

Soundoff!

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Practice with a Pro

**Ravens player holds camp
for Fort Meade youth PG 10**



Baltimore Ravens wide receiver Steve Smith Sr. plays quarterback as he runs drills with groups of children, ages 7 to 13, during the P&G Steve Smith Sr. Football ProCamp held Monday and Tuesday at the Youth Sports Complex.

PHOTO BY NATE PESCE

STANDING IN SOLIDARITY

Ramadan Iftar
dinner held on post

PAGE 4

UPCOMING EVENTS

Today, 3-6 p.m.: MARC Rider Appreciation Event - Odenton MARC
Friday 7 p.m.: Bowie Baysox Fort Meade Night - P.G. Stadium, Bowie
Wednesday: Fort Meade Farmers Market CANCELLED
July 1, 4 p.m.: Red, White & Blue Celebration - McGlachlin Parade Field

CHANGING HANDS

780th MI, 48th CSH
welcome new leaders

PAGES 8, 9

Soundoff!

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Friday, noon

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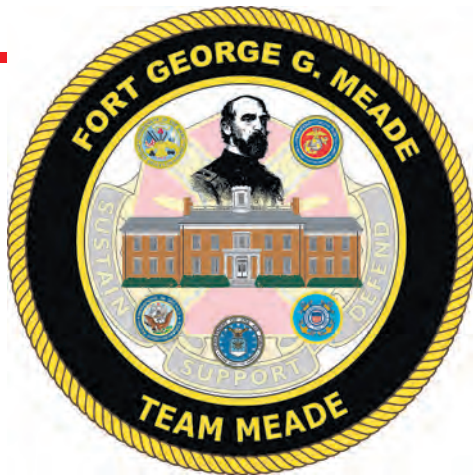
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COMMANDER'S COLUMN

Protecting our independence

Hello again, Team Meade.

Summer is in full swing, and I hope everyone enjoyed the beautiful Father's Day weekend we just had. Happy belated Father's Day to all the dads and granddads in our great community!

Summer is a wonderful time on Fort Meade, and it is also a time of transition. The moving vans have started showing up in our neighborhoods, so I want to take this opportunity to personally thank all our departing partners who have served our nation and Team Meade so well.

I also want to welcome all the new community members who are beginning to arrive. I wish you all the very best in your future assignments here and across our military.

We continue to make great progress in the fight for resources on Fort Meade and in communicating the importance of this installation to our senior military leaders.

Last week we received notification that Installation Management Command fully funded all our 2016 restoration and maintenance requests. Fort Meade will now receive a total of \$71.5 million in badly needed money to finish the renovation of Hale Hall, renovate Child Development Center II, resurface Mapes Road, and convert building 8607 to administrative space for the Army Cyber Command enduring footprint on Fort Meade.

We have now received a total of \$144 million in restoration and maintenance funding over the past three years — far, far more than any other fort in the Army. Design work to widen Reece Road and the gate to four lanes has begun.

We believe Sen. Barbara A. Mikulski inserted our remaining two projects to finish widening Mapes and Cooper



Garrison Commander
Col. Brian P. Foley

roads into the 2017 National Defense Authorization Act. All great news for the long-term future of Fort Meade!

We also continue to make great progress informing our leaders and community of the vital national security missions being performed by all partner organizations on Fort Meade. Our nation is indeed fighting a war in cyberspace. We just haven't given it a name yet and

don't read about it daily in the news.

The war in cyberspace knows no geographic boundaries. You don't have to project people and material into other geographic domains to defend our national interest in cyberspace, and as the home of U.S. Cyber Command, the National Security Agency and the Defense Information Systems Agency, Fort Meade is the senior Department of Defense operational platform from where we are prosecuting this war.

Fort Meade is a platform of 21st-century power projection, the Bagram of our war in cyberspace, and is now being resourced as such.

The service members and civilians who work here are joined in the fight for our nation's independence, a fight being waged on Fort Meade 24 hours a day, every day. They are saving American lives daily and keeping our national infrastructure up and running. They are to be praised and thanked for defending our freedom and protecting the independence we declared on July 4, 1776, and have struggled to protect ever since.

So on July 1 this year, we will kick off our Independence Day weekend with Fort Meade's annual celebration. The fireworks will be grand, the musicians will inspire us with their talent, and the food and fun will be in abundance.

We hope to see you all there!

And on July 4, please reach out to a cyber warrior, an intel analyst, a public affairs professional or a communications specialist, and thank them for keeping our great nation free and independent from those who would do us harm.

I personally extend the thanks of my family for all you do. It continues to be my greatest honor to serve the Fort Meade community, and I will cherish each and every day I have left in this position.

Have a great summer! Be safe! We'll see you around campus.

CORRECTION

In the June 16 issue of *Soundoff!* it was incorrectly reported that there is a free weight area in Murphy Field House. The free weight area is undergoing renovations and not available for use. *Soundoff!* regrets the error.

Taking charge

Army initiative focuses on empowering NCOs to build cohesive teams

BY LISA R. RHODES
Staff Writer

Using a PowerPoint presentation while speaking informally, Command Sgt. Maj. Timothy A. Guden spoke to an audience of 83 Soldiers about the Army's "Not In My Squad" initiative Tuesday morning.

Guden, who serves at the Joint Force Headquarters-National Capital Region and the U.S. Army Military District of Washington, led the three-hour presentation at McGill Training Center.

"Nobody will know Soldiers like you know them."

Command Sgt. Maj. Timothy A. Guden, Joint Force Headquarters-National Region and U.S. Army Military District of Washington

"Not In My Squad" was created by Sergeant Major of the Army Daniel A. Dailey and launched last year in response to the Army's concerns about sexual assault and harassment. The initiative's purpose is to empower junior NCOs to strengthen mutual trust and build cohesive teams.

Garrison Command Sgt. Maj. Rodwell L. Forbes said the goal of the presentation is to reinforce that a noncommissioned officer's job is "about knowing your Soldiers and the situations and issues they may be going through."

"You have to be the one to take the stand when one of your Soldiers comes to you with their concerns," Forbes said. "You're building on the trust, the cohesion, the dialogue."

In his presentation, Guden said he

believes that many of the Army's concerns about cohesion in squads are a result of its emphasis 15 years ago on the war in Iraq.

"Everything was to get in formation so we could go to Iraq," he said.

The push was for creating brigade combat teams for combat operations.

"We pushed our hand on the big handle," Guden said. "That's all that mattered."

Although the Army was training Soldiers, "a lot of the training we were doing was farmed out, meaning that platoon sergeants, squad leaders and team leaders were not necessarily responsible for the training," Guden said.

Instead, he said, training was often led by civilian contractors and mobile training teams.

"It started to take away what for many of you your purpose was," Guden said. "We took a lot of the NCOs' ability to do the NCOs' job away from you."

The Army now wants to empower NCOs to properly train and assist their Soldiers in developing and maintaining the professionalism it requires.

Guden described NIMS as "a grass-roots, bottom-up approach to establish good order and discipline of the force by empowering and listening to junior leaders. It's about the professionalism of the Army and an enduring effort that takes daily strengthening."

"You all are not the problem," Guden said to the junior NCOs. "It's not about getting you straight. All this is about understanding your role and allowing you to do what we expect you to do."

Guden said although the role of the NCO is to be aware of Soldiers who may be vulnerable to or victims of sexual assault and harassment, NIMS also encourages junior leaders to know their Soldiers well enough to assist them if they are struggling with legal, family or money issues.

"Nobody will know Soldiers like you know them," he said.

Staff Sgt. Jason Santana of the 742nd MI Battalion, Bravo Company said he leads an 18-member platoon. Guden's presentation has inspired him to change the content of the platoon's weekly Sergeants on Training seminar.

"Right now, it focuses on tasks — maneuvering and how to shoot your weapon," Santana said.

He wants to change the focus to the Army's professional standards.

"I think it will provide Soldiers with



PHOTO BY NATE PESCE

Command Sgt. Maj. Timothy A. Guden of the Joint Force Headquarters-National Region and U.S. Army Military District of Washington shares his thoughts on the Army's "Not In My Squad" initiative with a group of NCOs on Tuesday at McGill Training Center.

the guidance they need," Santana said. "When you give Soldiers a lot of tasks and no guidance, it doesn't provide them a road map as to what is needed to progress in their career."

Santana said the presentation was helpful because it gave him an insight as to what the Army's leadership now expects from NCOs.

Staff Sgt. Giovanni Pascasico of U.S. Cyber Command called Guden's presentation a "necessity."

"For the past 15 years, we've been all about war," he said. "A lot has changed. We have been going in terms of numbers, who is deployable. But we're not numbers, we're people."

"I'm seeing that we're getting back to first-line supervisors, taking care of Soldiers and setting the example for them."

"It's showing them how we're going to deal with issues when it comes to sexual assault and even equal opportunity. It's about professionalism."

Standing in solidarity

Iftar celebrated with prayer, traditional foods

BY DOUG MILLER

Special to Soundoff!

Still braced for a possible backlash in the wake of the worst mass shooting in recent U.S. history, Muslims of Fort Meade last week celebrated their faith in the company of friends and colleagues from other religious traditions.

More than 150 men, women and children met at the Argonne Hills Chapel Center on Friday for Fort Meade's seventh annual *Iftar*, a feast at which adherents of Islam break their daily ritual fasting during the month of Ramadan.

Muslim and non-Muslim speakers condemned the terrorism in Orlando and urged each other to continue to build bridges between cultures and embrace diversity.

"I wish we could televise this event," said National Security Agency Chaplain Michael Heuer. "I look at this room and I see America."

"Diversity is what makes us strong as a nation, as an Army, as a community," said Garrison Commander Col. Brian P. Foley in his remarks.

Keynote speaker Sandra Stanar-Johnson greeted the audience in the traditional Arabic greeting, "*As-Salaam-alai-kum*," which translates as "Peace be upon you."

"This greeting of peace has been exchanged through centuries throughout the world. It is a greeting to which we can all relate," said Stanar-Johnson, director of the National Security Agency's Office of Equal Employment Opportunity and Diversity. "Peace is a core value that we share whatever our race, religion, ethnicity, gender or sexual orientation."

Stanar-Johnson noted that as details of the Orlando killings came to light, Muslims at NSA reached out in a gesture of healing.

"It is with humility and great pride in our NSA community that I stand before you today and say that the Islamic Cultural Employee Resource Group took a leading role in responding to this tragedy by inviting members of the LGBT, Hispanic/Latino and other employee resource groups to the Iftar tonight in solidarity against the attack in Orlando," Stanar-Johnson told the audience.

A former Associated Press Middle East correspondent and Arabic scholar, Stanar-Johnson also pointed to NSA's role in

combating prejudice.

"The director of NSA's commitment to hiring Muslim Americans is helping to change the sometimes-negative stereotypes of Muslims in America by demonstrating their roles in protecting U.S. security and serving as ambassadors for Islamic culture in Team NSA, as they are this evening," Stanar-Johnson said.

Chad Jones, a Muslim who serves as director of the Fort Meade Public Affairs Office, emceed the program. He laid out for non-Muslims the basics of what happens during Islam's holiest period, ticking off what he called "the three Rs of Ramadan."

The first 10 days of the month, Jones said, are a time for Muslims to reflect, to take stock of their actions in the previous year, and to remember where they succeeded and failed morally. During Ramadan's middle 10 days, Muslims reset.

"Let that last year go," Jones said. "Forgive yourself."

Refocus takes priority during the final 10 days of Ramadan, he said. "What can I do to be a better person in the next year?"

As the sun set and the formal program concluded, the celebrants moved to a nearby room where long tables awaited, holding dates and water for the initial breaking of the fast.

The Muslims then returned to the chapel for *Maghrib*, the third of the five daily prayers.



PHOTOS BY DANIEL KUCIN JR.

Garrison Command Sgt. Maj. Rodwell L. Forbes joins the catered buffet line as Muslims break Friday's daylong fast with biryani, kabobs and somosas.

The lunar calendar, not the Julian calendar we're all used to, determines when Ramadan takes place. Consequently, the season during which it occurs varies from year to year. This year's observance came during the late spring and early summer — the longest days of the year.

Since observant Muslims fast during the daylight hours of Ramadan, devotees in this part of the world are going longer than 16 hours without food and water this year.

Another of the event's organizers, Hasaan Mansoor, also noted that when one factors in the prayers of Taraweeh, "your

regular, average Muslim is getting two to three hours of sleep a night" until *Eid Al-Fitr*, which marks the end of Ramadan. This year it is scheduled to be on July 5.

Those gathered at the chapel Friday greeted the sunset with mostly traditional Middle Eastern fast-breaking fare that included dates, biryani, kabobs and somosas.

But no culture remains static, and as with just about any other gathering in the United States where a large group needs to be fed, a large stack of pizza boxes stood ready.



Sufian Iqbal from the Makkah Learning Center in Gambrells leads the *Maghrib* prayer at Argonne Hills Chapel Center after the initial breaking of the fast during Fort Meade's seventh annual Iftar celebration Friday evening attended by about 150 people.

Teen Center marks 10th anniversary

By DOUG MILLER
Special to Soundoff!

Just about every corner of the Fort Meade Teen Center buzzed with activity on June 16.

Video-gamers competed at Xbox and Wii stations. Dozens crowded the music room and lounge area, talking and laughing.

The computer lab and homework room, however, sat empty.

Hey, come on, it was the last day of school.

That wasn't the only reason to celebrate, though. The Teen Center, now located at the corner of MacArthur Road and Clark Road, was marking its 10th anniversary.

Longtime Child, Youth and School Services employee Angela Bellinger staffs the front desk at the Teen Center. Looking at the dozens of mingling teens, some of whom tower over her, the administrative assistant remarked, "I've seen these kids since they were little tots."

Until 2006, the teenage children of Fort Meade personnel shared space with middle-schoolers. The opening of the original Teen Center, located at that time on MacArthur Road across from Meade High School, gave the older kids a long-desired place to call their own.

Talissa McMullen has served as the center's director for the past five years. As she scrambled to complete preparations for the anniversary celebration, McMullen ticked off the recent and soon-to-come destinations of Teen Center field trips: "Sky Zone (a Columbia trampoline park), skating, kayaking, paintball, a high- and low-ropes course.

"What they like most of all is the free food," McMullen added with a wry smile.

Activities are free to dependents of DoD employees. Guests can use the center for an entry fee of \$2.

Regular activities include the Wednesday Music Club, where participants get instruction in improvisation, composition and instrument maintenance; the Teen Center Skate Park on the first and third Fridays of the month, for which skateboarders can borrow equipment or use their own; and Wednesday game tournaments, which include both video and board games.

Between the fun and food, though, teens also get the chance to work with computers in the tech lab and get homework help. Boys get advice on coping with adolescence and making



PHOTOS BY DOUG MILLER

At a party celebrating the end of the school year and the 10th anniversary of the Fort Meade Teen Center on June 16, high-schoolers enjoy music by Gabe Kubanda (center).

good life choices in the Passport to Manhood program. The SMART (Skills, Mastery and Resistance Training) does the same for female teens with health education and self-esteem-building.

Teens in the Keystone Club work with the center staff on Thursdays to plan activities and events.

Shaina Perry, 16, takes part in those meetings, which generally draw 10 or 11 teens.

"We figure out what we can do for the community," she said.

Shaina also plays guitar in the music room and takes part in the center's media club.

She watched as friends Vonnie Hilton, 17; Kareem Kelsick, 15; and Adrian Brown, 16, stalked each other in "007" on Xbox.

"Sometimes I do my homework," at the center, Kareem said.

But he allowed that video gaming and hanging with friends accounted for much of his time there.

Adrian enjoys the outdoor basketball court.

At last week's party, though, musicians including Baltimore rapper Wordsmith and the band Epic Live occupied the court space.

On the opposite side of the building, caterers set up under a canopy to offer



In addition to cookout fare and popcorn, party-goers enjoyed a cake decorated to celebrate the Teen Center's 10th anniversary.

hamburgers and lemonade. Next to the entrance stood a popcorn machine.

Program assistant Stephanie Floyd made sure everybody got a raffle ticket for the prize drawing. While she put together a display of photos taken throughout the previous year, the New York native reflected on the differences

between her job back home — working in a group home for at-risk youth — and her position at Fort Meade.

"Every day here is something different. It's not the same thing every day," Floyd said. "You get to bond with these kids" because of the Teen Center's popularity.

New leader takes reigns of 780th MI Brigade

BY LISA R. RHODES
Staff Writer

Col. John D. Branch assumed command of the 780th Military Intelligence Brigade from Col. William J. Hartman in a change-of-command ceremony Friday at the Post Theatre.

Hartman, who served as commander for two years, has been assigned as the G3 at U.S. Army Cyber Command, Fort Belvoir, Va.

"I consider it a privilege to assume command of the 780th Military Intelligence Brigade," Branch said. "I have watched with interest and enthusiasm the maturing of the brigade since its inception.

"Now, appointed as the fourth commander, I am amazed at what has been accomplished in such a relative short period and grateful for the opportunity to build on the success in this important maneuver terrain known as cyberspace."

"[Col. John D. Branch] brings a great reputation and impeccable credentials into the command."

Maj. Gen. George J. Franz III, U.S. Army Intelligence and Security Command commanding general

Branch previously served as the Deputy CJ2 for Operation Inherent Resolve. In 2015, he graduated from the Army War College Senior Service College's Fellowship Program at the National Security Agency.

Maj. Gen. George J. Franz III, commanding general, U.S. Army Intelligence and Security Command, hosted the ceremony.

In his remarks, Franz praised Hartman as one of the "most technically knowledgeable and tactically innovative officers — one of our Army's true cyberspace operations experts."

At the ceremony's start, the 780th MI color guard posted the colors. From the rear of the packed theater, the U.S. Army Band Brass Quintet of the U.S. Army Band "Pershing's Own" stationed at Fort Myer, Va., performed the national anthem. Chaplain (Maj.) Joshua Metz of the 780th MI gave the invocation.



PHOTO BY TINA MILES

Col. John D. Branch, incoming commander of the 780th Military Intelligence Brigade, accepts the unit's colors from Maj. Gen. George J. Franz III, commanding general of U.S. Army Intelligence and Security Command, during his change-of-command ceremony Friday at the Post Theatre.

The Right Blend

Franz described Hartman as an "incredible officer who provided the right blend of tactical experience, disciplined leadership, creativity and innovation, and selfless dedication to his team."

On Dec. 1, 2011, the 780 MI officially unfurled its colors at Fort Meade. Three years later, the brigade became the operational arm for an Army Cyber Command pilot program, directed by the Office of the Chief of Staff of the Army, to integrate cyberspace operations at the combat training centers.

Since then, the 780th MI has pioneered the Army's effort for cyberspace operations in support of maneuver forces and has shaped the future of how the

Army will fight and win in cyberspace, according to the ceremony's brochure.

"I would just like to start by saying how proud I am to have had the opportunity to command the 780th MI Brigade," Hartman said. " ... Over the past 24 months, I have watched our Soldiers, Department of the Army civilians and contractors wildly exceed expectations at every opportunity, and truly set the standard as a world-class cyberspace operations force — not just for the Army but for the entire Department of Defense."

In welcoming Branch to the brigade, Franz said the colonel "brings a great reputation and impeccable credentials into the command.

"I am absolutely confident that Dave

brings just the right leadership, technical competence and concern for the Soldiers he now commands."

In his remarks, Branch acknowledged members of the brigade at the ceremony and those serving around the world.

"Your efforts have positioned our Army teams as the most engaged, most in-demand cyber force, operating across the tactical to strategic arenas," Branch said.

Branch also expressed his gratitude to Hartman.

"Thanks for the handoff," he said. "I consider the brigade and me, personally, to be very fortunate that you are moving to the Army Cyber Command position next, where we will benefit from your vast experience."

48th CSH welcomes new commander

FORT MEADE PUBLIC AFFAIRS OFFICE

The 48th Combat Support Hospital, headquartered at the Capt. John E. Smathers Army Reserve Center on Annapolis Road, has a newly assigned commander.

Col. Erik J. Kirchen assumed command from Col. Gregory A. Kolb during a ceremony conducted Friday at McGlachlin Parade Field.

The 48th CSH is one of several units of its type in the Army's force structure, and traces its lineage from 1943, having been stood up as the 48th Portable Surgical Hospital at Camp Forrest, Tenn. As a medical unit, the people of the 48th have been mobilized for several major U.S. military conflicts including World War II, the Korean War and Afghanistan.

Kirchen, who comes to Fort Meade after graduating from the U.S. Army War College, takes over a unit of 845 Soldiers assigned to six units: A Company (Fort Story, Va.); B Company (Fort Meade); Headquarters and Headquarters Detachment (Fort Meade); 343rd Ground Ambulance Company (Richmond, Va.); 444th Ground Ambulance Company (Beaver, W.Va.); and the 901st Minimal Care Detachment (Fairmont, W.Va.).

"I am grateful and honored to assume command of the 48th CSH," Kirchen said. "Since World War II, the Soldiers of the 48th have provided world-class hospitalization and outpatient services when our nation called. I believe we must continue our focus on readiness, in anticipation of fulfilling the future needs of the nation."

The next assignment for Kolb is chief of Global Force Management for the 3rd Medical Command (Deployment Support) located at Gillem Enclave, Ga.

The 48th deploys by air and sea to conflict areas in support of military operations. The unit executes its core mission of providing world-class hospitalization and outpatient services by executing reception, staging, onward movement and integration, and establishing a hospital area of operations. Once established, the 48th CSH provides care and outpatient services, and is prepared to serve as the Medical Task Force Command and Control element and conduct split-based operations.

The 48th CSH has the medical capability of a 248-bed hospital, providing operating rooms, emergency medical triage and treatment facilities, intensive care units, minimal-care wards and neuropsychiatry services.

According to Capt. Burke Trevort, the 48th traces its organizational history back



PHOTOS BY SGT. MICHAEL J. DYER

Col. Nelson G. Rosen, commander of the 338th Medical Brigade, hands the guidon of the 48th Combat Support Hospital to Col. Erik J. Kirchen (facing forward). Kirchen assumed command from Col. Gregory A. Kolb (right) on Friday.

to World War II but was inactivated following the Korean War. The special military significance is that the unit was reactivated at Fort Meade in 2000 as the Army's first multicomponent hospital staffed by both active and Reserve component personnel.

Since its reactivation, the 48th has supported U.S. military actions as part of Enduring Freedom operations and during contingencies and wars in other theaters of operations.

Kirchen's previous assignments include: Medical Plans officer, U.S. Forces command surgeon, Fort Bragg, N.C.; chief, Medical Plans and Operations, U.S. Army Reserve Command surgeon, Fort Bragg; S-3, 7304th Medical Training Support Battalion, 2nd Medical Training Brigade, Joint Base San Antonio; chief, G-3 Plans, Medical Readiness and Training Command, Joint Base San Antonio.

Kirchen is also a graduate of the U.S. Army Command and General Staff College and Combined Arms Service and Staff School.



Soldiers of the 48th Combat Support Hospital, based at the Capt. John E. Smathers Army Reserve Center on Annapolis Road, pass in-review during Friday's change-of-command ceremony at McGlachlin Parade Field.

Practice with a Pro

Ravens player leads NFL camp for kids

BY LISA R. RHODES
Staff Writer

For 20 minutes, a line of children tossed a football back and forth to a group of volunteer adult coaches.

After each toss, the coaches encouraged the youngsters on how to improve their catching and throwing skills.

Chief among them was Baltimore Ravens wide receiver Steve Smith Sr., who provided his expertise at the P&G Steve Smith Sr. Football ProCamp sponsored by Procter and Gamble.

About 150 children, ages 7 to 13, attended the two-day NFL camp offered Monday and Tuesday at the Youth Sports Complex through Fort Meade's School of Knowledge, Inspiration, Exploration and Skills Unlimited Program and Child, Youth & School Services. SKIES offers instructional programs for Fort Meade children and youths.

"I'm not here as a Raven, I'm here as a father," Smith said. "My [10-year-old] son travels with me during the off-season when I do these camps. There are many kids whose fathers don't play catch with them. I'm teaching them my gift. The gift is football."

According to ESPN, Smith is the oldest wide receiver in the league and ranked sixth



PHOTOS BY NATE PESCE
Nicholas Edwards, 8, runs the ball during a drill as video cameras capture footage for the ProCamp video.

in the NFL 2015 season with 670 yards receiving.

Fort Meade is one of 11 military installations to host the NFL camp. The installations were the top winners in a Procter and Gamble product display and sales contest held in late March and early April.

Molly Fanning, an account supervisor for Blue Chip Marketing, the advertising agency for Procter and Gamble, said the camp emphasizes healthy living and encourages military children to make friends.

"We hope that the [the children] have a little bit of fun and connect with other



Baltimore Ravens wide receiver Steve Smith Sr. holds out his arm to fist-bump Silas Kunnas, 9, during the P&G Steve Smith Sr. Football Procamp for youth offered Monday and Tuesday at the Youth Sports Complex through SKIES Unlimited.

military friends who are going through the same challenges as they go through," Fanning said.

During the contest, Fort Meade Commissary achieved a 10 percent rise in sales of Procter and Gamble products, according to Lorraine Donohue, sales lead for ACOSTA Sales & Marketing company that works with the Fort Meade Commissary.

"It's an awesome experience just to have the ProCamp here for our military families and children," said Mary C. Williams, a zone manager at the Fort Meade Commissary.

On behalf of the commissary, Williams accepted a signed Steve Smith football jersey encased in glass from Procter and Gamble. The commissary also donated to the camp healthy snacks and bottled water.

During the two-day camp, participants learned the fundamentals of football, including offensive and defensive drills, with Smith and the help of volunteer coaches from the community.

"We hope they learn agility, teamwork and the basic techniques of the sport," said Karen Surratt, director of SKIES. "We want them to learn how to be in a social group and be a team member."

When Thomas Ranger came home with a flyer advertising the NFL camp, his mother was surprised.

"He said 'Mama, Mama, can I do this?'" said Kim Coe, mother of the 10-year-old boy and a military spouse. "He's very academic and if he's excited about getting into sports, I said 'let's go!'"

On Monday afternoon, parents watched from the sidelines as their children ran drills, threw footballs and played catch. The children wore P&G Steve Smith Sr. Football ProCamp T-shirts.

Ten-year-old Layla Edwards said she was excited to meet Smith.

"It was cool," she said. "He's very energetic and nice."

Layla also thought it was a good idea to include girls in the NFL camp.

"It really feels good 'cause us girls are underestimated, so girl power!" she said.

Layla's father, Navy Lt. Derrick Edwards of U.S. Cyber Command, said his daughter has always had an interest in sports.

"I thought this would be a great opportunity for her," he said.

Edwards also was impressed that Smith would take time out of his schedule to give back to the community.

"It's awesome," he said. "Steve Smith has been one of my all-time favorite players in the NFL for a while, so it's good to see him in person doing this for kids."

Eight-year-old Aydin Harris said he was

impressed by Smith, who signed his T-shirt and sports bracelet.

"It was good," Aydin said.

As far as learning football, the youngster said he already knew the fundamentals.

"I knew I could do everything we learned," he said.

Aydin's mother, Air Force Sgt. Geraldine Harris of U.S. Cyber Command, said the camp was perfect for her son.

"He needs a little more outdoor fun instead of playing video games all the time," she said. "I think it's outstanding that [Smith] takes time out to spend it with kids. It's good for the community, and the kids are having fun."

Thomas Ranger said the camp was "cool." "I really like it — all the teamwork and passing and catching," he said. "When I heard about this, I thought it would be a good chance to get outside, but it's really tiring."

Smith said the camp is important because it gives him the chance to give back to the military and expose children to the sport he loves.

"I chose Fort Meade [for the camp]," he said. "Why not support a military base that's just down the street? ... One day, one of these kids may be a corporal or marshal, but maybe the camp is an opportunity for them to play football someday."



Carlos Smith, former head football coach at Kennedy High School, does a cheer with his group at the two-day camp. Several volunteer coaches in the area taught youths the fundamentals of football, including offensive and defensive drills.



Ten-year-old Jaden Blackwell wins a certificate for Fastest Camper in his division as he stands with Steve Smith.



From left: Jaden Blackwell, 10; Tyrell Moses, 9; and Aidan Breen, 10, talk excitedly about a signed photo of Steve Smith after Jaden won Fastest Camper in his division.



Ravens wide receiver Steve Smith Sr. prepares to throw a pass as youngsters run different plays during the two-day camp offered through Fort Meade's School of Knowledge, Inspiration, Exploration and Skills Unlimited Program and Child, Youth & School Services.

SPORTS SHORTS

Baysox Military Appreciation Night

Bowie Baysox Military Appreciation Night will be held Friday.

Garrison Command Sgt. Maj. Rodwell L. Forbes will throw the first pitch at 6:45 p.m.

The annual event will feature recognition of various service members.

The Baysox staff will escort a Fort Meade Little League team on the field with for the national anthem at 7:05 p.m. A U.S. Army Field Band vocalist will sing the national anthem and "God Bless America."

For more information, go to baysox.com.

Baysox Military Heroes Cards

During Military Heroes Appreciation Night on Aug. 26, the Bowie Baysox will distribute Military Heroes Cards Sets to the first 1,000 fans ages 18 and older featuring active and retired members of the U.S. Armed Forces received through the nomination process.

The cards display photographs and information about their military careers. The Baysox will honor these veterans and/or their families in special ceremonies before and during the game.

For more information, go to baysox.com.

Construction notice for Gaffney

Due to a delay in contractor base access, the basement project at Gaffney Fitness Center has been postponed.

New dates will be posted when available.

Various classes have been moved to Murphy Field House and are offered at no charge during the duration of the basement project.

For more information, call 301-677-3716 or 301-677-3867.

Now hiring: lifeguards, water safety instructors

The Directorate of Family and Morale, Welfare and Recreation is hiring lifeguards at the rate of \$11 per hour and water safety instructors at \$13 per hour at Gaffney Fitness Center.

DFMWR provides flexible schedules and offers year-round employment opportunities.

Apply online at usajobs.gov.

For more information, call 301-677-7916 or go to meade.armymwr.com.

Youth baseball camp

Baseball camp for ages 6 and older will be offered July 5-8 from 9 a.m. to noon at the Youth Sports Complex.

Cost is \$85.

Registration will be conducted through Friday through Child, Youth and School Services.

For more information, call 301-677-1149.

Youth volleyball camp

Youth volleyball camp for children ages 6 and older will be offered July 11-15 from 9 a.m. to noon at the Youth Center.

Cost is \$85.

Registration will be held through July 1 through Child, Youth and School Services.

For more information, call 301-677-1149.

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.

- Football Fanfare 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

Registration fee is \$25 per person and \$60 per family of three to six people.

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

For more information, call 301-677-3318.

Youth Sports registration

Registration is underway for summer and fall Youth Sports.

Cost for each six-week session is \$20. Spaces are limited.

Summer sports include:

- Ready, Set, Run: 5K Training for boys and girls ages 8-13: meets Mondays and Wednesdays or Tuesdays and Thursdays through Sept. 17

- Autobahn Team indoor cart racing for boys and girls ages 8-14: meets Tuesdays beginning Tuesday to July 26

- Beach Volleyball for boys and girls ages 9-14: meets twice per week beginning Monday to July 25

- NFL Flag Football for boys and girls ages 6-13: meets Friday nights from June 24-July 29.

Fall sports include: NFL Flag Football, NFL Flag cheerleading, volleyball, soccer, tennis and "Ready, Set, Run."

To register, go to the Youth Sports & Fitness Office, 1900 Reece Road or go online to meade.armymwr.com.

For more information, call 301-677-1329 or 301-677-1179.

JIBBER JABBER - OPINION

What we 'witnessed'

Several people have asked where their dose has been. Well in the words of the Clash, "I fought the law and the law won." bit.ly/ihuapLM.

My punishment? A three-week hiatus.

So many things happened during my time off. Most notably: Muhammad Ali died, Ramadan began, and the Cavaliers beat the Warriors.

As the satirical website "The Onion" reported, God may still hate Cleveland, but after "The Shot" bit.ly/inkNWae, "The Fumble" bit.ly/It6JhaJ, and "The Drive" bit.ly/IEQ7LPO, the Man upstairs decided it was time for the "Mistake by the Lake" to get some love. (Especially since Cavs forward Kevin Love didn't give Cleveland a thing during the finals except six fouls and a shoulder for LeBron to cry on.)

Speaking of "The King," those videos of his bobblehead punking Steph Curry in famous movie scenes are great. I'm not sure if I like the "Matrix," where LeBron passively deflects Steph's chops before delivering a side kick to the chest, or the "Bronfather": A brilliant re-enactment of the final scene from "The Godfather" where a crying Steph Curry, ala Diane Keaton, watches Michael Jordan and Tim Duncan kiss The King's ring. bit.ly/28SqDID

Funny videos aside, LeBron James made it clear that he, and not Curry, has been and still is the best player on the planet. Furthermore, James' place as an all-time great is firmly established.

By putting the Cavs on his back and pulling them from an unprecedented 3-1 deficit against the best regular season team in NBA history, James' desire to win finally caught up with his unmatched talent and physical gifts.

There are simply no arguments left to be made against LeBron's greatness.

How can you say a man who scored 41 points in back-to-back elimination games is afraid to take over games?

How can anyone say he doesn't have a desire to win after he made it to his sixth straight finals series and brought a championship to Cleveland after a 52-year drought?



Chad T. Jones

PUBLIC AFFAIRS
OFFICER

And how can anyone say that James is not the most versatile and gifted player in NBA history after he became the first player ever to lead the finals in points (29.7), rebounds (11.3), assists (8.9), blocks (2.3), steals (2.6), and minutes played (42).

*Note I didn't claim best. Kareem, Jordan and Magic still have something to say about that.

Our friend Marcia Eastland went so far on Monday to say the NBA logo should be changed from Jerry West's profile to James'.

"There's a lot of 'Mr. Clutches,' " Marcia said in reference to Jerry West's famous nickname. "But there is only one King."

To be honest, Marcia's not lying! James is one of kind.

I'm just not sure we need to change the league's branding and, in essence, rewrite history simply by removing it, which is often what happens when organizations try to modernize.

The league should have learned that lesson this year when everyone was so quick to anoint Curry as "The Man" and his Golden State Warriors as the greatest team ever.

On the flip side, now that the Warriors lost, people can't pop off quick enough about how the tarnished Golden State really was, and Curry has gone from "The Man" to a so-so defender ball-handler who cracked under the final's pressure.

Going to extremes is natural in sports, especially when it involves someone as polarizing as LeBron James. I know I've waffled a few times on his place in the game but if I may, the city of Cleveland waited five decades for a championship.

Let's wait at least five days before we start changing logos or calling out teams. Instead, take a few moments to enjoy what we just "witnessed."

Next week, I'll take on "OJ: Made in America." Until then ...

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.

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.

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.

MARC Appreciation Event

The MARC Rider Appreciation Event will be held today from 3-6 p.m. at the Oden-ton MARC Station on the south end of the platform.

The annual event will feature free food, drinks and commuter information.

Participants include Baltimore Coffee, The Hideaway and Ruth's Chris Steak-house.

Latin Night

Celebrate Latin Night at the Brass Lounge on Friday and July 29 from 7 p.m.

Red, White & Blue Celebration



FILE PHOTO

Fort Meade's annual Red, White, & Blue Celebration will be held July 1 from 4-9:30 p.m. at McGlachlin Parade Field.

The free event is open to the public.

The early Independence Day celebration features food and novelty vendors from 4-9 p.m., and free children's rides including a kiddie train, zip line, moon bounces and other inflatables from 4-8 p.m.

Performers include acoustic guitarist Jared Mahone from 4-6:30 p.m., and the rock and pop band Til September from 7-9 p.m.

The fireworks spectacular, fired from Constitution Park, begins at 9:30 p.m. Pets, sparklers and glass containers are strictly prohibited. Grills permitted only on asphalt areas.

For more information, go to meade.armymwr.com.

to midnight at Club Meade.

Doors open at 4 p.m.

The Brass Lounge offers food and drink specials.

The nightclub ambience features a disc jockey playing salsa, bachata, merengue, cumbia and reggaeton.

There is no cover charge.

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

For more information, call 301-677-6969.

Water flushing continues

American Water's annual Water Main Flushing Program continues on post through Friday.

The purpose of the program is to provide the best quality water available to customers by removing any buildup of sediment that may have occurred in the water lines.

Flushing may result in some temporary discoloration and the presence of sediment in the water. These conditions are

not harmful and should be of very short duration.

During the hours between 8 a.m. and 4 p.m., limit your use of water to help prevent discolored water reaching service lines to your residence.

If you notice an increase in discolored water at your residence, flush all faucets inside for 15 minutes. If the water does not clear up, contact the Water Treatment Plant at 443-591-0909.

This number is monitored daily 24/7.

Areas that may be affected from planned flushing through Friday are:

- Llewellyn Avenue
- Cooper Avenue between Mapes Road and Llewellyn Avenue
- Mapes Road between Hawkins Drive and Cooper Avenue
- English Avenue
- Paradise Field Lane
- Upton Avenue
- Washington Avenue
- Buckner Avenue
- Butler Street
- McKay Street

- Croft Place
- Estridge Avenue
- Faith Drive
- Hartel Street
- Gardner Lane
- Shea Loop

Streets adjacent to Mapes Road and Llewellyn Avenue may see a temporary change in their water during flushing activities.

Signs will be posted ahead of any flushing activities to notify customers of flushing activities.

Farmers market

The Fort Meade Farmers Market is open Wednesdays from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. through Oct. 12 at the Pavilion. It is closed Wednesday.

Pick up local produce or fresh baked goods, eat lunch at one of the seven food trucks and browse the assortment of vendors.

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.

'Wing-It Thursdays'

The Brass Lounge at Club Meade offers "Wing-It Thursdays" every Thursday in June from 4-8 p.m. to all ranks and services, and DoD ID cardholders.

Cost is 50 cents each. Dine-in only. Carry-out is not available.

For more information, call 301-677-6969 or go to meade.armymwr.com.

Outdoor Barbecue Wednesdays

The Lanes at Fort Meade offers Outdoor Barbecue Wednesdays.

Cost is \$9.

Menu features ribs or chicken on Wednesday and July 13; hot dogs, hamburgers or sausage on July 6 and July 27.

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

International menu at Club Meade

Club Meade is 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.

See **NEWS & NOTES**, page 14

NEWS & NOTES, *From page 13*

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

Menu includes:

July 5: All-American Buffet featuring hamburgers, fried chicken and fries; July 6: Greek buffet featuring chicken Souvlaki, gyros and hummus; July 7: Seafood buffet featuring fried shrimp and baked fish; July 12: Asian buffet featuring beef Bulgogi, and sweet & sour chicken; and July 14: Bastille Day buffet featuring Cordon Bleu and beef burgundy; and July 19: Mexican buffet featuring a taco bar and quesadillas.

For more information, call 301-677-6969.

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.

EDUCATION**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.

Military

- Pre-Separation Brief: July 7, 9-11:30 a.m., FFSC
- Sponsorship Training: July 8, 8-9:30 a.m., FFSC
- July 14, 9-10 a.m., ACS
- TGPS Five-Day Workshops (Transition, Goals, Plans, Success): July 11-15: 8 a.m. to 4 p.m., FFSC
- July 25-29: 8 a.m. to 4 p.m., FFSC
- Mobilization & Deployment: July 15 or July 22, 9:30-11 a.m., ACS
- Retiree Brief: July 18, 8-11:30 a.m., FFSC
- TGPS Two-Day Workshop: Boots to Business (Small Business Administration): July 20-21, 8 a.m. to 4 p.m., FFSC
- Pre-Deployment Brief: July 26, 10-11:30 a.m., FFSC

Financial

- Consumer Awareness: Tuesday, 9-11 a.m., ACS

Giant Voice danger alerts

The DoD requires that all military installations have mass notification systems that can warn personnel on the installation of impending danger.

The outdoor system is the “Giant Voice” that can be heard outdoors from anywhere on the installation.

If you hear the distinct hi-lo siren tone, that indicates you should pay attention and be prepared to listen for a verbal message with instructions, which will follow.

All prerecorded messages are set up to play three times consecutively. The prerecorded messages include:

■ Severe weather: “This is a severe weather warning for Fort Meade. Residents should immediately take cover. Go inside and tune to a local TV or radio station for details.”

■ Tornado warning: “Warning! This is a tornado warning for the Fort Meade area. Residents should immediately take cover.”

■ All-clear announcement

Remember, Giant Voice is an outdoor notification system and not intended to alert individuals inside buildings.

Those inside buildings should not go outside to hear the announcement better. Instead, they should check their internal communications modes for information.

Going outside could result in exposing yourself to the dangerous situation.

Program focuses on deterring, detecting and defending against consumer fraud in the marketplace.

• First-Term Financial Readiness: Tuesday, 8 a.m. to 4 p.m., ACS

This online course is required for all first-term service members and can be completed at your own pace.

• Dollars & Sense: July 5, 9 a.m. to noon, ACS

• Banking Basics: July 12, 9-11 a.m., ACS

• Car Buying: July 19, 9-11 a.m., ACS

• Basics of Investing: July 26, 9 a.m. to noon, ACS

• 1st Term Financial Readiness: July 26, 8 a.m. to 4 p.m., ACS

Employment

• Social Media For Job Seekers: Tuesday, 9 a.m. to noon, ACS

Learn to effectively use social media to find jobs and market yourself.

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

• Ten Steps To A Federal Job: July 6, 9 a.m. to noon, ACS

• Resume Workshop: July 12, 9 a.m. to noon, FFSC

• Career Exploration: July 26, 9 a.m. to noon, FFSC

Life Skills

• Anger Management: July 5, 9-11 a.m., FFSC

• Stress Management: July 14, 9-11 a.m.,

FFSC

• Time Management: July 27, 9-11 a.m., FFSC

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

For more information, call 301-677-9871.

YOUTH**Summer Reading Program**

The Summer Reading Program runs from Tuesday through Aug. 19 at the Children's and Young Adult Library at Kuhn Hall, 4415 Llewellyn Ave.

The free program, which is open to all ages, is held Tuesdays through Fridays at 10 a.m. or 2 p.m.

This year's theme is “Read For The Win.” The last day for turning in the “Reading Log” or to collect prizes is Aug. 19.

For more information, call 301-677-5677.

Teen Leadership Challenge

Teen Leadership Challenge: Seminars and Summer Bash for ages 13 to 19 will be held in July.

Orientation for all registered teens is July 7 at 9 a.m. at Army Community Service, 830 Chisholm Ave.

• Success For Teens: July 7, 9 a.m. to noon

- Money Habitude\$: July 14, 9 a.m. to noon
- Positive Life Choices: July 21, 9 a.m. to noon
- Operation 10-4 & CPR : July 28, 9 a.m. to noon
- End of Summer Bash: July 28, noon to 1 p.m.

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

Vacation Bible School

Vacation Bible School, for ages 4 through sixth grade, will be held Aug. 8-12 from 9 a.m. to noon at Argonne Hills Chapel Center, 7100 Rockenbach and Grandea roads.

Registration is open to the first 130 children.

Registration closes July 1.

Register online or at registration tables set up at both the Chapel Center and the Main Post Chapel.

To register online, go to www.groupvbspro.com/vbs/ez/ftmeadevbs2016.

For more information, call Marcia Eastland at 301-677-0386 or 301-677-6035.

Missoula Children's Theatre

The Missoula Children's Theatre returns to Fort Meade Aug. 1-6.

This performing arts residency program, hosted by SKIES Unlimited, gives children the opportunity to audition, rehearse and perform on stage.

Cost is \$35 for ages 5-7 and \$55 for ages 8-18. T-shirt is included in the fee.

Registration deadline is July 8 at Parent Central Services, 909 Reece Road.

For more information, call 301-677-1149.

Arts and Crafts Contest

Enter your best arts and crafts in the 2016 Army Arts and Crafts Contest for a chance to win prizes and Armywide recognition.

Deadline is Aug. 12.

The contest features categories for ceramics, digital, fiber, glass, mixed media, wood, drawing, painting and metal.

For eligibility requirements and submission instructions, visit armymwr.com/arts.

Babysitter's Certification Course

A Babysitter's Certification Course will be offered June 30 and July 1 from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the School Age Center.

The free course, for ages 12 and older, also will provide first aid and CPR certification.

Registration is required by Friday. Spaces are limited.

For more information or to register, call 301-677-1156 or 301-677-1149.

Summer camp events

The Youth and Teen Summer Day Camp is offering several activities this month:

- Basketball contests and tournaments: July 1, 6 p.m.

Cost is \$2 per player and \$3 for spectators.

- WiFi Scavenger Hunt: July 5, 6 p.m.

The event features giveaways and prizes. Parents are welcome.

- Grill & Chill With Parents: July 22, 6 p.m.

Parents and children will enjoy a summer dinner with board games, Jeopardy and a movie.

- Open Recreation Clubs' Summer Party: July 29, 6:30 p.m.

Attendees must be involved with Children, Youth and School Services' Open Recreation Clubs.

For more information, call 301-677-1329 or go to meade.armymwr.com.

Youth Center events

The Youth Center offers a variety of activities for students in grades six to eight.

- Paintball trip: Friday, 3-7 p.m.

Cost is \$15 for registered members and includes admission and transportation.

- Young Leaders Club meets Mondays and Wednesdays from 3:30- 4:30 p.m.

This club provides learning experiences to build leadership skills. Participants will go on field trips, see guest speakers and help the community.

- Robotics Club meets every Tuesday and Thursday from 4:30- 5:30 p.m.

Learn to build your own robot. Go on field trips and celebrate accomplishments with a monthly party.

For more information, call 301-677-1437.

RECREATION

Out & About

- **Quicken Loans National Golf Tournament** free tickets are available at Leisure Travel Services, located at 6530 B York Ave. Tickets are available on a first-come, first-served basis for one day of the tournament scheduled through Sunday at the Congressional Country Club in Bethesda.

There is a limit of four tickets per I.D. card. For more information, call 301-677-7354 or visit tigerwoodsfoundation.org.

- **Big Truck Day** will be hosted by the Anne Arundel County Public Library and the Anne Arundel County's Department of Public Works on Wednesday from 9:30-11:30 a.m. at the Odenton Regional Library, 1325 Annapolis Road.

Children can discover the features of 10 enormous trucks, ranging from dump trucks to street sweepers, and learn from the DPW staff. For more information, call

410-222-6277.

- **Six Flags America** discounted tickets are now available at Leisure Travel Services for the "Red, White, and Blue Days" from July 1-6.

Enjoy fireworks and live entertainment July 2-4.

Discount tickets are available at Leisure Travel Services, 6530B York Ave. Cost is \$30.

- **Six Flags' Military & DoD Appreciation Day** is July 16.

For more information, go to www.six-flags.com/america promo military 0204 or call Leisure Travel Services at 301-677-7354.

- **The Third Annual Cruise/Travel Night**, hosted by Leisure Travel Services, will be held July 26 from 5:30-7:30 p.m.

The event is open to all eligible patrons who have vacation and cruise questions, and will feature information and special offers from Apple Vacation, Carnival Cruise Line, Southwest Vacation, Royal Caribbean Homeric Tours and others.

Light refreshments and door-prize drawings will be available. For more information, call 301-677-7354 or visit meade.armymwr.com.

- **Columbia Lakefront Summer Festival** will be held Monday and Friday nights through Aug. 15 (except July 4); and Friday and Saturday nights from Aug. 19 to Sept. 9 at the Columbia Lakefront, 10221 Winco-pin Circle. Movies begin at dusk, about 8:30 p.m.

For more information, go to columbiaassociation.org/lakefront-festival.

- **The Naval Academy Band** will present an Independence Day concert of patriotic music on July 4 at 8 p.m. at Susan Campbell Park at the Annapolis City Dock, 1 Dock St.

After the performance, the city of Annapolis will launch a fireworks display over the harbor.

Naval Academy Band concerts are free and open to the public with no tickets required.

For more information, visit the band's website or call 410-293-1262.

MEETINGS

- **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.

- **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.

- **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 July 7. 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 July 7. All first class petty officers are invited. For more information, call PO1 Jennifer Wonch at 410-854-2763.

- **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 July 7.

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 July 7. 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 July 7. For more information, visit namiaac.org.

- **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 July 7. For more information, call 301-677-7823.

For more information, call retired Col. Jane Hudak at 301-319-2918 or email jane.l.hudak.ctr@health.mil.

- **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 July 8.

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.

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 July 2



UNIVERSAL PICTURES

Friday & Sunday: "Neighbors 2: Sorority Rising" (R). When their new next-door neighbors turn out to be a sorority even more debauchorous than the fraternity previously living there, a married couple teams with their former enemy to bring the girls down. With Seth Rogen, Zac Efron, Rose Byrne.

Saturday: "The Nice Guys" (R). A mismatched pair of private eyes investigate the apparent suicide of a fading porn star in 1970s Los Angeles. With Russell Crowe, Ryan Gosling, Angourie Rice.

July 1 & 3: "Alice Through The Looking Glass" (PG). Alice returns to the whimsical world of Wonderland and travels back in time to save the Mad Hatter. With Mia Wasikowska, Johnny Depp, Sacha Baron Cohen.

July 2: "The Angry Birds Movie" (PG). When an island populated by happy, flightless birds is visited by mysterious green piggies, it's up to three unlikely outcasts to figure out what the pigs are up to. With the voices of Jason Sudeikis, Josh Gad, Danny McBride.