



Get workouts on the go from MWR through your Digital Garrison app. See story, pg. 7

February 25, 2021

SecDef: 'We must defeat COVID-19'

By Paul Lara
Belvoir Eagle

Secretary of Defense Lloyd J. Austin III issued guidance Friday in a memo to senior Pentagon leadership stressing that "We must defeat the coronavirus disease ... and defend the force against COVID-19 while protecting our Nation," with guidance that rescinds an April 2020 memorandum.

Austin said that, effective immediately, all individuals on military installations and all individuals performing official duties on behalf of the Department from any location, other than the



Courtesy photo
Secretary of Defense Lloyd J Austin III

individual's home, will wear masks in accordance with the most current guidance from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

According to the memorandum, Individuals must wear masks continuously while on military installations, with the following exceptions:

- When an individual is alone in an office with floor-to-ceiling walls with a closed door
- Brief periods of time when eating and drinking while maintaining social distancing in accordance with CDC guidelines

- When mask is required to be lowered briefly for identification or security purposes
- When necessary to reasonably accommodate an individual with a disability

Austin went on to clarify that the mask must cover nose and mouth, and comports with current CDC guidance, specifying location and design.

"Locations where masks must be worn include any common areas or shared workspaces (including

..... See SecDef, page 4

"Belvoir In the Know": podcast for news, views and all things about Fort Belvoir

By Paul Lara
Belvoir Eagle

To reach out to busy people who have a limited amount of time to gather information and guidance, Fort Belvoir's Garrison command group has launched "Belvoir In the Know," a new podcast that aims to condense important information in a brief audio presentation that you can listen to wherever you are, according to Garrison Commander, Col. Joshua SeGraves.

"I think that the podcast is going to be important for overall communication," said SeGraves. "This podcast expands our communications beyond town halls, the Belvoir Eagle and social media. This format will be shorter. So instead of watching a 30-minute town hall, maybe you've got 8 to 12 minutes to listen to a podcast and get the latest information about Fort Belvoir."

Garrison Command Sgt. Maj. Gregory Kleinholz agrees, and said it was a matter of pairing the proper communications method with the audience.

"It's important to have the right kind of communication to reach your audience," Kleinholz said. "If

you look at the people who drop in and out during those longer town halls, they are paying attention for a short period of time, because perhaps that's the only time they have. Their time is valuable, so if we can provide short sound bites of what's going on, we'll keep our everyone well informed."

Ganesa Robinson, chief of command information with Belvoir Public Affairs, said this new outlet doesn't replace, but rather augments the community's understanding by providing a deeper look into particular issues.

"We think a podcast can reach a different audience, since podcasts

can be listened to on the go; or in the car; or while working out in the gym. This allows us to enhance information in eight to twelve-minute episodes. People are quite busy, and don't have a lot of time, so we want to cut to the chase and give you the information you need," Robinson said.

The first episode of "Belvoir In the Know" focuses on the Army's third-party inspection of privatized housing on the installation, which is a pilot project that will go world-wide among all services in the future. There was robust discussion of what to expect during the home inspection, along

with how and whom to contact if you need to reschedule.

In line with providing information that is mobile and on-the-go, Robinson added that the initial episode will launch on the Garrison's Facebook page, but future episodes will only be available on the Digital Garrison app. That's a move highly supported by SeGraves.

"The Digital Garrison app is another way to link families to the installation. I think it's important, if you live or work on post, to have this in hand," SeGraves said. "It's an easy way for the Garrison to distribute information: anything from weather and gates; DFMWR decisions on CDC events; or just conveying general information about services on the installation."

For podcast release date and time, and the link, go to the www.facebook.com/fortbelvoir events page. Download the Digital Garrison app from the Apple Store or Google Play, and register your location as Fort Belvoir.

"If we can provide a short podcast to update the community on things that are happening, that's a great way to keep them in the know," Kleinholz said.



Photo by Paul Lara

A nurse holds a vial of the Pfizer-BioNTech vaccine, for administration at Fort Belvoir Hospital's COVID Vaccination Clinic, Jan. 26.

TRICARE extends COVID-19 vaccinations to retail pharmacies

Compiled by Paul Lara
Belvoir Eagle

TRICARE participants will soon have more locations to receive the COVID-19 vaccination, after the federal government launched the Federal Retail Pharmacy Program for COVID-19 Vaccination, according to a Feb. 18 TRICARE benefits update release.

This new program is a collaboration between the federal government, states, and more than 20 national pharmacies that will increase access to the COVID-19 vaccine across the National Capital Region.

“Vaccination is a critical step in protecting your health and slowing the spread of COVID-19,” said Col. Markus Gmehlin, acting chief of the Pharmacy Operations Division at the Defense Health Agency. “This program will provide TRICARE beneficiaries with more opportunities to get vaccinated at a location near them.”

The program will supply COVID-19 vaccines to retail pharmacies in phases. According to TRICARE, one million doses will be sent to a select group of pharmacies, which will then administer vaccinations to those who are eligible. Some pharmacies have already begun offering a limited amount of the vaccine through this program. Other pharmacies are set to begin offering doses soon. The Centers for

Disease Control and Prevention stated that as vaccine supply increases, more retail locations will be added.

Federal Pharmacy Partners

According to the CDC, several private pharmacies are part of this program, and include the following:

Virginia – Albertsons, Safeway, CVS Pharmacy, Kroger, Harris-Teeter, Walgreens, Walmart

Maryland – CVS Pharmacy, Walgreens
Washington, D.C. – Food Lion, Giant

Check your local pharmacy to see when the vaccine will be available. You may also be able to sign up for an appointment through your local pharmacy.

Pharmacies participating in the program may include TRICARE network pharmacies and non-network pharmacies. If you're planning to get the vaccine at a non-network pharmacy, TRICARE states that there's no cost for the COVID-19 vaccine itself. Keep in mind, TRICARE doesn't cover other vaccines and most prescription drugs at non-network pharmacies.

Visit the Fort Belvoir Community Hospital website or social media to stay informed about vaccine updates.

For all vaccination sites, please check availability and appointment times before showing up, and make sure to get a record of the vaccine for your medical record.

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

- Sub-tier 1: Emergency rooms, urgent care centers, and first responders (i.e., police, search and rescue, and the personnel), and Armed Forces Retirement Home residents
- Sub-tier 2: Health care and support personnel at military hospitals and clinics, along with other non-clinical staff authorized to receive vaccine from DoD, who support patient care with a high risk of exposure or potential to interface with COVID-19 positive cases
- Sub-tier 3: Outpatient health care and support personnel, including National Guard and Reserve personnel as well as active duty service members deploying or supporting COVID-19 response operations in Title 10 or Title 32 duty status

PHASE 1B

- National critical capabilities (strategic and nuclear defense forces, homeland defense)
- Personnel preparing to deploy to locations outside of the continental U.S. (OCONUS)
- Personnel preparing to deploy within the next three months, including military civilian and contractors authorized to receive immunization from the DoD
- New! Beneficiaries age 75 or older
- New! Front Line Essential Workers: Education and youth and child services staff, medical, 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

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Command Sergeant Major CSM Gregory Kleinholz
Director of Public Affairs Joe Richard
Deputy Director Public Affairs Ganesa Robinson
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Belvoir ACS offers tax guidance, classes

By Paul Lara
Belvoir Eagle

This tax season, Fort Belvoir Army Community Service continues to offer tax preparation classes in March, according to Paula Pass, personal financial counselor. The classes are Tuesday mornings and Thursday afternoons, March 2 and 9 at 10:00 a.m.; and March 4 and 11 at 5:30 p.m.

“This is not tax preparation, but tax education and planning resources,” Pass said. “We are meeting with Service members virtually. We can help you understand how to read your IRS W2 Form, how to read your Leave and Earnings Statement, and where to go to see if there are any special tax provisions for Service members.”

Pass said that a provision affecting many military families is where Service members are married, but don't live together, whether they're in a long-distance marriage or deployed all year.

“If there are children, they can claim head of household, and they don't have to claim the married category.”

Pass said that unfortunately, the H&R Block tax software that families fill out online on the MilTax site does not allow that provision, “and it can be a costly loss for them,” adding that those finer points are best explained by attending the webinars.

One of the key points explained in the ACS webinars is the variety of ways you can save for your retirement, and which one is best for



Photo by Nataliya Vaitkevich

Army Community Services Financial Readiness Program can help you understand your taxes before you file.

you depends on your page grade.

“We start by identifying which tax bracket you're in, and whether to contribute to the traditional Thrift Savings Program, or the Ross Thrift Savings Program. Understanding where you are today, tax wise, and what you can contribute, is a big part of financial planning and preparing for future taxes,” Pass said. “Younger service members need to realize if they can put \$100 in their TSP, as soon as possible, it greatly affects future financial security, as the power of compounding before

the age of 30 is remarkable,” she said.

The online classes help you with tax laws; tax planning strategies; withholdings and exemptions; topics for military taxes; and record keeping.

Pass is also offering a few slots for free tax preparation, where you share your virtual screen with her, and she looks on as you file online.

“Planning for the nation's filing season process is a massive undertaking, and IRS teams have been working non-stop to prepare for this as well as delivering Economic Impact Payments in record time,” said IRS Commissioner Chuck Rettig.

To speed refunds during the pandemic, the IRS urges taxpayers to file electronically with direct deposit as soon as they have the information they need. The IRS also has a page, “Where's My Refund?”, updated daily, to track the status of your returns.

Taxes, and - any tax payments - are due April 15. October 15 is the deadline for those who requested an extension, but the IRS cautions that an extension only gets you more time to file, not more time to pay.

To sign up for the ACS tax preparation classes, call 571-231-7025. To register for free tax preparation, email PFC.Belvoir.USA@zeiders.com. Free e-filing software is available to Service members at militaryonesource.mil. To track the status of your IRS refund, go to irs.gov/refunds or download the IRS2Go app from the Apple store or Google Play.

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open floor plan office spaces, cubicle embankments, and conference rooms) and in outdoor shared spaces. Masks recommended by the CDC include non-medical disposable masks, masks made with breathable fabric (such as cotton), masks made with tightly woven fabric (i.e., fabrics that do not let light pass through when held up to a light source), masks with two or three layers, and masks with inner filter pockets. Novelty or non-protective masks, masks with ventilation valves, or face shields are not authorized as a substitute for masks.”

“We are continuing to stress that you don’t want to let your guard down,” said John Nicklas, with Fort Belvoir’s Safety Office, who said to stick with the three



Courtesy photo

“Put simply, masks and other public health measures reduce the spread of the disease, particularly when communities make widespread use of such measures, and thus save lives.”

President Joseph R. Biden, Jr.

basics. “Social distancing, by staying at least six feet from other people who are not from an individual’s household in both indoor and outdoor spaces; face coverings; and increased hygiene with soap and water or hand sanitizer. When you’re out, don’t touch your face or eyes until you’ve sanitized or washed your hands. It’s been the guidance of Garrison throughout this pandemic.”

Case-by-case exceptions to the requirements in the memo may be made by the Service Secretaries for Service members and their

families in environments other than office spaces that are necessary for military readiness, that are related to living on a military installation, or that are related to mask wearing by children may be granted in writing, and include appropriate alternative safeguards whenever feasible.

This guidance stems from a Jan. 20 Presidential Executive Order to protect the Federal workforce and individuals interacting with the Federal workforce. “Put simply, masks and other public health

measures reduce the spread of the disease, particularly when communities make widespread use of such measures, and thus save lives,” wrote President Joseph R. Biden, Jr.

“COVID-19 is one of the deadliest threats our Nation has ever faced,” Austin said. “As we have done throughout our history, the military will rise to the challenge. It is imperative that we do all we can to ensure the health and safety of our force, our families, and our communities so we can prevail in this fight.”

RER inspections move to Lewis Village

By Paul Lara
Belvoir Eagle

After two weeks of housing inspections in Woodlawn Village, the team will begin sending announcements to residents at Lewis Village as the next neighborhood on the schedule, according to Jason Kallivokas, Executive Vice President of RER Solutions.

Kallivokas said that RER was contracted to run a pilot project on Fort Belvoir, as part of the mandate set in the fiscal 2020 National Defense Authorization Act that all privatized housing must be inspected.

"This is in addition to the inspections performed when the house is turned over for a new family," said Scott Chamberlain, Assistant for Housing and Chief, Capital Ventures, Office of the Deputy Assistant Secretary of the Army for Installations, Housing and Partnerships. "With this pilot, we're trying to set baselines for this, in terms of conditions, resources and cost."

Adult must be home

As of Feb. 16, 225 homes have been inspected, with 130 of them occupied homes.

"We've seen re-scheduling required with some, and the Garrison is working to accommodate those schedules," said Kallivokas. "Three homes did not have an adult present. In discussions with the Army and Clark/Michaels staff, we decided we were not going to enter any home in which an adult is not present. The requirements listed in the scheduling notification specified that an adult must be present for the inspection to occur. As



Photo by Paul Lara

Lt. Gen. Douglas Gabram, commander, IMCOM, right, is shown the home inspection procedures by Jason Kallivokas, Executive Vice President, RER Solutions, during his visit, Feb. 9.

such, these inspections weren't performed and Garrison personnel are rescheduling them".

Lt. Gen. Douglas Gabram, commander, IMCOM, had recently been given a walk-through by Kallivokas and his team in Dogue Creek Village on the inspection procedures.

"General Gabram was pleased with the level of detail our inspectors are going into," said Kallivokas. "It is very comprehensive without any invasive effort that may result in damages to the property. I believe LTG Gabram has a better understanding of the scope and thoroughness of our inspections. I think that was beneficial for him to understand. It is hard to visualize without standing there and going through it."

Belvoir's Capitol proximity helps pilot

Chamberlain said Belvoir was chosen for this pilot because Congress was interested in the housing situation here, and it's also close to the Pentagon if they want to come see how it's running. Kallivokas said that even with weather setbacks, his team has completed 75% of the homes based on the original schedule.

"That's a positive news story from our perspective," he said. "Residents have been accommodating to our inspectors. We have had a handful of homes that involved either positive COVID tests or are on a COVID contact tracing quarantine, so they've been re-scheduled by the Garrison staff," adding that there the inspectors have a rigorous safety procedure to minimize risk to both residents and inspectors.

It has now been two years since the privatized housing problems caught the attention of top lawmakers and military leaders, and Chamberlain said the difference between now and then is breathtaking.

"I get on a call every Monday that lasts between an hour-and-a half and two hours, where the commander of Installation Management Command talks with all 55 of his Garrison commanders," Chamberlain said. "He wants to know, by name, everyone who is displaced from their house and how many days. He knows the issues, and things have changed."

After Lewis Village, the RER inspectors will be heading to Herryford Village in March, and Kallivokas said residents should expect a minimum one-week advance notice of a pending inspection.

Historian shares 101st Airborne Division Black History moments through time

By Stephanie Ingersoll
Fort Campbell Courier

When the 101st Airborne Division needed big guns at the Battle of the Bulge, two corps artillery units of Black Soldiers delivered. When the Little Rock Nine needed escorts just to attend Central High School in Little Rock, Arkansas, President Dwight D. Eisenhower sent in 101st Abn. Div. Soldiers from Fort Campbell. And when the odds were stacked against them, two Black Soldiers from the 101st Abn. Div. risked it all to save others.

These were all touchstones in the history of the 101st Abn. Div. (Air Assault), the United States Army and nation's progress in race relations over the years, said John O'Brien, director of the Brig. Gen. Don F. Pratt Memorial Museum.

As the Army celebrates Black History Month, O'Brien reflected on several moments that tell the story of successful integration over the years.

"The result of the progress that has been made is visible when you look at pictures and listen to the stories of where we are today," he said. "You look at a picture and you see men and women of all races, creeds and religions involved in the operations in which we have been involved."



Photos by Stephanie Ingersoll

John O'Brien, director of the Gen. Don F. Pratt Memorial Museum at Fort Campbell, looks over issues of the Screaming Eagle, published in Vietnam by the 101st Airborne Division for stories about how the Army was addressing race relations.



Tom Hara, Dreyer Field House manager passes a large photo of Little Rock Central High School and 101st Airborne Division (Air Assault) Soldiers who helped protect the Little Rock Nine after the Brown vs. Board of Education of Topeka.

World War II

"In World War II, the Army was racially segregated," O'Brien said. "There were occasions where those segregated units fought with the 101st. One of those occasions was the very famous defense of the city of Bastogne in the Battle of the Bulge, which occurred December 1944 to January 1945."

"There were a number of other units that were on the battlefield that came to be encircled with the 101st and fought with the 101st," he said. "Two of those units were segregated, all Black artillery units."

He said the 333rd Field Artillery Battalion and 969th Artillery Battalion, made up of Black Soldiers, supplied the big fire power that turned the tide during the siege and repelled the Germans.

The 969th and 333rd were equipped with

M1 155mm howitzers, one of the heaviest pieces of artillery at the time. The 101st were a light airborne unit so they had only 75mm and 105mm howitzers.

"Part of the success of the 101st at Bastogne was overwhelming use of artillery and so these two co-corps artillery units that ended up working with the 101st, being part of the 101st and awarded battlefield honors, along with the 101st, are these two African American units," O'Brien said. "They had the big guns, big artillery pieces. Despite there being a segregated Army, there was not a segregated battlefield."

Little Rock Nine

On May 17, 1954, the U.S. Supreme Court ruled unanimously in Brown vs. Board of Education of Topeka that racial segregation in public schools violated the Equal Protection Clause of the 14th Amendment to the Constitution and called to desegregate schools nationwide.

"The Supreme Court did not say when segregation was to end, and in Arkansas, Gov. (Orval) Faubus prevented the integration of the Little Rock Central High School," O'Brien said.

President Dwight Eisenhower, who was the Supreme Allied Commander of the European Theater of Operations in World War II, had relied on the 101st to be the vanguard in the invasion into Europe. As president and faced with national and international criticism of segregation in 1957, he again reached out to the 101st Abn. Div.

Some 600 101st Abn. Div. Soldiers assigned to 1-327th Airborne Battle Group were deployed to protect the nine black students from protestors for about three months, O'Brien said.

Vietnam and Medals of Honor

"The 101st deployed to Vietnam from 1965 to 1972 and what's going on in the United States is the height of the Civil Rights movement of that era," O'Brien said. "We have a fully integrated Army but race relations in Vietnam were an interesting problem."

O'Brien said the integrated units were not a problem on the battlefield, but at division base camps and some other areas, "there were manifestations of the racial tensions in the United States. The division was very aggressive in addressing that problem."

Even in combat, he said, leaders addressed racial issues rather than ignoring the topic.

Two 101st Medal of Honor recipients were Black Soldiers – only Sgt. 1st Class Webster Anderson made it home.

Staff Sergeant Clifford C. Sims was posthumously awarded the Medal of Honor after the squad leader of D Co., 2nd Battalion, 501st Infantry Regiment, led a furious attack against the enemy Feb. 21, 1968.

After moving his Soldiers away from a burning munitions building, it exploded, wounding two Soldiers but his actions saved lives, according to the Medal of Honor citation.

Anderson, then a staff sergeant, was awarded the Medal of Honor for his actions while serving as chief of section in A Battery, 2nd Battalion, 320th Field Artillery Regiment.

After being attacked by North Vietnamese infantry Oct. 15, 1967, Anderson directed howitzer fire on the enemy while providing rifle and grenade defensive fire. Two grenades landed at his feet, severely wounding his legs. Despite excruciating pain he continued to fire and encouraged his men to fight.

Service members, families have new way to stay fit during COVID-19 pandemic

By Eliza J. Cantrell
Belvoir Eagle Content Coordinator

Maintaining a fit and ready force is one of the top challenges Army leaders face today. This challenge has been amplified by the Coronavirus pandemic, making it difficult to go to the gym and have a consistent workout routine.

MWR Sports and Fitness has created a solution to that problem. Supervisory Sports Specialist Karen Shepherd and Fitness Program Specialist Anthony Leon, have created easy-to-follow workout videos that will help you get ready for the Army Combat Fitness Test and fight off the 'COVID 15.'

According to Shepherd, there was a need to provide the fitness programming they had offered prior to the pandemic. The idea to create fitness videos began as a way to help the community stay active when the gyms on post closed.

Shepherd explained the workout videos are targeted to "all of our demographic, with a focus on our workforce, by providing safe and effective programming to follow, even if you are just beginning a workout routine and have previously been sedentary." She added they also provide programming that "focuses on areas that would help build and sustain Service members for the upcoming Army

Combat Fitness Test."

Garrison Command Sgt. Maj. Gregory Kleinholz agreed the workout videos help bridge the 'workout gap' that has been forced on Soldiers due to the pandemic.

"The workouts align with the functional fitness concept and are a great way to assist the command and Soldiers for the full implementation of the ACFT," said Kleinholz. "This is especially important during the current pandemic because Soldiers and their families can keep up with their fitness routine wherever they are, including at home. "

The workout videos provide a variety of safe, effective and functional workouts for the entire community. The main goal is to provide "exercises that are going to be beneficial for you overall," stated Shepherd. "Our videos are geared towards our community."

How to watch

MWR's workout videos are available on Fort Belvoir's Digital Garrison app, so you can work out on-the-go. Simply download the free Digital Garrison app from either the Apple or Google Play stores. Then, create an account and select 'Fort Belvoir' as your installation, so you'll receive all the updates directly to your phone. Finally, click on "Installation Information" from the dashboard, then select



Photo by Eliza Cantrell

MWR Sports and Fitness program specialist Anthony Leon demonstrates some easy-to-follow exercises Feb. 16, in a regular series of videos.

'Announcements.' Once there, select the workout video you want to view. You'll be able to click the link at the bottom which will take you directly to the workout video.

Shepherd and Leon appreciate any feedback from the community. Let them know how they can continue to help with everyone's fitness goals. For questions, email karen.l.shepherd2.naf@usa.army.mil or anthony.e.leon3.naf@mail.mil.

Revised program targets health, quality of life initiatives for Army civilians

By Devon Suits
Army News Service

An updated Army program plans to enhance the health, fitness, and quality of life of Army civilians, as the force continues to refine the way it acquires and retains talent in support of the Army People Strategy.

The Army Civilian Fitness and Health Promotion Program will authorize civilians up to three hours of administrative leave per week, with no more than one hour per day, to participate in physical fitness and preventative health activities, said Todd Fore, the deputy assistant secretary of the army for civilian personnel.

The program is outlined under Army Directive 2021-03, which was released in January, and will supersede current Army Regulation 600-63 for health promotion. The change will eliminate the one-time use, six-month duration requirement outlined in the old policy, granting civilians more flexibility to achieve their health and fitness goals.

"We received a lot of [program] feedback," Fore said Thursday. "When it comes to acquiring new personnel, we have people ask about our wellness program. So we rolled out the Army Civilian Fitness and Health Promotion Program to stay competitive."

Retaining personnel is also a top priority, as the program will continue to enhance an individual's work and life balance as well as increase morale, Fore added.

The Army is the third-largest federal employer with close to 300,000 civilians



Courtesy U.S. Army

An updated Army program plans to enhance the health, fitness, and quality of life of Army civilians, as the force continues to refine the way it acquires and retains talent in support of the Army People Strategy.

operating throughout the entire force, officials said.

Over the summer, the Army rolled out a Civilian Implementation Plan, which covers several efforts including the health and fitness program to help transform the workforce. It also aims to modernize civilian talent acquisition, evolve career programs to be integral to the people enterprise, and to help build world-class supervisors.

According to research compiled by the health program's leaders, employees who can participate in a fitness and health promotion program experience increased readiness, resiliency, and productivity. Individuals also exhibit improved job and life satisfaction, all while reducing sick leave use.

The program is not an entitlement, as it is

deemed voluntary for all employees and must be pre-approved by the individual's chain of command, Fore said.

Mission requirements will take precedence and dictate the available times for program participation, he added. Leaders will have the authority to implement and administer the program to best support their organization.

If a request is approved, an employee must submit a program participation agreement before receiving time off to engage in health and fitness activities.

Individuals and supervisors are required to account for all fitness periods and annotate it as administrative leave within the Automated Time Attendance and Production System, or as a related code in similar timecard systems.

All employees must report to their organization before and after an authorized fitness period, officials said. The allotted interval includes time to change, shower, and travel to and from a location. Missed hours do not accumulate or carry over to future weeks.

Employees can also use the allotted time to garner positive health habits through preventive health support and education. The Federal Occupational Health agency provides access to virtual wellness programs, online health risk assessment, cholesterol and glucose testing, blood pressure monitoring, and other health-related services. For more information, call 1-866-436-4457 or visit their website.

For more information about the Army Civilian Fitness and Health Promotion Program, individuals should contact their servicing civilian personnel office.

Bosetti volunteers for, helps guide new Fort Belvoir Faith Community Team

By David Fawcett
Belvoir Eagle

Col. Tom Faichney calls Bo Bosetti a “Living Joshua.” It’s an apt description for the 79-year-old retired colonel.

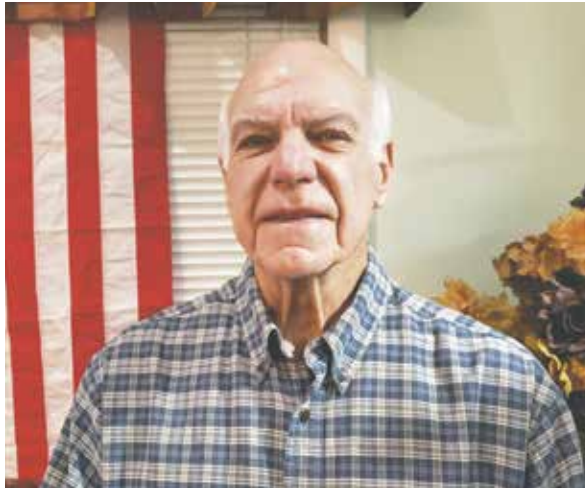
With a nearly life-long commitment to Christian service, including 41 years at Fort Belvoir, Bosetti personifies characteristics associated with the Old Testament figure who led the Israelites into their new home through a reliance on the Lord.

“Bo is a vital leader who continues to creatively serve our Fort Belvoir Community,” said Faichney, the Fort Belvoir Garrison chaplain. “Bo is courageous and dedicated to the team’s success without the need, or any desire whatsoever, for public recognition. The brother is a humble leader who gets after it tirelessly just as Joshua, advanced in years, entered and secured the promised land.”

With his background as both as a military leader as well as a Christian, Bosetti was an ideal candidate to help oversee the new Fort Belvoir Faith Community Team that Faichney created last fall as a way to branch out more into the community to meet needs.

The Faith Community team is broken up into five groups: Care, Communication, Worship, Outreach and Facilities.

“Bo is a leader who gives his all for the blessing of the community,” Faichney said. “He helps us to be a vital, united, loving faith community living in God given freedom



Courtesy photo

Retired Col. Bo Bosetti helps oversee the newly-formed Faith Community Team.

enabling readiness today and tomorrow.”

Bosetti works with Lt. Col. Buster Akers, the deputy Garrison chaplain.

“I am just a volunteer,” Bosetti said. “In a regular church, you have Elders and Deacons. In our military chapels we have senior volunteers. So I view Chaplain Faichney as Commander. Chaplain Akers is the Executive Officer.”

Bosetti said his wife Ellen of 55 years was a turning point in his Christian walk because they shared similar backgrounds “as children of God.”

The two passed their love of Jesus to their son, who is also a retired colonel, and their daughter, who is the director for the American Oncology Society of America.

Bosetti arrived at Fort Belvoir in 1975 and stayed there for 11 of the next 17 years before retiring in 1992 after working primarily in the field of administration and automation.

During his time at Belvoir, Bosetti has participated in a number of ways at the base chapel. He taught adult Sunday school and youth Sunday school, ushered and planned family retreats and other activities among his many roles over the years. Each endeavor is a labor of love for Bosetti.

He cites Matthew 28: 18-20 as one of his guiding scriptures in what he does. Known as the Great Commission, the verses are Jesus’ command to “go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you.”

“I am community oriented,” Bosetti said. “I don’t believe in individual things.”

Bosetti is excited about the Faith Community Team and how it will invest in the lives of those around him through the various groups involved with connecting each other. Instead of shying away, Bosetti embraces whatever challenges lay ahead.

“It goes back to 1 Peter 4:10-11,” Bosetti said. “Everyone has a gift (to serve others).”

Belvoir Community Briefs

Virtual Authors at Your Library



Fort Belvoir readers can join fans 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's featured author is bestselling author Steve Berry as he discusses the newest thriller in his Cotton Malone series, The Kaiser's Web. He is the author of 19 Cotton Malone adventures, four stand-alone thrillers, and several works of short fiction. The session is Feb. 27 at 12 p.m. Advance registration is required. For details, visit belvoir.armymwr.com or call the MWR Library at 703-805-4244.



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

To register, please call (877) 231-7028 or email Briana.crawford2Lctr@mail.mil

, hosted by Army Community Service, allow 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. The next session will be March 5. 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.

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](https://www.facebook.com/FortBelvoirRSO).

Desert Storm: a look back

By Shannon Collins

Editor's Note: Thirty years ago, on Feb. 24, 1991, US-led forces begin Operation Desert Sabre, the ground invasion of southern Iraq and Iraqi-occupied Kuwait

Operation Desert Storm was the first major foreign crisis for the United States after the end of the Cold War. On Aug. 2, 1990, Saddam Hussein led a well-equipped Iraqi army into Kuwait, a major supplier of oil to the United States.

The U.S. had supplied Iraq with military aid during its eight-year war with Iran, giving Iraq the fourth-largest army in the world at that time. This posed a threat to Saudi Arabia, another major exporter of oil. If Saudi Arabia fell, Iraq would control one-fifth of the world's oil supply. The Iraqi leader also was repeatedly violating United Nations resolutions, so the



Courtesy photo

President George H.W. Bush meets with troops in Saudi Arabia



Courtesy photo Air Force

Desert Storm Eagles: F-16A Fighting Falcon, F-15C Eagle and F-15E Strike Eagle fighter aircraft fly over burning oil fields in Kuwait during Operation Desert Storm.

U.S. had U.N. support in responding to Iraq's invasion of Kuwait.

Desert Storm Key Facts:

- More than 500,000 American troops deployed to Saudi Arabia as part of Operation Desert Shield, in case Iraqi troops attacked Saudi Arabia.
- On Jan. 17, 1991, Operation Desert Shield became Operation Desert Storm, backed by public support after diplomacy failed.
- Desert Storm became the largest air campaign since the conflict in Southeast Asia.
- The U.S. and 40 allied nations, including several Arab nations, flew more than 18,000 air deployment missions, more than 116,000

combat air sorties and dropped 88,500 tons of bombs.

- After air attacks that lasted for six weeks, the ground campaign lasted only 100 hours before Kuwait was liberated.
- Iraq tried to split the coalition by launching Scud missiles at Israel, but Israel refrained from responding, thanks to its partnership with the United States.
- Desert Storm saw the first use of the MIM-104C Patriot missile system in combat, where it was used to intercept Scud missiles. It was also the first time the Air Force used stealth and space systems support capabilities against a modern, integrated air defense.
- About 697,000 U.S. troops took part in the war, with 299 losing their lives.

