



# IMCOM Weekly News Sampler



Thursday, Jan. 9, 2025

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## ☆☆☆ **TIP OF THE WEEK** ☆☆☆

Flex your muscles at an Army [MWR fitness center](#).  
Click on the link to learn more.



### Fort Wainwright, 11 ABN Soldiers and Families to benefit from City Community Activity Center

The ribbon-cutting ceremony for the City Center Community Activity Center marks a milestone in Fort Wainwright's efforts to enhance quality of life for Soldiers, Families and civilians. The event, presided over by COL Jason Cole, garrison commander, USAG Alaska, Fort Wainwright, showcases years of collaboration and hard work.



### State-of-the-art barracks expected to enhance quality of life for Fort Meade, NSA

Construction of the new Freedom Center barracks, a collaborative effort between the U.S. Army and the National Security Agency, is underway to bring modern housing and enhanced amenities to Fort Meade.



### USAG Stuttgart chaplain makes history as DOD's first Black priest promoted to colonel

Chaplain (COL) John Ijeoma felt a spiritual call to serve when he was only 7 years old. Now the Deputy Command Chaplain at USAG Stuttgart, he has spent most of his 61 years sharing the Catholic faith with others as a priest. This month, he became the first Black priest in the U.S. Department of Defense to be promoted to the rank of colonel.



### First military housing project since WWII moves forward at Fort Buchanan, 81st RD

The Fort Buchanan new housing complex construction, the first Army housing development in the installation since World War II, continues to move forward with steady progress, said Caleb E. Santiago-Morales, resident engineer at the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Caribbean District.



## Site prep continues for Fort McCoy, 88th RD \$55.75M Collective Training Officers Quarters

The work continues by the contractor to prepare a large swath of the 1600 block on Fort McCoy's cantonment area to construct the fiscal year 2024-funded \$55.75 million Collective Training Officers Quarters Project at the installation.



## Picatinny Arsenal officials honor three Revolutionary War veterans

USAG Picatinny Arsenal officials honored three Revolutionary War veterans during a Wreaths Across America event at the installation's Walton Burial Grounds on Dec. 18. Picatinny Arsenal garrison officials laid wreaths at the graves marked for John Burwell, Peter Doland and Jonathan Wiggins.



## IMCOM-E MWR stalwarts receive highest honors for career service

Two longtime Installation Management Command employees were recognized for their support to service members and Families on Dec. 5 during IMCOM-Europe's MWR Strategic Planning Meeting. Mary Schweitzer and Audre Binder received the prestigious Peter F. Isaacs MWR Family Programs Lifetime Achievement Award.



## American, Japanese students plant SEEDs of understanding at Camp Zama event

A Camp Zama event brought about 50 American and Japanese teens together for two days of cultural exchange activities meant to cultivate diverse perspectives and enhance mutual understanding. The student educational exchange and dialogue event, or SEED, was held Dec. 14 and 15 at Zama Middle High School.



## Fort Leavenworth Soldiers receive dose of holiday cheer with free food baskets

Volunteers gathered at the Fort Leavenworth Commissary on Dec. 17 to prepare and hand out holiday food baskets filled with groceries for Soldiers and their Families. This event was coordinated by the Religious Support Office and supported by volunteers.



## Fort Drum volunteers support winter fun at community skating rink

The ice-skating rink opened Jan. 5 for Mountain Community Home residents to enjoy at Fort Drum, thanks in part to a team of volunteers who will keep it operational through the winter season. Chris Altman, Resident Advisory Board president, met with new volunteers before the opening to show them the basics of opening and closing the rink and how to use the manual ice resurfer.



## USAG Wiesbaden Garrison Chaplain breaks barriers during Chap Talk event

In a world where busy schedules often overshadow personal connections, Chaplain Oyedeji Idowu, the new USAG Wiesbaden Chaplain, is making it a priority to foster communication among colleagues. On Dec. 13, Idowu hosted the inaugural “Chap Talk,” inviting garrison staff to engage in informal conversations over breakfast.



## USAG Okinawa connects with local community to share holiday cheer

USAG Okinawa volunteers brought the holiday spirit to Yomitan Village, Okinawa, Japan, on Dec. 19, with a special visit to a local daycare center. The day’s festivities began with Santa’s grand arrival in a fire truck, courtesy of USAG Okinawa’s Fire and Emergency Services.



## Fort Belvoir Law Enforcement Activity hosts change of responsibility for Road Dawgs

Military police Soldiers and distinguished guests gathered in the gymnasium Dec. 18 at Fort Belvoir’s Wells Field House to witness a historic change of responsibility ceremony. The Fort Belvoir Law Enforcement Activity was constituted on Aug. 24, 1944.



## Fort Campbell’s winter safety campaign prepares Soldiers, Families for weather hazards

Winter at Fort Campbell brings a range of safety challenges, from icy roads and freezing temperatures to low visibility. According to the Directorate of Public Works, staying safe requires proactive preparation at home and on the road.



## Letterkenny Army Depot supports Fort Indiantown Gap restoration project

Letterkenny Army Depot recently made history with a new type of workload added to its always-evolving capability list. The LEAD Directorate of Industrial Operations Process Support Division checked rotary wing aircraft off the list of a multitude of military components that run through the depot's paint shops.



## Dragon Hill Lodge hosts annual holiday tree lighting ceremony for Soldiers, Families

The holiday season came alive at the Dragon Hill Lodge on Yongsan Garrison, where the entire community gathered to celebrate with a tree lighting ceremony, Seoul, South Korea, on Dec. 17. COL Edward Cho, the USAG Yongsan-Casey commander, welcomed military service members, families, and local residents in the area to a night of family-friendly fun.

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