



Pentagram

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Photo by Sgt. Jacob Holmes

Arlington National Cemetery reopened the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier Plaza to the visiting public Tuesday. ANC is taking this next action as part of a gradual reopening under improved COVID-19 conditions.

Tomb of Unknown Soldier Plaza reopens

By ANC

Arlington National Cemetery reopened the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier Plaza to the visiting public Tuesday.

ANC is taking this next action as part of a gradual reopening under improved COVID-19 conditions. Reopening the Tomb plaza to the public, while continuing to maintain current health protection conditions, is an important element of the yearlong centennial

commemoration for the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier, which culminates Veterans Day.

At the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier, visitors will now be able to watch the changing of the guard and to pay their respects to the Unknowns. A one-way pedestrian route will begin at Memorial Drive (near the west steps of Memorial Amphitheater) and will guide visitors to the south walkway for entrance. Only 150 visitors will be allowed on the plaza

stairs at any one time, in order to facilitate social distancing. Visitors will exit to the north side of Memorial Amphitheater.

Under ANC's restricted operations, large groups and bus tours continue to be prohibited from accessing the cemetery. The exhibits in the Memorial Amphitheater Display Room and Welcome Center remain closed to the public. Additionally, the Amphitheater remains closed to the public due to ongoing restoration work. Public

wreath ceremonies at the Tomb will remain suspended until health protection conditions improve.

The public may also visit the cemetery virtually through the new ANC Education Program at <https://education.arlingtoncemetery.mil/>. Audiences of all ages may now discover learning modules on topics that include "The Tomb of the Unknown Soldier."

ANC is open to the public daily from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.



Daylight Saving Time begins Sunday at 2 a.m.

Community members are advised to set their clocks before going to bed Saturday night.

2020 CFCNCA raises over \$37.2 million for those in need

By CFCNCA

Federal employees and retirees have helped the Combined Federal Campaign of the National Capital Area shatter their 2020 goal to raise \$30 million for participating charities and help those in need locally, nationally and internationally. Thousands of charities and countless beneficiaries benefited from more than \$37.2 million in monetary contributions and almost 48,000 volunteer hours.

These outstanding gifts raised not only surpass the goal for 2020, but also exceeds the totals raised in 2018 (\$34.2 million), and in 2019 (\$34.2 million). An estimated 25% of donors in the 2020 CFCNCA were first-time givers, and the most given to cause was health care causes. In addition, a special solicitation was held from April through June 2020 for pandemic relief, during which approximately \$1 million was generously given here in the National Capital Area.

“The generous federal community heard our call to action — and they stepped up to ‘Be the Face of Change,’ far exceeding our expectations,” said Vince Micone, co-chairperson. “We are incredibly proud to be part of such a giving community who worked tirelessly to help us meet our goal and ultimately meet the needs of so many.”

“To have not only met and surpassed our goal, but to have raised more than we did in 2018 and



Photo by CFCNCA

Federal employees and retirees have helped the Combined Federal Campaign of the National Capital Area shatter their 2020 goal to raise \$30 million for participating charities and help those in need locally, nationally and internationally.

2019, shows how this caring community continues to shine bright even in the face of challenges and darkness,” said Ann Van Houten, co-chairperson of the CFCNCA. “To all donors and CFC supporters, on behalf of charities and countless beneficiaries we may never meet, thank you. Your hearts opened and your gifts are being sent when the need has been most dire.”

The 2020 campaign results were announced at Wednesday’s morning live-streamed finale and awards ceremony. The event highlighted many of the “Faces of Change” who helped make the success possible, including Sage Bolte, Inova Health Foundation’s

chief philanthropy officer and president; Sandi Logan, principal; and Marcus Johnson, board member, of Duke Ellington School of the Arts, and the esteemed Voices of Service from Center for American Military Music Opportunities, who competed in NBC’s “America’s Got Talent.”

The 2020 CFCNCA Campaign contest winners were announced, acknowledging the tremendous support of agency and department leadership and campaign teams this year, as well as chairperson award recipients. The 2020 CFCNCA Heroes were Soraya Correa, U.S. Department of Homeland Security Management Directorate; Colleen Kes-

seling, U.S. Department of Defense Education Activity; and Carroll Harris III, U.S. Postal Service.

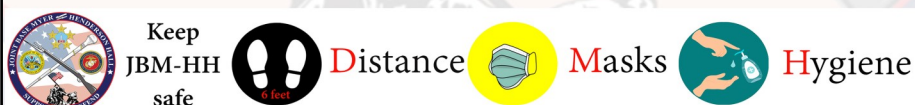
“Our finale is a celebration of the contributions of federal employees, who went far above the call of duty in response to the pandemic,” said Micone. “We are so grateful to the all who have given so generously. We will (be) back later this year, as we need to keep this momentum going. The needs in our communities, throughout our nation, and around the world are great; we must continue to answer the call of service.”

The annual charitable workplace-giving program for federal employees and retirees was held from Sept. 21, 2020 through Jan. 15. The dates for the 2021 CFC have yet to be announced.

Important JBM-HH face mask update

Effective immediately, in accordance with the Secretary of Defense guidance, all individuals on JBM-HH will wear face coverings and masks at all times other than at home, following the most current CDC guidelines. Individuals must wear face masks continuously while on JBM-HH **except:**

- (1) when an individual is alone in an office with floor-to-ceiling walls with a closed door;
- (2) for brief periods of time when eating and drinking while maintaining CDC distancing guidance;
- (3) when the mask is required to be lowered briefly for identification or security purposes;
- (4) when necessary to reasonably accommodate an individual with a disability.



Pentagram



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Community

TOG Soldiers participate in Basic Horsemanship Course



Photos Sgt. Nicholas Holmes

A Soldier assigned to the 3d U.S. Infantry Regiment (The Old Guard), participates in the Basic Horsemanship course at Joint Base Myer-Henderson Hall March 4. The intensive 10-week course teaches Soldiers the basics of horsemanship and ceremonial proficiency on horseback. Upon completion of the course, Soldiers will be qualified experts in horsemanship and able to carry out Caisson's mission in Arlington National Cemetery.




(Left and above photo) Soldiers assigned to the 3d U.S. Infantry Regiment (The Old Guard), participates in the Basic Horsemanship course at Joint Base Myer-Henderson Hall March 4.

Oscar winner visits Joint Base Myer-Henderson Hall



Photo courtesy of JBM-HH RSO
 On Wednesday two-time Oscar winner Denzel Washington stopped by Joint Base Myer-Henderson Hall's Religious Support Office. The Soldiers had a chance to talk and take a photo with the actor.

Force Protection Smart Card

| | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|--|
|  <h3>Mitigating Factors</h3> <p>Best Practices</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Complete AT Level I training within the last 12 months. Be cognizant of surroundings at all times and knowledgeable of high crime areas to avoid Avoid large crowds. If you find yourself in the middle of civil unrest, leave the area immediately, avoid offensive, insulting, illegal, or unethical behavior – do not react Lock unattended vehicles, look for tampering, vary travel routes and times, do not pick up hitchhikers Remove all valuables from vehicles and secure lodging - Utilize safes if available Do not give lodging information to strangers Non-Duty Hours: Wear only civilian clothing and travel in groups of two or more individuals Report all suspicious activity to the appropriate law enforcement entity with a follow-on report to the Operations Center | <h3>Hotels</h3> <p>Contact information:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provide a Government Cell Phone contact number. If possible, do not give your personal cell phone number out Groups at the hotel should use a single contact number for all members staying at the location <p>Use of Military ID:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Unless necessary, do not identify your affiliation with the military or DoD when checking in; use a drivers license or other government identification instead of a military ID Avoid use of rank or military addresses on tickets, travel documents or hotel reservations | <h3>Cyber Awareness</h3> <p>WiFi:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Avoid using public WiFi, to include Starbucks, Hotels, Restaurants, etc. Use a VPN if you must use public WiFi. Free VPN applications include: BetterNet™, Hotspot Shield™, TunnelBear™, ProtonVPN™, PotatoVPN™ <p>Social Media:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Avoid posting personal telephone numbers and emails Secure your online profile by making it private Do not discuss operational details on social media | <h3>Cell Phones</h3> <p>Cell Phone Usage:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Turn off location services while at duty location Stay off social media while in transit and at duty locations Limit communications by text messages, specifically to family members and other service members. Use encrypted chat applications when available. Encrypted chat applications include: WhatsApp, Line, Viber, Kakao Talk, Threema, Google Hangout, Slack. Reduce the amount of phone calls – only make calls for duty reasons or emergencies | <h3>Threat Levels</h3> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> LOW (Green): Indicates little or no credible evidence of a threat to the DOD asset or immediate area of the asset Moderate (Yellow): Indicates a potential threat to the DOD asset or the immediate area where the asset is located SIGNIFICANT (Orange): Indicates a credible threat against the DOD asset or the immediate area where the asset is located HIGH (Red): Indicates an imminent threat against the DOD asset or the immediate area where the asset is located |
| | <h3>Traveling</h3> <p>Traveling to and from duty location:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> When possible, change the route traveling to duty locations When possible, change the route traveling back from duty locations to the lodging Report suspicious activity <p>When traveling off duty:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Change the route traveled to commonly visited areas Plan safe locations along your route. At all times, keep your doors locked Alternate parking places at hotels and commonly visited areas | <h3>Uniforms</h3> <p>Duty Locations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Consider wearing civilian clothing when transiting to and from duty locations <p>Off Duty:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Avoid traveling in uniform when possible When not on a military installation, wear civilian clothing while in commonly visited places Avoid wearing unit specific PT clothing while working out | <h3>General Security</h3> <p>Guard information:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Limit discussion and accessibility of any information (written and verbal) that may provide insight for targeting Always use secure means when passing sensitive information Destroy identifiable information <p>Personal Security:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Destroy all items that show your name, rank or other personal information Avoid providing strangers with personal information Secure all personal items in hotel rooms and avoid leaving personal documents in plain sight Use hotel room safe whenever possible | |

Joint Base Myer-Henderson Hall

"America's Post"



Conflict resolution

Conflict resolution training is being held Wednesday from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. This training will be held on the virtual platform Microsoft Teams. During this training, individuals will learn how to identify conflict and ways to manage it in the future. Registration is required.

For more information or to register, please email Megan Read at megan.w.read.ctr@mail.mil.

Stress management

Stress management training is being held March 24 from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. on the virtual platform Microsoft Teams.

Individuals will receive information on emotions management and the impact of unmanaged stress as well as the basics of identifying stressors in their life and how to create

their own stress management plan. Registration required.

For more information or to register, please email Megan Read at megan.w.read.ctr@mail.mil.

Virtual play morning

On Thursdays, 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.

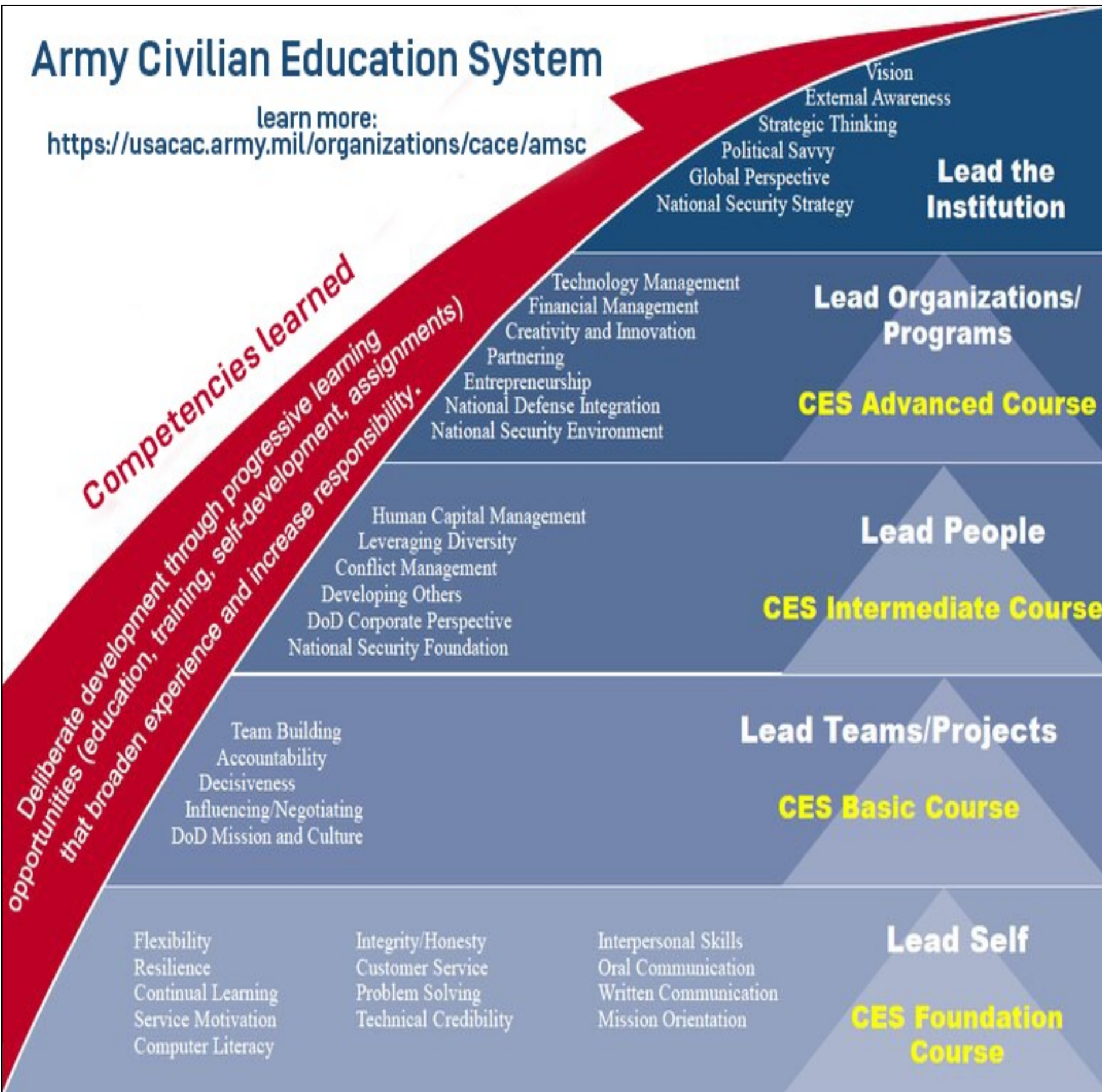
Baby bundles

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 pro-

cess, 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 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/UCnTcKDomPZeXmvnYddOIQkg>. and click "Subscribe" and continue to receive resources available whenever.



The hitchhiker failure

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

I don't like failure. I know I'm competitive, so my first instinct is to project my failure on others or circumstances. It is easier to blame the dog for eating my homework than admit I procrastinated. It is easier to blame weather or my other obligations in not being able to do a task. It is easier to blame others who gave me the wrong information or failed to do their responsibility than admit it really settles on my shoulders. I really could have finished my task if I tried hard enough.

A story goes that a man named John was driving home late one night when he picked up a hitchhiker. As they rode along, he began to be suspicious of his passenger. John checked to see if his wallet was safe in the pocket of his coat that was on the seat between them, but it wasn't there. So, he slammed on the brakes, ordered the hitchhiker out, and said, "Hand over the wallet immediately!" The frightened hitchhiker handed over a billfold, and John drove off. When he arrived home, he started to tell his wife about the experience, but she interrupted him, saying, "Before I forget, John, do you know that you left your wallet at home this morning?"

Been there done that in judging people so quickly. Also, I have many times given blame to others or circumstances "out of my control" in my failures. I think the most important part



Courtesy photo

of one's strength and integrity are to accept failure with grace and humility. We all fail so the opportunities are continual for growth. Our Creator made each of us strong enough to take failures as growth mo-

ments. We just have to make them happen.

Next time I leave the house, I'll be sure to take my wallet. You never know when a life lesson is waiting around the next curve.

JBM-HH Religious Services are back up and running on a weekly basis at Memorial Chapel. Attendance is limited to no more than 50 personnel in the chapel, so individuals must register to attend.

To view service updates, please visit the Religious Support Office Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/jbmhhrso/> or email the Religious Support Office at usarmy.jbmhh.usag.mbx.memorial-chapel@mail.mil. Services are subject to cancellation in the event of inclement weather.

To register for Catholic Mass, contact the Catholic coordinator by email at info@jbmhnmcc.com.

| | |
|---------------------------|--|
| Catholic Mass | Saturday at 5 p.m. and Sunday at 8:30 a.m. |
| Protestant Service | Sunday at 10:30 a.m. |
| Gospel Service | Sunday at 12:30 p.m. |
| Samoan Service | Held the first Sunday of every month at 2:30 p.m. |

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

| | |
|---------------------------|-------------------|
| Catholic Mass | 8:30 a.m. |
| General Protestant | 10:30 a.m. |
| Gospel Service | 12:30 p.m. |

Presidential Salute Battery training



The Old Guard Presidential Salute Battery training takes place on select

* Tuesdays from 7 to 8 a.m. at Arlington National Cemetery

* Thursdays at 7:30 to 8:30 a.m. at JBM-HH Tri Services Lot

Short periods of cannon fire may be heard in the vicinity of JBM-HH.



Photo courtesy of National Institute of Mental Health, National Institutes of Health

Mental health issues among military women can affect how they transition in many ways, be it housing changes, deployment or leaving the military and getting acclimated to civilian life. Women veterans are more than two times as likely to commit suicide as the general population.

Women's health emerging priorities series highlights mental health

By Military Health System Communications Office

Transitioning from being an active service member to veteran or beneficiary can affect the mental health of women in ways that differ from men.

The effects of these transitions are an emerging priority at the Defense Health Agency, attendees heard at a Feb. 25 virtual clinical communities' speakers' series event sponsored by the DHA Training and Education Directorate's Continuing Education Program Office in partnership with the Department of Veterans Affairs.

The Emerging Priorities in Women's Health daylong event included a discussion of women's mental health issues, including reproductive cycles mental health; intimate partner violence; cardiovascular disease; human papillomavirus and opportunities to erad-

icate cervical dysplasia and cervical cancer; COVID-19 in pregnancy and its effects on maternal-fetal health; ethical considerations in women's health care during the pandemic; and updates on select DHA Women & Infants Clinical Communities initiatives.

The mental health portion of the program included information on resources for female service members transitioning from active duty; sexual assault/harassment; and suicide prevention.

"Women veterans are more than two times more likely to die by suicide as the general population," VA clinical psychologist Jennifer Strauss told event attendees.

"In FY 2019, 43% of women Veterans Health Agency users had diagnosed mental health issues," she said.

That compares to "26% of male VHA users who had a confirmed mental health diagnosis," she add-

ed, underscoring the need for DOD and VA prioritization of women's mental health needs.

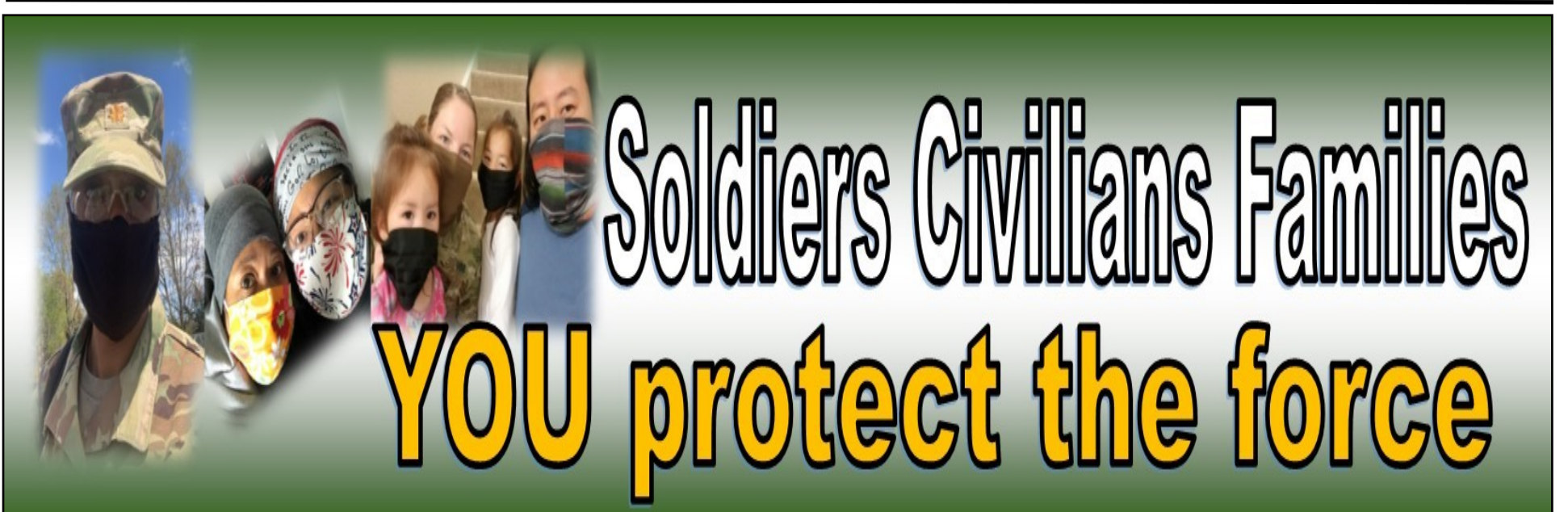
She noted that women often have "more complexity of care" than men, such as higher rates of depression and anxiety, and higher rates of mental health and medical comorbidities.

One of the concerns of health care providers and patients is a "lapse in health care during and after transitioning," said Holly O'Reilly, a clinical psychologist at DHA's Psychological Health Center of Excellence. "Those with a strategic plan in place or a strong support network fare better than those without" when it comes to transitions."

The PHCoE offers an "excellent referral hotline 24/7," and there are numerous clinical support tools to aid in transitions, she said. Patients and providers can access these tools at <https://pdhealth.mil>.

The event highlighted current evidence-based practices, policies, recommendations and initiatives. The primary focus aimed to enhance the quality of patient outcomes and population health by providing advanced continuing education opportunities for health care providers across the Military Health System. Recordings and CE credits from the Feb. 25 event will be available from April 12 for six months for home study at the J-7 CEPO website.

There are other series this year: Youth in Transition April 22; Exploring Evidence-Based Practices in Modern Medicine Primary Care June 24; Exploration of Innovations in Health Care Aug. 26; and Promising Practices in Military Health Care Oct. 28. Information about the programs and speakers is also available at the CEPO website.



VanOvost chosen as USTRANSCOM head; Richardson to lead USSOUTHCOM

By Jim Garamone
DOD News

Diversity was on display at the White House Monday as President Joe Biden introduced Air Force Gen. Jacqueline Van Ovost as his choice to command U.S. Transportation Command and Lt. Gen. Laura Richardson for promotion to general and commander of U.S. Southern Command.

Furthering these examples of diversity, the president was introduced by Vice President Kamala Harris, first African American, first South Asian and first woman elected to a national office. In addition, she was introduced by Secretary of Defense Lloyd J. Austin III, the first African American to serve in that capacity.

The two candidates to command combatant commands were introduced on International Women's Day. Biden said they are examples of excellence for all Americans.

"We all need to see and to recognize the barrier breaking accomplishments of these women," he said. "We need the young women just beginning their careers in the military service to see it and know that no door will be closed to them. We need women and men throughout the ranks to see and celebrate women's accomplishments and leadership in the services. We need little girls and boys, both who have grown up dreaming of serving for their country, to know this is what generals in the United States armed forces look like. This is what vice presidents of the United States look like."

The U.S. military is built as a meritocracy — given equal treatment, the best are supposed to rise and the country needs this, Harris said in her remarks.

"At this moment, we face global threats to our climate and our health, to our physical security and cybersecurity," she said. "Our capacity to meet this moment is determined both by our diplomatic strength, and by our ability to build a strong, smart and sustainable military force — a force that recruits the most talented; a force that retains the most capable; a force that advances the best of the best."

The vice president pointed to the two officers and said they are "the best of the best."

She noted that Van Ovost is an Air Force Academy graduate who served as one of the early test pilots of the C-17 Globemaster III.



Photo by Spc. Chafelmer Kroll

Lt. Gen. Laura Richardson, the commander of U.S. Army North, speaks with medical personnel at Joint Base McGuire-Dix-Lakehurst, N.J., about how COVID-19 tests are processed, May 8, 2020.

She currently serves as the commander of the Air Mobility Command.

Richardson is an Army aviator who flew Huey's and then Black Hawks. Today, she serves as the commanding general of the U.S. Army North.

Austin praised Biden for his decision to nominate these two women.

"The diversity of our nation makes us stronger," he said. "And that diversity in our military ranks makes us better at defending the American people."

Austin said that the president understands leadership.

"You know that leadership doesn't come conveniently packaged," the secretary said. "You know that it comes from lived experience — everyone's lived experience. And today, you are nominating for a combatant command two extraordinary military leaders, whose lived experience encompasses nearly 70 years of uniformed service in peace and in war."

"They have known sacrifice. They have known loss. And they have known victory."

They have flown and fought for this country across the continents, from the waning days of the Cold War, right up to the modern days of wars that we still wage."

Biden said more work, more change must happen. He specifically tasked all military personnel to fight against sexual assault.

"Sexual assault is abhorrent and wrong at any time, but in our military, so much of unit cohesion is built on trusting your fellow service members to have your back, it is nothing less than a threat to our national security," the president said.

He noted that Austin's first memo as secretary was a directive to take on sexual assault in the military and establishing an independent review commission on sexual assault.

"This is going to be an all hands on deck effort under my administration to end the scourge of sexual assault in the military," Biden said. "We're going to be focused on that from the very top. I know that we can do it. The U.S. military has defeated American enemies on land and air and sea, and this is not beyond us."

NATIONAL NUTRITION MONTH NUTRITION SEMINAR

National Nutrition Month® is an annual campaign created by the Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics. During the month of March, everyone is invited to learn about making informed food choices and developing healthful eating and physical activity habits.

Join Army Wellness Center (AWC) for a special **3 Day Nutrition Seminar** consisting of three 60 minute classes designed to educate participants on the components of healthy nutrition and how to apply it while meal planning, grocery shopping, and eating out.

Virtually on Microsoft Teams

DATES: March 23rd, 24th and 25th @ Noon

Fueling for Health

Meals in Minutes

Personalizing Your Plan

Contact AWC @ 301-677-2006 to receive the link to the 3 day seminar
*attendance at all 3 days **not** required*

After challenging year, Army posts high marks in civilian employee survey

By Joseph Lacdan
Army News Service

In a year where the Army overcame numerous challenges, it also achieved its best overall ratings ever in the Federal Employee Viewpoint Survey, a top Army civilian personnel leader said March 3.

The service posted an employee engagement index rate of 72.7% in fiscal year 2020, up three percentage points from the previous year and saw its biggest increase in the leaders lead category, which at 62.7% marked a 3.5% increase from 2019. The U.S. Office of Personnel Management released the results in January after distributing the survey in the fall.

“When the numbers first started rolling out, I was extremely excited by the high response rate year over year, especially in this COVID year,” said Todd Fore, deputy assistant secretary of the Army for civilian personnel. “But I really think what is key is the engagement of our leadership at all levels, because they really do care about the feedback that they are receiving.”

The Army also had an increase in its global satisfaction index at 69%. The category measures federal employees’ overall satisfaction with their job, pay and organization. About 70% of Army civilians said that they would recommend their organization to others, up from 68% the previous year.

“Those are very, very, very good numbers across government (organizations) but exceptional in large organizations,” Fore said. “I think it is incredible that we have such a high response rate across the department.”

According to the survey, which OPM made available to full-time and part-time, permanent Army civilians, 45% of the Army’s more than 184,000 employees participated in it.

Fore said that the Army has seen the employee engagement index increase in each of the past six years due to supervisors communicating more effectively with Army employees. The Army also published an employee engagement guide for supervisors, leaders and hosted listening sessions for civilian employees.

“Our employee engagement activities have enabled us to not only communicate to employees,



Photo by Christopher Larsen

(Left) Robert Winchel, a managed care analyst at Madigan Army Medical Center at Joint Base Lewis-McChord, Washington, receives a congratulatory elbow bump Oct. 1, 2020. Winchel was selected as the U.S. Army Medical Command’s civilian of the year. The Army recently posted its highest overall scores on the Federal Employee Viewpoint Survey. The survey measures employees’ perception of what makes a successful organization and whether their agencies and employers have those characteristics.

but actually to hear what employees have to say,” Fore said.

Communication methods revamped

In 2020, the Army evolved the way it communicates with its employees in large part because of the coronavirus pandemic. As the nation’s largest military branch, communication had been an area where the Army struggled, Fore said.

However, the ability to communicate has improved in recent years and the global pandemic opened the need to make contact more effectively.

When the Army began stay-at-home orders in March 2020, leaders had to open more lines of communication including using virtual options as many of its Soldiers and civilians had to work from home or were separated from their units. To achieve mission requirements, supervisors have used virtual means such as online conferences and chat rooms to reach employees.

“I think we’ve really upped our game in communication,” Fore said. “I believe that COVID has

enabled us to talk to employees at a different level. And since we’re all using various forms of technology, I think our communication and outreach for employees has actually improved.”

Fore said the survey revealed the Army’s strengths in managing its civilian workers and areas where it needs to improve. The Army looks to build up on its strong points — work-life balance, merit system principles, performance recognition, performance feedback, training and development, and job resources.

Fore said performance recognition has become an increasingly strong point as the Army has transitioned to giving performance-related awards throughout a work cycle instead of at the end.

Fore said the Army’s Civilian Implementation Plan as well as the Army People Strategy, has had an impact on the service’s civilian workforce in encouraging them to seek career advancement opportunities. The CIP is the Army’s effort to augment and enhance the contributions of its civilian workforce by modernizing talent man-

agement policies and activities.

“We have really (improved) our outreach to our employees at the strategic level, as well as at their career-field level,” Fore said. “We talk to them about where we are in our journey with career management, career training and development, as well as career opportunities.”

Fore added that the opening of the Army Civilian Career Management Activity in October has helped reach employees at the strategic level. ACCMA will help Army recruiting and retention attract qualified candidates to critical positions that have been challenging to fill.

The Army still has areas where it must continue to improve, Fore said, including in diversity and inclusion. Listening sessions are now being held at various installations as part of Project Inclusion, the service’s plan to listen to the concerns of Army personnel to promote diversity and equal opportunities not only for Soldiers but also for their civilian counterparts.



STAY VIGILANT
Report concerns to Base Defense Operations
Usarmy.jbmhh.id-sustainment.mbx.dptms-bdoc@mail.mil
(703)696-5113/5662 Together, keeping JBM-HH safe.
Dial 911 in emergencies. For non-emergency dispatch, call (703)588-2800/2801.



News Notes

JBM-HH Town Hall Thursday

The next JBM-HH Virtual COVID-19 Town Hall is set for 1 p.m. Thursday. This week, Col. Peoples will introduce the new JBM-HH Chief of Staff, Patrick MacKenzie. Guest speakers are Rader Clinic Commander Lt. Col. Jessica Milloy and the medical officer in charge of occupational and environmental medicine, Dr. Kimberly Beck.

Visit the JBM-HH Facebook page to view the livestream. You may ask questions anytime by contacting the public affairs office at usarmy.jbmhh.asa.list.pao-all@mail.mil.

Clinic answers COVID-19 questions

Rader Clinic has developed a public service announcement to address all the frequently asked questions about the COVID-19 vaccine being administered by the clinic. Please take a moment to view this important video, where a person can meet the Rader Health Clinic team and educate him or her about the vaccine to protect loved ones and the community.

Please access the following link to view the video at <https://www.facebook.com/jbmhh/videos/861733764381647>.

MilFam Market

The USO will hold a MilFam Market March 18 from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the parking lot across from the JBM-HH Community Center. Service members, Families, veterans, retirees, reservists, National Guard and those with base access are welcome. Please contact Dencil Harrison by email at dharrison@usometro.org or Carla Moss at (703) 655-6091 for additional information.

Army civilian education

The Civilian Education System is a progressive and sequential leader development program that provides educational opportunities for Army civilians throughout their careers. CES provides multiple levels of civilian development to include:

Foundation Course for all grades hired after September 2006

Basic Course for general service employees GS-01 through 09, general service employees GS-10 through 12

Advanced Course for general service employees GS-13 through 15.

Continuing Education for Senior Leaders for general service employees GS-14 and 15.

Action Officer Development Course, Organizational Leader Development Course, Manager Development Course, Supervisor Development Course for all supervisors, Supervisor Development Course-Executive Level.

Currently, all Civilian Education System courses will be delivered in a virtual format through June 30. They may resume face to

face classes beginning in the fourth quarter; however, if safety conditions do not warrant, classes will continue to be delivered virtually.

Individuals can find additional information at <https://usacac.army.mil/organizations/cace/amsc> including instructions on how to apply via CHRTAS. If employees have questions or need assistance registering, they may contact at kathryn.k.feehan.civ@mail.mil or (703) 696-3520.

Virtual SHARP training

There is nothing more important than the welfare and readiness of our people, the people of the National Capital Region and its population of military and civilian forces.

Fiscal year 2021 sexual harassment, assault response and prevention refresher training is open to all assigned to the National Capital Region. This training reasserts the importance for leaders and the chain of command in providing quality, relevant training and education to improve and sustain positive organizational climates that emphasize Army values and treat everyone with dignity and respect.

If someone needs support at any time, reach out to the DOD Safe Helpline by calling (877) 995-5247. The 24/7 Safe Helpline is anonymous and confidential.

Cemetery Metro closure

The Addison Road and Arlington Cemetery Metro station are closed for platform reconstruction and station improvements.

The work will continue through May 23, to allow for platform reconstruction and other station improvements, including the installation of more energy-efficient LED lighting, slip-resistant tiles and new digital signage to improve customer communication.

Shuttle buses will replace trains at the two closed stations for the duration of the project, with no Blue Line service. Additional Yellow Line trains will operate from Franconia-Springfield to Mount Vernon Square; however, weekend service adjustments may be necessary due to other scheduled track work.

For more information, view the full news release at <https://www.wmata.com/about/news/Spring-platform-reconstruction.cfm>.

Thrift shop open by appointment

The Fort Myer Thrift Shop has reopened to the joint base community. The current hours of operation for the store are 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Tuesday and Thursday. Customers are required to make an appointment prior to visiting.

Appointments can be made by calling (703) 527-0664 or messaging the store's Facebook page at

<https://www.facebook.com/Fort-Myer-Thrift-Shop-287383261306759>.

Customers can visit the shop's Facebook albums for a preview of the shop's inventory.

Commuter store closure

The Pentagon Commuter Store, located by the Pentagon Metro entrance, has temporarily suspended service until further notice.

As an alternative, the mobile commuter store will be available every Tuesday from 7 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Pentagon Transit Center Bus Bay U7, offering the same commuter services to include SmarTrip cards, E-Z Passes, VRE passes and more.

Army Emergency Relief scholarship opportunities

The Army Emergency Relief Maj. Gen. James Ursano Scholarship Program is a need-based scholarship program established to assist children of Army Soldiers in obtaining their first undergraduate degree. Applicants may receive assistance for up to four academic years but must meet eligibility criteria and reapply each year.

Award amounts vary each year based on the number of applicants, total approved scholarship budget, the expected family contribution found on the Free Application for Federal Student Aid Report, and the average cost of attendance of a college or university in the United States, provided by the College Board. The application cycle runs through April 1. For more information, visit <https://www.armyemergen-cyrelief.org/scholarships/child/>.

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>.

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 takeout. 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.

Civilian leave assist

JBM-HH Directorate of Emergency services employee Marla A. Curry, Directorate of Public Works employees Huey Vample, Wanda Scott, Lisa Barnes and Johanna E. Martinez, Directorate of Operations, have been approved to receive leave under the Volunteered Leave Program.

Department of the Army civilian employees who would like to donate annual leave can fill out form OP-M630a, "Request to Donate Annual

Leave to Leave Recipient Under the Voluntary Leave Transfer Program (Within Agency)," at www.opm.gov/forms/pdf_fill/opm630a.pdf. Annual Leave to Leave Recipient Under the Voluntary Leave Transfer Program (Outside Agency)," at www.opm.gov/forms/pdf_fill/opm630b.pdf.

Please be sure to populate the form with the recipient's name specifically. Send completed form to Maribel Rodriguez at mari-bel.rodriguez.civ@mail.mil.

For federal government civilian employees outside the Department of the Army who would like to donate annual leave, please complete form OPM 630b, "Request to Donate."

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. The joint base 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/team/JBMHH/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@sercona.com. For VA claims orientation, contact Chris Guthrie at (202) 480-0077 or by email at cguthrie@vfw.org.