



# STILL SERVING

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## STILL ARMY STRONG!

### NOTES FROM THE RSO STEVE ASHLEY

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I hope this finds everyone doing well.  
2009 Was quite a year. We had our best Retiree Appreciation Day to date and the US Army Drill Team was a special bonus.

As noted in the last newsletter, the Retiree Benefit Symposium will be held June 19. Please make sure you fill out the reservation form, enclose a check for \$13.00 and return it to this office between May 1 and June 4. Please do not send it back any earlier. If you have misplaced the last newsletter you may use the form in this issue.

If you have been to our office lately you have noticed construction in the rear of the building. An elevator is being built and should be ready by summer. This will mean that everyone, regardless of disability, will be able to reach our office.

2010 will be a year of transition for our office. After working in the Retirement Services Office for over 24 years (8 years, 9 months as the RSO) I will be retiring on June 30.

I would like to take a moment to thank all of you retirees and your families for your continued service to our country. You have made my job a pleasurable and fulfilling one. I had decided when I was in the Army that all I wanted to do was support those who protect us and our way of life. I would like to believe that I have done so to the best of my ability. The two retirement specialists (Cynthia Johnson and Don Eisenhart) that work for me will still be here giving top quality service and I am confident that whoever replaces me will continue to give full support to you all. God bless you always and a heartfelt salute to you all.

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### NOTICE

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**RETIREE BENEFITS SYMPOSIUM**  
**June 19, 2010**  
**Club Meade**

## **MEMORIAM**

It is my sad duty to report to you that my predecessor, 1SG (Ret) Joseph Matthews, passed away in November. Although he was best known as the Chief of the Transition Assistance Program for Fort Meade, Fort Belvoir and Fort Myer, he was the previous RSO at Fort Meade. He lived to serve those who have served and never turned anyone away. He will be sorely missed.

### **A SALUTE TO COL (USA RET) BERT RICE**

I would like to take this opportunity thank COL Rice for his many years of service as Chairman of the Fort Meade Retiree Council. He has been a great inspiration to all who have worked with him as Council members and to myself as the RSO. I appreciate all you have done and your backing. You truly have earned the title "Retired and Still Serving" although I question the word "retired" in your case.

### **NOTES FROM THE FORT MEADE RETIREE COUNCIL CHAIRMAN MG (USA RET) ROD ISLER**

What a surprise this past fall to receive a request from the Installation Commander, COL Dan Thomas, asking me if I would consider taking over as the Retiree Council Chairman for the Fort Meade Community. As many of you know, COL (USA Ret) Bert Rice submitted his resignation a few months ago from the Retiree Council as it's Chairman. It did not take long to respond to Colonel Thomas' request to say yes and I would be proud to serve as the Fort Meade Retiree Council Chairman.

First, let me briefly introduce myself as your new Chairman. I retired from the Army in 2002 and started a second career with a Government contractor and retired from them about a year ago. I was drafted in the military in March of 1968 and served as an enlisted Soldier for almost three years and retired almost 34 years later as a Major General. As most of you can related to, I have had numerous assignments all

over the world and have had several tours here at Fort Meade during my Army career. I have served as a Deputy Director for Military Support for NSA and later served in the CIA as well as DIA.

My family is very familiar with the Fort Meade community having lived on post from 1996 until I retired from the Army in 2002. My daughters are graduates of Fort Meade High School and we are members of the Golf Club having served this past year as its Council Chairman.

Let me end by saying thank you to Bert Rice for his wonderful service to the Fort Meade community as it's Retiree Council Chairman and he has said he will continue to serve on the council as a member. I look forward to 2010 and beyond as the council continues to look out for the welfare of our retiree community. We have many events scheduled for the coming year and I know the council will try and make these the best ever.

As a former Commander, four times, there is no greater mission than to take care of our people that are serving our country, either as active, inactive or retired. I pledge to each of you that I will work with the Retiree Council to continue that mission. I look forward to serving each and every one of you as your new Council Chairman.

God Bless the Fort Meade Community and America.

### **TAX CENTER**

The Fort Meade Tax Assistance Center will be open Jan 25 to April 15 on weekdays from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. at 4217 Roberts Ave.

Those with a valid active-duty military identification card, military retirees with valid identification and their eligible family members may use the tax center.

## **FORT MEADE RETIREE APPRECIATION DAY**

**OCTOBER 1, 2010**

**AT THE FORT MEADE PAVILION**

**STAY TUNED FOR DETAILS IN THE NEXT NEWSLETTER.**

## RETIREE BENEFITS SYMPOSIUM

The Fort Meade Retiree Council invites you to attend a Retiree Benefits Symposium at Club Meade on Saturday, June 19, 2010 from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

Presentations will include Survivor Benefits, Social Security, Veterans Administration, Legal Assistance, and Health care.

The symposium will begin with registration from 8:30 a.m. until 8:55 a.m. A luncheon will be served from 11:30 a.m. until 12:00 p.m. All activities will be held at Club Meade off Mapes Road.

If you wish to attend, please return the pre-registration form below with a check for \$13.00. The check includes the cost of the luncheon and may be made out to 'RETIREE INFORMATION ACTIVITY FUND'. **Reservations must be mailed no earlier than May 1, 2010 and received at this office NLT June 4, 2010.**

We are pleased to be able to demonstrate, through this event, that you are a valued asset to the total military community. We hope this event will provide an opportunity to make new friends and renew acquaintances as well as being kept up to date. Please call the Retirement Services Office at (301) 677-9603 if you have any questions.

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### RETIREE BENEFITS SYMPOSIUM June 19, 2010, Club Meade

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

PHONE # \_\_\_\_\_

# ATTENDING \_\_\_\_\_

AMOUNT \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Make check payable to: RETIREE INFORMATION ACTIVITY FUND

Return registration Form and check to: Retirement Services Office  
ATTN: IMND-MEA-HRR  
2234 Huber Road Ste 5073  
Fort George G. Meade, MD 20755-5073

SUSPENSE DATE: June 4, 2010

