

# THE FORT JACKSON **LEADER**

"VICTORY ... STARTS

## **LTB WELCOMES NEW BOSS**

**'I'M CONFIDENT HE'LL ADVANCE THE CAUSE'**



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# How to be safe with fireworks

## Leader Staff Reports

With the July 4th celebrations right around the corner, it may seem a good time to launch a pyrotechnic display of your own. The colors and sound may be appealing, but caution must be used when launching fireworks on your own.

The National Safety Council and the Fort Jackson Safety Office urge families to be safe when handling fireworks.

The NSC reports, "In 2017, eight people died and over 12,000 were injured badly enough to require medical treatment after fireworks-related incidents. Of these, 50% of the injuries were to children and young adults under age 20. Over two-thirds (67%) of injuries took place from June 16 to July 16. And while the majority of these incidents were due to amateurs attempting to use professional-grade, homemade or other illegal fireworks or explosives, an estimated 1,200 injuries were from less powerful devices like small firecrackers and sparklers."

Fireworks are not legal everywhere. While they may be legal in South Carolina, they are not allowed on post. However, sparklers were allowed last year.

Follow these tips if you are off-post and planning a display of your own:

- Never allow young children to

handle fireworks

- Older children should use them only under close adult supervision
- Never use fireworks while impaired by drugs or alcohol
- Anyone using fireworks or standing nearby should wear protective eye-wear
- Never hold lighted fireworks in your hands
- Never light them indoors
- Only use them away from people, houses and flammable material
- Never point or throw fireworks at another person
- Only light one device at a time and maintain a safe distance after lighting
- Never ignite devices in a container
- Do not try to re-light or handle malfunctioning fireworks
- Soak both spent and unused fireworks in water for a few hours before discarding
- Keep a bucket of water nearby to fully extinguish fireworks that don't go off or in case of fire
- Never use illegal fireworks

If you can't make up your mind about fireworks of your own, you can always head to Hilton Field, July 1 for Fort Jackson's Independence Day celebration. Festivities begin at 4 p.m.

## INDEPENDENCE DAY FIREWORKS CELEBRATION

### JULY 1, 2023

**GATES OPEN AT 4 P.M.**

**MUSIC AT 6 P.M.**

**FIREWORKS AT DARK**



Fort Jackson Independence Day Celebration is here. Join the Fort Jackson community at Hilton Field for a celebration with food, music, fireworks and more. Gates open at 4 p.m. Guests can bring their own lawn chairs, towels, and blankets. They are also allowed to bring a small cooler. The following items are prohibited: firearms, knives, tasers, pepper spray, narcotics, alcohol, fireworks and pets. Note: only certified service animals are allowed. For more information, visit: [jackson.armymwr.com](http://jackson.armymwr.com).

## ON THE COVER

Col. Kenneth Dwyer, Leader Training Brigade commander, receives the unit colors from Brig. Gen. Jason E. Kelly, Fort Jackson commander during a ceremony, June 23.



Photo by NATHAN CLINEBELLE

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## THE FORT JACKSON LEADER

"We Make American Soldiers"

Fort Jackson, South Carolina 29207

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# Leader Training Brigade welcomes new leader

By EMILY HILEMAN

Fort Jackson Public Affairs

Members of the Leader Training Brigade and the Fort Jackson community gathered to welcome Col. Kenneth M. Dwyer and his family to the team and bid farewell to Col. Joseph A. Jackson at a ceremony, June 23.

The change of command was held at the Army Physical Fitness School, a fitting place for Dwyer, who received his bachelor's degree in Health and Exercise Science from Furman University in 1998 before he was commissioned as an infantry officer.

The LTB team is excited and ready to receive their new leader who is fully prepared to guide them in their future endeavors.

"You are getting a highly respected and battle-tested leader. You're getting a passionate professional, a warrior who respects and values his team," said Brig. Gen. Jason E. Kelly, Fort Jackson commanding general. "I'm confident he'll advance the cause."

"I can think of no better place to serve or greater mission than to educate the leaders who are tasked to provide the fighting force with trained, motivated, and physically fit leaders who espouse the Army core values," Dwyer said. He continued to thank the command and brigade team for welcoming him and his family into the Fort Jackson community with open arms.

"I promise you will always get my best effort and complete commitment to the organization and those who serve within its ranks," he said.

Kelly lauded the unit's efforts in training Soldiers.

"For the past 44 years, the (LTB) has helped make American Soldiers better here at Fort Jackson," Kelly said. He emphasized the impact the brigade has played



Photo by NATHAN CLINEBELLE

**Brig. Gen. Jason E. Kelly shakes Col. Kenneth M. Dwyer's hand and hugs him during the Leader Training Brigade change of command ceremony held at the Physical Fitness School on Fort Jackson, June 23. Dwyer promised during the ceremony that 'you will always get my best effort and complete commitment to the organization and those who serve within its ranks.'**

in preparing, educating, and guiding Army Leaders.

"Any in the crowd that have been the benefactors of an army sponsored, advanced civil schooling broadening opportunity, were assigned to this unit," Kelly said. "I'm, in fact, an LTB student detachment alumnus, and I'm proud of it."

Kelly commended Jackson on his dedication, commitment and training expertise and the mark he left on LTB as well as how he

**I'M CONFIDENT  
HE'LL ADVANCE THE  
CAUSE.**

- Brig. Gen. Jason Kelly  
Army Training Center and Fort  
Jackson commander

empowered subordinates and motivated others to take advantage of professional development opportunities.

"You invested in us," Kelly said.

Dwyer arrived at Fort Jackson after serving as the deputy commanding officer of the 7th Special Forces Group at Camp Bull Simons located at Eglin Air Force Base, Florida. Dwyer's experience as a detachment commander of Operational Detachment Alpha 325 as well as company commander of Headquarters and Group Support Companies both with 3rd Special Forces Group, and as a company commander for 1st Spe-

cial Warfare Training Group at the John F. Kennedy Special Warfare Center and School, at Fort Liberty (formerly Fort Bragg), North Carolina, and garrison commander of Hunter Army Airfield, Georgia.

"As I take leave of this organization, I know that I'm leaving it in expertly capable hands of Col. Dwyer and Command Sgt. Maj. Otero," Jackson said. He heralded the expert-level leadership and professionalism of the LTB team as he delivered his remarks.



# Community Updates

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### Death notice

This notice serves as a death notice advisory for all those in possession of the property of Staff Sgt. Jamie E. Contreras Jr, as well as those whom the deceased is indebted, or those indebted to the deceased. Please contact Capt. Kenny A McRae, summary court martial officer with questions or concerns at (803) 626-5905 or via email at: [kenny.a.mcrae2.mil@army.mil](mailto:kenny.a.mcrae2.mil@army.mil)

### Personal Property Announcement

U.S. Transportation Command personal property pre-peak season began in February and will last through September. Once service members receive orders for Permanent Change of Station, they are required to access Military OneSource for customer support resources to arrange household goods shipment. <https://www.militaryonesource.mil/moving-housing/moving/pcs-and-military-moves/>. For more information, contact the Fort Jackson Personal Property Office 751-5137/5138. Soldiers and Families can find personal property programs overview information and TSP ratings on the customer facing dashboard, <https://www.ustranscom.mil/dp3/index.cfm#overview>.

### Fort Jackson Commissary Hours

The Fort Jackson Commissary's holiday (July 2-8) hours are: Sunday 10 a.m. to p.m.; Monday 11 a.m. to 6 p.m.; Tuesday (July 4) 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m.; Wednesday through Friday 9:30 a.m. to 8 p.m.; and Saturday 8:30 a.m. to 8 p.m.

### Equal Employment Opportunity

Looking for Equal Employment Opportunity information? Can't find the latest EEO newsletter? You can find the information you need at: [home.army.mil/jackson/index.php/eeo](http://home.army.mil/jackson/index.php/eeo).

### Yoga Classes

Yoga classes are offered to Soldiers, Department of the Army Civilians and Family Members at the Drill Sergeant Timothy Kay Soldier Performance Readiness Center 7:30 a.m. Tuesdays; 6 a.m. and 12:15 p.m. Wednesdays; and 11:45 a.m. Thursdays.

## COMMUNITY EVENTS

### SATURDAY

Independence Day Celebration

Hilton Field. Gates open at 4 p.m. Enjoy an exciting variety of food trucks and children's carnival rides, live music, beer tents and of course, fireworks.

### MONDAY

#### Intramural Golf

Letters of intent for intramural golf are due. This is a commander's cup event, two-person teams and open to active-duty Soldiers only. For more information call 751-3906/5839. Play starts at 5 p.m. July 11 at the Golf Club.

### JULY 7

#### Do-It-Yourself Credit Repair Seminar

10-11:30 a.m., Training Support Center (1565 Hall Street), Army Community Service will host a do-it-yourself credit repair class. Tired of paying high interest or being denied credit? Are you planning to purchase a car or home in the future? If so, this class is for you. Learn how to interpret your credit reports, complete disputes with the credit reporting agencies, address collections, etc. Registration is required. For more information or to register, call 751-5256.

### JULY 7-8

#### Football ProCamp

Fort Jackson Youth Sports Park, 5984 Chesnut Road. A free NFL ProCamp hosted by kicker Graham Gano will be held at the Youth Sports Park. The camp is open to boys and girls 6-14 years old, who are dependents of active duty, retirees or Department of Defense civilians. The sign-in tent opens at noon July 7 and the camp runs from 1-4 p.m. On July 8, sign-in begins at 8 a.m. and the camp runs from 9 a.m. to noon. Registration is currently open. Contact Darius Lane via email at: [darius.lane2.naf@army.mil](mailto:darius.lane2.naf@army.mil), at the Youth Center to request your registration form. The camp is open to the first 150 youths who register.

### JULY 10

#### DENTAC change of command

11 a.m., Joe E. Mann Ballroom. Col. George Quiroa relinquishes command of Fort Jackson DENTAC to Col. Susan Cebula in a ceremony, July 10.

### JULY 11

#### Thrift Savings Plan Webinar

9:30-11 a.m., Army Community Service Financial Readiness Program will conduct a Thrift Savings Plan webinar on Microsoft Teams. Do you want to gain a better understanding about the different



## Fort Jackson

## Movie Schedule

3319 Jackson Blvd.

Phone: 751-7488

### JULY 1

■ Indiana Jones and the Dial of Destiny (PG-13) 2 p.m.

### JULY 7

■ Indiana Jones and the Dial of Destiny (PG-13) 6 p.m.

● Ticket sales open 30 minutes before each movie.

● Movie times and schedule are subject to change without notice.

funds and how they can impact your plan for retirement? Learn the differences between Roth and Traditional accounts, avoiding penalties, withdrawals, latest changes and more. For more information or to register, call 751-5256.

### JULY 18

#### Meals in Minutes & Your Budget

9-10 a.m., Army Community Service Financial Readiness Program, in partnership with the Fort Jackson Armed Forces Wellness Center will host Meals in Minutes webinar on Microsoft Teams. Learn how to save calories while also optimizing your budget. AFWC and ACS provides programs and services to improve and/or maintain readiness of the military community. Registration is required. For more information or to register, call 751-5256.

## THE FORT JACKSON LEADER

SEND ALL  
SUBMISSIONS TO  
[usarmy.jackson.93-sig-bde.mbx.atzj-pao@army.mil](mailto:usarmy.jackson.93-sig-bde.mbx.atzj-pao@army.mil)

Deadline for events to be included in the Community Updates is one week before publication. Include the time, date and place the event will occur, as well as other necessary information.

If you submit an article on an event that already has taken place, please send it as soon as possible. Tuesday is the last day we will be able to accept an article for publication the following Thursday. Include the date and place of the event, as well as a description of what took place. Please include quotations, if possible.

With any photo you submit, include IDs — rank, unit, and first and last names. All submissions will be edited and published using Associated Press Style

Questions? Call 751-6739.

### Investing in the Digital Age Webinar

1:30-3 p.m., Army Community Service in partnership with the U.S. Security and Exchange Commission will provide valuable information on the basics of saving and investing, including steps to start to grow wealth and diversification. The webinar, via Microsoft Teams, will also cover the red flags of fraud and crypto currency investment and risks. Registration is required. For more information or to register, call 751-5256.

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# Chaplains return to exercise with Reserve unit

**Story, photo by MEL SLATER**  
institute for Religious Leadership

The Institute for Religious Leadership graduates hundreds of chaplains for assignments to active duty, Reserve and National Guard units worldwide.

Several chaplains returned to Fort Jackson recently to provide religious service support to the 402d Quartermaster Battalion Reserve unit during its annual field exercise that ended June 22.

Chaplain (Capt.) Teji John Thanippilly, Chaplain (1st Lt.) Matthew Lowe and chaplain candidate (2nd Lt.) Jeremie Joseph traveled with the unit to provide religious support for close to 500 Soldiers who trained on Fort Jackson at Training Area 15A. The training area is normally used by the IRL for the Chaplain Basic Officer Leader Course and religious affairs specialists Advanced Individual Training.

Thanippilly and Lowe know it all too well. Joseph has yet to attend CHBOLC. His experience here may be a big help to his peers when he returns for the course.

The group of chaplains demonstrate the diversity of the Chaplain Corps and the Soldiers they serve. Thanippilly is a Catholic Priest, Lowe is Protestant and Joseph is a nondenominational Christian.

The chaplains met with and ministered to Soldiers located at multiple sites on or around the training area.

“Our unit is not being evaluated. For us chaplains, this is a great opportunity because none of the units out here on the exercise have a chaplain,” Thanippilly said. “We provide ministry of presence. Getting in touch with the Soldiers is an important thing. It’s part of our learning experience too. We have around 450 Soldiers on the ground. We go there and pray for them. We are present there, especially when they do transportation convoy operations.”

Joseph spoke to some Soldiers during the training.

“I was interacting with the Soldiers, you know, getting to know them, allowing them to get to know me, understanding their world, their values, their interests, their passions and navigating how I can best serve them, and allow them to build their sense of



**Chaplain (Capt.) Teji John Thanippilly, chaplain candidate (2nd Lt.) Jeremie Joseph and Chaplain (1st Lt.) Matthew Lowe discuss their experiences in the field training with quartermaster units to provide religious support for nearly 500 Soldiers during a field exercise at Training Area 15A on Fort Jackson on June 21.**

trust with me and the system and the whole process,” Joseph said. “With that level of interaction, that level of trust we can build our sense of recovery and performance with our words of encouragement, allow them to really push themselves to the levels of the highest sense of resilience, the highest sense of competence.”

The 402d Quartermaster Battalion is commanded by Lt. Col. Charles Carter and is based out of Newcastle, Pennsylvania. The Soldiers present for the exercise come from locations across the country from Pennsylvania to California. They conducted training and real-world missions to deliver aviation fuel to active duty and National Guard installations in South Carolina and Georgia.

“We’re conducting this exercise in support of the Defense Logistics Agency,” Carter said. “We deliver fuel to different units

across the United States. We have multiple sites, and this is one of the sites chosen. We’re spread out all over the facility with 10 companies and they each have a footprint and they each have a mission whether it be to haul fuel or to store it.”

Carter provided insight on his relationship with his unit chaplains.

“Our chaplains support our Soldiers. My relationship with my chaplains is they’re my spiritual advisors. They advise me on the pulse of the battalion,” Carter said. “Any issues that will make Soldier discomfort rise to the top of my list so I can fix those issues because morale is very important in the Army. We want to make sure we take care of our Soldiers.”

Some of the candidates that come to Fort Jackson to attend the chaplains basic officer’s course are prior service and feel the

call to become an Army chaplain. Many are civilian clergy or are in training but have no military experience. Thanippilly shared his transformative journey to becoming a new Army chaplain.

“I think the Army culture was the most important thing I learned while in CHBOLC,” Thanippilly said. “How Soldiers interact and how they talk. And also, how to deal with different ranks, like how to pay respect and receive respect. I never learned that in my civilian world. I didn’t have any military guys in my family. I don’t have any connection with that. It was all new. I was really a new person when I came out of (the training and went) back to my unit. So, I felt more confident when I was talking, when doing something, I was really more confident. My ministry was more effective I believe.”



# Trading bases

## Soldiers watch local ballgame

By EMILY HILEMAN  
Photos by NATHAN CLINEBELLE  
Fort Jackson Public Affairs

Fort Jackson Soldiers received the royal treatment, June 24, when police escorted them to their new base, four of them to be exact, as they headed to the Lexington Blowfish Stadium in Lexington, South Carolina.

“This is just a great opportunity to show these new Soldiers how our country still supports what they do and wants to show appreciation for their military service,” said Post Command Sgt. Maj. Erick Ochs. “As much as the community supports Fort Jackson, we’re also showing how much we appreciate their support.”

Soldiers from 3rd Battalion, 34th Infantry Regiment were excited to close out their last full week in Basic Combat Training jamming with Blowie the Blowfish, Lexington’s mascot, and eating from the concessions.

Pvt. Marlene Avila said she was honored and excited to attend them game. The police escort made her feel a sense of respect from the community and it filled her with a sense of pride and confidence.

“It’s a way of celebrating all of us and all the hard work we’ve put in to be able to get to the point that we’re at right now,” she said. Avila emphasized the life-altering decision they’ve all made and how challenging it can be.

Staff Sgt. Donovan Fennell, a drill sergeant with 3-34, said he’s glad to see the

Soldiers rewarded and to be able to enjoy the evening, relax, and enjoy a reward after ten weeks in Basic Combat Training.

“I’m glad that I’m here with them and getting to see them be happy,” he said. “It’s good to see them here, because they’ve been trapped together and they get to get out, let their hair down, and relax.”

Not only was the game an important opportunity for the Soldiers to be able to relax and enjoy the evening, but it’s also a unique opportunity for the members of the community to see the Soldiers and realize that they’re just people with a job too, said Pfc. Michelle Dollins, a Soldier currently assigned to 369th Adjutant General Battalion. Dollins is currently in Advanced Individual Training to be a Human Resources Specialist.

“Before I was in the military, I’d see military and be scared or frightened,” she said. “So, I think it’s good for us to get out in the community and for others to see that we’re just normal people in the military who can do normal things.”

Music from the 282nd Army Band, Lexington’s mascot, Blowie the Blowfish’s shenanigans; and Brig. Gen. Jason E. Kelly throwing out the first pitch had Soldiers and attendees engaged from the start.

Kelly’s perfect first pitch set the evening on a path to success, as the Blowfish blew away the Florence Flamingos, 5-2. Following the Blowfish’s tribute to the troops, a firework display filled the night sky to round out the end of the night.



Brig. Gen. Jason Kelly, Fort Jackson commander, autographs a baseball during a baseball game between the Lexington Blowfish and Florence Flamingos, June 24. Kelly threw out the first pitch at the game.



Soldiers salute during the National Anthem.



Soldiers take in the fireworks display after the game.



A Soldier watches as the Lexington Blowfish stretch before the start of the game.



Two Soldiers from 3rd Battalion, 34th Infantry Regiment demonstrate the memories and friendships made in Basic Combat Training while posing at the Lexington Blowfish baseball game against the Florence Flamingos, June 24.



(Left) Blowie the Blowfish’s, Lexington’s mascot, shenanigans get the troops pumped up during a baseball game held at the Lexington Blowfish Stadium in Lexington, S.C., June 24. (Below) Brig. Gen. Jason Kelly, throws out the first pitch at the game honoring Fort Jackson.





# WHY I SERVE

## 3RD BATTALION, 34TH INFANTRY REGIMENT

### PVT. ERUPI AUTELE, 31

*Pava'ia'i, American Samoa*

"I've always wanted to join the military, but couldn't pass the (Armed Services Vocational Aptitude Battery) test. I tried for 10 years, then my wife encouraged me and said I could be a great leader in the military. I tried again and joined the Future Soldier Preparatory Course."

"I've always been around Family that is in the service, so I had realistic expectations of what Basic Combat Training would be like."

"The toughest part of BCT was being physically fit, because you can only make and exceed the limit when you can run."

"Advice I would give to someone planning to start BCT is don't give up and keep on pushing. There's people that are cheering for you."

"My MOS is 13B - Cannon Crew Member. I can't wait to learn and try out new stuff with my MOS."



### SPC. JOSEPH S. CHAVEZ, 24

*Las Vegas*

"I'm a prior service Navy Corpsman and wanted to re-enlist to continue my career and expand my skill set."

"I imagined Basic Combat Training would be similar to previous trainings I've done and it helped to remind me of and refine my skills."

"The most challenging part of BCT is having a large group of people you don't know and needing to build trust and teamwork with everyone."

"Advice I would give a new trainee is don't stress about your abilities at the start, because you will realize all of the improvements you've made at the end."

"My MOS is 89D - Explosive Ordnance Disposal Specialist. I chose to become an 89D because I wanted to challenge myself and broaden my abilities."



### PVT. JESSICA THOMALA, 22

*Reno, Nevada*

"My sister influenced me to join the Army. I wanted to be someone she could look up to and set an example for her."

"I imagined Basic Combat Training to be like adult obstacle courses every day. I thought we would climb up and down walls and ropes every day, but we work on our mental strength just as much as our physical."

"The advice I would give to someone planning to start BCT is to never be late and work with your battle buddies, not against. You will rely on your battle buddies more than you think."

"My MOS is 25H - Network and Communication System Specialist. I chose this MOS because I wanted to learn more about computers and how they work."



### PVT. AARON EVANS, 25

*Prosper, Texas*

"My mom influenced me to join the Army. She is prior service and seeing her work ethic and discipline motivated me to pursue the same path."

"I imagined Basic Combat Training to be miserable. After arriving, I found it to be an exciting and fulfilling challenge."

"Working in groups was the biggest challenge. It was difficult to get everyone on the same page"

"The best advice I have for someone planning to start BCT is to stay focused and make friends."

"MY MOS is 17C - Cyber Operations Specialist. I chose this MOS because it transfers well in the civilian world."



### SPC. MARK PHELPS, 23

*Schoolcraft, Michigan*

"My grandpa was my inspiration to join the Army."

"I wasn't sure what to expect in Basic Combat Training. My grandpa's stories and movies gave me the only ideas of what BCT would be like."

"The hardest part of BCT was the separation from home and my wife."

"My advice to future trainees is to train before you arrive. It makes life here much easier."

"My MOS is 12N - Horizontal Construction Engineer. I chose this MOS for the extensive list of civilian certifications it provides."



### PFC. VANESSA FIDELINE, 21

*Richardson, Texas*

"My grandmother influenced me to join the Army, along with going to military school prior to joining. I wanted to serve my country, do more with my life and influence my sisters to push themselves to do anything they set their minds to."

"I knew Basic Combat Training would be hard, but it wasn't anything I couldn't handle. I imagined it to be more physical, but it was more mental and a 'mind over matter' kind of training."

"The mental aspect of BCT is the most challenging part overall. I can push myself on the physical part, but if you have a negative mindset you will have negative results."

"My MOS is 92A - Automated Logistical Specialist. I chose this MOS because it will benefit me after I obtain my degree in Business Management."







Leader File photo

Fort Jackson officials recently offered tips for Soldiers who are on permanent change of station order to help ease their transition. These include help with transportation and household moves.

## Jackson helps Soldiers prep for PCS moves

By **EMILY HILEMAN**  
Fort Jackson Public Affairs

Permanent change of station sounds like an odd phrase that doesn't really make sense to the untrained ear, but to those familiar with the military, it's an inevitable fact of life. Although service members can receive orders and move at any given time, the peak season for moving for service members is from May 15 to August 31.

Moving an entire household one or two times can be overwhelming to many, but the typical military family moves, on average, every 2.5 years, according to the Military Family Advisory Network.

Luckily, this means most families have the process down to a science, but for newer service members or those with military occupational specialties that require less movement, it can still be a daunting task.

"The best advice I have is don't wait until the last second, especially during peak season," said Christopher McClellan, transportation assistant with the Fort Jackson Transportation Office.

He further advised service members to access Military OneSource for PCS and moving

resources at <https://www.militaryonesource.mil/moving-housing/moving/pcs-and-military-moves/> as soon as they receive orders.

Another plus for those coming to Fort Jackson is the recently signed Military Temporary Remote School Enrollment Act of South Carolina, which allows families to enroll their children into schools once they get orders coming to the state.

McClellan also said to register or update information with the Defense Personal Property Program, especially if individuals are planning for a government move. These moves require coordination with a moving company and the transportation office for the company to pack up and move the service member and their family's belongings.

McClellan emphasized the "My Army PCS" app, a new app available on the Google and Apple stores designed to help ease transitions from one duty station to the next. The app helps to plan and organize various aspects of a PCS, including a checklist, entitlements, orders, and even pet travel requirements.

If you have questions, reach out to the transportation office at 751-5137 or visit them at 5450 Strom Thurmond Blvd, Room 102.

## SALUTING THIS BCT CYCLE'S HONOREES

### 3rd Battalion, 34th Infantry Regiment

**ALPHA COMPANY**  
SOLDIER LEADER  
OF THE CYCLE  
Pvt. Erupi Autele

**SOLDIER OF THE CYCLE**  
Spc. Joseph S. Chavez

**BRAVO COMPANY**  
SOLDIER LEADER  
OF THE CYCLE  
Pfc. Vanessa Fidelity

**SOLDIER OF THE CYCLE**  
Pvt. Jessica Thomala

**CHARLIE COMPANY**  
SOLDIER LEADER  
OF THE CYCLE  
Pfc. Heriberto Rivas

**SOLDIER OF THE CYCLE**  
Pvt. Aaron Evans

**DELTA COMPANY**  
SOLDIER LEADER  
OF THE CYCLE  
Spc. Mark Phelps

**SOLDIER OF THE CYCLE**  
Spc. Royce Hill

**ECHO COMPANY**  
SOLDIER LEADER  
OF THE CYCLE  
Spc. Conor Cook

**SOLDIER OF THE CYCLE**  
Pvt. Logan Thomas



**STAFF SGT. LISA THOMAS**  
DRILL SERGEANT  
OF THE CYCLE



Courtesy photo

## Miami Nice ...

Educators with the Miami Recruiting Battalion visit with trainees at the 120th Adjutant General Battalion during a recent tour of Fort Jackson. The tour helps the educators understand how the battalion in-processes and ships roughly 40,000 trainees each year.



# Events

Continued from Page 4

## JULY 19 Children's Theater Club

2 p.m. and 3 p.m., Thomas Lee Hall (Post) Library. Children will laugh, sing, and act through various theater games, and then work together to produce a storybook play, all within an hour. The club for children ages 3-5 begins at 2 p.m., and 3 p.m. for children over 5 years old.

## JULY 21 Scams & Identity Theft Webinar

10-11 a.m. Army Community Service in partnership with South Carolina Department of Consumer Affairs, via Microsoft Teams, will share tips to help you protect your identity and finances in support of 2023 National Consumer Protection Week. Registration is required. For more information or to register, call 751-5256.

## Stuffed Animal Sleepover

Thomas Lee Hall (Post) Library. Drop off your fluffy friend for a fun night at the library. Check the Library Facebook page (Fort Jackson Library) to see the antics your stuffed animal gets up to after hours, and then pick up your plushie on July 22.

## JULY 25 Coupon Craze Virtual Workshop

10:30-11:45 a.m. Army Community Service Financial Readiness Program will host a coupon craze virtual workshop via Microsoft Teams. Learn the art of doubling and tripling coupons, stacking coupons, price matching and more. Get tips on how to prepare for grocery store trips. This is a great opportunity to learn new strategies, meet other coupon users, and share your own ideas. Registration is required. For more information or to register, call 751-5256.

## JULY 28 Open House – Credit Report Review

8-11 a.m. and 1:30-3 p.m., Army Community Service, 9810 Lee Road. ACS financial counselors will be available during scheduled times on a first come, first served basis to download and review free credit reports for Army personnel. Active-duty Soldiers and their Department of Defense ID card holding Family members will receive their free credit scores. For more information, call 751-5256.

## JULY 29 Natural Body Building Competition

6 p.m., Solomon Center. You've worked hard through proper diet and exercise to sculpt your body. Reap the rewards of your hard work.



Courtesy photo

**Getting dirty ...**  
A trainee emerges from under a wire obstacle covered in mud at the Fit-to-Win Course recently. Trainees going through Basic Combat Training on Fort Jackson go through a myriad of challenges including getting muddy during training.

**Did you know:** All motorcycle riders and passengers on Fort Jackson must wear the following personal protective equipment when operating a motorcycle (or while riding as a passenger). These include properly fastened and approved helmet, impact or shatter resistant goggles or full-face shield, long pants, long-sleeved shirt or jacket, full-fingered gloves, and sturdy over-the-ankle leather or ballistic-type boots or shoes.

WORSHIP SCHEDULE	FAITH GROUP	DAY	TIME	PLACE
	CATHOLIC MASS	SUNDAY	9:30-10:30 A.M.	MAIN POST CHAPEL
	CATHOLIC MASS	MON-FRI	NOON	MAIN POST CHAPEL
	GOSPEL SERVICE	SUNDAY	10:30 A.M.	DANIEL CIRCLE CHAPEL
	GENERAL PROTESTANT	SUNDAY	11 A.M. TO NOON	MAIN POST CHAPEL
	INITIAL ENTRY TRAINING	DAY	TIME	PLACE
	ANGLICAN	SUNDAY	9-10 A.M.	LIGHTNING CHAPEL
	CATHOLIC MASS	SUNDAY	8-9 A.M.	SOLOMON CENTER
	PROTESTANT CONSOLIDATED SERVICE	SUNDAY	9:30-10:30 A.M.	SOLOMON CENTER
	THE BRIDGE (PROTESTANT)	SUNDAY	8:30-9:30 A.M.	ANDERSON CHAPEL
	CHURCH OF CHRIST	SUNDAY	10:30-11:30 A.M.	MAGRUDER CHAPEL
	HISPANIC PROTESTANT SERVICE	SUNDAY	8:30-10 A.M.	MAGRUDER CHAPEL
	ISLAMIC SERVICE	SUNDAY	8-9 A.M.	DANIEL CIRCLE CHAPEL
	JEWISH SERVICE	SUNDAY	10:15-11:30 A.M.	LIGHTNING CHAPEL
	THE CHURCH OF JESUS CHRIST OF LATTER DAY SAINTS	SUNDAY	10:30 A.M. - NOON	ANDERSON CHAPEL





*Army News Service photo*

**Soldiers assigned to 129th Area Support Medical Company and Forward Support MEDEVAC Platoon, 3rd Combat Aviation Brigade, 3rd Infantry Division conduct patient movement operations for aeromedical evacuation during a training while attending Saber Guardian 23 in Slobozia, Romania, June 1, 2023.**

## Medical Corps celebrates 106 years

**By CHRISTOPHER HURD**  
Army News Service

Whether in everyday patient care, clinical research or by performing the administrative tasks needed to run Army hospitals, Medical Service Corps officers have provided health care to veterans, Soldiers and their families for 106 years.

The corps is home to a diverse collection of Soldiers in more than 20 specialties, including behavioral health, laboratory sciences, preventative medicine, administrative health services, aeromedical evacuation, pharmacy, optometry, podiatry and health service maintenance.

“We are kind of the connective tissue of Army medicine in a lot of ways,” said Maj. Bryan Spear, a health care administrator currently serving as the deputy secretary for the general staff of the Office of the Surgeon General. “At one point, we are doing the strategy and implementation of day-to-

day operations, and at another point, we’re on the front lines of research and patient care.”

U.S. Army Medical Command features six medical officer corps: Army Medical Corps, Medical Specialist Corps, Veterinary Corps, Army Nurse Corps, Army Dental Corps and the Medical Service Corps.

The service corps’ roots date back to the Civil War with an ambulance corps and medical storekeepers and then to World War I when the Army established a Sanitary Corps to relieve physicians of some administrative and scientific duties. That is where the Medical Service Corps gets its birthdate of June 30, 1917.

Then in 1947, Congress joined the Sanitary Corps with the Pharmacy Corps and Medical Administrative Corps to form the service corps.

Now more than 8,000 National Guard, reserve and active-duty Soldiers support Army medicine on the battlefield and on

garrisons as MSC officers.

“The people in this career field are special,” said retired Maj. Gen. David Rubenstein, 16th chief of the Medical Service Corps. “The drive that keeps Medical Service Corps Soldiers going, I believe, is the drive of wanting to ensure we provide the very best health care possible to our Soldiers and their families from pre-birth through the end of life. Some do that as clinicians, some as scientists and about half the corps as non-clinical administrators, planners and policy developers.”

With such a wide range of jobs in the corps, many of them differ in their career paths.

The scientists and officers caring for patients usually serve in their respective fields as they take on increased levels of responsibility as their careers progress.

The medical evacuation pilots must gain experience in aviation and Army Medical Department operations. They will generally

stay in aviation for up to eight years before transitioning to an administrative position.

Administrative health service officers typically start in operational units performing several roles before selecting a specialized administrative field. This path can include institutional training and advanced civilian education.

That’s exactly what happened to Spear. After entering service as a medical planner, he was assigned as a medical operations officer for the 101st Airborne Division. He deployed twice to Afghanistan before being selected as a health care administrator.

That allowed him to attend the Army-Baylor University graduate program, where he received his joint master’s degree in health care administration and business administration.

“That opportunity to learn while on active duty for two years with a residency was phenomenal,” he said. “If you think about the opportunities (this career field has) given me, it’s more than I could have ever imagined. I cannot encourage people enough to join the Medical Service Corps.”

Medical Service Corps officers are often called into action in times of crisis. During the COVID-19 pandemic, they deployed to support the Javits Center temporary hospital in New York City and to other locations throughout the country. Army MEDEVAC pilots supported the Ebola outbreak response in Africa last decade.

“There is unlikely to be a major event that the Army, from a medical position, will take part of that you won’t find a Medical Service Corps officer right there in the fight,” Spear explained.

Over the past 20 years, as the Army has shifted from counterinsurgency operations in Iraq and Afghanistan toward large-scale operations in the battlefield of tomorrow, Army medicine and the Medical Service Corps has continued to adapt as they provide patient care to veterans, Soldiers and their families.

“We are going to be able to address the future challenges because we have dealt with the unknowns before, and we have navigated that very well,” Spear said. “That is all because of what makes us unique, which is our competence, our expertise and our professionalism in each one of the respective areas that we represent inside of the Medical Service Corps. (The corps’) strength lies in its diversity.”





VICTORY...  
STARTS  
HERE

