



Pentagram

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Joint base dining facility repair, renovation to begin in summer

By Catrina Francis
Pentagram Editor

There have been changes on how Joint Base Myer-Henderson Hall has conducted business during the COVID-19 pandemic. However, one thing that hasn't changed is making sure service members are fed.

When Gen. James McConville became the Army chief of staff, his command philosophy was simple — people first. Although the JBM-HH Dining Facility's repairs and renovations were already planned, the Army Installation Management Command and JBM-HH is holding to the philosophy of making sure people are first. The DFAC's projected renovation completion date is May 2022. The DFAC should be open to serve service members August 2022.

On Sept. 29, 2020 \$21.5 mil-

lion design build contract was awarded to repair and renovate the dining facility. The lead for the contract is the Baltimore District of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. The contractor that will be responsible for the renovation is

Grunley Construction Company, Inc.

The goal of this project is to transform Bldg. 404 into a premiere dining facility and administra-



The outside sign of the JBM-HH Dining Facility.

Photo by Sgt. 1st Class Timothy Leaks

tive space that is a source of pride for the Army, explained

See DFAC, page 9

Digital Garrison: here to serve community

By Emily Mihalik
JBM-HH Public Affairs Specialist

People who have yet to download the Digital Garrison app are missing an invaluable joint base resource. From weather and safety updates to the latest information on services and operations, the Digital Garrison app keeps the community informed.

Installation Management Command's Commanding General Lt. Gen. Doug Gabram said that while Digital Garrison was created for the Army, anyone who enters Joint Base Myer-Henderson Hall might benefit from the readiness tool. "Digital Garrison delivers valuable information to everyone in the Army community — Soldiers for Life, Family Members, civilian partners and others," Gabram said. "Capabilities like push notifications, announcements, and real-time gate notifications keep you connected to what's going on in your community. Download the free app today by searching for Digital Garrison in your app store."

If people already follow JBM-HH communications, why download another app? This app is different from other joint base resources, said Emily Myers, JBM-HH digital media manager. "The app is a one-stop shop for Soldiers and their Families to find information about installation facilities and services," said Myers.

Myers said the app is a unique collaboration of service providers to streamline communications for the customer.

"Digital Garrison is a partnership between the U.S. Army and the Army and Air Force Exchange Service. The app is a centralized information source for Army communities, and

Installation management officer Keisha Scott confirmed that joint base employees are approved to download the Digital Garrison app on a government issued cellphone. To download, employees must recall the password created when setting up their phone's Apple ID. The IMO cannot issue passwords.

In addition to delivering critical alerts, it is the on the go convenience that makes the app so valuable said Ocie Jacobs, JBM-HH directorate of Family and Morale, Welfare and Recreation marketing manager.

"Digital Garrison is a tool we think our community has been waiting (for)" said Jacobs. "More and more we find ourselves on the move and doing things away from our desktop computers. Digital Garrison keeps all installation news, information, and up-

dates confined to one app on a mobile device." Jacobs said that having the app makes joint base resources more accessible than ever before. "(With Digital Garrison) it's impossible not to have the information you need at your fingertips ... use it once and you'll see how valuable it is."

CONNECT WITH YOUR COMMUNITY

DIGITAL GARRISON

Get your installation services and post information on the **NEW** Digital Garrison app on your smartphone or tablet.

POWERED BY

staying connected as a community is key to readiness and resiliency," said Myers. The app can be found in Apple and Google Play stores by searching for Digital Garrison. Once the app is downloaded, people have the option to create their own personalized account and set preferences for notifications and alerts.

Updates to SHARP expedited transfer policy to reinforce 'people first' efforts

By Devon Suits
Army News Service

The Army plans to roll out new training in support of the expedited transfer policy that provides streamlined and necessary support to Soldiers and adult dependents who are victims of sexual assault.

Under the policy, sexual assault victims can request a move to a new unit or installation if their current environment is affecting their

safety or emotional well-being or the command's ability to function, said Jill Londagin, director of the Sexual Harassment/Assault Response and Prevention program.

Secretary of the Army Ryan D. McCarthy recently directed all senior commanders to complete additional expedited transfer training no later than March 31. The secretary also mandated improved case management training for all SHARP personnel.

Due to COVID-19 restrictions, SHARP officials will release the new training virtually in the coming weeks.

Guidance under the 2019 National Defense Authorization Act followed by a memorandum from the undersecretary of defense in early 2020 expanded the policy and provided additional guidance for victim support, Londagin said Jan. 7.

The move identified a critical list of responsibilities for all losing and gaining commanders and SHARP personnel to ensure that Soldiers and adult dependents have the best chance for success during their recovery process, Londagin added.

The Army also released an all Army activi-

ties message in November to provide additional SHARP program guidance related to the transfer policy, she said.

Information about the expedited transfer policy will soon be available to all Soldiers as part of the Army SHARP annual refresher training requirement, Londagin said.

Under the policy, sexual assault response coordinators must provide victims' advocacy support, facilitate appointments with behavioral health and medical professionals and con-

fer and gives SHARP personnel additional time to line up adequate support.

"All expedited transfers are reviewed on a case-by-case basis," Londagin said. "There are cases when a Soldier has a pending (Uniform Code of Military Justice), medical or administrative action that a command has to consider before they grant an expedited transfer request."

Londagin acknowledged the expedited transfer process could create a potential issue

in low-density career fields or vacate a duty position critical to mission accomplishment. However, she said the Army and SHARP program must continue to put people first by prioritizing the individual's needs over mission requirements. Once an individual is approved for transfer, the losing brigade commander must ensure a proper handoff before transferring the individual to their gaining unit. The gaining commander will receive information about the individual's condition, including a list of scheduled medical or behavioral health appointments, ongoing legal actions, and other personnel-related details if applicable. Soldiers who want more information about the expedited transfer process can review ALARACT 95-2020 and Army Regulations 614-

100 and 614-200 on the Army Publishing Directorate website. Personnel can also request information by contacting the Army Human Resources Command Service Center at (800) 582-5552.

"People are the Army's top priority," Londagin said. "This policy reinforces the Army's commitment to eliminate sexual assault and sexual harassment from our formations. Acting on a Soldier's request for expedited transfer is an important component of a leader's response in supporting victims of sexual assault."



Graphic by U.S. Army Sexual Harassment/Assault Response and Prevention program

The Army has rolled out new training in support of an expedited transfer policy that provides reliable and necessary support to Soldiers and adult dependents who are victims of sexual assault. Under the policy, sexual assault victims can request a move to a new unit or installation if their current environment is affecting their safety or emotional well-being or the command's ability to function.

nect an individual with advocacy or legal services. SARCs will also conduct a series of non-clinical safety assessments to ensure an individual's well-being throughout the process.

Brigade commanders are responsible for tracking all expedited transfers and have the authority to approve or disapprove a request, Londagin said.

Recent provisions to the 2021 NDAA amended the time for an expedited transfer decision from 72 hours to five calendar days, she added. This change offers victims more time to make a decision if they want to request a trans-

HELP PREVENT THE SPREAD OF COVID-19 AND RESPIRATORY VIRUSES!

WASH YOUR HANDS OFTEN AND WITH SOAP AND WATER

for at least 20 seconds. Use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer if soap and water are not available.

STAY HOME IF YOU ARE SICK.

COVER YOUR COUGH OR SNEEZE WITH A TISSUE

then throw the tissue in the trash. Follow with hand washing or sanitizing. If you don't have tissue, cough or sneeze into your upper sleeve, not your hands.

AVOID CLOSE CONTACT

with people who are sick.

CLEAN AND DISINFECT

frequently touched objects and surfaces, such as cell phones, keyboards and doorknobs.

MASKS ARE REQUIRED

because yours helps protect your neighbor and theirs helps to protect you. Masks also help you avoid touching your eyes, nose and mouth with unwashed hands.

Pentagram



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Fife and Drum Corps prepares for presidential inauguration



Photos by Sgt. Gabriel Silva

Soldiers assigned to the United States Army Fife and Drum Corps, 4th Battalion, 3d U.S. Infantry Regiment (The Old Guard) conduct rehearsal for the 59th Presidential Inauguration on Joint Base Myer-Henderson Hall Jan. 6. The Old Guard has marched as the official “Escort to the President” since the 1953 inaugural parade of President Dwight Eisenhower after President Harry Truman designated them the title in 1952.



DOD office works to prevent trafficking in persons

By DOD News

A little known Defense Department office is working to ensure the fair treatment of workers by employees and contractors in countries all over the world.

The Combating Trafficking in Persons program management office is tasked with ensuring that U.S. taxpayer dollars do not contribute to trafficking in persons. As the largest single purchaser of goods and services in the world, the United States has long had a zero-tolerance policy regarding government employees and contractor personnel engaging in any form of trafficking in persons. In 2006, the DOD established the CTIP program management office with a dedicated program manager.

CTIP program managers in Afghanistan have helped thousands of workers since 2014. Recently, a worker wrote to express gratitude for the program manager's help collecting pay that was owed him and fellow workers for time they spent in COVID-19 quarantine.

"I don't have enough words in my vocabulary to thank you appropriately," he wrote. "Money is important to all of us, but it will not last forever but the soothing feeling you get once you realize that you have been recognized and the justice has been served will last forever in our lives. Thank you so much for everything."

The program manager said the incident — and outcome — are the reasons CTIP exists.

CTIP Program Managers

What does the CTIP program manager do? On any given day, the program manager might be updating policies and training requirements; answering inquiries from Congress, the DOD inspector general or the Government Accountability Office; and collaborating with other federal agencies in the fight against people trafficking.

In some ways, program managers deployed on overseas bases are ombudsmen for the thousands of workers employed by the U.S. government through private contractors or subcontractors. Their duties include:

- Performing audits of "other country nationals" to ensure adequate working and housing conditions.
- Training personnel about the laws, regulations and policies on

- trafficking in persons.
- Interviewing workers to ensure no force, fraud or coercion is taking place and that OCNs are being treated well and paid for their work.

- Troubleshooting worker problems.
- Providing information and training so that contractors understand not to purchase sex or engage in other forms of sex trafficking prohibited by the Federal Acquisition Regulation.

To deter trafficking in persons from taking place through DOD contracts, the program manager must also gain the trust of the workers and develop a working relationship with contracting officers, contracting officer representatives, contractors, subcontractors and other relevant parties.

CTIP Self-Assessment Report

The CTIP program manager is charged with issuing the DOD Self-Assessment Report on Combating Trafficking in Persons annually to assess CTIP efforts by the department's various components. The report includes details of violations of the federal laws, rules and regulations on traffick-

ing in persons. In part, annual reporting helps contracting officers hold contractors and subcontractors accountable for abiding by federal acquisition regulations pertaining to combating trafficking in persons.

The CTIP program manager is working every day to help DOD personnel and U.S. government contractors and subcontractors fully comply with antitrafficking

laws and policies. Compliance with TIP laws and regulations ensures that workers are protected from sex and labor exploitation. It also ensures that vulnerable workers can perform vital services and manufacture goods procured by the United States; promotes economy and efficiency in government procurement; and increases stability and productivity in federal contracting.



The Department of Defense has **2.87** million Service members and civilians serving in more than **160** countries around the world.

DoD trains its military members and civilian personnel to recognize the signs and indicators of trafficking in persons and how to report it.

The three main types of trafficking DoD personnel may encounter around the world are sex trafficking, labor trafficking, and child soldiering.

This map reflects the Department of State's 2020 Tier rating for the countries in the Geographic Combatant Commands.



 Tier 1
Countries whose governments fully meet the TVPA's minimum standards for the elimination of trafficking.

 Tier 2
Countries whose governments do not fully meet the TVPA's minimum standards but are making significant efforts to bring themselves into compliance with those standards.

 Tier 2 Watch List
Countries whose governments do not fully meet the TVPA's minimum standards but are making significant efforts to bring themselves into compliance with those standards, and for which:
a) The estimated number of victims of severe forms of trafficking is very significant or is significantly increasing and the country is not taking proportional concrete actions;
b) There is a failure to provide evidence of increasing efforts to combat severe forms of trafficking in persons from the previous year, including increased investigations, prosecution, and convictions of trafficking crimes.

 Tier 3
Countries whose governments do not fully meet the TVPA's minimum standards and are not making significant efforts to do so.

 Special Cases
There are 3 special cases, Libya, Somalia, and Yemen. There is no category description of special cases, there are lengthy explanations for each in the TIP Report.



<https://www.state.gov/trafficking-in-persons-report/>



Commentary

What would MLK think about today's climate?

By Catrina Francis
Pentagram Editor

Had Martin Luther King Jr., survived the assassin's bullet April 4, 1968, he would have celebrated his 92nd birthday Friday. I've often wondered if he had lived what would he think about America's post-Civil Rights Movement and his "dream."

Would he believe that his dream had come to fruition? On the other hand, would he believe that his dream has become a nightmare?

In many aspects, MLK's dream has come to fruition and he was able to see some of that before his death. Although he saw the passage of the Civil Rights Act in 1964 and the Voting Rights Act in 1965, King never had an opportunity to experience the rights that are guaranteed in the Constitution. Prior to his death, King's ideology had shifted from civil rights and he began the "Poor People's Campaign." In November 1967, King and the Southern Christian Leadership Conference organized the campaign, which would address issues of economic justice and housing for the poor in the U.S.

The campaign's aim was the rebuilding of America's cities. It wasn't aimed at poor African Americans; it addressed all poor people.

While waging this campaign, King realized that he was fighting an uphill battle with Congress, as its focus was the military because our country was fighting the war in Vietnam. King was a very vocal, critical and against the country being in this war.

I remember taking a Black History class as a sophomore in high school, which was before King's birthday was named a federal holiday, and I recall my teacher saying the best thing that happened to King was his assassination. I was a bit baffled as to why my teacher would utter such nonsense. He went on to explain what he meant.

He believed King was entering a time in his life where he was possibly becoming irrelevant. He had established the Poor People's Campaign and at the time of his death, he was in Memphis for the city's African-American sanitation workers who were seeking higher wages and better treatment.

I had to take a moment and think about that statement. Had King become irrelevant? If he were, I don't believe he would have remained irrelevant. I believe he would have been even more

events in the last year, I think King would be on the front lines marching and protesting. However, I think the protests would be quite different. King would no longer say let's hold hands and sing "We Shall Overcome." I be-



The MLK monument in Washington, D.C.

Photo by Catrina Francis

vocal about the war in Vietnam and some of the civil unrest in the country.

Although King believed, change would come about through nonviolent means; groups such as the Black Panthers (although formed before King died) came to prominence after his death. I believe King would have attempted to work with the members and show them nonviolence does work. Who knows, maybe he would have joined them. Maybe he wouldn't have adopted all the tenets of the group's ideology, but I believe he would have had a better understanding.

When I think about the nation's

believe the message would be stronger. I don't know what he would say but I do think his rhetoric would be stronger because he would see how things really haven't progressed at the rate he wanted.

We've progressed but there has also been so much failure and this would make part of his dream a nightmare.

Although African Americans are 13.2% of the U.S. population, they make up 23.8% of those who live in poverty, according to the Census Bureau. I don't believe King would be happy with those numbers. These numbers show his People's Campaign was a failure. I also believe he would be sad-

dened by the soaring crime rate in our urban areas and the high drop-out rate among African-American males, which is almost 3% higher than African-American females.

King wouldn't understand how a generation who benefitted from equal education could fail so miserably. The generations after segregation never experienced separate but equal. They all had the benefit of receiving the same education of their counterparts. I also believe he wouldn't be able to understand these numbers because he grew up during a time of segregation, yet he graduated with a doctorate from Boston University.

His thinking might have been 'if I can struggle and become educated under some of the harshest conditions, why can't these young people get it together to graduate high school and college?' Nevertheless, it's not the same. King would likely realize that there is a direct correlation between poverty and crime, which affects education.

I know I'm included in the generation who had it much easier than our parents did. I never experienced segregated schools, but my parents, who were born and raised in the South, Mississippi to be more precise, know all too well the meaning of separate but equal. Because of this, I was told that with each generation there shall be improvement. My mother and grandfather stressed education. My grandfather believed in King's dream. In addition, he knew that dream would happen if his grandchildren were educated.

I must admit I haven't always believed and followed King's ideology, but as I've gotten older, I've been able to look at the big picture and understand what King meant when he said, "Through violence you may murder the hater, but you do not murder hate. In fact, violence merely increases hate. So it goes. Returning violence for violence multiplies violence, adding deeper darkness to a night already devoid of stars. Darkness cannot drive out darkness: only light can do that. Hate cannot drive out hate: only love can do that."

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SLOW THE SPREAD OF COVID-19 [cdc.gov/coronavirus](https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus)



Wear a cloth face covering
in public spaces



Stay at least 6 feet
from other people



Frequently wash
your hands

Shotgun anger

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

Last fall, my son and I went up into the foothills on public land to shoot some of my guns. He wanted to try my goose gun, which is powerful. We had a good time putting up cardboard boxes on a hillside and watch the pattern of the shots, which was broad. With a shotgun, you just point it in the general direction and most likely will hit the target by some of the shot, but some surrounding area are hit that you weren't aiming for. Wood and pinecones flew about around the target.

A friend of mine, Dr. Robert Wicks who sends out an article via Facebook that I subscribe to, used the term in one of his articles

about "shotgun anger" in describing those who in moments of anger, frustration or judgementalism responds to others in a blast of angry words and sometimes actions. These shotgun anger moments aptly describe how their words and actions projects on a wider area sometimes hitting those innocently standing nearby.

I must be truthful. In the emotion and frustration, my anger projects out and touches co-workers, family, friends and even strangers. I hold on to this anger and it projects out in a hard look, normal conversation with a bite, and even how I act, such as loud silence or slamming a book shut. Sometimes, the anger isn't against another but over life issues building up in myself. People around me know I am angry one way or another. They felt the blast



on the fringe.

Everyone gets angry. It's a part of our emotional responses. It is what you do with it that makes the difference on whether it be destructive or motivational. Of course, you know this. You've seen your anger in action. It has motivated you to take a stand or do something to make a positive difference. On the other hand, it

can hurt and destroy relationships. To take control and allow it to "hit the target" in a positive way is what we strive for. Beware, though, that to shotgun it out without regard of the consequences, will destroy and hurt.

As Thomas Jefferson is quoted in saying, "When angry, count to 10 before you speak; if very angry, count to a 100."

The RSO now streams the following Sunday services via the JBMHH Religious Support Facebook page:

8:30 a.m. Catholic Mass

10:30 a.m. General Protestant

12:30 p.m. Gospel Service.

Fort Myer | Fort Belvoir | Fort Meade
Education Centers

**SORRY,
WE ARE
CLOSED.**

IN RECOGNITION OF MLK DAY AND
INAUGURATION CLOSINGS, OUR
OFFICES ARE CLOSED ON 18 JAN &
20 JAN.

Who Gets a COVID-19 Vaccination **FIRST?**

Health Care Providers, Health Care Support, Emergency and Safety Personnel

- PHASE 1A**
Emergency room, urgent care centers, and first responders (i.e., police, search and rescue, and fire personnel, other inpatient and outpatient health care and support personnel as identified by their institution)
- Sub-tier 1** ☒ **PHASE 1**
We Are Here
- Sub-tier 2** ☒ Health care and support personnel at military treatment facilities and clinics, along with other non-clinical staff authorized to receive vaccine from DoD, who support patient care with a high risk of exposure or potential to interface with COVID-19 positive cases
- Sub-tier 3** ☒ National Guard and Reserve personnel and active duty service members supporting COVID-19 response operations
- PHASE 1B.1**
☒ National critical capabilities (strategic and nuclear deterrence forces, homeland defense)
- PHASE 1B.2**
☒ Personnel preparing to deploy to locations outside of the continental U.S. (OCONUS)
- ☒ Personnel preparing to deploy within the next three months, including military civilian and contractors authorized to receive immunization from the DoD
- PHASE 1B.3**
☒ Critical and essential support personnel and other hospital non-clinical staff authorized to receive vaccine with a high risk of exposure and potential to interface with COVID-19 positive cases
- ☒ DoD education activity child and youth services personnel and food handlers on installations

High Risk TRICARE Beneficiaries

- ☒ High risk beneficiaries are defined by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and nursing homes and others in congregate settings to be prioritized concurrently with Phase 1B
- ☒ This category includes beneficiaries who are over 65 years of age, and/or who may have:
- Cancer
 - Chronic kidney disease
 - COPD
 - Heart condition such as heart failure, coronary artery disease, or cardiomyopathies
 - Immunocompromised state from solid organ transplant
 - Obesity or severe obesity (BMI greater or equal to 30kgs)
 - Pregnancy
 - Sickle cell disease
 - Trouble quitting smoking
 - Type 2 diabetes

The Healthy Population

- ☒ Healthy uniform personnel, other TRICARE beneficiaries, and those not otherwise mentioned above

Source: DoD Population Schema
<https://www.defense.gov/portals/1/spotlight/2020/coronavirus/vaccine-availability/SCHEMA.pdf>





UPDATE

Virtual play morning

On Thursdays, Jan. 7 through 28 from 10 to 10:30 a.m. virtual play morning will be held virtually on Webex. For more information and to register, call (703) 859-4891 or (703) 614-7208. Join the JBM-HH New Parent Support Program every Thursday morning for sing-along

-songs and story time for preschool children up to 5 years old.

Baby bundles

Baby bundles, which is available by request, prepares the home and relationship for the changes that are needed when the baby arrives. A brief overview of the

labor and delivery process, newborn care and baby proofing the home will be discussed. Individuals will receive a gift bag of free baby care and safety items. Registration is required. For more information or to request training, call (571) 550-9052.

ACS Service YouTube channel

JBM-HH Army Community Service has announced a newly created YouTube channel that provides classes and information videos, all under 30 minutes, to assist participants on topics such as stress management and

marriage enrichment. To see the videos, visit the YouTube site at <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCnTcK-DomPZeXmvnYddOIQkg>. and click “Subscribe” and continue to receive resources available whenever.

JBM-HH MLK 2021 operational hours

Facility Name	Hours of Operation Monday, Jan. 18
JBM-HH Commissary	8 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.
JBM-HH Express (Myer)	8 a.m. to 6 p.m.
Panda Express (Myer)	10 a.m. to 4 p.m.
Precision Tune (Myer)	8 a.m. to 4 p.m.
Marine Corps Exchange and Vineyard	10 a.m. to 6 p.m.
Barbershop (HH)	11 a.m. to 3 p.m.
Dining Facility	<u>Breakfast</u> 6:30 to 8:30 a.m. <u>Lunch</u> 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. <u>Dinner</u> 4:30 to 6 p.m.



Services not listed are **closed**, including the Exchange main store and Rader Clinic (closure to include in person, virtual services and COVID-19 testing.) Call prior to visiting services not listed.

For more information and the latest updates to operational hours and services on MLK day, please visit the joint base Facebook page at www.facebook.com/jbmhh and the joint base website at home.army.mil/jbmhh.

Inauguration 2021

In observance of the presidential inauguration JBM-HH will hold holiday operational hours Jan. 20.

Facility Name	Wednesday, Jan. 20 Hours of Operation
JBM-HH Commissary	8 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.
JBM-HH Express (Myer)	8 a.m. to 6 p.m.
JBM-HH Express (McNair)	10 a.m. to 5 p.m.
Panda Express (Myer)	10 a.m. to 4 p.m.
Precision Tune (Myer)	8 a.m. to 4 p.m.
Marine Corps Exchange and Vineyard	10 a.m. to 6 p.m.
HH Barbershop	11 a.m. to 3 p.m.
Dining Facility	<u>Breakfast</u> 6:30 to 8:30 a.m. <u>Lunch</u> 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. <u>Dinner</u> 4:30 to 6 p.m.

Services not listed are **closed**, including the Exchange main store and Rader Clinic (closure to include in person, virtual services and COVID-19 testing.) Call prior to visiting services not listed.

For more information and the latest updates to services visit the JBM-HH Facebook page at www.facebook.com/jbmhh

States can accelerate vaccinations by broadening recipient pool

By C. Todd Lopez
DOD News

Uptake of newly available COVID-19 vaccines from Pfizer and Moderna has not been as fast in some places as expected. State governors have been encouraged to expedite uptake, if needed, by expanding eligibility for those vaccines to ensure that no vaccine goes wasted.

“States can ... accelerate vaccine administration by moving on to providing vaccinations to broader populations right now,” Alex M. Azar, the secretary of Health and Human Services, said during an Operation Warp Speed briefing Jan. 6. “There is no reason that states need to complete, say, vaccinating all health care providers before opening up vaccinations to older Americans or other especially vulnerable populations.”

Azar said how vaccines are delivered to Americans is entirely up to the states — not the federal government. Bearing that in mind, he said, it’s more important now to get the vaccine into arms quickly, to save lives, than it is to keep it locked up until Americans in the right candidate pools step up to get their shot.

While the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices have made recommendations about who should get the vaccines first — health care workers are high on that list — Azar reiterated that they are just recommendations.

“They should never stand in the way of getting shots in arms, instead of keeping vaccines in the freezer, or even, heaven forbid, wasting a dose of vaccine in a vial,” Azar said. “It’s more important to vaccinate. I have encouraged our governors, and I will continue to do so, that if they are using all of the vaccine, that is ... allocated, ordered, distributed, shipped — and they’re getting it into health care provider’s arms, every bit of it, that’s great. But if for some reason their distribution is struggling, and they’re having vaccines sit in freezers, then by

all means you ought to be opening up to people ... 65 and over. You ought to be making sure that the nursing home patients are getting vaccinated.”

Azar said, will be with the early launch of the federal “Pharmacy Partnership” program, which will eventually cover more than 40,000 pharmacy locations within 19 pharmacy chains

and associations across the U.S. “This partnership allows states to allocate vaccines directly to these partners and these partners can then administer vaccines to particular groups, like those over a certain age or in certain occupations, and eventually to the general public,” Azar said. “To

help give states as many options as possible for vaccine administration, we’re launching the program this week and states can choose particular partners to send vaccines to now.”

Those partners can then provide easier access to vaccines in settings that might be more convenient and efficient to Americans, Azar said.

OWS is a partnership between the Defense Department and the Department of Health and Human Services. Specific DHS components involved include the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, the Food and Drug Administration, the National Institutes of Health and the Biomedical Advanced Research and Development Authority.



Photo by Lisa Ferdinando
Navy Seaman Milan Torres, a hospitalman, and Spc. Angel Laureano prepare a dose of the COVID-19 vaccine to be administered to a patient at Walter Reed National Military Medical Center at Bethesda, Maryland, Dec. 14, 2020.

Gen. Gustave F. Perna, the chief operating officer of Operation Warp Speed, said right now, OWS is focused on ensuring that states have the vaccine they need when they need it.

“Nearly 20 million doses of vaccine (have been) already delivered,” Perna said. “We have delivered that to over 13,000 different locations throughout the United States ... simultaneously, fair and equitable distribution of vaccines so that everybody has the opportunity to distribute simultaneously to the American people. I would tell you that it’s going very well and our goal is to maintain the steady drumbeat so that the states have a cadence of allocation, planning and then the appropriate distribution to the right places, as designated.”

Another way to speed up vaccine delivery,

TOG Soldiers conduct physical training assessment



Photo by Spc. Laura Stephens
Soldiers assigned to the 3d U.S. Infantry Regiment (The Old Guard) conduct physical exercises during an assessment on Joint Base Myer-Henderson Hall Jan. 7.

SAFETY STARTS WITH YOU

What can you do to keep yourself and others safe?

JBM-HH Guidelines for reporting injury or illness

Your safety is our priority!
Please report accidents or injuries to the JBM-HH Installation Safety Office by phone at (703) 696-0828 or by email at: usarmy.jbmhh.asa.mbx.iso@mail.mil

What is a work-related injury or illness?

An injury or illness must be considered a work-related event or exposure if the work environment either **caused or contributed to the resulting condition, or the event significantly aggravated a preexisting injury or illness.**

When to report an accident or incident:

The Occupational Safety and Health Administration and Army Regulation AR 385-10 requires organizational leaders to report any unplanned event, accident or illness, of military and DA civilian personnel (AF and NAF) to the Installation Safety Office that results in:

- Death (Class A)
- Days away from work (Class B/C)
- Restricted work or job transfer (Class C)
- Medical treatment beyond first aid (Class D)
- Loss of consciousness (Class C)
- Any significant injury or illness diagnosed by a physician or other health care provider (Class D or higher)
- Property damage greater than \$5,000 (Class E or higher)

Accident Notification and Reporting:

Personnel involved in or aware of an accident, injury or illness **must report it immediately to the supervisor or person directly responsible** for the operation, material, or person involved.

Supervisors or leaders will report an accident, injury or illness to the JBM-HH Installation Safety Office within one hour of being notified of the event or immediately after it is safe to do so.

The Installation Safety Office is required to capture all reported, work-related events on the organization's OSHA 300 log within seven working days of being notified of the event. All Army Class A, B and C incidents must be reported immediately to the U.S Army Combat Readiness Center for both military and civilian personnel.

If the event results in the death of a civilian employee, the organization must report the fatality to OSHA within eight hours of the event taking place for civilian personnel.

If the event results in the in-patient hospitalization of one or more employees, an amputation, or loss of an eye, the organization must report the event to OSHA within 24 hours of the event taking place.

How to report a work-related injury or illness:

Immediate or initial notification of a work-related injury, illness, or Army accident can be made by phone or email to the ISO. If the event triggers a Commander's Critical Incident Report, all notifications shall also be made per CCIR notification and reporting requirements in addition to reporting the event to the ISO.

The Army Ground Accident Report: Shall be used to report all recordable military and Army civilian incidents. A fillable AGAR Form can be at: <https://armypubs.army.mil/ProductMaps/PubForm/DAForm.aspx>

All AGARs shall be completed by the supervisor of the impacted employee and submitted to the ISO within seven working days from the date the incident occurred.

Federal Employee's Compensation Act:

All Federal employees or contractors who have sustained a work-related injury or illness should file a claim for benefits if eligible based on employment status.

Appropriated Fund Employees can directly file under the FECA Employee Compensation Operations and Management Portal. Once an employee has filed a claim, their supervisor will be notified directly by the ECOMP portal. Employees are required to report all incidents regardless of a claim being filed.

Non-Appropriated Fund Employees can file under the Contract Claims Services, Inc. website. NAF employees are also required to notify their supervisor in the event of an incident. Management will collect employee information and file a claim for the employee through the CCSI website.

AF: WWW.ECOMP.DOL.GOV / NAF: WWW.CCSAPPS.COM

Army Accident and incident Classification:

An Army accident is defined as an unplanned event, or series of events, which results in one or more of the following:

- Occupational Illness to Army military or DA civilian personnel
- Injury to Army military on or off duty
- Damage to Army property
- Damage to public or private property and/or injury or illness to non-Army personnel caused by Army operations.

Accident classes are used to determine the appropriate notification, depth of investigation and reporting procedures. Army accident classifications are as follows:

Class A

- An injury or occupational illness which results in a fatality or permanent disability.
- An Army aircraft is destroyed, missing, or abandoned
- Property damage resulting in \$2 million or more

Class B

- When one or more personnel are hospitalized as in patient as a result of a single occurrence.
- An injury or illness the results in a permanent partial disability
- Property damage resulting in \$500,000 to less than \$2 million.

Class C

- An injury or illness that results in a temporary disability of any kind and/or is a days away from work case.
- Property damage resulting in \$50,000 to less than \$500,000.

Class D

- An injury meeting the requirements of an OSHA recordable case that does not result in death, disability or days away from work.
- Property damage resulting in \$20,000 to less than \$50,000.

Class E

Property damage resulting from a ground accident of \$5,000 to less than \$20,000

COVID-19 OSHA- Recordable:

If an employee has contracted COVID-19 the employer must make "reasonable" efforts to take into account all available evidence to determine if the illness was contracted at work.

- Employers should do ask the employee how they think they contracted the COVID-19 illness, discuss the out-of-work activities, and review the employees work environment for potential exposure.
- Evidence in the work area that the employee contracted the illness at work-
 - Confirmed close contact with a positive or potentially positive COVID-19 case while at work.
 - Lengthy and frequent exposure to the general public with ongoing community transmission
- Evidence that the employee did NOT contract the illness at work
 - The employee has had close contact with someone who (1) has COVID-19; (2) is not a coworker, and (3) exposes the employee during the period in which the individual is likely infectious.
 - Is the only employee to contract COVID-19 in their vicinity and the job duties do not include having frequent contact with the general public, regardless of the rate of community spread?

If, after the reasonable and good faith inquiry described above, the employer cannot determine whether it is more likely than not that exposure in the workplace played a causal role with respect to a particular case of COVID-19, the employer does not need to record that COVID-19 illness.

TH:NK SAFETY

DFAC, from page 1

Maj. Kurt Gerfen, the special project officer/Engineer Division deputy for JBM-HH's Directorate of Public Works. Special Projects Officer/Engineering Division Deputy

"The maintenance and repair of Bldg. 404 will serve to provide a fully renovated medium size, 352 minimum patron seating, dining facility and culinary training center for the Military Enlisted Aide Training Program as well as improved administrative and storage spaces for the Soldier For Life- Transition Assistance Program and the U.S. Army Band organizations," said Gerfen. "The intent of the repairs is to upgrade and modernize the overall dining facility, improve the quality of the office environment and create a culinary teaching environment that is conducive to the Soldiers and civilians served within this facility."

The various renovations have resulted in an inefficient layout that does not satisfy current building codes and standards for all three-user spaces; the dining facility is oversized and the admin and storage areas are undersized, said Christopher Finchman, a public affairs specialist at USACE. "To meet current criteria, the DFAC will be reduced in size and admin spaces will be increased. The kitchen, general storage, staff toilet rooms/locker rooms, and mechanical spaces would receive the greatest reduction in size, mainly due to the modernization of the food service equipment used to provide these services."

Sgt. 1st Class Timothy Leaks, the dining facility manager, said having the repairs and renovations

done will help tremendously because the facility is outdated.

With the renovation and repair to include the new equipment, it will turn the DFAC into a state of the art facility," said Leaks. "Ultimately, the development of

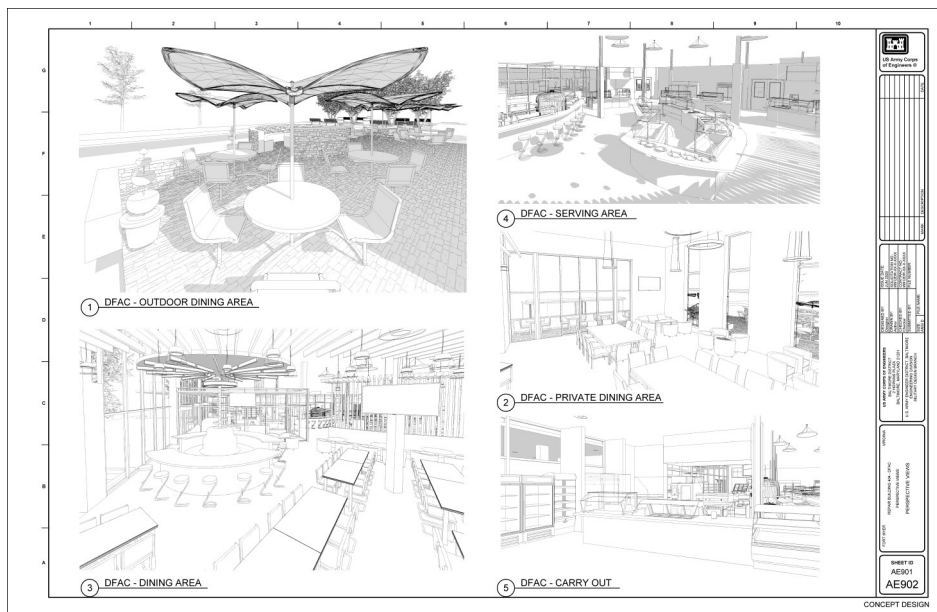


Photo courtesy of Maj. Kurt Gerfen

A photo of the DFAC after the repairs and renovations.

a new facility will help improve the efficiency and effectiveness of the overall operation. It will attract new customers and save a lot of funds on waste."

Eric Cope, the director of JBM-HH's Directorate of Public Works, pointed out that a design build contract means the same contractor is the designer and construction agent. Contrast that with a design bid build where DPW has a completely independent designer. DPW will accept that design and then take that design and put it out on the street and people will bid on the construction aspect of it.

(The DFAC contract is a) design and a bid for the build," he said. "When it was awarded, you might not

see hammers swinging because we are in the design phase of that design build contract."

DPW's role is at the forefront of the renovation because they are responsible for all of the real property, roads and utilities on the joint base. Cope added that an additional role is like an advocate for USACE because the Corps works like a consultant to DPW.

"They help us develop project approval packages (and) the large approval form that's for a project like this," explained Cope. "(USACE) ensures our request is in the (Installation Management Command's) approval pipeline. Once we turn it over to the Corps, the Corps ... (helps with) planning, preplanning (and) executing the project." DPW and USACE are involved with the pre-award, planning and renovation during the project. During the pre-award phase, a proposal was done with a concept about what the DFAC would look like, said Cope. He said that proposal provides enough detail on how things will look and what will be done to make sure that happens. Sometimes, he said, demolition is done during the design phase.

"It might not appear that anything is actually happening, but behind the scenes there's quite a bit going on," Cope said. "The designer of record is building his design so that he can get it approved. We still have to approve that design. Once that design is approved, they will start the construction phase."

"Over the intervening years, the DFAC has undergone several renovations and additions; including an addition in the 1970s that filled in the L, a major HVAC project in 1999 and a reconfiguration of the DFAC serving and dining areas in 2015," said Finchman. "The structural system was modified in the early 2000s to accommodate a building expansion for the Soldiers for Life Program."

Pentagram Editor Catrina Francis can be reached at catrina.s.francis2.civ@mail.mil.

News Notes

Town hall Thursday

The community is invited to join the joint base for this week's Joint Base Myer-Henderson Hall Virtual COVID-19 Town Hall, hosted by Joint Base Commander Col. Kimberly Peeples, set for Thursday at 1 p.m.

The community may submit questions in advance at <https://www.facebook.com/events/1097371270687043>. Please visit the joint base Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/jbmhh/> at 1 p.m. Thursday to view the live feed.

Exchange to change hours Tuesday, Jan. 26 for inventory

The Exchange conducts its fiscal year end inventories in the last two weeks of January.

To comply with the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention guidelines for 6 foot distancing and provide a safe working environment for its employees conducting the inventories, the Exchange has reduced the number of employees counting and will need to close its facilities early to account for the extra time that this process will take. The following schedule changes will be effective: Myer Express will close at 8 p.m. Tuesday and the Fort Myer PX will close at 4 p.m. Jan. 26.

OASDI tax deferral collections

The Consolidated Appropriations Act that was signed by the president Dec. 27, 2020, extended the OASDI (Social Security) Tax deferral collection period from Jan. 1 through April 10 to Jan. 1 through Dec. 31.

How will that affect an individual's pay?

For active duty military members, the 2020 deferred Social Security taxes will be collected in 24 installments, from the midmonth and end-of-month pay between Jan. 1 through Dec. 30. For reservist and guardsmen performing intermittent duty in 2021, the amount collected may not be the same every pay period. DFAS will collect 2% of net available from each weekly, midmonth and end-of-month pay, and will continue until the deferred taxes have been repaid in full.

For military FAQs, please visit <https://www.dfas.mil/taxes/Social-Security-Deferral/Military-FAQs/>.

USO Harvest Market continues

This year the USO continues a special event for the JBM-HH community.

The USO Harvest Market will take place monthly, the third Thursday of each month. The event provides free fresh produce, nonperishable goods to active duty military, veterans, retirees and Family members. The first USO Harvest Market will take Jan. 21. The event will take place at the JBM-HH Community Center from 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. for active duty service members and their Families and from 12:30 to 1:30 p.m. for veterans, retirees and their

Families. The goods will be pre-packaged and delivered via contactless drive through or walk-up service lines at the community center.

Signs will be posted and volunteers will be on site to direct customers on where to line up. Customers are asked to arrive no earlier than 11:15 a.m. Jan. 21. Be advised that Tri-Services Parking lots B and C, across from the Community Center, will be closed Jan. 21 to accommodate the USO's Harvest Market event.

MLK observance

To ensure the safety of the community, JBM-HH observances are to be held virtually until further notice. Visit JBM-HH Facebook at www.facebook.com/jbmhh for a virtual MLK observance Jan. 22.

You are not alone

Everyone reacts differently to stressful situations like COVID-19. An individual may feel anxiousness, anger, sadness or overwhelmed. Individuals can find ways to reduce his or her stress to help herself or himself and the people he or she cares about.

- Learn the common signs of stress.
- An individual can make time to unwind and do activities he or she enjoys.

Talk with family and friends by phone, text or email.

If an individual or his or her loved ones is feeling overwhelmed, get support 24/7 by calling or texting (800) 985-5990.

To learn more about stress and coping during COVID-19, visit <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/daily-life-coping/managing-stress-anxiety.html>.

Army Emergency Relief

The Army Emergency Relief program continues to find ways to provide financial assistance to Soldiers in need. With the increase in demand for homeschooling and child care due to COVID-19 restrictions, AER introduced a new assistance program to help Army Families address the costs associated with child care assistance.

For more information, visit <https://go.usa.gov/xAkmS>.

Inauguration information from National Parks Service

The National Mall has been a part of presidential inaugurations for more than two centuries. Each one was different, but all served the same purpose — the democratic transfer of power from one leader to the next. Because of the ongoing pandemic, the 2021 inauguration will have to meet unique challenges. Instead of large crowds, the presidential inaugural committee is recommending that people participate virtually and watch the swearing-in ceremony on television.

Instead of a traditional parade up Pennsylvania Avenue, there will be a virtual parade across the

nation that will be televised for the American people and feature diverse, dynamic performances in communities across the country.

The parade will celebrate America's heroes, highlight Americans from all lifestyles in different states and regions, and reflect on the diversity, heritage and resilience of the country. A pass in review will allow our military to recognize the incoming commander in chief.

For more information on the inauguration events, please visit nps.gov/inauguration.

Donating blood is safe

It is National Blood Donor Month. Individuals can donate blood during the pandemic.

The Armed Services Blood Program continues to provide safe and potent blood products during the coronavirus pandemic, taking additional safety measures recommended by the Food and Drug Administration and Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. They are also seeking convalescent plasma donors from those who have recovered from COV-ID-19.

For information on COV-ID-19 safety measures and eligibility to donate convalescent plasma, see the COVID-19 and blood donation page at <https://www.militaryblood.dod.mil/Donors/COVID-19andBloodDonation.aspx.4>.

Stay updated with winter weather alerts

Individuals can make sure they get the latest winter weather information for the joint base. Download the Digital Garrison App, select JBM-HH as the home installation and enable push notifications.

To enable push notifications, open the app and change the installation to JBM-HH (location icon underneath the name), secondly select the notification bell in the upper left corner, thirdly click the settings wheel in the upper right corner,

JBM-HH remains at HPCON Bravo

The U.S. Army Military District of Washington commanding general announced conditions are now appropriate to transition to Heath Protection Condition Bravo. In response, Joint Base Myer-Henderson Hall will implement its phased recovery plan in close coordination with the Military District of Washington and the Andrew Rader U.S. Army Health Clinic.

Please continue to follow the joint base commander's policy regarding the use of face coverings and maintaining social distancing. We will continue to monitor the downward trend of positive cases, the capacity to test, ability treat and to conduct contact tracing within the National Capital Region.

SFL-TAP resources are virtual

Looking for a job? Need resume assistance? Make sure to check out the SFL-TAP virtual opportunities at the regularly updated page:

<https://home.army.mil/jbmhh/index.php/teamJBMHH/my-fort/soldiers/SFL>.

The SFL-TAP program provides remote or virtual services in the following areas:

- Initial counseling (one-on-one counseling DD 2648)
- SFL-TAP will provide guidance on completing any requirements through JKO online
- VA claims information and orientation

Although SFL-TAP provides some services remotely or virtually, the program continues to respond to any inquiries and conduct business via email, telephone or videoconferencing. Soldiers who complete capstone while the center is closed, will be automatically cleared by the program manager, Carlos Rodriguez, once DD 2648 is processed and signed electronically. Soldiers will ensure they get a copy of DD 2648 during their capstone appointment. For more information about the virtual and remote service being provided by SFL-TAP, please call (703) 696-0973, (703) 794-5986 or email usarmy.jbmhh.asa.mbx.sfl-tap-center-myer@mail.mil. For more information about VA claims, please contact Eleonore Richards at (202) 641-6481 or by email at eleonore.richards@serco-na.com. For VA claims orientation, contact Chris Guthrie at (202) 480-0077 or by email at cguthrie@vfw.org.

JBM-HH COVID-19 facility updates

Due to the recent rise in COVID-19 cases in the region, please be advised of the following: The AAFES Food Court dining area is currently closed. Food options are still be available for take-out. Masks and social distancing are required. Patrons of all three JBM-HH Gyms (Myer, McNair and Henderson Hall) must now wear face masks at all times, to include during active exercise.

Gym updates

Forts Myer and McNair Fitness Centers are now open for all eligible patrons. To ensure the safety of patrons, the showers and lockers in these facilities are closed at this time. Important update: All patrons must wear masks at all times in all JBM-HH gyms. The Fort Myer Fitness Center is open Monday, Wednesday and Friday from 5 to 7:30 a.m., 11 a.m. to 1 p.m., and 4 to 6 p.m. The Fort McNair Fitness Center is open Monday, Wednesday and Friday from 5 to 10 a.m. The Patton Hall Pools remain closed. The Smith gym and Zembiec Pool are open to active duty only. Occupancy at both gyms is limited to 50 patrons at any given time on a first-come, first-served basis.