

THURSDAY, MAY 1, 2025

# THE FORT JACKSON LEADER

STORY ... STARTS HERE."

# POST HONORS MILITARY KIDS



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# Pierce Terrace honors children, families at 'lunch on the lawn'

By **LORRAINE EMORY**

Pierce Terrace Elementary School

Pierce Terrace Elementary continues Month of the Military Child celebration with Lunch on the Lawn tradition.

Pierce Terrace Elementary School continued its beloved tradition of honoring military-connected students with a festive Lunch on the Lawn event, April 25.

All students, staff, and family members gathered under the spring sun to share a joyful, hour-long lunch outdoors—together as one community as part of the ongoing MOMC celebration.

Parents and guardians were warmly invited to attend, bringing blankets, lawn chairs, and big smiles to join their children for the midday celebration.

The lawn of PTES transformed into a vibrant picnic ground filled with music, laughter, and the unmistakable spirit of appreciation for military families.

A musical highlight of the afternoon was Staff Sgt. Thomas Katsiyiannis, who captivated the crowd with live entertainment, singing and playing the guitar. His set had students dancing and singing along with excitement.

Behind the scenes, Cpl. Joshua Salinas skillfully managed the audio engineering, ensuring the music brought extra joy to the occasion.

The Lunch on the Lawn tradition at Pierce Terrace began years ago as a grassroots initiative by staff who wanted to give military children a special moment of recognition during April.

Over time, it has grown into a cornerstone of the school's culture — offering a relaxed and heartfelt space for students and families to connect while honoring the sacrifices and resilience of those in military life.



*Courtesy photos*

**Military families and students at Pierce Terrace Elementary School share food, laughter, and meaningful moments during 'Lunch on the Lawn' on April 25. The event, part of the Month of the Military Child celebration, created a festive, family-friendly atmosphere filled with music from the 282d Army Band and appreciation for the strength of military-connected children.**

The event celebrates the children's service alongside their families and strengthens the bond between school and home.

"It's important that our students feel seen and celebrated," said Ryan Bartola, special education teacher. "Lunch on the Lawn is more than just a meal—it's a symbol of unity, support, and gratitude."

With the warm sun shining, music filling the air, and families gathering close, this year's celebration was a beautiful reminder of the strength of the PTES community—and the importance of recognizing the youngest heroes in our military families.



## ON THE COVER

Children watch as their catch is weighed during the Youth Fishing Derby held April 26 as part of the post's Month of the Military Child events.



Photo by **NATHAN CLINEBELLE**

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## THE FORT JACKSON LEADER

Fort Jackson, South Carolina 29207

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(Above) Sgt. Isela Gordon, smiles at Maj. Gen. Daryl O. Hood, Fort Jackson commander, after she received the Active-Duty Military Volunteer of the Year. She used her bilingual skills to help provide an accurate translation for those who can't express it themselves.

(Right) Marilyn Bailey, Fort Jackson's volunteer coordinator, reads off the narration for Roman Morgan, the Youth Volunteer of the Year.

(Top right) Will Sexton, Civilian Volunteer of the Year, smiles as he poses with Fort Jackson Fire Department leadership during an awards ceremony. Sexton, is retired from the fire department.



## Post honors top volunteers

By **ROBERT TIMMONS**  
Fort Jackson Public Affairs

Fort Jackson honored its top volunteers during a Volunteer and Family of the Year ceremony held April 25 in the 1917 Club.

"If you are for good people in the world and good people in your life, volunteer somewhere, because you're going to find wonderful people who care only about helping the ones in need or making a situation better," said Will Sexton, a longtime volunteer on post.

Sexton was named Civilian Volunteer of the Year for the second time during the ceremony.

"Volunteering greatly enhances the quality of life for our Soldiers and Family members of the community," said Marilyn Bailey, the post's volunteer coordinator, who knows a thing or two about the winners having worked with some of them for years.

Fort Jackson's volunteer program began in 1990 and in 1998 the first Family of the Year was presented.

"Volunteers contribute many hours of selfless service and personal dedication to make a difference in our community," she added.

What struck Bailey was the variety of volunteer organizations the nominees were involved in, she said.

Sexton, a retired fire fighter, not only founded an official Fort Jackson Volunteer Group, but he volunteered at Dorn VA during "We Love Our Patients" week; served dinner to residents staying at the Fisher House and Ronald McDonald House; and is the post's Blood Drive Coordinator. He also organized environmental clean up efforts on post.

The Youth Volunteer of the Year Roman Morgan is a honor student at Dent Middle School and co-founder of "It's Cool to Be Kind, Be a Leader," which made and distributed custom bracelets aimed at ending bullying. He also helped with various events with the Dorn VA Clinic, Salvation Army and Wreaths Across America.

Sgt. Isela Gordon, the Active-Duty Military Volunteer of the Year, devoted endless hours of her personal time and energy as a counselor to the Crisis Text Line, demonstrating and unwavering commitment and level of care for those experiencing severe life crisis. Gordon's ability to speak two languages helped her provide clear and accurate translation for those who cannot express it themselves.

First Sgt. Elliot Mendez and his Family were named the post's Family of the Year for embodying selfless service, leadership, and unwavering commitment to their military and local communities. Their dedication to volunteerism, community engagement, and professional excellence highlights their exceptional contributions to Fort Jackson and beyond.

Over the past year, he served as Parent Teacher Association member and year-round coach for Child and Youth Services, while his wife Chelsea is integral to the Pierce Terrace Elementary School's PTA and is the Fort Jackson School Board president. Elliot is also a Reserve Deputy Sheriff in Richland County.

"The nominees were truly dedicated to the organization and contributed countless hours of their time and talent," Bailey said. They "chose to make a difference in the organization, and we salute them."

# Community Updates

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### Birthday Ball Tickets on Sale

Tickets for the 250th Army Birthday Ball are on sale now. Join Fort Jackson in celebrating the 250th Birthday of the U.S. Army at the Army Birthday Ball. The ball takes place at 5 p.m. June 14 at the 1917 Club, 5700 Liberty Division Road. Lt. Gen. Milford "Beags" Beagle, commander, U.S. Army Combined Arms Center, will be the guest speaker. Scan the QR code for more information and to purchase tickets.



### Tenant Satisfaction Survey

Your opinion matters. The Army wants to hear from you. Your feedback can make a big difference in the quality of life for Soldiers. The Army is investing significantly in barracks and unaccompanied housing improvements and survey feedback will be guide the Army's efforts to provide quality, safe and secure housing. The completely confidential survey will be emailed from [ArmyHousingSurvey@celassociates.com](mailto:ArmyHousingSurvey@celassociates.com). OMB Control Number: 0704-0553. OMB Expiration date: 05/31/2025

### Pharmacy updates

Beginning today, Moncrief Main Pharmacy and the PX Refill Distribution Center will change schedules. The new hours will be Monday – Friday 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., closed on weekends and federal holidays, and closed after 1 p.m. on the third Thursday of each month.

### Water Quality Report

Fort Jackson's 2024 Water Quality Report is now available by scanning the QR code. This report contains important information about the source and quality of your drinking water. If you would like a paper report, please call (803) 790-7288 to pick up a copy.



## COMMUNITY EVENTS

### TODAY THROUGH SATURDAY

#### Retiree Appreciation Days

Fort Jackson is holding retiree appreciation days to honor retirees and celebrate their service to our country. The event will provide updated information on benefits and services.

### TOMORROW

#### National Day of Prayer Breakfast

7:30-8:30 a.m., 1917 Club. Fort Jackson's Religious Support Office is holding a National Day of Prayer Breakfast. To RSVP visit: <https://einvitations.afit.edu/inv/index.cfm?i=1125697&k=0360400C7D5E7A>.

### TOMORROW TO MONDAY

#### Chill Water Outage

NOTICE: Fort Jackson's Directorate of Public works has scheduled a chill water outage at CEP #3 from 2 p.m. May 2 to noon May 5 to install chiller control valves. This outage will affect buildings 1565, 1867, 1872, 1875, 1877, 1880, 1889, 1892, 1895 1897, 2600, 2601, 2602, 2603, 2604, 2605, 2606, 2609. For more information, call (520) 671-8550.

### MAY 7

#### EFMP Virtual Discussion

10-11 a.m., MS Teams. The Army Community Service Exceptional Family Member Program invites the Fort Jackson community to join a presentation to discuss mental health and learn the importance of wellness. Meeting ID: 993 958 949 453 Passcode: 7Yt7ig6t Dial-in:(571) 616-7941, 925671946# United States Phone conference ID: 925 671 946#

### MAY 9

#### Military Spouse Appreciation Day

11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m., Fort Jackson Commissary. Join Army Community Service as they celebrate military spouses for their many sacrifices and contributions to the Army. For more information, call (803)

See **EVENTS:** Page 10

## Fort Jackson Movie Schedule

3319 Jackson Blvd.  
Phone: 751-7488

### SATURDAY, MAY 3

■ Thunderbolts (PG-13)

### WEDNESDAY, MAY 7

■ Thunderbolts (PG-13)

- Ticket sales open 30 minutes before each movie.
- Movie times and schedule are subject to change without notice.

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## THE FORT JACKSON LEADER

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[usarmy.jackson.93-sig-bde.mbx.atzj-pao@army.mil](mailto: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 (803) 751-3615.



Courtesy photo

The Model 1766 Charleville musket, named after a French armory in Charleville-Mézières, France, was the standardized weapon of the Continental Army. The musket transformed the army by making ammunition manufacturing and soldier training more efficient.

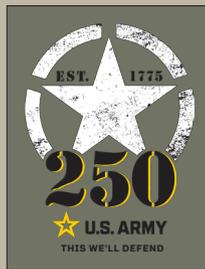
## Arming the Revolution: the French Charleville musket

By **HENRY HOWE**  
Director, Fort Jackson  
Museum Community

*(Editor's note: This article is part of a recurring column honoring the Army during the service's 250th birthday)*

During the American Revolution, when the Continental Army faced a demoralizing shortage of firearms, many soldiers harnessed their courage by using personal weapons or muskets they seized from British forces.

These arms, often in poor condition and lacking standardization, posed challenges for ammunition supplies and battlefield coordination. However, American leaders sought hope and assistance



from abroad, particularly from France.

Driven by a desire to challenge British power, France stepped in, providing arms to the American forces even before fully committing to the war in 1778.

Among the gifts were the Model 1763 and later the Model 1766 Charleville musket, named after a French armory in Charleville-Mézières.

This musket, affectionately known by some Americans as the "Charlottesville" musket, symbolized a lifeline in a time of need.

Renowned for its quality and consistency, the Charleville musket was a .69 caliber, smoothbore, flintlock weapon,

lighter and more refined than the British Brown Bess. The adoption of this standardized weapon transformed the Continental Army, making ammunition manufacturing and soldier training more efficient. This pivotal change pushed the army toward becoming a more organized, professional force.

With thousands of Charleville muskets flooding in, especially after America's formal alliance with France, American military capabilities soared.

Estimates suggest that France shipped between 80,000 to 100,000 muskets during the war.

The Charleville musket emerged as a powerful symbol of the vital support from France, helping to turn the tide in favor of the American cause.

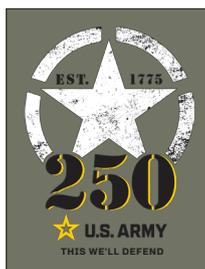
## Camden ride inspires Fort Jackson commanders, staff

By **HENRY HOWE**  
Director, Fort Jackson  
Museum Community

*(Editor's note: This article is part of a recurring column honoring the Army during the service's 250th birthday)*

Maj. Gen. Daryl Hood, Fort Jackson commander, along with members of the Army Training Center staff, recently embarked on an inspiring staff ride to the Historical Camden Revolutionary War Site in Camden, South Carolina.

This event served as a powerful opportunity to explore leadership, decision-making, and the enduring relevance of historical lessons for modern military operations.



The staff ride began with a compelling historical overview from Rick Wise, Director of the South Carolina Battlefield Commission.

He illuminated the American Revolution, highlighting the causes of the conflict and the political and military challenges that forged the fight for independence.

Wise captured the essence of the Southern Campaign, detailing the British strategic shift in 1778 aimed at harnessing Loyalist support to turn the tide of the war.

Wise underscored the pivotal significance of the Battle of Camden, fought on August 16, 1780. This battle was a defining British victory, revealing the vulnerabilities of the American Southern Army led by Maj. Gen.

Horatio Gates. He discussed how poor leadership, logistics challenges, and the inexperience of militia forces culminated in a tragic outcome, imparting timeless lessons on the need for preparation, morale, and sound command decision-making.

Enhancing the experience, Stacy Ferguson, Deputy Director of the Historic Camden Foundation, presented a live demonstration of Revolutionary War weaponry. She introduced the 1 ½-pound Grasshopper cannon, explaining its battlefield role and effectiveness, and showcased its operation. Stacy also executed a live-fire demonstration of the Brown Bess and Charleville muskets, essential firearms of the American Revolution.

See **RIDE**, Page 11

## Week celebrates nurses' power

By **CAPT. ANTOINETTE DINGLE**  
Public Health Nurse

Every year from May 6-12, we celebrate National Nurses Week, a time to honor the selfless superheroes in scrubs who keep our hearts beating, our wounds clean, and occasionally, our egos in check.

This year's theme is "The Power of Nurses," and let's be honest: if you've ever seen a nurse wrangle a cranky patient, soothe a panicked family member, and still remember where the IV pump charger is, all in one shift, you already know that nurses possess powers beyond human comprehension.

Let's break down a few of the supernatural abilities' nurses display daily:

- **X-ray Vision:** No, they can't see through walls (yet), but they can spot a fake fever, a suspicious rash, or a bandage applied by a first timer from 50 feet away.

- **Time Travel:** Somehow, nurses manage to be in two rooms at once, chart notes from the future, and magically recall what happened on their last 12-hour shift like it was yesterday, because it was.

- **Emotional Magic:** They transform fear into calm, pain into comfort, and medical jargon into something your grandma can understand. If that's not magic, what is?

Nurses are the backbone of healthcare and depending on the shift, possibly the liver, lungs, and gallbladder too.

They are educators, advocates, healers, and sometimes therapists (for both patients and doctors). Whether in hospitals, clinics, schools, or patients' homes, nurs-

See **NURSES**, Page 11

# Post honors military kids

By ROBERT TIMMONS  
Fort Jackson Public Affairs

Many events across post were held throughout the month to honor Month of the Military Child – the largest being the Family Fun Fair held at Patriots Park, April 25.

Multiple agencies were at the fair showing families what resources are available. There were many arts and crafts tables as well as food trucks, rides and a bounce house.

“It’s really for celebrating the kids,” said Sabine Alsup, Fort Jackson’s Child, Youth Services director.

Alsup said she would like to see families be “aware of all the resources that are on post,” as well as celebrating military children.

The fair also was to bring to everyone’s “attention so that they know how important and difficult” it is being a military child, she added.

Celebrating the military child is “vital” to what Fort Jackson does, said the director of youth sports on post.

“We serve a unique population,” said Darius Lane, Youth Sports and Fitness director, “where it’s military children that we serve.”

It’s important to highlight them and the “sacrifices their parents are making and the challenges they face every day,” Lane added. The fair was part of a month where there is an “opportunity to shine a line on them one month out of the year.”

Lane works with youths and sees first hand how difficult it can be for military children. Each year he coaches multiple sports including a tackle football team that has won numerous titles year after year. This would be special in itself, but his teams have to re-tool each year as its athletes leave for a new duty station with their parents.

The event resonated with a drill sergeant from 3rd Battalion, 13th Infantry Regiment who was at the event with his family.

“This is a great opportunity for my Family to get out of the house while I’m working and to experience something other than dad being gone,” said Staff Sgt. Devin Hawk.

The event was one of many Fort Jackson hosts for military families.



Photo by ROBERT TIMMONS



Photo by ROBERT TIMMONS

(Left) A volunteer shows a child how to make huge bubbles during the Child, Youth Services Family Fun Fair.

(Below) Children wave and shout as they ride the Dixieland Express around Patriots Park.

(Below middle) A parent and child hang on while riding one of the numerous attractions at the fair. There were many rides, booths and attractions at the event for the whole family.

(Above) Children try to fish for prizes. There were multiple games for children including a bounce house.

(Far right) A Soldier with Fort Jackson’s Better Opportunities for Single Soldiers hands out a snow cone at the fair. BOSS and many other on-post and off-post agencies were at the fair to show what resources are available to families

(Right) A volunteer creates huge bubble during the event. The weather was perfect for creating bubbles as a slight breeze blew them across Patriots Park.



Photo by ROBERT TIMMONS



Photo by ROBERT TIMMONS



Photo by NATHAN CLINEBELLE



Photo by ROBERT TIMMONS

# Gone fishing

*Youths catch the big one*

Story, photos by Nathan Clinebelle

A few showers couldn't dampen the excitement at the 2025 Youth Fishing Derby, held April 26 at Heise Pond.

Month of the Military Child was coming to a close, but there will be opportunities all year long for the post's youths.

Fort Jackson Outdoor Recreation hosted the 2025 Youth Fishing Derby. Even with a little bad weather, many had a good time hanging out with friends and family outdoors.

"It's extremely nice that the installation has these types of events for children to show them that they we do care about them," said Staff Sgt. Kyle Skidel, a drill sergeant with 3rd Battalion, 34th Infantry Regiment. "It's nice the Army and the installation are looking out for the them."



## Mental health month shows strength in every story

By **MAJ. JARAH J. LINDO**  
Department of Behavioral Health

Every year in May we observe National Mental Health Month. This year's theme is "In Every Story, There's Strength." Talking about your problems can be hard. Walking into a Behavioral Health clinic for the first time may be scary. Seeking help from a mental health professional may feel uncomfortable. Telling your friends and family about your struggles may be difficult. However, sharing your story builds resilience and puts you one step closer to recovery. Your story may also provide hope or let others know they are not alone. If you have not tried this, follow these steps:

- Write down your thoughts
  - Contact someone you trust and ask them to listen to a small part of your story. You may be an inspiration to someone or help to offer a new perspective about mental health.
- This month highlights the importance of discussing mental wellness, reducing the stigma in seeking mental health services, and showing support for individuals living with mental

health conditions. Below are a few reminders:

- **Increase Awareness.** In 2023, Mental Health of America reported that 40% of U.S. adults reported struggling with mental health or substance use. Two out of five people had a condition that was either diagnosed or undiagnosed and either temporary or permanent. Of those individuals, roughly 50% were not seeking mental health services. This suggests that: 1) mental health conditions are more common than uncommon and 2) there are barriers to seeking mental health services.
- **Scrap the Stigma.** Military personnel have heavily focused on physical health, but mental health is equally essential to mission success, especially at Fort Jackson, where we make Soldiers. There are several Military Medicine articles that identify career-related stigma as the primary barrier to BH utilization. However, the risk of ignoring symptoms should never outweigh the benefits of seeking help. Despite the perception, using BH services shows good judgment and insight. It also helps to prevent symptoms from worsening, elevates mood, optimizes performance, and improves overall functioning.

- **Support someone.** Mission success (any mission, whether you are a Soldier, civilian, spouse, parent) is centered on maintaining a healthy body and mind. Mission success is a team effort. If someone tells you about a problem, do not laugh, joke, or minimize their concerns. Simply "listen and don't judge." Make a recommendation to seek BH services, call the Crisis Help Line (988), speak to a Chaplain or MFLC, or contact a confidential counselor at Military One Source.

- **Mental Health Providers Day—May 12th**  
Seeking help saves lives, and it is available to you or someone you know:

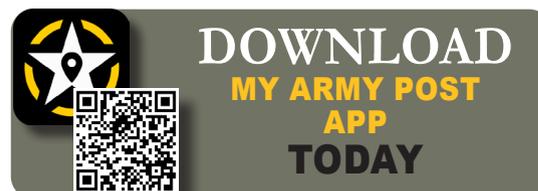
- Call or meet up with someone you trust.
- Visit to your Chaplain, Ministry Team, or Behavioral Health provider.
- Call 988 and press 1 for Military Crisis Line.
- Text 838255 to speak to Crisis Counselor.
- Download the Mental Health Awareness toolkit at [www.mhanational.org/may](http://www.mhanational.org/may).



Photo by STAFF SGT. SAMANTHA LEWIS

### Running for Awareness

Col. Kenneth Dwyer, Leader Training Brigade commander, speaks after the brigade's three-mile esprit de corps run, April 25, that also brought awareness to Sexual Harassment/Assault Response Program.



### SALUTING THIS CYCLE'S HONOREES

#### 2nd Battalion, 60th Infantry Regiment

**DRILL SERGEANT OF THE CYCLE**  
Sgt. 1st Class Daniel Franklin

**ALPHA COMPANY SOLDIER LEADER OF THE CYCLE**  
Pvt. Jack Gentile

**SOLDIER OF THE CYCLE**  
Pvt. Jacob Potle

**BRAVO COMPANY SOLDIER LEADER OF THE CYCLE**  
Pfc. Masard Tetteh

**SOLDIER OF THE CYCLE**  
Pfc. Bradley Kobe

**CHARLIE COMPANY SOLDIER LEADER OF THE CYCLE**  
Pvt. Maria CardenasSoto

**SOLDIER OF THE CYCLE**  
Pvt. Lazeuasha Graves

**DELTA COMPANY SOLDIER LEADER OF THE CYCLE**  
Pfc. Tau Fotu

**SOLDIER OF THE CYCLE**  
Spc. Dakota Owens

**ECHO COMPANY SOLDIER LEADER OF THE CYCLE**  
Pfc. Grant Ruble

**SOLDIER OF THE CYCLE**  
Pfc. Lori Blevins

# Events

Continued from Page 4

751-5256.

## MAY 10 Charleston Visit

7:10 a.m., Marion Street Station. Join Outdoor Recreation as they observe wild dolphin from a Carolina skiff boat as they cruise to six miles to Morris Island. The trip will also venture downtown for shopping and dining at the historic Charleston City Market. Register by May 1. For more information or to register, call (803) 751-3484.

## MAY 13 Love & Money Matters

10-11:30 a.m., MS Teams. Army Community Service and the Religious Support Office conduct a 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. For more information, or to register, please call 803-751-5256 (option 3).

## MAY 15 Fort Jackson Amnesty Day

8 a.m. to 2 p.m., Warehouse Road. Fort Jackson Safety Office is providing an opportunity for individuals to return ammunition and explosives inadvertently kept, found, or stolen without fear or prosecution. For more information, call (520) 671-8504.

## MAY 22 The MURPH

All day at Perez and Vanguard gyms. Come to any Fort Jackson gym at any time during the day,

pick up your scoresheet and do this challenging workout of the day, where competitors must run a mile, do 100 pullups, 200 pushups, 300 squats and run another mile.

## MAY 24 Weston Lake Beach Day

Noon to 5 p.m., 4420 Leesburg Road. Join the Directorate of Family and Morale, Welfare and Recreation at Weston Lake to celebrate the beach opening. There will be paddle boats, paddle boards, bounce, houses, games and beach access. For more information, call (803) 751-5253.

## MAY 27 Safe Talk Class

9 a.m. to noon, Training Support Center. Join us for a safe talk class to identify people with suicidal thoughts and connect them with help. For more information, call (803) 751-2915.

### FORT JACKSON 2025 RETIREE APPRECIATION DAYS

#### Thursday, May 1, 2025

- 7:30 a.m. Join us online at <https://www.facebook.com/USArmyGarrisonFortJackson> to hear the Garrison Commander's Message to the Retirees. 7:30 a.m. Continental Breakfast at the Club 1917, meal cost \$8
- 9:00 a.m. Basic Training Graduation Ceremony and Salute to Retirees. Guest Speaker Command Sergeant Major (CSM) (Retired) David S. Davenport. Reserved seating under the covered bleachers. Enter Hilton field with VIP parking with pass at the 4<sup>th</sup> Division Road entrance. Arrive not later than 0830, to be escorted to the reserved seating.
- To obtain VIP parking pass contact (520) 671-8431 (520) 671-8436.

#### Friday, May 2, 2025

- The 21<sup>st</sup> Annual Retiree Appreciation Day Golf Tournament will be held on May 2, 2025. This year's event will kick off with a welcome from a Fort Jackson Retiree Council member. The tournament will be played on the Wildcat Course with a 9:00am Shotgun Start. Format is Captain's Choice, Gross and Net Scoring. Cost is \$45-FJGC member, \$55 Authorized Patrons, and \$60-Civilians. Entry fee includes all golf fees, prizes and a post tournament meal. Register your team today or sign up as a single and the FJGC PGA Professional will pair you with a group. Register your team by signing up at the Golf Club or calling the FJGC golf shop at (803) 562-4437.

#### Saturday, May 3, 2025

- Retiree Health and Benefits Expo at the Solomon Center, 6510 Strom Thurmond Boulevard, Fort Jackson, from 9:00 a.m.-12:00 noon. This year's Speaker **Ms. Alethea Harry, Veteran's Readiness & Employment (VRE) Officer, Veteran's Affairs Regional Office, Columbia, Ms.** Harry will provide updates and a Q&A session at 10:00 a.m. VA claims technicians on site. Moncrief Army Health & Dental Clinics (MAHC) will provide health screenings and counseling booths. There will be a host of other agencies represented.
- 9:00a.m.-12:00p.m. ID Card Services in building 5450 Strom Thurmond Blvd, Strom Thurmond Bldg.
- AAFES in Store Sales at the Main PX starting at 9:30 a.m.
- Commissary in Store Sales starting at 9:30 a.m.



**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	TUE-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 SHABBOS SERVICE	FRIDAY	6-7 P.M.	LIGHTNING 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
ANGLICAN	SUNDAY	8-9 A.M.	SOLOMON CENTER
ISLAMIC SERVICE	SUNDAY	8-9 A.M.	KINGS MOUNTAIN CHAPEL
JEWISH SERVICE	SUNDAY	10:15-11:30 A.M.	120TH AG BN (for trainees in 120th only)
THE CHURCH OF JESUS CHRIST OF LATTER DAY SAINTS	SUNDAY	10:30 A.M. to NOON	WASHINGTON ROAD CHAPEL
HEATHEN/PAGAN	SUNDAY	8:30-9:30 A.M.	CENTURY DIVISION CHAPEL



Courtesy photo

**Patrick Martinez fires a Charlesville musket during a staff ride to Camden, S.C. The Charlesville musket was the standard weapon for the Continental Army.**

## Ride

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These demonstrations provided the participants with a vivid understanding of the capabilities and limitations of 18th-century weaponry, deepening their appreciation for the formidable challenges faced by soldiers at Camden.

Hood emphasized the transformative power of staff rides in fostering critical thinking, adapt-

ability, and a profound understanding of leadership responsibilities. "History teaches us that leadership under stress is timeless," he said. "The lessons from Camden remind us that preparation, trust in your team, and informed decision-making are as vital today as they were in 1780."

The staff ride to Camden Battlefield reinforced the Army's unwavering commitment to cultivating adaptive and resilient leaders, ensuring that the sacrifices and lessons of the past continue to guide the future force.



## May brings Motorcycle safety into focus

Installation Safety Office

May marks the beginning of riding season for many motorcyclists in America. It is also Motorcycle Safety Awareness Month. The U.S. Department of Transportation's National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, reminds motorists that Motorcyclists' Safety Is Everyone's Safety. Motorcycle safety is an ongoing responsibility for all road users. By consistently following safe driving and riding practices and sharing them with others, all motorists can help reduce the number of motorcyclist fatalities on America's roads.

Each year motorcyclists are overrepresented in traffic crashes. Two leading contributors to this reality are speed and alcohol impairment. It is important to note that, while in years past, riding was seen as a leisure activity, it is now often a person's main or only mode of transportation. It is essential that riders and drivers both pay critical attention to their driving habits and to each other while out on the roads.

According to NHTSA data, there were 6,218 motorcyclists killed in traffic crashes in 2024, representing 15% of total highway fatalities for that year. Speeding was a major contributing factor for motorcyclist fatalities in 2022, accounting for 35% of all motorcyclist fatalities. More than half (51%) of those fatalities were motorcyclists 21 to 24 years old. Alcohol impairment also played a significant role in motorcycle-involved crash fatalities: Forty-two percent of motorcycle riders who died in single-vehicle crashes in 2022 were alcohol-impaired.

Like seat belts, wearing DOT-compliant motorcycle helmets can save lives and reduce injuries.

After three years of declines, helmet use increased from 64.9% in 2021 to 66.5% in 2022. NHTSA data estimates that helmets saved 1,872 motorcyclists' lives in 2017 and that 749 more lives could have been saved if all motorcyclists had worn their helmets.

Vehicle drivers and motorcyclists can help reduce the number of fatalities and injuries on America's roadways by:

- Observing all traffic laws and obeying the speed limit.
- Driving and riding alcohol- and drug-free.
- Avoiding distractions while driving or riding.
- Yielding to motorcyclists especially when drivers are turning at intersections.
- Wearing high-visibility protective gear and DOT-compliant motorcycle helmets while riding. Learn how to identify a safe, DOT-compliant helmet at [www.nhtsa.gov/motorcycle-safety/choose-right-motorcycle-helmet](http://www.nhtsa.gov/motorcycle-safety/choose-right-motorcycle-helmet).

Other significant steps that motorcycle riders can take toward promoting road safety for all motorists:

- Is completing a rider education and training course.
- Close riding - Ride your lane
- Beware of sand on main road and on road and street shoulders
- Riding in poor or rainy weather - be cautious of hydroplaning

For more information on motorcycle safety, visit [NHTSA.gov/Motorcycles](http://NHTSA.gov/Motorcycles). For additional statistics, please visit <https://cdan.nhtsa.gov/> and search "motorcycle" under Crash Data Publications.

## Nurses

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es show up with empathy, grit, and more pens than any one person should legally carry.

Behind the jokes lies deep respect. Nurses have faced unprecedented challenges in recent years, and they continue to rise with courage, skill, and compassion.

Their power lies not only in what they do, but in how they do it, with humanity, humor, and heart.

So, this National Nurses Week, let's all pause to appreciate the incredible people who keep our health systems running, our patients cared for, and our spirits lifted. Because let's be honest: the only thing more powerful than a nurse's knowledge is a nurse who skipped lunch.

Happy National Nurses Week to all the amazing and powerful nurses out there.

# VICTORY... STARTS HERE



Staff Sgt. Laquntay Reid plots land navigation points during the TRADOC Best Squad Competition on April 29 at Fort Eustis, Va. Reid is a part of the Fort Jackson squad participating in the contest.

Photo by SGT. 1ST CLASS BREEANN RAMOS-CLIFTON