



THE

Home of the 3rd Infantry Division

# FRONTLINE



VOL. 57, ISSUE 14 Serving the Fort Stewart and Hunter Army Airfield communities • <https://home.army.mil/stewart/index.php/about/news>

APRIL 14, 2022



## EYES ON EUROPE

Civic leaders tour Fort Stewart, Page 8 | Installation exercise next week, Page 7  
Soldiers compete for EIB/ESB, Pages 10-11 | Gold Star Spouse, Pages 19-20



Photo by Daniel Malta

**Sgt. Mark Hawkins, a MQ-1 operator with the 224th Military Intelligence Battalion, navigates the obstacle course on Fort Stewart during the 116th Military Intelligence Brigade Best Warrior competition April 5. Hawkins was the non-commissioned officer Best Warrior runner-up. After this event, competitors visited the grenade range and then conducted a number of warrior tasks and battle drills such as weapons assembly and map reading. Check out next week's The Frontline for more coverage of the competition.**

## TRICARE authorizes prescription refill waivers

The Defense Health Agency announced TRICARE beneficiaries in five Georgia counties (Bryan, Chatham, Houston, Macon, and Taylor) are authorized emergency prescription refills now through April 16 due to emergency conditions. TRICARE beneficiaries should take their prescription bottle to any TRICARE retail network pharmacy. To find a network pharmacy, beneficiaries may call Express Scripts at 1-877-363-1303 or visit <https://militaryrx.express-scripts.com/find-pharmacy>. Beneficiaries are advised to visit <https://militaryrx.express-scripts.com/notices/weather/state-emergency-alert-georgia-wildfire> for updates.

## Marne Voices Speak Out

### What are you doing for Spring Break?

Photos by Jenny Walker

“Getting my son and gonna hit the beach and hopefully he’ll have some fun, he’s only two.”

**Spc. Michael Udejiofor**  
50th Public Affairs Detachment



“Working throughout the week and then possibly going down to Florida, spending time with family on the weekend.”

**Spc. X Wright**  
HHBN



“Planning on going down to Florida, going to the beach.”

**Sgt. Bryce Marrell**  
HHBN



“Going to stay here in Hinesville, possibly going to the beach at Tybee Island or Jekyll Island, staying local.”

**Staff Sgt. Andrew Zimmerman**  
2-69 AR



“We are actually celebrating my wife’s birthday. We are going to her favorite place in the world, Universal and spending a couple of days.”

**Pvt. Dustin Stark**  
50th PAD



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

## THE FRONTLINE

942 Dr. Ben Hall Place  
Suite 1087, Building 1  
Fort Stewart, Georgia 31314

Garrison Public Affairs Officer  
Chris Fletcher

Editorial/Design Staff  
Managing Editor

Molly Cooke

Military Editor

Spc. Summer Keiser

Production Manager

Eliese Bowles

Staff Writers

Kevin Larson

Dina McKain

Jenny Walker

Hunter Public Affairs Officer

Daniel Malta

3rd Infantry Division PAO

Lt. Col. Lindsey Elder

3rd ID PAO NCOIC

Sgt 1st Class Jason Hull

Deputy PAO

Capt. John Howard

1st ABCT PAO

Capt. Patrick Connelly

1st ABCT PAO NCOIC

Staff Sgt. Daniel Guerrero

2nd ABCT PAO

Capt. Sean Minton

2nd ABCT PAO NCOIC

Sgt. Justin McClarran

2nd ABCT PAO reporter

Sgt. Trenton Lowrey

3rd DSB PAO NCOIC

Staff Sgt. Joel Salgado

3rd DSB PAO reporter

Sgt. Laurissa Hodges

3rd CAB PAO

Sgt. Savannah Roy

3rd CAB PAO Reporter

Spc. Caitlin Wilkins

50th PAD

Maj. Joe Bisso

50th PAD NCOIC

Sgt. 1st Class Justin Naylor

### Voice your opinion!

Write a letter to the editor

Send to: The Frontline

Attn: The Frontline, Editor

942 Dr. Ben Hall Place, suite 1087

Fort Stewart, Ga. 31314

or email to:

[usarmy.stewart.3-id.list.pao-frontline-news-desk@mail.mil](mailto:usarmy.stewart.3-id.list.pao-frontline-news-desk@mail.mil)

or fax it to 767-6673

visit [home.army.mil/stewart/index.php/about/news](http://home.army.mil/stewart/index.php/about/news)

Copyright 2016

Advertising: 368-0526

The Frontline Office: 435-9614

Hunter News Bureau: 315-5617

This civilian enterprise newspaper is an authorized publication for members of the U.S. Army. Contents of the Frontline are not necessarily the official views of, or are endorsed by, the U.S. Government, Department of Defense, Department of the Army, or U.S. Forces Command. It is published weekly by the Public Affairs Office, Fort Stewart, Georgia, 31314-5000. All editorial content of the Frontline newspaper is prepared, edited, provided and approved by the Public Affairs Office of Fort Stewart, Georgia, and the 3rd Infantry Division, and is printed by Morris Newspaper Corporation of Hinesville, Inc., a private firm in no way connected with the Department of the Army, under exclusive written contract with Fort Stewart, Georgia. The civilian printer is responsible for commercial advertising. Subscription rates are \$12/three months, \$20/six months and \$36 for 12 months. Rates are Third Class mail inside the continental U.S.

**Cover: U.S. Army Sgt. Blayne Adams with 1st Battalion, 64th Armor Regiment, 1st Armored Brigade Combat Team, 3rd Infantry Division, looks down the Leopold Mark 5 HD scope mounted to his M110 Semi-Automatic Sniper System during training at Grafenwoehr Training Area, Germany, March 22. (Photo by Sgt. Jared Hokamp)**

# 3rd CAB observes Sexual Assault Awareness and Prevention Month



Photos by Spc. Caitlin Wilkins

**Soldiers from the 3rd Combat Aviation Brigade, 3rd Infantry Division, set up displays for Sexual Assault Awareness and Prevention Month at Hunter Army Airfield, April 1. The Department of Defense observes SAAPM every April by focusing on eliminating sexual assault from the ranks.**

**Spc. Caitlin Wilkins**  
3rd Combat Aviation Brigade

The 3rd Combat Aviation Brigade, 3rd Infantry Division, began their observance of Sexual Assault Awareness and Prevention Month by setting up displays and hosting a Joint Collaboration Agency Panel to answer Soldiers' questions about the Sexual Harassment Assault Response and Prevention program.

The Department of Defense observes SAAPM every April by focusing on eliminating sexual assault from the ranks.

"SAAPM is an annual observance recognized by civilian and military communities that spreads awareness about the prevention of sexual assault," said Sgt. 1st Class Celestina Dunn, the 3rd Combat Aviation Brigade, 3rd Infantry Division's sexual assault response coordinator. "We try to provide Soldiers with the knowledge, skills and confidence they need to intervene in a situation and prevent sexual harassment and sexual assault."

The JCAP is one of the many ways the brigade observes SAAPM. Soldiers are encouraged to attend the panel and ask any questions they have about the process.

"The JCAP is a panel that includes the Savannah Police Department, Special Victims Council services, Mary's Place Advocacy Prevention and Sexual Assault Center of the Coastal Empire and the Winn Army Community Hospital's Sexual Assault Medical Director and Program Manager," said Dunn. "Soldiers here can ask questions about the process and the role each organization has in a sexual assault case. Soldiers don't always get to see the whole process from start to finish so this gives them that

insight."

In addition to the JCAP, Soldiers can participate in a virtual 5K run and the clothesline project.

"We're doing a virtual 5K run April 18-22 and the three fastest times will get a certificate of appreciation, commander's coin, and a goody bag," said Dunn. "We also have the clothesline project where Soldiers will have the opportunity to write inspirational messages, or what SAAPM means to them on paper cutouts in the shape of a T-shirt."

Soldiers are also encouraged to wear teal items on April 12 for Teal Day.

"Teal is the official color of the SHARP program, so wearing teal shows your support for the survivors and the sexual assault program," said Dunn. "You can wear anything, it could be a bracelet or a pen, it doesn't have to be anything big."

In addition to Teal Day, Soldiers are authorized to wear denim on April 27 for Denim Day.

"Teal is the official color of the SHARP program, so wearing teal shows your support for the survivors and the sexual assault program. You can wear anything, it could be a bracelet or a pen, it doesn't have to be anything big."

— Sgt. 1st Class Celestina Dunn

"Denim Day is also an important part of SAAPM," said Dunn. "Many people think once you give consent that's it, but you can give consent and then change your mind at any time."

Denim Day originated in 1997 in Italy when an 18-year-old girl was raped by her 45-year-old driving instructor. The head judge of the Italian supreme court released a statement arguing that because she wore tight jeans, she would've had to help him take them off, therefore consented. Women in the Italian Parliament were enraged by this statement and protested by wearing jeans on the steps of the Italian Parliament building.

"Every April 27, we wear jeans because our clothes don't give consent, we give consent," Dunn explained.

This year's theme of 'Prevention Starts With You' comes as Soldiers learn about changes to the SHARP program and how they can make a difference.

"It's really important that everyone is aware of the changes so they can make informed decisions about what path might be right for them," said 1st Lt. Aniko Austin, 3rd CAB Headquarters and Headquarters Company victim advocate. "One of the big changes is reporting options. Previously, if someone confided in a friend or battle buddy about an incident and

that friend reported it to the chain of command or CID that would've made it an unrestricted report. Now with the changes, the individual gets to keep their reporting options regardless if their chain of command knows or not. Unless that individual goes to CID themselves or puts in an unrestricted report, they get to keep their options."

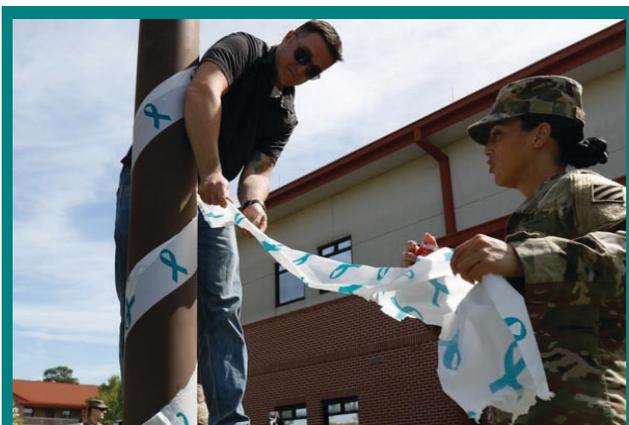
Soldiers aren't the only ones who can receive help from the Army SHARP program. Family members over the age of 18 are eligible to make a report with a victim advocate.

"It isn't widely known that family members over the age of 18 can actually come and make reports with your SHARP team," said Dunn. "Anyone who is under 18 will report with the Family Advocacy Program, but if they are in our formation and they need services, we won't ever turn them away. We will always provide care and guide them to the services they need."

For the 3rd CAB SHARP team, creating a positive environment where anyone can feel comfortable making a report is their top priority.

"Creating a positive, safe environment for people to feel like they can report, and somebody is going to believe them is important," said Staff Sgt. Stephanie Mack, the 3rd CAB victim advocate. "We have a really good team here and I feel we are providing the safest space possible."

Anyone with questions or concerns regarding SHARP is encouraged to call the 3rd CAB SHARP hotline 255-2163 or the 3rd ID SHARP hotline 271-9958.



**Staff Sgt. Taylor Pruss, victim advocate for the 603 Aviation Support Battalion, 3rd Combat Aviation Brigade, 3rd Infantry Division, and 1st Lt. Aniko Austin, victim advocate for Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 3rd CAB, 3rd ID, set up displays for Sexual Assault Awareness and Prevention Month at Hunter Army Airfield, April 1. The Department of Defense observes SAAPM every April by focusing on eliminating sexual assault from the ranks.**

# National Guard brigade takes on Army modernization mission

**Jonathan Koester**

*Joint Modernization Command*

The citizen Soldiers of the 130th Maneuver Enhancement Brigade, North Carolina National Guard, have a lot on their plates, from civilian careers to responding to emergencies in their state. But when they received the mission to help the Army Modernization Enterprise assess a future Army formation, they quickly prepared themselves.

The 130th MEB deployed to Fort Stewart, Georgia, in late March to replicate a Protection Brigade, one of the future Army formations being assessed during the U.S. Army Joint Modernization Command's Joint Warfighting Assessment 22. The Protection Brigade is a future unit formation that supports the Penetration Division, also being assessed during JWA 22. The Penetration Division is being replicated by Soldiers from the 3rd Infantry Division on Fort Stewart. The Protection Brigade reduces the command and control demand on the Division rear command post and provides a headquarters and commander solely focused on protection warfighting across the area of operations.

Col. Jerry Baird, Jr., commander of the 130th MEB, said it took his Soldiers some quick education to pivot from their civilian jobs to helping the Army modernize, but that they were up for the challenge.

"Our goal is: No active-duty division is going to be waiting on us," Baird said. "We are going to learn it as fast as we can. I've spoken to numerous 3rd Infantry Division senior leaders who have said, 'You guys energize us.'"

Baird, who is the director of counter-drug efforts in North Carolina, says that energy comes from Soldiers who are smart, bring unique skills to the fight, and are excited to help the Army modernization effort.

When the 130th MEB is in North Carolina, they are called upon to help in the event of emergencies and natural disasters.

"When the governor dials 911 in North Carolina, the phone rings at the MEB," Baird said. "Because all the military police are there, and the engineers are there. All the things that state needs to get through whatever crisis they're facing is in the MEB."

Lt. Col. Frank Poovey, deputy brigade commander for the 130th MEB, said he was proud JMC and the Army called upon his unit to be part of a modernization experiment and provide feedback that will shape the future force.

"There's a lot of trust that's been put on this

MEB and other reserve component units," Poovey said. "There was a time when you wouldn't see a reserve unit be in this position during such an important exercise. That the active-duty Army and those who are writing doctrine trust us to provide valued feedback ... Quite frankly, it's an honor for us that we're trusted enough to know what we're talking about when we provide that feedback."

Joint Warfighting Assessment 22 is part of Warfighter Exercise 22-04 (WFX 22-04). Providing critical feedback to inform the future force involves thinking differently about that exercise. Though, as Baird said, "The only way I want to lose is if we can't win," it's important to test the limits of a Protection Brigade and be open to experimentation and making mistakes.



Photo by Jonathan Koester

**Col. Jerry Baird, Jr., commander of the 130th Maneuver Enhancement Brigade, North Carolina National Guard, leads a commander's update brief during Joint Warfighting Assessment 22 on April 6, 2022, on Fort Stewart, Georgia.**

Balancing the demands of a training exercise and a modernization experiment isn't easy, but it's a challenge the 130th MEB is proud to take on, said Lt. Col. Brian Grey, response cell officer-in-charge for the 130th MEB.

"We take the training seriously," Grey said. "But at the same time, we try to instill that this is a learning organization. We're going to make mistakes; we're going to fail at some things, and this is the right environment to do that. We can create some lessons learned, figure out what works, what doesn't work."

Baird, Poovey and Grey all said they started learning lessons about the future Protection Brigade almost immediately, and they've worked to make sure they share those lessons with JMC to help modernize the Army.

As leaders of the 130th MEB replicate a

Protection Brigade, they are reading the news and seeing real-world examples of what a Protection Brigade would do for the Army, as it protects the force and also has to handle a holding area for both refugees and prisoners of war.

"That's something that is going to be a responsibility in any theater," Poovey said. "I think we're seeing a lot of that in Ukraine right now. Most of the refugees are looking to leave the area, but you're going to have to account for what's on the battlefield, even though it's not a combat force. And I think the Protection Brigade accounts for that, and we've got the assets to do it."

Spc. Julia Rojas of the 130th MEB is a pharmacy technician in her civilian career. She said combining her National Guard unit training with a modernization experiment had been rewarding.

"It's been a great experience," Rojas said. "It's been a lot to learn. From the National Guard, I wouldn't think we would get to do things like this. It's good to see how it's going to be in the future. Not everyone gets to experience what we're experiencing."

Though it was difficult, quick turnaround for the National Guard Soldiers to learn about the Protection Brigade and deploy to Fort Stewart to replicate it, they all were proud to be part of Joint Warfighting Assessment 22 and doing their part to assess the Army of the future.

"Both of my sons have chosen to put this uniform on, so I'm passionate about making sure we get it right, because my sons will be fighting wars this way for many years," Baird said.

With the help of a dedicated group of citizen Soldiers, the Army has spent the past several weeks of the Joint Warfighting Assessment 22 learning lessons about the Protection Brigade and is well on its way toward getting it right for the Army of the future.

Photo by Sgt. Robert Wormley

**Behind: U.S. Army Pfc. Alexander Rankin, a geospatial intelligence imagery analyst assigned to 525th Expeditionary Military Intelligence Brigade from Fort Bragg, North Carolina, participates in Warfighter Exercise 22-4 at the Mission Training Complex, Fort Stewart, April 11. The 3rd ID participated as the Waypoint 2028 Penetration Division to integrate new, modernized warfighting and command systems while providing feedback to Army Futures Command on the refinement of Waypoint 2028 capabilities to prepare units for future large scale combat operations.**



# ACS, MWR, Coastal Happening Briefs

## Mask guidance update

Mask requirements remain in place on all installation medical treatment facilities for the protection of patients and staff. This includes all medical and dental treatment facilities and pharmacies on Fort Stewart-Hunter Army Airfield, to include the Richmond Hill Medical Home. Winn Army Community Hospital leaders will continue to review DOD and CDC guidance related to healthcare facilities, Winn Army Community Hospital will provide updates and changes when available.

## Masks required in all CYS facilities

Fort Stewart-Hunter Army Airfield Child and Youth Services programs will continue to require masks in all facilities in accordance with U.S. Army Installation Management Command guidelines. More information will be provided as it becomes available.

## 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.

## 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](http://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.

## Hunter dining facility closure

The Hunter temporary dining facility is closed until further notice. Please visit the Hunter Club for normal dining-in service. For more information call 767-9085.

## Marne Bistro Options

Effective immediately Marne Bistro will be closed until further notice. However, meal card holders can get to go meals from Bldg. 512 for breakfast from 7:30 to 9 a.m., lunch from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. and dinner from 5 to 6:30 p.m. The Food Truck will also be avail-

able for all customers in the parking lot of Marne Bistro bldg. 726 or breakfast from 7:30 to 9 a.m., and lunch from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m.

## 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](mailto: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.

## ChristFit Bible study offered

Fort Stewart's community Bible study, ChristFit began March 8 and run through May 3 at the Main Post Chapel, bldg. 500 every Tuesday evening at 5:30 p.m. Various classes are offered and for all age groups. WildFire Youth Club meets at Victory Chapel. Childcare is available for those under 2 years old. For more information, call 767-2797.

## Commissary offers early bird hours

The Fort Stewart Commissary has reintroduced early bird hours of operation Tuesday through Friday from 7:30-9 a.m. No more than 20 items per customer.

## Georgia Pre-K lottery now open

Registration for the Georgia Pre-K Lottery is now open. This program is free of charge, and operates 6.5 hours per day from Mon-Fri. Children must be 4 years of age on or before Sept. 1, 2022 to register. There are no exceptions. The sponsor of the child must be a DOD ID Cardholder. For more information on registration, call Parent Central Services at 767-2312 or 315-5425.

## ASAP hosts dodge ball tournament

Visit Tominac Fitness Center April 11 and 12 for the first ever Drunk Dodge Ball Tournament. Teams of eight are invited to play dodge ball with half of the players wearing drunk goggles to demonstrate how alcohol affects our brains and reflexes. To register call 315-5592 or email [terry.s.duncan5.civ@army.mil](mailto:terry.s.duncan5.civ@army.mil).

## CYS hosts Kids Fest events

Join Child and Youth Services for their Month of the Military Child kickoff events. The event will have food trucks, games, music and more. This free event will take place on Fort Stewart, April 2 at Newman Field from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. and on Hunter Army Airfield's Family Day Field, April 9 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. For more information, please visit [stewarthunter.armymwr.com](http://stewarthunter.armymwr.com).

## Trusted Traveler reinstated

Trusted Traveler resumed today at Fort Stewart and Hunter Army Airfield. Trusted Traveler allows all DOD ID card holders to vouch for all occupants in their vehicle. The DOD ID card holder must be the driver unless observed medical conditions prevents vehicle operation. Trusted Traveler hours are 6 a.m. to 9 p.m. daily, Monday through Sunday at all gates. After 9 p.m. all occupants of the vehicle will be subject to 100% ID card check at open gates except Rio gate at Hunter. After 9 p.m. use Montgomery Gate at Hunter. Contractors and AIE card holders are not authorized Trusted Traveler. Visitor Control Center hours remain 6 a.m. to 6 p.m. at Stewart and Hunter.

## Spring cemetery tour slated

Join us for the Spring Cemetery Tour, today on Fort Stewart. During this visit we will see Green Bay and Wells cemeteries and the 3rd Infantry Division Museum. We will eat lunch in a dining facility. The lunch cost is \$6.12. Cash only. Participants should meet us at the Liberty Independent Troop Park/Stafford Pavilion located on Hwy. 84 behind the Liberty County Recreation Dept. Office at 609 Oglethorpe Hwy., in Hinesville, beginning at 7:30 a.m. The tour starts at 8:30 a.m. Please RSVP with Dina McKain at 210-9374 or email [dina.m.mckain.civ@army.mil](mailto:dina.m.mckain.civ@army.mil).

## ASAP Open Houses

The Army Substance Abuse Program hosts open house for company commanders, first sergeants and unit prevention leaders during Alcohol Awareness Month at Fort Stewart and Hunter Army Airfield. Get familiar with the Army's new DPT Lite 6.0 drug testing program. Our experts will be on hand to answer your questions. The Fort Stewart open house is April 15, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. at bldg. 201. The Hunter open house is April 21 at the ASAP office bldg. 1283. Call 767-1319 (FS) or 315-6730 (HAAF) if you have questions.

## Death Notice

Anyone with debts owed to or by the estate of Capt. James T. Bellew must contact Capt. Chelsea Menser, the Summary Court Officer for the Soldier at [chelsea.m.menser.mil@army.mil](mailto:chelsea.m.menser.mil@army.mil)

Anyone with debts owed to or by the estate of Pfc. David Sarco Climaco, must contact 2nd Lt. Jackson McInvale, the Summary Court Officer for the Soldier. Call McInvale at 845-797-5548.

## 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 1st Sgt. Stephen Whelan at [stephen.p.whelan.mil@mail.mil](mailto:stephen.p.whelan.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](mailto: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.

### 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.

### Vaccine services offered

Vaccine services are updated every Monday on the Winn Army Community Hospital Facebook page at [fb.com/winncares](https://fb.com/winncares). They are also posted to [winn.tricare.mil](https://winn.tricare.mil).

### 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.

### 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](https://commissaries.com) for more information. First time customers will need to create an account.

### 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.

### Escape on a cruise this Veteran's Day

Fort Stewart-Hunter Army Airfield Leisure Travel Services will host a Veteran's Day Weekend Cruise, to the Bahamas, Nov 11-14. First deposit is \$25, due on March 18. For more information and deposit dates, call 767-2841 or 315-3674.

### Community Information Exchange slated

Join us for the CIE April 20 at Club Stewart beginning at 10 a.m. or tune in to the Fort Stewart-Hunter Army Airfield Facebook page to get information about community events, programs and initiatives. CIEs are monthly events, held the third Wed., and rotate between Fort Stewart and Hunter physical locations. Or you can always tune into the event on our Facebook page. For more information call 435-9797.

### CIF clothing records and appointments

To access the Guest My Clothing Self Service page in ISM without requiring initial access via AKO, visit [ism.army.mil/ism/SelfServiceServlet?nav.nav\\_id=ss-MyClothing](https://ism.army.mil/ism/SelfServiceServlet?nav.nav_id=ss-MyClothing). An active CAC and the DoD ID must be present on their OCIE record to allow access. Any OCIE records without associated DOD ID will receive a message that a record could not be found when attempting to access. Conflicts should be reported to the Home CIF. CIF no longer accepts appointments through AKO. To make an appointment for CIF on Fort Stewart-Hunter Army Airfield, call 435-0302 or 0193. All services are by appointment only.

### Apply for the DASG internship program

The Department of the Army Security Guard Internship Program on Fort Stewart-Hunter Army Airfield is seeking new applicants. Start six months from your ETS date through SFL-TAP. Contact the POC at 767-3675.

### Garrison seeks super saver submissions

The Fort Stewart-Hunter Army Airfield Resource Management Office is seeking submissions for the Garrison Super Saver program. Is there something you see on Fort Stewart-Hunter Army Airfield that is potentially wasting money? Is it a problem that can be solved locally? Garrison employees who submit the best idea for saving the Garrison money are eligible to win a \$500 cash award. Garrison employees are asked to fill out the Super Saver submission form found in the Garrison Employee Handbook, Annex B and forward your submission to: [barbara.cardinal3.civ@army.mil](mailto:barbara.cardinal3.civ@army.mil) for board review. Nominations are boarded with the Garrison of the Quarter Award submissions.

### Stewart Guardian 2022

Stewart Guardian will be conducted the week of April 19-21 at Fort Stewart and Hunter Army Airfield. This is a full-scale exercise designed to practice the installation's emergency response. Expect minor delays at select Access Control Points but this will not impact medical, dental and school appointments. Execution of the exercise requires the response of emergency vehicles and you may hear the Installation Big Voice activated stating "exercise, exercise, exercise." Motorists should remain alert and traverse the roadways with caution during this time, should you arrive at a location with law enforcement directing traffic, please take directions from these professionals. Do not be alarmed, we are practicing to ensure the installation is prepared to protect and respond appropriately in order to preserve life and property in emergencies to address real-world contingencies. For questions regarding this exercise call 767-4049.

# Exercise to cause traffic delays

By Kevin Larson  
Fort Stewart Public Affairs

Being ready for any crisis that could happen on Fort Stewart takes practice. And starting next week, that practice will happen across the garrison footprint.

Stewart Guardian, the installation's annual full-scale exercise, is happening April 19-21. First responders and emergency management personnel from across post will come together to respond to and recover from a scenario that could affect day-to-day operations here. The exercise's main goal is validate that process.

Planning for the exercise took place over the past several months. Beau Bradley, an emergency/contingency planning officer in the Directorate of Plans, Training, Mobilization and Security is one of the main people responsible for creating the scenario where the exercise will focus its efforts. The installation needs to practice for several reasons, Bradley said.

"The garrison commander in some aspects, serves like a town or small city mayor," he said. "He has a responsibility to train, prepare and protect the Installation. Stewart-Hunter Guardian

is a full-scale protection level exercise that is designed to exercise items in a low/stress, training environment. It allows us to make the mistakes in training so we are ready for the real thing."

To make the exercise as realistic as possible there will be real-world impacts, especially with traffic and access control points. Some exercise locations are in the public, too. Emily Gregory, an installation management specialist currently working with DPTMS, said while the exercise increases confidence in responding to emergencies and encourages a vigilant workforce, the real-world impacts will be seen and heard.

"Expect to see delays at access control points and an increase in first responder actions," Gregory said. "Be prepared to hear the installation Big Voice stating EXERCISE, EXERCISE, EXERCISE. We are exercising to keep our installation prepared."

Please drive cautiously during Stewart Guardian, be alert to emergency vehicle responses, and plan accordingly for traffic delays at access control points. Stay tuned to our social media outlets for more information about Stewart Guardian as the exercise unfolds.



# READY

## FOR THE TOP TEN

### Ranked a top 10 military-friendly school

We know there's a lot of red tape to cut through when you're applying to college — especially to get your military benefits. That's why Georgia Southern created the Military and Veteran Services, where you are connected with military experts who ensure your benefits process is quick, efficient and easy.

Choose from three vibrant campuses in Hinesville (Liberty Campus), Savannah or Statesboro. Take classes in-person, online or both. Try our 9-week minimesters. We're flexible so you don't have to be.

We make sure you're ready to rank up or prepare for life beyond the military. **Ready to learn. Ready to lead.**



[GeorgiaSouthern.edu/Military](https://GeorgiaSouthern.edu/Military)



**GEORGIA SOUTHERN**  
UNIVERSITY



**FULL-SCALE EXERCISE**  
**APRIL 19-21, 2022**

**STEWART GUARDIAN PRACTICES INSTALLATION**  
**EMERGENCY RESPONSE**

**FORT STEWART - HUNTER ARMY AIRFIELD**

# Area civic leaders tour post, learn about garrison, 3ID mission

**Dina McKain**  
Fort Stewart Public Affairs

Seventy area leaders visited Fort Stewart and Soldiers of the 3rd Infantry Division April 6 and 8 for the Combined Leadership Tour and the Leadership Southeast Tour as part of the Leadership Georgia program.

Leadership Georgia is a multi-tiered program for business, civic and community leaders with the goal of networking and working together to make a better Georgia at all levels. The program begins at the lowest level with the local chambers of commerce conducting county leadership courses. Participants learn about their county's education system, health care, municipal planning and military impact. Graduates of county leadership classes are eligible to apply for Leadership Southeast which is a regional program. Leadership Southeast immerses participants in much the same way but covers the ten county region of coastal Georgia.

Fort Stewart–Hunter Army Airfield Garrison Commander Col. Manny Ramirez, invites these classes to the installation annually to learn of the regional impact of the military.

“Our intent is to familiarize leadership classes with our installation and Soldiers, the history and mission focusing on people, modernization and readiness,” he said.

Guests started the day with a command brief given by Ramirez. He explained the maneuver space and training capability and the ability to deploy Soldiers and equipment anywhere in the world rapidly – making Stewart-Hunter the Army's premier power projection platform. He noted most Soldiers and their Families live in communities the attendees represented. He thanked them for helping take care of those Families, adding Soldiers were able concentrate on their mission knowing their Families are being taken care of at home.

The next stops included the 3rd Sustainment Brigade, the Directorate of Plans, Training, Mobilization and Security Engagement Skills Trainer and the installation emergency operations center, the Directorate of Emergency Services Fire Station 1, and the 3rd ID Museum.

They learned about the basic mission, resources and capabilities at each location and in some cases about training and partnership opportunities. To learn more about Leadership Georgia visit [leadershipgeorgia.com](http://leadershipgeorgia.com).



Photo by Chris Fletcher

**Leadership Southeast attendees learn from installation emergency responders about their training and equipment and how they use community partnerships for mutual response and training.**



Photo by Sgt. Aaliyah Craven

**U.S. Army Sgt. Manuel Leiva, a chemical biological radiological nuclear specialist assigned to the 3rd Division Sustainment Brigade, describes the process of wearing a Joint Service Lightweight Integrated Suit Technology during a combined leadership tour on Fort Stewart April 6. The combined leadership tour helps provide a conceptual understanding of Soldier operations within their community to help them become advocates, stakeholders and good neighbors.**



Photo by Sgt. Aaliyah Craven

**U.S. Army Cpt. Loren Jenkins, a logistics officer assigned to the 3rd Division Sustainment Brigade, 3rd Infantry Division, helps Brittany Slattery, an ambassador for Richmond Hill-Bryan County chamber of commerce, put on an improved outer tactical vest during a combined leadership tour on Fort Stewart April 6. The combined leadership tour helps provide a conceptual understanding of Soldier operations within their community to help them become advocates, stakeholders and good neighbors.**

# Sustainability equals installation readiness

**Amanda Price**  
Directorate of Public Works

Sustainability, as defined by the Army, is the organizing principle that enables access to the training, material, and services necessary to provide trained and ready forces required for current and future military missions. Who, where, and how Soldiers fight is transforming on a seemingly daily basis. Therefore, Army installations must be able to rapidly transform training areas and facilities in order to meet current and future mission requirements and provide combat-ready Soldiers.

To uphold a readiness posture, installations must provide a sustainable environment that is able to withstand the rigors of training. Sustainable installations provide the best platforms for realistic training and sustainable ranges provide the most resiliency and flexibility to meet ever-changing mission requirements.

Fort Stewart-Hunter Army Airfield utilizes various strategies for determining the impacts its operations have on the environment. The Installation is continually implementing energy and water conservation ini-

tiatives, working to reduce waste and increase recycling, exploring new technologies, and updating processes. Moreover, the installation's sustainability relies on everyone living and/or working on the Installation to do their part. In order to uphold the Installation's reputation of excellence, the entire FSGA/HAAF community must work together to develop and implement measures that will continually move us toward our goal of sustainability, without compromising our ability to support the mission.

To that end, let's all consider the effect of our daily activities on our environmental and endeavor to leave a positive legacy. By making just a few, simple changes to our daily routines, each of us can have a tremendous effect on the installation's sustainability.

Earth Day is April 22 and is the perfect opportunity for each of us to commit to supporting sustainability. Remember, environmental sustainability requires commitment and continuous improvement.

For more information on how you can support sustainability, watch sustainability awareness video at <https://vimeo.com/461049260>

## Conserve Energy:

*Use compact fluorescent lightbulbs instead of incandescent bulbs*  
*Turn off lights when leaving a room or install motion sensors to do so after periods of inactivity*  
*Adjust your thermostat before leaving home: +10° in summer and -10° in winter*

## Conserve Water:

*Only run the dishwasher and washing machine when you have a full load*  
*Fix leaking/dripping faucets and toilets*  
*Turn off water while brushing your teeth*

## Reduce, Reuse, Recycle:

*Recycle at home and at work*  
*Purchase items made from and/or packaged in recyclable/reclaimed materials*  
*Buy reusable products (i.e. water bottles, grocery bags, etc.)*  
*Donate or sell unwanted clothes, tools, furniture, and appliances*

## Reduce Air Pollution:

*Carpool to work*  
*Use environmentally friendly cleaning products*  
*Use public transportation, walk, or ride a bicycle when possible*

*Sustain the Mission. Secure the Future. A Partnership for the Planet.*

## DO YOUR PART!

REDUCE · REPURPOSE · RECYCLE · RECOVER ENERGY · DISPOSE

- 
- Turn off your computer (or at least the monitor) when you leave the office for the day.
  - Install programmable thermostats in your home and office.
  - Print on both sides of the paper.
  - Bring a reusable cup to your favorite coffee shop.
  - Use a tap water filter instead of buying bottled water.
  - Rinse veggies in a bowl, not under running water.
  - Plant a tree.
  - Write and ask to be removed from mailing lists.
  - Plant a garden and compost food wastes.
  - Buy stamps that support environmental programs.
  - Install insulation in your attic.
  - Donate gently-used clothes to a shelter or charity.
  - Make sure you're watering your grass, not your sidewalk.
  - Avoid single-serve containers to cut down on packaging waste going into the trash.
  - Unplug items when not in use.
  - Cancel your subscription and read the paper online.
  - Repair leaky faucets.
  - Put solar film on your windows.
  - Replace air filters regularly.
  - Join a carpool.
  - Walk more.
  - Caulk gaps.
  - Use mulch.
  - Install weather stripping.
  - Keep tires properly inflated.
  - Only run the dishwasher when full.
  - Install slow-flow faucets and showerheads.
  - Lower your water heater setting.
  - Collect rain water in barrels for your garden and shrubs.
  - Send e-greetings instead of mailing paper greeting cards.

**ARMY EARTH DAY**  
<https://AEC.army.mil/>

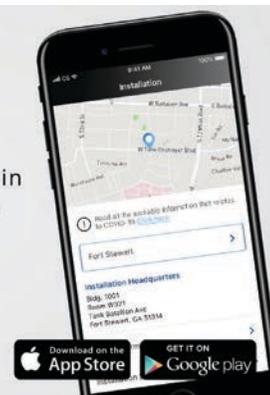
*This year, the Army Earth Day theme is "A Partnership for the Planet." In order for this partnership to be successful, each of us must DO OUR PART! If each of us takes the time to implement just a few of the strategies listed on the poster below, the Partnership for the Planet initiative will be a tremendous success.*

*For more information on how Fort Stewart/Hunter Army Airfield supports environmental sustainability on a daily basis, please visit <https://home.army.mil/stewart/index.php/about/Garrison/DPW/environmental>.*

## NEW TO THE AREA? JUST PCS'D

Stay informed what's going on in your local installation with the **NEW** Digital Garrison app on your smartphone or tablet.

**DG** DIGITAL GARRISON  
POWERED BY 



Download on the App Store  
GET IT ON Google play

# SPARTANS HOST EIB/ESB



Photos by Spc. Michael Udejiofor

*Soldiers across the 3rd Infantry Division and visiting units practice the Mark 19 40 mm grenade machine gun function check task before being tested on day four of the Expert Infantryman and Expert Soldier Badge qualification hosted by the "Spartan Brigade," 2nd Armored Brigade Combat Team, 3rd ID, on Fort Stewart, April 7. The EIB/ESB qualification is part of individual training designed to increase Soldier proficiency in the Army Warrior Tasks to increase lethality and unit readiness.*

**Spc. Michael Udejiofor**  
50th Public Affairs Detachment

Soldiers across the 3rd Infantry Division and visiting units were constantly tested during the Expert Infantryman and Expert Soldier Badge qualification hosted by the "Spartan Brigade," 2nd Armored Brigade Combat Team, 3rd ID, between April 4-8 at Fort Stewart. The EIB/ESB qualification is part of individual training designed to increase Soldier proficiency in the Army Warrior Tasks to increase lethality and unit readiness. Only infantryman can earn the EIB and all Soldiers who are not in the Infantry, Special Forces and Medical career fields can earn the ESB.

In August 2021, the Spartan Brigade was the first unit on Fort Stewart to host a joint EIB and ESB qualification while simultaneously conducting mitigation measures amidst the rise of the COVID-19 Delta variant. This time without COVID-19 mitigation as an issue, the brigade could focus solely on training the Soldiers and providing the best environment possible to enable success.

"Last year we executed a very similar event," said Col. Terry R. Tillis, commander of the 2nd ABCT, 3rd ID. "We had 28 graduates, today we had 115 Soldiers that are graduating, which is a 34% go-rate, which is unheard of when we execute the EIB/ESB."

Tested events are based on the Warrior Skill Level 1 tasks first introduced at basic training. Regardless of pass or fail, EIB/ESB increases proficiency across the ranks creating disciplined, expert leaders that will enable greater unit lethality and pro-

mote cohesive teams from the confidence gained through more repetitions of basic Soldier tasks.

"Soldiers will be tested over a period of five days on 30 different skill level tasks, physical fitness and land navigation" said Sgt. Maj. Scott McClellan, the noncommissioned officer in charge and head operations NCO assigned to the "Can Do Battalion," 3rd Battalion, 15th Infantry Regiment, 2nd ABCT, 3rd ID.

Each event has multiple performance measures that each Soldier must follow. Once the steps are completed within the allotted amount of time, they receive a go; however, if the task is not completed within the allotted time or a step was missed, then the Soldier will receive a no-go. If a total of two no-goes are obtained by the Soldier, then they are immediately dropped from the qualification.

"If the Soldier is able to pass all the events, then they are able to obtain the coveted EIB or ESB Badge," said McClellan.

At each station graders explain the tasks, conditions and standards to the Soldiers then initiate the assessment. They only have one chance to retrain and retest if the grader identifies any failures. The Soldiers train for two weeks before the EIB/ESB test week begins to assist in gaining the level of proficiency needed to pass.

"There is a lot of attention to detail," said Sgt. 1st Class Robert St. George, EIB/ESB participant assigned to 3rd Bn., 15th IR, 2nd ABCT, 3rd ID. "If you mess up on one thing, you're a potential no-go. Completing the steps in the level one book and with the grader is essential and doable as long as you take it one station at the time."

On day one, Soldiers completed a physical fitness test that includes two minutes of push-ups, two minutes of sit-ups and a run, four miles for the EIB and two miles for the ESB. Those who pass then take a test measuring their land navigation skills by working through complex grid coordinates with one test in the daytime and one at nighttime.

Over the next three days, candidates went through three training lanes designed to test their knowledge of tactical combat casualty care, weapons and patrolling. On the final day, the remaining Soldiers had to conduct a 12-mile foot march carrying a 35-pound rucksack in a three-hour time limit to pass followed by a final mystery task. Within five minutes of completing the foot march, the mystery event was revealed as the disassembly, reassembly and function check of the M4 carbine.

“The reason we do that within five minutes is to put them in a mentally stressful situation after being physically stressed, so it allows them to demonstrate the ability to function under duress,” said McClellan.

Soldiers received their badge in an award ceremony several hours later where they were pinned by mentors, Families, leaders and loved ones.

This EIB/ESB not only brought units together, but a family. Two brothers from two different divisions, but from one family, the Hooker Family, reunited and completed this year’s competition.

“It was a special experience for me,” said Capt. Christopher Hooker, EIB participant assigned to the 3rd Bn., 15th IR, 2nd ABCT, 3rd ID. “Our family has been in the Military for a few generations, so it’s really a privilege to be able to test with [my brother].”



**A Soldier assigned to the “Can Do Battalion,” 3rd Battalion, 15th Infantry Regiment, 2nd Armored Brigade Combat Team, 3rd Infantry Division, practices preparing the a Javelin shoulder-fired anti-tank missile for fire task at the weapons lane on day three of the Expert Infantryman and Expert Soldier Badge qualification hosted by the “Spartan Brigade,” 2nd ABCT, 3rd ID, on Fort Stewart, April 6. The EIB/ESB qualification is part of individual training designed to increase Soldier proficiency in the Army Warrior Tasks to increase lethality and unit readiness.**



**Spc. Jonathan Reynolds, assigned to 3rd Battalion, 15th Infantry Regiment, 2nd Armored Brigade Combat Team, 3rd Infantry Division, performs a corrective action at the M2 machine gun function check test at the weapons lane on day two of the Expert Soldier and Expert Infantryman Badge qualification hosted by the “Spartan Brigade,” 2nd ABCT, 3rd ID, on Fort Stewart, April 5. The EIB/ESB qualification is part of individual training designed to increase Soldier proficiency in the Army Warrior Tasks to increase lethality and unit readiness.**

“It’s been a privilege and an honor to train with the guys here at 3rd Bn., 15th IR,” said 1st Lt. Richard Hooker, EIB participant assigned to the 2nd Battalion, 501st Parachute Infantry Regiment, 1st Brigade Combat Team, 82nd Airborne Division. “Also, this is the first time that we have been able to do something together since we put on the uniform.”

The EIB/ESB qualification fundamentally trains Soldiers to focus on the basics to create expert coaches that build cohesive teams.

“I wanted to set the prime example for my Soldiers,” said St. George. “If you don’t have your EIB or ESB I encourage you to come out here and give it your best shot.”

The Spartan Brigade is committed to creating experts early to form lethal teams that are ready now to fight and win the nation’s wars. The EIB/ESB qualification enables any motivated Soldier to improve themselves and demonstrate leadership.

“Every Soldier who has the ability should absolutely do this,” said Command Sgt. Maj. Jaime Lopez, senior enlisted advisor for the 2nd ABCT, 3rd ID. “It’s an opportunity to be an expert on your field, but most importantly it sets yourself apart from your peers and gives your Soldiers someone to look up to.”

## Another strong hurricane season forecasted for 2022



Courtesy Graphic by Colorado State University

**Hurricane Michael making landfall on the Gulf Coast in October 2018. It was a very powerful and destructive tropical cyclone that became the first Category 5 hurricane to make landfall in the contiguous United States since Andrew in 1992.**

**Mack McPherson**

*Directorate of Plans, Training, Mobilization and Security*

Colorado State University's Annual Hurricane Prediction is once again showing 2022 will be another strong hurricane season to be prepared and ready for.

They anticipate that the 2022 Atlantic Basin hurricane season will have above normal activity. They have predicted above-average probability for hurricanes making landfall along the continental US coastline and in the Caribbean. As is the case with all hurricane seasons, coastal residents are reminded that it only takes one hurricane making landfall to make it an active season for them. All should be prepared the same for every season, regardless of how much activity is predicted.

The university's probability for at least one major (Cat 3-4-5) hurricane landfall on the U.S. coastline is 71%. U.S. East Coast including the Peninsula of Florida as 47%; and the a storm hitting the Gulf Coast from the Florida Panhandle westward to Brownsville, Texas, is rated at 46%. Probability for at least one major (CAT 3-4-5) Hurricane tracking into the Caribbean is at 60%. The university says that all rated higher than the average for the last century.

Information obtained through March 2022 indicates that the 2022 Atlantic hurricane season will have activity above the 1991–2020 average. They have estimated that 2022 will have 9 hurricanes (average is 7.2), 19 named storms (average is 14.4), 90 named storm days (average is 69.4), 35 hurricane days (average is 27.0), 4 major (Category 3-4-5) hurricanes (average is 3.2) and 9 major hurricane days (average is 7.4). The probability

of U.S. major hurricane landfall is estimated to be about 135 percent of the long period average. We expect Atlantic basin Accumulated Cyclone Energy (ACE) and Net Tropical Cyclone (NTC) activity in 2022 to be approximately 130 percent of their long-term averages.

This forecast is based on an extended-range early April statistical prediction scheme that was developed using 40 years of past data. Analog predictors are also utilized. We are also including statistical/dynamical models based off 25–40 years of past data from the European Centre for Medium Range Weather Forecasts, the UK Met Office and the Japan Meteorological Agency as three additional forecast guidance tools. Our statistical model, our statistical/dynamical models and our analog model all call for an active Atlantic hurricane season in 2022.

Fort Stewart and Hunter Army Airfield and surrounding counties' residents are reminded that it only takes one hurricane making landfall to make it an active season for them, and they need to prepare the same for every season, regardless of how much activity is predicted. The probability of a named storm hitting within 50 miles of Georgia is 82%; a hurricane (Cat 1-2) is 46%; and a major hurricane (CAT 3-4-5) is 10%.

As we know 50 miles is a small distance in the path, any storm (Cat 1-5) when considering the wind, the rain, and tornadoes like recently hit some of our installation(s) partners in Bryan County just this week.

Check out the website Ready Army, ready.army.mil, to start preparing now. Let us be ready as Hurricane Season officially begins on June 1; but there is a lot you can do now to be ready for any catastrophe that may arise. Let's get ready now.

**IS SOMETHING BROKEN?**

Do you need DPW/maintenance help?  
You can now use ArMA for **ANY** DPW maintained facility.

Scan the code below with your smartphone camera to open the Army Maintenance Application (ArMA) and submit a case.

**ARMYMAINTENANCE.COM**

**WHAT'S THAT...?**

A flowchart to help you know who to call when you:

- Hear training noise**
  - We are the largest installation east of the Mississippi and we're active 325 days a year
  - Contact Public Affairs 912-435-9879 if the noise gets too loud
- See smoke**
  - Is it over Fort Stewart?
    - We burn Dec. July; report drift smoke 912-435-9879
    - Call Georgia Forestry 1-800-428-7337
- See or hear low flying aircraft**
  - We don't have jets
    - Contact MCAS Beaufort 843-228-7225 or Moody AFB 229-257-4146
  - Was it any of these colors?
    - Contact Public Affairs 912-435-9879 if concerned by altitude or noise

**#TanksArmyLand**



Veterans, if you need a nexus letter, Independent Medical Opinion, or Disability Benefits Questionnaire; please contact KDVMA. Our physicians often find relevant medical information in your files that expressly connect your disability, occurrence or aggravation of a disease or injury in service. **For more information contact us at 678-349-1816 or on the web at [www.kdvma.com](http://www.kdvma.com)**

# Plan ahead for PCS season with Military OneSource

**Ethan Steinquest**  
Fort Campbell Courier

FORT CAMPBELL, Ky. – A permanent change of station can be overwhelming for Soldiers and their Families, but Military OneSource has all the free resources they may need to overcome the challenges associated with moving.

Military OneSource is a Department of Defense-funded program that provides an informational and support hub for military communities at <https://www.militaryonesource.mil>, covering topics from tax assistance and spouse employment to moving and housing benefits. Active-duty, Reserve, or National Guard Soldiers and Family members enrolled in DEERS are all eligible to sign up.

“The more organized and knowledgeable you are, the easier and better it’s going to be for the Soldiers and Families,” said Herb Rivera, Tennessee’s Military OneSource consultant.

Rivera recommends setting up an account on Military OneSource immediately after receiving PCS orders, which allows Soldiers and Families enough time to determine their individual needs. They can also call the program hotline at 800-342-9647 for further assistance.

“Military OneSource is different for everybody, and that’s the key,” Rivera said. “It’s not a one pill

takes care of all solution, and it’s designed that way because there are so many resources that we have.”

A full list of PCS-related services is available at <https://www.militaryonesource.mil/moving-housing/moving/moving-resources/>, but Rivera said two of the most important are Plan My Move and MilitaryINSTALLATIONS.

Plan My Move creates a custom checklist that Soldiers and Families can use to keep track of the PCS process. Creating a Military OneSource account allows them to track their progress as they move through the checklist and download copies for personal use.

“Once someone knows they’ve got orders, they can go to Plan My Move,” Rivera said. “It’s very easy. The only thing they’ll do is ask you where you’re moving from and where you’re moving to, and the rest is history. You just follow the prompts, and it will keep giving you information based on your answers.”

MilitaryINSTALLATIONS goes hand-in-hand with that process by making sure Soldiers and Families know what to do when they arrive at their destination.

“What you would do is put down the place you’re going to and hit enter,” Rivera said. “If you were to do that with Fort Campbell, it would show you

exactly how the in-processing works here. They give you all the information, telephone numbers, locations and procedures – they’ll even tell you what to do if you’re getting married en route.”

Military OneSource also can help with pet transportation, spouse employment, accommodations for those with special needs and other Family-focused aspects of a PCS.

“We have nonmedical counseling for the transition because moving from one location to another can be traumatic for some children,” Rivera said, adding that Military OneSource also facilitates a sponsorship program to help children adjust to their new environment. “Everybody looks at the service member, but the Families are the ones left behind when they deploy and these services are here for that.”

Specialty counseling services offered through Military OneSource can assist anyone from new parents to Family members with special needs, making them a valuable resource for military moves.

“Any change is hard on a Family,” Rivera said. “When you go through a change you need support, and that’s what Military OneSource does ... for 24 hours a day, seven days a week and 365 days a year we provide a platform for information that helps Soldiers and Family members overcome challenges and thrive in their endeavors.”

## Special Deliveries

Provided by Winn Army Community Hospital

**April 4**

**Jaxxon Elihue Riley**, a boy, 6 pounds, 9 ounces, born to Sgt. Dekota Riley and Jasmine Riley.

**April 5**

**Audrey Lucia O’Hare**, a girl, 8 pounds, 6 ounces, born to Capt. Jason O’Hare and Natalie O’Hare.

**Skylar Makenzie Barrow**, a girl, 6 pounds, 15 ounces, born to Spc. Nasseim Glanton and Davaris Barrow.

**April 6**

**Adileigh Susan Grace Galloway**, a girl, 8 pounds, 3 ounces, born to Spc. Isiah Galloway and Kara Finney.

**April 7**

**Oliver Ryne Hutchison**, a boy, 6 pounds, 6 ounces, born to Sgt. Matthew Hutchison and Breanna Hutchison.

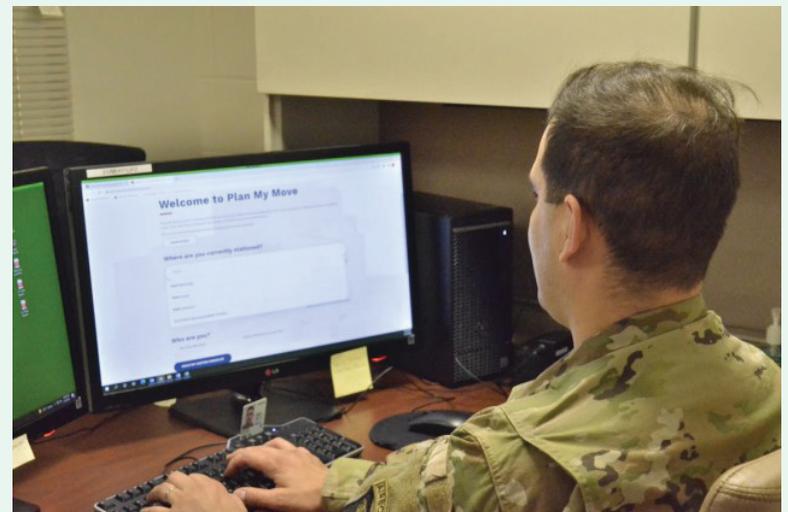


Photo by Ethan Steinquest

**Soldiers and Families can use Military OneSource’s free resources to help them overcome challenges associated with a permanent change of station. A full list of PCS-related services is available at <https://www.militaryonesource.mil/moving-housing/moving/moving-resources/>, but Herb Rivera, Tennessee’s Military OneSource consultant, said two of the most important are Plan My Move and MilitaryINSTALLATIONS.**

## CHAPLAIN'S CORNER

### To See God in a New Way

Chap. (Capt.) Brady Feltz

6-8 CAV

A few years ago, I had an amazing opportunity to be on stage for several fairly popular Christian bands. I had gone to a music festival in central Kentucky for years, and was always in the crowd watching some of my favorite bands with thousands and thousands of other fans around me. One year, I served on the board for this festival, which granted me unrestricted access. I saw performances from a unique and different perspective.

People will often comment to me that their spiritual life is stale or stagnant. They haven't seen God be active recently, or feel like God may have stopped doing things in their lives. It isn't that anything terrible has happened in their lives to cause them to question God. It's just that things seemed to have slowed down.

My guidance to them, and to myself, whenever this issue comes up is usually the same: you need to change your perspective. You need to position yourself differently, to see God in a new way. I'm not saying you need to look for a new religion or spiritual path. I know with-in my own faith of Christianity, there are hundreds of ways to adjust my view of who God is and what He is up to.

If you've grown tired of seeing God from the crowd, and would rather see Him from the stage, you need to adjust where you stand.

In the Gospel of John, we're told about one of Jesus' most popular miracles, where He turns water into wine (John 2:1-11). Out of the many incredible things about that story, one thing that stands out to me is this: everyone at the wedding got to participate in the miracle, but only a handful of people knew they had. The bride, the groom, the parents, the wedding party, and guests were all oblivious to what had happened. But the servants, the waiters and waitresses, knew exactly what had happened.

This story reminds me that God is always active around us. But sometimes only some people are in the right place to see it. Any of the guests at the wedding could have found out about it – if they had talked to the wait staff. The wedding party could have learned about the miracle if they had helped clear tables. The bride and groom could have learned about the generosity of Jesus if they had asked some questions (like “Where did we get more wine?”).

Life is full of distractions. And we can get a little tired of the same old routine. This combination of distractions and habit can put people on auto pilot, which means we stop looking for God in the little things. And when we don't look for Him in little things, it's hard to see Him in big things.

So if you want all-access to God, it will require some work and change, but you can adjust your perspective and get a different view. And who knows; you might just see something incredible.

# 3D engineer officer gets double-tabbed

Staff Sgt. Justin McClarran

2nd Armored Brigade Combat Team

FORT STEWART, Ga. – U.S. Army Sapper Leader Course and Ranger School are two of the toughest schools in the Army. Soldiers who are “double-tabbed” set a standard for pushing themselves to the limit, both physically and mentally. First Lt. Rafael Eirea Lamberto is native of Cuba, assigned to the “Gila Battalion,” 9th Brigade Engineer Battalion, 2nd Armored Brigade Combat Team, 3rd Infantry Division, at Fort Stewart, and has pushed himself to the limit throughout his entire life, leading him to graduate both schools in the same year and compete in the Best Sapper Competition two years in a row.

Eirea Lamberto left Cuba and arrived in Miami, Florida, when he was 12 years old after fleeing with his mother in hopes of a better life. The move was a big change for his family and was not without its obstacles.

“My main focus was learning the English language because I knew without that, I wouldn't be successful,” said Eirea-Lamberto. “I needed to become proficient, and just work hard in whatever I do.”

After graduating high school, Eirea Lamberto enlisted in the Florida National Guard in 2015 as an infantryman, making him not only a first generation American but also the first in his family to serve in the U.S. military. Upon completing infantry basic training, he enrolled at Florida International University and joined Army ROTC.

“I wanted to give back to this country for giving me great opportunities to better myself and my family,” said Eirea Lamberto.

Eirea Lamberto graduated with a degree in finance and commissioned as a 2nd Lt. engineer officer in 2019. While attending the Engineer Basic Officer Leader Course at Fort Leonard Wood, Missouri, he trained for and attended SLC but didn't get the result he wanted.

“I was unsuccessful my first time at SLC,” said Eirea Lamberto. “I made it through the 28 days but got peered low in the class. I reflected on the experience and used this as a learning opportunity to better myself and others.”

He attended SLC again and this time graduated on April 9, 2021, where he peered top three in his squad and earned his Sapper tab.

“It made me realize that in order to be a good leader, it takes more than being physically fit and knowing a subject,” emphasized Eirea Lamberto. “It also takes being able to positively interact with others while under pressure to accomplish the mission.”

After competing and coming in 15th place at the 14th Annual Lt. Gen. Robert B. Flowers Best Sapper Competition at Fort Leonard Wood, Missouri, between May 1-3, 2021, he had a new goal in mind.



Courtesy Photo

**First Lt. Rafael Eirea Lamberto, an engineer officer assigned to the “Gila Battalion,” 9th Brigade Engineer Battalion, 2nd Armored Brigade Combat Team, 3rd Infantry Division, at Fort Stewart, Georgia, poses for a photo following his U.S. Army Ranger graduation ceremony at Victory Pond on Fort Benning, Dec. 10, 2021.**

“I saw a lot of people who were double-tabbed in the competition,” said Eirea Lamberto. “As a lieutenant, I should be setting the standard, not stagnant when others are pushing themselves.”

As a result, he walked on to Ranger School the following October and then ended up passing all three phases the first time.

“I knew I wanted it, and I just performed and focused on the team,” said Eirea Lamberto. “When you work hard for your team, they'll work hard for you. You need to be a team player.”

First Lt. Amanda Atkinson, also assigned to the 9th BEB, 2nd ABCT, 3rd ID, attended Ranger School with Eirea Lamberto.

“He was always a team leader, working nonstop to ensure his squad leader would be successful,” said Atkinson. “The fact he completed SLC, Best Sapper Competition and Ranger School all in the same year shows that his motivation and drive is remarkable. He constantly looks to better himself and provide a standard for his Soldiers to follow.”

Eirea Lamberto currently plans to compete for a second time in the 15th Annual Lt. Gen. Robert B. Flowers Best Sapper Competition at Fort Leonard Wood on April 22-25. His leadership is impressed by his passion to continue challenging himself.

“First Lt. Eirea Lamberto continues to excel, a natural leader that leads by example,” said Lt. Col. Brian T. Looney, commander of the 9th BEB, 2nd ABCT, 3rd ID. “Earning his Sapper tab, Ranger tab, and competing in the Best Sapper Competition for a second time, he continues to set the standard for an engineer leader.”

# CLASSIFIEDS

## Services

### BUSINESS SERVICES



**Call Roosevelt Cone SR. for your Moving Service 912-682-3532**



**Strickland Pools**  
Specializing in in-ground liner replacement  
Call Bryan today!  
912-657-5176

## Real Estate

### FOR RENT

## HOLTZMAN

### Real Estate Services

## PROPERTY MANAGEMENT RENTALS

Single Family Homes  
Apartment & Condos  
Commercial Properties

**ALL PRICE RANGES**

**876-8886**

1146 E.G. Miles Parkway  
www.FortStewart.com

## RET

### COMMERCIAL PROPERTY

**455 & 459 E.G. Miles Parkway. \$300,000.** Listing is for 455 & 459 E.G. Miles Parkway. Prime commercial tract adjacent to Hinesville Professional Park and across from Liberty Regional Medical Center. This is 1,000 LF off of the hard corner of General Screven Way and E.G. Miles PKWY. There is also 221 ft of road frontage. Jimmy Shanken, Coldwell Banker Southern Coast, 912-368-4300 or 912-977-4733 or email jimmy.shanken@coldwellbanker.com

**790 #107 Veterans Parkway Hinesville - \$15NNN**  
Great leasing opportunity! Co tenants include South Eastern Orthopedic Center, LA Nails, Optim Medical Center, and State Farm. Positioned along Veterans Parkway in the growing community of Hinesville. Conveniently located near Fort Stewart's Gate 8 with approximately 12,150 vehicles per day. Jimmy Shanken, Coldwell Banker Southern Coast, 912-368-4300 or 912-977-4733 or email jimmy.shanken@coldwellbanker.com

**910 Oglethorpe Hwy Hinesville - \$995,000**  
Located just south of TJ Maxx Development in the retail trade corridor. This parcel has 578+/- LF of road frontage on Oglethorpe Highway. Owner will sub-divide, additional land available currently zoned C2. 2 curb cuts in place. Jimmy Shanken, Coldwell Banker Southern Coast, 912-368-4300 or 912-977-4733 or email jimmy.shanken@coldwellbanker.com

**537 West Oglethorpe Highway Hinesville - \$16NNN**  
Excellent retail leasing opportunity in the Cross Roads Shopping Center. Join Big Lots, Dunkin Donuts, Save-A-Lot and Bealls Outlet. High traffic along US 84 Oglethorpe Highway. \$16NNN. 2+ parcels available for ground lease. Jimmy Shanken, Coldwell Banker Southern Coast, 912-368-4300 or 912-977-4733 or email jimmy.shanken@coldwellbanker.com

**504 E.G. Miles Parkway Hinesville - \$250,000**  
Superior Corner location! Close to Liberty Regional Medical

Center and near Fort Stewart. Great location for an office project or retail development. Jimmy Shanken, Coldwell Banker Southern Coast, 912-368-4300 or 912-977-4733 or email jimmy.shanken@coldwellbanker.com

**0 Highway 17 Richmond Hill - \$599,900**  
560 +/- feet of road frontage on US Highway 17 in Richmond Hill! This is an excellent development tract adjacent to the KOA campground and EconoLodge. DOT access documents are in place. There are a plethora of potential uses including but not limited to a fuel center, retail, hospitality, or restaurant. Jimmy Shanken, Coldwell Banker Southern Coast, 912-368-4300 or 912-977-4733 or email jimmy.shanken@coldwellbanker.com

**0 Oglethorpe Hwy Midway - \$1,390,000 SALE PENDING**  
Excellent development opportunity adjacent to I-95 exit 76 on the south bound side. This development tract features 15.91 acres. Property features easy access. There are approximately 5,430 vehicles per day on US/84 and 44,790 vehicles per day traveling I-95. This site is suitable for fuel stations, restaurants and hotels. Jimmy Shanken, Coldwell Banker Southern Coast, 912-368-4300 or 912-977-4733 or email jimmy.shanken@coldwellbanker.com

**12 Cypress Street Ludowici - \$285,000**  
This property has it all! Approximately 2.27 acres. Curb cuts, deceleration lane and GDOT access in place. Jimmy Shanken, Coldwell Banker Southern Coast, 912-368-4300 or 912-977-4733 or email jimmy.shanken@coldwellbanker.com

**286 Hardman Road Walthourville - \$349,900**  
Industrial opportunity located in Walthourville GA. Located minutes to I95 south and to the Ft. Stewart commercial gate #7. 6.49 Acres offers a chain link security fence and warehouse. Call us for more information today! Jimmy Shanken, Coldwell Banker Southern Coast, 912-368-4300 or 912-977-4733 or email jimmy.shanken@coldwellbanker.com

**606 East Oglethorpe**

**Highway Hinesville - \$750,000 REDUCED**  
Commercial property in the rapidly growing highway 84 corridor with approximately 289 linear foot of state highway frontage. Its location is central to the Hinesville VA Clinic, Ft. Stewart gates 1, 2, and 3 as well as being located inside the downtown overlay district and military opportunity zone. There are approximately 30,650 vehicles per day. Jimmy Shanken, Coldwell Banker Southern Coast, 912-368-4300 or 912-977-4733 or email jimmy.shanken@coldwellbanker.com

**863 Oglethorpe Highway, Suite #260, Hinesville**  
Fantastic Business Opportunity Former Barberitos Southwestern Grille & Cantina Franchise, \$50,000 for fixtures & equipment. Buyer must assume existing lease on 2200 SQFT, Rent \$4,033.33, \$22 NNN. Located in the TJ Maxx, Hobby Lobby Anchored Shopping Center. Co-tenants include Wayback Burgers, Chick-fil-A, Five Below, PetSmart, Panda Express and Car Wash. Please don't disturb the employees, they have no information. Jimmy Shanken, Coldwell Banker Southern Coast, 912-368-4300 or 912-977-4733 or email jimmy.shanken@coldwellbanker.com

**135 Martin Luther King, Jr Drive, Hinesville**  
The Brantley Building has been renovated and is located in the heart of Downtown Hinesville. Available for lease, Suite 201 A, B & C, approximately 755 SQ FT, features a walk-in waiting area, reception window, 2 private offices, and a storage closet. Conference room available for use, \$100 1/2 day or \$200 full day. Suite 201 A, B, C \$1750 per month, water and power included. Jimmy Shanken, Coldwell Banker Southern Coast, 912-368-4300 or 912-977-4733 or email jimmy.shanken@coldwellbanker.com

**430 Industrial Blvd. Midway - \$2,048 per Month**  
2,048 Heated square feet of office space for sublease in the Midway Industrial Park. Convenient to I 95 north and south off of US Highway 84. 4 private offices, conference room restrooms and ample parking. Current tenant is a manufacturer looking to lease excess space.

Call for private showing!! Jimmy Shanken, Coldwell Banker Southern Coast, 912-368-4300 or 912-977-4733 or email jimmy.shanken@coldwellbanker.com

**SALE PENDING**  
**621 West Oglethorpe Highway - Hinesville - \$899,900**  
2 Acre Pad Site! All utilities in place. Seller to provide access road with cross access easements with Chili's Grill & Bar, curb cuts in place, designed with a drive thru in mind. Excellent visibility from Hwy 84, Oglethorpe Highway. Tenants in the area include Chili's Grill & Bar, Cook Out, Sonic Drive-In, Krispy Kreme, Lowe's, and Walmart. This is 2 Acre parcel taken from parcel #057C257. Jimmy Shanken, Coldwell Banker Southern Coast, 912-368-4300 or 912-977-4733 or email jimmy.shanken@coldwellbanker.com

**131 North Macon Street, Ludowici - \$399,900**  
Exciting opportunity in central Ludowici! 4,000 SQ FT Steel Building plus 2,452 SQ FT office. Excellent opportunity for daycare, retail or the right industrial business just behind Ludowici Bank and IGA, close to City Hall and Health Department. Building is easy to reconfigure! Call us today! Jimmy Shanken, Coldwell Banker Southern Coast, 912-368-4300 or 912-977-4733 or email jimmy.shanken@coldwellbanker.com

**20.81 East Oglethorpe Highway, Hinesville - \$1,100,000**  
Excellent location on US Highway 84 in a rapidly growing community in Flemington, Georgia. This property is centrally located between Ft. Stewart Gate 3 and Midway, Georgia. It is located in a military opportunity zone. This property is great for many commercial users. 25,940 vehicles per day. Two Parcels 084023/083C017. Jimmy Shanken, Coldwell Banker Southern Coast, 912-368-4300 or 912-977-4733 or email jimmy.shanken@coldwellbanker.com

**759 Veterans Parkway, Hinesville - \$899,900**  
Room to grow, possibilities are endless!! 3,600 SQFT Steel Building currently operating as an automotive repair shop. Access from Veterans Parkway and cross access easement to Elma G Miles Parkway. Zoned C3. Sale is

real estate only, no equipment included! Call Jimmy Shanken 912-977-4733 to make an appointment.

**3.34 AC West 15th Street, Hinesville - \$130,000**  
Excellent retail development opportunity located less than 1 mile to Fort Stewart gate 7. Fort Stewart's only commercial entrance. Great location for Day Care, Convenience store, or self storage units. Jimmy Shanken, Coldwell Banker Southern Coast, 912-368-4300 or 912-977-4733 or email jimmy.shanken@coldwellbanker.com

**719 E. G. Miles Parkway, Hinesville - \$399,900**  
Incredible commercial opportunity on E.G. Miles Pkwy in Hinesville, Georgia! This property features 245 linear feet of road frontage, and is strategically located between Ft. Stewart gates 1 and 8. This property is suitable for multi-family, self storage, or retail opportunities! Jimmy Shanken, Coldwell Banker Southern Coast, 912-368-4300 or 912-977-4733 or email jimmy.shanken@coldwellbanker.com

**12.78 Acres Veterans Parkway, Hinesville - \$2,364,300**  
Excellent retail development site! Centrally located along the Veterans Parkway corridor. Just minutes to Ft. Stewart's gate 8 and directly behind the Walmart Supercenter, as well as the Lowe's retail trade area. There is approximately 1200 linear feet +/- of road frontage on Veterans Parkway. This property is located in the tax credit program zone. Additional parcels are available! Jimmy Shanken, Coldwell Banker Southern Coast, 912-368-4300 or 912-977-4733 or email jimmy.shanken@coldwellbanker.com

**3.47 Acres Cherrie Murrell St, Hinesville - \$520,500**  
Excellent retail development site! 3.47 acres of developmental land centrally located along the Veterans Parkway corridor. Just minutes to Ft. Stewart Gate 8 and directly behind the Walmart Supercenter and Lowe's retail trade area. Additional parcels are available! Don't miss this excellent opportunity! Jimmy Shanken, Coldwell Banker Southern Coast, 912-368-4300 or 912-977-4733 or email jimmy.shanken@coldwellbanker.com

**3.34 Acres West 15th Street, Hinesville - \$130,000**

Excellent retail development opportunity located less than 1 mile to Fort Stewart gate 7. Fort Stewart's only commercial entrance. Great location for Day Care, Convenience store, or self storage units. Jimmy Shanken, Coldwell Banker Southern Coast, 912-368-4300 or 912-977-4733 or email jimmy.shanken@coldwellbanker.com

**8.67 Acres West 15th Street, Hinesville - \$300,000**

2 parcels of land that would be an excellent retail development opportunity located less than 1 mile from Fort Stewart gate 7. Fort Stewart's only commercial entrance. Great location for Day Care, Convenience store, or self storage units. Jimmy Shanken, Coldwell Banker Southern Coast, 912-368-4300 or 912-977-4733 or email jimmy.shanken@coldwellbanker.com

**2.02 AC Highway 196 West Hinesville - \$499,900**

Commercial land located in a rapidly expanding trade area just minutes to Fort Stewart's Gate 8. This property sits near the intersection of Veterans Pkwy and Elma G. Miles Pkwy, which makes it the perfect location for retail development, a car wash, self storage, fuel station, or even restaurants- the possibilities are endless! This property sits in a high traffic area with nearly 17,000 vehicles per day, making it a prime commercial real estate location! Jimmy Shanken, Coldwell Banker Southern Coast, 912-368-4300 or 912-977-4733 or email jimmy.shanken@coldwellbanker.com

**4821 West Oglethorpe Highway- \$179,900**

Two parcels of land make up this property. Fabulous flipping opportunity, mixed-use opportunity, or duplex. Building was formerly a store. Sits on a corner lot with lots of room to grow! Corner of West Oglethorpe Highway (US Highway 84) and Kent Street/King Road. Both buildings need renovations. Ready for a first time investor! Call Jimmy Shanken at 912-977-4733 or email jimmy.shanken@coldwellbanker.com.

**230 W. General Screven Way Suite 200- \$17/NNN**

Former dental office located 3/4 of a mile +/- from Fort Stewart Gate 1, with the main entrance sitting at a traffic light. This 2732 SF space is an annual NNN lease at \$17/SF plus CAM positioned in a high traffic area with approximately 20,040 vehicles per day. It features 7 exam rooms, a reception area, 3 restrooms, and 4 offices. Incredible opportunity

for medical or dental use, office, or retail. Call Jimmy Shanken at 912-977-4733 or email jimmy.shanken@coldwellbanker.com.

**PRICE REDUCED: 2636 Oglethorpe Highway- Hinesville- \$699,900**

7.71 AC lot presents a dynamic opportunity to own this redevelopment commercial property in the rapidly growing Fleming-ton area. Gateway to Hinesville, with over 26,000 vehicles per day passing by this property. With over 1000 new residential lots in the area, this site makes for a great retail or mixed use redevelopment. 15,000 SF steel frame building features 720 LF +/- . It sits on US 84 and is just a couple of miles from Fort Stewart gates. Fort Stewart has a \$4.5 billion economic impact on the region. Call Jimmy Shanken at 912-977-4733 or 912-368-4300.

**402 Oglethorpe Highway - Hinesville \$799,900**

Coldwell Banker Commercial Southern Coast is pleased to present this excellent retail development opportunity. This approximately 4.45-acre lot is conveniently located on US Highway 84 inside the Hinesville Downtown Development Overlay District. Approximately 33,000 vehicles pass by daily! This parcel is currently zoned C2 and features 2 freshwater ponds, one of which could potentially be filled in and used for water retention. Lots of room for expansion! Call Jimmy Shanken at 912-977-4733 or email jimmy.shanken@coldwellbanker.com.

high foyer, open floorplan, customized staircase, walls, formal dining room, large family room, one full bedroom and bathroom downstairs, a kitchen made for entertaining, stainless steel appliances, bistro area, large outdoor screened porch, 16x32 inground saltwater pool with heater and self-cleaning system. Large outdoors with shed and garden area. This gorgeous retreat sits in the Horsecreek Subdivision, just 5 minutes from shopping, schools, and 10 minutes to FSGA gates.



**SALE PENDING! 1386 Coalition Circle - Hinesville, \$209,900**

Are you looking for a home that is in a quiet area, but also close to Hinesville shopping and restaurants, as well as Fort Stewart Gates 1, 7, and 8? This beautiful brick, one-story home may just be the right one for you! There are many features to love about this gorgeous home: an open entryway, vaulted ceilings, luxury lighting from Europe, solid surface countertops, and new appliances. In addition to the 3 bedrooms and 2 bathrooms, this home features a formal living room, formal dining room, family room, breakfast nook, and a galley-style kitchen with a backsplash. The outdoor space is just as amazing, featuring an uncovered patio with an oversized privacy fence, perfect for backyard activities!



**SALE PENDING! 913 Churchfield Drive - Hinesville, \$159,900**

Take a look at this cute and cozy 3 bedroom, 2 bathroom home located just minutes from Fort Stewart Gates as well as Hinesville restaurants, schools, and retail! Set in a desired subdivision right in the heart of town! Features

wood laminate flooring in living areas and carpet through the bedrooms! The backyard is the perfect size for nights spent outside doing barbeques, and has a combination privacy and chain-link fence! SOLD AS-IS!



**SALE PENDING! 624 Parish Loop - Hinesville, \$229,900**

Take a look at this cozy 3 bedroom, 2 bathroom home located in a beautiful subdivision on the edge of Hinesville! Just minutes to Fort Stewart Gates as well as Hinesville restaurants, retail and schools! Beautiful, manicured front lawn! Front doors open to a living area with lots of natural light coming in through the windows! Open kitchen has lots of cabinet space! Large backyard has a privacy fence, allowing for plenty of room for outdoor activities in the summer!



**SALE PENDING! 907 Ringneck Way - Hinesville, \$199,900**

Take a look at this super cute and recently refreshed 4 bedroom, 2 bathroom home! Front patio is perfect for sitting out and reading on summer days! Vinyl plank runs throughout with carpet in all four bedrooms. Lots of natural light comes in through the windows in the living/dining room combo, as well as in the eat-in kitchen, which features wood cabinets, granite countertops, and brand new stainless steel appliances! Backyard features a privacy fence and shed. Located close to Fort Stewart gates as well as Hinesville shopping and restaurants! This home is a must-see! Seller is a licensed real estate agent in the state of Georgia.



**SALE PENDING! 198 Middleton Lane - Allenhurst, \$149,900**

YOU DO NOT WANT TO MISS OUT ON THIS BEAUTIFUL, SERENE LOT featuring a 3 bedroom, 2 bathroom remodeled mobile home and a huge pond with dock access! A cozy mobile home features a spacious living room and upgraded kitchen appliances, an enclosed porch, a covered open porch, and a chain-link fenced-in backyard! Backyard has a woodshed, metal shed, AND a chicken coop! Around the pond, you will find lots of natural beauty, and your summer days will feature long walks along the walkways and summer nights out on the dock! This 5.48-acre property is zoned AR1 for Agricultural/Residential, and with such a tranquil atmosphere, it will not last long! Another single-wide mobile home sits on the site, which could be used for investment income!!!



**SALE PENDING! 267 Pee Wee Road SE - Ludowici, \$169,900**

18.91 acre retreat located in a private, tranquil setting! Spacious 3 bedroom, 2 bathroom mobile home is located off Tiber Road in Ludowici! Approximately 7 miles from Talmadge Road. Driveway if on the right off Hope Circle. Property covers two parcels, #084002001 and #084002002. Will not qualify for VA or FHA Loan, being sold AS-IS! Jimmy Shanken at 912-977-4733 call or Jimmy.shanken@theshankenteam.com



**933 Hollywood Drive, Hinesville, GA 31313 Price reduced \$74,900**

Incredible opportunity, 3 bedroom, 2 bathroom mobile home located in Hinesville, Georgia! Do you want to live close to shopping, restaurants, and Ft. Stewart gates? This is the home for you! Featuring a fenced in yard, sitting on a .32 acre lot. The kitchen offers above-head cabinets, with a hood fan and stove-oven combo. This property was bought as an investment property, so there is no Seller's Disclosure to be attached. Metal Roof and A/C were replaced within the last few years. Sellers are licensed real estate agents in the state of Georgia. Tenant occupied, will not be available for showing until Tuesday 1/4/2022. Thank you! Jimmy Shanken at 912-977-4733 call or Jimmy.shanken@theshankenteam.com



**SALE PENDING! 44 Logan Ct SE, Ludowici, GA 31316**

Price reduced \$231,900 Take a look at this beautiful 4 bedroom, 2 bath mobile home built in 2020, featuring an open floor plan, with a rustic-styled interior. Did we mention this beautiful home offers TWO living areas, a family room and living room?! The open-concept kitchen with a large island sits in between these two living areas. Wide plank vinyl flooring runs throughout, with carpet in two of the bedrooms. Step into a large master suite, with the master bath featuring double vanity sinks, and a large shower. The dining room offers ample lighting, with sliding doors leading to a large uncovered deck and above-ground pool! Also has a huge open backyard with a storage shed! Two Parcels included

HOMES FOR SALE



**JUST LISTED - SALE PENDING! 62 Bridle Way NE - Ludowici \$349,900**

Looking for a dream home with an in-ground pool, 5 bedrooms, 1 on main floor, open floorplan, endless customized details, and upgrades on 3.65 acres of land? We have your home! This impeccable home welcomes you! Beautifully landscaped, solar-powered fountain. Two story

in sale 056057043 / 056057042. Jimmy Shanken at 912-977-4733 cell or jimmy.shanken@theshankenteam.com

This INVESTOR ONLY home is one you don't want to miss out on! This 1,491 square foot, brick, single-family home built in 1968, features 3 bedrooms and 2 baths, and a one-car garage. It is located conveniently in Hinesville, GA, minutes away from grocery stores, shopping, churches, restaurants, and so much more! Also, it is only a 45-minute drive to Savannah, GA! Jimmy Shanken at 912-977-4733 cell or jimmy.shanken@theshankenteam.com



302 Floyd Street, Hinesville, GA 31313 \$169,900

**LAND/LOTS FOR SALE**

**0 Shyam Road - Hinesville - \$475,000.** 3.5 acres of commercial potential. Located just off of US Hwy 84 in Hinesville. Central-

ly located between Fort Stewart Gates one (1), two (2) and three (3). There are thirty thousand six hundred and fifty (30,650) V.P.D. May also access from Sandy Run Drive. Jimmy Shanken, Coldwell Banker Southern Coast, 912-368-4300 or 912-977-4733 or email jimmy.shanken@coldwellbanker.com

**0 Willowbrook Drive, Hinesville - \$499,900.** Incredible opportunity to own a parcel inside the city limits of Hinesville that is correctly zoned and engineered for a multi-family development. Located off Veteran's Parkway and EG Miles parkway centrally located between Fort Stewart Gate 8 and Walmart, Lowes, and the TJ Maxx Shopping Center. Jimmy Shanken, Coldwell Banker Southern Coast, 912-368-4300

or 912-977-4733 or email jimmy.shanken@coldwellbanker.com

**0 West 15th Street Hinesville - \$375,000**

Great mixed-use opportunity adjacent to Fort Stewart Gate 7. Approximately 56.156 acres of land. This property is ready to go and visible from the entrance of Fort Stewart Gate 7. Jimmy Shanken, Coldwell Banker Southern Coast, 912-368-4300 or 912-977-4733 or email jimmy.shanken@coldwellbanker.com

**5.93 Old Ludowici Road, Ludowici - \$44,900**

Homesite with a small pond and No City Taxes!! Unrestricted lot, mobile homes are ok. 5.93 acres adjacent to Aaron's Mobile Home Park in Walthourville. Jim-

my Shanken, Coldwell Banker Southern Coast, 912-368-4300 or 912-977-4733 or email jimmy.shanken@coldwellbanker.com

**Lot 21 Fair Hope Drive Townsend - \$239,000 PRICE REDUCED!**

BELVEDERE ISLAND PLANTATION LOT! This beautiful wooded lot shares a private dock. Enjoy the many amenities that Belvedere Plantation has to offer! Community club and guest house, swimming pool, tennis court, dock, horse stable and the gorgeous view of the river. If you look on the water it is not unusual to see the dolphins enjoying the clear waters. Have you always wanted to own a piece of land close to the river? Well this is your chance. 0.86 acres of land ready to be yours! Contact us for

more information today! Take a look of all that this beautiful community has to offer. All it's missing is your house! <https://belvedereislandplantation.com/communitysite.com/> Jimmy Shanken, Coldwell Banker Southern Coast, 912-368-4300 or 912-977-4733, Co-Listed with Brigitte Cabeza-Shanken 912-222-8279 briggitte.shanken@coldwellbanker.com.

**19 Acres - 0 East Oglethorpe Highway Flemington - \$900,000**

Excellent location on US HWY 84 in rapidly growing community of Flemington, Georgia. Centrally located between Ft. Stewart Gate 3 and Midway. It is located in a military opportunity zone. Great property for many commercial users. 24,430 vehicles per day. Jimmy Shanken, Coldwell Banker Southern Coast, 912-368-4300 or 912-977-4733 or email jimmy.shanken@coldwellbanker.com

**1.4 Acres - 00 East Oglethorpe Highway Flemington - \$600,000**

Excellent location on US Highway 84 in a rapidly growing community in Flemington, Georgia. This property is centrally located between Ft. Stewart Gate 3 and Midway, Georgia. It

# This Space Available for Your Business!

Email [marketing@coastalcourier.com](mailto:marketing@coastalcourier.com)

or call 912-876-0156



**The Shanken Team REALTORS®**  
Jimmy and Brigitte Shanken  
Nikki Gaskin, Ella Causey

Jimmy Shanken, Associate Broker, CCIM, CIPS, RSPS  
912-977-4733 (cell)  
912-408-2021 (office)  
[jimmy.shanken@coldwellbanker.com](mailto:jimmy.shanken@coldwellbanker.com)  
[www.jimmyshanken.com](http://www.jimmyshanken.com)

Brigitte Cabeza Shanken, Associate Broker  
CIPS, RSPS, AHWD, CRS, PSA, MRP  
912-222-8279 (cell)  
[brigitte.shanken@coldwellbanker.com](mailto:brigitte.shanken@coldwellbanker.com)

Nikki Gaskin, Realtor®, MPR  
912-610-8304  
[nikkigaskin@theshankenteam.com](mailto:nikkigaskin@theshankenteam.com)

Ella Causey, Realtor®  
912-318-4097  
[ella@theshankenteam.com](mailto:ella@theshankenteam.com)



730 General Stewart Way, Hinesville  
912-368-4300

is located in a military opportunity zone. This property is great for many commercial users. 25,940 vehicles per day. Jimmy Shanken, Coldwell Banker Southern Coast, 912-368-4300 or 912-977-4733 or email jimmy.shanken@coldwellbanker.com

**260 Interchange Drive  
Richmond Hill - \$199,900**

Remarkable pad site just off of US 17 and I95 Interchange. Several parcels available. All utilities in place. Multiple uses include office or hotel. Easy access to streets and all access in place. Jimmy Shanken, Coldwell Banker Southern Coast, 912-368-4300 or 912-977-4733 or email jimmy.shanken@coldwellbanker.com

**4.5819 West Oglethorpe Highway Walthourville - \$299,900**

This is 4.5819 acres of Commercial land. It is centrally located on the East West freight corridor between Valdosta and the Port of Savannah. It is also located in the Military and SBA opportunity zone. This is a corner lot. Jimmy Shanken, Coldwell Banker Southern Coast, 912-368-4300 or 912-977-4733 or email jimmy.shanken@coldwellbanker.com

**Lot 41 Salt Marsh Drive, Midway - \$49,900**

Coastal Living at its finest!! Gorgeous building lot inside the tranquil Yellow Bluff Subdivision ready to build your "Dream Home"!!! Jimmy Shanken, Coldwell Banker Southern Coast, 912-368-4300 or 912-977-4733 or email jimmy.shanken@coldwellbanker.com

**1.98 AC Fiddlers Cove  
Townsend - \$30,000**

Build your dream home on this private & secluded 1.98 Acres lot in Spring Cove, a gated community, less than one hour to Savannah! Perfect home site with access to a beautiful pond! Located near fishing, crabbing & boat ramps. Short drive to Harris Neck Wildlife Refuge. Jimmy Shanken, Coldwell Banker Southern Coast, 912-368-4300

or 912-977-4733 or email jimmy.shanken@coldwellbanker.com

**30.8 AC US Highway 84- Jesup, GA 31545 \$299,900**

Very strategically located 30.8-acre site available immediately for development. Sits in a prime location, on the NW corner of US Highway 84/SR 38 and Camden Street on the primary retail corridor in Jesup. Perfect for retail, self storage, or multi-family development and has multiple access points. This is a great lot, and includes two parcels! Jimmy Shanken, Coldwell Banker Southern Coast 912-368-4300 or 912-977-4733 or email jimmy.shanken@coldwellbanker.com.

**0.24 Acre Veterans Memorial Parkway, Hinesville - \$225,000**

Last available frontage road on drive home side of Veterans Parkway zoned C-2. Off site water retention included. Owners are licensed Real Estate Brokers in the state of Georgia. Jimmy Shanken, Coldwell Banker Southern Coast. 912-977-4733. jimmy.shanken@coldwellbanker.com

**0 E. Oglethorpe Highway, Hinesville - \$2,500,000 PRICE REDUCED!**

Excellent hotel/restaurant site located next to La Quinta in Flemington. Parcel has offsite water retention. Owners will subdivide. Owners are licensed Real Estate Brokers in the state of Georgia. Jimmy Shanken, Coldwell Banker Southern Coast. 912-977-4733. jimmy.shanken@coldwellbanker.com

**777 Veterans Memorial Parkway, Hinesville - \$395,000.**

Last available frontage on drive home side of veterans parkway zoned C-2. Off site water retention included. Owners are licensed Real Estate Brokers in the state of Georgia. Jimmy Shanken, Coldwell Banker Southern Coast. 912-977-4733. jimmy.shanken@coldwellbanker.com

**Lot 3 Lakeview Drive  
Glennville - \$19,900**

Great .7 acre lot located in Lakeview Estates. Don't miss an opportunity to build your dream home on this gorgeous lot. Additional lots available. Jimmy Shanken, Coldwell Banker Southern Coast, 912-368-4300 or 912-977-4733 or email jimmy.shanken@coldwellbanker.com

**Lot 4 Lakeview Drive  
Glennville - \$19,900**

Great .58 acre lot in Lakeview Estates. Don't miss out on an opportunity to build your dream home. Additional lots also available. Jimmy Shanken, Coldwell Banker Southern Coast 912-368-4300 or 912-977-4733 or email jimmy.shanken@coldwellbanker.com

**Lot 5 Lakeview Drive  
Glennville - \$19,900**

Great 0.56 acres lot in Lakeview Estates. Take advantage of an opportunity to build your dream home! Additional lots available for purchase. Jimmy Shanken, Coldwell Banker Southern Coast, 912-368-4300 or 912-977-4733 or email jimmy.shanken@coldwellbanker.com

**Lot 6 Lakeview Drive  
Glennville - \$19,900**

Great 0.67 acre lot in Lakeview Estates. Don't miss out on an opportunity to build your dream home. Additional lots also available for purchase. Jimmy Shanken, Coldwell Banker Southern Coast, 912-368-4300 or 912-977-4733 or email jimmy.shanken@coldwellbanker.com

**Lot 7 Lakeview Drive  
Glennville - \$19,900**

Great 0.67 wooded lot in Lakeview Estates. Don't miss out on an opportunity to build your dream home! Additional lots available for purchase. Jimmy Shanken, Coldwell Banker Southern Coast, 912-368-4300 or 912-977-4733 or email jimmy.shanken@coldwellbanker.com

**Lots 1-10 West Court Street  
Hinesville - \$499,000**

Located in the Downtown Over-

lay district. Redevelopment in the heart of downtown Hinesville. Entire city block with access to four paved roads! City water, city sewer and NO FLOOD ZONE! Walking distance to Municipal Buildings, Main Street and Bradwell Institute. Excellent multi-family site. Jimmy Shanken, Coldwell Banker Southern Coast, 912-368-4300 or 912-977-4733 or email jimmy.shanken@coldwellbanker.com

**0 Patriots Trail Hinesville - \$1,613,250**

Dynamic multifamily potential along Patriots Trail! This property is situated at the center of regional growth, walking distance to the Liberty County Recreational Department and YMCA. Convenient to Fort Stewart gates 1,2, and 3. Tract 3 is partially located in the city limits of Flemington. Approximately 1700 linear feet of road frontage on Patriots Trail. Plat attached in documents. Great opportunity! Jimmy Shanken, Coldwell Banker Southern Coast, 912-368-4300 or 912-977-4733 or email jimmy.shanken@coldwellbanker.com

**BACK ON THE MARKET!**

**1 Terrell Drive Hinesville - \$2,250,000 PRICE REDUCED!**

Shovel ready apartment pad sites. 132 total units, 3 buildings with 8 units, 9 buildings with 12 units. Roads and utilities are in place. Conveniently located near Ft. Stewart Gate 7. Ft. Stewart's the largest Department of Defense Installation East of the Mississippi River. Jimmy Shanken, Coldwell Banker Southern Coast, 912-368-4300 or 912-977-4733 or email jimmy.shanken@coldwellbanker.com

**1135 West Oglethorpe Highway Hinesville - \$499,900**

This is 4.18 acres of commercial land. This property is cleared, level, and ready to build on. It is accessible from Highway 84 and Main Street. It is centrally located in between Hinesville retail areas, Walmart Supercenter and the Walmart Neighborhood Market. It is conveniently located

near Ft. Stewart. Ft. Stewart's the largest Department of Defense Installation East of the Mississippi River. Jimmy Shanken, Coldwell Banker Southern Coast, 912-368-4300 or 912-977-4733 or email jimmy.shanken@coldwellbanker.com

**1.61 Acres Barry McCaffrey Boulevard - \$65,000**

Centrally located Town home site, minutes to Fort Stewart gates and shopping. 1.61 Acres, zoned RTH near the intersection of Barry McCaffrey Blvd. and Shaw Rd. Contact us today for more information! Jimmy Shanken, Coldwell Banker Southern Coast, 912-368-4300 or 912-977-4733 or email jimmy.shanken@coldwellbanker.com

**8.67 AC West 15th Street, Hinesville \$300,000**

**Back on the market, no fault of the seller!**

2 parcels of land that would be an excellent retail development opportunity located less than 1 mile from Fort Stewart gate 7. Fort Stewart's only commercial entrance. Great location for Day Care, Convenience store, or self storage units. Jimmy Shanken, Coldwell Banker Southern Coast, 912-368-4300 or 912-977-4733 or email jimmy.shanken@coldwellbanker.com

**1 AC Peter King Road, Riceboro \$24,900**

Great piece of property located on 1 acre in Riceboro, GA. This property would be a perfect place to build a new home! It is conveniently located just a short distance to S Coastal HWY. Not far from Brunswick or Savannah. Mobile homes are ok. Don't miss out, it won't last long! Jimmy Shanken, Coldwell Banker Southern Coast, 912-368-4300 or 912-977-4733 or email jimmy.shanken@coldwellbanker.com

**16.84 AC Hwy 84 East, Midway \$795,000**

Development Opportunity!! 960 LF of Frontage on one of the last undeveloped exits in GA, Exit 76 on I-95!! Excellent Retail

or Hospitality development opportunity adjoins land owned by The Development Authority of Liberty County. Jimmy Shanken, Coldwell Banker Southern Coast, 912-368-4300 or 912-977-4733 or email jimmy.shanken@coldwellbanker.com

**2.17 Acres Highway 84, Ludowici - \$299,900**

Great piece of property located in the heart of Ludowici, one of Georgia's fastest growing communities. Minutes to Fort Stewart Gates and Hinesville. Just over 2 acres, this property holds a great deal of opportunities. It is located off US Hwy 84 with high traffic, featuring 336 Linear feet of US 84 frontage. This property is also located near a proposed 600 unit residential development area. Check out this property before it's too late! Water and sewer available! Jimmy Shanken, Coldwell Banker Southern Coast, 912-368-4300 or 912-977-4733 or email jimmy.shanken@coldwellbanker.com

**5. 24 AC West 15th Street- \$655,000**

Two parcels! Incredible commercial land opportunity centrally located on West 15th Street near Fort Stewart Gate 7 in a rapidly expanding residential growth area. Both parcels are accessible from West 15th Street and Curtis Road. This land presents an excellent opportunity for self-storage, retail, or service-related development. Call Jimmy Shanken at 912-977-4733 or email jimmy.shanken@coldwellbanker.com.

**7.89 AC Flowers Road Ludowici, GA 31316 - \$69,900**

Are you looking for the perfect location to build your dream home? Look no further than this peaceful 7.89-acre lot in Long County, Georgia. Close to Highway 196 (Elma G. Miles Parkway), this corner lot features developable land with lots of greenery. Horses are okay! Co-listed with Brigitte Cabeza-Shanken at 912-222-8279.

# In final act, MOH recipient shielded defenseless ally from harm

By Joe Lacdan

Army News Service

If she could, Katie Celiz would trade it all away.

She'd give up the lavish welcome to the White House, the congratulations and well wishes, if she could just have her husband, Sgt. 1st Class Christopher Celiz back.

If Katie had her way, Chris would walk through the front door of her house and she'd embrace all of him: his baby face and greying hair. He'd tuck their daughter, Shannon in his arms, and carry her around the living room. He would be cracking jokes and relishing his time with his family, as he always did.

Instead, in the valleys of Afghanistan, Chris gave his life. He did it because his fellow Soldiers and their U.S. allies could have died if he did not. He gave his life because his country needed him to.

Chris passed away on a barren stretch of desert in the south Asian nation because his innate moral compass compelled him to act, to defend those who could not defend themselves. Acts of bravery had become routine for the Army Ranger.

In an elite unit of the Army's most highly trained, disciplined Soldiers, Chris had managed to stand out even among the best.

News of Celiz's exploits even reached the Pentagon, as then-Vice Chief of Staff Gen. James C. McConville learned of Chris's heroic acts from his son, an emergency helicopter pilot.

On a clear July morning in Paktia Province, Chris risked himself for the last time, using his body to shield U.S. Soldiers and allies from enemy fire. The 32-year old Soldier did not survive his injuries.

The Defense Department honored Chris with the Medal of Honor in a White House ceremony on Dec. 16.

Not that Katie is not grateful for the honors and dedications bestowed in her husband's memory. The Ranger community and families of his fellow Soldiers who knew Chris have invited Katie and her daughter for countless dinners. Rangers even helped Shannon with her science project.

For this and for receiving the nation's highest military award for valor, Katie is eternally grateful, she said.

But if Katie had one wish, Chris would be alive.

On a summer morning in July 2018, Katie heard the sound of a vehicle door closing in the family's driveway. Thinking it might be Chris, Katie hurried to the front steps. She had been waiting inside the family's Savannah, Georgia home for Chris to return from his seven-month deployment to Afghanistan.

But it wasn't her husband.

Instead, she saw two uniformed Soldiers walking to her porch.

Instantly she knew.

She braced herself for the moment military spouses dread.

As she opened the door and listened to the Soldier's words, everything became a blur.



Photo by Laura Buchta

**President Joe Biden presents the Medal of Honor to Katie Celiz, spouse of Sgt. 1st Class Christopher Celiz, and their daughter Shannon, during a ceremony at the White House in Washington, D.C., on Dec. 16, 2021. Celiz was posthumously awarded the Medal of Honor for actions of valor during Operation Freedom's Sentinel while serving as a battalion mortar platoon sergeant with Company D, 1st Battalion, 75th Ranger Regiment, in Paktia Province, Afghanistan, on July 12, 2018.**

"Ms. Celiz," the Soldier began. "I'm sorry ma'am."

She can recall bits and pieces of what the Soldier said. She only knew that Chris would not be coming back. Chris had suffered fatal wounds on a mission in Afghanistan. Her daughter, Shannon, had been hiding, hoping to surprise her dad.

Shannon heard the entire thing. Just weeks before, Shannon had celebrated her eighth birthday. Chris told his family earlier he likely would not be able to call.

He decided to anyway, making a FaceTime meeting with his daughter.

They laughed and talked about how Shannon went ice skating for her birthday and the presents that she received. Chris told his wife and daughter that he loved them and would see them soon.

Days later she learned, Chris would pass away.

But instead of breaking down when she saw the two servicemen at her doorstep, instead of letting a flood of emotions well up inside her, Katie remained numb. She resisted the urge to mourn or cry.

Chris would have wanted it that way, she said.

"It was my way of protecting myself," Katie said. "Just shut it all off. Just listen, try to process it and move forward. Chris was very big on not dwelling on the past."

"Push forward, never go back," she recalled Chris saying.

But Katie could not help but feel angry that fate had taken her husband from her.

After Chris's death, months of therapy followed for both Katie and Shannon. During that time, fellow Rangers and their families lent their support; they invited Katie and Shannon into their homes for dinners, the way that Chris did for his troops.

Members of Chris's platoon would drive by the fam-

ily's house and check on them almost daily. Rangers helped Shannon with her school project and one even attended her school's Hanukkah play.

"They took her under their wing," Katie said.

Shannon, who has her father's beaming smile, had grown very close with her dad. Chris would take Shannon on piggyback rides when he went for a run through their neighborhood in Savannah.

After Chris had passed, she battled extreme depression and anxiety. During her third-grade school year, the Jewish day school she attended helped her maintain her grades as she grieved for her dad.

Katie had to cope with losing the love of her life.

"It was agonizing," Katie said. "It felt like my whole world had come to an end."

On March 8, 2019, then-Maj. Gen. Mark Schwartz, the deputy commanding general of the Joint Special Operations Command, placed Chris's Bronze Star upon Shannon's shoulders in a ceremony at Hunter Army Airfield to honor her father's actions.

Two months later, the Tunnels to Towers organization donated a new, two-story home to the Celiz family in Chris's honor.

The outpouring of support helped Katie and Shannon move forward. Katie still keeps Chris' old military uniforms, including his dress blues. She still has his favorite Ranger poster hanging on the wall of a small library she put together in the family's home.

Katie said that even though the pain of losing Chris will never fully subside, they can continue honoring his memory.

The couple met during high school in 2002, but their paths didn't cross until they both worked at the local BI-LO grocery store in Summerville, South Carolina.

One afternoon at work, Katie could not find her jacket. And when she returned from a break, the jacket mysteriously reappeared. The vanishing act continued for a week until during one shift she caught Chris pushing carts while wearing her jacket. Later that day when she returned from break, she found her jacket in the break room laced with rose petals.

"I thought it was cute," Katie said. The couple would date for several years and later married in 2007.

She said Chris stood out among his peers because of his acceptance of others. He made friends with students of different backgrounds.

Early in his Army career, he grew frustrated with leadership in his unit, Katie said. He wanted to become a better mentor for Soldiers, making it a point to know his fellow Rangers outside of duty. He encouraged them to take additional training programs. And would even check on his fellow Soldiers' lives at home with their families. "That way when they came to work, they could perform the way they needed to be performing," Katie said.

Chris's concern for people from different walks of life eventually led him to change religions.

*(Continued next page)*



Courtesy photos by Katie Celiz

**Sgt. 1st Class Christopher Celiz with his family. Celiz and his wife were celebrating their 10th wedding anniversary.**

The couple converted to the Jewish faith, finding solace in the religion's acceptance of others. The couple eventually enrolled their daughter at a Jewish day school in Savannah, and Chris would help his daughter with her schoolwork.

Joining the military had been his life's calling. Chris joined junior ROTC while in high school and after graduation enrolled at The Citadel, an academic institution in Charleston, South Carolina that trains cadets to become military officers and also educates non-military students. Chris later left the school to pursue his goal of working in Army Special Forces.

Chris knew that the months of separation would take its toll on his family. During deployments he'd send emails and hand-written letters to his wife. For Shannon, he recorded videos of himself reading books.

His peers said, he created a family environment, even in the hostile environments of Afghanistan.

During his 2018 deployment to Afghanistan, Chris did his best to create camaraderie with his unit. He hosted horror movie nights with fellow Soldiers. Inside the windowless barracks, he'd strum his guitar, singing Chris Stapleton or Dave Matthews Band songs to lighten the mood after the unit embarked on dangerous missions.

In the early hours of July 12, 2018 while riding through Paktia Province in eastern Afghanistan, Celiz and members of the 75th Ranger battalion performed a security sweep on a secret mission.

They had orders to perform reconnaissance and clear the area of enemies. The Soldiers' thermal vision gave them an edge during night operations, said 2nd Lt. Garrett White, who then served as an enlisted radio operator on the mission. As they encroached upon the ruins of an old storage shelter, daylight began to peak through Afghanistan's mountains.

"Once it starts getting light," White said. "We're on their turf. They know where we are."

At about 5 a.m., insurgents armed with AK-47 rifles surrounded the convoy and fired upon the group. A bullet struck an ally in the chest, critically injuring him.

Chris, seeing his unit being fired upon, sprang into

action. "Boys," White recalled Chris saying. "It's going to be a good day."

Exposing himself to the enemy onslaught, he retrieved a heavy weapons system, clearing a temporary path for teammates to treat a critically wounded ally.

White and other Soldiers joined Chris in unleashing a wave of rounds against the ambushing insurgents. Chris's swift actions allowed U.S. forces to take fire superiority away from the insurgents, suppressing enemy fire, White said. The insurgents retreated to reassess their strategy and regroup.

Chris's onslaught allowed the medical team to reach cover and treat the wounded.

"I was inspired," White said. "[Chris] was so confident and steady in his decision-making process."

In minutes a medical evacuation helicopter arrived, whirring above the firefight. Instantly Chris knew that the aircraft had to be defended, and again he exposed himself to enemy rounds, putting his body between the medical evacuation team and the insurgent gunfire.

The rhythm of the fight moved quickly and that morning in 2018, White said he didn't have time to fully process what happened as the enemy closed. But the days following the battle made Chris's actions more clear.

"He really was selflessly body blocking that litter team and that helicopter crew as they were loading the casualty on the bird under a tremendous amount of fire," White said.

Chris remained in his position until the recovery team had full cover and the helicopter had taken flight. Only when he saw the chopper ascend upward and away from the firefight did Chris seek cover for himself.

Standing feet away, White saw Chris finally turn, enemy rounds ricocheting off the ground near his boots. Chris had been struck in the chest. Somehow, Chris managed to stay upright for a few seconds more.

The Soldier looked up toward a member of the crew and waved them off. Chris knew if the helicopter remained, it would risk more lives and it could possibly crash.

With the dust and bullets swirling around him, Chris finally collapsed from his wounds. He turned and attempt-

ed to crawl toward his teammates before he became unresponsive.

Fellow Soldiers ran to Chris and pulled his body away from the gunfire. In less than two minutes they called the medical helicopter back to retrieve Chris.

It was too late.

Later reports revealed at least 20 insurgents had attacked the unit.

White, who would go on to officer training school, now leads Soldiers as a commissioned officer.

At Chris's funeral in Savannah's Mickve Israel synagogue, every member of Chris's unit that could attend, attended. Even Soldiers and onlookers who didn't know Chris as well joined in paying their respects.

In the days leading up to her husband's medal ceremony last December, Katie said she and her daughter are now in a better place. Both mother and daughter stood next to President Biden to receive the Medal of Honor on Chris's behalf on Dec. 16.

Katie said she and her daughter will try to move forward, as Chris would have wanted them to do, as Chris had always encouraged them to do when dealt with setbacks.

"I know he would be proud," Katie said of the medal. "But Chris ... would probably just shrug it off. He didn't make a big deal about awards or anything like that... He didn't actually like being the center of attention."

When asked how she wanted her husband to be remembered, Katie paused for a long moment. "He was just a man who loved his family," she said. She recalled an excursion the family took six years ago.



**Sgt. 1st Class Christopher Celiz poses for a photo with his daughter and dog, Jager, during a hike at Yonah Mountain, in the Chattahoochee-Oconee National Forest, 2013. This was their first camping trip as a family.**

In August 2015, the Celiz family took a trip to hike along the Appalachian Trail.

During the trek up the mountain, Shannon, then 5 years old, lost her footing and began to tumble down the slope. She rolled along the ground until she hit a tree.

"Shannon are you okay?" Katie recalled Chris saying.

Shannon didn't cry. Instead, the couple watched as their daughter got up from the tree, gathered her backpack and began walking back toward the trail.

"What are you doing?" Chris said.

"I'm doing what you taught me dad," Shannon said. "I'm walking it off. I'm going to be okay."

"That's my girl," Chris said.