

HERITAGE PARK/NORMANDY BLUFFS  
**NEWSLETTER**

February 2012

Fort Meade, MD

**One Company. One Mission. Families First.®**

**From the Desk of Jodi Collins,**  
Community Management Director

**Dear Residents,**

Valentine's Day is right around the corner. If you're looking for a great place to bring a date, think outside the box and visit the Registration, Tickets and Leisure Travel Office. They offer great deals on activities around Maryland and can be reached at 301-677-7354 or by visiting their office at 2300 Wilson Boulevard. Be sure to make reservations in advance for you and your valentine!

We are excited to announce that we will be hosting our popular BINGO event at 7:00 p.m. on Friday, February 24 in the Potomac Place Neighborhood Center gym. A limit of two tickets per household is allotted, and you must be at least 18 years to play. Be sure to pick up your free tickets from your Neighborhood Office in advance, we anticipate that we will have a full house! For more information, please check the flyer included in this newsletter or visit our website at [www.meadepicerne.com](http://www.meadepicerne.com).

At the beginning of the year, we always like to encourage residents to visit the

Neighborhood Office, grab a fresh-baked cookie and update contact information. In order to better serve residents, your Neighborhood Office needs up-to-date contact information such as email addresses and cell phone numbers. This information will be used to keep the residents informed during an emergency or even a snow storm, so visit your Neighborhood Office today.

We hope that you have had a wonderful New Year so far and that we can help to make this year fun filled with lots of great memories for you and your family. The men and women of the United States military who selflessly serve our country, and the families who stand behind them, deserve the best quality of life possible. It is the goal of Picerne Military Housing to provide service members and their families with that quality of life along with the best customer service through the New Year. Your feedback and participation help make this possible.

Sincerely,  
**Jodi Collins**  
Community Management Director



**NEIGHBORHOOD  
OFFICE**

**Neighborhood Manager**  
Crystal Rascoe

**Maintenance Supervisor**  
Steve Shorter

**Hours of Operation**  
M-F 8:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.  
SAT 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

**Address**  
2699 Ninninger Avenue

**Phone**  
(410) 672-2000

**Fax**  
(410) 672-0380

**Website**  
[www.meadepicerne.com](http://www.meadepicerne.com)

**E-Mail**  
[heritagepark@picernemh.com](mailto:heritagepark@picernemh.com)

## Important Fire Hazard Reminder

When the holidays are over and it's time to find a place for all of your new household items, it is often tempting to place older items you wish to store in unsafe locations. As a reminder to all residents, please be mindful of the items you are storing and where you are storing them.

Although tempting to use for storage, utility closets are not proper locations. Flammable and combustible items should never be placed near water heaters or furnaces as they can easily spark a flame and catch fire. It is important to keep all things that can burn, such as paper, bedding, clothing or furniture at least 3 feet away from any kind of heating equipment. Storing any items in utility closets creates an unsafe fire hazard for you and your family. Please leave your utility closets locked and clear of any personal items.



Please call your Neighborhood Office to report any street lights that are not working properly.

## Our Family for Families First scholarship, grant applications available

Our Family for Families First, John G. Picerne's private charitable foundation, was established to support the educational goals of children and spouses of active-duty Service Members. College scholarships in the amount of up to \$50,000 for the children of active-duty Service Members and educational grants in the amount of \$5,000 are available each year for spouses of active-duty Service Members stationed at Aberdeen Proving Ground, Fort Polk, Fort Bragg, Fort Meade, Fort Rucker, Fort Riley and Fort Sill. Scholarship and grant applications for 2012 are available online at [www.ourfamilyfoundation.org](http://www.ourfamilyfoundation.org). Scholarship applications are due February 16, 2012 and grant applications are due May 17, 2012. Please review the information located on the web site for eligibility requirements and to learn more about the Our Family for Families First Foundation.

The Foundation is committed to supporting military families in the pursuit of higher education, instituting a tradition of community service and encouraging professional career paths through education, internships, and mentoring programs and has awarded more than \$3 million since 2006. It also serves to further the primary mission of Picerne Military Housing – putting military Families First™.

## Report Solicitation to the Fort Meade Police

Army Regulation 210-7 prohibits all personal and commercial solicitation on Army Installations that has not been authorized by the Garrison Commander. If you see solicitors on the installation, immediately call the Fort Meade Police at 301-677-6622/23 to report the time and place of the incident.



## Soundoff! Begins Pilot Program

Beginning February 2, *Soundoff!* the post weekly newspaper, will initiate a pilot project to help assess the most efficient method to distribute newspapers to residents living on post.



During the pilot, *Soundoff!* newspaper boxes will be located in Potomac Place and Heritage Park neighborhoods that utilize mail kiosks. The pilot will affect the approximately 300 residences that currently use mail kiosks located on Second Corps Boulevard and Koogle Street in Potomac Place and Ninninger Road in Heritage Park. Residents at these designated sites will no longer have *Soundoff!* delivered to their home. Instead, they can pick up a copy of the *Soundoff!* when they collect their mail each week.

The *Soundoff!* will be delivered to the newspaper boxes by 6:30 p.m. each Thursday. For more information and to provide feedback about the *Soundoff!* delivery pilot, please call the Fort Meade Public Affairs Office at 301-677-5602.

## How to Curb Your Dog

Source: [www.ehow.com](http://www.ehow.com)

Not many people know that curbing your dog is actually a written law in almost every state and it also part of the Picerne Military Housing Pet Policy. Curbing your dog involves cleaning up their fecal waste immediately after they have done their business in your yard, a public place or neighborhood.

Pets cannot be tethered outside the home. Pets may be kept in a fenced enclosure or inside of the home. Pets should be walked using a leash. Pets staying outside must be provided with food, water and proper shelter. Residents are required to remove pet waste from yards, common areas and grounds in the neighborhood. You don't have to spend a ton of money to curb your dog, and it is also an ethically and socially responsible thing to do. Here are some easy steps:

- Purchase the necessary pet supplies or pick up a pet bag from one of our pet bag stations, they make for easy disposal of dog waste.
- Take your dog on their walk using a leash. Most people walk their dogs each and every day.
- After you grab the pet bags, make sure to place them in your back pocket for safe keeping.
- Let your dog do their business. This is rather simple: if they have to go let them go.
- Clean up the waste. Once they have done their business, slip your hand into one of the bags so it can work as a glove. Open the other bag and using your gloved hand, fill it with the dog waste.



## Bingo Night on February 24!

**BINGO**

BINGO will be held on Friday, February 24, from 7 to 9 p.m. at the Potomac Place Neighborhood Center. Refreshments will be served and prizes for 10 games of BINGO will be awarded. Prizes include an Apple iPad, Flat Screen TV, gift cards and more! Each family is allotted 2 tickets, and you must be 18 years or older to play! Sign out your FREE tickets at your Neighborhood Office. Hurry, space is limited!

### Congratulations to our 2011 Holiday Decorating Contest Winners!

#### Normandy Bluffs

Winner The Gonzalez-Pica Family  
 Honorable Mention The Torres Family

#### Patriot Ridge

Winner The Gehrlein Family  
 Honorable Mention The Cooper Family

#### Potomac Place

Winner The Walker Family  
 Winner The Coleman Family

#### Meuse Forest

Winner The Schuler Family  
 Honorable Mention The Rhodes Family

#### Heritage Park

Winner The Fish Family  
 Honorable Mention The Wagner Family

#### Midway Commons

Winner The Flores Family  
 Honorable Mention The Rivera Family

## The Green Corner

As we look for new ways to live green one thing that may not come to mind is your laundry. Being green in the laundry room is not only healthy for the environment, but it can also mean more money in your wallet. Most detergents marketed as environmentally friendly don't include perfumes or dyes, and they're typically phosphate free, biodegradable and they haven't been tested on animals.

One eco-conscious option is detergent designed to work well in cold water. On average, 80 to 85 percent of the total energy used washing a load of clothes goes to heating up the water. Washing in cold water saves energy, which can translate to savings on your household energy usage.

Another environmental approach is to use concentrated formulas, which cut down on packaging and on the amount of water it takes to make the detergent. Another positive for using concentrated detergents is they require less plastic for bottles or less corrugated cardboard for crating, and because they need fewer trucks to move the shipments, not as much gasoline is used to ship the product. The cold water and concentrated options that different companies manufacture may be one step to greener washing practices.

An additional green choice for the benefit of the environment and your wallet could be making your own laundry detergents. There are a variety of recipes out there, with the common ingredients of water, bar soap, borax and washing soda. Some environmental benefits of making your own laundry detergent are that they typically use fewer chemicals and additives, and they can save on packaging. However, be aware that clothing washed with homemade detergent may also require bleaching, and it may not get stains out as well as some of the commercially produced detergents.

Detergents are chemically complex products that are continually being improved upon, whether it is boosting their stain-fighting powers or making them greener. For more information on laundry detergents and related topics visit [www.howstuffworks.com](http://www.howstuffworks.com).

## Resident Referral Program

Did you know that you can receive rewards for referring other military families, single soldiers, retirees and federal Department of Defense (DoD) employees to live on post?

Picerne is offering residents who refer new families to move in on post a \$250 referral reward. Good friends make great neighborhoods, so tell your friends today. For more information on this program, please call your Neighborhood Office or the Leasing and Relocation Center at 410.305.1258.



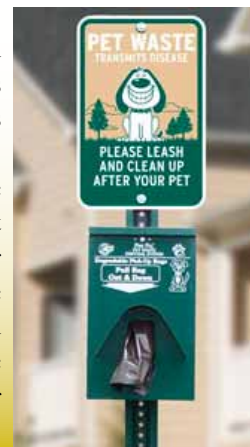
## Meet your new family services program manager



It is a pleasure to introduce Picerne's new Family Services Program Manager at Fort Meade, Darla Humbles. Darla works to provide assistance and support to our military families living on post and is a liaison between resident needs and agencies such as the Army Community Services and the Navy Fleet and Family Support Center. Darla is dedicated to getting to know residents and serve as a resource to them. Please do not hesitate to contact Darla at 410-305-1070 with any family support needs that you may have.

## New Pet Bag Stations

Based on feedback from residents, Picerne has implemented and installed pet bag stations. Residents may notice these bag stations throughout the neighborhood. These were installed to encourage pet waste clean-up throughout the community. Help keep your neighborhood clean by using one of the dispensable bags located at each station for your pet. If the bags are empty, please notify your neighborhood office.



# FEBRUARY

SUNDAY MONDAY TUESDAY WEDNESDAY THURSDAY FRIDAY SATURDAY

				Groundhog Day Lawn Care		
			1	2	3	4
Super Bowl		Garbage/Recycling Bulk Trash		Lawn Care		
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
Abraham Lincoln's Birthday		Valentine's Day Garbage/Recycling Bulk Trash		Lawn Care		
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
	President's Day	Garbage/Recycling Bulk Trash	Washington's Birthday Ash Wednesday	Lawn Care	Bngo Night 7 to 9 p.m. at the Potomac Place Neighborhood Center	
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
		Garbage/Recycling Bulk Trash		March Lawn Care		
26	27	28	29	1	2	3
		Garbage/Recycling Bulk Trash		Lawn Care		
4	5	6	7	8	9	10

Pest Control On Demand