

Soundoff!



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FTMEADESOUNDOFF.COM



HOLIDAYS ARE HERE

Gift sale offers
unique goods

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SOBERING STATISTICS

Seminar to highlight
impaired driving dangers

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UPCOMING EVENTS

Saturday, Noon -4 p.m.: ESC

Children's Holiday Party-
Pershing Hill Elementary

Tuesday, 10 a.m.: Drunk &
Drugged Driving Seminar - McGill

Dec. 7, 7 p.m.: 'Sound The Bells'
holiday concert - Meade High

Dec. 8, 5 p.m.: Holiday Tree
Lighting Ceremony - Post Chapel

Freedom Inn Feast



Record crowds enjoy lavish
Thanksgiving menu **PG 9-11**

Airman 1st Class Demond McGhee
(left) and Airman Basic Matthew
Markivee, both of the 336th Train-
ing Squadron, Detachment 2, dine
together on Thanksgiving Day at
the Freedom Inn.

PHOTO BY NATE PESCE



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Soundoff!

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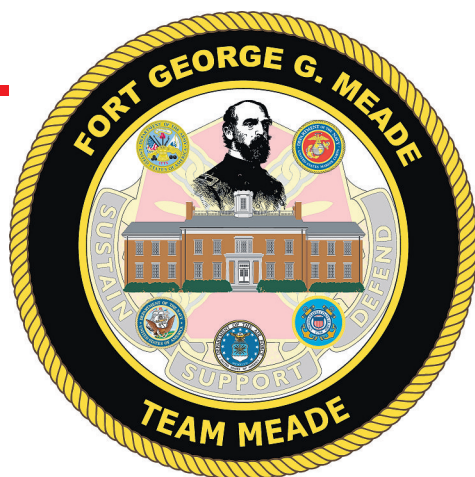
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GUEST COLUMN

Get involved! Leader support is welcomed

BY LARRY WHITLEY SR.

Fort Meade Public Affairs Office

During this time of reflection, selfless giving and community engagement, the Fort Meade community binds even closer to meet needs and encourage one another.

One way community members come together is the Fort Meade Community Council, which regularly meets with senior leadership and representatives of other community groups and private organizations that are part of the Fort Meade community.

The meetings, held the last Thursday of every other month, provide an opportunity to share information about what's happening on post.

They also provide a forum to address issues that affect a large portion of the people living and working on Fort Meade, and bring those issues to the attention of those in a position to make changes.

You can view online some of the issues presented and discussed at the bimonthly meetings at: www.ftmeade.army.mil/staff/pao/commandinformation/communitycouncil/commcouncil.html.

Or, if you're leading an organization that has not been involved with the Community Council, you have an opportunity to attend and represent your members.

Here's a link to the last Community Council meeting: www.ftmeade.army.mil/staff/pao/commandinformation/communitycouncil/2017/CC%20Sept%202017.pdf.

While we're talking about councils and organizations that focus on community issues, another of the quality-of-life organizations is the Installation Traffic Safety Council that meets quarterly.

Under the leadership of the Director-

ate of Emergency Services, the council studies and researches all things traffic that relate to access to the installation and traffic flow (automotive and pedestrian) around the installation.

The Traffic Safety Council has been instrumental in ensuring access to Fort Meade and locations on the installation while addressing the safety and security of Fort Meade's people.

Some of the issues addressed focused on routinely used access points that needed attention such as the turn signal timing for turning onto Fort Meade from Route 175 at the Llewellyn Avenue gate during morning rush hours, or the approach speeds for accessing the Rockenbach Road gate onto Fort Meade.

Other issues being addressed are not so apparent such as lighting at the Rockenbach Road gate, or the consistency of speed limit signage for motor vehicles.

The work of other councils and committees is also shared as the work of researching and providing recommendations on community-based issues to decision-makers evolve over time.

The work of the Environmental Quality Control Committee and several other organizations are reported on routinely in *Soundoff!* (print version and the online version at <http://ftmeadesoundoff.com/>) and the other Fort Meade communications media to keep our community informed and engaged.

Fort Meade community members and supporters have outlets in place to assist in meeting work life and home life needs, and provide a way for members of Team Meade to help keep Fort Meade a "Frontline Fort" as the "nation's platform for intelligence, information and cyber operations."

Team Meade!



PHOTO BY LT. JEREMIAH IRVIN/FORT MEADE POLICE

Fort Meade Police engage the community during "Coffee With A Cop"

Sobering statistics

Seminar to highlight drunk, drugged driving dangers

BY SAMSON ROBINSON

Prevention Coordinator
Army Substance Abuse Program

December is designated as National Drunk and Drugged Driving Prevention Month.

In recognition of this campaign, the Fort Meade Army Substance Abuse Program will sponsor a Drunk and Drugged Driving (3D) Prevention Month kickoff seminar on Tuesday from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. in the McGill Training Center ballroom.

Participants include representatives from Sexual Harassment/Assault Response, the Family Advocacy Program, the Directorate of Emergency Services and Mothers Against Drunk Drivers.

Speakers from the Motor Vehicle Administration, DES, State's Attorney's Office, Installation Safety Office, Substance Use Disorder Clinical Care and many other agencies will partner with the Army Substance Abuse Program.

According to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, almost 29 people die every day in alcohol-impaired vehicle crashes in the United States. That's one person every 50 minutes in 2016.

Drunk driving fatalities have fallen by one-third in the last three decades. However, drunk driving crashes claim more than 10,000 lives per year.

In 2010, the most recent year for which cost data is available, these deaths and damages contributed to a cost of \$44 billion per year.

The government reports that alcohol is responsible for one in every 10 deaths of Americans ages 20 to 64. A report from the Centers for Disease Control

and Prevention finds that excessive drinking not only leads to fatal car crashes and violence but also deadly cases of breast cancer, and liver and heart disease.

About 70 percent of drinking deaths involved men.

New Mexico had the highest rate of death from drinking. New Jersey had the lowest.

Alcohol and other drugs hinder driving skills such as judgment, reaction time and general awareness.

What most people don't realize is that it is extremely dangerous to operate a motorcycle while impaired — even after one drink or while intoxicated.

Physically, motorcyclists are affected by alcohol in the same way as vehicle drivers. However, motorcyclists may overlook that it takes much more coordination and alertness to operate a motorcycle than it does to drive a car.

In previous years, motorcycle operators in fatal crashes had higher intoxication rates than any other type of operator.

ASAP works with dedicated volunteers who continue to get out the word.

The term accident implies unpredictable and unavoidable acts. But motor vehicle crashes are predictable and avoidable, thus making them preventable.

With the holidays approaching, there will be an increase in social events involving alcohol. Data from the NHTSA shows that this results in an increase in DUIs and fatal drunk-driving crashes around the Christmas holidays.

According to the NHTSA, 1,180 people were killed in crashes on the nation's roads, and almost one-third of those fatalities were in drunk-driving crashes during the holiday period, Dec. 18-31.

Over the entire month of December



FILE PHOTO

Spc. Dareeontay King of the 704th Military Intelligence Brigade takes a ride wearing "drunk goggles" to experience driving under the influence at last year's Drunk and Drugged Driving Prevention Month event. This year's 3D seminar is Tuesday from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. in the McGill Training Center ballroom.

2013, a staggering number of people — 733 — lost their lives in crashes.

While the dangers relating to drinking and driving are well documented, there is another deadly alcohol-related problem that receives far less attention — impaired pedestrians.

In the past, ASAP has encouraged individuals not to drive after drinking, but have failed to send the message that impaired walking is also dangerous and can result in injury or death.

Research has shown that pedestrian crash victims often have a very high blood alcohol concentrations, or BAC. About 25 percent of fatally injured pedestrians had a BAC greater than .20.

In 2017, traffic fatalities were 1 percent lower in the first six months, compared with the same period in 2016, according to preliminary estimates from the National Safety Council. The organization

reports that the decline comes after the steepest estimated two-year increase in traffic deaths since 1964.

In addition, the first six months' tally for 2017 is 8 percent higher than the same period in 2015.

If you plan on celebrating with alcohol this holiday season, plan on a sober driver. Even if you've had a little bit to drink, you can still get a DUI and be involved in a crash.

Only drive when you are sober. Too many people wait until they're been drinking to figure out their ride home. By then, it's too late to make a clear-minded decision.

You might think you're just buzzed and that you're OK to drive, but remember this: Buzzed driving is drunk driving.

Editor's note: For more information, call Samson Robinson at 301-677-7983.

Commander's Open Door

Garrison Commander Col. Tom Rickard has an open door policy.

All service members, retirees, government employees, family members and community members age 18 or older are invited to address issues or concerns to the commander directly by visiting Rickard's office on Mondays from 4 to 6 p.m. at garrison headquarters in Hodges Hall, Bldg. 4551, Llewellyn Avenue.

Visitors are seen on a first-come, first-served basis. No appointment is necessary.

For more information, call 301-677-4844.

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Tri-Service PHA set to strengthen medical readiness

STORY AND PHOTO BY CHUCK YANG
Fort Meade Medical Department Activity

The secretary of the Army and the Army Chief of Staff's No. 1 priority is readiness, and being medically ready is critical to ensuring Total Force deployability — a strategic part of the globally integrated operations.

In support of Army Medicine's effort in development and implementation of the medical readiness initiative, the Army will field the new Tri-Service Department of Defense Periodic Health Assessment tool on Dec. 31.

The DoD PHA consists of a standardized question set, designed to identify outstanding DoD Individual Medical Readiness requirements and health care screening elements, which will ultimately allow providers from any service to complete a PHA for any DoD service member.

The Tri-Service DoD PHA is the Phase III of the Medical Readiness Portal implementation and is scheduled to occur Dec. 31. Phase I and Phase II were completed in June 2016 and October 2016.

According to Lt. Col. Hyun J. Kang, chief of Operational Medicine at Kimbrough Ambulatory Care Center, the new DoD PHA will involve the medical support teams.



Lt. Col. Hyun J. Kang, chief of Operational Medicine at Kimbrough Ambulatory Care Center, discusses upcoming DoD PHA, a new defense-wide assessment tool, which will enhance medical readiness of all service members.

“With the new process, support staff can provide screening prior to the provider assessing the service member and document their findings — a procedure not included in the current PHA system,” Kang said.

Another feature of the DoD PHA is that it's a defense-wide assessment tool, which will be the same regardless of the service branch.

All services will now have the ability to provide the PHA to any service member, which will ensure defense-wide consistency.

Although the new DoD PHA process doesn't take effect until Jan. 1, Kang urges service members — who are due their PHAs in December, January and February — to get it done before Dec. 31 to avoid the rush and lengthier processing period.

“As we begin using the DoD PHA format, additional steps will be required from the service members, including the mental health evaluations,” Kang said.

“Here at Fort Meade, we have large numbers of Soldiers who are falling behind on medical and dental readiness,” Kang said. “The new PHA will be very comprehensive compared to the current process, and I highly encourage those who are due in the next 90 days to have their PHAs completed by [Dec. 29].”

Improving and sustaining readiness is the benchmark for everything we do. This medical readiness transformation will continue to support the secretary of the Army and the Army Chief of Staff's No. 1 mission — readiness.

The DoD PHA will increase transparencies in medical readiness and communication between providers and commanders at all levels.

For additional information and processes on medical and dental readiness, contact Fort Meade Operational Medicine at:

- Fort Meade Army Periodic Health Assessment: 301-677-8704
- Fort Meade Navy Periodic Health Assessment: 301-677-8816
- Fort Meade Air Force Periodic Health Assessment: 301-677-8673
- Epes Dental Clinic: 301-677-6078/6983

Space kits help Soldiers recognize jamming

BY SEAN KIMMONS
Army News Service

A crash course on how to recognize jamming on communications devices and networks now helps prepare Soldiers for obstacles they may face while deployed or during rotations to combat training centers.

Using “space training kits,” small teams from U.S. Army Space and Missile Defense Command/Army Forces Strategic Command travel around the Army to locations where home station training is conducted. The kits help Soldiers learn how to identify when an enemy is interfering with their communications or navigation equipment.

“The biggest problem I'm seeing at the CTCs [Combat Training Centers], on a macro level, is that units aren't able to recognize that they are being GPS jammed,” said Capt. Zeke Clayson, chief of CTC training for the command's G-3 Training Readiness Exercise Division. “They immediately assume it's an equipment issue or an operator issue.”

Failure to realize that some electromagnetic interference may be an actual enemy attack can have major implications for a unit.

Clayson's division typically works with two training kits. One of them, Space Kit 3, can replicate GPS jamming on handheld Defense Advanced GPS Receivers, also known as DAGRs. The Army provides DAGRs to Soldiers downrange to help them find their position and navigate while operating in unfamiliar locations.

In a classroom setting, instructors use Space Kit 3 to emit interference that Soldiers can then learn to detect using the DAGR's built-in analyzer.

After they recognize their devices are being jammed, Soldiers would then report the problem to the rest of their unit. Soldiers can also use the DAGRs to locate the source of the interference.

The newer Space Kit 4 can replicate enemy interference on satellite communications. While satellite communications receivers don't have an internal analyzer, he said, Soldiers can use an external spectrum analyzer to help identify interference.

“Based on the strength and frequencies they are seeing on the spectrum analyzer, they are able to determine whether that interference is deliberate or accidental,” Clayson said.

With just one training kit, instructors are able to train more than 100 Soldiers a day. Soldiers need only about 20 minutes to get up to speed.

In that short time, trainers from SMDC are able to help Soldiers identify when their communications gear has been jammed. That skill has become increasingly important under the Army's multidomain battle concept, which envisions dispersed forces operating in contested environments against near-peer threats.

“Right now, near-peers are very advanced in their space domain capabilities,” Clayson said. “These space kits enable us to prevent them from overmatching us.”

Soldiers more familiar on communication issues are already being seen at the National Training Center in Fort Irwin, California, according to Maj. Steven W. Wojdakowski, space operations planner for the center's

operations group.

“As we continue to replicate various forms of satcom denial each rotation, brigade combat teams are becoming more aware that the threat exists,” he said. “Commanders place more emphasis on communications planning than ever before, but we still have much work to do.”

The Army has enjoyed assured access to the space domain for some time, Wojdakowski said, but going forward, threats to space-based assets must be considered as part of operational planning.

“Just as we fight for key terrain on the battlefield to enable maneuver, we should fight for so-called digital terrain to ensure connectivity by understanding the threat to our systems, targeting threat emitters and sensors, and reducing our footprints in the electromagnetic spectrum,” he said.

“Soldiers appreciate the fact they are able to see what jamming looks like to them at their level and that they can do something about it to support the entire brigade's operations,” Clayson said. “It empowers them.”

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DISA co-hosts first knowledge management summit

By TRACY SHARPE

Defense Information Systems Agency
Public Affairs

The Defense Information Systems Agency sponsored the first DoD Knowledge Management Summit Nov. 7-9 at its Fort Meade headquarters.

The three-day summit, co-hosted by DISA, the DoD Chief Information Officer and the DoD Joint Staff, was created to standardize DoD knowledge management practices.

More than 140 knowledge management specialists from 80 organizations participated in this event to formulate knowledge management standards.

In addition to DISA and Joint Forces Headquarters-DoD Information Networks, participants hailed from other Fort Meade tenant organizations including U.S. Cyber Command, the National Security Agency, Defense Media Activity, U.S. Fleet Cyber Command and the Asymmetric Warfare Group.

Other attendees traveled from DoD locations around the world in order to collaborate in person, with the expectations of influencing the development of DoD knowledge management standards and programs.

During the opening discussion, Alfred Rivera, director of DISA's Development and Business Center, explained that successful knowledge management allows the DoD to become more responsive and more effective.

DISA's vice director, Navy Rear Adm. Nancy Norton, explained that knowledge management can give the DoD an information advantage.

Attendees divided into working groups to address three aspects of standardizing knowledge management. The working groups focused on:

- Creating a unified knowledge management training program for the DoD
- Revising DoD knowledge management strategy, policy and doctrine
- Assessing the effect of the National Initiative for Cybersecurity Education Cyber Workforce Framework on knowledge management practitioners

The training working group decided to spend the next several months identifying DoD KM training standards that can be customized by components, as well as deriving and maintaining a KM lexicon for DoD training standards.

The strategy, policy and doctrine working group decided to revise the foundational charter DOD Instruction 8220, which directs KM actions and



COURTESY PHOTOS

A working group discussion is held during the first DoD Knowledge Management Summit from Nov. 7-9 at the Defense Information Systems Agency. More than 140 knowledge management specialists from 80 organizations participated.

clarifies KM principles and methodology.

The cyber working group will work with the other KM working groups in order to clarify the demarcation between KM cyber and KM noncyber roles and training requirements.

"Our goals and the stakes are high," said Stan Ford, a Joint Staff knowledge management officer who led the group developing knowledge management strategy, policy and doctrine during the summit. "The DoD is always in a state of metamorphosis."

At the end of the summit, working groups provided summaries of their recommendations to Norton and Randall Conway, the DoD Deputy CIO for Information Enterprise.

Conway was impressed with the decisions made during the summit, noting the participants "took knowledge management and aligned their strategy to the priorities of the secretary of defense."

Participants will continue to hone their recommendations through online discussions.

The enthusiasm of the participants prompted the organizers to solidify their plans for a follow-up Knowledge Management Summit in mid-2018.

"The results of the three working



Rear Adm. Nancy Norton, vice director of DISA, speaks at the three-day summit designed to standardize DoD knowledge management practices.

groups set the stage for positive development of knowledge management in

2018," said Paul Guevin, chief knowledge officer at U.S. Cyber Command.

Holiday Gift Sale offers unique goods

STORY AND PHOTOS

By LISA R. RHODES

Staff Writer

What is the best holiday shopping event for the Fort Meade community after Black Friday and Cyber Monday?

The Holiday Gift Sale, sponsored Tuesday morning at Club Meade by the Directorate of Family and Morale, Welfare and Recreation.

That's the impression Angela Sangirardi, special events coordinator for FMWR, wanted Fort Meade shoppers to have as they browsed through the displays of more than 55 participating vendors.

"We're all in the holiday mood," said Sangirardi, event organizer. "We want to make this a fun, festive event."

More than 250 people attended the four-hour gift sale.

Vendors sold a wide variety of items ranging from jewelry and homemade soaps to stationery, crocheted animals and handbags from Thailand.

In addition, shoppers could purchase lunch from four food vendors that participated in Fort Meade's Farmers Market. Parked outside Club Meade, vendors offered pizza, Greek cuisine, tacos and beef burgers from their trucks.

Building Community

"We want to bring the community together," Sangirardi said. "I hope they take away that buying from a small business is easy and it's fun. I hope everyone supports us again next year."

Ashlee Larson, wife of Sgt. Maj. Justin Larson of the Asymmetric Warfare Group, came with her 7-week-old daughter Emma Rain and her aunt Lisa Schittino.

"We love to shop, we love different things and we love Fort Meade," Larson said. "We like things that are unique, crafts that are made by hand that you won't find in a store."

"Unique" best describes the merchandise sold at the event.

Husband and wife team Kenneth and Cheryl Keys, owners of Keys 4 Life, displayed candles and soaps made from soybeans.

Cheryl Keys said her products are hypoallergenic and detergent-free. She started making the products when she discovered that her children and grandchildren were allergic to some of the ingredients in commercial soaps.

"We have to tell people not to eat our products because they smell so good," she



Air Force Tech Sgt. Javier Cruz, an instructor at the Defense Information School, and his wife, Bridget, glance at the products offered at the Simply Whimsical display. Vendors Victoria Steger (right) and Jackie Bryant were among the more than 55 businesses at the Holiday Gift Sale on Tuesday at Club Meade.

said with a laugh.

Keys said there was a lot of interest in her products.

"This is really a great way for people to buy holiday gifts," she said.

Michelle Hausman, community outreach liaison for Fort Meade's Officers' Spouses' Club, is an independent consultant for Nomadés, a company that specializes in jewelry and charms for the military community.

Hausman said she became a consultant about six years ago because the merchandise tells the story of service members and their families.

"That's been the best part of it," she said.

The company produces charms that represent every Army installation. The charm for Fort Meade is a groundhog.

Spc. Danny Neal of the 902nd Military Intelligence Group and his wife, Faith, checked out the display of jewelry by Marla Savin, owner of Sparkling Ideas.

"I like to look at arts and crafts," Faith Neal said.

The couple arrived at Fort Meade from Fort Campbell, Ky., about four months ago with their four children.

Faith Neal said the event was a good way to meet other people, but wasn't sure how much shopping she would actually do.

"We have four kids at home; I'm not sure we'll be shopping or not," she said. "But I like a lot of it."



Ashlee Larson (right) holds her infant daughter Emma Rain as she shops with her aunt Lisa Schittino at Scentsy, a small business owned by Joy Kimbrough, during the four-hour event.

Staff Sgt. Candice Harrison, a journalism instructor at the Defense Information School, stopped by during her lunch hour.

"I really enjoy getting gifts that are handmade and supporting small businesses," Harrison said. "Everything looks fantastic. I just haven't decided yet where I'm going to spend my money."

Jay Lorien, a veteran and care coordinator at Kimbrough Ambulatory Care Center, displayed the wares of her company,

Jay Lorien Accessories. The home-based company specializes in handbags, gloves and scarves.

"I decided this would be a good place to vend for the military community," said Lorien, who separated from the Army in 1986 as a staff sergeant.

"I have good quality products that you won't see again. I'm here to dress women, not to get rich. It's another way of serving one woman at a time."

Navigating the claims process

BY DANIEL A. LAURETANO

Supervisory Attorney Advisor, Chief, Claims Division, Office of the Staff Judge Advocate

For anyone who lives, works or visits Fort Meade, the following information is important to you.

Fort Meade is undergoing numerous construction, renovation and repair projects. It is a good sign of Fort Meade's continued existence, and of its importance to the Department of Defense and the U.S. Army.

With all of the activity, construction, and construction workers and vehicles coming and working on post, service members, government employees and contractors, family members, residents and visitors may be injured or experience property damage as a result of the construction activity.

The Fort Meade Office of the Staff Judge Advocate Claims Division is authorized to pay certain claims for injury, or damage to your personal property, in limited circumstances.

The Claims Division can pay for injury and damage caused to your personal property by a federal government employee who is negligent and on duty.

For example, if an on-duty Soldier or civilian employee on official government business runs a stop sign while driving a government-owned vehicle and strikes your vehicle, you would be able to recover for your damages from the U.S. Army by filing a claim with the Claims Division.

On the other hand, if an off-duty service member or civilian employee driving his own vehicle causes damage to your vehicle, you would have to file against their

insurance carrier.

Regarding injury or damage caused to your property or vehicle by the construction activity on post, most of the construction is performed by civilian contractors, not federal government employees. Any damage caused by civilian contractors must be handled between you and the contractor — and against their insurance carrier.

Here are some tips to help you navigate this issue should you experience injury or property damage.

If you experience an injury or damage to your vehicle on post, call the Fort Meade Police. The police officer will, at minimum, memorialize that an accident occurred and record important information about the incident and persons involved.

Make sure you receive the following information from the party that caused you injury or damage to your property:

- Name and phone number of the person who caused your damage
- Supervisor's name
- Name of the civilian contractor/company employing the party at fault
- Name, policy number and phone number of the civilian contractor's insurance company
- Name and phone number of any person that witnessed the event.

This information will assist you in filing a claim against the civilian contractor's insurance company. If your insurance carrier pays for the damages, the above information will similarly assist your insurance company when it pursues the civilian contractor on your behalf.

For more information, call the Fort Meade Claims Office at 301-677-9960.

Taking on the role of guardianship

BY JANE M. WINAND

Legal Assistance Attorney

You may be faced with the responsibility to care for a loved one who is suffering from Alzheimer's or has had a stroke, or care for a severely disabled child or a family member battling an alcohol or drug addiction.

Depending on the extent of the illness or disability, you may need to consider being appointed by a court as the guardian for the loved one.

A guardian is an individual appointed by the court to assume legal responsibility for another person, another person's property or both.

Guardianship is necessary when a disabled person, referred to as the ward, is unable to make responsible decisions concerning his or her medical care or financial situation, typically because of a physical or mental illness.

Once appointed, the guardian may consent to a specific medical procedure for the ward, authorize the continuation of ongoing medical care, or place the ward in a safe living environment.

Guardianship for a minor may also be necessary in certain circumstances to enroll the child in school, handle entitlements such as Social Security benefits, and make medical care decisions.

Maryland law establishes a priority of individuals eligible to serve as guardians. The first priority is someone designated by the ward before he or she became disabled.

Next in priority are blood relatives and individuals who have a particular interest in the ward. An individual with higher priority may be passed over for guardianship in favor of an individual with lower priority if good cause is shown.

In Maryland, in order to be appointed a guardian, the person must file a petition with the Circuit Court in the county where the disabled person resides, is hospitalized or is located.

The petition should state all of the reasons for the appointment of a guardian and whether the request is for guardianship of the ward's person, property or both.

The prospective guardian's petition must include the guardian's name, address, phone number, date of birth and relationship to the ward. The petition must disclose the ward's name, address,

gender, age, name and address of the person with whom the ward resides, and an alternate address for service of process if the ward resides with the person submitting the petition.

If a guardianship over property is sought, the petition should include a description of the ward's assets.

After the petition is filed, the court will sign an order requiring the ward, the ward's attorney, and any other interested person or agency to respond to the guardianship request.

The ward and any interested person or agency must be notified of the guardianship proceedings and his or her rights at the proceedings.

The court will appoint an attorney to represent the ward and may appoint an independent investigator to look over the facts of the case and report written findings to the court.

The court will also schedule a hearing or jury trial, where a judge or jury decides whether guardianship is appropriate and who should be appointed as the guardian.

Once appointed by the court, the guardian has a duty to act according to the court's instructions, which are usually addressed during the guardianship proceeding.

If the court grants guardianship over the ward's property, the guardian has a fiduciary duty to manage the ward's assets properly. The guardian is responsible for making health care decisions and assuring that the ward is living in a safe environment.

In addition, the guardian must be very careful in managing the ward's affairs. It is advisable for the guardian to keep a journal and maintain all receipts.

A guardian must understand that he or she may be held personally and financially responsible if the court determines that the guardian did not act in the ward's best interest.

Guardianship proceedings can sometimes be handled without an attorney, but the procedure can be complicated.

For more information, refer to the Maryland courts website on guardianship at <http://mdcourts.gov/video/selfhelp/adultguardintroduction.html>.

If you have questions about guardianship, call the Fort Meade Legal Assistance Division to schedule an appointment with an attorney at 301-677-9504 or 301-677-9536.

Journey to a brighter future with us.



DESIGNATE #54682

CATHOLIC CHARITIES

CHERISHING THE DIVINE WITHIN ALL





PHOTOS BY NATE PESCE

Garrison Family Life Chaplain (Maj.) Dwayne Hughes gives the invocation at the start of the Thanksgiving meal on Nov. 23 at the Freedom Inn Dining Facility. Howard Mountain (third from left), former chef and project manager for the Freedom Inn, is joined by staffers. After the invocation, Hughes welcomed the first group of service members who arrived at 11 a.m.



Garrison Commander Col. Tom Rickard serves up Alaskan crab legs.

Record crowds enjoy lavish Thanksgiving menu on Fort Meade

BY RONA S. HIRSCH
Assistant Editor

As four young Soldiers celebrated their first Thanksgiving at Fort Meade, they shared memories of favorite home-cooked holiday dishes.

For Pvt. Caroline Schofer of Graham, N.C., it's Grandma's macaroni and cheese. For Pvt. Kelly Delamora of Houston, it's tamales, a Thanksgiving and Christmas tradition in her home.

For Pvt. John Vincent of New Orleans, it's crawfish boil with turkey. And for Pvt. Mathew Blas of Guam, it's the wild pig that his family hunts in the jungles and roasts.

Despite their diverse backgrounds, these

combat photography students at the Defense Information School are now creating new memories.

"I miss my family," Schofer said. "But we are now family."

The group was among the hundreds of service members, military retirees, DoD civilians, family members and guests who streamed through the Freedom Inn from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. for a traditional Thanksgiving with all the fixings.

"We heard that the food is good during the holidays, but I didn't expect it to be this good," Delamora said over dessert.

A record crowd of 604 people attended this year's feast, said Melba Taylor, contract See **THANKSGIVING**, page 10



Garrison Command Sgt. Maj. Brian S. Cullen carves a whole roasted pig, one of three Kahlua Hawaiian pigs slow-roasted all night, that he served to eager guests.

THANKSGIVING, From page 9

manager for the Freedom Inn. "It's the reputation of Thanksgiving at Fort Meade," she said.

The facility featured a fall décor and huge turkey ice sculpture. The lavish menu included three whole Kahlua Hawaiian pigs, 250 pounds of roast beef, 223 pounds of roast turkey, 78 pounds of honey-glazed spiral ham, 150 pounds of shrimp, 100 pounds of Alaskan crab legs and 25 pounds of cornbread for stuffing.

Diners also enjoyed garlic mashed potatoes, candied sweet potatoes, collard greens, sparkling cider and egg nog. Desserts ranged from assorted pies and cupcakes to cheesecake and hot bread pudding.

Unlike standard meals at the Freedom Inn, Thanksgiving patrons may order any combination of entrees and return for seconds — all for \$9.05.

"Most installations won't do the pig, won't do the crab leg," said Howard Mountain, former chef and project manager for the Freedom Inn who now works in operations for Son Quality Food. "But if you plan the entire year, you are able to have crab legs, the pigs. It's all about planning and management."

"The good thing about here is that the [Directorate of Logistics] allows us to be creative. This is the best dining hall for Thanksgiving, for sure."

Led by Tom Allen, project manager for the Freedom Inn, the facility's 17 staffers began preparations in August.

"It starts with figuring out how many people you're going to feed and how many pounds you need for procurement," said



(Left) Gideon Sample, 5, reads the menu with siblings Benjamin, 9, and Naomi, 10, before heading into the dining facility. Visiting from Florida, the military family formerly lived on Fort Meade.

Allen, a retired Marine master sergeant. "We've been cooking since Sunday. These guys have been terrific. They went above and beyond."

The pigs were slow-roasted since the evening before Thanksgiving in a 6-foot-tall combi oven, which combines steam and dry heat to keep the meat moist.

As the first batch of service members entered the Freedom Inn, they were greeted by Family Life Chaplain (Maj.) Dwayne Hughes, who gave the invocation.

"These folks are far from home, so it's good to wish them a happy Thanksgiving," Hughes said. "We appreciate what they do. Sometimes, it's just a touch, a hello."

Service members also were grateful to the changing line of senior officers and noncom-



A record crowd of 604 service members, retirees, DoD civilians, family members and guests enjoy Thanksgiving at the Freedom Inn. Pvt. Caroline Schofer and Pvt. Kelly DeLamora (far right, looking up), combat photography students at the Defense Information School, celebrate their first Thanksgiving at Fort Meade.

PHOTOS BY NATE PESCE

missioned officers serving behind the counter. Wearing dress uniforms and tall chef hats, the senior leaders took part in the long-standing Army tradition of serving junior-ranked service members on Thanksgiving.

"I didn't know we would have high-ranking Soldiers serving us, the command sergeant major, even a general," Blas said. "They could be home with their families. Instead, they're here with their fellow Soldiers. I thought that was pretty cool."

Serving on Thanksgiving was a family event for Garrison Commander Col. Tom Rickard. While he held up crab legs, his wife, Lisa, scooped vegetables, and their 12-year-old daughter Sarah handed out programs.

"Would you care for crab legs?" Rickard asked a service member passing by.

"That's a hard yes — looks excellent," responded Airman 1st Class Ryan Mancuso of the 336th Training Squadron, Detachment 2.

Mancuso made room on his plate beside the turkey and side dishes.

"I'm from Louisiana, so seafood is king," said Mancuso, who grew up in Baton Rouge. "Our own version of stuffing is with seafood."

This was the second Thanksgiving that Lt. Col. Gittipong Paruchabutr, commander of Headquarters Command Battalion, served the community at Fort Meade. He spooned out

corn, string beans, potatoes and stuffing.

"We get to do it once a year," he said. "It's a great Army tradition."

Paruchabutr and his wife later joined neighbors in Vienna, Va., for dinner.

"I put up two turkeys at 10 a.m.," he said. "I enjoy cooking."

Further down the line, Capt. Aaron Lawless of the 902nd Military Intelligence Group carved slices of roast beef, while Garrison Command Sgt. Maj. Brian S. Cullen carved the remains of a whole pig.

All that was left was the red apple in its mouth.

"I've done this several years, but this is my first year serving here," said Cullen, who celebrated later that day with his wife, Connie, and their two sons Edgar, 28, and Andrew, 26, who were visiting from Virginia. "This gives me a chance to give back to the Soldiers and to the community."

Retired Col. Bert Rice, former director of transformation at Fort Meade, returned for Thanksgiving to take his place serving.

"I've been doing this for 10 years," he said. "For me, I get to come back and see a lot of my friends that come through. It's good for the troops to see the leaders in a different way, serving in another way."

After serving turkey and ham, Col. Bernie

Koelsch, deputy director of the Defense Media Activity, joined his family in the atrium. Koelsch, his wife, Angela, and daughters Josephine, 16, and Sophia, 13, have celebrated Thanksgiving at the Freedom Inn for five years.

"The food is excellent, always excellent," he said.

Tanya Marti, author of "Army Wives: The Unwritten Code of Military Marriage," dined with her husband, Col. Michael Marti, an executive officer at the Pentagon, and their children Jack, 11, and Violet, 6.

"I'm an Army brat," said Tanya Marti, whose father is a retired colonel. "My husband was deployed last year. We had a flat cardboard cutout of him."

One of the "signs" of a military brat, she said, is "spending at least one holiday meal at the mess hall."

"I think it's an important message for kids to have because it's an old Army tradition," said Marti, who resides in Heritage Park. "You see your friends and neighbors, a mix of people celebrating the holiday together. And you don't have to cook. The only downside — no leftovers for turkey sandwiches."

But not everyone celebrates Thanksgiving with turkey, roast beef or ham. Jennifer Fierroz of Greenbelt filled her empty plate



Col. Bernie Koelsch, deputy director of the Defense Media Activity who served earlier, heads for dessert with his 13-year-old daughter Sophia.

with crab legs.

"This is what I come for," said Fierroz, wife of retired Sgt. Richard Fierroz. "I only come for the seafood. I'm not a meat eater."

Retired Army Reserve Master Sgt. Veronica Looney, who worked at the Defense Information Systems Agency before retiring from the military in 2009, often celebrates the holiday at the Freedom Inn.



Command Sgt. Maj. Edward Elliott of Headquarters Command Battalion serves turkey and ham to hungry patrons entering the dining facility.



Freedom Inn cook Anthony Anderson carves freshly cooked roast beef as guests arrive. The menu also included glazed ham and roast turkey with all the fixings.

"If my family is not here, it's nice to come here and not be alone," said Looney, who resides in Beltsville. "It's something I can look forward to and not stress over where I can be. It's a godsend, very comforting."

"Everyone is friendly. The food is excellent — it's consistent. The ham is terrific, and I love the bread pudding."

Looney joined Robin Wrather, who has celebrated Thanksgiving at the Freedom Inn for at least three years. Wrather, who works at DISA, brought her cousin, nephew and cousin's friend.

"We make it a family affair," Wrather said. "It's really, really good, worth every penny and then some."

Among the more familiar faces in the atrium was retired Col. Jeremy Martin,

former commandant of DINFOS.

"I'm absolutely enjoying this — the atmosphere, being with the troops, with the veterans, and their families," said Martin, director of public affairs for Bell Helicopter in Washington, D.C.

Martin dined with his wife, Ava, and their son Jeremy, 28, and daughter Rachel, 21.

"We all come together on Thanksgiving. It's our favorite holiday," he said. "We love it here — and how wonderful the preparation of the foods always is. They have the best chefs in all the DoD."

Former Garrison Commander Col. Brian P. Foley, who now works at the Pentagon, returned with his family as well.

"There is no better place than the dining facility on Fort Meade," he said.

New PT area on Chisholm Avenue closed to traffic

BY TYNISE JONES
Staff Writer

If you're ever up at the crack of dawn, you may come across service members engaging in physical training throughout the installation.

Training consists of a variety of running events, exercises, calisthenics and drills.

However, due to traffic flow concerns, a new PT area was established Nov. 20 on Chisholm Avenue.

"Traditionally, you will find on most military installations areas that are closed to vehicle traffic during established hours for physical training," Garrison Command Sgt. Maj. Brian S. Cullen said.

"Based on feedback from our partners over concerns on the lack of such an area here on Fort Meade and the increase of vehicle traffic in areas where units were conducting physical training, we decided to create this area."

The new PT area was selected by the Directorate of Emergency Services in conjunction with feedback from the senior enlisted leaders of the different units assigned to Fort Meade.

PT on post takes place Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays from 6:30-7:30 a.m. All service branches are required to conduct PT.

At this time, the Chisholm Avenue site is the only closed PT area on post.

"Even though the new area is the only closed area, we do have what is considered to be protected roadways during the hours of physical training, which is all roadways south of Mapes to include Rock Avenue," Cullen said.

Protected roads means that during PT, organizations or individuals have right-

of-way over motor vehicles, Cullen said.

"The goal of creating this new PT area is to reduce the number of organizations doing PT on these protected roads, thereby reducing risk to both those conducting PT and [to] drivers," he said.

"We considered many different areas on post. However, it was determined that this area would have the least impact on the overall traffic flow throughout the installation."

Before the new area was designated, its impact on residents and employees of Fort Meade was taken into consideration.

"We looked at those organizations residing in the affected area and designed the area so that employees would still have access to their offices by using the parking lots along 1st Street, 2nd Street and 3rd Street and walking across Chisholm to their office," Cullen said.

So far, said Cullen, Soldiers who are training in this area have no complaints.

"The feedback I've received from the Soldiers has been positive," Cullen said. "The closed area gives leaders options for physical training events that they may not have had when sharing the road with motor vehicles."

Even though the feedback has been positive, there are some challenges that have taken place, which is not unexpected, said Cullen.

"As with anything new, it takes time for people to adjust," he said. "What I do ask is that drivers honor the barriers we have emplaced and work with the road guards."

"The Soldiers on the barriers are doing what they were told to do by their leadership. If there are any complaints, they should be directed to my office."

Editor's note: To contact the garrison command sergeant major, call 301-677-7145.



FILE PHOTO

PT on post takes place Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays from 6:30-7:30 a.m.

SPORTS SHORTS

Pigskin Pick'Em Contest

Pigskin Pick'Em Contest runs each week until Dec. 17.

The contest is open to the entire community. There is no entry fee.

Watch Sunday's games at 1 and 4 p.m. and enter to win weekly prizes.

Each week's winner will be entered to win a grand prize.

Register for CYS Winter Sports

Child and Youth Services' Winter Sports registration is ongoing for the following sports:

- Jr. NBA Basketball:
Ages 3-5; Fee: \$25
Ages 6-13; Fee: \$55
- Futsal (indoor soccer)
Ages 3-4; Fee: \$25
Ages 5-12; Fee: \$55
- Volleyball:
Ages 11-14; Fee: \$55
- Cheerleading:
Ages 6-13; Fee: \$55

Volunteer coaches are needed for all Youth Sports. Experience is not required. CYS will provide training.

The children of volunteer coaches can participate in the sports program for free.

For more information or to volunteer, call 301 677-1177 or 301-677-1315.

Get fit classes

MWR Sports will offer Fitness Resolution Day on Jan. 20 at Murphy Field House, 6330 Bradford Road.

The free event features Zumba, Spin, PoundFit, Tactical Training, Butts & Guts, yoga, belly dancing and more for all levels. Free fruit and snacks will be available.

For more information, call 301-677-2042.

EFMP Bowling

The Exceptional Family Member Program offers Bowling for Exceptional Families on the third Wednesday of every month.

The next session is Dec. 20 from 5:30-7 p.m. at The Lanes at Fort Meade, 2788 MacArthur Road.

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

Sign up for CYS sports

Child and Youth Services offers child care and activities for children of all ages.

To register, go to the Fort Meade MWR website. Under Sports and Fitness, click on the link "Web Trac" at webtrac.mwr.army.mil.

If their CYS registration is current, parents can register online. If not, they must update their registration at Parent Central Services at 909 Reece Road and sign up for

classes. For more information, call 301-677-1149.

Pre-Natal Yoga Class

Pre-Natal Yoga is held Tuesdays from 4-5 p.m. at Gaffney Fitness Center.

This class helps expectant mothers safely explore poses to build strength, work with flexibility and support their ever-changing body.

Breath practice is integrated to find ease and calm the mind in preparation for birth.

The class also addresses common pregnancy discomforts as well as benefits for baby and mom.

All classes end with relaxation time.

All levels, trimesters and partners are welcome.

Try out the class for \$3.

Classes are open to all authorized users ages 18 and older.

For information, call 301-677-2349.

Taekwondo youth classes

SKIES Unlimited offers taekwondo classes for ages 4-17 Tuesdays and Thursdays:

Classes meet at 5:30, 6, 6:30 and 7 p.m.

Parents may register at Parent Center Services, 1900 Reece Road, or online at meade.armymwr.com.

For more information, call SKIES at 301-677-1196 or 301-677-1801.

For registration information, call 301-677-1156.

Functional Fitness area

Gaffney Fitness Center has added a Functional Fitness area for eligible patrons.

Functional Training is based on the concept of moving away from isolating muscle groups on machines, to performing exercises that target a variety of muscle groups in movements that mimic everyday activities.

Renovations to Gaffney's racquetball courts are already underway for two functional fitness training rooms.

They include: TRX suspension rack, TRX training equipment, Plyo Boxes, sandbags and kettlebells, new impact-resistant flooring, bumper plates, Olympic weight platforms, squat racks and pull-up bars.

For more information, call 301-677-2349.

Jibberless

Jibber Jabber will return next week. If you have comments on this or anything to do with sports, contact Chad Jones at chad.t.jones.civ@mail.mil or hit him up on Twitter @CTJibber.

NEWS & NOTES

The deadline for Soundoff! community "News and Notes" is **Friday at noon**. All submissions are posted at the editor's discretion and may be edited for space and grammar.

Look for additional community events at ftmeadesoundoff.com, on the Fort Meade website at ftmeade.army.mil and the Fort Meade Facebook page at [facebook.com/ftmeade](https://www.facebook.com/ftmeade).

Process to submit announcements

Community members can advertise their upcoming event, meeting or class on the Soundoff! community announcements page by visiting ftmeade.army.mil and clicking on the Public Affairs Office tab and calling the listed phone number or emailing larry.whitley.civ@mail.mil. Requests should be submitted at least two weeks before the date of the event, meeting or class.

NEWS & EVENTS

VCC hours

Operating hours at the Demps Visitor Control Center are Monday to Friday from 7:30 a.m. to 6 p.m. at 902 Reece Road.

The VCC is closed weekends and from 7 a.m. to noon on the third Wednesday of each month for training.

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.

3D Seminar

During Drunk and Drugged Driving Prevention Month, a 3D Seminar will be held Tuesday from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. at McGill Training Center, 8452 Zimborski Ave.

The free seminar is open to the Fort Meade community.

For more information, call 301-677-7983.

Tree Lighting Ceremony

Fort Meade's Annual Installation Holiday Tree Lighting Ceremony is Dec. 8 from

Holiday concert next week



FILE PHOTO

"Sound the Bells" holiday concert, performed by the U.S. Army Field Band's Jazz Ambassadors, is Dec. 7 at 7 p.m. at Meade High School. Tickets are required for the free concert. To register or for more information, go to armyfieldband.com.

4:45- 6 p.m. at the Main Post Chapel, 4419 Llewellyn Ave.

The event will feature holiday music performed by members of the U.S. Army Field Band, a visit from Santa aboard a fire engine, hot chocolate and snacks.

For more information, call the Religious Support Office at 301-677-6703 or email leonette.s.cooper.civ@mail.mil.

Holiday concert

"Sound the Bells" holiday concert, performed by the U.S. Army Field Band's Jazz Ambassadors, is Dec. 7 at 7 p.m. at Meade High School.

Tickets are required for the free concert.

To register or for more information, go to armyfieldband.com.

Walk-in attorney consultations

The Fort Meade Legal Assistance Division of the Office of the Staff Judge Advocate provides walk-in attorney consultations on Tuesdays at 8 a.m.

A follow-up appointment on a different day may be scheduled if the brief, walk-in consult time is insufficient to address all legal issues, which is likely for domestic relations matters.

Clients seeking a child support calculation should bring current pay statements

for themselves and the spouse as well as monthly, child care cost figures.

Consults will not be provided for wills or other estate planning documents.

The number of walk-in slots are limited.

To be scheduled for a walk-in consultation, visit the Legal Assistance Division, located at 4217 Morrison St., Suite 120, on Tuesdays at 8 a.m.

For more information, call the Legal Assistance Division at 301-677-9504 or 301-677-9536.

Diabetes services at Kimbrough

Kimbrough Ambulatory Care Center offers individual and group appointments for treating diabetes by its registered dietitian and certified diabetes educators.

Appointments are available daily. Kimbrough also offers monthly classes on Diabetes Self-Management Education.

Among the topics are: healthy eating, being active, problem-solving, coping and monitoring, taking medications, and reducing risks.

Additional topics include in-depth prevention of complications, sick-day management and foot care.

Individuals with diabetes do not require a referral for an appointment.

To schedule an appointment with the

Nutrition Clinic, call the appointment line at 301-677-8800.

Parents Night Out

Child and Youth Services will host Parents Night Out on Dec. 15 from 6:30-10 p.m. at Child Development Center IV, Building 2410, 85th Medical Battalion Ave.

Child care is open to CYS-registered children ages 6 weeks to 11 years old.

Registration is open from Friday to Dec. 8. Space is limited.

For more information, call 301-677-1149 or visit meade.armymwr.com.

New Year's Eve parties

Celebrate New Year's Eve at The Lanes. Two parties are offered Dec. 31:

● Family Party, 5-8 p.m.

● Prime Time Party, 9 p.m. to 1 a.m.

Reservations are required.

For more information, call 301-677-5541.

EDUCATION

Workshops, briefings

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-Deployment Briefs: Friday at 9:30 a.m., ACS; Wednesday at 10 a.m., FFSC; and Dec. 15 at 9:30 a.m., ACS

● Transition, Goals, Plans, Success five-day workshop: Monday to Dec. 8 at 8 a.m., FFSC

● Volunteer Management Training: Dec. 7 at 9 a.m., ACS

● Family Resiliency Training: Dec. 8 at 11 a.m., ACS

● Joint Services Retiree Brief: Dec. 11 at 8 a.m., FFSC

● Transition, Goals, Plans Success two-day workshop: "Assessing Higher Education": Dec. 13-14 from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.

● Pre-Separation Brief: Dec. 14 at 9 a.m., FFSC

Employment

● Resume Workshop: Tuesday at 9 a.m., ACS

● Ten Steps to a Federal Job: Dec. 7 at 8 a.m., ACS

● Social Media for Jobs: Dec. 12 at 9 a.m., ACS

● Interviewing Skills: Dec. 14 at 9 a.m., ACS

Financial

● Blended Retirement (virtual class):

See **NEWS & NOTES**, page 14

NEWS & NOTES, *From page 13*

Today at 1 p.m., ACS

- Dollars & Sense: Tuesday at 9 a.m., ACS
- Thrift Savings Plan/Blended Retirement: Dec. 12 at 9 a.m., ACS
- Home Buying: Dec. 19 at 9 a.m., ACS
- First Term Financial Readiness (online class): Dec. 26 at 8 a.m., ACS

Life Skills

- Stress Management: Tuesday at 9 a.m., FFSC
- Anger Management: Dec. 7 at 9 a.m., FFSC
- Effective Communication: Dec. 12 at 8 a.m., FFSC
- Budgeting For Baby: Dec. 15 at 11 a.m., FFSC (Navy and Marine Corps only)

Orientation

- Newcomer's Orientation: Wednesday and Dec. 13 at 8:30 a.m., ACS
- Sponsorship Training: Dec. 13 at 2 p.m., FFSC and Dec. 14 at 9 a.m., ACS
- Navy Family Orientation: Dec. 14 at 5 p.m., FFSC

To register, call FFSC at 301-677-9017 or ACS at 301-677-5590, or visit fortmeadeacs.checkappointments.com.

YOUTH

MST Center events

A variety of activities is offered at the Middle School/Teen Center, 3102 MacArthur Road.

- Forza Racing/Driving Challenge: Tuesday at 5 p.m., featuring auto-sports challenges and trivia
- Middle School-Teen Winter Dance: Dec. 15 from 8 p.m. to midnight

Activities are free for members and \$2 for nonmembers. For more information, call 301-677-6054 or visit meade.armymwr.com.

Youth Center events

The following events will be offered for middle-schoolers and teens in December at the Youth Center.

- Apple Snack Bar: Friday at 3 p.m.
- Holiday Movie Trivia: Tuesday at 4:30 p.m.
- Sno-etry Slam: Dec. 7 at 5 p.m.
- Ice Cream Day: Dec. 13 at 5 p.m.
- Holiday Card Craft: Dec. 14 at 5 p.m.
- Gingerbread House Tournament: Dec. 15 at 4:30 p.m.
- Christmas Cookies: Dec. 19 at 5 p.m.
- Ugly Sweater Party: Dec. 22 at 5 p.m.

Activities are free for members and \$2 for nonmembers.

For more information, call 301-677-6054 or visit meade.armymwr.com.

SKIES Unlimited

SKIES Unlimited offers several classes:

- Drivers' Education for ages 15 and 9 months old to 18 years old: Feb. 26-March 9 at 3 p.m.
Registration is open from Jan. 1-Feb. 16.
- Dance Combo classes for ages 5-7 and for age 8
- Hip-hop dance classes for ages 6-10
Registration ends Dec. 30.
- Tumbling/Cheerleading for ages 2-3, age 4 and ages 5-8
For more information, call 301-677-1196 or 301-677-1437.

Story Time

"Story Time With Condi and Shea" is Dec. 14 from 9:30-10:30 a.m. in the Children's Library at Potomac Place Neighborhood Center, 4998 Second Corps Blvd. Story Time is for special needs children from infancy and older with autism and other developmental delays.

The program is offered the second Thursday of each month.

Registration is required.

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

RECREATION

● **Christmas Village in Baltimore**, a German Christmas market, is open through Dec. 24 at the Inner Harbor, 501 Light St. Hours are: Sunday to Thursday from 11 a.m. to 7 p.m.; Friday and Saturday from 11 a.m. to 8 p.m.; and Christmas Eve from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m.

For more information, go to info@baltimore-christmas.com.

● **The 24th Night of 100 Elvises** is Dec. 2 from 4 p.m. to 1 a.m. at the Lord Baltimore Hotel, 20 W. Baltimore St. The ballroom will host at least 12 bands and 12 Elvis tribute artists. All entertainers will perform all-Elvis music all night. Event includes an oyster bar, showgirls, fried peanut butter and banana sandwiches, an Elvis movie theater, and vintage and rock 'n' roll memorabilia.

General admission is \$55. For more information, go to nightof100elvises.com or call 410-494-9558.

● **ICE!**, an indoor winter wonderland, is open until Jan. 1 at the National Harbor at 201 Waterfront St. Hours vary by day.

ICE! features a walk-through holiday attraction kept at a chilly 9 degrees; two million pounds of ice sculptures hand-carved by 35 artisans from China; four ice slides; and ice sculptures depicting the story of Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer.

Tickets cost \$24 for children and \$32 for adults.

Active-duty service members, military retirees and their families can save up to 20 percent. Tickets must be purchased at the box office. Valid ID must be presented.

For tickets, visit ChristmasonthePo-

tomac.com or call 301-965-4000.

● **Harlem Globetrotters** will perform Dec. 9 at 2 and 7 p.m. at Royal Farms Arena in Baltimore.

Tickets cost \$40. Magic Pass/preshow tickets cost \$20.

You must purchase a seat to attend the pre-show.

For tickets, go to Leisure Travel Services or call LTS at 301-677-7354.

● **Symphony of Lights**, a drive-through spectacle of holiday light displays, a laser light show and a 3-D holiday video, is open through Jan. 1 in Merriweather Park at Symphony Woods in Columbia.

Drive-throughs take place Tuesdays through Sundays. On Tuesdays through Fridays, drive-throughs are from 6:30 to 10 p.m. On Saturdays and Sundays, they run from 5:30 to 10 p.m. Symphony of Lights will be closed to drive-throughs on Mondays, except Dec. 25 and Jan. 1, and will be closed Dec. 31.

Pre-purchased tickets cost \$20 per car, except Saturdays when they cost \$25.

Tickets can be purchased online to reserve a date and time. Tickets cost an additional \$5 at the entrance.

Symphony of Lights will present a series of special events:

- Twinkling Tots offers children and families a stroll through the lights on Monday from 5:30 to 8 p.m. Children in strollers and wagons are welcome. Twinkling Tots costs \$10 per person in advance and \$15 on the day of the event. Children 4 and younger are free.

- Military appreciation nights, presented Dec. 7 and Dec. 14, offer service members \$10 off the cost of tickets to the drive-through. Active-duty, Reserve and retired service members with government-issued IDs and their dependents qualify for military nights.

For more information, visit www.hcgh.org/symphonyoflights or call 410-740-7666.

● **Christmas Spectacular trip** to Radio City Musical Hall in New York City featuring the Rockettes is Dec. 7. Show begins at 2 p.m. Reserve tickets with Leisure Travel Services. Cost is \$175.

For more information, call LTS at 301-677-7354.

● **Sights & Sounds of the Holidays** trip to New York City is Dec. 23 at 7 a.m. through Leisure Travel Services.

Cost is \$65. Plan your itinerary. For more information, call LTS at 301-677-7354.

● **Disney On Ice: "Frozen"** is Feb. 3 at 11 a.m., 2:30 p.m. or 6:30 p.m. and Feb. 4 at 11 a.m. or 3 p.m. at the Royal Farms Arena in Baltimore.

Tickets cost \$24. For tickets, go to Leisure Travel Services or call LTS at 301-677-7354.

MEETINGS

● **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 Monday.

The group is for families experiencing an upcoming or current deployment, or returning service members.

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 Monday. Space is limited. Registration is required for each session.

For information, call 301-677-4118.

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

The next meeting is Monday. The club offers the Fort Meade community an opportunity to improve public speaking skills in a supportive environment.

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

● **Fort Meade Retired Officers' Wives' Club's** next luncheon meeting is Tuesday at 11 a.m. at Club Meade.

Cost of the buffet luncheon is \$20. Reservations are required by noon today.

Dress in your party finery and bring family and friends for this holiday celebration. The Winstons will entertain with holiday music. The celebration also will feature games, gifts and prizes.

For reservations, call your area representative or Betty Wade at 410-551-7082.

For more information, call Audrey Rothstein, ROWC president, at 443-454-7974.

● **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 Dec. 7.

There is no cost for the buffet. Donations are optional. Menu features eggs, bacon, sausage, biscuits, pastries and fruit.

All Fort Meade employees, civilian and military personnel, and family members are invited.

For 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 Dec. 7.

For more information, call PO1 Jennifer Wonch at 410-854-2763.

● **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 the Fort Meade USO, 8612 6th Armored Cavalry Road.

The next get-together is Dec. 7. Share stories to inform each other about resources available in the local community.

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

● **Meade Rod and Gun Club** meets the first Thursday of the month at 7 p.m. at Perry's Restaurant and Odie's Pub at 1210 Annapolis Road, Odenton, in the banquet hall in back of the building.

The next meeting is Dec. 7. Dinner is served at 6 p.m.

For more information, call Charisma Wooten at 240-568-6055.

● **National Alliance on Mental Illness of Anne Arundel County** offers a free support group for families with a loved one suffering from mental illness on the first Thursday of every month at 7 p.m. at the Odenton Library, 1325 Annapolis Road.

The next meeting is Dec. 7. For more information, visit namiaac.org.

● **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 Dec. 8.

The association is open to active, retired, Reserve and National Guard E9s of any uniformed service.

All E9s in this area are invited to attend a breakfast and meet the membership.

For 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 Dec. 9.

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 Dec. 11.

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

● **Single Parent Support Group** meets the second and fourth Monday of the month from 5:30-7 p.m. at School Age Services, 1900 Reece Road. Children are welcome.

The next meeting is Dec. 11.

For information, call 301-677-7823.

● **Glen Burnie NARFE Chapter 1519** meets the second Tuesday of each month at 1 p.m. at the Holy Trinity Parish Hall, 7436 Baltimore Annapolis Blvd., Glen

Burnie.

The next meeting of the National Active and Retired Federal Employees is Dec. 12.

For more information, call Barbara Jacobs at 410-969-5980.

● **Society of Military Widows** meets for brunch the third Tuesday of the month at 11 a.m. in the lounge located in The Lanes at Fort Meade.

The next meeting is Dec. 19. For information, call Betty Jones at 410-992-1123.

● **The Retired Enlisted Association (TREA)** Fort Meade chapter meets the third Tuesday of each month from 7:30-8:30 p.m. at the Odenton Volunteer Firehouse Training room, 1425 Annapolis Road, Odenton.

The next meeting is Dec. 19.

For more information, visit trea.org or call Grant Goods, the local chapter president, at 443-742-4318 or Otis Whitaker Sr., chapter secretary, at 443-306-1104.

● **Air Force Sergeants Association Chapter 254** meets the third Wednesday of the month from 3-4 p.m. in the Airman Leadership School, 8470 Zimborski Ave.

The next meeting is Dec. 20.

For more information, call 831-521-9251 or go to AFSA254.org.

● **Military District of Washington Sergeant Audie Murphy Club** meets the third Wednesday of each month. The next meeting is Dec. 20.

For information, email Sgt. 1st Class Aaron Barfield, club vice president, at aaron.a.barfield.mil@mail.mil.

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

The next meeting is Dec. 21.

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 the month at Potomac Place Neighborhood Center, 4998 Second Corps Blvd.

The next meeting is Dec. 21 at 7 p.m. Social hour starts at 6:30 p.m.

For information, visit ftmeadeesc.org.

● **Exceptional Family Member Adult Support Group** is held the last Tuesday of each month from 6-7 p.m. at the Exchange Food Court.

The next meeting is Dec. 26. For more information or to register, call 301-677-4779.

● **Couples Communication** meets 2:30-

3:30 p.m. every Monday 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 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 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 or call 443-542-0545.

● **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.

For information, email 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.

For more information, 301-677-4117.

● **Parenting With A Purpose**, a parenting class for parents with children of all ages, meets Wednesdays from 1-3 p.m. at the Family Advocacy Program Center, 2462 85th Medical Battalion Ave.

Registration is required.

To register or for more information, call 301-677-4118.

● **Protestant Women of the Chapel** invites the community to join in fellowship while learning together through interactive Bible study.

The PWOC meets Wednesdays at 9:30 a.m. at Argonne Hills Chapel Center.

For more information, call 301-677-6703.

● **Moms Walking Group**, sponsored by Parent Support, meets Thursdays from 8:30-9:15 a.m. at an undisclosed location. For information, call 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.

MOVIES

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

Movies start Fridays at 6:30 p.m., Saturdays at 6 p.m. and Sundays at 2 p.m. PRICES: Tickets are \$6 for adults (12 and older) and \$4 for children. 3-D Movies: \$8 adults, \$5.50 children.

Today through Dec. 10

Friday: "Jigsaw" (R). After a series of murders bearing all the markings of the Jigsaw killer, law enforcement officials find themselves chasing the ghost of a man who has been dead for over a decade. With Matt Passmore, Tobin Bell, Laura Vandervoort.



FRANCOIS DUHAMEL/AP

Saturday: "Thank You For Your Service" (R). A group of U.S. Soldiers returning from Iraq struggle to integrate back into family and civilian life. With Haley Bennett, Miles Teller, Keisha Castle-Hughes.

Sunday: "A Bad Moms Christmas" (R). As their own mothers drop in unexpectedly, three under-appreciated and over-burdened moms rebel against Christmas. With Mila Kunis, Kristen Bell, Kathryn Hahn.

Dec. 8 & 10: "Thor: Ragnarok" (PG-13). After being imprisoned and forced to fight the Hulk, Thor must fight for survival and race against time to prevent the all-powerful Hela from destroying his home and the Asgardian civilization. With Chris Hemsworth, Tom Hiddleston, Cate Blanchett.

Dec. 9: "Murder on the Orient Express" (PG-13). When a murder occurs on the train he's traveling on, celebrated detective Hercule Poirot is recruited to solve the case. With Kenneth Branagh, Penélope Cruz, Johnny Depp.

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MONDAY

Shacharit Service - ChaC - 6:20 a.m.
Catholic Mass - PoC- Noon

TUESDAY

Shacharit Service- ChaC - 6:20 a.m.
Catholic Mass - PoC- Noon
Rabbi' luncheon and Mincha Service - Noon

WEDNESDAY

Shacharit Service- ChaC - 6:20 a.m.
Catholic Mass - PoC- Noon

THURSDAY

Shacharit Service - 6:20 a.m.
Catholic Mass - PoC- Noon

FRIDAY

Shacharit Service - 6:20 a.m.
Catholic Mass - PoC- Noon
Islamic Service - 1 p.m.

SATURDAY

No Services

SUNDAY

Catholic Mass - ChaC - 9 a.m.
Trad. Protestant - PoC- 10:30 a.m.
Contemp. Protestant - CavC - 10:30 a.m.
Gospel Service- ChaC - 11 a.m.
Catholic Mass - PoC - 12:15 p.m.

Fort Meade Chapel Services

Locations:
PoC = Post Chapel
CavC = Cavalry Chapel
ChaC = Chapel Center

Main Post Chapel
4419 Llewellyn Ave
(301) 677 - 6703/7842

Cavalry Chapel
8465 Simonds St
(301) 677 - 6035

Argonne Hills Chapel Center
7100 Rockenbach Rd
(301) 677 - 6035

Muslim Prayer Room: The Fort Meade Islamic Community has a designated room (Room 120) at Argonne Hills Chapel Center for daily prayers during Ramadan and Jummah services. For more information contact Mr. Chad Jones, (301) 677-1301.

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Tuesday, January 2, 2018
Wednesday, January 3, 2018
Friday, January 5, 2018

OR
Applicants must apply in person at the UAM Steamfitters Local Union 602 (7552 Accotink Park Road, Springfield, VA 22150) on the following dates from 8:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m.:

Monday, January 8, 2018
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5. Official Transcript of High School Grades (must be in a sealed envelope from the school and have a raised seal affixed)

OR
High school seniors must present a letter on school letterhead from a high school official verifying graduation before June 30, 2018 with an Official Transcript of Grades (Sealed and Certified by School)

OR
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Please visit our website for more details at www.steamfitters-602.org.

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