

THURSDAY AUG. 17, 2023

# THE FORT JACKSON LEADER

"VICTORY ... STARTS HERE."

## COLORFUL RUN

CYS HOLDS ANNUAL BACK TO SCHOOL RUN



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# DOD makes tax-free spending accounts available

By **C. TODD LOPEZ**  
DOD News Service

Childcare is just one of the costly realities of raising a family. But the Defense Department has made a new tool available to help eligible military families meet that challenge.

The Dependent Care Flexible Spending Account, or DCFSA, is a financial benefit that will be made available to eligible service members beginning in 2024. It will enable them to have money from their paychecks diverted to an account that can be used to pay for dependent care services such as preschool, summer day camp, before- or after-school programs, and child or adult daycare.

Active-component service members along with Active Guard Reserve members on Title 10 orders are eligible to participate.

Eligible service members can contribute as much as \$5,000 a year from their paychecks, via allotment, to the account. That money comes out pretax, which means that a military family that typically reports \$30,000 a year in taxable income, for instance, would instead be able to report \$25,000 in taxable income if they took full advantage of the benefit. That means they will pay less in taxes each year, yielding greater take-home pay.

The DOD is on track to implement DCFSA for eligible service members beginning Jan. 1, 2024. Those who would like to participate can sign up during the annual Federal Benefits Open Season, which runs from mid-November to mid-December.

Jennifer Walker, the executive director



Department of Defense photo

**The Dependent Care Flexible Spending Account will enable eligible service members to put money away to help pay for dependent care services.**

for the Dependent Care Flexible Spending Account initiative, said as many as 400,000 service members have eligible dependents and will be eligible to take advantage of the benefits provided by the DCFSA program.

"That includes families who have children who are under the age of 13 or who have a spouse or other tax dependent, regardless of age, who is mentally or physically incapable of self-care," she said.

A service member interacts with his chil-

dren who are seated on playground equipment.

The program is part of a larger DOD effort to take better care of military service members and their families. In March, the department released the "Strengthening Our Support to Service Members and Their Families" memorandum, which, among other important initiatives, discussed making DCFsAs available to service members.

That memorandum was signed by Secre-

tary of Defense Lloyd J. Austin III, who said taking care of service members and their families through efforts such as DCFSA is a top priority for the department.

"In recent years, our military community has weathered a number of challenges, but our people have risen to every mission and done it all with extraordinary resilience," Austin wrote in the March 2023 memorandum.

"But it is the department's ongoing moral duty to spare our outstanding people stress and struggle on the home front where we can and to show our service members and civilian employees how much they mean to us with tangible support that makes a genuine difference in their lives," he wrote. "The department has, therefore, relentlessly focused on improving quality of life, and I am very proud of what we've achieved so far."

The DCFSA like other pretax flexible savings accounts, is a "use or lose" benefit.

According to the DOD's Office of Financial Readiness, the DCFSA plan year mirrors the tax year, Jan. 1 through Dec. 31. After the plan year ends on Dec. 31, enrollees in a DCFSA have until March 15 of the following year to incur eligible expenses. Claims for expenses incurred must be submitted by April 30, the deadline for submitting claims from the previous plan year. Any funds remaining in the account after April 30 of the following year are forfeited.

Military personnel interested in taking advantage of the DCFSA are advised to first talk with a personal financial counselor or tax professional before signing up to participate in the program.

## ON THE COVER

**Youth charge across the Youth Services Sports Complex field during the 8th Annual Back to School Color Run held, Aug. 12, to celebrate children going back to school for the new year. See Page 6-7**



Photo by **ROBERT TIMMONS**

## THE FORT JACKSON LEADER

"We Make American Soldiers"

Fort Jackson, South Carolina 29207

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All editorial content of the Fort Jackson Leader is prepared, edited, provided and approved by the Public Affairs Office of Fort Jackson.

The Fort Jackson Leader is distributed online. To submit articles, story ideas or announcements, write the Fort Jackson Leader, 5450 Strom Thurmond Blvd., Rm. 227, Fort Jackson, S.C. 29207, or call (803) 751-6739 or e-mail [usarmy.jackson.93-sig-bde.mbx.atzj-pao@army.mil](mailto:usarmy.jackson.93-sig-bde.mbx.atzj-pao@army.mil)

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## HRC commander speaks at Maude lecture series

By **ROBERT TIMMONS**  
Fort Jackson Public Affairs

The Army has a long legacy of remembering those who came before, especially those who gave their lives in the nation's service. This includes the Lt. Gen. Timothy J. Maude Leadership Lecture Series hosted by the Adjutant General School.

The series of speaking events held on Fort Jackson honors Maude's legacy. He was serving as the Army's Chief of Staff for Personnel, when he was killed during the Sept. 11, 2001 terrorist attacks on the Pentagon. Maude, known for his deep love of Soldiers, was the highest-ranking Army officer killed in the attacks.

"It's a great opportunity to number one, continue to pay tribute to a great American Soldier, a great leader ... in Lt. Gen. Timothy J. Maude," said Col. Chesley D. Thigpen Jr., commandant of the Adjutant General School while introducing the guest speaker for the event, held in the Solomon Center, Aug. 15.

The goal of the lecture series is to have "senior leaders come and share their experiences with a large diverse group at Fort Jackson," Thigpen said.

Maj. Gen. Thomas R. Drew, commander of

Army Human Resources Command and guest speaker at the event, spoke about what it meant to be a leader and answered questions from the Soldiers in attendance.

Drew, who enlisted in the Army in 1982 and graduated Officer Candidate School in 1989, gave pointers on how to be a better leader.

"You have to be able to inspire the people in your organization," he said. "They have to be better because you were there than if you weren't – that takes leadership."

Leaders are looked up to especially in combat because they are "expected to have the answers and have the confidence to keep going," he said.

Drew has held numerous leadership and staff positions in multiple units including 1st Battalion, 101st Aviation Regiment, Fort Campbell, Kentucky; 1st Battalion, 2nd Aviation Regiment, Camp Mobile, Korea; 1st Battalion, 24th Aviation Regiment, Savannah, Georgia; 1st Battalion, 160th Special Operations Aviation Regiment; and the 101st Combat Aviation Brigade. He served as deputy commanding general for support at the 2nd Infantry Division; deputy commanding general for the U.S. Army Special Operations Command; and military deputy director of the Army Talent Management Task Force.



Photos by NATHAN CLINEBELLE

(Above) Maj. Gen. Thomas R. Drew, commander, Army Human Resources Command, speaks during the Lt. Gen. Timothy J. Maude Leadership Lecture Series event held in the Solomon Center, Aug. 15. The leadership lecture series is dedicated in honor of Maude, who was the highest-ranking Army officer killed during the Sept. 11, 2001 terrorist attacks on the Pentagon.



(Left) Capt. Erica Loroff, with the Soldier Support Institute, asks a question to Maj. Gen. Thomas R. Drew, commander, Army Human Resources Command, during Drew's lecture, Aug. 15.



# Community Updates

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### ArmyIgnitED 101

Are you new to tuition assistance or credentialing assistance. Maybe you are looking from some refresher training. The Fort Jackson Army Continuing Education System is holding ArmyIgnitED 101 briefs every second and fourth Mondays and Wednesdays of each month. The briefing are held virtually, starting at 10 a.m. Mondays, and in person at the Education Center (4600 Strom Thurmond Blvd.) beginning at 10 a.m. Wednesdays. To sign up email your attendance request to [usarmy.jackson.93-sig-bed.mbx.dhr-jacksoned-center@army.mil](mailto:usarmy.jackson.93-sig-bed.mbx.dhr-jacksoned-center@army.mil). Walk-ins are welcome.

### Guest Day at the Fort Jackson Golf Club.

The Fort Jackson Golf Club holds guest days to give member with a greater opportunities. FJGC members are now permitted to bring up to three guests. Also on guest days, green fees are waived for member's guest(s), but each guest must pay cart and user fees. Upcoming Guest Days are: Aug. 19, 31; Sept. 2, 6, 14 and 28; Oct. 5, 14, 20 and 29; Nov. 2, 9, 16 and 26; Dec. 2, 8, 14 and 20.

## COMMUNITY EVENTS

### TODAY

#### Sportsman Club Meeting

6 p.m., Alpine Lodge. The Fort Jackson Sportsman Club hosts its monthly meeting. This meeting will feature a presentation by South Carolina Department of Natural Resources biologist Charles Ruth, who will discuss rack scoring and other aspects of deer hunting in South Carolina.

### FRIDAY

#### Spouse Federal Resume Workshop

9:30-11:30 a.m., Army Community Service Building, 9810 Lee Road. Are you seeking federal employment? Come learn everything you need to know

about: transitioning from private industry to the federal government; writing a correct federal resume; creating effective Knowledge Skills and Abilities; answering "Self-Assessment Questionnaires;" formatting your resume to be noticed by reviewers; interviewing; and tracking the progress of your application. Topics covered are: USAJobs account, position classification standards and functional guides; breaking down the vacancy announcement adjusting your experience to the vacancy. Registration is required. Call 751-5256 to reserve a seat.

### AUG. 25

#### Paint and Sip - Pet Portait Watercolor

5:30-7:30 p.m., Solomon Center. Learn how to paint with watercolors as you create a pet portrait. Cost is \$45.

### AUG. 26

#### Buddy Games

8 a.m., Vanguard Gym. Buddy Games is a CrossFit style competition. Teams of two people compete in a variety of events. Register your team by Aug. 23 in any gym or by calling 751-5839. This is a Commander's Cup eligible event.

#### Cars and Coffee

8-11 a.m. Solomon Center Parking Lot. Enjoy cool cars and hot coffee.

#### Adventure on the Congaree

Join Outdoor Recreation for a three-hour adventure down Congaree National Park. Cost: \$60 per person. Include: transportation, kayaks, life vest and paddles. (bug spray recommended). For more information, call 751-3484.

### SEPT. 8

#### Spouse Federal Resume Workshop

9:30-11:30 a.m., Army Community Service Building, 9810 Lee Road. Are you seeking federal employment? Come learn everything you need to know about: transitioning from private industry

to the federal government; writing a correct federal resume; creating effective Knowledge Skills and Abilities; answering "Self-Assessment Questionnaires;" formatting your resume to be noticed by reviewers; interviewing; and tracking the progress of your application. Topics covered are: USAJobs account, position classification standards and functional guides; breaking down the vacancy announcement adjusting your experience to the vacancy. Registration is required. Call 751-5256 to reserve a seat.

### Post CSM 2nd Friday Skeet Shoot

1-5 p.m., Aachen Range. Join Outdoor Recreation and Post Command Sgt. Maj. Erick Ochs at the inaugural 2nd Friday range day. Cost is \$10 per round if you bring your own shotgun and ammo and \$25 per round if you use ours. Each round consists of 25 clay targets launched from our two skeet houses. Whether you're an experienced shooter or it's your first time come and join the fun.

### SEPT. 9

#### Run/Walk for the Fallen

8 a.m., Hilton Field. Fort Jackson honors service members from South Carolina who died serving the Nation since Sept. 11, 2001 with a run. Registration begins at 7 a.m. on Hilton Field with a ceremony at 7:30 a.m. The run begins promptly at 8.

### SEPT. 23

#### Flea Market

8 a.m. to noon., Solomon Center. Hurry and reserve your spot. Spaces are available for \$2. For more information, call 751-4056.

#### 'Do It in Pink' Aerobathon

10 a.m to 1 p.m., Solomon Center. Join us for this two-hour aerobathon. Early detection saves lives. Dress in pink to work out. Commanders' Cup Points awarded for this event. For more information, call 751-3700.



## Fort Jackson

## Movie Schedule

3319 Jackson Blvd.

Phone: 751-7488

### AUG. 18

■ Sound of Freedom (PG-13) 6 p.m.

### AUG. 19

■ Sound of Freedom (PG-13) 2 p.m.

- Ticket sales open 30 minutes before each movie.
- Movie times and schedule are sub-

## THE FORT JACKSON LEADER

SEND ALL  
SUBMISSIONS TO

[usarmy.jackson.93-sig-bde.mbx.atzj-pao@army.mil](mailto:usarmy.jackson.93-sig-bde.mbx.atzj-pao@army.mil)

Deadline for events to be included in the Community Updates is one week before publication. Include the time, date and place the event will occur, as well as other necessary information.

If you submit an article on an event that already has taken place, please send it as soon as possible. Tuesday is the last day we will be able to accept an article for publication the following

Thursday. Include the date and place of the event, as well as a description of what took place. Please include quotations, if possible.

With any photo you submit, include IDs — rank, unit, and first and last names. All submissions will be edited and published using Associated Press Style

Questions? Call 751-6739.



## Jackson hosts joint MWD training

Photos by Airman 1st Class Steven Cardo  
20th Fighter Wing, Public Affairs



Military working dog teams from the 20th Security Forces Squadron from Shaw Air Force Base, S.C., trained with the 208th Military Working Dog Detachment on Fort Jackson, Aug. 2. (Top left) Senior Airman Elyse Mora, greets her K-9 partner, Star. (Top) An Army MWD handler and his partner stand ready. (Middle left) Airmen assigned to the 20th Security Forces Squadron K-9 participate in training at Fort Jackson. (Middle) Staff Sgt. Michael Coffey, 208th MWD Detachment squad leader, performs movements with his K-9 partner. (Above) An Army MWD participates in joint gunfire conditioning training with the Air Force 20th Security Forces Squadron. (Left) Army Sgt. Alijah Springer, readies a sidearm on a firing range during a joint training exercise with the 20th Security Forces Squadron, Aug. 2 alongside their K-9 partners to condition them to loud noises of combat.



# Colorful run kicks off new year

**Story, photos by ROBERT TIMMONS**  
Fort Jackson Public Affairs

Fort Jackson's Child, Youth Services celebrated the new school year with a splash of color.

OK, maybe not a splash of color, but a cloud of color.

It was a colorful morning at the Youth Services Sports Complex, Aug. 12, as CYS held its 8th Annual Back to School Color Run, where children and their families ran a one-mile course while being pelted and sprayed with blue and pink dust.

It was all aimed at getting children enthusiastic for the new school year, said Darius Lane, Youth Services Sports director.

Roughly nine years ago he and his staff of running and fitness enthusiasts thought outside the box and said, "Hey, why don't we get something that is not offered on Fort Jackson, to get the kids excited for the upcoming school year."

Hence the color run was born.

Each year the run has grown and now encompasses community partnerships.

"We've got the Army Community Service, we have the Army Reserves, we have the Richland County Sheriff's Department and Cocky from (the

University of South Carolina)," Lane said. "So, each year we try to think of something else to add, so it's not the same event."

Lane and others who work in sports have a special connection to Fort Jackson's youths.

"We are just doing our part," Lane said. "They look at us as sports people, we are the fun people. We are just doing our part to encourage the kids to be their best before the upcoming school year."

They did this by getting families together "one last time before they really get invested in school."

Three- to 18-year- old youths and their parents were encouraged to attend. The run was split into three different groups based on ages. When each run started the runners went through an initial cloud of color before running a gauntlet of color sprayed at them by CYS staff and volunteers from the Non-commissioned Officer's Academy on post.

According to some who ran in the event, it was energizing to be colorized during the run.

"It was like energy to get some of the color on you," said Garrison Command Sgt. Maj. Cesar Duran after the event. "It's motivating to see the kids and all the colorful people out here."

The school year for Fort Jackson schools began Aug. 7.



Runners charge through smoke caused by a conglomeration of colors during the 8th Annual Back to School Color Run held at the Fort Jackson Youth Services Sports Complex, Aug. 12.

(Far right) Attendees to the 8th Annual Child, Youth Services Back to School Color Run look a special Dodge Challenger squad car from the Richland County Sheriff's Department.



(Right) Cocky, the University of South Carolina mascot, tosses a football to youths after the 8th Annual Child, Youth Services, Back to School Color Run at the Youth Services Sports Complex, Aug. 12.



Garrison Command Sgt. Maj. Cesar Duran and other runners run the gauntlet of color near the end of the 8th Annual CYS Back to School Color Run, held Aug. 12. The run was organized to get kids energized for the new school year, said Darius Lane, Child, Youth Services Sports coordinator.



Runners plow ahead through green smoke during the 8th Annual Child, Youth Services Back to School Color Run, Aug. 12.



# Vietnam veteran takes his place among Medal of Honor recipients

By **JOE LACDAN**  
Army News Service

The Army unveiled an engraving that honored the efforts of a Vietnam War veteran who led an inexperienced, outnumbered South Vietnamese company to victory nearly 60 years ago.

The service added Col. Paris Davis to the granite wall bearing the names of fellow Medal of Honor recipients at the National Museum of the U.S. Army, Aug. 9.

"I am overwhelmed by what has happened today," Davis said after the ceremony.

Davis' actions in June 1965 not only assured U.S. forces a pivotal victory but prevented three American Soldiers from being captured.

President Joe Biden awarded Davis the Medal of Honor in a White House ceremony on March 3 and the Defense Department later inducted Davis into its Hall of Heroes, March 6.

"It's from your life ... that this nation remembers you, honors you and owes you," said Army Director of Staff, Lt. Gen. Walter Piatt, who hosted the ceremony. "By making history, you have given peace to a nation that did not appreciate you nor appreciate the Vietnam War and from an Army that often did not see you as equal. And inside you weren't equal; you were better."

On June 18, 1965, Davis, three Special Forces troops and a South Vietnamese company faced a large North Vietnamese force near Bong Son, Binh Dinh Province. Despite suffering several injuries, the 5th Special Forces Group armor officer continued to fire upon the enemy and engage in hand-to-hand combat.

Amid enemy rounds, then-Capt. Davis rescued three injured U.S. Soldiers from enemy fire. Davis then refused medical evacuation and instead oversaw the transportation of the wounded troops.

"Throughout the day Paris Davis distinguished himself with bravery above and beyond what is humanly possible," Piatt said. "Paris simply would not allow the enemy to win. He refused to fall and refused to let his team fall."

Davis, one of the first Black Special Forces officers in the Army, continued to direct air and artillery fire upon the enemy. Davis' efforts helped stop the South Viet-



Photo by BERNARDO FULLER

**Retired Col. Paris Davis, Medal of Honor recipient, is joined by his Family and Director of the Army Staff, Lt. Gen. Walter E. Piatt, during an engraving unveiling ceremony in his honor at the National Museum of the U.S. Army, Fort Belvoir, Va., Aug. 9.**

namese force from being overrun.

Davis thanked his friends, fellow veterans and family who stood by him until he received the nation's highest military honor. The Army previously awarded him a Silver Star and Purple Heart.

"The power to do what you did is hard for even other Soldiers to understand," Piatt said. "We admire your actions. The world has benefited from your deeds."

In his remarks, Davis emphasized the importance of showing kindness and empathy to those who cannot help themselves or may be physically limited such as the disabled.

A native of Cleveland, Ohio, Davis attended Southern University in Baton Rouge, Louisiana. He commissioned into the Army in 1959 and graduated from the service's ranger and airborne schools in 1960.

Davis deployed first to Korea and then Vietnam in 1962 before being selected for Vietnam again in 1965. Davis went on to serve 26 years before retiring in 1985.



Photo by SGT. XAVIERA MASLINE

**Lt. Gen. Walter Piatt, director of the Army Staff, presents a photo book to Medal of Honor recipient, retired Col. Paris Davis, at the National Museum of the U.S. Army, on Fort Belvoir, Va., Aug. The photo book is personalized by the Secretary of the Army Christine E. Wormuth.**



# New Antiterrorism Strategic Plan coming

By **CHRISTOPHER HURD**  
Army News Service

The Department of the Army is working on a new Antiterrorism Strategic Plan that is scheduled to roll out this fiscal year.

The plan, which is being coordinated with the Department of Defense, will update policy, training, exercises and how the Army analyzes and shares information about terrorism.

"The threats we faced 20 years ago aren't the threats we face today, nor are they the threats we will face in the future," said Maj. Gen. Duane R. Miller, Army provost marshal general. "Our adversaries are constantly evolving with the use of technology to identify vulnerabilities. It's through this strategic plan that we hope to address any vulnerabilities and any threats we may face in the future."

The program will help put Army civilians, contractors, Soldiers, and their families on common ground with the service's antiterrorism goals and objectives moving forward, he added.

The Army's Antiterrorism Division worked with multiple federal organizations, including the Department of Homeland Security, as they developed the antiterrorism program. This allowed them to share information on best practices and emerging technologies that could pose a threat.

Training, education and awareness remain the key elements in the service's efforts to prevent terrorism at home and overseas, Miller said.

"The more aware our community members are, the more likely we are to obtain advanced warning to defend against terrorist attacks," he said. "Constant vigilance, timely threat reporting, knowledge of antiterrorism prevention measures, and Army

leadership advocacy are vital to sustained prevention."

August is dedicated as Antiterrorism Awareness Month to educate members of the Army on the threat and provide information on how to prevent acts of terrorism.

"Soldiers who are aware of the risks and who report concerning behavior can help prevent threats from impacting the local community," he said. "Don't be a bystander. Do your part as a member of the team."

According to Miller, the fight against terrorism has shifted in recent years from terrorist groups overseas to individual domestic terrorists fueled by extremist ideologies.

To combat the evolving threat, the Army has updated the antiterrorism program and continues to look for ways to improve protection efforts. The service is continuing to field and expand the capability of the Joint Analytic Real-time Virtual Information Sharing System.

JARVISS is a desktop and mobile application that pulls information from more than 80,000 sources to give commanders real-time data on potential threats, so they can make informed decisions.

Along with advances in technology, the Army and the National Guard continue to conduct annual exercises to stay ready. The Ohio National Guard held their emergency response exercise in April with support from local emergency services.

The exercise evaluated how the responding agencies can affect control and containment of the situation as well as the effectiveness of the facilities' response capabilities.

National Guard units from 12 states along with multiple federal and local agencies completed an



*Leader file photo*

**Cpl. Bailey Scarborough, 17th Military Police Detachment, secures a hallway in the Strom Thurmond building during the May 18, 2022, annual full-scale exercise.**

emergency response exercise at the Anchorage Fire Department Fire Training Center in June. The training is designed to maintain readiness, validate response procedures and collaborate with partners.

These efforts, along with others throughout the service, allow the Army and local partners to stay vigilant in the fight against terrorism.

"We must understand the threat and be prepared to prevent any impact on Army readiness," Miller said. "We're confident the outcomes from implementing the strategy will align policy, training, doctrine, partnerships and information sharing to meet the challenges of terrorism over the horizon."

Army personnel can report



*Leader file photo*

**Fort Jackson first responders carry simulated casualties during a full-scale exercise near Gate 2, Sept. 27, 2017.**

suspicious behavior to their chain of command or submit a report online at [www.inscom.army.mil/isalute](http://www.inscom.army.mil/isalute).



# Identifying fall hazards saves time, possibly lives

Army Combat Readiness Center

Identifying fall hazards isn't always easy because appearances can be deceiving, often affected by our own perceptions. For example, if you're 6 feet tall, you're taller than a 4-foot-high platform, which makes it easy to assume the platform isn't a fall hazard. On the other hand, if you're standing on that platform, you are now looking down from a height of 10 feet. If you fall, even from four feet, you could be seriously injured.

The Occupational Safety and Health Administration recognizes falls from any height can be serious. As a result, OSHA requires protection for those working at heights at or above 6 feet for construction work or 4 feet for general industry. Under the general industry standard, stated in 29 Code of Federal Regulations 1910, Subpart D, Walking-Working Surfaces, OSHA provides requirements for guarding floor and wall openings to prevent workers from falling. These standards also apply to the military when not in military-unique situations.

**Protection for floor openings**

Every floor opening must be protected against accidental falls by a guardrail system or cover. These openings include stairs having four or more risers, hatchways or chute floor openings, skylights in the roof, pits and trapdoors, manholes and any other floor hole greater than one-inch wide. An-

other way to protect against accidental falls from floor openings is to provide a door or gate opening directly to the stairway. OSHA states that a platform shall be provided between the doorway and stairway with the swing of the door not reducing the effective width to less than 20 inches.

**Protection for wall openings**

Every wall opening, whether permanent or temporary, with a drop of more than 4 feet to the next lower level must be guarded by standard railings and toe boards where there is exposure below to falling material. (This is to keep tools and other materials from falling on workers below.) Toe boards must be a minimum of four inches high with less than a quarter-inch clearance above floor level.

Protection for open-sided floors, platforms and runways Every open-sided floor or platform four feet or more above the next lower level or ground level must be guarded by a standard railing on all open sides except where there is an entrance to a ramp, stairway or fixed ladder.

**Stairway railing requirements**

As mentioned earlier, every flight of stairs with four or more risers must be equipped with standard handrails. OSHA states the following requirements for handrails:

Stairways less than 44 inches wide with both sides enclosed must have at least one handrail, preferably on the right side descending.

Stairways less than 44 inches wide with one side open must have a railing on the open side.

Stairways less than 44 inches wide with both sides open must have a railing on both open sides.

Stairways more than 44 inches wide, but less than 88 inches wide, require one handrail on each enclosed side and one stair railing on each open side.

Stairways more than 88 inches wide require one handrail on each enclosed side or a stair railing on each open side and an intermediate stair railing located in the middle of the stairway.

Standard railing, stair railing and hand-rail requirements

There are specific requirements when constructing and installing standard railings. As seen too often, flimsy chains guarding an open pit in the maintenance bay do not meet the requirements for fall prevention. Standard railings must consist of posts, a top rail and an intermediate horizontal rail or other form of protection between the top rail and the floor. The vertical height shall be 42 inches from the upper surface of the top rail to the floor, and the construction must be sturdy enough to support 200 pounds.

Stair railings protecting the open side of a stairway have the same construction requirements, except they shall not be more than 34 inches high or less than 30 inches to

accommodate easy grasping. Handrails are similar to stair railings in that they must also be no more than 34 inches high or less than 30 inches and must withstand 200 pounds. It's also important to note that handrails must provide at least a three-inch clearance to the wall, and brackets will not be spaced farther than eight feet apart.

**Hazard identification**

Identifying fall hazards can be challenging and depends on the nature of your job and working environment. So where exactly are the hazards? Examples include loading docks, security towers, motor pool bays and maintenance activities for vehicles and aircraft. Assess all work performed at elevated heights and determine if fall protection is required. Look for all unprotected walkways, working areas, holes, leading edges, stairways and other walking/working surfaces higher than four feet.

For construction activities, the trigger height for fall protection requirements is increased to six feet above the ground or next lower level and 10 feet for scaffolding. According to OSHA's 29 CFR 1926 construction standard, "construction activities" refers to actual construction, alteration and/or repairs, including painting and decorating.

Spending the time up front to conduct a thorough job hazard analysis and workplace assessment to identify fall hazards can save a lot of time and, possibly, even a life.

WORSHIP SCHEDULE	FAITH GROUP	DAY	TIME	PLACE
	CATHOLIC MASS	SUNDAY	9:30-10:30 A.M.	MAIN POST CHAPEL
	CATHOLIC MASS	MON-FRI	NOON	MAIN POST CHAPEL
	GOSPEL SERVICE	SUNDAY	10:30 A.M.	DANIEL CIRCLE CHAPEL
	GENERAL PROTESTANT	SUNDAY	11 A.M. TO NOON	MAIN POST CHAPEL
	INITIAL ENTRY TRAINING	DAY	TIME	PLACE
	ANGLICAN	SUNDAY	9-10 A.M.	LIGHTNING CHAPEL
	CATHOLIC MASS	SUNDAY	8-9 A.M.	SOLOMON CENTER
	PROTESTANT CONSOLIDATED SERVICE	SUNDAY	9:30-10:30 A.M.	SOLOMON CENTER
	THE BRIDGE (PROTESTANT)	SUNDAY	8:30-9:30 A.M.	ANDERSON CHAPEL
	CHURCH OF CHRIST	SUNDAY	10:30-11:30 A.M.	MAGRUDER CHAPEL
	HISPANIC PROTESTANT SERVICE	SUNDAY	8:30-10 A.M.	MAGRUDER CHAPEL
	ISLAMIC SERVICE	SUNDAY	8-9 A.M.	DANIEL CIRCLE CHAPEL
	JEWISH SERVICE	SUNDAY	10:15-11:30 A.M.	LIGHTNING CHAPEL
	THE CHURCH OF JESUS CHRIST OF LATTER DAY SAINTS	SUNDAY	10:30 A.M. - NOON	ANDERSON CHAPEL





Department of Defense photo

A Hawaii Army National Guard CH47 Chinook participates in an aerial water bucket drop to fight a wildfire on the island of Maui, Hawaii, Aug. 9.

## DOD mobilizes Maui response

By **JOSEPH CLARK**  
DOD News Service

The Defense Department will continue to work closely with state and local officials to protect lives and battle the destructive wildfires that have swept through the Hawaiian island of Maui, Pentagon press secretary Air Force Brig. Gen. Pat Ryder said Aug. 10.

The National Guard has activated 134 troops — including 99 Army National Guard personnel and 35 Air National Guard personnel — to assist in the in the ongoing local and federal wildfire response efforts.

National Guard personnel have been assigned to provide liaison support to the Hawaii Emergency Management Agency and support to local law enforcement.

Two Army National Guard CH-47 Chinook helicopters have also been assigned to support wildfire response and search and recovery efforts.

On Aug. 9, Guardsmen completed 58 aerial water drops of more than 100,000 gallons of water in a matter of five hours.

The fast-moving blaze, which has been fueled by strong winds from a nearby hurricane, began on Aug. 7, leaving more than 30 people dead and destroying hundreds of structures.

Some residents were forced to seek shelter by diving into the ocean after being caught off guard by the fire's rapid spread.

"Our thoughts and prayers are with the people of Maui at this time, and the department will continue

to work closely with the state of Hawaii and officials there as we work together to protect lives and battle these terrible wildfires," Ryder said during a press briefing at the Pentagon.

In addition to activating National Guard personnel, The Department of Defense has also mobilized resources from throughout active-duty components to assist in response efforts.

The Army's 25th Combat Aviation Brigade has deployed two UH-60 Black Hawk helicopters and on CH-47 Chinook to assist in firefighting operations.


U.S. Coast Guardsmen from Station Maui have also been actively assisting in search and rescue efforts.

The crew aboard a Coast Guard 45-foot response boat based in Maui has assisted state and local partners in rescuing 14 individuals from the waters off the island's coast as of early Aug. 10.

A Navy maritime strike squadron has deployed two MH-60R Seahawk helicopters to the region to assist with the U.S. Coast Guard's search and recovery efforts.

President Joe Biden approved a disaster declaration, Aug. 10 in response to the wildfires and ordered federal aid to support state and local recovery efforts.


"Jill and I send our deepest condolences to the families of those who lost loved ones in the wildfires in Maui, and our prayers are with those who have seen their homes, businesses and communities destroyed," Biden said in a statement on Aug. 9. "We are grateful to the brave firefighters and first responders who continue to run toward danger, putting themselves in harm's way to save lives."



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Attendees to the 8th Annual Child, Youth Services Back to School Color Run are off the races as they begin the one-mile run.

Photo by ROBERT TIMMONS