



# Fort Hood Sentinel

Since 1942

83RD YEAR, ISSUE 30

Thursday, July 31, 2025

LIVING

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A5



LIVING

Holiday spirit  
comes to Fort  
Hood midyear

A6



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GC: A supportive new chapter at Fort Hood A2



Photo by Ayumi Davis, Sentinel Editor

From left, Col. Mark McClellan, U.S. Army Garrison-Fort Hood commander, and Command Sgt. Maj. Loyd Rhoades, U.S. Army Garrison-Fort Hood command sergeant major, uncase the colors for Fort Hood during the Fort Hood redesignation ceremony Monday at III Armored Corps Headquarters at Fort Hood.

## Hood renamed to honor an 'original Phantom Warrior'

BY HEATHER ASHLEY

Sentinel Assistant Editor

Two years after a name change, The Great Place is Fort Hood again, honoring a World War I hero, Col. Robert B. Hood.

During a ceremony Monday at the III Armored Corps Headquarters flagpole, Col. Mark McClellan, U.S. Army Garrison-Fort Hood commander, and Command Sgt. Maj. Loyd Rhoades, U.S. Army Garrison-Fort Hood command sergeant major, cased the Fort Cavazos colors and unfurled the Fort Hood

colors, marking the installation's return to Fort Hood and paying respect to Hood, known for his dedication to service and the Army Values.

A Distinguished Service Cross recipient, Hood was dedicated to his Soldiers and deeply respected by his peers and subordinates, said III Armored Corps and Fort Hood Commanding General Lt. Gen. Kevin D. Admiral.

"Colonel Hood represents the ideal citizen-Soldier, a man who rose to the occasion when his nation needed him most, and continued to give back long after the fighting had ceased," Admiral said. "In recognition of his

service, Colonel Hood's name will live on as generations of Soldiers who served and will serve here learn about his career and the impact he had on our Army."

Mitzi Huffman, Hood's youngest daughter, said the post's redesignation in her father's name has been humbling and overwhelming.

Huffman attended the Monday ceremony with her husband and other family members.

"He never talked about his military experience," she said. "I did not know that

See Hood Renamed, A3

## NEWS BRIEFS

### DA photos no longer available at VI

Beginning at 8 a.m. today the Fort Hood photo lab will no longer fulfill the requirements for official Department of the Army photographs as the DA Photograph Management Information System (DAPMIS) will sunset. The responsibilities and requirements of DA official photos can no longer be accomplished without DAPMIS. Please cancel any existing appointments. Existing DA official photos will remain accessible through the interactive Personnel Records Management System (iPERMS).

The way forward without DAPMIS is still being determined by Army senior leaders. This does not affect 'command' or 'head and shoulder' photos or other photos which VIOS labs may provide outside the DA official photo.

### Phantom Warrior Stadium closes

Phantom Warrior Stadium is closed now until 6 a.m. Monday, including weekend access, in support of the All-Army Soccer Camp and Armed Forces Tournament.

### AAFES hosts Corvettes, Kids Fun Day

Fort Hood Army and Air Force Exchange Service will host the Corvettes & Kids Fun Day event 2-4 p.m. Saturday at the West Fort Hood Express, Bldg. 70012. The Mid Texas Corvette Club will be there, and AAFES will have "back to school" goodies for children.

### BLORA hosts Sun Fun

There will be a Sun Fun event 11 a.m.-4 p.m. Aug. 16 at Sierra Beach at Belton Lake Outdoor Recreation Area. The event will have a water wars balloon slingshot, a dolphin inflatable water slide, beach flag football, games and kayak and paddleboard demonstrations. Concessions will be sold at the Sierra Beach snack bar, and designated picnic areas are available.

The event is free and open to all, with no ID required when accessing BLORA from Sparta Road. For more information, call 254-287-2523.

Scan the QR Code to read the Fort Hood Sentinel online.

A legacy remembered:

## Family of new post namesake reflects on Hood

BY JANECE WRIGHT

Fort Hood Public Affairs

In a historic move reflecting a broader commitment to preserve America's military heritage, Fort Hood has been renamed in honor of Col. Robert B. Hood — a decorated officer whose legacy embodies courage, integrity and service.

Mitzi Huffman, daughter of Hood, conveyed she grappled with the news delivered by Lt. Gen. Kevin D. Admiral, III Armored Corps and Fort Hood commander.

"When I got the call and was told, I thought it was a prank call, and I was kind of curt to the general," Huffman admitted. "He said, 'President Trump has ordered,'

and I'm going, 'Oh my!' So yes, I was totally in disbelief."

The news stirred a bevy of emotions for Huffman and after some fact-checking and confirming the redesignation was indeed sanctioned and happening, she began to unpack years of memories, literally and figuratively, revisiting the impact of her youth and reflecting on the dichotomy of the man she respected as a Soldier and loved as a father.

Long before his military service, Hood was a boy growing up in Wellington, Kansas, where lessons of discipline and determination first took root. Those early days, marked by the sudden death of his father, would shape the leader he was destined to become.

Hood went on to graduate from Kansas State Agricultural College, now Kansas State University, located in Manhattan, Kansas, where he majored in horticulture and political science and excelled in ROTC.

He embarked on a military career marked by leadership, bravery and unwavering integrity, punctuated by the Distinguished Service Cross, the U.S. Army's second-highest military decoration for extraordinary heroism.

Despite his military heroism and achievements, Huffman, the youngest of Hood's two daughters, shared his real superpower was a devotion to duty that equaled his commitment to his family.

"I told my dad one time that the greatest gift he gave my sister and I was knowing

that they loved each other," Huffman said of her parents. "They were really devoted to each other."

Their union, which spanned nearly three decades and endured World War I, the attack on Pearl Harbor, World War II and the Vietnam War, began when he met Hazel McMinn at the National Naval Medical Center, now known as Walter Reed National Military Medical Center, in Bethesda, Maryland.

Hood lived life in two uniforms — one stitched in duty, the other in family — and his wife ensured a healthy separation between the two, Huffman recalled.

"My mother would reflect that General

See Family Reflection, A3



Photo by Ayumi Davis, Sentinel Editor

From left, Lt. Gen. Kevin D. Admiral, commanding general of III Armored Corps and Fort Hood; Mitzi Huffman, Col. Robert B. Hood's youngest daughter; and Col. Mark McClellan, U.S. Army Garrison-Fort Hood commander, watch the ceremony to honor Hood as the post's new namesake Monday at the III Armored Corps Headquarters at Fort Hood.



Photo by Janece Wright, Fort Hood Public Affairs

From left, Sohail Salgado, work reception technician, Operations and Maintenance Division, Fort Hood Directorate of Public Works, and Stephen Short, air-conditioning mechanic, DPW OMD, drop a tarp at the Bernie Beck Gate sign to reveal the new name of the installation during the commemorative renaming ceremony Monday at Fort Hood.

# A supportive new chapter at Fort Hood

BY COL. MARK MCCLELLAN

Garrison Commander

Hello everyone, and what an honor it is to be back at Fort Hood as your garrison commander. I trained here as a young cadet, and this post is where I truly discovered my passion for serving in armor. It feels like coming home, and I am incredibly excited to give back to the community that helped shape my career.

Fort Hood is not just a duty station for me — it is a place I deeply care about, and my commitment to you is simple: to make this the best place to live, work and raise a family in the Army. We want Fort Hood to be the Army's "Installation of Choice," a place where Soldiers, families and our dedicated civilian teammates want to be stationed and choose to stay connected to our community.

That means more than just new buildings — though we will continue to improve our facilities. It is about creating a truly supportive environment where everyone can thrive. We will be focused on strengthening our mission readiness, maximizing our capabilities and



**Mark McClellan**

boosting the overall quality of life for everyone here. We will also be sharing our successes and building even stronger partnerships with the wonderful communities surrounding Fort Hood.

To show everyone what Fort Hood has to offer, we are launching a new campaign to highlight all the amazing opportunities here. We will be working with units to showcase Fort Hood within the Army's Integrated Personnel and Pay System-Army marketplace and partnering with universities and recruiting commands to make Fort Hood a top choice for new Soldiers starting their careers.

Achieving this vision is not something I can do alone. It requires all of us. I believe in open communication, listening to your ideas and working together to solve challenges. My door is always open, and I genuinely want to hear from you. What can we do together to make Fort Hood even better?

I am confident that by collaborating, we can build a Fort Hood that embodies excellence, strengthens our sense of community and proudly earns its place as the Army's "Installation of Choice." I am excited for this journey, and I look forward to working alongside each of you!



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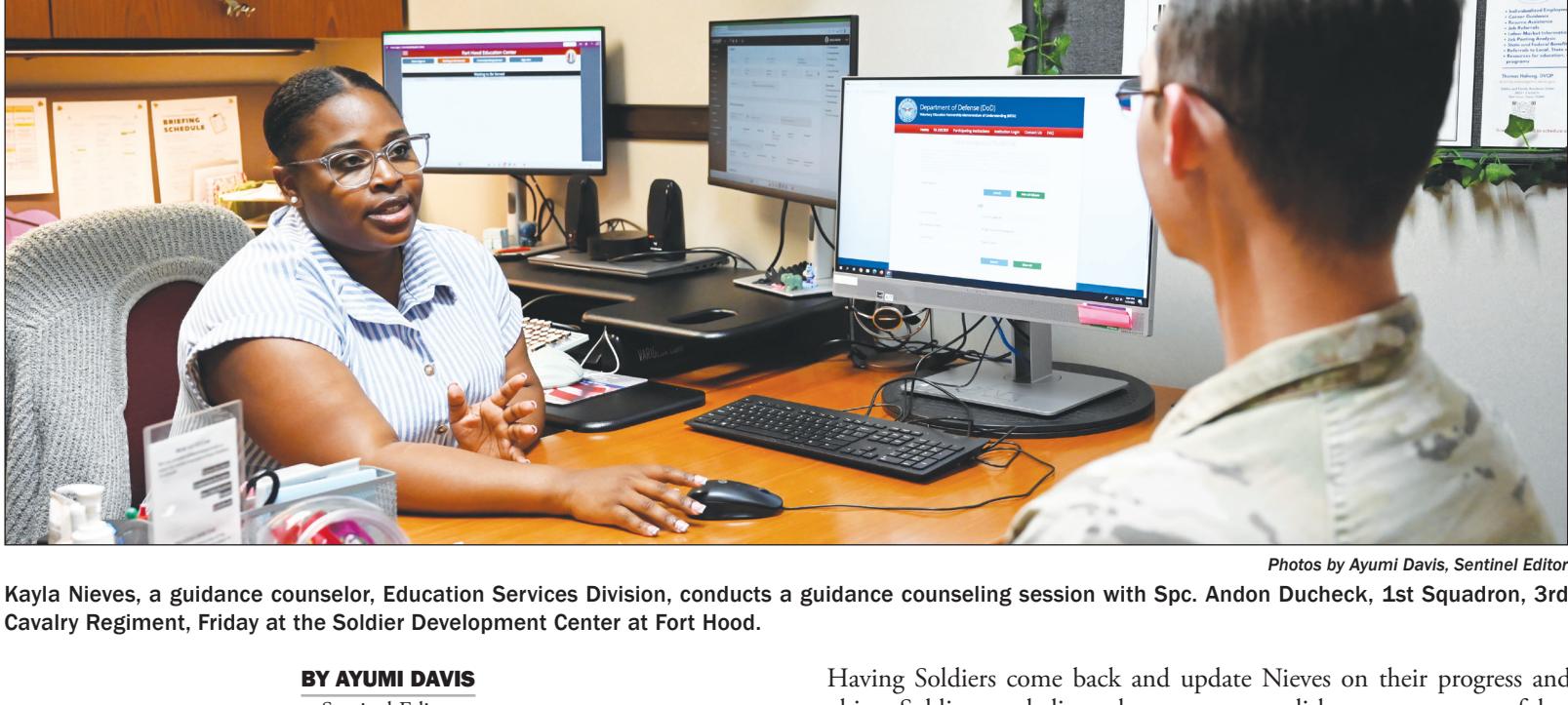
## June ceremony honors recent retirees



*Photo by Derika Upshaw, Fort Hood Public Affairs*

Col. Jason T. Liddell, Maj. Kathryn E. Gilmour, Chief Warrant Officer 4 Ancilia Murphy, 1st Sgt. Travis A. Buehler, 1st Sgt. Alex J. McGowan, 1st Sgt. Juan C. Ramos Gomez, Sgt. 1st Class John A. Baker, Sgt. 1st Class Robert E. Price Jr., Staff Sgt. Stephanie M. Bolden, Staff Sgt. Ivan L. Hollins and Staff Sgt. Joshua D. Turlington participate in the III Armored Corps and Fort Hood Retirement Ceremony Friday at the Lone Star Conference Center at Fort Hood.

## GREAT PEOPLE AT THE GREAT PLACE



*Photos by Ayumi Davis, Sentinel Editor*

Kayla Nieves, a guidance counselor, Education Services Division, conducts a guidance counseling session with Spc. Andon Ducheck, 1st Squadron, 3rd Cavalry Regiment, Friday at the Soldier Development Center at Fort Hood.

BY AYUMI DAVIS

Sentinel Editor

Many Soldiers begin or continue education while in service, and the Education Services Division takes pride in helping Soldiers and their families. Guidance counselors, like Kayla Nieves, help those Soldiers and their families achieve their academic goals.

Nieves helps her clients find schools, programs they are interested in, register for courses, submit funding requests and with resources and benefits, like the GI Bill.

"... I always tell them, 'What's your end goal?' she said. "We always start with the end goal, like, 'What career do you want to see yourself in? Okay, now let's work backwards from there to here,' and try to help them come up with a plan for that."

Nieves also hosts unit briefs with Soldiers, educating them about ESD and resources available, as well as attend Soldier and Family Readiness Group meetings and other events. She even does a monthly podcast with Kiersten Sheahan, chief of counseling, ESD, called "Conversations with CAV Counselors," talking about resources for education and what the ESD offers.

Before working as a guidance counselor, Nieves worked as an instructor for the Basic Skills Education Program in Camp Humphreys, Republic of Korea.

"I was helping my Soldiers get their 110 or above GT (General Technical) score (on the Armed Services Vocation Aptitude Battery), so they could do all these great things, and then they would get their score, and then that would be the end of it," she said. "... And then one time I sat in (on a guidance counseling session) and listened, it was like, 'I want to do this. I want to be able to help more. I can only do so much in my position as a BSEP instructor, but I want to do more.'"

When she moved to Fort Hood, she was able to become a guidance counselor in 2023.

She loves her job, Nieves expressed.

"I love being able to leave the building and go to the unit, go to their footprint and talk to them — kind of get that one-on-one time even if it's like a big group," she said. "It basically gives me opportunity to meet them where they're at, and also for them to put a name with a face, and so they can see I'm a real person. They're not just getting random emails from me."

Having Soldiers come back and update Nieves on their progress and pushing Soldiers to believe they can accomplish more are two of her favorite things, she said.

"When I have those Soldiers who are like, 'I'm only doing this for this,' or 'I don't want to do it,' I convince them, like 'No, you're not. You're going to do more. I have faith that you're going to do more than just this one class,' or 'You're going to go beyond an associate's.' ... In my head all I hear is 'Challenge accepted,'" Nieves said. "It's a great feeling."

For Nieves, success means not giving up.

"... Once you stop trying, that's when you're not successful. As long as you keep trying, even if you fail, but you just keep going," she said. "That's you being successful, like getting the degree. Yeah, that's great you can, but just the process and the journey to get to that point, I consider that a success."

"... Just as long as you don't give up in what you're trying to do, even if you have to change your game plan, is still a success," she added, "because recognizing that you need to change your game plan and doing it, that's a win."

In her personal time, Nieves loves to read, bake and play games with her son.



Kayla Nieves, a guidance counselor, Education Services Division, poses for a photo Friday at the Soldier Development Center at Fort Hood.



Photos by Ayumi Davis, Sentinel Editor

Right, 1st Lt. Austin Yoakum, member of the Salute Battery for the Fort Hood redesignation ceremony, 1st Cavalry Division Artillery, presents a 75 mm Pack Howitzer shell casing to Mitzi Huffman, daughter of Col. Robert B. Hood, during the ceremony Monday at III Armored Corps Headquarters at Fort Hood.



From left, Col. Mark McClellan, U.S. Army Garrison-Fort Hood commander, and Command Sgt. Maj. Loyd Rhoades, U.S. Army Garrison-Fort Hood command sergeant major, case the colors for Fort Cavazos during the Fort Hood redesignation ceremony Monday at III Armored Corps Headquarters at Fort Hood.

# Redesignation honors WWI hero, post continues legacy of readiness, training

**Hood Renamed:** *Continued from A1*

he had a Distinguished Service Cross until we were preparing him for burial in Arlington (National Cemetery)."

Hood passed away when Huffman was a young teen, but she remembers his military bearing and discipline during her childhood. Since the announcement Fort Hood would be redesignated to honor her father, Huffman has reflected on her childhood and her father, finding comfort in her memories.

"As I reflect back on his parenting skills, honor and bravery and selfless service and integrity were very important to him," she said. "This has been a lovely experience to unfreeze and come forward like this. It really has been overwhelming."

Huffman recalled daily duties around the home, organization in childhood bedrooms and a father who encouraged his daughters to be strong when most young women were graduating high school and marrying.

"He kept encouraging us to get educated, to be able to care for ourselves at all times," she said.

Hood was born April 8, 1891, in Wellington, Kansas. He graduated from Kansas State Agricultural College (now Kansas State University), located in Manhattan, Kansas, in 1914.

He was commissioned Aug. 8, 1917, as a second lieutenant in the U.S. Army and served with Echo Battery, 12th Field Artillery Regiment, 2nd Infantry Division.

The unit still serves today as part of the 4th Infantry Division at Fort Carson, Colorado, and III Armored Corps.

"Colonel Hood was also one of the original Phantom Warriors," Admiral said, adding 2nd Inf. Div. was originally part of III Armored Corps.

Hood was awarded the Distinguished Service Cross for his actions under fire on Sept. 12, 1918, near Thiaucourt, France, during WWI. During a firefight, then-Captain Hood "displayed extraordinary courage and tactical brilliance as he expertly maneuvered his artillery battery under a barrage of heavy and persistent enemy fire," the award narrative stated.

"After his initial gun crews were lost to German artillery and machine gun fire, he rapidly reorganized his unit, restoring its combat capability in short order," Admiral said. "His actions earned him the nation's second-highest military honors."

Hood continued his military service, including surviving the Pearl Harbor attack while stationed at Schofield Barracks, Hawaii, and later commanded an artillery training unit at Fort Sill, Oklahoma, during World War II.

After 44 years of service, he retired in 1961 as a colonel. Hood died Oct. 12, 1964, and is buried at Arlington National

Cemetery, located in Arlington, Virginia.

"Colonel Hood's life reminds us that while not every hero becomes a household name, their legacy can be immortalized by the values they live and the lives they touch," Admiral said.

Renaming the installation after the WWI hero was a fitting tribute, as both the man and post embodied a commitment to training and preparing warfighters.

"During the (Interwar Period), these (years) were marked by reflection and innovation within our Army, and officers like Colonel Hood played essential roles in training, doctrine, development and mentorship of younger Soldiers," Admiral said. "His dedication to these efforts ensures that the U.S. military was ready for action for World War II and beyond."

Originally designated Camp Hood, the Central Texas post was established in 1942 as a WWII tank destroyer training center. Initially established as a temporary post, training ramped up throughout the 1940s, leading to the post's designation as a permanent installation, Fort Hood.

The post has continued to grow.

"Fort Hood, established in 1942, was built to meet the urgent need for a large armor training base," Admiral said. "Since those early days, it's grown into one of the largest and most important military bases in the world, spanning over 200,000 acres."

The Central Texas post is not only a place for training, but a "living, breathing community, home to thousands of active-duty service members, families and civilians who work together to support the Army's mission," the III Armored Corps commander noted.

Fort Hood's contributions to the nation and the Army are well-established and far-reaching.

"Fort Hood has stood for more than seven decades as a symbol of strength, combat readiness and national pride," Admiral said. "Its significance to the U.S. Army and the fabric of our country cannot be overstated."

The name has changed, but at its core, Fort Hood has remained steadfast in its mission to warfighters and their families.

"From its founding during World War II to this moment of redesignation, Fort Hood has stood as a bastion of readiness, rooted in sacrifice and strengthened by the unwavering support of our surrounding communities," said Chaplain (Col.) Kevin E. Wainwright, III Armored Corps chaplain, during the invocation.

Fort Hood was originally redesignated Fort Cavazos on May 9, 2023, in honor of the late retired Gen. Richard E. Cavazos, who served as a III Corps commanding general 1980-1982, as part of a congressionally mandated effort to rename nine Army installations named for Confederate soldiers.

The Naming Commission, established by Congress in the 2021 National Defense Authorization Act, was tasked with "assigning, modifying or removing of names, symbols, displays, monuments and paraphernalia to assets of the Department of Defense that commemorate the Confederate States of America (CSA) or any person who served voluntarily with the CSA."

The Naming Commission also recommended namesakes for each of the affected installations.

Cavazos was a Silver Star and two-time Distinguished Service Cross recipient for valorous acts during combat operations in the Korean War and Vietnam War. He was posthumously awarded the Medal of Honor on Jan. 3, 2025, for his actions June 14-15, 1953, in the Korean War.

Fort Hood was renamed for Col. Robert B. Hood on June 11, 2025, in an order signed by Secretary of the Army Dan Driscoll, following an announcement by President Donald Trump that all nine installations would be reverted to their original names, in honor of recognized military heroes.

Willie Keller Jr., an Army veteran who served at Fort Hood and is currently post commander at Command Sgt. Maj. A.C. Cotton VFW Post 12209 at Fort Hood, said the renaming was a historic event.

"The military is built on history," Keller said. "The garrison commander and garrison (command) sergeant major went through the ceremony to close out on a chapter of the book of this installation and open a new chapter in the book of this installation."

## Renaming respects history of Army installation, honors legacy of service

**Family Reflection:** *Continued from A1*

(Douglas) MacArthur's wife always referred to him as 'the general' in conversation, and my mother, laughingly, would say that she told my dad when they were married that when he walked through the door of their home, his rank disappeared. He took his little eagles off when he walked into the house," Huffman said.

Rank aside, her father ruled the household with an unyielding discipline. He cultivated habits through example, routine and expectation — habits Huffman said are still etched into her life today.

"He was a very tough task master, but he was fair. He definitely could make you toe the line," Huffman said. "I thought every child had Saturday morning inspections where he would come into our room and make sure our coat hangers were all facing the same way, our shoes were lined up, we always had our clothes laid out for the next day and that we always made our beds in hospital corners. Still today, the first thing I do is make my bed every morning."

Some of her most cherished memories are when the rigidity of rank gave way to gentler rhythms, Huffman shared.

"I remember when I was about 7 or 8, he would read to me at night, and one of his favorite things to read was William Cullen Bryant's 'Thanatopsis,'" she said. "I remember he would read a page, then he would turn to a page, and he would shut his eyes, and he would,

from memory, repeat several stanzas of that poem. I just recently read that poem again, and it was very poignant to his life."

She laughed as she recalled one of the rare instances, she and her sister outsmarted their father after they were forbidden to ride horses.

They tied the horse to a wagon and drove the horse around the pasture — knowing they could get in trouble but armed with a ready response.

"We said in unison, 'Dad, we're not riding the horse, we're driving the horse,'" Huffman recited. "We laughed about that for years."

Now a retired Air Force captain, wife, mother and grandmother, Huffman has never forgotten the foundation her father established all those years ago.

"So much of my dad's life was selfless service," she expressed. "I felt like it was my duty, because my dad always had that sense of duty."

As for what he would think of the name change, Huffman did not mince words.

"I tell you true, my dad would say the name on that gate does not ever define what that fort's legacy is," she said. "That fort is the backbone of the Army, and the Army code is instilled in every Soldier that passes through that gate."

"I don't think the name will be the legacy," Huffman concluded. "I think the code is what will stand. It is the backbone of the Army. That is what is shaping the legacy, and it is unchanging."



Photo courtesy of Mitzi Huffman

Col. Robert B. Hood was honored as the new namesake of Fort Hood during a redesignation ceremony Monday at III Armored Corps Headquarters at Fort Hood.



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Thursday, July 31, 2025

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Photos by Derika Upshaw, Fort Hood Public Affairs

Cajun Crabs & Shrimp served us California seafood tacos filled with delicious coleslaw and fried catfish June 15 in Killeen, Texas.



The Crazy Fish plate fills me up with a whole fried tilapia, gumbo, rice and fries at Cajun Crabs & Shrimp in Killeen, Texas. The meal could be enough for two people.

## Fresh, delicious seafood available close to home

BY DERIKA UPSHAW

Fort Hood Public Affairs

KILLEEN, Texas — Fort Hood family, this week we are staying home for the Traveling Soldier and experiencing a gem I found in town — Cajun Crabs & Shrimp. This place is a whole vibe, not only because it's a great place to come with friends or coworkers, but for the families too.

My family has gone twice now and we already have favorite meals. The first time we went was on Father's Day. It was filled with families celebrating the day. The next time we went was my birthday since it was on a Thursday, which is Karaoke Night. As I'm writing this it makes me want to go back this week for lunch. It really is that good.

The place has a beachy, crab shack ambience that makes you want to be at the beach. However, if you are cold-blooded like me, I would wear pants and bring a jacket. For the ultimate experience they have live music to go along with that same Thursday Karaoke Night, which is why we had to go back there for birthday fun. The music was mostly old school pop and R&B, so right up my alley. The kids decided to participate in karaoke singing Bruno Mars' "Count on Me." Each time we went, it felt as if the DJ could really read the crowd and see what most would be interested in listening to.

Now for the food — did I mention we already had favorites? The second time we went, we were going to try a new dish, but

the familiar dishes we had before were calling our names. The menu feels like a tasty fusion between Creole and Mexican cuisine. I believe my daughter was the only person who ordered something different, changing from a grilled cheese sandwich to chicken tenders — and even then I was jealous of her tenders. They were good sized, juicy and seasoned well.

My husband received their California tacos filled with fried catfish, coleslaw, pico de gallo and chipotle sauce. I had to take a bite, and it was as delicious as it looked. The catfish was fried with a nice crunch that contrasted well with the coleslaw. When they say they make things fresh, you can taste it. My older son had wings since he is not a big seafood person, which is why this place is great for my family — everyone has something they can eat. He ordered barbecue wings with waffle fries — and of course I tried his wings too. They were fried perfectly, where the wings were still crispy even after soaking in the sauce but still juicy on the inside.

Finally, for the best meal, I had the Crazy Fish meal which came with fried whole tilapia, grilled shrimp, rice, fries and gumbo. It was enough for two people. As soon as it came to the table the first time my husband said, "You are not going to eat all that," and I did not! I had enough to take home. Now, this is the first time I have had a whole fried fish and a fried fish with no breading. The skin was still crispy, the inside was moist and seasoned throughout. I would be careful with leftovers since the fish tasted like it became saltier as I

went back to it the day after.

Overall, we had a great meal and family time. Cajun Crabs & Shrimp has four locations to visit — Killeen, Harker Heights, Round Rock and Bellmead. For more information, visit them online at [ordercajuncrabsshrimp2.com](http://ordercajuncrabsshrimp2.com).



A five-piece barbecue wing meal with fries is served June 15 at Cajun Crabs & Shrimp in Killeen, Texas. The wings were fried to perfection with the perfect amount of sauce, and the fries came out nice and crispy.

## ENTERTAINMENT

### BOX OFFICE REVIEWS

PLAY

## New "Superman" sparks hope into DC universe reboot



BY AYUMI DAVIS

Sentinel Editor

This month, I watched the long-awaited release of the latest reboot of one of DC's main superheroes — "Superman."

#### 'Superman'

Hopeful. This is the perfect word to summarize the newest reboot for the titular symbol of hope.

Having been Superman for three years now, Clark Kent (David Corenswet) is facing his biggest hurdle yet — discovering the truth of the message of his alien birth parents and dealing with his all-time enemy Lex Luthor (Nicholas Hoult). Standing virtually alone against public sentiment, brewing war and Lex and his goons, how will he fare in this challenge?

On the side, we have the trusty crew at the Daily Planet, including journalist extraordinaire (and Clark's girlfriend) Lois Lane (Rachel Brosnahan), as well as photojournalist and friend Jimmy Olsen (Skyler Gisondo). We also have the Justice Gang (a working name, apparently) — Green Lantern Guy Gardner (Nathan Fillion), Hawkgirl (Isabela Merced) and Mr. Terrific (Edi Gathegi) helping to fight bad guys (with the added benefit of Guy's smack-talking and hilarious self-importance).

Now, Henry Cavill's Superman is the one I'm most familiar with and endeared to — before I watched this movie. Nothing wrong with Cavill at all, but this version of Superman feels much more relatable and dorky to me in such a lovable way.

Like many of the superheroes we see on TV and in film, the goal, of course, is beating the bad guy. But unlike the others, this Superman is so conscious about how he can avoid injuring or hurting anyone — down to the tiniest animal — while getting to that goal that it's so wholesome. Coupled with his almost naive determination to save everyone, it makes me root for him so much.

Another favorite about this Superman is that he's not all powerful. He gets beat — and not just by Kryptonite. He's young, he's still learning, he makes mistakes and loses despite his near invincibility, but his tenacity

is worth applauding. Because at the end of the day, while Clark may not be of Earth, he was shaped by it, being as human as you and everybody else.

Additionally, the relationship between Clark and Lois is sweet, how they navigate their still-fresh change in status as boyfriend and girlfriend, and Guy, Jimmy and Krypto the dog steal the show (especially Guy) with their hilarious antics.

Shoutout to Mr. Terrific for his ingenious support in the plot. This was my first introduction to the character, and I thought he was so cool. I'm excited to see more.

The movie is so fresh and hopeful with the genuine personality of Clark that in a world marred with cynicism and conflict, being kind is punk rock (See the movie for the reference!). I can't wait to see him on screen again.

For a good story that those of all ages can enjoy and root for — and to see the return of a favorite pop culture character in a new light, watch "Superman."



Photos courtesy of Warner Bros. Pictures



Photos by Derika Upshaw, Fort Hood Public Affairs

Sophie Curiel, 2, and Luke Curiel, 4 take a picture with Santa during the Christmas in July event July 24 at Santa's Workshop at The Great Place at Fort Hood.



Children sit around Santa as he reads "Christmas in July" by Julias Abji during the Christmas in July event on July 24 at Santa's Workshop at The Great Place at Fort Hood.

BY DERIKA UPSHAW  
Fort Hood Public Affairs

The holiday spirit came early for many military children this year with the Santa's Workshop at The Great Place holding their annual Christmas in July event July 24 at the nonprofit's workshop at Fort Hood.

"So we kind of wanted to revamp the event, make it more of a community outreach, to bring in the kids and the families so we can maybe mingle with them, communicate with them, let them know a little bit more about the organization and what we do, and hope that it helps spread the word in the future for applications to get our numbers larger this year," said Kismet Canady, president of Santa's Workshop.

Canady noted last year was hectic with families wrapped around the building, over 1,000 people steadily coming through over three hours. This year the organization had families register for time slots to come and create fun activities for the children to participate in a change that was appreciated by the families.

"I think it's really well done," said Sgt. Bubba Sams, 2nd

Battalion, 227th Aviation Regiment, 1st Air Cavalry Brigade. "I like how they provide snacks. They have activities in the front and back to keep kids entertained, and they kept it spaced out so there's not a lot of crowding. So, I think that it's flowing very well."

Genesis Andrus, an Army spouse, said she wanted to come to the event because she thought it would be nice for her daughters, and they were doing something fun for the children. Andrus waited to surprise her daughters with the event.

"I saved it until this morning to let them know," she said, "and they were like, 'What, Santa? What, is it Christmas?' And I was like, 'Yeah, he didn't want to wait all year to see you guys. So, he said, 'You know what, we're going to go in July to go visit all the kids.' ... They were so excited, they dressed in their red dresses and everything."

The purpose of the event is to clear the nonprofit's past year's

inventory to make space for new donations, and additionally to garner preapplications from families for the organization's Shop Days this Christmas.

"We're opening up a preapplication for them to get the numbers started and to get some engagement on what the kids are going to want as far as items and toys and stuff for us to purchase," Canady said. "So we can't give (the toys) out during the Christmas time, so we came up with this event to still give it to the community as it was meant to instead of sending it to a thrift shop where families would have to pay for (it)...because that's what our donors wanted."

Canady's team tried to make sure enough families registered to participate in Christmas in July so all the items would be distributed, however, the team is thinking about doing an additional event if that is not the case.

"But if we do have extra stuff, there will be a small sign up," she said. "It'll be more like families come get something and leave."

Applications for Shop Days open Sept. 1-5 and Oct. 6-10. For information about Shop Days and eligibility, visit Santa's Workshop at The Great Place online at [santasworkshopgp.org](http://santasworkshopgp.org).



Cara Wolf, 4, and her sister and volunteer, Charlotte Wolf, 13, color a Christmas coloring sheet July 24 during the Christmas in July event at Santa's Workshop at The Great Place at Fort Hood.

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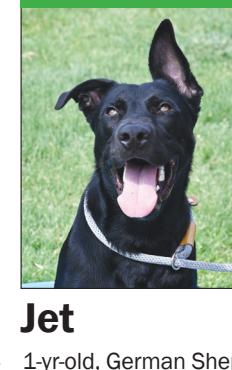
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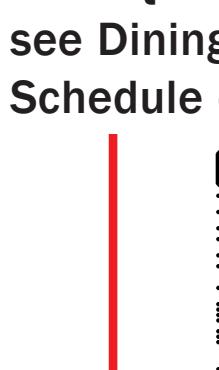
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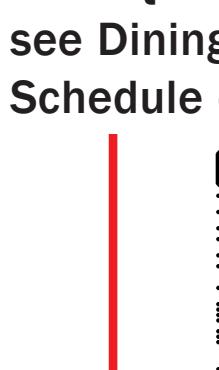
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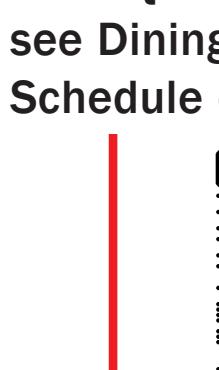
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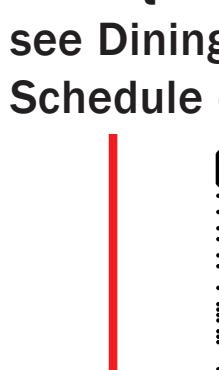
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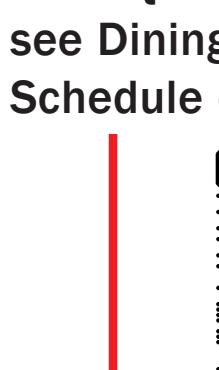
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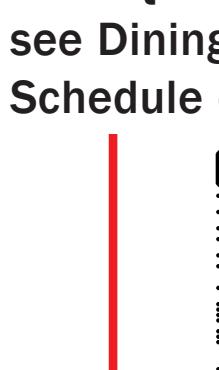
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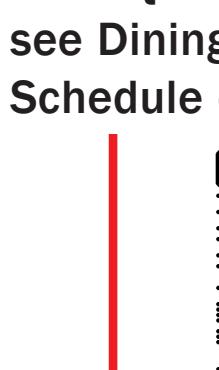
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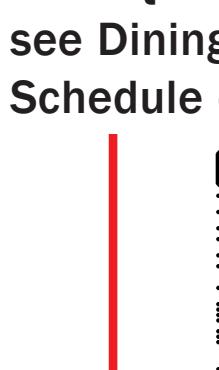
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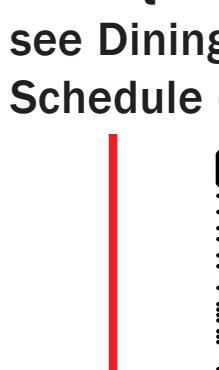
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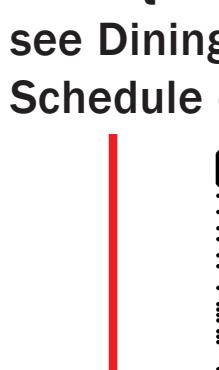
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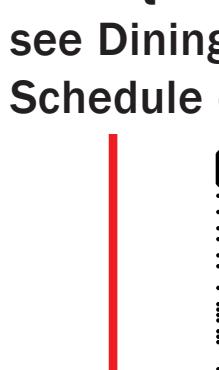
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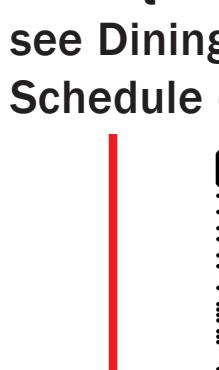
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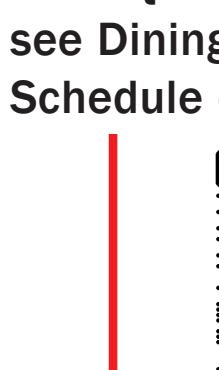
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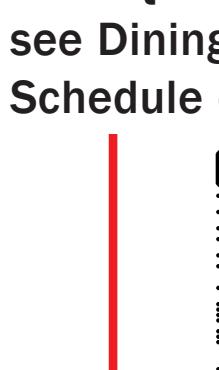
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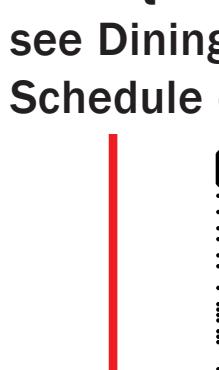
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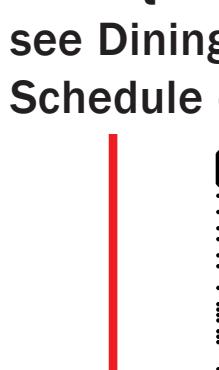
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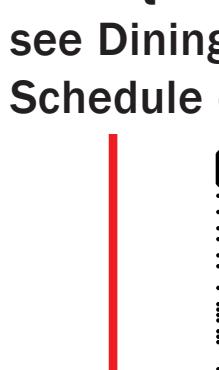
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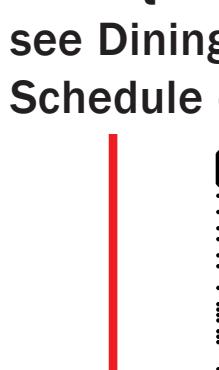
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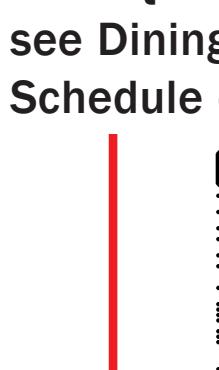
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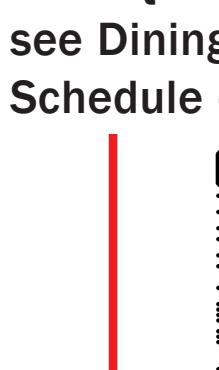
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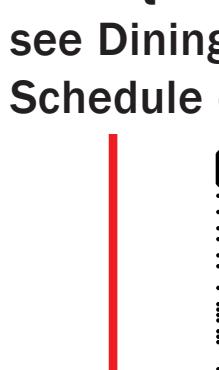
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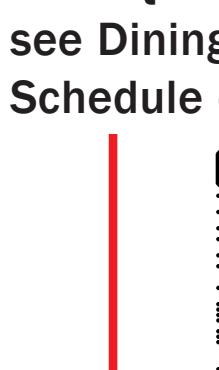
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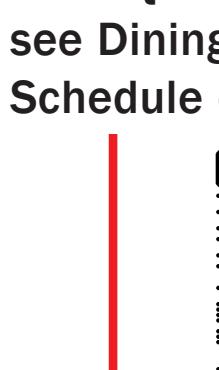
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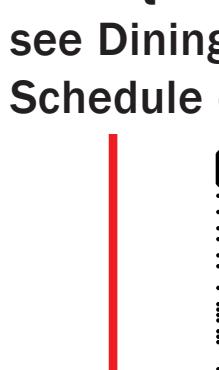
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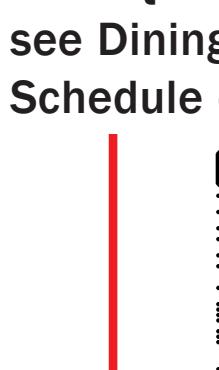
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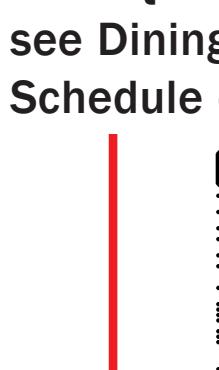
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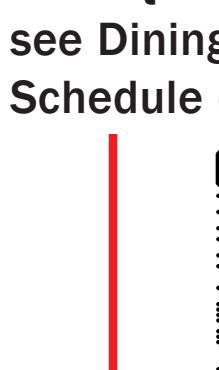
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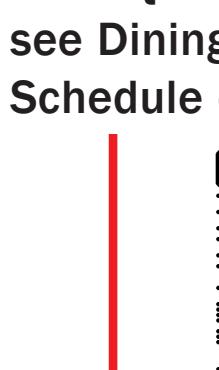
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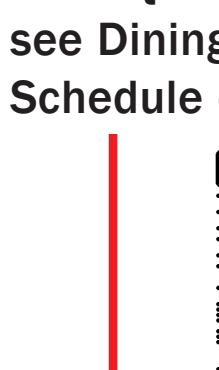
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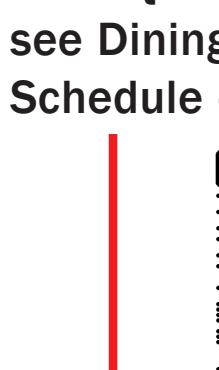
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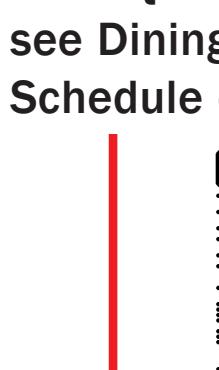
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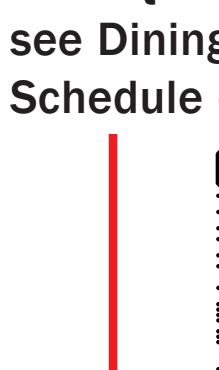
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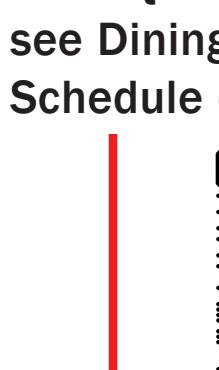
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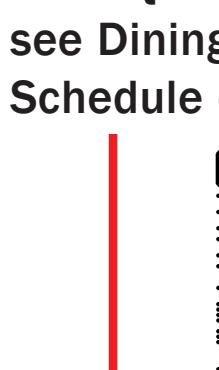
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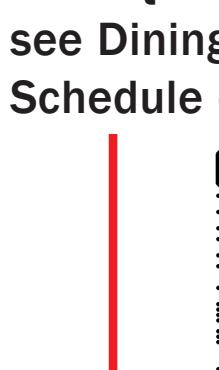
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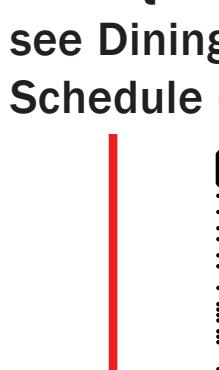
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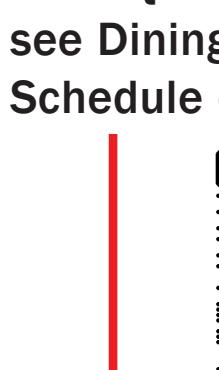
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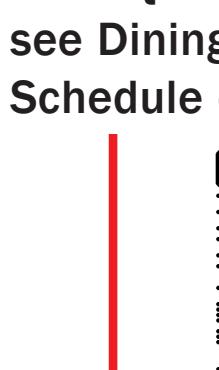
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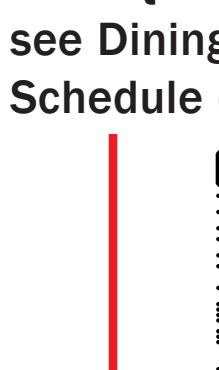
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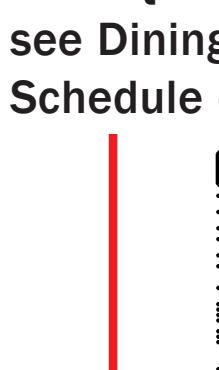
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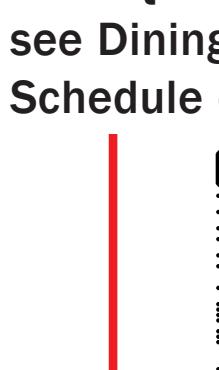
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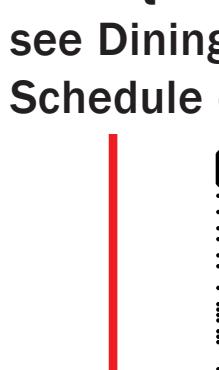
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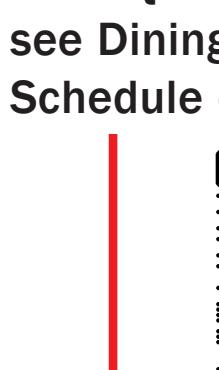
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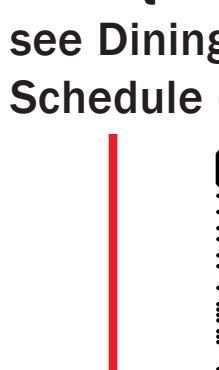
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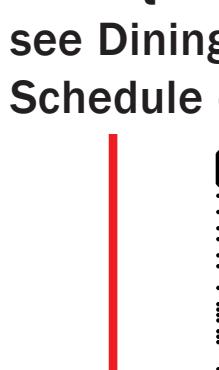
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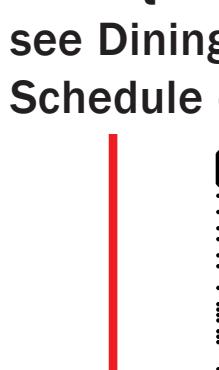
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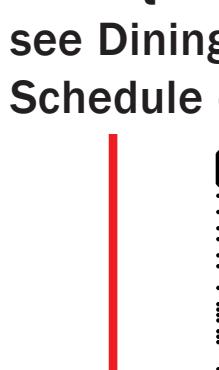
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Sale Price <b>\$18,500</b>	Sale Price <b>\$18,994</b>	Sale Price <b>\$19,569</b>	Sale Price <b>\$19,754</b>	Sale Price <b>\$20,000</b>	Sale Price <b>\$20,500</b>	Sale Price <b>\$21,101</b>
CERTIFIED 2022 BUICK ENCORE GX SELECT FWD STK#P10510	CERTIFIED 2023 NISSAN ROGUE FWD SV STK#56041A	2019 KIA STINGER PREMIUM RWD STK#43371A	2020 TOYOTA CAMRY SE AUTO STK#13800B	2024 NISSAN ALTIMA 2.5 SR SEDAN STK#31704A	CERTIFIED 2023 NISSAN ROGUE FWD SV STK#56153A	2018 RAM 1500 SLT 4X2 CREW CAB 5.7' BOX STK#K13827B
Sale Price <b>\$21,269</b>	Sale Price <b>\$21,595</b>	Sale Price <b>\$21,995</b>	Sale Price <b>\$22,349</b>	Sale Price <b>\$22,900</b>	Sale Price <b>\$22,995</b>	Sale Price <b>\$23,269</b>
2024 FORD ESCAPE ACTIVE FWD STK#P10491	2024 JEEP COMPASS 4X4 LATITUDE 4X4 STK#Z20224	2024 NISSAN KICKS SV FWD STK#Z20250	2021 CADILLAC XT5 FWD 4DR PREMIUM LUXURY STK#61620A	2024 GMC TERRAIN FWD 4DR SLE STK#P10493	CERTIFIED 2024 NISSAN ROGUE FWD SV STK#56075A	2024 CHEVROLET EQUINOX FWD LT STK#P10545
Sale Price <b>\$23,500</b>	Sale Price <b>\$23,749</b>	Sale Price <b>\$24,000</b>	Sale Price <b>\$24,000</b>	Sale Price <b>\$24,869</b>	Sale Price <b>\$24,989</b>	Sale Price <b>\$25,269</b>
2024 HYUNDAI TUCSON SEL FWD LTD AVAIL* STK#Z30002	2024 VOLKSWAGEN JETTA GLI 40TH ANNIVERSARY MANUAL STK#P10500B	2025 MAZDA3 HATCHBACK 2.5 S CARBON EDITION AWD STK#55999A	2022 HYUNDAI SONATA N LINE 2.5T STK#12545D	2024 CHEVROLET MALIBU LT STK#Z20223	2014 AUDI RS 5 2-DOOR COUPE STK#P10504	2024 FORD BRONCO SPORT BIG BEND 4X4 STK#Z20236
Sale Price <b>\$25,800</b>	Sale Price <b>\$26,000</b>	Sale Price <b>\$26,995</b>	Sale Price <b>\$27,000</b>	Sale Price <b>\$27,500</b>	Sale Price <b>\$27,869</b>	Sale Price <b>\$27,970</b>
CERTIFIED 2025 VOLKSWAGEN JETTA SEL AUTO STK#H1637A	2024 BUICK ENVISTA FWD 4DR SPORT TOURING STK#Z20239	CERTIFIED 2025 NISSAN ROGUE FWD SV STK#56174A	2021 GMC SIERRA 1500 CREW SHORT BOX 2-WD SLT STK#14056A	2022 MERCEDES-BENZ C 300 4MATIC SEDAN STK#Z20191	2022 FORD MAVERICK XLT AWD SUPERCREW STK#Z20246	2022 SUBARU ASCENT LIMITED 7-PASS STK#P10539
Sale Price <b>\$28,000</b>	Sale Price <b>\$28,000</b>	Sale Price <b>\$28,995</b>	Sale Price <b>\$29,869</b>	Sale Price <b>\$30,997</b>	Sale Price <b>\$31,000</b>	Sale Price <b>\$31,869</b>



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