

THURSDAY, SEP
THE FORT
LEA
"VICTOR"

COMPETING TO BE THE...
VERY BEST



www.facebook.com/fortjackson



GARRISON: www.facebook.com/USArmyGarrisonFortJackson



@FortJackson



@fortjackson

Army updates appearance, grooming, uniform standards

U.S. Army Public Affairs

The Army announced an update to its appearance, grooming, and uniform wear standards policy in a new directive resulting from a force-wide review of military standards. The updated policy clarifies existing standards and establishes new standards, emphasizing military appearance as a reflection of discipline, professionalism, and a shared commitment to the Army's values.

"What sets the U.S. Army apart is our professionalism, and that's a direct reflection of committed Soldiers who adhere to and enforce the standards," said Sgt. Maj. of the Army, Michael Weimer.

"This definitive guidance gives leaders the tools they need to do just that. You don't have to memorize it, but you should know what right looks like."

Key changes include precise definitions for hairstyles, including authorized lengths, styles, and accessories for both male and female soldiers. Standards for cosmetics, fingernails, and jewelry have also been clarified. The directive also provides clarified standards for uniform and insignia wear and body composition assessments.

The new policy was informed and



Photo by NATHAN CLINEBELLE

Trainees stand during the June 18 graduation ceremony for 4th Battalion, 39th Infantry Regiment. The Army recently updated its appearance standards.

developed by a representative group of leaders and stakeholders from across the Army. There was an overwhelming consensus on the need to realign all Army standards with warfighting priorities and eliminate ambiguity to allow shared understanding of the standards.

Soldiers will adhere to updated standards within 30 days of the date of this directive.

Commanders, supported by noncommissioned officers, have the authority to enforce appearance, uniform, and body composition standards consistent with the intent of the new directive.

ARMY POLICY UPDATES GROOMING AND APPEARANCE



U.S. ARMY

Uniformity | Discipline | Professionalism | Readiness || "This We'll Defend"

FEMALE SOLDIERS

HAIR

- ☑ Ponytails:
 - Max length is 6 inches from the top of the collar
 - Not allowed in service or dress uniform
- ☑ Braids-Twists-Locs-Cornrows:
 - Can be in a ponytail or up to two braids
 - Braids cannot exceed 2 inches in width
- ☑ Short Sides with Long Top:
 - Max 2 inches on top
 - Top must blend smoothly into the shorter sides
 - No buns, braids, twists, ponytail with this style
 - No shaping and cutting in designs
- ☑ Hair Coloring:
 - Must be natural colors
 - Must be blended in a subtle manner

EYELASHES

- ⊗ No Eyelash Extensions or False Eyelashes unless medical exemption

COSMETICS

- ☑ Makeup: Must be conservative application for even skin tone and natural complexion
- ☑ Semi-permanent Makeup: Must conform to makeup standards
- ⊗ No Tattooed Makeup
- ⊗ No Lipstick
- ☑ Lip Gloss: Only clear or skin-toned

NAILS

- ☑ Length: Max 1/4 inch with square or rounded shape
- ☑ Only clear nail polish allowed

EARRINGS

- ☑ Earring Studs:
 - Allowed one each earlobe (only); must match
 - Must be plain and cannot exceed 1/4 inch diameter
 - Cannot be worn in field environments, deployments, or in PT uniforms

MALE SOLDIERS

HAIR

- ☑ Length: Max 2 inches on top; 1 inch on sides
- ☑ Hair Coloring
 - Must be natural colors
 - Must be applied in a blended, subtle manner
- ⊗ No Braids-Twists-Locs-Cornrows
- ⊗ No shaping and cutting in designs

NAILS

- ☑ Length: No longer than the edge of the finger
- ⊗ No polish

COSMETICS

- ⊗ Not allowed

EARRINGS

- ⊗ Not allowed

ON THE COVER

A drill sergeant calculates his shot grouping during the rifle marksmanship portion of the TRADOC 2025 Drill Sergeant of the Year Competition held at Fort Jackson this week.



Photo by SGT. 1ST CLASS DANA CLARKE

See Pages 6-7

THE FORT JACKSON LEADER

Fort Jackson, South Carolina 29207

This electronic newspaper, is an authorized publication for members of the U.S. Army. Contents of the Fort Jackson Leader are not necessarily the official views of, or endorsed by the U.S. Government, the Department of Defense, Department of the Army or Fort Jackson.

All editorial content of the Fort Jackson Leader is prepared, edited, provided and approved by the Public Affairs Office of Fort Jackson.

The Fort Jackson Leader is distributed online. To submit articles, story ideas or announcements, write the Fort Jackson Leader, 3330 Century Division Ave., Fort Jackson, S.C. 29207, or call (803) 751-3615 or e-mail usarmy.jackson.93-sig-bde.mbx.atzj-pao@army.mil

Commanding General Maj. Gen. Daryl O. Hood
Garrison Commander Col. David G. Gaugush
Command Information Officer Robert Timmons
Media Relations Officer Nathan Clinebelle
Social Media Manager Veran Hil
Contributing Photographer..... Sgt. 1st Class Dana Clarke

Website: home.army.mil/jackson/FortJacksonNews

Facebook: www.facebook.com/fortjackson
www.facebook.com/USArmyGarrisonFortJackson

X: www.twitter.com/fortjackson

Instagram: www.instagram.com/fortjackson

Post, community meet to exchange information

By **ROBERT TIMMONS**
Fort Jackson Public Affairs

Fort Jackson leaders and community came together Sept. 16 to exchange information in a quarterly event aimed at increasing the dialogue within the community.

“Your time is precious to you, so we want to make sure that we’re bringing some value” to you, said Col. David Gaugush, garrison commander, during the event held at the 1917 Club. “This should be something that you find of value so that you walk away with some information for you, your Family members, Department of the Army Civilians, and be able to disseminate it ...”

Maj. Gen. Daryl O. Hood, Fort Jackson commander, thanked those who attended.



Dr. Camille Owen, Directorate of Human Resources director, speaks during the Community Information Exchange

The attendees were able to not only get short briefs by representatives of on-post activities and directorates, but they were also able to meet them face-to-face at tables spread around the room. The representatives spoke briefly about their activities and provided brief updates. A slide presentation is available for viewing at: <https://home.army.mil/jackson/my-fort/for-families>.

Hood said one of the strengths of the exchange was the “breakout opportunities.”

“Go around to each of the table and spend a few minutes there, be-

“This is (the Army Training Center) partnering with the garrison and all the various agencies, so that we can ask hard questions to them, gather information and make sure we disseminate it,” Hood said to the group of attendees that included unit leadership and members of the community.

FROM A CUSTOMER SERVICE PERSPECTIVE, THIS FORUM IS YOUR FORUM

- Col. David Gaugush
Garrison Commander



Soldiers speak to Army Community Service specialists during the 4th Quarter Community Information Exchange held Sept. 16 at the 1917 Club on post.

cause relationships matter,” he said.

“We’re very lucky to have the dedicated professionals across the garrison providing some of the services,” Gaugush said. “From a customer service perspective, this forum is your forum.”

The post’s senior enlisted leader summed up the exchange saying the event is part of an effort to improve the installation.

“I think at the end of the day, what we want as a team is to make this experience at Fort Jackson the best you have had in your Army career,” said Post Command Sgt. Maj. William M. Shoaf.

The next Community Information Exchange is set for Dec. 2.

Come out and give your feedback on post activities.



Community members exchange information during the quarterly event. The exchange gave the community the opportunity to talk face-to-face.

Photos by NATHAN CLINEBELLE

Community Updates

ANNOUNCEMENTS

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: Today (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.

Holiday Closures

The Directorate of Human Resources will be closed on the following holidays and training holidays:

Columbus Day	Oct. 13
Veterans Day	Nov. 11

Thanksgiving Day	Nov. 27
Thanksgiving Training Holiday	Nov. 28
Christmas Eve	Dec. 24
Christmas	Dec. 25
New Year's Day	Jan. 1

Separation preparation

Are you separating from the Army? Have your Separation Program Designator (SPD) code on your DD 214 when clearing through the Education Center. SPD codes are used to determine a Soldier's educational benefits upon separation. For more information contact the Army Continuing Education System.

COMMUNITY EVENTS

TODAY

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.

TOMORROW

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.

SATURDAY

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.

WEDNESDAY

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.

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 one mile Volksmarch Walk at 4:30 p.m. 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, held the first Wednesday of the month. For more information, call (803)

Fort Jackson Movie Schedule

3319 Jackson Blvd.
Phone: 751-7488

SATURDAY, SEPT. 20

■ No Showing

WEDNESDAY, SEPT. 24

■ A Big Bold Beautiful Journey (R)

- 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.

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 the guest speaker 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

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.



Courtesy graphic

The Federal Emergency Management Agency recommends families be prepared for all emergencies including hurricanes. The Atlantic hurricane season lasts until Nov. 30.

Preparedness for the unexpected starts at home

By DAVID VERGUN
Pentagon News

The Federal Emergency Management Agency's Ready Campaign has observed National Preparedness Month every September since 2004 to encourage Americans to prepare for emergencies. This year's theme is "Preparedness Starts at Home."

This month is a great time to take small steps to make a big difference in being prepared, said Army Col. Nathan Allen, director of defense support of civil authorities for events and incidents.

Fort Jackson emergency management officials also call on the community to be prepared before an emergency – especially during hurricane season.

"Hurricanes and other emergencies pose direct threats to life and limb," said Mark Smith, chief of protection with the Directorate of Plans, Training, Mobilization and Security. "A prepared community minimizes risk to Soldiers, civilian employees, and their Families. This includes

having plans for evacuation, shelter-in-place, and access to essential supplies."

Planning also helps a person's emotional and mental health, he said.

"Disasters disrupt daily life," Smith said. "Preparedness helps maintain a degree of normalcy and reduces stress by ensuring access to basic needs like food, water, medical care, and communication."

Smith added that being prepared also ensures mission readiness.

"Fort Jackson is a vital training installation," he said. "A disaster can severely disrupt training schedules, impacting the flow of new Soldiers into the force. Preparedness plans aim to minimize downtime and restore operations as quickly as possible."

A prepared installation means it can maintain its essential services, while also being able to support disaster relief statewide

Get your family, home and pets ready for emergencies like fires, power outages, floods, hurricanes and tornadoes. Some places are more risk-prone than others, he

said, citing FEMA emergency recommendations.

Make an emergency plan that includes evacuation routes and emergency meeting points, taking into account the specific needs of individuals with disabilities.

Items to add to an emergency supply kit include first aid items, medications, a battery or solar-powered radio with emergency channels, flashlights and extra batteries, candles and lighters, at least a week's worth of water and nonperishable foods, and power bank chargers for cell-phones and other electronic devices.

Get some training on how to use your first aid supplies, as well.

A reliable site for inclement weather warnings and updates is <https://www.weather.gov>.

For more information about preparing for unexpected emergencies and disasters, visit <https://www.ready.gov>.

Fort Jackson's hurricane guide can be found at: https://home.army.mil/jackson/download_file/view/c38f6202-c6e5-4540-9f3d-cc91f9e242fa/749

Start the conversation; be the difference

By THERESITA MOSES
Suicide Prevention
Coordinator

September is Suicide Prevention Month, and the National Alliance on Mental Illness sums it up best as a time to raise awareness, spread hope, and spark meaningful action and conversation around suicide and suicide prevention. NAMI's theme for the month is Start a Conversation. Be the Difference. The importance of starting a conversation aligns with the guidance in Ask, Care, Escort (ACE) training that states the importance of building a baseline with the people around you. All of us need to take time to get to know the people around us, ask how they are doing, and be active listeners.

According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and the National Institute of Mental Health, nearly 46,000 lives were lost to suicide in 2020 alone. Comments or thoughts about suicide, also known as suicidal ideation, can begin small — for example, "I wish I weren't here" or "Nothing matters." But over time, they can become more explicit and dangerous.

Know the warning signs:

- Increased alcohol and drug use.
- Aggressive behavior.
- Withdrawal from friends, family, and community.
- Dramatic mood swings.
- Impulsive or reckless behavior.

Research has found that 46% of people who die by suicide had a known mental health condition. Several other factors may put a person at risk of suicide.

Risk factors:

See **DIFFERENCE**, Page 9



Photo by SGT. 1ST CLASS DANA CLARKE



Photo by SGT. 1ST CLASS DANA CLARKE

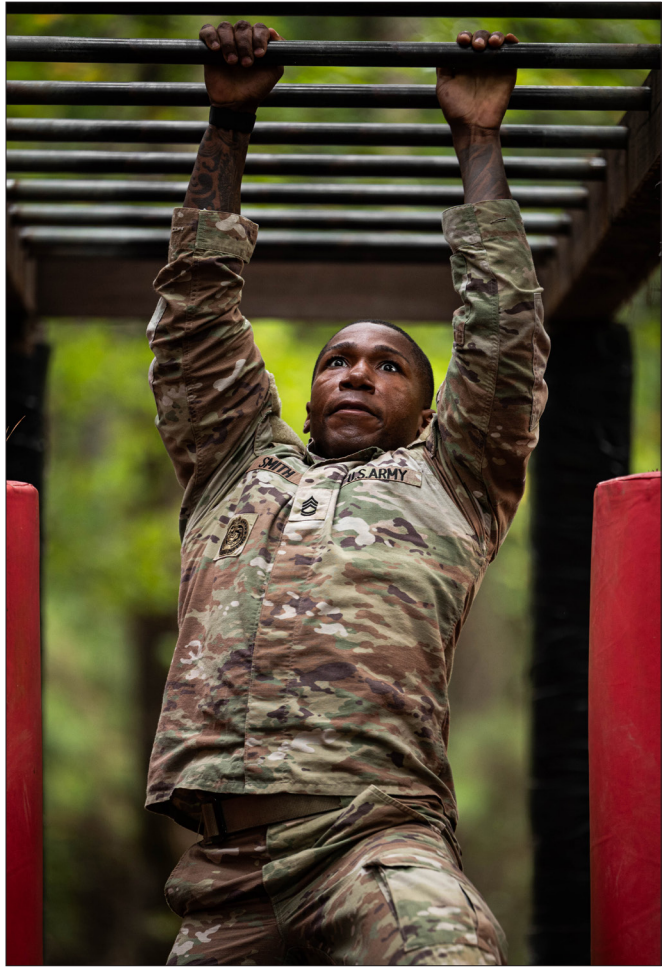


Photo by SGT. 1ST CLASS DANA CLARKE

Drill sergeants compete to be the ...

Very Best

By Center for Initial Military Training

Drill Sergeants from across the U.S. Army Training and Doctrine Command reported to Fort Jackson are going head-to-head in a challenging 96-hour battle for the title.

This morning, competitors kicked off the week with the Army Fitness Test before proceeding to evaluations covering phases of instruction, 350-6 "Enlisted Initial Entry Training Policies and Administration," and mock media interviews.

They were pushed further with land navigation, the Fit-to-Win obstacle course, and weapons qualification.

Competition competitors, from both active duty and the Army Reserve, were assessed on their ability to critically think outside of the box on ways to improve the Initial Military Training enterprise and problems currently facing the drill sergeant program.



Photo by HUNTER RHOADES



Photo by SGT. 1ST CLASS DANA CLARKE



Courtesy photo

Reserve drill sergeants mentor, coach in BCT (Part 2)

By **LT. COL. XERQUA GARFINKEL**
Army Reserve Command

(Editor's note: This is second of a two-part series on Reserve drills sergeants at Fort Jackson. In the first part trainees were putting together all their learned heading into the Forge.)

The Forge is the culminating field training exercise of Basic Combat Training, a multi-day event that pushes trainees to put every lesson into practice. For drill sergeants on yearlong assignments, it represents the ultimate test of their teaching and the clearest measure of their sustained investment.

"The Forge is where everything comes together," said Col. Joshua Betty, 165th Infantry Brigade commander. "It allows us to take lessons from the contemporary operating environment and give that to the trainees. They are tested on their ability to move, communicate, and work as a squad in conditions that demand resilience and teamwork."

Over several days in the field, trainees dig fighting positions using techniques they've learned weeks earlier, navigating terrain with confidence built through repetitive training, and reacting to indirect fire with responses developed through patient instruction. For drill sergeants who have guided them through the entire journey, the Forge reveals the cumulative power of sustained mentorship.

"Most people, when they show up, don't even know what indirect fire is," he said. "They don't know what CBRN or chemical and biological warfare is. A fighting position is something they have only seen in a movie. And now we are out here executing. When we move, we are moving quietly in tactical formations. We are pulling security when we go to the latrine and when we refill our water sources at the water buffalo. It is all these little things we have been instilling, and at the Forge you see them come together."

For trainees like Pvt. Jonathan White, the Forge crystallized weeks of incremental growth into moments of recognized soldier-competency within and understanding of importance of operating as a squad.

"It was a great experience," White said. "It taught me mental resilience and how to work better with people."



Photo by LT. COL. XERQUA GARFINKEL

Reserve drill sergeants Staff Sgt. Juan A. Campos (left) and Staff Sgt. Bryant C. Ferguson (right), both assigned to Company C, 4th Battalion, 39th Infantry Regiment, prepare a smoke grenade during 'The Forge' 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.

Betty understands the personal cost this mission exacts on Reserve families, having grown up as the son of a Reserve Soldier, he has lived the reality of extended time away from family. But what has emerged from this effort, he explained, proves that the Army Reserve has the capability and knowledge to sustain a full year on the trail, not just short rotations.

"This has strengthened the partnership, the understanding of how the reserves operate, how the active duty operates, and how we can do this together to fulfill the task that we've been given to expand the training base within the constraints we've been given," Betty said.

The integration model has revealed unexpected synergies. Reserve drill sergeants bring diverse civilian experiences and military occupational specialties to basic training, while active-duty drill sergeants offer their operational experience and institu-

tional continuity. The mix creates a richer training environment where different perspectives strengthen the overall program.

"Being able to watch drill sergeants as they do their duty training civilians to make them into American Soldiers is just a very powerful experience," Betty said. The transformation is so meaningful that he brought his own children to watch a graduation ceremony, wanting them to understand "what's going on here and what it means for the American public."

The yearlong assignments have also provided professional development opportunities previously available only to active-duty personnel. Reserve drill sergeants return to their home units with enhanced leadership capabilities and deeper understanding of soldier-development, assets that strengthen the entire force.

For drill sergeants, the measure of success is not in a graduation ceremony but in

the kind of Soldiers their trainees become, and in the knowledge that their sustained investment made a measurable difference.

Staff Sgt. Paul Reed hopes trainees remember the guidance as much as the discipline. "When they look back, I think they'll want to say, when I needed help, the drill sergeants were there to help me. And when I needed a push in the right direction to be a better, more disciplined Soldier, they were there."

Trueblood described his role as laying a foundation for careers that may span decades. "I figured that maybe I could be the first step into teaching the trainees what right looks like. Not just in basic training, but in how they approach being a Soldier throughout their career."

Staff Sgt. Bryant Ferguson, Reserve drill sergeant, added that the mission represents a

Reserve

Continued from Page 8

form of institutional investment. “It broadens your career and lets you give back by training the next fighting force. You get to say, ‘That was me that trained these trainees.’”

As the Army looks toward fiscal year 2026 and beyond, the year-long Reserve drill sergeant tour is demonstrating its value as more than a temporary surge response. Betty described it as “a proof of concept that we can continue to carry on” in future years.

The option has shown that sustained mentorship produces better training outcomes while developing Reserve NCOs in ways previously limited to the active component. It has proven that the Army Reserve can be more than a supporting player in basic training, it can be a driving force in expanding the training base and maintaining quality standards during high-demand periods.

“What it has shown us is we’ve got the capability, we’ve got the knowledge to be able to continue



Photo by LT. COL. XERQUA GARFINKEL

Reserve drill sergeants Staff Sgt. Cayo W. Rodrigues and Staff Sgt. Juan A. Campos, both assigned to 4th Battalion, 39th Infantry Regiment, stand together after the Night Infiltration Course, Aug. 27.

it if needed,” Betty said. The investment in yearlong assignments yields dividends in soldier-development, NCO growth, and institutional knowledge that short rotations simply cannot match.

Time and trust matter in human development. The sustained relationships, patient mentorship, and accumulated wisdom that come from guiding trainees from reception to graduation represent a fundamental shift in how the

Army approaches basic training.

In an era where the military competes for talent in a challenging recruiting environment, the investment in sustained, quality training relationships may prove to be one of the Army’s most strategic advantages. The Reserve drill sergeants will eventually return to their home units carrying with them enhanced skills and tangible proof that the total force concept works.

Difference

Continued from Page 5

- A family history of suicide.
- Substance use: Drugs can create mental highs and lows that worsen suicidal thoughts.
- Intoxication: Analysis from the CDC indicates that around 1 in 5 people who die by suicide had alcohol in their system at the time of death.
- Access to firearms.
- A severe or chronic medical illness.
- Gender: Although more women than men attempt suicide, men are 4x more likely to die by suicide.

- A history of trauma or abuse.
- Prolonged stress.
- A recent tragedy or loss.

There are a few ways to approach a suicide-related crisis:

- Talk openly and honestly. Don’t be afraid to ask questions like: “Do you have a plan for how you would kill yourself?”

- Remove means such as guns, knives, or stockpiled pills.
- Calmly ask simple and direct questions, like “Can I help you call your psychiatrist?”

- If there are multiple people around, have one person speak at a time.

- Express support and concern.
- Don’t argue, threaten, or raise your voice.
- Don’t debate whether suicide is right or wrong.
- If you’re nervous, try not to fidget or pace.
- Be patient.

If you or someone you know is experiencing a mental health crisis, call or text 988 immediately. If you are uncomfortable talking on the phone, you can chat with the Suicide & Crisis Lifeline at 988lifeline.org.

You can also text NAMI to 741 741 to be connected to a free, trained crisis counselor on the Crisis Text Line.

You can also go to the closest emergency room.

Always remember you are not alone.



Into retirement

Fort Jackson honored the service of Staff Sgt. Arnulfo Navarro Jr. at the 4th Battalion, 39th Infantry Regiment graduation, Sept. 11. Navarro retired after 20 years of Army service. His last unit was the 282d Army Band.

Photo by VERAN HILL

BE A GOOD NEIGHBOR!

IN THE EVENT OF A DISASTER, BE SURE TO CHECK ON THOSE AROUND YOU.



Events

Continued from Page 4

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

OCT. 6 Trail Ride Dancing

5-6 p.m., Vanguard Gym. Come out and learn how to line dance with kicks, twists, dips, boots, and fans. All levels are welcome. For more information or to register, call (803) 751-3700.

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.



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

where zombie volunteers interact/chase runners for a spooky good time. For more information, call (803) 751-3700.

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.. The lunch, held the first Wednesday of the month. For more information, call (803) 751-3979.

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. 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.

DEC. 3 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, held the first Wednesday of the month. For more information, call (803) 751-3979.

DEC. 5 Fort Jackson Annual Tree Lighting

Fort Jackson will be holding its annual tree lighting event at Patriot Park.

DEC. 13 2025 Jingle Bell Fitness 5K Run.

Come out and get one last run in before the New Year.

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

Students celebrate International Dot Day

Story, photo by LORRAINE EMORY
Pierce Terrace Elementary School

Pierce Terrace Elementary School joined millions of students worldwide Sept. 15 in celebrating International Dot Day, a global event that encourages creativity, courage, and self-expression.

The celebration was led by Larissa Pinckney, the school's speech therapist, who guided students in activities designed to help them make their own mark and see where it takes them.

International Dot Day began in 2009 after teacher Terry Shay introduced his class to *The Dot*, a children's book written by Peter H. Reynolds.

The annual celebration, now observed in classrooms across the globe, provides children ages 4–8 with the opportunity to explore self-expression and imagination through art, writing, music, and movement. The objective of Dot Day is to help students embrace their individuality, discover their strengths, and recognize that even the simplest actions—like drawing a dot—can spark incredible creativity and confidence.

Reflecting on the event, Ms. Pinckney said, "International Dot Day reminds me that even the smallest step of courage—like making a simple dot—can grow into something bigger than I ever imagined."

At Pierce Terrace, students engaged in dot-inspired activities to reflect the themes of the book. PTES emphasized that International Dot Day is more than just about drawing—it's about encouraging students to try new things, take risks, and believe in their own potential.



Students at Pierce Terrace Elementary School celebrate International Dot Day by creating their own colorful dot artwork.

By participating in International Dot Day, Pierce Terrace Elementary School underscored its commitment to nurturing creativity and celebrating each child's unique contributions.



DOWNLOAD NOW
MY ARMY
POST

NEAR REALTIME UPDATES


INSTALLATION-WIDE ALERTS

RETIREE INFORMATION

NEWCOMER INFORMATION

EVENTS + MORE

GET IT ON
 Google Play



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



Shots are available to those over 6 years old. Department of Defense ID card holders only.

VICTORY... STARTS HERE



Staff Sgt. Marcus Organek, drill sergeant at the Intelligence Center of Excellence, prepares to step off for land navigation at Fort Jackson Sept. 15. Drill sergeants from across the Army are at Fort Jackson to compete for the coveted title of Drill Sergeant of the Year.

Photo by HUNTER RHOADES