LOCKDOWN
EXERCISE TESTS JACKSON’S ACTIVE SHOOTER RESPONSE, P3

ALSO INSIDE
FAQ: THRIFT SAVINGS PLAN MODERNIZATION ACT OF 2017, P6
FORT JACKSON HOSTS 8-YEAR-OLD AUTHOR, P8

ARMY RESERVE PREPS FOR CURRENT, FUTURE DRILL SERGEANT MISSION – P4
Community Calendar

TODAY
Victory Hall Grand Re-Opening Ceremony
11 a.m., Victory Hall. Join as Victory Hall is reopened and adopts a new name. Take a tour of the renovations. Meet the management and team. Sample new menu items, including a large selection of healthy choices. The Directorate of Family, Morale, Welfare and Recreation activities will provide informational booths and activities to showcase other fitness and recreation programs that encourages healthy lifestyles.

FRIDAY
Patient Appreciation Day
1-4:30 p.m. Moncrief Medical Home. The Moncrief Medical Home will host its annual patient appreciation day from 1-4:30 p.m. The event will provide patients with nutrition, infectious disease, patient safety, TRICARE, and pharmacy information through question and answer sessions. Patients will be given the opportunity to ask questions to our Primary Care Managers, staff nurses, clinical pharmacist and behavioral health professionals throughout the event. Finally, we plan to sign up and educate our family of beneficiaries on Secure Messaging System and TRICARE Online.

Hispanic Heritage Month Luncheon
Fort Jackson will be honoring Hispanic Heritage Month with a luncheon from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the Fort Jackson NCO Club. Julio Hernandez, Clemson University’s senior associate director for Hispanic Outreach will be speaking at the event. The event hosted by the Soldier Support Institute costs $10.50 per person. For more information, or to purchase tickets, contact your Equal Opportunity Advisor, the Equal Opportunity Office or call the post EO Office at 751-2990.

OCT. 2
Domestic Violence Awareness Month Candelight Vigil
11:30 a.m - 1 p.m., Main Post Chapel. Join in the candlelit vigil to stand up against domestic violence. For more information, call 803-751-5256 or 803-337-3445.

OCT. 6
Fire Prevention Carnival
10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Fort Jackson Fire Department, 5499 Jackson Blvd. All Fort Jackson community members are invited to attend a Fire Prevention Carnival to learn about fire safety. There will be games, a rock wall, bounce houses, fire station tour and more. For more information call 751-7252 or email FJFDFan@gmail.com.

OCT. 15
Blood Drive
10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Moncrief Army Health Clinic, 4300 Stuart Street. The American Red Cross will be holding a blood drive Oct. 15 at the Moncrief Army Health Clinic. You can schedule your appointment at redcrossblood.org and enter sponsor code: Moncrief. Patrons can streamline their donation experience and save roughly 15 minutes by visiting redcrossblood.org/apiv2 and complete the pre-donation reading and health history questions on the day of their appointment. For more information call 1-800-RED-CROSS.

OCT. 16
Maude Lecture Series
2 p.m. Solomon Center. Brig. Gen. Milford “Beags” Beagle Jr., Fort Jackson commander, will be the keynote speaker at the Lt. Gen. Timothy G. Maude Leadership Lecture Series. The Soldier Support Institute sponsored lecture series is named after the highest ranking service member killed during the Sept. 11, 2001 terrorist attacks. It is held yearly to inspire Soldiers to become strong leaders and to be passionate mentors. For more information contact Capt. Lucreshia Y. Blydie at 817-975-7199 or via email at lucreshia.y.blydie.mil@mail.mil.

OCT. 19
Annual Chili Cook Off
11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Fort Jackson Fire Station. The Fort Jackson Fire Department and the Directorate of Family Morale, Welfare and Recreation are hosting the annual chili cook off. Tasting and judging takes place between 11 a.m. and 1 p.m. Tickets for voting cost $1. If attendees wish more than a tasting they can purchase a bowl of chili, with mini corn muffin and a drink for $5. For more information email the Fire Department at FJFDFan@gmail.com.

OCT. 20
Stop Domestic Violence Bike-A-Thon
10 a.m.-1 p.m., the Solomon Center. Take a stand against domestic violence and ride for a loved one. Accept the pledge and ride 30 minutes, one hour, two hours, three hours, or 20 miles outdoors.

OCT. 30
Math Prize Patrol
4:30 p.m., the Fort Jackson housing areas. C.C. Pinckney and Pierce Terrace Elementary Schools will be holding their annual Math Prize Patrol to pre-donation the academic achievements of their students. For more information, contact Kerrie Ammons at kerrie.ammons@am.dodea.edu.

SEND ALL SUBMISSIONS TO
FJLeader@gmail.com
Deadline for events to be included in the calendar or Happenings 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.
Questions? Call 751-7045.

Are you interested in learning more about the Fort Jackson Sportsman Club? Come to a meeting of the Sportsman Advisory Council Working Groups. The Cycling Working Group meets the third Tuesday of each month at Magruder’s Pub. The next meeting for the Run/Adventure Working Groups is 6 p.m. the last Tuesday of the month at Magruder’s Pub. The next Hunting and Angling Working Group meeting will take place 6 p.m. the third Thursday of the month at Alpine Lodge.

SENIOR LIVING
Two great events for the week:
1. 11 a.m. to 1 p.m., the Solomon Center. Take a stand against domestic violence and ride for a loved one. Accept the pledge and ride 30 minutes, one hour, two hours, three hours, or 20 miles outdoors.
2. 4:30 p.m., the Fort Jackson housing areas. C.C. Pinckney and Pierce Terrace Elementary Schools will be holding their annual Math Prize Patrol to pre-donation the academic achievements of their students. For more information, contact Kerrie Ammons at kerrie.ammons@am.dodea.edu.

For more information, contact Kerrie Ammons at kerrie.ammons@am.dodea.edu.
Preparing to counter the enemy is key to military success and public safety; active shooter trainings are one aspect.

Fort Jackson tested its emergency response efforts during an exercise held on post Sept. 25.

“The purpose of the exercise is to assess the schools’ ability to react to an active shooter and the first responders’ response capabilities,” said Fort Jackson emergency manager Ramon Domenech.

These exercises test the readiness of educational staff and emergency personnel in handling active shooter situations to identify strengths and weaknesses, he added.

The training is conducted periodically in schools, units, directorates and organizations across the installation.

“This exercise (helps) the schools and first responders determine their readiness level, ability to follow established protocols … and what changes, if any, are needed to improve our protection capabilities,” Domenech said.

Protocols for handling an active shooter in Fort Jackson schools vary based on the situation at hand, said School Resource Officer Lionel Brown.

“It depends on where (the shooter) is,” Brown explained. Lockdown is the procedure if the shooter is outside.

If inside the building, Brown said a meticulous search is done once the threat has been identified. The instant gunfire is heard, “we’re going direct to that threat,” Brown said.

At the Training and Support Center, an active shooter scenario was simulated Sept. 25.

Department of the Army security guards and military police storm the offices of the Training and Support Center Tuesday morning in search of two ‘active shooters’ reported to be at large in the building. Above, they restrain an uncooperative man found hiding under a desk. It was part of an exercise to test the readiness of schools, units, directorates and organizations across the installation in response to an active shooter situation.
Adaptive measures

Army preps for current, future drill sergeant mission

By TIMOTHY FRIEDERICHS
108th Training Command

As the Army prepares to make changes to its combat training model to become a more lethal force in preparation for the changing world landscape, the 108th Training Command, the Army Reserve’s only drill sergeant training command, recognized that it must increase its end strength to meet the increasing readiness demands of the U.S. Total Force. The 108th Training Command is engaged in various adaptive measures that will increase the readiness and lethality of the force.

Tentatively starting in October 2019, the U.S. Army Training and Doctrine Command will increase the length of its infantry one-station unit training from 14 to 22 weeks, and the following year, the Cavalry OSUT training will expand from 17 to 22 weeks. Similar changes will occur with the engineer and military police OSUT training thereafter. Those training length increases, coupled with current OSUT shortfalls, will require an additional 378 drill sergeants.

The 108th Training Command, based out of Charlotte, will be called upon to help augment this increased end strength demand. One of its three division commanders, Brig. Gen. Ronald Bassford, commander, 95th Division, U.S. Army Reserve, will discuss “Drill Sergeant Engagement and Adaptive Measures to Meet Mission Requirements” as part of the Association of the United States Army’s annual meeting in Washington, D.C.

The command’s current strength requirement already calls for nearly 2,700 drill sergeants, and given normal attrition and promotions out, that in itself is a challenging bar to reach. In addition to OSUT drill sergeant augmentation support, it has requirement demands from other existing obligations to TRADOC, which include

Tentative movie schedule

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Day</th>
<th>Movie Times</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>FRIDAY</td>
<td>Searching (PG-13) 7 p.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SATURDAY</td>
<td>Searching (PG-13) 1 p.m.</td>
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<td></td>
<td>The Little Stranger (R) 5 p.m.</td>
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<tr>
<td>SUNDAY</td>
<td>Searching (PG-13) 1 p.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>The Little Stranger (R) 5 p.m.</td>
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<tr>
<td>WEDNESDAY</td>
<td>Searching (PG-13) 2 p.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>The Little Stranger (R) 5 p.m.</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

TICKETS

- Adult: $6 / Child (6 to 11): $4
- 3-D TICKETS
  - Adult: $8 / Child (6 to 11): $6

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

WWW.SHOPMYEXCHANGE.COM

Drill sergeants from 98th Division supervise trainees on the top of Victory Tower in July at Fort Jackson during Basic Combat Training Red Phase.

See ADAPTIVE: Page 15
FAMILY AND MORALE, WELFARE AND RECREATION PROGRAMS
WWW.FORTJACKSONMWR.COM

FAMILY CAMP OUT
AT WESTON LAKE
OCTOBER 13, 4 P.M.- OCTOBER 14, 10 A.M.
Looking for some quality family bonding time? Join Outdoor Recreation at Weston Lake for the Family Camp Out! Staff will teach you how to pitch a tent along with some other basic camping skills. There will be games, crafts, campfire stories and of course S’mores!
$8 per person includes food, camping gear available for rent, campfire stories & S’mores
REGISTER BY OCTOBER 5
For more information, call (803)751-3487

Ballet
Monday, October 15, 5:30-6:15 p.m.
at the SKIES Center (6100 Chesnut Rd.)
Introduction To Ballet
A class taught by a professional dancer and member of the Columbia City Ballet.
Open to Fort Jackson Youth ages 7-14. Don’t miss this unique one day only opportunity! Space is limited.
For more information please call Darius Lane to reserve your space (803)751-5040 or (803)751-7451

Beginners Archery
Saturday, October 20, 9 am-12 pm
Golden Arrow Archery Range at Heise Pond
ODR will provide all equipment you will need for the class to include bows, arrows, targets, and arm guards.
Registration deadline is October 17th at 6 pm.
No refunds will be provided after registration closes.
Open to Authorized Id Card Holders ages 13+. $15 per person
Space is limited to 10 participants
Call (803)751-3484 to register

Annual Chili Cook Off!
Presented by the Fort Jackson Fire Department and Family and MWR
Friday, October 19, Fort Jackson Fire House (EMS Station, Jackson Blvd & Hill SL)
TASTING & JUDGING 11 a.m. - 1 p.m.
The Solomon Center will be selling big bowls of piping hot chili, with mini corn muffin and a drink for just $5 (Right outside the fire truck bay)
Vote for your favorite! Get a voting ticket for $1. Taste all the chili. Pick your favorite. Drop your ticket at their booth.
TO ENTER: Send an email to FJFDfun@gmail.com
For more information, call (803)751-7252

FACT WEEK
100% OF PROCEEDS GO BACK INTO SOLDIER AND FAMILY PROGRAMS HERE AT FORT JACKSON.
FAMILY AND MWR MARKETING DIVISION • BLDG 3392 MAGRUDER AVE, FORT JACKSON, SC 29207 • (803) 751-6990

September 27, 2018
The Fort Jackson Leader
Page 5
Two years for implementation.

Although the law was passed, it may take up to two years for implementation. The Thrift Savings Plan Modernization Act of 2017 was signed into law by President Trump on Nov. 17, 2017. It provides TSP participants with additional withdrawal options based on the recommendations from the Federal Retirement Thrift Investment Board. Although the law was passed, it may take up to two years for implementation.

Below are the major changes that will impact participants.

**Partial Withdrawals**
- Currently, participants are limited to one partial withdrawal during their lifetime as either an age-based in-service withdrawal (must be 59 and a half or older) or a partial post-separation withdrawal. When the new policy is implemented:
  - Participants will be able to take up to four age-based in-service withdrawals per calendar year. Current rules pertaining to the number of in-service hardship withdrawals will not change.
  - There will be no limit of the number of partial withdrawals you can take after separating from federal service, except a limit of one per every 30 days.
  - Participants will be able to take partial withdrawals while receiving post-separation installment payments.
  - Having taken age-based in-service withdrawals will not prevent you from taking post-separation partial withdrawals.

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**Fort Jackson: HOUSING NOTES**

- **Mayors Needed:** The Mayoral Council is looking for volunteers to serve as mayors for the Fort Jackson Housing Communities. Becoming a part of the council allows you to be a voice for the community. Your voice can bring ideas and suggestions to residents for improving the quality of life while residing on Fort Jackson. In addition to receiving credit for volunteer hours, you will get to meet new people and receive valuable training. Child care is provided at no cost while performing mayoral duties. Interested residents should contact Vickie Grier at usarmy.jackson.incom-atlantic.mbx.fort-jackson-dpw-housing@mail.mil, or 751-7567.
- **Juvenile Curfew & Supervision of Children and Resident Guide Review:** The housing office encourages residents to take time to review the Juvenile Curfew & Supervision of Children Policy and Resident Guide to ensure policies and guidelines are adhered to (i.e. wading pools, unattended children at the playgrounds, etc.) The resident guide can be viewed at www.fortjacksonfamilyhomes.com. You may pick up a copy of the Juvenile Curfew & Supervision of Children Policy from the Housing office located at 4514 Stuart Ave.
- **Voice Broadcast:** We would like to remind our residents to ensure our management office has your most current phone number and email address. Our One-Call system is used to deliver emergency weather updates, reported utility outages, scheduled maintenance that may interfere with your day-to-day plans, and weekly event updates. If you have opted out or changed your phone number and would like to receive them again, please contact our office at 803-738-8275. Don’t forget to like us on Facebook at Fort Jackson Family Homes.
- **Refer a Friend:** Unlimited Refer-a-Friend Rewards. If you are a current resident with Balfour Beatty Communities and you invite a friend to live with us, we will take $500 off your next month’s rent. Some restrictions apply. For more information, call 803-738-8275.
- **PCS Rewards:** Save time and money by staying with Balfour Beatty Communities. Our residents are number one, and we want to reward our loyal customers. If you are a current resident relocating to a community where Balfour Beatty Communities manages the housing, choose to stay with us and we’ll offer you a $250 reward. Contact our office for details and to view our locations.

**FAQ**

By SHAWN M. SMITH
Army Community Service Financial Readiness Program

The Thrift Savings Plan Modernization Act of 2017 was signed into law by President Trump on Nov. 17, 2017. It provides TSP participants with additional withdrawal options based on the recommendations from the Federal Retirement Thrift Investment Board. Although the law was passed, it may take up to two years for implementation.

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The 31st annual Association of the U.S. Army golf tournament was held at Fort Jackson Sept. 21. Before players teed off, a prayer was said for those affected by Hurricane Florence. The event started around 12:30 p.m. on a 90 degree, sunny Friday afternoon. Thirty-six teams participated in the tournament held on the Old Hickory course. Richland County Sheriff Leon Lott, above, welcomes golfers and introduces them to the tournament.

By South Carolina National Guard

The South Carolina Army National Guard’s 125th Multi-Role Bridge Company has had more than 100 Soldiers in Georgetown since Friday night, prepared to implement a secondary plan of action in anticipation of possible flooding where the Highway 17 “Ocean Highway” bridges converge at Waccamaw and Great Pee Dee Rivers in Winyah Bay.

Capt. Joseph Varin, commander of the 125th MRBC and lead engineer on the project, explained that his unit employed eight segments of floating bridge to rehearse launching from a large truck into the river, moving in place with ropes tied to several boats, and connecting the segments together as they floated on the water.

“We would ferry personnel and equipment across the rivers if their need is of critical nature,” said Varin. “We would take them from the south end of the bridge on Ocean Highway to the north end, and from north to south.”

National Guard teams launched the large bridge sections, which they referred to as rafts, from the Carroll Ashmore Campbell Marine Complex in Georgetown Sunday morning. The rafts were joined together to make a larger raft with room to fit a commercial truck, which could then be ferried to the other side of the river.

Guardmen were joined by the U.S. Coast Guard and the law enforcement division of South Carolina’s Department of Natural Resources on Monday to practice using the multi-segment, long rafts to transport large, heavy vehicles.

“This is a rehearsal with the Coast Guard, and they’re loading an F-450 with a trailer that has three small shallow water boats in it,” said Varin. “We’ll ferry them down the Sampit to the bay and return,” he said, of the river that snakes its way from the western area of Georgetown County and merges with Pee Dee, Black, and Waccamaw Rivers in Georgetown.

The SCNG loaded a large mobility tactical wrecker used for vehicle recovery and maintenance onto a second raft during the practice run as well.

“South Carolina Department of Natural Resources is also launching a law enforcement boat, going upriver with the rafts to exercise providing security,” he said.

Another agency has a primary plan in place for traffic management in the area if flood levels rise, and the Army National Guard worked on the backup plan over the weekend.

“Hopefully our efforts won’t end up being needed,” said Varin. “But in a worst-case scenario, it will be good that we were prepared and ready to assist as needed.”

The 125th MRBC worked 24-hour operations all of the previous week on Highway 501 in Conway, constructing barriers on each side of the road to protect it from Waccamaw River and Lake Busbee flood waters. Nearly 400 men and women from the 122nd Engineer Battalion from Edgefield and the 178th Engineer Battalion from Rock Hill worked the Conway project.

See WATER: Page 19
Fort Jackson hosts 8-year-old author

By ELYSSA VONDRA
Fort Jackson Leader

One Fort Jackson elementary student has an impressive resume. Nathan Mobley, 8, is already a published author.

He and his mom, Staff Sgt. Ayan Mobley, former drill sergeant, wrote “My Mommy is a Drill Sergeant” — a children’s book that tackles the subject of Basic Combat Training and life in the Army.

They held their first book reading at Fort Jackson Sept. 24, presenting it to Child, Youth and School Services, and the public at large.

“Books are our thing,” Ayan, a former teacher, said.

A single parent and drill sergeant of three years, she uses literature to bond with Nathan.

Through their book, she brought to light a story largely unknown to the outside world.

“The civilian population has no idea what we do,” Ayan said. She set out to change that.

“This (book) is from his perspective,” Ayan said. Nathan dictated what was written. The mother-son duo drafted it in just two weeks.

The book was officially released Aug. 17, and they have already sold around 80 copies, Ayan said Aug. 24.

Nathan is an avid advertiser, she admitted. “He tries to put a plug in every (time).”

The inspiration for the story all began with a trip to the Basic Combat Training museum on post. Nathan was fascinated and wound up playing “gas chamber” at recess with his friends.

“He thinks it’s cool,” Ayan said. “He was really interested in what I do every day.”

Whenever she could, Ayan took Nathan to work with her. It was a nice break from bringing him to daycare at 4:15 a.m., seven days per week, she said.

“Six weeks, he was at daycare,” Ayan said. “I have nobody to switch off with.” She remedied being a single parent by keeping Nathan by her side when possible.

While at work with her, Ayan said Nathan always tries to show his strength, hoisting himself onto the pullup bars.

He was really interested in what I do every day.

— Staff Sgt. Ayan Mobley

See AUTHOR: Page 16

Nathan Mobley (left) wears his mom’s drill sergeant hat. He unbuttons it to make it look more like a brown round. Staff Sgt. Ayan Mobley (right) holds a copy of the book she and her son wrote, called “My Mommy is a Drill Sergeant.”

Photo by ELYSSA VONDRA
Training spotlight

Fort Jackson trainees navigate obstacles and challenges on Team Development Course, which reinforces the need to work together to accomplish missions.

FORT JACKSON WORSHIP SCHEDULE

**CATHOLIC**

**Sunday**
- 7:30 a.m., Confessions, Solomon Center
- 8 a.m., IET Mass, Solomon Center
- 9:30 a.m., CCD, Education Center
- 9:30 a.m., Mass, Main Post Chapel
- 10:30 a.m., Reconciliation (after Mass or by appointment), Main Post Chapel

**Monday through Thursday, First Friday**
- 11:30 a.m., Mass, Main Post Chapel

**CHURCH OF CHRIST**

**Sunday**
- 10:30 a.m., Worship Service, Magruder Chapel

**EASTERN ORTHODOX**

**Sunday**
- 9 a.m., Worship and Liturgy, Hospital Chapel

**JEWISH**

**Sunday**
- 9:15 a.m., Worship, Anderson Street Chapel
- 10:15 a.m., Fellowship, Anderson Street Chapel

**LATTER-DAY SAINTS**

**Sunday**
- 10:30 a.m., Worship Service, Anderson Street Chapel
- 9:15 a.m., Adult Bible Study, Main Post Chapel
- 9:30 a.m., Sunday School, Main Post Chapel
- 10 a.m., Gospel Worship Service, Daniel Circle Chapel
- 11 a.m., Service, Main Post Chapel
- 11 a.m., Chapel Next, Lightning Chapel
- 5 p.m., Aspire! Protestant Youth, Chaplain Family Life Center

**Monday**
- 7 p.m., Protestant Women of the Chapel Woman’s Bible Study, Lightning Chapel
- 7 p.m., Protestant Men of the Chapel, Bible Study, Chaplain Family Life Center

**Tuesday**
- 9 a.m., Protestant Women of the Chapel, Main Post Chapel

**Wednesday**
- Noon, Protestant Bible Study, SSI Library
- 7 p.m., Gospel Bible Study, Daniel Circle chapel

**Thursday**
- 11:45 a.m., Fresh Encounter Bible Study, Chaplain Family Life Center

**ADDRESSES, PHONE NUMBERS**

- **Anderson Street Chapel**, 2335 Anderson St., 751-7032
- **Lightning Chapel**, 9476 Kemper St., 751-4101/4542
- **Chaplain Family Life Center**, Bldg. 5460, 751-4961
- **Daniel Circle Chapel**, 3359 Daniel Circle, 751-1297/4478
- **Education Center**, 4581 Scales Ave., 751-5341
- **Fort Jackson Garrison Chaplain and Religious Support Office**, 4356 Hardee St., 751-3121/6318
- **McCrady Chapel**, 3820 McCrady Road at McCrady Training Center, 751-7324
- **Magruder Chapel**, 4360 Magruder Ave., 751-3883
- **Main Post Chapel**, 4580 Scales Ave., 751-8469/6681
- **Warrior Chapel (120th Adjutant General Battalion)**, 1895 Washington St., 751-5086/7427
NEWS

‘I BECAME A SOLDIER ...’ 1ST BATTALION, 13TH INFANTRY REGIMENT

PVT. JAYSON TRETTER, 18
Guernsey, Wyoming

“I wanted to break the mold in my Family and serve the country.” That is what influenced me to join the Army.

“Adapting to a military lifestyle and learning how to come together as a team” was the most challenging part of Basic Combat Training.

My MOS is “94P — Multiple Launch Rocket System Repairer. It really caught my eye, and I felt it would be challenging and very beneficial.”

PVT. AUTUMN ROGERS, 18
Lawrenceburg, Kentucky

“My Family and the honor within the Army name” influenced me most to join.

“I was always excited to discover what the Army would be like. I was not let down.”

“Pushing myself to do something that was extremely uncomfortable, painful and challenging” was the most difficult part of Basic Combat Training.

My MOS is “25M — Multimedia Illustrator. It has to do with creativity, and I am an artist.”

“This experience pushed me physically and mentally. You can do it for your Family, friends, country, God, but at your last moment of pain, when you’re about to give up, you have to do it for yourself. That’s what the Army has taught me for the first time, to be proud of myself.”

PVT. JONAH QUITOG, 18
Waipahu, Hawaii

“Family tradition to serve our country in different branches” is what influenced me most to join the Army.

“The most challenging part of Basic Combat Training is adapting to a new living environment, and adapting to people from other places.”

“My MOS is 92F — Petroleum Supply Specialist. It was the only MOS that caught my attention, and it seemed interesting and challenging. It will give me a career outside of the Army.”

PVT. ANDREW VISNICKY, 18
Stratford, Connecticut

“I wanted to improve myself physically and mentally. I also wanted to keep the tradition of military service in my Family and to provide for my Family in the future.” These factors influenced me most to join the Army.

“The most challenging part of Basic Combat Training is keeping your mind focused on the end goal and pushing yourself farther than what your mind allowed you to.”

My MOS is “15D — Aircraft Powertrain Repairer. I chose it because I wanted to choose an MOS in aviation that could help me get a job.”

“I look forward to learning important mechanical skills as well as being able to travel to places not many people have the opportunity to go to.”

PVT. AUNDREIANNA PLUMB, 18
Vancouver, Washington

“I really wanted to make myself into someone better than I was. Plus, I wanted to make my Family proud.” That is what influenced me to join the Army.

“The Army is a lot more focused on personal safety and inclusiveness, and that honestly surprised me. I expected more of a rough-tumble, ‘get over it’ environment.”

“Missing my Family and knowing that I’m on the other half of the United States was really hard on me. I’ve never been so far from home.”

“My MOS is 68W — Combat Medic. I chose it because I wanted to obtain my Emergency Medical Technician certification and expand my career opportunities.”

“I’m excited to start Advanced Individualized Training. My drill sergeants here, I feel, have set me up for further success in my military career.”

PVT. TREVON CAESAR, 18
Cincinnati

“My mom” influenced me most to join the Army. The Army is “way better than I thought it would be.” “Letting the Army mold me into the person I want to be” was the most challenging part of Basic Combat Training.

My MOS is “25B — Information Technology Specialist. I figured it would be good to have a background in it.”

September 27, 2018
NOTICES

Gate 4 hours update
Fort Jackson has begun a pilot test to monitor the number of drill sergeants entering the installation at certain hours each morning. Fort Jackson’s commander directed the test to help the command determine better access control policies. It will run from 4:30 to 5 a.m. until Oct. 9 at Gate 4. For more information contact Fred Vasquez, Chief of Physical Security at fernando.l.vasquez2.civ@mail.mil or via phone at 751-2005.

Legion Lake Lowering
The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers lowered the levels of Upper Legion Lake the first week of August to perform embankment work. The water will remain low until roughly mid-October. Upon the completion of the project, Upper and Lower Legion Lakes will be controlled by a new outfall structure coupled with a new emergency spillway, and Lower Legion Dike will have been rebuilt and upgraded. The overall project will allow the lakes to better withstand heavy storms. The Legion Lakes project is tentatively scheduled to be completed by spring 2019. For questions or need additional information call Jason Hinton, 751-3124, ext. 1112.

American Red Cross Dental Assistant Program
Military identification card holders will have an opportunity to gain a new skill as a dental assistant as part of the American Red Cross Dental Assistant Program taking place at the Fort Jackson Dental Health Activity. The program is scheduled to start Oct. 26. The program consists of seven weeks of classroom study, and students must complete 600 clinical hours. Requirements for the program include:

- 18 years of age or older
- Have a high school diploma or equivalent
- Up-to-date immunizations
- Military dependent (Active Duty, Reserves, National Guard, Retiree)
- Must be a U.S. citizen

Applications will be available at American Red Cross (located at 5450 Strom Thurmond Room 120) and Oliver Dental Clinic (4323 Hill Street) starting Aug. 27.

Family Campout
Looking for some quality family bonding time? Join Outdoor Recreation at Weston Lake for the Family Camp Out from 4 p.m.-10 a.m. Oct. 13. Staff will teach you how to pitch a tent along with some other basic camping skills. There will be games, crafts, campfire stories and of course, s’mores. Outdoor Recreation will provide supplies for food and games, assist with setting up camp sites, lead activities and prepare meals for campers. Camping gear will be available for rent. The cost, including food, is $8 per person.

COMMAND VISIT

Lt. Gen Charles Luckey, Army Reserve Commander, speaks with Peter Quinn, Deputy to the Commanding General of the 81st Readiness Division when he arrived in Fort Jackson. Luckey visited the 81st Readiness Division in order to assess damage to facilities and equipment resulting from Hurricane Florence and also as part of a realignment of the Army Reserve Readiness Divisions.

HELPING HANDS

Staff Sgt. Scotty Hill, left, and Staff Sgt. Antonio Epps, with the South Carolina Army National Guard’s Alpha Company, 1st Battalion, 118th Infantry Regiment unload hoses to set up an AquaDam on Highway 17 Sept. 25 in Georgetown County, S.C. The Soldiers are assisting S.C. Department of Transportation with setting up the AquaDam to keep roads open during the rising waters in the area after Hurricane Florence. Approximately 2,000 South Carolina National Guard Soldiers and Airmen are currently on duty supporting local authorities in response and recovery operations to the ongoing flooding that followed Hurricane Florence’s landfall.

Photo by CAPT. STEPHEN D. HUDSON
Exercise

Continued from Page 3

When the threat was detected, Ron Cooper, training support officer, sounded the internal alarm.

It alerted everyone to stay inside the building, go to a room with bulletproof windows and doors. It also told them to lock the doors, if possible, when they reached the room.

Cooper then addressed the participants, saying that the training exercise was designed to test Fort Jackson’s emergency readiness.

There were two main objectives for the exercise: to test the building’s response time and to test the effectiveness of the protocol in place.

Emergency Medical Services arrived to provide treatment to the “wounded.”

There were some general guidelines Demouches says increase the chances of staying safe in an active shooter scenario.

“Run if possible, hide if running is not an option, and fight as the last resort,” he said. “Situational awareness is key to surviving an active shooter attack.”

Leave the scene and tell others to do the same if there are noises resembling gunshots or explosions, be recommended.

If you can’t vacate the area, “lock the door, turn off the lights, get behind a desk, partition, or similar structure,” Demouches advised. “Turn off all cell phone ringers and wait for the ‘All Clear’ to be given.”

If an encounter can’t be avoided, aggressive action is necessary.

“If a person comes in contact with the shooter, fighting—by any means—is the only choice,” Demouches said. “Your only concern should be to eliminate the threat and survive the encounter.”

A ‘wounded’ employee lays in the lobby of the Training and Support Center Tuesday morning during an active shooter exercise designed to test Fort Jackson’s emergency readiness.

Photo by WALLACE McBRIDE

Fort Jackson police officers search the Training and Support Center Tuesday morning for a pair of ‘armed men’ reported to be on site.

From left, Fort Jackson police officers enter the Training and Support Center Tuesday morning at the start of the active shooter exercise. Center, a car was set on fire outside of TASC as part of the exercise, which also included testing the response of post schools to emergencies. Right, A military police officer restrains a suspect during the search of the TASC building.
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Pvt. Derek Binder  

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Pvt. Emanuel Zeno  

**STAFF SGT. RAAJIH ROLAND**  
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1st Battalion, 13th Infantry Regiment  

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**Adaptive**

Continued from Page 4

- Starting Augmenting Basic Combat Training for the Active Component
- Drill sergeant leader support at the Drill Sergeant Academy
- ROTC Cadet Summer Training support
- Approximately another 90 drill sergeants to support the Headquarters, Department of the Army End Strength Increase training mission at Fort Leonard Wood, Missouri
- Drill sergeant support training for sailors headed to Afghanistan as part of the Navy Individual Augmentee Combat Training, also known as Task Force Marshall, and
- Basic Training reception.

The 108th Training Command also supports non-TRADOC missions, including support to the U.S. Military Academy, to the Ministry of Interior-Military Assistance Group in Saudi Arabia, U.S. Army Reserve Command, and other U.S. Army Reserve / National Guard support.

The command is therefore using creative measures to meet the Army’s needs. The 108th Training Command is working closely with the Reserve Component Career Counselors, or RCCC, at Reserve Transition Offices on nearly every active component Army post in order to increase its Soldiers transitioning from active component to the Army Reserve. Maj. Gen. Mark McQueen, commanding general of the 108th Training Command, decided that the best way to work with the RCCC was by bringing six currently serving drill sergeants on orders and blitz these transition offices to develop new or enhance existing relationships with the career counselors at these locations.

These efforts have paid off, as nearly 71 percent of the 108th Training Command’s entire approved Active Component to Reserve Component accessions have come in the second half of fiscal year 2018. Three of these six drill sergeants will continue to serve through the first half of fiscal year 2019. The command has also seen accession gains in leads from the Army Reserve Career Division, currently serving U.S. Army Reserve Troop Program Unit as well as inactive Reserve Soldiers transitioning back to the U.S. Army Reserve.

Another exciting development is partnerships formed with the National Guard. Given that the National Guard possesses large numbers of Soldiers with combat arms military occupational specialties, but who lack the opportunity in the National Guard to serve in a career-broadening assignment as a drill sergeant, this makes for a great partnership. The National Guard Soldiers serve their two- to three-year commitment, and then they will be able to transition back to the National Guard with these additional leader skill sets. The 108th has secured a Memorandum of Understanding with the Puerto Rico National Guard, and other MOUs are currently being negotiated with other states.

McQueen said that “partnering with our (National Guard) brethren to come over for two to three years (two if the Soldier already possesses the drill sergeant badge) is a win-win – a broadening assignment for the National Guard Soldier when they go back to their National Guard units, and we benefit from the increase in qualified drill sergeants. We are not looking to homestead these men and women.”

Finally, the 108th Training Command is diligently working to support gender integration of drill sergeant leadership positions. As part of the Army’s Implementation Plan 2016-01 (Army Gender Integration), the Army opened up all remaining occupations and units to women to enhance Army readiness. The Army’s Gender Integration Implementation Plan is the department’s detailed approach for integrating women into all military occupational specialties. This paves the way for qualified female Soldiers to serve in the infantry, armor, and Special Forces. The “leader first” approach will be followed by assignment of female enlisted Soldiers to operational units with gender integrated leadership. The 108th Training Command is emphasizing the importance of female drill sergeants as leaders in BCT units as well as OSUT companies, as part of complete gender integration in the Armed Forces. The command currently has two female drill sergeants holding the 11B – Infantryman MOS.

The 108th Training Command proposes to support increasing the readiness and lethality of the force through increasing the end strength of its drill sergeant population. It will achieve these goals through various adaptive measures, including opportunities to provide support to the length of OSUT; working closely with RCCC to gain Active Component Soldiers transitioning to Reserve Component; forming partnerships with the National Guard; and supporting the Army Gender Integration Implementation Plan.
Mommy

Continued from Page 8

They had a mutual understanding that she wouldn’t help him down if he got stuck.
He imitated his mom, unbuttoning her drill sergeant hat to make it look more like a “boy’s hat” – a brown round, as Ayan called it.
He sometimes says he wants to be a drill sergeant, but he has gone back and forth. He has had every career plan from firefighter to garbage man, Ayan said.

“I want to be an actor,” Nathan said when asked Sept. 24. Theatre was his goal that day, though he did nod when asked if he also wanted to join the Army and become a drill sergeant.
Nathan said his favorite part of the book-creation process was spending time with his mom.
Beyond that, he hoped to highlight the Army Family lifestyle.
“I wanted to show other people how you can enjoy the military,” he said.
The title of the book is technically no longer true for Nathan. His mommy is done with her stint as a drill sergeant.

Aug. 31 was officially Ayan’s last day.
Soon, she and Nathan will be leaving Fort Jackson – their home of six years – for Hawaii, where Ayan will work in human resources.
One day, Ayan hopes to make writing her full-time job.
For now, she and Nathan will continue to create books. They intend to make an entire series.
They are currently in the editing phase of “Military Kids Rock” — a book for kids on “what it feels like to be a military kid,” Ayan said. Nathan described it as a book about “helping children get their full education.” It is set for release after Jan. 1.

“We’re still brainstorming” future plotlines, Ayan said.
She is also working on the website, militarymochamommy.com. It’s a resource for single parents.
Time management is what Ayan calls the key to her success. It’s a value she tries to instill in Nathan. She uses some BCT practices at home.
“We are very regimented,” she said. They even do two-minute shower drills.
It doesn’t always work. Despite the book’s detail on how Soldiers clean their barracks, Ayan said Nathan absolutely does not clean his room.

Staff Sgt. Ayan Mobley tasks one youth at her first-ever “My Mommy is a Drill Sergeant” book reading with doing a pushup. As a drill sergeant, she directed Soldiers to do similar exercises during Basic Combat Training. Her book is about life in the Army from her son’s perspective.

Photo by ELYSSA VONDRA
September retirees

Family, friends and Soldiers gathered to honor military retirees for their dedication to duty Sept. 25 at the post theater. Retiring in August were: Lt. Col. Jennifer J. Camp, MEDDAC; Sgt. Maj. Brenda J. Smith, Headquarters & Headquarters Battalion; Sgt. Maj. Scott C. Miller; 1st Sgt. Ebens Jeremie, 3-60th; Master Sgt. Marc Anthony Pierre, Sr.; Columbia Recruiting Battalion; Sgt. 1st Class Daniel Navarro, Jr., 120th Adjutant General Battalion (Reception); Staff Sgt. Camilla Walker, 2nd Brigade Support Battalion, Joint Base Lewis-McChord, Wash.; Staff Sgt. Wanda Ivette Smith, 193rd Infantry Brigade; and Staff Sergeant Manuel Nicholas Paulino, Headquarters and Headquarters Battalion, USARCENT, Shaw AFB, S.C.

Photo by CHARLES CLARK
Roth, Traditional, or Both
Currently, a proportional (pro rata) formula is utilized when participants withdraw money from their TSP account. For example, if 60 percent of the account balance is in traditional and 40 percent of the balance is in Roth, any withdrawal will be 60 percent from traditional and 40 percent from Roth. The changes will allow the option to take a withdrawal only from the traditional balance or only from the Roth balance.

Withdrawal Deadline
Prior to the TSP Modernization Act of 2017, participants were required to make a full withdrawal election after they turn 70 and a half and have separated from federal service. If they failed to do so, TSP initiated an account “abandonment” process. The TSP Modernization Act of 2017 does away with this requirement. Participants will never be required to make a full withdrawal election, however, they will still need to abide by the IRS-required minimum distributions. This can be satisfied by either taking a partial withdrawal or installment payments. If they do not take action or do not meet their RMD, TSP will automatically send the remaining RMD amount.

If the account has been abandoned, participants will be able to restore it without making a full withdrawal election. The restored balance can remain in the plan, subject to RMDs, with all the new withdrawal options available.

Installment Payments
Currently, the only option available for receiving regular post-separation installment distributions are recurring monthly payments. The new policy will give the option of quarterly or annual payments. The new policy will allow those who are currently receiving monthly payments to change the amount and payment frequency at any time.

TSP will announce via the TSP website, social media, email, etc. when the new options become available. You can review the TSP’s ‘Plan News and Announcements’ website (https://www.tsp.gov/whatsnew/Content/index.html) to stay informed.

Army Community Service can provide one-on-one counseling to address your specific TSP questions. Call 751-5256 to schedule an appointment with a financial counselor.

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Fort Jackson Leader...Where Buyers & Sellers Meet
The South Carolina National Guard’s priority is to ensure all assets for any life-saving missions are in place as the state experiences flooding from rising waters in lakes and rivers, flowing down from North Carolina in the wake of Hurricane Florence, which hit Sept. 14. These rescue capabilities include helicopter aquatic rescue, high water transport vehicles, engineers to clear debris to open access routes for emergency responders and large sand-filled barriers and sandbags to assist in protecting infrastructure and critical routes.

The latest update on expected flood levels in the Georgetown area is at least 10 feet when the water is expected to be at its highest, which officials have stated is likely to be this Thursday.

The South Carolina Army National Guard’s 125th Multi-Role Bridge Company works with the U.S. Coast Guard and the law enforcement division of South Carolina’s Department of Natural Resources to practice transporting large, heavy vehicles on Army floating bridge segments used as rafts on the Sampit River in Georgetown. Sept. 24.

Photo by LT COL. CANDIS OLMSTEAD
Services

Childcare

Enrollment now Pataway Home Day Care ages 12 months to 6 years old. DSS Registered # 24721 no late fees. Free hours on Saturdays: 900 Bitternut Road Columbia. Call/text 803-587-3617.

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New Army technology guides Soldiers in darkness

Army Research Laboratory Public Affairs

Researchers at the U.S. Army Research Laboratory developed a new type of thermal imaging camera that allows Soldiers to see hidden objects that were previously undetectable.

Dr. Kristan Gurton, an experimental physicist in the Computational and Information Sciences Directorate, and Dr. Sean Hu, an electronics engineer in the Sensors and Electron Devices Directorate, are leading this effort for the laboratory.

According to Gurton, all objects that have a non-zero temperature emit thermal radiation in the infrared portion of the spectrum, and the “intensity” of that radiation is proportional to its temperature.

The researchers said thermal radiation is always present in the environment regardless of whether it’s day or night, which is why the Army uses thermal cameras to “see” objects that are often hidden in the dark.

However, in addition to the “intensity” of the infrared light, there is another characteristic of light that is often ignored when it comes to imaging: polarization state.

“Researchers have known for about 30 years that man-made objects emit thermal radiation that is partially polarized. For example, trucks, aircraft, buildings, vehicles, etc., and natural objects like grass, soil, trees and bushes tend to emit thermal radiation that exhibits very little polarization,” Gurton said. “At ARL, we have been developing, with the help of the private sector, a special type of thermal camera that can record imagery that is based solely on the polarization state of the light rather than the intensity. This additional polarimetric information will allow Soldiers to see hidden objects that were previously not visible when using conventional thermal cameras.”
“Our fixed-price menu features hand-cut beef, poultry, pork and lamb served tableside. The salad buffet selection, which includes fresh seafood and sushi, rivals any other in the Carolinas. We invite you to come enjoy the feast.”

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