

June 8, 2021

Team Meade **UPDATES** A WORKFORCE NEWSLETTER



Team Meade Update Newsletter - #6

Hello Team Meade! *TM Updates* gives you information and insight into all things Fort Meade and how your current leadership is going about addressing the installation's present and future status. We hope you will find this newsletter helpful and, coupled with our other digital communications platforms, comprehensive.

There are more ways than ever to deliver the latest news and information so be sure to visit Digital Meade for an in-depth look:

<https://homeadmin.army.mil/meade/index.php/about/Garrison/public-affairs/digital-meade>

where you will find links to the latest 'Meade Week' video and 'Fort Meade Declassified' podcast episode; catch up on the latest 'Meade Read' articles and stay up-to-date with 'News & Notes'.

And, if you haven't already, download the 'Digital Garrison' app where you can choose to receive emergency notifications and important announcements regarding services and closures on the Installation, access important hotlines and phone numbers, events calendar, recreation links, PCS information, ArMA link for building maintenance, check the weather, shop the latest deals at the local PX and much more.

Some News & Notes of Interest:



Our senior leadership is going through some major changes starting at the very top with our new Secretary of the Army, Christine E. Wormuth. Secretary Wormuth is the 25th SEC of the Army and the first woman to hold the position, but as the Army keeps progressing along, I'm confident she will not be the last. Secretary Wormuth has an impressive resume that we've including on our social media platforms and online.



Along with that, our higher headquarters, Military District of Washington and Joint Forces Headquarters National Capital Region is also changing its leadership next week when Major General Omar Jones relinquishes command to Maj. Gen. Allan Pepin on June 8 2021. This change will mark a new command team for our higher headquarters as Command Sergeant Major Franklin Velez just took responsibility of MDW last month. We look forward to

having both General Pepin and CSM Velez on our Installation soon, so we can highlight the great work you do and continue to work through issues, so that we can continue to be the Nation's Platform for Intelligence, Information and Cyber Operations.

- DES began its Neighborhood Summer Safety initiative. As part of our annual summer safety initiative, residents will begin to see more concentrated speed enforcement in neighborhoods and areas where kids are traditionally present. Additionally, with the return of warmer weather residents will also begin to see officer bike patrols returning. For more information about safety watch the last Town Hall where we discuss these topics and more at: <https://fb.watch/5ZSgkt0eY3/>
And don't forget to tune in to our next Town Hall on June 17th 2021 at 5:30 p.m., broadcast live on the Fort Meade Facebook page.
- It's Tick season and the concern to our Fort Meade residence and employees is real. Here is what John Houchins, the Fort Meade Environmental Chief, has to say, "DPW Pest Control/Entomology uses cultural controls to mitigate the need for spraying pesticides. For example, we work with CDCs and operations and maintenance to keep grass lower and mow more frequently around child care facilities. DoD has greatly reduced our use of pesticides through the years by utilizing Integrated Pest Management (IPM). Currently we do not spray for ticks. The likelihood of a tick encountering pesticide after a treatment is low and we do not do preventative treatments under IPM. Our program also includes public education to inform our community how to protect themselves from tick bites and tick borne diseases. Lastly, we frequently collaborate with Army Medical through Preventative Medicine for the benefit of our community. If you have additional questions, please contact Mr. Jason Hipp, DPW Entomology (301-677-6023) and/or CPT Schoonover, Preventative Medicine (301-677-8901)."

To the Army Family - A note to the Force from Army Secretary



"Late last week, I had the great honor of being sworn in as your 25th Secretary of the Army. As I watched the wreath-laying ceremony at Arlington on Memorial Day, I reflected on what a distinct privilege it is to lead the finest men and women that our great Nation has to offer. It is truly humbling to represent the Soldiers, Civilians, and Families that make up the world's greatest

land fighting force." For the entire message, visit the link at:

<https://homeadmin.army.mil/meade/index.php/about/Garrison/public-affairs/digital-meade/army-family>

Migration to ARMY365 Now Underway

Reminder that migration from CVR or IL5 to ARMY 365 is underway. After June 15th, all data saved under CVR will be lost. Once migrated you should receive an email from HQDA G-6 with the following message: "Army 365 Team, You are officially in Army 365. Army 365 is accessed via the web <https://dod.teams.microsoft.us/> or via the desktop client application with a Common Access Card and designated secondary authentication (PIN via text, phone call, or confirmation on Authenticator application). Your new logon will be similar to your defense enterprise email (DEE) logon: username.mil/civ/ctr@army.mil. ***If you have a number after your name, use the number again.*** Please note that your Army 365 Teams account is already activated (not like CVR, where you were required to complete an activation process); you can simply log in and start using the service. We would like to remind you that you will still have access to CVR files until 15 June 2021. As an Army 365 Tenant member you can cross collaborate or participate in meetings with UC IL5 Tenant and other IL5 Tenant users **but NOT with CVR**. Once your Army 365 account is enabled, those of you actively using UC IL5 will no longer have access. NOTE: Currently, Army 365 can only be accessed from Government Furnished Equipment (GFE) via the DoDIN or VPN (Virtual Private Network). Your Unit's Army Champions are available to assist. For additional resources see the following SharePoint site: https://army.deps.mil/army/cmds/hqda_ciog6_Admin/AO365KH/SitePages/Army%20365.aspx
Thank you for your support. Army 365 Transition Team"

Army Policy Changes

MA Michael A. Grinston provides a summary update below on two key directives recently signed by the Acting Secretary of the Army John E. Whitley:

1. Allow all Specialists and Corporals the choice to voluntarily take an APFT to qualify for or improve their opportunity for promotion.
2. Authorization for women to wear ponytails in all uniforms at all times.

During the Army's transition to the ACFT, program managers identified a small cohort of less than 5500 Specialists and Corporals do not have a record fitness test on file, and therefore, are ineligible for promotion consideration to Sergeant. This directive will allow all Specialists and Corporals across the force the choice to **voluntarily** take the APFT.

For more information visit: [Army Policy Changes :: FORT MEADE](#)