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Register today for the EmPOWerment Con



Courtesy photo

Registration is now open for the Fort Stewart-Hunter Army Airfield Marne Spouse EmPOWermentCon. The event, hosted by Army Community Service and partners, will feature a day full of seminar-style classes focused on giving spouses the power and knowledge they need to succeed in the areas of entrepreneurship, employment and education. The event is catered to spouses, but open to everyone. Participants are welcome to choose which classes they wish to attend. See the complete list and register for classes now at home.army.mil/stewart/index.php/about/Garrison/acs/ms-pow. COVID-19 mitigation factors will be enforced.

Marne Voices Speak Out

What's your favorite fall activity?

Photos by Sgt. Darryl Briggs

"I am an avid hunter and I love being out in the woods, so hunting for deer is my favorite thing to do during the fall."

Staff Sqt. Tyler Doebler 188th Inf. Bde.



"I love to do anything outdoors, so in particular I love to go camping and hiking during the fall."

Maj. Timothy Crawley 188th Inf. Bde.

"With me being a father of two, I love to take my kids out to the pumpkin patches during this season and let them do harvesting activities."

Sgt. 1st Class Bryan Fountain 188th Inf. Bde.



"My favorite fall activity involves me spending time with my family and just enjoying their company."

Staff Sgt. Edwina Reyna 188th Inf. Bde.

"Fall sports are some of my favorite things to do during this season. Currently, I am enrolled in a softball league."

Sgt. 1st Class Mark Bedloin 188th Inf. Bde.









3RD INFANTRY DIVISION COMMANDER SENIOR COMMANDER STEWART-HUNTER MAJ. GEN. CHARLES COSTANZA

USAG FORT STEWART-HUNTER ARMY AIRFIELD COMMANDER

COL. MANUEL RAMIREZ

HUNTER ARMY AIRFIELD COMMANDER LT. COL. STEPHAN R. BOLTON

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Cover: Capt. Mitchell Koellner, assistant operations officer with 3rd Combat Aviation Brigade, 3rd Infantry Division, speaks to students from St. Andrew's School during installation career day, Oct. 22 on Hunter Army Airfield. During the event, students visited the airfield. Truscott Air Terminal. the engagement skills trainer and installation dining facility. (Photo by Daniel Malta)

Installation's vaccination rate improves, health protection measures revised

Staff Report

3rd Infantry Division

Fort Stewart and Hunter Army Airfield are lowering the Health Protection Condition level to Bravo and adjusting General Order 1 restrictions resulting in improvements on Fort Stewart and Hunter Army Airfield as a result of an increase in vaccinated personnel coinciding with a noteworthy decrease in the number of positive cases in the last two weeks.

The improvements are credited to Soldiers, Army Civilians and Families following multiple increased health protection measures and the implementation of the DoD mandatory vaccination program over the past two months.

"While we know the additional restrictions were not a welcomed change back in August, they were necessary for the safety of our Soldier, Family members and community. The protection measures emplaced in August helped reduce the spread, kept our community safer, and have proven to be worth it," said Maj. Gen. Charles Costanza, 3rd Infantry Division commanding general. "We were able to safely conduct a major command post exercise while our cases dropped considerably. We need everyone to continue to be diligent to keep things moving in this direction." A personal point of pride to Costanza was that there was never an interruption to Department of Defense Education Activity schools due to the effects of COVID-19 since he took command in June this year.

"Seeing a number of neighboring counties having to return to homeschooling or initiating large quarantines was a potential threat we took very seriously when we made assessments on our policies and safety measures," Costanza said. "I am extremely proud of our DoDEA professionals for their diligence in maintaining safety in our schools and for all the attentive parents who ensured we got through this by taking any concerns they might have had seriously for the sake of the community."

Winn Army Community Hospital has been critical in providing treatment and continuing healthcare services to our community throughout the increase HPCON measures and greater COVID-19 response.

"I am equally proud of all our health care providers at Winn Army Community Hospital. Without their care and professionalism day in day out we would be in a tough spot. While there were several weeks that the capacity of the facility was stretched, the Winn Army Community Hospital team was never overwhelmed as they continued to care for our people," Costanza said. More than 90% of Fort Stewart and Hunter Army Airfield Soldiers are fully vaccinated and 95% partially vaccinated. The installation is also working to meet the DoD mandate for all Army Civilians to be vaccinated by November 22.

Based on the continued improvements and effective immediately, the restriction to bars and clubs for fully vaccinated service members is lifted. The limit on unit formations has been extended from squad to company/battery/troop size. Restrictions remain for those individuals that are not fully vaccinated.

All current protective measures pertaining to wearing masks on and off post remain in effect in accordance with DoD policy because the tri-county community transmission rates remain high. The command encourages Soldiers, leaders, civilian employees, and the community to still wear their mask indoors, do the right thing both on and off duty.

"Currently our service members are over 90% vaccinated, our local counties are still less than 50% vaccinated. While we are an example for the state, we are still not out of harm's way," said division surgeon Lt. Col. John Gartside. "Local hospitals are still on divert status. We continue to encourage families to get vaccinated, or to talk to their health care provider to make an informed decision if they still have concerns."

Photo Sgt. Marquis Hopkins

A Department of the Army Civilian receives a COVID-19 vaccination at Newman Fitness Center on Fort Stewart. Fort Stewart and Hunter Army Airfield are lowering the Health Protection Condition level to Bravo and adjusting General Order 1 restrictions resulting in improvements on Fort Stewart and Hunter Army Airfield as a result of an increase in vaccinated personnel coinciding with a noteworthy decrease in the number of positive cases in the last two weeks.

Spartan Soldier wins XVIII Airborne Corps Career Counselor competition



Courtesy photo

Sgt. 1st Class Yoleysi Garcia, the brigade career counselor for 2nd Armor Brigade Combat Team, 3rd Infantry Division, holds her award after winning the XVIII Airborne Corps Retention Excellence and Leadership Award, Oct. 21 at Fort Story, Va. The Army career counselor is the tip of the spear in meeting the Army's end strength through matching the needs of the Army and the Soldier to facilitate a Soldier's career and meet the needs of the Army.

Sgt. Justin McClarran Capt. Sean Minton 2nd ABCT

A Dogface Spartan Soldier, Sgt. 1st Class Yoleysi Garcia, the brigade career counselor for the 2nd Armored Brigade Combat Team, 3rd Infantry Division, won the XVIII Airborne Corps Retention Excellence and Leadership Award, Oct. 21 at Fort Story, Virginia.

The competition to win the award consisted of multiple stations, including an Army Combat Fitness Test, an essay, an exam, a board appearance and a mystery event that tested critical retention tasks. The mystery event tested physical fitness, running from station to station, as well as knowledge of Soldier skills. An Army career counselor spearheads the Army's mission to meet the demands of the Army's yearly end-strength goal through the never-ending work of retention.

In addition to Garcia winning, Sgt. 1st Class Fernando Reynoso, the battalion career counselor for the 3rd Battalion, 15th Infantry Regiment, 2nd ABCT, 3rd ID, and Sgt. Blake Dumas, the retention noncommissioned officer for the 6th Squadron, 8th Cavalry Regiment, 2nd ABCT, 3rd ID, were also sent to represent the Division at the XVIII Airborne Corps retention competition.

"The continued manning of the Spartan Brigade and our Army is a direct result of the hard work of career counselors and retention NCOS," said Command Sgt. Maj. Jaime Lopez, senior enlisted advisor of the 2nd ABCT, 3rd ID. "Special congratulations to Sergeant 1st Class Garcia for winning the Corps competition and hats off to Sgt. 1st Class Reynoso and Sgt. Dumas for representing the Brigade and the Division well."

The competition aimed to challenge the competitors on their Soldiering skills knowledge. For senior NCOs that specialize in functional career fields, this can be a challenge. Garcia was determined to not let that stop her.

"It's a motivator for me to show others not to stay behind the scenes once they hit a certain rank or position," Garcia said. "We want Soldiers to compete and do great things, and I think it's important to lead by example and show that competing and putting ourselves out there is for senior Soldiers as well."

While it was a competition, it offered the competitors more added benefits. For Reynoso, it was a great chance to meet others with the same passion to help Soldiers.

"It was a great experience to see career counselors from different units trying to achieve the same goal and was a great learning experience," Reynoso said. "Networking and seeing peers from across the XVIII Airborne Corps compete for a higher-level board lets you see the ones that want to separate themselves from their peers."

Whether Soldiers reclass or stay in their chosen career field, the goal is to advise based on the individual's career goals, needs and desires. Dumas, who went to compete for the XVIII Airborne Corps Retention NCO of the Year, said it's not a role he takes lightly, and the competition was eye opening. But it's not about the competition at the end of the day.

"It's really about being able to help Soldiers and point them in the right direction," Duma said. "It's helping to get them signed up for schools or just figure out what options are available to them."

Though the competition was challenging for all three Soldiers, it was a primarily a learning experience. Garcia reflected on the impact of being a career counselor has on a Soldier and their Family.

"It's very rewarding because you get to know Soldiers and their Families," Garcia emphasized. "We create generational trends by helping them stay active duty or decide to reenlist. Service becomes a tradition in their Families for generations. It's not just about one Soldier, but their whole Family."

Garcia, a native of Miami, served as a combat medic with the 615th Aviation Support Battalion, 1st Air Cavalry Brigade, 1st Cavalry Division, on Fort Hood, Texas, prior to becoming a career counselor. While Garcia enjoyed her work as a medic, she knew she wanted to help Soldiers in a different way.

"I always felt Soldiers missed out on career opportunities due to lack of information," she explained. "I wanted to be part of a team ensuring Soldiers know their options. I can now positively affect a larger population of Soldiers."

After winning the competitive award, Garcia says it's about more than just her.

"This is not a me accomplishment; this is a unit award," she added. "I will be the face to represent the Spartan Brigade, 3rd ID and the XVIII Airborne Corps at the next level. I'm excited to represent my unit and career counselor team."

Garcia plans to attend the 2021 U.S. Army Forces Command Retention Competition in December.



ACS, MWR, Coastal Happening Briefs

General Order 1 updates posted

To learn more about what is permitted during COVID-19 and what is not and what is not make sure to check out the latest guidance posted at: *home.army.mil/stewart/application/files/8816/0702/6315/3ID_Holiday_Guidance_2020.pdf*

Face masks required in on-post facilities

Effective immediately, 3rd Infantry Division, Fort Stewart and Hunter Army Airfield GO1 requires ALL individuals to wear a mask inside ANY on-post facility at Fort Stewart or Hunter Army Airfield. Service members are also required to wear a mask inside off-post public buildings/ facilities (i.e. barber shops, religious services, grocery stores, etc.). See the 3rd ID and Fort Stewart Hunter Army Airfield Facebook pages for more information.

Mask mandate exceptions

Exceptions to the mask mandate can be made if an individual is alone in a walled office; if an individual is eating and drinking and is socially distant from a co-worker; masks may be required to be lowered for identification or security purposes or as an annotated and approved reasonable accommodation. For details, visit *home.army.mil.stewart*.

Download the Digital Garrison app

Download the Digital Garrison app for your guide to all on post services, local news and more. Available for free on your android or Apple device. Just search for Digital Garrison app and choose Fort Stewart Hunter Army Airfield to get started.

Podcast now on iTunes, Spotify

The Marne Report podcast can now be found on iTunes and Spotify streaming platforms. Join us for our semi-regular podcast where we explore the ins and outs of Fort Stewart-Hunter Army Airfield.

Virtual newcomers orientation

Fort Stewart and Hunter Army Airfield have launched an interactive and streamlined newcomers orientation. It takes one quarter the time to complete and is accessible from any device, anywhere, anytime. Everyone can use the information on housing, finance, medical, child care, recreation and so much more. Check it out at *stewartandhunter.com*.

Manny on the Street web series

Curious about happenings on Fort Stewart-Hunter Army Airfield? Check out the new video series "Manny on the Street" featuring the Fort Stewart-Hunter Army Airfield Garrison Commander, Col. Manny Ramirez and installation partners. New videos posted as stories each Friday on our Fort Stewart-Hunter Army Airfield social media platforms.

Fort Stewart lost and found property

If you've lost something on Fort Stewart you may be in luck. The Fort Stewart Military Police lost and found property custodians may be holding your item. To see if your item has been turned in, or to report a missing item, email *usarmy.stewart.usag.list.des-crimb@mail.mil* with a detailed description of the item you are looking for. The office is also open for visitors every Thursday from 1-4 p.m.

Fort Stewart PX parking lot renovation

The resurfacing the PX parking lot has moved into Phase 2, in front of Starbucks. Starbucks and the drive thru will remain open and fully operational during the closure. Expect limited parking during this time with weekends included. Please use caution while in this area and follow assigned walkways. Contact the POC for this work at 767-1222.

Demobilizing Solders to affect services

Anticipate installation services to be impacted by demobilizing National Guard Soldiers beginning now through November. Several hundred National Guard Soldiers will demobilize here from supporting the southwest border mission. Plan now to take care of your medical and ID renewal appointments and for increased numbers in the PX, commissary and MWR facilities.

ID card extension set to expire Oct. 31

The DOD expired ID card extension ends for dependents of active-duty service members, Reserve, National Guard and their dependents Oct. 31. Cards can be renewed in person, with an appointment, or remotely via the Fort Stewart – Hunter website at *home.army.mill stewart*. Make your appointment now if you prefer to renew your cards in person. Appointments will fill up quickly.

See Chris Jansen live on Hunter

Get your tickets now for the highly anticipated concert of the season, featuring Chris Janson, The Davisson Brothers Band, and Noah Hicks! The event will take place Sat, Nov 13, at Saber Hall on Hunter Army Airfield. The concert is open to the public. All attendees are required to have a ticket, including children over the age of 3. Cost is free for Active Duty Service Members & their Dependents, and \$20 for Veterans, Retirees, DoD Employees & Civilians. For more information or to purchase tickets, visit *stewarthunter.armymwr.com*.

Fort Stewart Vaccine Schedule

COVID-19 Vaccines are provided on Fort Stewart at two locations. The Pfizer Vaccine hours are 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Tuesday-Thursday at Newman Fitness Center. The Moderna Vaccine is provided 7:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. Tuesday and Thursday. Walk-ins are welcome at the Fort Stewart sites.

Influenza vaccine offered

Influenza vaccine services are now available to TRICARE beneficiaries 1-7 p.m. in the Patriot Auditorium at Winn ACH. A two-day Drive-Through Flu Vaccine Clinic will also be offered 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Oct. 28 at the Winn ACH overflow parking lot on East 6th Street. The Flu Vaccine is available to individuals 3 years-old and up. In addition, Drive-Thru participants -- 18 years and up, may elect to get a COVID-19 Vaccine during their visit. Moderna will be offered to eligible beneficiaries on Oct. 28; Pfizer will be available Oct. 29. Identification and face masks are required.

Hunter Army Airfield vaccines

Pfizer is offered at Tuttle Army Health Clinic each Wednesday. Moderna is offered there on Tuesdays and Thursdays. All vaccines are provided inside Tuttle by appointment only. Call for 435-6633 to schedule a vaccine.

Get ready for the fall cemetery tour

During this visit, we will see Todd Ray, Warnell, Salem, Z.R. Moody and Jerusalem cemeteries and historic sites. We will eat lunch at Jerusalem. Lunch will be catered by Bojangles' at the site. The lunch cost is \$6.50. We can only accept cash. Please use exact change. Participants should meet us at the Liberty Independent Troop Park/Stafford Pavilion located on highway 84 behind the Liberty County Recreation Dept. Office at 609 Oglethorpe Highway, in Hinesville, beginning at 7:30 a.m. The tour starts at 8:15 a.m. Please RSVP with Dina McKain no later than Nov. 1 at 210-9374 or email *dina.m.mckain. civ@army.mil*.

Health benefits fair slated

The Fort Stewart Civilian Personnel Advisory center will be hosting the annual Health Benefits Fair on Nov. 3 and 4, from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Paul R. Smith Education Center, 100 Knowledge Drive. Open season is Nov. 8 – Dec. 13. This event is for federal civilian employees to aid in making informed benefit election decisions during open season. Healthcare vendors will be available both in person and virtually. For virtual attendance via MS Teams call 767-1585/8358.

BOSS hosts haunted trail

Join us for a killer time at the BOSS Haunted Trail: Slashers experience's chilling finale on Oct. 29-30. The haunted trail will be hosted at the Holbrook Pond recreation area from 8-11 p.m.. Cost is \$5. All proceeds go to support our local BOSS program. For more information, visit *stewarthunter.armymwr.com*.

Fort Stewart-Hunter Army Airfield Briefs

Join the SAMC

Are you a Sergeant Audie Murphy Club member? Do you have aspirations of becoming a member? The Fort Stewart-Hunter Army Airfield "Rock of the Marne" SAMC is reaching out to all members across the installation. We are actively updating our contact rosters and want to ensure we are capturing our members for updates with the Club. Please contact Sgt. 1st Class Kyle McKelvey at *kyle.l.mckelvey2.mil@mail.mil* for more information. We look forward to hearing from you. The meeting is the second Tuesday of each month at noon. Location will be listed on the Fort Stewart SAMC Facebook page.

Drug suppression team offers assistance

The Fort Stewart CID Drug Suppression Team (DST) is available to assist all commanders with Drug Awareness Briefings and support Health and Welfare Inspections. The DST has also updated their urinalysis hotline to request all positive urinalyses notification and supporting documents be submitted via email. For drug awareness briefings, health and welfare support, positive urinalyses, and questions, please contact the DST at *usarmy.stewart.3-mp-gp.mbx.stewart-cid-dst@mail.mil* or call 435-3315.

Personal Property ends virtual applications

The Fort Stewart-Hunter Army Airfield Personal Property Offices have stopped receiving virtual applications for Household Goods Moves. Soldiers, Family Members and Department of the Army civilians who require assistance with scheduling Household Goods must visit the following locations to schedule their Household Goods Shipments. Fort Stewart Soldier Service Center: 55 Pony Soldier Road, Bldg. 253, Room 2003A Phone: 767-7971/8154. Hunter Army Airfield Soldier Service Center: 171 Haley Avenue, Bldg. 1286, Room 229, Phone: 315-3828/2038.

MWR hosts abandoned vehicle auction

The annual abandoned vehicle auction is happening on Saturday, Nov. 6, at the Fort Stewart EDRE lot. A locksmith and tow services will be available on site. Registration will be conducted on site starting at 8 a.m.; auction starts at 10. Fort Stewart's public sale of abandoned vehicles, busses and equipment will be open to the public and will continue until all items are sold. All sales are final. Payment is by cash or credit card only. Vehicles sold must be removed from the yard on the day of the auction unless approved by the event coordinator. For more information, visit *stewarthunter.armymwr.com*.

3rd ID Equal Opportunity hotline

The 3rd Infantry Division Equal Opportunity Office has a 24 hours a day, seven days a week hotline that Soldiers and Family members can call and speak to an Equal Opportunity Advisor in the event they have any questions pertaining to Military Equal Opportunity. Additionally, you now have the ability to do an anonymous complaint through this number as well, 432-0421.

Commissaries offer Click2Go option

The Defense Commissary Agency's new online ordering/curbside delivery service, is here. Operating hours: 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. Online payment only. Visa, Discover, American Express & MasterCard accepted. The \$4.95 service fee has been waived for all patrons. No minimum order size or dollar amount required and customers can order 24/7 up to six days in advance. Visit *commissaries.com* for more information. First time customers will need to create an account.

Parking lot resurfacing

The Soldier Service Center, Bldg. 253, parking lot will soon be resealed and restriped. Start date has not been determined but be aware of blocked areas. For more information please call 320-0472.

Vehicle parking safety reminder

When parking a vehicle into a space, do not block the pedestrian walkway with your bumper or trailer hitch. If there is a sidewalk, or marked pedestrian pathway, ensure that it is not blocked by any portion of your vehicle when you park by it. A pedestrian walking past the vehicle may not notice a trailer hitch, and be severely injured by walking into it. Removing the hitch, and storing it inside the vehicle is the best way to ensure the safety of those walking close to your vehicle. For more information, please contact the Safety Office at 767-8442.

Changes to speeding violations issued

The commanding general recently authorized the Fort Stewart Military Police to issue DD Form 1408 for traffic violations when a Soldier is pulled over for speeding 10mph or over above the speed limit. The DD 1408 is effectively a military speeding ticket that allows a Soldier's brigade commander to issue administrative reprimands, non-judicial punishment, suspension of on post driving privileges, corrective training, and/or other appropriate remedial measures. Master Sergeants and above caught driving 10 mph or over the posted speed limit will have their misconduct addressed by the commanding general in accordance Policy Letter #3.

TARP training offered

The Fort Stewart Garrison Threat Awareness and Reporting Program training briefings are given on the first Wednesday of every month at 1 p.m. at Woodruff Theater. The Hunter Army Airfield TARP briefings are given on the second Wednesday of every month at 1 p.m. at the Hunter Army Airfield theater. Upon request, Savannah Resident Agency can provide TARP training via Microsoft Teams separate from the Garrison TARP briefs. MS Teams facilitates a maximum login capacity of 250 personnel. Unit staff or leadership requesting special TARP briefs must have a minimum of 100 or more personnel per briefing. If you have any questions, please contact us by phone at 315-2006 or 315-2008.

Dwight D. Eisenhower AMC shuttle service

Government transportation is provided for medical appointments to Dwight D. Eisenhower Army Medical Center at Fort Gordon each Tuesday, Thursday, and Friday. As a general rule patients electing to use their privately owned vehicles in lieu of government transportation will not be reimbursed for their travel and per diem. For info, contact the Transportation Coordinator at 435-6564.

MHS Genesis coming soon

The Defense Health Agency is in the process of rolling out MHS Genesis, the new electronic health record for the military. During the transition, we in the Low Country Market begin to transition from AHLTA, and our other medical and dental records systems, to MHS Genesis by June 11, 2022. Once fully implemented, MHS Genesis will support the availability of electronic health records for more than 9.5 million beneficiaries and over 200,000 MHS personnel globally.

Marne Reception Company PT

The Marne Reception Company is extending the opportunity to conduct physical training with in-processing Soldiers. Any gaining unit personnel at the company, battalion, or brigade level interested in conducting PT with their newly arrived Soldiers please contact the MRC front desk, at 767-0015, no later than the day prior to ensure proper coordination. Must provide the name of gaining unit, unit representative attending, and a by-name list of Soldiers requested to conduct PT with. Please contact the MRC commander with questions at 767-1743 or 767-5975.

AMEDD to host recruiting briefings

Personnel from AMEDD Recruiting will conduct information briefings concerning AMEDD commissioning program qualifications and application procedures. Briefings will be held at the Fort Stewart Education Center in room 248 at 9 a.m., Noon, and 2 p.m. Dec. 7 and at Winn ACH, Classroom C at 9 a.m., Noon, and 2 p.m. Dec. 8. All Soldiers who are interested in becoming an officer and continuing to serve in Army Medicine are encouraged to attend.

Spc. Dre Stout 3rd ID Public Affairs

The 3rd Infantry Division is looking for Soldiers to solve problems and innovate in their day-today duties and at all organization levels, updating antiquated systems, enhancing effective training or creating more efficient operations and processes. Called the Marne Think Tank, a diverse team has been assembled to help modernize every aspect of the nation's only armored division east of the Mississippi River. The division's most senior leaders are bringing creative Soldiers together, regardless of rank or years of experience, to present ideas in the hopes of leaving no opportunities unaddressed.

"The Marne Think Tank is an informal network of people in the division who are interested in doing innovations or making changes to problems they face every day and creative people who can come up with solutions to help fix those problems or challenges," said Maj. Dominic Pileri, the chief of innovations at 3rd ID. "This is a survey of interest that says, 'those things that you're facing every day, are they harder than they should be?' Most people say 'yes' to that question and then we invite them to come attend this."

The program looks for creative Soldiers who are critical thinkers and think outside the box when addressing issues. They are also looking for Soldiers who may already possess technical skills, whether it's through formal education or personal hobbies in areas such as software, designing phone apps, coding or robotic engineering. The Marne Think Tank provides Soldiers an opportunity to get together with a community of like-minded Soldiers from across 3rd ID that are motivated to contribute to the nation's ground force of the future.

The program creators say the Soldiers facing daily challenges within the division are most likely to be junior enlisted Soldiers, the ones in the motor pools, sitting in the turrets, and at training ranges. Soldiers who can develop creative solutions to improve their organization are specifically the ones for which the Marne Think Tank are looking.

While the Army focuses on large-scale modernization efforts, the Marne Think Tank focuses on the smaller processes at unit level. The smaller bugs at unit level might not get as much attention, but still might have a significant impact on day-to-day operations and Soldier's morale.

"The Marne Think Tank will help us identify problems the units are facing faster at the smallest level," said Capt. Ben McFarlin, the deputy innovations officer for 3rd ID. "Having a forum like this where a lot of people are able to come and highlight these issues to us directly, it helps them to bridge that gap a lot faster than they would have if they were voicing this to a platoon sergeant or other people that are very well intentioned, but might not necessarily have the ability to affect that change quite as quickly as we can from division."

Innovation fosters a culture of development for Soldiers by giving them technical skills learned through education. It also makes their units more efficient and lethal by giving time back to warfighters to devote to readiness. Those benefits contribute to any missions the Marne Division receives, whether it's deploying, conducting garrison operations, or modernizing the force.

At the moment, the Marne Think Tank program is pursuing an education path on how to apply problem curation and design thinking to problems across the division. Every member of the program receives information on expanded training opportunities, both online or in-person, in order to become a conduit of information for their other Soldiers. There is also an ongoing effort to bring Soldiers to the Georgia Institute of Technology in Atlanta in January for an innovation workshop where they will interact with students and academia from across the country.

The Marne Think Tank conducts formal meetings at Club Stewart once a month with smaller working groups that meet twice a month. Program creators said a future goal is to establish a computer lab and makerspace where Soldiers can meet each other more frequently and collaborate on initiatives. Eventually, the Marne Think Tank will start making the division's training and systems more effective with its informal network of Soldiers. The Marne Think Tank's goals are to foster an innovative culture and continue the education of the division's Soldiers.

"We're trying to put the word out that we value everybody's opinion and realize that there are very smart, skilled people at every rank," McFarlin said. "We value their skills, input and want to hear from them."



Photo by Spc. Dre Stout

Soldiers assigned to 3rd Infantry Division discuss innovative solutions to enhance operations at the unit level, Oct. 19 during the Marne Think Tank meeting on Fort Stewart. The event is an informal network of Soldiers within 3rd ID that helps them develop and learn technical skills as they improve their organization.

Taking care of Families helps Army retain its people, senior leaders say

Joseph Lacdan Army News Service

WASHINGTON— In an effort to prioritize people and better address the concerns of Army families, senior leaders answered questions about health care, moves and domestic violence during a town hall Oct. 12.

Secretary of the Army Christine E. Wormuth, Army Chief of Staff Gen. James C. McConville and Sgt. Maj. of the Army Michael A. Grinston said that placing all Army personnel as the top priority will strengthen the force, as part of the Association of the U.S. Army Annual Meeting and Exposition event.

"It's not Soldiers first, it's people first because it recognizes the importance of families," McConville said. "We talk about being in a war for talent. If we want to retain Soldiers, we have to retain families."

With October being Domestic Violence Awareness Month, the leaders said they continue to be focused on curbing domestic violence and abuse. Since December, the Army's Special Victims' Counsel Program has provided legal services to qualifying victims of domestic abuse and sexual assault. Army legal assistance offices have also given victims legal representation.

"There's no room for domestic violence in our military," Grinston said. "I'd ask every leader in the Army to go out there and just talk to your people and their families."

Wormuth cited the "This is My Squad" initiative, which encourages leaders to form closer bonds with Soldiers both on duty and in their personal lives to help identify problems that lead to domestic abuse.

"What we'd like to do is catch families that are having problems and support them before violence happens," Wormuth said. "And that's really what we're trying to get at ... making sure that our leaders are looking at promoting a healthy command climate."

McConville said that often victims don't know where to turn following an assault incident. He said the Army remains focused on providing services victims can trust. Soldiers can also utilize each installation's Family Advocacy and Strong Bonds programs, which center on the family unit by using education and training to build stronger relationships and prevent domestic violence.

In the Strong Bonds program, deploying Soldiers in the same cycle can engage in recreational activities and go on retreats with each other's families. Family Advocacy has a Victim Advocacy Program, which provides services 24 hours a day including counseling, emergency assistance and behavioral health.

McConville also reiterated the Army's goal of getting 100% of the force vaccinated by Dec. 15 for active-duty Soldiers. About 91% of the active force has been vaccinated to date. Wormuth said that COVID-19 deaths of Soldiers, family members and civilians has increased in recent months. McConville said that he has seen more Army civilians lose their lives to the virus, including one



Courtesy photo

Secretary of the Army Christine E. Wormuth, Army Chief of Staff Gen. James C. McConville, and Sgt. Maj. of the Army Michael A. Grinston discuss how the Army is improving quality of life for Army families during an Association of the U.S. Army town hall in Washington, D.C., Oct. 12

of his former battalion commanders.

"The reason that the [Defense] Department has mandated the vaccine for the entire military is because it's a health, safety and readiness issue," Wormuth said. "We have safe, effective vaccines that can protect our Soldiers, their family members, our Department of the Army civilians and contractors from COVID."

The Army continues to be impacted by tumultuous work shortages during the coronavirus pandemic as Soldiers have reported experiencing delays of up to six weeks for moving companies to pick up their household items during permanent change-of-station moves. The Army has worked to provide Soldiers with PCS orders at least 120 days before their report date to give moving companies more time to deliver goods to their next duty stations.

"[We] shoot for 120 days, so that we can put the demand signal on a very stressed industry," said Lt. Gen. Duane Gamble, deputy chief of staff for logistics, G-4. "We're holding industry accountable."

Gamble reminded Soldiers who do not receive their household goods by their report date can file inconvenience claims, which pays Soldiers per diem for each day past their scheduled delivery date that they do not receive their items for up to seven days. If Soldiers have not received their items after the seven days, out-of-pocket expenses exceeding the per diem amount can be reimbursed by the moving company to alleviate some of the financial impact. Since the pandemic began, the Army has filed more than 2,500 claims totaling \$1.37 million paid to Soldiers.

This summer, the Army temporarily widened the window for Soldiers to report to their next duty assignments, allowing Soldiers to arrive several days before or after their scheduled report date. The Army also added a live chat feature to its "Army PCS Move" app, which allows users to immediately get answers for pressing questions on moves.

Lt. Gen. Jason Evans, deputy chief of staff for installations, G-9, said that the Army will release its virtual Exceptional Family Member Program in the spring. The service has been piloting the program that will reduce the amount of time needed to research health care options for exceptional family members during PCS moves.

The Army designed the program to provide information resources for families on their next potential duty stations and to reduce the amount of paperwork needed by managing enrollments online.

Afghan evacuees head to school

Pfc. Caitlin Wilkins Operation Allies Welcome Operation Allies Refuge

FORT McCOY, Wis. — Afghan evacuees here are learning English at the Enforcer Kids Academy and Enforcer Adult Class to help as they assimilate into life in the United States through Operation Allies Welcome.

Each school offers separate classes for children, adults, women and those already fluent in English.

"My biggest goal is to see them become literate," explained an Afghan evacuee teacher who leads many of the lessons. "To see my students be an active member of the greatest democracy in the world, I want to see them there."

Classes are hosted Monday through Friday for one hour, and include writing, public speaking, and pronunciation guidance.

"I've taught grammar classes, conversation classes and speaking classes for those that have a problem with speaking," explained a volunteer Afghan evacuee teacher.

Many students already have advanced degrees from Afghanistan, and just need help with their English so they can finish their studies in America.

"I want to continue my studies in America," said a student at the Enforcer Adult Class. "America has more facilities for students like us to complete our studies. I want to get my PhD, it's one of my goals." The school opened after Afghan evacuees asked to use one of the buildings on post to teach English classes. After some modifications to one of the rooms, classes started.

"We had school everyday in the beginning," said Chief Warrant Officer 2 Priscilla Atkinson, a Chemical, Biological, Nuclear, Radiological Warrant Officer from 10th Chemical Company, Fort Carson, Colorado. "We had it Monday through Sunday, but then we cut it down to Monday through Friday because this is how it will be if you go to school in the United States."

As the class grew and they started to run out of space, teachers decided to offer multiple classes throughout the day so everyone had an opportunity to learn.

"In the beginning we had 60 kids in here at one time, and the class was only set up for 50 students," explained Atkinson. "So we cut it off at between 40 to 45 students per class. Then we made a second class in the afternoon, so there are now two kids classes, that way the kids can get the opportunity to come."

While the schools' main purpose is to teach Afghan evacuees English, it also allows the students to experience American classrooms before they leave Fort McCoy.

"This was just a start," explained Atkinson. "So whenever they go to school, they've already seen what a classroom looks like. They've experienced it. They'll transition from speaking their language into speaking our language, learning ABCs and counting."



Photos by Pfc. Caitlin Wilkins

Afghan evacuees practice writing in English at the Enforcer Women's Class, Oct. 15 on Fort McCoy, Wis.

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What a weekend!



Fort Stewart's Fall Fest and Oktoberfest was one of the most well-attended Directorate of Family, Morale, Welfare and Recreation events since public gatherings resumed. Hundreds of Soldiers, Family members and others cued for rides and food at the events and enjoyed the fall vibes. The Oktoberfest featured German food, beer, and entertainment, including crowning Mr. and Mrs. Oktoberfest. The Fall Fest was a held Oct. 22-24, and Oktoberfest was Oct. 23. Installation leaders attended the celebration.



OCTOBER 28, 2021 THE FRONTLINE 11

MWR wows with festivals









Courtesy photo

From left, Fort Stewart Exchange General Manager Hollie Morales, Garrison Commander Col. Manuel Ramirez, DOCS Dental owner and CEO Dr. Lawrence Caplin and actress and entrepreneur Angela Simmons cut the ribbon on a new DOCS dental office at the Army & Air Force Exchange Service furniture store mini mall, Oct. 22 on Fort Stewart.



Keeping smiles bright: dental clinic opens on Stewart

Conner Hammett AAFES

Fort Stewart retirees and military families can keep their smiles bright without having to go off-post thanks to the opening of a DOCS dental office at the Army & Air Force Exchange Service furniture store mini mall.

Fort Stewart Garrison Commander Col. Manuel Ramirez and a special celebrity guest, actress and entrepreneur Angela Simmons, joined Fort Stewart Exchange General Manager Hollie Morales and DOCS owner and CEO Dr. Lawrence Caplin in cutting the ribbon on the dental office on Oct. 22.

"The convenience of dental services on-post is a tremendous benefit to the Fort Stewart community," Morales said. "The Exchange is committed to making life better for all who call Fort Stewart home."

In addition to retirees and military dependents, Veterans with service-con-

nected disabilities, Department of Defense civilians and other Common Access Card-holders can also visit the dental office.

The addition of the DOCS dental office is the latest step in the Exchange's commitment to improving the quality of life for all who call Fort Stewart home. In the last year, the Fort Stewart Exchange has added a Bun-D restaurant, New Beginnings automotive care, Studio 78 hair salon and Ralphie's Theatre & Pizzeria.

The DOCS dental office has seven operatory rooms and provides a wide range of services to include general dentistry, orthodontics, periodontics, endodontics and cosmetic. The clinic is open Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Saturday from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. and accepts all TRICARE dental plans for beneficiaries, as well as the Federal Employee Dental and Vision Insurance Program (FEDVIP) and other insurances. For more information, call 312-3474.

Installation adjusts recycling operations

Special to the Frontline

Effective immediately, the Fort Stewart-Hunter Army Airfield Recycling Center will no longer process glass items and will only process plastics #1, #2 and #5.

All cardboard, aluminum cans, and paper (separated in a clear plastic bag) will still be accepted. Please refer to the image below for a full list of what can be recycled on the Installation.

Remember, there are 24-hour

Recycling Convenience Centers available on both Fort Stewart and Hunter Army Airfield for anyone living on or off post.

- Fort Stewart: Intersection of Veterans Parkway and McFarland Avenue behind the Victory Shoppette.
- Hunter Army Airfield: Between the Post Exchange and the Commissary and on Georgia Hussars.

For more information, please call 767-8880 or 767-2010.

SUPPORT THE RECYCLING PROGRAM! The following materials can be recycled on post:



FS: Intersection of Veterans Pkwy & McFarland Ave (behind Victory Shoppette) HAAF: Between Bldg 6020 (PX) and Bldg 6025 (Commissary) & on Georgia Hussars Sustainability starts with you! Recycle at home and on the job. Recycling benefits our environment and it is MANDATORY. Phone: (912) 767-8880 or (912) 210-6804 Courtesy graphic



Special Deliveries

Provided by Winn Army Community Hospital

Oct. 16

Adaline Narcissa Lynn Smith, a girl, 7 pounds, 8 ounces, born to Sgt. Zachary Smith and Davilyn Smith.

Oct. 17

Ronan Mack Horwatt, a boy, 9 pounds, 1 ounce, born to Tyler Horwatt and 1st Lt. Payton Ambrose.

Oct. 21

Ishton Levi Paul, a boy, 8 pounds, 8 ounces, born to Sgt. Shinton Paul and Marie Narcisse.

Hailey Mae Funk, a girl, 6 pounds, 15 ounces, born to Staff Sgt. Christopher Funk and Lauren Funk.

Elanor Grace Gott, a girl, 8 pounds, 6 ounces, born to Sgt. Noah Gott and Spc. Makenzie Foster.

Oct. 23

Elijah Thomas Bull, a boy, 6 pounds, 15 ounces, born to Spc. Christopher Bull and Haylee Bull.

Savannah Irel Balsindes Urquiola, a girl, 6 pounds, 5 ounces, born to Boris Balsindes Urquiola and Spc. Yelaine Balsindes Urquiola.





BOXING NIGHT

Monday 15 November 2021 Trent Field, behind 3ID Division Headquarters Free Admission Doors Open at 4:30p.m./Bouts Begin at 5:00p.m. Food and Drinks available for purchase w/photo ID

Boxers must register by 04NOV21 To Register: Contact CPT Harding <u>Stephen.t.harding2.mil@army.mil</u> or (912) 425-9912; SGM Nieves <u>reinaldo.nieves1.mil@army.mil</u> or (912) 425- 2427.

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CHAPLAIN'S CORNER Finding something to believe in

Capt. John Silvey 14th Field Hospital Chaplain

How important is your faith? Faith is foundational to the human spirit and of the utmost importance.

Is just having faith as important as the specific object of that faith?

The object of the faith is the most crucial part because what good is faith without the value behind the concept?

A simple example of this could be a chair. I can say that I trust chairs in general as a means of being able to sit down at a table or a desk. The truth is that I trust some chairs more than others and there are some broken chairs I would not trust at all. Not just any chair will do! Picking a sturdy chair will keep me from falling to the ground.

Almost everyone has faith in something or someone, but the reliability and the trustworthiness of the object of our faith itself is what makes all the difference in the world. Some people trust in money. Some others trust in the power of the human mind. Some trust in their own physical beauty. What happens when those things fade, let us down, or betray us? How do I handle a crisis when the object of my faith is shaken? Can money get me through the loss of a loved one? What will be my response if I start to lose control over my beauty, my physical and mental strength, or my overall health? These are just a few questions that can help us evaluating the trustworthiness in an object of faith.

One's faith is only as strong as the one in whom we put our faith.

For me as a Christian, I personally trust in Jesus Christ because He has never let me down. He is unchanging! I believe a good and faithful God will never be anything else without losing His very essence.

I encourage you to evaluate the object of your own faith today. Is it reliable and trustworthy without fail? Will I be able to stay ready and resilient in the storms of life? I believe our faith absolutely matters. I also believe that the object of one's faith is worth evaluating.

The unit ministry teams of Fort Stewart are here to help you and your Families to process in these types of matters and so much more. I encourage you not to wait for a crisis or a proverbial storm to strike before you take the time to evaluate your own faith.



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Dragon's Lair

Local students explore life in the military during career day

Photo by Sgt. Andrew McNeil

A student sits inside of an AH-64E Apache helicopter during the St. Andrew's School Career Exploration Day, Oct. 22 on Hunter Army Airfield. The Soldiers of the 3rd Combat Aviation Brigade hosted a static display allowing local high school students to learn about the aviation assets within the Army.



Left: A Soldier with 3rd Combat Aviation Brigade speaks with students during St. Andrew's School career day, Oct. 22 on Hunter Army Airfield. The group met with Soldiers of varying career fields, ranging from pilots to military police.

Photo by Sgt. Andrew McNeil

Photo by Daniel Malta

Soldiers from the 3rd Combat Aviation Brigade give the local high school students a hands-on tour of an HH-60M Black Hawk helicopter during the St. Andrew's School Career Exploration Day, Oct. 22 on Hunter Army Airfield. During the tour, the students toured Hunter Army Airfield to learn about careers and life in the military.



Photo by Sgt. Laurissa Hodges

Master Sgt. Dereck Souder (left) the maintenance manager of 87th Division Sustainment Support Battalion, 3rd Division Sustainment Brigade, 3rd Infantry Division, and Sgt. 1st Class Daniel Anderson (right) the 87th DSSB primary motorcycle mentor, conduct a quarterly motorcycle inspection, Oct. 22 on Fort Stewart.

Safety first: Providers host motorcycle training

Sgt. Laurissa Hodges 3rd DSB

Soldiers assigned to 3rd Division Sustainment Brigade, 3rd Infantry Division, conducted a quarterly motorcycle inspection, Oct. 22 on Fort Stewart. The inspection is designed to promote safety, educate riders on policy and procedures and to ensure that riders are properly licensed.

"We're doing our quarterly pre-check ride," said Staff Sgt. Wendell Rivens, the 87th Division Sustainment Support Battalion, 3DSB, motorcycle mentor. "The companies do their own checks, but we're bringing everybody together to ensure that they're doing the right thing and get everybody good to go."

In order to ride a motorcycle on post, Soldiers have to complete the installation motorcycle mentorship course.

"Soldiers can get complacent with their equipment very easily whereas if you have a fresh set of eyes looking at the equipment we may catch something that they don't," said Sgt. 1st Class Daniel Anderson, the 87th DSSB primary motorcycle mentor. "With motorcycles, something very small can cause an accident."

The motorcycle mentors inspect and conduct motorcycle safety and riding courses in order to prevent accidents and build proficiency among riders.

"Motorcycle accidents are a big thing in the Army," Rivens said. "What we can do to get after it is ensure that everyone knows the rules and regulations, understand how to be extra safe and what is expected of them which includes their equipment like the helmet, gloves and something reflective on the body when riding. Also, the motorcycle itself has to have safety features and everything put together like it's supposed to be."

By providing a quarterly check and ride, the course raises awareness for motorcycle riders.

"I'm hoping to get more riders and more aware-

ness," Rivens said. "If Soldiers and civilians see that we support motorcycle safety requirements for the Army and the local population, I hope it will mitigate incidents and accidents that happen, the Soldiers understand how to ride in a group and what we're expecting them to look for when they're riding by themselves."

The inspection follows up with a motorcycle ride to the 3rd Infantry Division ride next week. Not only is the Division ride supporting motorcycle safety, but it also builds camaraderie amongst fellow riders.

"I want to make sure the Soldiers are familiar with the policies, gain some camaraderie with the fellow riders and to have a nice enjoyable ride with someone instead of by themselves," Anderson said. "Riding motorcycles sometimes can be long and you don't get the capability of a radio or slacking off like you can in a car. On a motorcycle your attention should be in a high state of alertness at all times and you can get fatigue very easily. With camaraderie, is can be nice to have someone with you."