

POST SHORTS

Recycling schedule

Recycling pickup for Wednesday, Jan. 13, is paper. Put items in blue bags and place them on the curb.

Christmas trees will be picked up Monday, Jan. 11. The trees will be mulched, so remove all tinsel and decorations before putting the trees out for pickup.

Meet health plan representative

The Civilian Personnel Advisory Center has made arrangements for a claim representative of the Service Benefit Plan (Blue Cross/Blue Shield) to visit APG on Jan. 12, 9-11:30 a.m., in building 305, room B-14, and 12:30-1:30 p.m. in building E-4420 to discuss claim problems and plan coverage. No appointment is necessary. Points of contact for this information are Kathy Anderson, 410-278-2649, and Teri Wright, 410-278-4331.

Italian meal slated at dining facilities

Dining Facilities 4219, 4503 and E-4225 will serve the annual Italian Specialty Meal on Tuesday, Jan. 19, 5:30-7 p.m.

Family members, retirees, civilian employees and guests are invited from 6-7 p.m. The standard meal rate is \$3 for officers, enlisted and family members of sergeant or above, DoD civilians, retirees and their guests. The discount rate of \$2.45 applies to spouses and family members of enlisted personnel private through specialist/corporal and non-profit youth groups authorized to eat at post dining facilities.

The Italian cuisine features minestrone soup, chicken cacciatore, baked Italian sausage, noodles with pesto sauce, ratatouille, broccoli parmesan, ravioli, pizza, meatball subs, toasted garlic bread, pasta salads, cookies, cakes and pies. Standard short order items also are available. For more information, call Sfc. Michael Lawton, or SSgt. Terrence Jenkins, 410-278-9389/2164/2059.

Parenting Class starts Jan. 26

A New Parent Support Program for military and civilian personnel with children to age 6 will be held on Tuesdays, 6:30-8 p.m., Jan. 26-March 2, at the APG Chapel, rooms 4 and 5. Child care will be offered.

TRICARE has enrollment change

Active duty service members are responsible for enrollment into TRICARE Prime. To ensure there is no disruption to you or your family's medical care, enroll today. Forms are available through the TRICARE Service Center at 1202 Technology Dr., Suite B, Aberdeen, MD 21001. They can be reached at 410-273-7649. Forms are also available at the TRICARE Liaison Office at Kirk U.S. Army Health Clinic located on the third floor.

Promotion board for NCOs

A Department of the Army Selection Board is scheduled to convene on Feb. 4 to consider soldiers

See SHORTS, page 2

Happy New Year, Baby!

Couples welcome 1999 with additions to families

By Karen Jolley Drewen
APG News

Two local military families started out 1999 by celebrating not only a new year, but new babies.

The DeFebbo family expected a new addition to the family Christmas Eve. Instead, they celebrated the new year with the birth of Victoria Lee DeFebbo, Harford County's first baby born in 1999.

Master Sgt. Robert DeFebbo and his wife, Chong, who live on Ocean Court in the Aberdeen Area, went to Harford Memorial Hospital on Dec. 31 for a routine stress test, one week after the initial due date. Chong was admitted, and at 5:20 a.m. on Jan. 1, 7-pound, 4-ounce Victoria made her appearance.

"After it was over, it sunk in to me that this was a special time to have the baby," said DeFebbo, who is assigned to the U.S. Army



Photo by KAREN JOLLEY DREWEN

Victoria Lee DeFebbo receives lots of attention from her parents, Chong and Master Sgt. Robert DeFebbo, after her Jan. 1 arrival at Harford Memorial Hospital, the first baby born in Harford County in 1999.

Technical Escort Unit in the Edgewood Area.

As the baby slept peacefully on Monday, her parents and grandparents - Robert and Cordelia DeFebbo of Plalitis, N.M., who arrived in town Dec. 20 - discussed the birth of their newest family member.

"She stayed with me the whole time," said Chong of her mother-in-law. "At one point, I told her, 'If I was you, I'd run away.'"

She was one of seven women who gave birth that night, the only one to have a girl. "We are very happy," she said.

The couple moved here in September, after two years in Seoul, Korea. DeFebbo, a 21-year Army veteran, married Chong Sook five years ago, in North Carolina.

An Edgewood family also celebrated 1999 with a new addition. See BABY, page 7

Fire destroys and damages property of three OC&S families in Patriot Village

By Pat McClung
TECOM Public Affairs Office

Two families suffered severe losses of property in a fire late Saturday, in the 3800 block of Pride Court in Patriot Village.

SSgt. Peter Pangelian of the U.S. Army Ordnance Center and School's 143rd Ordnance Battalion and his family lost all their property in the fire reported at 10:38 p.m.

SSgt. Tyrone A. Francis, also of the 143rd,

and his family suffered a 50 percent loss. A third family lost 15 percent of their possessions due to water and smoke damage.

The cause of the fire is being investigated.

Those who want to make financial contributions to help the families can drop off checks at any branch of Aberdeen Proving Ground Credit Union. Make checks payable to APGFCU, and put "Fire Relief Fund" in the memo section of the check. Checks also can

be mailed to APGFCU, ATTN: Jim Metzbowler or Amy Carlson, P.O. Box 1176, Aberdeen, MD 21001.

The Pangelians have three children, ages 19, 17, 13, and a grandchild, age 4. The Frances' have three boys, ages 13, 7 and 6. Clothing donations can be dropped off at 3813-B or -D Pride Court. For further information about clothing donations, call 410-273-7486 or 410-273-7667.

1998: The Year in Review

Awards, changes, new leaders highlight past year

January

For the 10th year, personnel from the U.S. Army Chemical and Biological Defense Command donate food and toys to Neighbors in the Community of Edgewood (NICE), a volunteer community working group.

Aberdeen Proving Ground reduces its energy bill by closing Friday, Jan. 16, for Martin Luther King Jr's birthday.

NCOA defeats C Co. 16th, 34-30, in the Intramural Basketball Pre-Season Tournament.

The APG Fire Department emphasizes the need for safety during January, a dangerous month for fires.

After more than 24 years as APG's U.S. magistrate judge, Paul M. Rosenberg, 60, retires.

Macon Tucker Sr., 81, is recognized for never missing a day of work or being late to his job during his 10 years at the APG Burger King.

The American bald eagle population increases, with an estimated 400 eagles on post, up from the 150 estimated last year.

Larry Kaye, 77, is honored for his 60 years of volunteering with the Red Cross.

Becky Cornforth is honored as APG Volunteer of the Month.

February

The Defense Finance and Accounting Service continues to plan its transfer to Rock Island, Ill., in May, part of a Department of Defense consolidation expected to save \$9 billion over the next 20 years.

B Co. 143rd's Ruben Nerona wins first place during the Commander's Cup Intramural Billiards Tournament.

APG honors: Soldier of the Year Spc. Kevin M. Adamson; NCO of the Year Sgt. Rebekah L. Smith; Instructor of the Year SSgt. Aaron N. Reese; Drill Sergeant of the Year SSgt. Bryan A. Copeland; Air Force Instructor of the Year TSgt. John E. Seifer Jr.; and, Air Force NCO of the Year TSgt. Anthony J. Fonash.

APG welcomes Gen. Johnnie E. Wilson, commander of the U.S. Army Materiel Command, as guest speaker for the 13th Annual African-American/Black History Month program.

The Army's 1999 budget requests \$64.3 billion for housing and barracks repairs, training and reserve commitment in order to maintain quality of life programs.

APG's SSgt. Zachary Rhodes, Sgt. Johnathan Quave and civilian employee Sebastian Dokes win gold medals after competing at the Marine Corps Championship Powerlifting Tournament at Camp Lejuene, N.C.

Maj. Gen. Edward L. Andrews, commander of the U.S. Army Test and Evaluation Command and APG, and then-Harford County Executive Eileen Rehrmann, sign the Higher Education and Applied Technology Center charter, establishing a partnership between APG, neighboring communities, academic institutions, and businesses.

Capt. Julie Colvin Smith is named February Volunteer of the Month for her time with the Edgewood Area Officer's Wives Club.

March

Military personnel turn out for the Career Focus Center's Transition Workshop to help them prepare for a return to the civilian world.

1st Sgt. Thomas F. Jackson III, Aberdeen Test Center's highest ranking NCO, retires after a 19-year Army career.

Col. William S. McArthur, one of only 10 Army officers to serve as an astronaut, speaks on post and to area schools encouraging students to get the most out of their education.

Employee participation in the compressed work schedule is projected to save about \$1.3 million in energy costs.

Hundreds of men and women attend the eighth annual Federal Women's Program training conference during Women's History Month.

Headquarters Support Troops wins the American

Division of the Intramural Basketball Championship Tournament.

Safety, energy, child care, and excessive speeding are issues in APG's first 1998 Town Hall Meeting.

HST is victorious in the playoffs, winning the Intramural Basketball Championship title.

Chief Warrant Officer 4 Tim Goodwin is voted Volunteer of the Month for his dedication to Cub Scout Pack 924 and Boy Scout Troop 802.

April

A new five-year contract with Cellular One allows APG personnel better, less-expensive cellular phone services.

Post and nearby Havre de Grace celebrate the 28th anniversary of Earth Day, while U.S. Army Environmental Center in the Edgewood Area helps coordinate events for military communities around the world.

Five post volunteers are given awards and hundreds of others are honored at the Volunteer Recognition Ceremony and Reception which coincides with National Volunteer Week.

Pvt. Lawrence A. Moose, Company A, 16th Ordnance Battalion, receives an Army Achieving Medal for leading APG Police to a check cashing scam artist.

The West Point Cadet Gospel Choir performs in front of 500 marking the 50th anniversary of President Harry S. Truman's executive order 9981, signed July 1948, mandating "equality of treatment and opportunity for all persons in the armed services without regard to race, color, religion or national origin."

As part of the post/county partnership, county volunteer firefighters and emergency medical services personnel train at APG for cardiac rescue technician certificates.

143rd Ordnance Battalion's C Company wins top honors in the first "Solider Stakes," a competition involving an obstacle course, common-task training and a five-question exam about soldierization.

Court-martial slated

Charges allege disobeying orders, failure to disclose HIV-positive status to sex partners

By Karen Jolley Drewen
APG News

An Aberdeen Proving Ground soldier will face court-martial proceedings Jan. 19. Pfc. Gerland Squires, 21, was charged Oct. 23 and 30 with nine specifications of disobeying a superior commissioned officer, two specifications of making a false official statement, and nine specifications of aggravated assault with a dangerous weapon or means likely to produce death

See COURT, page 3

Breakfast to honor King's efforts

By Nicole Falcone
APG News

The Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Commemorative Prayer Breakfast will be held Jan. 12, 7:30-9:30 a.m., at Top of the Bay.

"Dr. King fought for equality for all, and we will honor that at the breakfast," said Master Sgt. Wattanaporn Videtto, equal opportunity advisor for APG Garrison.

The event, which has as its theme "The Legacy of African

See KING, page 3

See REVIEW, page 4

APG seeks nominations for 'Volunteer of the Year'

By Alice Surette
Installation volunteer coordinator

Do you know a special volunteer who goes above and beyond the call of duty? Someone who always goes that extra mile to make our Aberdeen Proving Ground community a better place to live and work?

If so, then now is the time to let the Installation Volunteer Office know.

Nominations are being accepted until Feb. 17 for the annual, Aberdeen Proving Ground

"Volunteer of the Year" Award.

Awards will be presented to the most outstanding Military, Retiree, Civilian, Family Member and Youth Volunteer at the Post Wide Volunteer Recognition Ceremony and Reception, on April 22, 7 p.m.

This is an annual event to recognize exemplary achievement in volunteer service at Aberdeen Proving Ground. Nominations should include all volunteer service on or for the APG community between Jan. 1, 1998, and Dec.

31, 1998.

Nominations must be received in the Installation Volunteer Office, building 2752 room 202 by Feb. 17 to be considered.

Nomination Packets may be picked up at the Volunteer Office, building 2752, Army Community Services, building 2754, Aberdeen Library, building 3320 and the Edgewood Library, building E4405.

For more information on how you can recognize your very special volunteer call 278-5469.

Post's 'Lady Bombers' play on post this weekend; sign up for tournaments

The APG Lady Bombers Basketball Team takes on Bethesda Naval Medical Center Women's Team on Saturday, Jan. 9, 1 p.m., at the APG Athletic Center. The next home game after this one is not until Feb. 20, so come out and support your installation team.

Athletic Center, Mondays through Thursdays, 6-9 p.m. and in the Edgewood Area at the Hoyle Gymnasium on Mondays and Wednesdays, 6:30-9:30 p.m.

All active duty military interested in participating in the Intramural Billiards Tournament to be held Jan. 19-26 must enter by Jan. 8.

All active duty military interested in participating in the Intramural Bench Press Competition on Jan. 31 must enter by Jan. 15.

Intramural update

The Intramural Basketball Season started Jan. 5 and continues weekly with games at the APG

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SHORTS, from front page

for promotion to master sergeant and review sergeant first class records for possible DA bar to reenlistment and subsequent separation under the Qualitative Management Program (QMP). Eligibility criteria for promotion consideration to master sergeant is: all sergeants first class with a date of rank of July 31, 1996, and earlier and with a BASD between Feb. 28, 1978, and Jan. 31, 1991, (both dates inclusive). Primary Zone DOR is July 31, 1995, and earlier; secondary zone DOR is Aug. 1, 1995-July 31, 1996.

Eligibility criteria for QMP consideration: All sergeants first class with a DOR of Feb. 28, 1998, and earlier and a BASD of Feb. 28, 1978, or later. NCOs who are in the zones of consideration may review their records in building 310, wing 9, from 9 a.m.-4 p.m., Monday-Friday. For details, call Sgt. Henson, NCOIC, Enlisted Records, 410-278-3460.

APG Tutorial Volunteer Program

The post is seeking support for the APG Tutorial Program, which provides volunteer tutors to assist local secondary school students who are having difficulty in school. Counselors in each school select students who need help, want help and can benefit from tutorial assistance. The counselor informs the student's parents of the program. The parents contact the APG program coordinator, who selects an appropriate tutor from the list of volunteers. The tutor contacts the student's family to set up a mutually agreeable place and schedule for help. Most tutors meet with their students for an hour or two each week until the student is on track, usually within two months. No teaching experience is necessary to participate. Call Peggy Horne, Army Community Service, 410-278-7474/4372; Joyce Harris, 410-278-1417; or Bill Starke, 410-436-1712.

NAF Open Season extended

Because of delays in getting information to Nonappropriated Fund employees, NAF Open Season has been extended to Jan. 31 for employees who need more time to decide the coverage they want. Employees electing new or changing existing coverage after Dec. 31 but before Jan. 31 will have coverage effective on Feb. 1. Deductions from pay will commence on Feb. 4. Contact NAF-CPO at 410-278-5126/5127 if you have questions or want an appointment to change your medical or life insurance.

Give up nicotine

Nicotine Anonymous, a 12-step program to help you quit and stay that way, meets Wednesdays at 7 p.m. in Bel Air at the First Presbyterian Church, located on the corner of Main Street and Broadway, across from Klein's Supermarket. For more information, call 410-939-0803.

Family Housing Office hours

The Family Housing Office is open Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday, 8 a.m.-4 p.m., and Wednesday, 8 a.m.-1 p.m. The office is part of APG Garrison, and participates in the compressed work schedule, with every other Friday off. For more information call 410-306-2010.

Schools seek receipts, labels

The Aberdeen Middle School and Edgewood Elementary School

Parent-Teacher associations are seeking donations of Klein's Supermarket receipts and Campbell's labels. Klein's is running a "Computers Plus for Schools" program through May 25. Pink register receipts are issued to all customers. The small portion with the total cost of groceries is needed, so the schools can redeem receipts for free computers, audio-visual equipment, software, books and sports equipment. Products included are: Franco American, Marie's, Pace, Pepperidge Farm, Prego, Swanson, V8 and Vlasic.

Mail labels and receipts by June 1 to Aberdeen Middle School, ATTN: PTA, 111 Mount Royal Ave., Aberdeen, MD 21001 (call Rose Ann Spieles, 410-272-6308, for details); or Edgewood Elementary School, ATTN: PTA, 2100 Cedar Dr., Edgewood, MD 21040 (call Kathy Shrontz for details, 410-612-0444).

Stressed parents need support

The Family Tree, a statewide child abuse prevention agency, is looking for dedicated individuals to help support stressed parents and prevent child abuse and neglect in Harford County. Volunteer opportunities include teaching 12-week positive parenting classes, serving as a mentor to families and facilitating weekly children's programs. Four hours a week is all it takes. The Family Tree will provide free volunteer training and on-going support. The Family Tree provides thorough training, back-up and support groups for its valuable volunteers. To become a Family Tree volunteer, call 410-893-5203.

Substitute teachers needed

Aberdeen High School needs substitute teachers, 7:30 a.m.-2:15 p.m. For information, call Dawn Rathgeber, 410-273-5500.

EA Thrift Shop needs accountant

The Edgewood Area Thrift Shop, located in building E-1633 at the corner of Wise and Stark Roads, is now interviewing applicants for the position of bookkeeper. The current bookkeeper will soon be leaving, and she would like the opportunity to interview and train the successful applicant. The shop is open Tuesdays, 10 a.m.-2 p.m., Thursdays, 10 a.m.-4 p.m., and, provided that it does not encompass a holiday weekend, the first Saturday of the month from 10 to 2. For further information about duties and salary, call 410-676-4733 during the business hours listed.

Need a lawyer?

If you need a power of attorney, stop by building 310, wing 2, Monday through Thursday, 8 a.m.-4:30 p.m., and every other Friday, 8 a.m.-4:30 p.m. Use the computer in the Legal Assistance Office to prepare the power of attorney, with help from a notary public. For more information call, 410-278-1583/1584.

Red Cross has toll-free number

The American Red Cross has a new toll-free number for emergency communications. To contact the American Red Cross at APG for emergency communications to obtain financial assistance, active duty military members and members of their immediate family should call 1-877-272-7337. For all non-emergency matters, continue to call 410-278-2087 from 8 a.m.-4 p.m., Monday through Friday.

Radio, TV stations to announce closings

Fourteen area radio stations and two television stations will provide information on post closings. Announcements should begin at about 5 a.m. Announcements about federal offices in the greater Baltimore metropolitan area do not apply to APG; listen for those that name the post specifically., on these stations:

STATION	FREQUENCY	LOCATION
WAMD	AM 970	Aberdeen
WXCX	FM 103.7	Havre de Grace
WBAL	AM 1090	Baltimore
WIYY	FM 97.9	Baltimore
WPOC	FM 93.1	Baltimore
WDEL	AM 1150	Wilmington, Del.
WSTW	FM 93.7	Wilmington, Del.
WNRK	AM 1260	Newark, Del.
WROZ	FM 101.3	Lancaster, Pa.
WSBA	AM 910	York, Pa.
WARM	FM 103.3	York, Pa.
WMAL	AM 630	Washington, D.C.
WTOP	AM 1500	Washington, D.C.
WASH	FM 97.1	Washington, D.C.
WBAL-TV	Channel 11	Baltimore
WJZ-TV	Channel 13	Baltimore

CA UPDATE

The solicitation portion of the Commercial Activities Study process for Aberdeen Proving Ground Garrison has come to a close. The closing date for submitting proposals for the Information Services (IS) package was Dec. 18 and the closing date for Installation Operations and Community/Family (IOCF) Activities was Jan. 4.

The government submitted its bids for both packages on Dec. 17. The CA Evaluation Team began the evaluation of the submitted bids this week. This phase of the study is expected to take approximately four months. Look for future updates and announcements regarding the next work force briefing, a new question and answer pamphlet and other important information. The CA Hotline will continue to be available for all questions, suggestions, and concerns.

Do you have a question about the Commercial Activities study?

Call 410-278-WIN1 (9461)

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 Test and Evaluation Command. The newspaper is published weekly by the TECOM Public Affairs Office, ATTN: AMSTE-PA, Aberdeen Proving Ground, MD 21005-5055, (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 TECOM Public Affairs Office, Building 314, Room 326, AMSTE-PA, APG, MD 21005-5055; 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). Check out the website at <http://www.apgnews.com>.

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RETIREE UPDATE

COLA set

The cost of living adjustment (COLA) to retired pay and Survivor Benefit Plan (SEP) annuities will be about 1.3 percent. The COLA went into effect Dec. 1, 1998 and is payable in the January check. If you retired after Jan. 1, 1998, your COLA will be less than 1.3 percent. If you first became a member on or after Aug. 1, 1986, your COLA will be 1 percent.

SEP Open Seasons

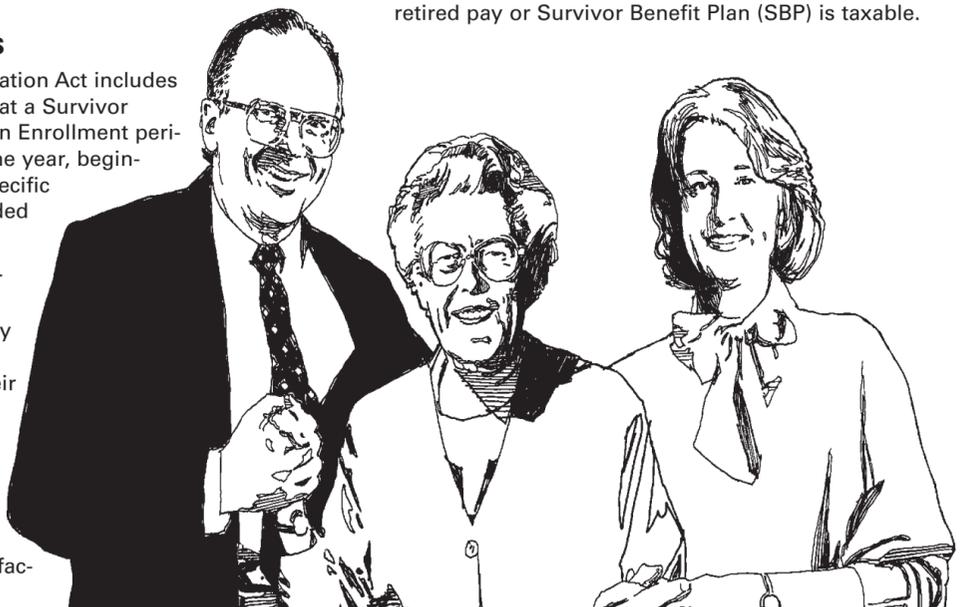
The 1999 DoD Authorization Act includes Congress's direction that a Survivor Benefit Plan (SBP) Open Enrollment period be conducted for one year, beginning March 1, 1999. Specific guidance will be provided later by DoD.

The one-time, one-year opportunity to allow those whose retired pay started before May 17, 1996 to discontinue their Survivor Benefit Plan (SBP). The one year period is from May 17, 1998 to May 16, 1999. The spouse must concur and the premiums are not refunded. One fac-

tor to take into consideration before your disenrollment is the feature being considered "paid up" after paying SBP premiums for 30 years and reaching age 70. The law is effective Oct. 1, 2008.

Tax time

The Cleveland and Denver Centers will mail IRS Form 1099-R by Jan. 15, 1999, to retirees and annuitants whose retired pay or Survivor Benefit Plan (SBP) is taxable.



SBCCOM takes on responsibility for powerful system that tracks chemical weapons stockpile, treaty data

For decades the Army has kept meticulous records on its stockpiles of chemical weapons. Now that meticulous record keeping is the hallmark of a powerful operating system known as the Chemical Accountability Management Information Network, or "CAMIN."

Responsibility for the CAMIN system officially changed hands on Dec. 10 in a signing ceremony held at the Gunpowder Conference Area. Maj. Gen. John C. Doesburg, commander of Soldier and Biological Chemical Command, accepted program management of the system from (Air Force) Maj. Gen. William F. Moore, deputy director of the Defense Department's Defense Threat Reduction Agency.

Together with the Army, DTRA developed the dual-purpose system, which accounts for the Army's chemical weapons and tracks Department of Defense chemical treaty data. The ceremony represented the developer transitioning a system to the working group that will maintain it.

"We have a chance to mark a milestone today, and we're proud to be part of this," said Col. Larry A. Sparks, SBCCOM Deputy for Stockpile and Operations, who welcomed the gathering. "This system has been developed with the help of folks in blue and other uniforms to account for our



Photo by TOM FAULKNER

Maj. Gen. William F. Moore, left deputy director of the Threat Reduction Agency, and Maj. Gen. John C. Doesburg, commander of the U.S. Army Soldier and Biological Chemical Command, exchange congratulations after signing the transition papers for the Chemical Accountability Management Information Network.

country's chemical weapons and other materials. I would like to thank everyone who has been able to help us with this intricate project."

As the system's developer, the Defense Threat Reduction Agency will continue to monitor the system for future research and development requirements and consistency with other treaty databases.

"I am always glad to take part in a ceremony where you are turning over a piece to hardware to the people who are going to use it," Moore said. "No longer are we in a position where we can rely on paper-based accounting systems. This system can only enhance the management of our chemical arsenals."

Doesburg said one of the best things about the DTRA/SBCCOM

relationship was the partnership between the "very bright, smart folks working together to meet the requirements under the treaty."

"It's one of those partnerships that stands out because of the caliber of the people dedicated to the success of the project. It all comes down to the fact that we want to do great things for our soldiers, sailors, airmen, and

Marines," he said.

The CAMIN system provides capability for oversight and continuity of data within the entire Department of Defense chemical community. Now that the system resides at SBCCOM, the command will be responsible for program management, funding, and system operations.

"Thanks to the hard work of many of the people here with us today, we have a system which has met all treaty declaration requirements and provides an excellent automation tool for managing inventory accountability," said Janet E. Grobstein, SBCCOM's CAMIN manager.

Grobstein said that although the transition marks completion of the research and development effort which went into developing CAMIN, it does not mark the severing of the DTRA partnership.

"They will continue to be a member of the CAMIN configuration control board and, through that membership, will help us to ensure that any future refinements of the CAMIN continue to meet all requirements and initiatives which occur at the DOD level," she said.

SBCCOM will continue supporting CAMIN users at storage and demilitarization sites in various ways, including training programs, a help desk hotline, and a newsletter.

On hand for the ceremony was Air Force Lt. Col. Marshall Wallace, the initial program manager for the system when the original tasking was assigned in May 1994 from the Deputy to the Assistant Secretary of Defense, Chemical and Biological Matters.

"We appreciate you hosting this ceremony and recognizing the importance of the mission," Wallace said.

He pointed out that the United States was the first country to have a system that showed a thrust toward compliance with the international treaty known as the Chemical Weapons Convention.

"This system was developed during the initial establishment of the treaty, in an environment where the United States was not entirely certain what the international community was going to do," Wallace said.

"The CAMIN can also be used to assist other countries with declaring their weapons under cooperative threat reduction programs."

As the United States destroys its chemical weapons and associated materials, accountability requirements continue to broaden. The CAMIN system, which now resides at SBCCOM, represents the Department of Defense's commitment to that accountability.



Photo by BARBARA J. KNAPP

The Youth Benefit Elementary School Fifth Grade Chorus sings Christmas carols.

SBCCOM supports annual Holiday Toy and Food Drive

Employees of the U.S. Army Soldier and Biological Chemical Command again answered the wishes of Edgewood children and their families with donations of toys and food during the annual Holiday Toy and Food Drive.

Toys and food were collected during November and December at donation sites set up across the command. The drive culminated with a reception at the Edgewood Area's Gunpowder Club on Dec. 16, when Maj. Gen. John C. Doesburg, commander, SBCCOM, presented Michael O'Hern, president of Neighbors Involved in the Community of Edgewood (NICE), with toys and food that flooded the club's main room.

O'Hern said 25 families had already been in touch with NICE asking for assistance during the holiday season.

"If it were not for the employees of SBCCOM, many children would go without gifts this year," he said.

One hundred children from the Youth Benefit Elementary School Fifth Grade Chorus performed musical selections for the employees gathered at the reception. The chorus was led by Peter Anderson and received a big round of applause for its unique interpretation of many favorite Christmas carols.

Dick Dewey and his "Merry Band" - Phyllis Scales, Paul DeLuca, Bob Mioduszewski, Ed Stuebing and John Beilfuss -



Santa talks with Maj. Gen. John C. Doesburg, SBCCOM commander.

played traditional holiday musical selections and Eva Mims led employees in singing Christmas carols. Santa stopped by for a visit, taking a few minutes out of his busy schedule to talk to employees and hand out candy canes.

On Dec. 17, volunteers from SBCCOM took a truck filled with toys and food to a distribution site in Edgewood. The NICE organization worked with local volunteers to break down

the donations into packages that were then given to needy families.

Chairperson Barbara Frank and her staff of SBCCOM volunteers worked for three months to make sure this year's toy and food drive was a success. Many of this year's committee members have worked on the toy and food drive over its 11-year history and said they continue to find it one of the most rewarding things they do during the year.

HHC 16th soldier faces court-martial for disobeying orders on HIV disclosure, assault for not informing sex partners

COURT from front page
or grievous bodily harm.

According to the charge sheet, the nine specifications of "assault with a dangerous weapon or means likely to produce death or grievous bodily harm," involve male civilians and members of the Armed Forces who engaged in sexual intercourse with Squires.

Breakfast to honor King slated for Jan. 12

KING, from front page
American Leadership for the Present and the Future," is sponsored by the U.S. Army Center for Health Promotion and Preventive Medicine.

The guest speaker will be Claiborne Douglas Haughton Jr, principal director and director for Civilian Equal Employment Opportunity, Office of the Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense (Equal Opportunity).

Tickets for the breakfast are sold out. For more information about upcoming cultural awareness events, call Videtto at 410-278-1534.

According to the charges, "the dangerous weapon or means likely language refers to the fact that PFC Squires allegedly had unprotected sex and/or failed to inform her partners of her HIV status, thereby putting them at risk of death or grievous bodily harm."

Squires, who is assigned to Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 16th Ordnance Battalion, was ordered by her company commander to disclose her HIV-positive status before having sexual intercourse and to use protection when having sex.

She has been held at the Marine Corps brig at Quantico pending court-martial since Oct. 8, 1998.

Squires, who entered the Army in June 1996, attended basic training at Fort Jackson, S.C., then attended Advanced Individual Training at APG from November 1996 to April 1997.

She was assigned briefly to Fort Stewart, Ga., but was reassigned to APG in January 1998 so she could be treated at Walter Reed Army Medical Center in Washington, D.C., and the National Naval Medical Center in Bethesda.

Do you have an item or story idea about your organization? Send an e-mail to kdrewen@apgnews.com; fax it to 410-278-2570; or call the editor at 410-278-1150. Check out the paper's website at www.apgnews.com.

1998: Looking back at a year of many changes

REVIEW, from front page

Dr. Edith E. Eger, a Holocaust survivor, speaks at APG during the “Days of Remembrance” program courtesy of the APG Garrison and SCBCOM.

APG honors Cpl. Eric Piper, Boy Scout Troop 429 volunteer and member of 389th Army Band (AMC’s Own), as Volunteer of the Month.

May

More than 100 people gather at Exton Golf Course to dedicate the new Rivera Golf Clubhouse to the late Pedro “Pete” Rivera, who helped build and maintain the course for more than 30 years. Rivera died of cancer in May 1996.

Christine Vazquez is honored as APG Garrison 1998 Professional Secretary of the Year for her 17 years of dedication to the government in the Internal Review and Audit Compliance Office,

Military family members enroll in TRICARE Prime, TRICARE Extra or TRICARE Standard.

Eight individuals are inducted into the Ordnance Corps Hall of Fame during the U.S. Army Ordnance Corps’ 186th anniversary: Maj. Gen. Henry Knox; retired Maj. Gen. David W. Stallings; retired Brig. Gen. John R. Pierce Jr.; retired Chief Warrant Officer 4 Billy K. Flanagan; retired Chief Warrant Officer 3 Dwight L. Obado; retired Sgt. Maj. John J. Anderson; and, William J. Jarrett.

Members of the community and APG celebrate the 21st Annual Military Appreciation Week luncheon.

APG joins the off-post community to celebrate Armed Forces Day.

The Intramural Volleyball Season closes with 520th TAML winning the championship.

The Intramural Bowling Season ends with the Turkey Shooters from HHC 16th taking first place, with the Slow Rollers from HHC 61st in second.

APG honors Enza Lilley, mayor of the Everette and Scully Road neighborhoods in the Edgewood Area, as Volunteer of the Month.

June

APG, local veteran’s organizations and the community celebrate Memorial Day at the Edgewood Area Cemetery.

Chaplain (Col.) Philip Kalyanapu helps APG celebrate Asian-Pacific American Heritage Month by highlighting the similarities among Americans instead of ethnic differences. The 16th Ordnance Battalion, Company C, also celebrates Asian-Pacific American Heritage with a pot luck luncheon.

KUSAHC wins the Intramural Softball Pre-Season Tournament.

Col. Andrew G. Ellis becomes the 24th commander of ATC, joining the center from the U.S. Army Research Laboratory, where he was deputy director for the Weapons and Materials Research Directorate.

Army Community Service offers the New Parent Support Program to help families adjust to the demands of parenthood.

The post libraries offer the Summer Reading Program to post youths.

APG celebrates the 223rd birthday of the U.S. Army at the fifth “Army Birthday Ball.”

APG Commander Maj. Gen. Edward L. Andrews helps to surprise Korean War veteran James Thomas Odom by presenting him with the Good Conduct Medal, 45 years late, after his family researched the long-missing honor.

Marine Corps Lt. Col. Joseph P. Innerst, Marine Corps liai-

son officer toTECOM, receives the Meritorious Service Medal.

ATC hosts the visit of Philip E. Coyle, director of operational test and evaluation, Office of the Secretary of Defense, and James F. O’Byron, deputy director of live-fire testing, to observe the live-fire testing of the Multiple Launch Rocket System.

The Aberdeen Area Thrift Shop throws a 90th birthday party for volunteer Edna Jameson, who also is the Volunteer of the Month.

July

APG is cited for continued progress in implementing a long-range plan for energy conservation, and receives the 20th Annual Secretary of the Army Energy Conservation and Water Management Award in the Active Army category.

Maj. Gen. George E. Friel, commander of the U.S. Army Chemical and Biological Defense Command, retires after 38 years, passing command to Maj. Gen. John C. Doesburg.

Col. Robert J. Spidel becomes commander of the U.S. Army Garrison, replacing Col. Roslyn M. Glantz, during a ceremony held at Fanshaw Field.

Leadership of the Edgewood Chemical Activity is passed to Maj. Craig A. Trice by Maj. Bruce C. Foreman.

Col. Edward (Ted) Newing returns to U.S. Army Environmental Center after nearly 15 years, accepting command from Col. Richard Weiner, USAEC commander since July 1996.

USAEC broadcaster Jay Harrell honored for his environmental reporting, which helped Soldiers Radio and Television to win first place in the Army’s annual Keith L. Ware Award.

SSgt. Eric Kombet of 520th Theater Army Medical Laboratory, with the help of Spc. Jacinto J. Martinez, also of 520th TAML, and other concerned citizens, rescues two people from an overturned car.

Col. Walter Egerton, commander, Kirk U.S. Army Health Clinic, encourages APG to enroll in TRICARE so the clinic can receive more health resources.

Teens adjust to military life through a day-long course with Army Family Team Building, instructed by fellow teens.

USAEC personnel tour Antietam Battlefield with Dr. William F. Atwater, director of APG’s Ordnance Museum.

Brooks Robinson, legendary Orioles third baseman and Baseball Hall of Famer, visits APG to sign autographs.

APG honors Aishling Tews, volunteer for the Career Focus Center and the Post Library, as Volunteer of the Month.

August

Col. Dennis Webb passes command of the 61st Ordnance Brigade to Col. Hugh Hudson.

APG tightens installation security after U.S. attack on facilities affiliated with terrorists in Sudan and Afghanistan, closing AA gate on Aberdeen Boulevard and the EA Magnolia Gate until further notice.

APG passes its drinking water quality standards with flying colors, after a test on water distribution systems.

More than 5,100 country music fans attend the annual Dog Days of Summer concert, featuring country music stars Lorrie Morgan and David Lee Murphy.

Seven members of the Harford County-based angler club volunteer their time to help catch fish for a fish study conducted by the University of Maryland School of Medicine and APG Garrison’s Directorate of Safety, Health and Environment, to track fish health in Chesapeake Bay trib-

utaries in and around APG.

TECOM’s Tim Frazier is named the Army’s top small-and-dis-advantaged business specialist.

Laura R. Haug,TECOM deputy chief counsel, is honored with AMC’s Francis J. Buckley Jr. Award for Managerial Excellence.

Louis R. Fergusson Jr. receives theTECOM Commander’s Award for being named the National Defense Industrial Association’s Army Civilian Tester of the Year.

Harford County residents are invited by ATC to the Churchville Test Site to learn how the center reduces the impact of testing and protects the environment.

During a fund-raising effort soldiers from Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 61st Ordnance Brigade pay to put a pie in the face of their company commander and top NCOs.

OC&S students volunteer to help build homes for families in Aberdeen through Habitat for Humanity.

The 10th Annual APG College Fair invites university representatives to the AA Education Center Training Facility to discuss educational options.

CHPPM wins the 1998 Intramural Golf League cham-

pionship title against 389th #1.

Engineering/Documentation System Inc., APG’s motor vehicle and equipment maintenance contractor, plays important role in the installation’s pollution prevention program by maintaining post equipment.

Local resident Douglas Gregg, former APG soldier, shares his story of being a member of the Army’s first-place pistol team 50 years ago.

HHC 61st wins the 1998 Intramural Softball Championship for the second year in a row.

APG honors Catherine Brodo, Red Cross volunteer, as Volunteer of the Month.

September

TECOM honors its top soldiers and NCOs at theTECOM Command Noncommissioned Officer/Soldier and Career Counselor of the Year Recognition Ceremony held at Top of the Bay. The personnel also went on a trip to the nation’s capital during the week.

APG recognizes the 79th anniversary of the 19th Amendment and the APG Federal Women’s Program at the Top of the Bay at the 14th Annual Women’s Equality Award Ceremony. Awards are presented to: Outstanding

Woman of the Year Ann Vogt of AMSAA; runner-up Marguerite Dymond of AMSAA; 1998 Supervisor of the Year, Mary Ritondo of Army Research Laboratory; and Organization Most Supportive of the Goals of the FWP, Medical Research Institute of Chemical Defense.

ATC and Yuma Proving Ground, Ariz., join forces to test the Handheld Standoff Mine Detection System at both posts; the device locates buried and surfaced mines, and alerts soldiers of danger.

CHPPM celebrates the grand opening of its Health Promotion Resource Center, a starting point for health-promotion references.

William Pierce of Chemical and Biological Defense Command wins first place in the APG Community Recreation Division 1998 Intramural Tennis Tournament.

The Disney/Bill Gates chain mail hoax hits APG via e-mail, leading to warnings about inappropriate use of government computers and e-mail systems.

OC&S Commander Brig. Gen. Thomas R. Dickinson retires after more than 29 years of military service, passing responsibility to Col. Patrick Button.

Billingsley Hall is rededicated after a \$1.9 million dollar

upgrade.

Chris White, an illustrator at ATC, paints an eagle that is the new “Eagle Award” which recognizes people who donate \$1,000 or more to the Combined Federal Campaign.

TEU honors former Technical Escort Commander, Lt. Col. Dean M. Dickey. Dickey commanded TEU from March 1965 to July 1970.

APG tenant activities that conduct laboratory experiments make great strides to prevent pollution at labs all over APG.

HHC 16th defeats B. Co. 16th in the 1998 pre-season Intramural Flag Football Tournament, 34-22. The company also wins the Commander’s Cup after collecting 163 points throughout the APG Intramural Sports Season.

APG honors Paula Meredith, volunteer at the EA Thrift Shop, as Volunteer of the Month.

October

OC&S welcomes Maj. Gen. Dennis K. Jackson as new U.S. Army Chief of Ordnance.

APG holds the 15th Annual APG Disability Awareness Awards Ceremony. Those honored are: Bradley Lowe of the Northeast Civilian Personnel Operations Center’s *See REVIEW, page 5*

APG saved energy, won awards during 1998

REVIEW, from page 4

Information Systems Division, APG Disabled Employee of the Year; APG Garrison, APG Organization of the Year; and, Deborah Young, APG Garrison Directorate of Information Management, Judge's Award for Courage.

The Harford County Committee for the Employment of People with Disabilities honors several post organizations and employees during its annual luncheon at Harford Community College. Those honored are: NECPOC, Public Employer of the Year; APG News, Print Media Award; Walter S. "Rusty" Roberts of NECPOC, Public Employee Award of Merit; and Judy Mathews of TECOM, the Ruth Helen Thompson Community Service Award.

TECOM celebrates National Disability Employment Awareness Month with a luncheon at the Top of the Bay, welcoming Tim Tooten of Channel 11 News as guest speaker.

APG's Pooles Island Lighthouse is vandalized, and APG officials work to improve the island's security.

Col. Andrew G. Ellis, commander of ATC, becomes ATC's only soldier authorized, after ATC's Headquarters and Military Support Company cases its guidon.

APG celebrates Hispanic Heritage Month with a luncheon at the Top of the Bay welcoming guest speaker retired Lt. Col. Consuelo Kickbusch.

The Army awards a systems contract for the Aberdeen Chemical Agent Disposal Facility to destroy the mustard agent stockpile in the Edgewood Area.

CBDCOM, and the Soldiers Systems Command at Natick, Mass., merge, forming the U.S. Army Soldier and Biological Chemical Command (SBCCOM).

The 1998 Harford County Job Fair, held at the APG Recreation Center, draws 53 employers and 1,100 job searchers.

Boy Scout Troop 429 join veterans in educating people on showing respect and flag etiquette when disposing old American flags during a flag-burning ceremony, with help from Boy Scout Allen Powell Jr., who organized the ceremony as part of his Eagle Scouts project.

Col. Robert J. Spidel pulls the plug on the Year 2000 non-complaint APG-9, replacing it with more advanced technology.

Town Hall meetings raise issues such as the housing budget and services offered on post.

The APG Energy Team prepares for its third year of conserving energy and saving money through the compressed work week and the uniform compressed work schedule.

Lt. Col. Linda Williams, chief of preventive medicine and wellness at KUSAHC, encourages breast examinations and mammograms in recognition of Breast Cancer Awareness Month.

Reduction of recycling services result after budget cuts in APG Garrison's Directorate of Public Works, reducing buildings served from 243 to 118.

Vietnam Veterans of America Harford County Chapter #588 recognize and thank Elizabeth Martin, wife of Capt. Thomas Martin of CHPPM, and her sister, Kathy Read, for removing graffiti sprayed onto a Vietnam Veteran's memorial located in the Vietnam Veteran's Memorial Highway (Route 24).

John P. Ward, a 10-year test director assigned to ATC's Firepower Core, is honored for inventing a mechanical hand grenade launcher after earning a patent.

HHC 16th defeats B Co. 143rd, taking home the 1998 Intramural Soccer Championship.

APG honors Holly McKee, president of the Military and Civilian Spouses Club, as Volunteer of the Month.

November

The 1998 Soldier Show performs one of its last shows for the year.

APG surpasses its goal for the Combined Federal Campaign, collecting more than \$324,000. The post's goal was \$240,000.

APG's Swan Creek Inn wins the Army's top Lodging Award.

APG joins Harford County communities in ceremonies recognizing Veterans Day.

APG gets involved with the local community in helping those hit hardest in Honduras by Hurricane Mitch by organizing clothing drives and collecting food and money.

The 16th Ordnance Battalion gives a good scare at its Halloween Haunted House held as a Fund-raiser for its Family Support Group, raising \$1,585.

The U.S. Army Medical Research Institute of Chemical Defense (MRICD) is named the third place District Service School/Business Partnership Award winner for 1997-98.

Brian Simmons takes the oath of office for the Senior Executive Service as director of technical mission at TECOM. Simmons' father Ronnie Simmons, is a retired SES, making them the Army's first father/son SES team.

The National Guard ChalleNGe Academy gathers for the 5th National ChalleNGe Invitational Tournament, and demonstrates athletic and drill skills and building camaraderie.

APG celebrates Native American Heritage Month with

a luncheon at Top of the Bay.

Veteran Bill Demby speaks on overcoming obstacles at the SBCCOM Disability Awareness Program.

The Maryland Historical Trust Board of Trustees honors The APG Cultural Resource Management Program is with the 1998 Maryland Historical Trust Preservation Service Award for the preservation of the area's cultural history.

APG lets kids cast their vote at the Youth Centers as they participate in the Kids Voting Program.

"Set Your Sights on Good Health" is this year's theme at ATC's annual health fair when ATC Committee for the disABLED teaches ATC employees about exercise, healthy eating and medical tests that can monitor health.

OC&S selects its top instructors for 1998: Capt. Erika A. Young, Company Grade Instructor of the Year; CWO3 Rodney G. Fagan, Warrant Officer Instructor of the Year; Anthony D. Clark, Civilian Instructor of the Year; and SSgt. Johnny L. Griffin, Enlisted Instructor of the Year.

HHC 16th wins its second championship of the year, when it defeated KUSAHC in the 1998 Intramural Flag Football Championship, 18-6.

Runners of all ages participate in the 5th annual Turkey Trot 5K race.

Louis F. Soto of 520th TAML wins the 1998 Men's League Intramural Table Tennis Tournament over second-place winner Rodney Harris of HCC 16th. Karen Barnes, E Co. 16th, wins in the women's league over Cynthia Hobbs of E Co. 16th.

APG honors volunteer Christina Kovalsick, volunteer with Army Family Team Building, as Volunteer of the Month.

December

APG bids farewell to TECOM's Raymond G. Pollard III, who retired after 37 years of federal service.

Brig. Gen. Patrick D. Sculley passes command of CHPPM to Col. Dennis J. Fringeli.

A memorial service is held in honor of Pvt. Nana Afia Sardin-Gilbert, an Ohio Army National Guardsman attending Advanced Individual Training with OC&S, who died at Harford Memorial Hospital in Havre de Grace.

AAFES offers extended Christmas shopping hours, gift wrapping and shipping services to Advanced Individual Training students at OC&S, as they prepare for EXODUS, the annual holiday for students.

USAEC and Edgewood Elementary School sponsor

Military Awareness Day, providing 450 students with activities promoting the military, environmental science and professional awareness.

Andrew R. Maly, an environmental engineer at CHPPM, is a five-day undefeated champion of Jeopardy, and will return for the championship.

Tree-lighting ceremonies light up the holidays in both areas of the post, with the annual holiday concert following the Aberdeen Area ceremony.

The Military and Civilian Spouses Club sponsors the APG Holiday Home Tour.

Post thrift shops donate more than \$25,000 to post and community organizations.

APG honors Barbara Layton, AA Thrift Shop volunteer, as Volunteer of the Month.

Sergeants honored upon retirement from military

By Pat McClung
TECOM Public Affairs Office

Two top noncommissioned officers at the U.S. Army Test and Evaluation Command recently retired from the military.

Maj. Gen. Edward L. Andrews, commander of TECOM and Aberdeen Proving Ground, presented Meritorious Service Medals to Master Sgt. Wendy A. Spalding and Sfc. David L. Corbett.

Andrews noted that Spalding excelled both on and off duty.

"Master Sergeant Spalding has done super work in order to merit such a high award as the Meritorious Service Medal," Andrews said. "It is only given to our best."

Spalding, TECOM's personnel staff NCO since 1993, served in the Army for 22 years.

"You are commended for being a role model to soldiers and noncommissioned officers throughout TECOM," said Lt. Col. Cam Bell, TECOM's chief of manpower/personnel.

In addition to leading aerobic classes as a certified aerobic instructor, Spalding volunteered time to the APG Speakers Bureau, speaking to schools and organizations on topics such as "Women in the Military" and "Making Choices and Being Responsible."

Spalding said she appreciated everything her co-workers and supervisors had done for her. She thanked God, her children, and her friend, Kim, for stand-



Master Sgt. Wendy A. Spalding receives a TECOM plaque from Command Sgt. Maj. Tyler Walker II upon her retirement.

ing by her.

"It is time to move on and experiment with being a civilian," Spalding said. "It will be new and different and should be a good experience."

Spalding, now employed at Baltimore Gas and Electric Company, plans to stay in the area with her three children, Janelle, Danielle and Michael, and granddaughter, Kamia.

Andrews also praised Corbett upon his retirement as NCO-in-charge of TECOM's Office of the Secretary of the General Staff.

"Sergeant First Class Corbett is a professional who did a fine job taking care of our soldiers and civilians," Andrews said.

TECOM's Command Sgt. Maj. Tyler Walker II added that Corbett was "instrumental to our success with the Army Birthday Ball."

"He knew what had to be done and did it, resulting in an extremely successful Army Birthday Ball," Walker said.

Corbett, a native of North Carolina, thanked God for 22 years of military service and for his wife, Denise, and his three children, T'nisha, Tomica, and David Jr.

Before his assignment at TECOM, Corbett served in Italy, Japan and Washington, D.C. Corbett plans to stay in the area with his family and begin a new career.



Sfc. David L. Corbett stands with his son, David Jr., wife, Denise, and daughters, Tomica and T'nisha, at his retirement ceremony.

PATS ON THE BACK

APG police officer honored for National Guard duty

Sp. Bill Thompson, a member of the 290th Military Police Company, Maryland Army National Guard, located in Parkville, was recently awarded the Army Achievement Medal. The award was presented by Capt. Michael Sharon, the unit commander. Thompson received the award for outstanding service during his annual training in Fort Clayton, Panama. During the two-week rotation to Panama he served as the patrol supervisor for his shift, a position normally held by a NCO.

Thompson, a 1982 graduate of Aberdeen High School, is employed by APG as a police officer. He has a wife, Laurel, and two children, James and Mary.

Civilian employees retire

The following civilian employees recently retired from APG:

Herbert S. Aaron, CBDCOM, 44 years
Coy E. Barker, SBCCOM, 35 years
Christine V. Barnes, ATC, 22 years

Austin W. Barrows Jr., ARL, 33 years
Shun-Chin Chou, ARL, 30 years
Offie E. Clark, SBCCOM, 41 years
Archie L. Dean, TMDE Spt, 16 years
Sylvia K. Edwards, SBCCOM, 40 years
Ronald Fine, CHPPM, 22 years
Carol A. Fife, ARL, 39 years
James C. Forbes, SBCCOM, 38 years
Oleg Gavryluk, TMDE Spt, 32 years
Thomas R. Gervasoni, SBCCOM, 33 years
Gordon L. Herald, ARL, 38 years
Joan E. Hicks, SBCCOM, 30 years
Patsy M. Kautz, CPOC, 37 years
Linda L. Keister, KAHC, 33 years
Martin F. Kiettsch, DPW, 22 years
Najieh M. Kiwan, CHPPM, 17 years
Genrich L. Krasko, ARL, 10 years
Donald H. Levin, TECOM, 30 years
John P. McCormick, TECOM, 33 years
Miles C. Miller, SBCCOM, 31 years
Donald E. Neal, ATC, 10 years
Parmanand P. Patel, SBCCOM, 10 years
Thomas E. Puckey, TECOM, 30 years
William M. Roberts, TECOM, 36 years
Robert W. Russell, SBCCOM, 37 years
Arnold E. Wagner, SBCCOM, 34 years

TRICARE Prime members receive higher priority for military treatment facilities

If you're enrolled in TRICARE Prime, you're higher on the priority list to be treated in a uniformed services hospital than someone who isn't enrolled in Prime.

The policy established by the assistant secretary of defense for health affairs in August 1996 created the following priorities for health care in uniformed services medical treatment facilities:

Priority 1: Active-duty service members;

Priority 2: Active-duty family members who are enrolled in TRICARE Prime;

Priority 3: Retirees, their family members and survivors who are enrolled in TRICARE Prime;

Priority 4: Active-duty family members who are NOT enrolled in TRICARE Prime (for the purpose of determining access priority, survivors of military sponsors who died on active duty, who are NOT enrolled in TRICARE Prime, are in this priority group);

Priority 5: All other eligible persons (including retirees, their family members and survivors who are NOT enrolled in TRICARE Prime).

There are certain special provisions in the policy, as follows:

- Military members who are not on active duty, but who are entitled to care in a service hospital, are in Priority Group 1. This includes members of reserve components entitled to medical care relating to conditions incurred in the line of duty, and members on the Temporary Disability Retired List for required periodic medical examinations.

- NATO and other foreign military members who are entitled to

care in a military medical treatment facility, pursuant to an applicable international agreement are in Priority Group 2, for the scope of the services specified in the agreement.

- NATO and other foreign military members' family members who are entitled to care pursuant to an applicable international agreement are in Priority Group 2, for the scope of services specified in the agreement.

- Survivors of sponsors who die on active duty, as provided in the law - 10 U.S. Code 1076(a) - are, for purposes of access to military hospitals, considered to be together with active-duty family members. They would, therefore, be in Priority Group 2 or 4, depending on whether or not they were enrolled in TRICARE Prime.

- Persons other than those in any of the beneficiary groups identified in Priority Groups 1 through 5 don't have priority access.

- Priority access rules are not applicable to bona fide medical emergencies, or cases in which the providing of certain medical care is required by law, or applicable Department of Defense Directive or Instruction. This includes care for civilian employees who are exposed to health hazards in the workplace or are injured on the job.

In certain situations, military

hospital commanders may grant exceptions to the priority access rules. For example:

- A higher priority may be given to an active-duty family member who's in Priority Group 4 because TRICARE Prime isn't available where the sponsor is assigned, when the family member is temporarily in a location where TRICARE Prime is available, and needs medical care.

- A particular patient might be given a higher priority if necessary, for the military hospital to maintain an adequate mix of cases for its graduate medical education programs, or to help maintain the readiness-related medical skills of its medical staff.

- * A higher priority might be given to a patient in other unexpected or extraordinary cases, as determined by the hospital commander, in coordination with the military lead agent for the TRICARE region.

- And, in overseas locations, other exceptions may be established to the extent necessary to support mission objectives.

To enroll in TRICARE Prime, call (888) 999-5195 or visit the TRICARE Service Center located at the Higher Education and Applied Technology (HEAT) Business Center, off Route 22, just past the I-95 exit; or, stop by the office on the third floor of Kirk U.S. Army Health Clinic, or call 410-278-1724.

Talley's winning record keeps kids on the field

By Meghan Heimbach
APG News

Ask football Coach Dalys Talley the secret to his 42-1 record, and he will tell you, "Discipline, organization and keeping it simple."

Talley, an operations specialist for the U.S. Army Technical Escort Unit in the Edgewood Area, has coached the 8-10-year-old Middle River Renegades since 1995. He applies the "secrets of success" that he learned during his Army career, a background he shares with fellow coach Mike Speis, also a former APG soldier.

"Parents like the structured environment," Talley said. "The kids know practice begins precisely at 6 p.m., and if they are late I hold the kids responsible, not the parents. If mom is sitting down watching Oprah, it is up to the child to get her up to take him to practice. When I see a late player coming onto the field, he better be running and have his helmet on."

Talley said once practice begins, he never wastes time.

"When I talk to the kids I expect them to keep eye contact with me at all times," he said.

Talley said he has no "superstars" on his team; everyone is treated equally.

"At that age, all of the kids want to make a touchdown," he said.

He emphasizes the linemen so they can "feel proud." He said being a lineman is the "most important" of the positions. If the linemen do a good job in blocking, Talley said he gives them a chance to run the ball.

Talley said half the players have come to the team with football fundamentals. As for the other half, Talley said he usually can tell what he is dealing with as far as playing ability.

"Some of these kids have a God-given talent," he said.

Talley added that by the end of the season, he can see a change in his less-experienced players.

Nobody said coaching is easy, especially when dealing with parents. Talley said all parents want to see their child play in the games, and he tries to have all the players in at least six plays per season. During the first week of practice, he holds a meeting to introduce himself, and hands out information on his coaching techniques. Among these hand-outs are "Loudmouthed Parents Embarrass Everybody," and "Let Coaches Do the Job They're There For." Talley said having parents talking to their child during a game, or screaming at them is not allowed.

"I explain that for the one hour of practice, their kids belong to me," he said. "I make it cut-and-dry who is in charge. Kids want to please their parents as much as they want to be pleased."

Talley said he is happy to talk with a parent, but added that he doesn't bend his coaching to



Photo courtesy Dalys Talley

Coach Dalys Talley, far right, poses with some of his 8-10 Middle River Renegades players, and coach Mike Speis, far left. The players are, front row, from left: Ramsey Irby and Travis Irby; and back row, from left, Travis Anderson, Stephen Winner and Carlos Megginson.

please parents.

"I treat each of the players like he is my own son," he said. "I am there to groom them for high school ball, and put them where their strengths are. I have to look at myself in the mirror every day to make sure I am treating each kid fairly. I try and make the right decision with every kid. I try to be open."

Kitty Abney, a "team mom" for the 8-10 Renegades, called Talley a "great humanitarian." Abney's grandson, Stephen Winner, played for the team last season, and Abney said she wishes Talley would move up to the next age group to continue coaching him.

"He's hard, but every one of those boys loves him," Abney said. "There is not enough discipline around today, and I wish there were more adults like him."

Talley tells parents he is there for two reasons - to prepare the players for high school football or to make them into future recreation coaches.

"I can't make them faster," Talley said. "I want to teach them the game."

Within the first week of practice, Talley gives the team the "Renegades Smart-Man Win Quiz." Talley puts the team player's names into scenarios for questions; results tend to be in the 60-percent range. At the end of the season, he gives the 20-question quiz a second time, and about 10 players get 100 percent.

Within the first week of practice, the players also get a list of 10 words to look up in the dictionary and use in a sentence that applies to football and sportsmanship.

Talley also tells his players that to be a successful football player on the 8-10 Renegades, they must live by his "five commandments":

"School is first and football is second";

"I will not talk when the coach/coaches are talking";

"I will not put myself before the team";

"I will never make excuses"; and,

"I will always show good sportsmanship."

Talley said he emphasizes the importance of school to his players.

"If they bring me an 'A' paper on a major subject, they don't have to run laps that day," he said. "Their parents tell me their grades improve during the football season. I had one kid that maybe ran two laps all season. It really carries over."

Talley said he teaches his team to be fundamentally correct, and said discipline on the field starts with recreation football.

"High school and college players with bad attitudes, I blame on their rec coaches," he said. "Discipline starts here. The kids and parents understand I am hard, but I am also fair. I do all of the team's exercises with them, and they know I would do anything for them."

Talley, who retired from active duty military service in 1996, moved to Middle River in 1992, and began coaching the 8-10 Renegades when his son Dalys, 14, began to play for the team. Earlier this year Talley moved to Joppatowne, but he continues to make the trip to Baltimore County to coach the team.

His son has moved on to junior varsity football for Joppatowne High School, and Talley said he is doing well as a starting quarterback and defensive back. He also received Most Valuable Player as a ninth-grader.

Talley is unsure how long he plans to stay with the Renegades. Since moving to Harford County, he has been offered a coaching position with Edgewood Parks and Recreation, but is not ready to make that decision.

Talley's 1995 team began high school this year, and most of his players went on to start for Kenwood and Eastern Technical high schools. Talley admitted they are his pride and joy.

"I am looking forward to tracking them through their high-school years," he said.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Thanks for success of School-Age Services

To the editor:

As the end of another year approaches, it is time to reflect on achievements and challenges, and to set goals for the new year. The School-Age Services program has grown tremendously in the past year, increasing staff and enrollment by 30 percent. We have been involved in structure changes, fee increases, an extensive training program and we have become the Army Materiel Command's first school-age program accredited by the National School-Age Care Alliance.

The success of our program is due in large part to the entire APG community, and I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for your support.

The motor pool personnel, Art Mellinger, Mary Spencer and Wanda Brooks, have consistently helped with vehicles to allow youth to participate in a myriad of activities. This is no small feat, especially during the summer with 210 youths to transport. The Community Recreation Division has graciously permitted us to use their facilities - swimming pools, Chesapeake Challenge and the Bowling Center. Chuck Hamilton and Dave Brewner have been very receptive to all of our requests to use their facilities, even when it meant 150 youths dancing and carrying-on during Cosmic Bowling, or lines of youths to use the go-carts.

We appreciate ACS staff members Celestine Beckett and Peggy Horne, who have been instrumental in ensuring proper training and serving as subject matter experts for us. Cindie Scott and Paul Papp have worked teaching our youth valuable life skills. Lowell White and Kim Savage-Myers, Community Health Nurses, are always willing to answer questions and help with any medical issues we encounter.

We would also like to recognize the Fire, Preventive Medicine and Safety Inspectors who ensure that our program is operating to standards and constantly challenge us to improve. Thank you to all of the Directorate of Public Works employees who have kept us from being too

cold or too warm, retrieved balls from the rafters and fixed so many "broken" items for us.

Thank you to the Operations Division staff - Doug Conley, Betty Willard, Kay Musgrave, Hilda Minor and Diane Devonshire - for their help with budget issues, ordering supplies, and every other financial issue we encounter. Thank you to Julie Bates and Jean Futty from NAF-CPO and Kim Hart from the Civilian Personnel Advisory Center for all the help in hiring and answering endless questions concerning employees.

Thank you to Angie Grinage, the CYS secretary, for helping me with typing and making sure I'm doing things right, and to Lauren Gilkes and Joan Scarborough, the Child Development Center office clerks who provide administrative support to SAS. Thank you to the "Chief" and staff of both Youth Centers and both Child Development Centers who have been very supportive of our efforts to provide quality programs for youth.

To all the parents of children in our program, thank you for your support. You've been patient with changes, participated in countless activities, supportive of our community service efforts and given us an opportunity to be a part of your children's lives.

And to the School-Age Services staff my heartfelt thank you for your countless hours of devotion to youth. Your caring expertise in providing a quality program makes my job much easier.

The APG community is indeed proof that it takes a village to raise a child. I look forward to the challenges of the new year-increasing enrollment, planning the summer program and expanding the opportunities for the youth in our community. THANK YOU to each and every member of the APG community who has touched the lives of our youth.

Sincerely,

Rita A. Knoph
Director, School-Age Services

1999: Military couples bring in new year with new babies

BABY, from front page

Warrant Officer David N. Jackson and his wife, Janeen, relied on long-distance phone calls when their son, 5-pound, 10-ounce David Jr., arrived three weeks early, at 8:01 p.m. on Jan. 1.

"I was trying to get back for the birth," said Jackson, who is assigned in Darmstadt, Germany, with the 165th Military Intelligence Battalion. "Because

she wasn't due until Jan. 18, and I decided to come in on Jan. 5."

It was New Year's Day in Germany when Jackson, who was assigned to Aberdeen Test Center from 1994-1997, found out his wife was going to deliver on New Year's Day, U.S. time. As an added bonus, their son's birth fell on their first anniversary.

"When we found out her date, I said, 'Wouldn't it be nice if the baby was born on our anniversary?' And he was," he said.

His wife said although her husband could not be with her, she found the staff at Franklin Square Hospital to be "excellent."

"It was like staying in a hotel," she said. "There were a lot of people in there delivering that day. It must have been that full moon."

But the most excited member of the family is 10-year-old Charles Anthony Edwards Jr., who "just loves his brother," Janeen said.

COMING UP...

THURSDAY JANUARY 7 CAC MEETING

The next Community Action Council meeting will be held at 9 a.m. at the conference room in APG Garrison Headquarters, building 305. Senior area coordinators, community life mayors, designated APG Garrison personnel, and AAFES and Commissary representatives should attend.

FRIDAY JANUARY 8 PWOC SLEEPOVER

Join the Protestant Women of the Chapel for fun, fellowship and pizza at a "Sleep Over in January," 7 p.m. You will need to bring a sleeping bag, pillow and towel. If you have a table game you would like to share, bring it with you. To sign up and receive directions, call Sandy Rodriguez, 410-278-8757.

TAKETWO STEPS

Learn country western dancing at American Legion Post 128, sponsored by the Harford County Country/Western Dance Association. Intermediate Two-Step begins at 7:30 p.m., Shadow Partner dance at 8 p.m., and beginner's Two-Step begins at 8:30 p.m. Open dancing will be held 9 p.m.-midnight. Cost is \$10 for non-members, \$8 for members.

TUESDAY JANUARY 12 BOATING COURSE

U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary Flotilla 13-4 will offer Boating Skills and Seamanship, a 13-class course at the Edgewood Area, building E-4733. Classes will be held Tuesdays and Thursdays, 7-9 p.m. There is a \$20 charge for required books, but the class instruction is free. Classes include safety and legal requirements in addition to boating skills, seamanship, piloting and navigation. The class is open to anyone who is interested in boating. To register for the course, call 410-679-2266.

WEDNESDAY JANUARY 13 OWC LUNCHEON

The Retired Wives are sponsoring the January Bingo Luncheon. The luncheon will be held at the Gunpowder Club (formerly the Officer's Club in the Edgewood Area). Lunch will be cold cut platters, salads, drinks and deserts. Social time begins at 11 a.m., lunch at 11:30 a.m. and bingo will begin around noon. The cost of the luncheon is \$5 which includes one bingo card. Additional cards will be available for \$1 each. RSVP to Rosemary Kramp, 410-569-7167, by Jan. 8.

FRIDAY JANUARY 15 TAKETWO STEPS

Learn country western dancing at American Legion Post 128, sponsored by the Harford County Country/Western Dance Association. Intermediate Two-Step begins at 7:30 p.m., Dizzy line dance at 8 p.m., and beginner's Two-Step begins at 8:30 p.m. Open dancing will be held 9 p.m.-midnight. Cost is \$10 for non-members, \$8 for members.

SATURDAY JANUARY 16 VFW DANCE

VFW Post 10028 will hold a dance with games and prizes beginning at 8 p.m., followed by dancing 9 p.m.-1 a.m., to the Tennessee Country Band. Admission is \$6 per person or \$10 per couple. For information call Donna Moore at 410-272-1218 or 410-272-4110.

THURSDAY JANUARY 21 SAME MEETING

The Society of American Military Engineers, Chesapeake Post will hold its monthly meeting from 11:45 a.m.-1 p.m. at Top of the Bay. The featured speaker will be Doug Richmond, Hazard Emergency Planner and Manager of the Chemical Stockpile Emergency Preparedness Program (CSEPP) for the Harford

County Division of Emergency Operations. Richmond's presentation is titled, "Harford County Emergency Management - A Focus on Aberdeen Proving Ground." Everyone is invited to attend.

WEDNESDAY JANUARY 27 COMPUTER EXPO

The latest in computer hardware and software technologies will be demonstrated at the Aberdeen Proving Ground Technology Expo '99 at Top of the Bay, building 30, 10 a.m.-2 p.m. There is no fee to attend and all Army and DoD personnel are invited. The event is hosted by The Directorate of Information Management. More than 20 exhibitors will be on hand demonstrating the latest in video conferencing, presentation systems, networking applications, advanced software technology, laptops, notebooks, desktops, digital network, computerized sign-making and graphics equipment, microcomputers, peripherals, off-the-shelf computers, software and printers. Complimentary refreshments will be served.

WELCOME TO APG

APG will hold an orientation from 1-3 p.m., at the AA Recreation Center, building 3326. The orientation will welcome incoming military and civilian personnel, retirees and their family members. Representatives from post activities will inform you about APG services and activities. For information, call 410-278-7474/4372.

THURSDAY FEBRUARY 11 PRAYER BREAKFAST

The 1999 APG National Prayer Breakfast will be held from 7-8:30 a.m. at the APG Post Chapel Social Hall, building 2485. The guest speaker will be Chaplain (Col.) Herbert J. McChrystal, U.S. Military Academy Command Chaplain. Tickets are available through unit command sergeants major or first sergeants. A \$2 donation at the door is suggested. Organizers recom-

WAPG-TV

The following programs are scheduled Jan. 7-13 on WAPG-TV, on-post cable channel 3:

THURSDAY, JAN. 7

10 a.m., 7 p.m., Army Newswatch (30 minutes)

3p.m., Movie Previews

FRIDAY, JAN. 8

10 a.m., 7 p.m., Two Minute Report - VA Home Loans

3p.m., Movie Previews

SATURDAY, JAN. 9

10 a.m., 7 p.m., Army Newswatch (30 minutes)

3p.m., Movie Previews

SUNDAY, JAN. 10

10 a.m., 7 p.m., Two Minute Report - VA Home Loans

3 p.m., Movie Previews

MONDAY, JAN. 11

10 a.m., 7 p.m., Army Newswatch (30 minutes)

TUESDAY, JAN. 12

10 a.m., 7 p.m., Two Minute Report - VA Home Loans

WEDNESDAY, JAN. 13

10 a.m., 7 p.m., Army Newswatch (30 minutes)

To submit information to the television station, or for more information, call Lynn Witkowski, 410-278-1151.

mend obtaining tickets by Jan. 28.

SATURDAY FEBRUARY 20 BIG AWARDS, DANCE

The Susquehanna Chapter of Blacks in Government (BIG) will present its first Awards Dinner Dance at 7 p.m. at the Holiday Inn Chesapeake in Aberdeen. The proceeds will benefit the BIG Youth Scholarship Program. Tickets are \$25 per person. Contact Jackie Pitts, 410-273-7915, or any other BIG member.

MOVIES

ENEMY OF THE STATE

Friday, Jan. 8, 7 p.m.

Starring: Will Smith, Gene Hackman

A chance encounter with an old friend destroys attorney Robert Dean's fast-track career and happy home life when he is framed for a murder by a corrupt intelligence official. His only hope to prove his innocence is an ex-intelligence operative known as Brill. (Rated R)

I'LL BE HOME FOR CHRISTMAS

Saturday, Jan. 9, 7 p.m.

Starring: Jonathan Taylor-Thomas, Jessica Biel

Jake is a prep school student, who, just days before Christmas, awakens to find himself stranded in the middle of the California desert. He has to get home to New York by 6 p.m. Christmas Eve or forfeit his Christmas gift. (Rated PG)

THE WATERBOY

Saturday, Jan. 9, 9 p.m.

Starring: Adam Sandler, Kathy Bates

Despite being the constant target of jokes and public humiliation from the university football team, the waterboy loves his job. When he is fired, he gets a chance to be waterboy for an underdog football team, which discovers his talent for tackling. (Rated PG-13)

LEAVE DONATION

These employees are eligible to receive donations through the Voluntary Leave Transfer Program:

Michael Alexander (wife has cancer);
John Boyle (surgery);
Barbara Breithaupt (multiple sclerosis);
Bonnie Bromley (liver transplant);
Linda Brown (diabetic);
Sheila Cassidy (mother has cancer);
Dawn Crouse (surgery);
Tamara Dawson (maternity);
Dennis Green;
Gordon Herron (Wife has cancer)
Joseph Hill (heart problems);
Judy Hunt (arthropathy);
Tamra Ince (maternity);
Eidon Jerome James (lung cancer and brain tumor);
Marcia Johnson (Down's Syndrome child requires surgery);
Mary Johnson (caring for husband);
Marlin Julian (heart surgery);
Barbara LaGrange (Hodgkins Disease);
Patricia LaGrange;
Dolores "Dee" McGrogan (back problems);
Susan Naccarato (carpal tunnel syndrome);
Lesley Parker (daughter has seizures);
Cathleen (Higgins) Perry;
Toney R. Perkins
Churon Ringgold;
Mary Lee Samples (lymphoma cancer);
John Sheppard (colon cancer);
Rita Sluder (mother has cancer);
Walter Taylor (auto accident);
Lavonne Telsee (caring for daughter);
Deborah Tredway (car accident);
Joseph Walker (Wife has cancer)
Cecelia Walton (respiration problems);
Stanley Watson (brain tumor);
Kenneth Weathers (medical);
Frank Winters (surgery).

For information about donating annual leave; call Cheryl Gatling; 410-278-8978; or send a fax to 410-278-8839.

MWR UPDATE

Edgewood Arts and Crafts

Woodshop Orientation: A basic one-hour woodshop orientation will be held on Saturday, Jan. 9, 9:30 a.m. This basic orientation is required to use the woodshop. Cost is \$3 basic user fee.

Ceramic Pouring: If you would like to learn to pour your own greenware rather than buy it beginning pouring class will be held on Saturday, Jan. 16, 10 a.m.-1 p.m. Cost is \$7 plus supplies. Registration is required.

Framing Class: Matting and Framing for Beginners will be held on Thursday, Jan. 21, 5:30-9 p.m. Cost of the class is \$15 plus approximately \$40 for supplies. Students must bring an 8x10-inch photo or piece of artwork to frame. Registration is required.

Custom Framing: If you would like to have something framed, the center provides custom framing. For prices and information bring your piece in for an estimate. Estimates cannot be given over the phone.

Ceramic bisqueware and greenware are available, with no class necessary. Center personnel will help you with color selection and painting. Stop by Thursdays, 1-9 p.m., and Fridays and Saturdays, 9 a.m.-5 p.m. For more information, call 410-436-2153 or visit building E-4440.

Aberdeen Area Framing Shop

Basic Framing Classes: Learn the basics of framing by attending a basic framing class at the Aberdeen Arts and Crafts Center. Bring an 8x10-inch picture and take home the finished product. Classes are held the first Saturday of each month. Class fee is \$15 plus supplies.

Custom Framing: If you don't want to do it yourself, the Arts and Crafts Center offers professional custom framing. Bring your piece to the Arts and Crafts Center for a free consultation.

Custom Engraving: Custom plaque-making and engraving is available at the Arts and Crafts Center. Choose from the display of

plaques and finishing touches and create a memento that comes from the heart. For more information, call 410-278-4207, or stop by building 2407.

Outdoor Recreation

The Outdoor Recreation recreational vehicle lots have spaces available and are open to all MWR patrons. The monthly fee is \$15 for items up to 20 feet in length. Vehicles over 20 feet cost an additional 75 cents per foot. Vehicles must be registered and insured. Contact the Equipment Resource Center, 410-278-4124, or stop by building 2407 for further information.

Boater Safety Class

Outdoor Recreation and U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary Flotilla 13-4 are offering a Boating Skills and Seamanship Course starting

Tuesday, Jan. 12. Classes will be held in the Edgewood Area, building E-4733, on Tuesdays and Thursdays, 7-9 p.m. A fee of \$20 covers the cost of text and study guide. Successful completion of the class covers the qualification requirements for state certification to operate personal watercraft.

In each class you will learn a different sailor's knot, and cover a lesson. Topics include boat handling; trailering; navigation; federal requirements; aids to navigation and rules of the road. This class also will cover the qualification requirements for state certification to operate personal watercraft (PWC). Maryland law specifies that PWC operators must be 16 years old and have a certificate. The course is for boaters of all experience levels. Upon successfully completing the course you will receive a certificate that can reduce your insurance premiums, meet the Maryland law requirements, and enhance your knowledge of boating safety. Class size is limited to 40 stu-

dents. For reservations and more information call Charles Shadle at 410-838-2265 or Outdoor Recreation at 410-278-4124.

Health and Fitness Centers

It's January 1999 and your New Year's resolution is to get in shape. Well the talking was easy but now you must act! It's not as hard as you think. The hardest part is the first step. Don't procrastinate, go to the Edgewood or Aberdeen Health and Fitness Center today. The staff can help you relieve the stress of getting started with a program designed just for you. You don't need an appointment or your work out clothes to walk in the door. The centers are open Monday-Thursday, 5:30 a.m.-7 p.m. (7:30 p.m. in the Edgewood Area), Friday, 5:30 a.m.-6 p.m., and Saturday, 8 a.m.-noon. The Aberdeen Health and Fitness Center is located in building 320, and the Edgewood Health and Fitness Center is located in building E-4210.

Outdoor Recreation can help you get ready for this year's ski season

The Outdoor Recreation Equipment Resource Center has head-shaped skis and conventional skis for rental. Shaped skis are the latest revolution in the ski industry. They make turning a breeze and handle like much longer skis at higher speed. Outdoor Recreation also offers conventional skis in sizes 100 to 200 cm. Skis, boots and poles are available separately or as a package at reasonable rates. Get a complete package of skis, boots and poles for \$14 per day. The center's rental policy allows you to pick up skis on Friday after 3 p.m. and return them by noon on Sunday for just a one-day charge. The center also gives 25 percent off all ski equipment rented for four or more days. A limited selection of snowboards, size 125, 143, 151, and 159, are available for \$15 per day (boots not included). Whether you are a skier or shredder, you'll appreciate our bibs (pants) and car ski racks for \$5 a day.

The Outdoor Recreation Equipment Resource Center ski tuning shop is now in operation. Have your skis hot waxed, edges sharpened, and p-texed to fill in those nasty gouges you got last spring when the rocks started show. Visit the Equipment Resource Center for an update on the latest conditions at nearby ski areas once they open.

The center's Internet access can check conditions anywhere for you. Once fitted at the center, you can reserve your ski equipment by phone. Call 410-278-4124/5789 for hours and details.



AROUND THE ARMY

Commissary set to impose fee on dishonored checks

Defense Commissary Agency Release

FORT LEE, Va., (Army News Service, Jan. 5, 1999) — Customers who write bad checks in commissaries face paying a new administrative fee when the Defense Commissary Agency implements new business requirements recently passed into federal law.

"The great majority of our customers write good checks," said Richard E. Beale Jr., DeCA's director. "In fact, more than 99.8 percent of checks written to com-

missaries clear just fine. For the very few that don't, this puts our collection procedures in line with other retailers."

Beginning with checks presented at commissaries Feb. 1, an administrative fee of \$25 will be assessed patrons whose checks bounce. The commissary will collect the administrative fee when the patron redeems the dishonored check. The only exception is when a check bounces because of bank error.

If dishonored checks are not

redeemed at the commissary within 30 days, the military finance office may charge an additional \$15 fee. If the customer takes no action, the finance office may deduct the debt from the military member or sponsor's pay. Military members will be held responsible for dishonored checks written by family members.

In Europe, the system works differently. Dishonored checks aren't sent to the commissary, but to the Subsistence Finance and

Accounting Office, Europe. If dishonored checks are not redeemed within 30 days, the finance office may charge an additional \$15 fee. If the customer takes no action, the finance office may deduct the debt from the military member or sponsor's pay.

Military members will be held responsible for dishonored checks written by family members.

Previously, customers had a 30-day grace period to redeem

their dishonored checks without assessment of an administrative fee or penalties by military finance offices. In fiscal 1998, patrons wrote 43 million checks to commissaries worldwide. During that same time, banks returned more than 71,000 patron checks to commissaries.

Customers made good promptly on most of those returned checks, with only about 22,000 checks eventually proceeding to debt collection.

The new fees are expected to

help further reduce the number of dishonored checks.

The change brings the commissary in line with dishonored check practices and procedures used by the commercial grocery sector, military exchanges, and morale, welfare and recreation activities, said Gary Lutz, DeCA's Director of Resource Management.

Signs informing customers about the new procedures are being posted in commissaries this month.

AAFES announces recall of toy basketball sets

Army and Air Force Exchange Service Release

DALLAS, Texas, (Army News Service, Jan. 6, 1999) — The Army and Air Force Exchange Service in conjunction with the U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission and Little Tikes, Ohio Art, Today's Kid and Fisher-Price announce a voluntary recall to replace the nets on 10.1 million toy basketball sets.

The nets can be unhooked from the rim and children can strangle on the loops or openings if they put their heads into the openings.

Since 1988, CPSC and the manufacturers have received 20 reports of 5-year-old children getting their heads and necks caught in the nets of toy basketball sets. In 1992, an 18-month-old child died after becoming entangled in a partly unhooked net.

AAFES sold the sets from Little Tikes, style number 4612, CRC number 6559785, Sub-department number 495800295, UPC number 050743046124.

Customers should remove the nets that can unhook or have knots that slide. They can contact their local exchange store's customer service to order replacement nets. They can also contact Little Tikes directly at 888-848-4537 or by Internet at www.littletikes.com for replacement nets.

Although AAFES only sold the item from Little Tikes, they're providing all the manu-

facturer's toll-free numbers and Internet addresses for customers who may have bought basketball sets from other retailers. They include Ohio Art, Bryan, Ohio, (800) 641-6226, www.world-of-toys.com; Today's Kid, Booneville, Ark., (800) 916-8697, www.todayskids.com; Fisher-Price, East Aurora, N.Y., (888) 229-4555, www.fisher-price.com.

AAFES uniform catalogs offered online

Army News Service

WASHINGTON (Jan. 5, 1999) - Always free to U.S. service members, the new military clothing catalogs from the Army and Air Force Exchange Service are now available worldwide instantly via the Internet at www.aafes.com.

The Internet catalog version is designed to provide shopping convenience to active duty and reserve service members who live miles from military clothing stores.

Just as in the store, soldiers or airmen purchase clothing record items at the same price AAFES pays the supplier. Additionally, both

the Air Force and Army military clothing catalogs have a variety of optional uniform items and accessories from which to choose.

Though identical in product selection, the electronic catalogs do not replace the paper versions, still available in clothing sales stores and stateside through request by calling 1-888-768-3204.

Featured in each service's catalog are the latest dress, service, physical training and battle dress uniforms, as well as boots, shoes, shirts and insignia.

Additional merchandise available to authorized customers includes luggage,

shaving kits, watches, commemorative clocks and award cases, pilot sunglasses, knives, utility tools, and binoculars.

Listed catalog prices include delivery by parcel post. No handling fees are charged. Delivery via priority mail can be requested at additional expense.

Online purchases require a major credit card or Deferred Payment Plan account. Catalog orders processed by phone or mail can be paid for by check.

(From an Army and Air Force Exchange Service news release.)