



DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
US ARMY INSTALLATION MANAGEMENT COMMAND
IMCOM DIRECTORATE - TRAINING
1 KARKER STREET, MCGINNIS-WICKAM HALL
FORT BENNING, GEORGIA 31905-5000


REPLY TO
ATTENTION OF
IMBE-MWA (608)

04 DEC 2020

MEMORANDUM FOR Directorate of Family and Morale, Welfare and Recreation,
ATTN: IMBE-MWA, Fort Benning, GA 31905

SUBJECT: Minutes of the Fort Benning Garrison Community Activities and Resources
Exchange Meeting

1. The December Community Activities and Resources Exchange meeting minutes are approved/disapproved.
2. POC: Ms. Gretchen Champion, DFMWR, ACS, Program Support Assistant, 706-626-0824.


MATTHEW SCALIA
COL, IN
Garrison Commander

CF:
Each Member



DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
US ARMY INSTALLATION MANAGEMENT COMMAND
IMCOM DIRECTORATE - TRAINING
1 KARKER STREET, MCGINNIS-WICKAM HALL
FORT BENNING, GEORGIA 31905-5000

REPLY TO
ATTENTION OF
IMBE-MWA (608)

1 December 2020

MEMORANDUM FOR Garrison Commander, Fort Benning, GA 31905

SUBJECT: Minutes of the Fort Benning Garrison Community Activities and Resources Exchange Meeting

1. The Fort Benning Garrison Community Activities and Resources Exchange (CARE) meeting convened at 0930 on 1 December 2020 via Facebook Live from the ACS Auditorium, Building 7.

2. Attendance:

COL Matthew Scalia	Garrison Commander
Ms. Dori Nix	Marketing Coordinator, SMD, DFMWR
LTC Yolanda Edwards	Provost Marshal, DES
LTC Steven Oliver	Deputy Commander for Administration, MACH
Ms. Tamala McCoy	Main Exchange Store Manager, AAFES
Ms. Denise Bleiler	Community Director, Villages of Benning
Ms. Patricia King	Store Director, DeCA
Mr. Nathan Snook	Deputy Director, PAO
LTC Michael Patterson	Garrison Chaplain

3. The CARE panel and briefers provide valuable information for senior spouses/leaders to share with their units. Topic for today's meeting: Community Resources.

4. Community Forum:

a. Family Advocacy Program (FAP) – Ms. Beatriz Seales-Tealdi briefed five tips on how to mitigate stressors and maintain a healthy marriage during this unprecedented holiday season. These tips included saying, “I love you, choose your battles, do your part, be kind to yourself and prioritize safety.” She urged attendees to visit the FAP webpage for a variety of webinars on parenting and couples communication. For counselling sessions, she suggested calling FAP Clinical at 706-408-4076 or Victim Advocacy at 706-545-7594. For more information, please see the CARE slides, <https://benning.armymwr.com/programs/army-community-services6>, or <https://www.facebook.com/BenningFMWRfans/>.

b. Georgia Visitors Center – Ms. LaTivia Rivers briefed on the Georgia Visitors Center and the services it offers. She spoke about some of the different locations throughout Georgia that Families can visit. The Visitors Center has anything you might need for Georgia travel. Call 706-649-7455 or visit www.exploregeorgia.org for more information.

c. Columbus Convention Center & Visitors Bureau – Mr. Joel Slocumb briefed the assortment of services offered to include attractions, events, dining, outdoor adventure and meeting/group

IMBE-MWA

SUBJECT: Minutes of the Fort Benning Garrison Community Activities and Resources Exchange Meeting

c. Columbus Convention Center & Visitors Bureau – Mr. Joel Slocumb briefed the assortment of services offered to include attractions, events, dining, outdoor adventure and meeting/group venues. He explained what help is provided to the three different types (Leisure, Business, and Sporting Events) of travelers. The Columbus Visitors Center downtown on Front Avenue is currently closed. The estimated reopen is the summer of 2021. The staff is available to assist in planning your trip in Columbus. He informed attendees about the “Market Days” located downtown on Saturdays 0900-1200. For more information, call 1-800-999-1613 or visit www.visitcolumbusga.com.

d. The Columbus Museum – Ms. Bridgette Russell briefed the family-friendly attractions to include the exhibitions, virtual programs and parent and child classes. She spoke about the safety precautions implemented at the Museum. Transformations Family Gallery closed temporarily due to safety precautions. She briefed attendees about the upcoming free drive-thru “Holiday Lights at the Museum” event starting 9 December 1800-2200. She stated that the best way to keep up with the Columbus Museum is to like them on Facebook or visit their website. For more information, please visit www.thecolumbusmuseum.com.

e. Army Wellness Center (AWC)– Ms. McKenna Cornett briefed the integrated and standardized primary prevention programs and services the AWC offers such as body composition, metabolic testing, sleep education, weight management and much more. She informed attendees that these services are open to Army Soldiers, Family members, retirees and DA Civilians. She stated the AWC accepts clients on a self-referral basis and is available by appointment. For more information, please visit <https://www.facebook.com/FortBenningAWC> or call 706-544-9142.

5. Panel Updates:

a. Department of Emergency Services (DES) – LTC Yolanda Edwards briefed that Fort Benning currently has a lower crime rate than all the other TRADOC installations according to the Army Crime Report. She stated that a speed survey completed in Custer Village determined that there was not enough appropriate signage in some areas. As a result, DPW installed flashing signs. They are applying this model across all the housing areas on Fort Benning. She asked the community to look at MCoE Regulation 210-5 that discusses the supervision of children playing outside. She stated ACP2 will close at noon 24 December and reopen at 0600 on 26 December. ACP5 will close at 1700 on 17 December and reopen at 0500 on 2 January. ACP7 will close at 1800 on 24 December and reopen at 0600 on 26 December. LTC Edwards reminded attendees of fire safety during the holidays. She stated that DES would conduct security checks for any family that requests these checks while traveling during the holidays. For more information, visit <https://benning.army.mil/Garrison/DES/>.

b. Martin Army Community Hospital (MACH) – LTC Steven Oliver stated that MACH still has the Flu Campaign taking place at the Pediatric Respiratory Urgent Care Clinic located at Building 3216 from 1030 – 1800 Monday through Friday for all Department of Primary Care patients six months and up. Tricare Prime and Select beneficiaries can go to any Tricare authorized pharmacy to receive their flu shot. LTC Oliver briefed the visitation guidelines that are currently in effect at MACH. He told attendees that if a medical provider requires a COVID-19 test, there is no copay for it. He urged everyone to wear the appropriate mask during the holidays. He urged everyone to pay

IMBE-MWA

SUBJECT: Minutes of the Fort Benning Garrison Community Activities and Resources Exchange Meeting

training hours on 24 December and 31 December and will be open until 1200 those days. For more information, visit <https://martin.amedd.army.mil/>.

c. Villages of Benning – Ms. Denise Bleiler briefed that the “Annual CEL Survey” disseminated by the Army will start being emailed to every family starting 2 December to run for 45 days. She explained the importance of the survey and encouraged every family to fill it out. She stated the next Town Hall will be 9 December and that it will be a “Walking Town Hall” through Bouton Village. She stated that the Villages of Benning have been conducting their own quarterly Town Halls. The next two Town Halls will be 2 December for East Main Post and 3 December for McGraw Village. Ms. Bleiler briefed that bulk trash pickup is once a month on every second week of the month. She stated the Villages of Benning is working to catch up on work orders and still having issues with getting parts and appliances. For status of work orders call your housing office. The Villages of Benning will have a “Light it Up” contest and winners will be announced on 23 December. Ms. Bleiler informed that Villages of Benning has partnered with Santa’s Castle for the holiday season. The Villages of Benning finished their video that shows families the proper way to leave a home when moving out. They will post the video soon. For more information, visit <https://villagesofbenning.com/>.

d. Defense Commissary Activity (DeCA) – Ms. Patricia King briefed the Commissary holiday hours and what they have available during the holiday. She stated the holiday hours are Christmas Eve 0900 – 1600, closed Christmas Day, and closed New Year’s Day. She stated that the current business hours are 0900 – 1900. Ms. King discussed some of the Commissary gift ideas, which include gift cards, international candies and chocolates, gift packs and flavored coffees. The Commissary has produce trays and deli trays available to order for events. For more information, visit <https://www.commissaries.com/>.

e. Army & Air Force Exchange Service (AAFES) - Ms. Tamela McCoy briefed that the holiday hours at AAFES are Christmas Eve 0900 – 1600, closed Christmas Day, and closed New Year’s Day. She stated that AAFES is currently hiring and has flexible schedules. She reminded attendees of the new additional vendors, which include Tropical Smoothie, Panda Express and Docs Dental. Ms. McCoy explained to the attendees that printed ads ceased but that digital versions are online. She stated that AAFES is offering curbside pickup to shoppers. For more information, visit <https://www.facebook.com/FortBenningExchange/> or call 706-682-0562.

f. Public Affairs Office (PAO) – Mr. Nathan Snook stated the Holiday Band Concert is this Friday and Saturday at the River Center. Reserve tickets at the River Center box office or the concert can be viewed on the MCoE Facebook page. He stated that there would be Facebook Town Hall next week. There will be an Airborne Tower Lighting Ceremony shown on Facebook Live on 11 December at 1800. Mr. Snook informed attendees that all important installation changes are on the benning.army.mil page or the benning.army.mil/covid19 page. For more information or updates, visit <https://www.facebook.com/FortBenningGarrison/> or <https://www.benning.army.mil/>.

g. MCoE and Garrison Chaplain – LTC Michael Patterson briefed about the holiday religious services that consist of the Catholic, Protestant and Jewish services. He stated these dates will be publicized, as we get closer to the holidays. He urged attendees that if they know of anyone that needs some support or help with food items to reach out to

IMBE-MWA

SUBJECT: Minutes of the Fort Benning Garrison Community Activities and Resources Exchange Meeting

battlebuddyresourcecenter@gmail.com. LTC Patterson spoke about Soldier holiday resources posted on the CARE page. For more information, visit <https://www.facebook.com/benningchaplain> or <http://www.benning.army.mil/garrison/chaplains>.

h. Directorate of Family and Morale, Welfare and Recreation (DFMWR) – Ms. Dori Nix briefed some of the MWR events for the month of December. There will be a “Trees for Troops” event on 10 December anticipated time to start is 1030. There will be a virtual tree lighting ceremony on 10 December at 1730. MWR is planning a Santa Parade. After finalizing plans, they will provide additional information. There will be “Winter Camps” offered for families needing care during the holidays at the School Age Center and Middle School & Teens from 21 – 31 December. Ms. Nix stated that families would need to register at Parent Central Services for the Winter Camps. For more information, visit <http://www.benning.armymwr.com/>.

i. Garrison Commander - COL Matthew Scalia briefed installation updates. He discussed the due outs from the November CARE meeting. He stated that Faith Middle School leader made the decision to delay final exams in order for students to take in person and the dates are to be determined. He briefed that the upcoming town hall will provide information to the families and loved ones of Soldiers in training. COL Scalia stated there will be targeted messaging posted next week pertaining to the holiday period and post-holiday period that will include what activities will still be open, what gates will be open, Trusted Traveler information and more. There will be more details to follow. He informed attendees Fort Benning will be in HPCON C the first two weeks after block leave until the Martin Luther King, Jr. weekend. The biggest impact will be that DODEA schools will go back to remote learning.

7. For more information, see CARE slides on the MWR Website at <https://benning.armymwr.com/programs/care-community-activities-resource-exchange>.

8. Meeting adjourned at 1052. The next CARE meeting is 12 January at 0930.

//original signed//
GRETCHEN CHAMPION
Program Support Assistant

CF: Panel members