

THURSDAY, AUG. 28, 2025

THE FORT JACKSON LEADER

"VICTORY ... STARTS HERE."

JACKSON, RICHLAND COUNTY
DIVES TO THE RESCUE



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Leaders play key role in mishap prevention

By **GEN. GARY M. BRITO** and
COMMAND SGT. MAJ. RAYMOND HARRIS

Labor Day is dedicated to honor and celebrate the contributions American workers have made to improve the strength and prosperity of our great Nation.

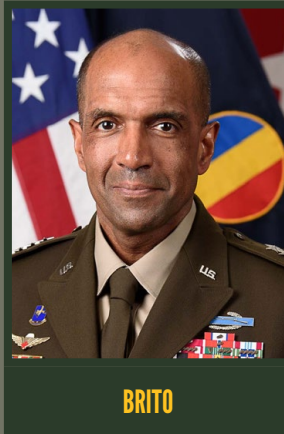
As we transition towards the end of summer, I encourage Soldiers and Army Civilian professionals to enjoy this well-deserved holiday. Along with the celebrations and fun activities we participate in during the holiday weekend comes an increased risk for mishaps. It is imperative that you place safety at the top of your plans, make risk-informed decisions in all your activities, and adjust your plans when conditions change.

Leaders play a critical role in mishap prevention. All leaders will engage with their Soldiers and Army Civilian professionals prior to the holiday and discuss associated hazards and mitigation strategies. Emphasize the application of risk management in off-duty activities and promote safe and responsible behavior to reduce the risk of mishaps.

Teamwork is the key to our success. We count on each of you to keep yourself and those around you safe. Always remain vigilant and use good judgement.

Have a safe and enjoyable Labor Day! Thank you for your unwavering dedication and service to our Army and Nation.

Victory Starts Here!



BRITO



HARRIS

Army releases housing survey results

By **SAMANTHA TYLER**
Army Material Command

The results of the Fiscal Year 2025 Army Housing Tenant Satisfaction Survey are in.

The annual survey gathers feedback from soldiers and their families about their experiences living in Army housing to help the department understand the needs of its tenants and make improvements to housing quality, resident services and community amenities.

This fiscal year, overall satisfaction scores increased from 75.8 to 76 for privatized family housing, from 73 to 74.1 for Army-owned and leased family housing and from 87 to 87.4 for privatized unaccompanied housing.

“This year, and every year, we are grateful for the feedback our soldiers and families provide through the tenant satisfaction survey,” said Command Sgt. Maj. Jimmy Sellers, Army Materiel Command’s command sergeant major. “We stand ready to support as our garrisons submit their action plans and (we) are committed to improving the quality of our housing for our soldiers and families, including our junior enlisted and unaccompanied soldiers.”

This was the first tenant satisfaction survey to include Army-owned permanent party unaccompanied housing residents, primarily soldiers in barracks. Although participation was low, the Army is looking to increase awareness of the survey by communicating the impact that soldiers’ comments have on the prioritization of Army investments in barracks.

Now that the results have been tallied, installations will develop action plans with-

in 60 days of receiving their results. These plans are one of the many updates briefed during weekly housing reviews conducted by the Army Installation Management Command.

“These survey results allow us (to) track improvement, provide oversight and drive action across our installations with our privatized housing providers,” said Maj. Gen. James Smith, IMCOM acting commanding general. “This year’s inclusion of Army-owned unaccompanied housing in the survey further demonstrates our commitment to improving the quality of housing for our junior enlisted and unaccompanied soldiers. IMCOM will work directly in support of senior commanders to identify opportunities for barracks improvements.”

Survey results will also continue to inform the facility investment plan. Over the next five fiscal years, the Army plans to invest \$2.3 billion in government-owned family housing.

Privatized housing providers have already invested over \$1.6 billion from fiscal years 2020 to 2024 and plan to invest an additional \$2.2 billion between fiscal years 2025 and 2027 in new construction, renovations and community improvements. The providers have also focused on improving maintenance staffing and processes.

Two construction workers use lifts to reach the second and third floors of a building that is under construction.

The Army has implemented several measures to ensure housing quality, including 100% “change of occupancy” inspections and assurance checks on life, health and safety work orders in family housing.

ON THE COVER

Fort Jackson firefighters and divers with the Richland County Sheriff’s Department conducted a surface and underwater rescue training exercise, Aug. 21, at Weston Lake.



Photo by VERAN HILL

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THE FORT JACKSON LEADER

Fort Jackson, South Carolina 29207

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Two NCOs welcomed into Audie Murphy club

Story, photo by
ROBERT TIMMONS

Fort Jackson Public Affairs

Two senior noncommissioned officers were inducted into a special club, Aug. 22.

Sgts. 1st Class Isaac F. Hughes and Fernando G. Osoria became the two newest members of the Sgt. Audie Murphy Club when Post Command Sgt. Maj. William M. Shoaf placed a medal around their necks.

“Getting to this point in your careers is no easy feat,” said retired Command Sgt. Maj. John Blyler III. Blyler, the former senior enlisted leader for the 165th Infantry Brigade, was a member of the SAMC as well.

“In this profession, every single one of us leave a mark, whether we realize it or not,” he said. “The way we lead, the way we speak and the way we carry ourselves has the power to change the trajectory of another Soldier’s life.”

This includes a “private watching you handle pressures, learns what calm under fire look like,” Blyler said.

“The uniform you wear is more than fabric,” he said to Hughes and Osoria. “It’s a thread that connects us to every Soldier before us and every Soldier beside us. Our actions, our words and our examples don’t just echo in the moment. They echo for years, across units, across deployments, and even across generations.”

The two inductees went through a rigorous process designed to ensure only the best NCOs are able to join the SAMC.

The SAMC is a private Army organization for NCOs whose leadership achievements and performance merit special recognition may possibly earn the reward of membership.

The organization is named after Audie L. Murphy, the most decorated Soldier of World War II. His small stature kept him from joining the Marine Corps and the paratroopers, but he would eventually join and be assigned to the 3rd Infantry Division.

He would serve in numerous battles in Italy, France and Germany. On June 2, 1945, he was awarded the Medal of Honor for fighting off a Jan. 26, 1945 German attack on his unit.

Murphy, after the war would become an actor known for westerns and starring in a movie based on his autobiography, “To Hell and Back.”

Murphy would die in a plane crash in 1971.



Post Command Sgt. Maj. William F. Shoaf places a ribbon around the neck of Sgt. 1st Class Fernando G. Osoria during an induction ceremony into the Sgt. Audie Murphy Club. Sgt. 1st Class Isaac F. Hughes was also inducted into the club during the event.

Community Updates

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Road Closure

The intersection of Jackson Boulevard and Lightning Street will be closed Sept. 8 to Oct. 15 for storm drain repairs. There will be signs posted for roads that will be closed to through traffic and to identify the detours routes. Drivers are advised to follow detours and stay away from the area due to the operation of heavy equipment and hazardous conditions.

Jewish High Holy Days

Rosh Hashanah (Jewish New Year) Century Chapel
Sept. 23 – 10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.
Sept. 24 – 10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.
Yom Kippur (Day of Atonement) Century Chapel
Oct. 1 – 7-8:30 p.m.
Oct. 2 – 10:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. and 5:30-8 p.m.

Safety Training

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://airs.safety.army.mil/default.aspx>. To register for the Unit Safety Officer training, contact your safety specialist.

- Advance Riders Cours: Sept. 9 (6 seats open)
- Basic Riders Course: Sept. 29-Oct. 1 (3 seats open)*
- Intermediate Drivers Course: Sept. 18 (25 seats open)
- Local Hazards Course: Every Monday at 10 a.m. (except holidays)

■ Unit Safety Officer Course: Oct. 7-8 (20 seats open)— send your designated Safety Officer an email to register

■ Heat Illness Prevention Training: Every Monday at 1 p.m. (except holidays) at Strom Thurmond Bldg., Room 207.

* Safety officials encourage those wishing to attend in case of no shows.

First Friday Golf

Maj. Gen. Daryl O. Hood, Fort Jackson commander, invites you to join him for First Friday Golf the first Friday of every month. This is a Captain's Choice event and will begin at 11:30 a.m. at the Fort Jackson Golf Club. You may enter your own team or sign up as a single and be paired with a group. Entry fee is \$45 for FJGC members and \$55 for non-members. The entry fee includes applicable greens fee, user Fee, cart, prizes, and a boxed lunch. Register by calling the pro shop, at (803) 562-4437.

COMMUNITY EVENTS

WEDNESDAY

Community Lunch

Noon to 1 p.m., Main Post Chapel Fellowship Hall. The Fort Jackson community invited to attend a lunch with food, fellowship, fun and a brief inspirational message. The lunch is held on the first Wednesday of the month.. For more information, call (803) 751-3979.

SEPT. 5

Lunch and Learn with Sew and Heal

11:30 a.m., Bldg. 9810 Liberty Division Road. Join this class to use sewing as a coping skill and make a small craft. This

event is part of Suicide Prevention Awareness Month. For more information, call (803) 751-2915.

SEPT. 6

5K Run/Walk for the Fallen

7 a.m., Hilton Field. Come join Fort Jackson in honoring the fallen Soldiers and their families. Registration begins at 7 a.m., opening remarks at 7:45 a.m., and the run/walk begins at 8. For more information, call (803) 751-5256.

Private Weapons Day

10 a.m. to 2 p.m., Aachen Range.

Shooters can shoot at targets between 25m and 200m. Paper targets, spotting scopes, tables and chairs are provided. Patrons can shoot rifle or pistol at a Day rate or on an hourly rate. Pre-register at Marion Street Station: \$25 per person for all day (4 hours), \$10 per person per hour (pre-register), \$15 per person per hour (day onsite/cash only). Ensure all weapons are registered on post. No automatic weapons or .50 cal allowed. Age 12 and up, 17 and younger must be accompanied by an adult. Open to All authorized ID card holders. For more information, call (803) 751-3484.

SEPT. 8 TO NOV. 4

Fall Intramural Basketball League

Solomon Center. A Department of Defense ID required to play and the deadline for submitting a letter of intent is Sept. 5. An Interest meeting will be held Sep 8. This is a Commander's Cup event. Sign up today. For more information call (803) 751-3096.

SEPT. 10

SafeTALK Seminar

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.

Fort Jackson Movie Schedule

3319 Jackson Blvd.

Phone: 751-7488

SATURDAY, AUG. 30

■ No Showing

WEDNESDAY, SEPT. 3

■ The Naked Gun (PG-13)

- All shows start at 2 p.m.
- Ticket sales open 30 minutes before each movie.
- Movie times and schedule are subject to change without notice.

9 a.m., Bldg. 9810 Liberty Division Road. You are invited to attend this seminar taught by the S.C. Department of Behavioral Health & Developmental Disabilities. The objective of the seminar is to share ways to be alert of someone thinking of suicide and how to connect them with resources. This event is part of Suicide Prevention Awareness Month. For more information, call (803) 751-2915.

SEPT. 13

Beaufort Tour

7 a.m. to 7 p.m., 5450 Strom Thurmond Blvd. Join Army Community Service for a newcomer's orientation "area tour" to Beaufort, South Carolina. Take a land and sea tour departing downtown Beaufort Marina at the Waterfront Park. We

See **EVENTS:** Page 10

THE FORT JACKSON LEADER

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Photo by NAVY PETTY OFFICER 1ST CLASS ALEXANDER KUBITZA

The Mexican Border Defense Medal will be awarded to service members deployed to the U.S. international border with Mexico for Defense Department support to U.S. Customs and Border Protection.

Hegseth announces Mexican border medal

By **DAVID VERGUN**
DOD News

Effective immediately, the Mexican Border Defense Medal is established to recognize service members deployed to the U.S. international border with Mexico for Defense Department support to U.S. Customs and Border Protection, said Defense Secretary Pete Hegseth in an Aug. 13 memorandum.

Service members deployed in support of CBP previously were recognized with the Armed Forces Service Medal.

To receive the new award, service members must have been permanently assigned, attached or detailed to a unit that deployed to participate in a designated DOD military operation supporting CBP within the area of eligibility for 30 consecutive or nonconsecutive days, from Jan. 20 to a future termination date

to be determined, Hegseth said.

The area of eligibility is U.S. land within 100 nautical miles from the international border with Mexico within Texas, including the city of San Antonio, as well as New Mexico, Arizona, California and the adjacent U.S. waters out to 24 nautical miles, he said.

Service members and veterans previously awarded the AFSM may apply for the new award in lieu of the AFSM previously awarded, the secretary said, adding no one can be awarded both medals for the same period of qualifying service.

"Securing the southern border, protecting the territorial integrity of the U.S. and defending our homeland are Department of Defense priorities," said Anthony J. Tata, undersecretary of defense for personnel and readiness.

Tata underscored the timeliness and criticality of this award, adding, "The ser-

vice members deployed to support this national security imperative deserve to be recognized for their bravery and contributions — and we look forward to pinning the Mexican Border Defense Medal on them soon."

The U.S. Army Institute of Heraldry will expedite procurement of MBDMs made to DOD standards, and the Defense Logistics Agency will expedite the process for procuring and placing the MBDM in the supply system to ensure timely availability of the award for qualifying service members and veterans.

About the Medal

According to Institute of Heraldry, the MBDM is identical to the Mexican Border Service Medal, struck in 1918, for service in 1916 and 1917 in the Mexican state of Chihuahua and on the U.S. side in

DOD honors fallen heroes

Department of Defense

The Department of Defense paused Aug. 26, the fourth anniversary of the terrorist attack at Abbey Gate in Kabul, Afghanistan, to honor the 13 brave U.S. service members who made the ultimate sacrifice during the U.S. military's withdrawal from Afghanistan.

These heroes, selfless warriors who stood guard amidst chaos, lost their lives in a suicide bombing that also claimed roughly 170 Afghan civilians. Their valor and dedication to duty will forever inspire our nation, and we extend our deepest respect and gratitude to their families, whose enduring pain fuels our resolve to seek justice and truth.

Under the leadership of Secretary of Defense Pete Hegseth, the Special Review Panel at the Department continues its vital work to investigate the botched withdrawal, ensuring that the pursuit of accountability and transparency does not waver.

While the review is ongoing, the effort to uncover the full truth behind the decisions made during this period has not stopped and will not stop until every aspect is examined and those responsible are held to account.

"Justice for the families of the 13 fallen service members is an essential priority," Hegseth said. "Their sacrifice is the driving force behind this panel's mission. We owe it to them, to the American people, and to all who wear the uniform to comb through every detail of what happened, delivering full accountability and restoring trust."

The panel, convened at the direction of Secretary Hegseth and President Trump, is pledged to full transparency regarding the Biden ad-

See **MEDAL:** Page 9

See **HEROES,** Page 9

Fort Jackson firefighters and the Emergency Management Unit of the Richland County Sheriff's Department held joint training Aug. 21 at Weston Lake. The joint training simulated a lake rescue. The two agencies came together to sharpen their rescue skills and ensure they're proficient in water emergency response operations. Joint exercises give both sides a chance to work together and build cohesion before a real-world emergency takes place.



Jackson, Richland County dives to the rescue

Story, photos by VERAN HILL
Fort Jackson Public Affairs

Firefighters with the Fort Jackson Directorate of Emergency Services and the Emergency Management Unit of Richland County Sheriff's Department completed a joint water rescue training exercise at Weston Lake on Fort Jackson, Aug. 21.

The two emergency agencies came together to sharpen their rescue skills and importantly, to ensure they are prepared and proficient in water emergency response operations.

"This training exercise really strengthens the relationship and cooperation between Fort Jackson emergency responders and Richland County Sheriff's Department," said John Ferrell, a member of the emergency management unit of Richland County Sheriff's Department. "Fort Jackson and Richland County have a great relationship; we have things that we can both benefit from the other."

The scenario provided during the training tested DES firefighters' capabilities to respond rapidly and conduct a surface rescue of a victim whose canoe capsized in Weston Lake. The firefighters conducted a search of the lake where the victim was last seen, but to no avail.

The Richland County Dive Team, a special unit of the sheriff's

department, was called upon and evaluated their abilities to prepare for and conduct rescue and recovery operations for the missing victim.

Steven Hamilton, Directorate of Emergency Services, assistant fire chief, said "We're collaborating and coming together for this exercise to integrate with one another on our responses."

Divers were underwater on average of 15 minutes conducting the search and rescue efforts; while in boats, DES scanned the lake for any surface signs of movement and members of Richland County emergency management team used sonar devices to listen for and locate victims underwater.

"Anytime we have an opportunity to coordinate training, test capabilities, and gain lessons-learned in communication or notifications, we identify new ways to do better methods," Hamilton said.

The Fort Jackson Directorate of Emergency Services and Richland County Sheriff's department have worked together for years in responses to law enforcement and firefighting, he said.

Joint training exercises give both teams a chance to work together, take lessons learned, and put those lessons into new policies and procedures that will ensure readiness during a real-world emergency.



Pierce Terrace school recycle drive aids local charity

Story, photo by **LORRAINE EMORY**
Pierce Terrace Elementary School

Pierce Terrace Elementary School students are proving that even the smallest items can make a big difference.

This school year, the PTES Health Office is leading a collection drive for soda can tabs, pop-tops, pull-tabs, and aluminum can tabs, with the proceeds supporting a local charity.

Throughout the summer, students, staff, and families began saving tabs at home, and now that school is in session, the effort is in full swing. Students are encouraged to bring their collected tabs to their classroom teacher or drop them off directly at the health office.

“Please start gathering soda can tabs!” the school urged last school year, and the efforts continue. “The efficacy of students engaging in modest acts of charity is astounding.”

THIS SCHOOL YEAR THE PIERCE TERRACE HEALTH OFFICE IS LEADING A COLLECTION DRIVE TO PROVIDE SUPPORT TO A LOCAL CHARITY.

That message continues to resonate as classrooms fill with containers of shiny aluminum tabs, each one representing a contribution toward an important cause.

The collected tabs will be donated to the local non-profit organization dedicated to providing a “home away from home” for families with children receiving medical care. By offering lodging, meals, and a supportive community, the non-profit helps keep families together during times of illness, allowing parents to focus on their child’s recovery without worrying about the added costs and stress of accommodation.

Every tab counts.

The entirety of the funds generated from this program goes directly to improving the health and well-being of sick children and their families.

For the PTES community, it’s an opportunity to teach students the value of kindness, service, and compassion—while uniting around a cause that affects countless families.

As the school year progresses, Pierce Terrace Elementary hopes to see the collection continue to grow.

With each tab dropped into a container, students are reminded that even the smallest acts can add up to make a lasting impact.

Nova S., a first grader in Jessica Lacey’s class, proudly delivers a summer’s worth of collected pull tabs to the Pierce Terrace Elementary School Health Office. Nova and her family have been saving tabs all summer to support a local non-profit.



New Army recon drone earns Soldier praise

By **ZACH MONTANARO**
Army News Service

If you've seen any footage from the ongoing war in Ukraine, odds are it was video that came from a drone. As the war has expanded since it began in 2022, so too have the usage of drones. The need for armies to reliably gather intelligence, spot dangers, and target enemies without putting Soldiers' lives at risk has become a paramount concern.

Enter Soldier Borne Sensor, a program under Program Executive Office Soldier with the mis-

sion of providing Soldiers with an effective uncrewed aerial system aimed to increase situational awareness while reducing risk of detection.

After years of progress, the latest iteration of the Soldier Borne Sensor is now officially in Soldiers' hands.

For three days, Soldiers of the 90th Sustainment Brigade, as part of the Joint Task Force – Southern Border, packed into a hot warehouse less than five miles from the southern border to train with the newly fielded Soldier Borne Sensor reconnaissance

drone. The training involved two days of in-class learning of every function and feature, and one day of hands-on field experience learning to fly the drone.

The other units who participated in this training as part of the Joint Task Force were the 2nd Stryker Brigade Combat Team, part of the 4th Infantry Division and the 89th Military Police Brigade.

This iteration of the Soldier Borne Sensor is an improvement in just about every regard possible from its predecessor. It has a much longer battery life, more

durable frame and a greater operating range.

All of those and other upgrades come wrapped up in one user-friendly reconnaissance drone built from the ground up with Soldiers in mind. It was that high functionality and ease of use that Soldiers took notice of and praised the most.

"It's super easy to fly," said Sgt. Quinton Layton, who took part in the fielding. "I didn't expect it to be as simple as it was. It's definitely something you can pick up

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Heroes

Continued from Page 5

ministration's handling of the withdrawal, a debacle that resulted in billions of dollars in lost equipment, needless casualties, and one of America's darkest moments in the region.

Led by Assistant to the Secretary of Defense for Public Affairs and Senior Advisor Sean Parnell, the panel includes former Lt. Col. Stuart Scheller, who demanded accountability during the Afghanistan withdrawal and faced reprisals under the previous administration, and other experts dedicated to this cause. Updates will be provided as findings emerge and we will remain committed to keeping the public informed.

Medal

Continued from Page 5

the vicinity of the New Mexico and Texas borders with Mexico.

The medals are bronze. On the front is a sheathed Roman sword hanging on a tablet, along with an inscription that reads "For Service on the Mexican Border."

The sword symbolizes war or military strength and is sheathed to indicate service in the United States rather than in actual combat.

On the reverse side is the Coat of Arms of the United States above a scroll and surrounded by a wreath ending at the center with cross rifles in dexter, crossed sabers in sinister and crossed cannons in base.

The wreath represents achievement. The rifles, sabers and cannons represent the infantry, cavalry and artillery.

The ribbon's field of green is symbolic of freedom, while the golden yellow color alludes to virtue. These colors represent civic virtue by serving the government in the pursuit of freedom.

The order of precedence for the MBDM will be before the AFSM and after the Korea Defense Service Medal.

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RETIREE INFORMATION

SALUTING THIS CYCLE'S HONOREES

3rd Battalion,
60 Infantry
Regiment

**DRILL SERGEANT
OF THE CYCLE**
Staff Sgt.
Jaimey Irwin

ALPHA COMPANY
SOLDIER LEADER
OF THE CYCLE
Pvt. Eric Peek

SOLDIER OF THE CYCLE
Pvt. Trevor Maass

BRAVO COMPANY
SOLDIER LEADER
OF THE CYCLE
Pfc. Tajaee Young

SOLDIER OF THE CYCLE
Pvt. Dylan Hughes

CHARLIE COMPANY
SOLDIER LEADER
OF THE CYCLE
Pfc. Nathanael Brown

SOLDIER OF THE CYCLE
Pvt. Lucas Medina

DELTA COMPANY
SOLDIER LEADER
OF THE CYCLE
Pfc. Kunzang Gyatso

SOLDIER OF THE CYCLE
Pvt. Nakiah Harper

ECHO COMPANY
SOLDIER LEADER
OF THE CYCLE
Pfc. Tanner Serrano

SOLDIER OF THE CYCLE
Pfc. David Reynaud

Events

Continued from Page 4

fort Marina at the Waterfront Park. We will cruise along the waterfront to get an introduction to Beaufort's incredible history and abundant wildlife. Space is limited and is first come, first served. For more information and to register, call (803) 751-5256, option 3.

SEPT. 16
Community Information Exchange
2-3 p.m., 1917 Club. The Fort Jackson community is invited to join post leaders in a forum to identify issues or concerns in support of the Total Army Family. The forum assists leaders in taking care of the Army Family. For more information, call (803) 751-5670.

SEPT. 20
Fort Gordon trail ride
8 a.m. to 3 p.m. Join us for a horseback trail ride at Fort Gordon, Ga. horse stables.

Novice or pro, this guided ride will be great for those looking for an outdoor adventure. Cost: \$75 per person. Participants must be 7 years old or older. for more information or to register, call Outdoor Recreation at (803) 751-3484.

SEPT. 25
Suicide Prevention Panel
1:30 p.m., Zimmerman Auditorium, 10098 Cherbourg Street. Come listen to three dynamic speakers and panel of facilitators speak about overcoming thoughts of suicide, relationship concerns and resources. This event is part of Suicide Prevention Awareness Month.

SEPT. 26
Oktoberfest 2025
4:30 p.m., 1917 Club. Fort Jackson's Oktoberfest Festival kicks off Sept. 26. Check in starts at 4 p.m. with the Volksmarch Walk at 4:30 p.m. (1 Mile). The event costs: \$25. The fee includes beer stein, beer tastings, snack stops and t-shirt. The Oktoberfest Festival starts at 5:30 p.m. There will be vendors, games

and live music. For more information, call (803) 751-3933.

OCT. 1
Community Lunch
Noon to 1 p.m., Main Post Chapel Fellowship Hall. The Fort Jackson community invited to attend a lunch with food, fellowship, fun and a brief inspirational message.. The lunch is held the first Wednesday of the month.

OCT. 4
Do it in Pink 5K
8 a.m., Palmetto Falls Water Park. Come out and run for breast cancer awareness. For more information, call (803) 751-3700.

OCT. 4-5
Fall Family Campout
Twin Lakes Park. This overnight family-friendly camping event will have fun activities such as games, fishing, s'mores making and arts & crafts. We will provide hot dogs and chips for dinner and coffee and individually wrapped pastries for breakfast. tents, cots, sleep bags and

pads, cook stoves/pots and pans are available tor rent. For more information, call (803) 751-3484.

OCT. 24
CYS Presents: Fall Festival
6 p.m., Youth Sports Complex, 5975 4th Division Road. Come enjoy the Child, Yourh Services Fall Festival where there will be food trucks, arts and crafts, games, bounce houses, photo booth and DJ Music. For more information, call (803) 751-4824.

OCT. 25
Halloween Archery Class
10 a.m., Heise Pond. Come out and learn how to shoot a bow and arrow. Attendees will decorate a pumpin and then use it as a target. For more information or to register, call (803) 751-3484.

Zombie 5K
8 a.m. Twin Lakes Park. Come out and enjoy an adult-themed Halloween 5K run. For more information, call (803) 751-3700.

WORSHIP SCHEDULE	FAITH GROUP	DAY	TIME	PLACE
	CATHOLIC MASS	SUNDAY	9:30-10:30 A.M.	MAIN POST CHAPEL
	CATHOLIC MASS	MONDAY-FRIDAY	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.	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	9-10 A.M.	CENTURY DIVISION CHAPEL
	HISPANIC PROTESTANT SERVICE	SUNDAY	11 A.M. to NOON	SOLOMON CENTER (1st and 3rd Sundays)
	GOSPEL SERVICE	SUNDAY	11 A.M. to NOON	SOLOMON CENTER (2nd and 4th Sundays)
	ANGLICAN	SUNDAY	9:30-10 A.M.	LIGHTNING CHAPEL
	ISLAMIC SERVICE	SUNDAY	8-9 A.M.	LIGHTNING CHAPEL
	JEWISH SERVICE	SUNDAY	10:30-11:30 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	CENTURY DIVISION CHAPEL

Drone

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in 15 to 20 minutes.”

“On a basis level of being able to get the drone in the air and doing whatever you need to do, it’s very simple and user friendly,” said Sgt. Steven Brown, another Soldier who participated in the training. “It’s a great system that I would love to see implemented more ... I would love to see these at a squad level, or one per fire team.”

As previously mentioned, this version of the Soldier Borne Sensor comes packed with many unique features and systems, all designed to increase a Soldier’s lethality and situational awareness.

And each Soldier there seemed to have a feature they liked the best.

“I liked the zipline feature,” Layton said. “You can just pick one point and be like ‘Hey I want you to go from where you’re at now to this point’... and it will go from the point you’re at now to the point you set. Plus, you can pan the camera and it doesn’t matter which way you face it will keep going to that point you set.”

Sgt. Mikiah Baker had never flown drones before this training, and yet found the system was “very user friendly and easy to pick up and learn.”

“The most impressive feature I saw was the different camera features,” Baker said. “I could see as clear as day as I can now, but it can also go to different versions of thermal which I found very impressive for how compact the device is.”

This iteration of the Soldier Borne Sensor comes equipped with an improved, high-resolution camera that can alternate between normal view, low-light, black-hot, white-hot and thermal views at the push of a button.

Unlike previous iterations, which had its daytime and nighttime cameras separated into two different drones, requiring Soldiers to carry more weight, the latest version of the Soldier Borne Sensor wraps all these improvements into one drone.

“For me, the number one feature that I love is fly-to-home,” said Staff Sgt. Harris-Sims. “You’re the beacon for the drone. Instead of manually trying to control the drone to follow you, you set yourself as home.”

More than a few Soldiers had fun testing this feature out, as they paced around the training area with their drone following them wherever they went with no input on the Soldiers’ part.



Photo by ZACH MONTANARO

A Soldier with the 90th Sustainment Brigade field tests the new Soldier Borne Sensor at Fort Bliss, Texas.

Overall, the latest iteration of the Soldier Borne Sensor promises to be a valuable tool in the arsenal of our men and women in uniform.

As with all things PEO Soldier, the Soldier Borne Sensor program will only improve further as it learns from and incorporates feedback directly from Soldiers.

That feedback at the first fielding has been overwhelmingly positive.

“I have nothing bad to say about the system,” Sgt. Layton responded when asked to summarize his time learning about the Soldier Borne Sensor. “It’s extremely versatile and it’s definitely a great asset to have.”

“This is probably going to be the greatest asset to both missions at home and abroad,” Staff Sgt. Harris-Sims added. “Instead of sending the actual Soldier in harm’s way, why not use the asset that doesn’t cost the life of an actual Soldier? I think it’s going to be a really good investment. It’s probably going to be the best investment for units, recon, signal, infantry, land survey ... I think this piece of equipment checks all the boxes.”

5 Things You Should Know about AT Awareness Month

1. The Army has proclaimed August as Antiterrorism Awareness Month
2. This month is to instill heightened awareness and vigilance to prevent acts of terror
3. Every Battalion size element **SHOULD** have an Antiterrorism Officer (ATO)
4. There are Random AT Measures (RAMs) that your unit can do to help deter would be threat actors
5. One report or call can be the difference between thwarting an act of terror and disaster

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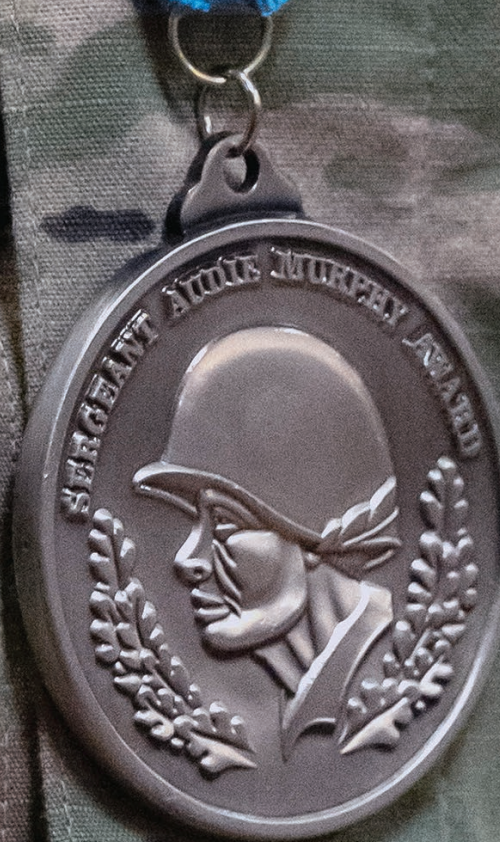
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VICTORY... STARTS HERE



The Sgt. Audie Murphy Club medallion hangs around the neck of Sgt. 1st Class Fernando G. Osoria during an induction ceremony into club held Aug. 22 at the 1917 Club.

Photo by ROBERT TIMMONS