



Remembering the fallen at ANC on Memorial Day

By Julia LeDoux
Pentagram Staff Writer

Thousands gathered on the hallowed grounds of Arlington National Cemetery May 25 to honor the nation’s fallen service men and women during the annual National Memorial Day observance.

The observance began with a Presidential Armed Forces Full Honor Wreath-Laying Ceremony conducted by the U.S. Army Military District of Washington at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier, which was followed by an observance program hosted by the Department of Defense.

“For many of us, this Memorial Day is especially meaningful,” President Barack Obama said in his address inside ANC’s Memorial Amphitheater. “It is the first since our war in Afghanistan came to an end. Today is the first Memorial Day in 14 years that the United States is not engaged in a major ground war.”

Also on hand for the event were Secretary of Defense Ashton Carter; Secretary of Veterans Affairs Robert McDonald; Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff Gen. Martin E. Dempsey; and Maj. Gen. Jeffrey S. Buchanan, commanding general, Joint Force Headquarters-National Capital Region and the U.S. Army Military District



PHOTO BY SPC. CODY W. TORKELSON

President Barack H. Obama lays a wreath at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier during a Presidential Armed Forces Full Honor Wreath-Laying Ceremony at Arlington National Cemetery May 25. Joining Obama was Secretary of Defense Ashton Carter, Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff Gen. Martin E. Dempsey and Maj. Gen. Jeffrey S. Buchanan, commanding general, Joint Force Headquarters-National Capital Region and the U.S. Army Military District of Washington.

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Hurley installed as new Army Chief of Chaplains, pins on two stars

By Julia LeDoux
Pentagram Staff Writer

The Army’s new chief of chaplains was promoted to the rank of major general and installed in his post during a ceremony May 22 at Memorial Chapel on the Fort Myer portion of Joint Base Myer-Henderson Hall.

Chap. Paul K. Hurley’s promotion from colonel to two-star general was confirmed by the Senate on March 27. He replaced Chap. (Maj. Gen.) Donald L.

Rutherford as the Army’s 24th chief of chaplains.

In his remarks, Hurley said he and his fellow chaplains serve in the military in order to serve their fellow service members, their families and the nation.

“This is our commitment,” he said.

Hurley was sworn in by Lt. Gen. H.R. McMaster, director of the Army’s capabilities integration center and

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PHOTO BY DAMIEN SALAS

Chap. (Maj. Gen.) Paul K. Hurley (left) is sworn in as the 24th U.S. Army Chief of Chaplains by Lt. Gen. H.R. McMaster during a promotion ceremony in Memorial Chapel on the Fort Myer portion of Joint Base Myer-Henderson Hall May 22.

Ten things to know around the DoD in June

By Jim Dresbach
Pentagram Staff Writer

The sixth month of 2015 is full of military ceremony, celebrations and the art of sport. From a baseball appreciation night and Army birthday festivities to the beginning of Marine evening parades just outside Joint Base Myer-Henderson Hall’s Wright Gate, the month of June is filled with many activities and seminars.

1. Washington Nationals Army Day

The Washington Nationals will continue the tradition of paying tribute to the armed forces when the District of Columbia Major

League Baseball team hosts Army Day June 1 at Nationals Park.

Pregame festivities, featuring ceremonial elements, individuals and groups from Joint Force Headquarters/National Capital Region-Military District of Washington will begin at 6:45 p.m. The U.S. Army Band, “Pershing’s Own,” will be represented by the blues ensemble Swamp Romp and The U.S. Army Chorus. Swamp Romp will perform pre-game entertainment starting at 5:30 p.m., while the chorus will sing the national anthem and God Bless America during the seventh inning stretch. The U.S. Army Drill Team will also be making another Nats Park appearance.

First pitch against the Toronto Blue Jays is scheduled for 7:05 p.m.

2. Army birthday run on JBM-HH

To commemorate the Army’s 240th birthday Joint Force Headquarters/National Capital Region-Military District of Washington Soldiers will assemble in JBM-HH’s Summerall Field parking lot June 12 for the Army Birthday Run, hosted annually by the Department of the Army. The 3.1 mile run will wind through the joint base and Arlington National Cemetery. The Army is planning a host of birthday observances throughout the nation during the week of June 8. The JBM-HH run commences at 7 a.m.

3. Marine Evening Parades continue all summer

Every Tuesday throughout the summer, the Marine Corps War Memorial is the

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News Notes

EFMP offers couples support group

The Exceptional Family Member Program offers a couples support group for Marines and spouses May 28 from 6 to 8 p.m., in Bldg. 21 (formerly the Marine Club) aboard the Henderson Hall portion of JBM-HH. This group is for couples to meet with others to share experiences and resources. Refreshments will be available. Register no later than one day in advance. For more information and to register, contact 703-693-5353 or efmpHH@usmc-mccs.org.

Roads, grounds repair on Sheridan Avenue slated

As part of a storm sewer repair project, there will be a temporary loss of 13 parallel parking spaces and the sidewalk on the west side of Sheridan Avenue next to Bldg. 416 on the Fort Myer portion of Joint Base Myer-Henderson Hall. The repair project will begin June 1 and end mid-August. Access will be available to the northern portion of the parking lot from the south side of Bldg. 416 during the repair project. For more information, contact David Mayeda at 703-304-7138 or david.s.mayeda.civ@mail.mil.

ACE training scheduled for June 3

The Army Substance Abuse Prevention class - Suicide Awareness - Ask, Care, Escort (ACE) training – is scheduled for June 3, 1 to 3 p.m., in Bldg. 230 on the Fort Myer portion

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Husband, father, Marine



ARLINGTON NATIONAL CEMETERY PHOTO BY RACHEL LARUE

Brittany, left, and her son, Christian, 4, visit the grave of her husband and his father, U.S. Marine Corps Sgt. Christopher Jacobs, in Section 60 of Arlington National Cemetery on Memorial Day, May 25 in Arlington, Va. Christian is wearing his father’s cover. See more imagery from Memorial Day on page 8.

JBM-HH Throwback Thursday #JBMHHTBT



PHOTO ILLUSTRATION BY DAMIEN SALAS

The black and white image taken in April 1968 by Warren K. Leffler shows a Soldier standing guard at the intersection of 7th and N Street NW in Washington, D.C., in the aftermath of the six days of race riots that erupted following the assassination of Martin Luther King, Jr. On some blocks, only rubble remained for decades. Columbia Heights and the U Street corridor did not begin to recover economically until the opening of the U Street and Columbia Heights Metro stations in 1991 and 1999, respectively. The color image taken May 18 in a similar location shows the same scene at night 47 years later in the area known as Shaw.


This week in military history

Compiled by Jim Goodwin, Editor, Pentagonram

- May 28
1863:

The 54th Massachusetts Infantry, an African-American Union regiment during the Civil War, leaves Boston for the South, according to an entry on the This Day In Military History website. The regiment was led by Col. Robert Gould Shaw, who was portrayed by actor Matthew Broderick in the 1989 film, “Glory,” which depicted the actions of the 54th.
- May 29
1991:

Fifth Marine Expeditionary Brigade, part of a joint task force, left the Bay of Bengal following two weeks of disaster relief operations after a cyclone devastated the Bangladesh coastal region, according to the Marine Corps History Division. Dubbed Operation Sea Angel, the joint task force delivered tons of supplies via helicopters, C-130s and various other landing craft.
- May 30
1868:



LIBRARY OF CONGRESS PHOTO

Then-Maj. Gen. John A. Logan, the man who proclaimed May 30 as Memorial Day, also known originally as Decoration Day.

Gen. John A. Logan proclaims, under General Order 11 of the Grand Army of the Republic, this day as the first major Memorial Day (then known as Decoration Day) observance is to be held to honor those who died “in defense of their country during the late rebellion,” according to an entry on the This Day In Military History website. Meanwhile, Gen. James Garfield makes a speech at Arlington National Cemetery before some 5,000 people who decorated the graves of about 20,000 Union and Confederate Soldiers in the cemetery with flowers.
- May 31
1900:

Sailors and Marines from the U.S.S. Newark and U.S.S. Oregon arrive to protect U.S. and foreign diplomats in Peking (now Beijing), China, during the Boxer Rebellion, according to an entry on Navy.mil.
- June 1
1916:

The end strength of the U.S. National Guard is increased by some 450,000 Soldiers due to the passing of and authorization by the National Defense Act, according to an entry on Historynet.com. Activities at the outset of World War I convinced President Woodrow Wilson that such an increase in military strength was needed.
- June 2
1774

The Quartering Act is passed by the British Parliament; the law dictated that American colonists must allow British troops to occupy colonists’ homes for quarters, according to an entry on History.com.
- June 3
1970:

President Richard Nixon tells the nation in a televised speech that the Allied push into Cambodia is the “most successful operation” of the war in Vietnam, and will allow for the withdrawal of U.S. troops from South Vietnam, according to an entry on History.com.



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www.flickr.com/photos/jbm-hh

Chaplains gather for Flags In

By Julia LeDoux
Pentagram Staff Writer

Chaplains and chaplain assistants from across the Military District of Washington gathered May 22 at Chaplains Hill, where they honored the fallen buried in Section 2 of Arlington National Cemetery by placing flags at their gravesites just prior to Memorial Day weekend in a tradition known as Flags In.

“It’s just respect for their sacrifice,” said Chap. (Lt. Col.) Allen Staley, who serves at Fort Belvoir, Va. “It’s real humbling to be here.”

The 3d U.S. Infantry Regiment (The Old Guard) has conducted Flags In since The Old Guard was designated as the Army’s official ceremonial unit in 1948, according to Arlington National Cemetery’s website. Army chaplains place flags in front of the four memorials and the headstones in Section 2.

“It’s actually an honor to do this,” said Chaplain Assistant Sgt. Betty Midgett.

The memorials honor the chaplains killed in World War I; Protestant chaplains killed in World Wars I and II; Catholic chaplains killed in World War II, Korea and Vietnam; and Jewish chaplains killed while on active duty.

“It’s about remembering, but it’s also about being grateful for the Soldiers who have gone before us,” said Chap. (Maj.) Luis Kruger, regimental chaplain for The Old Guard.

During Flags In, Soldiers place flags in front of more than 228,000 headstones and at the bottom of about 7,000 niche rows in the cemetery’s Columbarium Courts and the Niche Wall. Tomb Sentinels also place flags at the gravesites of the unknown interred at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier.

All the flags are removed after Memorial Day.

To see more images from the Flags In event, see page 5.

Pentagram staff writer Julia LeDoux can be reached at jledoux@dcmilitary.com.



PHOTO BY DAMIEN SALAS

U.S. Army Chap. (Maj. Gen.) Donald L. Rutherford, former U.S. Army chief of chaplains, and Chap. (Capt.) Ted Randall, an Arlington National Cemetery chaplain, place American flags on grave sites in Arlington National Cemetery during Flags In May 21. In a matter of hours, chaplains and chaplain assistants from across the Military District of Washington placed hundreds of flags along Chaplains Hill as part of the pre-Memorial Day annual event led by the 3d U.S. Infantry Regiment (The Old Guard). The Old Guard has led the placement of American flags at hundreds of thousands of ANC gravesites since 1948.

Veterans and Gold Star families thunder roll through JBM-HH, D.C.



PHOTO BY DAMIEN SALAS

From left, Gold Star mother Debra Hyatt rides on the back of Neil Cotter's motorcycle May 24 on the way to the Pentagon parking lot to meet with thousands of motorcyclists participating in the Rolling Thunder event through Washington, D.C.

By Damien Salas
Pentagram Staff Writer

Each year, thousands of motorcyclists descend on the National Capital Region during Memorial Day weekend to participate in the annual Rolling Thunder rally. Started in 1987, the event calls for the recogni-

tion of prisoners of war and those missing in action.

Maryland bikers Paul Barsamian and Neil Cotter volunteer each year to give Gold Star families the unique experience of riding through D.C. on the back of a motorcycle during the rally with other veterans.

More than two-dozen Gold Star

mothers, some dressed in all white, others wearing shirts with pictures of the service member they lost, met Barsamian and Cotter in front of the Spates Community Center on Joint Base Myer-Henderson Hall May 24. They were then escorted

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We remember: Master Sgt. Pablo A. Ruiz

By Jim Goodwin
Editor, Pentagram

Joint Base Myer-Henderson Hall lost one of its own this week.

The Department of Defense announced May 25 the death of Master Sgt. Pablo A. Ruiz III, a 37-year-old native of Melbourne, Fla., who was assigned to Group Support Battalion, 3rd Special Forces Group, Fort Bragg, N.C. He died from a “noncombat-related incident,” according to the Defense Department’s official news release.

Ruiz was the senior food operations specialist sergeant for the JBM-HH Dining Facility from June 2012 until this March. As such, Ruiz was the “driving force” behind the dining facility’s recent renovations, according to Maj. Armando Peralta, who supervised Ruiz at JBM-HH.

“He was a go-getter to the core,” he said. “He had an uncommon ability to see the bigger picture beyond his rank.”

Peralta added that in his 23 years of military service, he never had a better platoon sergeant than Ruiz.

“It’s funny how things happen because I was just talking to one of my NCOs about how much I miss him,” said Peralta. “You could give him a mission and forget about it because he’d get it done.”



PHOTO BY STAFF SGT. MEGAN GARCIA

Master Sgt. Pablo A. Ruiz, pictured here in a June 14, 2014, photograph, died May 24 due to a non-combat related incident, according to the Department of Defense. Ruiz was a 37-year-old native of Melbourne, Fla., and former JBM-HH Dining Facility senior food operations specialist sergeant.

Tony Taylor, supervisory maintenance manager at JBM-HH’s Directorate of Public Works, worked closely with Ruiz during this year’s month-long renovations to the JBM-HH dining facility, which entailed weeks of logistical planning and inspections before the renovations began, he said.

“He would work weekends, set up meetings;

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★ ★ ★ The United States Army Band ★ ★ ★		
CALENDAR OF EVENTS		
May 28	7 p.m.	The U.S. Army Blues will perform with the Westfield High School Jazz Ensemble at Westfield High School in Chantilly, Va.
May 30	7:30 p.m.	The U.S. Army Strings is celebrating their 65th anniversary and will perform music from their storied past in a special event at Brucker Hall on the Fort Myer portion of Joint Base Myer-Henderson Hall.
June 3, 10, 17, 24	7 p.m.	Twilight Tattoo is a military pageant at Summerall Field on the Fort Myer portion of JBM-HH. The tattoo features Soldiers of the 3d U.S. Infantry Regiment (The Old Guard), The Old Guard Fife and Drum Corps, The U.S. Army Drill Team, The U.S. Army Blues, a soloist from The U.S. Army Chorus and vocalists of The U.S. Army Band Downrange and The U.S. Army Voices. This event is free and open to the public. No tickets are required. Pre-ceremony live music begins at 6:30 p.m.
June 4	7:30 p.m.	The U.S. Army Concert Band will perform “Heroes and Villains” during their summer concert series, providing a program of music from some of the more popular good guy/bad guy scenarios from stage and screen at Brucker Hall on the Fort Myer portion of Joint Base Myer-Henderson Hall.
June 5	11 a.m.	The U.S. Army Blues will provide 20-minute performances at the Smithsonian Air and Space Museum in Washington, D.C., at 11 a.m., noon, 1 p.m. and 2 p.m.
June 12	10 a.m.	The U.S. Army Band “Pershing’s Own” will perform as part of the Army Birthday Celebration at “Military Island” in Times Square, New York City.

Performances are free and open to the public, unless otherwise noted. All outdoor concerts are subject to cancellation or location change due to weather considerations. Call 703-696-3399 for up-to-date information on concert cancellations or location changes. For additional details and a full calendar of performances, visit www.usarmyband.com/event-calendar.html.

MEMORIAL DAY
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of Washington.

Obama stressed that the nation’s service members continue to remain on watch and serve, even though the war in Afghanistan has ended.

“Several years ago, we had more than 100,000 troops in Afghanistan,” he said. “Today, fewer than 10,000 ground troops remain on a mission to train and assist Afghan forces. We’ll continue to bring them home and reduce our forces further, down to an embassy presence by the end of next year. But Afghanistan remains a very dangerous place. And as so many families know, our troops continue to risk their lives for us.”

Obama also noted that Arlington National Cemetery is more than the final resting place of some of the nation’s heroes.

“It’s a reflection of our history, the wars we’ve waged for democracy, the peace we’ve laid to preserve it,” he said. “It’s a reflection of our diversity, men and women of all backgrounds, all races and creeds and circumstances and faiths, willing to defend and die for the ideals that bind us as one nation.”

Obama said that most Americans don’t fully understand the sacrifice of the one percent of the nation’s population who serve in its armed forces.

“Few know what it’s like to take a bullet for a buddy, or to live with the fact that he or she took one for you,” he said. “But our Gold



PHOTOS BY SPC. CODY W. TORKELSON

Sgt. 1st Class Todd A. Taylor, a bugler with The U.S. Army Band “Pershing’s Own” and Louisville, Ky., native, plays during a Presidential Armed Forces Full Honors Wreath-Laying Ceremony May 25 at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier in Arlington National Cemetery. President Barack H. Obama placed the wreath.

Star families, our military families, our veterans, they know this, intimately.”

Carter also paid tribute to the families of the fallen in his remarks.

“We, your fellow Americans, lack the words to describe what you feel today, because try as we may and try as we do, we can never fully know,” he said.

Peter Erickson of Richmond, Va., attended the ceremony with his wife, Sarah, and their sons, Brandon, 6, and Jack, 2.

“Memorial Day is about remembering them and what they did for us,” he said.

“Being here really brings that home,” added Sarah.

Pentagram staff writer Julia LeDoux can be reached at jledoux@dcmilitary.com.



The “President’s Own” United States Marine Band performs at the Arlington National Cemetery Amphitheater during a Memorial Day observance event that featured President Barack Obama, Secretary of Defense Ashton Carter, Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff Gen. Martin E. Dempsey, and other military leaders May 25. The president said that this Memorial Day marked the first celebration of the United States’ fallen since the end of combat operations in Afghanistan.

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deputy commanding general, Futures, U.S. Army Training and Doctrine Command.

In his post, Hurley is supervising officer of the Army’s chaplain corps. He is a graduate of the U.S. Military Academy at West Point in 1984 and served two assignments as a field artillery officer in Germany and Fort Bragg, N.C., before he began to discern a call to the priesthood. He resigned his commission in 1990 and attended St. John’s Seminary in Boston, Mass. He was ordained as a Roman Catholic priest in 1995 and spent five years as a parish priest in the Archdiocese of Boston before he rejoined



PHOTO BY DAMIEN SALAS

Chap. (Maj. Gen.) Paul K. Hurley embraces Lt. Gen. H.R. McMaster during his promotion to 24th U.S. Army Chief of Chaplains in the Memorial Chapel on the Fort Myer portion of Joint Base Myer-Henderson Hall May 22.

the active duty Army Chaplain Corps in 2000. He most recently served

as command chaplain for the 18th Airborne Corps at Fort Bragg, N.C.

Pentagram staff writer Julia LeDoux can be reached at jledoux@dcmilitary.com.

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backdrop for Marine Evening Parades in Arlington, Va. The evening parade season began May 25, but continues with the following June dates: June 2, 9, 16, 23 and 30. The hour-long parades begin at 7 p.m. and feature the music of “The Commandant’s Own,” The United States Marine Drum and Bugle Corps and the Marine Corps Silent Drill Platoon. The summer parades are open to the public, and parking and a shuttle service are available from the Arlington National Cemetery Welcome Center.

4. The 2015 DoD Warrior Games at Quantico

From June 19 to 28, the 2015 DoD Warrior Games will be held at Marine Corps Base Quantico.

Eight events involving 200 military athletes from the Army, Marines, the U.S. Special Operations Command, Air Force and the British Armed Forces will take place during the eight-day games.

For more information and volunteer opportunities, go to <http://go.usa.gov/39ye9>.

5. Army’s major general to start as DoD sexual assault prevention director

Effective June 8, Army Maj. Gen. Camille M. Nichols will become the director of DoD’s Sexual Assault Prevention and Response Office, according to a Defense Department news release.

The current director, Army Maj. Gen. Jeffrey J. Snow, was selected to be the next commander of the U.S. Army Recruiting Command at Fort Knox, Ky.

Nichols comes to the position with a distinguished career of service. Most recently, she served as director of business operations in the secretary of the Army’s Office of Business Transformation. Nichols has more than 20 years of Department of Defense acquisition experience and served in Iraq, Afghanistan and the Gulf War.

6. Fort Belvoir Tech Day

A June 18 technology expo is scheduled for the Fort Belvoir Officers’ Club where invited service members will receive opportunities to network with cyber and communication personnel, contractors and industry exhibitors, who will be displaying the latest technical products.

Service members who have cutting-edge technology or topics they would like to present at the one-day expo are encouraged to register at www.fbcinc.com/event.aspx/Q6UJ9A010UYD.

7. Force Protection Seminar June 11

The JFHQ/NCR-MDW Force Protection Seminar will be held Thursday, June 11 from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. in the Lincoln Hall Auditorium, National Defense University on the Fort McNair portion of Joint Base Myer-Henderson Hall.

The seminar is open to JFHQ-NCR/MDW staff, component commands, major subordinate commands, DoD, federal, state and local protection partners and will

provide an in-depth look at the evolving insider threat, especially regarding military installations. Topics will include the Washington Navy Yard active shooter response, the Fort Riley insider threat analysis process, cyber defense requirements and the Fort Hood active shooter response.

Seating is limited to 400 attendees on a first come, first-served basis. To receive registration information, call 202-685-2914/0048/2871, or register by providing full name, rank, clearance, position, e-mail address, name of command, garrison or agency and DSN and commercial phone number to Marvin C. Solomon at marvin.c.solomon.civ@mail.

8. Joint base job fair at Spates Community Club

The joint base Soldier for Life-Transition Assistance Program office and DoD’s Defense Civilian Personnel Advisory Service will co-host a Hiring Heroes Career Fair June 4 from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. at Spates Community Club on the Fort Myer portion of JBM-HH.

Service members, veterans, retirees and military family members are encouraged to attend. DoD employers, federal agencies and firms from the private sector will be present to talk to and recruit employment candidates. Contact Sylvia Parker at 571-372-2124 for more information.

9. Two MIA Soldiers to be buried at ANC

During the first eight days of June, two Soldiers – one who served in the Korean

War and the other during World War II – will be buried at Arlington national Cemetery according to two separate DoD press releases.

On June 5, Army Cpl. Richard L. Wing of Toledo, OH will be laid to rest at ANC. Wing, a member of Company H, 5th Cavalry Regiment, 1st Cavalry Division was deployed Nov. 1950 to North Korea. He taken as a prisoner of war and died of dysentery.

Three days later, U.S. Army Air Forces 2nd Lt. Alvin Beethe of Elk Creek, Neb. will be buried. Beethe, of the 393rd Fighter Squadron, 367th Fighter Group, 9th Air Force, was behind the controls of a P-38 Lightning when it crashed during a bombing mission over Germany in 1944. In 2008, the crash site was located and in 2013, Beethe’s remains were located.

10. HQ Battalion readies for change of command

New leadership is on the horizon Joint Base Myer-Henderson Hall’s Headquarters Command Battalion.

A Command Ceremony between Army Lt. Col. Mark R. Biehl and Army Lt. Col. Johnathon M. Kupka, and a Change of Responsibility Ceremony between Army Command Sgt. Maj. Alex L. Pratt and Command Sgt. Maj. Kenyatta L. Mack will take place on June 19 at JBM-HH’s Summerall Field.

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of the joint base. Seats in this mandatory class are limited. Please call or email Marian Upton, employee assistance professional, at marian.g.upton.civ@mail.mil or call 703-696-3787 if planning to attend.

Hiring Heroes Career Fair

The JBM-HH Soldier for Life-Transition Assistance Program office and the Department of Defense’s Defense Civilian Personnel Advisory Service are co-hosting a Hiring Heroes Career Fair June 4 from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. in the Spates Community Club at 214 McNair Road on the Fort Myer portion of the joint base. Service members, veterans, retirees and family members are welcome to attend and network with DoD employers, other federal agencies and private sector firms. For more information, contact Sylvia Parker at 571-372-2124 or email sylvia.o.parker.civ@mail.mil.

Intimate partner violence prevention seminar

Dr. David Wexler, an internationally-recognized expert on domestic violence prevention, is the presenter at a special JBM-HH Family Advocacy Program seminar on intimate partner violence prevention seminar June 5, 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. The event takes place at Memorial Chapel on the Fort Myer portion of JBM-HH. This seminar is designed to teach participants how to develop practical skills and strategies for increasing community awareness about domestic violence, assess risk and acquire new strategies for early intervention. Participants will receive 5.5 social work continuing education units. Space is limited; register on a first-come, first-served basis by calling 703-696-3512.

Chesty’s 5K Race

Registration is now open through June 16 for the 6th Annual Chesty’s 5K Race honoring Lt. Gen. Lewis Burwell “Chesty” Puller. The race steps off from the Cpl Terry L. Smith Gymnasium June 17 at 6:45 a.m. Late registration and check-in on site start at 5:45 a.m. The first 100 registered participants receive an event T-shirt. The top three male and female finishers receive prizes. Register online through www.mccsHH.com/OohRahRunSeries. Semper Fit is committed to providing reasonable accommodations upon request. Please call 703-614-6332 at least one week in advance of the event.

EFMP open swim

The Exceptional Family Member Programs on JBM-HH announce open swim sessions on alternate Saturdays at the Maj. Douglas A. Zembiel Pool on the Henderson Hall portion of the joint base from 10 a.m. to noon. EFMP families will have a designated area in which to swim and there is a portable chair lift available. Upcoming dates are May 30, June 13 and 27; July 11 and 25; and Aug. 8 and 22. All services’ EFMP families may participate in this free open swim. Register one day in advance by calling 703-696-0783 or 703-693-5353.

Golf With Us

Marine Corps Community Services Henderson Hall Semper Fit’s season Golf With Us tournaments are under way monthly through September. The June tournament will take place at The Gauntlet Golf Club in Fredericksburg, Va., on June 19 beginning at 8:30 a.m. Reservations are due by June 12 and those interested in playing can find more information and a link to register at www.mccsHH.com/GolfWithUs. Need clubs? Check them out from the Cpl. Terry L. Smith Gymnasium gear issue. For more information, call 703-697-2706.

Purple Heart golf classic

Chapter 353 Military Order of the Purple Heart will host their annual golf classic June 19 at the Fort Belvoir Golf Course starting at 7 a.m., tee times begin-

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Chaplains and chaplain assistants place American flags at grave sites in Arlington National Cemetery during Flags In May 21. In a matter of hours, chaplains and chaplain assistants from across the Military District of Washington placed hundreds of flags along Chaplains Hill as part of the pre-Memorial Day annual event led by the 3d U.S. Infantry Regiment (The Old Guard). The Old Guard has led the placement of American flags at hundreds of thousands of ANC gravesites since 1948.

Flags In 2015



U.S. Army Chap. (Col.) Gary R. Studniewski, command chaplain for Joint Force Headquarters-National Capital Region and the U.S. Military District of Washington, gives remarks after placing American flags on grave sites in Arlington National Cemetery during Flags In May 21.



The Old Guard Soldiers receive bundles of American flags to place on grave sites in Arlington National Cemetery during Flags In May 21.



U.S. Army Chaplains service members from the 3d U.S. Infantry Regiment (The Old Guard) from the National Capital Region participate in the tradition known as Flags In May 21 in Arlington National Cemetery.

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Swamp Rompin’



PHOTOS BY ROB JOSWIAK



ABOVE - Cajun Blues band Swamp Romp, part of The U.S. Army Band “Pershing’s Own,” perform around the pool during the Joint Base Myer-Henderson Hall community reception and barbeque event May 19 at the Fort Myer Officers’ Club Pool Complex. JBM-HH Commander Col. Mike Henderson hosted the event for the joint base’s various community partners and guests, including local government and community association leaders. LEFT - Joint Base Myer-Henderson Hall Commander Col. Mike Henderson delivers welcome remarks during the JBM-HH community reception and barbeque event May 19 at the Fort Myer Officers’ Club Pool Complex.

RUIZ
from page 3

he even brought in inspection teams from Fort Lee,” said Taylor, who added that Ruiz’ knowledge, tact and professionalism were above reproach.

After finishing his time at JBM-HH, Ruiz reported to 3rd Special Forces Group’s support battalion at Fort Bragg, N.C. From there he deployed to Afghanistan, where he served as the food service operations manager for the dining facility at Bagram Air Base, according to the U.S. Army Special Forces Command (Airborne) Public Affairs Office.

Taylor said he and others who worked with Ruiz plan on attending the funeral, even if that requires travel outside Virginia.

“This is a tremendous loss for his family and the Army,” said Taylor.

An avid volunteer with the Tragedy Assistance Program for Survivors non-profit organization that assists families of fallen service members, Ruiz is survived by a wife and a daughter, according to an online obituary.

“We are saddened by the death of our dear friend and dedicated TAPS volunteer Pablo Ruiz, III,” said Bonnie Carroll, TAPS president and founder in an online statement. “During this Memorial Day week and all the days ahead, our hearts are with his family, friends, and the children of the TAPS Good Grief Camp whose lives he profoundly touched.”



PHOTO BY DAMIEN SALAS

Arlington County motorcycle police escort three busloads of Gold Star mothers May 24 to the Pentagon parking lot to meet with thousands of motorcyclists participating in the Rolling Thunder Ride through Washington, D.C.

THUNDER
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by six Arlington County motorcycle police to the Pentagon parking lot, where the ride began at noon.

For these motorcyclists, the ride is more than remembering those who have fallen. It is an opportunity to recognize and appreciate the families of the fallen, said Cotter.

Barsamian has escorted Gold Star families during Rolling Thunder for 13 consecutive years; Cotter for 15. Both say escorting families of the fallen during the event “feeds the soul.”

“Years ago someone told me some Gold Star moms were left in the parking lot because they didn’t have enough rides for them,” said Barsamian. “I didn’t understand how they didn’t have enough rides with all the bikes out there, so I

made it my business to make sure that no Gold Star mom would be left in the parking lot again.”

American Gold Star Mother, Inc., National President Jennifer Jackman who participated in the May 24 ride, said the Gold Star mothers were there to honor veterans from all wars, not only their own sons.

“This is a group that volunteers for veterans,” said Jackman. “We have tense moments when Taps plays, but we aren’t a pity-party group. We go out and remember our fallen with pride.”

This year’s Rolling Thunder event was the largest yet with more than 700,000 participants and spectators, according to a Rolling Thunder, Inc., spokesperson.

Pentagram staff writer Damien Salas can be reached at dsalas@dcmilitary.com.

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ning at 9 a.m. The event is a four-person, captain’s choice scramble format. Registration includes green fees, golf cart, breakfast, lunch, photos and awards. For more information contact Jessica Shea at 703-254-4635, via email at mophgolf@sheainc.com or visit www.chpt353moph-golffclassic.com.

Youth Golf Camp registration now open

Registration is now open for participation in the Joint Base Myer-Henderson Hall’s Child, Youth and

School Services Youth Sports and Fitness 2015 golf July 6-10 and Aug. 3-7. Camp is half day, 9 a.m. to noon for 7 to 14-year-olds. Registration ends one week prior to camp dates or when the camp has reached capacity. For more information please call Annette Engum at 703-696-3728 or email at annette.e.engum.civ@mail.mil

Challenger Sports British Soccer Camp registration now open

Joint Base Myer-Henderson Hall’s Child, Youth and School Services will host another summer

Challenger Sports British Soccer Camp June 22-26 and July 20-24. Half-day camp is available from 9 a.m. to noon for 6 to 12-year-olds. Registration is open until two week prior to the start date. For more information please call Annette Engum at 703-696-3728 or email at annette.e.engum.civ@mail.mil

Get to know: Joint Personal Property Shipping Office Mid-Atlantic

Non-temporary storage of household goods for service members and federal civilian employees is available when conducting a permanent change of station overseas as well as for retiring and separating service members. Military retirees are authorized one year of non-temporary storage from their retirement date, at the government’s expense; extensions are circumstantially available. Learn more about this program

in part A5d (military) and part B5d (civilian) of chapter five of the Joint Travel Regulation (available online: <http://go.usa.gov/39yBA>) or visit the nearest Personal Property Processing Office: <http://go.usa.gov/39yWz>.

Death notice

U.S. Air Force Lt. Col. Jerry W. Bennett Jr., regretfully announces the death of Lt. Col. Brian J. Botkin. Anyone having claims against or indebtedness to the estate of Lt. Col. Brian J. Botkin should contact Bennett, the summary court officer, at 703-693-2744.


News Notes submissions

Please send your submissions for the June 11 edition of the Pentagram via email at pentagram-jbmhh@yahoo.com no later than noon, June 3. All submissions must be less than 100 words. Please note that submission of a news note does not guarantee publication.

7 Things You May Not Know
About Rolling Thunder

By DoD News
Defense Media Activity

1. Rolling Thunder Inc. is not a motorcycle rally. It is a demonstration for POW/MIA accountability of all wars, reminding the government, the media and the public: “We will not forget.”
2. The number of participants/spectators for the first Rolling Thunder in 1987 was 2,500; the last demonstration was estimated at 900,000.
3. Rolling Thunder, Inc., is a non-profit organization composed mostly of veterans — many of whom ride motorcycles. Neither qualification is a prerequisite to join.
4. The demonstration gets its name from the 1965 bombing campaign against North Vietnam dubbed “Operation Rolling Thunder.”
5. Rolling Thunder, Inc., has advocated and/or co-authored legislation to improve the POW/MIA issue, veterans’ benefits, concerns and interests.
6. Rolling Thunder, Inc., veterans speak to youth groups about the honor of serving their country and educating them about the POW/MIA issue.
7. Thousands of hours are logged by Rolling Thunder, Inc., members at local VA hospitals nationwide.



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www.flickr.com/photos/jbm-hh

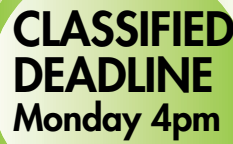
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ARLINGTON NATIONAL CEMETERY PHOTOS BY RACHEL LARUE



Roses adorn the headstones in Section 60 of Arlington National Cemetery May 25 in Arlington. Memorial Day Flowers Foundation handed out and placed on headstones over 120,000 roses and carnations in ANC.

Day of remembrance



LEFT - Volunteers place roses on headstones in Section 60 of Arlington National Cemetery May 25 in Arlington. RIGHT - Cal Copp, left, and Lily visit the grave of Joseph Gordon in Section 60 of Arlington National Cemetery on Memorial Day May 25 in Arlington. Copp described Gordon as his “best friend” and said they had known each other since they were children.

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