

# Soundoff!

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PHOTO BY NATE PESCE

With Halloween around the corner, Tyrannosaurus rex, aka Pvt. David Garcia, gives chase to Gumby (poor William Davis) during the Fort Meade Ghosts, Ghouls and Goblins 5K Run that began Saturday morning at the Pavilion. For race results, see Page 10. For information on post trick-or-treating safety, see Page 2.

## VOICE FOR OPPORTUNITY

Disability advocate  
talks inclusion

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## UPCOMING EVENTS

**Today, 4-6 p.m.:** Joint Service Right Arm Night at Club Meade  
**Monday, 6-8 p.m.:** Hallelujah Festival at the Pavilion  
**Monday, 6-8 p.m.:** Trick-or-treating on post  
**Wednesday, 9 a.m.-2 p.m.:** Veterans Job Fair at Club Meade

## TAKING THE PLUNGE

DINFOS prepares  
for Toilet Bowl

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# Soundoff!

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Friday, noon

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## COMMANDER'S COLUMN - GUEST

# Keep children safe on Halloween night

**H**alloween is fast approaching and parents and children alike are looking forward to celebrating.

This year, there will be numerous opportunities on the installation to celebrate this special day in your own unique way. Some of those opportunities offered Monday from 6-8 p.m. are trick-or-treating on post, enjoying "Candy with a Cop" at the Fort Meade Pavilion and attending the Hallelujah Festival at the Pavilion, or passing out candy and treats at your residence,

No matter which way you decide to celebrate this holiday, please remember to do it safely.

Halloween is one of the deadliest times for pedestrian-involved traffic collisions. From impaired and distracted drivers to the high volume of pedestrians and decreased lighting conditions, this mixture has made the day a magnet for pedestrian deaths.

Throughout the years, the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration has reported that Halloween is consistently one of the top three days for pedestrian injuries and fatalities.

But I am happy to say that during the past two years, our installation has not had one serious injury or fatal traffic collision involving pedestrians on Halloween.

The Fort Meade Police Department takes pride in providing the Fort Meade community a safe environment to work and live. Keeping with the theme of traffic safety is public safety.

Here are some tips to ensure your experience during this special night is safe and enjoyable:

### Tips for motorists:

♦ Slow down and be alert in residential areas and parking lots.

♦ Use caution when entering and exiting driveways and alleys.

♦ Don't drive distracted. Concentrate on the road and your surroundings. Park the phone before you drive!

♦ Watch for children darting out between or in front of parked cars.



**Lt. Daniel Schismenos**

TRAFFIC  
SECTION CHIEF,  
FORT MEADE  
POLICE,  
DIRECTORATE OF  
EMERGENCY  
SERVICES

♦ Obey traffic control signs and devices.

### Tips for pedestrians:

♦ Be bright at night: Wear retro-reflective tape on costumes and improve visibility to motorists and others by treating your candy bag or buckets with reflective tape.

♦ Carry a working flashlight or chemical light source. Put it in your candy bag or bucket to keep your hands free and light up the bag.

♦ Never shine lights into the eyes of motorists.

♦ Wear disguises that don't obstruct vision and avoid face masks.

♦ Avoid long, flowing costumes that could cause difficulty in walking and become tripping hazards. Wear comfortable shoes.

♦ Stay on sidewalks and avoid walking in the streets.

♦ Cross roadways at intersections; look left, right and left again before entering the street AFTER determining it is safe to cross.

♦ DON'T assume a driver sees you and is going to stop.

♦ DON'T enter the road until the road is clear or the vehicles have stopped and the driver has acknowledged you.

♦ DON'T walk alone and NEVER enter a stranger's home or get into a stranger's vehicle.

To help provide a safe holiday, the Fort Meade Police Department is providing focused patrolling throughout the housing areas and around the festival sites on Fort Meade.

If you see something that is suspicious or may be a potential hazard, flag down a police officer or contact the Fort Meade Police at 301-677-6622. If it's a life-threatening emergency situation, dial 911.

Enjoy yourselves but do so in a manner that is safe and courteous to the Fort Meade community. Whether you are walking, driving or staying at home, have a safe Halloween!

Visit the Fort Meade Police Department's Facebook page at [www.facebook.com/FGGMP](https://www.facebook.com/FGGMP).

# Disability advocate discusses inclusion in military at annual Fort Meade event

BY MADDIE ECKER  
Staff Writer

**K**eith Nolan was born deaf. However, he didn't let his disability hold him back from trying to follow his dream of enlisting in the military.

As guest speaker at Fort Meade's National Disability Employment Awareness observance on Oct. 19, Nolan recounted his experiences and his work as an advocate for the deaf, hard of hearing and hearing impaired.

The 90-minute event was held at Club Meade and organized by Jose Flores, the disability program manager for the Fort Meade Equal Employment Opportunity Office.

The theme for this year's observance was "Make Inclusion A Core Value."

"In today's military, more service members with disabilities are staying on active duty and can still contribute to the nation," Flores said. "This event was important to make everyone aware of the capabilities individuals with disabilities have and what they bring to any organization."

Throughout his speech, Nolan signed as his interpreter Shawn Maldon spoke.

"I wanted to join the military right after high school," Nolan signed. "The Navy was my first choice, but I couldn't enlist because of my deafness."

Instead of submitting to defeat, Nolan attended California State University, Northridge, where he joined the Army Reserve Officers' Training Corps and used interpreters, lip reading and texting to participate in training.

"I was in the top 20 percent of my class," he signed. "I completed the first two levels and was ready to move up to the third level. Before doing so, I needed to be contracted with the Army and I couldn't do that due to the Army's policy on deafness. It was an automatic disqualification."

Nolan, who earned a master's degree in deaf education, teaches high school students at the Maryland School for the Deaf for the school's Cadet Corps.

He explained how disabilities can vary from person to person.

"Sometimes disability can be evident such as blindness or a physical amputee, while sometimes it can be hidden, like deafness," he said. "Sometimes people talk about their disability and others prefer not to do so."



PHOTO BY STEVE ELLMORE

**Keith Nolan, a teacher at the Maryland School for the Deaf, delivers the keynote speech for Fort Meade's National Disability Employment Awareness Month observance through sign language.**

"So, sometimes people have an assumption about a disability, some of which might be accurate and [some] maybe not. [This is] why it's great to have an opportunity such as today to talk about it because there are still many things Americans with disabilities can offer our country."

## Legal Remedies

Nolan also spoke about service members who had served with disabilities and Bill H.R. 17722, which he has been working on for the past six years. The bill, also known as the Keith Nolan Air Force Deaf Demonstration Act of 2015, calls for the Office of the Secretary of the Air Force to carry out a demonstration program with 15 to 20 individuals who are deaf or have a range of auditory impairments to assess whether it is feasible for them to become officers in the Air Force.

The biggest challenge Nolan has faced in passing the bill is a lack of support from the Department of Defense.

"Despite the opportunities and poten-

tials of having the demonstration program, the DoD was not supportive," he signed. "It was rather unfortunate for me to learn that. So, the congressional bills never made it out of the Senate and the House Armed Services Committees."

Nolan used the Israeli Defense Force as an example of how qualified deaf people can serve in the military. Using text messages, emails and lip reading, deaf people have had the opportunity to serve in uniform for the IDF. Nolan interviewed 10 deaf Israeli Soldiers to gather information about their experience serving.

"I learned that they served in supporting roles, rather than on the front line," Nolan said of the deaf IDF Soldiers. "Two of them said that they even worked with American Soldiers. It just goes to show, much like what I was able to do with my ROTC battalion, that deaf and hearing Soldiers can work together."

Nolan ended his speech by asking audience members to help support passage of his bill.

"Now, as I stand before you, I ask for your help to push for the demonstration

program," Nolan signed. "If there is any way you can help, perhaps talking with others about this presentation or reaching out to the DoD, it would be tremendously helpful."

## Learning To Persevere

Among those in attendance was Tamara Johnson, a youth administrator for Child, Youth and School Services, who was unaware of the difference between enlisting Soldiers who come in with additional needs and accommodating Soldiers who are injured during combat.

"I didn't realize there were barriers there," she said. "I thought that if you had additional needs, you stand the same chance of [serving in uniform] as somebody who was injured during combat."

For Johnson, Nolan's speech was more than just informative; it was inspiring.

"I think that for everyone who is sitting here, I think what they heard was, no matter how big the hurdle or the mountain is, don't give up," Johnson said. "Until somebody says something, until somebody fights for it, there isn't going to be a change. [Nolan] didn't give up and that is why he's standing here today, advocating for Soldiers with disabilities."

Lauri Meek, a human capital management specialist at the Consolidated Adjudications Facility, chose to attend the observance after learning the speaker would be Nolan.

"[Nolan] has an inspiring story," Meek said. "What disappoints me is that all employees on base are invited to attend diversity program events. This is the smallest event and it just disappoints me because it shows you there's not a lot of support."

"We're not disabled, we're ably different."

Meek, who wears bilateral cochlear implants, started to lose her hearing as a teenager and went completely deaf in her early 30s. When she was younger, Meek wanted to join the National Guard but was barred due to her hearing loss.

"I've never really looked at myself as disabled," she said. "People have [worse] disabilities than mine. I let my deafness hold me back for a long time — a very long time. But once I got my implant, my first one, I was out the door, on and up."

*Editor's note: For more information, call Jose Flores at 301-677-3660.*

# Camo-Kidz helps students face deployments

BY LISA R. RHODES  
Staff Writer

**T**imothy Michel Jr. said he was reading a book at home when he overheard his parents talking about the possibility of his father being deployed to the Middle East for a year.

"It made me feel sad and a bunch of different feelings I can't explain," said Timothy, a fifth-grader at Pershing Hill Elementary School.

His father, Navy Chief Petty Officer Timothy Michel of Naval Information Operations Command Maryland, will deploy soon on a one-year unaccompanied tour.

"It's hard to think about because it doesn't make feel me good," the 10-year-old said. "It makes me feel sad that I'm not going to see him for a year."

Timothy is one of five boys who are part of Camo-Kidz, a new after-school support group at Pershing Hill for military children whose parent is deployed.

Anita Norris, a fourth-grade teacher at Pershing Hill, established and facilitates the club.

"Our school is [mostly] all military children," Norris said. "We notice when students have a parent who is deployed, grades suffer, peer relationships suffer."

She said when a parent deploys, children have the same worries and fears

*'Students don't have to feel alone and are able to share their feelings with someone other than their family.'*

*Kimberly Terry, principal,  
Pershing Hill Elementary School*

as adult spouses, but they don't know how to express their feelings.

The goal of the club is to "support the social, academic and emotional success of students whose parent is currently deployed or will be deploying" prior to Dec. 1, according to the club flier.

The club began earlier this month and meets Mondays from 3 to 4 p.m.

Pershing Hill Principal Kimberly Terry said about 98 percent of the school's students are dependents of active-duty service members.

Terry said Camo-Kidz, which is named after the military camouflage uniform, is an important addition to the school's clubs.

"Students don't have to feel alone and are able to share their feelings with someone other than their family," she



PHOTO BY LISA R. RHODES

**Anita Norris, a teacher at Pershing Hill Elementary, helps Camo-Kidz with an arts and crafts project. The club is for military children whose parents are deployed.**

said.

Stephanie Stadel, wife of Sgt. 1st Class Jason Stadel of the 2nd Infantry Division who is currently on a one-year unaccompanied tour in Korea, said she wanted her 9-year-old son Jason to join the club so he knows he's not alone.

"I'm very happy they offer this club," said Stadel, the secretary to Meade High School Principal John Yore. "I like that he can do activities and if he wants, he can

talk about his dad being gone. It might feel good to let it off his chest. He may or may not want to talk about it, but the option is there."

Jason said he misses his father.

"I feel really sad, so when my Mom reminds me of him I get nauseous" the fourth-grader said. "I just think of us playing catch in our backyard."

Jason said he likes the club because it "helps me by getting my Dad off my mind and I can do fun things so I won't be sad."

Timothy said he likes being in the club because it "gives me the courage to remember that I'm always going to have a little spot in my heart for my dad."

Timothy's 6-year-old brother Gabriel is also a member. Their mother Latisha Michel said she wanted her sons to join so they "can understand there are other kids that are going through the same thing, that this is the norm for military families."

Michel, who is expecting a baby girl, plans to deliver just before her husband's departure. The family also includes 3-year-old Lincoln.

Michel and the children plan to move in with family after the baby is born, which means her sons will be attending a new school.

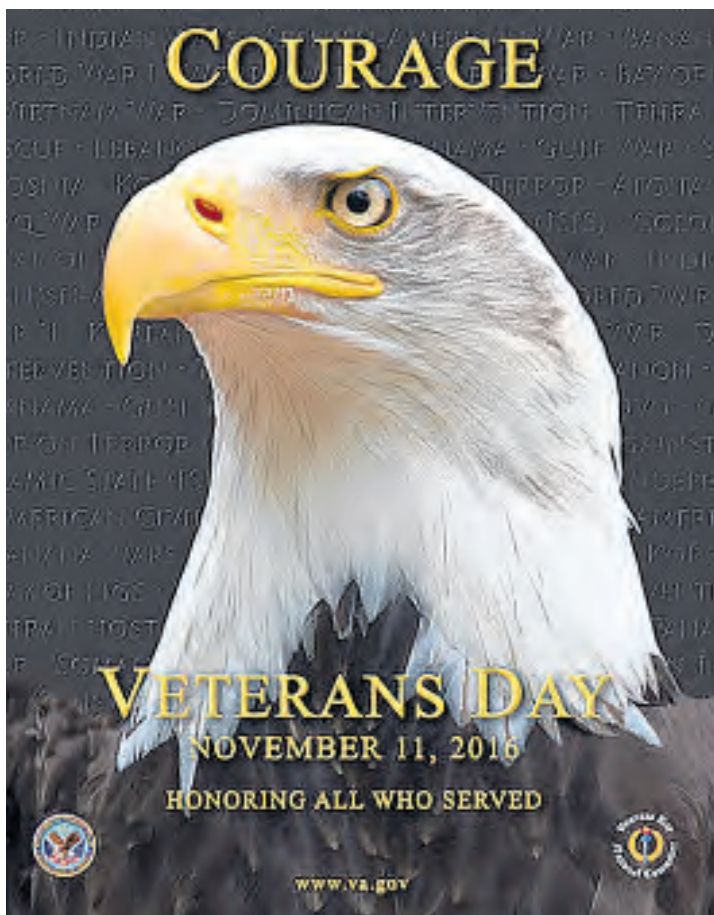
"I thought it would be good for them to get the support from other military children while they have the opportunity to do so," Michel said.

Norris said other military families should consider the club.

Teachers and the school can help provide the support that military families need when going through changes such as a deployment, she said.

"We are here to help," Norris said. "You

PARENT CALENDAR AT-A-GLANCE				
NOVEMBER				
Oct 31 – Nov 11				
MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
31 	1 Native American Heritage Month IB MYP/MS Information Night MacArthur MS, 6-7:30pm 2nd Marking Period Begins	2	3 CAT Centers HS Information Night CAT-South, 6-8:30pm	4 Family Involvement Conference AACCC Avoid Campus 8:30am-2pm SAT Testing
7	8 Election Day Schools & Central Offices Closed	9	10 Progress Report/Report Card Distribution	11 Veterans' Day Schools Open
Anne Arundel County Public Schools • 2644 Riva Road, Annapolis, MD 21401 • 410-222-5000 • www.aacps.org				



## Roadwork notice

### Repaving of Mapes Road western section

The repaving of the western half of Mapes Road continues nightly, between 7 p.m. and 5 a.m. as weather permits. Mapes will be open to traffic during daytime.

This phase includes repaving between the Route 32 gate to Leonard Wood Avenue and is expected to be completed by Tuesday, unless delayed by wet or cold weather.

Temporary striping will be applied after paving each night. Final striping will follow in about two weeks.

Traffic will be diverted on detours around the work areas. Be alert and follow the signs.

Check out the FGGM Facebook page for periodic updates at [www.facebook.com/FtMeade](http://www.facebook.com/FtMeade).

## Candy with a Cop



Team Meade, show up and show off your Halloween costumes!

The Fort Meade Police Department is hosting the first "Candy with a Cop" event on Monday from 6-8 p.m. at the Fort Meade Pavilion.

There will be candy, police cruisers, K-9s, exhibits and much more!

A large advertisement for Navy Federal Credit Union. It features a man in a grey shirt standing next to a silver car, holding a coffee cup. In the background, a building with a sign that says "SANDWICHES" is visible. The text "LET US PUT YOU IN THE DRIVER'S SEAT" is prominently displayed in large blue letters. Below this, the Navy Federal Credit Union logo is shown. To the right of the logo, there is text about auto loans and a \$200 incentive. At the bottom right, there is a call to action "APPLY TODAY!" and contact information for the Seven Oaks Shopping Center. At the bottom left, there is a small Facebook icon and a disclaimer about the \$200 offer.

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# Post shows its appreciation for retirees

**MADDIE ECKER**  
Staff Writer

**B**y 10:20 a.m., nurses from Kimbrough Ambulatory Care Center had already administered 215 flu vaccinations to retirees who had traveled to Fort Meade for the 41st annual Retiree Appreciation Day.

Getting a flu shot was just one of the many different services retirees could partake in during the daylong event held Friday at McGill Training Center.

Tanya Chew, a public health nurse at Kimbrough, said that getting the vaccine is one of the best ways to stay healthy this winter, especially for retirees.

"Retirees are more prone to serious complications [with illnesses]," Chew said. "This event is a way for us to provide retirees with health information in one area. It shows that we support them."

Betty Galloway, wife of Sgt. 1st Class Richard Galloway, said she and her husband have attended the event for the past four years. For them, getting a flu shot is one of the main draws.

"It's a good way to get an update on everything [we need to know] and it's nice being around other retirees," said Galloway, who comes to Fort Meade with her husband at least once a week to use the commissary and pharmacy.

"We've been enjoying today very much and look forward to it every year," she said.

## Providing Support

Anna Taylor has been Fort Meade's retiree services officer for the past six years. She helps serve the 32,000 retirees on Fort Meade, in addition to active-duty service members who apply to retire.

"Each year [this event] gets better," Taylor said. "We have a couple of new vendors. The one that comes to mind right away is Girl Scouts of Central America. They're here looking for retirees who want to volunteer their time."

Joining Kimbrough and Girl Scouts of Central America were representatives from many other Fort Meade and community organizations who answered questions about the services and programs they provide for retirees.

They included: American Military Retirees Association, The Retired Enlisted Association, Tricare Office, Anne Arundel County Department of Aging



**George W. Owings III, secretary of the Maryland Department of Veterans Affairs, speaks about VA programs at Fort Meade's Retiree Appreciation Day on Friday at McGill Training Center. The event drew 643 retirees and their family members.**

and Disabilities, Armed Forces Retirement Home, University of Maryland University College and the Casualty Assistance Center.

Taylor said that six years ago the event was only bringing in an average of 200 participants. However, Taylor used marketing strategies to spread word of the event. As a result, the number of attendees doubled.

This year, 643 retirees and their family members attended to take advantage of free medical screenings and learn about updated health insurance policies.

Next year, Taylor plans to add a new element to the event.

"We're thinking about maybe doing a retiree ball that Thursday evening [before Retiree Appreciation Day]," Taylor said. "Then we'd have this event the following morning."

For Taylor, Retiree Appreciation Day is just one way to provide care and support for retirees and their families.

"It's important to be able to give back to the men and women who served," Taylor said. "This event fosters goodwill between retirees and active-duty service members."

## Getting An Update

Midway through the event, partici-

pants boarded shuttle busses for lunch at the Freedom Inn Dining Facility.

They returned to McGill to hear from George W. Owings III, secretary for the Maryland Department of Veteran Affairs.

Retired Col. Bert Rice, acting chairman of the Fort Meade Retiree Council, first spoke about the various publications that retirees should read in order to stay up-to-date on current information.

He gave examples such as the Fort Meade retiree newsletter, *Echoes Army* newsletter and the "U.S. Army Retiree Handbook."

"We should be informed and we need to be informed," Rice told the crowd.

Lt. Col. Gittipong Paruchabutr welcomed retirees and recognized their years of service.

"We are grateful for your tireless service and willingness to share your experiences," he said. "You are an integral part of what makes Fort Meade a spectacular place. ... You have not stopped giving back to our nation, and we will not stop giving back to you."

Paruchabutr then introduced Owings, who gave examples of the various Veteran Affairs programs available to Maryland retirees.

He explained the importance of filling out a Certification of Release or Dis-

charge from Active Duty form, which is generally referred to as a DD Form 214.

"The hardest thing to tell a family is that I can't help them because they didn't have their 214," Owings said.

He asked participants to raise their hands if they were in the Maryland Veteran Affairs system. The best way to get local information, Owings said, is to sign up online for the Maryland VA's biweekly newsletter.

He also urged retirees to check out the Charlotte Hall Veterans Home, either as a volunteer or for assisted living placement.

"It has had a rigorous VA inspection and has come out with five stars," Owings said. "If you are interested in participating in [something new], you'll find it there."

Owings also discussed the Maryland Veterans Trust Fund and explained that it is available for veterans and retirees in need of financial help.

"What happens to warriors who thought they'd be in for 20 years, but are out before then?" he asked the crowd. "If you know of a veteran or if you have a [financial] situation currently, come forward for help."

A raffle for prizes followed Owings' remarks. Participants eagerly scanned their ticket as winning numbers were called out.

"It's been great," said retired Master Sgt. Ralph LeGrande after the program.

This was his third year attending Retiree Appreciation Day.

"I look forward to this event every year," he said. "You never know what you might miss [if you don't attend.]"



**PHOTOS BY STEVE RUARK**

**Ethel Horton, of Mitchellville, whose late husband retired from the Army, holds Athena at a Fort Meade Veterinary Services information table.**

# Plunging in

## DINFOS ready for another attempt to take throne in annual Toilet Bowl

**AIR FORCE STAFF SGT. VERONICA MONTES**

Defense Information School

**T**he first flag football pickup game of the Toilet Bowl was played in 1981 at Fort Benjamin Harrison in Indiana

Since then, the game has become an annual morale event for Defense Information School faculty and staff.

"It was basically a sandlot for adult men," said Bob Jenkins, garrison director of Public Affairs at Fort Campbell, Ky., remembering the day the tradition was born.

Jenkins was one of the originators of the Toilet Bowl.

This year's Toilet Bowl game will start at 9 a.m. Friday, outside Gaffney Fitness Center.

There is already a stir between the teams due to the Air-Land team's four-year winning streak.

The Sea Services — Navy, Marine

Corps and Coast Guard — are under pressure to step up their game.

Regardless of the hallway chatter and trash talk, this event aims to bring the whole DINFOS community together as one team.

"Things like this help to bring us together as a family," 1st Sgt. Rick McNamara said. "It's a blast. It ties us together and builds up real camaraderie."

The Toilet Bowl is a day when DINFOS instructors set aside their school obligations and join their respective services to either compete on the field or cheer from the sidelines.

Jim Gilbert, DINFOS deputy director of training, recalled "it used to be the talk of the school."

"People really got pumped up about it. The trash talk started a month before, and everyone knew the Toilet Bowl was coming up."

Gilbert, who has attended 23 Toilet Bowls, said that when the event first started, there was an old outhouse they



PHOTO BY JOSEPH COSLETT

**A Sea Services student quarterback receives the ball during the Defense Information School's Toilet Bowl last year. The team beat the Air-Land team 20-6.**

would use as a prop at the 50-yard line.

"King John" would then come out onto the field.

According to tradition, King John, ruler of the Kingdom of the Porta Potty, only leaves his palace once a year for the pregame ceremonial toss. He attends the event in a crown and robe, while holding a toilet plunger and using a toilet paper roll as his scroll.

Gilbert said the outhouse hasn't been a prop for a while, but King John still appears at some games.

"It's like being at a professional sporting event, but we all know the players," Gilbert said. "We are out there supporting our own people, and everyone has someone to cheer for. It can be the biggest morale-boosting event for DINFOS all year."

McNamara said events like this rebuild morale and that's what he would like to see this year.

"Give it a chance. Come hang out and even laugh at us," McNamara said. "We've got to embrace the good times."

# Army Education Center opens at new site

**BY LISA R. RHODES**

Staff Writer

**A**fter a six-month relocation process, the Fort Meade Army Education Center celebrated its grand opening Tuesday.

The center moved to 2474 Ernie Pyle St., near Kimbrough Ambulatory Care Center.

"I'm very happy," said John W. Anderson, education services specialist at the AEC. "It's a good facility, and we want everyone to know we're here so we can serve the Fort Meade community."

The Army Education Center primarily serves active-duty service members of all branches, Army Reservists and National Guardsmen.

AEC provides three key services: testing, a multiuse learning facility and tuition assistance.

The center also services family members, DoD civilians, retirees and veterans on a walk-in basis. Last year, about 1,500 people were served at the facility.

Anderson said the site is temporary until the AEC relocates to Kuhn Hall on Llewellyn Avenue.

"We are planning to create a brand new education center," he said. "This is a temporary move until the new center is created in Kuhn Hall. Until then, we needed a good facility to support the community with its education programs. This location fits that need."

The move to Kuhn Hall may take three to five years, according to Anderson. The relocation to Ernie Pyle began in March and was completed in July.

After acclimating to the new facility, AEC staff thought it was time to formally

welcome the Fort Meade community.

Representatives from Anne Arundel Community College, University of Maryland University College and Central Michigan University who work at the center have provided service members with information about their certificate and academic degree programs for 25 years.

Farrah Sarvandani, assistant director for UMUC, said the move was a challenge but worth it.

"It's a new location, and change is always good," she said.

The staff of two Army civilians and four contractors prepared chili and provided beverages at the opening.

"We're pleased to announce that we're here," Anderson said.

*Editor's note: The Army Education Center is open Monday to Friday from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. For more information, call*

### Army Education Center Services:

- **Testing:** A wide range of tests are offered, from certification exams and college credit by examination programs to language aptitude and military classification tests. Tests are administered by appointment only. Call 301-677-6424.
- **Multiuse Learning Facility:** Service members, family members and authorized civilians can use the facility's computers for college classes, Army projects and communication with family members. Printers, fax machines and scanners also are available.
- **GoArmyEd & Tuition Assistance:** GoArmyEd is a virtual gateway for active-duty Soldiers to request tuition assistance online. All TA enrollments are requested through the GAE portal at GoArmyEd.com.

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**CATHOLIC CHARITIES**  
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**#54862**

# Federal law protects service members

BY JANE M. WINAND  
Chief, Legal Assistance Division

The Servicemembers Civil Relief Act, or SCRA, provides a wide range of protections for individuals who enter the active-duty military or are called to active duty from a Reserve or National Guard status.

The SCRA addresses such matters as early termination of residential leases, security deposits, evictions, credit card and mortgage interest rates, mortgage foreclosures, civil judicial proceedings, motor vehicle leases and income tax liability.

Below is an overview of the three most widely utilized SCRA provisions.

♦ **Interest Rate Limit:** The SCRA places a 6 percent limit on interest rates for debts incurred by service members prior to entering active duty. This provision applies to all financial obligations including home mortgages, credit card debts and motor vehicle loans.

As an example: Mr. Smith may purchase a flat-screen television set using his credit card and carry a balance forward at an interest rate of 14 percent, which was established when he applied for the credit card. If Mr. Smith then enters the active-duty military, he may request that

his interest rate be reduced from 14 percent to 6 percent for the pre-service debt.

♦ **Stay of Civil Proceedings:** The SCRA provides that a court may temporarily stay or postpone a civil action or proceeding against a defendant for the period of the defendant's active-duty service plus 90 days after the date of release from active duty.

The defendant service member must provide a letter that states how his/her current military-duty requirements materially affect the service member's ability to appear in court.

♦ **Residential Lease Termination:** The SCRA allows a service member who is the tenant on a residential lease to terminate the lease if the contract was executed after he/she entered active duty or if the lease was executed while the service member was already on active duty and subsequently received orders to PCS or deploy for more than 90 days.

For more information regarding federal laws that protect the civil rights of service members, visit the U.S. Department of Justice online at servicemembers.gov.

To schedule an appointment to meet with a Fort Meade Legal Assistance attorney, call 301-677-9504 or 301-677-9536.

## Public Comment Period Notice of Availability

The 175th Network Warfare Squadron, Maryland Air National Guard proposes to construct and operate a new facility, properly designed and configured to support training missions of the 175th NWS at Fort Meade.

The proposed action is needed because the unit lacks suitable space to organize, train and store equipment. The results, as found in the Environmental Assessment (EA), show that the proposed action would not have a significant adverse impact on the environment.

At the conclusion of the public comment period, it is anticipated that a Finding of No Significant Impact (FNSI) would be appropriate and would be signed for the proposed action.

An Environmental Impact Statement, therefore, would not be necessary to implement the proposed action.

Copies of the draft final EA and draft final FNSI are available online at [www.ftmeade.army.mil](http://www.ftmeade.army.mil) by clicking on the "Environmental Programs" tab under "Public Notices."

The documents also can be found at the following locations: Medal of Honor Memorial Library at 4418 Llewellyn Ave. on Fort Meade and the Odenton Regional Library, 1325 Annapolis Road.

In addition, copies can be obtained by contacting Suzanne Teague, Directorate of Public Works, Environmental Division, 4216 Roberts Ave., Suite 5115, Fort Meade, MD 20755; by phone at 301-677-9185; or by email at [suzanne.m.teague.civ@mail.mil](mailto:suzanne.m.teague.civ@mail.mil).

Comments on the draft final EA and draft final FNSI may be submitted to Teague no later than 30 days from the publication of this notice.

# Picture-Perfect Pooches

## Pets, owners showcase best Halloween outfits — and Oktoberfest — at annual costume contest

By LISA R. RHODES  
Staff Writer

**B**atman and his dog sidekick Robin were among the winners of this year's Halloween Pet Costume Contest hosted by the Family Pet Care Center.

1st Lt. Daniel Syring of the 7th Intelligence Squadron and his pet Keno dressed up as the dynamic duo for the annual event, which was held Saturday morning at the Pavilion.

"I think the costumes went with the dogs. It was really cool," said Kim Gunderman, business manager at the Pet Care Center. "The costumes really fit their personality."

Syring and Keno won the Best Owner Pair prize.

About six pet owners and seven dogs participated in the annual contest. Dogs and some owners donned Halloween costumes

and were judged for the most creative and most original by a panel of judges.

Costumes included a mummy, a "Top Gun" ace pilot and a ballerina.

The contest originated about nine years ago to draw the interest of pet owners who participate in the annual Ghosts, Ghouls and Goblins 5K Run and 1-Mile Fun Walk with their dogs.

"We had so many great costumes," Gunderman said.

The winner of the most creative costume was Cooper, a dog sporting a German *lederhosen* outfit.

The most original costume winner was Jai J, a dog dressed as a pumpkin.

Owners of the winning pets received a \$15 gift certificate to the Family Pet Care Center. The dogs won pet toys.

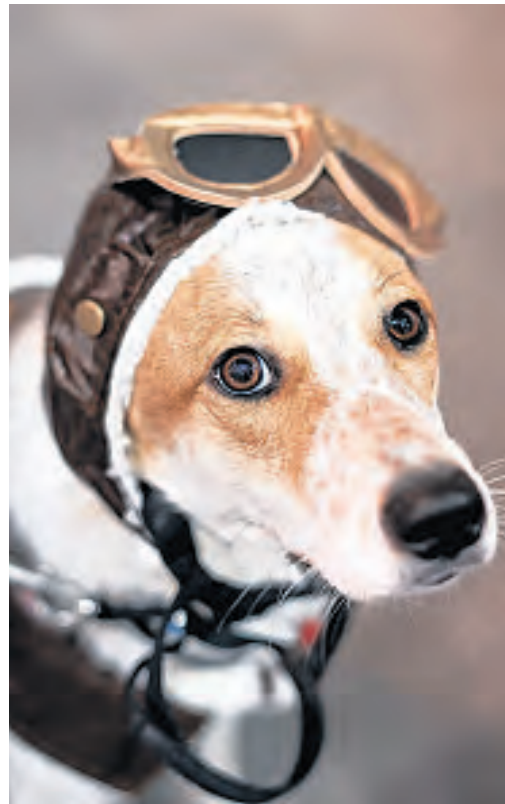


PHOTOS BY NATE PESCE

Ranger, owned by Martha McClary, chief of Family and Morale, Welfare and Recreation, shows off a Batman costume Saturday at the annual Pet Costume Contest.



First Lt. Daniel Syring is Batman and his dog Keno is his sidekick Robin.



Cajun dresses as a "Top Gun" ace pilot as a preview for upcoming Halloween festivities.



Cooper, a miniature pinscher owned by Stacy De La Hoz, dresses up in German lederhosen in celebration of Oktoberfest and Halloween.

# Ghostly good time

Annual Ghosts, Ghouls and Goblins 5K Run forms partnership with Domestic Violence Awareness Walk to put spotlight on issue

By LISA R. RHODES

Staff Writer

PHOTOS BY NATE PESCE

The start of Halloween festivities at Fort Meade focused on the annual Ghosts, Ghouls and Goblins 5K Run on Saturday.

The Directorate of Family and Morale, Welfare and Recreation sponsored the seasonal event, which drew about 200 people and began at 8 a.m. at the Pavilion.

For the third year, the installation's Family Advocacy Program held its annual

Domestic Violence Awareness Walk in partnership with the themed run.

About 45 people attended the 1-mile walk, which was held to support the victims of domestic violence.

Katherine Lamourt, a domestic abuse victim advocate, said the walk is an effort to "walk in the shoes of someone who deals with domestic violence."

Participants wore purple and white runner's bibs to show their dedication to the cause.

Purple is worn to symbolize the "bruises from domestic violence," said Lamourt.



Sebastin Frye, 4, wears an Ironman mask during the 1-mile walk.



Retired Air Force Maj. Scott Spiller, (left) and his 4-year-old daughter Naboon join Chief Warrant Officer 3 Kent Frye and his son Sebastin during the Domestic Violence Awareness 1-Mile Walk on Saturday morning.



Capt. Ray Vetter of the Asymmetric Warfare Group comes in as the overall winner and first-place male runner titles at the Ghosts, Ghouls and Goblins 5K Run.



Angie Spiller points to her son Alex while manning the Domestic Violence Awareness Walk booth at the Pavilion alongside domestic abuse victim advocates Samantha Herring (center) and Katherine Lamourt on Saturday morning.



Runners and walkers take off from the starting line at the Ghosts, Ghouls and Goblins 5K Run and Domestic Violence Awareness 1-Mile Walk at the Pavilion. About 200 people participated in the dual events.



Shelby Keuper, Noe Moreno (dressed as Spiderman) and Sean Farnar of the Directorate of Family and Morale, Welfare and Recreation, man a sign-in table at the Ghosts, Ghouls and Goblins 5K Run.

JIBBER JABBER - OPINION

# Halfheartedly rooting for the lesser of two evils

**W**ent to a personal trainer on Monday. It hurt.

Big Sean — or Shawn — had me doing things with kettle bells and pushups and ropes that had me wanting to call him something else.

Or is that the 2 Chainz coming through my speakers that's making me want to cuss as I write this? "Watch Out!"

Either way, two days after the hourlong workout my chest is still screaming, which is a consequence of taking so much time off between workouts — years.

Time is a popular topic right now, especially when it comes to the World Series, where both the Chicago Cubs and Cleveland Indians are looking for their first championship in decades.

For the Cubs, it's actually more than a century.

Seriously, the last time the Cubs won the World Series (1908), Teddy Roosevelt was speaking softly and carrying a big stick as president and sliced bread still wasn't cool, or even invented.

The Indians have only gone ringless since 1948. Sliced bread had been around for 20 years, radios were as big as houses and Bob Feller was the hardest thrower in the league. Or at least he threw so fast that his fastball beat a motorcycle in a race. <http://bit.ly/2eaNXf5>

In spite of that history and time, I'm still having a hard time rooting for either team. It reminds me of the phrase that has been popping up in our recent political discourse: The lesser of two evils is still evil.

My disdain for all things Ohio has been well documented, so there isn't much explanation needed for the Indians.

But everybody loves the Cubs, right? Wrong!

It's true, you'll never find a bigger Harry Caray fan than I — both in real life <http://bit.ly/2eLMxltf> and parody. <http://bit.ly/1EUQbJ5>

Plus, my favorite single baseball memory (pre-children) was when I tumbled



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PUBLIC AFFAIRS  
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down a flight of Wrigley Field's cement steps — warm brew in hand — but gracefully recovered in time to hoist my brew in the air and sing, "Root, root, root for the Cubbies" with Harry.

Even with that, I can't stand the Cubs. My disdain goes all the way back to 1984 — a wonderful year when Reagan was running things; the U.S. dominated the Summer Olym-

pics; and the Detroit Tigers, led by Alan Trammell, Lou Whitaker, Jack Morris and Sparky Anderson, won the World Series.

However, growing up in Southwest Michigan, I was stuck listening to Harry and Steve Stone's constant bragging about the Cubs, who were also good that year.

Of course, they weren't Tigers-good, but the fans' constant attacks and slander about how Cubs second baseman Ryne Sandberg was better than Sweet Lou Whitaker, Cubs Ace Rick Sutcliffe was better than Morris, and all the other nonsense those Old Style drinking, deep-dish, pizza-eating Cub fans spewed has stuck with me.

So here I am, 32 years later, wishing for the first-ever World Series tie.

Strictly speaking, this should be a great series. They are the most talented, best-managed teams in the league. The matchup between the Indians bullpen and Chicago's bats should lead to some exciting moments. Plus, the history is enticing.

So if you stuck a pie in front of my face and forced me to choose, I guess I'd have to root for the Cubs. Cub fans only bragged about being great, whereas Cleveland was responsible for setting a Great Lake on fire.

Not to mention, there is a certain softness that comes with age — not just the kind Big Sean tried to work off — and 1908 is a long penance.

So, with a soft smile, I'll give a half-hearted cheer for the Cubs.

If you have comments on this or anything to do with sports, contact me at [chad.t.jones.civ@mail.mil](mailto:chad.t.jones.civ@mail.mil) or hit me up on

## SPORTS SHORTS

### Army vs. Navy Flag Football

Fort Meade's annual Army vs. Navy Flag Football game will be held Nov. 8 at 4 p.m. at Mullins Field.

The tailgating party begins at 3 p.m. with free food, beverages, moon bounce, giveaways and prize drawings.

Come out and support your favorite team.

For more information, call 301-677-3318.

### EFMP Bowling

The Exceptional Family Member Program offers bowling for exceptional families on the third Wednesday of every month from 5:30-7 p.m. at The Lanes.

The next event is Nov. 16.

Exceptional family members can bowl one free game with free shoe rental.

Discounted games and shoes are available for \$2 each to other family members.

To register, call Sonya Zoller at 301-677-4779.

### Halloween Zumbathon

The Halloween Zumbathon is Friday from 5-7 p.m. at Gaffney Fitness Center, 6330 Broadfoot Road.

The free event offers two hours of

nonstop, high-energy dancing. Costumes are encouraged.

For more information, call 301-677-3716 or visit [meade.armymwr.com](http://meade.armymwr.com).

### Group fitness class

Free Total Body group fitness classes are held every Thursday in October from 5:30-6:30 p.m. at the Fort Meade USO on 6th Armored Cavalry Road.

The class is led by an Under Armour Performance Center certified personal trainer.

To register, go to [fxwell.com/login](http://fxwell.com/login).

### Pigskin Pick'em Contest

Take part in the NFL Football contest at The Lanes that runs through December.

Participants can pick up a free entry form and select the anticipated game winners of all Sunday NFL games.

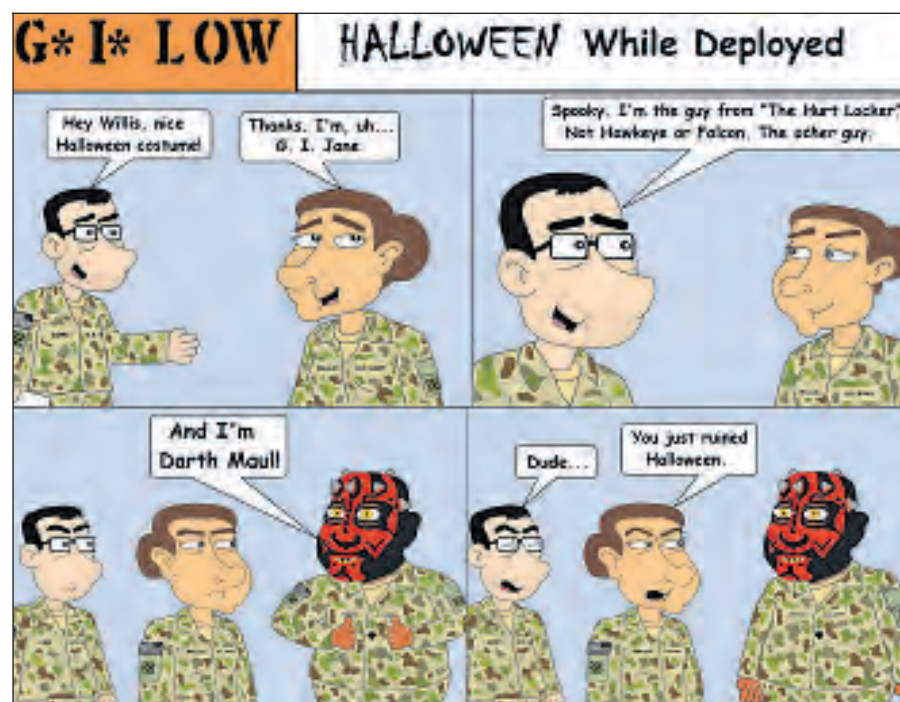
Entry forms will be available every Tuesday beginning at 4 p.m. for that Sunday's game.

Entry forms must be submitted by 1 p.m. Sunday at The Lanes.

Weekly winners will receive a prize pack.

For additional contest guidelines and rules, visit [meade.armymwr.com](http://meade.armymwr.com).

## THE ADVENTURES OF G.I. LOW



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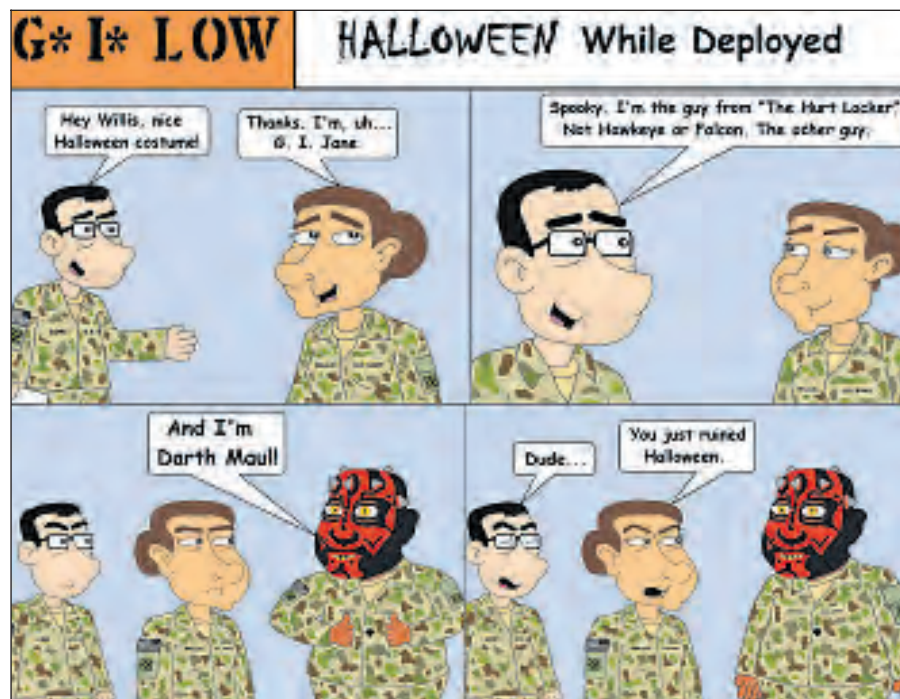
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## THE ADVENTURES OF G.I. LOW



## 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 [ftmeade.army.mil](http://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

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).

### USO Spouse Break-Fast

The Fort Meade USO will provide breakfast for military spouses on Friday from 9-10:30 a.m. at the USO on 6th Armored Cavalry Road.

The menu includes pancakes with Vermont syrup and honey, sausage and fruit salad.

The Spouse Break-Fast is only open to spouses of active-duty service members, and members of the National Guard and Reserve.

The Spouse Break-Fast is generally held the third Friday of every month.

For more information, call 410-305-0660 or email [shawn@usometro.org](mailto:shawn@usometro.org).

### Veterans Job Fair

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

The job fair is open to the public and all job seekers.

A free resume evaluation and preparation assistance service will be available.

Anticipate lines at the installation's access control point and at the fair.

A free shuttle will transport job seekers from the Visitor Control Center to Club Meade.

If you do not have a DoD identification card, you must go to the Visitor Control Center on Reece Road and present a photo ID card or driver's license.

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

For a list of all attending employers, visit [meade.armymwr.com](http://meade.armymwr.com).

For more information, email [je-rome.duncan@maryland.gov](mailto:je-rome.duncan@maryland.gov).

### Right Arm Night

Bring your right arm service member, co-worker or employee to Club Meade for a fun evening of free food, music, dancing and camaraderie tonight from 4-6 p.m.

The free event is open to all ranks and services, military and civilians.

Reserve a table at 301-677-6969.

### Latin Night

Enjoy an evening of dancing at Latin Night on Friday night from 7 p.m. to midnight at Club Meade.

A variety of music will be playing including salsa, bachata, merengue, cumbia, house and reggaetown.

The event includes food and beverage specials. There is no cover charge.

Latin Night is celebrated the last Friday of each month.

For more information, call 301-677-6969.

### STEM Fest

The National Cryptologic Association on Seven Colony Road is sponsoring a STEM Fest on Nov. 10 from 6:30-8:30 p.m.

The free event will feature activities and challenges for ages 10 and older.

Mathematicians will challenge skills to solve a mystery while others juggle with math.

Engineers will make computer chips.

Data scientists will find patterns in chaos and analyze test messages.

Analysts will challenge participants with a cryptic puzzle to stop a "terrorist"

attack, analyze websites with Wireshark, and show how to find "bad guys" in radio communications.

Engineers will demonstrate ciphers, error-correcting and detection codes, and encrypt messages on an Enigma and construct bar codes.

Other activities will include cryptologic puzzles, prizes, guides tours and information on cryptologic careers.

For more information, call Jen Wilcox or Lou Leto at 301-688-5849.

### Thrift Shop's new location

The Post Thrift Shop is now located at 392 Llewellyn Ave.

Hours are: Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. and the first Saturday of the month from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Consignments are taken by appointment only.

For more information, call 410-672-3575.

### Child care providers needed

Family Child Care is in need of providers.

Providers will receive valuable training including: activity organization, USDA-approved meal planning, designing learning environments, child development, and becoming infant/child/adult first aid and CPR certified.

For more information, call the Family Child Care office at 301-677-1160.

### Vehicle Resale Lot

Sell or buy all types of vehicles at the resale lot on Rock Avenue.

To place a vehicle on the lot, stop by Outdoor Recreation at 2300 Wilson St.

For more information, call 301-677-3810.

### Freedom Inn open to post employees

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.

For more information, call 301-677-

5503.

### Flu shots

The Anne Arundel County Department of Health is providing seasonal flu vaccinations at walk-in clinics.

The injectable vaccine for ages 6 months and older and the high-dose flu shot for ages 65 and older will be available. No appointment is required.

Although immunizations are free, the department appreciates donations to help pay the cost of administering the vaccines.

The clinic is providing vaccinations on the following dates:

- Tuesday, 1-7 p.m.

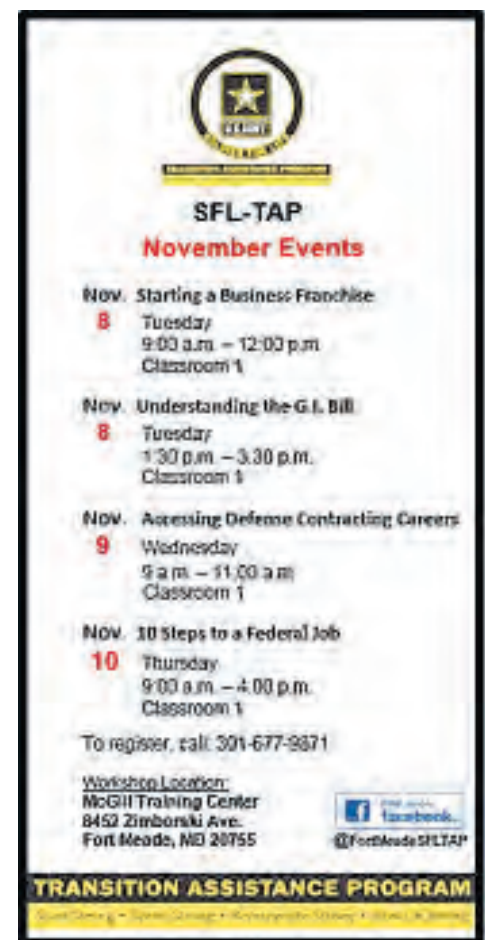
Glen Burnie Health Center, 416 A Street S.W., Glen Burnie

- Nov. 10, 1-7 p.m.

Health Services Building, 3 Harry S. Truman Parkway, Annapolis

For more information, go to [aahealth.org](http://aahealth.org) or call the Flu Information Line at 410-222-7343.

## EDUCATION



The poster for the SFL-TAP November Events features a yellow background with a black border. At the top is the SFL-TAP logo, which includes a star and the text "SFL-TAP". Below the logo, the text "SFL-TAP November Events" is written in bold. The events are listed in a table-like format with dates and times. At the bottom, there is a section for the "Workshop Location" and a "To register, call:" number. The poster also includes social media icons for Facebook and Twitter, and a QR code.

Date	Event	Time	Location
Nov. 8	Starting a Business Franchise	Tuesday 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.	Classroom 1
Nov. 8	Understanding the G.I. Bill	Tuesday 1:30 p.m. - 3:30 p.m.	Classroom 1
Nov. 9	Assessing Defense Contracting Careers	Wednesday 9 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.	Classroom 1
Nov. 10	10 Steps to a Federal Job	Thursday 9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.	Classroom 1

To register, call: 301-677-9871

Workshop Location:  
McGill Training Center  
8452 Zimboraki Ave.  
Fort Meade, MD 20755

Facebook: @FortMeadeSFLTAP

TRANSITION ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

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## NEWS & NOTES, From page 13

### Financial, Job 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: Today, 9-11:30 a.m., FFSC

- TGPS Five-Day Workshops (Transition, Goals, Plans, Success): Nov. 14-18: 8 a.m. to 4 p.m., FFSC

To register, call FFSC at 301-677-9017 or ACS at 301-677-5590, or visit [fortmeadeacs.checkappointments.com](http://fortmeadeacs.checkappointments.com).

### Homeschool Group

The Fort Meade Homeschool Group meets throughout the year for field trips and social outings.

For information on upcoming events, visit the "Fort Meade Homeschool Group" on Facebook. Go to [facebook.com/groups/FortMeadeHomeschoolGroup](https://facebook.com/groups/FortMeadeHomeschoolGroup).

## YOUTH

### Hallelujah Festival

The Hallelujah Festival family event will be celebrated Monday from 6-8 p.m. at the Pavilion.

The free event is open to the community and will feature snacks, games, prizes and plenty of candy for every child.

Please, no monster, witches, ghosts, clowns or other scary costumes.

Volunteers are needed.

For more information, call Marcia Eastland at 301-677-0386 or Connie Robinson at 410-458-9481.

### Baby Sitter's Certification Course

A Baby Sitter's Certification Course will be offered Nov. 21-22 from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the School Age Center.

Participants will learn skills and techniques needed to be a confident baby sitter.

The free course also will provide first aid and CPR certification.

Registration required by Nov. 11. Space is limited.

To register or for more information, call 301-677-1156 or 301-677-1149.

## RECREATION



COURTESY ENLISTED SPOUSES' CLUB

**Baltimore retiree George Reed receives an eye exam from Spc. Tuo Lin, of the Fort Meade Medical Activity, during Fort Meade's annual Retiree Appreciation Day on Friday. For more on Retiree Appreciation Day, go to Page 6.**

### Out & About

- **BOSS Field of Screams excursion** in Olney, sponsored by Better Opportunities for Single Service Members, is Friday. Bus leaves Fort Meade at 6 p.m. Cost is \$25 and includes transportation. Spaces are limited.

For more information, call 301-915-6868 or email [boss.ftmeade@gmail.com](mailto:boss.ftmeade@gmail.com).

- **Adventure Park USA** will host its Not-So-Scary Halloween Party on Saturday from 6:30 to 9:30 p.m. in Monrovia, Md.

The park will be transformed into a home for happy haunts. Both indoor and outdoor attractions will be open. Family-favorite cartoon characters will wander the park meeting guests.

Guests are welcome to dress in costume for this "not-so-scary" occasion. Children can trick-or-treat at 9 p.m.

All-inclusive tickets are available online for \$25 or at the door for \$33.

All-inclusive tickets include a light meal, fountain beverages and video games. There is a \$15 charge for chaperones, which will include a light meal and video games only.

For more information, visit [adventureparkusa.com](http://adventureparkusa.com).

- **Antique and Collectibles Market** is Saturday from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. in the Home Arts Building at the Maryland State Fairgrounds, 2200 York Road, Timonium. Admission is \$5. The event will feature more than 100 dealers of vintage and estate jewelry; silver, china and porcelain; collectible books; and furniture. For more information, call 443-841-8022 or visit

[marylandstatefair.com](http://marylandstatefair.com).

- **BOSS Medieval Times trip**, sponsored by Better Opportunities for Single Service Members, will be held Nov. 4 at 7 p.m. Cost is \$25. Limited spaces are available.

For reservations or more information, see your BOSS representative or email [boss.ftmeade@gmail.com](mailto:boss.ftmeade@gmail.com) or call Spc. Derek Young at 301-677-6868.

- **Leisure Travel Services** will offer its next monthly bus trips to New York City on Nov. 12 and Dec. 24 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

- **Fort Meade Chapter of the Military Officers Association of America** will conduct a dinner meeting on Nov. 3 at 7 p.m. at Club Meade.

Social hour begins 6:30 p.m.

The guest speaker will discuss long-term care insurance.

RSVP by Sunday to Rebecca Conover at [relic1241@gmail.com](mailto:relic1241@gmail.com) or call 443-745-3097.

- **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 Nov. 3. 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.

- **"Sip and Share,"** hosted by the Exceptional Family Member Program, meets the first Thursday of every month from 9:30-10:30 a.m. at its new location at the Fort Meade USO, 8612 6th Armored Cavalry Road. The next get-together is Nov. 3.

Share stories to encourage and inform each other about resources available in the local community.

For more information or to register, call 301-677-4779.

- **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 Nov. 3. 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 Nov. 3. Dinner is served at 6 p.m. For more information, call Charisma Wooten at 240-568-6055.

- **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 Nov. 3. For more information, call 301-677-7823.

- **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 Nov. 3. For more information, visit [namiaa-c.org](http://namiaa-c.org).

- **Families Dealing with Deployment** meets the first and third Monday of every month from 5:30-6:30 p.m. at the Family Advocacy Program, 2462 85th Medical Battalion Ave. Children welcome. The next meeting is Nov. 7.

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

- **Daddy & Me** interactive playgroup for fathers with children ages 2-4 meets the first and third Monday of every month from 5-6 p.m. at the Family Advocacy Program, 2462 85th Medical Battalion Ave. The next meeting is Nov. 7.

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

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

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

meeting is Nov. 7.

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

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

• **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 Nov. 11.

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

• **Meade Branch 212 of the Fleet Reserve Association** meets the second Saturday of each month at 10 a.m. at VFW Post 160, 2597 Dorsey Road, Glen Burnie. The next meeting is Nov. 12. Active-duty, Reserve and retired members of the U.S. Navy, Marine Corps and Coast Guard are invited. For more information, call 443-604-2474 or 410-768-6288.

• **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 Nov. 14. For more information, call Celena Flowers or Jessica Hobgood at 301-677-5590.

• **Single Parent Support Group** meets every second and fourth Monday of the month from 5:30-7 p.m. at School Age Services, 1900 Reece Road. Children welcome. The next meeting is Nov. 14. For more information, call 301-677-7823.

• **The Retired Enlisted Association (TREA)** meets the third Tuesday of each month from 7:30-8:30 p.m. at the Potomac Place Neighborhood Center, 4998 2nd Corps Blvd. The next meeting is Nov. 15.

For more information, visit trea.org or call Charles Green, the local chapter president, at 443-610-4252 or Otis Whitaker Sr., chapter secretary, at 443-306-1104.

• **Society of Military Widows** meets for brunch the third Tuesday of the month at 11 a.m. at Club Meade. The next meeting is Nov. 15. For more information, call Betty Jones at 410-992-1123.

• **Military District of Washington Sergeant Audie Murphy Club** meets the third Wednesday of each month. The next meeting is Nov. 16. For more information, email Sgt. 1st Class Aaron Barfield, club vice president, at aaron.a.barfield.mil@mail.mil.

• **Air Force Sergeants Association Chapter 254** meets the third Wednesday of every month from 3-4 p.m. in the auditorium of the Airman Leadership School, 8470 Zimborski Ave. The next meeting is Nov. 16. For more information, call 831-521-9251 or go to AFSA254.org.

• **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 Nov. 17 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.

• **Enlisted Spouses' Club** meets the third Thursday of each month at 6:30 p.m. at Potomac Place Community Center, 4998 Second Corps Blvd. Location and time subject to change. The next meeting is Nov. 17 at 6:30 p.m.

The Fort Meade ESC is a diverse group of spouses from all branches and phases of life. The organization strives to support one another, and support and give back to the community.

For child care during ESC functions, email membership@FtMeadeESC.org and ask for more information on how ESC can help.

For more information, call 301-908-3773.

• **Project Healing Waters** meets Thursdays at Burba Lake area No. 3 in the summer. Grilling begins at 5 p.m.

In the winter, the group meets at the Rascon Building, 2481 Llewellyn Ave.

The project is dedicated to the physical and emotional rehabilitation of wounded warriors and veterans through fly fishing, fly tying and outings.

For more information, call Larry Vawter, program leader, at 443-535-5074 or email thecarptman@msn.com.

• **Moms Walking Group**, sponsored by Parent Support, meets Thursdays from 8:30-9:15 a.m. at the Family Advocacy Program, 2462 85th Medical Battalion Ave. To register, call 301-677-3617.

• **Dancing with the Heroes**, free ballroom dance lessons for the Warrior Transition Unit, meets Thursdays at 6 p.m. at Argonne Hills Chapel Center in the seminar room.

Participants should wear loose clothing, comfortable shoes with leather soles. No super high heels or flip-flops.

• **Moms Support Group** meets Thursdays from 9:30-10:30 a.m. at the Family Advocacy Center, 2462 85th Medical Battalion Ave. The group is for mothers of young children up to age 3. Mini playgroup included.

Topics include potty training, stages and development. Children are welcome. Registration is required. For more information, call 301-677-4118 or or email colaina.townsend.ctr@mail.mil.

• **Couples Communication** meets

every Monday from 2:30-3:30 p.m. at the Family Advocacy Program Center, 2462 85th Medical Battalion Ave.

The session is aimed at helping couples develop tools to enhance their relationship, gain problem-solving strategies, and create a long-lasting relationship. For more information, call 301-677-4118.

• **Cub Scout Pack 377** invites boys in first through fifth grades, or ages 7 to 10, to attend its weekly Monday meetings at 6 p.m. at Argonne Hills Chapel Center.

For more information, email Cubmaster Christopher Lassiter or Committee Chairperson Marco Cilibert at pack377\_cc@yahoo.com.

• **Boy Scout Troop 377** meets Mondays at 6:30 p.m. at Argonne Hills Chapel Center on Rockenbach Road. For more information, refer to the troop's Facebook page [www.facebook.com/bsa377](http://www.facebook.com/bsa377) or contact Scoutmaster Eddie Smith at 443-542-0545 or [eksmith91@hotmail.com](mailto:eksmith91@hotmail.com), or Wendall Lawrence, the troop's committee chair, at 410-969-5308 or [lawrencewendall@gmail.com](mailto:lawrencewendall@gmail.com).

• **Catholic Women of the Chapel** meets every Tuesday at 9:30 a.m. and 6:30 p.m. for fellowship, prayer and Bible study in the Main Post Chapel, 4419 Llewellyn Ave.

The CWOC is open to all women in the community ages 18 and older. For more information, email Jen Bosko, CWOC president, at [ftmeadecwoc@gmail.com](mailto:ftmeadecwoc@gmail.com).

• **Women's Empowerment Group** meets Wednesdays from 2-3:30 p.m. to provide a safe, confidential arena for the support, education and empowerment of women who have experienced past or present family violence.

Location is only disclosed to participants. To register, call Samantha Herring, victim advocate, at 301-677-4124 or Katherine Lamourt, victim advocate, at 301-677-4117.

• **American Legion Post 276** is open to veterans and active-duty service members at 8068 Quarterfield Road in Severn. Breakfast may be purchased beginning at 9 a.m. Lunches may be purchased from 11:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. Happy Hour is 4-6 p.m. Dinner may be purchased at 6 p.m. on Fridays and the fourth Sunday of every month.

Membership discounts are offered for active-duty military. For more information, call 410-969-8028 or visit [americanlegionpost276.org](http://americanlegionpost276.org).

• **Odenton Masonic Center**, located at 1206 Stehlik Drive, invites the community, local military, fire/emergency services and local businesses to enjoy its breakfast and specialty dinners.

The center offers an "all-you-can-eat" breakfast every second Sunday from 7-11 a.m.

Specialty dinners are held the third Friday of the month from 5-7 p.m.

Menus can be found at [odentonlodge209.net](http://odentonlodge209.net).

## 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. 3-D Movies: \$8 adults, \$5.50 children.*

## Today through Nov. 6



MGM/COLUMBIA

**Friday: "The Magnificent Seven" (PG-13).** Seven gunmen in the old west gradually come together to help a poor village against savage thieves. With Denzel Washington, Chris Pratt, Ethan Hawke.

**Saturday: FREE SCREENING (PG-13).** Tickets available at the Exchange Food Court. Seating open to non-ticket holders 30 minutes prior to showtime.

**Sunday: "Miss Peregrine's Home for Peculiar Children" (PG-13).** When a boy discovers clues to a mystery that stretches across time, he finds Miss Peregrine's Home for Peculiar Children. But the danger deepens after he gets to know the residents and learns about their special powers. With Eva Green, Asa Butterfield, Samuel L. Jackson.

**Nov. 4 & 6: "Deepwater Horizon" (PG-13).** A dramatization of the April 2010 disaster when the offshore drilling rig, Deepwater Horizon, exploded and created the worst oil spill in U.S. history. With Mark Wahlberg, Kurt Russell, John Malkovich.

**Nov. 5: "The Girl on the Train" (R).** A divorcee becomes entangled in a missing-persons investigation that promises to send shockwaves throughout her life. With Emily Blunt, Haley Bennett, Rebecca Ferguson.