

THURSDAY, JULY 17, 2025

THE FORT JACKSON LEADER

"VICTORY ... STARTS HERE."

LIGHTNING BRIGADE WELCOMES ...

NEW COMMANDER



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The fact and fiction of heat injuries

By **LT. COL. DAVID DEGROOT**
U.S. Army Combat Readiness Center

The very nature of our profession as Soldiers — training outdoors, wearing uniforms and carrying equipment — practically guarantees we will be exposed to heat stress.

The latest data from the Armed Forces Health Surveillance Division indicates that in 2022, more than 200 Soldiers suffered from heat stroke and another 1,000 suffered from other less severe forms of heat illness that required medical attention and led to lost duty time.

It may be unrealistic to hope for zero heat illnesses, but through proper training, education and preparation, we can minimize the number of Soldiers who suffer from a serious or even fatal heat illness.

The spectrum of heat illnesses includes dehydration, heat cramps, heat exhaustion, heat injury and exertional heat stroke.

Dehydration results when body fluid losses from sweating and urination exceed fluid intake. The cause of muscle cramps that occur during heat exposure is unknown, though electrolyte loss and/or dehydration likely contribute.

During exercise in the heat, there is very high demand for blood flow to the exercising muscles and skin for heat dissipation.

When this demand exceeds the pumping capacity of the heart, heat exhaustion may occur.

Therefore, heat exhaustion is primarily a cardiovascular event caused by exercise and often made worse by dehydration. Heat exhaustion is not associated with any organ damage and return to duty can occur just a few days later.

Heat injury and EHS are the most severe heat illnesses. Heat injury is characterized by organ (liver, kidney) and tissue (muscle) damage resulting from strenuous exercise and heat stress.

When profound central nervous system dysfunction also occurs, heat injury has progressed to EHS. Common



Leader file photo

A trainee dunks his forearms in order to cool himself off quickly. Fort Jackson uses arm immersion tanks to help keep trainees from overheating during the notorious heat and humidity of South Carolina.

signs include loss of consciousness, combativeness and/or altered mental status. If not properly treated with aggressive cooling, heat stroke is potentially fatal.

The following items are some facts about working in the heat, as well as some commonly held beliefs that are simply not supported by facts.

Fact: Acclimatization to the heat is extremely important and represents what might be the most important thing Soldiers and leaders can do to prepare. Acclimatization results from moderate exercise in the heat; and while

See **HEAT:** Page 9

ON THE COVER

A member of the Fort Jackson honor battery fires off a volley during the 165th Infantry Brigade change of command ceremony held July 11 at Victory Field.



Photo by **ROBERT TIMMONS**

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THE FORT JACKSON LEADER

Fort Jackson, South Carolina 29207

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Instilling Confidence

Photos by Sgt. 1st Class Dana Clarke

Second Platoon, "Wolfpack," of the U.S. Army Drill Sergeant Academy Class 017-25, faced a test of their confidence at the Fort Jackson Confidence Course, July 14. They supported each other as teammates climbed Jacob's Ladder and navigated the hanging rope obstacle and other challenges.



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

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.

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) 751-3096.

SATURDAY

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

Fort Jackson Movie Schedule

3319 Jackson Blvd.

Phone: 751-7488

SATURDAY, JULY 19

■ I Know What You Did Last Summer (R)

WEDNESDAY, JULY 23

■ I Know What You Did Last Summer (R)

- 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.

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 military teens who have just completed 6th- 8th grades. If you are interested in participa-

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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.

Fort Lee renamed after Buffalo Soldier, Medal of Honor recipient

By **ERICKA GILLESPIE**
and **JEFFERSON WOLFE**
Army News Service

Medal of Honor recipient Pvt. Fitz Lee was honored today during a ceremony re-naming the installation after him.

The ceremony, which took place at the U.S. Army Ordnance Training Support Facility, featured the unveiling of new signage displaying “Fort Lee,” which will be installed at all garrison access control points. Additionally, the Sustainment Gate was renamed Lee Gate, and Sustainment Avenue was changed to Lee Avenue.

“Today, we gather not simply to unveil a new name for this installation, but to honor the full arc of service, sacrifice and commitment that has defined it for generations,” said Maj. Gen. Michelle Donahue, commanding general of the Combined Arms Support Command and Fort Lee. “We gather with respect, to celebrate the legacy of all who have served here and to look forward to the future.”

Donahue also acknowledged the installation’s previous namesakes, Lt. Gen. Arthur Gregg and Lt. Col. Charity Adams, praising their pioneering service, leadership and perseverance.

Donahue, commanding general of the Combined Arms Support Command spoke to the crowd during the installation’s redesignation ceremony July 11 at the Ordnance Training Support Facility.

“Their stories will remain vital parts of this installation and our museum collections,” she stated. “We are committed to ensuring their legacies are preserved and honored as they helped shape this post into the center of excellence it is today.”

Lee enlisted in the Army as a private

in 1889 and served with the 10th Cavalry, known as “Buffalo Soldiers,” during the Spanish-American War.

“We honor our installation with the legacy of Pvt. Fitz Lee who was a native of Dinwiddie County, a Buffalo Soldier and a Medal of Honor recipient,” said Col. Rich Bendelewski, Fort Lee garrison commander.

Lee earned the Medal of Honor for his exceptional courage during a daring rescue mission in Cuba in June 1898.

“We are proud and excited to be here today honoring our fellow Buffalo Soldier Pvt. Fitz Lee,” said Trooper Nina Amos, National President of the 9th & 10th (Horse) Calvary Association. “Lee was a Soldier who served with honor, integrity, valor and conviction.” Lee was awarded the Medal of Honor during the War with Spain.



Photo by **ERICKA GILLESPIE**

Trooper Nina Amos, National President of the 9th & 10th (Horse) Calvary Association; Col. Rich Bendelewski, Fort Lee garrison commander; Kevin Massengill, Dinwiddie County administrator; and Maj. Gen. Michelle Donahue, commanding general of the Combined Arms Support Command and Fort Lee unveiled the new signage displaying ‘Fort Lee,’ July 11.

As he was boarding transport ships bound for Cuba, Lee, along with 50 other troopers, was chosen for a special assignment behind enemy lines to reinforce and resupply Cuban fighters seeking liberation from Spanish rule, according to the National Park Service’s Charles Young Buffalo Soldiers National Monument website.

On June 30, 1898, Cuban freedom fighters and some American volunteers aboard the U.S.S. Florida attempted an amphibious landing at Tayacoba, Cuba. The landing party immediately engaged with Spanish soldiers from a nearby blockhouse.

The Cubans and Americans retreated, leaving behind a group of wounded comrades. After four failed attempts, U.S.

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DOD to increase low-cost drone production

By **DAVID VERGUN**
DOD News

The Defense Department, with help from industry, will ramp up production and fielding of drones to maintain battlefield superiority.

Eighteen American-made drone prototypes were on display at the Pentagon, July 16.

Defense Secretary Pete Hegseth, who toured the displays, said the drones that are manufactured using off-the-shelf components for rapid production are examples of disruptive thinking.

Emil Michael, undersecretary of defense for research and engineering, said the prototypes on display went from concept to development in just an average of 18 months, a process that normally takes up to six years.

The department will continue to rapidly innovate and scale up production of drones and other systems using cost, resilience, firepower and range as driving factors, which are areas DOD wants to improve upon, Michael said.

Hegseth said in a July 10, 2025, memorandum that he’s rescinding restrictive policies that hindered drone production.

“Drones are the biggest battlefield innovation in a generation, accounting for most of this year’s casualties in Ukraine. Our adversaries collectively produce millions of cheap drones each year,” he said, noting the U.S. military is lacking needed quantities of lethal small drones.

The secretary said there are three goals:

1. Prioritizing the purchase of American-made drones and parts

See **DRONE**, Page 9

Lightning Brigade welcomes new commander

Col. Joshua M. Betty took command of the 165th Infantry Brigade from Col. David Uthlaut, July 11.

Story, photos by ROBERT TIMMONS
Fort Jackson Public Affairs

The Army Training Center and Fort Jackson welcomed Col. Joshua M. Betty as commander of 165th Infantry Brigade in a ceremony held July 11 at Victory Field.

“Today we’re present to witness a change of command ceremony between two outstanding colonels,” said Maj. Gen. Daryl O. Hood, Fort Jackson commander during the event that saw Betty takes the reins of the Lightning Brigade from Col. David Uthlaut.

A change of command ceremony can be “bittersweet” because it sees the outgoing leader moving on, while also ushering in a new commander.

Hood said that Uthlaut, who’s tenure in command had “truly been awesome,” will be missed.

He added Uthlaut and the cadre on the field, “are representative of over 30,000 Basic Combat Training Soldiers that have graduated, along with over 18,000 trainees from our Future Soldier Preparatory Course” (who have part of the brigade).

The 165th is comprised of six battalions of which two also train recruits in the FSPC.

“You’ve been instrumental anytime we have to kick of a pilot and decide if that is the right move and direction for the Army to take,” Hood added while highlighting Uthlaut’s time at Jackson.

“To Josh Betty, congratulations on this opportunity to serve as the 165th Infantry Brigade commander,”

Hood said to the incoming commander and his Family. “As you execute your mission of making American Soldiers, there will definitely be some long days and some long nights.”

Hood added Betty is “more than qualified” to lead the brigade.

Betty was commissioned as an infantry officer after graduating from Texas A&M in 2002. He has multiple assignments and deployments including commander of Company C, 1st Battalion, 38th Infantry Regiment in Baghdad from September 2009 to May 2010. He also deployed to Afghanistan with the 2nd Battalion, 357th Infantry Regiment.

He was also the commander of 2nd Battalion, 23rd Infantry Regiment at Fort Carson, Colorado from July 2021 to June 2022.

His last assignment was as joint planner with U.S. European Command in Vaihingen, Germany.

Betty thanked Hood and Uthlaut for welcoming him and his Family to Fort Jackson and the Lightning Brigade.

“I know you are busy forging American Soldiers,” Betty said to the brigade. “That’s why the formation here is so small ... Thank you Lightning Brigade. I’m proud to be among your ranks and I look forward to the next chapter of our honored history.”



The 165th Infantry Brigade color guard and color bearers of each of the unit’s battalions, salutes during a change of command ceremony where Col. Joshua M. Betty took command of the unit from Col. David Uthlaut.



Col. Joshua M. Betty, receives the 165th Infantry Brigade colors from Maj. Gen. Daryl O. Hood, Fort Jackson commander, during a change of command ceremony, July 11.



From left to right: Outgoing commander, Col. David Uthlaut, Maj. Gen. Daryl O. Hood, Fort Jackson commander, and incoming commander, Col. Joshua M. Betty, stand together at the beginning of a ceremony where Betty assumed command of the Lightning Brigade.

Army tests safe, lethal, armed unmanned aerial systems

By **DANIEL DIMARTINO, ANTHONY SEBASTO and ERIC KOWALL**
Army News Service

For many decades, engineers at the U.S. Army Combat Capabilities Development Command's Armaments Center executed the critical research, development and engineering activities that have led to the many safe and decisive armaments lethality capabilities employed by our Nation's warfighters.

Today, the Armaments Center is applying those same successful rigorous design processes and standards to new armaments developments for lethal unmanned aerial system, or L-UAS, that will be the cornerstone going forward to help Soldiers obtain lethal unmanned aerial system capabilities faster and less expensively.

In the same way that the Picatinny Rail is an essential interface for scopes and other weapon accessories carried by Soldiers, the Armaments Center identified the need to safely and effectively pair lethal payloads with UASs, leading to the development of the Picatinny Common Lethality Integration Kit, or CLIK. The Picatinny CLIK specification defines the physical interface (mechanical attachment), electrical interface (power, network, messaging) and safety critical architecture between the ground station control and the UAS with lethal payloads, eliminating unique integration methods and costly acquisition conditions created by "vendor lock."

"This ensures a rigorous, yet flexible, process for evaluating, qualifying, procuring, and ultimately fielding safe and effective weaponized UAS payloads to the joint force," said acting Executive Director of the Armaments Center's Weapons and Software Engineering Center, Bhavanjot Singh. "When we solicit industry for a



Photo by KENDALL MILLS

An Unmanned Aerial System (UAS) with a U.S. Army Combat Capabilities Development Command Armaments Center's "Audible" dropper to launch a live M67 grenade.

capability, we will be providing Picatinny CLIK technical data so industry can focus on providing lethal capabilities without worrying nearly as much about integration."

In addition to the Picatinny CLIK, the Armaments Center is also applying decades of armaments system expertise to create a robust ecosystem of modular lethal payloads optimized for UAS. Several Armaments Center modular UAS payloads have already been demonstrated with warfighting units, and they are available for immediate integration with industry platforms.

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Modular lethal payloads are capable of functioning in one-way attack systems and in UAS that deploy droppable lethal effects and return home.

Payloads such as Armament UAS Delivered Immediate Battlefield Effects, or AUDIBLE, enable quick change adapters to safely drop existing munitions, like the M67 grenade, providing a proven concept that is scalable to service a larger array of munition options.

Attachable payloads such as Shank — formerly known as Project Shiv — support one-way, first-person view missions utilizing an existing explosively formed penetrator warhead capability combined with an architecture that provides measures for safe target engagement.

Shank was a major enabler for a milestone event when the Armaments Center partnered with the

7th Army Training Command and 173 Airborne Brigade at Grafenwoehr Training Area, Germany from February 17-20, 2025, for the first live-fire training exercise using FPV UAS's.

"Not everything has to be high-tech solutions, existing technologies can be integrated to provide a new capability or new application driving more affordable solutions for the Warfighters" said Executive Director of the Armaments Center's Munitions Engineering and Technology Center, Anthony Sebasto.

Attachable payloads such as Shank (formerly known as Project Shiv) support one-way, first-person view (FPV) missions utilizing an existing explosively formed penetrator warhead capability combined with an architecture that provides measures for...

The Armaments Center is scal-

ing its government-owned aviation fire control, known as Gunslinger, for applications on L-UAS to advance the delivery accuracy of droppable lethal effects and direct fire systems. Gunslinger applies modular open system approach standards that support targeting of drop-glide munitions and direct fire weapons on small UAS by continuously calculating an impact point to enhance aiming and firing during platform movement.

The Armaments Center also continues to evolve critical component technologies that are key to enabling successful L-UAS operations. For munition payloads, existing robust warhead technology is being applied to solve current L-UAS challenges, while new enhanced warhead technologies are being optimized to improve effects against threat UAS systems.

The Armaments Center is also developing munition fuzing for a MIL-STD-1316 — the Army standard for fuze safety — compliant safe-and-arm device that can be integrated to existing or new munitions for the UAS environment. "The Armaments Center is widely recognized for being a world-class warhead and fuze developer, even by the biggest names in industry," Sebasto said. "Industry has leveraged Armaments Center-developed warheads and fuzing solutions — often where no alternative solution existed — with great success."

In support of direct-fire weapon system, the Armaments Center developed a small 5.56 mm low recoil direct-fire weapon and associated fire control capable of being mounted on UAS, that provides point target engagements at stand-off ranges.

The Armaments Center understands the importance of defense-industry partnerships, which have been critical to successful delivery of armaments.

Heat

Continued from Page 2

full acclimatization may take up to two weeks of two hours per day of exposure, most of the changes occur within the first five to seven days.

Heat acclimatization causes body core temperature to be lower at rest and at a given exercise intensity. Sweating starts sooner and reaches a higher rate, so evaporative heat loss is increased. While acclimatization causes sweat to become more dilute (less salty), the increased sweat rate will increase fluid replacement needs. Unit leaders should plan time for Soldiers to heat acclimatize before engaging in higher-intensity activities.

Fiction: Heat illnesses only occur during the summer months, or the “heat season.” While Soldiers and leaders at all levels are correct to expect increased heat stress during the summer, due to the clothing we wear, loads we carry and intensity at which we work, heat illness risk is present year-round.

An analysis by the then-U.S. Army Public Health Center (now the Defense Centers for Public Health-Aberdeen) indicates that about 18 percent of all heat illnesses occur outside the heat season and there was not a single week during the calendar year when there was not a heat illness, including heat stroke.

At some locations, 30% of all heat illnesses occurred outside the heat season. It does not have to be hot for a Soldier to become a heat casualty.

Fact: Proper fluid replacement is important for preventing heat illness. Dehydration is associated with increased cardiovascular strain, lower sweat rate, lower skin blood flow and reduced exercise performance. When sweat rate and skin blood flow are reduced, heat transfer from the body to the environment is reduced, resulting in an increased core temperature.

To estimate how dehydrated you are, step on a scale before and after exercise. If you weigh 150 pounds and lost 1.5 pounds during exercise, you are 1% dehydrated, which is of little concern. However, if you lost 4.5 pounds, you are 3% dehydrated. When dehydration exceeds 2% of body weight, physiological strain and risk of becoming a heat casualty increase.

Fiction: Fluid replacement is the only thing that is important for preventing heat illness. Data from the U.S. Army Research Institute of Environmental Medicine shows that only 17% of heat stroke cases were associated with dehydration.

The reality is there are many contributing factors, including dehy-



Soldiers with the 165th Infantry Brigade demonstrate the proper way to use ice sheets during training.

Leader File photo

dration, as well as a Soldier’s acclimatization status, physical fitness, medication and/or dietary supplement usage, and if they’ve recently experienced a viral infection (cold or flu). Focusing solely on fluid replacement may cause Soldiers to overlook other equally important risk factors. Every EHS casualty is associated with multiple risk factors. Even though the Soldier is adequately hydrated, other risk factors still matter!

Fact: Drinking water is preferable for rehydration. Sports drinks are effective but often not necessary, as long as Soldiers are also eating their meals, which typically contain enough electrolytes to replace those lost from sweating. Drinking water and fully consuming meals will be sufficient to replace fluid and electrolyte losses.

Fiction: When a Soldier is too hot, he or she has exertional heat stroke. In reality, a Soldier can have a high (>104 °F) core temperature and not be an EHS casualty. While high body temperature is suggestive of EHS, the presence of central nervous system (CNS) dysfunction — not core temperature — distinguishes EHS from less severe forms of heat illness. The Soldier may display confused, combative, irrational or aggressive behavior, or may pass out.

These are all strong indicators the Soldier is experiencing heat stroke and requires immediate medical attention and rapid cooling. If a Soldier is displaying signs of CNS dysfunction during or immediately following high-intensity work or exercise in the heat, the presumptive diagnosis is EHS until proven otherwise.

The risk of becoming a heat casualty exists year-round. By maintaining a high degree of physical fitness, proper body weight, acclimatizing to the heat and rehydrating appropriately, we can each do our part to minimize the risk.

SALUTING THIS CYCLE’S HONOREES

3rd Battalion,
34th Infantry
Regiment

**DRILL SERGEANT
OF THE CYCLE**
Staff Sgt. Jesus
Tapiaramirez

**ALPHA COMPANY
SOLDIER LEADER
OF THE CYCLE**

Pvt. Raymond McMurray

SOLDIER OF THE CYCLE
Pfc. Nathan Fey

**BRAVO COMPANY
SOLDIER LEADER
OF THE CYCLE**
Pvt. Andrew Mayer

SOLDIER OF THE CYCLE
Pfc. Joseph Marshburn

**CHARLIE COMPANY
SOLDIER LEADER
OF THE CYCLE**
Pvt. Janon Gates

SOLDIER OF THE CYCLE
Pfc. Darrian Naputi

**DELTA COMPANY
SOLDIER LEADER
OF THE CYCLE**
Pvt. Anthony Ellis-Krehl

SOLDIER OF THE CYCLE
Pfc. Armstrong Unang

**ECHO COMPANY
SOLDIER LEADER
OF THE CYCLE**
Spc. Ashely Santiago

SOLDIER OF THE CYCLE
Pfc. David Paramo

Events

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ting. 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. 5 Blood Drive

10 a.m. to 3 p.m., Soldier Performance Readiness Center. Fort Jackson in coordination with the American Red Cross is holding a community blood drive. To schedule an appointment, visit [www.redcrossblood.org](#) and use sponsor code: SPRC.

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, 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.

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 6p.m., 6:45 p.m. Aug. 21 and 5:30 pm. Aug. 22. A Departmethn of Defense ID card is required to register. An interest meeting will be held on Aug 19 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 Aug.19 and an interest meeting will be held Aug. 25. For more information, call (803) 751-3096

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.

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

Drone

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with help from industry's private capital;

2. Arming combat units with low-cost drones made by America's world-leading engineers and artificial intelligence experts; and

3. Training with drones in realistic battlefield scenarios, led by leaders who are not risk averse.

President Donald J. Trump signed a June 6, 2025, executive order to speed up U.S. drone production using the latest innovative industry technologies.

The president said he supports reducing regulatory uncertainty and streamlining approval and certification processes for safe and secure drone production.

Also, the Federal Aviation Administration and DOD will coordinate to streamline the approval processes to expand access to airspace for conducting drone training, Trump said.



Photo by NAVY PETTY OFFICER 1ST CLASS ALEXANDER KUBITZA

Defense Secretary Pete Hegseth and Undersecretary of Defense for Research and Engineering Emil Michael tour multi-domain autonomous displays in the courtyard of the Pentagon, July 16,

Lee

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commanders decided to try one last time to retrieve the survivors.

Lee and three other Buffalo Soldiers answered the call. They rowed ashore amid intense small arms fire, and upon reaching the shore, located the survivors and brought them safely back to the U.S. Florida, the site stated.

"That kind of courage – deliberate, determined and selfless – defines the very best of our Army," Donahue said. "Pvt. Lee didn't act for recognition. He acted because it was the right thing to do. Because that's what Soldiers do."

Lee was born in June 1866 in Dinwiddie County, Virginia, which is only a few miles from the installation that bears his name.

"A name is never just a name – it's a reflection of our values, our history and our aspirations," said Kevin Massengill, Dinwiddie County administrator. "This base has always been more than a neighbor to Dinwiddie; it's been a family."

Kevin Massengill, Dinwiddie County administrator spoke to the crowd during the installation's redesigna-

tion ceremony July 11 at the Ordnance Training Support Facility.

For more than a century, our residents have worn its uniform, worked its gates and supported its mission, he said.

"By bearing the name of our own, Fort Lee now tells a story rooted in this land – one that speaks not only of a history we inherited, but a legacy we choose to honor: a Dinwiddie son," Massengill said.

Lee's health declined quickly after the rescue mission. He received his Medal of Honor while he was in the hospital on June 23, 1899, at Fort Bliss, Texas, and was medically discharged from the Army on July 5, 1899.

Lee moved to Leavenworth, Kansas, after discharge to live with fellow retired Buffalo Soldiers. He died at the home of a friend on Sept. 14, 1899, and was buried with full military honors at Fort Leavenworth National Cemetery.

"By bearing his name, this installation deepens its connection to our local heritage and our Army's enduring values," Donahue said. "Fitz Lee's legacy is one of bravery, humility and unwavering commitment – qualities we must all strive to embody."

"Fort Lee will continue to be a place where Soldiers are forged, leaders are developed, and the strength of our Army is sustained," Donahue concluded. "Let us carry that responsibility with pride, with humility, and with an unwavering commitment to excellence."



VICTORY... STARTS HERE



Command Sgt. Maj. James M. Cox, senior enlisted leader of the 165th Infantry Brigade stands at attention with the unit's color guard during a change of command ceremony held July 11 on Victory Field at Fort Jackson.

Photo by ROBERT TIMMONS