

TUESDAY, NOV. 24, 2020

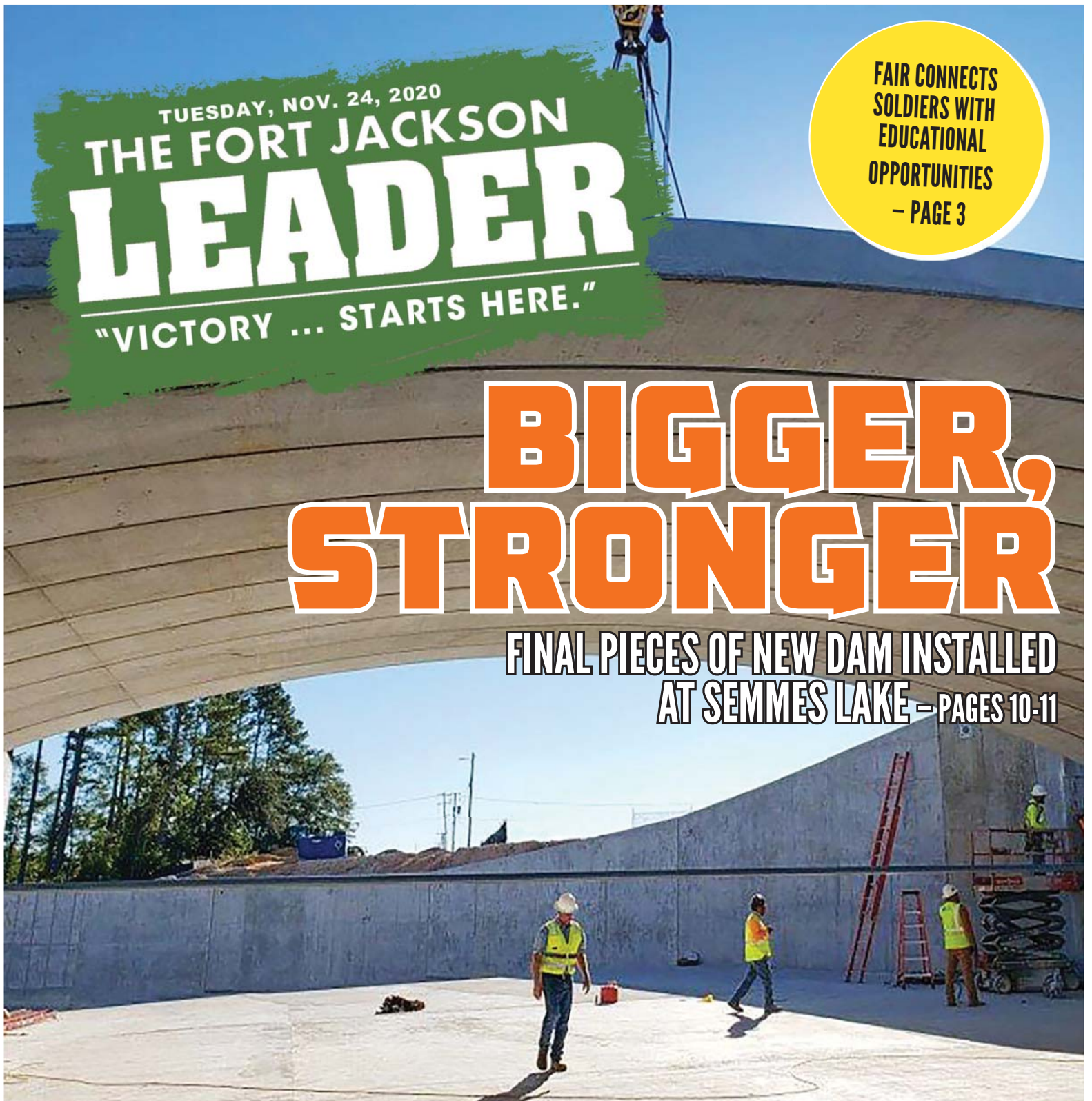
THE FORT JACKSON LEADER

"VICTORY ... STARTS HERE."

FAIR CONNECTS
SOLDIERS WITH
EDUCATIONAL
OPPORTUNITIES
- PAGE 3

BIGGER, STRONGER

FINAL PIECES OF NEW DAM INSTALLED
AT SEMMES LAKE - PAGES 10-11



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Buckle up – Every trip, every time

National Highway Traffic Safety Administration

This Thanksgiving holiday, the U.S. Department of Transportation’s National Highway Traffic Safety Administration is joining Fort Jackson Police Department to share an important lifesaving reminder: Buckle Up — Every Trip. Every Time. Because the Thanksgiving holiday is one of the busiest seasons for America’s roads, more drivers will be on the roads than usual, increasing the likelihood of a motor vehicle crash. During this kickoff to the holiday season, it’s more important than ever to stress the importance of seat belt safety.

During the 2018 Thanksgiving weekend (6 p.m. Nov. 21, to 5:59 a.m. Nov. 26), 291 people were killed in motor vehicle crashes nationwide. Nighttime proved even more deadly, with 54% of Thanksgiving weekend crashes occurring at night. These deaths represent needless tragedies for families across America and may have been prevented with the simple click of a seat belt.

“Thanksgiving is a time for celebrating gratitude with loved ones, and we want to make sure our community members arrive at their Thanksgiving destinations as safely as possible,” said FJPD’s Deputy Chief Randall McKlin. “Whether you’re driving 10 minutes to the Thanksgiving dinner table, or 10 hours, it’s critical that drivers and passengers Buckle Up — Every Trip. Every Time. We want everyone to have a safe and happy Thanksgiving, so please, make sure everyone in your vehicle is buckled before you ever turn on the car — and that includes children being in the correct car seats, too,” he said.

For more information about traveling safely this Thanksgiving, please visit <https://www.trafficsafetymarketing.gov/get-materials/seat-belts/buckle/thanksgiving-weekend>.

Fasten Your Seatbelt or the Dessert Won't Make it!

NHTSA **BUCKLEUP** EVERY TRIP EVERY TIME

ON THE COVER

Specialized construction personnel secure a 30-ton arched culvert suspended in air on Semmes Lake Dam Nov. 3.

– PAGES 10-11

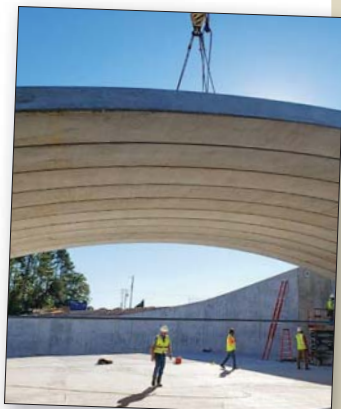


Photo by JACKIE PENNOYER

THE FORT JACKSON LEADER

Fort Jackson, South Carolina 29207

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A representative from Allen University speaks with a Soldier at the Fort Jackson Education Fair, Nov. 18.

Photos by JOSIE CARLSON

Fair connects Soldiers with educational opportunities

By **JOSIE CARLSON**
Fort Jackson Leader

Joining the military comes with many additional benefits beyond a steady paycheck and a place to live. One of those benefits is education, and the education center at Fort Jackson makes sure you have all the resources available to take advantage.

Soldiers (and others in the Fort Jackson community) can use the education center throughout the year to find out about the education benefits available to them, how to apply, and many other educational services, but during the Fort Jackson Education Fair held Nov. 18, Soldiers could actually talk to college representatives.

Jude Marranco, division chief with the Army Continuing Education System, said this was the first education fair since the pandemic started, and they took precautions.

“We’re having a small event, usually we have 25 colleges, but this year we only have 10,” she said. “Four of those are our own on-post colleges, and there’s six local colleges to Fort Jackson that we invited.”



See **FAIR:** Page 16 A representative from Columbia College speaks with a Soldier at the Fort Jackson Education Fair, Nov. 18.



Photo by ROBERT TIMMONS

Garrison Command Sgt. Maj. Algrish Williams watches as Judy Boley, manager of Fort Jackson Family Homes, speaks during the virtual Community Town Hall Nov. 17. Boley and other housing officials updated the Fort Jackson community about issues affecting on-post housing.

Santa's arrival part of housing update

By ROBERT TIMMONS
Fort Jackson Public Affairs

Do-It-Yourself Turkey Art, a holiday decorations contest and a visit by Kris Kringle himself were a few holiday events announced by post housing officials Nov. 17.

This was all part of updates given to on-post residents during a virtual Community Town Hall.

"We have a special contact with Santa," said Judy Boley, manager of Fort Jackson Family Homes, as she announced the upcoming holiday events. "We are collecting letters to Santa. Just outside our office we have a special mailbox." Santa will also read "Twas the Night Before Christmas."

Residents were provided the status of current work orders.

James Harper, Balfour Beatty project

manager, said Fort Jackson Family Homes has spent \$1.181 million to repair issues throughout on-post housing. These include adding nine parking spaces in Phillips Court, cleaning 17 storm drain interceptors, demolishing 36 sheds, and repairing seven patio doors – with four more scheduled for replacement.

Drainage erosion continues to be a "very hot area," he said.

"Once we started on the drainage erosion issue, we had only 36 issues," he added, noting it will be a moving target, but now have 60 areas needing repairs. "We have completed 56 of the 60 areas of drain repairs that have been reported."

The repairs are estimated to be completed by Dec. 15. Fort Jackson Family Homes has also replaced 97 of 104 roofs with the remainder being completed around Dec. 7.

Boley added the Fort Jackson Family Homes' preventative maintenance program is in full swing. "We are continuing with our preventative maintenance program where we are in your home four times a year ... to inspect your HVAC system in some fashion."

The inspections will take place with two quarterly, one semi-annual and an annual inspection. FJFH will notify residents by email and phone when inspectors will be in their neighborhoods.

If you have an urgent or emergency work order, "your first point of contact will be to call (803) 787-6416," Boley said. "We have 24-hour, live operators on that call to assist you. They will dispatch maintenance to you. That's the best way to report an emergency or urgent work order."

Routine work orders are filed through the Resident Portal at www.FortJacksonFamily.com.

The portal gives residents the ability to "track the work order, to make sure it's been signed off and closed out properly," Boley added.

Once the work order is completed, residents will receive a call to ensure they are satisfied and be issued an online satisfaction survey.

"Our Balfour Beatty team has been working really diligently to have a strong preventative maintenance program, but we need our residents to be responsive when they reach out to you to schedule that preventative maintenance," said Col. John "Wes" Hankins, garrison commander. "We have had probably over 100 residents that have not collaborated with them to schedule that maintenance."

See **HOUSING:** Page 14



Brig. Gen. Milford H. 'Beags' Beagle Jr. administers the oath of office to Maj. Raymond Colston during his promotion ceremony Nov. 19. *Photo by JOSIE CARLSON*

Shawley assumes command of storied Division

By **MICHAEL MASCARI**
81st Readiness Division

Maj. Gen. Jami C. Shawley assumed command of the Army Reserve's 81st Readiness Division located on Fort Jackson during a "virtual" ceremony Nov. 14.

Shawley assumed command from Brig. Gen. Joseph Ricciardi, who served in that role following the retirement of Maj. Gen. Kenneth D. Jones. Ricciardi will resume his role as deputy commanding general.

"To command Soldiers is the honor of a lifetime," said Shawley, who is from Charleston, Missouri. "To be extended another opportunity to continue to lead and serve alongside this team and in this storied unit is a humbling moment and a chance to aggressively pursue positive effects, partnering with the operational units we support."

Deputy Chief of the Army Reserve, Maj. Gen. Michael O'Guinn, spoke during the ceremony, saying in her selection major general and for command of the 81st, "Army got it right." He mentioned the challenges of commanding the division with aging infrastructure, vocal customers and budget constraints, in addition to hurricanes, COVID, and operational demands.

"From your first day at West Point, through today, you have proven to always rise to the occasion," O'Guinn said. "I leave today having no doubt the Wildcats are in great hands."

Shawley was commissioned in 1992 following her graduation from the U. S. Military Academy at West Point, and began her career flying AH-1 Cobra helicopters for the 2nd Infantry Division in Korea. She also served at company, battalion and brigade-level staff positions in the 3rd Infantry Division at Fort Stewart, Georgia.



SHAWLEY

ATC officer first Jackson brevet

By **JOSIE CARLSON**
Fort Jackson leader

Maj. Raymond Colston's Nov. 19 promotion ceremony was no ordinary promotion – it was the first brevet promotion to happen on Fort Jackson, and significant in the Army's push towards talent management.

The U.S. Army Brevet promotion program selects officers for temporary promotion to serve at the next higher rank in a critical billet.

"Brevet promotions are a tool for commanders to attract talent" Col. Michael Kuzara, Army Talent Management Task Force, said during a webinar discussing the Army talent alignment process and brevet promotions.

According to the Army Talent Management Task Force, the brevet promotion program is "intended to alleviate critical short-

ages of officers to better leverage the talents of junior officers, and to incentivize retention of those officers in whom the Army invested for education and experience." It also "allows the Army to fill critical shortages with officers who possess the right talent."

There were 32 brevet promotions in October.

Although the 2019 John S. McCain National Defense Authorization Act authorized brevet promotions, they have long had a place in Army history. Dwight D. Eisenhower received several temporary promotions: Brigadier General in 1941, Major General and Lieutenant General in 1942 and General in Feb. 1943. Other notable brevet promotions include Benjamin Harrison, U.S. president from 1889-93.

The current brevet promotions not only entitle an officer to be temporarily promoted to the next grade but also provide the pay

and benefits of the higher rank.

A position is brevet eligible if placed on the Critical Position List approved by the Secretary of the Army. Brevet promotions are temporary. Officers will revert back to their current rank when no longer filling a brevet position unless that officer becomes promotable.

Colston is filling a position in the G33 as the Current Operations Chief, where he'll be responsible for the day-to-day execution of all operations on Fort Jackson.

"I just want to say that I really appreciate the opportunity to serve at a job that's greater than my current rank," Colston said. "I think brevet (promotions) really reward people coming into jobs and giving them more responsibility. Not only that but the pay that comes with it so they can really focus on the work that they're given. It's an excellent opportunity and I'm glad the Army is doing it."

See **SHAWLEY**: Page 17



Screenshot

Col. Mark Huhtanen, 193rd Infantry Brigade commander (far left), answers questions during the biweekly Commanding General's Virtual Town Hall on Special Topics Nov. 19. With him are Col. Eric Flesch, 165th Infantry Brigade commander, Brig. Gen. Milford H. 'Beags' Beagle Jr, Fort Jackson commander, and Col. Tara Hall, commander of U.S. Army Medical Command – Fort Jackson.

Jackson commanders update public

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

Fort Jackson Commander Brig. Gen. Milford H. "Beags" Beagle, Jr. hosted the 25th biweekly Commanding General's Virtual Town Hall on Special Topics with Moncrief Army Health Clinic Commander Col. Tara Hall, 193rd Infantry Brigade Commander Col. Mark Huhtanen and 165th Infantry Brigade Commander Col. Eric Flesch.

Beagle opened the town hall explaining some of the events Fort Jackson has done since the last town hall and thanked veterans.

"To all veterans, thank you for your service and sacrifice," Beagle said while he was explaining how Fort Jackson observed Veterans Day this year.

Hall answered a question from several Fort Jackson employees who wanted to know the COVID procedures for them.

For the staff at Fort Jackson, there is diagnostic testing available.

"When they are tested and test positive, we have a very robust process by which we do contact tracing," Hall said. "We report it to the state, we identify those within the workplace that are determined to be a close contact. This is based on interviews directly with the patient, and then those individuals are contacted and brought in for testing if the provider thinks that is appropriate."

Hall then explained about the flu shots which are being given now to beneficiaries. All trainees will get a flu shot before they go on Victory Block Leave.

"We have started something new for our community here which is a drive through vaccination program," she said. The next flu shot drive-thru clinic is Dec. 7-11 near Patriots Park.

"What we are sending to you Soldiers from a clean environment," Beagle said.

There is a bundle of mobile applications which can help keep them that way, he added. As trainees leave to go on block leave, they will scan a QR code which will add apps to their phone.

"One good question to ask your trainee is to see the Fort

Jackson App on their phone," Beagle said. "The more apps they have that are related to Fort Jackson and the military, the better, because there are a lot of resources connected to that app."

As Fort Jackson makes plans for the holiday leave, the leaders know that some states are changing restrictions and procedures.

"Some states are requiring that before you enter the state, you have to have a negative COVID test," Beagle said.

Huhtanen asked viewers to stay aware of what is going on within your state COVID-wise "because we want them to stay safe and come back to us healthy."

He explained the deliberate process set for when the trainees come back and they will get tested again and have a controlled monitoring period. This also applies to the cadre who will be taking holiday leave as well.

"We are going through the same risk mitigation that the trainees are," he said.

See **UPDATE:** Page 12

Community Updates

THANKSGIVING GATE HOURS

Thursday - Thanksgiving

- Gate 2 - Open 24 hours
- All other gates closed

Friday - Training Holiday

- Gate 1: Closed
- Gate 2: Open 24 hours, with Visitor Control Center normal hours
- Gate 4: 5 a.m. to 1 p.m. Visitor Center same hours
- Gate 5: closed

DEC. 1

Community Job Fair

9 a.m. to noon. Solomon Center. The Fort Jackson Soldier for Life - Transition Assistance Center Program is hosting a Community Job Fair. Employers from various industries and businesses will be participating with immediate job openings. This event is free and open to the Fort Jackson community. For more information, contact the Transition Services Manager at 751-1723. Event will be CDC Complaint: face masks and social distancing will be enforced.

DEC. 1-4

HR for Supervisors Course

8 a.m. to noon. MS Teams. The Human Resources for Supervisors Course will be held provide an overview of HR functions to new supervisors of Federal Civilian Employees whether service members or civilians. Please be advised the HR for Supervisor's course is optional. Supervisor's will still be required to complete the Supervisory Development Course every three years. For those interested in attending, please register via CHRTAS using the following URL: <https://www.atrrs.army.mil/channels/chrtas/student/main.aspx> To Apply for Training > Region: Civilian Human Resources Agency, APG, MD > HR Training for Supervisors > Fort Jackson, SC. Once your registration is approved, the student will be added to the MS Teams Platform. Students must be able to log in with MS Teams to participate. The link will be provided to you upon approval to the course.

DEC. 2, 5

2020 Virtual Benefits Fair

10 a.m. to 5 p.m. The 2020 Virtual Benefits Fair is an online health fair with participants from BENEFEDS, FEDVIP, FEHBP, FLTCIP, and FSAFEDS. Federal Employees can download 2021 plan brochures, visit individual Carrier booths, watch videos, and register for educational webinars. Get answers to your questions, chat with Carriers, review 2021 plan details, and get the information you need to help make the right decisions—in one convenient location. Please visit: <https://vshow.on24.com/vshow/FVBF20/registration/18051> to register.

Representatives from all participating Carriers will be available to take your questions during our four live Carrier chat days:

DEC. 8

Understanding Your Taxes

2-3 p.m. DFMWR/Army Community Service is hosting a virtual seminar. Guest presenters from the Internal Revenue Service will be present. Instructors will provide information on changes to tax laws and individual tax preparation. This is a great opportunity to get your tax questions addressed in time for the upcoming tax year. Please call Army Community Service at 751-5256 to register.

DEC. 15

USAG Training Stand-Up Day

8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Post Theater. U.S. Army Garrison Fort Jackson is holding annual training stand-up day for Garrison employees in two seasons Dec. 15. The morning session runs from 8:30-11 a.m. and the afternoon session from 1-3:30 p.m. The training includes Anti-Harassment and No Fear, OPSEC/AT Level 1, and the Suicide Prevention and Army Substance Abuse Program. Anti-Harassment and No Fear Training is only for personnel without computer access. For more information, call 751-7681.

COMMUNITY EVENTS

Flu Shots

The Moncrief Army Health Clinic's mobile clinic will be providing flu shots from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Dec. 1, 8 and 14-18. Picture ID and mask are required. Please do not attend if you feel sick or are experiencing any symptoms of COVID-19.

Federal Benefits Open Season.

The Federal Benefits Open Season runs until Dec. 14. During this period, you have the opportunity to enroll, change plans or cancel enrollment for the Federal Health Benefits Program and the Federal Employees Dental and Vision Insurance Program. Federal Dental and Vision Plan In order to make changes to your Dental or Vision plans, please visit the website at: <https://www.benefeds.com/>. You may also contact a representative for assistance Monday through Friday 9 a.m. to 7 p.m. EST or by calling (877) 888-FEDS.

Flexible Spending Plan

You also have the opportunity to re-enroll or newly enroll in the Federal Flexible Spending Account Program. Enrollment will be processed through <https://fsafeds.com/enroll/open-season>. If you have questions during the enrollment process, contact the

FSAFEDS Benefits Counselors at (877) FSAFEDS (372-3337), TTY: (866) 353-8058, Monday through Friday from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. EST. You may also enroll over the phone if you are unable to complete enrollment online.

Federal Employee Health Benefits

In order to make changes to your FEHB plan, you may visit the ABC website at <https://abc.army.mil/abc/>. If you are unable to access the website, you may call (877) 276-9287, Monday through Thursday 7 a.m. to 5 p.m. CST to speak with a specialist.

Please note: The effective date to see your election on your LES Statement is Jan. 28, 2021. Additional information regarding Open Season (i.e. premiums, plans brochure) will be on the OPM website: <https://www.opm.gov/healthcare-insurance/open-season>.

NCO Club closure

In observance and in recognition of the 2020 Thanksgiving Holiday, Fort Jackson NCO Club indoor dining (and To-Go/delivery service), will be closed on Nov. 25-30. Service will resume Dec. 1 from 11 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. For more information, call 751-3933.

Pharmacy Holiday Hours:

Thanksgiving

Nov. 26: All pharmacies: closed
Nov. 27: Outpatient & MMH: 7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.; PX Pharmacy: 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.
Nov. 28 Outpatient: 7:30 a.m. to noon; PX Pharmacy: 9 a.m. to noon

DHR Holiday Hours

To allow our employees to spend time with family during the holiday season, the Directorate of Human Resources will be closed on Thanksgiving Day and the Training Holiday Nov. 26-27 and Christmas Eve and Christmas Day, Dec. 24-25. For more information, call 751-3171.

HOLIDAY HOURS

AAFES Thanksgiving Hours

Retail and Food

All Retail and Concessions closed except: Gate 2 Express: 8 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Black Friday Hours:

- Main Exchange: 8 a.m. to 7 p.m.
- Gate 1 Express: 7:30 a.m. to 6 p.m.
- Gate 2 Express: 4:30 a.m. to 8 p.m.
- Class Six: 9 a.m. to 7 p.m.
- Clothing Sales: 10 a.m. to 6:30 p.m.
- Charley's: 11 a.m. to 6:30 p.m.
- Arby's: 11 a.m. to 6:30 p.m.
- Qdoba: 11 a.m. to 6:30 p.m.
- Boston Market: 11 a.m. to 6:30 p.m.

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.

- Starbucks: 7 a.m. to 4 p.m.
- Burger King: 7 a.m. to 6 p.m.
- Popeyes: 11:30 a.m. to 6:30 p.m.

Commissary Holiday Hours

- Nov. 23: Open 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.
- Nov. 25: Open 7 a.m. to 2 p.m.
- Thanksgiving: Closed
- Nov. 27: Open 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.
- Dec. 21: Open 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.
- Dec. 24: Open 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.
- Christmas Day: Closed
- Dec. 26: Open 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.
- Dec. 31: Open 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.
- New Year's Day: Closed
- Jan. 2: Open 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.

CLOSURES AND HOURS

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, the 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.

Photo Lab:

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

See **EVENTS:** Page 19

FEATURE

'I BECAME A SOLDIER'

2ND BATTALION, 13TH INFANTRY REGIMENT

SPC. CHRISTOPHER OWENS, 25
Milford, Delaware



"I joined the Army to improve my goals in life and for the pride in serving the country. Many of my coworkers are veterans and they influenced me into joining the Army."

"Basic Combat Training is what I expected. I believed there would be discipline and that is to be true in Bravo Company, 2nd Battalion, 13th Infantry Regiment."

"The most challenging thing about Basic Combat Training was being away from Family and friends; and also dealing with COVID-19."

"My MOS is 09S - Commissioned Officer Candidate. I chose this MOS because I qualified due to holding a degree. This gave me an opportunity to become a commissioned Army officer and leader."

SPC. DINAJA DOWDY, 23
Frederiksted, Virgin Islands



"My mother influenced me into joining the Army. My mother was a Medic in the National Guard."

"The Basic Combat Training is exactly what I thought it would be - filled with discipline, honor, respect and emphasis on detail."

"The most challenging part of Basic Combat Training was the recollection of so many minor and major details about the military."

"My MOS is 12N - Horizontal Construction Engineer. I chose this MOS to be a part of the demolition and reconstruction process of buildings and any sort of shelter necessary."

SPC. ERIN FAULKNER, 25
Raleigh, North Carolina



"I joined the Army to serve my country and the American people. I joined to support and defend the constitution and to be a part of something greater than myself."

"Basic Combat Training is less intense than what I expected. Nonetheless, I am excited to begin my career and serve."

"The ruck marches were challenging during Basic Combat Training. The distance was not challenging; however, the slow pace that made for a longer time for the ruck marches."

"My MOS is 09S - Commissioned Officer Candidate. I chose this MOS to lead American Soldiers."

SPC. DANIEL BYERS, 26
Phoenix



"I joined the Army for the desire to be a part of the best team in the world and a commitment to challenge myself everyday."

"The most challenging part of Basic Combat Training was trying to motivate dozens of younger Soldiers to be the best they could be without any promise of reward or the ability to punish."

"My MOS is 09S - Commissioned Officer Candidate. I chose this MOS because I believe in my ability to lead."

PFC. HELENA MANRIQUE, 27
McAllen, Texas



"I joined the Army to pay for the schooling of my sisters whom I take care of; and to also challenge myself and improve my life."

"Before joining, I thought the Army was scary and soulless, but I quickly realized it's a team and family."

"The physical training was the hardest part of Basic Combat Training. I pushed myself and I improved a lot and overcame all the obstacles."

"My MOS is 91B - Wheeled Vehicle Mechanic. I chose this MOS because I'm very hands on and I like working with circuits. I can't wait for AIT so I can learn more."

PVT. JOSHUA FARLEY, 18
Taylor, Texas



"My father, who was always an open-minded man, influenced me into joining the Army."

"Basic Combat Training is a little different than what I expected - I thought it would be a lot more hardcore."

"The most challenging part of Basic Combat Training was working with some who were not motivated."

"My MOS is 88M - Motor Transport Operator. I chose this MOS because it's highly deployed."

Fort Jackson provides Thanksgiving meals early to serve everyone

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

Many trainees and Soldiers at Fort Jackson will enjoy their Thanksgiving Day feast a day early on Wednesday for either lunch or dinner depending on their training schedule.

Fort Jackson leadership tries to make this holiday different than other training days.

“For many of the trainees, this is their first time away from home and first holiday without Family,” Fort Jackson Commander, Brig. Gen. Milford H. “Beags” Beagle, Jr.

said. “We try to make this day different by demonstrating that we are one team and one family and we celebrate traditions accordingly.”

The dining facilities start serving at 11 a.m. and finish around 2 p.m.

This year, meals will be served differently due to COVID-19. Social distance or ‘tactical dispersion’ will be used in the dining facilities as we allow trainees to enjoy a meal with their new teammates and Family, Beagle said.

See **THANKSGIVING:** Page 17



A Soldier takes a plate loaded with her Thanksgiving Dinner from her unit’s leadership last Thanksgiving at the 369th AG Bn. Dining Facility. Some trainees and Soldiers will have the opportunity this week to enjoy their Thanksgiving Day feast a day early on Wednesday.

Leader file photo

Dillard’s

MILITARY APPRECIATION DAYS

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 2 & THURSDAY, DECEMBER 3, 2020

At Dillard’s, we recognize with continuing gratitude the sacrifices our military forces and their families make daily for our country. In appreciation, we are extending a

20%*

DISCOUNT

to military personnel** on purchases made at Dillard’s on Wednesday, December 2 and Thursday, December 3, 2020.

*10% discount on small electric appliances.

DILLARD’S IS PLEASED TO EXTEND THESE SPECIAL DISCOUNTS TO:

- ACTIVE MILITARY MEMBERS
and their immediate families
- FULL-TIME ACTIVE GUARDSMEN
and their immediate families
- ACTIVATED GUARDSMEN OR RESERVISTS
and their immediate families

Make your list and shop for the holidays in your favorite Dillard’s store on December 2 & 3, 2020. Enjoy extra savings as Dillard’s honors our military heroes and their families. Thank you for your service to our country.

PROCESS FOR OBTAINING YOUR DISCOUNT: Please visit our Customer Service area and show your valid military ID. Our customer service associates will provide you with a bar-coded shopping pass to use throughout the day. Please retain this shopping pass and show it to our sales associates at the beginning of every transaction. Your appropriate discount will be applied to each transaction. This pass is valid for one day. Should you decide to shop both days, you will need to get a new shopping pass on day two.

**These individuals and/or a representative from their immediate family are cordially invited to shop any area Dillard’s store on either or both days.

Call 1-800-345-5273 to find a Dillard’s store near you.

SPECIAL DISCOUNT NOT APPLICABLE AT DILLARD’S CLEARANCE STORES.

Semmes Dam: Final pieces installed before water returns to basin

By JACLYN PENNOVER
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers

After months of planning and coordination, a team of specialized construction personnel slid the final pieces of heavy concrete into place early November, finalizing the structural foundation of a new, modern dam at Semmes Lake on Fort Jackson.

Led by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Charleston District, the Semmes Lake Dam project was authorized for reconstruction in 2018. The new structure will comply with all modern dam safety standards and, built using the latest innovations in engineering technology, is designed to withstand seismic loading and other hazards.

An ongoing and collaborative effort with Fort Jackson, the three-year, \$17 million project is on schedule to complete early next year.

Technical crews were prepositioned on-site early morning as a dozen 30-ton, 66-foot-long precast concrete arches arrived one-by-one from a manufacturing plant in Spartanburg. To prevent damage, the arch culverts — support beams for a future bridge — were then turned upward using a two-winch setup and then slowly lifted into the air. The crew used a special 400-ton capacity crane for the maneuver.

"This is a pretty unique process," said Eric Jones, resident office project engineer, who has overseen military construction projects, including an \$80-million, multi-city combatant headquarters building at Ft. Belvoir. "I've been doing this a long time, and I've learned so much from this project."

Once the project is complete and water has returned to the lake basin, the structure will support a small bridge and pedestrian path on the reconstructed Semmes Road.

Safety and environmental sustainability were the project's most fundamental driving considerations.

"Designing and building a structure that is not only environmentally responsible but also integrates modern techniques and provides safe, resilient and long-term support to the greater Fort Jackson community has been at the forefront of every aspect of this military construction project," said Charles Grainger, Semmes Lake Dam project engineer.

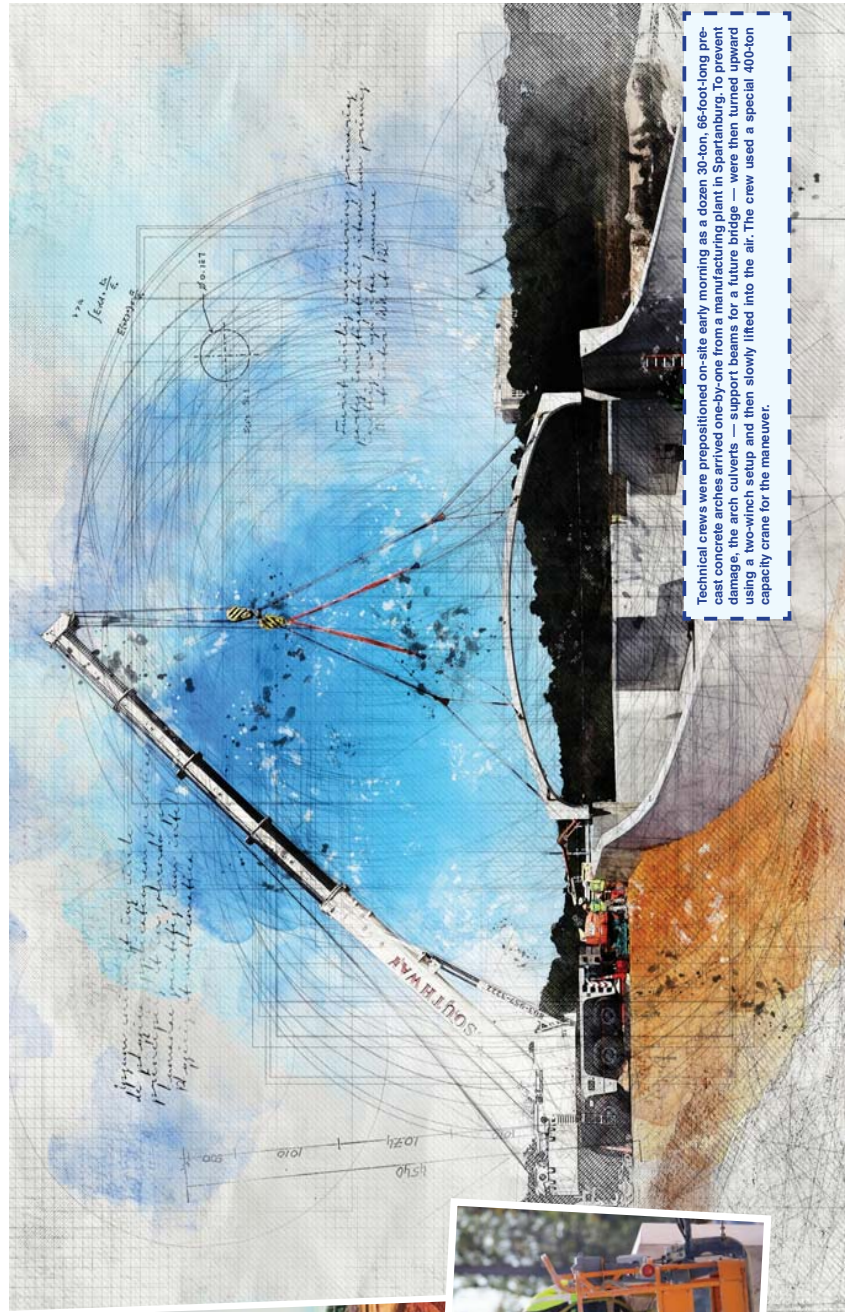
The new dam utilizes a labyrinth weir to control water flow, diverting water into interbed channels and preventing overtopping during storms or flooding events. Configured in a zig-zag or accordion-shape, the weir also requires minimal maintenance and can efficiently and autonomously adapt to fluctuations in water levels.

"One of the greatest benefits of the labyrinth weir is that, while proper maintenance and inspections are required, it has no operational requirement on a day-to-day basis or during storms," Grainger said. "The structure is largely self-operational."

See **SEMMEs**: Page 15



Specialized construction personnel secure a 30-ton arched culvert suspended in air on Semmes Lake Dam Nov. 3.



Technical crews were prepositioned on-site early morning as a dozen 30-ton, 66-foot-long precast concrete arches arrived one-by-one from a manufacturing plant in Spartanburg. To prevent damage, the arch culverts — support beams for a future bridge — were then turned upward using a two-winch setup and then slowly lifted into the air. The crew used a special 400-ton capacity crane for the maneuver.

Covered

Continued from Page 6

Flesch wanted the audience to know that their loved one would get a great holiday meal.

“All the dining facilities here will go all out to prepare a great meal,” Flesch said about Thanksgiving. “It is a competition between the dining facilities, not only here at Fort Jackson, but across the Army.”

The competition is on the best design, layout and decorations. Due to COVID, the meals will be limited to cadre and trainees only. Family members and veterans will not be coming to eat the Thanksgiving meal this year.

In closing, the team asked everyone to help each other to stay COVID free.

Beagle told the audience they will receive a letter detailing how to keep their loved one safe during Victory Block Leave.

“Put that note on your refrigerator and your microwave or somewhere you can see it,” Beagle said. He said he wants all trainees to come back so they can accomplish what they set out to do. “Help keep them safe and healthy,” Beagle said.

Those wanting to learn more or view the town hall in its entirety can visit: www.facebook.com/fortjackson.

Semmes

Continued from Page 10

The next step of the project involves redirecting Wildcat Creek into its new permanent stream channel, through the new concrete spillway, and completing the earthen embankment, Jones said. The dam will stretch 970 feet long and rise 29 feet above the foundation.

Prior to the placement of the culverts, district leaders gave Brig. Gen. Milford Beagle, Jr. and Command Sgt. Maj. Philson Tavernier, commanding general and command sergeant major of the U.S. Army Training Center and Fort Jackson, a tour of the standing structure in the lake basin.

“Installation of the arch culverts is a major milestone for this project,” said Lt. Col. Rachel Honderd, district commander, Charleston District. “This is the final construction stage before water can safely return to the embankment and Semmes Lake can once again serve as a benefit for the Fort Jackson community. The continued success of this project is a testament to the professionalism of our team and our strong partnership with Fort Jackson.”

The Charleston District oversees several military construction projects on Fort Jackson, including the design, construction and renovation of schools, barracks, dining facilities and other structures. Fort Jackson is the largest Army training base for initial recruits, readying roughly 50% of all incoming Soldiers for future careers in the U.S. Army.



Photo by SPC. ASHTON COX

Holiday Tree Lighting

Soldiers assist workers in decorating the Fort Jackson Christmas tree Nov. 19 at Patriot Park on post. Fort Jackson will be hosting its annual holiday tree lighting ceremony at 5 p.m. Dec. 4.

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SOLDIER OF THE CYCLE
Spc. Dinaja Dowdy



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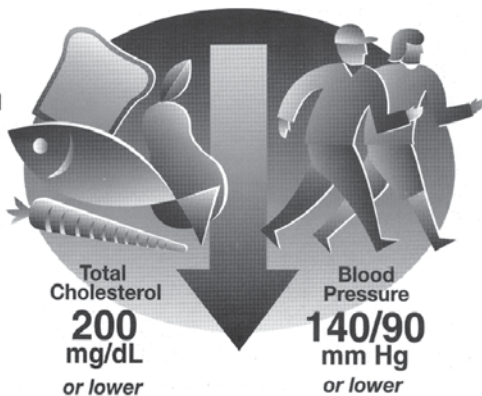


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Housing

Continued from Page 4

Garrison will be working to ensure maintenance is completed so there aren't "more significant work orders later on down the road" because preventative maintenance wasn't completed, he added.






The Garrison Housing Office also provided updates.

"The Army's fall CEL Survey is on hold," said Luis Rosario-Febus, GHO director. Once approved, residents will be notified. He added U.S. Army Garrison – Fort Jackson has requested to build new homes. If approved, construction will begin late 2021 to early 2022.

"The decision to invest in our community represents over \$10 million to demolish 30, and rebuild 30 homes in our community," Hankins said.

Rosario-Febus also announced Tina Barnes was the new housing manager. Barnes is a long-time employee with at the housing office.

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Army Reserve's 81st RD announces first SAMC member

By **SGT. 1ST CLASS JESSICA ESPINOSA**
81st Readiness Division

The 81st Readiness Division recognized its first member of the Sergeant Audie Murphy Club during an induction ceremony at the Headquarters Building Nov. 15 during battle assembly.

Sgt. 1st Class Alfredo Calvillo, a career counselor with 4th Battalion, Army Reserve Careers Division on Fort Jackson, participated in the initial selection board in November 2019 and made it through the entire process to be named the first in the Wildcat Division. He had a lot to wait to be recognized.

"It was a good experience – a great learning experience," he said after the initial board was completed. "The experience helped me develop as a leader."

The initial selection board was held on Fort Jackson during the first quarter of fiscal year 2020 to set the stage for the larger, more inclusive selection board which was to take place this fiscal year, but was pushed back due to COVID-19 and in-person restrictions.

In order to maintain social distance, the ceremony was shown via Facebook live.

Sgt. Maj. Tracy Spencer-Sandolph, senior enlisted operations advisor for the 81st RD, commented during the live showing that "Sgt. 1st Class Calvillo displayed true commitment and dedication to the SAMC process."



**IT WAS A GOOD
EXPERIENCE – A
GREAT LEARNING
EXPERIENCE.**

– SGT. 1ST CLASS ALFREDO
CALVILLO

The upcoming competition remains on hold until further notice due to COVID-19. However, once opened back up, any enlisted Soldier in grades up to E8 is encouraged to vie for a chance to join the elite program, pending unit funds, according to Spencer-Sandolph.

Candidates must have 90 points or higher in each Army Physical Fitness Test event, with the only exception to policy being for those with permanent profiles. Candidates will adhere to their profile while still achieving 90 or more points in non-profile events. Also, candidates must score expert in their assigned weapon to qualify for the Sergeant Audie Murphy selection board.

Selection events outside of APFT and weapons qualification includes a hand written essay, as well as an oral portion before the board.

The initial group of board members consisted of previous Sergeant Audie Murphy Club inductees and leadership from across the Army Reserve Readiness Divisions.

See **SAMC**: Page 17

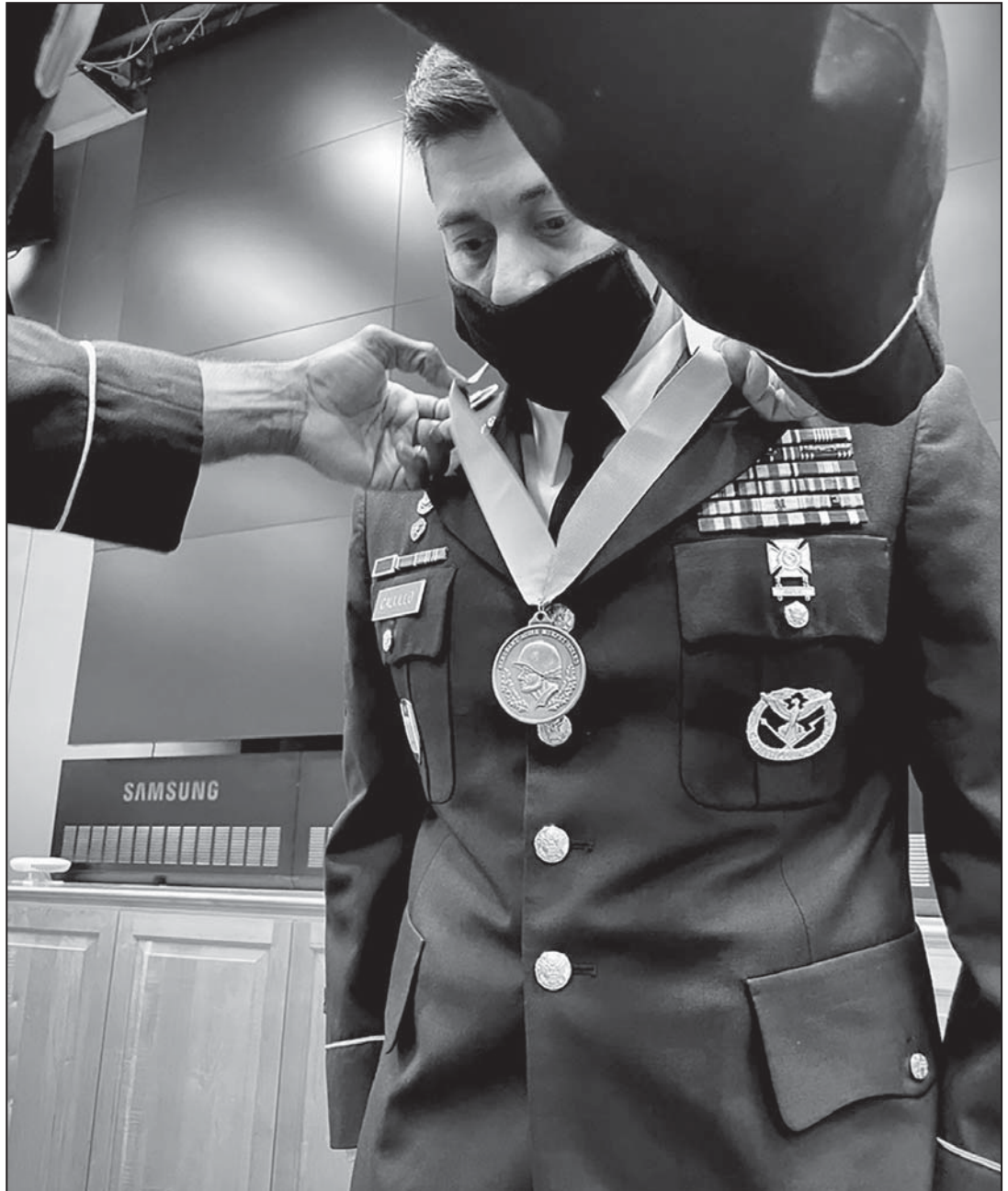


Photo by **MICHAEL MASCARI**

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ON POST

Fair

Continued from Page 3

“We wanted to do extra social distancing because we wanted to protect the school representatives who came here and also the Education Center staff,” Marranco said.

The schools that participated in the Edu-

cation Fair were:

- Midlands Technical College (on-post)
- University of South Carolina (on-post)
- Claflin University (on-post)
- Webster University (on-post)
- Voorhees College
- Benedict College
- Allen University
- Columbia College
- Lander University

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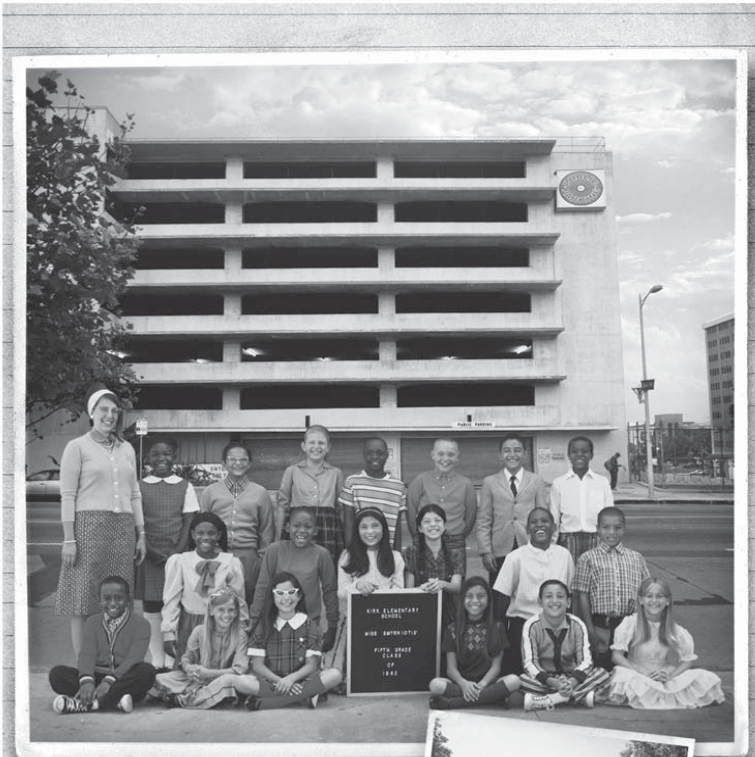
Michelle Cannon from Midlands Technical College said she’s been working on Fort Jackson for a number of years and she enjoys having the Soldiers come through and learn about educational opportunities. She also added that the college provides an opportunity for those who need testing.

“Any Soldier or Family member who’s interested in taking CLEPP or DANES

testing (can come here), Midlands Tech is the national testing center here on Fort Jackson,” Cannon said.

“The education fair is for Soldiers to come and to start their academic journey,” Marranco said, “or if they’ve started it before and need to get a push to start again.”

(Editor’s note: For more information about educational opportunities, available on-post, see the July 30 issue of the Leader.)



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Continue to wear a mask, keep a safe distance, and avoid large gatherings even if you test negative. If you’re sick or have been in close contact with someone who has COVID-19, the best precaution is to stay home to keep your loved ones safe.

Find more helpful holiday planning tips at scdhec.gov/holidaytips.



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CR-012854 11/20

Thanksgiving

Continued from Page 9

Dining facilities are working to prepare the following main dish items: turkey, ham, prime rib, Cornish hen, salmon and shrimp. There will be several sides available such as rice, mashed potatoes, sweet potatoes, two types of corn bread, vegetable medley, collard greens, corn, squash and green beans, several salads and a dessert bar with pies and cakes.

“Celebrating a holiday with aspiring Soldiers shows them what it looks and feels like to a part of a team,” Beagle continued. “We will endure hardships together and tough times but we will equally enjoy good times with each other.”

The dining facility also gets a new look for the meal. Preparations range from facility decoration, worker uniform/costume preparations, unit participation in development of the facility theme, coordinating meal periods and command servers, pre-preparation of ingredients, specialty cake decorating, ice-carvings, and throwing down in the kitchen preparing all the fixings. Typically, food service personnel establish shifts starting the night before to ensure all of the preparations are ready and on time.

Following tradition, the meal will be served by commanders, their staffs, and senior non-commissioned officers of each company as their Soldiers and trainees pass through the serving line.

“Part of the reason why leaders serve Soldiers on Thanksgiving is to provide a tangible display of servant leadership,” Beagle said. “Leaders work for and serve those that they lead. The physical display of identifying and meeting needs of others by doing something as simple as serving Soldiers a meal is a humble reminder to leaders.”

Shawley

Continued from Page 5

Her other assignments include: company commander in the 224th Military Intelligence (Aerial Exploitation) Battalion; aviation branch chief at Human Resources Command; military advisor to the Department of State, Bureau of Counterterrorism and Countering Violent Extremism; as the senior crisis operations and policy officer for the bureau; and assistant deputy director in the Joint Staff Strategy, Plans and Policy Directorate, for U.S. Africa Command.

Shawley has two master’s degrees and holds a number of awards and badges to include the Defense Superior Service Medal, Bronze Star and Senior Aviator Badge.

The 81st RD is the geographic command for nine southeastern states, as well as Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands and is responsible for ensuring units and Soldiers are prepared to deploy and fight multi-domain operations and meet current and future Combatant Command Force requirements.

Established in 1917, the “Wildcat Division,” is known for its distinctive patch, the first in the Army. The division fought in both world wars and deployed units to Vietnam, Southwest Asia, and the Balkans. Today, the RD supports 50,000 Soldiers and their Families, 48 maintenance shops, and nearly 250 Reserve Centers.



Photo by MICHAEL MASCARI

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SAMC

Continued from Page 15

81st RD Command Sgt. Maj. Levi Maynard, the senior enlisted advisor, expressed his pride in Calvillo being named the first inductee into the 81st RD SAMA program and had a message for those who also strive to be in the Audie Murphy Club. “Getting the Sergeant Audie Murphy Award is not easy, but it is achievable if you commit yourself to doing what is necessary. You have to commit

yourself.”

The 81st RD will announce when they will begin conducting Army-wide Audie Murphy Club selection boards again for the U.S. Army Forces Command on Fort Bragg, N.C. in the future.

The SAMA is a means of recognizing those noncommissioned officers who have contributed significantly to the development of a professional NCO Corps and combat ready Army. Members exemplify leadership characterized by personal concern for the needs, training, development and welfare of Soldiers and concern for family of Soldiers.

Sgt. Audie Murphy was the most decorated U.S. combat Soldier of World War II.

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Leader Staff Reports

The Armed Forces Disciplinary Control Board has deemed the following locations off-limits to all Soldiers assigned to Fort Jackson. It is highly recommended that all retirees and Department of Defense Civilian Employees stay away from the off-limits locations.

- Richland Terrace Apartments, 1212 Metze Road, Columbia, SC 29210
- Rumba VIP Night Club, aka Club Tropicana, 1745 Decker Blvd, Columbia, SC 29206
- Harbour Landing Apartments, 7625 Garners Ferry Road, Columbia, SC 29209
- Lake Shore Apartments, 7645 Garners Ferry Road, Columbia, SC 29209
- Club Kandyland, 1700 Block, Percival Road, Columbia, SC 29206
- Faces Lounge, 1709 Decker Blvd, Columbia, SC 29206
- Darrell's Place, 1727 Percival Road, Columbia, SC 29223

Military personnel observed in off-limits establishments are in violation of a lawful general order and are subject to apprehension for violation of Article 92 of the Uniform Code of Military Conduct. Off-limits establishments are also prohibited from advertising on the installation. For more information, contact the Directorate of Emergency Services at 751-1682.

Events

Continued from Page 7

AAAFS HOURS:

- Main Exchange: 9 a.m. to 7 p.m. Mon.- Fri. and 11 a.m. to 7 p.m. Sat. and Sun.
- SSI Troop Store: 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. Mon.-Fri. and Closed Sat. and Sun.
- Jackson Reception Station: Closed Sun.-Mon., 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. Tues.-Thurs., 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. Fri.
- Jackson Hospital Store: 7 a.m. to 1 p.m. Mon.-Fri.
- Jackson Perez Troop Store: Appointment Only
- Jackson Coleman Gym Troop Store: Appointment Only
- Jackson Tank Hill Troop Store: Appointment Only
- 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: Closed Sun. and Mon., 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. Tue. - Fri.
- Mini-mall Dry Cleaners: Closed Sun. and Mon.; 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.



Army Community Service 751-5256

PLEASE LEAVE MESSAGE

Mon-Fri.....7:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m.

Auto craft Shop 751-5755

Thu-Fri.....11 a.m-7 p.m.

Sat-Sun.....8 a.m.-4 p.m.

Training Holidays.....8 a.m.-4 p.m.

POV Sales - To sell a vehicle on the POV Lot, register at the Auto craft Shop.

Century Lanes Bowling Center 751-6138

Mon (Open Bowling).....6-8 p.m.

Wed (Open Bowling).....4-8 p.m.

Fri (Open Bowling).....6-8 p.m.

Sat (Open Bowling).....4-8 p.m.

Sun (Open Bowling).....2-8 p.m.

For information on League Bowling please call.

Child and Youth Services (Limited Availability)

Parent Central (via Imboden and Scales CDC)

Mon-Fri.....8 a.m.- 4 p.m.

Hood Street CDC 751-1972/1970

Mon-Fri.....6 a.m.- 6 p.m.

Hood Street SAC 751-1084

Mon-Fri.....5:30 a.m.- 6 p.m.

Imboden CDC 562-5901/5902

Mon-Fri.....4 a.m.- 6 p.m.

Imboden SAC 562-2022

Mon-Fri.....5:30 a.m.- 6 p.m.

Lee Road CDC 751-5853

24 hours

Middle School & Teen Program 751-6387

Mon-Fri.....5:30 a.m.-6 p.m.

Youth Sports 751-5040/7451

Call for more information

Fort Jackson Dog Park

(Call Outdoor Rec) 751-3484

Daily.....Sunrise to Sunset

Fort Jackson Golf Club 787-4437

Golf Pro Shop 751-6357

Fri-Tue.....7:45 a.m.-6 p.m.

Tee Times8 a.m.

Please call in advance to make a reservation for tee times.

Administrative Office 787-4437

Fri-Tue.....8 a.m.-4:30 p.m.

Gyms and Fitness Centers

Coleman Gym 751-5817

Mon-Fri (Active Duty Only)5-7 a.m.

Mon-Fri (All).....7 a.m.-8 p.m.

Sat-Sun.....8 a.m.-5 p.m.

Perez Fitness Center 751-6258

Mon-Fri (Active Duty Only)5-7 a.m.

Mon-Fri (All)7 a.m.-8 p.m.

Sat-Sun10 a.m.-5 p.m.

Vanguard Gym 751-4526

Mon-Fri (Active Duty Only)5-7 a.m.

Mon-Fri (All).....5 a.m.-8 p.m.

Sat-Sun11:30 a.m.-5 p.m.

Jack's Frame Shop 751-4018

Tues -Fri11 a.m.-5 p.m.

Knight Indoor Pool 751-4796

Mon, Wed, Fri.....6 a.m.-1 p.m.

Tue, Thu12-6 p.m.

Library (Thomas Lee Hall) 751-3484

Tue-Sat.....12-5 p.m.

Drive up service only

Marion Street Station 751-3484

Mon-Fri.....10 a.m.-5 p.m.

Sat.....9 a.m.-3 p.m.

NCO Club 782-2218

Lunch Only - To Go, Delivery, Inside & Outside Dining

Tue-Fri (Lunch)11 a.m.-1:30 p.m.

Tue-Fri (Admin)8 a.m.-4 p.m.

Recycle Center 751-4208/4201

Mon-Fri7 a.m.-3 p.m.

Victory Bingo 751-3411

Fri (Doors Open)3 p.m.

Games Begin4 p.m.

Sat (Doors Open).....12 p.m.

Games Begin1 p.m.

Sun (Doors Open)10 a.m.

Games Begin.....11 a.m.

Mon (Doors Open)3 p.m.

Games Begin.....4 p.m.

Videorama 751-4162

By Appointment Only

Weston Lake 751-3484

Mon-Fri.....10 a.m.-5 p.m.

Sat.....9 a.m.-3 p.m.

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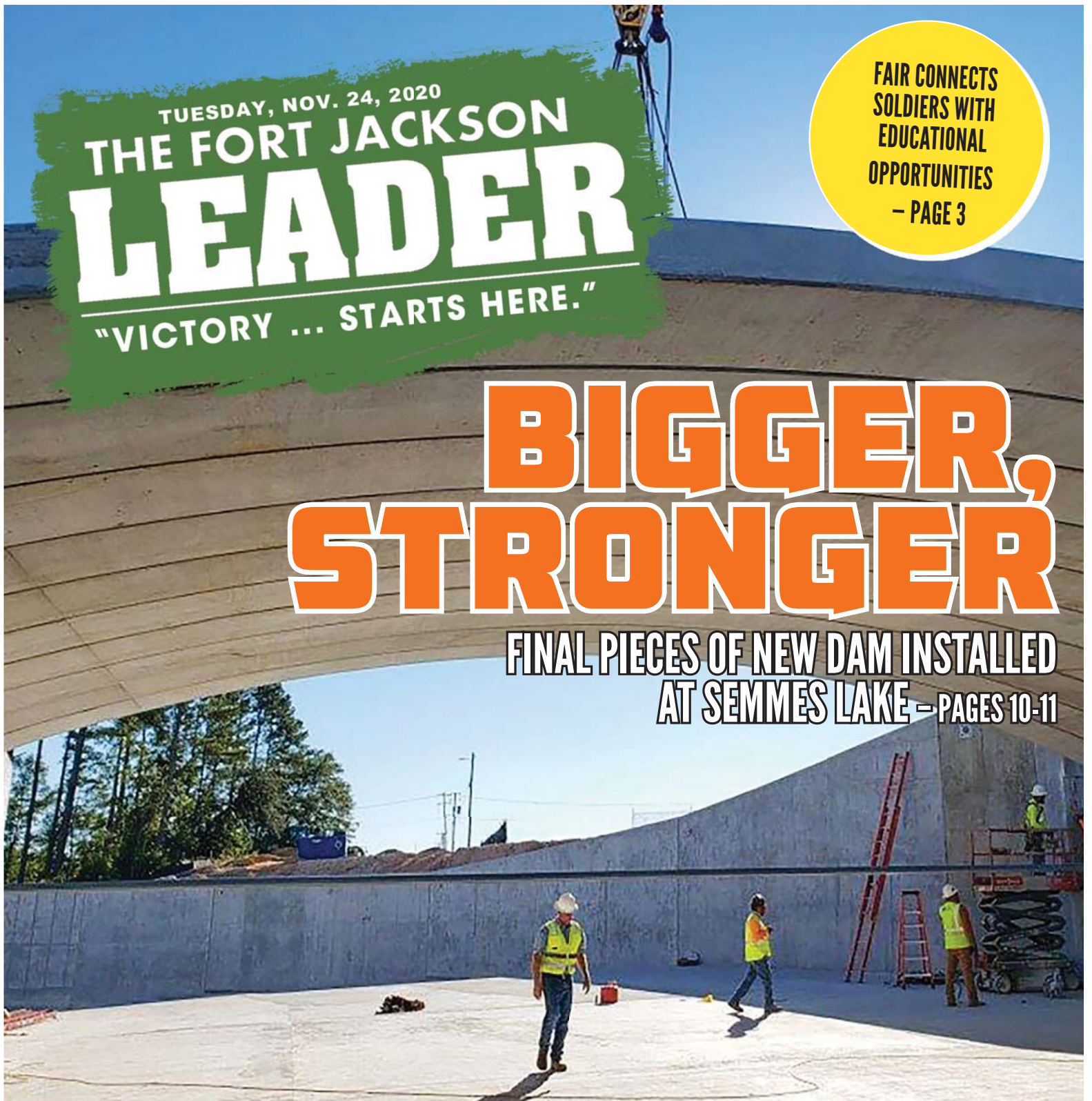
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SOLDIERS WITH
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OPPORTUNITIES
- PAGE 3

BIGGER, STRONGER

FINAL PIECES OF NEW DAM INSTALLED
AT SEMMES LAKE - PAGES 10-11



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