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87th Force Support Squadron | Fall/Winter 2022/2023

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Vets & New Jersey

The color in the trees along McGuire Blvd., as seen from the Douglas C-118 Liftmaster static display at JBMDL, slowly begin to hint at the seasons ahead.

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FSS COMPASS

JBMDL Directory & Map

Commander's *Note*



*Lt Col Alfred B. Curtis III,
Commander,
87th Force Support Squadron
speaks with a stockholder in the
87FSS experience at JBMDL.*

We are quickly approaching the conclusion of another amazing year here at Joint Base McGuire-Dix-Lakehurst. It is truly remarkable to look at how much we have grown as a community this year. I do not know what “normal” looked like at this installation in years past, but I do know that if it was anything like the new “normal” we are establishing, it was truly something special to be a part of. The joint military, civilian, and contract personnel of the 87th Force Support Squadron feel those bonds that ensure our readiness and resiliency getting stronger, and are honored to play our part in building that strength. It is our hope that you feel it as well.

That feeling of togetherness is a direct reflection of the service members, civilians, contractors, retirees, and families the 87 FSS has the pleasure of serving. We asked you to join us in our mission to provide “Only the Best” (#OTB) programming to the joint base, and you responded. Hundreds of you represented your families

and your units at our Summerfest extravaganza. More came to partake in our first ever Operation KUDOS, an event designed to help our youth understand the deployment process that their parents go through. Still more showed up to support our youth sports programs through their baseball and soccer seasons. Through it all, we can see the resilience of the joint base rising, and we are excited to watch it climb further.

That feeling of togetherness is also reflecting in the readiness of our installation. The innovations and challenges of myFSS pushed us to collaborate in new ways and figure out how to move forward in support of our Airmen. We have taken advantage of the opportunity to grow our civilian core through training programs from Dale Carnegie Institute. We have pushed the Air Force Force Generation directive in some units by reshaping our personnel to meet the emerging

requirements. Our Honor Guard continues to perform its cherished, solemn duty across a six state area of responsibility. Every day we continue to build towards a more ready, more joint environment in partnership with you.

The next few months will present a wealth of opportunity for you to further take advantage of readiness and resilience opportunities presented by our squadron. Our end of year financial close out came with a bang, delivering some great new initiatives that you will see around the installation soon. And we also encourage you to look out for opportunities to join our team via one of our mobile hiring tables! Anywhere you find the 87 FSS, you will find a chance to build a better community; that includes online via our website or social media platforms. No matter where you are, we are here to support. Thank you for the opportunity to serve.

Making appointments for winterizing your car, digging out clothes from your closet to complete that stylish layered arctic-style look of your wardrobe, and stocking up on walkway de-icing agents is an annual occurrence this time a year as we prepare to change seasons in the great state of New Jersey. Regardless of the rigors of preparing for these annual meteorological events New Jersey is a great place to be during the fall and winter months and this includes Joint Base McGuire-Dix-Lakehurst.

Seasonal Preview



The 87th Force Support Squadron – your MWR for Joint Base McGuire-Dix-Lakehurst – plans and organizes events, programs and services that fit the fall and winter seasons. Winter is especially exciting in the northeast for skiers and snowboarders and Outdoor Recreation is on it with equipment rentals and ski trips. Bowling Centers Dix and Lakehurst provide indoor recreation, perfect fun on a cold and dreary day, and there’s nothing better than stepping inside a cozy eatery or bistro for something hot to eat and drink and we have more than a few of those on the installation. There’s always so much to do! Stay warm and dry and stay in touch with all of it at GoMDL.com or download the free JBMDL app.

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2905 Tuskegee Airmen Ave.
Joint Base McGuire-Dix-Lakehurst
New Jersey, 08641

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87th Force Support Squadron

Joint Base McGuire-Dix-Lakehurst New Jersey

Lt Col Alfred B. Curtis, III
Commander



Mr. W.T. Little
Deputy Commander

SMSgt Chad Vaden
Superintendent (acting)

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It's going to be an exciting season and you won't want to miss a single thing!

GIVE THESE CODES A SNAP FOR UP-TO-DATE INFORMATION ABOUT PROGRAMS, EVENTS & SERVICES FROM 87FSS

What's in a name? Recently changing from "Support" to "Readiness" emphasizes the value of personal support this 87FSS activity provides military members from all branches of service.

MILITARY & FAMILY READINESS CENTER

By Jennifer Hensley & Bobbie Seidel

Have you ever been to a superstore walking up and down the aisles, looking for someone, anyone, wearing a name tag so you can ask a question? You want to speak to a real person. Relieved you find that one person with a name tag but then are told, "not my department, sorry I can't help you." All you want is an answer to your question or some assistance. Hasn't anyone else ever needed some help? A recommendation? A little guidance? Well.....

Yes, why yes we have. We've walked those aisles in stores all over the world. We've PCS'd the world and waited to come home from deployments. We are your unique Staff of the Military and



The easily identifiable Military and Family Readiness Center facility on Broidy Rd., JBMDL McGuire gleams on a bright fall morning.

Family Readiness Center (MFRC). We do not only have one person to assist, we have 20+ staff members who are ready to help you and provide support. And what makes the JB MDL MFRC Staff so unique? Our staff is made up of Military Retirees, Veterans, Military Spouses and dependents/family members of all service branches who know the military culture and lifestyle. We support all service branches at JB MDL and are your Airmen & Family Readiness Center, Fleet and Family Support Center, Army Community Service and Coast Guard Work-Life. A collective of our staff has worked at each of the individual military and family support centers for each service branch.

Whether you are single or have a family, PCS'ing and moving is challenging. The MFRC Relocation Team knows what it is like to move every few years, set-up a household and try to navigate your new base or area. They assist you prior to arriving with a

sponsor, become familiar with JB MDL and introduce Community Partners at the Base Newcomers Orientation. Leaving JB MDL? The Team will provide you information on your new base and answer questions on how to PCS at our monthly Smooth Move Workshops.

PCS'ing is difficult enough but even more challenging with a special needs family member. Our Exceptional Family Member Program Team knows the support and coordination needed for our EFMP families. They are here to help you navigate the vast resources available, welcome you to the JB MDL EFMP family, connect you with your gaining base, as well as, assist you with questions and support.

The one thing PCS'ing will affect is your budget. Our Personal Financial Readiness team can give you advice and tools to help you succeed with your money goals. Whether it is savings, paying off debt, bitcoin or

Continued on page 10



Military and Family Readiness Center staff stands ready to serve!

The Wawa® Wawa® Foundation

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Fueling our Services Members with Funds

Thanks to our customers, Wawa and The Wawa Foundation have raised nearly \$10 Million in its in-store fundraising campaign to support the USO to keep service members connected to family and its country.

Giving a “Taste of Home”

Every November, Wawa associates volunteer their time to build and donate 5,000 care packages to deployed service members to provide a “Taste of Home.”



Saluting Those Who Served

Wawa offers **FREE Coffee** to Veterans in all 970+ stores on Veterans Day, *Friday, November 11, 2022!*



Continued from page 8



is here to help you close this chapter and start a new exciting one. Finances, Employment, Moving and of course the unknown can be stressful, and our team is here to help you and your family be as prepared as you can be! A tip from those of us who have been there—start early and get as much information as you can!

This is a small description of what we

Personnel preparing to separate from military service learn valuable transitioning skills during one of the many TAP classes offered by Military & Family Readiness Center team members.

becoming more financially savvy. Our Team can assist and help complete a budget, review a credit report, become more familiar with TSP, budget for a new baby or establish an emergency savings account. They have been on the other side of that LES!

We've also had our share of deployments! Whether waiting to return home or waiting for our service member to come home. Our Readiness NCO and MFRC Team are here to support and connect with our military deployers, Pre & Post Deployment, with resources for communication, stress and practical matters while deployed—car, bills, etc. We are here to support with Hearts Apart, Deployment/Re-integration

son Support. Our MFRC is made-up of military spouses—we are here to help you with everything and anything!

Interested in continuing your career? The MFRC Employment Program offers Civilian & Federal Resume Workshops, as well as, LinkedIn, Interviewing and Spouse Employment Workshops. Connect with us to review our vast employer network and job postings and find up-coming job fairs.

As hard as it is to believe, there comes the time when your Active Duty Service comes to an end. Do not fear—you are not alone! The MFRC Transition Assistance Program Team

do. Who are we? We are military retirees, Veterans, military spouses. We have been there needing to find help, support and an answer to a question. And yes, we do understand that it can be difficult to ask for help. We have been there as well. But that's what makes our Staff so very unique. We've been there too. So come on by! Stop in to see our building, meet our Staff, pick up a monthly calendar of our workshops! No questions needed. We love what we do and we are here for you. We are honored to serve those who serve. Thank you Military service members and families, for all you do! #MFRC-always ready, always here

Military & Family Readiness Center team members take pride in ensuring every military member receives the personal attention and care they deserve.

Resources and reaching out. Don't wait alone, take a break and join us and other deployed families!

New or experienced Spouse to the Military? Join our Personal & Work-Life team for Heart Link or #Adulting classes. Meet other military spouses and share our not so "one of a kind" stories! Connect with Key Spouses, Ombudsman, Family Readiness Group or Family Liaison





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Andrews FEDERAL CREDIT UNION

Inured by NCUA. We do business in accordance with the Federal Fair Housing Law and Equal Credit Opportunity Act. 1APR-Annual Percentage Rate. 1A \$10.00 monthly fee applies if you do not receive at least \$500 in total direct deposits from a military source to the Forces Checking account within the month. 2Early access to direct deposit funds depends on timing of payer's submission of deposits. We generally post such deposits on the day they are received which may be up to one day earlier than the payer's scheduled payment date. 3Forces Checking account holders who use their Contactless Visa[®] Debit Card to make purchases are eligible to receive transaction credits equaling \$0.05 per each debit card transaction greater than \$5.00 (up to a maximum of \$6.00 in total reward credits per month). Debit card rewards are credited to your Base Share Savings account at the end of each month. ATM transactions completed with your debit card are not eligible for these rewards. 4We will refund you any ATM surcharge fees that are charged to you when using a non-Andrews or non-CC-OP ATM machine (i.e. ATM fees charged by the machine owner/operator), up to a maximum of \$12.00 in total fee refunds per month. The ATM fee refunds will be posted to your Base Share Savings account at the end of the month. 5The Round Up service is not available for business accounts or business debit cards. You must have a Base Share Savings account for automatic transfers when enrolled in our Debit Card Round Up Savings Program. ATM withdrawals made with your Contactless Debit Card are not included in the Round Up feature. If a debit card purchase is returned and credited, your Round Up amount remains in your Base Share Savings, it does not get returned to your checking balance. Credit transactions or adjustment transactions from your debit card are not included in the Round Up feature and will not be rounded up. If your available balance in your checking account at the time of the Round Up transfer is less than \$10.00, no Round Up will be processed or transferred. If you do not have a checking balance sufficient to cover the amount of the Round Up in a given day, the Round Up will not be processed or transferred. Existing automated payment transfers (such as from your checking account to an Andrews loan) will take priority over Round Up transfers - if, after any payment transfers are completed, you have insufficient funds in your checking to complete the Round Up transfer, the Round Up will not be processed or transferred. You may unenroll in the Round Up service at any time, through our desktop or mobile Digital Banking platform. The credit union reserves the right to change or discontinue this service at our discretion. If we do change or discontinue this program, we will notify you as required by law. 610,000 Bonus Points - 10,000 bonus points will be earned with \$1,500 purchase within 90 days of card opening. Our field of membership includes U.S. Active Duty or U.S. Retired Military personnel (or their spouses, dependents or dependent survivors) of Joint Base Andrews, Joint Base McGuire-Dix-Lakehurst, U.S. Department of Defense, and military installations in central Germany, Belgium, and The Netherlands, as well as over 200 employer groups throughout Maryland, Virginia and New Jersey. We also have statewide membership eligibility through the American Consumer Council and anyone who lives, works, attends school or worships in Washington, D.C.

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JBMDL has a large footprint across the state of New Jersey and the installation contains many sights you may not have ever seen before. Then again, maybe you have.

Do You **KNOW** Where This Is?



Located at JBMDL Dix many drive by but unless you've actually stopped to look at it, and the other items that share the space, you may not have noticed it. It's a special place filled with historic items!

If you know where this is, email us at 87fss.marketing@gmail.com with "Fall GoMDL" in the subject line and you could pick-up a "Swag Bag" full of 87FSS goodies. Winner announced in the Spring/Summer issue of GoMDL Magazine.

Congratulations!



William "Safety Bill" Goldsberry, 87SEG, receives his 87FSS "Bag-O-Swag" from 87FSS Team Marketing members Erika Tyler, Paola Poncio and Cristina Hullings for correctly identifying our mystery location in the Spring/Summer issue of GoMDL.



Armed Forces Heritage Museum Mobile Unit travels to schools, community events and other events such as often attending the biennial Open House and Air Show conducted at JBMDL.

The Armed Forces Heritage Museum Comes to Burlington, NJ

MILITARY HISTORY LIVES HERE!

The Armed Forces Heritage Museum (AFHM) is an all-volunteer non-profit organization whose mission is to, "Preserve, Honor, and Educate the public on the history of the military in New Jersey and the neighboring regions".

The Armed Forces Heritage Museum recently opened its headquarters location at the Captain James Lawrence House, 459 High Street, Burlington, NJ. It is on the campus of the Burlington County Historical Society. The house is owned by the State of New Jersey. It was the family home of Captain James Lawrence, a heroic Naval officer during the War of 1812 known for his famous battle cry, "Don't Give Up the Ship!" AFHM Executive Director Roy Plummer provided the leadership for the renovation and transition to a military museum that features historical exhibits dating from the

Revolutionary War through WWII. Future exhibits will be forthcoming that will focus on subsequent conflicts and key military history events designed to engage the public's interest. (Visit www.afhmus.org for details and news.)

How did AFHM start and what is it about?

AFHM was formed in May 2010 with an initial vision

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Out and about in the community

Capt. James Lawrence House, 459 High Street, Bordentown, NJ is home to the Armed Forces Heritage Museum.



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escape
to the JERSEY CAPE



There are more than a few places to grab a bite at Joint Base McGuire Dix-Lakehurst and nobody knows them better than the

Queen of Cuisine

Ms. Jaclyn Hald presides over the vast food operations of the 87th Force Support Squadron at Joint Base McGuire-Dix-Lakehurst and took time from her busy schedule to answer a few of our questions.

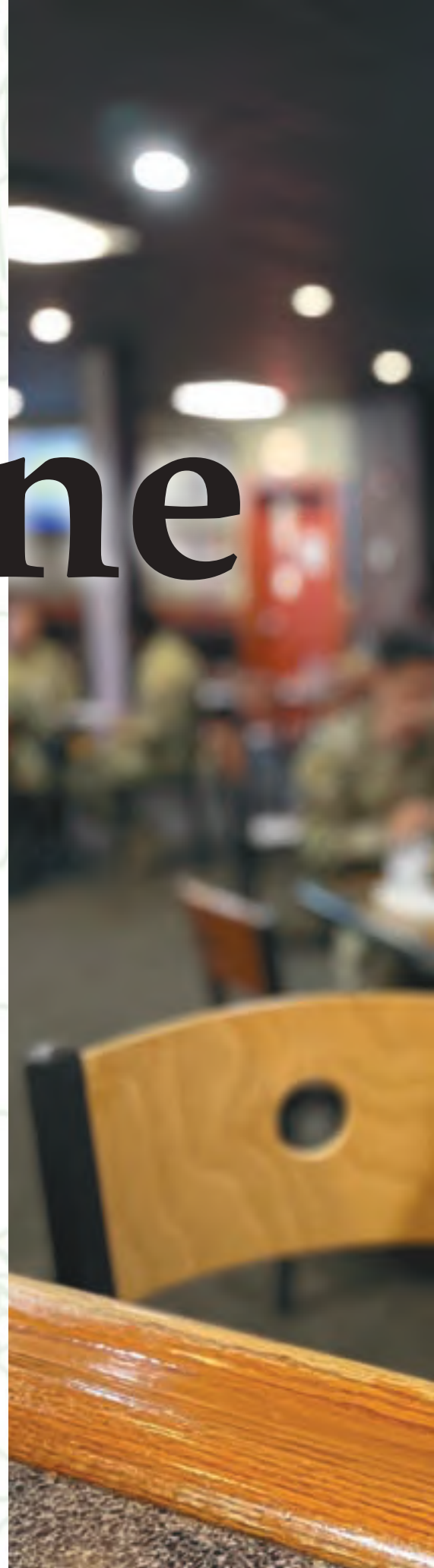
FSS: *What is your role in the food service operations at JBMDL?*

JH: I am the General Manager of Food Services with Aramark on JBMDL. I oversee our food teams that operate multiple facilities throughout base. I work hand in hand with our 87FSS leadership to implement and withhold standards of "Food 2.0", offering expanded options and increased quality at the Halvorsen Hall DFAC. I also oversee the teams and operations at Pudgys Sports Pub, Tommy B's Catering, Fairways at Fountain Green Golf Course, Ten Pin at Ft Dix Bowling as well as Java House Coffee Shops located in the All American Inn and Medical Clinic.

FSS: *Would you care to give us a peek into your background? How did you get into the food service industry and what do you like best about it?*

JH: I have always found the hospitality industry to be so rewarding. Working with people on a daily basis, you have the power to change the course of someone's day. Whether it be as simple as a great meal at your local café to something as complex as catering and planning someone's wedding day, you have the ability to impact people immediately. I grew up working at a local pizza shop in my hometown throughout high school and college. That's when I really knew I wanted to pursue this as a career. I graduated from Widener University with a degree in Hospitality Management and Accounting while working with Aramark as a supervisor of concessions at the Philadelphia Sports Stadiums (Go Birds!). Shortly after, I got the opportunity to continue my career with Aramark and moved to Dallas Texas, spending five years as a Food Service Manager and then Director over American Airlines HQ food facilities. In 2019, I decided to venture back to the Philadelphia area and take on my current role here at JBMDL.

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*Jaclyn Hald holds court where everyone likes to hold court:
at the Pudgy's Sports Pub bar!*



Fairways Cafe at Fountain Green Golf Course offers stunning views of the surrounding greens while dining.

Aramark through one or multiple of our vast range of clients including: healthcare/hospitals, stadiums, schools, businesses and leisure activities. Aramark’s mission is to enrich and nourish lives through these said businesses. We do that mainly throughout North American but internationally as well.

FSS: How did Aramark come to lead the 87FSS food operations at JBMDL?

JH: Other than JBMDL, Aramark oversees an additional 11 other Airforce Base portfolios throughout the country. When it was time to transition this base to Food 2.0, Aramark was very excited to add JBMDL to our family! JBMDL is Aramark’s newest Airforce base contract, beginning in the summer of 2019.

FSS: How would you describe what you do now at JBMDL against past experiences? Are they relative or is JBMDL as unique as they say?

JH: As someone with no prior military affiliation or knowledge, JBMDL has and continues to be a unique experience for me personally and professionally. I have serviced many different food operations throughout my career but both the complexity and reward of JBMDL food operations is unlike any other business I’ve had the opportunity to be a part of. Getting to work aside our military members, train and teach airmen, and also service them and their families, is quite unique.

FSS: Not everyone at JBMDL has been to every food operation at the installation. Yes, they are missing out, so what can you say about each one that would encourage folks to try them?

JH: We have so much to offer on JBMDL! This quick snap shot should give some better insight on all the fabulous places to dine throughout base! Halvorsen Hall is our McGuire DFAC where we launched Food 2.0 in 2019. Halvorsen has a wide variety of offerings for breakfast, lunch and dinner available for all patrons with access to base. We offer a Pizza Station, Made to Order Sub Station, Grille, Eatery Station, Salad Bar, Quick Eats (freshly premade items on the go!) and my personal favorite, Restaurant Rotation Station where we offer rotating authentic cuisines. Our Extender Eatery is located in the Flight Line. Fresh meals are brought over to this location from Halvorsen Hall daily as another means for a quick bite. The Extender Eatery is open Monday-Friday for lunch. Next place to visit is Pudgys Sports Pub, located on Can Do Way, and open 7 days a week- it is a must! We are famous for our wings (with endless choices of sauce) and a cold beer. We are open for lunch and dinner 11a-7p and now open until 11pm for the football season on game nights (Thursday, Sunday and Monday). Headed to Fountain Green Golf Course on Ft Dix, you will find Fairways our breakfast and lunch café, 630a-2p daily. Stop in for a Jersey Dog, Garlic Parmesan Fries or even a Pork Roll Egg and Cheese. Nearby you will also find Ten Pin Café, located inside Ft Dix Bowling Center where the nachos and pizza are fan favorites! Open Thursday-Sunday it’s a great place to take your family or friends for some fun and a great food. Lastly, stop in to our Java House located in the All American Inn and our newly renovated location at the

Continued from page 16

FSS: Can you tell us some history of Aramark and where people might most likely know the brand?

JH: Aramark is a leader in facility, food, and uniform services employing over 280,000 people. You have likely come across

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Medical Clinic for your caffeine kick! Our Java Houses are “We Proudly Brew” Starbucks concepts. These locations offer all your Starbucks favorites and seasonal items with the addition of our own spin on made-to-order breakfast sandwiches and on-the-go parfaits. Most notably, all of these locations are ESM friendly, meaning the majority of each of these menus can be purchased using allocated ESM funds.

FSS: *There's a lot of interest - and rumor - about the former Falcon Creek Golf Course facility at JBMDL McGuire. The rumors are pretty interesting but what is really planned for the activity?*

JH: The direction we hope for Falcon Creek Golf Course would be to eventually move Pudgys from its current building into this one. This move will require both kitchen and service area renovations. While timelines are unclear, we hope by moving Pudgys into a newer and bigger space, we will be able to expand upon our services and be able to provide a welcoming environment for families, patrons, and game-watchers of all kind. We are very excited to see what the future has in store for us at Falcon Creek!

FSS: *How different will this be from the current Pudgy's Sports Pub, or any of the other dining activities for that matter? Anything unique in the works?*

JH: The goal is to offer an elevated version of the current Pudgys concept. We are reviewing the idea of a gastropub menu with the sports bar flare. More to come!

FSS: *Is there a projected operational date for this new concept?*

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Fresh and delicious! The Java House at the 87th Medical Group Clinic serves up the best of both!



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Plans for the former Falcon Creek Golf Course Club House are exciting, bringing a new dining experience and environment for JBMDL personnel to enjoy.

Continued from page 19

JH: Pending construction...unfortunatley at this time I do not have a better projected timeline.

FSS: We are often asked about "The Spot" food truck. What can you tell us about its future?

JH: The future of The Spot food truck at this moment is uncertain as it relates to a consistent daily operation however, good news is that The Spot food truck is available for catering events upon request. The Spot food truck makes for the perfect way to cater large community events or even outdoor gatherings!

FSS: People enjoy dining out during the fall and winter months. Are there seasonal menus implemented for food operations?

JH: All of our facilities offer seasonal Limited Time Offers including both food and drink specials monthly. Stop in for some of our fall/winter favorites like our homemade soups at Pudgys or even a Pumpkin Spice Latte or Peppermint Mocha at Java House (coming soon!).

FSS: If there was one thing you would say to customers about food service operations at JBMDL, what would it be?

JH: Our Food Service here on JBMDL and the teams that make it all happen have been nothing short of resilient over the last two years. Covid played and continues to play a huge part in how we do business, and we are still trying to figure out our new normal. We strive to do our absolute best to serve our guests despite ongoing challenges. Our service teams are the pillar to making these successful operations- so a big shoutout to all of our teams! We are happy to be able to provide all that we do on JBMDL and look forward to an even better future with the support of our amazing customers.



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A world of adventures rich in American history awaits you in Valley Forge and Montgomery County, PA. Our region is home to not only must-see historical sites but also tons of family attractions, a vibrant arts scene, shopping malls, golf, outdoor activities, and so much more!



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2022

The year we got back to having fun!



SUPERBOWL PARTY
Sunday, February 13



EASTER EGGSTRAVAGANZA
Saturday, April 9



POT O' GOLD RUN
Thursday, March 17

Here are just a few highlights from 2022. There are many, many more memories on the FSS Flickr page at GoMDL.com www.flickr.com/photos/87fss



MILITARY SPOUSE APPRECIATION
Friday, May 6



ARMY BIRTHDAY RUN
Tuesday, June 14



SUMMERFEST '22



SUMMERFEST
Friday, July 22



PACK WALK
Thursday, September 29



CORNHOLE TOURNAMENT
Thursday, August 18



**FITNESS CENTER MCGUIRE
RENOVATION OPENING**
Friday, September 9

Have you seen this construction and wondered what it was?



Turns out our own Ms. Marlene Quattlebaum, Chief, 87FSS Child & Youth Flight, had all the answers about the construction on 8th St., JBMDL Dix we've been wondering about!



FSS: What is the structure being built on Dix exactly?

Quattlebaum: The structure is our new Dix School Age Care Program Facility at 5204 W. 8th Street, JBMDL Dix.

FSS: Who benefits / who is it for?

Quattlebaum: The Department of Defense (DoD) military and civilian personnel, to include contractors' youth ages 5-12 years old.

FSS: Why is it being constructed – how did it come about?

Quattlebaum: Due to the large number of single and dual military and civilian working parents, there is a great need for an upgraded school age care facility. This came about largely due to the size of the existing facility and safety deficiencies.

FSS: Where is the funding coming from for this project?

Quattlebaum: Department of De-

fense (DoD) Office Secretary of Defense (OSD)

FSS: When did the project start and when is it scheduled to open?

Quattlebaum: Started 31 January 2018 with an estimated completion date of Mid-January 2023

FSS: What are some key features of the new facility; what can patrons expect to experience?

Quattlebaum: The new facility encompasses seven dedicated activity environments that will accommodate up to 168 youth. The areas include arts & science STEM, computers, reading, blocks and puzzles, and long term proj-

ects, large café eating area, and multi-purpose area with gym.

FSS: How will these features differ from previous offerings?

Quattlebaum: The current facility is not large enough to accommodate the school age care program, youth activities and youth support.

FSS: How does this new facility fit with current number of CYP program facilities?

Quattlebaum: This school age care facility will offer quality programming at double capacity. It has been designed as one of the state of the art facilities for future facilities to be built upon.



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Photo Credit: Maura McConnell



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Continued from page 14

to build a fixed brick and mortar museum at the Joint Base McGuire-Dix-Lakehurst that would have unrestricted public access. The plan was later halted when site plan reviews at the Pentagon level reached an impasse.

In a subsequent decision to "bring the museum to the people" AFHM transitioned to a 40 ft. mobile unit that travels to schools and community events in the region. The mobile unit chronicles our nation's military history over the past 100, from the building of Camp Dix in WWI to present day operations at the Joint Base. Another display panel features examples of modern-day military technology. Compelling video oral history excerpts from AFHM veteran interviews are included as well.

Lawrence House Transition

The Lawrence House evolved from the desire to establish a fixed headquarters and museum experience in the Burlington County region. The opportunity to do so came about through a partnership with the Burlington County Historical Society in Burlington city where AFHM had conducted several of their Living History veteran presentations. This working relationship led to the availability of the Lawrence House where the Society has been the caretaker for the State-owned property.

The Lawrence House has been transformed into a venue that features permanent and rotating exhibits on military history and New Jersey's contributions to its success. In addition, AFHM plans include a unique military history "Immersive Experience Room" that will allow visitors to have an interactive, audio/visual journey into an aspect of our nation's rich military history. It is also hoped to develop an Interview Room to record military members/veterans' personal experiences and military accomplishments.

Benefits to AFHM and Burlington County Historical Society Partnership

This partnership offers the use of the house to the AFHM with the goal of enhancing and expanding both organiza-

tion's missions and programs. The relationship is designed to bring an innovative experience to the campus in downtown Burlington that includes: The James Fenimore Cooper House (renowned author), the Bard-How House (Colonial "please touch" children's playhouse), The Delia Biddle Pugh Research Library, and the Corson-Poley Center, home to the Society's newest venture, the Children's History Center. (For more details, visit www.burlingtoncountyhistoricalsociety.org.)

Why is the Lawrence House a good site for the museum?

Captain Lawrence spent his youth in Burlington City and later became a naval war hero who served during the War of 1812. He commanded the frigate Chesapeake, and during a heated battle in which he was mortally wounded, rallied his crew by saying, "Don't Give up The Ship!" This is now the motto of the U.S. Navy and the City of Burlington, NJ. Flags honoring Lawrence's words can be found throughout Burlington city and on the scenic City waterfront.

What are your future plans for the AFHM?

The immediate and near-term focus will be on promoting the Lawrence House Museum venue to the public, both locally and regionally. The objective is to develop engaging and interactive exhibits and programs for the public's enjoyment and education. This will be augmented by the continued use of the museum's mobile unit.

When is the Museum open, and what are the fees to visit? How can people visit (book a tour, walk in, on-line)?

Currently the Lawrence House is open on Saturday from 11am to 4pm. It is staffed by volunteer docents. No fee is charged at this time, but donations to AFHM's all-volunteer non-profit organization are greatly appreciated. Tours can also be arranged by appointment through our Executive Director Roy Plummer via an email request at: roy.plummer@afhmus.org.

How can the public and supporters contribute?

Donations are always welcomed, both at the Lawrence House site and through our website at: www.afhmus.org. Additionally, AFHM is continually looking for sponsors for museum mission projects where we acknowledge such support formally by posting their name or business entity with the exhibit. It is also posted on our Facebook page and website. Such sponsorships begin at the \$1000 contribution level and above. Further information regarding them can be obtained by contacting Executive Director Roy Plummer at: roy.plummer@afhmus.org.

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ANDY KIM FOR CONGRESS

Thank you to all servicemembers, veterans, and military families for your service. It is an honor to represent you in Congress. I'm proud that after years of delays, I was able to help secure funding for a new state of the art veterans' health clinic that will serve thousands of veterans in New Jersey. I will always fight for those who have sacrificed so much for our country.

PAID FOR BY ANDY KIM FOR CONGRESS

Careers in Construction Following Your Service



Local 825 Operating Engineers are highly trained and experienced heavy equipment operators, mechanics, and surveyors who offer unsurpassed productivity to contractors throughout New Jersey and five counties in New York's Hudson Valley. Our 8,200 members are part of the **International Union of Operating Engineers**, comprising a workforce of more than 400,000 throughout the United States and Canada.

With our training, experience and drive, we build value for our contractors. We do the job right the first time, on time and on budget. In exchange, we ensure that our members are treated fairly and viewed as part of the team. These are the same values shared by our brave men and women in uniform. The certified training and apprenticeship program for construction equipment operators is run through the **International Union of**

Operating Engineers and offers apprentices superior education, at little or no cost to the student, that enables them to reach their full potential within the trade.

Recognizing the rapid changes in the workforce and technology, Local 825 marked a historic transition of its **825 Training Center** toward becoming a technical college with the signing of an agreement with Hudson County Community College (HCCC) in November 2021.

Over one hundred-years of operation, Local 825 operating engineers have successfully transitioned through changes in technology to preserve their mastery of heavy equipment. Future operators will need to master heavy equipment and also understand and work with the technology behind it. Better building begins with **Operating Engineers Local 825**.



Member Highlight

Matthew Walker came to the **Operating Engineers Local 825** looking for a job and found a career of service. He rose to the rank of Equipment Operator First Class following seven years in

the reserves. After building some of our states most critical infrastructure, Walker now leads instruction at the state-of-the-art 825 Training Center in Dayton, NJ.



**International Union of
Operating Engineers
Local 825**

www.iuoe825.org

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Commitment to Life After the Service

Local 825 is a walk-the-walk type of organization. After 12 months of organization and recruitment, 16 Local 825 members have formed a Local 825 American Legion Post.

The new American Legion Post No. 532 was chartered on May 29, 2018 with the purpose of continued support and advocacy for our service members within the ranks.



Manufacturing Workforce Demands Are Being Met by New Jersey Veterans

By Alan Gung, Copywriter and Media Specialist, NJMEP

The United States currently has the lowest number of unemployed veterans. According to the Disabled Veterans Chamber of Commerce, unemployment in the veteran community is under 3%. This is a monumental milestone when looking at the last 50 years. The demand to hire veteran employees is growing quickly in manufacturing based on their reliability and aptitude. Many veterans want to work once they finish active service; however, they need help finding sustainable career options. There are organizations that bridge employers with veterans and work with the veterans to ensure they have the skills needed to become an even more attractive hire. These organizations play a crucial part in helping veterans successfully transition to the workforce.

NJMEP's Pro-Action Education Network™ (PEN) & Workforce Development team is the ideal example of a program that prepares veterans for these incredible careers.

Lance P. Lopez, Sr., Veterans & Community Recruitment at NJMEP uses his background speaking to veterans interested in industrial careers as a way for them to relate and understand. The programs provided through the PEN team prepare veterans for successful industrial careers outside of the military so they can become invaluable employees to their employers. Most veterans have the skillset and the ability to work in industrial careers; however, their responsibilities in the military don't translate well on resumes when applying for jobs. The Workforce team assists veterans with adjusting their resumes to ensure they have a higher chance of getting hired while also building on top of their already valuable skill sets.

"Their resume does not reflect the job that they've done in the military world. It doesn't reflect it on their resume how it would be in the civilian world such as logistics, or production assistants, or production management, or surveyor or whatever that they're doing in the military. It doesn't say it on their resume when they (are) transforming themselves out to the civilian sector," explained Pro-Action Education Network & Workforce Development, Veterans & Community Recruitment's Lance P. Lopez, Sr. "One of the things that we want our veterans to do is to make their resume not just say, 'Listen I was in military and I served my country for 20 years or 10 years or 5 years.' Say exactly what it is that you were doing in the military and translate that into civilian language where it would be understood by the employer."

Lopez states "most employers want to give veterans career opportunities because they have the discipline to succeed in the role and they served in this country, so they want to be loyal to our veterans."

Helping Veterans Transition to Industrial Fields

Companies throughout the United States have given a preference to hire veterans. However, they need help with building their resumes, accessing industry-specific training programs, and finding the best employers. PEN has a team of recruiters that will provide a template to help the veterans enhance their resumes that will resonate with employers.

"Anyone who has a resume and it doesn't resemble the [resume] template created by our recruiters, I end up providing feedback by telling the veterans, 'Listen, this is a resume template of what we have found to be the most effective. You should indicate specifically what you did in the military and translate that on the resume to the civilian world so that way it's easily identified as to what you did while serving and what you can do now so that it's understood by the employer,'" said Lopez

The increase in veteran employees shows they are being hired at a phenomenal rate. However, there are challenges veterans currently face, especially with the lengthy hiring process in the industry.

Continued on page 33



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“When employers are slow to hire, veterans end up committing to other job opportunities elsewhere which creates a continuous backlog of unemployed, skilled people to work for the manufacturer because those veterans (hired by other employers) have been placed or employed elsewhere due to the slow hiring process,” state Lopez.

Registered Apprenticeships Are the Solution for Workforce Challenges

This challenge is why apprenticeships are important. Registered apprenticeship programs, such as the ones offered by NJMEP’s Workforce Development team provide adequate training and certifications to prepare veterans for successful careers. Veterans will have the proper training while going through apprenticeships, but they need manufacturers to give them a chance. Ultimately, employers must give the veterans the ability to work immediately.

“It’s very important that an employer brings on the vet and allows them to start working as soon as possible and then give them a timeframe to secure the certificate that they should have in order to make them more marketable for promotions within the company,” explained Lopez. “That would do two things. One, it would motivate them to go to work and two, that they’ll have some sort of certificate, national certification that will get them to the next level should any vacancies open up for them to get a promotion within the company.”

Every company the PEN team has worked with has expressed interest in hiring veterans; however, there has been a lack of movement. If companies utilized more apprenticeships and worked with veteran programs, veterans would be able to thrive in these roles, quickly. Since its inception, the Registered Apprenticeship program has successfully placed 20 veterans in apprenticeships. Many may not necessarily have the background, but they can receive proper training. Training is provided to upskill the veterans to fulfill their obligations and creates a qualified, educated manufacturing professional the employer may keep on the books for years if not decades.

“When I first joined NJMEP our senior director was telling me that he had no veteran resumes. Since then, I try to get a pulse on what we’re looking for and how we can attract more veterans involved,” explained Lopez. “Now we have over 20 veterans resumes and growing.”

Value of Partnerships to Drive Veteran Engagement Forward

Partnerships are critical in connecting veterans with employers. Some of the Garden State veteran groups that actively assist veterans include; The American Legion, VFW: The Veterans of Foreign Wars of the US, NJ

State Veterans Chamber of Commerce, and Bridging the Gap for Veterans. In addition, private/public partnerships with military bases such as the case of the Public-Private Partnership (P3) Basics program at Joint Base McGuire-Dix-Lakehurst provide veterans with unique access to employment opportunities that are seldom offered to the public. NJMEP’s PEN team also works with the army reserve units and is currently in conversation with the Army PaYS Program to draw interest.

A step forward in bridging the skills gap begins with manufacturers and STEM companies’ willingness to give veterans opportunities, “Companies have to be willing to take the chance on hiring these veterans because there’s some companies that we reached out to and they’ve all said, ‘Listen. The process took too long, and I’m no longer interested,’” Lopez explained. “I would advise any manufacturer that’s looking to hire veterans take the next step and hire the veteran and then get them trained. Our lowest level of certification is the 25-hour Manufacturing Associate course which they can take, self-pace and you can complete that in as little as 4 days.”

Such programs allow veteran employees the flexibility to complete self-paced training while learning on-the-job. This is invaluable for the companies because they’ll have qualified and accredited employees who are thrilled to work in these roles.

Workforce Programs Help Disabled Veterans

Workforce programs aren’t only for non-disabled veterans. There are many who qualify as disabled veterans, specifically able-bodied individuals whose disabilities would not hinder their ability in specific roles. This opens opportunities for those who can and want to work but may fear their status will deter employers from hiring them.

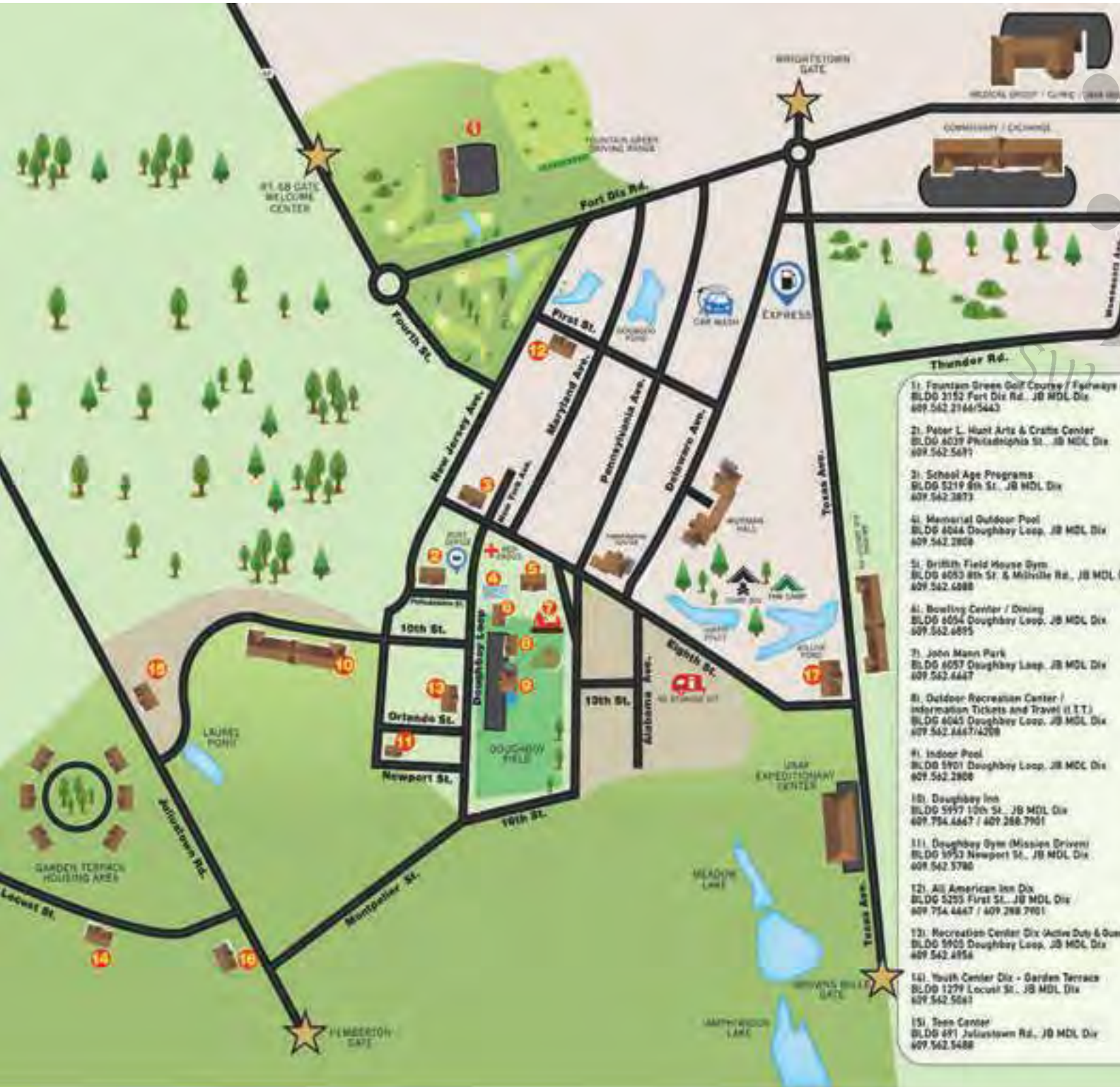
“I am newly designated as a disabled vet. As long as some of these disabilities don’t affect their ability to work machinery and their medication doesn’t interfere with safety protocols then they can still work in these manufacturing jobs. It allows them the ability to work,” Lopez mentioned. “Just because they’re a disabled vet doesn’t mean that they are physically unable to perform their duties that may be required for them to work in manufacturing jobs.”

Lopez’ advice is for individuals looking for career growth is to “start somewhere” at each company. These opportunities are more than entry-level jobs, they lead to meaningful ones. sustainable careers. Industry 4.0 has changed the way manufacturing companies operate, requiring a workforce to have different skills and work in safer environments while receiving competitive compensation.

“At NJMEP, we always tell everybody about the certi-

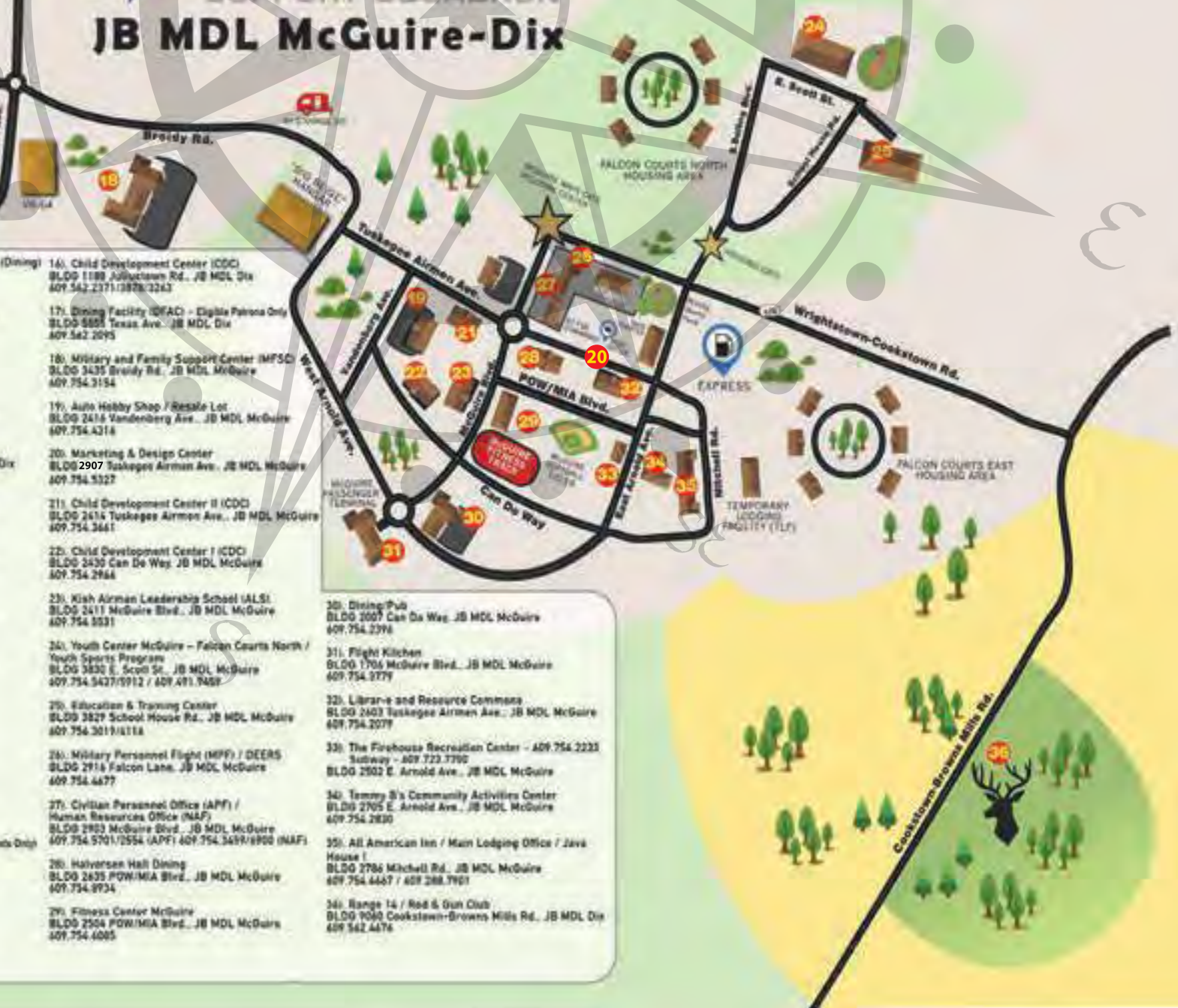
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13. Recreation Center Dix (Active Duty & Govt)
BLDG 5905 Doughboy Loop. JB MDL Dix
609.562.4954
14. Youth Center Dix - Garden Terrace
BLDG 1279 Locust St. JB MDL Dix
609.562.5041
15. Teen Center
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- 14. Child Development Center (CDC)
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- 21. Child Development Center II (CDC)
BLDG 2414 Tuskegee Airmen Ave., JB MDL McGuire
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- 22. Child Development Center I (CDC)
BLDG 2430 Can De Way, JB MDL McGuire
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- 23. Kish Airman Leadership School (ALS)
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- 24. Youth Center McGuire - Falcon Courts North /
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- 25. Education & Training Center
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- 26. Military Personnel Flight (MPF) / DEERS
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- 27. Civilian Personnel Office (APO) /
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- 31. Flight Kitchen
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- 32. Library and Resource Commons
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- 33. The Firehouse Recreation Center - 409.754.2223
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- 34. Tommy B's Community Activities Center
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- 4) School Age Programs
BLDG 487 Walsh Dr. - 732.323.4043
- 5) Military and Family Support Center (MFSC)
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- 6) Bowling Center
BLDG 489 Saniuk Rd. - 732.323.2027
- 7) Flight Deck Community Center - 732.323.2405
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	732.323.4565	School Age Programs (SAP)	
Librar-e and Resource Commons	609.754.2079	Dix	609.562.3873
Lodging		Lakehurst	732.323.4043
All American Inn Lakehurst	732.323.2266	McGuire	609.754.5914
All American Inn McGuire/Dix	609.754.4667	School Liaison Offices	
TLF	609.288.7901	Dix	609.562.5411
Combined Bachelor Quarter	732.323.2266	McGuire (EFMP One-Stop Office)	609.754.9656
Doughboy Inn Dix	609.754.4667	Warehouse (NAF)	609.562.2771
	609.288.7901	Youth Programs	
	609.562.3188	Dix (Garden Terrace Housing)	609.562.5061
Manpower & Organization Flight	609.754.5415	McGuire (Falcon Courts No.)	609.754.5437
Marketing Office	609.754.5327	Youth Sports & Fitness	609.754.5912
Commercial Sponsorship	609.754.2456		609.491.9459
Design Center	609.754.5327		
Military & Family Support Centers (MFSC)			
Lakehurst	732.323.1248		
McGuire	609.754.3154		
Military Personnel Flight	609.754.4677		
Outdoor Recreation Programs (ODR)			
Dix	609.562.6667		
	609.562.4208		
Lakehurst	732.323.2583		
Pools			
Indoor Pool Dix	609.562.2808		
Memorial Outdoor Pool	609.562.2808		

The entire 87th Force Support Squadron phone listing, complete with addresses, is available for download at:



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Continued from page 33

fications and programs they can take advantage of and the opportunities available in the industry. This is why I love it when I hear my (PEN & Workforce Development) Manager, Larry Banks speaking and telling everybody this is a pathway to a meaningful career. A pathway for individuals who want to have a career.” he advised. “Manufacturing is a well-built machine, and it is a driving force to the American economy and it is alive and well. People are making a livable wage in manufacturing, upwards of \$96,000 after a couple of years.”

A Wealth of Opportunities

Industrial careers offer a wealth of opportunities that many veterans may not ever consider. They and their families can live a comfortable and happy life after their service by working in the manufacturing field.

“Our veterans are the driving force to making sure all Americans and our allies enjoy the freedom that we experience every day. Veterans must understand that there is a career once they transition from military service to civilian employment and manufacturing is alive and well and it provides a meaningful and livable wage for them and their families,” Lopez emphasizes. “It provides an opportunity for them to send their kids to higher education or private education if they choose to. We provide them an opportunity to live in a beautiful home in any neighborhood that they want to live in if they decide to. It provides them an opportunity to take vacations and buy new automobiles if they decide to. There’s a place in manufacturing for all military service members.”

Veterans have done so much for our country. Many of them are ready to enter the workforce. They just need the tools and opportunities to enter manufacturing careers. This is why it’s vital for employers to hire them and cooperate with workforce development programs and apprenticeship programs. The industry must accelerate the ability of veterans to fill the open roles to address the industry’s workforce challenges.

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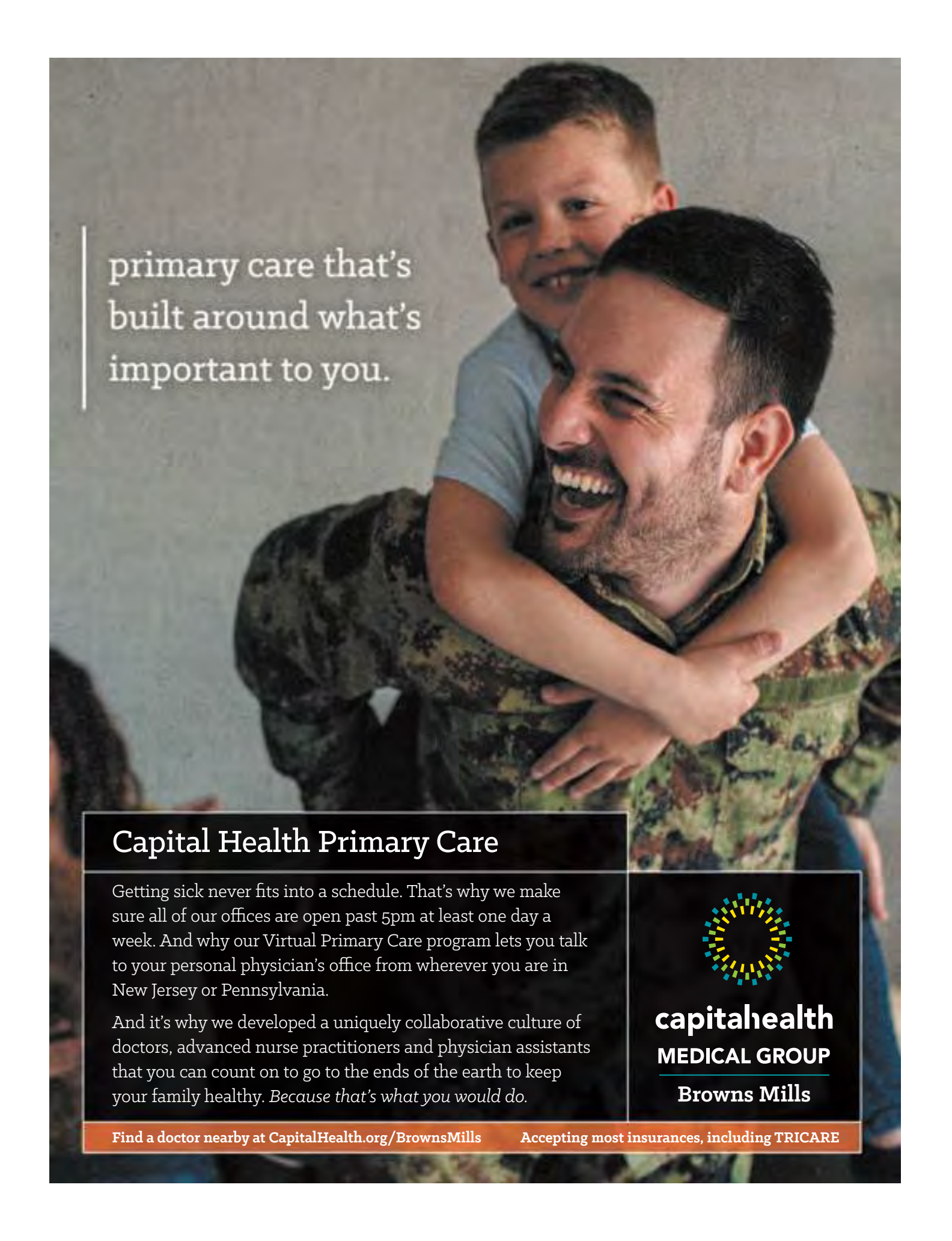
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