

THURSDAY, AUG. 1, 2024
**THE FORT JACKSON
LEADER**
AMC'S #1 EDUCATION

PARTY TIME!

LIBRARY HOSTS END OF SUMMER SHINDIG



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Wildcats welcome Wallace as new commander



Photo by SGT. 1ST CLASS CRYSTAL HARLOWE

Lt. Gen. Jody Daniels, chief of the Army Reserve and commanding general of the United States Army Reserve Command, passes the colors to Maj. Gen. Patricia R. Wallace, incoming commander of the 81st Readiness Division, during the change of command event at the 81st Readiness Division, July 23.

By TOMMY CROSBY

81st Readiness Division Public Affairs

The 81st Readiness Division welcomed its newest commanding general as Maj. Gen. Patricia R. Wallace relieved Maj. Gen. Robert D. Harter during a change of command ceremony at Fort Jackson, July 23.

Chief of Army Reserve and Commanding General of U.S. Army Reserve Command, Lt. Gen. Jody J. Daniels, presided over the ceremony. She praised the command and its leadership for their accomplishments while under Harter's tenure and their tireless commitment to the Army Reserve.

"The mission of the Readiness Division is not insignificant, it is extremely important and is critical in supporting and providing essential services to our force," Daniels said. "Maj. Gen. Harter and his team have done a great job in taking care of our Soldiers and producing readiness."

Harter, who assumed command in October 2022, expressed his sincere gratitude for the opportunity to serve with this "legendary unit" and lead this tremendous group of professionals.

"The best part of my job has been watching this team in action," Harter said. "The 81st is the best RD in the Army Reserve and it is because of the amazing people. The accomplishments of this team are staggering; Army Reserve Safety Award, Secretary of the Army Environmental Award, Army Chief of Staff Award for Excellence in Legal Assistance, Army Reserve Military Photographer of the Year, to just name a few.

"These awards are because of the hard work and dedication our Wildcats provide in supporting the 1,370 Army Reserve units, consisting of more than 51,000 Soldiers and their families in the southeast. I cannot thank you enough for your steadfast devotion to the mission of ensuring ready facilities, ready people and ready equipment. I could not be prouder and more humbled to have been part of this team."

Harter departs the 81st RD for his next assignment where he has been nominated to become the Chief of Army Reserve and Commanding General of U.S. Army Reserve Command.

Daniels welcomed Wallace saying, "I had the privilege of serving with her, when she was a deputy to me when I commanded the 88th Readiness Division. You have a quality officer, quality human being taking command here. Maj. Gen. Wallace is uniquely tuned to the needs of the Army Reserve's number one priority of readiness, and I cannot think of anyone better suited to take on this mission."

Wallace thanked Daniels for being part of the ceremony and she thanked Harter for all he had done while at the 81st.

"Maj. Gen. Harter, thank you for your leadership and leaving me such an awesome organization," Wallace said. "I am so humbled and honored to be taking command of such a storied and impactful organization. I am very excited and committed to this upcoming journey."

An Indianapolis native, Wallace accepted her Reserve Officer Training Corps commission at Indiana University in 1990 in the Adjutant General Corps after serving two years of enlisted service. She earned a Bachelor of Arts degree in Criminal Justice and a Master of Public Administration from Indiana University and a Master of Strategic Studies degree from the Army War College.

Wallace, as a Citizen-Soldier has led large-complex, world-wide organizations with more than 8,000 personnel. She has an expertise in risk assessment and management with a history of successfully implementing cutting-edge solutions, optimizing processes and leading organizational transformations in the financial, training, leader development and advertising/marketing industries.

The 81st Readiness Division has responsibility for base operations for Army Reserve units through the Southeastern United States and Puerto Rico.

ON THE COVER

A youth goes for a strike during the Thomas Lee Hall (Post) Library's end of summer party at Century Lanes, July 26.



Photo by NATHAN CLINEBELLE

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THE FORT JACKSON LEADER

"We Make American Soldiers"

Fort Jackson, South Carolina 29207

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Chaplains change with stole passing

Story by ROBERT TIMMONS
Photos by NATHAN CLINEBELLE
 Fort Jackson Public Affairs

When Chaplain (Col.) Steve Peck passed the chaplain's stole to Chaplain (Col.) Stanley Smith he stepped down from his role as the Fort Jackson Garrison's top religious officer.

The stole is a narrow strip of cloth worn by ministers as symbols of their position of spiritual leadership and responsibility.

Chaplain (Lt. Col.) Gregory S. Jackson, deputy garrison chaplain said the stole is also a "visual sign of their voluntary submission to the will of God."

Chaplain (Maj. Gen.) William "Bill" Green Jr., Army Chief of Chaplains, said being called by God to ministry is "one of the most important things that ever happens. In fact, it is the most important things that ever happens."

He said both men had "a sense of what God was calling them to do, and the importance of that."

Smith will lead the Fort Jackson Religious Services Office to provide religious support to the Soldiers, Families and Department of the Army Civilians on post.

Maj. Gen. Jason E. Kelly, Fort Jackson commander, agreed that both chaplains are exceptional officers.

"It is an honor and a privilege to stand before you this morning and honor Steve Peck and Stan Smith," he said, "both of them are dedicated Army officers ..."

The change of stole ceremony has a loving and profound significance within the Chaplains Corps, Kelly added.

It symbolizes the continuity of spiritual leadership and the unwavering commitment to provide spiritual guidance.

"The stole is a visual representation of that spiritual guidance, support and compassion our chaplains provide our Soldiers in times of joy and times of sorrow," Kelly said.

Kelly characterized Peck as "a beacon of light in times of darkness."

"Your words offer solace and strength in moments of uncertainty," he added. "Today, as you pass on the stole we extend our heartfelt gratitude for your exceptional service."

He then welcomed Smith to his role at Fort Jackson. "We warmly welcome Chaplain Stanley Smith into this role with trust and confidence."

Spiritual readiness is one of the 5 pillars of the Army's Holistic Health and Fitness program.

Chaplains serve a vital role in the Army community regardless of an individual's religious background.



Chaplain (Col.) Stanley Smith, garrison chaplain, speaks after receiving the chaplain's stole from Chaplain (Col.) Steve Peck in a ceremony, July 26.

(Top left) Maj. Gen. Jason E. Kelly, Fort Jackson commander, places a stole around the neck of Chaplain (Col.) Stanley Smith, garrison chaplain, in a ceremony, July 26. Smith took over as garrison chaplain from Chaplain (Col.) Steve Peck.

(Left) Kelly thanks Peck for his work as garrison chaplain. Kelly said Peck was a 'beacon of light in times of darkness.'

Community Updates

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Change of Command

9 a.m., Aug. 23, Hilton Field. Maj. Gen. Jason E. Kelly will relinquish command of Army Training Center and Fort Jackson to Maj. Gen. Daryl O. Hood.

Road Name Changes

Fort Jackson has renamed numerous roads and streets on post that were named after Confederate leaders, battles and units. This is part of efforts to rename Department of Defense installations, streets, buildings and ships that featured names commemorating the Confederacy. These name changes, effective Jan. 1, have already been made by the U.S. Postal Service. To learn which road names have changed, scan the QR code or visit home.army.mil/jackson/about/fort-jackson-road-re-naming.



SPRC Yoga Hours

The Yoga class schedule for June has changed. Classes are now:

Tuesdays: Power Yoga: 8-8:30 a.m. (Power Yoga)

Wednesdays: 6-7 a.m. (Warrior Yoga) and 12:15-1 p.m. (Mindful Movement and Meditation)

Thursdays: 11:45 a.m. to 12:45 p.m. (Warrior Yoga)

The Friday class has been cancelled.

Safety Classes

The Installation Safety Office presents various safety training classes. To register for the Army Traffic Safety Training or Local Hazards training classes, go to the website <https://imc.army.mil/airs/default.aspx>. To register for the Unit Safety Officer training, contact your Safety Specialist.

■ Basic Riders Course:

Aug. 6-8 (six seats open)

■ Advanced Riders Course

Aug. 13 (six seats open); Aug. 20 (six seats open)

■ Local Hazards Course:

Aug. 5, 12, 19 and 26.

■ Intermediate Drivers Course:

Today (30 seats open); Aug. 15 (30 seats open)

■ Remedial Drivers Course:

Aug. 21 (12 seats open)

■ Unit Safety Officer Course:

Aug. 6-7 (22 seats open)

Needs Assessment Survey

Help our Education Center to better understand and meet your educational needs on Fort Jackson. Your participation and feedback is valuable and will be utilized to help improve ACES education programs and services. You need to take the needs assessment survey. Scan the QR code to begin. The Fort Jackson Education Center can be reached via email atusarmy.jackson.93-sig-bde-mbx.dhr-jacksonedcenter@army.mil, or via phone at (520) 691-4472.



100% Housing Inspections

Housing officials recently announced that congressionally-mandated 100% inspections of on-post housing units will take place in August. The residents will soon be able to schedule those inspections using an online tool.

COMMUNITY EVENTS

TOMORROW

Blood Drive

10 a.m. to 2 p.m., Drill Sergeant Timothy Kay Soldier Performance Readiness

Center. The American Red Cross is holding a blood drive. To sign up to donate visit: redcrossblood.org/ and enter sponsor code: sprc.

SATURDAY

Saluda River Tubing

9 a.m. to 12:45 p.m. Join Fort Jackson Outdoor Recreation for a relaxing two-hour trip tubing down the Saluda River. The trip costs \$25 and includes transportation, rentals and shuttle services. Coolers allowed. For more information, or to register, call the Marion Street Station at (803) 751-3484.

MONDAY

Intramural Golf League

Letters of intent are due for the Intramural Golf League starting Aug. 13. The league is for teams of two active duty Soldiers only. This is a commander's cup event. For more information, call (803) 751-3096.

TUESDAY

Facilitating Flow

9:30-11 a.m., MS Teams. This session will shed light on the experience of flow by discussing its science, features, applications, and benefits across various fields.

Budgeting for Back 2 School

1:30-2:30 p.m., 9810 Liberty Division Road, Room 119. Come learn how to save money on back to school shopping and other educational expenses. Learn about scholarship opportunities and what you can do now to save on educational expenses in the future.

National Night Out

6 p.m., Patriots Park. The Fort Jackson Police Department hosts the annual National Night Out to highlight the partnership between law enforcement and the community. Law enforcement officers from the S.C. Highway Patrol, Richland

Fort Jackson

Movie Schedule

3319 Jackson Blvd.

Phone: 751-7488

SATURDAY, AUG. 3

■ Harold and the Purple Crayon (PG) 2 p.m.

WEDNESDAY, AUG. 7

■ Harold and the Purple Crayon (PG) 2 p.m.

● Ticket sales open 30 minutes before each movie.

● Movie times and schedule are subject to change without notice.

County Sheriff's Department, Columbia Police Department, Army Criminal Investigation Division, military police and the U.S. Marshall's Service will be in attendance.

AUG. 8

Making Major Purchases Webinar

1-2:30 p.m., MS Teams. This seminar will provide an overview in preparation of making major purchases from a financial aspect.

AUG. 10

Back to School Color Run

9 a.m., Fort Jackson Youth Sports Complex. Kick off your back-to-school with the Youth Sports Color Run. There will be bounce houses, raffles, a one-mi-

See **EVENTS:** Page 10

THE FORT JACKSON LEADER

SEND ALL
SUBMISSIONS TO

usarmy.jackson.93-sig-bde-mbx.atzj-pao@army.mil

Deadline for events to be included in the Community Updates 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. All submissions will be edited and published using Associated Press Style.

Questions? Call 751-3615.

Army demonstrates counter drone tech



Photo by CAPT. AUSTIN MAY

Soldiers test the 30-millimeter, anti-drone turret that is a part of the Mobile-Low, slow, small-unmanned aircraft Integrated Defeat System, Udari Range, Kuwait, on July 30, 2023.

By JOE LACDAN
Army News Service

The Army held its most challenging counter-small unmanned aircraft systems test to date, paving the way for Soldiers to field capabilities against small-UAS attacks in the future.

During the Joint Counter-Small Unmanned Systems Office's fifth C-sUAS demonstration, held at Yuma Proving Ground June 3-28, testers launched more than 40 UAS targets that converged on a defended area in each session. The tests helped the JCO evaluate the command-and-control capabilities of nine C-sUAS systems, observing how each sensed and identified different types of UAS threats.

"It was a very successful demonstration in informing U.S. (forces) and our allies what capabilities exist out there for this very challenging profile," said Col. Michael

Parent, JCO Acquisition Division chief.

"You don't want to obviously engage the target multiple times," Parent added. "You've got so many (UAS) coming at you, you have to be able to differentiate and have the most promising threat first."

The demonstration presented a wide array of threats that swarmed the C-sUAS systems in mass and in waves, showcasing both kinetic and non-kinetic defeat solutions. Experiments tested capabilities that included guided rockets, kinetic interceptor drones, electro-optical/infrared cameras, radio frequency scanners and radio frequency jammers.

Demonstration threat profiles used rotary wing, fixed wing and slow-moving, and propeller-powered UAS threats. The JCO chose the nine systems from eight vendors pulled out of a pool of 58 vendor proposals.

Small, unmanned aircraft systems pose a significant threat to Army and U.S. mili-

tary operations and are also a particularly dangerous threat in Ukraine and parts of Israel. Drones provide low-cost capability to transport ammunition for targeted attacks and can collect reconnaissance for enemy forces and coordinate attacks.

To combat that threat, former Defense Secretary Mark Esper designated the Army as the executive agent for C-sUAS defense in 2019.

Parent said that the JCO will look to begin prototyping specific C-sUAS proposals in 2025 based on specific capabilities and the needs of combatant commanders. The JCO scheduled its next C-sUAS demonstration between the second and third quarters of fiscal year 2025.

According to Parent, compared to the previous four demonstrations held from 2021 to 2023, the vendors' systems showed greater speed and recognition of threats.

See **DRONE**, Page 11

DOD releases EFMP survey results

By JOSEPH CLARK
DOD News

The Defense Department has released the results of its first Exceptional Family Member Program survey as part of ongoing efforts to ensure the program provides comprehensive support to military families with special medical or educational needs.

The survey, conducted by the Office of the Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense for Military Community and Family Policy, polled active-duty service members to assess their experiences and overall satisfaction with the program's three primary components: identification and enrollment, assignment coordination, and family support.

The program, which serves about 100,000 military families with disability-related needs, helps service members identify available services at projected duty stations to support the continuity of care for dependents.

EFMP family support representatives are also present on military installations for ease of access and to link dependents to care through referrals and nonclinical case management.

Tomeshia Barnes, the associate director of the Office of Special Needs in DOD's Office of Military Family Readiness Policy, said the survey was designed to give military families a voice.

"One of the things within the Office of Special Needs that was really important to us was really understanding and having data on the lived experience of military families enrolled in the EFMP — their experience with the program, as well as

See **EFMP**: Page 11



Col. Robert L. Le'iato, commandant of the Finance and Comptroller School and chief of the Finance Corps, receives the colors from Col. Jason T. Edwards, Soldier Support Institute commander during a ceremony held in the institute's auditorium, July 30.

(Right) Soldiers watch as Col. Robert Le'iato assumed command for the Army Finance and Comptroller School. Le'iato also became the chief of the Finance Corps. Edwards said Le'iato is 'perfectly prepared' for the assignment.

(Right Middle) Lt. Gen. Paul A. Chamberlain, military deputy to the Assistant Secretary of the Army for Finance and Comptroller, places a medallion around the neck of Col. Robert L. Le'iato, signifying him becoming the 43rd commandant of the Finance and Comptroller School.



Finance, Comptroller officer returns to Jackson, SSI

Story, photos by **ROBERT TIMMONS**
Fort Jackson Public Affairs

Col. Robert L. Le'iato returned to Fort Jackson to become the 43rd commandant of the Finance and Comptroller School, and chief of the Finance Corps.

Le'iato assumed his new responsibilities when he received the colors from Col. Jason T. Edwards, Soldier Support Institute commander, during a ceremony held in the SSI auditorium, July 30.

He was at Fort Jackson not only going through the Finance School, as it was called in 2003, but later served there as the Army Financial Management School's chief of proponency.

"If you take a look at Rob's bio, what you'll see is an extremely well-balanced and amazing career," Edwards said after passing the colors to Le'iato during the ceremony.

The history and legacy of a military unit is represented under the colors it serves. Historically, the unit colors would be where the commander would be on the battlefield.

After receiving the colors to represent his taking command of the unit, Le'iato was presented with the regimental medallion #43 by Lt. Gen. Paul A. Chamberlain, military deputy to the Assistant Secretary of the Army for Financial Management and Comptroller.

Chamberlain was the SSI commander when Le'iato was the proponency chief.

Edwards said Le'iato's experience "perfectly prepared" him for duties as the 43rd commandant.

He took not only the tough duty assignments, but he performed exceptionally well and has been balanced geographically with tours on the mainland and "critical division locations" like Fort Carson, Colorado, Fort Liberty, North Carolina, and Fort Bliss, Texas.

Le'iato calls American Samoa home and graduated from the University of Hawaii where he was commissioned as a lieutenant in the Military Intelligence branch.

"These are incredible experiences that are overlaid with your level-headed disposition that are going to make you the perfect fit for the family here at the Soldier Support Institute," Edwards said.

Army senior leaders in the Finance and Comptroller career field are showing "great trust and confidence in me for taking this job," Le'iato said. "It is a great honor to be the commandant of the Finance and Comptroller School."

He also thanked his predecessor Col. Michelle Williams, who departed the unit earlier this year.

The Finance Corps has its origins in 1775 when the Second Continental Congress introduced a resolution appointing a Paymaster General of the Army.



(Above) Col. Robert L. Le'iato, commandant of the Finance and Comptroller School and chief of the Finance Corps, leads attendees in a motivational exercise at the end of his speech marking his assumption of command of the school. The event marked Le'iato's return to the Soldier Support Institute and Fort Jackson. He had previously served as the Army Financial Management School's chief of proponency.

(Left) Col. Robert L. Le'iato, commandant of the Finance and Comptroller School and chief of the Finance Corps, said senior leaders shows 'great trust and confidence' in him by selecting him for the position.





Party Time!

Library hosts end of summer shindig

Photos by Nathan Clinebelle

The Thomas Lee Hall (Post) Library held its end of summer party at Century Lanes, July 26. The event also celebrated the end of its summer reading program.

Mariah Lovick, supervisory librarian, said the program is another way to support Soldiers and their Families.

The fun wasn't limited to bowling.

Prizes were handed out for the different competitions that ran throughout the summer including library bingo and their annual photography contest.

If you missed it, don't worry the fun isn't stopping anytime soon. Follow the library on social media or stop by and pick up a calendar to learn about the amazing opportunities the library offers.



'The Weigh It Is' *with Pam Long*

Some exercises stand the test of time because they work.

Pushups are one of those exercises.

This strength-building exercise can be used as a complete workout on its own. That's because it targets multiple muscle groups at the same time.

There are so many reasons to incorporate pushups into your wellness and fitness routines. Research has shown that there are many benefits to doing pushups. You don't have to be a gym junkie to reap the benefits.

This equipment-free exercise has the ingredients to build strength, stamina, stronger core and more.

Pushups are a compound exercise.

That means they target more than one area at the same time.

When you include pushups in your workout, your shoulders, arms, back, core, chest, and hips are each affected.

If you change the positioning of your arms or legs, you target one area more than others.

These types of challenging modifications create a more effective workout that requires little space and no equipment. Want to increase your upper body strength? Then pushups are the answer.

A stronger upper body, functionally speaking, helps you perform regular activities like pushing a shopping cart, picking up your children or picking up other items more efficiently.

This allows you to do daily activities more easily.

Pushups strengthen your core. Once in a pushup position, you are in a plank stance which immediately engages the core and stabilizes your trunk area.

A stronger core improves your posture.

Through strengthening your core, back and shoulders, your posture improves, which helps improve lower back pain.

Research states that poor posture can result in headaches, compromised breathing, and less energy. Each of these challenges can affect your



Long

workout performance.

Pushups help create healthier bones because they are a weight-bearing exercise.

They build bone density.

This is great exercise for individuals prone to osteoporosis.

You don't have to do them on your toes to get the weight-bearing benefit either.

The focus here is form and technique. That is where the true benefits come from pushups as a part of your fitness or

wellness routine. Pushups are strength training that could be good for heart health as well.

Based on how they are incorporated into your fitness and wellness routine, pushups can be aerobic and get the heart rate elevated, making it more efficient and stronger.

Another motivating reason to do pushups is that they are empowering.

When you do a pushup (on toes or knees), you are picking you up.

That means whatever you weigh, that is how much you are lifting.

That's empowering.

It becomes a great confidence builder. You are capable to pick yourself up.

Another reason to embrace pushups is that they are so effective (even with modifications).

You can do a complete workout with just pushups and every part of your body will benefit from them. You can get creative by changing hand positions, performing on an uneven surface, or stacking your legs.

Each of these modifications (and more) makes your pushup workout more challenging, stamina building, and strengthening.

You don't have to worry about equipment, just use your imagination.

They can be done at home, at the gym, in your hotel room, even during commercials while watching your favorite program.

You can take advantage of this health-bearing exercise anywhere.

When doing pushups, remember the tips below to get the most benefit.

- Keep your core engaged.
- Keep your hands under your shoulders.
- Keep your shoulders down.
- Keep your hips down.
- Keep your head, neck and spine aligned.
- Keep breathing.

If you are new to pushups, don't let that stop you, because we all want a stronger, healthier body and pushups are one great exercise that delivers.

Pam's thought for the week: "Push yourself all the way up."

SALUTING THIS CYCLE'S HONOREES

2nd Battalion, 60th Infantry Regiment

DRILL SERGEANT OF THE CYCLE

Staff Sgt.
Cameron Henderson

ALPHA COMPANY SOLDIER LEADER

OF THE CYCLE
Spc. David Wong

SOLDIER OF THE CYCLE

Pvt. Alyssa Richards

BRAVO COMPANY SOLDIER LEADER

OF THE CYCLE
Pvt. Destiny Brown

SOLDIER OF THE CYCLE

Pvt. Joseph Matias

CHARLIE COMPANY SOLDIER LEADER

OF THE CYCLE
Pvt. Donte Gibson

SOLDIER OF THE CYCLE

Pvt. Hailie Spears

DELTA COMPANY SOLDIER LEADER

OF THE CYCLE
Pvt. Kylee Cross

SOLDIER OF THE CYCLE

Pvt. Abigail Noble

ECHO COMPANY SOLDIER LEADER

OF THE CYCLE
Pfc. Zackery Thomas

SOLDIER OF THE CYCLE

Pvt. Erica Padron

Events

Continued from Page 4

le fun run and a meet and greet with Richland Country Sheriff Department deputies. For more information, call (803) 751-7451.

AUG. 10-11

Dog Days at the Waterpark

10 a.m. to 2 p.m., Palmetto Falls Waterpark. Bring your four-legged friend out to play in the water. Season pass holders are allowed one dog per pass. Non-pass holders-\$10 per dog. Dog handlers must be at least 18 years old. Dogs must be up to date on vaccinations. No swimming in the water. For more information call (803) 751-4796.

AUG. 13

Stress! You Can Handle It Webinar

1:30-2:30 p.m., MS Teams. This one-hour class focuses on individual learning techniques to promote physical and emotional wellbeing, heighten awareness, and identify and manage stressors.

AUG. 17

Offshore Fishing Trip

5 a.m., Marion Street Station. Join Outdoor Recreation on a fishing trip to Hilton Head, S.C. The trip costs \$90, which covers transportation, license, bait, and tackle. For more information or to register, call (803) 751-3484. There are a limited number of spaces available.

AUG. 20

Meals in Minutes & Your Budget

9-10 a.m., MS Teams. Learn how to save calories while also optimizing your budget. Armed Forces Wellness Center and Army Community Service provides programs and services to improve and/or maintain readiness of the military community. Registration is required. For more information or to register, call (803) 751-5256.

AUG. 24

Army Ten-Miler

5 a.m., Hilton Field Sports Complex. Come out and run in Fort Jackson's version of the Army's prestigious race. This is a commander's cup event. For more information, call (803) 751-3700.

SEPT. 3

Meals in Minutes & Your Budget

1:30-2:30 p.m., 9810 Liberty Division Road, Room 119. This session will teach how to save calories while also opti-

mizing your budget. The class provides tips on meal prepping, eating out, recipes, comparison shopping, meal planning, shopping lists, cooking tools, and ways to save money.

SEPT. 5

Early Career Benefits Overview

2-6 p.m., MS Teams. Upon completion of the pre-retirement briefing, participants will know the requirements for retirement eligibility, consequences of making a deposit/redeposit, survivor annuity elections, eligibility for continuing FEHB/FEGLI into retirement, and the process for submitting a retirement application.

SEPT. 7

Run/Walk for the Fallen

8 a.m., Hilton Field. Join Fort Jackson in honoring those who lost their lives serving the country since 9-11. Registration begins at 7 a.m. and opening remarks are scheduled to start at 7:45 a.m.

SEPT. 10

Love and Money Matters

10 a.m. to noon, Chaplain Family Life Center. The 2-hour "Love and Money Matters" workshop will teach effective communication strategies and address common money issues in relationships. Learn to set SMART goals as a couple

that can lead to wealth.

SEPT. 12

Financial Retirement Planning

1-2:30 p.m., MS Teams. Take time to learn about planning for retirement — so you'll be prepared for today's needs and wants, while also paving the way to meet your future financial goals and enjoy the retirement you deserve. Join us as we discuss the strategies and resources that are available to help you fine-tune or establish your retirement plan.

SEPT. 14

Fort Eisenhower Horseback Trail Ride

8:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. Join Fort Jackson Outdoor Recreation for a horseback trail ride at the Fort Eisenhower Horse stables. All welcome-novice or pro. This is a guided tour costs \$60 per person and will be great fun for those looking for an outdoor adventure. For more information or to register, call (803) 751-3484 or visit Marion Street Station.

SEPT. 16

Social Security Benefits

2-3:30 p.m., MS Teams. The 90 minute "Social Security Benefits" training workshop is an instructor-led training designed for individuals who want to take control of their financial future.

DID YOU KNOW: Bicycle helmets are required for riding bicycles at Fort Jackson.

WORSHIP SCHEDULE

FAITH GROUP	DAY	TIME	PLACE
CATHOLIC MASS	SUNDAY	9:30-10:30 A.M.	MAIN POST CHAPEL
CATHOLIC MASS	MON-FRI	NOON	MAIN POST CHAPEL
GOSPEL SERVICE	SUNDAY	10:30 A.M.	KINGS MOUNTAIN CHAPEL
GENERAL PROTESTANT	SUNDAY	11 A.M. TO NOON	MAIN POST CHAPEL
REVIVE SERVICE	SUNDAY	5 P.M.	MAIN POST CHAPEL
JEWISH SHABBAT SERVICE	FRIDAY	7-8 P.M.	LIGHTNING CHAPEL
HEATHEN/PAGAN	EVERY 2ND AND 4TH SATURDAY	NOON TO 2 P.M.	CENTURY DIVISION CHAPEL
INITIAL ENTRY TRAINING	DAY	TIME	PLACE
CATHOLIC MASS	SUNDAY	8-9 A.M.	SOLOMON CENTER
PROTESTANT CONSOLIDATED SERVICE	SUNDAY	9:30-10:30 A.M.	SOLOMON CENTER
CHURCH OF CHRIST	SUNDAY	10:30-11:30 A.M.	CENTURY DIVISION CHAPEL
HISPANIC PROTESTANT SERVICE	SUNDAY	8:30-10 A.M.	POST THEATER
ISLAMIC SERVICE	SUNDAY	8-9 A.M.	KINGS MOUNTAIN CHAPEL
JEWISH SERVICE	SUNDAY	10:15-11:30 A.M.	LIGHTNING CHAPEL
THE CHURCH OF JESUS CHRIST OF			
LATTER DAY SAINTS	SUNDAY	10:30 A.M. - NOON	WASHINGTON ROAD CHAPEL
HEATHEN/PAGAN	SUNDAY	8:30-9:30 A.M.	CENTURY DIVISION CHAPEL

EFMP

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their experience accessing and navigating other services provided to meet their needs,” Barnes said.

While the department did include certain questions related to the program on other DOD-wide surveys, Barnes said there was a need for more granular feedback from those enrolled in the program.

“We sought to have a survey that really provided us specific data on the families enrolled in the program as they experience the various components of the program, as well as other federal and state-level services that they access,” she said. “We really wanted to hear from our families, their perspectives on their experiences with the program and other services to meet their needs.”

The key takeaways from the survey shed light on families’ level of satisfaction with the program, the support provided, and whether the program had an impact on service members’ decisions to remain in the military.

It found that the program had met the needs of 83% of military families to some extent in the 12-month period before the survey was conducted.

Forty-three percent of respondents indicated their overall satisfaction with the program, while 25% said they were neither satisfied nor dissatisfied. Thirty-three percent indicated they were dissatisfied with the program.



Courtesy photo

The Exceptional Family Member Program provides support specifically for military family members with special needs and helps them find services and information both online and at their current duty station.

Those responding to the survey reported the highest level of satisfaction specifically related to the program’s enrollment process and family support services. The program’s assignment coordination component received the lowest levels of satisfaction.

On family support, one of the program’s most visible components, 79% were satisfied with the professionalism of the staff. A majority of respondents, 66%, also said they were satisfied with the accuracy of the information provided by the staff.

“Importantly, we saw a high level of satisfaction with the providers’ familiari-

ty with local resources and that they were able (to) really tailor their support to meet the family’s needs,” Barnes said. “That’s really what we expect from the program.”

Barnes also paid close attention to how the program impacts a military family’s decision to stay on active duty.

Most respondents, 49%, said their enrollment in the program would not impact their decision to continue serving, while 25% said the program would have a positive impact on their decision. Twenty-six percent said their enrollment would negatively impact their decision to stay on active duty.

Barnes said the results discount a common perception that enrollment in EFMP would have a negative impact on a service member’s career.

That perception, she said, often stems from the impression among service members that their enrollment in the program would restrict the availability of certain duty stations, thereby limiting their career progression.

“It really goes to show that EFMP enrollment doesn’t necessarily have that negative impact ...,” Barnes said.

She said the findings related to retention, in particular, point to the value of receiving feedback in a comprehensive manner from those enrolled in the program, rather than relying on anecdotal information.

With the survey results in hand, Barnes said, the department can further enhance the mechanisms that the program has in place to assist families, particularly as they relocate to new duty stations.

“We’re also really addressing how the EFMP family support component of the program is connecting families to ensure that they know that there are resources available to them,” she said. “We know that family support is optional for military families, but we want them to know that it exists and what services are available to them, so that as their needs change, and they may now have a need for assistance, they know where to go.”

Ensuring that the program continues to meet the needs of military families, Barnes said, is a critical piece of her office’s commitment to taking care of those who serve.



New Gate Hours

Effective June 3, 2024

- Gate 1: 5 a.m. – 5:30 p.m. *
- Gate 2: 24 hours
- Gate 4: 5 a.m. – 5 p.m. *
- Gate 5: 5 a.m. – 8 a.m. and 3 p.m. – 5 p.m. *
- Gate 2 Visitor Control Center: 6 a.m. – 4 p.m.
- Gate 4 Visitor Control Center: 6 a.m. – 4 p.m. *

(Closed Saturdays, Sundays, & Federal Holidays)

Drone

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The test marked the first demonstration the service has held in nearly 12 months.

“The challenge of the profile really meant that no one characteristic, no one capability, whether kinetic or non-kinetic, in itself could really defeat this kind of a profile,” Parent stated. “So what we saw was that you really do need a full system-of-systems approach, a layered approach, because we’re talking about a very large profile, 50 or more (threats) ... coming out from different angles, differ-

ent speeds and different sizes.”

As the JCO is currently evaluating the test results, Parent refrained from commenting on the effectiveness of each vendor’s systems or specific performance data.

Of the eight vendors, the JCO chose two proposals from Maryland-based ELTA North America; a vehicle-mounted solution and a platoon transport solution.

The results of the testing will be collected and sent to U.S. combatant commands and the vendors at the end of July, Parent said.

Additionally, the JCO will coordinate with joint partners to identify the priority focus areas of UAS systems.

VICTORY... STARTS HERE



Youths bowl during the Thomas Lee Hall (Post) Library's End of Summer party held at Century Lanes, July 26.

Photo by NATHAN CLINEBELLE