

Kevin Good named Fort Belvoir Fire Chief

By Paul Lara
Belvoir Eagle

After a DoD-wide search, U.S. Army Garrison Fort Belvoir decided on a candidate already under its roof: Deputy Fire Chief Kevin Good was promoted to Fire Chief, Fire & Emergency Services division, Friday, according to Frank Hentschel, the director of Emergency Services, in a release on Facebook.

"After an extensive DoD-wide search, Fort Belvoir and I are extremely pleased to select Chief Good to the position," Hentschel said. "He will have the opportunity to lead this world-renowned Army Fire and Emergency Services Division and I look forward to his continued leadership."

"The leadership team continues to evolve, but our division's core values and top-down leader's focus on the well-being of its people has not – and will not – be



Courtesy photo

changing under my command," Good wrote in an email to the Belvoir Eagle. "We will continue to develop programs and additional opportunities that support employee success, even

in tough economic times. It is with significant pride to see, and embody the example that people can begin in entry-level positions, gain new skills and expertise, and grow their careers at Fort Belvoir.

"There will be continued efforts at all ranks for participation and inclusiveness in the progress of our organization and Garrison. I'm fortunately surrounded above and below by leaders that realize that when people feel valued and cared for, they do their work with stronger intrinsic motivation, a deeper sense of meaning, and a greater level of engagement. My folks go the extra mile simply because they want to contribute to our organization because they know that we and the Fort Belvoir community care about them," Good said.

During his tenure at Fort Belvoir, the release states, Chief Good has expanded services, helped establish professional affiliations to the International

Association of Fire Chiefs, Virginia Fire Chiefs Association, and the Women in Fire network. He has established numerous community outreach programs, and played a part in the construction of several fire stations, worked to bring a new live fire training facility in 2020, fully modernized the Community Risk Reduction Branch and helped lead the division to become the eighth Army FES division to attain National Accreditation through the Center for Public Safety Excellence – Commission on Fire Accreditation International.

"...My continued 'All-in' commitment and investment to putting our people first will continue to drive the Fort Belvoir Fire and Emergency Services Division as a trend-setter in the Army and the Department of Defense. I'm truly blessed and extremely proud to be Fort Belvoir's Fire Chief," said Good.

Officials testify to Congress on military housing

By David Vergun
DoD News

The goal of the Defense Department is to provide safe, quality housing for military members and their families, a DoD official told lawmakers recently.

Paul Cramer, principal deputy assistant secretary of defense for sustainment (installations), spoke at a House Appropriations subcommittee on the Military Housing Privatization Initiative.

The military departments have increased their oversight of military housing by hiring more than 500 additional employees in the military housing offices, he said. These additional people are providing quality assurance, customer care services and advocacy for the residents.

Since the March 2020 MHPI hearing before this subcommittee, the department has made significant progress in implementing reforms set out

in the fiscal year 2020 and 2021 NDAA, Cramer noted.

"We have worked to draw up department-wide privatization housing policies to reinforce and expand our programmatic oversight of MHPI housing projects," he said.

Among them are:

- Senior leader engagement to collaborate internally and with MHPI companies on housing issues;
- Taking necessary corrective actions to rebuild trust with military members and their families;
- Accountability at all levels within the department by the MHPI companies;
- Providing transparency and frequent communication with MHPI tenants; and
- Ensuring the long term financial viability of MHPI projects and the program.

Elizabeth A. Field, director, defense capabilities and management, Government



Photo by Patrick Albright

Maj. Gen. Patrick J. Donahoe, commanding general, U.S. Army Maneuver Center of Excellence, conducts a "walking town hall" at Fort Benning, Jan. 20.

Accountability Office, also testified at the hearing.

"We made 12 recommendations to address the problems we found (last year). And I'm pleased to report that as of today, DoD has either fully or partially implemented all of our recommendations and expects to complete the remaining work

needed to implement them this year," she said.

Some of the key actions that the department has taken include: instituting standardized quarterly reviews of the military department privatized housing portfolios, with a focus on quality and condition; developing a process for collecting and calculating resident satisfaction data to ensure that these data are more accurate and consistently used; Establishing criteria for monitoring the financial viability of privatized housing projects and assessing risk; issuing a Tenant's Bill of Rights; developing a Common Lease Agreement; and piloting an effort to provide tenants with seven years of their unit's maintenance history.

"Given the significance of MHPI to the department's commitment to provide safe, adequate housing to service members and their families, sustained attention will be warranted for many years to come," she said.

Get ready – IPPS-A is coming

By Sergeant Major of the Army
Michael A. Grinston

Army Team, I need you to update your personnel records.

In December the entire force will transition to a new human resources and pay system, the Integrated Personnel Pay System - Army (IPPS-A). IPPS-A will become the focal point for all HR activities across the force. For the first time ever, personnel, pay, and talent management capabilities will be integrated into a single online system for 1.1 million users across all three Components.

IPPS-A will also introduce a talent management feature known as the 25 Point Soldier Talent Profile. Each Soldier's profile will provide information about their knowledge, skills, behaviors and experience which will help the Army make better-informed talent decisions.

These innovative capabilities will bring Army HR into the 21st century, but we need your help to ensure the system's success in December. Everyone should review their personnel records in our legacy HR systems to make sure they are accurate and up to date.

Avoid inconveniences and hardships later by taking the following steps now:

- Review personnel records on Defense Manpower Data Center (DMDC) at milConnect milconnect.dmdc.osd.mil/milconnect/.
- Check Soldier Record Brief /Officer Record Brief at www.hrc.army.mil/.
- Review Army Training Requirements and Resources System (ATRRS) Training Transcript for accuracy and resolve any missing training records at https://www.atrrs.army.mil/selfdevctr/login/loginSDC.aspx?ntul=ST.



**Sergeant Major of the Army
Michael A. Grinston**

Follow this link:

ipps-a.army.mil/wp-content/uploads/SoldierSelfServiceDataGuide_May20_v1.pdf, for a guide that details exactly what information you need to check in each legacy system. Seek help from your local Records Manager or HR Professional if your information is incorrect or incomplete.

Let's ensure the transition to IPPS-A in December is successful.

For more information about IPPS-A visit the website at ipps-a.army.mil/. You can also find IPPS-A on the Army's Twitter, Facebook, Instagram, YouTube, and LinkedIn accounts.

Remember, One Soldier * One Record * One Army



Call if you have unresolved health or safety concerns:

1-800-984-8523



LEARN MORE

Visit the Housing Resident Portal on the Fort Belvoir Website

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Managing Editor Terry Ruggles
Content Coordinator Eliza Cantrell
Reporter/Photographer Paul Lara
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Is It Your Time to Get the **COVID-19 Vaccine?**

***UPDATE**

Health Care, Emergency, and Safety Personnel, and Other Essential and Critical Groups

PHASE 1A
Emergency rooms, urgent care centers, and first responders (i.e., police, search and rescue, and the personnel), and Armed Forces Retirement Home residents

PHASE 1B
National critical capabilities (strategic and nuclear deterrence forces, homeland defense)

PHASE 1C
Personnel preparing to deploy to locations outside of the continental U.S. (OCONUS)

PHASE 1D
Personnel preparing to deploy within the next three months, including military duties and contractors authorized to receive immunization from the DoD

PHASE 1E
New! Beneficiaries age 75 or older

PHASE 1F
New! Front Line Essential Workers: Education and youth and child services staff sector, eligible defense manufacturing, DoD corrections staff, DoD postal service staff, DoD public transit workers, Commissary and other installation food service or agricultural workers

*** Vaccination appointments are underway for Phase 1B beneficiaries (75 years and older only) through TRICARE Online.**

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

USAG FORT BELVOIR

Installation Management Command

How to Resolve Housing Concerns

LEVEL 1 – SUBMIT YOUR WORK ORDER

- Online - www.villagesatbelvoir.com
- In-Person - Maintenance Facility Building 1108
- Phone - 24-Hour Emergency Maintenance Request Line: 703-619-3880

LEVEL 2 – MAKE CONTACT

- Villages at Belvoir Management: 571-318-7546
- Contact Your Chain of Command
- Fort Belvoir Housing Office: 703-805-3018/3019

LEVEL 3 – CONTACT GARRISON COMMANDER

- Garrison Commander's Housing Hotline: 571-259-9867
- Submit concerns to the Fort Belvoir Interactive Customer Evaluation ICE System: https://ice.disa.mil

Residents with health concerns related to housing conditions, call Fort Belvoir Community Hospital Rapid Hotline: 571-231-2004

LEVELS OF ESCALATION

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Ransomware: A Virtual Hostage Situation

By U.S. Army Criminal Investigation Command



The U.S. Army Criminal Investigation Command's Major Cybercrime Unit is warning the Army community about an increase in ransomware attacks.

According to Edward LaBarge, director of CID's Major Cybercrime Unit, there was a rise in ransomware cyberattacks in 2020 and the trend is expected to continue this year.

Ransomware is a type of malicious software, or malware, designed to deny a user access to a computer system or computer files until the ransom, typically cryptocurrency, has been paid. Ransomware uses encryption to hold the data hostage and requires a decryption key before a user is granted access.

Similar to other types of malware, ransomware is one of many methods used by cybercriminals to gain data from users and to attempt financial gain.

LaBarge said the two most common ways MCU is seeing ransomware executed is by "infecting one's computer through phishing emails or visiting a malicious website via a drive-by download."

A drive-by download occurs when users unknowingly "download" a program without knowledge or by giving consent.

To prevent ransomware from occurring or reoccurring, users should ensure data is

backed up regularly, maintain the latest operating system updates, keep antivirus software installed and up-to-date, and always use caution when opening email links or attachments.

He also recommends never paying the ransom. "Paying doesn't guarantee you get your data back and it won't prevent the cybercriminals from hitting you again with another ransom."

Ransomware Victim Recommendations

Isolate the infection – Infected computers should be disconnected from the Internet (unplug the Ethernet cable or place the computer in airplane mode) as soon as possible to prevent ransomware from communicating with the attacker or spreading to other computers.

Identify the infection – In most cases, it will be easy to determine if the system has been infected. However, determining how the ransomware was downloaded is not always as obvious. Identifying how the ransomware was downloaded can ensure other users do not make the same mistake.

Report – Ransomware attacks on Army issued computers must be reported to your system administrator or security representative. If a personally owned computer becomes infected, you are strongly encouraged to report the incident to the Internet Crime Complaint Center.

Identify a solution – How data gets recovered on Army issued computers is determined by your unit's system

administrator. For personally owned computers, it is recommended to wipe the system and restore it using a clean offline copy.

Prevent reoccurrence – Evaluate how the infection occurred and put measures in places to ensure your system is not open to another infection.



Tips to Avoid Becoming a Ransomware Victim

Education – Stay updated on ransomware trends and the evolving methods used by cybercriminals in ransomware attacks.

Cyber best practices – Avoid opening attachments or clicking on links in suspicious emails. Be mindful of pop-ups on websites and do not allow unsolicited downloads.

Regular updates – Ensure your computer's operating system and antivirus software are updated. As ransomware variants are identified, updates and patches are created and released to prevent infection.

Backups – Maintaining valuable information offline, such as an external hard drive, provides an alternative method of recovering data lost in a ransomware attack.

For additional information visit: <https://cyber.mil> or <https://public.cyber.mil>.

For more information about computer security, visit the Army CID MCU website at www.cid.army.mil/mcu-advisories.html.

COVID-19 vaccine does not affect fertility

By Military Health System
Communications Office

You're pregnant, or you're breastfeeding. Should you get a COVID-19 vaccine?

That's a question on the minds of many military frontline health care workers today. The short answer is that it's an individual's choice, and military health experts say the vaccine is well worth considering.

As the COVID-19 vaccines continue to be administered across military hospitals and smaller clinics and outposts under Centers for Disease Control and Prevention guidance, the advice from the military and a multitude of national maternal and fetal health professional associations is the same: For most pregnant people, getting the COVID-19 vaccine as soon as possible is the safest choice based on the science to date.

The COVID-19 vaccines made by Pfizer and Moderna are mRNA vaccines. These vaccines contain no live viruses that could directly infect a mother or baby.

"As of Jan. 21, more than 15,000 pregnant patients had received an mRNA vaccine," said retired Navy Capt. (Dr.) Margaret Ryan, medical director, Defense Health Agency Immunization Division, Pacific Region Vaccine Safety Hub, San Diego. "The experiences of these pregnancies are being followed very closely, and no specific safety concerns have been reported so far.

"As COVID-19 vaccines were being developed, studies in the laboratory and animals showed no reproductive health problems," Ryan added.



Photo by Sgt. Maricris C. McLane

An Army couple holds hands while listening to a counselor explore reasons why the woman should or should not receive a COVID-19 vaccination while pregnant.

Pregnant people are entering clinical trials for COVID-19 vaccines "literally now and going into March, so more data will be known soon," Dr. Anthony Fauci, President Joe Biden's chief medical adviser on COVID-19, told a Blue Star Families virtual town hall Feb. 4.

Of the 15,000 pregnant people who have received at least one of the 32 million vaccinations in the United States, "there have been no red flags of adverse events. Many who are pregnant are health care providers who said the risk of getting COVID-19 from their patients was worse than that from getting the vaccine," said Fauci, director of the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases at

the National Institutes of Health.

Said Ryan: "Although it is unclear how pregnancy may affect infection risk, some women who have been infected with COVID-19 during pregnancy have experienced serious illness or death. COVID-19 infection in pregnancy also seems to increase risk of preterm birth."

As for those who do not want to take the vaccine, "we know there are significantly increased risks for pregnant people who contract COVID-19, e.g., they are three times more likely to be admitted to the ICU and need breathing support," said Navy Cmdr. (Dr.) Monica Lutgendorf, division head Maternal Fetal Medicine, Naval Medical Center-San Diego, and chair, DHA Women and Infants Clinical Community. "People with comorbidities such as diabetes, Latinx, and Black people are also more at risk for COVID-19 and death. Therefore, it is often beneficial to get the vaccine, especially for pregnant or nursing individuals at increased risk of severe disease."

Lutgendorf noted that although relative risks of COVID-19 are increased in pregnancy, this information should be provided in the context of overall low absolute risks for breathing support (2.9 per 1,000), heart and lung support (0.7 per 1,000), and death (1.5 per 1,000).

Ryan went on to say that specialists from the CDC, American College of Obstetrics and Gynecology, and American Academy of Breastfeeding Medicine "all agree that breastfeeding should not be a barrier to receipt of a COVID-19 vaccine. Breastfeeding should never be equated to pregnancy in terms of health considerations for mother or child."

Belvoir leaders reflect about International Women's Day

By Paul Lara
Belvoir Eagle

March 8 is International Women's Day, as a focal point for women's rights, and the Belvoir Eagle reached out to several leaders on post, asking them about leadership, legacy and lineage. The 2021 United Nations theme for International Women's Day is "Women in leadership: Achieving an equal future in a COVID-19 world." Here are some of their responses:



Photos by Paul Lara

Command Sgt. Maj. Michel Fraser,
Headquarters Battalion

During these sessions, it was important to me that others understand what women and people of color deal with on a daily basis.

What does it mean to be a woman of color in leadership?

A leader should be someone who can inspire, motivate, energize, and mentor others. I want all women to succeed in whatever career they may choose. For me to be a woman of color, I want to ensure that I am continuously being the standard bearer for others to emulate. I want other women of color that are coming up through the ranks behind me to have a path to follow. Girl Power "GP".

How have you spoken out for change and representation?

I have been a constant participant in Project Inclusion.



Stephanie Link, Emergency
Communications Center manager

acceptable to be absolutely terrified with every single step you take; what matters more is that you take that step anyway. She taught me that Faith and personal will can carry you through any of life's obstacles, and that you determine what kind of person you will be, regardless of the parameters the world tries to set for you. I have found that this is one of the greatest lessons I can instill in her.

What do you hope your legacy is?

I hope to leave a legacy of passionate leadership that is more concerned with building up people than building out a resume. It is a great privilege to be in a position of leadership, especially in such a difficult career field; but I was raised to believe that leaders are leaders because they inspire others to follow, not because they demand others to walk behind them.

Are you raising your daughter differently than you were raised?

I was raised by a strong and determined woman that taught me from a young age that it is perfectly



Katherine Jones, firefighter /
paramedic

in Fire. This is a great group made up of men and women in the fire service from around the country that educates networks and supports women in the fire service. As a result, I have had the opportunity to help in the development of a pregnancy and women's health policy specifically geared towards firefighters within the fire department at Fort Belvoir.

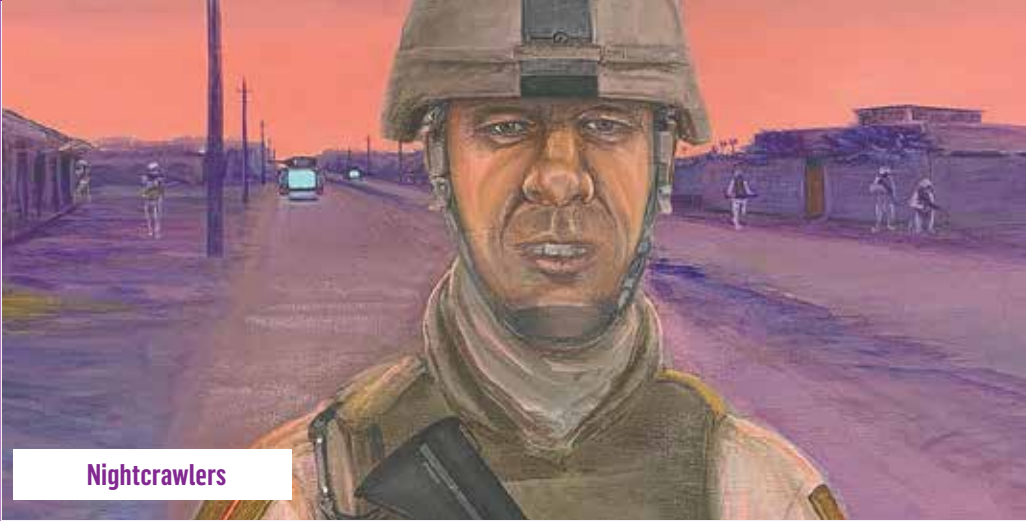
What doors were open for you that weren't open for previous generations?

Firefighting is a tough job and I have been lucky to have strong role models throughout my career that showed me that, as women, we can be successful. By following their examples, I believe that I can pass the torch for other women to be more successful than me.

How have you spoken out for change and representation?

I have recently been involved with an organization called Women

PAINTINGS BY MATTHEW PYLE



Nightcrawlers



Mother



The Pharmaceutical Plant

Workhouse Military Artist in Residence reflects Iraq combat in oil paintings

By Paul Lara
Belvoir Eagle

Workhouse Arts Center in Lorton, in collaboration with the Northern Virginia Regional Commission, provides programs for Service members, families and caregivers with the Workhouse Military in the Arts Initiative, according to Debra Balestreri, director of visual arts education. She said it is rooted in the desire to address the needs and improve lives through the arts. WMAI seeks to increase equity, access, and opportunities for veterans to participate in quality arts programming that is sensitive and responsive to their unique experiences.

“When I took it over, I re-imagined it and researched what would be necessary to bring in a mental health and therapeutic capacity,” Balestreri said.

WMAI also offers an Artist in Residence program, “which covers 100% of the use of a studio for a current or former military member desiring to transition into the world of becoming a visual studio artist,” said Balestreri.

The current military artist in residence, Matthew Pyle, joined the Army in 2003, and did a tour in Iraq with the 1st Infantry, 1st Battalion, 26th Infantry Regiment. After his enlistment, he went to school to learn how to write screenplays, and he said he wrote a “stupid romantic comedy that got turned into a Hallmark Channel movie.”

But his thoughts frequently returned to Iraq.

“The production budget for a war film is ridiculously expensive,” he explained, and started painting as a way to give those moments in Samarra, Iraq, and on patrol with his battle buddies in a Bradley fighting vehicle some permanence.

“We used to ride around for hours. If there was an IED, and they were calling for demolition teams to come, you might get stuck in the back of the vehicle for three hours, waiting,” said Pyle. “Coming from my American bubble, it was like being in a time-warp. Baghdad was a modern city, but the outskirts were stricter, and definitely had more of a time-warp feeling.”

His acceptance as WMAI Artist in Residence gave him the time he needed to learn how to paint the images burned in his memory. He had to practice for days to be able to paint his first Soldier, or palm tree, or stray dog. For the Soldiers, Pyle would photograph himself in the position of every Soldier in the painting, so he would have references to scale and facial expressions, and then research photos showing each weapon in the angle it would appear.

“These paintings took me awhile,” Pyle said. “It’s a marathon, so what’s going to keep your attention? I knew that Iraq would keep my attention, because it was some of the craziest years of my life. Some of these paintings can take three months to complete.”

Pyle said the residency had been a wonderful experience, getting to work beside other seasoned professional artists.

“I got along with everybody and the neighbors in my studio were really helpful – I didn’t even know how to hang a painting at first. Getting feedback from experienced artists was amazing,” said Pyle. “I did get to host a couple of open studios, where the art therapist asked if I’d host a class, so I did a portrait painting class.”

He said he’s pondering oil painting moments from World War II and Vietnam next.

“We ask that they spend that one year really working toward a strong, robust solo exhibition at the end of the program,” said Balestreri.

Because the pandemic shut down the studios, Workhouse granted him an extension to the 1-year residency. Pyle is now completing his final works and preparing for his exhibition, which will run from March until May, before his time at Workhouse ends in July.

“Any artist interested in applying for the residency applies through the same application process as any of our other artists,” Balestreri explained. “It is a jury where they submit a bio, statement of their art, some content, 10 to 15 images of current work, and then they go through an initial jury process where they are judged on their talent, career, professional practices, as well as their content or skill levels.”

“We’re always looking for that next person,” she said.

For more information about WMAI, visit workhousearts.org/wmai/ or facebook.com/workhouseMAI.

To inquire about the WMAI Artist in Residence program, call 703-584-2909.

Excitement as Fort Belvoir elementary students return to classroom

By Paul Lara
Belvoir Eagle

The sun was shining, and there were a lot of smiles in front of Fort Belvoir Elementary School last week, as a crowd of teachers, in white lab coats, awaited the first school busses back to campus, according to Fort Belvoir Upper School Principal Jamey Chianetta.

"It's so exciting," said Chianetta, beaming underneath her mask. "It's been about a year since we've had students in our classrooms. We've been waiting for this moment. Today, our general education students are jumping in; all of our kindergartners are back, and soon we'll have our first and second graders back, and by mid-March, the rest of the campus will be back for two days a week in-person class."

Fairfax County School District asked families to choose virtual only, or hybrid in-class instruction, and Chianetta said that about 75% of the parents chose the hybrid model, which means that

Pre-schoolers learn social distancing by holding on to plastic chains on their way to class at Fort Belvoir Primary School, Feb. 24. Teachers and parents expressed excitement at the first phase of in-class instruction in a year.



SCHOOL BUS?

Heads up, phone down, eyes open

By Bridget Pilgrim
Garrison Safety Office

Our children are excited to see their friends, classmates and teachers. For some this has lasted a year; a year since laughing and playing at recess, eating lunches together and sharing stories. Due to the pandemic, the classrooms will be different as safety precautions have been put into place. Children eager to get back to school may not pay attention to safety rules. It is essential for adults to remember the traffic safety rules.

Slow down and watch for children embarking or disembarking from vehicles; especially busses.

- Keep in mind that school days bring traffic congestion. Allow yourself enough time to reach your destination; allow extra time near schools and bus stops, now that school is back in session.
- More school buses will be on the roads. When yellow lights are flashing the bus is preparing to stop to load or unload children. Be prepared to stop.



Photos by Paul Lara

School busses are once again in action, and will run in greater numbers this month, as elementary students return to class.

- Pay particular attention while in school zones.
 - Red flashing lights and the extended 'Stop Sign' arm indicate the bus has stopped and children embarking or disembarking.
 - Motorists must stop their vehicles and wait until the red lights stop flashing and the extended arm with the stop sign has been retracted.
 - Children are inclined to chase after pets and balls without regard to traffic flow; be careful and watchful.
 - It is illegal to pass a school bus that is stopped with its hazard lights flashing.
- Remember: heads up, phone down, eyes open.

students attend class two days a week, and other two days are virtual instruction at home.

She said the excitement is mingled with anxiety, as the staff wants

to make sure everybody is safe, and needs to know that the strict safety protocols can be followed.

"It's going to take some time to make sure that everyone learns those protocols and everyone demonstrates those safety practices, and a lot of our time is going to be spent in building that with the kids," explaining that to help Kindergarteners understand social distancing, they proceed to class sharing a plastic chain, with hand grips linked on every six feet.

"With this first group, we have about 100 kids Tuesday and Wednesday, and a different set of 100 kids here each Thursday and Friday," said Margo Pareja, principal of Fort Belvoir Primary School.

"It doesn't look the same; students aren't able to share materials," Pareja said. "We do have some things under the safety protocols that make it a little different, but the kids that have been back have done a great job and have been so excited to be back. The parents, as well, are



Laura Bullard walks her son, Estefan, 4, right, to school, Feb. 24. She said she was glad to see him get to interact with other students again.

really excited to have the kids back in class. We're not back to kids back in class every day, but this is one step toward that."

Laura Bullard walked her son Estefan, 4, to school, and said she was glad the

in-class instruction has returned.

"It's good because it gives them a better experience than to do it online. They're able to interact with the other kids, and they can social distance and do everything that we do when we go to work. It makes it easier for them and for us," Bullard said.

Alexia Flynn, a physical education teacher at the primary school, said it was startling to see more than faces on a screen.

"Seeing them face to face, they look so much bigger in person, after looking at them on a little screen. It's so exciting," Flynn said. "In PE, we have a great system now where we keep the kids active, even in person in their little blocks they have to stand. As long as they can get some movement in, and not be sitting all day, we're excited to help out."

"At the end of the day, the kids were spent," Pareja said. "I think there was an early bedtime across the installation for kids that were back in class because they were so tired and just not used to it."

Fairfax Police recruiting event this month

By Paul Lara
Belvoir Eagle

The Fairfax County Police Department, a Virginia Values Veterans-certified agency, is looking for men and women who thrive on challenges and pride themselves in serving others, according to Detective Shawn Carroll, who is coordinating a virtual job fair March 19 at 10 a.m.

“I served as an MP in the Army, and I really take pride in the recruitment team here in Fairfax County, and we enjoy helping Soldiers transition,” said Carroll, adding that former, and even current military is a perfect fit for the largest jurisdiction in Virginia. “In the military, you’re given a directive and expected to execute. That’s what we do; our residents expect nothing but the best.”

Capt. Rachel Levy, with the PD’s Personnel Resources Division, said the county offers pay increases of 5% for each of four criteria: military background; a college degree; foreign language skills; or prior law enforcement experience, noting that some officers are still serving in the National Guard and Reserve when they join.

“I’m also an Army veteran myself, and it’s an avenue to give back to the military through recruitment. The sense of service and commitment, and to communicate effectively and to think critically. We’re adaptable and looking for a police officer that can problem-solve,” said Levy.

“We talk to a lot of servicemen and they appreciate that esprit de corps. You don’t get that feeling at IBM or Amazon. Also, it’s a purpose-driven position. One of the things we do is poll people and ask them ‘why do you want to be a police officer?’ and the number one answer is service to the community,” Carroll said.

Carroll said the annual starting salary for a veteran would be \$57,000

“For those with a desire to serve the community, joining Fairfax County Police doesn’t have an age limit for new officers, and you’ll become eligible for the amazing retirement benefits with Fairfax County,” Levy said. “We are always hiring.”



Photos courtesy of Fairfax County

FAIRFAX COUNTY JOB FAIR



Fairfax County zoom

<https://fairfaxcounty.zoom.us/j/7032462440>

Belvoir Community Briefs

Fort Belvoir Chapel Hours

- Belvoir Chapel**
- Friday Jewish Shabbat – 7 p.m.
 - Saturday Jewish Shabbat – 10 a.m.
 - Saturday Catholic Mass – 5 p.m.
 - Sunday Catholic Mass – 9:30 a.m.
 - Sunday Traditional Protestant – 11 a.m.

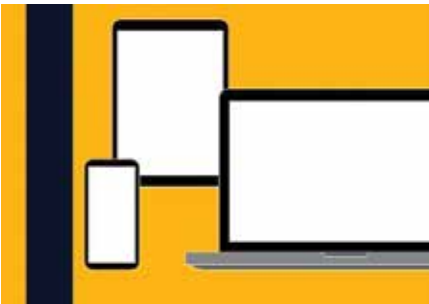
- Fairfax Chapel**
- Monday-Thursday Daily Catholic Mass - Noon
 - Sunday Anglican – 9 a.m.
 - Sunday Catholic Mass – 11 a.m.

- Resiliency Center**
- Sunday Chapel Next - 9:30 a.m.

- Thurman Auditorium**
- Sunday Gospel – 11:30 a.m.

During the current pandemic, you must register to attend services in person.

The registration link can be found on the facebook.com/FortBelvoirRSO.



Virtual Authors at Your Library

During March, the Fort Belvoir community can join enthusiastic readers from Fort Knox and Fort Jackson to listen to nationally and internationally renowned authors discuss their latest books, the stories behind their narrations, and to ask about their next big projects. This month features two renowned authors.

On March 16, New York Times bestselling author Joel Rosenberg will discuss The Beirut Protocol, one of his sixteen novels and five nonfiction books with nearly five million copies in print. The session will take place at 6 p.m.

On March 30, Vietnam Veteran and artist Steve Maloney discusses Take Me Home Huey: Honoring American Heroes Through Art. Maloney is a widely recognized artist and Vietnam-era National Guard veteran. Session time to be announced.

Advance registration is required for both sessions. For details, visit belvoir.armymwr.com or call the MWR Library at 703-805-4244.

Virtual PLAY MORNING
10a.m.

2021
Mar. 5, 19
Apr. 9, 23
May. 7, 21
Jun. 4

To register, please call (571) 231-7028 or email Briana.crawford2.ctr@mail.mil

belvoir.armymwr.com

Play Morning

Play Mornings, hosted by Army Community Service, allow the opportunity for families to connect virtually and have a playgroup experience together through crafts, story time and other activities. Classes are biweekly at 10 a.m., Fridays. This month's sessions will take place Friday and March

19. Additional sessions will be held through June. Participants will be notified of any changes in the schedule. Registration is required by calling 571-231-7028.

Virtual Storytime

<http://bit.ly/BelvoirStorytime>

Join your library team every Wednesday at 10:30 a.m. on the Belvoir MWR Facebook page for a virtual group reading experience. Storytime targets ages 5 and under, but all ages are welcome to join!

Fort Belvoir Religious Support Office seeks contractors for music, services

By Paul Lara
Belvoir Eagle

Fort Belvoir’s Religious Support Office is seeking six musicians and eight coordinators, to fill needed positions assisting in worship services and other religious education programs, according to Chaplain (Capt.) Mark Lee.

“With Army contracting we try to get volunteers first, and our robust religious support program for multiple faith groups in three chapels,” Lee said. “We have a lot of volunteers, but it can be difficult to find a skilled organist, pianist and worship leader, and to provide leadership for the choirs and singing.”

Lee said several services are looking for an organ player, and there is also a need for lead singers, so many positions are now available for bid to contractors, including several coordinators, who are vital to the maintenance of numerous vibrant communities.

“We have very large communities, such as the Jewish community that has specialized activities and holidays, and the coordinators work on schedules, bulletins, and planning of numerous large events,” Lee said, noting that “we wish all chaplains could sing, preach, dance and coordinate, but they can’t. They are also assigned to a military unit for 40 hours a



Belvoir Chapel, in this 2017 file photo, shows the stained glass depiction of General George Washington praying.

week. Without assistance, the chaplain would never get a day off.”
He said most of the RSO musicians are volunteers, but when the talent pool of available volunteers can’t meet that need, they rely on a contractor.

“We will take a look at the bids submitted, and hope we can afford their services,” said Lee. “It’s usually just one hour a week, and it’s certainly a blessing to our community.”
There are about 15 worship services a week, across three different chapels, and bids for the following positions will be accepted through

March 10 by the Religious Support Office:

- Musicians:**
- Catholic Choir Director
 - Catholic Service Organist (3 Services)
 - Protestant Organist (3 Services)
 - Gospel Service Keyboardist
 - Gospel Service Bass Guitarist
 - Anglican Pianist

- Coordinators:**
- Jewish Coordinator
 - Catholic Coordinator
 - Chapel Next Children’s Church Coordinator
 - Chapel Next Worship Leader (Sings & Plays Instrument)
 - Awana Coordinator
 - Protestant Youth Coordinator
 - Watch Care Coordinator
 - Iconography Instructor

A Performance Work Statement and Bid Sheets are available upon request from the RSO Funds Office.
For more information, contact the Funds Office via email: Mark.R.Lee28.mil@mail.mil (Resources Manager); sabian.d.leslie2.mil@mail.mil (Fund Manager). Qualified bidders must create a free www.sam.gov account and provide a DUNS number on the bid sheet.

