course.

All classes are free. Soldiers and civilian employees will not be charged pass or leave to attend. Training is available to retirees and family members on a space available basis. For more information, call 751-RIDE (7433).

Military OneSource

The Military OneSource call center is open around the clock for military personnel and family members. Call (800) 342-9647 or visit www.militaryOneSource.com.

\$2K referral bonus offered

Soldiers, U.S. Military Academy cadets, ROTC contracted cadets, members of the Future Soldier Training Program, Army retirees and Department of the Army civilians can earn \$2,000 for referring their acquaintances to Army and Army Reserve recruiters.

For more information, visit www.usarec.army.mil/support/bonus_program.htm.

Individual resume class

The Employment Readiness Program is offering Resume Writing for Beginners individual classes.

Call 751-5452 for more information.

Post family housing landscaping schedule

Housing residents are reminded of the weekly landscaping schedule:

- Mondays — Pierce Terrace 1 and 2;
- Tuesdays — Pierce Terrace 3 and 4;
- Wednesdays — Pierce Terrace 5 and 6;
- Thursdays — Howie Village and Pershing area;
- Fridays — Pierce Terrace 7 and rain day make-up.

Residents should ensure the yard is clear of any obstacles that may prevent mowing, weeding and edging.

COMMUNITY HIGHLIGHTS

Looking for a home



Photos by Daniel Terrill

From left, a 2-year-old gray female cat; a 2 or 3-year-old mixed breed female dog; a 4-year-old black male cat and a 2-year-old yellow lab mixed dog all need to be adopted. For information on pet adoption or other services, call the Veterinary Clinic at 751-7160.

After School Program in Your Neighborhood

The Boys and Girls Club of the Midlands has partnered with Army Child and Youth Services to bring quality programs to elementary schools in your neighborhood. Programs being offered are after-school care, summer camp and before-school care.

For more information, visit www.bcgmidlands.org or call, 231-3300.

Fire Prevention — Test, Inspect

The Fire Prevention Office reminds family housing residents to test and inspect the smoke detector, carbon monoxide detector and stove top fire suppression system monthly. To test the detectors, hold in the test button until the alarm sounds. To test the suppression system, verify the needle is in the green, the pin is not in the extinguisher and there are no obstructions around the cables and the pulley. If the alarm does not sound or if there is a problem, contact the housing maintenance office immediately at 787-6416 for replacement. For any questions, call 751-1610/5239.

Fire Alarm Warning

If occupants of a building notice a malfunction in the fire alarm system, it should be reported immediately by calling 751-4142/7217.

No one should work on a fire alarm system except authorized personnel. Tampering with a fire alarm system, a violation of Fort Jackson Regulation 420-90 and South Carolina law, is punishable under the Uniformed Code of Military Justice. For more information, call 751-1610.

New Initiative for Transitioning Soldiers

A new service, ACAP Express, allows Soldiers to use the Internet to register for

Army Career and Alumni Program services, schedule a wide range of classes and use online tools to create resumes and cover letters.

Soldiers can use their AKO login to use <https://www.acapexpress.army.mil>.

Gold Star Lapel Pin

Soldiers who have lost an immediate family member in combat are now authorized to wear the Gold Star lapel pin on the Army Green uniform.

Immediate family is defined as a spouse, mother, father, children or step-children.

Enlisted Soldiers wear the pin centered both vertically and horizontally on the left lapel of the uniform.

Officers wear the pin centered on the left lapel one-quarter inch below the branch insignia. For more information, refer to Army Regulation 670-1, paragraph 29-7.

APO/FPO Flat-Rate Box

The U.S. Postal Service will offer a military discount for Priority Mail large flat-rate boxes shipped to APO/FPO addresses. The boxes cost \$10.95 and can be ordered online. For more information, visit www.usps.com.

Spouse Overseas Employment

Individual appointments are available for Spouse Overseas Employment Orientation. For more information, call 751-5452.

Balfour Beatty activities

The Balfour Beatty Communities Foundation has a scholarship program for high school student children of family housing residents.

To apply for a scholarship, logon to www.bbcommunitiesfoundation.org, and print and complete the application form.

Completed forms can be mailed to, Balfour Beatty Communities Foundation 10 Campus Boulevard Newtown Square, PA, 19073

The Balfour Beatty Communities LifeWorks Program has several activities planned for Fort Jackson housing residents. All activities start or take place at the Balfour Beatty office at 5939 Thomas Court.

— A Spa Day for Moms is set for tomorrow at the Balfour Beatty community office.

There will be facials, massages and other free services. Only the first 25 registrants will be able to participate. To register, call Courtney Williams at 738-8275.

For information about Balfour Beatty events, call 738-8275.

Family Housing refuse collection

Refuse collection is scheduled for regular trash pick up, recyclables and yard debris and bulk trash.

No trash of any kind may be put out before 7 p.m. the evening before scheduled pick-up day. The schedule for trash pick-up is as follows:

- Mondays — Pierce Terrace 1,2,3 and 6.
- Tuesdays — Pierce Terrace 4,5,7 and Howie Village.
- Wednesdays — recyclables and yard debris;
- Thursdays — bulk trash.

For more information, call 787-6416.

ROCKS meeting

Monthly ROCKS meetings are held on the third Thursday of each month.

The next meeting is March 19 at 5:30 p.m. in the Post Conference Room.

For more information, call 751-1898.

Entertainers sought

Recruitment is under way for U.S.A.

Express, the Army Entertainment Division's deployable musical performance group.

For information and qualifications, go to www.armymwr.com/portal/recreation/entertainment/usaexpress/.

DOVE Connection

A DOVE Connection lunch and learn empowering women is set from noon to 1 p.m., the third Tuesday of each month at 5615 Hood St., Room 10.

For more information or to register, call 751-6303.

Off-post events

The Ridge View Men's Soccer club is holding soccer games, themed, "Support Our Troops Night" March 20 at Ridge View High School on Hardscrabble Road. The Junior Varsity will begin at 5:45 p.m. and Varsity will begin at 7:30 p.m. The Blazers will be hosting their long-time rivals, Spring Valley.

For information, e-mail Michelle Bishop at dmbishop1@bellsouth.net.

The Greater Columbia Chapter of the U.S. Amateur Ballroom Dancers Association will hold their next dances 7:30-10:30 p.m., March 14 and 28 at the Hugh Dimmery Memorial Center, 680 Cherokee Lane, West Columbia. Dress is casual and admission is \$5 for members, \$8 for non-members.

For more information, call Mike Verdone at 407-0132.

The Welcome Home Warriors Drop-in Reception is held from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. March 25 at the Dorn V.A. Medical Center, Building 106, Room D100. There will be a cookout and door prizes.

For more information, call Stacey Davis at 776-4000, ext. 7303 or Janet Kaufman at 695-6780.

Military Saves



Photo by Susanne Kappler

Army family member, Eldora Johnson, takes the Saver Pledge during Fort Jackson's Military Saves Week event Friday at the M.G. Robert B. Solomon Center. The event featured financial seminars, and provided attendees the opportunity to talk to financial advisers.

27"

Opportunities: Fort Jackson to host Teen Job Fair

Theresa O'Hagan

Family and Morale, Welfare and Recreation

Getting his or her very first job is an important milestone in a young person's life.

For Army children, sometimes it's hard to find job opportunities. There have always been a few teen hire positions in the Nonappropriated Funds system, but not nearly enough.

That is why in 2005, Barbara Martin, Fort Jackson Employment Readiness Program manager, Army Community Services, created the first Teen Job Fair.

This year the Fort Jackson ACS Employment Readiness Program will be hosting a Teen Job Fair from 10 a.m. to noon, March 14, in the Maj. Gen. Robert B. Solomon Center.

The Teen Job Fair is open to the public. On- and off-post agencies will be represented. The majority of employment opportunities will be for students 16 and older. There will be limited job opportunities for 14 and 15 year olds. Fort Jackson American Red Cross will also be accepting volunteer applications for teenagers 14 and older.

A few colleges will be participating to provide education and scholarship information.

For more information call 751-4862/5256.

Martin said she remembers perceiving the need for the job fair when she first came to work at ACS.



"When I started working for ACS in October 2003, I was invited to the Youth Center along with the NAF Human Resources Office to talk about employment in February 2004," she said. "After the event, I went to the Youth Center director and told him that I thought the teens would benefit more by attending a job fair than having us talk about job information," Martin said.

Even though, the first teen job fair, in Martin's eyes, could be improved, she praised it for the accolades it has received.

"We had an accreditation team looking at our Employment Readiness Program. They were pleased to see we were already doing a Teen Job Fair, as teen employment

had become an Army Family Action Plan issue," Martin said. "We were already doing something about youth employment."

Since then, the Job Fair is held during a student holiday for high school and college students. This year, because of a snow make-up day, the Teen Job Fair will be on a Saturday. Martin expects 600-700 students to participate this year.

She encourages teens to also consider volunteering as another option for the summer. Teens can gain valuable experience that can be used on future job applications and they can help teens who are applying for college scholarships.

"One tip for landing a summer job is to look for 'Now hiring' signs wherever you go. Employers might give teens more consideration for employment if they show up at their door and fill out an application on the spot," Martin said.

Teens can also go on-line to www.snagajob.com and find many part-time jobs that are available for 16 year olds.

The best areas for finding employment are: city-run youth programs; amusement, theme and recreation parks; ice-cream and juice shops and grocery stores; libraries, museums and zoos; fast food and casual dining restaurants; child and elder care services; and offices needing clerical or customer service help.

Today
Southern Style Lunch Buffet, from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Officers' Club. The buffet is open to the public.
 Visit **Century Lanes** for food, fun and bowling.

Magruders Pub is open for lunch for family members from noon to 4 p.m., Thursdays.

A free **Skills Session in Track** will be held 5-7 p.m. at the Youth Sports Complex.

Friday

Artistic Expression with Jake begins 6:30 p.m. at the Youth Center Teen Room.

Dance to a variety of music provided by DJ Randall at **Magruders Club** from 9 p.m. to 3 a.m. The club is located in the back of Magruders Pub, and the cover charge is \$3 for military and \$5 for civilians.

Every Friday is **Fish Fry Friday** at the Officers' Club, from 11 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Lunch at the Officers' Club is open to everyone.

Saturday

The **Inaugural Wing Cook Off** is from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. at Oyster Point, adjacent to the Officers' Club. Music will be

provided by the Black Bottom Biscuits.

An **Easter Tree class** will be held from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Solomon Center. Cost is \$35 for all materials. Advance registration is held at the front desk.

Step Team practice begins 2 p.m. at the Youth Center Dance Room.

The NCO Club presents **Classic Soul Saturday** from 9:30 p.m. to 2 a.m. in the Excalibur Room. The cover charge is \$3 for military and \$5 for civilians. The event features live broadcasts from the BIG DM 101.3 with giveaways 9:30-11 p.m.

Sunday

Sunday Brunch will be held at the Officers' Club from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Enjoy **Family Day at the Youth Center**, 2-6 p.m.

Monday

The NCO Club presents a **full lunch buffet**, featuring fried chicken or fish, fresh vegetables, a full salad bar, soup, assorted desserts and a beverage from 11 a.m. to 1:15 p.m., for \$7.

Tuesday

Movie Night begins 6 p.m. at the Youth Center Teen Room.

Enjoy **free movies** every Tuesday at Magruders Pub.

The first **Get Golf Ready 1** lesson will be held 5-6:30 p.m. at the Fort Jackson Golf Club's driving range. Call 787-4437 for information.

Wednesday

Be a sensation with **Karaoke with Tom Marable** at **Magruders Club** at 7:30 p.m. Cover charge is \$3 for military and \$5 for civilians.

Visit the Officers' Club for a **Mongolian Barbecue Lunch Buffet**, from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Letters of intent for darts are due to the Sports Office by close of business.

Ongoing Offers

The **Officers' Club** is ready to host your next special event. The club's professional staff will ensure every detail is attended to so your event will be to your specifications. Now is the time to start booking your holiday and 2009 events.

The Officers' Club's goal is to provide quality, consistent service and exceptional, creative cuisine to members and guests. The club offers and specializes in wedding receptions, anniversary parties, promotions and all special occasions.

Membership is open to officers (active duty, retired, Reserves and National Guard) and DoD civilian employees GS-7 and above, and NF 03 and above. For more information, call 782-8761.

The **NCO Club lunch buffet** is served from 11 a.m. to 1:15 p.m., daily. The cost is \$7 for adults and \$3.75 for children.

The **NCO Club breakfast** is served 6-9 a.m., Monday through Friday. The cost is \$7 for adults and \$3.75 for children 4-

10 years old.

The **Officers' Club specializes in catering** wedding receptions, anniversaries, promotions and other special occasions.

The **NCO Club caters** to all your needs: dining in, dining out, promotions, breakfasts, meetings, birthdays, weddings, graduation, retirements and other special occasions.

Victory Travel has special offers for a variety of dinner shows and attractions. Currently offered are discounted tickets to Carowinds, \$28 per ticket, and Six Flags, \$27 per ticket, for the 2009 season. Some offers require reservations.

For more information, visit Victory Travel in the MG Robert B. Solomon Center. Reservations are required for the following dinner shows:

Myrtle Beach: Dixie Stampede, Medieval Times, Legends Theatre, Carolina Opry, Ripley's Aquarium and Palace Theatre.

Tennessee: Dixie Stampede, Country Tonight, Grand Illusions, Grand Ole Opry, Ryman Museum, Rainforest Adventures, Ripley's Aquarium, Ripley's Believe It or Not, Ripley's Haunted Adventure, and Ripley's Moving Theatre.

Florida: Dixie Stampede, Medieval times, Pirates Dinner Adventure, Sleuths Mystery Dinner, Arabian Nights, Ripley's Believe It or Not Museum, The Holy Land Experience, Fantasy of Flights, Kennedy Space Center, Titanic the Exhibition, The Orlando Science Center, Florida Splendid China, and Cypress Gardens.

CHALKBOARD

Changes for military children may be coming soon

Ruth Russell
Army School Liaison Officer

A new wave is sweeping the nation. State governments across the country are acknowledging that more support is needed for military children as they transition from school to school.

In the past few months, more than 25 states have made progress toward enacting the Interstate Compact on Educational Opportunity for Military Children. The governors of these states may join the 11 governors who have already signed onto this compact.

Compacts are agreements among states. Typically they involve things such as interstate trade or shared usage of waterways. Compacts are binding and supersede individual state laws.

The Interstate Compact on Educational Opportunity for Military Children was developed by the Council of State Governments, the Department of Defense and education experts.

It addresses issues that affect military students as a result of frequent moves and deployments.

States that join the compact agree to work together with other compact states to create uniform standards of practice including the transfer of records, course placement, graduation requirements, redundant or missed testing, entrance age variation, and other common problems military children experience as they transition to new schools.

Leslye A. Arsht, deputy undersecretary of defense for

Military Community and Family Policy, commented on the compact.

“Once in force, it means that a move to a new school will no longer prevent students from taking the classes they want or deny them extracurricular activities. They won’t have to repeat a class and or delay graduation because they are completing a new state’s requirements.

The compact creates consistency and certainty for families as they move from one school to another. Our families also serve our nation. We are grateful for this tangible way states are showing their appreciation,” Arsht said.

In South Carolina, the compact was introduced by Sen. Phil Leventis. The Senate Education Committee unanimously voted on Feb. 25 to move the compact forward to the Senate floor where it will be heard by the entire Senate and voted on.

The House Education committee is preparing to vote on the compact introduced by Rep. J.E. Smith. A positive vote will move the compact to the House floor. If it passes both chambers it will go to Gov. Mark Sanford for

a signature. Military families across the country are showing up at these hearings to testify or show support in numbers.

As countless tales of delayed graduation and other troubles children experience as a result of school transition are shared, lawmakers are beginning to pay attention.

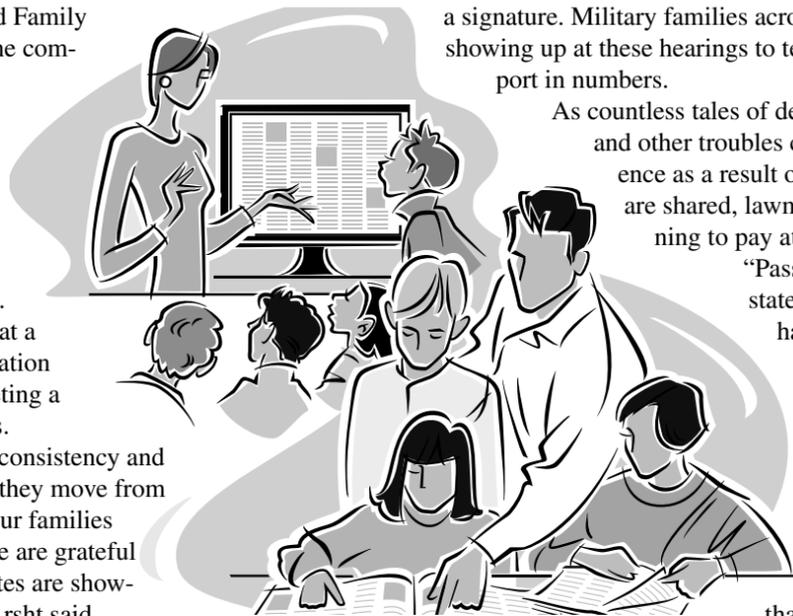
“Passage of this interstate compact will have lasting positive impact on our military families” said David S. C. Chu, undersecretary of defense for personnel and readiness.

It looks as if that positive impact

may soon reach military families stationed here in South Carolina.

For information on the status of Interstate Compact on Educational Opportunity for Military Children and to view a video, go to: www.csg.org/programs/ncic/EducatingMilitaryChildrenCompact.aspx.

To check on status and dates of hearings, go to www.sc-statehouse.gov then click the bill number and search for 319 for Senate status and 3411 for House status.



Fort Jackson Schools

- **March 24:** End of 3rd Quarter
- **March 26:** School board meets 4 p.m. at C.C. Pickney Elementary School. Parents are welcome.
- **March 27:** Student holiday; staff development.
- **April 1:** Report Cards issued
- **April 6-10:** Spring Break

Richland District One

- **March 19:** End of third grading period.

- **March 24:** School Board meeting, 7 p.m. at Crayton Middle School. Parents are welcome.
- **March 25:** Early dismissal for elementary and middle schools.
- **April 1:** Report Cards issued.

Richland District Two

- **March 13:** School in session — In-clement weather make-up day
- **March 24:** School Board meeting, 7 p.m. at Spring Valley High School. Parents are welcome.
- **March 25:** End of third marking period.
- **March 26-31:** Report Cards Issued.

Partnership in Education

The Partnership in Education program is revising the Local Action Plan, which serves as a guide for schools to ease school transitions.

Parents of students who want to provide input may do so on **March 24**, from

11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the Fort Jackson Officers’ Club. The luncheon will be pay-as-you-go.

For details, contact the school liaison officer.

Homeschoolers

A get-together for home schooled students is held each Tuesday. For more information, call 419-0760.

SKIES

SAT Prep classes have begun. Register at CYSS Central Enrollment Office. For more information, call 751-6777.

Announcements

Adopt-a-School is a program that encourages Soldiers to volunteer in local schools.

Units or individual Soldiers may complete volunteer activities at schools on a one-time or a regular basis, with supervisor approval for use of mission time.

High performing units will earn awards quarterly. For more information, e-mail Ruth.C.Russell@us.army.mil or Keisha.McCoyWilson@us.army.mil.

The **Operation Graduation** program is looking for high-school seniors who will have one parent deployed during their graduation ceremony and would like to arrange a live webcast for the deployed parent.

For more information, call 751-6150.

Scholarships

Bernard Brown Space Camp Scholarship for students in sixth through ninth grades, www.militarychild.org/spacecamp.asp, applications due Tuesday.

Editor’s Note: For more information on Army School Liaison Services, call 751-6150 or e-mail Ruth.C.Russell@us.army.mil, or Keisha.McCoyWilson@us.army.mil.

FIRST RESPONDER



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.

Lt. Col. Ronald F. Taylor
Director, Emergency Services/Provost Marshal

Sgt. Maj. Allen Taylor Jr.
Provost Sergeant Major

Billy Forrester
Fire Chief

Cases of the Week

A Soldier was charged with committing an indecent act and making a false official statement after confessing that she took photos of another Soldier in the shower, Military Police said. The Soldier initially claimed she did not take the photos, but later admitted the act, MPs said.

A Soldier was arrested in connection with a theft at the Main Post Exchange. The Soldier tried to leave the store without paying for a set of headphones, MPs said.

A female Soldier reported an indecent act by a male Soldier. The incident is under investigation, MPs said.

Provost Marshal's Tip of the Week

When a fire occurs, do not waste any time saving property. Take the safest exit route, but if you must escape through smoke, remember to crawl low, under the smoke and keep your mouth covered. Smoke contains toxic gases, which can disorient you or, at worst, overcome you.

Remember to escape first, then notify the fire department using the 911 system or proper local emergency number in your area. Never go back into a burning building for any reason. Teach children not to hide from firefighters. If someone is missing, tell the firefighters. They are equipped to perform rescues safely.

crimestoppers
1-888-559-TIPS
www.midlandscrimestoppers.com

FORCE PROTECTION THOUGHT OF THE WEEK

Crime Prevention

Lock Storage Areas

Lock Your Car
 Lock Your Car

Use Outside Views

Know where you are and who is around you

Citations issued in February

Speeding	110
No Driver's License in Possession	11
No Proof of Insurance	79
No Vehicle Registration	24
Driving Under Suspension	12
Expired Vehicle Registration	19
Expired Registration	11
Suspended Plate	2
Expired Tags	16
Operating an Uninsured Vehicle	2
Improper Vehicle License	0
Failure to Surrender Tags	2
Following Too Closely	2
Failure to Stop at Stop Sign	19
Failure to Yield	2
Two headlights required	2
Seat Belt Violation	4
Disregard Traffic Signal	4
Failure to Obey TCD	14
Cell Phone Violations	4
Handicap Parking Violation	2

Total: 341

Serve in the Military as a Federal Agent!



Become a CID Special Agent, conduct felony investigations, provide executive protection for DoD leaders and help safeguard the community at home and U.S. Soldiers worldwide.

Training Opportunities:
 FBI National Academy
 Metropolitan Police
 Academy of Scotland Yard
 Canadian Police College
 Protective Service
 Crisis/Hostage Negotiation
 Masters of Forensic Sciences
 Computer Crimes
 Weapons of Mass Destruction
 Crime Scene Processing
 DoD Polygraph Institute
 Counter-Narcotics
 Economic-Crimes

Primary Requirements:
 - Minimum age of 21
 - Maximum grade of E-5 (non-promotable) **MPs now maximum of E-6**
 - Minimum of two years of military service but not more than 10
 - Minimum of 60 college credit hours from an accredited institution (May waiver to 30 hours) **(MPs now minimum of 15 credits)**
 - Minimum ST score of 107 or higher
 - Pass the APFT and meet AR 600-9 standards.
 - Must possess a valid driver's license
 - Ability to speak and write clearly
 - Must qualify for a Top Secret clearance
 - No civil court or court martial convictions
 - No record of unsatisfactory credit
 - Contact your local CID office for additional and updated prerequisite information



For more information call contact
 SA Jennifer SKUTA
 (803) 751-7664/7665

Or visit our web site at
www.cid.army.mil

CHAPEL

Keeping commitment is 'reasonable service'

Chaplain (Maj.) Byron Collins
Installations Chaplains' Office

Romans 12:1, 2 "I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that you present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service.

"And be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect will of God."

An honest day's pay is worth an honest day's work. This is something that I am sure that we all believe. I know that all through my childhood this was part of my upbringing, part of my culture, part of my core values and morals.

I was taught and believe this is true, or, if you work

hard and do a good job, it will pay off. We all expect if we hire someone to do a job and we pay them, they will do quality work for quality pay.

You and I, as we serve, regardless of which component, Active, Reserve or National Guard; regardless of which branch of service, or whatever our expertise may be, we should be enthusiastic about the job we perform.

It is expected of us to train and develop our skills to the fullest. We are to do our best, and nothing less. We are to be women and men of integrity; being faithful to our mission whether there is someone watching us.

We are to take pride in the battalion or squadron we're in, in the battery or flight we serve, in the platoon we honor, and the squad of women or men we cherish.

For when no one else can see us in plain view, God sees and knows all and rewards us with blessings and

praise as no other.

Nothing can bring us greater honor and nothing will instill more of a sense of pride in each of us than when we hold the highest esteem of our allegiance to our commitment to the Army's values and to God.

It is within reason since the price that he paid is far more than we could ever repay, to give our service to him as we serve him.

As we serve our country and our comrades with integrity ... it is our "reasonable service."

Prayer: "Lord allow me to take pride in the work that I do as I surrender unto you, and may you never be ashamed of my service as I serve you with what is expected.

Please through him who loved me and gave himself for me, inspire me to have integrity and do more. Amen."



Protestant

- Sunday
 - 8 a.m. and 11 a.m. Daniel Circle Chapel (Gospel)
 - 7:45 a.m. Bayonet Chapel (Hispanic)
 - 9 a.m. and 10:30 a.m. Magruder Chapel
 - 9:30 a.m. Main Post Chapel
 - 10:45 a.m. Post-wide Sunday School (Main Post Chapel)
 - 11 a.m. Memorial Chapel
 - 11 a.m. Chapel Next Bayonet Chapel
- Wednesday
 - 6 p.m., Prayer Service Daniel Circle Chapel
 - 7 p.m. Gospel Mid-week Service Daniel Circle Chapel

PROTESTANT BIBLE STUDY

- Monday
 - 7 p.m. Women's Bible Study (PWOC — Main

- Post Chapel, Class 209)
- Wednesday
 - 7 p.m. Anderson Street Chapel
 - 7 p.m. Daniel Circle Chapel
 - 7 p.m. Gospel Congregation's Youth (Daniel Circle Chapel)
 - Thursday
 - 9:30 a.m.-noon Women's Bible Study (PWOC, Main Post Chapel)
 - 6 p.m. Neighborhood CMF/OCF Bible Study (Call 790-4699)
 - 7 p.m. LDS Bible Study (Anderson Chapel)
 - Saturday
 - 8 a.m. Men's Prayer Breakfast (Main Post Chapel, (every second Saturday of the month in Chapel Fellowship Hall))

PROTESTANT YOUTH OF THE CHAPEL

- Saturday
 - 11 a.m. Daniel Circle Chapel (third Saturday)
- Wednesday
 - 6:30 p.m. Main Post Chapel

Catholic

- Monday-Friday
 - 11:30 a.m. Mass (Main Post Chapel)
- Sunday
 - 8 a.m. Mass (MG Robert B. Solomon Center)
 - 11 a.m. Mass (Main Post Chapel)
 - 9:30 a.m. Mass (120th AG Battalion Chapel)

- 9:30 a.m. CCD (Education Center)
- 9:30 a.m. Adult Sunday School
- 12:30 a.m. Catholic Youth Ministry
- Wednesday
 - 7 p.m. Rosary
 - 7:30 p.m. RCIA/Adult Inquiry

Lutheran/Episcopalian

- Sunday
 - 8 a.m. Memorial Chapel

Islamic

- Sunday
 - 8-10 a.m. Islamic Studies (Main Post Chapel)
- Friday
 - 12:30-1:45 p.m. Jumah Services (Main Post Chapel)

Jewish

- Sunday
 - 9:30-10:30 a.m. Memorial Chapel
 - 10:30-11:30 a.m. Jewish Book Study (Post Conference Room)

Church of Christ

- Sunday
 - 11:30 a.m. Solomon Center

Latter Day Saints

- Sunday
 - 11 a.m. Warrior Chapel at 120th AG Bn.
 - 7 p.m., Scripture Study Anderson Chapel

Addresses, phone numbers

- Daniel Circle Chapel**
3359 Daniel Circle, Corner of Jackson Boulevard, 751-4478
- Main Post Chapel**
4580 Strom Thurmond Blvd., corner of Scales Avenue, 751-6469
- Bayonet Chapel**
9476 Kemper St., 751-4542
- Family Life Chaplain**
4850 Strom Thurmond Blvd. (inside of Main Post Chapel), 751-5780
- Anderson Street Chapel**
2335 Anderson St., Corner of Jackson Boulevard, 751-7032
- Education Center**
4581 Scales Ave.
- Magruder Chapel**
4360 Magruder Ave., 751-3883
- 120th Rec. Bn. Chapel**
1895 Washington St., 751-5086
- Memorial Chapel**
4470 Jackson Blvd., 751-7324
- Chaplain School**
10100 Lee Road, 751-8050

LEGAL/INSPECTOR GENERAL

Estate planning options vary by person

Capt. Jeniffer Cox
Legal Assistance Attorney

First of two parts

An estate plan is usually made up of three to four basic legal documents that lay out your wishes for your family in the event that you become incapacitated and explain how you would like to have your property distributed at the time of your death. Not everyone needs all four documents, and there are people who may need additional ones.

This article will highlight the documents that are most common. The first three documents are effective during your life, and cease to be effective upon your death. The final document only becomes effective after your death.

Are you certain that your family members and loved ones know exactly what your wishes are in the event that you are unable to make health care decisions on your own? Living wills and Health Care Powers of Attorney are “advance medical directives” that allow you to make your health-care-related wishes known and designate the type of medical care that you’d like to receive.

Without an advance directive, a hospital is legally bound to do everything to keep you alive as long as possible, until you or a family member decides otherwise. You have a right to control the decisions about your medical care.

A living will, known as a Declaration of a Desire for a Natural Death, is a directive that only applies when your attending physician and another physician have determined you are either (1) terminally ill and close to death; or (2) in a persistent vegetative state, essentially that you have little to no brain function and are in a permanent coma. In either case, you are declaring your desire that your life should not be artificially prolonged by use of medical intervention, such as a respirator.

You also have the opportunity to elect whether you wish to receive artificial nutrition



Whether a Soldier, family member or civilian employee, how one plans an estate has everything to do with an individual's preference for care and wealth distribution.

and hydration in either case, even after the other extraordinary measures prolonging your life have been removed. If you believe you may still want your life prolonged, you should not execute a living will. Normally, a living will is enforceable as your last wish.

In South Carolina it is enforceable as your last wish, unless you choose to give another person, referred to as your agent, power to revoke your living will. In this state, you can also appoint an agent to enforce your living will.

Naming an agent to enforce your living will allows you to make sure that your wishes will be carried out, even if the hospital or physician for some reason wants to keep you on life support.

Most people name the person they have appointed as their agent in their health care power of attorney to enforce the living will.

Unlike the living will, which only applies in the two situations described above, a health

care power of attorney applies at any time you are deemed incompetent to make your own health care decisions by your physicians. It is a much broader document, and can be used temporarily or permanently depending on the duration of your incompetence.

A health care power of attorney is the best assurance that your medical care will be handled in the way you want if you become unable to make these decisions yourself. In a health care power of attorney, you name the person you want to make medical decisions for you at any time you are unable to make your own decisions.

This person is called your agent. A health care power of attorney might apply if you are in an automobile accident and because of your injuries are unable to consent to treatment at the local hospital or if you are injured while deployed. Your agent under your health care power of attorney has the authority to make all the same medical decisions you make,

such as: choosing a physician, admitting you to a hospital, changing your medications. It is important for you to carefully consider who you name to serve as your agent.

The person should be willing and able to serve. You might want to consider the person's ability to make difficult decisions, closeness in proximity to your location, and physical ability to get to your location. You may name up to two alternate agents to serve in case your primary agent is unwilling or unable to serve as your health care agent.

A durable power of attorney is a document where you name an agent to make financial decisions on your behalf if you are unable to do so. The term “durable” means that the documents will remain in effect if you become incapacitated or incompetent. Normally, this document is also “springing,” meaning that it only comes into effect when you become incapacitated or incompetent. Thus, as long as you are capable of making your own decisions, you continue to do so, and no one else has the power to make those decisions for you.

A durable power of attorney is a very powerful document which basically allows the person who you name as your agent to make all of your financial decisions and have access to your finances as if he or she were standing in your shoes.

If it is put into effect on the date of signing it is limited to three years; if it is made to spring into effect, there is no expiration date.

Much like the health care power of attorney, you have the ability to name alternate agents if you choose to do so. Most people enjoy the security that this document provides because they know that if something happens their family or trusted person will not have to go to court in order to pay bills, file their taxes, talk to their health insurance provider, or take care of the plethora of other financial matters that are part of their daily lives.

Commanders expected to investigate complaints

Sgt. 1st Class Sarah Schroeder
Assistant Inspector General

“When commanders are apprised of complaints or accusations against military personnel, they will be expected to inquire into the matter and attempt a resolution. All complaints will be acknowledged and/or documented in writing,” reads Army Regulation 600-20, paragraph 5-8b. It is expected that there will be instances where there is not a requirement to conduct a formal investigation.

As a matter of fact, 15-6 investigations are to be conducted informally, unless directed by a higher authority or required by other applicable regulations.

Formality will depend on, (a) purpose of the inquiry, (b) seriousness of the subject matter, (c) complexity of issues involved, (d) need for documentation, and/or (e) desirability of providing a comprehensive hearing for persons whose conduct or performance of duty is being in-

vestigated” (AR 15-6). For such instances to occur there is enough credible evidence indicating that a violation of the UCMJ or punitive regulations have occurred.

It is always recommended that a commander seek legal counsel before initiating any such investigation to ensure that all steps are followed with whichever route they pursue, although in some circumstances, it is not necessary to do so (RCM 303).

Depending on the situation, a commander may or may not be required to inform the Soldier as to their intent to investigate if the end result of the investigation leads to adverse action or “procedural guidelines exist to allow opportunity for the Soldier to respond” (AR 15-6, para 1-9). An example where a Soldier would not be notified of the investigation where procedural safeguards are in place would be an adverse evaluation report, as AR 623-3 provides opportunity for the Soldier to appeal the report as well as initiate a Commander's Inquiry. The JAG office

will review the legal parameters of the Commander's Inquiry, not the IG.

The Inspector General does his or her best to ensure that a chain of command has been afforded the opportunity to look into matters before moving forward.

Commonly, one of the chief complaints of a command's failure to investigate pertains to non-support situations. A commander has the responsibility in accordance with AR 608-99, Family Support, Child Custody, and Paternity, “to respond to each inquiry within 14 days of its receipt and enforce the provisions of this regulation” (para 3-5) It is important to understand that there will always be an “it depends” response on these types of situations; however the bottom line is that a commander has an obligation to look into the matter and reply accordingly. Failure to comply or look into the matter could have an end result of an Article 92 violation of UCMJ. If you need help from the IG's office, call 751-1923.

SPORTS/FITNESS

Hoops season stretch run begins

Susanne Kappler
Leader Staff

The winter basketball season is in full swing, and so far it is shaping up to be a season of old rivalries, upstart teams and dominant play from the guard position.

Five-time champion That's Them is an early favorite to reclaim the recreational team title after losing the championship game last year to perennial rival Niteflyte, 61-59.

That's Them is the only undefeated team so far and D.B. Taylor, the team's point guard, plans to keep it that way.

"All wins, no losses, take the championship and celebrate with my friends — that's (the goal)," Taylor said.

The players on the team grew up together and have been playing competitively for about 10 years, he said. Taylor dismisses criticism he has heard from other players about his team's dominance.

"Some teams complain that we stack our team, but I think it's just that we're real close," he said. "So, why not play together?"

That's Them leads the Tuesday/Thursday league with a 13-0 record, ahead of Niteflyte by three games in the loss column.

On the active-duty side, last summer's surprise team, 2nd Battalion, 13th Infantry Regiment, is out to prove that last



Photo by Susanne Kappler

David Easter, 165th Infantry Brigade, drives past a defender during a recent game at Coleman Gym.

year's success was not a fluke.

The team is in third place in the Monday/Wednesday league, first among active-duty teams, with a 9-4 record.

"The biggest reason for our success, first and foremost, is team chemistry," said Bryan Davis, 2-13 player and coach.

"We realize that we are a small team and we win games by using our strengths with our up-tempo game. Everyone, for the most part, plays hard and leaves it all on the floor."

Davis said to keep winning his teammates cannot relax, but need to "play every game like it's our last."

The standout player of the season so far is David Easter, 165th Infantry Brigade. He is the only player who has scored at least 20 points in each of his regulation games.

The 5-7 point guard considers himself an inside player, despite his height.

"I'm pretty much a slasher, but if I have an open shot, I'll usually take it," Easter said.

He honed his shooting skills playing intramural basketball at Virginia State University, but does not try to emulate any specific player.

"I'm a pretty small player, there aren't too many small players out there," he said.

Easter's team is in fourth place among active-duty teams in the Tuesday/Thursday league and is competing for a playoff spot. The top four active-duty teams from each league and the top four recreational teams advance to the playoffs, which will begin March 23.

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Sports Briefs

Double Dutch League

A meeting to establish a new Double Dutch league for children 6-18 years old is scheduled for Saturday, 11 a.m. at the MG Robert B. Solomon Center. For more information, call 751-5040

St. Patrick's Day Golf

The third annual 171st Infantry Brigade St. Patrick's Day Golf Tournament is scheduled for March 13, 8 a.m. at the Fort Jackson Golf Club, Wildcat Course. The deadline for teams to sign up is Monday. For more information, e-mail *Patrick.Gaddie@conus.army.mil*.

St. Patrick's Day Fun Run

The St. Patrick's Day Fun Run and Walk is scheduled for March 14. Registration for the 5K event is set for 6:30-7:30 a.m. at Hilton Field Softball Complex. The race will begin 8 a.m. The walk will begin 8:15 a.m. For more information, call 751-3096/5896.

Golf League

Intramural and recreational golf league play will begin March 30. The league is now part of the Carolina Golf League and will feature special events each night of play. The deadline to sign up and submit handicaps is March 18. For more information, call 751-3096.

Volleyball

Intramural and recreational volleyball league play will begin at the conclusion of the winter basketball season. Players must be at least 18. The deadline for teams to sign up is March 25.

Summer Softball

Letters of intent for intramural and recreational softball are due March 26. Players must be at least 18. For more information, call 751-3096.

Bass Tournament

The 171st Infantry Brigade will host its inaugural bass fishing tournament April 3 at Lake Wateree. The event starts 8 a.m. For more information, e-mail *Patrick.Gaddie@conus.army.mil*.

Strongman Competition

Registration is open for Fort Jackson's annual strongman competition. For more information, call 751-3096.

Important Numbers

For youth sports, call 751-5610/5040. For golf information, call 787-4437/4344. For sports information, call 751-3096.

Basketball standings*

Monday/Wednesday League

4-321st	11-2
Swampfoxes	9-3
2-13	9-4
SSI	6-5
187th	6-6
PES	4-9
3-60	3-9
3-13	1-10



Tuesday/Thursday League

That's Them	13-0
Niteflyte	10-3
4-10	7-4
120th	7-4
165th	6-4
DSS	6-8
SCNG	7-4
2-60	4-9
MEDDAC	1-10
JAG	0-12

* Standings as of March 4, 9 a.m.