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PHOTO BY ELIZABETH FRASER

Visitors attend the National Veterans Day Observation in the Memorial Amphitheater at Arlington National Cemetery, Arlington, Virginia, Nov. 11, 2019. Vice President Mike Pence with Secretary of Veterans Affairs Robert Wilkie participated in a wreath-laying ceremony at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier and spoke to the crowd in the Memorial Amphitheatre as part of the observance.

Arlington National Cemetery's Memorial Amphitheater reaches milestone anniversary

By Alice Swan
Pentagram Reporter

It has been the site of countless ceremonies honoring the nation's veterans and fallen heroes. The words of every U.S. president since Warren G. Harding have echoed off its stately columns. It's been a place of praise on Easter Sunday mornings and hosted funerals for some of the country's most notable figures. Originally created as a way to honor those who fought and died in America's early wars, Arlington National Cemetery's Memorial Amphitheater has been a part of events paying tribute to those who have fallen in service to the nation in the years since its dedication May 15, 1920.

In recognition of the landmark's 100th anniversary, ANC historian Timothy Frank and Rebecca Stevens, ANC's cultural resources manager, shared some background on the amphitheater's origins, stories on the famous events held there and hidden secrets of the structure.

When did the idea develop for creating the amphitheater?

Frank: The amphitheater idea really starts with the Civil War. The cemetery was established in 1864. Back in those years, it was not really considered an honor to be buried in a national cemetery. Usually, if you were buried in a national cemetery it indicated that your family couldn't afford to have your remains returned home. It was pretty expensive to embalm, and transport remains in those days.

All that changed in 1868 when Civil War veteran Gen. John Logan, a founder of the Grand Army of the



PHOTO BY ELIZABETH FRASER

The Memorial Amphitheater at Arlington National Cemetery, Arlington, Virginia, March 17.

Republic, a veterans group comprised of former Union Army Soldiers, established Decoration Day. The first Decoration Day was held at ANC in 1868, and over the following years, thousands of people would show up each May 30 to place flowers on the graves of Civil War fallen.

In 1873, they realized they needed a venue to start off the day and so built the smaller James R. Tanner Amphitheater near the Tomb of the Civil War Unknowns. Every year the crowds grew. In 1903 Judge Ivory Kimball, another leader of the GAR, persuaded the secretary of war that an even bigger venue was needed to host the Decoration Day ceremonies. We

credit Ivory Kimball with the push for the grander amphitheater.

Stevens: The Arlington Memorial Amphitheater Commission was formed in 1908 to oversee construction; however, federal legislation authorizing construction was not passed until 1913. Arlington National Cemetery finally broke ground for the building March 1, 1915. Once started, it took five years to build the Memorial Amphitheater. Poor weather, supply issues and war interceded to delay construction, postponing completion to 1920.

Frank: It was dedicated in 1920 and was seen as being the centerpiece of future Decoration Day ceremo-

nies. It was only years later with the establishment of Armistice Day, now Veterans Day, that it became the center point for Veterans Day and Memorial Day activities. Memorial Day was established in 1968 to be held on the last Monday in May.

Is there special significance to its architectural design?

Stevens: The Memorial Amphitheater was designed by Thomas Hastings, of the renowned architectural firm Carrère & Hastings. They are the same firm that design the New York Public Library. Hastings' design is a masterwork of the Beaux-Arts approach to architecture; the classical-revival style for public and private buildings at the turn of the last century. In Hastings words, he intended the building to be "very classic in character and at the same time in the spirit of the early colonial architecture of this country, making it appropriate for this place and purpose."

What were the first events held at the amphitheater?

Frank: The first event was the dedication program May 15, 1920. Speakers included then Secretary of War Newton D. Baker, Gen. John J. Pershing, William Jones, commander of United Spanish War veterans, and Grand Army of the Republic Commander Dan M. Hall. An address by the president is listed on the program, which I found at the Library of Congress. But we think President Woodrow Wilson wasn't able to attend due to his stroke. Following the dedication, the first Decoration Day ceremony was held there later that month May 30.

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Chaplain’s Corner

Restoring what was lost

**By Retired Chaplain (Brig. Gen.) Ray Bailey
Former Deputy Chief of Chaplains**

I’ve been hearing a lot about restoring the economy, restoring the medical institutions and restoring our way of life. So far, there has been no dates or plans revealed but I’m sure it’s under consideration. Restoring back to the original or even better is a good vision and strategy. That is what we all hope and possibly depend upon.

I’ve even heard about different people who have started, continued or picked back up a hobby of building or creating something, like furniture or cars. One friend told me he is once again in his garage restoring antique furniture and even building new pieces for the outdoors. He hasn’t done it for years but now he has the time and taking the time to get back into building, rebuilding and restoring.

When I see a restored old car, I admire the work and reflect on that time era. I especially like restored antique rifles and pistols. If it’s during the wild west days, I am transported back in time to those days I love to read about. Making something new is exciting but to restore a car, furniture, guns or some other item into its original state, is neat and is a special link to the past. That takes a special talent and eye and love on history.

A man tells a story of an old Scottish mansion close to where a neighbor had his little summer home. The walls of one room were filled with sketches made by distinguished artists. A pitcher of soda water was accidentally spilled on a freshly decorated wall and left an unsightly stain. At the time, a noted artist, Lord Landseer, was a guest in the house. One day when the family went out to the moors, he stayed behind. With a few masterful strokes of a piece of charcoal,

that ugly spot became the outline of a beautiful waterfall, bordered by trees and wildlife. He turned that disfigured wall into one of his most successful depictions of Highland life.

What about restoring our souls? Maybe our hopes and dreams need restoring. Then, there is our faith. How does one restore their spiritual faith? What about our hearts and our love? There is a list of special, if not critical, parts of our lives we need to consider to be restored to the depth, height and quality they are needed to have a life of joy and peace. They need some special care and restoration back, if not better, to their original state.

Our disfigured life needs restoring. It is marred by ugly stains of anger, disappointments and memories that plague us when we stop and reflect. We need the master’s hand to restore the ugly into the beautiful that is full of wonder.



Zoom with joint base RSO

By JBM-HH RSO

The Joint Base Myer-Henderson Hall Gospel Service is offering the following religious support opportunities:

Wednesday night Bible study at 6:30 p.m. via Zoom Video Conferencing. The gospel service at noon will continue to meet Sundays through Zoom. If individuals need a place to worship or connect, contact RSO at JBM.HHGospel@gmail.com and someone will reach out so individuals can Zoom in with RSO.

The JBM-HH Gospel Service message is “We are Shut Down; but Not Disconnected.” We are still able to exercise 1Thessalonians 5:16-18, “Rejoice always, pray without ceasing, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you.”


The Family Life Chaplain, Chaplain (Maj.) Bryant Casteel, is offering online counseling by video or phone to anyone who is in need.

If an individual would like to set up an appointment, please email Casteel at bryant.j.casteel.mil@mail.mil.

Bible Study Live

Join Chaplain Bryant Casteel for Bible Study Live

Wednesdays at 6:30 P.M. Eastern



Stream to watch live or dial-in

<https://zoom.us/j/303609381?pwd=dmpWOFIhNEo4YWlSeGJGWVFrR0JLZz09>

Meeting ID: 303 609 381 Password: 746971

Telephone only dial in at +1 (646) 876 9923 (USA)

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Family Life Marriage Enrichment

Seminar: Seven Conversations for a Lifetime of Love (Hold Me Tight)

Where: Online (A Zoom account is required)

When: 12:00 pm Every Tuesday starting April 28, 2020, then...

May 5, 12, 19, 26
June 2 and 9

Who: Open to all married couples

Format: 50-minute live training online

Registration starts now! To register for class or request further information, please email Chaplain Casteel at Bryant.j.casteel.mil@mail.mil



ACS Corner

Connect with Army Community Service

To keep everyone safe and healthy, Joint Base Myer-Henderson Hall Army Community Service is closed for services, but will continue providing services telephonically and digitally.

To contact ACS, call (703) 696-3435 to reach someone who will get the service an individual is looking for.

Online resources such as Army One

Source (myarmyonesource.com) and the Community Resource Guide linked to the JBM-HH homepage are available as well.

ACS stress management

JBM-HH Army Community Service released a YouTube link to the ACS Family Advocacy programs stress management. Individuals can find it at <https://youtu.be/x8x9dc3MYow>.



Building 201, Custer Road
(703) 696-3510



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Century-old memorabilia box opened at Arlington Cemetery

By Thomas Brading
Army News Service

An interdisciplinary team recently unsealed a memorabilia box more than 100 years old at Arlington National Cemetery, in honor of the Memorial Amphitheater's centennial.

And now, a peek inside the old copper box, along with its historic relics, are available virtually, as ANC hosts its first-ever online exhibit starting this week.

"As Arlington National Cemetery remains closed to visitors, the online exhibit will allow the public to explore these hallowed grounds," said Karen Durham-Aguilera, Office of Army National Cemeteries and ANC executive director. "Virtual visitation is the centerpiece of the 100th-anniversary commemoration, showcasing the resilience of the historical structure and our nation."

An accompanying illustrated book, "Arlington National Cemetery: Memorial Amphitheater and Tomb of the Unknowns," by Benjamin D. Brands, an American historian, will be available free-of-charge, as a downloadable file.

"The exhibit will appeal to anyone interested in American history, architecture or the military's changing role



Tim Frank, historian, History Office; views coins of the United States of America removed from the Memorial Amphitheater memorabilia box in the Memorial Amphitheater Lower Chapel at Arlington National Cemetery, Arlington, Virginia, April 9. The box had just been opened after being placed over a century ago in the cornerstone of the Memorial Amphitheater.

in society, from international tourists to those within the national capital region who are currently unable to explore Arlington National Cemetery in person," said Ray Alexander, ANC superintendent.

The box was tucked inside a marble

cornerstone 105 years ago when construction on the amphitheater began. It was carefully removed April 9, and sorted through by a team of conservators, facilities maintenance staff and historians at the cemetery.

"Our mission is to maintain the insti-

tutional knowledge of Arlington National Cemetery for future generations," said Steve Carney, the ANC command historian. "(Retrieving the box) took several weeks to do, to ensure everything could be done safely."

"This included removing it from the cornerstone where it was originally placed, cleaning the box, evaluating it and opening it."

In all, the process required several months to plan for, not including the time to remove and sort through. In other words, Carney said, "it's a slow process," but time is relative when considering the years, it waited in darkness.

Inside the copper box were blueprints of the amphitheater, a U.S. coin and postage stamp circulating in 1915, an autographed photo of President Woodrow Wilson, a map of Pierre Charles L'Enfant's design for Washington, D.C., a U.S. flag and copies of the Declaration of Independence, Constitution and a Bible.

It's 1920, and just outside of the nation's capital at ANC, the Memorial Amphitheater finished hosting its first Memorial Day ceremony — then known as Decoration Day.

By that time, the copper box,

see BOX, page 4

DOD prepares to implement tobacco age restrictions

By Denise Lew
Pentagram Reporter

Amidst the COVID-19 pandemic, a new policy that is intended to improve the health of Americans will take effect later this summer. Beginning Aug 1, anyone under age 21 will no longer be able to purchase tobacco products including electronic nicotine delivery systems at Department of Defense installations, facilities and naval vessels at U.S. ports.

Known as Tobacco 21 or T21, the new law amends the Federal Food, Drug and Cosmetic Act, and increases the federal minimum age from 18 to 21 for tobacco sales. Patrons will have to show their ID to prove their age. On naval vessels at foreign ports and sea, the federal minimum age remains at 18, taking into account international law and treaties. However, there is no law prohibiting the usage of tobacco products, such as when they are pur-

chased for those under 21 to use.

According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, "Smoking is the leading cause of preventable death in the U.S."

"Research has shown that raising the legal age of sale to 21 would likely reduce youth tobacco initiation and use," said Corey Fitzgerald, a public health social worker at the Army Public Health Center.

The APHC's goal, Fitzgerald said, "is to eliminate tobacco use from the Army by 2025."

Under Secretary of Defense Matthew P. Donovan recently issued a memorandum directing implementation of the new policy starting Aug. 1 across the Department of Defense, including "commissary, Exchange, Family and Morale, Welfare and Recreation outlets."

Signs informing patrons of the policy change are to be posted at outlets by July 1, and retailers should have

enough tobacco cessation products before implementation begins. Donovan has directed treatment facilities to have ample tobacco cessation products, as part of Tricare benefits. In addition, service members trying to cease tobacco usage due to this policy change may seek appropriate counseling and treatment, according to the memorandum.

Joint Base Myer-Henderson Hall began distributing information on the new legislation last week. Albert Mack, the Army Substance Abuse Program manager on Joint Base Myer-Henderson Hall, emailed copies of the memorandum to all command sergeants major for dissemination. The Andrew Rader U.S. Army Health Clinic, the Smoking Cessation Program and managers at the Main Exchange, Commissary, shoppette and the MCX also received copies of the policy. Plans to install signage at the stores are now in progress.

"From what I understand signs will

be placed at all the locations and at the registers," said Mack.

The long-range benefits of the new policy do not come without obstacles, however.

"I think it will be an adjustment for some young Soldiers, but the Rader Clinic has a Tobacco Cessation Program that they can enroll in to help them learn how to live tobacco-free and reduce associated health risks" said Mack. "They can call the main clinic line to get connected to the POC for the program."

The hope is to rally as much support as possible of the new law.

"For this policy to be effective at increasing the readiness and health of our Army, leaders at all levels need to communicate support of Tobacco 21 laws," explained Fitzgerald. "Tobacco 21 with no military exemption was passed because the health of our young Soldiers is just as important as their civilian peers."

TOG inducts seven into Order of Saint Maurice



Sgt. 1st Class Jonathan Merced, the regimental S-3 assistant, is shown with his Order of Saint Maurice medal.

By The 3d Infantry Regiment
(The Old Guard)

Seven Old Guard Soldiers have been inducted into a very select group, having the honor of wearing the Order of Saint Maurice collar pin.

Soldiers are nominated by existing awardees and are selected by the Order of Saint Maurice board at the National Infantry Association using a vigorous vetting process ensuring the future integrity of the honor.

The award was named in honor of Saint Maurice, who was the Primicerius of the Theban Legion in the Roman Army during the 3rd century.

In 287 AD the Theban Legion marched in service of the Roman Empire fighting against the revolt in the Berguade Gauls. Saint Maurice's men were composed entirely of Christians recruited from upper Egypt, near the Valley of the Kings. The Legion marched to the Mediterranean Sea, was transported across, and traveled across Italy to an area in Switzerland.

Serving under Marcus Aurelius Valerius Maximianus Herculius Augustus, better known to history as Maximian, Saint Maurice was ordered to have his legionnaires offer pagan sacrifices before battle near the Rhone at Martigny. The Theban Legion refused to participate, and also refused to kill innocent civilians in the conduct of their duty and withdrew to the town of Agaunum. Enraged, Maximian ordered every 10th man killed, yet they still refused. A second order was given for the legionnaires to participate and again they refused. Maurice declared his earnest desire to obey every order lawful in the eyes of God.

"We have seen our comrades killed," came the reply. "Rather than sorrow, we rejoice at the honor done to them."

At this Maximian ordered the butchery of the Thebans and the martyrdom of Saint Maurice.

The United States Army created the Order of Saint Maurice in 1995 to honor those who display the virtues of Saint Maurice and who support the infantry.



PHOTOS COURTESY OF THE OLD GUARD
Capt. Jordan Hancock, the regimental S-2, receives his Order of Saint Maurice Medal.



Photo from the National Archives of the funeral held at the Arlington National Cemetery Memorial Amphitheater.

PHOTO COURTESY OF NATIONAL ARCHIVES

AMPHITHEATER
from page 1

What are some of the most memorable events held at the amphitheater through the past 100 years?

Frank: One of the most notable was the funeral of Charles Young in 1923. He was the first African-American colonel in the U.S. Army. His funeral has been one of few to be held at the Memorial Amphitheater. Though ANC was segregated at that time, Col. Young was buried with white officers in Section 3.

Gen. Pershing’s funeral July 19, 1948, drew thousands of mourners. Before the service, they took the caisson holding his casket onto the plaza of the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier and paused there. (Pershing is buried at Arlington National Cemetery in Section 34, Grave S-19).

Services for the five American flyers shot down over Yugoslavia in August 1946 by Marshal Tito’s forces were held in the chapel built under the amphitheater. They brought five caskets into the chapel and then buried the fliers in a common grave in Section 2 of Arlington National Cemetery.

Cpl. Frank Buckles, the last living World War I veteran lay

in honor in the amphitheater in March 2011, following his death that February at the age of 110.

In 2018 there was a tribute to Robert F. Kennedy on the 50th anniversary of his assassination at the amphitheater.

How was the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier added to the amphitheater?

Frank: The amphitheater was being built before World War I, through the push from Civil War and later Spanish-American War veterans. So, this is a memorial to the sacrifice of generations of Americans from the War for Independence to the Spanish-American War. In 1920, the British and the French interred their unknown soldiers from World War I in memorials. The American people read about these grand ceremonies in London and Paris and they started writing to the War Department and to Congress requesting that we do the same, following the British and French example. Congress passed legislation to select, honor and inter the unknown at Arlington National Cemetery. In November 1921, an unknown Soldier was buried in a memorial on the plaza at the east side of the amphitheater. In 1932, they completed the larger tomb that is there today.

While the amphitheater

stops at the Spanish-American War, to me the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier bridges the past and the present, so this is a living memorial to the fallen.

Are there hidden secrets to the Amphitheater?

Frank: People might not know that they built crypts under the colonnades where distinguished Soldiers, Sailors and Marines could be buried. That kind of went by the wayside when Gen. Pershing went out into the cemetery and selected where he wanted to be buried. He surveyed the cemetery and he wanted to be buried overlooking the men he led in World War I, so he is buried on a hilltop above the World War I section. There is a lot of correspondence in the National Archives between the Quartermaster of the Army and the cemetery superintendent which discuss “if we disinter Gen. Pershing and place him in the crypts, we’re going against his wishes.” We surmised from those letters they decided not bury anyone in the crypts in the future.

Another part of cemetery lore is that the Tomb guards live in those crypts. I talked with a former Tomb guard who was there in the early 1970s and he said that back then the guards lived in the catacombs. But the guards don’t live in the catacombs



PHOTO COURTESY OF LIBRARY OF CONGRESS

Amphitheater in May 1920.

now and they don’t use them for preparing their uniforms. They have a special area more recently built into the Amphitheater.

People often ask me if I’m afraid to work in a cemetery because of ghosts. My

response is always the same. Throughout my career I’ve interviewed more than 300 veterans; many of them are now buried in ANC. The way I look at it is that I’m surrounded by friends and I’m still telling their stories.

BOX
from page 3

retrieved by ANC’s team, had been in place for five years.

“The Memorial Amphitheater is important to (ANC) history, because of its connections to Memorial Day,” Carney said. “Arlington became seen as the nation’s premier national military cemetery, and our nation’s most sacred treasure.”

Originally, Decoration Day was a time for mourners to honor fallen service members. The name came from the living who decorated graves with flowers, flags and wreaths. In 1868, roughly three years after the Civil War, the observance was officially held at ANC’s original amphitheater, the Tanner Amphitheater.

But as years passed, Carney explained, “The sheer number of those who came to commemorate that day is why the Memorial Amphitheater was approved (to be built) in 1913.”

In the early 1900s, President William Howard Taft — one of two American presidents buried at ANC — signed legislation to construct the new Memorial Amphitheater, which was large enough to accommodate the ever-growing crowd sizes. The construction site was set on top of a

hill watching over Washington, D.C.

The amphitheater has a memorial display room, a chapel beneath the stage, and it’s the location of the Tomb of the Unknowns, where a guard has been on duty, around the clock, since 1937.

Before all that, in 1915, as the construction of the Memorial Amphitheater kicked off, then-President Woodrow Wilson placed the building’s cornerstone — or ceremonial building block — to commemorate the construction.

By Armistice Day Nov. 11, 1918, nearly all of the building’s exterior was complete, and interior construction wrapped up in June 1919.

Then finally, May 15, 1920, the roofless, white marble structure was dedicated, and went on to host its first Memorial Day. Since then, every American president has visited the location during their tenure.

The memorabilia box is essentially a time capsule, Carney explained, however, the term “time capsule” wasn’t coined until the 1936 World’s Fair, more than two decades later.

As years have come and gone, the copper memorabilia box remained untouched, behind the cornerstone placed by the 28th president of the United States. Moving forward, in addition to the online exhibit, the team is also putting together a



PHOTO BY ELIZABETH FRASER

Tim Frank, historian, History Office; reaches into the newly opened Memorial Amphitheater memorabilia box in the Memorial Amphitheater Lower Chapel at Arlington National Cemetery, Arlington, Virginia, April 9. The box was placed in the cornerstone of the Memorial Amphitheater in 1915 when the amphitheater was first constructed over a century ago.

physical one to display the items at ANC, Carney said.

“We have to ensure it’s put on display safely, and there is no chance it will be degraded or damaged,” he added.

Later this year, ANC also plans to install a new time capsule to be opened in 100 years, continuing the tradition of commemoration and preservation for generations to

come.

However, the exact date and what the items will be are both still up in the air.

“We want to ensure that the selected (items) are reflective of what the nation, and what Arlington, are going through right now,” Carney said. “We want the items (to be opened in 2120) to reflect a snapshot in our moment in time.”

Using lessons learned, Army engineers build enhanced care site in DC

By Sean Kimmons
Army News Service

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers unveiled its latest alternate care site in the nation’s capital Monday, which its commander called one of the best built since their COVID-19 response began nearly two months ago.

Constructed inside the Walter E. Washington Convention Center, the makeshift hospital has more than 430 patient beds to assist local hospitals in the district, which has seen about 6,400 positive cases and over 320 deaths to the virus.

“I can’t think of a more noble calling than to be able to build up a facility like this ... to help keep people alive,” Lt. Gen. Todd Semonite, the commander of the USACE, said at a press briefing.

To date, Army engineers, along with local and federal partners, have constructed 37 alternate care sites across the country that provide more than 15,000 patient beds.

The Corps has also given about 40 other designs to states, so they can build their own facilities that can hold another 13,000 beds, he added.

Almost 1,100 Corps members are currently deployed in support of the ongoing mission, with another 15,000 members supporting it, according to Corps officials.

Besides construction, Army engineers have also completed 1,145 assessments on facilities to decide how and whether to build a care site to treat COVID and non-COVID patients at a certain location. Those assessments have included college dorms, hotels, sports arenas and convention centers, officials said.

As the virus swept through New York City in March, Army engineers built a large care site inside the Javits Convention Center in Manhattan. The site treated about 1,100 patients before that mission phased out earlier this month.

Pulling from lessons learned at that site and others, the latest facility in Washington, D.C., includes an array of capabilities.

“I’ve been through an awful lot of these facilities, but this one is prob-

ably the best one we’ve ever built,” Semonite said, “because it’s the one that is the most current and we rolled all of those other capabilities in.”

At the new site, each bed is inside a 10-feet by 10-feet pod that has electricity, a place for a laptop with information technology connections, a code blue button that goes directly to a nearby nurse’s station, a temporary toilet, as well as an oxygen supply in about half of the pods.

If a patient needs emergency care, there are also six rapid treatment pods that are 20 feet by 20 feet.

“So, if there is a problem with a patient, they bring them in here where the nurses and the doctors have a little bit more room to be able to work,” he said.

The site has areas with negative pressure to ensure that the virus does

U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS (AS OF: 11-MAY 0630)

COVID-19 CORONAVIRUS

COVID-19
RESPONSE DAY

59

USACE
ENGAGEMENT 50/5
States Territories

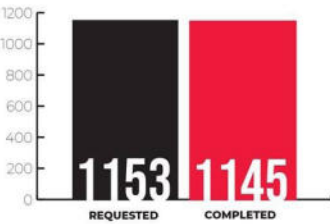
ADMINISTRATIVE

MISSION ASSIGNMENTS 64 OPEN: 36 CLOSED: 28

CUMULATIVE FUNDING \$1.8B MA: \$1.8B NEPP FUNDING: \$4.4M

ENGAGED PERSONNEL / DEPLOYED: 1,093 SUPPORTING: 15,000

ASSESSMENTS



ALTERNATE CARE FACILITY TOTAL BED COUNT

15,066



BUILDING STRONG® SIMPLE SOLUTIONS FOR A COMPLEX PROBLEM

For more information about what the Corps is doing in response to COVID-19 visit: <https://www.usace.army.mil/coronavirus/>
USACE works in conjunction with the entire federal eco-system during responses like COVID-19 through FEMA learn more about their mission here: <https://www.fema.gov/coronavirus>

ALTERNATE CARE FACILITY CONSTRUCTION

ARENA TO HEALTHCARE (A2HC)
606 Assessments Complete 21 Sites Selected 12,184 Beds 0 Pending Contracts 21 Contracts Awarded

HOTEL/DORMS TO HEALTHCARE (H2HC)
539 Assessments Complete 16 Sites Selected 2,882 Beds 0 Pending Contracts 16 Contracts Awarded

ARENA TO HEALTHCARE (A2HC)

606/617 Assessments Complete

12,184 Potential Beds

HOTELS/DORMS TO HEALTHCARE (H2HC)

539/563 Assessments Complete

2,882 Potential Beds



ENGINEERED SOLUTION PLANS
Approved site adaptations must be accomplished in as little as 5 days and at most 2 weeks to align with state projected virus infection peaks.

STANDARD DESIGNS



All 4 designs can be adapted to serve COVID and NON-COVID patients.

PROJECT COMPLETION

30 OF 37 COMPLETE

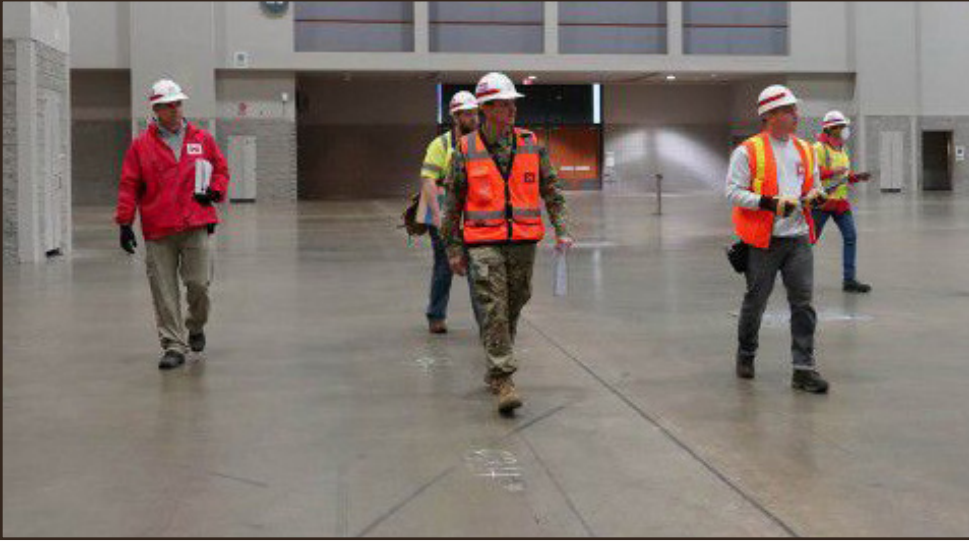


PHOTO BY DAVID GRAY

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and partners inspect the Walter E. Washington Convention Center in Washington, D.C., to be used as an alternate care site in response to the COVID-19 pandemic, March 25, 2020. Army engineers unveiled the makeshift hospital Monday, which has more than 430 patient beds to assist local hospitals in the district.

not spread to other parts of the convention center.

There is also a pharmacy, a large backup generator so the center never loses power, an oxygen production plant, as well as several nurse stations.

Construction included 37 miles of electricity wiring, 17 miles of IT cables and a half mile of oxygen pipes running through the convention cen-

ter, he added.

“We can see the innovations of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers here and how they’re brought to bear in response to this pandemic,” Mayor Muriel Bowser said at the briefing.

“We consider this site our insurance policy. We hope that we will never have to use it, but it is here and staffed for when or if we do.”



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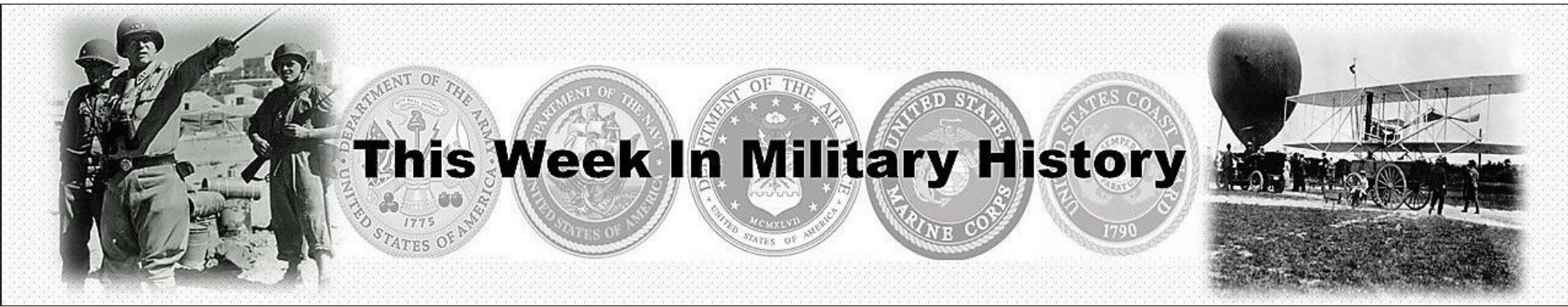
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COURTESY PHOTO
On May 20, 1969, after 10 days and 10 bloody assaults, Hill 937 in South Vietnam was finally captured by U.S. and South Vietnamese troops. The Americans who fought there cynically dubbed Hill 937 “Hamburger Hill” because the battle and its high casualty rate reminded them of a meat grinder.

May 14
In 1943, a U.S. and Great Britain chiefs of staff meeting in Washington, D.C., was approved and it plotted out Operation Pointblank, a joint bombing offensive to be mounted from British airbases.

es. Operation Pointblank’s aim was grandiose and comprehensive: “The progressive destruction and dislocation of the German military and economic system, and the undermining of the morale of the German people.” It was

also intended to set up “final combined operations on the continent.” In other words, it was intended to set the stage for one fatal blow that would bring Germany to its knees. The immediate targets of Operation Pointblank were

to be submarine construction yards and bases, aircraft factories, ball bearing factories, rubber and tire factories, oil production and storage plants and military transport-vehicle factories and stores. Ironically, the very day planning for

Pointblank began in Washington, the Germans shot down 74 British four-engine bombers as the Brits struck a munitions factory near Pilsen. Joseph Goebbels, wrote in his

see HISTORY, page 9

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diary, that the biggest setback about the British raid on the factory was that the drafting room was destroyed.

May 15
In 1967, U.S. forces just south of the Demilitarized Zone came under heavy fire as Marine positions between Dong Ha and Con Thien were pounded by North Vietnamese artillery. At the same time, more than 100 Americans were killed or wounded during heavy fighting along the DMZ. On May 17 and 18, the Con Thien base was shelled heavily. Dong Ha, Gio Linh, Cam Lo and Camp Carroll were also bombarded. On May 18, a force of 5,500 U.S. and South Vietnamese troops invaded the southeastern section of the DMZ and smashed a communist build up in the area and to deny the use of the zone as an infiltration route into South Vietnam. On May 19, the U.S. State Department said the offensive in the DMZ was "purely a defensive measure" against a "considerable buildup of North Vietnam troops." On May 21, the North Vietnamese government called the invasion of the zone "a brazen provocation" that "abolished the buffer character of the DMZ as provided by the Geneva agreements."

May 16
In 1745, a force which numbered about 4,200 men, all of them drawn from New England militia regiments, under the command of Gen. William Pepperrell of Maine, opened a brisk artillery bombardment against the French fortress of Louisbourg. In a siege operation that was 47 days before the garrison surrendered, the colonial Soldiers maintained a disciplined investment of the walled city and harbor. Built in the 1720s by the French to protect the entrance to the St. Lawrence River and French Canada, it was the largest fort anywhere in North America.

England and France had gone to war in 1741, and French privateers used Louisbourg's protected harbor as a base from which to prey on British and colonial fishing and merchant fleets. When colonial authorities asked England for royal navy assistance to stop the attacks no help was forthcoming. So, the colonial governments decided to launch their own expedition to take Louisbourg and stop the raids. Militiamen from Massachusetts (which also included the present-day state of Maine), Connecticut, Rhode Island and New Hampshire were gathered for the campaign. They were transported on 19 colonial ships, protected by 13-armed merchant ships. After the capitulation, the militia garrisoned the fort until war's end. Rightfully proud of their achievement the colonies were dismayed to learn that the fortress was returned to France in the peace treaty, which ended the war. In the next war, the French and Indian War from 1755-1763, it had to be recaptured, this time by regular British troops and ships.

May 17
In 1943, the Memphis Belle, one of a group of American bombers based in Britain, became the first B-17 to complete 25 missions over Europe. The Memphis Belle performed its 25th and last mission in a bombing raid against Lorient, a German submarine base. But before it returned home to the United States, film footage was shot of Belle's crew receiving combat medals. This was but one part of a longer documentary on a day in the life of an American bomber, which included dramatic footage of a bomber being shot out of the sky with most of its crew parachuting out one by one. Another film sequence showed a bomber returning to base with its tail fin missing. What looked like damage inflicted by the enemy, was in fact, the result of a collision with another American

bomber. The Memphis Belle documentary would not be released for another 11 months, as more footage was compiled to demonstrate the risks these pilots ran as they bombed “the enemy again and again and again—until he has had enough.” The film’s producer, Lt. Col. William Wyler, was known for such nonmilitary fare as “The Letter,” “Wuthering Heights” and “Jezebel.”

May 18
In 1863, Union Gen. Ulysses S. Grant surrounded Vicksburg, the last Confederate stronghold on the Mississippi River, in one of the most brilliant campaigns of the war. Beginning in the winter of 1862-63, Grant made several attempts to capture Vicksburg. In March, he marched his army down the west bank of the Mississippi, while Union Adm. David Porter's flotilla ran past the substantial batteries that protected the city. They met south of the city, and Grant crossed the river and entered Mississippi. He then moved north to approach Vicksburg from its more lightly defended eastern side. In May, he had to split his army to deal with a threat from Joseph Johnston's Rebels in Jackson, the state capital that lay 40 miles east of Vicksburg. After they defeated Johnston's forces, Grant moved toward Vicksburg. On May 16, Grant fought the Confederates under John C. Pemberton at Champion's Hill and defeated them decisively. He then attacked again at the Big Black River the next day, and Pemberton fled into Vicksburg while Grant followed close behind. The trap was now complete, and Pemberton was stuck in Vicksburg, although his forces would hold out until July 4. In the three weeks since Grant crossed the Mississippi in the campaign to capture Vicksburg, Grant's men marched 180 miles and won five battles. They took nearly 100 Confederate artillery pieces and nearly 6,000 prisoners, all with relatively light losses.

May 19
In 1776, during the American Revolutionary War a Continental Army garrison surrendered in the Battle of The Cedars. The Battle of The Cedars (French: Les Cèdres) was a series of military confrontations early in the American Revolutionary War during the Continental Army's invasion of Quebec that began in September 1775. The skirmishes, which involved limited combat, occurred in May 1776 at and around The Cedars, 45 kilometers (28 miles) west of Montreal. Continental Army units were opposed by a small number of British troops, which lead a larger force of Indians (primarily Iroquois), and militia. Brig. Gen. Benedict Arnold, commanding the American military garrison at Montreal, had placed a detachment of his troops at The Cedars in April 1776, after he received rumors of British and Indian military preparations to the west of Montreal. The garrison surrendered May 19 after a confrontation with a combined force of British and Indian troops led by Capt. George Forster. American reinforcements on their way to The Cedars were also captured after a brief skirmish May 20. All of the captives were eventually released after negotiations between Forster and Arnold, who brought a sizable force into the area. The terms of the agreement required the Americans to release an equal number of British prisoners. However, the deal was repudiated by Congress, and no British prisoners were freed. Col. Timothy Bedel and Lt. Isaac Butterfield, leaders of the American force at The Cedars, were court-martialed and cashiered from the Continental Army for their roles in the affair. After he distinguished himself as a volunteer, Bedel was given a new commission in 1777. News of the affair included greatly inflated reports of casualties.

and often included graphic but false accounts of atrocities committed by the Iroquois that made up the majority of the British forces.

May 20

In 1969, after 10 days and 10 bloody assaults, Hill 937 in South Vietnam was finally captured by U.S. and South Vietnamese troops. The Americans who fought there cynically dubbed Hill 937 “Hamburger Hill” because the battle and its high casualty rate reminded them of a meat grinder. Located 1 mile east of the Laotian border, Hill 937 was ordered taken as part of Operation Apache Snow, a mission intended to limit enemy infiltration from Laos that threatened Hue to the northeast and Danang to the southeast. On May 10, following air and artillery strikes, a U.S.-led infantry force launched its first assault on the North Vietnamese stronghold but suffered a high proportion of casualties and fell back. Ten more infantry assaults came during the next 10 days, but Hill 937’s North Vietnamese defenders did not give up their fortified position until May 20. Almost 100 Americans were killed and more than 400 wounded in taking the hill, which amounted to a shocking 70% casualty rate. The same day that Hamburger Hill was finally captured, Sen. Edward Kennedy of Massachusetts called the operation “senseless and irresponsible” and attacked the military tactics of President Richard Nixon’s administration. His speech before the Senate was seen as part of a growing public outcry over the U.S. military policy in Vietnam. U.S. military command had ordered Hill 937 taken primarily as a diversionary tactic, and May 28 it was abandoned. This led to further outrage in America over what seemed a senseless loss of American lives. North Vietnamese forces eventually returned and re-fortified their original position.



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VA offers eLearning opportunities for service members through Joint Knowledge Online (JKO). Access the VA Transition Assistance Program (TAP) Curriculum, VA Benefits and Services, as well as available Military Life Cycle (MLC) modules.

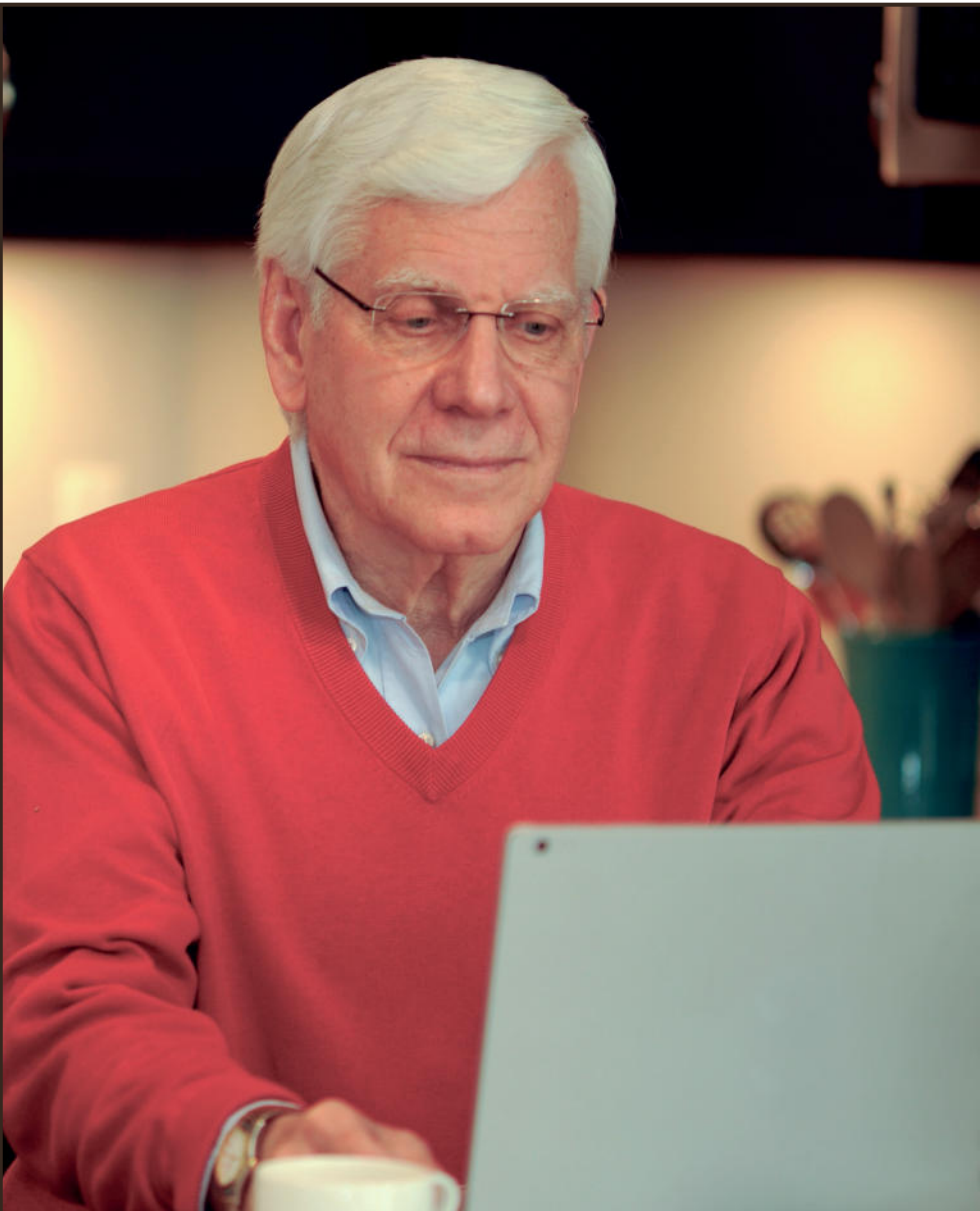
Download the Participant Guide to accompany the online VA Benefit and Services course at benefits.va.gov/TAP.



COURSE NAME	VA TAP CURRICULUM COURSE OVERVIEW	JKO COURSE NUMBER
VA BENEFITS AND SERVICES	Explains how to navigate your transition journey with VA benefits and services, including: supporting yourself and your family, getting career ready, finding a place to live, maintaining your health, and connecting with your community.	TGPS-US006
MLC MODULE NAME	MLC MODULE OVERVIEW	JKO COURSE NUMBER
VA EDUCATION BENEFITS	Provides information about Defense Department (DOD) and VA education benefits to include Post-9/11 benefits that may help service members pay for or offset the cost of tuition, housing, books, and supplies.	MLC-US013
VA BENEFITS 101	Highlights VA benefits and services to include education, home loan guaranty, health care, and insurance and memorial benefits.	MLC-US014
SOCIAL AND EMOTIONAL HEALTH RESOURCES	Describes services and provides information on resources for coping with life experiences and stressors that may impact social and emotional health.	MLC-US018
COMMUNITY INTEGRATION RESOURCES	Explains how to identify local services and community organizations that can provide assistance and aid to service members and their loved ones.	MLC-US020
VET CENTERS	Describes how to connect with local Vet Centers and how service members, Veterans, and their loved ones can use Vet Centers as a free resource.	MLC-US015
VA LIFE INSURANCE BENEFITS	Communicates the different types of VA life insurance benefits to help determine the best choice for service members and their loved ones based upon interests and needs.	MLC-US019
RESERVE COMPONENT DUAL PAYMENTS	Provides an overview on drill pay, compensation eligibility, and dual payment.	MLC-US022
SURVIVOR AND CASUALTY ASSISTANCE RESOURCES	Provides an overview on VA and DOD survivor benefits and eligibility, and what to do in the event of a loss.	MLC-US021

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News Notes

JBM-HH virtual town hall Thursday

JBM-HH hosts virtual town halls via Facebook once a week, with the next taking place Thursday. The town hall begins at 1 p.m. and will feature JBM-HH leaders and subject matter experts who will speak about what the installation is doing to mitigate the virus threat on base and among personnel.

Joining in this week’s town hall will be Maj. Gen. James E. Taylor, director of the Inter American Defense College at Fort McNair.

Individuals may submit questions in advance on the JBM-HH Facebook page in the event discussion or via email to usarmy.jbmhh.asa.list.pao-all@mail.mil. On the day of the virtual town hall, the live feed can be viewed at the Facebook event page <https://www.facebook.com/events/2382371725393244/>. Individuals do not need a Facebook account to view the town hall. Previous town halls can be viewed on the video section of the JBM-HH Facebook page.

Debts owed

Anyone with debts owed to or by the estate of Col. Michael Wayne Sharp, Reserve Integration Office, DIA, must contact Capt. Adam Disney, the summary court-martial officer for the Soldier. Sharp recently passed away April 29. Contact Disney at (606) 521-1392.

Anyone with debts owed to or by the estate of Pfc. Leonid D. Ciuffoli, Company H, 1st Battalion, 3d U.S. Infantry Regiment (The Old Guard), must contact 1st Lt. Ben Morgan, the summary court-martial officer for the Soldier. Ciuffoli recently passed away April 12. Contact Morgan at (443) 878-8697 or by email at benjamin.j.morgan21.mil@mail.mil.

Hire Vets Now

Virginia’s Hire Vets Now brings together transitioning service members, veterans, spouses and dedicated businesses to share in professional development and career networking. Transitioning service members, veterans and military spouses are invited to a virtual career and networking fair Tuesday from 2 to 5 p.m. For full details and registration, visit <https://hirevetsnow.easyvirtuallfair.com>. For questions, email c.miracle@vachamber.com.

Stress management refresher

Has “staying safe at home” been stressful? Check out the ACS Family Advocacy Program for stress management refresher.

The Joint Base Myer-Henderson Hall Family Advocacy Program has a new stress management video designed to help individuals with those very needs. Visit the video at the following link <https://youtu.be/x8x9dc3MYOw>.

Have questions or comments for the JBM-HH Family Advocacy Program? Feel free to contact the Army Community Service Family Advocacy Program at (703) 696-3512.

‘Safety Checks’ with Henderson Hall

Henderson Hall has released the latest issue of “Safety Checks” digital magazine online at http://www.mccshh.com/pdf/Safety_Checks_202005.pdf.

The issue includes information on how to stay safe outdoors during summertime activities. The recommendations include COVID-19 outdoor activity guidance for Marines and Families.

Free Red Cross course

The Red Cross is offering a free online course entitled “Mental Health First Aid for COVID-19.” The course is available online from the Red Cross at <https://www.redcross.org/take-a-class/classes/mental-health-first-aid-for-covid-19-online/a6R3o0000014ZlIg.html>.

Understanding dynamics of cyberbullying technology, youth

Join the Exceptional Family Member Program for a virtual workshop Wednesday from 10:30 a.m. to noon. During the interactive workshop presented by Tina Norris, participants will enter the world of technology and explore motivations, categories, warnings signs, and forms that online cyberbullying can take. Participants will learn tips and strategies to protect their children.

Norris is a skilled trainer in bullying prevention, puberty, and family engagement and brings years of experience working with children, adolescents, and families to her position as the family engagement specialist at PEATC.

To register, visit the Zoom registration site at https://zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_2B-KitxFR0-596F7tIukIw. A survey and certificate will be sent via email after the workshop. There is no charge to attend. Preregistration is required. This workshop is being offered for informational purposes only.

The term “cyberbullying” raises new challenges for not only parents and school administrators but also law enforcement to protect children from this widespread epidemic. Cyberbullying is different from “schoolyard” bullying.

Equal Employment Opportunity training

JBM-HH civilian employees are reminded that EEO Anti-Harassment and No Fear training is an annual requirement. Employees are allowed duty time to complete the training.

EEO-203A Army EEO, Anti-Harassment and No Fear training (for nonsupervisors only) <https://www.atrrs.army.mil/selfdevctr/catalog/course.aspx>.

EEO-203B EEO, Anti-Harassment and No Fear Training (for supervisors only) <https://www.atrrs.army.mil/selfdevctr/catalog/course.aspx>

Myer Exchange curbside pickup

The Fort Myer Exchange has four parking spaces designated for curbside pickup. Authorized patrons can place an order online at shopmyexchange.com and select to pick up their purchases in store.

Once the store processes the order, the customer will receive a phone call alert that the order is ready for pick up. Designated spaces are provided for curbside pickup. When parked, a customer can either call or text the phone number on the sign, which is (703) 472-7342 to let the Exchange know which numbered space the vehicle is parked at. Exchange employees will be able to walk to the vehicle and deliver the purchased items.

For more information, please visit https://www.facebook.com/pg/MyerExchange/posts/?ref=page_internal.

Myer Exchange extends refund policy

For military shoppers who need to make a return but are hesitant to visit the Fort Myer Exchange during the COVID-19 pandemic, the Army and Air Force Exchange Service is extending its return policy. All purchases made since March 16, are eligible for returns through July 1.

“While extensive preventive measures have been implemented at the Fort Myer Exchange to keep the military community safe, we understand that some shoppers may not feel comfortable going to a public place at this time,” said Exchange General Manager JoAnne Cahalan. “Extending the return window gives military shoppers peace of mind.”

The extended return policy applies only to items purchased in brick-and-mortar Exchanges. Since items ordered online can be mailed back, there is no extended return policy for online orders.

Capitol Deli curbside delivery, carry out

Capitol Deli has a new curbside delivery and carry-out option. Customers can now place and pay for orders over the phone. On the phone call, customers can indicate their desired curbside delivery or carry-out option. Customers can call (571) 483-1962 Monday to Friday from 10:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.

Warrant officer briefs

Virtual warrant officer briefs will be conducted on a weekly basis. Briefings will be conducted every first and third Wednesday of the month at 1 p.m. and the second and fourth Thursday of the month at 1 p.m. To access the brief, individuals must have CAC access. Visit <https://conference.apps.mil/webconf/gowarrantnowNCR> to sign in. For more information, please contact Chief Warrant Officer 3 Sara Sewall at sara.w.sewall.mil@mail.mil or Staff Sgt. Nicolas Cassano at Nicolas.j.cassano.mil@mail.mil.

mail.mil.

Virtual master classes open to all ages

The United States Army Band “Pershing’s Own” is offering free virtual master classes. Classes are available to students of all ages and levels. To apply for a virtual master class, visit <https://forms.gle/iXgm7vovYQnNosRj7>. There are limited spots available. Not all requests will be guaranteed a session, but the band will honor as many as personnel can support.

Connect with Arlington National Cemetery

While Arlington National Cemetery is closed to visitors, individuals can still experience its beauty and history from home.

Tour Arlington National Cemetery virtually at <https://www.arlingtoncemetery.mil/Blog/Post/10739/Experience-Arlington-National-Cemetery-from-Home>.

Highlights of the tour including the following:

- Take a virtual walk through the cemetery in springtime with the photo album “2020 Horticulture Highlights.” Learn more about the variety of plants and the work that goes into maintaining them.
- Learn about the cemetery’s origins and early history, as well as the people who previously called Arlington home.
- Check out the album “Gravesites of Interest” and explore how the variety of grave markers tell their own stories of the cemetery’s history.
- Learn about the services Arlington National Cemetery conducts for fallen service members and their Families by reading about the meaning behind the honors rendered at military funerals.
- If a person is interested in learning even more about the unique stories told at Arlington National Cemetery, check the blog post, “Nurses in the Spanish-American War,” which includes links to resources and lesson plans for students of all grade levels, as well as teachers, families and lifelong learners.

COVID Coach is here virtually

The U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs has created a free online app called COVID Coach. Information on obtaining the app can be found at https://www.ptsd.va.gov/appvid/mobile/COVID_coach_app.asp. COVID Coach was created for everyone, including veterans and service members, to support self-care and overall mental health during COVID-19. The free app is secure and helps connect individuals to important resources for coping and adapting during this time.

Civilian development opportunities

There are many opportunities for community members to grow as Army professionals. Catch this special video for Army civilians from workforce development specialist Kathy Feehan at <https://www.facebook.com/368408587073/videos/2845654492215496/>.

The Army Management Staff College Civilian Education System courses provide quality instruction and fulfill prerequisite requirements for some other centrally funded training, education, and professional development. To register for virtual CES courses, visit <https://www.atrrs.army.mil/channels/chrtas/student/logon.aspx>.

The 2020 Senior Enterprise Talent Management and Enterprise Talent Management Programs are accepting applications for training opportunities in 2020. The application window closes May 30, but applicants are still advised to consult their command for internal deadlines. Log into the SETM automated system online at <https://www.csldo.army.mil/> to apply for these great opportunities for permanent Army Civilians in grades 12 to 15 and pay band equivalents.

Individuals are reminded to wear face coverings

Individuals should remember to always have a cloth face covering with them in case they are in a situation where they cannot keep a distance of 6 feet between themselves and others. Cloth face coverings are required on all military installations, properties and facilities (except residences).





This family photo was taken just before Major Brent Taylor was killed in Afghanistan during his fourth tour of duty, leaving behind his wife, Jennie, and their seven young children.

This Memorial Day Will Be Bittersweet for the Taylor Family

It’s been more than a year, but the tears are still present in the Taylor family house. Jennie Taylor and her seven children mourn their beloved husband and father, National Guard Major Brent Taylor, U.S. Army, who was killed in Afghanistan on November 3, 2018.

But as this family heals, and remembers Major Taylor’s heroism, they have peace of mind knowing their family home is theirs forever.

That’s because the **Stephen Siller Tunnel to Towers Foundation** was able to provide Jennie and her children with a mortgage-free home — and a much-needed sense of stability.

Major Taylor’s life was service. After 9/11, he knew he had to do something. He enlisted in the Utah National Guard. When not serving with the National Guard, Major Taylor served his community as Mayor of North Ogden.

In early 2018, Major Taylor told his constituents about his call to serve his country “whenever and however” he could, and that “service is really what leadership is all about.”

He was in Afghanistan, on his fourth and final tour of duty, only 39 years old, when he made the ultimate sacrifice. The loss for his family and community has been felt ever since. But as Jennie recently said about the help the family received from Tunnel to Towers, “it’s been very comforting to know that we’re not mourning alone.”

For every family like the Taylors, there are so many more in need.

The organization’s contract with military members and first responders is simple: When you leave home and risk your life, knowing you may not make it back, Tunnel to Towers takes care of your families with a mortgage-free home. The charity ensures that these families don’t have to worry about covering basic concerns as they struggle to overcome grief.

The organization also helps our nation’s most catastrophically injured veterans reclaim their day-to-day independence through mortgage-free, specially adapted smart homes, with features designed for their specific injuries.

Tunnel to Towers was started when the Siller family lost their little brother, Stephen, on 9/11. Stephen was a Fire Department of New York City (FDNY) firefighter, and he loved keeping people safe. The four brothers in the family all had plans that Tuesday to catch up and play a long overdue round of golf. But when Stephen heard that one of the Twin Towers had been struck, he rushed to do his duty.



Major Brent Taylor believed in serving his country “whenever and however” he could.

When his path was blocked because the then Brooklyn Battery Tunnel was closed to vehicles, Stephen strapped 60 pounds of gear onto his back and ran on foot through the tunnel to the Twin Towers, where he gave up his life while saving others.

Stephen never saw his wife and five kids again. The whole family was shaken and heartbroken. Starting the **Stephen Siller Tunnel to Towers Foundation** was a way for the family to honor his sacrifice and pay homage to his brothers and sisters in service — first responders here in the U.S. and women and men protecting our country at home and abroad.

“When Tunnel to Towers paid off our mortgage, I felt such a sense of relief! We could stay in our home, where they’d made so many memories with their dad. Nothing can ever replace Brent in our lives, but their kindness has let us focus on healing instead of worrying about the future.”

Readers wishing to support the Stephen Siller Tunnel to Towers Foundation can help by using the envelope inserted in this publication, or by visiting www.tunnel2towers.org. Your gift will honor the sacrifices of our most catastrophically injured veterans, and our fallen U.S. military members and first responders with young children by assisting their families. Thank you for bringing help and hope to those who have sacrificed so much!

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