

THURSDAY OCT. 12, 2023

THE FORT JACKSON LEADER

"VICTORY ... STARTS HERE"



HONK IF
YOU STAND
AGAINST
DOMESTIC
VIOLENCE

GOING PURPLE
POST STANDS AGAINST DOMESTIC VIOLENCE



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Army announces recruiting transformation

Army Public Affairs

With the armed forces facing the most challenging recruiting environment in a generation, the Army announced a transformation of its recruiting enterprise.

During a Pentagon news conference, Secretary of the Army Christine Wormuth and Army Chief of Staff Gen. Randy George detailed sweeping changes in how the Army will identify and recruit talent - from expanding its focus to a larger share of the youth labor market and creating a specialized talent acquisition workforce to initiating an experimentation and learning capability. The changes follow a detailed study of Army recruiting over the past 25 years that provided recommendations to regain competitiveness in the modern labor market.

The two leaders also announced that the Army expects to have ended FY2023 with nearly 55,000 recruiting contracts, including roughly 4,600 for the Army's Delayed Entry Program - recruits who will ship in FY2024. As a result, the Army will meet its end-strength goal of 452,000 for active-duty Soldiers.

Both Wormuth and George praised the steadfast efforts of the recruiting workforce and credited novel efforts like the Future Soldier Prep Course, the Be All You Can Be campaign and other



Photo by EMILY HILEMAN

Drill sergeants with 4th Battalion, 39th Infantry Regiment, demonstrate an obstacle at the Fit to Win 2 course, July 8 as part of a Future Soldier for a Day recruiting event.

initiatives for the improvement, while acknowledging more work needs to be done.

"The competition for talented Americans is fierce, and it is fundamentally different than it was 50 or even 20 years ago," said Wormuth. "Understanding that reality is key to designing new practices that will make us a more attractive and compelling career choice for young Americans."

Secretary Wormuth and General George detailed decisions they have made to transform the

Army recruiting enterprise in five key areas.

Because the labor market has changed fundamentally since the inception of the All-Volunteer Force in 1973, the Army will expand its focus beyond recent high school graduates.

"While today's high school seniors comprise more than 50 percent of our annual contracts, they represent only 15-20 percent of the larger prospect pool from which we could recruit," Wormuth said. "This means that in

addition to the high school market, we need to attract and hire Americans in the college market or those already out in the job market."

The two leaders set a goal of at least a third of the Army's newest soldiers to have more than a high school degree by 2028, compared to 20 percent today.

George explained that the Army developed its recruiting reforms after conducting a quantitative and qualitative analysis of some two million contracts, 1.5

million accessions, and 70,000 recruiters since 1998.

"One of the needs we identified was creating an increasingly permanent and specialized talent acquisition workforce," he said. "This will ensure that our recruiters have the tools, talent, and training to reach prospects wherever they are."

The change will result in two new military occupational specialties for an enlisted talent acquisition specialist and a warrant officer to ensure the best recruiting subject matter expertise and leadership. A more specialized officer workforce remains under consideration.

In her remarks, Wormuth said the Army plans to prototype new recruiting platforms, improve the candidate experience, and test other methods for increasing a candidate's knowledge of the Army experience.

The Army further identified the need for an experimentation team, comprised of recruiters supported by experts in IT, data management, survey design, labor market analysis, marketing, operations and procurement.

George said that one of the challenges for Army recruiting is that its enterprise has historically prioritized meeting current year production targets at the expense

See **RECRUITING:** Page 11

ON THE COVER

Fort Jackson held a 'honk and wave' event Oct. 10 outside the Solomon Center on post as part of its Domestic Violence Awareness Month.



Photo by EMILY HILEMAN

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THE FORT JACKSON LEADER

"We Make American Soldiers"

Fort Jackson, South Carolina 29207

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Editor Emily Hileman
Social Media Manager Nathan Clinebelle

Website: home.army.mil/jackson/index.php/FortJacksonNews

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Jackson reiterates UXO safety

By EMILY HILEMAN
Fort Jackson Public Affairs

Encountering an undetonated bomb, grenade or other form of unexploded ordnance, or UXO, isn't something most people experience, let alone think about. However uncommon, it does still occur from time to time, says Joe Colson, Fort Jackson Installation Safety Director.

"Fort Jackson has been a training base for well over 100 years," Colson said. "So, as the ground gets cultivated, or erosion happens, you may start seeing rusted objects and because we're curious, we might want to dig it up, but we tell people that if you didn't put it there, don't pick it up."

Instead of investigating, stick to the 3Rs Explosives Safety Program – Recognize, Retreat and Report.

"Recognizing when you've encountered munitions could be a matter of life and death," said Colson. "If someone suspects something they've encountered is munition, consider it extremely dangerous."

But that rusted pipe you saw on the ground during your nature walk is clearly a rusted pipe and is safe to pick up, right? Not quite, says Colson. UXO can come in many forms that may look like everyday

objects such as a soda can, a vehicle exhaust pipe, or even a baseball.

Recently a contracting crew moving dirt from Fort Jackson encountered a munition and called in the Explosive Ordnance Disposal team and the Richland County Sheriffs Department.

Another way people may encounter unexploded munitions are souvenirs that veterans from wars past may have kept, such as a grenade.

"It could be one of those items that veterans sit around and talk about, but 40 years later that item gets passed on to our spouse or children," Colson said. "Now, they just have this stuff sitting around and they're not sure how to get rid of it, so we're hoping to reach them too and make sure it's handled safely."

Even if someone does know that an object is UXO, they still might want to han-

dle it due to curiosity or intrigue, but that's not safe.

**DON'T TOUCH,
MOVE OR DISTURB
IT ...**

– Joe Colson
Installation Safety
Director

Once you've safely left the area, immediately notify local law enforcement, and advise them of what you saw and where.

Although each of the training areas is clearly marked on Fort Jackson, many

UXO, Dud, Training Round, War Trophy, Souvenir

NO MATTER WHAT YOU CALL THEM! THEY CAN BE DEADLY!

If you **did not**
drop it,
do not
pick it up!

Learn and Follow
the **3Rs**

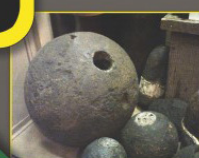
RECOGNIZE: The danger that a souvenir
munition poses to yourself,
your family and your neighbors

RETREAT: Do not disturb, touch or move it
Do not give or throw it away

REPORT: Call local authorities

**Recognize
Retreat
Report**

February 2022



<https://3Rs.mil>

things have changed since the base's inception in 1917, including the original perimeter of the base.

"Over time, the Department of Defense has turned over some lands on military bases back to public use," Colson said. "Because of decades of training and testing, millions of acres in the United States are suspected to contain unexploded ordnance."

Due to these realignments and modernization efforts, Fort Jackson and the surrounding community are encouraged to remember the 3Rs – Recognize, Retreat and Report to keep everyone safe.

For more information on munitions safety visit <https://home.army.mil/jackson/fort-jackson-munition-safety>



—when you may have encountered a munition and that munitions are dangerous.

—do not approach, touch, move or disturb it, but carefully leave the area.

—call 911 and advise the police of what you saw and where you saw it.

Community Updates

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Commissary/Exchange access update

The temporary authorization for Department of the Army Civilians to use the Commissary and Exchange during the COVID-19 pandemic was canceled June 8, 2023.

Marion Avenue Closure

The intersection of Marion Avenue and Hampton Parkway is closed as Army Corps of Engineers contractors begin work on the Victory Fresh parking area adjacent to the U.S. Army Drill Sergeant Academy dining facility. Contractors will begin the clearing of trees, excavation and installation of storm drains, and construction of a new parking lot. The closure will affect traffic accessing Marion Avenue from Hampton Parkway. Detour and road closure signs will be present in the area. The project is expected to be completed by Oct. 25.

ArmyIgnitED 101

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

Guest Day at the Fort Jackson Golf Club

Fort Jackson Golf Club members are now permitted to bring up to three guests on guest days. Green fees are waived for a member's guest(s), but each guest must pay cart and user fees. Upcoming Guest

Days are: Saturday, Oct. 20 and 29; Nov. 2, 9, 16 and 26; Dec. 2, 8, 14 and 20.

Alpine Lodge now open

Renovations are complete and this lodge is ready for: birthday, holiday, retirement, promotion parties, even weddings. Parties, get togethers, you decide. Includes: amazing location, pond (no swimming) overlooking loft, outdoor porch, full size kitchen (no stove) tables and chairs. For more information, call Outdoor Recreation at 751-3484.

POV Sales Lot

The privately-owned vehicle sales lot, operated by the Auto Craft Shop, is located at the corner parking lot of the Strom Thurmond Building off Marion Avenue. It is open so you can sell your vehicles, boats, trailers, recreational vehicles, and motorcycles. You must have a government ID or be the immediate family member of a government ID Cardholder, proof of registration and insurance to park on the POV Sales Lot. The cost is \$25 per vehicle for 30 days and this includes being advertised on the Fort Jackson Auto Craft webpage.

COMMUNITY EVENTS

TODAY

Community Information Exchange

11 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., NCO Club. Command teams, Soldier Family Readiness Groups, Soldiers, Department of the Army Civilains, spouses and retirees are invited to join Col. Timothy J. Hickman, garrison commander for a community information exchange. Attendees will hear updates from units and activities across post to include the Armed Forces Wellness Center, Defense Commisary Agency, Directorate of Family and Morale, Welfare and Recreation and more. For more information, call 751-1711.

Thrift Savings Plan

2:30-4 p.m., 1565 Hall Street. Army Community Service will conduct a Thrift Savings Plan Seminar. Do you want to gain a better understanding about the different funds and how they can impact your plan for retirement? Learn the differences between Roth and Traditional accounts, avoiding penalties, withdrawals, latest changes and more! Registration is required. For more information or to register, call 751-5256.

FRIDAY

Second Friday Range Day

1-4 p.m., Aachen Range Join Outdoor Recreation and your Post Command Sgt. Maj. Erick Ochs, at the 2nd Friday Range Day and test your trap shooting skills. Cost is \$10 per round if you bring your own shotgun and ammo and \$25 per round if you use outdoor recreation's equipment. Each round consists of 25 clay targets launched from the trap house. Whether you're an experienced shooter or it's your first time and join the fun. Register at Marion Street Station by Oct. 12 or call 751-3484 for more information.

SATURDAY

FMWR & Fitness Poker Bike or Run

8-11 a.m., Marion Street Station. Choose to bike 10 miles or run five miles to designated locations to build your poker hand. Prizes awarded to top three winning hands. To register, call 751-3700.

Family Campout

Twin Lakes Park. 4 p.m. A family friendly overnight primitive camping event offering fun activities such as tent set-up demonstration, how to build a fire, outdoor games, fishing, s'mores making and more. Outdoor Recreation will provide hot dog and chips for dinner and coffee and individually wrapped pastries for



Fort Jackson

Movie Schedule

3319 Jackson Blvd.

Phone: 751-7488

OCT. 13

■ Taylor Swift: The Eras Tour 6 p.m.

OCT. 14

■ Taylor Swift: The Eras Tour 6 p.m.

OCT. 18

■ Taylor Swift: The Eras Tour 6 p.m.

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

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 751-6739.

Commentary: Benefits of self exams, mammograms

By **CHARLENE B. DAVIS**
Public Health Nurse

October is Breast Cancer Awareness Month and it can feel different for each person. Some wear pink to celebrate, some quietly observe the month, some grieve the loss of loved ones, and some feel unseen or misunderstood.

Breast Cancer Awareness Month is held to promote screening and prevention of disease, which affects one in eight women in the U.S. and 2.3 million women worldwide every year. Although breast cancer is much more common in women, it affects men too. In 2021, President Joe Biden designated Oct. 17-23 as Men's Breast Cancer Awareness Week.

Breast cancer is the second most common cancer diagnosed in women in the United States. This cancer forms in the cell of the breasts. Several research studies report detecting breast cancer early can decrease the chance of the disease spreading to other areas in the body. Some studies also show that many women are not performing their monthly self-breast exams and receiving annual mammograms.

Studies show that routine screening mammography does reduce breast cancer deaths in women between the ages of 40-75. However, the National Cancer Institute Cancer Trends Progress Report, published in 2021, reported only 75.9% of women aged 50-74 years had a mammogram within the past two years. Performing monthly self-breast exams can help women become familiar with their breasts and detect any changes. Women having dense or very dense breasts may have a harder time noticing changes due to tissue density. This means it can be challenging to distinguish any new lumps, hardened knots, thickening or any concern in their breast tissue. This is why it is extremely helpful to perform your monthly exam to recognize what is normal for you. Remember, self-exams do not replace having a breast exam performed by your primary health care provider.

Although self-breast exams are a great home tool to assist with identifying changes in your breast it should never replace a provider's exam or mammograms. Mammograms are considered the gold standard



Photo by JOHN CICCARELLI

Women ages 20 and older are encouraged to conduct breast self-examinations monthly. Routine breast screenings by a doctor are also recommended.

in detecting breast cancer. The U.S. Preventive Services Task Force historically recommended women should get screened for breast cancer every year, starting at the age of 40. The organization recently changed their guidance on screening mammograms this year. New guidance suggests screening mammograms every other year from ages 40 to 74.

With all recommendations and guidelines, why is it still hard for many women to conduct self-breast exams and mammogram? I know personally as a woman over the age 40, with dense breasts and a very high risk for breast cancer it can be very scary.

Due to my family breast cancer history, mother's recent death at the age of 63 and my maternal aunt's death at the age of 43, causes me to become extremely nervous with my fear of finding a lump or not finding a lump in time, due to the density of my breast. These heavy thoughts are also running through my mind prior to going to the office for a mammogram. This is

precisely why we should perform these recommendations; knowing your breast can help you and your provider identify changes. The anxiety is going to be there, but the sign of relief once your provider tells you the results is a wonderful feeling.

So be strong and follow these recommendations by any means necessary! If you must, have your spouse assist with examining your breast, or your close friends go to your mammogram appointment and have a relief party afterwards, do what is needed to make you comfortable and complete to take care of you. Prevention is the key.

Here are a couple more tips:

- Maintain a healthy weight
- Limit or avoid alcohol
- Stay active
- Eat a healthy diet
- Avoid smoking
- Manage stress

(Editor's note: Information for this article was found at the National Cancer Institute, Mayo Clinic and the U.S. Preventative Services Task Force)

U.S. helps Israel defend against Hamas

By **JIM GARAMONE**
DOD News Service

The Hamas attack on Israel out of Gaza is at a different level than in the past, a senior defense official said Oct. 9.

Hundreds of Israelis have been killed in the attacks that also killed 11 Americans, President Joe Biden said in a written release. Hamas terrorists have also kidnapped people in Israel and taken them to Gaza.

"While we are still working to confirm, we believe it is likely that American citizens may be among those being held by Hamas," Biden said. "I have directed my team to work with their Israeli counterparts on every aspect of the hostage crisis, including sharing intelligence and deploying experts from across the United States government to consult with and advise Israeli counterparts on hostage recovery efforts."

The senior defense official said the unprecedented Hamas attack is notable for its violence. "I want to differentiate this from other times we have seen conflicts between Israel and Hamas in Gaza," the official said. "This is ISIS-level savagery that we have seen committed against Israeli civilians — houses burned to the ground, young people massacred at music festivals."

We remain in constant, ongoing contact with our counterparts in Israel to determine, and then support, their most urgent requirements."

Since the attack on Saturday, Secretary of Defense Lloyd J. Austin III has been working to make clear that the U.S. unequivocally supports Israel's right to defend itself. Austin and the rest of the National Security Council have been calling allies and partners throughout the Middle East and Europe with this message. "We're also making very clear to

Going Purple

Post stands against Domestic Violence

Story, photos by
EMILY HILEMAN
Fort Jackson Public Affairs

On a typical Tuesday morning, the intersection of Jackson and Strom Thurmond boulevards is uneventful, filled only with the sounds of the Fort Jackson community quietly commuting to their place of duty for the next eight to 12 hours, but the morning of Oct. 10 was different.

"Today is one of the many events that we have been participating in as far as Domestic Violence Awareness Month which is this month," said Shenitha Shiver, a victim advocate with Army Community Service. "We're trying to bring awareness and to let everyone know that it is real."

The event was part of the post's support to Department of Defense domestic violence awareness measures.

In a release dated Oct. 3, the Department of Defense called on "the military community to help prevent abuse and support victims as part of Domestic Violence Awareness Month, which is recognized annually in October. This national observance was created to raise awareness about how to report domestic abuse and encourages community members to speak up if they suspect abuse."

This year's campaign theme is "United Against Domestic Abuse."

According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, one in three women and one in four men report having experienced severe physical violence from an intimate partner in their lifetime and one in 10 high school students reported physical violence from a dating partner.

Shiver said the team worked together to

come up with activities to shed awareness on domestic violence when they realized a higher participation rate for Breast Cancer Awareness events.

"A lot of people said 'you don't choose to get cancer, but you choose to be in a violent or abusive relationship,' but that's not true," she said.

Domestic violence doesn't always occur at the beginning of a relationship. Instead, the abusive partner slowly manipulates and escalates their abuse over time.

Shiver said there are many reasons a person may stay in an abusive situation such as financial, children or the perpetrator could even threaten the life of the victim or their loved ones.

"If you truly believe they're going to carry out those threats, then you'll likely stay to try to keep your children, family, pets or yourself safe," she said. "So, there's a lot of dynamics that people have to consider when they talk about leaving."

DOD Family Advocacy Programs and Military OneSource offer counseling and education services. According to the DOD release service members and their families don't need to be in a crisis to speak with a domestic abuse victim advocate.

The United Against Domestic Abuse page on Military OneSource has more information about reporting options. The page can be found at: <http://www.military-onesource.mil/united-against>.

For more information, contact the Family Advocacy and Victim Advocacy Programs at 751-5256 or visit them in person at 9810 Lee Road.

(Editor's note: The National Domestic Abuse Hotline is available 24/7 at (800) 799-7233.)



(Above) Shenitha Shiver, victim advocate with Army Community Service holds the 'honk if you stand against domestic violence,' sign during the Domestic Violence Awareness Month Honk and Wave, Oct. 10. 'We're letting people know it's real and we want to stomp out domestic violence,' Shiver said. (Right) A pinwheel spins in the breeze as victim advocates hold up signs to raise awareness to domestic violence. The event was part of the post's support to the Department of Defense's domestic violence awareness measures. (Far right) Laverne Martin, victim advocate, holds her sign and yells to passersby to honk in support of domestic violence victims during the Domestic Violence Awareness Month Honk and Wave, Oct. 10.





Photos by ARMY STAFF SGT. MATTHEW A. FOSTER

Hawaii Air National Guard Senior Airman Brock K. Aganos facilitates access to select community members authorized to return to their residences in the initial stage of reentry operations in Lahaina, Maui, Sept. 25, 2023.

Emerging threats shape homeland defense

By JOSEPH CLARK
DOD News Service

Climate change, cyber vulnerabilities and malign state and non-state actors abroad are posing threats that challenge U.S. homeland defense, Air Force Gen. Glen D. VanHerck, commander, U.S. Northern Command said Oct. 10.

Speaking at a forum on the future of homeland defense, VanHerck said the United States' ability to demonstrate resilience in the face of these challenges to the homeland is key to Defense Department's ability to deter threats and maintain stability abroad.

The changing climate, he said, ranks among his top concerns as an increase in extreme weather events and wildfires and the opening sea lanes in the Arctic tax U.S. resources and strain readiness.

"Really what we're seeing is the environment, especially in the Arctic, creating opportunities and vulnerabilities for our competitors to take advantage of," VanHerck said as he kicked off a panel discussion during the Association of the United States Army's annual meeting in Washington.

In addition to a changing climate, VanHerck highlighted the United States' growing exposure to cyberattacks.

"I would tell you that we're under attack ev-

ery day in the cyber domain and the information space," he said.

VanHerck also underscored the impact that global instability posed by Russia and China is having on U.S. homeland defense.

"The bottom line is the (People's Republic of China) is the pacing challenge and a long-term existential threat," he said, while also highlighting the significant challenges posed by Russia.

"If you look back since February of '22, when Russia invaded Ukraine illegally, immorally and unethically, they've been more active around the globe, specifically focused on our homeland in the air domain (and) undersea in the maritime domain on a routine basis," he said. "I expect to see that continue as we continue moving forward and I expect to see that more with the PRC."

VanHerck also highlighted the threats posed by North Korea, Iran and transnational criminal organizations.

He said the current threat landscape represents the most challenging he has witnessed in more than three decades of service.

Meeting the challenge, VanHerck said, will require innovation and integration across DOD and the interagency.

"We're talking about the future of homeland defense," he said. "I don't think the future looks anything like the past."



Photos by EMILY HILEMAN

Get your tickets here ...

Trainees with Company D, 4th Battalion, 39th Infantry Regiment wait in line in the Joe E. Mann Ballroom to purchase tickets home for Victory Block Leave. The Army lets Initial Entry Soldiers go home on leave during the December holiday season in what was known as Exodus. The pause in training gives drills sergeants and other unit cadre a break from the hectic pace of training in order for them to spend time with their Families and loved ones.

Israel

Continued from Page 5

adversaries or those that might be entertaining entering this conflict to escalate it that they should think twice and not take advantage of the instability," the official said.

Austin spoke to Israeli Defense Minister Yoav Gallant on Saturday and Sunday. Austin is getting operational updates and learning what equipment and capabilities Israel needs to defend itself, the official said.

The United States is "surging" support to Israel, including air defense capabilities and munitions. "We remain in constant, ongoing contact with our counterparts in Israel to determine, and then support, their most urgent requirements," the official said. "The bottom line is we are working as fast as possible to provide critically needed munitions of various types and other equipment."

Defense Department officials are also working with U.S. industry to expedite the shipment of military equipment that the Israelis had already ordered. "We're also working across the DOD enterprise, including with U.S. Central Command, to assess what munitions and other equipment are in U.S. inventories that we can be made, that can be made quickly available to Israel," the official said.

The United States is also bolstering U.S. presence in the region. Austin ordered the USS Gerald R. Ford Carrier Strike Group to the Eastern Mediterranean Sea. The aircraft carrier has an embarked airwing and accompanying cruisers and destroyers. The force will conduct maritime and air operations in order to assure allies and partners throughout the region and ensure regional stability. The strike group is prepared for the



Photo by NAVY PETTY OFFICER 2ND CLASS JACOB MATTINGLY
The aircraft carrier USS Gerald R. Ford steams in the Ionian Sea, Oct. 4, 2023.

full range of missions.

Austin also ordered more Air Force F-35, F-15, F-16 and A-10 fighter aircraft to squadrons in the region.

"These posture increases were intended to serve as an unequivocal demonstration in deeds, and not only in words, of U.S. support for Israel's defense and serve as a deterrent signal to Iran, Lebanese Hezbollah, and any other proxy across the region who might be considering exploiting the current situation to escalate conflict," the senior defense official said. "Those adversaries should think twice."

Iran is in the picture, but there is no proof of active involvement by that country. "Iran has provided support for years to Hamas and Hezbollah," the official said. "We've long discussed Iran's role in a equipping, training and providing guidance to militant groups. I'm not talking about any specific intelligence in here. But we've been very clear for years about Iran's role in fomenting instability and inciting violence across the region."



Capt. Blakely McCormick, from Brown Dental Clinic at Fort Novosel, Ala., and graduate of a Fort Jackson dental program gives the thumbs up signal as she observes a dental exam and cleaning on a military working dog.

Jackson dental program grad helps military working dogs

Story, photo by JANICE ERDLITZ
Special to the Leader

How do dentists prepare for patients with four legs? At the Brown Dental Clinic at Fort Novosel, Alabama?

If it's a four-legged patient, then you'll see a collaboration between the installation's dental and veterinary teams.

Recently, Capt. Blakely McCormick, DMD, from Brown Dental Clinic joined Capt. Jacquelyn Watson, DVM, from the Fort Novosel Veterinary Clinic, for the semi-annual dental exams and cleanings on the military working dogs at Fort Novosel.

McCormick recently joined the Brown Dental Clinic team this summer after finishing a 1-year Advanced Education in General Dentistry residency program at Fort Jackson, South Carolina.

"I wanted to familiarize myself with the process of a dental appointment for the military working dogs. Sometimes emergency situations will arise, and the veterinary team will need dental assistance. Working with Capt. Watson's team was amazing. I really enjoyed learning in a hands-on environment," explained McCormick.

The collaboration between the clinics and military working dog handlers provided a vital learning opportunity to help prepare the team

for emergency situations as well as building interdisciplinary relationships to ensure the best treatment for military working dogs.

Watson, the Fort Novosel Veterinary Treatment Facility, officer in charge, also joined the Fort Novosel team this summer, arriving from her last duty station at Joint Base Lewis-McChord.

"Caring for MWDs is the most rewarding aspect of my job," Watson said.

"It is my passion, and I am honored to be in a role that ensures MWDs are healthy and capable to go out and complete their mission. We owe the MWDs the best possible care, which includes caring for their teeth. It is fundamental to maintain a MWD's teeth as they must sustain their bite strength to fully perform their jobs."

Military working dogs are considered a military service member and can be found serving wherever American troops do. "It only happens occasionally, but in a situation where a (human) dentist's expertise is needed, it is typically urgent," continued Watson emphasizing the importance of maintaining dental health of MWDs.

Watson went on to share, "I look forward to continuing working with the dentists on Fort Novosel in the future to further train one another in our respective areas of expertise!"

Events

Continued from Page 4

for breakfast the next morning. Come join us by the bonfire and enjoy the great outdoors! Sign up at Marion Street Station today! \$15 for adults, \$10 for kids. Equipment rental available while supplies last. For more information, call 751-3484.

OCT. 17
Taking the BOO Out of Budgeting
9-10 a.m., Army Community Service is hosting a basic budgeting class. Learn the components of a budget, how to prioritize bill paying and techniques to get more out of your monthly income. Registration is required. For more information, or to register, call 751-5256 or call 751-6749.

Estate Planning – Protect Your Assets
2-3 p.m., 1565 Hall Street. Army Community Service Financial Readiness Program will host an Estate Planning seminar. This seminar will provide information about the components of an estate plan (wills, trusts, power of attorney, beneficiary designations and health care directives). Registration is required. For more information, or to register, please call 751-5256.

OCT. 20
Halloween Paint & Sip
5:30-7:30 p.m., Solomon Center. Start the Halloween season out right with the Solomon Center. Come join us for a ghoulish good time and learn some basic painting skills. By yourself or bring the family and friends. Appropriate for ages 10 yrs & up. Cost is \$30 per person. Registration required last day to sign up Oct 18. For more information, call 751-4168.

OCT. 27
CYS Fall Festival
6 p.m., Youth Sports Complex. Fun for the entire family. Come out and enjoy a family-friendly event. There will be a costume contest, games, crafts and lots of candy. Please bring a bag to hold your goodies. Food can be purchased at MWR and AAFES food trucks. For more information, call 751-4865/4824.

OCT 28
Zombie 5K Run
8 a.m., Twin Lakes. Join The directorate of Family and Morale, Welfare and Recreation, for a spooky good time. To register or for information call 751-3700.

Haunted Halloween on Mini Greens
3-5 p.m., Palmetto Greens Miniature Golf Course. Start your Halloween weekend out right by bringing your family out for

a monster scavenger hunt at Palmetto Greens Miniature Golf course. Walk through the ghoulishly decorated mini-golf course solving riddles and clues to find the Halloween monsters. Claim your prize after you find all 10 monsters. The Thomas Lee Hall (Post) Library is providing spooky story time in the pavilion at 3:30 and 4:30 p.m. The event costs \$3 per child. Adults and children 4 and under are free. The event is intended for children ages 5 and up, but all are welcome. For more information, contact the Solomon Center or Marion Street Station at 751-4168.

OCT. 31
Navigating Financial Barriers to Safety
10:30-11:30 a.m., 9810 Lee Road. In support of Domestic Violence Awareness Month, Army Community Service Financial Readiness Program is hosting a class to discuss financial barriers that keep individuals from leaving abusive situations. Whether for yourself, friend or loved one, come receive tips and resources that could help someone out of an abusive situation. For more information or to register, call 751-5256.

NOV. 7
Fall Education and Career Fair
9 a.m. to 1 p.m., NCO Club. The Army Continuing Education System, Army Community Services and the Transition

Assistance Program presents the Fort Jackson 2023 Fall Education and Career Fair. Attendees can visit with more than 60 educational institutions and prospective employers. For more information, call 751-5341 for educational questions; 751-4109 for transition assistance program; and 751-5256 for Army Community Services. The event is free and open to the Fort Jackson community.

NOV. 16-17
Resiliency Stand-To
Fort Jackson will conduct a two-day Resiliency Stand-To Nov. 16-17. Day one includes opening remarks, an overview of services, breakout sessions and vendors inside the Solomon Center. On day two there will be tours of post activities; a panel will speak on resiliency from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. in the NCO Club Ballroom; and a livestreamed talk by retired Maj. Gen. Gregg Martin at 3 p.m. For more information, visit: <https://home.army.mil/jackson/about/resiliency-fair>. Register for the Resiliency Stand-To guest speakers luncheon at the NCO Club. For access to the buffet, it will be \$15 at the door (cash or card). If you would like to attend, but not purchase food, please still RSVP to ensure adequate seating is provided. RSVP no later than Nov. 10 via email at usarmy.jackson.army-tng-ctr.mbx.fj-resiliency-lead-planners@army.mil or call at 751-2915/6334.

DID YOU KNOW: Every flight of stairs having four (4) or more steps/risers should be equipped with standard railings or guards to aid with support. For more information, contact your unit safety officer.

WORSHIP SCHEDULE	FAITH GROUP	DAY	TIME	PLACE
	CATHOLIC MASS	SUNDAY	9:30-10:30 A.M.	MAIN POST CHAPEL
	CATHOLIC MASS	MON-FRI	NOON	MAIN POST CHAPEL
	GOSPEL SERVICE	SUNDAY	10:30 A.M.	DANIEL CIRCLE CHAPEL
	GENERAL PROTESTANT	SUNDAY	11 A.M. TO NOON	MAIN POST CHAPEL
	INITIAL ENTRY TRAINING	DAY	TIME	PLACE
	ANGLICAN	SUNDAY	9-10 A.M.	LIGHTNING CHAPEL
	CATHOLIC MASS	SUNDAY	8-9 A.M.	SOLOMON CENTER
	PROTESTANT CONSOLIDATED SERVICE	SUNDAY	9:30-10:30 A.M.	SOLOMON CENTER
	THE BRIDGE (PROTESTANT)	SUNDAY	8:30-9:30 A.M.	ANDERSON CHAPEL
	CHURCH OF CHRIST	SUNDAY	10:30-11:30 A.M.	MAGRUDER CHAPEL
	HISPANIC PROTESTANT SERVICE	SUNDAY	8:30-10 A.M.	MAGRUDER CHAPEL
	ISLAMIC SERVICE	SUNDAY	8-9 A.M.	DANIEL CIRCLE CHAPEL
	JEWISH SERVICE	SUNDAY	10:15-11:30 A.M.	LIGHTNING CHAPEL
	THE CHURCH OF JESUS CHRIST OF			

Recruiting

Continued from Page 2

year production targets at the expense of adapting to fundamental trends in the labor market.

“This has inhibited the development of new markets, methods, and technology to compete for talent,” he said. “To address this, we have decided to create an experimentation capability within USAREC that has the authorities and resources to drive innovation and, importantly, scale successful innovations across the command.”

George also noted the Army needs to improve the formal measurement and evaluation of recruiting policy decisions to better determine return on investment and more effectively allocate resources.

“To address this,” he said, “we will establish an evidence-based learning capability in the Army headquarters that will incorporate data collection and program evaluation design into accessions policy planning and implementation.”

The two leaders also said that marketing functions and the entire recruiting enterprise will be consolidated and realigned as a proposed three-star command that reports directly to them and that they will expand the commander’s time in position from two- to four years.

“We need to empower our leaders with the access and time on the job they need to make an enduring impact,” Wormuth said. “Recruiting is one of the most important missions in the Army, and these changes reflect that importance,” George added.

Both Wormuth and George said the Army also needs to better convey to young Americans the value of service and the opportunities the Army presents.

“The fact is that even though it remains a challenge to attract new recruits, we are exceeding our retention goals every year,” they said. “That means that people who are in the Army by-and-large love their jobs. And that’s a message we want all young Americans to hear – that the U.S. Army is truly a place where you can be all that you can be.”



Photo by PFC.THERON SMITH

Sgt. Jake Phillips, left, a native of West Chester, Penn., and Spc. Chancellor McGuire, who hails from Georgetown, Texas, were named Noncommissioned Officer of the Year and Soldier of the Year, Oct. 9.

Army names best squad, best Soldier winners

By **JOE LACDAN**
Army News Service

With the Georgia heat bearing down on them, Sgt. Jake Phillips and members of 3rd Ranger Battalion, 75th Ranger Regiment, struggled to finish the final leg of the 2023 Army Best Squad Competition’s first phase in September.

Still, the Soldiers had confidence in one another as they carried 35-pound rucks for 15 miles in the woods of Fort Stewart, Georgia. The Soldiers operated on only two hours of sleep and endured food deprivation. Fortunately, the squad boasted some of the most physically-fit Soldiers in the Army including Spc. Chancellor McGuire, who had the highest physical training test scores among all 60 competitors.

They had also competed

and trained together for at least three years and some members even deployed together. Knowing his team’s robust fitness levels, Phillips wanted to push his squad to its limits.

The fire team leader learned that slowing their speed during the march actually helped his squad find the endurance needed to secure victory.

“I was always wanting to push the pace past what I think we’re capable of as a squad,” said Phillips, 25. “I was wanting to put more gas when it should have been more brakes. That was personally more challenging.”

Phillips’ guidance helped his 75th Ranger Regiment, U.S. Army Special Operations Command squad win the 2023 U.S. Army Best Squad of the Year award. Phillips, a native of West Chester, Pennsylvania,

took Non-Commissioned Officer of the Year honors. McGuire, who hails from Austin, Texas, won Soldier of the Year.

Sgt. Maj. of the Army Michael R. Weimer presented the awards in a ceremony at the 2023 Association of the United States Army Annual Meeting and Exposition in Washington, D.C. today. Soldiers from Army Medical Command finished in second place while the Army Pacific Command squad took third.

McGuire said keeping the goal in sight helped his squad weather through the endurance march.

“It was the last day of the competition. You can do anything for however long you tell yourself you can,” he said.

The 24-year-old McGuire credited his squad leaders and company commanders with

helping mold him into a more capable special operations Soldier.

“It means I’m doing something right,” McGuire said of winning Soldier of the Year. “I took a lot from my team leaders coming up, my squad leaders. I took in everything that they have taught me ... I’ve kind of become a sponge, so really I’m an image of them.”

The Army revamped its former Best Warrior contest two years ago into the Best Squad Competition to encourage a greater focus on team building and unit cohesion.

This year’s contest featured another incentive. While competing, the participants could simultaneously earn their special skills certifications.

Twelve, five-person squads competed in the first phase of the competition during 10 grueling days at Fort Stewart.

The Soldiers went on ruck marches, completed exercises and did battle drills across more than 200,000 acres of land. The Soldiers engaged in land navigation, operated in urban areas and rucked from each destination. They learned to operate while sleep-deprived, while also taking part in night exercises.

During the competition’s final phase, the competitors travelled to Washington D.C. to be interviewed and evaluated by senior leaders.

McGuire said that his squad, which also includes Staff Sgt. Andrew Ewing, Spc. George Mascharka, and Spc. Shane Moon, finished first because of the bonds that the Soldiers share during and outside of duty. The Soldiers know each other’s families. They work out together and spend time studying in coffee shops.

The USASOC Soldiers faced stiff competition, particularly from the MEDCOM squad.

VICTORY... STARTS HERE



An Army Community Service victim advocate, holds her sign and yells to passersby to honk in support of domestic violence victims during the Domestic Violence Awareness Month Honk and Wave, Oct. 10.

Photo by EMILY HILEMAN