

THURSDAY, SEPT. 11, 2025

THE FORT JACKSON LEADER

"VICTORY ... STARTS HERE."

Community
Information
Exchange /
Housing Town
Hall set for 2 p.m.,
Sept. 16.



A 'SOLEMN PURPOSE'
TO REMEMBER



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ARMY

President Trump renames DOD to Department of War

By MATTHEW OLAY

Pentagon News

President Donald J. Trump signed an executive order Sept. 8, changing the Defense Department's name to the Department of War as a secondary title.

The order — the 200th signed by the president since taking office — authorizes Defense Secretary Pete Hegseth and DOD subordinate officials to use secondary titles like "Department of War," "Secretary of War" and "Deputy Secretary of War" in public communications, official correspondence, ceremonial contexts and non-statutory documents within the executive branch, according to a fact sheet released by the White House.

Additionally, the order directs all executive agencies and departments to "recognize and accommodate these secondary titles in internal and external communications," as well as instructing Hegseth to recommend actions — including executive and legislative actions — that would be required to permanently rename the department.

"The name 'Department of War' conveys a stronger message of readiness and resolve compared to 'Department of Defense,' which emphasizes only defensive capabilities," the fact sheet reads.

"Restoring the name 'Department of War' will sharpen the focus of this department on our national interests and signal to adversaries America's readiness to wage war to secure its interests," it continues.

Prior to signing the executive order, Trump said, "This is something [we've]



Courtesy photo

The Old Executive Office Building, also known as the Eisenhower Executive Office Building, located at the corner of Pennsylvania Ave. and 17th Street, NW in Washington. It once housed the War Department, State Department and Navy Department.

talking about it for months."

He added that, under the original War Department, the U.S. achieved military victories in both world wars; however, victories turned into more prolonged conflicts that often resulted in a "sort of tie" once the War Department rebranded as the Defense Department.

Hegseth concurred with Trump's contention.

"We changed the name after World War II from the Department of War to the De-

won a major war since," Hegseth said.

"And that's not to disparage our war-fighters ... That's to recognize that this name change is not just about renaming, it's about restoring; words matter," he continued.

The secretary went on to say that the War Department would fight decisively to win and not get mired down in endless conflicts.

"Maximum lethality, not tepid legality; violent effect, not politically correct," he

said.

The War Department was originally established by Congress on Aug. 7, 1789, the same year the Constitution took effect. It replaced the Board of War and Ordnance, which was created in 1776 during the Revolutionary War.

The War Department had oversight over the Army and Navy until 1798, when the Navy Department was formed.

The first secretary of war, a civilian position, was retired Army Gen. Henry Knox, who was appointed by President George Washington. Fort Knox, Kentucky, is named after him.

On Nov. 8, 1800, the War Department building in Washington burned down and with it, all of the department's records.

During the Civil War, the department was responsible for recruiting, training, supply, medical care, transportation and the pay of two million soldiers.

The War Department's name remained the same for over 150 years, until it merged with the Department of the Navy and the newly established Department of the Air Force to become the National Military Establishment with the passage of the 1947 National Security Act.

Famous War Department secretaries include James Monroe, who became president; John Calhoun, who became vice president; Jefferson Davis, who became president of the Confederate States; Ulysses S. Grant, a former Union general who became president; Robert Todd Lincoln, son of President Abraham Lincoln; and William Howard Taft, who became president and then chief justice of the Supreme Court.

ON THE COVER

Soldiers from 4th Battalion, 39th Infantry Regiment, raise their runners bibs showing the name of fallen service member they ran for during the 2025 Run/Walk for the Fallen, held Sept. 6.



Photo by REGINALD ROGERS

See Pages 6-7

THE FORT JACKSON LEADER

Commanding General	Maj. Gen. Daryl O. Hood
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CIE set for 2 p.m. Tuesday



Matt Shealy, Directorate of Public Works director, answers a question from a community member during a Community Information Exchange held June 24.



Leader file photos

Maj. Gen. Daryl O. Hood, Fort Jackson commander, speaks briefly to the community at the June 24 event. He said, 'We really believe Fort Jackson should be an assignment of choice.'

Post invites community to event

Fort Jackson Public Affairs

Do you have concerns about on-post housing? Do you have questions about an on-post event?

You can voice your concerns and get answers to all your questions at the Community Information Exchange/Housing Town Hall being held at 2 p.m. Tuesday at the 1917 Club.

This will be the second town hall held in the new format. The first combined event was held June 24.

In the past, the two were held separately and didn't include an opportunity to speak one-on-one with directorates, activities and leaders.

"We really believe that Fort Jackson should be an

**COMMUNITY INFORMATION EXCHANGE /
HOUSING TOWN HALL
TO BE HELD FROM 2-3
P.M. SEPT. 16 AT THE 1917
CLUB**

assignment of choice, so we are excited to take some time out today," said Maj. Gen. Daryl O. Hood, Fort Jackson commander at the June 24 event.

Some of the changes were made in hopes of capturing "a greater audience in person," he said of the event.

The town hall will start with brief introductions from leadership and representatives from directorates before leading into a question-and-answer session with post leadership.

If you don't like speaking up in public, that's OK. You will be able to talk directly to representatives at tables stationed around the room.

After the event the slide show presentation will be available for viewing at: <https://home.army.mil/jackson/my-fort/for-families>.

Community Updates

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Tuition Assistance Update

Soldiers may no longer request Army Tuition Assistance for Fiscal Year 2025 courses. Due to Fiscal Year 2026 funding associated with Soldier's Educational Goals in the ArmyIgnitED system, Soldiers are unable to request TA for FY26 courses beginning on or after 1 October 2025. As a reminder, Soldier have up to 60 - 7 days before the first day of class to request TA. Please see your S1 to address any IPSS-A issues or holds on your ArmyIgnitED account. For additional information, contact the Education Center at (803) 751-5341 or send an email to usarmy.jackson.93-sig-bde.mbx.dhr-jacksonedcenter@army.mil.

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.

- 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.

COMMUNITY EVENTS

SATURDAY

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 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.

TUESDAY

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.

Social Security Benefits Seminar

10-11:30 a.m., MS Teams. The USAG Civilian Workforce Development Program

and Army Community Service are partnering to offer a 90-minute training workshop to help attendees take control of their financial future. For more information, call (803) 751-7535

WEDNESDAY

EFMP Health Awareness

10-11 a.m., MS Teams. The Army Community Service Exceptional Family Member Program is holding an EFMP Health Awareness seminar to highlight youth/adult diabetes awareness and offer information and education in the community to promote wellbeing. For more information, call (803) 751-5256, option 3.

SEPT. 18

Investing in the Digital Age

9-10:30 a.m., MS Teams. The USAG Civilian Workforce Development Program and Army Community Service are partnering to offer an investing in the digital age seminar. The seminar provides valuable information on the basics of saving and investing. For more information, call (803) 751-7535.

SEPT. 19

MWR Central Grand Opening

10 a.m. to 2 p.m., Solomon Center. Come celebrate the Grand Opening of MWR Central at the Solomon Center, Fort Jackson style. The ribbon cutting takes place at 10 a.m. There will be food trucks, bounce houses, and Child, Youth Services hourly care. Child care must be reserved. A dueling piano event takes place from 7-10 p.m.

SEPT. 20

Fort Gordon Trail Ride

Fort Jackson Movie Schedule

3319 Jackson Blvd.

Phone: 751-7488

SATURDAY, SEPT. 13

- No Showing

WEDNESDAY, SEPT. 17

- No Showing

- 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.

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 St.. 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. For more information, call (803) 751-2915.

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 (803) 751-3615.



Photo by LT. COL. XERIQUA GARFINKEL

Trainees going through Basic Combat Training at Fort Jackson, crawl through the Night Infiltration Course, Aug. 27. The 300-meter crawl under live fire, flares, and obstacles simulates combat conditions and builds confidence, resilience, and battlefield awareness.

Reserve drill sergeants mentor, coach in BCT (Part 1)

By LT. COL. XERIQUA GARFINKEL
Army Reserve Command

(Editor's note: This is one of a two-part series on Reserve drill sergeants at Fort Jackson)

The night sky flashes with bursts of light as machine gun tracers arc overhead. Explosions erupt across the sand-filled training field, rattling the earth as flares shot from above reveal lines of young trainees low-crawling through obstacles.

This is the Night Infiltration Course, one of the final crucibles of Basic Combat Training. Standing at the edge of the course, Col. Joshua Betty, commander of the 165th Infantry Brigade at Fort Jackson, SC, watches his cadre of professionals drive the trainees forward. They are a mix of active-duty noncommissioned officers and Reserve drill sergeants who

have spent the previous seven weeks preparing these recruits for this moment.

"Tonight's basically a confidence-building opportunity for our trainees," he said. "They'll crawl up out of a trench and then execute individual movement techniques. They'll change their movement technique based on the fire that they're receiving from the machine guns that are placed above them. It's all safe but they get the experience of what it's like to move at night, with machine guns and explosions going on around you as tracer fire goes over top of you."

Reserve Staff Sgt. Cayo W. Rodrigues, a drill sergeant with Company C, 4th Battalion, 39th Infantry Regiment, echoed the importance of the event. Unlike the traditional two-week rotations that gave him only snapshots of their progress, this

yearlong assignment has allowed him to watch each one transform from confused civilian to confident Soldier.

"The trainees low crawl and high crawl through about 300-400 meters of sand with live rounds, tracers and flares going overhead, boom cannons going off to raise their stress levels until they push through the finish line," he said.

At that finish line, Rodrigues accompanied by a dozen other drill sergeants motivate with intense urgency. Their silhouettes flicker in the flare light as they lunge toward exhausted trainees. "Let's go, trainee, you are right here at the end!" one bellows. Another cuts in, "Stop stopping! Why are you stopping? I need you to move!"

Behind the urgency is patient mentorship, the side of drill sergeant work that de-

See **RESERVE**, Page 8

Soldiers scoring 465+ on AFT now exempt from bodyfat standards

U.S. Army Public Affairs

The U.S. Army has published a new directive exempting all Soldiers who score 465 points or more on the new Army Fitness Test (AFT) from body fat standards. Soldiers must score 80 points or more in each event, and no alternative events are permitted.

"This is a welcome continuation of our previous policy under the former Army Combat Fitness Test," said Sgt. Maj. Christopher Stevens, senior enlisted advisor, U.S. Army Deputy Chief of Staff, G-1.

"It rewards Soldiers who consistently demonstrate high levels of fitness, which supports readiness, health, and creates a culture that values performance."

All Soldiers must still conduct a height and weight screening, and their data must be recorded on a Department of the Army Form 5500 or DA Form 5501.

Soldiers who do not meet the height and weight standards but qualify for exemption will not be required to conduct a circumference-based tape assessment.

The directive is effective immediately, applying to all Army components and to the general and combat variants of the AFT.

Exemptions are valid until the next record test, not to exceed 8 months for Regular Army and Active Guard Reserve Soldiers or 12 months for National Guard and Army Reserve.

Soldiers. Soldiers who fail to re-validate within these timelines are subject to body fat assessments and flagging actions for body fat assessment failures.

Jackson runs with 'solemn purpose' to remember

Story, photos by
REGINALD ROGERS
 Fort Jackson Public Affairs

Fort Jackson's annual 5K Run/Walk For The Fallen took place Sat., Sept. 6, at Hilton Field at Fort Jackson.

The run was led by Col. Chesley Thigpen, Fort Jackson deputy commanding officer, and Post Command Sgt. Maj. William M. Shoaf.

The large unit that participated consisted of Soldiers from the 4th Battalion, 39th Infantry Regiment. There were 790 participants in the run.

Thigpen opened the early morning ceremony with comments to all participants.

"It's a great day to be a Soldier," he said. "It's a great day to honor (fallen comrades). I want to thank you all for being here because you represent our Army Family and our Gold Star Family members who are

here. Those who have gone before and the Families of those who have served and paid the ultimate sacrifice. That's really why we're here!"

"We have a solemn purpose that we must remember them. We must remember their legacy and that why we're here today," Thigpen added.

Fort Jackson's Directorate of Family and Morale, Welfare and Recreation hosted the event, which usually brings hundreds of local citizens and military community members together to honor its fallen heroes. This year, Marilynn Bailey, FMWR's Survivor Outreach Coordinator, gave the welcome and introductions, which included Thigpen and Shoaf.

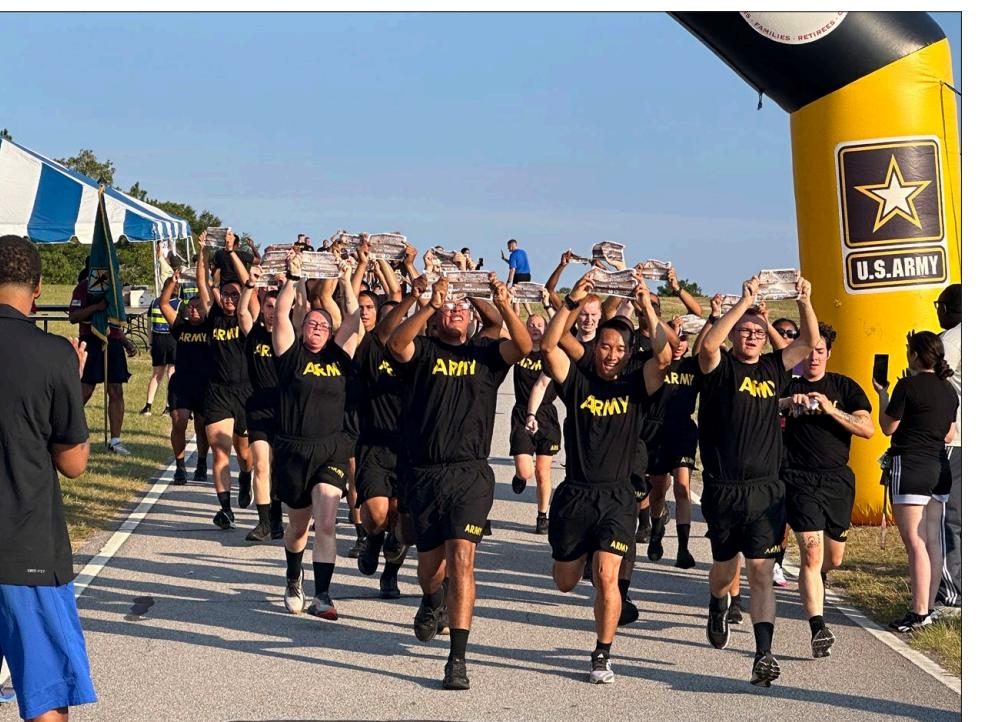
The Soldiers of the 4th Bn., 39th Infantry Regt. served as the event's large unit, running behind Thigpen, Shoaf and its battalion leadership team, complete with drill sergeants providing motivation wherever it was needed.

"We want you to go out, be safe and have fun on this short run, but most importantly remember the names of the people ... who've had an impact on us and the Family of which we serve to support. But really,

Far right: Leaders of the 4th Battalion, 39th Infantry Regiment lead their troops across the start line of the event.

Inset: Post Command Sgt. Maj. William Shoaf thanks those in attendance for participating in this year's Run/Walk for the Fallen which commemorated the fallen heroes who paid the ultimate sacrifice during the Sept. 11 attacks and the Global War on Terror.

Right: Trainees from the 4th Bn., 39th Infantry Regt. cross the finish line together at the end of the run. The battalion served as the run's large unit during the event that traveled from Hilton Field, down Hampton Parkway and back.



Reserve

Continued from Page 5

fies Hollywood stereotypes. This year, that mentorship is paired with innovation, as the Army Reserve pilots a new approach at Basic Combat Training through yearlong orders that expand its role in shaping the force.

Every summer, Fort Jackson's battalions swell with recent high school graduates shipping to basic training. During these surges, each of Betty's battalions could climb to more than 1,300 trainees, numbers that would easily overwhelm the traditional staffing model.

Headquarters, Department of the Army, projected that more than 250,000 recruits will enter BCT each year through fiscal year 2027. To meet that demand, the Army Reserve was tasked in March 2025 to stand up fully mission-capable drill sergeant companies at Fort Sill and Fort Leonard Wood. Each company consisted of 27 Soldiers serving on 365-day orders, creating a total of 81 Army Reserve drill sergeants dedicated to sustaining the BCT mission.

At Fort Sill, a new training company stood up with 27 personnel who transformed an empty footprint into a functioning training site in less than 90 days. Fort Leonard Wood also drew from the expansion, adding drill sergeants to meet its training load.

At Fort Jackson, the approach looked different. Rather than standing up a new company, the installation received yearlong Active Duty for Operational Support drill sergeants who were distributed across five companies of 4th Battalion, 39th Infantry Regiment. This replaced the short two- to three-week rotations that had been common in the past and gave the brigade sustained manpower through every phase of training. This also provided a unique experience for the reserve NCOs to fully integrate with active-duty drill sergeants, providing a robust and diversely experienced cadre to support the training mission.

Betty explained that without the Reserve augmentation, roughly 250 to 260 additional trainees would have had to be redistributed across other battalions, straining the entire training system. Instead, the



Photo by LT. COL. XERIQUA GARFINKEL

Staff Sgt. Cayo W. Rodrigues, a Reserve drill sergeant assigned to Company C, 4th Battalion, 39th Infantry Regiment, throws a smoke grenade during 'The Forge' at Fort Jackson, Aug. 27. The Forge is the culminating field training exercise of Basic Combat Training, designed to test trainees' physical endurance, tactical skills, and mental resilience before graduation.

yearlong assignments allowed Fort Jackson to maintain both capacity and training standards during peak demand.

Together, these sites reflected the scope of the mission directed to the 108th Training Command, which was charged with providing Reserve drill sergeants in support of the Army's BCT enterprise.

The Army Reserve's yearlong ADOS tours give drill sergeants the chance to guide trainees from reception to graduation. That continuity strengthens the training environment and develops NCOs in ways that were once limited to the active component.

Staff Sgt. Marcus A. Gamba, a drill sergeant on a full-year tour with Company C, described the assignment as transformative for NCO development.

"This broadening assignment really puts

you in a position to get uncomfortable," he said. "You start at the lowest level, building civilians into Soldiers, and at the same time you're fine-tuning yourself as an NCO."

For Army Reserve drill sergeants, the yearlong orders have been a chance to do something most had never been able to do before.

Staff Sgt. Paul Reed, a drill sergeant with assigned to Company D, has completed two short rotations before but assisting with the full-cycle has changed the way he approached the mission.

"When this mission came along, it was really something I couldn't say no to," Reed said. "I just wanted one time where I can go from pick up to graduation. And now, fortunately, I get to do four cycles."

Reed's peer drill sergeants from Com-

pany C echoed the same sense of purpose. "I wanted to get more of the behind-the-scenes of how a cycle is run, rather than just coming in for a few weeks and leaving," said Rodrigues.

Staff Sgt. Christopher O. Trueblood, drill sergeant with Company, viewed the full-year assignment as a chance to understand the mission at a deeper level.

"I came on orders for a full year as a drill sergeant because during the two weeks, I felt like I was missing the bigger picture," he said. "I wanted to do a full series of cycles so I could get the ins and outs behind the scenes, not just filling in."

For Trueblood and others, the extended mission is more than time on the trail. It is

Reserve

Continued from Page 8

about sharpening leadership and developing core traits such as patience. They pushed back on the stereotype that Basic Combat Training is all about shouting.

Over the course of a full cycle, drill sergeants said they found that discipline came from slowing down, meeting a trainee where they were, and correcting with precision. They spoke of humility, of remembering that every Soldier once started as a trainee, and of recognizing that some need more mentorship than others.

“Being humble enough to accept that certain trainees are going to require more mentorship, and applying yourself to meet that need, that’s part of the job,” Trueblood explained.

Drill sergeants said the yearlong orders allowed them to put their leadership philosophies into practice day after day, cycle after cycle, rather than in a compressed snapshot. They described the experience as a reminder that the role of a drill sergeant is not just to transform civilians into Soldiers but also to refine themselves as leaders.

That cycle of growth for both trainees and NCOs is what sets this mission apart and shows the value of sustained time on the trail.

For Trueblood, the sustained yearlong mission showed him something traditional, shorter rotations did not: the full transformation of building a foundation that every Soldier will carry forward. Sustained relationships allow drill sergeants to see learning patterns that short-term instructors would miss.

“Being a drill sergeant, I train civilians to become Soldiers,” he said. “Basics on combat movements, taking cover, building their fighting positions, lane navigation courses, and rifle marksmanship.”



Photo by LT. COL. XERIQUA GARFINKEL

Staff Sgt. Paul Reed, a Reserve drill sergeant assigned to 4th Battalion, 39th Infantry Regiment, mentors trainees during ‘The Forge’ Aug. 27.

For the big tasks to be successful, trainees must first master the smallest details. While observing trainees carve fighting positions earlier in the day, Trueblood stepped in to show them how to work smarter. He told them to “backfill quickly, start your hole in the right spot, and dig deeper toward the rear.” It was a small adjustment, but one that saved unnecessary work and taught them to think about efficiency as well as effort.

That kind of correction only works when there is trust. Over the course of a cycle, drill sergeants are able to build relationships with their trainees, to understand their strengths and weaknesses, and to know when a push or a quiet correction will have the greatest effect. Continuity gives space for both discipline and mentorship, turning a moment in the dirt into a lesson the trainee will carry throughout their Army career.

Staff Sgt. Bryant C. Ferguson, who has served in the Army Re-

serve for 12 years and is assigned a drill sergeant with Company C, described the role as mentorship as much as instruction.

“Nobody came into this profession knowing everything. Being humble enough to recognize some trainees need more mentorship than others is part of our job,” he said. Outside of uniform, he works as a deputy sheriff with the Clayton County Sheriff’s Office in Georgia, a role that reinforces his belief in accountability and guidance.

For trainees, the impact of sustained mentorship becomes clear in their progression from basic skills to complex operations. Jonathan White arrived at Fort Jackson with plans to attend Columbia State University and no experience firing a weapon. Even with a Family legacy of service, his mother in the Army and his father a Marine, he had to start from zero like every other trainee.

“I had never shot a weapon before,” White said. “Drill sergeant Deng showed me sight measure, trigger squeeze, breathing control,

and I was able to qualify.”

For White, the achievement was proof that the stories he had grown up with were becoming real, and that he had begun to shoulder the same responsibilities as the generations before him.

The fundamentals came slowly at first. Learning to march in formation, handle a rifle, and dig fighting positions required patience from both trainee and instructor. Some trainees found marksmanship most challenging, others pointed to the physical demands or the adjustment to living with sixty strangers in a bay. One trainee in his forties said running was his toughest test, while another admitted the hardest part was being away from family.

Through those struggles, drill sergeants like Ferguson, Trueblood, Reed, and their peers Gamba and Rodrigues saw the basics take hold. The mix of guidance, correction, and mentorship carried trainees from confusion to competence, preparing them for the final test of BCT - the Forge.

SALUTING THIS CYCLE’S HONOREES

4th Battalion, 39th Infantry Regiment

DRILL SERGEANT OF THE CYCLE

Staff Sgt.
Terrance Smith

ALPHA COMPANY

SOLDIER LEADER
OF THE CYCLE
Spc. Christopher Burke

SOLDIER OF THE CYCLE

Spc. Isaiah Meek

BRAVO COMPANY

SOLDIER LEADER
OF THE CYCLE
Pvt. Emma Niles

SOLDIER OF THE CYCLE

Spc. Nathaniel Campbell

CHARLIE COMPANY

SOLDIER LEADER
OF THE CYCLE
Spc. Karsten Peterson

SOLDIER OF THE CYCLE

Spc. Jefferson Daubitz

DELTA COMPANY

SOLDIER LEADER
OF THE CYCLE
Spc. Jackson Darbin

SOLDIER OF THE CYCLE

Pvt. Ben Phommachanh

ECHO COMPANY

SOLDIER LEADER
OF THE CYCLE
Pvt. Lane Trail

SOLDIER OF THE CYCLE

Pvt. Saydee Davis

Events

Continued from Page 4

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 Volks-march Walk at 4:30 p.m. (one 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. For more information, call (803) 751-3933.

OCT. 1/NOV. 5

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. For more information, call (803) 751-3979.

OCT. 3

Breast Cancer Awareness Lunch

Noon to 1 p.m., Soldier Performance Readiness Center. Bring your own lunch and hear a Dr. Jill Sullivan, Medical Oncologist speak about breast cancer. Discover more about breast cancer and interact with Dr. Sullivan and panel members.

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. Camping equipment is available for rent. For more information, call (803) 751-3484.

OCT. 14, 16

Career Workshop

10:30 a.m. to noon. The S.C. Department of Veterans' Affairs is hosting a career workshop. For more information or to register, scan the QR code.



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.

NOV. 12

Education/Career Fair

9 a.m. to 1 p.m., 1917 Club. Fort Jackson's Army Continuing Education System, Transition Assistance Program and Army Community Service presents an education and career fair. Come learn how to prepare for your next career or educational experience. For more information, call (803) 751-7209.

NOV. 18

Shred Day

9 a.m. to 2 p.m., Recycle Center. Come out and recycle your papers. All types of paper with sensitive information will be accepted, but NO classified documents. Shredding papers with your personal information provides a level of insurance against identity theft and misuse. For more information, call (803) 751-4208.

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

Pierce Terrace celebrates grandparents

Story, photo by LORRAINE EMORY
Pierce Terrace Elementary School

Pierce Terrace Elementary School celebrated Grandparents Day with a heartwarming breakfast event, Sept. 5.

The cafeteria was filled with the delightful aroma of sausage gravy and biscuits, cheese omelets, roasted potatoes, and fresh fruit, all meticulously prepared and planned by our dedicated cafeteria staff members, Vicki West and Dee Turner.

The event began with grandparents proudly walking their grandchildren to the cafeteria, where they were greeted with a warm and inviting atmosphere. The pride and joy on the faces of the students as they showed off their grandparents was truly heartwarming.

The breakfast not only provided a delicious meal but also highlighted the importance of family support in education and nutrition.

"It's wonderful to see the grandparents here supporting their grandchildren," West said. "It shows how much they value education and the well-being of their families."

Among the many smiling faces were Steven and Pam Hill, the grandparents of Myles H.

They had traveled all the way from Texas to visit for the week and were grateful their trip coincided with the special event.

They felt so lucky to have been in town for Grandparents Day and to be able to sit down and enjoy breakfast with Myles at his school. This is something they will always treasure for the rest



River B. is all smiles with his grandparents after completing the front office sign-in at Pierce Terrace Elementary School, before heading to the cafeteria together for the Grandparents Day Breakfast.

of their lives.

The event was a resounding success, with grandparents and students enjoying the opportunity to spend quality time together.



FLU VACCINE DATES

Date	Time	Location
October 14	11 a.m.- 6 p.m.	Fort Jackson Theater, 3319 Jackson Blvd.
October 18	10 a.m.- 3 p.m.	Fort Jackson AAFES Main PX, 4110 Century Division Ave.
October 20	11 a.m.- 6 p.m.	Fort Jackson Mini Mall, Bldg. 4712 Liberty Division Rd.
October 21	11 a.m.- 6 p.m.	Fort Jackson Theater, 3319 Jackson Blvd.
November 4	9 a.m.- 2 p.m.	Fort Jackson Commissary, 4716 Commissary Way.
November 6	11 a.m.- 6 p.m.	Fort Jackson Theater, 3319 Jackson Blvd.
November 7	11 a.m.- 6 p.m.	Fort Jackson Theater, 3319 Jackson Blvd.
November 13	4-6 p.m.	Fort Jackson Theater, 3319 Jackson Blvd.
November 14	4-6 p.m.	Fort Jackson Theater, 3319 Jackson Blvd.

DATES MAY CHANGE DUE TO VACCINE AVAILABILITY

Shot is available to children 6 months of age or older and to all adults. For more information, call (803) 751-2291.

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VICTORY... STARTS HERE

A trainee with 1st Battalion, 34th Infantry Regiment shoots an azimuth during land navigation training. The trainees completed the White Phase of Basic Combat Training that included rifle qualification; Battle, March and Shoot; and the Anvil field training exercise.

Photo courtesy of 1ST BATTALION, 34TH INFANTRY REGIMENT