

POST SHORTS

Recycling schedule

The recycling pickup for Wednesday, Dec. 8, is plastic, glass and metal. Put items in blue bags and place them on the curb.



Effective Feb. 1, 2000, mixed paper will no longer be accepted in plastic bags. Residents are encouraged to start putting mixed paper for recycling in paper bags or cardboard boxes. For more information, call Harford County's Office of Recycling at 410-638-3417.

Bulk pickup day for APG housing areas will be Monday, Dec. 13, for the post-wide fall clean up. Christmas tree pickup for APG housing areas will be Monday, Jan. 10.

Normal trash pickup will be held Friday, Dec. 24, and Friday, Dec. 31.

Celebrate safely during holidays

The Army Community Service Alcohol and Drug Control Office will hold its annual Holiday Open House on Dec. 9, 1-3 p.m., at ACS Headquarters, building 2754 on Rodman Road.

Light refreshments will be served, and information about how to hold festive but safe holiday entertainment will be provided, said Cynthia Scott, a drug and alcohol prevention specialist at ACS.

"A host is responsible for ensuring that if their guests are drinking, they are not drinking too much, and they are not driving," Scott said. "Some of the options we offer for consideration are providing non-alcoholic beverages, enough food to slow the effects of alcohol, and options for taking people home, whether you call them a cab or drive them home yourself."

The goal, she said, is awareness of responsible alcohol consumption.

"Our effort is part of '3D,' the national Drunk and Drugged Driving Awareness Campaign," she said. "Of course, we always have the red ribbon available for people to put on their vehicles to heighten awareness of this issue. We want to give people information to make good decisions."

If you plan to attend the open house, call ACS at 410-278-7474/7478 by Dec. 3.

See **SHORTS**, page 2

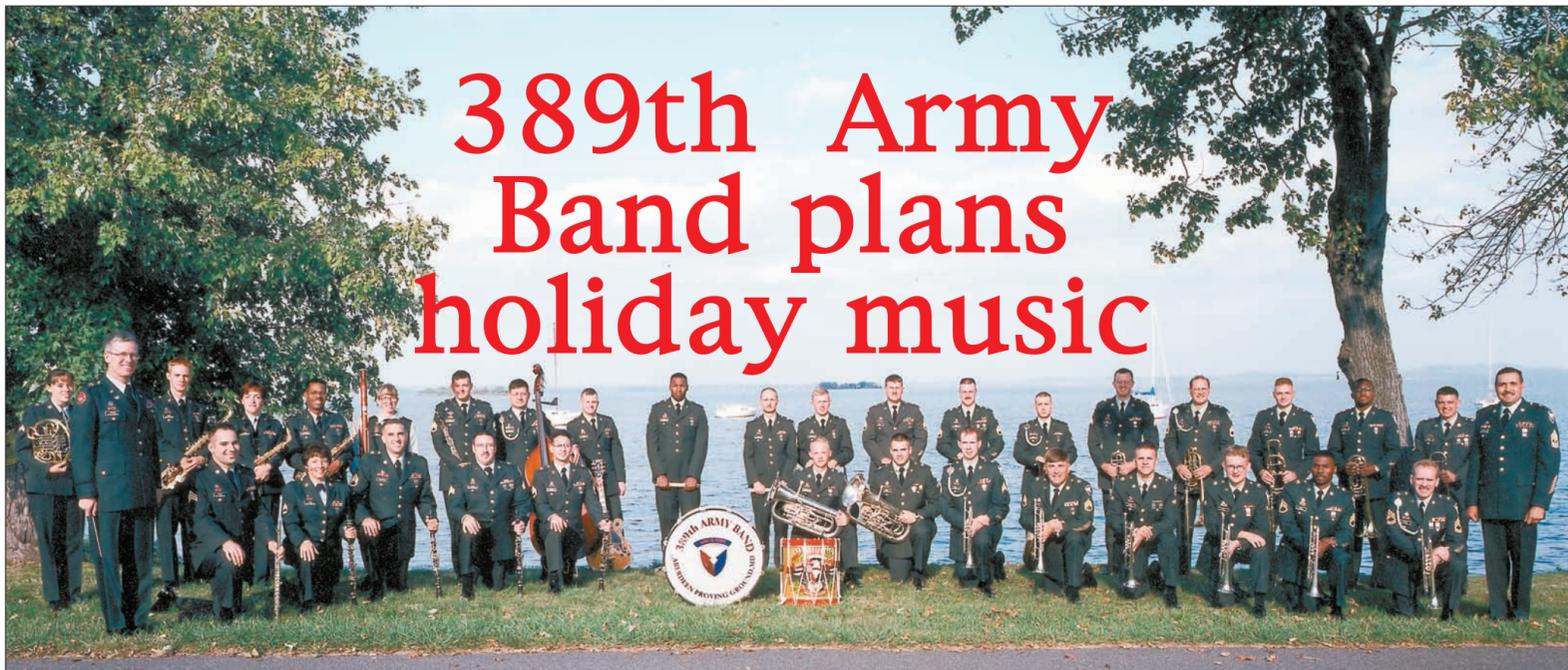
APG Pollution Prevention Fact of the Week

Tailpipe exhaust is not always the greatest source of vehicle emissions. Vapors from evaporating gasoline, or "evaporative emissions," can account for two-thirds of the hydrocarbon emissions from gasoline-fueled vehicles on hot summer days.



Statistics provided by the Environmental Protection Agency Office of Mobile Sources

For more information on pollution prevention, call Michelle Guitard, APG Pollution Prevention Program, 410-306-2273



389th Army Band plans holiday music

The 389th Army Band has several holiday appearances planned, including a concert on Dec. 11, 7 p.m., at the Post Theater. The free concert is open to the public.

Post trees to be lit, annual APG concert planned

By Karen Jolley
APG News

Aberdeen Proving Ground will celebrate the holiday season with tree-lighting ceremonies on both areas of post, hosted by Maj. Gen. John C. Doesburg, commander of APG and the U.S. Army Soldier and Biological Chemical Command.

The Aberdeen Area Tree-Lighting Ceremony will be held Thursday, Dec. 9, 7 p.m., in front of the Post Library, building 3320. The Edgewood Area Tree-Lighting Ceremony will be held Sunday, Dec. 12, 6 p.m., in front of the EA Chapel, building E-4620.

To further ring in the holidays, the 389th Army Band (AMC's Own) will host a Holiday Concert on Saturday, Dec. 11, 7 p.m., at the Post Theater.

Post personnel also are invited to the City of Aberdeen's annual Christmas Street Celebration, slated for Saturday, Dec. 4.

"We've been working hard to produce another outstanding Christmas parade and celebration for the community," said Ruth Frank, co-chair of the Aberdeen Christmas Street Committee.

Committee members include Tom Buonaugurio, an SBCCOM employee, Barbara Blattner, and Mary Law, president of the group.

The 389th Army Band will participate in the parade, which begins at 3 p.m., and the U.S. Marine Corps Detachment will provide a marching unit and Honor Guard.

Frank recommended bundling up and coming out to enjoy a full day of activities.

"Last year, it was almost 80 degrees," she said. "I don't think we'll have that this year. But we will have something for everyone. It's our usual wonderful, small-town Christmas parade."

The day kicks off with "Breakfast with Santa" at Grace Methodist Church on West Bel Air Avenue, from 7-11 a.m. The Christmas Craft Fair, held at the Aberdeen Fire Hall on North Rogers Street, runs from 9 a.m.-3 p.m. The Aberdeen Room Museum at 18 Howard St. will be open from 10:30 a.m.-2:30 p.m., and the Ripken Museum, located at City Hall, will be open from 11 a.m.-4 p.m. A street fair with entertainment begins at 2 p.m. in front of Grace Methodist Church, with the parade beginning its run down West Bel Air Avenue at 3 p.m. Following the parade, the winners of the window decorating contest will be announced.

APG Garrison facing RIF by beginning of FY 2001

By Karen Jolley Drewen
APG News

In the rapidly changing world of the Commercial Activities study, few things are certain, but one matter which appears unalterable is that Aberdeen Proving Ground Garrison is likely to undergo a reduction-in-force by October 2000.

The size and scope of the RIF still are somewhat up in the air pending the outcome of the current CA appeal/protest process, but regardless, the garrison's financial resources are "insufficient to sustain us at current employment levels beyond September 2000," said Col. Robert J. Spidel, APG Garrison commander.

While the Information Services CA package is

complete and awaiting final approval from the U.S. Army Materiel Command, the Installation Operations/Community and Family Activities CA package is undergoing the appeals process.

On Nov. 15, contractor Aberdeen Technical Services filed an addition to the protest the company submitted on Sept. 24. ATS had been awarded the contract in May, but that decision was overturned on Sept. 14 when the government conducted a revised cost comparison that found the government's proposal more cost effective by a margin of \$1,782,037.

The General Accounting Office had 120 days from the protest to render a decision. The recent addition to the protest "reset the clock," pushing the GAO

See **RIF**, page 6

Take tour of post homes on Sunday

By Charlie Hudson
APG Military and Civilian Spouses Club

From the impressive columns of Quarters One on Plumb Point Loop to the post World War I white duplexes nestled against the wood line off Hopkins Road, 11 families will open their homes to the annual tour on Sunday, Dec. 5.

Sponsored by the Military and Civilian Spouses Club, the tour includes at least one of each type of home on Plumb Point Loop and the nearby Hopkins Road, plus Quarters One.

Tickets are \$10 at the door, \$8 in advance. Advance tickets can be purchased at the Ordnance Museum or the APG Thrift Shop.

While the homes are the focus of the tour, that's only a part of the day's events. There will be a craft fair with vendors, perfor-

See **HOME TOUR**, page 4

APG Travel Center offers one-stop planning

By Yvonne Johnson
APG News

The new Aberdeen Proving Ground Travel Center held an open house on Monday to celebrate its move into building 3326. The newly renovated facility inside the APG Recreation Center now houses the Information, Ticketing and Registration Office, Carlson-Wagonlit Travel official and leisure offices and the Passenger Travel Services Division.

Patrons visiting the center Monday found refreshments and door prizes including chances to win airline tickets and hotel accommodations.

Chris Lockhart, Leisure Travel Center director, said although the center has been open since mid-October, the open house was a way to celebrate the move and thank patrons for their support at the same time.

"Almost every customer says this location is much better than where we were," Lockhart said. "Having the one-stop shopping concept has really turned out well."

Trish Mallin, district manager for Carlson Wagonlit, said consolidating the offices has added convenience to a process that is often complicated by emerging travel sites on the Internet.

"It's important for us to be accessible to the soldiers and the APG community," Mallin said. "Sitting down with professionals who understand clients' needs is more personal and more efficient than surfing the net."

Donna LeBlanc, leisure travel branch supervisor and a travel office employee since 1983, said the office started out in building 4603, then moved to buildings 3320 and 3321. She said even though this move involved a lot more people and equipment, it went smoother than previous moves, thanks to six months of planning.

"This time it involved transportation, the phone system, ITR and everything else," LeBlanc said. "The data people were right there to support us so the transition was seamless and there was no disruption of service."

She said travel counselors are busy preparing for the annual Exodus, when most of the students assigned to the U.S. Army Ordnance Center and School go home for the holidays Dec. 17.

"We're processing hundreds of travel requests a week and the major airlines are holding bookings and set prices as late as Dec. 10," LeBlanc said.

At the official travel counter, Gunnery Sgt. Juan Andrews, an



Photo by DAVE MAYOR

Gunnery Sgt. Juan Andrews, right, an instructor with the U.S. Marine Corps Detachment, receives official travel papers from travel agent Eileen Burt in the new APG Travel Office at the Aberdeen Area Recreation Center, building 3326. The office held an open house Monday to celebrate the consolidation of official and unofficial travel in one location.

instructor with the U.S. Marine Corps Detachment, OC&S, said he was picking up travel papers for temporary additional duty at the Marine Logistics Base in Albany, Ga. Andrews said he was pleased with the service and the location of the new office.

"I had no trouble finding the office and the service was very good once I got here," Andrews said.

Pfc. Ricardo Cordero, an armament repairman from A Company, 16th Ordnance Battalion, stopped in to arrange a flight to Puerto

Rico in conjunction with his permanent change of station move to Fort Hood, Texas. He said the surroundings were "more pleasant" than when he came to APG nearly two years ago.

Travel counselor Tracy Brown, See **TRAVEL**, page 4

LEGALLY SPEAKING

Power of attorney can be a powerful document

By Lt. Roy Hilferty
Legal Assistance Office

Have you ever needed someone to do something for you that you could not be there to do yourself? It may have been registering your car, clearing government quarters, or taking care of your kids.

A simple document called a "power of attorney" may be the answer to your problem.

A power of attorney is a legal instrument that gives a person, whose name is stated on the instrument, the power to act in place of and on behalf of another person. The uses of power of attorney are varied in scope and almost limitless, as broad or narrow as you specify. The types are:

General Power of Attorney: A general power of attorney gives a person you appoint the power you possess to act with respect to any matter. It allows the other person to do all the things you could do, such as sell or mortgage your home, withdraw your savings, borrow money, and sign contracts in your name;

Special or Limited Power of Attorney: A special or limited power of attorney authorizes a person to perform a certain specific act, such as ship household goods or sell an automobile. Often third parties will not accept a general power of attorney for acts such as shipment of household goods, shipment of automobiles, sale of land, and/or sale of vehicles. Therefore, it might be necessary to have a special or limited power of attorney as well as a general power of attorney.

Uses of powers of attorney

A power of attorney is vulnerable to abuse, so grant one carefully. Regardless of the type, power of attorney never should be granted unless there is absolute trust and confidence in the person to whom it is given.

Every action taken on your behalf within the authority granted is legally binding upon you.

Take care in deciding the scope of any power of attorney, and consult with an attorney to choose

which is appropriate for your needs.

Who needs a power of attorney?

Those who are about to become physically separated from their property or their affairs, and whose property or affairs will need attention or management during their absence, may need a power of attorney. However, not all third parties accept powers of attorney, so you may want to ask third parties if they will accept them.

Authority granted by a power of attorney automatically ends with the death of either the principal or the agent. Otherwise, the power may be terminated or revoked by its own terms through a time limitation, or it may be revoked at any time by notice of such revocation to the agent.

Usually a revocation takes effect as soon as it is communicated to the agent and to third persons that have dealt with the agent.

After the power of attorney is executed, keep an original in case you want to revoke it. Remember, if

you have any questions about the power of attorney, consult your legal assistance attorney.

Obtaining a power of attorney

Legal assistance is available to members of the Armed Forces (active and Reserve Component on active duty for 30 days or more) and their dependent family members, retired military and family members and survivors of eligible armed services members.

You may obtain a power of attorney at the Legal Assistance Office during regular office hours, Monday-Thursday, 7:30 a.m.-5:30 p.m., and Friday, 8:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m.

When you come to the Legal Assistance Office, you will prepare your power of attorney on a computer. A notary public will assist you in executing it.

For questions regarding power of attorney, call the Legal Assistance Office, 410-278-1583/1584.

POST SHORTS

SHORTS, from front page

Garrison employees should update files

The APG Garrison freeze on submitting employee updates to Official Personnel Files, has been lifted as Nov. 23. Updates to OPFs must be received by the Civilian Personnel Advisory Center by Dec. 15 if they are to be used for qualification determinations in the projected reduction-in-force. Employees who have new information should update their SF 171 or OF 612. Send updates to CPAC, Building 305, Room B-16 (lower level); all updates must be signed by the employee's supervisor. For more information, call Dave Mial at 410-278-1524.

Donate blood at Dec. 14 drive

The American Red Cross will hold its next blood drive on post on Dec. 14, 7:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. at the Aberdeen Area Recreation Center, building 3326. The entire process takes about 45 minutes. DoD policy allows employees up to four hours of excused time to donate blood; if unusual need for recuperation occurs, an additional four hours may be authorized. For an appointment, call 410-278-2087.

RE-NU-IT Center closures

The Re-Nu-It Centers now have winter hours. The Aberdeen Area center, building 5413, is open Mondays, Tuesdays and Thursdays, 8 a.m.-4:30 p.m., and the Edgewood Area center, building E-5703, is open Wednesdays and Fridays, 8 a.m.-4:30 p.m. For more information, call Ellery Blake, 410-306-1108.

Change benefits during open season

Health Benefits Open Season continues through Dec. 13. Open season materials and forms have been sent to agency administrative offices. For help in choosing a plan, check out PlanSmartChoice, accessible at the Office of Personnel Management website, www.opm.gov/insure, or at www.PlanSmartChoice.com/PSC2000. The site helps users match their preferences to the plans available.

For more information on Health Benefits Open Season, contact Kathy Anderson, 410-278-2649, or Teri Wright, 410-278-4331.

RAB meeting set for Dec. 9

The Installation Restoration Program will hold its monthly Restoration Advisory Board meeting on Thursday, Dec. 9, 7-9:45 p.m., at the Edgewood Senior Center on Gateway Road. The topic will be the Carroll Island and Graces Quarters Study Areas. Board meetings are open to the public; all APG employees and citizens are invited. For more information, call the Information Line at 410-272-8842 or (800) APG-9998.

Volunteers needed for 2000 tax season

The 2000 tax season is approaching and the APG Legal Assistance Office is soliciting volunteers to help as tax preparers. Training will be held from 8 a.m.-4 p.m. Jan. 24-27, and Jan. 31, at the Aberdeen Area Recreation Center, building 3326. Anyone interested in volun-

CA UPDATE

If you have questions about the Commercial Activities Study, send an e-mail message to the new address: castudy@apg-emh1.apg.army.mil. This replaces the old email address (castudy@tec1.apg.army.mil). The e-mail address is available for anyone who has a question, suggestion, or would like to voice a concern regarding the APG Garrison or Aberdeen Test Center CA studies.

The hotline phone number still is 410-278-9461, and the website address still is www.apg.army.mil/ca.html.

teering should call Brenda Taylor or Alene Williams at the Legal Assistance Office, 410-278-1583/1584.

Prayer breakfast to honor King

APG will sponsor a Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Commemorative Prayer Breakfast on Thursday, Jan. 13, at the Top of the Bay. Tickets cost \$6.75 per person and are available through the SBCCOM EO, Sfc. Shelton Torbert, 410-278-1534; OC&S 61st Brigade EO, Sfc. Thomas Stephanic, 410-278-5598; DTC EO, Sfc. Herbert Johnson, 410-278-1053; OC&S, Sfc. James Davis, 410-278-5598; Sfc. Gregory Kitt, 410-278-7381; CHPPM, 1st Lt. John Peyton, 410-436-8168; and SSgt. Michael Jackson, 410-278-1777. For more information, call Torbert, 410-278-1534.

Exchange cookies on Dec. 8

The Edgewood Area Officers' Wives Club invites EA-OWC members and their guests, and members of the Military and Civilian Spouses Club to the annual EA-OWC Holiday Cookie Exchange, held Dec. 8 at the home of Denise Doesburg, 4670 Parrish Rd. in the Edgewood Area.

The luncheon and program begins with a social time at 11:30 a.m. and a meal of soup and salad at noon, followed by the cookie exchange. Participants are invited to bring four dozen homemade cookies; one dozen on a plate for sampling, and a container for those exchanged. Although participation in the exchange is encouraged, it is not a requirement for attending this free, club-sponsored holiday event. Call Norma Blatterman, 410-671-9966, with your reservation by noon, Friday, Dec. 3.

Pendant offered by EA-OWC

The Edgewood Area Officers' Wives Club has an opportunity to contribute to the APG community. EA-OWC member and jewelry designer Laura Pool has crafted and donated an 11-carat London blue topaz pendant with pink tourmaline and diamond accents. The piece measures approximately one and one half inches square. The club is offering opportunities to win the pendant at \$1 per ticket, or six tickets for \$5. Proceeds will benefit local organizations and charities. The

winning ticket will be drawn at the club's holiday cookie exchange on Dec. 8. Tickets are on sale throughout the APG community, or by contacting Norma Blatterman, 410-671-9966.

Ice skating lessons offered

IceWorld now offers a new Learn To Skate program. Classes include professional instruction in a small group setting on Thursdays or Saturdays. The six-week series offers free skate rentals and free practices, and are grouped according to age and ability. In addition, parent and tot classes are held Tuesday afternoons. For more information, call the skating director, Carla Hackley, 410-612-1000, ext. 11. IceWorld also will host a Hockey Basics program for kids on Saturday afternoons, and one for adults on Sunday mornings. The program features fun and focuses on skill development with instruction in stick handling, shooting, passing and team concepts.

Last party of the century

Celebrate the end of the century in style with the Caribbean Connection Association and the NCO Support Group starting on Dec. 31, 8 p.m., and continuing until the year 2000, at the Aberdeen Area Recreation Center. Tickets are available through the Recreation Center and association members. For information, contact Linda St. Louis, 410-272-3016, or Wendy Felix, 410-273-6553.

AA meeting held at chapel

Alcoholics Anonymous meets Tuesdays, 11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m., at the Aberdeen Area Chapel Center in the Social Hall.

Volunteer drivers help cancer patients

The American Cancer Society needs volunteer drivers to participate in its Road to Recovery program. Volunteers drive cancer patients to and from treatment. To qualify, you must own a car, have a safe driving record and have a few spare hours per month. Call the American Cancer Society at 1-888-670-0427 and find out more about becoming a Road to Recovery volunteer.

Gates open during rush hour

The long-closed Magnolia Gate in the Edgewood Area and Aberdeen Gate in the Aberdeen Area are open during rush hour traffic during the dark winter months.

The gates are open from 6-8 a.m. and 3:30-5:30 p.m. weekdays, said Maj. Darrel Andrews, APG provost marshal.

"This will give the post work force a limited time to use the gates during rush hours," Andrews said.

The gates were closed in August 1998 as a force protection measure that required restricting the number of access points for vehicles and personnel to minimum levels when THREATCON measures increased. The decision on the limited opening of the gates is subject to change depending on THREATCON measures.

Hours change for passport photos

APG Garrison Photo Lab has new hours for passport photos, on Thursdays, 2-3:30 p.m. For information, call 410-278-3391.

APG News

The APG News, a civilian enterprise newspaper, is an authorized publication for members of the U.S. Army. Contents of the APG News are not necessarily official views of, or endorsed by, the U.S. government, Department of Defense, Department of the Army or the U.S. Army Garrison, Aberdeen Proving Ground. The newspaper is published weekly by the APG Public Affairs Office, ATTN: STEAP-IM-PA, Aberdeen Proving Ground, MD 21005-5005, 410-278-1150. Printed circulation is 13,500.

Everything advertised in this publication shall be made available for purchase, use or patronage without regard to race, color, religion, sex, national origin, age, marital status, physical handicap, political affiliation or any other nonmerit factor of the purchaser, user or patron. If a violation or rejection of this equal opportunity policy by an advertiser is confirmed, the printer shall refuse to print advertising from that source.

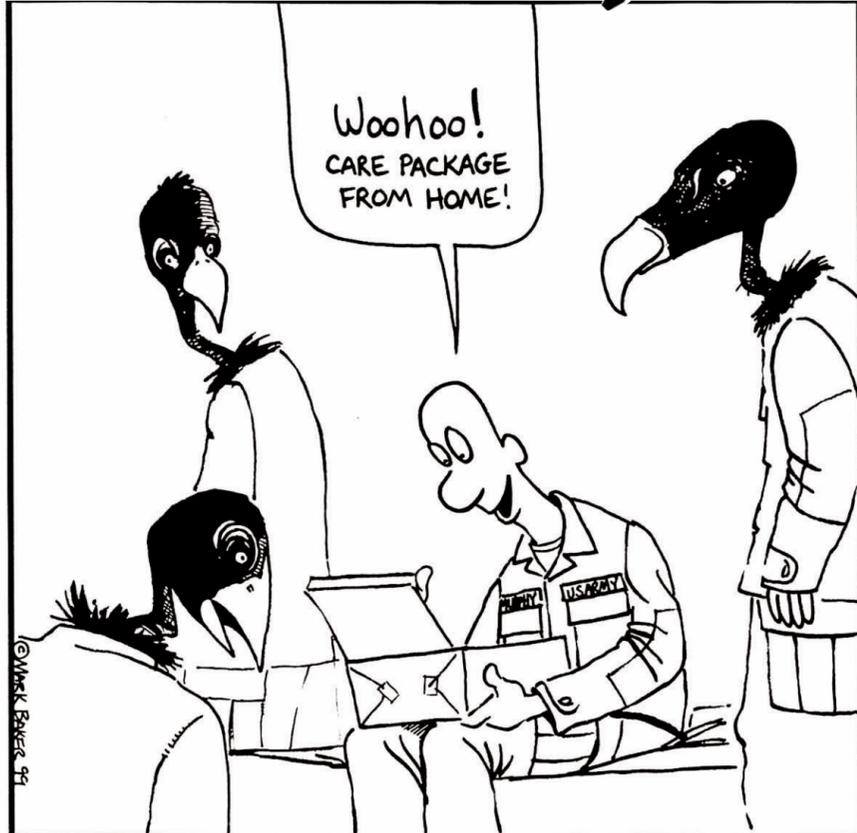
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For advertising matters, call Homestead Publishing, 410-838-4400. Send articles or information for publication to the APG Public Affairs Office, Building 324, Second Floor, STEAP-IM-PA, APG, MD 21005-5005; call the editor at 410-278-1150, DSN 298-1150; or send e-mail to kdrewen@apgnews.com. Deadline for copy is Monday at noon (Thursday at noon for letters to the editor).

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MURPHY'S LA



Community Notes

**FRIDAY
DECEMBER 3
VETERANSTO MEET**

The Maryland Free State Chapter 70 of the Women's Army Corps Veterans Association will meet at the Aberdeen Senior Citizens Center at 2 p.m. All women of the Army, Army National Guard, and Army Reserve are invited. For information, contact Wanda Story, 410-272-5040.

DOTHE HUSTLE

Learn country western dancing at American Legion Post 128, sponsored by the Harford County Country/Western Dance Association. Dancing from 7:30-11:30 p.m. Beginner Hustle lessons start at 8:15 p.m. and Intermediate Hustle starts at 9:15 p.m. Cost is \$10 for non-members, \$8 for members.

**SATURDAY
DECEMBER 4
BINGO NIGHT**

The EA Stark Recreation Center, building E-4140, will hold bingo, with earlybirds at 6:30 p.m., bingo at 7 p.m. The progressive jackpot is 58# at \$2,800. There are seven \$500 games and two \$250 games. The snack bar is open before, during and after bingo. For information, call 410-436-2713.

**WEDNESDAY
DECEMBER 8
VFW MEMBERSHIP MEETING**

The Weedon-Elliott Ladies Auxiliary, VFW Post 8126, located at 300 Lodge Lane, Havre de Grace, will hold its annual membership meeting at 7:30 p.m. All members are encouraged to attend.

**THURSDAY
DECEMBER 9
AATREE-LIGHTING**

The AA Tree-Lighting Ceremony will be held at 7 p.m. in front of the Post Library, building 3320.

PET OF THE WEEK



Photo by DAVE MAYOR

TAKE A LITTLE "TIGER" HOME
This 10 week-old male kitten has distinctive grey and black stripes, amber eyes and is curious and playful. He and other cats are available for adoption at the Post Veterinary Treatment Facility. You do not have to be active-duty military to adopt animals. For details, call 410 278-3911.

PRAYER BREAKFAST

The annual U.S. Army Ordnance Center and School 61st Ordnance Brigade Holiday Prayer Breakfast will be held from 6-7:30 a.m. at Top of the Bay, featuring the Covenant Players, a religious drama group, and a brass ensemble from the 389th Army Band (AMC's Own). The event is open to military and civilians in the Ordnance Brigade. Cost is \$5. For information, call Chaplain Mark Roeder, 410-278-2994.

**SATURDAY
DECEMBER 11
HOLIDAY CONCERT**

The 389th Army Band (AMC's Own) will

host a Holiday Concert at 7 p.m. at the Post Theater.

SUPER BINGO

The EA's Stark Recreation Center in building E-4140 will hold Super Bingo, with earlybirds starting at 6:30 p.m. Super Bingo starts at 7 p.m. There is one game at \$600, seven \$500 games and six \$100 games. The snack bar is open before, during and after bingo. For more information, call 410-436-2713.

**SUNDAY
DECEMBER 12
EATREE-LIGHTING**

The EA Tree-Lighting Ceremony will be held at 6 p.m., in front of the EA Chapel, building E-4620.

**TUESDAY
DECEMBER 14
BLUE CROSS PLAN**

The Civilian Personnel Advisory Center has arranged for a visit by a claims representative of the Service Benefit Plan (Blue Cross/Blue Shield) from 9-11:30 a.m. in building 305, room B-14 (lower level) in the Aberdeen Area, and from 12:30-1:30 p.m. in the Edgewood Area at building E-4420. No appointment is necessary. For details, call Kathy Anderson, 410-278-2649, or Teri Wright, 410-278-4331.

VFW POST 8126

The Weedon-Elliott VFW Post 8126 located at 300 Lodge Lane, Havre de Grace, will meet at 7 p.m.

**SATURDAY
DECEMBER 18
CHRISTMAS MUSICAL**

St. James A.M.E. Church School, located at 617 Green Street, Havre de Grace, will host its 5th Annual Christmas Program from 5-7 p.m. Admission is free. Come join the St. James A.M.E. Church School for an evening of song and fellowship and help celebrate "The Reason for the Season."

MWR UPDATE

Center offers Santa suits

Liven up your holiday office/organizational party — have Santa Claus drop in for a visit! The Outdoor Recreation Equipment Resource Center can provide the suit, you just need to provide the stuffing. The center, located in building 2407, has a small number of Santa Claus suits available for rent, including red corduroy pants and jacket; black boot covers and belt; red hat and white gloves, wig and beard. Complete suits are \$10 per day and may be reserved by paying the daily fee in advance. Call the center, 410-278-4124/5789, for further information.

Framing, engraving available

The Aberdeen Area Arts and Crafts Center offers custom framing in time for the holidays. The professional staff will help you select the proper mat colors and frames to fit any decor. Conservation and museum quality framing is offered to preserve valuables. Fine art print catalogs are the newest addition. The center offers custom engraving; check out the selection of plaques and ornaments. Basic framing classes are offered. Bring your 8x10-inch image and leave with the finished product. Cost is \$15 plus supplies. Registration is required. For times and dates call 410-278-4207 or stop by building 2407 for information.

Fitness center offers help

Take that first step toward a lifestyle change for better health. Call the AA Health and Fitness Center and set up a consultation with a staff member. The facility offers aerobics classes, kickbox

aerobics and toning. The center is open Monday-Thursday, 5:30 a.m.-7 p.m., Friday, 5:30 a.m.-6 p.m., and Saturday, 8 a.m.-noon. For details, call 410-278-9725/9759.

EA Health and Fitness Center

The EA Health and Fitness Center has a new aerobics schedule, with two new classes added. Aerobics classes are held Monday-Friday, 11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. On Mondays and Wednesdays, 5-6 p.m., "Funky Step" classes are held. From 6:05-7:05 p.m., step classes are held, followed by an abdominal workout. Aerobics classes with toning are held Tuesdays and Thursdays, 5-6 p.m. A new "Aero-Box" class will be held Tuesdays and Thursdays, 6:30-7:30 p.m. Step aerobics will be held Saturday mornings. For details, call 410-436-7134.

Lunch-time bowling offered

Lunchtime bowling is offered at the APG Bowling Center. Gather your friends and co-workers and hit the center for lunch. The Snack Bar offers weekly lunch specials. Fall hours at the center are: Monday-Thursday, 11 a.m.-10 p.m.; Friday, 11 a.m.-midnight; Saturday, noon-1 a.m., and Sunday, noon-7 p.m. Call for specials available for parties and events, 410-278-4041/2084.

Join APG Riding Activity

The APG Riding Activity, a self-care boarding facility, has vacancies for box stalls. Monthly stall fees are \$40 per horse, and owners are responsible for the daily care and feeding of their animal. For information call Outdoor Recreation, 410-278-4124.

Chapel plans holiday events

The following is the schedule of holiday events taking place at the Aberdeen and Edgewood Area Chapels:

Aberdeen Area:

Catholic:

Dec. 8 - Holy Day Mass for the Immaculate Conception, 11:45 a.m.
Dec. 24 - Midnight Mass preceded by Christmas Carols, 11:30 p.m.
Dec. 25 - Christmas Day Mass, 9 a.m.
Dec. 31 - Mass 5 p.m.

Jewish:

Dec. 9 - Chanukah Service, noon

Protestant: (General Protestant and Gospel)

Dec. 11 - Christmas Caroling at the PX, 1 p.m. and 6 p.m. (Gospel)
Dec. 15 - Christmas Caroling at the PX, 7 p.m. (Gospel)
Dec. 19 - Children's Christmas Program, 6 p.m.
Dec. 19 - Christmas Cantata, 7 p.m. (General Protestant)
Dec. 22 - Community Christmas Caroling, 7 p.m. (General Protestant)
Dec. 24 - Christmas Eve Candlelight Service, 7 p.m.
Dec. 31 - Watch Night Service, 10 p.m.

Edgewood Area:

Catholic:

Dec. 8 - Holy Day Immaculate Conception, 5 p.m.
Dec. 18 - Mass in Stable 7 p.m., preceded by caroling from Edgewood Area Chapel
Dec. 24 - Christmas Family Mass, 5 p.m.
Dec. 25 - Christmas Day Mass, 11 a.m.

Protestant:

Dec. 5 - Hanging of the Greens, 4 p.m.
Dec. 12 - Edgewood Community Combined Choirs Cantata, 9:15 a.m.
Dec. 19 - Advent Service of Lessons and Carols, 9:15 a.m.

WAPG-TV

The following programs are scheduled for WAPG-TV, on-post cable channel 3, from Dec. 2-8:

THURSDAY, Dec. 2

1 p.m., Senior Environmental Quality Control Committee meeting.

MONDAY, Dec. 6

1 p.m., SEQCC meeting.

For more information on programming, call Lynn Witkowski, 410-278-1151.

MOVIES

The Post Theater will be closed Dec. 10 and 11 for the 389th Army Band's annual Christmas Concert.

DOUBLE JEOPARDY

Friday, Dec. 3, 7 p.m.

Starring: Tommy Lee Jones, Ashley Judd

A woman who served eight years in prison for her husband's murder tracks down her husband, who faked his own death and framed her as part of an insurance scam. **(Rated R)**

THE SIXTH SENSE

Saturday, Dec. 4, 7 p.m.

Starring: Bruce Willis, Toni Collette

An 8-year-old is haunted by a dark secret; he is visited by ghosts. While a child psychologist tries to uncover the truth, he finds something unexplainable. **(Rated PG-13)**

THREE KINGS

Saturday, Dec. 4, 9 p.m.

Starring: George Clooney, Mark Wahlberg

A band of American soldiers in Iraq at the end of the Gulf War embark on a treasure hunt for a huge cache of gold reportedly buried somewhere near their desert base. **(Rated R)**

LEAVE DONATION

For information about donating annual leave, call Cheryl Gatling; 410-278-8978; or fax 410-278-8839. Employees eligible for donations in the Voluntary Leave Transfer Program are:

- Michael Alexander (wife has cancer);
- Fay Walker Banker (hip replacement);
- John Boyle;
- Barbara Breithaupt (multiple sclerosis);
- Bonnie Bromley (liver transplant);
- Alberta Brown (mother ill);
- Daniel Brown (father has emphysema);
- Tammy Budkey;
- Melda Callendar;
- Sheila Cassidy (mother has cancer);
- Nancy Coleman-Jones (surgery);
- Dawn Crouse (surgery);
- Bonnie Day;
- Jennifer Drennen (mother terminally ill);
- William Edwards (back surgery);
- Wayne Erb (wife ill);
- Willa Freisheim;
- Lena Goodman;
- Barbara Holland;
- Stephen Howard (bone marrow transplant);
- Judy Hunt (arthropathy);
- Lilly "Kitty" Johnson (surgery);
- Marlin Julian (heart surgery);
- Sharen Kaylor (eye surgery);
- Jennifer Keetley (maternity);
- Tracey Kerney (surgery);
- Beverly King (caring for husband);
- Connie LaFlamme;
- Sherrie Laury (heart problems);
- Dolores "Dee" McGrogan (back problems);
- Susan Naccarato (carpal tunnel syndrome);
- Mary Pettitway;
- David H. Reed (wife ill);
- Barbara Carol Remines (surgery);
- Michael Reynolds;
- Denise Robinson (maternity);
- Ricky Ross (heart attack);
- Mary Lee Samples (lymphoma cancer);
- Teresa Oyley-Sayles; Allan Scarborough (back surgery);
- Sherry Schaffer;
- Jack H. Smith (surgery);
- Walter Taylor (auto accident);
- Lavonne Telsee (caring for daughter);
- Gayle L. Thompson;
- Joseph Walker (wife has cancer);
- Rosalind Walters Kenion (maternity);
- Cecelia Walton (respiration problems);
- Kenneth Weathers (medical);
- and Willie Williams.

Organizations scheduled to wrap gifts

The following organizations are scheduled to wrap gifts at the Main Post Exchange through Christmas Eve. The organizations work for donations, and most wrapping materials are provided by Army and Air Force Exchange Service.

Date	Time	Organization
Dec. 2	.9 a.m.-10 p.m.	American Red Cross
Dec. 3	.9 a.m.-10 p.m.	203rd Family Support Group
Dec. 4	.9 a.m.-9 p.m.	Women's Army Corps
Dec. 5	.10 a.m.-9 p.m.	HST Garrison Family Support Group
Dec. 6	.9 a.m.-9 p.m.	CHPPM Family Support Group
Dec. 7	.9 a.m.-9 p.m.	Aberdeen High School PTSO
Dec. 8	.9 a.m.-9 p.m.	Boy Scouts
Dec. 9	.9 a.m.-9 p.m.	389th Army Band Family Support Group
Dec. 10	.9 a.m.-9 p.m.	520th TAML Family Support Group
Dec. 11	.9 a.m.-9 p.m.	389th Army Band Family Support Group
Dec. 12	.10 a.m.-6 p.m.	Aberdeen High School Booster
Dec. 13	.9 a.m.-9 p.m.	OC&S CSD Family Support Group
Dec. 14	.9 a.m.-9 p.m.	Boy Scouts
Dec. 15	.9 a.m.-9 p.m.	Kirk Family Support Group
Dec. 16	.9 a.m.-9 p.m.	520th Theater Army Medical Laboratory
Dec. 17	.9 a.m.-9 p.m.	Military and Civilian Spouses Club
Dec. 18	.9 a.m.-10 p.m.	EA/AA Youth Centers
Dec. 19	.9 a.m.-7 p.m.	Warrant Officers Association
Dec. 20	.9 a.m.-9 p.m.	Noncommissioned Officers Association
Dec. 21	.9 a.m.-9 p.m.	520th TAML
Dec. 22	.9 a.m.-9 p.m.	Women Air Force Group
Dec. 23	.9 a.m.-9 p.m.	Air Force Det 1 Family Support Group
Dec. 24	.9 a.m.-4 p.m.	Protestant Women of the Chapel



Photo by DAVE MAYOR

Tracy Brown, Carlson Wagonlit leisure travel counselor, awaits her next customer in the new Travel Office. Brown is one of several counselors who coordinate cruise specials, ski vacations and regular leave and travel plans for the military and civilian community.

APG Travel Center celebrates opening

TRAVEL, from front page

who waited on Cordero, said the Leisure Travel Office constantly is looking for ways to promote fun getaways for the post community.

"We're currently promoting a ski weekend in Pennsylvania on February 4-6," Brown said. "That includes, two nights at the hotel, skier services, transportation and a host of other activities while you're there. We're fortunate to be able to offer this trip. People say it's some of the better slopes in the area."

A \$50 deposit to reserve space for the trip is needed by Jan. 7.

The travel center offices are open for business, Monday-Friday. For information, call ITR Office, 9 a.m.-5 p.m., 410-278-4011; CWT Official, 8 a.m.-4:30 p.m., 410-273-1100; CWT Leisure, 9 a.m.-5 p.m., 410-273-1184; Transportation and Passenger Section: (closed every other Friday), 7 a.m.-4:30 p.m. (closed noon-12:30 p.m. for lunch), 410-278-3858.

What's coming up?

ITR has "Learn to Ski" package for \$33, less than the cost of a lift ticket. The gift box package includes picture frame and everything you need to make your first experience a great one. The package can be used at Ski Roundtop or Ski Liberty, and includes beginner lift ticket, equipment rental and a lesson, for ages 8 and up. It can be used Sunday-Friday (non-holidays) through March 15. For details, call 410-278-4011/4621.

The Ski Seven Springs package for Feb. 4-6 costs \$189 for a four-person room, \$199 for a three-person room, and \$209 for a two-person room. Price includes two nights at Four Points Sheraton Hotel in Greensburg, Pa., motor-coach transportation, four all-you-can-eat meals plus midnight buffet. For details, call Tracy Brown, 410-273-1184.

A look at APG history

Holiday-decorated homes are highlight of tour

HOMETOUR, from front page

mances by the Aberdeen High School and Aberdeen Middle School orchestras and choirs, and door prize drawings throughout the afternoon. The drawing for a beautiful Americana quilt will be the final activity of the day.

The tour begins at the Top of the Bay Club and includes the following:

- 11 a.m., tickets on sale for tour and Americana quilt drawing.
- 11 a.m.-5 p.m., Craft Fair (lunch available 11 a.m.-1 p.m. at Top of the Bay).
- 11 a.m.-3 p.m., Aberdeen High School Orchestra performs (choir joins at 1:30 p.m.)
- Noon-4 p.m., homes open for tour; cider and light refreshments

served at Quarters One.

- 3-5 p.m., Aberdeen Middle School Orchestra performs.
- 4 p.m., homes close.
- 4:30 p.m., drawing for Americana quilt.
- 5 p.m., Craft Fair closes.

The homes date from an unknown year prior to 1800 for Quarters One to the "modern" construction period completed in the 1930s. When President Woodrow Wilson directed the establishment of Aberdeen Proving Ground in October 1917, several homes, including Quarters One, were on the grounds. The white wooden structures that will be on display on Plumb Point Loop and Hopkins Road were a part of the building effort com-

pleted by June 30, 1919. The other homes and the Top of the Bay were built during the 1934-1939 project using the Federal Emergency Works Funds and PWA/WPA labor.

Those who know local history may recognize the stone from the Port Deposit quarry, but there also is a personal connection for one family whose home is on the tour. Lt. Col. Darrell Holck, commander of the U.S. Air Force Detachment, counts as a cousin the man who originally owned the quarry, although Holck never expected to be living on an Army installation in such a home.

This and other stories will provide visitors with a glimpse into the varied assignments of the

homes' occupants, whether it's a hand-crafted Noah's Ark basket or beautiful Austrian furniture. Touches of Europe, and particularly the Bavarian region of Germany can be seen in most of the homes as a reflection of the overseas tours that many military families experience. Each home has its own character in structural style in addition to the furnishings and personal collections of the families.

The tour is more than just an opportunity to visit historic houses - it is the major fund-raiser for the MCSC, which has a scholarship program and provides contributions from their welfare fund to different installation activities throughout the year.

Young bowlers end November on a roll

The Young American Bowling Alliance Saturday Morning Youth League helped those in need during Thanksgiving, by bringing in food before the holidays.

"Thanks for the food brought in to be donated to the hungry. You helped someone have a happy Thanksgiving," said Sandy MacDonald, coordinator of the league. "Remember to bring in an ornament for decorating the tree!"

There was no league bowling Nov. 27; bowling resumes on Dec. 4. The following results have been reported for November:

Nov. 13

PeeWees - Upcoming Stars (under age 6)

High Score: Demetrius Shields, 45, and Joshua Fleming, 19.

Preps - Rising Stars

Girls High Game: Erica Yonce, 124; Jalisa Jenkins, 122; and Shaenna Featherstone, 103.

Girls High Series: Erica Yonce, 311; Jalisa Jenkins, 307; and Shaenna Featherstone, 103.

Boys High Game: Gregory Swift, 120; D'Andre Brizan, 119; and William Dettwiler, 118.

Boys High Series: Gregory Swift, 335; D'Andre Brizan, 307; and William Dettwiler, 297.

Junior/Major/Senior - Shooting Stars

Girls High Game: Tasha Taylor, 161;

Jessica Donnelly, 137; and Vanessa Tomczak, 123.

Girls High Series: Tasha Taylor, 463; Jessica Donnelly, 343 and Danice Gregorowicz, 314.

Boys High Game: Eddie Sabina, 223; Adam Gaultney, 195; and Nicholas Wojtowicz, 192.

Boys High Series: Eddie Sabina, 546; Adam Gaultney, 491; and Nicholas Wojtowicz, 480.

Nov. 20

Upcoming Stars

High Games: Demetrius Shields, 25; Amanda Anderson, 22; and Joshua Fleming, 20.

High Series: Amanda Anderson, 57; Demetrius Shields, 50; and Joshua Fleming, 46.

Rising Stars

Girls High Game: Erica Yonce, 137; Jalisa Jenkins, 104; and Brittany Clemmons, 104.

Girls High Series: Erica Yonce, 342; Jalisa Jenkins, 286; and Brittany Clemmons, 235.

Boys High Game: Gregory Swift, 121; Sean Conlon, 120; and D'Andre Brizan, 118.

Boys High Series: Sean Conlon, 355; Cameron Shields, 307; and Gregory Swift, 304.

Shooting Stars:

Girls High Game: Tasha Taylor, 170; Jamie Coakley, 145; and Jessica Donnelly, 131.

Girls High Series: Tasha Taylor, 443; Jessica Donnelly, 367; and Jamie Coakley, 362.

Boys High Game: Eddie Sabina, 203; Adam Gaultney, 195; and Adam Condo, 181.

Boys High Series: Eddie Sabina, 587; Adam Gaultney, 517; and Adam Condo, 465.

MacDonald said qualifications were held for the league level Coca-Cola Tournament. One out of five girls and boys for the Rising Stars and Shooting Stars will qualify for the regional level.

"It's possible that some of our bowlers from the regional level may advance to state," she said. "Last year we had a few advance to the state level."

She also congratulated the winners of the Cecil/Harford County Annual Championship Tournament. In unofficial results, Danice Gregorowicz, Tasha Taylor, Adam Gaultney and Eddie Sabina won first place in the team event, and Corey Yonce won first place in the singles event.

The league, which runs until April 29, is open to youths ages 5-21. The national membership fee is \$10.50, and the weekly bowling fee is \$5.

For more information, call Sandy MacDonald, 410-436-3534, during the day, or call the APG Bowling Center at 410-278-4041.

RETIREE UPDATE

Tricare Dental Program eligibility

The following people are eligible to enroll in the Tricare Dental Program: members of the uniformed services who are entitled to retired pay; members of the retired Reserve who would be entitled to retired pay but are under age 60; spouses and eligible children of enrolled members; and unmarried surviving spouses and eligible children of deceased members who died while on retired or active duty status.

Tricare Retiree Dental Program services covered at 100 percent include: diagnostic care; preventive services (cleaning and fluoride once a year); emergency services (exam/evaluation); and diagnostic and some preventive services (cleaning and fluoride) that are not subject to contract-year deductible and maximum.

Dental services covered at 80 percent include: sealants and space maintainers; basic restorative treatment; and minor emergency procedures to relieve pain.

Services covered at 60 percent include: endodontics (root canals); periodontics (gum surgery); oral surgery (extractions); and prescription drugs.

The program does not cover dentures, bridges, or crowns. There is a required contract-year (February to January) deductible of \$50 per family member. DDP Delta will pay up to \$1000 for various services for enrolled family members during each contract year. Once enrolled, the program commitment is for 24 months.

To enroll in the Tricare Retiree Dental Program, contact Delta Dental at (888) 838-8737 or by e-mail: ddpservice@delta.org. Information is available at Delta's Web site (www.ddpdelta.org). An on-line dentist directory is available at www.ddpdelta.org/directory/dentdirect.html, or call customer service at (888) 336-3260 to request a list of participating dentists.

Center processes applications

Effective June 1, 1999, the VA Winston-Salem Eligibility Center acquired responsibility for processing all applications for Certificates of Eligibility and requests for restoration of entitlement. All applications submitted for a determination of eligibility or restoration of entitlement on or after that date must be submitted directly to the VA Eligibility Center, located in Winston-Salem, N.C., for processing. The center also processes VA Forms 26-1817, Request for Determination of Loan Guaranty Eligibility-Unremarried Surviving Spouses, and will issue VA Form 26-8261, Certificate of Veteran Status.

Mailing address:

VA Eligibility Center
P.O. Box 20729
Winston-Salem, NC 27120

Overnight delivery address:

VA Regional Office
251 N. Main St.
Winston-Salem, NC 27155
Call toll-free, 1-888-244-6711 or call (336) 631-5306.

The Eligibility Center Chief is Vonnie Ingram. Emergency cases can be brought to her attention via e-mail for handling by fax on a same-day basis. The Eligibility Center will process all original determinations of eligibility and requests for restoration of used entitlement. Veterans Service will continue to offer walk-in service for individual veterans only. However, the ability to provide such service will be limited, and program participants should refrain from treating "routine" circumstances as emergencies. Since the Eligibility Center provides consistently prompt service, requests received from lenders for walk-in service cannot be honored.

Direct Deposit toll-free service

The Veterans Benefits Administration (VBA) has consolidated Direct Deposit telephone service into a special unit located at the Muskogee Regional Office. Effective Oct. 15, the Direct Deposit Processing Unit expanded to incorporate dedicated Direct Deposit toll-free telephone service. The consolidation of Direct Deposit telephone service will occur in two phases. Phase One, effective Oct. 8, involved implementation of a special telephone line (1-877-838-2778). Phase Two involves the addition of a National Automated Response System (NARS) option to transfer a caller from the 1-800-827-1000 line into the Direct Deposit Unit in Muskogee. Phase Two will be implemented as soon as programming changes can be made to NARS message trees.

Compensation questions

Q. Following the death of my husband, who died in Vietnam, I remarried and my Dependency Indemnity Compensation payments were terminated. I am now divorced from my second husband. Can I have my benefits restored?

A. Yes, one of the provisions of the Veterans Benefits Act of 1998 provides for restored entitlement following the termination of a subsequent marriage.

Q. I understand that now that I am divorced from my second husband, I can have my DIC benefits restored. My divorce was final in January 1995. Am I entitled to benefits retroactive to that date?

A. No, the law stipulates that no benefits may be paid under this new provision for any month before October 1998.

Q. Will my benefits be restored automatically?

A. No, you must re-apply and advise the Department of Veterans Affairs of the termination of the remarriage.

Q. How much will I receive per month under this new amendment to the law?

A. Rates payable will conform to the payment provisions associated with the veteran's date of death, i.e., "veteran died prior to 1/1/93," or "veteran died on or after 1/1/93." If the veteran died after 1/1/93, you will be paid the current basic rate of \$ 850 per month. If the veteran died prior to 1/1/93 and you were receiving a rate higher than the basic flat rate, your benefits will be restored at the higher rate.

Pay IMPAC bills on time to prevent cancellation

By **Mary Young**

APG IMPAC Program coordinator

The International Purchase Authorization Card, better known by the acronym IMPAC, is used by countless cardholders and billing officials at Aberdeen Proving Ground to purchase services and supplies up to \$25,000.

IMPAC can be used to pay for Defense Automated Printing Services, supplies at the new Office Eagle store and training up to \$25,000. Recently established in the Acquisition Center are IMPAC check accounts which are being used to pay vendors for supplies and services when the IMPAC card is not accepted.

The term "IMPAC" has become synonymous with the term "efficiency," streamlining the government procurement and payment process by reducing time and documentation required to process micro purchases. It empowers users by enabling them to purchase all mission requirements under \$2,500 and with additional training, up to \$25,000.

In some cases, items and services that have taken up to 90 days now can be acquired and delivered in as little as two days. This innovative means of satisfying the government's small dollar purchases has saved time and money by introducing efficiencies

to the procurement process.

However, the untimely processing of statements of account and billing statements threaten to reduce savings by adding interest penalties to unpaid and late balances and increasing program administration costs.

It is important to remember that timely processing of account and billing statements are a crucial part of cardholder and billing official duties. U.S. Bank, the IMPAC contractor, will send at the end of each billing cycle a billing statement to billing officials outlining cardholder transactions for the month. The bank simultaneously sends cardholders

a statement of account, detailing card activity for the month.

The cardholder must reconcile their SOA with documentation which support statement charges, such as register receipts or credit card slips. The supporting documentation, reconciled SOA and any copies of Cardholder Statements of Questioned Items forms must then be forwarded to the billing official for payment certification.

To avoid assessment of interest penalties to their accounts, billing officials must date stamp the billing statement with the date received. If the statement does not clearly identify the date of receipt,

the Prompt Payment Act requires the payment office to use the statement date as date of receipt. In many instances, this will result in a late payment and addition of interest penalties.

The bank will transmit billing statements and statements of account at the close of the billing cycle, the 23rd of the month. Generally, the cardholder has five days after receipt of the statement of account to reconcile and forward it to the billing official for review and certification. The billing official has five more days to review and certify the bill for payment. If the activity's resource manager must review the bill prior to it being forwarded to the Defense Finance and Accounting Service, this time must be factored into the length of time that each player has to work with the IMPAC bill.

The certified IMPAC billing statement must be received by DFAS no later than 15 days after it has been date stamped as received by the billing official.

It is U.S. Bank's policy to suspend accounts when they are 60 days past due (90 days past the billing date). Accounts that become 180 days past due will cause suspension of the entire activity or several activities, depending on how accounts have been set up. Prior to suspension of an account, the billing official will be notified. Any suspended accounts will remain inactive until all past due balances have been

satisfied. At that time, accounts automatically will be reinstated.

Accounts that are suspended more than two times in a 12-month period may be canceled. A suspended billing official account will affect all cardholders that are set up under the billing official.

For status on a cardholder or billing official account, contact the U.S. BANK Customer Service Center at 1-888-994-6722.

Assign award number to purchase card orders

All IMPAC (regular VISA and NIB) buyers must assign an award number to their purchase card orders. Award numbers are either created manually by the buyer or generated electronically by the Purchase Card Management System (PCMS).

Below is a description of the methods the buyer may use to assign award numbers to their VISA or NIB orders.

- VISA and NIB buyers who are entering their purchases into the PCMS shall use the "CC#" that is automatically generated by PCMS as the award number for their purchase card orders. In addition, PCMS users are not required to maintain a manual purchase log since they will be inputting their award data into the PCMS.

- VISA and NIB buyers who are not entering their purchases into the PCMS must continue to assign a manual award number to their purchase card orders. The manual award number is comprised of the six-character DODAAC code assigned to the buyer's activity, followed by the current fiscal year (00), the letter "V" and four-character code (award numbers) provided by the AMCAC. Note that the

AMCAC issues a new block of award numbers to all current VISA and NIB buyers at the beginning of each fiscal year (FY). The award numbers that the AMCAC has issued for FY 2000 are effective from Oct. 1, 1999, through Sept. 30, 2000. As a result, current cardholders will receive a new set of award numbers at the beginning of FY 2001 and each fiscal year thereafter.

Contact Sharon Hogan, AMCAC, at srhogan@apgea.army.mil, if you did not receive your award numbers for FY 2000.

- VISA or NIB buyers who are not entering their purchases in PCMS must maintain a manual purchase log to record the items they have purchased for the government. The AMCAC Agency/Organizational Program Coordinator (A/OPC) will provide copies of the blank format purchase log to buyers for this purpose. Copies of the blank format purchase log are available and will be sent to the buyer upon their written request to the centralized email address: creditcard@apg-emh1.apg.army.mil.

Garrison employees face RIF next year

RIF, from front page

decision from early January to late February, Spidel said.

"These delays continue to push back the RIF, and if we have further delays we'll still have to run a RIF," Spidel said. "We simply do not have the financial resources to continue at our current employment levels."

The garrison will face a reshape, pending the implementation of the most efficient organizations described in the CA packages, he said.

"Our goal was to run one RIF. We'll have to see how that works out, but one thing is certain - we cannot afford to go into fiscal year 2001 at our current employment levels unless addi-

tional funding is supplied, and that event is very doubtful," Spidel said.

If GAO upholds the government win and the garrison still must conduct a RIF, the garrison may face a much smaller CA RIF, he added. But if GAO reverses the government win, a larger RIF is almost a certainty.

The delays have bought garrison personnel more time to search for other government or civilian-sector jobs, and more time to qualify for early retirement. But Spidel encouraged people to take advantage of the extra time to plan for the future.

"If you're looking for another job, you have more time to look," he said. "But we're expecting RIF letters to go out in the spring, and

we're planning the RIF for late summer. If you believe you'll be affected by the RIF, take advantage of the counseling and job assistance we have available."

Those who are seeking other work can contact the Career Counseling Center at 410-278-9669. Information on RIF procedures and an Employee's Survival Kit are available on the APG web page at www.apg.army.mil/ca.html or you may click on "Civilian Personnel" on the APG home page.

To ask questions about CA issues, call the CA Hotline at 410-278-9461 24 hours a day, or send an e-mail to castudy@apg-emh1.apg.army.mil.

Sports and Fitness

Hawaii-bound Secretary wins trip from golf contest

By Yvonne Johnson
APG News

An Edgewood Area employee won a consolation prize to September's "Shot-of-the-Century" hole-in-one contest. As consolation prizes go, this one isn't bad.

Suzanne D'Elicio, secretary to the deputy commander, U.S. Army Soldier and Biological Chemical Command, won a trip-for-two to Hawaii that includes seven nights and accommodations in Waikiki.

"It's the first time I ever won anything," D'Elicio said, as she and her husband, Louis, were presented the award at Ruggles Golf Course last week.

Chris Lockhart, Leisure Travel Center director for the APG Travel Office, said that while no one from the APG area won the \$20,000 grand prize for shooting a hole-in-one during the Sept. 25 event, many came close, D'Elicio among them.

"She had a really good shot that day," Lockhart said. "I gave her a hat and towel anyway."

The contest, a Morale Welfare and Recreation event sponsored by First USA Bank and Budweiser, was held Army-wide, offering participants the opportunity to win big bucks



Photo by DAVE MAYOR

Suzanne and Louis D'Elicio pose inside the Ruggles Golf Course club house. Suzanne won a 7-day trip for two to Waikiki, Hawaii, that was part of the "Shot of the Century" hole-in-one contest sponsored by Budweiser and First USA Bank.

with skill and a little luck.

Along with the grand prize was a \$1,000 prize for getting within six inches of the cup.

The D'Elicios and 68 others who qualified for Shot of the Century also filled out entry forms for a drawing featuring the Hawaii trip. D'Elicio said she wasn't going to fill one out since her husband had, then changed her mind and forgot about it until she received a phone call a month later.

"I got a call from Virginia in October telling me I won and I thought it was a hoax," D'Elicio said. "I made sure I got his name and phone number just to verify he was who he was."

The caller was Pierre Laxa from the Army Sponsorship Program, U.S. Army Community and Family Support Center, who said D'Elicio's reaction was "understandable."

After she verified the news D'Elicio said she and her hus-

band were both stunned.

"I was very happy. I'm looking forward to playing some more golf over there," said Louis D'Elicio, who recently retired from U.S. Army Research Laboratory after 32 years of government service. The couple said although they vacationed in Hawaii after Louis' retirement and went there 10 years-ago for the first time, this would be their first visit to Waikiki.

"We're excited to have won and are looking forward to going back," Suzanne said.

An avid golfer for seven years, Suzanne said she plays regularly with her husband and many others who participated in the contest. She added that she is still amazed at her win.

"This was run at installations around the world," she said with amazement. "I'm just glad I took the time to fill out that form."

Results from Turkey Trot

The following runners participated in the 1999 APG Turkey Trot, held on post Nov. 20. Awards went to the following runners:

Military Male

1st place: Barton Jennings
2nd place: Jeffrey Siebert
3rd place: Robert Tikfremariam

Military Female

1st place: Donna Lewis
2nd place: Mitchelene Bigman
3rd place: Petra Casarez

Civilian Male

1st Place: Brian Harris
2nd Place: Eric Estrada
3rd Place: David Berardi

Civilian Female

1st Place: Margaret Starnes
2nd Place: Erin Shockley
3rd Place: Laurie Cicero

Age awards

Age category awards went to the following runners:

10 and Under Male

1st: Matthew Cross
2nd: Matthew McDuffie

19 and Under Female

1st: Becky Reavis
2nd Kelly Somers
3rd Leah Stancavitch

19 and Under Male

1st: Mike Peterson
2nd: Paul Badders
3rd: Chris Seiler

20-29 Female

1st: Lisa Dorneker
2nd: Tanya Gorrell
3rd: Jewell Loving

20-29 Male

1st: Shawn Lopez
2nd: John Riley
3rd: Wayne Salas

30-39 Female

1st: Mary Beth Cochran
2nd: Ginger Rowley
3rd: Rebecca Cross

30-39 Male

1st: Steve Egolf
2nd: Mike Feinberg
3rd: Wilson Gorrell

40-49 Female

1st: Bonnie Schaffer
2nd: Barb Smelton
3rd: Mary Ellen Ward

40-49 Male

1st: Clifford Kautz
2nd: Enrique Alcaraz

3rd: Craig Teller

50-59 Female

1st: Wendy O'Steen
2nd: Barbara Risacher
3rd: Peggy Walter

50-59 Male

1st: Tom Walker
2nd: John Doesburg

60 and Over

1st: Lou Teletski

Participants

Participating in the event were the following runners:

1. Brian Harris	14:55.1
2. Eric Estrada	14:58.8
3. Dave Berardi	15:14.1
4. Steve Egolf	15:31.3
5. Barton Jennings	15:44.8
6. Shaun Loper	16:13.4
7. Jeffrey Siebert	16:14.2
8. Mike Peterson	16:14.7
9. Paul Badders	16:34.0
10. Mike Feinberg	16:44.3
11. Wilson Gorrell	16:52.3
12. Robert Tikfremariam	17:05.9
13. Scott Kothenbeutel	17:13.7
14. Chris Seiler	17:34.4
15. John W. Riley	17:43.8
16. Wayne Salas	17:53.0
17. Corey Williams	17:58.9
18. Jeffery Fraiser	18:04.9
19. Ross King Jr.	18:08.6
20. Scott Smith	18:10.6
21. Clifford Kautz	18:12.5
22. Margaret Starnes	18:18.8
23. Corey Harrison	18:37.4
24. Donna Lewis	18:46.5
25. Russ King	18:47.4
26. Darnell Rosette	18:56.8
27. James Dougherty	18:58.0
28. Jordan Franklind	19:23.9
29. Charles Rogers	19:32.7
30. Terry Ward	19:37.4
31. Erin Shockley	19:40.6
32. Tim Norcross	19:41.2
33. Laurie Cicero	19:46.6
34. Mary Beth Cochran	19:54.3
35. Vincent Robinson	19:55.4
36. Keith Arthur	20:01.9
37. Brandon Rogers	20:07.9
38. Enrique Alcaraz	20:09.2
39. Medwell Hill	20:11.7
40. Joe Pineiewski	20:26.4
41. Demerick Suggs	20:29.8
42. Mitchelene Bigman	20:35.4
43. Jack Martin	20:36.6
44. Ravis Barnes	20:37.6
45. Craig Teller	20:38.7
46. Leon Ferran	20:43.5
47. Ken Naumann	20:56.4
48. Ronald Schum	21:01.9
49. Kyle Conroy	21:05.2
50. Michael Gannell	21:06.0

51. David Woodall	21:28.4
52. Conteno Gabriel	21:34.0
53. Matt Sieler	21:39.0
54. Dale Crocket	21:39.7
55. Dennis Slade	21:42.4
56. Christian Abildso	21:54.8
57. Geoff Sauerborn	21:57.7
58. Geovanni Vito Enriquez	21:59.4
59. Becky Reavis	22:01.0
60. Jacob Leard	22:06.5
61. Darius Hardy	22:08.7
62. Mike Simon	22:13.7
63. Jonathan Reddin	22:14.6
64. Petra Casarez	22:15.1
65. David Wilson	22:15.7
66. Eduardo Servin Quinte	22:16.5
67. Richard Sturdevant	22:17.1
68. Timothy Blair	22:17.9
69. Ginger Rowley	22:18.7
70. George Banquet	22:19.6
71. Charles Wilson	22:20.3
72. Scot Springer	22:21.0
73. Tom Walker	22:21.8
74. Lisa Dornaker	22:25.0
75. Keith Koob Jr.	22:25.8
76. Tanya Gorrell	22:27.5
77. Ed Gonzalez	22:37.3
78. Mark Walton	22:38.4
79. Dan Rowell	22:40.8
80. Raymond Burns	22:46.1
81. Jewell Loving	22:47.4
82. Neil Washington	22:54.3
83. William Rafferty	22:56.5
84. Kelly Somers	23:01.9
85. Wayne Hutchins Jr.	23:02.8
86. Leon Mittedge	23:04.0
87. Leah Stancavitch	23:15.0
88. Dawn Sigafoose	23:15.6
89. Jamie Rotella	23:16.5
90. Lawrence Clark	23:28.4
91. Turdin Darnell	23:28.4
92. Harrison Thopson	23:29.4
93. Michael Jones	23:30.0
94. Danny Ostrander	23:30.6
95. David Payne	23:31.8
96. Reinaldo Osona	23:36.0
97. Matthew Cross	23:45.2
98. Bari Abdul-Majeed	23:48.1
99. Jaon Davis	23:49.8
100. Woo Ham	23:51.8
101. Janine Stillwell	23:52.8
102. Justine Dancy	23:54.3
103. Bridget Liles	23:57.5
104. Rossi McDonald	24:19.6
105. James Bilotto	24:22.5
106. Mitchell Dunford	24:26.2
107. Jong Lee	24:29.9
108. Lee Hiebert	24:32.0
109. Jeffery Butz	24:41.2
110. Robertson	24:47.9
111. Christopher Holshu	24:48.6
112. Derrick Walker	24:49.4
113. Sean Carlson	24:50.9
114. Torrez	24:59.8

Continued on page 8

ATC testers capture DTC honors for reports

By Phyllis J. DeFranks
ATC Public Affairs Office

Three employees at Aberdeen Test Center recently were honored for outstanding writing with the Developmental Test Command's Edward H. Gamble Award.

The award, which recognizes creative approaches in writing pertaining to the test and evaluation mission, was presented to Dat A. Nguyen in the individual category, and Michael P. Schulz and Craig S. Miser for the group category.

"These prestigious awards recognize the best reports written in the U.S. Army Developmental Test Command. I am proud we captured both awards," said James W. Fasig, ATC technical director. "We are not only excellent planners and executors of tests, we also provide outstanding documentation of those tests to our customers."

ATC's commander, Col. Andrew G. Ellis, added that the authors "showcased the abilities of ATC and DTC by taking on a testing problem, developing a unique test plan, finding a facility to complete the test that was safe, environmentally friendly, technically challenging, and meeting the customer's and regulator's requirements."

"These exceptional technical achievements significantly advanced the test and evaluation accomplishments of the U.S.

Army in the environmental technology testing arena," Ellis said.

Nguyen's test report, "Engineering Development Test Advanced Technology Demonstration of the Ground Standoff Mine Detection System," was lauded for its clear, concise and complete style, and presented several innovations in test methods that will set the standard for future testing.

Published on CD-ROM, the report included many of the new techniques available for technical reports, such as video clips and hypertext links to tables, figures and data.

Schulz and Miser won the award for their "exemplary engineering authorship" in development of the "Detailed Test Plan for the Firing Point Emissions Characterization of the Propelling Charges, 155 mm M3 and M3A1 - Test Matrix No. 1."

ATC officials said there was no past testing within the Army to set the foundation for the test plan for the Firing Point Emissions Test Program.

"The magnitude of this is astounding as there were complex propellant issues to include ballistic events, and sampling for extensive potential combustion products," Ellis said, noting that this test plan meets the rigorous approval requirements of the Environmental Protection Agency.



Above, Michael P. Schulz, left, and Craig S. Miser pose atop ATC's Emissions Characterization Chamber, which they designed to identify emissions on "everything from 22 calibre rifles to 81mm mortars." They won the Developmental Test Command's Gamble Award in the group category for their paper on the project. Above right, Dat A. Nguyen accepts the Gamble Award from Col. Andrew G. Ellis, commander of Aberdeen Test Center. The award is presented by DTC to honor authors of outstanding technical papers or reports on topics pertinent to the test and evaluation mission.



Employees praised for emergency action

By Phyllis J. DeFranks
ATC Public Affairs Office

Quick action by three Aberdeen Test Center employees helped a fellow employee who was injured during a test in September.

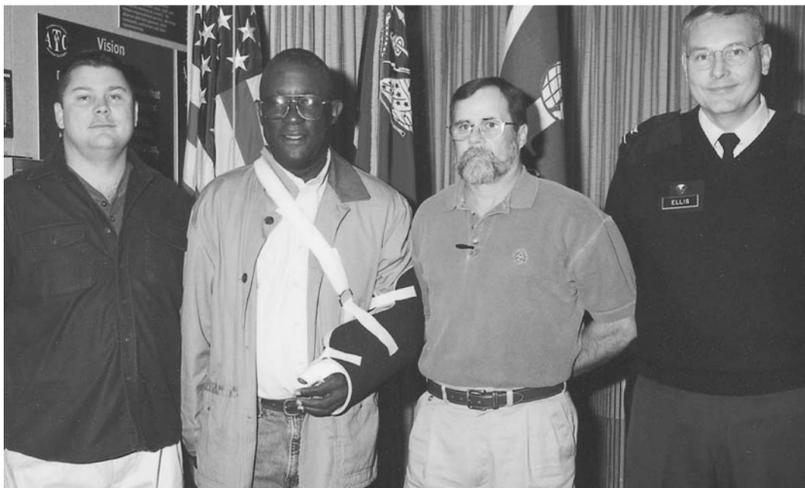
George Niewenhou, Jim Brown, program manager for Dynamic Science Inc., and employee Troy Garcia were recognized by Col. Andrew Ellis, ATC commander, for their quick reaction to the emergency.

A malfunction occurred during the testing of the Objective Individual Combat Weapon at Romney Creek, inflicting serious injury to Louis Freeman, a member of the test support crew.

Although recently released from the hospital and still at home recuperating, Freeman addressed the ATC personnel attending the presentation.

"I am indebted to these three individuals who were at the test site and took prompt actions for me," Freeman said. "Thanks to all at ATC for their support during my recovery at home."

Ellis presented Special Service Certificates to these individuals for their responsive actions.



Louis Freeman, second from left, stands with Aberdeen Test Center personnel who were honored for their quick action when he was injured during a test in September. From left are Troy Garcia, Freeman, Jim Brown and Col. Andrew G. Ellis, commander of ATC.

Nov. 20 race results listed for annual Turkey Trot

Continued from page 7

115. Solomon Hulmon	25:02.1	165. Corey Green	27:31.5
116. Randy Riggs	25:09.0	166. Christian Martell	27:31.9
117. Robert Davidson	25:12.4	167. Shawn Reed	27:32.3
118. E J DeRouen	25:13.0	168. Daniel Wings	27:32.8
119. Robert Wegmann	25:13.8	169. Richard Nanney	27:33.5
120. James Behrick	25:18.6	170. Anthony McDonald	27:34.0
121. Shelley Smith	25:23.3	171. Edward Haskins	27:34.5
122. Christian Shamus	25:25.0	172. Waymond Dunn	27:34.9
123. Daniel Biggs	25:32.4	173. Darrell Richard	27:35.5
124. Rebecca Cross	25:34.1	174. Michael Hickson	27:36.0
125. Matthew McDuffie	25:38.8	175. John Fur	27:39.0
126. Don McDuffie	25:43.8	176. Martha Suttle	27:39.5
127. Gardner Andrews	25:44.7	177. Renee Martin	27:40.0
128. Ryan Draeger	25:49.5	178. Whittaker Young III	27:40.8
129. Bonnie Schaffer	25:50.7	179. David Lites	27:42.0
130. Kathryn Dugan	25:51.7	180. Gregory Rapose	27:45.5
131. Russ Boos	25:57.2	181. Ionita Aldea	27:46.5
132. Vicki Chisholm	25:57.8	182. Jeffery Kennett	27:55.0
133. Carroll Lucas	26:01.6	183. Hugo Flores	27:55.5
134. Barb Smeton	26:02.3	184. Joseph Strohmman	27:56.3
135. Larry Minogue	26:06.9	185. James Johnson	28:08.8
136. Melinda Weller	26:07.9	186. Kim Jangis	28:09.0
137. Mary Ellen Ward	26:15.9	187. William Owens	28:10.2
138. Paul Garvin	26:19.6	188. Evangelina Loby	28:23.4
139. Shari Hostetler	26:20.9	189. Calvert Sawyers	28:23.9
140. Jennifer Rowell	26:25.1	190. Richard Loughney	28:24.6
141. Michael Garvin	26:46.9	191. Darryl Lett	28:25.4
142. John Doesburg	26:48.1	192. Kenny Harmon	28:28.8
143. W. Kelley	26:52.9	193. Dwayne McCrimmon	28:29.8
144. Caesar Chaves	26:53.9	194. Scot Paradee	28:31.3
145. Tim Gohl	26:54.8	195. Thomas Reed	28:31.5
146. Dustin Hurbst	27:01.1	196. Deb Bilatto	28:32.2
147. Gurvis Davis	27:01.8	197. Stacy Seiler	28:33.6
148. John Gwynn	27:06.1	198. Kaila Dugan	28:34.8
149. Benjamin Ridenoure	27:09.4	199. Ike Robinson	28:35.6
150. Troy Island	27:16.5	200. Omar Godinez	28:43.5
151. Steven Johnson	27:17.7	201. Elvine M. George	28:44.3
152. Joe Levelston	27:20.0	202. Mike Surgent	28:45.6
153. Alfred Bilbra	27:20.8	203. Dave Surgent	28:55.7
154. Lori Garvin	17:22.0	204. Lou Teletski	28:56.3
155. Margaret Garvin	27:22.8	205. Margaret Cohn	29:00.3
156. William Gano	27:25.0	206. Wendy O'Steen	31:33.7
157. Calvin Elam	27:25.4	207. Barbara Risacher	32:04.1
158. D. Brown	27:26.1	208. Nicole Mayers	32:32.0
159. Brenda Kauffman	27:26.6	209. Peggy Walter	33:13.1
160. Edward G. Robinson Jr.	27:27.1	210. Wanda Walker	33:30.6
161. Joseph Russell	27:27.6	211. Iva Milgram	34:00.7
162. David Carona	27:28.1	212. Hugh Denny	35:04.1
163. Derrick Matthews	27:28.8	213. Shawntee McBride	36:40.9
164. William Barrett	27:31.2	214. Katherine Jackson	36:41.6
		215. April Simmons	36:42.3
		216. Jennifer Cook	37:42.6

Shinseki devises recruiting strategy to ensure goals are met

By Sfc. Connie E. Dickey
Army News Service

WASHINGTON (Nov. 23, 1999) — Recruiting is so crucial to manning the Army that Army Chief of Staff Eric K. Shinseki has devised an eight-part plan to ensure this fiscal year's recruiting goals are met.

The Army missed last fiscal year's recruiting goal of 74,500 by 6,300 recruits, but did make its Congressionally mandated end

strength because of strong retention. The Army has set a target of 80,000 recruits for fiscal year 2000.

Shinseki said recruiting is the number-one mission on his essential task list.

Recently, Assistant Deputy Chief of Staff for Personnel, Maj. Gen. Timothy Maude discussed the recruiting portion of a message Shinseki sent out to commanders. The message not only

pinpointed strategy for recruiting, but also outlined a plan to restructure the Army to bring the force up to 100 percent.

"We have accepted as a standard from the chief of staff on down that recruiting is the number one priority for all soldiers. All soldiers have a responsibility to be engaged in helping recruit the force," Maude said.

For example, Maude said soldiers should be talking to business

leaders and school principals.

Excluding a few new strategies, much of the recruiting package is a continuation of what the Army is doing now, Maude said.

"We will continue automation enhancements to make the recruiter and the chain of command more efficient," Maude said.

That includes continuing ARISS (Army Recruiting Information Support System), which

saves recruiters and applicants time by using a laptop in the home of a potential recruit to fill out paperwork and file electronically.

Implementation of the Hometown Recruiter Assistance Program and the Corporal Recruiter Program this year have been regarded as successful and will continue, Maude said.

The hometown-recruiting program allows soldiers, who graduate from advanced individual

training, to go back home for up to 30 days. There, they talk at high schools and are helpful in keeping delayed-entry recruits on track with enlistment plans.

Continuing as part of the recruiting plan for fiscal year 2000 will be the bonus program. The Army has just increased enlistment bonuses from \$12,000 to \$20,000 and has combined the Army College Fund with enlistment bonuses.