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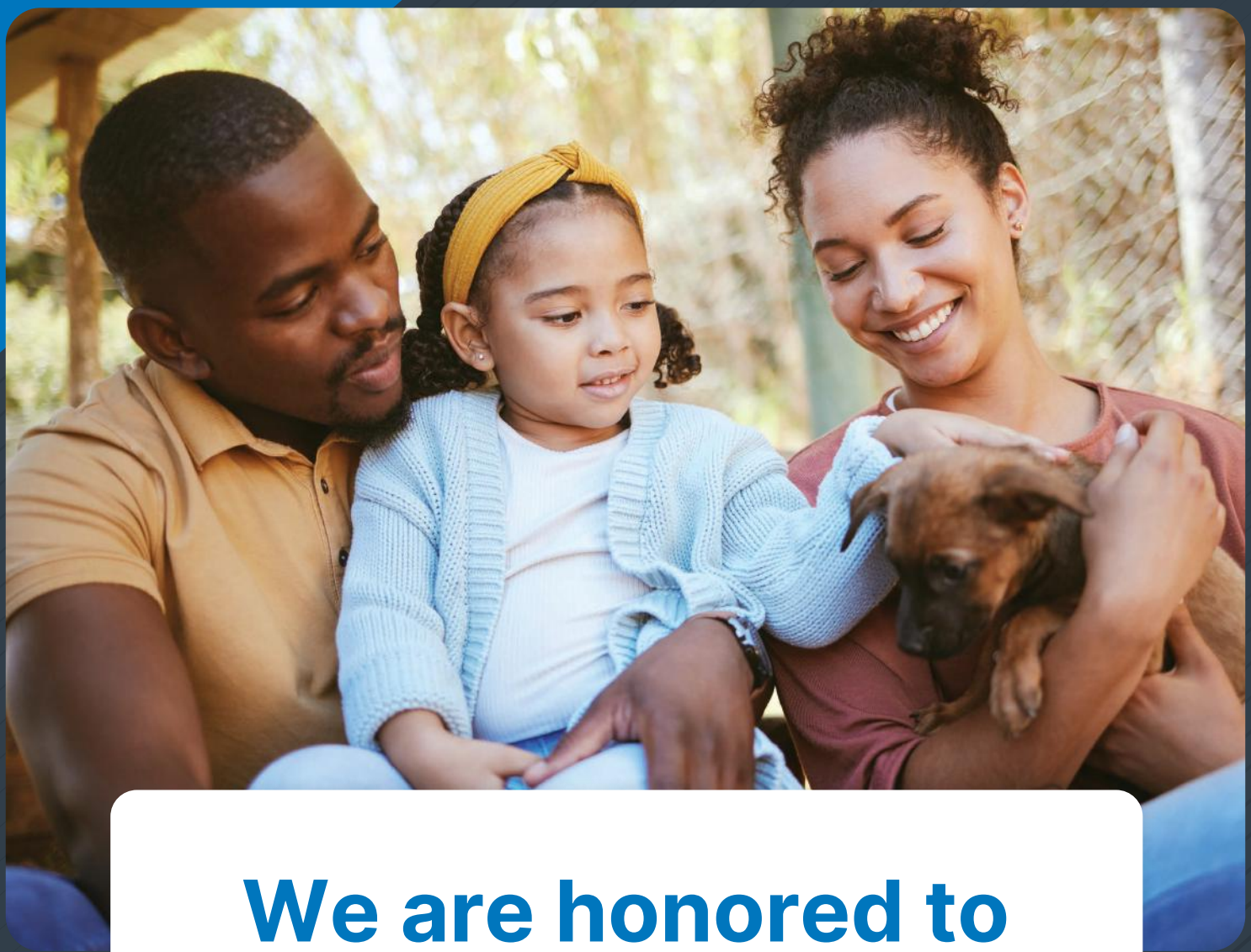
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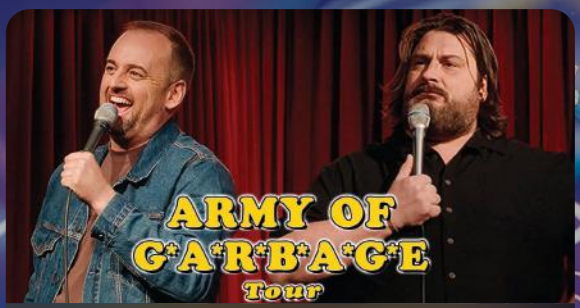
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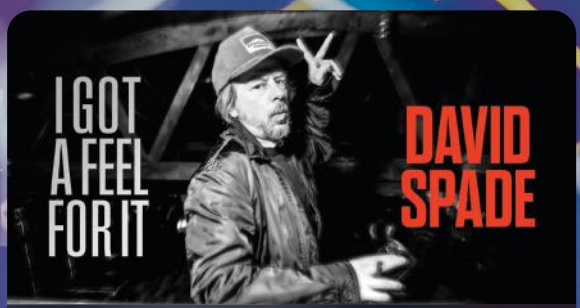
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Photos in this publication are provided by the Department of Defense, JBMDL Public Affairs unless otherwise noted. **Cover:** Soldiers of the 404th Civil Affairs Battalion conduct their final airborne operation at Coyle Air Field in Chatsworth, New Jersey, August 13, 2026. U.S. Army Reserve photo by Sgt. 1st Class Rolland Cheng

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God Bless Our Military and All Who Support It!

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Publisher's Note - Military communities are built on shared experiences, lasting relationships and a commitment to supporting those who serve. Our cover captures a milestone in the history of the 404th Civil Affairs Battalion, as its soldiers complete their final airborne operation at Coyle Air Field in Chatsworth, New Jersey. It is a reminder that while individual chapters may come to a close, the people and connections forged through service continue. In this issue, we turn our attention to the service members, veterans, military families and community partners who make the Joint Base McGuire-Dix-Lakehurst region such an important part of our nation's military landscape.

Dan Clark McKinley Williams
David Spector Frank Longo Mike Gonzales
Michael Warner Greg Kucharewski Vito Cardinale

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Joint Base McGuire-Dix-Lakehurst

The 42,000-contiguous acres of JB MDL are home to more than 80 mission partners and 40 mission commanders providing a wide range of combat capability. The base spans more than 20 miles, from east to west. It is situated in the two largest counties in New Jersey—Burlington and Ocean—and includes portions of eight municipalities: the borough of Wrightstown and the townships of New Hanover, North Hanover, Pemberton, and Springfield, in Burlington County, and the townships of Jackson, Manchester, and Plumsted in Ocean County. The 87th Air Base Wing provides installation management support for 3,933 facilities. More than 44,000 airmen, soldiers, sailors, marines, coast guardsmen, civilians, and their family members live and work on and around JB MDL.

The United States Air Force's McGuire Air Force Base, the United States Army's Fort Dix and the United States Navy's Naval Air Engineering Station Lakehurst were merged on 1 October 2009. JB MDL is the Department of Defense's only tri-service joint base.

As America's premier joint warfighting base, Joint Base McGuire-Dix-Lakehurst is uniquely capable of projecting air, land, and sea power in support of our nation's defense.

Though consolidated into a single joint base, the three facilities which were adjoining, but separate military installations remain commonly known by their pre-merger names. Although the installation management functions have been consolidated, the missions of each of the three installations will continue.

The Air Force provides global mobility and expeditionary combat support, the Army mobilizes and train soldiers, and the Navy continues to assure fixed and vertical wing aircraft operate safely and effectively worldwide.



Colonel Michael D. Stefanovic
Commander



Colonel Clay Huffman
Deputy Commander



Captain James B. Howell
Deputy Commander

87TH Air Base Wing

Colonel
Michael D. Stefanovic
Commander
Joint Base McGuire-Dix-Lakehurst and 87th Air Base Wing



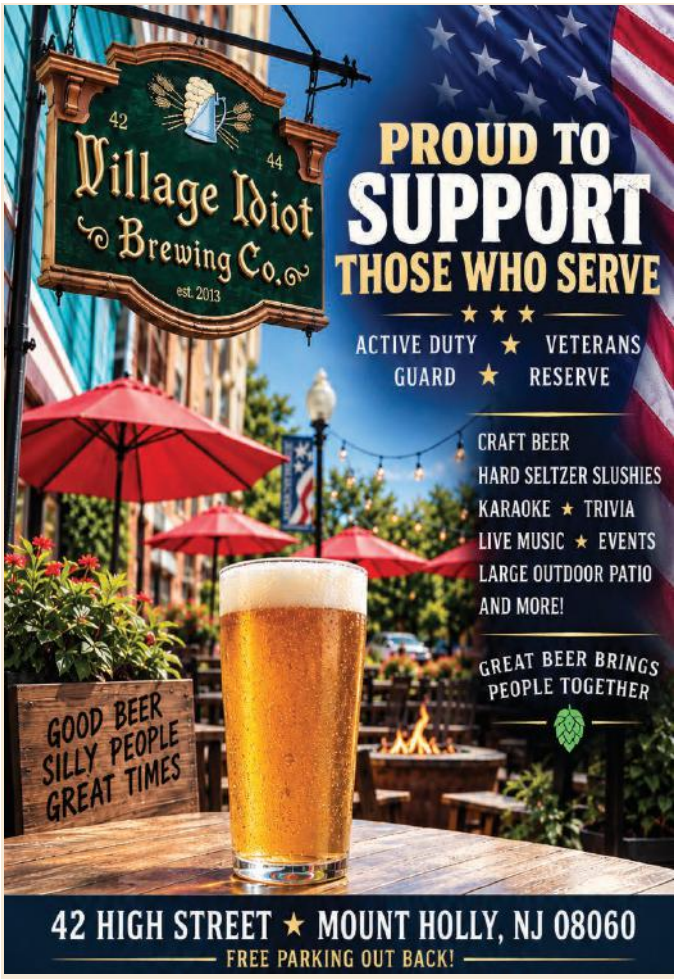
Col. Michael D. Stefanovic is the Commander, Joint Base McGuire-Dix-Lakehurst (JB MDL) and 87th Air Base Wing, JB MDL, New Jersey. He is responsible for providing mission-ready expeditionary Airmen, Guardians and Sailors to combatant commanders in support of joint and coalition operations.

Colonel Stefanovic entered the Air Force in 2001 after obtaining his commission through the ROTC program at the Georgia Institute of Technology, earning a Bachelor of Science in mechanical engineering. He has served in various base level and headquarters assignments, including an international assignment as a counter-IED and explosive subject matter expert to the United Nations in New York. He has deployed to multiple locations in support of overseas contingency operations.

Chief Master Sergeant
Nicholas "Nic" Conner
Command Chief
87th Air Base Wing



Chief Master Sergeant Nicholas Conner serves as the 87th Air Base Wing Command Chief Master Sergeant, Joint Base McGuire-Dix-Lakehurst, New Jersey. As senior enlisted leader of the Department of Defense's only tri- service joint base, he is the principal advisor to the installation commander. The wing provides mission support, civil engineering, and medical services to more than 88 mission partners and 52,000 active duty, reserve, guard, civilian, retiree and family members residing on the joint base with an infrastructure valued at $9 billion. He is entrusted with the combat readiness, organization, training, professional development and effective utilization of more than 1,200 Airmen and Sailors. Additionally, he is the functional manager of 21 First Sergeants who maintain a mission-ready force and support the military community's quality-of-life.









U.S. Air Force Chief Master Sgt. Raun Howell, command chief of Air Mobility Command, speaks to Airmen during an all call at Joint Base McGuire-Dix-Lakehurst, N.J., Aug. 11, 2026. Howell stressed every Airman is a warfighter with a responsibility to fly, fix and fight to win alongside the joint force.

AMC COMMANDER VISITS JB MDL, DRIVES READINESS, MODERNIZATION PRIORITIES

Published August 11, 2026
Story & Photos by 1st Lt. Benjamin Williams
Joint Base McGuire-Dix-Lakehurst Public Affairs

Airmen and leadership across Joint Base McGuire-Dix-Lakehurst hosted U.S. Air Force Lt. Gen. Daniel Tulley, commander of Air Mobility Command, and Chief Master Sgt. Raun Howell, AMC command chief, during a base visit.

Welcomed by Col. Michael Stefanovic, 87th Air Base Wing commander, and other installation and mission partner leaders, the AMC command team utilized the visit not as a standard orientation, but as a platform to engage Airmen and introduce their priorities.

Throughout an all call and a series of small group mentorship sessions, Tulley challenged the installation to fundamentally shift its paradigm around readiness, modernization and warfighting. "If we go to war with a near-peer advisory, it's going to be dramatically different than what we've seen in the past," Tulley said. "We need to get ready for it every single day."

That readiness, Tulley emphasized, extends far beyond aircraft availability and flightline metrics. As a warfighting command that plans, integrates and fights alongside every combatant command, AMC relies heavily on tactical level leaders and individual Airmen who project and sustain combat power under increasingly contested conditions – not being afraid to exercise decentralized command where needed.

continued on page 32

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ARMY RESERVE LEADER BOOSTS READINESS THROUGH 'DECISION ADVANTAGE'

Published July 24, 2026
Story by Sgt. 1st Class Deziree Lau
99th Readiness Division



Chief Warrant Officer 4 Daniel Fuhrman, command chief warrant officer of the U.S. Army Reserve's 99th Readiness Division, teaches "decision advantage" during Army Vantage Training June 8 on Joint Base McGuire-Dix-Lakehurst, New Jersey. With decision advantage, raw data is transformed into actionable intelligence, allowing leaders to move from reactive to proactive, ensuring a decisive edge in complex, time-sensitive environments. (U.S. Army photo by Sgt. 1st Class Gecyca Martin, 99th RD Public Affairs)

"We need to provide decision advantage to our leaders," said Chief Warrant Officer 4 Daniel Fuhrman, command chief warrant officer of the U.S. Army Reserve's 99th Readiness Division, during Army Vantage Training here.

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"Decision advantage is the ability to out-process, out-decide, and out-act adversaries by using superior situational awareness, advanced analytics, and AI to make faster, more accurate decisions," Fuhrman explained.

With decision advantage, raw data is transformed into actionable intelligence, allowing leaders to move from reactive to proactive, ensuring a decisive edge in complex, time-sensitive environments using four core components: situational understanding, speed and agility, secure information flow, and human-machine teaming.

"During steady state operations, this means improving the Army Reserve's readiness to be prepared to deploy at short notice," shared Fuhrman, who is leading the Vantage charge for the Army Reserve.

The push for more efficiencies in data management began nearly a decade ago – the U.S. Army was rich in data, but critical data points regarding troop availability, weapons inventory, global supply chains, and financial accounts were segregated in more than 160 legacy, siloed databases.

"We receive more data than is humanly possible to process into information or analyze into knowledge," Fuhrman said.

The solution began as a prototype called the Army Leader Dashboard, recognizing that senior leaders needed a single, integrated window into the entire force.

"Closing the gap optimizes the solutions developed to improve the Army's data culture to enable decision-making," Fuhrman said.

By 2020, under the direction of the Program Executive Office Enterprise Information Systems, the platform officially evolved and was chartered into its own product office: Army Vantage. ✪

To learn more about Army Vantage, visit https://www.palantir.com/army-vantage/

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U.S. Air Force Col. Michael Stefanovic, left, Joint Base McGuire-Dix-Lakehurst and 87th Air Base Wing commander, Army Col. Clay Huffman, center, JB MDL deputy commander and U.S. Army Support Activity Fort Dix commander, and Navy Capt. James Howell, right, JB MDL deputy commander and Naval Support Activity Lakehurst commanding officer, answer questions during the 2026 State of the Base address at JB MDL, N.J., Sept. 25, 2026. The panel portion allowed leadership to share the accomplishments of the base, importance of working as joint warfighters and thanked the community for their continued support. (U.S. Air Force photo by Airman 1st Class Haeleigh Bayle)

JB MDL LEADERS HIGHLIGHT JOINT MISSIONS DURING STATE OF THE BASE

Published September 28, 2026
Story by Rochelle Naus
Joint Base McGuire-Dix-Lakehurst Public Affairs

Leaders provided an overview of the installation's missions, capabilities and role in national defense during the 2026 State of the Base event September 25, 2026.

The event brought military leaders together with business, government and civic leaders from across the region to increase awareness of the missions conducted across the Department of War's only tri-service installation. JB MDL spans approximately 42,000 acres, with the 87th Air Base Wing providing power projection to over 88 mission partners.

Senior military and civilian leaders highlighted the range of missions and capabilities operating at and supported by JB MDL. Maj. Gen. Darren R. Cole, commander of 21st Air Force and the U.S. Air Force Expeditionary Center; Brig. Gen. Yvonne L. Mays, New Jersey adjutant general; Sean D. Brennan, Naval Air Warfare Center Aircraft Division Lakehurst executive director; and Col. Virginia L. Egli, 99th Readiness Division chief of staff, addressed attendees during the event.

The program also included a joint-service panel featuring Col. Michael D. Stefanovic, Joint Base McGuire-Dix-Lakehurst and 87th Air Base Wing commander; Col. Clay M. Huffman, Joint Base McGuire-Dix-Lakehurst deputy commander and U.S. Army Support Activity Fort Dix commander; and, Capt. James B. Howell, Joint Base McGuire-Dix-Lakehurst deputy commander and Naval Support Activity Lakehurst commanding officer.

"Joint Base McGuire-Dix-Lakehurst brings together an incredible range of capabilities, but what makes this installation unique is how those missions come together as one joint force," Stefanovic said. "Our surrounding communities are an important part of that story. The support they provide to our service members, civilians and families strengthens the people behind the mission and helps us remain ready to deliver warfighting capability for the nation."

Leaders discussed how the installation's diverse missions contribute to readiness and global operations, including strategic airlift and air refueling, contingency response, Army training and mobilization, and naval aviation research, development, testing and support. Those missions are strengthened by the relationship between JB MDL and the surrounding



U.S. Air Force Brig. Gen. Yvonne L. Mays, The Adjutant General of New Jersey, provides remarks during the 2026 State of the Base address at Joint Base McGuire-Dix-Lakehurst, N.J., Sept. 25, 2026. Mays commands over 8,400 Soldiers and Airmen assigned to the N.J. National Guard where she leads, directs and supports the service members. (U.S. Air Force photo by Airman 1st Class Haeleigh Bayle)

communities, where service members, civilians and their families live, work and build connections beyond the installation. That connection strengthens the people behind the mission, supporting the readiness and resilience of a joint force tasked with meeting requirements at home and around the world.

The event concluded with static displays highlighting the people, equipment and capabilities supporting missions across the installation. The displays provided attendees a closer look at how JB MDL's Air Force, Army, Navy, Marine and Coast Guard units contribute to the installation's joint mission. JB MDL integrates a diverse range of capabilities that contribute to readiness and operations at home and worldwide. ✪



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DEVIL DEVELOPMENT COURSE PREPARES AIRMEN FOR THE DEMANDS OF CONTINGENCY RESPONSE



Senior Airman Vincent Ermilio, left, and Airman 1st Class Laisha Lechuga, right, both mobility support specialists from the 621st Contingency Response Support Squadron, bear a litter during a six-mile ruck march Oct. 25, 2024 at Joint Base McGuire-Dix-Lakehurst, New Jersey. The exercise was the culmination of an introductory course for the 621st Contingency Response Wing "Devil Raiders" preparing them for the wing's expeditionary mission sets. (U.S. Air Force photo by Master Sgt. Tristan McIntire)

Published August 3, 2026
Story by Capt. Michael Hong
621st Contingency Response Wing

Contingency response operations demand more than technical expertise. Whether opening an austere airfield, supporting humanitarian assistance or enabling combat operations, Airmen must understand how every specialty contributes to mission success. The 621st Contingency Response Wing's Devil Development Course, a one-week course conducted at either Travis Air Force Base, California or Joint Base McGuire-Dix-Lakehurst, New Jersey, is designed to build that foundation.

The multi-day professional development course introduces Airmen to the full scope of the contingency response enterprise, combining instruction on mission command, contingency response doctrine, Agile Combat Employment, readiness, force generation, mission planning and the roles of each specialty within the wing. The goal is to develop Airmen who understand not only their own responsibilities, but also how to integrate with teammates in rapidly evolving operational environments.

"The goal is for students to leave the Devil Development Course with a broader understanding of what contingency response does," said U.S. Air Force Capt. Andrew DiCicco, Training & Programs flight commander. "When they go on their first contingency response team, contingency response element or airfield assessment team, I want them to remember two things: learn each other's jobs and always have a good attitude." That broader perspective resonated with students throughout the course.

"I've been in the contingency response group my whole career, and I thought, 'We open and close ports—that's what we do,'" one student said during the course's closing discussion. "This course helped me understand how every function across the wing contributes to opening and operating those ports."

That shared understanding is increasingly important as contingency response Airmen prepare to deploy in small, decentralized teams capable of operating independently in austere locations. Rather than relying on detailed instructions from higher headquarters, those teams must exercise disciplined initiative while understanding how their decisions affect the larger mission.

"It is amazing," said Chief Master Sgt. Dennis Flanagan, 621st Air Mobility Advisory Group senior enlisted leader. "I can't think of another Air Force organization that would send a staff sergeant or technical sergeant out to lead a small team at an austere location. That's a huge amount of trust in our enlisted force and our officer corps." Flanagan encouraged graduates to view the course as the beginning of their professional development rather than its conclusion.

"This isn't just a couple-day course," Flanagan said. "It's a foundation to build on. Take what you learn back to your unit, find somebody who needs help, bring them along with you and build them up."

Throughout the week, instructors emphasized that contingency response readiness extends beyond equipment and technical proficiency. Airmen discussed leadership, discipline, trust and resilience alongside historical case studies and current operational challenges, reinforcing the importance of preparing both themselves and their teams before the next mission begins.

For Col. Justin Ballinger, commander of the 621st Contingency Response Wing, that preparation is what enables contingency response forces to remain agile around the globe.

"When you give folks at the lowest echelon the opportunity to make decisions and do great things, they create great things," Ballinger said.

As the wing continues supporting operations around the world—from humanitarian assistance and disaster relief to expeditionary airfield operations—the Devil Development Course provides Airmen with the common understanding needed to integrate diverse specialties, exercise mission command and execute contingency response missions wherever they are called. ✪



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U.S. Army with the 3rd Battalion, 112th Field Artillery Regiment, 44th Infantry Brigade Combat Team, New Jersey Army National Guard, have their photo taken at Joint Base McGuire-Dix-Lakehurst, New Jersey, July 24, 2026. (New Jersey National Guard photo by Mark C. Olsen)

NEW JERSEY NATIONAL GUARD SOLDIERS HONORED FOR AIDING ACCIDENT VICTIMS



U.S. Army Col. Omar Minott, commander, 44th Infantry Brigade Combat Team, New Jersey Army National Guard, left, presents the Army Achievement Medal to: 2nd Lt. Anthuanet C. Gomez-Blacido, platoon leader, 3rd Battalion, 112th Field Artillery Regiment, 44th IBCT / 2nd Lt. Sean M. Lukowski, fire support officer, 3rd Battalion, 112th Field Artillery Regiment, 44th IBCT / Sgt. 1st Class Alexis Colon, platoon sergeant, 3rd Battalion, 112th Field Artillery Regiment, 44th IBCT/ Spc. Jahsiear W. Scott, a signal tactical net specialist, 3rd Battalion, 112th Field Artillery Regiment, 44th IBCT. (New Jersey National Guard photo by Mark C. Olsen)

Published July 27, 2026
Story & Photos by Mark Olsen
New Jersey National Guard

Four New Jersey Army National Guard Soldiers upheld the National Guard's motto, "Always Ready, Always There" by providing aid to a family after a head-on car collision.

On May 15, 2026, three Soldiers with the 3rd Battalion, 112th Field Artillery Regiment, 44thInfantry Brigade Combat Team, were returning to Joint Base McGuire-Dix-Lakehurst, New Jersey, when a truck swerved into their lane and hit the car in front them.

U.S. Army platoon leader 2nd Lt. Anthuanet C. Gomez-Blacido immediately pulled over and Spc. Jahsiear W. Scott, a signal tactical net specialist, called 911, while fire support officer 2nd Lt. Sean M. Lukowski ran to the car to assess the situation and render aid.

Lukowski began by getting the driver out and then moved to the woman in the passenger seat whose pinned leg trapped her in the car. She directed Lukowski's attention to her baby in the back seat. He passed the baby to Gomez-Blacido who gave the child to the father. Gomez-Blacido kept the woman engaged and conscious while Lukowski moved on to the other vehicle.

The truck driver, who was able to remove himself, told Lukowski there were no one else in the vehicle.

U.S. Army Sgt. 1st Class Alexis Colon, a platoon sergeant with the 3rd Battalion, 112th Field Artillery Regiment, arrived, managed the growing crowd, and assisted the father with his baby. The fire department extracted the mother from the vehicle and transported the family by air ambulance from the scene.

Gomez-Blacido, Lukowski, and Scott stayed behind to give statements to the police as they were the only witnesses to the crash.

On July 24, U.S. Army Col. Omar Minott, commander, 44th Infantry Brigade Combat Team, presented Gomez-Blacido, Colon, Lukowski, and Scott Army Achievement Medals in front of their fellow Soldiers during their unit's annual training at Joint Base McGuire-Dix-Lakehurst. ✪

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Photo courtesy of PhillyBurbs

MORE THAN A CASINO: HOW PARX CASINO HONORS THOSE WHO SERVE EVERY DAY OF THE YEAR

Story by Military Appreciation Magazine

When people think of Parx Casino, they often think of entertainment, hospitality, and one of Pennsylvania's premier gaming destinations. What many don't see is a deeply rooted commitment to the military community—one that extends far beyond Veterans Day and is woven into the culture of the organization.

At the heart of that commitment is the nineteen-year veteran of Parx Casino Mr. Jerry Fretz, Director of Security, who has shaped both the security program at Parx and the company's unwavering support for veterans and active-duty military personnel.



A Lifetime of Service

Jerry's career is defined by service to others. After joining the Philadelphia Police Department, he rose through the ranks, serving as a Highway Patrol Officer, Traffic, SWAT, and eventually retiring as a Captain, after a 31-year distinguished law enforcement career.

While simultaneously serving as a Philadelphia Police Officer, Jerry also built an extraordinary 32-year military career in the United States Navy Reserve, ultimately achieving the rank of Commander prior to his retirement from military service. During his military service, he worked alongside Special Operations Forces, NCIS, and commanded numerous Navy Law Enforcement organizations. He eventually deployed to Baghdad, Iraq for eighteen months and again to Kabul, Afghanistan for more than a year, in support of military operations overseas. During this deployment, Parx Casino demonstrated its commitment to employees who serve by supporting Jerry and his family while he was deployed—a powerful example of the organization's pledge for those who answer our nation's call to duty.

Leadership Beyond the Uniform

Today, Jerry leads one of the most respected security organizations in the gaming industry, but his mission extends well beyond protecting guests and team members. His vision is simple: "Veterans should be honored every day, not just once a year."

That philosophy has helped create a culture at Parx where military service is respected, celebrated, and supported throughout the year. One of Jerry's most meaningful partnerships is with the Bucks County Tour of Honor where he serves as a board member. The organization provides local veterans with the opportunity to visit the various war memorials in Washington, D.C. Parx proudly supports these unforgettable trips by helping secure charter buses, coordinating police motorcycle escorts, and working alongside the Bensalem Police Department, whose officers accompany the veterans throughout the entire journey.

Held annually on the first Monday in October, these trips provide many veterans with the opportunity to experience the memorial built in their honor—often for the very first time.

When the veterans return home, the appreciation continues. They are welcomed back to Parx by



employees, friends, and family members before gathering for a celebratory banquet recognizing their service and sacrifice.

Honoring America's Greatest Generation

Parx's commitment to veterans is perhaps best illustrated through another special tradition. Throughout the year, the casino hosts celebrations honoring veterans who have reached their 100th birthday. These remarkable men and women, along with their families, are recognized during special dinners that celebrate not only their longevity but also their extraordinary service to our country.

These events remind everyone in attendance that the freedoms Americans enjoy today were secured through the courage and sacrifice of generations who answered the call to serve.

Hiring Those Who Have Served

Jerry is also passionate about creating opportunities for veterans after they leave military service. He actively recruits former service members to join the Parx Security Department, recognizing that the discipline, leadership, teamwork, and commitment developed in the military translate exceptionally well into a professional security program.

Many veterans begin a second career at Parx before eventually moving into local law enforcement and fire service positions. While Jerry admits it's never easy to lose talented employees, he takes pride in knowing that Parx has become an important steppingstone in helping veterans successfully transition into civilian careers.

That investment has helped build one of the strongest security teams in the industry while simultaneously supporting those who have worn our nation's uniform.

Looking Ahead

Parx Casino's support for the military community continues to grow, and Jerry is always looking for new ways to expand that mission. During recent conversations with Military Appreciation Magazine, Jerry expressed his desire to strengthen the partnership between Parx and MAM. He has invited the magazine to participate in future celebrations honoring 100-year-old veterans and has welcomed the opportunity for MAM to attend and report on future Heroes Program trips to Washington, D.C.

These stories deserve to be told—not only because they honor individual veterans, but because they demonstrate what meaningful corporate support for the military community truly looks like.

At Parx Casino, supporting veterans is not simply an annual event or a marketing initiative. It is a year-round commitment led by people who have served, inspired by those who sacrificed, and carried forward by an organization that understands the true meaning of giving back.

Military Appreciation Magazine is proud to spotlight Jerry Fretz' distinguished military and law enforcement career, and the outstanding example Parx Casino continues to set in honoring America's veterans every day of the year.





Members of a joint service color guard stand in formation in front of the "Ultimate Weapon" statue at Sharp Field during the U.S. Army Support Activity Fort Dix change of command ceremony at Joint Base McGuire-Dix-Lakehurst, New Jersey, July 29, 2026. The ceremony marked the transfer of command from Col. Bryan Dunker to Col. Clay Huffman. (U.S. Army photo by Daniel Amburg)

USASA FORT DIX BIDS FAREWELL TO DUNKER, WELCOMES HUFFMAN AS COMMANDER

Published August 7, 2026, Story by Kris Patterson
Joint Base McGuire-Dix-Lakehurst Public Affairs

U.S. Army Support Activity Fort Dix bid farewell to U.S. Army Col. Bryan Dunker, outgoing commander, and welcomed U.S. Army Col. Clay Huffman, incoming commander, during a change of command ceremony at Joint Base McGuire-Dix-Lakehurst, N.J., July 29, 2026.

The ceremony marked the formal transfer of leadership from Dunker to Huffman, while reaffirming the garrison's commitment to supporting warfighters, mission partners and stakeholders across USASA Fort Dix and JB MDL.

"We salute an outstanding garrison commander, Colonel Bryan Dunker, and his family," said Patrick Appelman, U.S. Army Installation Management Command - Western Hemisphere director, who served as the ceremony's reviewing official. "You and your team, day in and day out, provided exceptional services to ensure Soldiers and civilians are well cared for while they serve our country."

Dunker assumed command of USASA Fort Dix in July 2024. During his tenure, he championed more than $23 million in projects that expanded and improved 35,000 acres of training land, resulting in a nearly 40% increase in training throughput annually. He also strengthened partnerships with joint and interagency leaders, which Appelman said was critical during high-stakes mobilization exercises.

"You focused your efforts on the heart and soul of the garrison, always putting Soldiers, civilians and families first," Appelman said.

During the invocation, U.S. Army Lt. Col. Richard Schultz, USASA Fort Dix garrison chaplain, commended Dunker for his passion, excellence and perseverance.

continued on page 22

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U.S. Army Col. Bryan Dunker, center, U.S. Army Support Activity Fort Dix outgoing commander, passes the USASA Fort Dix colors to Patrick J. Appelman, left, Installation Management Command - Western Hemisphere director, during the USASA Fort Dix change of command ceremony a Joint Base McGuire-Dix-Lakehurst, N.J., July 29, 2026. Appelman served as the reviewing official for the ceremony, during which, Dunker relinquished command of USASA Fort Dix to U.S. Army Col. Clay Huffman. (U.S. Air Force photo by Kris Patterson)



U.S. Army Col. Clay Huffman, left, U.S. Army Support Activity Fort Dix incoming commander, receives the USASA Fort Dix colors from Patrick J. Appelman, right, Installation Management Command - Western Hemisphere director, during the USASA Fort Dix change of command ceremony at Joint Base McGuire-Dix-Lakehurst, N.J., July 29, 2026. Appelman served as the reviewing official for the ceremony, during which, Huffman assumed command of USASA Fort Dix from U.S. Army Col. Bryan Dunker. (U.S. Air Force photo by Kris Patterson)



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Huffman continued from page 20

"He has been a constant example of determination, grit and selfless service," said Schultz. "Under Colonel Dunker's watch, we have been kept safe."

Reflecting on his time in command, Dunker said serving and leading at USASA Fort Dix and JB MDL was the "greatest honor" of his career.

"The mission of building readiness and lethality for our U.S. joint forces was always my end point," Dunker said. "But above all, I will cherish the memories of serving alongside all of you."

In addition to his role as commander of USASA Fort Dix, Dunker also served as a deputy commander of JB MDL, a role Huffman will likewise continue in. As home to units from all five military services, JB MDL provides a uniquely joint operating environment, which Dunker said is one of the installation's greatest strengths.

"We truly are America's premier joint warfighting base, and we prove that in every operation and exercise," Dunker said. "We know we are stronger together, and we know we are unstoppable when we hold the line together."

Dunker offered words of encouragement to the new commander.

"Team Huffman, you are joining a top-tiered team of teams," Dunker said. "Carry the torch onto new horizons."

As Dunker transitions to his new position as executive officer to the Chief of the U.S. Army Reserve, Huffman arrives from his previous assignment as the Commander's Action Group director at U.S. Africa Command.

"I look forward to pressing ahead and doing the best we possibly can here at ASA Fort Dix and Joint Base McGuire-Dix-Lakehurst," Huffman said.

Huffman, a Fremont, Ohio native, was commissioned into the U.S. Army Military Intelligence Corps in 2004, after graduating as a Distinguished Military Graduate from Clemson University.

Throughout his 22-year military career, Huffman has served in numerous leadership positions at the tactical, operational and strategic levels of all three components of the Army: active duty, National Guard, and Army Reserve. ✪

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SUMMER FUN AS WE WIN AS ONE

Published June 15, 2026
Story & Photos by Sr Airman Aidan Thompson
Joint Base McGuire-Dix-Lakehurst

The 87th Force Support Squadron hosted Summer Fest on Joint Base McGuire-Dix-Lakehurst, June 12, 2026. The community event hosted several family-friendly activities as well as a live concert from the Gary Sinise Foundation's Lt. Dan Band.

continued on page 30

U.S. Navy Master-At-Arms Seaman Apprentice Gabriel Redondo observes attendees during Summer Fest at Joint Base McGuire-Dix-Lakehurst, N.J., June 12, 2026. Summer Fest is an 87th Force Support Squadron led event focused on raising the morale of service members and their families. (U.S. Air Force photo by Senior Airman Aidan Thompson)

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POWER IN THE PINES RETURNS IN 2027

A CENTURY OF AVIATION HISTORY, MILITARY TRADITION AND AMERICAN PRIDE TAKES FLIGHT AT JOINT BASE MCGUIRE-DIX-LAKEHURST

By Military Appreciation Magazine

There are air shows—and then there is the experience of watching the skies come alive over Joint Base McGuire-Dix-Lakehurst.

In 2027, the tradition continues.

For generations, families throughout New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Delaware and beyond have made their way to what is now Joint Base McGuire-Dix-Lakehurst to experience America's military up close. The aircraft may change. The technology may advance. The demonstrations may become more spectacular. But the mission remains the same: to connect America's military with the American people.

The history of these events at JB MDL is remarkable.

A Tradition That Began More Than 75 Years Ago

The story goes back to September 18, 1948, when McGuire Air Force Base hosted its first public event. Just two years later, President Harry S. Truman established Armed Forces Day as a national observance designed to increase public awareness of the Armed Forces and recognize the contributions of America's service members and veterans.

The first Armed Forces Day was observed on May 20, 1950, and the installations that would eventually become Joint Base McGuire-Dix-Lakehurst participated with demonstrations, exhibits and military activities. McGuire's program included aircraft, helicopters, parachute jumping and tours of an aircraft overhaul and repair facility.

More than 5,000 civilians attended the first year.

The crowds would soon become much larger.

From 1951 through 1954, more than 70,000 people attended Armed Forces Day activities at the three future JB MDL installations. By 1956, approximately 60,000 visitors were coming to McGuire alone.

Then came 1959. More than 129,000 people arrived at McGuire Air Force Base for one of the largest Armed Forces Day celebrations ever held in New Jersey. The day's attractions included an Italian Air Force aerobatic team, a Navy blimp, an Army paratrooper demonstration and the unveiling of the BOMARC missile. More than 350 buses and 30,000 cars arrived, and an estimated 20,000 additional people reportedly had to be turned away.

Power for peace

During the 1960s, the events grew even larger. The theme of many Armed Forces Day celebrations became "Power for Peace." Visitors saw the newest aircraft and military technology, including the BOMARC missile and other missile systems.

In 1960, more than 200,000 people attended at McGuire. The Air Force Thunderbirds headlined the aerial demonstrations. The following year, the U.S. Navy Blue Angels headlined the show, and for the first time the air show portion was televised live by Philadelphia's CBS Channel 3.

The numbers continued to climb. In 1962, despite temperatures reaching 98 degrees, approximately 270,000 people crowded McGuire Air Force Base to see the aircraft and military displays.

That extraordinary public interest established something that has remained part of the JB MDL tradition ever since: people want to see their military, meet their service members and experience America's aviation capabilities firsthand.

FROM ARMED FORCES DAY TO POWER IN THE PINES

The event continued to evolve through the 1970s, 1980s, 1990s and into the new millennium.

The 1976 Bicentennial Open House drew approximately 255,000 people to McGuire. The following year, an estimated 500,000 people attended to watch the Thunderbirds and see aircraft including the F-15 Eagle, F-14 Tomcat and C-130 gunship.

The crowds continued to demonstrate the extraordinary regional appeal of the event. In 1983, an estimated 750,000 people crowded onto the flight line.

Over time, the event's schedule and format changed. Fiscal



constraints, military operations and America's changing national security environment affected the frequency of Open House Air Shows. Following the activation of Joint Base McGuire-Dix-Lakehurst in 2009, the event became a truly joint-service experience.

In 2016, the event was officially renamed the Power in the Pines Open House Air Show. More than 370,000 visitors attended that year's event.

2027: ANOTHER CHAPTER BEGINS

Today, the Power in the Pines tradition represents far more than an air show. It is an opportunity for the public to experience the people, aircraft, equipment and capabilities that make America's military one of the world's most capable fighting forces. It is also an opportunity for today's military families and veterans to share their stories with the next generation.

The 2025 Power in the Pines event demonstrated just how much the experience has evolved. That year's event featured 21 aerial performances and 29 static displays, with the aircraft and displays valued at more than $1.95 million. For the first time, a production company livestreamed the weekend around the world, while large stadium screens allowed visitors throughout the event grounds to see more of the action. But technology is only part of the story.

The real attraction is the connection between the military and the community. A child watching a military aircraft thunder overhead may see the beginning of a dream. A veteran walking among the aircraft may remember a different time in his or her service. A family may discover for the first time the extraordinary work performed every day by the Soldiers, Sailors, Airmen, Marines and other personnel assigned to Joint Base McGuire-Dix-Lakehurst.

That is the lasting power of an open house.

As preparations begin for the 2027 JB MDL Open House and Air Show, Military Appreciation Magazine will continue to bring readers updates about the event, activities, sponsorship opportunities and ways the community can participate.

Whether you have attended one JB MDL air show or dozens, 2027 promises to be another opportunity to experience a tradition that has been bringing Americans and their military together for generations.

The aircraft will take to the skies.

The flight line will come alive.

And once again, Joint Base McGuire-Dix-Lakehurst will open its doors to the community.

Power in the Pines is more than an air show.

It is America's military—on display, in the community and in the hearts of the people it serves.

Military Appreciation Magazine salutes the men and women of Joint Base McGuire-Dix-Lakehurst and looks forward to welcoming our readers to the 2027 event.



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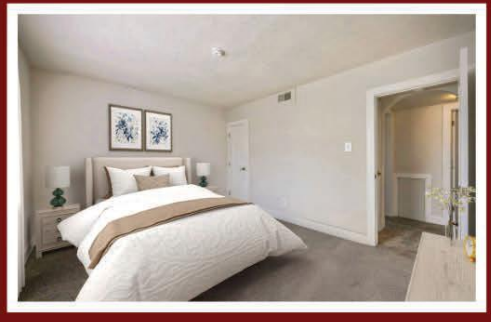
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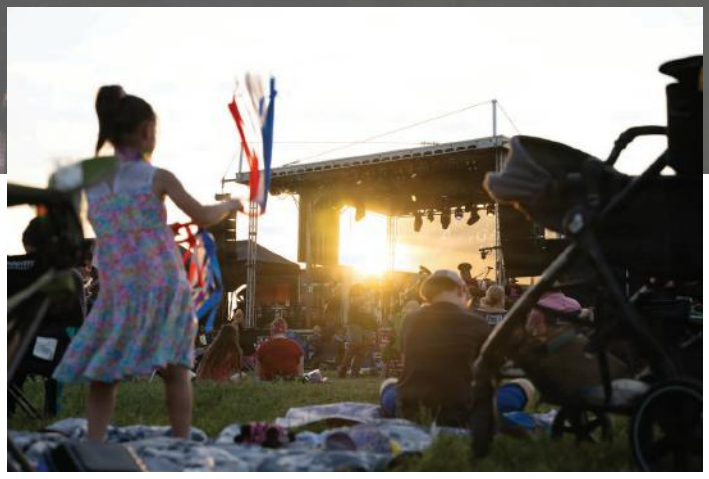
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The Gary Sinise Foundation's Lt. Dan Band performs during Summer Fest at Joint Base McGuire-Dix-Lakehurst, N.J., June 12, 2026. Summer Fest is an annual 87th Force Support Squadron led event, the goal is to give service members and their families time to spend together in an accessible environment. (U.S. Air Force photo by Senior Airman Aidan Thompson)



Gary Sinise, right, actor and founder of the Gary Sinise Foundation, poses for a photo with U.S. Air Force Col. Michael Stefanovic, middle, Joint Base McGuire-Dix-Lakehurst and 87th Air Base Wing commander, and his family during Summer Fest at Joint Base McGuire-Dix-Lakehurst, N.J., June 12, 2026. (U.S. Air Force photo by Senior Airman Aidan Thompson)



A girl dances during Summer Fest at Joint Base McGuire-Dix-Lakehurst, N.J., June 12, 2026. The 87th Force Support Squadron led event hosted several family friendly activities, including amusement park rides and live music from the Gary Sinise Foundation's Lt. Dan Band. (U.S. Air Force photo by Senior Airman Aidan Thompson)



Patrons dance in a conga line during Summer Fest at Joint Base McGuire-Dix-Lakehurst, N.J., June 12, 2026. Summer Fest is an annual 87th Force Support Squadron led event, the goal is to give service members and their families time to spend together in an accessible environment. (U.S. Air Force photo by Senior Airman Aidan Thompson)

Summer Fun continued from page 24

The 87th FSS Summer Fest was organized with the goal of giving service members time to spend with their families. The event included carnival games, amusement park rides and a fireworks show at the end of the night.

"We try to host a summer event every year," said Lt. Col. Amanda Gross, 87th FSS commander. "This year was made really special because the Gary Sinise Foundation reached out to us and offered to have the Lt. Dan Band play."

The Lt. Dan Band started in 2003 and has performed 621 concerts since it was established.

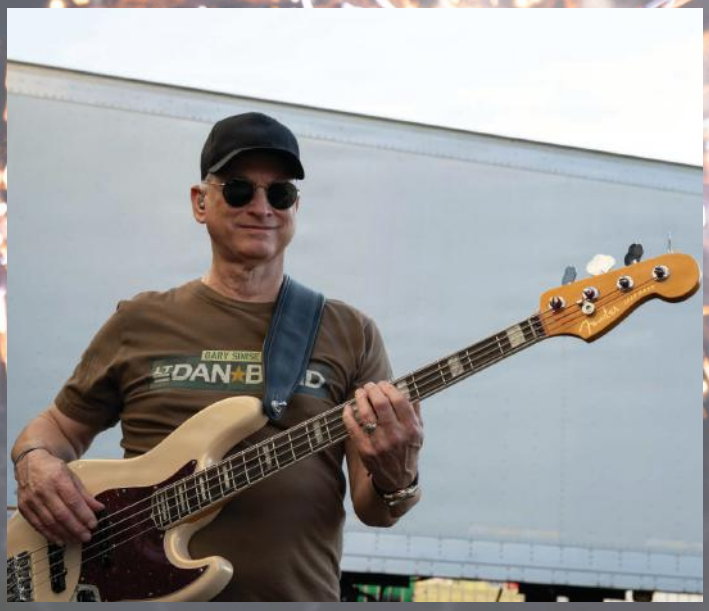
"I started the Gary Sinise Foundation to serve and honor the needs of men and women who serve our country," Gary Sinise, actor and founder of the Gary Sinise Foundation said. "Prior to the creation of the foundation I did a lot of volunteer work with veterans and service members. With the foundation, I wanted to extend that work. I wanted [service members] to know that there was gratitude out there... that people appreciate them... And we support you. If anything, I want them to know that I am grateful."

Morale events like Summer Fest affect service members in ways that may not be seen.

"It's really important for us because ... we get to spend family time together," Service member's spouse.

The 87th FSS has already begun planning for the next installation wide morale event. Hosting welfare focused events for service members throughout the year ensures leadership is giving back to service members and their families.

"We cannot wait for Harvest Fest later this year," Gross said. "We are going to have an Oktober Fest theme and another big concert for attendees to enjoy." ✪



Gary Sinise, actor and founder of the Gary Sinise Foundation, tunes his bass guitar before performing during Summer Fest at Joint Base McGuire-Dix-Lakehurst, N.J., June 12, 2026. The Gary Sinise Foundation's Lt. Dan Band has performed 621 concerts since establishment in 2003. (U.S. Air Force photo by Senior Airman Aidan Thompson)



The Gary Sinise Foundation's Lt. Dan Band plays music during Summer Fest at Joint Base McGuire-Dix-Lakehurst, N.J., June 12, 2026. The band started in 2003 and has performed 621 concerts with a mission to raise the morale of service members globally. (U.S. Air Force photo by Senior Airman Aidan Thompson)





U.S. Air Force Lt. Gen. Daniel Tulley, commander of Air Mobility Command, speaks with junior enlisted Airmen during a mentorship session. The engagement allowed the AMC command team to gather unvarnished feedback from the tactical edge, reinforcing their commitment to taking care of the force.



U.S. Air Force Lt. Gen. Daniel Tulley, commander of Air Mobility Command, briefs Airmen during an all call at Joint Base McGuire-Dix-Lakehurst, N.J., Aug. 11, 2026. Tulley addressed the need for continuous modernization and readiness, ensuring AMC forces can operate effectively in highly contested environments.

AMC Commander visit continued from page 6

"You cannot have a ready unit unless you have ready individuals to fight and win at a moment's notice," Tulley emphasized.

Echoing this operational imperative, Howell stressed that combat readiness falls on every shoulder across the mobility enterprise, regardless of Air Force Specialty Code or operational background.

"If you are looking at fly, fix and fight to win, everybody within Air Mobility Command has a responsibility to get after that," Howell said. "It's in our training; we are all capable of it."

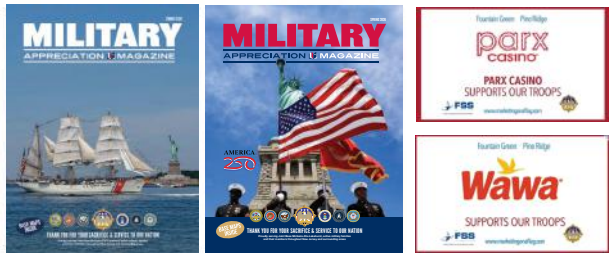
To meet any challenge, AMC is heavily focused on fleet modernization, survivability and digital integration. By leveraging advanced data analytics, artificial intelligence capabilities and smart risk-taking at the lowest levels, the command aims to operate with the speed and agility required to outpace evolving global threats.

"I will set exercise objectives that matter to protect your life and enable you to do your mission," Tulley told the joint base. "I'm not training for an inspection. I'm training for combat. Train like you fight, train like you mean it." ✪

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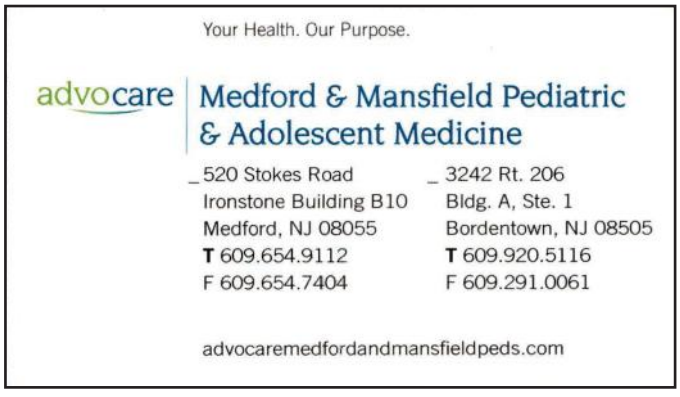
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PASSING THE TORCH

ARMY RESERVE LEADER ADDRESSES SCHOLARSHIP AWARDEES

Published June 13, 2026
Story by Sgt. 1st Class Deziree Lau
99th Readiness Division





Col. John Wildermann, congressional legislative liaison for the U.S. Army Reserve's 99th Readiness Division, served as the key note speaker during the Military Officers Association of America's Lakes and Pines Chapter scholarship award luncheon June 13 on Joint Base McGuire-Dix-Lakehurst, New Jersey. The MOAA Scholarship Fund was established in 1948 to provide educational assistance benefits to children of military families.
(U.S. Army photo by Sgt. 1st Class Deziree Lau, 99th RD Public Affairs)

"It's a profound honor to be among fellow officers, veterans, family, and friends," said Col. John Wildermann, congressional legislative liaison for the U.S. Army Reserve's 99th Readiness Division, during the Military Officers Association of America's Lakes and Pines Chapter scholarship award luncheon here June 13.

"These MOAA members did not bring you here to simply hand you a financial award," Wildermann said to the scholarship awardees. "It is physically passing you the torch and entrusting in you to carry on the values of our profession."

MOAA was founded in 1929 as The Retired Officers Association. Its conception was to provide advice, assistance and fraternal support to military officers, which continues to this day.

"'Never Stop Serving' is the simple yet demanding motto of MOAA," Wildermann shared. "It's about continuing to take care of our people, and MOAA champions this advocacy every day."

MOAA advocates with Congress, the Pentagon, the VA, the Department of Homeland Security, and other departments to preserve and protect earned benefits for uniformed services, veterans, their families, and surviving spouses through advocacy, leadership, education, and service.

"Cadets, as each of you embark on a highly distinct and prestigious path, you are united by a common thread," Wildermann said. "Stay hungry for knowledge, be humble in your success, take care of the people to your left and right, and fight for those who cannot fight for themselves – just as MOAA fights for and advocates for our service members and veterans."

The MOAA Scholarship Fund was established in 1948 to provide educational assistance benefits to children of military families. It is funded by donations from MOAA members, Councils and Chapters, corporations, and others with a desire to help military families.

"Thank you for the opportunity to serve my community," said scholarship recipient Cadet Sarafina Cavagnaro. "I aim to continue my service as I attend college."

"I've been able to grow as a person and want to continue to mentor new cadets," shared scholarship recipient Cadet Dominick Carothers.

"I'm really appreciative to receive the MOAA scholarship and continue my education." Shared scholarship recipient Cadet Mia Caruso. ✪



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Wednesday:	8:00 AM Mass 5:45 PM Holy Hour (Adoration, Confession) 7:00 PM Traditional Latin Low Mass
Thursday:	8:00 AM Mass
Friday:	8:00 AM Traditional Latin Low Mass
Saturday:	8:00 AM Mass

Sacrament of Confession

Wednesday:	6:00 PM -6:45 PM (during Holy Hour)
Saturday:	4:00-4:45 PM

PRAYER FOR OUR MILITARY

Lord Jesus, Savior of the World and Prince of Peace, watch over our loved ones as they serve their country. Protect them from the physical and moral dangers of military life. Keep them close to You and help them live in such a manner that is pleasing to You. Lord Jesus, give them courage to serve their country with honor and dignity. We pray that You would be with them when they are in danger, strengthen them when they face hardships. Above all Lord, grant that when their service is finished they may return to us, sound in mind, body and soul. And Lord, for those who give the ultimate sacrifice with their lives for serving their country, please touch and minister Your Grace to their families. Amen.

CONTINGENCY RESPONSE ELEMENT RETURNS FROM MASSIVE EARTHQUAKE RELIEF OPERATIONS IN VENEZUELA

After weeks of supporting a continuous, 24-hour airlift of global aid, the U.S. Air Force's 621st Contingency Response Wing has concluded its disaster relief deployment in Venezuela. Operating at the direction of U.S. Southern Command to support a U.S. State Department-led mission, the "Devil Raiders" facilitated the transfer of nearly 3 million pounds of life-saving cargo intended for earthquake survivors.

When the earthquakes struck on June 24, critical supply lines were severely disrupted. In response, the 621st CRW deployed a Contingency Response Element of 110 Airmen with specialized airfield management expertise. This team quickly integrated with local aviation authorities to manage tower and ground operations, ensuring that vital supplies, heavy equipment, and relief personnel safely reached the front lines of the disaster zone as quickly as possible.

This direct logistical throughput enabled U.S. certified nongovernmental organizations to conduct hand-to-hand delivery to an estimated 930,000 impacted residents.

The relief effort was a truly global response. CRE aerial porters offloaded a steady stream of international aircraft, pushing pallets of aid from Germany, Mexico, Japan, Uruguay, and many other nations from across the globe — rapidly transferring the cargo to local transport networks for distribution.

The operational impact of the relief mission drew a July 6 visit from U.S. Southern Command Commander Gen. Francis L. Donovan. Visiting the CRE's Joint Operations Center, Donovan met face-to-face with the contingency response Airmen to survey the ongoing disaster response.

During the walkthrough, Donovan highlighted the professionalism and operational effectiveness of the unit. He also recognized the coordinated command structure that enabled the rapid logistical throughput, specifically noting the leadership of Col. Joseph Michaels, Joint Task Force-Port Opening commander, and Lt. Col. Jessica Foster, CRE commander.

"I'm very proud of the effort of our Air Force element at Simón Bolívar Airport, the contingency response element, who were literally on the ground within the first 24 hours.



Published July 22, 2026
Story by 1st Lt. Jessica McLaughlin
621st Contingency Response Wing

Members of the 621st Contingency Response Wing returned to Joint Base McGuire-Dix-Lakehurst, N.J., July 20, 2026, following a deployment to Simón Bolívar International Airport, Venezuela. At the direction of U.S. Southern Command, assigned U.S. military forces are supporting Department of State-led U.S. disaster assistance to the people of Venezuela in the aftermath of the June 24, 2026, earthquakes. (U.S. Air Force photo by Capt. Michael Hong)

They were able to get the airfield open and operate at max capacity right away, and that's important when you bring in relief supplies," Donovan said.

Executing a disaster response of this scale required mobilizing the Air Force's Total Force network. While the mission was led by the 321st Contingency Response Squadron, the deployment integrated active-duty augmentees from the 521st and 621st squadrons at Joint Base McGuire-Dix-Lakehurst, New Jersey. Crucial logistical and airfield capabilities were also seamlessly integrated from the Air National Guard, incorporating the California Air National Guard's 146th Contingency Response Flight and the Puerto Rico Air National Guard's 156th Contingency Response Group.

Historically, U.S. military capabilities are needed most during the critical, early stages of a disaster relief operation, when more resources, capabilities, and disaster-response experts are needed to assist victims and affected communities. As these missions progress and more experienced experts assume a greater role in longer-term recovery and reconstruction, U.S. military capabilities are typically no longer requested, and the roles once performed by military units are assumed by other, more specialized relief organizations

The mission in Venezuela is just the latest chapter in the wing's extensive history of rapid global mobility. Whether supporting combat forces downrange or directing international humanitarian relief, the 621st CRW specializes in turning chaotic environments into fully functioning mobility hubs. When a contingency arises, the "Devil Raiders" stand ready to open the base and project airpower anytime, anywhere. ✪





HIGH TEMPERATURES, HIGHER COMPETITION:

305TH APS COMPETES IN RODEO

Published July 22, 2026
Story by Airman 1st Class Haeleigh Bayle
Joint Base McGuire-Dix-Lakehurst Public Affairs



U.S. Air Force Staff Sgt. Suriel Martinez Montalvo, 305th Aerial Port Squadron Traffic Management Office inbound receiving noncommissioned officer in charge, lunges with a dunnage during a Port Dawg Rodeo at Joint Base McGuire-Dix-Lakehurst, N.J., July 10, 2026. (U.S. Air Force photo by Airman 1st Class Haeleigh Bayle)

Sweat dripped into their eyes and trailed down their face, a testament to the focus and determination of each competitor. As the sun rose higher in the sky, so did the teams' ambition.

U.S. Air Force Airmen assigned to the 305th Aerial Port Squadron competed in a 305th APS Port Dawg Rodeo at Joint Base McGuire-Dix-Lakehurst, July 10, 2026.

Each year, Port Dawgs across the U.S. Air Force host and compete in rodeos designed to test the Airmen's knowledge, skills and teamwork abilities. JB MDL's rodeo was comprised of four four- person teams that each rotated through a series of events. The teams consisted of Port Dawgs and Traffic Management Office Airmen, since they often work together in day-to-day operations.

The tasks included a fitness challenge, Halvorsen 25K cargo loader reconfiguration, 10K standard forklift driving challenge, center of balance compute, net set relay and a knowledge test. Each of the events were timed and the competitors were evaluated on the accuracy and speed of completion.

"The Port Dawg rodeo created unit cohesion, team building, camaraderie and a friendly environment that simulated what we do in a contingency environment," said U.S. Air Force Tech. Sgt. Ronell Rosa, 305th Aerial Port Squadron cargo processing noncommissioned officer in charge and this year's rodeo organizer. "Ultimately, it was about building team partnership. It really brought people together and showed off their skills."

During the Halvorsen 25K cargo loader reconfiguration, teams had to rearrange the vehicle from "load mode" to "transfer mode" and back to "load mode." For the driving challenge, competitors had to inspect, spot and operate a 10K standard forklift while transporting a bucket of water through a series of obstacles. The center of balance event tested the Airmen's proficiency in correctly calculating the center of balance for three vehicles. Teams also completed the net set station, where they needed to attach and detach net sets to three empty pallet stacks as quickly as possible.

The rodeo's fitness event tested each Airman's individual strength, giving them the opportunity to compete against the other teams and themselves. The event consisted of burpees, pushups, squats, pallet carries, dunnage transfers and other physically demanding tasks.

"The hardest part [of the rodeo] was the fitness challenge," said U.S. Air Force Senior Airman Andrew Pierson, 305th APS ramp services supervisor. "I knew it was going to be hard, but I didn't realize it was going to be as long and tumultuous. I'm glad we were able to get it done because it's one of those things that [isn't fun] in the moment, but afterwards you're glad you did it."

Airmen had to rely on their training and previous knowledge throughout the competition to help them execute each task. They coupled their technical knowledge with advice they've received throughout their time as Port Dawgs to execute each task given.

"A big piece of advice within the community of Port Dawgs and something you hear a lot of when you're first starting out is slow is smooth and smooth is fast," explained Pierson. "Obviously you're going for the best time possible, but in the moment you may start to make simple mistakes you normally wouldn't. If you start to feel yourself moving too quickly or getting overwhelmed, take a moment to step back, breathe and then reassess what you're doing to make it more smooth and fast."

Airmen may have applied previous knowledge to complete the rodeo, but the lessons learned throughout the competition will help them in their future day-to-day missions.

"One lesson I hope Airmen took away from the rodeo is to think creatively and to strategize how to overcome obstacles," explained Rosa. "More often than not, we'll find ourselves [facing] a big hurdle such as getting through so many build requirements, that it's important to strategize how to overcome these tactical things that could set us back."

Once each team rotated through the events, they tallied the scores and announced the winners. First through third place finishers received medals and the winning team will each get their name engraved onto a small plaque and added to the 305th Port Dawg Rodeo trophy.

From working together and strategizing how to complete the different events, to cheering one another on, the 305th APS Port Dawg Rodeo brought the squadron under one roof for a day of friendly competition and camaraderie. The 305th Air Mobility Wing continues to remain "Mission Ready Tonight," starting with vital proficiency training and team building events like a Port Dawg rodeo. ✪



U.S. Air Force Staff Sgt. Rawn Prowell, 305th Aerial Port Squadron passenger services supervisor, performs center of balance tasks during a Port Dawg Rodeo at Joint Base McGuire-Dix-Lakehurst, N.J., July 10, 2026. The rodeo brought Airmen together to build teamwork skills and to strengthen unit cohesion through friendly competition. (U.S. Air Force photo by Airman 1st Class Haeleigh Bayle)



U.S. Air Force Lt. Col. Juan Pizarro, 305th Aerial Port Squadron commander, interacts with Airmen before the start of the 305th APS Port Dawg Rodeo at Joint Base McGuire-Dix-Lakehurst, N.J., July 10, 2026. The rodeo tested Airmen's knowledge on different aspects of their career field through a timed and evaluated competition comprised of four four-person teams. (U.S. Air Force photo by Airman 1st Class Haeleigh Bayle)



U.S. Air Force Airman 1st Class Lorena Gouveia, 305th Aerial Port Squadron cargo specialist, tightens a ratchet strap during a Port Dawg Rodeo at Joint Base McGuire-Dix-Lakehurst, N.J., July 10, 2026. Gouveia and her teammates worked together to complete the 10k standard forklift obstacle course portion of the rodeo. (U.S. Air Force photo by Airman 1st Class Haeleigh Bayle)



U.S. Air Force Senior Airman Will Addison, 305th Aerial Port Squadron cargo journeyman, works to attach a net set to an empty pallet stack during a Port Dawg Rodeo at Joint Base McGuire-Dix-Lakehurst, N.J., July 10, 2026. The rodeo consisted of six different events; the fitness challenge, Halvorsen 25K cargo loader reconfiguration, 10k standard forklift driving challenge, center of balance, net set relay and a knowledge test. (U.S. Air Force photo by Airman 1st Class Haeleigh Bayle)

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404TH CA BN ABN OPS 2026

Published August 9, 2026
U.S. Army Civil Affairs and Psychological Operations Command (Airborne)

Soldiers of the 404th Civil Affairs Battalion conduct their final airborne operation at Coyle Air Field in Chatsworth, New Jersey, August 13, 2026. Brig. Gen. Susan Gannon, commander of the 352nd Civil Affairs Command, participated in the final jump and urged the paratroopers: "Don't bury your wings ... This is not the end of the airborne." ✪
U.S. Army Reserve photos by
Sgt. 1st Class Rolland Cheng

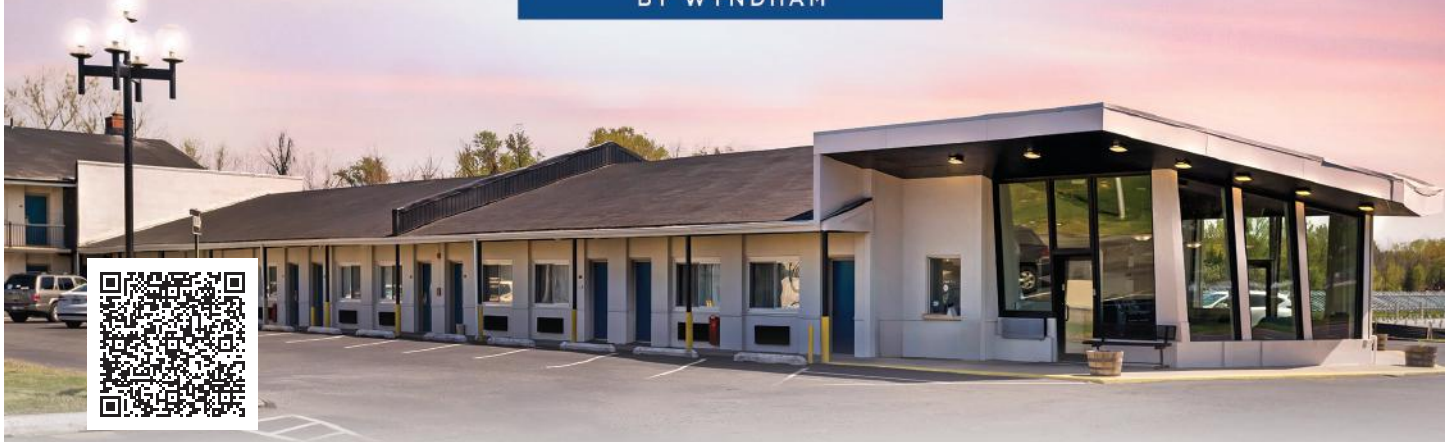




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Vice Adm. Heidi Berg, commander of U.S. Fleet Cyber Command, Navy Space Command and U.S. 10th Fleet, answers a question from the audience following her keynote remarks at the U.S. Naval War College (NWC) Future Warfighting Symposium (FWS) onboard Naval Station Newport, Aug. 6, 2026. (U.S. Navy photo by Mass Communication Specialist 2nd Class Connor Burns)

U.S. NAVAL WAR COLLEGE HOSTS FUTURE WARFIGHTING SYMPOSIUM

Published August 8, 2026
Story by Lt.Cmdr. Seth Koenig
U.S. Naval War College

The U.S. Naval War College (NWC) held its 10th annual Future Warfighting Symposium (FWS), focused on innovation and the future of joint warfare, at its Newport, Rhode Island, campus on Aug. 5-6. Vice Adm. Heidi Berg – commander of U.S. 10th Fleet, Navy Space Command and Fleet Cyber Command – was a keynote speaker at the two-day event, speaking on the second and final day of the symposium.

"We face adversaries who seek to change the global world order and seek to undermine what has been in place since World War II – and that is what is at stake," she said. "I truly think this is existential. That is why when we have opportunities (to study) the changing character of war, I think it is important, and why I prioritize it.

"In cyberspace, and in space, in electronic warfare... we are at war every single day," Berg added. "Understanding how warfare is evolving will help us ensure we can maintain our decisive military advantage."

Panel discussions over the two days focused on remote autonomous systems, the space domain, interagency operations and deterrence. Panelists included experts from the Navy's Unmanned Surface Vessel Squadron 3, Naval Criminal Investigative Service (NCIS), National Security Council, China Aerospace Studies Institute and a number of other academic, industry and research institutions.

The keynote speaker on the event's opening day was Pulitzer Prize-winning war correspondent and former U.S. Marine C.J. Chivers.

The event came one day following the war college's convocation ceremony, kicking off the 2026-27 academic year.

"The Future Warfighting Symposium is always an eye-opening and motivating way to start our academic year at the U.S. Naval War College," said Rear Adm. Darryl Walker, NWC president. "I want to thank Vice Adm.Berg, Commander 10th Fleet,and all of our brilliant speakers and panelists who provided our war college team with the





Rear Adm. Darryl Walker, president of the U.S. Naval War College (NWC), delivers opening remarks at the war college's Future Warfighting Symposium in Newport, Rhode Island, on Aug. 5, 2026. (U.S. Navy photo by Mass Communication Specialist 2nd Class Connor Burns)

insight and expertise necessary to prepare our next wave of military leaders for the evolutions of conflict they may see in the years ahead. The men and women enrolled here will graduate better prepared for the future of warfighting, and as its name suggests, this symposium will help us make sure of that."

Initiated in 2017 by Chief of Naval Operations (CNO) mandate, FWS gives NWC the opportunity to further its training and education on new emerging forms of war. The symposium supports Navy and Department of Defense priorities by challenging leaders to think innovatively about capabilities and threats in space; the global information grid and emerging technologies such as nanotechnologies, biological agents, robotics and artificial intelligence.

Established in 1884, NWC is the oldest institution of its kind in the world. The college delivers excellence in education, research, and outreach, informing today's decision makers, educating tomorrow's leaders, and engaging partners and Allies on all matters of naval power in order to preserve the peace, respond in crisis, and win decisively in war. ✪





MARINE CORPS INTEGRATES C-SUAS LANES INTO SERVICE LEVEL TRAINING EXERCISE

Published August 8, 2026
Story by Lance Cpl. Cody Fitzgerald
Marine Corps Air Ground Combat Center

MARINE CORPS AIR GROUND COMBAT CENTER, TWENTYNINE PALMS, Calif. - The Marine Corps launched its first-ever counter-small unmanned aerial systems training lanes and integration during Service Level Training Exercise 4-26, July 15, 2026.

Participating units from 1st and 2nd Marine Divisions implemented C-sUAS in nearly every training event to ensure Marines can confidently deny, detect, and defeat the threat of enemy sUAS.

"Everywhere in the modern world, in all conflicts, the sUAS threat is becoming more prolific on the battlefield," said U.S. Marine Corps Gunnery Sgt. Kevin Jares, an instructor with Tactical Training and Exercise Control Group. "We're figuring out ways, with the squad's organic weapons, to combat that threat and how to survive in today's modern battlefield."

This training would not be possible without the "Coyotes" from TTECG. Coyotes is the callsign of Marines attached to TTECG. The Coyotes facilitate risk-mitigated complex and dangerous live-fire training as well as simulate combat conditions that improve the decision-making cycle for Marines.

Marines began SLTE with a three-day training evolution on C-sUAS lanes, which involved classroom instruction, practical application, and culminated with live-fire lanes. Following this initial training, participants developed the basic skillset to apply the C-sUAS mindset to all subsequent SLTE training events. Throughout the evolution, TTECG integrated realistic enemy sUAS threats to drive the development of C-sUAS.

One of the most integral parts of the training was the operators. Without the Marines to fly the sUAS, training could not commence.

The sUAS operator training consisted of a three-week course of classes and practical application and included Marines from TTECG, 7th Marine Regiment, and 3rd Light Armored Reconnaissance Battalion. The operators were trained to fly first person view sUAS with an emphasis on tactical employment on all ranges during SLTE.

"The pilots that we had were really good," said U.S. Marine Corps Capt. Faith Richardson, a platoon commander with TTECG. "Those Marines were a huge contributor. We tried giving the training audience a realistic look at the threat, and having proficient, well-trained pilots was really important."

To combat enemy sUAS, Marines employed physical means of elimination, as well as non-physical means also known as electronic warfare. The kinetic weapons used by Marines were the M27 infantry automatic rifle firing 5.56 mm rounds, the M1014 combat shotgun firing 12-gauge shells, along with the M32A1 and M320 grenade launchers firing low velocity 40 mm anti-personnel rounds.

Through training, Marines engaged simulated enemy sUAS as close as 20 meters with sUAS flying at speeds of over 90





U.S. Marine Corps Capt. Joseph Smith, a Nebraska native and low altitude air defense officer with Tactical Training and Exercise Control Group, Marine Corps Air Ground Combat Center, inspects a neutralized simulated enemy Unmanned Aerial System
(U.S. Marine Corps photo by Lance Cpl. Cody Fitzgerald)



U.S. Marine Corps Lance Cpl. Jeremiah Smith, an Arizona native, an infantry Marine with 2nd Battalion, 5th Marine Regiment, 1st Marine Division, fires a M27 Infantry Automatic Rifle during Counter-small Unmanned Aerial System training as part of Service Level Training Exercise 4-26 at Training Area Prospect, Marine Corps Air Ground Combat Center, Twentynine Palms, California, July 17, 2026. (U.S. Marine Corps photo by Lance Cpl. Cody Fitzgerald)



U.S. Marines with Tactical Training and Exercise Control Group, Marine Corps Air Ground Combat Center, gather for a brief during Counter-small Unmanned Aerial System training.
(U.S. Marine Corps photo by Lance Cpl. Cody Fitzgerald)



U.S. Marine Corps Cpl. Ethan Camarco, a South Carolina native and team leader with 1st Combat Engineer Battalion, 1st Marine Division, fires a M1014 shotgun.
(U.S. Marine Corps photo by Lance Cpl. Cody Fitzgerald)

miles per hour.

"Small unmanned aerial systems have been around for a while, it's just more prevalent in the battlespace today because it's more cost-effective," said Richardson.

The rise of sUAS comes at a time when drones can be cheaply produced and used for strikes and surveillance of forces, altering the dynamic of the battlefield.

"The intent of the C-sUAS lanes was to build the confidence of our Marines to target sUAS and complete the mission," said Richardson.

The threat of sUAS poses new challenges for Marines, but it's far from the only threat they may encounter. Marines throughout SLTE conducted training the same way with the added friction of enemy sUAS targets throughout their exercises. From urban house clearing to mounted patrols, Marines were tested and evaluated on their ability to deny, detect, and defeat sUAS.

"The whole event was successful and effective because of the Coyotes," said Richardson. "We had a lot of help from multiple shops across TTECG to make the event happen, and those Marines made it a huge success."

The growth and performance of the Marines combating sUAS over SLTE showed promising results. Marines continued to implement and perfect C-sUAS through tactics, techniques, and procedures established by TTECG, which will continue to be developed and refined through training and development.

Moving forward, training at the Combat Center will continue to include sUAS and C-sUAS in future SLTEs to ensure Marines have the basic skillset to operate in situations where sUAS may be present. The Marines taking part in C-sUAS training at MCAGCC will take what they have learned back to their home units to ensure the Marine Corps remains a highly lethal, adaptable force capable of dominating the future multi-domain fight.



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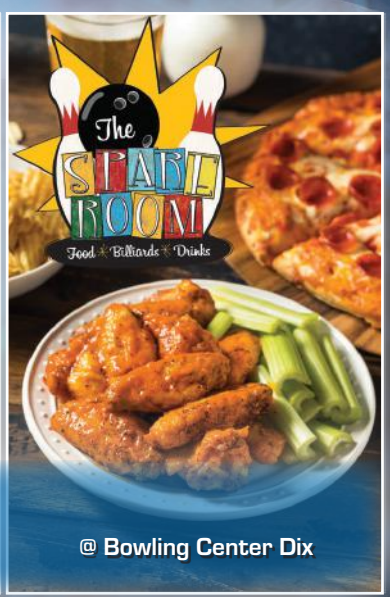
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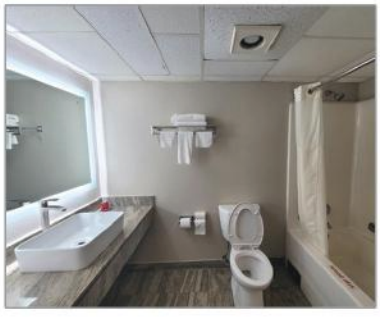
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THROUGH THE LENS:

PHOTOS FROM JOINT BASE MCGUIRE-DIX-LAKEHURST



U.S. Marines assigned to Marine Light Attack Helicopter Squadron (HMLA) 773 work on an AH-1Z Viper helicopter at Joint Base McGuire-Dix-Lakehurst, N.J., Oct. 2, 2026. Maintainers ensure aircraft are safe, functional and equipped to carry out vital missions. (U.S. Air Force photo by Airman 1st Class Haeleigh Bayle)





U.S. Marine Corps Sgt. Luke Tomasovitch, Marine Light Attack Helicopter Squadron (HMLA) 773 collateral duty quality assurance representative, loosens screws on an AH-1Z Viper helicopter control panel at Joint Base McGuire-Dix-Lakehurst, N.J., Oct. 2, 2026. Maintainers serviced the squadron's helicopters to ensure mission continuity and rapid response capability. (U.S. Air Force photo by Airman 1st Class Haeleigh Bayle)



U.S. service members participate in the "Be the Anchor" ruck march at Joint Base McGuire-Dix-Lakehurst, N.J., Sept. 28, 2026. The ruck reinforced JB MDL's commitment to providing peer and professional assistance for mental health crises by providing resources, support and camaraderie to those struggling. (U.S. Air Force photo by Airman 1st Class Haeleigh Bayle)



U.S. service members and civilians participate in the "Be the Anchor" ruck march at Joint Base McGuire-Dix-Lakehurst, N.J., Sept. 28, 2026. Leaders, service members and civilians came together to raise awareness for the estimated 22 veterans lost to suicide each day. (U.S. Air Force photo by Airman 1st Class Haeleigh Bayle)



U.S. Air Force Senior Airman Andre McFarlane, 439th Civil Engineer Squadron, Westover Air Reserve Base, MA, Water and Fuel Systems Maintenance journeyman, looks for simulated opposing forces during Prime Base Engineer Emergency Force Day at Joint Base McGuire-Dix-Lakehurst, N.J., July 30, 2026. McFarlane joined the 87th Civil Engineer Group during the training day to enhance his competence and confidence in different skillsets. (U.S. Air Force photo by Airman 1st Class Francine D. Martin)



Members assigned to the Joint Base McGuire-Dix-Lakehurst Color Guard present the colors during the 9/11 Remembrance Ceremony at Joint Base McGuire-Dix-Lakehurst, N.J., Sept. 11, 2026. The annual ceremony honors the nearly 3,000 lives lost to the terrorist attacks that took place on Sept. 11, 2001. (U.S. Air Force photo by Airman 1st Class Matthew Almazan)



U.S. Marines assigned to Marine Light Attack Helicopter Squadron (HMLA) 773, Marine Aviation and Logistics Squadron (MALS) 49 and Marine Wing Support Squadron (MWSS) 472 pose for a group photo after completing a forward arming and refueling point exercise at Joint Base McGuire-Dix-Lakehurst, N.J., Aug. 27, 2026. These Marine Aircraft Group 49 units regularly train on JB MDL ranges to hone combat tactical proficiency. (U.S. Air Force photo by Senior Airman Aidan Thompson)



U.S. Air Force Airmen assigned to the 305th Air Mobility Wing and 108th Wing, New Jersey Air National Guard, pose for a group photo at Joint Base McGuire-Dix-Lakehurst, N.J., Aug. 8, 2026. JB MDL welcomed the 26th and final KC-46A Pegasus aircraft to its fleet.
(U.S. Air Force photo by Senior Airman Aidan Thompson)



U.S. Navy Petty Officer 1st Class Tyler Conklin, 87th Security Forces Squadron military working dog handler, exits a U.S. Army UH-60 Blackhawk helicopter with MWD Pepper during a 24-hour continuous field training exercise at Joint Base McGuire-Dix-Lakehurst, N.J., Aug. 18, 2026. Realistic day and night urban training ensured MWD teams are lethal and validated to operate alongside infantry units, counter enemy personnel and mitigate explosives during upcoming deployments. (U.S. Air Force photo by Susan Moriarty)

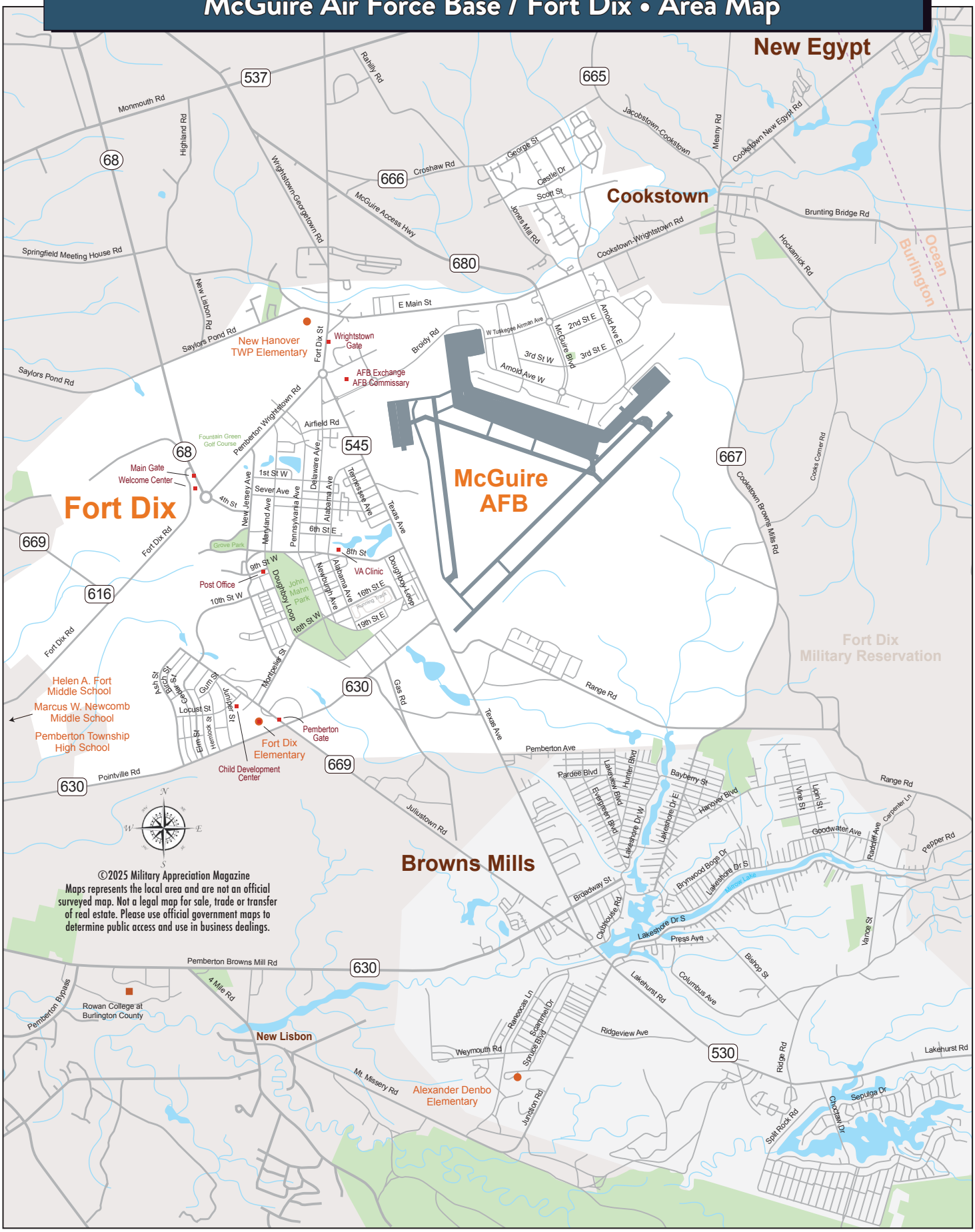


U.S. Air Force Staff Sgt. Demarcus Johnson, 87th Force Support Squadron food services noncommissioned officer in charge, writes a message on the “Notes for Families of the Fallen” message board as he listens to Taryn Paglione, Military and Family Readiness Center support representative, share information about survivor programs offered to families of fallen service members at the Halvorsen Hall Dining Facility on Joint Base McGuire-Dix-Lakehurst, N.J., Sept. 25, 2026. The message board and outreach station were initiatives of the JB MDL Gold Star Families Remembrance Week commemoration held Sept. 21-27, 2026. (U.S. Air Force photo by Kris Patterson)



U.S. Air Force Airmen assigned to the 87th Air Base Wing shout team chants during the 87th ABW Quarterly Awards Ceremony at Joint Base McGuire-Dix-Lakehurst, N.J., July 23, 2026. Organizations within the 87th ABW competed for the JB MDL Spirit Award by shouting their chants. (U.S. Air Force photo by Airman 1st Class Matthew Almazan)

McGuire Air Force Base / Fort Dix • Area Map

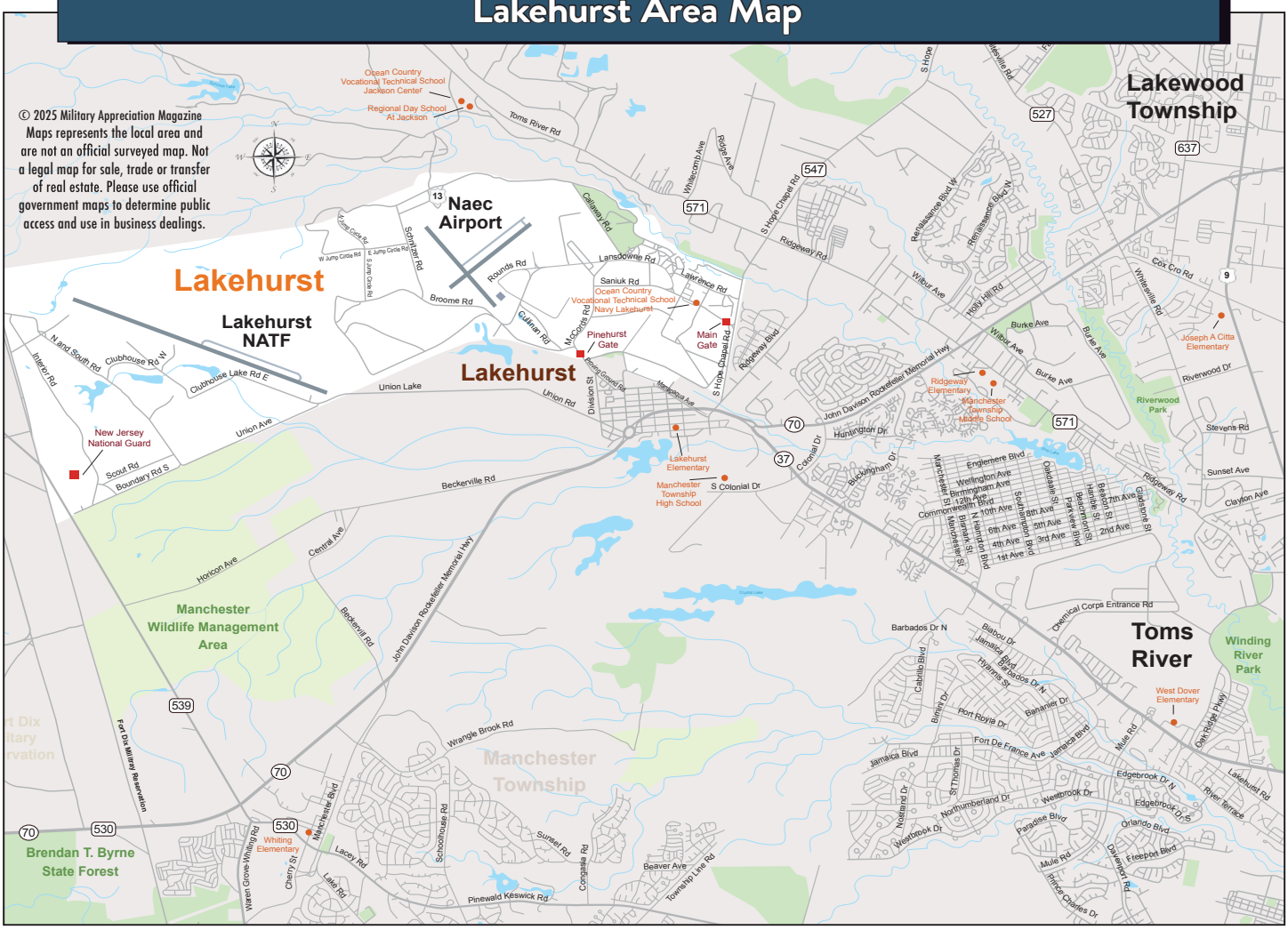


JBMDL FREQUENTLY CALLED NUMBERS

Name	Phone#
All American Inn/Lodging	754-4667
Aquatics	562-6396
Auto Hobby Shop	754-4316/323-2087
Arts and Crafts	562-5691
Bowling Center	562-6895/323-2027
Business Office	323-1111
Chaplains Office	754-4673
Child and Youth Enrollment	562-4702/323-2260
87th Civil Engineer Customer Service Center	754-8723
Civilian Personnel	754-5701
Command Post	754-3935
Joint Base Library	754-2079
Joint Base Theater Reservations	754-2830
Joint Personnel Property Shipping Office	562-2571/323-7266
Lodging	323-2266
Medical Clinic	754-9200/323-5372
Military Clothing Sales	723-2307
Military Family Support Center	754-3154/562-2767/323-1248/323-1248
Military Personnel Section	323-5060
Navy Relief	323-2362
Outdoor Recreation	323-2583
Commissary	754-2153/323-1220
Community Special Events	323-2405
Doughboy Gym	562-5780
Family Child Care	562-1312/754-2516
Finance	754-5052
Fire Arms Registration	562-5260
Fitness and Sports Center	754-6085/323-7266

Name	Phone#
Fleet Liaison	323-7934
Flight Deck (Rec Center)	323-2405
Force Support Squadron	754-5374
Fountain Green Golf Course	562-2166
Griffith Field House	562-4888
Halvorsen Hall	754-2450
Housing	754-3662/323-2370
Human Resources	754-6900/323-1058
Information, Tickets and Tours	562-6667/562-4210/323-1362
Inspector General	754-8711
John Mann Park	562-6667
Passenger Terminal	754-2749
Pine Ridge Golf Course	323-7483
Pine Ridge Pool	323-2473
Post Office (Dormitory)	754-6012/723-2089/323-2534
Protocol	754-2405
Public Affairs	754-2104
Pudgy's Sports Bar	724-0443
Range 14 Rod and Gun Club	562-4676
Safety	754-7233
School Liason	754-3878
Soldier and Family Assistance Center	562-6554
Traffic Management Office (TMO), Personal Property Section (PPS)	754-6911
The Attic (Donation/Assistance Center)	754-8703
The Exchange	723-6100/323-7680
Thrift Shops	754-2368/723-2683/323-2362
Tommy B's Community Activities Center	754-2830
Veterinary Clinic	562-6636

Lakehurst Area Map



Joint Base McGuire-Dix-Lakehurst Phone Numbers

QUICK REFERENCE

Emergency....911 • Base Operator....754-1110/323-2011 • Base Status....754-2273/323-7669

McGuire	Dix	Lakehurst
Area Code 609, DSN 650	Area Code 609, DSN 562	Area Code 732, DSN 624
Zip Code 08641	Zip Code 08640	Zip Code 08733

JBMDL Hospital
87th Medical Group
3458 Neely Rd, McGuire AFB, NJ, 08641 ..... (866) 377-2778

JBMDL Air Force Aid Society
Military & Family Support Center
3435 Broidy Rd, McGuire AFB, NJ, 08641 ..... (609) 754-3154

JBMDL Andrews Federal Credit Union
3456 Broidy Rd, McGuire AFB, NJ, 08641 ..... (609) 723-8530

JBMDL Armed Forces Bank
McGuire AFB, NJ, 08641 ..... (609) 723-0707

JBMDL Auto Hobby Shop
2416 Vandenberg Ave., McGuire AFB, NJ, 08641 ..... (609) 562-3333

JBMDL Exchange Barber Shop
Main Exchange, 3452 Broidy Ave., McGuire AFB, NJ, 08641 ..... (609) 723-5190

JBMDL Women, Infants, and Children (WIC & WIC-O)
Department of Health
15 Pioneer Boulevard, Westampton, NJ, 08060 ..... (609) 267-4304

JBMDL Main Exchange
3452 Broidy Ave., McGuire AFB, NJ, 08641-0000 ..... (609) 723-6100

JBMDL Exchange Food Court
3452 Broidy Ave., McGuire AFB, NJ, 08641 ..... (609) 723-6100

JBMDL Chaplain and Religious Services - Lakehurst
Cathedral of the Air
264 Hope Chapel Rd., Lakehurst, NJ, 08733 ..... (609) 754-4673

JBMDL McGuire Child Development Center #1
2430 Can Do Way, McGuire AFB, NJ,.08641 ..... (609) 754-2966

JBMDL McGuire Child Development Center #2
2414 Tuskegee Airmen Ave., McGuire AFB, NJ,.08641 ..... (609) 754-3661

JBMDL Civilian Personnel Office
2903 McGuire Blvd., McGuire AFB, NJ,.08641 ..... (609) 754-5701, (609) 754-2554

JBMDL McGuire Commissary
3453 Broidy Rd., McGuire AFB, NJ, 08641 ..... (609) 754-2153, (609) 754-5860

JBMDL Dental Clinic
2417 McGuire Blvd., McGuire AFB, NJ, 08641 ..... (609) 754-3786, (609) 234-2189

JBMDL Dix Chapel
5240 New Jersey Ave., Fort Dix, NJ, 08641 ..... (609) 754-4673

JBMDL Education & Training Center
3829 School House Rd., McGuire AFB, NJ, 08641 ..... (609) 754-3019, (609) 754-4116

JBMDL EFMP - Family Support
3435 Broidy Rd., McGuire AFB, NJ, 08641 ..... (609) 754-3154, (609) 754-9290

JBMDL EFMP - Enrollment
87th Medical Group
3458 Neely Rd., JB MDL McGuire, NJ, 08640 ..... (609) 754-9752

JBMDL Falcon Creek Golf Course
2007 Can Do Way, McGuire AFB, NJ, 08641 ..... (609) 754-2169, (609) 754-3330

JBMDL McGuire Family Center
3435 Broidy Rd., McGuire AFB, NJ, 08641 ..... (609) 754-3154

JBMDL Family Child Care Program
3435 Broidy Rd., JB McGuire, NJ, 08640 ..... (609) 754-3154, (609) 754-3341

JBMDL McGuire Finance Office
2906 Tuskegee Airmen Ave., McGuire AFB, NJ, 08641 ..... (609) 754-6258

JBMDL Dix Victim Advocate Services
5203 Maryland Ave., Fort Dix, NJ, 08640 ..... (609) 562-3849, (609) 562-6343

JBMDL Beneficiary Counseling Assistance Coordinators
87th Medical Group
3458 Neely Rd., JB MDL, NJ, 08641 ..... (609) 754-9082, (609) 754-9083

JBMDL McGuire ID/CAC Card Processing
2916 Falcon Lane, McGuire AFB, NJ, 08641 ..... (609) 754-1592

JBMDL Library
2603 Tuskegee Airmen Ave., McGuire AFB, NJ, 08641 ..... (609) 754-2079

JBMDL Loan Closet
Military & Family Support Center
3435 Broidy R., McGuire AFB, NJ, 08641 ..... (609) 754-3154

JBMDL McGuire-Dix Housing Management Office
3700 A Circle Dr., McGuire AFB, NJ, 08641 ..... 609) 754-3662

JBMDL McGuire Family Advocacy Program
3458 Neely Rd., JB MDL McGuire, NJ, 08641 ..... (609) 754-9680

JBMDL Legal Services/JAG
2901 Falcon Lane, McGuire AFB, NJ, 08641 ..... (609) 754-2010

JBMDL McGuire Chapel
McGuire Chapel
2503 East Arnold Ave, McGuire AFB, NJ, 08641 ..... (609) 754-4673

JBMDL McGuire Sports and Fitness Center
2504 POW/MIA Blvd., McGuire AFB, NJ, 08641 ..... (609) 754-6085

JBMDL McGuire Victim Advocate Services
2903 McGuire Blvd., McGuire AFB, NJ, 08641 ..... (609) 754-2988, (609) 754-2968

JBMDL McGuire Welcome Center
3021 McGuire Blvd., McGuire AFB, NJ, 08641 ..... (609) 754-3628, (609) 754-3938

JBMDL Lakehurst Privatized Housing Office
1053 Division St., Lakehurst, NJ, 08733 ..... (844) 334-0831

JBMDL Veterinary Services
3259 Gettysburg Ave., Fort Dix, NJ, 08640 ..... (609) 562-6636

JBMDL Dix Outdoor Recreation Center
6045 Doughboy Loop, JB MDL, NJ, 08641-0000 ..... (609) 562-6667, (609) 562-4208

JBMDL Non-appropriated Funds (NAF) Human Resources
2916 Falcon Lane, McGuire AFB, NJ, 08641 ..... 609) 754-6900

JBMDL New Parent Support Program
87th Medical Group
3458 Neely R., JB MDL, NJ, 08641 ..... (609) 754-9680, (866) 377-2778

JBMDL McGuire Personal Financial Management Services
Military & Family Support Center
3435 Broidy Rd., McGuire AFB, NJ, 08641 ..... (609) 754-3154

JBMDL Military Personnel Support Office
2916 Falcon Lane, McGuire AFB, NJ, 08641 ..... (609) 754-3986, (609) 754-4740
(609) 754-5092, (609) 754-3017

JBMDL McGuire Relocation Assistance Program
Military & Family Support Center
3435 Broidy R., McGuire AFB, NJ, 08641 ..... (609) 754-3154

JBMDL McGuire Retirement Services
2916 Falcon Lane, McGuire AFB, NJ, 08641 ..... (609) 754-2362, (609) 754-2474

JBMDL School Liaison Office
3435 Broidy Rd., JB MDL, NJ, 08640.....(609) 754-3154

JBMDL McGuire Spouse Education, Training and Careers
Military & Family Support Center
3435 Broidy R., McGuire AFB, NJ, 08641.....(609) 754-3154

JBMDL Household Goods/Transportation Office
1706 Vandenberg Ave., McGuire AFB, NJ, 08641 ..... (609) 754-6911, (609) 754-3521

JBMDL Household Goods/Transportation Office (Inbound)
5139 Pemberton-Wrightstown Rd., Fort Dix, NJ, 08640.....(609) 562-6376

JBMDL McGuire Transition Assistance Program
Military & Family Support Center
3435 Broidy Rd., McGuire AFB, NJ, 08641.....(609) 754-3154

JBMDL McGuire-Dix Unaccompanied Member Housing
2616 Tuskegee Airman Ave., JB MDL, NJ, 08641..... (609) 754-5498

JBMDL Crescenz VA Medical Center
Crescenz VA Medical Center
3900 Woodland Ave., Philadelphia, PA,.19104..... (215) 823-5800, (800) 949-1001

JBMDL McGuire Youth Center
3830 East Scott St., McGuire AFB, NJ, 08641..... (609) 754-5437

JBMDL Navy Federal Credit Union
201 State Route 34 N., Colts Neck, NJ, 07722.....(888) 842-6328
2100 Route 38, Cherry Hill, NJ, 08002.....(888) 842-6328

JBMDL McGuire Information and Referral Services
3435 Broidy Rd., JB MDL McGuire, NJ, 08641.....(609) 754-3154

JBMDL McGuire Temporary Lodging/Billeting
The All American Inn
2786 Mitchell Rd., JB MDL McGuire, NJ, 08641..... (609) 754-4667

JBMDL Lakehurst Unaccompanied Member Housing
Highway 547, JB MDL, NJ, 08733.....(732) 323-1268

JBMDL Lakehurst Housing Management Office
483 Walsh Drive, JB MDL, NJ, 08733 .....(732) 323-2370

JBMDL McGuire-Dix Privatized Family Housing
3700 A Circle Dr., JB MDL, NJ, 08641..... (609) 723-4290, (609) 316-0172

JBMDL Lakehurst Family Center
488-2 Highway 547, JB MDL, NJ, 08733..... (732) 323-1248

JBMDL Lakehurst Information & Referral Services
488-2 Highway 547, Trenton, NJ, 08733..... (732) 323-1248

JBMDL Lakehurst Relocation Assistance Program
JBMDL Lakehurst Personal Financial Management Services

JBMDL Lakehurst Spouse Education, Training and Careers
488-2 Highway 547, JB MDL, NJ, 08733..... (732) 323-1248

JBMDL Dix Transition Assistance Program
541W Delaware Ave., JB MDL, NJ, 08640 ..... (609) 562-1761, (609) 562-1556

JBMDL Lakehurst Transition Assistance Program
488-2 Highway 547, JB MDL, NJ, 08733.....(732) 323-1248, (866) 340-1685

JBMDL Dix ID/CAC Card Processing
McDonald Hall, 5418 South Scott Plaza, JB MDL, NJ, 08640 ..... (609) 562-2177

JBMDL Lakehurst ID/CAC Card Processing
Highway 547, JB MDL, NJ, 08733..... (732) 323-5060

JBMDL Dix Youth Center
1279 Locust Street, JB MDL, NJ, 08640 .....(609) 562-5061

JBMDL Lakehurst Youth Center
487 Walsh Drive, JB MDL, NJ, 08733 ..... (732) 323-4043

JBMDL Lakehurst Victim Advocate Services
201 Highway 34 South, JB MDL, NJ, 07722 .....(732) 573-5199

JBMDL Dix Welcome Center
2270 Fort Dix Rd., JB MDL, NJ, 08640 ..... (609) 562-6604

JBMDL Lakehurst Outdoor Recreation
123 Severyns Rd., JB MDL, NJ, 08733 .....(732) 323-2583,(732) 323-1362

JBMDL Griffith Fitness Center
8th St., JB MDL, NJ, 08640 ..... (609) 562-4888

JBMDL Doughboy Gym
5953 Newport St., JB MDL, NJ, 08640 .....(609) 562-5780

JBMDL Lakehurst Fitness Center
123 Severyns Rd., JB MDL, NJ, 08733 .....(732) 323-7266

JBMDL Dix Child Development Center
1188 Juliustown Rd., JB MDL, NJ, 08640 .....(609) 562-2371

JBMDL Lakehurst Child Development Center
657 Berry Rd., JB MDL, NJ, 08733 .....(732) 323-2260

JBMDL McGuire School Age Care Program
3830 E. Scott St., JB MDL, NJ, 08641 .....(609) 754-5914

JBMDL Dix School Age Care Program
5219 8th St., JB MDL, NJ, 08640 .....(609) 562-3873

JBMDL Lakehurst School Age Care Program
487 Walsh Dr., JB MDL, NJ, 08733 ..... (732) 323-4043

JBMDL Lakehurst Commissary
485 Walsh Rd., Lakehurst, NJ, 08733 ..... (732) 323-1220, (732) 323-1271

JBMDL Dix Bowling Center
6054 Doughboy Loop, JB MDL, NJ, 08640..... (609) 562-6895

JBMDL Lakehurst Bowling Center
489 Saniuk Rd., JB MDL, NJ, 08733 .....(732) 323-2027

JBMDL Dix Information, Tickets & Travel (ITT)
6045 Doughboy Loop, JB MDL, NJ, 08640.....(609) 562-4208, (609) 562-6667

JBMDL Lakehurst Information, Tickets & Travel (ITT)
123 Severyns Rd., JB MDL, NJ, 08733 ..... (732) 323-1362, (732) 323-4565

JBMDL Pine Ridge Golf Course
33 Berry Rd., JB MDL, NJ, 08733.....(732) 323-7483

New Jersey Veteran Service Organizatons

Please note that the following lists includes only five posts from each of two major VSOs, the American Legion and the Veterans of Foreign Wars. The most current and comprehensive information of these two VSOs at the State level can be found at the following websites below.

VFW Post #7677 Medford VFW
317 Church Rd, Medford, NJ 08055
(609) 654-9823

VFW Post #2692 Mount Holly VFW
199 South Ave, Mount Holly, NJ 08060
(609) 267-9790

VFW Post #6805 Browns Mills VFW
247 Mt. Misery Rd, Browns Mills 08015
(609) 894-8881

VFW Post #6590 Cookstown VFW
22 Wrightstown-Cookstown Rd, NJ 08511
(609) 758-7466

VFW Post #2445 Maple Shade VFW
914 E Main St, Maple Shade, NJ 08052
(856) 667-9581

VFW Post #6964 Brigantine VFW
121 31st St S Brigantine, NJ 08203
(609) 266-9813

VFW Post #9462 Absecon VFW
433 White Horse Pike, Absecon, NJ 08201
(609) 641-8884

VFW Post #6650 Ocean City VFW
1501 Bay Ave, Ocean City, NJ 08226
(609) 391-8660

VFW Post #1963 Sea isle City VFW
301 John F. Kennedy Blvd, Sea Isle City, NJ 08243
(609) 263-1711

American Legion Post #294 Eden-Stanley
39 Fort Dix Rd, Pemberton, NJ 08068
(609) 894-2203

American Legion Post #348
822 Mantoloking Rd, Brick, NJ 08723
(732) 477-1915

www.njamericanlegion.org
vfwnj.org/di/vfw/v2/default.asp

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