

Soundoff!

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Earth Day 2016



PHOTO BY NATE PESCE

Students from Monarch Academy in Glen Burnie hold up Earth Day-inspired bags that could replace daily use of plastic zip-lock bags. Several area schools attended the four-hour event hosted by Fort Meade's Environmental Division on April 28 at the Pavilion. *For the story, see Page 10.*

SPRUCING UP FORT MEADE

ESC helps clean up around the post

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UPCOMING EVENTS

Today, 11 a.m.: Military Spouse Appreciation Lunch - Club Meade

Friday, 6:30 a.m.: Army Ten Miler qualifying race - Murphy Field House

Sunday, 11 a.m.-1 p.m. & 2-4 p.m.: Mother's Day Brunch - Club Meade

May 21, 8 a.m.: Patriot Pride 5/10K - Murphy Field House

'REAL HEROES'

Honor Flight vets visit Freedom Inn

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Soundoff!

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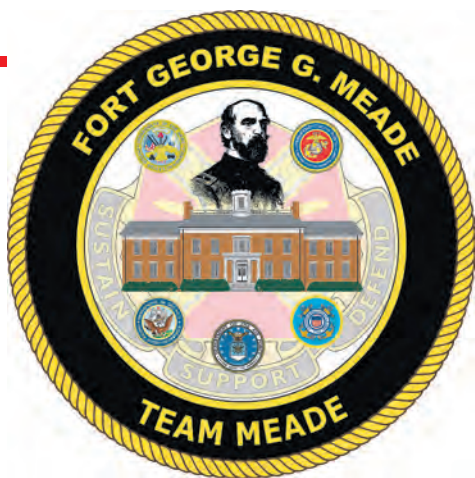
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COMMANDER'S COLUMN

We are busy!

Welcome to May, Team Meade!

As the calendar keeps marching forward, I would like to take a few moments to step back and reflect on a very busy and productive April. This past month was packed with important events, and I cannot thank our great community enough for their outstanding support and participation in each.

We kicked off April as Sexual Assault Awareness and Prevention Month with our proclamation signing and installation run on April 8.

More than 3,000 service members and civilians turned out to run with us on what turned out to be a chilly morning. But we were all able to express our commitment to preventing the cancer of sexual harassment and assault in our ranks.

April was also Month of the Military Child. We signed a proclamation at Child Development Center I to proclaim our commitment as a community toward raising our most precious assets, the future of our great nation, in the best and safest possible manner.

April was also tax month. Our Joint Installation Tax Center, staffed mainly by volunteer service members and civilians from across the installation, filed over 3,000 returns. They saved our community \$500K in filing fees, and identified \$4.2 million in refunds.

Paying taxes is our civic duty, but we certainly don't need to donate more money than legally required to the federal and state governments. So we cannot thank enough the tax center volunteers for the free service they provided to us.

Speaking of volunteers, the Command Sergeant Major and I attended another outstanding Volunteer Awards Banquet at Club Meade on April 21. Seeing the ballroom filled with hundreds of dedicated volunteers made us so thankful once again for the outstanding community we are a part of.

Our installation, our community, and the organizations and families that comprise Fort Meade would not be as successful as we are without the tens of thousands of hours volunteered by so



**Garrison Commander
Col. Brian P. Foley**

many. We thank you from the bottom of our hearts, on behalf of all.

Our Earth Day celebration on April 28 was outstanding. Hundreds joined us in the Pavilion to participate in the events and browse the many educational and informative displays. We all must participate to keep our environment clean and beautiful and safe for generations to come. So please participate in

this vital area.

The Earth Day 5K Run, Burba Lake cleanup, Youth Fishing Rodeo ... I could go on for pages. Thanks to all for the hard work and wonderful effort to make Fort Meade a great place to live and work.

And last but not least, please consider donating to Army Emergency Relief. The campaign is in full swing and truly helps Soldiers and service members of all branches to recover from unforeseen economic hardships in their lives. Please make AER a part of your personal giving plan each year.

Moving forward, May is shaping up to be just as busy. Most notably, we are honoring the important role our military spouses play with multiple events including our annual Military Spouse Appreciation Day on Friday.

Also, we recognize the significance of *Cinco de Mayo* and celebrate Asian Pacific-American heritage this month as part of the cultural diversity and inherent strengths of our great nation.

The installation will host its Memorial Day Remembrance and 30th Annual Massing of the Colors on May 22. Conducted in cooperation with the Military Order of the World Wars, the Massing brings together color guards from across the region in celebration of the American flag.

Navy Adm. Michael S. Rogers — commander of U.S. Cyber Command, director of the National Security Agency, and chief of the Central Security Service — will return as guest speaker.

We also are expecting a performance by the U.S. Army Field Band. So block off the afternoon of May 22, beginning at 2:30, and join us at the Pavilion for one of the installation's best events.

Thanks for all you do, Team Meade. We'll see you around campus!

ETAP prepares leaders for civilian life

BY SGT. 1ST CLASS FRANK INMAN

Fort Meade Public Affairs Office

Preparing for life after the military can be a stressful time in a Soldier's life, and sometimes it's a task that can impact more than the transitioning service member.

"The fact of the matter is that very few people get through this life on their own individual merits and efforts," said Col. Tim Newsome, chief of staff, First Army Division East.

Formerly known as Army Career Alumni Program, the Soldier for Life-Transition Assistance Program makes the transition process as smooth as possible.

Gone are the days of SFL-TAP being an option for departing service members. SFL-TAP is mandatory for all Soldiers who will complete at least 180 days of continuous active duty.

These Soldiers must participate and meet all transition Veterans Opportunity to Work Act requirements and Career Readiness Standards.

But for those higher in rank, the SFL-TAP offers an Executive Transition Assistance Program course bimonthly.

The ETAP is open to all service members in grades E-8, W-4, O-5 and above, regardless of military branch, as well as their spouses and adult children.

Fort Meade is one of 14 military installations to offer service members ETAP.

"The chief difference between ETAP and TAP is the facilitator can orient training strategies toward the unique needs of senior separating members," said George Matthews, Fort Meade Transition Services Manager. "The forum also provides an invaluable platform for the members to network among themselves to learn about diverse career paths, as well as lessons learned regarding planning for post-military life."

The services offered by ETAP include financial planning, translating military skills into civilian language, identifying employment opportunities, creating online social media profiles for job searches, resume writing, job interview techniques to include proper dress, and Veterans Affairs benefits briefing.

"ETAP, designed for the senior ranks, permits the facilitator to develop a teaching plan focused on the needs of this particular group," said Matthews. "Communication among participants is much easier because it's not impeded by intimidation that vast differences in rank structure can cause."

The transition to normal life for service

Upcoming workshops

• **Credit Repair Seminar:** Today, 9 a.m. to noon McGill Training Center, 8452 Zimborski Ave., Classroom 1

• **Oliphant:** Friday, 8 a.m. to 4 p.m., McGill Training Center, Classroom 1

• **Suits for Warriors:** Monday, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., McGill Training Center, Classroom 6

• **TAP Workshop:** Monday to May 13, 8 a.m. to 4 p.m., McGill Training Center, Classroom 1

• **TAP Workshop:** May 16-20, 8 a.m. to 4 p.m., McGill Training Center, Classroom 1

• **Starting a Business Franchise:** May 24, 9 a.m. to noon, McGill Training Center, Classroom 1

• **Ten Steps to a Federal Job:** May 24, 9 a.m. to noon, Navy Fleet & Family Support Center, 2212 Chisholm Ave.

• **Community Job Fair:** May 25, 9 a.m. to 2 p.m., Club Meade

• **Accessing Higher Education:** May 25-26, 8 a.m. to 4 p.m., McGill Training Center, Classroom 1

• **Employer Day:** May 26, 1-p.m., McGill Training Center, Classroom 6

members after the military can be very stressful, especially for those who have spent nearly half of their life serving in the military.

"I feel that I am now armed with the requisite knowledge to make informed decisions about my future," Newsome said. "My family and I are now actually excited about the process of transitioning out of the military."

"Of course, I'm also comforted by the fact that SFL-TAP is a resource that I can reach out to for the rest of my life. That's a lifelong safety net that gives real weight to the phrase 'Soldier for Life.'"

One benefit of the ETAP course is that leaders are able to stress to their subordinates the importance of a successful transition

Members of the military, whether separating after a few years, or retiring, have no established barometer that measures what's involved, said Matthews.



PHOTO BY SGT. 1ST CLASS FRANK INMAN

Jayne Kaiser, Soldier for Life-Transition Assistant Program counselor, briefs job interview techniques to the participants attending the Executive Transition Assistance Program on April 21. The ETAP, offered bimonthly by SFL-TAP, is a workshop that senior service members are encouraged to attend to prepare for life after the military. SFL-TAP is open to all service members.

Veterans Opportunity To Work Act has mandated previously optional services, including:

Department of Labor Employment Workshop
Veterans Administration Briefing I
Veterans Administration Briefing II

DoD-mandated additional core competencies to meet Career Readiness Standards:

- Military Occupation Series Crosswalk (translating military skills and jargon into civilian terminology)
- GAP Analysis: Designed to look at where the Soldier is currently with reference to qualifications, and looks at where the service members want to go post-military. The space between the two is called GAP Analysis. The GAP may be filled by education, OJT, internship and skills training.
- Twelve-month post-military budget
- Job Application Package
- Individual Transition Plan: Commanders are required to sign terminal ITP validating Soldier is Career Ready.
- Continuum Military Counseling mandates Soldiers are counseled about Guard/Reserves options.
- Soldiers must register online at eBenefits to ensure they can track status of their VA benefits.

Additional changes:

- Starting A Business classes, facilitated by the Small Business Administration, were created for those interested in that path.
- Accessing Higher Education classes was created for those interested in that path.
- Technical training classes were created for those interested in that path.

"As a result of ETAP, leaders are better able to articulate the process as well as emphasize the value," he said.

A major perk for participants attending the course is building a network and setting themselves up for success after the military.

"Participants continuously tell us that networking and the exchange of ideas and plans among members at similar stages in

life is one of the invaluable outcomes of ETAP," Matthews said.

Newsome agreed.

"I now understand the importance of networking and the opportunities that come through networking," Newsome said.

Editor's note: For questions about SFL-TAP, call 301-677-9871 or go to <https://www.sfl-tap.army.mil/>.



FILE PHOTO

Massing of the Colors

The Fort Meade Memorial Day Remembrance and 30th Annual Massing of the Colors will be held May 22 at 2:30 p.m. at the Fort Meade Pavilion.

The guest speaker is Navy Adm. Michael S. Rogers, commander of U.S. Cyber Command, director of the National Security Agency, and chief of the Central Security Service.

Dress is duty uniform for service members and business attire for civilians.

Reservations are required by May 15 at 301-677-4844 or email

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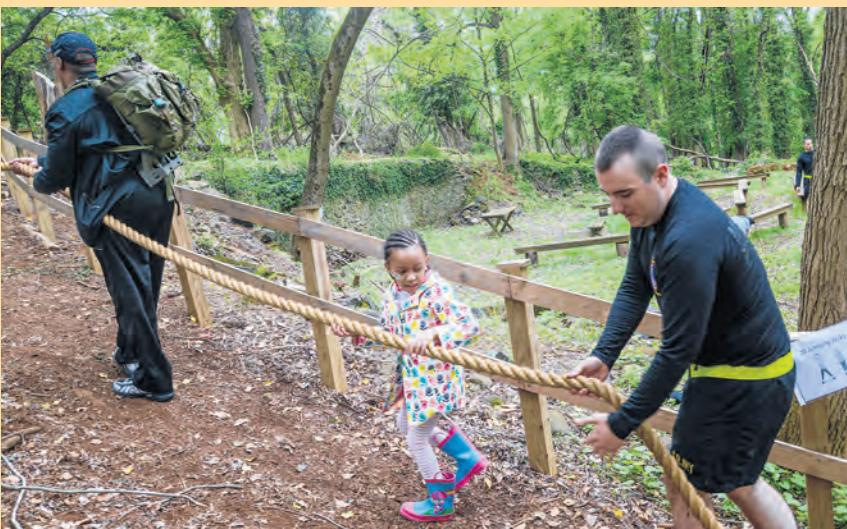
PHOTO BY STEVE ELLMORE

Equal Opportunity Leadership training

Defense Information School Broadcast Instructor Sgt. Susan Noga, gives a German heritage presentation to fellow classmates during Equal Opportunity Leadership training at McGill Training Center Monday.

Sgt. Noga's presentation was one of seven training demonstrations given by similar groups of students during the week-long course that teaches the fundamentals of the EO program. EO encompasses equal treatment of Soldiers as it relates to race, religion, color, national origin, and sexual orientation. For more information, call Sgt. 1st Class Derrick Chambers at 301-677-6687 or email derrick.l.chambers2.mil@mail.mil.

Overcoming obstacles



As part of the Y of Central Maryland in Catonsville's community outreach event, Soldiers from Fort Meade created an obstacle course for about 200 youngsters on Saturday. Above, Gia Fields, 4, of Catonsville, lowers herself via rope under the guidance of Sgt. Matthew Hartwell.



PHOTOS BY NOAH SCIALOM

Beth Wise and her son Ethan, 7, of Catonsville, race in the Army obstacle course at the Y of Central Maryland in Catonsville on Saturday.



PHOTOS BY PHIL GROUT

Garrison Commander Col. Brian P. Foley (second from right) and Command Sgt. Maj. Rodwell L. Forbes (fourth from right) take a group photo with the Honor Flight veterans and their guardians.



Honor Flight of Middle Tennessee Chairman Claude Morse (left) watches as Garrison Command Sgt. Maj. Rodwell L. Forbes tries on an Honor Flight cap presented to him by the group.

‘Real heroes’

Honor Flight veterans visit Freedom Inn

BY ALAN H. FEILER

Staff Writer

Amid flashing lights from three Maryland State Police escort vehicles and with uniformed well-wishers on hand, David Neese stepped off a coach bus and removed a collapsible wheelchair from the lower storage compartment.

A resident of Shelbyville, Tenn., and veteran of the 1989 invasion of Panama, Neese eased his 97-year-old uncle Claude Dean, a Pearl Harbor survivor, into the chair and began pushing him up the walkway to the Freedom Inn Dining Facility.

“We’ve had a great day, nothing to complain about at all,” chuckled Dean, with Neese adding, “This was our first time up here and we really loved it. He’s ready to come again!”

Dean and Neese were among the 55 World War II, Korea and Vietnam veterans

and their accompanying guardians — family members and friends, some of whom are also vets — who came to the Freedom Inn on April 25.

It was the last leg of the Honor Flight of Middle Tennessee’s daylong journey to Washington, D.C., and the Tennessee group’s fourth visit to Fort Meade — the most recent last year.

Created in 2005 and operating in 44 states, the Honor Flight Network is a nonprofit organization that transports veterans to the nation’s capital to visit war memorials and other points of interest.

More than 159,000 veterans and 107,000 guardians have participated in the HFN since its inception. Funding for the trips is raised through private and corporate contributions.

“This is all about bringing them to Washington to visit and spend time at their memorials and monuments, and to meet other veterans from their era,” said Paul J. Lepage, a board member of Honor Flight of Middle Tennessee.

This was the Tullahoma, Tenn.-based



In the Freedom Hall Dining Facility, Garrison Commander Col. Brian P. Foley greets World War II veteran Albert Generette, who was among the 55 veterans and their accompanying guardians who participated in the Honor Flight of Middle Tennessee’s daylong trip to war memorials in and around Washington, D.C.

group's 16th Honor Flight since its founding in 2008.

"It's a real honor to pay tribute to our heroes. They're living monuments," Lepage said. "I've done a couple of Honor Flights, and it's always fun and moving. We have quite a group of heroes here today."

En route to Baltimore-Washington Thurgood Marshall International Airport, the group stopped by the Freedom Inn for dinner after a day of touring such sites as the National World War II Memorial, the Korean War Veterans Memorial and the Vietnam Veterans Memorial.

They also toured Arlington National Cemetery, the Marine Corps War Memorial and the Tomb of the Unknowns.

In addition, they stopped by and took photos at the Lincoln Memorial and in front of the White House.

"We watched a wreath-laying ceremony and the Changing of the Guard [at the Tomb of the Unknowns], and that was very impressive," said Alan Williams, a resident of Henderson, Tenn., who retired from the Army in 2001 and accompanied his father Walter on the Honor Flight.

"I've never been to Washington before, and I never thought I'd ever be part of something like this," said the elder Williams, who served in the Army from 1954 to 1957. "It was just a wonderful day."

After entering the Freedom Inn and standing in line for their meals with current service members, many of the veterans expressed their delight with the dining facility.

"The food here is very good," said James Dalton, a World War II veteran who fought in the Battle of Iwo Jima. "It's a great facility, and I'm having a very good time."

"We tell them it's not a chow hall like they're used to, but a dining facility," Lepage said. "When they see the food, they're amazed. Plus, it's great to have the active-duty guys meet the heroes."

Continuing The Legacy

Garrison Commander Col. Brian P. Foley, along with Garrison Command Sgt. Maj. Rodwell L. Forbes, welcomed the Tennesseans to Fort Meade.

"It's our honor to have you, and we thank each of the veterans here this evening and the guardians of this phenomenal program," Foley said.

He spoke about Fort Meade's workforce of more than 54,000 and its mission as the nation's center for information, intelligence and cyber operations.

"We will defend our nation and keep it safe and strong in the years and decades ahead — on land, sea, air, space, and now in cyberspace," he said. "Thank you for everything you have done. We all pledge that we will carry on your legacy of service and sacrifice."



James Dalton, a World War II veteran who fought in the Battle of Iwo Jima, shares a laugh in the dinner line with his guardian, Courtney Rogers, a member of the Tennessee House of Representatives.

The group's chairman, Claude Morse, thanked Foley.

"We appreciated the hospitality, Colonel, and it's great to be here," he said.

For Vietnam veteran Bryce Kutzli, dining at the Freedom Inn was a homecoming of sorts. He worked on post at the National Security Agency in 1967.

"It's great to be back," said the Manchester, Tenn., resident. "I loved living here. Maryland has the best fishing and deer hunting anywhere. Of course, the area's changed 110 percent. The traffic flow seems better, and [the post] is much bigger."

"For me, this is the highlight of the trip," Kutzli said. "The memorials and monuments are great, but I'd seen them before. I just love this area. This is home to me."

For World War II veteran Chester Blackwelder, the trip's highlight was touring Arlington and visiting the final resting places of those who made the ultimate sacrifice.

"It was very moving for me to be there and see that," said the Murfreesboro, Tenn.,

resident.

Joining him on the trip was his daughter Jill Parker, who flew to Tennessee from Sacramento, Calif., to be part of the visit.

"I wouldn't miss this for the world," she said. "My dad is 88 and I'm very proud of him. My mom is 89 and back home. She's just waiting to hear about the outcome of the trip."

A Final Salute

Among the service members dining at the Freedom Inn were Airman 1st Class Stuart Bright and Airman Basic Cassidy Woody, both of Air Force Detachment 2 who are students at the Defense Information School.

"It's really cool that they came over here," Bright said. "I'm honored to just be in their presence. I went over and shook their hands because they're the reason I joined the service. They're real heroes."

Woody said she saw the bus parked outside the Freedom Inn, but had no idea of

the identity of the visitors until Foley's welcoming remarks.

"Just seeing them meant a lot to me," she said. "My grandfather was a veteran of Vietnam, and I lost him last year. So this was very special to me. I'm really happy they were here."

After the Honor Flight's bus pulled away from the curb, Foley stood at attention and saluted the departing veterans.

"It was phenomenal to hear about their lives and listen to their concerns about the future," Forbes said. "This was a great opportunity to tell them what we're doing to safeguard our nation today. They paved the way."

Foley agreed.

"The veterans of that time — the greatest generation — won't be around much longer," he said. "We have to pass on their legacy and not doom ourselves by forgetting history. They're not going to be forgotten. This was truly an honor."

Court helps rehabilitate veterans in criminal justice system

BY ELIZABETH HAYS

Legal Assistance Extern

In October 2015, the District Court of Maryland in Baltimore City launched its first Veterans Treatment Court, helping veterans in the criminal justice system get back on the right track.

Having served their country honorably, many veterans find the transition from military to civilian life to be difficult. One in five veterans have symptoms of a mental health disorder or cognitive impairment, and one in six post-9/11 veterans suffer from a substance abuse problem.

Researchers have determined that mental health issues, accompanied with substance abuse, often contribute to a veteran engaging in criminal activity and then being referred to the criminal justice system.

Before the advent of the Veterans Treatment Court, if a Maryland veteran suffering a mental health disorder from combat experience was charged with a related nonviolent crime, the veteran would be placed into the same system as an ordinary criminal. Courts had no option to access medical and other

resources available to veterans to treat the underlying mental health disorder.

Statistics have shown that, without treatment, a substantial portion of incarcerated veterans continue to commit crimes after their release from prison. In response to high rates of recidivism, the first Veterans Treatment Court was established in Buffalo, N.Y., in 2008.

Since then, Maryland is among many other states to follow suit. In states with established Veterans Treatment Courts, the reappearance of repeat veteran defendants in the criminal justice system has decreased by as much as 98 percent.

The Baltimore City Veterans Treatment Court is a court-supervised, comprehensive, and voluntary treatment-based program for veterans charged with certain crimes. The court's goal is rehabilitation over incarceration, modeled after a drug or mental health court. It is uniquely tailored to veterans and their needs.

What really makes the Veterans Treatment Court unique is that it is a one-stop shop of resources. The program provides supervision and resources for up to one year and uses a

Veterans Justice Outreach specialist to link veterans to services at the Department of Veterans Affairs.

The model requires regular court appearances, which are biweekly as a minimum at the start of the program; mandatory attendance at treatment sessions; and frequent and random testing for substance abuse.

The theory behind the Veterans Treatment Court is that the treatment program will lower the rate of repeat offenders as it treats the root of the problem and provides structure for the veterans.

Being used to structure from their military service, many veterans naturally respond well to the program.

The Veterans Treatment Court also can serve veterans on its docket better because a judge, who adjudicates their cases, is specifically trained to understand the nuances of veterans' substance abuse and mental health issues, and to maximize the delivery of available resources.

Another special feature of the Veterans Treatment Court is its mentor program. The veteran is coupled with a volunteer mentor who not only helps

the veteran navigate the Veterans Treatment Court system to maximize the potential benefits, but also provides camaraderie and in some cases long-term support, even after final disposition of the criminal case.

These mentors are specially trained volunteers, and many are veterans themselves who are uniquely qualified to understand and provide needed support.

In addition to the District Court in Baltimore City, the Circuit Court for Prince George's County also offers a docket specifically for veterans.

More jurisdictions in Maryland have committees to form their own Veterans Treatment Courts.

For more information, check out the Maryland State Bar Association's Veterans' Affairs and Military Law section website at www.msba.org/sections/military/default.aspx.

If you have a question about the Veterans Treatment Court and are a DoD ID cardholder eligible for Army Legal Assistance services, schedule an appointment with an attorney at the Fort Meade Legal Assistance Office at 301-677-9504 or 301-677-9536.

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Enlisted Spouses' Club spruces up post

BY LISA R. RHODES
Staff Writer

For the eighth consecutive year, Fort Meade volunteers have joined the Enlisted Spouses' Club in giving the installation a face-lift.

On April 23, 20 ESC volunteers and 90 members of the Fort Meade community cleaned up the area surrounding Burba Lake, as well as Fort Meade schools and neighborhoods.

"The purpose [of the cleanup] is to get our community involved in volunteering and helping to keep our community beautiful," said Kimberly McGowan, welfare chairperson for ESC.

Several Girl Scout and Cub Scout troops, including Cub Scout Pack 377 and Girl Scout Troops 1916, 641, 10320, 89, 1124 and 1302, participated in the four-hour event.

Students from Manor View Elementary School and West Meade Elementary Education Center also joined in the cleanup.

Airmen from the 70th Intelligence, Surveillance, and Reconnaissance Wing and the 34th Intelligence Squadron lent a hand, as well as Sailors from the Naval Information Operations Command Maryland.

The Fort Meade Environmental Division donated cleaning supplies and collected the trash at the end of the day.

ESC offered a monetary "green grant" to the top school, military unit, children's organization, and child that collected the most bags of trash.

The winning schools are required to use the grants to purchase environmental-related items for the students.

"We sponsor this event because we believe in giving back to a community that does so much for us," McGowan said. "We also think it is a great way to teach our youth about the importance of volunteering."

West Meade Elementary Education Center was awarded a \$400 grant from the Enlisted Spouses' Club as the first-place school.

Pershing Hill Elementary School took second place and was awarded a \$200 grant from the Officers' Spouses' Club.

The 34th IS was awarded a \$100 grant as the top military unit. The money will be donated to the unit's booster club.

Cub Scout Pack 377 was awarded a \$100 grant as the top children's organization.

The top collectors among the children were **Brendan Reitz, Trinity Drobnack and Nathan Velazquez**. Each child received a grant of \$25.



PHOTOS BY STEVE RUARK

Chief Warrant Officer Michael Lewis (left) of Potomac Place holds a trash bag for members of Fort Meade Girl Scout Troop 89 during the annual cleanup event held by the Fort Meade Enlisted Spouses' Club on April 23.



Melody Gillinger of Heritage Park and her 6-year-old daughter Madison join in the cleanup.



Staff Sgt. Candice Velazquez of Potomac Place is among the volunteers to help clean up Burba Lake and Fort Meade neighborhoods on April 23.



PHOTOS BY NATE PESCE
Garrison Commander Col. Brian P. Foley inspects some of the Earth Day projects created by students from MacArthur Middle School.

Earth Day 2016 - Securing the future

Event focuses on wildlife, gardening, recycling

BY LISA R. RHODES
Staff Writer

A 17-year-old red-tailed hawk captured the attention of several fourth-graders from Pershing Hill Elementary School at Fort Meade's annual Earth Day celebration on April 28.



(Left) Kaelan Dixon, 10, points out a beetle species with Jeremy Amaya, 10. Both students attend Manor View Elementary School.

"He's actually like a real pretty bird, but he's also scary," said Amelia Pulliam, 10. "His claws are super sharp."

Pershing Hill was one of the several Fort Meade and area schools to attend the four-hour event, which was hosted by Fort Meade's Environmental Division at the Pavilion.

Fifty-two exhibitors participated in the

Youngsters from Pershing Hill Elementary School dress in Earth Day-inspired fashions and wait to cross the stage for the recycled fashion show.

event, which included a data destruction and electronics collection point, a fashion show of children's clothes made from recycled products, and presentations on organic gardening and a display of Fort Meade's recycling efforts during World Wars I and II.

"The Army's focus on building resiliency and the work of the garrison's community health promotion teams were the inspiration for the presentation on gardening and growing healthy foods," said Mick Butler, chief of the Environmental Division. "Suzanne Teague, our environmental Earth Day team leader, and Barbara Taylor of the Fort Meade Museum, came up with the idea to share the history of recycling during World War I and World War II to help motivate our community to do all they can do reduce, reuse and recycle like we did as a nation during the wars."

The activities were all part of observing the Army's theme for Earth Day: "Sustain The Mission — Secure The Future: The Readiness of the Army Depends On It."

About 800 people attended the event. Michael Uzzo, co-founder of Echoes of Nature, a wildlife educational program that featured endangered and threatened species of wildlife, said the red-tailed hawk is a

favorite among children and is often included in presentations at local schools.

"We're trying to get the word out about wildlife conservation and environmental stewardship," Uzzo said. "They [children] are the future generation of stewards for the planet, so it's important to get to them early."

The event began with a presentation about organic gardening by Meredith Sheperd, owner of Love & Carrots, an organic gardening company based in Washington, D.C. Sheperd spoke about the benefits of organic gardening compared to conventional agricultural farming.

She said organic foods grown from gardens have a better nutritional value, better taste and less impact on the environment; promote healthy lifestyles; save money; and cultivate a sense of community.

Sheperd said her company has established seven demonstration gardens at Fort Belvoir, Va., and is helping residents to maintain a community garden.

"We're showing the community how to get the most out of your garden," she said. "Growing your own food is better for your body, your wallet and your community."

Butler gave a brief presentation on the Fort Meade's efforts to recycle during World Wars

I and II with a display of military posters that promoted recycling.

Fourth-graders from Pershing Hill modeled their own clothes made from recyclable items such as plastic and paper bags, newspapers, potato chip bags, brown shopping bags, paper plates, used CDs, aluminum foil, magazines and trash bags.

Ten-year-old Abi Scileppi wore a wedding dress made from a large trash bag.

"I felt kinda weird 'cause I never thought I would wear a wedding dress this young," she said. "But I felt good because I'm not going to have to throw anything away, so I can help the environment."

Butler recognized Emilia Levin and Vivian Jessop, two students at Pershing Hill, for their winning entries in the Fort Meade Recyclable Bag Art Contest.

Rachel Ellenberger, an eighth-grade social studies teacher at MacArthur Middle School, came to the event with a group of students who displayed their Earth Day projects.

Ellenberger said the students researched the topic of sustainability and used art, poetry and science to create their own projects.

Mourad Elfermani, a sixth-grader at MacArthur, said his project on organic agriculture emphasizes the importance of using organic



Jimmy Flanagan, 13, a seventh-grader at MacArthur Middle School, holds up his solar-powered house model built for the Earth Day celebration.



Zoe Ellmore, 5, has a crown painted on her cheek at the Earth Day celebration.

soil and fertilizer when producing crops. He said going organic does not damage the water and that crop rotation preserves the soil.

"I think this is important because crops and plants are what we need most," Mourad said.

Other exhibitors included the National Security Agency; Fort Meade's Public Health Command; EPA Environmental Center; Fort Meade Energy Division from the Directorate of Public Works; Montgomery County Beekeeper Association; The Oyster Recovery Partnership; American Water; Square Foot Gardening 4U; Fort Meade's Installation Restoration Program; and Anne Arundel County Recreation and Parks.

Spc. Derek Young, president of Fort Meade's Better Opportunities for Single Soldiers, spoke about the importance of swapping used books instead of throwing them away.



A "Fort Meade Recycles" reusable grocery bag is ready to be filled on a festival table.



Michael Uzzo, co-founder of Echoes Of Nature, holds a red-tailed hawk as he talks to visitors about the bird of prey and its characteristics during the Earth Day celebration on Saturday at the Pavilion.

"With books, there's no reason for them to end up in a landfill," he said. "They can be recycled and donated."

The books Young had on display will be donated to Fort Meade's Medal of Honor Memorial Library.

Amy Shoop, a park ranger with the Patuxent Research Refuge, said the taxidermy of a North American beaver is a popular exhibit for children.

"The beaver is native to wetlands — Fort Meade included," she said. "He [the beaver

exhibit] draws a lot of attention."

Shoop said it is important for the Patuxent Research Refuge to participate in Fort Meade's Earth Day event to educate the public about wildlife conservation.

The refuge's location, she said, on Powder Mill Road between the Baltimore-Washington Parkway and Route 197 make it a convenient place for families to visit.

"We also want to show people that they can come and enjoy the environment right outside the fort's gates," Shoop said.

JIBBER JABBER - OPINION

Tunsil's \$12M video

I'm not going to show it here, but if you are reading this, you've probably seen the video of Miami Dolphins future left tackle Laremy Tunsil taking a bong rip with his ProMask on.

It's been a while since I visited a head shop - I'm guessing it was sometime back in the mid-'90s. It was a hazy era before I found the Army, family, faith or common sense - so I was surprised to see how far gas masks had come.

Now anyone expecting multiple graphs explaining how bad Tunsil is for smoking weed has come to the wrong place. Plenty of great people in the world have sparked it up. The list includes presidents, musicians, doctors, #Middle-agedgangstas, service members, humanitarians, janitors, executives, etc. You may have even dabbled in the "sticky icky" growing up; however, unlike Tunsil, you probably didn't lose millions of dollars or face national embarrassment when you got caught. The massive left tackle was projected to go as early as the second or third pick in the draft, but thanks to his antics, he fell to the Dolphins at number 13.

For a bit of perspective, last year's third overall pick, Jacksonville's Dexter Fowler, signed a 4-year, \$23.5 million contract with a \$15.3 million signing bonus. Conversely, last year's 13th pick, New Orleans Saints' Andrus Peat, signed a 4-year, \$11.39 million contract with a \$6.55 million signing bonus.

Tunsil could have bought a lot of "Scooby Snacks" with that extra \$12 million, but before you start crying, let's be clear, the dude deserved to lose every penny! Sure, Tunsil getting high may not be an indicator of his character, but the fact he recorded it, and it somehow ended up on his Twitter account, does speak to his intellect.

Tunsil had been an NFL prospect for the past two seasons, so he knew he was slated to go pro before he took that video, and yet he still did it! How is that not



Chad T. Jones

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dumb; especially in a time when everyone knows nothing leaves the cloud unless someone pulls it down, usually in an attempt to embarrass someone, which appears to be the case with Tunsil.

Just ask Nick "Swaggy P" Young when his video confession on how he stepped out on Iggy Azalea went public. How about Hulk Hogan's video running wild so all Hulkamaniacs could see the "little Hulkster?"

How many service members have found themselves at parade rest in front of their command because of something they posted online?

The men and women of Fort Meade -- the Nation's Center for Information, Intelligence and Cyber Operations, the home of the Defense Information School, Defense Media Activity, and of course the baddest command on DoD's block, aka U.S. Cyber Command -- know the power of images and the reach of cyber. And we know how easy cyber makes it for those images to go public.

In fact, the only people who may know these dangers more than our 50,000-plus workforce are the millennials who have been on their iPods and taking selfies from the womb.

So when kids like Tunsil or Lakers guard (and former Ohio State Buckeye) D'Angelo Russell (he is the one who outed Swaggy P) say they didn't know it was possible for their recording to go public, I call it BS.

It is the same as athletes saying they didn't know the performance-enhancing drug they were taking was illegal or that it would enhance their performance. It is bogus.

Be smart, Team Meade and think before you snap, Tweet or Insta. The image you post may not cost you millions of dollars like it did Tunsil, but then again, it just might.

If you have comments on this or anything to do with sports, contact me at chad.t.jones.civ@mail.mil or hit me up on Twitter @CTJibber.

SPORTS SHORTS

Army Ten Miler Qualifying Race

All active-duty runners are invited to compete in a qualifying race on Friday at 6:30 a.m. at Murphy Field House to become a member of the Fort Meade Army Ten Miler team.

This race is opened to all active-duty service members assigned to Fort Meade.

The top seven men and top seven women will be selected to represent Fort Meade in the Army Ten Miler that will be held Oct. 9 in Washington, D.C.

Team members will receive a paid registration along with a uniform for the race. Participants also will receive a strong band and be entered in a drawing for a T-shirt.

For more information, call 301-677-3716.

Strong B.A.N.D.S. Group Fitness Challenge

Take the Group Fitness Challenge at Gaffney Fitness Center and you could win a 2016 Strong B.A.N.D.S. T-shirt.

To compete, take any of the group fitness programs in one week.

Participants must be authorized patrons of Gaffney and ages 18 or older.

For more information, call 301-677-3716.

Strong B.A.N.D.S. Individual Fitness Challenge

Help bring in National Fitness Month with a track circuit fitness challenge on May 9 from 9-11 a.m. at Gaffney Fitness Center.

Events include max pullups, sprints, weighted spring and med-ball throws, as well as farmers walk and kettlebell swings.

To participate, competitors must be authorized patrons of Gaffney and ages 18 or older.

Participants will be entered in a drawing for a T-shirt.

For more information, call 301-677-3716.

Wellbeats free classes

Experience a lineup of Wellbeats virtual group fitness classes every Friday in May at Gaffney Fitness Center.

The free classes are offered from 9 a.m. to noon or 1-4 p.m.

All classes are suitable for all levels as modified, basic and advanced variations of movements and exercises are given.

Participants must be authorized patrons of Gaffney and ages 18 and older.

Participants will receive a strong band and be entered in a drawing for a T-shirt.

For more information, call 301-677-

3716.

24-hour fitness facility opens at Murphy Field House

Murphy Field House is now offering unmanned extended hours after normal operating hours.

Murphy is open to authorized registered patrons ages 18 and older to utilize the cardio equipment and Nautilus weight machines.

The free weights, basketball and racquetball courts are NOT open during unmanned hours.

The facility is unmanned, so exercise responsibility and come with a buddy.

Murphy is fully equipped with surveillance cameras. All users will be monitored at all times while in the facility.

Registration is required to gain access to the facility by fingerprint reader.

Pick up a registration form at Gaffney Fitness Center or Murphy Field House and submit the completed form to the facility in advance so your information is in the system when you come for your appointment at Gaffney to enter your fingerprint for entrance to the facility.

Schedule an appointment for registration for 24/7 access.

For more information, call 301-677-3867.

Fort Meade Run Series

The 2016 Fort Meade Run Series offers themed races through December.

Each race, sponsored by Fort Meade's Directorate of Family and Morale, Welfare and Recreation, includes a 1-mile walk.

All runs start at 8 a.m. and are open to the public.

- Patriot Pride: 5/10K: May 21, Murphy Field House

- Army Birthday 5K: June 11, Pavilion

- Football Fanfair 5K: Sept. 17, Constitution Park

- Ghosts, Ghouls & Goblins 5K: Oct. 22, Pavilion

- Turkey Trot 5K: Nov. 19, Murphy Field House

- Reindeer Run 5K: Dec. 10, Murphy Field House

Register online at meade.armymwr.com/us/meade/programs/run-series.

For more information, call 301-677-3318.

Half-Marathon

The Annual Joint Base Andrews Half-Marathon is taking place May 14.

Registration is now open to all DoD ID cardholders at the Facebook page: [Facebook.com/JBAHalfMarathon](https://www.facebook.com/JBAHalfMarathon).



Follow us on Twitter @ftmeademd
Join the conversation using the
hashtag #soundoff

NEWS & NOTES

The deadline for Soundoff! community "News and Notes" is **Friday at noon**. All submissions are posted at the editor's discretion and may be edited for space and grammar. Look for additional community events on the Fort Meade website at ftmeade.army.mil and the Fort Meade Facebook page at [facebook.com/ftmeade](https://www.facebook.com/ftmeade).

NEWS & EVENTS

New way to submit announcements

Community members can advertise their upcoming event, meeting or class on the Soundoff! community announcements page by visiting www.ftmeade.army.mil and clicking on the Press Center tab.

Once you are in the Fort Meade Press Center, click on PA services, story or promotion request and electronic inquiry form.

Inquiry forms should be submitted at least two weeks before the date of the event, meeting or class.

VCC hours

The operating hours at the Demps Visitor Control Center are Monday to Friday from 7:30 a.m. to 9 p.m.

All individuals who do not have a DoD-issued identification card must go to the VCC for a day pass.

Visit the VCC at least 10 business days in advance to apply for a long-term access pass.

Visitors who arrive on post when the VCC is closed must be escorted on post by an authorized DoD cardholder. This includes weekends and federal holidays.

For more information, call the VCC at 301-677-1064.

To find out how to preregister, go to goo.gl/xyTzhg.

Massing of the Colors

The Fort Meade Memorial Day Remembrance and 30th Annual Massing of the Colors will be held May 22 at 2:30 p.m. at the Fort Meade Pavilion.

The guest speaker is Navy Adm. Michael S. Rogers, commander of U.S. Cyber Command, director of the National Security Agency, and chief of the Central Security Service.

Dress is duty uniform for service members and business attire for civilians.

Reservations are required by May 15 at 301-677-4844 or email Pamela.r.miskel.civ@mail.mil.

Military Spouse Appreciation Lunch



FILE PHOTO

Military Spouse Appreciation Day is formally celebrated on Friday. Fort Meade is celebrating with a free lunch buffet offered today from 11 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. at Club Meade.

The free lunch is for spouses of active-duty and retired service members with valid ID.

The buffet will feature baked chicken breast with lemon cream sauce, angel hair pasta with lemon infused Alfredo sauce, fresh vegetables, rice pilaf, salad bar and dessert bar.

Reservations are required for groups of eight or more. Children's pricing is available.

Club Meade will remain open to the community for lunch.

For more information, call 301-677-6969.

Non-DoD ID cardholders need to preregister with the Demps Visitor Control Center. For more information, call the VCC at 301-677-1064.

Retirement luncheon

A civilian retirement luncheon for retired Col. Bert L. Rice, director of transformation at Fort Meade, will be held May 31 at 11:30 a.m. at Club Meade.

The event celebrates Rice's 40 years of federal service.

Attire is duty uniform for service members and business for civilians.

Reservations are required by May 18. Call 301-677-4844 or email Pamela.r.miskel.civ@mail.mil.

Post library update

Due to an unavoidable technological upgrade by the Army MWR Library Program, patrons of Fort Meade's Medal of Honor Memorial Library will experience intermittent interruptions in service.

That includes borrowing; updating and changing patron record information including PINs; electronic access; and non-availability of newly released material for the next several weeks.

The post library and the Children's Library at Kuhn Hall will maintain regular business hours, but all services may not be available or may be limited for brief periods of time. This does not include faxing, scan-

ning and patron computers.

For more information, call the post library at 301-677-5522 or 301-677-4509.

Change in service at Club Meade

The Brass Lounge at Club Meade is now open for dinner on Thursdays, Fridays and Saturdays from 4-8 p.m.

Club Meade will remain open for lunch service on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays from 11 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. and now offers a variety of international-themed buffets that vary daily including gyros on Wednesday and a Mexican buffet on May 18.

Cost is \$7.95 for members and \$8.95 for nonmembers.

For more information, call 301-677-6969.

Mother's Day Brunch

Club Meade will serve a Mother's Day Brunch on Sunday at Club Meade.

There will be two seating times: 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. or 2:30-4:30 p.m.

Reservations are recommended. Membership is not required.

Cost for adults is \$24.95 for members and \$28.95 for nonmembers.

Cost for children ages 4-12 is \$12 for members and \$14 for nonmembers.

Ages 3 and under attend free.

Menu includes omelet station, waffle station, and hand-carved meat station; shrimp and other seafood dishes; chicken and other meat dishes; assorted pasta, rice and potato.

The brunch is open to all DoD ID cardholders and their guests.

All others should visit the Fort Meade website for access details.

For reservations or more information, call 301-677-6969.

Mother's Day gifts

Check out the unique Mother's Day gifts at the Arts & Crafts Center at 6530-B York Ave.

Gifts include personalized wine glasses, flower vases and wooden plaques.

All gifts are priced under \$15.

Hours are Monday to Friday from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

For more information, call 301-677-7809.

R&B Night

Celebrate R&B Night at the Brass Lounge in Club Meade on May 13 from 7 p.m. to midnight.

There is no cover charge.

The nightclub ambience will feature food and drink specials.

The event is open to all ranks and services and civilian employees.

For more information, call 301-677-6969.

Barbecue at The Lanes

The Lanes at Fort Meade offers summer Wednesday barbecue.

Menu includes hot dog, sausage or hamburger on Wednesday and chicken or ribs on May 25.

Cost is \$9.

For a complete menu or more information, call 301-677-5541 or go online at meade.armymwr.com.

Change of command

Bravo Company, 53rd Signal Battalion (SATCON) will host a change-of-command ceremony May 13 at 10 a.m. at 8910 Love Road.

Capt. Jeremy D. Haines will relinquish command to Capt. Brandon Tuell.

For more information, call 1st Lt. Angelos Katsaitis at 301-833-9103 or email angelos.a.katsaitis.mil@mail.mil.

Community Job Fair

A Community Job Fair will be held May 25 from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. at Club Meade, 6600 Mapes Road.

A free, frequent shuttle service will be available to take attendees from the

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NEWS & NOTES, From page 13

Demps Visitor Control Center to Club Meade.

Individuals who do not have a Department of Defense ID card must go to the Demps Visitor Control Center at Reece Road and present a valid photo ID card or driver's license, and Social Security number.

Meet employers. Bring resumes. Dress for success!

Arrive early and anticipate lines at the Reece Road gate and job fair.

Free resume evaluation and preparation assistance service will be available.

To schedule reasonable accommodations with an American Sign Language interpreter, email jerome.duncan@maryland.gov by May 13.

The job fair is hosted by the Fort Meade Directorate of Family and Morale, Welfare and Recreation; DLLR/American Job Center; Anne Arundel Workforce Development Corporation; Army Community Service; Navy Fleet & Family Support Center; and Soldier For Life - Transition Assistance Program.

For more information, go to dllr.maryland.gov or meade.armymwr.com, or email jerome.duncan@maryland.gov.



FILE PHOTO

Farmers' market

The Fort Meade Farmers' Market will open May 18 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Pavilion.

Vendors will feature a variety of fresh fruit, vegetables, flowers and breads.

The farmers' market will be open Wednesdays from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. through Oct. 12.

The farmers' market is open to the public.

Individuals without DoD-issued ID cards must obtain a Fort Meade gate access pass from the Demps Visitor Control Center, 902 Reece Road.

Frequent visitors are encouraged to

preregister for a long-term pass. You will need your driver's license or approved photo ID and be asked to provide your Social Security number at the VCC.

For more information, call 301-677-3579 or 301-252-8688.

Bike gate pass

To obtain a bike gate pass for the Pepper Road gate, call Joseph R. Shinskie, chief of physical security at the Directorate of Emergency Services, at 301-677-6618 to schedule a date to pick up the pass.

Passes will be available for pickup within two days.

Colonial Williamsburg free admission

This Memorial Day weekend, Colonial Williamsburg honors service to America with free admission tickets for active-duty military, Reservists, retirees, veterans, National Guardsmen and their dependents, made possible through a \$100,000 grant from the Home Depot Foundation.

The free ticket includes admission to more than 40 historic trades and sites, the military encampment, and the art museums of Colonial Williamsburg.

The service member need not be present, and free Honoring Service to America tickets will be provided to dependent family members of currently deployed troops with appropriate identification.

Veterans who separated before retirement can bring a copy of their honorable discharge paperwork, form DD 214, as identification of service.

These weekend-long admission tickets are available on site at the Colonial Williamsburg Regional Visitor Center, Lumber House ticket office and the Merchants Square ticket window.

A Memorial Day commemorative service begins May 30 at 10 a.m. to honor service members who died serving their country. A procession with the Fife and Drum support will begin at the Governor's Palace and proceed to Bruton Parish Church, ending at the Capitol in Colonial Williamsburg.

Wreaths will be placed, prayers given, and volleys fired to honor Soldiers of the American Revolution, the Civil War and other conflicts.

For more information, call 855-296-6627 or visit colonialwilliamsburg.com.

EDUCATION**ASIST workshop**

Applied Suicide Intervention Skills Training will offer a workshop on suicide "first aid" May 18-19 from 8:20 a.m. to 4 p.m. at Cavalry Chapel, 8465 Simonds St. and 6th Armored Cavalry Road.

The workshop is open to service members, civilian employees and family members ages 18 and older.

There is no fee, but a two-day commitment is required. Civilian attire, no uniforms.

To register, call Capt. Paul Kunas at 301-677-7778 or email paul.e.kunas.mil@mail.mil.

Financial, Employment Readiness

Joint Services offers workshops and briefings by Army Community Service at the Community Readiness Center, 830 Chisholm Ave., and the Navy Fleet and Family Support Center at 2212 Chisholm Ave., unless otherwise noted.

The free classes are open to active-duty service members and family members, DoD civilian employees and retirees.

Registration is required for each class.

Financial

- Credit Repair Seminar: Today, 9 a.m. to noon McGill Training Center, 8452 Zimborski Ave., Classroom 1

- Banking Basics: Tuesday, 9-11 a.m. at ACS

Learn to manage, balance and reconcile your bank accounts.

Topics include: Banking and credit union services; and checking account management.

This class serves as refresher training for personnel who have abused and misused check-cashing privileges.

- Car Buying: May 17, 9-11 a.m. at ACS

Strategies will help you determine how much you can afford to spend, how to negotiate effectively and how to research potential vehicles.

Transition

- Suits for Warriors: Monday, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., McGill Training Center

- Transition Assistance Program Workshop: Monday to May 13, 8 a.m. to 4 p.m., McGill Training Center

- Transition Assistance Program Workshop: May 16-20, 8 a.m. to 4 p.m., McGill Training Center

- Starting a Business Franchise: May 24, 9 a.m. to noon, McGill Training Center

- Ten Steps to a Federal Job: May 24, 9 a.m. to noon, FFSC

To register, go to fortmeadeacs.checkapointments.com or call 301-677-5590.

For more information, call ACS at 301-677-5590 or FFSC at 301-677-9017/9018.

YOUTH**Teen skate park**

The Teen Center Skate Park is open the first and third Friday of the month.

The skate park is free to members and \$2 for nonmembers.

Helmets are required.

For more information, call 301-677-6054.

Storytime

The Children's Library offers pre-kindergarten Storytime on Thursdays at 9:30 a.m. and 10:30 a.m. at Kuhn Hall, 4415 Llewellyn Ave.

- Today: "Reading Grows Your Mind" — stories about gardens

- May 12: "Hooray for Mother's Day!" — celebration of all mothers and their special day!

- May 19: "Zoom, Zoom, Zoom to the library!" — Storytime about things that "go"

- May 26: "Dogs Love Books & We Do Too!" — Stories about dogs

For more information, call 301-677-5522 or 301-677-4509.

Romp 'n Stomp

Romp 'n Stomp playgroup for children ages 5 and younger and their parents meets Tuesdays from 9:30 to 11:30 a.m. from September to June at the Youth Center gym at 909 Ernie Pyle St. and in August at the Boundless Playground on Llewellyn Avenue.

For more information, call 301-677-5590.

A-Z playgroup

Children ages 4 and younger are invited to the weekly playgroup, "A-Z Come Play With Me," that is held every Monday and Friday from 10:30 a.m. to noon at the Family Advocacy Center, 2462 85th Medical Battalion Ave.

Interactive activities are designed to assist parents in learning developmentally appropriate play techniques to help children improve their social, cognitive and motor skills.

Space is limited. Registration is required for each session.

For more information, call 301-677-7823.

RECREATION**Out & About**

- **Create Mother's Day crafts** Saturday from 1-4 p.m. at the Odenton Regional Library, 1325 Annapolis Road, Odenton.

For more information, call 410-222-6277 or go to aacpl.net.

- **Comic Con**, hosted by the Anne Arundel County Public Library, will be held May 14 from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Odenton Regional Library, 1325 Annapolis Road, Odenton.

Participants include cartoonists Kofi Simmons, Jordan Clark and Keir Lyles; "Star Trek" writers/artists Dave Galanter, Robert Greenberger, Howard Weinstein and Steve Wilson; comic book authors and creators; and comic book enthusiasts.

The free, family-friendly event will fea-

ture:

- Workshops on how to create your own comic and draw characters
- Panel discussions on creating a fantastic costume on a budget
- Insights from "Star Trek" writers
- A Super Art Fight: the greatest live art competition in the known universe
- Free crafts, artist gallery and costume contest

Five AACPL libraries also will offer free comic books on Saturday from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., while supplies last: Eastport-Annapolis Neck, Edgewater, Glen Burnie, Riviera Beach and Severna Park libraries.

For more information, call 410-222-6277 or go to aacpl.net.

• **Leisure Travel Services** will offer its next monthly bus trip to New York City on May 14. Cost is \$60. Discounted tickets to a variety of attractions will be provided. Enjoy the day at your leisure. For more information, call 301-677-7354.

• **Better Opportunities for Single Soldiers** is sponsoring a trip to Busch Gardens on June 11 in Williamsburg, Va.

The trip is open to all single service members. Registration is required by May 25.

Cost is \$30 and includes admission and transportation.

To register or for more information, see your BOSS representative, call 301-915-5389 or email boss.ftmeade@gmail.com.

• **BOSS Rehoboth Beach Weekend** in Delaware for all single service members will be held July 22-24. Only 30 spaces are available. Register early. Cost is \$75 and includes transportation and lodging.

To register or for more information, see your BOSS rep, call 301-915-5389 or email boss.ftmeade@gmail.com.

MEETINGS

• **Monthly Prayer Breakfast**, hosted by the Religious Support Office, is held the first Thursday of every month at 7 a.m. at Club Meade. The next prayer breakfast is today. There is no cost for the buffet. Donations are optional.

Menu features eggs, bacon, sausage, biscuits, gravy, grits, Danish pastries and fruit.

All Fort Meade employees, civilian and military personnel, and family members are invited. For more information, call 301-677-6703.

• **Fort Meade First Class Petty Officer Association** meets the first Thursday of every month at 3 p.m. at The Lanes. The next meeting is today. All first class petty officers are invited. For more information, call PO1 Jennifer Wonch at 410-854-2763.

• **Moms of Multiples Group** meets every first and third Thursday of the month from 1:30-2:30 p.m. at the Family Advocacy Program, 2462 85th Medical Battalion Ave.

The next meeting is today. For more information, call 301-677-7823.

• **Exceptional Family Member Program** hosts "Sip and Share" on the first Thursday of every month from 9:30-10:30 a.m. at the Exchange coffee shop in the food court. The next get-together is today.

The event is designed to allow participants to share their stories to encourage and inform one another about resources available in the local community. For more information or to register, call 301-677-4779.

• **Meade Rod and Gun Club** meets the first Thursday of the month at 7 p.m. at Perry's Restaurant and Odie's Pub at 1210 Annapolis Road, Odenton, in the banquet hall in back of the building. The next meeting is today. Dinner is served at 6 p.m. For more information, call Charisma Wooten at 240-568-6055.

• **National Alliance on Mental Illness of Anne Arundel County** offers a free support group for families with a loved one suffering from mental illness on the first Thursday of every month at 7 p.m. at the Odenton (West County) Library, 1325 Annapolis Road. The next meeting is today. For more information, visit namiaac.org.

• **Marriage Enrichment Group**, sponsored by Army Community Service, meets the second and fourth Monday of every month from 3-4 p.m. at the Community Readiness Center, 830 Chisholm Ave. The next meeting is Monday. For more information, call Celena Flowers or Jessica Hobgood at 301-677-5590.

• **Single Parent Support Group** meets every second and fourth Monday of the month from 5:30-7 p.m. at School Age Services, 1900 Reece Road. Children welcome. The next meeting is Monday. For more information, call 301-677-7823.

• **Kritikos Toastmasters Club** meets on the first three Mondays of every month at 6:15 p.m. at Perry's Restaurant, 1210 Annapolis Road, Odenton. The next meeting is Monday.

The club offers an opportunity to service members and civilian residents in the Fort Meade community to improve their public speaking skills in a supportive environment.

For more information, go to 1686.toastmastersclubs.org or call 410-305-9190.

• **Glen Burnie NARFE Chapter 1519** will meet Tuesday at 1 p.m. at the Holy Trinity Parish Hall, 7436 Baltimore Annapolis Blvd., Glen Burnie. The speaker is Sharon New of the Anne Arundel County Fire Department who will discuss fire safety.

All federal employees, retirees, families and members of NARFE are welcome. For more information, call Don Bender at 410-787-0390.

• **Fort Meade E9 Association** meets the second Friday of every month at 7 a.m. in the Pin Deck Cafe at the Lanes. The next meeting is May 13.

The association is open to active, retired, Reserve and National Guard E9s of any uniformed service. All E9s in this area are invited to attend a breakfast and meet the membership. For more information, go to e9association.org.

• **Meade Branch 212 of the Fleet Reserve Association** meets the second Saturday of each month at 10 a.m. at VFW Post 160, 2597 Dorsey Road, Glen Burnie. The next meeting is May 14. Active-duty, Reserve and retired members of the U.S. Navy, Marine Corps and Coast Guard are invited. For more information, call 443-604-2474 or 410-768-6288.

• **Families Dealing with Deployment** meets the first and third Monday of every month from 5:30-6:30 p.m. at the Family Advocacy Program, 2462 85th Medical Battalion Ave. Children welcome. The next meeting is May 16.

The group is for families experiencing an upcoming or current deployment, or the service members who have recently returned from deployment. For more information, call 301-677-7823.

• **Daddy & Me** interactive playgroup for fathers with children ages 2-4 meets the first and third Monday of every month from 5-6 p.m. at the Family Advocacy Program, 2462 85th Medical Battalion Ave. The next meeting is May 16.

Children and their dads engage in activities conducive to improving social interaction, and cognitive and motor skills.

Space is limited. Registration is required for each session. For more information, call 301-677-4118.

• **The Retired Enlisted Association** meets the third Tuesday of the month from 7:30-8:30 p.m. at Perry's Restaurant, 1210 Annapolis Road, Odenton. The next meeting is May 17.

For more information, visit tre.org or call Elliott Phillips, local president, at 443-790-3805; Charles M. Green, local president at 443-610-4252; or Arthur R. Cooper, past national president, at 443-336-1230.

For more information about becoming a TREA member, go to tre.org or call Charles Green, the local chapter president, at 443-610-4252 or email Cgreen151@verizon.net.

• **Society of Military Widows** meets for brunch the third Tuesday of the month at 11 a.m. at Club Meade. The next meeting is May 17. For more information, call Betty Jones at 410-992-1123.

• **Military District of Washington Sergeant Audie Murphy Club** meets the third Wednesday of each month from noon to 1 p.m. at the Joint Base Myer-Henderson Hall Dining Facility in Virginia. The next meeting is May 18.

All members and those interested in joining the club are welcome. For more information, contact Master Sgt. Erica Lehmkuhl at erica.lehmkuhl@us.army.mil or 301-833-8415.

MOVIES

The movie schedule is subject to change. For a recorded announcement of showings, call 301-677-5324. Further listings are available on the Army and Air Force Exchange Service website at www.aafes.com.

Movies start Fridays at 6:30 p.m., Saturdays at 6 p.m. and Sundays at 2 p.m. PRICES: Tickets are \$6 for adults (12 and older) and \$3.50 for children. 3D Movies: \$8 adults, \$5.50 children.

Today through May 15



GEORGE KRAYCHYK/AP

Friday & May 14: "My Big Fat Greek Wedding 2" (PG-13). A Portokalos family secret brings the beloved characters back together for an even bigger and Greeker wedding. With Nia Vardalos, John Corbett, Michael Constantine.



AP

Saturday: "Batman v Superman: Dawn of Justice" (PG-13). Fearing that the actions of Superman are left unchecked, Batman takes on the Man of Steel, while the world wrestles with what kind of a hero it really needs. With Henry Cavill, Ben Affleck, Amy Adams.

Sunday: "The Divergent Series: Allegiant" (PG-13). After the earth-shattering revelations of "Insurgent," Tris must escape with Four beyond the wall that encircles Chicago, to finally discover the shocking truth of the world around them. With Shailene Woodley, Theo James, Jeff Daniels.

May 13 & 15: "The Boss" (R). A titan of industry is sent to prison after she's caught insider trading. With Melissa McCarthy, Kristen Bell, Peter Dinklage.