



FORGING THE WARRIOR SPIRIT

THE JRTC & FORT POLK GUARDIAN

Vol. 47, No. 44

Home of Heroes @ Fort Polk, LA

Nov. 6, 2020

Fort Polk leadership conducts Walking Town Hall through Palmetto Terrace

By **ANGIE THORNE**

Public affairs specialist

FORT POLK, La. — A Joint Readiness Training Center and Fort Polk walking town hall took place Nov. 4 in the Palmetto Terrace neighborhood. The JRTC and Fort Polk command team, Corvias, Army housing representatives and others strolled down streets filled with Fort Polk Families spending time outside, enjoying the cooler fall weather.

The town hall was a chance to assess the housing repairs in progress after Fort Polk was hit by Hurricane Laura Aug. 27 and Hurricane Delta Oct. 9.

As the town hall progressed, Brig. Gen. David S. Doyle, Joint Readiness Training Center and Fort Polk commanding general, stopped to talk to residents. Doyle told residents he wanted to ensure Fort Polk was doing the right thing when it comes to the repairs, as that is part of the Army's commitment to military Families.

"This is why we come through the neighborhoods. You guys are the ones who know what is going on, and we need to understand the scope and nature of the issues," he said.

Doyle listened as people spoke to him about topics ranging from storm damage to questions about when neighborhood community centers would reopen.

At the event, Doyle said he found that the emergency repairs (issues dealing with the integrity of the structures) had been made to many of the homes, but now residents were looking for details on follow up-repairs.

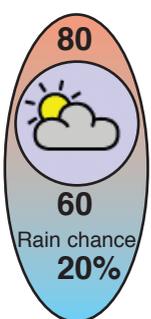
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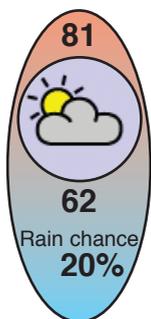
ANGIE THORNE / GUARDIAN

Brig. Gen. David S. Doyle, Joint Readiness Training Center and Fort Polk commanding general, bends down to say hello to Max Sider, 1, while listening to Max's mom, Jessica Sider, and other residents talk about their housing issues on a Walking Town Hall in Fort Polk's Palmetto Terrace neighborhood Nov. 4.

Weekend weather



Saturday



Sunday



Monday

Inside the Guardian

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Viewpoint

In our view

Guardian staff asked the JRTC and Fort Polk community, "If you had a theme song for your life, what would it be?" Here are their responses:



Herlyn Michel: "The theme music to the circus because that explains my life." If you are interested, the name of that song is 'Entry of the Gladiators'."



Cloey Long: "I think the song 'Halo,' by Beyonce would be my theme because it's inspirational."



Mary Jimenez: "Beethoven's 'Symphony No. 5,' because it is motivating and inspirational."



Spc. Nick Alicea: "My theme song would be 'Don't be Cruel,' by Elvis Presley. It's upbeat, it's how society should be. Don't be cruel to each other."



Pfc. Kenneth Dixon: "I like 'Good Day' by Nappy Roots — the version without cuss words. It starts with someone having a bad morning, but they find something positive and end up having a good day."



Frances Darkwah: "My theme song would be 'Overcomer,' by Mandisa. It's about life's troubles and how she overcame them to become a stronger, better person. I can relate."



Guardian

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For more information on Fort Polk units and happenings visit the following Facebook pages: [@JRTCOperationsGrp](https://www.facebook.com/JRTCOperationsGrp), [@BayneJonesACH](https://www.facebook.com/BayneJonesACH) or [@fortpolkmwr](https://www.facebook.com/fortpolkmwr).

NewScope

Briefs

BOSS events

Listed below are upcoming Better Opportunities for Single Soldiers events.

Today — Laser tag; 7 p.m. at Anvil Field, \$7/Soldier.

Nov. 14 — Volunteer Shop-a-cop event; 10 a.m.-1 p.m. at the Walmart parking lot.

Nov. 14 — Cooking class; 1:30 p.m. at the Warrior Center.

Nov. 21 — Painting Class; 1 p.m. at the Showboat Theatre, \$15/Soldier.

Fort Polk Museum

The Fort Polk Museum, located on Mississippi Avenue adjacent to the Bayou Theater, has reopened to visitors.

Due to COVID-19 protective measures, visitors are limited to no more than 10 people at a time. All visitors must wear a mask.

The museum is open from 8 a.m.-4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday, with the exception of federal holidays.

For more information call Richard "Greg" Grant or Amy Brennan at 531-4840, or email them at richard.grant33.civ@mail.mil and amy.c.brennan3.ctr@mail.mil.

Army News Service

If you're interested in reading additional Army news, please visit www.army.mil/news/.

Vehicle release

The Directorate of Emergency Services Traffic Section will release the following vehicles to a towing company for disposal on Thursday, if they remain unclaimed. Vehicles are listed with the last four numbers of their VIN number.

If one of these vehicles belongs to you, please contact the Fort Polk Police Traffic Section at 531-1806/6675/2677.

1979	Chevrolet	El Camino	4767
1999	Honda	Accord	3691
2003	Subaru	Impreza	1948
1993	Chevrolet	1500	3861
2011	BMW	328i	1387
2002	Honda	Accord	1942
2007	Buick	Lucerne	9473
2015	Jeep	Renegade	5184
2000	Chevrolet	Impala	5933
2007	Chevrolet	Impala	1321
2004	Toyota	Corolla	7363

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Installation Planning Board meets

Brig. Gen. David S. Doyle, commander of the Joint Readiness Training Center and Fort Polk, and Col. Ryan Roseberry, commander of U.S. Army Garrison Fort Polk, lead an installation planning board meeting with Brenda Lee McCullough, Installation Management Command Readiness Director via Microsoft Teams Nov. 3.

The IPB meeting is an annual event that discusses upcoming plans and facilities to enhance life on Fort Polk for Soldiers, Families and civilians. The meeting also highlights issues to be elevated to Army senior leaders for consideration.

Items discussed at the IPB included upcoming infrastructure projects; Airfield improvements; Soldier support through the Better Opportunities for Single Soldiers program and the Soldier For Life — Transition Assistance Program; education and employment initiatives; housing; and other quality of life issues.

Quality of life topics of note include a newly purchased movie screen for the Directorate of Family Morale, Welfare and Recreation's movie nights and plans to reach energy independence.

Also included in the meeting were garrison directors and commanders of Fort Polk's major subordinate commands.

G-6: Greater integration across unified network strengthens force

By **JOSEPH LACDAN**

Army News Service

WASHINGTON — Having a single unified network across the joint force will be one of the pillars that Lt. Gen. John Morrison plans to establish as the Army's top uniformed information technology officer.

The Army split its Chief Information Officer/G-6 position into separate entities on Aug. 11. The G-6, with its focus on integration, aims to bolster the service's networks and overcome cyber and IT challenges, Morrison said during a media briefing Tuesday.

As the new deputy chief of staff, G-6, Morrison acts as the primary military advisor to the Army chief of staff and to the CIO for planning, strategy, network architecture, and implementation of command; control, communications, and cyber operations; and networks.

The CIO position, to be held by a secretariat member, will establish and oversee policies, while Morrison will be responsible for the implementation and strategic planning of those policies.

Greg Garcia, the former deputy of the CIO/G-6 office, is currently the acting CIO.

Morrison discussed his vision for his new role by outlining four pillars. The first will be setting up a unified network using the tactical network and enterprise networks. Morrison said he would discuss those plans with Network Cross-Functional Team leaders next month.

The unified network will also serve as the G-6 contribution to the Joint All-Domain Command and Control concept (JADC2). Army senior leaders stressed the importance of interoperability with the other services during a recent multi-domain integration exercise called Project Convergence.

"As we all know, we are probably entering into a time where budgets may not be all that they had been in the past. We owe it to taxpayers to force ourselves to be efficient."

Lt. Gen. JOHN MORRISON
Deputy CoS, G-6

In the second pillar, the Army looks to posture its signal and cyber forces for multi-domain operations. To achieve this, both forces must operate in a "combined arms fashion" in coordination with Army intelligence, he said. The Army must then build an additional operating capacity for the unified network to operate effectively at each level.

"We need to bring those two together so that we support where the Army's going from both a modernization and from an operational, war



Morrison

fighting construct," said Morrison, who previously served as the U.S. Cyber Command chief of staff.

Morrison said the Army has learned that expeditionary signal battalions can provide 60% more command post support than it previously did. He added that those battalions could decrease their staffing by 100 personnel and still maintain their effectiveness, allowing the Army to reassign them to other positions.

Morrison said he would also take a closer examination of training and talent management. In June, the last officer to serve in the dual CIO/G-6 role, now-retired Lt. Gen. Bruce Crawford, discussed the Quantum Leap program, which will reclassify about 1,000 positions by fiscal year 2023.

Thirdly, Morrison plans to overhaul and operationalize the Army's cybersecurity processes, particularly in its risk management framework and move from a model that is more "focused on the bureaucracy in periodic reviews to make sure that a system, an application or a component can operate on the network."

The general added that additional cybersecurity measures must be built into the network to enable periodic assessment of vulnerabilities and risks to deter potential threats from adversaries. He said he plans to refocus more resources toward cybersecurity and strengthen network defense against cyber threats.

"This is one of those effective drills that I think will allow us to apply our resources in a more efficient manner, but it also brings a level of security to the network that I don't think we have right now," he said.

Finally, he said that the Army must assure that it leverages investments in the Army's network and cyber forces. "As we all know, we are probably entering into a time where budgets may not

be all that they had been in the past," Morrison said. "We owe it to taxpayers to force ourselves to be efficient."

To achieve successful implementation of policies, the G-6, CIO and Army Cyber Command should be aligned and on the same page, he said. If not, it could lead to under-resourced policies that may not be executable. He said the Army has taken a different approach by placing cyber operation responsibilities under the G-6 office.

"The mere fact that cyber ops is included in the G-6 (responsibilities) ... is not traditional," Morrison said. "If you really believe in combined arms maneuvers in cyberspace, why would we separate that role in function? And so there's work for us to do there. That's probably one of the lessons learned from the other services, because that's generally how they've organized."

Establishing standards early will be critical as the Army utilizes more machine learning and artificial intelligence, Morrison said.

Both the G-6 and CIO offices remain in an initial operating capability status for now and continue to build their respective staffs. Morrison said they're currently recruiting candidates with coveted cyber and leadership skills.

"I think the biggest challenge is hiring in the current operating environment," Morrison said. "The skillsets that we (want) are in high demand. I think this is one of those rare opportunities where ... we've gotten great support from Army leadership — support for these organizations to really posture themselves and the Army for the future."

Army Briefs

Women's memorial

ARLINGTON, Va. — On Oct. 17, the Military Women's Memorial in Arlington, Va., unveiled a new monument on the eve of its 23rd anniversary. The memorial honors and tells the stories of women, past and present, who have served the nation.

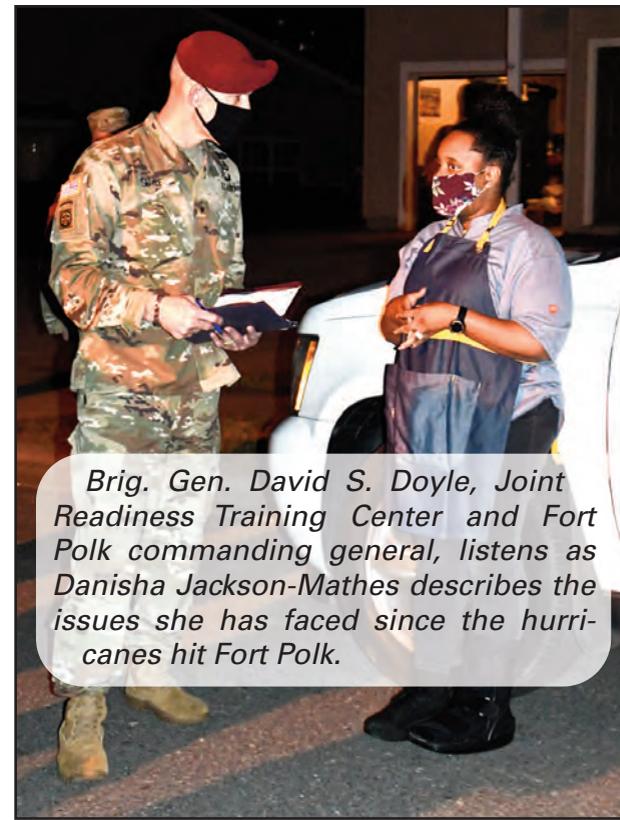
The monument, titled "The Pledge," captures a moment of mutual respect and love between a female handler and her Belgian Malinois, said Susan Bahary, its artist. The monument depicts a dog reaching up to her handler as she kneels beside the dog.

R2PC's mission

WASHINGTON — Maintaining physical readiness for Soldiers is as easy as stopping by the gym, but when it comes to mental health things aren't always as simple.

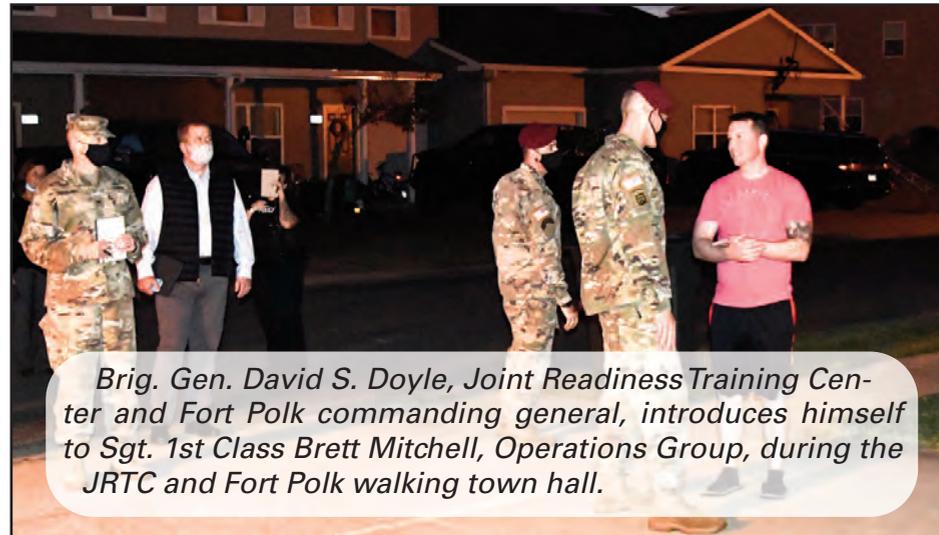
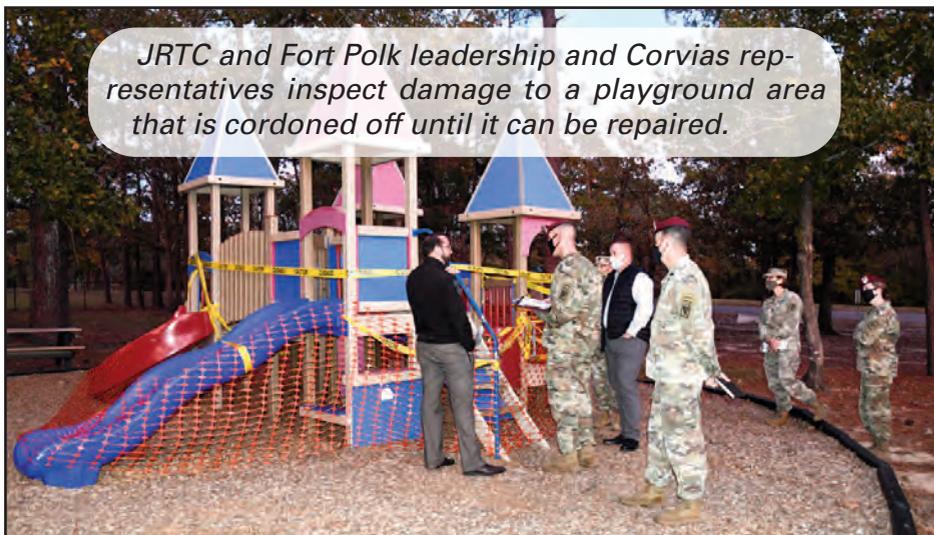
Ready & Resilient Performance Centers, or R2PCs, are at the ready for Soldiers by providing specialized training to help sustain personal readiness, enhance resilience, optimize human performance and build unit cohesion.

Brig. Gen. David S. Doyle, Joint Readiness Training Center and Fort Polk commanding general, and other participants in the JRTC and Fort Polk walking town hall held Nov. 4, stopped along the route through Palmetto Terrace to observe housing.



Brig. Gen. David S. Doyle, Joint Readiness Training Center and Fort Polk commanding general, listens as Danisha Jackson-Mathes describes the issues she has faced since the hurricanes hit Fort Polk.

JRTC and Fort Polk leadership and Corvias representatives inspect damage to a playground area that is cordoned off until it can be repaired.



Brig. Gen. David S. Doyle, Joint Readiness Training Center and Fort Polk commanding general, introduces himself to Sgt. 1st Class Brett Mitchell, Operations Group, during the JRTC and Fort Polk walking town hall.

Walking

Continued from page 1

"They want to know what the next step is and when we are going to address the non-safety related issues that still make it uncomfortable to live in their homes," he said.

Pete Sims, Corvias Asset Management, also took part in the walking town hall.

Sims said about 683 homes were impacted with interior damage due to the hurricanes, but there are likely more damages not currently tracked. He said Corvias is working on a communications plan that includes using its call center to schedule appointments, as well as reaching out to residents by sending emails and making phone calls.

"We are trying to encourage people to self-identify and let us know of any damages, so we can track what happened. We know there are people out there who think they just have little problems and might not want to bother us, but we want to know about all of the problems," he said.

Sims said he took part in the tour because Corvias is trying to provide the best living experience they can for the Fort Polk community not only on a regular basis, but also in the aftermath of two hurricanes.

"We can't know the issues the Soldiers and

Families are dealing with unless we get honest feedback from residents. Our priority is to get out there and repair the damages that have occurred," he said. "We want to make their lives better however we can."

Betty Beinkemper, Fort Polk garrison housing manager, also walked the Palmetto Terrace neighborhood.

Beinkemper said the walking town hall is one of the most important ways the commanding general can learn about what's going on in the Fort Polk community.

"Walking through these neighborhoods is the perfect opportunity for him to make a vital connection with Fort Polk Families and put his best foot forward as he works to help them with housing issues," she said.

Palmetto Terrace residents seemed to appreciate the chance to speak to Doyle and the rest of the team during the event.

Kelli Bloniarz said having this one-on-one access to Doyle is great, and she hopes things will only get better under new leadership.

"It's also nice to be able to have these conversations outside while we are dealing with COVID-19. This is so much better than being stuck in a confined room," she said.

Kenita Pruitt said she has had a rough time thanks to the two hurricanes that hit Fort Polk during the 2020 hurricane season.

Her home was damaged enough that she had to relocate while repairs were made. She is currently living in one home and using another for storage.

Pruitt said she also appreciates these walking town halls because they give her and other Fort Polk Families a chance to talk about what's going on in their lives — the good and the bad — with command on a face-to-face basis.

"I think Fort Polk leadership's personal involvement in helping residents has been beneficial. I love that they cared enough to give me their personal phone numbers. They said to call if I needed them; and when I called, they actually got back to me with answers. That means something to me," she said.

Danisha Jackson-Mathes said this is the first time she has ever talked to a general in person.

"I like that he seems concerned about what we really need," she said.

Tabitha Fornah, said Doyle seems to want to help.

"I appreciate that he is taking the time to listen to us," she said.

New team focusing on emerging technologies for future wars

By THOMAS BRADING

Army News Service

ARLINGTON, Va. — From concealing troop movement with light-filtering synthetics to artificial intelligence-enabled targeting and self-driving robotic tanks, the battlefields beyond 2035 may one day be armed with capabilities often found in science fiction films.

To keep pace with the rapid speed of innovation, these emerging technologies are being closely examined by a future-oriented team of Army scientists, Soldiers, and other tech-experts called Team Ignite, said Maj. Gen. John George, commander of the U.S. Army Combat Capabilities Development Command — a branch of Army Futures Command, or AFC.

The strategic intent of the general and Gen. John M. Murray, commander of AFC, “is to grow these partnerships across the Army modernization enterprise — including industry, academia, and allies,” George said. “To this end, we aim to cultivate a culture of connection” with a team of teams approach in Ignite, so collaborators speak “a common language” of modernization.

At AFC, Murray tasked his command to explore “what could be while pursuing new concepts in emerging scientific fields,” George said. The result of which led to the Ignite initiative in the spring of 2019, which aims to integrate technical and operational expertise to deliver over-match capabilities to Soldiers.

The Army’s 18-month-old team doesn’t just target any specific technology. Instead, it explores the realm of what’s possible by researching how future capabilities will give warfighters the edge against near-peer competitors, George said during the Association of the U.S. Army Annual Meeting and Exposition Oct. 14.

During fiscal year 2021, Ignite researchers will build on five core areas of research, including artificial intelligence, autonomy, and robotics, “underpinned by” data and networks, said Col. Stephanie Ahern, director of concepts at AFC’s Futures and Concepts Center, or FCC.

Although the core areas are defined, “there is a never-ending list of ways we’re using the Ignite philosophy to research” them, George said. “We ultimately want this Team Ignite to become the way we do business. It’s increased collaboration with the right partners and the right events.

“These workshops serve as a foundation for future concepts narratives grounded in the art of the possible.”

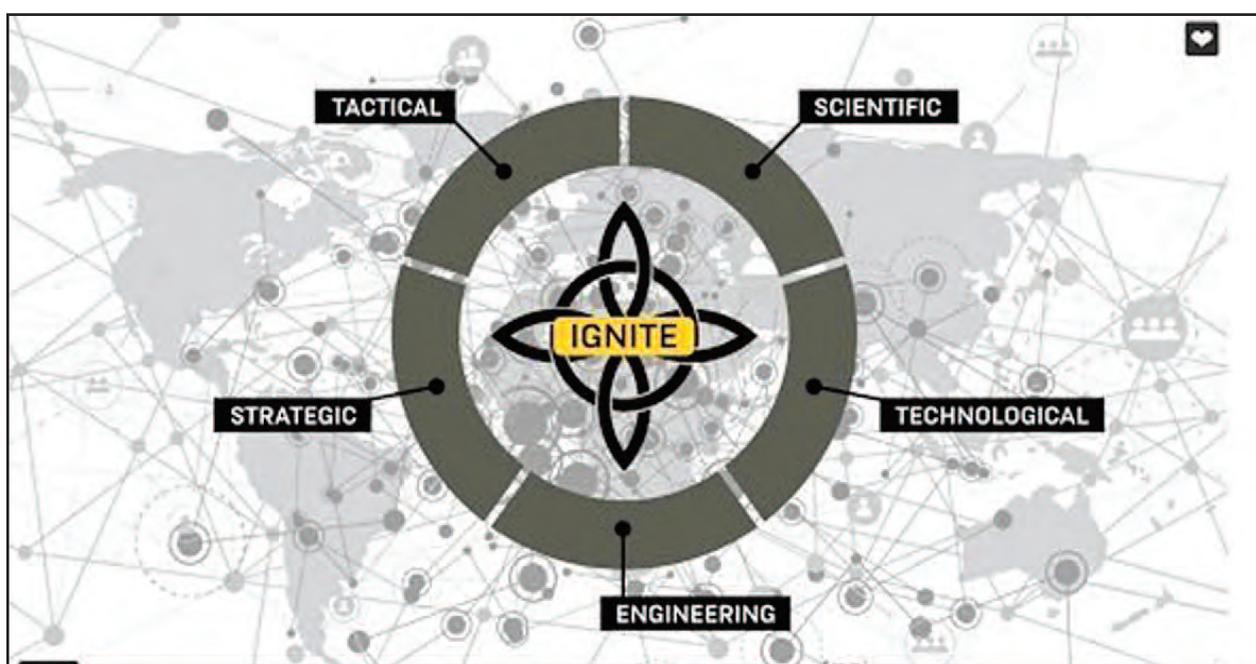
Maj. Gen. JOHN GEORGE
Commander, Army Combat Capabilities Development Command

“At the classified level, we are looking at threat levels and the evolution of those threats over time,” he added. To do this, “Gen. Murray started a series of future threat deep dives to see very specific threats into the future. We focus on an understanding of where we are with technologies and are conducting deep dive reviews of 17 technology areas with partners from other services.”

The intent of the Ignite workshops is “to pull



Maj. Gen. John George, commander of the U.S. Army Combat Capabilities Development Command, hosts a Warriors Corner conversation during the Association of the U.S. Army Annual Meeting and Exposition Oct. 14.



in all kinds of different voices and ideas” regarding a wide range of sessions and topics, said Jean Vettel, chief scientist for FCC, and provide a place “where anyone can come in and listen and contribute” to the conversation of where capabilities are going in both the medium- and long-term.

“These workshops serve as a foundation for future concepts narratives grounded in the art of the possible,” George said. “They’re based on what is being developed in scientific labs both inside and outside the Army” that target future operational challenges, coupled with scientifically-grounded capabilities.

For example, at an integration workshop in March, experts from all warfighting functions were introduced to recent discoveries from several technical areas, like synthetic biology, quantum sciences, and other critical areas of power and energy, Vettel said.

The team was also inspired by synthetic biology designs, such as organisms that can form temporary pathways like bridges, and then eat them away once the mission was complete.

The latest virtual Ignite workshop is set for next month, Vettel said, and will be geared toward how the character of warfare will change by 2035. Ignite is planning a series of virtual workshops for the upcoming year to “allow people from any geographic location and affiliation

to be involved.”

Moving into the future, cooperative research and development agreements are the “best way for one-on-one collaboration” with industry, George said.

**Got News?
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Soldiers punished, separated for UCMJ violations

OSJA

FORT POLK, La. —At the Joint Readiness Training Center and Fort Polk, the commanding general and subordinate commanders take good order and discipline seriously. However, certain disciplinary issues continue to be prevalent across Fort Polk such as breaking quarantine/isolation orders, violating General Order No. 1, driving under the influence of alcohol, wrongful use/possession of controlled substances, fraternization, and sexual assault.

Below are recent examples of adverse legal actions for units within the Fort Polk jurisdiction.

- A staff sergeant, assigned to 2nd Battalion, 2nd Infantry Regiment, 3rd Brigade Combat



Team, 10th Mountain Division, was punished under Article 15 for failure to obey a lawful order, in violation of Article 92, Uniform Code of Military Justice. The Soldier was sentenced to extra duty for 14 days and restriction for 14 days, suspended, until Nov. 15.

- A specialist, assigned to 2nd Bn, 2nd Inf Reg, 3rd BCT, 10th Mtn Div, was punished under Article 15 for being absent without leave and violating General Order No. 1 by exceeding the 55 mile radius, in violation of Articles 86 and 92, UCMJ. The Soldier was sentenced to a reduction to E-3; forfeiture of \$1,151 for two months; extra duty for 30 days; restriction for 30 days; and an oral reprimand.

- A specialist, assigned to 2nd Battalion, 4th Infantry Regiment, 3rd BCT, 10th Mtn Div, was

punished under Article 15 for wrongful use of a controlled substance, in violation of Article 112a, UCMJ. The Soldier was sentenced to a reduction to E-1; forfeiture of \$866 for two months; extra duty for 45 days; and restriction for 45 days.

- A specialist, assigned to 3rd Squadron, 89th Cavalry Regiment, 3rd BCT, 10th Mtn Div, was punished under Article 15 for failure to report and failure to obey a lawful order, in violation of Articles 86 and 92, UCMJ. The Soldier was sentenced to extra duty for 14 days and restriction for 14 days.

- A private, assigned to 2nd Battalion, 30th Infantry Regiment, 3rd BCT, 10th Mtn Div, was punished under Article 15 for being absent without leave for five days, in violation of Article 86, UCMJ. The Soldier was sentenced to a reduction to E-1; forfeiture of \$866 for two months; extra duty for 45 days; restriction for 45 days; and an oral reprimand.

Magistrate court roll-up: Note DUI, assault consequences

OSJA

FORT POLK, La. — The federal magistrate judge from the western district of Louisiana held arraignments on Nov. 2.

The docket included 181 violation notices received by 87 Defendants.

Violations included five instances of driving under the influence, four domestic assaults, four simple possessions of marijuana, one illegal carrying of a firearm, one hunting offense and multiple traffic violations. Guilty pleas received include the following:

- A civilian pled guilty to driving without a li-

cense, resulting in a \$85 fine.

- A noncommissioned officer pled guilty to driving under the influence of alcohol, driving on a roadway traffic lane and having an open container, resulting in probation, 32 hours of community service and a \$950 fine.

- A noncommissioned officer pled guilty to reckless operation, resulting in a \$240 fine.

- A civilian pled guilty to trespassing and disturbing the peace, resulting in a \$650 fine.

- A civilian pled guilty to driving without a li-

cense on her presence, resulting in a \$50 fine.

- A noncommissioned officer pled guilty to violation of registration provisions, resulting in a \$135 fine.

- An officer pled guilty to driving under the influence of alcohol, resulting in probation, 32 hours of community service and a \$760 fine.

- An enlisted soldier pled guilty to driving under the influence of alcohol, resulting in probation, 32 hours of community service and a \$760 fine.

The Judge also issued 26 summonses for individuals who failed to appear for court.



Discover AAFES deals

The Army and Air Force Exchange Service is extending its return policy for the holiday season. Under the policy, shoppers have until Jan. 31 to return any items purchased in store or at ShopMyExchange.com through Dec. 24.

Some exclusions apply. For more information, military shoppers can check with the Fort Polk Exchange or call (800) 527-2345 for online returns.

AAFES and MILITARY STAR card are honoring those who serve and have served this Veterans Day with a slate of special offers at Fort Polk.

On Wednesday, cardholders will receive 10 cents off per gallon of fuel, double rewards points, \$10 off Exchange mall concession/kiosk purchases of \$25 or more and 15% off food orders and participating Exchange restaurants.

Beyond MILITARY STAR card-exclusive offers, Exchange Expresses and participating restaurants will serve complimentary coffee on Wednesday.

Exchange Redbox video rental locations will also offer two movies for the price of one through Nov. 13 using the promo code "HEROES1."



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Airfield management specialist tackles rigorous internship program

By **ANGIE THORNE**
Public affairs specialist

FORT POLK, La. — A certificate of completion was bestowed on Joseph Wells, Airfield management specialist, at an Airfield Management internship completion ceremony held Oct. 28 at the Joint Readiness Training Center and Fort Polk Airfield.

Wells worked to achieve his title of airfield management specialist over the course of two years through a U.S. Army Installation Management Command Airfield Management internship program from Oct. 1, 2018 to Sept. 30, 2020.

Wells went through six phases in the internship program including four phases of airfield management specialist training, one phase of installation management and operations in the Warrior Operations Center and one phase of professional development training. Wells was the first to complete the U.S. Army Installation Management Command Airfield Management internship, according to Joseph Schlag, supervising airfield management specialist.

“Joseph Wells is probably one of the smartest people I’ve ever met. He went through the required college education system courses from start to finish in three days,” he said. “He’s one of my best employees.”

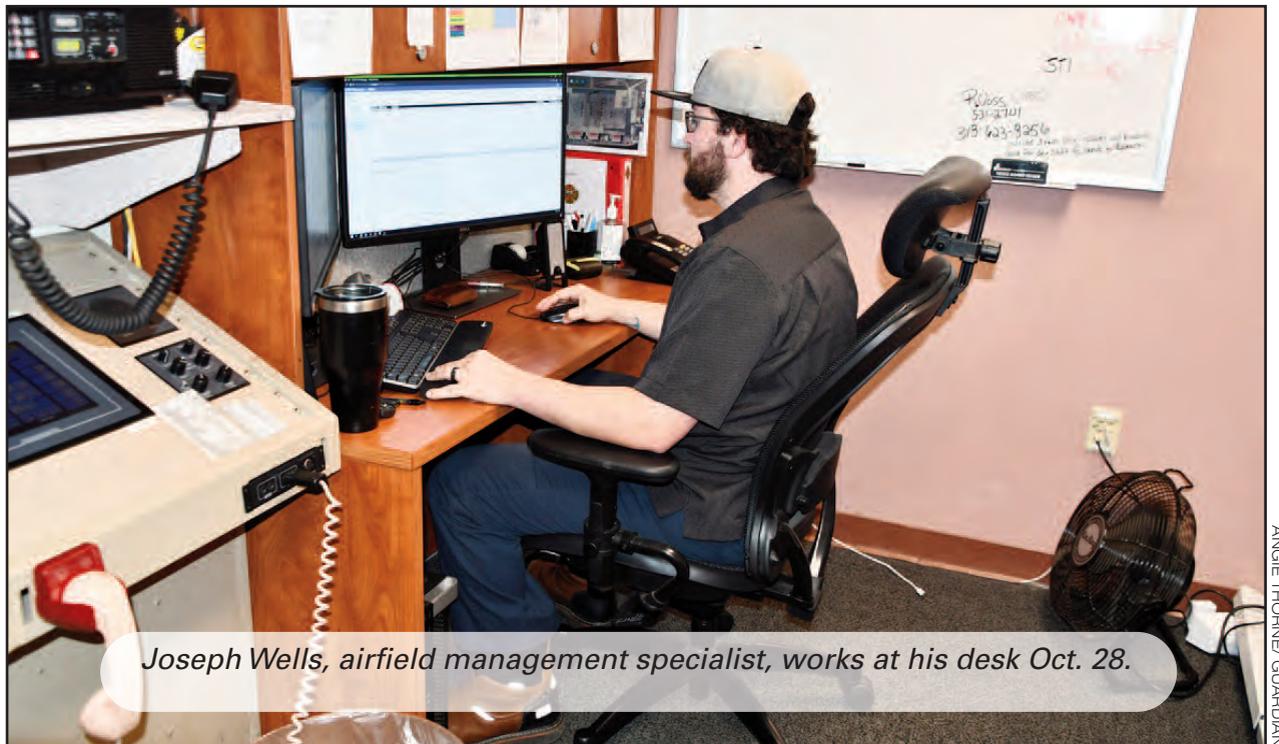
Schlag said Wells has accumulated 70 professional certificates in two years — taking the required courses for the internship well in advance of the required dates and added more.

“That speaks volumes when it comes to his capabilities. He has a thirst for knowledge and went way beyond any of our expectations. I think he’s also working on his master’s degree. He’s one of those people you want on your team,” he said.

Wells said he’s learned a great deal from the internship, even though he did the same kind of work when he was in the Navy.

He joined the Navy in 2008 as an air traffic controller and was stationed at Naval Air Station Whiting Field from 2009-2013. He and his family then moved to Alaska where he spent almost four years with the Federal Aviation Administration as a management and program assistant, all while completing his bachelor’s degree.

Wells said he was three months from graduating college when he went onto the USA Jobs website and saw a recent graduate position for



Joseph Wells, airfield management specialist, works at his desk Oct. 28.

ANGIE THORNE/GUARDIAN

the JRTC and Fort Polk internship.

“I applied, was accepted, got orders, cleared and moved to Fort Polk and started working while taking the necessary courses to complete the internship,” he said.

He said those skills he learned in the Navy came back to him as he got into the groove of his new job, but it was a little different in the Army.

“I’ve had to learn the Army way of doing things and delve into the Army Creed and Army civilian world while working through the Civilian Education System courses. The main thing I learned was the importance of the Army mission,” he said.

As an airfield management specialist, Wells has many duties.

“We take care of everything from putting in flight plans, checking the ramp, making sure the airfield is OK, checking the lights and the surface condition of the runway, making sure Army regulations are followed and more. We have a lot to do,” he said.

Wells said he feels like the internship has prepared him for everything his job can throw at him and that he will be successful in supporting the JRTC and Fort Polk mission.

“I was glad to have the opportunity to com-

plete the internship, and I’m proud that I did so successfully,” he said.

Mark Leslie, Directorate of Plans, Training, Mobilizations and Security, Plans and Operations chief, said in his time spent in the WOC as part of his internship requirements, Wells was eager to learn and had a thirst to excel.

“He worked directly for me, so I got to know him really well. He is the kind of employee you want. I think he is a great asset to the Fort Polk team and our Army,” he said.

Col. Ryan K. Roseberry, Fort Polk garrison commander, presented Wells with his certificate of completion. Roseberry said Wells just doesn’t rest and seems to have a plan to accomplish something new each year.

“He participated in the Airfield Management Internship program, but that wasn’t enough for him. He also took part in the Forging New Leaders course — a difficult course to take on top of everything else he has worked to accomplish this year,” he said.

Wells graduated from the Forging New Leaders Course Oct. 30.

“This guy is going places. Congratulations, you should be proud of yourself for your success, just as we are,” said Roseberry.

FNL

Continued from page 7

“This instruction is key to training Army civilians, that are experts in their field, in becoming experts at operationalizing their projects, concepts and events to better nest with their uniformed counterparts and present them successfully to the commander for approval,” he said.

“These skills are also necessary to assemble and analyze a project that the garrison commander and directorates need to solve complex issues on the installation.”

Garrison issues are presented to the class, which is broken down into teams, “and that (issue) will be the navigating thread throughout the entire program,” said Parks. The course culminates in the teams briefing their proposed solu-

tions to the commander.

“The installation gets a win-win; employees receive critical leadership development and then they deliver actionable solutions for the garrison,” he said.

Moving forward, Parks said that the garrison is executing its first four-year contract for the course, as it is now fully developed. “We did an initial three-year pilot program, and each year we worked out the bugs. This year we dealt with COVID-19, hurricanes and tornadoes, but it was still successful.”

During his remarks, Roseberry told the graduates that they have “marked (themselves) as people who will go above and beyond.”

“We look for those individuals to put them in peak positions around the installation.”

Recent FNL graduate Kelly Buterbaugh, secretary, said, “This was an excellent course where I gained new experiences and knowledge to apply in the workplace. The instructors were phenomenal as were my fellow classmates, and I’d highly recommend anyone considering this course to apply for the next class.”

According to Parks, applications for the upcoming FNL course will be accepted between Nov. 16 and Dec. 18 — the next course is set to begin in January. If you are interested in taking the course, or if you have any questions, please contact Bobbie Parks at 531-1102.

Community



BELLA ARCAND/MWR ILLUSTRATOR

The Fort Polk Directorate Family Morale, Welfare and Recreation marketing and special events team dresses as "Ghostbusters" characters Oct. 30, sending Halloween drive-thru event visitors home with gifts and goodies.

Fort Polk DFMWR hosts Halloween drive-thru event

By **BELLA ARCAND**
MWR illustrator

FORT POLK, Louisiana — No other night of the year calls for more action and show than the night of "All Hallows Eve." Action, show and spooky fun were the main focus for this year's Halloween drive-thru event, hosted by the Fort Polk Directorate of Family Morale, Welfare and Recreation special events team. More than 2,000 kids and their families enjoyed a night of horrifying entertainment.

The Fort Polk DFMWR special events team set a new trend for celebrating milestones, holidays and events since hosting their first drive-thru event back in May. Oct. 30 was no different. The well-visited drive-thru event attracted families to experience some chills, tricks and plenty of well-selected treats.

"Halloween is a special night and a big adventure, which most kids eagerly await all year. Our community has faced so many challenges these past couple of months," said Shelby Waryas, chief of DFMWR Marketing and Special Events. "We decided to create something exciting and memorable for our kids and the Fort Polk community."

The drive-thru experience took visitors through the "Haunting at Traditions Circle." A variety of DFMWR departments prepared beautifully themed gruesome scenes that were enjoyed from the comfort and safety of participants' own vehicles.

In addition to all MWR divisions, the Sergeant Audie Murphy Club and Better Opportunity for

Single Soldiers program helped create an epic night for our Fort Polk military community.

Special appreciation also goes to the event's sponsors (Benoit, USAA, Southwest Beverage, Christus Health, Papa John's Pizza, Corvias, Geco, Northwestern State University and Barksdale Federal Credit Union) who actively supported this event.

As cars made their way through the loop, the night came to life with mechanical creatures, staged scenes, props and live actors entertaining the crowd.

Visual and sound lightning effects created an eerie surrounding. Halloween staple characters, like Jason Voorhees, the famous witches from Hocus Pocus and the superhero Thor, surprised excited fans.

Unsuspecting passengers were amused by the Stay Puff Marshmallow Man, who occasionally hopped in to catch a break after being chased by members of the DFMWR marketing and special events Ghostbusters team.

Small but powerful flashlights; sugar skull cookies in bright Halloween colors; and plenty of highly sought-after candy at the Ghostbusters World topped an unforgettable night and led visitors to the exit and back into the real world.

The DFMWR Halloween drive-thru does not mark the end of an exciting festival and event season. Fort Polk Families should stay tuned and get excited for more extraordinary events later this year.

For more information on events, contests and unforgettable experiences, visit **the MWR Facebook page** or the **MWR website**.

Briefs

Lumberjack games

The Fort Polk community is invited to participate in the Lumberjack Games (axe throwing competition), hosted by the Joint Readiness Training Center and Fort Polk and the Directorate of Family Morale, Welfare and Recreation.

The event begins at 2 p.m. Saturday at Toledo Bend Recreation area.

The cost is \$45 per person, which includes games, registration and food.

There will be music, outdoor entertainment, food, drinks and axe-throwing events throughout the day.

The event also features a bucksaw competition, log tossing and a lumberjack look-alike contest.

To register call (318) 565-4484.

Color run

The Joint Readiness Training Center and Fort Polk Directorate of Family and Morale, Welfare and Recreation presents the Dye Hard Warrior 5k Color Run on Nov. 14 at 9 a.m.

The color run is open to all Department of Defense ID card holders — runners of all levels and ages are welcome to participate. Pets, however, will not be allowed at the event. The starting line will be at the Showboat Theatre parking lot, and the doors open at 8 a.m.

To register for the run, email ftpolkspecialevents@gmail.com with the names of each runner/participant.

All participants will receive a shirt, color pack and a bib number.

Movie night

The Joint Readiness Training Center and Fort Polk Directorate of Family Morale, Welfare and Recreation is hosting a holiday movie night on Headquarters Field Nov. 20, and it is open to all Department of Defense ID card holders.

This event's movie will be "The Grinch."

Free concessions open at 6 p.m., and the movie will begin at 7 p.m.

Sports skills challenge

Fort Polk's Directorate of Family Morale, Welfare and Recreation is holding a flag football skills challenge Nov. 20 at 6 p.m. on Anvil Field.

The challenge is open to active duty members, Family members, retirees and Department of Defense civilians who are 18 years and older.

Registration is required, and the form can be found at **the MWR website**.

Call (337)378-2201 for additional details or email travyon.a.amir.naf@mail.mil.



Supporting local schools

Fort Polk Garrison Commander Col. Ryan Roseberry supported the Leesville versus Jennings High School football game Oct. 30. Roseberry joined the Wampus Cat and Bulldog team captains on the 50 yard line where he tossed a 1st Battalion, 509th Infantry Regiment challenge coin, starting the game. An advocate for education and quality of life initiatives for military Families, Roseberry actively participates on the Vernon Parish School Board, and he is a familiar face throughout the district. His dedication to excellence in education and partnerships with local, state and federal officials has increased grants and funding for local schools.

JEAN GRAVES

Corvias Foundation's scholarship applications open

CORVIAS FOUNDATION

EAST GREENWICH, R.I. — On Nov. 2 Corvias Foundation, a private charity founded by John Picerne to support educational opportunities for military families, launched its 2021 scholarship applications available to military spouses and children of active-duty service members.

The military-dependent student scholarship and military spouse scholarship both offer financial support for recipients who are pursuing a higher education degree. Those who are awarded the military-dependent scholarship will receive a four-year college scholarship of up to \$50,000. The 20 recipients of the military spouse scholarships will each be awarded \$5,000. These funds can be used for any need that will help the recipients complete their degree, such as tuition, child care or gas for transportation.

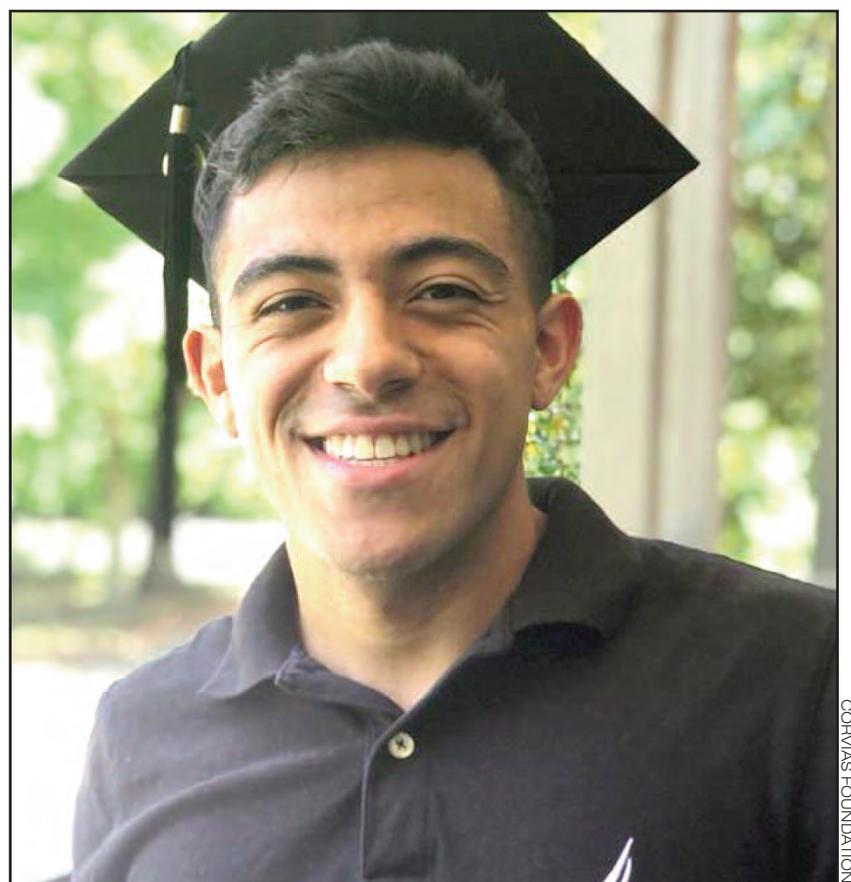
"Our mission at Corvias Foundation is to provide deserving and inspiring military Families with resources to help them achieve their academic goals," said Picerne. "I look forward to the privilege and honor of welcoming our 2021 scholarship recipients, as I have for the past 15 years. I'm always in awe of their ac-

complishments, especially given the unique challenges they face."

The application process for the military-dependent student scholarship will close on Feb. 12, while the military spouse scholarship process will conclude on May 7. Student scholars and alumni of the military-dependent scholarship receive beyond-the-dollar support in the form of professional guidance through resume workshops, interview preparation and various opportunities to attend leadership events and conferences. Additionally, they have access to internships, mentoring and volunteer opportunities through the Corvias Foundation network.

"To date, Corvias Foundation has awarded nearly \$15 million in scholarships to military spouses and children of active-duty service members," said Maria Montalvo, executive director of Corvias Foundation. "It is rewarding for our team to have this opportunity to help empower the next class of determined and courageous recipients in the new year and have them join the Corvias Foundation community."

Individuals who are interested in applying can visit the **Corvias Foundation page** to review eligibility criteria and access the application.



CORVIAS FOUNDATION

New applications mark the 16th consecutive year of Corvias Foundation's scholarship programs; \$650,000 to be awarded to next year's recipients.



Discussing education
Brig. Gen. David Doyle, commanding general of the Joint Readiness Training Center and Fort Polk, meets with James Williams, Vernon Parish School superintendent, Nov. 4 to discuss education in Vernon Parish. The meeting was their initial introduction and served to emphasize the supporting partnership between Fort Polk and the local school system. Education of military children is a top quality of life initiative for the CG and Col. Ryan Roseberry, Fort Polk's garrison commander.

GARRISON COMMAND GROUP

Emotional intelligence bolsters leadership skills

By Chap. (Capt.) ROB KRAFT
 Deputy garrison chaplain

FORT POLK, La. — The Army rightly prides itself on shaping and developing leaders. The profession produces leaders whose quality is refined by the daily pressures of missions and tasks. There is a lot of stress that comes with being a leader, and all levels feel it.

In other words, all Soldiers are on the path to leadership, from the brand new private to the 20- or 30-year general. Leadership brings with it a mutual responsibility amongst Soldiers that is challenged by the daily barrage of stressors that come with this line of work. But, the Army has identified a powerful and positive facet of good leadership — emotional intelligence.

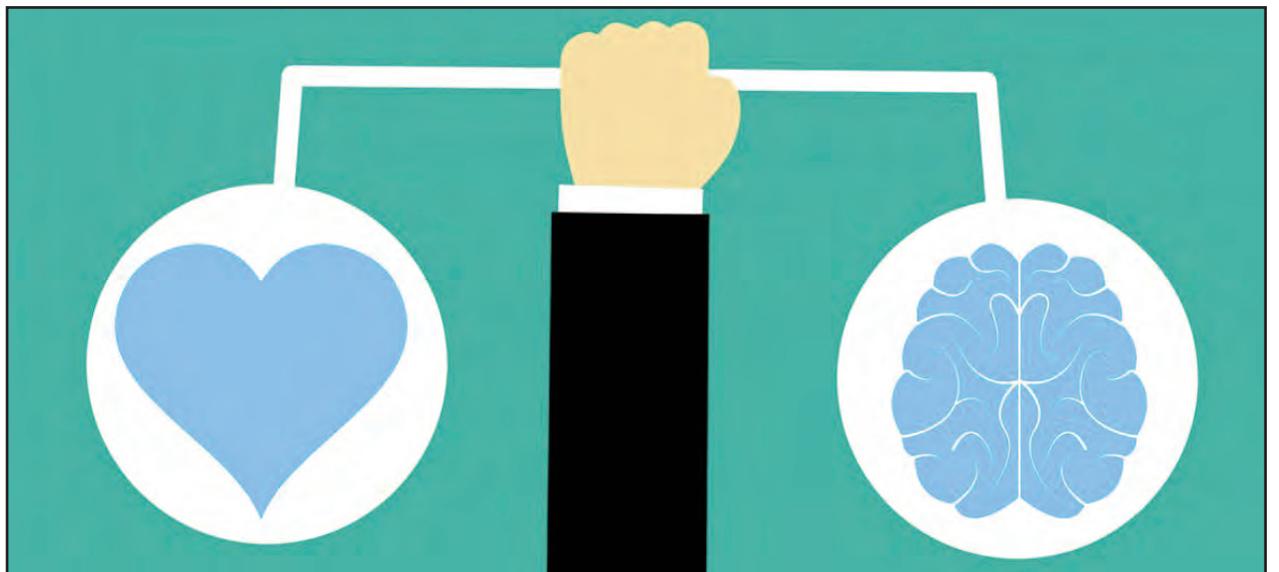
Emotional intelligence allows leaders to emotionally understand second- and third-order affects in Soldiers' lives. It helps connect people, sections and units. Leaders with strong emotional intelligence can differentiate two Soldiers with similar problems but differing preexisting issues. This tailors leadership and increases effectiveness.

Strong emotional intelligence understands the humanity behind the service member; the need to balance work and rest; mission and resilience; and home and military service.

Emotional intelligence gives leaders more accurate and transformative guidance because they understand that their Soldiers are more than just parts in a system. Emotionally connecting with peers strengthens bonds on the home front and in units. **Army University Press** has published articles and professional papers on the positive results emotional intelligence brings to military careers.

Take, for example, the leader's function. A leader exists to influence their people by providing purpose and direction. Imagine a leader who rewards Soldiers without taking into account their people's needs, emotional or physical.

The result would simply fall back on function, to provide more purpose and direction, not time



with Families or organization days.

Defaulting to the leader's function, without an understanding of the Soldier's humanity, creates an emotional vacuum. People aren't compartmentalized; body and soul all intertwine as a holistic totality. Everything affects everything within us.

That is why Field Manual 7-22, Holistic Health and Fitness, was just updated. Ignoring individuals' humanity creates an emotional vacuum that distances people rather than building bonds in units and teams. Leadership requires relational management that takes into account the human dynamic. If one loses this, then the humanity of Soldiers is lost in the mind of a leader; Soldiers are treated as interchangeable parts; and trust is lost.

However, where there are emotional connections there is trust — collaboration and creativity happens. Identity, problem solving and mission success spontaneously occur; and these are all tied together.

So, how do we get to this cohesive bond? It starts by understanding your own emotions, damages (that might exist due to combat trauma) and strengths. Be aware of how you affect other people, and then regulate

yourself. This is the brave part because we have to look at ourselves through another's eyes. I do not mean lockdown and suppress yourself; but, in each moment, moderate yourself and consider the outside perspective.

This creates flexibility and opens the door for others around you to feel accepted and a part of the team you are leading. It is also critical because it develops the appropriate social skills necessary for trust, resiliency and cohesion.

How we interact with each other, at all ranks and levels, shows leadership. It combines knowing your own emotions and the emotions of those around you. It heightens your empathy. In this sense, social skills are the end state of emotional intelligence because it maintains trust; builds up peers and subordinates; and it moderates your responses.

When people see that you understand; then, you are a good leader. When they know you are not there to squeeze them for all they have; but, instead, you are there to maintain them for the long haul, you are a good leader.

Leadership like this will see stronger Soldiers, more service members with committed resolve, bolder initiatives and rock solid motivation. All this starts with having the emotional ability to understand where other people are coming from and then leading them accordingly.

Commentary