

# Soundoff!

PUBLISHED IN THE INTEREST OF THE FORT MEADE COMMUNITY

THURSDAY, AUG. 18, 2016 | 68th Year Number 32  
FTMEADE.ARMY.MIL



Marine Sgt. Jerrin Neal, of the Marine Cryptologic Support Battalion, plays Archery Tag on Saturday at Burba Lake.  
For the story, see Page 10.

PHOTO BY STEVE RUARK

## ON THE 'CAVE QUEST'

Vacation Bible  
School guides kids

PAGE 6

## UPCOMING EVENTS

Today, 4-6 p.m.: Right Arm Night - Club Meade

Saturday, 7 p.m.: U.S. Army Field Band concert - Constitution Park

Sept. 14, 9 a.m.-2 p.m.: Community Job Fair - Club Meade

Wednesdays, 10 a.m.-2 p.m.: Fort Meade Farmers Market - Pavilion

## GEARED TO SAFETY

Auto Skills Center  
helps to do-it-yourself

PAGE 5



# Soundoff!

## EDITORIAL STAFF

### Garrison Commander

Col. Thomas S. Rickard

### Garrison Command Sergeant Major

Rodwell L. Forbes

### Public Affairs Officer

Chad T. Jones 301-677-1301

Chad.T.Jones.civ@mail.mil

### Chief, Command Information

Larry Whitley Sr. 301-677-5602

Larry.Whitley.civ@mail.mil

### Editor

Ganesa R. Robinson 301-677-6806

Ganesa.R.Robinson.civ@mail.mil

### Assistant Editor & Senior Writer

Rona S. Hirsch 301-677-1438

rhirsch@baltsun.com

### Staff Writer

Lisa R. Rhodes 301-677-1432

lrhodes@baltsun.com

### Staff Writer

Maddie Ecker 301-677-5159

mecker@baltsun.com

### Design Coordinator

Timothy Davis 301-677-1431

trdavis@baltsun.com

### Supplemental photography provided

by The Baltimore Sun Media Group

## DEADLINES

### Community notices

Friday, noon

rhirsch@baltsun.com

## CIRCULATION

If you would like information about receiving Soundoff! on Fort Meade or are experiencing distribution issues, call 877-886-1206 or e-mail TP@baltsun.com.

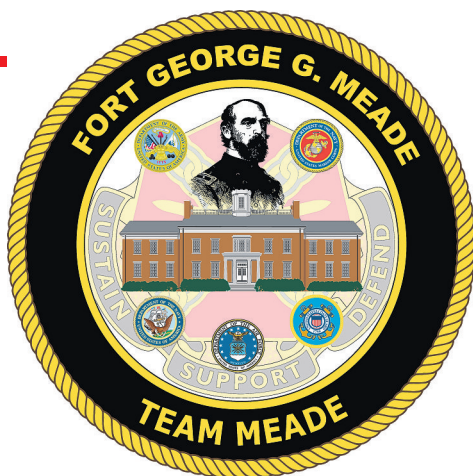
Office hours are Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 4 p.m., and Saturday through Sunday, 8 a.m. to noon.

Printed by offset method of reproduction as a civilian enterprise in the interest of the personnel at Fort George G. Meade, Maryland, by The Baltimore Sun Media Group, 501 N. Calvert St., Baltimore, MD 21278, every Thursday except the last Thursday of the year in conjunction with the Fort Meade Public Affairs Office. Requests for publication must reach the Public Affairs Office no later than Friday before the desired publication date. Mailing address: Post Public Affairs Office, Soundoff! IMME-MEA-PA, Bldg. 4409, Fort Meade, MD 20755-5025. Telephone: 301-677-5602; DSN: 622-5602.

Everything advertised in this publication must be made available for purchase, use or patronage without regard to race, creed, color, national origin, marital status, handicap or sex of purchaser, user or patron. A confirmed violation or rejection of this policy of equal opportunity by an advertiser will result in the refusal to print advertising from that source.

Printed by The Baltimore Sun Co., LLC, a private firm, in no way connected with the Department of the Army. Opinions expressed by the publisher and writers herein are their own and are not to be considered an official expression by the Department of the Army. The appearance of advertisers in the publication does not constitute an endorsement by the Department of the Army of the products or services advertised.

**Guaranteed circulation:** 12,339



[www.ftmeade.army.mil](http://www.ftmeade.army.mil)  
or [ftmeadesoundoff.com](http://ftmeadesoundoff.com)

## JOIN THE CONVERSATION



**Like** - [facebook.com/ftmeade](https://facebook.com/ftmeade)



**Follow** - [twitter.com/ftmeademd](https://twitter.com/ftmeademd)



**View** - [instagram.com/ftmeademedi](https://instagram.com/ftmeademedi)



**View** - [flickr.com/photos/ftmeade](https://flickr.com/photos/ftmeade)



**Watch** - [youtube.com/FortMeadeMD](https://youtube.com/FortMeadeMD)



**Get text alerts** from Fort Meade  
by texting "Follow FtMeadeAlert"  
to 40404

## ADVERTISING

**General Inquiries** 410-332-6300

[advertise@baltsun.com](mailto:advertise@baltsun.com)

**Death Notices:** 410-332-6781

[deathnotices@patuxent.com](mailto:deathnotices@patuxent.com)

## COMMANDER'S COLUMN - GUEST

# ESC: What it means to me

**H**ave you heard about the Enlisted Spouses' Club? I bet you have.

We are a proud group of spouses ready to pour our hearts out for the Fort Meade community through scholarships, fundraisers, donations and many other ways. We support programs and activities that benefit the Fort Meade military community and their families.

When I joined the ESC, I was a little hesitant because let's be real, you know what they say about spouses clubs. So what changed my mind? Having been a volunteer forever, I really wanted to get involved in the community — and not only for the sake of my sanity. I needed to get out there and do something. And boy, I am so happy I did.

If you are undecided about joining a spouse group, I encourage you to check my top five reasons why you should join a spouse club on your installation:

• **Participate in an organization whose focus is giving back to the Fort Meade community.**

The Enlisted Spouses' Club oversees the Post Thrift Shop and hosts many events including the ESC Clean Up! Fort Meade and the Children's Holiday Party. The last one brought a winter wonderland to almost 1,000 families on post last December.

All members volunteer, and the profits are put back into the Fort Meade community through scholarships and charitable donations. In the past year, we have awarded thousands of dollars in scholarships to military children and military spouses for their education.

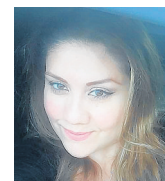
• **Be involved in a great military tradition as spouses' clubs have been around for many years.**

What they say about spouses clubs has nothing to do with the ESC. I was welcomed with open arms and with open hearts. I finally started to feel like I had a home away from home, and this group of people became the family the military gave me. They genuinely care about me and the well-being of my family. Why? Because we share a story and our story matters.

At the ESC we all have different backgrounds and interests. However, what we have in common is how much we strive to support one another and how much we are determined to help our community.

• **Attend special "members only" functions.**

We have so much fun doing what we do



**Mavi Conner**

ENLISTED  
SPOUSES' CLUB  
COMMUNICATIONS  
DIRECTOR

because when we are not conducting a community event, we get together for fun nights and go out for a movie, laser tag or dinner just to get away for little bit. We also have an annual club trip.

The ESC also makes sure you have all the information about the happenings on post. We even create our own events to support your growth.

• **Enjoy a few hours away from home — all of us need some "me time."**

I know how you feel. We all have been there, counting the days

or even hours until our spouse comes home. And you can actually have an adult conversation with someone because kids, though adorable, love to talk. You spend your time day-dreaming about the home you miss, which is miles away.

Sometimes you feel alone, and some other times you are perfectly fine. But we get you — it's a roller coaster. Just keep this in mind you don't have to ride alone.

• **Meet other great spouses who can specifically relate to you.**

We all know how it feels to arrive at a new assignment. Aside from socializing, spouse clubs can offer the support you need to get through a deployment, PCS, new birth or tragic event. After all, most of us have been there and done that.

We are made up of a diverse group of spouses from all branches and phases of life, representing a variety of skills, talents, abilities and interests.

So let's make the best of it. The happiest people don't have the best of everything, they just make the best of everything. Meet new friends, meet other spouses and share your passion.

At the ESC, our passion is volunteering for the Fort Meade community. We can do more together than any of us can do alone! You don't have to volunteer day and night, just give what you can, when you can!

Join us and see what I'm talking about. Check us out at our meeting tonight at 7 p.m. at Potomac Place Community Center. The social hour begins at 6:30 p.m.

You will be around people who are going through the same issues as you. I promise you, we will achieve great things together and we will also take care of each other.

Finally, another myth about spouses clubs: "It's only for girls." Guys, come on over tonight and meet Luis, our first male member of the ESC!

Find more about the ESC through our website at [FtMeadeESC.org](http://FtMeadeESC.org) — Facebook: [facebook.com/FortMeadeESC](https://facebook.com/FortMeadeESC) and Twitter: [www.twitter.com/FortMeadeESC](https://www.twitter.com/FortMeadeESC).



# Tricare Online combats appointment no-shows

BY CAPT. ZURI HILDRETH

Access to Care Manager,  
Kimbrough Ambulatory Care Center

**Y**ou could improve your access to health care appointments by showing up for the appointments that you've already scheduled.

An appointment no-show is defined as an individual — Soldier, retiree or family member — who misses or is significantly late to an appointment without canceling or rescheduling. Currently at Kimbrough Ambulatory Care Center, the appointment no-show rate is about 13 percent, far above the 5 percent tolerance set by U.S. Army Medical Command standards.

So far this year, Kimbrough has had about 7,300 patient appointment no-shows.

Appointment no-shows limit access to care for other patients and disrupt continuity of care. Those who cancel their appointments in a timely manner allow their reserved appointment space to be given to another patient, and patients who reschedule their appointments are less likely to need more and costly emergency care down the line.

Tricare Online, or TOL, offers the ability to make and cancel appointments 24/7. Patients are able to see and schedule real-time appointments and book an appointment in as little as two hours in advance. TOL also allows for real-time appointment cancellations, which automatically reopen for available booking.

In addition, patients can view and print future appointments, access their medical records with the "blue button," refill prescriptions and set up appointment reminders.

During the month of August, TOL is making many updates that will improve the functionality of the system. TOL will add a function that allows patients to reschedule appointments, view past appointments, and schedule earlier appointment notifications via text messaging and email.

"It's really easy now, just four clicks of my



PHOTO BY D. L. "PAUL" FARLEY

**Yazmin Donastorg, a call center agent for Kimbrough Ambulatory Care Center, answers a call from a beneficiary requesting a health care appointment.**

mouse and I am at the appointment page," said Linda Assur, Kimbrough's chief of Appointing Operations. "From there it's just three easy steps to schedule that appointment. I like it because I am able to actually see the available appointments and pick the one that works best for me, versus an agent telling me what they have."

Studies show that patients who schedule with TOL are more likely to keep or properly cancel their appointment. According to Assur, TOL is the superior method of scheduling and canceling appointments.

"Our call center is only open from 6 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.," Assur said. "We can receive up

to 100 calls an hour on a Monday morning, and a patient can wait in the queue for up to eight minutes before we are able to take their call."

The Kimbrough staff considers their patients important members of the team, and urges each of them to sign up for TOL [tricareonline.com](http://tricareonline.com).

Patients also can call the appointment line at 301-677-8800 to make and cancel appointments.

Patients should remember that if they are unable to attend a scheduled appointment, they should call or go online to cancel, because "an appointment missed by you, is an appointment missed by two."

## COMMUNITY CRIME WATCH

COMPILED BY FORT MEADE  
DIRECTORATE OF EMERGENCY  
SERVICES

**July 31, Shoplifting:** Security personnel at the Exchange stated that she observed the subject select multiple items that she concealed within her handbag. The subject later proceeded to exit the facility, going past the last point of sale without rendering payment for any concealed merchandise in her handbag.

**Aug. 5, Assault:** Police received a call for a family domestic in progress. When police arrived, they witnessed the subject pushing the victim out of their doorway into a car.

## For week of Aug. 1-7

Moving violations: 18  
Nonmoving violations: 0  
Verbal warnings for traffic stops: 49  
Traffic accidents: 6  
Driving on suspended license: 0  
Driving on suspended registration: 0  
Driving without a license: 0

## For week of Aug. 8-14

Moving violations: 38  
Nonmoving violations: 1  
Verbal warnings for traffic stops: 67  
Traffic accidents: 3  
Driving on suspended license: 1  
Driving on suspended registration: 1  
Driving without a license: 1

# Antiterrorism training next week

Antiterrorism Level 1 Training will be conducted Wednesday and Aug. 25 from 9 a.m. to noon at the Post Theater.

Only one session is required to meet the annual requirement.

This training is designed for those who do not have computer access.

If you have computer access, you can

take the required annual training at <https://jkodirect.jten.mil>. This web-based training is sponsored by the Joint Staff in coordination with the Military Services.

Completion of this training meets the annual requirement for Level I Antiterrorism Training prescribed by DoDI

2000.16.

The purpose of this training is to increase your awareness of terrorism and to improve your ability to apply personal protective measures. It also provides links to resources you can use in the future.

TARP incidents should be reported

using iSALUTE <https://www.in-scom.army.mil/isalute/default.aspx>.

Report suspicious activity using iWATCH <https://iwatcharmy.org/index.html>.

For more information, call the Fort Meade Garrison Antiterrorism Office at 301-677-4719 or 301-677-7908.



# U.S. Army Field Band presents concert with a bang

BY BRYAN C. SPANN  
Fort Meade Public Affairs Office

**T**here's a big celebration planned. The United States Army Field Band, a Fort Meade resident for more than 60 years, is staging its annual summer concert on Saturday in celebration of the band's 70th anniversary.

The free concert will be performed at 7 p.m. at Constitution Park.

The U.S. Army Field Band was formed in 1946 with a main performing group, the Concert Band. Since then, they've added several other performing ensembles.

"The U.S. Army Field Band has now been around for 70 years," Field Band Commander and Conductor Col. Jim Keene said. "We now have a concert band — I think the world's greatest concert band."

"We also have the United States Army Soldiers' Chorus. We have the Jazz Ambassadors, a big band, performing iconic music that was born in America. We have the Volunteers [a six-member, contemporary music band].

"We certainly appreciate the ability to support the Army in this way, performing music around the country and around the world."



FILE PHOTO

**The Soldiers' Chorus sings with the Concert Band during the 2013 U.S. Army Field Band's Summer Concert Series. This year's concert, which will be presented Saturday at 7 p.m. at Constitution Park, celebrates the 70th anniversary of the Field Band.**

The Field Band travels close to 15,000 miles each year. This year, they've visited 35 states. Luckily for the Fort Meade community, these top performers are able to take time out every summer and put on a concert featuring the Concert Band and Soldiers' Chorus.

For the anniversary concert, the Field Band will be joined by the 3rd U.S. Infantry Regiment ("The Old Guard") and the

Continental Color Guard.

"It's nice to be here at home, where we don't have to load up trucks and go too far," Keene said. "We just come to the other side of post at Constitution Park. We get a chance to bring in some local audience, and then we also get a chance for those people who support us day in, day out to come enjoy the evening."

A big part of the Field Band's summer

concert is welcoming back band alumni. This year's program, said Keene, includes a special alumnus.

"We have commanders coming back, all the way to Hal Gibson, who commanded the group from 1968 to 1974," Keene said. "He'll be back. He'll be on the podium conducting."

"The Army Field Band is an interesting family. They stay together for a career often. So we have really close relationships with our alumni. Many of them still live in the local area because they have roots here."

More than 100 band alumni and family are expected to help celebrate this year.

A concert highlight every summer is the performance of Tchaikovsky's "1812 Overture" complete with cannon fire provided this year by the Presidential Salute Battery.

The anniversary concert is open to the public. Visitors to Fort Meade, especially those without a DoD-issued ID, should remember that there is a new installation access policy in effect.

For more information, go to [ftmeade.army.mil](http://ftmeade.army.mil), click on the FAQ button at the top of the page, and select "Post Access FAQ."

To find out more about the U.S. Army Field Band, go to [armyfieldband.com](http://armyfieldband.com) or call 301-677-6586.



PHOTOS BY STEVE RUARK

## Public Health Command changes leadership

Col. Jacqueline Chando (above) bids farewell after relinquishing command of Public Health Command-Atlantic to Col. James D. Grady (pictured at right) in a change-of-command ceremony held Aug. 11 at Club Meade. Brig. Gen. Ronald J. Place (seated next to Chando), commander of Regional Health Command-Atlantic, presented Chando with a Legion of Merit certificate before the ceremony.





# Geared to safety

Auto Skills Center offers safety training, guidance for do-it-yourself work

BY DOUG MILLER

Baltimore Sun Media Group

**E**li Falcon wears a ball cap identifying him as a veteran of Operation Iraqi Freedom. But on a recent Saturday, he told a group of 11 men gathered around a hydraulic press in the Auto Skills Center on Taylor Avenue that his “scariest moment” happened at that very spot.

Mechanics use the press, which can exert up to 30 tons of pressure, to make bearings, ball joints and bushings work as they should. The occasion Falcon was remembering was when someone inadvisably used it on a drive chain.

The chain snapped under the force applied, sending a link flying like a bullet.

Falcon pointed to the bullet-sized hole it made in the cinder-block wall of the press room. It serves as a reminder to, when in doubt, get help.

“Ask the question. That’s all I’m asking,” he said.

Falcon and the rest of the staff at the Auto Skills Center make preventing such incidents their top priority.

Before they are permitted to perform

any work at the center, new patrons must view a 20-minute safety video and attend a briefing. Required training takes place Thursdays and Fridays at 7 p.m., and Saturdays at 10 a.m.

Eligible patrons — active-duty, retired and Reserve service members, civilian DoD employees and their families — must bring a Family and Morale, Welfare and Recreation card to access the facility.

Center staffers repeatedly stress the importance of safety precautions in the shop. Patrons can use a wealth of professional-grade tools and equipment for any number of do-it-yourself auto jobs, excluding body work, to make repairs and maintenance on privately owned vehicles.

Often, those making use of the center’s hydraulic lifts and other equipment come to do basic maintenance work.

“[That includes] a lot of oil changes, drain-and-fill stuff, tune-ups,” Gianna Lumford, operations clerk, said. “Occasionally, someone will overhaul their transmission or do engine work.”

The center keeps universal auto supplies and fluids available for customer purchase.

Retirees often show up “to do little things. It’s a project for them,” Lumford noted. “And some are fresh in the military and don’t have the money to take their car to a garage, so they’ll come here and do their own brakes.”



PHOTOS BY DANIEL KUCIN JR.

**Jacob Schilbach of Glen Burnie works on a car at Fort Meade’s Auto Skills Center. Eligible patrons must take a safety class offered by the facility before they are permitted to work on their vehicles.**

While it’s up to customers to do the work, they can always lean on the knowledge and experience of the staff, who circulate among the bays whenever the center is open.

“I grab them all the time,” said DoD employee Chris Beshere, a 10-year customer who recently enlisted staff help in repairing a stabilizer bar in his car.

Auto Skills Center customers also can get manufacturers’ step-by-step instructions for just about any given repair procedure from a database called All Data. But as Falcon pointed out, there’s more than one way to skin a carburetor.

“I can show them other ways to do the job,” he said.

Falcon said he gets a charge out of seeing an inexperienced mechanic learning by doing and gaining confidence during the process.

“Even a novice can do these things,” with the right kind of guidance, he said. “To have someone say, ‘I can’t believe I actually did this’ — that’s the best.”

While Falcon was giving the briefing and tour, DoD civilian Jason Clarke (“like Superman, only awesomer,” he said) stood behind him and, for several seconds until Falcon caught on, mimicked his gestures for the assembled newbies.

“Eli’s one of the best resources in this place,” Clarke said later.

Clarke, a customer of seven years who was working on a front-hub bearing assembly, related one occasion when Falcon showed him just the right place to

whack a stuck ball joint to free it without damage.

“He’s got encyclopedic knowledge, and practical ways to apply it,” Clarke said.

For Clarke, the Auto Skills Center offers not enough of a good thing.

“They need more days,” he said.

Because of budgetary concerns, the center reduced its hours of operation to three days several years ago.

The garage, which has 24 bays, opens at 9 a.m. on Saturdays.

“I was here at 8, and I was sixth in line to get a bay,” Clarke said. “If you’re not here early, you’re going to wait.”

Another longtime customer, Beltsville resident Troy Edwards, who worked in medical logistics at Walter Reed National Military Medical Center before he retired from the Army, has worked on transmissions and brakes at the Auto Skills Center, and has even taken a welding course there.

Edwards comes most often, however, to change the oil for his Nissan Pathfinder. He finds the center to be a resource of great value.

“It’s convenient, cost-effective and efficient,” Edwards said.

*Editor’s note: The Auto Skills Center, located at 6530A Taylor Ave., is open Thursdays and Fridays from 1 to 9 p.m., and Saturdays from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.*

*All work in progress must stop 30 minutes before closing.*

*For more information, call 301-677-5542.*



**(From left:) Ernst Aristor of Fort Meade, Tech Sgt. Tory Greer and Eli Falcon, a staffer at the Auto Skills Center, work together on a vehicle. As part of the safety training, patrons get a tour of the facility and learn to use the equipment.**





PHOTO COURTESY MARCIA EASTLAND

Marion Jones, 101, serves lunch to children at Vacation Bible School. Jones was the oldest volunteer in this year's program.

# Vacation Bible School emphasizes giving to others

By LISA R. RHODES  
Staff Writer

**V**acation Bible School provides a specialized form of religious education which focuses on children.

At Fort Meade, VBS provides a way for the installation's volunteer force to contribute to building character and empathy in children.

VBS is a weeklong program sponsored by the Religious Support Office and is targeted to youths ages 4 to 12.

The origins of VBS can be traced back to its beginnings in the 1890s, when schools and churches began to focus on

*"I really do think [children] should learn very early."*

*Marion Jones, age 101, volunteer at Fort Meade's Vacation Bible School*

Christian education for school-age elementary students.

In today's VBS program, children learn from curriculum used across the Army, which included a Bible story each day focusing on how Jesus works in the lives of everyday people. Through music, arts and crafts, sports and games, children learn about God's love.

Fort Meade's program, which began Aug. 8 and ended Friday, was held at Argonne Hills Chapel Center. The theme was "Cave Quest: Following Jesus The Light of The World."

Each day's program begins and ends with participants clapping and dancing to a music video featuring Christian music.

After a video presentation on Aug. 10, Marcia Eastland, Protestant education coordinator at the Chapel Center and director of VBS, asked the youths to take the canned goods they brought to the chapel and drop them in a donation box for the food pantry at the Fort Meade USO Center.

"It's better to give than to receive," Eastland said to the youngsters. "That's what Jesus would want us to do, to give to those in need."

The program also included a short movie presented each day about young people's real-life stories to encourage faith and show how Jesus can transform hearts.

Eastland said the multifaceted program could not succeed without the help of volunteers.

"We can't do without the volunteers. They make the program run," Eastland said. "Without them, I'd have to say 'VBS is canceled.'"

This year, 54 adult and youth volunteers ranging from ages 13 to 101 donated



PHOTO BY STEVE RUARK

Vacation Bible School volunteer Brenda Drew of Heritage Park leads an arts and crafts activity as 7-year-old Leah Ward raises her hand. VBS focuses on teaching youths the basic tenets of Christianity using music, arts and sports.



more than 1,255 hours to the program. Their service included making decorations for the church; decorating the sanctuary, church hallways and classrooms; and instructing the youths in biblical-themed activities.

At age 101, Marion Jones is the eldest volunteer this year. This was the first time she volunteered for VBS, helping to distribute lunch and snacks.

Jones said religious instruction is important for children.

"I really do think they should learn very early," she said. "A lot of children need to be in a program like this because the world can be a terrible place, and a lot of children don't know about God."

The youngest volunteer was 13-year-old Alexis McBey — also a first-time volunteer. A military child whose father serves in the Army, Alexis said she has participated in VBS all of her life.

"It gives [the children] an easy way to learn about God and have a fun experience," Alexis said. "I like working with kids. I grew up wanting to be a volunteer."

Kim Mitchell, a military spouse and volunteer who lives in Patriot Ridge, said she donates her time because of her faith and her love of children.

"VBS is such a beautiful program," she said, noting that the lessons children learn during the week can be applied throughout their lives.

Retired Sgt. 1st Class Will Strait said serving as a volunteer sets an important example for young people.

"What they learn from us — what to do and what not to do — can make a big difference in their lives," Strait said.

Volunteering reflects the program's theme of giving and fostering resilience.

For example, Eastland said the donation of canned goods to the USO



PHOTOS BY STEVE RUARK

**Marine Capt. Alex Livingston, of Marine Forces Cyberspace Command who lives in Heritage Park, and his 2-year-old son Oliver walk through a hallway at Argonne Hills Chapel Center decorated to look like a cave for "Cave Quest," the theme of this year's Vacation Bible School.**

"teaches [the children] to love God and others and to obey their parents."

Even children as young as 6-year-old Gabriel Latham said he likes VBS because of the inspirational Bible stories.

"They give us hope and courage," he said.



**Vacation Bible School campers sing at the front of the sanctuary at Argonne Hills Chapel Center during the weeklong religious education program.**



**Vacation Bible School participants Noa Walker (left), 7, and Alijah Latham, 8, enjoy a Christian-themed music video.**



# USO provides free backpacks filled with back-to-school supplies

BY LISA R. RHODES

Staff Writer

**G**etting ready for school is at the top of the list for many Fort Meade families.

On Saturday, the Fort Meade USO Center held its annual Operation Back to School event for 300 military children at the Pavilion.

The two hour event, sponsored by six companies, provided free backpacks filled with school supplies. The corporate sponsors were Bae Systems, Booz Allen Hamilton, Raytheon, Google, CACI and Emergent.

"It went great," said Shawn Sabia, Fort Meade USO Center supervisor. "Everyone had a great time, despite the heat. Everybody left with smiles."

The Fort Meade USO Center is part of the USO of Metropolitan Washington-Baltimore based at Joint Base Myer-Henderson Hall at Fort Myer, Va.

To obtain a free backpack filled with back-to-school supplies, the children participated in fun activities at stations set up around the Pavilion. The activities centered around school subjects such as math, reading, art, gym and history.

Once participants completed an activity at a station, they received a stamp on a "report card" before moving onto the next station.

After their report card was filled with stamps, the children then claimed their backpack. Helping military families by providing these school items is "imperative," said Sabia.

"This is a high-cost-of-living area and every bit helps," he said. "It's also a fun event and helps children get excited about going back to school."



PHOTOS BY DANIEL KUCIN JR.

**ABOVE: Five-year-old Angelo Berumen of West Meade Elementary School chooses a free backpack filled with school supplies during the Fort Meade USO Center's annual Operation Back to School event Saturday at the Pavilion.**



**Six-year-old Skylar Dowell, a student at Manor View Elementary School, draws a picture for the arts activity station.**



**Lily Rankin, 11, a student at Pershing Hill Elementary School and Quinn Ross (right), 5, a student at Meade Heights Elementary School, perform jumping jacks at the gym station during Operation Back to School.**



# BOSS hits bull's-eye with Archery Tag, barbecue lunch

By DOUG MILLER

Baltimore Sun Media Group

**“W**haaaat,” Lance Cpl. Matthew Waltz sang out in triumph, having snatched yet another arrow in mid-flight.

As the Marine performed his victory dance, the opponent who had fired the shot walked off the field of play, leaving the Army side another man short.

This scenario repeated itself often in sweltering temperatures Saturday as Army personnel — even when they had superior numbers — couldn't solve the opposing force of Marines and Airmen in several rounds of Archery Tag at Burba Lake.

About 20 service members showed up to take part in or watch the game, a mix of paintball and dodge ball in which teams of six use bows and foam-tipped arrows. The four-hour event was sponsored by Fort Meade's Better Opportunities for Single Service Members, or BOSS.

In addition to staging fun activities, the BOSS program also provides volunteerism opportunities, help with quality-of-life issues and training in life skills.

For Saturday's event, Deer Creek Archery brought the equipment from Churchville, located near Aberdeen Proving Ground. Instead of a pointed tip, Archery Tag arrows end with a circular plastic platform. An off-white, foam rubber cylinder about 2 1/2 inches long is affixed to the platform. The whole thing looks a bit like a marshmallow on a stick.

The gear also included inflatable barriers that players use as cover. Occasionally, a gust of wind would send a barrier rolling across the playing field.

Players wore protective masks with goggles.

As in dodge ball, players eliminate opponents either by striking them with their projectiles or by catching in the air those fired by an opponent.

But Archery Tag adds a wrinkle: two rectangles, about 30 inches by 18 inches, one on each side of the imaginary line at midfield that separates the two teams. Each of these targets contains five foam dots. If a player can knock one of the dots out of its holder in the opponents' zone, an eliminated teammate re-enters the field of play.

Players at Saturday's BOSS event, however, quickly abandoned that tactic.

“It's too hard to hit those targets,” Waltz said during a break in the action.

He had come up with a different strategy. While his teammates and their Army adversaries took aim and fired at one another, Waltz concentrated on retrieving the opposition's errant arrows.



A group of about 20 service members who came to play or watch Archery Tag, a blend of paintball and dodge ball in which teams of six use bows and foam-tipped arrows, take a break to eat a barbecued lunch. The four-hour event, held Saturday at Burba Lake, was sponsored by Better Opportunities for Single Service Members, or BOSS.

PHOTOS BY STEVE RUARK

“I put ‘em in piles” where his teammates could get at them easily, he said.

Waltz eventually set his bow aside in favor of scurrying about the playing field, gathering grounded arrows, dodging shots and knocking out opponents by catching their misfires.

His efforts helped his team build in the ability to overcome the challenge of facing an opponent with superior numbers.

“The one time I shoot accurately and he catches it,” Spc. Ricardo Jones lamented good-naturedly as he made his exit.

“Come on, Jones, run up to the mid-line and fire,” Pfc. Cody Rein needled his Army teammate from the sideline after being eliminated.

Rein said he had taken part in BOSS events before, including a trip to Busch Gardens, Va., “but this is the first really active one.”

Despite the high humidity, for Marine Lance Cpl. Matthew Nolen, an experienced bow hunter, the BOSS event was “quite literally, a day in the park.”

Players broke for lunch catered by Mission BBQ, which included barbecued pork, beef and chicken, cole slaw, green beans, and

macaroni and cheese.

“This is the best part of BOSS,” Rein said as he filled his plate.

Spc. Derek Young made sure there was plenty of soft drinks and bottled water to keep players cool and hydrated. Young, the Fort Meade BOSS president, said he hopes to have the program acquire its own license for the trademarked game of Archery Tag and sponsor more matches in the future.

Although Waltz has only been at Fort Meade for about four months, he said he had already taken part in four of five BOSS events, including a trip to Rehoboth, Del.

“It was my first time ever at the beach,” the Kentucky native said.

Garrison Command Sgt. Maj. Rodwell L. Forbes attended Saturday's event but waved off attempts to cajole him into playing the game.

Forbes praised the BOSS organizers and participants for the event's success and for the camaraderie BOSS has fostered.

“This shows the diversity of Fort Meade,” Forbes said. “It shows we can do more together than we can do individually.”



Wearing protective masks with goggles, BOSS members play Archery Tag Saturday at Burba Lake Park.



Garrison Command Sgt. Maj. Rodwell L. Forbes (left) partakes in a Mission BBQ lunch of pork, beef and chicken, cole slaw, green beans, and mac and cheese with other service members during the four-hour BOSS event.



Spc. Charles Marcher (right) of the 781st Military Intelligence Battalion tries his hand at a round of Archery Tag.



BOSS members chat beside the Archery Tag arrows distinguished by off-white, foam rubber cylinders resembling marshmallows affixed to the tips.



# Soldier-athletes run Olympic distances to inspire Army troops

BY TIM HIPPS

Installation Management Command

RIO DE JANEIRO — Spcs. Leonard Korir and Shadrack Kipchirchir gratefully represented Soldiers in the U.S. Army as members of Team USA in the men's 10,000-meter run on Saturday at the Rio Olympic Games.

Defending champion Mohamed Farah of Great Britain won the race in 27 minutes, 51.7 seconds, followed by silver medalist Paul Kipngetchi Tanui (27:05.64) of Kenya and bronze medalist Tamirat Tola (27:06.17) of Ethiopia.

Korir and Kipchirchir were proud to be on the track with the world's best runners. Both Soldiers ran their season-best times, with Korir finishing 14th in 27:29.40 and Kipchirchir in 19th place with a time of 27:36.79.

"When you see Mo Farah on the line, you know it's going to be a great competition," said Korir, 29, a native of Iten, Kenya. "I was happy about it. One day I will be saying I ran with Mo Farah in the 10,000. That's so good."

The Olympics embody the enduring resilience of our Soldier-athletes' commitment to teamwork, determination and perseverance. At the end of the day, that wasn't enough to win on the word stage.

"I tried to follow the leaders at first and I went as far as I could, but with 5 kilometers to go, they really took it out, and I could not go," said Kipchirchir, 27, a native of Eldoret, Kenya. "My goal was to go with them for as long as I could, and that's what I did, but my gas ran out."

The two Soldier-Olympians have come a long way to make it to Rio. They both came from Kenya to attend college in America, earned their degrees, became American citizens, joined the Army World Class Athlete Program, earned spots on Team USA at the Olympic Trials, and represented their new country in Brazil as military athletic ambassadors.

"It's been great being in the Army," said Kipchirchir, 27, who competed in college for Western Kentucky and Oklahoma State. "The time they give me to train and all the equipment they give me to train, I'm grateful. They give me all the support I ask. I'm very proud to be an Army Soldier."

These Army World Class Athlete Pro-



TIM HIPPS/IMCOM PUBLIC AFFAIRS

**Spcs. Leonard Korir and Shadrack Kipchirchir finish 14th and 19th respectively in the men's 3,000-meter run on Saturday at the 2016 Rio Olympic Games. Both Soldiers in the U.S. Army World Class Athlete Program turned in their season-best performances, with Korir finishing in 27 minutes, 58.65 seconds and Kipchirchir clocked at 27:58.32.**

gram Soldiers represent the Army and live the Olympic spirit every time they step on the track or the roads to race.

Soldier-athletes also help reconnect America with the Army by illustrating that they are more than just war-fighters, and inspire the fellow troops who follow their career paths off the battlefields, particularly at international competitions like the Olympics, Pan American Games, CISM Military Games, and World Championships.

"I just want to give a shout out to my battle buddies out there," Kipchirchir said. "I just want to run for them, and that's what I did here. It is all about them."

With his competition completed at the Rio Games, Korir said he will continue to embrace the mission of being a "Soldier first."

"At the moment, I'm just now in the Army," Korir said. "I like being in the Army. It's something I've wanted since I was young. I always wanted to be in the Army. It's like I'm doing two jobs: running and working in the Army. I think in the future that will help me continue to run well."

## SPORTS SHORTS

### Baysox Military Heroes Cards

The Bowie Baysox will celebrate Military Heroes Appreciation Night with a special card set giveaway featuring local military heroes on Aug. 26, as the team takes on the Binghamton Mets at 7:05 p.m.

The first 1,000 fans ages 18 and older will receive the 18-card set, filled with current and former members of the military who were nominated by family and friends earlier this year.

The cards feature photographs and information about the military careers of the selected individuals. The Baysox will honor these veterans and/or their families in special ceremonies before, during and after the game.

The night will be capped off by a cannon display from The Old Guard during the "1812 Overture" and a fireworks display presented by Anne Arundel Medical Center.

Tickets for this event are available at baysox.com.

### Get Fit and Bowl

The Lanes at Fort Meade is offering free bowling and shoe rental every Friday in August from noon to 5 p.m.

For more information, call 301-677-5541 or go to meade.armymwr.com.

### 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.

### 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.

### Murphy 24-hour fitness facility

Murphy Field House offers 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 responsibly 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.

### Free unit bowling

The Lanes at Fort Meade offers free bowling for all active-duty military units on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Fridays from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Free unit bowling is offered for one hour.

For more information, call 301-677-5541 or go to meade.armymwr.com.

## Jibber-less

Public Affairs Officer Chad T. Jones, author of Jibber Jabber, is out of the office.

As always, if you have any comments about Jibber Jabber or anything to do with the world of sports, e-mail chad.t.jones.civ@mail.mil.



## 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](http://ftmeade.army.mil) and the Fort Meade Facebook page at [facebook.com/ftmeade](https://facebook.com/ftmeade).

### How 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](http://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.

## NEWS & EVENTS

### NEW VCC hours

Beginning Monday, the new operating hours at the Demps Visitor Control Center are Monday to Friday from 7:30 a.m. to 6 p.m. The VCC is closed weekends.

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 or visit the Fort Meade Facebook page for announcements on temporary changes to operating hours.

To find out how to preregister, go to [goo.gl/xyTzhg](http://goo.gl/xyTzhg).

### Kimbrough closure

All Kimbrough Ambulatory Care Center departments, including the Exchange Pharmacy, will close Friday at noon for a command organization day event.

### Antiterrorism training next week

Antiterrorism Level 1 Training will be conducted Wednesday and Aug. 25 from 9 a.m. to noon at the Post Theater.

Only one session is required to meet the annual requirement.

This training is designed for those who

## Freedom Inn open to post employees



FILE PHOTO

**The Freedom Inn Dining Facility, located at 8502 Simonds St., is now open to all active-duty service members, military retirees, DoD civilians, contractors, and Department of the Army security guards and firefighters on Monday through Friday.**

**Active-duty service members on Basic Allowance for Subsistence are also authorized for meals on the weekend. Family members of military personnel may purchase meals on weekdays if they are accompanied by the service member.**

**All other categories of customers may purchase meals as the garrison commander deems appropriate. These categories include youth groups, MEPS candidates, civilian dignitaries, guests and other visitors.**

**Service members with a meal card will continue to have priority over cash-paying customers.**

**Previously, the Freedom Inn was open to enlisted service members with a meal card. Other DoD personnel were also allowed to use the dining facility for lunch on Fridays and other designated days such as holidays.**

**For more information, call 301-677-5503.**

do not have computer access.

If you have computer access, you can take the required annual training at <https://jkodirect.jten.mil>. This web-based training is sponsored by the Joint Staff in coordination with the Military Services.

Completion of this training meets the annual requirement for Level I Antiterrorism Training prescribed by DoDI 2000.16.

The purpose of this training is to increase your awareness of terrorism and to improve your ability to apply personal protective measures. It also provides links to resources you can use in the future.

Report TARP incidents using iSALUTE <https://www.inscom.army.mil/isalute/default.aspx>

Report suspicious activity using iWATCH <https://iwatcharmy.org/index.html>

For more information, call the Fort Meade Garrison Antiterrorism Office at

301-677-4719 or 301-677-7908.

### Summer concert

The U.S. Army Field Band will present its 70th anniversary concert featuring the Concert Band and Soldiers' Chorus on Saturday at 7 p.m. at Constitution Park.

The free, family-friendly concert is open to the public. No tickets required.

The program will include Tchaikovsky's "1812 Overture," the Presidential Salute Battery of the 3rd U.S. Infantry Regiment ("The Old Guard") and the Continental Color Guard.

Bring lawn chairs or blankets for seating. In the event of inclement weather, the concert will be canceled and not rescheduled.

For more information, go to [ArmyFieldBand.com](http://ArmyFieldBand.com) or call 301-677-6586. In inclem-

ent weather, a weather call will be made by noon on the day of the concert and posted on [ArmyFieldBand.com](http://ArmyFieldBand.com).

### R&B Night

Enjoy a night of dancing at R&B Night on Sept. 9 from 7 p.m. to midnight at Club Meade.

Doors open at 4 p.m.

The event features food and drink specials. There is no cover charge.

R&B Nights are held on the second Friday of every month.

For more information, call 301-677-6969.

### Community Job Fair

The Fort Meade Community Job Fair will be held Sept. 14 from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. at Club Meade, 6600 Mapes Road.

The free event is open to all job seekers and will host more than 60 employers and companies. Bring plenty of resumes.

The event also will feature a "Resume Doctor Service" that provides free resume evaluations and preparation assistance.

A free shuttle will transport attendees to the entrance of Club Meade.

Free ASL interpreter services will be available and must be scheduled by Sept. 1.

For more information and a complete list of employers, go to [meade.armymwr.com](http://meade.armymwr.com) and click on "Job Fair."

### Swinging Squares

A free introduction to the Swinging Squares Square Dance Club, which features Modern Western Square Dancing, will be offered Sept. 22 from 7 to 8:30 p.m. at Meade Middle School.

Classes will be offered Thursday nights from 7-9 p.m. at Meade Middle School starting Sept. 29.

Session 1 runs from Sept. 29 to Dec. 15, with a class dance night on Dec. 17.

The session is open to adults and children ages 9 and older.

No experience, no partner and no fancy clothes required.

Swinging Squares club dances the third and fifth Saturday of each month (excluding school holidays) from September to May from 7:30-10 p.m. at Meade Middle School.

For more information, call Carl at 410-271-8776 or Darlene at 410-519-2536.

### OSC Super Sign-Up

The Fort Meade Officers' Spouses' Club Super Sign Up will be held Aug. 25 from 10 a.m. to noon and from 6-8 p.m. at Heritage Park Community Center.

OSC registration is open to new, returning and prospective members: spouses and widows of officers (active-duty, warrant, Reserve, Guard and retired service members). See **NEWS & NOTES**, page 14



## NEWS & NOTES, *From page 13*

bers) and spouses of DoD civilians (GS9 and above) assigned to the Military District of Washington.

There is no cost.

For more information, email Annie at membership.ftmosc@gmail.com.

## Right Arm Night

Bring your right arm service member, colleague or employees to Joint Services Right Arm Night today at 4 p.m. at Club Meade.

The event will feature free food, games and prizes.

Right Arm Night is open to all ranks and services, military and civilians.

Reserve unit tables at 301-677-4333.

## Latin Night

Celebrate Latin Night at the Brass Lounge on Aug. 26 and Sept. 30 from 7 p.m. to midnight at Club Meade.

Doors open at 4 p.m.

The Brass Lounge offers food and drink specials. There is no cover charge.

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

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 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:

- Cooper Avenue
- Ruffner Road
- MacArthur Road
- Reece Road
- 2nd Corps Boulevard
- Larkin Road
- Koogle Street
- Jordan Court
- Jones Drive

- Buffington Street
- Harris Road
- Sterling Lane
- Stewart Loop
- 2nd Army Drive
- Long Loop
- Fernandez Court
- Olive Court
- Pierce Court
- Chatillon Street
- Brandt Court
- Wilkinson Court
- Richards Court
- Wadsworth Court
- Brown Street
- Diggins Drive
- Taylor Lane
- Hayden Drive
- Hartell Street
- Hart Road
- Thompson Court
- Moon Court
- Leyte Street
- Benjamin Court
- Baxter Court
- Hopkins Court
- Incheon Street
- 5th Corps Road
- Stewart Court
- Wigle Road
- Thompson Lane
- Meyers Road
- Lauffer Court
- McGee Court

Streets adjacent to Cooper Avenue, Ernie Pyle Street and Reece Road may see a temporary change in their water during flushing activities.

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

## Farmers market

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

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.

## Outdoor Barbecue Wednesdays

The Lanes at Fort Meade offers Outdoor Barbecue Wednesdays.

Cost is \$9.

Menu features ribs or chicken on Wednesday, and hot dogs, hamburgers or bratwurst on Aug. 31.

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 offers a variety of international-themed buffets that vary daily.

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

Menu includes:

Today: Seafood Buffet: Fried catfish and Seafood Newburg; Tuesday: Middle Eastern Buffet: Souvlaki, gyros and lemon potatoes; Wednesday: All-American Buffet: Hamburger bar, fried chicken and broccoli; and Aug. 25: Stir-fry Buffet: chicken, beef, vegetables, rice and noodles.

For more information, call 301-677-6969.

## EDUCATION

### New Employee Orientation

The next Fort Meade New Employee Orientation briefing is scheduled for Sept. 14 from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. at McGill Training Center, Classroom 2.

All new employees who have not attended the training should do so.

For more information, call 301-677-4719.

### 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

• TGPS (Transition, Goals, Plans, Success) Five-Day Workshop: Monday to Aug. 26, 8 a.m. to 4 p.m., FFSC

• Pre-Deployment Brief: Aug. 25, 10-11:30 a.m., FFSC

#### Financial

• Credit Management: Tuesday, 9 a.m. to noon, ACS

• 1st Term Financial Readiness (online class): Tuesday, 8 a.m. to 4 p.m., ACS

• Transitioning To Retirement: Aug. 30, 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., ACS

#### Employment

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

#### Education

• Assessing Higher Education: Aug.

31-Sept. 1, 8 a.m. to 4 p.m., FFSC

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

For more information, call 301-677-9871.

## YOUTH

### Driver's Ed

A certified Driver's Education Course will be offered Sept. 19-30 from 3-6:15 p.m. at the Teen Center.

Cost is \$320 per student. Fee includes 30 hours of classroom education and six hours of behind-the-wheel training.

Participants must be registered with Child, Youth and School Services prior to enrolling.

Registration is open until Sept. 9. Spots are limited, register early.

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

### Youth Tumbling

Tumbling classes will be offered to children ages 3 and older on Wednesdays starting in September at the Youth Center.

Cost varies depending on age of child.

Participants must be registered with Child, Youth and School Services prior to enrolling.

Registration is open until Aug. 29.

For more information, call 301-677-1149.

### CYSS Shuttle Service

Beginning Sept. 6, Child, Youth and School Services will provide a free shuttle for all CYSS registered members from the Youth Center and Teen Center to various Fort Meade community centers.

For more information, call 301-677-1437 or go to meade.army.mwr.com.

### Teen skate park

The Teen Center Skate Park is open to grades nine to 12 on the first and third Friday of the month from 3-5 p.m.

Helmets must be worn at all times in the park.

Skateboards and safety equipment will be provided, but teens may bring their own items.

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

For more information, call 301-677-6054.

### 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

• **Community Fair & Movie Night** is Saturday at 6 p.m. at the Agape Center, 8423 Veterans Highway, Millersville.

Admission is free.

The movie, "Rio 2," starts at 8 p.m. Bring lawn chairs to watch.

The event will feature health screenings, carnival games, arts and crafts, voter registration, a moon bounce, karate demonstration, Double Dutch exhibition, face painting, a balloon artist and refreshments.

For more information, call Crystal Staples at 410-919-3436, or Paula Henry at 410-707-6333 or email plhenry63@yahoo.com.

• **Toby's Dinner Theatre** presents "Hair-spray" the Broadway musical through Sept. 4; "Sister Act" from Sept. 8 through Nov. 13; and "A Christmas Carol" from Nov. 17 through Jan. 8 at 5900 Symphony Woods, Columbia. Discounted tickets are available at Leisure Travel Services. For more information, call LTS at 301-677-7354 or Toby's at 410-730-8311.

• **Maryland State Fair** will be held from Aug. 25-Sept. 5 at the Maryland State Fairgrounds, 2200 York Road, Timonium.

Main Midway hours are Saturdays through Sundays and Labor Day Monday from 10 a.m. to 10 p.m., and weekdays at 2 p.m. to closing.

Kiddie Land rides hours are Saturdays through Sundays and Labor Day Monday from 10 a.m. to 10 p.m., and weekdays from noon to 10 p.m.

Charlie Puth headlines My unFAIRgettable MD State Fair Concert Series featuring Bobby Bones & The Raging Idiots and Jana Kramer.

General admission is \$8. Tickets cost \$6 for seniors ages 62 and older, and \$3 for children ages 6-11. Children 5 and younger are free (rides not included).

A ticket is required for concert-goers ages 3 and older for concerts held in the Racetrack Infield.

Pets are not permitted, except for service dogs and dogs participating in the 4-H/FFA portion of the Maryland State Fair.

Unlimited Rides Wristbands are only available Aug. 26, Aug. 29 through Sept. 1, and Labor Day Monday, Sept. 5. Fair admission is not included.

For more information and a complete schedule of events, go to [marylandstatefair.com](http://marylandstatefair.com).

• **Leisure Travel Services** will offer its next monthly bus trip to New York City on Aug. 20 (and Sept. 17) from 7 a.m. to 11 p.m. Cost is \$60. Discounted tickets to attractions will be provided. For more information, call 301-677-7354.

## MEETINGS

• **Prostate Cancer Support Group** meets at Walter Reed National Military Medical Center in Bethesda on the third Thursday of every month. The next meeting is today from 1-2 p.m. and 6:30-7:30 p.m. in the America Building, River Conference Room (next to the Prostate Center), third floor.

Spouses/partners are invited. Military ID is required for base access. Men without a military ID should call the Prostate Center at 301-319-2900 at least four business days prior to the event for base access.

For more information, call retired Col. Jane Hudak at 301-319-2918 or email [jane.l.hudak.ctr@mail.mil](mailto:jane.l.hudak.ctr@mail.mil).

• **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.

• **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.

• **Fort Meade Chapter of the Military Officers Association of America** will hold its next luncheon meeting on Aug. 31 at 11:30 a.m. at Club Meade.

Guest speaker is George W. Owings III of the Maryland Secretary of Veteran Affairs.

Cost of luncheon is \$16. Reservations are required.

The public is invited. Guests do not need to be a member to attend. For reservations or more information, call Wayne Hobbs at 410-799-8331.

• **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 Sept. 1. 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 Sept. 1. All first class petty officers are invited. For more information, call PO1 Jennifer Wonch at 410-854-2763.

• **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 Sept. 1. Dinner is served at 6 p.m. For more information, call Charisma Wooten at 240-568-6055.

• **Retired Officers' Wives' Club** will hold its September Welcome Brunch on Sept. 6 at 11 a.m. at Club Meade for another year of programs, trips and fellowship.

Cost of the brunch is \$20. Reservations are required by noon on Sept. 1.

Call your area representative or Betty Wade at 410-551-7082.

The opening program will feature information from other clubs, community organizations and the Office of the Garrison Commander.

Membership dues are \$25 per year. Members may bring guests to the luncheons, which are held on the first Tuesday of each month, except in June, July, August and January.

Regular membership in the ROWC is extended to spouses, widows and widowers of retired officers and to retired officers of all branches of the military services.

Associate membership may be extended to adult caregivers and relatives of the household; OSC members, DOD employees who retired at the grade of GS-9 or GGD-9 and above; to local government retirees of the equivalent professional rank as the DOD members; and to veterans who served as officers in the military but separated from the service before retirement.

For more information, call Lianne Roberts, ROWC president, at 301-464-5498.

• **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 Sept. 9.

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](http://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](http://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 Aug. 28



SONY PICTURES/TNS

**Friday & Sunday: "Ghostbusters" (PG-13).** Following a ghost invasion of Manhattan, paranormal enthusiasts, a nuclear engineer and a subway worker band together to stop the otherworldly threat. With Melissa McCarthy, Kristen Wiig, Kate McKinnon, Leslie Jones.

**Saturday: "The Secret Life of Pets" (PG).** The quiet life of a terrier named Max is upended when his owner takes in Duke, a stray whom Max instantly dislikes. With the voices of Louis C.K., Eric Stonestreet, Kevin Hart.

**Friday: "Lights Out" (PG-13).** When a woman's little brother experiences the same events that once tested her sanity, she works to unlock the truth behind the terror, which brings her face to face with an entity that has an attachment to their mother. With Teresa Palmer, Gabriel Bateman, Maria Bello.

**Saturday: "Ice Age: Collision Course" (PG).** Manny, Diego, and Sid join up with Buck to fend off a meteor strike that would destroy the world. With the voices of Ray Romano, Denis Leary, John Leguizamo.

**Sunday: "Star Trek Beyond" (PG-13).** The USS Enterprise crew explores the furthest reaches of uncharted space, where they encounter a new ruthless enemy who puts them and everything the Federation stands for to the test. With Chris Pine, Zachary Quinto, Karl Urban.