

THURSDAY, JULY 10, 2025

THE FORT JACKSON LEADER

"VICTORY ... STARTS HERE."

JACKSON RINGS IN NATION'S 249TH BIRTHDAY

WITH A BANG!



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Army updates facial hair policy to enforce grooming standards

Army Public Affairs

The U.S. Army is updating its facial hair grooming policy in an Army Directive that resulted from a force-wide review of military standards.

The update reinforces the Army's long-standing policy that all Soldiers must be clean-shaven when in uniform or civilian clothes while on duty, with temporary exemptions for medical reasons and permanent exemptions for religious accommodations.


The new policy requires exemptions for non-religious reasons to be supported by a temporary medical profile (DA Form 3349-SG) and an exception-to-policy (ETP) memo granted by an O-5 officer in the chain of command.


The change, which will be effective the day the directive is signed, will ensure that leaders are actively involved in the process.

Soldiers requiring exceptions must also maintain presentable copies of their required documents when in uniform or civilian clothes while on duty. Similarly, religious exemptions will require religious accommodation documentation.

"This update reinforces our culture that fosters discipline – and discipline equals readiness," said Sgt. Maj. of the Army Michael R. Weimer. "Through a phased implementation we are working with providers through commanders to effectively address grooming standards to ensure we maintain a professional force."

The directive also provides guidance on pseudo-folliculitis barbae or PFB, which is commonly known as razor bumps. It emphasizes the roles of healthcare providers and commanders in motivating and supporting Soldiers with


**ARMY DIRECTIVE 2025
FACIAL HAIR GROOMING
STANDARDS UPDATE**


EFFECTIVE: JUNE 7, 2025

WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW

- Soldiers must be clean-shaven on duty is a long-standing Army policy
- Shaving profiles have doubled since 2020, suggesting a relaxed standard
- This update reinforces the Army standard of uniformity and discipline
- The Army will help Soldiers manage shaving conditions to meet the standard
- Mustaches are still authorized

POLICY AT A GLANCE

- Must adhere to the clean-shaven standard within the allotted time
- Exemptions require a medical profile and exception-to-policy memo from an O-5 commander
- No permanent medical profiles will be authorized for shaving exemptions
- Must maintain a physical or digital copy of profile and exception-to-policy
- Must comply with the facial hair standard within two years but cannot be on profile more than 12 accumulated months. Administrative separation may be considered thereafter
- Healthcare providers and leaders will assist with treatment plans, education, and training

WHAT'S NEXT

- All profiles and religious exemptions must be reviewed within 90 days
- Medical treatment plans will be issued to support phased recovery and compliance with the standard
- Request an exception-to-policy memo through your chain of command after your profile is validated by a medical professional
- Get educated on good shaving techniques and ways to reduce irritation



Photo by STAFF SGT. JACCOB HEARN

A Soldier shaves during a field training exercise at Camp Shelby, July 24, 2024. The Army recently announced updates to its facial hair grooming policy in an Army Directive.

PFB to manage their condition and to adhere to grooming standards within a reasonable timeframe.

Army healthcare providers, commanders, and leaders will assist Soldiers by providing education and treatment plans while monitoring Soldiers' progress toward adhering to the grooming standards. Soldiers who cannot comply

with grooming standards within a reasonable time may be administratively separated.

This policy update underlines the Army's commitment to maintaining both warfighting readiness and a uniform, disciplined force. We will ensure our Soldiers have the resources and support they need to meet Army standards.

ON THE COVER

Fireworks explode over Hilton Field as Fort Jackson celebrated America's 249th Birthday with a festival full of fireworks and musical entertainment.



Photo by ROBERT TIMMONS

See Page 6-7

THE FORT JACKSON LEADER

Fort Jackson, South Carolina 29207

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Army Community Service warns of financial scams

By ANGELA CROSLAND
Army Community Service

July marks Military Consumer Month, a time dedicated to empowering service members, veterans, and their families with the tools to safeguard their finances and personal information.

For the Fort Jackson community, this initiative is especially vital as military families are often targeted by scammers due to their unique financial situations and frequent relocations.

One of the most common threats is identity theft. Scammers may exploit personal information to open fraudulent accounts or access financial resources.

To protect your identity, ensure sensitive documents, such as military orders and Social Security numbers, are stored securely. Use strong, unique passwords for online accounts and enable two-factor authentication whenever possible.

Also avoid using the same password for all of your accounts. Regularly monitor your credit report for unauthorized activity, which can be done for free through annualcreditreport.com.

Another prevalent risk is phishing scams, where fraudsters pose as legitimate organizations to steal information.

Be cautious of unsolicited emails, texts, or phone calls requesting personal or financial details.

Verify the authenticity of any communication by contacting the organization directly using official contact information.

Military families should also be wary of predatory lending schemes and fake charities claiming to support veterans. Research thoroughly before engaging with lenders or donating to causes.

Look for reviews and verify legitimacy through trusted resources like the Better Business Bureau.

Fort Jackson's Army Community Service Financial Readiness Program offers resources and workshops to educate families on financial security and scam prevention.

By staying informed and vigilant, the Fort Jackson community can protect its members from financial harm and ensure a secure future. For additional information fraud protection, scams or recovery, call ACS at (803) 751-5256, option 3 to speak to a financial counselor.



Marilynn Bailey, Army Community Service Specialist, helps a spouse during a recent event. ACS has recently warned the community to be aware of financial scams.



Community Updates

ANNOUNCEMENTS

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 safety specialist.

- Basic Riders Course: July 29-31 (5 seats open)
 - Intermediate Drivers Course: July 22 (20 seats open)
 - Local Hazards Course: Every Monday at 10 a.m. (except holidays)
- Additional training not associated with the link above:
- Unit Safety Officer Course: Aug. 5-6 25 (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.

Victory Fresh

Victory Fresh offers healthy alternatives to fast food. Victory Fresh offers Grab and Go entrees, a Build Your Own Power Bowl station, Hot BBQ bar, and brick oven pizzas during lunch hours of 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Additionally, Grab and Go items are available during extended hours and breakfast is available from 7-9:30 a.m. Victory Fresh helps patrons manage fueling their bodies in a healthy way, within the time constraints of an on-the-go lifestyle.

Summer Reading Program

Join the Thomas Lee Hall "Post" Library for this year's Summer Reading Program: "Level Up at Your Library." Sign-up for SRP to read, log minutes, and receive prizes. Programs will be held all week long. Coloring sheet contests will last throughout June and July. Registration began June 1.

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.

Alpine Lodge

Alpine Lodge is ready for any and all-party events: birthday, holiday, retirement, promotion parties, even weddings. This includes an amazing location, pond (no swimming) overlooking loft, outdoor porch. Full size kitchen (no stove) tables and chairs. Rustic looks and more \$100 deposit, \$300 to rent. For more information, call Outdoor Recreation at (803) 751-3484.

Basic Skill Education Program

The Basic Skill Education Program. If your General Technical score is under 110, the Education Center's BSEP classes will help you improve your score. The in-

structor-led classes focus on basic math and reading skills which make up your GT score. The classes are conducted during duty hours. Contact the Education Center for course dates, requirements, and deadlines. The next BSEP class session begins July 22 and ends Aug. 1. Classes are not conducted on federal holidays. Student enrollments are limited, so please register early.

COMMUNITY EVENTS

TODAY

Green to Gold briefing

Noon, Education Center. Ever think about turning in those stripes for some bars? The Green to Gold Active Duty Option Program is a two-year program that provides eligible, Active Duty enlisted Soldiers an opportunity to complete a baccalaureate degree or a two-year graduate degree and earn a commission as an Army officer. For more information, call (803) 554-9987.

TOMORROW

165th Change of Command

9 a.m., Victory Field. Col David Uthlaut relinquishes command of the 165th Infantry Brigade to Col. Joshua M. Betty.

SATURDAY

Private Weapons Day

10 a.m. to 2 p.m., Aachen Range. Shooters can shoot at targets between 25-200m. 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. For more information, call (803) 751-3484. For information about

Fort Jackson Movie Schedule

3319 Jackson Blvd.
Phone: 751-7488

SATURDAY, JULY 12

- Lilo & Stitch (PG)

WEDNESDAY, JULY 16

- Mission Impossible: The Final Reckoning (PG-13)

- 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.

registering your weapon, call (803) 751-6019.

UNTIL - AUG. 8

Youth Sports Registration

Registration for tackle football, flag football, cheerleading, soccer and cross country begins. For more information and costs to register, call (803) 751-7451.

TUESDAY-AUG. 28

Intramural Basketball

The interest meeting and letter of intent deadline for the Summer Intramural Basketball League is July 11 at the Solomon Center. The games are on Mondays, Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays

See **EVENTS:** Page 10

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 (803) 751-3615.

Recruitment aims to capitalize on 2025 surge

By MAJ. WES SHINEGO
DOD News

Just two years ago, the outlook for military recruitment was bleak. A 15,000-Soldier shortfall — the Army's deepest gap since the draft ended in 1973 — forced commanders to trim training rotations and rethink end-strength projections, while lawmakers warned the all-volunteer force faced its most serious manning crisis in half a century.

Pandemic school closures had kept recruiters off campuses and students out of classrooms, the chaotic end of the Afghanistan war shook public confidence, and a private sector labor market flush with signing bonuses lured away many of the young Americans who still qualified for military service.

However, after years of recruitment shortfalls, the services are on track to meet or exceed their recruiting targets this fiscal year.

The Army reached its goal of 61,000 new soldiers four months ahead of schedule, the Navy met its active-duty goal and the Air Force is expected to do so by the end of July.

Defense Secretary Pete Hegseth credits the improved recruiting numbers to President Donald J. Trump and initiatives like the Army's Future Soldier Preparatory Course, which helps potential recruits qualify for service. Chief Pentagon Spokesman Sean Parnell said although the numbers are promising, the Defense Department needed a plan to maintain the momentum.

That plan is the Recruitment Task Force, a 12-month effort established by Hegseth, June 13, 2025. Co-chaired by Parnell and Jules W. Hurst III, performing the duties of undersecretary of de-



U.S. Army photo

A captain with U.S. Army Recruiting Command salutes during an Army birthday event. The Department of Defense is looking to capitalize on the 2025 surge in recruitment.

fense for personnel and readiness, the group brings together recruiters, data analysts, lawyers and public affairs specialists, who will translate this year's momentum into an enduring advantage.

"Our job is to provide ... oversight at the Defense Department level that will outlast this president and this secretary and be a tool subsequent presidents and secretaries can use," Parnell said.

Hegseth expects the task force to move quickly — to identify obstacles to recruiting within 30 days, recommend policy and legislative fixes within 60 days and deliver a unified communication plan within the next 90 days. The timetable is designed to produce actionable results quickly.

"The Recruitment Task Force ... will work swiftly to position the services to overcome recruiting obstacles, remain competitive, and build on recent recruit-

ing momentum," he said.

One such obstacle is the waiver backlog. Roughly 35% of Army accessions last year required waivers for issues like childhood asthma or adolescent misdemeanors. The bureaucracy, Parnell argues, keeps too many qualified prospects on the sidelines.

"I don't know that I would be able to join the Army today with some of the waivers that I needed back then," he said, recalling his own enlistment after the Sept. 11, 2001, terrorist attacks. "Today, in order to get the waiver, it takes six months, and by that time, they've got another job."

The task force is working to eliminate unnecessary barriers without lowering standards. A parallel medical standards review, also directed by Hegseth, will

Guess who served in the Army?

By SGT. WOODLYNE
ESCARNE
Army News Service

A few celebrities America has grown to know on Hollywood screens and big stages, have a history with the Army. Just like the men and women who serve today with dedication and distinction, each one of these celebrities has their own story about their era serving in the Army.

The Army draws people from all walks of life to serve and often go on to achieve greatness in their careers outside the military.

From iconic entertainers to athletes and musicians, these celebrities demonstrated that patriotism and fame are not mutually exclusive.

Elvis Presley, Mel Brooks, James Earl Jones, Clint Eastwood, Jimi Hendrix, and J.R. Martinez, are just a few of many others that served in the Army.

These public figures served in different eras and supported different wars throughout history. Some were drafted; others volunteered. But through their varied experiences, they share one unifying thread: they answered the call to serve.

"I had quite a few interesting experiences," said Elvis Presley about his time in service. "Slept out in the snow, ate through rations... All in all, it's been a pretty good experience."

Presley was sworn in on March 24, 1958. He completed basic training at Fort Hood, Texas, and was later stationed in Germany with the 3rd Armored Division.

"I was welcomed and treated just

Jackson rings in nation's 249th birthday

WITH A BANG!

Story, photos by ROBERT TIMMONS
Fort Jackson Public Affairs

Fort Jackson's "4th at the Fort" event steamrolled into the night, as more than 30,000 guests came to watch fireworks and hear some raucous music.

The 282d Army Band headlined the show, with country-rock musician Aden Webb taking the stage first. He sang a variety of classic rock and contemporary country hits before turning the stage over to celtic rock band, SYR.

SYR delivered a headbanging set that bounded with energy and vigor as Soldiers crowded near the stage.

The 282d would then take the stage to play a variety of classics before teaming up with the Fort Jackson Salute Battery for an explosive rendition of the 1812 Overture.

For trainees like Pvt. Cameron Jones, with Company E, 2nd Battalion 60th Infantry Regiment, it was a time to get away from training and see some fireworks.

"It's good to get out of basic for a while and have fun socializing with people," he said, "and eat pizza."

The trainees were able to purchase, and eat, their own pizzas - something they don't get to do very often, if at all, during training.

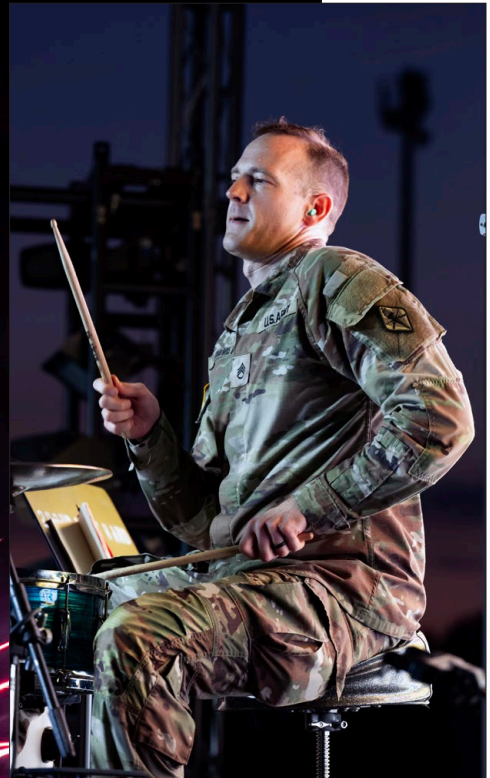
They weren't the only ones having fun.

Families played ball on the grass and children could try their hands at rock climbing, or other kid-friendly rides.

Jamie Garay said she appreciated all the rides and food choices offered for families.

"I think it's nice that all the rides are free," she said. "Sometimes at events like these you have to buy tickets, but it's a lot easier just to be able to hop in and out of line."

"There are a lot of food choices too."



'Normalization of deviance' increases unsafe actions

By **CHRIS ACCORD**

Army Combat Readiness Center

The old adage, "familiarity breeds contempt," rings eerily true when considering the dangers of normalizing deviance. Coined by sociologist Diane Vaughan, this phenomenon describes the gradual process where individuals, groups or organizations tolerate unacceptable behaviors, practices or conditions as normal.

Like a thief in the night, normalization of deviance creeps in silently and dulls the sense of wrongdoing. Normalizing deviance often masquerades as efficiency, cost-cutting or simply "the way things are done around here." But this insidious drift toward accepting substandard practices as the new normal can have catastrophic consequences, particularly in high-risk industries like aerospace, healthcare and the military.

The Dangers of Accepted Deviance

The true danger of normalizing deviance lies in its subtlety.

Initially, deviations might seem minor and inconsequential. Examples include skipping a procedural step due to a time crunch, deferring a minor maintenance procedure because "it's never caused a problem before" or bending the rules on driver training due to competing priorities. These seemingly insignificant acts, when repeated and uncorrected, erode safety margins and pave the way for disaster.

The longer these deviations go unchallenged, the more ingrained they become in the organizational culture, making them even harder to eradicate. Dr. Robert Figlock of Advanced Survey Design, LLC, aptly warned senior military leaders in 2005, "When cutting corners becomes routine, and routine violations become the norm, then



U.S. Army photo

Soldiers perform preventative checks on their vehicle prior to a mission. The checks are necessary to keep from being complacent and 'normalizing deviance.'

they may not be seen as violations at all to a newcomer who perceives, 'That's the way it's always been done around here.' The practice becomes the rule, rather than the exception to the rule. Over time, the correct rule is lost.

With so much on-the-job training conducted in the fleet to train new personnel, routinely cutting corners is a setup for future calamity."

In other words, as deviations become ingrained in organizational culture, they become harder to eradicate, lulling teams into a false sense of security and increasing the likelihood of sending a chaplain and a casualty notification officer to visit the next of kin.

Organizational Culture: The Breeding Ground

Organizational culture plays a crucial role in either fostering or preventing the normalization of

deviance. A culture that tolerates shortcuts, prioritizes production or time over adhering to safety procedures, or discourages open communication about risks creates fertile ground for deviance to take root. For example, factors such as:

Production pressure or OP-TEMPO: When ineffective planning and time management create unrealistic deadlines and performance goals that incentivize cutting corners.

Overconfidence in experience: Highly skilled or experienced personnel may believe their expertise allows them to bend rules safely, leading to increased risk-taking.

Allowing unwritten practices to become standard: When deviations go unaddressed by supervisory personnel, it sends a message that they are acceptable, which causes individuals to continue deviating without fear of repercus-

sions.

Rationalization of behavior: Once established, deviance becomes the accepted norm, making it harder for individuals to recognize and challenge unsafe practices. People justify deviations by thinking, "We've always done it this way," or, "Nothing bad has happened before," dismissing potential dangers.

Absence of catastrophic failure: Organizations often respond only after a major failure or disaster occurs. In the absence of such an event, deviations continue unchecked.

Stifling communication: A culture where individuals feel uncomfortable reporting safety concerns or challenging unsafe practices allows deviance to flourish.

Case Studies: When Deviance Turns Deadly

History is replete with exam-

ples of mishaps where normalized deviance played a significant role, including:

■ **Challenger Space Shuttle Disaster (1986):** Engineers had expressed concerns about the O-rings' performance in cold temperatures, but these concerns were overruled due to launch schedule pressures and a history of seemingly successful launches despite O-ring erosion.

This normalization of the known risk ultimately led to the tragic loss of the shuttle and its crew.

■ **Columbia Space Shuttle Disaster (2003):** Foam shedding from the external tank during launch had become a normalized occurrence, despite its potential to damage the shuttle's thermal protection system.

This acceptance of a known risk ultimately led to the disintegration of Columbia upon re-entry over the southern states.

■ **BP Texas City Refinery Explosion (2005):** Cost-cutting measures and a lax safety culture contributed to numerous safety violations becoming normalized, culminating in a catastrophic explosion that killed 15 workers and injured 180.

The Army, like the organizations in the above-listed case studies, is not immune to cultural factors that cause mishaps.

To proactively address this, the U.S. Army Combat Readiness Center developed the interactive "Dirty Dozen" poster series (<https://safety.army.mil/MEDIA/Safety-Brief-Tools>), identifying the 12 most cited mishap causes from fiscal years 2020-2024.

This resource empowers commanders to analyze their units' specific risks, understand their potential impact and develop targeted strategies to prevent dangerous

Guess

Continued from Page 5

like everyone else, which meant a lot to me,” said Presley, who served as an armor intelligence specialist and promoted to sergeant before his discharge in 1960.

American filmmaker, director and actor Mel Brooks was drafted into the Army and served during World War II.

Mel Brooks, known for his wittiness and comedic genius, served as a combat engineer with 1104th Engineer Combat Group during World War II. He took part in the Battle of the Bulge, where he helped clear German mines so Allied forces could advance.

“The Army taught me discipline, respect, and how to survive, but it also showed me that laughter could get you through anything.

Even a war,” Brooks said. His time in service later influenced his work in comedy and film.

James Earl Jones served during the Korean War era. He was commissioned as a second lieutenant and attended Ranger School, earning his Ranger Tab before being assigned to the 38th Regimental Combat Team.

Clint Eastwood was drafted during the Korean War and served as a lifeguard at Fort Ord, California, before being discharged after the war.



Department of Defense photo
Sgt. Elvis Presley served in the Army from 1958-1960.

Recruitment

Continued from Page 5

feed directly into the group's recommendations.

Another concern is the waning interest in service. Defense Department polls show that only about 11% of today's youth have a propensity to serve.

That trend, Parnell said, reverses when young people meet troops in their communities.

Acting on that insight, the task force is amplifying summer activities to increase interest — from hometown parades and STEM expos to youth sports clinics — often with the help of service and joint force recruiting commands who produce social media content to reach young people.

Technology is another force multiplier. The Army's Recruit 360 platform utilizes arti-

ficial intelligence to rank leads based on contract potential; the Navy and Air Force operate similar programs. The task force seeks to unify standards through technology without losing the all-important human touchpoint, Parnell said.

“The task force and the tools we employ are supposed to be resources ... we're not a top-down run entity,” he said. Recruiters, he added, remain the best judges of character and propensity to serve; the Pentagon's role is to give them faster tools and fewer obstacles.

Efforts to maintain recruiting momentum extend beyond digital tools. Congress has passed three straight pay raises above 4%, and Defense Department SkillBridge agreements with industry help transitioning service members earn civilian certifications at no cost to taxpayers.

Both trends, officials say, make uniformed service more attractive to high-aptitude youth who once saw a four-year enlistment as a detour.

transformation, and talent which continue to inspire those who serve and all future Soldiers. Among many who chose to wear the Army uniform, each of their stories proves that with the Army, you truly can Be All You Can Be.

Musician Jimi Hendrix spent time in the Army. He served for about a year with the 101st Airborne Division.

Hendrix enlisted in 1961 and became a rooper with the 101st Airborne Division. Facing legal trouble, he was given a choice by a judge: go to jail or join the Army. He chose to enlist for three years.

While in the service, Hendrix met bassist Billy Cox, and the two began performing music together while enlisted, kick-starting the beginning of his music career.

J.R. Martinez enlisted in September 2002 and was assigned as an infantryman with the 2nd Battalion, 502nd Infantry Regiment, 101st Airborne Division.

In April 2003, he was severely injured when his Humvee struck a landmine in Iraq. After a long recovery and more than 30 surgeries, he was medically discharged as a corporal in 2003. Martinez went on to become an actor, author, and motivational speaker.

Though the experiences and eras of service differ for each of these celebrities, they all share something in common: serving the Army with distinction.

Their stories are marked by courage, transformation, and talent which continue to inspire those who serve and all future Soldiers. Among many who chose to wear the Army uniform, each of their stories proves that with the Army, you truly can Be All You Can Be.

Parnell frames the task force's efforts in tactical terms.

“This is intended to be like a combat multiplier,” he said.

The comparison feels apt: recruiting numbers may never command headlines like a battlefield victory, but the services agree their most essential resource is people.

If the task force can reduce the waiver backlog, raise propensity and unify messaging, it will help the all-volunteer force secure what operational leaders need most — motivated and capable personnel.

Whether that happens will be clearer next year when the task force is scheduled to sunset. For now, Parnell says, momentum is on the department's side. The task is to keep it.

“The numbers are great now,” he said, “but six months from now, we'll see.”

Parnell's point is a reminder that recruiting success, like any military advantage, must be won every day and preserved for when political winds and economic tides shift.

SALUTING THIS CYCLE'S HONOREES

1st Battalion, 34th Infantry Regiment

**DRILL SERGEANT
OF THE CYCLE**
Sgt. 1st Class
Nicholas Mercado

**ALPHA COMPANY
SOLDIER LEADER
OF THE CYCLE**
Pvt. Rock L. Gassman

SOLDIER OF THE CYCLE
Spc. Kareem K. Brown

**BRAVO COMPANY
SOLDIER LEADER
OF THE CYCLE**
Pfc. Evan Dewey

SOLDIER OF THE CYCLE
Pfc. Andrew Vandevander

**CHARLIE COMPANY
SOLDIER LEADER
OF THE CYCLE**
Spc. Alastair Poole

SOLDIER OF THE CYCLE
Spc. Michael Womack

**DELTA COMPANY
SOLDIER LEADER
OF THE CYCLE**
Pvt. Marissa D. Treat

SOLDIER OF THE CYCLE
Spc. Connor F. Murphy

**ECHO COMPANY
SOLDIER LEADER
OF THE CYCLE**
Pfc. Morgan Powell

SOLDIER OF THE CYCLE
Pvt. Hongphuc Nguyen

Events

Continued from Page 4

at 6 and 7 p.m.. For more information, call (803) 751-3096.

JULY 19 Fort Jackson 10-miler

5 a.m., Hilton Field Sports Complex. For more information or to register, call (803) 751-3700.

JULY 24 Ultimate Frisbee Tournament

6 p.m., Hilton Field Sports Complex. Games begin July 24 and letters of intent are due July 23. For more information, call (803) 751-3096.

JULY 27 Special Worship Service

9:30 and 11 a.m., Solomon Center. The Religious Support Office is hosting a special worship service with a special message by Will Graham, of the Billy

Graham Evangelistic Association. Worship music will be played by the Afters. For more information, call (803) 751-3121.

JULY 27-31 Club Beyond

Club Beyond, an approved ministry partner here at Fort Jackson is taking high schoolers and middle schoolers to overnight camps this summer to Rockbridge Young Life Camp in VA. The is for ,ilitary teens who have just completed 6th- 8th grades. If you are interested in participating. register at cb114.younglife.events/2025-rockbridge-wk-11-cb114ms. For more information, call the Club Beyond Fort Jackson Community Director at (256) 794-2623.

AUG. 2 Back to School Color Run

Youth Sports Complex. Come out and celebrate the beginning of the new school year with the annual color run. The first 100 youths registered receive a free t-shirt. For more information, call (803) 751-7451.

AUG. 9

Outdoor Fishing Trip

5 a.m., Marion Street Station. Travel to Hilton Head, S.C. with Outdoor Recreation Team and fish 3-5 miles offshore for black sea bass, mackerel, black drum, red fish, bluefish and maybe even a shark. Climb on board a 70-foot fishing boat for a five-hour fishing trip. The boat offers shaded and seated fishing areas, restrooms, and even has snacks and drinks for sale on board. Transportation and coolers will be provided. Cost (\$95 per adult) covers transportation, license, bait and tackle. Preregistration required at Outdoor Recreation. For registration and more information, call (803) 751-3484.

AUG. 9-10 Dog Days at the Waterpark

10 a.m. to 2 p.m., Palmetto Falls Water Park. Bring Fido to Palmetto Falls to wallow in the water. Dogs vaccinations must be current. Season pass holders are allowed one dog per pass. Non-pass holders \$10 per dog. For more information, call (803) 751-4796.

AUG. 12 Shred Day

9 a.m. to 2 p.m., Recycle Center. Come and shred all types of paper with sensitive information will be accepted, but NO classified documents. Shredding papers with your personal information provides a level of insurance against identity theft and misuse. If you have any questions or comments please call, (803)751-4208.

AUG. 16 Edisto River Tubing

7 a.m., Marion Steet Station. Join Fort Jackson Outdoor Recreation and enjoy a relaxing trip tubing down the Edisto River. This journey will last two hours. \$45 per person price includes transportation, rentals and shuttle service. Personal coolers are allowed. For more information and to register, call (803) 751-3484.

SEPT. 20 Fort Gordon trail ride

8 a.m. to 3 p.m. Join us for a horseback trail ride at Fort Gordon, Ga. For more information, call (803) 751-3484.

WORSHIP SCHEDULE	FAITH GROUP	DAY	TIME	PLACE
	CATHOLIC MASS	SUNDAY	9:30-10:30 A.M.	MAIN POST CHAPEL
	CATHOLIC MASS	MONDAY-FRIDAY	NOON	MAIN POST CHAPEL
	GOSPEL SERVICE	SUNDAY	10:30 A.M.	KINGS MOUNTAIN CHAPEL
	GENERAL PROTESTANT	SUNDAY	11 A.M. TO NOON	MAIN POST CHAPEL
	REVIVE SERVICE	SUNDAY	5 P.M.	MAIN POST CHAPEL
	JEWISH SHABBOS SERVICE	FRIDAY	6-7 P.M.	CENTURY DIVISION CHAPEL
	INITIAL ENTRY TRAINING	DAY	TIME	PLACE
	CATHOLIC MASS	SUNDAY	8-9 A.M.	SOLOMON CENTER
	PROTESTANT CONSOLIDATED SERVICE	SUNDAY	9:30-10:30 A.M.	SOLOMON CENTER
	CHURCH OF CHRIST	SUNDAY	9-10 A.M.	CENTURY DIVISION CHAPEL
	HISPANIC PROTESTANT SERVICE	SUNDAY	11 A.M. to NOON	SOLOMON CENTER (1st and 3rd Sundays)
	GOSPEL SERVICE	SUNDAY	11 A.M. to NOON	SOLOMON CENTER (2nd and 4th Sundays)
	ANGLICAN	SUNDAY	9:30-10 A.M.	LIGHTNING CHAPEL
	ISLAMIC SERVICE	SUNDAY	8-9 A.M.	LIGHTNING CHAPEL
	JEWISH SERVICE	SUNDAY	10:30-11:30 A.M.	120TH AG BN (for trainees in 120th only)
	THE CHURCH OF JESUS CHRIST OF LATTER DAY SAINTS	SUNDAY	10:30 A.M. to NOON	CENTURY DIVISION CHAPEL

Unsafe

Continued from Page 8

practices from taking root.

Combating Normalization of Deviance: Best Practices

Organizational leaders play a vital role in preventing normalization of deviance. Key initiatives include:

Cultivating a strong safety culture: This is the cornerstone of a resilient and responsible organization, built on a foundation of trust and shared values. These, in turn, are essential for prioritizing the well-being of its people and the sustainability of its operations.

Encouraging open communication: Create a reporting culture where individuals feel comfortable raising safety concerns without fear of reprisal. Anonymous reporting mechanisms may be used to promote a level of comfort.

Enforcing accountability: Address deviations promptly and consistently, regardless of their perceived severity. This demonstrates that safety rules are not negotiable.

Promoting continuous learning: Don't let complacency set in.

Regularly review procedures, conduct safety audits, review near-miss incidents to identify potential areas of concern, and encourage employees to identify potential hazards and suggest improvements.

Leading by example: Leaders must demonstrate their commitment to safety through their actions and decisions.

They must be willing to challenge unsafe practices, even if it means delaying production.

Just culture: Implementing a just culture model helps create a learning environment where individuals feel safe reporting errors and near misses without fear of blame, fostering continuous improvement and preventing the normalization of deviance.

Reward adherence: Recognize and reward individuals and teams that consistently prioritize safety and ethical behavior.

By understanding the mechanics of normalization of deviance and proactively implementing preventive measures, organizations can create a culture of safety and responsibility, protecting the Army's most valuable asset — its people.



Photo by NATHAN CLINEBELLE

Thank you

Fort Jackson honored the service of Lt. Col. Christopher Adkins, from U.S. Army Central at Shaw Air Force Base, S.C.; Maj. Liliane Delva, 369th Adjutant General Battalion; and Christopher D. Cole, Videorama productions, during the Basic Combat Training graduation, July 2.

Program ties food to national defense

By C. TODD LOPEZ
DOD News

The Department of Agriculture announced July 8 the new governmentwide, multiprong effort focused on ensuring America's ability to secure its own food supply, in part by eliminating interference from adversarial nations.

But the National Farm Security Action Plan isn't just about food or farms. The Defense Department benefits as well.

Agriculture Secretary Brooke Rollins explained the significance of the first action item in the National Farm Security Action Plan, which she said is likely the most important.

"The first of the seven is securing and protecting American farmland ownership, actively engaging at every level of government to take swift legislative and executive action to ban the purchase of

American farmland by Chinese nationals and other foreign adversaries," she said.

Part of that, she said, also involves using presidential authorities to reclaim farmland in the U.S. that is now owned by foreign adversaries.

While keeping farmland in the hands of American farmers rather than businesses affiliated with adversarial foreign governments secures the ability of the U.S. to always produce food to feed Americans, it serves a second purpose as well.

In some cases, farmland purchased by investors associated with adversarial foreign governments is situated around U.S. military installations, which means foreign ownership of that land is both a threat to America's ability to ensure its own food supply and also a threat to broader American security because it puts those installations at risk.

"As someone who's charged with

leading the Defense Department, I want to know who owns the land around our bases and strategic bases, and getting an understanding of why foreign entities, foreign companies, foreign individuals, might be buying up land around those bases," Defense Secretary Pete Hegseth said. "That's something I should be paying attention to, on behalf of the American people, on behalf of my department and on behalf of the president."

Food security, energy resilience and water resources, Hegseth said, are all part of national security, especially in contingency situations.

"We would be asleep at the wheel if we were not fully a party to an effort like (the National Farm Security Action Plan) to ensure that our nation had the food supply it needs, but specifically our troops have what they need on our bases, so that in those moments, you can rely on us here in the United States to provide that security," Hegseth said.

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Fireworks explode over Hilton Field during the post's '4th on the Fort' Independence Day event held July 4.

Photo by ROBERT TIMMONS