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DFMWR tightening belt in response to Army-wide budget cuts

By Julia LeDoux
Pentagram Staff Writer

The Family and Morale, Welfare & Recreation program at Joint Base Myer-Henderson Hall will tighten its belt and increase some fees in Fiscal Year 2017 due to an Army-wide reduction in funding.

The \$105 million Army-wide cut represents an estimated 23 percent decrease in appropriated, or taxpayer-supported, funding for Family and MWR programs. For JBM-HH, that means a \$1.2 million decrease in Uniformed Funding and Management (UFM) dollars for morale and recreation programs.

“We’re not going to stop providing the programs you receive today,” said Denise James, director of Family and MWR programs for the joint base. “We’re in a good situation here. We’re going to be able to provide the same programs and services, but at a different level.”

Critical mission readiness support services like law enforcement and fire and emergency services will not be affected by the decrease in MWR funding, said Col. Patrick M. Duggan, JBM-HH commander. But protecting those services will mean reducing some quality-of-life programs, he said.

“These are difficult times for

the Army, and even more acute for installations like Joint Base Myer-Henderson Hall,” Duggan said. “Hard decisions must be made.

“Unfortunately, funding has dictated doing less with less,” he said.

In a five-minute video posted to the U.S. Army Installation Management Command Facebook page earlier this month, Lt. Gen. Kenneth Dahl, IMCOM commander, said morale and recreation service reductions are necessary in order for the Army to remain combat and mission ready at a time when the federal government is reducing budgets for all federal agencies, includ-

ing the military.

“This is not earth-shattering,” Dahl said. “This is not dramatic. This is not going to be very difficult for us, but I want you to know about it up front because you will go and see, when you show up at one of these activities, that there may be a change in the service delivery.”

Dahl said that while he could find the money to cover the shortfall in other areas, that wouldn’t be the best course of action for the military communities IMCOM serves.

“I would be diverting money from programs like security and firefighting,” he said. “I don’t think I have to explain to

you how important those activities are to the readiness of our Army, which is our number one priority.”

Senior installation leaders on Joint Base Myer-Henderson Hall are reviewing FMWR programs to determine which are the most utilized, and which are the most expensive to sustain.

“It’s really a critical time for MWR,” James said. “It’s the first time that this has happened to this degree since I’ve been around, and I’ve been around for many years.”

Some programs will not be impacted by the funding cuts.

see BUDGET, page 6



PHOTOS BY ARTHUR MONDALE, PENTAGRAM STAFF
Joint Base Myer-Henderson Hall police officers Tom Smith and Djibril Diallo conduct a building sweep, identify the threat and rescue hostages inside the Headquarters Marine Corps Supply Office during the joint base's full scale emergency response exercise Sept. 20.

Response capabilities tested during Emergency Preparedness Month

By Arthur Mondale
Pentagram Staff Writer

Joint Base Myer-Henderson Hall conducted a full scale emergency response exercise Sept. 20. The exercise tested the installation’s emergency preparedness, response capability and recovery resources, and was conducted in support of the Military District of Washington’s 10-day Capital Shield exercise.

“The commander wanted to see us motivated, communicating and executing the mission,” said Malanya Westmoreland, JBM-HH Emergency Management specialist.

In the scenario for the exercise, three gunmen opened fire at a notional joint

see PREPAREDNESS, page 8



An emergency operations center (EOC) at the headquarters on Joint Base Myer-Henderson Hall serves as a planning and communications hub during a full scale emergency response exercise Sept. 20.

Civilians recognized during ‘Salute from the Chief’

By David Vergun
Army News Service

Chief of Staff of the Army Gen. Mark A. Milley honored four individuals with the Outstanding Civilian Service Award during the Chief of Staff of the Army Salute Thursday, Sept. 15.

“They love those who serve and want to make a true difference, not only for the nation, but they want to make a true difference for our Soldiers, our families,” said Milley at the ceremony, which was held in conjunction with a twilight tattoo ceremony at Joint Base Myer-Henderson Hall.

Civilians honored that day included country musician Trace Adkins; John Bunch, founder of the nonprofit “Op-

eration Open Arms;” Dr. Briana Goff, a researcher of traumatic brain injury; and Spencer Kympton, founder of the nonprofit “The Mission Continues.”

Trace Adkins

Country musician Trace Adkins has used “his country music and success on the movie scene as a platform for supporting you and I in uniform and all of our families,” Milley said.

The country musician is widely known for his public advocacy of the Wounded Warrior Project, and he also lends his talent to supporting “Til Duty is Done,” a nonprofit organization that strives to eliminate veteran homelessness, and that also helps prepare veterans to re-enter the workforce, Milley said.

Adkins is also a strong supporter of Operation Homefront, a nonprofit organization aimed at building strong military families that also provides mortgage-free homes to eligible injured veterans, Milley said.

Since 2002, Adkins has entertained around 50,000 Soldiers and family members at 100 performances on 45 military installations and in nine countries, including Iraq and Afghanistan, Milley said. Adkins was the first entertainer to travel to the Middle East with the USO.

Open Arms

Merchant Marine Capt. John “GiddyUp” Bunch, a former Marine, decided

see SALUTE, page 9

See something, Say something

By Catherine Caruso
Pentagram Editor

Someone who saw something and said something stopped trespassers in their tracks at the boundary between Joint Base Myer-Henderson Hall and Arlington National Cemetery last week.

When a passerby observed four people hopping over the wall between the cemetery and the adjacent military installation, they called the suspicious activity in to law enforcement authorities.

JBM-HH police responded immediately and held the individuals until they could be identified – as tourists who’d gotten lost while trying to follow GPS coordinates to a nearby bike share station.

The incident underscores the responsibility everyone on the installation – service members, civilian personnel and military families – shares in watching for suspicious activity on and around the base, Col. Patrick Duggan, the joint base commander, said.

“Sadly, for every suspicious activity that gets reported many others do not ... we must all be sensitive to what is going on around us,” he said.

William Johnson, Chief of Police for JBM-HH Directorate of Emergency Services, said community members are sometimes reluctant to report something that seems suspicious or out-of-place because they aren’t sure what they’ve seen, or are concerned about wasting a police officer’s time if they’re mistaken.

“Don’t worry about bothering them, because this is what the police are for. Don’t worry about being embarrassed if your suspicions prove unfounded,” Johnson said. “Think about what could have happened if you had not called.”

Police patrol the joint base 24 hours a day, seven days a week, but they can’t be everywhere at once, he said.

“The community is our eyes and ears, both on the installation and in the surrounding community,” Johnson said.

Duggan said he’s reassured this incident was reported quickly and turned out to be an innocent misunderstanding.

“Thankfully, see something say something worked this past week because of the vigilance of our community in quickly reporting suspicious activities. While (the incident) turned out to be nothing, we caught them because of everyone’s involvement,” Duggan said.

He warned community members not to become complacent about taking an active role in their own security.

see SEE SOMETHING, page 8

Correction

Due to a transcription error, an incorrect number of service members reporting to Joint Task Force – National Capital Region was published on page 1 of the Sept. 15 Pentagram. The number of service members assigned to the task force to date is 150 of 820 projected.

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Local forecast

THURS.
85 | 65



FRI.
86 | 67



SAT.
82 | 60



SUN.
72 | 55



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

Military personnel ready for combatives tourney

By **Spc. Daniel Yeadon**
3d Infantry Regiment
(The Old Guard) PAO

Soldiers from Joint Base Myer-Henderson Hall are preparing to represent their commands in the 2016 Military District of Washington Combatives Tournament Sept. 22-23 at the Fort Myer Fitness Center.

The tournament is open to all service members. Top Army competitors may also be selected to represent the command at the All-Army tournament this fall.

Spc. Angel Vazquez, a Soldier assigned to 529th Regimental Support Company, 4th Battalion, 3d U.S. Infantry Regiment (The Old Guard)'s transportation platoon, is taking steps to ensure that he is ready for this challenge.

Vazquez has been fighting competitively for the last three years, and said he hopes the tournament will serve as an opportunity to bring pride to his platoon and perhaps achieve his dream of being on the All Army Combatives Team.

"This is healthy competition ... (a chance) for me to get my name out there in MDW," Vazquez said. "I am always a little nervous about getting hit, but that is when I look at it as my time to show off to everyone that I am ready and have trained."

Army Sgt. Hewton Fider, Battle NCO from the Joint Force Headquarters — National Capital Region J36 Joint Operations Center at Fort McNair, is also training for the tournament.

The Modern Army Combatives program is a way to strengthen physical and intellectual fitness, he said.

"It's the chess factor ... it's not about strength and size; it's about intellect. If you keep your mind, sharp you can beat them," Fider said.

Fider is a two-time veter-



Spc. Angel Vazquez, in gray, and Sgt. Hewton Fider, in black, practice Modern Army Combatives at the Fort Myer Fitness Center Sept. 15. Vazquez is expected to represent 529th Regimental Support Company, 4th Battalion, 3d U.S. Infantry Regiment (The Old Guard) in the Military District of Washington Combatives tournament, Sept. 22-23 at Joint Base Myer-Henderson Hall. Fider is expected to represent the Joint Force Headquarters — National Capital Region J36 Joint Operations Center in the tournament.



an at the MDW Combatives Tournament and also trains in other martial arts.

Fider and Vazquez met while participating in a company-level competition, and began training together for this tournament.

Each said the training against each other both improves their skills and lends insight into the mindset of other opponents they will face.

The tournament includes

eight weight classes. Vazquez hopes to cut weight and place himself in the Welterweight class at 150 lbs., where a leaner frame and higher percentage of muscle mass might lend him some advantage.

Fider said he's comfortable staying at his current weight, approximately 200 lbs., because he has experience competing in the Light Heavyweight weight class.



The MDW Combatives tourney is Sept. 22-23 at the Fort Myer Fitness Center. Bouts begin at 9 a.m. Spectators are welcome. Service members are especially encouraged to come out in support of competitors from their units.

Service members of all skill levels and across all branches

assigned to MDW units or installations will compete in eight weight classes during the event. For Army competitors, the tournament doubles as a try-out for the MDW Modern Army Combatives team, which will compete in the All-Army championship at Fort Bragg in 2017.

Converted house becoming home to JBM-HH firefighters at Fort McNair

By **Guv Callahan**
Pentagram Staff Writer

From the outside, the residence next to the old basketball courts on Fort McNair looks like many others. A small sign on the back door, reading "no fire gear beyond this point," tells a different story.

This summer, the house became the home of the Joint Base Myer-Henderson Hall Fire Department's temporary fire station on Fort McNair, providing the department with basic emergency response capabilities on the base until a permanent fire station can be constructed there, planned for 2021.

Originally built in 1905, the Fort McNair house is unique among its firehouse brethren. It retains many hallmarks of a family home — a long table in the dining room, a living room full of recliners, a television, an apron hanging in the kitchen and five beds among its three bedrooms. Evidence of its new mission is also visible in the rack of two-way radios hangs near the living room, a desk with multiple phones sits on the far end of the living room and an intercom line runs throughout the house.

Fire Department Capt. Clifford Montgomery, the acting battalion chief, is one of three firefighters currently manning the house.

"Right now, just to establish a presence over here on Fort McNair, we try to keep a battalion chief here during the week," Montgomery said. "The battalion chief's job out here when we're by ourselves is basically to act as a liaison be-



A view of the exterior of the Fort McNair fire house from 4th Avenue on the Fort McNair portion of the joint base Sept. 15. The residence, which sits next to the temporary fire station on the old basketball courts, has been converted into a fire house for the JBM-HH fire department, which will eventually provide 24-hour support to Fort McNair.

tween the District of Columbia Fire Department — who responds to Fort McNair now — and the joint base."

Montgomery was the first person to spend the night at the new station June 27, an experience he said was thrilling and also a bit eerie, since the house is more than 100 years old.

The fire department has incorporated an engine company from the Fort Myer Fire Station into the McNair station's daily operations, so other firefighters are also becoming more familiar with the new station, even though it's not running at full capability, Montgomery said.

In extreme cases, that knowledge could save lives.

"We've been learning these buildings the best we can to figure out how fire may travel throughout that building," he said. "We have everything from

buildings well over 100 years old to new construction, so all of our guys have to be familiar with construction practices in the 1800s and construction practices in 2016 ... all of that goes into fighting fires."

Other knowledge makes the day-to-day operations run a little more smoothly.

"It's really good to populate the house because we learn things. We learn, 'hey, the hot water does last for four guys.' Just by occupying it on an everyday basis, we learn things," he said.

JBM-HH Fire Chief Russell Miller said the new firehouse reflects the culmination of many years of work and thanked Maj. Gen. Jeffrey Buchanan, the former Joint Force Headquarters-National Capital Region and Military District of Washington Commander; Maj. Gen.



Fire Department Capt. Clifford Montgomery sits in front of his computer in his office at the new Fort McNair fire house Sept. 15. The JBM-HH fire department is in the process of standing up a new fire house, providing the department with emergency response capabilities on the Fort McNair portion of the joint base.



JBM-HH Fire Department vehicles are parked outside the department's temporary fire station on 5th Avenue on Fort McNair Sept. 15. The residence next to the fire station has been converted into a fire house, giving the department emergency response capability at Fort McNair.

Bradley Becker, the current MDW Commander, and Davis D. Tindoll, director of Installation Management Command's Atlantic Region.

"We have a lot of equipment that we were able to obtain with little or no cost to the government," Miller said. Much of that equipment includes surplus gear from Aberdeen Proving Ground and the closure of Naval Information Operations Command Sugar Grove in West Virginia.

The house provides a com-

fortable home base when engine crews come from Fort Myer for training and events. Eventually, the station will be operational 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

"I've enjoyed being a part of standing up the fire house," Montgomery said. "It's probably one of the highlights of my career, being able to say I helped establish a fire station."

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

The power of Aikido, ‘martial art of harmony’

By Arthur Mondale
Pentagram Staff Writer

Martial arts are sometimes the basis for aggressive fight scenes in films or video games, or cited as contributing to a culture of violence by members of the public.

Army Pfc. Tyler Nelson, an honor guard Soldier at Joint Base Myer-Henderson Hall, says such critics couldn’t be more wrong.

“It’s so much more than self-defense, it’s more about the state of mind,” said Army Pfc. Tyler Nelson, an honor guard Soldier assigned to 3d Infantry Regiment (The Old Guard). “Yoshinkan Aikido exposes you to a different way of thinking and self-discipline.”

The Aikido martial art style is growing in popularity among service members at Joint Base Myer-Henderson Hall, thanks to Sean Gray, chief instructor for the District of Columbia Yoshinkan Aikido Hana, a martial arts club at the joint base.

Club members practice Yoshinkan Aikido.

“It’s a really rare form of martial art that has a lot to offer service members because of its message of harmony, control and peace through strength,” Gray said. “Aikido teaches you to control yourself, your mind and your own power. If troops can’t control themselves in a combat situation, for example, then they’re no good to anyone—themselves nor their battle buddies.”

This month, Gray introduced students to his mentor, Takehiko Sonoda, a Shihan (8th Dan or black belt master instructor) who traveled from Aikido Yoshinkan headquarters dojo in Tokyo, Japan, to conduct four days of special martial arts seminars for new and experienced students, hosted by JBM-HH Morale, Welfare and Recreation.

“I want to stress one word, harmony,” Sonoda said. “Aikido teaches the principles of harmony and non-aggression. There’s also a philosophy that puts emphasis and focus on the body, mind and the Japanese sword. This form of martial art is not about fighting or injuring the other person, it’s about self-education.”

Sonoda’s visit also celebrated his 55 years in Aikido martial arts, a form of martial arts he learned personally from its founder, the late Gozo Shioda, when he was 15 years old, he said.

“It’s a once in a lifetime opportunity to have someone come here in this stature to Joint Base Myer-Henderson Hall and show the military community the level of expertise in the Yoshinkan Aikido martial arts,” said Andy Finnerty, a recreation



PHOTOS BY ARTHUR MONDALE, PENTAGRAM STAFF

Takehiko Sonoda, a Shihan (8th Dan) in Yoshinkan Aikido, instructs choreographed Japanese warrior sword techniques at the Fort Myer Community Center at Joint Base Myer-Henderson Hall Sept. 15 during a four-day seminar for area students of the Japanese martial art.

specialist and manager of the Fort Myer Community Center.

During a two-hour seminar Sept. 15, Sonoda emphasized “kata,” choreographed Japanese warrior sword (Katana) techniques conducted in pairs to create harmony among partners.

“There’s a connection with the mind and the sword movement,” Sonoda said.

While conducted for the joint base, Sonoda’s expertise and reputation brought students from as far as New York to participate.

“This particular Japanese martial art is 100 percent transferrable to everyday life,” said Roman Solonny, a civilian with a third degree black belt in Yoshinkan Aikido. “You learn to better focus, concentrate, balance and interact with the energy from other people.”

Nelson, the honor guard Soldier, agreed.

“You are honing your mind and body together,” Nelson said. “You’re relaxed, but vigilant.”

Nelson has studied Aikido a year-and-a-half, and said he has also come to appreciate the martial art’s ability to broaden people’s horizons.

“Participation in any form of martial arts gives you an appreciation for different cultures and their history,” Nelson



Army Pfc. Tyler Nelson, a Soldier assigned to the 3d Infantry Regiment (The Old Guard) honor guard, and Sean Gray, chief instructor for the District of Columbia Yoshinkan Aikido Hana martial arts club at Joint Base Myer-Henderson Hall, perform choreographed Japanese warrior sword techniques at the Fort Myer Community Center at Joint Base Myer-Henderson Hall Sept. 15.

said. “We’re all different, but martial artists aren’t so quick to judge, we appreciate the differences and are open to learn from each other.”

The DC Yoshinkan Aikido Hana martial arts club meets at the Fort Myer Community Center Tuesday and Thursday, 6:30 p.m. to 8 p.m. and Saturday 1

p.m. to 3 p.m. It is open to all active duty and reserve component service members, military family members, Department of Defense contractors and civilian personnel. To learn more, call 703-696-3469/70.

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

Running a 7k like a Devil Dog



PHOTO BY DELONTE HARROD

More than 100 runners take off at the sound of Derek Soloway's voice, a fitness instructor at Henderson Hall, at the Devil Dog Run on Joint Base Myer-Henderson Hall, Sept. 14.

By Delonte Harrod
Pentagram Staff Writer

More than one hundred participants gathered at the Cpl. Terry L. Smith Gym at Henderson Hall for the Devil Dog 7K run Sept. 14.

The race, like others in the Marine Corps Community Service OohRah run series, pays tribute to a significant part of Marine history. The 7K gets its name from the Marine’s own nickname, “Devil Dogs,” given by the Germans during the Battle of Belleau Wood, fought in 1918, said Derek Soloway, fitness specialist and organizer of the event.

“This thing is more than just a race,” said Soloway. “Whether we are celebrating the Iwo Jima 7K race, the Devil Dog 7K race, the Remembrance 5K race and Spring Salute 5K, it gives us the opportunity to come together as a family,” he said. “It’s not just, ‘hey, we are going to have a race.’” That sounds like code for we are going to run PT, when it’s not. We’re here to have a lot of fun.”

Navy Lt. Cmdr. Eric Smith won the men’s division with a 28:12 finish. Army Capt. Peter Owen placed second with 28:44 finish time, and Army Lt. Col. Kurt Rorvik placed third with a 29:06 finish.

In the women’s division, Dr. Yuko Whitestone won the race with a 32:54 finish. Marine Capt. Quincy Washa placed second with a finish of 33:52. Noelle Hubbard placed third with a 37:54 finish time.

Smith and Whitestone also ran in the Iwo Jima 7K. Both posted times that slipped slightly from the previous race, with Smith slipping 30 seconds and Whitestone slipping 52 seconds, according to mccs.com.

“I love coming over here [and running], and it was awesome to see everybody from the Navy, Army, Marine Corps, Air Force, Coast Guard,” Smith said.

Organizers of the Devil Dog race added another category for Quinn Plummer, 8, part of Cody Child Development Center Run Club, who finished the race in 33:51, placing him among the top finishers over all.

Like Smith and Whitestone, this isn’t Plummer’s first race – it was his third. He said he likes running and enjoys being the “first kid” across the finish line. Some day, he’d like to beat all of the adults across the finish as well, he said.

The race course provided runners with an impressive view of the nation’s capital and its monuments as the sun rose over historical monuments, said Col. Andy Regan, commanding officer of Headquarters and Services Battalion, Headquarters Marine Corps, Henderson Hall.

“It’s great having folks participate that we don’t get to see every day and that helps to build community here on the joint base,” he said.

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

MCCS Henderson Hall prepares to kick off intramural flag football

By Guv Callahan
Pentagram Staff Writer

Flag football season kicks off soon, but it’s not too late to register a team for the Marine Corps Community Services Henderson Hall flag football league.

“We just finished softball and are excited to kick off intramural football,” said Joe “Mac” McMahon, sports specialist for MCCS Henderson Hall.

The league is open to all units from all branches of service. Games will be scheduled for lunchtime, at 11 a.m. or 12 p.m. weekdays.

McMahon said the frequency of games will depend on how many teams register to play.

Teams play eight-on-eight flag football, and rosters are usually comprise of about 20 players, though larger rosters are allowed.

“That’s how many uniforms we’re going to purchase and how many awards we’re going to hand out at the end of the season,” McMahon said. “If a coach has a big squad, he’ll usually collect uniforms and hand them out each game because he doesn’t know who’s going to show up.”

McMahon said signups are still underway. Based on previous seasons, he anticipates at least one team from the Pentagon, several from Marine Corps units at Joint Base Myer-Henderson Hall, and an Army team from the joint base, based on participation in past seasons.

If those numbers hold out, teams can expect at least two games per week, possibly more.

Players will need to bring their “A” game, he said.

“All of the intramural leagues are competitive,” McMahon said. “Intramural is a little above your church league.”

The season will conclude with a playoff series, most likely a double-elimination system, shortly before Thanksgiving.

But rookies shouldn’t be count themselves out. Win or lose, the real goal is just to get out on the field, and have fun, McMahon said.

“We’re about participation,” he said.

For more information about the MCCS Henderson Hall football league or to learn more about how to register a team for intramural play, call 703-697-2708.

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

JBM-HH community supports mothers, families of fallen



PHOTOS BY ARTHUR MONDALE, PENTAGRAM STAFF
Members of the U.S. Air Force Honor Guard Bearers element serve as pallbearers during a Sept. 14 funeral at the Fort Myer Old Post Chapel at Joint Base Myer-Henderson Hall. Gold Star Mother's Day, created to respect and honor the surviving families of fallen service members, is Sept. 25.

By Arthur Mondale
Pentagram Staff Writer

President Barack Obama has said most Americans may never fully comprehend the price paid by those who gave their last full measure of devotion, but “families of the fallen know it intimately and without end.”

Since 1936, the last Sunday in September has been designated as Gold Star Mother’s Day. President Franklin Delano Roosevelt designated it as a day for “public expression of the love, sorrow and reverence” for mothers who “suffered the supreme sacrifice of motherhood in the loss of their sons and daughters in World Wars.” The day was extended to include immediate family members in 2015.

The impact of those losses is often witnessed by military personnel who provide support to families of the fallen, including military chaplains who perform funeral services and speak at memorial ceremonies and members of the 3d U.S. Infantry Regiment (The Old Guard) who provide ceremonial support during funerals and interment ceremonies at Arlington National Cemetery.

“I didn’t just do an invocation,” said Kristi Pappas, a retired Army chaplain. “In addition to receiving the military honors that they deserve, I did my re-

search. I went over the service member’s DD214, I talked beforehand to the families, I told stories, I presented the flag — but chaplains always offer additional support, that’s up to what the individual wants. Because the grieving process is difficult for everyone.”

It was her passion for serving families of the fallen that led her to her current position as the Survivor Outreach Services (SOS) support coordinator for Army Community Service at Joint Base Myer-Henderson Hall.

“I want survivors to move from surviving to thriving,” Pappas said. “I want them to understand what their new normal looks like, get a new focus and build on it. And within this office we are here to support thrivers for as long as they want support. There’s no cut-off.”

Immediately following the death of a service member, families of the fallen are assigned a casualty notification officer who assists the service member’s next of kin with coordinating military benefits, including insurance claims, a death gratuity, disbursement of earned but unpaid wages and survivor benefits. Once the family’s immediate needs have been met, the CAP contacts SOS coordinators like Pappas to provide long-term support.

Pappas hosts regular support group meetings and projects for spouses and



Artwork and messenger bags are displayed inside the Army Community Service Survivor Outreach Services (SOS) office Sept. 14. The items were created as a support group project for spouses and children of the fallen organized by ACS.

children of fallen service members.

“I’m still working with ladies whose spouses have been dead for years,” Pappas said. “I work with men, women and children. I’m not your normal SOS. I’m a retired chaplain. I have almost 40 years of counseling experience, especially with grief.”

Some counselling is more formal, and other support group meetings are designed to be more relaxed. This summer, children expressed their emotions through fashion at one gathering, creating messenger bags, purses and aprons from unserviceable uniforms.

ACS Survivor Outreach Services has also strengthened partnerships with medical centers, clinics and nonprofit

organizations that specialize in grief support.

“It’s hooking them into networks with people who faced similar experiences, who understand what they’re going through,” Pappas said. “When you’re dealing with grief, you’re dealing with traumatic stress. My job is to question how a person should deal with it, through spirituality, physical and mental exercise, creativity and mindfulness. It’s about being in the moment.”

To learn more about Army Community Service Survivor Outreach Services (SOS) call 703-696-8846.

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

Gold Star mother finds calling after son’s death

By Jessica Ryan
U.S. Army Installation Management Command PAO

Right before his deployment to Afghanistan, Marine Capt. Jesse Melton III told his mother, “Mom, I want to go change the world and make a difference.”

At 29, Melton already made a big impact on his family, church and community. He learned to serve others at an early age and was inspired to serve in the military by his father and grandfather.

His life, however, was cut short during that 2008 deployment. He and two other Marines were killed while supporting combat operations in the Parwan province. He was not scheduled to be on duty, but had taken the place of another service member during that operation.

Today, his mother Janice Chance, of Owings Mills, Maryland, views his death as an opportunity to serve others. Calling her son “My Quiet Storm,” Chance saw firsthand the difference he made for others and wanted to continue the legacy of service he started.

“I cry, but I don’t drown in my tears, and I am determined not to be paralyzed by my pain. It’s a new normal for us [Gold Star mothers],” she said. “Nothing can replace the loss of a child, but you move forward and make a life of service.”

In 2009, Chance became involved with Army Survivor Outreach Services after she was contacted by a coordinator at Aberdeen Proving Ground, Md. SOS is the official Army program dedicated to providing support services to surviving family members, including those in other military branches. It is an Army Community Service program and is a part of the Installation Management Command’s G9 Directorate.

Chance was already familiar with the Army community. Although she is the surviving mother of a Marine, her daughter Jenine — inspired by her brother — became an Army officer and served two tours in Iraq before separating from service.

“Our children’s service stopped, but SOS is making sure that they are not forgotten and that we [the parents] are still in the Army family,” she said.

Chance began to attend SOS events and met other survivors at the Army installations in the area. She soon found herself helping them in a more formal role.

As the president and chaplain for the American Gold Star Mothers, Inc. Maryland Chapter, Chance worked with Army SOS coordinators to welcome sur-



PHOTO BY JESSICA RYAN
Gold Star mother Janice Chance shares mementos of her son, Marine Capt. Jesse Melton, III, in her Owings Mills, Md., home July 20. Melton died Sept. 9, 2008, while supporting combat operations in Afghanistan. His mother keeps his memory alive by telling his story and giving back to the military community through outreach and support to other surviving families.

viving mothers new to the area, and to the program.

“Because I’m the chaplain, I receive a lot of phone calls from moms who are facing challenges. I link them to the SOS coordinators,” she said.

In addition to SOS, Chance volunteers in other ways. A retired registered nurse, she spends her days helping veterans through organizations such as the American Red Cross and Veterans Affairs Medical Healthcare System. In the last year, she estimated that she put in over 800 hours and drove over 8,000 miles to conduct volunteer work.

To Chance, volunteering is therapeutic.

“Grief turned in is destructive,” she said. “When I volunteer at Walter Reed [National Military Medical Center] and when I go to the VA [hospitals], I can say mission complete for that day. I made a difference in someone’s life. I encouraged someone. I lis-



PHOTO BY RACHEL PONDER
Gold Star mother Janice Chance speaks during a luncheon for surviving family members March 9 at Aberdeen Proving Ground, Md. Chance is an active member in the Army Survivor Outreach Services community and lends her support to other survivors.

ten to them. I let them know that I appreciate their service and sacrifice. I think I’m more blessed than they are. I get more joy from serving. I have learned that it is more blessed to give than to receive.”

Chance’s work in the community does not go unnoticed. Voncile Farmer, the SOS support coordinator at Fort Meade, Maryland, first met Chance during a Gold Star Wives Day event in 2014. She saw how Chance helped other survivors with dealing with their grief.

“She puts her heart into the program,” said Farmer. “She gets the word out to educate the community about the survivors, the [Gold Star] pins and SOS. Telling her story helps others heal. Telling her son’s story helps the community and keeps his story and legacy alive.”

Chance always remembers her son as “an officer and a gentleman.” She raised him to be a man of service and saw the impact he made on his family, fellow Marines and community members.

“It gives me great pride that my son died doing what he loved to do — serving and defending our country,” she said.

“Jesse wanted to go and change the world and make a difference. He did that wherever he served. The world is now being changed through me. I go out and continue to serve in Jesse’s honor. I’m inspired by him and all those who made the ultimate sacrifice.”

Gold Star Mother’s and Family’s Day is September 25. For more information about Army Survivor Outreach Services, visit www.sos.army.mil. To learn more about the symbols of honor worn by surviving families, visit www.symbolsofhonor.org.



Tourists visit the World War II Memorial in Washington, D.C., Sept. 13. Completed in 2004, the 7.4-acre monument honors the millions of Americans who served in the U.S. military during the war and the millions more who supported the war effort back home.

By Guv Callahan
Pentagram Staff Writer

Explore D.C. is a new feature in which the Pentagram highlights a variety of attractions in the National Capital Region, including memorials, museums and other locations that contribute to the history and culture of our nation's capital.

I first visited the National World War II Memorial on a hot Saturday afternoon in 2012, when a friend and I decided to do a monument tour on the National Mall. We hit the Lincoln Memorial, the Martin Luther King, Jr. Memorial and, of course, the Washington Monument.

But we spent the most time at the World War II Memorial.

The National Mall's newest monument honors the 16 million who served in the United States armed forces during World War II, and the more than 400,000 who died fighting that war.

The memorial is composed of 56 granite pillars representing the nation's states and territories, two triumphal arches and a large fountain.

I stopped next to the pillar representing Connecticut, my home state, and took a moment to think about the sheer magnitude of the war effort during World War II – the millions of service members who answered our nation's call and millions more Americans on the home front who made sacrifices of their own to get the nation through such a trying time.

Planning your visit

The National World War II Memorial is open 24 hours a day, seven days a week (fountains are winterized from December through March). Park Rangers are on duty to answer questions from 9:30 a.m. to 10 p.m. daily, and provide interpretive programs throughout the day and upon request. For more information, visit <https://www.nps.gov/wwii/index.htm>.

Getting there:

The National World War II Memorial is located on 17th St. SW; Washington D.C., on the National Mall.



BICYCLE

Bike 3.8 miles from Capital Bikeshare station #3106, located at Wayne St. and N. Pershing Dr.; Arlington (this route takes you around the north side of Joint Base Myer-Henderson Hall and Arlington National Cemetery, then over the Arlington Memorial Bridge). \$2 for 30 minutes, or \$8 a day. For additional membership options, visit www.capitalbikeshare.com).



METRO

From Arlington National Cemetery Station, take the Blue Line to Smithsonian Station, then walk .7 miles (you'll pass the Washington Monument on the way). \$1.75-2.15 one-way (\$1.05 disabled/seniors).



RIDE-SHARING

\$6-10 via Uber or Lyft from Henry Gate (additional charges during peak periods may apply).

The memorial is a must-see attraction and provides easy access to the Washington Monument, Lincoln Memorial, Jefferson Memorial, Vietnam War and Korean War memorials, and the Tidal Basin. From up close or afar, views from the site are impressive and access to all of the mon-

uments on the National Mall (as well as admission to several nearby Smithsonian Institution museums) is free.

Although the 7.4-acre site is right in the middle of one of the most-highly trafficked areas in the city, the atmosphere around the memorial is peaceful and lends itself to



The memorial's 56 granite pillars represent U.S. states and territories.



The arches above the memorial's entry ways represent the theaters where fighting took place during the war, as seen in this Sept. 13 photo.

quiet contemplation. Even when crowded with visitors, the reflection pools and water fountains screen out the noise from cars on Independence Avenue and even the sounds of visitors around you.

Amid the hustle and bus-

tle, the World War II Memorial provides a welcome opportunity for reflection on a prior generation's wartime service for military service members and civilians alike, in the heart of our nation's capital.

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American Legion honors TOG for distinguished service

**By Spc. Brandon Dyer
3d Infantry Regiment
(The Old Guard) PAO**

The American Legion recognized the men and women of 3d Infantry Regiment (The Old Guard) by awarding the unit its Distinguished Service Medal at the organization’s 98th National Convention in Cincinnati.

American Legion Commander Dale Barnett, a retired Army lieutenant colonel, presented the award.

Col. Jason T. Garkey, 3d U.S. Infantry Regiment (The Old Guard) commander, and Command Sgt. Maj. Scott Beeson, the unit’s senior enlisted leader, attended the convention to accept the award on behalf of their unit.

“I am incredibly excited to receive this honor on behalf of The Old Guard,” he said.

The award was first presented in 1921 to recognize the importance of Allied forces in the victorious battles of World War I.

The American Legion has traditionally awarded the medal to individuals or organizations who have made great contributions to veterans.

Past recipients include Presidents John F. Kennedy, Franklin Delano Roosevelt and Ronald Reagan, but the Old Guard is the first military unit to receive the Distinguished Service Medal.

“To receive the same award as 11 presidents is incredibly humbling,” Garkey said.

Joint Base Myer-Henderson Hall has other historical ties to the award.

Gen. Charles P. Summerall and Gen. John J. Pershing are also awardees, Garkey said.

Summerall was an influential military leader who was awarded the American Legion’s Distinguished Service Medal at the 1951 national convention. A parade field in Fort Myer is named in his honor. Pershing, the second ever winner of the award, founded the U.S. Army Band, which is located at Joint Base Myer-Henderson Hall today.

The American Legion is nation’s largest wartime veteran service organization.

Garkey cited the organization’s values, including its advocacy for patriotism, youth mentorship, and dedication to improving the lives of service



American Legion Commander Dale Barnett presents the Distinguished Service Medal to Col. Jason T. Garkey, 3d U.S. Infantry Regiment (The Old Guard) commander, and Command Sgt. Maj. Scott Beeson, the regiment’s command sergeant major, during the organization’s 98th National Convention in Cincinnati Aug. 30.

members and veterans, as one reason he was honored to see The Old Guard recognized.

“Both The Old Guard and the Legion stand for the issues most important to the nation’s veteran’s community,” he said.

Although The Old Guard is the first military unit to receive the award, it was previously awarded to service members interred in the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier.

“To share this distinction with the unknown servicemen

“Whereas other units in the Army have to interact with the local population of other nations, Soldiers in The Old Guard meet the American people and tell their story,” said Garkey. “The military and the American people come together in The Old Guard like no other unit in the Army.”

Beeson said the award also reflects the unit’s commitment to rendering respect and honors for fallen service members interred at Arlington National Cemetery, and to the families of the fallen. Soldiers from the unit provide ceremonial support and military honors at as many as eight funerals each day.

The unit’s Soldiers also stand guard at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier 24 hours a day.

“A memorial service may be the lone interaction a family has with The Old Guard and the U.S. Army. We will never squander that opportunity to leave a positive lasting impression.” Beeson said. “Honoring the service members and the fallen is an ongoing mission that will always be our highest priority.”

BUDGET from page 1

James said there should be no reduction to programs and services offered by Child and Youth Services, and only minimal changes to “mission-related” programs and services managed by the directorate, including the library, fitness centers, Spates Community Center, Army Community Service and the Better Opportunities for Single Servicemember (BOSS) program, which are provided using appropriated funds.

Other recreation programs, called “Category B” programs, rely on “non-appropriated” funds, income that is generated via their own activities and other non-government sources, such as Exchange store proceeds and corporate sponsorships.

In previous years, appropriated funds covered about 65 percent of the cost of providing those non-mission essential programs, such as Leisure Travel Services and the installation’s auto hobby shop, James said.

At JBM-HH, those programs are expected to continue in 2017 but may reduce hours or increase fees to

fund a greater share of their operations, she said.

Another Category B program on base, the Information, Ticketing and Recreation (ITR) office, generates more income than is needed to support it. The difference is used to fund other MWR programs.

“We’re very fortunate in that they are very profitable,” she said. “Not only are they paying the bills, they are paying for the NAF labor and supplies. There’s a residual income that will rollover into the overall fund. We’re capturing all of that to pay our bills in the areas where we are not funded.”

James said no final decisions regarding specific program changes have been made. Future changes, such as fee increases or operational hours changes will be posted on the JBM-HH DFMWR website at jbmhhmwr.com, she said.

“Everybody outside the gate is our competitor when we start reducing hours and increasing prices,” she said. “We’ve got to be faster, stronger, smarter and more customer-savvy.”

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



Ulycess “Dee” Dunmore, Jr. shows Spc. Joshua Chambers what tickets are available for purchase at the Joint Base Myer-Henderson Hall Information, Ticketing and Recreation office Sept. 19. ITR is a part of the Directorate of Family and Morale, Welfare & Recreation, which is facing a 23 percent reduction in funding for morale programs as part of the Fiscal Year 2017 budget.

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Graveside service for U.S. Army Airforces WASP



PHOTOS BY RACHEL LARUE, ARLINGTON NATIONAL CEMETERY
Mourners attend the graveside service for United States Army Air Forces (Women Air Force Service Pilot) Florence Elaine Danforth Harmon in Arlington National Cemetery, Sept. 7, in Arlington, Va.



Members of the U.S. Air Force participate in the graveside service for United States Army Air Forces (Women Air Force Service Pilot) Florence Elaine Danforth Harmon in Arlington National Cemetery, Sept. 7, in Arlington, Va.



U.S. Air Force Capt. Jennifer Lee, right, presents the American flag to Terry Harmon during the graveside service for Harmon's mother, United States Army Air Forces (Women Air Force Service Pilot) Florence Elaine Danforth Harmon, in Arlington National Cemetery, Sept. 7, in Arlington, Va.



Vintage aircraft fly over the graveside service for United States Army Air Forces (Women Air Force Service Pilot) Florence Elaine Danforth Harmon in Arlington National Cemetery, Sept. 7, in Arlington, Va.

News Notes

Patton Hall unveiling

The Joint Base Myer-Henderson Hall commander, Col. Patrick Dugan, invites all members of the National Capital Region military community to join him for the unveiling of the newly-installed Patton Hall all ranks club, Oct. 7 beginning at 4 p.m., 214 Jackson Ave., JBM-HH. Learn about the services, facilities,

and upcoming events at the club, which is now open to all service members, retirees, civilian personnel and their families in our military community. Refreshments and hors d'oeuvres will be served. For more information, call 703-524-0200 or visit www.jbmhh.com.

Next Fort Myer S-1 Conference is Oct. 18

The next Fort Myer Military Personnel Division (MPD) S-1 confer-

ence is Oct. 18, 9-11:30 a.m. at Joint Base Myer-Henderson Hall Town Hall, Building 243. The purpose of this conference is to strengthen existing partnerships between the MPD, unit personnel officers and Soldiers, and Pentagon S-1 personnel while optimizing the availability of efficient and effective services for customers. For more information, call 703-696-3695 or 696-0008.

see NEWS, page 9



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PREPAREDNESS
from page 1

service threat conference hosted at the Headquarters Marine Corps Supply Office. The notional conference’s topic: Improving JBM-HH security in light of the joint base’s role in supporting the 58th Presidential Inauguration.

“This is the world that we live in now, and everyone has to be prepared,” said Lt. Troy Dennison, chief of operations for JBM-HH Police.

During the exercise, it took law enforcement just minutes to arrive on scene, set up a cordon and neutralize the threat. Coordinating efforts included setting up a unified incident command center for law enforcement and fire department officials.

“In a situation like this we immediately execute our Memorandum of Agreement with Arlington County Police Department, Pentagon Force Protection Agency, U.S. Park Police, the FBI and CID,” said Capt. Jason Hazzard, JBM-HH police department. “A full scale exercise of this kind requires occupants of buildings on the installation to refine their active shooter plans and procedures, and also allows law enforcement to refine our procedures to keep the installation safe and secure.”

“It’s rehearsed chaos, but that’s where our training comes in,” said

Scott Gould, JBM-HH Battalion Fire Chief. “Time was of the essence setting up an emergency triage area evacuating victims. We train in order to respond to large scale incidents and provide our service.”

Meanwhile, an emergency operations center (EOC) was established at the joint base headquarters. Increased security measures and a lockdown were simulated at JBM-HH and other installations throughout the National Capital Region.

“The EOC becomes the hub of the installation and within the first one hour, so much is happening simultaneously behind the scenes,” said Malanya Westmoreland, an emergency management specialist for the joint base. “Communication for this scale of an exercise moves horizontally and vertically, up and down the chain.”

The exercise, which included volunteer role players, was completed in accordance with Army Regulation 525-27, the Army Emergency Management Program and the U.S. Army Installation Management Command’s (IMCOM) exercise evaluation guide (EEG), Westmoreland said.

“We’re required to execute 30 capabilities,” she said.

The tasks include community preparedness and participation, emergency public safety and security response, intelligence and information sharing, critical infrastructure

protection, emergency public information and warning, mass care, and onsite incident management.

A full-scale exercise of its kind does more than just test the joint base’s response capabilities, but also challenges everyone across the joint base to be more alert to their surroundings.

“We wanted to see how well the general public reacted to an active shooter incident. Even those who were far away from the site, there is a responsibility that extends installation-wide. There are things that should be happening internally in every building and office,” Westmoreland said.

It is a constant reality for JBM-HH police officers Tom Smith and Djibril Diallo, who were the first to arrive at the originating scene of the shooting.

“Your heart is racing, your adrenaline is going, and you just don’t know where the threat could be if you don’t hear the gunfire,” Smith said. “That’s why we train a couple of times a year for things like this, to remain prepared.”

Diallo said there is no such thing as too much training.

“You can never pre-plan for an active shooter incident enough, we continue to push this message,” Diallo said. “At the end of the day, it’s about preservation of life.”

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



PHOTO BY ARTHUR MONDALE, PENTAGRAM STAFF
Members of the Joint Base Myer-Henderson Hall police department serve as an initial response team to an active shooter incident at the Headquarters Marine Corps Supply Office during an installation-wide, full scale emergency response exercise Sept. 20.



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. Having earned Charity Navigator’s highest four-star rating, 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

SEE SOMETHING
from page 1

“Unfortunately we live in a dangerous world, and vigilance is something we have learned to engrain into every community ... at every age. JBM-HH is no different,” Duggan said. “Our security works best when our community is involved.”

“We must all be sensitive to what is going on around us and I encourage each of us to keep up the good work,” he said.

See something? Say something.
What police need to know:

- *What Happened?
- *When?
- *Where?

- *Anyone Injured?
- *Vehicle Tag
- *Vehicle Description
- *Direction of Travel
- *Description of Persons (How many? What are they wearing? What is their age, race, sex, height, weight? Compare your own weight and height to the suspects. Pick out some UNIQUE characteristics, such as scars, nose shape, jewelry, etc., that will help you identify the suspect in the future, if needed).

What is suspicious activity?

Anything that seems even slightly “out of place” or that is occurring at an unusual time of day could be criminal activity. Call police immediately – don’t assume that someone else will make a report.

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SALUTE
from page 1

to use his successful fishing charter as a platform to provide a unique service for veterans, Milley said.

Bunch was inspired by a conversation with a Soldier on leave from a combat zone to provide the Soldier with a free fishing charter, and the act of kindness rapidly expanded into what is known today as “Operation Open Arms.”

Since it started in 2015, more than 150 businesses, associations and individuals in Florida have sponsored the organization, Milley said.

Besides providing vacations for service members, Operation Open Arms has facilitated weddings, paid for counseling services and, most recently, helped a family honor their Marine who died in a helicopter crash.

In all, Bunch has helped more than 3,400 service members with benefits valued at more than \$12 million, Milley said.

Bunch is so humble and so focused that he once declined an invitation of personal thanks from former President George Bush.

“Why did he turn it down? He did it to take a Soldier on a free charter to go fishing,” Milley said.

“He didn’t want to break his date with a Soldier to have a date with the president of the United States. He made his commitment to that sergeant six months prior, and he kept his commitment.”

TBI research

Dr. Briana S. Nelson Goff has taken the lead nationally to examine the effects of military deployments on service

members and their families, Milley said.

She has served as a strong advocate for families as director of the Institute for the Health and Security of Military Families at Kansas State University, where she specializes in identifying trauma symptoms among Soldiers and their family members.

Goff also teaches speech and language support for traumatic brain injury recovery and she researches the long-term effect of TBI on the well-being of veterans and families, the chief said.

In her work, she facilitates the collaboration on best practices between a large number of organizations as well as the military, aimed at understanding trauma and healing, he added.

The Mission Continues

Spencer Kympton, president of The Mission Continues, started the nonprofit organization in 2007; around 1,700 veteran fellows have done volunteer work in communities across 49 states. Kympton is an Army veteran who served as a Black Hawk helicopter pilot for eight years.

Veterans working with Kympton’s organization are involved in a number of community efforts, including mentoring at-risk kids, eliminating “food deserts” in their neighborhoods, cleaning up environmental issues, and working to revitalize a playground at a disadvantaged school.

In Washington, D.C., The Mission Continues has five service platoons focused some of the poorest areas of Southeast D.C., Kympton said. Veterans are working to revitalize affordable housing in Congress Park, renovate the Malcolm X Community Center, and renovate a National Park trail through Congress Heights.

NEWS
from page 7

Commissary closure

The JBM-HH Commissary will close Sept. 25 at 4 p.m. and will remain closed Sept. 26-27 to improve store organization. All Defense Commissary Agency (DECA) stores are reorganizing to improve efficiency and consistency across all locations to improve the shopping experience for customers. After the reset, stores will offer aisle layout maps and generic item locators on their websites. To locate store information, including operating hours and upcoming case lot sales, visit www.commissaries.com.

Marine Corps Ball

An organizing committee is raising funds for the upcoming Marine Corps ball. Doughnuts can be purchased on Wednesdays, 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the Marine Corps Exchange and Army and Air Force Exchange on Joint Base Myer-Henderson Hall. Bottle openers created from a .50 caliber round are available for purchase for \$15, by contacting an organizational committee member at 571-235-6318, 843-986-4388 or 703-571-1017.

FEGLI Open Season for federal employees

Federal employees can change their Federal Employees Group Life Insurance Program (FEGLI) options during the FEGLI Open Season, through Sept. 30. Employees can enroll in the program or make changes to their enrollment by logging into their Employee Benefits Information System account at www.ebis.army.mil or at 877-276-9287, 785-240-2222 from 7 a.m.-7 p.m.

Death notices

Anyone with debts owed to or by the estate of Staff Sgt. Jose Sanchez, Company A, Warrior Transition Brigade-National Capital Region, must contact Lt. Kevin Whiteacre, the Summary Court-Martial Officer for the Soldier. Egbert recently passed away on Aug. 30. Call Whiteacre at 301-400-0271.

Death notices

Anyone with debts owed to or by the estate of Spc. Denis M. Egbert, Company C, Walter Reed National Military Medical Center, must contact Maj. Kristy Gould, the Summary Court-Martial Officer for the Soldier. Egbert recently passed away on Sept. 1. Call Gould at 301-412-7544.

TMP fueling station closes Sept. 30-Oct. 3

The Transportation Motor Pool fueling station (Bldg. 330, Joint Base Myer-Henderson Hall), will close Sept. 30 at 4 p.m. to conduct an end-of-fiscal year inventory. The TMP fuel station will reopen at 6 a.m., Oct. 3. Regular TMP customers should fuel their vehicles no later than 1 p.m. Sept. 30 (DES vehicles should be fueled no later than 3:30 p.m.). Please use the vehicle credit card and fuel at the AAFES gas station during the shutdown. For more information, call 703-696-7137.

News Notes submissions

Send your submissions for the Sept. 29 edition of the Pentagram via email at catherine.a.caruso.civ@mail.mil no later than noon, Sept. 26. Submissions must be 100 words or less and should contain all “5 W’s” (who, what, when, where, why). Additionally, include a website, email address, or phone number where interested parties can find or request more information. Submission of information does not guarantee publication. Unless otherwise noted, all events listed are free and open to all Department of Defense ID card holders.

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2016 AUSA

ANNUAL MEETING AND EXPOSITION

A Professional Development Forum

AMERICA'S ARMY:
Ready Today, Preparing for the Future



Monday, October 3

- **Sergeant Major of the Army NCO and Soldier Forum**, 8 to 9 a.m. – Room 152 A&B
- **Opening Ceremony**, 9:30 to 11:15 a.m. – Ballroom
 - Keynote address by Secretary of the Army Eric K. Fanning
 - Patriotic Program
 - 3rd U.S. Infantry Regiment (The Old Guard)
 - The U.S. Army Band, "Pershing's Own"
- **Industry and Military Exhibits**, Monday – Wednesday, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. in Exhibit Halls A, B, C, D, and E
- **American Freedom Foundation/AUSA Warriors to the Workforce Veterans Hiring Event**, Monday – Wednesday, 9 a.m. – 4 p.m. in Exhibit Hall A – Booth 261
- **The United States Army Exhibit** – Exhibit Hall A – Booth 1424
- **Association of the U.S. Army Pavilion** – Exhibit Hall A – Booth 307
- **AUSA Book Program – Author Presentations**, 1 to 5 p.m. – Room 145 A (Book signings: Hall A, AUSA Pavilion – Booth 307)
- **Digital Learning Session**, 1:30 to 2:30 p.m. – Room 204 A&B – *"Leadership in a Digital Age"*
- **AUSA Military Family Forum I**, 2 to 4 p.m. – Room 207 A&B – *"An Update on Military Kids: How Are They Doing? What Do They Need?"*
- **Retiree & Veteran Program Update Seminar**, 2 to 4 p.m. – Room 140 A
- **ILW Contemporary Military Forum**, 2 to 4 p.m. – Room 151 A&B – *"Readiness for Today's Complex World"*
- **ILW Contemporary Military Forum**, 2 to 4 p.m. – Room 147 A&B – *"Modernization – Addressing Today's Threat & Ensuring Tomorrow's Readiness; Perspectives from Government and Industry"*
- **ILW Contemporary Military Forum**, 2 to 4 p.m. – Room 152 A&B – *"An Ocean Closer: Synchronizing Actions and Words from the Baltic to the Black Sea"*
- **A Vietnam Retrospective**, 2:30 to 4:30 p.m. – Room 201
- **CSM ARNG/CSM USAR Breakout Session**, 3 to 4:30 p.m. – Room 150 A&B

Tuesday, October 4

- **The Sergeant Major of the Army Professional Development Forum**, 8 to 11 a.m. – Room 152 A&B
- **Army Staff Senior Warrant Officer Professional Development Forum**, 9 to 11 a.m. – Room 202 B
- **AUSA Military Family Forum II**, 9 a.m. to Noon – Room 207 A&B – *"Preparing for a Life in or Outside the Army through Financial Readiness, Military Spouse Employment and Entrepreneurship"*
- **ILW Contemporary Military Forum**, 10 a.m. to Noon – Room 147 A&B – *"Multi-Domain Battle: Ensuring Joint Force Freedom of Action in Future War"*
- **Director, Army National Guard Seminar**, 10 to 11:30 a.m. – Room 145 A&B
- **ILW Contemporary Military Forum**, 10 a.m. to Noon – Room 151 A&B – *"Installations: The Army's Platform for Readiness"*
- **Military Retirement Planning Seminar with Blended Retirement Plan**, 2 to 4 p.m. – Room 140 A
- **Foreign Military Sales Forum**, 2:30 to 4:30 p.m. – Room 202 B – *"Ready for Today, Setting the Conditions for Tomorrow, and Go Through Trust and Teamwork"*
- **ILW/U.S. Department of Homeland Security Breakout Session**, 3 to 4 p.m. – Room 204 A&B – *"Southwest Border Security: An Operational Approach"*
- **Chief, U.S. Army Reserve Seminar**, 3 to 4:40 p.m. – Room 145 A&B
- **ILW Contemporary Military Forum**, 3 to 5 p.m. – Room 147 A&B – *"Soldier Readiness"*
- **ILW Contemporary Military Forum**, 3 to 5 p.m. – Room 151 A&B – *"The Army Way Ahead"*

Wednesday, October 5

- **AUSA Military Family Forum III**, 9 to 11 a.m. – Room 207 A&B – *"A Town Hall with Senior Army Leaders"*
- **ILW Contemporary Military Forum**, 9 to 11 a.m. – Room 147 A&B – *"Threats in the 2030 Operating Environments"*
- **ILW Contemporary Military Forum, Homeland Defense/Homeland Security: Army-DHS Partnership**, 9:30 to 11:30 a.m. – Room 151 A&B – *"The Army and DHS Partnership: Defending and Securing the Homeland" (ARNORTH)*
- **Army Civilian Professional Development Seminar**, 9:30 to 11:30 a.m. – Salons IJKL, Level M4, Marriott Marquis – *"Engagement: People, Performance, and Development"*
- **ILW/U.S. Department of Homeland Security Breakout Session**, 10 to 11 a.m. – Room 204 A&B – *"Responding to Catastrophic Disasters – A look back at Exercise Ardent Sentry 16: Cascadia Subduction Zone Earthquake Tsunami"*
- **Military Retirement Planning Seminar with Blended Retirement Plan**, 10 a.m. to Noon – Room 140 A
- **ILW/U.S. Department of Homeland Security Breakout Session**, 2 to 3 p.m. – Room 204 A&B – *"Innovation in Federal IT Acquisition: Defense and Homeland Security Equities"*
- **ILW Contemporary Military Forum**, 2 to 4 p.m. – Room 151 A&B – *"Fight Tonight with the Army We Have: Generating, Sustaining, and Applying Army and Joint Readiness in the Pacific Theater"*
- **ILW Contemporary Military Forum**, 2 to 4 p.m. – Room 147 A&B – *"The Future of Army Public-Private Partnerships and Cyberspace"*



Registration – Ticket Pickup Hours

- Friday/Saturday Registration and Ticket Pickup ... 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.
- Sunday Registration and Ticket Pickup 8 a.m. to 6 p.m.
- Monday Registration and Ticket Pickup..... 7 a.m. to 7 p.m.
- Tuesday Registration and Ticket Pickup 7:30 a.m. to 5 p.m.
- Wednesday Registration 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.
- Wednesday Ticket Pickup 8 a.m. to 7:30 p.m.

Please check the Annual Meeting schedule at www.ausa.org for location, time and event changes.