

POST SHORTS

Recycling schedule

Recycling pickup for Wednesday, Jan. 20, is glass, plastic and metal. Put items in blue bags and place them on the curb.

Evening event to honor King

A celebration of the life and achievements of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. will be held at the Post Chapel on Saturday, Jan. 16, 7 p.m. Everyone is invited. For more information, call Chaplain Alleyne, 410-278-4333.

Volunteer packets located around post

APG Volunteer of the Year nomination packets are now available at the Aberdeen Area library, building 3320, the Edgewood Area library, building E-4405, Army Community Service, building 2754, and the Installation Volunteer Office, building 2752. Nominations must be in the Installation Volunteer Office by Feb. 17 to be considered. Nominations are for volunteer service in or for the APG community between Jan. 1 and Dec. 31, 1998. For more information call Alice Surette, installation volunteer coordinator 410-278-5469.

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.

RAB Meeting set

The Restoration Advisory Board for the Installation Restoration Program will meet Jan. 28, 7-9:45 p.m., at the Edgewood Senior Center on Gateway Road. Topics include the Carroll Island Study Area and the Graces Quarters Study Area. Board meetings are open to the public; all APG employees and citizens are invited. For information, call 410-272-8842 or 1-800-APG-9998.

Red Cross has classes scheduled

The American Red Cross will offer an Instructor's Candidate Course on Feb. 1 in the Red Cross conference room in building 2477. The one-week class will be held Monday-Friday, 6-10 p.m. The prerequisite is certification.

See SHORTS, page 2



Photo by KAREN JOLLEY DREWEN

Holiday run

Soldiers from the 16th Ordnance Battalion run along Spesutia Road before the holidays, during the battalion's first North Pole Run. The soldiers, who are Advanced Individual Training students at the Ordnance Center and School, participated in the run before they left for EXODUS, the annual holiday leave for AIT students. They returned to class last week.

Employee injured in explosion at ARL test

By Karen Jolley Drewen
APG News

An Army Research Laboratory employee was injured Monday when the fuel tank on a truck being used as a target during a test exploded.

Michael Kauzlarich of the ARL's Survivability/Lethality Analysis Directorate received second degree burns and was evacuated to the Bayview Burn Center at John Hopkins Medical Center. He was treated and released later that day.

The explosion occurred while employees were preparing a truck for munitions evaluations. The evaluation has been ongoing since November.

The accident occurred at the Aircraft Vulnerability/Lethality Experimentation Facility, located near APG's Phillips Army

See ARL, page 7

Hundreds gather at Top of Bay to honor memory of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

By Meghan Heimbach
APG News

Jan. 15 will mark the 70th birthday of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., whose fight for African-American freedom continues to touch the hearts of people around the world today.

Aberdeen Proving Ground recognized King on Tuesday morning at the Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Commemorative Prayer Breakfast held at Top of the Bay, sponsored by the U.S. Army Center for Health Promotion and Preventive Medicine, which also provided the Color Guard.

The celebration brought together 350 people who were

welcomed by Samaria Hall of the U.S. Army Medical Research Institute of Chemical Defense.

Col. Dennis Fringeli, commander of CHPPM, offered welcoming remarks to attendees, and welcomed guest speaker Claiborne Douglas Haughton. Fringeli also emphasized the theme of the celebration, "The Legacy of African-American Leadership for the Present and the Future."

"Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. was dedicated to love, peace, justice and equality for all," Fringeli said. "Dr. King's beliefs and leadership still reach out to everyone today."

Haughton, principal director and director for Civilian Equal Employment Opportunity, Office of the Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense (Equal Opportunity), also touched on the celebration's theme by speaking of just some of King's accomplishments, from his graduation from high school at age 15, to winning the Nobel Peace Prize at age 35, the youngest to ever win the award.

Haughton emphasized the changes King helped to accomplish through "many hardships."

"Using Christ's training, Dr. King formed a number of boycotts and marches," he said. "He

See KING, page 6

Snow plan covers if and how post closes due to bad weather

By Karen Jolley Drewen
APG News

Each year, winter weather raises questions about how the decision is made to keep the post open, close it or delay its opening.

Planning for that decision begins when the weather is considerably warmer. Bob Silcox, director of APG Garrison's Directorate of Plans, Training, and Mobilization, said the post goes to great lengths to gather information, keep the roads clear and help the commander decide if closing the post is the best decision.

The post has closed fewer than 10 times during the past decade. Most of those closings were during the severe storms of 1993 and 1996.

Silcox wakes up as early as 2 a.m. if heavy snow is forecast.

See SNOW, page 7

FIRE SAFETY

Post officials emphasize need to know what to do in emergencies, encourage awareness of safety guidelines

By Meghan Heimbach
APG News

It's 2 a.m. and you are awakened by the smell of smoke and the piercing screech of your smoke detector. What do you do next?

The Aberdeen Proving Ground Fire Department wants all families to know what to do in case of fire, and how to prevent one from happening in your home.

"Fire safety is an important issue every year at this time, and even more important following the fire we had in Patriot Village on January 2," said Charles

Jones, APG fire chief, during the APG Garrison Community Action Council meeting on Jan. 7.

During that fire, six people escaped safely from the home, but the entire residence was destroyed. One adjoining residence also was damaged.

The risk of home fires increases during the winter, Jones said. He noted that electric space heaters can keep residences warmer, but the heaters must meet the proper standards. Kerosene heaters cannot be used on the installation except by permit in construction areas.

Jones said housing occupants must make sure the heater has a label with the letters "UL," which stands for "Underwriters Laboratory," in a circle somewhere on the heater, or a label that notes it has been tested in a nationally recognized laboratory.

"This means the heater has been tested and is listed for its intended use," said Andre Fournier, APG fire protection specialist. "Any heater without a nationally recognized testing laboratory label is not permitted in post quarters."

See FIRE, page 4



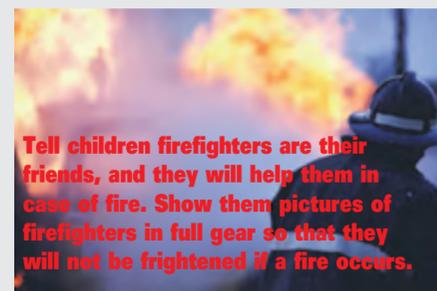
Photo courtesy APG Fire Department

The kitchen of the Patriot Village home destroyed Jan. 2 shows evidence of the intense heat from the blaze.

HAVE A PLAN

A well-planned and frequently rehearsed escape plan is vital to the safety of all household members

- Draw a floor plan showing at least two means of escape for each room. Make special consideration for infants, the elderly and physically impaired individuals.
- Keep emergency numbers, a whistle and a flashlight near all telephones. Make sure all family members know how to call for emergency assistance.



Tell children firefighters are their friends, and they will help them in case of fire. Show them pictures of firefighters in full gear so that they will not be frightened if a fire occurs.

Make sure you have at least one smoke detector per floor. Check the batteries at least once a month and change them once a year.

- Make sure all windows can be opened.
- Establish an exit route out of the house without opening the bedroom door.
- Choose a meeting place for all members of the family away from the house.
- NEVER return to a burning building for any reason.
- Have your entire family practice the escape and all alternative plans at least once every six months.

Aberdeen Test Center officially opens new test facility

By Lena Goodman
ATC Public Affairs Office

Aberdeen Test Center held a ceremony Jan. 6 to open its new Accelerated Corrosion Test Facility.

"The \$1.5 million state-of-the-art facility was constructed so that materiel developers can better assess the durability of military vehicles with respect to corrosion," said Steven King, ATC's project officer for the ACTF. "A Tank-Automotive Armaments Command study found that corrosion repairs cost the Army \$850 per truck per year, a significant cost considering the thousands of trucks currently fielded."

The U.S. Army Materiel Command requested a corrosion prevention and control program be developed to address the corrosion issue, he added.

"The program objectives are to decrease life-cycle costs, increase Army readiness by reducing equipment downtime, and reduce the maintenance burden being placed on diminishing active and reserve work force resources," King said. "ATC will support these goals by using the ACTF to evaluate CPC technologies identified for and implemented in developmental and fielded systems."

In his opening remarks during the ceremony, Maj. Gen. Edward L. Andrews, commander of APG and the U.S. Army Test and Evaluation Command, said the ribbon cutting signifies the teamwork and foresight of the Program Manager for Medium Tactical Vehicles and ATC, which worked together to support the construction of the facility.

"ATC, the Program Executive Officer for Ground Combat and Support Systems, TACOM, General Motors, and

the Ocean City Research Corporation collaborated to design, develop and build this exceptional facility," Andrews said. "It is one more example of teaming and looking ahead for opportunities to improve the acquisition cycle and to reduce maintenance costs of our fielded equipment."

King said in an accelerated corrosion test program, the vehicle undergoes an accelerated test process, exposing it to corrosive and durability environments like those anticipated in the field. This involves applying corrosive saline solutions to the exterior of the vehicle using spray and splash methods, subjecting the vehicle to the stresses of field operations, and promoting the chemical reaction between the corrosives and materials using high humidity and temperature.

The ACTF consists of four entities. In the Salt Fog/Mist Chamber, a corrosive solution is applied to the top and vertical surfaces of the test vehicle to replicate atmospheric fallout that might be encountered in the field. The Salt Splash Trough, which contains a saline solution of the proper makeup and concentration to replicate de-icing solutions encountered on roads, is negotiated at highway speeds to generate spray and splash patterns like those on primary roads. The Grit Trough features a salt solution containing earth materials, which is applied to the undercarriage area of vehicles to cause abrasion in crevices and retain moisture. The High Temperature/High Humidity Chamber accelerates the corrosion process.

King said the test vehicles are operated over a combination of primary, secondary and cross-country road courses in

accordance with the vehicle's specified mission profile each test cycle.

"Each test cycle is performed in one day," he said. "Fifteen test cycles replicate one year of field corrosion."

Andrews said the facility permits vehicular shortcomings to be identified during system development, resulting in more timely and economical fixes, reducing the life cycle cost, and ensuring the best possible vehicle for our soldiers in the field.

Grey Rymarz, a test director at ATC, spoke of two light medium tactical vehicles from the FMTV that are being tested to simulate 22 years of corrosion.

"The two trucks, incorporating a number of CPC technologies, are to complete 330 corrosion and endurance cycles, which will represent 22 years of service life," he said. "Each cycle consists of 70 miles of driving, to include the corrosive applications, followed by overnight drying and/or high humidity/temperature conditioning, depending on the desired coupon mass loss rates."

Rymarz said to avoid both over and under test situations, the level of corrosive exposure during the test is controlled through the use of bare steel plates called mass loss coupons.

"They are placed at strategic locations on the vehicle for the duration of the test. Prior to the start of the test, the individual coupons are weighed," Rymarz said. "At the completion of each test phase, which simulates one year of field service, the coupons are cleaned of any corrosion and reweighed. The test events are then adjusted, if necessary, to maintain the coupon corrosion rates at the target level."



Photo by EILEEN NEIBAUR, ATC International Imaging Center

Col. Kenneth R. Dobeck, project manager, Medium Tactical Vehicles, prepares to "cut" the ribbon by driving through it with one of two FMTV trucks currently under test at Aberdeen Test Center's new Accelerated Corrosion Test Facility at a Jan. 6 ribbon-cutting ceremony.

Rymarz said the target mass loss values being used for this test were adopted from the commercial automotive industry and are based on years of actual field corrosion measurements.

Col. Kenneth R. Dobeck, project manager for the FMTV, told Andrews that he has top-notch people at ATC.

"Not only do you have the number-one corrosion facility in the country, you also have a lot to be proud of," he said. "I have a tremendous amount of trust for the ATC staff. We're going to show everyone what corrosion is and how to

prevent it," Dobeck said. "I'm proud of ATC, I'm proud of the new facility and I know the soldiers will be proud of the vehicles."

The ACTF currently is the only facility dedicated to military vehicle system testing in the United States.

Guests at the ceremony included Senator-elect Bob Hooper, Aberdeen Mayor Douglas Wilson, Maryland Delegate-elect Charles Boutin, and Maj. Gen. John F. Michitsch, program executive officer for the Ground Combat and Support System.

POST SHORTS

SHORTS, from front page

tion in Community First Aid and Safety. Cost is \$50.

A Community First Aid and Safety Class will be held on Saturday, Feb. 6, and Friday, March 19. The class is held from 9 a.m.-6:30 p.m. Register soon because spaces are limited. Cost is \$25. Upon completion of this class you will be certified in first aid for three years and certified for one year in community CPR.

A Baby-sitting Class will be held Feb. 13 and 20, 9:30 a.m.-2:30 p.m. Those who complete the class will be placed on a list for baby-sitting for the post, with permission from parents. Cost is \$10 for all ID card holders, with scholarships donated by the post thrift shops.

For information about classes, call Carolyn Lerwill at 410-278-2087. Course fees are payable by check to the American Red Cross.

ACS to offer parenting class

The Army Community Service Family Advocacy Program will offer a S.T.E.P. class (Systematic Training for Effective Parenting). Classes will be held every Wednesday evening, from 11:45 a.m.-12:45 p.m., Jan. 20 through Feb. 24, at ACS, building 2754. S.T.E.P. classes are designed to enhance your family's self-esteem and improve communication. For your convenience, bring a bag lunch. For more information or to register, call Peggy Horne, ACS Family Advocacy Program, 410-278-4372/7474.

Get help with parenting issues

Learn how to get more out of your parent/teen relationship through Army Community Service. Meetings will be held each Thursday, 6:30-8 p.m., Jan. 21-Feb. 25, at ACS, building 2754. For more information, call Peggy Horne, ACS Family Advocacy Program, 410-278-3784/7474.

TRICARE 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 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 Program volunteers needed

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.

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.

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.

APG NEWS

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POLICE BRIEFS

Statistics listed; drive carefully during winter

The following statistics were reported for December by the APG Police Department:

Crimes against property	21
Crimes against persons	4
Driving while intoxicated	0
Narcotics offenses	3
Traffic accidents	17

Winter is here and as usual, brings along its ugly driving hazards. The following tips will help prepare drivers for these dangerous conditions:

• INSPECT YOUR VEHICLE FOR SAFETY

Be sure the brakes, tires and lights are in working condition. The windshield wiper fluid should be full and wiper blades in good condition. The battery should be in excellent condition.

• WATCH THE WEATHER

Be aware of current travel conditions and impending weather so you can adjust your travel plan accordingly.

• CLEAN THE CAR

Keep windows (front, sides, and rear), clear of snow and ice.

• BUCKLE UP

Even if you have excellent winter driving skills, other people on the road may not.

• SLOW DOWN

Drive slower and increase your following distance. Do not make sudden movements in traffic. If you do, you will likely find yourself in a spin or slide, stopping well past the point you need to stop.

• KNOW THE ROAD

Remember that roadway conditions may vary depending on the sun, shade, or roadway surfaces. Watch for slick spots, especially, under bridges and on overpasses. You must be prepared to react physically and mentally.

• KNOW WHAT TO DO IN AN EMERGENCY

If you find yourself in a slide or spin, ease off the gas pedal or brakes. Steer into the direction of the skid until you feel you have regained traction, then straighten your vehicle.

When a snow plow is coming toward you, allow plenty of room for the plow to pass. When the center line is being cleared and salted, the plow tip may be on or over the line.

• MAKE SURE YOU CAN SEE

In rain, fog, snow or sleet, do not overdrive your headlights. Stay within the limits of your vision.

• STAY WITH THE VEHICLE

If stranded in a storm, stay in your vehicle. Disorientation occurs quickly in wind-driven snow and cold. Run the motor about every 10 minutes each hour for heat. Open the window a little for fresh air to avoid carbon monoxide poisoning. Make sure your exhaust pipe is not blocked. Make yourself visible to rescuers.

• MAKE IT THROUGH THE WINTER SAFELY

Remember, winter storms are deceptive killers because most deaths are indirectly related to the storm. People die in traffic accidents on icy roads. People die of heart attacks while shoveling snow, and people die of hypothermia from prolonged exposure to the cold. Be prepared, and have a plan.

- Officer Denise Mettee, APG Police



Photo by KAREN JOLLEY DREWEN



Photo by MEGHAN HEIMBACH

At left, Andre Fournier, APG fire protection specialist, points out the label that shows an electric heater has an automatic shut-off feature if it tips over. It's a safety feature that's required for all electric space heaters on post. At right, Fournier points out the label that identifies the maximum wattage for a lamp.

Winter time to be aware of fire safety

FIRE, from front page

Fournier added that space heaters should also come equipped with a "tip-over switch," which shuts off the heating element when the heater tips over or is resting at an angle of 30 degrees or more. The exception is the radiator type of oil-filled electric space heater.

Marilyn Spence, engineering technician at Family Housing, said before new housing occupants are issued Self-Help cards for the Re-Nu-It Center, they must watch a 15-minute tape, which has a section on fire prevention. The tape is available at the Family Housing Office.

Fournier recommended post housing occupants have insurance to protect personal belongings in case of fire.

How to prevent fires

The APG Fire Department also recommended the following procedures to prevent fires:

Avoid overloading wires. Fournier emphasized that the best way to plug an appliance in is directly into a wall socket, but said a multiplex extension cord with a surge protector may be used for more than one appliance.

"Regular extension cords are designed to be used as temporary wiring, not to exceed 90 days in most cases," he said. "Multiplex extension cords with the surge protector are safer because they have a circuit breaker inside the unit, which reduces the risk of electrical fire."

Fournier said to avoid damaging a wire's insulation, occupants must fully extend all appliance wires.

"No one likes to see cords to their appliances around the house, so in a lot of cases people will keep the cords coiled together with a rubber band or a tie of some kind," he said. "Coiling the wire together is the same as putting a blanket on top of a blanket. Allow the wires to breathe and release heat. If not, the insulation can crack and break."

Fournier said to remove plugs from the socket directly at the plug. Pulling on the cord can cause a short in the wiring, and can cause an electrical fire.

Check appliances for wattage. Fournier said before you screw a bulb into a lamp, check the wattage rating, which should be marked somewhere on the light fixture.

Check and clean kitchen hood filters every few weeks to avoid grease build-up. They are easily removed and can be cleaned either in the sink or dishwasher. Fournier explained that the fan and filter pull heat away from the cooking area. Failure to keep the filter clean prevents the unit from cooling off, which can cause the grease to catch on fire.

Residents who need new filters can contact the Aberdeen Area Re-Nu-It Center, 410-278-8814, or the Edgewood Area Re-Nu-It Center, 410-436-2398.

Many fires start in the kitchen, Fournier said. For a grease fire, use a lid or baking soda, not water, which will cause the grease fire flames to grow and spread. Push the lid across the pan to snuff out the fire.

"There have been some cases where people have used flour instead of baking soda. Never use flour," he said. "Flour will cause an explosion."

The National Fire Prevention Association recommends checking smoke detectors every month. If a smoke detector is not working, occupants should call Family Housing at 410-278-3347/3387 so a work order can be called in.

Keep smoke detectors clean by using a vacuum cleaner hose to remove dust and reduce the chance of a malfunction. Jones said quarters are equipped with smoke detectors on every floor, and most are linked so if one goes off, the rest go off at the same time.

How do you get out?

Jones said it is "very important" that a family have a particular place to meet outside of the home to make sure everyone has made it out safely.

"If we know for sure everyone is safely out, we won't send firefighters directly in," Jones said. "We will fight the fire differently, keeping all those involved as safe as possible."

Fournier said because most master bedrooms have a telephone, families should meet in the master bedroom if they are unable to safely make it out.

Jones said to seal the cracks of the door with sheets and hang something outside the bedroom window to signal firefighters that someone is trapped inside that room.

"Checking windows for a signal is the first thing our firefighters are trained to do once they have arrived on the scene," Jones said.

Jones and Fournier both advised against using chain ladders to escape from upper stories.

"In the case of a fire, human behavior and thinking processes are going to change," Fournier said. "People tend to panic and sometimes forget to hook the ladder to the window before letting it down. In a lot of cases, people are not properly trained to use the ladders and anxiety takes over. People end up throwing the ladder out the window, or forgetting to open the window."

Another safety hazard associated with the chain ladders is possible injury when lowering.

Firefighter George Dorbert points the three symbols that should be found on a residential "ABC" fire extinguisher - a trash can, a gas can and a plug.



Photo by MEGHAN HEIMBACH



Photo courtesy APG Fire Department

A home on Pride Court was destroyed by fire Jan. 2; two adjoining units also were damaged.

Community joins effort to assist two families who lost so much in fire

By Meghan Heimbach
APG News

A community came together on Jan. 9 to offer support to two families that are putting their lives back together after losing most of their belongings in a residential fire on Jan. 2.

A Shower and Pot Luck Supper was held at the Aberdeen Proving Ground Post Chapel for SSgt. Peter Pangelinan and SSgt. Tyrone A. Francis and their families, both of the U.S. Army Ordnance Center and School's 143rd Ordnance Battalion.

Paula Meredith, chairperson for the 143rd Ordnance Battalion's Family Support Group, said the benefit, which was scheduled for Jan. 8 but was postponed due to last week's weather conditions, brought in at least 130 people, and was a "wonderful turnout."

The community brought household items, food, clothes, furniture and money to help fulfill both of the family's wish lists.

143rd Ordnance Battalion Command Sgt. Maj. Ronald Stallings said both families did "very well" at the benefit.

"I had a table set up for each of the families with a basket on each table for donations," he said. "By the end of the evening, both baskets were running over with donations. We also collected large amounts of clothes and furniture."

"The Family Support Group and the NCO spouses were the key sources to making the Pot Luck Supper happen," he added. "It was a family type atmosphere, where everyone came together."

Capt. Doug Pietrowski of Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 143rd, said the benefit was "absolutely super," and said the community support was "very evident" during the benefit.

"We have had non-stop calls coming in from both the military and civilian communities," he said. "Local businesses have been super with their donations and discounts for the families."

Cash and voucher donations have been received from organizations such as the Red Cross; the Officer's Wives Club; Military Civilian Spouses Club; the Noncommissioned Officer Association; the APG Post Exchange; and the APG Commissary.

Pietrowski said the APG Thrift Shops offered the families their choice of clothes, books and toys for free, and Army and Air Force Exchange Service offered furniture donations channeled through Fort Meade, Md. Ryan Furniture

"We have had non-stop calls coming in from both the military and civilian communities. Local businesses have been super with their donations and discounts for the families."

- Capt. Doug Pietrowski
HHC 143rd Ord. Bn.

Company in Havre de Grace also donated couches and love seats.

"We are still in the process of finding out who needs what, and dividing the donations accordingly," Pietrowski said. "They have gotten a lot from all over, and they still need a lot more. Both families are dealing with a lot of issues right now, and the donations have helped them to deal a little easier."

Pietrowski added that the need for clothes had "pretty much been met," and the families still need things like money, gift certificates, kitchen appliances, housewares and furniture.

"The turnout from the Pot Luck Supper was a lot more than I expected," said Francis. "We have received a good amount of donations. The community has been exceptional, and the Family Housing Office has been beautiful in getting us what we need. Everyone has gone above and beyond their call of duty."

Pangelinan's wife, Nancy, said her family was "grateful to everyone" who has come forward to offer help.

Both families also need assistance in setting up and cleaning the new quarters they will move into before the end of January. To sign up to help with the move call Pietrowski at 410-436-1107/2413, or Meredith at 410-676-4022.

APG Federal Credit Union is still accepting financial contributions to help the families. Checks may be dropped off at the branch, made payable to APGFCU, with "Fire Relief Fund" in the memo section of the check. Checks may also be mailed to APGFCU, ATTN: Jim Metzbowler or Amy Carlson, P.O. Box 1176, Aberdeen, MD 21001.

TECOM receives award for exceeding retention goals

By Karen Jolley Drewen
APG News

The U.S. Army Test and Evaluation Command (TECOM) was honored recently by the U.S. Army Materiel Command (AMC) for exceeding its goals in retaining military personnel.

Maj. Gen. Edward L. Andrews, TECOM and Aberdeen Proving Ground commander, received the AMC Commanding General's Retention Achievement Award for fiscal year 1998.

With Andrews were TECOM and APG Command Sgt. Maj. Tyler Walker II; Sfc. Stanley J. Edwards, APG Garrison career counselor; and SSgt. (P) Vernita L. Mahan, outgoing APG Garrison career counselor.

"I thank you and the Army thanks you for your efforts in helping keep our military personnel in the Army and in the reserve component," Andrews said to the career counselors.

Gen. Johnnie E. Wilson, commander of AMC, credited TECOM's retention performance as one reason the AMC Retention Program's success. Overall, TECOM achieved 117 percent of assigned goals for initial reenlistments, 114 percent for mid-career retention goals, and 245 percent of the reserve component goals.

"This impressive accomplishment is indicative of the morale, esprit-de-corps and leadership within the command," Wilson said in a letter congratulating Andrews for the achievement. "TECOM's contributions to the Army's goal of retaining quality soldiers are most commendable."

"Winning this award takes command involvement, and leaders at every level actively talking to soldiers," said Edwards, who arrived at APG in July. "If a soldier decides to end his career before a 20-year retirement, the



Photo by LAMONT HARBISON

Maj. Gen. Edward L. Andrews, center, presents the AMC Commanding General's Retention Achievement Award to Sfc. Stanley J. Edwards, APG Garrison career counselor, and SSgt. (P) Vernita L. Mahan, outgoing APG Garrison career counselor.

reserve component allows him to work toward a 20-year retirement while still serving his country. It also gives them an opportunity to network within the reserve component, because of the diversity of the civilian representation with the reserve component."

Mahan, who has been assigned to TECOM for four of her five years at APG, said the Army has a lot to offer soldiers, even if they don't want to stay in for 20 years.

"A lot of soldiers don't necessarily want to make the military a career," Mahan said. "But they love the military and have a hard time letting it go. So, they may choose the reserve component."

The percentages reflect TECOM military personnel at TECOM Headquarters, APG Garrison and Aberdeen Test Center here, and Dugway Proving Ground, Utah, Yuma Proving Ground, Ariz., Electronic Proving Ground, Ariz., White Sands Missile Range, N.M., and the Aviation

Technical Test Center at Fort Rucker, Ala.

Mahan, whose next assignment takes her to Korea, said meeting the needs of a widely dispersed group takes coordination.

"You have to be attentive to what the soldiers' needs are," she said. "It takes a lot of hard work, a lot of communication."

Also contributing to the award, Mahan added, were her predecessor, Master Sgt. Veronia Leggette, who was post retention NCO for the first quarter and part of the second quarter of fiscal year 1998; SSgt. Lorenzo G. Strawder, WSMR career counselor; SSgt. Raymond E. Foster, former YPG career counselor; and SSgt. Steven Cannon, EPG career counselor.

If you are interested in continuing your military career on active duty or in the Army Reserve or National Guard, call Sfc. Stanley Edwards, 410-278-ARMY (2769).

Post libraries have new non-fiction books

The Garrison Library has new non-fiction books for your reading pleasure. Come by either the Aberdeen or Edgewood Area Libraries and check out some books.

The 25-Year War: America's Military Role in Vietnam, by Bruce Palmer, Jr.;

1001 MCSE Tips, by Shane Stigler;

Baseball in Baltimore: The First 100 Years, by James H. Bready;

The Century, by Peter Jennings;

Dear Socks, Dear Buddy: Kids' Letters to the First Pets;

The Eye Book: A Complete Guide to Eye Disorders and Health, by Gary H. Cassel;

GED Success, by Marion B. Castellucci;

J.K. Lasser's Your Income Tax 1999;

Madhur Jaffrey's Flavors of India, by Madhur Jeffrey;

Night Watch: A Practical Guide to Viewing the Universe, by Terence Dickinson;

Printed Sources: A Guide to Published Genealogical Records.

The AA Library, located in building 3320 on Aberdeen Boulevard, is open Monday-Wednesday, 11:30 a.m.-7:30 p.m., and Saturday and Sunday, 1-5 p.m. It is closed Thursday and Friday.

The EA Library, located in building E-4405 on Austin Road, is open Wednesday and Thursday, 11:30 a.m.-7:30 p.m., and Sunday, 1-5 p.m. The library is closed Monday, Tuesday, Friday and Saturday.

TECOM's Taylor prepares for training as officer

By Karen Jolley Drewen
APG News

When SSgt. Franyate D. Taylor learned she was accepted to Officer Candidate School, it was a major milestone in her military career. That achievement was honored last week, as Maj. Gen. Edward L. Andrews, commander of the U.S. Army Test and Evaluation Command and Aberdeen Proving Ground, presented her with the Meritorious Service Medal.

"I know this is not the last award you are going to receive in your career," Andrews said as he pinned the medal on the uniform of the NCO he described as "quiet, unassuming and exactly professional."

To her husband, SSgt. Lyndon Taylor Sr., operations sergeant at Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 143rd Ordnance Battalion, Andrews asked, "What are you going to do when she makes lieutenant?"

"Salute her, sir," Taylor replied without hesitation.

It will be a change for the two NCOs, who met at Fort Hood and since have traveled together in their career. The mother of three children — Lyndon Jr., 12, Shaquita, 10, and Shean, 8 — Taylor said she has the complete support of her husband as she embarks on the next stage of her military career.

"He is so excited for me," said Taylor. "While it will change my career, it won't really affect our home life."

Taylor arrived at TECOM a year ago, which was when she decided to apply for OCS, after thinking about it for two years in Germany.

"Being an officer was always a dream of mine," she said. "But when I came in the Army at age 19, I didn't have the college experience."

She used her first seven years of enlistment to add to her two-year degree from Hillsboro



Photo by LAMONT HARBISON

Maj. Gen. Edward L. Andrews presents a certificate with the Meritorious Service Medal to SSgt. Franyate D. Taylor, who recently was accepted to Officer Candidate School, as her husband, SSgt. Lyndon Taylor Sr., looks on.

"Believe me, the NCO Corps has taught me a lot. I really believe the NCO Corps is the backbone of the Army, and I will carry that with me as I become an officer."

SSgt. Franyate D. Taylor,
TECOM NCO accepted to
Officer Candidate School

Community College, located near her hometown of Tampa, Fla.

"The leadership skills I developed as an NCO are my biggest advantage in Officer Candidate School," said Taylor, who reports to Fort Benning, Ga., for OCS on Jan. 23. "I will just have to remember that I'm going to be an officer. I have to learn to lead, learn to command, learn to manage soldiers."

"Believe me, the NCO Corps has taught me a lot," she added. "I really believe the NCO Corps is the backbone of the Army, and I will carry that with me as I

become an officer."

While her first seven years of military service were devoted to building her career, she said she sees the next seven years as an exciting new challenge.

"In another seven years, my husband will be close to retirement, my kids will be

out of high school or close to it, and I'll hopefully be a captain, about to make major," she said.

While spending 103 days away from her children will be hard, she said her return to APG to attend the Officer Basic Course at the U.S. Army Ordnance Center and School will be a pleasure.

"My husband is happy I'm joining him in the Ordnance Corps," she said. "That's another advantage I have. He can teach me a lot about the corps."

HEALTH UPDATE

Free classes at clinic to promote healthy living

By Karen Jolley Drewen
APG News

Kirk U.S. Army Health Clinic will offer health education during upcoming weeks.

"The classes offer really good information. I think these are valid topics that will be of interest to everyone," said Capt. Melissa Hoffman of Kirk U.S. Army Health Clinic, who is coordinating registration for the free classes.

The classes, offered by TRICARE, are held from 6-8 p.m. at the clinic's Readiness and Training Center, and are open to all military beneficiaries, she said. Registration is required.

"Anyone who sees the information and is interested in the topics is welcome to attend the classes," she said.

The classes and dates offered are:

Tobacco Cessation	Jan. 20 and 27 Feb. 3
Healthy Living	Feb. 2, 9, 16, and 23 March 2 and 9
Asthma Prevention	Jan. 26 March 10
Living with Stress	Feb. 17 April 14
Healthy Eating	Jan. 14, 21 and 28 March 4, 11, 18 and 25
Diabetic Education	Feb. 4, 11, 18 and 25 March 17, 24 and 31 April 7

To register for classes or for more information, call Hoffman at 410-278-1711.

Phone numbers can help you locate clinic offices, personnel

The following are key phone numbers for Kirk U.S. Army Health Clinic. Other clinic areas or administrative offices not listed can be located by calling the automated attendant at the clinic, 410-278-1990.

Administrative Offices

Commander, 410-278-1727, 8 a.m.-4:30 p.m., Monday-Friday.

Deputy commander for administration, 410-278-1726, 8 a.m.-4:30 p.m., Monday-Friday.

Patient Administration, 410-278-1720, 8 a.m.-4:30 p.m., Monday-Friday.

Medical Detachment, 410-278-1883/1886, 8 a.m.-4:30 p.m., Monday-Friday.

Staff Duty NCO, 410-278-1996, 24 hours a day.

TRICARE Liaison Office, 410-278-1881, 8 a.m.-4:30 p.m., Monday-Friday.

TRICARE Service Center/Appointments, 1-888-999-5195, 8 a.m.-6 p.m., Monday-Friday.

Patient Representative, 410-278-1724, 6:30 a.m.-4 p.m.

WRAMC Bus Reservations, 410-278-1778.

Nurse Advice Line, 1-800-308-3518, 24 hours a day.

Clinics/Ancillary services

Adult Medicine Clinic, 410-278-1718, 8 a.m.-4 p.m., Monday-Friday

Alcohol and Drug, 410-278-1716, 9 a.m.-8 p.m., Monday-Friday; and 9 a.m.-5 p.m., Saturday, Sunday and holidays

Acute/Minor Illness Clinic, 410-278-1725, 9 a.m.-8 p.m.

Community Mental Health, 410-278-1715, 8 a.m.-4:30 p.m., Monday-Friday

Edgewood Health Clinic, 410-436-3001, 6:30 a.m.-4 p.m., Monday-Friday

General Medicine Clinic, 410-278-1812, 9 a.m.-4 p.m., Monday-Friday

Immunization Clinic, 410-278-1746, 8 a.m.-4 p.m., Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday; 1-7 p.m., Wednesday

Laboratory, 410-278-1714, 7:30 a.m.-4 p.m., Monday-Friday

Pediatric Clinic, 410-278-1717, 7:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m., Monday, Thursday, and Friday; 7:30 a.m.-8 p.m., Tuesday; and 7:30 a.m.-7 p.m., Wednesday

Radiology, 410-278-1713, 7:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m., Monday-Friday

Physical Exam, 410-278-1950, 10:30 a.m.-3 p.m., Monday-Friday

Troop Medical Clinic (EA), 410-436-3001, 7 a.m.-4:30 p.m., Monday-Friday

All areas close at 3 p.m. on Thursday for in-service training

Hundreds gather to remember the life of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

KING, from front page
never stopped preaching about non-violence.”

Haughton also spoke of King’s “I Have a Dream” speech at the Lincoln Memorial in Washington, D.C., on Aug. 28, 1963.

“On that hot August day, Dr. King showed what Americans could be,” he said. “If you remember back to that day you will realize that before he spoke of his dream, he spoke of the priority of economic development for African-Americans. That day, American history rose from two centuries to 20 centuries.”

Haughton not only recognized the day that King’s life began, but also when it ended on April 4, 1968, with his assassination by James Earl Ray.

“His life cut short at 39, those 39 short years still touch Americans,” he said. “A man was shot down, not his dream. A better nation stands today from his efforts. Where do we go from here?”

Haughton stressed the three ways he believes people can “take charge in the millennium.”

These three things are to “do

math with the new math mind,” “perform with excellence,” and “remember the legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.”

Haughton spoke of the many races and their cultures, and where he believes we will be in the year 2005.

“These different cultures together will build bridges,” he said. “We have to be visionaries. We keep our eyes on the ground in front of us instead of on the horizon. We must remember that life by the yard is hard, but life by the inch is a cinch. When that door of opportunity is opened be ready.”

Haughton spoke of his own life and choices and recognized the people who helped him to succeed. He said he asked all of them what he could do to thank them, in which they replied “pass it on.”

“There can be no greater legacy than Dr. Martin Luther King,” he said. “We shall overcome and take charge in the millennium.”

Haughton also reminded guests to celebrate the Martin Luther King holiday as his wife Coretta asked.

“Don’t celebrate it as another



Claiborne Douglas Haughton speaks about African-American leadership during the breakfast.

African-American holiday,” he said. “It is a day of not being off, but a time to celebrate, a time to act.”

In his closing remarks, Haughton once again reminded attendees of the meaning of King’s celebration.

“Dr. King was touched by God’s great magic wand,” he said. “We have overcome together, ladies and gentleman. Deep in my heart, I knew we would overcome.”

After Haughton’s remarks,

attendees viewed a brief film on King’s life.

Col. Robert J. Spidel, APG garrison commander, offered his closing remarks by reflecting on the film.

“Some of you may be too young to remember, but those were very memorable days,” he said.

Spidel spoke of the “very strong sense of pride” he takes being from Atlanta, Ga., where King was born.

“If it were not for my police chief and my fire chief, I could have put another 350 people in here today,” he said. “That is how many people wanted to be here today.”

Guests were entertained by the musical selections from the 389th Army Band (AMC’s Own). APG family member Erica Martinez also provided entertainment by singing the national anthem, “Reach Out and Touch Somebody’s Hand,” and “Precious Lord.”

Invocation and benediction was provided by Chaplain (Col.) Alan Buckner, CHPPM staff chaplain, who spoke of King’s life, and prayed that his words and works will be carried on.

Spidel thanked Haughton for speaking at the celebration, and presented him with a plaque and APG Garrison Coin. Martinez also received a plaque.

Spidel thanked all those involved who helped with the preparation of the ceremony and gave special thanks to Master Sgt. Wattanaporn Videtto, APG Garrison Equal Opportunity and coordinator of the breakfast, for her “hard work” throughout the years.

“She cares about soldiers and people, and works very hard,” Spidel said. “We cannot thank her enough for her efforts.”

Videtto credited MRICD’s Hall, who served as mistress of ceremonies, for her support for the past two years.



Photos by LAMONT HARBISON

Members of the 389th Army Band (AMC’s Own) perform during the breakfast honoring Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

Whenever I need something, all I have to do is ask,” Videtto said. “She has always been there to support these post programs.”

Spidel offered advice on how

to carry out King’s dream.

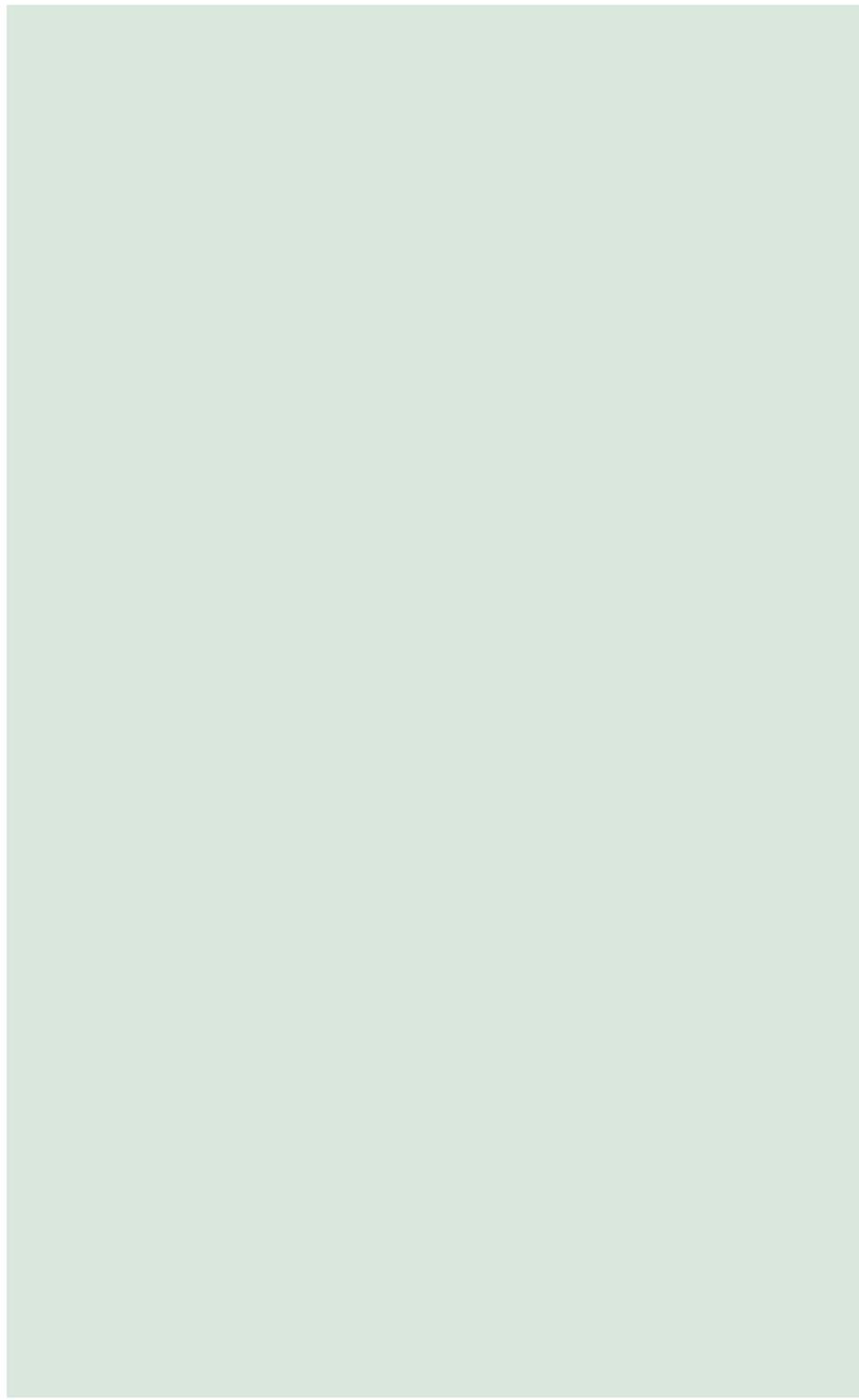
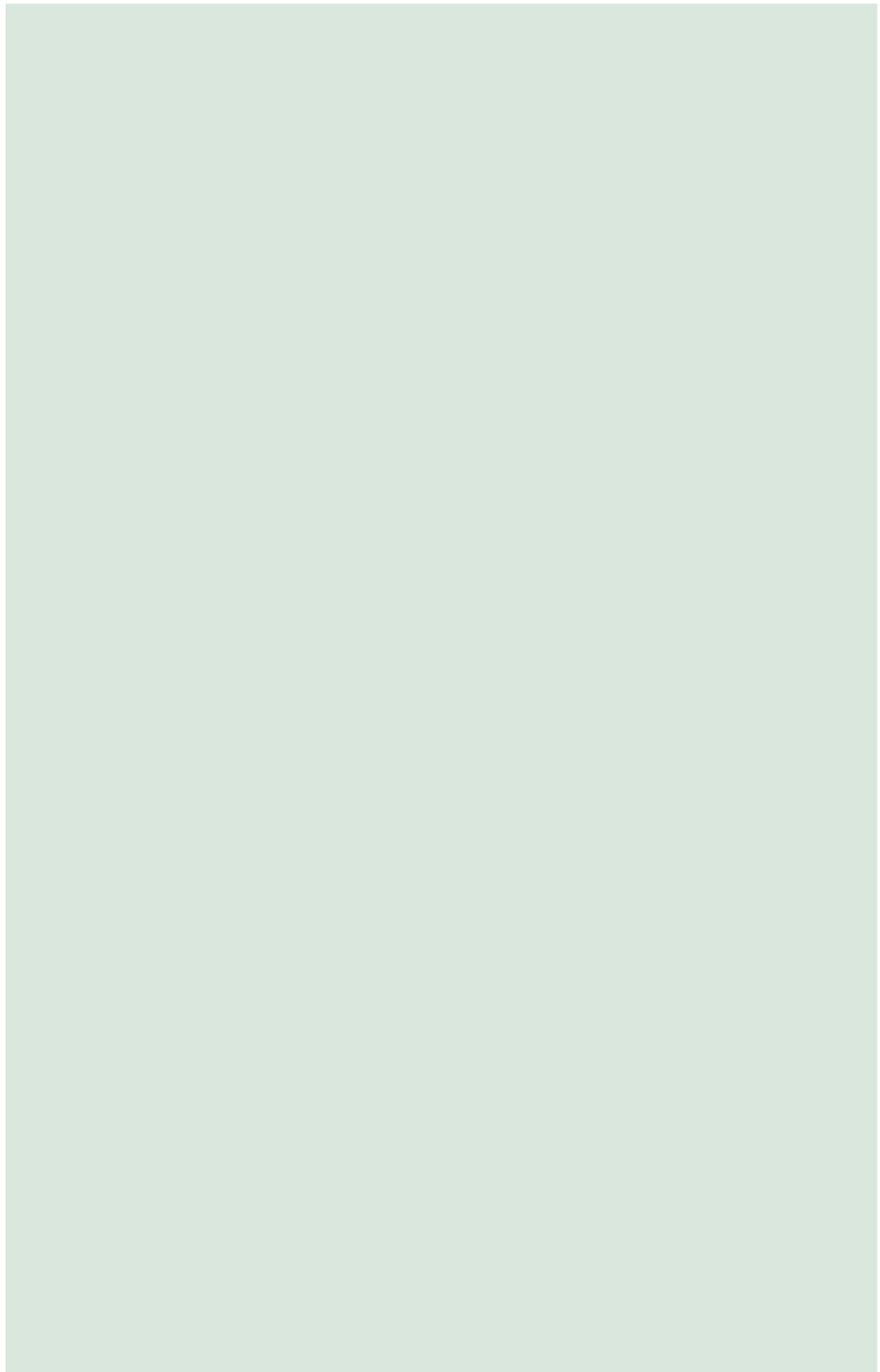
“Let us reaffirm our commitment to his dream to all women and all men everywhere,” he said.



Family member Erica Martinez sings during the breakfast. The Aberdeen High School student performed the national anthem and other songs at the event.



Members of the APG community talk before the breakfast, which drew more than 350 people and packed Top of the Bay.



Snow plan keeps APG prepared for winter weather

SNOW, from front page
and drives to the Edgewood Area to survey roads and accumulation. "But the safety of our work force is always one of our major concerns."

Butch Grzanka, chief of DPTM's Plans and Operations Division, surveys the Aberdeen Area conditions.

"Any decision to keep the post open, close it or delay its opening is a serious decision that is not entered into lightly, nor is it an economic decision as many people believe," Grzanka said. "Any decision concerning post operating hours is made in the best interests of the employees and the employer."

In addition to surveying both areas of APG, Silcox and Grzanka confer with the Directorate of Public Works, the Office of the Provost Marshal, reports from the Aberdeen Test Center weather station at Spesutie Island and weather forecasts from TV newscasts.

"The people at Spesutie Island can tell us more specifically what will happen at APG," Grzanka said, pointing out the variation in the weather between APG and northern Harford County and southern Pennsylvania. "We may only see an inch or two from a storm, while accumulation north of APG may be significantly different."

In addition, information is

gathered from local and state police agencies concerning road conditions on major road networks leading to APG, Grzanka said.

If there is sufficient reason to close the post or curtail operations, Silcox and Grzanka recommend action to Col. Robert J. Spidel, deputy installation commander. He informs Maj. Gen. Edward L. Andrews, APG commander, who makes the decision. By regulation, the installation commander is the only one who can close the post or order curtailment of operations for the entire post and its assigned organizations.

Once the commander makes his decision, the information is disseminated throughout the organizational Emergency Action Officer Network during duty hours. During non-duty hours, the decision is passed along via radio and television networks and the APG Snow Line, 410-278-SNOW (7669). A list of the radio and television stations runs regularly in the APG News. The closing announcements specifically will state APG, not just the federal work force in the Baltimore area.

Each year there is confusion when closure announcements are made concerning federal agencies in the Baltimore area and Fort Meade. The Federal Executive Board and commander

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
WXCY	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

of Fort Meade make their own individual decisions for their respective areas of responsibility. Announcements concerning Baltimore federal agencies and Fort Meade do not necessarily affect the decision concerning APG. It is important to listen carefully to any announcement put out over radio or television.

For example, Grzanka said

that on Jan. 9, a high level of confusion was caused when a local radio station announced "The APG Federal Credit Union will close early."

"Many of the calls received at the garrison commander's office and the APG Emergency Operations Center specified that the announcement had said 'APG will close early,'" he said.

ARL employee injured during test at ARL

ARL, from front page

Airfield. ARL officials said the facility has a "very good" safety record, and this is the first major incident to happen there in more than 20 years.

The accident is under investigation.

PETS OF THE WEEK



Photos by KAREN JOLLEY DREWEN

Above are three dogs available for adoption at the APG Veterinary Treatment Facility. Reba, left, is a 3-year-old black lab; Jingles, center, is a 6-month-old beagle/border collie mix; and Shania is a 2-year-old black lab. The VTF also has several cats available, including George, at right, an orange tabby, held by Cpl. Tracy Clark, and Tinsel, a 3-year-old black-and-gray tabby, held by Sgt. Dale M. Good. Both cats are neutered. To adopt a pet, call the VTF at 410-278-4575, or stop by building 2479, next to Kirk U.S. Army Health Clinic, weekdays, 8:30 a.m.-4 p.m.



Want the latest post news?

Listen to the **APG Report** on Monday, Wednesday and Friday, 7:08 a.m. and 4:08 p.m., on Aberdeen's WAMD radio station, 970 AM.

COMING UP...

FRIDAY JANUARY 15 TAKE TWO 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 at 8 p.m., followed by dancing 9 p.m.-1 a.m., to the Tennessee Country Band. Admission is \$6 per person, \$10 per couple. Call Donna Moore, 410-272-1218 or 410-272-4110.

THURSDAY JANUARY 21 S.A.M.E. MEETING

The Society of American Military Engineers, Chesapeake Post will meet from 11:45 a.m.-1 p.m. at Top of the Bay. The speaker will be Doug Richmond, Hazard Emergency Planner and Manager of the Chemical Stockpile Emergency Preparedness Program (CSEPP), Harford County Division of Emergency Operations. Everyone is invited to attend.

WARRANT OFFICERS

The U.S. Army Warrant Officer Association Aberdeen/Edgewood Chapter will hold its monthly meeting from 4:30-6 p.m., at Yogi's All American/Quality Inn, Aberdeen. For information, call CW2 Priddy, 410-278-7363 or 410-939-7177.

FRIDAY JANUARY 22 ASTRONAUT TALK

Apollo Astronaut Dr. Edgar Mitchell will speak at Goucher College in Towson at 8 p.m. There is a 20 percent military discount on general reserved seating. The \$25 tickets will be available for \$20 by calling 410-308-0537. Military personnel in uniform or with valid military ID may purchase tickets at the door if available.

BOOK IT

A Used Book Sale will be held at the Edgewood Branch of the Harford County Public Library through Jan. 30, during library service hours. Profits will benefit the branch. The library is located at 2205 Hanson Rd. For information, call 410-612-1600.

WALKIN' WAZI

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

SATURDAY JANUARY 23 READY TO LEARN

Maryland Public Television workshop will be held for day-care providers at the Bel Air Branch of the Harford County Library, 10 a.m.-2 p.m. The training will focus on how to use educational TV and related books and activities with preschool children (focus on Puzzle Place). There is a \$25 fee for course materials. A snack will be provided. To reg-

ister, call Susan Oskin, 410-581-4378.

TUESDAY JANUARY 26 FINANCIAL FITNESS

An introduction to personal financial planning will be presented at the Bel Air Branch of the Harford County Public Library, at 6:45 p.m. George Davis, volunteer financial counselor, will discuss investment, taxes, insurance and IRAs. The workshop is free but registration is required. Call 410-638-3151.

WEDNESDAY JANUARY 27 COMPUTER EXPO

The latest computer hardware and software technologies will be demonstrated at the APG Technology Expo '99 at Top of the Bay, 10 a.m.-2 p.m. There is no fee to attend and all Army and DoD personnel are invited. Complimentary refreshments will be served.

WELCOMETO APG

APG will hold an orientation from 1-3 p.m. at the AA Recreation Center, building 3326, to welcome incoming military and civilian personnel, retirees and their families. 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 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. Get tickets by Jan. 28.

WAPG-TV

The following programs are scheduled on WAPG-TV, on-post cable channel 3, from Jan. 14-20:

THURSDAY, Jan. 14

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

FRIDAY, Jan. 15

10 a.m., 7 p.m., America's Army - Special Operations Forces (30 minutes)

SATURDAY, Jan. 16

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

SUNDAY, Jan. 17

10 a.m., 7 p.m., America's Army - Special Operations Forces (30 minutes)

MONDAY, Jan. 18

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

TUESDAY, Jan. 19

10 a.m., 7 p.m., America's Army - Special Operations Forces (30 minutes)

WEDNESDAY, Jan. 20

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

For information, call Lynn Witkowski, 410-278-1151.

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.

MWR UPDATE

Golf course Pro Shops

Check out the Early Bird Golf Sale at the Pro Shops. All windshirts are 20 percent off ticketed price, assorted irons are 15 percent off the ticketed price, all golf shirts are \$25, and all sweaters are \$30. All items are final sale. The shops are open every day, 8 a.m.-4:30 p.m. Sale ends Jan. 31.

Make reservations now

Outdoor Recreation is accepting reservations from APG organizations for the 1999 picnic season. Maryland Boulevard and Skipper's Point may be reserved now for organizational day picnics and parties. The Shore Pool and Woodpecker Point Picnic Areas are available on a first come, first serve basis. On-post organizations have reservation priority now through Feb. 14. Off-post organizations and groups may make reservations beginning Feb. 16. Call Outdoor Recreation at 410-278-4124 for more information.

CAPA Field is reserved through the Civilian Welfare Fund. For information on this location, call 410-278-4603.

EA Arts and Crafts

Porcelain Doll Class: A beginning Porcelain Doll Class will be held on Fridays, Feb. 12, 19 and 26, 9:30 a.m.-noon. This three-week class has been very popular and will give a beginning doll maker the basics of making beautiful porcelain dolls. The cost of the class is \$30 and pre registration is required.

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 Jan. 21 and Feb. 25, 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.

AA Framing Shop

Basic Framing Classes: Learn the basics of framing by attending a class at the AA 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 center offers professional custom framing. Bring your piece to the 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.

ITR has specials

A one-week stay for \$209: You can stay at a resort for seven days for just \$209 through the RCI space-available program. Stop by the ITR Office and pick up a voucher and a list of the locations available. You must book before Jan. 31, and use the accommodations by Dec. 31.

Ski information: The ITR staff has received many calls for ski reports. Check these web sites and phone numbers for information:

General Info: www.weather.com or www.visitnepa.org

Resort Info: Ski Liberty - www.skiliberty.com or (717) 642-9000; Ski Roundtop - www.skiroundtop.com or (717) 432-7000; Ski Montage - www.skimontage.com or 1-800-Got-Snow or (717) 969-Snow; Ski Camelback - http://skicamelback.com or (800) 233-8100; Seven Springs Mountain Resort...www.7springs.com or (800) 523-7777. For ski equipment rental, call Outdoor Recreation at 410-278-4124.

Disney specials: The four-day hopper pass costs \$162 for adults, \$129 for children ages 3-9.

The five-day hopper pass costs \$187.50 for adults, \$150 for children ages 3-9. Four-day and five-day park hopper passes allow patrons to go to Magic Kingdom, Epcot, Disney's MGM Studios or Disney's Animal Kingdom. You can visit multiple parks. Any unused days are

valid until used. Use of transportation - monorails, ferryboats and motorcoaches - is included.

The six-day hopper pass costs \$250 for adults, \$197.50 for children ages 3-9. The five-day hopper pass costs \$272.50 for adults, \$217 for children ages 3-9 (available by special order; you must pay two weeks in advance). The six-day and seven day all-in-one passes have the same benefits as the four- and five-day passes, but also include Pleasure Island, Disney World Water Parks, Discovery Island Park and Disney World's Wide World of Sports Complex. Admission to sporting events requiring a separate charge not included. Any unused days are valid until used.

Rent ski equipment

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. 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 bibs (pants) and car ski racks for \$5 a day.

The 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. Call 410-278-4124/5789 for hours and details.

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. Call, 410-278-4124, or stop by building 2407.

MOVIES

THE RINGMASTER

Friday, Jan. 15, 7 p.m.

Starring: Jerry Springer, Jaime Pressly

Fights and accusations are all in a day's work for Jerry Farrelly, host of a daytime gabfest-turned boxing ring. He's rarely had a day like today, though, as two sets of guests create mayhem on the set. (Rated R)

HOME FRIES

Saturday, Jan. 16, 7 p.m.

Starring: Drew Barrymore, Catherine O'Hara

A fast-food worker in a small town is the object of the obsession of an eccentric mother and her two sons. One son wants to marry her and the other wants to kill her. (Rated PG-13)

MEET JOE BLACK

Saturday, Jan. 16, 9 p.m.

Starring: Brad Pitt, Anthony Hopkins

The Parrish family's life is disrupted by the arrival of Joe Black, as he begins a romance with Susan Parrish. Black, however, is the personification of Death. (Rated PG-13)

LEAVE DONATION

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

Michael Alexander (wife has cancer);
Lena Blethen;
John Boyle (surgery);
Barbara Breithaupt (multiple sclerosis);
Bonnie Bromley (liver transplant);
Alberta Brown (mother ill);
Daniel Brown (father has emphysema);
Linda Brown (diabetic);
Sheila Cassidy (mother has cancer);
Dawn Crouse (surgery);
Tamara Dawson (maternity);
Dennis Green;
Herman Hensley;
Gordon Herron (Wife has cancer)
Joseph Hill (heart problems);
Judy Hunt (arthropathy);
Eldon Jerome James (lung cancer and brain tumor);
Marcia Johnson (Down's Syndrome child requires surgery);
Mary Johnson (surgery);
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;
Jack Pollitt (caring for wife);
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);
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.

CA UPDATE

Q: *To be competitive, our Most Efficient Organization (MEO) might require the reduction of grade levels of a number of positions. Many functions require certain grade levels (job descriptions/OPM) to ensure the person performing in the position has the right level of qualifications. If the MEO is implemented with lowered grade levels, then the job descriptions will have to be changed to the lower qualification level. If the Primary Work Statement (PWS) was written with the current levels of work, requiring a certain grade structure, how will the government perform the MEO with those grades and positions being lowered? What is being done to ensure the MEO, through downsizing, grade reductions, loss of people, reduction in force (RIF), bumping, retreating, retirements, Voluntary Early Retirement Authority/Voluntary Separation Incentive Pay (VERA/VSIP), and resignations to ensure that the government can meet all the requirements of the PWS and be able to perform the MEO?*

A: The PWS is written to results. It is performance based. We are buying outcomes, not grade levels. To produce an outcome with the most efficient organization possible, levels of effort must be accurately identified. This entails identifying all functions and numbers of employees performing those functions, and re-engineering as necessary - not lowering grades (and therefore, qualifications) randomly or without reason.

The MEO/REO will be staffed by conducting a RIF. Employees are placed in positions within the MEO through the bump and retreat procedures but must meet the minimum qualifications for the position. MEO positions that are not filled through this process will be staffed according to the staffing/budgeting restrictions in place at the time the CA is implemented.

There are going to be major changes in our structure, the way we do business, and even our individual positions. We need to prepare ourselves for these changes. The CA Team has developed a transition plan to help implement these changes. There is going to be a period of time set aside for adjustment and then we need to be ready to perform at our peaks. All employees will have to work together without abandoning our goals or giving up. We must continue our mission and be prepared to transition as the situation dictates.

Do you have a question about the Commercial Activities study?

Call 410-278-WIN1 (9461)

Church involvement leads to selection as Volunteer of the Month

By Sheila Little
APG News

Cathy Day, a member of the APG community for nearly 16 years, has been an Aberdeen Area Chapel volunteer for most of that time, and is January's Volunteer of the Month.

She became a weekly volunteer in 1986, when she began teaching Confraternity of Christian Doctrine (CCD) classes for the Roman Catholic congregation. Arriving at APG in 1983 with her husband, Bruce, when he was assigned to the 16th Ordnance Battalion, she continued to volunteer after his 1992 retirement.

Serving as a lay minister, assisting those taking First Communion, and organizing church-related socials, Day had plenty of experience before agreeing to lead the class which is final step in CCD instruction. She has been the teacher for the chapel's Confirmation class for five years, and said that she finds the work "very rewarding."

Bernadette Kovalsick, CCD director for the Aberdeen chapel, said Confirmation class meets for one hour each Sunday, but the responsibility involves more than the usual classroom instruction, with organizing visits and community service.

Kovalsick added that in addition to teaching in the CCD program, Cathy takes an active role in coordinating church socials, and is a lay Eucharist minister, assisting during mass.

"Cathy is an incredible asset to the community," Kovalsick said.

Day said her reward for her many hours of work is the personal "thank you" she receives from students who complete the training and are confirmed in the Catholic faith each May. She is especially gratified when she sees the young graduates the following fall, volunteering in other CCD classes or helping out in the



Photo by SHEILA LITTLE

Cathy Day is the APG Volunteer of the Month for January.

community.

"I try to encourage the students to learn more about their faith," she said, adding that she feels successful when she sees them exercising their faith by reaching out to others.

As a teacher, Day said she strives to be the best, adapting lessons to find the best way to get her point across.

"It's a challenge, but I try to review the lesson to determine what I can do to improve each week," she said of handling classes with as many as 18 seventh and eighth graders.

Father John Bauer, APG's Catholic chaplain, described Day as "very dependable and very faithful."

"Both of her children have helped with the classes at times, making it a family affair," he added.

Obviously organized, in addition to devoting time and talent to the chapel, Day also works at the APG Commissary. She and her husband, who now is a civilian employee here, live in Aberdeen. They have two children, Bruce, 21, who lives in Connecticut, and Deborah, 18, a student at Harford Community College.