

THURSDAY, SEPT. 24, 2020

THE FORT JACKSON LEADER

"VICTORY ... STARTS HERE."

1-13TH SAYS
GOODBYE TO
LOST COMRADE

- PAGE 3

**FORT JACKSON, MUSC JOIN
FORCES FOR TESTING - P10-11**

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Community receives updates at virtual town hall



By **ROBERT TIMMONS**
Fort Jackson Public Affairs

Each quarter the U.S. Army Garrison and Fort Jackson hosts a community information exchange to update the installation on what is happening on post. The latest was held during a virtual community town hall Sept. 16.

At the town hall representatives from various on-post agencies, from the Directorate of Public Works to the Army and Air Force Exchange Service, provided updates. Even a few outstanding employees were recognized for their hard work.

“The purpose of the town hall is to inform and hear from our local and regional community,” said Col. John “Wes” Hankins, garrison commander, to start the event. He then lauded some of the “heroes” who are part of a “pretty phenomenal workforce that continues to deliver services that lead us into a high quality of life.”

“At Fort Jackson the mission hasn’t stopped and the community remains adaptive,” Hankins said.

At the event viewers were encouraged to prepare for possible hurricanes by viewing the Fort Jackson Hurricane Guide for the 2020 season.

We are in the middle of the hurricane season

Photo by **ROBERT TIMMONS**

Ann Garner, director of the Directorate of Public Works, watches as James Harper with Fort Jackson Family Homes, speaks about the money spent on housing repairs during the Virtual Community Town Hall Sept. 16.

See **UPDATES:** Page 4

ON THE COVER

A worker with the Medical University of South Carolina administers a COVID test Sept. 22.

SEE PAGES 10-11



Photo by **ROBERT TIMMONS**

THE FORT JACKSON LEADER

Fort Jackson, South Carolina 29207

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Photos by JOSIE CARLSON

Soldiers of Company E, 1st Battalion, 13th Infantry Regiment, render a salute to Pvt. Michael Wise following his memorial service at the Solomon Center Sept. 19.

1-13th says goodbye to lost comrade

By **JOSIE CARLSON**
Fort Jackson Leader

Soldiers of Company E, 1st Battalion, 13th Infantry Regiment gathered to remember Pvt. Michael Wise at a memorial service at the Solomon Center Sept. 19.

Wise passed away Sept. 12 while he was attending Basic Combat Training leaving behind a wife, Jessica, 2-year-old daughter, Rosalie, and a baby on the way.

It was a very solemn morning, as speakers took turns sharing kind words about Wise.

Lt. Col. Terrence Soule, 1-13th commander, thanked those attending for taking time out of their schedules, and praised Wise's decision to join the Army.

"He chose a life of service," Soule said. "He raised his hand and volunteered at a time and place in history when his nation needed him. There is no more honorable endeavor than to dedicate your life to the service of a greater cause. The personal sacrifices made by Michael and generations of Americans who came before him are the reason that we live in the freest most prosperous nation in the world."

See **GOODBYE:** Page 12



Coins, notes and mementos cover the memorial of Pvt. Michael Wise at the Solomon Center Sept. 19.

Post welcomes new garrison housing chief

By **LESLIE ANN SULLY**
Fort Jackson Public Affairs

Earlier this month, Fort Jackson welcomed Luis Rosario-Febus as the new chief of the Garrison Housing Office.

He replaced Emma Watson, who left at the end of August to become the IM-COM-Europe Housing Chief.

His last duty station was as the DPW Housing Division Chief for over four years at Ft. Leonard Wood, Missouri.



FEBUS

Febus, a retired Army veteran with 30 years of service, started working in the housing field in 2011. His previous assignments include the Heidelberg Housing Office in Germany and Bahrain Housing Office in Manama, Bahrain

He said he wants Fort Jackson housing to be the best.

"I am a dedicated housing professional who works very hard for all Service Members and their Families to ensure they live in suitable and safe homes," Febus said. "I want this housing office to be a world class housing office where service members and their Families can come and know we will take care of them."

Watson said she would always remember working at Fort Jackson.

"It has been an honor to serve the service members, Families, retirees, and civilians of Fort Jackson," Watson said. "I have enjoyed my time here and appreciate all of your support over the past 13 years."

"To the best housing team in the Army, thank you for allowing me to grow and excel with you."



Photo by **ROBERT TIMMONS**

Aljournal Franklin, Fort Jackson's Suicide Prevention Coordinator, speaks during a virtual Community Town Hall Sept. 16. Franklin spoke about suicide prevention hot topics and the resources available to the community such as behavioral health professionals and unit chaplains.

Updates

Continued from Page 2

We are in the middle of the hurricane season which experts predict to be especially heavy, Hankins said. "We ask that you remain informed with the information provided to our community and be prepared."

"These guides help you prepare when we tell you there is a need to get ready for a hurricane," said Darryl "Bo" Bowman, director of the Directorate of Plans, Training, Mobilization and Security, during the town hall.

Luis Rosario-Febus, chief of Fort Jackson Housing spoke about the Tenant Bill of Rights and reminded the audience of how to report any problems. "I am asking to give the opportunity to the Fort Jackson Family Homes as they have a residential

engagement specialist (Kim Dimsdale) that is there to assist you," he said. The next step in the reporting chain is the community manager, Judy Boley, and then himself. "If that doesn't work, call me I am here to help you," he said. After him would go to the Director of Public Works, the unit chain of command and finally the Housing Hotline at 751-HELP and the Garrison Commander.

Work orders can be filed at www.FortJacksonFamilyHomes.com.

James Harper with Fort Jackson Family Homes said they had heard the communities concerns and spent \$1.06 million on home repairs.

Housing officials also spoke about the upcoming Resident Satisfaction Survey that will begin Oct. 1.

The survey is "very, very important to our community," Hankins said. "It's your opportunity to be heard. It's your voice to let us know how you see the services provided to you in your home here on Fort

Jackson."

Others who spoke in the town hall included representatives from the Directorate of Public Works, Child, Youth Services, Moncrief Army Health Clinic, AAFES, Commissary and the Directorate of Human Resources Suicide Prevention Program.

Some upcoming events in the next few weeks are the National Night Out Oct. 6, Fort Jackson Ministry Volunteer Recognition ceremony Oct. 16, and the Commanding Generals' Quarterly Golf Tournament Oct. 30. The Directorate of Human Resources will host an Education Fair Nov. 18 and Dec. 1, while the Post Tree Lighting Ceremony is set for Dec. 4 and Victory Block Leave Dec. 17.

The next Community Town Hall is scheduled for Nov. 24.

To learn more about what was said watch the town hall in its entirety at <https://www.facebook.com/USArmyGarrison-FortJackson/videos/1368508660015639>.

Planning ahead is key as hurricane season begins

Hurricane season runs from June through November each year. The peak months for hurricane activity are August and September.



By VERAN HILL
Fort Jackson Public Affairs

With an extremely active hurricane season this year, it's imperative the Fort Jackson community is prepared for hurricanes and other natural disasters.

The most likely threats to Fort Jackson and the surrounding area are: hurricanes, tornadoes, floods and heat waves. These threats will happen, when and where are unpredictable, so we should plan accordingly, post emergency official said.

"Planning ahead of disasters is key to being prepared and surviving," said Ramon "Ray" Domenech, the installation emergency manager.

Before a disaster happens, sit down with your family and make an emergency plan. The emergency plan should address all potential disasters and each individual's courses of action for any given emergency. Each household should have a reunification and communication plan that addresses how family members will communicate and meet when a disaster happens.

"Ensuring that the family members understand the emergency plan is key to a family's survival and wellbeing, during and after a disaster," Domenech said.

All family members should know how to use emergency equipment and what actions to take in different scenarios.

Being prepared means having basic items you need to survive for several days. It is recommended that your basic disaster kit consist of food (nonperishable), water (drinking and sanitation), medical supplies, first

aid kit, light sources (lamps, flashlights, candles, etc.), extra batteries, NOAA Weather Radio with tone alert, alternative cooking methods (gas stove, grills, etc.), tools, rain gear, masks, disinfectant supplies, pet supplies, cell phones and charger, and identification cards.

Periodically, conduct an inventory of basic survival items to ensure they are replenished or have not expired.

"An emergency plan is a foundation you can rehearse from," said Sgt. 1st Class Christopher Waterbury, Fort Jackson protection noncommissioned officer in charge. "Even if the rehearsal is a talk through, it is crucial for knowing what to do, when it happens."

The officials also reiterated that during a natural disaster, individuals should stay calm and shelter-in-place if instructed and listen for emergency information/alerts.

The Installation Operations Center and Installation Emergency Manager receives weather alerts and distributes the warnings to the community via the Mass Warnings and Notifications Systems, the Giant Voice on the installation, email and through the Notification Telephone System. Updates are sent as significant changes occur during severe weather.

For additional information on how to prepare for a hurricane and natural disasters, visit https://ready.army.mil/ra_resources.htm. During a hurricane the Fort Jackson community should also follow the installation social media pages and visit the post website at home.army.mil/jackson for recent updates.

BUILD A 5-DAY EMERGENCY KIT



HAVE A PLAN



- Identify an emergency contact and location
- Have a plan to care for pets
- Tie down or move items inside
- Gather all important valuables and documents. Put them in a water proof bag and store them in a high place

- Ensure your school or daycare has an emergency plan
- Tune in to local news for up-to-date information
- Follow Fort Jackson on Twitter and Facebook for the most current installation updates



Graphic by Joint Base Langley-Eustis

Regional Health Command leadership team visits Moncrief

By REGINALD ROGERS
MAHC Public Affairs

In the midst of a torrential downpour, Moncrief Army Health Clinic welcomed two special visitors Sept. 17, as Regional Health Command-Atlantic Commanding General Brig. Gen. Paula Lodi and Command Sgt. Maj. Rebecca M. Booker, RHC-A's senior enlisted leader paid a visit to the facility.

The visit marked the regional command team's first visit to the facility since taking over their current positions.

Lodi and Booker arrived during heavy rains caused by the remnants of downgraded Hurricane Sally, which made landfall in the Gulf of Mexico, Sept. 16. Despite the inclement weather, they made their rounds to various clinics to meet the Soldiers and civilian staff members who ensure that the Fort Jackson community remains healthy.

While at MAHC, they visited the Reception Medical Clinic and Laboratory department, and met with senior leaders, before Lodi presented coins to MAHC employees, Brian Sims, Sgt. Austin Jackson, and Spc. Kaleb Hull, for their dedication to the MAHC mission.

She also acknowledged the sacrifice and devotion of MAHC's Family members, one of whom was in attendance.

"Wait, are you his spouse," she asked Ashley Jackson, as she stood and watched as Lodi prepared to present a coin to her husband. "Well come on up here, I'm going to give this to you and you can share it with him."

Jackson was awarded for being instrumental in spearheading COVID testing at the Reception Medical Clinic.

According to his award narrative, "he also serves as ammo NCOIC for the company, challenges himself and sets the example by competing in Best Warrior Competitions. He is an all-around dedicated and competent leader, who continues to make a difference for Moncrief."

Lodi presented a coin to Hull, who is regarded by company leadership and deputies as the TMC's best medic. Hull coordinated COVID testing for one of the installation's Reserve teams. The Reserve team personally contacted the Medical Company leadership, praising Hull's engagement and commitment to the mission.

Sims, a civilian employee, rounded out the list of awardees. Sims was responsible for conducting Surveillance Testing/Yellow Phase Encounters.

While visiting MAHC's Laboratory depart-



Photos by REGINALD ROGERS

Brig. Gen. Paula Lodi, commanding general, Regional Health Command-Atlantic, hands a coin to Ashley Jackson, who is the wife of Moncrief Army Health Clinic's Sgt. Austin Jackson, during a coining ceremony at the facility, Sept. 17. Lodi presented coins to three MAHC employees, during her first visit to the clinic since assuming as the regional commander.

ment, Lodi met and spoke to Joanna Baker, Information Technology Specialist, at Moncrief Army Health Clinic. Baker has worked at this facility since 1968 alongside her husband, Frederick J. Hornick. They have a son, Joe, who serves as the IT specialist for MAHC's pharmacy.

She also met with Fort Jackson leadership at the post headquarters, before returning to MAHC and holding a staff Town Hall, via MS Teams, to address any questions the MAHC staff may have had.

Lodi recently made news as it is believed that she and her sister, Maj. Gen. Maria Barrett, commanding general of the U.S. Army Network Enterprise and Technology Command are the only sisters to be promoted as Army generals.



Brig. Gen. Paula Lodi, commanding general, Regional Health Command-Atlantic, center, listens as Moncrief Army Health Clinic Commander Col Tara L. Hall explains the operation at the Reception Medical Clinic, Sept. 17. Also pictured is Lt. Col. Crystal Brigantti, who serves as chief of the RMC and MAHC's Optometry Services.

Community Updates

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

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

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

Questions? Call 751-7045.

closed holidays and weekends.

DFMWR fitness goes viral

Virtual classes began July 27 and participants can register and join in anytime. Start slow or jump right in, there are classes for everyone. Try Spinning, Resistance, Soul Cycle or Step Classes; or join in on wellness, healthy eating, circuit or AQUA training. Personal training, yoga, Zumba and special population classes are available. To register, visit <https://webtrac.mwr.army.mil/webtrac103/wbwsc/jacksonretract.wsc/wb-search.ht>. For more information, call 751-3700.

RETIREES

Retirees and their beneficiaries and Veteran Health Identification Card holders are allowed access to post Sunday, Monday, Tuesday, Friday and Saturday to use the Commissary, Exchange, and other services that are still operating those days. Golfers and cyclists possessing Defense Biometric Identification System cards may access the installation those days as well. Retirees and their beneficiaries who are medically immunocompromised, as well as aged 65 and older, will continue to have priority shopping hours from 7:30 a.m. to 9 a.m. on Tuesdays and Fridays to further reduce risk.

Retirees who have a medical appointment may also access the installation on Wednesdays and Thursdays and must present a memorandum from Moncrief Army Health Clinic stating their name, date and time of their appointment at MAHC.

See **EVENTS:** Page 19

SATURDAY

Do it in Pink Aerobathon

10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Outside the Solomon Center. The Directorate of Family and Morale, Welfare and Recreation is hosting a "Do it in Pink" Aerobathon in support of women's issues. The event is free and social distancing rules will apply. Live participants should register for the following waves: 10-10:30 a.m.; 10:40-11:10 a.m.; 11:20-11:50 a.m.; noon -12:30 p.m.; 12:40-1:10 p.m. To register, call 751-3700.

OCTOBER

Energy Action Month

Throughout October, Fort Jackson is raising awareness about energy resilience during Energy Action Month. This year's theme is "Energy Resilience Gives Us the Power to Win." Energy resilience is about ensuring we have a reliable and regular supply of energy and ensuring contingency measures are in place in the event of major utility outages due to severe weather, natural disasters, accidents, equipment failures, and intentional sabotage/terrorist attacks.

OCT. 6

Avoiding Financial Scams for the Holidays

10-11 a.m.. DFMWR/Army Community Service Financial Readiness Program will host an Avoiding Financial Scams for the Holidays webinar with a guest instructor from South Carolina Department of Consumer Affairs. This webinar will provide participants with information about the latest scams and tools to protect your financial well-being this upcoming holiday season. Registration is required. Fort Jackson civilian employees will register through the USAG Civilian Workforce Development Program via email (usarmy.jackson.imcom-hq.mbx.dhr-civilian-wfd@mail.mil) or calling 751-6736. Service members and Family members will register by calling 751-5256.

NOV. 3

Intro to TSP

9-10 a.m. DFMWR/Army Community Service Financial Readiness Program will host an Intro to Thrift Savings Plan webinar with a guest instructor from the Federal Retirement Thrift Investment Board. This webinar provides an introduction to the Thrift Savings Plan for new employees and Service members. This course focuses on the ba-

sics of TSP account management. The agenda includes discussion of the types of TSP contributions, the differences between traditional and Roth contributions, and a brief discussion of the investment funds. Registration is required. Fort Jackson civilian employees will register through the USAG Civilian Workforce Development Program via email (usarmy.jackson.imcom-hq.mbx.dhr-civilian-wfd@mail.mil) or calling 751-6736. Service members and Family members will register by calling 751-5256.

TSP Investment Funds

1:30-2:30 p.m. DFMWR/Army Community Service Financial Readiness Program will host a TSP Investment Funds webinar with a guest instructor from the Federal Retirement Thrift Investment Board. This webinar will take a deeper dive into the investment options and provide a clearer picture of how to get the most value out of your TSP savings. Registration is required. Fort Jackson civilian employees will register through the USAG Civilian Workforce Development Program via email (usarmy.jackson.imcom-hq.mbx.dhr-civilian-wfd@mail.mil) or calling 751-6736. Service members and Family members will register by calling 751-5256.

NOV. 19

Love and Money Matters Workshop

5 - 7 p.m. The Installation Chaplain's Office in partnership with DFMWR/Army Community Service will host a virtual Love and Money Matters workshop to teach effective communication strategies and address common money issues in relationships. Learn to set SMART goals as a couple that can lead to wealth building and a stronger relationship. Registration is required, please call 751-5256 to register.

COMMUNITY UPDATES

Road construction update

The construction of passive barriers near Gate 2 has been postponed. It is scheduled to begin Sept. 28. Phase 1 will run between Sept. 28 and Oct. 30, while Phase 2 is scheduled from Nov. 2 to Nov. 13. For more information, call 751-3824.

Andy's Fitness Center

Andy's Fitness Center in the Solomon Center, is closed until further notice due to maintenance issues. Perez Gym is open Mon-

day-Friday, 5 a.m. to 8 p.m. and weekends 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Fort Jackson Dog Park Open

The dog park is open from dawn to dusk. Dog Park max capacities are as follows: Small dog side. No more than two people at one time Large dog side. No more than two people at one time Leashing/unleashing area - No more than one person at one time. Time limited to 30 minutes per visit. Bring water for you and your dog. See complete rules posted at the Dog Park. The park will be closed if the rules are not followed. If you see someone breaking the rules, call 751-3113.

Library Curbside Service

Thomas Lee Hall Library, 4679 Lee Road, open for curbside service from noon to 5 p.m. Tuesday to Saturday. It is closed on Sunday, Monday and holidays. To request service, visit the online catalog at: <http://mwrlibrary.armybiznet.com/search-S30> to process requests. Unfortunately, staff will not be able to place requests over the phone. Requests must be made by midnight the day before the requested pick up day. Patrons have 7 days to pick-up items before the request expires and material is offered to the next patron in line. The requests are limited to 20 items per day and patrons must arrive no later than 4:45p.m. for pick-up.

ID Card facility extended hours

Due to extending the expiration date on identification cards to Sept. 30 because of COVID-19, there will be a significant increase in the number of ID cards expiring at the end of September. The Fort Jackson Directorate Human Resources ID Cards Section will open on the following Saturdays from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Sept. 26 to accommodate the increase for ID card services. To schedule an appointment, please utilize our appointment scheduler at <https://idco.dmdc.osd.mil/idco/#/> or internet search "Rapids appointments" Fort Jackson Site ID: 102071 or call 751-6024 for more information. Walk-ins are available, but appointments will have priority.

Pre-owned Vehicle Lot

The Directorate of Family and Morale, Welfare and Recreation has reopened the Pre-Owned Vehicle lot. See the Solomon Center Front Desk to register. Registration Hours are 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. Monday-Friday and

VISIT THE FORT JACKSON LEADER ONLINE AT WWW.FORTJACKSONLEADER.COM

FEATURE

'I BECAME A SOLDIER ...'

2ND BATTALION, 60TH INFANTRY REGIMENT

PFC. GREG PERKINS, 26
Leighton, Alabama

"The idea of being transformed into something more, the dedication and faith drew me into joining the Army."

"Not being able to remove myself from negative situations was a challenging part of Basic Combat Training."

"My MOS is 35N – Intelligence Analyst. I chose this MOS because I seek to understand others."

"I'm looking forward to the knowledge and wisdom gained through my time with the Army."



PFC ZAELIHAHE HOLMES, 18
Tampa, Florida

"I joined the Army because I did not want the debt of going to college."

"The Army is exactly how I thought it would be before joining."

"The most challenging part of Basic Combat Training was the inability to talk with my Family whenever I wanted."

"My MOS is 88N - Transportation Manager. I chose this MOS because it was the most appealing."



PVT EVAN BECK, 18
Livonia, Michigan

"I joined the Army because I wanted to become a better person overall and for the college benefits."

"I didn't know what to expect when joining the Army. I'm the first in my Family to join."

"The challenging parts of Basic Combat Training were being away from home, Family, friends, and adjusting to something outside of my comfort zone."

"My MOS is 38B - Civil Affairs Specialist. I chose this MOS because it gives me a chance to help others."

"I've enjoyed facing new challenges."



PVT. CLARA MARIE PETREE, 18
Danville, Indiana

"I joined the Army for the college benefits, and to protect and serve my Family and community."

"The Army is not what I expected before joining – I did not expect the amount of classwork and studying we did."

"Working with individuals who were not motivated was a challenging part of Basic Combat Training."

"My MOS is 42A - Human Resources Specialist. I chose this MOS because it's geared towards helping Families and I hope to become a social worker in the civilian sector."

"I'm looking forward to becoming a professional and bettering myself to serve."



PVT. PATRICK REHOR, 18
Grand Junction, Colorado

"I joined the Army to be a part of a profession where I could push myself to be the best I could be."

"My Family has a military background, so I knew what to expect in training."

"The most challenging thing about Basic Combat Training was being away from home for the first time – the sudden separation hit me hard."

"My MOS is 15W - Unmanned Aircraft Systems Operator. I chose this MOS because it is a technically focused MOS. I look forward to the challenges ahead of me."



PVT. BREANNA GOES, 19
West Fargo, North Dakota

"I joined the Army for the college benefits. I have eight years of school to become a doctor and the National Guard will help me pay for my education."

"The most challenging thing about Basic Combat Training was coming together as a platoon with individuals having a variety of backgrounds."

"My MOS is 68W - Combat Medic. I chose this MOS because it will prepare me for medical school."

"I look forward to starting Advanced Individual Training and taking classes to become Emergency Medical Technician certified."





Fort Jackson's National Night Out

6-8 p.m. Oct. 6
at Patriot Park

(adjacent to Palmetto Falls Water Park and Solomon Center)

282ND ARMY BAND PERFORMANCE
FOOD TRUCKS
MILITARY WORKING DOG DEMONSTRATIONS
EMERGENCY VEHICLE DISPLAYS
INFORMATION BOOTHS FROM INSTALLATION RESOURCES
PLEASE WEAR A MASK!



Photo by JOSIE CARLSON

Soldiers and Medical University of South Carolina COVID responders pose for a photo during drive-thru testing Sept. 22.

Jackson, MUSC offer drive-thru COVID testing

By ROBERT TIMMONS and JOSIE CARLSON
Fort Jackson Public Affairs

Fort Jackson and the Medical University of South Carolina teamed up again to offer drive thru COVID-19 testing Sept. 22 and 24.

"We've been operating in at risk testing sites throughout the entire state of South Carolina," said Quentin Tompkins, Government Affairs Manager for MUSC. "So we are fortunate to be back here at Fort Jackson."

Tompkins said he believes that testing is vitally important especially "if folks are not feeling well or exhibiting symptoms."

"It's extremely important for (retirees and beneficiaries) to come on and get tested," said Fort Jackson commander, Brig. Gen. Milford H. "Beagle" Beagle Jr. during the testing in July. "It's not a "me" thing. It's a "we" thing. We need to do the right thing so that we can help protect others."

"If you think you've been in some high risk areas, or if you've been exposed in any kind of way, even if you are not having symptoms, I would

highly encourage people to get tested," he said. "Many folks in our community are asymptomatic, meaning they are not exhibiting any symptoms whatsoever."

Participants in the testing were given a nasal pharyngeal swab in one nostril.

While not the most comfortable way to be tested, it is "the most efficient and most accurate test," Tompkins said. "It's not the most comfortable feeling, but it wasn't painful at all." Research is still ongoing to validate saliva testing that many people have heard of.

The test is not considered a rapid test with results being available between 48 to 72 hours.

Tompkins said there are a limited number of rapid tests, but those are typically for first responders and medical personnel on the front lines battling COVID-19.

"Some facilities can offer rapid testing, but again, it's limited," he added. "The result will be seen a number of communication methods including email and text, or you can call if positive." It depends on what they selected during the registration process."



MUSC COVID responders collect samples from patients during COVID testing Sept. 22.

Photo by JOSIE CARLSON



Sgt. Aakif Bispham, with Company B, Headquarters and Headquarters Battalion, answers questions from a motorist during drive thru COVID-19 testing at Fort Jackson Sept. 22.

Photo by ROBERT TIMMONS

Goodbye

Continued from Page 3

As Soldiers listened intently, Wise's battle buddy, Pvt. Hunter Wilkie spoke about their time in training.

"One of my favorite memories I shared with Pvt. Wise is when we had a 30-minute conversation about our mutual favorite snack, Puppy Chow... We had a whole conversation about how much we had missed it and what were the best ways to make it," Wilkie said.

Later Chaplain (1st Lt.) Shane Withrow, encouraged everyone attending.

"Even though Michael is no longer with us in this physical life, he will always be with us in our hearts," Withrow said. He will live on through you and me as we pour our lives into each other. As we motivate, mentor, teach and lead; Michael's legacy lives on."

As the memorial service came to a close, 1st Sgt. Jason Guerrero delivered the final roll call, "Pvt. Wise ... Pvt. Michael Wise ... Pvt. Michael J. Wise." Silence.

Outside of view the firing party broke the silence with the first of three volleys. The 21-rifle salute was completed and a solemn bugler played Taps.

Finally, as they exited the building, Soldiers were given the opportunity to render a final salute in front of the memorial and leave notes and mementos for Wise.



Photo by JOSIE CARLSON

1st Lt. Grant Sampica, 1st Battalion, 13th Infantry Regiment, officiates the memorial service for Pvt. Michael Wise at the Solomon Center Sept. 19.

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Talent management organizers work to remove bias

By ERIC PILGRIM
Fort Knox Public Affairs

Bias. Some of the Army's top leaders visited Fort Knox Sept. 17 to hear how organizers of the new Colonels Command Assessment Program expect to remove as much of it as possible.

The four-day program started assessing commissioned officers' abilities Sept. 11 for strategic potential and readiness to take command of units and organizations throughout the Army. Bias, as organizers mentioned, can be detrimental to appointing the right colonel to the right job.

"The mandate that we've gotten from the Chief of Staff of the Army, we created this to be world-class, fair, consistent and, because of COVID, safe," said Maj. Gen. JP McGee, director of the Army Talent Management Task Force, in charge of conducting CCAP. "If you want to be fair, you have to do everything possible to eliminate bias."

McGee explained that though it's nearly impossible to completely eliminate bias, they have built several measures into the selection process designed to reduce its effects.

"What we've done is really squeezed it down so it's not going to be a dominant factor," said McGee.

He and other organizers explained these steps to Army Chief of Staff Gen. James McConville and the Army's senior enlisted advisor, Sgt. Maj. of the Army Michael Grinston, who stopped by to check on progress after over 150 brigade-level officers had already competed for the coveted top-tier positions.

McConville and Grinston listened as CCAP organizers highlighted some of the complicated steps they take to focus not on test results as much as processes. Organizers explained that the emphasis on how officers process and critically think through real-world scenarios is more critical to determining whether they are prepared for a command position than their prowess on an Army Combat Fitness Test.

Later in the day, Dr. Casey Wardynski, assistant secretary of the Army (Manpower & Reserve Affairs), and Deputy Chief of Staff for G-1 (Personnel) Lt. Gen. Gary Brito stopped by to receive a briefing on CCAP.

"I have two kids in the Army, and I was a long time engaged with the Army; I think this is terrific," said Wardynski. "When we started things like talent management and then this, the question of fairness came up. A lot of the focus of fairness was to the individual — the leader that will go through this."

Wardynski said the issue of fairness has to be expressed from a greater vantage point.

"My first thought is, are we fair to America: mom



Photo by ERIC PILGRIM, FORT KNOX NEWS

Army Chief of Staff Gen. James McConville listens as Maj. Gen. JP McGee, director of the Army Talent Management Task Force, explains how they work to eliminate as much bias as possible during the selection process for brigade command positions.

and dad who send kids, brothers and sisters who send siblings?" said Wardynski. "I think this program really keeps faith with America. The Army is moving every effort, putting its very best people on the project, to make sure our Soldiers are well led."

"There is no substitute for leadership," Wardynski continued. "We can have the best equipment, the best troops, but if we don't have the best leadership, it will come apart."

Brito agreed.

"Above and beyond what is provided on ink just based off of an (officer evaluation report), this allows us to see some of the human aspects as well," said Brito. "There are

some things that a candidate can control, like their (physical training) score. But this assessment, both through the panel gets to some of those other human aspects, and strengths and weaknesses.

"If nothing else, hopefully it may identify a toxic leader that may not be identified in a paper evaluation alone."

Wardynski said CCAP is poised to lead the Army toward the future.

"The Army, with this effort, has made a revolutionary change in its willingness to use assessments to do the deep work in making sure our Soldiers have the very best leaders," said Wardynski. "This will move us forward in protecting our nation."

*Photo by MASTER SGT.ALEJANDRO LICEA*

A crew member assigned to the 10th Combat Aviation Brigade scans his sector while providing security during a flight aboard a CH-47 Chinook helicopter during a fly-to-advise mission Dec. 14 in Southeastern Afghanistan. The Defense Department expects there will be fewer than 5,000 U.S. military service members in that country by the end of November. Since signing an agreement on Feb. 29 with the Taliban, no U.S. military personnel have been killed in Afghanistan.

DOD anticipates significant troop reduction in Afghanistan

By C.TODD LOPEZ
DOD News Service

Based on the current conditions in Afghanistan, the Defense Department expects there will be fewer than 5,000 U.S. military service members in that country by the end of November, said David F. Helvey, who is currently performing the duties of assistant secretary of defense for Indo-Pacific Security Affairs.

“We’ve long maintained that our force presence in Afghanistan is conditions-based,” Helvey said during testimony today before the House Committee on Oversight and Reform, national security subcommittee. “This August, the president (decided) that the conditions of Afghanistan were sufficient to reduce our force presence to between 4,000 and 5,000 by the end of November 2020.”

At that force level, Helvey said, the U.S. maintains an

ability to conduct the core aspects of its existing missions in Afghanistan. One of those missions is to participate in the NATO-led Resolute Support Mission, which is focused on training, advising and assisting the Afghan National Defense and Security Forces. The U.S. also conducts a counterterrorism mission in Afghanistan that works with partners to mitigate terrorist threats there.

Right now, there are no orders to reduce the force presence any further, Helvey said, though there is planning to draw down to zero troops in Afghanistan by May 2021. But those plans can’t be implemented unless the conditions of an agreement with the Taliban are met, he said.

“As (Secretary of State Mike Pompeo) said in Doha, the Taliban must uphold their counterterrorism guarantees to the United States,” Helvey said. “We also expect the Taliban to meaningfully participate in Afghan peace negotiations, and to do their part in preventing outside actors from negatively im-

pacting the peace process.”

In late February of this year, the U.S. and the Taliban signed an agreement that includes, eventually, the complete withdrawal of U.S. forces from Afghanistan. Since the signing of that agreement, the U.S. has reduced forces to 8,600. Part of that agreement also requires the Taliban to agree to no longer allow its members, or other groups, to use Afghanistan as a location from which to threaten the security of the United States or its allies.

Since the signing of that agreement on Feb. 29, Helvey said, no U.S. military personnel have been killed in Afghanistan.

“Ultimately, what we want to be able to see in Afghanistan, is an enduring peace,” Helvey said. “In that type of environment ... the terrorist organizations, terrorist groups, will not be able to operate, will not be able to plan, will not be present. That’s the focus, and we’re looking to get the Taliban to adhere to its commitments.”

Saluting this BCT cycle's honorees 2nd Battalion, 60th Infantry Regiment



Staff Sgt. Matthew Collier
Alpha Company
2nd Battalion, 60th
Infantry Regiment

**SOLDIER LEADER
OF THE CYCLE**

Pfc. Gregory
C. Perkins

**SOLDIER OF
THE CYCLE**
Pfc. Zaelijahe
T. Holmes

COLLIER



Staff Sgt. Franklin Gaydos
Bravo Company
2nd Battalion, 60th
Infantry Regiment

**SOLDIER LEADER
OF THE CYCLE**
Pfc. Mason Gilmore

**SOLDIER OF
THE CYCLE**
Pvt. Jeffrey Curry

GAYDOS



Staff Sgt. Hendrix Willingham
Charlie Company
2nd Battalion, 60th
Infantry Regiment

**SOLDIER LEADER
OF THE CYCLE**
Pvt. Evan Beck

**SOLDIER OF
THE CYCLE**
Pvt. Clara Petree

WILLINGHAM



Sgt. 1st Class Jason Caspers
Delta Company
2nd Battalion, 60th
Infantry Regiment

**SOLDIER LEADER
OF THE CYCLE**
Pfc. Edward Johnson

**SOLDIER OF
THE CYCLE**
Pvt. Jasmin Miller

CASPERS



Staff Sgt. Andrew Kepner
Echo Company
2nd Battalion, 60th
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Pvt. Patrick Rehor

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THE CYCLE**
Pvt. Breanna Gores

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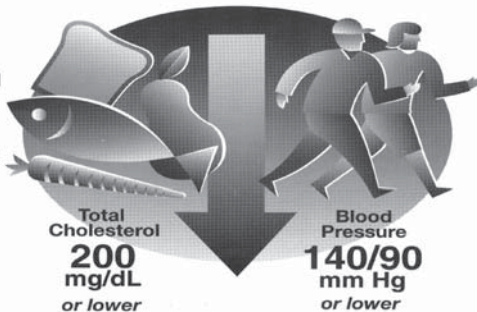
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Fighting Heart Disease and Stroke

8/2000 10-0169

WELCOME

to the new Army Resilience Directorate website, your one-stop resource to access:

- Sexual Harassment/Assault Response and Prevention (SHARP)
- Suicide Prevention Program (SP2)
- Ready and Resilient (R2)
- Army Substance Abuse Program (ASAP)

Find the resources needed to build ready, resilient and cohesive teams founded on the Army Values.

CONTINUE TO SITE



Website offers resources to promote resilience, readiness

By **ASHLEY CHAGNON**
Army Resilience Directorate

The Army Resilience Directorate officially launched its new website Sept. 18 at ArmyResilience.army.mil. The robust website is the Directorate's hub for Sexual Harassment/Assault Response and Prevention, Ready and Resilient, Army Suicide Prevention, and the Army Substance Abuse Program, making it an all-inclusive site for information and resources on these programs.

ARD's mission is to provide policy, resources, and capabilities for individuals and leaders to promote cohesive teams and positive behaviors that increase the Army's resilience and readiness.

The site is designed with the Army's commitment to Soldiers at top of mind, providing fundamental information for each program, as well as actionable tips, first-person accounts, and up-to-date news to truly enhance

the resilience and readiness of the entire Army Family.

Sexual harassment, sexual assault, suicide prevention, and substance abuse are community issues that require community solutions. As such, ARD enlisted the support of many outside subject matter experts from each program area to review the content, ensuring the latest and most accurate information is available.

"The new website provides a wealth of information and resources in a user-friendly format, making it easier for Soldiers and Families to access prevention and resilience resources," said Dr. James Helis, Director of ARD.

The website includes many new features and tools. Directly from the website, Soldiers in immediate need of help can instantly connect to the DOD Safe Helpline for sexual harassment and sexual assault help, to the Military Crisis Line for suicide prevention, and Military OneSource for non-medical counseling. Tools are available for individuals to evaluate their alcohol and sub-

stance use, relationships, and enhance their resilience. There is also information for men who have been sexually assaulted, the dangers of alcohol and substance use for expectant mothers, self-care, and living a sober lifestyle.

Visitors to the website now have resources to help their loved ones in various stages of crisis and tips to start difficult conversations while being mindful and aware of what their loved ones are experiencing.

Comprehensive training information and links for SHARP, Ready and Resilient, Army Suicide Prevention, and the Army Substance Abuse Program can be found on each of the Program pages. Frequently asked questions have been compiled and answered under the main page and supporting program pages as well.

To see more of what the Army Resilience Directorate's new website has to offer, please visit www.Army-Resilience.army.mil.

CLASSIFIEDS

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Land/Lots For Sale

National Land Realty is offering 49.34 +/- acres with two docks and many lakefront opportunities for an asking price of \$575,000. This acreage could allow you to subdivide one portion to resell and still re-gain enough capital to build your own private lake home on one of the smaller portions! With over 690 feet of frontage on Lake Wateree, numerous recreational opportunities such as sailing, boating, fishing and hunting are all possible. Owner is also willing to subdivide. Bring any reasonable offers. For more information contact the Listing Agent, Nick Ardis, at (803)236-8411 or nardis@nationalland.com today.

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Announcements

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Tuesday, September 29, 2020 is the last day to redeem winning tickets in the following South Carolina Education Lottery Instant Game: (SC1152) \$125,000 Extra Play.

Items for Sale

Auctions

EQUIPMENT AND TRUCK AUCTION, September 26, 2020@ 9:00 A.M. 3910 Cottageville Hwy., Walterboro, SC. Large Farm dispersal of late model equipment, well maintained. Also, bucket and service trucks from a local Co-Op. Consignments accepted thru 5:00 P.M. September 25, 2020. For more information and photos visit: Auctionznp.com. Can't make it to the auction? To register and bid online visit www.Proxibid.com

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Events

Continued from Page 7

THE FOLLOWING GYMS ARE OPEN:

Coleman Gym

- Mon. - Fri. 5 a.m. -7 a.m. Active Duty Only
- Mon. - Fri. 7 a.m. -8 p.m. All Authorized Patrons
- Sat. - Sun. 10 a.m. - 5 p.m. All Authorized Patrons.
- Closed Holidays

Vanguard Gym

- Mon. - Fri. 5-7 a.m. Active Duty Only
- Mon. - Fri. 7 a.m. -8 p.m. All Authorized Patrons
- Sat. - Sun. 11:30 a.m. -5 p.m. All Authorized Patrons
- Holidays Closed

Perez Fitness Center

- Mon. - Fri. 5-7 a.m. Active Duty Only
- Mon.- Fri. 7 a.m. to 8 p.m. All Authorized Patrons
- Sat. - Sun. 11:30 a.m. -5 p.m. All Authorized Patrons
- Holidays Closed

Andy's Fitness Center

- Temporarily closed.

Gym staff will check 100% of all ID cards as patrons scan in upon entry. Staff will also sign patrons in when entering, and will sign patrons out when exiting. All patrons will be limited to one hour to allow greater access for all authorized patrons. Staff will ask patrons who do not sign out after one hour to end their workouts and depart the facility.

Patrons must be 16 or older to enter and capacity is limited to 50 patrons per gym.

DA PHOTO LAB:

Training Support Center (TSC) Photo Lab is closed until further notice

AAFES HOURS:

- Main Exchange: 9 a.m. to 7 p.m. Mon.- Fri. and 11 a.m. to 7 p.m. Sat. and Sun.
- Main Barber Shop: 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Mon. - Fri. and 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Sat. and Sun.
- Clothing and Sales: Sun. and Mon. Closed, 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. Tue. - Fri.; 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Sat.
- Mini-mall Dry Cleaners: Sun. and Mon. Closed; 9 a.m. to

5 p.m. Tues.-Sat.
Class 6: 9 a.m. to 7 p.m. Mon. - Fri. and 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. Sat. and Sun.

- Gate 1 Express: 6:30 a.m. to 6 p.m. Mon - Fri. and closed Sat. and Sun.
- Gate 2 Express: 4:30 a.m. to 8 p.m. Mon. - Fri. and 9 a.m. to 7 p.m. Sat. and Sun.
- Exchange Food Facility temporary hours
- Starbucks: 7-11 a.m. Mon.-Sat.
- Boston Market: 11 a.m. to 3 p.m.
- Arby's: 11 a.m. to 3 p.m.
- Qdoba: 11 a.m. to 6:30 p.m.
- Charley's: 11 a.m. to 6:30 p.m.
- Popeye's: 11 a.m. to 7 p.m. Mon.-Sun.
- Burger King: 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. Mon.-Fri.; and 11 a.m. to 7 p.m. Sat. and Sun.

AAFES food establishments have limited indoor and outdoor seating available.

COMMISSARY HOURS

- Sun. 11 a.m. - noon 65 and older and immunocompromised
- Noon - 6 p.m. all authorized patrons
- Mon. Closed
- Tue. 7:30 a.m. - 9 a.m. 65 and older and immunocompromised
- 9 a.m. - 8 p.m. all authorized patrons
- Wed.- Thur. 10 - 11 a.m. 65 and older and immunocompromised
- 11a.m. - 8 p.m. all authorized patrons
- Fri. 7:30- 9 a.m. 65 and older and immunocompromised
- 9 a.m. - 8 p.m. all authorized patrons
- Sat. 9-10 a.m. 65 and older and immunocompromised
- 10 a.m. - 8 p.m. all authorized patrons

There is no transaction limit, but restrictions on high-demand essentials will remain in place until further notice. The Commissary has placed limits on meat purchases. Purchases are limited to: 2 fresh beef, pork, chicken, and turkey items.

DENTAL CLINIC

Caldwell and Hagen Dental clinics are open. Oliver and Oral Surgery Dental Clinics are temporarily closed. Caldwell Dental Clinic is located at Bldg. 4950, Strom Thurmond Blvd. Front Desk/Appointments: 751-5178/6017/5529.

LEGAL ASSISTANCE OFFICE

The Fort Jackson Legal Assistance Office will take in-person appointments Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays to

active-duty service members and their dependents.

RECYCLING CENTER

The Recycle Center will open with limited operations to support Fort Jackson units on Tuesdays and Fridays from 7 a.m. to 2 p.m.

MONCRIEF ARMY HEALTH CLINIC

Acute Care Clinic

- 6 - 11 a.m. for advanced respiratory COVID screening only
- 11 a.m. to 10 p.m. for all other acute care issues.

Medical

MEDDAC will provide retiree enrolled beneficiaries their medical benefits at the Moncrief Medical Home. This applies to retiree beneficiaries who normally receive their health care at Moncrief Army Health Clinic on Fort Jackson. Moncrief Army Health Clinic will remain open every day to those retirees who live in waterfall housing on Fort Jackson, active duty service members, and their dependents.

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