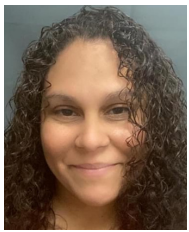


FORT MEADE, MARYLAND | ESTABLISHED 1946



The President's Corner

By Wilma Potts

Hello my FMSC Family!

First of all, I would like to welcome each of you and thank you for trusting me to lead you for the 2023-2024 club year! I also want to thank my Joint Board; they are some of the most amazing people I have met. The Fort Meade Spouses' Club as a whole is filled with an incredible mosaic of talent, personalities, and backgrounds. Due to this, never forget that there is a place for each and every one of you. I cannot wait to share experiences, learn, and grow with every single member that walks through our door.

Always remember that your active participation, dedication to the club, and passion for our mission allows us to evolve and flourish. I hope to see you at our events, committee meetings, or volunteering at the Post Thrift Shop! It is thanks to the proceeds from the Post Thrift Shop that we are able to serve our community through scholarships and outreach events, so stop by, volunteer, and find some of the best deals around!

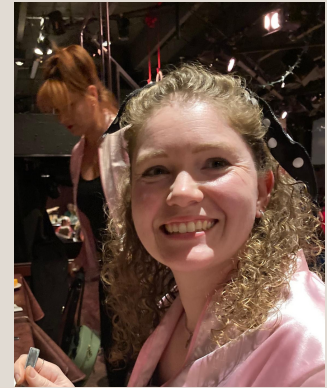
The FMSC provides an outlet that allows us to support our community and each other. Whether you are a well established member or a newcomer, we are excited to have you as part of our club family and we welcome you with open arms. The ability to connect and forge everlasting friendships in this group is unlike any other!



Installation Ceremony

Who We Are, What We Do

This month we are focusing on the Secretary and her down links.



Ashley Jones
FMSC Secretary

Current Neighborhood:
Meuse Forest, Fort Meade

Favorite Hobby:
Crocheting



Fun Fact:
I love teaching group fitness!



ASHLEY GRABS SOME
DINNER AT FMSC
COACHELLA

Summer Outdoor Bucket List

By Tara Varney

Whether you are from your current neighborhood or a new transplant to Fort Meade, it can be stressful figuring out what to do and where to go on a hot summer day. Well, look no further! In this summer outdoor bucket list, there are places to explore, parks to hike and picnic at, and many outdoor activities to participate in. Don't stay cooped up in the house when there is a whole state to explore, and most of the research is done for you!

There are an endless number of state parks and hiking trails throughout Maryland. In addition to open spaces, many parks offer camping facilities, picnic spots, playgrounds, and boat launch areas or rental services for water equipment. Below is a list of favorites from locals and military members who have lived here for a while.

° Gunpowder Falls State Park covers 18,000 acres northeast of Baltimore City. This state park has six main areas that provide playgrounds, a swimming area, picnic areas, hiking and biking trails, fishing areas, a boat launch site, and kayaking rentals. The Central Area includes the historic village of Jerusalem Mill. 7200 Graces Quarters Road Middle River, MD 21220



Cristina Leon Guerrero and her husband Dave got to check off an amazing item from their list!

- Breezy Point State Park is notorious for shark tooth hunting, fishing piers, and a netted swimming area in southern Maryland. The beautiful campgrounds will open in 2024 after the renovation is complete. 5300 Breezy Point Rd, Chesapeake Beach, MD 20732
- Rocks State Park is located in northern Maryland on 855 acres. There are so many amazing features to visit including the King and Queen Seat, Kilgore Falls in Falling Branch-featured in Tuck Everlasting, and Hidden Valley. 3318 Rocks Chrome Hill Rd, Jarrettsville, MD 21084



Continued on Page 3

Micha Yanes

Director of Communications



Current Neighborhood:

Meuse Forest, Fort Meade



Favorite Hobby:

Reading a good book or volunteering

Fun Fact:

I'm a military brat and was born in the U.K.

Erika Kutterna

Director of Social Media



Current Neighborhood:

Columbia, MD

Favorite Hobby:

Wine tasting at new vineyards that I have not been too.

Fun Fact:

I was a college gymnast.



Summer Bucket List cont.

- Oregon Ridge State Park is also north of Baltimore City but a bit closer serving as a quick escape to nature. This is a closer option with shorter hiking trails available. 13555 Beaver Dam Rd, Cockeysville, MD 21030
- North Point State Park is a short distance to the southeast of Baltimore City and boasts a lot of historical views and trails. Dogs are warmly welcomed here along with picnickers. 8400 North Point Rd, Edgemere, MD 21219
- Patuxent Research Refuge, directly southwest of Ft. Meade, is a wildlife refuge with hiking trails around a lake. 230 Bald Eagle Dr, Laurel, MD
- Kinder Farm Park is a 288-acre park for hiking, biking, bird watching, fishing, and picnicking. The park also developed an agricultural history program to show visitors past and present farming practices. 1001 Kinder Farm Park Rd, Millersville, MD 21108

Perhaps strolling through large parks isn't enjoyable for you. If you enjoy admiring architecture and other forms of stunning scenery, have a look at this compilation.

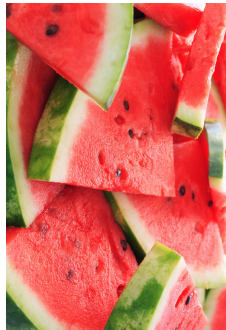
- Assateague Island and Ocean City are in the easternmost part of Maryland. Wild ponies and waterfowl run along the undeveloped beaches and salt marshes on Assateague Island. Ocean City is just north of there with a popular boardwalk for window shopping and beaches for sunbathing. Assateague Island 11800 Marsh View Ln, Berlin, MD 21811, Ocean City, 698 N Atlantic Ave, Ocean City, MD 21842

- Havre De Grace and the Concord Point Lighthouse, a little drive to the northeast of Baltimore City, is a site of both military and maritime history. There are gardens and buildings to explore. 100 Giles St, Havre De Grace, MD 21078
- Historic Ellicott City is a hidden gem west of the big city. Park and walk around as you enjoy the historical architecture, window shopping, and quaint cafes. 8267 Main St, Ellicott City, MD 21043
- Historic London Town and Gardens is in southern Maryland and has easy walking trails through beautiful native gardens. Pets are warmly welcomed on a leash. 839 Londontown Rd, Edgewater, MD 21037

Continued on page 4



Our beautiful honorees at the FMSC Baby Shower



SUN SAFETY
SUMMER SKIN PROTECTION

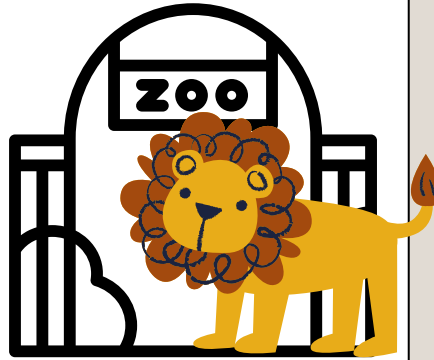
WEAR BROAD HAT	USE SUNGLASSES	WEAR PROTECTIVE CLOTHING
AVOID SUN BETWEEN 11 AM AND 3 PM	USE SUNSCREEN	DRINK MORE WATER
REFLECTION CAUTION	SEEK SHADE	AVOID DIRECT SUNLIGHT

Summer Bucket List cont.

If you prefer engaging in activities and events, I can provide you with a rundown of popular local favorites.

- Bengies Drive-In Theater is a classic drive-in movie theater with double features located northeast of Baltimore City. 3417 Eastern Blvd, Middle River, MD 21220
- Crofton Go Kart Racing is a great way to spend time outdoors just south of Ft. Meade. Riders can be as young as 2 years old, and 8+ can ride alone. 1050 State Route 3 South, Gambrills, MD 21054
- Lurman Woodland Theater is west of Ft. Meade. All shows are free. All parking is free. You can bring your own snacks or buy them at the concession stands. During the summer weekends, many different types of bands play for the crowds. 425 Bloomsbury Ave, Catonsville, MD 21228
- Maryland Zoo in Baltimore is a classic getaway from the busy city. One Safari Place Baltimore, MD 21217
- Maryland Renaissance Festival will be held at the end of summer, August 26-October 22, but is not an event to miss! Remember the days of Medieval times and watch entertaining shows. 1821 Crownsville Road, Annapolis, MD 21401

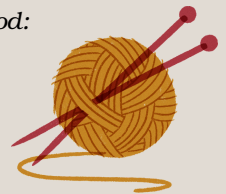
As you can see, Maryland has a lot to offer this summer. Get out there and explore!



Jennifer Denton
Director of Photography and Publications

Current Neighborhood:
Silver Spring, MD

Favorite Hobby:
Reading or crafting



Fun Fact:

I grew up horseback riding and showing horses.



**SIGN UP HERE FOR
BACK TO SCHOOL BASH!**



Back to School Bash
PRESENTED BY THE FMSC

Thursday, August 10th • 3:30pm - 6:30pm
Potomac Place Community Center

What I Want You to Know . . . About Our Installation Ceremony

By Stephanie Oberbeck

On May 23, 2023, The Fort Meade Spouses' Club celebrated their annual Joint Board Installation Ceremony. The ceremony served as a tribute to the outgoing board members for their dedication and selfless service to the club while also welcoming new board members who were installed with an oath of office. The event was a testament to the FMSC's dedication to service for the Fort Meade community.

This year, the Installation Ceremony took place at Midway Commons Community Center. With membership joining in virtually, the evening commenced with a heartfelt speech from the club's outgoing president, Mavi Conner, expressing gratitude and appreciation for the outgoing board members. Our President elect and outgoing VP, Wilma Potts, led the ceremony. Their unwavering commitment and tireless efforts have significantly contributed to the success and growth of the club throughout their tenure.

As the outgoing board members received their well-deserved recognition, the focus shifted to the incoming board members who were about to embark on their new journey. With lit candles in hand and their right hands raised, they solemnly swore an oath of office, pledging their dedication to the Fort Meade Spouses' Club and the community it serves. The ceremony symbolized the passing of the torch, ensuring the continuity of the club's mission and the spirit of camaraderie among its members.

The Joint Board Installation Ceremony remains a cherished tradition since our founding in 1946, celebrating past accomplishments and embracing future possibilities for the Fort Meade Spouses' Club. As new faces join the board, the club is poised to flourish under their leadership, bringing fresh ideas and innovative initiatives to enhance the lives of the Fort Meade community. The ceremony not only paid tribute to the outgoing board members but also inspired the new members to perpetuate our purpose and make a lasting impact in the years to come. We can do more together than any one of us can do alone.



Left: Laura O'Leary and Tonya Starbeck after their pledge
Below: The 2023-2024 FMSC Joint Board





Upcoming Events!



FORT MEADE FOOD PANTRY
Presented by
The Fort Meade Spouses' Club
EVERY THURSDAY
11.00 AM - 1.00 PM



LOCATED INSIDE THE POST THRIFT SHOP AT 392 LLEWELLYN AVE.

AVAILABLE TO ALL RANKS AND STATUS WITH A MILITARY ID

FOR MORE INFORMATION OR IF YOU ARE IN IMMEDIATE NEED PLEASE CONTACT
OUTREACH@FORTMEADESPOUSESCLUB.ORG

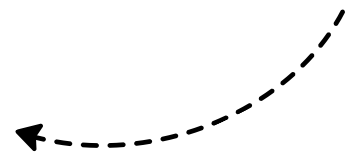
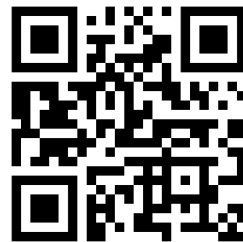


**WANT TO HELP?
SIGN UP HERE!**

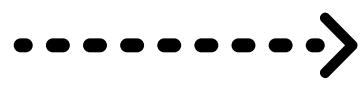
Have you heard of the Children's Holiday Party? It's one of the wonderful ways the Fort Meade Spouses' Club gives back to our community and we are preparing for it right now! If you are interesting in helping one of our committees prepare, check out the event links below!



DECORATIONS COMMITTEE



GIFTS COMMITTEE



Are you ready to get involved? Support the Club and your community by volunteering at the Post thrift Shop!

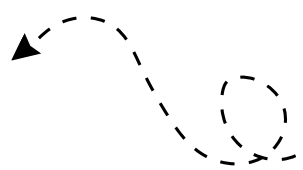
Visit postthriftshop.org for store hours, volunteer info, and FAQs!



OBSTACLE COURSE COMMITTEE

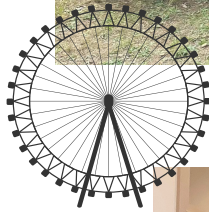


CRAFTS COMMITTEE



We've been having fun Meeting and Volunteering!

Left: Wilma bids a tearful farewell to Katie Christly
Below: The whole FMSC Family at Monthly Meet Up Coachella!



Above: Cassie Smith and Tonya Starbeck run the table at Red, White and Blue!

Clockwise Right: The Ladies of the FMSC at Glitz N Glam MMU

Bottom Right: The Pink Ladies of the FMSC enjoyed their Membership Appreciation

Night!



Summer

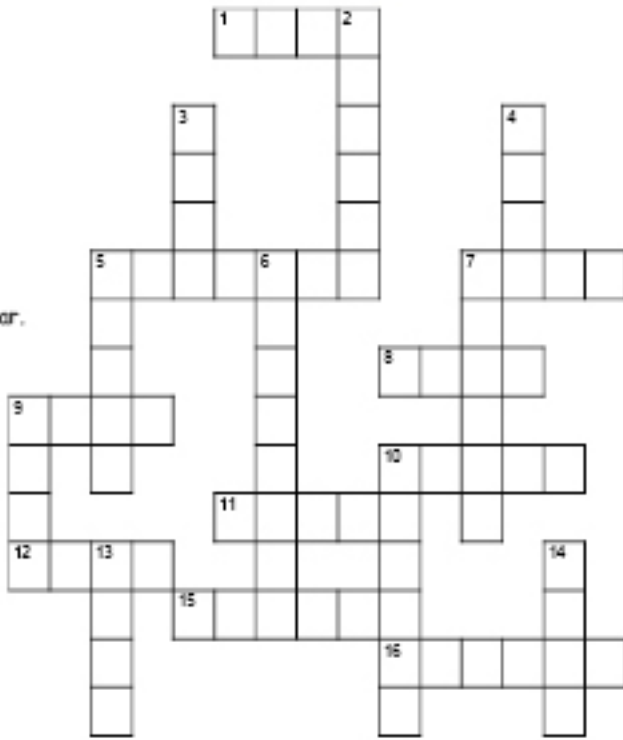


Across

- 1. Grains on the beach.
- 5. Living in a tent.
- 7. It warms you up.
- 8. Two wheeled transportation.
- 9. Comes with a shovel.
- 10. Full of daylight.
- 11. A sandy shore.
- 12. Area of inland water.
- 15. Warmest 3 months of the year.
- 16. Top for warm weather.

Down

- 2. Plunging into the water.
- 3. Move through the water.
- 4. Summer hazard.
- 5. House in the woods.
- 6. Frozen treat.
- 7. Trail walking.
- 9. A place to swim
- 10. Pants for hot weather.
- 13. Toy for a windy day.
- 14. Mildly hot.



Word Bank

BEACH, BIKE, CABIN, CAMPING, DIVING, FIRE, HEAT, HIKING, ICE CREAM, KITE, LAKE, PAIL, POOL, SAND, SHORTS, SUMMER, SUNNY, SWIM, T-SHIRT, WARM

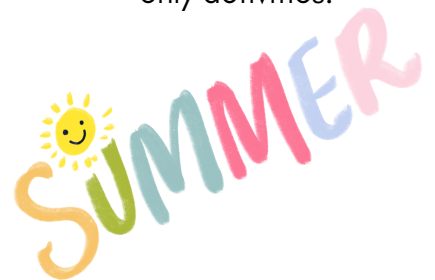
© 2020 puzzles-to-print.com



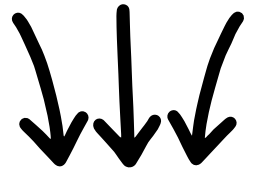
Got Kids? Check out some of these ideas here!



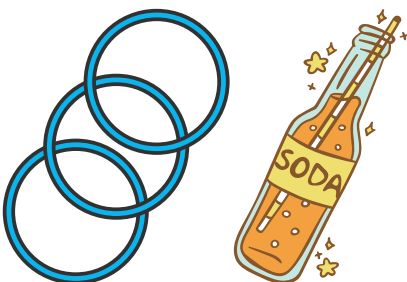
Need a Date night? Check out these adults only activities!



Need some ideas for you and your best Pup? Check this list out!

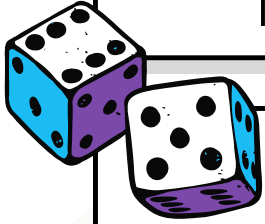


Don't forget to enjoy some summer fun with us at one of our events! Right: Emily Gershey tries to win a soda during our Glitz N Glam MMU!



FMSC CLUBS

Try something new or enjoy your favorites!



Bunco

Have you played? No? No worries! Come roll the dice at this fun club with us! The next get together is Friday July 21 at 7pm and the next is Friday August 18th at 7pm.

Wine

For those that want to get together and chat over a beverage of your choice. There also may be wine there. Our next event is Friday July 28th at 7pm. There is a waitlist for this one but be sure to follow the group so you can get in early for the next one!



Book

Are you a lover of books and reading? This is the club for you! We meet once a month to read a new book chosen by the group. Our next title and meeting are The True Love Experiment by Christina Lauren on August 21st at 7:30pm.



Playdate

Want to get your kiddos outside and meeting new friends? Want to distract your kids with friends so you can talk to adults? This is your club! Be sure to join the Facebook group so you don't miss out on any opportunities!

Cooking

Are cooking and experimenting with new recipes your jam? Who can blame you, food is love. Add this club which meets monthly on the first Monday of the month at 6:30pm to your calendar!



Walk N Talk

Need to get some exercise while you talk with friends? Check out this wonderful club which meets the third Friday of each month at 9:30 am. Lace up those sneakers and get out there!





2023 FMSC

social media challenge

Challenge 1
July - September
Prizes at October MMU



Challenge 2
October - December
Prizes at January MMU



Like & Follow the FMSC on Facebook & Instagram!



Share (3) different FMSC Events to your social media feed & story.



"Like" (15) FMSC social media posts.



Comment on (3) FMSC social media posts.



Tag FMSC in (1) social media post on your feed or story.



2023 FMSC

social media challenge

Frequently Asked Questions

What is the goal of the social media challenge?

The goal of the challenge is to encourage FMSC members to actively engage with the club's public social media posts which helps publicize the club and our community events! The challenge is for club **#membersonly**

How do I track if I've completed the challenge requirements?

You can self-track the challenge requirements if you prefer, but the Social Media Director will verify them at the end of the challenge. **#mathismathin**

What if I meet all of the social media requirements early in the challenge?

If you are active on social media, you may meet the requirements quickly, but we encourage you to keep up the great work by continuing to engage with FMSC posts! **#socialmediasuperstar**

Can I participate if I don't have both a Facebook and an Instagram?

Yes! You only need to have either a personal Facebook or Instagram account in order to participate. The challenge requirements can be met on either account, or on a combination of both. **#options**

What can member's win if they complete the challenge?

There will be two opportunities to win prizes! Members who meet the challenge requirements will be entered into a raffle at the end of the first and second challenges. Prizes will be presented at the October 2023 and January 2024 MMU **#winnerwinnerMMUdinner**



Calendar Snapshot

- July 24
 - CHP Gifts Committee
 - Hospitality Committee
- July 25
 - TS Volunteer Luncheon
 - CHP Leads Meeting
- July 26, Aug.9 and 23
 - TS Open Nights
- July 27 -
 - TS Work Night
- Aug. 2 -
 - CHP Crafts Committee
 - Photo & Publications
- Aug. 3-
 - Food Pantry
- Aug. 5 -
 - TS Bag Sale
- Aug. 10 -
 - Back to School Bash!

Social Clubs:

- July 21** - Walk N Talk Club
- July 21** - Bunco Club
- July 28** - Wine Club
- August 7** - Cooking Club

Contact Ashley Jones for access to the Google calendar



The Pinch is the product of the FMSC's Photography & Publications Committee. This issue was curated & edited by Jennifer Denton.

Join us!

photopublications@fortmeadespousesclub.org

DID YOU KNOW ABOUT OUR SOCIAL MEDIA CHALLENGE? MAKE SURE YOU PARTICIPATE!

Save the Date
FOR THE CHILDREN'S HOLIDAY PARTY
IT'S GOING TO BE
OUT OF THIS WORLD

December 2nd, 2023

President Wilma Potts and Parliamentarian Mavi Conner wait out the rain at Red, White & Blue!

