



FORGING THE WARRIOR SPIRIT

The JRTC and Fort Polk Guardian

Vol. 48, No. 27

Home of Heroes @ Fort Polk, LA

July 9, 2021



CHUCK CANNON/GUARDIAN

EDRE loads up

Elements from the 3rd Brigade Combat Team, 10th Mountain Division, and U.S. Air Force load Deployment Readiness Exercise at Alexandria International Airport July 6. The exercise practices the ability to move troops and equipment on short notice. See more pictures on page 5.

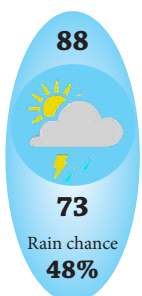
Weekend weather



Friday



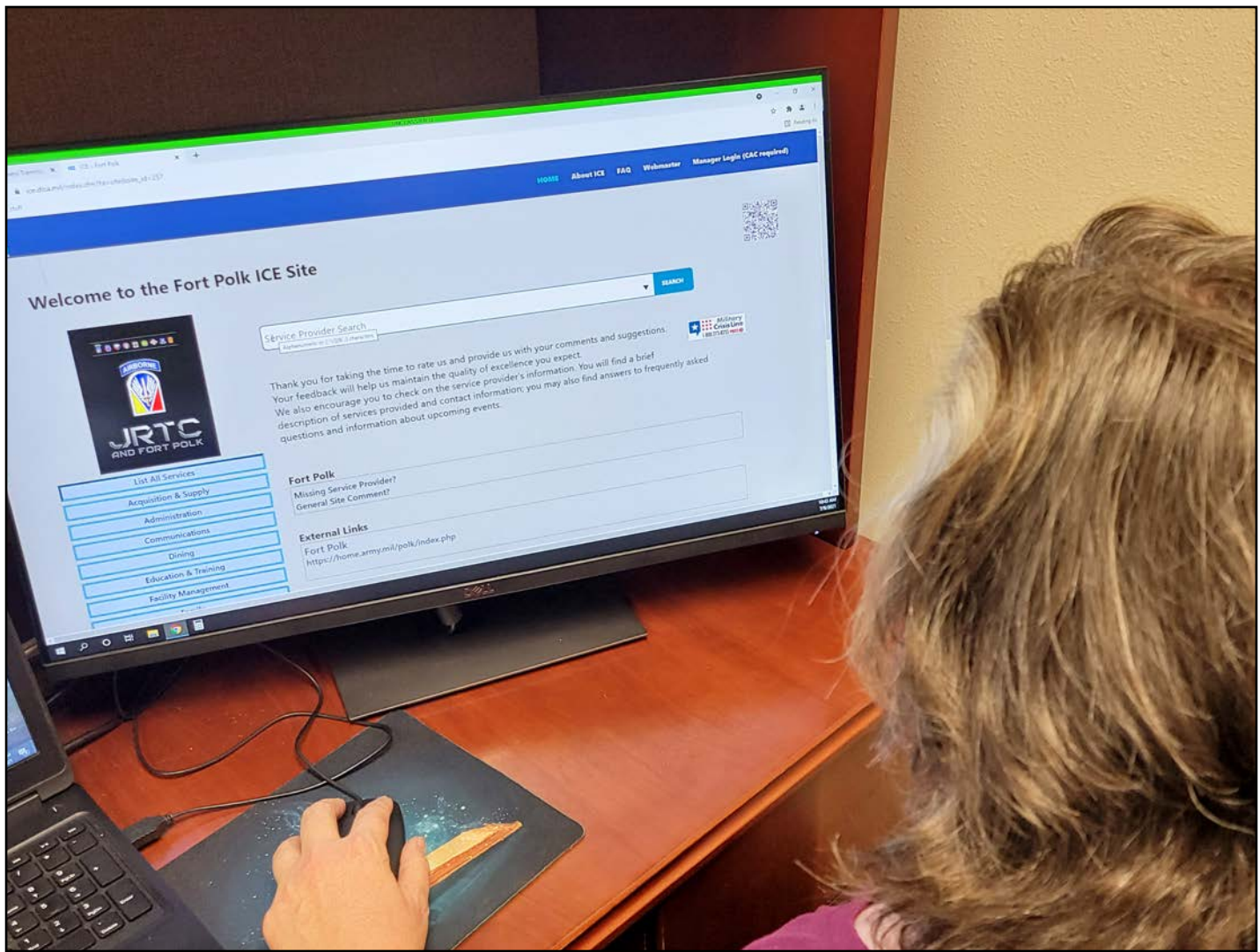
Saturday



Sunday

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Say it with “ICE”: Provide important feedback

PAIO

FORT POLK, La. — Want to give kudos or comments about a service provided at Fort Polk?

Then say it through the Interactive Customer Evaluation — “ICE.”

The Installation Management Command Fort Polk ICE program provides customer feedback on IMCOM provided services, as well as Fort Polk partners: Bayne Jones Army Community Hospital, Dental Activity, Veterinary Services, Army and Air Force Exchange Service and the Logistics Readiness Center.

ICE is the tool to tell IMCOM and Fort Polk leaders how well (or poorly) they are performing while taking care of the installations’ customers. The feedback lets leaders know what they are doing well, and where they need to improve.

When submitting your ICE comments, it’s important that you answer the satisfaction question: Were you satisfied with your overall experience? On the ICE comment card please select yes or no.

Fort Polk’s ICE comments are taken seriously. Whether or not you ask for follow-up, or leave an anonymous comment, all comments are read, reviewed and followed-up on.

Remember, ICE is not intended for internal employment complaints, requesting employment or promotion, soliciting business, spreading rumors, making public announcements, distributing SPAM, or communicating a threat.

You can use the ICE webpage on desktop or mobile devices at this link: <https://ice.disa.mil/>. Simply type Fort Polk into the search bar on the homepage. This will bring you to the Fort Polk ICE. You can use the service provider search, or the menu on the left side to find the service provider. The site contact information at the bottom of the page is the desk phone number for your local ICE manager. Feel free to reach out anytime.

You may also scan this QR code with a smart phone, and it will take you directly to Fort Polk’s ICE site.



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JRTCandFortPolk/. Guardian

archives can also be found on the JRTC and Fort Polk website.

Links to the Guardian are also included in all-users emails to government email users and by request to non-military units. To be

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For more information on Fort

Polk units and happenings visit

the following Facebook pages:

@JRTCOperationsGrp, @

BayneJonesACH or **@fortpolkmwr**.

Briefs

Abandoned vehicles

The Directorate of Emergency Services Traffic section releases the following vehicles to a towing company for disposal on Aug. 30 if they remain unclaimed.

Vehicles are listed with the last four numbers of their VIN number.

2000	Audi	A4	7545
1994	Ford	Ranger	7582
2011	BMW	328I	7142
2005	Mazda	RX8	0655
2000	GMC	Sierra	5456
2012	Ford	F-150	6589
2002	Mitsubishi	Montero	9774
2007	Cadillac	CTS	8777
2010	Mini	Cooper S	1729
2002	Honda	Shadow	2420
2003	SAAB	93	3023
2002	Ford	Taurus	7521
2003	Mitsubishi	Lancer	3693

If one of these vehicles belongs to you contact the Fort Polk Police Traffic Section at 531.1806 / 6675 / 2677.

Get physicals

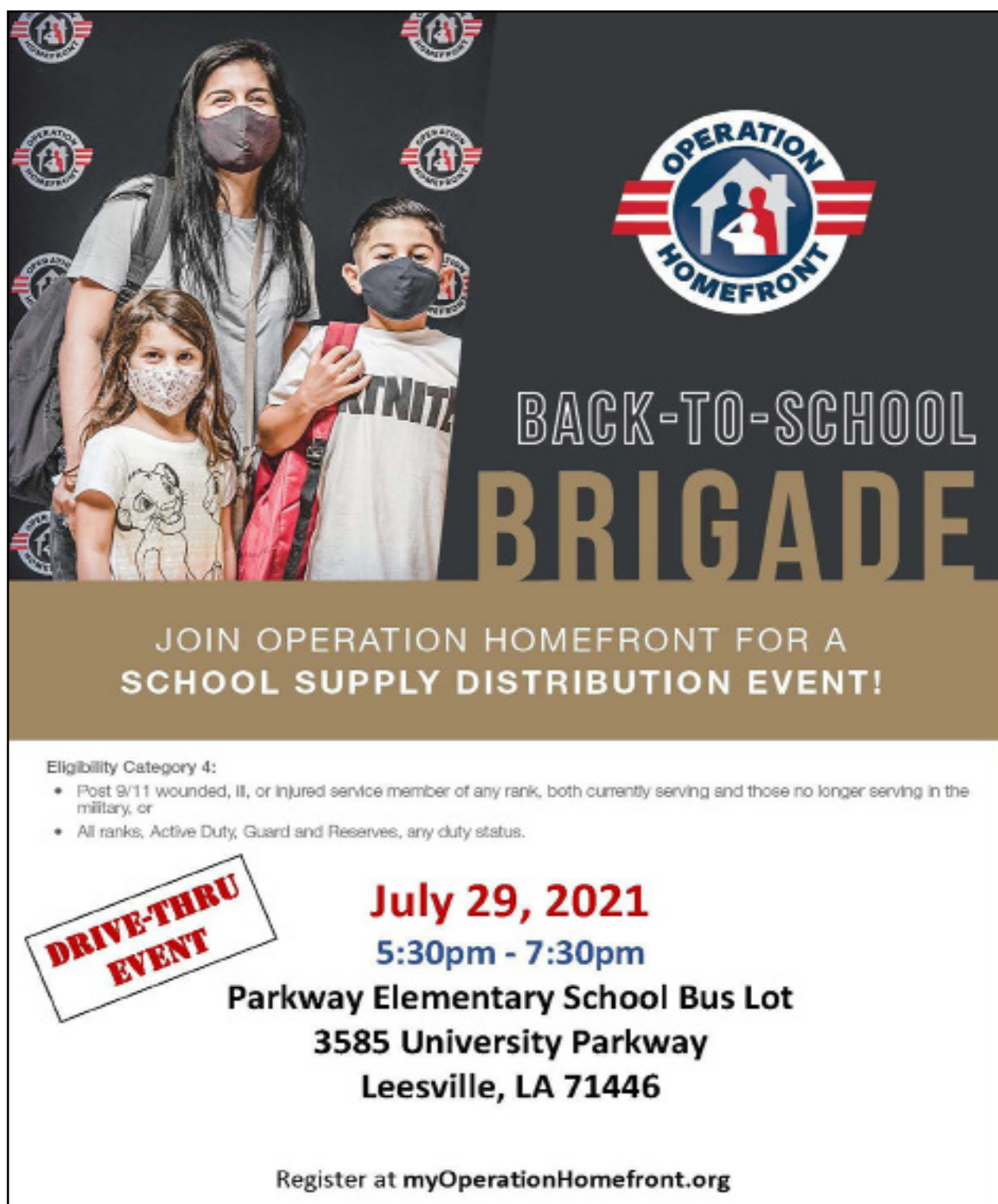
Bayne-Jones Army Community Hospital has set dates for Child and Youth Services, school and sport physicals. Call BJACH at 531.3011 to schedule an appointment July 13, 20 or 27 from 4-5:30 p.m., Aug. 7 from 8 a.m.-noon or Aug. 24 or 31 from 4-5:30 p.m.

Vaccine appointments

Safeguarding national security and the medical readiness of Soldiers is a priority for Bayne-Jones Army Community Hospital. Everyone is encouraged to get vaccinated against COVID-19.

Non-TRICARE beneficiaries (civilian employees and contractors) who work on the installation can make an appointment with the Fort Polk Department of Public Health by calling the Occupational Health Clinic at 337.531.6131 / 2706. Soldiers, Family members, retirees and beneficiaries, 18 and older interested in volunteer-

Please see **Briefs**, page 9



OPERATION HOMEFRONT

BACK-TO-SCHOOL BRIGADE

JOIN OPERATION HOMEFRONT FOR A SCHOOL SUPPLY DISTRIBUTION EVENT!

Eligibility Category 4:

- Post 9/11 wounded, ill, or injured service member of any rank, both currently serving and those no longer serving in the military, or
- All ranks, Active Duty, Guard and Reserves, any duty status.

DRIVE-THRU EVENT

July 29, 2021
5:30pm - 7:30pm

Parkway Elementary School Bus Lot
3585 University Parkway
Leesville, LA 71446

Register at myOperationHomefront.org

Operation Homefront provides school supplies to kids

By **ANGIE THORNE**
 Public Affairs and Communication

FORT POLK, La. — It may be mid-summer, but parents are already looking ahead to the first day of school and all the necessary supplies needed for their children to succeed.

Thankfully, Operation Homefront is there to help the Soldiers and Families of Fort Polk with its annual Back-To-School Brigade held July 29 from 5:30-7:30 p.m. at Parkway Elementary School bus lot, 3585 University Parkway, Leesville.

Operation Homefront is a national 501(c)(3) nonprofit whose mission is to build strong, stable and secure military Families so they can thrive — not simply struggle to get by — in the communities they have worked so hard to protect, according to <https://operationhomefront.org>.

This year's brigade distribution, like last year's, is a drive-thru event to help maintain COVID-19 safety measures.

Tiffany Koch, Fort Polk's school liaison officer, said Fort Polk is fortunate to have Operation Homefront at the forefront of

Please see **School**, page 9

DoD demonstrates mobile microgrid technology

By DAVID VERGUN
DoD news

WASHINGTON — The Office of the Undersecretary of Defense for Research and Engineering and the Department of the Army recently demonstrated a mobile, fast-forming, secure and intelligent vehicle-centric microgrid prototype that will power next-generation warfighting capabilities and joint warfighting concepts.

Integrating power generation directly onto tactical vehicle platforms, VCMs are designed to provide on-the-move power for next-generation warfighting capabilities, such as directed energy and missile defense systems. VCMs also support a rapidly forming and resilient microgrid capability that will power future command, control, communications, computers and intelligence systems.

Frank Bohn and Dean McGrew, the project leads for the Army Futures Command, Army Combat Capabilities Development Command Control, Communications, Computers, Cyber, Intelligence Surveillance and Reconnaissance Center and the Ground Vehicle Systems Center, highlighted some features of the VCM.

"Generating 100 kilowatts per vehicle and capable of supporting both static and on-the-move operations, VCMs enhance our lethality and survivability in contested environments," McGrew said.

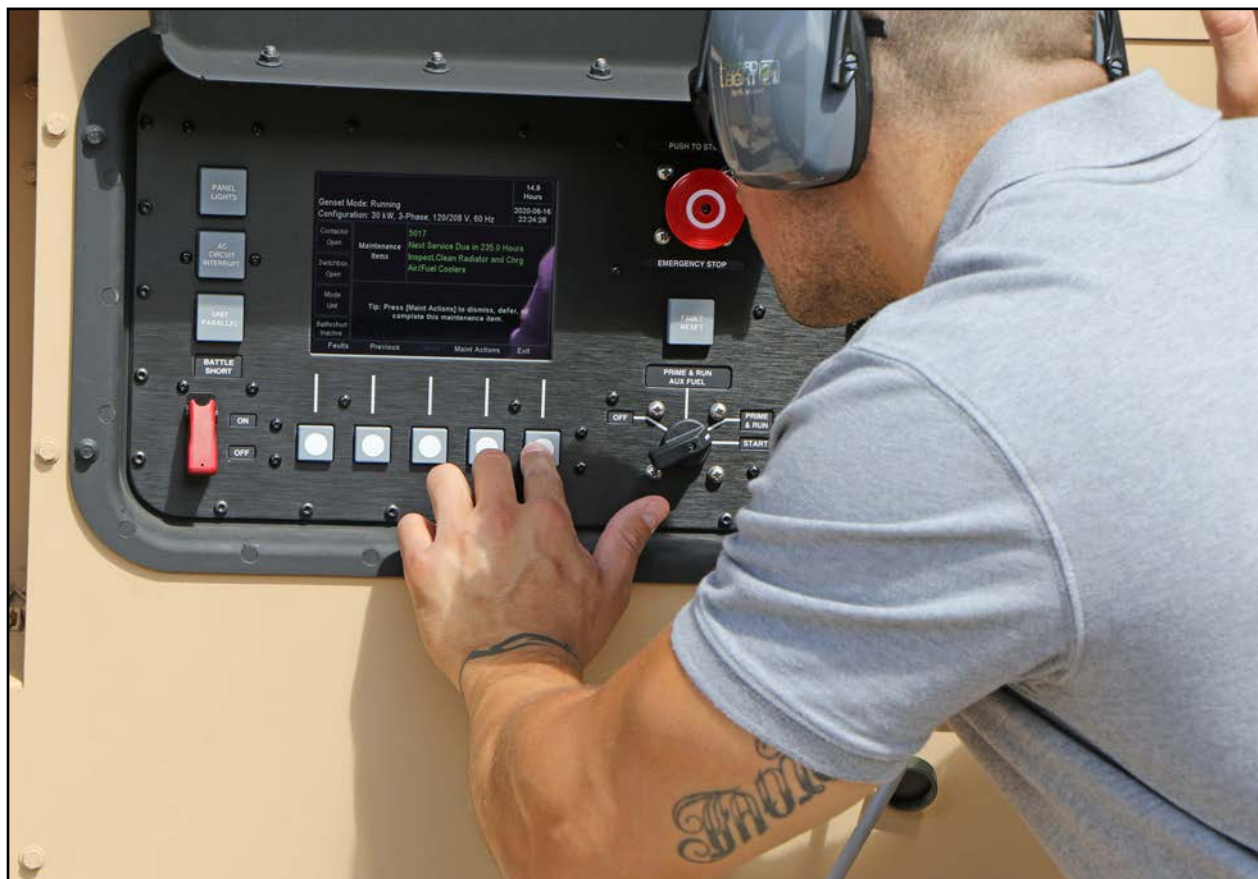
Conforming to the Tactical Microgrid Standard, VCMs can distribute power between vehicles and connect to other TMS-compliant power generation, storage and distribution systems under development by the DoD.

"It's not only a microgrid, it's also a smart grid," Bohn said. "A centralized controller can increase or decrease the number of powered vehicles automatically for optimal efficiency/resilience across the microgrid."

VCMs align with the Joint Staff Joint Warfighting Concept's emphasis on contested logistics to streamline the DoD's ability to deploy and sustain the joint force.

This capability provides a pathway to improved logistics and faster setup, transport and redeployment of power generation systems, he said.

"The demonstrated prototype reduces



DANIEL LAFONTAINE/DOD

C5ISR Center engineers work on a hybrid power system as part of the Army's ongoing research in tactical microgrids, which provide resilient and efficient power for Soldiers in the field. The team will continue its hybrid power work, leading to the Maneuver Support Sustainment and Protection Integration Experiments this fall in Virginia.

(the) DoD's overall energy footprint, minimizing contributions to climate change by coupling a more efficient power generation approach for expeditionary forces with reduced logistical requirements to deploy and sustain it," Bohn said.

To inform capability needs for multi-domain operations, Army Product Manager Command Post Integrated Infrastructure is equipping an operational battalion with components of the VCM prototype for experimentation in operationally relevant conditions this summer.

McGrew noted that there are exciting possibilities for VCMs beyond battlefield applications, such as humanitarian assistance and disaster relief operations. For example, the National Guard is interested in using the technology for responding to natural or man-made disasters.

Two VCM-equipped vehicles could deliver 200 kilowatts to power a neighborhood of up to 75 homes, McGrew said.

In the future, McGrew thinks that 10 to 20 percent of tactical vehicles will have VCM capability. By teaming with the OUSD

(R&E) Rapid Reaction Technology Office, Devcom and the Missile Defense Agency's Project Manager Terminal High Altitude Area Defense were able to jumpstart VCM prototype development. Development of the VCM would not have been possible without the capacity for innovation provided by RRTO, Bohn noted.

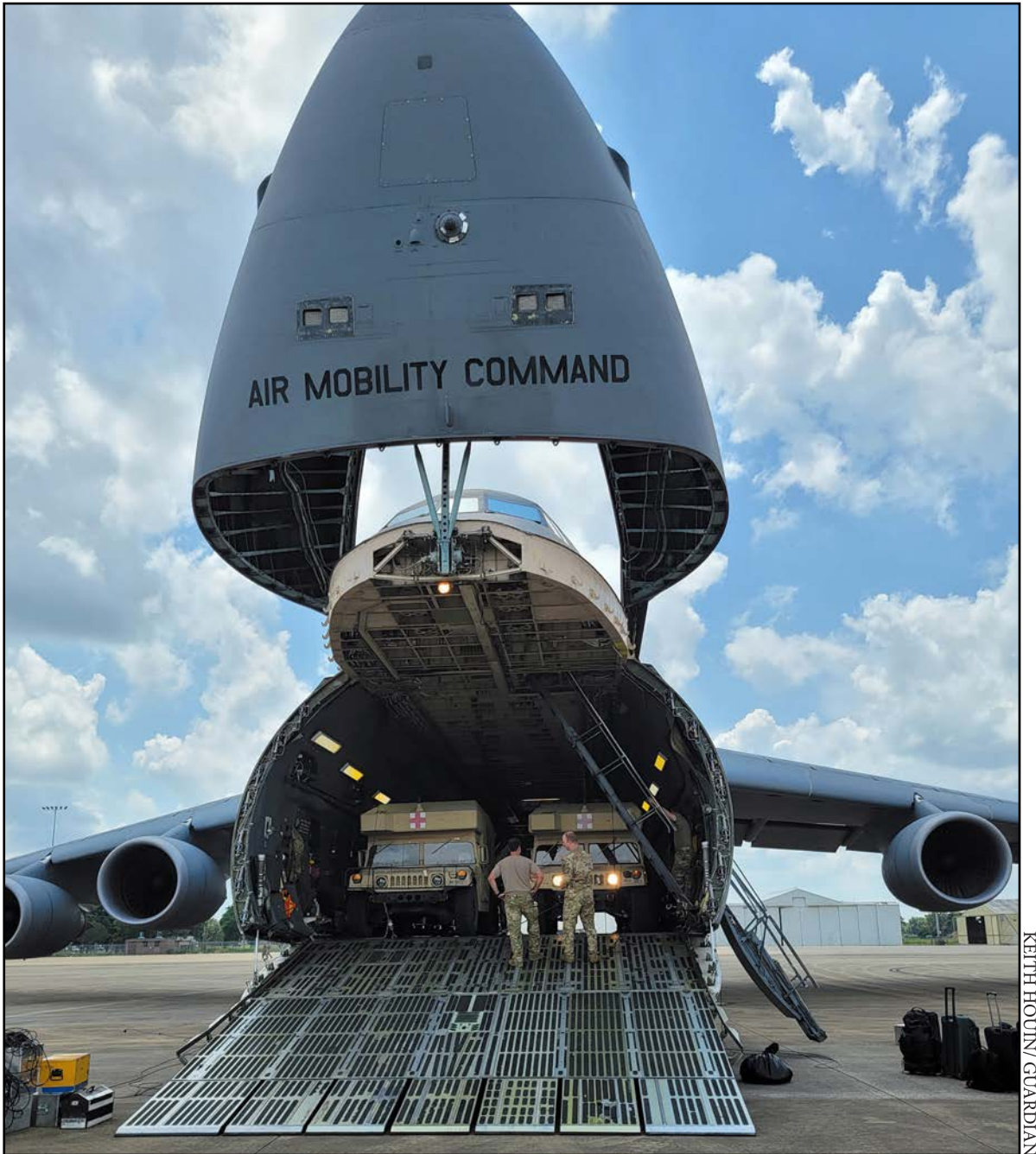
"Within 120 days of the Army team's initial engagement, RRTO had approved the project, and funds were moving. RRTO's ability to provide in-year investment significantly accelerated the delivery of this capability in a manner that is incredibly difficult to achieve through traditional acquisition pipelines," Bohn said.

Jon Lazar, director of the RRTO in the Directorate of Defense Research and Engineering for Advanced Capabilities, said: "Our organizational culture is based on using innovative prototyping processes that quickly develop and transition new capabilities. But it's still really exciting to see a novel idea like this grow so quickly from a slideshow to a capability on its way to the warfighter."

Continued from page 1



KEITH HOUIN/ GUARDIAN



KEITH HOUIN/ GUARDIAN



KEITH HOUIN/ GUARDIAN



CHUCK CANNON/ GUARDIAN

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 recent examples of adverse legal actions for units within

the Fort Polk jurisdiction.

- A private, assigned to the 46th Engineer Battalion, was separated under Chapter 5-17 (Other Designated Physical or Mental Conditions) for failing to adapt and being recommended for a Chapter 5-17. The Soldier was issued an honorable conditions characterization of service.

- A private, assigned to the 519th Military Police Battalion, was punished under Article 15 for consuming alcohol under the age of 21 years, in violation of Article 92, Uniform Code of Military Justice. The Soldier was sentenced to reduction to private (E-1), suspended for three months; forfeiture of \$210 pay, extra duty for 14 days and restriction for 14 days.

- A specialist, assigned to the 519th Military Police Battalion, was punished under Article 15 for failing to report, in violation of Article 86, UCMJ. The Soldier was sen-



tenced to extra duty for 10 days, suspended for 1 month and restriction for 14 days.

- A specialist, assigned to 519th Military Police Battalion, was punished under Article 15 for dereliction of duty, in violation of Article 92, UCMJ. The Soldier was sentenced to reduction to private (E-1), suspended for 14 days and extra duty for 10 days.

Please see UCMJ, page 9

Laboratory technician graduates from Bayne-Jones Army Community Hospital

By JEAN CLAVETTE GRAVES
BJACH PAO

FORT POLK, La. — Bayne-Jones Army Community Hospital held a graduation ceremony for Pfc. Victoria Olguin at the Joint Readiness Training Center and Fort Polk July 1.

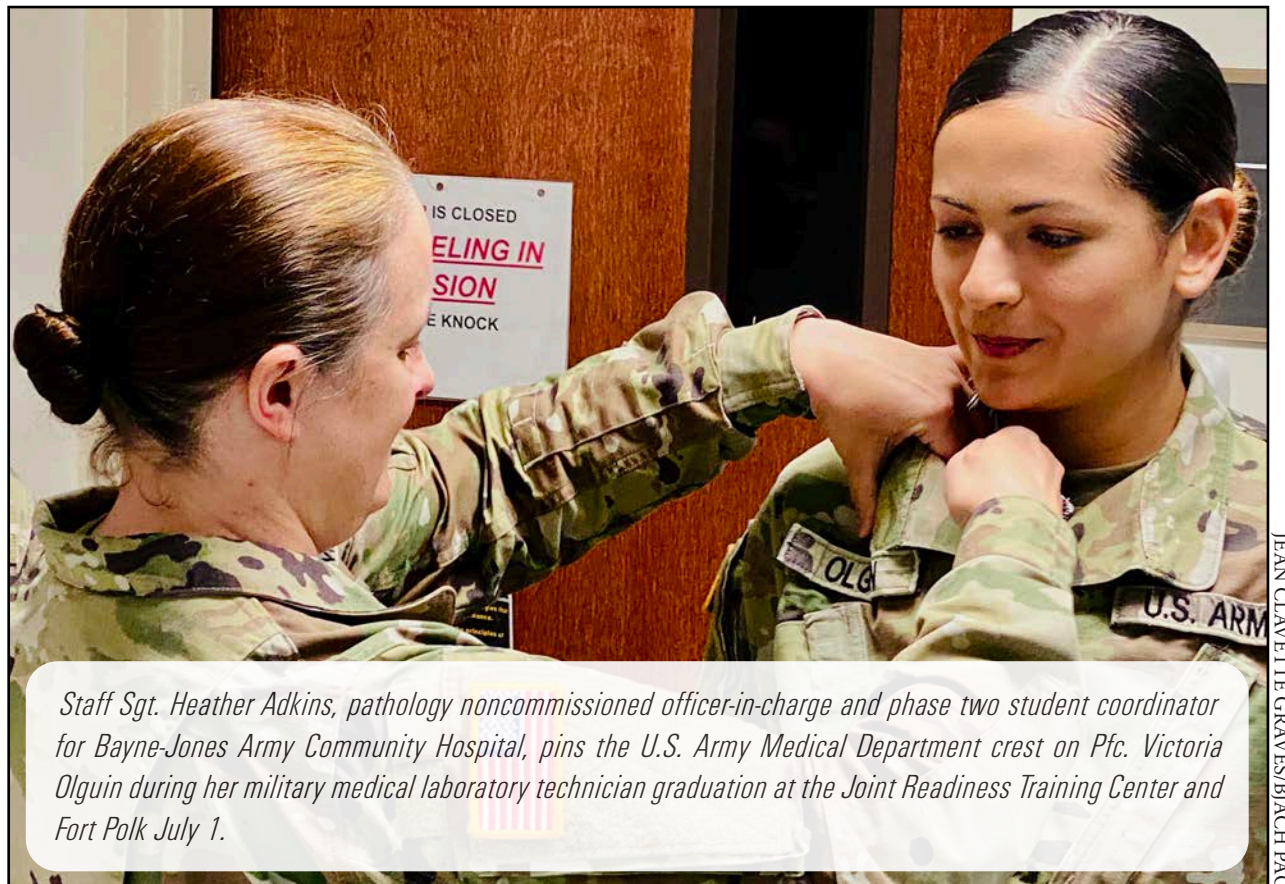
Olguin, a medical laboratory technician, finalized the clinical portion of her 52-week program. BJACH is one of 22 military treatment facilities that offer the practicum portion for military occupational specialty training required by MLTs. Soldiers who train at BJACH have a 100 percent pass rate on the American Society of Clinical Pathology exam.

Olguin passed the ASCP exam on June 30. The ASCP is a nationally recognized professional association that provides educational programs, certification and advocacy on behalf of patients, pathologists and lab professionals.

She said passing the exam validates the education she received during the past year of training. She said it will give her marketable credentials for positions after her time in the military.

Olguin said she enlisted in the Army for the educational benefits. During her pursuit of a chemical engineering degree she realized she didn't have the money necessary to complete her education.

“I chose the 68K, lab tech, MOS because I felt that the experience I would get in the



Staff Sgt. Heather Adkins, pathology noncommissioned officer-in-charge and phase two student coordinator for Bayne-Jones Army Community Hospital, pins the U.S. Army Medical Department crest on Pfc. Victoria Olguin during her military medical laboratory technician graduation at the Joint Readiness Training Center and Fort Polk July 1.

JEAN CLAVETTE GRAVES/BJACH PAO

lab would be beneficial to me when I transition back into the civilian sector,” she said. “I knew working with the state of the art equipment available in a laboratory setting would be valuable.”

Olguin said she is glad she spent the past six months training at BJACH.

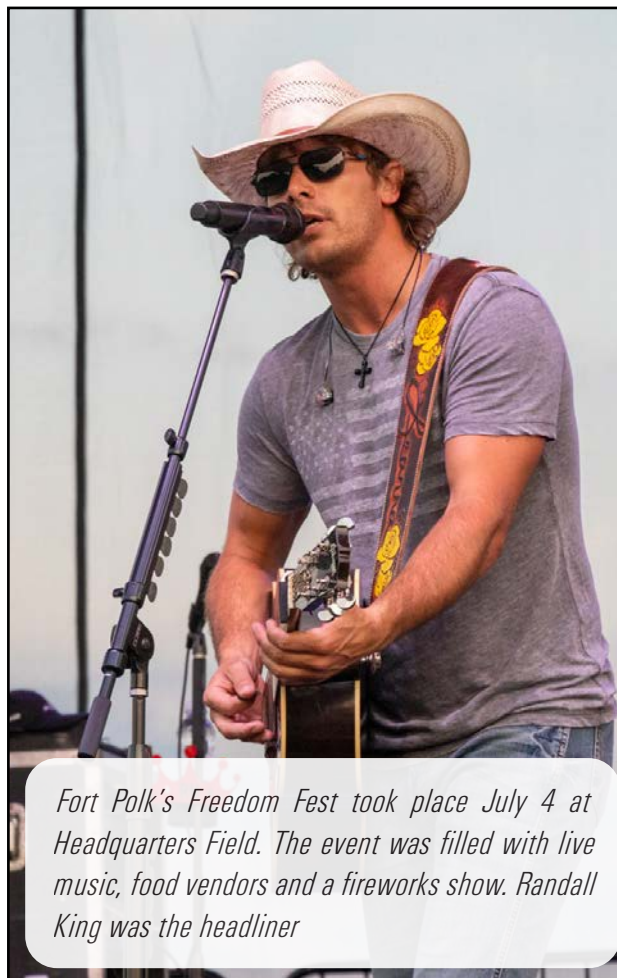
“After phase one of training in San Antonio I came to Fort Polk for my hands on phase two training,” Olguin said. “BJACH has a very successful program and I’m glad

I was able to get my training here. The team in the lab welcomed me, made me feel at home and have taught me a lot. The people here, especially the civilian employees in the lab are invaluable to supporting Soldier and mission readiness.”

Olguin is headed to Fort Detrick, Maryland, where she will be doing virology research. She said she is excited about the opportunity and to see what the Army has in store for her.

Community

Fort Polk, local community enjoy Freedom Fest fun



Fort Polk's Freedom Fest took place July 4 at Headquarters Field. The event was filled with live music, food vendors and a fireworks show. Randall King was the headliner



The Trent Cowie band play for the crowds at Freedom Fest.

COURTESY CIVIL AIR PATROL



After the live entertainment left the stage, the fireworks began.



Folks attending Freedom Fest enjoyed food from a variety of food vendors.



Fort Polk command salute the flag (on stage) during the playing of the National Anthem July 4.



Enjoying Story Time

Fort Polk's Allen Memorial Library offers Story Time each Tuesday at 11:30 a.m. Children listen to a story and then participate in a craft related to the theme of the story. Lene Goodman, library aid, read the book, "Should I Share My Ice Cream," during July 6 Story Time. The craft was all about decorating your own ice cream cone. For more information call 531.2665.







IF NOT YOU, WHO?

If you're reading this, IPPS-A needs you. We need you to lead your Soldiers into the 21st century. HR modernization is here. Today. Old systems, policies and technologies are going away. Readiness is your responsibility. Whether Commander, HR Professional or Soldier, all Army Components will use IPPS-A. IPPS-A offers talent management, auditability and self-service mobile technology. But it won't work without you. Embrace the change. Be ready. THE FUTURE IS HERE.

**ONE SOLDIER. ONE RECORD. ONE ARMY.
BE ALL YOU CAN BE.**

<https://ipps-a.army.mil/>

JRTC & FORT POLK
G-1 IPPS-A Implementation Team
531-2018 • 531-3510 • 337-208-1903

GENERATOR SAFETY


Hurricane Season is upon us and lots of folks are thinking about purchasing a generator. Find the total amps you need by dividing watts by volts. Choose one that produces more amps than you need, some appliances draw up to 3 times as much power when starting up. Ensure your generator is maintained

Never run the generator in an enclosed space – carbon monoxide kills

Never refuel a generator while it is in use. Fumes from the fuel you're adding could spark and burst into flames

Check oil every time you refuel. Have SAE 30W oil on hand and change oil every 100 hours

Check your 3-pronged, #10 gauge, extension cord's rating. Ensure you can use it outdoors, it isn't damaged and isn't hot to the touch



Backpacks

Continued from page 3

helping Soldiers and Families with their back-to-school needs.

"The program provides a backpack full of basic school supplies to any Family that meets the qualifications," she said.

Koch said this year Operation Homefront has expanded its eligibility.

"It will be available to all active duty service members, as well as National Guard and Reserve ID card holders," she said.

Koch said you can visit myOperationHomefront.org to create a Family profile and register. She said you need to register as soon as you can because there are a limited number of backpacks to give away.

"We have 200 backpacks to give away, but it won't let you enroll in the event if we have already met our max capacity. You will be put on a wait list. If someone doesn't show up, Operation Homefront will call that Family to pick up their backpacks. If those Families don't claim their backpacks, then they will start calling Families on the wait list," she said. "So sign up no matter what."



Koch said that is especially important for military Families with more than one child.

"It's a game changer. School supplies can run a Family anywhere from \$50 to \$200 or more depending on the type of supplies you buy for your child. When you multiply that by three or four children, it can be a significant strain on a Family's budget," she said.

Koch said in addition to Operation Homefront, there are community partnerships with the Fort Polk Spouses' Club and Better Opportunities for Single Soldiers.

"They are the ones that pack the backpacks and are there to help Operation Homefront distribute supplies at the event," she said.

In the past, Koch said the backpacks were distributed during an event called Cafeteria Conversations, which allowed Families to meet and talk to the principals and a few teachers from each school in the area. Due to COVID-19 mitigation measures, that hasn't been possible.

However, Koch said with the help of Fort Polk's Directorate of Family Morale, Welfare and Recreation, plans were in the

works to incorporate the meet and greet with military connected school representatives from Pickering High School, Leesville High School, Leesville Junior High School, Vernon Middle School, Parkway Elementary School and North Polk Elementary School during a back-to-school themed movie night.

"It gives parents and students a chance to have one-on-one face time in an informal, outdoor setting," she said.

Particulars such as a date and the movie for that night haven't been set, but Koch said to keep watching Fort Polk social media sites and the Guardian for updates.

UCMJ

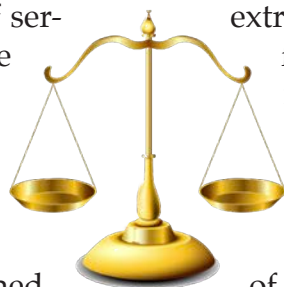
Continued from page 6

• A private, assigned to the 46th Engineer Battalion, was separated under Chapter 14-12c (Commission of a Serious Offense) for resisting apprehension by an armed policeman, failing to obey a lawful general order and being drunk and disorderly. The Soldier was issued a general under honorable conditions characterization of service. Generally, this characterization of service results in the loss of a service member's educational benefits.

• A private, assigned to the 46th Engineer Battalion, was punished under Article 15 for behaving with disrespect towards their superior commissioned officer in command, in violation of Article 89, Uniform Code of Military Justice. The Soldier was sentenced to reduction to Private (E-2), suspended for 90 days, forfeiture of \$466 pay, suspended for 90 days and extra duty for 14 days.

• A specialist, assigned to the 1st Battalion, 5th Aviation Regiment, was punished

under Article 15 for failing to report, behaving with disrespect towards their superior or commissioned officer in command and disrespect to a noncommissioned officer, in violation of Article 86, Article 89, and Article 91, UCMJ. The Soldier was sentenced to reduction to private first class (E-3), forfeiture of pay, suspended for two months, extra duty for seven days, suspended for seven days and a written reprimand.



• A lieutenant colonel, assigned to United States Army Medical Department Activity, was issued a General Officer Memorandum of Reprimand for engaging in extramarital sexual conduct and for providing a false official statement, in violation of Article 134 and Article 107, UCMJ.

• A private, assigned to the 5th Battalion, 25th Field Artillery Regiment, 3rd Brigade Combat Team, 10th Mountain Division, was issued a GOMOR for Domestic Violence, in violation of Article 128b, UCMJ.

Briefs

Continued from page 3

ing for the COVID-19 vaccine should contact the BJACH appointment line at 337.531.3011 or self-book at www.tricareonline.com.

CLICK2GO fee

The worldwide rollout of Commissary CLICK2GO just got better with a waiver of the service charge for a limited time, as an added incentive for new customers and old customers alike to use the improved online shopping experience. Effective June 28, Commissary CLICK2GO customers do not have to pay the \$4.95 service fee applied for each order.

The waiver comes less than a month after the agency announced it is rolling out its internet shopping, store curbside pickup service to all stateside commissaries by the end of the year, and to overseas stores soon thereafter.

School registration

Registration for Vernon Parish Pre-school Programs (LA4 and Head Start) for the 2021-22 school year is ongoing.

Visit the school of your choice to register during school hours. Applications can be completed online via the Vernon Parish School Board website (<https://www.vpsb.us>) for school age children 4 years old. For more information call 337.537.5109 or 337.239.6899.