



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)

5 November 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 3 November 2020 via Facebook Live from the ACS Auditorium.

2. Attendance:

COL Matthew Scalia	Garrison Commander
Mr. Alvin D. Gelineau	Director, Family and MWR
Mr. Kevin Clarke	Director, DES
LTC Steven Oliver	Deputy Commander for Administration, MACH
Ms. Rutchel Williams	AAFES Services Business 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: School Resources.

4. Community Forum:

a. Community Spouses Club (CSC) – Ms. Faith Bomar briefed the CSC membership drive. This year things will look differently. The first event is outside to follow safety protocols. Join them for “Lunch and Recess” 16 November 1130 - 1330 at Blue Field Pavilion. Children and dogs are welcome. For more information, visit www.fortbenningcsc.org.

b. Phenix City School District – Mr. Randy Wilkes briefed Phenix City public schools' accomplishments. The system received an “A” on the state report card. Central High School received the School of Excellence Award. Meadowlane Elementary School received the National Distinguished School Award. He informed attendees about various programs offered for grades K-12 to include SMARTlabs, STEM Center, Accelerated Academy, and Career Tech. He explained that there are 24 advanced placement and dual enrollment courses and 13 career technical education academies offered to students. The school district's federal graduation rate is up. For more information, refer to CARE slides or visit <https://www.pcboe.net>.

c. Muscogee County School District – Dr. David Lewis briefed the changes and safety protocols implemented. He stated Muscogee County implemented a system symptom tracker that helps with contact tracing. He spoke about the in-person and virtual forms of learning that Muscogee County

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offers students. Dr. Lewis informed attendees of the full complement of dual enrollment, advanced placement and International Baccalaureate programs. He briefed the magnet programs offered and stated the robotics program is globally recognized. Deadline for the magnet program applications is 19 January 2021 and parents will receive the status of the application 19 February. For more information, call 706-748-2000/2018, refer to CARE slides or visit <https://www.muscogee.k12.ga.us/>.

d. Chattahoochee County School District – Dr. Kristie Brooks briefed the health and safety measures implemented. She discussed programs and services available to include college and career academy, dual enrollment, advanced placement academics, gifted education services, alternative learning/virtual program and other after-school programs. The school district had a 100 percent graduation rate for CTAE completers and 100 percent pass rate for the National Nurse Aide Assessment Program. Chattahoochee County received the Rural School Collaborative Award Teacher in 2020. All schools in Chattahoochee County offer a Care Connect Medical Clinic. For more information, see CARE slides or visit <https://www.chattco.org>

e. Russell County School District – Dr. Brenda Coley briefed Russell County School District's primary goals: provide a safe and secure environment, increase student achievement, improve students' social and emotional development, and build a professional workforce through enhanced staff development. She explained the implemented safety measures and said Russell County Schools have a nurse at each site. She stated the multiple ways schools have to communicate with Families and listed some of the instructional platforms used. She discussed the programs and services available to include the extended learning program, dual enrollment, advanced placement and gifted programs. For more information, visit <https://www.myrcsd.org/>.

f. Fort Benning School District – Dr. Lisa Coleman briefed the current school enrollment numbers for in-person and virtual. Deadline to make enrollment selection for the upcoming semester is 6 November. She informed participants about the safety measures taken at the schools. She spoke of how Fort Benning meets special education service needs. Dr. Coleman informed the audience of the live tutorial services offered free of charge to all military-connected students. Fort Benning has school locations that offer free meal pick-up to virtual students. Dr. Coleman said DODEA will go virtual learning for the period covered by post-holiday block leave (HBL) if we return to HPCON Charlie. For more information, refer to CARE slides or visit <https://www.dodea.edu/Americas/southeast/FortBenning/index.cfm>

g. Santa's Castle – Ms. Cathy Van Der Valk explained how Santa's Castle helps Families financially by providing toys for their children during the holidays. Applications are due by 4 November. Applications are located on the Santa's Castle facebook and web pages. Donations are still being accepted and are very much appreciated. If you would like to donate, there is a wish list on Amazon. We try to protect our patrons privacy ensuring only one person from each unit is shopping at any one time. Ms. Van Der Valk stated Santa's Castle is currently hosting a virtual run. For more information, visit <https://www.santascastlebenning.org/> or <https://www.facebook.com/FortBenningSantasCastle/>.

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5. Panel Updates:

a. Department of Emergency Services (DES) – Mr. Kevin Clarke there were 134 speeding tickets issued in the last quarter. Also in the last quarter, verbal domestics increased about 31 percent. DES offers home checks to on-post families traveling out of town. For more information, visit <https://benning.army.mil/Garrison/DES/>.

b. Martin Army Community Hospital (MACH) – LTC Steven Oliver stated MACH is offering a Flu Clinic 3 and 17 November 1300 - 1700 on level 1 of the MACH patient parking garage. The external pharmacy has closed and filling prescriptions has resumed at the MACH Pharmacy. LTC Oliver stated that MACH still offers virtual appointments. The Pediatric Respiratory Urgent Care Clinic located on Sand Hill in Building 3216 is operational for children 3 months to 18 years. TRICARE open enrollment season is 9 November - 14 December. For more information, visit <https://martin.amedd.army.mil/>.

c. Villages of Benning – Ms. Denise Bleiler briefed that Self-Help is open Monday - Friday 0800 - 1700. Parts and appliances are still very difficult to get but they are working to catch up. The previous fall events were a success. Villages of Benning is holding a Beat the Streets event and rewarding families doing a good job with curb appeal. They will also continue the Yard of the Month event. There will be a Week of Giving Thanks event 16 – 20 November. The Waterfall is reopening in the fall to retirees, DOD and federal employees in most neighborhoods except for new and historic ones. For more information, visit <https://villagesofbenning.com/>.

d. Defense Commissary Activity (DeCA) – Ms. Patricia King briefed sponsored visitors are now authorized to visit the store. Operational hours remain 0900 – 1900 until further notice. Holiday Hours are: Veterans Day 0900 – 1700; Thanksgiving Day closed; Christmas Eve 0900 – 1600; and closed Christmas Day. Ms. King said the new cash registers allow customers to load up to \$300 on Commissary gift cards. For more information, visit <https://www.commissaries.com/>.

e. Army & Air Force Exchange Service (AAFES) - Ms. Rutchel Williams stated AAFES holiday hours will be announced soon. PX hours of operation on Veteran's Day are 1000-1600. For more information, visit <https://www.facebook.com/FortBenningExchange/> or call 706-682-0562.

f. Public Affairs Office (PAO) – Mr. Nathan Snook stated the 38th Annual Retirement Appreciation Day is Friday, 6 November, at 1100 on Facebook. The Infantry Gifts Community Christmas Party is 14 November at the National Infantry Museum. 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 stated religious service happenings are posted at the Fort Benning Religious Support Office on Facebook. He informed attendees about the Battle Buddy Resource Center and the support they offer Soldiers and Families. 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) – Mr. Alvin Gelineau stated that the CARE meeting minutes and other important information are located on Benning's

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MWR website. He explained that the two new MWR playground projects we initiated in response to input the community provided on the Leisure needs survey and reiterated the importance of completing these surveys. MWR is in the process of finding the right location to develop a doggie daycare facility. There is a Fish and Play event at Russ Pond 6 November at 1500. There is a dog and family activity at the dog park 13 November. The Tickets and Travel Office has a limited number of Callaway Gardens Holiday Lights tickets for active duty Soldiers. MWR is working with MACH to develop safe ways to bring activities back, stay tuned for more information. Fitness classes are back at Smith Fitness Center. Santa at Riverside is 10 December. For more information, visit <http://www.benning.armymwr.com/>.

i. Garrison Commander - COL Matthew Scalia briefed installation updates. He reinforced that the deadline to select choice for enrollment for Fort Benning Schools' upcoming semester is 6 November. Look out for more information on the Garrison Facebook page in the next few days about the post-HBL restriction of movement (ROM) plans. He urged attendees to check out the Digital Garrison App and stated it is an Army-wide app.

6. Due Outs:

a. DoDEA/Garrison: Written guidance on ROM and Fort Benning Schools instructional calendar after HBL.

b. Fort Benning School District: How will ROM guidelines affect final exams.

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 1117. The next CARE meeting is 1 December at 0930.

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GRETCHEN CHAMPION
Program Support Assistant

CF: Panel members



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ATTN: IMBE-MWA, Fort Benning, GA 31905

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1. The November 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:
Panel Members