

GUARDIAN

CELEBRATING THE ARMY'S 250TH
BIRTHDAY AND MARDI GRAS

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WELCOMING HOME
3/10 SOLDIERS

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GET AN EDUCATION IN
HOMELAND SECURITY

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2025 AER CAMPAIGN KICK OFF

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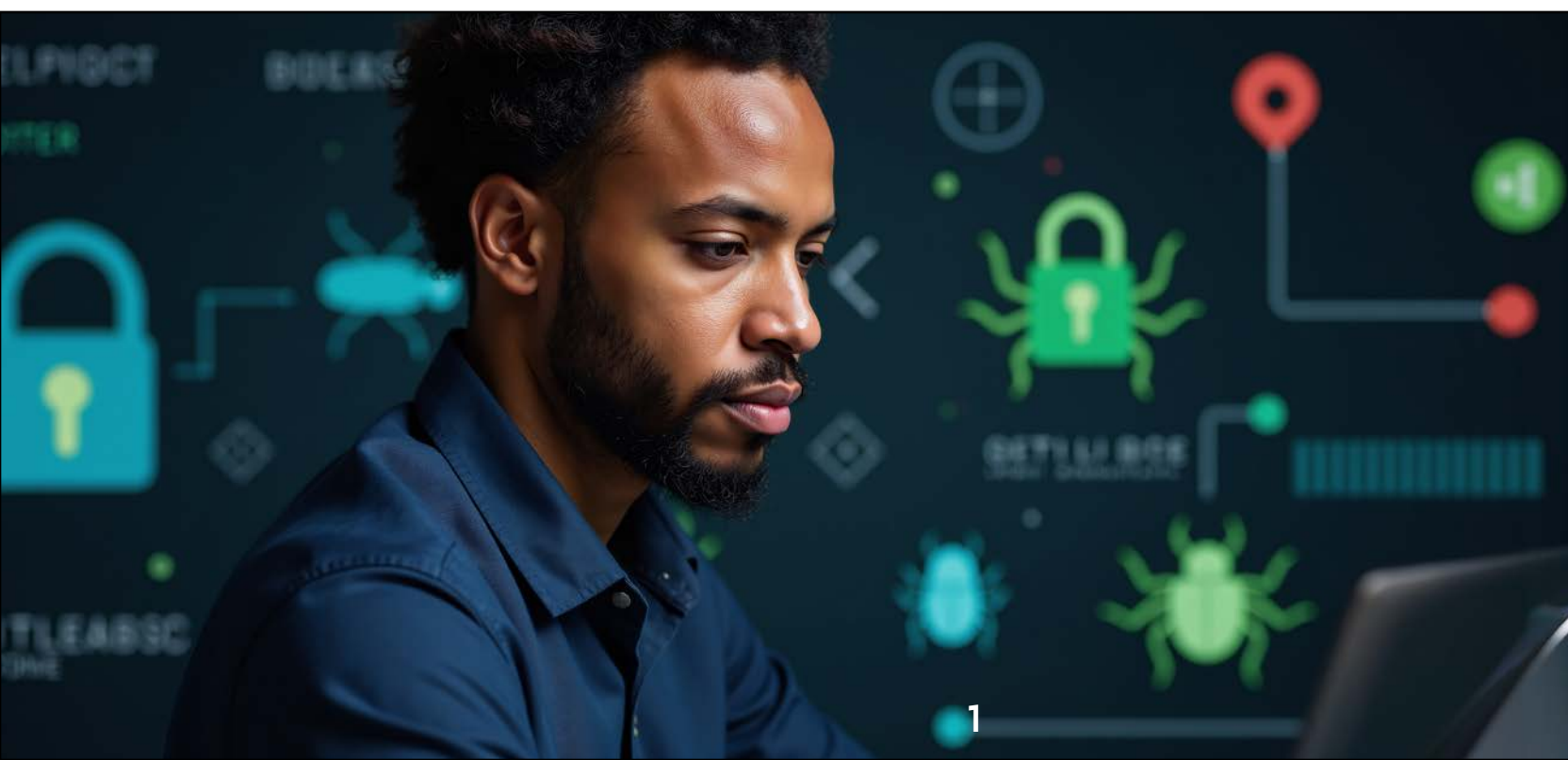


COVER PHOTO

As floats drive by, parade participants throw beads to community members lined up to watch and enjoy the action. The Greater Vernon Parish Chamber of Commerce hosted the annual Mardi Gras Parade held in downtown Leesville, March 1. Fort Johnson took part in the festivities. (U.S. Army photo by Karen Sampson)



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Welcoming more
Soldiers home



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Kicking off 2025 AER
campaign



JRTC AND FORT JOHNSON

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For additional information, please visit the @JRTCandFortJohnson Facebook page.



ON POST

Upcoming Events



Civics Interview Classes

March 4, 9:30 a.m.-1 p.m. at
Army Community Service

Army Community Service is providing civics lessons and tips in preparation for citizenship interviews. All are welcome to attend.

For more information call 337-531-1941.



Garrison Commander's Golf Scramble

March 7, noon-5 p.m. at Warrior Hills Golf Course

Tee off at Warrior Hills Golf Course for the Garrison Commander's Monthly Golf Scramble!

Cost: \$50 (\$55 day of event). Price includes green fee, golf cart, awards and dinner. To register call 337-551-4661.



Sunday Brunch

March 9, 10 a.m.-2 p.m. at
The Forge Bar and Grill

Visit the Forge Bar and Grill for their monthly Sunday brunch on March 9, from 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Guests can enjoy a wide selection of breakfast and lunch items as well as their favorite morning cocktails.

For more information call 337-531-7668.



Tie-dye Tote Bags

March 12, 4:30-5:30 p.m. at Allen Memorial Library

Come to Allen Memorial Library and make your very own tie dye tote bag! This event is free.

For more information call 337-531-2665.



OUTSIDE THE GATES

OFF POST EVENTS



7-8
March

Independence Sicilian Heritage Festival

INDEPENDENCE, LA.

[Click for more info](#)



7-8
March

Louisiana Moonshine Festival

LEESVILLE, LA.

[Click for more info](#)



8-9
March

Louisiana Comic Con

LAFAYETTE, LA.

[Click for more info](#)



20-22
March

Iowa Rabbit Festival

LAKE CHARLES, LA.

[Click for more info](#)



27-29
March

SWLA Garden Conference and Expo

LAKE CHARLES, LA.

[Click for more info](#)

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Discover Louisiana



GATOR COUNTRY ALLIGATOR PARK



Gator Country Louisiana is the largest alligator park in the state. The park of almost 25 years, which houses over 250 American Alligators was previously known as Bayou Pierre Alligator Park.

In July of 2020, owners Gary and Shannon Saurage, who also own Texas's largest alligator park bought the park to continue the legacy of the previous owners Terry and Deborah Rogers.

Come explore the mysterious, exciting world of the American Alligator at the Alligator Park, just outside Natchitoches, La. This seven-acre park is the largest of its kind in Louisiana, complete with Cajun Music, lots of hungry alligators, caimans, tortoises and much more.

From covered, protected walkways and platforms you'll see hundreds of alligators in their natural environment. The whole family will enjoy watching and feeding these big gators. But there's much more to the Alligator Park than just gators. Children also love the Petting Zoo, Reptile House, Jungle, Tortoise Exhibit, Rocky Raccoon Resort and much more. Children may also enjoy our shallow wading pool, where they will have a hands on educational experience with our small gators. You can have your picture taken with many reptiles and shop for the unusual in our Gift Shop. Don't forget to stick around for one of our exciting and educational alligator feeding shows as well.

Come enjoy an unforgettable adventure! Parking is free.

General admission is \$11 per person.

For more information visit: <https://www.gatorcountryla.com/>



LEESVILLE MARDI GRAS PARADE

JRTC and Fort Johnson's installation command team joined Leesville's annual Mardi Gras Parade held by the Greater Vernon Parish Chamber of Commerce in downtown Leesville March 1.



The Army is part of your community:

- Across the nation, Army families are an integral part of the communities they serve.
- We honor the Army veterans in our communities.
- The Army stands ready to assist in times of need, such as disaster relief and recovery.

Spouse used Employment Readiness to find job she loves

Angie Thorne
Garrison Public Affairs Office

FORT JOHNSON, La. — Being a military spouse isn't for the faint of heart, especially when it comes to finding a new job after every permanent change of station.

Chelsea Brosnahan, an Air Force military spouse familiar with military moves and the uncertainty of the job market, found herself in need of new employment when she and her husband moved to Fort Johnson.

Brosnahan had been a GS employee and a Nonappropriated Fund employee in the past, so she knew where to start looking. She browsed USA Jobs, and was looking for a job at the front desk of a child development center.

"That's what I was looking for because I loved it," she said.

Brosnahan wasn't finding what she wanted and applied for other jobs, but wasn't getting anything.

"My husband was actually the one that directed me to ACS. He had heard about the resume classes and said I should check it out," she said.

Brosnahan made an individual appointment with Stacey Delgado, Employment Readiness Program manager.

"She is wonderful. She gave me a lot of good tools to rebuild

my resume. I discovered it wasn't in the format the Army was looking for. So, I wrote a couple of versions and sent them to her. She critiqued them and helped me refine and polish my resume," she said.

Brosnahan was looking for anything at this point, so she uploaded her brand-new resume, applied for an MWR manpower manager assistant job and got it. That means she helps keep track of all MWR employees.

"Everything you see on USA Jobs for Fort Johnson MWR has to come through me first. I'm the background person who makes sure everything is running smoothly," she said.

She is the first face they see after onboarding, and she holds their hand through all the paperwork and questions.

Brosnahan said she loves her job. "I think the thing I love most about it is helping people," she said.

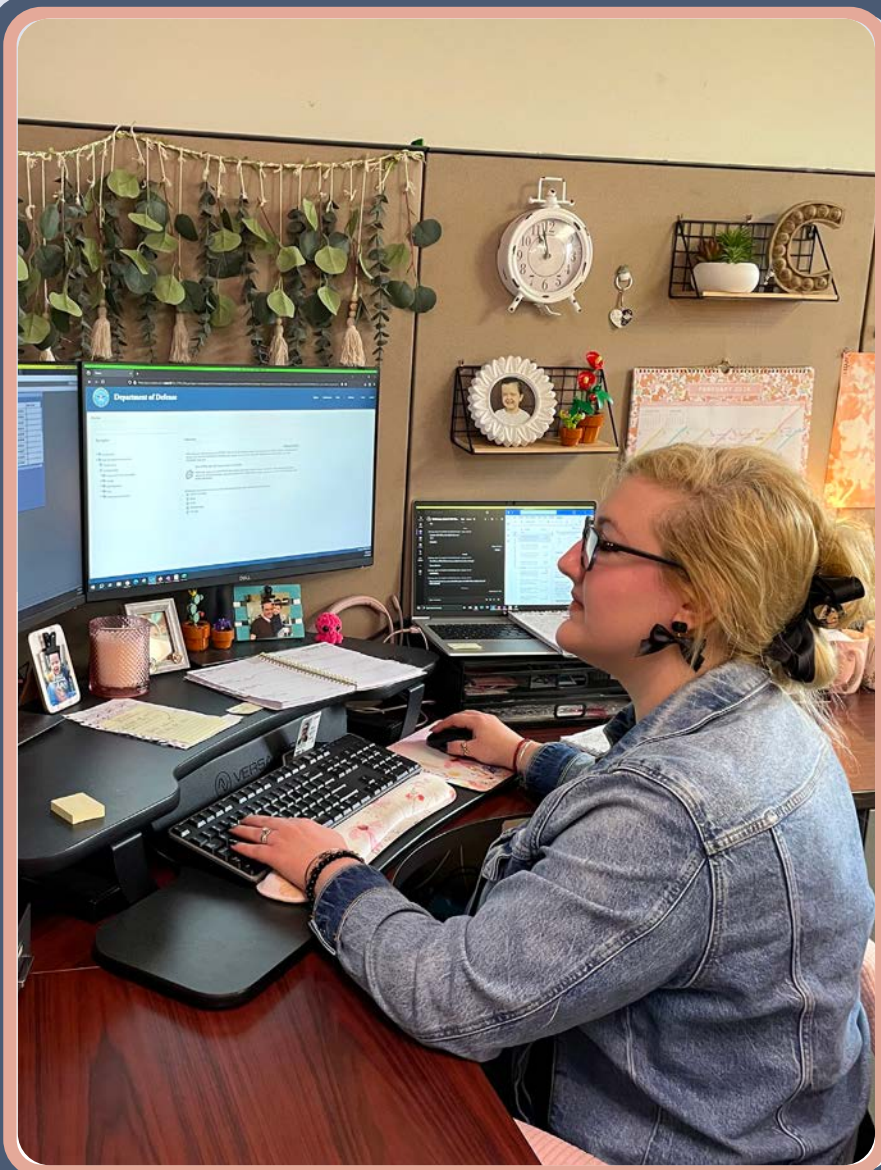
Brosnahan said even though she knew how to search for a job, she still had things she could learn and encouraged other spouses to check out the ACS Employment Readiness Program.

"Be open minded. Even if you think you know everything, you don't. If someone is willing to help you, let them," she said.

For more information call 337-531-1941.



Chelsea Brosnahan,
MWR manpower manager assistant



Chelsea Brosnahan works at her desk at the offices of Directorate of Family and Morale, Welfare and Recreation. (U.S. Army photo Angie Thorne)



One of Chelsea Brosnahan's duties is to help onboard new Directorate of Family and Morale, Welfare and Recreation employees. (U.S. Army photo Angie Thorne)

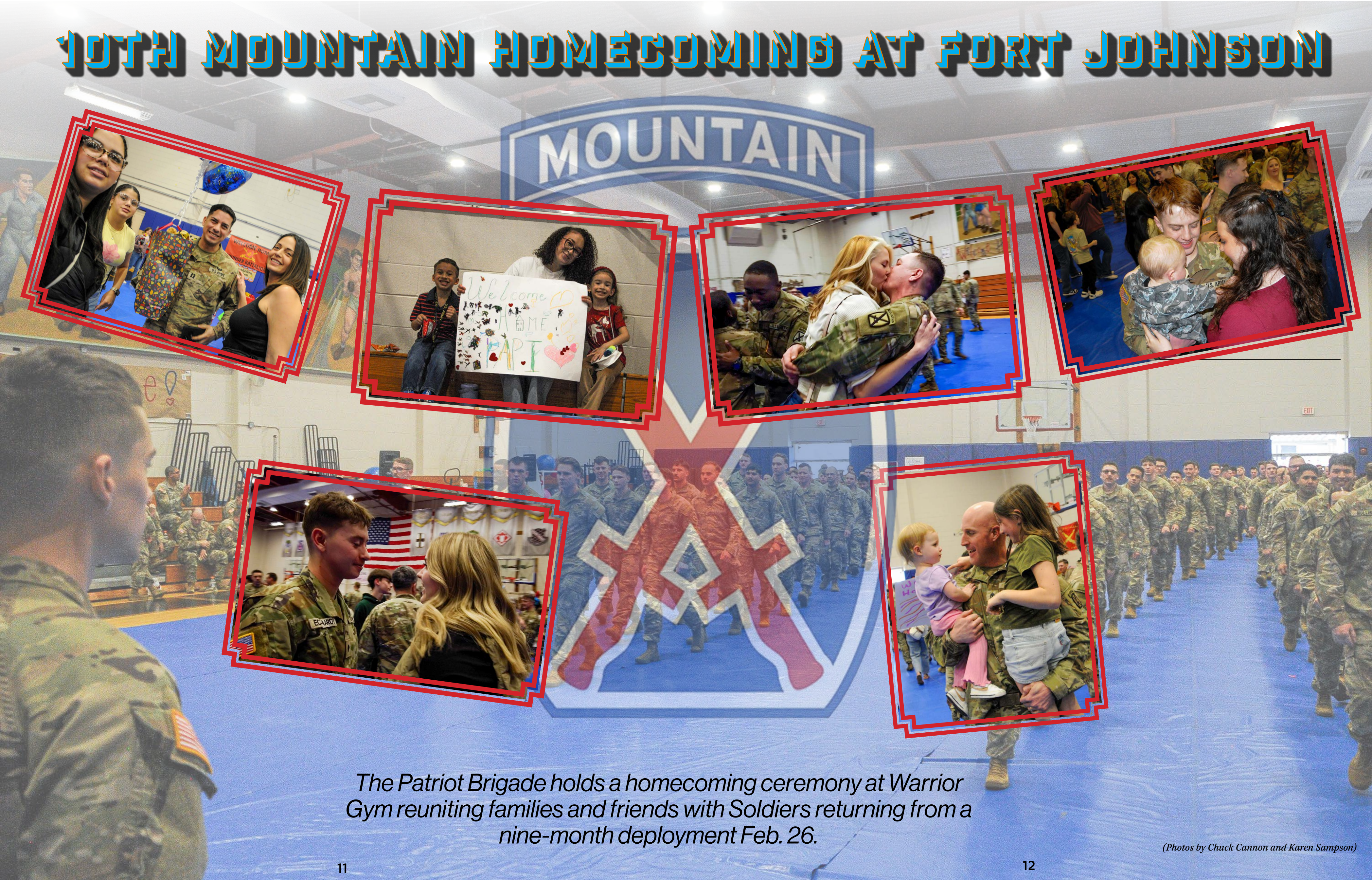
ACS holds hiring fair



Job hunters visit personnel from the Army Community Service Employment Readiness Program during a Job and Employment Fair Feb. 20 at Army Community Service.



10TH MOUNTAIN HOMECOMING AT FORT JOHNSON



The Patriot Brigade holds a homecoming ceremony at Warrior Gym reuniting families and friends with Soldiers returning from a nine-month deployment Feb. 26.

(Photos by Chuck Cannon and Karen Sampson)

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- AND MORE

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The Safe Helpline is available 24/7 for victims of sexual assault.

Talk to someone who understands:

safehelpline.org

Click for more info

Louisiana
VIETNAM VETERANS MEMORIAL Ceremony

The City of Lake Charles and the Mayor's Armed Forces Commission cordially invites you to join us for the unveiling of the Louisiana Vietnam Veterans Memorial.

SATURDAY, MARCH 29, 2025
10:00AM
VETERAN'S MEMORIAL PARK

Email Tanya Senegal at tanya.senegal@cityoflc.us for further inquiries.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

English as a second Language volunteer instructors needed. This is on going, always a need.

For more information please contact
337-531-6941 or barbara.j.bates3.civ@army.mil
Relocation Program Manager

From battlefield to home front: Why a homeland security education benefits Soldiers

By Directorate of Emergency Services

Fort Johnson, La. — For Soldiers transitioning back to civilian life, the skills and experience gained in the military is invaluable. But in today's complex world, a formal education in homeland security can be the critical bridge connecting military service to a rewarding second career protecting the nation on a different front.

The discipline, leadership and strategic thinking instilled in Soldiers are highly sought-after traits in the homeland security sector. Whether it's analyzing intelligence, coordinating emergency response, or securing critical infrastructure, Soldiers possess a unique understanding of risk assessment and operational planning directly applicable to homeland security challenges.

A homeland security education builds upon existing military skills, providing specialized knowledge in areas like:

Terrorism studies: Understanding terrorist ideologies, tactics and vulnerabilities is crucial for developing effective counterterrorism strategies.

Cybersecurity: As digital threats increase, Soldiers with cybersecurity expertise are vital for protecting critical infrastructure and sensitive data.

Emergency management: Experience in disaster response and recovery is invaluable in preparing for and managing natural disasters, pandemics and other emergencies.

Border security: Soldiers can leverage their tactical and operational experience to contribute to securing national borders and combating transnational crime.

Intelligence analysis: The ability to gather, analyze and interpret information is essential for identifying and mitigating threats to homeland security.

A homeland security degree opens doors to a wide range of career paths within government agencies and the private sector, including federal agencies such as the Department of Homeland Security, Federal Bureau of Investigation, Central Intelligence Agency, Customs and Border Protection and Federal Emergency Management Agency.

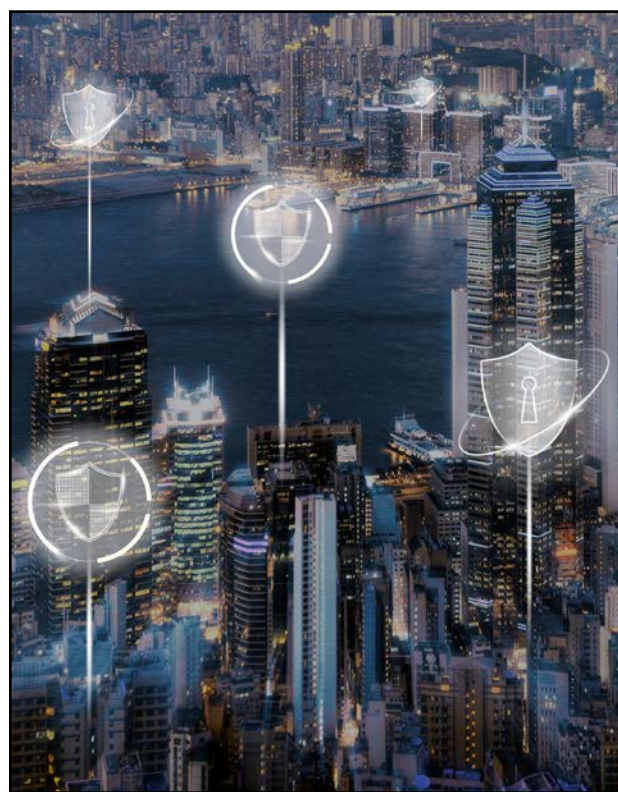
It also includes state and local agencies dealing with emergency management agencies, law enforcement, fusion centers and other organizations focused on local security.

Private sector security consulting firms, critical infrastructure protection, cybersecurity companies and risk management roles.

Continuing to serve and protect the nation in a new capacity provides a sense of purpose and continuity for veterans, as well as a competitive edge. A formal education differentiates candidates in a competitive job market, demonstrating commitment and expertise.

The homeland security programs offer opportunities to connect with professionals in the field, opening doors to internships and future employment.

For Soldiers transitioning to civilian life, a ca-



reer in homeland security offers a chance to apply their skills and dedication to protecting the nation from evolving threats. An education in homeland security is not merely a degree, it's an investment in a future of service, leadership and safeguarding the home front.

The Fort Johnson Education Center can provide interested personnel with more information, or they can visit the Central Texas College office, which provides both a certificate in homeland security or an associate degree program. The CTC campus on Fort Johnson can be reached at 337-537-5202.

Reduce pollution — Keep rain gutters clean

By Directorate of Public Works

FORT JOHNSON, La. — Storm drain inlets are openings in streets, parking lots, or other paved surfaces that are designed to collect storm water and direct it into drainage systems.

Their purpose is to prevent flooding by quickly moving water away from urban areas, especially during heavy rainfall. These inlets are typically located at low points, gutters, or curbs to capture runoff before it can accumulate and create flooding concerns.

Once the storm water enters the storm drain inlet, it travels through a series of un-

derground pipes and channels, often leading to local water bodies like rivers, lakes, or oceans, meaning pollutants like oils, chemicals, trash, pet waste or sediment can be discharged into natural water sources that affect water quality, aquatic life, fishing and swimming activities.

To help, individuals can reduce pollution by properly disposing of waste, using eco-friendly products, keeping gutters clear, and utilizing a commercial car wash.

For more information on storm water pollution prevention tips, contact the Joint Readiness Training Center and Fort Johnson Water Resources team at 337-531-4013.



Employers
on site

EMPLOYER'S DAY EVENT

March 11, 2025

0900-1200

Fort Johnson Library and Education Center
7460 Colorado Ave., Bldg 660, 2nd floor
337-531-1594/4621

PARTICIPATING EMPLOYERS:

- FCC Oakdale (Bureau of Prison)
- House Call
- Louisiana State Police
- American Water Military Service





AUTOMOTIVE SKILLS CENTER PRESENTS

COPS, CARS and coffee

MARCH 15, 2025 | 8AM-3PM

Join us for a family event and mingle with the community!

FOR MORE INFORMATION VISIT
JOHNSON.ARMYMWR.COM

\$25 ENTRY




Fort Johnson Medical Clinics Relocate, Enhancing Care and Cutting Costs

By Jean Clavette Graves
BJACH Public Affairs Officer

FORT JOHNSON, La. — The Fontaine Troop Medical Clinic and the Fort Johnson Department of Public Health will relocate to Bayne-Jones Army Community Hospital on April 1, a move aimed at improving patient care and efficiency while saving the Defense Health Agency nearly \$19 million in long-term maintenance costs.

The move will allow for the elimination of World War II-era buildings and support modernization efforts at the Joint Readiness Training Center and Fort Johnson.

Despite years of discussion about the move, it was the 2024 Fort Johnson Forging New Leaders course that was tasked with researching and presenting the pros and cons of the relocation to the hospital and garrison commander for action.

The team, composed of DHA and Installation Management Command employees, evaluated the feasibility of moving outlying clinics to BJACH's main campus. Theresa Watson, from the Fort Johnson Directorate of Public Works, along with Sarah Sonderman, Jessica Deason and Julieth Hernandez, from BJACH, methodically explored hospital floor plans, assessed available space, conducted an inventory of personnel and equipment and performed an operational and maintenance cost analysis before presenting their findings and recommendations.

Sarah Sonderman, a medical support assistant in the BJACH Behavioral Health Department, said her team worked on the project for 10 months.

"Our team dug deep to determine the best course of action to help the hospital save money," she said. "We presented three courses of action for DHA leadership to choose from, with the best cost-saving option being to move the outlying clinics into the hospital."

Sonderman said this will increase access to care for both Soldiers and their families.

"It eliminates travel time for patients from the FTMC and DPH for any ancillary services," she said. "Having all the clinics co-located within the main campus of BJACH will also be beneficial for staff by providing better access to our dining facility, gym, resiliency room and snack area. It will increase staff efficiency for hospital-wide events and meetings as well."

Col. Alisa Wilma, BJACH commander, said the FTMC and public health clinics were planned and built decades ago for an installation that had a much larger population and it no longer makes sense from a staffing and fiscal perspective.

"The consolidation of the FTMC and DPH into the main hospital is going to be a big benefit for our patients and the installation by allowing



The relocation of the Fontaine Troop Medical Clinic and the Fort Johnson Department of Public Health to Bayne-Jones Army Community Hospital is expected to generate nearly \$70 million in cost savings, including \$50 million in installation savings by avoiding new construction, \$19 million in long-term maintenance savings for the Defense Health Agency, and a \$100,000 annual reduction in operational costs for BJACH. (U.S. Army photo Jean Clavette Graves)

us to centralize their care," she said. "Currently, patients who use these clinics are referred to the hospital for further diagnostic work. With this consolidation, they'll be able to do that simply by walking across the lobby."

Wilma said the clinical consolidation will improve teamwork.

"Centralizing services in the hospital is going to allow for greater collaboration and more advanced options for our patients and staff," she said.

Wilma added that BJACH is always looking for improved processes to better serve the Fort Johnson community.

"This move will let us bring a more efficient and comprehensive care package to our beneficiaries," she said.

Nathan Jernigan, director of public works for U.S. Army Garrison Fort Johnson, said his team will move into the buildings being vacated by DPH and FTMC as soon as possible.

"These facilities will transform into the DPW Center of Excellence, providing our customer base a one-stop shop for base operations, work reception services, engineering, infrastructure planning and project development," he said.

Jernigan said upon their relocation, the garrison will realize immediate cost savings with reductions in energy consumption.

"Many of the programs and services that will

be housed in our new footprint are currently in World War II-era wood-constructed facilities," he said. "These antiquated facilities are 'energy hogs,' meaning that because of how they were constructed, it costs far more to heat and cool them than modern facilities."

Jernigan said demolishing the World War II-era buildings will allow for new development and modernization.

"As our senior mission and garrison commanders routinely comment, 'quality of life includes the workplace.' Relocating multiple DPW teams into modern facilities will increase the morale of our dedicated team members," he said. "The layout of the FTMC and DPH facilities, along with the co-location of multiple teams from diverse divisions, will allow for even greater collaboration, process efficiency gains, and provide opportunities to further personal and professional relationships among the public works team."

Johnny Bevers, deputy garrison commander for Fort Johnson, echoed Wilma and Jernigan.

"This is great for the installation," he said. "It integrates services at BJACH and enables the installation to consolidate DPW operations, which saves money."

Bevers said the moves will save the hospital \$100,000 in operational costs annually and the installation \$50 million in new construction costs.

Hospital Launches Weekly Behavioral Health Initiative for Leaders

By Jean Clavette Graves
BJACH Public Affairs Officer

FORT JOHNSON, La. — Bayne-Jones Army Community Hospital's Behavioral Health Department opened its doors Feb. 19 to leadership from the 46th Engineer Battalion, kicking off a new initiative aimed at educating commanders on mental health resources available at the Joint Readiness Training Center and Fort Johnson.

The session marked the first of a weekly Wednesday program designed to enhance awareness of installation support services for Soldiers and their families.

Lt. Col. Alexander Ragan, installation director of psychological health and chief of behavioral health at BJACH, said the weekly tours are designed to provide company-level leaders and Soldiers with direct exposure to behavioral health resources in a nonthreatening and educational setting.

"These tours aim to decrease stigma by normalizing behavioral health discussions, destigmatizing services and fostering an environment where seeking help is seen as a proactive and responsible decision," he said. "The target audience includes command teams at the company level and below because they are closest to the Soldiers and play a critical role in shaping unit culture. Our goal is to equip them with the knowledge and confidence to support their Soldiers in accessing mental health care without fear of judgment or career repercussions."

Ragan emphasized several key outcomes he hopes to achieve through the initiative, including increased help-seeking behaviors, greater leader involvement, early intervention and prevention, improved unit cohesion and readiness, and strengthened resilience.

"Behavioral health support works best when it is integrated into the unit culture, rather than being seen as a last resort," he said. "By offering these tours we hope to normalize conversations about mental health and reinforce that asking for help, offering help and accepting help are signs of strong leadership and professionalism."

Ragan said he chose the 46th Engineers first because of their leadership's proactive stance on Soldier wellness.

"By starting with a unit that so strongly values Soldier well-being, we are taking a strategic approach. People who are wide open to change serve as a success story to encourage broader adoption of our tours," he said. "The next unit is BJACH's company command and clinical leadership."

Maj. Ronnett Bailey, a licensed clinical social worker and behavioral health officer embedded with the 20th Engineer Brigade, joined the battalion leadership on the tour.

"Our brigade has four battalions in six dif-



Lt. Col. Alexander Ragan, installation director of psychological health and the chief of behavioral health at BJACH, discusses targeted care with Capt. Hayden Schappell, commander for the 46th Engineer Battalion Forward Support Company and other leaders during the clinic tour. (U.S. Army photo Jean Clavette Graves)

ferent locations," she said. "I travel every other month to our units and provide prevention classes to mitigate risk. We don't want to be reactive; we want to be embedded, connected, and build trust and camaraderie."

Bailey said the BJACH tour initiative is a valuable opportunity to bring the medical and operational teams together, fostering a shared understanding to better support Soldiers.

"It's preventative," she said. "Our command teams are the ones leading our Soldiers. If they know the resources and the people they can call, we can quickly get Soldiers the most appropriate help when they need it."

Bailey emphasized that this initiative is breaking down barriers between behavioral health services and leadership.

Capt. Hayden Schappell, commander for the 46th Engineer Battalion Forward Support Company, said the tour helped him better understand the vectoring process and the resources available to his Soldiers.

"As commanders, beyond knowing something is off with one of our Soldiers, we don't have the training or tools to assess them properly," he said. "This initiative helps us to better understand the next steps."

Schappell noted certain incidents, such as DUIs or domestic abuse cases, can trigger a clinical behavioral health response.

"Meeting the people face-to-face that we interact with regularly was beneficial," he said. "This tour also improved our understanding of the process when our Soldiers seek out behavioral health services on their own. Now we know where our Soldiers are going, what the vectoring questionnaire looks like, and the different resources they will be directed to after

their initial intake."

Lt. Col. Shawn Woodard, commander of the 46th Engineer Battalion, said understanding the intake process was his biggest takeaway from the tour.

"Now my commanders, first sergeants and I can better assist individuals seeking help," he said. "This is important because our improved understanding of behavioral health resources will enable us, as leaders, to mitigate the potential negative outcomes associated with issues Soldiers are facing in their personal and professional lives. By getting them the help they need early on, we get them back in the fight."

"When Soldiers receive the right support at the right time, they are more focused, resilient, and better prepared for their missions," he said. "This initiative ensures we're not only taking care of our people but also strengthening overall unit effectiveness."

Woodard encouraged every unit to take advantage of these weekly tours sooner rather than later.

"The quicker we learn about behavioral health resources and programs at Fort Johnson, the better equipped we are to assist our Soldiers," he said.

Editor's Note: The Military Health System has implemented Targeted Care at all military hospitals and clinics to give patients the right mental health support for their specific needs. The process starts with a preliminary assessment that vectors individuals to the best resource along the continuum of care.

Learn more at: <https://www.health.mil/Military-Health-Topics/Mental-Health/Targeted-Care>

Faith in Action: Army chaplain earns doctorate, board certification to strengthen spiritual care

By Jean Clavette Graves
BJACH Public Affairs Officer

FORT JOHNSON, La. — Chap. (Capt.) James Walker, a dedicated spiritual leader at Bayne-Jones Army Community Hospital, has achieved a significant milestone by earning a Doctor of Ministry and receiving board certification from the National Association of Veterans Affairs Chaplains. The accomplishment enhances his ability to provide compassionate ministry and support to Soldiers and families at the Joint Readiness Training Center and Fort Johnson, reinforcing his commitment to their spiritual well-being.

Col. Michael Jefferies, JRTC and Fort Johnson senior command chaplain, said Walker is a unique and talented minister with a high emotional IQ.

"His extended and additional education has refined him and has helped him grow into an even better chaplain," he said. "His additional education and expertise build confidence and credibility with his peers and clients."

Jefferies said Walker's board certification illustrates Walker's high level of competency.

"James is amazing in and of himself," he said. "His extra efforts in education and certification demonstrate his commitment to professionalism. Walker continually does all that he can to ensure the best quality of care possible for the people he serves. He is committed to doing his best to serve the Lord and to serve the people of his flock."

Walker, an Arizona native, spent 12 years farming and serving local congregations after earning a Master of Divinity from the Phoenix Seminary before joining the Army Chaplain Corps in 2018.

"When I was an undergraduate at Grand Canyon University, I was at a chapel service and was feeling overwhelmed that God was going to use me in that setting," he said. "I was already on my way to law school, and I resisted that call for a year before I realized I needed to switch gears, leave law school and go to seminary."

Serving Soldiers and veterans was never part of the plan, Walker said.

"A defining moment came in 2017 when I reunited on a ski trip with a college friend stationed at Fort Carson," he said. "As we enjoyed chili dogs at the top of the mountain, my friend suggested becoming an Army Chaplain. At the time it seemed like a crazy idea, I knew nothing about the Army, but the decision to join was affirmed repeatedly by family, friends and parishioners."

Walker said it was a blind faith step for him to join the Army at age 38.

Walker's first assignment was with 1st Squadron, 6th Cavalry Regiment, 1st Aviation Brigade, 1st Infantry Division, Fort Riley, Kansas.

"While at Fort Riley, I applied and was accepted for clinical pastoral education," he said. "Most people associate it with hospitals, but it's a clinical chaplain role which can be used anywhere there are high amounts of trauma: embedded with special forces, in hospitals, or in prisons."

According to Walker, the CPE residency program is accredited by the U.S. Army Training and Doctrine Command and the Association for Clinical Pastoral Education.

The program supports the Army Chief of Chaplain's requirement for clinically trained spiritual care specialists during the yearlong course.

"I did my residency at Brooke Army Medical Center in San Antonio, Texas," he said. "During that year, I earned a certification in clinical education and began working towards my doctorate degree."

Walker said upon completion of the CPE, his guidance from mentors at the U.S. Army Institute for Religious Leadership, school for Spiritual Care, was either earn a doctorate degree or become board certified to earn an additional skill identifier.

"The U.S. Army and Wesley Theological Seminary have a partnership that recognizes elective credits based on experience as an Army Chaplain during clinical pastoral education," he said. "During my residency, I took on-line courses, and I continued my research and presented my thesis on the 'Spiritual Healing from Internal Battles through guided meditation' during my first year assigned to BJACH."

In 2023, Walker earned a Doctor of Ministry from Wesley Theological Seminary.

"For me, participating in the graduation ceremony at the National Cathedral in Washington, D.C. was a pinnacle moment in my life," he said.

Walker said competition and mutual motivation with a fellow chaplain drove him to pursue board certification through the national Association of Veterans Affairs Chaplains.

"I only needed the doctorate or the board certification to earn the additional skill identifier, but I wanted both," he said. "I love school, and the board certification process encourages professional collegiality, personal growth, and the professional development of chaplains who serve service members and veterans."

Walker said the board certification illustrates his practical competence and best practices, versus the theoretical knowledge learned in the classroom.

Col. Alisa Wilma, hospital commander, said BJACH is lucky to have Walker.

"Pastoral care is a specialized skill. His dedication to all the nuances of providing care in a medical setting, both for patients and staff is outstanding," she said. "He meets our patients and staff where they work and worship, not just when they come in for care."



Capt. James Walker, a chaplain assigned to Bayne-Jones Army Community Hospital, takes a selfie in front of the Washington National Cathedral, during the Wesley Theological Seminary Doctor of Ministry commencement ceremony in Washington, D.C., May 8, 2023. (Courtesy Capt. James Walker)

Wilma said Walker's ministry reaches beyond the hospital walls and serves the entire Fort Johnson community through on call, support to installation chapel services and supporting units and families of deployed Soldiers.

Wilma said earning a doctorate and board certification speaks to Walker's dedication to constant personal and professional development.

"The skills he's honed through these achievements are applied to the problems that our staff and patients have here at BJACH," she said. "That drive for improvement, that need to be even better at what he does, means that we as a hospital and community benefit from his ever-growing skills and abilities."

Wilma said, chaplains in general, bring an added element to the healthcare environment for patients and providers.

"He is a gem, and he brings so much to the fight," she said.

VOICE OVER INTERNET PHONES (VOIP)

NEW NUMBERS

EFFECTIVE MAR. 31



Bayne-Jones Army Community Hospital

1585 3rd Street, Bldg. 285, Fort Johnson, LA

bayne-jones.tricare.mil or www.facebook.com/BayneJonesACH

<https://my.mhsgenesis.health.mil/>



BJACH Appointment Line.....	726-780-2175
Prescription Refills	337-386-1386
Q-Anywhere (text "GET IN LINE").....	844-398-4169
Correspondence	726-780-2262
Behavioral Health	726-780-2566 / 2567
Managed Care	726-780-2442 / 2441
Nutrition Care	726-780-2240
OB/GYN	726-780-2467 / 2468
Optometry / Audiology.....	726-780-2310 / 2311
Patient Experience.....	726-780-2443
Radiology	726-780-2356
Department of Public Health	726-780-1367

ACTIVE DUTY ONLY

3BCT, 10th Mountain Division
Soldier Center Medical Home
726-780-1224 / 1230 / 1228

All Other Units
Fontaine Troop Medical Clinic
726-780-0882 / 1137



Take the survey!

Help Corvias improve resident quality of life



By Corvias

It's time for the 2025 fiscal year Army Housing Annual Tenant Satisfaction Survey. Are **YOU** in?

The survey is being conducted online and now from your cell phone. Opt-in from your cell phones now (use the QR code on the right) to receive your survey via text message when it becomes available in March. Text option is not available for Army unaccompanied housing for 2025.

All households living in privatized, government managed Army or unaccompanied housing are invited to participate in the survey. This is your opportunity to provide feedback on your housing and community.

Households will also receive the survey via email, but only one survey per household or room/bed can be submitted. All surveys submitted are confidential and anonymous.

For more information contact your housing office or management office for privatized housing.



*U.S. phone numbers only at this time

Say what? The survey is coming?

We're all ears for your opinion!

Open
March 3
to May 1



OMB Control Number: 0704-0553 Expiration: 5/31/2025



Breakfast On the Go!

Enjoy a **FREE**
breakfast on us
to kickstart
your day!

Swing by your
Community Center
or catch us at any
main intersection in
your neighborhood.

Just a little
something to show
our appreciation!

March 20th

7:30 am
to
9:00 am

Contact your Community Office for more details.
We look forward to seeing you!

Corvias
PROPERTY MANAGEMENT

Army Emergency Relief breakfast Kicks off 2025 campaign

Angie Thorne

Garrison Public Affairs Office

FORT JOHNSON, La. — The Army Emergency Relief breakfast kicked off the 2025 campaign Feb. 28 at Army Community Service.

Soldiers, family members and dedicated members of the Army community gathered to support a program that has, since 1942, supported the Army based on the premise of Soldiers helping Soldiers.

AER's mission is to promote financial readiness and help Soldiers and Family members in times of need by providing grants, interest free loans and scholarships.

Just a few of the ways AER can help include:

Housing — utility and rent deposits, mortgages, small home repairs and more.

Personal vehicles — repairs, rental vehicles and car seats.

Medical — dental and medical expenses not covered by TRICARE, children's cranial helmets and more.

AER also offers a Quick Assist Program that allows the chain of command to provide immediate assistance. A company commander or first sergeant can approve loans up to \$2,000.

Those eligible include:

- Active-duty retired and medically retired Soldiers and their eligible dependents.

- Army Reserve and National Guard Soldiers on active duty for more than 30 consecutive days and their eligible dependents.

- Army Reserve and National Guard Soldiers who are retiring and receiving DFAS retired pay and their eligible dependents.

- Surviving spouses and children of Soldiers who died on active duty or as retirees.

AER has provided more than \$2 billion in assistance since 1942.

Many of those in attendance raised their hands when asked if they had been helped by AER.

Spc. Luther Blount, one of the Soldiers who has benefitted from AER assistance, said the program helped him with his chosen career training.

"There were costs and unexpected challenges associated with that training. Thanks to an AER grant, I was able to cover those ex-

penses. This allowed me to focus on my training and gain the knowledge and experience I needed to succeed in my career," Blount said. "It gave me peace of mind that I was able to take full advantage of these career opportunities. I want to express my deepest gratitude to AER and the Army.

Blount also encouraged his fellow Soldiers to explore these resources.

As a private and a recently divorced single mom trying to make ends meet, Staff Sgt Jessica Lattimore also received help from the AER program.

"AER gave me a loan that helped me reset some of my payments and spread them out enough that I was able to survive for the whole month and have my boys still be comfortable," Lattimore said. "Because of AER and being able to reset my finances, I was able to continue on in the Army. I'm a staff sergeant now and I love my job."

Col. Mark Andres, deputy commanding officer of JRTC and Fort Johnson, said AER helps Army Soldiers in need based on the generosity of other Soldiers.

Andres said Fort Johnson didn't do too well last year because we didn't meet the installation's goal.

"Last year at Fort Johnson, AER helped 247 active-duty service members and their families to just shy of \$240 thousand," he said.

"But of the \$78 thousand Fort Johnson raised in last year's campaign, only half of those contributions came from active-duty Soldiers."

Andres said Fort Johnson can do better and challenged Soldiers to do more this year.

"I think that we, as active-duty military, can contribute from our heart. The potential for us to help each other is huge," he said.

As the breakfast ended, Soldiers began filling out their contribution cards.

The Fort Johnson community can continue to contribute to AER each time they step up to an Army and Air Force Exchange Service payment terminal.

Before finalizing a purchase, customers are asked if they would like to donate to AER.

These donations are earmarked for Fort Johnson to support Soldiers through the AER Program.

For more information call 866-878-6678 or visit www.aerhq.org.



INSTALLATION SERVICES FAIR

Fort Johnson invites the community to meet leadership and hear about some of the outstanding programs and services offered on the installation.



MARCH 6
4:30-6:30 P.M. AT THE WARRIOR CENTER

ORGANIZATIONS

- Family and Morale, Welfare & Recreation
- Human Resources
- Garrison Safety Office
- Religious Support Office
- Plans, Training, Mobilization and Security
- Emergency Services
- Logistics Readiness Center
- Public Works
- Staff Judge Advocate
- SHARP
- Bayne-Jones Army Community Hospital
- American Red Cross
- Equal Opportunity
- Master Resilience Training
- Public Affairs Office
- Corvias
- United Services Organization
- Human Resources
- Commissary
- AAFES and more!



SERVICES

General Powers of Attorney, extreme weather notifications sign-up, passport photos and professional photos

Childcare provided for service members, families and attendees

**Not available for organization employees working a booth*

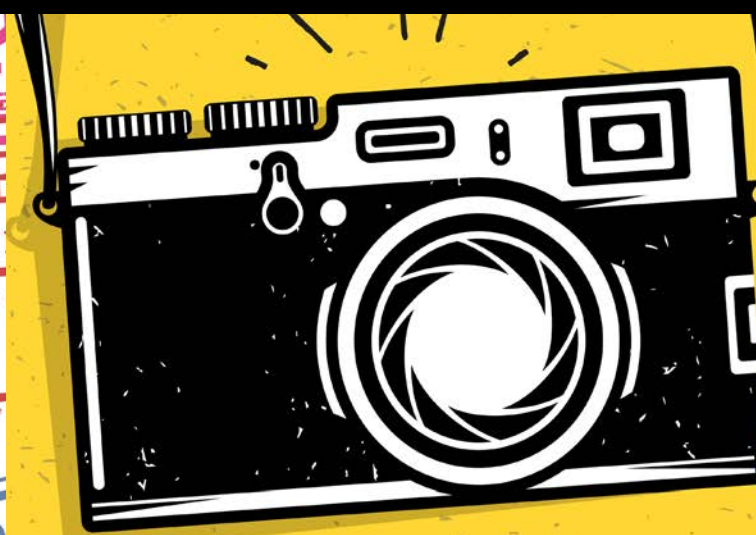
Complimentary food will be available!

For more information call 337-353-1694

Garrison Public Affairs Office provides two services at one Installation Service fair



From 4:30-6 p.m. PAO will be taking passport photos. There will be a sign up sheet at the PAO table and it's first come, first served.



The last 30 minutes, from 6-6:30 p.m., PAO will be taking professional photos.

BOSS
Better Opportunities for Single Soldiers

Crawfish

COOKING CLASS

WARRIOR CENTER
MARCH 11, 2025 @ 5PM
PRE-REGISTRATION ENDS MARCH 10, 2025

CONTACT BOSS FOR MORE INFORMATION
(337)378-3236

Check VIN numbers

The Directorate of Emergency Services Traffic Division will release the following vehicles to MWR 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 Johnson Police Traffic Division at 337-531-1806, 6675 or 2675.



2016	Yamaha	R3	2153
UNK	UNK	Boat trailer	N/A
UNK	UNK	Kayak trailer	N/A
UNK	McClain	Boat trailer	N/A
2001	Ford	F150	0450
2000	Ford	Ranger	3852
2006	Nissan	350Z	4586
2004	Cadillac	Escalade	5765
2003	Ford	Crown Victoria	2046
2011	Chevrolet	Cruz	6489
2012	Land Rover	Land Ranger	2214
2005	Honda	Civic	6295
1994	GEO	Tracker	0139
2007	Ford	F150	7785

GARRISON COMMANDER'S

GOLF SCRAMBLE

FRIDAY **MARCH 7**

WARRIOR HILLS GOLF COURSE

To register to play contact

\$50

PRICE INCLUDES

• GREEN FEE

• HALF CART

• AWARDS

• DINNER

\$55 DAY OF EVENT

NOON TEE OFF

337-531-4661

johnson.armymwr.com

JRTC & FORT JOHNSON

Warrior Hills

GOLF COURSE

ARMY COMMUNITY SERVICE

ACS

Real-Life Solutions for Successful Army Living

Employment

Readiness

Counseling

Relocation

FOR MORE INFORMATION

CALL (337)531-1941

Icons: car, heart, house, family

GARRISON COMMANDER'S

2 GUN SHOOT

March 22, 2025

Registration Open NOW

\$20 Per Competitor

Check-in - 8am

Safety Brief - 8:45am

Shooting Commences - 9am

For more information

call 337-531-7552

Image of a soldier shooting a rifle

STORYTIME

Tuesdays & Fridays

At the Allen Memorial Library

11:30AM

CONTACT THE LIBRARY

FOR MORE

INFORMATION

337-531-2665

Image of an open book with logos

CHECK OUT THE

AIRBORNE

JOINT READINESS TRAINING CENTER

FORT JOHNSON

PODCAST

Fort Johnson podcast - YouTube

Fort Johnson Podcast Podcast - Apple Podcasts

Images of soldiers and training center

Facebook, Instagram, YouTube icons

FOLLOW JRTC AND FORT JOHNSON

ON FACEBOOK, INSTAGRAM AND

YOUTUBE

GET CONNECTED

Facebook icon

/JRTCandFortJohnson

Instagram icon

@jrtcandfortjohnson

YouTube icon

@JRTCandFortJohnson

JRTC & Fort Johnson

SOLID WASTE

INSTALLATION RESOURCES FOR SUCCESSFUL WASTE MANAGEMENT

Providing Soldiers, families, civilians and contractors installation guidelines to dispose solid waste, restricted items, bulk items, hazardous materials and recyclables properly.

CORVIAS WAREHOUSE AND RECEIVING

For assistance call 337-535-1155
M-F 0800-1530



HOUSING BULK ITEMS DISPOSAL MAP

★ BULK ITEMS DISPOSAL

6528 Holmlund Street
For assistance call (337) 537-5021/5055
Operating hours are M-F 0800-1700
Installation military housing residents are authorized to dispose of bulk items into the roll off located at Corvias Warehouse. The site is marked **"RESIDENTIAL WASTE ONLY."**

DUMPSTERS

To request a dumpster, recycle a dumpster or have a dumpster removed
call 337-525-1155
0800-1530 M-F
Dumpster lids and doors must remain closed
(Louisiana regulations Title 33, Part VII, reference 507.D).

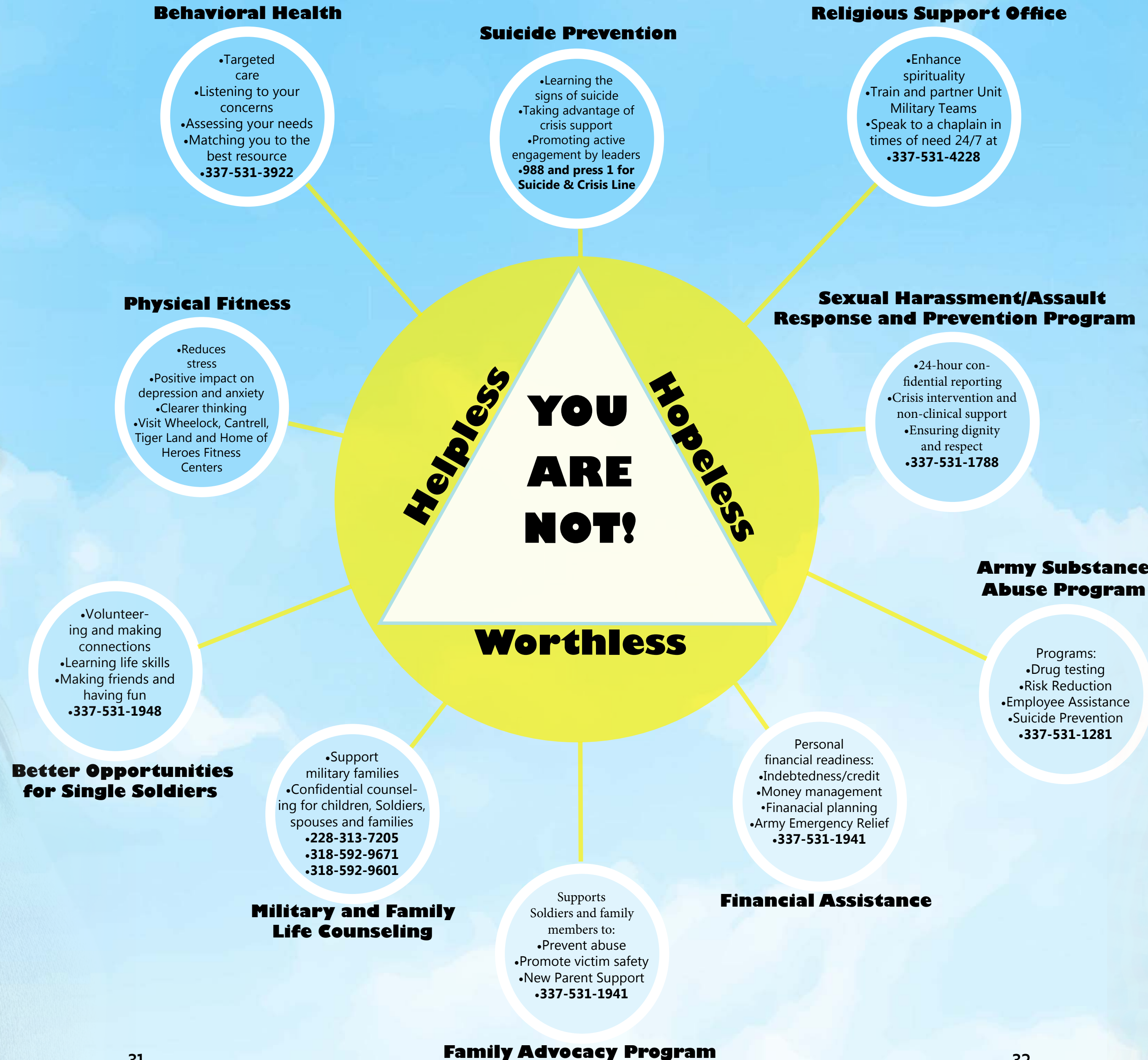
QRP/ RECYCLING CENTER

Building numbers 3620 & 3622 located at the intersection of Georgia and Maine Avenues.
For assistance call (337) 531-7556 M-F
0800-1600

8300 BLOCK ★ SOLID WASTE CONSOLIDATION POINT

For assistance call 337-535-1155
M-F 0800-1530

Supporting Soldiers and family members when they need it the most





Food Connects Us

2025 NATIONAL NUTRITION MONTH®

COOKING CLASS

Enhance your cooking skills, discover new flavors, learn techniques, and unleash creativity to craft delightful dishes with experts!

CLASS OVERVIEW

- Basic Cooking Techniques
- Cooking Tools & Appliances
- Meal Planning and Preparation

CLASS TOPICS

14th: Family Friendly Meals
21st: Cooking in the Barracks
28th: Performance Nutrition

1430-1530
EVERY FRIDAY IN MARCH
EDUCATION CENTER
7460 COLORADO AVE., BLDG. 660
FORT JOHNSON, LA 71446

TO REGISTER
SCAN QR CODE OR
CALL 337-531-1329



Thrift Shop hours are
Tuesday through Thursday
from 9:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m.

HOTH Thrift Shop

When you shop at the Home of Heroes Thrift Shop, you'll find fantastic bargains, but you'll also be contributing to our community, as well as the communities surrounding Fort Johnson. That's because 100% of the proceeds are reinvested into the organization, which benefits our grant program.

WHAT WE OFFER:

- ✓ Supporting our local community
- ✓ Volunteer program
- ✓ Grant program



ADDITIONAL DETAILS EMAIL:

Grants: hohthriftshop.grants@gmail.com
Volunteer: hohthriftshop.volunteer@gmail.com





Be there. Shelter heroes help their neighbors in Louisiana when they need it most.

Join the Red Cross shelter heroes in your community. You can be the crucial lifeline for people in need where you live, amid increasing disasters. Here's how you can help make a difference:

- * Support disaster emergency shelters near you
- * Provide meals, comfort & more to your neighbors
- * Receive preparedness training & resources
- * Make your community more resilient
- * Set your annual availability in two-week shifts
- * Join a special force of hundreds of humanitarians

Turn your compassion into action.

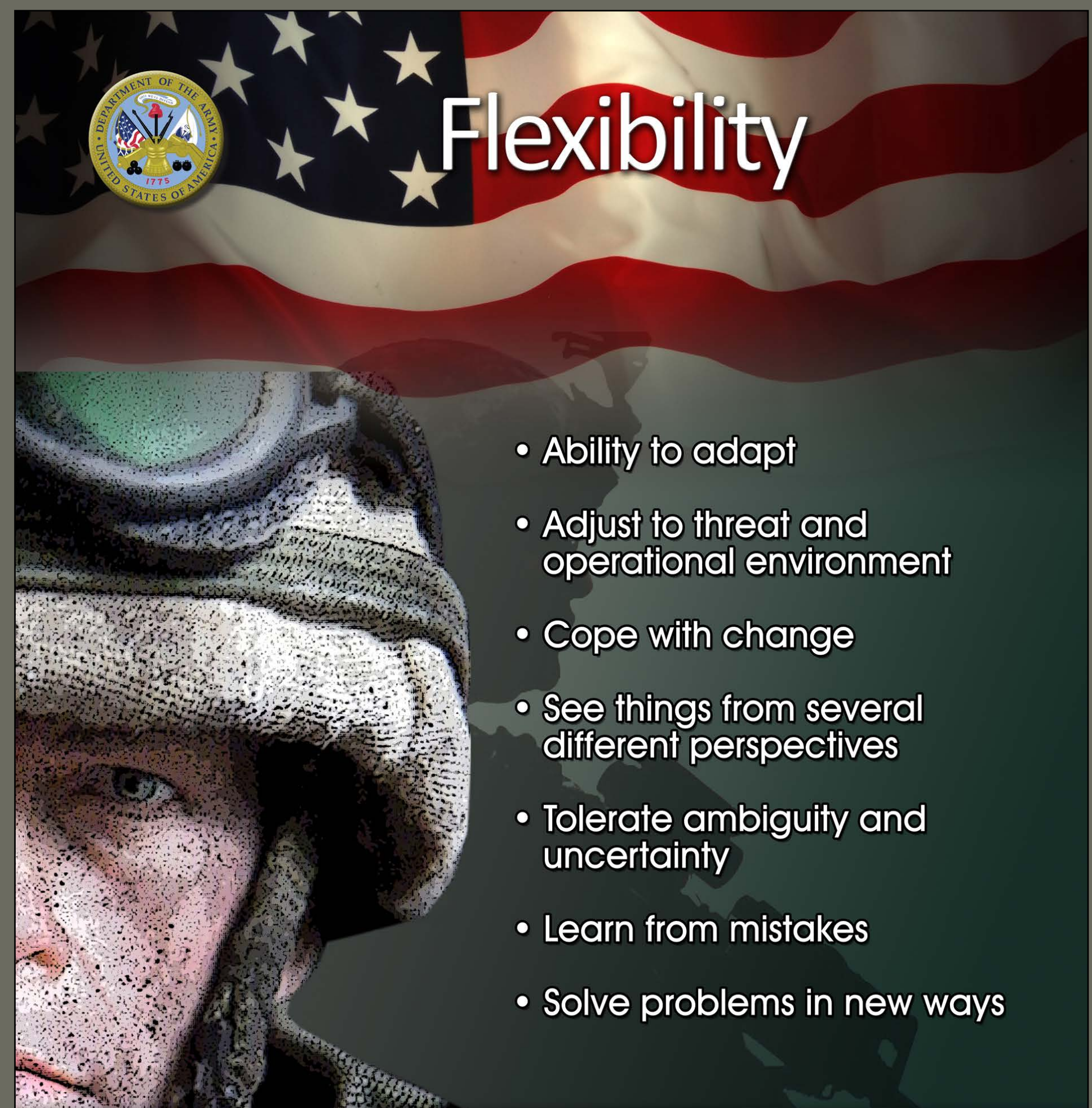
To sign up, get more information & find upcoming trainings, contact our team today. Use the QR code below or contact:

redcross.org/ShelterHeroes
ShelterHeroes@redcross.org



Scan to learn more

251601-28 5/23



Flexibility

- Ability to adapt
- Adjust to threat and operational environment
- Cope with change
- See things from several different perspectives
- Tolerate ambiguity and uncertainty
- Learn from mistakes
- Solve problems in new ways

Flexibility to meet unexpected threats and opportunities

If you see something, call the Fort Johnson CID office at 337-531-2931



U.S. ARMY



Always Ready, Always Alert
Because someone is depending on you

**YOUR
OPINION
MATTERS**

**GOT ISSUES?
LET YOUR
VOICE BE
HEARD**

SCAN



ARMY FAMILY ACTION PLAN

If it's a program or service,
an AFAP issue can **IMPROVE IT.**
If it's a policy or regulation,
an AFAP issue can **CHANGE IT.**
If it's a law,
an AFAP issue can **AMEND IT.**
If there's a low-cost, creative
solution,
You should **PURSUE IT.**

20  **25**

WANT TO HELP INCOMING SPOUSES?

SPOUSE-2-SPOUSE

SPONSORSHIP TRAINING



MARCH 25TH & SEPTEMBER 9TH @ 9:30AM

JUNE 17TH AND DECEMBER 9TH @ 5PM

ACS is offering training for Fort Johnson Spouses to become sponsors, helping incoming spouses with questions and resources before they arrive.

Also, Sponsors will get volunteer hours for their time!
We want all that PCS here to feel like part of the Fort Johnson family!



Class is held at ACS, Bldg 920.
Please call 337-531-7087 or 337-531-1941

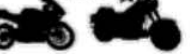
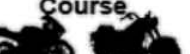
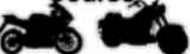
JRTC & Fort Johnson Motorcycle Safety Courses

See your unit
Motorcycle Mentor
first!



- Type in <https://safety.army.mil>
- Click on 'OFF-DUTY' at the top of the page
- Under 'PMV-2 (Motorcycles)' choose 'Training'
- Click on visit AIRS Website at https://airs.safety.army.mil/usg_disclaimer.aspx
- Follow the above link, type in your CAC code and click on "I ACCEPT"
- At the top for Region, click on "Southeast", and in Garrison, click on "Fort Johnson"
- Utilize the calendar and choose a course/date and click on "Location"
- This will take you to a page. Read the instructions and fill out the form

(337) 531 - RIDE **MARCH 2025**

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
2	3	4 Basic Riders Course 	5	6 Intermediate Drivers Training 	7 Advanced Rider Course 	8
9	10	11 Basic Riders Course 	12	13 Intermediate Drivers Training 	14 Remedial Drivers Training 	15
16	17 	18 Basic Riders Course 	19	20 Intermediate Drivers Training 	21	22
23	24	25 Basic Riders Course 	26	27 Intermediate Drivers Training 	28	29



Don't change your schedule. Stick to regular waking, eating, sleeping and exercise times

Sunday, March 9th

DON'T FORGET TO SPRING FORWARD

Have a nighttime routine. Prepare your body for sleep by engaging in a few relaxing activities before hitting the hay

REMEMBER TO SET YOUR CLOCKS **AHEAD 1 HOUR** SATURDAY NIGHT

Avoid long naps. Keep naps short (between 20-30 minutes) to avoid disrupting your sleep schedule

TIME CHANGE & DARKNESS SAFETY

- **More annoying than dangerous – Plummeting work productivity**
- **Somewhat dangerous – Poor sleep**
- **Dangerous – Feeling down in the dumps**
- **Seriously dangerous – Distracted driving**

Contact your Garrison Safety Office if you need additional tips at 531-SAFE

GARRISON SAFETY OFFICE (GSO)

Your Civilian Workplace Safety & Occupational Health Experts

WHAT WE HAVE TO OFFER

-  Workplace Inspections
-  CDC/FCC Proponent Training
-  Supervisor Training
-  Collateral Duty Safety Officer (CDSO) Training
-  Emergency Action Plans
-  HAZMAT Training
-  OSHA Specific Training
 - ✓ Lock Out/Tag Out (LOTO)
 - ✓ Respiratory Protection (RPPM)
 - ✓ Personal Protective Equip (PPE)
-  Army Traffic Safety Training
 - ✓ Basic Rider Course (BRC)
 - ✓ Experienced Rider Course (ERC)
 - ✓ Military Sports Bike Rider Course (MSBRC)
 - ✓ Intermediate Driver Training (IDT)
 - ✓ Remedial Driver Training(RDT)
 - ✓ Local Hazards Brief (LHB)
-  Accident/Mishap Reporting Procedures Training



Garrison Safety Office
7130 Pennsylvania Loop, Bldg 4209D
Office: (337) 531-SAFE
DSN: 863-7233
Email: usarmy.johnson.imcom.mbx.garrison-safety@army.mil



Tornado Warning at Work? Know Where to Go!

Tornado Watch means the weather conditions for tornadoes are favorable during the next few hours. A watch covers a large area of several cities or parishes



Tornado Warning means a tornado has been sighted or indicated by weather radar. A warning usually covers a smaller area of a few towns. Seek shelter immediately!

Know your office's Emergency Action Plan (EAP) or Mobilization and Contingency Plan (MAC-P). Seek shelter in designated safe areas – interior rooms or sturdy hallways away from windows. Stay informed and follow emergency instructions. Safety starts with awareness!

Contact the Garrison Safety Office if you have any questions at (337)531-SAFE