THURSDAY, AUG.14, 2025 DE. "VICTORY

POLICE, COMMUNITY ENJOYA ... TONALNIGH







GARRISON: www.facebook.com/USArmyGarrisonFortJackson





Ofortjackson

Soldiers immediately react, subdue Fort Stewart attacker

By SPC. REBECA SORIA 3rd Infantry Division

When gunfire erupted at Fort Stewart Wednesday morning, Aug. 6. Soldiers of the 3rd Infantry Division responded with the swift precision and unwavering courage.

Five Soldiers were wounded when Sgt. Quornelius Radford opened fire on his coworkers, but the rapid response of his fellow Soldiers likely prevented a far worse tragedy.

All victims are in stable condition following the 10:56 a.m. shooting that prompted immediate lockdown protocols. Radford, 28, an automated logistics sergeant, was quickly subdued and taken into custody after using his personal handgun in the attack at the 2nd Armored Brigade Combat Team

First Sgt. Joshua Arnold of Company B, 703rd Brigade Support Battalion, witnessed the spirit firsthand as Soldiers immediately shifted into life-saving mode.

"Everyone from Staff Sgt. Taylor to the combat medics coming down to help administer first aid ... I think everybody reacted appropriately," Arnold said. "No one froze, no one lost their composure. Everyone maintained their bearing."

Arnold praised Sgt. Aaron Turner, Company A, 703rd Brigade Support Battalion, for his decisive action in stopping the shooter from harming additional victims, calling him "an outstanding noncommissioned officer."

Three combat medics immediately began treating the wounded, embodying the Soldier's Creed to never leave a fallen comrade.

Staff Sgt. Melissa Taylor, a career counselor, upon hearing gunshots while checking



Photo by SGT. BERNABE LOPEZ

Secretary of the Army Dan Driscoll pins the Meritorious Service Medal on Soldiers assigned to the 2nd Armored Brigade Combat Team, 3rd Infantry Division to recognize their bravery in intervening during the Aug. 7 shooting.

her email, she didn't hesitate.

"I heard him yelling about the smoke, and I saw a Soldier on the ground," Taylor said. "Immediately, (I) just started running to the Soldier."

Drawing on her background as a former combat medic and emergency medical services worker, Taylor's muscle memory kicked in.

"I have seen gunshot wounds before. So I just kind of had that experience, I knew what to do."

Her response embodied the Soldier mentality of adapting to any situation.

"We're supposed to protect each other from foreign and domestic situations. So it didn't matter if the threat came from us, you still treat it like it's a threat."

Even as the unit processes the trauma, Taylor's actions emphasized the resilient

THE FORT JACKSON LEADER

"It is a tragic situation, but the mission

doesn't stop," Taylor said. "We can always just be there for each other."

Brig. Gen. John Lubas, commanding general of the 3rd Infantry Division, confirmed the shooter used his personal weapon and praised the immediate response that contained the threat within minutes.

"We have six incredible Soldiers behind us, but this is just representative of the larger formation," Lubas said. "When we spoke to

See PCS: Page 9

ON THE COVER

A Richland County Sheriff's Department deputy puts Family member Amy Wegner through a mock field sobriety test during the National Night Out event, Aug. 5.



Fort Jackson, South Carolina 29207

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FORT JACKSON LEADER

Officials call for Fort Jackson to remain vigilant

Installation Antiterrorism Office

You might have heard the phrase "See Something, Say Something" so often it sounds like a broken record. But this month, Fort Jackson is reminding us this simple idea is one of the most powerful tools we have to stay safe.

August is the Army's Antiterrorism Awareness Month, and it's a chance for everyone on post to level up their security game. It's easy to think of antiterrorism as something handled by Soldiers in far-off countries. But as Fort Jackson's leaders often point out, the real front line is right here at

Antiterrorism is about protecting our community; the trainees, our Families, and everyone who lives and works on the installation. It's a team effort, and everyone, from the newest recruit to the seasoned commander, plays a vital role.

So, what does this look like in real life? It's all about being a good neighbor and staying aware of your surroundings. The Army's "iWatch" program is a great example. It's a community-based initiative that encourages you to be the eyes and ears for the installa-

This isn't about being paranoid; it's about paying attention to what feels out of place. Is there a car parked somewhere it shouldn't be for a long time? Did you notice someone taking photos of a sensitive area? These might seem like small details, but could be important pieces of a bigger puzzle.

about calling out a specific threat.

When you report something, you're providing information needed to investigate and

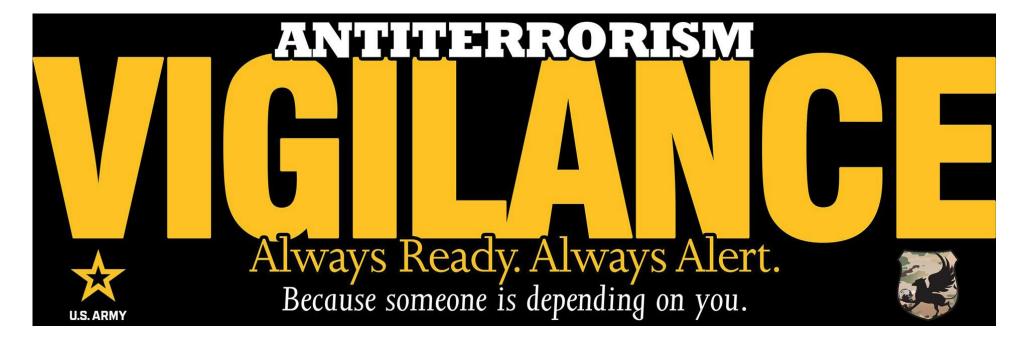
This month let's take the message to heart.

If you see something that makes you think, trust your gut. You can report suspicious activity to the military police desk at (803) 751-9111 or by calling 911 and specifying you are on the installation. Your awareness is a key part of Fort Jackson's security, and together, we can ensure our community remains a safe place for everyone.



Photo by SGT. 1ST CLASS DANA CLARKE

Reporting something suspicious isn't just Fort Jackson law enforcement personnel provide security at Pierce Terrace Elementary School during Fort Jackson's recent installation protection exercise. As part of Antiterrorism Awareness Month, Fort Jackson officials are calling on It's about helping the experts do their job. the community to report suspicious acitivity to the Fort Jackson Police Department.



Community Updates

ANNOUNCEMENTS

ATC Change of Responsibility

Post Command Sgt. Maj. Erick Ochs will transfer responsibility for Army Training Center and Fort Jackson to Command Sqt. Mai. William M. Shoaf in a ceremony held on Victory Field at 9 a.m. tomorrow.

Safety Training

The Installation Safety Office presents various safety training classes. To register for the Army Traffic Safety Training or Local Hazards training classes, go to the website https://airs.safety.army. mil/default.aspx. To register for the Unit Safety Officer training, contact your Youth Sports Registration safety specialist.

- Advance Riders Cours: Sept. 9 (6 seats open)
- Basic Riders Course: Aug. 19-21 (0 seats open); Sept. 29-Oct. 1 (3 seats open)*
- Intermediate Drivers Course: Tomorrow (7 seats open); Sept. 18 (25 seats open)
- Local Hazards Course: Every Monday at 10 a.m. (except holidays)
- Remedial Drivers Course: Tuesday 751-3096. (12 seats open)
- Unit Safety Officer Course: Oct. 7-8 (20 seats open) – send your designated Safety Officer an email to register
- Heat Illness Prevention Training: Every Monday at 1 p.m. (except holidays) at Strom Thurmond Bldg., Room 207.
- * Safety officials encourage those wishing to attend in case of no shows.

First Friday Golf

Maj. Gen. Daryl O. Hood, Fort Jackson commander, invites you to join him for First Friday Golf the first Friday of every month. This is a Captain's Choice event and will begin at 11:30 a.m. at the Fort Jackson Golf Club. You may enter your own team or sign up as a single and be paired 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.

COMMUNITY EVENTS

UNTIL - AUG. 8

Registration for tackle football, flag football, cheerleading, soccer and cross country begins. For more information and costs to register, call (803) 751-

UNTIL-AUG. 28

Intramural Basketball

The games are on Mondays, Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays at 6 and 7 p.m. For more information, call (803)

SATURDAY

Edisto River Tubing

7 a.m., Marion Steet Station. Join Fort Jackson Outdoor Recreation and enjoy a relaxing trip tubing down the Edisto River. For more information and to register, call (803) 751-3484.

TUESDAY

Thrift Savings Plan Seminar

10-11:30 a.m., 9810 Liberty Division Road,

Rm. 119. Do you want to gain a better understanding of the Thrift Savings Plan, and about how the different funds impact your plan for retirement? Learn the



differences between Roth and Traditional accounts, avoiding penalties, withdrawals, latest changes and more! Registration is required. For more information or to register, call 803-751-5256 (option 3).

AUG. 20-22

Kickball Tournament

Hilton Field Sports Complex. The "Just Kicking It" Kickball Tournament. will take place at Hilton Field Sports Complex. Aug. 20 at 6 p.m., 6:45 p.m. Aug. 21 and 5:30 pm. Aug. 22. A Department of Defense ID card is required to register. An interest meeting will be held Tuesday at the Solomon Center. Letter of Intent must be turned in by Aug 19. For more information and to register, call (803) 751-3096.

AUG. 26

Intramural Golf League

Fort Jackson Golf Club. An Intramural "ParTee" Golf League begins Aug. 26 and Department of Defense ID card required to register. The Letter of Intent deadline is Tuesday and an interest meeting will be held Auig. 25. For more information, call (803) 751-3096.

SEPT. 3

FJ 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..



SATURDAY, AUG. 16

■ No Showing

Phone: 751-7488

WEDNESDAY, AUG. 20

- Jurassic World: Rebirth (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.

The lunch, held the first Wednesday of the month. The next dates are Oct. 1, Nov. 5 and Dec. 3. For more information, call (803) 751-3979.

SEPT. 5

Lunch and Learn with Sew and Heal

11:30 a.m., Bldg. 9810 Liberty Division Road. Join this class to use sewing as a coping skill and make a small craft. This event is part of Suicide Prevention Awareness Month. For more information, call (803) 751-2915.

SEPT. 6

5K Run/Walk for the Fallen

7 a.m., Hilton Field. Come join Fort Jack-

See **EVENTS:** Page 10

THE FORT JACKSON

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 we 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.

HURRICANE PREPAREDNESS







BUILD A KIT



BE INFORMED

Ready for the storm: Fort Jackson, hurricane season

Directorate of Plans, Training, Mobilization and Security

As summer heats up, so does the Atlantic, marking the official start of hurricane season. While Fort Jackson sits well inland in South Carolina's Midlands, it's not immune to the power of these massive storms.

Over the past five years, the area has felt the effects of several major weather events, proving we must be prepared even when we're not on the coast.

Inland areas like Columbia often face the most danger not from storm surge, but from heavy rainfall, flooding, and powerful winds. The remnants of Hurricane Michael in 2018 tracked right through the state, spawning tornadoes and causing significant damage. In 2022, Hurricane Ian brought widespread flooding and strong winds as it moved inland, and Hurricane Florence in 2018 caused over \$600 million in damage across the state. While these numbers are for the state, they show just how costly a single storm can be and why preparation is essential.

Hurricane season is broken down into three simple phases: Before, During, and After the storm.

Before: This is when you make a plan. Know your family's evacuation routes and where you'll meet if you get separated. Build a disaster kit with at least a three-day supply of food and water, a first-aid kit, flashlights, batteries, and any necessary medications. Don't forget your pets! Secure your home by trimming trees, clearing gutters, and bringing any outdoor furniture or decorations inside.

During: Once the storm arrives, the most important thing is to stay safe and indoors. Find a secure, interior room

away from windows and doors. Stay off the road – flooded streets and downed power lines are extremely dangerous. Use a battery-powered radio for updates from local officials.

After: Don't rush to leave your shelter. Wait for the authorities to announce that it's safe to travel. Be cautious of hazards like fallen trees, debris, and downed power lines, which can still be live. Check on your neighbors and friends but avoid entering damaged buildings.

This hurricane season, Fort Jackson reminds us that being prepared is a duty for everyone.

By taking these steps, you're not just protecting yourself and your family; you're helping to ensure the safety and readiness of our entire community.

The Fort Jackson garrison emergency manager can be reached at (803) 751-6254.

Guard task force ordered to D.C.

By C.TODD LOPEZ DOD News

President Donald J. Trump declared a crime emergency in the nation's capital and vowed to make its streets safe again for both residents and visitors.

"Washington, D.C., should be one of the safest, cleanest and most beautiful cities anywhere in the world, and we're going to make it that," Trump said during a press conference at the White House. "We're going to make it safe; we're going to make it smart; we're going to make it beautiful."

The National Guard will play a role in that effort, said Defense Secretary Pete Hegseth after the president issued a memorandum to mobilize the D.C. National Guard.

Hegseth said the mobilization will be operationalized by Secretary of the Army Dan Driscoll, and guard members will be deployed in the streets of <u>Washington</u> in the coming week.

Roughly 800 Soldiers were activated today as part of the D.C. Safe and Beautiful Task Force, with about 100-200 of them supporting law enforcement. Duties for those personnel include administrative and logistical roles, as well as providing a physical presence in support of law enforcement.

Hegseth also stated that, beyond the D.C. National Guard, other guard units are ready to participate.

"There are other units we are prepared to bring in; other National Guard units, other specialized units," Hegseth said. "They will be strong, they will be tough, and they will stand with their law enforcement partners."

In recent months, the secretary said the National Guard has played similar roles, both at the border, where troops have worked alongside

See **GUARD:** Page 9

Police, community enjoy a National Night Out

Story, photos by ROBERT TIMMONS Fort Jackson Public Affairs

Post law enforcement and the Fort Jackson community came together Aug. 5 at Patriot Park during National Night Out.

National Night Out is celebrated on the first Tuesday in August, aimed at bringing law enforcement and the community closer together.

The annual event is "a national-level community building campaign to improve the relationship between law enforcement and the communities they serve," said John Hughes, director of Fort Jackson's Directorate of Emergency Services.

It is also "an opportunity to build trust and bonds," said Col. David Gaugush, garrison commander. (It also provides an avenue for the community to) "express gratitude and thanks for what law enforcement does and what for their sacrifices on behalf of us and our Families."

Hughes agreed saying interacting with the public is "the most critical thing we

"It's about building trust," he added. "Without that trust, there's no partnership and there's no ability for us to effectively police the installation."

"Safety and security is a shared responsibility," Gaugush said. The community requires the assistance of law enforcement staff, gets dunked. to do be safe and secure, and law enforce-

ment requires the cooperation of the community.

Representatives from on and off post law enforcement agencies including the Richland County Sheriff's Department and the Army's Criminal Investigation Division were on hand to greet the public. Members of the Fort Jackson Fire Department were also on hand to greet the public.

A Richland County Sheriff's Department deputy showed some community members what it is like to take a field sobriety test. A feat not easily done wearing goggles simulating impaired vision.

"It was very difficult," said Family member Amy Wegner, who tried her hand at the test. "It made me feel sick."

The experience was unnerving to her.

"I was immediately dizzy," she said. "I was trying to look at the line and just let my feet feel where I was going. When the deputy told me to look down at the line, it looked like was over here, but when I took the googles off it was like way off."

Wegner, who is also part of the Fort Jackson volunteer group, said the night out is "such a fun experience for the kids to see firemen and police officers and learn about how they help our community."

The Fort Jackson Fire Department brought an inflatable obstacle course, while the Fort Jackson Police Department brought a dunk tank where children tried to dunk post leaders such as Col. C.J. Phillips, Army Training Center, chief of staff.



Col. C.J. Phillips, Army **Training Center chief of**



Phillips, Army Training Center chief of staff.



Criminal Investigation Division officers speak to members of the Fort Jackson community during National Night Out held Aug. 5.



Representatives from multiple law enforcement agencies participated in Fort A deputy from the Richland County Sheriff's Department speaks Jackson's National Night Out, Aug. 5.



to community members.

Army astronaut returns to Earth, again

By JASON CUTSHAW Army News Service

Nothing can be more exciting as returning to earth from space, unless you do it twice.

Army Astronaut Col. Anne C. McClain returned to Earth Aug. 9, after nearly five months aboard the International Space Station. During her second flight into space, she conducted numerous experiments and tasks, including a spacewalk totaling 13 hours and 8 minutes.

"Earth is, by far, the best planet in the solar system and we are excited to come back," McClain said. "Spaceflight gives you a new appreciation for what we have, and the fragility of our environment. It also gives us a renewed faith in humanity — spaceflight truly brings out the best in people. Our safe flight was a result of people all around the world working together, dreaming big and focusing on cooperation. We hope it can be a reminder of what we can accomplish when we work together.

"The spacewalk was absolutely a highlight of this mission," she added. "I, along with Air Force Maj. Nichole Ayers, conducted a spacewalk to install a support structure for a future upgraded solar array, and we moved an antenna that is used for visiting vehicles that had been experiencing some structural blockage with line-of-sight communications. It was a success on the technical side, and it is absolutely incredible to work outside of the space station. You really get a sense for orbital dynamics, watching the sun rise or set every 45 minutes and seeing the Earth spin below you. It is an experience that words cannot adequately describe."

McClain, serving as Crew Dragon Endurance commander, along with Ayers and mission specialists Japanese Aerospace Exploration Agency astronaut Takuya Onishi and Roscosmos cosmonaut Kirill Peskov from Russia launched March 14 for a mission aboard the International Space Station during Expedition 73. Together, they served for 148 days.

"This flight was different in a lot of ways," McClain said. "On the last flight, I flew on the Russian Soyuz spacecraft as a flight engineer. My responsibilities were more on the technical side — monitoring and regulating air composition and pressure, and assisting the commander with off nominal situations, and it was all in Russian language.

"This mission, I was the commander of the SpaceX



Photo courtesy of NASA

Army Astronaut Col. Anne McClain performs a five-hour and 44-minute space walk on May 1. McClain returned from space Aug. 9 after 148 days aboard the International Space Station. it was the second time she returned from space.

Crew-10 Dragon," she added. "I was responsible for the overall safe execution of the mission and cohesiveness of the crew. I had a very strong crew, all professional pilots from different counties and services, and it was an absolute honor to be selected to lead them."

She explained how the Army prepared her for this grand adventure by focusing on accomplishing the mission through leadership and teamwork and said it was excellent preparation for spaceflight.

"Mission first, people always," McClain said. "I gained a lot of technical skills during my time in the Army, flying helicopters, being a test pilot. But what I leverage more is my leadership and team experience, along with the formal education I got through professional military education. I had a full box of tools to pull from when issues arose."

McClain also had words of wisdom for new Army leaders who might one day want to follow in her space boots.

"Be excellent in whatever job you have right now," McClain said. "Have a plan, but approach that plan with flexibility. I knew I wanted to be an astronaut, but when I chose to serve in the Army, I knew the needs of the Army came first. I rarely got my choice of duty station, or job at that duty station, but in every job I learned something and contributed something valuable."

She also suggested finding good mentors, adding that the Army is full of them.

"Find the people who are most respected in the jobs you are interested in, pay attention to how they operate,

See **ASTRONAUT**, Page 11

FORT JACKSON LEADER

Guard

Continued from Page 5

Immigration and Customs Enforcement and Customs and Border Protection to put a stop to illegal border crossings, and in Los Angeles, where they helped protect ICE and CBP agents from criminal attacks.

Now, the D.C. National Guard will contribute by helping to stop violence on city streets in the nation's capital.

"We will work alongside all D.C. police and federal law enforcement to ensure this city is safe (and) this city is beautiful," Hegseth said, adding, "As I always say about President Trump to the troops, 'He has their back.' And my message to the National Guard and federal law enforcement in Washington is, 'We have your back as well. Be tough. Be strong. We're right behind you."

According to a White House fact sheet, two embassy staffers were murdered in Washington this May.

A congressional intern was shot and killed



Photo by NAVY PETTY OFFICER 2ND CLASS ALEXANDER KUBITZA

The Washington, D.C. skyline as seen from Arlington National Cemetery.

near the White House in June, and on Aug. 3, 2025, a federal employee was beaten by a mob.

A White House executive order reports that the 2024 murder rate in the District of Columbia was 27.54 per 100,000 residents, and the vehicle theft rate was at 842.4 thefts per 100,000 residents.

"It's becoming a situation of complete and total lawlessness in Washington," the president said. "Caravans of ... youth rampage through city streets at all times of the day. They're on ATVs, motorbikes — they travel pretty well. Entire neighborhoods are now under emergency curfews."

Trump said that it will soon change.

SALUTING THIS CYCLE'S HONOREES

1st Battalion, 13th Infantry Regiment

DRILL SERGEANT OF THE CYCLEStaff Sgt.
Douglass Randell

ALPHA COMPANY
SOLDIER LEADER
OF THE CYCLE
Pvt. Anna Brthisel

SOLDIER OF THE CYCLEPfc. Raymond Hicks

BRAVO COMPANY SOLDIER LEADER OF THE CYCLE Pfc. Seth Babb

SOLDIER OF THE CYCLE
Pfc Jaydan Cato

CHARLIE COMPANY
SOLDIER LEADER
OF THE CYCLE
Spc. Emmine Mutlu

SOLDIER OF THE CYCLEPfc. Christopher Asselin

DELTA COMPANY
SOLDIER LEADER
OF THE CYCLE
Pfc. Levi Hawkin

SOLDIER OF THE CYCLE
Pfc. Paul Vu

ECHO COMPANY
SOLDIER LEADER
OF THE CYCLE
Pvt. Salleybeth McClaskey

SOLDIER OF THE CYCLEPvt. Ramis Yagoob

Stewart

Continued from Page 2

the surgeons in the hospital, it was clear that the actions they took from merely stopping the bleeding before they loaded up the ambulances and quickly evacuated to Winn Army Medical, certainly saved their lives."

Secretary of the Army Daniel Driscoll, emphasized how the response reflected Army values.

"This is one of those moments where you should be incredibly proud to be an American Soldier. Your grit, your resilience, your training, took a terrible day and made it much less terrible than what it could have been," Driscoll said. "The heroism shown under fire is something that we should all aspire to show. There are not a lot of institutions and not a lot of people like you that can go through what you did yesterday, and come back to work today and do P.T.."

The Secretary of Defense Pete Hegseth called the incident a "cowardly shooting" while praising law enforcement's response.

Georgia Gov. Brian Kemp said he was keeping "the victims, their families, and all those who answer the call to serve in our hearts and prayers."

The incident is still under investigation.



Good luck

Fort Jackson honored the service of Sgt. 1st Class Travis Wall, from the 7th Transportation Brigade (Expeditionary) at Joint Base Langley-Eustis, Va., during the Basic Combat Training graduation, Aug. 7. Wall retired after 21 years of service.

FORT JACKSON LEADER

Events

Continued from Page 4

son in honoring the fallen Soldiers and their families. Registration begins at 7 a.m., opening remarks at 7:45 a.m., and the run/walk begins at 8. For more infromation, call (803) 751-5256.

Private 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 Marion Street Station: \$25 per person for all day (4 hours), \$10 per person per hour (pre-register), \$15 per person per hour (day onsite/cash only). Ensure all weapons are registered on post. No automatic weapons or .50 CAL allowed. Age 12 and up, 17 and younger must be accompanied by an adult. Open to All aut- SEPT. 13 horized ID card holders. For more infor- Beaufort Tour

mation, call (803) 751-3484.

SEPT. 8 TO NOV. 4

Fall Intramural Basketball League

Solomon Center. A Department of Defense ID required to play and the deadline for submitting a letter of intent is Sept. 5. An Interest meeting will be held Sep 8. This is a Commander's Cup event. Sign up today. For more information call (803) 751-3096.

SEPT. 10

SafeTALK Seminar

9 a.m., Bldg. 9810 Liberty Division Road. You are invited to attend this seminar taught by the S.C. Department of Behavioral Health & Developmental Disabilities. The objective of the seminar is to share ways to be alert of someone thinking of suicide and how to connect them with resources. This event is part of Suicide Prevention Awareness Month. For more information. call (803) 751-2915.

7 a.m. to 7 p.m., 5450 Strom Thurmond Blvd. Join Army Community Service for a newcomer's orientation "area tour" to Beaufort, South Carolina, Take a land and sea tour departing downtown Beaufort Marina at the Waterfront Park. We will cruise along the waterfront to get an introduction to Beaufort's incredible history and abundant wildlife. Space is limited and is first come, first served. For more information and to register, call (803) 751-5256, option 3. RSVP by Wednesday.

SEPT. 20

Fort Gordon trail ride

8 a.m. to 3 p.m. Join us for a horseback trail ride at Fort Gordon, Ga. horse stables. Novice or pro, this guided ride will be great for those looking for an outdoor adventure. Cost: \$75 per person. Participants must be 7 years old or older. for more information or to register, call Outdoor Recreation at (803) 751-3484.

SEPT. 25

Suicide Prevention Panel

1:30 p.m., Zimmerman Auditorium, 10098

Cherbourg St.. Come listen to three dynamic speakers and panel of facilitators speak about overcoming thoughts of suicide, relationship concerns and resources. This event is part of Suicide Prevention Awareness Month. For more information, call (803) 751-2915.

SEPT. 26

Oktoberfest 2025

4:30 p.m., 1917 Club. Fort Jackson's Oktoberfest Festival kicks off Sept. 26. Check in starts at 4 p.m. with the one mil Volksmarch Walk at 4:30 p.m. The event costs: \$25. The fee includes beer stein, beer tastings, snack stops and t-shirt. The Oktoberfest Festival starts at 5:30 p.m. There will be vendors, games and live music. For more information, call (803) 751-3933.

OCT. 4

Do it in Pink 5K

8 a.m., Palmetto Falls Water Park. Come out and run for breast cancer awareness. For more information, call (803) 751-3700.

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** 10:30 A.M. KINGS MOUNTAIN CHAPEL SUNDAY HEDUL **GENERAL PROTESTANT SUNDAY** 11 A.M. TO NOON MAIN POST CHAPEL REVIVE SERVICE **SUNDAY** 5 P.M. MAIN POST CHAPEL **JEWISH SHABBOS SERVICE FRIDAY** 6-7 P.M. **CENTURY DIVISION CHAPEL INITIAL ENTRY TRAINING** DAY TTME PLACE **CATHOLIC MASS SUNDAY** 8-9 A.M. **SOLOMON CENTER** PROTESTANT CONSOLIDATED SERVICE **SUNDAY** 9:30-10:30 A.M. **SOLOMON CENTER NORSHIP 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 THE CHURCH OF JESUS CHRIST OF LATTER DAY SAINTS 10:30 A.M. to NOON CENTURY DIVISION CHAPEL SUNDAY

Soldier returns to All-Army team for fourth time

By JOE LACDAN **Army News Service**

On the southern coast of Barbados, Christian King first began playing the game that would change his life.

He enjoyed the freedom and creativity of the game and started playing in Bajan youth leagues. King chose center midfield, allowing him to impact both the front and back lines while practicing game in the coastal town of Christ Church.

King dreamed of one day playing professionally. That pursuit eventually took him first to play collegiately in Michigan, professionally in Armenia and finally to the All-Army team. King knew he could sprint fast. He could dazzle opponents with his dribbling and passing but entered the U.S. as an unknown talent.

"I knew I was more creative than a lot of guys but I didn't realize how good I was in comparison," said King, now a logistics captain stationed at Fort Hood. "Growing up in Barbados a lot of us, we run a lot, we enjoy scoring goals a lot of us are on the same level.

Until I got to the U.S, then I re-

alized I have a talent .. that distinguishes me from other players."

As the squad's most experienced player in the 2025 Armed Forces Men's Soccer Championship, he mentors younger players in his fourth season on the team.

King helped lead the All-Army team to two Armed Forces Championships in 2019 and 2023 after a short break. In 2019, King represented the U.S. in Wuhan, China to compete in the World Military Games as a member of the All-Armed Forces Men's soccer team.

After moving to Michigan from Barbados at age 17, he earned a scholarship to play soccer for three years, Division I level, at the University of Detroit but later transferred to California State. Following graduation, King played overseas for the Armenian Premiere League for FC Ararat. He started the season coming off the bench but worked his way into the starting lineup by the fifth game. He returned to the U.S. moving to Southern California after and began coaching youth soccer at Pacifica Christian High School in Santa Monica.

While sharing a bedroom in a small house, in Compton, a suburb of Los Angeles with his brother, he worked as many as three jobs at one time, still hoping for another opportunity to play for a pro team.

"It was just really tough," he said. "A lot of commutes. A lot of long davs."

His mom, living in Chicago at the time, had seen enough. She encouraged him to join the military.

"Soccer at that time professionally was not paying the bills," King said. "And my mom was always very patriotic, and she always encouraged me to seek opportunities through the military."

He enlisted in the military in November 2016 as a chemical, biological, radiological, and nuclear (CBRN) specialist and commissioned at Fort Benning's Officer Candidate School in 2020.

"The Army brought me a sense of responsibility," he said. "It's helped me mature as an individual. The Army has instilled in me leadership principles and overall good values."

After defeating Air Force 2-1 in the championship match at the 2019 Armed Forces Soccer Championship, King, along with four other Army team members, earned spots on the All-Armed Forces

rocket that carried the first U.S. astronaut into space in 1961.

Lt. Gen. Sean A. Gainey, commanding general of U.S. Army Space and Missile Defense Command, spoke of how proud the Army is of McClain and her continuing the Army's 67-year legacy of excellence to the nation's space program.

"We are grateful to have Col. McClain safe at home from her mission on the International Space Station," Gainey said. "Anne's selfless service and personal courage are a testament to the heroism of not only our astronaut Soldiers on the ultimate high ground but also those Soldiers serving in foxholes across the globe.

"Anne's leadership skills reflect highly on herself, her team and the Army's space mission," he added. "Here at SMDC, we are so proud of all she has already accomplished and look forward to all she will continue to accomplish in the future."

Astronaut

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and listen to their advice," McClain said. "I had mentors that gave me great advice along the way and saved me from having to learn some hard lessons myself. Army leaders want you to succeed, and they will help you do so."

As this adventure closes, McClain talked

"It is the honor of a lifetime to represent our Army, and Army Space and Missile Defense Command, on the highest ground," she added. "I am excited to see what is next for Army space, and for the current and future Army astronauts."

The U.S. Army's involvement in the nation's space program dates back to the 1958 launch of Explorer 1, America's first satellite, and it was a modified Army



