



# Pentagram

Online version, Vol. 3, No. 21 August 4, 2022

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Published For Joint Base Myer-Henderson Hall

## Arlington National Cemetery ceremonial organist reflects on nearly 25 years of service

By Rachel Everett  
JBM-HH Public Affairs

In his nearly 25 years of service as an organist Dr. Randall Sheets has played for 18,000 Arlington National Cemetery funerals and 850 weddings, giving the many families who sit in the pews of Old Post Chapel at Joint Base Myer-Henderson Hall their first opportunity to hear an organ, an instrument Sheets has played since 1974.

“I studied piano from the time I was in elementary school and during my junior year my music teacher encouraged me to learn the organ,” Sheets said. “I studied the organ that year and within my first couple weeks of college, I had a part-time job playing the organ at Sunday morning church services.”

After completing college and receiving his Doctor of Music from the University of Maryland, Sheets worked at several churches in the National Capitol Region, including a Baptist church in Baltimore, Maryland and an episcopal church in Annadale, Virginia. He taught part-time at the National Cathedral School for Girls at Washington National Cathedral as well several private schools. Part of what drew Sheets to apply for the ceremonial organist job was that it was a government job with Arlington National Cemetery.

In his first several years as the ceremonial organist, Sheets played the organ for more than 100 weddings a year.

“There were many days where I would have back-to-back weddings at 10 a.m., 11:30 a.m., 1 p.m., 2:30 p.m., 4 p.m., and a 5 p.m. catholic mass,” said Sheets. “It is no exaggeration that this organ is a workhorse and has probably been played more than any other organ in the nation.”

Built in 1935, the metal and wooden pipe organ is played five days a week, 52 weeks a year at various denominational services to include protestant, catholic, Jewish and Russian orthodox. The 87-year-old organ was installed and voiced by Richard O Whitelegg, protégé of Henry Willis whose organs are highly regarded as the finest in the United Kingdom. Despite its build however, the organ has quarterly tuning and routine maintenance done.

“We are hoping to receive a grant to completely rebuild this organ so when it celebrates its 100th birthday in 2035 it will be in better condition than it was when it was new because there are things we can do better now then we could have 87 years ago,” said Sheets.

A complete rebuild of the organ would ex-



**Arlington National Cemetery (ANC) ceremonial organist Dr. Randall Sheets retires after nearly 25 years of service. During his tenure Sheets performed at 18,000 funeral services, 850 weddings, and many National Prayer and ANC Thanksgiving breakfasts. (Rachel Everett, JBM-HH Public Affairs)**

pand the lifespan of the organ by another 50 years. Sheets said he looks forward to playing the organ every morning. Over the course of his time as a ceremonial organist, Sheets has produced and directed annual Christmas concerts in Old Post Chapel as well as performed at many national prayer breakfasts

**“I never get tired of playing the organ. It does not matter if I am playing the organ for a private with honors from WWII or a four-star general.”**

and Arlington National Cemetery Thanksgiving breakfasts, but for him the most rewarding part has been working with the families.

“I never get tired of playing the organ,” said Sheets. “It does not matter if I am playing the organ for a private with honors from WWII or a four-star general.”

“Sometimes I am playing for families who might have no musical education or church affiliation, so this is a brand-new experience for them to be in church and hear an organ,” said Sheets. “Other times, I’ve had families who are educated in classical music request Johann Sebastian Bach pieces that I didn’t know and had to learn how to play for the service. I learn things from some of the requests that the families make.”

In retirement, Sheets will continue to play the organ, performing nation-wide with the Seipp/



Sheets Trumpet & Organ Duo. Over the past five years, Sheets and Chuck Seipp, who is retired from the U.S. Army Band, have played more than 100 concerts in 24 states and produced more CD recordings.

For more information Seipp/Sheets Trumpet & Organ upcoming performances visit <https://www.seippsheetsduo.com/upcoming-performances/>.

# Community



**Maj. Gen. Allan Pepin, Joint Base Myer-Henderson Hall senior commander visited the Department of Emergency Services facilities on July 26. He checked out the mobile command unit and mobile range. During his visit, Pepin presented challenge coins to eight joint base teammates for their performance.**  
*(Sherry Kuiper, JBM-HH Public Affairs Office)*



**The JBM-HH Religious Support Office celebrates the U.S. Army Chaplain Corps' rich history for its 247th birthday, bids farewell to two staff members and recognizes several Vacation Bible School volunteers at Memorial Chapel July 28.**  
*(Rachel Everett, JBM-HH Public Affairs Office)*

# Joint Color Guard presents colors at MLB All-Star game in Los Angeles

By Lauren Mick  
JTF-NCR/MDW Public Affairs

As Major League Baseball’s best took the field at Dodger Stadium July 19, they were welcomed by the Nation’s colors presented by a Joint Armed Forces Color Guard from the National Capital Region.

Greeted by the cheers and applause of over 40,000 fans, the Joint Armed Forces Color Guard proudly presented the Nation’s colors as Grammy, Emmy, and Tony award-winning performing artist Ben Platt sang the national anthem.

The performance of the anthem was a moving experience for the service members.

“My favorite part of this type of mission will always be listening to our beautiful national anthem,” said U.S. Army Sgt. Jose Ortiz. “It gives me goosebumps every single time, especially when I’m in front of 40,000 people... I love it!”

As the service members prepared to take the field, they carried the colors through Dodger Stadium, capturing the gaze and attention of fans from across the country. They were greeted by applause, gratitude, and a few selfie seekers. On the field, the appreciation only grew.

“The roar of the crowd and the energy of the people was electric,” said U.S. Army Spc. Nicholas Cook.

For the service members who took the field, it was an honor to be selected to participate.

“When it all finally sank in, I was overjoyed with the thought of being lucky enough to get selected for the game,” said U.S. Air Force Senior Airman Hunter Stewart.

The mission, in front of a national audience, was an opportunity to showcase the ceremonial excellence and joint interoperability of the service honor guards. The personnel understood the weight and importance of the mission as they presented the colors.

“I was excited, nervous and felt really honored to be able to hold the Army colors with so much history at an event of this magnitude,” Cook said.

For some members of the team, the experience was the fulfillment of childhood dreams.

“Presenting the colors is something that I can’t easily describe,” said Stewart. “When I was a kid, I always had dreams of being on the same All-Star field as my childhood idols Yadier Molina and Albert Pujols. While it may have been a different uniform than I dreamt, I was beyond star struck that I was standing on second base even 100 feet from Pujols.”

Much like the members of the All-Star teams, the Joint Armed Forces Color Guard’s performance was the culmination of training and preparation. Arriving hours ahead of the first pitch, the Joint Armed Forces Color Guard rehearsed and prepared for the pre-game ceremonies at Dodger Stadium, adjusting their movements and adapting to circumstances on the field. The team, committed to excellence, rehearsed until their



A drummer from the United States Army Field Band prepares to accompany a Joint Armed Forces Color Guard at the MLB-All Star Game in Los Angeles, July 19. (Lauren Mick, JTF-NCR/MDW Public Affairs)



The Joint Armed Forces Color Guard and drummers from the United States Army Field Band rehearse in preparation for the 2022 MLB All-Star Game at Dodger Stadium in Los Angeles

performance was refined, polished, and ready for primetime.

For 92 years now, the Midsummer Classic has brought together the brightest stars and biggest bats from across Major League Baseball. Drawn from all

30 Major League teams, the players on each All-Star team come together and form a new team with players they watch and admire all year, but do not get the chance to play alongside.

Much like the All-Stars themselves, the members of the Joint Armed Forces Color Guard, drawn from each service branch, come together and form a cohesive team, ready to execute their mission at the highest level and on the biggest stage.

The Joint Armed Forces Color Guard represents a blend of our Nation’s armed forces, bringing together ceremonial elements from each branch including the U.S. Army, Navy, Air Force, Marine Corps, Coast Guard, and Space Force. Drawn from ceremonial units from each military branch’s honor guard units in the National Capital Region, the Joint Armed Forces Color Guard supporting this mission was comprised of ten service members including six flag-bearers, two rifles, and two drummers from The United States Army Field Band. Each member of a joint color guard carries their respective service color (military-branch flag) with attached campaign streamers.

The color guard’s flank men carry M14 rifles. The drummers accompany the colors and keep the colors in step. The Soldiers, Sailors, Marines, Airmen, and Coast Guardsmen provide ceremonial support for a variety of events throughout the National Capital Region. The U.S Army Military District of Washington coordinated the Joint Armed Forces Color Guard for this mission on behalf of the Department of Defense.



#### ACS services are virtual

To keep all safe and healthy, Joint Base Myer-Henderson Hall's Army Community Service is closed for general service, but providing services telephonically and digitally. To contact ACS, call 703-696-3510 or 3435. Online resources such as Army One Source, myarmyonesource.com and the community resource guide are linked to the JBM-HH homepage as well.

#### Financial readiness training

First term Soldiers must attend a financial readiness training upon arrival at JBM-HH, which is mandated by AR 608-1, 4-38, c. This training reviews how to develop a budget,

credit-building strategies, making sense of the Thrift Savings Plan and more. Soldiers may elect to attend a group session or a one-on-one appointment.

To schedule training or for information, contact Cheyanne.n.pace.civ@army.mil or call 703-696-3510.

#### Find support with JBM-HH ACS

At Army Community Service, people will find all kinds of programs and services that combine fun with self-improvement. The joint base ACS office continues to serve virtually. To learn about available opportunities, call 703-696-3510. All JBM-HH ACS programs support Soldiers, civilian employees and

Families in maintaining readiness by coordinating and delivering comprehensive, responsive services that promote self-reliance, resiliency and stability.

#### Army Emergency Relief is here for Soldiers, Families

Army Emergency Relief is an invaluable resource for Soldiers and Families. Financial help is given in the form of an interest free loan, grant, or combination of the two. If a Family has a financial need, the Soldier should call ACS at 70-696-3510. AER is open Monday through Friday from 7:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. Please note that documentation is required to justify the dollar amount for loans.

## Army announces Future Soldier Prep Course

By Heather Hagan

Office of the Chief of Public Affairs, MRD

The Department of the Army announced today the creation of a new program designed to help potential recruits to meet the service's rigorous enlistment standards.

The Future Soldier Preparatory Course pilot program — set to start in early August at Fort Jackson, S.C. — will provide education and training to help American youth overcome academic and physical fitness barriers to military service.

"The Future Soldier Prep Course allows recruits, who meet all other qualifications for enlistment, a path to serve," said Gen. Paul E. Funk II, Commanding General, Training and Doctrine Command. "The young men and women who will participate in this pilot have the desire to improve themselves and want to honorably serve their country. This course is a great way to increase opportunities for them to serve without sacrificing the quality needed across our force."

The course is in response to the precipitous drop in the number of young Americans meeting Army enlistment standards. Only 23 percent fully meet the Army's eligibility requirements, down from 29 percent in recent years. The effects of the COVID pandemic over the past two years have only exacerbated barriers to enlistment for many young Americans, with drops in test scores and rising obesity across the nation.

"This course is one of many approaches the Army is taking to invest in America's young people," stated Funk. "We have to acknowledge that society has changed and help our youth improve so they can benefit from the training and opportunities that Army service provides. The Army is still the best place for young people to achieve their potential."

The pilot program will provide focused academic and fitness instruction to help recruits meet the Army's desired accession standards for body fat composition and academic test performance prior to basic training. It includes two separate tracks: a fitness program and an educational program for recruits who need help improving their scores on the Armed Forces Qualification Test (AFQT).

Individuals in both tracks are projected to remain in the FSPC for a maximum of 90 days, with opportunities every three weeks to leave the program and ship to basic training if they meet or exceed the Army's desired accession standards.

As part of their pre-enlistment process, all trainees will still have to take the gender-neutral Occupational Physical Assessment Test (OPAT), administered by a recruiter, to qualify for the physical demand level required for an Army MOS prior to their participation



The U.S. Army will start a Future Soldier Preparatory Course pilot program at Fort Jackson, S.C. to help America's youth overcome academic and physical barriers to service so they can earn the opportunity to join the Army. (Nathan Clinebelle)

in the preparatory course. Access to this program will allow these individuals who already meet all other qualifications for enlistment — to include moral and medical accessions standards — a path to serve. Recruits admitted through this program will further be required to meet all Department of Defense enlistment and training standards, ensuring the overall quality of the force.

Recruits with an Armed Services Voluntary Aptitude Battery (ASVAB) score of 21-30 may only participate in the academic track. Recruits with an ASVAB score between 42-49 may be allowed to voluntarily participate in both tracks, the fitness portion prior to basic combat training and the academic portion following basic training.

Individuals who improve their score above a 50 move into the desired higher standard test score categories and are potentially eligible for additional MOS opportunities or enlistment incentives. A score of 31 is the minimum required under current accessions guidelines for recruits in the fitness track.

The fitness course is an expansion of the

current Assessment of Recruit Motivation and Strength (ARMS) 2.0 program, which allowed recruits above the two percent body fat standard. Those recruits shipped straight to basic training, were closely tracked throughout their enlistment, and ultimately subject to existing Army physical fitness standards. The expansion of ARMS 2.0 will place recruits who exceed the accession body fat composition standard by greater than two percent, but no more than six percent in the fitness track of the Future Soldier Preparatory Course.

"This course gives us an opportunity to unleash unrealized potential by surrounding trainees with experts that they likely would not have access to at home," said Brig. Gen. Patrick Michaelis, the U.S. Army Training Center and Fort Jackson Commanding General. "With the right instruction and professional support, we are confident they will be able to perform successfully and meet the standards expected of every Soldier."

# Women’s healthcare in DoD unchanged by Supreme Court Decision

By C. Todd Lopez  
DOD News

While last month's Supreme Court opinion in *Dobbs v. Jackson Women's Health Organization* means each state now makes its own laws regarding abortion services, the health care that the Defense Department provides to service members has not changed, the undersecretary of defense for personnel and readiness said.

"Service members can receive the same reproductive health care after *Dobbs* as they did before the ruling," Gil Cisneros testified today before the House Armed Services Committee. "Consistent with long-existing federal law, 'covered abortions' — those cases that involve rape, incest or where the life of the mother would be endangered — will continue to be authorized to use federal funds and facilities. There is no interruption to this care."

Travel policies related to health care also remain, Cisneros said. If a service member must travel to obtain a covered abortion, she may do so on official status and will not be charged leave.

While the department will continue to be able to provide to service members the same level of health care it has always provided, Cisneros said the department is aware that the *Dobbs* decision will change available options for some service members when it comes to abortions that are not covered under department policy.

Based on laws that may be in effect in the state where a service member is stationed, abortion services may not be available.

"Service members are now having to navigate additional challenges to access essential women's health care services," he said. "Service members and their families, who were previously able to make very personal decisions about when to have a family, may now face greater burdens depending on where they're stationed."

Cisneros told lawmakers that the DOD continues to review its personnel and medical policies as a result of the *Dobbs* decision.

"We understand the very personal nature of how the court decision impacts families," he said. "We are being very deliberate in analyzing *Dobbs* with both focus and compassion. We want to make sure we get this right because it impacts

access to essential women's health care and reproductive care."

Another aspect of reproductive health care that lawmakers were interested in concerned the availability of contraception within the military health care system. Seileen Mullen, the acting secretary of defense for health affairs, testified that until recently DOD had contraceptive clinics set up at 18 military treatment facilities across the department. Now, she said, the plan is to have those clinics at all military treatment facilities across the department.

"We have expanded where we have military treatment contraceptive clinics — walk-in clinics," she said. "A woman or man could come up, get counseling, and decide what contraceptives they need that day."

Cisneros said the department is changing policy on one form of contraception in particular — the intrauterine device, or IUD — to make it available to more service members.

"We are currently updating our policies so that service members and their families will be able to receive those IUDs through the TRICARE health care system without having to pay a copay, which is currently the thing right now," he said. "We're changing our policy, updating it, so that the copay will be eliminated with that."

Mullen also told lawmakers that the department will soon release results of a survey on women's reproductive health conducted by the RAND Corporation, which reveals a lack of knowledge among service members regarding contraceptive options.

"It's the first time that has been done in 30 years," Mullen said. "It's given us quite a bit of information ... [including that there's] a lack of education about women's options around contraceptives, which are free in our MTFs. All active-duty service members get free contraceptives within the MTFs and in our retail pharmacies."

Right now, Mullen said, there is a small copay for active-duty service members to get contraceptives, but congressional legislation might change that — making contraception totally free to service members and their families.

"We also ... have an app called 'Decide and Be Ready' that men and women can use to go through their contraceptive options to decide what's best for them," she said.

"We also have those walk-in clinics that are ... being expanded this year, as well. But ... it's sort of astonishing how our young men and women really don't fully know of what their reproductive rights and health care consists of, and we need to do a better job."



Despite last month’s Supreme Court opinion in *Dobbs vs. Jackson Women’s Health Organization*, the healthcare that the defense provides to service members has not changed, according to the undersecretary of defense for personnel and readiness. (Lisa Ferdinando, DOD)



# Anonymous

support for sexual assault survivors in the military

[safehelpline.org](https://safehelpline.org) | 877-995-5247

## Pentagram



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Commander  
**Command Sgt. Maj. Matthew Majeski**  
Command Sergeant Major

**Sherry Kuiper**  
Interim Public Affairs Officer  
**Pamela Kulokas**  
Command Info. Chief

# Chaplain's Corner

## Been there, done that

By Retired Chaplain (Brig. Gen.) Ray Bailey  
Former deputy chief of Chaplains

I've said it and been told countless times. No doubt you've heard it too. "Been there, done that." It's used for a whole host of circumstances. Sometimes it's an expression of accomplishment. Other times it's an expression of dismissal. Still other times it is an expression of understanding or identification.



We've even added some flavor to the comment on occasion. "Been there, done that, bought the T-shirt." Or "Been there, done that, don't want to go back." Or "Been there, done that, and still do that!" Or, "Been there, done that. Then, been there several more times, because apparently I never learn."

But what does it really mean? Possible, here are some practical translations:

- I've traveled that road before.
- I know what it's like.
- I've been through a similar experience.
- I understand what you're going through.
- I know how you feel.
- I survived to tell about it!

There are some experiences that change your life forever. Happenings that don't allow you to

look at things the same anymore. Those moments that changed directions on your journey. Possible journeys that leave you with a deeper understanding of yourself and others, both good and bad.

We've all experienced hardship and hurt. It has left us feeling fractured in our hearts and minds and our spirits are depleted. We cannot walk away unchanged.

There is a need for healing and forgiveness. There is a need to connect heart to heart, spirit to spirit. When it is received, it changes us forever.

Our "been there, done that" is a declaration of endurance, resiliency, and accomplishment. It's also a proclamation of encouragement from others who can commiserate on our behalf to know we are not alone and can endure too. It is a term of hope and comfort. It is a solidarity in pain and non-judgement.

"Been there, done that, and I have the T-shirt." I truly understand.

### RELIGIOUS SERVICES at MEMORIAL CHAPEL (Bldg. 480)

#### Saturdays

5 p.m. Catholic Mass

#### Sundays

9 a.m. Catholic Mass

10:30 a.m. Protestant Service \*

Noon Gospel Service \*

\* The Protestant and Gospel Sunday services are streamed LIVE on the RSO Facebook page.



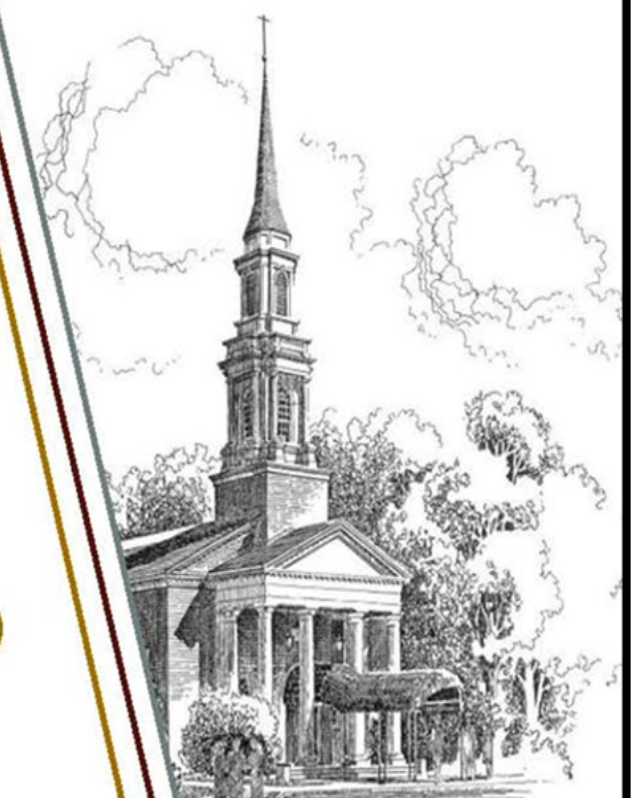
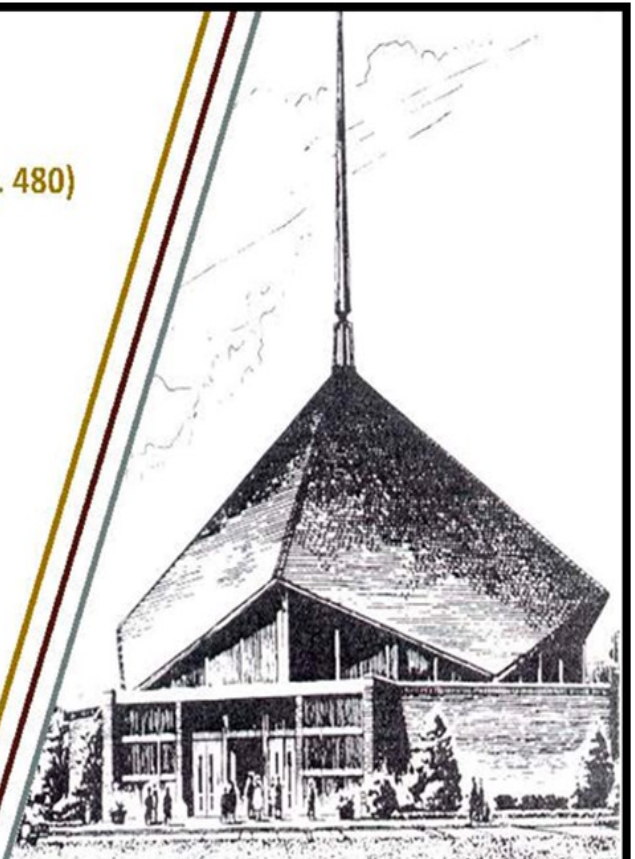
LIKE and FOLLOW the JBM-HH  
Religious Support Office on  
Facebook to stay up to date on the  
latest Religious Support information!

[Facebook.com/jbmhrso/](https://www.facebook.com/jbmhrso/)

#### Sundays

10 a.m. Samoan Service

### RELIGIOUS SERVICE at OLD POST CHAPEL (Bldg. 335)





The U.S. Army Band will host its end of the summer concert, Festival Overture, August 6 at 8 p.m. on the National Mall in Washington, D.C. (The U.S. Army Band)




**THESE  
THREE DIGITS  
COULD  
SAVE A LIFE**


Starting July 16, 2022, you can call **988** and **Press 1** to reach the Military Crisis Line.

**988**  
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  **Call, Text, Chat**  
[988lifeline.org/chat](https://988lifeline.org/chat)




JOINT BASE MYER-HENDERSON HALL ARMY EDUCATION CENTER presents...




**MILITARY CAREER & EDUCATION EXPO 2022**

**TUESDAY, AUGUST 16th**  
**11:00AM – 3:00PM**

**Spates Community Club & Conference Center**  
**214 McNair Rd., Ft. Myer, VA 22211**



JBM-HH • Ft. Meade • Ft. Belvoir • Ft. Detrick • Pentagon



# What's happening at Henderson Hall?

**Family Friendly Dog Swim  
at The Zembiec Pool Facility**  
8th Annual  
**PUPPY IN THE POOL**



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FOLLOW US  
MORE INFO:



Henderson Hall Aquatics Program

ALL BREEDS WELCOME  
**SUNDAY, OCTOBER 1**  
NOON-4PM

Participation is open to all Uniformed Services Members, Retirees, DoD/USCG Civilians, and their family members  
Zembiec Pool Bldg. #11, Henderson Hall Marine Corps Base

**\$5 FEE PER DOG**  
Payable at Pre-Registration or Entry, Credit/Debit Only.

PRE-REGISTER

Owners are responsible for ensuring that their dogs have received proper vaccinations in accordance with local ordinances and have been appropriately socialized.

**2 DAY SELF-EMPLOYMENT WORKSHOP**  
IS OFFERED IN COLLABORATION AMONG THE U.S.




The "Introduction to Self-Employment" course is the foundational piece of Boots to Business (B2B). Participants are introduced to the skills, knowledge, and resources they need to launch a business, including steps for developing business concepts, how to develop a business plan, and information on SBA resources available to help.

**There are Two Opportunities:**  
**June 15-16, 2022**  
or  
**September 14-15, 2022**  
from  
**0900-1530**

For registration, please call  
Career Resource Management Center  
Henderson Hall  
**703-614-6828**

**MC CS**  
HENDERSON HALL

**Federal Job Results**



**Cracking the Code to  
Federal Employment**  
**There are Two Opportunities:**  
**July 7, 2022**  
**September 8, 2022**  
**1030-1130**

**Understanding the  
Federal SES Application Process**  
**There are Two Opportunities:**  
**July 7, 2022**  
**September 8, 2022**  
**1130-1230**

For registration, please call  
Career Resource Management Center  
Henderson Hall  
**703-614-6828**

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**MARINE CORPS FAMILY TEAM BUILDING**



**DEPLOYMENT  
101**

Are you or your loved one going on a deployment or an individual augment (IA) soon? Feel free to join our monthly Deployment 101 brief! Here are the upcoming brief dates and times offered by MCFTB-Henderson Hall:

- **August 17**
- **September 14**
- **October 19**

All classes from 10 AM to 11 AM  
Classes are held on ZoomGov or scheduled on demand

For more information, please contact us at:  
MCFTBHH@usmc-mccs.org or 703.693.1253

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JOINT BASE MYER-HENDERSON HALL ARMY EDUCATION CENTER



# MILITARY CAREER & EDUCATION EXPO 2022

*"To Serve + Education = A Lifelong Career"*

Spates Community Club and Conference  
Center Annex

214 McNair Rd. Fort Myer, VA 22211



## BREAKOUT SESSIONS

**Location:** Spates Community Club & Conference Center  
214 McNair Rd. , Ft. Myer, VA 22211

**11:15 - 12:15 GREEN TO GOLD (ROTC)**

**12:20 - 1:15 ARMY MEDICAL (AMEDD)**

**1:20 - 2:20 TUITION ASSISTANCE/ARMYIgnited**

To reserve a seat at a briefing and for more AMAZING information on the EXPO, please scan QR Code.



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# News Notes

## Barracks Renovation Project

The barracks renovation project will cause some traffic delays and parking issues August 24th through September 24th. Crews will be bringing equipment daily through the Wright Gate and staging items in the Tri- Services parking lot – in the section across from Spates Hall.

## Road closures for ANC southern expansion

As part of Arlington National Cemetery's southern expansion construction project, the westbound portion of Southgate Road from Columbia Pike to S. Oak Street has been closed for construction. This closure will last approximately three months. As part of the construction in that section of the road, the traffic pattern on the eastbound side of Southgate Road is now two way.

## Walk-ins welcome at immunization clinic

The Andrew Rader U.S. Army Health Clinic now offers COVID-19 vaccination services from ages 6 months and older either by appointment or walk-in. The following COVID-19 vaccines are available: Pfizer & Moderna versions of the vaccine for 6 months to 5 years, Pfizer for ages 5 to 11 years old, and Pfizer & Moderna for over the age of 12. Services are available from 8 to 11:30 a.m. and 1 to 3:30 p.m. Monday to Thursday. On Fridays, services are available 8 to 11:30 a.m.

## Dive-in movie night

The next “Dive-In Movie” is Saturday, August 13 with High School Musical 2 starting at 8:50 p.m. It’s a great time to bring your favorite inflatable float to lounge on as you take in a movie on the big screen at the pool!

## DFMWR pool and grill

The DFMWR Pool Complex is open 7 days a week from 11 a.m. to 8 p.m. now through Labor Day weekend. Season tickets may be purchased at Patton Hall, Bldg. 214, 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. weekdays. The MWR Grill is open to everyone daily from 11 a.m. to 7:30 p.m. daily.

## Summer reading challenge

The Summer Reading Challenge at the JBM-HH Library is still open and ends on August 13th. Contact the Library at (703) 696-3555. A free t-shirt will be given to those who sign up.

## Sports are back

With the return of games and events at Nationals Park and Audi Field, all are advised of the increase in traffic on roads surrounding Fort McNair, to include P Street and 2nd Street, prior to and following games. Personnel who park at Fort McNair are advised to exercise caution walking to and from the stadiums and to be aware of the potential for increased criminal activity. Be advised that the Trusted Traveler Program is suspended, so anyone 18 years of age and older must have a DoD ID, AIE pass, or a day pass to access the installation. A day pass may be requested in advance at <https://pass.aie.army.mil/JBMHH/>. Non-DoD affiliated guests may also be dropped off outside of and before entering the installation.

## Fort Myer Fitness Center

The Fort Myer Fitness Center is offering 24/7 customer access and is registering CACs for access to the facility. Active Duty Military, AD Family Members, DoD Civilians, Retirees, and their Family members may stop by the facility between 6 a.m. and 5 p.m. to register their CAC.

## Never too late senior fitness classes

Never too late senior fitness classes will be held Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays from 9:45 to 11 a.m. at the Community Activity Center, 228 McNair Rd., Bldg. 405, next to the bowling center.

The N2L fitness class is open to all Department of Defense ID card holders, military, civilians, retirees, reservists and military spouses. For more information, please contact Chester Taylor at [gotlander6@gmail.com](mailto:gotlander6@gmail.com).

## Civilian Leave Assist

JBM-HH Directorate of Public Works employee Daniel Wilhite and Directorate of Emergency Services employee Talia Rankin have been approved to receive leave under the Volunteer Leave Program.

Department of the Army civilian employees who would like to donate annual leave can fill out form OPM630a, “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](http://www.opm.gov/forms/pdf_fill/opm630a.pdf).

For federal government civilian employees outside the Department of the Army who would like to donate annual leave, please com-

plete form OPM 630b, “Request to Donate Annual Leave to Leave Recipient Under the Voluntary Leave Transfer Program (Outside Agency),” at [www.opm.gov/forms/pdf\\_fill/opm630b.pdf](http://www.opm.gov/forms/pdf_fill/opm630b.pdf).

## Commissary early bird hours, Click2Go

The Commissary offers early bird services every day. The Commissary hours are Monday to Friday from 7 a.m. to 7:30 p.m., Saturday 7 a.m. to 6:30 p.m. and Sunday 7 a.m. to 6 p.m. Don’t forget the Commissary’s CLICK2GO online shopping and curbside pickup service individuals can access from their mobile devices. For full details, visit <https://www.commissaries.com/shopping/click-2-go>. For additional information on the JBM-HH Commissary, visit the Commissary official website at <https://www.commissaries.com/shopping/store-locations/>

## DoD Dine Smart Traveler Rewards Program

The Defense Travel Management Office sends notice that DoD travelers can earn rewards when dining while on official travel through the DoD Dine Smart program. The traveler rewards program adds value for Defense travelers and supports Government Travel Charge Card policy compliance.

Once enrolled, DoD personnel earn rewards points anytime they use their travel card to pay for meals at participating restaurants when on official travel. Points can be redeemed for gift cards from retailers and restaurants.

Joint Travel Regulations require the use of a travel card for all travel expenses including meals. This program provides a benefit for travelers who adhere to policy and use their cards at participating restaurants. A toolkit with fact sheets is available at [https://www.defensetravel.dod.mil/Docs/Toolkit\\_Dining\\_Traveler\\_Reward\\_s.pdf](https://www.defensetravel.dod.mil/Docs/Toolkit_Dining_Traveler_Reward_s.pdf).

## Army Expeditionary Civilian Workforce (AECW) Deployment Opportunities

The Army Expeditionary Civilian Workforce (AECW) has deployment opportunities available for current Army civilians. These are TDY assignments for 6, 9, or 12 months, with a variety of locations available. The deployments are considered details to a set of duties, with no change to an employee's permanent grade or posi-

tion of record.

The grade level listed is a suggested grade for the experience desired; employees can be at a grade level that is close (plus or minus 1 grade interval) from what is listed. The assignment is considered a Detail to a set of duties in a TDY status.

Some locations offer financial incentives such as Post Differential or overtime, but this varies by position and location. Most importantly, these deployments offer career broadening experiences at a level and scope that is difficult to match in a non-deployed setting. It is the chance of a lifetime to truly make a difference and to contribute in a meaningful way in direct support of our deployed soldiers.

These are deployments in field conditions. Individuals should expect to be housed in government-provided quarters (to include tents, barracks, or other similar facilities), with shared rooms, shared restroom/shower facilities, and meals provided in a DFAC. All deployments are in an unaccompanied status (family members cannot accompany the deployer).

The assignments are available to current permanent Army civilians. Individuals on overseas assignments must have at least 18 months remaining prior to their Date of Return from Overseas Station (DEROS).

Civilians who are in the Reserves must be in a Retired or Standby status (i.e., cannot be in the Ready Reserves as this would be a dual obligation for deployment). Civilians must have or be able to obtain a security clearance, at least at the Interim Secret level. Some positions require higher clearances as noted.

The AECW directly funds the TDY expenses for deployment and provides reimbursement to commands for other deployment-related expenses such as post differential, danger pay (if authorized), and overtime (if authorized).

To apply Submit a resume, recent SF-50 (to verify status), DD214 (if former military), and a signed Request for Deployment (RFD) form through your supervisory chain to your command’s deployment coordinator.

## Henderson Hall Semper Fit OohRah Run Series

Mark your calendars for the following 5K runs:

- September 16 — Devil Dog
- October 16 — Haunted Hill Halloween
- November 18 — Turkey Trot

Our values, always  
HONORABLE SERVICE ♦ TRUST ♦ STEWARDSHIP