

**THE JRTC AND FORT POLK**

# **GUARDIAN**

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## QUALITY OF LIFE LINES OF EFFORT



HEALTH CARE



PCS MOVES



HOUSING



CHILD CARE



SPOUSE



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## Reserve Soldiers sharpen skills serving at Fort Polk hospital

By **JEAN CLAVETTE GRAVES**  
BJACH Public Affairs Officer

FORT POLK, La. — The Joint Readiness Training Center is a force readiness platform and crucible combat training center for the Army. But Operations Group isn't the only unit getting in on the training action at Fort Polk.

Bayne-Jones Army Community Hospital is a designated training facility currently hosting U.S. Army Nurse Corps Cadet clinical rotations, special operations medical personnel and the 355th Area Support Medical Company from Bossier City, Louisiana.

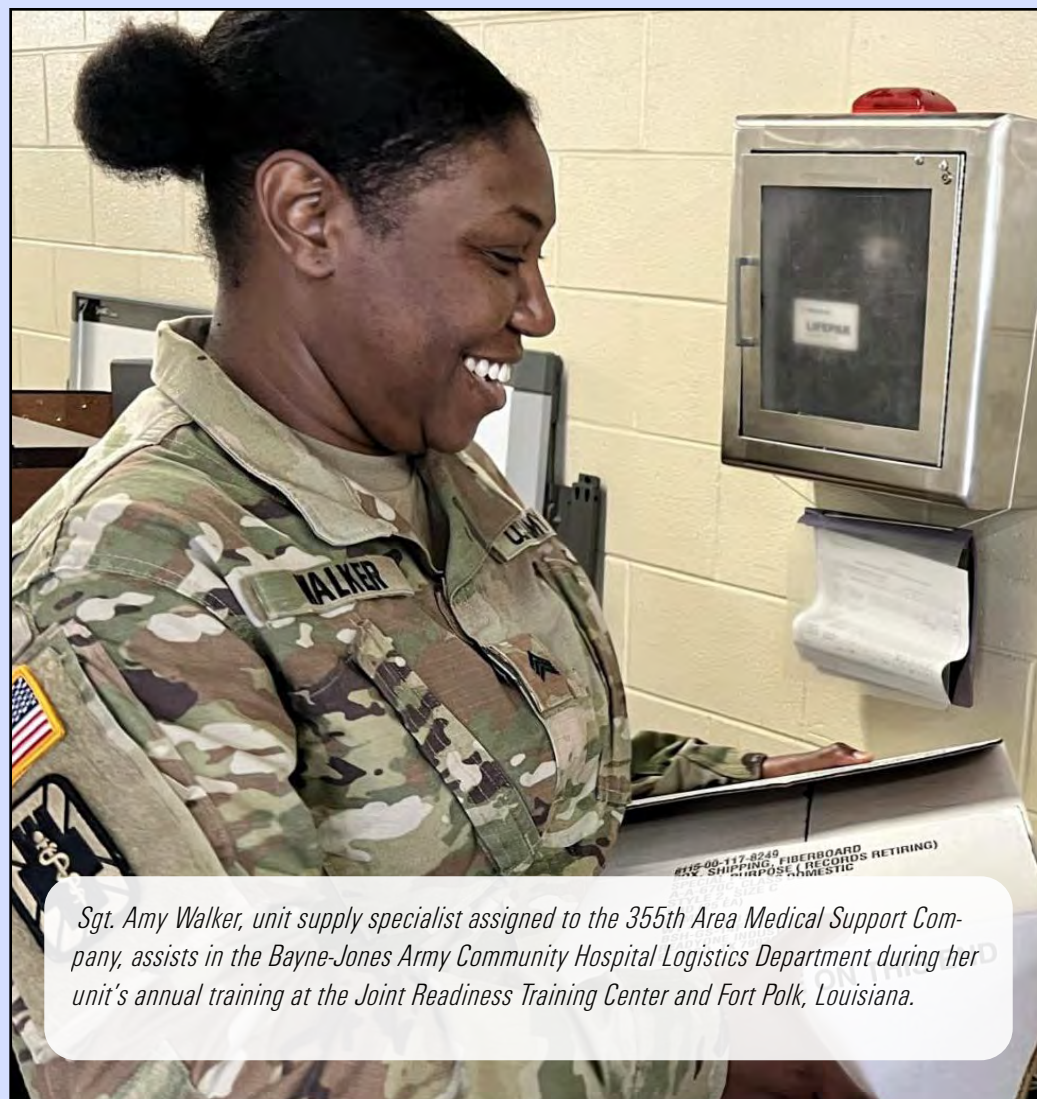
The 355th ASMC is conducting their annual drill at BJACH with 3rd Brigade Combat Team, 10th Mountain Division.

The unit arrived July 18 for a two-week training rotation.

Sgt. 1st Class Joseph Baltz, BJACH senior clinical noncommissioned officer in charge, was integral in the coordinating efforts that brought the 355th to Fort Polk for their annual training.

"I was excited to assist and make this a successful event for the 355th," Baltz said. "This is our chance to show our reserve counterparts what we do to support the fight and maintain a medically ready force."

The rotation supports the U.S. Army Medical Command's strategic vision of a ready, reformed, reorganized, responsive and relevant medical force to support the



*Sgt. Amy Walker, unit supply specialist assigned to the 355th Area Medical Support Company, assists in the Bayne-Jones Army Community Hospital Logistics Department during her unit's annual training at the Joint Readiness Training Center and Fort Polk, Louisiana.*

warfighting mission, anytime, anywhere.

"Between BJACH and the 355th AMSC, the operations process was exercised, activation orders were created, the unit was mobilized and training was resourced and executed when their boots hit the ground," Baltz said. "Reserve units are expected to perform at the same level as their active duty counterparts when called upon. If

and when the 355th AMSC is activated to answer the nations call, they will know what right looks like for their military occupational specialty, enhancing the support MEDCOM provides to the fighting force."

Medics from the 355th AMSC trained in the emergency department, hospital education and staff

Please see **Training**, page 2



**Cover photo:** Kinsley Miner, 1, (front) has a blast playing in the water as Heidi Lukefahr, 3, is ready to spray anyone who gets close with her water squirter July 14 at Fort Polk's Main Post Chapel play date. (Photo Angie Thorne/Guardian)



# Training

Continued from page 1

development and ancillary clinics to craft and hone their basic technical skills.

"We also have dietary technicians, logistic specialists, a behavioral health technician, a medical service officer and a field surgeon currently training at BJACH," Baltz said. "I think the rotation speaks volumes about this reserve unit and it's a credit to their leadership for making it happen."

Pfc. Serena Sering, behavioral health specialist, is spending her annual training in the BJACH Behavioral Health Department.

Sering said she enjoys her military occupational specialty because she is working towards her degree and licensing as a social worker.

"This is my first annual training since I graduated from my advanced individual training," Sering said. "Being at BJACH is a valuable experience. I've enjoyed working with and helping patients find solutions to some of their problems."

Sgt. 1st Class Darryl Dangerfield is a nutrition care specialist assigned to the 355th AMSC.

A retired police officer currently working private security, Dangerfield said he loves being in the kitchen.

"Getting back in the kitchen and doing nutrition care for patients is a nice change of pace for me," Dangerfield said. "The entire team at BJACH has treated us like family since we've arrived."

Pfcs. Brock Leavitt and Emily Tyler are combat medics working in the BJACH emergency department.

Leavitt said the hands-on training he's had while at BJACH has been beneficial.

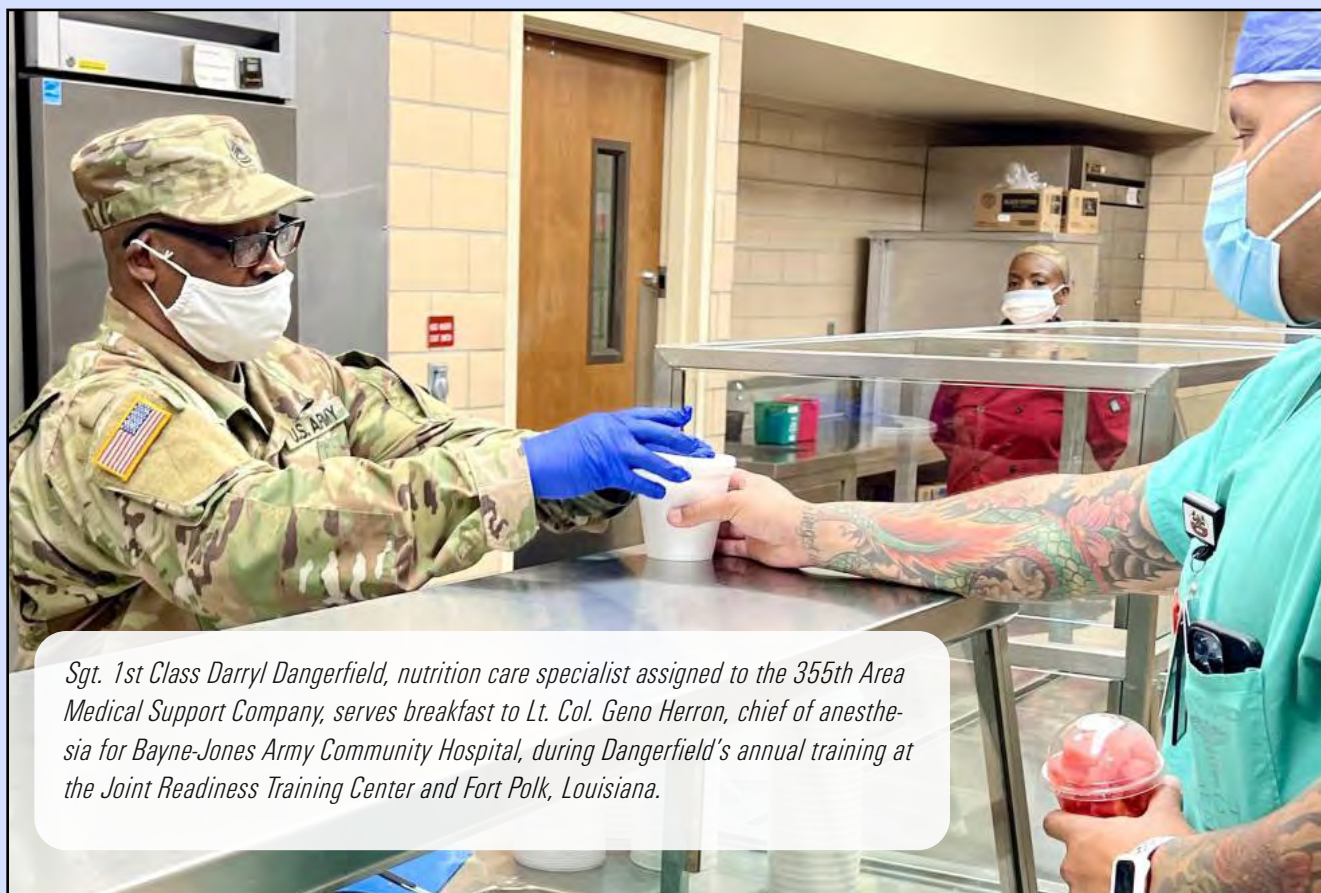
Leavitt and Brock agree this is the best annual training they've participated in since being assigned to their unit.

"I've learned a lot over the past two weeks, including how to master administering IVs," Brock said. "I've had a lot of training, but working with actual patients is different than practicing on my battle buddies."

Sgt. 1st Class Brady Kornelis, noncommissioned officer in charge of the BJACH ED, said both Leavitt and Brock have been hungry to learn.

"Since their arrival to BJACH, they've wanted to learn everything our team can teach them," Kornelis said. "They have been continuously involved with patient care to further their medical skills. They've administered IVs, taken vitals, conducted EKGs, ultrasounds and assisted with patient retrieval from Cajun Dust-Off (C Company, 1st Battalion, 5th Aviation Regiment). They have been nothing short of a force multiplier during their time in my department."

SpC. Tyler Bridges, combat medic from the



*Sgt. 1st Class Darryl Dangerfield, nutrition care specialist assigned to the 355th Area Medical Support Company, serves breakfast to Lt. Col. Geno Herron, chief of anesthesia for Bayne-Jones Army Community Hospital, during Dangerfield's annual training at the Joint Readiness Training Center and Fort Polk, Louisiana.*

355th, is working in the BJACH pathology department.

"I've enjoyed working in the lab during our annual training," Bridges said. "We are getting hands-on experience doing our military jobs in a medical setting. As medics, we are trained to draw blood, so working as a phlebotomist is a perishable skill I am able to brush up on."

Bridges said the most unique experience he's had during this rotation was learning to draw blood from an infant.

Sgt. Amy Walker and SpC. Triston Waggoner are unit supply specialists for 355th AMSC.

In her civilian career, Walker is an advanced medical support assistant for the Department of Veterans Affairs. She works in a medical facility, but neither she nor Waggoner have ever done logistics for a hospital before.

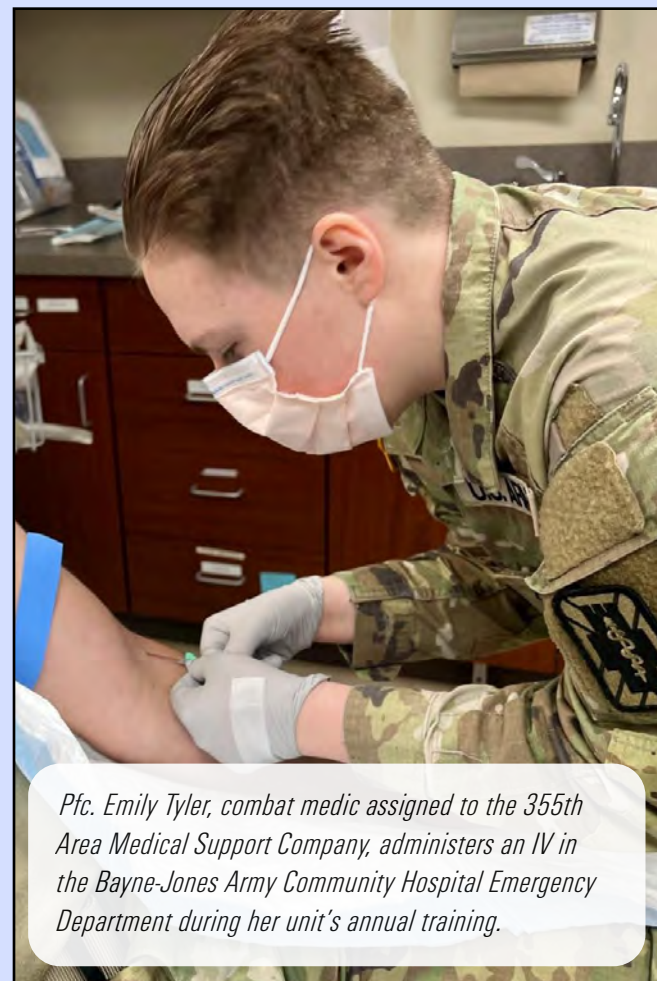
"This has given me a lot of insight into what our logistics department does at the VA," Walker said. "In addition to my annual training, I'm getting some insight and a better understanding for the organization I work for while not in uniform."

Waggoner said he enjoys being a reservist.

"This rotation has been the closest we've gotten to actually doing our jobs. It's been great," Waggoner said. "It's been rewarding working in the warehouse, packing pallets and other things I haven't had real world experience doing. From a training perspective, we've had the ability to roll up our sleeves get to work."

Both agreed they are always ready to activate and deploy if called upon.

"For us, this rotation gave those of us in non-medical fields just as much of an opportu-



*Pfc. Emily Tyler, combat medic assigned to the 355th Area Medical Support Company, administers an IV in the Bayne-Jones Army Community Hospital Emergency Department during her unit's annual training.*

nity to train and exercise our areas of expertise as the combat medics in the unit," Walker said. "That's what made this the best annual training I've participated in to date."

BJACH's mission is to provide a robust medical training platform enhancing readiness in support of MEDCOM, Regional Health Command-Central, JRTC and Fort Polk directed missions to deploy, fight and win on any front.



# Special operations detachment focuses on purpose

By JEAN CLAVETTE GRAVES  
BJACH Public Affairs Officer

FORT POLK, La. — Dr. Vincent Escandell, a clinical psychologist and neuropsychologist from Bayne-Jones Army Community Hospital, taught purpose, focus and gratitude Aug. 4 to the Special Operations Training Detachment at the Joint Readiness Training Center and Fort Polk. Paper airplanes, dad jokes, simple exercises and experiments were used to explain nearly 145 years of modern psychological theory related to the topic of purpose.

Escandell said purpose is everything, there is nothing beyond purpose.

“Humans and some mammals are consciously aware of self,” Escandell said. “Our perception of self is what we choose to see. What you want to see is more important than what you actually see.”

Escandell said purpose is something people choose, but drug use and disease can reduce the focus on their purpose.

“Alcohol and other trauma can affect an individual’s attention and concentration,” Escandell said. “Being in an altered state can have a negative effect on maintaining your purpose.”

Many things can affect sustained focus on a person’s purpose. Escandell explained several studies where prisoners of war refused to come home, or gave up on life due to lack of purpose.

“Studies have suggested that without focus and purpose people can be easily manipulated or brainwashed,” Escandell said. “In some cases they will give up living, curl up and die. With a fixed purpose, a person can do anything they have the skills and preparation to do.”

Master Sgt. Derek Swofford, SODT observer, coach, trainer and noncommissioned officer in charge, said having regular training and engagements with Escandell helps reduce the stigma for seeking behavioral health assistance.

“We all go through tough times in our lives,” Swofford said. “Inviting Dr. Escandell to our unit to teach classes and lead discussions lets everyone know it’s OK to talk about issues they are having in their lives.”

Swofford said he hopes the class helps the participants recognize their own purpose and motivates them to seek help if they need it.

“There are tidbits from today’s discussion that the guys can take and use in their own lives,” Swofford said. “If everyone takes a little bit from this and we host these classes on a regular basis, it will be well worth it.”

Maj. Stephen Deterding, special operations force task force senior, said having Escandell conduct training on a regular basis is important.

“The more often we can find the time to have these discussions helps educate everyone and increases our individual awareness about



*Dr. Vincent Escandell, clinical psychologist and neuropsychologist from Bayne-Jones Army Community Hospital, teaches purpose, focus and gratitude to the Fort Polk Special Operations Training Detachment.*

JEAN CLAVETTE GRAVES/BJACH PUBLIC AFFAIRS OFFICER

things that can make us better people,” Deterding said.

Deterding said the topic was timely as they just finished up one rotation in the “box” and are preparing for the next.

“Specifically to our unit and what we do, it’s easy to find purpose while in a deployable unit because we are always focused on the next event on the calendar or the next objective. Our purpose is to prepare for that and do the best we can,” Deterding said. “In a unit that trains people, it’s harder for individuals to find that purpose. But our purpose is to help others prepare for that next mission. I thought this training was spot on and really appreciated it. Ideally, we get to exercise our purpose once a month.”

Deterding said the discussion topic was important and a timely reminder to keep focused on that purpose.

Escandell said people must constantly communicate their purpose with themselves.

“Through ritual and routine acts toward our purpose, we will get into the flow,” Escandell said. “Flow is an optimal experience or the zone; a place where challenges and skills are high, but so is our purpose.”

Escandell said thoughts control what people feel, as well as what and who they are. He said this is logotherapy; a therapeutic approach that helps people find personal meaning in life. It’s a form of psychotherapy that focuses on the future and a person’s ability to endure hardship and suffering through a search for purpose.

“What does this mean? Thoughts become very important, they precede mood,” Escandell said. “Positive thoughts influence positive moods.”

Escandell said continually reminding themselves of purpose will have holistic benefits to the Soldiers, both personally and professionally.

“If you maintain purpose, you will get to optimal levels of functioning which improves your emotional, physical and psychological health,” Escandell said. “There is an old Christian saying that ‘God cannot drive a parked car.’ What that means is once you stop, once you’ve stalled, once you have no purpose where you are going, then it’s over for you and your body. The more you maintain, sustain and define your purpose everything gets better.”

A colorful poster for an event titled "BEAT THE HEAT FOAM PARTY &amp; GLOW GOLF". The date "26 AUGUST" is prominently displayed at the top. Below it, the text "EXPERIENCE OUR COURSE LIKE NEVER BEFORE WITH" is written. The central image shows a large yellow duck floating in a pool of water, surrounded by people's silhouettes and bubbles. The event title "BEAT THE HEAT FOAM PARTY &amp; GLOW GOLF" is written in large, stylized letters. Below the title, the price "\$15 PER PERSON" is listed. Further down, the schedule is given: "FAMILIES: 8 - 9:30 PM" and "18+ ONLY: 9:30 - 10:30 PM". A list of inclusions follows: "INCLUDES NIGHT GLOW &amp; FOAM PARTY WITH COMPLIMENTARY HOT DOGS, POPCORN AND SNACK BAR SPECIALS. GO KARTS NOT AVAILABLE AFTER 8 PM". At the bottom right, it says "ENJOY UNLIMITED MINI GOLF WITH GLOWING GOLF BALLS &amp; LIGHTS!". The contact information "(337) 531-5481" and "KLUBS &amp; KARTS | 9TH ST, BLDG 1402" is at the very bottom.



# 3rd Brigade Combat Team, 10th Mountain Division trains cadets in Kentucky

By 1st Lt. DANE BORCHERS  
3rd Squadron, 89th Cavalry Regiment

FORT KNOX, Ky. — Every summer a Brigade Combat Team is tasked to support the U.S. Army Cadet Command’s cadet summer training event held at Fort Knox, Kentucky. This is a unique task, as it is the largest training event in the Army and it directly affects future leaders.

More than 7,000 cadets undergo a 33-day leadership crucible where they are trained and tested on basic Soldier skills and assessed on their leadership capability.

This year, 3rd Brigade Combat Team, 10th Mountain Division (Light Infantry), received the CST support tasking. With more than 1,400 personnel from multiple installations and organizations across the Army participating, 3rd Squadron, 89th Cavalry Regiment, a unit within 3rd BCT, 10th Mtn Div, was charged with providing command and control of Task Force Patriot, the task force made of Soldiers providing CST support.

Professionals traveled to Fort Knox to train cadets in primary marksmanship instruction, rappel tower training and tactical combat casualty care. These are just some of the ways the task force is instrumental in CST. This support enables the cadet’s cadre to critically evaluate without distraction.

“Our role is providing that first interaction that a cadet has with active duty Soldiers,” said Lt. Col. Ryan Nugent, commander of 3rd Sqn, 89th Cav Reg, 3rd BCT, 10th Mtn Div.

“Our professionalism and subject matter expertise make a crucial first impression, one I want to be a positive so cadets going into the Army can feel confident they are entering a profession that cares about them personally. When they see the 10th Mountain patch, as they continue their career, they can say ‘those were our primary trainers at CST and they are outstanding Soldiers,’” Nugent said.

The mission not only benefits cadets, but Soldiers are also able to train at an individual and higher-echeloned level on various tasks. Individually, Soldiers refine their skills and are afforded opportunities to train for their Expert Infantry Badge, Expert Soldier Badge or Expert Field Medical Badge.

Task Force Patriot is also able train mission essential tasks regarding resupply and deployment operations.

“Our ability to sustain a fight and be successful sustaining more than 3,000 Soldiers shows we should have no problems sustaining more than 300 Soldiers within 3-89 Cav for any future training exercises or combat scenarios,” said Sgt. 1st Class Andrew Partusch, the non-commissioned officer in charge of logistical operations for the squadron.

The CST tasking remains a unique and re-



*Soldiers assigned to 3rd Brigade Combat Team, 10th Mountain Division, train cadets as part of Task Force Patriot during annual cadet summer training at Fort Knox.*



warding experience that empowers Soldiers and units to set the example for cadets to aspire to as they become the future leaders of the Army. Task Force Patriot Soldiers can rest assured what they did this summer directly affected the Army’s future with these cadets.





*The colors are passed to Lt. Col. James B. Polk during the 1st Battalion, 5th Aviation Regiment change of command ceremony Aug. 4.*

ANGIE THORNE/€GUARDIAN

## Change of command

*A change of command ceremony for 1st Battalion, 5th Aviation Regiment was held Aug. 4 at the Fort Polk Army Airfield. Lt. Col. JD Swinney, outgoing commander, relinquished command to Lt. Col. James B. Polk.*



*Lt. Col. James B. Polk, 1st Battalion, 5th Aviation Regiment commander, addresses the audience at the change of command ceremony held Aug. 4.*

## Thanking volunteers

*The Joint Readiness Training Center and Fort Polk Commanding General's Volunteer Recognition Ceremony took place at Fort Polk's Warrior Center Aug. 2. The event recognized volunteers supporting the Fort Polk community from the third quarter of fiscal year 2022.*



*Avery Stemple, shakes hands with Command Sgt. Maj. Stephen Nielson, garrison command sergeant major, as her dad, Chase Stemple, and Col. Lee C. Freeman, deputy commanding officer, look on. Avery was recognized for her volunteer contributions to Fort Polk's religious support office.*



*Soldiers from 2nd Battalion, 4th Infantry Division, 3rd Brigade Combat Team, 10th Mountain Division, receive certificates of appreciation at the Joint Readiness Training Center and Fort Polk Commanding General's Volunteer Recognition Ceremony held Aug. 2.*

ANGIE THORNE/€GUARDIAN



*Those attending the The Joint Readiness Training Center and Fort Polk Commanding General's Volunteer Recognition Ceremony Aug. 2 watch a short video.*



# Tiger Team inspections work to **improve** Soldier's living conditions

By **CHUCK CANNON**  
Public Affairs Specialist

FORT POLK, La. — Col. Sam Smith, Fort Polk garrison commander, and garrison Command Sgt. Maj. Stephen Nielson, along with representatives from the Directorate of Public Works, conducted a Tiger Team barracks inspection July 26 of the 519th Military Police Battalion barracks.

As stated in Joint Readiness Training Center and Fort Polk Policy 3, Single Enlisted Soldier's Living Standards for the Barracks and the Buddy Programs, the purpose of the inspections are to enforce standards, care for Soldiers and identify shortfalls in maintenance, safety or living standards.

During the inspection, Smith, Nielson and a representative from DPW, went through rooms on each floor of the barracks and discussed issues with resident Soldiers that ranged from inoperable air conditioning to non-working appliances and burned out light bulbs.

In many cases, Soldiers were not aware of the Army Maintenance Application, or ArMA. For Soldiers who reside in the barracks, ArMA allows them to instantly interact with public works clerks instead of making walk-in appointments or phone calls. ArMA is available on the Digital Garrison app.

ArMA uses a simple interface where residents can submit requests and provide a description of their case. Residents can take photos of the maintenance problem using the app's camera feature and access a maintenance catalog and list of services.

Smith said he and Nielson are part of the inspections to insure high quality of life standards are upheld across the installation.

"It's not just about projects we do on the installation, or the housing money we're investing for our Families, it's also about making sure



*Col. Sam Smith, Fort Polk garrison commander, speaks to Soldiers and Directorate of Public Works representatives before beginning the Tiger Team barracks inspection July 26.*

we are providing quality living conditions and barracks rooms for our single soldiers," Smith said. "We discovered things in today's inspection that need to be fixed, which is the purpose of these Tiger Team barracks inspections: to find deficiencies and get the resources to help."

To get the installation's Soldiers more involved in keeping standards high in their living quarters, Smith said he is looking at developing a type of competition to reward Soldiers whose barracks are in the best condition.

"We're looking at maybe giving all of the Soldiers who live in the barracks that grade out the best a three-day pass, or something similar," Smith said. "We're still working it, but I think we can come up with a way to get Soldiers invested in taking better care of their living areas."

Tiger Team inspections are scheduled for the last Tuesday of each month.



*Col. Sam Smith, Fort Polk garrison commander, takes notes in a Soldier's room during the Tiger Team barracks inspection July 26.*



*Col. Sam Smith, Fort Polk garrison commander, (left) speaks with a Soldier about quality of life standards during the Tiger Team barracks inspection July 26.*



*Fort Polk garrison Command Sgt. Maj. Stephen Nielson, (left) takes notes as he and other inspection team members check the condition of a barrack's laundry room July 26.*

CHUCK CANNON/GUARDIAN



## ***The Army Inspector General*** **New Soldier Experience Survey**

The Inspector General needs your input to help to inform Army Senior Leaders. Your open, frank responses are needed to provide information for decisions affecting policies and Soldiers.

### **Survey topics include:**

- ❖ Training
- ❖ Sponsorship
- ❖ Leadership
- ❖ Families
- ❖ Personal and Professional Growth

## **New Soldier Experience Survey**

E1-E4 and All Family Members



### **Scan Me**

*Participants remain anonymous*  
*Survey ends on 23 September 2022*

**As part of the New Soldier Experience, a town hall is scheduled to take place Aug. 24 at 6 p.m. at Fort Polk's Bayou Theater. The town hall is for first term Soldiers – E1-E4 and their spouses to converse with inspection teams about their experiences from basic training to Fort Polk in an open forum. Soldiers are encouraged to attend. Officers and NCOs please scan below.**

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- ❖ Families
- ❖ Personal and Professional Growth

## **New Soldier Experience Survey for Leaders**

01-02, W01 - W02, E5-E7



### **Scan Me**

*Participants remain anonymous*  
*Survey ends on 23 September 2022*



# Corvias Invests \$92M to Improve military housing at Fort Polk

## CORVIAS

FORT POLK, La. — Corvias will deliver more than \$92 million worth of housing upgrades to U.S. Army military housing at Fort Polk, Louisiana, by 2025 to continue enhancing the living experience for military Families.

Approximately 140 homes will undergo a complete home renovation, roughly 1,000 homes will benefit from exterior renovations and 153 homes have already received geothermal heat pumps on behalf Corvias’ Polk Communities partnership with the U.S. Army.

Corvias recently completed a Phase I, \$15 million development plan at Fort Polk that repaired or replaced more than 2,300 roofs, painted approximately 1,000 homes and replaced nearly 1,000 gutters in the Dogwood Terrace and Maple Terrace neighborhoods. Fort Polk will benefit from an additional \$77 million investment by Corvias as part of Phase II of the project, which has already begun.

“The continued reinvestment into our Fort Polk community remains a priority,” said Pete Sims, managing director at Corvias. “We believe that having a steady focus on investing in back-to-back development plans allows us to consistently improve the on-post housing experience and remain the top choice for housing when Families receive a permanent change of station to Fort Polk.”

In Phase II, 140 homes undergoing a renovation will receive updated kitchens that will feature new flooring, energy-efficient appliances, modern countertops, soft-close cabinets, under-cabinet lighting and new light fixtures. Corvias will renovate Palmetto and Maple Terrace homes as they become available. Final materials used in the renovations may vary based on availability.

The investment also includes the final 153 on-post homes that received new geothermal heat pumps, completing the 2019 effort to replace geothermal heat pumps in all Fort Polk homes.

The savings from the energy-efficient geothermal heat pumps will be reinvested into Fort Polk housing for additional capital, home and roadway improvements.

The scope for this second phase of development work also includes demolishing more than 45 homes; renovating the exterior of nearly 1,000 homes, including exterior paint, trim and gutters; incorporating grading improvements to enhance drainage and repairing carports on approximately 100 homes. These combined changes are part of the overall modernization of on-post housing.

Corvias’ 50-year partnership with Fort Polk is part of the Military Housing Privatization Initiative, which leverages private sector capital and expertise to reverse the military’s housing shortage. This is done by expanding and



*Brig. Gen. David S. Doyle initiates Phase II with the demolition of 4916 Norris Loop, the first home to be demolished. The Out Year Development Plan’s second phase is comprised of a \$77 million Corvias investment into the on-post housing community at Fort Polk.*

*Col. Sam Smith, Fort Polk garrison commander, talks to a neighborhood resident during a Walking Town Hall in Fort Polk’s Palmetto Terrace neighborhood. Residents were asked if they were satisfied with their housing and if there was anything Fort Polk and Corvias could do to improve their living conditions.*

*This prototype shows a side-by-side comparison before and after the renovation at Fort Polk. Corvias’ additional \$77 million investment in Phase II will include renovated kitchens in Palmetto and Maple Terrace homes. Final materials used in the upgrades may vary based on availability.*

modernizing housing with predictable, stable, long-term operating costs and performance. Corvias’ partnership with Fort Polk includes the management of more than 3,600 homes, supporting an average of 732 direct annual jobs and generating approximately \$133 million in total tax revenues for the state of Louisiana.

### About Corvias and the MHPI

Corvias is a partner to the U.S. Army as part of the U.S. Department of Defense MHPI to revitalize, operate and maintain on-base military

Family housing. MHPI has enabled renovations, new construction and water and energy-saving initiatives, including the largest solar project in Kansas at the Fort Riley military housing community, which is part of Corvias’ partnership with the Army.

In 2019, Corvias developed a \$325 million Solutions Investment for its Department of Defense portfolio to fund strategic modernization and resiliency improvements to its U.S. Army base housing infrastructure.

COURTESY BUSINESS WIRE

COURTESY BUSINESS WIRE

ANGIE THORNE/GUARDIAN



The IMESA sends automated alerts to installation law enforcement and security personnel

- Criminal history
- Debarment order — currently banned from

Vetting is vital to the safety of those who work and live on the installation. Although sometimes the vetting process may seem cumbersome and time consuming, it is an

Please see **Anti-terrorism**, page 10







### Alabama Avenue ribbon cutting

*Joint Readiness Training Center and Fort Polk leadership cut the ribbon on the north section of Alabama Avenue Aug. 5. The road is officially open to motorists. Be cautious as opening Alabama Avenue converts Georgia Avenue back to one-way traffic. Also, note road work continues with cleanup and shoulder repairs – motorists should exercise caution around work zones.*

# Anti-terrorism

Continued from page 9

important part of efforts to provide Fort Polk residents and the workforce a safe and secure environment.

Reporting Channels

- iSALUTE: <https://www.inscom.army.mil/isalute/>
- Criminal Investigation Division CRIME

TIPS: <https://www.cid.army.mil/report-a-crime.html>

- Fort Polk Directorate of Emergency Services (337) 531-2677 (911)
- LA Safe: <http://la-safe.org/mobileApp.html>

If you have questions about anti-terror-

ism awareness and iWATCH, call (337) 531-0413 / 6007 or email [mitchell.smith3.civ@army.mil](mailto:mitchell.smith3.civ@army.mil) or [adam.t.lynn.civ@army.mil](mailto:adam.t.lynn.civ@army.mil).

Remember, if you See Something ... Say Something! Report all suspicious activities to (337) 531-2677 or the Anti-terrorism Hotline at (337) 531-6584.

Vetting Visitors to Army Activities

# DETECT AND DENY



COURTESY U.S. ARMY



# Hammond relinquishes religious responsibility to Jeffries

By **CHUCK CANNON**  
Public Affairs Specialist

FORT POLK, La. — Chaplain (Col.) Scott Hammond relinquished his responsibility to Chaplain (Col.) Michael Jeffries during a “Change of Stole” ceremony held July 29 at Fort Polk’s Main Post Chapel.

The ceremony, in which the Garrison Chaplain’s Stole passed from Hammond to Jeffries, harkens as far back as Old Testament times in II Kings 2:15, when Elijah transferred his prophetic authority to Elisha, represented by the passing of a mantle.

Col. Sam Smith, Fort Polk garrison commander, who served as host of the ceremony and keynote speaker, said the Army’s Chaplain Corps, which celebrated its 247th birthday in conjunction with the ceremony, was established by the Continental Congress in 1775.

“Those who serve in the Army Chaplain Corps have always done so as non-combatants,” Smith said. “They do not carry weapons, cannot direct combat operations or service as commanders.”

Although non-combatants, Smith said chaplains have earned many awards for bravery, selfless service and valor, including the Medal of Honor. During World War II, four Army chaplains lost their lives helping service members survive a German torpedo attack on an Army transport ship. Twelve chaplains died during the Korean conflict and 13 were killed in action in Vietnam.

Smith next turned his comments to Hammond.

“The Chaplain Corps motto is ‘Pro Deo Et Patria’ – Latin for ‘God and Country,’” Smith said. “Like the motto, Chaplain Hammond has given his all so we can have the strength and spiritual fitness to be ready.”

Hammond’s accomplishments while serving as Fort Polk’s spiritual leader include:

- Developing a creative command master religious program that addresses the spiritual and religious needs of more than 34,000 Soldiers, Family members and Department of Defense civilians.
- Executing superb religious support and expertly advising the command on freedom of religion, morale and ethics as impacted by religion.

Smith next welcomed Jeffries, his spouse, Lori, and their sons, David and Zachary, who come to Fort Polk from an assignment at Fort Leavenworth, Kansas.

“The senior commander, Brig. Gen. (David) Gardner and I are confident that Chaplain Jeffries is the right chaplain to follow Chaplain Hammond and will be the spiritual leader for all of our Soldiers, Families and civilians at JRTC and Fort Polk,” Smith said.

Next to speak was Hammond, who thanked



*Col. Sam Smith, Fort Polk garrison commander, (center) passes the stole from Chaplain (Col.) Scott Hammond (left) to Chaplain (Col.) Michael Jeffries during a Change of Stole ceremony held at Fort Polk’s Main Post Chapel July 29.*

CHUCK CANNON/ GUARDIAN

those who supported him and his Family during their tenure at Fort Polk.

“Like a change of command, this ceremony represents something much larger than two individual chaplains standing on this platform,” Hammond said. “It shows the value the military places on our chaplains, religious affairs specialists and the Chaplain Corps. It also acknowledges God’s sovereignty over our nation, military and each of us as individuals.”

Hammond likened the stole that he passed to Jeffries as symbolic of the towel that Christ used to wash the disciples’ feet in John 13, when the sovereign became the servant.

“True greatness and happiness is found in the heart of a servant,” Hammond said. “Christ did not focus on Himself, but on others. He saw a need and took care of it, when no one else wanted to, without being asked. He led by example.”

When it was Jeffries turn to speak, he thanked Fort Polk leadership for the opportunity to serve at the Home of Heroes.

“I believe this is a divine calling and look forward to what God will do in our midst while we are here together,” Jeffries said. “I will give my best for this community to honor you as my co-laborers, loyalty to Brig. Gen. Gardner and Col. Smith, and love for the Soldier, Families and civilians of Fort Polk.”

Following the ceremony, a reception was held at the Main Post Chapel in honor of the 247th birthday of the Chaplain Corps, complete with a catered meal and birthday cake.



*After receiving the stole, Chaplain (Col.) Michael Jeffries speaks to those attending the Change of Stole ceremony held at Fort Polk’s Main Post Chapel July 29.*



*After the Change of Stole ceremony, those in attendance celebrated the 247th birthday of the Chaplain Corps. Chaplain (Col.) Scott Hammond served slices of the birthday cake at the reception July 29.*



# Homegrown Family-based program takes root at Fort Polk

By **ANGIE THORNE**  
Public Affairs Officer

FORT POLK, La. — When it comes to programs for children, there can be a uniformity that doesn't always take into consideration the distinctive needs of a Family dynamic, not to mention a military-specific lifestyle.

The idea for a new program combining those features grew from the fact raising children in the military can be different, what some of those differences look like and how they impact children and parents.

"We (chapel staff and parents) started a conversation a few months ago, and from those discussions came the idea for a program called Parents of Little Kids at Polk or P.O.L.K. @ Polk," Chrissa Gross, Fort Polk's Main Post Chapel religious education director, said.

The P.O.L.K. @ Polk leadership team was formed and began building a free, grassroots program that is military and Polk-centric.

The program has three goals:

1. Provide spiritual relevance with a Christian foundation.
2. Provide military relevance by focusing on military-specific conversations and topics.
3. Provide military parents with tools to help them learn to improve their situation at home.

The discussion began with a list of all of the things that are distinct about military life.

"Once we are in it (the military lifestyle), we don't even realize the difference because it becomes normal to us. We just automatically do it — it's like autopilot," Gross said.

One example of things parents outside the military might not have to deal with is single-handedly traveling long distances.

"It's really common for a spouse to load up a truck and move long distances by themselves. It's something that probably every military spouse has done at least once and will probably do again," Gross said. "People who aren't in the military don't regularly pile everything they own and their children in a vehicle and drive across the country alone."

Having conversations about how military Families lives are different, and how they can celebrate those differences and build community around the military is what the P.O.L.K. @ Polk program is about.

"We want to offer people something different," Gross said. "The program is open to any parent with a child under 5 years old and is Christian based, though not overtly religious. What really ties everyone together is the military. If it weren't for that, we wouldn't be here."

The P.O.L.K. @ Polk leadership team has designed things to include the entire Family.

Some meetings will be held on weekdays, but the team will also be implementing evening meetings, so both parents can attend.

"We plan to have four meetings per month," Gross said.



*Parents and children attend Fort Polk's Main Post Chapel playdate July 14 to have fun and mingle with other military Families.*



*Ellie Markee, 2, drives her car at the July 14 playdate held at Fort Polk's Main Post Chapel.*

- The first meeting is called the village meeting and will introduce the topic for the month. It sets the stage for the meetings and activities that follow.

- The second meeting will be a playdate for Families. Everyone is invited.

- The third meeting is about being social. In September, participants will play a "Family Feud" game with military topics.

- The last meeting is a date night for parents. "It's been rewarding for the leadership team to think about these things and customize the program to our community," Gross said.

The Sept. 8 meeting discussion topic is separation in the military due to temporary duty, deployment or training in the "box" (the train-

ing area at Fort Polk).

"We plan to talk about the cycle of emotions that comes along with that separation, not just for couples, but also for their kids," Gross said. "We will incorporate some scripture and give them spiritual tools."

The leadership team is made up of women who know the military lifestyle — they live it as spouses and some have grown up with it as kids.

"They have a unique perspective and are making this curriculum with military parents in mind," Gross said. "It's been a beautiful thing, almost therapeutic, to sit and hash out

Please see **Homegrown**, page 13



# Homegrown

Continued from page 12

upcoming topics.”

Currently, the Main Post Chapel is hosting summer playdates to invite Families to stop by and have some fun before the program launches. The next playdate is Aug. 27.

“We put the bouncy houses up and fill wading pools at the chapel and have some fun,” Gross said. “Parents can come here and just be who they are. There is no test they have to take to walk through our doors. We want people to know they are welcome. Whether it’s the playdates or P.O.L.K. @ Polk, this is their chapel and they’re part of this community. People are looking for a safe place to belong. We want to offer it to them,” Gross said.

Rachel Markee, spouse and P.O.L.K. @ Polk leadership team co-coordinator, said she is excited about the new program.

“Raising kids in the military is hard. We are usually far away from our family and normal support systems. I think Polk @ Polk is the perfect way for Families to find their tribe at Fort Polk,” Markee said.

The program isn’t just about dependents.

“The fact that we hold one of the meetings at night provides an opportunity for Soldiers, spouses and single parents that have to work during the day to take part in the program,” Markee said. “My spouse has friends at work, but he loves being a dad. It can be hard for him to find friends that are Family oriented. P.O.L.K. @ Polk is a great opportunity for him to do that, not to mention he gets to spend quality time with our Family.”

Tara Reece attended a Main Post Chapel playdate event July 14 and said she is looking forward to taking part in the new program.

“I think it’s beneficial and will help create a community. It’s an additional resource because being a member of the military can be lonely,” she said. “I hope people come and join us. It sounds great.”

The September P.O.L.K. @ Polk meeting scheduled is Sept. 8, 15 and 22 from 9:30-11:30 a.m. and Sept. 29 from 5:30-7:30 p.m. at the Main Post Chapel.



Everly Reece, 1, lets mom, Tara, help her drive around at the Main Post Chapel playdate.

## CYS Youth Sports GYMNASTICS

**CLASSES AVAILABLE FOR EACH AGE GROUP!**

- Parent & Child: \$30/month (12 mo-3 yrs)
- Preschool: \$40/month (3-5 yrs)
- School Age: \$50/month (6-9 yrs)
- School Age: \$60/month (10 yrs & older)

Classes meet once a week with multiple times/dates available  
Visit CYS Registration Office to complete registration form

Youth Gym, BLDG 2070  
Call 337-531-6004 for more information

Youth must be registered with CYS and have current health assessment



Kenny Paxson, 3, slides down the inflatable slide head first at the playdate held July 14.



Little girls play in a tiny house at Fort Polk’s Main Post Chapel playdate July 14.



# Briefs

## Marriage class

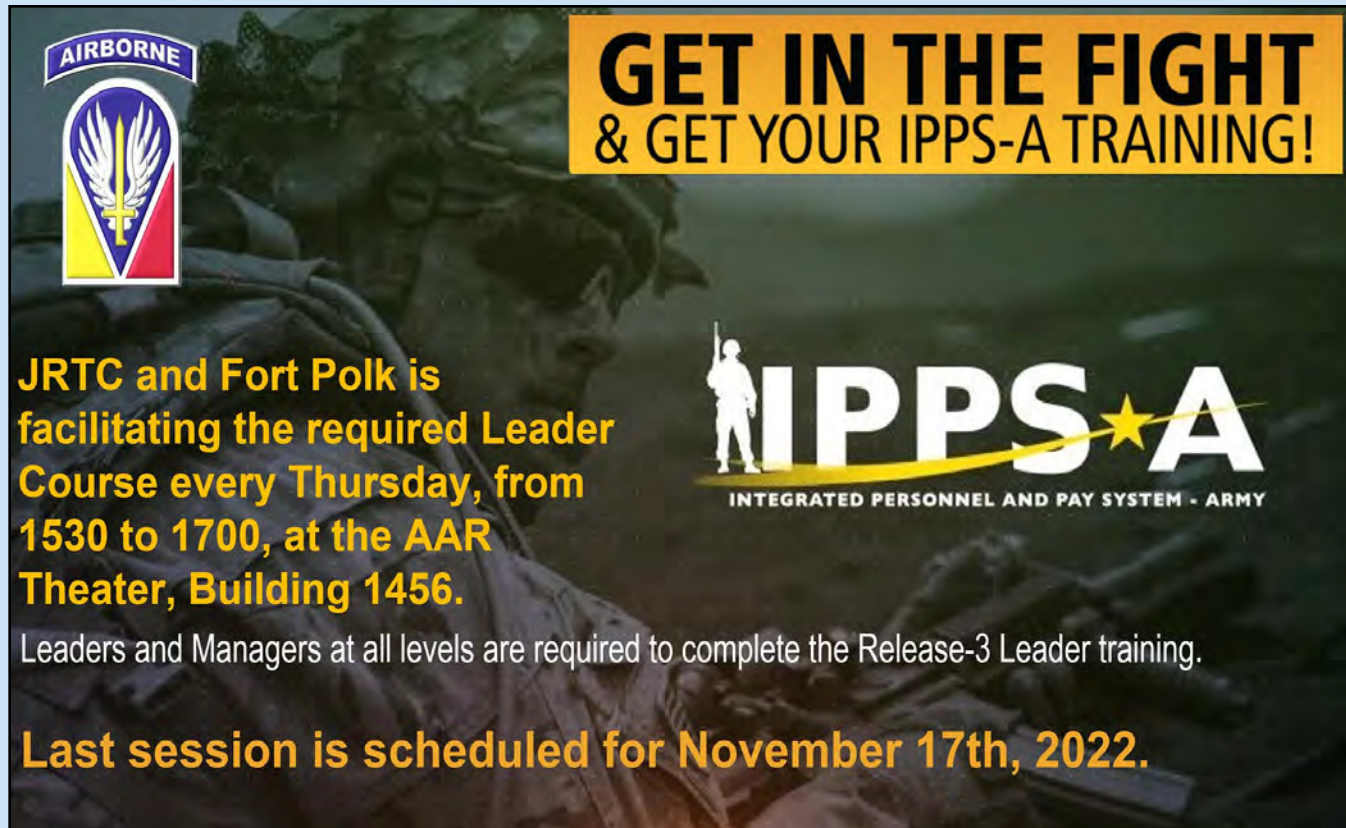
Fort Polk's Army Community Service, 1591 Bell Richard Ave., building 920, hosts the Seven Principles for Making Marriage Work Aug. 19 at 6 p.m. The principles teach partners new approaches for resolving conflicts, creating new common ground and achieving greater levels of intimacy. To register call (337) 531-1938/0636. Earn parent participation points with Child and Youth Services for attending the seminar.

## Anger management

Fort Polk Army Community Service, 1591 Bell Richard Ave., building 920, hosts an anger, stress and crisis management class. The class helps people learn to identify triggers and potential stressors, along with positive methods of coping. The next class is held from 11 a.m.-noon Aug. 29. If you are interested, call (337) 531-0636/1938.

## Career classes

Fort Polk Army Community Service, 1591 Bell Richard Ave., building 920, hosts the Stars Are Lined Up For Military Spouses For Federal Careers classes. Class dates are Sept. 20, Oct. 4, Nov. 1 and Dec. 6. The class is from 10-11:30 a.m. If you are interested, call (337) 531-6922 to register.



**GET IN THE FIGHT  
& GET YOUR IPPS-A TRAINING!**

**JRTC and Fort Polk is facilitating the required Leader Course every Thursday, from 1530 to 1700, at the AAR Theater, Building 1456.**

Leaders and Managers at all levels are required to complete the Release-3 Leader training.

**Last session is scheduled for November 17th, 2022.**

**IPPS-A**  
INTEGRATED PERSONNEL AND PAY SYSTEM - ARMY

## Leesville church anniversary

The Mount Olive Baptist Church, 808 Anacoco St., Leesville, is scheduled to host its 111th church anniversary Sept. 11 at 3 p.m. The guest speaker is Rev. Roger Green, Mount Zion Baptist

Church, Alexandria. For more information call (337) 239-3933. All are welcome to attend. Also, the church is seeking a keyboard or organist to play at church services. For more information call (318) 550-7969.

# #FortPolkThingsToDo

**Aug. 25-28:** Gueydan Duck Festival, Gueydan. After being named the 'Duck Capitol Of America' in 1977, Gueydan, Louisiana began hosting a fun filled weekend celebrating its hunting heritage. Activities include carnival rides, music, skeet shooting, cooking contest, dog trials and more. If you love to hunt, be sure to mark your calendar to attend.

<https://www.duckfestival.org/index.html>

**Aug. 27-28:** Louisiana Soulfood Fall Festival, Shreveport. The Festival is a celebration focusing on three days of southern cuisine, live music, a vendor's village, judged soul food cooking competitions, numerous awards for culinary excellence, various contests and safe fun for all ages.

<https://louisianasoulfoodfallfestival.com>

**Sept. 1:** Louisiana Shrimp and Petroleum Festival, Morgan City. The event is the oldest chartered harvest festival in Louisiana honoring the two industries that built the area. Activities include an arts and crafts show, live music, children's activities, carnival, a blessing of the fleet, street parade, 5K run/walk, fireworks, car show, art show, an outdoor Mass and plenty of food. This event is free.

<https://www.shrimppandpetroleum.org/events-info>

**Sept. 15-Nov. 15:** Frogmore Plantation picking and ginning, Frogmore. Experience the cotton harvest as you drag a sack through

the fields or watch your guide demonstrate the art of picking cotton. Call (318) 757-2453 for times and dates to verify the modern gin operation.

<https://www.frogmoreplantation.com>

**Sept. 16-17:** Le Tour De Bayou, Alexandria.

Take part in the multilevel event for cycling, running and family fun. Run or ride beautiful scenic byways and party on the bayou. All rides are led and followed by assistance vehicles and there are plenty of stops along the routes. After the rides, enjoy live entertainment, food, fun and southern hospitality. Registration is open now to take part in this fun event.

<https://www.bikereg.com/le-tour-de-bayou>

**Anytime:** Louisiana Art and Science Museum, Baton Rouge. The museum has both rotating and permanent exhibitions for every interest, including ancient Egypt and the solar system. A highlight is the OmniGlobe. Using the touchscreen on the kiosk, visitors can explore over 200 images and animations related to atmospheric science, ocean science, geophysical science, cosmology, heliophysics and more. Stop by the Irene W. Pennington Planetarium, which houses a 60-foot domed theater that presents digital movies and sky shows.

<http://www.lasm.org/>





# BOSS BEACH Bash



**August 19 | 9am to 4pm**

Toledo Bend Army Recreation Park

**Free food, kayaking, boat rides, fishing, dunk tank, games and more!**

Shuttle services will be provided from Home of Heroes Rec Center

Single Soldiers Only | 337-531-1948

HOME OF HEROES SOLDIER RECREATION PRESENTS



**Every 3rd  
Wednesday**

at Home of Heroes Soldier  
Rec Center  
from 6PM to 9PM

**FREE**

**Chocolate Chip Cookies &  
Vanilla and Chocolate Milk  
Shakes**

*1st come, 1st served  
(as long as they last)*

*for single soldiers only*



Canvas or Digital Art/Photography in poster  
format framed to be housed in  
**Home of Heroes Rec Center**

Elite judging panel will determine 1st, 2nd,  
and 3rd place winners

**Submissions open August 1 at 11 AM**

**Art Gallery/Showing/Judging will be held  
August 27 at Home of Heroes Recreation  
Center**

Winning Art Work will be housed in Home of Heroes, all  
other art work can be "bought" with a canned goods  
donation for charity

337-531-5540



# BOSS LEMON LOT

Have any used or new vehicles you want to sell?  
We take RVs, motorcycles, trucks, vans or cars!  
You set your price -- all you need to do is sign  
up!

Come over to Home of Heroes Recreation Center  
and, for just \$10, you can post your vehicle in  
the Lemon Lot for 30 days

*The Lemon Lot is located on  
the left coming in from the  
main entrance to the PX  
parking lot*



337-531-1948



# Recognize, celebrate significance of Women's Equality Day

## PUBLIC AFFAIRS OFFICE

FORT POLK, La. — Though the right to vote is part of the foundation of democracy, women weren't always allowed that privilege.

They began to fight for their political rights and representation in the 19th century.

The Women's Suffrage movement was the first step in a long and arduous struggle, filled with sacrifice and discrimination, for equality, better treatment and the right to vote.

Suffragettes never gave up and thanks to their efforts women's participation in the politics governing their city, state and federal government are now a normal part of the voting process.

Aug. 26 is the 102nd anniversary of the 19th Amendment, which passed in 1920, securing the constitutional right to vote for women in the United States.

In 1973, Congress recognized this historic date by declaring it Women's Equality Day.

It's a day that celebrates women being able to pull the lever, press the button or punch the card to record their point of view on everything from laws and taxes to representation.

That choice can be life-changing, which is

why commemorating Women's Equality Day shouldn't be forgotten.

April Evans, Fort Polk Equal Employment office manager, said the movement enabled women to choose the course of their careers, whether that meant serving in the military or holding positions that once fell under the domain of 'men only.'

"For example, Christine Wormuth is the first woman to serve as the Secretary of the Army," Evans said. "Woman have and will continue to walk over bridges, march arm in arm and work side by side to focus attention on gaining full equality," Evans said.

Evans asked people to consider the women in their lives.

"On August 26th honor that woman, whether it's someone from the past or in your life today," Evans said.

The annual commemoration focuses on the fact giving women the right to vote led to them being significant contributors to every sector of society.

Their resolve, innovation, leadership, passion and compassion have changed the world and continues to inspire future generations of women to do the same.



## Submit workplace improvement ideas to Garrison Innovation Program

By **ANGIE THORNE**  
Public Affairs Specialist

FORT POLK, La. — Fort Polk's Garrison Innovation Program, which falls under the umbrella of the Plans, Analysis and Integration Office, gathers suggestions from across the Fort Polk community through the Interactive Customer Evaluation system.

Though ICE is used as a place to monitor the pulse of good customer service, it has also been designated the virtual suggestion box for people who have a good idea to help Fort Polk exceed expectations.

"Feedback and suggestions from employees and customers are critical to ensure excellence, but we are also looking for ways to improve or perform more efficiently," said Kayla Moore, PAIO chief. "By establishing the Garrison Innovation Program, we have created an opportunity for everyone to have their voices heard. We know there are a lot of great ideas out there, and often times an individual doesn't know who to talk to. The program is the answer to this question."

The garrison team is listening and taking action on many of the ideas already submitted through the program.

Once an idea has been suggested, it is brought before a panel with representatives from a wide range of organizations and directorates on the installation. Suggestions are discussed and the validity of the ideas are weighed. If the idea isn't feasible, it is recommended for clo-

sure, but if it is deemed to have merit, the idea moves forward for additional consideration and research. After further review, an idea may still be unachievable. However, suggestions that make it through the process move on to a positive completion.

"When the panel convenes, it's exciting to see us brainstorm ways to execute these ideas we individually may have thought were impossible. This panel does not shut down a suggestion and simply state resourcing is not available, or no one will use it. We look for innovative methods to bring a suggestion to action," Moore said.

The following suggestions ended with successful results.

**Suggestion:** Hire qualified librarians at Fort Polk's Allen Memorial Library.

**Result:** Two new qualified staff members have been hired.

**Suggestion:** Host an installation-wide garage sale.

**Result:** The first installation-wide garage sale was held May 21. There were 19 participants with more than 100 people from the Fort Polk community in attendance. The event received great feedback and will now be an annual event.

**Suggestion:** Sponsor speech and debate teams.

**Result:** A meeting was held May 18 to determine enthusiasm for the potential program. The turnout included 12 interested middle school youths. The students were mostly from

Pickering High School. Tiffany Koch, Fort Polk School Liaison, plans to host another meeting/mock debate. Progress is ongoing.

**Suggestion:** Add picnic tables in front of the Main Post Exchange

**Result:** AAFES has ordered outdoor tables for their main store. They are expected to arrive soon.

Laversa Wiltz, PAIO management and program analyst, said the program has seen some great ideas since its implementation in November 2020.

However, PAIO would also like to motivate employees to make specific suggestions about improving the efficiency, professionalism, speed and accuracy of the processes within the bounds of the workplace.

"Have you ever gone into an organization, including your own, and had an idea about implementing a process that would make the office or organization run better? If so, we would like to hear about it," Wiltz said.

If you have a good idea, don't let it go to waste. Submit your ideas through the Interactive Customer Evaluation system at [ice.disa.mil](https://ice.disa.mil) or use the QR code.







## Army partnership award presentation

*The Army Partnership award presentation took place at the Vernon Parish School Board meeting Aug. 4. The award was presented to both the Joint Readiness Training Center and Fort Polk and Vernon Parish School Board. The award highlights the cooperation between Fort Polk command and school board members and celebrates their partnership in their continued support of quality of life and education enhancement initiatives. Col. Sam Smith, Fort Polk garrison commander (left) and Vernon Parish School Board superintendent hold the award.*

## SCHOOL BUS SAFETY

### Stop for school buses:

*Students returning to in-person learning may rely on school buses to get them to and from school safely.*

### If you are driving, remember these rules:

- Yellow flashing lights on a school bus mean slow down — don't speed up — because the bus is preparing to stop. There are likely students waiting to get on the bus or parents waiting nearby to pick up children.
- Red flashing lights mean stop — and wait at least 20 feet behind the bus — because children are getting on or off the school bus. Stay stopped until the red lights stop flashing, the extended stop-arm is withdrawn and the bus begins moving.
- Even when lights aren't flashing, watch for children, particularly in the morning or mid-afternoon, around school arrival and dismissal times. Be alert as you back out of a driveway, or drive through a neighborhood, school zone or bus stop.

### Parents — talk bus safety with your children:

*Your child should arrive at the bus stop at least 5 minutes before the bus is scheduled to arrive. Teach them to play it SAFE:*

- Stay five steps away from the curb.
- Always wait until the bus comes to a complete stop and the bus driver signals for you to board.
- Face forward after finding a seat on the bus.
- Exit the bus after it stops and look left-right-left for cars before crossing a street.

*To learn more visit <https://www.nhtsa.gov/school-bus-safety/keeping-children-safe>*





ARMY COMMUNITY SERVICE

# HIRING EVENT

**AUGUST 31 @ 10AM**

**ACS BLDG 920**  
1591 Bell Richard Ave.

Need more info? Contact  
Employment Readiness  
at

**337-531-6922**



## BUDGETING BASICS AND KEY ESSENTIAL FINANCIAL KNOWLEDGE

Offered on the 1st and 3rd  
Wednesday of every month

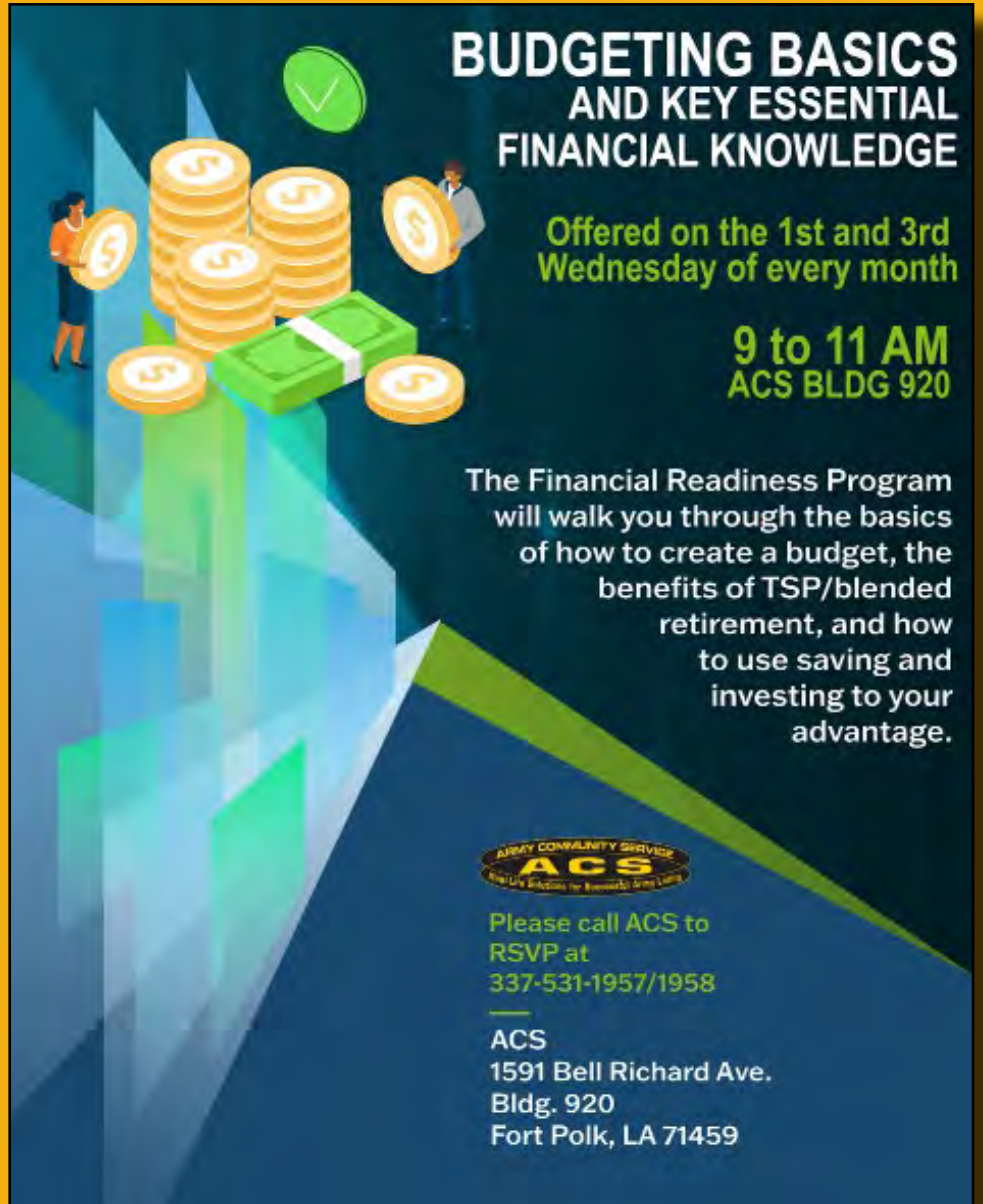
**9 to 11 AM**  
ACS BLDG 920

The Financial Readiness Program  
will walk you through the basics  
of how to create a budget, the  
benefits of TSP/blended  
retirement, and how  
to use saving and  
investing to your  
advantage.



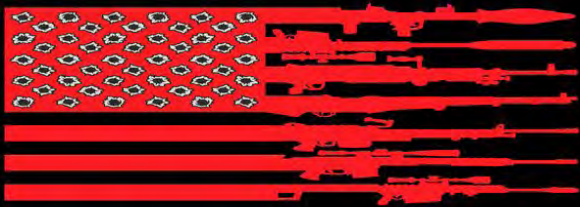
Please call ACS to  
RSVP at  
337-531-1957/1958

ACS  
1591 Bell Richard Ave.  
Bldg. 920  
Fort Polk, LA 71459



COMMANDING  
GENERAL'S

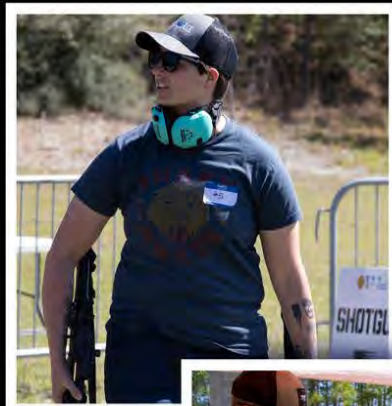
# 3 GUN SHOOT



**AUGUST 20**

at the MWR  
Shooting Complex

**8:30 AM**



## CATEGORIES INDIVIDUAL

### SUGGESTED ROUND COUNT

RIFLE - 50

SHOTGUN - 24

PISTOL - 60

### COST

PRE-REGISTRATION

\$30 (PER SHOOTER)

DAY OF EVENT

\$45 (PER SHOOTER)

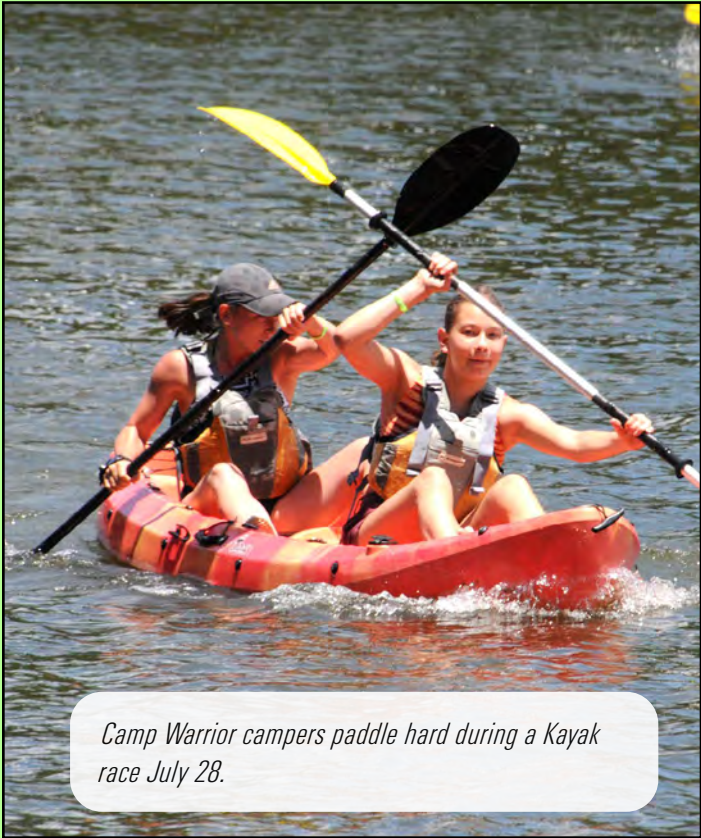
**PLAQUES AWARDED TO  
1ST, 2ND & 3RD**

LINK TO REGISTRATION  
FORM CAN BE FOUND  
IN DESCRIPTION OR ON  
**POLK.ARMYMWR.COM**

**(337) 531-7552**



# Fort Polk leadership visits Camp Warrior, connects with campers



*Camp Warrior campers paddle hard during a Kayak race July 28.*



*Camp Warrior campers huddle inside a structure they made as part of wilderness survival training July 28.*



*Col. Sam Smith, Fort Polk garrison commander, high-fives a camper for a job well done while kayaking July 28 at Camp Warrior.*



*Col. Sam Smith, Fort Polk garrison commander, (center) and garrison Command Sgt. Maj. Stephen Nielson (left), tour the cabins at Camp Warrior with John Stromberg, Youth Sports and Fitness director.*



*Fort Polk garrison Command Sgt. Maj. Stephen Nielson (left), and Col. Sam Smith, garrison commander (second from left), speak with campers during a visit to Camp Warrior July 28.*



*Lunch time for campers.*



*Camp Warrior campers play with their food July 28.*





## Soldiers punished, separated for UCMJ violations

### OSJA

FORT POLK, La. — The preamble to the Manual for Courts-Martial states, “The purpose of military law is to promote justice, to assist in maintaining good order and discipline in the armed forces, to promote efficiency and effectiveness in the military establishment, and thereby strengthen the national security of the United States.”

At the Joint Readiness Training Center and Fort Polk, the commanding general and subordinate commanders take good order and discipline seriously.

Across Fort Polk, the following disciplinary issues continue to be prevalent: Driving under the influence of alcohol, wrongful use/possession of controlled substances, fraternization, sexual assault and underage drinking.

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

- A Soldier assigned to 115th Field Hospital received a permanently filed general officer memorandum of reprimand for driving while under the influence of alcohol.

- A private first class assigned to 1st Battalion, 509th Infantry Regiment received a permanently filed GOMOR for domestic violence.

- A sergeant first class assigned to Special Operations Training Detachment received a permanently filed GOMOR for driving while under the influence of alcohol.

- A sergeant first class assigned to Joint Readiness Training Center Operations Group received a permanently filed GOMOR for abusive sexual contact.

- A specialist assigned to 519th Military Police Battalion was separated from the Army with an other than honorable conditions discharge for soliciting a minor. An OTH dis-

charge may result in a loss of most benefits and could cause significant difficulty obtaining civilian employment.

- A sergeant first class assigned to 5th Battalion, 25th Field Artillery Regiment was separated from the Army with a general discharge for domestic violence. A general discharge may result in a loss of benefits and could cause difficulty obtaining civilian employment.

- A private assigned to 2nd Battalion, 2nd Infantry Regiment was separated from the Army in lieu of a court-martial with an OTH discharge for wrongfully distributing sexually explicit images of another Soldier without their consent, and violating the Army’s Equal Opportunity policy.



FOLLOW JRTC AND FORT POLK  
ON FACEBOOK, INSTAGRAM AND  
TWITTER

# GET CONNECTED

▼

Facebook: @JRTCandFortPolk  
Instagram: jrtc\_and\_fort\_polk  
Twitter: @JRTCandFortPolk

## Check VIN numbers

The Directorate of Emergency Services Traffic Division will release the following vehicles to Family Morale, Welfare and Recreation for disposal, if they remain unclaimed. Vehicles are listed with the last four of their VIN number. If one of these vehicles belongs to you, please contact the Fort Polk Police Traffic Division at (337) 531-1806, 6675 or 2677.

1988	Chevrolet	3500	4195
2011	Dodge	Avenger	1373
2014	Nissan	Altima	6092
2016	Kia	Reo	5808
2008	Ford	Explorer	3754
2001	Volvo	S 40	1073
2007	Acura	RDX Turbo	1092
1995	Chevrolet	Caprice	3876
2008	Chevrolet	1500	0226
2008	Ford	Edge	1971
2017	Nissan	Versa	1496
2008	Saturn	Aura XE	3244
2004	Chevrolet	Trail Blazer	8828
2003	Toyota	Tacoma	7528
2010	Nissan	Altima	6499
2005	Ford	Explorer	4483
2012	Chevrolet	Malibu	1689
2016	Chevrolet	Malibu	5420
2002	Dodge	1500	7497
2006	Ford	F150	6507
2015	Ford	Escape	8502
2004	Infinity	Q35	8469
2012	Kia	Optima	1405
2011	Nissan	Sentra	4417
2009	Honda	Civic	3562
UNK	Baja Warrior	Mini bike	UNK
1997	Dodge	1500	3720
2012	Dodge	Avenger	0247
2016	Jeep	Cherokee	7670
2006	Ford	Focus	5525
2020	Kia	Sorento	5641
2018	Toyota	Corolla	9110
2000	Dodge	Durango	1293
2012	Chevrolet	Malibu	7822
2004	Chevrolet	1500	1742
2008	Mitsubishi	Galant	1159
2013	Dodge	Dart	1997
2015	Kia	Cadenza	1160
2003	Honda	Accord	6673

