



Pentagon unveils ‘modernized’ retirement plan for uniformed service members

Blended Retirement System online by Jan. 1, 2018

By Arthur Mondale
Pentagram Staff Writer

Pentagon officials are full-court pressed to educate both active duty service members and reservists on a new era of self-investment with the Blended Retirement System, what officials call a “modernized retirement plan” that goes into effect Jan. 1, 2018.

Service members who joined the military after Dec. 31, 2017, will automatically be enrolled and receive matching Thrift Savings Plan contributions; members who join the military between Dec.31, 2005, but before Jan. 1, 2018, can opt to enroll or stay in the current retirement system.

Service members who joined the military before Jan. 1, 2006, will be grandfathered and remain in the current retirement system.

The new Blended Retirement System is the result of the Fiscal Year 2016 National Defense Authorization Act. For the first time, the Department of Defense is automatically contributing to service members’ TSP accounts and instituting a program for matching contributions, according to DoD officials.

On June 1, Pentagon officials held a leaders course to educate senior DoD and military leaders on the transition to the Blended Retirement System. It was the first of a four-part series of forums on the new policy outlining key facts, such as who the new retirement plan impacts and the different levels of education that will

see RETIREMENT, page 4

Saving with the New Blended Retirement System

The Fiscal Year 2016 National Defense Authorization Act provides our military force with a modernized retirement plan built for retirement savings. Beginning in 2018, our service members can get automatic and matching Thrift Savings Plan contributions as well as mid-career compensation incentives in addition to monthly annuities for life. All service members under the current system are grandfathered into today’s retirement system.

Today’s Retirement System:



2.5% x Years Served x Retired Pay Base after completing 20 years of service

PHOTOS COURTESY OF U.S. DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

1 Automatic and Matching Contributions

Automatic contributions are seen immediately



You Contribute	DoD Auto Contribution	DoD Matches	Total
0%	1%	0%	1%
1%	1%	1%	3%
2%	1%	2%	5%
3%	1%	3%	7%
4%	1%	3.5%	8.5%
5%	1%	4%	10%

The DoD automatically contributes 1% of your basic pay to your Thrift Savings Plan after 60 days of service.

You’ll see matching contributions at the start of 3 through the completion of 26 years of service, and...

You’re fully vested—it’s yours to keep—as of the beginning of 3 years of service and goes with you when you leave.

2 Continuation Pay

Received at the mid-career point



You may receive a cash payment in exchange for additional service.

3 Full Retired Pay Annuity

Received after completing 20 years of service

2% x Years Served x Retired Pay Base

Calculate your retired pay base by averaging the highest 36 months of basic pay. You’ll gain this monthly annuity for life after completing 20 years of service.

Options for Collecting Your Retired Pay

Active Component

Full retired pay annuity

Reserve Component

Full retired pay annuity beginning at age 60*



Lump sum with reduced retired pay
50% or 25% of monthly retired pay annuity bumps back up to 100% at full retirement age (67 in most cases).

*Could be earlier based on credited active service

Effective Date of the New System

After December 31, 2017
You’ll be automatically enrolled in the Blended Retirement System.

After December 31, 2005 but before January 1, 2018
You’ll have the choice to enroll in the Blended Retirement System or remain in today’s current retirement system.

Before January 1, 2006
You’ll be grandfathered and remain in today’s current retirement system.

‘Marvelous Mal’ laid to rest



PHOTO BY BOBBY JONES

Family of 2nd Lt. Malvin Greston “Marvelous Mal” Whitfield watch as Nola Whitfield, Malvin’s widow, accepts an American flag off her husband’s casket during the graveside service for 2nd Lt. Whitfield in Arlington National Cemetery in Arlington, Virginia, June 8. Whitfield served in World War II as a Tuskegee Airman and was also a five-time Olympic medalist. He died Nov. 19, 2015.

By Guv Callahan
Pentagram Staff Writer

Malvin Greston Whitfield, a Tuskegee Airman and two-time Olympian known as “Marvelous Mal,” was laid

to rest in Arlington National Cemetery during a full honors military funeral June 8.

Whitfield, who was 91 when he died last November,

see FUNERAL, page 4

New shared optic line to connect Myer to McNair

By Jim Goodwin
Pentagram Editor

A new fiber optic line that stretches from northern Virginia and into Washington, D.C., and will provide shared communication capabilities throughout federal, city and county governments is just weeks from completion, according to an Arlington County official.

The new line, to be completed by the end of the month, will enable military officials at Joint Base Myer-Henderson Hall in Arlington, Virginia, to communicate with its geographically-separated third installation, Fort Lesley J. McNair, located in Washington, D.C., according to Arlington County Chief Information Officer Jack Belcher.

“I think this will foster better cooperation between emergency medical services

across agencies in the NCR,” said JBM-HH Commander Col. Mike Henderson. “We already have effective interoperability between agencies in the NCR. This will just make it better.”

The nearly-completed fiber optic line provides for a “wholly government-managed telecommunications infrastructure” that will connect JBM-HH’s Fort Myer to Fort McNair, according to Arlington County’s Director of Networking Nathaniel Wentland during a June 13 brief to government and county officials at Fort Myer.

Moreover, the project provides shared telecommunications capabilities between Fort Myer and Arlington County, Arlington County to Washington, D.C., and Washington, D.C., with Fort McNair, according to Belcher.

see CONNECT, page 4

ZIKA VIRUS



Get the facts online!
<http://go.usa.gov/cJ3CG>
See page 2 for local details.

News Notes

Urban Warrior Challenge – June 23

Joint Base Myer-Henderson Hall’s Family and Morale, Welfare and Recreation; Marine Corps Community Services Henderson Hall, and the 3d U.S. Infantry Regiment (The Old Guard) will host an Urban Warrior Challenge and Joint Base Barbecue June 23 from 9:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the field next to Spates Community Club along McNair Road on Fort Myer and include games for service members, civilians and families.

Sponsoring community activities will be available to provide information about their programs and services. The day begins with a series of competitive events, including various relay races and a tire toss, open to active duty personnel. Other non-competitive events are open to everyone. The competition finale: the Marines vs. Army tug-of-war. More details will be forthcoming about this event on www.mccsHH.com/UWCJBB.

Event attendance coordinating instructions:

The event is provided at no cost to patrons and is funded out of the JBM-HH’s Department of the Army Welfare Funds (DAWF); all eligible community members must have a ticket to access the event. Tenant organizations that have withdrawn their DAWF funds are eligible to participate, but

see NEWS, page 4

Index	
Get the facts: Zika Virus	page 2
Community	page 3
News notes	page 4
Pride Month	page 5
MetroRail repairs impact local staff	page 6

THURS.
79 | 63



FRI.
73 | 60



SAT.
82 | 59



SUN.
82 | 62



For more weather forecasts and information, visit www.weather.gov.

Happy 241st, U.S. Army!



PHOTO BY SPC. BRANDON C. DYER

U.S. Army Pfc. Christina Stevens, left, the youngest Soldier in attendance during a June 14 Army Birthday cake cutting at the dining facility on the Fort Myer portion of Joint Base Myer-Henderson Hall, cuts the cake with 3d U.S. Infantry Regiment (The Old Guard) Commander Col. Johnny K. Davis. The cake was an eight-layer butter creme birthday cake commemorating the 241st Army Birthday.

Zika virus: Get the facts, protect yourself

Use an insect repellent with one of the following active ingredients:

Active Ingredient	Some brand name examples*
Higher percentages of active ingredient provide longer protection	(Insect repellents may be sold under different brand names overseas.)
DEET	Off!, Cutter, Sawyer, Ultrathon
Picaridin, also known as KBR 3023, Bayrepel, and Icaridin	Skin So Soft Bug Guard Plus, Autan (outside the United States)
Oil of lemon eucalyptus (OLE) or para-menthane-diol (PMD)	Rapel
IR3535	Skin So Soft Bug Guard Plus Expedition, SkinSmart

FACT: THERE IS NO CURE FOR ZIKA OR WEST NILE VIRUSES.

That’s why Joint Base Myer-Henderson Hall Directorate of Public Works-Environmental Management Division is asking the community to be cognizant of mosquito breeding prevention methods and the diseases associated with mosquito-borne viruses, such as Zika, West Nile and Dengue.

Those on JBM-HH can take precautions to help prevent the risk of contracting Zika or other mosquito-borne viruses, including wearing repellents with DEET and Department of Defense Insect Repellent Systems (for those in uniform). Emptying items that contain water, such as gutters, flower pot saucers, buckets and discarded containers, can help prevent mosquito breeding.

Local testing continues, preventative measures key:

JBM-HH’s public works staff have received specialized training to conduct surveillance and control measures throughout JBM-HH to trap female mosquitoes and their eggs and test them for both Zika and West Nile viruses. Traps to test for the Zika virus were recently collected throughout the joint base and were sent to a special laboratory at Fort Meade, Maryland, for testing.

Public works officials have already treated catchment basins to stop the breeding of Culex mosquitos and are trapping and testing for West Nile Virus-borne.

While testing helps identify and alert the community to the presence of mosquitos carrying viruses, the best way to avoid virus contraction is by preventing mosquitos from breeding in the area, said Ron Purvis, JBM-HH Pest Management Team member. To achieve that, Purvis and fellow team member Ronald Quarles recommends joint base residents, staff, service members and others take an active part in preventing mosquito breeding by identifying and emptying items and areas that contain standing water. Standing water, such as that collected in plant pots, wheel barrows, and other potential backyard water catchers, are where mosquitoes lay their eggs, he said.

“If you’re turning over the sources [of breeding], like standing water, that’s vital to combating mosquito breeding,” said Purvis. “The more we can get the community aware, the better.”

More preventative measures and tips include:

- Wear long-sleeved shirts and long pants.
- Stay in places with air conditioning and window and door screens to keep mosquitoes outside.
- Tightly cover water storage containers (buckets, cisterns, rain barrels) so that mosquitoes cannot get inside to lay eggs.
- For containers without lids, use wire mesh with holes smaller than an adult mosquito.
- Use larvicides to treat large containers of water that will not be used for drinking and cannot be covered or dumped out.

More tips will be published in forthcoming issues. Additional information on preventing mosquito breeding, as well as mosquito-borne viruses, can be found on the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention website at <http://go.usa.gov/cJ3CG>.

To schedule a visit or inspection for potential mosquito-breeding areas, contact Purvis or Quarles at 703-965-6073 or 6049, respectively.

This week in military history

Compiled by Jim Goodwin
Editor, Pentagonagram

- June 16 1936:** Seversky Aircraft Company won a contract to provide the U.S. Army-Air Corps with P-35 airplanes, the Army’s first single-seat fighters with enclosed cockpits and retractable landing gear, according to the online U.S. Air Force History One-hundred Ten Years of Flight
- June 17 1918:** U.S. Marines take Bouresches Village in France during a major, toe-to-toe American offensive of Army and Marine Corps units against four German divisions at Belleau Wood, France, during World War I, according to the American Military History Volume II. Six days later Marines and Soldiers cleared Belleau Wood, but at a cost: the Army’s 2nd Division suffered some 9,777 casualties.
- June 18 1878:** The Posse Comitatus Act is passed, effectively limiting the use of active duty military in civil law enforcement without Constitutional or Congressional authorization, according to an entry on the This Day in U.S. Military History website.
- June 19 1888:** U.S. Marines land and march 25 miles to protect the Seoul Legation in Korea, according to an entry on the This Day in U.S. Military History website.
- June 20 1993:** The Marine Corps’ 24th Marine Expeditionary Unit returns to Mogadishu, Somalia, to provide aid to the United Nations in peacekeeping operations, according to the Marine Corps History Division. Earlier that month, the 24th MEU had to cut short an exercise in Kuwait to respond to potential contingency operations in Somalia.
- June 21 2000:** Twenty-two Asian-American veterans are awarded the Medal of Honor for battlefield bravery during a White House ceremony, some 55 years after their service during World War II, according to an entry on the This Day in U.S. Military History website. To read the citations of the 22 awardees, visit <http://go.usa.gov/3EXf9>.



PHOTO BY RUDI WILLIAMS

World War II Army Pvt. Shizuya Hayashi listens to remarks during a Hall of Heroes induction ceremony at the Pentagon June 22, 2000. Hayashi was one of 22 Asian-Americans awarded the Medal of Honor by then-President Bill Clinton a day earlier in a White House ceremony. Hayashi received the award for heroic action on Nov. 29, 1943, near Cerasuolo, Italy.

- June 22 1775:** The Continental Congress assists the American Revolution against British rule by authorizing the issuance of some \$2 million in bills of credit, according to an entry on the This Day in U.S. Military History website. The funds were monumental in allowing colonial leaders to wage a long-term war.

Commemorating those lost at Bakers Creek

By Julia LeDoux
Pentagram Staff Writer

The lives and legacies of the American Soldiers who were killed in an aircraft crash, considered to be the worst accident involving a transport plane in the southwest Pacific during World War II, were honored during a ceremony June 14 on Joint Base Myer-Henderson Hall.

The event, which took place at the Bakers Creek Air Crash Monument near the Selfridge Gate entrance to Arlington National Cemetery, commemorated the 73rd anniversary of the air crash in Queensland, Australia, that killed 40 Army Air Corps Soldiers aboard a B-17 Flying Fortress aircraft that crashed shortly after take-off June 14, 1943.

JBM-HH Commander Col. Mike Henderson, JBM-HH Command Sgt. Maj. Randall E. Woods, Australian Ambassador to the United States Joe Hockey and Air Commodore Gary Martin, Australian air marshal

and assistant defense attache, laid two wreaths at the memorial. One of the wreaths was in tribute from the Australian Embassy, the other from the joint base on behalf of the Secretary of the Army.

“It is fitting that the memorial found its home here with Arlington National Cemetery serving as a backdrop,” Henderson said. “The cemetery, with its rows of tombstones, serves to remind us of the many men and women who have served and gave their lives for our great nation.”

Henderson noted that June 14 is not only the date of the Bakers Creek Crash, but also marked the 241st birthday of the United States Army.

“So, today is the perfect opportunity to honor the sacrifices of all our men and women who serve and those who have served in the ranks of the United States Army, their families and those who have fallen and paid the ultimate sacri-

see BAKERS CREEK, page 7



Members of the official party salute during the playing of Taps June 14 on the Fort Myer portion of Joint Base Myer-Henderson Hall during a memorial ceremony commemorating the 73rd anniversary of the air crash in Queensland, Australia, which killed 40 Army-Air Corps Soldiers aboard a B-17 Flying Fortress aircraft June 14, 1943. Pictured here are, from right: Australian Air Attache and Assistant Defence Attache Air Commodore Gary Martin, Australian Ambassador to the United States Hon. Joe Hockey, JBM-HH Commander Col. Mike Henderson and JBM-HH Command Sgt. Maj. Randall E. Woods.

JBM-HH Library launches summer reading program

By Delonte Harrod
Pentagram Staff Writer

The Joint Base Myer Henderson-Hall library held its first Story Walk June 11.

Participants were invited to read while they walked along McNair Rd., Lee Ave., Hospital Lane, Jackson Ave., and Sheridan Ave., which had them round Summerall Field. Participants were encouraged to read portions of “I Went Walking,” a children’s book by Sue Williams, printed on multiple signs, along the road, as they walked and to stop by the Caisson horse stables so they could receive a guided tour. Prizes were given to those who finished the walk.

Melani Kimery, supervisor of the library, said this year’s theme, “Read for the Win,” is in conjunction with the upcoming summer Olympics. Kimery said the event is not only to promote reading but to also encourage good health.

“That is the reason that we wanted everyone to read outside doing something physical,” she said. “That is why we kicked off with our story walk.”

Halyna Muderer, who attended the event along with her two daughters (Eva, 5, and Mya, infant), said that before this day she hadn’t been to the joint base’s library in about five years.

“I came out to do the walk with my daughter, the summer reading program,” said Muderer, who works at the Office of Naval Research. “My daughter loves to read.”

Although summer reading programs are new, the story walk was a new way to help promote healthy lifestyles, said Kimery.

“This program has existed in years past, but we are trying to promote it more,” said Kimery. “The Army has been doing the summer reading program in conjunction with the Navy for the last several years.”

Kimery said she has also partnered with the Cody Child Development Center. She said that once the summer school



Halyna Muderer and Eva Cox, 5, her daughter, tour the Caisson stables on Joint Base Myer-Henderson Hall June 11. Muderer and her family participated in a summer reading event, titled Story Walk, a part of the summer reading program at JBM-HH Library. Participants were invited to read while walking on streets that around Summerall field. The initiative is not only to promote reading, but also a healthy lifestyle, according to JBM-HH Library Supervisor Melani Kimery.

starts, children from the center will be coming over to the library every Monday.

“We are going to be doing story time and craft activities once they begin to bring the children over,” Kimery explained. “I also go over to the CDC twice a month to do story time with the preschoolers. We want to show people that we are here for them.”

Kimery said the summer reading program is not only for children. Both adults and children can sign up online and win prizes. Consistent with the program’s theme, Kimery said some of the adult prizes are pedometers and sports water bottles.

Pentagram Staff Writer Delonte Harrod can be reached at dharrod@dcilitary.com

Display of pride



Soldiers of Honor Guard Company's Continental Color Guard, 4th Battalion, 3d U.S. Infantry Regiment (The Old Guard), display the U.S. and armed forces colors while marching in the annual Pride Parade in Washington, D.C., June 11. During a June 8 Pride Month observance event at the Pentagon, Secretary of the Navy Ray Mabus said the repeal of the “Don’t Ask, Don’t Tell” law, which was repealed in September 2011, was long overdue.

Live action



Members of the 3d U.S. Infantry Regiment (The Old Guard) fire muskets during a Twilight Tattoo performance June 8 on Summerall Field at the Fort Myer portion of Joint Base Myer-Henderson Hall. The Tattoo is an hour-long sunset military pageant which highlights the contributions of the U.S. Army throughout American history and features numerous Army ceremonial and musical performances. Details about this free, weekly event can be found below in The U.S. Army Band “Pershing's Own” performance schedule.

★★★ The United States Army Band ★★★		
CALENDAR OF EVENTS		
June 16	7:30 p.m.	The U.S. Army Concert Band and Army Voices will perform as part of its Summer Concert Series in Brucker Hall on the Fort Myer portion of JBM-HH.
June 17	8 p.m.	The U.S. Army Concert Band and Army Voices will present a program of classical pops, including West Side Story, Stevie Wonder and Clarinet Candy, as part of their Sunsets with a Soundtrack Concert Series on the West Side of the U.S. Capitol.
June 22, 29; July 20, 27	7 p.m.	Twilight Tattoo – A military pageant at Summerall Field on the Fort Myer portion of JBM-HH. The tattoo is an hour-long, sunset military pageant featuring 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., all shows start at 7 unless otherwise noted.
June 23	7:30 p.m.	The U.S. Army Chorus will perform as part of their “Celebrating 60” performances for the Brucker Hall Summer Concert Series at Brucker Hall on the Fort Myer portion of JBM-HH.
June 24 & 25	8 p.m.	The U.S. Army Chorus will perform another “Celebrating 60” concert series as part of their Sunsets with a Soundtrack Concert Series on the West Side of the U.S. Capitol.
June 25	7:30 p.m.	The U.S. Army Strings will perform a chamber concert with music to include J.S. Bach’s Concerto for 2 Violins in D Major, String Quartet No. 2 “Company” by Philip Glass, Sinfonia II in D Major be Mendelssohn and works by Edvard Grieg and Joaquin Turia, at McLean Presbyterian Church in McLean, Virginia.
June 29	4 p.m.	The U.S. Army Woodwind Quintet will perform at St. Mark’s Lutheran Church at 5800 Backlick Road in Springfield, Virginia.

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 703-696-3718 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.

RETIREMENT
from page 1

be required in order to effectively inform service members about changes to their retirement.

“Leadership at all levels need to understand what the Blended Retirement System is and what it means to people who they supervise,” said Maj. Ben Sakrisson, a Department of Defense spokesperson.

“We want them to be able to talk about the facts of the policy and the facts of life long financial preparedness, financial readiness, investments, compounded interests and all the other information that needs to be parceled with this policy change to make sure our force understands the true impact of what they have in front of them when making this decision,” said Wayne C. Boswell, director of Financial Readiness with the Pentagon’s Office of the Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense, Force Education and Training.

A significant focus is on active duty service members who will have less than 12 years of service (and reservists with less than 4,320 retirement points) as of December 31, 2017, who will be able to opt into the Blended Retirement System. It’s estimated that approximately 85 percent of people who leave the military would receive some form of retirement benefit under the new retirement plan.

“Now [service members] have the opportunity to leave the military with self-investments, skills, experience and education—but resources that they’ve set aside for themselves to help them with their life long financial goals,” Boswell said. “This is leveraging the TSP capability—a very good retirement system that our service members have access to.”

The Thrift Savings Plan provides service members an opportunity to “leave with self-investment before the 20 year mark,” Boswell added.

But there is change to the military retirement annuity: Under the new plan those who retire at 20 years would see their retirement multiplier reduced from 2.5 percent to 2 percent times the average of their highest 36 months of basic pay.

FUNERAL
from page 1

joined the United States Army Air Forces in 1943 as a member of the famed Tuskegee Airmen, a group of African-American pilots who fought in World War II, and flew 27 combat missions during World War II and the Korean War.

Whitfield also enrolled at Ohio State University and ran track for the school while simultaneously serving in the military, the start of an illustrious career in athletics.

He achieved success and celebrity during the 1948 Olympic Games in London, where he won two gold medals for track: one as a member of the 4 by 400 meter relay team and another for his record-setting time in the 800 meters. He also took bronze in the 400 meters at that same games.

Four years later, at the 1952 Olympics in Helsinki, Finland, Whitfield won another gold medal for the 800 meters.

After his competitive career, Whitfield continued his passion for athletics and country by working for 47 years as a coach, goodwill ambassador and athletic mentor in Africa on behalf of the United

“We don’t take a position on what [retirement option] is better for a person—it’s a personal decision,” Corso said.

“Everyone’s life long career plans and financial plans are different,” Boswell said. “I think forcing a younger population to look at that and make those decisions is a good thing.”

Retirement planning concerns

The details of the new plan have already been sent to what Pentagon officials label as “financial installation cadre”: Installation financial managers and counselors, military banks and credit unions.

JBM-HH Army Community Service Financial Counselor Jin Lim and Marine Corps Personal Financial Management Program Counselor Jim Murphy, both who received specifics about the new policy in advance, agreed that there is still a considerable population of service members who are financially illiterate and have yet to make a retirement plan a priority.

“Eight out of 10 service members who I talk to don’t fully understand a Thrift Savings Plan—even if they’re participating—there’s not enough [specific] training and education,” said Lim, who provides budget counseling to Army personnel stationed on the Fort Myer portion of the joint base.

Murphy agreed, and pointed out that more specific details are needed about the DoD’s plan to educate service members about the Blended Retirement System.

“The real question is, ‘When is the first time a Soldier, Sailor, Marine and Airman will be taught how the Blended Retirement System (BRS) works?’ When will the trainers be trained? And what is the command’s responsibility to ensure the service member understands it?” said Murphy. “There’s still a cultural indifference to contemplate retirement planning among some service members.”

Still, the new retirement system has its benefits that service members should be aware of, especially those who choose not

States Information Service.

Family and friends gathered in section 8A of Arlington National Cemetery, the Air Force Memorial towering in the background, on a sunny, gusty day to pay their respects.

“It’s like he gathered, through his service, the whole world in his arms, and tried to give it to his family, to his friends,” said Chorbishop Dominic Ashkar of Our Lady of Lebanon Maronite Church during the graveside service.

The Air Force Band and Honor Guard provided ceremonial support to the service, presenting the flag to his 83-year-old widow, Nola Simon Whitfield.

Whitfield has been inducted into the National Track and Field Hall of Fame, the Ohio State Sports Hall of Fame, the Olympic Hall of Fame, and the New York Sports Museum Hall of Fame.

In 1989, Whitfield founded the Mal Whitfield Foundation, a non-profit organization that promotes sports, athletics and academics around the world. According to the foundation’s website, it has awarded more than 5,000 scholarships to athletes.

Pentagram Staff Writer Guv Callahan can be reached at wcallahan@dcmilitary.com.



PHOTO BY ARTHUR MONDALE

From left, Wayne C. Boswell, director of Financial Readiness within the Office of the Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense, and U.S. Air Force Maj. Ben Sakrisson, a Department of Defense spokesperson, answer questions from reporters during a media roundtable on the new Blended Retirement System June 1 at the Pentagon. The BRS is part of the Fiscal Year 2016 National Defense Authorization Act and goes into effect Jan. 1, 2018. Details of the new plan have been provided to military installation financial managers, financial counselors, military banks and credit unions in an effort to educate 2.1 million service members about the new system, DoD officials said.

to stay in the military for a full 20 years, said Lim.

As part of the Pentagon’s digital media strategy, a non-CAC enabled webpage containing a training course on the Blended Retirement System is currently available to help service members, unit leaders and family members learn more. The course is located at: <http://go.usa.gov/chPDB>.

The course can also be accessed through Military OneSource at: www.militaryonesource.mil.

The online course and tutorial are designed to inform users to better understand and compare what personalized military retirement and savings option would work best for them. Moreover, a myriad of different scenarios featuring four relatable individuals, with varying years of service and skill sets, allows military personnel to gain insight into how the Blended Retirement System works.

A trainer-to-trainer course is currently being developed and will be available in September, Boswell said. A more personalized course which will feature a retirement benefits calculator—primarily focused on those considering opting into the new retirement system—will be available in January 2017, officials said.

Pentagram Staff Writer Arthur Mondale can be reached at awright@dcmilitary.com.



Nola Whitfield pauses after receiving the American flag from her husband’s casket, 2nd Lt. Malvin Greston “Marvelous Mal” Whitfield, during his graveside service for in Arlington National Cemetery in Arlington, Virginia, June 8. Whitfield served in World War II and Korea and was also a five-time Olympic medalist. He died Nov. 19, 2015.

NEWS
from page 1

must pay for their tickets. All participants must have a prepaid ticket for meals or pay on site. JBM-HH directorates and tenants are approved to operate minimally-manned facilities during this event and should query their personnel to identify those desiring to participate. Each directorate should also provide a by-name roster of those desiring to participate and identify a directorate point of contact to pick up tickets. These lists should be provided to Daisey Ritter or Latavia Conner in Rm. 310. Tickets will be available for pick up by directorate POCs on June 20 and 21 between 9 a.m. and 2 p.m.

Splish, splash, fun! – June 17

The JBM-HH Army Community Service’s New Parent Support Program is hosting a Splish, Splash, Fun! event June 17 from 10 a.m. to noon at the Virginia Highlands Park at 1600 South Hayes Road, Arlington, Virginia. Join the NPSP staff for a morning of water fun. This event is open to parents and their children (up to the age of 5); swim diapers are required for children. For more information or to register, call 703-696-3512.

Annual Ten-Miler Online Transfer Program open

Those seeking to transfer their registration to participate in this year’s Army Ten-Miler on Oct. 9 have an opportunity to do so if via the ATM Transfer Program through Aug. 19. Available online at www.armytenmiler.com, the program allows those currently registered to transfer their registration online to another person. The original runner will receive an email confirming the transfer request has been received, while the new runner will be sent an email inviting them to register for the race. All transfer requests must be submitted online. Each new runner will pay a \$25 fee to finalize the official transfer and must register for the race within 72 hours of completing the transfer. For more information about the Army Ten-Miler, visit www.armytenmiler.com or call Maida Johnson at 202-685-3361.

Dive-in Movie Nights back at JBM-HH

JBM-HH Family and Morale, Welfare and Recreation “Dive-In Movie” nights are back at the Fort Myer Officers’ Club Pool Complex. The first showing of the season is June 25 with a showing of the animated film “Minions,” rated PG. Gates open at 8:15 p.m. and show time is 9 p.m. Admission is free, audience members must provide their own floatation – lounge rafts or inner tubes. Future “Dive-In Movie” nights include a viewing of “Despicable Me” on July 23 and “Hotel Transylvania 2” Aug. 13. In the event of severe weather or high winds, showings will be cancelled. For further information please call 703-939-1045.

MOPH to hold monthly meeting June 18

The Greater Washington, D.C., Chapter 353 of the Military Order of the Purple Heart will hold its monthly meeting at the American Legion Post 176, 6520 Amherst Ave, Springfield, Virginia, June 18 at 1 p.m. During the meeting, chapter members will plan the rest of the year’s events and are seeking input and support from current and potential members. The June 18 meeting will be the last for the summer; the next meeting will be Sept.

see NEWS, page 8

CONNECT
from page 1

Belcher characterized the new infrastructure as “historic.”

“We’ve worked for 30 months to define an interjurisdictional effort that connects JBM-HH to Arlington County via Connect Arlington,” said Belcher. “This has allowed, for the first time, for a federal agency to connect across the Potomac River to the District of Columbia, and from D.C. to Fort McNair.”

The fiber optic line will allow for shared video, audio and other digital information feeds, including an increased bandwidth, for the joint base, according to Belcher.

In other words, military leaders at Fort Myer can receive a 24-hour-a-day video security signal from Fort McNair, for example, thereby enhancing the installation’s force protection measures.

To that end, the pooled resources will enable emergency responders at Fort Myer, Arlington County, Washington, D.C., and Fort McNair to quickly share in-

formation—a critical capability for emergency response and management, according to JBM-HH Fire Chief Russell Miller.

“It’s a lot of added capabilities; it’s a conduit to provide additional information and fast information,” said Miller. “That’s huge for emergency responders and emergency management. This will tie everything together.”

The initiative has involved the cooperation and planning of a multitude of government agencies and officials, including Arlington County’s network agency ConnectArlington; DCNet, Washington, D.C.’s citywide communications network; the Department of Homeland Security’s National Capital Region network; the U.S. Army and Arlington County.

“I don’t think this would have been a success if these partnerships weren’t in place already,” said Henderson. “This really defines our mutual aid agreement and makes it stronger.”

Ultimately, the shared optic line goes from Fort Myer, around Arlington National Cemetery,

through the Pentagon Reservation, into Arlington County, across the Potomac River and into D.C. The final piece to the project’s completion is connecting about two city block’s worth of the line from D.C. into Fort McNair, according to Belcher, who added that the project will also ultimately save taxpayer dollars by reducing a need for commercial telecommunications services.

“That link goes through sacred ground,” said Belcher. “So now you’ve got a transit that goes all the way around [the National Capital Region] and is fully owned by the government. That means JBM-HH is no longer dependent on a commercial provider for this capability.”

The shared line will also enable more flexible and timely emergency management and response operations by allowing emergency responders from any of the organizations and governments involved in the project to share information from multiple locations. For example, JBM-HH could theoretically move its Emergency Oper-



PHOTO BY ROB JOSWIAK

Officials and staff from Arlington County, Washington, D.C., and Joint Base Myer-Henderson Hall discuss an ongoing project June 13 that will see the National Capital Region’s first shared fiber optic line that stretches from northern Virginia into Washington, D.C. The new line, to be completed by the end of the month, will enable military officials at JBM-HH in Arlington, Virginia, to communicate with its geographically-separated third installation, Fort Lesley J. McNair.

ations Center from Fort Myer to Arlington County’s Emergency Operations Center, thanks to the shared interjurisdictional telecommunications capability.

“We viewed this from the purpose of emergency management, but then we realized we could use this for the purpose of co-location,” said Belcher. “It’s nice to talk about these things, but now it’s a reality.”

Later this month, JBM-HH will participate in a signing ceremony to solidify a memorandum of agreement to finalize monetary commitments and other agreements to complete the project.

The Pentagram will continue to follow this story as updates become available.

Contact Pentagram Editor Jim Goodwin at james.m.goodwin3.civ@mail.mil.

Serving with Pride

By Julia LeDoux
Pentagram Staff Writer

The Department of Defense recognizes June as Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transsexual Pride Month, but Spc. Daniel Yeadon, a LGBT Soldier who serves as a military police officer at Joint Base Myer-Henderson Hall, wants to be defined as being much more than his sexual orientation.

“I am an American Soldier,” Yeadon said. “It doesn’t matter what race, color, sexual preference or religion I am. At the end of the day, I am putting on a uniform, and I swore to do a job that I’m never going to let anything keep me from doing.”

Yeadon spoke with the Pentagram June 13, the day after a gunman who pledged allegiance to the Islamic terrorist group ISIS gunned down 49 people and wounded more than 100 at a gay nightclub in Orlando, Florida.

“It hit hard and it hit home,” he said of the attack. “It’s taken so long for LGBT members to get to where they’re at now and it happened during Pride weekend. You can’t let the monsters of the world control you. They [the victims] were singled out for one attribute that I have in common with them. They are part of my family. I am still shell shocked.”

Yeadon grew up in a small town in Missouri with a population of less than 2,000 and had little direct contact with the military when he enlisted in the Army in 2013.

“I grew up in an independent fundamental Baptist home, so already my parents weren’t talking about the sexual orientation aspect of my life,” he said.

Living the Army values, being true to self

Yeadon, 25, had long considered joining the service but was hesitant to do so until the repeal of the Don’t Ask, Don’t Tell policy, which prohibited gays and lesbians from serving in the military, in 2011.

He was upfront with recruiters about his sexual orientation and asked them how it might impact his military career. They advised him not to make an issue of it himself, but Yeadon worried that he would not be true to who he was if he hid his sexual identity.

“I don’t feel like it [an individual’s sexual orientation] needs to be talked about,” he said. “But, at the same time, I’m not saying you should avoid talking about it. If you are 100 percent true to your own skin, people can tell on their own.”

Yeadon said the Army values of loyalty, duty, respect, selfless service, honor, integrity and personal courage, demand that Soldiers be true to who they are.

“You can’t have integrity without being true to yourself,” he said. “You cannot maintain yourself without being true to yourself. Every single Army value ties back to being true to yourself. When you aren’t true to yourself, you aren’t giving 100 percent. If you’re not



COURTESY PHOTO
Spc. Daniel Yeadon, right, of the 3d U.S. Infantry Regiment (The Old Guard)’s 4th Battalion, shakes hands and poses for a photo with Secretary of the Army Eric Fanning during a Department of Defense Pride Month observance at the Pentagon June 8.

giving 100 percent, you’re not giving your all.”

A Pride-ful designation

Yeadon said the DoD designation of June as LGBT Pride Month means a lot not only to him, but to all LGBT service members.

“It wakes up self-pride,” Yeadon said. “It allows you to feel better about who you are, and not sad about being different. It’s letting you feel recognition in a much larger way.”

Defense Secretary Ash Carter wrote that the designation gives both the DoD and the nation an opportunity to salute the service and sacrifice of LGBT service members and civilian employees of the department.

“Throughout our history, brave LGBT Soldiers, Sailors, Airmen, Coast Guardsmen and Marines have served and fought for our nation,” Carter noted. “Their readiness and willingness to serve has made our military stronger and our nation better.”

“All who answer the call to service are doing the noblest thing they can do with their lives: To provide security for others while they dream their dreams, raise their children and live full lives,” added Carter.

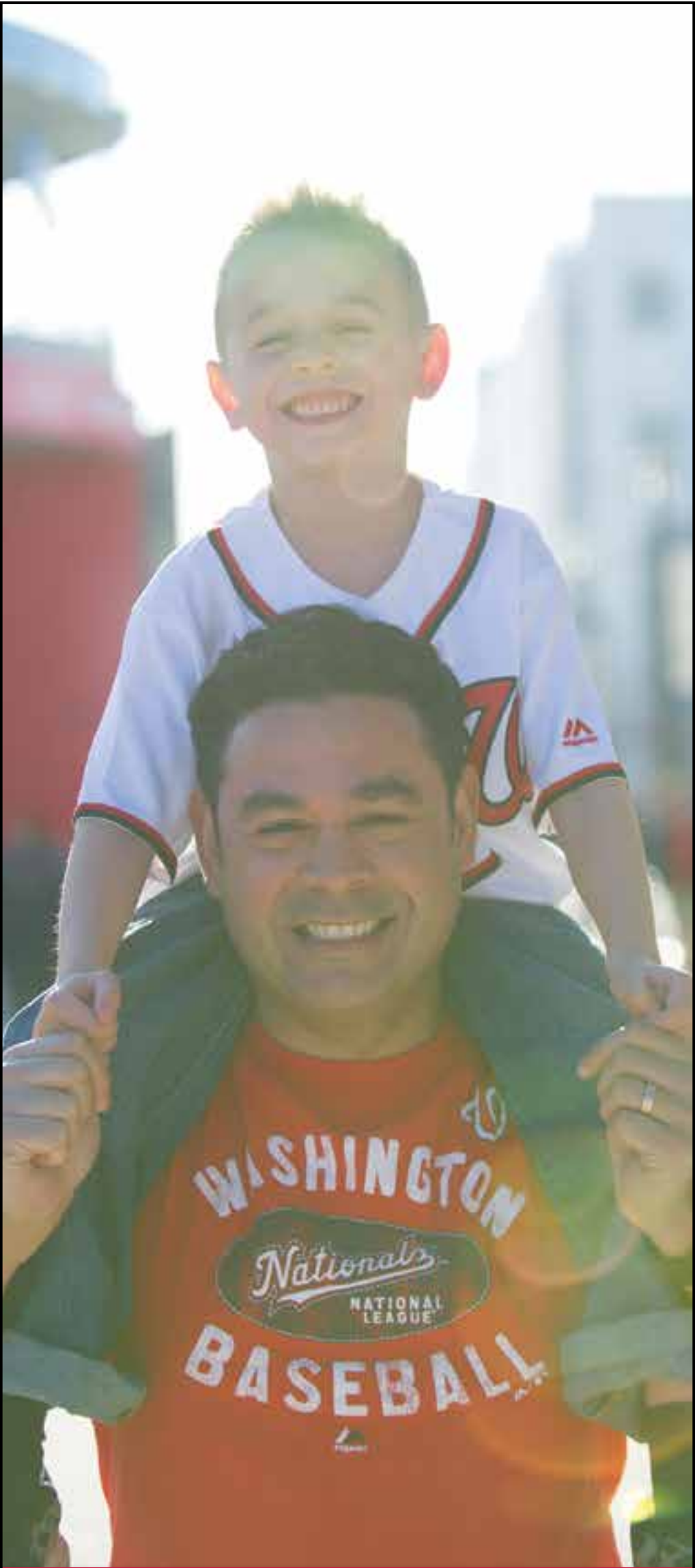
Yeadon said the designation also signals a shift in culture across all branches of the American armed forces.

“The military is changing,” he said. “For the people who have hate, there isn’t a place for them anymore. I never thought in my life that I would see this much change this rapidly, especially coming from small town Missouri.”

Yeadon plans on making a career out of the Army while he pursues some long-cherished personal goals.

“I want to have the American dream family,” said Yeadon. “I want to have that white picket fence, I want to have my partner, I want to have kids.”

Pentagram Staff Writer Julia LeDoux can be reached at jledoux@dcilitary.com.



 **Harris Teeter**
Neighborhood Food & Pharmacy
**FAMILY FUN
PACK**

NATIONALS GAME TICKET,
HOT DOG, CHIPS &
A COCA-COLA OR
DASANI BEVERAGE
STARTING AT \$15
THURSDAYS-SUNDAYS
AVAILABLE ONLINE ONLY AT
nationals.com/family

 **ONE PURSUIT**

For JBM-HH event photos
from this issue, visit us online at:
www.flickr.com/photos/jbm-hh



Wounded Warriors Family Support is an independent nonprofit organization whose mission is to improve the quality of life for the families of our combat wounded. WWFS aids veterans and their families in healing the wounds that medicine cannot.

Visit wwfs.org for more information about our veteran programs.



CFC# 81534



**CELEBRATE
U.S. ARMY DAY
AT NATIONALS PARK**

vs. METS
TUESDAY, JUNE 28
7:05 PM

W | ONE PURSUIT
nationals.com/govx

Extended Metro Rail causes workers to seek alternate commute options

By Delonte Harrod
Pentagram Staff Writer

The partial and ongoing shutdown of the National Capital Region’s metro rail system has undoubtedly caused a number of people on Joint Base Myer Henderson-Hall to plan alternate means to get to work.

Back in May, the Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority (WMATA) announced that it would conduct the biggest repair, titled Safetrack, on the metro rail system since its creation more than 40 years ago.

“Each of the 15 Surge projects will result in either around-the-clock single tracking or shutdowns of selected track segments and will have a significant impact on rush-hour commuters,” reads WMATA’s press release.

According to numerous reports, WMATA’s repair project may take up to a year to complete.

WMATA’s first set of repairs, called Surge 1, has already started. Work began on June 4 and will last until June 16. The Surge 1 repairs are specifically on the Silver and Orange lines, which span from northeast Washington, D.C., to the suburbs of Virginia in Fairfax County.

Clifford Bowens, Child, Youth and program assistant at the Cody Child Development Center on the Fort Myer portion of the joint base, said that since the work began, he has noticed an increase of people at the L’Enfant Plaza platforms during rush hour.

Concerning crowded platforms, Metro officials have said that an increase in crowds on platforms and trains would be limited to those platforms that are being repaired.

“Expect significant crowding on Orange and Silver line trains,” according to Metro Rail officials. “Blue, Yellow, Green and Red line services will operate normally during rush hours during Surge 1.”

However, Bowens has experienced something different. The Pentagram asked Bowens if the increased volume of travelers has made him late to work.



PHOTO BY DELONTE HARROD

Passengers wait to board either a Blue or Yellow line train, depending on their individual destinations, at Metrorail’s Pentagon City hub March 21. Planned, phased work on Metrorail’s lines have led to slower commutes as trains operate on fewer tracks and some Metrorail stations are closed for repair work.

“No,” said Bowens. “But I still feel the impact.”

Bowens, who rides the Yellow line to the Pentagon and then catches a bus to the joint base, said that in the past he would have to be ready and out the door by 8 a.m. However, since the start of the repairs, he has to be out of bed by 6:30 a.m. and ready to leave the house by 7:30 a.m. in order arrive at work by 9:45 a.m.

Bowens said that he has sacrificed some rest in order to make it to work on time.

“At the end of the day, I am exhausted,” said Bowens. “I get off at 6 p.m. I have to take the same route home again. By the time I get home at 7:30 p.m., I just want to go to bed. I don’t want to eat or take a bath. I am too tired to cook.”

Bowens also said that for two days he decided to take an Uber ride to work. Still, catching paid car rides is a once-in-awhile fix, not a permanent solution, he said. He can’t afford to take cabs or Uber to and from work every day.

Marcus Frazier, Child, Youth program assistant, said that Uber may not be sustainable over a long period of time for him, too.

see METRO, page 7

*A Practical Management Education
for an Increasingly Technical World*

M.S. in SYSTEMS ENGINEERING

or

M.S. in ENGINEERING MANAGEMENT

Discover how a master’s degree powered by GW’s 130 years of proven excellence can help you to drive your organization’s innovation and growth.

Learn modern management and systems engineering techniques for decision-making in business and technical entities.

- ▶ Small class sizes.
- ▶ Complete your Master’s in less than two years, or take classes at a slower pace to accommodate your schedule.
- ▶ Convenient evening classes in Arlington, VA and online
- ▶ Competitive tuition.

Applications are currently being accepted—begin yours today.
Application fee is waived for Information Session attendees.

INFORMATION SESSION:

**Tuesday, June 28
6:30pm**
950 N Glebe Road, 6th floor,
Arlington, VA 22203
(Near Ballston Metro)

Offered by the GW School of Engineering and Applied Science

For more information and to RSVP, please visit
<http://emse.offcampus.gwu.edu/novaengineering>
or call 855-EMSE-GWU.

THE GEORGE WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY
WASHINGTON, DC

The George Washington University is an equal opportunity/affirmative action institution certified to operate in Va by SCHEV. CPS_1516_74

BAKERS CREEK

from page 3

fice for the freedoms we enjoy today,” he said.

The Soldiers were returning from a rest and relaxation break from the war and were headed back to Papua, New Guinea to continue their service. Why the aircraft plummeted to the ground only a couple of minutes after takeoff remains a mystery. The B-17 crashed near the town of Bakers Creek, which is about five miles from the city of Mackay.

Dr. Robert Cutler, executive director of the Bakers Creek Memorial Association, spoke on behalf of the families and friends of the fallen.

“Like other patriotic commemorations, we believe it is important and indeed our duty to pay tribute and to remember this historic event,” he said. “The unique feature of this tragedy is not simply the number of deaths, but rather the extraordinary loss that occurred to so many American families and Australian friends simultaneously.”

A similar ceremony was held two weeks ago near the crash site in Australia, Cutler said.

The monument, a gift to the Secretary of the Army by the Bakers Creek Memorial Association, was placed at the joint base in 2008. It contains the names of those who died as well as the crash’s sole survivor, Cpl. Foye Kenneth Roberts, who died in 2004 at



Clare Gailey, daughter of Charles K. Gailey III, former Bakers Creek Memorial Association board member, places a flower at the Bakers Creek Memorial June 14 on the Fort Myer portion of Joint Base Myer-Henderson Hall during a memorial ceremony commemorating the 73rd anniversary of the air crash in Queensland, Australia. That crash killed 40 Army-Air Corps Soldiers aboard a B-17 Flying Fortress aircraft that crashed shortly after take-off June 14, 1943.

age 83. The memorial’s base is made of Queensland-pink granite and is a gift from the citizens of Queensland and the government of Australia.

“Australia is the only country in the world to have fought in every single major battle with the United States since the Fourth of July 1918,” said Hockey. “What this does is further symbolize the depth and breadth of the relationship between our two countries, which is reflected even today in our Soldiers, our Air Forces, our Navies, our Marines working together.”

Pentgram Staff Writer Julia LeDoux can be reached at jledoux@dcmilitary.com.

METRO

from page 6

“Even though an Uber ride is 13 bucks, I spend only five dollars on the train to get here,” said Frazier. “If I have to spend \$13-15 to get here every day, add that up and do the math.”

Frazier said his 15-minute train rides to work have not been extended by the delays yet because he rides the train from the Van Dorn station in Alexandria, Virginia, so he avoids all the delays and the increase in crowds at L’Enfant Plaza.

According to the WMATA schedule for temporary shutdowns, the Blue line track, below Van Dorn and extending to Rosslyn station, is not scheduled to be shut down or moved to a single track until Surge 3 (July-5-11), surge 4 (July 12-18), surge 8 (Aug. 20 -Sept. 5), Surge 13 (Dec. 7-Dec. 24) and Surge 14 (Jan. 3-Feb. 3 2017).

“It’s going to be a headache,” said Frazier, referring to the times when he is going to have to make other arrangements to get to work.

Morgan Dye, a Metro Rail spokesperson, said that passengers will have the option of taking a free shuttle from stations

where train services have been suspended to the next station where trains are operational.

“In the Van Dorn case, passengers can catch the train to Braddock Road, exit, and can catch a bus to either Crystal or Pentagon City,” she said. “But they can’t go beyond there, because the other trains will have full metro service.”

However, Latia Douglas, a teacher’s assistant at the Cody CDC who starts her ride from Addison station along the Blue line in Washington, D.C., said she has made other arrangements to get to work in order to avoid Surge 2, which begins on June 18 and lasts through July 3.

“I asked my co-worker for a ride,” Douglas said. “She doesn’t live like five minutes from my house. I have to make some adjustments because I have to leave my house 20, 25 minutes earlier to get to the [CDC] by 6 a.m., because I’m an opener.”

Douglas said if she hadn’t made arrangements with her coworker she would have to catch the buses from station to station. But she said she wasn’t too sure about how that all works.

“I am fine right now, because it’s only supposed to be for two weeks,” she said. “I will be glad when all of this is over and then they can move to Surge 3.”

Olivia Cunningham, an assistant caregiver at the Cody CDC, who rides the blue line from Washington, D.C., to Virginia, said she was worried because she hasn’t made other arrangements to get to work during the Surge 3 shutdown and, at that point, the buses will be her only option.

“I normally leave the house at 6:45 a.m., and now I am going to have to leave at 5: 30 a.m. or something like that,” she said. “It’s going to put me in a bind, but I have to get here on time because that is my schedule, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.”

Cunningham said not only is she trying to figure out how to get to work on time, she also has to figure out how to get home in time to babysit her grandson.

“I don’t know how that is going to work out,” she said. “It will be very congested and crowded on those buses and platforms. I have to see how that is going to work out.”

WMATA has recently said that the blue line from Rosslyn to Arlington National Cemetery station will be opened Dec. 17 during Surge 13 for Wreaths Across America this year.

Pentagram Staff Writer Delonte Harrod can be reached at dharrod@dcmilitary.com



Classifieds

Call 301-645-0900

Apartments
Unfurnished

Equal Housing

All Real Estate advertised here in is subject to the Federal Fair Housing Act which makes it illegal to indicate any preference limitation, or discrimination based on sex, handicap, familial status or national origin or an intention to make any such preference limitation, or discrimination. We will not knowingly accept any advertising for Real Estate which is in violation of the law. All persons, are hereby informed that all dwellings advertised are available on an equal opportunity basis. If you believe you have been discriminated against in connection with the sale, rental, or financing of housing, call the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development at 1-800-669-9777.



To place an ad visit us online at

classads@somdnews.com

Help Wanted
Full Time

25 DRIVER TRAINEES NEEDED! Become a driver for Stevens Transport! NO EXPERIENCE NEEDED! New drivers earn \$800+ per week! PAID CDL TRAINING! Stevens covers all costs! **1-888-734-6714 drive4stevens.com**

MEDICAL BILLING SPECIALISTS NEEDED! Begin training at home for a career working with Medical Billing & Insurance! On-line training with the right College can get you ready! HS Diploma/ GED & Computer/Internet needed. **1-888-734-6711**

Help Wanted
Part Time

Boat Operator, PT Seasonal, Boat captain to operate a pump out boat, must have experience. Email only: employment@gangplank.com

Misc. Services

AIRLINE CAREERS. Get FAA approved maintenance training at campuses coast to coast. Job placement assistance. Financial Aid for qualifying students. Military friendly. Call AIM 888-686-1704

CRUISE VACATIONS— 3, 4, 5 or 7 day cruises to the Caribbean. Start planning now to save \$ on your fall or winter getaway vacation. Royal Caribbean, Norwegian, Carnival, Princess and many more. Great deals for all budgets and departure ports. For more info. call 877-270-7260 or go to NCPtravel.com

DISH TV 190 channels plus Highspeed Internet Only \$49.94/ mo! Ask about a 3 year price guarantee & get Netflix included for 1 year! Call Today 1-800-686-9986

SUPPORT our service members, veterans and their families in their time of need. For more information visit the Fisher House website at www.fisherhouse.org

Travel/
Transportation

ALL INCLUSIVE RESORT packages at Sandals, Dreams, Secrets, Riu, Barcelo, Occidental and many more resorts. Punta Cana, Mexico, Jamaica and many of the Caribbean islands. Book now for 2017 and SAVE! For more info. call 877-270-7260 or go to NCPtravel.com

Appliances

Sale white side by side refrigerator \$300 or offer. 301-392-3403

General
Merchandise

Step bars for Jeep Wrangler 4 door. Almost NEW. Below market price. Contact 301-392-9697.

To place an ad

Call 301-645-0900

CASH FOR CARS: We Buy Any Condition Vehicle, 2000 and Newer. Nation's Top Car Buyer! Free Towing From Anywhere! Call Now: 1-800-864-5960.

Donate Your Car to Veterans Today! Help and Support our Veterans. Fast - FREE pick up. 100% tax deductible. Call 1-800-245-0398

To place an ad visit us online at

classads@somdnews.com

WANTED OLD JAPANESE MOTORCYCLES KAWASAKI Z1-900 (1972-75), KZ900, KZ1000 (1976-1982), Z1R, KZ 1000MK2 (1979,80), W1-650, H1-500 (1969-72), H2-750 (1972-1975), S1-250, S2-350, S3-400, KH250, KH400, SUZUKI-GS400, GT380, HONDACB750K (1969-1976), CBX1000 (1979,80) CASH!! 1-800-772-1142 1-310-721-0726 usa@classicrunners.com

SOMDNEWS CLASSIFIEDS

Insurance



Marcus Soriano • 757.897.5288

8280 Willow Oaks Corporate Dr. #600 • Fairfax, VA

msoriano22wob@wfgmail.com • marcussoriano.wfgopportunity.com



Serving the DC metro & surrounding areas.

Investment • FFIUL • Life insurance

401k options • Tax education

We can help businesses with earnings and retirement plans to help maximize gains and lower taxations!

We can also help families reach life's retirement goals, help with plans to send their kids to college properly, 401k options & protect families if something happens to one or both income earners!

BUY SELL RENT HIRE

TRADE SHOP SWAP FIND

TO PLACE YOUR AD CALL

301-645-0900

NEWS
from page 4

17. The Warrior Café will be open prior to the meeting should anyone wish to come early and eat lunch. All recipients of the Purple Heart Medal are invited, especially new medal recipients. For more information, contact Chapter 353 Commander, retired U.S. Army Col. Gordon Sumner via email at gordon.sumner53@gmail.com, or Adjutant William Lee, at wlee95678@outlook.com.

Veterans career fair – June 23

Disabled American Veterans and RecruitMilitary are hosting an All Veterans Career Fair at FedEx Field in Landover, Maryland, at 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. June 23. For more details, including specific employers and organizations in attendance, visit www.recruitmilitary.com. To register for this event, visit <https://events.recruitmilitary.com/events/washington-dc-area-all-veterans-job-fair-june-23-2016>.

Security-cleared military, hiring event – June 24

Corporate Gray and restart Events are hosting a free hiring event for service members and veterans with a security clearance or technical background June 24 at the BWI Westin at 1100 Old Eldridge Landing Road, Linthicum Heights, Maryland, from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. This event will feature dozens of companies that have job openings for security-cleared candidates with technical or military backgrounds. For more information or to register, visit www.restartevents.com.

Summer brings picnics, activity get-togethers

The Army Finance Offices at Fort Belvoir, Fort Myer and in the Pentagon will close early at 11 a.m., June 24, so all employees can participate in the organization’s summer picnic. For more information, call 703-696-3125.

Memorial Chapel to host ecumenical VBS – June 27

Memorial Chapel, Fort Myer, will host an ecumenical Vacation Bible

School June 27 through 30. Children ages 4 through 12 can join us for “Cave Quest: Following Jesus, the Light of the World,” from 9:30 a.m. to noon each day. Register at the chapel between May 22 and June 20. Children will learn about some of God’s most creative creations. They’ll participate in Bible-learning activities, sing catchy songs, play teamwork-building games, enjoy yummy treats, experience cool Bible adventures and test out Sciency-Fun gizmos they’ll take home and play with all summer long. For more information, call Betsy Hendrix at 703-696-6635.

News Notes submissions

Send your submissions for the June 30 edition of the Pentagongram via email at pentagramjbmhh@yahoo.com no later than noon, June 22. Submissions must be 100 words or less and contain all pertinent details. Submission of information does not guarantee publication. Please note that unless otherwise noted, all events listed are free and open to all Department of Defense ID card holders.

Secretary of Defense statement on the death of Army Reserve Capt. Antonio Brown

I am deeply saddened by the news that a Soldier in the U.S. Army Reserve was among the victims of the tragic shooting in Orlando over the weekend.

Capt. Antonio Davon Brown served his country for nearly a decade, stepping forward to do the noblest thing a young person can do, which is to protect others. His service both at home and overseas gave his fellow Americans the security to dream their dreams, and live full lives. The attack in Orlando was a cowardly assault on those freedoms, and a reminder of the importance of the mission to which Capt. Brown devoted his life.

The men and women of the Department of Defense grieve with Capt. Brown’s family and with



U.S. ARMY PHOTO
U.S. Army Reserve Capt. Antonio Davon Brown

all of the families and loved ones impacted by this tragedy. We stand with the people of Orlando and the nation’s LGBT community during this difficult time, and stand in determination to defeat ISIL and prevent the spread of its hateful ideology.



REWARD YOURSELF
WITH GO REWARDS

Sign up for a GO REWARDS® credit card, and for a limited time, you'll earn 20,000 bonus points when you spend \$2,000 in the first 90 days of account opening.¹

Plus, enjoy these great benefits:

- NO LIMITS TO REWARDS
- NO ANNUAL FEE²
- NO FOREIGN TRANSACTION FEE
- NO BALANCE TRANSFER FEE

HURRY—THIS OFFER EXPIRES JUNE 30.

navyfederal.org 1.888.842.6328



Federally insured by NCUA. ¹Offer valid for cardholders award new GO REWARDS credit card accounts. To be eligible for the 20,000 points offer, you must make \$2,000 in new net purchases within 90 days of account opening. Cash rewards on eligible net purchases. "Net purchases" means the sum of your purchases through credit cards minus returns and refunds. Eligible purchases include: (a) not include, and rewards are not earned for, Navy Federal card equivalent transactions, such as the purchase, loading or re-loading of Navy Federal prepaid and gift cards (e.g., Navy Federal gift cards, Visa® Gift Cards, GO Prepaid Cards); (b) those made up to eight weeks after the 90-day period for the 20,000 points in cash to your rewards balance. Account must be open and not in default at the time the 20,000 points are added to your rewards balance. Limit of one promotional offer at account opening. Offer expires 6/30/16. ²Currently, rates range from 5.49% APR to 19.9% APR, are based on creditworthiness, and will vary with the market based on the prime rate. ATM cash advance fees. None if performed at a Navy Federal branch or ATM. Otherwise, \$0.50 per domestic transaction or \$1.00 per overseas transaction. © 2016 Navy Federal MFCA 15528 (3/16)

A change of command



PHOTO BY DELONTE HARROD
Joint Base Myer-Henderson Hall Commander Col. Mike Henderson, left, congratulates Capt. Christopher A. Mays after Mays received command of Headquarters and Headquarters Company, U.S. Army Garrison, during a change of command ceremony June 10 at the Fort Myer portion of JBM-HH. Mays took command from outgoing Commander Capt. Caleb A. Tallent. Formed in 1971 to provide support to the JBM-HH commander, the company is charged with providing command and control, timely, effective and accurate personnel support to all Soldiers assigned and attached to the agencies within the Military District of Washington, while simultaneously managing vital training, deployable statistics and battalion/garrison personnel vacancies, according to the unit’s official mission statement.



SPECIAL RATES FOR MILITARY AND FEDERAL EMPLOYEES

Barcroft Apartments is now offering its garden apartments with 10% discount for military personnel & month to month leases available.

Efficiency.....	\$1004-\$1030
One Bedroom.....	\$1095-\$1130
Two Bedrooms.....	\$1340-\$1425
ThreeBedrooms <i>PlusElectric</i>	\$1525-\$1570
Townhome.....	\$1500

All prices subject to change.

All utilities paid.

- Park right at your door in this park-like setting.
- Walk to elementary and high school or Army National Guard Readiness Center.
- Take the express bus to the Pentagon, Ft. Myer, Henderson Hall or Ballston in 12 minutes.
- Cats welcome. No dogs.

PLEASE CALL (703) 521-3000
HOURS: MON. - FRI. 9-5 Call for Saturday hours



BARCROFT APARTMENTS

1130 South George Mason Drive • Arlington, VA 22204
At Columbia Pike and So. George Mason Drive

1042735

Some Restrictions Apply