THURSDAY, APRIL 10, 2025 FORT JACKSON "VICTORY ... STARTS SOLDIERS STRIVE FOR EXPERT BADGES **QFortJackson Ofortjackson** GARRISON: www.facebook.com/USArmyGarrisonFortJackson www.facebook.com/fortjackson

## 81st Readiness Division hosts 2nd annual Operation Holistic Warrior

**By SPC.ZACHARY POTTER**372nd Mobile Public Affairs Detachment

Soldiers from across the U.S. Army Reserve are spearheading the effort to transform the way the Army Reserve understands health and wellness.

Operation Holistic Warrior, an annual training event hosted this year at Fort Jackson, S.C., is instructing Soldiers on how to integrate holistic health with a fitness lifestyle.

Holistic Health and Fitness, known as H2F, is a structured, five-domain framework designed to improve Soldier readiness across physical, mental, nutritional, sleep, and spiritual aspects.

"Holistic Health and Fitness is a system in the Army where it gives many domains to help Soldiers grow," said Lt. Col. Jason Barber, incoming program manager of Operation Holistic Warrior. "It will increase wellness amongst our Soldiers, which then increases our lethality on the battlefield."

Army Field Manual 7-22, updated in 2020, outlines H2F and its approach on optimizing Soldier readiness through the five domains.

According to FM 7-22, H2F is the foundation of unit readiness. The goal of the H2F System is to build physical lethality and mental toughness to win quickly and return home healthy.

"Operation Holistic Warrior is an opportunity for Reserve Soldiers across the entire Reserve space to get together and learn about what holistic health is, how they can implement it in their personal lives, but also equally as important, how they can implement it into their units, take it back, and grow the program in their units as well," said H2F integrator and OHW team lead, Sgt. 1st Class Corey Boston.

Operation Holistic Warrior offers a diverse range of classes and hands-on exercises focused on each of the five domains of H2F. Soldiers engage in tactical mobility drills and dynamic movement exercises to enhance functional range of motion and flexibility.

Other blocks of instruction are dedicated to nutrition, and even spiritual fitness.

Building Soldier readiness takes time, a lesson Boston learned firsthand. He recalled his time as a drill sergeant, saying that he understands the process required to train Soldiers to be successful is not quick or easy.

"I understand that it's not going to be an overnight process, but having events just like this, exactly like this, is going to help," Boston said. "Now we're giving the knowledge to these reserve Soldiers, so they can better implement H2F into their units."

Barber noted the importance of helping Soldiers that struggle to maintain their readiness in the five domains.

He highlighted the value of this training for those who do not meet readiness standards, and have been flagged.

A flag can prevent Soldiers from receiving certain benefits, and may bar them from advancing in their Army career.

"For the participant — they're receiving the knowledge and tools to increase performance and avoid or overcome a flag" Barber said. "Then they are in turn going back to their units and sharing what they've learned from all the assembled subject-matter experts in the field that we brought here."

Barber noted that the program works for senior leaders, and junior Soldiers alike. Operation Holistic Warrior gives them the tools they need to implement this holistic approach at their home units.

"It's a top-down and a bottom-up perspective that we're trying to approach with this H2F system. It's a leadership program," Barber said.

With Soldiers returning to their home units armed with this knowledge, Operation Holistic Warrior continues to drive a shift in Army culture—one that ensures Soldiers are healthier, combat ready, and more lethal.



Photo by SGT. 1ST CLASS REGINA HARLOW

Sgt. Hansuk Haldeman discusses the nutrition information of a product while completing a commissary tour during Operation Holistic Warrior 2025 at Fort Jackson, March 27.

## ON THE COVER

An Expert Field Medical Badge candidate drags a mannequin during testing April 7. Fort Jackson is testing for coveted skills badges until tomorrow.



Photo by NATHAN
See Page 6-7 CLINEBELLE

## THE FORT JACKSON LEADER

Fort Jackson, South Carolina 29207

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## What you need to know about Real ID compliance

Fort Jackson Public Affairs

Entrance to Fort Jackson may become easier starting May 7. That is when the post starts enforcing Real ID compliance.

Real IDs are not an access pass and are not a substitute for a valid Department of Defense identification card.

The Real ID Act was enacted by Congress as a result of a 9/11 Commission recommendation that all state issued ID cards, such as driver's licenses, meet certain security and issuance standards. The purpose of Real ID is to make our identity documents more consistent and secure. The Department of Homeland Security is the executive agency tasked with overseeing and implementing Real ID.

According to the DHS website, "the Real ID Act established minimum security standards for state-issued driver's licenses and identification cards and prohibits Federal agencies from accepting for official purposes licenses and identification cards from states that do not meet these standards."

How will this affect those coming onto post for graduations? Not much post officials said.

"So, for Family Day and graduation it is not going to affect U.S. citizens because it is a senior commander special event," said Rick Riley, installation security officer.

"As far as visitors during the regular week ... they will be required to have a Real ID," he added. "So, if they're coming in for MWR activities, such as the golf course or water park, if they don't have a Real ID, they will not be allowed access."

But it will also make it easier to enter Fort Jackson because they won't have to have additional identification.

"They'll just be able to use that one card," Riley said. "It will also make us more secure."

Those using Real IDs to access the installation for the first time will still need to stop at the Visitor Control Center and register their ID. After that they will be able to use their ID to enter Fort Jackson, but only with a valid reason.

"We will have more people registered in the system, and they'll be constantly vetted," he added.

The Act covers accessing Federal facilities (such as Fort Jackson), entering nuclear power plants, and boarding federally-regu-



Leader IIIe prioto

A Department of the Army Security Guard checks a Soldier's ID before waving her on. Real ID is an accepted form of identity proofing to enter Fort Jackson in conjunction with a valid need to enter the installation and the required vetting at the visitors center. Fort Jackson will begin requiring Real IDs May 7.

lated commercial aircraft.

Real ID is an accepted form of identity to enter Fort Jackson in conjunction with a valid reason to enter the installation and the required vetting at the visitor's center located at Gate 2, which consists of a National Crime Information Center check and issuance of an installation visitor's pass.

Each state is implementing changes to its identification cards in order to comply with the security requirements of REAL ID. Implementation of the Real ID Act requirements as it pertains to U.S. military installation access began in mid-January 2016.

Under the current state-based enforcement of Real ID, Department of Defense installations will accept any state or U.S. territory issued driver's license or identifi-

THEY'LL JUST BE ABLE TO USE THAT ONE CARD. IT WILL ALSO MAKE US MORE SECURE.

- Rick Riley Installation Safety Officer

cation card for purposes of identity proofing as long as the state or territory is either compliant with Real ID or has received an approved extension from DHS.

After May 7, if a visitor provides a state or territory issued identification card that is not Real ID compliant, the individual(s) will be required to provide another acceptable form of identification for access onto Fort Jackson, in addition to having a sponsor and successfully completing the required NCIC check.

If a state or U.S. territory-issued Real ID license or identification card is marked "Not Valid for Federal Purposes," "Federal Limits May Apply," or other similar language, it will not be accepted by the DOD, without an approved secondary form of identification. (See sidebar Page 11)

Even if an individual has a sponsor and a reason to be on Fort Jackson, not all who request access will be granted installation access.

DOD and Army directives require each person requesting access to pass a NCIC

See **REAL ID:** Page 11

# **Community Updates**

#### **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

#### Birthday Ball Tickets on Sale

Tickets for the 250th Army Birthday Ball are on sale now. Join Fort Jackson in celebrating the 250th Birthday of the U.S. Army at the Army Birthday Ball. The



ball takes place at 5 p.m. June 14 at the 1917 Club, 5700 Liberty Division Road. Lt. Gen. Milford "Beags" Beagle, commander, U.S. Army Combined Arms Center, will be the guest speaker. Scan the QR code for more information and to purchase tickets.

## **Tenant Satisfaction Survey**

Your opinion matters. The Army wants to heard from you. Your feedback can make a big difference in the quality of life for Soldiers. The Army is investing significantly in barracks and unaccompanied housing improvements and survey feedback will be guide the Army's efforts to provide quality, safe and secure housing. The completely confidential survey will be emailed from ArmyHousingSurvey@celassociates.com. OMB Control Number: 0704-0553. OMB Expiration date: 05/31/2025

## **Pharmacy updates**

Beginning May 1, Moncrief Main Pharma- TODAY cy and the PX Refill Distribution Center will change schedules. The new hours will be Monday – Friday 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., closed on weekends and federal holidays, and closed after 1 p.m. on the third Thursday of each month.

#### **New Parents Support Program**

Parenting can be a rewarding, yet chal- 751-5256, Option 3.



lenging, and stressful, often leaving you to feel overwhelmed and alone. Join the New Parent Support Group to get connected with other parents with similar experiences; learn evidenced-based parenting techniques; and discover community resources ready to assist you. The group meets from 4-5 p.m. every Monday until May 19 in the Army Community Services building, 9810 Liberty Division Road. For more information, call (803) 751-6724 or 6325.

## **COMMUNITY EVENTS**

## **Prevention Fair**

10 a.m. to 2 p.m., 1917 Club. Come join Army Community Service, SHARP and the Alcohol and Substance Abuse Program for a day of discoveries in and connecting with programs and services designed to promote healthy and strong military families. For more information, call (803)

#### **SATURDAY**

## Fort Jackson 5K Fun Run

8 a.m., Hilton Field Sports Complex. Come join this 5K fun run. Register at any gym, or call (803) 751-3700.

#### **SUNDAY**

## **Passover Seder**

6 p.m., Main Post Chapel. The Passover Seder will be held April 13 and is open to all. RSVPs are required. To RSVP email dovid.egert.mil@army.mil.

## **MONDAY THROUGH APRIL 18**

## Leave a plant, take a plant

The Thomas Lee Hall "Post" Library is hosting its bi-annual plant swap. Drop off your plants between Monday and Thursday and pick one up Friday after noon.

#### **TUESDAY**

## **EFMP Playgroup**

10-11:30 a.m., 9810 Liberty Division Road, Army Community Services hosts an Exceptional Family Member Program

## **Fort Jackson** Movie Schedule

3319 Jackson Blvd. Phone: 751-7488

## **WEDNESDAY, APRIL 16**

- The Amateur (PG-13)
- Ticket sales open 30 minutes before each movie.
- Movie times and schedule are subject to change without notice.

Playgroup to provide parents and children with special needs (under 5 years old) time to socialize, interact with peers, and learn about EFMP Family support services and resources at Fort Jackson and the surrounding community, or more information, call (803) 751-5256, Option 3.

#### **APRIL 18**

#### **Youth Archery Class**

10 a.m. to noon. This class shows youths ages 8-17 the proper form and technique to safely shoot. Register at Marion Street Station, or call (803) 751-3484.

## **APRIL 19**

## **Easter Egg Hunt**

10 a.m. to noon, Twin Lakes Park. Join Fort Jackson for an exciting Easter weekend with an egg hunt with more than 2,000 eggs for kids. There will be inflatables at the event. Participants must bring their own basket or bag. For more information, call (803) 751-3484.

See **EVENTS:** Page 10

# THE FORT JACKSON

## **SEND ALL SUBMISSIONS TO**

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

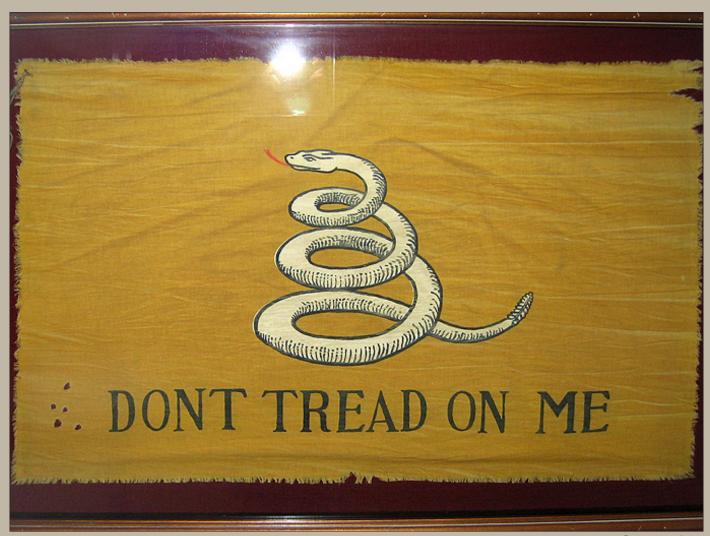
Deadline for events to be included in the Community Updates is one week before publication. Include the time, date and place the event will occur, as well as other necessary information.

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.



Courtesy photo

An original (1776) Gadsden Flag sits on display at the Ronald Reagan building in Washington, D.C. It was created by Gen. Christopher Gadsden as a symbol of defiance against British rule.

# The Gadsden Flag: A symbol of American independence

**By HENRY HOWE**Director, Fort Jackson
Museum Community

(Editor's note: This article is part of a recurring column honoring the Army during the service's 250th birthday)

The Gadsden flag, featuring a coiled rattlesnake on a bright yellow background with the words "DON'T TREAD ON ME," emerged during the American Revolutionary era.

Designed in 1775 by Gen. Christopher Gadsden, it became a symbol of vigilance



and defiance against British rule, reflecting the spirit of the colonies in their fight for independence.

The rattlesnake, long used by Benjamin Franklin in political cartoons, represented the American character; only striking when provoked but

fiercely defending itself.

The flag, created to accompany the Continental Marines on naval missions, was designed to send a clear message that the colonies would resist tyranny.

Throughout history, the Gadsden flag

has been adopted by various groups advocating for personal freedom, though its meanings have sometimes diverged, leading to controversy.

However, its original significance remains tied to the fight for liberty during the Revolution, emphasizing the need for respect for individual rights and warning against government overreach.

Today, the Gadsden flag serves as a powerful reminder of America's founding values: independence, vigilance, and the demand for freedom.

It calls for caution to any would-be oppressor, echoing its revolutionary roots.

# DOD top NCOs advocate for QOL

## By MATTHEW OLAY DOD News

The Defense Department's ability to be a lethal fighting force can be linked to the quality of life for America's warfighters and their families.

Such was the theme embraced by the top enlisted leaders of DOD's six branches of service during a House Appropriations Committee hearing today in Washington on quality of life in the military.

The hearing — which covered a myriad of topics such as pay and compensation, single and accompanied housing, child care, sexual assault prevention and others — provided the senior enlisted leaders with an opportunity to update the committee on the successes and ongoing challenges their respective services face in an ever-challenging fiscal environment.

"I want to start off with the fact that I'm proud of everything that our Soldiers have accomplished ... We're focused on lethality, and we will be ready when the nation calls," Sgt. Maj. of the Army Michael R. Weimer told the committee during prepared remarks.

Weimer added that staying focused is paramount to the Army's success, and maintaining such focus requires continual improvement to the quality of life of its Soldiers and their family members.

"(However), continuous resolutions and flat budgets do not support stability or predictability that our soldiers and families deserve," he added.

Unlike a full budget, Congress' passing of continuing resolutions, like the one under which DOD currently operates, can prevent the services from implementing planned

See **SECDEF**, Page 11







Fort Jackson Public Affairs

For years testing for Expert Field Medical, Expert Infantryman, and Expert Soldier badges were completed separately, but recently were combined into one event - the E3B.

Each badge required individual, rigorous tests of the Warrior Task and Skills of each Soldier.

Each task tested involved numerous steps that had to be completed in order and in the given amount of time to receive a 'GO' and pass on to settings." the next task- with some tasks having as many as 35 steps.

Historically, under 50% of those who go through testing earn medals.

the master of your trade. These badges are more badge that builds esprit de corps within infantry than just accolades, they are a symbol of the best units. ..." Post Command Sgt. Maj. Erick Ochs said during last year's awards presentation ceremony.

The badges illustrate the Soldier's competence ify as expert Soldier/medics. and lethality.

er with Medical Actvity – Fort Jackson, said the Army readiness. EFMB "evaluates a Soldier's ability to provide

She said earning the badge shows "exceptional competence" and shows they "are the top tier" in what they do.

The EIB was first formed in 1943 when Army The E3B "builds a community dedicated to Chief of Staff Gen. George C. Marshall speartraining to these standards and proving you are headed a plan to honor infantrymen with a com/FortJackson

In 1965 the Army explored the concept of training and earning a badge for those who qual-

The ESB was created in 2019 to improve First Sgt. Alisa Ryder, a senior enlisted lead- Soldier lethality as well as individual, unit and

Fort Jackson became the first Training and critical medical care in combat and operational Doctrine Command installation to plan, prepare and execute the E3B in 2022.

A ceremony will be held at 11 a.m. on Hilton Field to award those experts who earned the

To see photos and video from the testing visit Fort Jackson's Facebook page at: www.Facebook.











Parents and students eat lunch at C.C. Pinckney Elementary School, April 8. The school opened its doors April 8-9 so parents could eat lunch with their students during, 'Lunch on the Lawn.' It is one of many Month of the Military Child events being held at the school.



Above: A student and his parent share lunch at C.C. Pinckney Elementary School, April 8 as part of the school's Month of the Military Child observances.

Middle top: Parents watch as their children play on the school's playground equipment.

Middle bottom and far left: Second grade students play in the school's playground after eating lunch with their parents.





# Having lunch on the lawn

Story, photos by Robert Timmons

Families and students ate lunch together on the lawn behind C.C. Pinckney Elementary School to celebrate the Month of the Military Child, April 8-9.

The event called, Lunch on the Lawn, is one of the school's events held to honor MOMC. The school held the lunch to give parents/students dedicated time together.

The month honors the invaluable contributions made by service members and their children to the defense of the nation.



# Annual school event picks up 'STEAM'

**Story, photos by LORRAINE EMORY** Pierce Terrace Elementary School

Pierce Terrace Elementary School once again brimmed with excitement and energy as families, faculty, and community partners from departments at Moncrief's Army Health Clinic gathered for the school's annual STEAM Night, April 3.

The event, which grows in attendance and enthusiasm each year, celebrates the wonder of Science, Technology, Engineering, the Arts, and Mathematics through interesting, practical educational opportunities.

What began as a modest gathering has evolved into a highly anticipated tradition, thanks to the continued collaboration between Pierce Terrace's dedicated educators and the Moncrief Army Health Clinic. Together, they transformed the gymnasium, cafeteria, and hallway into hubs of creativity, discovery, and real-world problem-solving.

"At our STEAM Night, we witnessed something truly special," said April Thornton, the school's Advanced Academics Program and Services teacher. "The collaboration between the dedicated team from Moncrief Clinic and our passionate teachers created an atmosphere buzzing with excitement and curiosity. I saw students' eyes light up as they engaged in hands-on activities."

Students and their families explored a variety of teacher-led stations designed to challenge and delight young minds.

Activities at the event included cookie excavation, stacking cups, salad spinner art, coffee filter butterflies, cotton ball estimation, weather sensory exploration, and paper airplane challenges. Each station provided students with the chance to engage in critical thinking, collaboration, and innovative problem-solving.

"It was heartwarming to see their enthusiasm as they discovered new concepts and worked together to tackle challenges," Thornton added. "This night was not just about learning; it was about igniting a passion for discovery that will stay with them long after they leave our classrooms."

Moncrief played a significant role in the event's success, bringing in experts from several departments including optometry, radiology, laboratory, pharmacy, environmental health, public health, dental, physical therapy, occupational therapy, veterinary services, and



A young scientist gets a closer look at microscopic tissue samples and cell slides with help from Moncrief Army Health Clinic's Laboratory department during STEAM Night, as families explored the world of biology through hands-on microscopy.

nutrition.

Interactive demonstrations provided students with a glimpse into the many ways STEAM is applied in healthcare.

From learning how to floss teeth to exploring the importance of rehabilitation, s

tudents got an up-close look at how science, math, and technology impact their everyday lives. The opportunity to interact with professionals in these fields added a layer of authenticity and inspiration to the night.

As STEAM Night continues to evolve, so too does its impact. Each year, more presenters volunteer, more families attend, and more students walk away with new ideas, goals, and a deeper curiosity about the world around them.

"Together, we didn't just teach; we inspired them to explore real-world applications through creative problem-solving," Thornton said. "That's the true magic of STEAM Night."

With momentum growing and community



A Soldier from the radiology department at Moncrief Army Health Clinic guides students through assembling their own skeleton models, combining hands-on fun with real-world anatomy education during STEAM Night.

partnerships strengthening, STEAM Night at Pierce Terrace Elementary is not just a one-night event—it's a launching pad for lifelong learning.

# SALUTING THIS CYCLE'S HONOREES

3rd Battalion, 13th Infantry Regiment

**DRILL SERGEANT OF THE CYCLE**Staff Sgt.
Justin Fuller

ALPHA COMPANY SOLDIER LEADER OF THE CYCLE Pfc. Anthony Ruud

SOLDIER OF THE CYCLE
Pvt. Paydon Nelson

BRAVO COMPANY
SOLDIER LEADER
OF THE CYCLE
Spc. Tabitha Fernandez

SOLDIER OF THE CYCLE Spc. Noah Davis

SOLDIER LEADER
OF THE CYCLE
Pvt. William Stanco

**SOLDIER OF THE CYCLE**Pvt. Juan Alago Cubano

SOLDIER LEADER
OF THE CYCLE
Pvt. Kirby Buscato

SOLDIER OF THE CYCLE
Pvt. Bryce Rowland

SOLDIER LEADER
OF THE CYCLE
Pvt. Benjamin Myers

SOLDIER OF THE CYCLE
Pvt. Hashem Akbari

## **Events**

Continued from Page 4

#### **APRIL 20**

## **Easter Sunrise Service**

6:30-7:30 a.m., Family Life Center. The Religious Support Office is holding an Easter Sunrise Service for permanent party and Family members. For more information, call (803) 751-3121.

## **APRIL 24**

## **Indoor Soccer Challenge**

9 a.m. to 6 p.m., Perez Gym. Come try to score a goal and win a prize. Contestants have three chances to score. Adults and children welcome. For more information, 1 p.m., Solomon Center. Maj. Gen. Hope call (803) 751-6258.

## **APRIL 25**

#### **CYS Family Fun Fair**

4:30-6:30 p.m., Patriots Park. Come and join the fun for the whole family. For more information, call (803) 751-4824.

#### **APRIL 26**

## **Drug Take Back Day**

10 a.m. to 2 p.m., The Exchange. Fort Jackson's Directorate of Emergency Services is holding a drug take back day to continue to enhance the safety of our neighborhoods by building, strengthening, and reinforcing positive relationships with the community and first responders.

## Youth Fishing Derby

8 a.m. to 1 p.m., Heise Pond. Join Outdoor Recreation for the annual youth fishing derby. For more information, call (803) 751-3484.

#### **APRIL 29**

#### Maude Leadership Forum

C. Rampy, commander of U.S. Army Human Resources Command ,will be the guest speaker for the Lt. Gen. Timothy J. Maude Leadership Forum. The event is hosted by the Adjutant General School. For more information, call (803) 751-8440.

## HOLY WEEK SERVICES

## Catholic:

April 13: 9:30 a.m. - Palm Sunday

April 15-16: Noon-Daily Mass

April 17: 6 p.m. - Mass of the Lord's Supper

April 18: 3 p.m. - Celebration of the Passion of the Lord

April 19: 8:30 p.m. - Easter Vigil Mass

April 20: 9:30 a.m. - East Sunday

## Protestant:

April 17: 6p.m. - Maundy Thursday Service - Main Post Chapel

April 18: 6 p.m. - Good Friday Service

April 20: 6:30 a.m. - Sunrise Service - Family Life Center

## Jewish:

April 13: 6 p.m. - Passover Seder - Main Post Chapel

DID YOU KNOW: Personnel shall report Army mishaps, near misses, and hazards in their workplaces to their supervisor or leader within 24 hours.

	FAITH GROUP	DAY	TIME	PLACE
HEDULE	CATHOLIC MASS CATHOLIC MASS GOSPEL SERVICE GENERAL PROTESTANT REVIVE SERVICE JEWISH SHABBOS SERVICE	SUNDAY TUE-FRI SUNDAY SUNDAY SUNDAY FRIDAY	9:30-10:30 A.M. NOON 10:30 A.M. 11 A.M. TO NOON 5 P.M. 6-7 P.M.	MAIN POST CHAPEL MAIN POST CHAPEL KINGS MOUNTAIN CHAPEL MAIN POST CHAPEL MAIN POST CHAPEL LIGHTNING CHAPEL
NORSHIP SC	INITIAL ENTRY TRAINING CATHOLIC MASS PROTESTANT CONSOLIDATED SERVICE CHURCH OF CHRIST HISPANIC PROTESTANT SERVICE ANGLICAN ISLAMIC SERVICE JEWISH SERVICE	DAY SUNDAY SUNDAY SUNDAY SUNDAY SUNDAY SUNDAY SUNDAY SUNDAY SUNDAY	TIME 8-9 A.M. 9:30-10:30 A.M. 10:30-11:30 A.M. 8:30-10 A.M. 8-9 A.M. 8-9 A.M. 10:15-11:30 A.M.	PLACE SOLOMON CENTER SOLOMON CENTER CENTURY DIVISION CHAPEL POST THEATER SOLOMON CENTER KINGS MOUNTAIN CHAPEL 120TH AG BN (for trainees in 120th only)
	THE CHURCH OF JESUS CHRIST OF LATTER DAY SAINTS HEATHEN/PAGAN	SUNDAY SUNDAY	10:30 A.M. to NOON 8:30-9:30 A.M.	WASHINGTON ROAD CHAPEL CENTURY DIVISION CHAPEL

## Lethality

Continued from Page 5

future expenditures.

Master Chief Petty Officer of the Navy James Honea shared a similar sentiment to Weimer's during his opening remarks.

Noting that budget constraints have hindered consistent support for Navy personnel since 2013, Honea said a stable defense budget that invests in sailors, their families and a culture of continued service is necessary.

"I urge Congress to continue investing in our Navy to strengthen our lethality ... and to take care of our warfighters," Honea told the committee.

Chief Master Sgt. of the Air

Force David Flosi also said he believes lethality and quality of life are linked.

"While there's always work to be done on this important subject, make no mistake, your Air Force is the most lethal and ready-flying force in the world," Flosi said.

"Thanks to each of you for your commitment to the quality of life for our service members," he continued. "We need our airmen laser-focused on lethality and readiness, and your support allows us to execute our important mission."

Lethality is one of five key focus points Defense Secretary Pete Hegseth listed in his Jan. 25, 2025, message to the force, along with meritocracy, accountability, readiness and standards.



Photo by EJ HERSOM

Senior enlisted leaders testify before the House Appropriations Committee in Washington, April 8, 2025. They are from left: Sgt. Maj. of the Army Michael R. Weimer, Master Chief Petty Officer of the Navy James Honea, Chief Master Sgt. of the Air Force David A. Flosi, and Chief Master Sgt. of the Space Force John F. Bentivegna.

## Real ID

Continued from Page 3

background check. This means each person is researched in the national database for a disqualifying criminal record, as well as any outstanding warrants for their arrest.

Installation access will be considered on a case-by-case basis in accordance with current directives and policies and depends on the severity of any previous criminal activity. If an active warrant for a person's arrest is reflected in the system, the individual will be taken into custody and released to the proper authorities.

Visitors requesting installation access who do not have a Real ID Act-compliant form of identification and cannot provide supplemental identify-proofing documents must be escorted at all times while on a military installation by a DOD ID card holder.

For the most current information concerning state-by-state compliance with the Real ID Act, please visit http://www.dhs.gov/real-id-enforcement-brief. Those with questions about Real ID should visit http://www.dhs.gov/real-id-public-faqs.

Those who are still uncertain whether they have the proper identification to enter Fort Jackson should call (803) 751-5483/6727.

## What other documents can you use?

Below are the additional forms of identification that may be used in conjunction with a state driver's license to request access onto the installation:

■ United States Passport or United States Passport Card

PIV-I Card (Personnel Identification Verification-Interoperable) issued by the Federal Government

Veteran Health Identification Card Issued by the US Department of Veterans Affairs

DHS "Trusted Traveler" Cards (Global Entry, NEXUS, SENTRI, FAST)

Transportation Worker Identification Card (TWIC)

U.S. Coast Guard Merchant Mariner Card

■ Driver's License Issued by the US Department of State

■ Border Crossing Card

U.S. Certificate of Naturalization or Certificate of Citizenship (Form-550)

Permanent Resident Card/ Alien Registration Receipt Card (Form I-551) Foreign passport with a temporary (I-551) stamp or temporary (I-551) printed notation on a machine-readable immigrant visa

U.S. Refugee travel document to other travel document of Evidence of Immigration Status issued by the DHS containing a Photograph (permit to Re-Enter form I-327 and Refugee Travel Document Form I-571)

Employment authorization document that contains a photograph issued by the DHS (Form I-766) -In case of Nonimmigrant Alien Authorized to work for a specific employer incident to status, a Foreign passport with Form I-94 or Form I-94A bearing same name as passport and containing an endorsement of the alien's nonimmigrant status, as long as the endorsement has not expired and proposed employment is not in conflict with restrictions or limitations identified on the form.

■ Identification Card issued by Federal, State, or local government agencies provided it contains a photograph and biographic information such as name, date of birth, gender, height, eye color, and address.

■ U.S. Military or draft record (Certified copy of DD Form 214)

■ Native American tribal document

Foreign Government Issued Passport with Current Arrival-Departure Records (INS Form 94) bearing names as the same name as the passport and containing an endorsement of an aliens nonimmigrant status, it that Status authorizes the Alien to work for the employer

Select university, library, or school cards containing a photograph, name and expiration date

Non-Government photo Identification with a person's name and address

■ Birth certificate or document with a person's full name and address

Utility bill or other documentation showing a person's name and address

■ Vehicle registration with name and address

# VICTORY STARTS HERE



A Soldier examines a casualty during testing for the Expert Field Medical Badge, April 8. Fort Jackson began testing for Expert Field Medical, Expert Infantryman and Expert Soldier badges April 7.