

THURSDAY, FEB. 5, 2026

# THE FORT JACKSON LEADER

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# Army seeks Soldiers for new Tactical Space Operations Specialist MOS

By **BROOKE DEVINS**

Army Space and Missile Defense Command

To meet the rising threats in missile defense and the space domain, the U.S. Army is now accepting applications for its newest military occupational specialty. Effective Oct. 1, 2026, the Army will establish the MOS 40D Tactical Space Operations Specialist for enlisted Soldiers in the specialist to sergeant major. This new specialty will create a permanent career path in space operations and is open to Army active duty, National Guard and Reserve component Soldiers.

The establishment of the 40D MOS represents a significant advancement for Army space operations and Army space leadership, creating a noncommissioned officer corps that will complement FA40A officers and form the backbone of the Army Space Operations Branch.

This milestone reflects a 25-year evolution aimed at enhancing tactical and technical expertise within Army space, and thereby fostering the development of future platoon sergeants, master gunners and senior enlisted advisors across various echelons.

Lt. Gen. Sean A. Gainey, U.S. Army Space and Missile Defense Command commanding general, said the new MOS will allow the command to build and retain expertise among its space noncommissioned officer cohort though a stable career path. Previously, enlisted personnel were “borrowed” from other branches and returned after roughly three years.

“This is the first space-specific MOS for



**The Army is looking for Soldiers, specialists to sergeants major, for the new 40D- Tactical Space Operations Specialist.**

enlisted Soldiers, and it couldn’t have come at a better time,” Gainey said during his address at the Space and Missile Defense Symposium in Huntsville, Ala., in August. “The establishment of 40D MOS will alleviate the burden on other Army branches who are lending their Soldiers to space operations. This new space operations MOS is designed to build a robust and experienced noncommissioned officer corps in Army space and will ensure that Army space formations are equipped with Soldiers who have experience in space operations.”

As outlined in FM 3-14 Chapter 3, the Army relies on space capabilities and systems to provide global positioning, SATCOM, weather and related environmental conditions and intelligence collection platforms.

The Army uses these critical enablers to

plan, communicate, navigate, maneuver, engage the enemy, provide missile warning, maintain situational understanding, protect, and sustain forces.

“(We will) look across the entire Army for Soldiers who wish to take that leap to the 40D MOS that will propel them to new heights, skills and knowledge,” Command Sgt. Maj. John Foley, USASMDC command sergeant major, said. “We need them on the front edge of the fight within the space domain, which is 24/7, as the character of war continues to change and be able to dominate in the space environment to fight and win our future wars.”

The 40D combat-ready professionals will support the warfighter and ensure the success of joint and partner forces in multidomain operations by denying, disrupting and degrading adversary operations

through the electromagnetic spectrum and countering space domain threats before and during competition, crisis and conflict.

“Army space Soldiers must be on the ground to provide effects to the warfighter and operate in deep enemy and extended deep areas,” Foley said. “That is the distinct difference that only Soldiers can do for our Army.”

The Army is currently forecasting around 1,000 40D billets, which could grow up to 1,500 billets by 2032.

A complete map of assignments across all three components can be found on the Army Space Knowledge Management SharePoint.

The application period is Jan. 1 through April 30, 2026. To qualify, Soldiers must apply to transfer to the new MOS and, if selected, complete formal training conducted by the U.S. Army Space and Missile Defense School in Colorado Springs, Colorado. Notifications of selection board results are expected in the summer, and initial selectees will transition to the 40D MOS and attend training beginning Oct. 1.

Applicants must be able to obtain a top-secret clearance.

To opt-into the 40D Selection Board and see application requirements, training qualification criteria and frequently asked questions are available on the Army Space Knowledge Management SharePoint. A CAC is required to login.

The Human Resources Command has published MILPER Message Number 26-028 providing detailed guidance on the application process and the transition to the 40D MOS.

## ON THE COVER

**A Fort Jackson fire-fighter hold up his arm after donating blood at a community blood drive held Feb. 3 at the Drill Sergeant Timothy Kay Soldier Performance Readiness Center.**



Photo by **ROBERT TIMMONS**

**See Page 6-7**

## THE FORT JACKSON LEADER

**Fort Jackson, South Carolina 29207**

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## Sizeable contingent of Soldier-Athletes to compete in Olympics

By **STEVE WARNS**

IMCOM Public and Congressional Affairs

The United States Army World Class Athlete Program will be well-represented in the 2026 Winter Olympics from Feb. 6-22 in Milan-Cortina d'Ampezzo, Italy.

Six Soldier-Athletes — Staff Sgt. Deedra Irwin, Spc. Sean Doherty, Sgt. Frank Del Duca, Spc. Azaria Hill, Sgt. Ben Loomis, and Pvt. Spencer Howe — will go for the gold in the biathlon, bobsled, Nordic combined and pair figure skating.

Cpl. Hakeem Abdul-Saboor and Spc. Dana Kellogg were named alternates in the bobsled and luge doubles, respectively, and Lt. Col. Chris Fogt, Lt. Col. Garrett Hines and Sgt. 1st Class Shauna Rohbock will coach Team USA in the bobsled.

The biathletes will compete in the Antholz-Anterselva Biathlon Arena; the bobsledders will compete at the Cortina Sliding Centre; Nordic Combined will compete at the Predazzo Ski Jumping Stadium and Tesserò Cross-Country Skiing Stadium; and figure skating will compete at the Milano Ice Skating Arena.

Irwin skied and shot her way to a seventh-place finish — the highest U.S. finish in biathlon history — in the women's 15-kilometer individual biathlon during the 2022 Beijing Olympics. She finished in 44 minutes, 44.1 seconds and hit 19 of 20 targets.

And Irwin is aiming higher in her second Olympics. She has a chance to compete in as many as six events — the mixed relay, individual, sprint, pursuit, women's relay and mass start. She must qualify for the pursuit and mass start.

"If you look at my last Olympics, I was unranked, and if I had shot 20 of 20, I would have medaled," said Irwin, a member of the Vermont National Guard whose military occupation specialty is 42A, human resource specialist.

"So, the chances are there. It depends on shooting and skiing that day — and on what everyone else does."

Irwin enlisted in the Army in 2019 and competed for the National Guard Biathlon Team in the 2022 Games before joining WCAP in 2023. While she speaks fondly about her time with the National Guard



**Soldier-Athlete Sgt. Frank Del Duca named to second Olympic bobsled team** Sgt. Frank Del Duca, a Soldier-Athlete with the U.S. Army World Class Athlete Program, leads from the front in the four-man bobsled race at the IBSF World Cup/European Championships in St. Moritz, Switzerland, on Jan. 11. Del Duca was named to his second Olympic team on Jan. 19.

Biathlon Team, the consistency of support from WCAP has been a difference-maker in her athletic and military career.

Doherty, also a member of the Vermont National Guard, joins an elite club by qualifying for his fourth Olympic team. He qualified for the 2014 Sochi Olympics as an 18-year-old and enlisted in the Army in 2018, where he's a 12W, carpentry and masonry specialist. Now 30, he said he still tries to keep that 18-year-old mindset.

"That attitude was powerful and fun, and I try to keep some of that alive," Doherty said, who joined WCAP after the 2022 Beijing Games. "I enjoy talking with younger teammates and sharing experiences."

And the experiences he's had with WCAP continue to shape his athletic and military career.

"WCAP supports you not just as an athlete, but as a person and a Soldier," Doherty said. "They care about my athletic performance, but they also care about my development as a whole person, and I'm grateful for that. The options and stability are valuable and adds another dimension to my life and career."

Like Irwin, Doherty could compete in six events.

Del Duca, a pilot for the two-man and four-man teams, joined WCAP shortly after enlisting in the Army in 2019, and it has been critical in his development not just as a Soldier-Athlete, but also as a person.

"I've learned so much about leadership, team building, accountability, setting standards, scheduling, punctuality — big things and small things that matter when you're

part of a group working toward a common goal," said Del

Duca, a former sprinter at the University of Maine who competed in the 2022 Beijing Games. "It's made me a more complete Soldier, athlete, father and husband, and I'm performing at a higher level because of the skills and examples I've gained."

Del Duca and his brakeman, Josh Williamson, are ranked fourth in the world in the two-man bobsled going into the 2026 Games. While the United States has been behind the German racers, Del Duca is excited and motivated.

"When the cameras and lights are on, I find another gear," Del Duca said, an infantryman. "I push better and focus harder be-

# Community Updates

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### Lifeguard Certification postponed

Lifeguard certification classes are postponed until further notice. For more information, call (803) 751-4796.

### AER Scholarship Opportunity

The deadline to apply for the Maj. Gen. James Ursano Scholarship for Dependent Children is April 1. Army Emergency Relief offers scholarships to the dependent children of a Soldier on federal active duty, a retired Soldier, or a deceased active or retired Soldier. This need-based scholarship provides assistance to the dependent children of Soldiers as they work toward their first undergraduate degree. To apply or get more information, go to [www.armyemergencyrelief.org](http://www.armyemergencyrelief.org) and click on "Scholarships."

### 1917 Club Hours

The 1917 Club is open Wednesday 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., Thursday and Friday 11 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Short order menu available. Soul Food Thursday Buffet takes place from 11 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Meals cost \$15 per person and \$15 for a to-go meal. Come and join us for a wide variety and different choices every day on our lunch menu, featuring all your favorites including our heart-healthy options plus a full salad and dessert bar. Don't pass up our Southern Style Fried Chicken. Call (803) 743-6525 for delivery or take-out.

### Creative Journey

5-6:30 p.m. second Tuesday of every month, 1227 Taylor Street, Columbia, S.C. Join Army Community Service's Exceptional Family Member Program for a fun-filled evening of visual arts with the Creative Journey Program. The program helps individuals with exceptional needs find calming and creative ways to express themselves through design and creating artwork. For more information, call (803)

751-5256.

### On-Site Hourly Care at MWR Central

7 a.m. to 2 p.m., Registration is available on-site and costs \$8 per hour per child, with a three-hour time limit. Parents have to remain on-site while using Solomon Center facilities. Walk-ins are welcome on space available basis. To make reservations, call (803) 751-4824.

### Sunday Funday

Come out to Century Lanes Bowling Center every third Sunday of the month for Sunday Funday and enjoy \$2 games and \$2 shoe rentals. For more information, call (803) 751-6138.

## COMMUNITY EVENTS

### TODAY

#### Post Newcomers Orientation

8 a.m., 1917 Club. This orientation is mandatory for all Soldiers and Department of the Army Civilians arriving at Fort Jackson. Spouses are encouraged to attend. This will be a great opportunity for spouses to receive first-hand information about the valuable available resources on and around Fort Jackson. For more information, call Army Community Service at 751-5256.

### TOMORROW

#### First Friday Golf

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

### SUNDAY

#### The Big Game Watch Party

4 p.m., Down Range Bar. Come out and watch the big game with the Directorate of Family and Morale, Welfare and Recreation. There will be food, beverages, door prizes and more. For more information, call (803) 751-3933.

### MONDAY

#### Planning For Your Financial Future

10-11 a.m., Virtual. The Directorate of Family and Morale, Welfare and Recreation and Army Community Service is hosting a virtual Planning for Your Future class. Learn about your motivations regarding money, how to set SMART financial goals, and the steps to developing a personal spending plan. To register call, (803) 751-5256, or visit: <https://forms.osi.apps.mil/r/BJbvJ0JDGp>.

### TUESDAY

#### Shred Day

9 a.m. to 2 p.m., Recycle Center. Come and drop off your paper to be shredded. 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.

### FEB. 17

#### EFMP Playgroup

10-11:30 a.m., 9810 Liberty Division Road. The Army Community Service Exceptional Family Member Program is holding an EFMP Playgroup to provide parents and children under 5 years old with special needs time to socialize, interact with peers, and learn about EFMP family support services and resources at Fort Jackson. For more information, call (803) 751-5256.

### FEB. 21

#### Fort Gordon Trail Ride

## Fort Jackson

## Movie Schedule

3319 Jackson Blvd.

Phone: 751-7488

### FEB. 7

■ Send Help (R)

### FEB. 11

■ Send Help (R)

### FEB. 14

■ GOAT (PG)

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

8:15 a.m. to 3 p.m., Fort Gordon, Georgia. Join Fort Jackson Outdoor Recreation for a horseback trail ride at the Fort Gordon Horse Stables. Novice or pro, this guided ride will be great for those looking for an outdoor adventure. Must be seven years old or older. Register at Outdoor Recreation or call for more information at (803) 751-3484.

### FEB. 24

#### Intramural Volleyball League

6 p.m., MWR Central at the Solomon Center. Service members and Department of Defense ID cardholders can participate in an intramural volleyball league that begins play Feb. 24. A letter of intent is necessary to play. For more information, call (803) 751-3700

See **EVENTS:** Page 10

## 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 (803) 751-3615.



## Bicentennial celebration feat. U.S. military

By **DAVID VERGUN**  
Pentagon News

Once every 50 years, the United States holds milestone Independence Day celebrations. This year marks the nation's 250th birthday and fifth semicentennial celebration.

The bicentennial was celebrated nationwide, July 4, 1976. It was celebrated only a year after the last U.S. troops left South Vietnam during the fall of Saigon, April 30, 1975.

President Gerald R. Ford's administration stressed the themes of healing and rebirth, as well as nostalgia for the nation's founding. Ford was a World War II Navy officer, serving in the Pacific aboard the aircraft carrier USS Montezuma.

New York City celebrated the bicentennial with a parade of ships that included dozens of historic and current ships. Operation Sail, as it was called, began in New York Harbor and moved up the Hudson River.

One of the ships, the aircraft carrier USS Forrestal, carried Ford, Vice President Nelson Rockefeller and State Secretary Henry Kissinger.

The event was also attended by 70 foreign ambassadors and chiefs of naval operations from 35 countries.

A statue of King George III was beheaded, reenacting when his statue was beheaded during the Revolutionary War and melted down to make bullets.

During the celebration in the city, bands and ceremonial units from all of the military services marched down Constitution Avenue.

In Greenfield Village, Michigan, members of the military dressed in Revolutionary and Civil War period uniforms. Military parades like these took place across the nation.

In 1976, Donald Rumsfeld was the defense secretary; Martin Richard Hoff-



Army News Service photo

**A nurse practices putting an IV in a Soldier's arm. The Army Nurse Corps marked its 125th anniversary on Feb. 2. The corps, established in 1901, supported families and Soldiers all over the world.**

## A legacy of empathy: Nurse Corps at 125

By **SGT. ZACK STINE**  
Army News Service

As the Army Nurse Corps marks its 125th anniversary on Feb. 2, its legacy continues to be shaped by the compassion, professionalism and dedication of the Soldiers who serve in its ranks.

Established in 1901, the Army Nurse Corps has supported service members and their families through conflicts, humanitarian missions, and peacetime operations around the world.

From battlefield hospitals to modern medical facilities, Army nurses have provided care in some of the military's most demanding environments.

Being part of that history has personal

significance for Maj. Sam Chase, an Army Nurse Corps executive fellow.

"Knowing how we got started and where we are and where we're headed as a corps, it makes me proud," Chase said. Throughout its history, the corps has remained focused on providing compassionate care under ever-changing conditions.

"For 125 years, the Army Nurse Corps has been a beacon of selfless service and unwavering courage," said Lt. Gen. Mary K. Izaguirre, surgeon general of the Army. "From the battlefields of World War I to the modern-day front lines, nurses have provided compassionate care under the most challenging circumstances. They have been innovators, leaders, and healers, shaping the very course of military

medicine. On this momentous anniversary, we honor the enduring legacy of the Army Nurse Corps and the quiet heroism of every Army Nurse who has worn the uniform."

For Chase, that commitment was formed early in his career in emergency medicine, where he frequently worked in the clinic where patients walked in, often traumatized, injured, or confused.

"The difference is to look past the situation and see the person," he said. "Compassionate care isn't soft. It's firm and resolute, but it goes on to treat every patient with dignity and respect."

Beyond the hospital setting, Army nurses



# Giving the gift

## Post turns out for blood drive

Story, photos By **ROBERT TIMMONS**  
Fort Jackson Public Affairs

Fort Jackson is host to a plethora of volunteers who clean up the area and even donate blood.

Some of these volunteers visited the Drill Sergeant Timothy Kay Soldier Performance Readiness Center where the American Red Cross was holding a community blood drive, Feb. 3.

Blood donors help people of all ages. Accident and burn victims, heart surgery and organ transplant patients, and people battling cancer all need blood.

Helping these patients all depends on donations.

It's important to donate blood, said Will Sexton, blood drive coordinator, because "blood cannot be manufactured. The only way for

someone to get blood when they need it is from another person."

Sexton, who was also named Fort Jackson's 2025 Volunteer of the Year, has donated 67 times.

"Sadly, only 23% of eligible donors in the U.S. actually donate blood," Sexton added.

There is no cause to worry about donating, Sexton said.

According to the American Red Cross, the most common types of concerns are: fear of needles, eligibility issues, safety concerns, fainting fears and blood type questions.

The American Red Cross says take pride in donating, be prepared and relaxation can go a long way to make giving blood easier.

"Everyone I talked to they are just afraid of needles," said Maj. Abdon Garay-Briones, Fort Jackson' provost marshal as he donated. "But, if you see the impact you

do when you donate and how it is used. There isn't any excuse."

Garay said he tries to give blood as often as he can.

Donating blood is "the least of what I could do to pay back for all the blessings I have in my life," he said.

Garay, who was one of multiple members of the Directorate of Emergency Services to donate, gives blood once a year.

Don't fret about missing the chance to donate because there is another blood drive being held at Moncrief Army Health Clinic, Feb. 5.

To sign up for that drive visit [www.redcrossblood.org](http://www.redcrossblood.org) and click on find a drive. There are multiple slots available.

That drive takes place in MAHC's 4th Floor Multipurpose Room from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.



A Fort Jackson firefighter smiles as he donates blood.



Maj. Abdon Garay-Briones, Fort Jackson provost marshal donates blood at the community blood drive held Feb. 3.



A Red Cross volunteer inserts a needle into the arm of Maj. Abdon Garay-Briones, Fort Jackson provost marshal, during a community blood drive held Feb. 3 at the Drill Sergeant Timothy Kay Soldier Performance Readiness Center.



Vials are ready to be filled at the community blood drive.



Red Cross volunteers help prepare patrons to donate blood.



A volunteer with the American Red Cross checks equipment during the community blood drive held Feb. 3.





Chaplain Alexander D. Goode, a rabbi; Chaplain George L. Fox, a Methodist minister; Chaplain Clark V. Poling, a Dutch Reformed minister; and Chaplain John P. Washington, a Catholic priest, are called the Four Chaplains after they showed courage after their transport was torpedoed by the Germans in the North Atlantic on Feb. 3, 1943. They helped comfort the crew and Soldiers who were on board the USAT *Dorchester*.

## Standing together: The heroism of the Four Chaplains

By **STELLA NAULO**  
Army News Service

In the early hours of Feb. 3, 1943, the USAT *Dorchester*, an Army transport ship, cut through the icy North Atlantic, carrying over 900 American Soldiers and crewmembers. The quiet of the night shattered in an instant as a German torpedo slammed into the hull, tearing metal and flesh alike.

Pandemonium erupted as flames licked the walls and smoke choked the decks. To the left, a steel beam crashed down, destroying everything in its path. To the right, crates of supplies slid helplessly into the freezing darkness. Screams and shouts filled the air, competing with the roar of the sea.

As the vessel began its slow, inevitable descent, men scrambled to the lifeboats for a chance of survival amid the chaos. Every step was a gamble, for one wrong move, and the icy Atlantic would claim them.

Four chaplains onboard turned to the sky to pray for the lives of their comrades as they rushed to provide aid. They were Chaplain Alexander D. Goode, a rabbi; Chaplain George L. Fox, a Methodist minister; Chaplain Clark V. Poling, a Dutch Reformed minister; and Chaplain John P. Washing-

ton, a Catholic priest. Despite their different faiths, they were united by a shared conviction: that service to God was inseparable from service to others. In their shared mission of serving others, they would become immortalized as the Four Chaplains, heroes whose courage transcended creed.

Surrounded by danger, they lived the words of Psalm 91:2-4:

"I will say to the Lord, 'My refuge and my fortress, my God, in whom I trust.'

For he will deliver you from the snare of the fowler and from deadly peril.

He will cover you with his wings, and under his protection you will find refuge; His faithfulness is a shield and buckler."

In the freezing waters of the North Atlantic, without protection, survival was unlikely. As Soldiers moved through the ship and onto the deck, the Four Chaplains remained with them, grounded in their trust in God and attentive to those placed in their care. They guided men through smoke-filled passageways towards lifeboats, passing out life jackets and whispering words of protection and comfort to their comrades. But as the supply dwindled, the Four Chaplains knew what they had to do. One by one, each chaplain took the life jacket off his body and

placed it on a Soldier beside him.

Twenty-seven minutes after being struck, the *Dorchester* sank into the depths, leaving only two hundred and thirty survivors. Many of those survivors, as well as personnel aboard the accompanying American ships who sprang into action when they were needed, later recalled seeing the Four Chaplains standing together on deck, arm in arm, praying aloud. Their voices rose above the sound of the merciless ocean. Motivated by love of God and country, the Four Chaplains sacrificed themselves, and their final act left an enduring mark on our Nation's history.

In 1944, the Army posthumously awarded the Four Chaplains the Distinguished Service Cross and the Purple Heart. Yet even those honors did not fully capture the magnitude of their sacrifice. Although the Medal of Honor criteria at the time focused on direct combat with the enemy, the Four Chaplains' extraordinary heroism stood fully beyond question. Rather than allow that sacrifice to go unmatched, Congress created a special Four Chaplains Medal in 1960, equal in significance to the Medal of Honor and awarded only once. It was presented to their Families in 1961 as a clear statement

that the Nation understood the weight of what they had done.

Congress also designated Feb. 3 as Four Chaplains Day, ensuring their story would endure as a guide for generations to come. Across the nation, memorials, chapels and annual observances reflect that legacy, carried forward in the mission they defined.

Today, we celebrate our heroes, the legendary Four Chaplains of the *Dorchester*. Their sacrifice echoes a question familiar to every calling rooted in service: "What shall I return to the Lord for all His goodness to me?" (Psalm 116:12).

The Four Chaplains answered with their lives, standing present when fear was strongest and serving with unwavering selflessness.

In doing so, they shaped a calling that continues to guide the thousands of U.S. Army chaplains, religious affairs specialists, and directors of religious education serving around the world: "...to give justice to the weak and the fatherless; maintain the right of the afflicted and the destitute; rescue the weak and the needy," (Psalm 82:3-4).

To learn more about the history of the Army Chaplain Corps visit the U.S. Army Chaplain Corps Museum.



## Nurse

Continued from Page 5

es also serve as leaders and mentors.

As a company commander, Chase found that empathy remained essential when supporting soldiers through personal and professional challenges, including connecting with a soldier who shared his experience of raising a child with a disability.

"When you lead with empathy, you're helping people navigate life," Chase said. "Sometimes that can be healing in itself."

Much of the corps' legacy is built on quiet, often unseen moments of service. Chase recalled a fellow nurse who stayed with a dying patient whose family could not be present.

"No one's seeing you do it," he said. "You do it because it's the right thing to do." Despite advances in medicine and technology, Chase believes one core value has remained unchanged. "The single timeless value is empathy," he said. "The uniforms change. The technology changes. But the human experience doesn't."

As the Army Nurse Corps reflects on 125



Army News Service photo

The Army Nurse Corps recently celebrated its 125th anniversary.

years of service, that commitment to compassionate care continues to guide nurses as they support Soldiers and families around the world.

## Bicentennial

Continued from Page 5

mann was the Army secretary; Gen. Frederick C. Weyand was the Army chief of staff, followed by Gen. Bernard W. Rogers in October of that year; J. William Middendorf II was the Navy secretary; Adm. James L. Holloway III was the chief of naval operations; Thomas C. Reed was the Air Force secretary; David C. Jones was the Air Force chief of staff; and, Gen. Louis Wilson was the Marine Corps commandant.

The military wasn't involved in any conflicts in 1976, the last being the Mayaguez incident in May 1975, in Kampuchea, now called Cambodia.

The U.S. was involved in the Cold War, which lasted from 1947 until the dissolution of the Soviet Union in 1991.

During this timeframe, the U.S. military maintained a large presence in West Germany, Japan and South Korea.

At Panmunjom, South Korea, Aug. 18, 1976, two U.S. soldiers were killed by North Korean soldiers while trying to chop down part of a tree in the Korean Demilitarized Zone, which had obscured their view of North Korea.

Three days later, Operation Paul Bunyan took place with a show of force made up of dozens of U.S. and South Korean troops, who completed cutting down the rest of the tree.

On Nov. 2, 1976, Jimmy Carter, a former naval officer

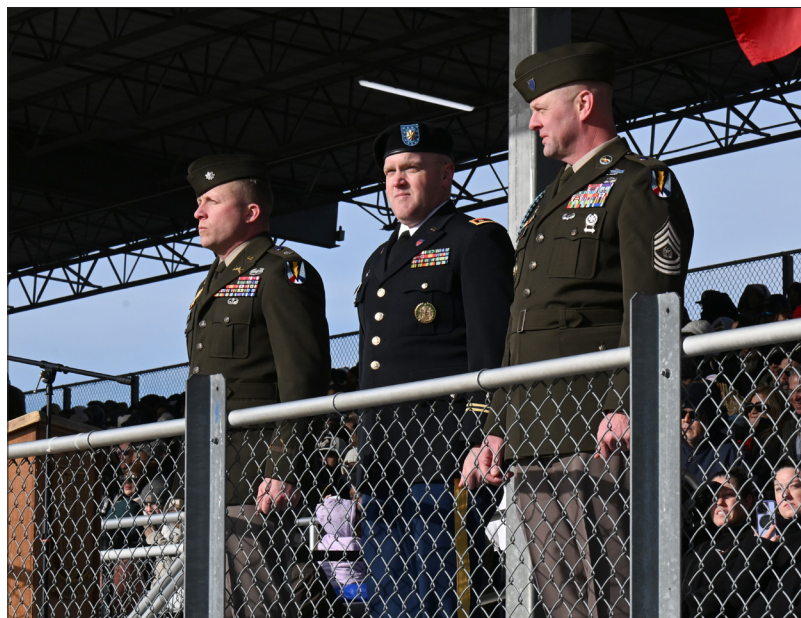


Photo by NATHAN CLINEBELLE

## Good luck

Fort Jackson celebrated the service of Maj. Drew A. Shivler, from the Soldier Support Institute during the 3rd Battalion, 34th Infantry Regiment graduation held Jan. 29. Shivler retired after 21 years of service.

## SALUTING THIS CYCLE'S HONOREES

2nd Battalion,  
60th Infantry  
Regiment

**DRILL SERGEANT  
OF THE CYCLE**  
Sgt. 1st Class Eric  
Cousineau

**ALPHA COMPANY  
SOLDIER LEADER  
OF THE CYCLE**  
Spc. Jonathan Passarelli

**SOLDIER OF THE CYCLE**  
Spc. Trevor Humphries

**BRAVO COMPANY  
SOLDIER LEADER  
OF THE CYCLE**  
Pvt. Austin Reyes-Peterson

**SOLDIER OF THE CYCLE**  
Pvt. Jake Erkenbrack

**CHARLIE COMPANY  
SOLDIER LEADER  
OF THE CYCLE**  
Pfc. Sarah Wolf

**SOLDIER OF THE CYCLE**  
Pfc. Grady Pitts

**DELTA COMPANY  
SOLDIER LEADER  
OF THE CYCLE**  
Pvt. Dylan Davis

**SOLDIER OF THE CYCLE**  
Spc. Chelsea Naut

**ECHO COMPANY  
SOLDIER LEADER  
OF THE CYCLE**  
Pvt. Pammela Molina

**SOLDIER OF THE CYCLE**  
Pfc Jacob Booth



# Events

Continued from Page 4

**How to Spot Job Scams Seminar**  
10 a.m., MS Teams. Army Community Service hosts an online seminar aimed at helping the community navigate the job hiring process. For more information, call (803) 751-5256.

**FEB. 26**  
**CIF Partial Closure**  
The Administration Office and the Permanent Party Section will be closed. For more information and emergency services, call (803) 447-0880. Initial Entry Training personnel and IET chapter personnel will not be impacted.

**FEB. 28**  
**Privately Owned Weapons Day**  
10 a.m. to 2 p.m., Aachen Range. Shooters can shoot at targets between 25m and 200m. Paper targets, spotting scopes, tables and chairs are provided. Patrons can shoot rifle or pistol at a day rate or on an hourly rate. Pre-register at Outdoor Recreation-\$25 per person for all day (4 hours) \$10 per person per hour (pre-register), \$15 per person per hour

(day on-site/cash only). All weapons must be registered on post. No automatic weapons or .50 cal allowed. Participants must be more than 12 years old, with those under 17 must be accompanied by an adult. The event is open to all authorized Depratment of Defense ID card holders. For more information, call Outdoor Recreation at (803) 751-3484.

**MARCH 4**  
**Community Lunch**  
Noon to 1 p.m., Main Post Chapel Fellowship Hall. The Fort Jackson community invited to attend a lunch with food, fellowship, fun and a brief inspirational message. The lunch is held the first Wednesday of the month. For more information, call (803) 751-3979.

**MARCH 12**  
SSI Change of Command  
1 p.m., SSI Auditorium. Col. Jason Edwards, Soldier Support Insittute commander reliquishes command of the unit. For more information, call (803) 751-8011.

**MARCH 14**  
**Memorial Bataan Death March**  
5 a.m., Hilton Field Sports Complex. Come out and ruck to remember those

who died in the Bataan Death March during World War II. Therer are two distance options available: 26 and 14 miles. A 35 lb. rucksack is optional. For more information, call (803) 751-3700.

**Offshore Fishing Trip to Charleston**  
9:15 a.m. Join the Directorate of Family and Morale, Welfare and Recreation on fishing trip to Charleston, S.C. Venture on a charter fishing boat for a four-hour fishing trip where you may catch sheepshead, black drum, red fish, and even a shark. Groups of six or more will be split across different boats. Outdoor Recreation provides transportation and cooler. The trip costs \$180 per person and covers transportation, license, bait and tackle. Pre-registration is required at MWR Central. For more information, call (803) 751-3484, or visit MWR Central at the Solomon Center.

**MARCH 17**  
**EFMP Arts and Crafts**  
4:30-5:30 p.m., 9810 Liberty Division Road. The Army Community Service Exception Family Member Program is hosts a time to socialize, meet members of the community and express self through arts and crafts. For more information, call (803) 751-5256.

**MARCH 21-22**  
**Spring Family Campout**  
4 p.m., Twin Lakes Park. This family-friendly overnight camping event will have fun activities such as games, s'mores making, arts & crafts and more. Rental items available: Tents/cots, sleeping pads, cook stoves/pots and pans. The event costs \$17 for children under 13, and \$22 for those over 13 years old. To sign up or for more information call (803) 751-3484.

**MARCH 23**  
**Intramural Softball League**  
6 p.m., Hilton Field Sports Complex. Service members and Department of Defense ID cardholders can participate in an intramural softball league that begins play March 23. A letter of intent is necessary to play. For more information, call (803) 751-3700.

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

| 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                         |
|                  | 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                  |



## Olympics

Continued from Page 3

cause the competition demands it. There are so many great teams, and everyone has to have their best day.”

Hill continues a family tradition of Olympians. Her father, former professional boxer Virgil Hill, was a silver medalist in the 1984 Los Angeles Games, and her mother, sprinter Denean Howard-Hill, won a gold medal in 1984 and silver medals in 1988 and 1992 as a member of the 1,600-relay team.

Hill was a sprinter in college at Long Beach State and UNLV before enlisting in the Army in 2024 and becoming one of Team USA bobsled’s top brakewomen for the two-woman bobsled.

“My parents are super excited to experience this from the other side,” said Hill, whose an 88M, motor transport operator. “They’re happy. Making the team is the result of all the hard work I’ve put in with my coaches.”

The coaches — Fogt, Hines and Rohbock — have been essential in perfecting technique and developing a proper mindset, Hill said.

“We do constant video review, analyze numbers and data — and the data doesn’t lie,” Hill said. “Their experience as former competitors has been extremely helpful.”

The resources WCAP provides have benefited Hill’s athletic and professional career.

“It provides resources, such as going back to school to obtain my master’s and helping to become an officer,” she said. “We work on all aspects of ourselves, not just athletics. They make sure we stay on top of classes and training, even overseas. They push us to grow professionally and athletically.”

Loomis, a member of the Utah National Guard competing in his third Olympics, enlisted in the Army in 2019 with the sole intention of joining WCAP, but his attitude and desire to serve has changed.

As a Nordic Combined athlete, Loomis is either flying as a ski jumper or he’s racing on the ground as a cross-country skier. Ski jumping is quick, powerful and detail-based, while cross-country skiing requires endurance, strength and cardiovascular fitness. Finding the perfect balance to excel in both disciplines is a lifelong challenge, and that’s what makes it exciting for Loomis.

More importantly, the training to excel in both carries over to his military duties.

“Being an athlete and a Soldier go hand in hand,” Loomis said. “What I’ve learned in the military has helped my athletic career, and my athletic background has helped me as a Soldier. WCAP provides incredible resources — nutrition, mental health support, travel funding and a full team behind us. These sports can



be financially difficult, so WCAP removes a lot of that burden and allows me to focus on competing while continuing my military career.”

Howe, who aspires to be an Army chaplain, saw God working in mysterious ways during the U.S. Figure Skating Championships on Jan. 4-11 in St. Louis.

Howe and his partner, Emily Chan, secured their first Olympic berths despite placing eighth in the short program. Howe said they needed a miracle to qualify for the 2026 Games.

“The roller coaster of the trials really opened my eyes,” said Howe, motor transport operator. “Looking back at how the competition unfolded and how we were ultimately named to the team, we’re grateful and honored. Now we want to do our best representing the Army and the United States.”

Howe enlisted in the Army in February 2025 and joined WCAP shortly thereafter. Completing basic and advanced individual training interfered skating with Chan, but the training helped shape him, Howe said.

“I learned new skills, and when I returned to the ice in June, I brought those skills with me,” Howe said. “I started looking at skating from a Soldier’s perspective and not just an athlete. Taking on the responsibility to compete at the highest level — not just for Team USA but also for the Army — is a different level of commitment. Working with my partner Emily every day isn’t just a job; it feels like a duty. Approaching training with that mindset has changed how I work and helped me excel.”


The mindset is allowing him to take advantage of the opportunities offered through the Army and WCAP.

“I’ve even started school to continue my education and eventually join the Chaplain Corps,” Howe said. “Once I finish my undergraduate degree, I can join the Chaplain Candidate Program, which will phase me into becoming a chaplain once I finish my master’s of divinity degree.”

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# VICTORY... STARTS HERE



Soldiers and cadre from 3rd Battalion, 34th Infantry Regiment march through colored smoke during the unit's Family Day ceremony, Jan. 28.

Photo by NATHAN CLINEBELLE