

THURSDAY DEC. 7, 2023

THE FORT JACKSON LEADER

"VICTORY ... STARTS HERE."

'T WAS THE LIGHT'

POST FLIPS SWITCH TO HOLIDAY SEASON



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Band sets Midlands holiday concert dates

By 1ST SGT. DAVID
NEWCOMB
282nd Army Band

Fort Jackson's 282nd Army Band is proud to continue a beloved annual tradition with its 2023 Holiday Concert series.

This year's lineup includes two performances at the Koger Center for the Arts, and an additional show at the historic Sumter Opera House.

This year's program, titled "Twas the Night: A Fort Jackson Holiday Story," promises a unique perspective on the holiday season, offering a glimpse through the eyes of a Fort Jackson Soldier. The 75-minute concert will showcase an array of holiday tunes performed by the concert band, rock band, and jazz combo.

The band will perform at the Koger Center for the Arts, located at 1051 Greene Street in Columbia, South Carolina, with concerts at 4 and 7 p.m. These concerts are free and open to the public, and no tickets are required.

Doors will open 30 minutes prior to each show. The installation has extended an invitation to Soldiers graduating from Basic Combat Training, along with their family members, to attend this year's concerts.



Photo by NATHAN CLINEBELLE

Members of the 282nd Army Band play at the post's annual holiday tree lighting event held Dec. 1 at Patriots Park. The 282nd Army Band will be playing a series of concerts across the Midlands, Dec. 13, 16.

The band will perform at the Sumter Opera House, located at 21 N. Main Street, Sumter, South Carolina, on Dec. 16 at 3 p.m. Given the proximity of Shaw Air

Force Base, Sumter, boasts a substantial military community akin to Columbia. This concert is also free and open to the public, and free tickets can be obtained at the

box office.

Chief Warrant Officer 3 Kevin Pick, the band's commander, expressed enthusiasm about the events, stating, "We are excited

to instill the holiday spirit into the local community and continue to build strong ties between Fort Jackson and the surrounding areas."

ON THE COVER

Brig. Gen. Jason E. Kelly, post commander, and Post Command Sgt. Maj. Erick Ochs light Fort Jackson's Christmas tree during the annual holiday tree lighting event, Dec. 1.



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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Morales tabbed as BOSS pres

By **EMILY HILEMAN**
Fort Jackson Public Affairs

Fort Jackson has a new boss for its Better Opportunities for Single Soldiers program and she's boss.

BOSS aims to enhance the quality of life and well-being of single soldiers through recreational, social, and educational activities. Sgt. Merari Morales was appointed as the BOSS president Dec. 1 after serving as social media manager and the 3rd Battalion, 34th Infantry Regiment BOSS representative.

Morales, a native of Tarpon Springs, Florida, joined the Army without much knowledge of what her MOS, 88M – Motor Transport Operator really entailed. However, she soon realized the benefits like the opportunity to obtain her Commercial Driver's License easier in the civilian world.

Morales said that she wanted to do something different and help the single Soldiers of Fort Jackson.

"I enjoy taking people under my wing and helping them, guiding them, and teaching them because when I first came into the Army, I didn't have that kind of leadership," she said. "I didn't have someone that I could look up to. Whether it was in my direct chain or just some type of mentorship, I didn't have it. So, with the BOSS Program, I can mentor Soldiers and just help them."

Morales also said that she likes meeting a lot of new people and the BOSS program gives her the chance to meet Soldiers she wouldn't have otherwise.

"This is a program where you get to interact with a lot of different people, get to know their backgrounds and learn what they enjoy," she said. "Once you leave here, there's also the chance to see the same Soldiers somewhere else and see their growth."

One of her goals as the BOSS President is to build on the foundation that the previous president, Staff Sgt. Andy Navas, made.

"Moving forward, I want to get more engaged with all the Soldiers and let the trainees know what we do and what to expect from the BOSS program at their next



Photo by SPC. TASHANNA HARRIS

Sgt. Merari Morales, the new BOSS president, speaks to attendees during the Barracks Town Hall, Nov. 30. Morales is ready to build up the BOSS program and become more engaged with the single Soldier community at Fort Jackson.

duty station," Morales said. "I also want single Soldiers to know the program is a voice for them."

As for the program itself, Morales said there are some events coming up in the new year to keep an eye out for.

"We have some events going on in January such as bowling at Victory Lanes and a sip and paint event. In April, we're going to be hosting a BOSS organization day, where we'll host some classes and briefs like finance and master resiliency to help educate and inform the Soldiers," she said.

"They'll also be able to meet the incoming sergeant major, so she can get to know the Soldiers and see what the BOSS program is about."

Morales is excited to serve as the BOSS President and to make a positive impact on the single soldiers at Fort Jackson.

"I want the single Soldiers and other eligible military to explore and participate in the BOSS program, because it offers so many recreational and community involvement opportunities," she said. "Participating in BOSS can enhance their social

connections, provide support and contribute to a positive military experience."

BOSS is open to single service members, service members geographically separated from their families and single parent service members in the Fort Jackson area.

For more information or to check out upcoming BOSS events visit their Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/fortjacksonboss/>; their Instagram page at <https://www.instagram.com/ftjacksonboss/>; or their website at <https://jackson.armymwr.com/programs/BOSS>.

Community Updates

HOLIDAY HOURS

Holiday Gate hours

Gate 1

CLOSED: Dec. 20 - Jan. 1

When Open

5:15 a.m. to 5:15 p.m. (M-F)

Gate 2

Open 24/7

Gate 4

CLOSED Dec. 23-26

4:30 a.m. to 6 p.m. (M-F) When Open

Gate 5

6-8 a.m. and 4-6 p.m. (M-F) When Open

All lanes are open Dec. 18-19

Visitor Control Center (VCC): Monday-Sunday 6 a.m. to 6 p.m. (Closed Dec. 25)

Commercial Traffic will utilize Gate 2 when Gate 4 is closed (No change)

All Gates will resume normal operations Jan. 2, 2024

Directorate of Human Resources

The Directorate of Human Resources will be closed on the following days:

Christmas Day – Dec. 25

Training holiday – Dec. 26

For more holiday closures visit: <https://home.army.mil/jackson/my-fort/facility-hours-2>

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Road Name Changes

Fort Jackson has renamed numerous roads and streets on post named after Confederate leaders, battles and units. This is part of efforts to rename Department of Defense installations, streets, buildings and ships that featured names commemorating the Confederacy. These name



changes, effective Jan. 1, 2024, have already been made by the U.S. Postal Service. To learn which road names have changed, scan the QR code or visit <https://home.army.mil/jackson/about/fort-jackson-road-renaming>.

ArmyIgnitED 101

Are you new to tuition assistance or credentialing assistance? Maybe you are looking for some refresher training. The Fort Jackson Army Continuing Education System is holding ArmyIgnitED 101 briefings every second and fourth Mondays and Wednesdays of each month. The briefings are held virtually, starting at 10 a.m. Dec. 11, and in person at the Education Center (4600 Strom Thurmond Blvd.) at 10 a.m. Dec. 3 and 27. To sign up email your attendance request to usarmy.jackson.93-sig-bde.mbx.dhr-jacksonedcenter@army.mil. Walk-ins are welcome.

Coffee, Donuts and Purpose

Coffee, Donuts, and Purpose allows retirees with drill experience to connect with current drill sergeants and those who are about to start their time on the trail. This common bond event allows retirees and today's Army members to connect and give back to one another making each other stronger through their shared service, passion, weaknesses, and strengths. For more information, email Tabatha Baker, 193rd Health Educator, at tabatha.l.baker2.civ@army.mil.

Yoga and Stretching Classes

DS Timothy Kay Soldier Performance Readiness Center, 12650 Jackson Blvd. Soldiers, Department of the Army Civilians, Family members and veterans are welcome to take free yoga and stretching classes. The schedule of classes is: Mondays - Movement & Mobility - 11:30 a.m. to 12:15 p.m.; Power 30 - Tuesdays from 7:30-8 a.m.; Wednesdays - Power Flow from 6-7 a.m. and Mindful Movement and

Meditation from 12:15-1 p.m.; and Thursdays - Plyometrics & Deep Stretch from 7:30-8 a.m. and Power Flow from 11:45 a.m. to 12:45 p.m. For more information, email nicole.a.topakas.civ@army.mil.

COMMUNITY EVENTS

TODAY

Baby Basics

11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Army Community Service Building. Interactive class providing all the information new and expectant parents need to feel confident in caring for their newborn baby. The class is free and you can bring your own lunch. Registration is encouraged. For more information, call 751-5256.

Stress Management: Stress-You Can Handle It

1:30-4:30 p.m., MS Teams. The USAG Civilian Workforce Development Program, Army Community Service Family Advocacy Program are partnering to offer the Leader/Workforce Development Series Training "Stress Management-Stress! You can handle it!" This one-hour class focuses on individual learning techniques to promote physical and emotional well-being, heighten awareness, and identify and manage stressors.

FRIDAY

Money & Mindset

1:30-2:30 p.m., 9810 Lee Road, Room 119. The USAG Civilian Workforce Development Program and the Army Community Service Financial Readiness Program are partnering to offer the Leader/Workforce Development Series Training "Money & Mindsets" class. This webinar will dive into an individual's mindset regarding managing money, effective self-talk, and goal setting. This is a great opportunity to learn about self-motivation, setting and achieving goals that will help

See **EVENTS:** Page 10



Fort Jackson Movie Schedule

3319 Jackson Blvd.

Phone: 751-7488

DEC. 8

■ What Happens Later (R) 6 p.m.

DEC. 9

■ The Holdovers (R) 6 p.m.

DEC. 13

■ Five Nights at Freddy's (PG-13) 2 p.m.

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

THE FORT JACKSON LEADER

SEND ALL
SUBMISSIONS TO

usarmy.jackson.93-sig-bde.mbx.atzj-pao@army.mil

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

If you submit an article on an event that already has taken place, please send it as soon as possible. Tuesday is the last day we will be able to accept an article for publication the following

Thursday. Include the date and place of the event, as well as a description of what took place. Please include quotations, if possible.

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

Questions? Call 751-6739.

Volunteer Spotlight: Amy Wegner, Family member

By EMILY HILEMAN

Fort Jackson Public Affairs

Amy Wegner is a dedicated volunteer who has been involved in various events and activities at Fort Jackson in the short year since she relocated here with her husband, a drill sergeant with 3rd Battalion, 60th Infantry Regiment.

She started volunteering at a food drive on post held in August 2022 and has been a regular participant ever since.

"I usually bring along my three-year-old and we volunteer together. I also have a 10-year-old and a six-year-old," she said. "We have brought extra cans to the food drive and they just love to hang around and help when they're out of school."

She enjoys volunteering not only for the impact it makes, but also for the social aspect.

Volunteering is a way to give back to the community.

"As I see it, volunteering is a way to help other individuals or cause," said Will Sexton, a volunteer on post. "You can accomplish a lot when (people volunteer). The goal is to make a situation better."

That's what Wegner does.

"We love to give back to our community, but also meeting people who are like minded and even just getting out there and meeting other members of the community," Wegner said. "Especially since we are a military family and we move frequently, this is a great way for us to socialize."

She also said that volunteering brings her joy and fills her with a sense of gratitude.

"I am just so grateful to give back. I had a lot of volunteers touch my heart back when I was in high school," Wegner said. "So, to be able to do that for other people just really fills me with joy. I just feel grateful that I am in a



Courtesy photo

Volunteers Will Sexton, Jade Medeiros and Amy Wegner take a quick break from receiving and sorting clothing donations to take a photo during the clothing drive at the Fort Jackson Fire Station, Nov. 28.

position now that I'm able to help and showing my kids that doing this really does make a difference is a great bonus."

Volunteering also gives Wegner a chance to learn new things and discover new ways to help.

"It feels great (to volunteer). I'm not here for how it makes me feel. I'm just happy to help and hanging out with the people around me is a lot of fun. We sometimes get to meet the people we're helping too," she said. "We

get to connect with them and see how much we are helping. You realize you are always making different connections and learning how you can help in all sorts of different ways."

Wegner encourages anyone who is interested in volunteering to reach out and find opportunities. She said that volunteering is flexible and fun, and that anyone can find something that suits their schedule and preferences.

"You get to pick and choose

what you want to help with and what's not possible for you," Wegner added. "Sometimes, certain activities or events don't suit us the best, but we try to be there for what we can."

Wegner recently volunteered with Sexton, a retired Fort Jackson firefighter and prominent member of the Fort Jackson community, for the clothing drive at the Main Fire Station, Nov. 28-29. It's estimated the crew accumulated and donated more than 1,800 pounds of cloth-

ing to give to those in need.

For more information or volunteer opportunities contact Army Community Service at 751-5256, email usarmy.jackson.93-sig-bde.mbx.jackson-acs@army.mil or visit in person at 9810 Lee Road on Fort Jackson.

If you know someone in the Fort Jackson community who deserves to be spotlighted for their hard work, email usarmy.jackson.92-sig-bde.mbx.atzj-pao@army.mil.



Photo by ROBERT TIMMONS

(Above) Members of the Fort Jackson community smile and wave as they ride the Dixieland train around Patriots Park during the post's holiday tree lighting ceremony held Dec. 1.

(Above right) Colin Henderson, with the Directorate of Family and Morale, Welfare and Recreation, sculpts ice during the event. He created multiple sculptures and even showered children with ice.

(Far right) A choir from C.C. Pinckney Elementary School sings classic holiday tunes during the event that saw thousands come together at Patriots Park on post.

(Middle right) The Grinch unsuccessfully tries to steal Christmas from Brig. Gen. Jason E. Kelly, Fort Jackson commander, during his remarks at the Fort Jackson holiday tree lighting event held Dec. 1 at Patriots Park on post.

(Right) The 282nd Army Band brass quartet plays a number of holiday tunes prior to Brig. Gen. Jason E. Kelly and Post Command Sgt. Maj. Erick Ochs lighting the Fort Jackson tree, Dec. 1 signalling the start of the holiday season on post.



Photo by ROBERT TIMMONS



Photo by NATHAN CLINEBELLE

Post flips switch to holiday season

By ROBERT TIMMONS
Fort Jackson Public Affairs

The Grinch tried to steal the Fort Jackson commander's holiday cheer with a surprise visit, but was rebuffed by the general like a professional quarterback shedding off a would-be tackler.

With a smile and shrug, Brig. Gen. Jason E. Kelly, kept speaking to the assembled throng of attendees at the post's holiday tree lighting ceremony, Dec. 1 at Patriots Park.

The Grinch snuck up on the post commander, but that didn't damper the Fort Jackson community's spirits.

"Tonight is our introduction to the holiday season," said Post Command Sgt. Maj. Erick Ochs before the tree was lit. "We just came out of Thanksgiving to celebrate with our families ... Now we are officially opening up the holiday season with Santa Claus coming, opening up food trucks and having various booths for the Fort Jackson community as well as the greater Columbia (South Carolina) community" to enjoy.

The event was one of multiple events Fort Jackson held that were open to the public.

"I want the children that are here to remember coming on to Fort Jackson

and seeing the lights come on," Kelly said. The event was one of three main events held on post this year, the others being Independence Day and Oktoberfest celebrations.

"Now as we look forward to the holiday season and vacation coming up, and a little bit of time to unwind and relax," Ochs added. "It's our way to give back to our Soldiers who have given so much."

"When we light this tree tonight, we're lighting a light within ourselves," Kelly said before he and Ochs pressed the button to turn on the lights. "Enjoy

See **LIGHTS:** Page 11



Photo by NATHAN CLINEBELLE

Learn the skills to avoid the spills

Leader Staff Reports

The Installation Safety Office recently updated on post motorcycle riders how to enroll in the Motorcycle Basic eCourse. The course is required for all new riders on post. If you missed it, please read below for a quick guide.

To enroll in the MSF Basic eCourse visit <https://msfusa.link/292428>. The course is usually \$19.99, but the fee is waived by using the link.

To register, enter the correct information in the required field and click Enroll Student at the bottom of the page. If the information entered is correct, the message "Temporary enrollee successfully added" will appear in a light green box near the bottom of the page.

Once the light green message appears, click "Complete Registration." If a payment method is requested, begin again using the link provided.

To complete the registration, read and agree to the Student Release(s) by checking the box beside "I Accept." The ability to check the box will not be possible until the applicant scrolls through the entire agreement. Enter the appropriate email address in both required confirmation fields and click "Complete Registration."

Following successful enrollment, the applicant will receive a confirmation email that includes their username and password.

Using the information enclosed in the email, visit <http://elearning.msf-usa.org> to begin the course. On the login page, enter your username and password and click Log in.

On the home page, scroll down and click MSF Basic eCourse under My Courses. Click the red "Click Here" button, then click "Enter." A new window will appear and begin loading the course.

The course will not advance automatically. When the audio for a page ends, use the navigation bar at the bottom of the screen to move forward by clicking on the blinking red forward arrow.

The course is designed to save the participant's progress and allow them to complete it over multiple sessions.

Upon completion, a link to the course completion certificate will appear on the course menu page. All new riders should bring the certificate with them to the next in-person class.

Holiday Service Schedule

On behalf of the chaplains and staff of Fort Jackson religious community,
Happy Hanukkah, Season's Greetings, Happy Holidays and Merry Christmas!

Dec. 17, 24, 31

| | | |
|---------------------------|------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Catholic Mass | 9:30-10:30 a.m. | Main Post Chapel |
| Gospel Service | 10:30 a.m.-Noon | Daniel Circle Chapel |
| General Protestant | 11 a.m.-Noon | Main Post Chapel |
| Revive Community | 5-6 p.m. | Main Post Chapel |

During the week

Catholic Mass Mon-Fri Noon - 1 p.m. Main Post Chapel

Special Services

Hanukkah (or Chanukah) begins at sundown tonight and ends the evening of Dec. 15.



Fort Jackson Hanukkah Celebration will be on Dec. 10 from 5-7 p.m. Please RSVP to Jeff Jacobs at jajacob-s79@gmail.com

Christmas Eve Services

The Revive Community will have a special Candlelight Service at 5 p.m. on Christmas Eve (Dec. 24) and they would like to welcome everyone to come.

The Roman Catholic Community will have Carols and Mass starting at 7 p.m.

Dec. 25 — No on-post Christmas Day services are scheduled

For more information, call the Fort Jackson Religious Support Office at (803) 751-9871



Photo by NATHAN CLINEBELLE

Happy Retirement

Fort Jackson honored the service of Capt. Jose F. Elizabeth, 2nd Battalion, 13th Infantry Regiment and Linda Shaertl, Moncrief Army Health Clinic during the 2nd Battalion, 13th Infantry Regiment's Basic Combat Training graduation, Nov. 30.

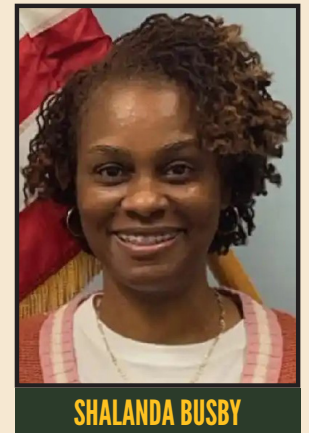
SALUTING CIVILIANS OF THE QUARTER

Army Training Center

The U.S. Army Training Center and Fort Jackson recognized the 2023 Department of Defense civilians of the quarter of Fiscal Year 2023. The two honorees were recognized for their commitment to service and were presented with a Civilian Achievement Medal and time off award. The winners are: GS-8 and below: Shalanda Busby, Operations Support Assistant, 165th Infantry Brigade. GS9 and above: James Watson, Supervisory Human Resource Assistant, 193rd Infantry Brigade



JAMES WATSON
GS-9 and above
193rd Infantry Brigade



SHALANDA BUSBY
GS-8 and below
165th Infantry Brigade

Knowledge of military service increases willingness to serve

By **C.TODD LOPEZ**
DOD News Service

Getting young people to choose a career in the military will require more people talking about what opportunities there are in the service, said the chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff.

During a discussion Dec. 2 at the Reagan National Defense Forum in Simi Valley, California, Air Force Gen. CQ Brown, Jr. said there's great opportunity in military service. To get young people to consider it for themselves, they just need to hear more about it.

"I think about the opportunities and the things that young people will have the opportunity to do if they were to join our military," he said. "We've got to talk about that. And partly the reason I say that is because I believe young people only aspire to be what they see or know about. If you don't know about the opportunities of serving in the military, you may never pursue that career field."

Brown said in his own life, he was encouraged by his parents to serve in the military and expected initially that he'd serve only a short amount of time.

"My degree is in engineering," he said. "I was going to be an Air Force engineer for four years and get out."

While in college, he said he got an opportunity to ride in a T-37 Tweet, an Air Force trainer aircraft. That experience, he said, changed his outlook on what his military service could be.



Photo by NATHAN CLINEBELLE

Future Soldiers raise their hands as they recite the Oath of Enlistment during military appreciation night at University of South Carolina men's basketball game, Nov. 27. The Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, Air Force. Gen. CQ Brown, Jr. said young people may consider enlisting if they know more about military service.

"I became an F-16 pilot, and I still get to fly today. It's those kinds of opportunities, I think, that you just don't know until you have a chance to experience it," he said. "And whether you stay for just a handful of years or you stay in for a handful of decades, there are great opportunities serving in our military."

Following the end of the Cold War, Brown said, the U.S. military contracted in size as military bases shut down, and there were fewer opportunities for young people to interact with service members. Educating young people about military service must be a nationwide effort now, he said.

"One of the goals we have to do as a nation is to talk about our military and the opportunities," he said. "And I try to do that when I go out and travel — because you don't know what you don't know."

Warfighting skills are a focus

The 2023 Reagan National Defense Survey indicated that some Americans think the U.S. military is too focused on social issues at the expense of a focus on warfighting. But Brown said that isn't the case.

"I would say honing our warfighting skills has primacy in everything we do," he said. "That's why we exist: to fight and win our nation's wars. We want to be so good at what we do that our adversaries (say), 'Not today, not tomorrow, not ever.' We do that because we bring in our nation's best from all backgrounds. And I'm extremely proud of our service members, every single one of them."

As he travels around the U.S. military and meets with service members, Brown said he can see where their focus is.

"I'm just so amazed by the young people that come into our military. And when I go out and talk to them, they are focused on warfighting. They are focused on getting the mission done, and they're just they're amazing young people, and I'm just proud to be able to work with them."

Events

Continued from Page 4

you improve the management of your personal finances and achieving financial goals.

SATURDAY

Jingle Bell Fitness Run
8-10 a.m., This free family event that's open to all ages. This run will be a 3.1 walk/run featuring fitness activates along the route. Come kick off the holiday season with the Fort Jackson community.

Waffles with Santa

9-11 a.m. NCO Club. Come eat some waffles an join Mr. and Mrs. Claus in the NCO Club dining room for photos. Breakfast buffet costs \$11 per person and \$5.50 for kids 4-10 years old..

Army/Navy Game

2 p.m., Down Range Bar. Watch the rivalry game while enjoying wings, burgers and appetizer specials and giveaways.

SUNDAY

Hannukah Celebration
5-7 p.m., Lightning Chapel. All Jewish personnel, Families, trainees and stu-

dents are invited. To RSVP email jajacobs79@gmail.com.

WEDNESDAY

Holiday Concerts
4 p.m. and 7 p.m., Koger Center for the Arts, 1051 Greene Street, in Columbia. Join the 282nd Army Band for its annual holiday concert. The event is free and open to the public.

DEC. 15

Holiday Paint & Sip
5:30-7:30 p.m., Solomon Center. Create a holiday masterpiece for \$30 per person. For those 10 years or older. Registration required by Dec 13. For more information call 751-4056.

Mommy & Me Yoga

10:15-11 a.m., Army Community Service Bldg. Certified yoga instructor will walk you and your little one through basic yoga poses while providing mindful meditation and relaxation techniques. Call 751-5256 to register.

Peaceful Parenting

11 a.m. to 1 p.m., Army Community Service Bldg. Strategies and information for handling common toddler and preschooler issues: tantrums, bedtime, picky eaters, potty-training, and more! Registration is encouraged, call 751-5256.

3D month raises impaired driving awareness

By THERESITA MOSES
Suicide Prevention Coordinator

The National Drunk and Drugged Driving Prevention Month also referred to as National 3D Month began Dec. 1. Since 1981, every president has proclaimed December as "National 3D Month." This awareness month is a reminder not to drive impaired during the holiday season. Impaired driving includes the consumption of medication that will cause one to be drowsy, drugs to include marijuana (THC) Delta 8 and 9, and alcohol. In preparation for the holiday season, remember to take medications as prescribed; be mindful of items being purchased; and check food and beverage labels to verify there is no THC delta 8, hemp, or CBD in the product.

It is imperative to drive unimpaired especially between Thanksgiving and New Years Day, as traveling increases on America's roadways over the holidays. The National Association of Drug Court Professionals considers this time to be one of the deadliest and most dangerous times on the road due to impaired



Courtesy graphic

driving. As family and friends gather to celebrate the holiday season, it is a great time to encourage each other to have a plan if they are going to consume alcohol, have a designated driver, and/or use a shared ride service or taxi to get home if they have been consuming alcohol.

Instead, the host of a gathering should consider having a non-alcohol "mocktail"

DID YOU KNOW: Chilblains is a non-freezing cold weather illness normally seen when temperatures are between 32-60°F, and is a repeated, prolonged exposure to bare skin. For more information visit: safety.army.mil.

| 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 |
| | REVIVE SERVICE | SUNDAY | 5 P.M. | MAIN POST 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 | 10:30-11:30 A.M. | MAGRUDER CHAPEL |
| | HISPANIC PROTESTANT SERVICE | SUNDAY | 8:30-10 A.M. | POST THEATER |
| | 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 |



Photo by NATHAN CLINEBELLE

Winners of the gingerbread house contest were announced at the post’s holiday tree lighting event, Dec. 1.

Lights

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time with your families. As many of you prepare to travel, we encourage you to be safe.”

Ashley and Mike Randolph from Elgin, South Carolina, were some of the many who came on post to see the tree lighting and partake in the festivities. Their children enjoyed being showered with ice by Colin Henderson, who was creating ice sculptures.

“We love this area,” Mike Randolph said. “I’m pretty impressed with the post itself and its good for Soldiers and Families.”

The thousands of attendees were able to witness the ice sculpting, take a train ride and even enjoy selfie stations. They were serenaded by the C.C. Pinckney Elementary School choir, 282nd Army Band, and dueling violinists. There were food trucks and tents from on-post organizations and sponsors as well.

The winners of the gingerbread house contest were announced as well. The winners are: Whitney Jones, 4-7 year olds; Ashley Gold, 8-11 year olds; Jackson Alto, 12-17 year old; Elizabeth Holmgren won the 18 year old and above.

“It was important we made this a big event because you never know where you will be from year to year,” said Col. Timothy Hickman, garrison commander.

Garrison Command Sgt. Maj. Cesar Duran agreed.

“I think the most important thing is that although we’re away from our homes and our hometowns, we need to make sure everyone in the military – all the families and the service members – have a feeling that they are home,” he said.

Santa Claus arrived after the tree was lit.



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|---|---|--|
| Army Community Service Dec. 22,25Closed Dec. 29, Jan. 1.....Closed Jan.2 Normal Hours | NCO Club Dec. 18 - Jan. 8Closed Jan. 9-11 .. Lunch Open .. short order only | Perez Fitness Center Dec. 20-22 ..6 a.m. to 3 p.m. Dec. 23,24 ..9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Dec. 25Closed Dec.26-29 ..6 a.m. to 3 p.m. Dec. 30-31 .9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Jan. 1Closed Jan. 2Normal Hours |
| Auto Craft Shop - Dec. 20 - Jan. 2 Block leave hrs 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Dec. 22,25Closed Dec. 29, Jan. 1.....Closed Jan. 4Normal Hours | Down Range Bar Dec. 18 to Jan. 16Closed Jan. 17Normal Hours | Vanguard Gym Dec. 20 - Jan. 1Closed Jan. 2Normal Hours |
| Century Lanes Bowling Ctr Dec. 19-21.....Closed Dec. 225-10 p.m. Dec. 2312-8 p.m. Dec. 24-28Closed Dec. 295-10 p.m. Dec. 3012-8 p.m. Dec. 31, Jan. 112-6 p.m. Jan. 5Normal Hours | Palmetto Greens, 512 Trolley Open Family Days Only *Solomon Center, Palmetto Greens 512 Trolley will be open to accommodate any VBL activities. | Coleman Gym-Open 24 hrs Dec. 18 - Jan. 1....Unstaffed Jan. 2Normal Hours |
| Child Youth Services CDCs and SACs Dec. 21-296 a.m. to 6 p.m. Dec. 25, Jan. 1.....Closed CDCs combined at Scales (4581 Scales Ave) SACs combined at Hood St (5614 Hood St) | Solomon Center Dec. 20 to Jan. 1Closed Jan. 2Normal Hours | Thomas Lee Hall Library Dec. 23-25Closed Dec. 30 - Jan.1Closed Jan. 2Normal Hours |
| Youth Center Dec. 20-296 a.m. to 6 p.m. Dec. 25, Jan. 1Closed | Fort Jackson Golf Club Dec. 25Closed | Knight Pool Dec. 20 - Jan. 1Closed Jan. 2Normal Hours |
| Parent Central Services Dec. 25-29Closed Jan. 1Closed | Marion Street Station Dec. 18-2211 a.m. to 4 p.m. Dec. 23-25Closed Dec. 26-2911 a.m. to 4 p.m. Dec. 31 to Jan. 1Closed Jan. 2Normal Hours | Weston Lake Dec. 3010 a.m. to 3 p.m. Dec. 31 - Jan.1Closed Jan. 2Normal Hours |
| Lee Rd Extended Care Ctr Dec. 20 to Jan. 2Closed | Aachen Range Dec. 26Closed Jan. 2Closed | Recycle Center Dec. 25Closed Jan. 1Closed Jan.2Normal Hours |
| | Victory Bingo Dec. 24,25Closed Dec. 31 to Jan. 1Closed | Videorama Dec. 19 - Jan.2Closed |
| | Victory Travel Center Dec. 18-229 a.m. to 2 p.m. Dec. 25,26,29Closed Dec. 27-289 a.m. to 2 p.m. Jan. 1Closed Jan. 2Normal Hours | Fitness Classes Dec. 19(last class 4 p.m. at Vanguard) Dec. 20 to Jan. 1Closed Jan. 2 Normal Hours |

(Current as of Nov. 28, 2023)

VICTORY... STARTS HERE



Snowflakes hang in the trees at Patriots Park during the holiday tree lighting celebration, Dec. 1.

Photo by NATHAN CLINEBELLE